

HAWAII

FILIPINO CHRONICLE

HAWAII'S #1 FILIPINO NEWSPAPER

◆ APRIL 21, 2018 ◆

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EDITORIALS

Filipino Fiesta: Great Time for Family Bonding

Spring is a time for celebrations and great opportunities for family bonding. Mother's Day is on May 13 and Father's Day on June 17. Spring is punctuated with high school and college graduations, religious holidays, and the popular Spring wedding brides dream of having. Also this season, Hawaii's Filipino community celebrates its grandest of events, the annual Filipino Fiesta in May. This year it takes place on May 5; and it is a perfect occasion for good old fashion family fun.

In today's fast-paced and busy world, family time often takes a backseat to other competing interests -- career, education, and extracurricular activities from soccer to piano lessons. While these pursuits are important to our lifestyle, prioritizing quality family time is vital, too.

Family is described as the cradle of life and love where we are born and grow. What unites the family and what enables us to grow as a unit is sharing quality experiences together. Studies show that family time promotes social responsibility and solidarity among youths. It is when children learn about cultural heritage and values. Family time impacts a child's sense of love and emotional stability. Spending quality family time strengthens bonds between parent-child, siblings and spouses.

Therapists agree that one of the biggest contributors to the breakdown of marriages is not spending enough time together. When this occurs, spouses feel second to careers, children, hobbies, community involvement, personal pursuits, and on and on, then finally trouble in the relationship sets in over time. A panoply of other negative feelings and resentment develop and are masked with other problems when all it really takes to avoid relationship conflicts is putting aside quality time to spend together, experts have found.

Yes, the annual Filipino Fiesta is about fun, culture, food, entertainment, camaraderie with friends, community service, community unity, and ethnic pride -- all the things we commonly think of in ethnic celebrations. But it is also a perfect occasion for families to strengthen ties and enjoy time together. What's one day worth of family bonding at the Fiesta? It could be the memory of a lifetime. It could also spark a momentum to have even more family outings. For many Filipino families, attending the Fiesta has become a tradition. The Fiesta at its core, is really about celebrating the family, and of course, the community, our extended family.

Be sure to include in the family fun, our elderly parents who could use a pleasant day basking in the sun and appreciating their grandchildren. The elderly in our families are perhaps the most overlooked as children and spouses are given highest priorities. Older parents whose children have already grown up and have families of their own, commonly talk of loneliness, especially a widow- or widower-parent. Scientists at the University of California have found loneliness is a predictor of early death. The same study found that elderly persons are more likely than young ones to place importance on relationships; yet seniors are the group of families most neglected.

We encourage families and Hawaii's Filipino community to come out and keep this annual tradition going that also helps to support the FilCom Center. Organizers, Filipino civic and social groups, businesses and volunteers, all deserve a pat on their backs for helping to make the Fiesta a success. This year marks the Fiesta's 26th anniversary. In a way, it begins a new chapter, the first year of another set of 25 years and more, to follow. The first 25 years of the Fiesta primarily focused on community-building and pride. Our community has matured measuredly since its inception. What the Fiesta will come to symbolize going forward could be more of the

FROM THE PUBLISHER

Ot's that special time of the year again, time for the Annual Filipino Fiesta on May 5. The Filipino Community Center, main organizer of the Fiesta, announced that this year the Fiesta has a new venue, the Kaka'ako Gateway Park. Be sure to spread the word to family and friends of the Fiesta's new location.

For our cover story this issue, associate editor Edwin Quinabo gives a rundown of the event's entertainment, food vendors, cultural booths, simultaneous Annual Community Health Fair, and participating businesses. There's something for everyone at the Fiesta. The State Office of Elections will be on hand to register people for the upcoming elections in the Fall. AARP Hawaii will be giving out valuable information on retirement and caregiving. Interested in free health screenings? Visit the healthcare professionals at the Community Health Fair. Most importantly, fiesta-goers can partake in the Filipino cultural and food extravaganza we're all accustomed to at this event. Once again, the FilCom Center says attendees will have a chance to win cash prizes, gift certificates, a TV, and airline tickets to the Philippines. We hope you bring along the entire family to enjoy a full day of fun. Reconnect with old friends, make new friends, and mingle with beauty queens and your community's leaders. We'd like to extend a big mahalo to the FilCom Center for all the hard work it does every year in making the Annual Filipino Fiesta a big success.

In our HFC column sections, read Atty. Reuben Seguritan's article on "More Restrictive Immigration Policies Proposed" by the Trump administration. Seguritan updates us on the status of DACA, an EOIR new quota on immigration judges that will expedite deportations, and new limits to asylum seekers at the U.S. borders. In addition, read Ilocano writer Pacita Saludes' Dayasadas column; this time on "Nasayaat a Rusat ti Mamagballaigi Kadagiti Timpuyog.

Also in this issue, catch the latest in Hawaii, Mainland and Philippines news, including a news feature on ways to avoid becoming a victim of Medicare card-replacement scams; and Hawaii joining multiple states in a motion to defend the Affordable Care Act.

Lastly, just a reminder that the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle can be accessed online at www.thefilipinochronicle.com. We are pleased that our readership is expanding as more of our readers conveniently access each issue online. Our newspaper's increased visibility on the internet also is good news for our valued advertisers whose businesses have been receiving greater exposure.

Thank you to the Filipino community and our advertisers for your years of continued support. Until next issue, warmest *Aloha* and *Mabuhay!* See you at the Filipino Fiesta!

Chona A. Montesines-Sonido

same; or perhaps reflect another phase of where we are as a community or what our current needs are. One area in need of bolstering is support for the FilCom Center which has been putting together the Fiesta since the very beginning. We encourage the community to rally to support the FilCom Center all-year-round beyond the annual Fiesta. Make plans to have your club's events, business meetings, and family celebrations at the FilCom Center.

Mark your calendars and be sure to bring the entire family to the annual Filipino Fiesta. Make this year the start of a new family-bonding tradition.



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The Hawaii Filipino Chronicle is published semi-monthly (twice a month) by The Hawaii Filipino Chronicle Inc. and is located at 94-356 Waipahu Depot, Waipahu, HI 96797. Telephone (808) 678-8930 Facsimile (808) 678-1829. E-mail filipinochronicle@gmail.com. Website: www.thefilipinochronicle.com. Opinions expressed by the columnists and contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle management. Reproduction of the contents in whole or in part is prohibited without written permission from the management. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A.

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EDITORIALS

Independent Journalism Could be in Jeopardy Under Sinclair

Sinclair Broadcast Group, the largest owner of local TV stations in the U.S., crossed the line of independent journalism integrity when it demanded that their local anchors read a script warning of “fake news” and “fake stories.” The content of the script resounds of President Donald Trump’s repeated mantra of “fake news” in his attacks on news media -- which is what made it so controversial; and the fact that Sinclair BG ordered its stations to read a “political” script typical of state-run television in undemocratic nations.

Local TV news stations traditionally have stayed away from color journalism and enjoyed autonomy to determine editorial content on their own with little interference from station-owners. But is Sinclair BG creating a new disturbing trend in local TV news? Should local news begin to mimic the niche-audience format of today’s Cable news networks, unapologetically slanted to the left or right of politics?

Sinclair BG has already shown itself to be a conservative media group. What’s of concern is if Sinclair BG takes local news to another level to resemble another mouthpiece like Fox News. The mere thought of this occurring sounds off warning bells to media analysts because of the massive size of Sinclair BG. It owns 193 local TV affiliates,

reaches a whopping 40 percent of U.S. households, and earns over \$2.5 billion in revenue a year. According to Pew Research Center, local TV news (37 percent) is the largest source of news for Americans. That means that should Sinclair BG run its local news stations in a top-down, political branding format, it could be the most powerful source for news, promoting a partisan tilt to millions of Americans.

Veteran journalist Dan Rather was right in his commentary of Sinclair BG: “News anchors looking into a camera and reading a script handed down by a corporate overlord, words meant to obscure the truth not elucidate it, isn’t journalism. It’s propaganda. It’s Orwellian. A slippery slope to how despots wrest power, silence dissent, and oppress the masses.”

Journalism schools at New York University, the University of Southern California, Syracuse University are among 14 schools that have signed a letter denouncing Sinclair. In the letter addressed to Sinclair Executive Chairman David Smith, it warns that the “required readings violate a basic tenet of independent journalism that news content should not be slanted to advance the business or political interests of the outlet’s owners.”

Sinclair chairman Smith has already revealed his political bias and contempt for print journalism, telling the New York magazine, “The

print media is so left wing as to be meaningless dribble which accounts for why the industry is and will fade away. Just no credibility.” Could it be this is why Smith is moving his empire towards a conservative slant that is helping the Republican Party and the Trump administration. For now, the tradition of non-biased reporting in local TV news has kept Sinclair stations more subdued. Analysts say Sinclair viewers don’t even know that their local news is peddling a conservative message and that stealth approach can be even more dangerous because it passes off as being mainstream reporting, even if it is not.

The Washington Post evaluated Sinclair’s tilt towards Trump and found its station run stories more favorable to him. Emory University political scientists Gregory Martin and Josh McCrain found a trend for Sinclair: it buys a local station, then local news programs begin to cover more national and less local politics.

Sinclair now peddles “deep state” threats, overemphasizes terrorist threats, and has as its chief political analyst Boris Epshteyn, a former Trump aide in the White House, who produces a political segment the “Bottom Line

with Boris” that is required to be broadcasted at all 193 Sinclair stations.

President Trump defended Sinclair on its “fake news” script, tweeting “So funny to watch Fake News Networks, among the most dishonest groups of people I have ever dealt with, criticize Sinclair Broadcasting for being biased. Sinclair is far superior to CNN and even more Fake NBC, which is a total joke.”

Fortunately, there is some pushback. One Sinclair-owned local station in Madison, Wisconsin refused to air the scripted promo. Some took to twitter to express frustration. A few journalists expressed that they wanted to quit, but the penalties would be too harsh; and that they have families to support and mortgages to pay.

A Sinclair spokesperson told the Huffington Post, “No one was told their job was on the line.”

But really, if an order

from owners to local stations is given, the message in between the lines is: “read it, or face consequences.” This shouldn’t be the future of journalism. To make matters worse, Sinclair is poised to become bigger with its \$3.9 billion acquisition of Tribune Media pending, which would add 42 TV local stations to its already 193.

Demand that Sinclair Broadcasting allow local TV journalists to do their jobs as trained independent journalists. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) should also lower the limit of TV stations ownership. Right now, FCC limits that TV station owners can reach no more than 39 percent of US households with TV. The Sinclair group is at its maximum. Trump has indicated he wants to lift that limit, which would benefit Sinclair. That cannot happen. No company should be allowed to have that much power (40 percent) in local TV news.

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Public Invited to Ambassadors’ Tour to the Philippines

The Philippine Consulate General Honolulu invites the public to participate in the 12th Ambassadors’ Tour to the Philippines (Manila-Cebu-Bohol) that will take place on July 7-15, 2018. The tour will be for 8 days, 7 nights.

For more information and prices, call the Philippine Consulate General Honolulu at 808-595-6316 to 19.

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Annual Filipino Fiesta Moves to Kaka'ako Gateway Parks

By Edwin Quinabo

Ot's a new era that deserves a new venue. After marking its historic Silver Jubilee Anniversary in 2017, the Annual Filipino Fiesta is changing locations from Kapiolani Park to Kaka'ako Gateway Parks. The Filipino Community Center (FilCom), main organizer of the Fiesta, invites the public to celebrate the 26th Annual Filipino Fiesta at its new location on Saturday, May 5, from 9 am to 5 pm.

"This will be the first time the Filipino Fiesta, sometimes known as the Flores de Mayo, will be held at Kaka'ako Park which will utilize both Gateway Parks. The theme this year is 'Hala Bira!' which loosely translates to 'Let's Celebrate!'" said Donnie Juan, Executive Director of the FilCom Center.

The FilCom Center has been coordinating the Filipino Fiesta since it started. The Fiesta began 26 years ago as a way to bring the Filipino community together to support the building of the FilCom Center.

"There will be plenty of food vendors, health and cultural booths, and business vendors as usual along with raffle drawings. Philippine Airlines will be raffling tickets to the Philippines. FilCom's annual Filipino Fiesta is our way of showcasing our various talents, customs, and cultural aspects with the community and to the State of Hawaii. It is a free event open to the public.

"Many artists from around the world and locally have performed at the Fiesta such as Kristian Lei and Sam Mil-

by. We will showcase talented artists once again this year," said Juan.

Entertainment will be located at the main stage of Kaka'ako Gateway Parks grounds.

Due to the venue change, the FilCom Center is providing regular updates on its website (www.filcom.org) such as parking information for attendees.

Highlights

While the location has changed, the Fiesta's time-tested blueprint of success remains the same. There will be Filipino-local-Pan Pacific food, Philippine cultural booths, multi-genre entertainment, community information drives, the simultaneous annual Community Health Fair, and corporate and small business promotions.

Filipino-local-Pan Pacific Food

Some of this year's food vendors are Ramar Foods International, San Nicolas Chicharon & Sausage, Seafood City/Grill City, Gerry's Grill, Red Ribbon Bakeshop,



Crazy Country Corn, Olay's Thai Food Express, Pinoy's Best, and concession Island's Finest Shave Ice.

Beverly Castillo of Red Ribbon Bakeshop said, "We will be serving fresh bread and pastries, including our best-selling butter mamon with buttery goodness in every bite. Our food is proudly made from Filipino products and known for its good quality at reasonable price."

This is the third consecutive year Red Ribbon Bakeshop is participating in the Fiesta. "We decided to become a vendor because as a Filipino-owned company, we want to contribute and support our Filipino community here in Hawaii," said Castillo.

Wendy Jett, a Medical Assistant from Kunia, says she goes to the Fiesta for the great food. "I love to eat lumpia, pancit, and Filipino barbecue. I usually go with my

husband who is not a Filipino, so I can showcase to him our culture and have him experience the Filipino food." She also enjoys watching the performances, especially the cultural ones like Philippine folk dances.

Filipino food is a mix of indigenous, Spanish, and Chinese influences. Lumpia, adobo, and pancit are favorites at Filipino fiestas, along with the celebrated halo-halo (shaved ice, sweet beans, fruit, and ube ice cream) dessert, but other dishes vendors have been known to serve in the past are pork guisantes, lechon, tocino (sweetened cured pork) and other marinated barbecue meats, cassava cake, leche flan, and bibingka (sweet coconut cake).

Fiesta-goers can often shop for unprepared foods to take home such as various styles of longganisa (Filipino sausage). Ramar Foods International and various Filipino clubs often sell Philippines-imported products at their booths.

Philippine Cultural Booths

Balaan Catalina, OFCC, Ilokano: The Movement, FAHSOH, UPAAH, Bandalan Doce Pares, Alpha Phi Omega Hawaii, Cebuano, BIBAK, and Dabawenyos will be on-hand educating attendees of various cultural traditions of the Philippines.

Amy Delacruz of BIBAK says "BIBAK Hawaii attends the Fiesta to share and educate others about our rich indigenous culture. We dress in our very colorful cultural attire, display artifacts specific from each province, share stories, songs and dances with the powerful beats of gongs."

BIBAK Hawaii is a social and cultural association for Hawaii folks who trace their roots to the Cordillera Administrative Region of the Philippines, and includes provinces of Benguet, Ifugao, Bontoc, Abra/ Apayao and Kalinga of Northern Luzon. Delacruz says the Cordillera Region is known as the heartland of indigenous people of the Philippines, such as the Igorot, a composite name for folks who consider themselves Ibalois, Kankanaeys, Ibontocs, Ifugaos, Ikalingsas, Itnegs/Tinguigians, Isnegs/ Apayaos.

Another cultural group to have a booth and is expected to perform at this year's Fiesta is the Balaan Catalina Society. "We are participating once again in the annual Filipino Fiesta as we have since the beginning to proudly showcase our club's heritage which is the City of Car Car, Cebu, Philippines and the Patron Saint of Car Car City, Saint Catherine of Alexandria," said Chuck Howard,

(continue on page 5)

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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COVER STORY

(from page 4)

president of Balaan Catalina Society, which is the oldest Visayan Organization founded in the state of Hawaii on July 15, 1930.

Howard says, "We will have a cultural display booth that will show our Patron Saint as well as the monuments and special areas of the city of Car Car. We hope to share with the public information on the history and products of Car Car City, Cebu. We will hand out samples of Chicharon that Car Car is famously known for. We have two of our members who will be performing a traditional Visayan Dance, the Kuradang."

Multi-genre Entertainment

Some of the performers at this year's Fiesta include: Night Shades Band, US Marine Corp Band, Coro Filipino, Pike Velasco, Misty Kelai, BIBAK, AKA/Gumil Hawaii, Linglingay Dance Group, Farrington High School, Alika Caruso and Marilyn Silva, Tekniqlinz Crew, Farrington High School Dance Group, Dynamic Trio, Kaylee Shimizu, Broadway Babies, Visayan Rock Band, Congress of Visayan Organization led by Cebuano Association of Hawaii, Bobskeys, Dabawenyos of Hawaii.

The entertainment format at the Fiesta has always been about providing a mix of genres to keep the multi-generational, multi-diverse attendees captivated. Nowhere else but the Fiesta is a stage shared among ethnic cultural groups showcasing Philippine dance, big-time pop stars from the Philippines, Filipino artists singing Broadway tunes, local teen hip-hop dancers, high school bands, brass bands, and rockers. Like the food at the Fiesta, there is entertainment to appeal to all tastes.

Community Information Drive

Among the local groups providing valuable community information this year are AARP Hawaii, Hawaii Filipino Lawyers Association, Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii, Legacy of Life Ha-

waii, Woodmen Life, State of Hawaii Office of Elections, Hawaii Children's Acton Network, Building Industry Association (BIA), Honolulu Family Church, UH Timpuyog Organization, Katahan: Filipino for Kids, UH Filipino 101-1, 102-1 & 2, LCC 102, and Farrington Filipino American Club

The State Office of Elections will have a booth at the Fiesta and wants to help prepare the community for this year's elections. "We are excited to engage with the audience that the Filipino Fiesta annually draws," said Raymond de Vega of the Office of Elections.

He says "staff will host a voter information booth where eligible residents can register to vote. To qualify, one must be a U.S. citizen, a Hawaii resident, and 16 years or older. Those interested in voting by mail or updating their current registration, are also invited to visit the booth and complete applications. The Office of Elections will share information on Election Day volunteering. Over 4,000 volunteers are needed to conduct elections statewide, and we are eager to meet attendees committed to serving their communities."

Seniors advocacy group AARP Hawaii is also among the valued informational vendors. AARP Hawaii's Jackie Boland says, "AARP is excited to be a sponsor of the Filipino Fiesta. We think it is important for the Filipino community to gather to celebrate the Filipino culture and have fun with each other and the community-at-large.

"At our booth we'll be hosting a prize wheel and distributing information about our upcoming events as well as our priorities – such as fraud prevention, financial education, family caregivers, and more."

Community Health Fair

This year's group of healthcare professionals are Mountain-Pacific Quality Health, Filipino Nurses Organization of Hawaii (FNOH), and Philippine Nurses Association of Hawaii (PNAH)

Mountain-Pacific Quality

Health's James Roberts, Diabetes Project Manager of the company, said they plan to offer free diabetes education for seniors in Ilocano and Tagalog at the Fiesta. Some of the information Fiesta-goers can learn about from Mountain-Pacific Quality Health include diabetes risk factors, warning signs, prevention such as exercising and eating healthier, and diabetes medication and medical care.

Every Wednesday, Mountain-Pacific Quality Health offers free diabetes empowerment education (DEEP) classes for Medicare beneficiaries.

Two of the largest Filipino professional nursing groups in Hawaii -- FNOH and PNAH -- will be providing Fiesta attendees valuable health information and free health screenings.

What Fiesta-goers say about the annual event

Jay Flores, a Physical Therapist from Waipahu, has participated in the Community Health Fair at the Fiesta, giving free massages in the past. He always attends the Fiesta with his family. "My children need to see that the Fiesta is an important part of our Filipino heritage," said Flores. He enjoys eating Bicolano Food at the Fiesta and seeing old friends from the Philippines who moved to Hawaii.

Loreto Vilorio, a Paralegal from Ewa Beach, says his favorite part of the Fiesta is the Community Health Fair and cultural booths. "I enjoy the cultural costumes, products and food. I usually eat the Filipino-style barbecue and the halo-halo. I like to see the beautiful Filipino queens that

"My children need to see that the Fiesta is an important part of our Filipino heritage."

JAY FLORES

Physical Therapist / Waipahu

represent various organization." He says his main reason for going to the Fiesta is to see friends and colleagues. He was a volunteer at the Fiesta in the past, handing out flyers on health-related issues.

Reginald Dayoan, a Phlebotomist from Waipahu, says he goes to the Fiesta for the Community Health Fair and to meet people like politicians and old friends who he hasn't spoken with for a long time. He has volunteered at the Community Health Fair in the past. Dayoan will get a chance to meet some of the dignitaries scheduled to attend the Fiesta this year, including Gov. David Ige and State Senator Brickwood Galuteria.

The Fiesta is known to be a perfect event for family fun. It has become a tradition for families to either come to the event together or to meet up there for a full day of bonding and reconnecting.

Sponsors

The 2018 Fiesta sponsors are L&L Hawaiian Barbecue (Title Sponsor), Philippine Airlines (Gold Sponsor), Ohana Health Plan (Bronze Sponsor), and Western Union (Bronze Sponsor).

The Title Sponsor of the Fiesta is L&L Hawaiian Barbecue. "L & L is proud to

sponsor the Annual Filipino Fiesta. Started by L & L Founder Eddie Flores, Jr. as an event to bring together and raise awareness of the Filipino Community, the Filipino Fiesta represents and showcases the best of our vibrant Filipino Community in Hawaii," said Bryan Andaya.

"L & L salutes the role the Filipino Community has played in the multi-ethnic society of Hawaii and applauds the efforts of the FilCom Center to continue this hallmark event."

Bronze Sponsor, 'Ohana Health Plan, is participating in the Filipino Fiesta for its second year. Representatives will be handing out healthcare information and giveaways at the company's booth. 'Ohana Health Plan state president Scott Sivik says, "We are committed to supporting good health for the diverse communities of Hawaii. We're excited to be taking part in this year's festivities that showcase and celebrate the vibrant Filipino culture and traditions."

Western Union has been a sponsor of the Fiesta for more than 15 years. "Western Union looks for opportunities to help the community by working with dedicated organizations

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COVER STORY



(from page 5)

like the Filipino Community Center of Hawaii. The company recognizes and encourages the growth and development of Filipinos by supporting events like this and giving back to the community,” said Jeannie Lum of Western Union.

Prizes

Cash prize, gift cards, a TV, and airline tickets to the Philippines will be given out to select winners. Prizes were donated by the Consuelo Foundation, Maggie Domingo, Donnie Juan, Mimi Gozar, and Philippine Airlines.

Businesses

Learn more about various products and services from this year’s businesses participating in the Fiesta. Some of them include: Valley of the Temples, LBC, Ayala Land Corporation, United Health Care, TFC-Hawaii, Estherbrook, Inc. (Salad Master), Calvin Alonzo, O.D., Inc., Leni Acosta Knight, Globe/GTI Corporation, Atlas Shippers, and Aloha Pacific FCU.

There’s something for everyone at the Annual Filipino Fiesta. Bring along the entire family, make new friends, and celebrate the rich Filipino culture.

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Kaua’i Gets Millions in Disaster Relief

State legislators allocated a total of \$100 million to Kaua’i to make road, bridge and other infrastructure repairs following the recent flooding on the “Garden Isle.” An additional \$25 million is provided for flood-related repairs statewide. The House Finance and Senate Ways and Means committees added the funding to Senate Bill 192. Funds will be allotted to the State Department of Defense for disaster relief this fiscal year for the repairs and will lapse at the end of the next fiscal year.

“Kaua’i residents need our help immediately,” said House Speaker Scott K. Saiki (McCully, Kāheka, Kaka’ako, Downtown). “The rains and flooding have decimated roads, bridges, power lines and other infrastructure. With the ground soaked and more rain predicted, we cannot wait to act. We need to move quickly on funding repairs and give those in need some hope for the future.”

“I am in complete agreement with Speaker Saiki and additionally, I would like to thank my legislative colleagues

for their support in recognizing the dire needs of Kaua’i residents,” said Senator Ronald D. Kouchi (Kaua’i, Ni’ihau).

“This tragedy is very personal for me because I have many friends and family in the flooded areas, and critical because I represent these communities in the Legislature,” said Representative Nadine K. Nakamura (Hanalei, Princeville, Kīlauea, Anahola, Kapa’a, Wailuā). “I want to thank Speaker Saiki, President Kouchi, Chairs Luke and Dela Cruz and all my colleagues in the Legislature for their compassion and quick action to make this relief funding happen.”

“We all know when it is important to take action quickly, and clearly this is one of those times,” said Finance Committee Chair Representative Sylvia Luke, (Makiki, Punchbowl, Nu’uanu, Dowset Highlands, Pacific Heights, Pauoa). “While State and Counties officials work to get a complete assessment of the damages, we know it is important to supply this immediate infusion of cash support to the people of Kaua’i in their time of need.”

2018 FILIPINO FIESTA PROGRAM LINE UP

	SEGMENT/PERFORMANCE	PERFORMER
Part 1	9:00 am - 10:00 am- Overture	Voice Over
	To be confirmed.	Night Shades Band
	To be confirmed.	US Marine Corp Band - FB
Part 2	10:00 am- 10:30 am - Filcom Hour	Emcee - Amelia Casamina Cabatu
	Invocation	Rev. Aex Vergara
	Star-Spangled Banner	Coro Filipino
	Lupang Hinirang	Pike Velasco
	Hawaii Pono’i	Misty Kelai
	Welcome	Donnie Juan - Executive Director
	Remarks	Edmund Aczon, Chairman of the Board
	Hermano Mayor (To be confirmed)	Mayor Kirk Caldwell
	Greetings (To be confirmed)	Mayor Kirk Caldwell
	Part 3	10:30 - 11:30 am- Panagbenga Festival
Am-mong: A gathering of peace		BIBAK
Benguet		
Ifugao		BIBAK
Bontoc		BIBAK
Apayao/Itneg		BIBAK
Kalinga		
Celebration of Flowers		
11:30 am -11:40 am		Special Message by Gov. David Ige
11:40- First Drawing of Prizes & Introductions of Sponsors		Emcees: Amelia and Glenn
Part 4	11:40 am -1:00 pm- Harvest Festival	Emcee: Raymond Sebastian
	Harana	AKA/Gumil Hawaii
	Dalagang Pilipina	Novie Hartfield
	Sunduan	Emcee: Glenn Sagayadoro
	Part 5	1:00 - 1:20 pm- Kabataan Youth Festival
2 songs		Brickwood (To be confirmed)
T-shirt Theatre		T-Shirt Theatre
Part 6	1:20 pm -2:20 pm- At Nayong Pilipino	Emcee: Emmie Anderson
	Pamulinawen/Kannawidan Festival	
	Ilocano song	
	Filipino Folk Dance	Linglingay Dance Group
	Halinhinan (Alternation)	
	Subli	Linglingay Dance Group
	Bangko	Farrington High School
	Kuradang	Alīka Caruso & Marilyn Silva
	Salakot	
	Tekniqlinz	Tekniqlinz Crew
Tekniqlinz Crew	Tekniqlinz Crew	
Part 6	2:20 pm -3:00 pm- Lumad/Ramadan	Emcee:
	Manobo	Dabawenyos
	Lapay Bantigue	Farrington High School Dance Group
	Pangalay Ha Pat-tong	Farrington High School Dance Group
Part 7	3:00 pm -4:00 pm- Pinoy Idol	Emcee: Allan Alvarez
		Dynamic Trio
	Song	Kaylee Shimizu
	Medley	Broadway Babies
	Part 8	4:00 pm- 5:00 pm- Santo Nino Festivals
Ati-Atihan Festival		Visayan Rock Band
Sinulog Festival		Congress of Visayan Organization as led by Cebuano Association of Hawaii
		Bobskeys
		Dabawenyos of Hawaii
	Drawing of Special Prizes	Cash Prizes and R/T Tickets to the Philippines, Winners of Best Cultural Booths

*Schedule could be subject to change.

NEWS FEATURE

AARP Warns of Medicare Card-Replacement Scams



AARP Hawaii is warning Medicare recipients of fraud schemes designed to capitalize on the federal government's Medicare replacement cards. New Medicare identification cards are being mailed to Medicare recipients and an AARP survey finds that some of these enrollees may be at risk of being victimized by fraud.

In response, AARP Hawaii is participating in an education campaign to raise awareness among consumers about Medicare Card scams. Hawaii's 264,864 Medicare enrollees are among the first to receive the new ID cards in the mail next month.

The redesigned cards no longer contain enrollees' Social Security numbers – a move designed to enhance security and help protect against identity theft. Consumer advocates,

including AARP, welcome the development but, ironically, the card replacement program has opened these new opportunities for con artists:

Scammers reportedly pose as Medicare representatives and contact beneficiaries to demand immediate payment via credit card of a processing fee for the new card. No such fee exists.

In other cases, the scammers falsely say that Medicare needs to “verify” a recipient's Social Security number or other personal information before issuing the card. Medicare says it does not make such calls and does not initiate uninvited contact.

Yet another version of the scam tells beneficiaries that they are due a refund on transactions with their old card, and asks them to provide bank account information for the processing of the alleged refund.

Results of the AARP survey, which polled Medicare

enrollees age 65 and older, indicate a significant number of people could end up as victims of the scams. Among the key findings:

*There is little public awareness: Three-quarters of those surveyed (76 percent) knew nothing or very little about Medicare's plan to issue new identification cards.

*Six in 10 think they could face a fee: Although the redesigned ID cards are free, 60 percent of Medicare enrollees did not know or weren't sure if they would be required to pay a fee.

*Half might not question a purported call from Medicare: When asked if beneficiaries could expect to receive a telephone call from Medicare asking them to verify their Social Security number, half (51 percent) said they weren't sure.

“The new Medicare cards are a step forward for fraud prevention, but con artists are working overtime on new ways to scam seniors,” said Barbara

Kim Stanton, AARP Hawaii State Director. “That's

why AARP Hawai'i is joining with the Fraud Watch Network to ramp up efforts to educate Medicare beneficiaries about the new cards and potential scams.”

The AARP education campaign includes social media text and video postings, website content, and a cover package in the April edition of the AARP Bulletin. AARP Hawai'i and other AARP state offices are distributing a handout that details the new card rollout and associated scams.

AARP is also teaming up with the Federal Trade Commission to present a free webinar on Thursday, April 19, about Medicare cards and fraud schemes. Register for the webinar at: www.aarp.org/FraudWebinar.

The AARP Fraud Watch



Network launched in 2013 as a free resource for people of all ages. Consumers may sign up for “Watchdog Alert” emails that deliver breaking scam information, or call a free helpline at 877-908-3360 to speak with volunteers trained in fraud counseling. The FWN website provides information about fraud and scams, prevention tips from experts, an interactive scam-tracking map, fun educational quizzes, and video presentations featuring Fraud Watch Network Ambassador Frank Abagnale.

Abagnale, the renowned fraud expert whose personal story was depicted in the hit movie “Catch Me If You Can,” is also host of a new AARP weekly podcast series, “The Perfect Scam,” that launched last week.

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

HTDC Breaks Ground in Kaka'ako

Construction has begun on the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation's (HTDC) Entrepreneurs' Sandbox facility in Kakaako. The two-story, 13,500-square-foot Sandbox is expected to be completed in 2019 and is the first phase of the Kakaako Innovation Block.

The facility will be an innovation center where everyone from keiki to kupuna can

bring their ideas to life and learn to build products and develop creative media.

“This groundbreaking marks an important day — the next step in providing a collaborative environment where anyone can come, learn and grow their ideas into applications and tangible products,” Gov. David Ige said. “The Entrepreneur's Sandbox is only the first piece of the Kakaako Innova-

tion Block, which will move Hawaii forward as a hub for technology, creativity, and entrepreneurial activity.”

“HTDC is an economic driver, and this project will position Hawaii to become an innovation hub in our global community,” said Luis P. Salaveria, director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism. “The Entrepreneur's Sandbox will be the point of

the spear for additional economic achievements. It's the beginning of the Innovation Block; the place that will be the home for innovation in our state for years to come.”

The Sandbox is a public-private partnership,

three years in the making. Its purpose is to provide a new generation of entrepreneurs the tools, programs, and environment to start and grow their business, which will help diversify the state's economy.

Hirono Introduces Bill to Protect Judges from Political Interference

Senator Mazie Hirono introduced the Immigration Court Improvement Act – a bill that would insulate immigration judges from improper political interference or manipulation. The bill is in response to the recent revelations that the Trump administration will impose unfair, unnecessary, and po-

litically-motivated quotas on immigration judges. Cosponsors of the bill were Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.), and Kamala Harris (D-Calif.).

“At a time when the Trump administration is constantly attacking the rule of law and threatening immigrant communities, immigration judges need new legal

protections from the President's political interference,” Senator Hirono said. “I will continue to resist this administration's efforts to force our non-partisan immigration judges to carry out his discriminatory immigration policies using threats of retaliation.”

(continue on page 10)



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5 Reasons Why Life in Negros Occidental Is Something That We Envy

By Euden Valdez

Negros Occidental is more than just the country's top sugar producer. With a rich culture and proud history, this Visayan province has a lot more to offer.

From cuisines that tease the taste buds, to iconic landmarks filled with stories, to the warm, cheerful nature of its people, Negros Occidental can charm anyone into staying without a doubt.

A journey to the south starts with the five things you can only experience there.

1. Land of Smiles and Festivals

In Bacolod City, everyone can truly feel the warmth and happiness of Negrenses through the MassKara Festival held every October.

Celebrated to uplift the people's spirit after a back-to-back sugar crisis in the 1980s, the MassKara Festival has become one of the most anticipated and most frequently visited festivals in the country today. Featuring colorful masks portraying huge smiles, the festival has become the manifestation of the capital's moniker as the "City of Smiles" and of the strong, unwavering Negrense spirit.

2. Heirloom Flavors

Negros Occidental is also a culinary destination with heirloom recipes that continue to delight generations of locals and tourists alike.

There's El Ideal Bakery's sought-after Guapple Pie, Emma Lacson's famous empanada and pili squares, and Sinda Belleza's fresh lumpiang ubod. Negros Occidental also has its own version of

Turkey's baklava using pili, muscovado, and coconut oil as ingredients.

For the original Bacolod chicken inasal—considered the best tasting chicken barbecue in the country—check out Manokan Country where a variety of food stalls serve their own takes on the dish.

3. Historical Destination

The sugar industry thrived in Negros island during pre- and post-colonial eras. Sugar landlords lived extravagant lifestyles evident in their grand and elaborate houses.

In Silay City where most ancestral houses remain, tourists can go on a heritage tour and visit Balay Negrense, Bernardino Jalandoni Museum, Maria Ledesma Golez Heritage Building, and Hofileña Heritage House.

Both Silay and Talisay cities are just a few minutes



MassKara Festival in Bacolod City

drive away from Bacolod City, the province's capital.

4. Posh Shopping and Dining

A province like Negros Occidental that is heavily associated with the idea of affluence is about to welcome its most opulent commercial center yet.

Soon to rise in Bacolod City is Northhill Town Center, a 7.5-hectare horizontal development that will house mostly stand-alone, two-story structures of retail shops and dining establishments.

Expecting completion within this year, locals and tourists can shop to their heart's content and satisfy their cravings with worldclass cuisines, all while being surrounded with landscaped leisure parks and open spaces. With a supermarket dedicated for fresh food finds, cinemas for the latest blockbuster hits, and a pasalubong center for visitors, there's very little reason to doubt that urban city living at its finest has finally arrived in Bacolod.

(continue on page 12)

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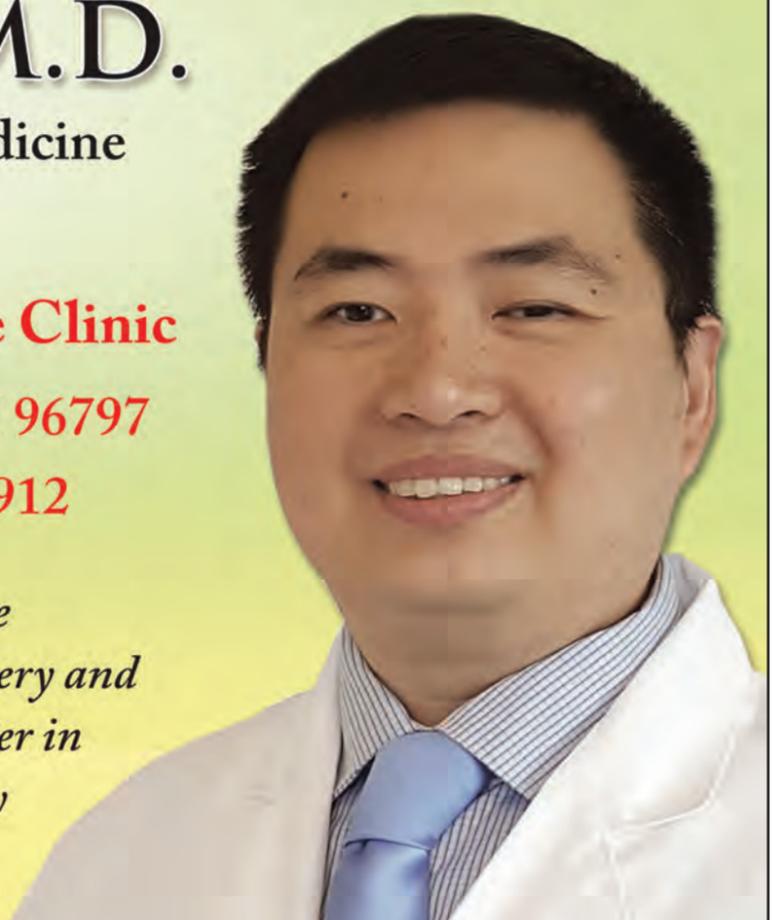
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Dr. Jon Avery Go is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of the University of Santo Tomas Faculty of Medicine and Surgery and underwent training at the Roger Williams Medical Center in Providence, RI which is affiliated with Boston University School of Medicine.



HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Tax Relief Given to Kauai Residents Hit Hard by Storm

KAUAI—Torrential rains flooded neighborhoods and farmlands in regions of the Hanalei District, including Wainiha and Haena. Emergency rescue crews have evacuated 152 people by helicopter, 121 by bus, and others by water. In flood-ravaged areas, homes have been swept away off their foundation. Some residents had to be rescued from rooftops.

After the floods, Hanalei pier was also left unrecognizable: The road is gone, cars and trucks were tossed into the water, and telephone poles, wires and trees were all over the ground.

Gov. David Ige, Kauai Mayor Bernard Carvalho, military and county emergency crews assessed the damages in Kauai due to floods.

“Damage is very extensive in this area. The immediate problem is access. Several landslides are blocking roads into the communities. Crews are working to restore access

to the Hanalei District, but it will take some time. We are establishing landing zones for aircraft. The Hawai‘i National Guard has deployed two UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters, two CH-47 Chinooks, eight Zodiacs and more than 45 soldiers and airmen to support rescue efforts, and to get medical aid and necessary supplies to the area,” Gov. Ige said.

Gov. Ige and Mayor Carvalho issued emergency declarations on Sunday and are in contact with the Federal Emergency Management Agency as Kauai plans its recovery and rebuilding efforts.

Mayor Carvalho said equipment and supplies are being sent to areas of devastation. Officials have warned evacuees that it’s unclear when they’ll be able to return to their homes.

Meanwhile, those remaining in the devastated communities, inaccessible by flood-damaged roads, are being provided with food and water at central pick-up



locations. Volunteers from the American Red Cross are working to ensure those stranded have a place to stay.

In Hanalei, a rain gauge measured 28.15 inches of rain over a 24-hour period when the heaviest rain hit.

Tax Relief

Gov. David Ige has directed the state Department of Taxation to provide relief for Kauai residents affected by the devastating floods and landslides.

This includes an extension to file Hawai‘i state tax returns and pay state taxes that would otherwise be due on April 20.

“Understandably, taxpayers affected by the disaster may have difficulty meeting their tax obligations. So the department will consider requests submitted by affected taxpayers for extensions to file and pay state taxes, and for waivers of penalties and interest,” said Gov. Ige.

In addition to the exten-

sions, taxpayers may also claim casualty loss deductions or deduct their losses on their 2018 income tax returns.

All taxpayers who are requesting relief in connection with the disaster should clearly mark their tax returns “2018 Kauai Flood Relief” at the top center of the tax return. DoTax asks that taxpayers NOT write in the upper right corner of the return where it reads “DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE.”

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Hawaii Joins Lawsuit to Defend the Affordable Care Act

Hawaii joined 16 other states and the District of Columbia in filing a motion to intervene in Texas et al. v. United States et al., a lawsuit filed in federal district court in Texas which seeks to dismantle the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The Texas lawsuit imperils health care coverage and funding for all Americans, particularly more vulnerable groups like seniors, children, and people with chronic medical conditions or disabilities.

The Texas lawsuit petitioned the federal court to stop Medicaid expansion; end tax credits that help people afford insurance; allow insurance

companies to deny coverage to people with pre-existing conditions; take away seniors' prescription drug discounts; strip funding from our nation's public health system, including work to combat the opioid epidemic; and much more. If the ACA were terminated, Americans living in the states seeking to intervene could lose half a trillion dollars in healthcare funding if this lawsuit succeeded.

"At this point there is nothing to replace the vital services and programs provided under the Affordable Care Act," said Attorney General Suzuki. "Until there is a re-

sponsible and serious attempt to craft a replacement, the ACA is still an essential part of the nation's health care system and must be protected and enforced."

Texas filed the lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Fort Worth Division on February 28, 2018 and was joined by 19 other states. Texas alleges that the ACA is no longer constitutional due to the passage of the Republican tax break bill, passed in December 2017, which zeroed out the penalty payment due under the ACA's individual mandate for those who could

afford to pay for their health insurance but failed to do so.

Hawaii Attorney General Suzuki entered the lawsuit to vigorously defend the ACA and the millions of families across the country who rely on it for affordable care.

In the motion to intervene, the attorneys general allege that the ACA has not been repealed by the passage of the Republican tax break bill, and its constitutionality has been upheld by the Supreme Court:

*The ACA has survived nearly 70 unsuccessful repeal attempts in Congress since it was passed in 2010.

*In National Federation

of Independent Businesses v. Sebelius (2012), the Supreme Court ruled that the individual mandate is constitutional.

*The state of California and every state in the United States would suffer grave harm if the plaintiffs achieved the goals of their lawsuit.

Joining Attorney General Suzuki in filing today's motion are the Attorneys General of California, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Kentucky, Massachusetts, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, Washington, and the District of Columbia.

Support Hawaii International Child

April is the month of the child and Hawaii International Child is asking for your support. Hawaii International Child handles adoptions, including adoptions from the Philippines.

Here are a few ways you

can help.

* If you adopted your child from us, offer your child a lesson in giving back and consider us as the beneficiary of their next service project whether it's a penny drive, car wash or bake sale.

We are seeking young philanthropists to feature on our Facebook so share your plans and your story with us.

* Ask your employer if they offer a matching gift program as your donation is amplified when you give.

* Set up an easy monthly donation to HIC. Even \$20 a month can be a huge help. Encourage a few friends to do this, and we will have enough to support a grant for a family adopting a waiting child from China.

* Consider your network and see if you know a company or business owner who would be willing to donate a gift certificate, experience or goods that we can auction on our Facebook.

There are all kinds of ways to give big to help Hawaii International Child in its mission to help orphaned children near and far.

We need your support and invite anyone whose life has been touched by adoption to become a monthly HIC donor. Monthly gifts provide a steady stream of reliable revenue that will sustain our work. Any amount that you can give will help us continue to share our adoption knowledge and advocacy with our community.

May is ALS Awareness Month

Governor David Ige proclaimed at the State Capitol Ceremony Room the month of May as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) month.

This year, events include the "With Grace" 5k Run/Walk to benefit Project ALS on May 12, Saturday, 8:00 am at Kailua Beach. The MDA Annual Spring Soiree at the Royal Hawaiian Hotel will be held that evening. The following Saturday, May 19, the ALS Association will hold its first "Night at the Royal" Benefit Gala. Tickets are available for both events.

The final event on Oahu will be the "Lei of Remembrance" Memorial Ceremony to be held at the State Capitol Courtyard, beginning at 4:30pm with a "Mahalo, Hawaii" sign-waving at curbside. Proclamations on Maui, Kauai, and the Big Island will be held on May 14, 15, and 29, respectively.

There are 61 known cases of ALS statewide. ALS was on the news recently because of the death of the most well-known person with ALS, physicist Stephen Hawking.

For more information about any of the events, contact Divina Robillard at hialshale@gmail.com or 808-256-3932.

(HIRONO...from page 7)

"I appreciate that Senator Hirono understands that immigration judges should be able to make determinations as to what they believe to be fair and just without any sort of political pressure, and to ensure the law provides a mechanism for it," said Asako Shimizu, Chair of the Hawaii Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association. "We support the introduction of this bill which is intended to protect core functions of immigration judges, and fair

and reasonable application of immigration law."

"NAIJ applauds Senator Hirono for leading the effort in Congress to address the structural flaws with the Immigration Court," said Judge A. Ashley Tabaddor, President of the National Association of Immigration Judges. "This bill takes an important first step in protecting the independent decision making authority of the Immigration Judges and the integrity of the court. We urge Congress to promptly act on this important issue."

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PHILIPPINE NEWS

Group Calls for Resignation of 'Biased 5' Justices

By Kristine Joy Patag
Tuesday, April 17, 2018

MANILA, Philippines — The Supreme Court's full court session on Tuesday was met with protests asking for five of its members to step down over their refusal to inhibit from the ouster petition against Chief Justice Maria Lourdes Sereno.

The Coalition for Justice staged protests at the SC compound in Manila and Baguio to call for the resignation of Associate Justices Teresita De Castro, Diosdado Peralta, Lucas Bersamin, Francis Jardeleza and Noel Tijam.

"If the Biased 5 will not inhibit, we adamantly insist that they resign," the CFJ said.



The justices are currently in Baguio for its summer session. Last week, in the summer capital, the 14-member high tribunal conducted an oral debate on the petition for quo warranto against Sereno.

Shortly before the six-hour oral argument started, Acting

Chief Justice Antonio Carpio announced that the five justices would not recuse themselves from the case. Sereno's motion for inhibition was junked due to lack of merit.

The justices' reasons for refusing to inhibit would be released with the SC ruling on

the quo warranto case.

During the oral debates, Sereno locked horns with some of the justices, including De Castro with whom she has traded barbs in the past.

Supporters of the embattled chief justice held a picket outside the SC Baguio compound during the oral arguments. They were later visited by an unfazed Sereno who vowed that she would continue her fight.

The group Movement Against Tyranny, for its part, also released a statement asking the SC to not take part in President Rodrigo Duterte's "insidious plot" to oust the chief justice.

They added: "Duterte is hoping to pit the justices against each other, using their personal animosities and ambitions, to get what he wants: absolute control of the judiciary."

They insisted that allowing a quo warranto case "circum-

vents the Constitution and undermines the system of checks and balances by making impeachable officials like Sereno vulnerable to harassment and intimidation by a powerful executive."

Sereno has openly claimed that the firebrand leader has had a hand in the ouster cases against her. She is facing an impeachment case at the Congress filed by lawyer Lorenzo Gadon who has ties with Duterte's allies.

The quo warranto case, that challenges the legality of Sereno's hold over her position, was filed by Solicitor General Jose Calida. The petition also has the same prayer to oust Sereno from the position.

Duterte has denied that he was involved in the ouster petitions against Sereno, but he said that the chief justice's letter to him in August 2016 has angered him. Sereno then said that the judiciary would conduct its own probe into Duterte's claim that some judges were part of the illegal drug trade. The letter was part of Gadon's impeachment complaint.

Both Sereno and Calida were ordered by the high court to file their respective memorandum on the case on April 20. After their submission, the case would be deemed submitted for resolution. (www.philstar.com)

Pacquiao Wary of Mathysse's Knockout Power

By Dino Maragay
Wednesday, April 18, 2018

MANILA, Philippines — With a high knockout ratio, WBA welterweight champion Lucas Matthyse is the most dangerous opponent Manny Pacquiao has picked in recent years.

That's why Pacquiao is leaving nothing to chance and promised to go the extra mile in terms of preparation for their July 15 showdown in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

With 36 of Matthyse's 39 wins coming by way of knockout, the Argentine's power cannot be questioned.

"Yes, I always consider (Matthyse's power)," Pacquiao told the media Wednesday at the lone Manila presser for their fight.

Matthyse's heavy hands coupled with his aggressive style is a recipe for an entertaining fight, and Pacquiao said he was right in choosing the 35-year-old champion as his next opponent.

"He (Matthyse) has guts. He is aggressive. He can create more action in the ring than my previous fight," added Pacquiao.

The Filipino icon said he



Manny Pacquiao and Lucas Matthyse engage in the traditional staredown during Wednesday's press conference at the Grand Ballroom of City of Dreams in Paranaque.

plans to train at least two and half months for Matthyse, which is longer than he used to. But with the senate in recess, Pacquiao has all the time in the world to make sure he is in tip-top condition against the dangerous Matthyse.

"We cannot underestimate him. We have to make sure we are in 100 percent condition, physically, mentally, spiritually," Pacquiao continued.

Matthyse's camp, for their part, is oozing with confidence, believing that now

is the perfect time to get Pacquiao.

Mario Arano, Matthyse's manager who accompanied the fighter in his Manila trip, made the bold declaration on-stage.

"It's Matthyse's time now. Pacquiao's time is over," he said in Spanish.

They would be wrong though to think that Pacquiao will just roll over.

"My time is not yet done," Pacquiao countered. (www.philstar.com)

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Studies Show Nicotine Can Cause Adolescent Brain Damage

www.philstar.com

M

ANILA, Philippines — Nicotine is one of the most addictive drugs on the planet

but that's just the beginning of the story. For teens' developing brains, nicotine poses far more dangers.

"At least it's not heroin!" a teen vaper might say rolling

their eyes.

About that, evidence suggests nicotine can put teens at risk for substance abuse problems and primes them for addiction as adults. Studies further show teens can get addicted to nicotine at lower doses, so even an occasional vape habit could have lifelong consequences.

Nicotine can also amplify teens' inherent tendencies toward novelty-seeking, compulsivity and risk-taking. And

it gets worse. No matter how smart they may think they are, teens' brains aren't yet fully-formed, which makes them especially vulnerable to nicotine use. It's associated with developing emotional and behavioral problems such as major depressive disorder, agoraphobia, panic disorder and antisocial personality disorder.

When you consider that teens who vape are also three times more likely to smoke cigarettes one year later, you'll see why e-cigarettes are not something teens should mess around with. Furthermore,



e-cigarettes contain toxic chemicals that may lead to asthma, respiratory infection and other health problems.

When it comes to nicotine, adults aren't in the clear, either.

But for teens, there's so much at stake — and it makes it that much worse that the e-cigarette industry hasn't done much to keep their addictive products out of adolescent hands.

(TRAVEL & TOURISM ...from page 8)

5. A Lavish Lifestyle

Poised to become Bacolod City's most upscale residential village to date, Forbes Hill will soon feature its own courtyard garden entrance with a tiered fountain in the middle.

Promising a vibrant community and utmost exclusivity, the 15-hectare residential development will offer only 197 lots-ranging from 499-square meters to 861-square meters. Future residents need not worry about risks of flooding as the entire estate is designed to be flood-free, which was also the reason why Megaworld was able to integrate an underground cabling system in the community.

Apart from these, Forbes Hill will also feature a private clubhouse with a multifunction hall, a fitness center, game and entertainment rooms, audio and visual room, an outdoor lap pool, children's pool, a gazebo park, and a basketball court.

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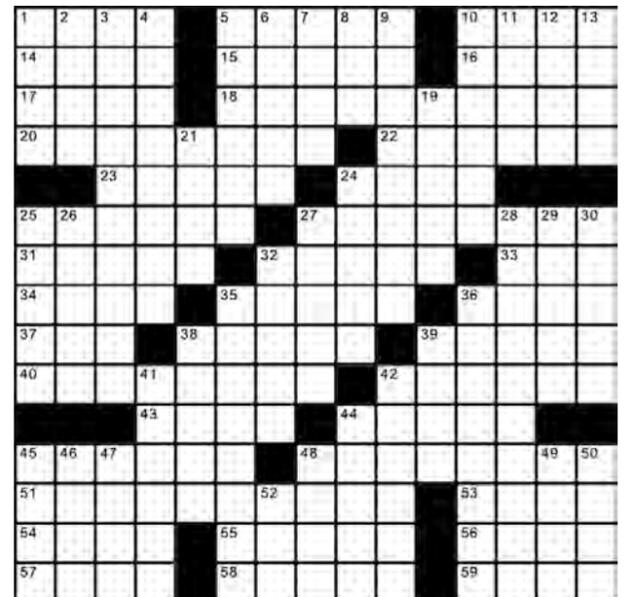
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19. Unano
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24. Sangga
25. "Tunay ba?"
26. Balibid
27. Alkalde

28. Pagka-apostol
29. Libog
30. Isang uri ng isda
32. Isang uri ng palay
35. Atip
36. Ego
38. Itawag
39. Tunog ng ikinakasa na baril
41. Pati
42. Naaaninaw
44. Balalay
45. Tapak
46. Lablab
47. Luto na ang sinaing
48. Puno ng halamang-butil
49. Ninyo
50. Ang tao o grupo ng mga tao na ipinadala para sumundo sa ibang tao
52. Maralita

(Ang sagot ay ilalabas sa susunod na isyu ng Chronicle)

LEGAL NOTES



By Atty. Reuben S. Seguritan

More Restrictive Immigration Policies Proposed

President Trump has been busy these past few months making sweeping changes to the immigration system. Trump declared in a message posted on his Twitter page that the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals or DACA was “dead.” DACA was a program started by former President Obama for illegal immigrants, also known as ‘Dreamers’, who were brought into the United States as children. Under DACA, these Dreamers could remain in the United States and even get work permits, as long as they met certain criteria. President Trump blames this death on the Democrats by stating that “Democrats didn’t care or act.”

In response, Democrats have stated that the President is the one who ended DACA by refusing a bipartisan solution and not them. Senator Robert Menendez (D-New Jersey) posted a message on Twitter saying, “Mr. President, these are children’s lives you are playing with here. Stop the bogus claims to excuse your anti-immigrant agenda. Instead, you could reinstate DACA immediately. That’s right, YOU ended DACA and YOU could bring it back.”

Representative Raul Grijalva (D-Arizona) also posted a message on Twitter saying, “Immigrants who enter the US today would not even qualify for #DACA. Trump is telling blatant lies to support his anti-immigrant narrative and justifying his heartless decision to end the program in the first place. #ProtectDreamers”. Currently, DACA continues

for those who have already been granted benefits. However, no new benefits will be granted and no new applications will be accepted.

In another aspect of the immigration system, specifically in the immigration courts, the Executive Office of Immigration Review (EOIR), which is part of the Department of Justice (DOJ), imposed strict quotas on immigration judges. Immigration judges are now required to complete 700 cases each year. The DOJ justified the strict quota by stating that this new system will speed deportation decisions and eliminate backlogs. The failure of an immigration judge to meet the quota could mean dismissal from the bench because the quota requirement is part of their individual performance evaluation.

Critics have warned that the imposition of the strict quota could lead judges to not give enough time to study cas-

es in order to meet the quota and ensure they will keep their jobs. Furthermore, the strict quota could mean that parties before the immigration courts will not be given due process and enough time to find a lawyer or prove their case in court.

The last aspect of the immigration system that the Trump administration is trying to limit is the protection granted to asylum seekers at the borders of the United States. Attorney General Jeff Sessions has stated that there is a need to curb the protection granted to asylum seekers because there is rampant fraud in the system and this will prevent terrorists and criminals from entering the United States. This action of the Attorney General is in line with President Trump’s policy which he reiterated through a message on his Twitter page stating, “Border Patrol Agents are not allowed to properly do their job at the Border because of ridiculous liberal (Demo-

crat) laws like Catch & Release. Getting more dangerous. “Caravans” coming.” The “catch and release” that President Trump is referring to is the practice of allowing people who are detained arriving illegally in the US to be released from custody while awaiting a decision on whether they can stay. President Trump wants to eliminate this practice because he wants them to be promptly removed from the United States.

Furthermore, asylum seekers must prove at the border that there is a “credible fear” about returning to their home countries. Absent such proof at the border, these asylum seekers can now be refused entry into the United States at the border.

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

PHILIPPINE NEWS

Mayon Pili Nuts Top French Food Competition

By Pia Lee-Brago
Friday, April 13, 2018

MANILA, Philippines — The Philippines’ pili nuts bagged the top prize in a French food competition in Paris last week.

Mount Mayon Volcanic Pili Nuts received the top prize for the “dry savory impulse products – self-service ready-to-eat products category,” besting two other competitors during the Le Snacking D’Or 2018 at the Porte de Versailles.

“We have been testing the acceptability of

pili nuts among some of the top pastry chefs and culinary institutions in the southern part of France, and the feedback has been overwhelming. This award further confirms that the pili nut has vast potential in the discriminating palate of the French market,”

said Jean Luc Sini, public relations consultant for the Mount Mayon Volcanic Pili Nuts and the Philippine Trade and Investment Center, the commercial section of the Department of Trade and Industry in Paris.

Only the top three entries made it to the final round of voting for the Les Snacking d’Or “Produit d’impulsion secs sales” or

the dried salted snacking category. Sini added the Mount Mayon brand, which is processed in a facility in Subic, may have also caught the attention of the voters because it is halal, kosher, vegan cer-

tified and non-GMO verified.

Le Snacking d’Or is an annual competition held in France. It has been awarding top food products from the world for the last three years. (www.philstar.com)



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PHILIPPINE LANGUAGE



DAYASADAS
By Pacita Saludes

Nasayaat A Rusat Ti Mamagballaigi Kadagiti Timpuyog

gaili iti dayta a rabii.

Nairugi ti programa a naabendisionan babaen ti panangidaulo ti kararag ti Spiritual Advisor ni Adrian Galvez. Nagsapat dagiti kappili nga opisyales ti GUMIL HAWAII para ti tawen 2018-2019. Ni Froebel Garcia ti Presidente, 1st Vice President Gloria Raquedan, 2nd Vice President Emerita P. Espiritu, Secretary Maria Paz Labtingao, Corr Secretary Marlene Espiritu, Treasurer Lilia E. Del Rosario, Auditor Albina Gamponia, PRO Imelda O. Anderson, PRO Fely Cristobal, PRO Adore Udani, Business Manager Fely B. Alejandro,

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Dagitoy manen ti agsasaruno a mangaramid ti nakaisangratan nga aramiden ti GH kas kadagiti adun a tawen ti gunglo manipud idi 1971. Adun a kamkameng ti nagsisinublat a nangidaulo ti GH. Kasta met ti kaadun dagiti babbalasang ken nataengan a nabalangatan a nangtultulong kadagiti ti-

nawen a rusat ti GUMIL HAWAII. Kas ti pannakaurnong ti gapuanan dagiti Filipinos a mangor-urnos ken mangtaratarawidwid kadagiti mairusat a pagsayaatan ti gunglo ken kumonidad.

Panagilibro to proyekto ti Gumil Hawaii ket addan 20 a libro a naaramidan ken naibunbunongen kadagiti libraria iti Hawaii ken idiaiy Ilokos. Manarimaan a maisagsagana ti maikadupulo ket maysa a libro a pangipenpenan manen dagiti napateg a pagteng ken ar-aramid dagiti Pilipinos iti Hawaii.

RANGTAY (Bridge) ti Paulo daytoy a libro a malpas ken maibunongto manen inton sumaruno nga affair ti GH inton Julio 4, 2018. Malaksid kadagiti kamkameng ken mangipatpateg kadagiti libro, maibunongda kadagiti libraria ditoy America ken idiaiy Ilokos. Dagiti libraria ti mangpenpenen ti gapuanan dagiti mannurat ken dagiti mangipateg a kamkameng. Dagiti ar-aramiden ken gapuanan dagiti Filipino (Ilokanos) ket napa-

teg ken mataginayon.

BIOGRAPHIES ken napapateg a gapuanan a maurnong ti laonen ti libro a mangipaneknek a dagiti Filipinos addaanda met kadagiti gapuanan a makaitan-ok ti kaputotonada. Babaen dagiti mannurat, saan a malipatan dagiti tattao a makaitan-ok ti puli ken saan a mainsasaan nga adu met ti nasirib a kabaelanna ti mangitan-ok ti pulina kas kadagiti addaan ti saad ken pagturayan a makaitan-ok ti pagilian.

Agyaman ti GUMIL HAWAII ken ANNAK TI KAILOKUAN iti Hawaii kadagiti amin a tumoltulong kadagiti rusat ken ar-aramiden ti gunglo. Agyaman ti gunglo kenni Maria Etrata, ni Emy Anderson ken amin nga adda iti radio ken saanmin a mainanangan ditoy kadagiti adu a tulong ken panangtarabayyo iti gunglo. Thank Mayor Kirk Caldwell, former Mayor Mufi Hanneman, presidents of other organizations and everyone who rendered help and always assist GUMIL and AKA.

Naidasar ti tinawen a FIESTA TI KAILOKUAN 2018 a nakabayaan ti naisalsalumina a programa ti GUMIL ken ANNAK TI KAILOKUAN nga indaulo da Raymond Sebastian iti AKA ken Froebel Garcia iti GUMIL a naaramid iti Poomakai Ballroom iti Dole Cannery idi Marso 10, 2018. Nasurok a dua gasut ti san-

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(Solution to Crossword No.9 | April 7, 2018)

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26TH ANNUAL FILIPINO FIESTA | May 5, 2018 | 9:00 am - 5:00 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 Bacilig-Credo 927-4081, Carmen Cabrerros 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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PHILIPPINE NEWS

Robredo Camp Slams Marcos Attempt to Influence Recount

By Helen Flores
Wednesday, April 18, 2018



MANILA, Philippines — The camp of Vice President Leni Robredo yesterday slammed a lawyer for losing candidate Ferdinand Marcos Jr. for allegedly trying to “unduly influence” the ongoing manual recount.

As this developed, the Commission on Elections (Comelec) maintained that the threshold for considering a valid vote during the 2016 general polls was the 25 percent ballot shading, contrary to the Presidential Electoral Tribunal (PET)’s ruling that it should be 50 percent.

Robredo’s lawyers Romulo Macalintal and Maria Bernadette Sardillo filed a second manifestation of grave concern before the Supreme Court, sitting as the PET, over the actions of lawyer Joan Padilla at the PET revision area on April 13.

“Instead of merely observing the proceedings on April 13, Padilla went around the revision area, aggressively telling the PET head (revisers) to implement the 50-percent threshold percentage,” Macalintal said. He said Padilla also told the head revisers to post the PET resolution “in every corner or table in the revision area.”

Macalintal further said Marcos’ lawyer was also heard informing the head revisers that she no longer wanted the revision committees to check the votes of the parties vis-à-vis the election returns.

He said Padilla stopped only after the attention of the PET head revisers was called.

“Unfortunately, such conduct, which she herself will condemn or had condemned in election cases she handled with similar incidents, not only disrupted the proceedings but can be construed as unduly influencing the PET head (revisers),” Macalintal said.

The PET last week denied a mo-

tion filed by Robredo asking the tribunal to count the “one-fourth shaded” ballots in the ongoing recount.

In a resolution, dated April 10, the tribunal maintained that the recount would observe a 50-percent threshold percentage, which Macalintal said was double the 25 percent configured in the vote counting machines in the 2016 elections.

As the PET applies the 50-percent threshold in the recount, around 5,000 votes for Robredo from her home province Camarines Sur have so far been invalidated.

Meanwhile, Robredo said they have “many concerns” with regard to the ongoing manual recount.

“We have many concerns. But we can’t talk about it. We’re not allowed to talk about the case,” she said in an ambush interview in Pasay City.

The recount covers a total of 5,418 clustered precincts in Camarines Sur, Iloilo and Negros Oriental, the three pilot provinces identified by Marcos in his electoral protest against Robredo.

Robredo defeated Marcos by 263,473 in the 2016 vice presidential race.

Threshold down to 25 percent

According to Comelec spokesman James Jimenez, there was a resolution issued by the poll body

that adopted the use of 25-percent threshold by the random manual audit committee (RMAC) as a policy.

“In 2016, what I know is the threshold was down to 25 percent. There was a resolution issued in September... There’s something like that,” he noted an interview over ANC.

Jimenez was apparently referring to the minute resolution unanimously signed by the commission in September 2016, adopting the memorandum of Comelec commissioner and RMAC head Luie Tito Guia to lawyer Felipa Anama, then clerk of the PET.

The memorandum stated that “when a mark covers at least 25 percent of the oval, said mark is supposed to be considered a vote by the system.”

This was intended to ensure that “votes are not wasted due to inadequate shading or that no accidental or unintended small marks are counted as votes.”

The memorandum was issued in response to the request of PET for a copy of the Comelec guidelines used in the manual counting of ballots by RMAC.

Jimenez said the number of votes will really “change” if counted by the vote counting machines using the 25-percent threshold while during human counting, the threshold that will be used is 50 percent. (www.philstar.com)

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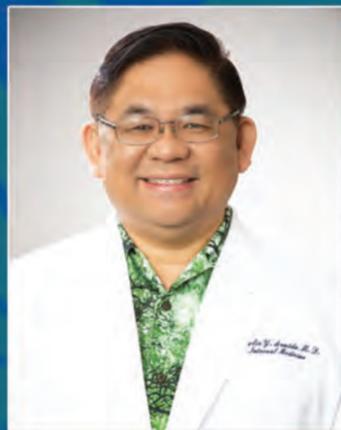
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