

HAWAII



FILIPINO CHRONICLE

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◆ MAY 5, 2018 ◆

GIVING TRIBUTE AND THANKS ON MOTHER'S DAY

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EDITORIALS

A Big Mahalo to Moms on Mother's Day

Get ready families to honor the woman who has the most important job in shaping who we are -- our mom.

Mother's Day is on Sunday, May 13. As other holidays of great significance, commercialism plays a part whether we like it or not, simply because giving is a common way of showing gratitude. The National Restaurant Association says Mother's Day is the most popular day of the year to eat at a restaurant. Treating mom to lunch or dinner is a perfect gift for many families because spending time together over a delicious meal is perhaps one of the greatest ways to show love and appreciation.

Along with Valentine's Day, Mother's Day is the busiest day for florists, accounting for one quarter of all flowers purchased for all holidays. There's something special about receiving flowers on Mother's day: they're beautiful, and require care and nurturing, much like what mothers' are and do for their children.

If dinner or flowers are not on the list for celebrating Mother's Day due to long-distance separation (but flowers still can be shipped), mothers deserve a phone call. Better yet, skype or Facetime conversation. More than 122 million phone calls are made to mom's on Mother's Day in the U.S. The most important thing to consider when making a phone call on Mother's Day is to allot generous time to talk. The last and most disappointing thing for moms is to feel rushed during a Mother's Day phone call. Moms have dedicated a lifetime caring and raising their children, a phone call under time constraint on this special day can make moms feel unappreciated. Let moms take the lead to end a phone call on Mother's Day.

Giving our time is the best gift for mothers. So any activity that involves sharing time together – horseback riding, a picnic, day at the beach, lounging at the house while children prepare a hearty meal, even a sleep-over – will all bring out smiles and melt moms' hearts with joy.

If giving a material gift is preferred, be sure to put thought into it. Choose a gift associated with what your mom enjoys doing, something related to her hobbies, something that reflects her personality.

How it all began

The origin of Mother's day celebration dates back to the Greek and Romans who both held festivals in honor of moms and the mother goddesses Rhea and Cybele. Mothers are celebrated on different days worldwide; 50 countries dedicate a special day to honor mothers. In the United States, it became a holiday in 1914. In the early days, there was strong resistance against commercialization of Mother's Day. Reflection and quiet praying together were typical ways Americans celebrated Mother's Day. Before it became an official holiday, mothers in early America set aside a special day for mothers as a day of protest against war. As early as the late 1800s after the Franco-Prussian War, mothers banded to protest war pointing out that mothers were left alone when their husbands and sons died in war. While anti-war movements has dwindled dramatically (in part due to less American casualties in modern high-tech war), mothers remain the most vociferous and organized among protestors. Given their nature and instinct for protecting their children, this shouldn't come as a surprise.

We wish all mothers a very special and meaningful

FROM THE PUBLISHER

Abraham Lincoln once said, "All that I am, or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother." Much of who we are, were shaped by the love, protection, and guidance of our mothers. They are the rock of the family, our teachers, our healers.

This issue we have a special Mother's Day cover story. Associate editor Edwin Quinabo compiles mini-testimonials and stories from people in our community who share the relationships they have with their mothers. Children tell us what their mothers mean to them. We also see how the most important job there is, motherhood, is celebrated on Mother's Day. It's a warm, feel-good story we hope will inspire people to strengthen their mother-child bond. At the same time, remind us of the importance of showing gratitude, giving thanks to our mothers who've made tremendous sacrifices to bring us into this world and raise us as best they could. This is what Mother's Day is all about.

Also in this issue, we have good news that funding for the Kupuna Caregivers Program passed at the Legislature. Caregiving families can continue to seek assistance from the state for their wonderful work of caring for their senior loved ones. Gov. David Ige also signed into law the Hawaii Ratepayer Protection Act that could help with energy efficiency and possibly reduce our utilities bills. Be sure to read our other local, mainland and Philippine news.

For our columns section, Emil Guillermo contributes an evocative article "Comey and Syria Will Keep Haunting Trump." Guillermo reports on the political fallout surrounding the release of former FBI director James Comey's new book. Also that the recent attack on Syria could be yet another impeachable offense for Trump. Guillermo interviewed Francis Boyle, professor of international law at the University of Illinois, who said "It's (the Syrian attack) a violation of the War Powers clause of the U.S. Constitution. It's a violation of the War Powers resolution enacted by Congress...there's no legality at all that I can tell, just wanton and naked aggression...It's clearly illegal and all these actions by President Trump are certainly impeachable as well."

HFC columnist Atty. Reuben Seguritan writes about a new Supreme Court ruling that limits the types of crimes that could be the basis for deportation. Low-level offenses committed by lawful permanent residents, even if they would qualify as aggravated felonies, would not automatically mean mandatory deportation.

Finally, read HFC columnist Seneca Moraleda's letter to her unborn child who she lost in a miscarriage. It's a powerfully moving experience of suffering and healing. Thank you Seneca for sharing such a personal story.

And thank you, our readers and advertisers, for supporting your community newspaper. We wish all moms and their families a Happy Mother's Day! Until next issue, warmest *Aloha* and *Mabuhay!* See you at the Filipino Fiesta!

Chona A. Montesines-Sonido

Mother's Day! Thank you moms for being the anchor of our families, keeping us grounded in a world that can often pull us in perilous directions. You've kept us safe from harm all our lives. And thank you moms for being the never-ending reservoir of love. That sea of love has sustained us; and taught us to be loving adults. Mabuhay to all moms!



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EDITORIALS

Employees Should Receive Training Against Racial Bias

Two black men enters a Starbucks in Philadelphia and had done what many patrons do – wait at a table for the person they planned to meet before ordering drinks. Only two minutes pass, then the store manager calls police on them for trespassing. This simple act of waiting that many patrons do at Starbucks apparently was enough to get the two black men arrested.

Now, Starbucks finds itself in a public-relations nightmare for racially profiling the men, Donte Robinson and Rashon Nelson.

This incident did not involve physical harm as many other headlining injustices, but it sparked outrage because it reminded Americans of the same old tired shame that we're still as a nation struggling with racism.

It reminded Americans that nonwhite customers are often not treated equally. Employees often do not apply the same rule or give the same service to customers simply because of skin color.

This time Starbucks is under attack, and deservedly so. But really, employee-customer racism happens every

day at companies throughout the country. Just four weeks earlier before this incident, black teenagers at an IHOP in Maine were asked to pay before receiving food. No one else in the restaurant had to pay first, only them.

This IHOP incident was only discovered because other customers witnessed what happened and posted it on Facebook. The Starbucks incident was only discovered because witnesses made a video that went viral on Twitter. Imagine how many cases of racism go unreported or brushed aside if it weren't for cell phone recorders and social media.

In the Starbucks location where the incident took place, it should also be noted that Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia has "the highest racial disparities in police pedestrian stops in the entire city." In an ACLU of Pennsylvania study, 67 percent of the people stopped by police in Rittenhouse were African American, despite the black population in the area being only 3 percent.

What does this suggest? This Starbucks incident perhaps isn't an isolated occurrence at Rittenhouse, or at similar mostly white neigh-



borhoods. Remember in 2009 when a woman in Cambridge, Mass., called 911 to report a possible burglary in her mostly white neighborhood? The man she called the cops on happened to be Henry Louis Gates Jr., a renowned black Harvard professor, who was on his way home. But that simple act got him arrested. Again, like the Starbucks in Rittenhouse incident, this happened because Gates is black and was in a mostly white neighborhood.

Would this latest racial profiling incident at Starbucks in Rittenhouse occurred at another Starbucks in a more diverse neighborhood? Probably not.

Yes, this incident is about Starbucks. But it is also about Rittenhouse, and prejudice in

many communities like it in the U.S.

Textbook "response" for corporations to follow

Clearly Starbucks must be held accountable for the wrongful incident. At the same time, Starbucks, known for being a progressive, pro-diversity company (pays its employees 100% pay equity of gender and race), has taken steps to make a wrongful act committed by one of its managers into a positive one. In fact, Starbucks' reaction could be a model for all corporations in handling a wrongful racial incident.

First, Starbucks swiftly got rid of that employee who unfairly called the police on the two black men for allegedly trespassing.

Second, Starbucks CEO Kevin Johnson apologized in-person to Robinson and Nelson.

Third, Johnson took full responsibility, launched an investigation, and issued a statement "It's my responsibility to understand what happened and what led to that, and ensure that we fix it... Starbucks stands firmly against discrimination or racial profiling. Regretfully, our practices and training led to a bad outcome

— the basis for the call to the Philadelphia Police Department was wrong..."

Fourth, Johnson announced that on May 29, all 8,000 Starbucks locations in the U.S. will be closed for anti-biased training. This will cost the company millions and shows that Starbucks is serious about treating customers fairly.

The next step should be that new policies for customer ejections and racial profiling be adopted.

Whether it's Starbucks, IHOP, or any other company, or even being at a mostly white neighborhood, the color of a person's skin alone should never tell you anything about that person and never be a basis of judgement. People must be judged on action.

Nelson said this kind of racial bias has been ongoing for years. "It's not just a black people thing. It's a people thing."

Minorities should be able to walk into a store and not have employees treat them differently, ignore them, or even be excessively monitored. And definitely what needs to change -- employees must stop calling police on customers for unwarranted situations. People must stop using the police out of prejudice because as many examples show police encounters can have unexpectedly dangerous outcomes.

It's time for all companies, small and large, to begin training their employees to be color-blind. CEOs should be aware that almost everyone has a camera and is on social media. Employee discrimination could go viral anytime. Do the right thing, train employees to avoid racial bias.

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

WWII Filipino Veterans to be Honored Congressional Gold Medal

Several dozen Filipino World War II veterans from Hawaii will be honored at the WWII Filipino Veterans Congressional Gold Medal Presentation ceremony at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, Waikiki Beach Resort, Coral Ballroom on May 6, 2018, 5 p.m. registration, 6:30 program. The presentation is part of the Filipino Veterans Recognition and Education Project.

This event is the first formal presentation ceremony of the medals in Hawaii since the enactment of enabling legislation, the Filipino Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act, and is being held for eligible veterans in the Islands who were previously unable to

accept their medals at a prior ceremony in Washington, D.C.

In total, approximately 35 Filipino WWII veterans and 100 designated/next-of-kin representatives are anticipated to receive medals at the May 6 presentation ceremony.

The event previously was scheduled to be held at the FilCom Center but moved due to capacity limitations. Those who have made reservations for the event are being notified of the changes by letter, email and/or direct telephone call, and are being asked to share the information with their guests.

Filipino Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act: on Nov. 30, 2016, Congress passed The Filipino

Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act, which was signed into law by President Barack Obama on Dec. 14, 2016. The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest award bestowed by the U.S. Congress to an individual or group who performed a significant achievement that has an impact in American history and culture. For more information, visit www.filvetrep.org.

More information about the event is available at FilVetRepRegion11.Eventbrite.com. Individuals or organizations interested in sponsorship opportunities are encouraged to contact Abelina Madrid Shaw at (808) 722-6786 or Cecilia Villafuerte at (808) 780-4985.

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Showing Our Appreciation on Mother's Day

By Edwin Quinabo

From politics and religion to reaching an agreement on the best wine to pair with filet mignon -- finding common ground on anything these days can be challenging. But all is not lost to quibble and debate, fortunately.

There are a few things most of us can stand united on: like the wisdom in knowing we owe a great debt of gratitude to our mothers. They've carried us in the womb, walked us to our first day of school, counseled us on raising our own children. Our mothers have been with us every step of the way. They're the longest friend we've had; they're our biggest cheerleader who've helped push us through every inning in the game of life. Mothers are so important to us that every day could justifiably be Mother's Day. But we have one official Mother's Day each year to squeeze in all the gratitude and love she can handle. This year, that day is May 13 (always celebrated the second Sunday of May).

What Mother's Day used to be

In the beginning years when Mother's Day was first officially recognized in the U.S. at the turn of the 1900s, it was celebrated with religiosity -- families spent the day reflecting and praying together.

At times, it also took on a political tone as mothers used the day to protest war out of fear for losing their husbands and sons in battle.

The push to have a day dedicated to moms also was one of the first movements of American feminism. Women argued that American holidays were biased toward male achievements; and women activists initiated a

massive letter campaign to newspapers and prominent politicians to have a special day officially adopted to honor motherhood.

The campaign started by Anna Jarvis took six years before Mother's Day became a U.S. holiday in 1914.

A day of prayer, anti-war protests, and feminism are not what we'd commonly associate with Mother's Day now. Back then, it was far from being a holiday of commercialism and consumerism as we see in our more contemporary version.

Flowers, Dinner, Memories

Times have changed. The modern Mother's Day



Geraldine Averion (extreme right, back) with her mom and family

typically involves showering mom with flowers, treating her to dinner, and having the entire family build long-lasting memories.

Geraldine Averion, 15, of Kapolei said "We celebrate Mother's Day by treating my mom (Judelyn) to whatever or wherever she wants. One of my mom's favorite places to eat is Max's of Manila. So we often go there. After that we'd go to a mall where my dad would buy something that my mom has been wanting to get for a really long time. Then at home my siblings and I would spend the rest of the day appreciating her."

She describes one of her most memorable Mother's day when her sisters and her hid a surprise in their parents' bedroom. "Before getting to the room, my mom put all her things away. She was wondering what all my sisters and I were babbling about. What was all the fuss? mom

"My mom is one of the greatest gifts from God. She is the embodiment of sacrifice and love, always there to fight for us, her children. All she wants in life is to make her children happy."

— GERALDINE AVERION
Kapolei

thought, while approaching the room. When she entered, boom! There was a bouquet of edible arrangements on the bed waiting for my mom. My mom's face literally lit up. I think she almost cried because she knew how expensive edible arrangements are and my dad went out of his way to get it," said Geraldine.

Tovy Herana, 11, of Ewa Beach says his mom doesn't like to do much on Mother's Day. But the family goes out for dinner to celebrate. The family also pitches in to take on mom's regular daily duties. "I remember one time, we brought our mom to Maui and we went snorkeling at Molokina. She loves to snorkel and it looked like she had fun. I like to make personal letters for her. Three years ago I made baking mittens that she still uses today," said Tovy

Tovy's mom, Andrea, 33, says her mom lives in the Philippines. "My mom (Dang Pamintuan) doesn't pamper

herself much. So for Mother's day, I send her money to spend on herself to have a day at a spa to get a massage. But instead she spends it eating out with family and sharing her blessings by donating to the church," said Andrea.

"My most memorable mother's days are the ones when my mom and I spent a lot of time together. I do not get a lot of time to spend with her lately because we're so far apart, but I cherish every moment with my mom." Andrea said the most precious gift her mom received from her is bringing Tovy (a grandchild) into the world.

"She also likes her Pandora collection, too," said Andrea.

What mom means to me and the lessons she has taught

The bond of mother and child lasts a lifetime. Each Mother's Day, families reflect on how special that bond is.

(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)

Geraldine says she is proud of her close relationship with her mom. “We’re like salt and pepper, best friends. I know she’s that one person in my life who will always stick with me to the end. She always finds the time to talk to me about my day; and she talks to me about her day. We’re always there to listen to each other. My mom is one of the greatest gifts from God. She is the embodiment of sacrifice and love, always there to fight for us, her children. All she wants in life is to make her children happy,” said Geraldine.

One of seven children in the family, Geraldine says she takes in the valuable life lessons her mother always gives her. She said her mother encourages her to keep striving high and to keep moving on with life, through the darkest and saddest times.

“She tells me that life isn’t always fair, but I have to keep my head high in those weakest of moments. Without her, I probably wouldn’t have the motivation I have now to strive to do my best in my academics. I am now at the very top of my class,” said Geraldine.

One of the greatest lessons imparted to Geraldine by her mother is on love, a subject mothers know all too well. Geraldine recounts what her mother says, “True love is loving unconditionally, like the love I have for your dad. No matter what struggles we face, and no matter what arguments we have, I would always love him and fight for him until the end of time.”

On having faith and prayers, Geraldine said her mom told her a story she always remembers. Her mom Judelyn grew up in a household of only male siblings. Judelyn would always pray to God that she had a sister to play with, to do hair, and put on make-up with. Her wish never came true. But Judelyn thinks God eventually answered her prayers when she was blessed to have 6 out of 7 children who are girls. Geraldine believes her mom that God does hear our

prayers; but sometimes God sends blessings in ways and in a time frame that we don’t necessarily expect.

A mother’s sound advice is what many people say they remember and treasure. In many ways, mothers’ advice is what shapes societal values and gives us our sense of humanity. Such sage words can come unexpectedly from left field, sometimes even unwanted. But as time passes, children often realize the profound wisdom behind a mother’s advice.

Andrea remembers the sacrifices her mom Dang has made. “My mom is the eldest of 9 siblings. At a young age, she took the role of a mother because my grandma was busy with her business. My mom, an accountant, gave up her career to take care of us full-time. Later, she also helped me raise my son Tovy,” said Andrea.

“My mom is my best friend. We share a lot of secrets and stories. We Face-time any chance we get. She knows the right words to say and makes me smile. She guides me in being a good mother,” said Andrea of her mother Dang.

On a memory Andrea will always remember of her mom, “I remember her being there for me always. Once I had one of my lowest points in my life in high school. I did not share what was wrong, but my mom noticed it (mother’s intuition). She dropped everything she was doing to make me smile again.” Andrea said her mother always thinks of others and her kids first, then herself.

Dang helped to shape Andrea to be who she is today by being supportive. “I remember she’d make mock tests for me so that I could have good grades. She’d work hard to earn extra money if I needed something or wanted something for school. She was and is a good role model,” said Andrea.

That same selfless sacrifice that Dang had must have passed on to the next generation as Tovy, too, had remarkable things to say of his mom Andrea. “My mom is my superhero. She sacrific-

es all her time for me. I play basketball and she attends all my games and practices. To help improve my game, she learned how to play basketball and sometimes is my training partner.”

The young Tovy also talks about how proud he is of Andrea. “My mom is a registered nurse. Her job is to care for people who are homeless, ill and downtrodden. She ran 6 marathons and completed the Spartan race, Trifecta.”

Motherhood often requires preparedness for all occasions. Tovy sees her mom fulfilling many roles. “She can be a nurse when I get cuts and get sick. A chef to cook my best meals. My best friend when I need someone to talk to. A drill sergeant when I need to be straightened up. My life coach that teaches me how to be a better person. But what I cherish most of all is her role as being mom, who gives me never-ending care and love.”

Mother’s Day in the Philippines

Like early practices of Mother’s Day in the U.S., the Philippines also approached the day with religiosity. Originally it was celebrated on December 8, on the day of the feast of the Immaculate Conception. In 1980, Mother’s day was moved to the second Sunday of May to coincide with the American date. Although commercialism is a big part of Mother’s Day in the Philippines, the religious tradition is still strong.

Mothers are commonly given the title “ilaw ng tahanan,” which means “light of the home,” an obvious religious association to the Holy



Tovy Herana (center) with dad, Dr. Nestor Herana Jr. and mom, Andrea

Spirit, but today it is more akin to represent the unconditional love moms’ give to their family.

A typical Mother’s day begins by attending mass at the local parish as a family. After that, everyone would go out for lunch or back home for a celebration. On this day, grandmothers are also recognized because normally they would be living in the same household. It’s also common for aunts, relatives, and neighbors to get together to have one big party for all moms.

Gifts and flowers are typically given to moms. What’s unique to the Philippines is Mother’s Day celebrations also typically include mothers who have passed away. Lighting a candle or visiting the grave site of a deceased mother is common to show respect and honor. The origin of this practice is distinctly Asian; most Asian countries practice varying degrees of ancestor veneration.

What’s also unique to the Philippines -- moms receive monetary gifts from their children who live or

work abroad. This could be one reason why the date was changed in the Philippines to match other countries’ Mother’s Day where their children live and work abroad.

Mother’s Day is one of the happiest celebrations of the year. It’s about giving thanks and reflecting on the wonderful memories we’ve shared with our moms, her words of wisdom, her nurturing love. Everyone on this planet has a unique story of his or her own mom. At the same time, in many ways, motherhood itself is a universal story constantly unfolding with each birth.

It’s only fitting that motherhood is celebrated around the world in more than 50 countries. Beyond reproduction, the essence and female energy of motherhood are essential to humanity’s survival; they serve as an equalizer and balance to our historically patriarch-dominated society. In Filipino culture, there is the concept of utang na loob, or debt of gratitude. Many can agree: to whom we owe this debt to most -- is our mother. Happy Mother’s Day.



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Be good at life. 

We Must Protect the Special Counsel

By Sen. Mazie K. Hirono

(Senator Mazie K. Hirono, the Ranking Member of the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, issued the following statement after the Senate Judiciary Committee approved bipartisan legislation to protect the Special Counsel on a 14-7 vote.)



These are not normal times. My Republican colleagues continue to deny that the President is looking for a way to fire the Special Counsel.

And yet today in an interview with Fox News, the President all but said that's

exactly what he would like to do.

He criticized the investigation into Russian interference in our election as "a witch hunt with people in the Justice Department that shouldn't be there" and talked about "our Justice Department, which I try to stay away from, but pretty soon I won't."

President Trump's state-

ments make plain that he is thinking of firing Mueller, Rosenstein, and Sessions. No one can have any doubt that he would do it and let the chips fall where they may.

The President's statements demonstrate his continuing belief that the Department of Justice is there to serve him, not the American people. He is wrong.

The bipartisan bill we reported out of the Senate Judiciary Committee today will protect the Special Counsel now and in the future, and upholds the rule of law.

Majority Leader McConnell has unilaterally announced that he will not bring a Special Counsel protection bill to the floor. I call on him not to stand in the way of this bipartisan legislation and allow a vote as soon as possible.

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Energy Consumers Can Expect to See More Value for Their Money

Gov. David Ige signed the Hawaii Ratepayer Protection Act into law that requires the Hawaii Public Utilities (PUC) to establish performance metrics.

They include: affordability of electric rates and customer electric bills; service reliability; customer engagement and satisfaction, including customer options for managing electricity costs; access to utility system information; rapid integration of renewable energy sources; timely execution of competitive procurement.

"The bottom line is that SB 2939 is a victory for Hawai'i's energy consumers who will see more value for their hard-earned dollars. Through its expertise and oversight, the PUC will ensure that we move aggressively toward our renewable energy and consumer protection goals while maintaining a safe, reliable and resilient electric grid operated by a financially stable utility," said Gov. Ige.

"By aligning the utility's incentives with the consumer's incentives, everyone

wins. Electricity bills will be based on performance: bringing renewable power sources online, upgrading the electric grid, ensuring reliability of the power supply, and even customer satisfaction. That's good for consumers, good for businesses, good for the environment, good for the state, and good for the utilities," said Sen. Stanley Chang, who introduced the bill.

"This bill aligns the interests of utilities and our communities they serve. It is a big win for local consumers who will get improved electric services with more options for innova-

tive renewables and batteries, and it is a responsible step forward helping our utilities transition to a sustainable business model that can survive disruption in the energy market," said Rep. Chris Lee, chair of the Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection.

"The Legislature has worked hard to establish regulatory policy that will better align electric utility incentives with customer needs and the State's energy policy. The Legislature is confident that the Public Utilities Commission, as already demonstrated through the release of its

April 18, 2018 docket related to performance-based regulation, will appropriately incorporate stakeholder input in identifying incentives that make sense and implementing these incentives that will minimize unproductive disruption and not result in unintended consequences. Through this collaborative, deliberative, and balanced process, the State will achieve the necessary update to our regulatory framework that ensures a safe, reliable, and resilient electric grid for all of our residents from our rural, agricultural communities to our most densely populated urban areas," said Rep. Della Belatti.

State Legislature Passes Free Credit Freeze Bill

The Hawaii State Legislature passed HB 2343, a bill that eliminates the fee that credit reporting agencies can charge consumers to place and remove a credit freeze, also known as a security freeze. A security freeze is often placed by consumers to protect themselves from identity theft. The bill goes to Gov. David Ige for signing to become law.

AARP Hawai'i supports HB2342 and believes that credit reporting agencies should not be making money from consumers who want control of their own information.

"In light of the Equifax data breach and other thefts of personal information, the Legislature is making it easier for consumers to take charge of their own information and protect themselves from scammers," said Barbara Kim Stan-

ton, the state director of AARP Hawai'i. "We thank the House and Senate for their support."

The House voted unanimously to agree to the Senate version of the bill.

Current Hawaii law allows credit reporting agencies to charge a fee of up to \$5 for each request to the agency to place or remove a freeze. There are three major credit reporting agencies – Equifax, Experian and TransUnion -- so it can cost up to \$15 every time you freeze your credit. It will cost \$15 again if you want to lift the freeze to apply for a loan and another \$15 to put the freeze back in place.

A credit freeze protects your identity because it allows you to choose who gets to see your credit report. It prevents identity thieves from seeing your credit report if they try to open an account in your name, but still allows you to

authorize the release of your information if you need to apply for a loan or other credit.

Last year, AARP Fraud Watch Network Ambassador Frank Abagnale spoke at identity theft prevention workshops on Oahu and Maui. He told us about how he helped pass the nation's

first law in South Carolina, his home state, to make credit freezes free. Since then several other states have passed similar laws and the Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs had bills introduced this session to make credit freezes free in Hawaii.

Abagnale, one of the na-

tion's top identity theft experts, was the real-life inspiration for the movie "Catch Me if You Can." While just a teenager, he stole millions of dollars from banks and airlines until his arrest. He turned his life around and now is an author and consultant to the FBI and private businesses on preventing fraud and identity theft.

State Warns of Money Wire Scams

There is an increase in scams and the State of Hawaii's Office of Consumer Protection is issuing a new warning to consumers to be on the lookout for scammers who are asking potential victims to wire money.

Wiring money is fraught with risk, and often means that the person who receives it is a scammer.

"We recently learned of an increase in reports where scammers highjack someone's

Facebook or email account and impersonate that individual to solicit and convince others to transfer money," said Stephen H. Levins, Executive Director, Office of Consumer Protection.

"If you're ever asked to send money with a wire transfer it's probably a scam. Almost every online or telemarketing scam that we've seen involves someone asking the victim to wire money."

Scam artists use a number of elaborate schemes to get

your money, and many involve money transfers through companies like Western Union and MoneyGram. Scammers pressure people to use money transfers so they can get the money before their victims realize they've been cheated. Money transfers are virtually the same as sending cash — there are no protections for the sender. Typically, there is no way you can reverse the transaction or trace the money. Also, when you wire

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PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

A Letter to My Unborn Child

By Seneca Moraleda-Puguan

Baby Baba, You have such a funny name. It was your elder sister who gave it. It is cute though, isn't it?

I have never seen your face but you already have a name. I have not touched you nor heard your voice but you are dearly loved. I have only heard your heartbeat for a few precious minutes and it has changed my life completely.

It has been thirty months since we became parents to your elder sister, Callie, and we wanted her to have a playmate. Every night we would lay our hands on my tummy and pray. Your sister would lay her head on my tummy and say, 'Baby Brother.'

Finally, our prayer had been answered. On the 1st of April, I found out that I was having you. Your daddy didn't believe at first because it was April Fool's Day but I showed him the two lines that said it was positive. We hugged each other and jumped for joy. Callie's 'Baby brother' has come. And on the 3rd of April, we visited your doctor. And there you were, perfectly healthy at 6 weeks. You were so beautiful and your heartbeat felt like music to my ears. We were very happy to have a glimpse of you.

You didn't give me a hard time like your Ate Callie. I had terrible morning sickness when

I was carrying her. I couldn't eat. I couldn't stand for a long time. I felt so weak. But pregnancy was different with you. I was strong. I could eat anything. No smell bothered me. I could walk and travel far. But this time, I guess I wasn't careful.

We were scheduled to visit your doctor after two weeks but we didn't have to wait that long. Just after one week, upon arriving from Seoul where we attended our church service, we went rushing to the hospital in the middle of the night. I was bleeding. I was very worried. My heart was pounding. We had an ultrasound to see you. Gladly, your heart was still beating. You were still hanging on. I was asked to be on bed rest and I was given medication.

But the next day, the bleeding continued. In fact, it became worse. The blood turned from brown to fresh red. Before the day ended, with messy hair and on pajamas, we went to see your doctor. I was hopeful to see you well but you were no more. You bid goodbye. Your heart stopped beating. At seven weeks, you were gone.

My world stopped for a moment there. I asked the doctor why and he had no explanation to give. He was just sorry. I was shocked that I couldn't breathe, not even cry. But when your daddy and Ate Callie entered the room to see me, I burst into uncontrollable tears. Your daddy was also crying because the doctor went out to tell him the sad news. I



was sorry. I was sorry I didn't take care of myself that I ended up not taking care of you.

I'm sorry if you haven't been given the chance to enjoy life in this world, to play with your sister and other kids, to watch Pororo, Peppa Pig and PJ Masks, your sister's favorite cartoon shows. I am sorry that you will never be able to try spaghetti, pizza and candy. I am sorry you can't go to the park and ride the bike. I am sorry. But I know that you are in a much better place, much better than where we are now in our Father's arms, where you rightfully belong.

My heart was broken a thousand times. My soul was shattered into a million pieces. You have been taken away so quickly. So many questions ran through my head but there seemed to be no answer. But there was one thing I received as I asked God to help me understand, it was unexplainable peace.

Just as my world stopped, I continued living. Even when it was hurting, your father and I responded in praise and grat-

agement and prayers. Truly, we are not alone. We are loved.

Thank you, because having you for just a few weeks has given me so much joy and excitement, but losing you has given me a greater gift -- a heart that has the greater capacity to love, a comforted soul that is able to comfort others as I have been comforted, and peace that transcends understanding, it overwhelms my soul.

There were moments I would think you could be replaced. We can always make another one. But I am wrong. You are irreplaceable because you are unique. God created your innermost being. He has knit you together in my womb. You have been fearfully and wonderfully made. You will always have a special place in my heart. You will always be remembered.

A friend of mine said, "Not many can relate to the pain of miscarriage but to a mother, whether 8 weeks or 9 months in the uterus, a child is a child whether unformed or formed and they do change our lives forever." It is my prayer that other mothers like me who have lost their child will find healing, comfort, joy and hope.

Someday, we will see you again. Someday, I will be able to hold you. But for now, I will continue to hope, love and believe for greater things.

Missing you,
Mommy Seneca

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS: STATE WARNS...from page 6)

money, the recipient can pick it up at one of many locations. That makes it nearly impossible to identify the recipient or track him down. In some cases, the receiving agents of the money transfer company may be cooperating with a scammer.

The Office of Consumer Protection advises that you don't wire money to a person who:

*you never met

*says they are your relative, and they're having a crisis — but they don't want you to tell anyone

*says a money transfer is

the only form of payment they accept

*asks you to deposit a check and send some of the money back.

If you've wired money to a scam artist, call the money transfer company immediately to report the fraud and file a complaint. You can reach the complaint department of MoneyGram at 1-800-MONEYGRAM (1-800-666-3947) or Western Union at 1-800-325-6000. Ask for the money transfer to be reversed. It's unlikely to happen, but it's important to ask. Then,

file a complaint with the Office of Consumer Protection and the Federal Trade Commission.

Here are some common money transfer scams to avoid:

*Family Emergency Scams.

You get a call out of the blue from someone who claims to be a member of your family and needs cash for an emergency — to fix a car, get out of jail or leave a foreign country. He begs you to wire money right away and to keep the request confidential. Before you send money, talk with your family. If you feel that you cannot ignore the request, try to verify the caller's identity by asking personal questions a stranger can't

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HEALTH & FAMILY

HEARTY & HEALTHY FILIPINO FOOD TAKES AMERICAN SPOTLIGHT

WELL-BEING By Mylene Mendoza-Dayrit

With its Japanese, Chinese and Spanish influences, Filipino food is an incredible experience for any palate. Its rich flavors, fragrant aromas and fresh ingredients have earned it a deserving place in the international spotlight.

Renowned restaurants and chefs all over the United States have discovered the wonders of Filipino food. My family and friends have frequented several of these trendy Pinoy food spots abroad — from sit-down restaurants to bars and food trucks.

Leading fitness magazine Shape recently ran a spread featuring three Filipino recipes by celebrated restaurateurs, Leah Cohen of Pig &

Khao in New York, Brian Hardesty of Guerilla Food Street in St. Louis, and Janice Dulce of FOB Kitchen in San Francisco.

“Filipino cuisine is relatively young compared to its Asian neighbors. Thanks to emerging food trends and diets, Filipino food is gradually getting the attention it deserves,” says nutrition director Cristy Marasigan, RND. “I believe that its appeal lies on its simplicity and ease of preparation, availability of ingredients and harmonious blend of western and eastern tastes. Just think of sinigang, pinakbet and kare-kare.”

Filipino food has a universal appeal. “In general, Pinoy dishes are not extremely strong in flavor, and are pleasantly aromatic because they almost always use garlic and herbs, flavorings and spices



“This charred eggplant omelet is a classic Filipino breakfast and is traditionally served with garlic fried rice,” says Janice Dulce, chef and owner of FOB Kitchen in San Francisco.

indigenous to the regions they originated from,” Marasigan adds.

What I love about Filipino cuisine is the fact that it’s so colorful and diverse. There are so many different variations of childhood favorites and it’s really easy to make these dishes healthy.

“Healthy for me would be lightly seasoned vegetables with grilled fish or sea-

food taking the place of pork chunks or pork crackling bits like in pinakbet. Another personal favorite is the Bicolano dish laing, which is made with gabi or taro leaves and tinapa flakes (or leftover fried fish) laced with fresh coconut cream,” Marasigan says.

The quintessential Filipino dish? Adobo, of course. “Adobo is one of the most popular meals in the Philip-

pines. It shows what the cuisine is all about —balancing acidic vinegar with salty soy sauce and sweet coconut milk,” explains chef Leah Cohen, the Filipino-American owner of Pig & Khao restaurant in New York’s Lower East Side.

“A popular version of the adobo is the pork-chicken adobo. The fatty pork part like liempo is the choice meat cut because the rendered fat from the pork mixes with the soy sauce-vinegar mixture, and makes the dish rich and flavorful. The saturated fat content definitely shoots up,” Marasigan claims.

“How to make it healthier without sacrificing the taste and richness of the dish? Add coconut cream or coconut milk and pair it with steamed veggies like kangkong or swamp cabbage. Some even add boiled egg as extender,

(continue on page 10)

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Funding for Kupuna Caregivers Program Passed

Hawaii lawmakers approved \$1.2 million for the Kupuna Caregivers program. The program helps family caregivers who work at least 30 hours/week outside the home by providing a \$70/day benefit in services that make caring for aging family members who are 60 and over more affordable and accessible. It can

help pay for things like: home health care workers, extra help preparing meals, adult day care costs, and transportation

Initially passed by the legislature in 2017, the Kupuna Caregivers program began with \$600,000, and was quickly implemented to begin serving caregiving families in Hawaii. With this doubling of resources

for year two, the program will continue ensuring that family caregivers and seniors will be able to access care services in their homes and communities.

Pedro Haro, Hawaii Advocacy Director for Caring Across Generations, said, "Caregiving families in Hawaii will be well-served by the legislature's continued com-

mitment to the Kupuna Caregivers program, and we are grateful for the leadership of our elected officials in ensuring that this program will keep assisting families throughout 2018."

In the span of two months, hundreds of family caregivers called the Executive Office on Aging and the Adult and Dis-

ability Resource Centers to apply for the program, a demonstration of the enormous need for extra support to pay for care services. In this next phase of the program, community advocates will continue working to ensure that all eligible caregiving families apply to the program for the help that they need and deserve.

(STATE WARNS...from page 7)

answer. And keep trying to reach your family to check out the story.

***Lotteries and Sweepstakes.** You just won a foreign lottery! The letter says so, and a cashier's check is included. All you have to do is deposit the check and wire money to pay for taxes and fees. Don't do it. The check is probably fake and you will lose any money you send.

***Overpayment Scams.** Someone responds to your posting or ad, and offers to use a cashier's check, personal check or corporate check to pay for the item you're selling. At the last minute, the "buyer" (or his "agent") finds a reason to write the check for more than the purchase price. He asks you to deposit the check and wire back the difference. Don't do it. The check is probably fake. It might fool a bank teller at first, but eventually the check will bounce and you'll owe money to the bank.

***Mystery Shopper Scams.** You are hired to be a mystery shopper and evaluate the customer service of a company. You're given a check to deposit in your personal bank account. You're told to withdraw cash and wire the money using a certain mon-

ey transfer service. Often, the instructions say to send the money to a person in Canada or another country outside the U.S. Don't do it. The check is probably fake and so is the "mystery shopping" job.

***Apartment Rental Scams.** Some scammers copy legitimate rental or real estate listings, change the contact information, and place the altered ads on other sites. Others make up listings for places that aren't for rent or don't exist, and try to get your attention by offering below-market rent. If you respond to the ads, the scammers ask you to wire an application fee, security deposit or the first month's rent. It's never a good idea to send money to someone you haven't met for an apartment you haven't seen. If you can't meet in person, see the apartment, or sign a lease before you pay, keep looking.

***Advance Fee Loans.** You may be tempted by ads and websites that guarantee loans or credit cards regardless of your credit history. But often, when you apply for the loan or credit card, you find out you must pay a fee in advance. If you have to wire money for the promise of a loan or credit card, you're probably dealing with a scam artist.

***Buying Online.** If you are buying something online and the seller says you must use a money transfer to pay, it's a sign you won't get the item or a refund. Tell the seller you want to use a credit card, an escrow service or another way to pay. If the seller won't accept, find another seller.

***Paying a Telemarketer.** Under the Telemarketing Sales Rule, it's illegal for a telemarketer to ask you to pay with a cash-to-cash money transfer, like those from MoneyGram and Western Union. If a telemarketer asks you to use one of these payment methods, he's breaking the law.

The State of Hawaii Office of Consumer Protection is warning consumers of a new telephone scam in which consumers receive calls from potential scammers imperson-

ating the Chinese Consulate. Consumers around the country, including those in Hawaii, have reported receiving calls or messages in mandarin Chinese demanding payment in exchange for a package or requesting information to prevent punishment from the consulate office. The caller then asks for bank or credit card information and instructs the consumers to transfer money to them.

"It's truly outrageous that these scammers would try to prey on the vulnerabilities of recent immigrants". "Anyone receiving such a call should hang up and not provide any information to the scammer," said Stephen Levins, Executive Director of the Office of Consumer Protection.

To avoid falling victim to these types of scams, the Office of Consumer protection offers consumers the following tips:

*If you get a call or message like this, hang up or delete it.

*Never give out personal information, such as your Social Security Number, to a stranger on the phone.

*Never wire money through Western Union, MoneyGram, or any other wire service to a person you do not know.

*Never purchase gift or money cards for the purpose of providing the gift card numbers to someone else.

*Immediately contact the Office of Consumer Protection or the Federal Trade Commission.

(HEALTH & FAMILY: HEARTY...from page 9)

thus increasing the source of protein of the dish."

Other healthy Filipino favorites are vegetable dishes such as lumpiang sariwa. "This Filipino version of a spring roll is served fresh instead of fried and is packed with vegetables," shares Brian Hardesty, executive chef and co-owner of Guerilla Street Food in St. Louis, one of the hottest spots in the city serving non-traditional Filipino fare. Hardesty, who is self-taught in Filipino fare inspired by his business partner's heritage, makes a mean lumpiang sariwa.

"The tedious process of cutting the vegetables julienne style, making the peanut sauce and choosing to make the wrapper instead of settling for the store-bought flour wrap make lumpiang sariwa a very special dish to look forward to in Filipino celebrations," Marasigan explains.

"It can also be considered a 'one-dish' or complete meal

when beans such as chickpeas or lima beans, shrimps or diced tofu are added for extra protein. If crepe-like egg wrapper is used, it even adds to the flavor and makes the dish look more palatable. It definitely helps us acquire our daily dose of veggies and fiber, and even supplement our protein intake."

Janice Dulce, who grew up with Filipino food in the Bay Area, reminisces of big, hearty breakfasts including piping hot garlic fried rice and tortang talong, charred eggplant omelet. Dulce now owns and operates FOB Kitchen in San Francisco, sharing her passion for Filipino cooking with a whole new audience.

Tortang talong, which was one of her cherished dishes, is a perfect viand. According to nutritionist Cristy Marasigan, "Since it has a mild flavor, it blends well with egg and meat, like in torta or omelet dish, and can therefore be a complete viand to go with rice."

"Eggplant used to be regarded as a veggie that does not provide any nutrients but water and a little fiber. However, it has been proven to contain antioxidants especially those with purplish skin, vitamin A and minerals such as potassium, calcium and sodium," she concludes.

It is a very exciting time for Filipinos all over the world as we watch our rich cuisine become one of the hottest culinary styles in the global community. Aside from flavor, a big part of Filipino food's success is the fact that it contains the cornerstones of a healthy, balanced diet. Simple, with a variety of fresh ingredients and incorporating a rainbow of vegetables makes our cuisine great for you.

This reminds us that you don't need to spend so much or look so far in order to start a diet. Simple tweaks to traditional Pinoy fare can already build a great base for a healthy plate. (www.philstar.com)



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CANDID PERSPECTIVES



By Emil Guillermo

Comey and Syria Will Keep Haunting Trump

Of Donald Trump thought he could control his fate with bombs bursting in air over Syria, he was sadly mistaken.

He forgot about the importance of one of his old time slots--Sunday night--and the significant power it holds over the American people. Prime-time was enough to elect Trump president, and in modern politics, it may be enough to remove him.

On Sunday, former FBI director James Comey regained the upper hand in the court of public opinion. He knows how to give good testimony. Comey doesn't have a perfect case, but he has a better story. He knows when Trump asked the vice president and others to leave the room during a meeting for a one-on-one with Comey; it was prescient for one thing and one thing only: to ask Comey to let the investigation against former national security advisor Michael Flynn "go."

Let it go. You know, like from "Frozen."

Comey said Trump's exact words were, "I hope you can let it go."

When asked by ABC News if it was obstruction of justice, Comey did more to Trump than what Trump and allies did to Assad on Friday night.

"Possibly. I mean, it's certainly some evidence of obstruction of justice," Comey said.

"But to kick out the vice president of the United States and the attorney general, who I work for, so you could talk to me alone, something was up," Comey said. "He's asking me to drop the criminal investigation of his now-former national security adviser."

"If he didn't know he was doing something improper, why did he kick out the attor-

ney general and the vice president of the United States and the leaders of the intelligence community? I mean, why am I alone if he's -- doesn't know the nature of the request?" Comey said.

Trump, of course, denies it. But Trump's record on the truth, based on the Washington Post's Fact Checker (more than 2,000 false or misleading claims in a year), on that videotape ("Access Hollywood" anyone?), or on your own visceral sense of the man, the best an American TV juror in the middle-brow court of public opinion could say is, something's rotten here. And it's not Denmark.

It is, of course, a "He said, he said."

Add that to the "He said, she said," Stormy Daniels, Karen McDougal, and the others claiming unprotected sex or unprotected harassment, and Trump is inundated in pronoun battles.

Or as some of my grammar fluid gender anarchist students would say, it's a case of "they said, they said."

But Comey said much more than that.

He's the former FBI director, and while I know the FBI isn't a band of saints, they know exactly how bad real bad guys are. Comey even compares Trump to a mob boss in his new book, "A Higher Loyalty: Truth, Lies, and Leadership," now simply the Cliff Notes to this ABC interview in the land of the unread. Trump's not a reader. He knows the value of a prime time "You're fired." That makes Comey's Sunday as close to a death blow as it gets, especially when Comey, the former top law enforcement official in the land, calls Trump "morally unfit" to be president.

And Trump tweets that Comey is a "slimeball"? That sort of response only proves Comey's point. The president has lost all moral leadership in our country when he can't even summon up the high



ground of his office.

And Trump Tower doesn't count.

Should he be impeached?

Comey said he'd rather the American public take Trump out at the ballot box. I've said the same. We should undo our own mess.

Besides so far, the only one I've seen defending Trump has been the RNC, which denounced Comey's comments saying they "denigrate the millions of people who voted" for Trump.

That's why the ballot box is important.

But there are some who have ADHD and can't wait.

I personally dislike impeachment as a political move, but Trump has lowered the bar when it comes to the presidency. He's diminished the country and the office.

That's why I'm surprised at the tepid response to the Syrian strikes. You want a reason to impeach? The missiles on Syria give you a reason.

The first batch last year, I called Trump's "cruise missile Viagra."

Last Friday's strike, with Great Britain and France along for the ride, was like his anti-depressant, a "go away pill." If the reports are true about Trump's anger over Comey's leaked book, and Trump's own personal attorney under investigation for the Stormy Daniels matter, not to mention Urinegate, I think Trump figured he could make it all go away by rattling a sabre and seeming presidential.

But Americans didn't care.

In fact, many think how

impeachable as well."

Boyle said someone in the House of Representatives should be drawing up impeachment papers now.

Because there is a case for peace and it begins with the rule of law.

That there's not the hue and cry suggests that the hawks are in charge and no one wants to challenge Trump on this. That's how bad Assad is. He's worse than Trump and provides cover. No one doubts the attack.

My friend Rod McLeod, a former Jones Day partner, and now a Filipino American living in Israel, sent me this e-mail after the attacks:

"People forget the history of chemical use by Assad against his people. Obama threatened a missile attack but pulled back at the last minute when Russia said they would take Assad's chemicals. There was even a US ship that was sent to incinerate such base chemicals. But Assad agreed to never use them again.

"Well, Assad was a ruthless liar. He used chemicals many times, until a year or so ago, Trump sent his 59 cruise missiles as a warning. Now Assad did it again. And Russia is trying to cover up for Assad by vetoing a chemical

(continue on page 12)

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HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

\$50 Million Funding for Homeless Passes Housing Conference Committee

The conference committee on Housing passed legislation to provide \$50 million funding to address Hawaii's homeless issues, including \$34.7 million for Ohana Zones and medical services. The bills moved on to the full Senate and full House for final votes.

The conference committee passed: SB 2401 SD2 HD1 CD1: *\$30 million for 'Ohana Zones on three Oahu sites, and one each on Kaua'i, Maui and Hawai'i Island. Public lands will be selected by the Governor for the zones.

*\$1 million for an Emergency Department Assessment pilot program.

*\$1 million for a medical respite pilot program.

*\$800,000 for a new family assessment center.

*\$400,000 for two new Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) programs on Maui and Hawai'i Island.

SB 2027 SD2 HD1 CD1:

*1.5 million for a Coordinated Statewide Homeless Initiative.

Rep. Della Au Belatti (Makiki, Tantalus, Papakōlea, McCully, Pāwa'a, Mānoa) said lawmakers this session decided to take the lead on finding

homeless solutions and 'Ohana Zones are an important part of that concept.

"The \$30 million for 'Ohana Zones is a lump sum that we hope to partner with the private sector using Kahauiki Village as a model," said House Majority Leader Belatti. "This amount is our estimate of what the infrastructure and support services will cost in multiple sites across the state. The idea here is to be very flexible. What might work on O'ahu might not be the best plan for one of the neighbor islands."

Rep. Tom Brower (Waikīkī, Ala Moana) said the 'Ohana Zones idea has been around for many years but will now become a reality.

"Ten years ago we started looking into safe zones for our homeless population," said Brower, Chair of the House Housing Committee. "Many were reluctant to go into shelters or even permanent housing. This will provide a better option for many homeless people."

"The measures we passed appropriate millions of dollars to help eliminate the homeless problem and build affordable rentals," said Senator Will Espero ('Ewa Beach, Ocean Pointe, 'Ewa by Gentry, Iroquois Point, portion of 'Ewa Villages), Chair of the Senate Committee on Housing. "The Governor now has all the resources and tools necessary to provide housing and to as-

(continue on page 15)

CANDID PERSPECTIVES ; COMEY...from page 11)

inspection and accusing the Western powers of jumping to conclusions.

"Bottom line, Trump did the right thing."

Most of the U.S. agrees.

But not Boyle, and frankly, not me.

Trump attacked last year and Assad didn't learn. What does a second strike do?

When Trump is for pulling out of Syria one week, then bombing it the next, it only shows the U.S. has no Syria policy. And that's the problem. A "humanitarian" missile strike only stirs up the region resulting in more death, and a crisis that Boyle says is worse than the start of World War I.

If the U.S. is involved, it needs a plan. And it must go through Congress. U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley saying the U.S. is "locked and loaded" isn't a plan.

Forget about the geo-politics for now, even though that says a lot about where to find

the moral basis (or lack thereof) for U.S. action or inaction over Syria. Greedy modern nations still must have their oil. But if it leads the U.S. into military action, a president must take the case to Congress. If he doesn't, that's impeachable. Obama feared that in 2013, and wisely didn't act. Not in Syria. And even Bush the first feared impeachment in his day and didn't go all the way into Baghdad in the first Gulf War.

Donald Trump doesn't seem to fear impeachment. But he's getting it from all directions now. From Stormy and the ladies, to Cohen, Mueller, and Comey.

Trump's too busy to be our president. And too small to be above the law.

EMIL GUILLERMO is a veteran journalist and commentator. He was on the editorial board of the Honolulu Advertiser, and a columnist for the Starr-Bulletin. Twitter @emilamok

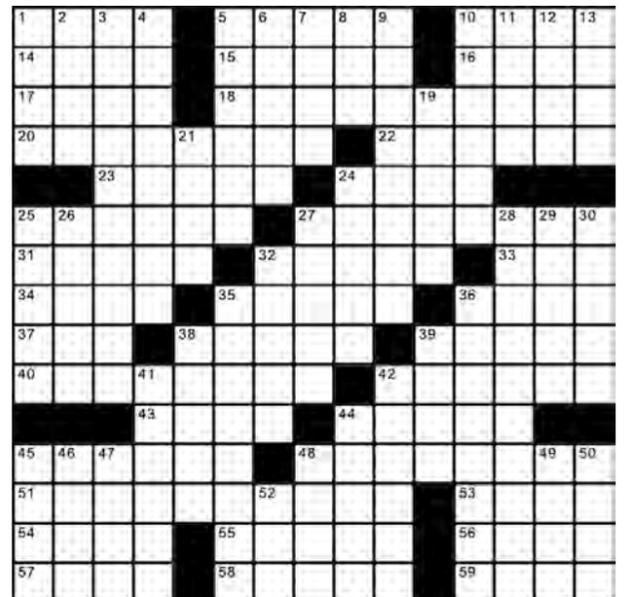
CROSSWORD

By Carlito Lalicon

No. 11

ACROSS

1. Former Senator Avelino
5. Oily secretion of the sebaceous glands
10. Lean
14. Not up yet
15. Liquid excretory product
16. Small buffalo
17. Undestroyable
19. Religious figure
20. Eyeballing
21. Combating
23. Prepare for publication
25. Bakery supply
26. Pertaining to a syndic
30. Say, state, or perform again
33. Edible seed
34. Senegal's capital
36. Oblivion
37. Voting "no"
39. Colony member
41. Advertising sign
42. Reeked
44. Indian coin
46. Convent dweller
47. Hairdo
49. Armor plate
51. Up, in a way
53. Of you or yourself



54. No more
57. Minute
61. Diva's solo
62. Gentlewoman
64. Relax
65. Host
66. Cry of surprise
67. Dog command
68. Emitted as rays
69. Small change

PABABA

1. Jest
2. Comply with
3. Arid
4. Swirled
5. Operative
6. Chapter in history
7. Kind of lettuce
8. Untwist
9. Meeting participant
10. Loss of emotional control
11. Exhortation
12. "Crazy" bird
13. Bite
18. Disconnected
22. Old Chinese money
24. Selfish sort
26. Cramp
27. Gossip
28. Philosophical doctrine
29. Take up with the tongue
31. Circa
32. 1,000 kilograms
35. Indemnify
38. Disorganized
40. Recharged
43. Astute
45. Rinse, as with a solvent
48. Someone who lags behind
50. Like many shorelines
52. Skin layer
54. PDEA agent
55. Chocolate cookie
56. R-rated, maybe
58. Crèche trio
59. Mosque V.I.P.
60. Formally surrender
63. Born, in bios

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LEGAL NOTES



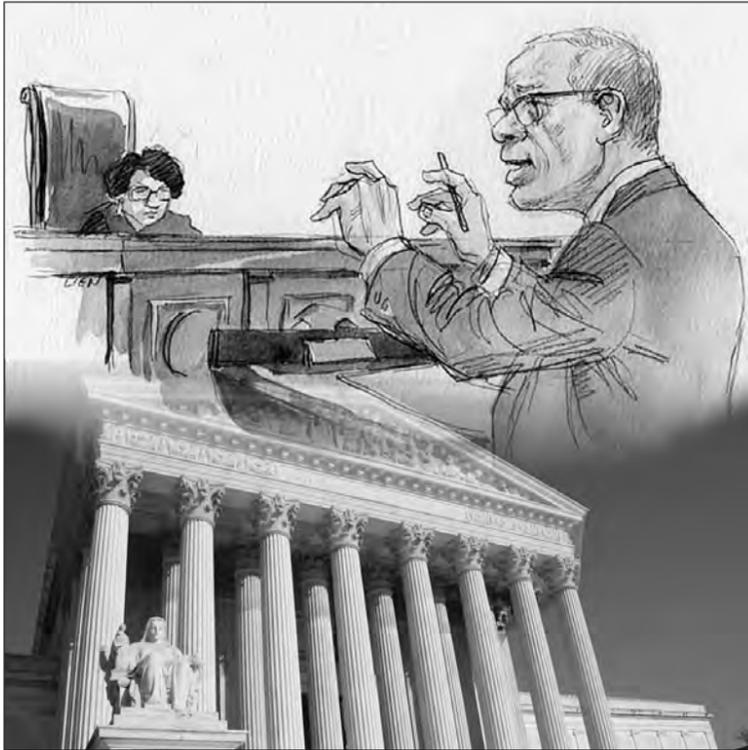
By Atty. Reuben S. Seguritan

On April 17, 2018, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled that the definition of “crimes of violence” in the Immigration and Nationality Act was unconstitutionally vague. In this decision penned by Justice Elena Kagan, the Supreme Court in effect stopped the deportation of the Filipino defendant.

The defendant, James Garcia Dimaya, was admitted to the United States in 1992 when he was 13 as a lawful permanent resident. In 2007 and 2009, he pleaded no contest to charges of residential burglary, which are first-degree burglary crimes in California.

In 2010, the Obama administration brought removal proceedings against Dimaya. The immigration judge determined that Dimaya was removable from the United States because of his two state court convictions of first-degree burglary crimes. The court held that the convictions qualified for an “aggravated felony” under the Immigration and Nationality Act, which authorizes removal of non-citizens who have been convicted of some violent

Court Ruling on Filipino Case Could Prevent Removal of Thousands



crimes and defined aggravated felony to include “crimes of violence.”

Lawyers for Dimaya appealed the removal arguing that their client never had fair notice that his crimes would result in deportation. The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in favor of Dimaya and stated that the definition of “crime of violence” was unconstitutionally vague.

On appeal by the government to the United States Supreme Court, the case was first argued in January 2017 when there were only 8 members of the Supreme Court because of the untimely death of Justice Antonin Scalia. The Justices were deadlocked at 4 to 4. The case was reargued

in October 2017 after Justice Gorsuch was appointed by President Donald Trump.

Dimaya’s lawyers argued that the criminal vagueness standard applies in the deportation context, even though immigration cases are considered civil cases. They cited the *Jordan vs. De George* case decided in 1951, in which the Supreme Court applied the criminal vagueness standard to a deportation statute because of the grave nature of deportation.

The 5-4 decision cited the 2015 Supreme Court case of *Johnson v. United States* in which a similar criminal law was held unconstitutionally vague. The “void-for-vagueness doctrine” guarantees

that ordinary people have fair notice of the conduct a statute proscribes.

The Supreme Court took particular note of the fact that under the statute, cases concerning “crimes of violence” wouldn’t be eligible for discretion, meaning a judge or officials couldn’t even decide in special cases to make an exception.

The ruling was applauded by immigration law rights groups as a benefit to lawful permanent residents and other immigrants who live in the United States legally and have committed crimes. The Supreme Court’s ruling limits the types of crimes that could be the basis for deportation. This means that low-level offenses committed by lawful permanent residents, even if they would qualify as aggravated felonies, would not automatically mean mandatory deportation. The lawful permanent resident can argue that he should not be deported.

As expected, the Trump administration was deeply dissatisfied with the Supreme

Court’s ruling. Tyler Houlton, the spokesman for Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen said, “By preventing the federal government from removing known criminal aliens, it allows our nation to be a safe haven for criminals.” Furthermore, the Justice Department said the decision means that there should be more law enforcement powers. They called on Congress to close criminal alien loopholes to ensure that criminal aliens who commit crimes are not able to avoid deportation when they break the laws of the United States.

In conclusion, the Supreme Court’s decision means that the grounds and reasons for an immigrant to be deported should be absolutely clear. The mere fact that the lawful permanent resident committed a low-level crime is not a ground for his automatic deportation.

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

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

COVO to Present Two Workshops for Filipino Community

The Congress of Visayan Organizations (COVO) is presenting for its COVO Convention Educational and Non-Profit Workshops for the Filipino-American community of Hawaii on August 4, 2018 at the Philippine Consulate of Honolulu.

The College is for Everyone workshop will cover the college application process, what to expect, the variety of

financial aid available. It is being presented by Dr. Curtis Washburn, Dean of Student Services at Leeward Community College, and Jerahmeel Cabahit, a new Leeward student.

The Non-Profit Rules workshop teaches grant writing skills, non-profit accounting and finance, fundraising, responsibility to donors and compliance with reporting laws that will help organiza-

tions thrive. Participants will be introduced to the Hawaii Alliance of Non-Profit organizations (HANO), whose goal is to unite and strengthen the non-profit sector as a collective force to improve the quality of life in Hawaii. The workshop will be facilitated by Dennis Bunda, COVO Executive Director and Liezl Oandasan, COVO Vice President.

Email: visayanworkshops@gmail.com for more information.

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PHILIPPINE NEWS

Cayetano: We're Not Blaming Anyone on Kuwait Fiasco

By Patricia Lourdes Viray
Tuesday, May 1, 2018



MANILA, Philippines — Denying reports of a shouting match with Labor Secretary Silvestre Bello III, Foreign Affairs Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano clarified that there was no one to blame over the diplomatic quarrel with Kuwait.

The STAR earlier reported that the two Cabinet members “shouted at each other” during an incident in Malacañang last week after Kuwait

expelled Philippine Ambassador Renato Villa.

A source told The STAR that Bello and Cayetano “argued on who was to blame for the Kuwait fiasco.”

“We’re not blaming anyone because we don’t think we did anything wrong,” Cayetano said in a press conference in Cebu City.

The Philippines’ top diplomat stressed that there was nothing wrong in fighting for the welfare of overseas Filipino workers.

“First of all, we cannot

engage in a shouting match because Secretary Bello does not shout and the president would not allow me to shout at my senior and someone that I respect,” Cayetano said in Filipino.

on policies that’s why they always have a monthly meeting.

“We’ve not always agreed, but we always sit down, we have a once-a-month meeting. And most of the time, he pays the bill, so why would I shout at him? He might charge me next time,” Cayetano said.

Bello had also denied the report that he and Cayetano engaged in a shouting match over the diplomatic row with Kuwait.

“I supported the position of DFA [Secretary] Alan. In fact, my statement was that if I were in the shoes of Secretary Alan, I would have done the same thing,” Bello said.

(www.philstar.com)

Organizer: Miss Universe Organization Preparing for Philippines' 2018 Hosting

By Deni Rose M. Afinidad-Bernardo
Wednesday, May 2, 2018

MANILA, Philippines — An organizer of the 2016 Miss Universe in the Philippines told Philstar.com that the Miss Universe Organization has tapped them again for the possible restaging of the pageant’s 2018 edition in the Philippines.

The organizer, who asked to be anonymous as he represents a private company that helped stage Miss Universe 2016 in the Philippines, confirmed to Philstar.com that MUO asked their company to be ready in helping to restage the pageant in the Philippines, should the government give it a full go signal.

On Monday, Philstar.com

reported that Tourism Undersecretary Kat De Castro said the country has “a good chance” of hosting the pageant.

“It’s just me and the Miss Universe Organization trying to iron out a few details,” she added.

In April, Tourism Secretary Wanda Corazon Tulfo-Teo said President Rodrigo Duterte talked about restaging the pag-



nant in Boracay to drive tourists back to the island, which has been closed last April 26 for rehabilitation.

The country’s hosting of

the pageant has been reconsidered after talks with China reportedly failed due to Beijing’s refusal to broadcast the pageant live. (www.philstar.com)

(Sagot sa Krosword Blg. 10 | April 21, 2018)

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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 Baclig-Credo 927-4081, Carmen Cabrerros 358-

3845, Cherry Reganit 358-3598

TOWNHALL MEETING AT THE CONSULATE | May 19, 2018 | 10:00 am | Philippine Consulate General Lantai | For more info contact Ramon Sumibcay 489-7148

PHILIPPINE NURSES ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII (PNAH) INDUCTION GALA | May 29, 2018 | 6:00 pm | Ala Moana Hotel Hibiscus Ballroom | Interested parties may contact 808-595-6316 to 19, no later than May 11

CONGRESS OF VISAYAN ORGANIZATIONS (COVO) CONVENTION EDUCATIONAL AND NON-PROFIT WORKSHOPS | August 4, 2018 | Philippine Consulate of Honolulu | Email: visayanworkshops@gmail.com for more information

MAINLAND NEWS

Federal Judge Ruling: US Must Continue DACA

The Trump administration has been dealt with yet another blow in its mission to terminate a program which grants work authorization and protection from deportation to undocumented youth.

Judge John D. Bates of the Federal District Court for the District of Columbia ruled on Tuesday, April 24 that the federal government must keep the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) in place and continue accepting new applications.

Like previous federal judges' rulings, Bates found that the phasing out of DACA was "arbitrary and capricious" because the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) lacked an adequate explanation for "its conclusion that the program was unlawful."

He also said that the administration provided "meager legal reasoning" in its justification of ending the program. Given that hundreds of thousands of DACA recipients (nearly 650,000 by some estimates) came to the U.S. as children, Bates has called the move to end DACA "particularly egregious."

Bates' ruling will take place in 90

days to give enough time "to allow the agency an opportunity to better explain its rescission."

DACA was first put into effect via an executive order by former President Barack Obama in 2012. Since then, hundreds of thousands of undocumented youth have been able to work (through renewable two-year permits) and have reported better career and education opportunities because of DACA.

In addition to work opportunities and protection from deportation, DACA recipients are granted other benefits that vary from state to state. In California, for example, DACA recipients may apply for a driver's license.

Bates' decision adds to a string of the Trump administration's legal defeats in their multiple attempts to terminate the program. Although the administration maintains its view that the passing of DACA violated the Constitution, no federal court so far has found it to be unconstitutional.

In response to the ruling, the Justice Department (on behalf of the Trump administration) re-

leased a statement standing by the administration's initial reasoning, reiterating its view that DACA is an "unlawful circumvention of Congress" and that it will continue to make its case to the court.

"The Department of Homeland Security therefore acted within its lawful authority in deciding to wind down DACA in an orderly manner," DHS spokesman Devin O'Malley said in a statement. "Promoting and enforcing the rule of law is vital to protecting a nation, its borders, and its citizens. The Justice Department will continue to vigorously defend this position, and looks forward to vindicating its position in further litigation."

For the last eight months, DACA recipients and their families have been scrambling to secure their benefits after Trump announced the termination on September 5, 2017. As previously reported in the Asian Journal, after many federal judges' rulings, DACA has already been allowed to resume after its March 5, 2018 deadline administered by the president. (www.asianjournal.com)

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS: \$50 MILLION...from page 12)

sist the many homeless advocates and organizations with their programs and services that will help families and individuals rebuild their lives. This year's funding is just the beginning of the Legislature's commitment to end homelessness."

Representative John M. Mizuno (Kalihi Valley, Kamehameha Heights, Lower Kalihi) said he is proud of the work lawmakers have done this session to support homeless initiatives.

"This has been the most comprehensive year ever in funding homeless initiatives," said Mizuno, Chair Health & Human Services Committee. "We are focused on addressing our homeless crisis rather than funding more homeless sweeps. We have focused

our policies to provide our people in need with stability, a place to heal, and the ability to become self-sufficient."

"Thousands of homeless who are struggling on our streets will see their lives change greatly for the better through this bill. The public will also see a difference when they have their parks back, their sidewalks clear, and see much less suffering throughout our communities," said Senator Josh Green (Kona, Ka'u), Chair of the Senate Committee on Human Services.

The total investment made by the Legislature to solve Hawai'i's growing homeless crisis this session is about \$50 million, an in-

crease over the Governor's budget request.

Lawmakers last week provided \$15 million to fund existing homeless service programs, \$3 million more than requested by the Governor. The funds are in a lump sum rather than restricted to a specific program to allow the State Homeless Coordinator to have the ability take decisive action and use the funds where they are most needed.

They also appropriated \$1 million for matching funds to the Hawaii Tourism Authority for homeless related projects. The nonprofit Hawaii Lodging and Tourism Association will distribute the money for programs in resort areas.

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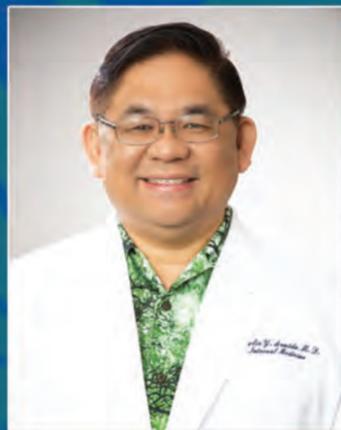
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