

HAWAII

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◆ AUGUST 4, 2018 ◆

RETIREMENT IS EXPENSIVE: ARE YOU READY FOR IT?

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EDITORIALS

Planning for Retirement Should Be Among Your Top Priorities

Retirement just isn't what it used to be – a guaranteed pension with Social Security and Medicare to supplement a handsome life-savings.

For many of today's retirees, only two of four safety nets are available – Social Security and Medicare – and they have no pension or adequate savings.

Retirement used to be something to look forward to, a reward for putting 35-50 hard years of employment. It was a silent contract of sorts between workers and employers that said: "You've earned it, here's an easy pass for the next generation or so. Enjoy your retirement."

While retirement can still be enjoyed; it isn't exactly easy for the Baby Boomer Generation (the age group now retired or soon-to-be).

Remember the Baby Boomer generation represents the age group that have enjoyed in their prime years the greatest era of low inflation, home ownership, steady full-time jobs with a decent wage. If a majority of Baby Boomers are struggling in their silver years, how much more of a struggle will it be for the next generations – Generation X and the Millennials?

A survey from the Insured Retirement Institute (IRI) found: only 24 percent of Baby Boomers are confident they will have enough savings to last throughout retirement; only 55 percent of Baby Boomers have any money saved for retirement; 59 percent of Baby Boomers cite Social Security as a major source of their retirement income; and only 27 percent of them believe they will have enough money for healthcare expenses.

Other startling statistics: 32 percent of Americans 50 or older are saddled with non-mortgage debt such as credit cards (an average of \$4,786 in credit cards and \$12,490 in total non-mortgage debt, according to the Health and Retirement Study from the University of Michigan Retirement Research Center; and those 55 or older made up 20 percent of people filing for bankruptcy (62 percent were due to medical expenses) a Harvard University study found. These stats indicate that many Americans are nowhere near financial shape to even begin preparing for retirement.

It's estimated that a 65-year-old couple retiring today will spend on average a total of \$275,000 out of pocket on healthcare, according to Fidelity Investments.

GOBankingRates came up with an estimate annual income of \$56,404 to live comfortably in retirement in Hawaii. That is about \$4,700 a month. To live comfortably in Hawaii for 20 years of retirement, it would take about \$1.13 million.

CNN Money warns, "If retirement expenses exceed Social Security and pension income by \$20,000 a year, you'll need a nest egg of \$300,000 to \$400,000."

Considering that the average monthly Social Security retirement benefit is about \$1375 a month or \$16,500 per year, this should be a dire warning to anyone, including millennials in their 20s in their first real jobs, that saving for retirement ought to be given greater consideration. Experts recommend that workers in their 20s begin saving 10 to 15 percent of income for their retirement.

Socking away money can seem impossible especially in Hawaii where many residents are living paycheck-to-paycheck. Whatever extra income available after paying for a house, cars, and college expenses is usually dedicated to urgent needs. It's time that retirement, perhaps, be viewed among those urgent needs.

Basic Tips for Retirement Preparation

First, do your own research and/or consult with a professional financial planner.

Second, if you are not making enough money to open a retirement portfolio with Roth IRA or other retirement options, the very least you can do is open a separate personal retirement account.

Unless you work for the government, most companies no longer offer pensions or employer-operated retirement savings plans. This means that the responsibility is on you to put aside a small amount

FROM THE PUBLISHER

M

any in the Baby Boomer generation – the largest age group in Hawaii and the nation – have either retired or will be retiring soon. There are many uncertainties about retiring: "Will I have enough financially to survive?" or "Where is the best place to retire?"

For our cover story this issue, contributing editor to HFC Dr. Belinda Aquino, explores the challenges that retirees face -- from having to work part-time out of necessity late into the silver years to dealing with healthcare needs and the tenuous state of Medicare in the current political climate. She also provides experts' projections of how much it could cost to retire comfortably in Hawaii.

Due to the high cost of living in our state, there is also information about what retiring in the Philippines could be like, an alternative many in our community are considering. Retirement is something most people don't think about or prepare for. Then suddenly, we find ourselves at the foot of retirement's door, not knowing what to do. We hope this cover story will at least get our readers to think about this eventual reality and to begin preparing in whatever way that they can afford.

Also in this issue, HFC columnist Atty. Reuben Seguritan writes about the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) new Denaturalization Task Force. The formation of this new office by the USCIS to investigate and process the denaturalization of US citizens means that immigrants, even those who are now U.S. citizens, will never be safe from deportation. It's a startling development for all immigrants.

In our editorial on the same subject, get more details on how this "expansion" to denaturalize U.S. citizens could be problematic. Already, this is sending a message that not all U.S. citizens are equal because naturalized citizens could be denaturalized and deported. It used to be rarely done, but the president wants to aggressively expand denaturalization, which to some critics, is setting up a new "second class" of U.S. citizens.

HFC columnist Atty. Emmanuel Tipon writes about the controversial right to carry guns openly in Hawaii that was upheld in a U.S. Court of Appeals. Already, many Hawaii residents are concerned about the ramifications of this Court's decision that will undoubtedly be further challenged.

On a lighter note, HFC contributor Carolyn Weygan-Hildebrand contributes "Back-to-School, Back-to-Nature" in which she discusses common Filipino plants. In addition to these columns, be sure to read our news sections.

Lastly, I'd like to close by reminding our readers to vote on Primary Election day on Saturday, August 11, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Early walk-in voting already started on July 30 and will continue to Thursday, August 9. Visit the Office of Elections website <https://elections.hawaii.gov> for locations.

Please assert your rights by voting. Your vote has the ability to empower our community.

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

Chona A. Montesines-Sonido

of money each paycheck to go to retirement. Many Baby Boomers in their working years had employers that offered pensions but they are still struggling with retirement. It's expected that younger generations working in this no-pension era will have it even worse than Boomers in retirement.

Third, live within your means. While it's fun to take vacations every year; maybe skip a year or two. The money that would have been used for vacation could be reallocated to retirement savings. Reassess all luxury type expenses, make a new budget, and eliminate expenses you can do without.

Lastly, Social Security and Medicare are two of the last safety nets that Americans rely on just to scape by. As smart voters, demand that the politicians you entrust your future with are committed to defend Social Security and Medicare as top priorities.

Retirement preparedness takes discipline, common sense, and responsibility. Saving for retirement is something most people put off until it's too late. If you value retirement as an option, now is the time to start planning for it.



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EDITORIALS

All Americans Should Be Concerned About Trump's Mass Denaturalization of U.S. Citizens

When President Donald Trump backed a proposal in Congress to reduce legal immigration by half with the elimination of family reunification and implementation of a new merits-based system, many Americans knew at that moment that the Trump administration is really anti-immigration, and not just anti "illegal" immigration.

Clearly, the president can't just outright say he's against immigration. But his actions speak louder than words and suggest that his disdain for illegals is much broader.

Trump's latest controversial move to go after select naturalized U.S. citizens is yet another revelation of his true position on immigration.

Yes, you've read it right – he is now targeting naturalized U.S. citizens. Many of whom have already gone through the lengthy process and emotional roller coaster ride to becoming a U.S. citizen; have lived as U.S. citizens in this country for years, paid taxes, contributed to society, but could now face denaturalization and possibly

deportation. Why? Because if you're a naturalized U.S. citizen and lied in some form in the naturalization process, you could be at risk of denaturalization.

Denaturalization Task Force Formed

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (U.S.C.I.S) had formed a new task force in order to identify people who lied on their citizenship applications and to denaturalize them.

This latest move isn't a change in the law or a new law.

But denaturalization has been exceedingly rare.

Historically, it has only been sought in very serious cases like in the case of war criminals or reserved for foreigners who commit egregious crimes or pose a threat to national security. But that was before Trump became president.

In the same way Trump used discretion in existing law to separate families at the border with his zero-tolerance policy, he is once again using discretion to expand this rare practice of denaturalization to possibly deport thousands of naturalized U.S. citizens.

Homeland Security in-

vestigators are digitizing fingerprints collected in the 1990s and comparing them with more recent prints provided by foreigners who apply for legal residency and U.S. citizenship. If decades-old fingerprints gathered during a deportation match those of someone who did not disclose that deportation on their naturalization application or used a different name, that individual could be targeted by a new Los Angeles-based investigative division.

People who lied about previous deportation or criminal background are being targeted, for now.

But this could just be the beginning.

What about gray areas? Could that be pursued next? For example, people who lied about being gay. In the past, gay foreigners were not allowed to become naturalized U.S. citizens. Today, this is no longer a consideration in the process. But what happens to this population of naturalized U.S. citizens who entered lying about their sexual preference? Is that really justification for denaturalization and possibly deportation?

Even in assessing criminal background, it's not

that simple. What if someone littered or jaywalked or committed other petty misdemeanors in other countries but did not report them during the application process that asks applicants if they've committed any crime. There are crimes in other countries (not considered crimes in the U.S.) such as possessing foreign currency or spending the night anywhere you were not registered to live (in the former Soviet Union) that people do not report to immigration officials. Are these justifiable offenses for denaturalization?

Going down this road of widespread denaturalization is simply saying in yet another way, in Trump's world, that "immigrants are not welcomed in the U.S." This is really the underlying motivation.

More importantly, the potential for abuse (investigators aggressively looking for any lies to justify validity of their job) or risk for error are high. And perhaps too high when considering the real-life devastation, life-altering changes where naturalized U.S. citizens could find themselves -- after years of being outstanding, law-abiding citizens in this country

-- back in the country they've left behind.

Second-class citizens?

Since January 2017, the Department of Homeland Security has investigated possible cases of immigration fraud of naturalized U.S. citizens. DHS has sent 95 cases to the Department of Justice (DOJ) for prosecution and denaturalization.

Just this June 2018, DHS opened a new office in Los Angeles to prosecute about 1,600 possible cases that fall in this category.

To get an idea how big an expansion this is – from the 1990s up to 2016, the government only filed around 300 denaturalization cases.

This push to get "citizenship cheaters" after they've already become naturalized U.S. citizens is establishing a new second-class of citizens. The premise of being "naturalized" ultimately means that there is nothing that distinguishes those "naturalized" from U.S.-born citizens after the naturalized process has been completed. Now, this is not the case.

Naturalized citizens can no longer "assume" permanence should Trump and his DHS pursue this expansion of denaturalization. All immigrants should find this troubling.

ELECTION NEWS

ACLU Demands Pahoa Voters Be Allowed to Register and Vote in Person on Election Day

The ACLU of Hawai'i Foundation (ACLU of Hawai'i) issued a demand letter to the Hawai'i Office of Elections. The letter, written by ACLU of Hawai'i Legal Director, Mateo Caballero, vows swift legal action if the "severe burden on the right to vote" imposed by the Office of Elections' current voting plans for areas of Hawai'i Island affected by the eruption of Kilauea Volcano are not fixed. As noted in the ACLU

of Hawai'i demand letter, a "refusal to allow in-person registration and voting on election day would not only be arbitrary and unnecessary but would also not survive constitutional muster."

Executive Director Joshua Wisch said: "Hundreds of families in Leilani Estates, Pahoa, Kapoho and surrounding areas have lost their homes. But the Office of Elections is only planning to let these people vote by absentee ballot – ballots that will likely be sent

to the same homes that have either been destroyed by lava or are uninhabitable due to volcanic activity. The Office of Elections must provide a polling place for these folks to register and vote in person on election day, as provided by law."

Legal Director Mateo Caballero said: "The right to vote is fundamental. We ask anyone who thinks their voting rights may be affected to contact our office and let us know."



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Are We Ready for Retirement?

By Belinda A. Aquino, Ph.D.

Are we ready for retirement? This is extremely difficult to answer with any degree of certainty. What we do know is that it's inevitable as the final phase of one's working career or calling.

For many of us, retirement isn't a pressing issue. We choose instead to look at it as a distant reality. But time passes by almost imperceptibly, then all of a sudden, we are in our late 50s to early 70s, and the time of reckoning has come. What do we do?

The Retiring Baby Boomers

This period in the 21st century now entering its second decade is marked by a transition in the country's active workforce.

The generation that is more popularly known as the "baby boomers" -- those born between the years 1946 to 1964 -- have mostly retired or are planning to retire after having devoted anywhere from 40 to even 50 years in the active workforce.

In their retirement years, many baby boomers still have part-time employment to augment the pension that they receive from their former employers, which may not be enough to support a family that can include extended members like in-laws, grandchildren and other additions to the original nuclear family. The financial hardship is often exacerbated by the constant rise in the price of health care, children's education, baby-sitters for young members of the family, and other daily life expenses.

Even beyond 70, many seniors work until their 80s or more. Some institutions and companies do not have a mandatory retirement age. The University of Hawaii is an example.

Some faculty at the University challenged the mandatory rule and brought it to the courts

as a "class action" suit citing that it was unconstitutional. The state Supreme Court ruled in their favor, so the faculty, for instance, can remain employed until they decide to finally retire.

How much does it cost to retire in Hawaii?

For most people who love Hawaii's weather, culture and people, it's ideal to stay on the islands for retirement. But the cost to retire in paradise isn't cheap. There's no one-size-fits-all dollar figure for retirement because each individual's needs and comfort-levels vary.

But GOBankingRates came up with an estimate annual income of \$56,404 to live comfortably in retirement in Hawaii. That is about \$4,700 a month. To live comfortably in Hawaii for 20 years of retirement, it would take about \$1.13 million.

GOBankingRates looked at the average of spending on groceries, healthcare, gas and fuel, housing and utilities, and lastly personal consumption expenditures not included in the four categories.

Another rule of thumb is that a person planning to retire should have at least six years of annual income saved. This savings would augment other retirement income such as So-

cial Security.

Experts say if retirement expenses exceed Social Security and pension income by \$20,000 a year, you'll need a nest egg of \$300,000 to \$400,000 in pre-retirement savings.

A sizeable portion of retirement spending is on healthcare. The average couple retiring at 65 years old can expect to pay \$280,000 in healthcare expenses throughout their retirement, according to Fidelity Investments. This is a 2018 estimate on fairly healthy couples. Long-term care and hospitalizations could inflate that number.

The Economic Policy Institute reports that families with a head of household between ages 56 and 61 have mean retirement savings of \$163,000.

Many families in Hawaii do not have that kind of savings. So for some, retirement is not even seen as a viable option.

A 2016 study by the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found that 25 percent of workers 50 and older say they do not plan on retiring. Among low wage workers, earning less than \$50,000 a year, it was 33 percent.

Working in late age is so common in Hawaii that workers 50 and older earned \$20.5 billion in 2015 and paid 50



percent of the state and local taxes (\$4.2 billion), according to AARP. The total economic impact of seniors was \$33.5 billion.

Barbara Kim Stanton, AARP Hawaii state director, told the Honolulu Star-Advertiser, "Hawaii always had one of the longest-working populations because we are such a high-cost-of-living state. It is just the realities of the economics in Hawaii."

Hawaii's culture of ohana, multiple-dwelling living can help to offset housing and food costs (both among the highest in the nation), but not for other large expenses like healthcare.

Experts say planning and contributing to a retirement budget is necessary, the earlier the better.

Gemma Constantino, Salt Lake, an office manager, says she puts money aside for retirement. "But, I have a lot of catching up to do. I wish I had started early. It's the last thing you think of when you start raising a family. The high cost of living (in Hawaii) also makes it difficult.

"My husband will have union retirement benefits plus social security benefits, that will be a big help," said Constantino.

Gemma's husband is among the lucky ones. Many private companies today can't afford any retirement benefits plan. Only a few companies

and government can afford to extend retirement benefits to their employees. As inflation rises, even government will be hard pressed to find this affordable.

Serafin Colmenares, Jr., Aiea, state employee, said he is also preparing for retirement. "We have put aside some savings and we also have some investments."

Marissa Mull, a clerk who lives in Mililani, makes lifestyle choices that she believes will better prepare her for retirement. "The main thing we can do is eliminate our debt and stay away from it. If we don't have cash, we don't buy it. In addition to staying out of debt we have a savings plan.

"It's very important to put money aside for retirement and to diversify our investments. We try to maximize our 401K and IRA as much as possible," said Mull.

"We are working on it (retirement preparation) because if we don't, how are we going to support ourselves?" she added.

With company pension increasingly rare, it's becoming clear that workers must begin taking it upon themselves to put retirement money aside.

How are retirees doing?

Survey data and informed observations of how retirees are faring show that the first five years is not the "best of times." In fact, this stage of retirement

(continue on page 5)

A POPULAR RESTAURANT IS FOR SALE

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

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COVER STORY

(from page 5)

is often referred to as the “fragile decade” for a number of reasons.

First, many retirees haven’t accumulated enough savings from their long years of working. Recent retirees go through what is called a period of “compression,” a situation in which their income (now “fixed”) is overtaken by rising costs needed to sustain a minimum level of living.

Second, retirees face an almost built-in difficulty because of inflation. Retirees’ planned budget falls short as inflation and the economy changes. Pensions (are more rare today as companies no longer offer retirement benefits) and Social Security and Medicare assistance cannot keep up with rising inflation. Many retirees’ fixed income is insufficient to maintain a decent quality of life that often means having to do with less just to survive.

Some who can afford long-term insurance find little relief as the cost of monthly premiums can reach up to \$400 to \$500 monthly. Even retirees with higher incomes are hard pressed to meet premium costs. There are cases where seniors have incomes that are too high or too low to qualify for any kind of assistance at all. The classic case of “neither here nor there” kind of category.

Even seniors who are still working in retirement age and earning a decent salary are unable to afford long-term care.

Health is among the main concerns for seniors because of the accompanying expenses of health care. They worry about health care insurance co-pay, cost-sharing and high premiums.

Medicare

About 60 million older Americans rely on Medicare to help with health costs. The number of those over 60 years old and above is expected to double.

Health care expenses will likely escalate to proportions above the rates of inflation.

Government assistance programs or safety nets that seniors rely on are always in jeopardy of being cut. The proposal to convert Medicare into a voucher system or “Pren-

um Support Program,” would likely pass on additional cost burdens to beneficiaries already struggling with the current system.

President Donald Trump’s administration, no friend to government spending for the poor or disadvantaged, has proposed expanding the availability of “short-term” and limited benefit insurance policies for people who don’t get enough coverage through an employer or government program. This could prevent many 50 or 60-year old seniors from receiving assistance.

Lindsey Copeland, federal policy director of the Medicare Rights Center, said in an AARP issue: “These people will age into Medicare with poorer health than if they had continued access to affordable health care.”

The future of both Medicare and Medicaid as last resorts for ill or disadvantaged seniors is not promising, given the vagaries of governmental policies and implementation of intended programs. Not to mention that programs that seniors rely can be cut.

It is not the way of the future to make our kupunas enjoy their last days.

Is retiring in the Philippines an alternative?

For many Filipino families in Hawaii, retiring in the Philippines is an attractive option. They are familiar with the culture, have extended family there, and can speak Tagalog or another major dialect. English is also widely spoken in the Philippines; the tropical weather is hotter, but similar to Hawaii’s.

It’s estimated that to live comfortably in the Philippines, it’s possible at \$700 to \$1,200 a month, or about \$8,400 to \$14,400 a year.

According to International Living’s 2016 Annual Global Retirement Index – which measures, among other things, climate, healthcare, benefits and infrastructure – the Philippines ranks 10th (in a three-way tie with Portugal and the Dominican Republic) in cost of living for retirement destinations in the world.

As in anywhere in the world, individual comfort-levels vary so retirement costs is based on one’s lifestyle ability and preference. For example, choosing where to live in the Philippines will impact cost. Living in Makati, Manila or Cebu is twice as expensive than other parts of the country such as Davao. But on average, retirees can find a one-bedroom apartment for as low as \$150-\$300 a month. Contrast that to Colliers International estimate for a three bedroom home in ritzy parts of Manila that can cost \$1,250 a month.

Food there is far less expensive than Hawaii. According to Numbeo, a typical combo meal at McDonalds can cost less than \$3. Eating at a typical Filipino restaurant for two can be \$15 or less.

But the biggest comparative savings from Hawaii to the Philippines comes in healthcare costs. Regular checkups with English-speaking doctors rarely cost more than \$12. The cost of prescription medication is also low, especially if drugs are not brand-name imports. Some public hospitals offer free general care and dental services.

Expats can join PhilHealth, the government-owned national health insurance program. What many expat retirees do is put aside money for health expenses in a personal account that could come out to be cheaper than paying private health insurance premiums. But choosing to buy insurance all depends on the retirees’ health needs.

Healthcare in the Philippines has some drawbacks. Some retirees in the Philippines end up coming back to Hawaii or the U.S. where medical assistance, while more expensive, are more readily available. Medical benefits like Medicare or Medicaid are not carried over to the Philippines. The cost of care there, in many cases, is not uniformed. Health care homes or hospitals charge expats in dollars rather than pesos thinking retirees from abroad can afford it.

“Retiring in the Philippines is an option. Halftime in a year, not full-time. Traveling back to the Philippines at least three times a year for my import business gave me the chance to weigh things (between Hawaii and the Philippines). Like any-

“The main thing we can do is eliminate our debt and stay away from it. If we don’t have cash, we don’t buy it. In addition to staying out of debt we have a savings plan. It’s very important to put money aside for retirement and to diversify our investments. We try to maximize our 401K and IRA as much as possible. We are working on it (retirement preparation) because if we don’t, how are we going to support ourselves?”

— **MARISSA MULL, MILILANI**

thing, there are pros and cons.

“My husband and I don’t think we can be away (in the Philippines) from our kids and grandkids for a year or so. We enjoy babysitting when we can,” said Constantino.

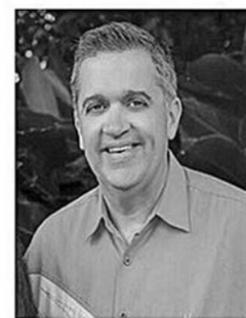
Colmenares, Jr. also said that retirement in the Philippines is only a part-time option. “Most probably, we will be spending our retirement shuttling between Hawaii and the Philippines.”

Mull talks highly of the Philippines as a great retirement destination. She says, “Retiring in the Philippines is an option for us. It is a very nice place. The cost of living is affordable. The medical and dental are affordable. Everything we need is there – lots of things to do and the people are great.”

Save and Plan

Wherever you decide to retire, planning and saving should start years before actually retiring. Seeing a retirement investment planner can help steer you in the right direction. Adjusting to a lifestyle similar to how you anticipate to live in retirement could also give you a better idea as to how much would be needed.

DR. BELINDA AQUINO is a Professor Emeritus at the School of Pacific and Asian Studies, University of Hawaii at Manoa where she served as Professor of Political Science and Asian Studies and Founding Director of the Center for Philippine Studies. She is also a free-lance journalist and is currently Contributing Editor to the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle.



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By Emil Guillermo

Trump's Gaslight Should Be Clear to All by Now

This is the column for you if your Manang Baby is watching the news and asks, "What is this gaslight, they talk about? Don't they use electricity in Washington, DC?"

Right now the gaslight moments are coming fast and furiously in America, making it all crystal clear what's going on. That is unless you're a gaslit Filipino American, trying to hang on to your sanity. Then you really need help.

The gaslight idea refers to the 1944 movie where Charles Boyer plays a criminal trying to keep a secret from Ingrid Bergman.

Boyer lies so convincingly about the truth Bergman sees, that he has her convinced she's crazy.

Bergman was so convincing, she won an Oscar.

Which part describes you in our democracy?

See the trailer online.

And then watch the TV news from the last two weeks starting with the Helsinki summit, and then on through the would/wouldn't, yes/no walkbacks. For good measure, throw in the "wasn't that fun, maybe let's do Trumputin Summit II," and the walkback of that after Putin dissed Trump by showing little interest.

That would be enough for a single presidency let

alone a single week, but this is the president who defies the norms. So, of course, let us not forget the airing of the secret playmate payoff tapes.

Still wearing your MAGA hat forward?

If so, then simply replay a clip of Trump at the VFW meeting from Tuesday and let the president's words really sink in. The part where he says: "Just remember what you're seeing and what you're reading is not what's happening."

His warning could apply to his own deceptive words.

But the metaphor should be clear.

The gaslight is the twilight of American democracy.

Instead of upholding the values we hold dear as Americans, you know, truth and freedom, things like that, we have a president who continues to attack the media by casting doubt on everything journalists report. Shooting the watchdog works in authoritarian countries, like China and Russia. But Trump is going even further by threatening his critics with the revocation of security clearances

Trump already has most all the Republicans, fearful of losing their jobs, in lockstep.

Chances are that hold on Congress will keep a resolution from coming before the House lambasting Trump for having shamelessly "sold out America."

That was House minority leader Nancy Pelosi's words condemning how Trump ignored U.S. intelligence and took the word of Putin that

there was no election meddling by Russia.

Uhh, which side are you on, Mr. President?

Pelosi suggested that Putin must have some kind of "blackmail" on Trump from all his business deals in Russia, most of which cannot be uncovered because the president has withheld his tax records.

Why doesn't the president just come clean and tell the truth?

Why didn't Charles Boyer?

The least a commander-in-chief can do is stand up for the great American values of our democracy, like freedom of speech, and freedom of the press. Not to mention, uphold and defend our electoral process, which his own intelligence agencies concur has been and continues to be under attack by Russia.

It's not "other people," like Trump's mythical bad guy hacker, some 400-pound guy sitting in his underwear somewhere.

FILIPINO AMERICAN HISTORY

I was in Chicago for the Filipino American Historical Society national convention when the Helsinki Summit happened.

As I watched it on the screen, Trump was actually revealing his true self.

You see, bullies don't punch back. Bullies are weak. Bullies are cowards.

Bullies, when they're president, betray the American people.

The way you beat a bully is merely to stand up to him. Even when you're shorter with

less hair like Putin. The Russian president never had to take off his shirt or mount a horse. He never flinched. He knew exactly how to play a trump hand.

Putin stood his ground at that monstrous event we might as well call the birthing of some new two-headed world monster. Because there they were--the two leaders, one supposedly of the free world and the other of the less free.

And there they were both speaking as one.

Trumputin.

Trump had a chance to take a swing. Even sucker punch Putin.

But you don't throw a sucker punch when you're the sucker.

We're left betrayed by a leader who doesn't stand up and defend our interests or democratic values as forcefully and unequivocally as possible.

It was there for all to see: Trump's public betrayal of America.

ASIAN AMERICANS KNOW THAT FEELING

Asian Americans know how it feels when a president

betrays them.

Filipino veterans of World War II went to fight for the U.S. in the Philippines during WWII. Promised citizenship and full pay and benefits by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's order, they signed up in droves. Filipinos made up most of the prisoners in the Bataan Death March.

For their efforts they got the Rescission Act of 1946, signed by President Truman, which negated the promise of Roosevelt.

It took more than 55 years for them to be made whole.

Roosevelt also gave us Executive Order 9066, which led to the incarceration of thousands of Japanese Americans.

Asian Americans know how it feels to be let down by a president.

And now so does the rest of America.

.....
EMIL GUILLERMO is an award-winning journalist and commentator who writes from Northern California. He recently won the 2015 Dr. Suzanne Ahn Award for Civil Rights and Social Justice from the Asian American Journalists Association California. Listen to his podcast: *Emil Amok's Takeout* <http://emilamokstakeout.libsyn.com/website>

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Bill to Crack Down on Unlicensed Care Homes Becomes Law

Governor David Ige signed into law HB 1911 (Act 148) authorizing the Department of Health to investigate care facilities reported to be operating without a certificate of license from the department.

"We have seen more and more of these unlicensed care homes popping up across the state, and we just want to be sure that we have the ability to inspect these homes, determine whether they're licensed, enforce the law and ensure the safety and care of patients," said Gov. Ige.

The new law establishes penalties for operating an uncertified or unlicensed facility. It also establishes penalties for knowingly referring or transferring patients to uncertified/unlicensed care facilities.

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WHAT'S UP, ATTORNEY?



By Atty. Emmanuel S. Tipon

Right to Carry Gun Openly in Hawaii Upheld by Court

been sufficiently indicated” and the applicant “is engaged in the protection of life and property.” The County of Hawaii has promulgated regulations to clarify that open carry is proper only when the license-holder is “in the actual performance of his duties or within the area of his assignment.” Police Dep’t of Cty. of Haw., Rules and Regulations Governing the Issuance of Licenses 10 (Oct. 22, 1997).

Without a license under § 134-9, a person may only transport an unloaded firearm, in an enclosed container, to and from a place of repair, a target range, a licensed dealer, a firearms exhibit, a hunting ground, or a police station, H.R.S. §§ 134-23, 134-24, 134-25, 134-26, 134-27, and may only use those firearms while “actually engaged” in hunting or target shooting, H.R.S. § 134-5.

The Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution provides: “A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.”

On June 12, 2012, Young sued in U.S. District Court in Hawaii under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 against the State of Hawaii, its then-Governor, Neil Abercrombie, and its then-Attorney General, the County of Hawaii, its Mayor, the Hilo County Police Department, and its then-Chief of Police, alleging that denying his application for a handgun license violates his Second Amendment right to carry a loaded firearm in public for self-defense. Young requested, among other things, injunctive and declaratory relief from the enforcement of § 134-9’s licensing requirements.

The U.S. District Court dismissed the case. Young appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals, arguing that Hawaii County violated the Second Amendment by enforcing against him the State’s limitations in § 134-9 on the open carry of firearms to those “engaged in the protection of life and property” and on the concealed carry of firearms to those who can demonstrate an

“exceptional case.”

SECOND AMENDMENT APPLIES AT HOME AND IN PUBLIC

A 3-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals reversed the District Court, rejecting the argument that the Second Amendment only has force within the home. The Court stated that once identified as an individual right focused on self-defense, the right to bear arms must guarantee some right to self-defense in public. It said that while the concealed carry of firearms categorically falls outside such protection, it was satisfied that the Second Amendment encompasses a right to carry a firearm openly in public for self-defense. The Court held that because § 134-9 restricted Young in exercising the right to carry a firearm openly, it burdened conduct protected by the Second Amendment.

The Court declared that the right to carry a firearm openly for self-defense falls within the core of the Second Amendment. The Court stated that restricting open carry to those whose job entails protecting life or property necessarily restricts open carry to a small and insulated subset of law-abiding citizens. The Court pointed out that the typical, law-abiding citizen in the State of Hawaii was entirely foreclosed from exercising the core Second Amendment right to bear arms for self-defense. The Court concluded that Hawaii’s limitation on the open carry of firearms to those “engaged in the protection of life and property” violated the core of the Second Amendment and was void under any level of scrutiny.

The court said it did “not take lightly the problem of gun violence, which the State of Hawaii “has understandably sought to fight . . . with every legal tool at its disposal.” However, said the court, there was nothing in its opinion that would prevent the State from regulating the right to bear arms, for the Second Amendment leaves the State “a variety of tools for combatting [the problem of gun violence],

including some measures regulating handguns.” “But, for better or for worse, the Second Amendment does protect a right to carry a firearm in public for self-defense.” *Young v. State of Hawaii*, No. 12-17808, (9th Cir. 07/24/2018).

Observation: A number of Hawaii public officials are panicking. They think that “open carry” is “scary”. One official reportedly said that “It turns us into the Wild West.” They want Hawaii County to have the case reconsidered by the entire court of appeals and if they lose to appeal to the Supreme Court. However, Tulsa World Editorial Board, on February 25, 2012 said: “In fact, a surprising number of states even allow open carry of handguns without a license. Contrary to the concerns of some opponents of open carry, such measures have not led to wild-West shootouts or other

serious consequences.”

A gubernatorial candidate was quoted by a Honolulu newspaper on July 25, 2018, as having said: “Hawaii’s safety and peace cannot be jeopardized because of decisions made far away from our shores by those who have political agendas such as the president.” Did he really say that or he was misquoted? If he was quoted correctly, is he suggesting that President Trump had something to do with the Court of Appeals decision? *Susmariosep.*

ATTY. TIPON has a Master of Laws degree from Yale Law School and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the Philippines. He specializes in immigration law and criminal defense. Office: 900 Fort Street, Suite 1110, Honolulu, HI 96813. Tel. (808) 225-2645. E-Mail: filamlaw@yahoo.com. Websites: www.MilitaryandCriminalLaw.com. He is from Laoag City and Magsingal, Ilocos Sur. He served as an Immigration Officer. He is co-author of “Immigration Law Service, 1st ed.,” an 8-volume practice guide for immigration officers and lawyers. This article is a general overview of the subject matter discussed and is not intended as legal advice.

“E” everything has been said but not everyone has” said it. Morris Udall as quoted by Judge Richard R. Clifton, dissenting in *Young v. State of Hawaii*, No. 12-17808, (9th Cir. 07/24/2018). Google “open carry Hawaii” and you will find numerous articles on yesterday’s (07/24/2018) U.S. Court of Appeals decision holding that the right to carry a firearm openly for self-defense falls within the scope of the Second Amendment. Some articles are cheering the decision, others are jeering at it.

George K. Young, Jr., a Hawaii County resident, wished to carry a firearm publicly for personal self-defense. He applied twice for a license to carry a handgun, either concealed or openly. His application was denied each time by the County of Hawaii’s Chief of Police because Young failed to satisfy § 134-9 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes (“H.R.S.”). § 134-9 is an exception to Hawaii’s “Place[s] to Keep” statutes, which generally require that gun owners keep their firearms at their “place of business, residence, or sojourn.” H.R.S. §§ 134-23, 134-24, 134-25. The exception allows citizens to obtain a license to carry a loaded handgun in public, either concealed or openly, under certain circumstances. H.R.S. § 134-9. Respecting concealed carry, § 134-9 provides that “[i]n an exceptional case, when an applicant shows reason to fear injury to the applicant’s person or property, the chief of police . . . may grant a license to an applicant . . . to carry a pistol or revolver and ammunition therefor concealed on the person.” The chief of police may, under section 134-9, grant a license for the open carry of a loaded handgun only “[w]here the urgency or the need has

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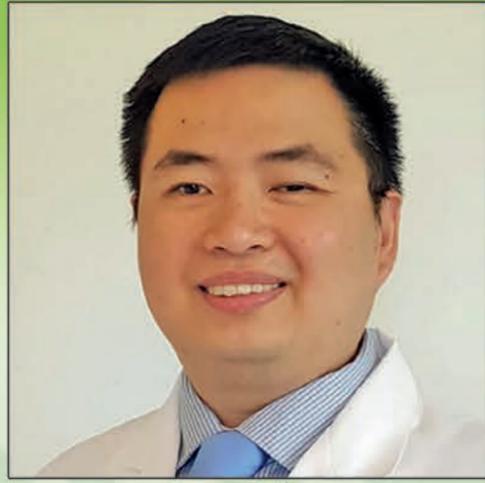
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David Ige, maysa a tao a mapagtalkan

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TRAVEL

(Editor's Note: This is the first of a two-part series "Exploring Hawaii's natural resources is healthy.")

As I See It

Part 1

By Elpidio R. Estioko

Now I can personally understand why Hawaii is a popular destination for travelers, tourists... and even to prospective settlers. Exploring its natural resources is healthy and good to one's body and soul! What does Hawaii can offer? A lot!

My family of 12 (my wife Delia, 6 children, a son-in-law, a daughter-in-law, 2 grandchildren) are on a 10-day vacation in Oahu, Hawaii. My wife and I rode with my son-in-law's car while the rest of the children rented two cars for the duration of 10 days to ensure our mobility all over the island for the two-week vacation.

Hawaii offers a lot of natural experiences allowing people to explore and commune with nature to the fullest. Discovering, taking a walk, and swimming at its various pristine-clear beaches; viewing and enjoying the beauty and ruggedness of the Koolau and Waianae Mountains; savoring local foods/specialties; watching and appreciating cultural shows (luau) depicting our ancestor's traditions; and nav-

igating/trekking the various historic trails, monuments, and craters are memories Hawaii, among others, can offer.

Starting from an early flight (7:00 a.m.) from Mineta San Jose International Airport, the 5-hour flight to Maui at 39,000 feet above sea level was already in itself an exciting flight for a group of 12 members in the family. Landing at Kalului (Maui) Airport, the nice but warm weather of Maui kept us for 30 minutes for another 15-minute flight to Honolulu.

By the way, Hawaii is behind Cali's time by three hours. We were picked up at the airport with a Hawaiian hospitality giving us individual leis of fresh orchids flowers from Sgt. Jonathan Rasay, US Army stationed in Hawaii, who just got married to my daughter Rose "Tweety" on June 16.

As early as day one, arriving at my son-in-law's apartment at 3:05 p.m. with a few hours of rest, we immediately rushed and plunged to the warm and exciting waters of Haleiwa Beach in Haleiwa town, a 10-minute drive from our Mililani Apartment. We enjoyed the water, as if there is no end of it, from 5:00 p.m. up to 7:30 p.m. We've never gone

to the beach for a while after our Santa Cruz swim in California many years ago, so we enjoyed every moment of it.

After the beach experience after day one came hiking trek on day two. The first one was an aborted trek because Lanikai Pill Box Hike, also known as the Kaiwa Ridge Trail. This is a famous hiking trek site located in the town of Kailua on the westward cast of Oahu, which was placed under a two-month renovation that very morning when we drove to the site.

We went to the second hiking site at the Diamond Head Park in the town of Waikiki. It was considered an intermediate or easy hike and as a former member of the Philippine Nomads, an outdoor organization devoted to hiking treks, spelunking, observation of minorities, river trips, and mountain climbing, I also thought it was an easy one. I was wrong! For us seniors, it's already a difficult and arduous climb considering our age, but... I made it!

Starting from the 1.3-kilometer hike from the trailhead at the foot of the crater floor to the summit of Diamond Head Crater, the trail follows an uneven and steep terrain requiring caution and appropriate footwear which forced me to stop from every bench to the 99-steep stairways leading to the Fire Control Station at the top of the summit immediately after going through the tunnel.

After the hike to the historic trail to the summit, we had lunch at Helena's Hawaiian Foods in Khalili, Hawaii. Then after lunch, we went to Shark's Cove Beach in Northshore for another round of beach experience. That's what we do - go to the beach and go hiking!

The Dole Pineapple Plantation experience in Wahiawa was on the third day. Dole was in Hawaii since July 28, 1900 employing many Filipinos. We met Esme Sanchez, who has been working for the plantation for seven years.

After lunch at a stop at Haleiwa along Haleiwa Beach, we went to Kualoa



The author Elpidio Estioko shown with his son from Florida, John Edward, and his daughters Kayla and Bibay at the Diamond Head State Monument marker.

Park where we spent time watching the scenery along the Chinaman's Hat Island and the island where the Jurassic Park was filmed.

Still on the third day, we went to Pali Puka State Park at the Nuillanu Poli Lookout and the Valley of the Temples along Kaheliki Highway. The Bodo-In Temple was great with excellent showcase of Japan's traditions and culture.

The fourth day is a trip to the swap meet at the Aloha Stadium in Aiea, Hawaii. Souvenir items were abundant and people took advantage of the cheap products as souvenir items.

We ended the day with a night swimming at Waikiki Beach from 6:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. with our group leaving the waters last. We ate dinner at Subway Restaurant near the beach before heeding home.

On day five, the children went for an early morning hike to Koko Head Crater Peak in Honolulu. Koko Head is better known as Koko Head Stairs of more than 100 steps. This is a steep climb to the top of Koko Head crater with spectacular panoramic view of the Honolulu shoreline, a one hour and a half hike to the top.

The children rushed back to our Mililani Apartment after a late lunch to be in time for the 5:00 p.m. Hawaiian luau at Paradise Cove located at 92-1089 Ali'inui Drive, Kapolei, Hawaii. We took a journey to a place where cultural traditions of our ancestors are preserved and celebrated wit

aloha and excitement.

It began with the laying of shell and fresh orchids leis to individual visitors entering Paradise Cove with picture opportunities. As soon as we were seated in designated long tables and chairs, the activities started with a community prayer and blessing of the food. Just like in modern day eat-all-you-can buffet, the community of people lined up for all-you-can-eat Hawaiian luau dinner. Immediately after dinner, we heard the majestic sound of the pu (conch shell) signaling the community to follow the sound that guides everybody to participate firsthand the rich cultural activities along the 12-acre Ko 'Oliana's breathtaking coastline.

Despite occasional drizzles, we excitingly watched and appreciated Pacific Cove's spectacular production extravaganza of songs and dances of Hawaii, the South Pacific and the daring fire knife dances of Samoa under starlight.

ELPIDIO R. ESTIOKO was a former journalist in the Philippines, a field reporter for Philippine Star/Pilipino Star, and now a senior reporter/ columnist for FilAm Star, San Francisco, California, USA. He is an academic instructor for San Jose Job Corps and a retired college instructor for De Anza College, Cupertino, California; and former instructor, San Jose State University. He is an awardee for excellence in Filipino-American journalism in SF, California last October 5, 2017 for a Merit award first Best News Story awarded by the Filipino-American Press Club during its 6th Plaridel Awards.)



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VOTE FOR UNITY, STRENGTH AND PRIDE VOTE FILIPINO DEMOCRATS



I am proud of my Filipino heritage and urge all Filipinos to come together in unity. We will be a political force if we can unite. Now is the time.
 – **DONNA MERCADO-KIM**
 US HOUSE, CD I (URBAN HONOLULU)



When we are UNITED, we are stronger and our voices are louder. Together we can be the positive change for Hawaii. Be involved and VOTE.
 – **WILL ESPERO**
 LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



As a daughter of an immigrant father from Urdaneta, Pangasinan, who came to Hawaii in the late 1920's, Filipino unity means to come together in celebration as a family. It also means to work together and be a champion for the rights of others, so that we can all have the same basic rights and privileges that my father dreamed of when he first migrated here.
 – **VERONICA DUZON, SEN. DIST. 19**
 (EWA BEACH-IROQUOIS POINT)



As a proud Pinay running for office for the first time, I represent a new generation that will challenge the status quo. My immigrant experience, humble upbringing, and Filipino values have given me the strength and courage to stand up and fight for a better future for my fellow Filipinos and constituents. Please support my campaign at trishlachica.com.
 – **TRISH LA CHICA, HOUSE DIST. 36**
 (MILILANI- MILILANI MAUKA WAIPIO ACRES)



Filipino unity is to band and work together for a common cause/goal.
 – **ROSE MARTINEZ, HOUSE DISTRICT 40**
 (EWA BEACH-IRAQUOIS POINT)



No task is too difficult when done together.
 – **KAU'I DALIRE, HOUSE DIST. 49**
 (KANEOHE-MAUNAWILI-KAILUA)



There is nothing more powerful than people united in heart and mind. We must remain committed to each other as we work to constantly improve our neighborhoods, our city and our state.
 – **ROBERT BUNDA, CITY COUNCIL**
 (MILILANI-KAHALU'U) DIST. II



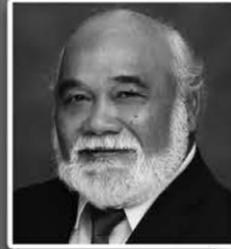
Let's move forward as a united Filipino community to bring new energy, vision, and aloha to our City government!
 – **TYLER DOS SANTOS-TAM**
 CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT VI
 (MAKIKI-KALIHI VALLEY -AIEA HEIGHTS)



FILIPINOS UNITE & MAKE HISTORY!
 Magkaisa tayo na bumoto ng unang Pilipino Mayor ng Maui. Vote for Don Guzman!
 – **DON S. GUZMAN, MAYOR**
 MAUI COUNTY



Education matters for those who want to contribute to a society, for those who want to bring about a change and for those who want to be an example— Hermann J. Steinherr
 – **SHANE SINENCI, COUNTY COUNCIL**
 (EAST MAUI)



Mabuhay! Vote Atay!
 – **ALIKA ATAY, COUNTY COUNCIL**
 (WAILUKU-WAIHEE-WAIKAPU)



It is time for Filipinos to rise and let their voices and choices be heard. Vote!
 – **TRINETTE FURTADO, COUNTY COUNCIL**
 (MAKAWAO-HA'IKU-PĀ'IA)



Salamat po for embracing us with your culture and support. The Sakada perseverance and bayanihan spirit lives on in the strength and unity of the Filipino community today. Dios ti agngina
 – **STACEY HELM CRIVELLO, COUNTY COUNCIL**
 (MOLOKAI)



"We are each other's harvest; we are each other's business; we are each other's magnitude and bond."
 – **KEANI RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ**
 COUNTY COUNCIL (MOLOKAI)



Samahan ninyo kaming gumawa ng isang sosyohan na magpapatibay sa ating komunidad. Salamat po sa inyo lahat. Mabuhay!
 – **LENNY RAPOZO, MAYOR**
 KAUAI COUNTY

KAKATALK

Back-to-School, Back-to-Nature

BAHAY KUBO PLANT NAMES

By Carolyn Weygan-Hildebrand



*ahay kubo, kahit munti
Ang halaman doon ay sari-sari.
Singkamas at talong, sigarilyas at mani
Sitaw, bataw, patani.*

*Kundol, patola, upo't kalabasa
At saka mayroon pang labanos, mustasa,*

*sibuyas, kamatis, bawang at luya
sa paligid-ligid ay puro linga."*



Windward Community College Hawaiian Studies offered an opportunity to students and families to learn how to build a traditional Hawaiian hale, including learning the Hawaiian protocols, gathering and preparing wood, learning the lashing techniques, and thatching techniques.

tect-educators explain, the bahay kubo is a typical traditional house found in the rural lowland areas of the Philip-

PLANT	SCIENTIFIC NAME	OTHER NAME	EDIBLE PARTS
Singkamas	Pachyrhizus erosus	Jicama	fleshy roots
Talong	Solanum melongena	eggplant	fruit
Sigarilyas	Phosphocarpus tetragonolobus	winged beans	fruit
Mani	Arachis hypogea	peanuts	
Sitaw	Phaseolus vulgaris	string beans	fruit, leaves, seeds
Bataw	Lablab purpureus	hyacinth bean	fruit, seeds
Patani	Phascolus lunatus	lima beans	fruit, seeds
Kundol	Benincasa hispida	winter melon	green fruit
Patola	Cucumis acutangulus	sponge gourd/luffa	green fruit
Upo	Lagenaria siceraria	calabash or bottle gourd	green fruit
Kalabasa	Cucurbita maxima	Squash	yellow fruits, flowers
Labanos	Raphanus sativus	white radish	fleshy roots
Mustasa	Brassica juncea	mustard	leaves
Sibuyas	Allium cepa	Onion	bulb; leaves
Kamatis	Solanum lycopersicum/Lycopersicon esculentum	Tomato	red fruits/berry
Bawang	Allium sativum	Garlic	bulb
Luya	Zingiber officinale	Ginger	fleshy roots
Linga	Sesamum indicum	sesame	seeds

If you are a school teacher or a Filipino parent in Hawaii, you might want to use this popular children song for selecting some of the plants that should be raised in school food gardens and garden-to-table projects. Seven of the song's eight lines are about plants that are common Filipino sources of nutritious food and healing spices. Adding these plants in school gardens can enhance learning about the cultural and natural dimensions of self-sustenance and food growing. These plants are great sources for some of the needed proteins, carbohydrates, fiber, vitamins, minerals and more. The edible plant parts include roots, leaves, fruits, and seeds. The nature, shapes and colors of these plants can further inspire creativity and innovation in garden arrangements or edible landscape designing. Local farmers markets sell these seasonal produce which should indicate that seeds and other plant propagation materials are locally available for school

gardens. Many local Filipinos no longer know how several of these plants look like. They also have different names in other cultures and markets. Hence, anyone interested in researching more should look also into the plants' scientific names for guidance. Of course, actual Filipino gardens in Hawaii are also known for other vegetables like marunggay, parya, okra, sili, katuday, kamote and others.

It is also worthwhile to consider the song's first line, which does not speak of plants. It focuses on the house that is surrounded by the plants. Literally, the line says "The cube house, despite being small." It is a line that, seemingly, looks down on the size of bahay kubo. However, reclaiming the craft and science behind the "bahay kubo" is now very relevant amidst the search for resiliency in an era of global warming and frequent extreme events (e.g. hurricanes, earthquakes, and others).

As some Filipino archi-

As an iconic symbol of room dwelling and made of older vernacular architecture, nipa leaves and bamboo wood. it is often depicted as a one –

(continue on page 15)

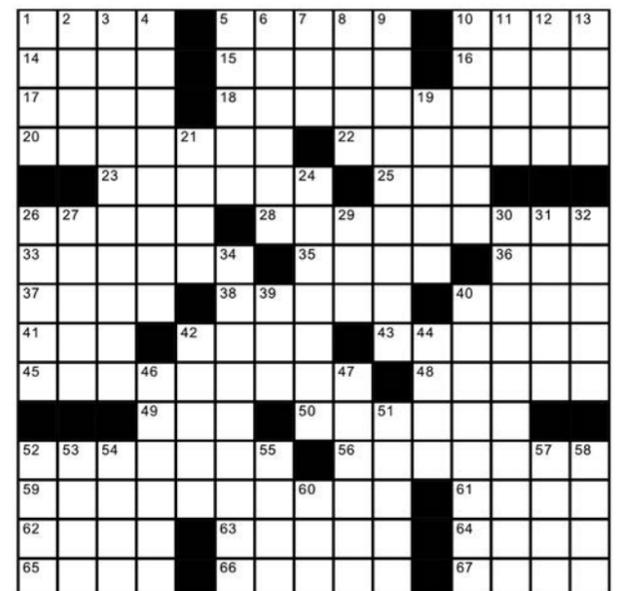
CROSSWORD No. 14 by Carlito Lalicon

ACROSS

- Former Senator, ___ Ponce Enrile
- Carp
- Luxurious
- Cantina cooker
- Dress cut
- Able to see right through
- Very slow pace
- Hit hard
- Like some seals
- Urogenital medicine
- Seth's Mom
- Scallop
- Blood feud
- Split
- Chill
- Aromatic solvent
- Join securely
- Dirty untidy woman
- Alleviated
- Advance
- Divination deck
- Coach
- Behold
- Unaccented
- Repelled
- Malacañang Palace locale

DOWN

- National hero Rizal
- Arm bone
- Winged
- Caught
- Song holder
- "The Sound of Music" backdrop
- By means of
- Bring upon oneself
- Looked lecherously
- Not intense
- Quality of being unholy
- Doe's mate
- Having a feeling of home
- Bank
- On that
- Pause
- Prospect
- Acclaim
- Relating to a nerve fiber



- At all
- Follower
- Berth
- Lesotho monetary unit
- Relating to rabbis
- Small cave
- Merger
- Back talk
- Ethereal
- Backgammon piece
- Crude uncouth ill-bred person lacking culture or refinement

- Introduces a subordinate clause
- Charity, often
- Broke off
- Network of intersecting blood vessels
- Any of 24 major or minor diatonic scales
- Dopastat
- Very small
- Altercation
- "Kalamansi", e.g.
- Song writer
- Inclined
- Aquatic plant
- Apple leftover
- Black, in poetry
- Small dark purple fruit used in smoothies and health drinks
- Charge
- Additionally
- Life

(Solution will be on the next issue of the Chronicle)

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(Solution will be on the next issue of the Chronicle)

LEGAL NOTES



By Atty. Reuben S. Seguritan

Denaturalization Task Force Created

been involved in crimes or charged for any felony in the application for naturalization. This denaturalization process could lead to the immigrant's eventual deportation from the US.

The announcement of the USCIS is in line with President Trump's goal of removing as many illegal immigrants from the United States as possible, including those who have already gained citizenship and have lived and worked in the US for many years. The USCIS is in the process of hiring more staff and lawyers, opening new offices and expanding the existing offices in order to initiate and process denaturalization cases.

The first few hundred denaturalization investigations will review naturalizations that were flagged after old fingerprint records on paper were

scanned into a government database a decade ago. The scans allowed immigration authorities to find people who had been granted citizenship despite having prior criminal convictions or deportation orders.

The formation of this new office by the USCIS to investigate and process the denaturalization of US citizens means that immigrants, even those who are now US citizens, will never be safe from deportation. There is no statute of limitations for the government to begin and process denaturalization cases. Hence, the government can investigate any naturalized citizen and can determine whether certain acts or failures to disclose information in the past would constitute fraud, or misrepresentation or some other ground to justify the denaturalization and eventual

deportation of the immigrant.

Denaturalization cases used to be very rare. Out of the thousands of immigrants who become naturalized US citizens throughout the years, there were only an average of 11 denaturalization cases a year from 1990 to 2015, 15 cases in 2016, 25 cases in 2017 and so far in 2018 there have been 20 cases confirmed by the USCIS.

Michael Bars, the USCIS spokesman, told the media that the mandate is to find people who deliberately lied on their citizenship applications, not those who made innocent mistakes. However, it is not clear what the benchmark will be in order for the USCIS to determine whether a naturalized US citizen should be denaturalized for the statements made or failure to include information on the application forms and interview.

Other supporters of the move to denaturalize citizens state that the US is admitting too many immigrants. They cite the fact that there is a backlog of naturalization applications of over 730,000 over the past two years, from a backlog of 390,000 naturalization applications before this period.

Critics fear that the USCIS will act arbitrarily and include thousands of naturalized citizens in the denaturalization process because of errors and mistakes they made in the application process and interview, even if these statements were not made to gain an immigration benefit.

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

OPEN FORUM

Hawaii's Best Kept Secret

By Kioni Dudley

What is Hawaii's very best kept secret? No one is telling us that our million people will be starving by 2050 if we aren't growing all of our food locally by then. That's a fact.

While our attention is focused on problems of the world today, we really need to focus on the world's population explosion and the devastating effect it will soon begin having on Hawaii.

The world's population took 2 ½ million years to reach two billion people in 1940. Forty years later, that 2 had doubled to 4 billion people. Now 40 years later that 4 has almost doubled again. As U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue: "Today, we need to feed some 7 billion people (worldwide). By the year 2050, that population will swell to 9.5 billion. To put the demand for food into perspective, we are going to have to double our (worldwide) production between now and 2050." That is, "we will have to produce more food in the next 30 years than has been produced in the last 8,000 years combined."

That's a pretty big order. Too big. The United Nations predicts that by 2050, we will have 371 million people with insufficient food. That's more people than the entire population of the United States.

But mainland America will provide for us, right? Wrong. America is struggling. In the 1990s, it went from a large exporter of food to a net importer today. America also has the world's 7th fastest growing population.

Each year, America uses more water to grow more food. All three of America's largest aquifers are being depleted beyond possible replenishing. The Ogallala Aquifer which runs under our entire central bread basket—from North Dakota to Texas—dropped another foot last year alone. It has lost 60% of its water in 60 years. Do the math. In forty years, it will be dry. America won't be able to take care of mainlanders, let alone take care of us.

Much of the world is in far worse shape. No one is pointing out that almost every current war in the world is about food for starving people.

Clearly, by mid-century

there will be little food anywhere for Hawaii to import, and what is available will be too costly for us to afford. Today Hawai'i imports roughly 90% of our food.

But our need to produce that 90% of our food locally in just thirty years, drastically understates the far greater problem we really face. Our State DBEDT recently stated that by 2045 our 1.1 million people will grow to 1.65 million. For every two mouths to feed today, there will be three.

Since we grow 10% of our food today, we have thought that we need to produce 9 times that by 2050. But with the new DBEDT population projection, in just 25 years we must produce 15 times what we grow now—an absolutely gargantuan task.

If we don't create a true agricultural revolution NOW, by mid-century, hundreds of thousands of us and our descendants will be emaciated, desperately hungry, and warring among ourselves for food, with death everywhere.

We must wake up and start moving, refocusing our society, re-casting our goals. Food production must become our fastest growing industry. We need an

explosion of farming. And it must start now.

What do we need to do? Everything. We need a major push to attract young people to farming, and to greatly expand high school and college programs to train them. We need to open up former sugar and pineapple lands for new farmers. We need to stop all housing development on currently active farmland. We need cattle ranches, dairies, piggeries, and chicken farms. And we need to raise the various

foods for all those animals. We need farm equipment stores, and food processing plants. There is good money in farming, and good money in all these businesses.

We can starve, or we can have a great future. Let the revolution begin!

More information and documentation can be found at www.2050Hawaii.com.

Dr. Kioni Dudley is a retired educator who lives in Makakilo.

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HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Walk in Early Voting Continues Up to August 9

Electoral officials want to remind the public that early walk in voting continues through August 9. Registered voters may visit any early walk in voting location within their county to cast their ballot.

Hawaii residents may still register to vote at any early walk in voting location in their county or at their assigned polling place on Election Day, August 11. To reg-

ister and vote, you must be a U.S. Citizen, a Hawaii resident, and at least 18 years of age.

The following are walk in voting sites statewide:

County of Hawaii: County of Hawaii Aupuni Center, Conference Room

101 Pauahi Street, Suite 1, Monday – Saturday: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

West Hawaii Civic Center: Community Room (Building

G), 74-5044 Ane Keohokalohe Highway, Monday – Saturday: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Waimea Community Center: 65-1260 Kawaihae Road, Monday – Friday: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Saturday: 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Pahala Community Center: 96-1149 Kamani Street, Monday – Friday: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, Closed 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Pahoa Community Center: 15-

3022 Kauhale Street, Monday – Friday: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Saturday: 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

County of Maui: Velma McWayne Santos Community Center: 395 Waena Place, Monday – Saturday: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Mitchell Pauole Center: Conference Room, 90 Ainoa Street, Monday – Saturday: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

County of Kauai: Historic County Annex Building, 4386

Rice Street, Monday – Saturday: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

City & County of Honolulu: Honolulu Hale, 530 South King Street, Monday – Saturday: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Kapolei Hale: Conference Rooms A – C, 1000 Uluohia Street, Monday – Saturday: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

To check your voter registration status, find your polling place, or view a sample of your ballot, visit elections.hawaii.gov or call 453-VOTE (8683).

Attend the Small Business Fair and Other Small Business Events

Hawaii's leading business organizations in the State will gather for the 2018 Annual Small Business Fair on Saturday, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on

August 4 at the campus of Honolulu Community College on Dillingham Boulevard. The theme, "Launch Your Dreams into Reality," will feature free workshops on the latest prac-

tices and developments impacting small business owners.

Exhibitors include the SBA, Dept. of Taxation, Hawaii Dept. of Agriculture, Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA), Dept. of Commerce & Consumer Affairs, U.S. Postal Service, Pacific Gateway Center, Ewa Beach CDBO, financial institutions and many more.

The event is sponsored by Honolulu Community College, the State of Hawaii Department of Business Development and Tourism (DBEDT) and the U.S. Small Business

Administration (SBA).

For more information, call 808-587-2757 or 808-945-1430.

Other events include: **Boots to Business** – August 8 & 9, 2018, Wednesday & Thursday, Schofield Barracks, HI. Open to transitioning military. Registration required: <https://sbavets/force.com/s/>

8(a) Business Development Program & Small Business Certifications – August 14, 2018, Tuesday, 9:00am-11:00am, SBA Hawaii District Office, 500 Ala Moana Boule-

vard, Bldg. 1, Suite 306, Honolulu, HI 96813. Registration required.

2018 Federal Small Business **Summit** – August 16, 2018, Thursday, 7:00am-5:00pm, East-West Center, Imin Conference Center, Keoni Auditorium, 1777 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96822. To register, go to: Summit Registration.

Wahine Forum Network – August 16, 2018, Thursday, 11:30am-1:00pm, YWCA, 1040 Richards Street, Fuller Hall, Honolulu, HI. Register with the Patsy T. Mink Center for Business & Leadership (MCBL) at mcbl@ywcaohu.org.

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((Sagot sa Krosword Blg. 14 | July 21, 2018))

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FILIPINO WOMEN'S CIVIC CLUB FOUNDATION (FWCCF) BARN DANCE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISING | AUGUST 4, 2018 | 5:00 PM - 11:00 PM | Pagoda Floating

Restaurant International Ballroom | For more information, contact Event Chair Rose Galanto 688-4458

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

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MAINLAND NEWS

Nursing Shortage Bill Passes U.S. House

A bipartisan bill cosponsored by Rep. Tulsi Gabbard to address nursing shortages in Hawaii and the across the nation unanimously passed the U.S. House of Representatives. The Title VIII

Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act (H.R. 959) would reauthorize federal funding for nursing workforce and education programs to help grow and support the nursing workforce.

A Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce projects that the U.S. will face a nursing shortage of roughly 200,000 nursing professionals by 2020.

Malaya Movement Protest Duterte's Administration

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – Malaya Movement, an organization dedicated to democracy in the Philippines, and other grassroots groups took part in multi-events on July 22-23 called United People's State of the Nation Address to protest President Rodrigo Duterte's administration.

There was a theater performance, a Die-In, poetry reading by Joi Barrios, a No to CHA-CHA dance, as well as cultural performance from youth and students against Duterte's dictatorship.

Some of the issues protested are the ongoing violent drug war, the 1,600 Lumad indigenous people forced evacuation from their ances-

tral land in Surigao del Sur, Mindanao due to military occupation and violence on their community, as well as the 400,000-plus people that have already been displaced due to martial law in Mindanao, and the U.S. government's recent approval of an additional \$26.5 million military aid to the Philippines to fight "counterterrorism."

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Hawaii Joins Coalition to Preserve DACA

Hawaii Attorney General Russell Suzuki joined a coalition of 20 Attorneys General to file an amicus brief seeking to protect Deferred Action for Early Childhood Arrivals (DACA) grantees.

The brief was filed in Texas v. United States, a case being heard in the District Court for the Southern District of Texas, in which certain states are challenging the lawfulness of the DACA program. The brief was led by the Attorneys General of New York and California, and was joined

by the Attorneys General of Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, Washington, and the District of Columbia.

The brief filed by the Attorneys General argues that the Texas plaintiffs cannot make the legal showing required to obtain a preliminary injunction, and that the requested preliminary injunction should not

be granted because it would conflict with the two existing preliminary injunctions issued by courts in the Northern District of California and the Eastern District of New York.

The brief argues that the Texas plaintiffs cannot show a likelihood of success on the merits or that they will be irreparably harmed if DACA is not enjoined; and that the balance of the equities and the public interest weigh against granting the Texas plaintiffs' requested preliminary injunction.

(KAKATALK: BACK-TO-SCHOOL...from page 12)

Design and materials actually vary by region and family needs but common features include steep roof over one-or-two room living areas raised on posts or stilts one to two meters above ground. Augusto Villalon, in an article in Seasite.org, describes it well also when he writes that the traditional bahay kubo follows the centuries-old Southeast Asia style where all family activities happen in one space. For example, after sleeping mats are rolled up in the mornings, the same space is given over to daytime activities that sometimes spill outdoors to the shaded areas underneath the house.

In a 2016 JASTIP powerpoint presentation, Mary Ann Espina, Dean of the University of the Philippines Col-

lege of Architecture, points out that traditional Filipino wisdom led to disaster-resilient abodes that reflect an intimate knowledge of nature. The bahay kubo's elevated habitable spaces protect against flooding. The regular geometric configurations help resist lateral forces from earthquake and winds. The voluminous thatched roofs aid in wind deflection, efficient water run-off and passive cooling. The easily source materials such as bamboo, wood, and nipa allow for ease of construction and maintenance. Traditional wood joinery keeps the structure strong. Community clustering and surrounding natural features shield against disasters.

Espina points out that with contemporary buildings and new vernacular architecture, much of the traditional wisdom is now lost in our collective memory. Fortunately, for educators and families in Hawaii, the Hawaiian renaissance is an opportunity for collaborative reclaiming of nature-based knowledge and traditional skills.

Why the need to go back to nature in the school setting? The purpose is not to romanticize the past or be nostalgic about it. It is a future that requires us to reconnect back with nature and our communities. (Source: http://jastip.org/sites/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/10_Espina_Part1.pdf)

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“ Colleen is smart, articulate, and honest. She does her homework before making decisions. Above all, she is a leader. She deserves your vote. ”

— Governor Ben Cayetano



Four years ago, I supported David Ige for governor. Sadly, he has not provided the kind of leadership needed to guide Hawai'i in the years ahead.

His indecisiveness and penchant for being all things to all people has put the TMT at risk, creating the real probability that Hawai'i may lose the world class telescope to competitors.

The same indecisiveness and incompetence was exposed in his handling of the false missile crisis that scared a million people and made Hawai'i the laughing stock of the nation, a boon for ridicule by nighttime television hosts and comedians.

Most troubling is his lack of knowledge about the rail project. Ignoring huge cost overruns, Governor Ige throws caution to the wind and doubles down on the project, saying he would support an extension of the rail tax.

Colleen Hanabusa, on the other hand, demonstrated the flexibility and wisdom we expect a governor to have in adjusting to changing conditions.

She believes that extending the rail tax would give the City a “blank check” in building the system, raising the specter that the rail tax will be used not only for construction but to pay for operations and maintenance costs as well.

Foremost is her concern of the impact the ever increasing cost of rail will have on senior citizens living on fixed incomes as well as fairness to neighbor islanders who will pay but not benefit from the rail system.

Colleen is smart, articulate, and honest. She does her homework before making decisions on the issues.

Above all, she is a leader. It is that virtue which led her to become Senate President, the first woman to hold that office in Hawai'i's history. Colleen deserves your vote.



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