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EDITORIALS

Hawaii's Workers, Hawaii's Filipinos, Have Benefitted from Unions

Labor Day officially became a federal holiday in 1894. Trade and labor unions pushed to have this holiday to honor working men and women in the country, and specifically the American labor movement that have fought to strengthen workers' wages and benefits. Not only do we owe labor unions for this holiday, but it has been organized workers who have brought about the practice of paid holidays. Without the "paid" part of holidays, it wouldn't be what they are today as employees would opt to work out of necessity instead of taking a day off.

Arguably, if it weren't for public and private sector unions helping to keep wages closer to rising rates of inflation, the nation's overall economy would be much weaker in every aspect, including consumer spending power and movement of capital. Inequality would be far worse than it is today; in fact, the economic health of the country's "middle-class" is largely determined by a balance between corporate and workers' needs.

Union busting and globalism have hurt organized labor. Some corporations use the high cost of labor as a reason to set up shop abroad. The early plantation history of Hawaii was a prime example of corporations establishing itself in a new market hoping to take advantage of cheap labor. Plantation companies brought in a stream of mostly Asian laborers (46,000 Chinese, 180,000 Japanese, 126,000 Filipinos) to offset the bargaining power of its previous import labor.

As earlier plantation workers begun to strike and demand better wage and working conditions, plantation companies brought another wave of immigrants to do the work. It was a classic formula. Strikes were originally organized along racial lines and were not as effective until there was unity among all races, all plantation workers. It was then that workers really started to see better conditions. Eventually, the International Longshoremen and Warehouseman's Union, the ILWU, unified the former Japanese and Filipino racial unions into Hawai'i's biggest single union representing sugar, pineapple and long-shore workers across the island chain.

The plantations have left and been replaced with hotels; but the relationship between corporations and organized labor has carried over. Local 5, the union representing workers in the hotel industry, have about 60 percent membership of Filipino ancestry and a significant percentage of immigrants. Local 5, on behalf of their workers, has been able to negotiate better wages and benefits. On average across the board, hotel union member-workers get paid between \$4-5 per hour more than their counterparts who are non-union hotel workers. In addition, non-union hotel workers often have to pay for family medical insurance out of pocket and have little or no retirement benefits compared with union hotel workers.

Unions in Hawaii

Unions have lost considerable clout in the U.S. They used to be one part of what was called the "Big 3" – government, corporations and unions. Since the 1980s, the might of corporations has been slowly eclipsing the other two.

In Hawaii, public and private-sector unions remain relatively strong. In 2017, union members accounted for 21.3 percent of wage and salary workers in the state, compared to the national average of 10.7 percent. But union numbers have dwindled locally. Union membership hit its zenith in Hawaii in 1989 when it averaged 29.9 percent. In 2017, it has rebounded slightly from the previous year by a few percentage points.

FROM THE PUBLISHER

Labor Day always falls on the first Monday in September. This year it is on September 3rd. The federal holiday honors all American workers; but historically, it started to specifically honor America's labor movement.

In recognition of workers this Labor Day, for our cover story this issue associate editor Edwin Quinabo gives us a profile of Hawaii's workers -- the state's main industries and average wages. He also looks at the role of unions today and interviews Gemma Garampil Weinstein, the first Filipina President of UNITE HERE, Local 5 -- Hawaii's union that represents hotel workers. Sixty percent of Local 5 members are of Filipino ancestry and 40 percent immigrants. Also in the cover story are some of the challenges workers face since President Donald Trump took office: unions fighting for workers' share in light of the huge corporate tax breaks that started in 2018; as well as the huge blow to workers in the *Janus v AFSCME* U.S. Supreme Court decision. Immigrant workers are also impacted under this Trump administration and Local 5 has been organizing citizenship workshops. In March, they've helped 114 people apply for U.S. citizenship.

The Primary Election is over and the Hawaii Filipino community lost its chance to elect the state's first congresswoman of Filipino ancestry. HFC columnist Emil Guillermo writes about some of the challenges that candidate Donna Mercado Kim faced and a brief history of two other top challengers in the 1st congressional district race.

HFC columnist Atty. Reuben Seguritan contributes an article "Investigating Marriage Fraud." Fraudulent marriages have serious consequences not just for the foreign national but also for the US citizen involved. One misperception is that a subsequent divorce could mean fraud was committed to get an alien into the country. Seguritan writes divorce is not automatically deemed as fraudulent. If a couple have initially entered into marriage in good faith, it does not mean it is fraudulent.

Also, be sure to read our informative news sections that includes among others an article on Dr. Rosie Alegado, who was named the new director of Hawaii's Sea Grant's Center for Integrated Science, Knowledge, and Culture; as well as information on an upcoming talk about "Students' Civil Rights" to be conducted by Atty. Bev Baligad and presented by the Filipino Association of University Women.

Lastly, we'd like to extend a big thank to all the political candidates who shared their platforms with our readers and for advertising in the Chronicle. Until next issue, warmest *Aloha* and *Mabuhay!*

Chona A. Montesines-Sonido

Janus v AFSCME 2018

Unions suffered a significant blow this year in the recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling on *Janus v AFSCME*. The conservative-majority high court ruled that public employees do not have to pay fees to a union to cover costs of collective bargaining, stating that union fees in the public sector violate the First Amendment. The court overturned a 1977 decision in *Abood v Detroit Board of Education* that had previously allowed such fees.

"Fair share" dues were charged to non-union members who benefitted from collective bargaining. The *Janus* decision makes null the fair-share provisions. With less fees or dues, this will likely impact public sector union membership, revenues, and overall influence.

Are unions good for the country?

Some union experts believe there is a correlation between corporations' overpowering of unions and wage stagnation. They assert that corporate greed has a lot to do with the difficul-



Publisher & Executive Editor
Charlie Y. Sonido, M.D.

Publisher & Executive Editor
Chona A. Montesines-Sonido

Associate Editors
Edwin Quinabo | Dennis Galolo

Contributing Editor
Belinda Aquino, Ph.D.

Art Director
Junggoi Peralta

Photography
Tim Llana

Administrative Assistant
Lilia Capalad
Shalimar Pagulayan

Columnists

Carlota Hufana Ader

Emil Guillermo

Ron Menor

J.P. Orias

Pacita Saludes

Reuben S. Seguritan, Esq.

Charlie Sonido, M.D.

Emmanuel S. Tapon, Esq.

Felino S. Tubera

Contributing Writers

Clement Bautista

Edna Bautista, Ed.D.

Teresita Bernales, Ed.D.

Sheryll Bonilla, Esq.

Rose Churma

Serafin Colmenares Jr., Ph.D.

Linda Dela Cruz

Fiedes Doctor

Carolyn Weygan-Hildebrand

Amelia Jacang, M.D.

Caroline Julian

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Federico Magdalena, Ph.D.

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Paul Melvin Palalay, M.D.

Renelaine Bontol-Pfister

Seneca Moraleta-Puguan

Jay Valdez, Psy.D.

Glenn Wakai

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Philippine Correspondent:

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Big Island (Hilo and Kona)

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Yoshimasa Kaneko

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Advertising / Marketing Director

China A. Montesines-Sonido

Account Executives

Carlota Hufana Ader

J.P. Orias

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EDITORIALS

3D Printable Guns Must Not Be Allowed

Like a scene out of Mission Impossible or a sci-fi flick, 3D printing is now a reality. Special home printers can now take computer-created digital models to create real-world objects. Sounds great!

But among the possible objects that can be printed are a variety of 3D guns, including an AR-15 style rifle, a Beretta M9 handgun and other firearms. With widespread gun violence plaguing communities across the country, this idea that citizens can simply print firearms at home is beyond alarming.

Cody Wilson and his company introduced the world to 3D printed guns in 2013 by posting a blue print on the Internet. The U.S. State Department intervened and stopped Wilson, saying that he was in violation of a law that prohibits the export of guns without a license.

In 2015, Wilson challenged the order in court.

After years in legal battle, in July 2018, the State Department settled the lawsuit and gave Wilson permission to publish his blueprint to print 3D guns. That was suppose to start on Aug. 1.

States Sue To Stop 3D Guns

Realizing the potential threat to public safety, nine states brought an 11th hour federal lawsuit to prevent Wilson and his group from publishing the blueprints.

Seattle U.S. District Judge Robert Lasnik granted a temporary restraining order to block Wilson from releasing

downloadable blueprints for 3D printing of plastic firearms.

Hawaii and 19 other states to date joined the federal lawsuit and filed an amended complaint asking the judge to make it illegal to share plans of creating printable plastic weapons.

Wilson and his group of supporters are claiming that sharing his blueprints are protected under the First Amendment (free speech) and Second Amendment (right to bear arms).

President Donald Trump tweeted a vague reaction, "I am looking into 3D Plastic Guns being sold to the public. Already spoke to NRA, doesn't seem to make much sense!"

Mr. President, exactly what part doesn't make sense?

Why this is a problem

Downloadable 3D guns are plastic and invisible to metal detectors. Screenings to protect the public at places like airports, schools, or large event gatherings wouldn't work with these "ghost guns." These guns are also untraceable because they don't have serial numbers, which could be preferred weapons for criminals and terrorists.

Printing these guns at home also undermines background checks that are currently required and could create a new underground market for these specific plastic weapons. It could basically upend most of the current safety gun control laws on the books.

Although the 3D printers necessary to print these guns



could be costly, anyone could invest in one and become an underground manufacturer to make up the cost. Possibly selling a few of these plastic guns could more than make up for the cost of the printer.

The potential for guns to proliferate and be in the hands of just about anyone is high, including children, minors, those convicted of crimes or the mentally insane.

In fact, Wilson has stated that this was one of his goals in building untraceable guns – to make guns accessible to everyone and to make "meaningful gun regulation impossible."

Lastly, these guns are plastic but certainly deadly. In 2013, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives tested the Liberator model. One gun made with a plastic called ABS-M30 fired a .380-caliber round without failing all eight times it was tested, ATF officials said, describing it as "a lethal weapon."

Laws must keep pace with technology

Technology is moving so rapid that in cases where public safety is at risk, lawmakers must move quickly to

and other states must continue fighting this issue in the courts.

Wilson's argument that his blueprints-sharing is protected under the First Amendment is erroneous. Not all free speech is protected, especially those that pose to be an imminent threat of danger to the public.

This legal challenge could end up in the U.S. Supreme Court. If it does, the conservative high court must make a common sense, non-ideological decision and realize the magnitude of what's at stake. Having guns readily available for printing at home is a recipe for disaster. The potential for increased gun violence – even more than what we see today – is very likely.

Supporters of 3D home printable guns clearly have no limits. The U.S. is already dangerous enough without untraceable plastic guns; and the states and Congress must do all it can to stop this dangerous technology before it's too late.

keep pace. In the 11th hour, these plastic guns were temporarily stopped and await legal judgement. But already the damage has been done as a few websites have shared the 3D printer blueprint and over a thousand downloads have already been made. No doubt, these blueprints will be circulated in the black market.

For now these guns are plastic, but in the future as 3D printing advances, it's foreseeable that actual fully functioning guns with metal that are no different from what can be purchased at gun stores could be available for printing at home. What then?

Congress ought to anticipate technological change better.

Recipe for disaster

Until a national federal law is created to ban these blueprints for 3D printable guns are enacted, Hawaii

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EDITORIALS: HAWAII'S WORKERS...from page 2)

ties workers experience today. Look at the U.S. economy about 25-30 years ago at the height of union membership and compare it to now.

Looking at the cost of living, inflation, job security, workers lifestyle (workers needing to work multiple jobs to equal one full-time job pay), and home ownership compared to what it used to be 25-30 years ago, it's a plausi-

ble assumption that a society with increased unions are better for workers.

It's clear that workers are having a harder time today. And in many cases, more workers find themselves living from pay check to pay check.

Labor Day is a time for fun and celebration. It's also a time to honor workers. But it should also be a time to reflect on workers rights for fair

wages and benefits. History has shown, even in Hawaii's plantation narrative, that unity, organized worker solidarity, can make a difference.

Unions have historically and continue to improve workers' lives. In Hawaii, the Filipino community has directly benefited and continues to benefit from organized labor from the plantation era to today's hotel industry.

COVER STORY

Labor Day Highlights Workers' Struggle

By Edwin Quinabo

Road trips, backyard barbecues, and parades – these are what people think about Labor Day.

It is observed the first Monday in September (this year, the 3rd) and known as the big three-day holiday weekend that falls on the tail-end of summer just before schools start again. For students it's a last hurrah-of-a-weekend. Typically in Hawaii, the holiday is a leisure respite spent on the beach with family and friends over Hawaiian style barbecue (open lid) and copious sides from sushi and poke, to lumpia.

Like most other holidays, Labor Day also has a much deeper, serious side. It originally came about to honor the American labor movement and workers' struggle; their bravery to launch strikes to bring about better wages and basic benefits.

With the changing labor force, Labor Day also has become a more generalized holiday that honors all hard working men and women.



Labor Unions Still Fighting for Workers

Gemma Garampil Weinstein, UNITE HERE, Local 5's first Filipina President, told the Chronicle "Labor Day is a day in which we should reflect on and celebrate our willingness and need to come together to fight for our families. It's a day that should be more than just about picnics and barbecues, but a day in which we can appreciate each other and rejuvenate ourselves and families around the core mission of organizations like ours."

Local 5 represents nearly 11,000 hotel, health care and food service workers in Hawaii. Chartered in 1938, it has been the largest union fighting on behalf of hotel workers. It also has expanded to represent members in Kaiser Permanente, Hale Nani Rehabilitation & Nursing Center, and HMS Host workers at Kahului Airport.

Over 60 percent of Local 5 members are of Filipino descent. Around 40 percent are immigrants.

Garampil Weinstein is very familiar with hard work as an Ala Moana Hotel housekeeper. "As President I am a reflection of our Union. Local 5 has always been a worker-led organization; and as a Filipina, immigrant and housekeeper it's been an honor to serve my Union. Local 5 is arguably Hawaii's most active and important organization for workers. We have ensured that Hawaii's hotel, health care and food service workers are treated with the respect and dignity we deserve."

She adds, "While we are the backbone of Hawaii's most important and profitable industries, we have also stood proud in ensuring that the rights of women, immigrants and workers are protected."

Garampil Weinstein's passion in her role as president is to empower workers. "We have the power to secure our own futures. It is about overcoming our fears and insecurities; we may only be housekeepers, cooks or medical assistants, but we deserve to be treated with respect and dignity every day.

"In our Union, it's not just about what level of education you have achieved, or what language you speak or what country you were born in; our Union is about recognizing the leadership we must take to secure a Hawaii our children can afford to live in. Our responsibility and goal is to ensure that workers assume positions of power in all aspect of society."

Tourism has been Hawaii's main economic driver for decades. The state Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism

(DBEDT) shows this part of the industry defined as "accommodation and food services" employed 13.6 percent of Hawaii's workforce in the 2012-2016 period, compared with 7.5 percent for the U.S. as a whole.

The Hawaii Workforce Infonet (latest 2016) has its figure of hotel workers and food preparers representing 16.4 percent (106,203) of the state's overall workforce, larger than DBEDT's calculation.

While Hawaii's hotel workers earn on average about \$30,555; their counterparts in the U.S. mainland earn on average \$9,630 less at \$20,925, according to DBEDT's data from the U.S. Census Bureau 2012-16 American Community Survey.

UNITE HERE, Local 5's Paola Rodelas, Communications & Community Organizer, attributes the low income average of Hawaii's hotel workers to non-union hotel workers.

"One of the main reasons why the average income of an accommodation and food services worker in Hawai'i is so low is because non-union hotels pay their workers \$4 to \$5 per hour less on average. Non-union workers often have to pay for family medical insurance out of pocket and have little or no retirement benefits. We want more workers to join the union because we believe all workers deserve the wag-

es and benefits that our members have," Rodelas told the Chronicle.

She added, "A typical Local 5 housekeeper makes \$22.14 per hour and receives full family medical coverage, a guaranteed retirement pension, and training & educational opportunities through our HARIETT program. If you add all of these benefits up, a typical Local 5 housekeeper makes around \$31 per hour."

Rodelas points out that the cost of living in Hawaii has been rising so much that even union members are struggling to make ends meet. A recent national study found that Hawaii residents need to make \$36.13 per hour to afford to rent a 2-bedroom apartment.

Local 5's union contracts are expiring this year, which includes 20 hotels across the state.

Judito Versoza, a hotel worker in Waikiki, said Labor Day is a busy time for workers in the hotel industry. He looks at it as a working holiday. But he also recognizes the importance of the day that honors workers and their fight for fair working wages and hours.

The greatest satisfaction he gets from his job is working with people from all over the world. "You want visitors to have a great experience and speak fondly of their time spent while vacationing in

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COVER STORY

(from page 5)

the hotel. You want visitors to come back, that's how you build relationships."

Versozza stresses the importance of balancing work and home life. He admits it's difficult at times because the cost of living in Hawaii is so high that "you have to work more to sustain the family needs and lifestyle."

Unions in Hawaii

Union busting has been more successful in parts of the U.S. mainland than in Hawaii. While union members in Hawaii has dipped, it remains a formidable force. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics show in 2017, union members accounted for 21.3 percent of wage and salary workers in Hawaii.

Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Richard Holden said union membership for the state peaked in 1989, when it averaged 29.9 percent; and its lowest in 2016 at 19.9 percent.

Nationwide, union members account for 10.7 percent in 2017.

Hawaii is about two times more unionized than the national average. But the state's top union managers are paid less than their counterparts on the mainland. An ERI Economic Research Institute study found that Hawaii's top union employees earn between \$150,000 and \$170,000 a year.

Linda Lampkin, research director of the Washington, D.C. ERI Economic Research Institute, said "Hawaii's larger public worker and hotel unions earns tens of thousands of dollars less to run unions that are many times bigger."

Union bosses are often criticized for their high salaries; but many point out that their compensation is performance-based and is just a fraction of what the average CEO makes in Hawaii.

Some union employees point out that even though union jobs pay better, they also must pay union dues. Getting hired in union jobs is also more difficult, some say.

One hotel worker said, "Sometimes unions act like they have more power than

the employers. Instead of having amicable talks, sometimes the employees are jeopardized because the union leaders ignore the rights of the employers." The growth of Hawaii's unions took an upshot in the early 1970s with the passage of the state's collective bargaining law for public employees.

Profile of Hawaii's Workers

Besides the hotel and food services industry, the other largest segments of employment in the state are Retail Trade (70,564), Health and Social Assistance (68,307), Administrative and Waste Services (50,579) and Construction (37,637).

Government workers make up a huge 18.9 percent of the state's overall workforce and broken down by federal (33,185), state (70,275), and county (18,960), data shows from Hawaii Workforce In-fonet, 2016.

Some of the average wage by industry are Utilities (\$97,766), Construction (\$72,540), Finance (\$71,241), Information (\$62,133), Government (\$59,467), and Health Care and Social Assistance (\$52,411) on the highest end; and at the lower end are Accommodation and Food Services (\$31,999) and Retail (\$31,273).

The state's current minimum wage is \$10.10 per hour as of January 1, 2018.

With hotel, food service workers and retail making up a large segment of the overall workforce, it drives down the average of Hawaii workers with full-time employment to \$51,347 annually from 2012-2016, lower than the U.S. average of \$54,840.

Surgeons, physicians, veterinarians, and nurse anesthetists are the highest paid workers in Hawaii.

Rainier Dennis Bautista, MD, has been a family physician for 3 years working for Primary Care Clinic of Hawaii. Like many physicians, he chose that profession believing he could do the most good in the community practicing medicine. He says his greatest job satisfaction is seeing patients become well.

"The biggest challenge

we have in our industry is maintaining 'wellness,' as more and more physicians get burned out due to increasing workloads and decreasing payments."

Bautista contemplates on Labor Day workers contributions to society. He says workers' rights should include "non-discrimination – that people get equal pay for equal work, regardless of gender, race, religion or appearance."

Rudy Guerrero, a carpenter and facilities manager for Carpentry & Plumbing for over 20 years, also believes that everybody should be treated equally. "I think there is still discrimination of wages. Women in many cases still make less than men."

In describing some of the challenges in his industry, he said, "Being a maintenance manager, it's an all-around job. It involves carpentry, building constructions and repairs, plumbing and even electrical problems. Sometimes, no matter what good things you do in your job, you can still hear criticisms and rejections from others, from your employer and your fellow workers.

"Sometimes also, you learn from these criticisms. The challenge, then, is to be calm and quiet. I believe that actions (your work) when it is a good job, it speaks for itself." He says his greatest job satisfaction is working together to have a job done well."

Guerrero says Labor Day is a good break for workers to have quality time with their families.

Workers' Challenges Under Trump

Experts say the massive corporate tax cuts in December 2017 has not benefitted workers pay.

"The most concrete result of the tax cuts has been an increase in the amount companies spend in buying back their stock," said Daniel Shavro, a tax professor at New York University's School of Law. Company shareholders have benefitted most with larger dividends and share buy backs.

American corporations announced about \$218 billion

"Our collective challenge, not just as union members, but as workers and residents of this State is to organize ourselves to stand-up and fight back against the corporate greed that has manifested itself into us having to live in the State with the highest cost of living, the highest rate of homelessness, and more and more of our children leaving us to pursue opportunities elsewhere rather than staying in Hawaii."

— **GEMMA GARAMPIL WEINSTEIN,**
PRESIDENT, UNITE HERE, LOCAL 5

in share buybacks since the GOP overhauled the tax code, with a record monthly high in February of \$153.7 billion, according to TrimTabs, a California research firm. Workers pay has stayed flat.

Some of the largest labor groups such as the Teamsters are demanding that companies are more transparent on how corporations tax savings are invested.

"Working people deserve to know how their employers plan to spend their tax savings so they can bargain for a fair share of the windfall and ensure that corporations do more to bring jobs home and improve pay and benefits," CWA (Communications Workers of America) President Chris Shelton said in a statement.

About 6 million workers

in the U.S. belong to a union.

Union leaders say corporations new wealth has not helped their members who work in restaurants, schools, hospitals, and hotels.

Unions say the biggest blow to workers with Trump as president is the Janus v. American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) U.S. Supreme Court ruling. Trump's appointment of Neil Gorsuch to the high court helped to sway the 5-4 ruling that mandates public sector unions can no longer force nonmembers to pay mandatory dues even if they benefit from collective bargaining.

Unions believe this will likely impact union membership and revenues nationwide. Without fair-share fees, econ-

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Michael A. McMann, M.D.

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True Catholics Must Take An Uncompromising Stand

By Ted Laguatan

That Duterte is a demon disguised as a human being, who brings out the worst in people leading to the ruin of their souls, is a subject of much discussion among Catholics. That he appears to be demented and cursed with an uncontrollable profanity-laced mouth, which generates awe, anger, and opposition, is also much discussed.

The evil spirit expresses itself by using Duterte's mouth to spew out abominations, curses, and mockeries against God. No amount of twisting, cover-ups, denials, and alterations by his apologists and propagandists can change what Duterte meant against God and Catholics. He will not apologize for his statements because he cannot. He is unable to control his mouth to hide dark secrets because he is cursed to reveal his alliance with the Devil. This is beyond his control.

God so loves the Filipino people that in this very important time in history, He is exposing Duterte and enabling them to see the full reality of the existence of the Devil. By exposing Duterte's connection to Satan — the enemy of Jesus Christ and their enemy who craves and lusts for the possession of souls — God is giving all men and women the opportunity to save their souls. By praying to our Lord Jesus Christ and to our Blessed Mother, who is designated

from the beginning of time to destroy and crush the head of Satan, those steadfast in their fidelity to God will prevail.

Satan succeeds when he is able to convince men and women that he is not a reality and that he does not exist. He smiles when people think of him as a mere subject of jokes and figment of their imagination.

The Devil's existence is a fact. Jesus Christ Himself and sincere Catholics affirm his reality. Jesus was tempted three times in the wilderness by Satan and thrice He rejected him. In his masses and talks, Pope Francis tells us that the devil is a reality, "a personal being who assails us."

He adds: "We should not think of the Devil as a myth, a representation, a symbol, a figure of speech or an idea. This mistake would leave us to let down our guard, to grow careless and end up more vulnerable." We need to be always aware of his enmity and hatred for God and for us.

The murders of over 21,000 people under Duterte is a manifestation of demonic activity. The undeniable reality is that they would still be alive if Duterte had not been president. The legal principle *res ipsa loquitur* clearly applies here, which means "The thing speaks for itself."

The 56% popularity rating of Duterte among unthinking, zombied Filipinos despite the thousands he has murdered and the constant lies he spews reflects the grave danger he poses to millions of Filipino souls. Those who identify themselves as Catholics, when their

thoughts, words and deeds betray and show that they are not, should be alerted to the very real danger of losing their souls. They cooperate with the Devil when they give their seal of approval to Duterte's serial murders, his constant lies, and filthy mouth and when they applaud his demonic policies with their smiles.

Only Satan himself and his demons hurl all kinds of profanities, insults, and mockeries against God. People who express their approval or just remain silent about Duterte's thousands of extrajudicial killings and constant lies, or who express their sentiments in the polls or in private are siding with the Demon and against God.

Being a true Catholic, sincerely loving God above everything else, obeying His command to love one's fellowmen and showing respect for human life, is irreconcilable with supporting Duterte's serial murders and deceitful policies. Neither are his hateful insults and mockery of God reconcilable with the love and honor which we rightly give to our Lord.

We cannot have it both ways. You either choose Duterte and be on the Devil's side, or you choose to sincerely be on God's side, committed to what is true and good, showing love to our fellowmen and helping and protecting them when needed.

God will judge us according to the free choices we have made. Good and evil are irreconcilable realities. Love is not the same as hate. In the end, the goats will be separated

from the sheep. God cannot be a brother to Satan. Division is inevitable.

God is giving Catholics a choice. Choose God, choose Jesus Christ, or choose the Devil and lose your souls. This very serious matter involves a choice and we cannot avoid it. Ignoring it is a decision for the Devil.

As Catholics sincerely seeking to love God and fellowmen, the war we are in is between good and evil. It's not about politics because good and evil are found in all political parties. From our Lord Jesus Christ Himself:

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

With his deceptions, his use of violence, fear, money, and power to draw people to him, Duterte now controls the majority in Congress, the Supreme Court, and people in the various levels of the Executive Branch. He controls the police and military who do the killings for him.

Look at the quality of the characters of those in government and in the private sector that have allied with Duterte and clearly see their intellectual and moral dishonesty. You can instantly sense that they are not on the side of God no matter how much they pretend to be. They are not there for the people or for God but for themselves. They are not even there for love of Duterte but for the advantages they can get from him and because of fear. They defend Duterte and cover up for his lies. They will be the first to abandon him when he is no longer useful.

Pity these poor creatures who exchange worldly illusions of power, money, security for their souls. All will amount to naught when one's life on this planet is over. But if we remain faithful to God to the very end even at the risk of our lives, the ultimate victory is ours. We will be with God forever.

The illusion that is Duterte is nothing and his time is al-

most over. What really counts in the ultimate end is the salvation of our souls. Fear nothing. Trust completely in God's love and mercy.

Fear is an effective weapon. To silence his critics and opponents and to keep them under his control, Duterte kills thousands of people, using policemen and military elements and those disguised as vigilantes. He advises his killers to plant guns on victims to make it look that they were fighting back.

One sector that Duterte finds difficult or even impossible to intimidate and silence are those sincere Catholics and Christians courageously committed to God's truth and righteousness even at the risk of their security and lives. He now seeks to silence them by using the same fear-inducing methods of murder, harassment, and intimidation. Expect more priests and committed Catholics to be killed and harassed in the attempt to silence them. Many will face martyrdom.

Recently, he personally targeted for deportation a frail 71-year-old missionary nun who has been working with poor farmers in the Philippines for 28 years now. He fears this kind of people even if they may be frail and old because they are willing to expose his demonic alliance without fear. He ordered her arrested and deportation, but her lawyers are doing what they can to assert her due process rights. Whether or not the Bureau of Immigration will renew or cancel her missionary license this September is at this point uncertain. She has done nothing that is in violation of her Constitutional free speech rights. The widespread national and international protests to prevent her deportation has held off deportation, pending her court hearing.

Fr. Richard Nilo, Fr. Mark Anthony Ventura, and Father Marcelito Paez. These three priests who have been gunned down and murdered since Duterte sat in office have one

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WHAT'S UP, ATTORNEY?



By Atty. Emmanuel S. Tipon

Hawaii Election Post Mortem

the result of the election. Don't worry, eventually good will prevail over evil."

"How can [Governor] Ige win? He is perceived as a bumbling infinitive?" sarcastically exclaimed a man on the street.

"How did Ige win? He is said to be the worst Governor of Hawaii?" complained another with disgust.

"Why did Ige win? They say he is ineffective?" remarked a third.

"Why did [Congresswoman] Hanabusa lose? She would be an effective governor," said a fourth.

"I voted for Hanabusa. I thought she would win," said a fifth.

"What happened to the

"women's vote?" asked a sixth.

There are a number of "Monday morning quarterbacks" or "quackenbacks" and self-styled "pundits" trying to explain why Ige won and Hanabusa lost. None of their remarks can or ever will satisfactorily explain the result.

"There must be a supernatural explanation," one of my family members observed.

There is a Biblical explanation: "When the people are wicked, God sends them bad kings."

So I prayed: "O h God, what have we done wrong? Why are you punishing us by sending us bad kings? Why should the un-

wicked suffer with the wicked?"

God: "I sent you a good woman. But you did not vote for her. God helps those who help themselves."

"But do not despair. The elections are not over. There is still the general election in November. I am sending another woman."

If you do not believe in God, here is an explanation: Before the Honolulu Star Advertiser endorsed Hanabusa, she was ahead. After the paper endorsed Hanabusa, her lead evaporated. Was the endorsement a "kiss of death"?

Why would it be? Because many do not believe newspapers. They think they

serve only their own selfish interests, that they publish fake news.

As for me, I buy the newspapers to read the obituaries – to check if I am still alive or dead.

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.

GLOBAL NEWS

WPS Advocates Challenge Duterte's Joint Oil Exploration Ties With China

By Dr. Celia Lamkin

Why China? Why give a sweet deal to a territorial bully? - These are the nagging questions that the global advocates for the territorial sovereignty of the West Philippine Sea want the Duterte administration to explain after recent pronouncements from Foreign Affairs Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano explicitly stated that the Philippines will venture



into a joint oil a joint oil exploration project with China.

"On behalf of the global members of the National Youth

Movement for West Philippine Sea (NYMWPS), I express our utmost resentment to Secretary Cayetano's statement that we

have to put aside our territorial and sovereign rights claims," said Saipan-based Dr. Celia Lamkin - NYMWPS founder and Global Chairperson.

In an August 7, 2018 press conference, Cayetano shared that a preliminary agreement has been made with China based on the diplomatic principle of "let us cooperate first, and let us talk about who owns what, who has jurisdiction, later on."

"What is utmost disturbing in Mr. Cayetano's statements is his seeming disregard of the

decision of the arbitral tribunal in The Hague," continued Dr. Lamkin. Cayetano has been quoted to refer to the Philippines' sovereign rights, or its rights over the West Philippine Sea, as mere "claims."

This sentiment is echoed by Atty. Ted Laguatan, the group's legal adviser.

The arbitral tribunal in its decision has already upheld the Philippines' rights over the West Philippine Sea," emphasized Atty. Laguatan. He added that the decision has affirmed

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(COVER STORY: LABOR DAY....from page 5)

omists argued then and now, union members have an incentive to become "free-riders," benefiting from collective bargaining but not paying for it.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer said, "The Janus decision is a gut punch to working people across America. It's a gut punch to income inequality. It's a gut punch to 50 years of progress. It's a despicable decision."

Rodelas said, "The Janus decision is a deliberate attack on unions and working families. Although Local 5 represents private sector workers who will not be impacted directly by the Janus decision, we stand in solidarity with the

public sector unions that will be impacted. Public sector workers educate our children, help our government run, and so much more."

With a significant percentage of immigrants as Local 5 members, Rodelas said, "The administration's attacks on immigrants and their families directly impacts our members, which is why we organized Hawaii's largest Citizenship Workshop in March and helped 114 people apply for U.S. citizenship.

Rodelas notes that unions are the reason why we have weekends, good labor laws, and holidays (including Labor Day).

Garampil Weinstein makes

a powerful appeal to workers: "The corporations do well, yet workers in Hawaii are overworked and underpaid. One job should be enough to raise our families, yet so many of us work two or three jobs just to make ends meet. Our collective challenge, not just as union members, but as workers and residents of this State is to organize ourselves to stand-up and fight back against the corporate greed that has manifested itself into us having to live in the State with the highest cost of living, the highest rate of homelessness, and more and more of our children leaving us to pursue opportunities elsewhere rather than staying in Hawaii."

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KAKATALK

Hawaii's Hurricane Season and Notes from Puerto Rico

By Carolyn Weygan-Hildebrand

Did you prepare in case hurricane Hector struck Hawaii? Do you and your family track the weather report? We now live at a time when extreme weather conditions are common. Paying attention and understanding weather report is a need. In Hawaii, we often hear that it is not a matter of whether a catastrophic hurricane will happen but when. Hurricane Iniki is a shared point of reference of the worst thing that can happen to the islands. After visiting the island of Puerto Rico in June of this year, I will say that Puerto Ricans' point of reference is the more devastating hurricane Maria.

Hurricane Maria, which followed hurricane Irma, brought Puerto Ricans down to their knees. FEMA, in its report entitled "2017 Hurricane

Season FEMA After-Action Report" wrote that 2017 hurricane impacts in Puerto Rico were far higher than planned for – population impact was projected at 53% but was 95%, power outage in Puerto Rico was projected at 73% but was 100%, cellular services at 73% but at 88%, hospitals impacted projected at 56% but actually at 82%, and area requiring search and rescue at 75% but actually 99%.

What happened to Puerto Ricans can happen to local folks in Hawaii which is why it is good to prepare as if the strength and path of a hurricane Maria will happen here. First, the State Hawaii Emergency Management Agency and county level counterparts, such as the Honolulu Department of Emergency Management, have filled their websites with tips on how to prepare the family, home, and business for differ-



ent types of disasters. There are guides for parents with children, seniors, and people with disabilities or access needs. These can all be found in the under the "Get Ready" menu of the HI-EMA website, <http://dod.hawaii.gov/hiema/>. The City and County of Honolulu's Department of Emergency Management also offers steps

under "Prepare. Plan. Stay Informed" in its website, <http://www.honolulu.gov/dem/get-ready.html>. The biggest tip for families and other entities is not only to prepare but practice and make sure all steps and part of emergency preparedness work!

Filipinos though can do more. They can also become part of the community corps

or volunteers and prepare not only themselves but the communities they live, work, or have business in. The City Department of Emergency Management, for example, draws attention to four organizations that they support including Community Preparedness groups. Each resident can check whether their respective communities have community disaster preparedness plans that are inclusive and working by visiting the website, <http://www.honolulu.gov/dem/volunteer/communitypreparedness.html>. Filipinos can help make community plans more responsive by knowing more about community disaster preparedness, identifying where they can help with, and making these culturally sensitive to the needs of different ethnic and cultural groups.

Two stories from Puerto Rico also reminds me of our need to strengthen our own relationships in our community – our extended families and civic organization ties.

I was hanging out in the lobby of the hotel we were

(continue on page 15)

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HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Dr. Rosie Alegado Named New Director of Sea Grant Center for Integrated Science, Knowledge, and Culture

Dr. Rosie ‘Anolani Alegado, Assistant Professor of Oceanography in the Daniel K. Inouye Center for Microbial Oceanography: Research and Education and faculty with the University of Hawai‘i Sea Grant College Program (Hawai‘i Sea Grant), has been named the new director of Hawai‘i Sea Grant’s Center for Integrated Science, Knowledge, and Culture (CIS-KC).

In her new position, Dr. Alegado seeks to help Hawai‘i Sea Grant define its kuleana (roles and responsibilities) within a Hawaiian place of learning, a strategic goal of UH Mānoa. Together with the non-profit Kua‘āina Ulu ‘Auamo and Hawai‘i Sea Grant, she is involved in developing kūlana noi‘i, a process wherein researchers build and sustain equitable partnerships with the community.

Dr. Alegado takes over the helm from Dr. Puakea Nogelmeier who served as the center’s inaugural director until his retirement from the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language in May.

“Rosie brings the experience and vision that will expand and inspire the ongoing integration that this Center of Excellence was established for,” said Nogelmeier. “She co-founded this Center of Excellence and has been a driving force since its inception.”

Dr. Alegado is a member of Hawai‘i Sea Grant’s Coastal Resilience and Sustainability Team, a multi-disciplinary cohort comprised of seven tenure-track faculty in various departments throughout UH Mānoa.

Alegado was born and raised in Honolulu and graduated from Kamehameha High School, Massachusetts Institute for Technology (MIT), and received her PhD in microbiology from Stanford University.

She is married to Atty. Raymond Kong, of the Bishop Museum, and has a 10 years old daughter, Justice, and a 6 years old son, Cassius. Her mother is Dr. Davianna McGregor, a native Hawaiian professor in the Ethnic Studies Department at UHM. Her father is Dr. Dean Alegado, a retired UH professor in ethnic studies and Philippine studies.

In 2017, Hawai‘i Sea Grant established CISKC to implement and



Rosanna Alegado at Oceanography, her Lab at the Center for Microbial Research and Education at UHM



Rosie with Dean Alegado in their Zambales farm

perpetuate the cultural knowledge of Hawai‘i and the Pacific Islands to current science and research. Since its inception, CISKC has engaged the community in actively caring for the shoreline and marine environment through numerous projects.

For example, on Hawai‘i Island the Nā Kilo ‘Āina project increases the awareness of natural cycles and place through ongoing monthly monitoring activities and training based on Piliakai (conservation) and care of islands through relationships. On Kaua‘i, a community-based subsistence fishing area was designated in the Hā‘ena ahupua‘a to reaffirm and protect fishing practices traditionally exercised for native Hawaiian subsistence, culture, and religion. Community-generated rules were approved by the state’s Board of Land and Natural Resources, making it the first of its kind in the state.

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TRAVEL

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

As I See It

Part 2

By Elpidio R. Estioko

Hawaii's exploration and enjoyment of its natural resources continues, as we come to a close to our 10-day vacation. In fact, Hawaii's beautiful beaches we went through last week are only the beginning, I found out. From enjoying the gentle waves of Waikiki Beach to playing with family and close friends under water, there's never a dull moment in the Hawaiian Islands. My daughter Tweety and husband Jonathan, kept on encouraging us to surf the waves and snorkel in the deep recesses of the sea.

Yesterday, while the children went for an hour hike to the lighthouse and the shoreline, we went to an area of the beach where surfing is being conducted. I was told, surfing originated in Hawaii because of its huge waves as captured by its TV program Hawaii Five-O. I was reminded of my visit to Bondi Beach in Australia, three years ago, referred to as the surfing capital of the world, which taught me to love the ruggedness and gentleness of the sea. Here in

Hawaii, you don't need to be a member of an outdoor organization, just like the Philippine Nomads, to appreciate and commune with nature because all the locals are a community of nature lovers themselves... by nature.

History validates that surfing was born in Hawaii which is deeply rooted and intertwined with its history and culture. There's no doubt, if one dreams of riding the waves, there's no better place to learn how to surf and truly commune with the ocean, than in Hawaii. I've always wanted to learn about the origins of surfing in Hawaii and find out where I can watch the pros or take a surfing lesson during our visit. I had the opportunity this time, although briefly, during our 10-day visit.

The earliest written account of surfing, or hee nalu in Hawaiian, I was told, was by Lieutenant James King in 1779, just months after Captain Cook's death. He described Native Hawaiians riding a wood plank on the swells of Kealahou Bay on the island of Hawaii. King saw the fun the sport brought, so he wrote, "... they seem to feel a great pleasure in the motion that this exercise

gives."

Surfing is believed to have originated long ago in ancient Polynesia, but later thrived and popularized in Hawaii. Also, the locals whom we've met told us that it was once a sport only reserved for alii (Hawaiian royalty), which is why surfing is often called the "sport of kings." They explained that King Kamehameha himself was known for his surfing ability. But... with the end of the Hawaiian kapu (taboo) system in 1819, commoners or ordinary villagers who don't belong to the royalty, were allowed to freely participate in the sport as the hula dance also became popular. However, when western missionaries arrived in the 1800s, they discouraged Hawaiian customs like dancing the hula and surfing.

Temporarily, that was set back for the natives of Hawaii because in the late 1800s, the "Merrie Monarch" King Kalakaua, one of the last reigning monarchs of the Hawaiian Kingdom, revived the hula, signaling the return of Hawaiian cultural pride. Then in the early 1900s, surfing was revived and was revitalized on Waikiki Beach. During this era, Duke Kahanamoku, who grew up surfing the south shore waves, was a Waikiki Beach Boy who taught visitors how to surf and canoe. Duke later won multiple Olympic gold medals for swimming, and eventually became known as the "father of modern surfing." Today, a bronze statue of Duke welcomes visitors to Waikiki, where first-time surfers are still catching their first waves. The statue reminds everyone of the history of surfing in the country.

Surfing is rampant during the big wave season in Hawaii roughly between November and February on Hawaii's north shores. On every island, one can watch surfers, but some of the best surfing competitions in the world are held on Oahu's North Shore in November and December, which includes the Vans Triple Crown of Surfing. If



The author Elpidio Estioko with his wife, Delia visits the Valley of the Temples.

you're planning to watch the surfing professionals in action during these events, be sure to get to the North Shore early because traffic can be heavy and messy.

During the winter, the islands' north shores generate big swells, while in the summer, the south shores enjoy a bump in size. Oahu's North Shore is a legendary surf spot featuring viewer-friendly beaches at Waimea Bay, Sunset Beach and the Banzai Pipeline.

Almost every island offers surfing lessons where one can learn the basics of the sport. Lessons run from one to two hours and are taught by experienced surfers in gentle breaks. Longboards are used to make it even easier for first-timers to learn, and a push from your instructor will help you get started. Waikiki Beach is still one of the best spots in Hawaii to get on your feet and ride your first wave, I was told.

A substitute for an honest-to-goodness sea surfing, stand-up paddle boarding (SUP) is becoming very popular in Hawaii. It is a variation of surfing where riders stand upright on wider, longer boards and use a paddle to maneuver. This is great for a core muscle workout because SUP is often used more for fitness rather than for riding waves. Locals highly recommend SUP for one's safety and for the safety of fellow beachgoers and surfers.

As we move on nearing our 10-day vacation, we vis-

ited more beach resort areas/parks and continue feeling and enjoying the healthy environment of the sea and the fresh air supplied by the mountains spanning the islands. We maximized the opportunity Hawaii has offered to us. The children enjoyed Turtle Beach, explored Mermaid Caves and most of all Waimea Bay for cliff jumping.

My fraternity brother from the University of the Philippines in Diliman who retired from the University of Hawaii treated us for a Hawaiian lunch at the Highway Inn in Honolulu. He is the incoming president of the University of the Philippines Alumni Association in Hawaii.

After all we went through, it made us more healthy and stronger. We flexed our muscles and we strengthened our bonding with one another, as a family, as a community of nature lovers.

Indeed, exploring Hawaii's natural resources is healthy!

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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CANDID PERSPECTIVES



By Emil Guillermo

Donna Mercado Kim's Fall, a Rejection of Filipino Political Leadership?

conservative past.

It set things all up for who else? The disruptor of all political disruptors in Hawaii, Ed Case.

Case seems always at the ready. He's sort of the political spare tire. He was there to take over for Patsy Mink in 2002. And when Sen. Daniel Akaka ran again in 2006, Case was there to throw a monkey wrench into things and give Akaka the race for his life.

THAT 2006 RACE

I remember that race having served on the editorial board of what was at that time the biggest daily newspaper in Hawaii.

I met and talked to both Akaka and Case at editorial meetings and throughout the campaign. To me it was clear that Case was the impatient upstart, unwilling to wait his turn in party politics.

Akaka was the man of the people, but Case portrayed him as ineffective as he pressed for change. I think people ultimately didn't like the way he treated Akaka with a lack of respect. To me that emotional issue was far more important than either Case being seen as a Blue Dog conservative Democrat, or that Akaka was against military intervention in Iraq.

To me it was simply that voters weren't ready to give up on Akaka, who beat Case by 53 percent-46 percent.

But that race didn't stop Case.

Who can forget the fiasco

in 2010 when both Case and Colleen Hanabusa ran for the 1st Congressional District seat then vacated by Neil Abercrombie. The two candidates ended up splitting the Democrats. They both ended up losing to Republican Charles Djou.

Can you sense how the same names keep resurfacing like musical chairs in Hawaii politics?

After that loss, Case still wasn't done.

When Akaka retired in 2011, Case went for the seat, but found himself up against Mazie Hirono. It wasn't the best spot, but he had come close in 2006.

Hirono won in a landslide, 58 percent to 41 percent.

And even a landslide didn't finish off Case, who is like the political Terminator.

Besides at 65, you're considered young in politics. Especially the way the musical chairs go in Hawaii politics.

Case had been dormant when in June he probably realized the 1st district was as soft as it's ever going to get. Hanabusa is not in his way. Mazie is in the Senate. Case already showed he can run with the best.

He probably figured he could beat the JVs, the assembled but crowded 1st District field.

And that's too bad.

Chin had his baggage and was maligned by some of the media.

But what happened to Kim?

2016, Duterte already exhibited demonic manifestations and proclaimed: "God will weep if I become president."

Duterte has generated much emotional heated reaction and anger among Catholics whom he cursed and their God whom he insulted and mocked. Many understandably are inclined to fight fire with fire. They know that thousands will continue to be murdered and killing in the

(continue on page 14)

Wait a minute, you say. Hawaii voters went for Linda Lingle. And look at Hirono and Hanabusa. Voters aren't sexist.

OK, they're not sexist.

So are voters racist against seeing a strong Filipino woman on Capitol Hill?

It's hard to prove. But Kim, who held her own as the State Senate president for three years, slid so fast once Case got in the race in June, there's got to be something going on.

They liked her. And then they didn't. What changed? A White man entered the race?

Kim is a rare candidate. A qualified Filipino woman who is qualified to represent her district in Congress.

I'd hate to think voters would pass on her in favor of a retreat White politician.

But the fall of Kim the last two months suggests there's still much work to be done to change the perception people have of Filipinos, and Filipino women-- especially when it comes to political leadership in the Aloha state.

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>

It doesn't look good for the daughter of Kalia, Donna Mercado Kim and her attempt to become what I believe would be the first Filipino American woman elected to the U.S. Congress.

Right now, Virginia's Bobby Scott, who is part Filipino, and part African American is the only person of Filipino descent serving in Congress.

Kim would be a welcome addition, and a real milestone for Filipino American progress.

But that's not the way things go in Hawaii, it seems.

By the time you read this, Kim is likely to have finished far back in a race that looked winnable back in the early Spring.

That's when Kim had a nice lead in money raised and in most of the polling. But the wide margins evaporated quickly, at first when more liberal voters got behind Lt. Gov. Chin.

Chin was tied with Kim in some polls as late as March. And he appeared worthy of the left-leaning Democrats, especially having led the fight in Hawaii against Trump's travel ban. But that progressive act was more perceived to be just that, and it didn't jibe with Chin's much more

(OP-ED: TRUE CATHOLICS...from page 6)

thing in common: They are all outspoken critics of Duterte.

Duterte has openly waged war against Catholics and our God. He has openly mocked and insulted God calling Him stupid, cursing Him with "putanginas" and saying that the Catholic God will kneel before him. He refers to the apostles of Jesus Christ, who sat with Him in the last supper and died as martyrs, as fictitious saints. He has initiated this war against

the Catholic Church whose founder is Jesus Christ. The outcome is predictable: Satan and Duterte will lose. The gates of hell shall not prevail against the Catholic Church.

Duterte says that his god is superior to the Catholic God. He does not reveal who he considers his god. But he cannot hide his hatred for the Catholic God, which reveals that his other god can only be Satan. Prior to becoming president in

I don't know Kim well, but she's always struck me as a practical problem solver. She's a local politician through and through. As a city councilperson, as a state legislator, she's all grassroots: potholes, parking and open space. She gets things done for voters. That's good.

But somehow her 30-plus years as a political force didn't get her the respect she deserves. Her fundraising prowess early on was good. But she had no staying power in the polling data.

Maybe she was penalized by some for not being quite as ideological left or right.

She generally has strong stands on social issues like health care and Social Security.

But on international issues, who knows?

That was the opening. For conservatives drawn to Kim, they had an excuse to abandon when someone like Case shows up on the ballot.

Case is known for being a lone wolf Democrat who votes with Republicans. That may have given those drawn to Kim a reason to back away from her and move toward Case.

It's probably ideological and maybe even sexist.

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GLOBAL NEWS

(WPS ADVOCATES...from page 7)

the Philippines' rights to the West Philippine Sea which is covered by the country's exclusive economic zone (EEZ), a 200-nautical mile area within which it has exclusive rights to explore and exploit marine resources including oil.

Going into partnerships in oil exploration is a non-issue with the group, acknowledging the fact that such project is capital and technology extensive.

Dr. Lamkin and her group are reacting to the recent pronouncements of the Foreign Affairs Secretary that the Philippine government has formed a working group with China to draft a framework for at least a 60-40 collaboration for the exploration of the reportedly oil-rich West Philippine Sea.

Former Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) and Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) Chairman Felicito Payumo, the group's Honorary Chairperson for Bataan and Western Luzon Chapters, shared that the Philippines has already a framework with which it could base the agreement from. "The Malampaya project is a joint undertaking of the Philippine government and the private sector," Mr. Payumo underscored.

The Malampaya oil exploration project is spearheaded by the Department of Energy, and joint-venture partners Chevron Malampaya LLC and

PNOC Exploration Corp. Under the service contract agreement, 70 percent of the gross proceeds from the sale of natural gas goes to the contractor to recover the investment cost; and remaining 30 percent is shared by the government and the consortium on a 60-40 basis, respectively.

"Come to think of it, why should it be with China or a Chinese entity alone? Why not secure the best terms for us by talking to other countries or companies, just like with Shell (and the other joint venture partners) with Malampaya?" Mr. Payumo added.

This seeming "sweet deal" as gleaned from the statements of Secretary Cayetano is seen by the group as a move to favor China more than the Philippines.

"Cayetano (and Duterte) are acting like agents of China in favoring its interest over that of the Filipino people; and we must not allow this to happen," expressed Atty. Laguatan.

Mr. Joe Bacero, the group's Dubai Chapter Chairperson is alarmed that with this move, we are tolerating China's territorial rights bullying instead of asserting what is rightfully ours. "China has disrespected us straight after Manila brought the case to arbitration in 2013. It launched a massive island-building, land reclamation and militarization in the West Philippine Sea. Now, shall we offer this obvi-

ously 'in-their-favor' deal in a silver platter, without regard to our sovereignty?" Mr. Bacero stated.

"The Philippines should not allow China to practically have control and leverage over the entire West Philippine Sea in this 60/40 deal. By giving China authority to use her specialized equipment and the technical personnel who will explore, develop, exploit and be in charge of sharing these resources - the Philippines can easily be subjected to bully tactics which China can and will utilize if needed," said Atty. Laguatan.

Laguatan expressed his concern that the country is at the losing end of the bargain in this joint venture. "The Philippines must look after its own interest in dealing with China

and other countries. With China, most especially, we cannot and should not assume that it is trustworthy and in good faith in its dealings."

He made reference to the economic dealings of China with other third world countries. "China is known to resort to opaque contracts which make third world countries dependent on her. This has been the experience of eight countries who are now vulnerable to China's dominance or influence over their countries: Djibouti, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao, Maldives, Mongolia, Pakistan, Montenegro," he added.

Just like the Malampaya project, Laguatan believes that it would be in the best interest of the Philippines if it sets its sight beyond China, exploring

the possibilities of having local companies take care of the financial aspect of the exploration and hiring the best technical experts from the United Kingdom, the United States and other countries in exploring and utilizing the vast resources in the West Philippine Sea.

NYMWPS poses what could be an eye-opener to the many Filipinos who remain to be fence sitters in this very important issue. It challenges the government to reveal the fine print of the agreements because the devil could be in the details. The Philippines should not sideline the screaming reality that China's dealings with other countries have ruined their economies. And the same could also happen to the Philippines.

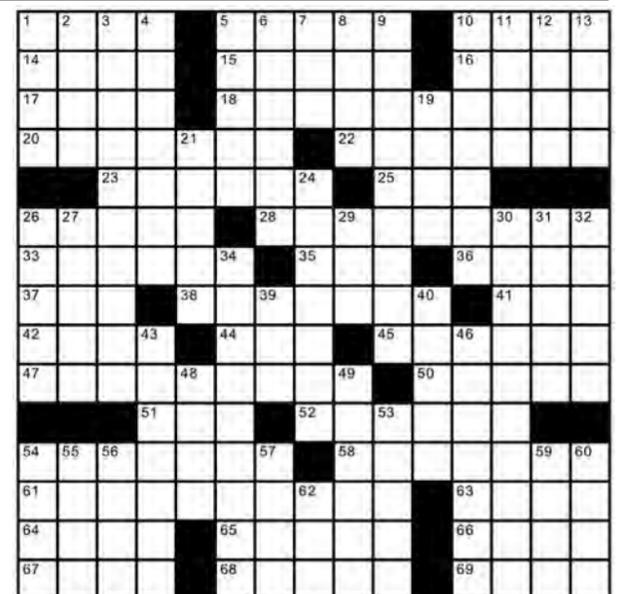
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20. Kuno
22. Nagpaluwal
23. Magasin
25. Padre-de-pamilya
26. Kulungan ng mga ibon
28. Ukab
33. Kagandahang-asal
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36. Ibalik sa dating lugar
37. Pangatong
38. Alpabeto
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27. Magkapareho ng itsura
29. Alkila



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63. Purok
64. Pinuno ng monasteryo
65. Malapot na langis
66. Damit na isinusuot sa gradwasyon
67. Patag
68. Matabang lupa sa disyerto na katatagpuan ng tubig
69. Alikabok

30. Espontaneo
31. Balalay
32. Singaw sa mata
34. Ipiit
39. Dukha
40. Bishop sa larong ahedres
43. Maytao
46. Kaing
48. Pagtungong pataas
49. Napilas
53. Ibang anyo ng 'pumitas'
54. Pagkasuya
55. Kumukulong putik na ibinubuga ng bulkan
56. Umupo sa silya
57. Bikas
59. Malansang amoy ng isdang sariwa o ng ibang sariwang karne
60. Baak
62. Salapi

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

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LEGAL NOTES



By Atty. Reuben S. Seguritan

Investigating Marriage Fraud

immigration benefits.

This was underscored in a recent case involving a citizen of Kenya who came to the United States after being admitted as a nonimmigrant student. He later married a US citizen and dropped out of school after. He then applied for Adjustment of Status that year but was later on placed on removal proceedings because of the fraudulent marriage.

In cases like this, it is the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) that has the burden to prove by clear and convincing evidence that an alien who was admitted to the US is removable. DHS had to prove that said Kenyan citizen and his US citizen spouse did not intend to establish a life together at the time they were married.

In this particular case, the immigration officers and fraud detection officers were able to

present evidence that the couple did not intend to establish a life together. During visits by the fraud detection officers to the supposed residence of the couple, the Kenyan citizen was there with several other males but without the US citizen wife or any signs of her belongings. When asked about her whereabouts, the Kenyan citizen said that she left a week ago and did not leave any of her things behind. The fraud detection officer was also able to obtain documentary evidence showing that the US citizen still claim to be single and living with her mother and children in a different address. In her applications with the Social and Rehabilitative Services and several other organizations, she did not state being married and there was no indication of her living with her supposed husband for the said timeframe.

The DHS also investigated the school where the US citizen's daughter was enrolled and the principal attested that the Kenyan citizen was not listed on the child's school records nor did said child live at his supposed address.

During his removal hearing, the Kenyan citizen was unclear as to when he started living with his US citizen wife. He also stated that he did not know that she applied for state benefits. He clarified that he divorced his US citizen wife in December 2012.

It must be noted that marriages that end up in divorce are not automatically deemed as fraudulent. If a couple have initially entered into marriage in good faith but subsequently ended up in divorce, it does not mean it is fraudulent. Fraudulent marriages mean that from the onset, the couple had no

intention of establishing a life together.

In this case, it was proven by clear and convincing evidence that the two did not intend to have a good faith marriage. What was clear was that their marriage was entered into to obtain immigration benefit for the Kenyan citizen after the expiration of his student visa.

Fraudulent marriages have serious consequences not just for the foreign national but also for the US citizen involved. In this case, the Kenyan citizen was placed on removal proceedings and was held to be removable. Both the foreign national and the US citizen could face imprisonment and a fine.

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

Iglesia ni Cristo Celebrates its Golden Anniversary in the West

By Emmanuel S. Tipon

The Iglesia ni Cristo (INC) or Church of Christ celebrated its Golden Anniversary in the West on July 27, 2018 in Honolulu, Hawaii. On that same day a new House of Worship located at 91-121 Fort Weaver Road, Ewa Beach, Honolulu, was dedicated to God by Executive Minister Eduardo Villanueva Manalo.

Congresswoman Colleen Hanabusa (Hawaii, 1st Dist) led the high ranking government officials of Hawaii in greeting the INC and attending the celebration.

The Ewa Beach House of Worship seats 810 brethren. It was constructed in record time – 8 months. Many new homes in Hawaii take more than a year to build. The land consisting of 3.5 acres was purchased from Calvary Church for \$3.5 million. The House of Worship cost \$13,421,368. There is also a pastoral house and an office building. Parking space is abundant. The grounds are

beautifully landscaped.

The INC published the following History of the Local Congregation of Ewa Beach:

In June 1967, a number of Filipinos who had migrated to Hawaii, drawn together by one faith and one desire to continue worshipping God, started holding prayer meetings in the home of brother Emeterio Ancheta, Sr. in Puuhale St., Honolulu. When brother Saturnino Ulep went home to the Philippines in June 1968, he conveyed to Brother Erano G. Manalo the brethren's request to send a minister to Hawaii to lead them in their worship service.

Their request was fulfilled on July 27, 1968, 50 years ago, when Executive Minister Erano G. Manalo (father of Eduardo) came to Honolulu to lead the members of the INC in the holy gathering held in the home of brother Jessie Agapay at 1782 Bond Street, Ewa Beach, HI. It was attended by more than 40 brethren. That occasion marked the establishment of the Local Congregation of Honolulu, Hawaii.

Thus, the prophecy of God about the gathering of His sons and daughters in the Far West

began to be fulfilled.

Since then, more Houses of Worship were dedicated to God in Hawaii, including those in Honolulu, Waipahu, and Wahiawa. There are now more than 20 congregations in Hawaii.

From Honolulu, the INC established congregations in San Francisco, California and

all over the United States. The INC has spread throughout the world with millions of brethren comprising more than 130 racial and ethnic backgrounds in nearly 7,000 congregations in 143 countries and territories according to its official website. It is considered the fastest growing religion.

The INC was preached by Brother Felix Y. Manalo, God's messenger, and was registered in the Philippines on July 27, 1914. That date was also the start of World War I.

More information about the INC may be found in its official website: <https://iglesianicristo.net/eng/about/history>

Atty. Bev Baligad Gives Talk on Students' Civil Rights

The Filipino Association of University Women (FAUW) is presenting a discussion on "Protecting Students' Civil Rights at UH West Oahu" with Attorney Bev. Baligad on Saturday, August 18, Max of Manila, Dillingham Blvd., 11:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Baligad has been a member of the Michigan State Bar since

2004. She currently serves as Director of Compliance/Title IX Coordinator at the University of Hawaii West Oahu campus.

Since 2005, she worked at various areas in higher education and has extensive experience in the development and implementation of key compliance areas. She has been a consultant at various institutions across the nation in areas of Title IX. She is an alumna of UH Manoa and

received her law degree from Western Michigan University.

Title IX is a civil rights law that applies to all educational programs and all aspects of a school's education system. In the 1990s, the U.S. Supreme Court issued three decisions clarifying that Title IX also requires schools to respond according to reports of sexual harassment.

To attend the event, RSVP at fauw1987@gmail.com.

Food Handlers Certification Required

The Hawai'i Department of Health's (DOH) Sanitation Branch requires that the person in charge of a food establishment during normal work hours (including during food preparation) complete training in proper food handling in order to obtain certification.

DOH will accept certification recognized by the American National Standards Institute. Proof of certification will be required during health inspections beginning Sept. 4, 2018.

"Extensive studies have shown food establishments with managers formally trained

in food safety have fewer occurrences of critical violations during routine inspection," said Peter Oshiro, Sanitation Branch manager. "This lowers the risk of contracting a food-borne illness by the public. This is a true win-win situation for the food establishments and for public health."

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

State Warns of Fraud Scheme Purchases via Email

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) is advising businesses to verify any state purchase requests received via e-mail.

Individuals impersonating state officials have recently attempted to make large purchases via e-mails accompanied by a fraudulent purchase

order. Because the impersonators have no relationship with the Hawaii state government, vendors that allow these fraudulent purchases may have no recourse for reimbursement from the state.

A number of fraudulent attempts mimicking aspects of the state procurement process were reported over the



past month. In each instance, the perpetrator impersonated a state procurement official and used an e-mail address closely resembling, but different

from, an actual state government e-mail address. A fraudulent state purchase order was also presented as authorization of payment. In one case, the representative handling the transaction called a phone number left in the scheme and became suspicious when someone with a distinct foreign accent answered.

Impersonating a public servant and sending a fraudulent purchase order to induce payment are crimes that will be investigated and prosecuted. If you have received an order that you think may be fraudulent, please contact the Office of the Attorney General at 586-1284 and your local police department.

(OP-ED: TRUE CATHOLICS...from page 11)

Philippines has now become the norm. These are very unusual times. Many express their frustrations at their Catholic Bishops because of their peaceful non-violent Christian approach towards Duterte. In many gatherings, many openly wish him to be struck dead or be assassinated.

But hating others is not consistent with Catholic principles. The Catholic religion is about constantly loving and forgiving others. We are all sinners even if in good faith, we try our best to be saints. I have to go on the basis of my faith and live and love accordingly.

Understandably, everyone has a legitimate right to self-defense, and the memory and lessons of the more than

ten million helpless Jews, gypsies, and homosexuals slaughtered by Hitler's Gestapo, SS, military, police, and other units are still ingrained in the minds of many. Only about 80,000 Nazis were arrested and convicted after World War II for participating in the mass murders. More escaped.

Just like Hitler, Duterte will never run out of killers. Many of these will readily kill for him in exchange for money, power, and privilege. Some even identify themselves as Catholics. In reality, they are not. Many go to church simply because of superstition, thinking that they will suffer bad luck if they don't go.

Those nominal Catholics who express support for Duterte and his extrajudicial

murders and lies are no different from those belonging to the 90% of German Catholics and Christians who supported Hitler, who was very popular. Popularity in these situations means nothing. It does not make moral what is immoral. But the 56% popularity rating of Duterte says much about Filipino Catholics who openly express support for him. They are not true to their faith and face the very real danger of losing their souls. God is not a fascist or a Nazi. He certainly is not a Duterte. For if He were, as soon as Duterte even thinks of insulting or mocking Him he would be struck dead.

God is in control. He has a reason for everything including using demons and evil people for higher purposes. This includes allowing Dute-

rte to be President where all Filipinos are put to a test — to choose God or to be with Satan and Duterte. Iglesia ni Duterte is a very real choice for some who will choose his religion over God, in fact, over anything. Money, power, and security on this earth fuel their loyalty to Duterte. Very sad.

In true humility, many Catholics know that even with the best of intentions, as human beings, we are inclined to sin. But our good faith commitment to try and be truly good, loving and forgiving human beings must always be there and for us to be humble and trust completely in God's love and mercy.

The Catholic Church provides for 50 % of the world's private social services: health care, housing, medical ser-

vices, education, and help for older people. It will continue to provide for these.

After his attack on God, Catholics, and the Catholic Church, Duterte appointed three of his representatives to smooth things over with the Catholic clergy leadership. The Catholic Church must use all of its resources to protect innocent victims of whatever faith from threats of violence and coercive measures especially the helpless poor among whom thousands are being slaughtered.

TED LAGUATAN is a San Francisco Bay Area based human rights lawyer and also the only Fil-Am lawyer officially certified continuously by the California State Bar as an Expert-Specialist Lawyer in US Immigration Law for 28 years now. Email Laguatanlaw@gmail.com Tel 650 6348668

(Solution to Crossword No. 15 | August 4, 2018)

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FILIPINO WOMEN'S CIVIC CLUB FOUNDATION (FWCCF) MARIA CLARA BALL | OCTOBER 6, 2018 | 6:00 PM | Filipino Community Center | For more information, please contact Rose Galanto 688-4458

16TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISING EVENT AND BAYANIHAN GALA | OCTOBER 13, 2018 | 5:30 PM - 9:30 PM | FilCommunity Center | Contact 808-680-0451 for details

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MAINLAND NEWS

Fil-Am Wins Gilroy Great Garlic Cook-off with His Original Lumpia Wrap Recipe

LUMPIA, one of the traditional Filipino dishes, took center stage when Fil-Am Will Simbol won the 2018 Great Garlic Cook-off at the 40th annual Gilroy Garlic Festival with his original recipe: Savory Crunchy Freshy Tangy Shrimpy Herby Garlic Lumpia Wrap. He beat out seven other finalists who came from all around the country. The eight finalists who were selected from hundreds of entries came at the festival and prepared their recipes in front of the public and panel of judges within a time limit of two hours.



Will Simbol

The lumpia wrap consisted of a cup-shape leaf of lettuce, his original garlic rice, and topped with his original deep fried garlic lumpia. It is eaten like a taco. The lumpia wrap was served on small bamboo steamers lined with banana leaves. It was served with a lime wedge to add tartness, if desired, and his original garlic sauce contained on a wooden spoon.

All five judges phrased the taste

of the dish and they also like that they can add different elements with the sauce and lime. One of the judges described the sauce as great and he said that he tried the lumpia wrap without adding anything, with the sauce and with the lime and he described the dish as a big hit. One other judge said that it has all of the elements contained in the name of the recipe.

Will won the coveted garlic crown and a \$5,000 cash prize. Will's parents, who are originally from Pampanga, Philippines, are longtime residents of Cerritos, California. Will, who was born in Long Beach, California and grew up in Cerritos, California, is now residing in New York and is teaching at Ideal School of Manhattan.

(KAKATALK: HAWAII'S HURRICANE...from page 8)

staying at when "Patria" talked story with me. She spoke in English and was part of a seniors' group that was there to celebrate father's day. Patria, who walks with a cane, takes care of her 89-year old bedridden mother. Informed then about the coming hurricane, her brother in Nebraska, who happened to work for Continental Airlines, booked them on a flight out of Puerto Rico. The flight was scheduled two days after Hurricane Maria landed. Patria and her mother went to San Francisco where her sister lived. Patria and her mother returned to Puerto Rico some

two or three months ago. Patria feels guilty about the burden that they have put on their relatives but I assured her that staying out of Puerto Rico was their greatest contribution to help Puerto Rico recover quickly.

Later, I also had a chance to talk with Carmen Alers Pitre, whose husband was the president of the local Lions Club. Carmen, who is a writer/artist and newly-minted grandma, was generous in her storytelling. With a translator's help, I was able to understand some of the stories. Among

others, the ties between the local Lions Club and the one in Newark demonstrated that island-style whole community plan has to include those who are not physically in the island. For example, the Lions Club filled some of the gaps in meeting critically needed supplies. Carmen shared the photo of a mother who needed insulin in order to be healthy enough to take care of her bedridden adult son. Another photo showed a line of Walmart blue 5-gallon buckets that she said were used to collect and purify water.

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