

HAWAII

FILIPINO CHRONICLE

HAWAII'S #1 FILIPINO NEWSPAPER

◆ OCTOBER 6, 2018 ◆

MEDIA CELEBRITY AUGIE T TO GIVE HIS FINAL BIG SHOW

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EDITORIALS

From Humble Beginning to Comedic Success – Augie T is a Role Model

Everyone loves a success story. Like in movies, books, oral stories, even mythologies, the success is even more glorious when the hero or protagonist encounters great challenges or comes from humble beginnings.

In real life, there are many examples of celebrities who've made that meteoric rise from humble beginnings to extraordinary success. Celine Dione, Elvis Presley, Tom Cruise, Oprah Winfrey, and comic Jim Carrey – all of them were born into disadvantaged backgrounds.

Unlike most other industries that require traditional requirements like higher levels of education; in entertainment, talent and ambition are the main drivers of success – which is perhaps why the doors are wide open for everyone, including those with tough starts.

Locally, comedian Augie Tulba, or more commonly known by his stage name Augie T, has climbed his way from the projects of Kalihi to become one of Hawaii's most admired entertainers. For close to three decades, he has built a massive fanbase and parlayed his popularity as an entertainer into other successful ventures. Comedy was the start, which led to Augie T, host of one of the top morning radio shows, and numerous other opportunities.

What's perhaps unique about Augie T compared to other legendary comics who were his predecessors such as Mel Cabang and Andy Bumatai (also Filipinos), is the timing of Augie's career. His sustainability is also largely boosted by his ability to market himself in the digital age, where the internet, DVDs, CDs, and blockbuster comedy special-shows are more common, enabling entertainers to reach a broader audience.

Fellow Filipino comedian Jo Koy is the consummate marketer who has done this at the national-international level. Augie T has done the same in our state. He's created a brand, which is himself, that is "transportable," so to speak, to other areas – acting, business, public speaking events.

He has also taken his brand and celebrity status to help our community. In his final big show "Laugh Under the Stars 2" on October 13 at the Waikiki Shell, it will also serve as a fundraiser for B.R.A.V.E Hawaii, an organization that is committed to anti-bullying in school-aged youth. He's done numerous fundraising events for worthy causes and organizations. In fact, at 50, he says he plans to focus more of his time on public service.

What's particularly inspiring about entertainers who succeed is it keeps alive the dream that it's still possible to make a living in the performing arts. Chances are far slimmer than most other occupations. But in the digital age with enhanced marketing tools and the internet, talent can still get you places that you've never thought possible.

Augie T told the Filipino Chronicle, "if you work hard, anything is possible." We've all heard this before. But when people who've made it, believe in this saying, and is living out limitless possibilities – this is truly inspiring.

It's true most people would want their children to pursue safer careers in medicine or engineering. But sometimes, children have different dreams and goals that do not follow a clear path. And still, they manage to succeed, even

(continue on page 3)

FROM THE PUBLISHER

Filipino role models can be found in almost any sector in society, including entertainment.

For our cover story this issue, HFC associate editor Edwin Quinabo, presents the legendary comedian Augie T, short for Augusto Tulba, who has been entertaining audiences for close to three decades. At 50, this local celebrity, comic, well-known radio personality, and TV actor will be doing his last big show this month called "Laugh Under the Stars 2" on October 13 at the Waikiki Shell. It will also be a benefit fundraiser for B.R.A.V.E Hawaii, an organization committed to anti-bullying in school-aged youth.

In the cover story, Augie talks about his tough life growing up, and turning adversity into success. He candidly shares some of his experiences as a stand-up comic. It's an inspirational story of a great local entertainer who has worked hard to make life better for himself and his family. And at the same time, about someone who uses his fame to give back to the community via fundraising and helping worthy organizations.

In our columns section, HFC's Emil Guillermo writes about the high drama that unfolded in the Senate hearing and testimonies of SCOTUS nominee Judge Brett Kavanaugh and his alleged sexual assault accuser Dr. Christine Blasey Ford. This story is developing fast. The latest as of press time: the confirmation process will be delayed for one week until a limited FBI investigation is concluded. While Guillermo gives us a left-leaning side of the situation; our conservative columnist Atty. Emmanuel Tison shares another viewpoint.

Atty. Reuben Seguritan writes in his Legal Notes column about the DHS Plans to Penalize Immigrants Using Public Benefits. The Trump administration announced it intends to adopt a rule that noncitizens in the U.S. can be denied green cards and U.S. citizenship if they have used any public assistance program or benefits in the past such as Social Security Insurance (SSI), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or housing and Medicaid for healthcare. This is yet another move by the president that is making the lives of immigrants much more difficult than they already are.

Seneca Moraleda-Puguan is back with her Personal Reflection column, contributing "Mamang: A Life of Grace, Strength, Longevity." Mamang refers to Elising Roxas Tunglan, a woman born in 1924 in the Philippines, who offers sound advice on life, aging, family, and health. At 94, and someone who've outlived many generations and seasons, and all their changing tides, Tunglan is representative of a simpler time with sound values. We can learn a lot from the wisdom of our elders.

Also in this issue, be sure to read our latest in the news sections, including an opportunity for youths to enter the Filipino Association of University Women's "Ohana Art Contest." Winners will receive cash prizes and all entries have their work displayed at the Hawaii State Library from November 17th to December 8th.

Lastly, the General Election is fast approaching this Nov. 6. The general elections in Hawaii might seem predictable to many of us, but we can never take anything for granted. Be sure to vote in this crucial time when so many national issues are rapidly changing.

Thank you to all our loyal readers, subscribers, advertisers for all your support. We appreciate the opportunity to continue our service to the community.

Until next issue, warmest *Aloha* and *Mabuhay!*

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

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EDITORIALS

Peaceful Protest Is a Protected Right

It's the sign of the times that the country finds itself in yet another divisive issue. The 2018 NFL season recently started and a new policy adopted (unanimously by NFL owners) mandates that players must stand during the national anthem or face a fine. Or NFL players have the option of staying in the locker room if they decide not to stand. The new rule is a strong move to clamp-down on player protests at the sidelines.

This is the third season since former 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick started the kneel-down in 2016 to peacefully protest during the national anthem the police brutality of unarmed black men abused or killed by police. Kaepernick, and later dozens of NFL players, used their celebrity power to raise awareness of this systemic problem and what they believe helps those who otherwise would have no voice.

But the original intent of the peaceful protest has been overshadowed by those who say kneeling during the national anthem is disrespectful and unpatriotic.

Now the debate has transmuted into – whether taking a knee during the national anthem should be allowed as a form of freedom of speech; or on the flipside, the national anthem, like the flag, is too sacred a symbol



to be used to protest.

On face value, this issue of exercising the right to protest could be seen as lightweight compared to other more impactful issues. In 2016, most people seem to agree and little brouhaha came over Kaepernick's initial kneel-down protest.

But that all changed when the "divider-in-chief," President Donald Trump, jumped into the fray and stoked a fire of division. Trump used this as yet another opportunity to fire up his base and the ongoing cultural war.

Trump said, "Wouldn't you love to see one of these NFL owners, when somebody disrespects our flag, say, 'get that son of a bitch off the field right now, out, he's fired.'"

"You have to stand proudly for the national anthem or you shouldn't be playing, you shouldn't be there. Maybe they shouldn't be in the country."

Trump's crackdown on NFL protestors isn't just about an attempt to establish lines of allegiance and patriotism that shouldn't be

crossed, it is at a deeper level, an attempt to exert power over NFL players and to snuff their protest of police brutality on the black community. The symbolism of asserting racial white power is further highlighted by the fact that NFL owners are mostly billionaire white men and their entertainment-employees (the players) are mostly black athletes (70 percent).

What's really going on

The new policy, which had no input from NFL players, showed tone-deafness to the racial symbolism of muting black players expressing their conviction over a serious issue affecting mostly the black community.

It has reopened old wounds of racism and power; and is particularly acute when the people who are protesting happen to be black leaders. It's one thing to disregard a class of disenfranchised citizens (who get little attention), but to successfully muzzle the leaders whom these citizens look up to sends a stark, humbling message.

in comedy, as far-fetched that this could sound as a child or teen.

This is why perhaps why Augie T is so special. Through his courage, he has made his dream of succeeding in comedy (a tough field of entertainment) come true. He says he'd dreamt of this goal from a very young age. He's talked about quitting at times. But he's also

talked about being fearless (something he's acquired as a professional boxer) and perseverance.

In the past, the Filipino Chronicle has interviewed a multitude of role models in our community that we've chosen for cover stories -- judges, physicians, politicians, business leaders, and government heads. Augie T, the standup comic, radio

personality, local celebrity, and yes, role model, is right up there with the best of them in our community.

Thank you Augie T for all the laughter and joy; and thank you for your community service work. We encourage you to go out and support him at his last big hurrah on October 13 that is also a worthy fundraising event.

The new policy is not about defending patriotism. It's about NFL owners protecting their deep pockets from Trumpers calling for a boycott.

The new policy is a blow to freedom of speech and expression, the First Amendment. It also brings the nation closer to facets of authoritarianism, a trend Trump and his followers are fashioning each day.

Many people wouldn't necessarily see it this way – but coercion of allegiance is in fact a form of authoritarianism.

The new policy also puts a symbol (national anthem) over the true meaning of that symbol, which is the substance of the Constitution that guarantees the right to protest openly in public areas.

The new policy demands pseudo-patriotism.

Those who are against the kneel-down protest, in an attempt to sound more convincing, also have been using the argument that taking a knee during the national anthem is disrespectful to U.S. veterans – which couldn't be further from the truth.

A U.S. veteran makes a compelling argument against this line of reason-

ing: "When I was commissioned into service, I took an oath to support and defend the Constitution. I didn't get to pick and choose which parts of the Constitution or whose rights and freedoms I supported and defended. They (protestors) are not anti-military, nor are they attacking police officers or advocating violence against them; they are simply standing up for their convictions.

"We can leave forced religious expression and coerced displays of patriotism to countries less secure than ours."

Most Americans are fair-minded and can see through Trump's demagoguery on this issue. Most Americans value and respect freedom of expression even as uncomfortable as taking a knee during the national anthem could be. The U.S. has been and was founded as being a tolerant and open society. It may not be at times, but it remains the ideal and something Americans strive for.

There are far more important issues Americans could be dedicating their energy to and Americans shouldn't allow peaceful protests to be a dividing issue as this has already been.

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COVER STORY

Legendary Comic Augie T to Give Final Big Show

By Edwin Quinabo

When it comes to legends of comedy in Hawaii, Augie T is right up there among the greatest. When it comes to Hawaii's most recognizable entertainers in the past 20 years – including singers, actors, performance artists – Augie T's name is on the short list. He is a celebrity, comedian, well-known radio personality, TV actor, and on occasion, the “braddah” who livens up the room at major events and parties as emcee.

When on stage, he is the comic with a big persona who brings out big laughs. By the time fans leave one of his shows, their tummies ache from laughing.

What Augie T does that only a few can say they do for a profession is – to make people forget all their worries for a moment and to just experience sheer joy. Contagious, raw, uplifting laughter that's pure therapy for the soul.

“Laugh Under the Stars 2”

At age 50, and having had done comedy for close to 30 years, Augie T says he will be doing his final big show, “Laugh Under the Stars 2,” on October 13 at the Waikiki Shell (visit ticketmaster.com). The show will be filmed for his 10th comedy special called “What's Next?”

The show is also a benefit for B.R.A.V.E Hawaii, an organization committed to anti-bullying in school-aged youth. The non-profit organization was founded by Augie's daughter Mahealani Sims-Tulba.

“My daughter Mahea was bullied in school at the age of 11. Since then, I've watched this girl grow up and use that challenging time in her life to make a difference. In the last five years, B.R.A.V.E Hawaii has reached over 70,000 students statewide. Only through private generosity

and fundraising events like ‘Laugh Under the Stars’ can we continue to put on free events to students statewide,” said Tulba.

Augie told the Filipino Chronicle: “I'm not calling this retirement. Comedy is in my blood and I love making people laugh, something I've done my whole life. I'm walking away to focus on new ventures. I'm gonna step away and focus on public service with my daughter's foundation B.R.A.V.E. Hawaii, and maybe consider running for public office in 2020.”

Could this be a scoop... public office? – why not. Augie has done it all.

On comedy and life

Augie first realized he wanted to be a comedian at a very young age. “I loved comedy since I was in the 4th grade when I first saw a comedian perform live. It was

Andy Bumatai. I knew then.”

Bumatai, a fellow Filipino comedian, would give Augie many years later his first break by inviting him to perform comedy in Waikiki.

Asked about life growing up, he described his family as dysfunctional. “My dad was a very strict, drinking Filipino man, and mom, a very nurturing Portuguese/Haole lady. But 100 percent, I'm very thankful for my dysfunctional family and our humble upbringing.”

He added in a PBS Hawaii interview, “My brothers and I, we understood the value of hard work. But was tough; was tough growing up. You know, we never have the things most kids had. You know, my mom and dad did a lot to make sure that we were nicely groomed, you know. But was tough.”

Augie and his five brothers grew up in Kalihi Valley in the Kamehameha IV



Housing Project, known to be one of Oahu's tougher neighborhoods.

That tough environment and his experience as a Golden Gloves champion at age 16 helped him develop grit and a fearless outlook in life.

While many performing artists talk about having stage fright, Augie hasn't had this problem. “It was kinda easy for me when I first started because before I did comedy, I was an amateur and professional boxer.

“Nothing is scarier than walking into the ring knowing someone wants to knock your head off your shoulders. The worst that could happen with standup (comedy) is people booing or walking out. Still better than getting punched in the face.”

Augie won his first professional boxing match while in high school. He remembers treating all his friends for lunch to celebrate that milestone. At one time, he says he was ranked seventh in the U.S. for boxing at junior flyweight.

The start of his comedic career started at 23 years old. He entered an open mic challenge. For those unfamiliar with what that is, it's a show in which several comics are invited to perform; sometimes there's an elimination

round format. The last comic standing is the winner of that night and usually earns a monetary prize.

Open mics are where amateur comics test their material and hone their skill. Sometimes it doesn't end well.

But it's something comics serious about succeeding must do. “Get as much stage time as possible,” Augie recommends for aspirants in comedy, “you have to do it a lot to get good, and to find your voice!”

“There were many times I wanted to pull the plug on standup. I remember one experience that happened on Kaua'i. I only had to do 10 minutes as an opening act to Henry Kapono, Mel Cabang, Andy Bumatai and a bunch of other local entertainers. No one was laughing. People were just staring and not really paying attention.

“They came for the other people (entertainers). I got off stage and Mel Cabang pulled me on the side and said, ‘I think you are going to be the greatest one day. Don't be intimidated and try to be like everyone else. You funny, but you gotta believe it.’”

Mel Cabang, another legend of comedy, is one of Augie's role models in the

(continue on page 5)

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COVER STORY

(from page 5)

industry. He also says he has been inspired by Booga Booga, Andy Bumatai and Richard Pryor.

As far as other role models, “I had a few. When I boxed it was Sugar Ray Leonard. In drama class at Farrington High School, it was Mr. Kau. My 8th grade guidance teacher Miss Morikami was another one. And my dad!” said Augie.

That Kauai concert gig was a memorable, learning, humbling experience. All entertainers have stories of rejection and failure, especially when starting out.

“My biggest challenge was not giving up when industry people said I couldn’t relate to audiences, that I cater only to a specific audience. The support of the people of Hawai‘i through my entire career helped me overcome that,” said Augie.

Asked about what he believes is his special quality that helped him succeed, he said “I always told the truth and didn’t stop when people said I wasn’t relatable – too local or too much pidgin.”

“I don’t find anything hard when you are telling the truth. I never thought of comedy as being offensive. I’ve had very few complaints the last 27 years.

“It’s important to keep it real! I will only talk about things I believe in or have knowledge in. People can spot and smell a fake.”

As far as material he stays away from – “anything political. And I will never tell people how to think or educate people on facts. People pay to laugh! I’m a storyteller, a reflection of society. If I see something that makes me laugh, I’m probably gonna talk about it.”

On success and the future

Augie’s storytelling -- which is what comedy is -- is really about sharing regular, ordinary things people do that don’t make sense when you step back and think about them. That lack of reason or oddity is what makes it funny.

Then, of course, careful delivery, narration, framing



punchlines, then the punch – all are considered by comics.

It’s masterful acting and preparation.

Through the years his fanbase kept growing. His DVDs (already produced 9) and CDs helped to expand his body of work to people who haven’t caught his live shows. Marketing in the digital age helped. Write ups by select media and awards added to his already massive following.

Pacific Business News named him one of its 40 Under 40 people (outstanding members in the community). The former Honolulu Star-Bulletin and Midweek named him funniest comic in Hawaii. Honolulu Magazine called his show, the best comedy show.

At an exhibit at the Bishop Museum, he was also recognized as one of Hawaii’s top 100 influential Filipinos.

He won two Hawaii Music Awards.

He won two prestigious Na Hoku Hanohano awards: one for Comedy Album of the Year with “Da Comedy Kahuna” in 1999, the other for “Locally Disturbed” in 2003.

He is also the only local comedian to sell out the Blaisdell Arena. And arguably is among the top three in commercial success as a local comedian.

As host of one of Hawaii’s top morning radio shows, the Augie Radio Show on 93.1 Da Pa’ina, he has cemented his stature as a local celebrity. He has the Augie TV Show on K5 and OC 16,

and co-starred on Cheap Eats on Hawaii News Now for the past nine years.

Then there are all those TV show appearances like Hawaii Five-O, Magnum P.I. and others.

He’s been everywhere media goes from radio, TV, print. Being funny and telling jokes is just first base for what he does. The combination of ambition, business smarts, networking is perhaps what really pushed him to that next level.

Along the way to fame, Augie has used his high visibility to bring attention to worthy causes such as B.R.A.V.E and numerous other organizations that champion healthy children and families.

“Over the last few years, I was fortunate enough to serve in the administrations of Mayor Billy Kenoi on Hawai‘i Island and Lt. Governor Shan Tsutsui. I learned a lot about myself, people, and our community. I really enjoyed serving and helping.

“After 27 years of doing comedy, DVD specials and turning 50 years old, I thought maybe it was time to do something different. So public service is something I’m interested in,” said Augie.

“Also in the last year, I got to act in two movies and a prime time TV show: Kuleana, A Midsummer’s Hawaiian Dream, and an upcoming episode of Magnum P.I. Now that my kids are grown up, it might be time to pursue passions I couldn’t when I first started in the entertainment business.”

“I’m a storyteller, a reflection of society. If I see something that makes me laugh, I’m probably gonna talk about it. I would like to be remembered as someone who put a lot of smiles on a lot of faces. I would like to be remembered as someone who wasn’t scared to talk about tough topics, and kept it clean so the whole family could laugh together.” — AUGIE T

On being Filipino

Augie is short for Augusto, his grandfather’s name. The “T” is short for Tulba.

His grandparents came from the Philippines in 1916. Augusto was 16 and his grandma Serapia was 14. They worked on the plantation on Maui and had 8 children who were all born and raised in Hawaii. His grandparents later moved back to Maria Siquijor in Central Visaya.

Augie’s wife is also half Filipino. “I have an amazing wife. She encourages, challenges and supports me 100% even when I mess up. We have a pretty tight knit group of family and friends.”

One thing he says about being Filipino is that he likes to work like most hardworking Filipinos. His work ethic started early when he was a kid selling newspapers. As a teen, he worked at Jack In the

Box, and soon after, Kapiolani Medical Center where he worked for 16 years.

“I share the same beliefs as my dad and his parents. As a proud Filipino, I always work hard and don’t take anything for granted. You don’t need to tell people you work hard. They see it for themselves.

“If you work hard, anything is possible.” And Augie T has done wonders with possibilities.

“I would like to be remembered as someone who put a lot of smiles on a lot of faces. I would like to be remembered as someone who wasn’t scared to talk about tough topics, and kept it clean so the whole family could laugh together.”

At 50, there’s still a lot more to do. With Augie having accomplished so much already, his fans are excited to see what’s next.

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SOCIAL SECURITY UPDATE

Social Security, OIG Expand National Anti-Fraud Program Assault Allegations

By Jane Burigsay

The Social Security Administration and its Office of the Inspector General (OIG) announced three new Cooperative Disability Investigations (CDI) Units recently opened across the country. As part of the nationwide CDI Program, the new units will identify, investigate, and prevent Social Security disability fraud throughout their respective states. The new CDI units opened in Albuquerque, New Mexico; Honolulu, Hawaii;

and Indianapolis, Indiana.

The CDI Program is one of Social Security's most successful anti-fraud initiatives, contributing to the integrity of Federal disability programs. CDI brings together personnel from Social Security, its OIG, State Disability Determination Services (DDS), and local law enforcement agencies to analyze and investigate suspicious or questionable Social Security disability claims, to help resolve questions of potential fraud before benefits are ever paid. CDI Unit efforts help disability examiners make informed decisions, ensure pay-

ment accuracy, and generate significant taxpayer savings, for both Federal and State programs.

"Social Security is committed to combating fraud and preserving the public's trust in our programs," said Nancy A. Berryhill, Acting Commissioner of Social Security. "As we open the three new CDI units, let us remember the important work they do. The CDI program plays a critical role in detecting and preventing fraud, helping to ensure benefits are paid only to the people who are eligible. This collaboration between Social Security,

the OIG, and local law enforcement helps save taxpayer money and ensures the integrity of our programs."

The CDI Program consists of 43 units covering 37 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Social Security and OIG have opened several offices in the last few years as they work together to provide CDI coverage for all 50 states by 2022, as mandated by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015.

"CDI has a long, successful track record of identifying and preventing disability fraud and abuse," said Acting Inspector General Gale Stallworth Stone. "We're pleased to partner with Social Security,

the DDSs, and local law enforcement agencies across the country, to combat fraud and promote the integrity of Social Security's disability programs."

Since 1997, when Social Security and OIG established CDI, its efforts have contributed to \$3.9 billion in projected savings to Social Security's programs, and \$2.9 billion in projected savings to other Federal and State programs. For more information, please visit the OIG website and Social Security's anti-fraud website at www.socialsecurity.gov/antifraudfacts/.

To get more Social Security news, follow the Press Office on Twitter @SSAPress.

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Students Invited to Enter Filipino Association of University Women Art Contest

Do you want your art displayed at the Hawaii State Library? Do you have a story to share about your ohana through art?

The Filipino Association of University Women (FAUW), 3 Point Scholarship Hawaii, and Reiyukai America invite Hawaii K8 students

to participate in the first annual 'Ohana Art Contest! The organizers aspire to promote stronger families that can affect stronger communities!

There are two categories and there will be three winners in each category: 1) K-5 Division, Theme: My Favorite 'Ohana Moment, Prizes:

1st \$100, 2nd \$75, 3rd \$50, Teacher Prize for 1st Place: \$50 Amazon Gift Card; 2) 6-8 Division, Theme: 'Ohana, Prizes: 1st \$100, 2nd \$75, 3rd \$50, Teacher Prize for 1st Place: \$50 Amazon Gift Card.

'Ohana Art Contest is open to all Hawai'i K-8 students, who are encouraged to draw an artwork that portrays the contestant's experiences with his/her 'ohana along with a paragraph describing the artwork. All the entries must be submitted physically by the organizing committee, postmarked on or before Monday, October 22, 2018.

All entries will be displayed at the Hawaii State Library from November 17th to December 8th, 2018.

Winners will be awarded on Saturday, November 17th during the Final Presentation of the Letter to My Parents™ Contest in Hawaii 2018. Winners will be contacted by the Organizing Committee.

Visit www.OhanaArtContest.com for more information about the contest!

For more information, contact Rose Churma or Toshiro Obara at 808.358.2868, reiyukai@reiyukai-usa.org.

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Dates: October 6 and 9

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Maui

Location: Kahului Shopping Center

Dates: October 9 only

Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Kauai

Location: Office of County Clerk, Elections Division

Dates: October 8 and 9

Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Oahu

Location: Hawaii State Capitol (front of the capitol facing Beretania St.)

Dates: October 8 and 9

Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

To be eligible to register to vote, you must be a U.S. Citizen, a Hawaii resident and at least 18 years of age. Hawaii law allows for voter pre-registration at 16 years of age, however the individual must be 18 years of age to vote.

WHAT'S UP, ATTORNEY?



By Atty. Emmanuel S. Tipon

There are good and bad Republicans. They are all called Republicans. There are also good and bad Democrats. Good Democrats are called "Democrats". I call bad Democrats "Demoncrats" because of their penchant for malevolence, playing dirty tricks, or engaging in hanky panky.

To derail the confirmation of Judge Brett M. Kavanaugh, President Trump's nominee to the Supreme Court, Demoncrats produced a letter of Christine Blasey Ford claiming that 36 years ago while she was 15 and Brett M. Kavanaugh was 17, Kavanaugh "physically and sexually assaulted" her during a party in Maryland. This is a Hail Mary pass to achieve a nefarious goal.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein reportedly knew of the letter in July but disclosed it in September after the confirmation hearing ended. "Feinstein behaved outrageously," complained Jonah Goldberg, a columnist of the pro-Democrat Honolulu Star Advertiser, calling the allegations, if false, "one of the worst acts of character assassination and sewer politics in modern American history, and any one involved should be held to account by the law and voters alike."

I first met Feinstein at the San Francisco salon of her beautician who was my client. Feinstein has no "fire in the belly" said her former campaign manager Clinton Reilly who quit in disgust. She is probably making up for her lack of "fire in the belly" by disclosing the letter of Ford. That's just being bellicose.

Rep. Nancy Pelosi, whom I met when we organized Filipinos to raise funds during her first run for congress in San Francisco and whom I introduced to the Iglesia Ni Cristo hierarchy in the United States, is a Democrat but does not appear to be Feinstein's co-conspirator.

I met Barbara Boxer, a Democrat when she first ran for

Demoncrats Use Dirty Tricks to Derail Justice's Confirmation - Delayed Sex Assault Allegations

Congress in Marin County, California. I accompanied Barbara to the Iglesia Ni Cristo leaders who promised to vote solidly for her. As we left, the San Francisco minister whispered to me "You have introduced only beautiful women." I said: "Barbara, they are asking why I am only introducing beautiful women. I do not know of any ugly women." Barbara laughed. Barbara won.

Bill Clinton was a good Democrat until Paula Jones, Monica Lewinsky and other women demonized him. Nancy Pelosi introduced us at a fund raiser at the Fairmont Hotel. "Bill, this is Al Tipon. He also went to Yale." Bill put his arm around my shoulder and asked: "How was Yale for you." My reply was: "I spent more time with the girls than with the books." He laughed loudly. "And how were the girls," Bill asked. I replied: "Fantastic. We went to bed but never slept." He guffawed loudly.

I contributed to Bill's campaign. I asked Ka Erdy, my wedding sponsor, then the Iglesia ni Cristo Executive Minister, to advise the Iglesia members in the U.S. to support Bill. I contributed to Bill's Paula Jones defense fund. Jones alleged that Bill had invited her to his hotel room and upon entering Bill dropped his pants. I wrote to Bill saying: "Yale men do not drop their pants at the mere sight of a woman." My beloved saw Bill's thank you note and remonstrated "You gave Clinton money? You could have used it to buy milk for the children." "The children have lactic intolerance," I quipped. Bill said on television: "I did not have sex with that woman - Monica Lewinsky." DNA tests establishing that Monica's blue dress was tarnished with Bill's "love juice" proved that Bill was a liar. He was a cad.

ALLEGED SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIM'S LETTER

Christine Blasey Ford wrote to Sen. Dianne Feinstein telling her about the alleged "sexual assault" by Kavanaugh. The letter, in relevant part, reads:

"Brett Kavanaugh physi-

cally and sexually assaulted me during high school in the early 1980's. He conducted these acts with the assistance of his close friend, Mark G. Judge.

Both were 1-2 years older than me and students at a local private school. The assault occurred in a suburban Maryland area home at a gathering that included me and 4 others.

Kavanaugh physically pushed me into a bedroom as I was headed for a bathroom up a short stairwell from the living room. They locked the door and played loud music, precluding any successful attempts to yell for help.

Kavanaugh was on top of me while laughing with Judge, who periodically jumped onto Kavanaugh. They both laughed as Kavanaugh tried to disrobe me in their highly inebriated state.

With Kavanaugh's hand over my mouth, I feared he may inadvertently kill me.

From across the room, a very drunken Judge said mixed words to Kavanaugh ranging from "go for it" to "stop."

At one point when Judge jumped onto the bed, the weight on me was substantial. The pile toppled, and the two scrapped with each other.

After a few attempts to get away, I was able to take this opportune moment to get up and run across to a hallway bathroom. I locked the bathroom door behind me.

Both loudly stumbled down the stairwell, at which point other persons at the house were talking with them. I exited the bathroom, ran outside of the house and went home." <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2018/09/23/christine-blasey-ford-letter-alleged-assault-brett-kavanaugh/1406932002/>

BRETT KAVANAUGH AND MARK JUDGE DENIED ALLEGATIONS

Kavanaugh issued "a strong denial of the allegations against him," according to Vox, who quoted Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT) as saying that Kavanaugh had told him that "he didn't do that, and he wasn't at the party" in question.

Mark Judge denied the allegations, saying he had "no memory of this alleged incident" and that "such behavior would be wildly out of character for the Catholic-raised-and-educated boys who went to Georgetown Prep in the early '80s."

Even a liberal, Democrat-appointed judge in Maryland but is honest would dismiss the accusation without much ado.

(1) The allegations in Ford's letter do not constitute "sexual assault" under current Maryland law. Ford did not specify the Maryland criminal law violated by the alleged misconduct. The least severe of the current Maryland sexual assault statutes is sexual assault in the fourth degree which provides that "a person may not engage in sexual contact with another without the consent of the other." (MD Code Sec. 3-308). "Sexual contact" means an intentional touching of the victim's or actor's genital, anal, or other intimate area for sexual arousal or gratification, or for the abuse of either party." (MD Code Sec. 3-301). Ford did not say that Kavanaugh engaged in "sexual contact" with her by "an intentional touching of the victim's or actor's genital, anal, or other intimate area for sexual arousal or gratification, or for the abuse of either party." Furthermore, Ford did not protest against the assaulter. Did she consent to it? If there was consent, then there is no sexual

assault. Qui tacet consentire videtur. He who is silent is understood to consent.

(2) The complaint is too late. Thirty five years is too long to wait to file a complaint of sexual assault. In Maryland, the statute of limitations for a misdemeanor sexual assault is one year from the event, but for a felony sexual assault there is no statute of limitations. For civil actions for sexual assault, the statute of limitations where the victim is a minor is 7 years from her 18th birthday, and where the victim is an adult it is 3 years from the event. What the statute of limitations was 36 years ago is not known.

What did Ford do during 36 years? Did she tell anybody about the alleged incident? Did she tell her husband before they were married that she had been almost defiled? If she did not, Ford did not enter into her marriage with clean hands. Did Ford have a medical or mental examination after the alleged incident? She is claiming injuries and trauma.

Why did not Ford file a complaint within the period allowed by the statute of limitations? Why did not Ford file a complaint at the latest when Kavanaugh was nominated as a Judge in the U.S. Court of Appeals?

A number of alleged victims of sexual assault defend

(continue on page 10)



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PERSONAL REFLECTION

A LIFE OF GRACE, STRENGTH, LONGEVITY

‘MAMANG’

By Seneca Moraleda-Puguan

Adam lived 930 years. Noah lived 950. Methuselah lived the longest, 969 years. Characters from the Bible’s Old Testament lived centuries. My father’s mother lived until she was 54. My mother’s mother was 72 when she passed. My dad’s father was blessed to live 82 years before losing to cancer. In the modern age, life has become shorter and shorter. Sicknes-

ses caused by different strains of viruses and bacteria have proliferated. Calamities, crimes and wars have risen in number. Unhealthy instant food, packed with preservatives, has become our go-to meal. Even if advancement in science and health care is helping people today to live longer, not so many individ-



uals still reach or surpass the century mark. Having to live almost a century is an exception rather than the norm. But there are still a number of people who have lived or are enjoying their lives to the fullest. One of them is Elising Roxas Tunglen who was born on the 14th of June, 1924 in the Philippines. She was a teacher until the Japanese occupation and became a nurse in surgery for a couple of years at the Philippine General Hospital, one of the most prestigious hospitals of the country. After getting married, she became a travel agent who didn’t stop practicing being a nurse. She even helped a neighbor, who could not make it to the hospital, deliver her baby. Her nursing background helped her in her business as a travel agent, where she recruited nurses

in the Philippines to work in American hospitals called the Exchange Visitor’s Program. She had her first grandson in her early 40’s, too young to be a grandmother so her grandson called her “Mamang,” and she has been fondly called as such by everyone since then, including her doctors. At the age of 94, she now lives with one of her four daughters, Beth Hoban, in Hawaii. All her daughters are happily married, and two of them followed her footsteps of becom-

ing a nurse. ‘Mamang’ enjoys her 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. She considers her family her pride and joy. We asked ‘Mamang’ several questions about living an exceptional life, one that has outlived generations and seasons, and the changing of the tides.

- 1. What is your typical day?**
I am not as active as I used to be. I love to cook and garden, watch my plants grow. I
- 2. What is your secret to longevity and good health? What is your lifestyle?**
Do not worry about the small stuff. Be happy. I keep my mind active. But now, I am not as active. Before, I used to be up

(continue on page 10)

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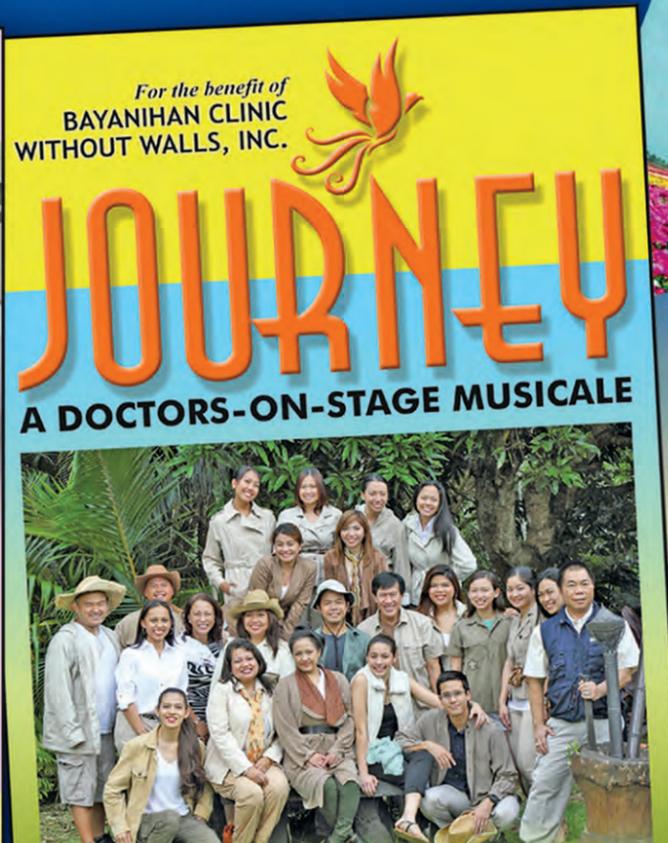
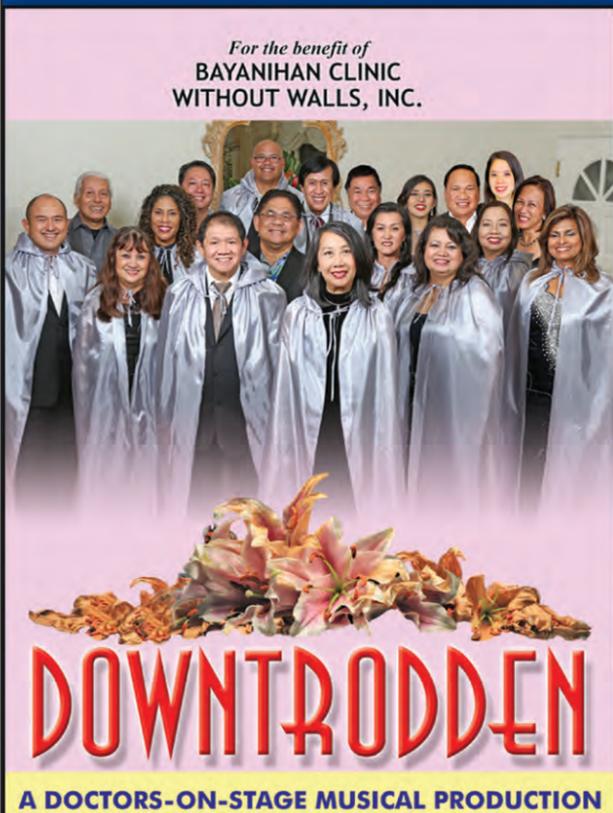
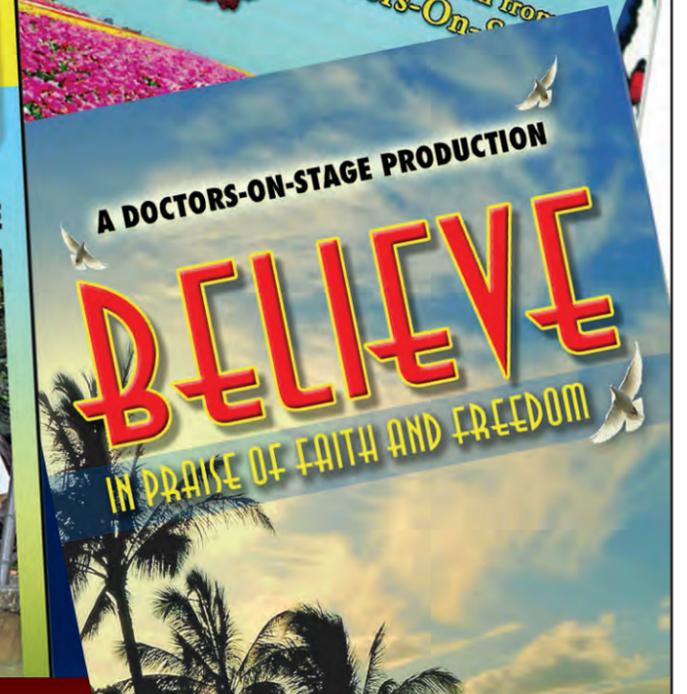
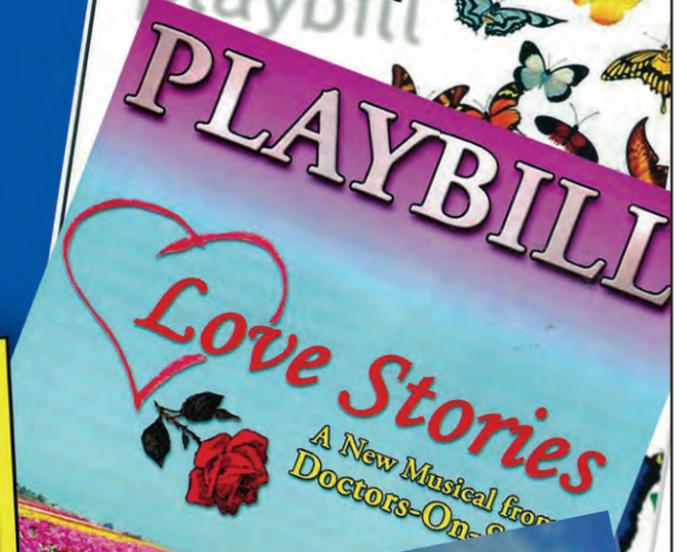
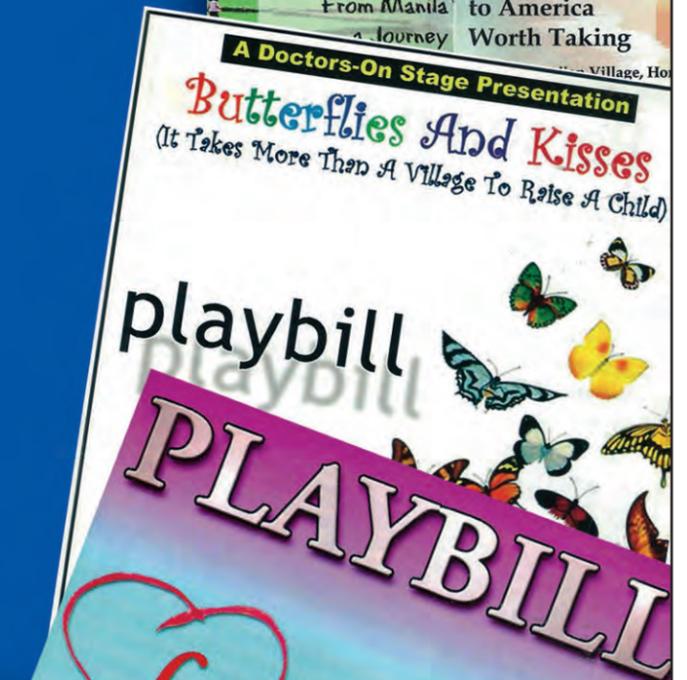
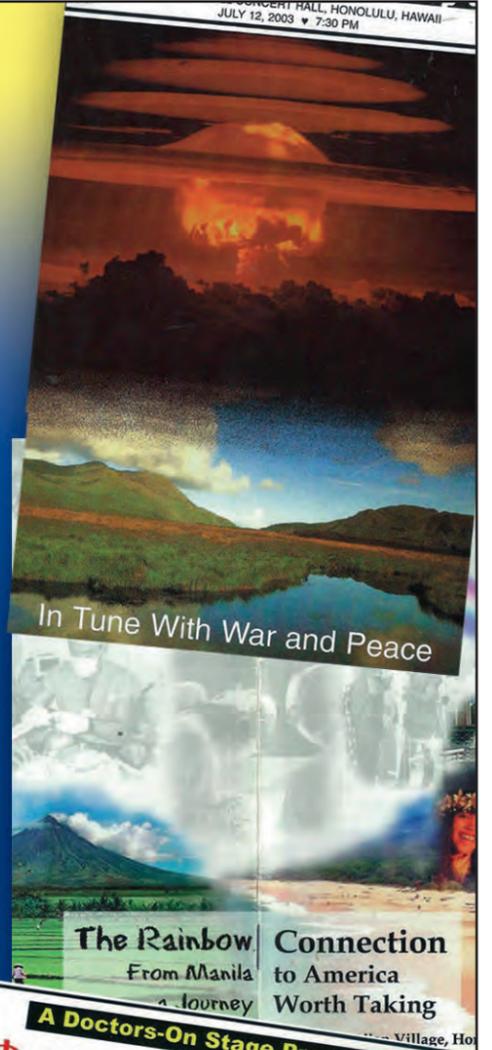
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WHAT'S UP, ATTORNEY?

(from page 7)

their tardiness in complaining by claiming that they were subject to threats, or were ashamed, or feared retaliation, or their memory was repressed, or they suffered amnesia.

In a recent criminal case for sexual assault defended by my son, Noel Tipon, one of the best criminal defense attorneys in Hawaii, the excuse for the complainant's not filing a complaint sooner was that the alleged perpetrator was a good friend of her father and she did not want her father to lose a good friend. It may be plausible or implausible, but at least there was a reason. But in the case of Ford, no reason was given why she filed her complaint 36 years late.

(3) A complaint for sexual assault must, as a general rule, be corroborated, by direct or circumstantial evidence.

Ford's allegations have not been corroborated.

On the other hand, Kavanaugh and Mark Judge have denied the allegations in Ford's letter.

In the world of "she said"

and "he said and he said" with two people saying the same thing, and corroborating each other, it becomes a numbers game, and therefore two must prevail against one, other things being equal.

"A lone witness is not sufficient to establish any wrongdoing or sin against a man, regardless of what offense he may have committed. A matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses." Deuteronomy 19:15

(4) The allegations are not credible. There is a rule that "evidence to be believed must proceed not only from the mouth of a credible witness but must be credible in itself as to hurdle the test of conformity with the knowledge and common experience of mankind." *Zapatos v. People*, 457 Phil. 969, 985 (2003).

Ford's allegations fail to satisfy this evidentiary rule.

Ford alleges that Wayne Judge was watching and even laughing with Kavanaugh while Kavanaugh was on top of her. Sexual assault does not happen

with others watching or laughing, except in rare instances. When the Japanese soldiers invaded the Philippines, they broke into our house in Laoag, and raped one of our beautiful housemaids who was my favorite. There were six of them. They watched each other commit rape. I was there. I hated the Japs.

Ford says that Wayne Judge was shouting "go for it" and then shouting "stop" as Kavanaugh was "on top" of her. Was this a "stop and go" sex assault?

Ford alleges that Kavanaugh was "on top" of her. But she did not say that Kavanaugh took off his pants or unzipped his zipper. Can one commit sexual assault with his pants on or his zipper unzipped?

Ford claims that Wayne Judge jumped onto the bed while Kavanaugh was "on top" of her such that the weight of the two on her was "substantial". Was this a menage a trois?

If Ford's allegations actually happened, it is mere horseplay, but it does not rise to the level of sexual assault.

Ford's conduct does not

comport with that of a victim of sexual assault. It was only after 36 years that she raised her voice. The first creature that she contacted was the Washington Post. Sexual assault victims do not contact a newspaper first after they have been victimized. It is obvious that she is only seeking publicity.

(5) The complainant cannot meet her burden of proof to establish Kavanaugh's guilt by clear and convincing evidence

Some Democrats have demanded that the accused, not the accuser, should bear the "burden of proof" and that Kavanaugh should testify first to prove that he is not guilty. Democrats claim that this is not a criminal trial where the accuser bears the burden of proof. But even in a civil trial, the complainant has the burden of proof.

"Clear and convincing" evidence is the most appropriate standard in a confirmation hearing. This is because it is not a criminal case and is not just a simple civil case.

Based on the evidence presented thus far, complainant

Ford has not established her case by "clear and convincing evidence". She has not produced any evidence to support her allegations against Kavanaugh. The only person whom she claims actually witnessed the incident, Wayne Judge, has denied it happened.

KAVANAUGH PRESUMED INNOCENT

Judge Kavanaugh is presumed innocent until proven guilty. Kavanaugh must be given the benefit of the doubt. The liberal pro Democratic media does not even mention this presumption of innocence. Instead, they have already condemned Kavanaugh and declared him guilty.

SECOND ACCUSER AGAINST KAVANAUGH

When this article was originally written, Ford was the only accuser. Now the Democrats have come up with a new accuser – Deborah Ramirez, 53, of Boulder Colorado, a Puerto Rican student at Yale. She re-

(continue on page 12)

(PERSONAL REFLECTION ; 'MAMANG'....from page 8)

early and sleep late. I stay at home and sometimes go out to the movies. I like action movies. Sometimes, I get a pedicure and manicure. I have regular check ups with my doctors- for my foot, heart and body.

3. What are the challenges you have faced/facing in living a long life?

My arthritis and stiff joints

are worst now that I am older, especially in the morning. I loved to Tango, Cha-cha and sing. Now, I just watch people dancing and listen to music. My memory is not as good as before. I have to depend on people to do things for me. I used to be the one who did things for people. It is tough getting old!

4. What is your greatest memory in your lifetime? What is your greatest regret? (if there is any)

My greatest memory was when I had my business and gave nurses in the Philippines a chance to work in the States. They were able to help their families when they sent some of their salary home.

I have no regrets in life. I have a family who loves me, and friends who care. I call my daughters my "four jewels."

5. What are some important lessons you have learned over the course of your life?

I learned that it is important to keep your mind and body active. If you stop, you will die. Your family is your best gift in life. Take care of each other. You see, blood is thicker than water.

6. What is your advice to the younger generation about life and living their lives to the full? What would be your advice to your younger self?

The best advice I can give is to study hard and get a good education. Help your parents when they get older.

My younger self? I am still young so I do not think I am old. It is only my aches and pains that remind me that I am old.

7. What is one major principle/value that you hold on to or live by?

My living motto- Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.

8. What keeps you going?

My children, grandchildren and great grandchildren give me a reason to live. I went to my granddaughter's wedding when I was 92 and her daughter's one-year birthday last month. Of course, I have beautiful people who take good care of me too.

9. Is there anything you wanted to do that you never got to do?

I am lucky to have travelled the world, enjoyed a good life, and did everything I wanted to do. There is no such word as "impossible." If you want something, you can make it happen.

10. Are you still hoping to

reach 100 years old? Why or why not?

No, I do not want to reach 100 because I do not want to be a burden to anybody.

Mamang has truly been blessed to live more than nine decades. She is an inspiration to many, especially to her family and the families she has helped when she was younger. She is truly an epitome of grace and strength, a wonderful story of longevity. Here's to more beautiful years ahead, Mamang!

According to the book of Proverbs, "The glory of young men is their strength, gray hair the splendor of the old". Truly, with age comes wisdom and gray hair, a crown of splendor. Not everyone will have the chance to live almost a century like 'Mamang,' but everyone is given the chance to lead their lives to the full that is not dependent on the number of years lived. Whether we live only until three, 30 or 30 times 3, as long as we enjoy what we do, we serve and love others as we love ourselves and be loved by friends and family, living each day as if it's the last; our life is a story worth telling.

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CANDID PERSPECTIVES



By Emil Guillermo

The Senate Slows Down Brett Kavanaugh's Bum-Rush of the High Court

It's all optics in the politics of showbiz.

What does it look like? Do you have cover?

Sen. Jeff Flake didn't. Not when he walked into an elevator on Friday.

The soon to be retired Republican senator from Arizona, who also wants to be president someday, realized his announced vote for Brett Kavanaugh had to come with conditions.

A protestor who cornered him in the elevator acted as his conscience.

"You are allowing someone who actually violated a woman to sit on the Supreme Court, this is not tolerable," a female protestor harangued Flake as he stood in the elevator. Caught on video tape, Flake might have realized, he could do the nation a favor. His vote on the Judiciary Committee was the margin of victory to pass Brett Kavanaugh to the next step in the process.

He simply moved to make his Kavanaugh vote conditioned on a "limited" FBI investigation that would run a week.

Senator Mazie Hirono told CNN she wants to see a copy of the final report when it's done and expects that all three women who've come forward against Kavanaugh be questioned.

And, of course, she wants to hear details about Kavanaugh's drinking. "What kind of parties did he go to. And clearly Mark Judge (said to be an eyewitness) needs to be questioned very carefully," Hirono said.

It seemed that all the nation wanted more information after that emotional hearing Thursday.

THE HEARING

Dr. Christine Blasey Ford had me at "I'm terrified."

She read it in her opening statement. But it was also

noted by Rachel Mitchell, the Maricopa County attorney who was hired by the Republican males of the Senate Judiciary Committee to be their prophylactic device.

They didn't like looks of a white men picking apart a woman like Blasey Ford, so they hired a woman, Mitchell—to be their human shield.

But Mitchell was too sensitive to do the GOP's dirty work like some robot.

"I just wanted to tell you the first thing that struck me from your opening statement this morning is that you were terrified," Mitchell said to Blasey Ford with great empathy. "And I just wanted to let you know I'm very sorry, that's not right."

If only the Republicans of the Judiciary Committee had engaged Ford as directly, or simply showed her the respect she deserved. But they were only interested in covering their own political butts. They weren't interested in Blasey Ford's well-being, in getting at the truth, or even in making sure the best person gets put on the highest court of the land.

It got so bad watching the hearings, during the breaks, I was vehemently punching and kicking my martial arts dummy known as BOB (Body Opponent Bag).

BOB knows I'm plenty alpha male enough, but I'm definitely more beta. As Sen. Mazie Hirono might say, I'm probably a more "enlightened male" than not. But that's only because as an Asian American male, I know what it feels like to be belittled, ignored, or made to act deferential.

Just like a woman.

I know I have my "man card" somewhere, but as an Asian American male, there's been an historical pattern in America to face a kind of discrimination that finds you feminized, infantilized and emasculated.

It takes courage to rise up against that.

And that's a big reason I believed everything Blasey Ford said.

Especially when she was asked how certain she was that Brett Kavanaugh was her assailant.

"100 percent," Blasey Ford said.

There's no mistaken identity. She remembered the telling detail, and the "uproarious laughter."

Remember, it's not a court. It's a hearing. A job interview. Feelings are as important as facts.

With that, there was only one way Kavanaugh could wrest away Blasey Ford's momentum—to out-victim her.

Kavanaugh came out swinging like a white male besmirched. It was white Clarence Thomas and the suburban Maryland version of high-tech lynching. He didn't blast away at Blasey Ford's story. Instead, he defended his reputation! His good name! He'll never get to coach little kids again! When Kavanaugh wanted emotion, his kids were the go to (praying for the woman?)

Such Kav-agony.

So why didn't he jump at the opportunity when offered to protect his name by agreeing to an FBI investigation? His answer, implying that the FBI just provided paperwork, was misleading. Even if the FBI doesn't make a determination, it finds the relevant facts.

And if the whole truth and nothing but the truth were really the goal, why not subpoena Mark Judge, the other person said to be in the room with Kavanaugh and Blasey Ford? Have Judge questioned live under oath.

PARTISAN PLAY

It's a strange process, these judicial hearings. Just a job interview, not a trial? Maybe that's why the Republicans want to rush things through. They got their man. Why bother with a woman's details?

Meanwhile, Kavanaugh's partisan pettiness was on full display, villainizing Sen. Feinstein for slow-playing the Blasey Ford card until the last minute. There could have been

an FBI investigation, he says, though he doesn't want one now. Kavanaugh talked about some left-wing conspiracy like the former political operative he was. And then he went snotty and arrogant when asked about his excessive drinking, answering Sen. Amy Klobuchar and others with mocking questions about their own drinking habits.

Is this man supreme worthy?

One can easily imagine Kavanaugh as a nasty preppy, an entitled drunk, fully capable of doing everything Blasey Ford alleges.

So someone is lying under oath.

And it's probably Kavanaugh.

He has too much to lose. And everything to gain.

TRUMPY POLITICS

Kavanaugh was clearly playing to Trump, showing the president he can spot Blasey Ford the lead and come back in the last quarter.

And when Kavanaugh's smarminess failed, he had the Nouveau Trumpy Lindsay Graham to pick him up and defend him.

"If you wanted an FBI investigation, you could have come to us," Graham said to

his Democratic colleagues histrionically. "What you want to do is destroy this man's life, hold this seat open and hope you win in 2020."

"You got nothing to apologize for," Graham said to Kavanaugh. "And when you see Sotomayor and Kagan, tell them that Lindsay said hello, cause I voted for them."

It was a throwback to the days before Supreme Court picks got so partisan, when Republicans voted for Democrats and vice versa.

"I would never do to them what you've done to this guy," Graham said, directing his words to Democrats. "This is the most unethical sham since I've been in politics. And if you really wanted to know the truth, you sure as hell wouldn't have done what you've done to this guy."

Of course, Graham conveniently forgot how the Republicans left a seat open for more than three months and didn't even give Obama's SCOTUS pick, Merrick Garland, a hearing.

Now that was a sham. And then Mitch McConnell rigged the rules and went nuclear so that Gorsuch could get on the bench.

But this is the real Graham, now that his good friend and former conscience Sen.

(continue on page 12)



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WHAT'S UP, ATTORNEY?

(from page 10)

portedly accused Kavanaugh of “exposing himself at a dormitory party and “thrusting his penis” in her face”. She acknowledged “she had been drinking that night and had gaps in her memory”. <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2018/09/24/brett-kavanaugh-deborah-ramirez-what-we-know/1408056002/>; <https://www.cnn.com/2018/09/26/politics/who-is-deborah-ramirez/index.html>

If she testifies, an effective cross-examiner should be able to quickly destroy her story. How did Kavanaugh’s private part look like – mushroom, banana, etc. If she gives a specific description, a physical examination of Kavanaugh should be conducted to determine if his private part jibes with her description

She might feign loss of memory. That will give the cross-examiner an opening to ask: What else don’t you remember? How come you

remember this and don’t remember that. You must have a selective memory. There are a thousand questions that can be asked to discredit a fake sexual assault victim.

When I was at Yale Law School, I never saw a female law student get drunk like this Puerto Rican. Que horror. Sin verguena.

WHY DEMONCRATS ARE AGAINST KAVANAUGH

Demoncrats are hell-bent in preventing Kavanaugh from being confirmed as a Justice of the Supreme Court because:

(1) The attack against Kavanaugh gives the Democrats or Demoncrats an opportunity “to retaliate” against the Republicans who denied their Supreme Court candidate a hearing during the Obama administration when Republicans were in control of the Senate, according to USA Today,

an anti-Trump newspaper.

(2) They want a woman to become the next Justice of the Supreme Court, believing that a woman will always be a liberal and do their bidding.

(3) They fear that a Justice Kavanaugh might vote to overturn Roe v. Wade, 410 U.S. 113 (1973) which held that there is a right of privacy under the due process clause of the 14th amendment to the constitution which includes a woman’s decision to have an abortion. Kavanaugh already said that Roe is an “important precedent” of the Supreme Court which has been reaffirmed many times. [Although I personally believe that a woman ought to be able to do what she wants with her own body (including having an abortion) without government interference, there is no constitutional right to abortion.] If anyone can show a specific clause in

the Constitution saying that a “woman has a right to abortion,” I will eat the constitution, with sugar and spice. But if my challenger fails or refuses to show a specific clause in the Constitution saying that a “woman has a right to abortion,” my challenger must kiss the ass of his favorite Demoncrat senator.

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.

CANDID PERSPECTIVES ; THE SENATE...from page 11)

John McCain has died.

He then threw Kavanaugh a softball.

“Are you a gang rapist?”

“No,” said Kavanaugh.

That was about as ugly as it got.

Later, I was surprised to hear people who like Trump love Kavanaugh’s antagonism.

Why? He acted like a man, aggressive and snotty. Just like Trump.

Blasey Ford? She acted like a woman who had been assaulted, then forced to relive it in front of Republican senators who hid behind their prophylactic.

Going forward, the best thing would be to delay and get at the truth, including the claims of at least two other women.

The bum-rush of Kavanaugh on to the court may still be on.

Flake put on the brake. There will be an investigation.

But look at what he really did.

Flake’s motion conveniently provides cover for all the senators on the fence to vote for Kavanaugh. “See, we did an FBI investigation and he’s good,” they can say. “We did our jobs!”

In other words, it may slow but not stop, a man who has shown me and a good deal of the nation, that he is not fit to serve as a justice in the highest court in America.

Just on the merits of his past rulings, Kavanaugh is not my guy. But the Blasey Ford allegations, and the two other women accusers deserve to have the facts determined by an independent body like the FBI.

Let’s hope the FBI takes pride as it looks into Kavanaugh.

The American people deserve a judge who won’t be seen as a Trump lapdog.

EMIL GUILLERMO is a veteran journalist and commentator. He was a member of the Honolulu Advertiser editorial board. Listen to him on Apple Podcasts. Twitter @emilamok.

CROSSWORD No. 17

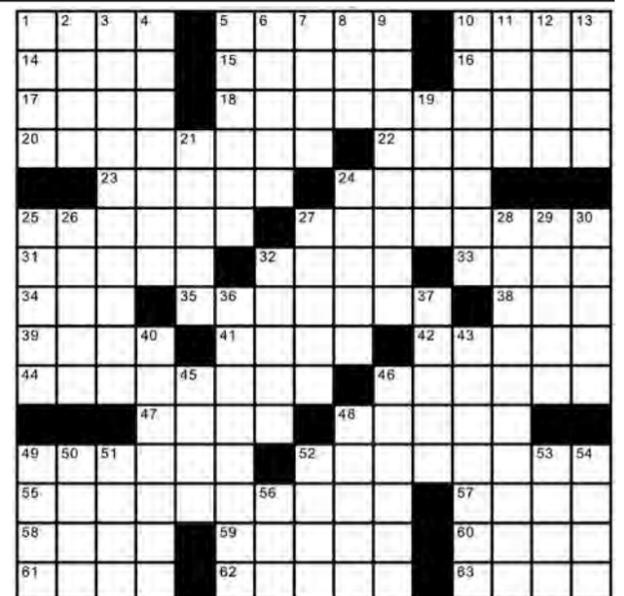
by Carlito Lalicon

ACROSS

1. Former Senator Gaerlan
5. Handle the food for a party
10. Exclamation of grief
14. Former copper coin of India
15. Be crazy about
16. City in Bicol
17. Bad day for Caesar
18. Encroachment
20. Revealing
22. Make a comeback
23. Arabic for “commander”
25. Mend
26. Heavy rain
30. One-dimensional
34. On that
35. Chief solid component of mammalian urine
37. Paper-like cloth
38. On, as a lamp
39. Province in Cagayan Valley
41. Crumb
42. Earthy pigment
44. Euros replaced them
45. Mine entrance
46. Staggered
48. By divine means

DOWN

1. Prison
2. Annul
3. Again
4. Emerging
5. Guarded
6. Infomercials, e.g.
7. Hit the road
8. Blew it
9. Lift
10. Feeler
11. Animal house
12. Eager
13. Not crazy
19. Water of life (Hinduism)
21. Person in a mask
24. Bucolic
26. Grief
27. Chilled
28. Strong flexible twig
29. Bid again



50. Small buffalo
52. Mysterious: Var.
53. Clink
57. A, B or C
61. Sloping downward away from a common crest
63. Bit
64. Sometime today, say
65. Beyond’s partner
66. Short skirt
67. Catch
68. Angry, with “up”
69. Enthusiasm

31. Lyric poem
32. Fourth in a series
33. Threadbare
36. Cliffside dwelling
39. Conciliatory
40. Evened out
43. Exhilarating
45. Whenever
47. Basic monetary unit in many countries; equal to 100 cents
49. Anger
51. Accused’s need
53. Low in pitch
54. Soon, to a bard
55. Ancient colonnade
56. Carbon compound
58. Drudgery
59. Europe’s highest volcano
60. Drops from the sky
62. Hail, to Caesar

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

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LEGAL NOTES



By Atty. Reuben S. Seguritan

DHS Plans to Penalize Immigrants Using Public Benefits

Noncitizen immigrants are entitled to certain government public assistance programs. Examples of these are public benefits from the Social Security Insurance (SSI), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Other public assistance may come in the form of a housing subsidy, transportation subsidy and Medicaid for health care.

The Trump Administration has recently announced plans to adopt a rule which states that noncitizens in the US, whether

legal or illegal immigrants, can be denied green cards and US citizenship if they have used any public assistance program or benefit in the past. If the rule is approved, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) can deny applications for permanent residence and citizenship and deem the applicant inadmissible on the ground that the applicant is or likely to become a public charge. The rule adds that it would only apply to individuals who utilized public programs on or after the date the rule becomes effective.

According to the USCIS, public charge means "an individual who is likely to become primarily dependent on the government for subsistence, as demonstrated by either the receipt of public cash assistance for income maintenance or institutionalization for

long-term care at government expense."

A number of factors must be considered when making a determination that a person is likely to become a public charge. These factors are the applicant's age, health, family status, assets, resources and financial status, education, skills and the Affidavit of Support included in the application.

Under the current law, the denial of the application on the finding of likelihood of becoming a public charge does not apply to applicants for naturalization and VAWA (Violence Against Women Act) self-petitioners and their dependent children. Short-term institutionalization for rehabilitation is also not subject to public charge consideration under existing field guidelines.

The proposed rule is redefining and expanding the definition of the term "public charge" in order for more immigrants, both legal and illegal to be found inadmissible and therefore cannot be granted green cards and citizenship. The mere fact that an immigrant has utilized any public assistance program could be a ground for denial of his application. The government justified this proposed rule by stating that immigrants are draining the American taxpayer's money and at the same time immigrants are not working and contributing to society. Immigrants have been painted by the administration as people who do not work and use public funds for all of their needs and hence make the taxes go higher for the working Americans. For the immigrants who do work, they are accused of taking away jobs from Americans and making wages lower for Americans because immigrants are willing to accept lower wages. The government also stated that this proposed rule shows how careful and thoughtful it is in spending the taxpayer's money. This rule also aims to prevent the fraud that immigrants have allegedly perpetrated for years by not working and availing of public benefit programs.

There are studies which show that increased legal immigration has led to higher wages, increased productivity and lowered the prices of some goods and services. However, it is unlikely that the Administration and its conservative supporters would believe in these studies. In fact a Homeland Security Department official has said that more than half of all immigrant households have used and continue to use one or more welfare programs. This clearly shows that the Trump administration considers providing benefits to immigrants as a bane to the US and a drain to the economy.

The news of this change is consistent with the Trump administration's anti-immigrants campaign. The administration is determined to revoke as many applications as possible and prevent immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers and workers from entering and staying in the US. This rule has the effect of making immigrants not avail of public programs which they may be entitled to out of fear that they might be denied green cards and citizenship in the future.

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

Hawaii Fights DOJ's Reversal of Immigrant Policy Protecting Asylum Seekers

Hawaii Attorney General Russell A. Suzuki joined a group of 18 state attorneys general to stop the Trump Administration from arbitrarily blocking immigrants who seek asylum from domestic violence or gang terrorism in their home countries. In a friend-of-the-court brief filed in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, Attorney General Suzuki and his counterparts argue that the Trump Administration ignored decades of federal law and policy designed to protect asylum-seekers who are persecuted in their home countries because of their gender, ethnicity, or other key personal characteristics.

"This administration's cruel policy arbitrarily closes our borders to refugees who seek asylum due to legitimate fears of violence in their home countries," said District of Columbia Attorney General Karl A. Racine. "This policy ignores de-

cadecades of state, federal, and international law. We agree with the plaintiffs and are standing up for victims who are fleeing persecution."

"We stand firmly with our colleagues for protecting asylum-seekers fleeing persecution," said Attorney General Suzuki.

The District and partner states filed a friend-of-the-court brief today in *Grace v. Sessions* (Civil Action No. 18-1853 [EGS]). The plaintiffs include predominantly women and children from Central America who sought asylum in the United States from domestic violence and violent persecution by gangs in their home countries.

However, in June, U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions issued a decision in *Matter of A-B-27 I&N Dec. 316* (A.G. 2018), which reversed the federal Board of Immigration Appeals' grant of asylum to an El Salvadoran woman who was brutalized by her husband. The decision changed federal policy to state that, in general "claims

by aliens pertaining to domestic violence or gang violence perpetrated by non-governmental actors will not qualify for asylum." It also raised the standard that asylum applicants must meet when claiming persecution by a non-governmental actor.

The brief argues that the Trump Administration's policy reversal is harmful because: 1) Domestic and gang-related violence victims deserve U.S. protection. 2) Women and children predominately suffer from domestic violence. 3) Limiting immigration hurts states.

In August, the American Civil Liberties Union and the Center for Gender and Refugee Studies filed suit to block the new policy from taking effect.

While federal law requires that asylum claims be decided on a case-by-case basis, Attorney General Session's decision in *Matter of A-B-* unlawfully creates a presumption that victims of domestic and gang-related violence are likely to not receive asylum.





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Hawaii Receives \$8 Million to Fight Opioid Misuse

Hawaii will get a boost from the federal government to combat opioid addiction. The Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH) has received an \$8 million federal grant over a two-year period to continue to combat opioid misuse in the state. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) last week announced it awarded more than \$1 billion in opioid-specific grants to help states combat the crisis in the nation.

"No state is immune from this public health issue," said Dr. Bruce Anderson, director of the Hawai'i Department of Health. "This grant provides another

step in a positive direction for Hawaii to implement HHS' comprehensive five-pronged strategy to address opioid misuse across our islands."

Hawai'i's opioid death rates have historically been lower than the national rate. In 2016, there were 77 opioid-related overdose deaths in Hawai'i—a rate of 5.2 deaths per 100,000 persons. This is less than half the national rate of 13.3 deaths per 100,000 persons.

"We should not look at these figures and let our guard down; we must continue the momentum that we have begun in Hawai'i," warned Edward Mersereau, chief of DOH's Alcohol



and Drug Abuse Division. "In Hawai'i, drug overdose deaths account for nearly a quarter of all fatal injuries, which include deaths from prescription opioids."

"In Hawai'i, we all know a relative or friend who has been affected by drug misuse or addiction, including those who were taking a pre-

scribed opioid as directed for pain relief," Mersereau added. "The social, economic and health disparities in our state, including access to behavioral health care, also make us particularly vulnerable to opioid and other drug misuse."

This is a second round of federal funding for Hawai'i.

The health department received a \$4 million Opioid State Targeted Response (STR) grant, which was part of a program created by the 21st Century Cures Act. The grant program is administered by SAMHSA within HHS.

According to a survey conducted by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), which is a part of HHS, Americans initiating heroin use dropped by around half from 2016 to 2017. The number of Americans misusing opioids also dropped for the second year in a row, and the number receiving specialty treatment for heroin use increased.

DBEDT Awarded \$450,000 from SBA

Hawaii Companies Showcased at Tokyo International Gift Show

The U.S. Small Business Administration announced an award of \$450,000 to continue the Hawaii State Trade Export Program (HiSTEP). Under the tag "Buy Hawaii, Give Aloha," this program pro-

vides training, grants and tradeshows for companies looking to start exporting or increase their exports.

"With the help of this program, we've seen our export of Hawaii-made products increase substantially

overseas," said DBEDT Director Luis P. Salaveria. "The Hawaii brand continues to be iconic. We have significantly increased Hawaii-made products, especially in Japan where we have participated in several

high-profile events."

An example of the effectiveness of the HiSTEP program, 80 companies just completed participating in the 2018 Tokyo International Gift Show (TIGS). This year marked the seventh consecutive year that DBEDT organized a Hawaii Pavilion at TIGS, which was held September

4 - 7, 2018, at the Tokyo International Exhibition Center (Tokyo Big Sight).

This year, DBEDT recruited 80 Hawaii companies to fill 38 booths and a café section, which made up the Hawaii Pavilion. In addition, show organizers awarded DBEDT's Hawaii Pavilion with the Best in Show award.

((Sagot sa Krosword Blg. 16 | September 22, 2018))

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FILIPINO WOMEN'S CIVIC CLUB FOUNDATION (FWC-CF) 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

ANNUAL MISS KIMONA BALL AND FBWA BUSINESS WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS | OCTOBER 27, 2018 | 6:00 PM | Ala Moana Hotel Hibiscus Ballroom | For more information, Elsa Talavera 358-8964, Charmen Valdez 428-4159, Adela Salacup 723-4639

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GLOBAL NEWS

Filipino Group Reaffirms Commitment to Fight for Preserving Philippine Territory

S AIPAN—The National Youth Movement for West Philippine Sea (NYMWPS) celebrated its 3rd anniversary and reaffirmed their commitment to fighting for the preservation of Philippine sovereignty in the controversial territory.

“We realized that our struggle is real - at times, daunting - but we will not falter,” says Dr. Celia Lamkin, NYMWPS founder and global chairperson. “We know that our advocacy is a Herculean task but the people we are fighting this for is more than the inspiration we need to get going and not easily give up,” she added.

Volunteerism and advocacies

The global movement which prides itself of volunteer-members across the globe has been actively campaigning in social media for the preservation of the Philippine territory after the UN tribunal in July 2016 rejected Beijing’s historic claims to

most of the South China Sea, acting on the case brought by former President Benigno Aquino III.

On the side, the group has been lending support to the fishermen in the areas where livelihood and ways of life have been severely affected by the territorial bullying of the Chinese aggressors. Fishermen – mostly small-scale fishers, are still not allowed to fish in the seas of West Philippine Sea while big Chinese fishing boats are spotted to be getting the bigger share of the rich marine resources. “In our own little way, we have managed to alleviate the hardships of our fishermen by conducting medical missions and giving support to livelihood,” shared Dr. Lamkin.

Finding allies to help advance the cause

With the reported militariza-

tion by China of the area, NYMWPS on September 5, 2017 had an audience with Philippines Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana and presented the group’s collective concern in regards to territorial sovereignty.

In that meeting, Lorenzana shared the development plan for Pag-asa Island in Palawan – a plan largely welcomed by the group. Pag-asa, the second largest naturally occurring island in the Spratlys archipelago, is the sole village of Kalayaan town in Palawan. It is also claimed by China but is under Philippine control and is home to some 340 people.

“This is what NYMWPS expects the government to do – cement the Philippines’ national sovereignty and jurisdiction in the areas which are rightfully ours,” according to Dr. Lamkin, speaking on behalf of the group.

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

State House of Representatives Hiring Staff

The House of Representatives is accepting applications for the 2019 Legislative Session. About 200 positions are available for work in offices of individual lawmakers and in support agencies.

The House welcomes a diverse cross section of applicants from freshly graduated college students to retirees who want to learn more about the legislative process, public service and administration. Session staff positions are temporary and generally run from December/January to the first week in May. Minimum requirements are required for each job. Medical, den-

tal, vision and drug plans are available.

Recruiters will be at job fairs at Chaminade, UH Manoa and UH West Oahu campuses:

Oct. 3, 2018, Chaminade University
 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Oct. 9, 2018, UH Manoa 10 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Oct. 10, 2018, UH West Oahu 10 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Applications are also being accepted on line. To apply and for more information on position descriptions and requirements go to: <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hjobs.aspx>.

Financial Donations Being Accepted for Victims of Typhoon Ompong

The Philippine Consulate General in Honolulu informs Hawaii’s Filipino community that financial donations can be deposited directly to the following bank account without coursing them through the Consulate: Federal Reserve Bank

of New York, New York (FRNY-US33) or Favor Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, Manila (PHCBPHMM) A/C 021085295.

Donations such as goods, supplies, food or clothing are not accepted by the Consulate General.

At the moment, there is no call for international assistance. The Philippine Consulate General cautions the Filipino community to donate only to bona fide organizations.

For more information, call 808-595-6316.

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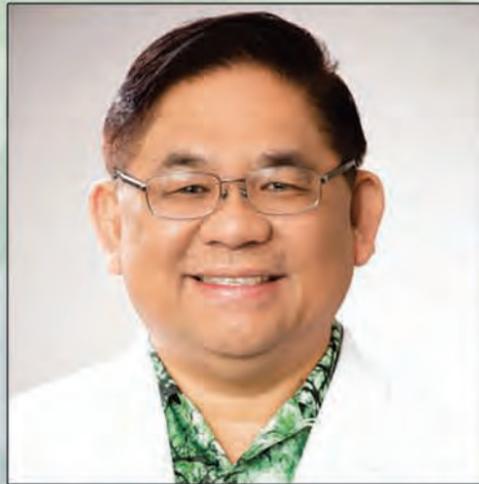
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