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◆ MAY 18, 2019 ◆

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EDITORIALS

Immigrant Success Stories Remind Us How Valuable Immigrants Are to Our Communities

Traveling to a foreign country is always an eye-opening experience. Travelers can't help but to compare how their foreign destinations differ from their own home country: the variations in climate, architecture, air quality, noise, modes of transportation, nightlife, leisure activities, culture, shopping, and most importantly, the way people live.

But immigrants say going to a foreign place is far different than what it is like to actually live in a foreign country because visitors know that their experience abroad is only temporary. Immigrants who've grown up in impoverished communities, for example, see poverty in a completely different set of lenses, having believed from childhood that their situation is most likely permanent, permanent hardship that cannot be simply escaped by hopping on a plane.

This stark reality often, as immigrants say, is what ignites the fire in their belly to succeed when they finally arrive to the U.S. where greater opportunities exist. This could also explain why immigrant children excel in schools; why immigrants as adults often work harder than their American-born counterparts who had grown up living more comfortable lives.

Jade Butay, the first Filipino-American to be Director of the Hawaii Department of Transportation, explained his immigrant experience this way: "In hindsight, I can see that immigrating to the United States during the end of sixth grade in elementary school accelerated my maturity and gave me a broader awareness of the world.

"Being an immigrant helped me understand the importance of taking nothing for granted. My experience as an immigrant dramatically shaped me and provided me with a different perspective than my friends. I couldn't have articulated it then, but looking back I recognize that I had a bigger picture orientation and felt an acute sense of responsibility," he said.

Butay said growing up in the Philippines instilled a "hunger inside of him, a desire to succeed."

Like many immigrants, his life story is punctuated with hard work, ambition, and accomplishment – starting as Butay, the student, excelling in high school taking AP courses (during a time when only a very select few could do), to his college years at UH-Manoa and later Babson College (one of the elite schools in the nation), and ultimately his climb to the upper ranks of state government, to Director of one of the most powerful departments in the state.

Butay's immigrant story is an illuminating reminder that immigrants have enormous potential to contribute to our communities, our state and nation. Stories like his is refreshing to hear and important to be told at this time in particular when xenophobia is at an all-time high and immigrants face harsh discrimination in many parts of the nation.

In many ways, Hawaii's multi-diverse culture is conducive for immigrants to flourish, especially for Asian American immigrants who see their home country's culture perpetuated, celebrated and respected in our state. The contrast from their home country is not too stark from Hawaii; compared to having to settle in other parts of the U.S. where immigrants report feeling alienated, and often undergo maladaptive transitions that ultimately affect their ability to thrive.

Hawaii is a great example for the rest of the nation in the warm way residents here welcome immigrants and openly em-

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Everybody loves a success story. At a time when immigrants are negatively mischaracterized for political reasons, it's particularly inspirational and refreshing to read about successful immigrants who are making great contributions to our communities.

One such individual is Jade Butay, the first Filipino-American to be Director of the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT). Butay was appointed to lead the HDOT by Governor David Ige and confirmed for this position by the Hawaii Senate on March 2 this year. But, as associate editor Edwin Quinabo writes in this issue's cover story on Butay, he is not new to the DOT and served as its former Deputy Director.

In the cover story, Butay shares his early childhood experiences growing up in a rural northern Philippines town which gave him, as what he says, a "broader awareness of the world" and "hunger inside" of him to succeed. Today, Butay is among the state's most well-known experts in his field. Besides his heavily-loaded responsibilities at the HDOT, he sits on several boards of directors to some of the most powerful organizations from the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation to the Hawaii Community Development Authority. Many who know Butay, including Gov. Ige, will say what stands out about Jade is his down-to-earth attitude despite being highly credentialed and highly accomplished. We wish Mr. Butay much success in his very important role in leading the HDOT.

Also in this issue, Carl Bergquist, executive director of the Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii (DPFH) contributes an opinion article encouraging Gov. Ige to sign a bill passed by the State Legislature that would change the guidelines of asset forfeiture. Currently, a person's property can be seized and sold without a criminal conviction or even a criminal charge. The new bill would require a felony conviction before property is forfeited to the government which would, as Bergquist says, "dilute the policing for profit" incentive for law enforcement.

In our columns section, HFC's Elpidio Estioko writes about the University of the Philippines Alumni Association of Hawaii's participation in the recent 27th Annual Filipino Fiesta and 7th Flores de Mayo. UPAA-H built a Bahay Kubo (bamboo hut) and re-enacted the Sabong (backyard cockfight) at their cultural booth to give fiesta-goers an idea of rural life in the Philippines.

Be sure to get the latest in our news sections, including an article on the Trump administration's recent filing in federal court challenging the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Data shows under the ACA, the Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) community's rate of uninsured dropped dramatically from 16 to 6.8 percent. Experts say striking down ACA could leave many AAPIs uninsured, once again.

In this issue, we also have a special Philippine Election 2019 Coverage that includes election results, articles on vote buying, the continued stronghold of the Marcoses in Ilocos Norte, and election glitches. The Commission on Elections will confirm the results in a few days, but unofficial counts show President Rodrigo Duterte's allies will win potentially all of the 12 senate seats up for grab in this midterm.

Lastly, in observance of the HFC's 25th Anniversary, we are awarding a Hawaii Filipino Chronicle Journalism Scholarship to a Journalism or Mass Media Major student of Filipino heritage who is enrolled full-time in a four-year college in Hawaii this semester. The scholarship is for \$2,500. Applications are being accepted between May 20 to June 10, 2019. Visit www.thefilipinochronicle.com or see our ad in this issue.

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



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Chona A. Montesines-Sonido

EDITORIALS

Conventional Retail Is Dying; Should We Be Concerned?

Universal health-care, climate change, economic security, wage increase, job creation, affordable education, protecting voting rights, protecting Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, immigration reform, civil rights – these are all popular, pressing issues and talking points for most major presidential candidates for 2020.

One issue deserving of greater attention that only one presidential candidate -- Asian-American and businessman Andrew Yang – has been raising as a singular concern is automation and internet consumerism and their impact on the retail industry.

Similar to how the demise of manufacturing has punched a big hole in the nation's economy that has left millions of Americans jobless in many Midwestern states (that actually led to Donald Trump being elected), Yang foresees an even greater crisis ahead in retail jobs losses.

The retail industry is much larger and not relegated to regional economies as manufacturing so the decline in this economic sector could be far more devastating.

The U.S. retail industry employs 15.9 million workers, who represent one in nine American jobs. And already signs of major changes are happening for all to see.

Decline of the retail industry

Increasingly more Americans are shopping online. It used to be that this new consumer trend affected only low-tech products (books, CDs, DVDs) and led to closures of book and music stores. But online shopping has expanded to where consumers are buying almost anything and everything on-

line from furniture, clothes to even food – basic goods and essentials for daily living. Even cars can now be purchased online and transported to the buyer's home.

The result is far more diverse retail stores are closing shop.

Dismal earnings have already led to retailers scaling down in big ways. In just 2019 alone, retail industry stalwarts have announced store closures: Pier 1 (45 stores to close this year; last year it closed 30); Gap Inc. (230 to close in the next two years), Victoria Secret (53 this year), Payless ShoeSource (filed for bankruptcy to close all 2,500 stores), Family Dollar (390).

Already, 4,810 retail stores have been announced to close in 2019.

In 2018, 4,000 American stores closed: Toys"R"Us (all stores), Best Buy Mobile (all stores), Sam's Club (63, a whopping 11% of all its stores), Abercrombie and Fitch (60 stores), Foot Locker (110), Sears and Kmart (103).

In 2017, 8,139 retail stores closed.

E-commerce (internet sales) already is expected to reach 15 percent of all retail sales by 2020. M-commerce (or mobile internet purchasing) could even spike this percentage in the future.

The closure of smaller retail and specialty shops have already been happening for decades. It used to be that big retail box stores replaced small sole-proprietor retail shops. Now the big giants are being replaced by yet an even bigger consumer marketplace – the internet.

Besides the internet, new technologies and automation could deal another blow to not just retail, but restaurants and even call centers. Already some restaurants have automated machines

(e.g. McDonalds); and many functions of call centers (e.g. credit card payment) are automated. And banking automation is not just relegated to standing machines outside of banks today. There are small automated machines at teller stations that expedite transactions.

What all this amounts to is a revolutionary change in conventional retail and services that will only be downsized even further. That means less jobs for Americans.

Plans for the future

Retail companies' attempts to drive costs down such as cutting prices, cutting down on labor and cutting employee benefits could slow down closures.

But similar cuts to overhead costs ultimately did not save the nation's manufacturing industry (e.g. robotics' double-edged sword).

Also, at what cost

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that requires even less labor?"

There are no easy answers. Yang proposes an annual stipend to all Americans to help transition them to this new futuristic economy that no one really knows where it will take us. His plan is doubtful to pass; so is his chances to get elected.

At the very least, Yang has brought up an issue -- retail's shrinking that is largely under the radar to the electorate -- that certainly deserves more planning unlike the course of inaction

that led to manufacturing's doom.

Trump's protectionist trade policies is too little, too late for manufacturing. Earlier attempts to bolster manufacturing have failed due to a lack of political will and preference for the free market to work itself out.

Americans are on the same path leaving conventional retail industry to work itself out in the free market. Could Americans yet again be watching another train wreck in slow-motion and do nothing to prevent it?

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(EDITORIALS: IMMIGRANT...from page 2)

brace their uniqueness. This spirit of aloha is what truly makes Hawaii a special place to live.

A big mahalo to Butay for being an outstanding citizen, role model, and leader in making our state's transportation operate efficiently on

a day-to-day basis. It's an enormous responsibility. A big mahalo should also be extended to Butay for being a proud immigrant who gives back to his community. We congratulate Jade for his appointment and confirmation as Director of the HDOT and wish him continued success.

Jade Butay: Moving Hawaii Forward at the HDOT

By Edwin Quinabo

S

ome journeys are epic climbs. Some life stories -- inspiration.

Jade Tabios Butay's rise from immigrant, humble beginnings to being one of the state government's most influential insiders working as Director of the powerful Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) reads like a classic success story.

Butay recalls spending his early childhood in San Nicolas, Ilocos Norte Philippines where he rode carabaos and saw goats roam the small town. He hunted down mushrooms and bamboo shoots -- typical adventures of youths in the neighborhood who normally would end up living simple farming lives later in their adulthood.

But destiny revealed a wildcard for Butay.

"San Nicolas taught me the virtue of hard work and dreaming big and it is one of the reasons for where I am now today. It shaped my childhood and built my character. Growing up in the Philippines instilled a hunger inside of me, a desire to succeed," said Butay.

Thousands of miles away and decades later in Hawaii, a smart, hard-working, ambitious Butay today sits at the helm of the HDOT overseeing, managing, and maintaining 15 airports, 10 commercial harbors, and more than 2,500 miles of highways.

Butay leads a team of about 2,600 employees; but the scope of his responsibilities go well beyond that as he works to ensure safe and efficient transportation for the entire state.

Only a few people can say their work touches every Hawaii resident, every visitor, every job, every day. Butay's role at the HDOT is just that, all-encompassing.

"When I wake up the question I ask is, 'What's the most important thing I must do today?' I'm very cognizant how all types of incidents have a transportation impact. Downed electric poles, water main breaks, high surf, hostage situation, canceled flights, etc. HDOT works quietly, day in and day out,

across the state responding to many types of incidents that do not get media attention.

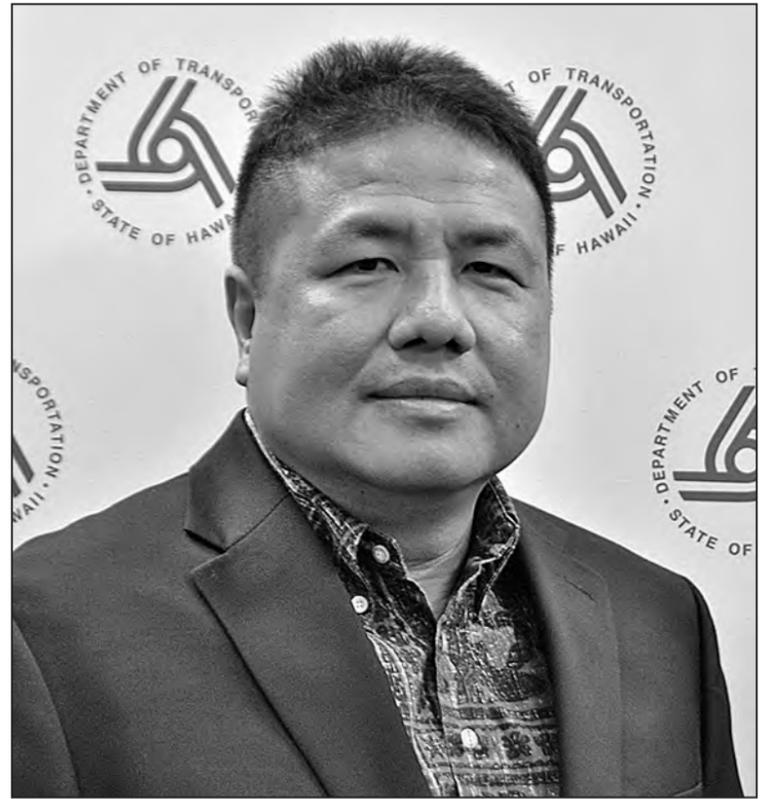
"Our job is to keep Hawaii moving. Having said that, before going to sleep, I often try as possible to visualize working in concert with many other federal, state, and county agencies, who are critical partners," said Butay.

As chief executive of the Department, Jade collaborates with major stakeholders and partners that include the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transportation Security Administration (TSA), Federal Highways Administration (FHWA), Maritime Administration (MARAD), United States Coast Guard (USCG), United States Customs & Border Protection (CBP),

the State Legislature, County Mayors, and numerous airline, harbor and highway user organizations, among many others, on behalf of the state.

Butay says the HDOT is a very dynamic organization and always changing. He likens the Department's daily operation with life: "Things don't always happen sequentially. It happens all at once. Every day is different. No meeting or situation is ever the same. Sometimes decisions, many with long-term consequences, have to be made based on previous knowledge and calculated risks, with great uncertainty as to their outcomes, but using your best judgment," said Butay.

Outside of the HDOT, Jade extends his expertise sit-



HDOT Director Jade Butay

ting on the board of directors to some of the most influential organizations like the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART), Board of Water Supply, Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA), Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO), State Emergency Response Commission, and Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee (EM-SAC), to name a few.

Governor David Ige said, "Jade's hard work, dedication and passion for his mission have produced incredible results. Of all of his credentials and accomplishments, the thing that stands out for me the most is just how down to earth he is. Jade is a capable leader who is helping to move Hawaii's transportation network forward for the benefit of the people in our state."

Senate Confirmation

Under the leadership of fellow Filipino-American Senator Lorraine Inouye, chair of the Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy, the Hawaii Senate confirmed Butay to HDOT director on March 2 this year.

Former Governor Neil Abercrombie wrote a testimony in favor of Butay's appointment.

Abercrombie said, "(in my testimony) I spoke of my confidence in him in terms of

servicing the people of Hawaii and their transportation needs. I said he sets the standard for all he undertakes.

"Since being confirmed as Director of the Department of Transportation he has made my prediction of his success as a leader come true in every respect. With public approval of government at a low point Jade's projects are seen as being responsive and sensitive to public sentiment.

"Morale in the department is high and his calm demeanor and style continues to set the standard I cited as being characteristic of all his activity. The public has been and is being well-served by Jade Butay," said Abercrombie.

First Fil-Am to lead HDOT

Governor Ben Cayetano, who made history of his own as the first Filipino-American governor in Hawaii and United States congratulated Jade.

"Your appointment as the first Filipino-American Director of the State DOT is well-deserved. Your leadership abilities, good character and outstanding work for my administration paved the way for your appointment by Governor David Ige. You join the growing number of young Filipino-Americans whose outstanding achievements have opened the doors of opportunity for others," said Cayetano.

(continue on page 5)

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COVER STORY

(from page 4)

Before becoming director, Butay served as the First Deputy Director at the HDOT from 2011 to 2013 and from 2015 to 2017.

“As the number two, I functioned as the chief operating officer of the department and worked closely with the director.”

In November 2017, Governor Ige appointed Butay as the Director of HDOT and reappointed him in December 2018.

Family Upbringing and on Being an Immigrant

Jade recalls: “As a child, I watched my parents struggle to build a life for our family in the United States. Like so many immigrants, we experienced inauspicious beginnings. Witnessing the sacrifices my parents made in an effort to provide a better life for our family has been the primary source for motivating me to succeed. Ensuring their sacrifices were never in vain remains of utmost importance.

“Being an immigrant helped me understand the importance of taking nothing for granted. My experience as an immigrant dramatically shaped me and provided me with a different perspective than my friends. I couldn’t have articulated it then, but looking back I recognize that I had a bigger picture orientation and felt an acute sense of responsibility.

“In hindsight, I can see that immigrating to the United States during the ending of sixth grade in elementary school accelerated my maturity and gave me a broader awareness of the world,” said Butay.

Jade expressed gratitude to his parents who he says laid the foundation for everything that he and his siblings have been able to achieve.

“We are the product of their dreams and sacrifices. Like so many, my parents left everything familiar behind to come to the United States and build a better life for our family. My parents were always encouraging and supportive.

“Early on, I distinctly remember knowing it is okay to

fall, but keep getting up, dust yourself off, and keep moving forward. We weren’t endowed with a lot of things or different enough to stand out from the crowd in any one area. But what differentiated us was attitude and perseverance,” said Butay.

Life Philosophy and Leadership

Besides his belief in a “getting-up-after-falling” attitude, Jade says he subscribes to, as a life philosophy, what hockey great Wayne Gretzky once said: “You miss 100% of the shots you don’t take. You can’t succeed unless you try. Be true to who you are and work to get better every day. Staying the same gets you nowhere.”

On leadership style, the HDOT Director said he doesn’t expect employees to do anything he is not willing to do himself. He said he believes in setting expectations and holding people accountable, but trusting them to do the job for which they were hired.

“I believe that as with any large department, leading by example, being respectful of others’ opinions, creating a consistent and fair process, listening to others’ feedback, and understanding that one cannot succeed without the support of staff, creates a positive working environment.”

Jade says he draws leadership inspiration from Warren Buffett, Chairman and CEO of Berkshire Hathaway and Jamie Dimon, CEO of JP Morgan Chase. He looks to them as role models because he says both lead with integrity and humility.

Education

Butay graduated from the University of Hawaii at Manoa with a double major in Accounting and Finance. He received a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from Babson College, which is known as one of the best entrepreneurship schools in the nation and is consistently ranked by U.S. News and World Report among the top colleges and universities at par with the giant Ivy Leagues.

Originally he was solely an Accounting major; but he says he couldn’t see himself as an accountant after nearly finishing with the courses for the major, so he started taking Finance courses as well.

“I have always been fascinated with business and good with numbers and Finance and Accounting fit the bill.

“At Babson I got to know students who were among the smartest in the country and fiercely competitive.

“My academic background was in business and I came from a family who are entrepreneurial. But now I find greater fulfillment working in government. Being a public servant enables me to serve and give back to the community in immeasurable ways that are more significant than simply making money.”

In high school, Jade says he was a good student and took Advanced Placement (AP) courses.

On the Filipino Community and Leisure Enjoyment

Jade says he has attended countless Filipino functions over the years. Often he is a guest speaker at community events.

One of his most memorable experiences was in 2017 when he accompanied Governor David Ige on a visit to the Philippines with the Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii on its trade mission. “We traveled to Manila, Makati, Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, and Cebu. I am inspired by the passion of other volunteers for the betterment of our community. Volunteering allows me to meet others, grow as a person, and to not only keep in touch with my heritage, but to share it as well.”

On his spare time, he enjoys watching musicals, traveling, spending time with family and friends, hiking and walking. He’s completed three Honolulu Marathons and three Hapalua half marathons. He has completed a few times the Great Aloha Run, Honolulu Century Ride, and Haleiwa Metric Century Ride.

A book he recently reread is *Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap...*

“As a child, I watched my parents struggle to build a life for our family in the United States. Like so many immigrants, we experienced inauspicious beginnings. Witnessing the sacrifices my parents made in an effort to provide a better life for our family has been the primary source for motivating me to succeed. Being an immigrant helped me understand the importance of taking nothing for granted. My experience as an immigrant dramatically shaped me and provided me with a different perspective than my friends. I couldn’t have articulated it then, but looking back I recognize that I had a bigger picture orientation and felt an acute sense of responsibility.”

— JADE BUTAY,
Director, HDOT

and *Others Don’t* by James Collins.

“I first read it when it was published in 2001. We recently had legislative hearings on vacancies and I wanted to revisit its concepts about hiring. A significant portion of my time as HDOT Director is spent in one form or another on personnel decisions: getting the right people on the bus, getting the right people in the right seats, getting the

wrong people off the bus, developing people into bigger seats, planning for succession. The world’s best companies don’t reach the top by settling for ‘good enough’ — rather, a constant drive for excellence propels them forward.”

Butay is in perpetual motion, from emigrating to the U.S. to running marathons. How fitting that he has been entrusted with running the HDOT.

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By Melissa Martin, Ph.D.

Weight Does Not Determine Worth

The Obesity Myth: Why America's Obsession with Weight is Hazardous to Your Health

by Paul Campos (2004) exposed the weakness of the evidence that being overweight is bad for health and the dangers of the current obsession with weight and weight loss in America. "Campos believes that the efforts to portray fat as unhealthy and unacceptable are driven by junk science, hatred of fat people, and a profit-hungry dieting industry." www.livescience.com/.

The number on a scale is not indicative of your human worth. Measuring self by measuring pounds is an erroneous belief—a hyped hullabaloo. Skinny does not equal happy. Body dissatisfaction is out of control. Who is propagating weightism, size prejudice, and appearance discrimination? Who is body-shaming? Who needs to zip their lips?

Females are in body image bondage. Our self-worth and self-concept is tied up in knots. Like dancing puppets, we awkwardly shuffle to a repressive rhythm. Weight obsession is rampant. Can we cut the puppet strings?

Don't exercise because you reject your body—exercise because you accept your body and want it to be healthy. Stop sending hate messages to your skin, muscles, bones—

and fat cells.

Step away from the sensationalized selfie craze. Snapping and posting selfies lead to self-criticism as others spout off with judgmental comments. Why subject yourself to the catty crowd? Why compare your body to others? And even though you may receive positive remarks about your body—it's still a focus on your outer container. And cyber body-bullying is a problem.

The perfect Barbie doll body is a fallacy. However, Mattel has created three new bodies for Barbie; curvy, petite (shorter), and tall. Why? Because parents requested a more realistic Barbie body. And Mattel listened—it's about time!

Girls with negative body images are more likely to develop an eating disorder and to experience depression, isolation, and weight loss obsession.

While the world may not see the difference between worth and weight, wise women do. And they can communicate unconditional worth to their daughters—regardless of size and shape. Regardless of boobs, booties, or belly bulges. Regardless of social media and Hollywood hoopla. Regardless.

Preventing body image bondage for our daughters and granddaughters is essential. Let's teach the next generation to accept natural body shapes and sizes. And that weight does not determine worth.

Investigate the national and global influence of the media's messages about body shape, size, and weight. Stand up and speak out against body image bondage. Gather facts and statistics and debate the fear of fat.

Please say the following mantra to yourself daily, "My body is my container. It carries around my soul. And my essence. I will honor my body while working on being physically and emotionally healthy. My worth is not tied to my weight." Find your inner female friend and be kind to her. Your worth is not determined by your weight.

MELISSA MARTIN, PH.D., is an author, columnist, educator, and therapist. She lives in Ohio.

What is the difference between weight and worth? One changes—the other does not.

Adding or dropping pounds does not make a person's worth go up and down.

Fear of fat. "Why do modern women in the most affluent countries in the world live like starving people in a primitive land? Why do they choose to be weak, apathetic and unable to fully contribute to their families, their careers, and their communities? It's simple. They are terrified of being fat. Women today are afraid to eat . . . afraid their bodies will be unacceptable in a society obsessed by thinness. It's a fear that consumes, shatters lives, even kills. . . . The number one wish of brilliant, ambitious young women is not to save the rain forests or succeed in a career, but to lose weight." Excerpt from *Women Afraid to Eat Breaking Free in Today's Weight-Obsessed World*, a book by Frances M. Berg (1999).

OPEN FORUM

Bill to Reform "Policing for Profit" Deserves Gov. Ige's Signature

By Carl Bergquist
Executive Director, Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i (DPFH)

The Hawai'i State Legislature has sent HB748 HD2 SD2 — a bill that would significantly reform the state's civil asset forfeiture program — to Governor Ige for his signature. The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i (ACLU of Hawai'i) and Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i (DPFH), both of which supported HB748, have long championed policies to end the use of forfeiture, which is a relic of the failed War on Drugs.

Asset forfeiture is a law based on the idea that property can be charged with a crime independently of its owner. Administered in Hawai'i by the Department of the Attorney General, funds are generated when law enforcement agencies seize a person's property and sell it — often without a criminal conviction or even a

criminal charge.

Although HB748 doesn't stop law enforcement from initially seizing property, it will require a felony conviction before property is forfeited to the government. Moreover, it will dilute the "policing for profit" incentive for law enforcement by directing proceeds to the state's general fund instead of earmarking funds back to the police and prosecutors.

As the Hawai'i State Auditor's bombshell audit revealed in 2018, in 26% of civil asset forfeiture cases no charges were even filed, let alone any conviction obtained. This underscored the legal absurdity of asset forfeiture: the owners were innocent, but the property somehow remained guilty. From 2006-2015, the average value of a vehicle forfeiture was \$2,200 and \$4,100. Such modest numbers indicate that asset forfeiture is used against average community members rather than drug kingpins. Finally, 85% of individuals whose property was seized did not even try to get it back. This is because people who do file a suit get stuck with costs for court bonds, attorney fees and

missed days of work — and even after all that, they still might not win their property back.

The writing is on the wall that civil asset forfeiture must be reined in. Hawaii's move to reform asset forfeiture policies comes as many other states have done the same, in 2019 alone those states include Michigan, North Dakota and Alabama.

DPFH Board President Nikos Leverenz said: "Thankfully the legislature saw the clear need for remedial action. Hopefully it will continue to closely monitor the program after this measure is signed into law. The baseline is simple: property should not be forfeited in the absence of a conviction and forfeiture proceeds belong to the public. Further, local law enforcement should not circumvent state protections through federal collaboration. Last year the State Auditor underscored how three decades of administrative neglect precipitated systemic abuse that resulted in a disregard for the rights of the innocent and misallo-

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WHAT'S UP, ATTORNEY?



By Atty. Emmanuel S. Tipon

How to Defeat ICE without Really Trying

Who says ICE cannot be defeated? Even Hitler could be defeated.

ICE is the acronym for Immigration and Customs Enforcement. ICE is the federal government agency under the Department of Homeland Security tasked with enforcing immigration laws primarily by deporting aliens who have violated immigration and criminal laws.

Of course ICE is not like Hitler. If it was there would be only one illegal alien in America.

On May 9, I met with the ICE top brass in Hawaii. They had asked for my help in a deportation case. I also asked them to take action against fake fiancées and fraudulent marriage spouses who had victimized my American citizen clients. Of course I was not the lawyer of these unfortunate victims of women's perfidy when they petitioned these women. ICE officials said they were focusing on criminals. "Aren't women who commit marriage fraud criminals, including those who refuse to have sex with their husband who petitioned them?" I asked rhetorically. They laughed. I added a footnote: My clients might get exasperated and write to President Trump. "Let's see what happens," smiled their chief, echoing a familiar Trump tweet. They suggested that I call the Homeland Security Investigation Tip Line at 1-866-347-2423.

ICE can be tough, if it wants to be tough, because it has all the government resources at its command. How can a puny alien fight ICE when he does not have any resource – not even money to pay his lawyer?

But yes, a puny alien can fight ICE - with a smart and

persistent lawyer who is willing to fight with no or inadequate compensation – not with an abogado de plead guilty who mostly abound in Hawaii, probably graduates of their local law school.

Here is how we defeated ICE.

A non-Ilocano alien was charged with three crimes of theft committed in 2012-2015 in violation of the Hawaii Penal Code. Theft is generally considered a crime involving moral turpitude (CIMT). An alien convicted of two crimes involving moral turpitude is removable. The alien had pleaded guilty or no contest to the theft offenses. "No contest" amounts to the same thing as "guilty". It is still considered a conviction for immigration purposes.

ICE charged the alien with being removable (the politically correct term for deportable). He came to us. We told the immigration judge (IJ) that the alien was not removable. We asked the IJ to terminate the removal proceedings.

We argued that a person convicted of theft under the Hawaii statutes is not removable because the statutes are "overbroad and indivisible" since they cover taking of "property or services" and are "not a categorical match to the federal definition of a theft offense" which covers taking of "property" only. Lopez-Valen-

cia v. Lynch, 798 F.3d 863 (9th Cir. 2015) (applying California law).

We also asked for cancellation of removal because the alien warranted such relief since the positive factors in his case outweighed the negative factors. The IJ denied our motion to terminate and request for cancellation of removal.

We appealed to the Board of Immigration Appeals which rubber stamped the IJ's decision. The Board, relying on its decision in Matter of Diaz-Lizarraga, 26 I&N Dec. 847 (BIA 2016), concluded that the alien's theft convictions were for crimes involving moral turpitude and affirmed the IJ's decision. In Diaz v. Lizarraga the BIA had ruled that a theft offense is a crime involving moral turpitude if it involves a taking or exercise of control over another person's property without consent and with intent to deprive the owner of his property either permanently or under circumstances where the owner's property rights are "substantially eroded". What the dickens does "substantially eroded" mean? Is a property right like the North Beach in Hawaii that is being "substantially eroded" by the ocean?

We filed a petition for review with the Court of Appeals against the Attorney General of the United States who oversees the BIA. We argued that the Immigration Judge and the

Board had erred as a matter of law and deprived the alien of due process of law and disregarded precedent decisions that resulted in serious prejudice to the alien and his family. (Many lawyers file appeals without showing prejudice to the appellant resulting in the dismissal of their appeals. Why? The Court of Appeals will say: so what if the alien was denied due process of law or the Board did not follow precedents. What prejudice did the appellant suffer?)

Subsequently, the Court of Appeals rendered a decision holding that the case of Diaz-Lizarraga cannot be applied retroactively to cases in which the underlying conviction predated the Diaz-Lizarraga case. The Court explained that in Diaz-Lizarraga the BIA changed the law by no longer requiring a permanent intent to deprive the owner of his property. Before Diaz-Lizarraga, the court observed, the BIA had held for many decades that a theft offense involves moral turpitude if – and only if – it is committed with the intent to "permanently" deprive an owner of property.

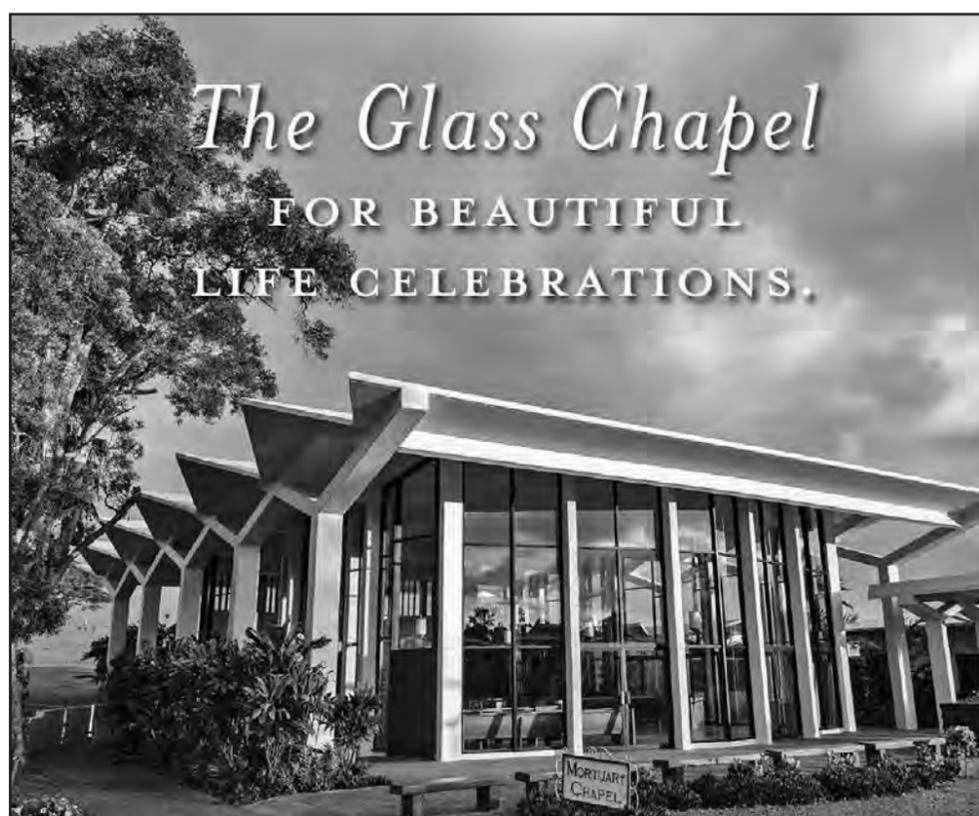
Our client's theft offenses were committed before Diaz-Lizarraga was decided. At that time the government was required to prove that the alien committed the theft offense with the intent to "permanently" deprive an owner of

property. The government did not prove that element in the criminal cases against our client. An unpublished decision of the Court of Appeals, Guieb v. Sessions, No. 15-70021, decided Oct. 25, 2018, ruled that the Hawaii Penal Code was overbroad because it encompasses conduct that does not include an intent to defraud or to permanently deprive an owner of their property.

As we were about to file a motion to terminate the removal proceedings against our client on the ground that his theft cases were not deportable offenses, the Attorney General, not wanting to lose the case and without waiting for our motion to terminate, filed a motion to remand the case to the BIA so that the BIA could determine the effect of Diaz-Lizarraga on the case. Instead of addressing the issue, the Board washed its hands off and remanded the case to the IJ for him to make such determination.

On remand, the counsel for ICE, not wanting to lose either, immediately filed with the IJ a motion to dismiss the case against our client. She argued that Immigration Judges can dismiss or terminate proceedings when the DHS "cannot sustain the charges of removability" and that "it is no longer in the best interest of the government" to continue

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AS I SEE IT



By Elpidio R. Estioko

UPAA-H Features *Bahay Kubo*, “Sabong” Depicting Rural Life



The University of the Philippines Alumni Association of Hawaii (UPAA-H) participated in the day-long 27th Annual Filipino Fiesta and 7th Flores De Mayo last Saturday, May 4, 2019 held at the Kaka’ako Gateway Parks, according to its newly-installed president Jun Gappe, a B.S. Geology graduate from UP-Diliman. He is also a member of the Beta Rho Omega Fraternity (BRO) UP-Mother Chapter.

The fiesta which is the biggest Filipino event in the state each year and one of the largest Filipino fiestas in the U.S. was sponsored by Filipino Community Center (FilCom), Oahu, HI.

I was informed that the yearly-anticipated fiesta drew this year close to 10,000 attendees who participated in various ethnic and multi-genre entertainment; shared authentic Filipino food; put up cultural booths exhibiting indigenous crafts, art, and the nation’s history; business vendors; children’s games; non-profit advocacy; and a

community health fair.

The idea of UPAA-H building a *Bahay Kubo* (BK) depicting rural life in the country sides and re-enacting the folks’ favorite pastime/entertainment – *sabong* or backyard cockfight as its entry to the cultural section booths at the Filipino Fiesta was a mutual decision among its members. It was actually the same concept last year and the year before (2017) with the addition of the roosters this year. They presented the *sabong* part not as a sport or the bloody *pintakasi* or the P50-Billion industry involving an estimated 10 million stakeholders, but a pastime or form of entertainment for rural

folks, giving them fun and enjoyment watching during their spare time, two gamecocks fighting in either in their backyard or in vacant lots. All the members, their families and those who attended the fiesta enjoyed the fun!

In his article *Sabong’ (Cockfight): A Filipino pastime*, Jun A. Malig said, “For some foreigners, the sight of two roosters fighting to the death with the use of extremely sharp blades (gaffs) tied to their legs is gruesome. But for many Filipino men, cockfighting, known locally as “*sabong*,” watching this form of blood sport is just like watching an ordinary, yet exciting, ballgame.”

Again, it was not however the intention of UPAA-H, according to Gappe, to perpetuate *sabong* as a sport or a gambling means but backyard *sabong* for fun only, which many rural folks indulge in for entertainment. It is part of the rural life for people living in bahay kubos (BK) in far-flung barrios of the country.

Sabong, according to a friend who is a *sabong* enthusiast and owns a fighting cock farm in the Philippines, is about the excitement and pride of the owner or handler of the gamecock that wins a battle. “There is a feeling of excitement, fulfillment and sense pride if your cock wins,” he said.

Sabong gives us a unique



and thrilling satisfaction of a Filipino national pastime or form of entertainment. It lets us feel great and shares the culture of the Filipino people, especially in the country sides. Before the Spaniards came, it was already around and well loved by Filipinos, mostly men and young boys.

This pastime is a hobby, a sporting event, and sad to say, a gambling instance all rolled into one. Basically, the game has two kinds... gaffed and ungaffed. The Filipino cockfighting gaff is called ‘*tari*,’ a very sharp knife usually measuring two inches.

The ungaffed type does not use “*tari*.” It is appealing because no cock will die. Usually, it is a contest between two cocks where betting is an option. Filipino men and boys love to watch it.

The gaffed type employs a gaff called ‘*tari*’ usually hitched on the left leg of the fighting cock. The gaffed type is so popular nationwide. This is the type that generates big-time gambling which this article don’t want to venture into.

Sabong as a way of life in the barrios, is a Filipino national pastime and form of entertain that gives people watching unique thrills. It is a hobby, a sporting event... purely for entertainment. It has an enduring, unwritten rule of integrity and honesty and can give them a unique feeling of satisfaction and excitement at the same time. It has become an important part of Philippine culture and tradition and has been practiced long before the Spaniards came to colonize the

Philippines. Even Jose Rizal, the Philippine national hero who was executed by the Spaniards in 1896, once said that “the average Filipino loves his game fowls more than his children.”

Suffice it to say, *sabong*, just like any other forms of hobby, sports, or recreation, surely satisfies many men-folks who are into such chore. There’s even a joke, that the wives of *sabong* aficionados or *sabungeros* get jealous because their husbands sometimes touch and rub the game cocks more often than they do their own wives (Kallos, 2012).

Backyard cockfighting for fun depicting rural life! This was the real intention of UPAA-H during the *fiesta* and the roosters or cocks they brought with them were not professional gamecocks but wild roosters caught in Ewa Beach. They enjoyed letting their cocks fight each other while they were being entertained and likewise entertaining people watching the cockfight.

Life in the country sides with folks raising roosters in their bahay kubo backyards depicts a simple but meaningful typical rural setting in the Philippines!

UPAA-H, you showed us our roots during the fiesta with your theme: life in the country sides! Congratulations!

ELPIDIO R. ESTIOKO was a veteran journalist in the Philippines and an award-winning journalist here in the US. For feedbacks, comments... please email the author at estiokoelpidio@gmail.com

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CANDID PERSPECTIVES



By Emil Guillermo

Are We Asian Americans Yet?

You get what I mean. We're still in a long hard slog during what is arguably the most contentious political environment since the civil rights era began.

It's not easy being an Asian American during the Trump administration.

Not even if you're married to Mitch McConnell.

There's uncertainty over DACA, that Census citizenship question, ICE raids, deportations, asylum changes, LGBTQ workplace rights, health care, gentrification, income inequality.

So many things over which one must stay vigilant.

Maybe this month, this year, we take a deep breath, count our blessings, and focus instead on others who really are up against it this month.

My suggestion for AA-PIHM person of the month?

Philippine journalist Maria Ressa.

What could happen in the Philippines may not stay in the Philippines

Ressa is what I call a unique American Filipino. Born in the Philippines, her parents immigrated to the U.S. just before the Marcos martial law era. Ressa grew up in New Jersey, then went to Princeton. She says she had a choice to stay with family members in the U.S. or return home to make her mark in the Philippines.

She chose the latter, where she founded the award-winning news website, Rappler, the go-to source for hard-hitting truthful journalism about the Philippines.

It also has gotten Ressa arrested twice since February: once for an alleged violation of a ban on foreign media ownership and another time for a cyber libel case.

In New York City recently to be honored as one of Time Magazine's "100 Most Influential People of 2019," Ressa also received a journalism award from Syracuse University.

For a journalist, awards are like shields against the threat of arrest and assassination.

They're handy in the Philippines, where journalists are killed frequently.

Recently, a Manila newspaper with links to Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte printed a matrix-like flow chart of journalists from independent sites like Rappler as well as the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism. The chart identified them all as coup plotters.

Fake news for sure. But the Philippine National Police says it will investigate.

And President Duterte, who picked up the "fake news" mantra from Trump, is taking it all seriously. He's quoted as saying, not so reassuringly, "Just because you're a journalist, you are not exempted from assassination."

You don't take a statement like that lightly from a man whose administration the UN says has killed 27,000 since 2016 in its "War on Drugs."

It's the same shoot'em up that's been praised by an envious Trump.

27,000. That's not like Trump boasting about shooting one person on Fifth Ave. and not losing any voters. Duterte has 27,000 lives on his hands and hasn't lost any of his base voters. Some of the deaths were connected to the drug trade. Some were just caught in the middle, total innocents like mothers and children. Rappler and others have been trying to get their hands on the public documents. Most are incomplete, unfiled, or lost.

The dead have become part of the bureaucracy.

And yet with all that, Res-

sa has returned to the Philippines ahead of the Philippine mid-term elections taking place this month which will determine control of the Senate, and the future of the country.

An election to end Democracy?

There is much at stake in America's first colony this month. Remember, the Philippines was built as a democratic facsimile of the U.S., complete with a Constitution, Bill of Rights, and the three branches of government.

There are checks and balances now against autocratic rule, but probably not if Duterte manages to win control of the Senate in the upcoming elections.

A new Senate would mean a new constitution, Ressa told Amy Goodman on the program, "Democracy Now."

And with that a new government.

"It will be parliamentary. It will most likely be a federalist form of government," Ressa said. "The substance of it will fundamentally transform the democracy that we have, take away a lot of the Bill of Rights, and put a lot of power in the hands of President Duterte to appoint a transitional committee. We will no longer be a democracy. Our justice system will be completely transformed."

That's how quickly it can all go in a few weeks if the Senate flips.

There's a lesson there for us all, since the Philippines and the U.S. both have leaders yearning to evolve their

autocratic power. Duterte is slightly more accomplished with all he's killed during his drug war. But in just two years, Trump is no slouch, with not just a Mueller Report under his belt, but a milestone 10,000 lies or misleading statements, according to the Washington Post.

We have a president who remains unimpeachable and unindictable. Is he...above the law? Do you feel our constitutional crisis yet?

That's why it's not far-fetched to think what happens next in the Philippines could easily happen here—if we let our guard down.

"The Philippines is a cautionary tale for the United States," Ressa said on "Democracy Now." "What shocked me is how fast things can change. And I think Americans need to be aware that the things that you think have been there for a very long time, it can turn on a dime. And within six months in the Philippines, all of a sudden it's OK to kill. If you look at Cambridge Analytica, that scandal, the most number of compromised accounts are in the United States. The country with the second most number of compromised accounts is the Philippines. You can do a lot with the technology that is there. And if your leader is pushing top down, society can transform. Your institutions are still pushing back. But the same thing that I tell Filipinos: Now is the time to fight for your rights. If you do not fight for these rights, they can be taken away, and it can happen quickly."

Fighting for justice and democracy is always a worthy

(continue on page 17)



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SUBMISSIONS INFORMATION

- The essay must be between 400-700 words, typed and double-spaced, using the official entry form and template from our website.
- Judging is based on originality, creativity and

composition. Chronicle staff members will choose their favorites with the publisher/editor selecting the final winning entry. The full winning essay and excerpts of runner-up essays will be published in a summer edition of the newspaper with their accompanying photo.

- Only one essay entry per person is accepted. All ethnic and age groups are welcome to enter. Relatives of the Chronicle staff are ineligible to participate in this essay contest.
- All entries become the rights of the Chronicle for use in publication and promotions. They may be edited for clarity and space.

PRIZES AND PUBLICATION

Three grand prize winner of \$250 will be awarded to the reader who has submitted an essay that best answers the above questions. There will be one winner from High School (ages 15-18), one from College (ages 19-26) and one from Adult (ages 27-70) entry submissions. Winning entries will be published in full in a summer edition of the Chronicle. Runner-up essays will be excerpted as well.

All those who submit essays are eligible to win additional prizes, such as gift cards (restaurants, gas, stores, discount services, etc.)

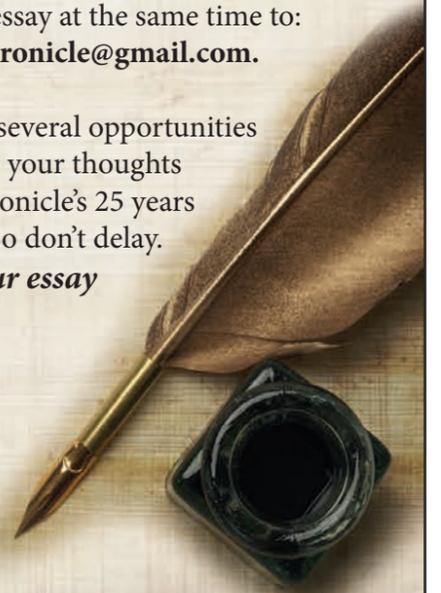
or merchandise from the Chronicle, community and essay contest sponsors. Winners will be notified and may pick up their prizes at the Chronicle office in Waipahu.

DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2019

Please snail mail a hard copy of your essay on or before June 1. It must be postmarked by May 27 in order to qualify for the deadline. Late submissions will not be accepted. Hawaii Filipino Chronicle 94-356 Waipahu Depot Rd., Flr. 2, Waipahu, Hawaii 96797. In addition, please send an email copy of your essay at the same time to: filipinochronicle@gmail.com.

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FEATURE

HAPPYSLIP IN HONOLULU

By Renelaine Bontol Pfister

Filipino-American comedian and YouTube pioneer Christine Gambito is coming to Honolulu.

This is her first comedy tour, but she has already sold out shows in San Francisco, Seattle, Washington D.C., and San Diego. She currently

has 613,000 followers on her YouTube channel, HappySlip, and her videos have had over 100 million views. She has also made videos for the Department of Tourism in the Philippines.

“HappySlip” is how young Christine understood her mom’s pronunciation of “half slip,” which her mom always reminded her to wear. This cultural slip-up (wink) is the basis of Christine’s com-

edy, where she presents not only funny Filipino pronunciations and misunderstandings, but also our unique nuances and quirks.

Christine’s first audience were her family members, the same people she impersonated and based her comedy on. At family gatherings, instead of asking Christine to sing or dance or play the piano, her mom would request her to do comedy sketches to entertain the family.

Christine always knew she wanted to act and perform, and spent time in New York trying to get into mainstream acting. Christine enjoyed doing one-woman shows the most, where she could create and play any role, so she started posting these routines on YouTube in 2006 and gained massive support, enough to be invited by YouTube to be one of their paid partners, seven months after Christine started posting.

What’s refreshing about Christine is her wholesome

comedy and her humble attitude. She loves seeing families coming to her shows together and laughing together, from young kids to Lolos and Lolas. On her website, she attributes her talents to God. She quotes John 14:6 “...all glory to God who is the giver of all good things.”

Christine took a break from entertainment to start and raise a family, but she’s back and has now come to the point in her career where she is doing what she enjoys the most: stand up comedy. And she comes from a place of purity and positivity. She says, “If God can get the glory and I can spread happiness through this comedy, then my mission



Stand-up Comedienne
Christine Gambito

is complete.” Christine is excited to perform in Hawaii. She says, “Performing in Hawaii is going to feel like putting on a show to a big extended family.” See HappySlip Live! On May 18 at UH Manoa, Kennedy Theatre.

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Philippines Begins Apostille Process

The Consulate General of the Philippines Honolulu announced that the Philippines will begin affixing an Apostille as proof of authentication on Philippines documents. After implementation of the Apostille process, there will be no need for Philippine Embassies and Consulates to authenticate Philippines documents in countries that are members of the Apostille Convention. The U.S. is a member of the Apostille Convention.



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PHILIPPINE ELECTION 2019 COVERAGE

Vote Buying An Integral Part of Philippine Elections — Duterte

By Alexis Romero
Tuesday, May 14, 2019

MANILA, Philippines — President Duterte yesterday said that vote buying is an “integral part” of elections in the Philippines, a country that he said is beset with poverty and a feudal system.

Duterte claimed that everyone has engaged in vote buying which, according to him, comes in many forms.

“If they are caught, they will be prosecuted to the fullest of the law. Now, the practice of buying votes has been an integral part of an election in the Philippines. ‘Yang pagboto lahat ’yan. Walang hindi nagbibili ng boto rito... Ituro mo kung sino ang hindi nagbilibi ng boto (Nobody has not bought votes. Tell me who has not bought votes),” the President told reporters after casting his vote at the Daniel R. Aguinaldo National High School in Davao City.

“Kaya mahirap ’yang vote buying (That’s why vote buying is a complex issue). It can take many forms... for as long as the Philippines remains to be a poor country, for as long as the feudal system exists lalo na sa (especially in) rural areas aggravated by the communists... We are becoming poorer and poorer,” he added.

Duterte said the giving of

money does not necessarily mean that one is buying votes.

“You know, when you start to give money, as I told (the Commission on Elections), that’s not because I’m buying the vote of the fellow. It’s because I’m giving him money to go to the precinct, cast his vote and go home. Not all people have money. Or you send food to your leaders who are here sacrificing and waiting for the food to eat so they can last until the last vote is counted,” he said.

Communist insurgency is making the situation in rural areas worse, according to the Chief Executive.

“Nobody can till the land, improve the land and the communists are there asking for money, asking for food and everything. And they think they are on the right track,” he said.

The election code prohibits the giving, offering or promising of money or anything of value, any office or employment, franchise or grant, or making or offering to make an expenditure or causing an expenditure to be made to any person, association, corporation, entity or community to induce anyone to vote for or against any candidate or withhold his vote in the election.

An offense is also committed if a person or group solicits or receives any expenditure or promise of any office or employment.

Rody blamed

Duterte was blamed yesterday for the reported massive vote buying resorted to by candidates in the midterm elections.

The President promoted the illegal practice in a speech in which he encouraged voters to accept money from politicians, according to Anakpawis party-list Rep. Ariel Casilao.

“The Comelec, as an independent body, should slam Duterte’s promotion of accepting vote-buying money under the guise of a ‘fare allowance,’” Casilao said.

The poll body’s campaign against vote buying “has been demolished instantly by a presidential speech,” the congressman added.

In a campaign speech in Davao City over the weekend, the President said it was OK for voters to accept fare money, criticizing the Comelec for its “unrealistic” rules on financial assistance of candidates to their leaders and supporters.

Casilao said it was not only Duterte who allegedly promoted vote buying, citing other officials, including Philippine National Police chief Gen. Oscar Albayalde and administration candidates as actively encouraging the practice.

Some officials have said



President Duterte shows the ink on his finger after voting at the Daniel R. Aguinaldo National High School in Davao City yesterday.

voters could accept money from politicians but should vote for candidates they were supporting, since no one would see their ballot on the day of the voting.

It is the voter who feeds the ballot into the vote-counting machine, they said.

While yesterday’s elections were taking place, Albayalde, based on reports he was receiving from police stations, lamented that there was vote buying across the country.

On Saturday, two days before the elections, former senator Heherson Alvarez withdrew his candidacy for congressman in the fourth dis-

trict of Isabela, saying he could not continue participating in a “political sham” due to massive vote buying.

“Vote buying is vote killing and is as destructive to our democracy as illegal drug is destructive to our physical wellbeing... (It) is a massive practice all over the country and a public knowledge tolerated by the majority,” Alvarez said.

The former senator urged people to “renounce it, denounce it and withdraw our tolerance to it, or our democracy will wither away.”

Alvarez, however, did not say who was buying votes in his district. (www.philstar.com)

Marcoses Retain Grip on Ilocos Norte Bailiwick

By Kristine Joy Patag
Tuesday, May 14, 2019

MANILA, Philippines — The Marcos clan continues to hold the Ilocos province as its stronghold in 2019.

At the start of the new term for local candidates, Ilocos Norte Gov. Imee Marcos

will hand over the leadership of the province to her son, Matthew Marcos Manotoc.

Manotoc ran unopposed after Rep. Rodolfo Fariñas (Ilocos Norte, 1st District) withdrew his candidacy on May 2, less than two weeks before the polls.

Clan matriarch, Rep. Imelda Marcos (Ilocos Norte, 2nd District), initially filed



her candidacy for the gubernatorial race in Ilocos Norte but she withdrew November last year.

By Tuesday noon, 100% of the election returns in Ilocos Norte have been tallied, and it showed that, even with Fariñas’ withdrawal, Manotoc obtained 260,938 votes.

Manotoc’s vice governor is Cecile Araneta-Marcos who ran in the stead of his late husband, Ilocos Norte Board Member Mariano Marcos II.

Manotoc and Marcos were fielded by the Nacionalista Party.

Another Marcos kin, Ilocos Norte Vice Gov. Eugenio Angelo Barba is poised to become Ilocos Norte’s 2nd Dis-

trict Representative having secured 87,725 votes.

Barba, Imee’s first cousin according to a STAR report, also ran under the Nacionalista Party.

Ria Fariñas, daughter of the incumbent Ilocos Norte 1st District representative, meanwhile took over her father’s post. She obtained 106,780 votes.

Meanwhile, Imee is poised to enter the Senate as she currently ranks 8th in the race with close to 5% votes remaining to be tallied. (www.philstar.com)

EDITORIAL

Ugly Traditions Must End

Vote buying, according to President Duterte, is an “integral part” of Philippine elections. Having spent much of his adult life as a politician, the President must know whereof he speaks.

He issued the statement in a chance interview yesterday, near the end of voting, when the Philippine National Police had arrested hundreds of people, including candidates and supporters, on charges of buying and selling votes.

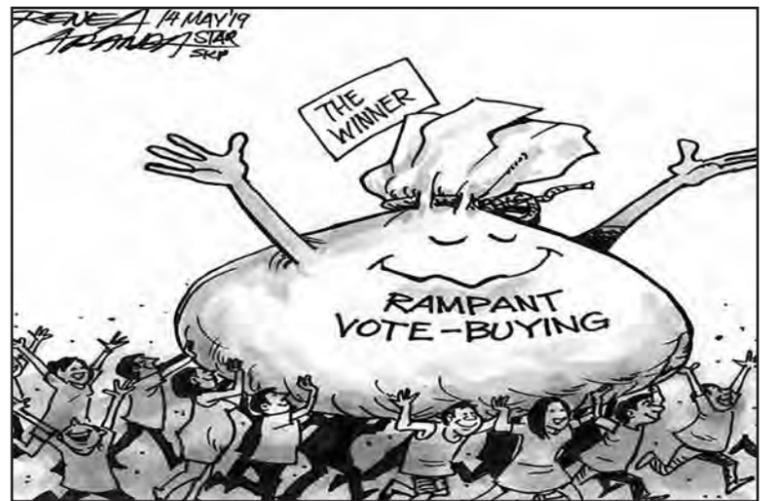
The President did say

that vote buying is an election offense and violators would be prosecuted. But he said all candidates engage in some form of vote buying. Last week he said he saw nothing wrong with giving voters P50 each for their transport fare to and from the polling centers.

He may be correct about vote buying being a tradition in this country, but this does not mean that people should stop trying to put an end to it. This is why laws were passed against buying and selling votes. What is lacking is enforcement.

Candidates themselves should welcome the strict enforcement of the law, since it would mean lower expenses for them. Problems, however, crop up when the law is selectively enforced.

The country imposes tough penalties for election-related offenses, particularly for the relatively new crime of electoral sabotage. But if even one candidate with the right connections is allowed to break the law and regulations of the Commission on Elections, giving the candidate an edge over political opponents, then the flood-



gates are open for electoral offenses.

The President has said that those arrested for buying and selling votes would face prosecution. People have taken the trouble of reporting cases of vote buying, believing that their complaints would be acted upon, as indicated by the Comelec.

The PNP has done its part; now the prosecution service, which is under the executive, should pursue the cases. Candidates who engaged in buying votes must be disqualified and permanently barred from holding public office. Unless offenders are convicted and punished, vote buying will never stop. (www.philstar.com)

Despite Glitches, Comelec Says Midterm Election ‘Successful’

By Ian Nicolas Cigaral
Tuesday, May 14, 2019

MANILA, Philippines — Amid reports of problems with vote counting machines and hours-long delay in transmission of election returns to media groups and watchdogs, the Commission on Elections declared

Tuesday it successfully held the midterm polls.

“Despite those glitches that we have since it’s just less than one percent or one percentage of the entire 85,000 plus clustered precincts, we can say that the election is successful,” Comelec Commissioner Marlon Casquejo told a press conference.

“In fact, we’re already in the 96% transmission. So

our transmission was faster compared to the past elections,” Casquejo added.

According to Comelec, 961 or 1.1% of total 85,769 vote counting machines (VCM) earmarked for this year’s elections were defective, higher than 801 faulty VCM in the 2016 presidential election.

Meanwhile, out of 85,769 SD cards released for Monday’s election, 1.9% or

1,665 units malfunctioned — of which 1,253 were replaced. In 2016, there were 120 broken SD cards.

The National Citizens’ Movement for Free Elections, or NAMFREL, on Monday raised concerns over “verified” reports submitted by its volunteers, including reports of malfunctioning VCMs.

“While many of the verified reports concern procedural lapses that are administrative in nature, there have been incidents that could affect the integrity of

the results of the election in specific areas,” NAMFREL said.

In the same press conference, Comelec’s Casquejo maintained that “the result of the election is valid and credible.”

“Dumaan tayo ng sinasabi natin local source code review, all of the AES (Automated Election System) components passed through the local source code review and all of the AES major components passed with flying colors,” he said. (www.philstar.com)

Opposition Slate Otso Diretso Suffers a Resounding Loss

By Gaea Katreena Cabico
Tuesday, May 14, 2019

MANILA, Philippines — They were among the most talked about candidates on social media and among the top choices of the youth in university mock polls but it looks like no one from the opposition Otso Diretso coalition would become a senator of the country.

The senatorial aspirants, whose candidacies were backed by Vice President Leni Robredo, were nowhere

in the winners’ circle dominated by allies of President Rodrigo Duterte.

Even Otso Diretso’s veteran bets re-electionist Sen. Bam Aquino and former Interior chief Mar Roxas—both having managed to penetrate the winners’ circle in pre-election surveys—failed to enter the so-called “Magic 12.”

Aquino was the closest to the “Magic 12” but was kept out by actor turned lawmaker Bong Revilla, who spent recent years in detention facing plunder charges, and another re-electionist Nancy Binay. Revilla further climbed up

from the 11th to the 10th spot around Tuesday noon based on the partial and unofficial tally.

Aquino, a cousin of former President Noyonoy, ranked 14th with 13,764,593 votes as of 4:50 p.m. Tuesday. Ahead of him at 13th place was administration-backed candidate Sen. JV Ejercito, who is eyeing to extend his stay at the upper house, with 13,876,548 votes as of press time.

Roxas, a Liberal Party stalwart who was not as frequently seen at campaign sorties with his slate, ranked 16th with 9,577,323 votes. (www.philstar.com)

Comelec Probing Viral Video of ‘Pre-shaded’ Ballots

By Gaea Katreena Cabico
Thursday, May 16, 2019

MANILA, Philippines — The Commission on Elections is starting an investigation into a video showing an alleged pre-shading of ballots, the poll body’s spokesperson said Thursday.

The 39-second video that is being shared online shows a woman supposedly pre-shading several ballots. The post said the alleged incident happened in Lanao del Sur.

Social media users were alarmed by the video, noting such incident raises questions on the credibility and integrity of this year’s elections.

“I saw that video this morning. We’re actually initiating [an] investigation into that,” Comelec spokesperson James Jimenez said in an interview on GMA News TV’s “News to Go.”

He said, however, that the post lacks vital information.

He added: “A few things to note about that particular video, however, there is no internal evidence to show where it happened, who did it, when it happened.” (www.philstar.com)

PHILIPPINE ELECTION 2019 COVERAGE

Teachers Reported 1,333 Malfunctioning Automated Machines, says DepEd

By Janvic Mateo
Tuesday, May 14, 2019

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Education on Tuesday revealed that they have received 1,333 reports of malfunctioning vote counting machines during the May 13 elections.

This is a significant jump from the 400 to 600 figure that the Commission on Elections provided the media Tuesday.

The data came from consolidated reports of teachers who served as electoral board members, DepEd said in a press conference.

According to a report by The STAR, 526 problems were reported in connection with the transmission of results, 2,340

were due to marking pens while 2,036 came from the final testing and sealing.

“These are not included in the original question and answer portion but on the notes. They have voluntarily written some notes on malfunctioning VCMs,” explained Pascua.

Before they have forwarded the data to the Comelec, however, Education Undersecretary Alain del Pascua said that the numbers would still be up for validation.

Pascua said that it is very possible that there may be a “duplication” as there are three members of electoral boards per precinct.

“That’s exactly what we would verify, because the figures might have been tripled or doubled. That is what we’ll verify with our I.T. officers in

the regions and division,” said Pascua in a mix of Filipino and English.

About 1,000 teachers said that they did not receive pay after their poll duties last Monday.

This is excluding another 632 who said they haven’t received allowances.

On Monday, Comelec spokesperson James Jimenez claimed that the initial 400 to 600 was far from ordinary.

“It is perhaps still small, out of 85,000. It still seems to be within the range,” said the spokesperson in a mix of Filipino and English.

Even if the initial numbers were accurate, it would still be 220% more malfunctioning VCMs than in 2016.

“The reason it’s so jarring is that we had fewer incidents



Teachers of Pinyahan Elementary School conducts testing and sealing upon the arrival of Vote Counting Machine at their school last May 7, 2019. The STAR/Michael Varcas

in 2016,” said Jimenez.

Earlier Tuesday, the Comelec identified 1,165 faulty SD cards in the 2016 polls.

This is greater than the 961 compared to the 801 in 2016.

‘Delays affect poll’s credibility’

On election day, Anakpawis party-list Rep. Ariel Casilao lamented what transpired in the elections, saying the defective machines caused much delay and “disenfranchisement” of voters.

The progressive solin noted that many voters were not able to vote because they couldn’t find their names in the list.

“The automated elections started in 2010. But it looks seem like this is the time and that the Comelec hadn’t pre-

pared well for it,” added Casilao.

“We want to hear something from Comelec Chairperson Sheriff Abbas. He’s got a lot of explaining to do.”

Makabayan and Bayan Muna chairman Neri Colmenares aired a similar sentiment, saying that delays could affect the integrity of the polls.

“In the past, dagdag bawas took place amidst the delays in canvassing and lack of transparency. That is what automation was supposed to cure. But apparently, Comelec has failed on both counts,” said the militant candidate.

“The impact of this unforgivable delay is that the credibility of the national elections will be permanently tainted.”

(www.philstar.com)

The ‘Magic 12 Senators’ in Latest Tally

With 97.44% of election returns processed, below is the partial and unofficial tally as of 1:04 p.m. on Thursday, May 16. (www.philstar.com)

ELECTION 2019

TOP 12 Partial unofficial tally
(As of 1:04PM) | May 16, 2019

TOTAL ERs PROCESSED: **97.44%**

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> CYNTHIA VILLAR VOTES 24,949,138 <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> GRACE POE VOTES 21,793,597 <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> BONG GO VOTES 20,276,668 <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> PIA CAYETANO VOTES 19,504,480 <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> BATO DELA ROSA VOTES 18,637,430 <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> SONNY ANGARA VOTES 17,930,706 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> LITO LAPID VOTES 16,773,089 <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> IMEE MARCOS VOTES 15,637,561 <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> FRANCIS TOLENTINO VOTES 15,239,862 <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> BONG REVILLA JR. VOTES 14,432,330 <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> KOKO PIMENTEL VOTES 14,426,647 <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> NANCY BINAY VOTES 14,363,729
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YOU GOT THIS...MOM!

By Seneca Moraleda-Puguan

O have written so many letters for my almost four-year old daughter, and I also started writing letters for my 2-month old son but I haven't written a letter for myself, not even one. I have so many things on my mind and in my heart that I want to tell myself but really haven't got the chance to put them in writing. Here it is- a letter for myself and to all the mothers in the world.

Hey momma,

It's been a long night, hasn't it? Your newborn has been waking up round the clock for you to satisfy his hunger. You barely had sleep and the sun is up already. You have to prepare food for your toddler, play and read books to her, feed your newborn, change his soiled diaper, and so on. The tasks at hand are just never ending. The needs to be met are just endless.

It can be exhausting, isn't it? Especially when your toddler stubbornly disobeys you and she clamors for your atten-

tion but you have a very needy and hungry newborn to attend to. And add to this, the towering laundry, the messy living room filled with toys, the dishes that need to be washed. It can be overwhelmingly draining.

There are times, many times actually that you lose it. You're at your wit's end, your patience depleted. You snap and unintentionally yell at your tantruming toddler. She responds with a piercing cry but she would say sorry for making you mad. You hate yourself for it but you can't control it because you're exhausted. Amazingly, young children are forgiving. They don't keep grudges. They easily move on as if nothing happened.

It's ok, momma. It's ok to be frustrated and disappointed. It's alright to acknowledge that you're tired. There are times you just want to be alone, cry like a baby, shout at the top of your lungs, and shake it all off. If only you can take a break from all these but you can't. Admit it, motherhood is not easy. It never is and never will be. It's a high and sacred calling. It's all the jobs in the world rolled into one- you are



a housekeeper, a chef, a teacher, a nurse, an engineer, a scientist, and many more hats to wear.

You are not alone. There are millions of moms out there who are experiencing the same things you do, feeling the same whirlwind of emotions, imperfectly but diligently raising their children. But know that you are unique because to your children, you are the only one. You are irreplaceable.

But thank you, because even if it's hard, you keep on going, you keep on giving, you keep on fighting. Even if you feel like crying, you still manage to put that smile on your face. And every single day, you choose your kids and

your family over yourself. You are doing a great job. Really you are, even if sometimes you don't realize it.

And oh mom, look at the smile on your newborn's face every time you talk to him. Isn't he the most beautiful thing in this world? Listen to his oohs, aahs and coos. Don't they sound like music to your ears? And your toddler, your sweet toddler. When she wakes up, she greets you with a kiss and says, "I love you, mommy!" She dances and sings a lot. She can now color within the lines. She shows you her artwork, abstract but creative and beautiful. She's curiously asking all questions- all the WHYs, HOWs and WHATs in the world. The joy and laughter they bring far outweigh the pains and aches that motherhood brings. They are your source of energy and strength. They inspire you to endure and persevere. Truly, motherhood is a gift. It's a reminder of God's love and faithfulness. It's worth celebrating.

Here's a Mother's Day message from Scripture Lullabies, a Christian company that produces lullabies based on Biblical truth. Let every word encourage and inspire you to celebrate this calling of motherhood, a gift worth praising God for.

"There is a celebration of motherhood that takes place each and every day. It doesn't always take the shape for flow-ers and breakfast in bed, but it shines in the eyes of little ones. It is carried in the whispers of morning prayers and the lullabies before bedtime. Motherhood is a celebration of

joy and sacrifice and passion and endurance all wrapped up together. The celebration of mothers is not always voiced with an audible "Thank you," yet the gratitude for a mother's work echoes in the walls of her home, and straight into eternity. The work of a mother never goes uncelebrated by the One who has called her to this sacred work.

It may not feel like it quite so much throughout the other 364 days this year, but motherhood is an anthem of praise. Although it feels messy and imperfect, it is right where Jesus enters and reminds us what faithfulness looks like. It is an outpouring of the gospel, love and sacrifice given daily, and sometimes without thanks. Yet it continues. A mother presses on through every heartache and hardship. In each day that feels an empty ache where gratitude should be, a mother chooses to keep giving.

Why? Because of love – a love that changes the world.

It is soul-shaping work, the ministry of motherhood. What can feel so ordinary and mundane is actually the material of miracles. Motherhood can be the most pressing, most difficult work- yet in that soil, significance breaks forth.

Life comes where once there was none. Love grows in every trial, every demand, and every sacrifice. A mother is a teacher, an encourager, a lifeguard, a coach, a guide, a confidante. She is what the day demands she be. As she meets endless needs, Jesus comes alongside to meet her own.

In motherhood, the gospel becomes tangible; grace received from a Savior; then poured out to those we love. In the hard work of motherhood, Jesus fills in the gaps, and makes possible what seemed impossible. Motherhood is miracle work, and today we stand in awe of every mother, and every miracle God is working through her. Thank you mom. What you do each and every day is shaping both this world and eternity. "

To all the amazing mothers in the world – biological moms, single moms, adoptive moms...THANK YOU! And oh, YOU GOT THIS!

WHAT'S UP, ATTORNEY?: HOW TO DEFEAT...from page 7)

the proceedings. The IJ, without waiting for our comment, dismissed the case.

The case should have been terminated, not dismissed. Dismissal is not the proper procedure. Termination is the proper procedure. The reason is this: where, following the formal start of deportation proceedings, additional facts or policy considerations arise which lead those responsible for immigration law enforcement to conclude that this is not the sort of case in which such proceedings should have been started in the first place, 8 CFR 242.7 wisely provides the mechanics for termination on the ground that the proceeding was "improvidently begun." Matter of Vizcarra-Delgadillo, 13 I&N Dec 51 (BIA 1968). See also Matter of Dacanay, 16 I&N

Dec. 238 (BIA 1977).

COMMENT: This is but one case where ICE has caused mental anguish, emotional distress, and untold suffering to humankind by improvidently filing removal proceedings. We have another case also involving the Hawaii theft statutes where the alien woman returned to Ilocos Norte voluntarily when ICE threatened to put her in jail while awaiting the appeal of her removal proceedings. We eventually won the appeal but ICE will not help bring her back saying that they did not deport her. We are helping our fellow Ilocano return to Hawaii.

ATTY. TIPON has a Master of Laws degree from Yale Law School and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the Philippines. His current practice focuses on immigration law and appellate criminal defense. He writes law books for the world's larg-

est law book publishing company and writes legal articles for newspapers. Listen to *The Tipon Report* which he co-hosts with son Noel, the senior partner of the Bilecki & Tipon Law Firm. It is the most witty, interesting, and useful radio program in Hawaii. KNDI 1270 AM band every Thursday at 7:30 a.m. Atty. Tipon served as a U.S. Immigration Officer. He co-authored the best-seller "Immigration Law Service, 1st ed.," an 8-volume practice guide for immigration officers and lawyers. Atty. Tipon has personally experienced the entire immigration process. He first came to the United States on a student/exchange visitor visa to study at Yale. He returned to the Philippines to resume practicing law. He came again to the United States on a non-immigrant work visa to write law books, adjusted his status to that of a lawful permanent resident, and became a naturalized citizen. Atty. Tipon was born in Laoag City, Philippines. Tel. (808) 800-7856. Cell Phone (808) 225-2645. E-Mail: filamlaw@yahoo.com. Websites: <https://www.hawaiiimmigrationattorney.com>, <https://www.hawaiiimmigrationattorney.com>, www.bileckilawgroup.com. This article is a general overview of the subject matter discussed and is not intended as legal advice. No attorney-client relationship is established between the writer and readers relying upon the contents of this article.

LEGAL NOTES

Crackdown on Visa Overstays



By Atty. Reuben S. Seguritan

President Trump has ordered the Secretaries of State and Homeland Security to submit plans to deter overstays. The President suggested punishing countries whose citizens have high rates of overstays and/or to require all foreign travelers to the US to post admission bonds that would be repaid to them once they leave the US. Possible punishments could be limiting the number of visas granted to these countries, limiting the time their citizens are allowed in the US, and requiring its citizens to submit more documents when applying for visas and to enter the US.

He justified this directive

by stating that overstays are as problematic as undocumented immigrants (people who cross the border illegally) because they undermine the integrity of the US immigration system and harm the national interest. He added that visa overstays are unacceptably high and are a widespread problem. Furthermore the US Immigration Customs and Enforcement (ICE) states that overstays pose a potential national security threat to the US and should be prioritized for further investigation or removal operations.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) defines an overstay as “a non-immigrant who was lawfully admitted to the United States for an authorized period but stayed in the United States beyond his or her lawful admission period.” The DHS describes two types of visa overstay: 1. People for whom no departure has been recorded and 2. People who departed the

US but after their lawful period of admission expired.

Some of the overstays are from countries included in the Visa Waiver Program (VWP). The nationals of the countries in the VWP may travel to the US for tourism or business for a period of up to 90 days without obtaining a visa.

For countries that are required to obtain a visa before entering the US, there are overstays in all categories. However, the category with the most number of overstays were for the student and exchange visitors visa. About 40% of the total student/exchange visa overstays in 2017 were from China, Saudi Arabia, India and South Korea.

For tourism and business visitor (B) visa, the overstay rate is currently higher than 10%. There were about 301,000 overstays in 2017. For 2018 there were 305,000 overstays. Brazil had the most num-

ber of overstays in 2017 with 33,759 for B visas. Venezuela was a close second at 30,424 of its nationals as overstays in the same period.

For travelers from the Philippines, it was estimated that more than 12,000 overstayed their visas in 2016. Out of this number of overstays, 5,000 entered the US on business or tourist visas. Then about 934 were students and exchanged visitors who overstayed. But the largest category of Filipinos who overstayed in the US were temporary workers and trainees, traders, investors, fiancées of US citizens and their children, and spouses and children of US citizens and US lawful permanent residents (LPR) who totaled 6,523 in 2016.

In 2017, the Philippines was the second country after India with the most number of overstays in the nonimmigrant worker visas category with 7,075 Filipinos overstaying. The Philippines also had 5,276 overstays in the business or tourism visa category and 967 in the students and exchange visitor visa category.

From 2016 to 2017, about 62% of the newly undocumented immigrants were the overstays and 38% were those who crossed the border illegally. It is estimated that in 2017 there were more than 700,000

overstays. In 2018, almost 667,000 people overstayed their visas.

Immigration law advocates have pointed out that the DHS’s method of finding out which country has the most number of overstays is flawed. This is because the rate is computed by looking at how many visitors went to the US from a certain country and how many left within their authorized stay. Hence, Djibouti had the highest overstay rate even if the overstays were just 180 people. Chad’s 30.8% of overstays amounted to 165 people and Yemen in third place had 518 overstays. Other countries such as Mexico had an overstay rate of 1.5% but that was equivalent to 43,000 people. Canada had an overstay rate of less than 1% but that represented 88,000 people. Furthermore, the arrivals from Mexico and Canada only took into account those who arrived by sea and air. The Mexicans and Canadians who arrived in the US by land were not included in the computation. If the number of people who overstayed would be the basis for the ranking of the countries, then the top countries would be Mexico, India, China and Venezuela.

REUBEN S. SEGURITAN has been practicing law for over 30 years. For further information, you may call him at (212) 695 5281 or log on to his website at www.seguritan.com

(OPEN FORUM: BILL TO REFORM....from page 6)

of millions of dollars. This measure is a quiet yet important triumph for civil liberties.”

ACLU of Hawai’i Policy Director Mandy Fernandes added: “Policing should have nothing to do with profit. The ACLU of Hawai’i applauds the sponsors of this legislation

for addressing this problem head-on, and we hope that the Governor signs this important reform into law. The auditor’s report from 2018 verified what we’ve long suspected—that this practice is being abused in Hawai’i. The consequences of this are devastating—in-
nocent people lose their jobs

because their only means of transportation was forfeited, or their housing because their rent money was taken. It is unacceptable to maintain a system that so clearly incentivizes police and prosecutors to selectively enforce the law based on what will pad their budgets.”

(CANDID PERSPECTIVES: ARE WE....from page 11)

goal for AAPIHM.

That’s what Ressa, who grew up an American but battles now in the Philippines, is up against this month.

If you’re one of the more than 125,000 dual citizen Filipino Americans eligible to

vote in the U.S., I hope you did.

This time, it really matters. And if you didn’t, I hope you’re paying attention to what’s going on in Washington. Because the undoing of democracy is contagious.

Vigilance is required right here at home this AAPIHM.

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

PICTORIAL NEWS



The National Youth Movement for West Philippine Sea delegation (right) headed by Mr. Jose Antonio Custodio (third from right) discusses with Department of National Defense officials headed by DND Secretary Delfin Lorenzana the NYMWPS planned projects for possible consideration and collaboration. The meeting was coordinated by Saipan-based Dr. Celia Lamkin, NYMWPS founder and global chairperson. NYMWPS advocates for the preservation of the Philippine territory in the South China Sea.



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HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Annual Barrio Fiesta to Celebrate Fifty Years

KAHULUI, Hawaii – Binhi At Ani Filipino Community Center in Kahului (across Maui Waena) will be the site of the 50th Annual Barrio Fiesta, according to Nora Cabanilla-Takushi, president of Binhi at Ani, the coordinating organization. The 50th Annual Barrio Fiesta will be held on Friday, May 24 (5:00pm to 10:00 pm) and Saturday (10:00 am to 10:00 pm).

According to Cabanilla-Takushi, the Barrio Fiesta was initiated by the Maui Filipino Community Council and first held on May 31, 1970 at the

War Memorial grounds near the swimming pool. At that time, there was an influx of recent immigrants from the Philippines which caused many problems, especially in the schools. The initial purpose of the Barrio Fiesta was to share the Filipino culture with the rest of Maui County and to also instill a sense of pride in local Filipinos of the rich culture of their motherland. Today, the need to share the Filipino culture with all of Maui's residents remains true. The Filipino community is growing by leaps and bounds. According to the 2010 Census, Filipinos and

part-Filipinos now make up the second largest ethnic group in Hawai'i.

The 50th Annual Barrio Fiesta will feature food, culture, pageantry, contests, and special events. Souvenir items with the 50th Annual Barrio Fiesta logo will be available for sale. The Golden Moments Photo Exhibit will feature photos of previous Barrio Fiestas.

Participating as food vendors are various Filipino community organizations: Binhi at Ani, Alcanians, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church

Youth, Ilocos Surian Association, King's Cathedral, Magsingal, Maria Lanakila Filipino Catholic Club, Maui Filipino Community Council, San Juan (Lapog), and Sto. Nino Organization. Traditional Filipino food such as the popular adobo, pansit, lechon, lumpia, cascaron, and halo halo as well as local food such as roast chicken, teriyaki beef, sweet and spicy chicken, chow fun, and bbq pork, to name a few will be offered.

Cultural entertainment will be provided by Good Shepherd Episcopal Church Filipino Folk

Dance Troupe, Bailes de Pilipinas, Dance International Production, and La Galeria: Compania Baile Filipino. Plus inside the Center, there will be a replica of a Bahay Kubo and cultural villages depicting the varied provinces/regions of the Philippines: Cebu, Cordillera, Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, Metro Manila, Mindanao, and Pangasinan.

The pageantry will include the crowning of the 2019 Miss Barrio Fiesta and the Little Miss Barrio Fiesta Contest. A special treat will be former Miss Barrio Fiestas participating in the Santa Cruzan, depicting the finding of the Holy Cross by Queen Helena.

Help Student-Teacher Tell Story of WWII Hero Pedro Lamon Rivera

High school student Antoinette Pinera is researching the life of Private First Class Pedro Lamon Rivera, an American service member who is buried at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific.

"From February 1942 to September 1944, Pedro Rivera served in the U.S. Army, fighting with the 298th Infantry. He died, as a non-combatant, in 1944 at Guadalca-

nal on the Pacific theatre," said Pinera.

Pinera, and educator Emy Keola, are charged with telling the untold story of Private First Class Rivera as part of Sacrifice for Freedom®: World War II in the Pacific Student & Teacher Institute, a student-teacher cooperative learning program.

This institute takes 12 student and teacher teams on a once in a lifetime journey

through history. Each team selects one Silent Hero® who died in the Pacific Theater of Operations and spends months researching the story of this brave American through readings, historical research, and primary sources such as war records, draft cards, and family interviews.

In July students and teachers will assemble in Honolulu, Hawaii to learn more about their Silent Heroes as well as the unique role Hawaii played in the theater of

operations. While there, Pinera will deliver a grave side eulogy for Private First Class Rivera at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. To complete this task, Pinera is asking anyone who knew this Silent Hero to get in touch with Mrs. Keola.

If you knew Private First Class Pedro Lamon Rivera, or his family, please contact Mrs. Keola at emkeolawhs@gmail.com.

Sacrifice for Freedom®: World War II in the Pacific

Student & Teacher Institute is a student-teacher cooperative learning program. The program, coordinated through National History Day®, is sponsored by the Pearl Harbor Historic Site Partners, including Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum, Pacific Historic Parks, USS Missouri Memorial Association, and Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum at Pearl Harbor. This program brings six student-teacher teams from Hawaii together with six teams from the U.S. mainland to study World War II in the Pacific.

(Solution to Crossword No. 5 | May 4, 2019)

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

OAHU FILIPINO COMMUNITY COUNCIL (OFCC) PRESENTS THE MISS OAHU FILIPINA 2019 | June 1, 2019; 6:00 PM | Marriot Waikiki Beach Resort | For more details call: Calvin Bagaosan at 266-4334, Maricelle Redona at 295-5233, Raymond Sebastian at 799-6080

FILIPINO NURSES ORGANIZATION OF HAWAII (FNOH) EXCELLENCE IN NURSING AWARDS | August 10, 2019; 6:00 PM | Hilton Hawaiian Village Resorts Coral

Ballroom I For more details call: Lolita Echaz Ching at 387-7635, Luanne Long at 754-0594

PHILIPPINE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION IN HAWAII (PWAH) PRESENTS FILIPINIANA BALL 2019 | August 30, 2019; 6:00 PM | Hibiscus Ballroom, Ala Moana Hotel | Call details call: Letty Saban: 255-9429, Lina Mercado: 382-7751, Carlota Ader: 797 4381, Mimi Gozar: 312-0778

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MAINLAND NEWS

Trump Opposes Obamacare in Federal Court

WASHINGTON, DC.--The Trump administration declared its opposition to the entire Affordable Care Act (ACA), arguing in a federal appeals court filing that the signature Obama-era legislation was unconstitutional and should be struck down.

Such a decision could end health insurance for some 21 million Americans and affect many millions more

who benefit from the law's protections for people with pre-existing medical conditions and required coverage for pregnancy, prescription drugs and mental health.

Under the ACA, the uninsured rate among Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) went from 16% to 6.8%.

Asian-Americans may suffer the greatest loss in private health insurance coverage if the Affordable Care Act is ended. Data suggest that Asian

Americans have obtained health insurance through the marketplaces created by Obamacare at a higher rate than other groups. If Obamacare were repealed, Asian-Americans might see their dramatic gains in health insurance coverage reversed.

It's been two years since Trump and the GOP attempted to repeal the Affordable Care Act in the Rose Garden. Trump's latest petition in the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals signals the administration is trying to repeal the law.

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Ramon Sumibcay Benefit-Musical and CD Launching, June 16

Ramon Sumibcay or Mr. Ilustrado is presenting a CD Launching "Till There Was You" Musical Show on June 16, 2019, 4-8 p.m. at the New Life Theater on Nuuanu Avenue.

Proceeds from the show will benefit the Normalites Association of Hawaii Scholarship Program, La Union Circle Scholarship Funds, a project of Aurora Ancheta Huggins, and JV Read and Play Corner, Phils., a place

where underserved kids have the opportunity for learning.

Sumibcay has been singing all his life and he says recording his own voice or songs has never been in his wildest imagination. The songs in this CD experiment are from his performances upon his revelation as the Mr. Ilustrado at a fundraising gala dinner for displaced Marawi residents held in Silver Springs, Maryland in 2017. The other songs are among his favorites

particularly the carrier song Till There Was You which has become endearing to his blossoming relationship.

The musical show will include Joel Tolentino, Raymond Sebastian, Novie Novie, Julius Mina, Jon Almosara, Richard Yoon, Alexis Bugarin, Mathew Czar Bernabe, JV Serenaders, Coro Filipino, RVJ Classiques, and others.

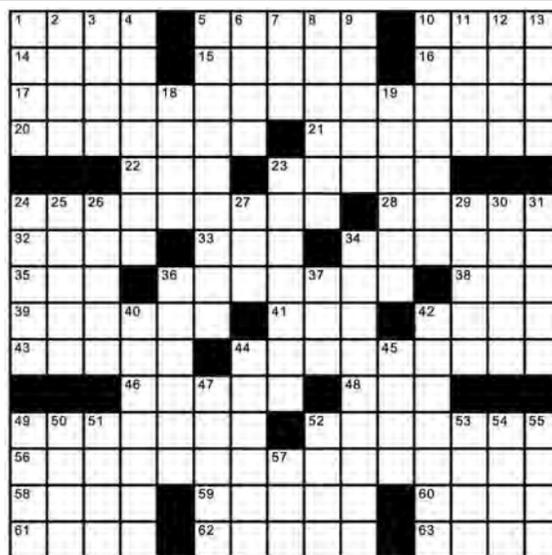
The event is presented by Island Living Productions and Entertainment under the fiscal sponsorship of Mid-Atlantic Foundation for Asian Artists (MAFFAA), a non-profit organization.

KROSWORD Blg. 5
ni Carlito Lalicon

PAHALANG

- 1. Bitak
- 5. Muwang
- 10. Dahon
- 14. Pulo
- 15. Katulong
- 16. Rito
- 17. Nagpatayung-tayong
- 20. Sinasama sa buhay
- 21. Habol
- 22. Lata
- 23. Kadyot
- 24. Kabahagi
- 28. Baak
- 32. Isang uri ng prutas
- 33. Puwang
- 34. Bintang

- 35. Etiketa
- 36. Gamit na pangtabas ng talahib
- 38. Lugaw
- 39. Manggagaway
- 41. Nakalalasing na inumin
- 42. Nakabukang-bibig na nagpapamalas ng kamanmangan
- 43. Lobo
- 44. Hagunghong
- 46. Tunay ba
- 48. Iri
- 49. Isalang sa kalan ang lulutuin
- 52. Asikaso
- 56. Inepisyente



- 58. Ningas
- 59. Balikatin
- 60. Gahis
- 61. Angkop
- 62. Ina
- 63. Walo

PABABA

- 1. Hinhin
- 2. Nasaan
- 3. Halamang-tubig
- 4. Katiwala
- 5. Kamtan
- 6. Balik
- 7. Tupe
- 8. Nasa kapanabikang bahagi
- 9. Pag-aalis ng sobra sa pamamagitan sapad na kahoy tulad ng bigas na sinasalop

- 10. Pinanggalingan
- 11. Tumba
- 12. Balat-ulo
- 13. Pangmaramihan ng 'siya'
- 18. Ano
- 19. Armadura
- 23. Pahat
- 24. Aab
- 25. Gambala
- 26. Gigi
- 27. Apog

- 29. Balbas
- 30. Kandili
- 31. Paso
- 34. Balandra
- 36. Hilingan
- 37. Lawa
- 40. Subsob
- 42. Malakas
- 44. Pamilya
- 45. Katagang nasasambit ng isang nasaktan
- 47. Ambon
- 49. Kalso
- 50. Sinala
- 51. Matingkad na kayumanggi
- 52. Ko
- 53. Bawal
- 54. Hangad
- 55. Malansang amoy
- 57. Habag

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



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