

HAWAII

FILIPINO CHRONICLE

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◆ OCTOBER 5, 2019 ◆

TECH ECONOMY SPURS EVOLUTION OF NEWS MEDIA

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EDITORIAL

Media Tech Facelift Is Revolutionizing News

Newspapers might be in decline, but far from down and out. They're swiftly moving from traditional modes of news delivery – retail and outlets-based – to digital platforms on smartphones, smartphone apps, desktops, laptops, notebooks, tablets, and soon to come internet-TV.

Having a website was essential a decade ago; now newspapers are finding that's just bare minimum to compete in today's digital marketplace. The new frontier includes having a strong presence in most social media with links to articles and working with giant news aggregators (Google News, Apple News, AP News).

The large legacy newspapers are also not just providing a print version of their articles but making videos of news (for Youtube) and entering new information spaces like blogs and podcasts.

The tangible news "paper" is almost outdated; it's now digital, audio -- both print and broadcast. Traditional broadcast media (TV network/cable news) is also not just audio, but include print versions online. The lines are blurred between what used to be just print or broadcast media; and the most successful media today are multi-media.

Change in content

Financial pressures to enter the 3 billion internet marketplace was just part one of the evolution of media as an industry. The second, and arguably, more controversial part is the industry's move to niche media as a business model, meaning that their product (news) is increasingly geared to a specific audience, most notably either to liberal or conservative news consumers.

This has created a panoply of problems to media critics. The aspirational neutrality of news, reporting on both sides of issues, is no longer the standard when news "branding" becomes a prominent business model.

To industry insiders, impartiality was idealistic at best; and what we have now is unapologetic advocacy. News is actually a reflection of partisan politics; and both have long-been a reality society liked to minimize for a more "idealized" version of the way the world is.

The new advocacy news model has given rise to both sides of media questioning each other's journalistic integrity and ethics; and perhaps more disruptive, news consumers are left confused over what's true or false, then conveniently label news un-supportive to their viewpoint as "fake" news.

The Brett Kavanaugh U.S. Supreme Court confirmation hearings and the Mueller investigations are just two news events that had liberal- and conservative-leaning media take on completely opposing viewpoints in spite of all the "same" facts available for all.

How media has transitioned to becoming more partisan is the increased prominence of editorializing. To legacy newspapers, the bigger news have become their editorials. To broadcast media, there is less time spent on actual reporting and more time dedicated to news analysis by political analysts, attorneys, politicians, former top military brass or experts in various fields related to the news topic at hand.

News reporters and anchors are now just a part of most media staff, the "facilitators," for both print and broadcast; while hired consultants, analysts (political, legal, business, military, etc.) and pundits make up another (arguably more significant) part.

Informed and Engaged

Whether these media technological and content trends are on the right path is debatable. Ultimately, two questions can help to clear up this debate: Are we more informed? And consequently are we more engaged in our communities based off what we know?

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Ot's safe to say the entire news industry is completely different from what it used to be just a decade ago. The tech economy has forced both print and broadcast media to make big transformational changes in the way news is delivered and in content-style itself. Even what we might consider as "media" is changing.

For our cover story this issue, associate editor Edwin Quinabo gives a thorough assessment of all the rapid changes news organizations are undertaking that is nothing short of tech-Darwinism. For starters, the traditional lines of print and broadcast media no longer truly exist; increasingly more newspapers are producing audio-video to complement their stories; TV cable and network news organizations are providing print write-ups in addition to audio-video. Print and broadcast media are moving toward mixed-media presentation of news to take full advantage of the new platforms (smartphones, notebooks, etc.) and new spaces (all social networks) available to them. In order to survive, news media have jumped into this new digital pool; but it comes at a cost. Find out the drawbacks in the article, as well as how even news content is changing. The rise of niche media, or tailoring news for a specific audience is almost the new standard in journalism. On top of tech and content changes, the "Fourth Estate" is seeing new competition from news bloggers and podcasters. It's fascinating how all industries are evolving today to remain competitive and relevant, including our own industry.

Our readers should know that the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle is on top of these changes. For our latest content, visit: Website: thefilipinochronicle.com; Facebook: Hawaii Filipino Chronicle; Instagram: [@the_filipino_chronicle](https://www.instagram.com/the_filipino_chronicle); Twitter: [@HiFilChronicle](https://twitter.com/HiFilChronicle).

Also in this issue, read HFC columnist Seneca Moraleda-Puguan's "Winning the Fight Against Infectious Diseases," specifically addressing children vaccination -- an issue that has been getting attention of late due to parents' non-compliance or resistance to it. The consequence is that children are dying from diseases that already have been proven to be preventable with modern vaccinations.

HFC's Melissa Martin, Ph.D. submits "Stuff and More Stuff," an article about Americans' obsession with consumerism. HFC columnist Atty. Reuben Seguritan writes about "Medicare Eligibility for New Immigrants," an important topic as many immigrants stress over the possibility of getting sick and having no health insurance. If you are a Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR), you will find in this article that there might be options for you, depending on how long you lived and worked in the U.S.

In our news section, read how Hawaii is joining a coalition of 24 Attorneys General in opposing President Donald Trump's proposal to change the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which could result in changes that would take away basic food assistance from more than three million families and disqualify hundreds of thousands of children from free school meals. Critics are saying this proposal is "inhumane" and will impact our most vulnerable sectors of society -- children and seniors.

Lastly, I'd like to remind our readers that the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle will hold its 25th Anniversary Celebration, Excellence Awards on November 23, 2019 at the Ala Moana Hotel, Hibiscus Ballroom. At this event, we will honor a total of 34 individuals and organizations that are making a difference in our community. We will also officially launch our HFC scholarship program; and if a qualified student has been selected by then, introduce the awardee. Look for our story about the scholarship awards program in our October 19 issue and the cover story of our 34 awardees in our November 2 issue.

Thank you to our many readers and advertisers for your continued support. Until next time, warmest *Aloha* and *Mabuhay!*



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Chona A. Montesines-Sonido

EDITORIALS

Combatting Climate Change Is A Priority for the 2020 Election

GNN recently did a first ever town hall with presidential candidates to talk specifically on the climate crisis, one of the top issues for Democrats in 2020. No doubt, the need to reverse climate change is already a scientific fact, but how compelling it will be as a general election strategy remains uncertain because the average American is still unconvinced of the urgency.

To begin with, “climate change” is not synonymous with “weather change” from rain or shine like many Baby Boomers think. At least most in the Millennial generation understand this term to mean – that climate change specif-

ically refers to the change in the Earth’s temperature, mostly due to burning of fossil fuels which releases carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

Why rising temperature becomes dangerous? – it contributes to the melting of polar ice caps, warms oceans, then leads to rising sea levels that cause flooding along coasts and islands; it also contributes to extreme weather conditions like droughts that can lead to wildfires or bigger storms, and hurricanes that occur with greater frequency. These effects could all be verified with high tech instruments and computers; and are accepted by a majority of mainstream scientists to be linked to climate change.

The human toll is evident when natural disasters strike; but many people are still not making the connection that what we are doing to the environment has a direct link to extreme weather.

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is one of the largest bodies of international scientists ever assembled to study a scientific issue, involving more than 2,500 scientists from more than 130 countries. The IPCC has concluded that most of the warming observed during the past 50 years is attributable to human activities.

Why is climate change denial still prevalent?

In part because of giant oil and coal industries misinfor-

mation campaigns. Make no mistake there are powerful industry forces protecting their profits at the expense of the environment; and many politicians, mostly on the Republican side, are protecting these industries’ interests. Second, these large industries employ hundreds of thousands of people who want to protect their jobs – which is where this issue becomes extremely sensitive.

But the larger, dire picture is that time is running out. If the current trajectory persists, scientists say there would be irreversible damage that will, not if, result in surging ocean levels, destruction of vast numbers of species, economic devastation and mass human migrations from areas that will

become unlivable.

What must be done

Education and awareness must translate to political policy changes as soon as the next presidential election. It’s already clear where the Trump administration is hunkered down when it comes to environmental protection – he sides with the climate deniers and oil-coal industry special interests.

The U.S. must rejoin the Paris Accord and work with the world community in reversing climate change. It must aggressively promote clean renewable energy in the hope that traditional earth-damaging energy sources will eventually be replaced. A massive PR campaign must be launched

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EDITORIAL: MEDIA TECH...from page 2)

The answer to the first question is a definite yes. But while people are more informed by the easy access of news (by mere seconds online), digital algorithms screen the type of news people are receiving based on their searches and repeat visits. So people who primarily get their news through news feeds online are seeing tailored news specifically for them and are missing out on news with countering viewpoints.

The answer to the second question is a mixed bag: activism on issues are on the rise, but so are people being turned off by the divisiveness of news. Both couldn’t be better illustrated than news surrounding Trump. The news overload on the president has created mixed reactions: those against the president were inspired to go out in record number and win the Midterm; while many Americans find partisan news on Trump unbearable and just ignore it altogether.

New Entrants

Besides changes in technology and content, the “Fourth Estate” has expanded beyond legacy newspapers, network and cable news.

Ethic and alternative news media used to be that periphery force in the industry for decades. Many from these

media are trained professional writers and journalists; some of them moonlight as freelance writers for ethnic and alternative news media while holding positions in the larger mainstream media.

But what we see now is the rise of amateur or non-journalists reporting on news and editorializing through blogs (for print-digital) and podcasters (video-audio). The internet, better and cheaper technology have made this possible. Content of these amateur media is usually far to the right or left politically and engaged in conspiracy theories. Mainstream journalists say this growing media exacerbates confusion over facts and truth level in media as a whole. But news bloggers and podcasters see themselves as the alternative to corporatists’ stranglehold of the mainstream media where they believe news is too filtered and limited in scope.

From the viewpoint that a society is enhanced through democratization of ideas and free speech, the new “common-folk” blog-podcast media, arguably is beneficial to society in the long-run predicated on the masses having sufficient education to make sound knowledgeable opinions on content.

It may sound elitist, but criticism that established me-

dia have that not all opinions are equal --holds real value in this case.

The blog-podcast sphere is becoming so popular that big media (like the Huffington Post) are entering that media market, ironically, and may eventually transform this niche media in favor of the news professionals.

Uncertainty

It remains unclear how technological advances -- and the need for media to respond to market forces within this framework -- will further change the way news is delivered or change content itself. The changes we already see are nothing short of head-spinning.

What is clear is that traditional media as an industry is doing all it can to evolve to our increasingly fast paced world as other industries. Through these changes, we can only hope that media’s fight for economic survival doesn’t come at the expense of compromising pillar journalistic ethics of truth and fairness.



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Evolution of News Media Is Tech-heavy Darwinism at Work

By Edwin Quinabo

Naysayers wrote off newspapers when cable television stormed on the scene in the 1970s. Fast forward to the 1990s, the same doomsday predictions of newspapers have been swirling around since the popularization of the internet. Decades later, guess what? Newspapers are not dead, but evolving.

What could be dead in the long-run, though, is singularity in traditional modes of delivering news. How? Newspapers are not just moving online with articles, but some are producing news videos like the Washington Post. Cable news giants are evolving to market trends, too; some now print news along with video like CNN.

The move into “mixed” media is made possible due to the new technological platforms available like smartphones, tablets, TV internet and the new digital spaces that news are now commonly found like social media, podcasts and blogs.

Mixed media, new platforms, new web-social media spaces and the speed and magnitude of news are nothing short of “evolutionary,” hardcore market Darwinism. This is today’s news media: futuristic, chameleon and complex.

Marisol Bustamante, 24, born and raised on Oahu but now living in New York pursuing her master’s degree, says she gets her news completely from newsfeeds on Facebook.

“I’m so busy with school and work and don’t have time to watch TV for news. When I check my social media, which is so convenient to do on my computer or smartphone, I get a lot of newsfeeds from newspapers and TV news stations like CNN and MSNBC. Sometimes I go to Youtube to catch news programs that I missed

like the presidential debates or any other big current event.

“With a simple click, I can view articles or watch delayed broadcasts on topics I find interesting. I don’t have to watch a whole news segment or comb through pages of articles that do not interest me.

“This way is fast and convenient. I know I am missing out on a lot of information I otherwise would be getting if I had to watch a whole news program or physically comb through pages of a hardcopy newspaper like the way they

used to in the old days.

“But this is our fast-paced world now, and everyone I know especially students, do the same. What the media is doing is just responding to our lifestyle. Industries that do not keep pace get washed up and become obsolete.

“Newspapers are still alive because they’re not just about picking up a hard copy from your neighborhood retail store. Nobody has time to just make a special trip to the store to get news. Now most newspapers are accessible by the minute or second on your phone,” said Marisol.

Florangel Rosario Braid, Ph.D., former president of the Asian Institute of Journalism and Communication and former faculty at UH-Manoa, warned about getting news from social media as what Marisol almost solely relies on.

“The digital revolution brought new algorithms or set of rules used in problem-solving operations, and these determine which content news consumers get to see,” said Braid. So what consumers of news get on social media are tailored news based on their interests and political slant. This filtering limits a wide array of information and works against expanding reader’s perspective.

Despite some drawbacks,



news organization owners say today’s tech economy is demanding a greater online presence. Publisher and managing editor of the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle (HFC) Chona Montesines-Sonido, said: “With today’s advances in technology, the delivery of news to our readers has changed substantially. We can no longer ignore the need of not having a presence online or on the internet and every print media should establish and develop their websites and social media accounts to be attuned to the changing needs of their readers and advertisers. Otherwise, those media that cannot adjust to the changing needs of our time and their audience will be obsolete and die off. In addition, they should invest on social media optimization as well as search engine optimization for their websites to increase awareness of their paper online.”

Sonido said HFC is in the final stages of launching a new website with greater online capabilities from their previous one. For example, one new feature is to be able to subscribe to the newspaper with one click. She said the newspaper is also beefing up its social media pages.

The Internet Market

According to Pew Research Center, more than 75 percent of American adults use the internet regularly. That number grew from 50 percent

in just eight years, and could be in the 90 percent range in a few years.

The world internet market is more than 3 billion people and there are more than 857 million active web sites. This is the huge market newspapers and broadcast networks are competing in, in addition to the traditional local, physical markets – retail for newspapers and cable TV for broadcast.

Like Marisol, millions of Americans get their news from the internet. A 2010 Pew Research Center report found that more Americans receive their news from the internet than from hard copy newspapers and radio, and that the internet is just behind cable and local news TV.

The internet news market is so huge that there are “news aggregators” such as Google News, Yahoo News, that profit from providing links to major media articles or videos.

There are also news applications for smartphones.

Major TV manufacturers are also developing TV with internet hook-ups on a mass scale that will put yet another twist on an old news platform (the TV).

New Competition: Bloggers and Podcasters

A few decades ago, the new entrants that competed with the print and broadcast media giants were alternative,

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COVER STORY

(from page 4)

niche, and ethnic media.

Besides those, add to them now are bloggers and podcasters.

Bloggers (for print) and podcasters (for broadcast) are the latest competition and expanding the profession of mass communications. A blog is an online informational website where bloggers write their opinions on any subject, and increasingly are news-content oriented. A podcast is a taped or livestream talk show format on the internet that anyone with average tech-video skills can do.

Both the blogging and podcasting market initially were populated by mostly amateurs, but the industry has transformed that even heavy-weight news sources – such as the Daily Kos and the Huffington Post – are entering the blog-podcast spheres.

Accuracy, ethics, downgrade or democratization of journalism?

The explosion of new information-sharing modes has opened a Pandora's box for journalism as a profession. While established news professionals are taking part in this digital renaissance, industry critics say the amateurs are downgrading news with inaccurate or outright false content.

Journalist Daniel Petty, digital director of MediaNews Group (affiliate of the parent company that owns the Denver Post, Boston Herald, San Mercury News, and Orange County Register, among others), said “Social media has given us access to more information sources than ever, but its changing our perceptions of each other and crushing the business model for quality journalism.”

The caveat is that not all opinions are equal; some are more researched, well-informed than others. But what's happening now is news professionals and amateurs are sharing the same channels of news distribution, at least online and digitally.

Adding to an environment of doubt, the news media is faced with unprecedented attacks politically. President

Donald Trump has been leading an anti-media campaign to debunk facts unfavorable to him and his administration.

Writer Tom Stoppard said, “The whole notion of journalism being an institution whose fundamental purpose is to educate and inform and even, one might say, elevate, has altered under commercial pressure, perhaps, into a different kind of purpose, which is to divert and distract and entertain.”

Petty brings up how ad revenues based on the number of clicks can impact content. “Clicks deliver you, dear reader, to sites that get us the ad revenue that we need to keep the lights on. We're trapped in this relentless cycle: more click-driven posts, with grabber headlines, that lead to more clicks, and more ad revenue.”

Braid notes a nefarious side of today's news environment: “Although Internet promotes access and diffusion of information, a public good that provides opportunities in improving life, it also brings risks and endangers to the democratic order. Like becoming a tool for state and private power to propagate disinformation.

“Concentration in modern capitalism is magnified in digital markets where a handful of large corporations, i.e., Facebook and Google, exercise more power and influence than other entities,” said Braid.

She says this is what's happening in the newspaper industry: “We are now entering a ‘post-era news’ – no longer reportable truth but a version of ‘fake news’ battling with another version of fake news. (We have) a recycling of ideas and opinions; social media is now the new gatekeepers, replacing serious news; (there are) fewer readers of full articles as they turn to ‘extractive summaries’.”

Then there is the counter opinion that new bloggers and podcasters hold – that the internet is a great equalizer and opportunity for smaller media to share alternative opinions on news that previously were mitigated by the gatekeepers of big money corporate media.

They argue, sure there are

fringe conspiracy theory type news bloggers and podcasters, but there are also quality news being put out by people who are just not financially oiled as the big guys.

The people can decide for themselves what is news to them. Just like the adage, “beauty is in the eye of the beholder,” so is news.

The “Fourth Estate” is no longer just comprised of legacy newspapers and network giants, but is far more democratic with smaller mass communication participants.

A future trend Braid sees that could be beneficial to all new digital media is a focus on trust indicators for news. She says currently there are 120 news sites that have trust indicators with link to policies on ethics, fact-checking.

This could help readers decipher the professionals from the non-professionals, and reestablish trust of what people are reading online.

People are not reading the same news

Besides new platforms and spaces for news; news itself is changing dramatically. News content has transformed; and one obvious trend is niche news.

News have increasingly become a consumer commodity – where the product is tailored to a specific market audience, namely that either news are geared and slanted for the liberal or conservative markets. This is the modus operandi of the biggest news players like Fox and MSNBC.

The ethnic media was one of the pioneers of niche news. They've been at it longer which is why some say the ethnic media remains one of

“We are now entering a ‘post-era news’ – no longer reportable truth but a version of ‘fake news’ battling with another version of fake news. (We have) a recycling of ideas and opinions; social media is now the new gatekeepers, replacing serious news; (there are) fewer readers of full articles as they turn to ‘extractive summaries’.”

— **FLORANGEL ROSARIO BRAID.PH.D.,**
Fmr. President, Asian Institute of Journalism and Communication and Fmr. UH-Manoa faculty

the most enduring in the entire industry.

But the role of ethnic media, its mission and creation, has always been one of advocacy for a group under- or misrepresented by the larger mainstream media. To ethnic media professionals, this is a huge difference. They point out larger niche media like Fox News is primarily business and commercial driven, and less out of need and principle like ethnic media.

Niche news actually isn't new at all. Historically, the

earliest newspapers in the United States were niche oriented and tied to political parties. For example, the Gazette of the United States supported the Federalists and the National Gazette supported the then Democratic Republicans. In time, there was a shift to independence in the news business, more objective and separate from political parties. But critics say in reality, that has always been aspirational, and never truly existed, if at all possible.

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TALK STORY with Congressman Ed Case

Please join me for five more Talk Story community meetings throughout my First Congressional District. I'll discuss national issues and my efforts for Hawai'i in Congress, listen to your thoughts and concerns, and share how my office can help you and yours. Light refreshments served. I'll also host a separate phone/online meeting for anyone who can't make my Talk Stories.

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6:30PM-8:30PM
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Thursday, October 3, 2019

6:30PM-8:30PM
Pearlridge Elementary Cafeteria
98-940 Moanalua Road,
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Friday, October 4, 2019

6:30PM-8:30PM
Kokohead Elementary Cafeteria
189 Lunalilo Home Road,
East Honolulu

Saturday, October 5, 2019

9:30AM-11:30AM
Mililani Mauka Elementary Cafeteria
95-1111 Makaikai Street,
Mililani Town/Mililani Mauka
1:30PM-3:30PM
Kapolei Middle School Cafeteria
91-5335 Kapolei Parkway, **Kapolei**

ELECTRONIC TALK STORY

Monday, October 7, 2019 – 6:30 PM to 8 PM – Connect with me either through phone or social media. To sign up, please go to my web site at <https://case.house.gov>. Register with your name, phone number and zip code to receive phone calls that will automatically connect you with me – Live. For more information – please call my District Office at 808-650-6688

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OPINION



By Melissa Martin, Ph.D.

Americans love stuff. And consumerism has reached an all-time high in the USA.

We put stuff in closets, basements, garages. And attics. Drawers, boxes, and containers. Shelves, cabinets, and tables. Stuff-holders. Purses, back-packs, and bags—we like to take stuff with us.

Women own she-sheds and men own he-sheds. Outdoor buildings for more stuff. Rented storage for more stuff.

Birthdays and holidays, we get and give stuff. Weddings and anniversaries, we get and give stuff. Graduations and ceremonies, we get and give stuff. Souvenirs and t-shirts—vacation stuff.

Collectors collect stuff. Antique stuff. Modern stuff.

Stuff and More Stuff

We donate stuff and throw away stuff to make room for new stuff.

We buy larger vehicles to transport more stuff. We buy larger houses to hold more stuff. We build detached garages to store more stuff.

Kids want big, bigger, biggest. The latest gadgets or gizmos. “Look at my stuff!” Parents throw money into a dark hole instead of giving kids what they really want and need—a parent’s time instead of stuff, stuff, and more stuff.

Companies spend boo-coo bucks on advertising to entice, manipulate, or scare us into buying stuff. Americans are consuming fools.

We buy lots of cheap stuff from China—a country that scoffs at human rights. American dollars help finance China’s military—a totalitarian regime

Estates and auctions sell dead people’s stuff. Humans aren’t born with stuff and when we die stuff stays behind. No stuff in the uterus and no stuff in the casket. “You can’t hook

up a U-Haul to a hearse,” proclaimed Randy Frost.

We visit museums to gander, glimpse, and glance at stuff. Wisconsin is home to the Mustard Museum. It holds a collection of 5,700 mustards from all 50 states and more than 70 countries. The Allen County Museum in Lima, Ohio houses a peculiar exhibit of things swallowed and removed. Visit Minnesota to see the SPAM Museum. Yes, I agree that historical stuff can be interesting, but it’s still stuff.

Landfills are full of discarded stuff. We’ve polluted land, sea, and sky with stuff. The Earth cries out, “Stop wasting me on your useless stuff!” The US is experiencing a stuff epidemic. The graveyard of abandoned technology is full. Dumpsters of defunct computer components abound.

“WALL-E” is a 2008 computer-animated science fiction film about a trash compactor robot on deserted Earth. He cleans up the garbage that hu-

mans left behind. Where did the people go? To another planet to stack up more stuff.

What happens when shopping spirals out of control, and in some cases, becomes an addiction? “Compulsive buying is characterized by excessive preoccupation or poor impulse control with shopping, and adverse consequences, like marital conflict and financial problems,” according to a 2019 article on Psychology Today’s website.

Humans attach their own meaning to stuff. Memories are embedded into our stuff, so it becomes difficult to give away or discard stuff.

Do we really need all this stuff? And when does too much stuff turn into hoarding?

According to Randy O. Frost and Gail Steketee, co-authors of “Stuff: Compulsive Hoarding and the Meaning of Things,” people keep items and objects for various reasons. We have a use for it, we don’t want to waste it, we like it, or we keep it for sentimental reasons. “Recent studies of hoarding put the prevalence rate at somewhere between 2 and 5 percent of the population.

That means that six million to fifteen million Americans suffer from hoarding that causes them distress or interferes with their ability to live.”

What will happen if we simplify? Our economy thrives because of stuff. Closets bulge with clothes that are too little or too big because weight goes up and down. Or we desire the newest fashionable apparel. Does the world need another clothing brand? More lotions and potions? More new-fangled toys?

Blessed are the recyclers. Reduce, reuse, recycle. “Recycling is the process of collecting and processing materials that would otherwise be thrown away as trash and turning them into new products. Recycling can benefit your community and the environment.” www.epa.gov.

Do you own stuff or does stuff own you? “The folly of endless consumerism sends us on a wild goose-chase for happiness through materialism,” declared Bryant McGill.

MELISSA MARTIN, Ph.D., is an author, columnist, educator, and therapist. She lives in Ohio. www.melissamartinchildreauthor.com.

BIG ISLAND MEMORIES

By Grace Larson



HILO Visayan Club Delegates during the 33rd Congress of Visayan Organization Convention in Kahului, Maui last Aug. 24, 2019.



COVO Delegates from different islands posed together after the recent convention held in Maui Beach Hotel hosted by Sto. Nino Club of Maui spearheaded by Tess Sotto.

►►
Baby David Larson will be christened at New Hope Church in Hilo, Hawaii on Oct. 6, 2019. Reception to follow at Poly Feng Yuan Restaurant in Hilo.



A pose to remember at the residence of Lapu-Lapu awardee Margarita “Dayday” Hopkins.

WHAT'S UP, ATTORNEY?



By Atty. Emmanuel S. Tipon

In the fervor to impeach President Trump, his political enemies have ignored the text of the Constitution. As a civil libertarian who voted against Trump, I remind those who would impeach him not to run roughshod over a document that has protected us all for two and a quarter centuries. — Alan Dershowitz, Harvard law professor and author of *The Case Against Impeaching Trump*.

On July 25, 2019, President Donald Trump called President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine to congratulate him. In the course of the conversation, President Trump said:

“There’s a lot of talk about Biden’s son, that Biden stopped the prosecution and a lot of people want to find out about that so whatever you can do with the Attorney General would be great. Biden went around bragging that he stopped the prosecution so if you can look into it... It sounds horrible to me.” Memorandum of Telephone Conversation of President Trump and President Zelensky published by the New York Times, perceived as anti-Trump and purveyor of all the fake news that is unfit to print. <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/09/25/us/politics/trump-ukraine-transcript.html?action=click&module=RelatedLinks&pg-type=Article>

Hunter Biden, son of Democrat Party presidential candidate Joe Biden reportedly served on the board of Burisma Holdings Limited, a Ukrainian gas company, from 2014 to 2018. A former Ukrainian Prime Minister Mykola Azarov has called for an investigation of Hunter Biden to determine whether he complied with Ukrainian law, according to

Impeaching Trump for Asking Ukrainian President to Find Out Why Biden’s Son’s Prosecution Was Stopped – Will It Fly?

The Hill. <https://thehill.com/policy/international/463532-ex-ukrainian-prime-minister-says-joe-bidens-son-must-be-investigated>

“Biden has spoken openly that, as vice president, he held a \$1 billion loan guarantee over the head of Ukraine’s president, forcing him to fire a corrupt prosecutor who was despised by the international community. That prosecutor at one time investigated the Ukrainian gas company on whose board sat Biden’s son, Hunter,” reported The Hill.

<https://thehill.com/opinion/campaign/463341-joe-bidens-conundrum-more-liked-muskie-or-gary-hart>

“Joe Biden’s boast about his “quid pro quo” with Ukraine is compelling evidence that he may have used his public office to confer a benefit (\$1 billion) in exchange for something of value – shutting down an investigation to help his son. This is where the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act comes into play, as well as other federal felony statutes such as bribery, extortion, and honest services fraud. The Justice Department would be justified in investigating Biden to determine whether he took any official action involving taxpayer money as Vice Pres-

ident to benefit his son,” according to Gregg Jarret of Fox News. <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/ken-starr-points-to-key-word-in-whistleblower-complaint-says-it-suggests-poor-judgment>

President Trump had the right to ask Ukraine for assistance “in connection with the investigation, prosecution, and prevention of offenses, and in proceedings related to criminal matters” pursuant to the “TREATY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND UKRAINE ON MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS, signed at Kiev, Ukraine on July 22, 1998, and entered into force February 27, 2001. <https://www.state.gov/12978>. This treaty was negotiated during the time of President Bill Clinton, a Democrat.

HOUSE IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY PREMATURE AND BASELESS

Even before President Trump publicly released the Memorandum of his Telephone Conversation with President Zelensky, the U.S. House of Representatives commenced a formal impeachment inquiry against President Trump to determine whether the President committed an

impeachable crime based on a whistleblower’s report that President Trump had asked the Ukrainian President to look into a presidential rival’s son’s activities.

DEEP THROAT II

The identity of the “whistleblower,” whom we shall give the pseudonym “Deep Throat II” has not been publicly revealed but there is a lot of speculation – that she is a woman, works for the federal government, and pro- Demon-

crat. Go to Facebook if you want to know what they are calling the whistle blower.

Deep Throat II does not have first-hand knowledge of the conversation of President Trump and President Zelensky. To impeach a President based on hearsay information violates due process.

Trump said that he wants to meet his accuser, Deep Throat II. Trump has a constitutional right to confront his accuser. Will the Democrats prevent him? *(continue on page 14)*

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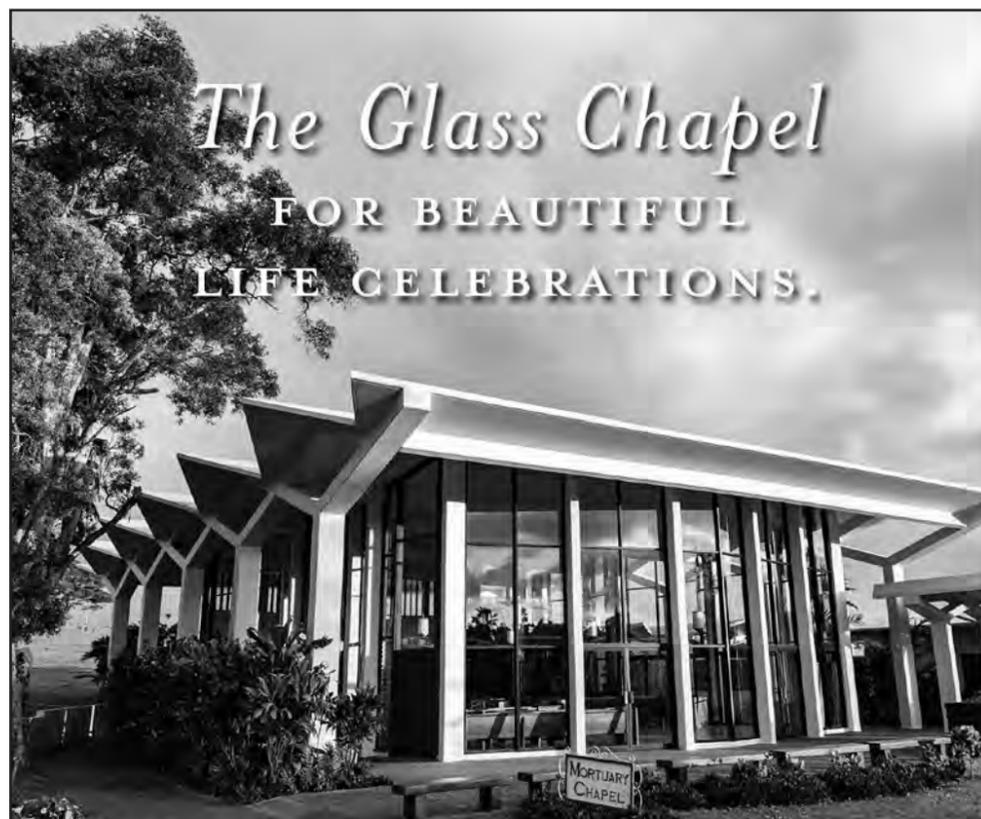
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HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Hawaii Opposes Trump Proposal to Take Away Food Assistance from Millions of Poor

Hawaii Attorney General Clare E. Connors joined a coalition of 24 Attorneys General opposing the Trump administration's proposed changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The proposed changes would take basic food assistance away from more than three million people, disqualify hundreds of thousands of children from free school meals, and punish working families with modest savings.

"The proposed rule is being implemented in violation of federal law," said Attorney General Connors. "It takes away the ability of states to determine who in their communities need basic food assistance."

Based on federal guidelines, each state designs its own process for how low-income people can apply for SNAP benefits. The states must track whether partici-



pants meet the income and asset requirements for the program on a monthly basis. The Trump administration's proposed rule would eliminate a long-standing policy known as "broad based categorical eligibility" (BBCE). BBCE allows states to consider local economic factors like high costs of living or costs of childcare when determining eligibility for SNAP.

The AGs argue the proposed rule harms the states by:

- Taking food assistance away from 3.1 million vulnerable people: If finalized, the proposed rule would cause 3.1 million

low-income people, including working poor families with children, seniors, and people with disabilities, to lose critical nutrition assistance. According to the administration's own calculations, the rule would cause low-income Americans to lose at least \$10.5 billion in SNAP benefits over four years.

- Causing 265,000 children to lose free school meals: Children in households that receive SNAP are eligible for free meals at school. This rule change would mean an estimated

265,000 children would lose access to free school meals, leading to food insecurity and malnourishment.

- Disproportionately taking SNAP benefits from seniors: According to estimates, this rule change would have a disproportionate impact on seniors. More than 13 percent of all SNAP households with elderly members would lose food assistance, which could potentially force low-income seniors to choose between paying for necessary medication and food.

Harming public health and increasing healthcare costs: States' medical, disability, and other systems will be burdened when people who lose SNAP benefits become food insecure or malnourished.

- Harming state economies: SNAP benefits are provided to low-income

individuals with immediate spending needs, and SNAP boosts local economies by increasing consumer demand, injecting money directly into the economy, creating jobs, and supporting national and local retailers and the food industry generally.

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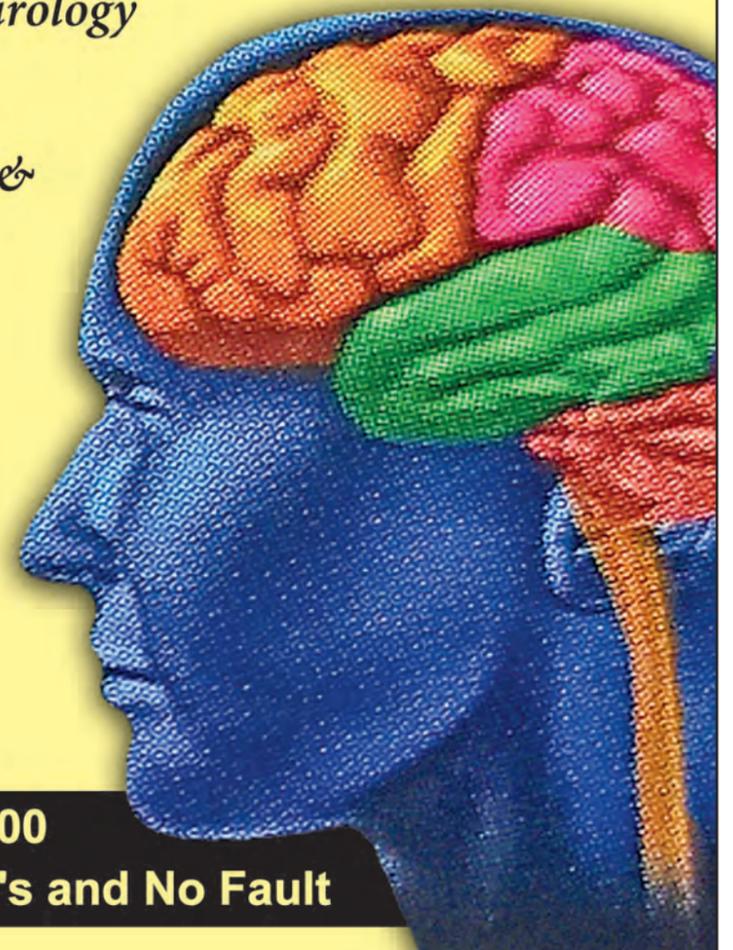
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AS I SEE IT



By Elpidio R. Estioko

Key Initiatives and Ongoing Projects will Improve Honolulu's Livability Even More – Councilmember Elefante

Two weeks ago, I rejoiced when I found out that Honolulu, Hawaii's capital city, was selected as the most liveable city in the US according to the Global Liveability Index for 2019. This was of course based on factors which didn't include the cost of living in the city and other local issues, which factors may somehow put the selection in question. But with the key initiatives and ongoing projects of the city to address local issues and projecting more development plans, a member of the City Council believes it will enhance even more the living conditions of the island residents.

Few days ago, an island survey revealed that there are major issues affecting island residents that may somehow impact the island citizens' living conditions. Hawaii Public Radio (HPR) also came out with conversations with Hawaii city mayors concerning issues citizens think they are facing. Again, these maybe factors that may be affecting the selection

of Honolulu as the most liveable city in the US.

Traffic and affordable housing are the most pressing issues for island residents, among others, according to the survey for the Hawaii Association of Realtors. Also, based on HPR's radio conversations, other concerns include housing, homelessness, enforcement or lack of enforcement of zoning laws, managing the influx of tourists, and planning for climate change as regards to upgrading the sewer, water systems and roads.

Councilmember Brandon Elefante, in his email conversation with this writer, said. "The steps we are taking to make Honolulu and the island of Oahu the most liveable city is continuing to focus on key infrastructure projects like building our 20 mile, 21 station rail transit system, improving our roads, upgrading our sewer system to comply with our consent decree with the federal government, and looking at offering more affordable housing. We just had a lengthy discussion on affordable housing policies in the Committee on Zoning, Planning, and Housing today."

Responding to the question on how local issues are affecting the published report that Honolulu is the most liveable city in the US, he said: "With these key initiatives and in working with my fellow state and federal partners, we will be able to improve the livability of Honolulu for many generations to come."

In recent weeks, HPR staff talked with Hawaii's county mayors about the issues and concerns they are confronting on Oahu and the Neighbor Islands. Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell addressed some of the hard questions facing the city.

In the radio conversation, Mayor Caldwell said, in response to housing and homelessness in relation to the tourism industry, he said: "With the existence of illegal vacation rentals, of the 16,000 vacation rentals, almost half of it are illegal. We don't want to eliminate them but to strike a balance to regulate them. I don't want to kill the tourism industry but find a balance that will be workable by reducing the number of vacation rentals and introducing a bill to regulate them, requiring them to register with the Planning or Housing Commission. Registration is the key to legalize them and make enforcement easier and more efficient. We are not hiring more inspectors (just hire whenever necessary) because it is very expensive, labor-wise... but we are utilizing our present inspectors and using technology to catch people."

Under the proposed bill, first violators will be fined \$25,000.00; \$50,000.00 for second violations; and third - \$100,000.000.

Under the first bill, the Mayor said when a homeowner is constructing their house, they need to disclose that what they're building is not a vacation house. This way, if found violating the law, they can be

penalized.

The second bill specifically states that it is a criminal offense if they violate their disclosure.

He also urged the citizens to report to the city illegal vacation rentals so they can conduct investigations and penalize erring homeowners.

As to homelessness, he said he will encourage regular dialogues with agencies involved with homeless people, NGO's and other organizations working with homeless people. They also need to gather data and complete information of homeless people and make them comply with requirements needed for shelter/housing. The problems homeless people are creating, especially in Waikiki Beach...like taking over picnic tables, homeless damaging rest rooms, and

lifeguards concerns, are being addressed in the two bills in the Legislature (51 and 52) the Mayor has introduced.

The city government, through the efforts of Mayor Caldwell and Councilmember Elefante, is trying its best to live up to the selection of Honolulu as the most liveable city in the US. They said that the city's efforts and other planned projects in response to the citizens' concerns, "will be able to improve the liveability of Honolulu for many generations to come."

City officials are not sleeping, neither complacent on the issues but are addressing them to make sure all the concerns of the citizens are addressed!

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.

(EDITORIALS: COMBATTING...from page 3)

to let Americans know that a green economy will not lead to an empty hole in the economy but actually has the potential to drive-up economic activity and spur tens of thousands of new jobs.

We have the means to build massive solar and wind farms across the entire nation. Tax break incentives should be extended to clean energy startups and those already leading the green revolution. Cap-and-trade programs that force polluters to cut emissions should be implemented or even a carbon tax on violators. Homebuyers should also be protected with stricter restrictions on development on flood-prone areas. People shouldn't be sold real estate where inundation occurs frequently.

How average Americans can help?

Consider installing rooftop solar, use air conditioners less (they emit ozone-eating chemicals), use energy wisely, use energy-efficient light bulbs, unplug computers, TVs and other electronic devices

when they are not in use, wash clothes in cold or warm water, not hot water, take public transportation or carpool when possible, or buy a hybrid vehicle.

These are all smaller steps that can make a difference; but the larger impact will require political changes.

Perhaps this is why CNN has dedicated an entire segment on climate change alone for presidential candidates to discuss their plans to reduce carbon emissions and transition the nation to a clean-energy economy and lifestyle.

The biggest change to saving the environment is ultimately being a smarter voter by choosing pro-environmental politicians. Find out where your political representatives stand on clean energy; and go one step further, let them know how important combating climate change is to you.

The Millennial generation rightly puts climate change high up in their priorities; it's time the rest of the nation do the same.

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CANDID PERSPECTIVES



By Emil Guillermo

Harvard Affirmative Action Decision Doesn't Heal Asian American Divide

I am an affirmative action baby. The Harvard decision yesterday makes me cheer. And cry.

It solves nothing. It only makes that crack in the community even larger.

I attended Harvard when it was less than 2 percent Asian American, and they thought Filipinos were more like West Coast Puerto Ricans.

So I know the problems of affirmative action at Harvard.

And it's not simply about getting in.

It's really about the support or lack of support once you do get in. The Harvard affirmative action case decided yesterday by Federal Judge Allison D. Burroughs doesn't address that.

That's not to take away against her decision. But after more than 50 years of affirmative action's legal struggles, the battle is still stuck at the admissions gate. Who gets in? Who gets rejected? Every landmark case adds a new twist. The 60's Baake case at UC Davis outlawed quotas. The Grutter case at Michigan withstood the battle of the colorblind. Most recently, the "whole student" approach to affirmative action survived the challenge of a beleaguered white female student, Abigail Fisher at the University of Texas.

In each case, the Supreme Court clearly established what should by now be considered settled law. Race can be used in admissions, as long as the approach does not include quotas and maintains a narrow focus.

If the Harvard case crossed any of those lines this time around, then affirmative action would be struck down at America's top university, a crushing blow.

THE CASE

Judge Burroughs' decision went over a case made complicated by the star witnesses who offered two differing statistical models. The pro-Harvard one was more complete and showed there was no discrimi-

nation. The anti-Harvard statistical model was less complete and didn't convince the judge of any discrimination. It even left out the legacy and athletic factors, 30 percent of Harvard admits. Beyond the numbers, the pro-Harvard side had some real students testify about the value of affirmative action. The anti-Harvard side didn't feature any victimized students, only bad numbers from that faulty statistical model.

And then the judge just checked it all against the law. There were no quotas. Harvard in its "holistic" approach considering the "whole student" was narrow focused within the Supreme Court's guidelines.

There could be no other answer but a decision for Harvard. Asian Americans who supported affirmative action at Harvard were overjoyed.

"As an Asian American alum who graduated in May, I am incredibly happy," said Jang Lee, a Korean American from California on a conference call Tuesday afternoon. He said his essay about Korean identity was a key part of his admission.

But other Asian Americans, the one's used by the white anti-affirmative action group to fight Harvard were dismayed. They were just fronts for Students for Fair Admissions, a bunch of white conservative lawyers who've made a career fighting civil rights and affirmative action. They were the ones behind the aforementioned white female student who tried to end the University of Texas' "holistic approach" and lost in the Supreme Court.

This time, they came back targeting Harvard and using a secret weapon from the minority side-- a group of mostly recent Asian American immigrants dumbfounded that their perfect SAT scores and grades weren't good enough to get into Harvard.

The Model Minority as model victim.

Just as Lee was elated, Yukong Zhao was in pain.

"Today marks a dark day for millions of Asian American children nationwide," said Zhao in a statement. He's the president of the Asian American Coalition for Education (AACE),

the group supplied the alleged Asian victims for SFFA.

Unfortunately, he's mistaken. It would be a darker day for the majority of Asian Americans if Harvard had lost. In fact, Zhao's kids who didn't get in likely still wouldn't have been admitted.

But the irrational anger of the other side almost assures a long appeal ahead. Instead of healing, there will be more division within our communities.

THE DIVIDE

This is the problem with the Harvard case among Asian Americans.

The majority of us realize that affirmative action has helped our communities tremendously.

But the case exposes what divides us most in our community generationally.

Yes, we know Asian Americans are not a monolith. Filipinos, Chinese, Koreans, et al. We're ethnically diverse. We are all over the economic spectrum. And then there's the deeper divide that comes with when our communities got here. Of course, some have been here for generations--the native born. But our community exploded post-1965 when immigration laws were relaxed. Did you come Post-80s? Post-2000?

They all value education and want to go to Harvard. The Luis Vuitton bag of education. They see going to UC Irvine or Cornell as if going to a knockoff.

If they have perfect scores why can't they go to Harvard? Discrimination, they cry!

The judge pointed out in her decision if all the applicants with perfect scores and grades were admitted, Harvard would have to increase their freshman admits by 400 percent. Resources are an issue. Harvard has the right to decide who gets admitted and who doesn't. And it's not about race, nor about personality, though it's clear, being an athlete would help. Just as long as Harvard stays within the law.

And the judge said Harvard did.

Burroughs' decision seemed fair and sensitive. She said though Asian Americans are 22

percent of the current freshman class and make up 6 percent of the national population, there was still a chance that discrimination could exist.

But when she saw the evidence SFFA didn't make its case.

If you're one of those perfect Asians who was rejected (or likely one of their Tiger Mom and Dads), you're hoping the case works its way to the Supreme Court now stacked with

white males just like the SFFA.

That's the worst thing that could happen for Filipinos among the vast majority of Asian Americans who have supported and benefitted from affirmative action programs in this country

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

PICTORIAL NEWS



UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES RONDALLA TO GIVE FREE CONCERTS

The University of the Philippines Rondalla will be on Oahu to give three free concerts, lectures and demos. On Friday, October 4, the renowned musical group will be at the UH-Manoa's Center for Philippine Studies, Kuykendall 101, 11:30 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 1:20 p.m. for a performance, lecture and demo. On the same day, they will give a free concert at Ala Moana Center Stage at 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. On Sunday, they will give a free concert at the Honolulu Central Seventh Day Adventist Church from 6 to 8 p.m. On Monday, they will conclude their visit with a free concert at Farrington High School Auditorium, 6 to 8 p.m.



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PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

Winning the Fight Against Infectious Diseases

By Seneca Moraleda-Puguan

If there's a best time to be a parent in the Philippines, it is...

N O T

NOW.

As a parent, especially as a mother, there are gazillion things running in our minds, things that make us anxious, worried and fearful. Our children having fever and flu cause us to lose sleep. Our little ones falling and bumping their heads break our hearts. But dealing with deadly viruses and diseases that our children are susceptible to, it's a different story. We need to take extra precautionary measures and the most effective of them all is to cover our children in prayer.

Early this year, news of Measles outbreak broke out. According to reports, more

than 23,000 were affected and approximately 300 people, mostly children, lost their lives. Sixty four percent of the cases recorded involved people who were not vaccinated.

And then there's Dengue that yearly affects many. As of August 2019, reports say that it has already taken more than 600 lives and still taking more, it's now considered an epidemic. In fact, I have close friends and relatives affected but fortunately survived.

But what's more alarming is the emergence of diseases that have been assumed long gone – Polio and Diphtheria. Because of the decrease in the number of children having vaccination against these deadly and highly contagious diseases, they are re-emerging, causing alarm and havoc among many parents. One infectious disease doctor even warned that more diseases



are expected to spread when the country's immunization rate continues to plummet. Reports of mumps, chickenpox, and pertussis are emerging.

According to the Department of Health, the Poliovirus that emerged in the Philippines after 19 years free of this disease was vaccine-derived. Vaccine-derived cases tend to occur in areas with poor sanitation and low vaccine coverage. There is no known cure for this disease and the only way to prevent it is through vaccination.

The decrease in immunization coverage caused by the Dengvaxia controversy in 2016 is completely understandable. But I guess it's high time that parents who are against vaccinations think about their decision. The Measles, Polio and Diphe-

ria vaccines have been proven effective and have helped prevent outbreaks throughout these years. The benefits far outweigh the risks. I am hoping that authorities discover an effective vaccine against the Dengue virus.

One thing I am grateful about in this season of outbreaks and epidemics in the Philippines is that my children are not there to easily catch the diseases, especially that I have a 6-month old who haven't had the Measles vaccine yet and my four-year old is highly attractive to mosquitoes. We live in Korea where the government mandates children to be immunized against highly contagious diseases and vaccination is completely free of charge, expect for the Rotavirus vaccination. But I have fam-

ily, relatives and friends in the Philippines and anyone of them can be a victim. It's a troublesome time in the Philippines now, but I am hopeful that our country will get through this victoriously.

I love the Philippines and I long for my family there to meet my children. My father and parents-in-law are looking forward to spend time with their grandchildren. But this is not the right time to have a vacation in our beloved country. I trust that the time will come that I will have no more apprehension to bring my children to the country their parents love and call home. I look forward to the day when my family and friends will no longer fear for the lives of their children to contract deadly diseases caused by mosquito bites or contagious viruses.

It may not be the best time to be a parent in the Philippines now, but with proper education and immediate action, our nation will conquer this challenging season. We will be able to fight these infectious diseases. I plead the Filipino parents to have their children vaccinated, now!

(Sagot sa Krosword Blg. 9 | September 21, 2019)

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K	O	M	A		T	I	A	B		T	A	Y	O	M
		P	A	M	A	O	Y		T	I	N			
I	H	A	W	A	N		I	P	A	N	G	K	A	T
B	A	L	A	N	G	A		U	P	A	S	A	L	A
A	B	I	S	O		D	I	K	A	P	A	R	I	S
P	A	T	I	N		I	H	O		O	B	A	L	O
A	G	O	N	G		K	I	T		N	I	Y	A	N

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Fil-Ams Invited to Join Immersion Tour to Philippines

The Philippine Consulate General in Honolulu invites second-generation Filipinos and young foreign-born Filipinos to join DISKUBRE Tour, an immersion

tour aimed to promote a deeper appreciation of Filipino heritage, and a spirit of giving back to the motherland.

Filipinos and persons with Filipino lineage, 18 to 40 years old, may join DISKUBRE Tour which will be held from 3 to 13 January 2020 in Manila and Bicol. Younger participants are allowed to join provided they are accompanied by their parents throughout the tour.

Covering Manila and the provinces of Albay, Masbate, Sorsogon, and Camarines Sur, the Tour will include historical and city exposure trips. Activities will include the opportunity to walk down the historic streets of Intramuros, ride an all-terrain vehicle and admire the beauty of the Mayon Volcano, swim with the butanding

(whale sharks) in Donsol, behold the Bicolano's devotion to Our Lady of Peñafrancia, as well as experience life with the local communities and participate in their activities.

During the tour, the participants are expected to document their trip – through social media, blog, or videos featuring the sights and their experience to help in tourism promotion among their peers and spheres of influence.

To register and to find out about tour prices, interested participants can log in the Tour's website www.travelwiseonline.com/diskubre. Registration must be completed by October 31, 2019. A deposit of US\$600 for each participant is due at the time of booking. Full payment is due by November 15, 2019.



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LEGAL NOTES

Medicare Eligibility for New Immigrants



By Atty. Reuben S. Seguritan

Medicare is a US federal government insurance system primarily for people who are 65 years old or older. Medicare has several parts. Part A covers hospitalizations, surgeries, etc. Part B covers outpatient benefits, for example doctor's office visits, laboratory tests and X-ray procedures. Part D covers prescription drugs and other such items. Medicare is a long-term medical insurance provided for US citizens and US lawful permanent residents (LPR) who live and work in the US continuously and permanently. Medicare is not available for a short term such as for a few months or for tourists in the US. Hence,

Medicare is provided for US citizens and LPRs who have the United States as their home country.

Medicare is available to certain LPRs. The LPR must be 65 years old and continuously lived in the US for at least 5 years. If the LPR has worked for 40 quarters or 10 years, he does not have to pay the premium for Part A. For LPRs who have just arrived in the US, they are not eligible for Medicare because they have not met the requirements of continuous residence.

There is an enrollment period for LPRs who become first eligible for Medicare. Once approved, the Medicare will take effect on a certain date. For example, the enrollment period may be from January 1 to March 1. The Medicare coverage for these applicants will take effect on July 1. Until this date comes, the LPR should maintain his previous health insurance or make sure that he has a form of health insurance

to pay for his medical needs in case he gets sick during the time that the Medicare has not taken effect yet.

Medicare has copays, co-insurance and deductions. That is why there are Medicare supplemental plans to ensure that the LPR is covered for medical hospitalizations and medications he may need. However, the Medicare supplement plans do not cover certain things such as long-term care, vision or dental care, hearing aids, eyeglasses and private-duty nursing.

Even if the Medicare supplement will not cover a lot of things, it is still advisable to apply immediately for Medicare and Medicare supplement when the LPR becomes eligible. This is because if the LPR enrolls into Medicare later on, there will be penalties and some of these penalties will continue to apply as long as he has Medicare. Sadly, there is no way to opt out of this system and the LPR may still

have to pay expenses himself or out-of-pocket because they are not covered by Medicare or the Medicare supplement.

Seniors who are not eligible for Medicare can purchase insurance under the Affordable Care Act.

There are other insurance companies which provide health insurance. However, these companies do not allow the LPRs to apply and obtain a health insurance from them because they only operate for people who have a home country other than the United States. Since the LPR's home country is the US, he cannot apply for insurance plans such as Atlas America, Diplomat America, Visit US HealthCare or Safe Travels USA.

The US government providing Medicare and other health insurance companies will know if the LPR is living and working in the US and therefore eligible for the Medicare or other health insurance by asking for documents such

as a copy of the green card, copy of the passport biopage, or other documents.

If the LPR is younger than 65 years old, he can still apply for health insurance with private companies such as Aetna, Cigna, Blue Cross, Assurant Health, Humana, etc. If the LPR is the parent of the petitioner, the petitioner cannot add the LPR parent as a dependent because dependents are defined as the spouse or minor child of the petitioner. However, if the LPR parent is employed full-time by the petitioner in his company, then he may enroll the LPR in the employees' health insurance. The LPR could also get health insurance from his employer if he works for another company or person and not the petitioner.

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

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

New Rule That Risks Deportation of Lawful Residents Challenged

Hawaii's Attorney General Clare E. Connors joins a multi-state suit challenging the Trump Administration's new rule that expands the use of expedited removal.

Under the new rule, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security is authorized to deport certain individuals living anywhere in the United States without the due process protections afforded in normal removal proceedings, such as the right to an attorney or a hearing before a judge.

In an amicus brief before the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, the Attorneys General urge the court to grant a preliminary injunction to halt the implementation of the rule, which was issued without advance notice or opportunity for public comment.

"The new rule authorizing expedited removal strips away fundamental legal protections," said Attorney General

Connors. "It destabilizes families and communities by creating the possibility that persons, who are lawfully present in the United States will be arbitrarily deported."

Under the rule, the Trump Administration is expanding the use of expedited removals to allow federal officials to deport undocumented immigrants from anywhere in the United States under a fast-tracked process that generally does not allow for access to legal representation, witnesses, or a meaningful opportunity to present evidence and defenses. The rule significantly increases the risk that people will be erroneously deported and, for those caught up in the proceedings, virtually eliminates access to the protections afforded during formal immigration hearings.

In 2004, the federal government extended the use of expedited removal to include undocumented individuals who were apprehended within

14 days of arrival in the United States by land and within 100 miles of any land border.

Now, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security is allowing expedited removal proceedings to be used to deport undocumented immigrants living anywhere in the United States if the individuals cannot establish, to the satisfaction of a rank and file immigration officer, that they have continuously resided in the country for two years.

PICTORIAL NEWS



Ambassador Joselito Jimeno, Consul General of the Philippines in Honolulu, with General Robert Brown, Commanding General, U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC) (left photo) and Admiral Philip Davidson, Commander, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM) (right photo) during the U.S. Army Pacific Farewell Celebration in honor of General Robert Brown.

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UH Pamantasan 2019 Presents *Sulong! Sulong! Activism & Advocacy!*

By Jim Bea Sampaga

UH Pamantasan presents this year's conference titled *Sulong! Sulong! Activism & Advocacy!* which will be held on October 18, 2019 at Hawai'i Community Center's Manono Campus.

The annual conference for Filipinos in the University of Hawai'i System will

explore issues within the Filipino community that needs to be addressed such as understanding the Filipino identity, culture and mental health.

The conference will have around a dozen presenters including keynote speaker Dr. Kevin Nadal, a professor of Psychology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and the Graduate Center at the City University of New York. Aside from presenters, the conference will also have



a Filipino Tattoos Workshop led by mambabatok and cultural tattoo practitioner Lane Wilcken.

"Sulong means to move forward, to advance," said Hawai'i CC Transfer Counselor and Chair Conference

Jeanne Batallones. "It's about what do we need to do to take action, to advance the needs of our Filipino students within the UH systems."

Just in time for Filipino American Heritage Month, the UH Pamantasan 2019 hopes that the conference will serve as a space for the Filipino community to learn, appreciate and engage themselves in the Filipino identity and culture.

Space is limited and early registration is encouraged. To register for UH Pamantasan 2019, please visit pamantasanconference2019.wordpress.com.

(COVER STORY: EVOLUTION OF NEWS....from page 5)

Now, the industry has come full-circle where advocacy is becoming the standard and color journalism is back (either blue or red) – unapologetic and without a pretense of neutrality.

Pay-for Content

Besides niche journalism as a business model, both small and giant media giants are exploring whether pay-for-content is viable. The verdict is mixed. Most media offer their content for free online; a few charge a nominal amount

like the legacy newspapers Washington Post and New York Times.

One of the biggest flops of pay-for-content was Newsday, which was one of the first to charge subscription. In 2009, it began charging readers \$5 a week (\$260 a year) for unlimited access to its online content. Three months later, a mere 35 people subscribed. The paper spent \$4 million redesigning and relaunching their new pay-for-content model that failed.

Marisol said, "The good

thing about getting news through social media is many of the news sources will offer their content for free. If you don't go through Facebook, for example, you need to pay for subscription for access. And some news sources will give limited viewing through social media, like maybe 5 or 10 free viewing of articles a month, then you got to pay after that."

Subscription revenues have always been secondary to advertising in the media business. With a majority of

content being offered for free, this shouldn't be changing any time soon.

The flipside to this, where a paywall exists (pay for online viewing), this could pose as a problem to having a more enlightened and educated society as only people who can afford access to information will be getting informed on the issues.

What hasn't changed

What the great poet, counter-culturist Allen Ginsberg said of the media still holds true, "Whoever controls the media, the images, controls the culture."

From giant to small, the new expanded keepers of the "Fourth Estate" still (arguably more) have a direct, powerful influence on the way Americans (and world) think, vote, and live, that hasn't changed within this new framework of new modes, platforms or spaces.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *The Hawaii Filipino Chronicle* is launching a new website at thefilipinochronicle.com. It is being designed by ShyamSoft Technologies. Readers can also access HFC's social media pages at the following: Facebook: *Hawaii Filipino Chronicle*; Instagram: *@the_filipino_chronicle*; Twitter: *@HiFilChronicle*.

(WHAT'S UP, ATTORNEY?: IMPEACHING TRUMP....from page 7)

As pointed out by Alan Dershowitz, "Just as the first casualty of war is truth, so too, the first casualty of hyper-partisan politics is civil liberties. . . many traditional civil libertarians have allowed their strong anti-Trump sentiments to erase their long-standing commitment to neutral civil liberties. They are so desperate to get President Trump that they are prepared to compromise the most basic due process rights. They forget the lesson of history that such compromises made against one's enemies are often used as precedents against one's friends." (continuation in next issue)

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 largest 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.tiponlaw.com>, <https://www.hawaiianimmigrationattorney.com>, <https://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.)

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

"PAMANA" ART EXHIBIT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE FILIPINO AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH | September 25 - October 18, 2019 | Courtyard of the Honolulu Hale. Display works of Fil-Am artists | Contact: Leo Gozar at 630-6268

ILOCOS SURIAN ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII'S 7TH MRS. ILOCOS SURIAN ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII | October 12, 2019; 15:00 PM | Pomaika'i Ballroom at Dole Gallery | The event is free and open to the public. For more info, contact Loida Yamamoto at 679-9540; Myrna Peralta at 291-0103

TINIKLING ADULT DANCE CREW PROGRAM | October 12, 2019; 11:00 AM - 12:00 NN | Kaimuki Studio, 3030 Waiialae Ave. Honolulu, HI 96816 | The event is free and open to the public. For more information please contact Gabe at 808-232-1466 or visit www.tekniqlingz.org

FILIPINO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF HAWAII'S TRADE MISSION IN THE PHILIPPINES | October 12-22, 2019 | Visits to Manila, Clark, Ilocos & Ilocos Norte. | Contact: Dr. Nancy Walch at 778-3832

TINIKLING TEEN DANCE CREW PROGRAM | October 19, 2019; 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM | Kaimuki Studio, 3030 Waiialae Ave. Honolulu, HI 96816 | The event is free and

open to the public. For more information please contact Gabe at 808-232-1466 or visit www.tekniqlingz.org

TINIKLING FOR KIDS! A CHILDREN'S FILIPINO FOLK DANCE PROGRAM | October 26, 2019; 10:00 - 11:00 AM | Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, 1640 Lanakila Ave. Honolulu, HI 96817 | The event is free and open to the public. For more information please contact Gabe at 808-232-1466 or visit www.tekniqlingz.org

UNITED FILIPINO COUNCIL OF HAWAII'S "PROGRESS AWARD" | October 26, 2019; 6:00 PM | Hibiscus Ballroom, Ala Moana Hotel | Ticket cost is \$75. Contact: Leo Gozar at 630-6268

PHILIPPINE NURSES ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII (PNAH) MASQUERADE BALL | October 26, 2019; 5:30 PM | Pagoda Hotel | Contact: Erlinda Ferrer at 721-1501, Tina Salvador at 426-6183 or Violet Sadural at 542-1562

FILIPINO BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (FBWA) & FBWA FOUNDATION 36TH ANNUAL KIMONA BALL | November 9, 2019; 6:30 PM | Hibiscus Ballroom, Ala Moana Hotel | Contact: Fe Velasco at 222-7436, Margie Berueda at 371-9803

UNIVERSITY OF THE EAST FUN DANCE | November 16, 2019; 6:00 - 11:00 PM | Pagoda Hotel Ground Floor | Dinner ticket: \$40.00. Contact: Baybee 753-5616; Joe Lim 479-6259; Pris Galanto 295-0774; Carina Ocampo. 382-3374; Pepito "PG" Guevarra 386-6379; Ronnie Agustin 306-9427; Ella Somera Isidro

HAWAII FILIPINO CHRONICLE'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, EXCELLENCE AWARDS, GALA DINNER AND JOURNALISM SCHOLARSHIP LAUNCHING EVENT | November 23, 2019; 6:00 PM | Hibiscus Ballroom, Ala Moana Hotel | Contact: Shali at 330-8981, Chona Sonido at 284-4185 or at filipinochronicle@gmail.com, Dr. Belinda Aquino at lindyaquino@gmail.com or Carlota Ader at 797-4381

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MAINLAND NEWS

U.S. Senate Passes Legislation to Keep Manila VA Open

WASHINGTON, D.C.--The U.S. Senate passed H.R. 4285, the Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2019 to extend many critical veterans programs, including legislation to keep the Manila, Philippines VA open for business and legislation to combat veterans homelessness.

"I thank my Senate colleagues for quickly passing this comprehensive bill

to ensure that veterans do not lose access to the services they depend on," said Senator Mazie Hirono. "I am especially proud to have sponsored provisions to extend the Supportive Services for Veteran Families program and the VA Regional Office and Outpatient Clinic in Manila."

The Keeping Our Commitment to Overseas Veterans Act of 2019 (S. 2484) keeps the VA Re-

gional Office and Outpatient Clinic in Manila, Philippines open for business through September 30, 2020. The Manila VA provides health care, benefits, and services to thousands of U.S. veterans living in the Philippines.

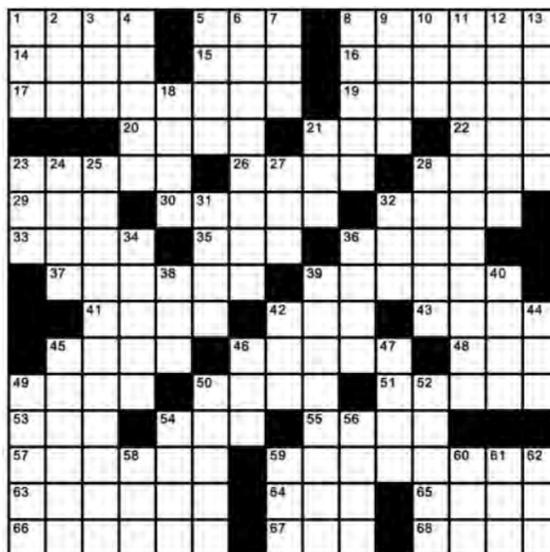
The Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act will now go to the President for his signature.

CROSSWORD No. 10
by Carlito Lalicon

ACROSS

- 1. Kindat
- 1. Former senator, Joey _____
- 5. Former Senator, Edmundo _____
- 8. Former Senator, Santiago _____
- 14. Always
- 15. Hostel
- 16. Got around
- 17. Arm candy
- 19. Letter getter
- 20. Fencing sword
- 21. Arabian garment
- 22. Marital vow
- 23. Electron tube
- 26. Gambling mecca
- 28. Blood vessel
- 29. Beast of burden
- 30. Vaulted
- 32. Hang around

- 33. Mental keenness
- 35. "Hägar the Horrible" cartoonist Browne
- 36. Formal dance
- 37. Infected
- 39. Capital of Poland
- 41. "High" time
- 42. KPH word
- 43. Cupid, to the Greeks
- 45. Sporty car roof
- 46. Yemen, once
- 48. Period
- 49. Big pig
- 50. Went down
- 51. Industrious
- 53. Appropriate
- 54. Beam
- 55. Animal house
- 57. Apparition



- 59. Architectonic
- 63. Province in Western Visayas
- 64. Baseball bat wood
- 65. Loudness measure
- 66. Austere
- 67. Consume
- 68. To be, in old Rome

DOWN

- 1. Jeans brand
- 2. Wall climber
- 3. Born as
- 4. Like a rainbow
- 5. Film
- 6. Endermatic
- 7. At all
- 8. Gay woman
- 9. Eye layer
- 10. Jail (slang)
- 11. Former Senator from Cama-

- 12. Text (etc.) that has been edited again
- 13. Ancient Greek theater
- 18. Acted like
- 21. Additionally
- 23. Black bird
- 24. Egyptian fertility goddess
- 25. Fanfare
- 27. "A rat!"
- 28. Ballroom dance

- 31. Norse war god
- 32. Card game for two
- 34. Hound's trail
- 36. Cutting remark
- 38. Apex
- 39. Free from weeds
- 40. Golf club
- 42. 21st letter of the Greek alphabet
- 44. Dump
- 45. Knock over
- 46. Arch

- 47. Mine entrance
- 49. So-called "royal herb"
- 50. Squelched
- 52. Jagged, as a leaf's edge
- 54. Agitate
- 56. Be in pain
- 58. Slowing, in mus.
- 59. Ancient cross
- 60. Discouraging words
- 61. Advantages
- 62. Average

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

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