

HAWAII

# FILIPINO CHRONICLE

Happy Thanksgiving!

HAWAII'S #1 FILIPINO NEWSPAPER

◆ NOVEMBER 16, 2019 ◆

## THE VIRTUE OF GRATITUDE THRIVES ON THANKSGIVING DAY

COVER STORY PAGE **4**



**3**

### EDITORIALS

SAVE DACA PROGRAM OR PASS THE DREAM AND PROMISE ACT



**6**

### FEATURE

NEW KAUA'I FILM TO DELVE DEEP INTO "THE HANAPEPE MASSACRE MYSTERY"

HAWAII FILIPINO CHRONICLE

**25** Years of News



**11**

### CANDID PERSPECTIVES

HOW TO BEAT HYPERPARTISANSHIP —ACT LIKE WE'RE ON TEAM AMERICA WAVING THE CONSTITUTION

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## EDITORIAL

## Happy Thanksgiving to All!

**T**hanksgiving is one of most Americans favorite holidays for many reasons. It's that special day that reminds us of the virtue of being grateful and to not take anything for granted. It's reasonable to say that a day of giving thanks is actually needed. It serves as a lift at the tail-end of the year to reinvigorate us to finish the remaining months strong. Being thankful is positive energy.

So what are we thankful for?

Immediately what most people think of is gratitude for the people we love, of being loved by someone and of loving someone deeply – love as a source of giving and receiving as a husband and wife, parents and children, friends, or any genuine relationship.

Some of us could be thankful for wealth, power or even fame; then there are others equally content with simplicity and happiness -- of having wonderful meals, a place to call home, and a job we enjoy and coworkers we get along with.

What's often overlooked as something we should appreciate more is our health. Having the ability to breathe, walk, talk, see, think with ease comes naturally for most of us so we don't think much of our physical well-being. Then suddenly illness or old-age sets in, and ironically, we become consciously thankful for even our lesser physical abilities.

The religious center their gratitude on God, the Creator, and all the heavenly blessings bestowed on us and our fellow brothers and sisters. We give thanks in prayer and thank God for being in our lives.

In Hawaii, many residents look to nature's beauty and are filled with thankfulness just to be living in paradise where the crystal blue beaches are minutes away and when looking north, our eyes are gifted with the presence of verdant green, majestic mountains. We are thankful for our clean water and clean air.

The natural beauty we are thankful for includes God's other creatures, the multitudes of species in nature and even our domesticated pets we've adopted as family.

To the deeply evolved among us, they believe we can be thankful for just about everything that happens – the good, the bad, triumphant and defeated moments. Every second of life is worth a second of gratitude as long as life exists.

This perspective is possible when there is complete acceptance and our sense of gratitude is not dependent on conditions. The reality is there will always be something lacking or missing; but when we choose to accept that as a part of life and focus on areas of life's abundance instead, gratitude can easily flow in our daily lives.

The truth is we can always find something to be thankful for. The beauty of Thanksgiving is it reminds us to look at what those blessings are. And hopefully we can make it a habit to be always thankful beyond Thanksgiving.

On Thanksgiving it's not just about thinking what and why we are fortunate, but expressing our appreciation to our loved ones.

## Thankful for 25 Years of Community Service

The owners and staff of the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle have an additional reason to be thankful this Thanksgiving. The newspaper has achieved a milestone, its 25th Anniversary. Our staff have been reflecting on our years of community service; how we've touched people's lives. We've built many friendships. We've shed light on pressing issues, injustice. We've shared stories of success against all odds. We've helped to perpetuate our ancestral heritage, culture and history. We've given voice to the ignored and powerless.

We are deeply appreciative to the Filipino community for 25 years of collaboration; to our advertisers who've provided much needed financial support; to our loyal readers who've received and helped spread our message.

(continue on page 3)

## FROM THE PUBLISHER

**T**he holiday season is soon to be in full-swing starting with the festivities of Thanksgiving Day. It's one of Americans favorite holidays that began 400 years ago when English settlers in New England celebrated with Native Americans the harvest season.

As associate editor Edwin Quinabo writes in this issue's cover story, the essence of the traditional holiday – goodwill gathering with loved ones over a hearty meal – hasn't changed much. But instead of specifically being thankful for the harvest of the year as the pilgrims did centuries ago, the modern Thanksgiving is a day to celebrate all things we are thankful for in our lives. Several members in our community share what they are thankful for, their plans to celebrate this year, as well as an indelible memory of Thanksgiving. Some have mentioned that while the day is joyous, it is also bittersweet because loved ones who have passed on are no longer here to celebrate. Mental health experts say this is common to miss the departed during the holidays. There are other reasons for the holiday blues, but the aim with Thanksgiving is to find at least something (could be simple) to be thankful for that could help lift our spirits. It might not even be about something in our own personal lives. It could be being thankful for others like to our veterans or educators, or as one interviewee said, having gratitude for the music she enjoys. There are many different meanings and expressions of Thanksgiving. There are also some unlikely things to be thankful for. Read about some of them in the article; as well as helpful tips that could make the day more enjoyable and safe. Lastly, as part of our ongoing 25th Anniversary celebration, we've included comments from a few of our readers who shared why they are thankful for the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle.

Also in this issue, we have a special article written by Stephanie Castillo, an EMMY Award-winning filmmaker who is working on a new television documentary called "The Hanapepe Massacre Mystery." On September 9, 1924 a melee broke out when Visayan striking workers battled local police hunters who were attempting to retrieve two kidnapped Ilocano youths from the encamped strikers. The fight ended with 16 Filipino workers killed, four police deputies also died. More than a hundred Visayan sugar workers were involved in the incident, along with three dozen police officers and deputies. Some 70-plus rioters and suspected leaders were jailed and tried; no police officers or deputies faced legal action. Many strikers were deported back to the Philippines; others quickly moved to California. There are still many unanswered questions as to what happened. Castillo's film project hopes to shed light on this tragic history that is largely unknown to most Filipinos.

HFC columnist Emil Guillermo gives sound in advice for the upcoming public impeachment proceedings in his article entitled "How to Beat Hyperpartisanship—Act Like We're on Team America Waving the Constitution." He believes the country can come together after this process is over if Americans believe that we are on the same team. He also recommends that Filipinos be part of the process, engage in conversations, and write to their government representatives.

HFC columnist Atty. Reuben Seguritan contributes "Bill Eliminating Country Cap Should Be Opposed," an article about a bill in Congress which aims to eliminate the per country limitation for employment-based immigrants and increase the per country cap for family-based immigrants. He says this bill would worsen the already horrendous backlog and waiting time for those seeking employment-based immigration.

In mainland news, read about U.S. Sen. Brian Schatz proposal to stop President Donald Trump's raid of military construction funds to build his southern border wall.

We hope you enjoy the interesting and informative columns and news in this issue.

Lastly, we'd like to wish everyone a joyous and safe Happy Thanksgiving. For those planning to attend our 25th! Anniversary and Awards Gala, see you there. Until next issue, warmest Aloha and Mabuhay!



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Chona A. Montesines-Sonido

EDITORIALS

# Save the DACA Program or Pass the Dream and Promise Act

**A**s hot an issue the DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) program was just two years ago, the mainstream media has been irresponsibly reticent on updating Americans on recent developments despite hundreds of thousands of DACA immigrants anxiously awaiting a resolution and thousands of their supporters continue to rally on their behalf.

A majority of Americans support DACA immigrants, favoring a pathway to citizenship for this special group of undocumented immigrants who were brought to the United States as children.

But the scant-to-no coverage of late has kept Americans in the dark and most aren't even aware that a bill sits at the U.S. Senate at this very moment that could solve the DACA crisis – if only the GOP-majority Senate would take the bill up for a vote.

**UPDATES ON DACA**

Americans should know about two major updates:

First, the Democrat-controlled House fulfilled their 2018 midterm election promise to DACA immigrants and their supporters by passing the Dream and Promise Act, which would expand protections for DACA recipients, immediately allow them to apply for green cards, and after five years with a green card, apply for U.S. citizenship.

Pro-immigrant groups and DACA supporters should know that Democrats have been working on their behalf.

Contrary to Republican

rhetoric, including from Trump himself who has claimed to support DACA recipients in the past, GOP lawmakers have been blocking the Dream and Promise Act in the Senate, and have not even scheduled hearings on it.

In the second development, the Trump administration will soon defend the President's September 2017 rescission (discontinuation) of the DACA program in the U.S. Supreme Court (SCOTUS),

SCOTUS is finally expected to take up the DACA case. SCOTUS will hear arguments about DACA's legality, whether the Trump administration acted properly in ending the program, and possibly whether the president has the authority to end DACA.

Implemented in 2012 by Democratic President Barack Obama, the DACA program allowed qualified undocumented individuals who were brought to the United States as children to receive a renewable two-year period of deferred action from deportation and be able to have a work permit, be eligible to enroll in college and obtain a driver's license.

Basically what the program did was enable recipients to no longer live illegally in the shadows and fear deportation. Studies show many DACA recipients have been able to excel in college, get jobs and buy homes mainly because of the protections afforded to them through DACA.

That was until Trump got elected and decided to scapegoat immigrants for political gain and chose as one of his anti-immigrant centerpieces to end the program.



About 800,000 DACA immigrants enrolled in the program now must live in fear once again of being deported and separated from their families.

How will SCOTUS rule? If SCOTUS agrees with the ruling of three lower federal court rulings (in California, New York and the District of Columbia), the program should receive a favorable outcome. Lower courts found that the president violated a U.S. law called the Administrative Procedure Act in seeking to kill DACA. The lower courts' ruling, was that DACA was ended "arbitrarily and capriciously." Their decisions have kept DACA alive up to this moment.

But an unfavorable SCOTUS ruling could kill it.

The Trump administration will argue that the program was unconstitutional in the first place and that it is not reviewable by the court. It will also argue that the current president has every right to strike down an executive order (DACA was created by executive or-

der) made from a previous administration. This last argument is viewed as compelling and possibly be the Achilles heel to end the program, legal experts believe.

Immigrant groups are also concerned that the new 5-4 conservative majority could bode well for Trump, especially since two of the court's conservative justices have been appointed by the president.

Remember that SCOTUS earlier ruled in favor of the controversial Trump Travel Ban. That decision was split along ideological lines, 5-4.

**BEST OUTCOME**

The best solution is for the Senate to pass the Dream and Promise Act. But the current

composition of the U.S. Senate makes this highly unlikely, which is why Democrats must win back the Senate in 2020, along with the presidency for good measure.

In the meantime, DACA recipients can only hope for a favorable SCOTUS ruling.

DACA immigrants are working, they're studying, contributing to the economy, and paying taxes. The vast majority are outstanding contributors to society. The fact that they are undocumented is not a result of choices they've made, having been brought over at a very young age by their parents.

The mainstream media should bring more awareness of the DACA issue as developments unfold. A majority of Americans are passionate about helping these special group of immigrants.

Ethnic newspapers also must do all they can to help DACA recipients and pro-immigrant groups in this fight! SCOTUS must save the DACA program or the Senate must pass the Dream and Promise Act.

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[www.thefilipinochronicle.com](http://www.thefilipinochronicle.com)  
 and enjoy the e-copy of the hawaii filipino chronicle

**(EDITORIAL: HAPPY...from page 2)**

We are thankful to our many supporters in government and our U.S. Congressional delegation for keeping us informed of the latest in laws and policies; to the University of Hawaii and other institutions of higher education; to the myriad civic, non-profit, small business, professional and cultural organizations. We thank our media partner in

the Philippines, the Philippine Star; our like-minded organizations fighting for justice on the Mainland such as the Asian Americans Advancing Justice and National Federation of Filipino American Associations.

The owners and staff of the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle would like to wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving. And Mabuhay to all!

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# Thanksgiving Has Diverse Meanings and Expressions

By Edwin Quinabo

**A**merica's most celebrated day of feasting and giving thanks is around the corner. Thanksgiving may have evolved from when it first started 400 years ago, but the practice of dining over a full buffet with family and friends over a traditional roasted turkey with popular Thanksgiving side dishes hasn't changed.

Hawaii residents will put a local spin, adding their favorite sides to the buffet like sushi, noodles, poke, and lumpia. Thanksgiving is known as a day of uninhibited feasting for even the most health-conscious eaters. "Grind today, diet tomorrow," is the local motto to live by for at least for a few hours.

But for most Americans, the main purpose behind Thanksgiving centers around family and friends and recognizing all the blessings they are thankful for -- each other, good health, God's presence, a fulfilling job, or specific milestones that have occurred earlier in the year like a graduation, career promotion, or birth of a new baby.

While Thanksgiving is mostly a joyous occasion, to some it's also a time of stress, sadness and loneliness. Mental health experts say sometimes this is normal because of family separation or loss. Sadness can even be triggered solely because there is an expectation that Thanksgiving should be a happy occasion when it is not, for some.

Experts like to emphasize that there is no right or wrong way to celebrate or feel on Thanksgiving. The day is really about finding something (could be simple) to be thankful for.

"Thanksgiving hasn't been the same since both my parents passed away," said Marline Polanco of Ewa. "I have such fond memories of them when we would all celebrate with a big Thanksgiving feast, and a few hours later, decorate our Christmas tree and put festive lights along the iron gates on the lanai. We would sing Christmas

carols as we decorated. For us, Thanksgiving marked the start of the holiday season.

"I carry on many of the same traditions with my family and try to keep upbeat, but there are flashes of memories and a deep longing for the good old days," said Polanco, whose last parent, her mom and best friend, passed away

four years ago.

She says she is thankful that she has her two children still on the islands to celebrate Thanksgiving with her and her husband. "I know many other parents whose children live in the mainland. That distance apart from my children would be very hard for me especially with my parents now gone."

With the recent loss of a family member, health experts say the holidays can be difficult. They say it's ok to talk about it, express your feelings, even cry. What you shouldn't do is to try to force yourself to be happy just because it's the holiday season.

They also recommend that being open to new traditions and changes along with keeping the usual ones can help. Also, have in mind that holidays are not always meant to be perfect.

Meldrick Ravida of Kalihi also recognizes that the holidays could be a lonely time. "I am deeply grateful to have a large family from both sides of my parents' family to be able to celebrate with lots of people each year during the holidays. I am aware that many people



do not have a family or even a home to go to during the holidays.

"I'm thankful for all the labor and love put into a day of feasting and festivities. I'm very excited about the desserts because they complete the festive mood," said Ravida.

He said this year for Thanksgiving his mother's family will be flying in from the mainland on the holiday weekend to bid farewell to their beloved great grandmother. "The days surrounding Thanksgiving might be mournful and agonizing, but at least we will be able to see each other and see relatives I rarely get to talk to or be around. I will also be having dinner with family from my step-father's side. We'll have the quintessential Thanksgiving food like turkey and ham alongside traditional Filipino food," said Ravida.

One unique practice Ravida says his family does on Thanksgiving is the secret Santa draw. After dinner and close to the end of the evening, the aunties would draw family members' names from a bag. "The aunts draw names and are assigned their secret Santa so we each receive a gift, and of course, we gift everyone else in the family." He said that sets the stage for Black Friday shopping.

Nichelle Aquino, RN, MD, has had a very busy and

successful year to be thankful for. She said it was a year of great opportunities and she is most thankful for the support and love of family and friends. "From taking a giant step of moving back to Hawaii, to working for and managing a highly exceptional clinic, to passing exams for both medicine and nursing; all these opened doors and paved paths would not have been achieved without family and friends by my side," said Aquino.

"Just like every other Thanksgiving, I will be spending it surrounded by people most dear to me. It will be celebrated with us gathered over a home-cooked delicious feast, sharing the immeasurable love and joy each one brings to the table."

Jim Bea Sampaga of Waikiki will be away from her parents and siblings on Thanksgiving. They live in the Philippines. She is not exactly sure what Thanksgiving has in store for her. "My grandma and auntie might be working that day but my cousins and I are definitely going to eat a lot to strengthen ourselves up for the Black Friday madness," said Sampaga.

While Jim plans to go shopping for the holidays the next day after Thanksgiving on Black Friday, like it or not, a new tradition for families especially among teens

(continue on page 5)

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## COVER STORY

(from page 4)

and young adults is to go late-night shopping on the day of Thanksgiving. Retailers have been criticized for encroaching on Thanksgiving day by offering mega discounts to lure customers. But non-traditionalists say Thanksgiving day shopping is just another way to get excited for the holiday.

For Jim who did not grow up in the U.S., she said she doesn't find Thanksgiving as important as others because it is not celebrated in the Philippines. Black Friday shopping is fun for her because she is able "to buy cheap pasalubongs (gifts)" for her parents and siblings for Christmas.

Black Friday draws the biggest shopping crowd all year at an estimated 115 million people, according to the National Retail Federation.

Jim says she is thankful for her immediate family in the Philippines who've supported her journey in America as an international student. "My parents made sure that I have access to pursue my dreams and educational goals. Also, I'm thankful for my siblings who patiently wait for me to go home every holiday so we can all eat, play and argue again. I'm very thankful for my Hawaii relatives that took me in and made me feel at home even if my parents and siblings aren't with me."

Diana Salvacion of Aiea is also unsure how this year's Thanksgiving will be celebrated. Both her parents will need to work that day. "Maybe we'll have a simple dinner when we get home or I'll have some drinks with my friends."

Like most people, Diana is thankful for her family for their support and her friends who she says "understands me." But her gratitude is extended to of all things, K-pop (Korean-pop) groups "for their brilliant music that inspire many people, including me, because of the messages in their songs."

As experts said, being thankful could be for anything really. It's about reflecting on what has lifted your spirits through the year and made life enjoyable. Music happens to be one of those inspirational lifts.

The holiday is about reflecting on things you are

thankful for, not thinking about what you weren't able to do or what you don't have. This idea that there must be something grand to be thankful for leads to anxiety.

Rhea Alarin of Honolulu has a unique spin for Thanksgiving. She calls it a day more like "Friendsgiving," explaining how friends gather and share something cooked or baked with the host and other guests. She says their big to-do is what millions of other Americans do, watch football.

Another popular TV program during Thanksgiving is the famous Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York.

Alarin recalls last year's Thanksgiving as one of her most memorable ever. "I had told my mom that I wasn't able to visit last year. She was on her way back home from visiting the Philippines. I had flown from Hawaii to San Francisco to greet her at the arrival gate of the airport. It was a surprise. As she walked out with her luggage, she saw me with misty eyes and gave me a big long hug. It was a great Thanksgiving for the both of us."

Thanksgiving is one of the busiest travel days. An estimated 48.7 million Americans will journey 50 miles or more from home to celebrate Thanksgiving. The Air Transport Association says over 16 million people will fly.

### Veterans, Educators, Public Workers, Community Activists

Besides being thankful to loved ones in our personal circle of family and friends, being grateful to people who keep our country safe and communities working come to mind on Thanksgiving.

Veterans and active duty servicemen and women in the Armed Services defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. They take an oath to defend our nation, our way of life and willingly would give their life to do it.

Our educators teach our children necessary skills and knowledge to succeed in their careers and jobs; public workers keep our homes and workplace powered with electricity,

build and maintain highways and roads; and our community activists are the guardians of a civil and fair society.

There are endless other examples of people to be thankful for: spiritual advisors, writers, entertainers, chefs and cooks, retail and service workers. The idea is simple: to be thankful also to others who enhance our lives besides our family and friends.

### Unlikely Things to be Thankful for

There is a silver lining to everything if you look hard enough. Being grateful is not exclusive to happy or successful situations. Failure, sadness and struggle could also be things to be thankful for. How so?

Failure--could be a signpost that the direction you are headed is the wrong path; and that something else more suitable is on the horizon. Failure could be a detour and eventually be a story to tell showing how you've lived a full life.

Sadness -- it's just a feeling as any other and passes. Experiencing it often means you are a caring, empathetic human being. A far worse scenario is not caring.

Struggle. It's rare to meet a strong person who hasn't struggled. Trials and adversity build character, emotional fortitude like muscles need stress to break down and subsequently build. Struggle is a learning experience to better prepare us for other challenges.

If this Thanksgiving any one of these seems to be prevailing, there is still reason to be thankful.

### Thanksgiving Tips

To make Thanksgiving more enjoyable and safe, here are a few tips to keep in mind:

1. Arrive on time. There's nothing more rude than having hosts wait for you to start dinner. Plan your travel time. If you're bringing food, be sure to have it done at least a half-hour before the estimated time you plan to leave your house.
2. Have a designated driver who will not consume alcohol.

**"Just like every other Thanksgiving, I will be spending it surrounded by people most dear to me. It will be celebrated with us gathered over a home-cooked delicious feast, sharing the immeasurable love and joy each one brings to the table."**

— NICHAELE AQUINO, RN, MD

3. If you are planning to use a turkey fryer, use it outside.
4. Keep young children and pets away from the cooking area. In the rush of cooking, accidents can happen with sharp objects and hot oil.
5. Try to be present and avoid extensive cell phone use, especially at the dinner table. Take your pictures for social media, but worry about editing and posting it for later.
6. Know your eating limit. The last thing you'd want is to get sick.
7. Avoid conflict. Thanksgiving is not the time to iron out old feuds.
8. Refrain from telling bad offensive remarks or jokes. The holidays can be a sensitive time for people. You never know what could set them off.
9. Have fun drinking, if you must, but don't be a sloppy drunk.
10. Lend a helping hand cleaning up. The hosts will actually appreciate it, even if they say not to bother helping.
11. Leftover food must be stored properly. Keep in the refrigerator food you plan to consume in 3 days. For everything else, keep them in the freezer.
12. Finally, be careful driving home. Unfortunately, there are still drunk drivers out there during the holidays.

### THANKS TO HFC

*Editor's Note:* In observance of and a part of our continuing coverage of the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle's 25th Anniversary, we've asked a few of those interviewed for this cover story to tell us why they are thankful for our newspaper. "I enjoy reading Filipinos in our community comment about whatever the cover story is about on any given issue.

Many times, their stories, their situations, are like my own. It's like reading about myself.

"For example, the paper puts out an annual Filipino Christmas story. The way people interviewed talk about celebrating Christmas is relatable and similar to my own traditions with my family. The Chronicle is like chronicling my own life. That makes me feel special. I'm thankful for that," said Polanco, who has been reading the HFC for over 15 years.

"I used to get a copy of the newspaper at my former bank in Kalihi or my mother's doctor's office. I'm happy now that I can read it on the internet, very convenient," said Polanco.

Sampaga works for the HFC as an editorial assistant. She said, "I'm thankful that the Filipino community in Hawaii has a newspaper that supports them in everything that they do. Hawaii Filipino Chronicle keeps our community updated in everything Hawaii, Hawaii-Filipino and Filipino news. But I'm most thankful for the recently established HFC Journalism Scholarship Program because I believe that we must support aspiring journalists that will keep our Filipino community's stories alive.

Aquino has been reading HFC for two years. She said, "I am thankful for the platform that Hawaii Filipino Chronicle provides to the community. Serving as an avenue for awareness, leisure reading and support they have constantly promoted culture and continuously been involved in the growth and unity of the Filipino community."

Alarin looks at the newspaper as a part of the community's "ohana." She enjoys the news and updates of what's happening in the community. "The Chronicle uplifts the human spirit."

## FEATURE

# NEW KAUA'I FILM TO DELVE DEEP INTO "THE HANAPEPE MASSACRE MYSTERY"

By Stephanie J. Castillo

**A**s ground-penetrating radar technology was recently used at the Hanapepe Filipino Cemetery to help Kaua'i community volunteer researchers determine where the unmarked, mass grave of 16 Filipino sugar cane workers lay, sighs of relief could be heard.

Onlookers gasped as the technology confirmed the location the researchers had been led to by clues in historical documents. The radar identified and verified the trench where the striking workers had been hastily buried 95 years ago after they were struck down by a hail of bullets fired by police and deputized hunters during a 1924 plantation strike and subsequent battle in Hanapepe, Kaua'i.

This event, referred to as the "Hanapepe massacre" or the "Hanapepe war," is a story that has lived in the imaginations of the Kaua'i community long after that melee broke out decades ago. No photographs of the riot exist; only news stories covering the aftermath, interviews conducted decades after the fact, and a smattering of photographs taken after the melee have survived to "tell the tale." On Kaua'i, stories of

the massacre have been passed down from generation to generation, and many legends, myths, and vivid folklore have kept the horrific event alive, mostly in the form of theories as to what happened that morning.=

The September 9, 1924 melee broke out when Visayan striking workers battled local police and deputized hunters who were attempting to retrieve two kidnapped Ilocano youths from the encamped strikers. Besides the 16 workers killed, four police deputies also died during the early stages of the conflict. More than a hundred other Visayan sugar workers were involved in the incident, along with approximately three dozen police officers and deputies. Some 70-plus rioters and suspected leaders, even those not present during the strike, were jailed and tried; no police officers or deputies faced legal action. Many strikers were deported back to the Philippines; others quickly moved to California.

"The aftermath of the massacre was almost as horrific as the incident itself and involved a hunt for more than three hours in Hanapepe, a quiet mostly-Japanese neighborhood, to round up survivors who took part," says Castillo. "The deputized hunters were



Filming of the upcoming "Hanapepe Massacre Mystery," a film exploring the 95-year-old mystery on the island of Kaua'i, Hawaii, that resulted in the deaths of 16 Filipino sugar cane workers and four police deputies.

mostly Hawaiian. Visayan and Ilocano regional differences played a part in the abduction incident. And the predominantly white Hawai'i sugar planters were historically known to play groups of immigrant workers off each other. The culture clashes involved must be explored."

Questions have lingered: What caused the melee to erupt? Who was killed and buried? How long did the fighting continue for? Where is the mass grave? Were there coffins, or were bodies just dumped into a hole in the ground? What were the names of those 16 Filipino workers killed? What happened to the surviving strikers and the

widows and children of those who were killed? What did this mean for the Filipino community and labor movement in Hawaii? What are the lessons to be learned? Who were the unsung heroes in this historic moment?

Stephanie J. Castillo is an EMMY Award-winning filmmaker from Kaua'i. Her new television documentary, titled The Hanapepe Massacre Mystery, is slated for completion in 2023, in time for the 100th anniversary of the massacre in 2024. This is her 11th documentary film.

Leading the team of Kaua'i researchers is Michael Miranda. They total six and are part of an ad hoc committee under

the auspices of the Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHS). The group plans to present their findings in July at a biennial conference of FANHS chapters meeting in Waikiki. The FANHS research team hopes to cap their work by placing a proper marker on the mass grave in 2024.

Castillo has also begun interviewing the Kaua'i researchers and several individuals from the community who have stories passed down by family members. With the eye witnesses themselves now gone, she will continue to seek out more community storytellers to add their voices and input to present a more complete narrative, she said. One of the primary sources for Castillo and lead researcher Christopher Ballesteros, who wrote about the massacre for his Harvard undergrad history thesis, are some 20 oral eyewitness accounts recorded in the late 70's by University of Hawai'i researcher Chad Taniguchi.

For more information to donate to the project or provide pertinent information on the Hanapepe Massacre, please contact one of the following: executive producers Stephanie J. Castillo ([castillosj@aol.com](mailto:castillosj@aol.com)) and Randy Francisco ([franciscorandall@yahoo.com](mailto:franciscorandall@yahoo.com)), and lead researcher Christopher Ballesteros ([christopherballesteros@gmail.com](mailto:christopherballesteros@gmail.com))

## HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

### New School Immunization Required for 2020-21

**B**eginning in the 2020-2021 school year all students entering schools in Hawai'i for the first time must meet the state's new immunization requirements. In addition, before the first day of school year 2020-2021, all seventh grade students must provide documentation of having received: Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis), HPV (human papillomavirus vaccine), MCV (meningococcal conjugate vaccine).

"The state's new updated school vaccination requirements follow current national



recommendations and reflect what is already occurring in healthcare providers' offices and clinics in Hawai'i as standard medical practice," said Health Director Bruce Anderson. "These requirements protect not only the health of our

students but their families and our communities as well. Ensuring our students are vaccinated provides protection for those who are too young to be vaccinated and those with medical conditions, such as cancer, who cannot be immunized."

For a complete list of required vaccines, visit <http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/vaccines-immunizations/school-health-requirements/sy-20-21/>. Parents whose children are behind on their immunizations are encouraged to contact their healthcare provider for catch-up vaccinations.



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## ONE DAY IN THE LIFE OF ...

# ONE DAY IN THE LIFE OF PASTOR JOHN GARCIA

By Mark Lester Sanchez

**C**athedral of Praise Hawaii has officially opened as a church last April 21st of 2019. Pastor David Sumrall, Senior Pastor of Cathedral of Praise Main based in Manila, came to spearhead the opening of the branch church and dedicate it at its new location in Waipahu. With COP churches across the globe, the church in Hawaii is part of the Project 200 churches for the next 20 years. Its primary calling is for the Filipino-American community with non-Filipino spouses and friends. It seeks to establish itself as the springboard for more Filipino-American churches across the US. It is pioneered and led by Pastors John and Pam Garcia, both seasoned veteran church planters.

Pastors John and Pam Garcia, with daughter Megan, arrived in Oahu on January 15 of 2018. Prior to this, both had extensive experience in pastoral ministry and church planting. Both started as assistant pastors in the 1980s at the Main. Afterwards, they were sent to open a branch church in Davao in 1994. Budapest (Hungary) church plant followed in 1998. An invitation from NJ Assemblies of God led them to start and establish a church in New Jersey in 2004. Then, Arizona church plant came in 2012. By 2018, they were in Oahu laying a groundwork for a church again. Both are educated in Fuller Theological Seminary with Master of Theology and Ministry (MATM) and currently working on Doctor of Ministry (DMin) at the same seminary.

In 2018 at Oahu, the task of Pastors John & Pam Garcia was to recruit, train, and raise core people. The core people were to help prepare

for the COPH's grand opening and support the work after the opening. The Filipino Community Center in Waipahu had proven to be useful in achieving this important task every Sunday for the entire 2018 until a more permanent space was opened on January 2019. In the new church location, there is ample parking and children's church is offered. Starting with 40 people in 2019, it is presently running about 130 in church database, though its Sunday is still up and down in attendance due to people's work schedules on Sunday. However, the church's 12 small groups are spread across Oahu to serve as alternative fellowship to build spiritual life.

The daily routine of Pastors John & Pam Garcia is quite different than a typical pastor in an American church, which is 8-5. They start their day at 5am for spiritual readiness with Bible reflection and prayer, administration preparation, and studies. By 9am, they are already hitting the road to visit people in their homes and other meeting places. By late afternoon, they are preparing for a small group in the evening. After the evening meeting, they'd be home by 10pm. They also

visit people in the evening on scheduled appointment.

At COPH, the core values, which are the church's DNA and signature ministry practices, are the pastoral care and small groups. Pastoral care, done in homes, public places, and hospitals, is the daily hands-on and high-touch ministry of a pastor and trained church worker. Applying God's Word on each of their practical situations together with saving faith in Jesus, they regularly record lots of miracles and answered prayers in areas of marriages, finances, and health! For the small group, also called as Go-Group at church, people with their invited friends and loved ones come together to pray and study the Bible for practical life application. The

meeting is done in a home, office, and public place. It ranges between 7-9pm with great food before the meeting. The church also offers Word and prayer with Lord's

Supper to the shut-ins (confined elderly and disabled) in their homes. It also does hospital visitation, funerals, weddings, and dedication of new homes, new cars, new businesses, and babies.



Pastors John and Pam Garcia



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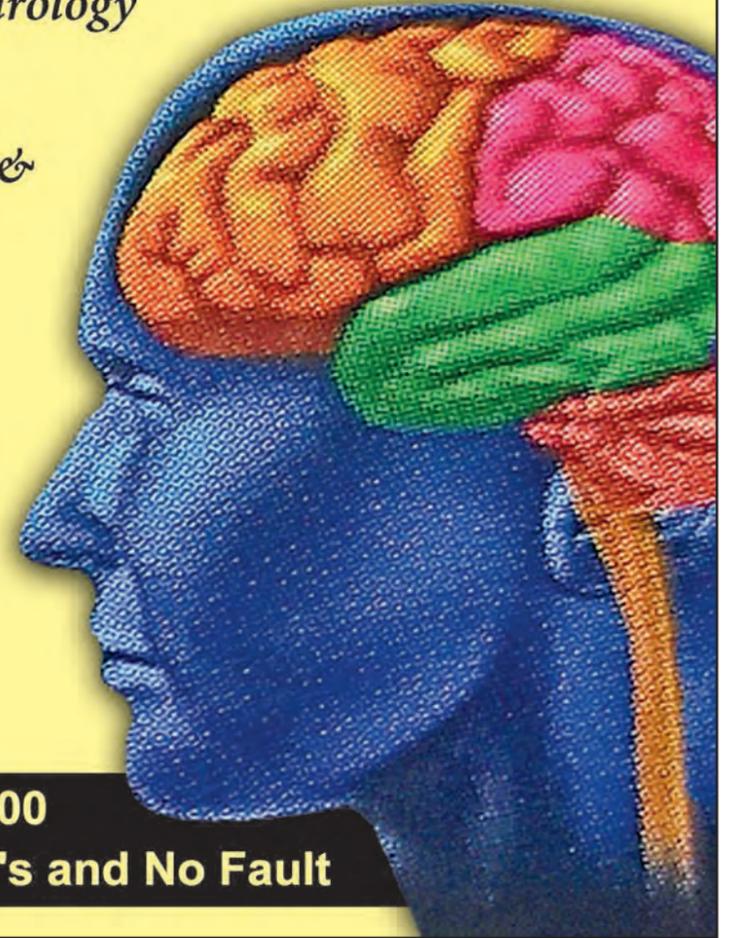
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## AS I SEE IT



By Elpidio R. Estioko

# Enrollment: The Key to Be Competitive to Survive 21st Century Education

I have been in education for more than 15 years now, both here and abroad, and I witnessed schools and educational institutions struggle and eventually closing due to lack of enrollment. This applies more specifically to charter schools whose existence are dependent upon their enrollment because they are funded by their average daily attendance (ADA) and receive funding from the district and the state according to the number of students attending.

The 21st century education is characterized by many factors for schools to be able to survive and stay in the education market. It's not only a question of employing quality teachers, having sophisticated buildings, maintaining modern equipment, and having enough students, but also providing the right atmosphere and instituting creative approaches towards learning. All these contribute to having more students, more enrollment, which generates money to finance the school.

Besides... when we speak of education, we have to consider not only providing knowledge to students but also managing the classroom, making sure there is adequate funding, well-maintained school buildings, having able managers, teachers having skills on how to deal with students, ensuring well-placed support system, etc. In short, education is a business in itself! And... to survive a business, the institutions need to be competitive in order to attract more students which is the heart and soul of the school system.

Since enrollment is the heart of the school's survival, educational institutions need to be creative and innovative. Well, we all know by now that the latest innovation that was introduced in the 21st century education system to capture more enrollment is online classes. It started in the college level but as of today, almost all high schools have their online classes because it's one way for schools to become very competitive in the challenging market of the 21st century.

As far as I know, the leading institution of higher learning that introduced flex classes and the 7-week online courses for college students is the Uni-

versity of Phoenix. They were ahead of the rest of the colleges and universities and they were somewhat successful in doing it.

I taught at Axia College, University of Phoenix online for five years. Phoenix offers three types of enrollment: purely online 7-week college courses; flex classes; and the traditional classes but the bulk of their enrollment is the purely online class offerings.

Many colleges and universities followed suit and when various institutions saw that online learning is viable and became lucrative these days, traditional colleges and universities, including high schools, started offering online classes.

For online education to be functional, it must embrace the use of modern technology. The classrooms need to be equipped with new and sophisticated computers and other modern tech resources to provide the much needed environment for online learning. This way, it will also make blended learning possible because it's not just about integrating online content or using cool new technologies but uti-

lizing effective videos, computerized white boards, Power Point presentations, webinars, technology-friendly gadgets to help at-risk students, and creating more interactive discussions with students compared to pure lectures that we used to do in the past. Learning with technology became a must to academic institutions for survival in the 21st century!

Dr. Douglas Kellner of UCLA said: "We now live in an increasingly diverse, globalized, and complex media-saturated society... This technological revolution will have a greater impact on society than the transition from an oral to a print culture. Emerging technologies and resulting globalization also provide unlimited possibilities for exciting new discoveries and developments such as new forms of energy, medical advances, and restoration of environmentally-ravaged areas, communications, and exploration into space and into the depths of the oceans. The possibilities are unlimited."

Okay, while the resources are there, one of the most pressing concerns by many

teachers is classroom management -- how to make students focus on their lessons and embrace technology. In fact, this is also shared by parents who mentor their kids at home and have to contend with frequent use of cell phones at a time that they are studying. Because of modern technology, students are tied up with their cell phones to the extent that it becomes a destruction.

At first, most teachers address it by coming up with classroom policy for cell phones in class. It became a paper requirement because students continue using their phones and ignoring the policy. So they thought of strengthening the policy by adding sanctions. First, starts with a warning and if the student keeps on using it, teachers enter a case note up to the third time students violate the policy. Then, the teacher can issue a write up or minor infraction after three case notes. This did not deter the students to use their phones either. A stiffer penalty was revised making the second violation the write-up. This somewhat helped but somehow it's not working in general too!

Since this is the age of modern technology, teachers

(continue on page 14)

## HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

## AARP RX T. Rex Urges Lawmakers to Take a Bite Out of RX prices

AARP RX T. Rex was at the State Capitol Rotunda during Halloween week to bring attention to the high cost of prescription drugs. AARP urged Congress and state legislators to "Stop RX Greed" and pass legislation to lower prescription drug costs for older Americans.

AARP thanked Rep. Ed Case for co-sponsoring H.R. 3, the Elijah E. Cummings Lower Drug Costs Now Act of 2019.

AARP's urged members on its National Day of Action on Oct. 29 to call Congress to tell their Representative to stand up to drug companies and take a bite out of Rx prices

es by passing H.R. 3, which could come up for a full House vote in November.

"There is no reason Americans should be paying the highest drug prices in the world. The legislation in the House, H.R. 3, addresses AARP's key priorities for lowering drug prices and the associated costs that older Americans pay, including allowing Medicare to negotiate drug prices, creating an out-of-pocket cap for seniors in Medicare Part D, and cracking down on drug price increases," AARP said in



U.S. Rep. Ed Case with the AARP RX T. Rex at the State Capitol.

a statement.

According to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, allowing Medicare to negotiate drug prices would save taxpayers a staggering \$345 billion.

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## CANDID PERSPECTIVES



By Emil Guillermo

# How to Beat Hyperpartisanship—Act Like We're on Team America Waving the Constitution

**B**efore I get to the news of the week, let me address my humble appreciation for being honored by this newspaper at its upcoming 25th anniversary gala. (Get your tickets now!)

The Hawaii Filipino Chronicle is an island institution, and I have been grateful that it's been my media home in Hawaii for several years.

Where else are you going to get the Filipino amok spin—my take on life and current events-- in print?

If you come to the big event on the 23rd, I will share my thoughts and memories of living and working in Honolulu.

Some of it will be funny. Some will be sad. Some will be part of my show, "Amok." But overall, my Honolulu experience connected me to our shared Filipino story.

My dad came from Laoag to California in 1928. He skipped Hawaii. My time there made up for it.

I'll tell my stories and my Advertiser days from the podium at the gala.

Hope to see you there.

And now on to the big news, the battle for democracy. The impeachment drama goes public.

To deal with it, we need metaphor. And this weekend we got it.

TRUMP IN ALABAMA; I WAS ROOTING FOR TUA; LSU WON

The good thing about sport is that it allows us to display our emotions, then pull it back and be normal again.

Ewa Beach's Tua Tagovailoa just couldn't pull off the 4th quarter miracle we were hoping for and Tua's Alabama team lost 46-41 to LSU.

Trump was there but didn't get in the way.

As I sat in California, the TV showed me the dichotomy:

Alabama fans despondent, the LSU fans ecstatic.

And then the game was over.

Tua limped away, but hugged other LSU players. And what do you know? Sportsmanship prevailed.

The players didn't fight, gloat or bad mouth one another.

Ultimately, they were not divided by team. They came together in a very civil way--as participants.

It was a real show of unity. CBS--which televised the game--was smart not to show the president afterwards.

Why wreck the "feel good" by showing the Divided-In-Chief.

The game's end was a great lesson for the country as a whole which is about to enter a week of nasty hyperpartisanship where no one can agree what's up, down, black or white. Or more importantly, right and wrong.

We're simply asked to believe what your told. At least Republicans are.

They need to understand the feeling that was televised from Tuscaloosa.

Maybe some of it rubbed off on Trump.

But I doubt it.

WE ARE ON THE SAME TEAM

And that's what you need to understand as the impeachment proceedings go public.

We need to be on Team America, waving the Constitution.

Someone says "checks and balances," we high-five.

Someone says "no one is above the law," we hug.

Someone says "article 2," we read the Constitution, chapter and verse, especially the part about the oath of office where one swears to "faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Impeachment is the biggest game in politics. And from the way it looks this one is going down to the wire, because Trump has Fox prime time and Twitter and all his trolls to make sure his version of reality wins.

But this isn't about what's good for Trump's personal aggrandizement. It's what's good for our country.

When a president uses military aid to Ukraine—your tax money—as a tool to get dirt on his own political opponent, that's good for just him, not us.

And what of our national security? The self-interest

of the businessman is not the same as acting in the interests of our country.

As the hearings become public and out in the open, it will be subject A, and all of it will be on television. Trump will finally get a reality show that counts. And so will the rest of us.

The facts will come out in live testimony. The transcripts of William Taylor and Col Vindman have already been damning. Truths will be further exposed in live testimony. And the conflicts will point to the president's deception.

Read the transcript? I did. It's not a perfect call.

Partisans will bicker as they will. Seeing through the political PR won't be easy. Notice how few will say the president is innocent. They will attack the process, though nothing is really wrong with the process. The president will get due process from a trial in the Senate.

The acts of the president will be indefensible. And then it will be up to the public to weigh in. And that means a vigorous public debate with views from more perspectives than just the political class.

Filipino Americans must be engaged. Talk to each other. Email your representatives in government. Let them know what you think.

Do you even care?

You should. If a commander-in-chief lies about Ukraine, what else will he lie about? His future bad moves and bad policy will affect you.

And don't forget that our country's sense of diversity requires that the people heard in this process aren't limited to the white males in the House and Senate expressing their views in the mostly white media.

An impeachment inquiry exists because there's a threat to the legitimacy of the Constitution and the rule of law. Keep that in mind, as well as this thing called diversity.

Diversity, after all, assumes there's a place for everyone in a democracy like America—except for a king.

We don't need one of those who see themselves above the law.

Just remember we can battle like LSU and the Tua -led Tide did last weekend. And in the end, we can leave the confrontation behind, and walk away together.

That shouldn't be difficult if we all realize we are on the same team—for America and the Constitution.

**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.

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## FEATURE

# Imelda Marcos Documentary Will Be Available On A Streaming Service Platform in Early 2020

By Jim Bea Sampaga

**T**he documentary film *The Kingmaker* featuring Imelda Marcos had its theatrical release in New York and Los Angeles last Friday, November 8, and will be available on streaming service SHOW-TIME in early 2020. Directed by Emmy Award-winning director Lauren Greenfield, *The Kingmaker* focuses on the political career of the former first lady and the Marcos family's efforts to help son Bongbong Marcos, win the vice-presidency.

The documentary film initially debuted at the Venice Film Festival in August then traveled around to different film festival premieres such as the Telluride Film Festival, Toronto International Film Festival, and Camden

International Film Festival. *The Kingmaker* was nominated as best documentary at the London Film Festival and the Stockholm Film Festival and won the 2019 Critic's Choice Award for Most Compelling Living Subject of a Documentary. According to multiple reviews, the film is a "hidden gem" (The Hollywood Reporter) and "jaw-dropping" (Variety).

Hawaii had a big role in this part of Filipino history. While the 1986 People Power Revolution was taking place in Manila, Ferdinand Marcos and his wife Imelda were forced to flee to Hawaii and live in exile. Three years later, former Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos died in Honolulu. Allowed by President Corazon Aquino, Imelda and her children re-



turned to the Philippines in 1991 after being in exile for more than five years.

For Leeward Community College Philippine studies coordinator Dr. Raymund Liongson, *The Kingmaker* gave the Marcos family a platform to promote their agenda.

"Particularly in Hawaii where a great majority of Filipinos are Ilocanos who remain loyal to their *kailian*," Dr. Liongson said. "This documentary would

fortify the Marcoses' claim of innocence and pain themselves as political victims even as the dictator's son attempts to make his way to Malacanang and seize the presidential powers."

Even though the majority of Filipinos in Hawaii are from the Ilocos region where the Marcos family is originally from, Filipino-American Historical Society of Hawaii president Clement Bautista said that the documentary "will generate mixed responses."

"Whether one supports or condemns Ferdinand Marcos, Imelda herself has generated a separate set of reactions during and after the Marcos regime. For sure, Imelda Marcos benefited immensely from her marriage, but she also exhibited and continues to exhibit her own influence and charisma in the Philippines," Bautista

said. "In Hawaii, like in the Philippines, the meaning of Imelda Marcos and any depiction of her will generate mixed responses -- from utter disgust and loathing to simple admiration for her presence and perseverance."

With the Filipinos currently going under a "deja vu" with current president Rodrigo Duterte, Dr. Liongson said. "deposed regimes are making a come back."

"It is important that we stay vigilant and remain courageous and critical," he said.

Documentaries about the Philippines are always welcome but Bautista warned that the public should keep an open mind about interpreting the film. "We all -- viewers and filmmakers alike -- have our own preconceptions about Imelda and may learn something new and useful from the interaction of viewing the film," said Bautista.

## HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

### Students Can Get A Second Chance to Be Admitted to UH-Manoa

**T**he College Opportunities Program (COP) is seeking applicants for its Summer 2020 program, which provides a second chance opportunity to Hawai'i residents who lack the minimum requirements for admission to the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM).

If you know of any Hawai'i residents who will be

graduating from high school this year, please encourage them to take advantage of this second chance opportunity to gain admission to UHM through the COP. This year, 100% of the 61 participants successfully completed the summer program and gained admission to UHM. Established in 1970, COP has made it possible for over many indi-

viduals to gain admission and eventually earn a baccalaureate degree from UHM.

High School seniors and others who have earned a high school diploma who may not meet the minimum admissions requirements to UHM can apply for this second chance opportunity. If selected, participants of this 6-week summer program will live on the Mānoa campus and enroll in classes designed

to upgrade academic and social skills. Room, board, textbooks, and instructional expenses will be covered for each participant. Participants who successfully complete the summer program requirements gain admission to UHM and advance to COP's First-Year Academic Program in the fall semester.

The deadline to apply is Wednesday, December 12, 2019. Note that individuals

may only apply online at [www.hawaii.edu/cop](http://www.hawaii.edu/cop). Applicants who submit their online application by the deadline above will also be required to submit supporting documents one week later and no later than 4:00 PM on Wednesday, December 19, 2019. More information is available online at [www.hawaii.edu/cop](http://www.hawaii.edu/cop). For further inquiries, please call the office at 956-6186 or email [copuhm@hawaii.edu](mailto:copuhm@hawaii.edu).

### Udani Named to New York Life's Executive Council

**F**redits Guillermo Udani has been named a member of the 2019 Executive Council of New York Life, which recognizes the top 21 percent of New York Life's elite field force of more than 12,000 licensed agents in sales achievement.

Udani has been a New York Life agent since 2017 and is associated with New York Life's Hawaii General Office in Honolulu. She has been in the insurance business for more than 36 years and has received multiple awards in recognition of her sales performance. She is also a member of the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors.

Udani is a graduate of Philippine School of Business Administration with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.



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## LEGAL NOTES



By Atty. Reuben S. Seguritan

## Bill Eliminating Country Cap Should Be Opposed

The total number of employment-based visas that can be issued is 140,000 per year. The USCIS counts the visas issued to dependents such as spouses and minor children in this total number. Hence, there is a huge backlog of petitions from certain countries such as India and China because there are a lot of technology companies in the US seeking to petition these skilled workers. The largest backlogs are in the second and third preference categories. USCIS reported that as of May 2018 there were 586,439 workers on the waiting list for these 2 preferences. The backlogs are broken down as follows: India- 548,645, China 41, 525 and the other countries-0.

Under the bill, immigrants would be granted green cards on a first-come first-served basis regardless of where they were born. There will be a three year adjustment period for those that were not born in India or China giving them 15%

for the first year and 10% for the second and 3rd year. Under this guaranteed percentage of visa, Indians would receive no more than 85% and the Chinese will get the balance.

There is a so-called “no-harm provision” which will protect those with an approved visa petition prior to the bill’s enactment by guaranteeing that they will receive their green card no later than when they would have received it.

The Senate bill creates a temporary category for 7,200 workers in shortage occupations (nurses and physical therapists) from 2020 to 2028. No more than 2,800 can go to dependents.

The bill also provides for an increase in the number of family-based visa available for each country. The numerical limitation for each country will be increased from 7% of the 226,000 worldwide total to 15%. Countries with visa backlogs like the Philippines and Mexico will benefit.

Despite the temporary relief for nurses and families, the bill should be opposed.

The bill as a whole will not solve the backlogs but would worsen it. Indians and Chinese will benefit at the expense of others. If Congress wants to improve our immigration system, the solution is to add additional visa numbers and exclude dependents in the count.

The waiting times for residency under the bill will probably go from 10 years (for Indians) to 17 years for everyone after Indian nationals use the visas. That includes the whole world- every profession and kind of skill. The total backlog for employment-based residency will probably increase to over 1 million in 2029. Congress should not pit Indian nationals against the rest of the world. Congress should enact a system to make more permanent residency visas available, where healthcare and scientific research are acknowledged as priorities, a system that encourages skilled workers to remain in the US.

Senator Rand Paul has introduced legislation to actually solve the problem- the

BELIEVE ACT and Senator Dick Durbin also introduced the RELIEF ACT. These bills will increase the number of visas, end the process of counting spouses and children when allocating visas, and give some limited priority to health care workers and allow early filing of residency for such high skilled workers. There are other discussions in the Senate involving both Republicans and Democrats focused on actually solving the green card backlog for Indians without hurting the rest of the world. This should not be a case of choosing IT workers over nurses or doctors; Indians over the rest of the world. The national interest is to give green cards quickly to those beneficiaries who have qualified with their skills and shown that they are needed without displacing qualified American workers.

.....  
**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](http://www.seguritan.com)

## PHILIPPINE NEWS

## Duterte Scraps Pasig River Rehab Body

By Patricia Lourdes Viray  
 Thursday, November 14, 2019

**M**ANILA, Philippines — President Rodrigo Duterte has officially ordered the disestablishment of the Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC).

The president earlier called on Congress to abolish the body as it no longer has a function to perform as there “is nothing to clean in the Pasig River.”

Malacañang released a copy of the order dated November 8.

Duterte signed Executive Order 83 abolishing the PRRC and transferring its powers to the Manila Bay Task Force, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), Met-

ropolitan Manila Development Authority and Department of Public Works and Highways.

Under EO 83, the Manila Bay Task Force will be in charge of the overall implementation of the Pasig River master plan.

The plan includes harnessing the river’s potential for transportation, recreation and tourism while undergoing rehabilitation and restoration of marine life.

The DENR will monitor the enforcement of the Civil Code, particularly in all waterways leading to the Pasig River. It will also be in charge of preventing the dumping of untreated industrial wastewater and sewerage into the river.

The order also mandates the DHSUD, in collaboration with the DENR and the Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor, to expedite the relocation of informal settlers

and other unlawful occupants along the river banks.

The MMDA and the DPWH were directed to coordinate with the Department of the Interior and Local Government, local government units and the Philippine National Police to ensure that the dismantling and removal of establishments along the river that violate the Urban Devel-

opment and Housing Act of 1992.

EO takes effect immediately upon publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.

Upon effectivity of the order, the Department of Budget and Management will supervise the winding up of the operations of the PRRC.

Last September, Duterte

terminated former PRRC executive director Jose Antonio Goitia following reports of alleged anomalies in the agency.

The president later on declared that the river cannot be restored to its original state due to new factories and the increasing population in Metro Manila.

The PRRC was established in 1999 to ensure that the Pasig River was brought back to its historically pristine condition. ([www.philsta.com](http://www.philsta.com))



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PHILIPPINE NEWS

# Trump Call with Duterte Left White House 'Genuinely Horrified'

By Franco Luna  
Thursday, November 14, 2019

MANILA, Philippines — A call dated April 29, 2017, that saw US President Donald Trump congratulating Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte for an “unbelievable job on the drug problem” left many in the White House “genuinely horrified,” a

Washington Post report said. In the call, which occurred during the 30th ASEAN Summit hosted in Manila, both presidents expressed unease towards North Korean dictator Kim Jong-un, particularly his arsenal of nuclear weaponry. Trump called the dictator a “madman with nuclear weapons” just days before he publicly stated that he

would be honored to meet with the North Korean leader.

The two presidents also exchanged compliments and warm invitations to their respective presidential offices.

“There was a constant undercurrent in the Trump administration of [senior staff] who were genuinely horrified by the things they saw that were happening on these calls,” one former White House official told the Washington Post, speaking on the condition of anonymity to discuss the private conversations.

“Phone calls that were embarrassing, huge mistakes he made, months and months of work that were upended by one impulsive tweet.”

One former security official called this pandering, saying that, “[p]eople who could do things for him — he was nice to.”

The Washington Post’s report published last October 5 comes as Duterte was about to wrap up his visit to Russia, which marked the latest in his longstanding push towards diplomatic independence from the United States — one of the central tenets of his campaign for the presidency.

Presidential spokesperson Salvador Panelo noted in

a statement on Facebook last October 4 that progress in Philippines-Russia relations came “after [Duterte] sought the rebalancing of traditional partnerships and the deepening of relations with non-traditional partners at the onset of his administration.”

“[T]here are three of us against the world — China, Philippines and Russia. It’s the only way,” Duterte said in 2016, signifying a complete reversal in foreign policy since he took office.

### Scourge of my nation

The Duterte presidency has been marked by a bloody war on drugs, during which the death toll rose to over 12,000 by January 2019, according to Human Rights Watch. This is disputed by the official figure offered by the Philippine National Police, which puts the number closer to 5,200 killed in official operations as of February 2019.

“This is the scourge of my nation now, and I have to do

something to preserve the Filipino nation,” Duterte said of the drug problem in his 2017 call with Trump.

“I remember when the President [Duterte] was talking about what he is doing for this country pati ‘yung mga kotrobersya niya, ‘yung cursing niya, the secretary of the state [Pompeo] said ‘You’re just like our president!’ Nagtawanan kami eh,” Panelo said during a Palace press briefing last March.

Many of the deaths in the drug war came as a result of the suspected drug personalities fighting back, according to police reports.

Upon the release of the call’s transcript, which was transmitted by the Department of Foreign Affairs, numerous critics panned Trump’s congratulatory remarks on the drug war, claiming they demonstrated an approval and even endorsement of the Philippine president’s methods.

“Unheard of,” one former White House official who handled foreign calls told the Washington Post. “That just blew me away.” ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))

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### (AS I SEE IT: ENROLLMENT...from page 10)

thought of using the student cell phones as a medium for instruction. Teachers became more innovative and creative and incorporated lessons with students using their cell phones in class discussions and research. Somehow, this helped in addressing the problem.

Of course, these are just a few concerns affecting students’ learning brought about by modern technology.

So, it boils down to creative, innovative, technologically-skilled teachers in keeping the students busy and

engaged in their respective classrooms. That way, we can maximize the results technology brings to the classroom and attract more students.

Employing quality teachers, practicing blended technology, offering online education, and maintaining better classroom management are business indicators to attract more enrollment!

**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](mailto:estiokoelpidio@gmail.com).

(Sagot sa Krosword Blg.10 | October 19, 2019)

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**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](mailto:filipinochronicle@gmail.com).

Dr. Belinda Aquino at [lindyaquino@gmail.com](mailto:lindyaquino@gmail.com) or Carlota Ader at 797-4381  
**5TH ANNUAL SAKADA DAY CELEBRATION** | December 21, 2019; 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM | Pahoia Community Center | Email [cololan@twc.com](mailto:cololan@twc.com) for details. The event is open to the public and free

Have your organization's events listed in our community calendar. It's recommended to submit press releases a month in advance of your organization's event. Send information to [filipinochronicle@gmail.com](mailto:filipinochronicle@gmail.com).

MAINLAND NEWS

# Schatz Introduces Legislation to Block Trump Border Wall Money Grab

WASHINGTON, D.C. U.S. Senators Brian Schatz (D-Hawai'i), Patty Murray (D-Wash.), Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.), Dick Durbin (D-Ill.), and Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) announced the Stopping Executive Overreach on Military Appropriations Act (SEOMA) in response to President Trump's raid of military construction funds in order to build his wall on the southern U.S. border.

The bill would rescind President Trump's egregious abuse of executive power and prevent future presidents from exercising similar executive overreach in the event of a declaration of a national emergency.

"The president is robbing our military of funds meant for critical construction projects that serve our troops and keep the American people safe," said Senator Schatz, lead Democrat on the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs. "Our bill will stop this reckless

abuse of power and restore funding to the military so that the men and women in our armed forces have the resources they need to protect our country."

The legislation would directly address President Trump's egregious abuse of executive power—and set a standard to prevent future abuses of executive power—by:

- Requiring approval from Congress before the President can redirect military construction funds during a national emergency;
- Prohibiting defense money from being used to build President Trump's wasteful border wall;
- Immediately rescinding the \$3.6 billion dollars President Trump raided from military construction funds to divert to his wall, and returning those funds back to their respective projects; and
- Directing the Office of Gov-

ernment Ethics to review all current and future contracts related to President Trump's border wall to determine if the President, his family, or his top lieutenants would personally profit from such contracts, or if there is any conflict of interest.

Senators Schatz, Murray, Schumer, Durbin, and Leahy have been vocal opponents of President Trump's repeated attempts to use federal taxpayer dollars to fund his border wall, as well as his persistent efforts to bypass Congress to do so. Following President Trump's emergency declaration at the southern border in February, Secretary of Defense Mark Esper announced that \$3.6 billion dollars of appropriated military construction funds would be diverted to pay for the President's border wall. This decision affects 127 military construction projects in 26 states and territories.

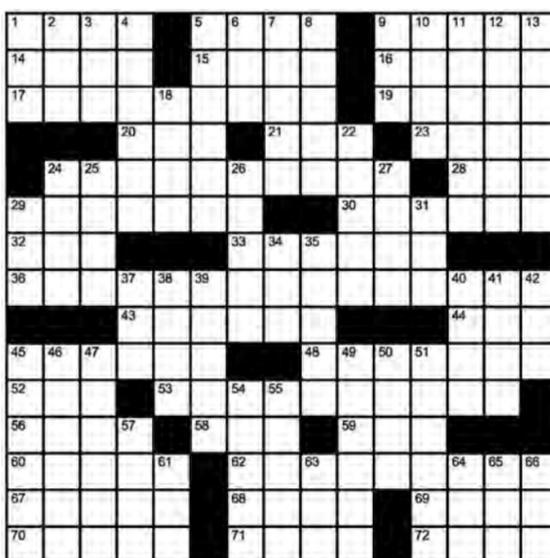
## CROSSWORD No. 11

by Carlito Lalicon

**ACROSS**

1. Bonny one
5. Eastern royal
9. Accommodate
14. Asian nurse
15. Book of Mormon
16. Brown shade
17. Swindler
19. Common sense?
20. Asian language
21. Breed
23. Heraldic border
24. Mix
28. Jail, slangily
29. Catch sight of
30. Yoghurt
32. Bleed

33. Entered
36. Hospital employee
43. Water cannon target
44. Arctic bird
45. Least wild
48. One, for lithium
52. Carrier to Tokyo
53. Strike out
56. Corn syrup brand
58. British john
59. Musical notes
60. Ancient Roman magistrate
62. Pristine
67. Article of faith
68. A-line line
69. Unit of pressure



70. Alpha's opposite
71. Coastal raptor
72. Buffoon

**DOWN**

1. Resinous deposit
2. I love: Lat.
3. Honshu honorific
4. Hello and goodbye
5. Mix anew, as greens
6. Black cuckoo
7. Boot camp reply
8. Basket fiber
9. Beast of burden
10. Audition tape
11. Outline

12. Means of support
13. Ability
18. Coarse file
22. Attuned
24. Game name
25. Cabal
26. Engender
27. Bump off
29. Dog's warning
31. African antelope
34. Bonanza find
35. Brash

37. Anger
38. Puncture sound
39. Add up
40. Bluster
41. Quite
42. Barely get, with "out"
45. Start liking
46. Wreath for the head
47. Not terrestrial, perhaps
49. Burning
50. Farm soil
51. Artificial
54. Spoil, with "up"
55. Hermit
57. Cassini of fashion
61. In-flight info, for short
63. One of the 12 tribes of Israel
64. Former Portuguese colony in India
65. Coastal flier
66. Towel off

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

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