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August 1 - 15, 2016
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- ROMY M. CACHOLA

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(Lyla's Daughter)
Romy &
Erlinda
Shane & Lyla
Joey, Aiden

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Looking for the Next Ben Cayetano

Bennette Espineli Misalucha

Here is an excerpt from an article in the New York Times (May 23, 2012) where the writer, Jackie Calmes shares the insights of David Axelrod.

"David Axelrod, Mr. Obama's longtime adviser, has a copy framed in his Chicago office. He said of Jacob, "Really, what he was saying is, 'Gee, you're just like me.' And it doesn't take a big leap to think that child could be thinking, 'Maybe I could be here someday.' This can be such a cynical business, and then there are moments like that just remind you that it's worth it."

I think it's a safe bet to believe that yes, someone from these Islands can think that yes, someone from these Islands can know what it feels like to overcome feelings of inferiority (or as former Governor Burns once said "feelings of inferiority") to become the most powerful person in the planet.

As Obama's 2008 slogan once declared: "Yes, we can."

Why do we need symbols? Symbols are supposed to represent something abstract. For concepts such as "hope", "The American dream", "success" and "greatness", these ideas may be difficult to grasp unless we turn to people who seem to have achieved them. In business, for example, some local leaders like Eddie Flores, Roland Casamina, Lito Alcado, and Ben Cayetano. They all came from humble backgrounds, overcame the incredible odds and achieved success in their industry. To us, they stand as symbols of what is possible in America.

But in the field of politics, there is a vacuum.

For the past many political seasons, the Filipino community in Hawaii has been on the lookout for such a symbol, someone who can emerge from the pack and lead.

In 1994, when Benjamin Jerome Cayetano won the election as Hawaii's State governor, he entered the history books as the first Filipino of American ancestry to enter into the State's political arena. Along with so many countless others, I was one of the volunteers who campaigned hard to make it happen. And at his inauguration, I was one of the thousands whose pride and happiness was literal in their industry out of our hearts. I remember I cried. We identified with Ben and we embraced his journey as our own. He was one of us.

And when he finished his term in 2002 on a good note, we emerged from the pack and lead. I hope that from amongst the many, another Ben Cayetano or another reiteration may surface to fill the leadership vacuum.

Yes, my hope springs eternal that from amongst today's local politicians will emerge the next Governor, or the next Congressman, or even US President of Filipino-American ancestry.

Think about it: when we have a Filipino (Filipina?) in the White House, instead of a President showing his hair to a five-year-old, we could have a picture showing the food served at the White House dining table: sinigang, fried banguo, lumpia and pancit with halo-halo for dessert.

And when he finished his term in 2002 on a good note, the whole community felt so proud of the incredible legacy he left behind as the esteemed Governor of our beloved state. Thank you, Ben.

Today, even if our presidents are no longer with us, I hope to see that some of our Presidents are no longer with us, I hope to see that some of the Islands can overcome feelings of inadequacy (or as former Governor Burns once said compiling these narratives; your commitment to our program is much appreciated.

To our readers, we hope you will get to know these candidates in order to choose wisely. As a matter of policy, The Fil-Am Courier does not endorse candidates but we encourage our readers to do their homework, learn more about the candidate's views and bottom line, to vote and have their voices be heard.

In the meantime, I dream and hope of better things to come. I hope that from amongst the many, the next Ben Cayetano or another reiteration may surface to fill the leadership vacuum.

The FIL-AM COURIER is published twice a month by the Federation of Filipino American Media (HFAM) of the United States and Canada (HFAMCS).
In alphabetical order:

Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran
Candidate for Senate District 5 (Incumbent)

Birthdate: September 27, 1962
Birthplace: Waikiki, Maui, Hawaii
Philippine Connection: My family's family is from Pusol/Puozul, Pinili, Ilocos Norte. My mother's family is from Napu, Badoc, Ilocos Norte.

Why are you running for office?
I've represented Central Maui since 2009 (House 2009-12; Senate 2013- present) and currently chair the Judiciary and Labor Committee.

My family, like other immigrants, shared the simple dream of a better life, perhaps not for themselves, but certainly for their children and grandchildren. Whether we were born on Maui, or moved here, or moved back after seeing America, whatever additional prospects and opportunities we have today are largely available due to the courage, dedication and sacrifice of prior generations. I'm working on the continuing challenges of improving public education, supporting employment opportunities and providing adequate housing for Maui's local residents.

Have you ever been to the Philippines? If so, when and where?
I traveled to the pre-Martial Law Philippines in 1970 with my family, spending most of a month in the provinces and a few days in Manila.

In one word, describe how you feel about your Filipino heritage?
Rooted.

Email address or website:
http://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfGilKeithAgaran

FILIPINO-AMERICAN CANDIDATES ABOUND IN THE PRIMARY ELECTIONS

Compiled by JACO GALLARDE RADIANT CORDERO & RANDY CORTEZ

Editor’s Note: Primary elections in Hawaii is scheduled for Saturday, August 13, 2016. We reached out to Filipino-American candidates who are on the ballot to get more acquainted with their reasons for running as well as their connections to the Philippines. We gave equal opportunities to everyone and respond here are the responses we received:

As preserving our knowledge, the way custom is important, and through my skills in language. I speak Tagalog, the national language of the Philippines. I moved to United States knowing the value of the ever-fading "American Dream" and I wish to reinvoke my kababayyan with the same dream. We are strong united and undivided.

Email address or website: www.junopallia.com

Juno Ann Astillero Apalla
Candidate for Kauai County Council

Birthdate: 06/20/1988
Birthplace: Pangasinan, Philippines
Philippine Connection: I was born in the Philippines, mother from Ambukiao and Father from Ilocos Sur.

Why are you running for office?
I am running for a seat in the Kauai County Council because I love my home, and because I want to bridge the inequities between government leadership and community feedback, while maintaining a solid integrity in the work I do.

Have you ever been to the Philippines? If so, when and where?
I was born in the Philippines, at mgakababayankoa y’i childhood memories kogaling sa bundokang Pangasian at doon sa manga rice and cotton fields of my grandfathers. My character, my values, and my world view is shaped by my motherland, the Philippines combined with my home now, Kauai, and the many experiences I collected while traveling abroad to Europe.

In one word, describe how you feel about their Filipino heritage?
Proud.

What are you most proud of?
I am most proud of our Filipino traditions of art and culture as well as our ethics in hard work and dedication. I am a proud Filipino, and perpetuate my culture not only through early action but through words, as preserving our knowledge, the way custom is important, and through my skills in language. I speak Tagalog, the national language of the Philippines. I moved to United States knowing the value of the ever-fading "American Dream" and I wish to reinvoke my kababayyan with the same dream. We are strong united and undivided.

Email address or website: www.junopallia.com

Henry J.C. Aquino
Candidate for House District 38

Birthdate: May 26, 1977
Birthplace: Honolulu, Hawaii
Philippine Connection: My father Quirino is from the Philippines, mother from Santa Mria, Ilocos Sur.

Why are you running for office?
I offer effectiveness, experience and community-oriented representation to continue to deliver necessary improvement projects in various capacities, addressing issues affecting our communities and pushing for needed programs and services for residents.

Have you ever been to the Philippines? If so, when and where?
My last visit was in May 2014. The purpose of the visit was to lead a state delegation to meet with officials from the Metro Manila Development Authority and municipal officials in Leyte Island to discuss ideas and best practices in matters relating to emergency management and resiliency, transportation, public health and other areas of importance.

In one word, describe how you feel about your Filipino heritage: Honored.

What are you most proud of?
Personally, I am proud of my family, especially my parents. Their story is similar to many fellow Filipinos past and present who journeyed to Hawaii in search of better employment, education and opportunities to raise their families. It is a source of immense pride because at the high level of success and determination to move to a new place, assimilate and contribute to the culture of these islands— and become successful. The sacrifices of those who came before us have positioned other Filipinos to become successful on so many levels.

Romy M. Cachola
Candidate for House District 30
Incumbent

Birthdate: March 8, 1938
Birthplace: Vigan, Ilocos Sur
Philippine Connection: I was born in the Philippines; I earned my Bachelor of Laws Degree, JD, from M.L. University in Manila. Prior to moving to the United States I served as Real Estate Investigator for the Social Security System Administration.

Why are you running for office?
I was bored and raise in the Philippines; I earned my Bachelor of Arts Degree, from M.L. University in Manila. Prior to moving to the United States I served as Real Estate Investigator for the Social Security System Administration.

Compiled by JACO GALLARDE RADIANT CORDERO & RANDY CORTEZ
measures to save taxpayers’ money, and enhanced the livelihood of those that I served. My goals include:
- to continue finding ways to save taxpayers’ money by addressing Unfunded Liabilities
- support relocation of Oahu Community Correctional Center, where he will be part of the Vision Committee established for Kalihi 21st Century Transformation Initiative
- work with State and City and County of Honolulu to dredge Halawa Stream.
- other initiatives:
  a. Affordable Housing
  b. Homelessness
  c. Road Repairs
  d. Traffic Congestion
  e. Funding for needed programs as such evaluation.

Have you ever been to the Philippines? If so, when and where?
Besides being born and raised, several times, to participate in medical missions to cities in Ilocos Norte, Southern Tagalog, Bacnotan, the Visayas, and Davao.

In one word, describe how you feel about your Filipino heritage?

What are you most proud of?
The resiliency of the Filipino spirit especially when challenged in a foreign country. Like most of Filipino immigrants, I came from humble beginnings but with sheer determination, astuteness, and perseverance, I was promoted from being a messenger to Territorial Savings Bank straight to bank manager, and pursued a career in public service thereafter. I feel honored to represent Hawaii’s ethnic groups in both the City and County of Honolulu and State of Legislature where I was able to pass measures that made things better for all of us today and in the future. With your help I hope to continue this journey, and I humbly ask for your support.

Email address or website: rmcasto@yahoo.com

Roger Clemente
Candidate for House District 35
Birthdate: December 20, 1949
Birthplace: Bacnotan, La Union, Philippines
Philippine Connection: My family is from Bacnotan, La Union.
Why are you running for office?
I am running for re-election because I believe that as a community we can continue to make a difference. As our community continues to grow, so do our families. I intend to continue this life of service by working to prioritize the state budget, reinvesting in our safety net, completing long-range infrastructure projects, and creating more jobs for local families.

Have you ever been to the Philippines? If so, when and where?

In one word, describe how you feel about your Filipino heritage?
Proud.

What are you most proud of?
I am most proud of being from a large family that is loving, caring and supportive.

Email address or website:
rcastle@email.com

Ty J.K. Cullen
Candidate for House District 39
Incumbent
Birthdate: October 16, 1956
Birthplace: Honolulu, Hawaii
Philippine Connection: My family is from Mandae, Cebu.

Have you ever been to the Philippines? If so, when and where?
I am running for re-election in the State House in 2016 because of my current involvement in the community as an elected Board Member of the Kalihi Valley Neighborhood Board. Moreover, as a long-time resident and community volunteer in many projects/activities in my district, I feel that I have gained hands-on experience in numerous government and community programs that improve peoples’ lives.

In the past, I have served as a member of the Honolulu Ethics Commission and of the Honolulu Police Commission. In the Philippines, I was elected and re-elected as City Councilman of Cebu City. At present, I am honored to serve as President of the School Board of St. Theresa Catholic School and as President of the AKO Board of the Hills Apartments, both in the Kalihi area.

Have you ever been to the Philippines? If so, when and where?
I’ve been to the Philippines twice. The first time was with my parents, La Union and Ilocos Sur and the second time in Manila for Hawaiian Air’s inaugural flight.

In one word, describe how you feel about your Filipino heritage?
Proud.

What are you most proud of?
I am proud of my grandparents and my parents, La Union and Ilocos Sur.

Email Address:
rgccham@gmail.com

Firmo Dayao
Candidate for Senate District 29
Birthdate: September 16, 1949
Birthplace: Cebu, Philippines
Philippine Connection: My grandparents on my father’s side were 1st generation Filipino Americans who came to Hawaii in the early 1940s.

Why are you running for office?
I am running for office to represent District 29 in the State House because I believe that we, as a community and not for any political reason. I also believe that we, as community and not for any political reason. I also believe that we, as community and not for any political reason. I also believe that we, as community and not for any political reason.

In one word, describe how you feel about your Filipino heritage?
Proud.

What are you most proud of?
I am most proud of my grandparents and my parents, La Union and Ilocos Sur.

Email address or website:
dayao@comcast.net

Donovan Dela Cruz
Candidate for Senate District 22
Incumbent
Birthdate: July 6, 1973
Birthplace: Wahiawa, HI
Philippine Connection: My grandparents on my father’s side were 1st generation Filipino Americans who came to Hawaii in the early 1940s.

Why are you running for office?
I am running for office to represent Hawaii globally competitive, reverse our brain drain and align education with local industries – curriculum to career. We have to create jobs and diversify our economy by establishing new industries and revitalizing certain industries from our past such as agriculture. Also, we have to focus on public-private partnerships to help the State address our our serious issues such as affordable housing and homelessness.

In one word, describe how you feel about your Filipino heritage?
Proud.

What are you most proud of?
I am proud of my grandparents and my parents, La Union and Ilocos Sur.

Email address or website:
donald dela cruz@comcast.net

Sen. Will Espero
Candidate for Senate District 19
Incumbent
Birthdate: Nov. 6, 1960
Birthplace: Yokosuka, Japan
Philippine Connection: Father Victor is originally from Bacnotan, La Union, and mother Paulina is from Santiago, Ilocos Sur.

Why are you running for office?
It has been an honor serving Ewa Beach and our state for 17 years in the Legislature. My goal is to add to the quality of life for all residents. I want to help shape our state so individuals have well paying jobs, our children have a greater education, our natural environment is protected, and our communities are safe.

Have you ever been to the Philippines? If so, when and where?
I’ve been to the Philippines twice. The first time was with the provinces of my parents, La Union and Ilocos Sur and the second time in Manila for Hawaiian Air’s inaugural flight.

In one word, describe how you feel about their Filipino heritage?
Proud.

What are they most proud of?
I am proud of their spirit and reputation of the Filipino: Hard working, Loyal, Creative, tenacious.

Email Address and Website:
Wespero@hotmail.com ; WinWithWill.com

—

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balanced small government and a true “pono” (righteous) Aloha spreading across the State and the nation. That’s why I am running for Hawaii House of Representatives in District 50, Kailua-Kaneohe Bay.

Have you ever been to the Philippines? If so, when and where?
My latest trip to the Philippines was in April-May this year. Just a few months ago, we conducted our annual free camp called CAMPLIFE where we fed hundreds of meals a day and provide over 200 children with teaching, fun and food at no charge, for at least 3-4 days at a time. We provide free housing and giveaways on top of that. This recent trip was extra special since we got to visit and feed over 800 undernourished kids in the Philippines. We were in Davao and Cotabato and did it all in one day!

In one word, describe how you feel about their Filipino heritage?
Proud.

What are you most proud of?
The value of hard work. The value of education that my parents paid the price for so I can have a better shot of my future. The dignity of an honest and no nonsense simplicity of life, yet with pride at the end of the day.

Email address or website:
info@votehood.com; Website: www.votehood.com

Donna Mercado Kim Candidate for Senate SD 14
Birthdate: June 17, 1966
Birthplace: Honolulu, Hawaii
Florida Connection: My grandmother, Juan Mercado, came from Batangas; when my mother was born, grandma passed away and my grandmother remarried grandpa’s good friend Bartolome Atienza, who was also from Batangas. Papa Atienza raised us. He was a strong catholic, went to church daily and sent money home to the Philippines every month.

Why are you running for office? I am running for reelection to continue serving the residents of the 14th District. The 34 years I have devoted to public service at the City Council, House of Representatives, and Senate have given me the experience and know-how vital to building legislative relationships and developing the laws that address the needs of our communities. The voters of the 14th District need a strong voice, someone who will just go along to get along. An advocate has to be willing to speak publicly on issues and problems so that we can address them. This is reflected in my investigations into government mismanagement, wasteful and ineffective spending practices.

Have you ever been to the Philippines? If so, when and where?
Yes 4 times. The first time to the Philippines was in 1969 when he was Lt. Governor around 1989. We visited Manila, Pangasinan, Batangas, 2008, 2009 and then in 2012-Visited Manila and other places.

In one word, describe how you feel about your Filipino heritage?
Proud.

What are you most proud of?
I am most proud of the local community. As I go door-to-door throughout District 28, I’m writing short posts on Facebook about the people I meet.

Email address or website:
volitelagan@gmail.com; website: votelitelagan.com

Greggor Ilagan Candidate for Senate District 2
Birthdate: April 25, 1978
Birthplace: Honolulu, Hawaii
Philippine Connection: My family tree bridges the archipelagos of Hawaii and the Philippines. My maternal grandfather Ben Lardizabal left Taguig (Hocaoju) in the 1930s, settling first in Chicago and Los Angeles, returning briefly to the Philippines after World War II and then moving to Honolulu. He opened Ben’s Barber Shop, a Bethel Street enterprise which bustled with activity for 40 years. Coming with Ben to Honolulu was his wife Consuelo, a schoolteacher whose family was one of the founders of Taguig High School, the principal high school outside of Manila, in 1915. Consuelo’s sister, Juana, led the school as its principal from 1968-1975, and Consuelo herself taught 3rd Grade at Cathedral School in Nuanu, not far from her home on School Street in Kalihi. Ben and Consuelo’s daughter, Edna Lardizabal Hysong, is the principal and the elementary program at Mid-Pacific Institute in Manoa, which is the only Hawaii school that offers the Reggio Emilia branch of Italian pedagogy.

This family connection to education underscores my dedication to making sure that Hawaii’s students benefit from a world-class school system. I hope to increase public investment in education and to raise teacher salaries.

Why are you running for office? I am running for the State House to work hard for the people of Kalihi and to provide a progressive choice for Hawaii.

Have you ever been to the Philippines? If so, when and where?
Unfortunately, I have not been able to make a trip yet, but I plan to take my three children (ages 9, 7, and 2) to reunite with relatives back home.

In one word, describe how you feel about their Filipino heritage?
Proud.

What are you most proud of?
I am proud of my Filipino heritage. I feel I have a duty to give a back as a naturalized citizen of this great nation to help my constituents to the best of my ability, to effect “change” in my community and to advocate against drugs, substance abuse and addiction. I also want to initiate the opening of law school in University of Hawaii in Honolulu. In addition, I also want to protect our borders and not allow passing HB 2465. As a daughter of this land, I want to see our Philippines to alleviate the lives of our farmers in Hawaii in order to help them and not burden them. They are our food producers. If we help them, we reduce 80-90% of food importation.

Have they ever been to the Philippines? If so, when and where?
I have been visiting the Philippines since I was a child, raised in the Philippines where I earned my Bachelor’s degree major in Mass Communications at Holy Cross of Davao College.

In one word, describe how you feel about your Filipino heritage?
Proud.

What are you most proud of?
I am proud of my Filipino heritage. Filipinos are loving, caring and resilient human beings. The majority of our workforce are Filipinos. In our DNA Filipinos love who we are, our culture, our food and we look forward for the best for ourselves but for the next generations to come. My ancestors are great warriors of the South. They believed in camaraderie and friendship, and at the same time, we protect our land and our family against any intruders. Hawaii reminds me of the Philippines, and I feel at home in Hilo, so, giving back to her community would be an honor.

Email address or website: raven_reunion@yahoo.com; www.gracemanipollarson.com
Makati Metro Manila,
Birthplace: Hawaii residents in Norte and Ilocos Sur as several delegations in my I was in our Sister City of when and where?
if given the privilege to understand the legislative passion of mine ever since Public service has been a This election is about for office?
I am a Filipino immigrant Birthdate: September 29, 1955 Philippine Connection: My ancestry is Filipino. My late father, former Hawaii Supreme Court Justice Benjamin Menor was born and raised in the Philippines. Why are you running for office? I am running for office to continue to serve our residents and fight for a better quality of life for us all. In my first term I brought traffic relief, good jobs, revitalized parks and affordable homes to the people of Leeward Oahu, and now as a new mother, I am even more committed to fighting for a better quality of life for our next generation.
Have you ever been to the Philippines? If so, when and where? Yes. In 2006, I traveled to the Philippines to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the first Sakadas arrival in Hawaii, and visited many cities and villages from Hilo, Hawaii, and visited many the 100th anniversary of the first Sakadas arrival in Hawaii, and visited many cities and villages from Hilo, Hawaii, and visited many the 100th anniversary of the first Sakadas arrival in Hawaii, and visited many cities and villages from Hilo, Hawaii, and visited many the 100th anniversary of the first Sakadas arrival in Hawaii, and visited many cities and villages from Hilo, Hawaii, and visited many the 100th anniversary of the first Sakadas arrival in Hawaii, and visited many cities and villages from Hilo, Hawaii, and visited many the 100th anniversary of the first Sakadas arrival in Hawaii, and visited many cities and villages from Hilo, Hawaii, and visited many the 100th anniversary of the first Sakadas arrival in Hawaii, and visited many cities and villages from Hilo, Hawaii, and visited many the 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THE AMIANAN IMMERSION COLLEGE STUDENTS IN HAWAII TRAVEL FOR A SUMMER STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM TO THE PHILIPPINES

By BERNIE CAALIM

At Ninoy Aquino International Airport, John Robert Quiban Mindo immediately feels the humidity once he steps outside the air conditioned baggage claim. The perspiration begins to drip from his body and he’s feeling hot and sticky. It’s only mid-May in metro Manila.

Mindo is one of seven students from Leeward Community College and University of Hawaii at Manoa who journeyed with their professor through the northern Philippines as part of the Amianan Immersion program designed to provide the students the opportunity to explore and experience the history, culture, arts, and social life of the indigenous people in Ilocos, Cordillera and metro Manila. It is the first time LCC included a Philippine itinerary in its Summer Study Abroad offering.

“Leeward’s study abroad programs have been offered in Japan, China, and Europe. With Filipino students making up nearly one quarter the student population of the college, Leeward was very pleased to expand the program to the Philippines and to provide a unique summer opportunity for students to enhance their cultural, historical, geographical, and social awareness of Filipino culture both formally and informally,” said Manuel Cabral, chancellor of Leeward Community College.

Once they arrived in Manila from Honolulu, they traveled by plane to Ilocos region and traveled by bus to several destinations: Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, Sagada, Banaue, Baguio, and metro Manila. Mariano Marcos State University hosted the group while in Ilocos.

“The two-week summer study abroad was very educational. Participants have learned so much more than what can be acquired in a three-credit semester period,” said LCC professor Raymond Liongson who traveled with the students.

The Amianan Immersion program is in collaboration with the Consuelo Foundation which provided assistance to students with ground transportation, lodging and food. Airline sponsor Philippine Airlines extended substantially discounted airfares.

“In Makati, we were pleased to welcome the students for a visit at the Consuelo Foundation headquarters where they gathered more information about its founder and benefactress Consuelo Zobel Alger and its mission to operate and support programs in Hawaii and the Philippines that prevent and treat abuse, neglect and the exploitation of children, women and families,” said Jon Matsuoka, CEO and managing director of Consuelo Foundation.

“Sending Hawaii students to the Philippines is not only a way to connect them to their ancestral homeland but also it provides them with a social perspective that is difficult to obtain in Hawaii. We expose them to extreme social conditions and programs whose mission is to solve such problems. Some may choose to go into the helping professions, or at the very least we hope to instill in them compassion and a helping orientation that will be applied in Hawaii,” said Matsuoka.

Recently returning to Hawaii from the Philippines, students John Robert Mindo, Arsen Jhay Butay, Judy Ann Mae Benosa, Kira Webster and Marie-Guillen Corpuz Guillermo each give Fil-Am Courier their own candid impressions while their other travel companions are still in the Philippines for a post-Amianan Immersion visit.

Fil-Am Courier: What region in the Philippines can you trace your roots? Butay: “Ilocos Norte, Laoag City. My grandparents migrated to Hawaii to work for the plantation. I got here in Hawaii, March 2014 and came here at the same time with my parents.”

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Mindo: “On my dad’s side my grandpa is from Romblon and grandma is from Ilocos Norte. On my mom’s side, I know that she lived in Quezon City. I’m not sure where her parents are from.”

Webster: ”I am not Filipino.”

Benosa: “Ilocos Norte, Tabucbuc (Ragas) where my mom lives.”

Guillermo: “The generations before me trace their roots back to Tabucbuc, Marcos, Ilocos Norte.”

Fil-Am Courier: What is it about the Filipino culture that appealed to you?

Mindo: “What interests me the most is how resourceful people are, nothing would go to waste. Everywhere you went, you would see something being recycled in some type of way. Also, the people there are so talented. They all can sing and dance.”

Webster: “I am always eager to learn about new cultures and place, and living in Hawaii there are a lot of Filipinos so I thought this trip would give me great background info and help me understand the people I am surrounded by better.”

Benosa: “What appeals to me about the Filipino culture is that they are together and they keep the culture and tradition alive.”

Fil-Am Courier: What was your impression of the people?

Mindo: ”I think the people there are amazing. They’re so kind hearted, always looking out for you, and everyone has manners.”

Guillermo: “They were so devoted to anything especially to cultures, traditions and religions.”

Fil-Am Courier: What social issues impacted you while you visited the countryside and metro Manila?

Benosa: "The social issues such as poverty have moved me while visiting the countryside and metro Manila. Everywhere you see there are people begging, sleeping and looking through garbage for food, out in the streets. I remember when we exited Jollibee I saw a mother with a child in her arms and two boys that seemed to be under 10 years old beside her begging for money or food. And when we were about to get in the car, I saw one of the little boys came up to our friend begging and pointing at the drink in his hand. He knew what to do when he saw me looking at him and he gave his drink to the little boy.”

Webster: “I expected poverty because my friends had told me such and just background knowledge of the country, so I wouldn’t say it was exactly shocking. Probably the most different thing was the traffic.”

Mindo: “Poverty is a big one. Traffic is only in Manila. It’s pretty bad, but I can’t complain.”

Guillermo: “From poverty in Ilocos Norte, abuse and neglect in Baguio, and houselessness in Metro Manila. Of these issues, one that really struck me was the rate of abuse and neglect of children. In Baguio, we dedicated our time and energy to Child and Family Services where we learned of these issues and met youth and young adults who go through programs that help them rebuild their lives to become contributors to their families and/or communities.”

Fil-Am Courier: What did you discover in yourself about your Filipino roots?

Benosa: “All I can say is that there is a lot to learn.”

Guillermo: "I am grateful that my professors, my classmates and our colleagues of MMSU were a part of the dinner that was hosted in the home of my father’s family. As we got closer to the property, I was told to rub my ear lobes with my saliva before
entering. A part of me had woken up as soon as I stepped off the van. Everything from the land, to the house, to the rice granary seemed new to me, but at the same time so familiar. As my eyes met the eyes of my relatives, everything in me was tossing and turning and the waterworks came into play. I felt my grandparents and parents with me at that very moment.”

Mindo: “After meeting the people there I realized that I’m rude compared to them and the way they work. Their attitude towards it is so humble. I look at my life and think, why do I treat people with disrespect when everyone in the Philippines is so nice. I also look at work as slave work. People in the Philippines have to work twice as hard with less pay. I don’t even work and I’m just a full time student. I should be working my butt off maybe take on two jobs. When I came back I had this urge to know where all my relatives and friends are from. I had this feeling of connection with every Filipino. It’s weird. I would always ignore anything dealing with my culture but now it’s the total opposite.”

Fil-Am Courier: What is your impression of the Philippine arts and culture after having seen it first-hand?

Butay: It was so overwhelming when I saw people are still interested in going to museums to learn and see the arts and cultures of the Filipino’s before.

Benosa: Absolutely breathtaking after seeing it first-hand. We have been through many museums that have a lot of varieties of Philippine art and culture which was an amazing experience for me because I have an interest in art. And the activities such as weaving, pottery, dancing and more was a great experience to learn and to get involved.

Mindo: “We visited places with pottery making, weaving, and traditional dancing and got to try all of it first-hand. They explained to us that these things are a dying part of our culture. It’s sad because it’s not so useful nowadays business wise compared to how it was before. But it’s an awesome skill to learn. Also, tourist attractions like the rice terraces attract so many people.”

Webster: “I loved going to the art museums during the trip and seeing how the works compared with others I have seen. A lot of the art screamed their Spanish influences, from the bright colors used in the contemporary pieces with rough versions of eyes, pyramids and triangles, Jesus, and nudity. The sculptures all had Spanish feels, and especially the Spanish style portraits.”

Fil-Am Courier: What foods did you venture out to eat? Did you try eating the Filipino delicacy balut?

Benosa: ”There were many foods, my favorite was chicken sisig. I never tried it until my third week in the Philippines. Also, I ate chicken intestines, empanadas and many more. However, I haven’t tried eating balut. I don’t have the courage to eat one.”

Webster: “I love trying new foods. As for adventurous foods, we ate wild boar, organs of some sort, ants and ant eggs, and I did eat balut. The chick was staring at me the whole time and I didn’t know if I was going to be able to do it, but I did finish it. I’m still not sure if I enjoyed it though.”

Mindo: “My favorite food I tried has to be the empanada. It’s the best. I did not try the balut. I wish I did. There were many foods I wish I tried.”

Butay: “Miki, empanada and balut from Batac.”

Fil-Am Courier: What is that one image in your mind that imprinted a lasting memory of your Philippine trip?

Webster: ”I think and hope I will always remember the view of the rice terraces from the huts we stayed in for a night and thinking how it is so unlike anything else I have ever seen before.”

Mindo: “The beginning of our second week we ventured to Sagada located way up into the mountains. We arrived late in the evening and you could feel the cold wind creeping up your skin while we drove up this zigzag road through the mountain. You then started to see a smokey mist cover up the roads. This town was filled with lots of stray dogs and people wearing jackets. The house we stayed at was basically a three-story house that looked like a wooden cabin. The first night we stayed there, we had a blackout and the electricity never came back. The very next day we visited the hanging coffins. This place was beautiful but at the same time scary. The next town we visited was Banaue. This town was even higher up the mountains. We got to sleep in an Ifugao hut literally right on the edge of the mountain and our view was rice terraces. It was amazing. The sunrise that morning was so beautiful! I’ll never forget that part of my trip.”

Benosa: “Back home I usually don’t celebrate my birthday. So I didn’t expect them to go out with the balloons, confetti, and hats. I couldn’t stop smiling and I was very happy to celebrate with my Amanian Immersion family.”

The Ilocano word “amanian” means north in English.
Mabuhay!

As a small business owner, husband and father of a 5-year-old son, I care about the future of Hawaii, especially Ewa. I want to truly represent the people of Ewa by listening to your concerns and bringing your voice to the State Capitol.

I may be new to holding elected office but I am fully aware of the major issues facing the people of our district and state.

Many voters no longer feel they have a voice. We can’t continue to elect seasoned politicians who only represent themselves.

Help me to be your voice!

To donate, volunteer, support, please visit: www.ChrisForEwa.com
Mabuhay and thank you for your support!

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How Mayor Caldwell has already helped to improve our community

- Repaved 1,100 lane miles of roads
- Restored cancelled bus routes and added more
- Housed 747 homeless veterans
- Achieved 97% success rate with Housing First homeless program
- New investments in Public Safety
- Ewa Beach and East Kapolei fire stations were opened
- Completed nearly half of rail transit guideways, built Maintenance And Storage Facility, first trains arrived for testing and training
- Developed new Affordable Housing programs
- Built 25 new playgrounds islandwide
- Refurbished 32 park facilities
- Improved sewers, pump stations, treatment plants
- Improved core city services
- Reduced lines at satellite city halls
- No increase in Real Property tax rates for Honolulu owner-residents

“The greatest satisfaction of serving as your Mayor is to improve the everyday lives of people every single day.

When we **restore and add bus routes**, we make it easier for people to get to and from work, school and shopping.

When we **pave roads**, we make life better for the people living in our neighborhoods, and for working moms and dads who commute each day.

When we **improve parks and build playgrounds**, we make life more enjoyable for local families.

When we **improve core services** we help ensure that people can go about daily life more easily.

When we **fix our sewer system**, we create a healthier environment for our children and grandchildren to inherit.

And when we build **rail transit** – all the way from East Kapolei to Ala Moana, all 20 miles and 21 stations – it’s about the 100,000 riders a day from Ewa, Waipahu, Kalihi and elsewhere who will have a real alternative to driving in traffic.

**Everything we do is about people.**

It’s about you, your family and our future.

*I sincerely hope I’ve earned the privilege of your vote for another term. I promise to work hard as your Mayor, to improve your community and get the job done for you.*

People. Priorities. Progress.

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PO Box 61208, Honolulu, HI 96839
Councilmember Elefante Chairs Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

Councilmember Brandon Elefante is now chairing the committee on Public Health, Safety, and Welfare. The committee meets once a month on a Tuesday at 9 a.m. Councilmember Elefante said he is honored and privileged to chair the committee and he previously served as its vice chair. He is looking forward to discussing legislation related to Police, Fire, Fire Code, Emergency Medical Services, Ocean Safety & Lifeguard Services, the Medical Examiner, Emergency Management, Public Health, Public Nuisances, and Housing Matters as they relate to affordable housing, rental assistance, special needs housing, and the Section 8 Program.

Bill 35: Real Property Tax Credit for Low Income Homeowners

Bill 35, CD-1 (2016) passed the Full Council on July 6, 2016. This legislation allows for any household making less than $60,000 a year to pay no more than 3% of their income in real property taxes. Previously, households making less than $60,000 paid a maximum of 4% of their income in real property taxes, but if the homeowner was over the age of 65, they would pay no more than 3% of their income in real property taxes. With this new law, now all low income households pay no more than 3% of their income in real property taxes. This legislation assists people who have seen their home’s valuation climb in the hot real estate market, but who do not necessarily have the income stream to pay $3.50 per $1,000 in increased value. For example, if you owned a home that was now worth $1 million, rather than paying $3,500 annually in real property tax, you could pay no more than $1,800 annually in real property tax if you met the $60,000 annual income limit.

For more information, visit the Budget and Fiscal Services Website at: http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/bfs/2017TaxCreditInformationBrochure.pdf

Or you may call the tax relief section at 768-3205. Tax relief applications for the 2017-2018 tax year are due on September 30, 2016.

Bill 27: Incentives for Accessory Dwelling Units

Bill 27, CD-2 (2016) passed the Full Council on July 6, 2016. This legislation provides financial incentives to stimulate the creation of accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in order to increase the number of affordable housing units. Examples of fees waived are wastewater facility charges, grading permits, grubbing permits, stockpiling permits, planned review fees, and building permit fees. The fee waivers are only in effect until June 30, 2018.

For more information on ADUs, please see the Department of Planning and Permitting’s Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) at: http://www.honolulu.gov/Portals/0/pdfs/construction/ADUFaq_Final.pdf

A general, 10-page guide on ADUs is available at: http://www.honolulu.gov/Portals/0/pdfs/construction/ADU%20Instructions.pdf
Here are some photos highlighting milestone events and the wonderful work people do in our community.

Councilmember Elefante and the Honolulu City Council recognized T&C Surf on their 45th Anniversary in business. Pictured with the Councilmembers are Ryan Sugihara, Vice President and Adam Borrello, International Licensing Manager.

Councilmember Elefante joined the officers of the Batacquenios of Hawaii organization at their induction held at Neil Blaisdel Park in mid-July.

Meet Our Interns!

Councilmember Brandon Elefante gives a shaka with Intern David Nguyen. David is a junior majoring in Political Science at Dominican University of California located in San Rafael, California. David is a St. Louis School alumnus and was home for the summer.

Councilmembers Brandon Elefante, Kymberly Marcos Pine, and Ron Menor are pictured with Councilmember Elefante’s interns, Spencer and Aubrey Bento. Spencer is a senior at Aiea High School, and Aubrey is a senior at the University of Hawaii at Manoa majoring in Psychology and Political Science. Aubrey is also a graduate of Aiea High School.

“Start by doing what’s necessary; then do what’s possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible.”
Francis of Assisi

Brandon Elefante represents Honolulu City Council District VIII, which covers Aiea, Pearl City, and Waipahu. He is an active member of several organizations including the Filipino Junior Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii. He can be reached at (808) 768-5008, and his email is belefante@honolulu.gov.

"Congratulations To Ron Dalmacio
2016 Filipino Entrepreneur of the Year."
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By ANGIE DYTIOCO

SANTIAGO

FCCH Recognizes Dalmacio as 2016 Filipino Entrepreneur of the Year

The Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii (FCCH) recently honored Ron Dalmacio, owner of Ron D Electrical Services, LLC, as the 2016 Filipino Entrepreneur of the Year (FEOTY). This year marked the 27th anniversary of the FEOTY award program, an annual recognition initiated by Cecilia Villafuerte during her FCCH presidency, to enhance the image of Filipinos in business.

Four other Filipino-American business owners were nominated for the FEOTY 2016 award and were recognized for managing successful businesses in Hawaii: Margie Berueda of Residential Choices, Inc.; Benjamin Candari of FSC Architects; Colleen Hauptman of Pacific Helicopter Tours, Inc.; and Michael Rompel of Domino’s Pizza Hawaii.

Serving as FEOTY judges were Larry Nagayama, Michael Yee, Lino Chun, and Carleton Williams.

2016 Scholarship Awards Recipients

The FCCH also awarded scholarships that evening. Thomas Takeo Macadangdang Hayashi, a graduate of Seabury Hall and the son of Duane and Agnes Hayashi of Makawao, received a $5,000 scholarship donated by Renato & Maria A.F. Etrata Foundation.

The FCCH Foundation Scholars included the following: Liza Mae Mamuad, a graduate of Waipahu High School, and the daughter of Alfredo and Violate Mamuad; Sophia Rathyen, a graduate of Millani High School, and the daughter of Scott and Rita Ebert; and Anna Davide, a graduate of Millani High School, and the daughter of Dr. Carolina Davide.

Serving as Scholarship Award judges were Ben Gutierrez, Edna Magpantay-Monroe, Laurie Luczak, and Hermie Manzano Pagaduan.

Angie Dytioco Santiago, our Gathering Place columnist, is a U.H. Maka graduate. Angie is currently a Governor of the United Filipino Council of Hawaii (UFCH), the Recording Secretary of the Bulacan Circle & Associates of Hawaii (BCAH), an Assistant Auditor for the Philippine Celebrations Coordinating Committee of Hawaii (PCCCH), and the Assistant Treasurer for the Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii (FCCH). She served as 1st Vice President of the Oahu Filipino Community Council (OFCC) from 2013 to 2014 and as BCAH President from 2010 to 2012. She is the daughter of Angel & Rubing Dytioco and is married with two sons. She enjoys photography and participating in cultural and social activities and events.

For Advertising information, please call 595.8787
The A, B, C, & D of Medicare
Breaking down the basics & what each part covers.

Whether your 65th birthday is on the horizon or decades away, you should understand the parts of Medicare – what they cover, and where they come from.

Parts A & B: Original Medicare.

America created a national health insurance program for seniors in 1965 with two components. Part A is hospital insurance. It provides coverage for inpatient stays at medical facilities. It can also help cover the costs of hospice facilities. It can also help inpatient stays at medical.

Part B isn’t free. You pay $121.80 a month for Part B coverage. As you search for a plan at medicare.gov, you’ll learn that Medicare’s website will do the legwork for you.3

To say not all Part C plans are alike is an understatement. Provider networks, premiums, copays, coinsurance, and out-of-pocket spending limits can all vary widely, so shopping around is wise. During Medicare’s annual Open Enrollment Period (Oct. 15 - Dec. 7), seniors can choose to switch out of Original Medicare to a Part C plan or vice versa; although any such move is much wiser with a Medigap policy already in place.5

Medicare annually rates these plans (one star being worst; five stars being best) according to member satisfaction, provider network(s), and quality of coverage. As you search for a plan at medicare.gov, you also have a chance to check out the rankings.9

Part C & Part D plans are assigned ratings.

How does a Medigap plan differ from a Part C plan?

Medigap plans (also called Medicare Supplement plans) emerged to address the gaps in Part A and Part B coverage. If you have Part A and Part B already in place, a Medigap policy can pick up some copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles for you. Some Medigap policies can even help you pay for medical care outside the United States. You have to pay Part B premiums in addition to Medigap plan premiums to keep a Medigap policy in effect. These plans no longer offer prescription drug coverage; in fact, they have been without drug coverage since 2006.6

Part D: prescription drug plans

While Part C plans commonly offer prescription drug coverage, insurers also sell Part D plans as a standalone product to those with Original Medicare. As per Medigap and Part C coverage, you need to keep paying Part B premiums in addition to premiums for the drug plan to keep Part D coverage going.2

Part D plan has a formulary, a list of medications covered under the plan. Most Part D plans rank approved drugs into tiers by cost. The good news is that Medicare’s website will determine the best Part D plan for you. Go to medicare.gov/find-a-plan to start your search; enter your medications and the website will do the legwork for you.8

Citations.

1 - mymedicarebenefits.org/coverage/parts-a-b-whats-covered/ [6/13/16]
2 - medicare.gov/coverage/skilled-nursing-facility-care.html [6/13/16]
3 - medicare.gov/your-medicare-costs/part-b-costs/part-b-costs.html [6/13/16]
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By NANCY BERNAL

Left to right: Johnny Fortuno as Elvis, Lisa Virgilio (visiting from Chicago) and Corey Reynoso and Al Waterson

Left to right: Johnny Fortuno as Elvis, Lisa Virgilio (visiting from Chicago) and Corey Reynoso – was in Hawaii for a short visit in July. He was able to meet with friends while in Honolulu including Al Waterson. Al and Richard performed in a concert together with Imelda Papin in the Philippines in the nineties at Araneta Coliseum. Currently, Richard is a host of a television show and radio show in the Philippines and continues to sing as a soloist and with a musical group.

The Annual Celebrities and Their Pets Fashion Show is coming up on September 10 and 11 at The Hawaii Woman Expo at The Blaisdell Exhibition Hall at 12:30 p.m. on each date. Over 45 celebrities in the entertainment and business world will walk the runway holding adoptable dogs from The Fur-Angel Foundation or they will hold their own pets. These dogs will be dressed in fashions from The Pet Corner at Ward Warehouse. This event brings awareness to pet adoption and fostering. Al Waterson will be the emcee and Jordan Segundo will be a Special Guest Singer. Bring the whole family for this very unique event. Admission to The Hawaii Woman Expo is only $4.00.

The Sax Pack is coming to Honolulu for a Smooth Jazz Concert on August 6 for one night only! In the spirit of the original “Rat Pack”, three world class saxophonists (Jeff Kashiwa, Steve Cole and Jackiem Joyner) will share the stage together performing songs from their Sax Pack recordings as well as their hits from their individual solo projects. The show starts at 8 p.m. at The Hawaii Convention Center – Lilu Theater on August 6. Tickets can be purchased at TIX.com or call (951) 696-0184.

The Rock-A-Hula Show at the multimillion-dollar Royal Hawaiian Theater located in The Royal Hawaiian Center in Waikiki showcases some of the top tribute artists in the nation. Johnny Fortuno opens the show as a young Elvis and later comes back in the show dressed in the famous white jumpsuit singing the hits of Elvis from his later years. He captures the feel of Elvis in both eras with his great vocal performance and strong dance moves. Another crowd pleaser is Corey Melton with his impressive rendition of Michael Jackson with all of the pop star’s identifiable choreography and authentic costumes. Elisa Furr does not disappoint with her portrayal of Celine Dion hitting all of the high notes in her hit tunes. In addition to the three headlining stars, the show includes a large cast of dancers and musicians. Check out The Rock-A-Hula Show in Waikiki! Kama‘aina rates are available for Hawaii residents. Go to rockahulahawaii.com for more information and to make your reservation.

Fit Body Bootcamp Studio at 2700 S. King Street, Honolulu. Egan is a Five-Time MMA Champion and he will also be attending this stunt workshop. To register and find out more information, call 947-5736.

The “Mango Days” production presented by The City and County of Honolulu at The Mango Jam on July 22 and 23 was a very entertaining show featuring Al Waterson, Bulldog, Brother Noland, Blayne Asing and Pii Miguel. The script was written by Vergel Jepas and Scott Goto and was a musical journey with an inspirational storyline.

Kalei Gamiao – Ukulele Extraordinaire – released a new CD in July entitled “These Moments” on the Neos Productions record label. Kalei’s talent is evident in his expertise as a ukulele player and also as a songwriter on his latest recording. Kalei celebrated his CD with a special concert on July 1 at The New Hope Auditorium. He invited vocalist – Tani Lynn – to perform in his CD celebration. Check out Kalei’s new CD – “These Moments”.

Jordan Segundo with an adoptable dog

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Nito Larioza is originally from Hawaii and now has a successful career on the mainland as a stuntperson in major movies. He has worked on films like "Avatar", "Jungle Book", "Transformers", "Iron Man" and is also a professional Choreographer and Dancer who worked and danced for Madonna, Britney Spears and more. Nito loves Hawaii and wants to give back to his hometown by teaching stunt workshops in August in Honolulu. Two workshops sold out very quickly and he has added one more stunt workshop on August 7 from 5:30 til 7:30 p.m. The workshop will be at Egan’s

The Annual Celebrities and Their Pets Fashion Show is coming up on September 10 and 11 at The Hawaii Woman Expo at The Blaisdell Exhibition Hall at 12:30 p.m. on each date. Over 45 celebrities in the entertainment and business world will walk the runway holding adoptable dogs from The Fur-Angel Foundation or they will hold their own pets. These dogs will be dressed in fashions from The Pet Corner at Ward Warehouse. This event brings awareness to pet adoption and fostering. Al Waterson will be the emcee and Jordan Segundo will be a Special Guest Singer. Bring the whole family for this very unique event. Admission to The Hawaii Woman Expo is only $4.00.

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Miss Oahu & Miss Waikiki (MOMW) Scholarship Pageant

Miss Oahu & Miss Waikiki (MOMW) Scholarship Pageant was very well attended with over 400 guests at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, Coral Ballroom, last January 24, 2016. US SBA Business Champion 2014 Award recipient and Managing Director of Wealth Strategy Partners, Joni Redick-Yundt, recently purchased the franchise of Miss Hawaii, under Miss America, the largest scholarship pageant in the nation. Supported and co-directed by Jeanice Geyrozaga, Broker of Guardian Life & National Marketing Director of Nerium Intl, and Emily Torres, Director Development of Sacred Hearts Academy, these trio took on the challenge to put together a successful event in just six weeks from encouraging young women, training in their walks, speeches, acquiring sponsors and donors, and coordinating with the events logistics.

Joni, former Mrs Hawaii United States 2002 and now Executive Director of MOMW says, “This has been my passion to help develop young women’s confidence to have a solid foundation and to excel in different aspects in their lives.”

The Master and Mistress of Ceremonies were public figure and entertainer Iwalani Tseu, and champion public speaker, Jay Galbreath. The judges are the following business community leaders and entrepreneurs: Michael Albani, CEO of SWA, Emily Baptist, founder of HMAA, Geri Berger, Mrs. Hawaii International 2004 & Prof. Athlete, Jan Kaeo, CEO of Dale Carnegie Training Hawaii and Guam, Melveen Leed, multiple Na Hoku Hanohano award winner, Valerie Joseph, retail owner of Posh by Valerie Joseph, and Dr. Chip Abaddessa, owner of Kanohe Family Chiropractic. Everyone were entertained by International Vocalist, Kristian Lei, Miss Hawaii 2015 Jeanne Kapela, Miss Hawaii’s Outstanding Teen 2015, Kealani Tanizaki-Hudson and Renasance Academy, Fame Dance Group.

Argosy University generously donated about $50,000 Scholarship Award to the contestants. The contestants were also given cash award by Michael Albani of SWA, Inc. Special mahalo to the following sponsors of MOMW: Island Club and Spa, Dale Carnegie of Hawaii, Valerie Joseph, Duke’s Limousine, Nailery, Dave N Busters, Beautiville and Spa, The Flower Impressions, W & M Creations, & Cafe Julia.

The MOMW 2016 contestants were Cassidy Acord (2nd Runner-Up), Ana Leslie Bete, Valerie Eshelman (1st Runner-Up), Mandy McCutcheon (Miss Waikiki), CharimhelRarallo, Jeannel Rosanes, Kaimi Stone (3rd Runner-Up), and Juvie Varela (Miss Oahu). Despite the lack of pageant experience, these beautiful talented young ladies were able to overcome this challenge through intense coaching and training in preparation for the big event.

We are now searching for the next Miss Oahu & Miss Waikiki contestants which will be held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village on Sunday, January 29, 2017. Doors open at 3:30pm and pageant starts at 4:00pm. If you are between 17 - 24, a senior high or graduate, have a desire to further your education with scholarships, and have a talent, we can make your dreams a reality! For more information contact Joni Redick-Yundt at (808) 781-5905 and Jeanice Geyrozaga at (808) 741-6125 or email us at info@missoahumisswaikiki.com. You may visit our website at www.missoahu miss waikiki.com.
STATEWIDE COMMUNITY CALENDAR
Compiled by AMELIA CASAMINA CABATU

OAHU

August 4, 2016
August Moon Festival Country Fair presented by ORI Anuenue Hale, Inc. Helemano Plantation’s Wellness Center 64-1488. Kamehameha Highway in Wahiawa (next to Dole Plantation) 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM Admission is FREE, Reserve your seat. Contact Persons: Yvonne or Rose 622-3929

August 6, 2016
COVO Congress Of Visayan Organization 30th Annual Convention and Gala. Convention to be held at Philippine Consulate Lanai. 8:00 AM-3:00 PM, Gala: Ala Moana Hotel, Hibiscus Ballroom. 6:00PM-11:00PM; Gala: Ala Moana Hotel, Hibiscus Ballroom 6:00 PM. Join the contest for Ballroom. 6:00 PM; Cost: Installation Of Officers Ala Philippine Women’s Civic Club Convention and Gala. August 13, 2016

August 13, 2016
Philippine Women’s Civic Club (PWCC) Filipiniana Ball & Installation Of Officers Ala Moana Hotel Hibiscus Ballroom. 6:00 PM; Cost: $65.00; Suggested attire: Maria Clara, Kimona, Terno or Muslim. Join the contest for the Best Filipiniana Costume. Contact Persons: Letty Saban 255-9429, Edna Allkpora 282-3696. Mimi Gozar 312-0778, Edith Gudoy 457-2823

August 14, 2016
Ilocos Lantern Appreciation of Hawaii (ISAH) 2016-2018. Re-affirmation of Officers at the Honolulu Country Club 1690 Ala Pauulu Street, Honolulu HI from 6:00 PM-11:00 PM. Contact Persons: Tessie Aganon 348-3746, Rose Sabangan 677-9487, Maria Etarra 392-2962, Danny Villaruz 778-0233

August 19, 2016
KNID RADIO 1270 Anniversary Celebration Empress Restaurant (Chinese Cultural Plaza) 2nd floor, 100 N. Beretania Street, Honolulu HI 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM; Ticket: $50.00 at the door, or presale $45.00. Full night of entertainment, fun and a chance to win a round trip ticket to the Philippines Contact Person Lorene Godfrey 946-2844

August 20, 2016
UPAA University of the Philippines Alumni Association of Hawaii Installation of Officers Gala 6:00 PM Filcom Center, 94-428 Mokualani Street, Waipahu, HI Contact Person: Bea Ramos – Razon 808 778-6291, Melody Calisay 808 778-6291, Jenny Normandy 808 286-4426

August 20, 2016
Gumil Hawai & Anak ti Kailoukan ita America Fundusraising, August 20th at the School Cafeteria 94-1170 Waipahu St. 5:00 PM – 9:30 PM Donation $25 Contact Person: Froebel Garcia 386-6587, Pacifa Saludes 839-8016, Lila Del Rosario 389-4660

August 26, 2016
Philippine Cultural Foundation of Hawaii Recognition Night honoring the 2016 Parents/ parent of the year, Recognizing the 2016 outstanding achievements of graduating high school valedictorians in public and private schools & Presentation of the continuing scholar recipients, and The Trailblazer Award presented to Mr. Eddie Flores. Empress Restaurant 100 N. Beretania St. 6:00 PM. We are currently searching for the parents/parent of the year who has sacrificed to send their children (3 minimum) to college and/or universities & have attained their professional chosen careers. Contact Persons: Janice Sevilla 950-8000, Lina Longboy 421-7381, Leo Palma 397-8626, Raymond Liongson 381-4315, or Jun Colmenares 838-9775

September 1, 2016
Urdaneta City Community Alliance 1st Inaugural Banquet Empress Restaurant 100 N. Beretania Street 6:00 PM. Contact Persons: President Amaladia Manzano Pagaduan Gozar 312-0778, Rose Baybayan - 689-8662, Josie Takamoto - 428-7118, Herminie Pagaduan - 258-8542, Percy & Paul Tamayo - 797-7799, Linda Cantorina - 220-6573

October 1, 2016
La Union Circle of Hawaii presents Miss & Mrs. La Union Hawaii USA 2016. Ala Moana Hotel Hibiscus Ballroom 6:00 PM Coronation with Dinner. Cost $65.00; Contact Persons: Baybee Hufana Abian 753-5616 Laurie Ann Tadina 358-0474; Conrado Valdrez 953-8888; Ben Pulido 421-9747; Lolita Domingo 295-1387

October 30, 2016
“Who Are You Tonight?” Halloween and Masquerade Ball Fundraising event presented by the Philippine Nurses Association of Hawaii (PNAH) Rumours Nightclub, Ala Moana Hotel 5:00 PM -10:00 PM. Contact Persons: Tina Salvador - 426-6183, Ramon Sumibca 489-7148, Erlinda Ferrer 721-1501

November 19, 2016
NAMI, INC. Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc. 13th Anniversary Gala and Appreciation of RN Review Class Volunteer Lecturers & Recognition of New RN’s and Review Graduates. 6:00 PM; Banyan Tree Showroom, Hale Koa Hotel. Contact Persons: Bea Ramos - Razon 808 778-6291, Jun Obaldia 808 277-7495, Bong Curamang 808 383-0135

November 19, 2016
Filipino Business Women Association (FBWA) celebrates its 33rd Annual Kimona Ball and FBWA Business Women of the Year Awards Presentation. Saturday November 5, 2016 at the Phillipine Price Hotel 6:00 PM. Contact Persons: President- Nancy Walch 778-3833, Kimona Ball Chairwoman Armi Oliver Farinias 221-0061, Co-Chair Elisa Talavera 358-8964

MAUI

October 15, 2016
Maui Fil-Am Heritage Festival presented by the Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce Foundation Maui Mall in Kahului, Maui; October 10 AM-3:00 PM, Flag raising ceremony at the county building on October 3rd at 10:00 AM. For more information contact Kit Zerba (808) 961-8220 or email: info@maufilipinochamber.com and visit their website: www.mauifilipinochamber.com

BIG ISLAND

August 27, 2016
The Philippine Consulate Mobile Team is coming to Hilo to conduct Consular Outreach. County of Hawaii in Hilo at the Aupuni Center Conference Room 101 Pauahi Street, Hilo, Hawaii. Saturday August 27, 2016 6:00 PM, Sunday August 28 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM For appointments and/or additional information, contact Tulpe Day at 808-961-8220.
Most of us have danced the “Limbo Rock” in which you bend over backward to music and pass under a pole which is lowered slightly each time. Although originating in the W. Indies (African), this has been popularized in the U.S. by way of “every limbo boy and girl!”

The concept of ‘limbo’ was not always that much fun though. The word itself is derived from Latin limbus, border, and referred to the edge of Hell. Old Medieval and Catholic traditions referred to Limbo as “an abode of souls excluded from Heaven but not condemned to further punishment.” Today, ‘limbo’ can be any state or condition of prolonged uncertainty or neglect and where it seems nothing can be done until another action happens.

In that sense, we have all been in limbo. A permit being held up in regulatory bureaucracy. An ex-lover who keeps you hanging on. The diagnosis awaiting the pathologist’s interpretation of a biopsy. A court ruling that leaves one without recourse. A computer file that has been deleted but nothing can be done until another action occurs.

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**Limbo Lock**

by Dr. Rickie Camara

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