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# Fil·Am Voice

Magkaisa Tayong Lahat | “Let Us All Unite”

August 2019 • Vol 3 No 8 | FILIPINO AMERICAN VOICE • UPLIFTING OUR COMMUNITY | FREE

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“Do you care?” This hard question is posed. Ating Kabuhayan takes a look.  
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## Maui’s Filipino Doctors and Filipino Nurses Organize

*Relationships. Networking. Community Service.  
All important components of community organizing.*

Alfredo G. Evangelista | ASSISTANT EDITOR



Christina (Lucy) Porte, president of the Philippine Nurses Association Maui, Hawai’i (PNAMHi)  
PHOTO COURTESY CHRISTINA PORTE



Dr. Errol Buntuyan, president of the Philippine Association of Maui Doctors said they (Filipino providers) finally decided to conglomerate.  
PHOTO COURTESY ERROL BUNTUYAN

**FREE**

Earlier this year, Filipino nurses and Filipino doctors on Maui created their own separate organizations as a means to foster closer relationships, build networks, and engage in community service. On February 10, 2019, the Philippine Association of Maui Doctors (PhAMD) was formally organized. A few months later, on May 15, 2019, the Philippine Nurses Association Maui, Hawai’i (PNAMHi) became the official 52nd chapter of the Philippine Nurses Association of America (PNA), and held an installation ban-

quet on June 8, 2019 at Kahili Golf Course, with sixty-two in attendance, including twenty two from off-island. “We realized over the years that there have been more Filipino providers coming to Maui to work,” said Dr. Errol Buntuyan, the president of PhAMD. “We had been socializing on a small scale amongst different social circles but then decided to con-

glomerate the groups and spend time getting to know each other outside of our medical practices.” Buntuyan, who is Board Certified in Family Medicine, has been practicing for nineteen years, with the last twelve years at Kaiser Permanente’s Maui Lani Clinic. “For the first time in history, nurses of Filipino ancestry on Maui are uniting,” said

Christina “Lucy” Porte. “Our mission is to uplift the positive image of the Filipino as a nurse, uphold the social welfare of its constituent members, promote and support professional excellence through education and community involvement, and contribute to significant outcomes for healthcare and society.” Porte received her Associates Degree in Nursing in 1972 and her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 2010. She has been a Nursing Assistant Instructor for University of Hawai’i Maui College since see ORGANIZE p.2

*“For the first time in history, nurses of Filipino ancestry on Maui are uniting...”*  
– LUCY PORTE





Officers of Philippine Nurses Association of America  
PHOTO COURTESY CHRISTINA PORTE



Christina (Lucy) Porte (left), president, and Angelina Saiki, president elect of the Philippine Nurses Association Maui, Hawai'i  
PHOTO COURTESY CHRISTINA PORTE

## Organize...

from p. 1

2010 and retired from Hale Makua in 2014 after thirty-five years, including seven years as Director of Nursing Services.

Buntuyan estimates there are twenty doctors on Maui of Filipino ancestry

and sixteen of them, together with their spouses and significant others, have joined PhAMD. Other officers of PhAMD include Dr. Arlene Ricalde (Vice President), Dr. Maria Termulo and Dr. Felicitas B. Livaudais (Social Chair). Ricalde has been practicing for twenty-five years and is at Maui Medical Group, specializing in internal medicine. Termulo has been practicing

for thirty one years and is at Kaiser Permanente-Maui Lani, specializing in internal medicine. Livaudais has been practicing for twenty six years and is at Kaiser Permanente-Kihei, specializing in pediatrics.

Historically, the first Filipino doctor to practice on Maui was Dr. Jose Ligot Romero, who established his practice in 1965 at 99 Market Street in

Wailuku. In 1972, Dr. Hilario Aquilizan joined Dr. Romero. Later, Dr. Marconi Dioso and Dr. Jose Chua-Chiaco joined them. (Unfortunately the identity of the first Filipino nurse on Maui could not be verified as of press time.)

Porte says PNAMHi started with thirty members but now has forty-one members. "We are actively recruiting



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The first Filipino doctor to practice on Maui was Dr. Jose Ligot Romero, who established his practice in 1965.  
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Dr. Hilario Aquilizan was next to follow in 1972, becoming the second Filipino medical practitioner on Maui  
PHOTO COURTESY MAUI FILIPINO CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION COMMISSION



Dr. Marconi Dioso was to follow. He is also an Historian and wrote *A Trilogy of Wars*.  
PHOTO COURTESY MAUI FILIPINO CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION COMMISSION

membership of Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, and student nurses,” she said. “I believe there are many nurses of Filipino ancestry on Maui. We have just touched the surface. Interest in becoming a member will increase as nurses of Filipino ancestry become more aware of our existence and benefits from the association. To become a member, Registered

nurses may apply online through the PNAA website [www.mypnaa.org] or contact membership chair Mary Jean Guira, RN [385-0743] or membership co-chair Dionie Cabias, LPN [268-8615].”  
The other officers of PNAMHi are Angelina “Angie” Saiki (President elect), Christine Gumpal (Vice President), Rowena Marie Ines (Secretary),

Martine Marcos (Assistant Secretary), Erwyn Bala (Treasurer), Mary Jean Guira (Assistant Treasurer), Manny Agcolicol (Auditor) and Directors Mary Jane Asayo-Paet, Maui Badua, Karen Joy Macanas, Monica Natividad, Jeanelyn Onnagan, and Rose Tumacder.  
The support to be provided by PNAA to PNAMHi was evident at the

June 8 installation banquet attended by Erlinda Ferrer, president of the Philippine Nurses Association Hawai’i (“PNAH”), and Madelyn Yu, president of the Philippine Nurses Association of America. Yu gave a brief history of how PNAA was formed after two Filipino nurses in 1976 were immediately imprisoned after being accused of  
**see ORGANIZE next page**

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## From the Editor's Desk

Tante Urban  
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Dr. Jose Ligot Romero was the first Doctor of Filipino ancestry to practice medicine on Maui in 1965.

## Of Doctors and Nurses

I've always known there are a lot of Filipinos in the nursing field so it's surprising that only recently the Filipino nurses on Maui have organized themselves to strengthen their relationships, network, and engage in community service projects.

What I didn't know was there are about twenty doctors of Filipino ancestry on Maui. Wow! That's quite a number. Many of the staff on The *Fil-Am Voice* can remember when Maui had only one doctor of Filipino ancestry—Dr. Jose L. Romero, who came to Maui in 1965, followed by Dr. Hilario Aquilizan in 1972 and others later on.

Yes, I will admit there's comfort in having a doctor who understands you, your cultural habits, and most times speaks your language. My personal physician, Dr. Rose Guzman at Maui Medical Group has taken care of me for the last seven years. Yes, she understands me and has a very gentle nature.

I recently read that the John A. Burns School of Medicine at the University of Hawai'i had twelve

graduates in 2019 of Filipino ancestry (compared to four in 2018), including Maui's Celina Macadangang Hayashi, who is now in her residency in Washington state.

It's heartening to know Filipinos in Hawai'i, especially on Maui, are becoming doctors and are practicing here. My wife Telly's son Ryan is a pharmacist, having graduated from the Pharmacy School at the University of Hawai'i Hilo, and he was on Maui for a few years before returning to the Big Island. We are very proud of him and his accomplishments and we look for more good things to come from him.

Filipino doctors and Filipino nurses play an important role in our life. We are fortunate that here on Maui, our Filipino doctors and our Filipino nurses have decided to create organizations that can only improve the quality of healthcare on Maui for all of us, especially our Filipino community. ✱

TANTE URBAN | EDITOR



Erwyn Bala, Martine Marcos, Tose Tumacder, Madelyn Yu - President of PNAH, Angie Saiki, Diana Rambaud, Lucy Porte, Manny Agcolicol

PHOTO COURTESY CHRISTINA PORTE

## Organize...

from p. 3

killing ten of their patients. Yu explained how Filipino nurses started to organize and rallied behind the two nurses and supported them in their hearings. In 1979, nurses from five states formed an alliance and were instrumental in exonerating the two nurses and the alliance became the PNAH.

For the immediate future, both organizations intend to increase their membership. We will continue our "social networking and build our membership," said Buntuyan. In her inaugural address, Porte humbly accepted the challenges as president and outlined the immediate plans: "We need to inform our fellow Filipino nurses of our association's existence and its benefits." Porte says PNAH will use its Facebook page [www.facebook.com/PNAH] to keep in contact with its members. "We have ongoing community outreach projects. We participated in the

American Cancer Society Relay for Life and will also participate in the Health and Wellness Fair for Christ The King Church. We are also raising funds to help support our goals such as bringing the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) review to Maui."

The nurses want to "participate in the medical mission activities in the Philippines and support legislation and public policies ... which will favorably affect healthcare outcomes ..."

Buntuyan explained although their initial purpose is networking, "One day we hope to develop into a more structured group addressing health care disparities within our

Filipino community, providing mentorship to students seeking health care careers, and volunteering at local community events and health fairs." ✱

**The nurses want to "participate in the medical mission activities in the Philippines and support legislation and public policies ... which will favorably affect healthcare outcomes ..."**

—LUCY PORTE

## Correction to July 2019 Issue

*We hate to make mistakes but it happens and we do appreciate your calling it to our attention.*

On page 16, in the caption under the photo of Mayor Victorino's cabinet, the name of the Budget Director should be Michelle Yoshimura.

Please email your corrections to info@filamvoicemaui.com. Thank you and *Maraming Salamat Po!* ✱



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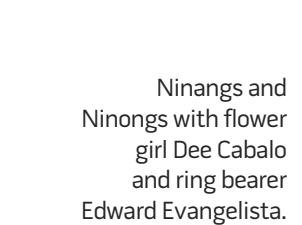




Lucy Peros



At John Pacubas' Baptism, Lucy is second on the left and Sylvester is fourth from the right.



Ninangs and Ninongs with flower girl Dee Cabalo and ring bearer Edward Evangelista.



I was born on March 11, 1950 in Cagayungan, Narvacan, Ilocos Sur, Philippines. My parents are the late Elpidio Cachero Cabalo and Alejandra Cabudoy Cabalo who will be 99 years old on August 7, 2019.

Dad was very determined to come to Hawai'i to find a better life for him and his family even to the point of leaving his young family in the Philippines—his wife of only five years and two young sons, Ben (4) and Dominick (1). He and his younger brother Macario were two of the thousands of *Sakadas* who came to Hawai'i in 1946, recruited to work in the sugar and pineapple plantations of Hawai'i. These *Sakadas* came aboard the S.S. *Maunawili*, leaving the Philippines via Port Salomague in Cabugao, Philippines. My father was assigned to work at the Maui Pine Company (now Maui Land and Pineapple Company), from which he retired at the age of 62. My uncle Macario was assigned on Kaua'i and worked at one of the sugar plantations.

Dad did most of the jobs that were offered to him by the Company. He planted pineapple, picked the fruits, cut grass in between the young pineapple plants, and drove trucks to deliver the fruits to the pineapple cannery for canning.

When he first arrived on Maui, he and many *Sakadas* lived at Haleakalā Camp "Corn Mill Camp," now the Pu'ukoa Subdivision which contains many beautiful homes. His housemate was the late Mr. Lucio Ramirez. Dad mentioned they had so much fun at the camp. All of them were single men. They celebrated Rizal Day for not just a day but for several days.

In the early 1960's, Dad and the other *Sakadas* had to move to Korean Camp, a camp just below Hāli'imaile Village because they were phasing out Haleakalā Camp. In 1962, Dad moved again to Hāli'imaile Village because

# Lucy Cabalo Peros

*Editor's Note: Many on The Fil-Am Voice's staff have connections to Sakadas and the plantations. Although we generally hate to be the subject of the articles / columns, this is the sixth in a series focusing on The Fil-Am Voice's staff's Sakada offsprings. This month, our Sakada Offspring columnist, Lucy Cabalo Peros, shares her first-person story as a Sakada Offspring.*

Lucy Peros | ALL PHOTOS COURTESY LUCY PEROS

these homes were made for families in mind. Dad was able to buy his house for \$2,000 at that time. It still stands today where my Mom lives.

These are the *Sakadas* who lived with my Dad at the same camp as well as Hāli'imaile Village: Felix Arafiles, Guillermo Barut, Pedro Bernaldes, Antonio Cabalo, Teodorico Cabalo, Maximo Cabania, Lucio Calina, Anacleto Costello, Filemon Diego, Ireneo "Placo" Nallana, Isabelo Ordonez, Julian Palpallatoc, Pedro Paz, Pedro Soriano, and Simon Tabunda. Although they are all now deceased, their families are still living here on Maui today, many of them in Hāli'imaile. My Dad passed away on March 20, 2011 at the age of 89.

Dad missed his family so much that in 1949, he returned to the Philippines using his six months free trip vacation

cause he needed to be back to Hawai'i to resume his job after six months. Dad visited again in 1957 and it was then he told my Mom he was coming back to Hawai'i for a couple more years, then return to the Philippines to stay for good. Well, his plan did not materialize. Instead, he petitioned his family to join him here in

see LUCY next page



Lucy's college graduation picture taken in 1972.



Wedding cake feeding

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Lianne & Mike’s wedding at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Kapalua.

# Lucy...

from p. 5

Hawai’i.

Ben, my oldest brother, came to Hawai’i in 1961 while he was still attending college in Manila. He continued his education at the Honolulu Business College and received his Business Administration Degree. He is now married to Connie Jumarabon Cabalo. They have one daughter, Dee and one grandson, Trey Dilwith.

My mom, my brother Dominick and I followed Ben in 1962. Dominick just graduated from high school at that time. He continued his education at Mauna’olu College, a good Liberal Arts College located just below Hāli’imaile on the way to Pā’ia. After Mauna’olu, he continued his education

at the Honolulu Business College, receiving his degree in Business Administration. He is now married to Virginia Laureta Cabalo. They have two sons Dominick, Jr. (Andrea) and Dylan Joshua with one grandson Nicholas Cabalo.

As for me, I was only 12 years old when I arrived in Hawai’i on August 16, 1962. In the Philippines, after grade six, the next grade is first year in high school. There was no grade 7 and 8. After four years in high school, college is the next level. I was too young to attend high school so I attended 7th and 8th grade at St. Joseph School in Makawao under the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange. They were terrific and very caring teachers. After St. Joseph, I attended St. Anthony High School, Class of ’68.

As a teenager, I washed some of



At Ava’s ballet concert at the Maui Arts & Cultural Center.

the *Sakadas’* dirty work clothes for extra spending money. I collected them on Saturdays to be washed and ironed and I delivered them on Sunday afternoons. They each paid me \$7 a month. That was hard-earned money! During the summers of my high school years, I worked at the Maui Pineapple Cannery for five summers as a canner. We were paid \$1.25 an hour. That was big money to me. At the peak of the pineapple season, I even worked by shifts, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and vice versa. Those were the days.

After high school, I attended the Maui Community College (now known as University of Hawai’i Maui College) for two years and received my Associate of Arts Degree. I continued at the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa in Honolulu, majored in Elementary Education and minored in Anthropology. I graduated in 1973 with my Bachelor in Education, Professional Diploma in Education, and Masters in Education. There were five of us from Maui who were fortunate enough to come home to Maui to do our Student Teaching requirement. We were able to stay at home and save money. I did my student teaching at Kula Elementary under Miss Mary Frances Watanabe (my CT-Cooperation Teacher). She was an excellent mentor for me as a student teacher. We both worked under our Superintendent Mr. Darrell Oishi. Until today, I still address him as “Boss.” He was instrumental in allowing me to teach in the D.O.E. until I retired after thirty-two years of service.

When I transferred to the University of Hawai’i in the early 1970’s, there were very few Filipino students. When I graduated in 1973, there were very few teaching job openings. Many of my contemporaries ended working at different jobs/employment and they never taught. I was fortunate to have my first teaching job at St. Anthony Grade School, 2nd grade position. I owe the late Monsignor Charles Keku-

mano (Pastor of St. Anthony Church) for having faith in me. I taught at St. Anthony’s for eleven years before transferring to Waihe’e Elementary School. The late Larry Libres, Principal, was instrumental in accepting me and offering me a job, 3rd grade position. At Waihe’e School, I managed to teach different grade levels because I was not yet tenured. I needed to teach for two complete years plus one day before I received my

tenure. I enjoyed teaching the different grade levels but my favorite was grade two from which I retired in 2005 at the age of 55, with 32 years of service.

In the summer of 1970, before I transferred to the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa to study, I was a Godmother for the baptismal of John Pacubas at Christ The King Church. It must have been fate because there was a man who was John’s Godfather there, Sylvester Peros, Jr. It was there that we first met even though we



With Steven Tyler at our Hālau Hula Kauluokalā Concert at the Maui Arts & Cultural Center.

went to the same high school but we never met. Sylvester was already a student at the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa. It must have been God’s divine providence that allowed me and Sylvester to know each other and our relationship blossomed while attending U.H. After we both graduated from U.H. we came back to Maui to work—me as a teacher and he at the former Maui Savings and Loan (now known as American Savings) as a Management Trainee under the late Mr. Sam Hironaka. We married on Ju-

see LUCY p.10



Elpidio & Alejandra Cabalo as the first Ama and Ina honoree at the Rice Festival at Binhi At Ani.

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# Definitely not your old boy network.

Since Ben Cayetano and Mazie Hirono have been in office, more women have been appointed to leadership positions in state government than ever before. Not to correct the gender imbalance, but because each is the most qualified person for the job. While others have been talking about change, these women have been *working* at it—and making it happen.

**CayetanoHirono**



IMAGE COURTESY KATE STANLEY

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** 2019 marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the election of Benjamin J. Cayetano as the Fifth Governor of the State of Hawai'i and the first Filipino-American elected as the head of an American state. This is the eighth in a series of articles profiling Cayetano and his historic election and service. Versions of these articles appeared previously in The Filipino Summit.

A photo spread prepared for Governor Cayetano's re-election campaign shows him flanked by women from the Cabinet, including his running mate Lt. Gov. Mazie Hirono. In both gubernatorial elections, Cayetano faced high-profile women Republican office holders. In 1994, Cayetano upset U.S. Congresswoman Pat Saiiki (and Honolulu Mayor Frank Fasi running as an independent) to continue the post-Statehood Democratic near stranglehold on Washington Place. In 1998, as the economic hangover continued to stretch, Maui's generally well-regarded and well-spoken but term limited Mayor Linda Lingle announced her expected challenge to Cayetano.

A consistent criticism of Hawai'i's post-statehood dominance by Democratic Office holders had been to brand all government as an "old boy network." Cayetano's photo ad responded directly to that notion with the tag "Definitely not your old boy network."

Cayetano ended up winning a fairly close election.

The photo, perhaps to the surprise of even very observant government watchers, reflected that major parts of the Cayetano agenda were in the hands of women.

In filling his initial Cabinet, Cayetano had opened the process—even taking out ads in the newspaper

to invite interested applicants for the State departments and agencies slots that he would need to fill. People who worked on his campaign were expected to make themselves available and observers expected some of Hirono's supporters were likely to apply as well.

"To the surprise of some of his kitchen cabinet—mostly men, Governor Cayetano proved to be a strong believer in empowering women," his Press Secretary Kathleen Racuya-Markrich remembers. "He appointed the highest number of women department directors and deputies than in past administrations. Attorney General Margery Bronster, Kathryn Matayoshi to run the Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs ("DCCA"), Susan Chandler in charge of the Department of Human Services, and Mary Pat Waterhouse at Accounting and General services, just to name a few."

Cayetano raided the middle ranks of the State Bar, tapping a number of younger women lawyers, including Matayoshi at DCCA, Lorraine Akiba at Labor and Industrial Relations, and Bronster at the Attorney General's Office—three key departments for improving business and economic regulation. None were very well-known outside of their particular social circles or firms.

Years later, Akiba recently observed consistent with other women who served in the administration, "From my perspective, the greatest hallmark of Governor [Cayetano]'s leadership and legacy is the fact that more than any other Governor before or after him, he appointed the most number of women to leadership positions in his Administration, as department direc-

## DINENGDENG & PINAKBET

### Definitely Not Your "Old Boy" Network

*Benjamin Cayetano: First highest-ranking elected official of Filipino ancestry in the State of Hawai'i: 8th in a series.*

tors and agency heads."

From Statehood onward, the Labor post had been held by various union-friendly officials. Waihe'e's last labor director had been United Public Workers official Dayton Nakanelua. Akiba, a litigation partner at one of Honolulu's major law firms, was the first woman to serve in the post. Despite criticism about her lack of labor law knowledge or union ties, Akiba won confirmation from the State Senate's reconstituted Executive Appointments committee.

With handling budget challenges paramount for the Governor's closest operatives at the start of the Administration, Akiba's contributions addressed the economic recession that could be affected by the Labor Department.

When Kaua'i sugar operations closed, Akiba helped lead the multi-agency team sent to help workers who would be losing their long-held jobs. "Many of these workers were first and second generation Filipino immigrants who had worked for decades in these industries," Akiba recalled. As in past closures, "the economic impacts were

especially hard for families on the neighbor islands like Maui, Kaua'i and the Big Island" still slowly undergoing the long economic disruption brought by the closure of the sugar and pineapple operations on those islands.

Akiba perceived that structural foundations included putting into action an effective workforce development strategy. Statewide, major employment sectors like the pineapple and sugar industry continued their decline as Hawai'i's large agricultural operations ended. Along with people directly employed by the plantations, the closing of agribusinesses affected their vendors and indirectly impacted the economy of scale for smaller farmers in purchasing inputs that vendors shipped in primarily for the plantation.

Akiba leveraged available federal funds under the Clinton Administration (Job Training Partnership Act and Workforce Development Act programs) to help dislocated workers transition to new jobs and also to provide Unemployment Insurance (UI) and other social safety net support to impacted individuals and families. Akiba also helped to establish the Hawai'i Employers Mutual Insurance Company (HEMIC) and reform workers compensation insurance—both initiatives aimed at helping Hawai'i's small businesses who had been placed in the assigned risk pool and were paying extremely costly premiums with no other options.

While the Governor and Lt. Governor run in separate partisan primaries to determine the party nominees, people assume the Lt. Governor works for the Governor. In 1998, Mazie Hirono ran to become only the second person

see CAYETANO next page



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Stanley and Chandler  
PHOTO COURTESY KATE STANLEY



Inauguration Day in 1998  
PHOTO COURTESY KATE STANLEY

## Cayetano...

from p. 7

to serve two full terms as Lt. Governor. Cayetano himself had been the first, waiting in the wings for eight years under Governor John Waihe'e.

Hirono had been an active Consumer Protection committee chair in the Legislature. Fiery and pointed in the mold of Patsy Takemoto Mink, in introducing herself to statewide Democratic voters, she had reconstituted her image. To the amusement of longtime friends and detractors, many voters perceived Hirono as a calming female AJA figure to balance off the fiery outspoken Filipino at the top of

the ticket.

"Governor Cayetano specifically delegated this important task to Lt. Governor Hirono and it was successfully implemented as a result of their teamwork and leadership," Akiba says. Cayetano had broken a mini-string of Filipino appointees as Labor Director in Alfred Laureta, Joshua Agsalud and Mario Ramil. When Akiba left state government in 2000, the final two years of Cayetano Labor Directors were filled by Filipinos Gil Coloma-Agaran and then Akiba's and Coloma-Agaran's deputy director Leonard Agor.

Matayoshi, formerly an attorney at another of the major Bishop Street law firms, came to State government

from Hawaiian Electric where she worked as an in-house attorney. Her public service pedigree came from her Big Island roots where her father Herbert had been the second elected Big Island Mayor, holding the post for a decade after several terms on the Board of Supervisors and County Council. Matayoshi's mother Mary was a teacher who would also hold a post in the Cayetano administration.

Nevertheless, concerns regarding Matayoshi's work experience plagued the Hilo High School graduate during her confirmation since her department included the Office of Consumer Protection which represented public concerns before the Public Utilities Commission. She won a hard-fought confirmation from the Executive Appointments Committee which vetted all of the new Governor's Cabinet appointments. Ironically, as a child, Matayoshi had taken hula under the mother of the Executive Appointments Committee chair.

Matayoshi's major passion was to move DCCA from the paper laden stone-age of government operations to the modern technological age. Like most of government, DCCA remained a paper-intensive agency with hardcopy-oriented processes for the many professions and licenses the department regulated through numerous licensing commissions and boards. When Matayoshi was being considered for Superintendent of Education in 2010, Cayetano endorsed her warmly in the *Honolulu Advertiser*. "When I appointed her to head DCCA, she did a terrific job. By my second year, she had reformed that place and it was basically self-sustaining, without the need for general funds," Cayetano was quoted as saying. "She's innovative."

At the beginning of the Cayetano Administration, DCCA still competed with the rest of government for a share of general tax revenues to fund its various operations. Unlike many agencies, however, the Department generated revenue directly through

the licensing and regulatory fees it charged for the numerous professions and businesses that DCCA oversaw, including insurance companies, state chartered financial institutions, real estate brokers and realtors, architects, surveyors, and engineers, contractors, doctors and nurses and others. It also charged for business formation registration and then annual filings for Hawai'i's various business entities.

DCCA's operations were largely based on O'ahu so neighbor island businesses, professionals and licensees had to send all their paperwork to Honolulu for processing. Processing of the paperwork often took weeks depending on the workload on O'ahu.

Matayoshi convinced Cayetano she could make DCCA a more "customer-oriented" department through investments in technology and changes to the statutes and internal operations. Much of state government operated on "legacy" computer desktop systems contracted and purchased from the financially troubled Wang Corporation. The young lawyers and executives brought in by Cayetano from the private sector largely came

from law firms and businesses that saw the benefits of investing in modern desktop computers and other technology. Matayoshi also thought she could work with other departments with like-minded leadership—Tax and Labor—to take advantage of available technology upgrades to streamline the process for starting a new business.

A key initiative was to pool all the revenues charged by DCCA into what would become the Compliance Resolution Fund (CRF) to fund all of DCCA's operations and eliminate Matayoshi's Department from State general fund support. The CRF basically made DCCA identify its operating expenses and balance those costs against what it collected from the various sectors it regulated and oversaw.

The Legislature, without much fanfare or attention, approved the statutory changes and supported

see CAYETANO p.13

***"When I appointed her [Matayoshi] to head DCCA, she did a terrific job. By my second year, she had reformed that place and it was basically self-sustaining, without the need for general funds ... She's innovative."***

– GOV. BEN CAYETANO

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Welcome back to school everyone! Kids finally headed back to the land of education promise. We can’t avoid the coming of long homework nights. We can’t avoid the coming of endless stories of what happened at school. We can’t avoid the phone calls from your daughter that she forgot her form on

Let’s Talk Pinoy!

Dulce Karen Butay

her desk at home and it’s due today, have to go pick it up and drop it to so now instead of eating lunch, you her school ... in short, you have to fix

her irresponsibility. And most especially, we can’t avoid the inevitable, the traffic around school areas. Are you excited about the start of another school year? How do your kids feel about it? I am sure they are anxiously waiting to see their friends again. Let’s see what is going on with Michael and Angel ...

THE TWO RUN OFF across the street to Ululani’s shave ice. “That was crazy, Anj”, I didn’t ...

ANGEL: Can I order a shave ice with ice cream in it, and a white cap?

CASHIER: *Anong* (What) flavor?

ANGEL: Flavor? Epic, and top it with some savage.

Angel motions the pouring of the syrup.

“Damn right girl! I saw what you did,” as the cashier high five’s her.

The cashier hands Angel her shave ice. Just like she always orders, a *Haleakalā Flavor* which consists of coconut flavored syrup, *leche* over a scoop of vanilla ice cream and *mochi* sprinkles. YUM!

The two head over to sit on a nearby bench.

“Anj, that was amazing! I didn’t know you can sing like that. Where did you learn to play the *uke*?”

Hunched over with her hair draped over her *dagway* (face). You can hear her sobbing, with her spoon dangling from her mouth.

“Wha? What happened now? Anj, are you ok?”

Thirteen months ago ...

“Anak! (My child) Here, take this.” her *Nanay* (mother) runs to Angel with a handful of *pagkaon* (food/snacks), tears rolling down her *mukha* (face).

“Mom, not so much I don’t have much space in my backpack,” says Angel excitedly extending her arms to turn down the music.

“Share it with your *kaibigan* (friends),” says *Inang*. “We are in great debt to *Kuya* Billy for helping us send you to America to work and of all places *HAWAII*! Everyone in Hawai’i is *makualta* (rich)!” *Ay anak*, we are so proud of you. *Inang* grabs her daughter and gives her the biggest *kawul* (hug). They rock back and forth giggling.

“*Nanay* (Mom), I won’t let you down! I will contact you all the time and I will send money to help with *Tatang*’s medicines and allowances. I will work very hard.”

A van pulls up and *Kuya* Billy appears from the passenger’s door.

Billy is a Filipino *balikbayan* well known in Bacarra, Ilocos Norte and supposedly very well known on O’ahu

English	Pilipino	Ilokano	Cebuano	Ilonggo	Ibanag	Kapampangan
Face	Mukha	Rupa	Mukat	Lupa/Arap	Nawong/Dagway	Goya/Nawong
Song	Awit	Kanta	Kanta	Kanta	Kansion	Kanta
Hugs	Yakap	Arakup	Gakos	Kupo	Gagap-pan	Kawul
Rich	Mayaman	Baknang	Adunahan	Manggaranon	Mamamga	Makualta
Mom	Nanay/Inay	Nanang/Inang	Inahan	Nanay	Yena	Ima
Dad	Tatay/Itay	Tatang/Itang	Amahan	Tatay	Yama	Tata
How are you?	Kumusta?	Kamusta?	Kumusta ka?	Musta ka?	Kun na si ka?	Kumusta?
Friend	Kaibigan	Gayyem	Bai	Miga	Kofun	Kaluguran
Late	Nahuli	Naladaw	Ulahi	Nag ulihi ka na	Nadalita	Tawli
Food	Pagkain	Makan	Pagkaon	Pagkaon	Kanan	Kapangan

too. No one really knows what he does for a living but a popular man indeed. A short stocky man. He is in his mid-50s. He is a widower and annually visits the Philippines. This year is his ninth time back home for business. It was a short trip and he is headed back to Hawai’i. He is a friend of a friend who has been looking for an assistant for a client of his. He hired Angel and is bringing her to Hawai’i to work on a two-year contract with possibility of renewal.

“*Kumusta ka, Nanang?* (How are you, Mother?) (He calls elderly women “mother” all the time.) *Ay*, we are *naladaw* (late) already. *Alisto!* Let’s hit the road Angel. We don’t want to miss our flight.

They rush to give one more *arakup* (hug) and kisses to her *inahan* (mother) and her *amahan* (father) as they say their good-byes.

As Angel enters the van and Billy loads her bag in the back, she notices the *kansion* (song) playing in the van is the same station as what was playing at the house.

“*Kuya*, we have great taste in music *ano?*” It is a good sign to come.

Angel falls asleep on the car ride to Manila airport. She wakes up to Billy shaking her, “*Ading*, hurry let’s go, we are running late.” They exit the van and thank the driver. They dash to se-

curity but instead of going through security, they pass it.

BILLY: Angel, sit here, watch our bags, I need to see my *kalugaran* (friend). We are *tawli* (late), he can let us through, so we can make our flight.

He walks to a nearby officer and they talk from a distance. As Angel looks to Billy, he finally signals for her to come. The officer leads them through a door behind the restroom, he swipes his card, and two lefts and down the hall, they are past security.

“Oh, do they have our info already *Kuya?*” Angel asked Billy.

“Yes, we took care of all that. Priority check in and pass. My *kalugaran* (friend) is one of the head of security here, don’t worry,” Billy shrugs.

They jump into a golf cart and are shuttled to the gate. Seems like everyone has already boarded the plane and are just waiting for them.

“Thank you bro,” Billy hands him some money and they speed to the gate podium.

“Stay here,” I need to talk to my other *gayyem* (friend), says Billy.

“Oh *Kuya*, you are so popular *ha-ha*.” Angel sits and smiles at the boy next to her playing *kanta* (songs) on his laptop. “Oh, I like this *awit* (song)” she says to the kid but the boy sitting

with his headphones on has no reaction.

Billy speaks to the lady at the podium and finally waves to Angel to come.

They head through and onto the plane. “Our seats are 9C and 9D. We just made it, *Woo*.” They sit and high five.

“Hawai’i here I come!”

ANGEL: Oh, I have some *pagkain* (snacks)!

“*Mabuhay*, and welcome aboard Philippine Airlines, we will be arriving in Honolulu in approximately 10 hours and 50 minutes.”

This was the first time Angel ever flew let alone going to another country. The flight was brutal for her. Take off made her cry, turbulence made her sick, and the man sitting next to her had a bad case of body odor.

“OMG, if this is what it takes to go to Hawai’i then this is what it takes. I will endure all for the sake of my family,” she says to herself.

Navigating through the screens of the onboard entertainment center and using the free headset they gave out to everyone, “*Grrr*, I already watched three movies, I’m already so tired. How about some music?”

“Drake? No. Nicki Minaj? Next. Gwen Stefani? Maybe, no next. Radiohead? Ok sure, I love this *kanta* (song), it’s sad, but it’s ok to be sad, we are human beings anyway” she says to herself.

All of a sudden a message on the screen pops up “Incoming message.”

“Aloha, this is Captain Murphy, we are beginning to make our descent to the Island of O’ahu, Hawai’i. The current time in Honolulu is 7:03 a.m. The temperature is 77 degrees. Beautiful day in *Hawai’i Nei*. The seatbelt sign is on, please return to your seats now. Flight crew, please prepare for landing.”

Angel’s eyes widen as she gets her first glimpse (two seats away from the window) of the beautiful island of O’ahu.

What do you think is going to happen next in our story? We will find out the experience of Angel coming to Hawai’i.

What was your experience coming to Hawai’i? Was it a memorable one?

see LET’S TALK PINOY next page



# Do I Care, Advocate, Act On Behalf of the Poor and Marginalized?

The Rev. John A.H. Tomosot

In my reading of the Holy Gospels, it is clear to me we are to advocate for the poor and the marginalized around us, caring for their needs and pursuing justice, even social justice, on their behalf. It is clear to me we are not to neglect spiritual needs for social ones nor social needs for those that are spiritual. These two areas of need are not in opposition. Christ, Himself, demonstrated care for the whole person, body and spirit. As a



Do I have a relationship with someone who is poor? Am I involved in their situation?

PHOTO COURTESY LGA LLLP

Priest, I say unequivocally we must demonstrate the same, not allowing anything for an excuse to keep us from addressing the spiritual and social needs of our community. Not only do we need to address them but we must also work to mitigate, improve and meet these needs. None of us, however, can do it alone.

So, let us ask these questions. Do you have a relationship with someone who is “poor,” either spiritually or socially? If so, how are you involved with him or her, to help them overcome their situation? In Matthew 35:40, Jesus says: “I tell you, whenever you did this for one of the least important of these brothers of mine, you did it for me!” (*Good News Bible*) When looking at how our government and non-government organizations work in our community, perhaps a good question to ask is “Do I try to understand the plight of the poor and those who are ‘marginalized’ or made to stay on the outside as if they don’t matter?” Another question is: “How does our tax money and charitable-giving allow the work of caring for those who have or are heard less to continue and get done?” In Proverbs 31:8-9, the advice is given “Speak up for people who cannot speak for themselves. Protect the rights of all who are helpless. Speak for them and be a righteous judge. Protect the rights of the poor and needy.” (*Good News Bible*) Think of this the next time someone, who is running for office, asks for your support.

There are those who are poor in our community. I know that the number of homeless in and around us is on the increase. There are many needy families, especially children who are perhaps living a paycheck away from being homeless. Are you generous to

these folk, some of whom may be members of our own family? What about those who are poor in spirit? How can we be generous to them, sharing with them, from the depths of our heart and soul, the generosity of God, who is all around us and lives within us. In the Letter of James 1:27, one of the practical instructions reminds us that “What God the Father considers to be pure and genuine religion is this: to take care of orphans and widows in their suffering and to keep oneself from being corrupted by the world!” (*Good News Bible*) With this, we can better understand the plight of the poor and needy all around us. We can also better understand that within our own spirit and personhood, we can be poor, needy and marginalized. From our own poverty, spiritual and economic, can come a solution.

In the pages of *Fil-Am Voice* are stories and even questions about those in our community who need care. Taken together, the quotes of Holy Scripture that I have cited, come down to this question: *How well are you caring for yourself, by caring for others, in order to be the person God wants you to be? Who is My Neighbor?* In Luke 10:29, the exact question was asked of Jesus. Our Lord answered the question with the story of the Good Samaritan. We all know this story. Within it are answers to how we are to care and advocate and act. Within this story are the building blocks to how we live and how our community, you and I, are members who care, who advocate and who help. But *Kababayan*, isn’t this who we are, anyway, as Filipinos? ✨



**Rev. John A. Hau’oli Tomosot** is a Social Worker and Episcopal Priest. He is a Priest Associate at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Wailuku and an

on-call Chaplain at Maui Memorial Medical Center. Tomoso was graduated from St. Anthony Jr./Sr. High School, the College of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota (Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Sociology) and Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work at the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa (Masters of Social Work). In 2008, he retired from the civil service as the Maui County Executive on Aging. In March 2019, Tomoso retired as the Executive Director of the non-profit Tri-Isle Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc., after a social work career that spanned 43 years of practice. His wife Susan recently retired as a 7th grade Language Arts Teacher at Maui Waena Intermediate School.



One of Lucy’s hobbies—writing congratulatory cards to celebrities—yielded a return from the Duke and Duchess (Meghan Markle) of Sussex on the birth of their son, Archie Mountbatten-Windsor.

## Lucy...

from p. 6

ly 20, 1974 at St. Joseph Church in Makawao with Leonor Fontanilla, Nena Costello, Corazon Domingo, Rose Gabuat, Millie Fetalvero, Maxima Capili, Esmenia Ordonez as our Ninangs and Pepito Ragasa, Selberio Menor, Teddy Fetalvero, Ernest Gabuat, B. Baoec, Bernaldo Aganos, Johnny Fontanilla as our Ninongs.

Sylvester also worked at Maui Finance as a Manager and the County of Maui as a Real Property Appraiser before he founded his Real Estate Company in 1987, now in its 32 years of existence. Lianne Peros-Busch, our daughter is now the Broker. Sadly, Sylvester passed away unexpectedly fourteen years ago. Sylvester and I have two children, Lianne Peros-Busch and Sherman Peros. Lianne received her Master in Business Administration degree from Santa Clara University and Sherman received his Degree in Biology from the University of San Francisco. We have two grandchildren, Ava Elise Busch (7, 2nd grade, Pōmaika’i Elementary) and Olivia Cailin Busch (4, Pre-School, Christ The King Child Development Center).

Sylvester and I enjoyed taking Ballroom Dancing from instructors Jeffrey and Lydia Delacruz for eight years. It was such a great feeling to have Jeffrey and his wife teach us

ballroom dancing. I babysat Jeffrey and his brothers and sister as young children in Hālī’imaile. Unfortunately, after Sylvester died, with no partner, I opted to take hula lessons from *Kumu Hula* Uluwehi Guerrero. In fact, at one of our concerts at the MACC, Steven Tyler (of the Aerosmith Band and an American Idol Judge) was one of the guests. I was very excited like a teen-ager to take pictures with him. He was a very nice and sweet person.

My father and mother always stressed the importance of education to us and we are doing the same to our children and grandchildren. My brother Dominick remembers this quotation from our Dad: “It is a jungle out there if no more education.” I also remember my Dad saying to me when he saw me doing my homework: “Pushing pencils or pens is easier than pushing a plow.” Today, I am humbled to share that all three of us children and five grandchildren all graduated from college.

In the past, my husband and I were very involved with the Filipino Catholic Club. We both held offices at the Unit, County and Diocesan levels. We participated at the Barrio Fiesta where we received prizes for the best booth and the Art Display Contest as well as the Barrio Wear Contest. At present, I serve at Christ The King Church as Lector, Grief Support Facilitator, Stewardship Committee,

see LUCY p.12

## Let’s Talk Pinoy...

from p. 9

Or did it have some hiccups along the way? Tell us about it at [www.facebook.com/filamvoice](http://www.facebook.com/filamvoice).

Anyways that’s all I have. Keep an eye out for my column every issue. I’m Dulce, helping you to master your Filipino Languages. Like always, let’s laugh, let’s listen, and Let’s Talk Pinoy! *Hanggang sa muli!* (Until next time!) *In-gat!* (Take care!). ✨

**Dulce Karen Butay** was graduated from Maui High School and earned her Associate in Arts degree in Liberal Arts from Maui Community College and her Bachelors of Science in Business Administration, specializing in

*Accounting, from the University of Hawai’i—West O’ahu. She is currently the Administrative Officer at the*

*County of Maui, Department of Finance. Butay is a licensed Resident Producer of Life Insurance with World Financial Group and an Independent Consultant of Saladmaster. She is now part of the Travel Club of Saladmaster and won an*

*all-expenses paid trip to Cancun, Mexico with the love of her life, Paul Manzano. Butay has traveled to Texas, the Philippines and Thailand as one of the delegates from Island Healthy Solutions, a dealer of Saladmaster here on Maui.*





# This month’s community photos highlight the Three Chefs & A Grammy Fundraiser for Binhi At Ani Filipino Community Center.



Binhi at Ani president Nora Cabanilla-Takushi with Mayor Michael Victorino  
PHOTO: RYAN PIROS



Event Chair Alfredo Evangelista  
PHOTO: LIZA PIERCE



Chef Gemsley Balagso (right) and his Westin Nanea crew  
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Chef Joey Macadangdang with wife Juvs in the background  
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Chef Sheldon Simeon (2nd from the right) and his crew including daughter Chloe  
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Two-time Grammy winner Kalani Pe'a  
PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA



Greg "Jay" Peros trains the volunteers  
PHOTO: BASILIA EVANGELISTA



Volunteers from Bayer  
PHOTO: BASILIA EVANGELISTA



Decoration queens Elsa Agdinaoy Segal and Jeanice "Jan" Paa  
PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA



The Lechon cutters Romeo Guzman, Arthur Latayada, and Flor Ibuos with lechon eater Bart Santiago Sr (2nd from left)  
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



A Mabuhay toast led by Binhi president Nora Cabanilla-Takushi  
PHOTO: RYAN PIROS



Aunty lola Balubar dances while Kalani Pe'a sings  
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Sharon Zalsos Banaag and Liza Pierce get photobombed  
PHOTO COURTESY LIZA PIERCE



Mayor Victorino and 2019 Miss Maui Filipina Mary Grace Basig  
PHOTO: RYAN PIROS



First Hawaiian Bank's Dean Duque and Maui County's Asst. Director of Communications Ryan Piros  
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA





Romelyn Joy Tabangcura



Jaelyn Maia Bala



Princess Jena Santiago



Ian Casabay

High schoolers paving their way into the Healthcare field know it won't be the easiest path to walk but it will be worth it in the end. These individuals see their future careers as a reward in order to give back to their community and to the world. Various skills must be mastered in order to adequately prepare themselves for this journey but none more important than having empathy towards others. They define their purpose by aiding those in need through healthcare and hope to create a better tomorrow through their future aspirations.

"Growing up, I was surrounded by a lot of medical and science background in my family, so I grew to like this specific field," said **Romelyn Joy Tabangcura**, a senior at Maui High School. Her interest in the medical field truly deepened when she realized how direct and impactful it is by simply allowing her to be a helping hand to someone in need. In a world where there are too many people who disagree with each other and live with hate, Romelyn wants to be able to spread compassion and kindness as a nurse practitioner. It may be the smallest things like smiling to one another or showing someone the way to a place in a clinical or hospital setting but she believes that these small acts of kindness can change how we view one another. It is crucial to be selfless in order to practice the job of a medical professional. It is about giving back to others. She says, "It is a job where we put others before ourselves to help others in need. I believe other careers don't use this certain skill on a day to day basis as much as a medical professional

would." Maui High School Senior **Jaelyn Malia Bala** knew she wanted to pursue a career in the medical field once she learned that work equals success. As Jaelyn grew up, she realized the medical field had so much to offer not only to the employer but to those who seek greater health. Health careers she is currently looking into for the future

## Google® Is Not Everything...

*Future Health Professionals*

**Ghenesis Balaan** | MAUI HIGH SCHOOL

includes nursing and pediatrics. "Nursing is on the top of my list for careers because of the wide variety of skills and experiences that come along with the job and the learning path though I am strongly considering pediatrics because I enjoy working with kids," she said. Jaelyn believes the most important thing one must understand before pursuing a career in the medical field is not everyone is the same or expects the same so you have to adapt and accept whatever comes your way for the best of the patient and the people around you. She says, "The knowledge and skills I believe one could gain from pursuing a career in the medical field compared to any other profession would be compassion, selflessness, strong work ethic, and most importantly the ability to connect with people while being able to help improve their health."

H.P. Baldwin High School student **Princess Jena Santiago** states the most important thing one must under-

stand before pursuing a career in the medical field is one shouldn't go into the field for the money. She said, "It is a field that is much more than just money. It is a field where lives are at stake and being able to handle immense pressure and proper decision making is very crucial." Princess is interested in exploring the fields of Cardiothoracic Surgery, General Surgery, and Biomedical Engineering. Since the area of surgery and engineering are very competitive, she will set herself apart from others by showing her skills and knowledge she has acquired throughout her years in school. Princess will also show others that grades and smarts will never come before hard work and empathy towards people. Princess said she believes some students are hesitant about joining or choosing a career in the medical field because it is competitive and very time-consuming. It is a field that requires hard work and determination. "I think, however, they should be reminded that it is a very fulfilling career," said Princess.

To Maui High School senior **Ian Casabay**, pursuing a career in the medical field will also allow him to implement changes to the community. He said, "I think health services could be improved by focusing on the importance of cultural care and the impact that healthcare professionals have on whether they are inclusive about how to treat certain patients with different cultural backgrounds to overall optimize competent care in the healthcare

industry." To help him gain further knowledge about the healthcare industry, he joined his high school's HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) organization. Ian has been a member of HOSA for almost four years and is sure to pursue a career in radiology after graduation. "The steps I have taken to prepare myself for this pathway would mainly be prioritizing. By prioritizing, I am able to stay clear of any distractions and make room for the important things. While doing this, I also make sure to stay true to myself and work hard in anything I do," said Ian.

These high school seniors are preparing themselves for one of the toughest journeys of their lives. But as they push themselves towards this journey, they know how fulfilling it is to be someone who makes a difference in others. The medical field is composed of the most empathetic and determined individuals out there. These seniors are making way to be future health professionals as they work endlessly towards tomorrow. ✨

**Google® Is Not Everything ...** is a monthly column authored by high school students. The title of the column emphasizes that education is more than just googling a topic. Google® is a registered trademark. This month's guest columnist is **Ghenesis Jhay Balaan**, a Senior at Maui High School attending its Culinary and Health CTE Pathway. He is a three-year member of Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) and served as its Council Treasurer in 2017-2018. Ghenesis hopes to become a respiratory therapist in the future. He is the eldest son of Benjamin V. Ballesteros Jr. and Jerameelyn B. Ballesteros.



## Lucy...

from p. 10

Bread making, Social Service, and Women of the Cross Ministry. I have served as Chairperson for both the 75th and 85th Christ The King Church anniversaries. I also served on the School Board, Baptism Ministry, Parish Pastoral Council, money donation counter, Kūpuna Choir with the late Irene Cambra, Grateful Hearts Campaign, Santa Cruzan Committee, Bazaar Committee, and Xavier Club.

When I was younger, my hobbies were collecting stamps, postcards, shot glasses from my vacations, reading and writing. I also enjoy writing

and sending congratulatory cards to celebrities, political winners, and other contest winners. Receiving a thank you note from them is my joy too knowing they received it and made them happy. The latest I received is a thank you card from the Duke and Duchess of Sussex (Prince Harry and Meghan Markle) of England in thanking me for a congratulatory card that I sent when their son, Archie Harrison Mountbatten-Windsor was born. I was humbled to receive such a priceless card from the Royals thinking they must have received a massive number of cards from all over the world.

Traveling is another hobby of mine. With God's grace, I've had the privilege to go on nine religious pilgrim-

ages so far. I've visited most of the well-known religious shrines in Europe as well as Mexico, the Philippines, the Holy Land including Egypt and even Kalaupapa, Molokai (St. Damien and St. Marianne Cope's shrines). Hopefully with God's grace, I will be able to visit more in the future.

At present, just to keep up with my physical and mental health, I joined the Enhance Fitness Program under the Maui County Department of Aging, three times a week with our energetic instructor, Donna Chang Beal.

My personal reflection is that the past are just memories. Do most at the present time. Use and share your 3T's: time, talent, and treasure every day. Be happy and grateful with what you

are blessed with especially the blessing of a family. We are all human and we always think of tomorrow. We shouldn't, however, think too much of tomorrow because tomorrow might never come.

From 2006 through 2011, I wrote for The *Fil-Am Observer*. My column was titled *Sakada Corner*. Many of the *Sakadas* were still living at that time and I was very fortunate to interview them in person and share their stories. Today there are very few of them left. I now write for this paper and my column is now titled *Sakada Offspring*, in which I write about the offspring of the *Sakadas*.

This is my story—a humble and proud *Sakada Offspring*. ✨



# Cayetano...

from p. 8

Matayoshi's ambitious effort to rationalize her Department's operational costs with the fees charged and collected. The Legislature also approved Matayoshi's proposed statutory changes to the registration laws for businesses—streamlining the formation of corporations and partnerships and the then-new limited liability entities and adopting the laws in States like Delaware and Nevada that eliminated cumbersome paperwork in establishing new businesses.

The work at DCCA was done quietly and largely out of the limelight but affected most of Hawai'i's businesses. One of the biggest changes was allowing more services online using an outside vendor, including registration and business formations. Neighbor islanders now had a choice to have their paperwork processed in a shorter time. Implementation initially required a few days of processing with a fee charged for expediting. After some time, processing time by DCCA's staff in the regular course drew to the same or close to the expedited time.

During his legislative years, Cayetano was a staunch support of social programs. In filling the top slots at the sprawling Department of Human Services ("DHS") which covered all government social service programs, he plucked community organizer and social worker Susan Chandler from the University of Hawai'i. For Deputy Director, Cayetano tapped Kate Stanley, a former State legislator, who had been a key Waihe'e Governor's office advisor and a close ally of the newly elected Lt. Governor.

General tax revenues are intended to fund the core functions of state government—education (lower and higher public education), and health, safety and welfare agencies. After education, the Hawai'i state budget allocated large amounts to social welfare programs. When talking about a budget crisis, large generally funded departments like DHS faced substantial challenges.

With changes to the welfare system high on the national agenda, Cayetano's new team pursued their own brand of "welfare reform." Chandler and Stanley established what they called Temporary Assistance to Needy Families. As required by the federal government's welfare reform guidelines, Hawai'i changed the cash entitlement for low income individuals to a five year maximum, life-time benefit. Hawai'i also created a state program called Temporary Assistance to Other Needy Families which provided help to two parent families.

DHS also created several work programs as federal policy encouraged work components for welfare recipients. In one called TOPS, the state departments assisted by hiring or training people on the welfare rolls. DHS also pursued an employment training program. Employers would train people on welfare assistance with the



After the second inauguration

PHOTO COURTESY KATE STANLEY

state paying during the training, and then after six months the employer would hire those workers. In connection with the expanded work programs, the Cayetano administration expanded the Pre-school Open Doors programs to support more children whose parents were on welfare.

During the Cayetano Administration, Hawai'i won prizes by placing in the top five states for Food Stamp accuracy. When Hawai'i finished first, DHS received a one million-dollar bonus from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**'Ohana Conferencing often led to more kinship-based foster care. In Chandler's view, that process became a national model of family inclusion and empowerment.**

Following the trend at DCCA to adopt technological tools, Chandler and Stanley established an Electronic Benefit Card. People on welfare used the card (which looked like a credit card) to buy food and get cash assistance. The cards provided convenience and DHS saved on periodic mailing of hardcopy checks to recipients.

Cayetano's Human Services department also led a coalition based on a resolution called A Blueprint for Child Welfare reform. It also reduced the number of children in foster care (winning an award from then-First Lady Hillary Clinton for having the largest rate of decline) and established more Point of Service contracts for family support. DHS centralized Child Protective Services (CPS) intake calls across the state. Chandler and Stanley also premiered 'Ohana Conferencing, a family group decision making process which includes families, and their supporters more respectfully into the CPS process. 'Ohana Conferencing often led to more kinship-based foster care. In Chandler's view, that process became a national model of family inclusion and empowerment. Chandler based the process on the Maori model in New Zealand with some aspects of Hawaiian *ho'oponopono*.

Chandler and Stanley also resisted the federal effort to remove non-citizens from Medicaid eligibility. Hawai'i then as now had a fairly large group of COFA residents who remained on Medicaid throughout the Cayetano years. "We kept using federal funds which turned out to be illegal, so we then used state funds," Chandler recalls. "[Cayetano's successor] Lingle

kicked them off."

In short, women leaders played important roles for Governor Cayetano's efforts to move the State forward despite the general fund budget crisis.

The Cayetano-Hirono Administration actually appointed a woman as director or deputy director in nearly every major department. Others who served included Jobie Masagatani at Hawaiian Home Lands, Letecia Uyehara at Agriculture, Susan Inouye at Taxation, Paula Yoshioka at Health, Rae Loui at the Commission on Water Resource Management, Mary Pat Waterhouse at Accounting and General Services, and Cora Lum at Public Safety. Cayetano's



**Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran** served eight years in the Cayetano Administration at the Departments of Land and Natural Resources, Commerce and Consumer Affairs, and Labor and Industrial Relations. He currently maintains a small law practice in Wailuku,

Maui and represents Central Maui in the State Senate.

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What Do You Think?

Since mid-July, thousands have blocked access to Mauna Kea, preventing the construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT). Governor David Ige initially issued an emergency proclamation which he has since withdrawn. *Fil-Am Voice* staff asked members of Maui’s Filipino community “What Do You Think of TMT and Governor Ige’s response?”

**Kim Asuncion:** “TMT is more than just a building; it’s a large structure to be built on sacred land. *Mauna a Wākea* is not just a mountain; it’s sacred. Would you build something that is not sacred on land for a church? Native Hawaiians have had many wrongs done to them. Fast forward and the starting evolution of taking back what rightfully belongs to them: the bombing of Kaho’olawe being stopped; the return of ‘Olelo Hawai’i to schools; *Lā’au la-pa’au* practiced at clinics. These are just small examples of what is happening. TMT is about the Hawaiian culture that was on the verge of disappearance. TMT is about fighting what they believe in—fighting for what is rightfully theirs. Governor Ige declared a state of emergency based on claims that violence, illegal substances and drinking were being done during the protest. Governor Ige did not know the *kūpuna* and those sur-

rounding them were practicing *kapu aloha*—to act only in kindness, empathy and most importantly, love. There is no violence; drugs and alcohol are prohibited, including smoking/vaping. Governor Ige reacted without doing his due diligence. TMT is not a fight about science or evolution. It is not about a protest. It is about protecting. Protecting what’s rightfully theirs. Protecting Hawaiians. Protecting their home. Protecting Hawai’i. Do I support the building of TMT. NO. Do I support Governor Ige in his state of emergency. NO.”

**Rizamay Basig:** “For years we have lived here in the islands of Hawai’i, it was a peaceful place. No fighting, violence or any major impact. Ever since the TMT issue started, it led to more

should have the courage to always support them.”

**Jeny Bissell:** “Yes to TMT if it helps find a cure for cancer, heart disease, other chronic health conditions and poverty that is killing people. No to TMT, invest instead on affordable housing, road repair and maintenance, expansion and diversification of agriculture, fix the healthcare and educational system of care so Hawai’i’s people can live, thrive and grow.”

**Dr. Virginia “Virgie” Cantorna:** “I am in favor of supporting the Hawai’i community in not further desecrating Mauna Kea. This majestic mountain is the equivalent of what the *kanaka maoli* consider sacred space, their church. Would people allow an 18-story high telescope covering almost 1.5 acres on Mount Fuji, Japan or near the Vatican City? I am not against the TMT nor the science of astronomy. I just think the TMT should not be added to the thirteen that are already there.”

**Sheena Garo:** “I think TMT is a waste of time, money, and disrespectful towards the Hawaiian people and their culture. While it is true the construction of TMT can open a new world of astronomy by looking deeper into space, I believe TMT needs to focus on maintaining the current telescopes on Mauna Kea instead of trying to build another telescope. The leaks and spills by the current telescopes on Mauna Kea could impact the Big Island’s water supply. This should be addressed before even attempting to construct another telescope. I believe maintaining and updating equipment on TMT’s current telescope on Mauna Kea is the first answer to TMT’s ongoing questions on astronomy. I believe Governor Ige’s approach to issue an emergency proclamation that has since been withdrawn has ruined his reputation as Hawai’i’s governor and most importantly, his connection with the people of Hawai’i.”

**Antonio V. Ramil:** “The pioneer Polynesians who discovered and first settled on the Hawaiian islands were daring seafarers, braving the vast ocean, sailing beyond the horizon to an unknown land. Undoubtedly, they prepared themselves physically and mentally fit for the journey, with knowledge of the ways of sea and wind, and directions from the stars. Also, they must have been meticulous in picking the finest trees growing in their home island which they cut down to build seaworthy canoes or other sailing vessels—serving as their home for days and weeks ahead—needed in their bold undertaking. To top it all, I am enthralled by a timeless legend that the early settlers of Hawai’i handed down for those who would come after them. It’s about the demi-god *Maui*, a real giant of their race, who, as depicted in one artwork that’s stuck in my mind, stood straddled atop the tallest mountains, a mighty figure, with rope in hand and snared the sun in its daily sojourn in

the sky above, to slow it down in its passage so that people on earth would have longer days to enjoy the daylight. I see the demi-god *Maui* as a projection by Hawai’i’s ancient settlers of how they defined themselves, and of their hope for those who would come after them—bold in venturing into the future, making use of the forces and elements of nature, in a way that would benefit all mankind. I see the TMT Project atop Mauna Kea as honoring and advancing the legacy of the island pioneers—this time, it’s about venturing into the farthest reaches of outer space. The Project has gone through a remarkably lengthy, thorough and fair process of public discussions for more than 10 years. It has gone through a contested case proceeding. It has duly come before the Hawai’i State Supreme Court, and the court has issued the decision for the construction of the project to proceed. Reports have shown that 80 percent of Hawai’i’s people support the project. Construction must proceed without any further delay.”

**J.R. William Kalani Regalado:** “I believe TMT has its pros and cons. It’s really hard to support both sides but I do believe that Mauna Kea is a sacred land for our Hawaiian families and we should respect that. How could Ige make the emergency proclamation saying it was not safe when he did not go to the *mauna* until later? There was no violence or litter but everyone was taking care of each other and educating those visiting the *mauna*. For him to make that proclamation was just a waste of time.”

**Michelle Santos:** “I feel the governor was too quick in issuing the Proclamation. He should have gone to the mountain to speak to the leaders to get a better understanding of the issue. I applaud those who continue to fight for what they believe is right, however I also believe in science and the importance of the telescope. But they should work on the existing telescopes rather than building a new one. If they can prove to me this telescope will help to cure diseases, I may change my position.”

**Joy Nina Tabon:** “What people don’t realize is that TMT isn’t a new issue. It’s been an issue for the past 10 years and although TMT is at the forefront of what the *kia’i* are standing for on the *mauna*, the hurt and oppression goes much deeper. I don’t think Governor Ige understands this isn’t just about a telescope. It’s about the basic rights of the *kanaka maoli* being ignored for the sake of everyone else but the people who have a right to the very land we live on. We often forget Hawai’i was stolen and overtaken without a trace of remorse. You don’t have to have Hawaiian blood to understand the indigenous people of Hawai’i should have rights to their land and beliefs, to embrace their culture, or to simply respect what they are standing for. Governor Ige’s response to the movement on the *mauna* is utterly disrespectful and selfish. TMT really isn’t just what people should be focusing on but rather that the voices of indigenous Hawaiian people and their families are trying to be silenced. No more. *Kū kia’i mauna.*”



What Do You Think...

... of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) and Governor Ige’s response?

Fil-Am Voice Staff

protests. I believe the trouble our fellow citizens has to encounter is very unsettling. We should be the ones to truly help them and stand up to one another despite what others have to say. No government should be allowed to destroy our sacred place and let our Native Hawaiians suffer. Even though we weren’t born in the Hawaiian islands or even speak their language, we

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# Mag Pancit Muna Tayo

Liza of “A Maui Blog”

**P**ancit is one of the most popular Filipino dishes not only on Maui but in many parts of the USA and the world where Filipino communities thrive. This dish is among the annual favorites at the Maui County Fair, the annual Barrio Fiesta and at the upcoming Maui Fil-Am Heritage Festival® in October. Barrio Fiesta has an annual *pancit* eating contest and I actually joined the contest this year. I did not win but I was happy to participate because I got to eat the yummy *pancit*. 😊

Do you know that there are many varieties of *pancit*? Yes? What is your favorite? Let’s talk story about the different kinds of *pancit*:

- 1. Pancit Canton** - This is probably the most common or most popular kind of *pancit*. The noodles are thicker, made of wheat. The noodles are stir-fried with various vegetables such as carrots, cabbage and string beans. Seafood such as squid, shelled shrimp, and meat such as sliced pork and chicken are added. Flavored with soy sauce. This kind of *pancit* is also sold during Maui County fairs although with less meat or seafood; mostly noodles.
- 2. Pancit Bihon** (also known as *Bihon Guisado*) - Another popular *pancit* noodle dish, this type uses *bihon* or thin rice noodles. The way it is cooked is similar to *Pancit Canton*. Vegetables, meat (shredded chicken, chopped pork) and/or seafood are sautéed (that’s where the term “*Guisado*” is. “*Guisa*” means saute in Tagalog) and soy sauce, pepper are added. Best to eat with some *calamansi* juice squeezed on it.
- 3. Pancit Sotanghon** - Similar to *Bihon Guisado* with a different

kind of noodle. The noodles are translucent *sotanghon* (mung bean or glass noodles) also sautéed with a savory sauce, and some hefty toppings. Here on Maui, this kind of *pancit*, *pancit sotanghon*, is not popular. Mung Bean Noodles are usually cooked into a soup called “chicken long rice” instead of serving it as *pancit*.

- 4. Pancit Lulug** - Also referred to in some circles as *Pancit Malabon*, this dish uses thick rice noodles that are dunked in hot water to soften them prior to adding the lip-smacking, unctuous orange sauce (“*Luglog*” means “to dunk in water”). Littered with fresh shrimp, squid, and even shucked oysters fresh off the northern fishing town of *Malabon*, this *pancit* is legendary and is a known staple in office and classroom parties in the Philippines. I have been looking for a place to buy *Pancit Luglug* here on Maui but so far I have not found one yet. Do you know where we can buy *Pancit Lulug* on Maui?
- 5. Pancit Palabok** - This is similar to *Pancit Malabon* but it uses finer noodles. This can be found on many Filipino restaurants and eateries here on Maui. And with the coming of Jollibee here on Maui, *Pancit Palabok* will even be more accessible. *Pancit Palabok* is a noodle dish with shrimp sauce and topped with several ingredients such as cooked shrimp, boiled pork, crushed *chicharon*, *tinapa* flakes, fried tofu, scallions, and fried garlic and boiled egg.

Now that we have talked about the various kinds of *pancit*, I think it’s time to head to one of the Filipino restaurants and try them out.



*Pancit Palabok* has thinner noodles and is topped with shrimp, pork, crushed chicharon, tinapa flakes, tofu, scallions, garlic and sliced boiled egg. “*Ang Sarap!*”  
PHOTO COURTESY LIZA PIERCE


Let’s go! ✨  
**Liza Pierce** of A Maui Blog is an Interactive Media Strategist in Hawai’i. She started blogging in 2006 and she loves talking story online and spreading aloha around the world. She’s been living on Maui since 1994 and considers Maui her home. A wife, a mother, a friend and so much more. She loves Jesus; Maui Sunsets Catcher; Crazy About Rainbow; End Alzheimer’s Advocate. Her life is full





and exciting here on the island of Maui.  
Liza is currently the Interactive Media Strategist with Wailea Realty



Probably the most commonly found *pancit* is *Pancit Canton*. Featuring thick noodles and other such meat and vegetables added—this dish makes a quick and tasty “go to” snack.  
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