



Do You Believe?
Will you be surprised if you are visited by a loved one beyond the grave?
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Meeting the Needs
It's high time that our Filipino community is granted for the fulfillment of its educational goals.
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A Special Sakada Offspring
An unsung hero with a magnificent story of triumph to tell.
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Fil·Am Voice

Magkaisa Tayong Lahat | “Let Us All Unite”

October 2019 • Vol 3 No10 | **FILIPINO AMERICAN VOICE • UPLIFTING OUR COMMUNITY | FREE**

inside



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Angel is trapped in Waikiki with no hope in sight!
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Of Ghosts and Spirits

Alfredo G. Evangelista | ASSISTANT EDITOR

“Adda baket! Adda baket!” screamed the three-year-old boy when he was awakened by a vision of a lady in the bedroom. His parents woke up to the little boy’s screaming but did not see any lady. A month or so later, a letter arrived from the Philippines which enclosed a photograph of an open casket. The little boy pointed to the photograph and said that was the *baket*.

That little boy was me ... and my paternal grandmother, Petra Acang Evangelista, had apparently visited us when she had passed. At that age, I didn’t know what a ghost or spirit was. I just saw a vision and was so afraid, I was screaming my head off.

“When I was young in the Philippines, I was probably four or five years old, when we used to play outside at

see GHOSTS next page

University of Hawai’i Pamantasan Council Gets Funding

Alfredo G. Evangelista
ASSISTANT EDITOR

“I have come to better understand my own ethnic heritage and come to appreciate the diversity Filipinos bring to Hawai’i thanks to the encouragement and support from my colleagues in *Pamantasan*,” said Christopher Yanuaria, M.S.W. in testimony before the Hawai’i Legislature. “If it was not for my parents, family, and others like my colleagues, who supported my academic and professional endeavors, I



UHMC Chancellor Lui Hokoana hosted the UH Pamantasan Council earlier this month.
PHOTO COURTESY DR. CHRISTINE QUEMUEL

do not think I would have gotten to where I am today. My hope is that other Filipinos can have the same opportunity as I did. For this reason, I urge you to please support SB 1418, SD1, HD1.” Yanuaria, who was born and raised in Kahului, is currently the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa’s Prevention Awareness Understanding Violence Program Coordinator.

Amefil “Amy” Agbayani, see PAMANTASAN p.3

FREE



Dulce Butay lights candles at her father's grave in the Philippines.
PHOTO COURTESY DULCE KAREN BUTAY



Kids and Adults love to dress up for Halloween.
PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA

Ghosts ...

from p. 1

night,” said Araceli Urban. “On the way home, on the side of the house, there was a tree. I saw someone sitting on the trunk of a tree. I looked at it. It was like a small boy. I looked straight. He didn’t move. My hair was standing. It was a very small boy. I remember it vividly. I can’t forget.”

Sometimes, it’s not what you see but what you hear. “When my Uncle died, my family forgot to take out his shoes so he was buried with his shoes,” said Dulce Karen Butay. “On the third day after he was buried, we heard footsteps going down on the

stairs at midnight.”

Butay’s story reminds me of a former client of the law firm I first worked at. The client was killed by his wife. The client was quite a large man and when he walked down the stairs in the office, the stairs would creak a certain way. After his death, the attorney assigned to the case would be working late at night and would hear the creaking sounds on the stairs.

With All Hallows’ Eve (October 31), All Saint’s Day (November 1) and All Soul’s Day (November 2) approaching, I’m reminded of the many stories of ghosts and spirits I’ve heard over the years, many from my Mom.

My Mom recalls that when she was watching television in the Spanish B

camp, she saw a headless white dog in the living room. She screamed so loud the Japanese neighbor came by and my Mom told him what she saw. The Japanese neighbor confirmed the prior occupant had seen the headless dog. My Mom would see the headless dog four more times before the family was able to move to a different house near the Tournahauler Road. My Mom also claims there was an *obake* in the house near the water heater—a lady with long hair. She would tell my Dad, “Lakay, adda labang.”

My Mom also told me stories about her travels to Lahaina. My Mom used to make *kankanen* and would sell them in Lahaina. She told me how one time, right by the tunnel, she saw a naked white lady, with white long hair down to her *okole* climbing the tunnel. My Mom claims I was with her along with my sister Estrelita. My Mom says Gloria didn’t want to come because Gloria said she was scared she might see a ghost. But my Mom was prepared because, as she said “I had my *buneng* which was my *anib*.” During another trip to Lahaina, my Mom and Dad were driving back to Pu’unēnē almost near the tunnel when they saw a ring of fire—a fireball—that my Mom described as “a very bright *bigao*.” My Mom was about to scream when my Dad told her to hush. “I had a match,” my Mom says, “so I lit it after we passed it. It’s a good thing we didn’t run over it; we just passed over it. If we had run over it, we don’t know what would have happened.”

Although my 95-year-old Mom Catalina Gonzales Evangelista can no longer remember all the details to the ghost stories she used to tell us when we were young, I still remember a few. My mom told us when she was driving in the Pu’unēnē plantation villages near the ditch by the old hospital, her car would suddenly stop and only if she lit a match would the car restart. My Mom claims she would see shadows that would suddenly appear and disappear.

On nights when she would pick up my Dad who was working the late shift at the H.C.&S. mill in Pu’unēnē,

my Mom claims she would see a “white lady” with long white hair and long earrings walking on the concrete bridge near our house in Paukūkalo that crossed Īao Stream. When she would arrive at the mill, she would see a male shadow with a pointed hat. She refused to get out of the car and suddenly the man disappeared. My Dad was inside the mill, waiting for my Mom. “He was so *napuntot* that I didn’t go in the mill,” my Mom said. But when my Mom explained, my Dad acknowledged there were *labangs* around and so his fury subsided.

All these stories that my Mom told me as a kid, made me very scared at night.

I admit that at night, I slept with the blanket over my face, with just a small opening to allow me to breathe. Sometimes, I had such a hard time breathing because it felt like someone was on top of me. Only when I became an adult did I learn about bed pressers and only then did I realize that I must have been victim to a bed presser. After all, we lived in Paukūkalo and there’s a known *heiau* less than a mile from where we lived.

In Hawai’i, you often hear of *obake* and other stories, including stories of the Night Marchers, who according to *Wikipedia* “are the deadly ghosts of ancient Hawaiian warriors. On the nights honoring the Hawaiian gods Kāne, Kū, Lono, or on the nights of Kanaloa they are said to come forth from their burial sites, or to rise up from the ocean, and to march in a large group to ancient Hawaiian battles sites or to other sacred places. Legend says the night marchers are normal-size warriors, dressed for battle, carrying spears, clubs, and some are beating war drums and blowing tones from conch shells, to announce the advancing of their march.”

While I personally have never encountered night marchers, Rev. John A.H. Tomoso relayed his own personal experience: “When I was in Graduate School at UH-Mānoa, I was asked to consult with a group of Native Hawaiian Practitioners who were meeting to

see GHOSTS p.4

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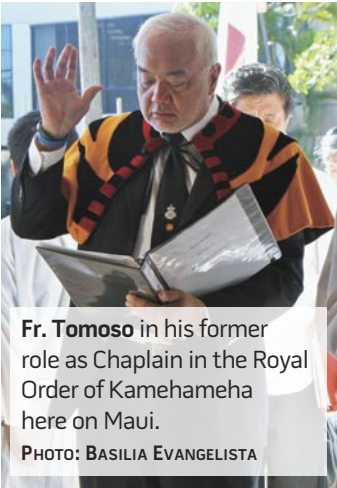
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Fr. Tomoso in his former role as Chaplain in the Royal Order of Kamehameha here on Maui.
PHOTO: BASILIA EVANGELISTA



Amefil "Amy" Agbayani, Ph.D. explains, "The Filipino students, their families and the community seek access to higher education."

PHOTO COURTESY AMY AGBAYANI

Pamantasan ...

from p. 1

Ph.D. who worked at the University of Hawai'i for more than forty years and is now an Emeritus Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Diversity, explained the need for the passage of SB 1418 in her testimony: "The Filipino students, their families and the community seek access to higher education. The very large population of Filipinos in the state and the public schools means that DOE and UH can meet their mission by providing programming to increase the Filipino UH graduates who can be part of our state's educated workforce and active citizens in our community."

With the support of the Filipino community, the University, and the Legislature, a few months ago, Governor David Ige signed into law as Act 266 (SB No. 1418, SD1, HD1, CD 1) which appropriated \$195,000 in each fiscal year to fund for the first time two full-time equivalent positions for the University of Hawai'i Pamantasan Council.

Earlier this month, the UH Pamantasan Council was hosted on Maui by University of Hawai'i Maui College ["UH Maui College"] Chancellor Lui Hokoana and reviewed statistics focusing on *Filipinx* students at UH Maui College, where one of the full-time positions will be located. (As part of the effort to be gender neutral, *Filipinx* is now used by the University of Hawai'i and others to refer to Filipino/a.)

The UH Pamantasan Council was formed in 1987 for the purpose "to review the status of Filipinos at the University of Hawai'i and to make recommendations to increase their numbers and improve the academic success and careers of Filipinos and the quality of education for all students at the University."

In the Spring of 1988, the Report of the University of Hawai'i Task Force on Filipinos was published and titled *Pamantasan*, which means institute of higher learning. The Report focused on five areas: recruitment and retention of Filipino students in higher education; inclusion of Philippine or Filipino-related courses into the curriculum; Filipinos in the State Department of Education; employment of Filipinos

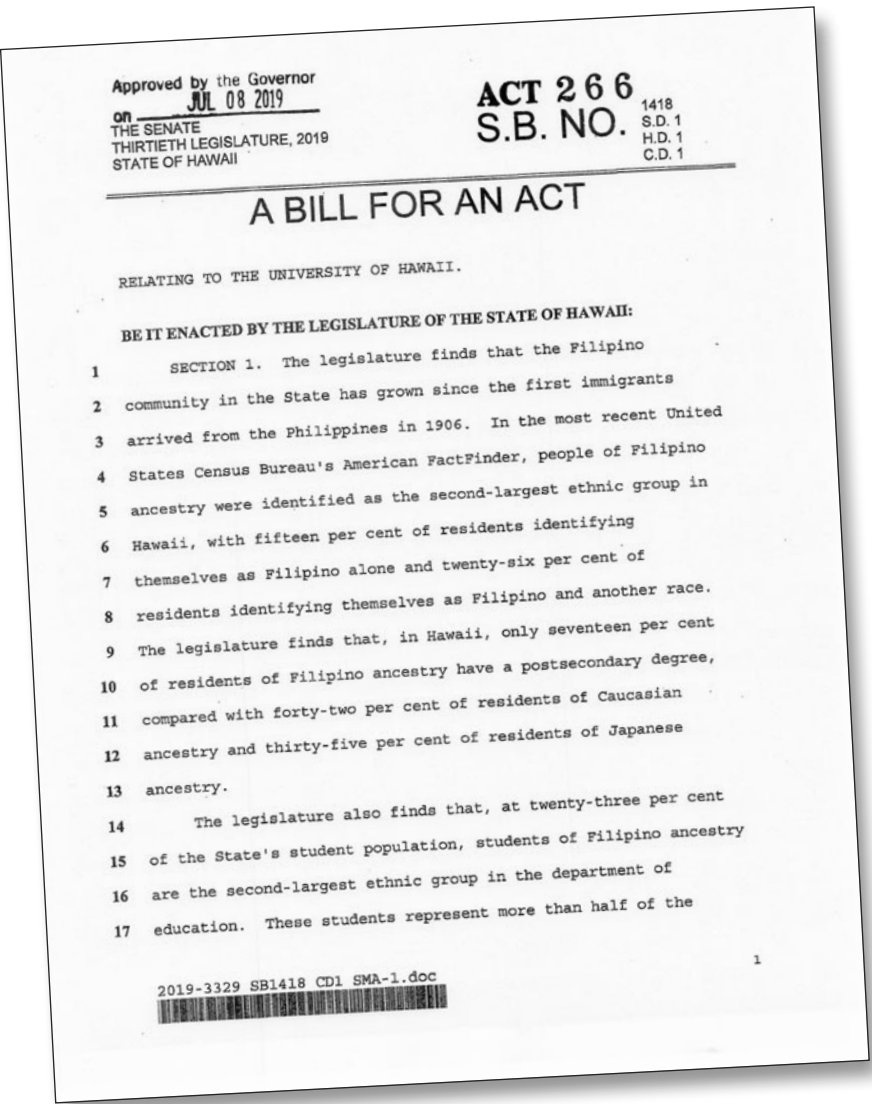
in the professions; and relations between Philippine and U.S. institutions of higher education.

The Task Force specifically found that "Filipino students encounter numerous and varied barriers in seeking higher education, which result in their considerable under representation at the University, especially at UH-Mānoa, UH-Hilo, and West O'ahu College." The Task Force made specific recommendations in the five areas but also made four other major recommendations, including "Interested members of the Task Force should be reappointed to form the *Pamantasan* Council. This group would work with community organizations, assist with the review, approval and implementation of the Task Force recommendations, and comment on University policies and procedures that impact on Filipino students and Philippine studies."

But "the *Pamantasan* Council has no budget, and is a volunteer organization comprised of UH students, staff, faculty, and administrators who are committed to access and diversity issues," said Christine Quemuel, Ph.D. in testimony submitted in support of SB 1418. Quemuel is the Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor for Diversity and a member of the UH Pamantasan Council. The *Pamantasan* Council is "comprised of administrators, faculty, and staff from all ten campuses in the University of Hawai'i System," explains Quemuel. "The *Pamantasan* Council advocates for the representation of *Filipinx* students, staff, and faculty; the inclusion of *Filipinx* and Philippine content in university curricula; as well as supporting and recognizing *Filipinx* achievements in higher education."

"Three decades after *Pamantasan* was formed, much work remains to be done," said State Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, who represents Central Maui. "As recently reported, Filipinos, making up roughly a quarter of public school students, are the second largest ethnic group in the DOE. However, they continue to represent less than 1/7th of all students in the University of Hawai'i System. With most Filipinos enrolling in the community colleges, they remain under represented in our four-year institutions. Further, only 7 percent of all Hawai'i DOE teachers and 4 percent of faculty in the UH

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Act 266 appropriated monies to fund for the first time two full-time equivalent positions for the University of Hawai'i Pamantasan Council.

IMAGE COURTESY GIL KEITH-AGARAN



Maui Memorial Medical Center was recently awarded the highest and most honors in the state by American Heart Association and featured in U.S. News & World Report "Best Hospitals 2019" for Gold Plus Quality Achievement and Honor Roll awards for stroke and heart failure care.

Maui Memorial Medical Center is the only acute care hospital on the Valley Isle. Our 1400 physicians, providers, and staff are committed to providing high-quality, patient-centered, affordable care and exceptional service to all of Maui's residents and visitors. For more information, please visit mauihealthsystem.org.

mauihealthsystem.org

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From the Editor's Desk

Tante Urban
EDITOR & PRESIDENT • FIL-AM VOICE

The Rush to the End of the Year

Are you ready?

In 60+ days, 2020 will soon be here. *Are you ready?*

Before we get to 2020, there's New Year's Eve, Christmas, Thanksgiving, Veteran's Day, and Halloween.

If you're in business, there's the last quarter budget crunch and planning your projections for next year. If you're planning to start a new business by the first of the

If you're in the government sector as a public employee, have you been faithful to your government in doing your job?

If you love to travel, maybe you're planning your last trip of the year. If you have young children, have you started planning for their future? If you have elderly parents, have you spent as much time with them as you can? If you're on a diet, maybe you're counting those calories and thinking of exercising more. If you have serious health issues, have you started planning for the inevitable?

Are you ready?

In Life, we are often not ready for all of our challenges and many times we do not take the time to share our blessings with our family and friends or even take care of our personal health or business. In Life, we cannot live with regret because sometimes, it may be too late.

Being a Mama's boy, I was very sad when my Mom passed away because I wasn't ready. But she then appeared to me in a happy state and waved goodbye to me. Later, she appeared in Telly's dream

and told her that she was happy and to keep cooking.

Our lives are full of grace, blessings and sometimes pure luck. I believe our angels are out there protecting us ... so that we are ready for our future. ✨

Tante Urban

TANTE URBAN | EDITOR



My mom appeared to me in a happy state and waved goodbye to me. I believe our angels are out there protecting us ... so that we are ready for the future.

year, there's a lot of legwork and paperwork that needs to be completed. *Are you ready?*

If you're in the non-profit corporation business and you're on a calendar year, there's planning for elections, annual meetings, and holiday parties. *Are you ready?*

If you're in the government sector as an elected official, have you been listening to your constituents?



At Maui Memorial Park Cemetery.

PHOTO:
ALFREDO EVANGELISTA

Ghosts ...

from p.2

discuss oral histories and to contribute to an anthology on native spirituality. The subject of The Night Marchers came up and I led several group discussions on what was experienced by these Practitioners," Tomoso recalls. "I asked to visit a place where these ancestral beings were frequenting, which we visited several times in the daytime and at night. Upon arrival at this place, we performed proper protocols and made ourselves comfortable and allowed ourselves to feel, hear and even see these beings. I can say that after visiting this place four times, I was privileged to hear my ancestral beings speaking about their need to be there with us. At our last visit, which was in the daytime, I heard them tell me to move on; that it was right for me to do so and that I was not to be afraid as they were one with me. In our debriefing of this visit, several others heard the same thing, especially that these ancestral beings were one with and just like us. So, I know that these Night Marchers are with us and should never be impeded but allowed to move through."

The phenomenon of Night Marchers has even reached Hollywood, with an independent movie by the same name. First distributed in 2001, an updated version is being released in late October starring Maui resident Anuheia La and Hawai'i island residents Po'ai Sukanuma and Keali'i Kanekoa.

Not all spiritual beings are of the scary type. Many appear in dreams; often after the family member's death.

"My Dad passed away on October 18, 1993 at 4 p.m.," recalls Butay. "That night, he appeared in a dream. He told me to go with him, grabbed my hand and led me to the stairs. I took his hand and started to follow him. My foot was on the first step of the stairs when one of our relatives saw him holding my hand, trying to take me with him and said, 'Oh look, he's taking her.' As soon as my Dad heard it, he let go of my hand and I woke up."

"My Mom passed away in the Philippines," said Araceli Urban. "After we brought her body back to Hawai'i, the day after we buried her, we saw her waving at our home. She was in the air. She was so happy. She was wearing red. It made me feel better to see her happy."

Tante Urban recalls seeing his Mom the day after she passed away. "The day after my Mother passed, she was walking up the stairs at our apartment and what I saw was she

was waving and smiling at me." Tante's Mom would also communicate to Araceli in a dream. "In my dream, she said 'It's not goodbye. I'm happy where I'm at. Don't worry. Go ahead and do your cooking,'" said Araceli Urban.

Even years after a family member's death, visits happen. "A month before I was going to the Philippines for the first time after living in Hawai'i for ten years, I would dream of my Dad waking me up for a month," said Butay. "He would say 'Wake up. You're going to be late again.' When I awoke and looked at the clock, it was exactly 7 a.m.; I'm really late for work and I still have to drop off my daughter Kate at Lihikai School. For a whole month, he was waking me up or he was in my dream. When I went to the Philippines, my main agenda was to visit his grave, where I lit candles, brought flowers and said a prayer. After I came back from the Philippines, he didn't visit me in my dreams that often anymore—only once in awhile when I cook *pansit* and *adobo* on his birthday. He would visit me in my dreams and say, 'Thank you for the *pansit* and the *adobo* you cooked. It's good.'"

During his high school English class, my son Christian used my *Adda Baket* experience as the basis for a short story. He tells me a lot of his classmates were spooked.

When I look back and think about it however, my Grandmother Petra did not come to scare me or my parents. She came to visit us out of love and concern. She had not seen her son Elias for over fifteen years and heard Elias and Catalina had a young son named Alfredo, as well as daughters Gloria and Estrelita, in addition to Rogelio who was born in the Philippines. She came to say goodbye ... even though we never met. It was pure love.

As Tomoso says "They are not to be feared but accepted, listened to and appreciated for the ancestral beings that they are." ✨

Alfredo G. Evangelista used to trick-or-treat for UNICEF. He is a graduate of Maui High School (1976), the University of Southern California (1980), and the University of California at Los Angeles School of Law (1983). He is a sole practitioner at Law Offices of Alfredo Evangelista, A Limited Liability Law Company, concentrating in estate planning, business start-up and consultation, non-profit corporations, and litigation. He has been practicing law for 36 years (since 1983) and returned home in 2010 to be with his family and to marry his high school sweetheart, the former Basilia Tumacder Idica.



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Agnes Macadangdang Hayashi
PHOTO: JOHN HENRY PHOTOGRAPHY



Dad
and three
daughters,
1962



Pedro Sebastian Sales Macadangdang

“Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow.” This quotation by Melody Beattie, an American author is so applicable to the life of this month’s Sakada Offspring, Agnes Premia Ulnagan Macadangdang Hayashi.

Agnes is the third and youngest daughter of Pedro and Remigia Macadangdang. Her two older sisters are Lydia (Mike) Merrigan of Oregon and Ruby (Ricardo) Farinas of Washington.

Agnes grew up in Happy Valley, Pi‘ihana Camp for 15 years. In 1975, her family moved to Pukalani. She attended Wailuku Elementary School, ‘Īao Intermediate School, and Baldwin High School with honors. At ‘Īao School, she was the Student Body Vice President in the 7th grade and Student Body President in the 8th grade. She received 1st place in Dramatic Category at their Speech Competition. She also played flute, 1st chair in the Maui County Select Band. At Baldwin High School, she was a Homecoming Queen Court (9th grade), Junior Prom Court Princess (11th grade), active in Student Government, marching band member, speech team, National Honor Society member, and received scholarships from the Alfred Levin Outstanding Senior, the Maui Filipino Community Council and the American Japanese Association.

Agnes was very active at Good Shepherd Church in its Youth Choir and Folk Dance Troupe. She was also a Girl Scout and a member of the Maui Filipino Community Council Youth Program. She was a hula dancer with Kumu Hula Iola Balubar.

Even with such busy activities, Agnes managed to work. She did housekeeping at private residences, Ooka Supermarket as cashier after school and Macy’s Hi-Board youth promotion and sales after school.

In 1983, Agnes graduated from University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa with a Bachelors in Business Administration, with Distinction. From 1983–1989, because of her job with GTE, she lived in Connecticut, California and O‘ahu.

Agnes is married to Duane Hayashi, CPA, Retired, former Accounting Manager and officer with Maui Electric Company. They met in 1985 when Agnes was on assignment at Hawaiian

Agnes Premia Ulnagan Macadangdang Hayashi

Lucy Peros | ALL PHOTOS COURTESY AGNES MACADANGDANG HAYASHI

Telephone on O‘ahu. As colleagues working together, they shared similar professional goals and work ethics. Their friendship blossomed after five months. However, Agnes’ work assignments also involved travel out of state. But a year later, in 1986, while she was assigned in California, Duane flew over and proposed. They were married in August 1987 at St. Andrew’s Cathedral on Oahu after two years of courtship. Shortly after, Duane and Agnes relocated to California as Agnes accepted another promotion within GTE. They lived there until December 1990. In 1990, they moved back home to Maui with their one-year old son, Wesley. They are happily married for 32 years and have three children:

Wesley Sebastian Macadangdang Hayashi, their eldest child was a 2007 Cum Laude graduate of King Kekaulike High School and University of Hawai‘i (Mānoa and Maui College). He received an A.S. Electronic and Computer Engineering Technology with GIS Certificate of Competency. He is employed with Fukumoto Engineering since 2016 and will be relocating to Oregon in October 2019.

Their second child is Dr. Celina Jean Hayashi Macadangdang (she changed her surname name to Macadangdang in honor of her Macadangdang grandparents upon graduating from medical school). She was a 2009 Valedictorian and graduate of King Kekaulike High School. She received her BA with honors in biology from Scripps College, Claremont, CA. She is a 2019 MD graduate of UH John A. Burns School of Medicine (with Deans Certificate of Distinction and Gold Humanism Honor Society member). She is currently in Residency at Swedish Medical in Seattle, WA. She recently wed Ryan Rautureau of Seattle in June 2019. She was Miss Hawai‘i Filipina in 2009 and Miss Valley Isle in 2013.

Their youngest child is Thomas Takeo Macadangdang Hayashi. He was a 2016 Cum Laude and Headmasters Honors graduate of Seabury Hall. He is currently in his 4th year at Santa

Clara University in California. He is a 2020 candidate for B.S. Environmental Studies with minors in Computer Science and Economics.

Agnes’ professional career spans thirty-six years working in the professional fields of Audit, Finance and Management. Her employment includes sixteen years in the private industry and twenty years in the government sector.

At GTE Corporation (now Verizon), Agnes held positions in Audit (Senior Audit Supervisor, Staff Auditor), Budget Analyst, Cost Accounting supervisor, Financial Accountant, Revenues Analyst, and Strategic Planning Analyst. She went through the accelerated promotional opportunities program and she was promoted five times over seven years employment. Her last

see HAYASHI next page



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In 1978, Agnes held the title of Miss Maui Filipina.



In 1987, Duane Hayashi and Agnes Macadangdang were married.

Hayashi ...

from p.5

position held was Supervising Senior Auditor of the Western Region Division and she was responsible for planning and managing audit engagements, and staff hiring, training and development. She also conducted audits domestically (California, Washington, Texas and Hawai'i) and internationally (Micronesia, Canada, Japan and Taiwan).

She came home to Maui in 1991 and worked at Maui Land & Pineapple Company. Her job description included responsibility for all audit operations in evaluating internal controls of the company and its subsidiaries Maui Pineapple Company, Kapalua Land Company and Queen Ka'ahumanu Center. She was also hired primarily to establish and formalize the company's Internal Audit function to meet professional auditing standards. She wrote the operational auditing procedures manual, hired and trained staff.

After sixteen years in the private sector, Agnes joined Maui County in 1999 at the invitation of Mayor James

Kimo Apana and have remained there since under three consecutive Mayoral appointments (12 years) and Civil Service (8 years to present). She appreciated the unique opportunity to work for three different Mayors in leadership capacities.

In discussing Mayor Victorino's appointment of Filipinos to his cabinet, Agnes disclosed Mayor Victorino asked her to serve as the County's Director of Finance. Agnes felt truly honored by the Mayor's consideration but due to pressing family commitments that she believed would be a distraction from the important responsibility of the job, Agnes regretfully declined.

Since 2011, Agnes is an Executive Assistant II and serves as the Senior Aide to the Managing Director. In 2010, she was the Director of Finance, appointed by Mayor Tavares. From 2007 through 2010, she was appointed the Deputy

Director of Finance by Mayor Tavares. From 2003 through 2006, she was appointed the Community Development Block Grant Program Manager by Mayor Arakawa. From 1999 through 2002 Agnes was appointed the Deputy Director of Finance by Mayor Apana. And in 1999, she was the Executive Assistant to the Mayor under Mayor Apana.

The following are very significant professional accomplishments that Agnes has done from 1999 to present: She was the overall Project Manager accountable for the major reorganization of the Division of Motor Vehicles & Licensing to improve customer service and processing. She co-managed the creation of the Maui County Service Center. She is directly accountable for the redesign and overhaul of the grants management functions and internal controls improvements for the Community Development Block Pro-

She was the overall Project Manager accountable for the major reorganization of the Division of Motor Vehicles & Licensing to improve customer service and processing.

gram, said program design still in effect today. She corrected audit findings and improved performance of Community Development Block Grant to achieve Low Risk from High Risk designation from HUD as well as assisted HUD with evaluation and development of statewide processes. She is co-responsible in attaining County bond rating upgrades. And lastly, she developed various countywide management and financial policies and procedures to improve internal controls and operational efficiencies.

Agnes' professional Affiliations are: Institute of Internal Auditors, Government Finance Officers Association, and at present, the International City/County Management Association.

The following are Agnes' union affiliations: Hawai'i Government Employees Association (HGEA)/American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Managerial & Confidential Employees Chapter (MCEC). Her community affiliations are: Hālau o Ka Hana Lehua Under Kumu Hula Kamaka Kukona, MEO Board of Directors, Pukalani Baptist Church, and Beta Gamma Foundation.

see HAYASHI p.12



Agnes' daughter Celina was recently married to Ryan Rautureau of Seattle.



Agnes' daughter Celina was also Miss Maui Filipina and went on to capture the Miss Hawai'i Filipina title in 2009.

\$400 Million Tax Cut Plan is Proposed by Governor Ben Cayetano



Benjamin J. Cayetano, Governor

I am pleased to announce that the Economic Revitalization Task Force has proposed a 3-year, \$400 million tax cut. This is the biggest tax cut in the state's history. The personal income tax cuts will increase people's take home pay by 30%-40%.

Regulatory reforms and tax cuts will lower the cost of doing business, boost business growth, and create jobs. As a result, these lower costs should be passed on to consumers through lower prices.

An historic agenda for change.

I join with Senate President Norman Mizuguchi and House Speaker Joe Souki to commend all the members of the Task Force and its working groups for coming together with a strong commitment to working together, and to plan for the future.

Lower income taxes

At the heart of the tax cut is this: every taxpayer's personal income tax will be reduced, and some will receive larger refunds. People are getting a real tax cut, pure and simple, because savings from the income tax cut and tax credits outweigh the excise tax increase.

Critics point to the excise tax increase and assume that people will pay more. That's not true. The 1.35% excise tax increase means that you would need to spend \$7,407 on taxable purchases to offset every \$100 saved in personal income taxes.

Middle income: A family of four earning a \$40,000 taxable income will save \$357 per year in combined income and excise taxes during each of the first two years, and save \$651 every year after that. This gives you an overall 9% tax cut in each of the first two years, and a 17% tax cut after that.

Low income: A family of four with a \$10,000 taxable income now pays \$171 in income taxes. Under this proposal, you would get a \$193 refund in each of the first two years, and a \$217 refund in the third year. Your combined tax savings is 22% in each of the first two years and 25% after that.

This tax relief is from the bottom up, not "trickle down" economics. A family of four on welfare with no taxable income, and a family with \$10,000 in taxable income will get a bigger tax cut, percentage wise in combined income and excise taxes, than a family with \$150,000 in taxable income.

New business creates jobs

Economists predict that lowering the income tax rate is essential to attracting new business and helping

(continued on back page)



Gov. Benjamin Cayetano

PHOTO COURTESY ALFREDO EVANGELISTA

Governor Cayetano utilized the Democratic Party newsletter to promote his tax cuts

IMAGE COURTESY ALFREDO EVANGELISTA

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 tenth in a series of articles profiling Cayetano and his historic election and service. Versions of these articles appeared previously in The Filipino Summit.

Going into the third year of his Administration, Governor Ben Cayetano and his cabinet—both formal and kitchen—faced the realization that while the rest of the U.S. was seeing some recovery, locally the economy remained stagnant. Following the conventional playbook for public priming of the economy, the Governor's budget increased state infrastructure investments. But the government bond funded construction for highways, harbors and airport were disparaged by critics of cuts that the general fund budget shortfall had forced in social services and other operations. Along with the unprecedented measures undertaken to reduce or slow government spending—including what turned out to be a fairly modest reduction in the public workforce due to the requirements of civil service seniority but shocking to the government union membership—the Cabinet's marching orders remained staying opportunistic in supporting economic growth.

No idea was necessarily rejected.

Called to take a site visit to Mount Leahi—a portion of State land shared

by the Department of Defense's Civil Defense headquarters and his Department's Diamond Head State Monument, Land Board Chair Michael Wilson did not expect the proposal floated during that tour with the Governor, the Chief of Staff, the Budget Director and the chair of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA).

Wilson was vaguely aware that the State and OHA were discussing ways to settle the inherited and lingering dispute over the amount of ceded lands revenue owed by the State to OHA. As Wilson explained in shorthand to his deputy later that morning, Diamond Head was proposed as part of any land and cash deal.

But what surprised the DLNR Director, who had made his reputation in part based on his environmental advocacy to preserve Mount Olomana on the Windward side of the island, was the discussion moving to developing Mount Leahi as a golf course. As the group stood overlooking the plain of the crater—a grassy field that the National Guard sometimes used for parades—one of the group told the Governor to imagine teeing off from where they were and then taking a ski-lift like ride down to the fairway to hit their next shots.

The Governor was fairly skeptical but another in the group suggested that someone like an Eisner at Disney or another leisure destination visionary could be brought in to partner with either the State or OHA to create some kind of new economic attraction—not a Disneyland Hawai'i but

DINENGDENG & PINAKBET

A Cayetano Retrospective: It's The Economy, Stupid!

Benjamin Cayetano: First highest-ranking elected official of Filipino ancestry in the State of Hawai'i: 10th in a series.

Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran

perhaps a golf course with some amenities to appeal to non-golfer members of a family.

The men recalled when Diamond Head had been the site of largescale concerts—something DLNR State Parks had been discouraging from re-occurring as they tried to turn the Monument into a more natural wilderness park with a fairly safe hike to the rim.

The proposal was panned by local pundits when it was reported shortly afterwards.

But the incident reflected the willingness of the Cabinet to consider all manner of economic development to

lift Hawai'i out of the doldrums.

Gov. Cayetano had plucked from the University of Hawai'i Seiji Naya to head his Department of Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT). Naya was Japan-born but brought to Hawai'i Nisei soldiers supporter Earl Finch in the 1950s. Dr. Naya did not look it but he was also a 1984 inductee to the UH Sports Hall of Fame, having won NCAA featherweight boxing titles as a UH undergraduate in 1954 and 1955. After earning a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Wisconsin in 1965, he returned to the University of Hawai'i to teach. By 1995, Naya had already enjoyed a well-regarded career in international economics and Asian development, including a stint as Chief Economist at the Asian Development Bank in Manila in the 1980s. By the time he joined the nascent Cayetano Cabinet, no one would have suspected the professorial Naya as a former champion pugilist. His comments to others in the administration and advice to the Governor were usually measured but quietly firm and persistent in his areas of interest and expertise.

Naya and his DBEDT deputies had pushed legislative proposals to support growth in selected sectors and had

see CAYETANO p.9

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Where did September go? It came by so quick that I didn’t even get the chance to buy pre-sale tickets for the Maui County Fair. That’s right, October is County Fair followed by Fall break for the students.

What’s another big in October? The Filipino-American History month. It starts with a Philippine Flag Raising Ceremony at the County Building then

Let’s Talk Pinoy!

Dulce Karen Butay

followed by Maui Fil-Am Heritage Festival. This all-day back-to-back entertainment is like a fiesta in the Philippines, where you get to enjoy street foods and a lot of entertainment, games and contests. What else is stored for the month of October? Halloween! My favorite part about

Halloween is dressing up and seeing what others—friends, family, co-workers—come up with unique costume themselves. Buying a costume is great but making one using your own creativity is double great. Have you ever made your own costume?

Have you read the last issue? Where did we leave off? Oh yes, that’s right. Angel was running from her abductors.

IN ANGEL’S HEAD: Was this God trying to tell me something? Why didn’t I *nakinig* (listen)? I’m in trouble. A lot of trouble. I need to get out. NOW.

As the van pulls into a gas station, the man opens the *lukub* (door).

With the *kanta* (song) playing loudly in her head, she leaps for the *puwerta* (door) with all her might.

Radiohead “*Creep*” lyrics: *She’s RUNNING out again ... she’s RUNNING out.*

She charges into the man, who falls backwards onto the concrete. Angel dashes for the highway while the other two men chase after her. She dives into the highway with *sasakyan* (cars) screeching, and she *taray* (runs).

Radiohead “*Creep*” lyrics: *She’s karela (RUN) ... takbo (RUN) ... dagalan (RUN) ... dagan (RUN) ...*

| English | Pilipino | Ilokano | Cebuano | Ilonggo | Ibanag | Kapampangan |
|-----------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------|----------|-----------------|
| Beautiful | Maganda | Napintas | Gwapa | Maanyag | Makasta | Malagu |
| Water | Tubig | Danum | Tubig / Pamubo | Tubig | Danum | Danum |
| Street | Kalye | Dalan | Dalan | Dalan | Dalang | Kalye |
| Thank You | Salamat | Agyamanak | Daghang Salamat | Salamat Gid | Mab-balo | Dacal a Salamat |
| Run | Takbo | Taray | Dagan | Dagalan | Karela | Pulayi |
| Door | Pintuan | Ridaw | Lukub | Ganhaan | Puwerta | Pasbul |
| Dad | Tatay / Itay | Tatang / Itang | Amahan | Tatay | Yama | Tata |
| Flower | Bulaklak | Sabong | Bulak | Hamulak | Lappao | Bulaklak |
| Where? | Saan? | Inno? | Aha? | San o? | Sitaw? | Nokarin? |
| Happy | Masaya | Naragsak | Malipayon | Masadya | Magayaya | Matula |

opening her *pintuan* (door) yelling profanity, Angel sprints down Koa Avenue passing delivery truck after delivery truck. She makes it to the end of Koa and makes a right on Lili’uokalani Avenue where she can see the ocean. Quickly crossing the *kalye* (street), she passes a crew that seems to be setting up for a lū’au. She finds an empty chair under an umbrella *nokarin* (where) she sits, hunches over and sobs.

An hour passes and it’s now 1 p.m. Hawaiian time. A young man taps her on the shoulder. She looks up at him, a complete wreck. She has been running so she looks exhausted. She has been crying so her eyes are red and puffy, with water dripping from her nose. The young man with a disgusted, horrified look on his face jumps back and says “Miss, do you have a reservation for this pavillion? It’s for guests only.”

Angel wipes her face and asks for some *danum* (water).

“No, Ma’am, you need to leave right now,” he says sternly.

“*Tubig* (Water),” she repeats.

“No, please le ...”

Angel starts a tantrum “*Tubig!* (Water)! Ahhhh!”

Motioning his hands to stop, he

leaves and comes back with a bottle of *danum* (water). “Okay, please leave now,” he demands.

She snatches the bottle, unscrews the cap, flinging it onto the ground and gulps the entire bottle in one sitting. Almost drowning in it, she manages to finish it in no time.

“*Salamat po* (Thank you),” she stands. “*Daghang Salamat* (Thank you),” and she limps away.

“Ow ow ow ow,” she clinched her knee. Angel, although in great shape, doesn’t run a lot. In fact, in high school back in the Philippines, she would think of so many reasons to tell her teacher why she couldn’t participate in P.E. (Physical Education). First it was her shoes, then her uniform, then her ankle hurts. But really, it was because she didn’t want to be sweating in the hot sun, get a sunburn and her skin becomes dark. She wants to be *napintas* (beautiful).

Angel makes her way along the beach and stops. There are so many people here. White people, dark people, brown people. Kids, adults, even babies are swimming in their beach shorts, their bikinis, swimmers in their ... naked? “Oh my gosh, that lady is naked!”

She begins to laugh. “Oh, Hawai’i is so *maganda* (beautiful). There are so many people here. The weather is perfect. It is hot but not Philippines hot. The *danum* (water) is so clear and blue. Everyone looks so *masaya* (happy) here. Look at these families hanging out in the beach, each of them smiling or laughing. So, it must be *naragsak* (happy) to live in Hawai’i.”

Angel walks around exploring Waikiki. It is a unique city with shops, side shows, artists and the list goes on and on. She passes a market and all of a sudden, her stomach growls. Holding her stomach, she wonders “When did I eat last? I don’t even remember. But I feel so hungry. Billy had all my things including my bag with my identification and the 300 pesos that *Tatang* (Dad) gave to me from his secret stash before I left the house. Oh, how I wish *Tatang* (Dad) is here to protect me. He would never let this happen to me.” She makes her way back to the beach where she finds an open concrete/wood pavilion overlooking the beach.

Staring into the *tubig* (water) as the sun goes down and the breeze picks up, Angel reflects. “I’ve been dreaming of coming to Hawai’i since I was six years old. My classmate’s sister married a Hawai’i man and she would send her money, clothes, and chocolates. She was so lucky and everyone wanted to be her friend. She would tell me stories of Hawai’i and I became obsessed with it. I took *Nanang’s bulaklak* (flowers) and I would make *lei*. I would dress up and sing as if I were Jasmine Trias. My favorite movie was *Lilo and Stitch*. I would teach my friends how to dance hula, even though I didn’t know how. I would dream of coming to Hawai’i, maybe go to school. I would dream of finding a good job, maybe falling in love.

I would dream of helping my parents. I would bring them here and they would live in my house and I would drive them in my car. I want to make them proud. I can’t believe I’m here. My dream has come true and I am in Hawai’i but how do I make this work? I have no family here. I don’t even have my bags.

see LET’S TALK PINOY p.12

been providing support to the Governor’s staffers charged with niche projects ranging from digital media and motion pictures to pursuing aircraft maintenance, expanding private ship maintenance, and proposing tree harvests and reforestation of former sugar lands. But as DBEDT wrote in a special 1998 edition of its quarterly report, “Virtually everyone in Hawai‘i has been impacted by the slow growth in the State’s economy over the last six years ... There were about 12,000 fewer jobs last year than in 1992 ... All of this has taken place against the backdrop of one of the strongest economic expansions in U.S. history, an expansion shared by virtually every state except Hawai‘i.”

The need to address the lagging economy was not lost on the Governor’s political circle. With little growth to show from the administration’s uncoordinated economic expansion and recruitment work, informal discussions with legislative leaders Senate President Norman Mizuguchi and House Speaker Joseph Souki, public worker union heads and the Governor’s kitchen Cabinet led to the idea of convening key stakeholders from various parts of the community to look at the fundamental structure of Hawai‘i’s economy and to propose changes.

Former House Speaker Souki recalls two early movers were State Senators Les Ihara and Carol Fukunaga: “They both approached [Senate President] Norman [Mizuguchi] and [me] on the idea—getting a cross-section of the community, bankers, hotel executives, labor, higher and lower education [stakeholders], and lawyers. With that we approached the Governor if he would be interested in being a co-chair—the other two were Norman and me. Ben bought the idea and we spent the whole summer debating economic alternatives.”

As DBEDT described the thinking, “the leaders [of the effort] recognized that major economic reforms were needed and that formulating and enacting such reforms would be possible only through a large, cooperative effort involving segments of the community knowledgeable in how Hawai‘i’s economic and business system works.” When Gov. Cayetano agreed to convene a blue-ribbon panel to recommend economic changes, Dr. Naya, along with his DBEDT deputy Brad Mossman, got tapped to support the effort. Deputy Director Mossman, equally reserved as his boss but on the younger end of middle aged, would lead the DBEDT staff support for what became the Economic Revitalization Task Force (ERTF). Bank of Hawai‘i and Castle & Cooke executive Tom Leppert and Hawai‘i Justice Foundation executive director Peter Adler were enlisted as facilitators for the Task Force. The small cadre planning the process included Lt. Gov. Mazie Hirono, Joe Blanco from the Governor’s Office, Senator Les Ihara, Sen. Mike McCartney, Director Naya and Deputy Mossman, Rep. Tom Okamura, Rep. Marcus Oshiro, Office of State Planning Director Gregory Pai and the Governor’s Chief of Staff Charles Toguchi.

Eventually, the Governor and oth-

ers in the Bishop Street boardrooms and small business centers on the neighbor islands, coaxed the participation of over two dozen fairly impressive who’s who in the island business community. The task force members included J.W.A. “Doc” Buyers from C. Brewer, John Couch from Alexander & Baldwin, Robert Clarke from Hawaiian Electric, John Reed from DFS, Charles Kawakami from Kaua‘i’s Big Save, and Barry Taniguchi from the Big Island’s KTA Superstores. From the financial sector, both Walter Dods from First Hawaiian and Larry Johnson from Bank of Hawai‘i served. Visitor Industry stalwarts Richard Kelley from Outrigger, Stanley Takahashi from Kyo-Ya Company, and Roy Tokujo from Cove Marketing participated. Labor leaders included Eusebio “Bobo” Lapenia from the ILWU, Russell Okata from HGEA, Gary Rodrigues from UPW, and Bruce Coppa from the Carpenters Union’s Pacific Resource Partnership. University of Hawai‘i President Kenneth Mortimer and Hawai‘i Pacific University President Chatt Wright also sat on main panel. Lawrence Fuller from the Honolulu

Advertiser, Stanley Hong from the Chamber of Commerce, Patricia Loui from Omnitrak Group, retired businessman Donald Malcolm, Diane Plotts, and Stephany Sofos rounded out the members besides the Governor, Senate President and House Speaker.

Along with ERTF members, working groups on specific topics were also convened. As Mossman recalls, the working groups and then the ERTF itself took several months to come up with a report. Part of the time was spent recruiting members, holding working group briefings and meetings, and then drafting recommendations for the ERTF to consider. The aim had been to hold deliberations and reach consensus in the late Fall of 1997 so that proposals could be drafted for the 1998 Legislative Session. In his autobiography, Gov. Cayetano described, “The members agreed that each recommendation had to meet two conditions: It had to be bold or, as Leppert put it, something that “flew at the 30,000-foot level,” and it had to be feasible, something that could be implemented quickly and not take years

to gain public approval.” The ERTF also agreed to operate by consensus—only proposals unanimously supported would be included in the package submitted for legislative consideration.

DBEDT in its report argued that the ERTF developed “a set of recommendations that all members considered bold, meaningful and achievable.” It also suggested “by a large margin most of the criticism appears to be from those who believe the Task Force went too far in one or more directions.” As Mossman laconically recalls, “the basic thrust was fairly radical.”

Given the expanding role of tourism in the State’s economy, the ERTF agreed on the need to address “the level and uncertainty of funding for tourism marketing and promotion.” On the heels of the first Gulf War and then the hurricane that hit the island of Kaua‘i, the post-Statehood expansion and strength of the Visitor Industry had slowed and contributed to the State’s difficulty in recapturing the rapid post-World War II economic growth. While the Holy Grail of diversification of the local

see CAYETANO p.14

HAWAII'S ECONOMY

Special Edition / March 1998

A Quarterly Report from the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism

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Hawaii's Economic Future: Proposals of the Economic Revitalization Task Force

Virtually everyone in Hawaii has been impacted by the slow growth in the State's economy over the last six years. Real production and income have grown at a snail's pace. While job losses have stabilized in the past year, there were about 12,000 fewer jobs last year than in 1992. Government tax revenues have fallen in inflation-adjusted terms. All of this has taken place against the backdrop of one of the strongest economic expansions in U.S. history, an expansion shared by virtually every state except Hawaii.

The Economic Revitalization Task Force

Against this background Governor Ben Cayetano, Senate President Norman Mizuguchi, and House Speaker Joe Souki joined with key leaders in the private sector to form the Economic Revitalization Task Force (ERTF). These leaders realized that while Hawaii faces many challenges, a strong economy is the essential foundation for dealing effectively with Hawaii's non-economic problems. Moreover, they recognized that major economic reforms were needed and that formulating and enacting such reforms would be possible only through a large, cooperative effort involving segments of the community knowledgeable in how

Hawaii's economic and business system works. For these reasons, the Task Force and its Work Groups were composed of a wide assortment of leaders from big business, small business, labor, community groups, and others.

After months of work, the ERTF developed a set of recommendations that deal with taxation, tourism, education, regulation, government efficiency, and others. The recommendations are bold and a few are controversial; yet the ERTF feels that all can be realistically implemented.

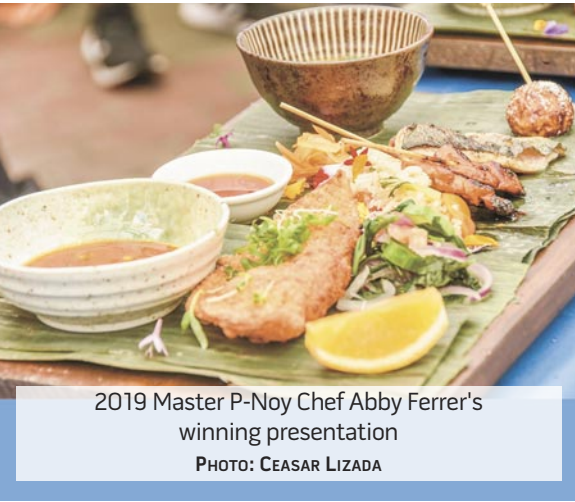
The recommendations reflect the ERTF's conclusion that continuing on our current course is unacceptable. Its package of proposals represents a remarkable consensus on sweeping reforms designed to take our fate into our own hands. Whatever one thinks of the proposals individually, the package represents a coordinated and optimistic response to the challenges facing Hawaii.

How Hawaii Arrived at this Critical Turning Point

From statehood to 1990, Hawaii's economic engine has been the marvel of the nation, with real gross state product (GSP) increasing at an annual average rate of 4.4 percent. Hawaii's non-agricultural wage and salary job count grew at 3.6

DBEDT in its report argued that the ERTF developed “a set of recommendations that all members considered bold, meaningful and achievable.”

IMAGE COURTESY GIL S.C. KEITH-AGARAN



2019 Master P-Noy Chef Abby Ferrer's winning presentation
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



2916 Master P-Noy Chef Gemsley Balagso (left)
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



A Health Fair For All
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Competing in the Speedy Balut Eating Contest®
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Councilwoman Yuki Lei Sugimura with winner of The Polvoron Challenge Eat&Tweet®
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Dance International Production performs
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



La Galería: Compañía Baile Filipino performs
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



M'g Pedring's Ice Candy cart
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Master P-Noy Chef Judges Carla Tracy, Clarita Lapus and Rod Antone
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Miss Maui Filipina Mary Basig draws the final PAL winner
PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA



Pabitin at the Fest!®
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Santo Niño Club of Maui performs
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



The Oh Wow! Parol Making Contest® on stage
PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA



The winner of the Speedy Balut Eating Contest®
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Three time Master P-Noy Chef Joey Macadangdang
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Any Kine Adobo Contest® winner
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Bayan Ko!
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Chef Abby Ferrer-the 2019 Master P-Noy Chef
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Good Shepherd Episcopal Church
Filipino Folk Dance Troupe performs
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Guest Judges during the Any Kine Adobo Contest®
PHOTO: DOMINIC SUGUITAN



Host Sharon Zalsos Banaag
PHOTO: BASILIA EVANGELISTA



Matthew Agcolicol (left) coordinated the
Pinoy Artist Contest®
PHOTO: BASILIA EVANGELISTA



Maui HS HOSA volunteers
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Mayor Michael Victorino at the
Your Name in Baybayin® booth
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Sol Solleza (2nd from left) of Philippine Airlines
awards the first trip
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



State Senator Kaiali'i Kahele helps to
demonstrate how to eat a balut
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



The Master P-Noy Chefs and the presenters
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Tinikling in Stereo—five sets of Tinikling
PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA



UHMC Kabatak Club volunteers
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



We Got History Exhibit®
PHOTO: BASILIA EVANGELISTA



Angel made her way back to the open pavilion on the beach at Waikiki. There are homeless folks here sharing the pavilion but she begins to write in her diary.

I don't know *nokarin* (where) to go or who to trust. I don't have any money but I have my health. The Filipino people are resilient and enduring. For my family's sake I will make it here and become somebody. Just how exactly do I do that?"

As the night creeps on, Angel tucks her arms into her shirt, curls up in the corner of the pavilion which is shared by two homeless men and their carts. There is also a lady. She is rocking back and forth talking to herself. Angel sinks her head into her chest to avoid the urine smells and closes her eyes. "Dear diary, day 1 in Hawai'i, not so epic. Day two, still to be determined. *Dios ti mangtaribay kanyak* (God will protect me from harm)," as she whispers herself to sleep.

It's true, Filipinos have traveled the world, endured hardship, work and living arrangements in order to find a better life. So many do so not for themselves but for their family. I remember my relatives traveling to Manila just to sell their produce. I knew people who went to Singapore or Hongkong to work as a DH (Domestic Helper) or a nanny. They go to other countries to work and take care of foreigners' houses or children and they sacrifice theirs. Even though it's not their ideal job preference, they will do it for love. Love for family. Filipinos are the most loving, selfless, and hardworking people in the world



and I am proud to be a Filipino.

Have you done any sacrifice for your family? How was it sacrificing your own happiness for the sake of someone else? Was it worth it? Did you regret it? Share your experience at www.facebook.com/FilAmVoice-Maui, we would all love to read it.

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 *makinig* (listen), and Let's Talk Pinoy!

Hanggang sa muli! (Until next time!) *Ingat!* (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.



Agnes was awarded County of Maui's Employee of the Year in November 2018.

Hayashi ... from p.6

Agnes was also very active in supportive to her children's schools: Pukalani Elementary, Kalama Intermediate, King Kekaulike High School and Seabury Hall.

Agnes received many awards and recognitions: Miss Maui Filipina 1978, Gintong Pamana Awardee 2002, County of Maui Office of the Mayor 2005 Department Team of Year, and most recently the County of Maui Department of Management 2018 Employee of the Year.

In honor of her parents, especially her father who was a *Sakada*, Agnes shared her parents' life story.

Pedro Sebastian Sales Macadang-dang was born on January 17, 1923 in Pipias, Bacarra, Ilocos Norte, Philippines to Bruno and Francisca Macadangdang. The eldest of eight children, he spent much of his youth working to help his parents to support the family and younger siblings although he very much desired to go to school. At age 14, Pedro left his home in 1937 to seek work which he found in Estrella, San Mateo, Isabela, Philippines at the Ulnagan family rice farm. He worked there for six years, and as fate would have it, it was also there that he met his wife and soul mate, Remigia Ulnagan.

In 1943, Pedro enlisted and served with the Philippines guerilla, 14th Infantry, 1st Battalion, Company A. He fought bravely during World War II for two years until 1945. After the war and returning to Bacarra, he was enticed by the Hawai'i plantation recruiters to come to Hawai'i to work in the sugar and pineapple plantations. Recognizing that America could provide for a better future, Pedro took advantage of this opportunity. Already engaged to his childhood sweetheart, Remigia "Remy" Ulnagan of Estrella, San Mateo, Isabela, Pedro left the Philippines aboard the *S.S. Maunawili* in February 1946. At 22 years old, a young, strong, tenacious Pedro arrived on the shores of Maui, in one of the last waves of our historic *Sakada* era, ready, hopeful and excited to fulfill his dreams of a better life in the land of opportunity, America.

For the first six years after his ar-

rival, Pedro lived in the Happy Valley Pi'ihana Plantation Camp with other fellow *Sakadas* and worked tirelessly in the sugar cane fields of Wailuku Sugar Company. His first job, cutting and carrying cane in the fields, started at 28 cents an hour and he worked ten-hour days. His first home in the Pi'ihana Camp was a small, wooden four room simple wooden house that he shared with up to ten other *Sakadas* at various times. They shared their food amongst them, taking turns cooking and cleaning. With pots lined up horizontally over a makeshift grill over an open fire, whoever woke first would start the fire to cook. They lived that way for two years until the sugar company provided the workers with kerosene stoves for their homes. Life was much harder than they expected with long days toiling the fields in the hot sun and living in cramped quarters with little food and few luxuries. They were just very grateful to be earning a living which they faithfully sent back home to their families in the Philippines.

1952 was a very important year for Pedro as he proudly took the oath and became a U.S. citizen. He embraced Hawai'i as his home and America his country. With this significant goal accomplished, Pedro returned to the Philippines in 1953 to propose to his sweetheart, Remigia, whom he had asked to wait for his return when he had left back in 1946, eight years prior. They were married in Isabela on February 26, 1953, with Pedro returning to Hawai'i alone to go back to work. It was not until 17 months later, when her immigration papers were finally processed that Remigia could be reunited with her husband.

In July 1954, Remigia traveled on the *U.S.S. Cleveland* to join Pedro on Maui. Together in a strange new country thousands of miles away from home, Pedro at 30 and Remigia at 25, began to build their new life. With Pedro laboring in the fields, Remy did odd jobs, doing laundry and sewing for workers, and selling vegetables house to house. Five years later, they saved enough to buy a plantation house. With remarkable grit, hope and perseverance, they endured significant challenges in their lives. Undeterred, they worked hard to make ends meet,

see HAYASHI p.18



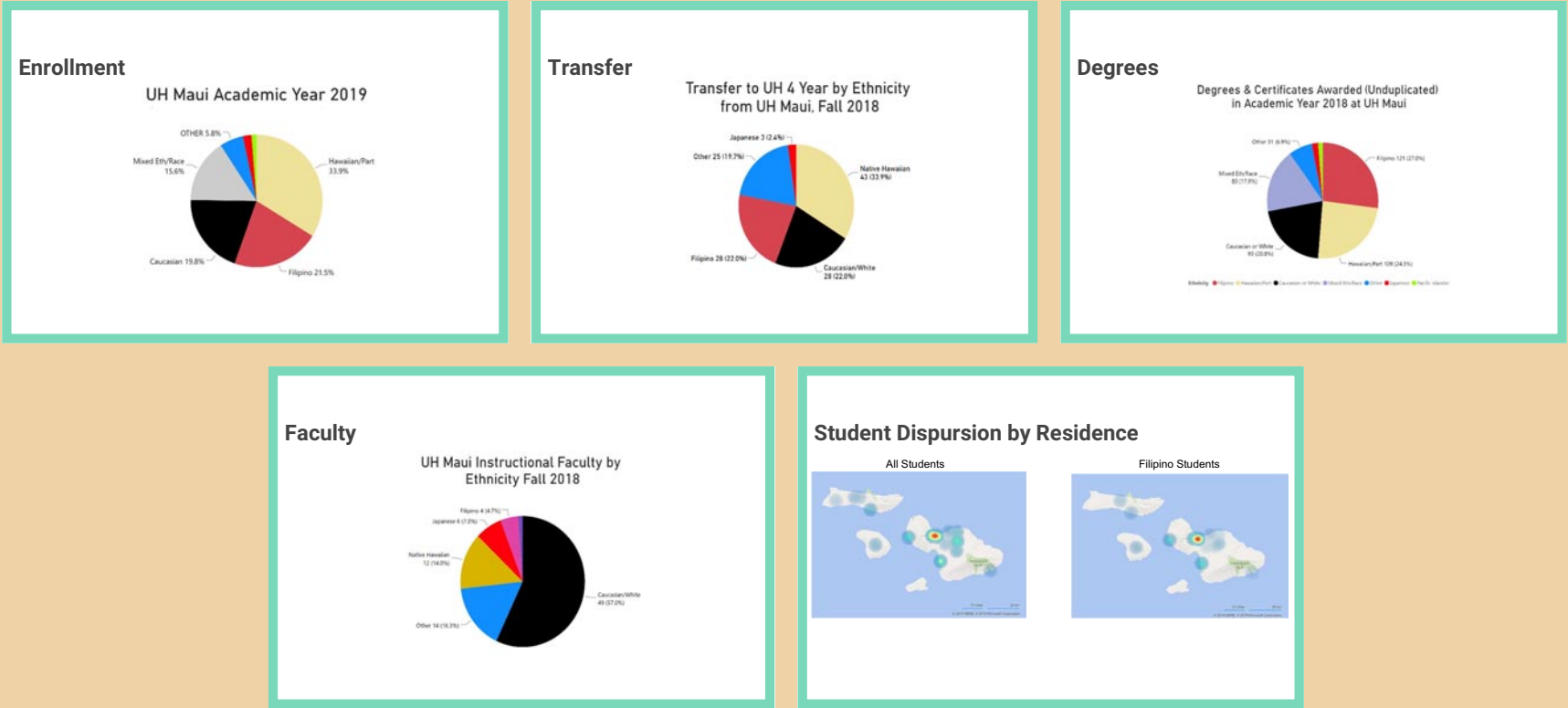
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IMAGES BY LEIGHTON VILA

Pamantasan ...

from p. 3

System have Filipino ancestry.” Keith-Agaran was one of the sponsors of SB 1418 and a member of the Senate Conference committee (representing the Senate Ways & Means committee) along with Higher Education Chair Donna Mercado Kim, who was the Senate’s lead conferee. State Representative Justin Woodson of Kahului (representing the House Lower & Higher Education committee) was one of the Conference Co-Chairs on the House side.

Act 266 states its purpose is to “provide additional resources to the University of Hawai’i *Pamantasan* Council to help the State and the University of Hawai’i meet strategic goals for access, diversity, and workforce.”

“The funding for the *Pamantasan* Council will better ensure that Filipino heritage, will perpetuate in the University of Hawai’i system not only through the comradery but also course work focused on Filipino culture and history” said Woodson.

For the past thirty-one years, the *Pamantasan* Council held an annual conference, with the 2019 Conference hosted by Hawai’i Community College and themed *Sulong Sulong* which means moving forward.

“I’ve been going to *Pamantasan* since 2011,” said UH Maui College alum JR Regalado. “What I like about the conference are the different workshops where students can choose to go based on their interest and get involved by interacting with other students from different campuses. The key note speaker, Dr. Kevin Nadal, delivered an important message that we should have more Filipinos to step up because of the need for more educational instructors to teach our fellow students here in Hawai’i and across the U.S.”

At the UH *Pamantasan* Council



31st annual *Pamantasan* Conference at Hilo Community College.
PHOTO COURTESY JR REGALADO

meeting on Maui, Maui boy Leighton Vila, who is now a Title III (Native Hawaiian) Evaluator at Windward Community College, shared some interesting statistics:

- At UH Maui College, *Filipinx* students constitute 21.9% of the student body;
- *Filipinx* students succeed academically at UH Maui College, with the second highest GPA of 3.0;
- UH Maui College’s top feeder high schools are Maui High School (117), King Kekaulike High School (54), Baldwin High School (52),

- and Lahainaluna High School (36);
- The majority of students at UH Maui College (41.0%) reside in Kahului or Wailuku;
- In Fall 2018, Native Hawaiian students were the most likely to transfer to a four-year campus (43.33.9%) followed by *Filipinx* (28.22%) and Caucasian (28.22%);
- In 2017-18, *Filipinx* students had the highest graduation rates (219, 28.9%) followed by Native Hawaiians (195, 25.8%), and Caucasian students (145, 19.2%);
- Although 22% of the student body

and nearly 30% of UH Maui College’s graduates were *Filipinx*, there are only four *Filipinx* instructional faculty (4.7%).

These statistics reveal the importance of having one of the two *Pamantasan* positions housed at UH Maui College. SB 1418 as introduced sought four positions but the Legislature approved only two. “We only got half the positions requested and only a portion of the funding in Act 266 so we’ll have to see if we can convince more of our colleagues of the need to address the disparity,” said Keith-Agaran. ✨

Mauna A Kea

Seeing each other’s points of views ...

The Rev. John A.H. Tomosot

In the Acts of the Apostles, we read in Chapter 4, verse 32: “Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common.” This citation from Holy Scripture of the New Testament is one that I have been pondering and praying about as I try to understand the current situation on Mauna Kea. As a native Hawaiian, I understand what *Na Kia’i*, the Protectors are voicing, with their actions of civil disobedience, with daily spiritual exercises and cultural protocol. A friend and colleague engaged me of what I thought about all that’s happening up there on the *Mauna*. I told him that I see what is happening “up on the *Mauna*,” as something that is not just about the TMT telescope controversy. I told him it is more than symbolic of a larger issue, one with political, economic, cultural and spiritual significance. He then asked me to look at the Acts of the Apostles. So, I’ve read Acts in its entirety twice in the last two weeks.

Mauna Kea (*Mauna a Kea*) is a significant landmark, around which an issue is growing. Mauna Kea is a part of the *āina* that is “held in common” for all of us. It is held in great esteem and reverence, as are all geographical landmarks on Maui and throughout *Hawai’i Nei*. Yet, the issue is controversial because the people of the State of Hawai’i are not of “one heart and soul” about it. Even among the Native Hawaiian community, there is no unity of thought and response. There are both “anti” and “pro” TMT folk, with each side defining a specific course of action and way forward. In all of this, I believe there is an understanding that “no one (can claim) private ownership” of such a majestic mountain. So, herein lies a challenge for all of us. Perhaps understanding, from the native and indigenous perspective, what the *Mauna* really means for Native Hawaiians, will be good for the readers of this great and ethnic publication.

Kānaka Maoli, *nā Ōiwi*, or Native Hawaiians are the Indigenous people of *Ka Pae Āina* (the Hawaiian Archipelago), *Hawai’i Nei*. For many *Kānaka Maoli*, Mauna Kea represents a oneness and connection to the natural and spiritual worlds—a sacred place and the zenith of ancestral ties to creation. The upper regions or *Wao Akua*, are the realms of *Ke Akua* (creator)

and the summit is a “Temple of the Supreme Being” in not only Hawaiian spirituality and culture but also in many histories and Polynesians throughout Polynesia. It is the home of *Nā Akua* (divine deities) and *Nā ‘Aumākua* (divine ancestors), as well as the meeting place of *Wākea*, the Sky Father and *Papahānaumoku*, the Earth Mother—progenitors of the Hawaiian people. It is also both a burial ground and the embodiment of ancestors that include *Ali’i* and *Kahuna* (high ranking chiefs and priests). Modern Native Hawaiians continue to regard Mauna Kea, indeed all *Mauna* (Mountaintops) throughout Hawai’i, with reverence and many cultural and religious practices are still performed there. In addition to sacred impor-

tance, the summit of Mauna Kea is home to nearly a hundred archaeological sites.

“This controversy highlights the struggle of an Indigenous People (Hawaiians) to preserve their sacred sites from desecration and ensure their participation in current land use issues.”

— JOHN TOMOSO

From what is written in the newspapers, by online posts, and in the broadcast media, most of us *Kababayan* are aware that there’s significant controversy surrounding the construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) on Mauna Kea. This controversy highlights the struggle of an Indigenous People (Hawaiians) to preserve their sacred sites from desecration and ensure their participation in current land use issues.

The leaders of *Na Kia’i*, the Protectors, and those who oppose TMT construction em-

phasize that they are not anti-science. Rather, they claim that Native Hawaiians were insufficiently consulted before Mauna Kea was chosen as the TMT site. Actually, this controversy goes back to the construction on Mauna Kea, of the first telescope in 1968. Further, current leaders and voices of *Na Kia’i*, the Protectors, emphasize that the building of TMT on Mauna Kea comes with serious environmental risks. They cite the cumulative impact of the TMT together with the 13 other telescopes already on Mauna Kea cause a “profoundly negative impact” on the geology and animal inhabitants of the area. From a sociological standpoint, the current controversy surrounding Mauna Kea and the TMT raise, as pointed out by several Native Hawaiian scholars, critical and perhaps painful issues of systemic dispossession, inter-generational marginalization, and discrimination.

At the end of Acts, Chapter 28, verses 25–28, the apostle Paul states
see MAUNA p.18



Cayetano executive assistant **Joseph Blanco** recounts, “Having served two terms on the UH Board of Regents, one of the lasting outcomes of the ERTF was Governor Cayetano used the power of his office to give the University of Hawai’i Constitutional Autonomy.

PHOTO COURTESY JOSEPH BLANCO

Cayetano ...

from p.9

economy could not be ignored, given the size of the Visitor Industry, the ERTF believed “tourism is also where positive changes are likely to have the largest effects.”

Given the presence of private sector businesspeople on the working groups and ERTF, recommendations were also made regarding regulatory reform—how the State pursued recognized public goals of a clean environment, safe workplaces and other health and welfare goods—and efficiency—reducing the costs of government providing services to residents and businesses.

The ERTF also looked at improving education, “the key to long-run economic success.” Recommendations were included for both the public schools and the University of Hawai’i. For the school system, the ERTF proposed County-based school boards. While education standards would be set at the State level, the means for achieving those goals would be determined at the County level. Budgeting would also be more school-based. The ERTF also proposed requiring both a second language and computer literacy with the latter supported by private sector investment in school network technology.

For the University, the ERTF included long-sought “autonomy” from legislative and executive oversight: “Restructure the University of Hawai’i into a quasi-public corporation with independent accountability.” Act 115 (1998) provided UH more autonomy. Maui upcountry Rep. David Morihara, then-House Higher Education chair, called the bill a “big win.” The bill weaned UH leaders from oversight by the state and capped UH President Mortimer’s efforts to win the university system more control over its affairs. The University Board of Trustees would be charged with determining fees without going through the process required for all other State agencies. The new law also allowed UH to hire its own lawyers rather than depend on the

Attorney General’s office.

Cayetano executive assistant Joseph Blanco recounts, “Having served two terms on the UH Board of Regents, one of the lasting outcomes of the ERTF was Governor Cayetano used the power of his office to give the University of Hawai’i Constitutional Autonomy. The governor secured support from two-thirds of the legislature to pass a constitutional amendment and then ensured that ballot initiative passed with overwhelming public support. Those efforts culminated with the passage of Act 115, which is one of the most significant milestones in the history of the University of Hawai’i.”

Finally, and at the core of the ERTF member’s discussions about the Hawai’i business climate, the Task Force raised addressing Taxation. As DBEDT described the direction, “[Hawai’i] must reform the tax structure by lowering tax rates and following other jurisdictions in moving away from taxation of income and toward the taxation of consumption.”

The ERTF proposed raising the Transient Accommodations Tax (or State Hotel Room Tax) and dedicating a portion towards tourism promotion efforts. It also proposed creating a tourism executive board with geographic representation to oversee all marketing and promotion. Act 156 (1998) would create the Hawai’i Tourism Authority, consolidating most of the state’s diverse tourism-related activities in a single entity and providing a portion of the Hotel Room Tax to fund its activities. The new law also expanded application of the hotel room tax to timeshare units.

In Mossman’s assessment two decades later, the longest scale impact from the ERTF arose from the creation of the Hawai’i Tourism Authority. The dedication of hotel room tax revenues provided resources that improved promotion, based on more research and data on markets. The changes also rationalized convention center payments. Under the more diffused situation then existing, when East Coast visitors dropped off, the different island visitor bureaus, hotels, and visitor-dependent businesses

did not have the ability to coordinate efforts to make up for the losses. The HTA was also structured to have broader representation of the visitor industry than just the Waikiki hotel leaders.

The ERTF argued for imposing timeframes on review and approval for all permits and licenses by County and State agencies. The ERTF also proposed eliminating the State Land Use Commission (LUC) and transferring its responsibilities to the Counties and the Land Board. One Cayetano sub-Cabinet appointee to the diminished Office of State Planning had accepted a LUC seat and then learned of the ERTF proposal. Eventually, the regulatory changes adopted were largely incremental. While the task forces and the ERTF looked at eliminating duplication of services—including roadway maintenance, civil defense, human services, parks operations—between the State and Counties, when studied, only modest savings were projected with costs just shifted from one jurisdiction to another. Act 230 (1998) tasked a special committee to “transform” state government’s budgeting, accounting, and procurement system, including shifting to performance-based budgeting. The same law created another special committee to foster public-private competition for state and county government services. Act 164 (1998) would impose a general requirement for automatic approval of various government approvals and permits that did not meet a time deadline for reviews.

Given the looming 1998 elections, although ERTF included both moderate-Republicans and key business executives from both major firms and small businesses, the Hawai’i GOP leadership for what the Governor and his supporters saw as clearly political reasons, opposed the ERTF tax proposals. As Mossman saw it, the ERTF effort made it harder to attack the Governor for not doing anything about the economy—instead, he proposed some fairly large changes to the way Hawai’i did business. Mossman points out that seventy percent of the ERTF recommendations passed in one form or another.

But another drawback of the Task Force was the composition of its membership. While the notion was to bring in a group knowledgeable about Hawai’i’s business climate—those most directly involved in the economy and business—the legislative process provided an avenue for protest and dissent for those left out of the formal ERTF work. Legislators also introduced measures aimed at other issues—for example, measures borrowed from Silicon Valley aimed at spurring growth of the technology sector. And as Governor Cayetano and the former legislators on his team understood, and certainly the legislative leadership, the administration proposes but it was the legislature that dis-

poses. Even with the ERTF process originating with legislative leadership, the committee system and political calculations of the individual members would also come into play. As Governor Cayetano wrote in his memoirs, “In 1998, the ERTF became too much of a risk for Democratic legislators, the majority of whom faced reelection campaigns less than a year away. The House, under Speaker Joe Souki, was still holding firm, but the Senate, under Norman Mizuguchi, had begun to waver.”

As might have been expected the tax proposals proved the most contentious. As then-House Speaker Souki recalls, “A big one was to raise the excise tax and lower the state income tax [rates].” Changes proposed included reductions in the income tax rates coupled with an increase in Hawai’i’s broadly applied general excise tax. The proposals also included creation of two low-income tax credits and cutting corporate tax rates. While the ERTF recommended hiking the GET from 4% to 4.7%, they also included an exemption for exported services with a Use Tax on imported services. Act 157 (1998) provided income tax relief by reducing tax rates over a four-year period and by

establishing a low-income tax credit. Act 71 (1999), adopted in the post-election session, followed up with de-pyramiding the General Excise Tax by reducing the GET assessment on wholesale sales of services.

The income tax reductions eventually adopted by the 1998 legislature allowed Governor Cayetano (and his legislative allies) to rightly claim passage of the largest tax cut in the State’s history. The GET proposals failed due in large part to an outcry regarding the regressive impact of the proposed hike—lower income people paid more of their resources for goods and services subject to the GET—even though a fairly large proportion of the GET was exported to and borne by island visitors. As Governor Cayetano recounted in his memoirs, the public sector union leaders wanted any tax changes to be revenue neutral. Any drastic reduction in revenues would have limited government leaders choices in balancing operating budgets and likely impacting future collective bargaining negotiations.

The Task Force also raised the need to address Hawaiian claims and self-determination, although it admitted that the ERTF effort “might be counterproductive to make specific recommendations at this point.” Other than a tepid statement noting the need to address those long-standing historical wrongs, the ERTF made no specific proposals towards addressing the issues.

The ERTF members and supporters mounted a PR campaign in favor of the tax recommendations and some even organized some sign waving around the Capitol. Neither effort was met with much enthusiasm by the

general public. “Privately, I knew we had lost the public relations battle,” the Governor recalled in his memoirs. “My heart went out to Leppert and the other ERTF members who had attended meeting after meeting and spent countless hours trying to explain the proposal.” But Governor Cayetano and his administration persisted, adapting as the legislature reacted to the public lobbying on the various measures. He would call on the legislature to extend the session to continue negotiations over a number of the ERTF-related bills, including taxation, civil service reform and privatization. Near the end of the session, he proposed de-coupling the income tax reductions from the GET increases, allowing the controversial consumption tax portion of the ERTF tax restructuring to die.

The ERTF package allowed the legislators to return to their districts tout-ing some significant changes aimed at improving the islands and resulted in most winning re-election. “Most of the recommendations passed the legislature and became law,” Speaker Souki notes, “Except for the raising of the excise tax, however the legislature led by the Governor lowered the state income tax.” But Souki noted that in retrospect, simply reducing income taxes proved costly, resulting in a two billion-dollar deficit some years later. “Trickle down theory does not work,” Souki ruefully observes.

In some observers’ view, the ERTF process eventually led to some casualties among the legislative champions of

the effort—Speaker Souki would lose his leadership position to his Finance Committee Chair Calvin Say, supported by newer members critical of the aborted GET proposal and the perceived heavy-handedness of the House leadership and President Mizuguchi would lose enough allies to also step down. However, the Task Force work helped Governor Cayetano blunt the main argument of his GOP opponent in the 1998 election. Maui Mayor Linda Lingle argued that change was needed; Cayetano could say he had been actually working to make changes and had won some of the changes promising better days ahead. As one of his official biographies later recounted, “confronted with a storm of criticism and opposition from factions opposed to his proposed reforms, Governor Cayetano nevertheless implemented civil service reform, reduced the size and growth of the state government to less than the rate of inflation, pushed through and implemented one of the biggest reduction of state taxes in the nation at the time, built a record number of public schools and homes for native Hawaiian homesteaders, constructed a new

state convention center to boost tourism, a new state art museum and began construction of a new medical school-research center for the University of Hawai’i.” ✨

Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran served in the Cayetano Administration. He presently is the State



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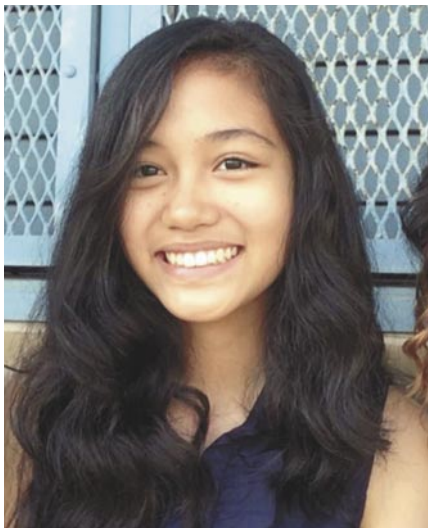
At Whalers Village in Kā'anapali



Breanna Taguchi



Angeline Cayetano



Luzcilla Roflo



One of the world’s oldest holidays celebrated on October 31 is Halloween. It is easily one of the most popular holidays in America today. Today, people celebrate Halloween through various activities such as children going from house to house “trick-or-treating,” parades, bobbing for apples, and other family-friendly activities. However, the origins of Halloween can be traced

Much like Latin culture, the Philippines assimilated to the many traditions brought over by the Spanish conquistadors. Filipinos are not prominent on the trick-or-treating aspect of Halloween but rather honor departed members of families during *Undas*. It is the Philippines term for celebrating both All Saints’ Day on November 1 and All Souls’ Day on November 2. About a week before Halloween, an

intensive cleaning process begins in the cemeteries that hold our loved ones. Graves receive fresh coats of paint, the grass cut, shrubs trimmed, paths swept, and graveyards are now beautified. These

are some tasks required to prepare the cemetery for mass visits that occur on the 1st and second of November. By November 1, people who come to pay respect to their beloved dead flood the cemeteries. Since the Philippines is a predominantly Catholic nation, this event is very significant to Filipinos. It becomes a mini-reunion where relatives unite in honoring their deceased by visiting them and reminiscing the life they lived. Most families bring flowers, light candles and say a prayer when paying respect. Others stay longer; some even bring food and other items that will keep them out of boredom, especially when bringing kids.

Breanna Taguchi’s favorite part about Halloween is getting to spend time with her beloved family and seeing the fantastic and creative costumes they decide to wear. Some of her favorite Halloween rituals are trick-or-treating, carving pumpkins and so many more. Now that she’s older, she doesn’t celebrate Halloween as much; for example, Breanna doesn’t go trick-or-treating or dressing up in costumes anymore. However, she is a believer in everything dealing with mythical creatures or ghosts. Breanna said, “I believe that anything could be out there and I’ve always left that part of my mind to explore the possibilities of new things.” A scary story or superstition she still believes today would be the black cat. “I used to hear about Halloween when I was little was that if you were to see a black cat that it was a sign of bad luck or that something terrible would happen to you. I used to go trick-or-treating and always look out for black cats and it used to

freak me out. The story is similar to a story about Friday the 13th and the superstition of the black cat,” she said.

Angeline Cayetano likes dressing up for Halloween in various costumes because she loves being the one with a unique outfit. One of her favorite Halloween rituals is carving a pumpkin. However, this tradition changed from when she was little because her family doesn’t have time to buy a pumpkin and cut it anymore. When it comes to the supernatural, Angeline is a firm believer of the other side but she believes in her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. When she feels uneasy about a particular location or with people, she prays to Jesus to bring her comfort. One of the bedtime stories told to Angeline by her parents was of a boogeyman. She said, “I remember my Mom always telling me the boogeyman is in the closet and if I don’t brush my teeth after Halloween, the boogeyman will come out and take away my teeth.”

Luzcilla Roflo said, “My favorite part of Halloween is everyone’s spirit because everyone’s all full of life and are having fun.” When she was little, she would dress up every year and go around the neighborhood to trick or treat. In contrast, now she doesn’t really dress up and go out anymore but sometimes Luzcilla accompanies her little brother to go around her neighborhood and sometimes Maui Lani to trick-or-treat. Growing up in the Philippines, she’s learned of monsters like *tikbalang* and *manananggal* and up to this day she believes in them but

why I used to be scared to go out at night without an adult with me.”

Much like every other holiday such as Christmas and New Year’s Eve, the way people celebrate Halloween has changed significantly. What once was an annual event filled with superstitions and supernatural beliefs, it is now a family-centered and kid-friendly holiday that mocks the spiritualistic idealism of the medieval era. Originating from Europe, its influence has spread into different corners of the world. Various countries have created and developed their twists and flavor into the annual holiday. In the United States, people go door to door, house



Luzcilla Roflo believes *Manananggal* only exist in the Philippines.

IMAGE: BY GIAN BERNAL - OWN WORK, CCO, [HTTPS://COMMONS.WIKIMEDIA.ORG/W/INDEX.PHP?CURID=16069107](https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=16069107)

to house to ask for sweets, an activity called trick-or-treating. In Latin America and Asia, the living dance and party with the dead at their final resting place. From the bright, orange, ghoulish carved pumpkins to the cavity-inducing treats, Halloween is a holiday that welcomes all of its celebrants no matter the age, gender, or culture. ✱

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.



Google® Is Not Everything...

Pumpkins, Sweets, & Spirits.

Ghenesis Jhay Balaan | MAUI HIGH SCHOOL

back 2000 years back to the ancient Celtic festival known as *Samhain* celebrated the night before November 1. On the night before *Samhain*, the veil separating the world between the dead and the living would be lifted. Spirits could walk the earth once again as ghosts or spirits. Food and wine were everyday things that people would leave on their doorsteps to keep the spirits at bay. They would also wear masks as a form of disguise in hopes of fooling the roaming spirits that they were fellow ghosts. The Christian Church turned *Samhain* into All Saints Day or All Hallows Day in the 8th century, which later became shortened to Halloween.

In Latin America, Halloween has a different name, *Día de Los Muertos* originated in Mexico. *Día de Los Muertos* is also known as the Day of the dead. It takes place on the first and second days of November. The Mexican custom combines an indigenous Aztec ritual with Catholicism brought to the region by Spanish conquistadors. *Día de Los Muertos* is a celebration of the lives of the deceased in addition to celebrating with food, drinks, and activities the dead enjoyed in life. Families clean and decorate grave sites of loved ones. Most homes contain an *ofrenda* or small altar honoring people from the family who’ve passed away. Some of the popular symbols of *Día de Los Muertos* are *calacas* and *calaveras* (skeletons and skulls). They are decorative pieces in sweets, dolls, and parade masks. Based on popular belief, on *Día de Los Muertos*, the dead awakens from their eternal sleep and walk amongst the living and celebrate with them.

Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas: Family Fun Holidays Just Around the Corner

Liza of “A Maui Blog”

The period of time from October to December is a time of many holidays across many cultures. The popular well-known ones here in the U.S. are Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas. These three family fun holidays are just around the corner. Let’s talk story about them:

1. **Halloween.** When I was growing up in the Philippines, we didn’t do any Halloween parties or festivals. We didn’t put on costumes or go out for trick-or-treats. What I remember most was going to the cemetery on All Saints Day to remember our loved ones who passed away. However, when I recently visited the Philippines, I noticed that they (mostly kids) now wear costumes and go out for trick-or-treats (particularly in big malls and shopping centers).

For Filipinos who were born and grew up here in the U.S., celebrating Halloween is as natural as celebrating Thanksgiving and Christmas. Don’t you think so? I went to Walmart this weekend and saw tons of costumes for sale! I must admit, it is fun seeing kids in costumes (okay; fun to see adults in costumes too). Are you dressing up this Halloween? Are you going out trick-or-treating or staying at home giving treats?

2. **Thanksgiving.** Does your family celebrate Thanksgiving here on Maui? Even though we don’t celebrate Thanksgiving in the Philippines because it is an American Holiday, it is customary for Filipinos here in the U.S. to celebrate Thanksgiving as well. We take this opportunity to gather family and friends, eat bountiful and delicious meals together, and express gratitude for the many blessings we have in our lives.

Filipinos on Maui celebrate Thanksgiving *Fil-Am* style. Al-

though there are traditional American Thanksgiving food such as Turkey and Pumpkin Pies, the food spread is always mixed with Filipino dishes such as *Pancit*, *Adobo*, and even *Lechon* and *Leche Flan*. In many gatherings, the Filipino families end up bustin’ out the *Karaoke* and doing sing-alongs.

3. **Christmas.** Ahh, I would dare say that Christmas is the Filipinos’ favorite holiday. Okay, maybe not every Filipino, but most. As I mentioned in one of my previous columns here in the *Fil-Am Voice*, many of us Filipinos start celebrating Christmas when the *BER* months start, which starts in *SeptemBER*. Part of it is because we didn’t celebrate Halloween and Thanksgiving back in the Philippines. All we think about is Christmas.

One example of this is the recent *Oh Wow! Parol Making Contest®* held during the Maui Fil-Am Heritage Festival® at the Queen Ka’ahumanu Center that was recently held on Saturday Oct. 12. The *Parol Making Contest* is in preparation for the Christmas celebration. We didn’t have an activity focused on Halloween or Thanksgiving, did we? Nope. There were many activities during the Maui Fil-Am Heritage Festival and the one holiday oriented on was Christmas. *Parol* is part of our Christmas tradition and I was very pleased to see the enthusiastic participation of many contestants in the *parol* making contest.

We will talk more about Christmas in our December issue but while you are reading this I am curious have you started decorating your house for Christmas yet? Have you set up your Christmas tree yet? Have you started buying gifts for your loved ones for Christmas? I bet some of you already have.



While the Maui Fil-Am Heritage Festival® is in October, the one Holiday it includes is Christmas because it includes the Oh Wow! Parol Making Contest®. PHOTO: LIZA PIERCE



The first place winner. PHOTO: LIZA PIERCE

Christmastime is the most wonderful time of the year. Yes, we may be biased but it is part of our Filipino culture. We are into Christmas and I would say there is nothing wrong with that. Do you agree? ✨

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 Corp.



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Appointments on Maui or O’ahu



Kānaka Maoli currently encamped on the Mauna meet the needs of other transiently residing Native Hawaiians in the vicinity.
PHOTO: SHERRY APPLE ITLIONG

Mauna ...

from p. 14

to the believers gathered around him, "The Holy Spirit was right in saying to your ancestors through the prophet Isaiah, 'Go to this people and say, you will indeed listen, but never understand, and you will indeed look, but never perceive. For this people's heart has grown dull, and their ears are hard of hearing, and they have shut their eyes; so that they might not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and understand with their heart and turn ... that this salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles; they will listen.'" So, in July of this year, 34 Kūpuna (Elders) were arrested for peaceful obstruction of the government road leading to the site of TMT construction. Younger Na Kia'i, Protectors chanted and cried as Kūpuna were carried or taken away in wheel-chairs. I believe these arrests underscored the power of the state government to enforce western property rights while at the same time disrespecting Elders, who are the traditional "wisdom keepers" of Kānaka Maoli.

To those protecting Mauna Kea, these encounters confirmed that social justice issues cannot be resolved by majority laws and rules but rather require community advocates and purposeful, non-violent civil disobedience. To those who are pro-TMT, these encounters challenge their sensibilities that nothing should impede what the courts and governmental actions have already should be the way to proceed. Thus, there is a chronic strain

on our cultural and civic realities. It is, as Paul states in Acts 28:25–27, a reality where "the Holy Spirit was right in saying to your ancestors through the prophet Isaiah, 'Go to this people and say, you will indeed listen, but never understand, and you will indeed look, but never perceive. For this people's heart has grown dull, and their ears are hard of hearing, and they have shut their eyes; so that they might not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and understand with their heart and turn ...'" Turning to Mauna Kea, and gazing upon her

looming presence in our horizon, I pray that both sides, indeed all sides, look and listen and hear and come together, to wisely understand that there is a way out of this stress and strain. ✨

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. Tomosot was gradu-

ated 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, Tomosot 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.



Agnes Hayashi's family sat for this photo with her mom and dad.
PHOTO: COX PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO

Hayashi ...

from p.12

determined to provide for their family that had grown to five over the following six years with the births of three daughters, Lydia, Ruby and Agnes.

Pedro worked faithfully for the Wailuku Sugar Company for 39 years until he retired in 1985 doing various jobs in different areas of the company. Starting with the back-breaking job of harvesting the sugar cane in the fields, he then progressed to the Wailuku Sugar Mill where he started out first picking stones from the machines to prevent breakage, to overseeing the machine operations, then becoming trained as a heavy equipment operator and later advancing to Mill Crew Chief. After eight years working in the sugar mill, in 1955 he transferred to the Waihe'e Farm (known as Waihe'e Dairy), a subsidiary of Wailuku Sugar Company. He worked at the dairy for fifteen years until it closed, milking cows, advancing to pasteurizing and bottling milk, and making other dairy products like ice cream, yogurt and cream cheese.

In 1970, Pedro returned to Wailuku Sugar Company working at the Sugar Mill for a brief time, then moved to the Mill Machine Shop. He was found to be mechanically inclined and adept at the equipment repairs and construction projects for the plantation. Having previous experience as a heavy equipment operator, he was a quick learner in becoming familiar with all of the other heavy machinery. Wailuku Sugar Company sent him to night classes at the Maui Community College where he received training in welding, machinery and blueprint reading. Pedro loved this opportunity to attend classes at the college and took as many as were afforded him by the company. This furthered his advancement at his job, which led to his last promotion to Machine Shop Crew Chief which he held until his retirement in 1985. Pedro's retirement at 63, after 39 years, was prompted with the diagnosis of a brain tumor. Pedro underwent a major and difficult surgery for its removal and by

God's grace, he fully recovered. Committed to also helping his family back in the Philippines, Pedro encouraged them all to join him in America. He first sponsored and petitioned his mother and two younger sisters in the late 1960's and provided financial help with their education here in Hawai'i. He continued to reach out to more siblings, his wife's family and other relatives over the years. There are now Macadangdangs dotted across the country in California, Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Texas, and Nevada, in addition to Hawai'i. Pedro wanted his mother and siblings to also have the opportunity to build a better life and wanted to ensure that possibility by providing that bridge to America for them.

Integral to Pedro and Remy's family life, was their unwavering faith and trust in God in all things, big and small, regardless of the degree of challenge and difficulty. Pedro was dedicated to serving his parish, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, for over 50 years, since 1965. He devotedly served the Church as Junior Warden, Senior Warden and vestry member. A favorite past-time for Pedro was reading devotions from his Ilocano Bible.

Pedro was also enthusiastic about being involved in the Filipino community. Being thousands of miles away from his native country, perpetuating the Filipino culture was important. Maintaining the Bayanihan spirit of fellowship and support, which he grew up with in the Philippines and had been critical in his survival during his first years in the plantation camp, he wanted to nurture that value. He and Remigia were active in Maui's very first Barrio Fiesta held in 1970 and in the decades that followed. Pedro was also a member of the United Bacarreños of Maui and Saranay Maui, which were integral support groups for the Sakadas to stay and help each other in times of need. Pedro's and Remigia's appreciation of the Filipino culture and heritage had a profound impact on the Macadangdang family, imparting a sense of pride as daughter Lydia was Miss Barrio Fiesta 1973, daughter Agnes was Miss Maui Filipina 1978 and granddaughter



In July 1954, Remigia traveled on the USS *Cleveland* to join Pedro on Maui. Shown in the photo on the right are the newlywed couple in Wailuku, Maui.



Pedro and Remigia honored as Ama and Ina, with Mayor Alan and Ann Arakawa.

Celina was Miss Hawai'i Filipina 2009.

Pedro also enjoyed various hobbies, activities that sustained his family and helped his community. While working at Wailuku Sugar, he and Remigia managed a small farm and garden, raising their own livestock and fruits and vegetables. In the early years, the neighbors, close family friends and relatives often gathered at the Macadangdang home where they would collaboratively engage in backyard slaughtering of pigs, goats and cows. It was a way for them all to feed their families and make ends meet on their frugal earnings. Pedro was also skilled in the old Filipino tradition of massaging with heat and ginger and was often visited in the evenings to give massages to those injured, ministering in the healing of sprains and broken bones. In his later years, he loved to play Bingo with his friends at Hale Makua and Hanafuda with his daughters and grandchildren.

Pedro enjoyed going to the beach with his wife and children, to swim, picnic, pick limu and collect shells which he and Remigia would use in creating elaborately detailed decorative wall hangings for their home. Pedro was an avid fan of watching boxing and wrestling matches. Following his retirement from Wailuku Sugar, Pedro's and Remigia's hobby of vegetable gardening also flourished and quickly expanded into a vegetable farming business. Through Maui Economic Opportunity, he played a vital role in the early development and pilot stages of MEO's herb farming and export, and aqua-farming program for Senior citizens in the 1980's. To his wife's chagrin, Pedro was also known as "bog diy" a do it yourself kind of a guy, enlisting his grandson Wesley from the early age of 8 to help him with roof repairs, rock wall building, painting, plumbing, toilet installation, you name it, Pedro would first try to repair it himself.

Pedro and Remigia traveled quite extensively, especially after retirement. Besides mainland visits to Washington, Oregon, California and Las Vegas with family, they also traveled abroad to Hongkong, Mainland China, Holland, England, France, Switzerland and Italy, and returned to the Philippines on several occasions to visit relatives and to sightsee.

Pedro highly valued education and regarded it as the answer to improving one's position in life. When asked, Pedro would always say his most significant accomplishment was having his three children and five grandchildren pursue and obtain college degrees. Working multiple back-breaking jobs at a time, as unskilled laborers, it was purely by Pedro's and Remigia's sacrifice that they provide for their children and grandchildren. Their love and devotion to their family were recognized in 2013 with the "Outstanding Ama At Ina Award" (outstanding father and mother of the year award) by Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center.

Pedro Sebastian Sales Macadangdang went home to Our Heavenly Father on August 29, 2018 at Hale Makua, Kahului at age 95. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife Remigia whom he married for 64 years, his parents, Bruno and Francisca Macadangdang and his brothers Dolpho and Andres.

This writer would like to share this very heartwarming and touching testimony of Agnes Macadangdang Hayashi, a tribute to her family and especially to her parents, Pedro and Remigia Macadangdang.

"My parents' passing in the last few years was a difficult reminder of the fragility of life. For 28 years of my adult life, they were just a 'jump in the car, a few minutes drive' away and we were in touch. I had grown accustomed to their casual drop ins, frequent food drop offs and our weekend dinner gatherings. For the last 28 years, we celebrated our birthdays together.

"While I am still adjusting to their physical absence, I am also experiencing the grateful realization of how blessed I am to have had the opportunity to live on Maui and be near to them for 28 years. I thank my husband, Duane, for having the wisdom, compassion and foresight to bring us back to Maui 29 years ago from California.

"Recalling those early memories, I remember that it was not my first choice at the time to move to Maui. Coming back to Hawai'i jobless, the obvious choice was Oahu. With greater potential not only in the number of jobs available but also in the level of responsibility that our careers had progressed to on the mainland, the logical decision

should have been Oahu, at least in my opinion.

"Duane, however, was of different mindset. He was persistent and adamant even though his own Dad was living on O'ahu; he felt it was more important for us to be here for my parents as they aged, regardless of the limited job prospects on Maui. Especially since no other family lived on Maui with both of my older sisters having settled on the mainland, there was no easy answer. Struggling with doubt and anxiety, we stepped out in faith.

"It was not without challenges nor did it happen overnight but over time

and with patience, we are blessed beyond measure having 28 years with Dad and Mom. Our fears for jobs were felt but fortunately, were short lived. To our pleasant surprise, we found gainful employment with Duane at Maui Electric and me at Maui Land & Pineapple Company in professional financial capacities. No doubt, we experienced our fair share of challenges with major illness, loss of loved ones and the everyday struggles that come with the fullness of life in raising three children and having demanding careers. More importantly, however, my parents richly filled

see HAYASHI back page

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Pedro and Remigia with their five grandchildren.

Hayashi ...

from p.19

our lives and our children's lives with their love, kindness and generosity, sharing in our burdens with quiet understanding and unconditional support. My children were availed the unique experience of growing up in a close knit and loving supportive multi-generational, multi-cultural family environment. I cannot imagine now how our lives might have been had we not come back to Maui.

My parents not only helped care for my children, they taught them Filipino customs, exposed them to the authentic foods and language, imparted life lessons and of course, spoiling them at every opportunity. More importantly, by their example, my children learned so much more than from what Duane and I taught them.

Duane and I, and our children Wesley, Celina and Thomas feel truly blessed and are very grateful for our Father and Grandfather, Pedro. A Sakada, he was among those that established our community here in Hawai'i in the face of struggle and adversity.

Together with my mother Remigia, my parents' courage and sacrifices, like that of other Sakadas, paved the way for many. With the simple, yet significant commitment of making a better life for their family, Pedro and Remigia bore the weight of the future on their shoulders to unselfishly provide opportunities for future generations.

Now that my children are young adults, I clearly see my parents' legacy of strength, perseverance and grit in them. Without speaking a word, my parents imparted the meaning of God and family, and instilled in us the importance of integrity, humility, and hard work. Their strong marriage and love for each other fueled their perseverance through the hardships, and their devotion to family allowed us access to opportunities that they were denied themselves. In realizing the challenges that confronted them, is to know the depth and breadth of their love for

their family.

My father Pedro and my mother Remigia were role models of character, with strong work ethics, integrity and devotion to serving God. By their sheer courage, faith and steadfast determination, they set cornerstone for the solid foundation of the Macadangdang family, the foundation that our family's future generation can securely build on. My heart swells with overwhelming pride for my Father and Mother for all that they accomplished given their life circumstances of having so little education and being foreigners in a new country.

"My heart swells with overwhelming pride for my Father and Mother for all that they accomplished."

It is with grateful heart that I thank our Heavenly Father for blessing me with my loving parents Pedro and Remigia Macadangdang, my patient and supportive husband Duane and our three wonderful children, Wesley, Celina and Tommy. I praise God for directing Duane's and my paths 29 years ago to bring our family home to Maui and be able to live those precious moments with my parents. In all of these, I see the work of His loving and mighty hand. Without grace, none of this would have been possible.

My parents' life and Sakada journey is truly a testament of unconditional love, perseverance, grit and endurance. In loving memory and respect, I strive to perpetuate this in their honor with deep pride in my identity as a Filipino American and especially as a Sakada offspring. ✨

Lucy Peros is a retired teacher. She taught at St. Anthony Grade School and Waihe'e Elementary School. Both her parents, Elpidio Cabalo (a 1946 Sakada) and Alejandra Cabalo of Hali'imaile worked for Maui Land and Pine Company. She is now enjoying retirement. She now has time to join the other seniors at the Enhance Fitness Program under the Department of Aging three times a week, attend the line dancing class and other activities at Kaunoa, and joins the other Waihe'e School retirees when help is needed at the school.



Lucy also devotes some of her time to activities at Christ The King Catholic Church. She enjoys writing and reading in her spare time.