



Lee Is In Once Again
After more than a decade, Lee takes on leadership role in Council.
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Where True Love Waits
Sometimes, we think our first will be our one-and-only ...
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With Binding Roots
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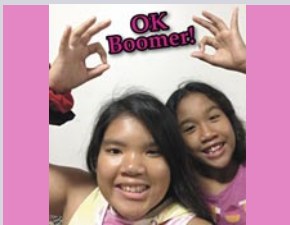


Fil-Am Voice

Magkaisa Tayong Lahat | “Let Us All Unite”

January 2020 • Vol 4 No 1 | **FILIPINO AMERICAN VOICE • UPLIFTING OUR COMMUNITY | FREE**

inside



Boomer, Uncle or Aunt? Dinengdeng and Pinakbet explores the issue.
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Alice Lee

The new chairperson of the County Council aims to work together.
Vanessa Joy Domingo



In mid-December 2019, Kelly King announced her resignation as chairperson of the Maui County Council in order to lead the new committee on climate change and spend more time with her family. A week later, in a 7–2 vote, Councilmember Alice Lee was elected as the Council's new Chairperson.

The Council chamber is anything but new to Councilmember Alice Lee. She sits comfortably in this environment, eager to continue serving Maui County as she has done before. Lee was a former Maui County Councilmember from 1989–1999 (including time as a former Council Chair in 1995) and continued her work as a Director of the Department of Housing and Human Concerns from 1999 through 2006. By then, she thought her career in Maui politics had concluded. However, after 12 years in “retirement,” she found her way back towards the Maui County Council when she announced her intent to seek the Wailuku seat in order to bring unity and collaboration back to the council.

Despite her role as the new Council Chairperson, the agenda for the Council hasn't

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Love ... Better the Second Time Around

Alfredo G. Evangelista | ASSISTANT EDITOR

In a few weeks, it will be time.

Nope, I'm not talking about the Super Bowl (how can it be Super if my Raiders aren't in it or my wife's Seahawks?) And I'm definitely not talking about Ground Hog Day on February 2. Nor Shrove Tuesday aka Malassadas Day on February 25.

Yup, I'm talking about Valentine's Day. Uh huh, where you taking your other half for dinner? Jollibee's? (If you haven't heard, they're now open in Kahului.) In case you're completely clueless, February 14 is Valentine's Day and yes, it's a commercial holiday—cards, flowers (or lei), chocolates, gifts, and dinner. I guess Jollibee's can be romantic but my suggestion is checking Open Table NOW! to

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FREE



Nora and Craig with Mom.
PHOTO COURTESY NORA TAKUSHI



Nora and Craig (above) during their Marriage Encounter weekend.
PHOTO COURTESY NORA TAKUSHI



Nora and Craig (right) with Bishop Larry Silva.
PHOTO COURTESY NORA TAKUSHI



Nora and Craig (above) on their wedding day.
PHOTO COURTESY NORA TAKUSHI



Nora and at their wedding with sister Lani, daughters and son.
PHOTO COURTESY NORA TAKUSHI



Nora and Craig (above) with their family.
PHOTO COURTESY NORA TAKUSHI

2nd Time ...

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make your reservations ... and guys, find a place with awesome desserts—whether it's *halo halo*, Kona mud pie topped with Screwball, or my favorite, soufflés! (IMHO, the best soufflé is the

Grand Marnier souffle from Four Seasons that is off the menu and requires a twenty-four hour reservation.)

Not to be insensitive (I can hear it now, the commercialization of Valentine's Day doesn't take into account the sadness felt by those who are unmarried) but Valentine's Day is really for those who are in love—or trying to be.

And then again, there are several of us, who were not successful the first time around but Love is better the second time around. (Oh yeah, I'm aware of a few who have had multiple attempts.) I'm sure the Hallmark Channel will feature quite a few of the second marriage love stories in the next few days.

When Nora Cabanilla moved to California for school in 1978, little did she expect that she would meet her future husband—a Maui boy—in California through her blonde, blue eyed sorority sister. Her sorority sister invited Nora to her dad's 50th birthday party because she wanted Nora to meet her cousin, who would pick her up. "On the day of the party, the door bell rang and I looked through the peep hole. I told myself I was not going and would pretend I wasn't home," said Cabanilla. "I was so scared because there was this 5' 8", 235 pounds, local boy with a full on beard (like Santa) and a dark tan—and he was wearing shorts, a tank top t-shirt, and rubba slippas while I was decked out in a nice dress. But he looked at me and reassured me with a smile I wasn't overdressed, saying 'Nah, no need you okay.'"

Cabanilla's fears increased when she saw his vehicle—a van. "I stopped walking and refused to go with him, thinking 'Oh, my God. I'm going to die ... in LA!' But he opened the door, held my hands to help me and I felt something different—he was warm and gentle like a brother. We talked about Maui and he knew my cousin Lawrence who owned the service station in Lahaina and I learned he, Craig Takushi, went to Maui High School with my cousins. At the party, Craig never ignored me or left me alone with strangers, he watched over me like a big brother."

In the 70s local music artists like Cecilio & Kapono and Kalapana would bring locals together to appreciate their Hawai'i roots. Nora and Craig learned that both loved Cecilio & Kapono so Nora felt safe and comfortable with Craig. And when Craig

brought Nora home, Craig gave Nora a hug—normal for local kids—and a kiss! "He gave me a kiss not on my cheeks but on my lips and I was furious," recalls Nora, thinking Craig had guts to do that. Nora rushed out without even saying good night. "Craig did call the next day to apologize, saying he usually doesn't do that kind of stuff but he couldn't help himself that night," said Nora. "And that was the beginning of our friendship which included dinners with friends, giving me rides to the airport when I came home, going bowling, and we even went to a C&K concert."

Craig developed feelings for Nora and told Nora's friend Nilda that Craig had feelings for Nora but he remembered what Nora had told him, albeit Nora doesn't recall saying "I don't date local boys." Craig returned home to Maui after four years while Nora stayed in California. They would see each other during the summer or Christmas, hang out on occasion, or see each other at the Foxy Lady disco in the Royal Lahaina Hotel. "I would see him with his friends and he would come over to talk me and give me a hug but no kiss because he was with someone," says Nora. "I was happy for him but a little sad because I lost a good friend. Years later, I came home to get married and found out Craig was going through a divorce."

Ten years later, Nora had a life change herself, and was a single mother with two beautiful girls when lo and behold she ran into her best friend. "It was like a reunion because it felt like we never lost touch. He was there again, like a brother, that year I lost my Dad too, so it was a difficult time for me but Craig would call, we would stay up all night talking on the phone and he would hear me crying. The next day, I received a beautiful floral arrangement at school that said 'Just to brighten your day. Love, Craig.' I smiled and thanked the Lord for sending me a good friend." Craig and Nora would rekindle their friendship by go-

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Lee ...

from p. 1

changed. “The Council’s priorities are pretty much the same as when we first started the term one year ago.” says Lee. “And that is—we are committed to providing more workforce housing. That’s one of the top priorities. The second priority is to reduce the amount of homelessness on Maui because that’s a horrible problem that we are dealing with and have been dealing with for years. But we need to dial up our efforts. And then of course, ensure that our economy is stable, so people have employment opportunities. When we talk about priorities, it’s really the community’s priorities.”

The changeover into her new role was unexpected but she stands ready to take the helm and lead the Council. “Our residents feel that we have fallen behind and they are correct,” Lee states. “We have fallen behind in providing enough infrastructure but that also ties into the amount of revenues we have.” To remedy this, Vice Chair Rawlins-Fernandez put together a temporary investigative group to look at revisions in the tax code. “One of the things we’ve come up with is that we will be using tiers—particularly with owner occupant and non-owner

occupant groups to ensure that the less disadvantaged folks on Maui aren’t contributing as much higher percentage of their income towards taxes. We are not finished with our work in the area of tax reform but we really don’t start making our decisions until April or May. We’ve done a lot of outreach to get input and ideas from residents.”

Other projects on hand include addressing the increasing rate of the visitor industry and tourism and the formation of the new Committee of Climate Change and Resiliency. Lee hopes to ask the tourist industry to effectively use grants to educate tourists that visit Maui to practice alertness and safety. At times warning signs posted on Maui’s beaches go unheeded. “People tend to not read the signs. It becomes very dangerous when they ignore all the warning signs because our waters can be very unpredictable. Things happen in the ocean. We believe the visitor industry is beginning to step up to the responsibility of educating people that are coming through to the islands.” She does agree that there is a need for Ocean Safety officers to be allocated to more popular areas but the County has been restricted to what they can afford to have on staff. For the future, she would like to avoid the County being

“... we are committed to providing more workforce housing. The second priority is to reduce the amount of homelessness on Maui ...”

– ALICE LEE

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Alice Lee was elected as the Council's new Chairperson. The Council chamber is anything but new to Councilmember Alice Lee. PHOTO COURTESY ALICE LEE



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From the Editor's Desk

Vince Bagoyo, Jr.
EDITOR & PRESIDENT • FIL-AM VOICE

Happy New Year to All!



Bagoyo Family Photo
PHOTO: TRUE PHOTOGRAPHY

Being appointed as the Editor and President of The *Fil-Am Voice* is very humbling and honoring. To our readers, please be assured we will continue the high standards we are expected to have in the production of this publication and we will always give our best effort.

First, let me thank Tante Urban on behalf of the staff and myself, for the hard work and dedication he has demonstrated for all, as we do our best to live up to his example of living the values we are committed to. We send him off on his new ventures with our highest congratulations and best wishes for continued success.

Second, a giant Thank You to our staff, writers, businesses, distribution centers, and especially our readers for your continued support and encouragement. Without you, we would not be able to

accomplish our mission and move forward in promotion of our purpose. We look forward to your ongoing encouragement in the coming year.

“First, let me thank Tante Urban on behalf of the staff and myself, for the hard work and dedication he has demonstrated for all ...”

2020 is here, with promise and hope for better days ahead. As we look to a new decade, The *Fil-Am Voice* will continue to be the voice of our community as we highlight the rich culture and relevant events around us which are uplifting and inspirational. As we look at ourselves in reflection, let us

recognize what is admirable, strong and productive about our community. Our key values of family and service to others are the foundation we have ensuring a future for our youth that will be positive with hope and the deepest respect for each other. We are so proud of our teen writers for sharing their personal perspective and

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Aris Banaag & Sharon Zalsos-Banaag (left) met on a flight to Honolulu. They've been married for 1-1/2 years.
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA



Tante & Araceli "Telly" Urban (right) were married on July 16, 1990. They met through Telly's former brother-in-law Orlando Ganir
PHOTO COURTESY TANTE URBAN



Ernie & Norma Cronkite (left)—Ernie's fourth and Norma's second—were married on July 24, 2015. They met in Kihei through ballroom dancing.
PHOTO COURTESY NORMA CRONKITE



This October 10 will be Dominic Suguitan & Tomas "Massy" Cashen-Suguitan's tenth wedding anniversary (right). They met at Waihe'e Elementary school when their sons Ethan and Seth were in the same 1st grade class. They met while having breakfast each day with their kids in the cafeteria. They also have a daughter, Cassidy.
PHOTO COURTESY DOMINIC SUGUITAN



Eugenia & Mark Sitts (left) recently celebrated their 29th anniversary. It is Eugenia's second marriage and Mark's first. They met at the YMCA on Maui.
PHOTO COURTESY EUGENIA SITTS

Kekoa, with my two girls Nichole and Kristina. We did everything together like a normal family. Of course all marriages have their difficult times but when we hear the song 'God gave me You,' we just look at each other and I would ask Craig to dance with me. And he would whisper, 'Thank you for loving me' and I would replay 'Thank you Lord for sending this special man into our lives.' Craig and Nora's family now include six grandchildren: Kekoa (16), Luke (11), Aiden (11), Aubree (7), Austin (5), and Amira (2.5), who they enjoy hanging out with, camping in the living room, and attending Sunday mass with them.

"Craig and I just completed our Marriage Weekend retreat last November and one of the dialogues we had to listen to the song 'If tomorrow never come'. We both cried and danced and switched to the song 'Look at us.' We're still leaning on each other and Craig has been supporting me with all my community, church, and school activities."

I don't know about you guys but Nora and Craig's love story is fit for
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2nd Time ...

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ing to dinner at Chart House in Lahaina to catch up. Nora still considered Craig like a brother and even told Craig about her dates with other guys while Craig would tell her "Just be careful please."

Two years later, Craig finally told Nora how he felt about her and again, Nora said NO. "I didn't want to lose that friendship we had but he didn't give up. He even broke up with his girlfriend. But he came around, spent time with me and my girls at hula, cheerleading, school activities, and even attended family gatherings," recalls Nora. And their friendship led to their marriage on November 25, 2000.

"It was Thanksgiving Day," says Nora. "I gained a beautiful son



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Sakada Offspring



Rod Antone

The majority of the *Sakadas* who came from the Philippines to work in the sugarcane and pineapple plantations were from the Ilocos regions (northern part of the Philippines—Luzon). In the early years, *Sakadas* also came from the south, from the Visayas and Mindanao. One of these earlier *Sakadas* was Paterno S. Pencerga, the grandfather of our January 2020 featured *Sakada Offspring*, Roderic (Rod) Antone.

Rod was born in August 1972 at the Maui Memorial Hospital. He is presently the Executive Director of the Maui Hotel and Lodging Association. He has two children, Rylen Antone (14) and Jaiden Pickford (stepson, 19). He is the son of Cyrilla and Felix Pascual. His biological father is Wayne Antone (deceased).

Rod grew up in Kokomo (Portuguese side) and Pā‘ia (Filipino side). He mentioned that he jumped around a lot in grade school, from Doris Todd Elementary to Makawao School, Pā‘ia School, Christ The King School, St. Anthony School and finally graduated



Paterno Pencerga with his Filipino Band (front middle).

Roderic “Rod” Antone

Lucy Peros | ALL PHOTOS COURTESY ROD ANTONE

from Maui High. He studied at the University of Boulder, Colorado and graduated in 1994 with a Bachelor’s in Broadcast News.

After college, Rod moved to O‘ahu with his first job reporting at KHON TV. He covered criminal and civil court cases in federal and state court as well as any significant appellate and/or high court rulings. After a few years, he moved to KHNL TV, now known as Hawai‘i News Now. Then he switched from TV news to print news and worked as a reporter at the *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, now known as the

Star Advertiser. He covered police beat and union/labor stories. He also served as on-air talent for the live KITV nightly News tease.

After working with the *Star Advertiser*, Rod got married, had kids and moved to the mainland where he see ANTONE next page



Playing guitar with Holy Rosary Church Choir.

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From our family to yours ...

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From the Editor's Desk Cont'd from p. 4

Editorial ...

from p. 4

experiences with their peers.

With the start of 2020, we should take the opportunity to be personally involved in our government. When we vote for our council members, state legislators, congressional representatives, and our President, our communications are looked at seriously. In fact, our voices matter most to them as they do their work on our behalf. Please make every effort to call our elected officials, testify on the issues that affect you directly, write them letters to thank them for their votes that serve you, and always let them know what other work you want them to do in service of our community.

Some examples of the issues that are on the table are: 1) the housing crisis that is negatively affecting our working families; 2) social justice not being equally dis-

tributed throughout the community; and 3) higher funding for education, which we all say is a top priority. You probably have other issues and concerns and you are most welcome to let government officials at all levels know your needs. Especially because this is an election year, make your voices known and make your vote count!

“To our readers, we encourage you to give us feedback on how our publication can better serve you.”

To our readers, we encourage you to give us feedback on how our publication can better serve you. As a community of historical significance, we support the many activities and events that help us to come together in unity of purpose and the joy of working as a team, to make Maui an even better place to raise our family. May God bless you all and we look forward to a *Joyous and Prosperous New Year!* ✨

Vince Bagoyo
VINCE BAGOYO, JR. | EDITOR

Sakada Offspring Cont'd from p. 5



Paterno Pencerga with his Filipino Band (front middle).

Antone ...

from p. 5

worked as a reporter in Washington state with the Yakima Herald-Republic in charge of the law enforcement beat, covering police and the courts. After that, he switched to government communications when his family moved to New Mexico. He developed media campaigns for the New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department's controversial new computer system. He also improved the perception of energy companies in Colorado and New Mexico by building better relationships with the media and focusing on positive benefits to the surrounding communities. Rod was also an on-call freelance writer

for *People Magazine*. Rod was a Deputy Press Secretary in charge of arranging press conferences with local New Mexico media, wrote and distributed press releases, served as a spokesman for campaigns and developed and administered crisis management plans. He was also hired by one of the top international political consulting firms to coordinate the European Union campaign efforts between Budapest, Hungary and the home office in New York of AJF & Associates.

In 2010, Rod returned home to Maui and he was hired by Mayor Alan Arakawa as County Communications Director from 2011–2018. Afterwards, he worked as a consultant and briefly as the Editorial Manager **see ANTONE p.14**

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GOOD FOR (4-5)

(2) OPTION A

(3) OPTION B

-RICE

-BIHON

-TOMATO/ONIONS

OPTION A

-PORK GRINDS
-REGULAR FRIES
-GARLIC FRIES
-CALAMARI
-GARLIC RICE
-CRAB WONTONS (5)
-BBQ PORK STICKS (3)
-ORIGINZ BUTTERFLY SQUID
-PORK OR CHICKEN LUMPIA (3)

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GOOD FOR (6-8)

(2) OPTION A

(5) OPTION B

-RICE

-BIHON

-TOMATO/ONIONS

OPTION B

-INIHAW (PORK BELLY|CHICKEN|BEEF)
-TILAPIA (DEEP FRIED | GRILLED)
-BISTEK
-BANGUS
-PINKABET
-PORK ADOBO
-FRIED CHICKEN
-LECHON KAWALI
-TOCINO
-PORK SISIG
-ADOBO PUSIT
-STEAMED TILAPIA
-EGGPLANT SALAD
-SWEET LONGANISA

NO SUBSTITUTION

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Central Maui Vistas in 2016
PHOTO: GIL S.C. KEITH-AGARAN



Central Maui Vistas in 2016
PHOTO: GIL S.C. KEITH-AGARAN

“Okay, Boomer” apparently is a “thing.” “Young” people mutter it (usually sarcastically) in response to some remark by an “older” person (you don’t even have to be an actual Baby Boomer) that reflects the generational divide.

Haven’t heard it used to my face yet but I assume the blank looks of the “kids” at Verizon Wireless while I explain my problem with my iPhone 11 Pro hints at it. I want to correct them—I’m a cusper—not one of the main Baby Boomer cohorts born between 1946 and 1955. My parents had my sister and me at the tail end so we straddle Generation X. But that would likely justly earn me a biting nod.

Venture capitalist Bruce Gibney (an early PayPal investor) concentrates his ire for “Baby Boomers” born during the first twelve years after World War II. Those Boomers, in his assessment, grew up without experiencing either Great Depression deprivations or World War II unifying trauma. As a result, Gibney writes “The boomers inherited a rich, dynamic country and have gradually bankrupted it.” Another Generation X-er, *New York Times* Op-Ed columnists Michelle Goldberg recently observed in The Argument podcast that the “Okay, Boomer” meme is well-deserved because that generation—our generation—has much to answer for.

And after sixty years of Statehood, are Boomers responsible for both the good and the bad in Hawai’i simply because we lived it?

Frankly, I think Hawai’i boomers can claim a little different experience from our mainland cousins. Perhaps local kids use a different version than their mainland counterparts. Back in my day, kids respected their elders. But sometimes, I sense “Uncle” or “Aunty” has now morphed into more

DINENGDENG & PINAKBET

OK 😊😊MER!

Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran

than something you respectfully call any older local person.

First, few of us descend from the folks who controlled Hawai’i society in local antebellum days. Most Hawai’i baby boomers were born when Hawai’i was still a Territory and largely still dominated by the plantations and their Bishop Street buddies. Plate lunches come from that time—heavy, starchy meals for people working long days in the fields. Lucky you guys no need work pick pine or cut cane anymore. Okay, Uncle.

The oldest among us Baby Boomers were just entering our teen years when the Dixiecrats in the U.S. Congress finally agreed to let Republican Hawai’i into the Union provided Democratic Alaska got in first. Jack Burns, the Honolulu cop who helped recruit and organize returning Nisei Veterans into a politically powerful local Democratic Party, negotiated that deal. Allied with unions like the ILWU (heavily Filipino in the rank and file), the Democratic Party revolution of the mid-1950s overthrew the Republican-Big Five oligarchy. Kids, imagine if the old GOP boys had gotten their way and Hawai’i joined the Union first. Jack Lord’s cop show

would have been “Hawai’i Four-Nine” instead (yes, Virginia, before Alex O’Loughlin and Scott Caan, there was a Cold War version of Hawai’i Five-O when villains in the islands had less access to automatic weapons and when the police “booked ‘em, Dano”-ed the culprits rather than killing them in violent fire fights). Okay, Uncle.

It’s a challenge for my generation to explain to younger people how much change has happened during our lifetime. Back in my day, you had only Maui High Sabers, Baldwin High Bears, St. Anthony Tro-

ground and racetrack where you now have car lots and warehouses off Pu’unēnē Avenue. Some of my Saber classmates still lived in the small camp homes built by the plantations for their workers. Now we have a Maui campus of Kamehameha Schools (Warriors) and King Kekaulike High School (*Na Ali’i*) upcountry, along with Seabury Hall (Spartans), Hāna High (Dragons), and Maui Prep Academy (*Pueo*) fielding athletic teams in two separate divisions! And old camp houses, freshly painted and slightly renovated, go for half a million dollars. Okay, Uncle.

Back in our day, my high school classmates included children of doctors, lawyers, business executives and *lunas*—Hawaiians, Japanese, Filipinos, locals and *haoles*—in the same classroom. My Pā’ia Yankees little league team featured a Plantation manager’s kid at short-stop and an irrigator’s son in centerfield. An early Native Hawaiian Activist assisted by an undercover vice cop coached my high school varsity basketball team. Okay, Uncle.

During summers, my high school friends and I worked at the Maui Pineapple Cannery where you could make some good money (and one of the high school English teachers was a *luna*). Getting a job after school to pay for gas in your used car was fairly common too. There are warehouses now where the Cannery once stood and pineapple has been reduced to a couple hundred acres in the Hāli’imaile area, and fewer kids have afterschool jobs. Okay, Uncle.

Back in our day, we were the first to assume flying from one island to see BOOMER next page



“Gen-Z”-sisters Rizamay and Trisha Basig playfully send their uncle a message on SnapChat.

PHOTO: RIZAMAY BASIG



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Central Maui Vistas in 2016
PHOTO: GIL S.C. KEITH-AGARAN

Boomer ...

from p. 7

another as a fairly normal way to travel. Do you know Hawaiian and Aloha used to have interisland flights every thirty minutes and at one time there were two or three smaller airlines, too? When I commuted from my home on Maui to my job working for Governor Cayetano on O‘ahu, I could buy a monthly pass, get on a morning flight to Honolulu and then hop on any flight to OGG with an open seat whenever I could get to HNL that evening. Okay, Uncle.

Back in our day, Kahului had one of the first “shopping centers”—a complex where you could shop for groceries, purchase clothing and hardware, and maybe get a meal at Shirley’s or the drugstore soda fountain, and a haircut and shave. In fact, you could get your Guri Guri with or without beans. You had three markets—A&B, Noda and Ah Fook’s—and two drug stores—Toda’s and Craft’s. Today it’s just an open lot where food trucks can make a weekend buck at the Open Market. Okay, Uncle.

Young people, understandably, roll their eyes at all that “history.” That’s normal. I hate to think that the AJA-Union Democrats and their Baby Boomer heirs failed in some way to help our own children and great-grandchildren appreciate the changes more. You often read on social media references to how “the Donkeys”—said with some resentment and contempt now—didn’t

build on that transformative time for the good of all but just for themselves and their cronies. “Land and Power,” cuz. “Waimanalo Blues.”

Our history since statehood reflects complacency and some smugness. Our *Sakada* forefathers, given their druthers, did not want their own children to follow them into the sugar and pineapple fields or the mills, although some did so and earned fairly good livings. But as the plantations went out of production, the options in service industries offered less opportunities for middle class rising. The Visitor Industry took on greater and greater importance. Construction provided jobs, when you were off the bench, as more hotel rooms were added. And the new immigrants worked those jobs just as the *Sakadas* and their contemporaries had provided labor on the plantations in the generations prior.

In truth, choices got made in the past that in hindsight didn’t work out fully as envisioned. Dream City allowed plantation laborers to own homes outside of the sugar worker camps—a longterm project with existing island residents as the market. As tourism grew and jets democratized travel so people could visit more regularly, vacation and second homes in Hawai‘i gradually became a thing, too. Condominiums. Timeshares. And developers, including many of the plantation agribusinesses looking for added revenues as their crop profits flattened, built for that market rather than for local residents or their workforce or the children of

see BOOMER p.15



Central Maui Vistas in 2016
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Happy New Year! *Maligayang Bagong Taon! Naragsak nga Baro a Tawen!*

How was your New Year's celebration? Did you wear polka dots? Did you put money in your pockets? How much did you spend trying to complete your 13 round fruits? Filipinos have a lot of beliefs or rituals on New Year's day. We didn't have a chicken dish in our menu. We had spaghetti, red fish, black-eye beans, and *ginataan* (mochi balls cooked in coconut milk) to name a few. My Mom reminded me not to wash clothes and not to sweep on the first day of the year.

Let's Talk Pinoy!

Dulce Karen Butay

From where we live, you can see aerial fireworks 360 degrees. That is why we didn't buy any fireworks this year. We thought we will not have time to light it just like last year because we were busy watching the fireworks up above us. But we needed to shoo the bad spirits in our property so I asked

my sister Debbie for a few fountains. We lit four fountains for each side of the house. We also lit one under the mango tree so it will shoo the bad spirits and hopefully will bear more fruits. We also lit a fountain under the tangerine tree. Then in the last hour of 2019, we watched aerial fireworks in the sky.

You could hear dogs barking, people laughing, and thousands of dollars exploding over our heads. When the clock struck midnight, we jumped up and down, hoping we will grow an inch or two taller. We also had the car engines turned on with the radios playing louder than normal and then we also blew the cars' horn.

Tell us what beliefs or traditions you and your family do on New Year's Day. Share it at www.facebook.com/fil-amvoicemaui, we would all love to hear it. We might even include it in ours.

Where was Angel last in our story? Let's just look and find out!

THEY HEAD OVER to the next room. It is past the six stacks of disposable adult diapers. Past the dusty crutches next to the empty fish tank on the ground. As the door creaks open, the room is dark. Angel lifts her *kamay* (hand) to turn on the light and Jacky grabs her wrist. "No, leave the light off. David doesn't like the light on." There is a night light plugged into one of the receptacles. As they slowly move toward the home hospital bed, you can see the silhouette of a man laying down. The dark musky smell of mildew fills the air in this room. As they get closer, the faint bitter smell has turned into a strong urine smell. Once they reach the bedside, Tina says, "David, someone is h..." But before she can finish her sentence, the man abruptly rises and places his *kamay* (hand) on Jacky's neck. He screams and she does too. Angel is screaming, jumping up and down and trying to pry the man's *kamut* (hand) away from Tina's neck. At this moment, she can see his *mukha* (face) next to hers. She faces him saying, "*Tigil! Tigil!* (Stop! Stop!)" from the top of her lungs and she gets a glimpse of David. A quarter of his *nawong* (face) is deformed. His eyes, filled with rage and pain. And their eyes connect. Cold blooded fear runs down her spine.

She feels a *gamat* (hand) brushing up on her ear and down to her neck. She immediately jumps and screams.

| English | Pilipino | Ilokano | Cebuano | Ilonggo | Ibanag | Kapampangan |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Happy New Year! | Maligayang Bagong Taon! | Naragsak nga Baron a Tawen! | Malipayong Bag-ong Tuig! | Malipayon nga Bag-ong Tuig! | Magayaya nga ragun! | Saca Masayang Bayung Banda! |
| Face | Mukha | Rupa | Nawom | Nawong | Muka | Lupa |
| Stop! | Tigil! | Sardeng! | Paghunong! | Untat! | Magimmang! | Patugut! |
| Smile | Ngiti | Isem | Pahiyum | Yuhom | Galo | Timan |
| Kiss | Halik | Anggo | Paghalok | Haluk | Ummo | Muma |
| Arms | Braso | Takyag? | Lima | Gamat | Kamot | Braso |
| Beautiful | Maganda | Napintas | Gwapa | Maanyag | Makasta | Malagu |
| Hand | Kamay | Ima | Kamot | Kamut | Lima | Gamat |
| Happy | Masaya | Naragsak | Malipayon | Masadya | Magayaya | Matula |
| Head | Ulo | Ulo | Ulu | Buntuk | Ulo | Ulo |

"Whoa, whoa, whoa Angel!?" says Michael.

"*Sardeng! sardeng!* (Stop, Stop)! Let her go!" Angel screams crying out.

Michael reaches for her, catches her and pulls her into his arms. He rocks her gently while she collapses into his chest. An overwhelming sensation from the pain on Angel's cry this time leads Michael to feel a sadness and his eyes too begin to water. "Shhh, Shhh, Shhhhh." Michael says while caressing her *ulo* (head). He just allows her to sob. Nearby bystanders approach and demand answers.

"What are you doing to her?" one man shouts.

"Leave her alone!" another lady cries.

Michael pays no attention to them for this woman who he just met, who he has begun to develop feelings for is in pain. He can't help but to share this experience with her.

Eventually she calms a bit and realizes where she is. She looks up and it's Michael. Clinching on to his neck, she jumps on to him like a child. She is petite and Michael can carry her no problem. He wipes her *rupa* (face), runs his *ima* (hands) through her hair.

"What happened? You were just *masaya* (happy) a second ago." Michael inquires.

"I'm s... s... sorry..." Angel still not fully composed.

Michael pulls her back in and *halik* (kisses) her on the cheek. "It's okay,

whatever it is. We will fix it together."

Angel pushes away to look at him with bloody eyes. "You don't even know me."

MICHAEL: I'm getting to know you now.

ANGEL: The more you know the less you will like me.

MICHAEL: No, the more I know, the more I want.

Angel raises her eyebrow and says, "The more you want what?"

Michael's eyes widen. "What did I just say?" he says to himself. "Oh no, did I just say something inappropriate? Did I just make myself look like a creeper? Maybe I should tell her what I want? No I can't!"

MICHAEL: Uh, oh no, um...

Angel raises her eyebrow even higher, "Hmm? The more you want what?"

Michael turns flush red, opening and closing his mouth. He is moving his lips but no words are coming out.

Angel laughs, pats the side of his cheek, *Balbalatong*. She lowers herself down to the ground. There she confronts the line of people waiting to check on her and as they can see she is ok, they begin to walk off. For the rest still standing and watching, she *pahiyum* (smiles), clears her voice. Stretches her *braso* (arms) out and belts "TADA," then bows to the crowd. While hunched over, she signals for

see LET'S TALK PINOY next page

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Ating Kabuhayan

Honoring Our Parents

The Rev. John A.H. Tomosot



Mary ... together with Joseph, were the first teachers and models for Jesus' formation as a human being.

We begin each New Year liturgically by celebrating two important people in the ongoing story of our salvation, i.e., Jesus, the Son of God and Mary, the Mother of God. As People of God, we celebrate the role of Mary as the human mother by which God entered the world. Mary not only gave birth to Jesus, she was his maternal parent and, together with Joseph, they were the first teachers and models for his formation as a human being. Our own parents were also “first teachers” and “models.” So it is fitting I think, that we honor and think of them too in celebrating January 1st and the New Year.

At the beginning of 2020 and pondering our liturgical prayer and life in the church, we can imagine how profound a period of development it must have been for the newborn Jesus. Two passages from Luke’s Gospel give us a glimpse of this profound time. Jesus is described as “growing in grace and wisdom, and God’s favor was upon him” (Luke 2:40) and after his encounter with the scholars in the temple, “he went back to Nazareth and continued to be under their authority” (Luke 2:51). And looking to Mary His mother, Luke tells us that she “kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart” (Luke 2:18). There is no record of Mary’s reflections, except as evidenced by her influence on the person that Jesus grew up to be in the Gospels. Mary, however, is significant to our salvation as Christians as she plays such an important and primary role in assuring that God not only came down at Christmas but lives with us now as one of us.

January 1st, besides being the

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother Of God, it is also the Feast of the Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Both Feasts proclaim Luke’s Gospel during the Mass; for the former (Luke 2:16-21) and for the latter (Luke 2:15-21). For any newborn, the name given is a special event and time in the life of a family. So, from the gospel, we know that on the eighth day after his birth, the Son of God, was named and circumcised. He was “called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb” (Luke 2:21). Under the Law of Moses, all male infants were to be circumcised on the eighth day after birth (Leviticus 12:3). It was also customary at this time for family and friends to witness the naming of the child. Thus, the Feast of the Holy

He was “called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was coneived in the womb.”

– (LUKE 2:21)

Name is celebrated on the eighth day of the Christmas season, which is January 1st. The celebration of the Holy Name reflects the significance of the Holy Name of Jesus, and the Opening Prayer or Collect of the Mass is significant in itself:

Eternal Father, you gave to your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be the sign of our salvation: Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is the Savior of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

We begin the New Year in the bright shadow of Christmas, proclaiming the Incarnation as not only a theological mystery but also what has been called an anthropological breakthrough for all of humanity; to be redeemed by grace, open to mature development and given a divine destiny. Because we believe Jesus to be

see MARY p.14

Let’s Talk Pinoy...

from p. 9

Michael to bow too and he awkwardly does.

The bench that they sat on has two melted shaved ice on the ground. Ooops, Angel says and with a giggle, she pushes Michael to keep walking on Front Street.

Across from Fleetwood’s is a mini

even further back than before. He waits for her in front of the Lahaina Ice Cream Parlor. When she nears, he tries to approach her but she doesn’t respond. Apparently upset, she continues to walk. Michael tries to mutter out a few words but nothing actually initiates a response.



She [Angel] takes a couple shots and the whole time Michael is just fixated on her.

boardwalk type of landing. Along the log type rails you can watch the water crash along the short shoreline below. There are trees with concrete benches as well as wooden bench stools and even bike racks for those cyclists. Angel jogs across the road and heads toward the rail while Michael follows behind. Angel leans over and giggles and then turns around just as Michael was about to take another snap shot with his phone. She does her best *J-Pop Kawai* pose with a peace sign. She signals for him to come to her, grabs his wrist and pulls him next to her at the rail. Taking her phone, she turns on the selfie camera, adjusts her hair and puffs her lips. She takes a couple shots and the whole time Michael is just fixated on her. Her firm body rubbing so close to his. Her touchy feely personality is hard to avoid. She looks to him staring and again he looks away. As she grabs his chin and faces him towards the camera phone, “Kodak” she says. He smiles. “Ah, there you go Mr. Walker, you can ngiti (smile), is that right?”

“One more Kodak,” she says. She lifts her leg and puts his *kamay* (hand) on her thigh. Michael already boiling over, she places his other *kamot* (hand) on her hip and places her *gamat* (hand) on his neck, she closes her eyes and puckers her lips. Michael’s mind is going bonkers. “Whaaaaaaat?! Her lips look so good. I want to. I want to,” as he says to himself, he panics, turns away and presses the shutter button and takes the phone. He lets go of Angel and starts to walk with his *kamay* (hands) on his *ulu* (head) taking deep breaths and slow long strides. Angel slowly follows behind him.

Another half a block downward Michael glances behind his shoulder to see if Angel is there. She is but

“Oh no, she is mad at me. I don’t know what happened, I freaked out. I don’t know how to deal with a woman like her. She is so open and outgoing. She is fun and *maganda* (beautiful) and I am just plain,” he whispered to himself. Sulking and pouting they both approach a tree garden. There are many trees scattered and intertwined together in this tree park. Angel finds an information plaque and it states “Shading almost an acre ... this banyan tree is the largest in the United States ... There are 16 major trunks in addition to the original trunk in the center.” With Michael leaning over her, he says, “This is the Lahaina Banyan tree. It is one tree with many of its branches rooting itself back into the ground and spawning branches of its own.” Angel responds, “My grandmother used to tell me a banyan tree is like a family. Its core is the ancestors from generations past setting the solid foundation so that its offspring can grow, explore, find its own place to set its roots and set its own foundation for their offspring. This banyan tree is incredible.”

“Miss, I would like you to come with me,” a man tells Angel.

Hmmm who is this man in Angel’s life? Find out and keep an eye out for my article 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.

Filipino Comfort Food

Liza of “A Maui Blog”

What is your favorite *Pinoy* Comfort Food? With the winter season bringing a colder weather than usual on Maui and with flu being common this time of the year, it seems this is also the season we crave for comfort food.

Before we continue talking story about comfort food, let us clarify what we mean by it. Comfort Food is food that provides nostalgic or sentimental value to someone. The nostalgia may be specific to an individual or it may apply to a specific culture (in our case, it’s the Filipino culture). When we call something comfort food, we mean it is enjoyable to eat and makes us feel happier.

Here are five of the many Comfort Foods that we *Pinoy*s love:

- 1. Nilaga** - Sometimes it’s *Nilagang Baka* (beef) and sometimes it’s *Nilagang Baboy* (pork). Whatever the choice of meat, this dish’s main feature is its clear broth (we call the soup *sabaw*). The term *nilaga* translates to “boiled” in English. As the name suggests, this Philippine dish is prepared by boiling meat (pork or beef) and vegetables (potatoes, corn, Filipino *bok choy* or *pechay*, and yard long beans or *sitaw*).
- 2. Sinigang** - It can be *Sinigang na Hipon* (shrimp), *Manok* (chicken), *Baboy* (pork), *Baka* (beef) or *Isda* (fish). *Sinigang* is a Filipino soup or stew characterized by its sour and savory taste most often associated with tamarind. A variety of vegetables (green beans,

radish, and eggplant) can be added including green leafy vegetables such as *kangkong*.

- 3. Tinolang Manok** - *Tinola* is a Filipino chicken soup very similar to what we call here on Maui, Hawai’i, as chicken papaya. Traditionally, this dish is cooked with chicken, wedges of green papaya, and leaves of the *siling labuyo* chili pepper in broth flavored with ginger, onions and fish sauce. Sometimes the leaves of pepper are replaced with *Malunggay* leaves or leaves of bitter melon. And when green papaya is not available, *sayote* is used.
- 4. Sotanghon** - This noodle soup is very similar to what we know here on Maui as chicken long rice soup. *Sotanghon* noodles are mung bean thread noodles. As the name suggests, this type of noodle is made from mung bean flour and water. They appear white when sold in their dried form. The noodles will turn clear once they are cooked. Sometimes they are labeled as Chinese vermicelli. One of my friends call it “slimy noodles” as it does tend to be slimy when it’s cooked. It is usually cooked with chicken broth and shredded chicken with



Shrimp Sinigang
PHOTO COURTESY TANTE’S ISLAND CUISINE

chopped green onions added. This soup is a local favorite and is often served at a *lū’au*.

- 5. Arroz Caldo** - Sometimes this soup is called *Lugaw*. It is a Filipino rice and chicken gruel heavily infused with ginger and garnished with toasted garlic, scallions and black pepper. It is usually served with *calamansi* or fish sauce as condiments as well as a hard-boiled egg.
- 6. Ginisang Munggo** - *Ginisang munggo* is a Filipino savory mung bean soup. It is made with mung beans, garlic, tomatoes, onions, various vegetables and *patis*. It is cooked with pork, *tinapa*, *daing*, or other seafood and meat. It is also commonly garnished with *chicharon*. The name means stir-fried mung bean even though it is a soup. Sometimes we add green leafy vegetables such as *Malunggay* or bitter melon leaves. When there are no bitter melon leaves, then some just add a chopped bitter melon. So yummy.

There are many, many more *Pinoy* Comfort Foods but I’ll stop at

six. Take note I have mentioned mostly soup varieties that are more savory than sweet. There are also many sweet comfort foods but we’ll save that discussion for another day. I hope you enjoy this column and you are now inspired to cook one of these Filipino Foods. Recipes are found on the internet. *Happy New Year!* ✨

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 lived 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.



Fish Sinigang
PHOTO: LIZA PIERCE

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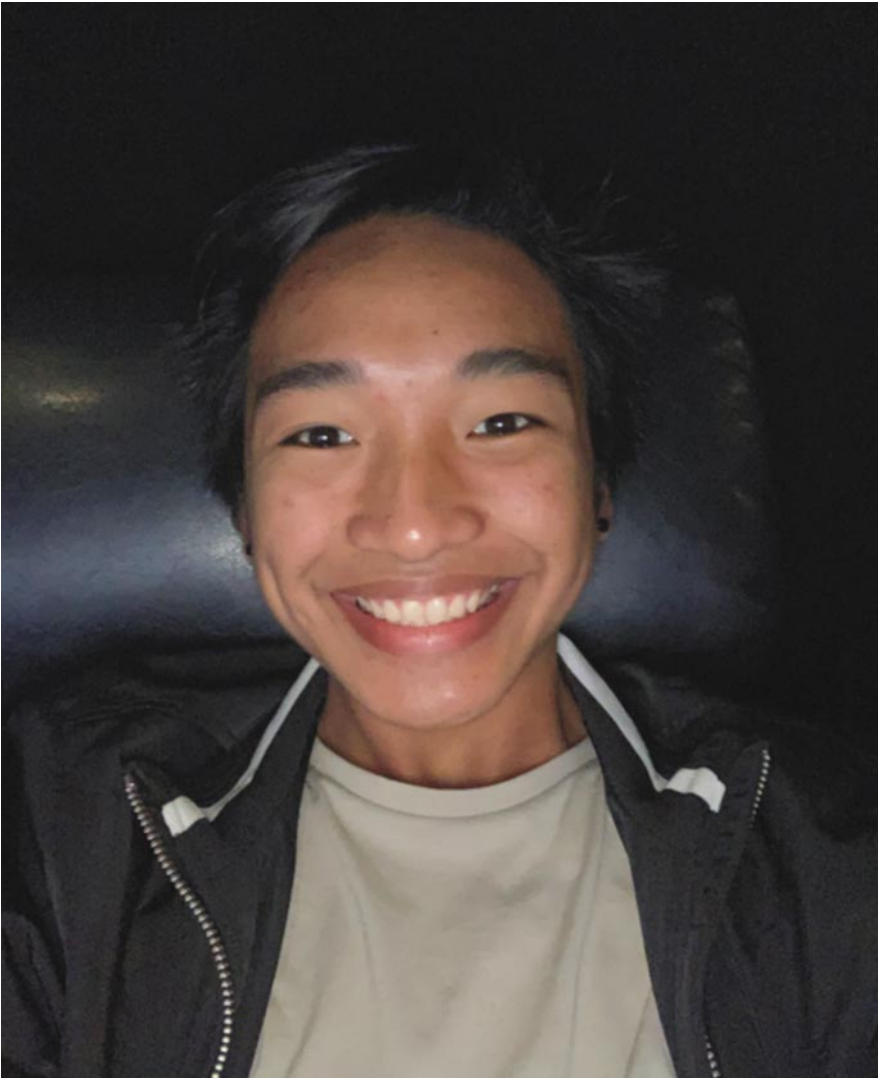
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Norlito Sanchez

When most people think of marriage, they think of everlasting love and affection between partners. However, this is not true for everyone. According to a National Survey of Family Growth representatives, it is estimated that “the lifelong probability of a marriage

fighting hard because that’s what my father was doing, fighting against a disease that had no cure at all. Now growing up without him, the knowledge, skills, and morals, my father passed down helped my family to continue his legacy by making our own.” Living with only one parent can truly

Google® Is Not Everything...

Having A Super Parent

Romelyn Joy Tabangcura | MAUI HIGH SCHOOL

ending in divorce is 40%–50%.” But divorce doesn’t mean an end. Many relationships choose to seek other partners longing for a second chance. However, second marriages can be a controversial and sensitive topic. It can be an impacting change to most children knowing they will have a stepparent. But that’s not the case for everyone. Many individuals who were once married choose to remain single for many possible reasons—some including choosing to prioritize family over a new relationship.

Sophomore **Norlito Sanchez** is one of the many students around the world who live with one parent. He says, “I’m only with my mother now since my father passed away last year. At first, it was a struggle because I had a close bond with my father since he always knew what was best for his family. He became my role model for

tion, self-discipline, and effort for what you do goes a long way. His story gave me the motivation to use my knowledge and talents I used to the best of my ability to help not just my father anymore but also those in need,” Norlito explains. When asked about second marriages, he says that he doesn’t mind second marriages because “it shows that a person has been through it. If they are strong enough and believe that they are ready, they have what it takes to do it again for a change.” The process of adapt-

ing to a new family can be difficult and challenging. Norlito advises that “There is a better tomorrow. Take that chance to be grateful that you wake up living another day. Your life depends on the choices you make. You can either move on from it and take that chance to be a powerful individual or have nothing. You need to al-

ways to look around. That one parent you have now shows you are not alone. Spend memorable times with that parent or even with other loved ones. Something is waiting for you to be legendary even if you’re facing a few adversities.”

High School Junior **Rodel Domingo** also grew up with one parent. Unlike Norlito, he says that growing up with only one parent “barely impacted my childhood.” I was pretty happy as a child and I didn’t notice that I only had one parent. My parents’ divorce happened when I was really young so I don’t have any memory of them being together and thankfully, I didn’t get any trauma from their divorce. However, I didn’t get to experience my father being there for my family or making me happy. My mother has been the most significant source of my happiness when I was younger.” He explains that living with one parent isn’t so bad at all. Rodel says “Some people may say that life with only one parent may seem difficult. My mother has played both the mother and father roles really well to the point I didn’t notice I only had one parent. However, I did notice at a young age that some of my friends had both of their parents but I didn’t care. All I need is my mother to be right by my side.” When asked about plans for marriage in the future, he said “Yes, I plan to get married in the future because why not? You only live once and I want to make sure I get to experience it with the person I fall in love with in the future.” But he also says that he’s all for second marriages because “As long if you’re happy with how the relationship is going, go for it! Make yourself happy but make sure to avoid mis-

takes from your previous marriage.” A divorce or a sudden separation in relationships doesn’t mean it’s the end. For some, it’s a chance to be a Super Parent. Love isn’t merely just about relationships; it can also symbolize the affection and care we have for family, friends, and people around the world. ✨

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 **Romelyn Joy Tabangcura**, a senior at Maui High School. She is the current president of Maui High HOSA-Future Health Professionals and has competed in the Human Growth and Development and placed top 10 at the International Leadership Conference. She is also a member of the National Honor Society, a prestigious organization of students who show scholarship, leadership, service and character. Romelyn aspires to be a Nurse Practitioner one day. She is the daughter of Romeo and Roselyn Tabangcura.

“My mother has played both the mother and father roles really well to the point I didn’t notice I only had one parent.”

– RODEL DOMINGO



Rodel Domingo

Around Our Community

If you have a photograph of a community event, please email to info@filamvoicemaui.com. Please include a short description, your name and contact information.



Simbang Gabi services at Christ the King with Bishop Silva and Mayor Victorino
PHOTO COURTESY PAUL PIGAO



Britney Bautista received the Outstanding Youth Award at MFCC's Rizal Day 2019
PHOTO: REY PATAO



Maui was represented at the 70th Annual Fil-Am Invitational
PHOTO COURTESY ARNEL ALVAREZ



Michelle L. Santos received the Outstanding Member Award at MFCC's Rizal Day 2019
PHOTO: REY PATAO



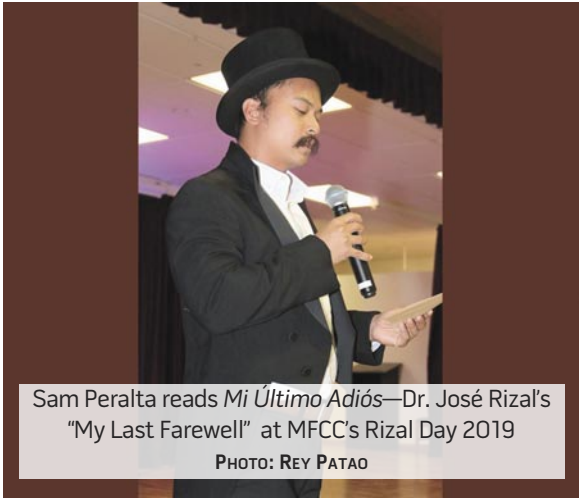
Greg and Petra Peros with their family during their 50th wedding anniversary celebration
PHOTO: PAUL PIGAO



New 2020 MFCC Officers & Board Members were sworn in by County Chief of Staff Tyson Miyake
PHOTO: REY PATAO



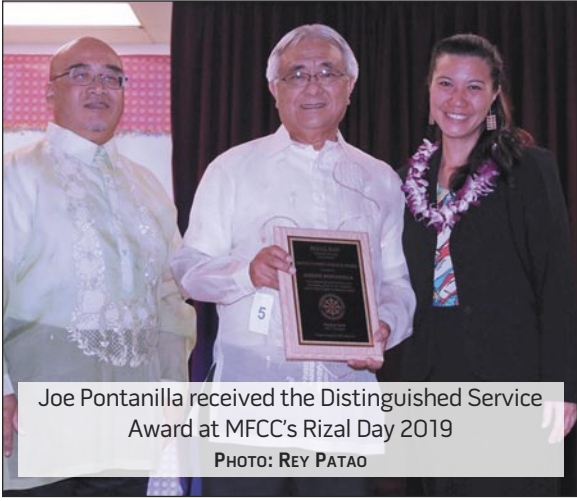
Good Shepherd Episcopal Church Christmas Pageant
PHOTO ALFREDO EVANGELISTA



Sam Peralta reads *Mi Último Adiós*—Dr. José Rizal's "My Last Farewell" at MFCC's Rizal Day 2019
PHOTO: REY PATAO



Bahay Kubo Heritage Foundation continues with the rehabilitation of the *Bahay Kubo*
PHOTO: ZALDY UGALINO



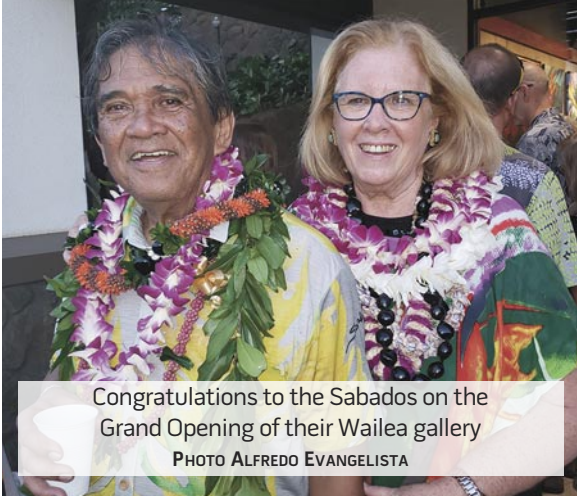
Joe Pontanilla received the Distinguished Service Award at MFCC's Rizal Day 2019
PHOTO: REY PATAO



Elected officials at the Kaisahan Christmas party
PHOTO COURTESY GILBERT KEITH-AGARAN



Jeny Bissell received the Outstanding Citizen Award at MFCC's Rizal Day 2019
PHOTO: REY PATAO



Congratulations to the Sabados on the Grand Opening of their Wailea gallery
PHOTO ALFREDO EVANGELISTA



VP Domingo "Jing" Gumpal and Pres. Emerita "Emi" Cortez are sworn in at MFCC's Rizal Day 2019
PHOTO: REY PATAO



Aloha Pacific Federal Credit Union celebrated their grand opening
PHOTO ALFREDO EVANGELISTA



Councilmember Alice Lee is shown here during the election of the Council chair's position.
PHOTO COURTESY ALICE LEE

Lee ...

from p. 3

ing sued by tourists that choose not to be mindful of the County's ocean safety warnings. She knows, however, that this would be a matter for the State to decide.

Lee wants to support every committee chair to ensure their success. Her new obligations will include overseeing the Office of Council Services and the Office of the County Clerk. "My goals there are to ensure that these two major offices have the resources they need, the goals and objectives they need to achieve what we're responsible for." With the new system of mail election ballots being implemented in the upcoming months, she anticipates that there will be much preparation necessary to support the Office of the County Clerk to transition Maui residents. "That'll be something that will take up a lot of our time in terms of educating the public, training, being prepared for the new method of voting. In the long run, it'll be easier for everybody but old habits die hard. Some people prefer going to the precinct. Hopefully, they'll get accustomed to using the mail-in ballots since it'll save them a lot of time. Especially on rainy days." What she has noticed from her past involvement in the 1990s in comparison to her involvement now is that community participation has decreased. "It's a part of the change in generations. My parents' generation, my generation—we didn't take things for granted as much. To-

day's youth, they do. And they don't have to expend much effort and they get stuff, you know?" She hopes that younger generations will come to realize the importance of voting. "There's that disconnect but I wish young people would be more involved. I guess we have to change our ways to encourage feedback from young people. The older ones like us, need to observe and adjust. There's no way that [they] can relate to our experiences. We need to relate to their experiences and figure out ways to make the voting more interesting, relevant, and connect the dots for them to see."

For her involvement in the Filipino community—she plans to continue her support of the Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament. "Most of the time, I play in the tournament unless I have prior commitments. That is one fun event that I always look forward to." Her hopes are to continue her work to benefit the Filipinos of Maui and the Maui community at large. "We all need the same thing. Housing, good, steady jobs. They all need the government to provide infrastructure." She shares with me how she personally aims to represent all the different cultures of Maui by learning greetings of "Good morning," and "Good afternoon," in different languages, including Tagalog and Visayan. "My intention is to ensure that everyone is represented."

When asked about her working relationship with Mayor Michael Victorino, Lee says, "We've been friends for many years. Although we don't agree on a variety of issues, he and I have a very good, positive working relationship." In reference to the County Council's vote to override the Mayor's veto of a real property tax reform bill that would set new tax classifications, they still upheld professionalism and positivity. "After that, I went to have snacks with him. He

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Her hopes are to continue her work to benefit the Filipinos of Maui and the Maui community at large.

Ating Kabuhayan | Cont'd from p. 10

Mary ...

from p. 10

both divine and human, we have a bridge to God, which is Mary His mother. Our human flesh is united intimately to His as both our brother and the Firstborn of the New Creation.

At the cusp of a New Year, we see a new humanity, in both Mary the Mother of God and in Jesus our Lord. Through both, God sent us a veritable restored image and likeness of God in a world struggling to advance beyond its own self-defeating habits of all that takes it away from God: poverty, war, exploitation, greed, tribalism, nationalism and egoism. Consider that what is at stake is the future of our planet, the peace that is possible for all of us to enjoy, when we turn to God in all that is good and just, perfect and holy.

On January 1st, we see a courageous yet humble Mother; who gave birth to and showed us her son, now with and living among us. On January 1st, we celebrate Jesus, in His Holy Name, the sign of our salvation; who shows us a radical empathy for the poor, the outcast and the oppressed. Join me, during 2020, in reciting and praying Mary's Canticle, the *Magnificat* (Luke 1:46-55). January 1st reminds us—especially these two great feasts of the Church—that in Jesus' birth is magnified in His compassion for the weak and the hungry, His commitment to God's justice, His bold challenge to the powerful, His reliance on mercy and nonviolence in the face of arrogance and power, and all that takes us away from God. If this sounds like a New Year's Resolution, well, it is!

✱

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



Sakada Offspring Cont'd from p. 6



Paterno presenting a lei to a friend.

Antone ...

from p. 6

for Pacific Media Group, helping to manage the MauiNow.com and the BigIslandNow.com websites.

In October 2019, Rod was selected as the Executive Director of the Maui Hotel & Lodging Association (MHLA). MHLA is a non-profit organization which represents its members by informing them about current events, keeping track of important legislation, contributing to the welfare of the community and preserving the Aloha spirit and local culture, upon which the visitor industry was built upon.

Rod is very involved in the community. He started a grassroots organization called the Pā'ia Community Action Committee (PCAC) to push for the County to create a park that would link Baldwin Park and Lower Pā'ia Park using the undeveloped County land located between the two parks.

Rod was an emcee for several Miss and Mrs. Filipina pageants both on Maui and Honolulu. His family are very active members of Holy Rosary Church in Pā'ia and Rod even served as an altar boy during his youth.

Rod received several awards: 1st Place, Society of Professional Journalist, Spot News, Print; 1st Place, Society of Professional Journalists, Feature Writing, Print; and 1st Place, Hawai'i Publishers Association, Pa'i Award, Breaking News, Broadcast.

Rod shared these heartwarming memories about his grandpa Paterno Pencerga as he remembered. He said he used to call his grandpa "Poppi," who retired as a foreman at the Pā'ia Mill. Poppi was an accomplished musician. He played the mandolin, piano, and saxophone. He played in the "Starlight Orchestra" and wore a white tuxedo. He also played with a less formal band called "The Happy Visayans." His grandma Ramona and his Aunt Dorothy used to sing with The Happy Visayans.

Rod's grandma Ramona was very gracious in sharing her husband's story and their love story to this writer before she went to her heavenly reward.

Paterno Pencerga was born in Calape, Bohol, Visayas, Philippines on November 12, 1912. He left the Philippines with his cousin, Jose

see ANTONE next page



Final Harvest.
PHOTO: GIL S.C. KEITH-AGARAN



Final Harvest
PHOTO: GIL S.C. KEITH-AGARAN

Boomer ...

from p. 8

that workforce.

Did boomers ruin Hawai'i like they ruined the rest of the country (and perhaps the world)? It was a series of collective decisions—some made by us and some forced on us by outside forces—but Thank God we're still in the fight to swing things around.

We can certainly look at favoring local people in supporting housing projects priced better for residents and putting what resources we have into those kinds of communities. I walk my Chug each morning at the Kahului Re-

gional Park (one of Shan Tsutsui's best ideas in retrospect). You can see portions of the nearby Kahului/Maui Lani neighborhoods and Wailuku Heights and the fallow fields that Tsutsui's Mahi Pono company now owns.

But there are still signs of the rural life that once defined Maui. You sometimes see some cattle lounging near the fence line that separates the park from private property. The other day I saw a wild pig burst out from the bushes near Maui High School and take off down the sidewalk along Papa Avenue. And the rash of brush fires this past year dusted nearby communities with black snow. You can't help but feel some nostalgia for some of

the simpler parts of growing up on Maui back in our day.

Folks in public service sometimes envy our neighbors in the Pacific. New Zealand and Australia and Saipan and Polynesia can control their borders—keeping out invasive species easier and even controlling who can own property in their borders. But Hawai'i, like other states in the American Union, doesn't have the power locally to limit landownership to our residents. Even the Hawai'i Tourism Authority understands that unlimited

growth in the number of tourists is taxing not just our infrastructure but our people's willingness to have so many visitors (Aloha. Spend your money. Go home. Mahalo.). And perhaps that realization by even the keep-

ers of our economy indicates change. That's a good thing. ☀

Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran grew up in Pā'ia and Kahului while Pioneer Mill, Pu'unēnē Mill and Pā'ia Mill still operated. He represents Central Maui in the Hawai'i State Senate.



Antone ...

from p. 14

Serondo on February 13, 1930 from Manila. Both Paterno and Jose did not get seasick on their boat ride. They believed that eating homemade chocolate candies made by Paterno's mother that they brought along saved them. It also saved others to whom they shared the chocolates with.

Upon arrival on the Big Island of Hawai'i, Paterno and Jose worked at the sugar plantation in Pāpa'ikou, Hawai'i. They did not like working there because it was too wet, too rainy so they moved to Maui. They worked for the Maui Agriculture Company which later became known as Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company (HC&S). Paterno lived in Pūlehu Camp which was located below Pukalani today. Nearby were the Makule Kailua Camp and the Keāhua Camp. At Maui Agriculture Company, he worked as an irrigator as well as other jobs like cutting grass. His daily wage was less than one dollar per day.

When Maui Agriculture became HC&S, Paterno moved to Orpheum Camp in Pā'ia. He worked at the Pā'ia Mill as a machinist and then as a Crew Chief until 1977 when he retired. He also worked at the Pā'ia Hospital as a ward nurse's aide from 1943 to 1946. The Pā'ia Hospital was also called the Pā'ia Orphanage in the 1960's. Orpheum Camp was a very interesting place to live in at that time. There were no indoor toilets so the



Wedding Picture: Paterno and Ramona Pencerga

villagers used an outhouse. They had a *furo* (for a hot water bath) heated with burning wood that was supplied by the Company. They cooked their food on a kerosene stove with free kerosene supplied also by the Company. They were allowed to slaughter animals in their backyard which they shared with each other. Dried *bacalao* fish (cod fish) were plentiful and a very popular food for the *Sakadas*. They considered it as a delicacy and a treat.

Weddings, baptisms, and birthdays were celebrated quite often at the Camp's clubhouses. Food for these parties were not catered like today but cooked by the men. Sometimes the prep time and cooking time took a couple of days. Some close friends of

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Lee ...

from p. 14

knows I have my reasons and I know he has his reasons. That’s fine. We did that, so ... next!” She indicates that being productive means setting priorities. “Figure out steps to get from point A to B and proceed. You’re going to run into a few speed bumps along the way

but that’s okay.” There are a few challenges that she anticipates but what she looks forward to is working together in a cohesive and enthusiastic way with the County Council. “I am very confident that we can reach that point and not always agree but keep moving forward. I think that’s the key to being successful. To work together and have a positive mental attitude. And you will succeed.” ✨

Vanessa Joy Domingo is a graduate of Maui High School and is currently attending University of Hawaii Maui College. She is employed with Coldwell Banker - Wailea Village as a Realtor and was the 2018 Miss Maui Filipina. When she has free time, she loves to go fishing, go to the gym and practice aerial silks. She volunteers her time through-



out the community with the Maui Filipino Community Council, Binhi at Ani, Read Aloud America, and Maui High School Foundation. She recently married Mark Domingo and enjoyed their honeymoon aboard a cruise ship to Mexico. She has decided that cruise ships are probably one of the best ways to travel since food is accessible 24/7.

2nd Time ...

from p. 4

a Hallmark Movie. ✨

Alfredo G. Evangelista 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, nonprofit 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.



Councilmember Alice Lee is bedecked with lei during her inauguration. PHOTO COURTESY ALICE LEE

Antone ...

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Paterno who also lived in Orpheum Camp were the late Eufemio and Balbino Pias, Vicente Javier, Jacinto Timario, and Alfredo and Domingo Arrocena.

One day, young and handsome Paterno spotted a beautiful young lady who was walking from the library. He couldn’t help but ask his friend Balbino Pias who she was. He found out she was from Kāheka Camp and her name was Ramona Cagasan. Ramona was from a big traditional Filipino family. Since then Paterno visited Ramona at her home, sometimes unannounced. After so many visits, their love life blossomed. Dating to watch a movie at the Pā’ia Theater was a family affair because they were not allowed to go by themselves. They continued to court secretly and romantically. Paterno and Ramona would send letters to each other via Patricio Sensano’s shoes. Patricio worked with Paterno at the mill. He would give Ramona’s letters to Paterno at the mill and vice versa. In 1945, Paterno and Ramona agreed to get married. The wedding arrangement was also done the traditional Filipino way where the elders from each side would sit and talk about the wedding preparations. This was called *danon* in Ilokano. They were married at Holy Rosary Catholic Church on July 8, 1945 with a grand reception at Ramona’s parents’ house in Kāheka Camp. The famous Molina Brothers Band played the music at their wedding.

Ramona and Paterno were blessed with four children. Their eldest child is Paterno “Pete” Pencerga, Jr. He is married to Teresita Pencerga. They have two children, Suzette and Peter.



With Holy Rosary parishioners and priests in front of Holy Rosary Church (front 2nd left).

Their second child is Evelyn Pencerga. Their third child is Cyrilla Pascual. She is married to Felix Pascual. They have two children, Rod and Richard Antone. Their fourth child is Juliette Rodrigues. She is married to Colin Rodrigues. They have four children, Jody and Jaimie Ribao, Kyle and Kurt Rodrigues.

Paterno was a very talented musician as mentioned by his grandson Rod Antone. He was also a member of the Islanders Band with the late Pascual Buen and Filbert Secretario. They played music at many parties at the different clubhouses on Maui. Paterno also played at the Coconut Grove in Lahaina. He was often asked by the Molina Brothers to play bass for them. Unfortunately, Paterno passed away on August 28, 2002.

Two of Paterno’s children, Pete Pencerga and Cyrilla Pascual shared these heart-warming memories about their Dad: “Dad helped us kids make kites using meat wrapping paper and using soft cooked rice as paste or glue. He was a fun loving, easy going, hard-

working and patient man. He took time to listen to us. He never laid a hand on us but we knew by his certain look when he was angry. We children always looked forward to seeing him when he came home from work. Although he had limited education, he was able to help us with Math homework. He helped Mom with the household chores. He had a vegetable garden. He was also a good storyteller especially Filipino Folk Tales. He always stressed the value of education. We miss him very much.”

“I wish I had something profound to tell our young people,” said Rod Antone. “All I can do is try and distill how my grandfather lived his life each and every day: He loved his family, fed anyone who came to his home and treated them like family as well, believed in education and hard work but also music and laughter. When he died in the early 2000s our little Holy Rosary Church was overflowing like it was Easter or Christmas mass. I recall



Rod Antone and son Rylen.

a friend of his coming in late on a walker and begging us to open up the coffin so he could look upon my grandfather one more time and say goodbye. I’ll always remember that.” ✨

Lucy Peros is a retired school teacher, having taught at St. Anthony Grade School and Waihe’e Elementary School. Both of her parents, Elpidio Cachero Cabalo (a 1946 Sakada) and Alejandra Cabudoy Cabalo of



Hāli’imaile worked for Maui Land and Pine Company. Lucy now enjoys retirement and has time to join other seniors in the Enhance Fitness Program under the Department of Aging three times a week. She also attends line dancing class and other activities at Kaunoa and joins 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.