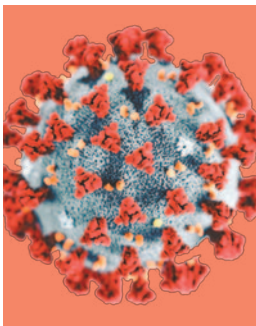




Just VOTE
From the comfort of home and with extra time to think over your decisions; make the most of your right and privilege to choose.

Page 1



How COVID-19 Affects Candidates 1st Actions
A small survey of their responses.

Page 1



Uluwehi Guerrero
Sakada Offspring looks at the life and times of this homegrown influencer.

Page 5



Fil·Am Voice

Magkaisa Tayong Lahat | “Let Us All Unite”

June 2020 • Vol 4 No 6 | FILIPINO AMERICAN VOICE • UPLIFTING OUR COMMUNITY | FREE

inside



Mayor Victorino led a prayer for Bayanihan food distribution.

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Winona Tomoso passes into life eternal.

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Award-winning bibingka recipe released!

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2020 Elections to be Conducted by Mail

Vanessa Joy Domingo

I recall when my Dad first brought me along to vote when I was in the first grade. I remember being in awe at the number of cars filling the Lihikai School parking lot. The line of people winding its way out of the cafeteria. The rows of polling cubicles replacing the lunch tables. My Dad expressed the importance of voting—as it was a symbol of freedom to him. Living here in the United States granted him opportunities he would otherwise not have in the Philippines. After casting his vote, the TV in the living room would be on well into the

evening. Everyone sitting on the couch, watching the poll—anxiously seeing the numbers climb and keeping fingers crossed. This year, Hawai'i will be one of the five states along with Colorado, Oregon, Wash-

ington and Utah to conduct elections entirely by mail. Act 136 was signed into law on June 25, 2019 requiring all Hawai'i elections be conducted uniformly by mail. All registered voters will now be receiving their ballot at the

mailing addresses confirmed with their voter registration. Voters can vote at their convenience in their homes and return the ballots with postage paid through the United States Postal Service.

see MAIL IT IN next page



And They're Off

The Race for the 2020 Elections Begin

Alfredo G. Evangelista | ASSISTANT EDITOR

Congresswoman **Tulsi Gabbard** decided to run for the Democratic Presidential Nomination instead of reelection, leaving Hilo State Senator **Kai Kahele** as the most recognizable name in the race). For the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, there are ten running for the at-large seat, three running for the Molokai resident seat, three running for the Kaua'i resident seat, and eleven running for the Hawai'i resident seat.

Elected outright in the Primary

Only two candidates are

unopposed in either the State legislative or County Council races. Elected outright (assuming each receives at least one vote) will be Councilwomen Alice Lee (Kahului) and Yuki Lei Sugimura (Up-country).

Incumbents seek reelection

All eligible incumbents sought reelection. The only open seat without an incumbent is Lāna'i where Councilmember **G. Riki Hokama** is term-limited. Seeking to replace him are **Alberta de-**

see ELECTIONS p.3



Alice Lee and Yuki Lei Sugimura are unopposed in their respective County Council seats in the upcoming 2020 Elections.



In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and the #blacklivesmatter protests, the 2020 elections officially kicked off with the June 2nd nomination papers filing deadline.

There are forty-one candidates running for State legislative office (21) and the County Council (20). In addition there are eighteen candidates running for the Congressional District 2 office (current

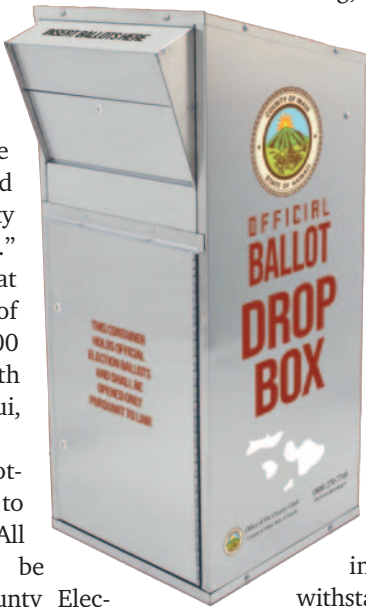
FREE

Mail It In ...

from p. 1

New County Clerk Kathy Kaohu explains the process. “Voters who have requested to vote by mail in previous elections will have a similar experience in an elections-by-mail model. Act 136 SLH 2019 requires that ballots be delivered to households approximately 18-days prior to the election. The mail ballot packet will continue to include a blank ballot, a secret ballot sleeve, and a pre-addressed, pre-paid return envelope that the voter must sign and return to their County Elections Division.” For Maui County that would be the Office of the County Clerk, 200 S. High Street, 7th Floor, Wailuku, Maui, Tel: (808) 270-7749.

Kaohu reminds voters of the deadline to return the ballots. “All mailed ballots must be received by the County Elections Division by 7 p.m. on election day. The 2020 Primary election day is Saturday, August 8. The 2020 General election day is Tuesday, November 3. A new feature allowed under Act 136 is the ability for voters to correct an issue with their return envelope, such as missing or non-matching signature, within five business days of the election.”



During the transition, three Voter Service Centers will be made available for Maui County: Velma McWayne-Santos Community Center in Wailuku; Mitchell Pauole Center in Kaunakakai, Molokai; and Lānaʻi Police Station Conference Room, Lānaʻi City, Lānaʻi. Per Kaohu, these centers will be open to the public for ten business days prior to the election and through to the close of voting at 7 p.m. on election day. They will be available to provide accessibility to in-person same day voting, same-day voter registration, and receive personal delivery of mail-in ballots from voters that choose to wait three days or less prior to the election day to return their completed ballot. There will also be Ballot Drop Boxes in various locations throughout the island.

The Clerk’s office has been preparing for implanting the initial changes for the election year and invested in new equipment to withstand and process the anticipated volume of ballots returned for processing. Not having to budget for costs of staffing thirty-four polling locations helped to off-set some of the equipment costs.

Although the benefits of the new voting mail-process seem promising in providing the comforts of home to the voter, Kaohu reminisces on the traditional voting process. “One of the few



County Clerk Kathy Kaohu and her deputy James Krueger. PHOTO COURTESY TAMARA PALTIN

cons in my opinion is the elimination of the polling places. For Maui County that is thirty-four locations. It is a loss of the nostalgic tradition for community to gather for the single purpose of voting at the polling places. For some voters, gathering at the polling place would be the only time they would see their neighbors and was a time to catch up with the neighborhood. It is very important that our voters understand that with this change to voting-by-mail, all polling places will cease to exist. Do not mobilize on election day and drive to the polling place you’ve been going to for many years, it will not be open any longer and is a thing of the past as of 2020.”

Kaohu also noted the lack of polling places would reduce opportunities for youth groups. “Another con with the loss of the polling places is

associated with staffing polling places and the loss of the opportunity for youth groups and organized school clubs to volunteer to work the polling places to raise funds for their programs. But the other benefit beyond the fund raising was the exposure for these young adults to the voting process and being witness to the enthusiasm and attitude of the older generation of voters towards voting.”

According to the State’s Office of Elections, the voting turnout in 2018 was 38.6% for the State, with 741,000 registered voters and only 286,180 citizens participating. Maui County had a similar turnout with 36.2% of the 94,194 registered voters participating. According to Kaohu, the Help Americans Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) focuses on improving voting systems—increas-

see MAIL IT IN p.4



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Elections ...

from p. 1

Jetley, Gabe Johnson, and Matthew Mano.

To Be Decided in The Primary

Two legislative races will be decided in the primary. In House 8, Ka'apuni Aiwohi and Robert G. Hill, III will challenge incumbent Troy Hashimoto. In House 12, Simon S. Russell challenges incumbent Kyle T. Yamashita.

Of Filipino ancestry

Two incumbents of Filipino ancestry are seeking reelection: State Senator Gilbert S. Coloma Keith-Agaran (who is the only state legislator of Filipino ancestry from Maui—and the first Senator of Filipino ancestry from Maui) and Molokai Councilwoman Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. Other candidates of Filipino ancestry include Kanamu Balinbin (running for House 10) and Rick Nava (running for West Maui Council).

New party

In the State races where candidates run under a political party, thirteen are running as Democrats, three are running as Republicans, and five are running under a new party—Aloha 'Āina, which became official on March 12: Rynette Ipo Keen (Senate 5), Kahala Jen Chrupalyk (House 9), Travis D.E. Gylstrand (House 10), Howard Greenberg (House

11) and Theresa Kapaku (House 13). (Statewide, there are sixteen candidates running under the Aloha 'Āina party, far short of the party's goal of running a candidate in each race.)

Primary Battles

In the County Council races, if there are only two candidates, that particular race will be decided in the General Election on November 3. Where there are more than two candidates, a primary race (August 8) will decide the top two proceeding to the General Election. There will be four Council races in the primary: West Maui, Kahului, Makawao, and Lāna'i. In the West Maui race, Nava and Sne Patel will battle incumbent Tamara Akiko Maile Paltin. In the Kahului race, Deb Kaiwi and Carol Lee Kamekona will battle incumbent Tasha Kama. In the Makawao race, Aja Eyre and Laurent Zahnd will battle incumbent Mike Molina. (The Lāna'i race features the three candidates mentioned above.)

See you at the General

The three remaining Council races will proceed directly to the General Election ballot: East Maui, South Maui, and Molokai. The East Maui Council race features a rematch of 2018: Claire Kamalu Carroll versus incumbent Shane Sinenci. The Molokai race also features a rematch of 2018: Stacy Helm Crivello versus incumbent Rawlins-Fernandez. The South Maui race features Tom Cook versus Kelly Takaya King.

(Carroll's father used to represent East Maui while Crivello used to represent Molokai.)

"It's the economy, stupid"

In 1992, the Bill Clinton presidential campaign used this phrase over and over again to emphasize that issue. Twenty-eight years later, this phrase is again important. But as they also say, the devil is in the details. Maui is now facing one of the highest unemployment rates in the State and the nation due to the pandemic. With over 44,900 Filipinos in Maui County alone and Filipinos constituting the second largest ethnic group in the State of Hawai'i, the Filipino community constitutes the largest segment of hotel employees. How to quickly jumpstart the economy is on the minds of Maui's Filipino community and each of the forty-one candidates was asked to respond (fifty words or less) to the following question and provide specific details of their economic plan:

Because of COVID 19's disastrous impact on Maui's economy, what are you specifically proposing to immediately address the needs of Maui's unemployed?

The voters need to decide if they want the economy to move forward versus a slow-down.

Twenty-five candidates responded while sixteen did not respond.

Senate 5

CHRISTY KAJIWARA-GUSMAN



"1) Let MAUI Work! 2) Temporarily exempt from GE Taxes: health care facilities, local food producers, farmers/ranchers. 3) Encourage entrepreneurship loosening & lifting restrictions for: home-based businesses, obtaining permitting, licenses, & professional training certifications. 4) More Funding for C19 testing, treatment, and tracking, stations at airports to expedite reopening Tourism!"

RYNETTE IPO KEEN



"I would propose an immediate pay cut for all elected officials and Department Heads as these positions are public service positions. I would propose the immediate release of monies stashed in the State's Rainy-Day Fund to continue funding the unemployment system for displaced workers and increase the current SNAP benefits."

GIL S. COLOMA KEITH-AGARAN



"Mauians must return to work safely and soon. DLIR must payout UI quicker. We gave Maui County/MEO \$26million from CARES for rent/utilities, child care and fresh food. We provided Office of Community Services \$2.1million and Human Services \$2million for food purchases and expanding SNAP monthly benefits by al-

see ELECTIONS next page

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From the Editor's Desk

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



Your Vote, Our Voice ...

Your vote is our voice
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INCREASE PARTICIPATION. Allow every registered voter a convenient way to have their voice heard.

Leaders matter. All candidates for this year's election have filed papers for elected office. This is an especially important year for effective

leadership as we face a worldwide public health challenge with its universal, global economic impact on all life on the planet. A pandemic crisis requires boldness, clarity of purpose, continuous communication and the ability to bring everyone together in spirit. What are these candidates offering for solutions? What are their priorities for leading us in these difficult times and in the days ahead? Who inspires in you the spirit of *Bayanihan*, the willingness to work together for the betterment of all?

Why are you running for office? is the most pressing question for each candidate. Why do you want to give up your privacy and get into the limelight? Listen carefully to the responses, then track the progress of each candidate along the way.

For the Class of 2020, many of you will be voting for the first time this year. This is an opportunity for you as a collective body to create the shape and content of your future. You might look at this vote as a defining moment, the experience that defines who you are that will last a lifetime. This is your **MOMENT**—and you must de-

see **VOTE!** p. 6

Elections ...

from p. 3

most \$13million."

House 8

KA'APUNI AIWOHI



"This crisis is the failure of our officials to properly plan. We need to invest in a sustainable industry that supports the local economy. The funds from the CARES act should be taken out of the rainy day fund and used for our local community at this absolute moment."

TROY HASHIMOTO



"The State Legislature allocated \$66.6 million of federal CARES funding to the County of Maui. These funds must be quickly deployed to help with food distributions, rental/housing assistance, business support, and many other social services to assist the community ranging from home-

lessness, to mental health, to job counseling."

ROBERT G. HILL, III



"I support our hard working families and will push for any legislation that will help you keep more of your hard earned money for your family needs. Please vote for me!"

House 9

KAHALA JEN CHRUPALYK



"Rather than misappropriate funds, rental programs would cover more and temporary employment would be offered at the community level, until things go back to normal."

JUSTIN H. WOODSON



"We first need to ensure all unemployment insurance applicants are processed. This has been slow, but we

see **ELECTIONS** p.6

Mail It In ...

from p. 2

ing voter participation and improving accessibility of polling places such as access for the disabled and improving voter fraud investigation. Their efforts in bringing in new voter registration included implementing registration applications into driver license applications and SNAP (food stamp applications). This method resulted in a tremendous increase in voter registrations. Kaohu does recognize impediments to increasing voter turnout are similar throughout the country—such as complacency of voters, distrust of the systems in place and being pre-occupied with day-to-day life.

Maui, however, has seen a slight increase in voter turnout over the past elections through absentee voting. "Charter amendments that are high-stakes type of issues like the GMO item a couple elections ago, tend to bring in a lot of new and once-complacent voters back to the table for those election contests," Kaohu explains. "Increased participation in Maui County seems to be driven by those attributes of issues or particular candidates and races, rather than simply being excited to be exercising their right to vote. There seem to be more Political Action Committees aka PACs that in a way mobilize voters towards certain issues or certain candidates. In the past, more attention went to educating the youth and our young adults by providing in-school programs that introduced the voting process and its purpose at a young age, so it would be-

come something they would be familiar with and could look forward to participating in. These students would then talk about voting with their circle of adults and that conversation would play a role in activating the adults to follow through with voting."

Will transitioning to a web-based portal or an app change these numbers? Currently—Arizona, Colorado, Missouri, and North Dakota are the four states that allow some voters to return ballots through a web-based portal. West Virginia took the lead in being the one state that currently utilizes a mobile voting app. Will the use of technology be convenient enough to receive an overwhelming response of participation? "Digital transformation is the wave of

"Digital transformation is the wave of the future... The populace has pretty instantly shifted to this new way of online life."

— KATHY KAOHU

the future," Kaohu observed. "And with the recent COVID-19 restrictions to shelter in place, many more folks have changed their habits with one fell swoop by now paying bills online, shopping online, etc. The populace has pretty instantly shifted to this new (or familiar to many) way of on-line life." Kaohu cautions that perhaps safeguards have not yet been sufficiently developed to prohibit interference from outside sources.

For questions please call the Maui County elections office at (808) 270-7749. ✨

Vanessa Joy Domingo is a graduate of Maui High School and is employed with the County of Maui – Department of Management, IT Services and Coldwell Banker as a Realtor. During her free time, she enjoys cooking and baking and eating. She is also a registered voter.



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Uluwehi Guerrero



Guerrero Family



"Lelo" Ruperto Cabacungan, 1899–2000

For many of us, music is like a constant companion. It can bring us joy and motivate us, accompany us through difficult times, and alleviate our worries. Albert Einstein once said: "If I were not a physicist, I would probably be a musician. I often think in music. I live my daydreams in music. I see my life in terms of music." Even Maria Von Trapp, matriarch of the Sound of Music family said: "Music acts like a magic key, to which the most tightly closed heart opens."

What Maria Von Trapp said is so fitting to describe this month's featured *Sakada Offspring*, Rodney Benjamin Uluwehi Guerrero because in

Rodney Benjamin Uluwehi Guerrero

Lucy Peros | ALL PHOTOS COURTESY GUERRERO 'OHANA

the year 2000, he released his second album, "In My Heart" which garnered Male Vocalist and People's Choice. Most of us locals fondly know or call him just Uluwehi, our very own beloved, honed and refined Maui Entertainer.

Uluwehi was born on November 19, 1958 in Wailuku, Maui, Hawai'i. He attended St. Anthony Catholic School from Kindergarten thru third grade and Kahului School from 4th grade to 8th grade. He graduated

from Maui High School, Class of 1976. He attended Maui Community College with an emphasis in Hawaiian Studies. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Art from Wesleyan University and his Masters Degree in foreign language education.

Uluwehi's parents are Benjamin Guerrero of Mokuahau, Happy Valley and Olga Patricia Buen Pua'a of Hāli'imaile, Makawao. Barry Richard Pono Fried is Uluwehi's domestic partner for twenty years.

Uluwehi has three brothers and three sisters. His brother Kevin Lee (Amanda) Guerrero lives in Ewa Beach, O'ahu. He retired from the U.S. Army. His brother Mark (Maile) Guerrero lives in Chicago, Illinois. He retired from the U.S. Air Force. His brother Robert Alan Buen lives in San Francisco, California. His sister Tammy Ann (Jimmy) Hazelwood lives in Ramstein-Miesenbach, Germany. Shelley Ann U'ilani (Frank, Jr.) Caparso, see ULUWEHI next page

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Elections ...

from p. 4

will get to everyone. Next, continue to highlight the assistance programs available. If you have a specific need, please call my office. We want to help. Lastly, reopen with safety measures in place.”

House 10

No responses were timely received from **Kanamu Balinbin**, **Travis D.E. Gylstrand**, **Angus L.K. McKelvey**, and **Leonard K. Nakoa, III**.

House 11

TINA M.L. WILDBERGER



“Tina Wildberger, Kelly King and Keani Rawlins-Fernandez are providing Keiki meals, filling in the gaps this summer

when the DoE can’t. My office is advocating for the DoH to get robust pre-trip testing for visitors and contact tracing on Maui, so we can welcome visitors and begin our economic recovery ASAP.”

No responses were timely received from **Don Couch** and **Howard E. Greenberg**.

House 12

SIMON S. RUSSELL



“Looking after our public sector workforce will be a top priority. Keeping the jobs we have is a must. Creating economic stimulus for those out of work is the next priority. Creating jobs rebuilding crumbling infrastructure and building low income workforce housing on government lands we will be a priority.”

see ELECTIONS p.8

Sakada Offspring

Cont'd from p. 5



Uluwehi Guerrero finds joy, passion and inspiration in all facets of his life. The core of his being can be described as pure Aloha.

PHOTO COURTESY ULUWEHI GUERRERO

Uluwehi ...

from p. 5

another sister lives in Kahului, Maui. Last but not least, Uluwehi’s sister, Miki’ala Kamalei ‘O Iokepa Poepoe lives in Hāli’imaile, Makawao, Maui.

From the age of 12, Uluwehi started working by first delivering newspaper in Kahului with his brother Kevin. At the age of 14, he went to work in the fields picking pineapple in Upcountry Maui for two years. It was a very hard labor according to Uluwehi. He also worked as a store clerk for Mrs. Gouveia at the Economy Store in Pā’ia, riding his bike from Hāli’imaile and back every day after school. At age 17, he went to work for Dollar Rent A Car where the Marriot Courtyard Hotel now stands. He worked washing cars and worked his way to car rental clerk and then as office manager for the Travel Department of Roberts Hawai’i in the Kahului Airport which lasted for 23 years. Uluwehi is the owner/president of Openeye Tours LLC and Kaulupono Music.

All the while, he had a growing love and appreciation for Hawaiian Music and culture. In 1978, he answered a newspaper ad and became a student of hula which paved the path of his life’s journey. He then joined Hālau O Ka Lā, instructed by Kumu Hula Peter Pekelo Day of Ke’anae, Maui. In 1980, he became Co-Kumu Hula of Hālau Ka Makani

Wili Makaha O Kaua’ula alongside Kumu Keali’i Reichel, which blossomed for 20 years. They were known as Rodney and Carleton. They became one of Maui’s most decorated hālau hula at the King Kamehameha Chant and Hula Competition on O’ahu, and the Kā’anapali Beach Hotel’s Hula O Nā Keiki Competition on Maui. Today Kā’anapali Beach Hotel is considered the most Hawaiian Hotel on Maui.

Uluwehi held a second job after finishing his day job at Roberts Hawai’i. He was hired by Uncle Jesse Nako’oka as a hula choreographer for his lū’au shows at Jesse’s Lū’au and Manakai Resort in Kihei. He was also the emcee and show coordinator at the Stouffer Wailea Beach and the Intercontinental Hotel. It was during that time that Uluwehi honed his skills from musician and vocalist to become an entertainer, doing everything from musical arrangements to costumes and choreography.

“Working at Roberts Hawai’i and instructing a hula hālau was a full time commitment and a lifetime of dedication,” Uluwehi commented.

In 1995, Uluwehi released his first recorded CD album, “Ka Manawa Pono” which earned two nominations for Male Vocalist and Most Promising New Artist at the Nā Hōkū Hanohano Award. In 1997, he performed at the Carnegie Hall in New York City to a sell out audience. In 2000, he released his second album, “In My

see ULUWEHI p.8

From the Editor’s Desk

Cont'd from p. 4

Vote! ...

from p. 4

mand a better together. We need you. You know the power of a moment led by and for the next generation. YOU are the next generation. Make it count. Take the torch and plant your stake. Build the future that you desire, that you believe in, that is worthy of your fight.

As you decide about your vote in 2020, ask yourself: Is this a person who touches my heart? Does this person’s experience match what I know to be true from my own life? What abilities and skills has this candidate demonstrated for leadership and community building? Is this a trustworthy person? Would I want to invite this person to meet my family and friends? How does this person make me feel valued, helpful and appreciated?

Do not vote for someone who has the best chili and rice, the best slogan, the most money or is the most popular. Instead, look for the person who can actually do the job for our community. Examine their history, their values and how they have served others.

Unemployment, food shortages and housing are now the concerns of every person. As many more die every day, how can we as a caring community begin to hold hands and walk together to the light? Does the end of the tunnel look reachable from here? Let us leave no one behind.

Today, there is an outcry across our nation and around the world for leaders to listen to their people demanding for social justice. The ongoing peaceful protests are in-



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. explained the plight of America’s people of color, two years after the riots in Los Angeles, saying, “In the final analysis, a riot is the language of the unheard.”

PHOTO COURTESY WIKIPEDIA - FROM THE NOBEL FOUNDATION ARCHIVE

creasing daily, both here and abroad, to amplify the same message. Over fifty years ago, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. explained the plight of America’s people of color, two years after the riots in Los Angeles, saying, “In the final analysis, a riot is the language of the unheard.”

The challenge remains. More than ever—make your voice heard.

Leaders matter. Leadership makes a difference. Let them hear your voice. Make your vote count.

YOUR VOTE IS OUR VOICE. ✨

Vince Bagoyo

VINCE BAGOYO, JR. | EDITOR



Uluwehi and hālau hula.

PHOTO COURTESY ULUWEHI GUERRERO

COMMUNITY... IN ACTION

Editor's note: Send your community briefs to info@filamvoice.com. This month's column was compiled by Assistant Editor Alfredo G. Evangelista.

BAYANIHAN

One definition of *Bayanihan* is helping a neighbor as a community; doing a job together, lessening the workload and making the job easier.

Another definition of *Bayanihan* is community spirit.

Within the logo of Binhi at Ani, the words "Promote the *Bayanihan* Spirit" are stated.

It was indeed fitting that the first pandemic food drive organized on Maui (and apparently in the State of Hawai'i) by a Filipino community organization was ti-

tled "Bayanihan Food Distribution."

As explained in the solicitation letter "In times of need, it's important for all of us to come together to assist. That is the meaning of *Bayanihan*."

With Binhi at Ani spearheading the efforts, it was a successful one. The numbers gave testament to the success:

- \$7,887.00 monetary donations received
- 547 food packages distributed including



Some of the volunteers who assisted on Saturday.
PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA

- 675 plate lunches
- 3,066 canned goods
- 330 bags of rice
- 2,427 pounds of produce
- 1,971 packages of noodles
- 480 dozens of eggs
- 1,000 Pepsi beverages
- 600 loaves of bread/pan de sal
- 1,200 McDonald's certificates
- 600 masks

Interestingly, the idea for the event did not come from within the Binhi at Ani organization but from Marilyn Oura, the past president of Maui Filipino Community Council. "I wanted our Filipino community to do something to help everyone who had been affected by COVID-19," said Oura. "So I made a couple of calls and

spoke to Nora Cabanilla-Takushi, the president of Binhi at Ani and with the support of Emi Cortez, the current president of Maui Filipino Community Council, we agreed to work together for the community."

"It was not an easy event to plan as none of us have been intimately involved in such an event before," explained Cabanilla-Takushi. "But with the guidance of our steering committee and the hustle of Melen Magbual and others to solicit donors, we succeeded way beyond our expectations."

"When we learned that the amount of hits on the instructions for the Food Drive had gone from 2,000 to almost 8,000 in a couple of hours, we increased the number of food packages from 300 to

500," said Magbual. "Thanks to all our donors who contributed. We could not have done it without them."

The donors for food, produce, canned goods and other items were 3 Angels Farms, Alcalanians, Asian Mart and Fast Foods, Vince Jr. & Jennifer Bagoyo, Estephen & Violeta Baloaloe, CAA Market Place, Café O'Lei, Central Pacific Bank, Cupies, Jeffrey & Lydia Dela Cruz, Alfredo & Basilia Evangelista, Family Produce, Four Sisters Bakery, Four Sisters Catering, Girl Scout Troop #717, Happy Tummy, Home Maid Bakery, JMA Imports, Juan's Kitchen, KPMW Radio, Krispy Kreme, Kusina Ni Jayboy, Mila Lat, Loe Farm, Lorenzo & Emi Magbual Families & see BAYANIHAN p.13



The packing volunteers stayed until 11:30 p.m. on Friday night.
PHOTO COURTESY LEILANI CABANILLA



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Rep. Hashimoto assisting at the Bayanihan Food Distribution at the Binhi at Ani.

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Elections ...

from p. 6

KYLE T. YAMASHITA



“The Legislature is currently working on addressing unemployment resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. One way we are looking into using the CARES Act funding is to create temporary jobs that could serve the public statewide.”

House 13

No responses were timely received from **Lynn P. DeCoite, Theresa Kapaku, Walter Ritte, and Robin Vanderpool.**

East Maui Council

CLAIRE KAMALU CARROLL



“COVID-19 challenges Maui to rebuild our economy. Saving homes and developing a work trade program in agriculture. Working with farmers for more community worked farms. Work with State and Federal Representatives to extend unemployment. Not the time for raises in government jobs and increased taxes for Maui County.”

SHANE SINENCI



“I am proposing Agricultural production and food security measures in the county. I supported the appropriation of \$2.5 million in micro-grants, for small farmers. I also support directing CARES’ Act funding directly to residents, to instantly stimulate the economy.”

West Maui Council

RICK NAVA



“The State should set up an auto response to people’s emails as well as phone calls. Similar to most businesses, a caller can be given an option to hold for the next available associate or an option to be called back. Further, the State’s unemployment office should remain open.”

TAMARA AKIKO MAILE PALTIN



“Paid internships for unemployed to train/work in other needed areas from \$66M in CARES funding. I’ve voted to use funds to expand production of food. With the threat of less Young Brothers shipments, we need to increase our self-sufficiency to be able to ensure everyone has enough to eat.”

No response was timely received from **Sne Patel.**

Wailuku Council

No response was timely received from **Alice L. Lee.**

Kahului Council

TASHA KAMA



“Continue funding MEO’s H.E.L.P. program which assists underemployed and unemployed with financial assistance to meet their basic needs. Training in the emerging economies such as health care, child care, farming, ranching and technology. Provided \$75,000 for emerging start up businesses in Kahului.”

CAROL LEE KAMEKONA



“1. Make jobs available through farming while providing food for families. 2. Fund programs that assist families with housing, school supplies for children etc. 3. Provide assistance to those who need or want to change jobs. 4. Hold Community forums for input.”

No response was timely received from **Deb Kaiwi.**

South Maui Council

KELLY TAKAYA KING



“Instead of paying overtime to already employed county workers, the county should utilize unemployed residents to fill in gap areas. This could immediately put a lot of folks back to work temporarily and also retrain them for higher paying, non-tourism jobs. Additionally, it would lower our costs of OT.”

No response was timely received from **Tom Cook.**

see ELECTIONS p.15

Sakada Offspring

Cont'd from p. 6



Uluwehi and hālau hula.

PHOTO COURTESY ULUWEHI GUERRERO

Uluwehi ...

from p. 6

Heart” which garnered Male Vocalist and Peoples Choice Award. He also received a proclamation from the County Council and Mayor of Maui. In 2009, he released his third album, “Na Mele Hula Aloha” winning for most Hawaiian Album and Liner notes.

In 2015, he was asked to be the

headliner performer for the Presidents Ball in Pasadena, California for the Rose Bowl Tournament of Roses Parade. In June 2016, he was honored at the Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce’s Gintong Pamana Leadership Awards. He humbly accepted the award and shared it in memory of his *Sakada* Grandparents, George and Mary Guerrero. In 2018, he released his fourth album, “E Mau ana ka Ha’aheo” which was nominated for Hawaiian Album of the Year.

For the past 25 years, Uluwehi has traveled all over Japan, holding sold out concerts and hula workshops. He also traveled across the continental U.S., Canada, and Taiwan. He visited Rome and Venice Italy, Greece, Egypt, Paris, France, Montenegro, Monaco, Israel, Bulgaria, Germany, Austria, Thailand and Cambodia.

Uluwehi has very high regards to his grandmother, Mary Cabacungan Guerrero. He was very close to her. He shared this about her: “My grandmother Mary Guerrero was my rock and supporter during all

see ULUWEHI p.10



Uluwehi and kane with kē'eke'eke or Hawaiian musical bamboo pipes.

PHOTO COURTESY ULUWEHI GUERRERO



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How is quarantining treating you? The last time I checked the news, the curve was flattened and we don't have many new cases of COVID-19 which is why the government is lifting some of the restrictions.

The month of June should have been the month of celebrations especially for the graduates. We made history by having virtual graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2020. Congratulations graduates!

Let's Talk Pinoy!

Dulce Karen Butay

Let's not forget that in June we celebrate Father's Day! Happy Father's Day to all the Dads especially to the love of my life, Paul. Thank you for your unconditional love and support for the girls. We love you very much.

Let's visit our friends Angel and Michael and see what's going on with them this month, shall we?

MICHAEL: Uncle Ray called you?

Michael reaches for a cup in the drawer.

MOM: Of course he called me Michael. He told me about your *kofun* (friend). How would I know about you and a *miga* (friend) that's strolling in the park late at night? First Date? I hope you didn't get in trouble with her *ginikanan* (parents). Did you drop her home? Where does she live? *Ano* (What) is her name? *Anni* (What) is her family name? Maybe I know her *magulang* (parents)? Maui is a small island. Did you kiss her? Tell your mother. When will I have grandkids! I'm getting old!

English	Pilipino	Ilokano	Cebuano	Ilonggo	Ibanag	Kapampangan
Stairs	Hagdanan	Agdan	Hagdan	Hagdanan	Ad dan	Eran
Beautiful	Maganda	Napintas	Gwapa	Maanyag	Makasta	Malagu
Cold	Malamig	Nalamiis	Tugnaw	Matugnaw	Malam min	Marimla
Eat	Kain	Mangan	Kan-a	Kaon	Kuman	Kanan
Father	Tatay/Itay	Tatang/Itang	Amahan	Tatay	Yama	Tata
Parents	Magulang	Nagannak	Ginikanan	Ginikanan	Magana	Pengari
Friend	Kaibigan	Gayyem	Bai	Miga	Kofun	Kaluguran
What?	Ano?	Ana?	Hani?	Ano?	Anni?	Nanoyin?
Food	Pagkain	Makan	Pagkaon	Pagkaon	Kanan	Kapangan
Hurry	Dali	Alistuam	Pagmata	Dali a	Alistuam mu	Bilisan

walking in the dark by herself? Why did Angel ask her to drop off in front of the post office? She really didn't want me to know where she lives. Is she hiding something? Does she have a boyfriend? Or a husband maybe? Or maybe a girlfriend? Is she homeless and is ashamed for me to see? There is so much unknown that this makes me uncomfortable.

Michael grabs his phone. *Ana* (What) do I do now? Michael is pacing in his room. He can't fall asleep. He keeps on thinking of how to find Angel. Maybe I am thinking too much. I will just rest and look for her tomorrow.

Meanwhile, Angel is busy cleaning the kitchen. After she washes the dishes, she sweeps and goes outside to gather the laundry hanging on the clothesline.

"*Itay* (Father), I miss you. I used to fold the laundry in your bedroom while I tell you stories about what's new with your favorite local celebrities. Life was simple and things were easy because we helped one another. I cleaned the house and the yard. Then I prepared your *pagkaon* (food)

and even fed you but it's all ok. Unlike here, I am the only one who does all of the chores," Angel whispers while tears fall onto her cheeks. "I'll try to make it up one of these days." She looks up and tries to hold her emotions inside.

She brings Lydia's clothes inside and piles it in the corner quietly. She is scared to wake up the older lady so she tippy toes after she sets it down. If she wakes her up, definitely she'll be in a pissy mood and will yell at her again.

While laying down in her bed, she can't help but think of Michael. She had fun hanging out with Michael the whole day today. For once, she forgot about her problems and her worries. "Michael is really a great person. I wonder if he will still be nice to me if he learns about me and the situation that I am in," she sighs.

"I can't believe he *kain* (eats) a lot of Filipino *makan* (food). He even ate with his hand. He acted like he was brave when we encountered those homeless and drunk men but thank goodness, his uncle came to the rescue," Angel smiled widely.

In the morning, Michael awoke earlier than usual. He seldomly wakes up at 6 a.m. on the weekend. He normally sleeps in but today, he has a mission. He needs to know where Angel lives.

While brushing his teeth, he looks into the mirror and stares at himself. "Who are you? *Nanoyin* (What) is this *makasta* (beautiful) doing to your life?" He stands there for a minute and then thinks of Angel. He had a great time with her yesterday. He likes how she laughs. Her laughter is contagious. It's music to his ears. Ahhh ... her smile ... he loves her smile, it's the sweetest thing. And her figure, sexy is an understatement. She is so bold but gentle and kind at the same time. She's *maganda* (beautiful).

MICHAEL: I wonder what she is doing. The more I think of her the more I want to see her.

He reminisces of their day yesterday while he gets ready for the day.

MICHAEL: I better bring another jacket or sweater because Angel is always *matugnaw* (cold). Yesterday she was *malam min* (cold) when we were near the Harbor. I got to kinda hug her when I helped her put on my jacket. Ahhh, I got to smell her hair. She's definitely going to be *marimla* (cold) again.

Michael closes his eyes and smells his jacket imagining it was Angel. Ahhhh ...

MICHAEL: I better get going. I need to *alisto* (hurry up) and go see her.

TIME CHECKED: 6:17 a.m.

PHONE: Check.

KEYS: Check.

He walks through the hall to the garage where his "baby" sits waiting for his arrival. This is the first car he bought on his own brand new. It's an

see LET'S TALK PINOY next page

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 **Fil-Am Voice**

Please and Thank You, Mom and Dad

Editor’s note: The Fil-Am Voice extends its condolences to John and his family on the recent passing of his Mom Winona.

John A.H. Tomosot

My mother, Winona Veronica Kaleimokuokeanuenue Alo Tomoso, recently passed into the Life Eternal. She was born and raised on this island, from parents who came from families deeply and indigenously rooted in the soil of this island. She was a simply elegant woman, gracious to a fault yet not afraid to speak her mind; often to say what others may not have had the courage to express. I often thought that my Mom, to her last day on earth, knew what she was saying. My father, Constantino (Connie) Tomoso, was also born and raised on this island but of parents newly arrived from Cebu, in the Philippines. He was a very smart man, kind and considerate to a fault yet a constant advocate for those who didn’t know they were being left out. My own insistence on participating in family and civic affairs comes from my Dad. My Mom and Dad contributed in many ways to the way I live my life on this island.

Being Native Hawaiian, Mom knew a lot about the sky, the sea and the ‘āina. From my Grandmother, she inherited a green thumb and knew her way around the kitchen. She cooked for us, what became our favorite dishes; Hawaiian, Chinese, Ha’ole Food, even Japanese. Her family was firmly involved in cultural, political and civic affairs. If it was important, her family was involved; probably planning and organizing an event. To this day, people know me because of where my Upcountry Kula ‘Ohana lived and worked.

Dad was the most educated of all seven siblings. He was also athletic. He even died while winning a rousing round of doubles tennis. He deeply cared for his family and for everyone around him. He would regale all of us with stories of growing up on the plantation, poor yet never starving and never wanting for any clothes or books for school. They all helped each other and his siblings helped him to go to school and learn, probably to take over the family business. To this



My mom and dad’s formal wedding portrait in 1952.

day, people know me as Connie’s son. Sadly, most of my Dad’s contemporaries have also gone on to God. I say this because my Dad saw the Church as so very important. He went to daily Mass and saw to it that none of us would miss Mass on Sundays. My parents both knew how to party, hosting familial and social affairs. From both, I learned how to entertain and host, paying attention to the details of making sure guests were comfortable and welcomed. My parents, especially my Mom, wanted my siblings and I to look good, to mind your manners, to be respectful and to always be thankful, especially to God. I remember many a story and discussion about being grateful and knowing the difference between what you need and what you want. In all of this, my parents instilled in me a concern for and love of living with others, of being in and building community, including remembering others who passed on. Thus, regular trips to clean and decorate the graves of relatives were on our family calendar.

Now, knowing that both my parents are in heaven, I am thinking a lot about what all their upbringing of my siblings and I really meant. What comes to mind right away is the feel-

see MOM & DAD p.14



Uluwehi and hālau hula.
PHOTO COURTESY ULUWEHI GUERRERO

Uluwehi ...

from p. 8

the years of growing challenges. She encouraged me and taught me, lifted me up when I was down, and celebrated in the silence of the shadows when the light shined on my accolades. I learned many things including how to cook and sew from her skills as a homemaker and master seamstress. She was a humble caring, loving, and strong Filipino woman, to whom I was proud to call her Gramma.”

Uluwehi is fortunate to have two Sakada Connections. His grandfather George Guerrero came from Bacarra, Ilocos Norte, Philippines. He left the Philippines at age 25 in 1926 to find a better life for himself and for his family.

Upon arrival on Maui, George Guerrero worked as a field laborer for HC&S. He then learned to drive the bus to transport field workers to and from work within the camps. He later went to work at the Nagatani Store in Waikapū. He also worked for Camp 5 Plantation Store. The jobs that George undertook became the stepping stones for him to be an entrepreneur. He was one of the first Filipino businessmen on Maui. In 1945, George saved enough money to open his own general store in Happy Valley, Wailuku which was located at the end of Market Street across the former T.K. Supermarket. He operated his general store successfully for 25 years until his retirement in 1970.

Uluwehi’s great grandfather and great grandmother, Ruperto and see ULUWEHI p.14

Let’s Talk Pinoy! Cont’d from p. 9

odd colored yellowish orange that he had custom painted. So Filipino. The car recently washed and ceramic coated glimmers in the dark. As he turns on the light he can think of the transformer scene where Charlie learns her newly acquired bug is actually a robot named BumbleBee. Michael jumps to scare the car and waits for it to transform but alas, it doesn’t. He shrugs and gets into the Camaro and starts to drive to Pā’ia. While driving he reminisces about his teen years. He drove an old Corolla that was handed down from his Uncle Ray and he drove this route to Pā’ia so many times he could do it in his sleep.

He loved that car even though it was more trouble than anything. He probably put \$3K into the \$800 car keeping it alive throughout his high school days. And even getting him to the first semester of college before the head gasket blew and he had to dump it.

Michael parks his car in front of the Pā’ia Post Office. Now what? Now that Michael is where he dropped off Angel, what is he going to do? Visit us on our facebook page and leave us a comment or ideas at www.facebook.com/filamvoicemaui.

Find out and keep an eye out for my column in 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 Saladmaster dealer here on Maui.



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My OPM

Creating a playlist of “Original Pilipino Music” has been a salve for me during this COVID-19 pandemic.

Liza A Pierce of “A Maui Blog”

Music’s effect on the mind and body has long been acknowledged anecdotally. Who hasn’t tried to use music to influence their mood? Some would even assert music is medicine. Listening to music can be therapeutic. In these quarantine days during the COVID-19 pandemic, I found myself listening more to Filipino Music. Thanks to YouTube, I was able to create a playlist of songs. This playlist consists of some of my favorite OPM (Original Pilipino Music). Some have Filipino lyrics and some are in English. Most became hits in the 80s (my high school and college days).

If you are to compile a playlist of Original Pilipino Music, what will your list look like? What songs will be included in there? Well, here are some of mine:

Ngayon at Kailan Man - composed by George Canseco and originally sung by Basil Valdez, I consider this song a classic. In my high school days, one of our teachers would always ask one of my classmates (who has a beautiful voice and can sing well) to sing this song in our class. The melody and lyrics are so soothing. It is a love song about loving now and forever, thus it’s often played or sung on weddings and anniversary celebrations. Here’s a sample of the lyrics:

Ngayon at kailanman
Hindi ka na mag-iisa/ngayon at kailanman
Sa hirap o ginhawa pa
Asahan may kasama ka sinta
Naroroon ako t’wina
Maaasahan mo t’wina



Liza’s OPM playlist features singing artists like Sharon Cuneta, Moonstar 88, Odette Quesada, Martin Nievera, Lea Salonga, Gary Valenciano, Leah Navarro, Basil Valdez, Kuh Ledesma and Ric Segreto—and that’s just to name a few.
GRAPHIC COURTESY LAWRENCE PASCUA

Ngayon at kailanman

So, for those who are familiar with this song did I get you singing? I bet I did.

Sana’y Maulit Muli - This song was originally sung and made popular by Gary Valenciano. The original was written in English and it was Angeli (Pangilinan, his wife) who translated the lyrics into Filipino. This song was also recorded by Lea Salonga and she made a movie (with Aga Mulach) with the same title. It was a huge hit—both the song and the movie. This is a love song about rekindling the flame of love. Here is an excerpt of the lyrics:

Ang mga oras nating nakaraan
Bakit nagkaganito
Naglaho na ba ang pag-ibig mo?
Sana’y maulit muli
Sana bigyan pansin ang himig ko
Kahapon, bukas, ngayon
Tanging wala ng ibang mahal

Kung kaya kong iwanan ka

’Di na sana aasa pa
Kung kaya kong umiwas na
’Di na sana lalapit pa
Kung kaya ko sana

Ang Pag-ibig Kong Ito - Originally sung and made popular by Leah Navarro, this song was also more recently made popular by a band called Moonstar 88. It is a sad love song about someone who was left behind by someone she loved. It is a song and a prayer. The melody is so good that when I was singing this at home when my daughter was young, she started singing it with me spontaneously. That was a fun memory for both of us. Here are the lyrics, you too might want to sing along with us:

Umiiyak ang aking pusong nagdurusa
Ngunit ayokong may makakita
Kahit anong sakit ang aking naranasan

’Yan ay ayokong kanyang malaman

Mga araw na nagdaan,
kailanma’y hindi malilimutan
Kay tamis na raw ng pagmamahalan
Ang akala ko’y walang hangganan
Ang pag-ibig kong ito
Luha ang tanging nakamit buhat sa’yo
Kaya’t sa Maykapal
Tuwina’y dalangin ko
Sana’y ...

Kapalaran ko ay magbago
Kahit Maputi Na Ang Buhok Ko - Originally sung and made popular by Sharon Cuneta, this song was written by the talented composer Rey Valera. The song is like the Filipino version of When I’m 64 by Beatles. It is a fun song to sing and there are many covers of it on YouTube. The translation in English is When my Hair Turns Silver. It is a love song about staying in love even
see MY OPM p.13



Christy Kajiwarra-Gusman_R

Hawaii State Senate District 5

Kahului, Wailuku, Waihee, Puunene,
Kahakuloa, Waikapu, Waiehu

Hurricane Season in Hawaii
June 1st – November 30th

It is very important to be prepared. Make sure that your household has an emergency kit with at least two weeks’ worth of food, water, medicine, first aid kit, batteries, hand crank or solar powered radio and other essentials. You will need these items during and after a storm if you have to shelter in place or evacuate.

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With elections beginning, the voices of political figures are loud as ever. As pressing issues like the COVID-19, environmental protection and the state of the economy are being addressed, the community is watching to see which candidates they deem fit to suit their needs. Though current times makes for a tense political climate, it also makes for an opportunity for members of the community to speak out for what they care about and want leaders and representatives to keep in mind. The youth of this age is no exception.

Today's youth are becoming increasingly involved in various social media platforms such as Twitter, Instagram, and TikTok. But as social media is on the rise, the political engagement of Gen Z seems to rise along with it. A gold mine of activism and self-expression, social media provides youth with a platform to inform themselves of the current state of the country and develop their own political beliefs. Twitter, among other social media sites, has been a pivotal tool in politics as political figures showcase their views for the whole world to see. Introduced to the world of politics and given the chance to develop their own beliefs, do the younger ranks of the community wish they were given the chance to bring light to the issues they believe should be addressed most? Who do the youth think are fit to represent them? Three students answer



Kyson Calibuso



Faith Soliven



Marigold Baldonado

these questions.

Senior **Kyson Calibuso**, a member of his school's student government, describes the role of politics in his life. Though he admits he is not totally versed in the world of politics,

ment. Also, it is where other youth members share their opinions on certain issues and topics that circulate around our government and their international relations," he says.

Calibuso also credits what he knows about government to what he has learned in school. "What has helped me learn more about our governmental system was the Participation in Democracy class but the school year was cut short due to COVID-19, so I was not able to learn the class to its full content." When it comes to staying in tune with current political events, Calibuso agrees students should stay aware of what is happening in today's political climate

voting, those 16 and over should still have a say, since teens can be highly opinionated, especially if it concerns them."

Upcoming Junior **Faith Soliven** shares her take on youth partaking in politics. Like Calibuso, she also believes that citizens aged at 16 are viable for voting. "My opinion on the voting age in the U.S. is that it should possibly lower to 16 at the very least." Soliven owes this opinion to her hope students can learn about political ideologies in a school setting. "If our educational system makes unbiased efforts to educate our youth about political leadership, lowering the voting age should also be appropriate. It is responsible to make sure our youth are educated enough to understand how they should decide to vote, through unbiasedness."

Google® Is Not Everything...

If We Could Vote ...

Alexis Joy Vilorio | MAUI HIGH SCHOOL

Calibuso says that social media has played a huge role in what he does know. "Social media is usually the only outlet where youth gets their news concerning politics and the govern-

ment. Also, it is where other youth members share their opinions on certain issues and topics that circulate around our government and their international relations," he says.

"Social media is usually the only outlet where youth gets their news concerning politics ..."

– KYSON CALIBUSO

When voicing ideas through social media comes to mind Soliven believes "If social media towards youth is used wisely and effectively, it can definitely

encourage involvement. If social media and corporations allow for youth to use their voices and speak up about changes they need, youth involvement will become crucial." Soliven offers her personal account from fellow student journalists that have inspired her to explore politics. "From personal experience, I felt motivated to learn more about politics, from watching my high school friends from PBS Student Reporting Labs doing a live journalism panel in Washington D.C. I felt relieved to know that many adult audience members were concerned about how youth can be motivated to learn about problems and politics in the world," Soliven says.

Now considering herself fairly educated in the sphere of politics, Soliven is knowledgeable in the areas she cares about. "I feel like I am educated on politics to the extent of whether I want to learn more or not. It varies from really educated to not at all. I look for unbiased resources online such as PBS and the history of different candidates. I would also feed the need to educate myself more, the closer I would get to the voting age."

Set on what she believes in, Soliven shows what she would like to see her ideal candidate address. "I would

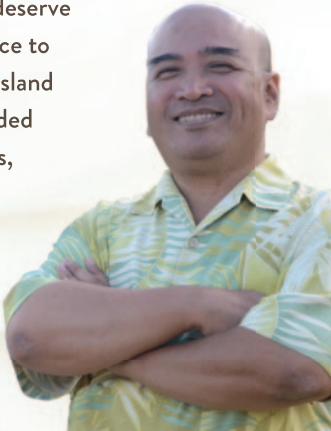
see VOTE ISSUES p.14

To Maui's Healthcare workers: our doctors, nurses, technicians, transporters, EMTs, pharmacists, everyone who supports patient care, and the many workers, friends and family supporting these frontline workers:

By putting yourselves in the path of this virus, your efforts on the forefront battling the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19), have helped stop its rapid spread throughout our community.

Having watched the daily details of the difference your efforts have made, thank you for your sacrifices day after day during this emergency. You have risen to the occasion and shown us what makes Maui No Ka Oi. Your **dedication, commitment** and **courage** deserve our deepest gratitude and admiration. Your service to patients has saved countless lives and made our island home and those of us lucky enough to have avoided illness, safer. I am certain that all your neighbors, family and friends join me in saying to you,

Mahalo Nui Loa



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**gil KEITH-
AGARAN**
SENATE



Uluwehi at the 2016 Gintong Pamana Leadership & Scholarship Awards.
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA

Uluwehi ...

from p. 10

Dionicia Cabacungan also came from Ilocos Norte, Philippines in the 1920s for labored work in the cane fields of Hawai'i. His grandfather George married his grandmother Mary Cabacungan, Ruperto's daughter in 1934. Mary was the second eldest of 12 children. According to Uluwehi, he affectionately called his great grandpa Ruperto, "Lelo." He was a very quiet, strong man, working and providing for his large family earning \$1 a day toiling in the cane fields as laborers carrying sugar cane on their backs, *hapai ko*. He acted as a midwife, delivered 10 of

his children at home on Mokuahu Road where it still stands today. He never drove so he walked everywhere. He lived to be 101 years old. Uluwehi was the first and oldest great grandchild of his 400 descendants. In 2016, Uluwehi hosted their Cabacungan Family Reunion on Maui to honor them.

"Being the oldest child, grandchild, great grandchild, I was exposed and witnessed the hard work of my great grandparents and grandparents," shared Uluwehi. "I followed them everywhere. The family values, work ethics, honesty and integrity as well as being a contributor to our Filipino community was important in our up-see ULUWEHI back page



Uluwehi and bulldog, just lounging.
PHOTO COURTESY ULUWEHI GUERRERO

Vote Issues ...

from p. 12

want my ideal candidate to address how to fix the economy for the equity of every class, solve environmental issues that are affordable and have a greater gain than loss, address college tuition and debt, and creating a reliable and better structured educational system that brings greater value out of students. I want them to carry themselves through integrity, empathy, and kindness, as they create change." Apart from policy itself, Soliven also places importance on the character

of a candidate "As someone who is a member of this world's youth, I find it refreshing when a candidate decides to wholeheartedly respect their competition and is completely honest with both society and themselves. If someone purely has their intentions to put the people first, without discrimination or hate, I find that appealing." Now Senior **Marigold Baldonado** takes the time to share what she thinks about youth in politics. Contrary to Calibuso and Soliven, Baldonado has no objection to the current voting age but she also recognizes lowering the age is a popular opinion among other students. "Having the

voting age be 18 is reasonable. For America, when a citizen turns 18 they are no longer (usually) under the responsibility of their guardians. It's the age in which they have to start *adulthood* and maturing into their own person. Lowering the voting age is what some of my peers want to happen." A supporter of youth voices, Baldonado owes her opinion to many people below 18 not experienced enough in the world of politics to make thoughtful decisions regarding it. "Although I believe it is important to have the voices of our generation heard, many people I know are not educated enough in politics and those who run the government. With the voting age being at 18 it gives people who are underage to actually evaluate their decisions and learn more about the topics and candidates they care about."

Baldonado looks back at what exposed her to politics, social media. "In my experience, social media has been able to open up my eyes to politics not only in the U.S. but around the world. Many celebrities feel it is their responsibility to spread as much information about the things they care about due to their large audiences. That can be the black lives matter movement, supporting the LGBTQ+ community, preventing global warming, etc." Baldonado sees social media as a powerful means of spreading awareness surrounding otherwise marginalized topics while staying true to the reality of social media. "Since their followings are so huge, information spreads. It goes from a celebrity circle to one's own community circle. Plus, for this generation, we're all about trends and keeping up with what's trendy. With that in mind, many people start hashtags or posts so that people can repost and participate. We no longer have the excuse of being uninformed when the information is right there in our own two hands. Social media is great because it gives us the opportunity to educate ourselves. Sometimes it's not correct information, but the internet is also there to put us in our place and to tell us when we are in the wrong and how we can grow from

there." Baldonado makes it known what kind of candidate the youth of today would want. "I would like a candidate to talk for the youth. I understand most candidates, especially presidential candidates, tend to shape their campaigns to please everyone. Yet to my knowledge no candidate expresses the importance of our generation and how much impact we have with our voices. We have opinions and as future leaders and working-class, our position in politics should have a greater impact." With this age's youth placing politics at a much higher pedestal than ever before, it is a crucial time for political figures to broaden their audiences. As information becomes more accessible to all members of society, students are taking the responsibility to become active members of their community and educate themselves on the issues they are passionate about. The rising

popularity of various platforms is making for a new age of politics and is changing the face of political campaigns right before our very eyes. With a tap of a button, youth can see what is happening in the world they are living in and develop their own opinions surrounding it. It is up to the political figures of today to meet the needs of every facet of society. **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 **Alexis Joy Viloria**, a Junior at Maui High School. She is the founder and President of Maui High's SaberScribes, their journalism club. Alexis is also a committed member of HOSA-Future Health Professional as the Secondary Representative of the Hawai'i HOSA Executive Council and a state gold medalist. Alexis hopes to one day become a Pediatric Physician. She is the daughter of Alex and Juvy Viloria.



Ating Kabuhayan | Cont'd from p. 10

Mom & Dad ...

from p. 10

ing and perspective that the self doesn't really matter too much if one forgets about the other; others, who probably are more needy than you, who need more love than you, who worked harder than you, building this island and preserving it for others. I know that they were born and lived here in another time, a simpler and gentler and more peaceful time. Growing up, they left their car keys in the ignition so that they wouldn't get lost. This was also a time when churches were left open, 24/7. I remember going with my Dad to light a candle in memory of someone who had died or whose birthday we needed to remember and say a prayer. Another thing both my parents taught us was that you had to be accountable and to always do what you said you would do; in other words, to finish what you began. I could go on and on. *Kababayan*, remember your parents. We are a clear reflection of who they are. What they did, to raise us, to nurture us, to ensure that our needs and not necessarily our wants were met, brings us to the Maui that you and I know and love and now work to bring up and nurture our own children, deep in the soil of this island. One more thing, I know a please and a thank you go a long way with others. Well, they went a long



I am shown sitting on my father's lap with my mother sitting alongside in the living room couch back in 1954.

way with my Mom and Dad. Say these words often, say them regularly. Each time you say them, make it a prayer to God, in thanksgiving for your Mom and Dad. Our Moms and Dads are the building blocks of the community and quality of life we all share and enjoy!



John A. Hau'oli Tomoso† is a Priest in the Episcopal Diocese of Hawai'i and a retired Social Worker, with 42 years of licensed practice. Born and raised on Maui, he lives in Kahului with his wife, Susan D. Tomoso, who is a retired Educator, with 30 years of teaching experience.

Elections ...

from p. 8

Makawao Council

AJA EYRE

“Immediately, our residents need streamlined access to the unemployment benefits, and it needs continual



state and federal funding. When I am elected, I will work tirelessly on empowering our economy through diversification, expanding career training options, supporting small agriculture, and decrease county taxes and hurdles to efficiency for small businesses.”

MIKE MOLINA



“I am proposing to the Mayor we increase the amount of COVID-19 monies for families in need and use these funds to provide work for our citizens by hiring temporary workers to assist the County with projects, maintenance and clerical needs.”

LAURENT ZAHND



“1. Support families in need by bringing together public and private resources. 2. Rethink our tourism strategy around a “Safe Luxury” brand; airlines are offering to test people BEFORE boarding. 3. Support people to create or consolidate their own business; facilitate access to guidance, land, equipment, funding, marketing, & on-line sales.”

Upcountry Council

YUKI LEI KASHIWA SUGIMURA



“As a sitting Councilmember we worked to provide funding for rental assistance, food and other basic or social needs. I proposed to have real property tax payments made in 4 yearly payments versus twice and suggested waiving penalties. Supported construction projects and funding to manage a renewed tourist industry.”

Lānaʻi Council

ALBERTA DEJETLEY



“A refillable food debit card, similar to food stamps, will help people who are still waiting for their unemployment claims to be processed. It’s a very stressful time so the County can help by keeping the application form as simple as possible. It will benefit individuals as well as families.”

No responses were timely received from **Gabe Johnson** and **Matthew J.K. Mano**.

Molokai Council

STACY HELM CRIVELLO



“Prepare and develop safe protocols for reopening Maui to visitors. To create a safe environment for visitors and residents, training capacity for Contact Tracing. Prohibit any increases in taxes and fees that increase the cost of doing business. Promote construction jobs with concentration on Affordable Housing Projects and Public Infrastructure.”

KEANI RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ



“As the Council’s Economic Development and Budget Committee Chair, I proposed increasing funding for families see ELECTIONS back page

Community... In Action

Cont'd from p. 13



The kitchen crew prepping the hot food.
PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA

Bayanihan ...

from p. 13

abeth Whitehead, Joselito & Helen Yuzon, and Jeremy Zane.

Key to the effort was also the work of the volunteers. Vanessa Joy Domingo was tasked with creating a volunteer work flow, including working with the Maui Police Department and the Hawaiʻi National Guard to coordinate the traffic. “We had over a hundred volunteers. They volunteered on Friday night to pack the food packages and on Saturday to distribute the food packages,” said Domingo. “We were really concerned about the traffic because of the non-availability of the Maui Waena parking lot. But as we drove around to observe the traffic flow, we noticed how those in line had self-policed themselves and alleviated the traffic problems by going through the side streets—all without any instructions from MPD. That was truly amazing to me.”

Based on the success of the first Bayanihan Food Distribution, a second one will be held on Saturday, June 27, with the starting time moved to 9:30 a.m. “We know there is a continuing need,” said Cabanilla-Takushi. “Binhi at Ani will continue



The Hawaii National Guard assisted with traffic.
PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA

to be our community center and promote the Bayanihan spirit.” ✨

Disclosures: Alfredo G. Evangelista served on the Steering Committee along with Arnel Alvarez, Manny Baltazar, Nora Cabanilla-Takushi, Emi Cortez, Vanessa Joy Domingo, Florante Garcia, Arthur Latayada, Melen Magbual, Marilyn Oura, Jeanice Paa, and Michelle Santos.



Mayor Michael Victorino offered a prayer before the Food Distribution.
PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA

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We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.-- That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.



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Uluwehi and his hālau have deep ties with groups in Japan and Taiwan.
PHOTO COURTESY ULUWEHI GUERRERO

Uluwehi ...

from p. 14

bringing. Something that I carry in my life filled with gratitude as I travel the world sharing my love for music and Hawai'i, I am reminded of the sacrifices made by my great grandfather and grandfather who were the *Sakadas* to help shape the future and foundations of Filipino culture in Hawai'i. I stand firm and proud in their footsteps and thank them and God almighty."

This year 2020, marks Uluwehi's 40th year Hula culture on Maui. He spent much of his life teaching and sharing the values, history and protocols of Hula and traditional Hawaiian Music. On this journey of his, thousands of students have passed thru the doors of Hālau Hula Kauluokalā on Maui, Japan, Taiwan and the continental U.S., taking him far beyond the shores of Hawai'i.

Uluwehi's personal advice to young people is: "Never be afraid of hard work. There will always be challenges and they are all lessons which opens another door of opportunity. I am forever grateful and acknowledge the sacrifices my Filipino ancestors have made for me to grow with a rich culture and family values and the pride of being benefactors of the lega-

cy of the *Sakadas*." ❄

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 the 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.



Elections ...

from p. 15

through the Hawai'i Emergency Lailima Partnership program. As a long-term solution, I proposed creating a program to pay those who continue to collect unemployment to also receive career training, in new, higher paying, stable industries."

The 2020 Primary Election on August 3 is less than sixty days away and with voting by mail, your ballot will arrive sometime in mid-July so it's not too early to start thinking about who to vote for.

It's your right and duty as an American to vote. ❄

Alfredo G. Evangelista has voted in every election since 1976. He is a graduate of Maui High School (1976), the University of Southern California (1980), and the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law (1983). A sole practitioner at Law Offices of Alfredo Evangelista, A Limited Liability Law Company, he concentrates in estate planning, business formation and counseling, nonprofit corporations, and litigation. In private practice since 1983 (36 years), he returned home in 2010 to be with his family and to marry his high school sweetheart, the former Basilia Tumacder Idica.



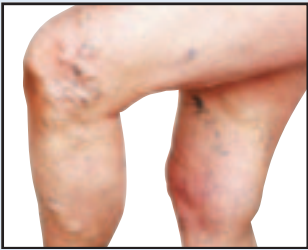
Uluwehi shares his mana'o with the world with his talent of hula, oli and mele along with Hālau Hula Kauluokalā—the group that he teaches as its kumu.

PHOTO COURTESY ULUWEHI GUERRERO

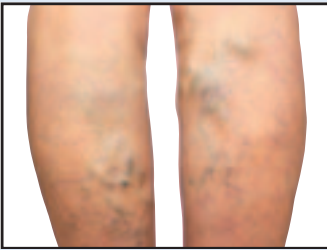
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... or this



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