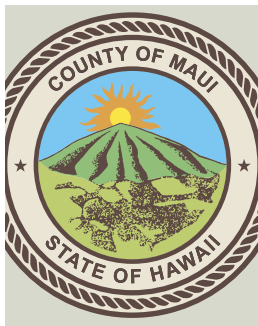




New Normal In School

Challenges among students, teachers and parents now require fresh coping mechanisms.

Page 1



Charter Changes Mean ... ?

Voters have important Charter changes to vote on.

Page 1



Honored Daughter

This Sakada Offspring brings honor to her family!

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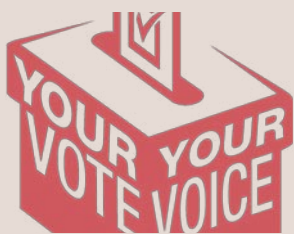


Fil·Am Voice

Magkaisa Tayong Lahat | “Let Us All Unite”

September 2020 • Vol 4 No9 | FILIPINO AMERICAN VOICE • UPLIFTING OUR COMMUNITY | FREE

inside



Editor Bagoyo stresses importance of the vote among Filipinos.

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Connection of County Charter Amendments to God's Covenants.

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“Bayanihan Is ...” Kwentu Kwentuhan explains.

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Coping With Distance Learning

Students, teachers and parents struggle to cope.

Vanessa Joy Domingo



The Ramirez children using their laptops to study.

PHOTO COURTESY LANIE RAMIREZ

COVID-19 numbers escalated and with the Hawai'i State Teachers Association and parents complaining, all plans were thrown out the window.

Instead, distance learning is the new norm. Although distance learning (also known as virtual learning or online learning) was used during the last two months of the 2019–2020 school year, students, teachers, and parents are still adjusting and learning to cope.

“Most of us were never taught how to teach a virtual class,” said Julius Galanto, a band teacher at Īao School. “Some teachers have gone years and decades teaching in a classroom; very effectively also.”

Kahului Elementary School teacher Michele Balala, like most teachers, is putting in **see DISTANCE LEARNING next page**

When the 2019–2020 school year ended with drive-by graduations, no one knew what to expect for the 2020–2021 school year. At first, the Department of Education released plans where schools would start on August 4 with a variety of scenarios that included most of the students on campus. But when the

To Cha-Cha or Not?

County Council Approves Seven Charter Changes (Amendments) to be placed on Ballot.

Alfredo G. Evangelista
ASSISTANT EDITOR

For most Filipinos who tune in to Philippine politics, Cha-Cha is not only a dance but an abbreviation for charter change.

Here on Maui, voters must decide in the upcoming gener-

al election on November 3 whether to vote for the Cha-Cha. Seven charter changes or amendments have been approved by the County Council and will be on the ballot.

Just in case you're into the political science stuff, there are four ways to get a change on the ballot: (1) by resolu-

tion of the council that is passed by a vote of six or more members; (2) by a petition presented to the council (signed by not less than 10% of the registered voters in the last general election) and passed by a vote of five or more Council members; (3) by a petition to the County

clerk (signed by not less than 20% of the registered voters in the last general election); [Section 14-1 of the County Charter] or (4) by the Charter Commission which meets every ten years and has to submit the proposed changes to the County Clerk within 16

see AMENDMENTS p.3



Current sitting (incumbent) Maui County Councilmembers. Left to right; G. Riki Hokama, Tasha Kama, Kelly King, Alice Lee, Mike Molina, Tamara Paltin, Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, Mike Sinenci and Yuki Lei Sugimura.

FREE



Julius Galanto
 PHOTO COURTESY JULIUS GALANTO



Michelle Balala
 PHOTO COURTESY MICHELLE BALALA

Distance Learning ...

from p. 1

more hours than usual to provide her students with quality education. “I am learning about different apps for learning and how to use them to interact with my students. It definitely feels like my first year of teaching all over again. I’m working well beyond my working hours, like most teachers are, to plan how I’m going to deliver the instruction like I would if it was in person.”

King Kekaulike High School teacher Ritchilda Yadao sympathizes with other teachers adjusting to virtual learning. Yadao has significant experience in teaching virtually through teaching distance learning classes for the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa College of Education. “For many educators, this is their first attempt at distance learning. It feels like we are all first-year teachers again. We plan, learn new things and adjust, then circumstances beyond our control happen then we find ourselves back to the planning phase. I was not fully prepared to be teaching in this format and I’m still

not fully prepared even though we’ve been in session for the past two weeks. But that’s the gift of an educator, we press forward because we are gifted in finding ways to make things work despite the crisis we are in.”

Like some teachers who have families, Judith Hook, a fifth grade teacher at Kahului Elementary School, tries to find balance between being a teacher and a parent. “I got her Dad in charge of them with online school. Sadly, I can’t manage them and my class. All school email and notifications go to Jack (Dad).”

The Ramirez family in Kahului experiences a scenario many Maui families can relate to. Jojit and Lanie’s three children—Julia (15 years old), Joseph (12 years old), and Jomel (10 years old) attend different schools. Julia is a sophomore at Maui High school, Joseph is an eighth grader at Maui Waena Intermediate School and Jomel is in fifth grade at Lihikai Elementary School. All three students at-

see DISTANCE LEARNING p.4

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Ritchilda Yadao
 PHOTO COURTESY RITCHILDA YADAO

Amendments ...

from p. 1

months after their appointment [Section 14-3 of the County Charter].

The County Charter is the equivalent of Maui’s constitution and like the United States constitution and the Hawaii constitution, the preamble to Maui’s charter begins with the words “We the people...” The preamble to Maui’s Charter explains why the Charter is adopted: “In order to secure the benefits of the best possible form of county government and to exercise the powers and assume the responsibilities of county government to the fullest extent possible...”

The seven charter amendments deal with a variety of topics:

1. increasing the affordable housing fund;
2. giving an unelected Managing Director the powers of the elected Mayor;
3. clarification of term limits for the Council;
4. creating standards for the interpretation of the Charter;
5. giving power to the Council to appoint members of the Charter commission;
6. clarification of term limits for the Mayor; and
7. creation of a new County Department of Agriculture.

Yup, some of these charter amendments seem esoteric in nature and maybe only lawyers and political scientists get excited about them. But there are a few charter amendments that some say can affect Maui’s Filipino community and its political access.

Affordable Housing Fund (Resolution 20-59; passed the Council on a 6-3 vote with Hokama, Kama, and Sugimura voting no.)

Shall the Charter be amended to require that a minimum percentage of the certified real property tax revenues be appropriated into an affordable



May Anne A. Alibin, Deputy Director of the Department of Finance
PHOTO COURTESY CEASAR LIZADA

housing fund beyond Fiscal Year 2021, to be used for the provision, protection, and expansion of affordable housing and suitable living environments; and to increase the minimum required percentage from 2 percent to 3 percent of the certified real property tax revenues, effective July 1, 2021?

According to May Anne A. Alibin, the Deputy Director of the Department of Finance, for fiscal year 2021 (July 1 2020–June 30 2021) the certified real property tax revenues was \$375.9 million (net of circuit breaker adjustment) and 1 percent of that equals \$3.8 million.

Chris Sugidono, Assistant Communications Director for the Office of the Mayor, said the Affordable Housing Fund estimated balance as of June 30, 2020 was \$26.3 million. Five projects were awarded funding for a total of approximately \$13.7 million in FY 2020.

For the voters, the question is where would the budget be reduced by almost \$4 million dollars if this Charter amendment was passed? Would it come from the Office of Eco-

nomic Development? Would it come from the Parks Department? Would it come from the Housing and Human Concerns Department?

Office of the Managing Director (Resolution 20-60; passed the Council on a 6-3 vote with Hokama, Kama, and Sugimura voting no.)

Shall the Charter be amended, effective January 2, 2023, to reorganize the executive branch for the County of Maui to establish an Office of the Managing Director, wherein a Managing Director, hired by the Mayor through a recruitment and selection process involving the Mayor, Council Chair, and a three-member citizen group, shall function as the County’s chief operating officer responsible for the

County’s daily operations, the appointment and removal of most department heads, and the implementation of County policy; the Mayor shall be the County’s chief executive officer responsible for supervising the managing director’s work, representing the County in intergovernmental affairs, having the authority to approve or veto bills, nominating board and commission members, and enforcing provisions of the Charter, County ordinances, and all applicable laws; and authorizing various housekeeping revisions?

Currently, there is a Department of Management with a Managing Director appointed by the Mayor, with the approval of the council. The Managing Director is required to have at least five years of experience in an administrative capacity. The Managing Director’s duties are to supervise agencies, departments, boards and commissions assigned by the Mayor. The Mayor appoints most of the department heads. [See box below for a comparison of the current duties versus the proposed duties.]

This Charter amendment is expect-

ed to garner the most interest. Two years ago, a similar amendment for a County Manager was proposed to the Council but was rejected and not included on the ballot.

Proponents of this Charter amendment believe this is long overdue. “First, in general, everyone benefits from good government,” said Mark Hyde who has shepherded this Charter amendment. “I define good local government as one free from cronyism; that puts the interests of the people before politics; that places the best, most experienced and qualified people in management positions given the work to be done; that is accountable for performance; and is transparent. Effective local government has community-centered policies and plans in place and follows and implants them efficiently and effectively.”

Benjamin Acob, who was appointed as Prosecuting Attorney by Mayor Charmaine Tavares, said “Yes if professionally educated and/or experienced in managing counties and/or cities and belong to an organization (International County/City Management Association) where he or she could get continuing education and that subscribes to a code of ethics which among other things, require him or her to: a) be non-partisan and non-political and b) demonstrate by word and action the highest standards of ethical conduct and integrity in all public, professional, and personal relationships.” But Acob noted “The language of the Charter Amendment on the ballot presents many questions. Who appoints the three citizens partly responsible for hiring? The Mayor? If so, it does not sound so non-political or nonpartisan. How much supervision by the Mayor? To the point that the manager works in the best interest of the Mayor and not the public? If for the Mayor, does not sound so non-political or nonpartisan. The way the language of the Charter Amendment is worded, I will vote NO.”

“Looking at it and trying to under-

see **AMENDMENTS p.5**

Managing Director Duties

Currently, under the County Charter, the Managing Director’s powers, duties and functions are:

1. Act as the principal management aid to the mayor.
2. Supervise the administrative functions of those agencies, departments, boards and commissions assigned by the mayor.
3. Evaluate the management and performance of each agency.
4. Prescribe standards of administrative practice to be followed by all agencies under his or her supervision.
5. Supervise and coordinate those functions described in Subsections 7-5.6, 7-5.7 and 7-5.8.
6. Perform all other duties and functions required by this charter or assigned by the mayor.

According to Resolution 20-60, Draft 1, these will be the new duties of the Managing Director if the Charter amendment is passed:

5. The managing director shall:
 - a. Act as the county’s chief operating of-

- ficer, reporting to the mayor, subject to the provisions of this charter.
- b. Appoint and remove the deputy managing director and appoint the necessary staff, for which the council has made appropriations, except for the office of the mayor.
- c. Except for the office of the mayor, create or abolish positions for which the council has made appropriations, and provide a report of such actions to the council within fifteen days.
- d. Make temporary transfers of positions between departments or between subdivisions of departments, consistent with the annual budget ordinance and other law.
- e. Recommend to the council a pay plan for all county employees and officers whose pay is not otherwise provided for by law.
- f. In consultation with the mayor, prepare and submit an annual operating budget and capital program to the council for its consideration under Article 9.
- g. Control, manage, and execute the annual operating budget and capital program.

- h. Continually review each county department’s finances, organization, and methods to assist each department in using public funds most effectively and to ensure compliance with budget laws and controls.
- i. Assign powers, duties, and functions that are not already assigned or enumerated in Article 8, to and between the departments. Supervise the administrative functions of the departments and agencies identified in Article 8, Chapters 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14, and 15.
- k. Evaluate the management and performance of each department and agency identified in Section 6-5(5)(j) at least annually.
- l. Assign goals and objectives to, and evaluate at least annually, each administrative head under the managing director’s supervision.
- m. Prescribe standards of administrative practice through rule making and otherwise for all agencies and departments under the managing director’s supervision.



From the Editor's Desk

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

Make Your Voice Heard ... VOTE!

The 2020 elections are like no other in Maui's history—one that will be transformational. During this election, voters can change how and who will manage Maui's governmental operations. The choice is between activist candidates and policies versus moderate and pragmatic candidates and policies. The ongoing pandemic and economic crises teach us elections matter and have consequences. While we are focused on doing what we can to stay safe, healthy and put food on the table for our families, we are also trying equally hard to make sure we help the people we love and those around us in our community to be safe and healthy.

This year's local election highlights how our elected officials respond to these crises. More than ever, we are encouraged and inspired to exercise our civic duty and personal responsibility—first to register, then to vote. The results of this election will have a huge, direct impact on our daily lives. In times of crises, the actions of our leaders reveal what is more important to them, telling us things about their priorities, values and character that we may not notice otherwise.

The urgency of critical decisions facing our leaders gives us the best reasons to study the candidates, learn their platforms, review their

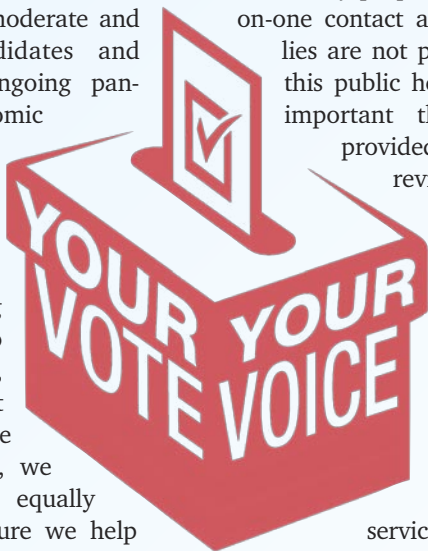
history of public service, become familiar with their life experiences, evaluate evidence demonstrating their character and most of all, determine if their espoused values align with your own, and if your concerns are addressed in the solutions they propose. Because one-on-one contact and political rallies are not permitted during this public health crisis, it is important the information provided are seriously reviewed and discussed among family and friends to prepare for voting. Equally significant is Hawai'i is now voting by mail. Due to the delays in mail service resulting from the pandemic and an expected increased volume of mail, voters are urged to immediately return their ballots to ensure their votes arrive in time to be counted.

Of special note on the ballot in this election are seven charter amendments which will impact the delivery of services to Maui County residents. It is extremely important to study these amendments, especially considering how each one will affect your life.

I believe three amendments will have the most impact on Maui's Filipino community:

1. **Establish a Department of Agriculture to develop a sustainable regional system for Maui County.**

see VOTE SMART p. 6



Distance Learning ...

from p. 2

tend class at the same time from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. every day. They each have assigned areas in the home to ensure they can focus and not be distracted by each other.

"Julia goes to school online in her room. Joseph takes the boys' bedroom and Jomel is set up in the kitchen," explains Jojit. In order to keep up with their children and their studies, Jojit utilizes employee leave made available through the Families First Coronavirus Response Act and takes two days out of the week from his occupation as a Building Maintenance Repairer for the County of Maui. Initially, when schools offered options for blending learning vs virtual learning at home, the parents opted for their children to go to campus. "I'm worried about the COVID-19 pandemic, too," explained Jojit. "But I don't feel that it's great for their mental and emotional health to be at home all the time." Since then, they've tried to supplement their at-home schooling with opportunities to be outside safely with family with activities such as hiking and going to the beach. "Schools are doing their best—the teachers are so nice. This is new, so everybody's a little confused and trying to get organized," said Lanie. She is thankful each school was able to provide laptops for her children.

For the three Ramirez children, distance learning is not ideal. Julia who is also an AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) student says she doesn't really enjoy going to school online. "I have a short attention span and I'm easily distracted. Just like my classmates, it's easy to go on your phone and do other stuff while the teacher is talking. I see my classmates get distracted on the screen. I learn better in person and being face-to-face with my teacher." Julia feels uncomfortable having the camera on but doesn't feel concerned about any type of bullying happening in class since Google Meetings are monitored. At times, the Wi-Fi can be an issue for her and her siblings. "I have to share the Wi-Fi with my two brothers that are also attending class. So, sometimes there's a lag. Maybe the schools need to figure out a bet-

ter way to have online meetings, especially for families that have other siblings that need to be online at the same time." With a positive mindset, she shares a piece of advice for students her age. "I know it's hard but



Judith Hook
PHOTO COURTESY JUDITH HOOK

keep trying."

Joseph feels the same way about their internet situation at home. "Sometimes there's a lag with the Wi-Fi. It's confusing to be in school at home. You can't ask the teacher for help with assignments because we don't have much contact with them."

Joseph observes several of his classmates are not paying attention in class as they are either not looking at the computer, moving around their mouse and occasionally making a funny face on screen. Like Julia, Joseph misses seeing his friends and learning things physically in class. His advice to schools is to provide better internet to families. And to people his age, he encourages them to focus more.

Jomel believes school is not so bad.

"Everything is ok—not everyone pays attention though. You can see them doing other stuff during class. It doesn't feel like school." Jomel misses hanging out with friends and math class. His advice to schools? "Let us go back to school!" he says.

Another predicament encountered
see DISTANCE LEARNING p.6

"Schools are doing their best—the teachers are so nice. This is new, so everybody's a little confused and trying to get organized."

—LANIE RAMIREZ



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Benjamin Acob, Former Prosecuting Attorney during Mayor Charmaine Tavares' administration
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Arnel Alvarez, Formerly from the hotel industry
PHOTO: BASILIA EVANGELISTA



Melen Agcolicol, small business owner and Filipino community leader
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA

Amendments ...

from p. 3

stand the whole concept, it's a little difficult. There's good and bad," said Arnel Alvarez, who is currently laid off from his job in the hotel industry and is a part-time radio announcer. "Good so the Mayor can concentrate on other things with the Managing Director at the Mayor's side. But under the proposed change, the Managing Director is sharing the power with the Mayor. With the Managing Director sharing power with the Mayor, it's seems a bit lopsided. The way I look at it, there's nothing wrong with the old system. If we go through with the Managing Director sharing powers with the Mayor, that would give the Managing Director too much power because the Managing Director was not elected."

Melen Agcolicol, a small business owner and a Filipino community leader agrees with Alvarez: "I disagree with reorganizing the executive branch for the County of Maui to establish an Office of the Managing Director. It doesn't make sense to have this position because that is the job of the Mayor. It seems to me that the

Managing Director has more power than the Mayor. I think it will create a conflict in the long run and also cost us more money to hire staff to support the position. Leave it the way it is. We only need one Mayor!"

Agcolicol's sentiments were echoed by Nora Cabanilla-Takushi, an educator and Filipino community leader. "I want the Mayor to be the Mayor. That's why we voted for the Mayor. I think the Mayor should be able to lead us or guide us to a better solution to everything we need. With the reassignment of duties from the Mayor to the Managing Director, why even elect a Mayor?"

Agcolicol noted how the Filipino community would lose its political clout. "For the Filipino community, it reduces our effectiveness in the political process. In close elections, we have made the difference. For example, in 1998, Kimo Apana became Mayor by less than 2,500 votes. In 2002, Kimo Apana lost his re-election bid by less than 1,200 votes to Alan Arakawa. In 2006, Alan Arakawa lost his re-election bid by less than 1,800 votes to Charmaine Tavares."

Cabanilla-Takushi agrees. "We won't get the full benefit of support because we need to go through an unelected Managing Director instead of a Mayor that the Filipino community helped to elect so our Filipino community will suffer and lose any political clout."

Cabanilla-Takushi was also concerned about whether the proposed charter amendment would mean hiring from the mainland. "If we're hiring people from the outside who don't know a lot about our culture, it will be difficult to get support for our various Filipino community activities--and we have many. It would take awhile for a newcomer to adjust to our multi-ethnic society and to learn about the strengths of each cultural group."

Alvarez was equally con-

cerned. "It is good to out-source it but shouldn't we focus on who is eligible in the County first? If we bring folks in, it will be difficult because it's hard for them to adjust. If they're from the County, they have more knowledge about the County of Maui and its people."

Agcolicol was doubtful support of the Filipino community's activities would continue. "The elected Mayor understands our community because it's important to gain our votes. A

non-elected official does not need to understand our Filipino community and will probably come from the mainland. How in the world will someone fresh from the mainland understand the Filipino community and know the different regions of our ancestry? Would this person be sympathetic to our various events like the Barrio Fiesta, Rizal Day celebration, Miss Maui Filipina, Maui Fil-Am Heritage Festival, and support our community?

see AMENDMENTS p.11



Nora Cabanilla-Takushi, educator and Filipino Community leader
PHOTO COURTESY NORA CABANILLA-TAKUSHI

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Science for a better life

Distance Learning ...

from p. 4

by Maui families is finding structure for at-home schooling with both parents working. Fortunately/unfortunately, I have first-hand experience with this situation. My nephew Aaron Jrae Arrocena (AJ) is dropped off around 6 a.m. at his Grandma's house before his Mom Jenilee goes to work as his Dad Arnel leaves for work by 4:30 a.m. AJ attends Kahului Elementary school and received a laptop to help him with his studies. Because Grandma's house does not have Wi-Fi, AJ utilizes a mobile hotspot set up by his Mom. In a matter of ten school days, AJ used 40 GB of data, requiring Mom to pay an additional \$35 for a data boost of 15 GB so AJ can attend school without interruption. One morning, however, AJ's mobile hotspot ran out of data. AJ rushed to come look for me in the back cottage, frantic about being disconnected to his class.

Thankfully, I was working from

home and was able to assist. But AJ's experience raises a lot of questions. If I wasn't home, would AJ have connected to our home Wi-Fi? Would he have found the router and entered the password? Many grandparents are trying to help while both parents are working but can you imagine grandma and grandpa trying to troubleshoot internet connectivity problems?

Outside distractions are also a problem. After thirty minutes that AJ was with me (I am now his favorite Aunty), our neighbors began arguing. I moved AJ into another room of the house so he could focus and not be distracted. While AJ was trying to focus and tune out the noise the next door, I heard his teacher address one of the students in the classroom—"Please put away your toy. When class is in session, we don't play with our toys." The students chime in as the teacher proceeds with the lessons. But



Ramirez family during a family vacation.
PHOTO COURTESY LANIE RAMIREZ

Vote Smart ...

from p. 4

When reviewing this amendment, consider whether this will help farmers or increase the cost and efficiency of government.

2. Establish stricter term limits for Council members by limiting the number of terms a person may serve as a council member to five two-year terms. When deciding how to vote on this amendment, think about whether this will encourage more participation in government or whether it leads to a loss of continuity in government.

3. Professional County Manager. This amendment proposes the executive branch be reorganized to have a professional managing director to be appointed as the County's Chief Operating Officer, taking over most of the Mayor's management functions. This charter amendment is likely to draw the most attention. But consider what does it mean to have an unelected official make most of the decisions about our government? Will it lead to an upgrade or result in more turnover with more non-residents hired and then leaving after not being able to function in our multi-ethnic society?

Mayor Victorino stated these three proposed amendments "lack public discussion and review during the current COVID-19 pandemic crisis." He also said "We need to look closely at whether these proposals would accomplish what they set out to do. Our charter is our County bible, our foundational document. It is not something that should be changed on a whim or on the idea that if something sounds good it is the right



"Our charter is our County bible, our foundational document. It is not something that should be changed on a whim or on the idea that if something sounds good it is the right thing to do," said Mayor Mike Victorino.

thing to do." Mayor Victorino prefers these proposed amendments be further reviewed by the new charter commission, scheduled to convene in 2021 and this process will allow more public participation and adequate vetting on any proposed charter amendments.

However you vote on these three charter amendments, I cannot stress enough how important this year's election is for Maui's future. But first, you must register to vote by Oct. 5 (or in person on election day). Voter registration information is available at the Office of the County Clerk, on the 7th floor of the County Building, or by phoning (808) 270-7749. Yes, the future of Maui is in your hands—the voters.

When we elect the right leaders and policies, your vote will take us closer to a more "perfect union." Make a difference and make your voice heard. **Vote and vote smart.** Remember, your vote and **every vote matters!** ✨

Vince Bagoyo

VINCE BAGOYO, JR. | EDITOR

even AJ experiences some hurdles on his end. "Sorry, I can't hear you, AJ. Can you speak louder for me?" "I'm sorry," the teacher says to another student. "You looked like you were raising your hand." He had called on her to answer a question and explained that she couldn't give him the answer.

My brief experience with AJ has led me to conclude learning at home is not always the appropriate environment. How do you ensure optimal Wi-Fi so there's no lag in this virtual environment? How do you handle noise that is beyond your control? How do you properly teach students about posture, focus, and appropriate classroom behavior? When something goes wrong—who can be there to help the student?

The problems with the internet holds true for other islands. Maui boy Danny Acidera who now teaches third grade at Hahaione Elementary School in Hawai'i Kai on O'ahu says "The biggest challenge with meeting students online is connecting. I mean this in both definitions, digitally and personally. Sometimes students' Wi-Fi or online programs have glitches, causing a disruption in the flow of learning. Connecting personally with students online is not as meaningful as being in person. I think live social interaction between students and their teachers is absolutely necessary for a child's education and mental health."

Hook agrees there is still definitely room for improvement in providing the optimal class setting. "I give minor

reminders to make sure they are in a learning space where they can focus and to make sure that if they're not speaking to have their microphones off. There are one-to-two students that I repeat the reminders to. During another student's presentation of their All About Me PowerPoint, the same two students did not have a quiet space to focus in or have their microphones off as instructed. It's really loud in their house. You can tell there is a lot of people in the background. But that's beyond teacher's control,"

"It's really loud in their house. You can tell there is a lot of people in the background. But that's beyond teacher's control."

— JUDITH HOOK

Hook explains. "For some students, you can hear chickens, though," she adds, chuckling.

Balala has had a few hiccups with getting in touch with families of her second-grade class. "It has been difficult reaching some families who no longer have working phone numbers or internet connection. The school is working on getting mobile hotspots for these families. Some families are having a difficult time adjusting to this

new normal and it is understandable. I try my best to help them as much as I can."

"Luckily students have been able to connect with me and attendance has not been an issue," Hook says. "Internet connection hasn't been a big issue except that I may lag here and there so I have to limit what resources I use during my instruction. I like to use short videos either to introduce or review a lesson and we ran into connection problems," she adds.

Like the other Kahului School fac-

see DISTANCE LEARNING p.8



Pauline Tiu



Andrew Andaya Sr.



President Ronald Reagan once said “The greatest leader is not necessarily the one who does the greatest things. He is the one that gets the people to do the greatest things.” American Football Coach Vince Lombardi also said this about leaders: “Leaders aren’t born, they are made. And they are made just like anything else, through hard work. And that’s the price we’ll have to pay to achieve that goal, or any goal.”

Pauline Andaya Tiu, a *Sakada* Offspring truly fits under the descriptions of a good leader as mentioned by President Reagan and Coach Lombardi. She was born at the Maui Memorial Hospital in Wailuku. She attended Kahului Elementary School from Kindergarten thru 8th grade. She

Pauline Andaya Tiu

Lucy Peros | ALL PHOTOS COURTESY PAULINE TIU

graduated from Maui High School in 1981. She received her Associate Degree in Accounting from Maui Community College in 1983. Maui Federal Credit Union, her employer, sent her to Western CUNA Management School (WCMS) and graduated in 2006.

Pauline started in the workforce at age 15 in 1978 while going to high school by working part-time for Andres Rent a Car under the management of Manuel and Zenaida Andres. She then worked for Aloha Rent A Car for two years and in 1980 she worked for National Car Rental until 1984.

She also worked at Marsh Company for four years and then at Maui Soda for two years.

Since August 1990 to present, Pauline has worked for Maui Federal Credit Union. First, she was a Member Service Representative (MSR). After two years, she was promoted to Operation Supervisor. Shortly after graduating from Western CUNA Management School in 2006, she was promoted to Operations Manager, her current position.

In October 21, 2005, at the Valley Isle Chapter International Credit

Union Day Dinner, Pauline was awarded the prestigious “Employee of the Year” for the Valley Isle Chapter, Hawai’i Credit Union League. The award is given annually to the most deserving employee amongst 10 other credit unions on Maui. Pauline was recognized for her outstanding contribution to Maui FCU such as her initiative in going over and above her job responsibilities to serve members, attending voluntary educational sessions a lot of times on weekends and participating in community service projects.

see PAULINE p.9

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Distance Learning ...

from p. 6

ulty members, Hook is required to teach her curriculum from her classroom. To effectively manage her class, she split them into two groups, having one set meet on Monday and Thursdays and the other half on Tuesdays and Fridays. “I figure Internet/bandwidth would be better. So on days students don’t have live instruction, they are completing independent practice assignments. Wednesdays are reserved for teacher PDs and meetings so these days for students are also Independent workdays—getting assignments done from the previous day of instruction.”

Hook’s organization is a result of her persistence to provide the best for her students. “During the two-week delay of the student start date, teachers were provided with training in Distance Learning. I thought the training that was provided would be sufficient enough for me to begin teaching virtually until I found myself scrambling on a Friday trying to wrap my brain around how I would connect, reach and teach my students math without a white board for them to see,” Hook explains. “As I contemplated and strategized how to plan my lesson, I reflected about the training I received prior to the students’ start date. I needed training on a Learning Management System (LMS) of my choice, Google Meets. I know the basics as far as meeting with students and other features it has such as Jamboard;



Aaron Jrae Arrocena (AJ) is shown here during his online class time.
PHOTO: VANESSA JOY DOMINGO

however, there are add-ons and extensions that are available such as creating Breakout Rooms for small group collaboration that I’m not trained in.” To battle short attention spans and to also reign in her students to focus, Hook provides five minute stretch breaks after each lesson. Like Balala, she allows her students to head to the bathroom as needed. “Students do ask to go on bathroom breaks just like in school,” says Balala. “I encourage them to do it on break time or when I’m not teaching. I teach an hour and a half for reading in the mornings and one hour for math in the afternoon. In between my online instructions, students have to complete assignments related to my lesson just like they

would if we were in school.” The lurking dangers of the online world are also a concern that may not have been fully considered. “As a former counselor and administrator and now teacher, one of the biggest concerns I have with online teaching is privacy and data,” said Ed Garcia. “With the rapid push to remote teaching, teachers are jumping into digital technologies too fast. We may not be aware of privacy policies of digital tools like Google Classroom, Class Dojo, ZOOM, and WebEx before using them. We may not be aware the use of these technologies might violate students’ privacy rights and put them in unsafe situations. As an example, students might experience harmful or obscene visuals during a ZOOM internet trolling during a video conference. Some students may experience cyberbullying more than ever. Some students may screenshot photos of their classmate’s face during a virtual class and use it in a harmful way. They might have their data and IP address tracked without their knowledge.”

Balala expresses another concern many teachers have. “I am concerned about teacher burn out. I am working every day, including the weekends, to make sure that my lesson plans are

ready and also communicating with parents when they have questions. I am also concerned that students might not make the learning gains they would in a face-to-face classroom.” Balala notes her students have been keeping up well with the distance learning. “In my virtual classroom, my students are happy and excited to learn. They miss being physically in school but they still get to see their classmates and have fun learning with me.”

Specialty teachers such as Galanto face different challenges. “I pretty much got thrown into virtual teaching. I was not prepared at all for teaching Band as a large ensemble,” he says. “Towards the end of the last school year I converted to teaching Music Theory, General Music, and Music Appreciation exclusively. This year I am attempting to teach instrumental music. It is a very difficult task since the nature of the band requires a strong group effort and hands-on learning.” Galanto uses

the same software and programs as other faculty members and expresses the hurdles in being able to have students play together. “There are specific online music programs that I do plan to utilize. A purchase order of the online programs are to be submitted

see DISTANCE LEARNING p.10



Vote YES!

MAUI COUNTY MANAGING DIRECTOR

"As a council member of Filipino ancestry, I know how important it is to take care of family, especially when it means multiple generations living under one roof.

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We have the power to increase the prosperity of our county, by voting **YES on the County Manager Charter Amendment** on your ballot this November."

- Keani Rawlins-Fernandez
Vice Chair, Maui County Council
Chair of Economic Development & Budget



More info: www.MauiManagingDirector.com
Paid for by Holomua Ohana for Professional Management, 4320 E. Waiola Loop, Kihei, Hawaii 96753

Tips For Parents

1. Allow your child to be a student: I know you have rights to your child living under your roof. But I humbly ask that on the weekdays from 7:30 a.m.–2 p.m. you allow your child to be a student. What that means is that you give your child that time to be fully engaged with their education. I have had students walk out of our virtual class meetings because their parents needed them to do something for 15 minutes. That means your child misses out on 15 minutes of the lesson. Or a student shows up late to class because they went out to lunch with their family. As an online educator, I have no control of your child in my online class. By providing your child with uninterrupted time

they have a better chance at accessing their education.

2. Make sure your child has the resources they need: Students need, at the very least, two things in order to do online learning. Your child needs his/her own device and reliable internet. If your child does not have access to either of these, the schools have plans on how to provide that. Some schools are providing laptops, internet hotspots, access to internet rooms on campus and even hybrid schedules if necessary. Families, do not be afraid or ashamed to ask for assistance. Your child deserves access to their education. Do not allow technology to be a barrier.

3. Support your educators: Now, more than ever we need the support of our families. I need our families to know that I, along with countless educators, am working tirelessly to make this work for you and your child. Obviously this is not the ideal way to teach and I don't think any of us could have anticipated that we would all become online teachers. We are learning how to teach in this new way the same way your student is learning how to learn in this new way. With communication, support, kindness, and grace, we will not only survive this school year together, but will come out of it as more resilient learners and educators.

- Ritchilda Yadao

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Perlita and Andrew Andaya Sr.



Pauline and Mom Perlita.



Pauline and Bobby.

Pauline ...

from p. 7

The credit union and especially the members are fortunate to have an individual with Pauline’s caliber working on their behalf.

“My professional association spans a short thirty years with Pauline,” says Clayton Fuchigami, President/CEO of Maui FCU. “I first employed her as a clerk/teller and she quickly learned. She demonstrated the business acumen, initiative and leadership skills to be elevated to a supervisor and then her current position as Operations

Manager. She is always passionate about doing her job and brings enthusiasm with a positive attitude that is contagious amongst all that work with her. Her work ethic is second to none, which I surmise is from her strong cultural upbringing by her parents who instilled in her the many work qualities and attributes they themselves possessed and she demonstrated to both her superiors and subordinates. Being a people-person, her welcoming personality always radiates with the members she serves. Along this journey, she was recognized not only by the Maui Credit Union Trade Association but by the Hawai’i Credit Union

League (statewide trade association) as Employee of the Year. She successfully completed three intense academic years during the summers attending the Western Credit Union National Association Management School (WCMS) at Pomona College where she graduated from in 2006. The many successes of Maui FCU could not have been accomplished without having Pauline as part of our core management team.”

Pauline is happily married to her husband, Robert “Bobby” Tiu for 36 years. He is the owner of Bob’s Auto Refinishing LLC and Auto Solutions Maui LLC. He was a former employee

of Maui Pineapple Company for 22 years. While working for Maui Pineapple Company, he did side jobs out of their home or rented a place where he could do his autobody collision repair and paint. Then in 2010, he decided to establish his own business.

Robert and Pauline have three children, Nathan, Brittany and Jacob Tiu.

Nathan Tiu graduated from Maui High School in 2002 and attended Maui Community College and graduated with a degree in Auto Body in 2006. He worked at Sears as an auto mechanic then later went on his own to establish his own business in Auto

see PAULINE p.12



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Charter Amendment

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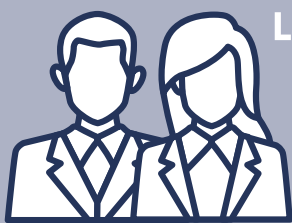
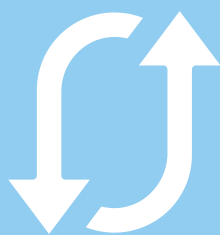


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former Corporation Counsel for County of Maui

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Distance Learning ...

from p. 8

to gain access for each individual student so it does create an added cost to the school. If the school is unable to fund these programs we would need to fundraise and have our band booster come up with our own funds. Interactive band method books are also on order. Until these additionally purchased products are made available, I have been working on getting connected with the students to build our teacher-student relationship. Things are different now and everything is new to both my teaching and their learning styles. 'How are you going to teach band online?' is a common question many of my colleagues have been asking me. Honestly I have no idea since it is not ideal for some students to play at home while they have other family members who may also be attending online classes at the same time. Each of these instruments can get pretty loud (and annoying) for their household. Playing synchronously is also nearly impossible since there is an unavoidable lag. The best I can say is for them to mute their microphones and just play along as I conduct. Another option is for them to



Danny Acidera

PHOTO COURTESY DANNY ACIDERA

practice on their own at a time of their choosing and submit a recording so that I may assess them individually. Either way, it is a huge challenge to overcome. In-person instruction would have allowed me to give immediate assessments and feedback."

Another specialty class is ESOL (English to Speakers of Other Languages). Maui-born Jessica Caraang teaches at James Campbell High School on O'ahu. "The biggest concern I have is for my low-level English speakers. They really need that one on one interaction that I can't always give them. Even though I allow the students to group up and work

tried it with breakout rooms but I can still hear all the other students talking through the speakers in their separate groups. I don't want to mute them because I want to make sure I can still be attentive to what is going on in their conversations. I love that my students can enjoy their small groups and speak with each other, but breakout rooms for a teacher is basically a cacophony of conversations," Caraang explains. "Another difficulty I have is that some of my students have low English language proficiencies, and online teaching makes it hard for them to develop their language skills. They need to be

see DISTANCE LEARNING p.14



Ed Garcia

PHOTO COURTESY ED GARCIA



Mark Hyde, initiator of proposed Charter amendment
PHOTO COURTESY MARK HYDE

Amendments ...

from p. 5

community projects like the Bahay Kubo renovation? I highly doubt it.”

When asked how this Charter amendment would affect Maui’s Filipino community, Hyde replied: “I look to quality of place, which is largely the result of County policies and implementation. Based on County demographic data, many Filipinos re-

side in Central Maui, Kahului in particular. I don’t see the community developing as planned and it shows to the detriment of residents. As an aside, despite Kahului’s large population it is without a community association to watch out for the interests of residents so it is particularly vulnerable to local government inattention and failure to implement policies and plan. By the way, the Kahului-Wailuku Community Plan is eight years behind the ordinance-required update cycle of every 10 years: it was adopted by the Council in 2002. This in itself is not unique because Maui County government is not abiding by County law which calls for community plan updates every 10 years. Except for those community plans which have recently been updated (Lānaʻi and Molokai) all our community plans are way beyond required updating - most over 10 years tardy. The effect of this is that our become stale. More importantly, they are often simply ignored by the County executive branch to the detriment of all residents.”

Hyde specifically pointed to urban sprawl in Kahului. “Let me get more

specific. Urban sprawl is rampant in Kahului due primarily to the expansion of commercial enterprises such as Walmart, HomeDepot, Target, Lowes, Ulta Beauty, PetCo , Safeway and the like in the industrial area along Ho’okele. The effect of this, which is classic urban sprawl, is to rob Kahului of a vibrant town center and community and deprives residents or what should be a walkable, bike-able, enjoyable, nearby downtown. Instead, because all these new commercial enterprises have been allowed to develop outside the core, residents must drive to these stores as older stores in the core withers. Safeway has abandoned what should be the downtown to perch stores along Hāna Highway and Ka’ahumanu Avenue. Queen Ka’ahumanu shopping center is rife with vacancies and appears to be holding on by a thread. It shouldn’t be this way. But without a County government implementing the community plan and abiding by clearly written policies rejecting urban sprawl, Kahului’s former downtown is in rapidly decline to the point of blight. This is not acceptable. This need not be the case. Professional

managers know how to implement policies, the doing of which leads to better quality communities.”

Term Limits for Council Members (Resolution 20-98; passed the Council on a 6-3 vote with Hokama, Kama, and Sugimura voting no.)

Shall the Charter be amended to establish stricter term limits for Council members by limiting the number of terms a person may serve as a Council member to five full terms?

Currently, the number of terms a person may serve as a Council member is no more than five consecutive full terms of office.

The 1991–1992 Charter Commission Report to the County Council stated “The commission found merit in the recommendation that a limitation be placed on the number of consecutive terms that a council member can serve.” The Commission

also explained “Under the recommended change, a council member would be prohibited from running for a council seat after five consecutive terms but could run again after the lapse of at least one term.”

Three current Council members have served more than a total of five
see AMENDMENTS p.15

“Based on County demographic data, many Filipinos reside in Central Maui, Kahului in particular. I don’t see the community developing as planned and it shows to the detriment of residents.”

– MARK HYDE

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55th Birthday at Wailea Marriott Lū'au. From left to right: Anson, Baby, daughter Brittany with Aubrey, Ben (Brittany's Husband), Bobby, Pauline, mom Perlita, brother Andrew, Mason, son Nathan, Sabrina, Mylene and son Jacob.

Pauline ...

from p. 9

Body as N8's Auto Kustomz. When the economy crashed in 2008, he joined his dad's business. Nathan operates Auto Solutions Maui located in Wailuku. Nathan also has a T-shirt business named Headquarters Maui located at Queen Ka'ahumanu Center with Sacred Ties Tattoo. The business is managed by his fiancé Sabrina Leist. They have two beautiful children. Daughter: Kaila Tiu, 11, who will be attending Maui Waena. Her interest is cheerleading. Their son, Mason, seven, attends Pōmaika'i Elementary School. He enjoys playing baseball and flag football.

Brittany Tiu graduated from Baldwin High School in 2006. She graduated from Seattle University with a Bachelor of Science in General Science. When she returned home from college, Brittany was employed as a Pharmacy Technician at Longs Drugs in Kula. After two years as a Pharmacy Technician, she joined the family business at Bob's Auto Refinishing. She manages the operations at Bob's Auto Refinishing with eight employees under her management. She prepares the estimates for customers and handles the books for both shops. Both Brittany

and Ben Carino her significant other have two lovely children. Their daughter Aubrey Carino, four, attends Christ The King Development Center. Their son Greyson Carino is 18 months old.

Jacob Tiu graduated from Maui High School in 2014 and played for the MHS Baseball team. He enjoyed playing baseball since he was a young boy. His passion for baseball led him to the opportunity to travel to many

different places on the mainland to participate in tournaments. He played for several different teams from O'ahu. A highlight of his baseball talent was when he played for MVP a mainland team and traveled to Omaha, Nebraska. In 2011, Jacob was fortunate to watch college baseball games in the brand new TD Ameritrade Park Omaha in Nebraska. He attended the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and graduated in 2017 with a Bachelor's degree in Physical Science. Jacob came home and joined the family venture with Bob's Auto Refinishing. Jacob does the estimates on damaged a vehicles and deals with customer service. Jacob and his significant other Mylene Mochizuki who is employed with Minit Medical moved into their brand new home in November 2019 along with their dog Yasu.

Pauline's only sibling, Andrew Andaya, Jr. is currently employed for Mahi Pono as a cattle rancher. He is married to Baby Corrales who is employed at Hale Makua. They have three children; Julia "Shine," Chelsea

Mae, and Anson Andaya. Pauline's father, Andrew Andaya, Sr., came from Dasay, Narvacan, Ilocos Sur, Philippines. He came to Hawai'i at age 14 together with an Uncle. They left the Philippines, via Port Salomague, Cabugao, Ilocos Sur, with hopes and dreams for a better life.

Pauline's father, Andrew Andaya, worked for Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar Company (HC&S) cutting sugar cane with sharp knives, bundled them up and carried them on his back.

Andrew, though he was only 14, proved to be very strong for his age. He worked for Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar Company (HC&S) cutting sugar cane with sharp knives, bundled them up and carried them on his back. There were no machines to do those jobs in those days. With that back breaking job, he was getting paid 75 cents per day. He then be-

came a dump truck driver collecting the rubbish from the sugar mill and from the fields and dumped them in

see PAULINE p.16



Family picture. Left to right Nathan, Jacob, Pauline, Bobby and Brittany. Taken during a family Christmas vacation in 2019.



Oldest Son Nathan and his family. Sabrina (Fiancée), daughter Kaila and son Mason.



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Goodbye, August, welcome September. It's the first ber month and you know what it means. It means time will pass by so fast the next thing you know, the year is gone. Is September your favorite month? What do you like about September?

For some parents, it's probably their favorite because their children are finally back to school and their school

Let's Talk Pinoy!

Dulce Karen Butay

supply shopping is over. For some students, it's probably their least favorite because they are back to school. Waking up late, staying at home, watching TV or playing on the iPad is over. But it's not the case for this year—2020. Most students are not physically back in school due to this pandemic

called COVID-19. There is a new way of going to school. It's called virtual schooling where students log in to their computer from their homes and meet up in the virtual classroom. How do you like this kind of set up? Or would you rather have your kids going to school in this pandemic time? Visit us on our facebook page and leave us a comment at Facebook.com/Fil-AmVoiceMaui.

LET'S SEE WHAT'S GOING ON with Michael and Angel in this month and where they will be going next, shall we?

Clanking outside, Michael refuses to open his eyes.

More clanking and more clanking.

Michael finally finds the courage to open his eyes and takes a look outside. As he peeks out the window he sees one man jacking the *sakyanan* (car) up and the other untightening the lug nuts.

He unlocks the car and is about to open the *pintuan* (door) when his phone rings.

"An idiot is attempting to call you ... an idiot is attempting to call you ..." his ring tone goes on ...

"Who's calling me now? It's so early in the *buntag* (morning)" Michael mumbles to himself.

He answers the phone, "Hello?"

FEMALE: We have been attempting to reach you about your car's extended warranty. Press one if you want to be on the "Do not call list." Press two or stay on the line to be connected to an agent.

MICHAEL: Scam calls again? Now I'm getting these calls like every day.

He hangs up the phone, opens the *lugan* (car) *lukub* (door) and steps out.

English	Pilipino	Ilokano	Cebuano	Ilonggo	Ibanag	Kapampangan
Morning	Umaga	Bigat	Buntag	Aga	Umma	Abak
Food	Pagkain	Makan	Kamot	Pagkaon	Kanan	Pamangan
Face	Mukha	Rupa	Nawom	Nawong	Muka	Lupa
Where?	Saan?	Inno?	Aha?	San o?	Sitaw?	Nokarin?
Father	Tatay	Tatang	Amahan	Tatay	Yama	Tata
Mother	Nanay	Nanang	Inahan	Nanay	Yena	Ima
Hands	Kamay	Ima	Kamot	Kamot	Lima	Gamat
House	Bahay	Balay	Balay	Balay	Balay	Bale
Car	Sasakyan	Lugan	Sakyanan	Auto	Kotse	Saken
Door	Pintuan	Ridaw	Lukub	Ganhaan	Puwerta	Pasbul

"You guys changed my flat tire just like that?" he exclaims.

MAN #1: "Yeah, it's so easy to do. You haven't done it before? Oh, yeah, you have like a lady *gamat* (hand). It's clean and it looks manicured."

Michael looks at his *kamay* (hands) and he tucks them away in his pockets.

Michael feels embarrassed. He judged these guys thinking they were scammers and only asking for money on the side of the road. In the past, Michael's experience with the homeless was unfavorable to say the least.

Once upon a summer time in high school, he volunteered at the Salvation Army outreach or at Good Shepherd Church cooking free meals for the needy every Sunday and every major holiday. But one fearful Thursday changed all that.

It was a bright Thursday *bigat* (morning). Michael got dropped off at Baldwin Park to meet with the other volunteers for *pagkaon* (food) pantry distribution. The truck was already parked under the tree. He was assigned to the canned goods section. He lined them up neatly so it's easier to bag and distribute them. Everything went well that day. At the end of his

shift, Michael went to use the restroom. There was an old lady, looking disoriented and stressed. He approached her.

"Aunty, are you ok?" he asked the lady.

"No. I need help to bring my *kanan* (food) over to my tent," she said hopefully.

"Oh no worries Aunty, I can do for you. Where your groceries stay?" Michael asked.

Pointing to the three bags in the corner, Michael quickly grabbed them and said "Where to?"

She pointed to her blue tent near the bushes. Michael carried the three bags and walked to her tent. He squatted and placed the bags inside the blue camping tent and when he stood up to return to the truck where the *pamangan* (food) distribution was, a fist landed on his *nawong* (face).

"WHACK!"

Michael fell to the ground. He tried to get up but saw a man near him and this man shook his cold dark shoulder. When Michael didn't respond, he reached in Michael's back pocket of his pants, took his wallet, opened it and took the *kwarta* (money). Then another man took Michael's shoes. Michael closed his eyes because he got so scared. He passed out and didn't

see LET'S TALK PINOY p.23

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Vol 4 • No 9 | September 2020 | Fil-Am Voice | 13

Ating Kabuhayan

Maui County Charter: Relevent To Our Everyday Lives

The County Charter is akin to God’s Covenant as it serves to affect our social civility, order, peace and happiness in Maui County.

John A.H. Tomosot



God’s Old Covenant stood on the Law of the 10 Commandments. God’s New Covenant brought life to the Old Covenant through His son Jesus. Likewise, our County’s Charter Amendment is renewed and voted on to be in sync with our changing times.

There will be *charter* amendments on our ballots in November. Specifically, we will be asked to vote on changes to the *Maui County Charter*. This document is the formal statement of rights and responsibilities, as agreed upon by the citizens of the County of Maui. As a formal document of government and governance, it describes not only our rights and responsibilities but also our aims or principles as a people, living together, in civic and social relationships and community, on the islands of Maui, Molokai and Lānaʻi.

The Maui County Charter describes in formal words, phrases and paragraphs, what we, as citizens, ask of our government, to whom we have deemed civic and governing authority. In turn, the Maui County Charter authorizes us, as citizens, to participate in the government, spelling out in sufficient detail what that participation entails, including rights and responsibilities. The Maui County Charter is an agreement under which all of us, as citizens, live, work, recreate and have more than a modicum of civility, order,

peace and happiness. My understanding of government is that those who are governed must know to what extent that government benefits all who come within its jurisdiction; its reach; its boundaries. But the government has to continually be redefined, re-organized, so that the governed, i.e. the people, who necessarily change with the times, continue to understand it,

In the Bible, the word covenant is used to describe a formal, binding and sealed agreement of people with God.

recognize it, to know their rights and exercise their responsibilities.

In the Bible, the word *covenant* is used to describe a formal, binding and sealed agreement of people with God. What does it mean that, for those who believe, there is a Covenant with God? What is the agreement all about and is there anything in life that is

not covered? My understanding of this Covenant which is couched in my being faithful to and understanding of God, is such that it encompasses everything and everyone “as far as the eye can see!” I understand it to be important to how I live my faith, to how I relate that faith to others and how I journey in that faith to my ultimate and eternal destination.

see CHARTER p.16



Jessica Caraang
PHOTO COURTESY JESSICA CARAANG

Distance Learning ...

from p. 10

able to speak to other students and to watch people’s mouth movements as they speak. There is a lot of lagging with sounds and images when it comes to online meetings.”

Garcia, a former Vice Principal, has been outside of the classroom for fourteen years and is now a Leadership Academy Instructor for 7th and 8th graders at ʻĪao School. He hopes to develop his students in learning leadership skills and be able to participate in organizing leadership activities such as organizing a can food drive for needy families and gathering safety supplies for their school. A few of the difficulties he encountered were technical difficulties and not being able to provide students with the opportunities to practice utilizing the concepts they have learned. “This is a main stumbling block on virtual learning. There are compatibility issues (operating systems, browsers, smart phones, connectivity). The course never gets off the ground and all this adds to the teacher and student frustrations. Secondly, students cannot practice. I believe the best

way to learn something is practicing (learning by doing). Many of our on-line lessons can overlook this part and focus solely on theoretical content and external lessons. I would need to create real life situations or incorporate simulation so students can practice and experiment their virtual learning,” Garcia adds.

At the end of the day, teachers truly miss their students and have been working nonstop to ensure their classrooms receive the best education possible during this trying time.

“Yes, it feels weird to teach to an empty class (physically). In getting to know my fifth graders this past week, how I wish there wasn’t COVID-19 right now,” says Hook. “This experience has tested my patience and passion for teaching. I felt very discouraged and unprepared for the first week of instruction but as I was teaching, something transpired. Seeing the smiles and enjoyment on my students’ faces reminded me that this is why I became a teacher. This experience has also taught me that I’m

see DISTANCE LEARNING p.22



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Amendments ...

from p. 11

two-year terms. Council member Riki Hokama was first elected to the Council in 1998 and served five two-year terms to 2008, took a break and returned in 2010 and will serve five two-year terms to 2020. Council member Michael Molina was first elected to the Council in 2010 and served five consecutive two-year terms. He took a break and was again elected in 2018 and is seeking re-election. Council



Richard Caldito Sr., first of ten Council members (1956–1972) of Filipino and part-Filipino ancestry
PHOTO COURTESY CALDITO 'OHANA

Chair Alice Lee was first elected to the Council in 1988 and served until 1998; she was elected in 2018 and is unopposed in 2020.

According to the Resolution “any terms of office served prior to the effective date of this amendment will not be counted toward the term limits ...” so the current council members are “grandfathered” in.

For Maui’s Filipino community, the question is does this increase the opportunity for political participation and election? Although Filipinos and part-Filipinos represent almost 30% of the population, for the last sixty-four years, there have been only ten Council members who are of Filipino ancestry (with four of them serving one

- two-year term) sitting on the nine-member Council:
- Richard Caldito Sr. (1956–1972)
- Rick Medina (1976–1984; 1988–1994)
- Mariano Acoba (1978–1980)
- Vince Bagoyo (1990–1992)
- John Enriques (1998–2000)
- Joseph Pontanilla (2002–2012)
- Danny Mateo (2002–2012)
- Don Guzman (2010–2018)
- Alika Atay (2016–2018)
- Keani Rawlins-Fernandez (2018-present)

In January 1991, Tata Richard Caldito was interviewed by Warren Nishimoto and Daniel W. Tuttle, Jr. for an oral history project at the University of Hawaii. In his interview, Caldito talked about his life, including his political history as being the first Filipino elected as a County official in 1956: “At that time, well, I think when I first ran, probably, we [Maui County] had about 700 or thereabout. But, as you said, at that time in ‘60, ‘62, we increase in great number because a lot of Filipinos were seeking citizenship, you see. But they did not make use of their rights because many of them did not become American citizen yet”

Caldito explained why he ran for office.

“Yes, I had a pretty good life, as far as politics goes because, I wanted to pave the way for the young people and, goddamn it, I waited quite some time One election, I think, on my fifth term-I said, ‘My goodness, please vote for me because we are still waiting for the graduates to come back.’ Son-of-a-gun, lot of people voted for me (chuckles). Because, they wanted to probably—‘This voice representing labor, let’s go out for him’ and ... this Filipino youth who goes to college, come back, and represent them. And after that, we had quite a bit of graduates coming back but some of them did not take an interest in politics, at that time yet.”

Caldito hoped for more representa-

tion of Filipinos on the County Council: “And, I think if we have more Filipino youth qualified, run for office, probably could even have three or four I think the voting public is different, really different now than before. Before, see, if you are a Japanese candidate, and you qualified, you get all the chance to be elected. But now it seems as though that we get lot of *haole* voters, we got lot of Filipinos. And Japanese, we have lot of Japanese, too, but it seems as though the other groups is catching up. So, I think qualifications is one of the key now-the way I look at it ...”

Does the current system of allowing a break to return to elective office provide more opportunities? Cabanilla-Takushi doesn’t think so. “I think the current system of five consecutive terms and then allowing a break only to return back to office is too long. We need to give others an opportunity to lead us and we need to give the younger generation an opportunity to serve.”

Standards for Charter Interpretation (Resolution 20-99; passed the Council on a 7-2 vote with Hokama and Sugimura voting no.)

Shall the Charter be amended, effective January 2, 2021, to establish standards for interpreting and complying with the Charter, including by requiring a viable judicial action to be filed within 30 days to seek clarity when a conflict in the interpretation of the Charter is identified?

If this Charter Amendment is adopted, Section 15-1 would be amended to include the following language:

- g. If a question in interpretation is the source of a conflict between the administration and the county council, then the corporation counsel or special counsel, if any, must seek a declaratory judgment, a writ of quo warranto, or other appropriate judicial remedy on the county’s behalf within thirty days of the conflict being identified to obtain clarity

in the interpretation of this charter’s provisions, unless another party has already brought a viable judicial action for the same purpose.

- h. A willful violation of a charter provision by an elected or appointed county officer or employee constitutes use of county property or personnel for other than public activity or purpose under Article 10 and, therefore, is grounds for the commencement of impeachment proceedings. A willful violation of a charter provision by an employee is grounds for discipline including termination of employment.

Acob would vote No on this charter amendment. With respect to the new language contained in subsection g, Acob notes “Special counsel should be automatically appointed because the dispute is between two entities that the corporation counsel serves.” As to the new language contained in subsection h, Acob says “This requires an ‘employee’ to be either impeached or ‘disciplined including termination of employment.’ This different treatment of the same person is already a problem. And this provision does not state who is going to commence impeachment. According to the Charter, there

is a procedure for a recall (Article 12) which I believe is what is meant by impeachment. With the finding by a court of law that there is a violation by the official, would not the Council initiate the impeachment process because that would only make sense? Then say so. If something else, then say so.”

Acob argues “It is noted that the attempt to ‘impeach’ someone who has violated the charter is laughable because it will never happen under the procedures given by the Charter and the reality of the voting population. The

recall procedures, Article 12, Section 12-6, requires: ‘If less than fifty percent (50%) of the voters registered in

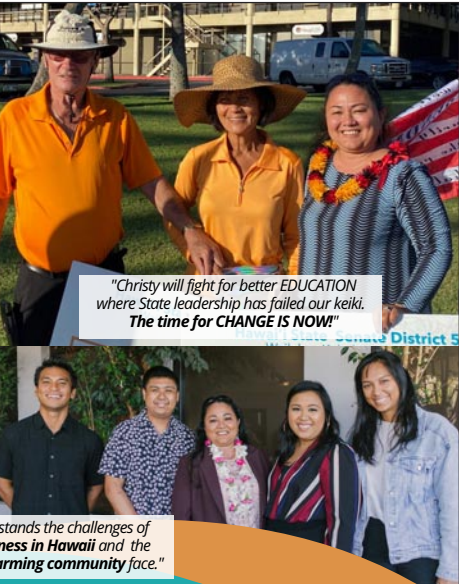
see AMENDMENTS p.21

As to the new language contained in subsection h, Acob says “This requires an ‘employee’ to be either impeached or ‘disciplined including termination of employment.’

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Hawaii is known as the melting pot of the pacific and my ‘ohana is certainly a picture of it, still each of them unique in their own way. My sons know how to make a mamas’ heart full and my husband’s love and support has truly given me the strength and courage to chase my dreams and to inspire others. In the hustle and bustle of the day, don’t forget *‘ohana is everything!* Take a moment to appreciate your loved ones and let’s continue to kōkua to keep one another safe.



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Ating Kabuhayan | Cont'd from p. 14

Charter ...

from p. 14

I can see a connection between a *charter* and a *covenant*. The charter amendments we will vote on in the general election help us to see our county (local) government as relevant to our day-to-day lives; even the minutiae of what government provides and doesn't provide. These amendments will help our county (local) government to contribute to our quality of life, i.e. our civility, order, peace and happiness. The Maui County Charter allows us to have not only a quality of life but also quantity of life. It allows fairness and equity. All of these realities go hand-in-hand to make life on this island (in Maui County) not only worth living but worth nurturing and let's face it, paying for.

You might ask, what does the Covenant with God nurture and pay for? Without sounding too philosophical or theological, the covenant allows higher and deeper meaning to be attributed to civility, order, peace and happiness. I'd like to take these one at a time.

- **Civility:** Let's consider how we treat one another, not only as human beings, with respect and dignity but also as images and reflections of God. To be civil with one another is to understand that as all creation is holy, so is every person holy. I know

my parents and elders always told me you must treat everything, everyone with respect and see the dignity of it all. I remember my Filipino grandpa telling me, "God is watching."

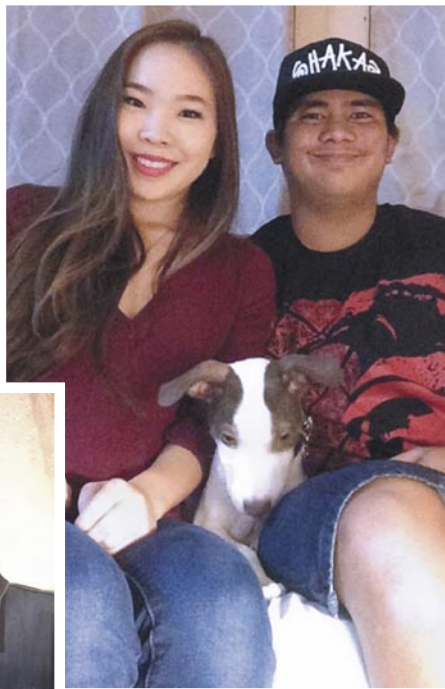
- **Order:** There is a general understanding that without order, there is chaos. And if this chaos prevails, anarchy and lack of civil rights ensue. God is perfect and God made everything perfect. In nature, everything is perfect and human beings fit perfectly in all of nature. I am amazed at how the little things in life and nature, all around me, are perfectly ordered and sometimes, with only a little help from me, they grow into beautiful maturity. Sometimes we try to force an order into things and people. It usually doesn't work. But I suppose that's why we have laws and police!
- **Peace:** You've heard the saying "Life is too short for fighting." Like love, peace is of God. If God is love, God is also peace. With peace, comes truth and understanding. I've learned true love and peace comes with humility, patience and kindness. A world, a society at peace, in one in which all will come to love and peace. What gets in the way is our own imperfect selfishness and arrogance and lust. How does the government deal with selfishness, arrogance and lust? Can we, as citi-

see CHARTER p.20

Sakada Offspring Cont'd from p. 12



Brittany, Ben, Aubrey and Greyson.



Mylene and Jacob with their dog Yasu.



Pauline's brother's family, left to right is Anson, Julia "Shine," Chelsea and brother Andrew.

Pauline...

from p. 12

its proper places. He worked in this job until he retired at age 62 in 1974.

In 1961, at age 49, Andrew went back to Dasay, Narvacan to find a wife. He married the love of his life, the former Perlita Valdez. Andrew came back to Hawai'i to continue his job at HC&S. Perlita followed him to Hawai'i in 1962. They lived in Alabama Camp in Pu'unēnē for a few years then moved to Kahului in 1964 because the Pu'unēnē camps were about to be phased out.

Perlita wasted no time in joining the workforce as soon as she arrived on Maui. She worked at the Maui Pine Cannery until 1968 and continued at HC&S until her retirement in 1995. She is a very petite woman but physically strong. She was able to do the hard jobs that HC&S had to offer under the hot sun and rain. Some of the jobs she did were: covered seed (takes care of the young sugarcane plants), drove a tractor, control crew worker (controlled the conveyor for the young cane stalks for planting), and even

became an agriculture engineer (installed pipes for drip irrigation). Today, Perlita is instrumental in babysitting her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Pauline had these heart warming words to say about her Dad, Andrew. "My Dad was a very hard working caring man. He always wanted the best for us, his children, better than what he ever had himself. He emphasized to us the importance of education and to make something out of ourselves. He was my babysitter when I had Nathan, my first baby. He was such a good husband to my Mom. Because he was already retired when my mom was still working, he cooked our dinner. He was a great cook! He can cook anything, even the best *pinapaitan* (fresh beef soup dish). I missed his cooking a lot. When my Mom came home from work, he was already done with the cooking for our dinner. I loved my Dad. I was his 'pet.' I miss him!"

Besides being busy with her job at the Maui Federal Credit Union, Pauline also attends mass services at Christ The King Catholic Church. She is also a member of the Maui Fil-AM. She enjoys spending quality time

see JENY p.19

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The Concept of Bayanihan

Liza A Pierce of “A Maui Blog”

It has been over six months since the COVID-19 hit the United States and the effect of that here on Maui is devastating, especially in terms of our economy. Many people have lost their jobs. This COVID-19 has uprooted our way of life in so many different ways.

“In times of need, it’s important for all of us to come together to assist. That is the spirit of *Bayahinan*.” This is a quote from the Binhi At Ani website, as they announced the Food Distribution Drive.

To date, Binhi At Ani has done four Food Distributions. In August, the #BayanihanFoodDistribution raised \$7,130 in donations and distributed 711 food boxes which included 1,286 plate lunches, 4,741 canned goods, 608 bags of rice, 8,904 pounds of produce, 336 bags of Starbucks coffee, 1,806 packages of noodles, 696 spaghetti sauce bottles, 1,000 Pepsi products, 3,240 beverages, 1,396 snacks, 1,200 McDonald’s certificates, and 900 Maui Gold pineapples.

All this news about the #BayanihanFoodDistribution got me inspired to dig deeper into what *Bayanihan* means.

Pronounced like “buy-uh-NEE-hun,” *Bayanihan* is a Filipino word derived from the word *bayan* meaning town, nation or community in general. *Bayanihan* literally means “being a *bayan*” and is thus used to refer to a spirit of communal unity and cooperation.

The concept of *Bayanihan* is traced back to a Filipino tradition which can be observed in the province wherein the town’s people were asked to assist a family who will move into a new place. The relocation involves more than moving the family’s personal belongings. It

also concerns the transfer of the family’s entire house to a new location. A traditional Filipino house—*Bahay Kubo*—is made of indigenous materials such as bamboo and *nipa/anahaw* leaves, unlike the modern homes nowadays which mostly are built with wood on a cement slab.

In order for the volunteers to carry the house, bamboo poles are tied length-wise and cross-wise and go under the house. Approximately, it will take about 15–20 volunteers to carry a house and together they’ll move in unison heading to the family’s new place. As a token of gratitude, the family serves food to the volunteers at the end of the move.

The *Bayanihan* spirit shows Filipinos’ concept of helping one another most especially in times of need without expecting anything in return. Filipinos strongly believe in helping their *kababayans* (fellow countrymen) in any possible way they can to extend a helping hand. It is a beautiful Filipino mentality of helping one another.

Back to the Binhi at Ani #BayanihanFoodDrive; it’s heartwarming to see the support of Mayor Michael Victorino, State Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Representative Justin Woodson, Representative Troy Hashimoto (who have been at each of the four *Bayanihan* Food Distributions) and other elected officials such as Councilmembers Tasha Kama and Yuki Lei Sugimura as well as candidates Claire Carroll, Stacy Helm Crivello, and Rick Nava. We are also very appreciative of the hundreds of volunteers including the Maui Police Department and the Hawai’i National Guard who helped plan, pack and distribute the supplies. As the saying goes, “we are all in this together.”

Donations of food, produce, canned goods and money are always

needed.

Mahalo to those who donated food, produce and canned goods in August: Al’s BBQ Pit, Asian Mart & Fast Food LLC, David & Imelda Bal-



Some of the Volunteers at the Conclusion of the Food Distribution.
PHOTO: BASILIA EVANGELISTA



Keith Wright of Maui Food Bank (center).
PHOTO: BASILIA EVANGELISTA



Mayor Victorino gives a *pule*.
PHOTO: BASILIA EVANGELISTA

Volunteers get a temperature check.
PHOTO: BASILIA EVANGELISTA

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If I Could Vote For President

Alexis Joy Viloria | MAUI HIGH SCHOOL

With the presidential election nearing closer and closer as each day passes, Americans all over are wondering who they trust to uphold the values of this country while benefiting all citizens. Those who are pondering who should bear the power that leading this country entails have every ability to choose who gets their vote. But what about the members of this country, whose futures depend on the president, that can't vote? The younger ranks of this country

are getting more and more involved in politics as many decisions of the government up to this point have undoubtedly affected their futures. Witnessing the effects of this pandemic, racial injustices, and impacts on their education, present and future, this generation of youth is empowered to take matters into their own hands, encouraging all people who are eligible to vote. Two concerned high school students expand on their hopes for this country's next leader.



Maui High School Junior **Altene Tumacder** shares his words regarding this country's leadership. Though we are still currently being led by the winner of the last election, Altene says he was too young to fathom the importance of political involvement but knew where he stood politically. "Although I wasn't very politically active back then, I believed that the outcome of the last presidential election was a defeat. I was in the seventh grade and knew very little of the two candidates, Hillary and Trump."

Though currently unable to vote, Altene has a set of principles to keep in mind for who he advocates for as the forefront of our country. "The qualities I look for in a president are humbleness, thoughtfulness, understanding, resilience, and education. I also believe a president should care for the people of their country. A president should not disregard the conflicts that occur in our country. Rather, a president should recognize, assess and evaluate the problems in our country."

What are those conflicts Altene sees? Everything from racial discrimination to healthcare to higher education. "There is a payload of issues that the president should address." Amidst the prominence of the Black Lives Matter movement, Altene sees the addressing of racial injustices as a crucial

action. "Of the many, I think that the president should address the immense racism that is present in our country. We the people witness an extensive amount of hate. With the leadership we need, our country will prosper."

An officer of his school's pre-professional medical club, HOSA, it is natural for him to advocate for healthcare rights. "Another issue that I would want the president to address is healthcare. Many citizens struggle to receive essential healthcare and I feel that a president should seek ways to give healthcare to all."

Wanting to go into the medical field, Altene also finds being able to afford a good education to do so is of mass importance as well. "I also believe that the president should address the expensive higher education tuitions. Many students are not able to afford college causing them to turn to other options such as joining the military or getting a job right out of high-school. With free higher education, many students would be able to fulfill the dreams they have had regardless of their financial situation."

For all of the eligible voters of the Filipino community, Altene leaves these thoughts, prompting everybody to keep the future generations in mind. "To the eligible voters of the Filipino community, as a member of this country's future, I ask that you make your vote count for a leader that is capable of stabilizing our country. Using your vote gives us the hope of having a brighter and successful future."



Junior **Kalem Ringlen**, also at Maui High School, shares his take on the presidential elections. Looking back at the past election, Kalem remembers how he felt when President Trump was first elected. "Reflecting back to the last presidential election, I can vividly recall being in shock and

see **PRESIDENT** p.20




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In April 2006 Pauline received the Hawai'i Credit Union League coveted *Ke'alahi* Award which honors the Employee of the Year from amongst all of Hawai'i's credit unions.
PHOTO COURTESY HAWAII CREDIT UNION LEAGUE



Pauline ... Maui Federal Credit Union Staff.
PHOTO: KIT ZULUETA FURUKAWA

from p. 16

with her grandchildren and family, traveling and going on cruises. She is very grateful to God for the many blessings that He has bestowed upon her and her family. She says: "Never take life for granted for you only live once—YOLO—so live life to the fullest." ✨

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



Australia and New Zealand Cruise with husband Bobby in February 2019.

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.

General Election Tuesday, Nov. 3
For more information, visit
www.mauicounty.gov/1965/Elections-Division
or call the Maui County Clerk's Elections Branch
on Maui (808) 270-7749
on Lānaʻi 800-272-0098 or on Molokai 800-272-0026



Aghuto Tanya!

"Let's Cook!"
Pinoy Recipe of the Month
COMPILED BY Lucy Peros



Disco Adobo

This recipe won First Place (\$500) in the Any Kine Adobo Contest sponsored by Tante's Island Cuisine during the 2017 Maui Fil-Am Heritage Festival® at Queen Ka'ahumanu Center.



PHOTO COURTESY WWW.LATESTRECIPES.NET

Ingredients

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 5 pounds pork belly, cut 1.5 inch cubes | 1 tablespoon whole black peppercorns |
| 1 head garlic, peeled | 3 bay leaves |
| ½ small onion, sliced | 1 teaspoon salt |
| 1 cup vinegar | 1 teaspoon sugar |
| 1 cup soy sauce | 1 tablespoon vegetable oil |

Directions

In large pot, saute garlic in oil. Add pork belly and salt over medium high heat and let sit a few minutes. Add vinegar and let sit a few minutes. Add soy sauce, onion, peppercorns, sugar and bay leaves. Stir every 15–20 minutes while cooking over medium high heat for 45 minutes or until tender. **Dance. Dance. Dance.**

Salamat for sharing our Filipino recipes.



My Dad always said Be Prepared

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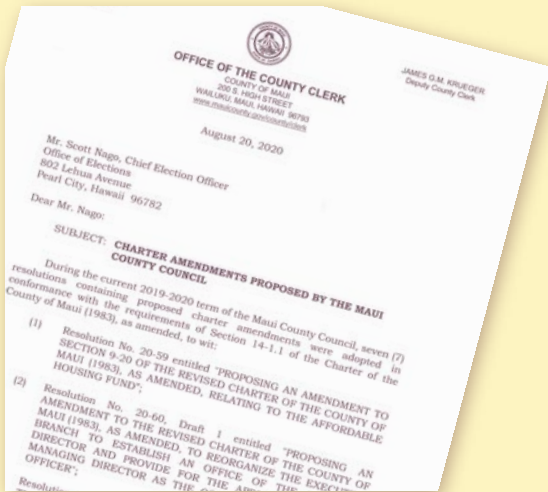


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Appointments on Maui or O'ahu



Charter ...

from p. 16

zens, figure out how it does.

- **Happiness:** There is a country, Bhutan, that has formally declared that its “charter” its “Gross National Product” is Happiness. One can’t really buy happiness. One can be happy just like one can be sad. In government charters, is happiness defined and codified? Perhaps but in God’s Covenant, I believe happiness is the close up to God. It is right up there with love and peace. I know the day after the election, there will be those who are happy and those who are sad.

The Maui County Charter and God’s Covenant, put side-by-side; with each

contributing to quality of life and to “peace of mind” (and body and spirit) that can thrive and be nurtured, in among all of us. The key to it all, civilly, is to *VOTE*. The key to it all, from God’s perspective, is to *HAVE FAITH*. Put side-by-side, voting and faith contribute to the rights and responsibilities, with fairness and equity, that we all enjoy here in the County of Maui. ✨



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.

President ...

from p. 18

mildly disappointed. As I was watching the results come out, I was almost certain that Hillary was going to win. It would’ve been empowering to see a woman in office for once, obtaining a position that no other woman acquired.” Though the election didn’t go in his favor, Kalem believes it is still the President’s right to serve the term he was elected for. “But we owe President Trump the opportunity to show his capabilities of running this country.”

Acknowledging the results of the election, Kalem can’t help but imagine where the country would be like now if it had gone otherwise. “To this day, I still wonder what it would’ve been like if we gave Hillary the chance to define the fate of this country,” Kalem says.

If it were up to Kalem, he would pick a president who has “any experience in politics, and if so, their successes or failures, seeing how they responded to such defeats in their careers.” Caring less about political parties, Kalem puts importance on a figure with a deferential character who will advocate for every American. He wants “Someone who can put their country before their party, whether they are a democrat or republican. They do what best fits the people’s interests and needs. Also want to see that they show humbleness, instead of allowing their ego to dictate their judgment to see what best suits them not us.”

Looking at the effects of COVID-19 on the United States, Kalem wishes for a president who will enforce guidelines to take the pandemic by its reigns and return the country to normalcy. “First and foremost, I would appreciate it if the president addresses this COVID-19 pandemic diligently and appropriately. Currently, we feel completely hopeless as we see cases increasing. In addition, people aren’t taking this seriously and aren’t following health protocols. We need to enforce stricter laws so that we can reduce interaction, therefore decreasing the number of cases we have.” Alongside efforts to curb the effects of the pandemic, Kalem also would like a president who would make higher education more affordable, citing college’s steep price tag as the reason many students don’t strive to continue their education. “Affordable education would be convenient and encouraging to students who feel like they can’t go to school because they can’t afford it. Education is something I value but it’s discouraging to see the high expenses to attend college. It would be motivating to see more of this country’s youth continuing their education after high school due to more affordable education.”

“The president should address the immense racism that is present in our country.”

– ALTENE TUMACDER

Like Altene, Kalem also sees racial discrimination being a prominent issue in today’s society. “I also want a future where we as human beings feel comfortable in the body we’re in, without feeling we don’t fit society’s standards. I would highly appreciate if the future president shines a light on the racial discrimination that is occurring in our country right now.” As many continue to deny the presence of racism, Kalem encourages everybody to simply look around them and realize the effect that systemic racism has on groups of this diverse country, including our very own amid this pandemic. “Realizing that it’s an actual reality that’s occurring and that it’s been going on for too long, that it needs to

come to an end!” Kalem knows his stance on how our government has handled the pandemic and assesses how it will affect the upcoming elections. “Up to this point, I see that our current president isn’t fit for the job and that we gave him enough time to prove himself. If the current president doesn’t show adequate effort towards this pandemic, that would make people doubt his ability to run this country, reconsidering their vote, and giving another candidate an opportunity to assess this current situation.”

To any member of the Filipino community who is able to vote, Kalem also leaves his message. “Voting is an opportunity for you to use your voice and to demand change in this country.”

Though at this point in time, the country is very politically divided, it is no doubt every person should exercise their right to have a voice in this country’s future, no matter who they support or what they believe in. All that this new generation of Americans asks is you keep in mind their future, their life, and most importantly, the lives of every single American no matter their race, religion, orientation, or income. Vote on behalf of the future. ✨

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 Senior at Maui High School. She is the founder and President of Maui High’s SaberScribes journalism club, and Vice President of the Silver-sword Chapter of the National Honor Society. Alexis is a part of Maui High’s air riflery team and is also a committed member of HOSA-Future Health Professionals as the Secondary Representative of the Hawai’i HOSA State Council and a HOSA state gold medalist and international finalist. Alexis hopes to one day become a Pediatric Physician. She is the daughter of Alex and Juvy Viloria.

“I would appreciate it if the president addresses this COVID-19 pandemic diligently and appropriately”

– KALEM RINGLEN



member of HOSA-Future Health Professionals as the Secondary Representative of the Hawai’i HOSA State Council and a HOSA state gold medalist and international finalist. Alexis hopes to one day become a Pediatric Physician. She is the daughter of Alex and Juvy Viloria.



Aloha!

STAY SAFE, STAY HEALTHY!

I am committed to helping the people of Maui County through these unprecedented times. I will fight for working families and advocate for economic sustainability. **No matter where you live, I humbly ask for your vote in this election! Salamat po!**

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Robert Mata, owner of Oby's Farm, LLC
PHOTO COURTESY ROBERT MATA



Angelo Mariano, 3.8-acre dragon fruit farm owner
PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA

Amendments ...

from p. 15

the last general election shall vote at such recall election, the officer sought to be recalled shall not be deemed recalled regardless of the outcome of the election.’ As of the last general election, only approximately 36% of the registered voters voted, way less than the required 50% if impeachment should need to happen. Article 12 itself should be amended to give it a chance to do what it is intended to do unless the voting population increases to over 50% to at least get to the threshold, which likely will not happen.”

Acob states “If this proposed amendment is to ‘fix’ the situation where the Mayor and the Council specifically disagreed on the reappointment of a department head that has been rejected by the Council, the City and County of Honolulu has an answer to that and should be considered. Section 4-104 of the Revised Charter of the City and County of Honolulu 1973 (2017 Edition) states: ‘If the nominee fails to be confirmed by the council, the nominee shall not be eligible for another interim appointment to the same office.’”

Acob believes that perhaps the Charter review process should be more frequent than every ten years: “The Maui County Charter in Section 14-3 provides a mandatory review every ten years with the use of a Charter Commission. It should be reviewed more frequent than that, perhaps every four years for any proposed revisions to be placed on the ballot during mayoral election year. The Charter should be reviewed for internal consistency, current applicability of provisions, to review the proper functionality of provisions such as the Recall provision mentioned above, and whether it should provide more clear, descriptive and thorough procedures including but not limited to the appointment of Department Heads.”

Charter Commission (Resolution

20-100; passed the Council on a 7–2 vote with Hokama and Sugimura voting no.)

Shall the Charter be amended, effective January 2, 2021, to authorize the Council to appoint nine members and the Mayor to appoint two members of the 11-member Charter Commission, which is required to study and review the operation of the County government?

Currently, the Mayor appoints all eleven members of the Charter Commission, with the approval of the Council.

See the box below to compare how all the members of the commissions identified in the Charter are appointed.

With the current system of the Mayor appointing the members and

the Council approving them, there is checks and balances. But with the proposed Charter amendment, who will “check and balance” the Council’s nine appointments?

Term Limits for Mayor (Resolution 20-101; passed the Council on a 7–2 vote with Hokama and Sugimura voting no.)

Shall the Charter be amended to establish stricter term limits for the Mayor by limiting the number of terms a person may serve as Mayor to two full terms?

Currently, a mayor shall not serve more than two consecutive full terms of office.

If this charter amendment was in effect in 2014, Mayor Alan Arakawa would not have been entitled to run for re-election as he was first elected

for a four year term in 2002 (defeating incumbent James “Kimo” Apana). Arakawa lost his re-election bid in 2006, losing to Councilwoman Charmaine Tavares (daughter of former Mayor Hannibal Tavares). In 2010, Arakawa beat the incumbent Tavares and in 2014, won re-election, serving a third term.

Cabanilla-Takushi believes the word “consecutive” should be removed from the Charter. “Like the Council races, it should not be limited to consecutive terms.”

Department of Agriculture (Resolution 20-102; passed the Council on a 6–3 vote with Hokama, Kama and Sugimura voting no.)

Shall the Charter be amended, effective July 1, 2022, to establish a Department of Agriculture to develop a sustainable regional agricultural system for Maui County?

Currently, there is no Department of Agriculture in the County.

If passed, the Charter will have a new section which will include the following language:

The primary purpose and intent of the creation of the department of agriculture is to provide advocacy, and not create additional regulatory barriers, on all matters related to agriculture. The director of agriculture must:

1. Develop a sustainable regional agricultural system for Maui County.
2. Build the economic resiliency of the county’s communities by increasing opportunities in the agricultural sector.
3. Boost resident health and food security through ensuring access to locally grown agricultural products.
4. Promote healthy ecosystems through natural resource regeneration and protection, including through advising other agencies and the council on all programs

see AMENDMENTS p.23

Commission Member Appointees

How the members of the Commissions identified in the Charter are appointed:

- **Board of Ethics**
(Section 10-2): Nine members appointed by mayor with approval of council.
- **Board of Water Supply**
(Section 8-11.3): Nine members appointed by mayor with approval of council.
- **Charter Commission**
(Section 14-3): Eleven members appointed by mayor with approval of council
- **Civil Service Commission**
(Section 8-9.4): Five members appointed by mayor with approval of council.
- **Liquor Control Commission**
(Section 8-13.2): Nine members appointed by mayor with approval of council.
- **Planning Commissions for Maui, Molokai and Lāna‘i**
(Section 8-8.4): Nine members appointed by mayor with approval of council.
- **Police Commission**
(Section 8-12.2): Nine members appointed by mayor with approval of council.
- **Salary Commission**
(Section 8-17.1): Nine members appointed by mayor with approval of council.



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Distance Learning ...

from p. 14

not alone, anything is possible, and teachers can make things happen.”

In a moment of reflection, Galanto says “I very much feel the need and the care that the students have towards each other and their teachers. As much as the students prior to COVID could not wait for the weekend and extended breaks, they truly miss being in school with their friends and teachers. I have learned that teachers are very resilient. Even with the constant challenges, teachers care way too much and work extremely hard to give their students the best education they can. They are always adapting and find ways to ‘make it work.’ I have learned a lot already on improvising and using computers for my lessons. I have been able to problem solve remotely. I have been able to network with other band teachers

both locally and nationally. My successes on overcoming these teaching challenges have been shaping me to become a better mentor to the younger generations of future musicians and teachers.”

Yadao also emulates wanting to forge relationships with her students.

“The most challenging aspect of distance learning is finding ways to create personal relationships with your students without having them physically in your classroom. My biggest fear this year was not being able to establish rapport with my students the same way I could in the physical classroom. I knew this would be challenging but I was convinced that it

was not impossible. I want my students to feel my love for them, to know that I care, and to look forward to coming to math class. This just calls for creativity, adaptability, graciousness and kindness. My students have been phenomenal. Their hopeful attitudes, sense of respect for our limited time together and their understanding of why we need to learn this manner has profoundly encouraged me to keep pushing forward. When planning out the school

year, I'm naturally worried how my kids would handle this type of learning. Yes, they're being challenged and so are we as their educators but they are willing to give it a try. That is all I ask of my students. To try, to be open to this new learning oppor-

see DISTANCE LEARNING back page

“The most challenging aspect of distance learning is finding ways to create personal relationships with your students without having them physically in your classroom.”

– RITCHILDA YADAO

Mahalo to the Fil-Am Voice Distribution Locations

Kahului

4-R Oriental Food-Mart & Produce
A&E Laundry
Badua's Maui Crepes & Grill · QKC
Castle & Cooke Mortgage LLC
Christ the King Church
County of Maui - DMV
Da Shrimp Hale
Foodland-Kahului
Hale Makua - Kahului
Island Grocery Depot
Kahului Laundromat
Kelly's Mini Mart Fast Food
Kelly's Superette, Inc.
Krispy Kreme
LBC Remit Express
Maui Adult Day Care Center
Maui Beach Hotel
Maui Coffee Roasters

Maui Federal Credit Union
Maui Green Market
Maui Wow-Wee
Maui's Kava Bar & Grill
North Shore Pizza
Paradise Supermart
Pinoy Mini Mart
Plantation Grindz
Queen Ka'ahumanu Center
Rexel Pacific Fish Market
Rowena's Produce
Safeway - Kahului
Sunrise Food Mart
Tamura's
Tante's Island Cuisine
University of Hawai'i Maui College

South Side

A&E Oriental Foodmart
Bayer
Elly's Formal
Foodland - Kihei

Minit Stop - Pi'ilani Village
Phil-Mart Oriental
Tamura's
Tante's Fishmarket
Times Supermarket
Tropical Marketplace

Upcountry

Farmacy Health Bar
Majestic Laundry
Makawao Fire Station
Makawao Public Library
Mixed Plate
Pukalani Superette

Wailuku

American Savings Bank
Asian Mart & Fast Food
Blazing Steaks
CAA Market Place
CAA Mini Mart
Copy Services
County of Maui
Discount Mini Mart
Foodland - Kehalani

Four Sisters Bakery
Golden Coin
Good Shepherd Church
Hale Makua - Wailuku
Home Maid Bakery
ILWU
J. Walter Cameron Center
JMA Imports
Kaiser-Maui Lani
Law Offices of Alfredo Evangelista
Mālama I Ke Ola Health Center
Maui Coffee Attic
Maui Economic Opportunity
Maui Medical
Maui Memorial Hospital
Minit Stop - Main Street
Noble Travel
'Ohana Mini Mart
Promenade
Sack N Save
Safeway - Maui Lani

Sam Sato's
Skin Elegance, LLC
Tasty Crust
Tiffany's Bar & Grill
Wailuku Seafood Center

Westside

EC Food & General Merchandise
Foodland - Lahaina
Ilocandia Filipino Store
Joey's Kitchen - Kā'anapali
Joey's Kitchen - Nāpili
Nagasako Variety Store
Nāpili Market
RVN Deli Kitchen
Safeway - Lahaina
Times Supermarket - Honokōwai

Lāna'i

Blue Ginger Cafe
Pine Isle Market
Richard's Market

REV. 09.09.2020

Amendments ...

from p. 21

- and projects that affect the agricultural section.
- Develop and implement programs to diversify and expand sustainable forms of agriculture.
 - Report to the mayor and council annually on the County's overall performance in meeting agriculture objectives and any barriers that could be addressed by ordinance.
 - Perform other duties and functions as assigned by the mayor or managing director.

When asked about the Charter amendment establishing a County Department of Agriculture, Robert Mata, owner of Oby's Farm LLC said "I haven't really heard about that charter amendment. To me, that is

really, really great. We need farmers on Maui." Mata farms 155 acres and grows sweet potatoes, cucumbers, okra, long beans, asparagus and cherry tomatoes. Mata says "The biggest help I need is workers who are able to work on the farm. What I've noticed is that locals on Maui don't want to work on the farm except for the *Nanas* and *Tatas*. I want the government to emphasize buying more local produce and support local farmers. Even though it's cheaper at Costco, how can the local farmers survive? We cannot bring down the price because the fertilizer companies don't bring down the price. Every year it goes up."

Angelo Mariano has a dragon fruit farm—3.8 acres and he is looking to expand. His focus is on the day to day struggles of being a farmer. "The green waste is about to close by the end of this month. What would I use for soil for my plants?" Mariano also

see AMENDMENTS back page

Let's Talk Pinoy!

Cont'd from p. 13

know what happened after. When he woke up, he saw his *Nanay* (mother) next to his hospital bed. His *Yena* (mother) with blood-shot eyes, told him the police found him in the bushes passed out. They suspected he got assaulted by homeless men.

Michael looked at his *Inahan* (mother) who was overflowing with so much grief and anger she was literally shaking. Michael reached over to hold her *ima* (hand) and she squealed. The vibration in her voice when she cried that day is something he would never forget. The swelling in his *mukha* (face) would eventually heal but his views of the homeless would never be the same again. "I just wanted to help them mom. Why ..."

"Michael, don't go there anymore," she said with so much passion.

All he could do was look at her reaction as she continued to sob and clinch at the bedsheets. She was here alone because *Tatay* (father) was on a business trip to California.

Michael would never again volunteer. His want and need to help the homeless get back on their feet evaporated into thin air. It was replaced with sheer resentment.

Fast forward to the present. Michael watches in astonishment as these men, these homeless men that came out of nowhere, help him fix his car.

Meanwhile, Angel just left her restroom and began reading her to-do list Lydia had given her to do that day and her *mukha* (face) went awe.

In our house, this list will be divided among my sisters and my brothers. Angel couldn't help herself but

think of her family she left back in the Philippines.

I have to contact my family, especially my Mom. I'm sure they are very worried because I haven't contacted them since I came to Hawai'i. I wonder how they are doing? How do I contact them, they don't have a cellphone? I'll just send them my only \$300 that I got for cleaning houses.

Beep! Beep! Beep! Beep! Beep!

Angel hears a beeping sound ... what could that be?

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.

Bayanihan ...

from p. 17

mores, CAA Market Place, Nona Del Rosario, D.M.L. Plants & Produce LLC, Family Produce, Four Sisters Catering, Home Depot, JMA Imports, Juan's Kitchen/Ichiban Restaurant & Sushi Bar, KPMW Radio, Mahi Pono, Chris & Jenny Martinez, Maui Food Bank, Maui Gold, McDonald's of Maui, Mystery Maui, Nāpili Community, Oby's Farm, Sammy & Shari Papagayo, Paradise Supermart and Catering Service, Pepsi, Pitaya of Maui, Rodney Saribay, Yuki Lei Sugimura, Tight Tacos Maui, Hedy Udarbe, and Wailuku Seafood.

Mahalo to those who provided monetary donations in August: Anonymous, Benjamin Acob, Attorney at Law, Joyce Afalla, Eleri Aagsalog, Keku & Cindy Akana, Belinda Aquino, Emmanuel & Eliza Baltazar, Sharon Zalsos Banaag, Kauanoe Batangan, Judith Boyd, Breen Builders, LLC Hawai'i, Kristina Castro, Emerita Cortez, Christopher & Verli Curley, Delchest Holdings Inc., Dorvin D Leis Co., Inc., Filipino Women's Civic Club Foundation, Rose Galanto, Ganir & Co., J. Hagedorn, Troy Hashimoto, House of Finance, Inc., Jacob's Ladder LLC, Jonathan Starr Foundation, Vanessa Kop, Law Office of Lance D. Collins, Vanessa Medeiros, Ely & Violy Natividad, Rick & Rina Nava, Juliana Patao, Rey Prado, Pyramid Insurance, Flora Ramos-

Wildman, Sam Satos's Inc., Kehaulani K. Santiago, Smile's Auto Shop, Yuki Lei Sugimura, Anthony Takitani, John Tomoso, TTT Salon LLC, Hedy Udarbe, and Cecilia Villafuerte.

The next #BayanihanFoodDistribution will be on Saturday, September 26, 2019 beginning at 9 a.m.

To receive the latest news and announcements on the #BayanihanFoodDistribution, make sure you follow the Binhi at Ani Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/BinhiatAniFilipinoCommunityCenter>. *



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. Liza is currently the Interactive Media Strategist with Wailea Realty Corp.

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“Recovery responses to this pandemic must aim to benefit all the residents of our county. In order for Maui to truly be No Ka Oi, and for Central Maui to become “Dream City” in reality, we need a solid educational system, quality health care from birth to maturity, and an economy that provides opportunities for our residents. While this also depends on community action, our legislators must help by securing funding and support for key projects.”

- Gil Keith-Agaran

Working for the Heart of Maui

FEDERAL CARES MONEY FOR MAUI | Act 8 (2020) provided \$67 Million to fund Maui County COVID-19 response; Act 9 (2020) provided additional resources for food, renter and homeless assistance, resilience grants for local PPE production, and funds workforce and retraining services.

SUPPORTING EDUCATION | 2009-2020 \$119,781,000.00+ for CIP at Maui High, Baldwin, Maui Waena, Iao, Wailuku, Waihee, Pomaikai, Puu Kukui, Kahului, Lihikai.

MAINTAINING OUR QUALITY OF LIFE | Health and Recreation: \$20M+ for Central Maui Regional Sports Complex, \$3M for Iao Valley State Monument repairs and restoration; \$15M for Maui Health System renovations, \$19M in operating support in 2020 (157,348,000.00+ during Sen. Keith-Agaran’s time in the legislature).

KEEPING HAWAII SPECIAL | Adopted Paris Climate Change Agreement for Hawaii; strengthen authority to stop landowners from reducing public access to shorelines; appropriated \$5M towards the purchase of the Na Wai Eha Watershed.



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Distance Learning ...

from p. 22

tunity and to be resilient learners. “One thing I did in the past with my students was creating individualized handshakes with each student. This year I’m thinking about individualized voiceshakes. We’ll create a personalized chant together and may add some kind of gesture to it,” says Acidera. “What I have gained from this experience so far is a newfound sense of patience and grace. This may be the most difficult year for some teachers. There will be many obstacles to get through and many mistakes will be made but if we can forgive ourselves, adjust, and improve, then I think we will be fine. This also goes with our students and parents. We need to remember that this is experience for them too. We shouldn’t expect them

to know everything and we should also be mindful of their current situation, as the pandemic affected every family differently.” ✱

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. She thanks the educators who shaped her throughout her years as a student of Kahului Elementary School, Maui Waena Intermediate School, and Maui High School. She still talks to her teachers once in a while to this day—some of whom continue to be involved in her life and are her friends on Facebook.



Amendments ...

from p. 23

discusses another problem he faces. “I’m paying my taxes but plenty growers are growing in their back yards, selling in the stores at low prices, without paying taxes.” Mariano believes the County government is not helping. Like Mata, Mariano is in need of workers: “There is only a six month fruit season but I need manpower to maintain the land. I need capital to pay for the labor.” Mariano has not applied for any grants because he admits he doesn’t know how to write for grants. Mariano says he never heard about the proposed Charter amendment and says “there’s no details” how a Department of Agriculture would work.

One of the unknown details is the cost of a new County Department of Agriculture. By way of comparison, the administrative costs for the Department of Transportation, the newest department that was created in 2002 as a result of a charter amendment, is over \$700,000 each year. (The program costs include over \$7 million to run the bus system and over \$600,000 to run the air ambulance program.) These costs come from the general fund and are paid through real property taxes.

While these seven proposed amendments can seem to be over-

whelming, in the end, they all change Maui’s current government in significant ways, shaping how public services will be delivered or accessed. Filipinos need to consider how these amendments, if adopted, impact or prejudice our community interests and needs.

When voting YES or NO on these Charter amendments, consider the words of our Charter’s preamble and ask yourself does this proposed charter amendment help in creating the “best possible form of county government”?

Once you’ve answered that question, you’re ready to do the Cha-Cha. ✱

Alfredo G. Evangelista is a graduate of Maui High School (1976), the University of Southern California (B.A. Political Science 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.



General Election Tuesday, Nov. 3

For more information, visit

www.mauicounty.gov/1965/Elections-Division

or call the Maui County Clerk’s Elections Branch

on Maui (808) 270-7749

on Lāna‘i 800-272-0098 or on Molokai 800-272-0026



Fil·Am Voice