



**Businesses Thrive During COVID-19**  
Amazing Filipino-owned businesses!  
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**100 Years of Living**  
The fullness of life of Alejandra Quia Cabudoy Cabalo is a testament to good living.  
Page 1



**Conrado Cortez**  
We have a computer whiz of Filipino ancestry in our midst!  
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# Fil·Am Voice

Magkaisa Tayong Lahat | “Let Us All Unite”

October 2020 • Vol 4 No10 | FILIPINO AMERICAN VOICE • UPLIFTING OUR COMMUNITY | FREE

## inside



The Coronavirus leaves a trail of shuttered businesses here on Maui.  
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Significant gains made in the repair of our Bahay Kubo at Kepaniwai Park.  
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Prolific Maui Blogger gives means to travel on Maui.  
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## Businesses Survive During a Pandemic

*Key Words of Advice: Ask Questions, Budget, Be Patient, Keep Your Customers Happy*

Vanessa Joy Domingo

Local businesses across the island face the predicament of adjusting to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Maui favorites such as Poi by the Pound and Da Kitchen are restaurants that closed their doors due to the economic woes brought upon by COVID-19. Businesses in Lahaina and Pā‘ia are shuttered. There are, however, local businesses still steadily making their way through. **Glory Bangasan** has been aiming to also spread

happiness and cheer during the pandemic with her foodtruck, DÔLISH. Her colorful trailer sits in Mā‘alaea, eager to spread dolishious happiness of edible cookie dough, Roselani ice cream, frappuccinos, coffee and cheese tea with monthly menu changes. “I really felt that my colorful, sweet li‘l trailer could bring happiness to our Maui community during these uncertain times. I was happy to know that my Maui community could try my goodies first,”  
see **BUSINESSES** next page



After three months waiting for her truck, and four more months to get over the fear of COVID-19, Glory Bangasan finally snapped out of that mindset, and started her business.  
PHOTO COURTESY GLORY BANGASAN

## Our Centenarians

Alejandra Quia Cabudoy Cabalo

Lucy Peros | PHOTOS COURTESY LUCY PEROS



Alejandra Quia Cabudoy Cabalo's Dressmaking Graduation

My mother, Alejandra Quia Cabudoy Cabalo is an amazing woman. She was born on August 7, 1920 in Cagayungan, Narvacan, Ilocos Sur, Philippines which makes her 100 years old. She was the third of six children of the late Bonifacio Cabudoy who came to Hawai‘i to work in the 1930s at Maui Land and Pine and the late Narcisa Cabanting Quia Cabudoy. Even though she only received up to a 4th grade education, she is a very smart and wise woman. In her younger days, Mom was a very talented seamstress. She could sew anything making her own patterns. My father and mother got married on May 14, 1941. It was during WWII when my two brothers were born. They were born while they were hiding from the enemies, Ben (1942) and Dominick (1945).  
see **CABALO** p.3

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**Science for a better life**

# Businesses ...

from p. 1

said Glory.

Her travels and love for food were a source of inspiration for her food truck. After encountering edible cookie dough in places like New York, Portland, Las Vegas and San Francisco, she was hooked. In Portland she visited The Cookie Dough Café—a business that received a deal through the show Shark Tank. After visiting the shop and finding its white walls and quiet atmosphere to be disappointing, she began thinking of her utilizing her culinary degree to create her own cookie dough business. She went back to school and joined the Maui Food Innovation Culinary Center at University of Hawai'i Maui College to learn about starting a food business on Maui and conducted her research on finding the best ingredients for her menu. "I try my best to be different," Glory explains. "I am the only business on Maui that serves Cheese Tea. A 24-hour cold brewed tea, flavor of the month syrup and a cream cheese fluff. It's a spin on a milk tea. Huge Trend in Asia. Especially in Japan right now." She followed all the latest food trends to build a menu of fun and unique items that her customers could enjoy. Another fun item she created is her Pog Boba Slushy, the only one of its kind on Maui.

After being three months behind on the build of her food truck, it was finally delivered to her in March—one week before the COVID-19 shutdown and stay at home order for the State of Hawai'i was in effect. "My trailer sat on my parents' property for four months. Businesses were closing and yet I was planning to open up shop. I was scared, fearful and at times depressed not knowing what the future held. I snapped out of that mindset real quick. I saw opportunity. There weren't many places open to eat or dine and I figured that it's



Dôlish is the only business on Maui that serves Cheese Tea.  
PHOTO COURTESY GLORY BANGASAN

now or never. I have friends in the food truck business and they said they were having record days in sales in May. In June, I came across a parking spot for rent at the Maui Golf & Sports Park in Mā'alaea. I decided to sign a lease and planned to open on August 1st. For me, I felt it was a safer time to open. Maui County has had few cases of COVID-19 cases and I felt like we've become used to taking precautions and social distancing."

She did have concerns of how opening her business during the pandemic would affect her, her family and her revenue. She and her family would be at risk of contracting COVID-19 while serving their community. Her business was at risk. Would they have a successful opening? With people losing their jobs and being under financial stress still purchase her products? Was her location too tourist-driven and out of the way for locals? Despite all her concerns, she was proved wrong.

Glory's piece of advice comes from her journey of venturing into the unknown during COVID-19. "You don't need to have everything figured out to get your business started. Know the core basics to get your business going, some things you can learn as you go. Know what you're good at and use resources for the things you're not good at. Ask a lot of questions."

**B Sales Trucking Excavation, Plumbing, & Pumping Services** was established in 2004 by Bobby Sales and his wife Fely. It has grown throughout the years, offering more  
**see BUSINESSES p.4**



B Sales Trucking Excavation, Plumbing, & Pumping Services has gradually added more equipment.  
PHOTO COURTESY BOBBY SALES



Although business has declined due to the Pandemic, the business has not applied for any Federal money.  
PHOTO COURTESY BOBBY SALES





18 Years Old



Cabalo Family



Ama At Ina (Rice Festival) Mother & Father of the Year



50th Wedding Anniversary



Lunch in the Pineapple Field



Barrio Fiesta Performance

## Cabalo ...

from p. 1

After the war, in 1946, recruiters from the Hawai'i plantations went to the Philippines to recruit men to come and work in the pineapple and sugarcane plantations. They were the *Sakadas*. My father, Elpidio Cabalo was one of them.

He left my Mom (26 years old) with my brothers ages five and one. Mom was left as a single parent rais-

ing two boys by herself. In 1949, Dad came back to the Philippines to visit and it was that time that I was conceived. I was born on March 11, 1950. I was born without my father because he had to come back to Hawai'i to work.

My Mom is a religious woman and has been since she lived in the Philippines. She would take me along with her to attend mass at our town church, St. Lucy Church in Narvacan, Ilocos Sur every Sunday. During rainy season, the roads would be very mud-

dy because they were not yet paved. Mom and I would carry our shoes, walk barefooted and then wash our muddy feet just before we entered the church and put our shoes or slippers on. She recites the rosary every day as long as I could remember including today. Her alarm clock is programmed to KPMW radio station and at 4 a.m. every day, the rosary would go on and she follows it.

My Mom is such a good cook. She does not believe in measuring cups or measuring spoons. She cooks by eye-

balling and tasting. I learned how to cook some of the traditional Filipino food from her just by watching and helping her in the kitchen. I learned from her how to cook whatever is available from our garden. Even though I follow how she cooks, her cooking always tastes better than mine.

In 1960, my brother Ben came to join my Dad and in 1962, Mom, my brother Dominick and myself joined him also. Upon arriving on Maui, see CABALO p.15



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## From the Editor's Desk

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



What once was a bustling and thriving community, Lahaina is now a skeletal ghost town of what it should be.

PHOTO: JUN LOZANO

## Open Our Economy Safely

*Our Working Families Need to Get Back to Work ...*

Oh, what a relief. After over seven months of shutting down our Maui economy, we are finally beginning to somewhat see a light at the end of the tunnel, by opening our island to visitors so our working families can get back to their jobs and be able to provide for the basic needs of their families. We can do this safely when all of us work together and follow the safety protocols set by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and our local government leaders. Governor David Ige recently announced the State will begin pre-travel testing for arriving passengers on October 15th, after months of delay. This program will allow visitors and returning residents to the island, who test negative for COVID-19 to avoid the 14-day quarantine. Arriving passengers must test negative for



COVID-19 within 72 hours prior to arrival. In the Governor's words, "This pre-travel testing will allow us to add a great element of safety for travel into our State."

Our question is "Why and what took the State so long to institute this pre-travel testing?" The economic impacts and suffering of

our residents could have been minimized if the State acted sooner. To give us better insights on the impact of shutting down our tourism

industry, here's some data. In the second quarter of 2020 (April, May, June), the unemployment rate in Maui County increased 27.7 percentage points, from 2.7% to 30.4%. It is the highest increase in the State, according to the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. In Kahului, where many of our local working resi-

see OPEN p. 6



Melen Magbual Agcolicol of Copy Services is shown here with her family during a recent Gintong Pamana Leadership & Scholarship Awards ceremony.

PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA

## Businesses ...

from p. 2

services as they obtain more equipment. Their services include pumping cesspools, septic tanks and grease traps; plumbing service repairs that include hydro jet services and plumbing line location and installation and renovations of plumbing systems.

Although their services would be perceived as essential for homes and commercial businesses to operate properly, their workload has slowed down. "Our revenue has dropped about 30%. We used to have to work seven days a week to complete jobs and keep up with the workload. We feel fortunate that even if we've slowed down, we guarantee our employees full time hours and haven't had to lay anyone off," said their son Bryan. With the pandemic, they have been cautious about sanitizing and utilizing face masks and staying on top of local news for COVID-19 updates.

Earlier in the year, the company planned to obtain new equipment—a service truck and an excavator. With the decrease in revenue they experienced, however, the company decided to hold off on those plans. Bryan knows his Dad views the equipment they obtain as business milestones and reflections of the hard work they have accomplished. And he's right. "I'm proud of being a plumber and becoming a contractor and building my business so I can offer more services," said Bobby. He is hoping to pass the business on to his children. "I hope they are better than me when they take over the business in the future. I want to see them be successful. I want them to learn now." As they've grown, he's involved his children—Bryan, Fayma and Faylin into learning the ropes of the business. Bryan has taken an active role with

being onsite and supervising employees, Fayma has been maintaining accounts and Faylin assists her mom Fely with billing and invoicing.

As a family, they decided not to seek government assistance or apply for the grants made available through the CARES Act. "No, we didn't apply. At some point, we'll have to worry about paying back that money and we're doing good. Plus, a lot of our jobs have been sourced from 'word-of-mouth' recommendations," explained Bryan. They do run into families struggling because of the pandemic but are in need of their plumbing services. "I try to help them if can, kind of hard when you see how these families are struggling and we get customers that cry because of stress with paying for their bill. But we try to meet them halfway." Bryan's piece of advice for Filipino business owners: "Be aware of how you spend your money. Budgeting makes all the difference."

**Melen Magbual Agcolicol** has also had to assess their finances to survive the pandemic. She received funds from PUA—Pandemic Unemployment Assistance made available through the CARES Act. "Collecting PUA—it's helped me. It's not enough but it does offset our business costs. It gives me some relief to know that I have help to pay our bills."

She and her husband Mike opened their Copy Services shop in 1992. At the time, Mike was working full-time and Melen had the idea of opening Copy Services to provide for her family and also care for her two sons at the time. "Being a mother, I wanted a way to work for myself and take care of my kids at the same time. I had a crib and everything here. Mike would come in during his lunch hour from work to take over and let me breastfeed my boys in the back of the shop." Since then, she

see BUSINESSES p.6



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As a parent, environmental consultant, business owner, and founder of the Hawai'i Youth Livestock Association, Christy understands education, food production and balancing the environment with the economy. Her vision is to take education outside of the traditional classroom setting, advocate for firm-renewable resources, and to diversify our visitor industry by providing jobs that will allow the rebuilding of a successful economy.



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The privilege to occupy this seat will be counted as an opportunity to make a change in our community by challenging the "status quo".

The time I get to serve you will be dedicated to fixing our broken economy and working on moving Hawai'i forward together, keeping Maui No Ka 'Oi.

- Christy Kajiwar-Gusman

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Like Lahaina, Pā'ia experienced its share of shuttered businesses.  
PHOTO: VINCE BAGOYO, JR

## Open ...

from p. 4

dents live, the unemployment rate skyrocketed to 35% in April—nearly 10% higher than the national unemployment rate at the peak of the Great Depression—and the highest of any metropolitan area in the U.S., according to the latest data available from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The coronavirus pandemic has devastated the economy of Maui in ways that we have never experienced before. Numerous local businesses have closed and many may not ever open again. How sad to see this happening on Maui. Historic Lahaina is like a ghost town, with many shops boarded up along Front Street and hardly any visitors in sight, not even as we continue to drive around familiar, popular streets. Further, as COVID-19 shut down tourism and airlines stopped coming to the islands due to mandatory 14-day quarantine orders, job losses on the island piled up with unprecedented furor. The quarantine has resulted in virtually no visitors, hence, zero activity in tourism-related businesses that largely rely on visitor dollars. Impacts on our families resulting from the shutting down of Maui's economy are devastating. Long lines are common at free food distribution sites, as residents are willing to wait in line in their vehicles, for hours if need be, just to receive much needed meals for their families.

According to leading Hawai'i economists, any attempt to delay the opening of the State's economy to allow transpacific visitors to the island beyond October 15 is no longer an option. If we do not

open our tourism industry safely, which means over 80% of the economy, the potential long-term impacts on our residents will be grim as they will no longer be able to afford to pay their mortgage or rent, purchase groceries, care for medical and other healthcare needs, and face even further challenges for maintaining their daily lives.

As we open our economy safely in these very challenging times of COVID-19, we require a strong leader with steady hands. We are pleased to know Lt. Governor Green, also a physician, will be in charge of the pre-testing initiative for the State. According to Lt. Governor Green, "the pre-travel testing program is going to be another tool and a layer of safety for residents and visitors. Additionally, it definitely provides an economic opportunity for our State when so many people are suffering."

*The coronavirus pandemic has devastated the economy of Maui in ways that we have never experienced before.*

LET'S ALL STAY SAFE. Practice all recommended safety protocols: wear a mask, practice social distancing and wash your hands frequently so our tourism economy will be kept open and our workers

will finally be back to work with confidence that we are safe. Yes, we can do this. Let's take care of each other and ourselves, in the ways we know best. TOGETHER Maui is strong!

Finally, once again, just a reminder—we are just days away from a very important election. Effective leadership matters. We cannot afford to be silent anymore. The future of Maui and for your family is in your hands! LET YOUR VOICES BE HEARD—VOTE! ✨

*Vince Bagoyo*  
VINCE BAGOYO, JR. | EDITOR



Tia Trotter of Geeky Mama Studios sales has actually increased during this time of Pandemic.

PHOTOS COURTESY TIA TROTTER

## Businesses ...

from p. 4

has been able to provide for her family and fund her kids' college education. She feels fortunate their business provided them with financial stability for her family throughout the years. "This is our bread and butter," she says proudly.

This year, however, is rough. "We've had about a 50% decrease in revenues compared to last year. There are two components to our business. The drafting and design that Mike takes care of and the printing, which I manage. Drafting and design has been unaffected revenue wise. It has however, slowed down the process of our orders. Owners might not have the money to move forward with their plans due to COVID. These drafting plans must be on hold because of this. Printing wise—we were really affected. A lot of my copying jobs involved making booklets and mass printing projects for events. Some of the booklets that I've made are for events that were cancelled because of the pandemic. I also do mass copies for flyers and things like that for sports—but even that has been put on hold. The workload has decreased a lot. Our market has been limited and I feel that there's no other way around it and there's not much that we can do."

Melen still finds ways to keep busy and have positivity during this economic downtime. She assists families with their unemployment compensation applications. "There's families out there that do not have com-

puter access. I don't charge. I just want to help them." Her advice for Filipinos with small business: "Just hang in there. Keep tight and hopefully by January, we'll have a bright light at the end of the tunnel."

**Tia of Geeky Mama Studios** was determined to find that bright light of success for her business. Geeky Mama Studios was established in October 2018 by Tia Trotter and is a creative agency on Maui providing digital support services for business owners, entrepreneurs and creatives. They cover graphic design services, website design & development and social media management training.

"COVID-19 has affected my business like many other businesses; it has forced me to get creative in figuring out how to still offer my services, still drive sales, while under guidelines. I have pivoted my workshops and gatherings to smaller attendees in person as well as hosting virtual events," said Tia. "I did apply for the CARES Act loan and received minimal funding."

"With the new COVID-19 protocols, I have had to restructure my community workshops and events to smaller groups or virtual events or meetings. One pivot that has occurred directly from COVID-19 is my newly launched 6-week in-person Social Media Training Course. Instead of my normally scheduled three hour social media workshops that are usually filled with anywhere from 30-50 in attendance, I have shifted my focus to work with smaller groups (9 seats limit) over a 6-week course. We are just finishing our first course

see **BUSINESSES** p.8





Conrado Cortez



Apolinario & Nellie's 50th Wedding Anniversary



Apolinario Cortez

American business magnate co-founder of Microsoft Corporation Bill Gates says personal computers have become the most empowering tool we've ever created. They're tools of communication, they're tools of creativity and they can be shaped by their user. However, the late President John F. Kennedy said that man is still the most extraordinary computer of all.

Conrado Cortez, a *Sakada Offspring*, is one of those men. He is an extraordinary computer whiz and an extraordinary person who is called upon by churches, community people etc. to help

*"He [Cortez] is an extraordinary computer whiz and an extraordinary person ... "*  
— LUCY PEROS

# Conrado Cortez

Lucy Peros | ALL PHOTOS COURTESY CONRADO CORTEZ

with their individual computer work and computer trouble shooting, etc.

Conrado was born on Maui. His parents are the late Apolinario Cortez, a 1946 *Sakada* and Nellie Cortez. He attended Lihikai School (K-8), Baldwin High School, Leeward Community College (A.S. Information and Computer Science) and University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (Bachelor of Business Administration, Management in Information

Systems).

Conrado is married to Carolyn Cortez. She works at the Planning Department at Maui County. They have two daughters, Caitlyn and Cassidy. Caitlyn is a 3rd Grade Teacher at Lunalilo Elementary School in Honolulu. She graduated from the University of Portland with a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education.

Cassidy is a civil engineer at Fukumoto Engineering Inc. in Wailuku. She graduated from Portland State University, with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering.

Conrado's siblings are Christopher Cortez and Reynilda Ann Cortez Stribling. Christopher is Conrado's adopted older brother. Reynilda Ann is a Parole Officer for the State of Hawai'i Judiciary. She has a daughter, Sierra Catrice Stribling, a sophomore at Maui High School and a son, Juellz Stribling, a freshman at Maui High School.

Conrado works for Akimeka, LLC currently as Business Objects Engineer since 2003. Conrado is not active with any specific community organizations, however, he volunteers anytime to as-

see CONRADO p.9

WHO IS YOUR *Hero*?

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Through the COVID-19 pandemic we've witnessed people in our community come together to help others while having to overcome their own personal challenges. They have shown true aloha spirit, compassion, and utmost acts of giving.

A partnership with Maui Health and Pacific Media Group, Hometown Heroes honors those who have demonstrated outstanding service, giving, compassion or other service to the community. To nominate a hero, visit [mauihealth.org/hero](http://mauihealth.org/hero).

MAUI HEALTH PACIFIC MEDIA GROUP

L to R: Jeffrey Baltero - Lāna'i Chair, Adela Olbinado - 2nd Vice Chair, Alberta de Jetley - candidate, Medigale Badillo - Shop Steward, and Maui Business Agents Manny Baltazar and Joe Aquino. · PHOTO COURTESY OF RON GINGERICH

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Businesses...

from p. 6

training and really enjoyed the 1-to-1 connections that have been formed over this course!”

Her business operation adjustments have been worthwhile—resulting in a little over than 50% increase in revenue in comparison to last year. She has kept her focus on growing and building her business despite the circumstances and she intends to continue doing so as it is the sole source of income for her and her family.

“One of my greatest milestones that I achieved with Geeky Mamas Studios has to be that I have been able to grow my business from nothing to now earning 6-figure revenues in just



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Listening to her customers is a great strength of Leonida Salaguinto's successful JMA Imports business.  
PHOTO COURTESY LEONIDA SALAGUINTO

two short years of business! And I now can afford to employ a small staff and growing!”

Her secret? “My advice for Filipinos with small businesses or any business owners during this pandemic time would be to have grace and patience for themselves and their businesses. Understand that we are ALL in difficult and challenging times for all business owners. Take time to work on parts of your business that during ‘normal’ operating hours you as a business owner could never get to! And of course, more than ever, if your business does not have a digital presence like a website, social media accounts, or a digital marketing strategy, get to it quick! The world is and has officially gone ‘viral’ creating your business online whether it is just

a way for your customers to contact you is a MUST!” And of course, if you need help with getting your business up to date, she can definitely point you in the right direction.

**Leonida Salaguinto** and her husband **Herman** know a thing or two about going in the right direction. They opened in 2000 selling furniture and figurines and switched to food items in 2012. Their business—JMA Imports is named after their children—Junior (Herman, Jr.), Michelle and Arnel. Over the years, they’ve listened to their customers and provided the imported frozen fish and Filipino goods, and fresh produce requested. “Our greatest achievement is just being able to make our customers happy. We’ve

see BUSINESSES p.20

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Apolinario Cortez and Siblings

Conrado ...  
from p. 7

sist with various organizations whenever he is called upon. He is a jewel of Christ The King Catholic Church in Kahului. He does a lot for the church with a loving heart. He calls himself “Computer Geek at heart.”

Before coming home to Maui to work, Conrado worked at Kamehameha Schools on O’ahu in the IT Department as a programming manager. He worked there over nine years. Before that, he worked as a lead programmer at Food Pantry and supervised the data processing center at CPM & F, Inc., all on O’ahu.

Conrado’s Dad, Apolinario Cortez, came to Hawai’i in 1946. He went to work on the Big Island for a while before moving to O’ahu with relatives and then to Maui after marrying his wife, Nellie.

Conrado’s maternal grandfather, Leandro Paet, was also a 1946 *Sakada*. When he arrived on Maui, he worked with HC&S until he retired in the late 1960s.

**Conrado’s Dad, Apolinario Cortez came to Hawai’i in 1946. He went to work on the Big Island for while before moving to O’ahu ... then to Maui.**

When Apolinario moved to Maui, he stayed with relatives who lived in Pu’unēnē with Leandro. It was then that Apolinario saw a picture of Nellie which was displayed by Leandro. Apolinario told Leandro that he has a beautiful daughter. It was then that he asked Leandro if he could date his daughter when he went back to the Philippines. Leandro told Apolinario no because he wants her to finish college first. But when Apolinario went to the Philippines in 1956, ignoring Leandro’s warning, he went to meet Nellie, love at first sight, proposed to her and eloped. After a few weeks later, Apolinario came back to Hawai’i.

Apolinario even went to Kwajalein to work until 1960. In 1960, Nellie came to follow him to Hawai’i. When he came back from Kwajalein, Apolinario worked as a carpenter at Royal Lahaina Hotel and Hale Pauhana. He also worked in the same hotel as a bell boy with his *Sakada* friend, Ben Molina. At age 55, Apolinario retired as a carpenter but went back to work for Kama’ole Sands

see CONRADO next page



Apolinario & Grandchildren

*Agluto Taya!*  
“Let’s Cook!”  
Pinoy Recipe of the Month  
COMPILED BY Lucy Peros



Arroz Valenciana

Ingredients

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 3 Tbsp Vegetable oil                          | 1 red bell pepper diced                                 |  |
| 4 Cloves Garlic minced                        | 1/2 cup raisins   |  |
| 2 lbs Skinless Chicken Breast cut into strips | 1 can garbanzo beans                                    | 2 tsp <i>Achuete</i> powder  |
| 4 Tbsp fish sauce ( <i>Patis</i> )            | 1 cup frozen green peas                                 | 1/4 cup diced white onion  |
| 2 pcs. Bay leaf                               | 5 cups Sticky rice ( <i>Mochi</i> rice) washed & cooked | 4 pieces Chinese sausage ( <i>lap cheong</i> ) or 1/2 lb lean pork (cut into strips) |
| 2 cups frozen coconut milk                    | 2 hard boiled eggs                                      |  |
| 2 cups water                                  | Salt to taste   |  |



PHOTO COURTESY MELBA MACHACON

Directions

1. In a large deep pan, place heat on medium, saute garlic & onions in oil until soft, add chicken strips & chinese sausage or pork; let it cook for 10 to 15 minutes, melt *achuete* powder into the meats and add fish sauce (*patis*); add coconut milk and water; let it boil for 5 mins.
2. Add the cooked sticky rice (*Mochi* Rice). Mix good & continuously mixing to make sure not to burn the rice.

Salamat for sharing our Filipino recipes.



Local Values Local Matters

RE-ELECT



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# Conrado ...

from p. 9

and at Embassy Suites where he re-tired at age 62.

Conrado had this to say about his grandfather Leandro. “My grandfather was very caring and protective. He took care of us when mom and dad were working. He’d be there to pick us up from Lihikai School. He would take us to Noda Store to buy rotisserie chicken and have it for lunch-just the both of us. I also remember that when he picked me up and my sister from Lihikai School, my grandpa would always have my sister’s baby bottle (ref-

ered to as *ni ni*) even though she was already in Kindergarten.”

According to Conrado, his Dad’s goal for his children was always school first and instilled in them the values of respect especially with the elders, hard work and being good citizens. He worked hard (physical hard jobs) and wanted his children to have a better and much easier life than he did. Conrado also added that if he was still here today, he would be so proud of seeing his two oldest grandkids in professional jobs because it was his dream fulfilled in him, his sister and now his two older grandkids. He would also be encouraging his sis-

see CONRADO p.16

## Ating Kabuhayan

# Perspective on the Pandemic through the Lens of the Vineyard Tales Tradition

*God gives us two gifts: the wonder of His creation around us and His perfect law which revives our souls and grants us wisdom.*



Seeing the wonder of God’s creation beyond the vineyard and God’s perfect law are two gifts that can help us change our minds.

LEFT IMAGE COURTESY DAVID EWART, WWW.HOLYTEXTURES.COM.

RIGHT IMAGE COURTESY DESIRINGGOD.ORG

I’ve just given a homily on Matthew 21:33-46, that portion of the Gospel in which Jesus tells a vineyard parable. He is telling this parable, perhaps from the ancient Jewish tradition which has been called Vineyard Tales. After being confronted by the chief priests and the elders, Jesus was asked to justify His authority. You will recall Jesus was constantly confronting those in authority. He proceeds to tell the story of a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. To make a long story short, the landlord’s son had gone to collect what was due to his father and was killed by the tenants. Jesus then told them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes”? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produce the fruits of the kingdom.”

When the chief priests and the el-

ders heard this parable, they realized Jesus was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him but they feared the crowds because they regarded him as a prophet.

Commentators tell us that Vineyard Tales are always about repentance. The original word for repentance in Greek is *metanoia* which means to turn around or to change your mind. When Jesus told the parable of the vineyard owner and the tenants, he was offering a life-giving alternative, a turn around to his audience’s suggestion the landowner should annihilate the wicked. Long story short, Jesus in this Gospel story, within which the vineyard parable is placed, is giving us two gifts in addition to our freedom to choose or reject *metanoia*. One, that we would see the power and wonder of God’s creative work all around us, even beyond the vineyard. Two, that we are given the Law, as cited in Psalm 19:7, “The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.” These two gifts can help us change our minds.

Many Commentators have opined that Jesus’ parable of the Vineyard in

see VINEYARD p.14

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It’s the 2nd *ber* month. In a couple of months, the year will be gone. How are you coping with this global pandemic? This time of the year, we would be having fun at the County Fair or even traveling because it’s the kids’ fall break. For now, we refrain from traveling and choose to do a staycation instead. We live on

# Let’s Talk Pinoy!

Dulce Karen Butay

one of the most beautiful islands in Hawai’i and we should enjoy it while there’s not a lot of tourists. There are hotels/condos that are offering *Ka-*

*ma’āina* rates. Some activities too are offering *Kama’āina* rates for us to enjoy our own island. Let’s have fun and spend time with the kids while we can. They grow up quickly and time flies by so fast. Let’s see what’s going on with Angel this month and where they will be going next, shall we?

MEANWHILE, ANGEL GETS OUT of the restroom and starts reading her to-do list that Lydia gave her to do that day and her *mukha* (face) goes awe. *In our house, this list will be divided among my sisters and my brothers.* Angel couldn’t help herself but to think of the 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 spoken to them since I came to Hawai’i. I wonder how they are doing? How do I call them since 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: Aaarg! I got up before my alarm clock? Wait, what time did I get home last night? Michael dropped me off after 10 p.m. last night and then I put away the laundry and cleaned the kitchen ... ahh, Michael ... Angel goes back to bed. “It’s *nalamiis* (cold)!” she says and pulls up her blanket to cover herself. She wants to sleep in because Lydia won’t be home today. Angel is *sadot* (lazy) to do the chores on the list. She closes her eyes and Michael’s *nawong* (face) pops into her head. Angel imagines Michael’s *rupa* (face) and how he turned a shy red when he looked at her. And she thinks about his *katam* (sweet) *ngiti* (smile), how it made her

English	Pilipino	Ilokano	Cebuano	Ilonggo	Ibanag	Kapampangan
Handsome	Pogi	Nataraki	Ambongan	Mabuot	Guapo	Masanting
Smile	Ngiti	Isem	Ngisi	Yuhom	Gumalo’	Timan
Face	Mukha	Rupa	Mukat	Lupa/Arap	Nawong/Dagway	Toya/Nawong
Cold	Malamig	Nalamiis	Tugnaw	Matugnaw	Malam min	Marimla
Sweet	Matamis	Nasamit	Tam is ni	Katam is	Nami	Mayumu
Lazy	Tamad	Sadot	Tapulan	Matamad	Talakag	Matamad
Happy	Masaya	Naragsak	Malipayon	Masadya	Magayaya	Matula
World	Mundo	Lubong	Kalibutan	Kalibutan	Bida	Yalu
Work	Trabaho	Ubra	Trabahu	Obro	Trabaho	Trabaho
Door	Pintuan	Ridaw	Lukub	Ganhaan	Puwerta	Pasbul

feel safe and warm. Not like other guys. They would *timan* (smile) at you and you could already see their eyes wander up and down your body. His *ngisi* (smile) was genuine as if he really was *magayaya* (happy) to see me. Having that feeling of being truly wanted and appreciated means the *mundo* (world) to me. *Michael is so different from the others. He is such a silly guy but in fairness, it’s something that makes him so guapo (handsome). He treats me so well. He didn’t try to take advantage of me yet. I wonder if he will treat me differently if he knows about my situation. He is so sincere to me. I should tell him the truth before he finds out himself.*

*Or maybe not this time.* Angel jumps out of bed and makes her way to the bathroom again. She reaches for her toothbrush on the cabinet, squeezes a pea-size of toothpaste and starts brushing her teeth. Suddenly, her father pops into her brain. Angel remembers when she was a young kindergartener, how her father brushed his teeth with her and they would make funny faces together. He always made her laugh. Those were the days, carefree, *naragsak* (happy) and fun. Oh how she misses her family. The only person who makes her feel this way is Michael who makes her laugh, sing and dance. He makes her feel special, and wanted. Even for

a few moments to get away from this horrific reality. As Angel finishes brushing her teeth, she looks at the mirror and stares at herself. “Who are you? What are you doing with your life?” She stands there for a minute and starts to let the water run. She washes her toothbrush and thinks, “I don’t own anything here.” Lydia even gave her this very toothbrush and even this hairbrush. Angel received a lot of verbal abuse before she even got those. She didn’t have anything when she went to Lydia’s house but the clothes on her back. She lost everything when she ran away from those guys in the van. *I wonder whatever happened to my luggage and who has it now. In there I have my favorite jacket that my Tatay bought before he got bed-ridden. He saved five pesos every time he sells a bag of rice just so he can buy that jacket for my birthday. He knew how much I wanted a jacket like the one that Sarah Geronimo, her favorite pop singer star in the Philippines. I also have my favorite blue blouse that says “I love you like a mango” on it. Joanna, my cousin, gave it to me as my graduation gift. I only use it on special occasions so it doesn’t get worn out. Then, my sneakers that I bought using the money from picking and selling empty bottles. Me and my sister Vicky* see LET’S TALK PINOY p.13



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Community... In Action



The Bahay Kubo Heritage Foundation has completed the roof renovations.  
PHOTOS: ZALDY UGALINO

BAHAY KUBO HERITAGE FOUNDATION

The renovation by the Bahay Kubo Heritage Foundation of the roof of the Bahay Kubo at Kepaniwai Park was completed on October 3 thanks to a grant from the County of Maui, Department of Parks and Recreation.

According to Cherry Respicio Urias, the secretary of the Bahay Kubo Heritage Foundation, there's still work to be done to truly complete the renovations. "The floor needs to be stained and the ceiling still needs to be painted," said Respicio-Urias. "Plus there are twelve interior panels that will house a mural of the different regions of the Philippines. Under the guidance of re-known artist Philip Sabado, twelve Filipino artists will be selected to complete the art work." Interested artists are directed to contact Phil Sabado at (808) 205-2809.

"We're still looking for volunteers to repair the bridge, clean the pond, and landscape the grounds. We also needs more funds to finish the rehabilitation," said Respicio-Urias. Contact Respicio-Urias at 478-9455 or fcurias07@hotmail.com if you are interested in volunteering.

Monetary donations can also be mailed to Bahay Kubo Heritage Foundation, 32 Hapua Place, Wailuku, HI 96793.

COMMUNITY... IN ACTION

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

BINHI AT ANI

Binhi at Ani spearheaded the Fifth #BayanihanFoodDistribution on September 26. It was another successful event with the numbers telling the story:

- \$3,325 in donations received
- 755 food boxes distributed which included
  - 320 bags of rice
  - 4230 canned goods

- 960 Pepsi products
- 10,842 pounds of produce
- 800 McDonald's certificates
- 900 Maui Gold pineapples
- 2092 packages of noodles
- 2422 snacks
- 1172 beverages
- 768 loaves of bread/pan de sal

The donors for canned goods,

produce and other items were Asian Mart & Fast Food LLC, County of Maui, DMI Plants & Produce LLC, Family Produce, Four Sisters Bakery, Four Sisters Catering, Homemaid Bakery, JMA Imports, KPMW Radio, Chris & Jenny Martinez, Maui Food Bank, Maui Gold, McDonald's of Maui, Obys Farm LLC, Pepsi, Pitaya of Maui, Safeway and Michael & Joycelyn Victorino.

Monetary donations were received from Joyce Afalla, Rose Agpoon, Eleri Agsalog, Aloha International Employment, Inc., Arnel Alvarez, Benjamin Acob, Attorney at Law, Jeny Bissell, Gloria & Ferdinand Cajigal, Dr. Virgie Cantorna, Emerita & Domingo Cortez, Eileen Domingo, Fine Island Properties LLC, Law Offices of Alfredo Evangelista, A Limited

Liability Law Company, Marmac Ace Hardware, Maui Wealth Management LLC, Gary Oshiro, Pyramid Insurance/Chris Stinger, Flora Ramos-Wildman, Smile's Auto Shop, Yuki Lei Sugimura, and Rusty Udarbe.

The Sixth (Halloween) #BayanihanFoodDistribution will be held on Saturday, October 31, 2020 at Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center, beginning at 9 a.m. until supplies are exhausted.

To volunteer on Thursday, October 29, Friday, October 30 or Saturday, October 31, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Nora Cabanilla-Takushi at (808) 276-8861 or ntakushi01@yahoo.com.

To donate, please contact Melen Agcolicol at (808) 205-7981 or melencopy@gmail.com or any other member of the Steering



Volunteers were enthusiastic as they helped distribute food on Saturday, Sept. 26 at the 5th Bayanihan Food Distribution held at the Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center.  
PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA

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Maui County Council - Kahului

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(Above) Maui County Mayor Mike Victorino kicked off Saturday's Bayanihan Food Distribution with a Pule, and helped with organizing the flow of incoming vehicles.

(Right) Sen. Gil Keith-Agaran and Rev. Moki Hino helped get the food boxes into the vehicles' trunks.



PHOTOS:  
BASILIA EVANGELISTA

see COMMUNITY IN ACTION p.14

## Let's Talk Pinoy! Cont'd from p. 11

would go to the market every afternoon to pick up bottles and sell it. Then we use the money to buy food for the family and I used to skim 5 pesos every day and stash it under my bed until I had enough money to buy those sneakers. Now these sneakers are worn out and discolored but I love them dearly and use them every day because I cannot afford new ones. Life was hard in the Philippines, there are no jobs and the trabaho (work) that is available are low wage. But at least you had a life. You were malipayon (happy). You had time to spend with those who love you and could do things that made you matula (happy) without the extra stress. Here in America, it is not what I expected. You ubra, ubra, ubra (work, work, work), and have little to show for it. It's like you are just a robot everyday, just doing the same routine. Oh, how I wish I was back in the Philippines. Life was so good. I just didn't know it. But I am here in America and this is my chance to support my parents who supported me all these years. Now that they are old and unable to trabahu (work), I have to make it here.

"That's right! I will make it here no matter how hard it gets," teary eyed, she says to herself in the mirror. "Michael, where are you? I want to tell you everything," Angel says to herself.

Ding ... dong. The doorbell rings. "Michael?" she gasps. Angel wipes her eyes, and runs down the stairs. She lunges for the ridaw (door) with the biggest isem (smile) on her goya

(face) and opens the puwerta (door). What? This is where this month's story ends? Haha, you just have to tune in next month and see who is at the pintuan (door).

**"Life was hard in the Philippines, there are no jobs, and the trabaho (work) that is available are low wage."**

Visit us on our facebook page and leave us a comment or ideas at [facebook.com/Fil-AmVoiceMaui](https://www.facebook.com/Fil-AmVoiceMaui)

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

Hawaii'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.



# We ... Will Build a Better Maui County Together with Rick Nava!

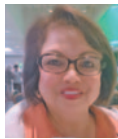
**Dave Allaire** President, Pacific Enterprises, Former Sr. VP TS Restaurants. "I have known Rick Nava, both personally and professionally, a really long time. His heart is with the people of Lahaina and I wholeheartedly support him for his seat in the Maui County Council."



**Sherman Asato** Retired MSG USAR "Having served with Rick for 25 years, I've seen him demonstrate determination, grace under pressure, a sense of humor and most of all, good decision-making. We need a person with vision and courage—one who will own his decisions. Rick is a leader that leads from the front. Rick will earn the trust and confidence of the people of Maui County. I encourage you to vote for Rick Nava this 2020 election."



**Teresita Noble**, Owner - Noble Travel "In my decades of knowing Rick personally and working with him for our community, I find Rick to be a leader with integrity and credibility. Rick is innovative and an 'outside the box' thinker who is not afraid to take on challenges as long as it is beneficial to all concerned. I admire his commitment to help others. I am confident that if Rick is elected as a Maui County Councilmember, we will have a public servant who will listen to everyone's concerns and he will work for all of us to build a better Maui County."



**Angelo and Rowena Mariano**, Owners of Pitaya of Maui and Asian Mart and Fast Food "In the short time we've known Rick,



he became a good friend. He offered to help our businesses—provided us ideas to help our marketing and handling the accounting to be more profitable. From the outset, we immediately felt his passion to help us. Although very busy with his campaign, Rick still took the time to check up on how we were doing. We need a Councilmember like Rick who has the knowledge of running a business and a heart to go above and beyond to help people. Maui County deserves a Councilmember who will work hard to ensure that our people will be back working again soon."

**Joseph Pluta**, President of West Maui Taxpayers' Association and Joseph D. Pluta Realty, LLC. "Maui County Residents deserve the very best representation in local government and Rick Nava's decades of service and experience clearly evidences that. He's got my vote and deserves your vote on the Maui Council!"



"I humbly ask for your vote this coming election."



**Rick NAVA**  
MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL

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Ating Kabuhayan | Cont'd from p. 10

Vineyard ...

from p. 10

Matthew's Gospel is a clear reference to Isaiah Chapter 5, The Song of the Unfruitful Vineyard. These two Vineyard Tales are set up the same. We have a vineyard, complete with a fence and a tower. In Isaiah, the vineyard has been properly cared for but it has produced wild grapes. The vineyard, Isaiah explains, represents Israel and soon it will be overtaken by foreigners. This judgment, as Isaiah says, is because Yahweh (God) is probably looking for justice but found only bloodshed; for righteousness but only heard crying. So, it is justice and righteousness with which we place ourselves in this Vineyard. This takes courage.

In Matthew's Vineyard Tale, Jesus was warning his critics that the time was short for them to come around to collaborate with what God was offering through Him. In this time of our COVID-19 pandemic, perhaps we can become anxiously frustrated at how short time is. But I think if we take this parable to heart, we can become courageous to confront all the in-

justices and unrighteousness that is sprouting up around us, as we live in this Vineyard, which is the Lord's. Today, as we ponder this particular reference of the Vineyard Tales, we are confronted, perhaps with the chief priests and elders of our time. If we are honest, we will know that we are given two great gifts: the power and wonder of God and His Law. These

*These gifts, as we go through our now "Pandemic Vineyard" of life, is how we will know that God is on our side.*

gifts, as we go through our now Pandemic Vineyard of life, is how we will know God is on our side. Ultimately our courage will be nourished by our knowledge and understanding the vineyard belongs to God, and perfectly so, within which is the strong and sturdy cornerstone of our lives. We will then courageously enjoy a fruitful harvest, with justice and righteousness. ✱

*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.*

Community... In Action Cont'd from p. 13



Volunteers inside the center facilitated the boxes full of groceries and fresh produce to the exit points of the building allowing the runners to get the boxes to each vehicle distribution tent.

PHOTO: BASILIA EVANGELISTA

Committee: Arnel Alvarez, Michelle Balala, Nora Cabanilla-Takushi, Emi Cortez, Vanessa Joy Domingo, Alfredo G. Evangelista, Florante Garcia, Chelsea Guzman, Arthur Latayada, Lawrence Pascua, Marilyn Oura (Chairperson) and Jeanice Paa. Donations through Paypal can be made via Binhi's website: <https://binhiatani.org/donate/>

**The Seventh (Thanksgiving) #BayanihanFoodDistribution** will be held on Saturday, November 21 and thanks to the partnership with Maui Food Bank, at least 1,000 turkeys will be distributed.

**51st Annual Barrio Fiesta ... A Virtual Celebration and Fundraiser** Binhi at Ani also announced a virtual Barrio Fiesta will be broadcast on its Facebook page on Saturday, October 17, 2020 at 11 a.m. Events include the unveiling of the Binhi at Ani Building Fund Donor Wall, the introduction of the 2020 Binhi at Ani/Bayer Scholarship Recipients, introduction of the 2020 Board of Directors, introduction of the newly created Advisory Board, updates on Binhi's programs and yes, there will be entertainment!

The virtual event is hosted by Chelsea Guzman and can be seen on Facebook: Cont'd from p. 16

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NO

*“We believe it is your right to choose your leader. It is also your right to vote that leader out if you think they are doing a bad job. It is your duty and right to hold your elected leader accountable.”*

-- MAUI COUNTY FORMER MAYORS

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Hāli'imaile Clubhouse Christmas Program



Las Vegas Trip



Centennial Anniversary of the Sakadas,  
Maui Arts and Cultural Center



Binhi At Ani Event with Sakada Wives



Painting at Island Art Party



100th Birthday with Family

## Cabalo ...

from p. 3

Mom joined the workforce, working at the Maui Pineapple Company. She worked under the merciless sun picking pineapple, broke pineapple slips for planting, sprayed poison to kill the weeds and cutting grass. She worked in the field until she retired at age 62 in 1982. When she and my Dad retired, they enjoyed going on trips all over Canada, the continental United

States and the Philippines. They enjoyed Las Vegas very much, winning some money.

During Rizal Day, Christmas and New Year's celebrations, Mom and the rest of the women in Hāli'imaile Village wore their Filipino attires (*kimonas* and *pandilings*). They enjoyed dancing, singing and even role played Filipino stories and Nativity Scenes at Christmas time.

In December 2009, Mom and Dad were awarded the first Outstanding *Ama At Ina* (Father and Mother of the

Year) at the first Rice Festival of Binhi at Ani. Our family is humbled and yet proud for our parents' accomplishment.

Mom and Dad were very active at the St. Joseph Parish (Makawao) Feast, Filipino Catholic Clubs, Hāli'imaile Filipino Community Association and the Pukalani Senior Lunch Program. They both instilled in us their children the importance of education. As a result, all of us three children and their five grandchildren, all graduated with college degrees. We

thank them for their sacrifices.

Mom became the primary caretaker of my Dad who unfortunately was sick for 26 years until he died at age 89. Since Dad's passing, Mom who is a very strong-willed and independent woman, chose to live by herself in her own house in Hāli'imaile until her 100th birthday. All this time, she was able to take care of herself, cook for herself, etc. However, age caught up with her. She got sick soon after her 100th birthday and after she was re-

see CABALO p.20

HAWAIIKIDSCAN:  
LEGISLATIVE CHAMPION  
AWARD, 2020

HAWAII ASSOCIATION FOR  
BEHAVIORAL ANALYSIS:  
LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR,  
EXCELLENCE IN  
ADVOCACY AWARD, 2019

HAWAIIKIDSCAN:  
LEGISLATIVE CHAMPION  
AWARD, 2018

"I HUMBL  
ASK FOR  
YOUR VOTE."  
-Justin

# Working Hard for the Community

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Justin Woodson

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### RECENT LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

✓ EARLY EDUCATION

- Led efforts at State Legislature to over time establish *universal access to high-quality early learning opportunities statewide* for all children ages 3 and 4, (some options include pre-kindergarten, preschool, pre-kindergarten charter school, pre-kindergarten Hawaiian Immersion school, and daycare), 2020
- Led efforts at State Legislature to *expand access and strengthen the public prekindergarten education program statewide*. (The EOEL pre-k program is now amongst the most effective early learning program in the entire country according to the National Institute for Early Education and Research), 2018-2019

✓ HIGHER EDUCATION

- Led efforts at State Legislature to initiate the *Hawaii Promise Program*, which was amongst the first last dollar/free college programs in the nation, 2017

✓ KUPUNA CARE

- Supported continued *Kupuna Care funding* for communities across the state including Central Maui through legislative action, 2017-2019

✓ SMALL BUSINESSES: COVID-19

- Supported *small business assistance* to address challenges related to COVID19, 2020

✓ HEALTHCARE

- Supported nearly *\$20million dollars in funding* to help operate Maui Memorial Hospital through legislative action, 2020





Conrado...

from p. 10

ter's kids to follow in the older grand-kids' footsteps. "It is sad that he passed away before he could see them graduate from high school and college," Conrado says.

Conrado's one childhood memory of his father was his whistle. Everybody knew that whistle sound. Hearing it meant it was time to go home. It was very convenient because their house was across the park. Conrado could be playing so hard but when he heard that whistle from his dad, it was time to go home quickly. \*



Leandro Paet HC&S Retirement

**Lucy Peros** is a retired school teacher.



The "Ring of the Sakada Bell" hallmarked the beginning of this year's virtual Barrio Fiesta. Miss Barrio Fiesta Khyle Marie Simone stands beneath the bell along with (L to R) Michelle Santos, Nora Takushi and Melen Agcolicol.

PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA



"Take Out Tuesday" features Al's BBQ Pit Steak plate lunches for \$12 per plate. This fundraiser helps with the needed income for the Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center.

PHOTO COURTESY AL'S BBQ PIT

facebook.com/BinhiaAtAniFilipinoCommunityCenter. If you miss it live, you can still watch it at a later time.

Donations are being accepted to help Binhi with its monthly expenses due to the lack of revenues since the pandemic.

**Take Out Tuesday** Binhi at Ani also announced its Second Take Out Tuesday fundraiser on Tuesday, October 20, 2020

from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Al's BBQ Pit Steak plate lunches (includes two scoops of rice and steamed vegetables) will be sold for \$12 each. Delivery in the Kahului or Wailuku area is available with a minimum order of five plates. Walk-ups will be available at Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center.

Please contact Melen Agcolicol at (808) 205-7981 for more information.

**MAUI FILIPINO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOUNDATION**

To kick-off the month of October as Filipino-American History Month, the Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce Foundation and the County of Maui under the leadership of Mayor Michael Victorino hosted a Philippine Flag Raising Ceremony on October 1, 2020. Due to the pandemic,

there was no public gathering but the festivities were broadcast and can be seen on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MauiFilipinoChamber/videos/736634887193539>. Unfortunately, the Maui Fil-Am Heritage Festival, the premier event celebrating Filipino-American History Month in the State of Hawai'i needed to be canceled due to the pandemic.



The Philippine Flag Raising Ceremony, held on Oct. 1, 2020 was a virtual event held under the leadership of Maui County Mayor Mike Victorino.

PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA

*Mabuhay, Maui County!*



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# Guidelines for Travel to Maui

Liza A Pierce of “A Maui Blog”

The year 2020 is an unforgettable year. This COVID-19 pandemic has affected and changed our way of life in so many different ways. Travel is one of those heavily affected.

In March 2020, the open door travel to Maui was closed. A fourteen day quarantine was required for everyone coming to Maui. This decision was made to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus on this beautiful island in the Pacific.

As a result of closure, Maui’s tourism industry tanked and resulted in an economic crisis on the island.

There were several attempts (date set) to re-open Maui (August 1st and September 1st and October 1st) but due to various case surges, the planned openings were delayed.

As of this writing, the date of opening is October 15 and I am optimistic this time it is really going to happen. By the time you are reading this October 15th issue, the Hawai’i Pre-travel Plan is most likely already happening.

Do you have family and friends who want to visit Maui at this time? We Filipinos love to visit family and friends. We are known for our hospitality. With the holidays just around the corner, having this Pre-travel Plan available for our family and friends to avail when they visit us on Maui, is helpful.

As much as I am enjoying less traffic and almost-empty beaches, I am also looking forward to Maui’s opening because it will surely help revitalize our broken economy at this time.

For those of you who are not familiar with what a Pre-Travel Plan is, it is a pre-travel testing program that will allow Trans-Pacific visitors to be exempt from the 14-day quarantine by providing a negative COVID-19 test result within 72-hours of travel.

Here are some details shared in bullet points by *Go Visit Hawai’i* from the recent press conference by Lt. Gov. Josh Green:

- Starts Thursday, October 15, 2020.
- For inbound passengers from the U.S. Mainland only at the start. International passengers will be addressed later.
- Tests must be FDA Authorized Nucleic Acid Amplification Test (NAAT) from a certified CLIA Lab. No antibody or antigen tests will be accepted at this time.
- The test can be taken no earlier than 72 hours before the departure of the last leg of the traveler’s flight itinerary. Hawai’i will be accommodating to travelers with air travel delays that are out of the traveler’s control.
- Children ages four and under will not be required to be tested. Therefore, children ages five and older must be tested.
- The test result must be negative to be exempt from the 14-day quarantine. (If the test result is positive, the person should not travel. Green noted the person should defer their travel, reschedule or get a refund. He also noted the airlines have been generous in these circumstances when people are sick.)

Check [www.hawaiiicovid19.com/](http://www.hawaiiicovid19.com/) travel for more details.

I surely hope this Maui Reopening on October 15, 2020 ushers Maui into economic recovery. Let us all hope and pray. In the meantime, let us continue to support local businesses as they go through this transition in the so called Maui’s new normal. *A hui hou!*

P.S. I am currently writing a Travel Book Guide called *MAUI 2020 and BEYOND* to assist new visitors in planning their vacation on Maui in



I am currently writing a Travel Book Guide called *MAUI 2020 and BEYOND* to assist new visitors in planning their vacation on Maui in the year 2020 and beyond.  
PHOTO COURTESY LIZA PIERCE



Do you have family and friends who want to visit Maui at this time?  
PHOTO: LIZA PIERCE

the year 2020 and beyond. You can *home. A wife, a mother, a friend and now pre-order the book here:* <https://publishizer.com/maui-2020-and-beyond/> ✨

**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 Strategist with Wailea Realty Corp.



## My Dad always said Be Prepared *Plan for your estate, NOW!*



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Is Not Everything...

# Why do we celebrate Filipino-American History Month in October?

Alexis Joy Viloria | MAUI HIGH SCHOOL

Every October, you can find Filipinos across the nation commemorating their presence in American history. Filipino American History Month is celebrated in honor of the Filipino Americans in the past who have set the preface for Filipino Americans today. Filipino presence in the United States dates back to as early as 1857 in California with the arrival of the *Luzones Indios*, Filipino sailors aboard Spanish galleons. Since then, Filipinos have continued to leave their legacy in the United States.

Filipino culture has been largely ingrained in places like our very own state, Hawai'i, as well as California, where Filipino populations have flourished ever since we left our mark on the United States. From our humble roots as sugar cane farmers in Hawai'i and sailors in California, Filipino Americans have come a long way. Seeing the vast journey we as Filipino Americans have gone on, Filipino American History month was introduced by the Filipino American National Historical Society in 1992. Since then, the month has been recognized by the state of California in 2006 and by the state of Hawai'i in 2008.

After the many successes of the Filipino American community, how do the youth of our island accredit those before them? Three Filipino students evaluate what it means to be a Filipino American and why they use this month to honor their predecessors.

**Keithjan Quilal Lan**, a junior at Maui High

School, looks back at his identity as a Filipino American. As a Filipino American, Keithjan feels a sense of independence but makes sure to remember where he came from. "To me, being a Filipino American means being independent but at the same time remembering my Filipino roots. It means that I am proud to be recognized as an American, being able to dream big and believe in being successful in things I want to achieve in life," Keithjan says. Even so, he recognizes what struggles have come with that sense of independence. "However



Keithjan Quilal Lan

it also means knowing the sacrifices and hardships my family has experienced for me to experience the American dream."

As somebody who has come so far as to become a build captain during his time in his school's robotics team, who does he look to as a direct influence of his success here? Keithjan credits his parents as influential figures of his record as a Filipino American. "Throughout my life, I was told of stories about my parents' sacrifices. Sacrifices that made me and my siblings' lives so much better. These sacrifices would allow us to move to America. From this, I learned to never take things for granted and to always work hard. One day I hope to repay all of my parents' hard work and sacrifices," Keithjan says. Like the Filipino Americans of the past, Keithjan's parents made monumental efforts to make sure that generations to come can live a life living the American dream.

A beneficiary of the foundation set by the Filipino Americans of the past, Keithjan finds importance in commemorating them. "Celebrating Filipino American History Month is important because it is one of the many ways we as a group can embrace our roots and show our gratitude for those who came before us."

**Czerena Bayle**, a senior at Maui High School, leaves her thoughts regarding the virtuous month. Like Keithjan, Czerena looks to her parents as members of Filipino American history that have allowed her to get to where she is today. "My family came from the Philippines in search of a better life and better opportunities. I want to make them proud. I want to be strong just like them. With the promise of the *American Dream* both sides of my family left everything behind to start anew. My mom went back to high school again and had to relearn every-



Czerena Bayle

thing in a new language. When my dad came to Hawai'i, he worked three jobs to help support his family while in high school. My parents made and continue to make sacrifices for my sisters and me. I have some of the strongest, hardworking role models ever and I just want to make them all proud."

With her family in pursuit of the American dream, Czerena has lived up to the standards that her parents dreamt of for her. As Co-President of the Maui High Spanish Club and the Historian of Maui High's National Honor Society chapter, it is safe to say she's making the Filipino Americans of the past proud. Continuing on, Czerena would like to make her own contributions to Filipino American history. "I want to be one of the most successful Filipina American journalists or film industry professionals. I want to make a name for myself and acknowledge my background while doing so," Bayle says.

Though she is well-versed in her future aspirations as a Filipina, Czerena shares why she thinks it's crucial to celebrate Filipino American History Month. "I think celebrating Filipino American History Month is important because Filipino culture is so rich, vibrant and full of life and we should embrace it. Filipino American culture is so overlooked and disregarded, we have to celebrate it. Our generation should continue to keep the Filipino legacy alive and keep the Filipino traditions going."

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Jaycie hopes to use her influence to promote confidence and aspiration while representing the Filipino American community during her time as Miss Maui Teen USA and even beyond. “As a Filipino American, I want to be someone who inspires others to put their best self out there and strive to do anything they want.”

*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 Vilorio.*

– ALEXIS JOY VILORIA



**Jaycie Iha**



# NOTE

**Mail in your ballot for  
the November 3<sup>rd</sup>  
General Election!**

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## Businesses ...

from p. 8

been able to sell our produce and products in a short amount of time. They don't last too long in the store."

Because they are so attuned to their customers' needs, they have seen an increase of 25% in revenue in comparison to last year. "I'm surprised. We are busier. But I realized with people staying home, they have time to cook. Everybody's into cooking now. So, they're always coming to the store to get the ingredients that they need." They have been busy stocking their store with ingredients for almost every Filipino quarantine recipe—puto, bibingka, ube pan de sal, ensemada, and empanada.

"We offer wholesale pricing for people that end up buying ingredients by the case. I've seen a lot of that because they are trying to cook or bake as a home business and generate income." At times, she becomes their customer too. "I support my customers. I'll also buy the items that they make. Once a week, I'll buy something to try it out. Just today, I bought four bags of empanadas for my kids, grandkids, and workers. We like to enjoy it." She knows times have been tough for

some of her shoppers and does her best to help them if she can.

Surprisingly, her hot items are marinated bangus from the Philippines and bagoong. "We've had to order one whole container of just bagoong.

That's 1,000 boxes in that container. The bangus from the Philippines is what my customers request. They like the flavor and the taste compared to brands from other countries like Thailand."

And if you haven't already guessed, her number one piece of advice is solely about the customer. "Make your customers happy and be willing to negotiate," she says.

With grit and positivity, it looks like these Filipino-owned businesses are determined to thrive. ✨

**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 and her husband Mark Domingo also made the same leap with going into business during the COVID-19 pandemic. So far, their marriage has survived their business partnership. Their piece of advice for Filipino Business owners is: Keep pushing towards your goals!



## Cabalo ...

from p. 15

leased from the hospital, she was no longer able to take care of herself but now lives with me in Kahului. She now lives under the care of Hospice Maui, with my help, my children's help, and my church community's help.

I especially admire Mom for her loyalty and faithfulness to my Dad when they were living apart for many, many years before coming to Hawai'i. Her strong faith in God kept her strong all those years they were apart. My Dad was just the same. He was also very loyal and faithful to my Mom. They would have celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on May 14, 2011 if my

Dad only lived for just two short months more. He died on March 20, 2011. ✨

**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. Lucy will be on leave from The Fil-Am Voice while she acts as the full-time caretaker for her Mom.



[EDITOR'S NOTE: Happy Birthday Nana Alejandra. If you know of a centenarian, please contact us and we will gladly feature him/her in an upcoming issue.]

## General Election Tuesday, Nov. 3

For more information, visit  
[www.mauicounty.gov/1965/Elections-Division](http://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**