



War In Ukraine
How does that affect us here on Maui?

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Elections Around the Corner
Leadership Series looks at Gil S.C. Keith-Agaran's take.

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Back on Maui and LIVE
Barrio Fiesta returns with in-person celebration.

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FilAm Voice

Magkaisa Tayong Lahat | "Let Us All Unite"

April 2022 • Vol 6 No 4 | FILIPINO AMERICAN VOICE • UPLIFTING OUR COMMUNITY | FREE

inside

The War in Ukraine

Affecting Maui's Residents

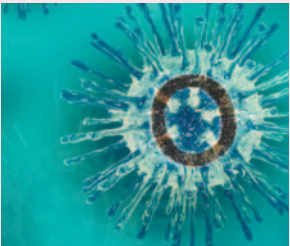
Alfredo G. Evangelista | ASSISTANT EDITOR | *STORY BEGINS ON PAGE 2



What kind of "lore" does your family observe?
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Gas prices in Central Maui as of April 1st.
PHOTOS: ALFREDO G. EVANGELISTA

Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran

The Ninth and final in a Series.

Editor's note: In 2022, Leadership for the State and Maui County will be at the forefront with elections for Governor, Maui Mayor, Council, and due to reapportionment, all State Senators and State Representatives. The primary election will be held on August 13, 2022 with the General Election on November 8, 2022, and it's not too early to start thinking about the type of State and County leaders needed. The first three months focused on potential gubernatorial candidates. The next three months focused on Maui County's Mayor and Councilmembers. We then shifted our focus to our State legislators beginning with State Representative

Troy Hashimoto, State Representative Justin Woodson and State Senator Lynn DeCoite. This month is our ninth and final in our Leadership Series and we focus on State Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran.

Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran

1. IN 100 WORDS OR LESS, PLEASE TELL US YOUR BACKGROUND, INCLUDING DETAILS ABOUT YOUR FAMILY, EDUCATION, AND EXPERIENCE IN THE PUBLIC, PRIVATE, AND NON-PROFIT SECTORS.

I'm a Maui native, Manuel and Lydia Coloma's son but adopted by my grandparents

LEADERSHIP SERIES



Lino and Laureana Agaran. I attended Doris Todd and Maui High. My 1946 *Sakada* Dad worked as an HC&S irrigator and my Mom as a Maui Pine trimmer, both ILWU, Local 142 members.

After Yale College, I earned a Cal-Berkeley law degree. I worked eight years for Gover-

nor Ben Cayetano at the Land, Commerce and Labor departments. I then served as Maui Public Works Director. I now practice law at Takitani Agaran Jorgensen & Wildman, LLP.

I live in Kahului with my wife Kallie Keith-Agaran.

2. IN 200 WORDS OR LESS, PLEASE TELL US: A) WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR MAUI? B) WHAT IS RIGHT WITH MAUI? C) WHAT IS WRONG WITH MAUI?

The number of families living on the financial edge remains way too high. We need to keep chipping away at the costs of living—housing, child-care, wages and taxes—that make life challenging for residents even in good times. In

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FREE



U.S. Rep. Kaiali'i Kahele

tional partners and allies are for our own national security objectives. As the world focuses on Ukraine, we must continue to prioritize U.S. efforts to expand and promote our alliances and networks of partnerships in the IN-DOPACOM region."

A brief history lesson

The Russian Revolution began in 1917. In 1922, led by Vladimir Lenin, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics ("U.S.S.R.") was formed with fifteen republics. After Lenin, Joseph Stalin came to power through World War II until he died in 1953. Nikita Khrushchev and later Leonid Brezhnev led the U.S.S.R. until Mikhail Gorbachev ascended into power in 1985.

Gorbachev inherited a failing U.S.S.R. economy. He believed the U.S.S.R.'s success depended on improving relationships (and stopping the

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The above area shows the map of Ukraine.

MAP OF UKRAINE, SOURCE: IMAGE (MAP) MADE BY SVEN TESCHKE, GERMANY --STESCHKE 20:18, 29 Nov 2004 (UTC) / THIS FILE IS LICENSED UNDER THE CREATIVE COMMONS ATTRIBUTION-SHARE Alike 1.0 GENERIC LICENSE. / https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Map_of_Ukraine_political_simple_blank.png

On February 22, Russia's president Vladimir Putin began invading Ukraine. In his first remarks after what he described as an "unprovoked and unjustified attack" on Ukraine, President Joe Biden imposed heavy sanctions against Russia and painted Putin as the aggressor.

"The world is shocked and appalled

by the atrocities committed by Russia's forces in Bucha and across Ukraine," said Congressman Kaiali'i Kahele. "The Ukrainian people continue to bravely defend their country and their freedom. The United States, along with our Allies and partners, stand steadfast in support of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity—however, Presi-

dent Putin's war has impacted us here at home."

Kahele also observed the need to focus on the United States' role in the Indo-Pacific region. "For Hawai'i and our region in the Indo-Pacific, the coordinated, effective international response to Russia's assault on Ukraine has shown us how important our interna-

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"My heart is in this for Maui County and to help you. I pledge to lead with competence, conscience, compassion and courage."
– Richard Bissen

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From the Editor's Desk

Vince Bagoyo, Jr.
EDITOR • FIL-AM VOICE

GREATER LOVE HAS NO ONE THAN THIS: TO LAY DOWN ONE'S LIFE FOR ONE'S FRIENDS. YOU ARE MY FRIENDS IF YOU DO WHAT I COMMAND. I NO LONGER CALL YOU SERVANTS, BECAUSE A SERVANT DOES NOT KNOW HIS MASTER'S BUSINESS. INSTEAD, I HAVE CALLED YOU FRIENDS, FOR EVERYTHING THAT I LEARNED FROM MY FATHER I HAVE MADE KNOWN TO YOU. YOU DID NOT CHOOSE ME, BUT I CHOSE YOU AND APPOINTED YOU SO THAT YOU MIGHT GO AND BEAR FRUIT—FRUIT THAT WILL LAST—AND SO THAT WHATEVER YOU ASK IN MY NAME THE FATHER WILL GIVE YOU. THIS IS MY COMMAND: LOVE EACH OTHER.

JOHN 15:13-17 (NIV)

Significance of Easter

Making a Difference ...

For many around the world, April is a particularly important month. Easter comes in April this year and is the most celebrated holiday for Christians. It is a special and joyous occasion because it represents the fulfillment of the prophecies of the Old Testament and perhaps more significantly, it shows the revelation of God's eschatological (relating to the events at the end of the world) and redemptive power for humankind. In commemorating the risen Lord, Easter also celebrates the defeat of death and the hope of salvation by Jesus.

The significance of Easter is Christ's triumph over death. Jesus' resurrection means eternal life is granted to all who believe in Him. This is the core of the Christian Gospel. The primary purpose of Easter means the full confirmation of all that Jesus taught and preached during His ministry.

For non-Christians, the broader meaning of Easter is the universal

hope of all human beings that a personal belief in the power of a Spirit or God, greater than oneself will lead us all to choose living our lives for the greater good—a life dedicated to the service of others, to make deeper connections to people beyond our own loving circles of family and friends.

How can we make the Gospel alive and shine in our personal lives? What a basic question to ask, yet one that requires so much from each of us. We need to live our life with a conscious intention of loving our fellow human beings, encouraging everyone, forgiving those who wrong us and reminding our co-workers, neighbors, friends, family and even strangers that we care about them.

For believers, there is nothing more important than telling people the "way and the truth" about our loving God. So, as we celebrate Easter, not just in the month of April, but every day in our lives, let us choose to demonstrate we

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Left-right: Then-Lt. Gov Mazie Hirono, newly commissioned Deputy Director, then-Governor Benjamin Cayetano

PHOTO COURTESY SEN. GIL KEITH-AGARAN

Leadership ...

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this pandemic, residents who had little to no savings lost jobs (including multiple jobs) and employment-related health insurance. We need to address our quality of life by building on investments to subsidize homes for local residents and assist working families with rents and childcare. We also need to fund non-profits grants supporting services for our neediest residents.

Maintaining Maui's health, education and welfare depends on vigorous local businesses. In the short-term, no alternative can replace the jobs provided by visitor accommodations and vendors for hotels, restaurants and activities. But we can pursue tourism better balancing impacts on

our local population, infrastructure and natural areas.

Any diversification must promote self-sufficiency and developing local workforce skills. Economic investments can advance Hawaii's own resiliency and sustainability in health care (training and hiring local nurses, technicians and physicians), agriculture (supporting farmers with both land and water and facilities to develop value-added products), and energy (developing, adopting, proving and marketing the technologies).

3. IN 125 WORDS OR LESS, PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH MAUI'S FILIPINO COMMUNITY.

I grew up in the local Filipino community—raised in the plantation town of Pā'ia and later Kahului's 12th Increment—attending with my extended family and clan, and con-



The Coloma-Bumanglag-Quemado-Agaran clan 2018 Christmas

PHOTO COURTESY SEN. GIL KEITH-AGARAN



Left-right: Gil & Kallie Keith-Agaran, Lydia Coloma and Velma Coloma

PHOTO COURTESY SEN. GIL KEITH-AGARAN



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The **Fil-Am Voice**, a newspaper focusing on issues concerning our Filipino American community here on Maui, is published every month by Fil-Am Voice Inc. ©2022 **Fil-Am Voice Inc.** All rights reserved. The *Fil-Am Voice* is valued at \$1 per issue. One complimentary copy per person is available at islandwide distribution locations. Multiple copies may not be taken without the permission from the *Fil-Am Voice*. **Disclaimer:** The views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Fil-Am Voice, Inc. Any assumptions made within these articles are not reflective of the position of Fil-Am Voice, Inc.



LEFT: Left to right, Manuel Coloma, Lydia Coloma, Laureana Agaran



RIGHT: Grandfather Lino Agaran

PHOTOS COURTESY
SEN. GIL KEITH-
AGARAN

tributing and helping at various events that celebrate, commemorate and share with our neighbors our rich culture and heritage, including Rizal Day, the Barrio Fiesta, scholarship awards and the Maui Fil-Am Heritage Festival. I am a Hawaii Filipino Lawyers Association member. I also write the *Fil-Am Voice* column *Dinengdeng and Pinakbet*, occasionally assist with other stories and articles, and previously wrote pieces for other Filipino publications on Maui and O’ahu. I currently am the only Filipino in the Maui legislative delegation and one of eleven in the seventy-six-member Legislature.

4. IN 500 WORDS OR LESS, PLEASE IDENTIFY AND EXPLAIN THE THREE GREATEST NEEDS OF MAUI’S FILIPINO COMMUNITY.

Maui’s Filipino families need the

same things as the rest of our community. Although my roots are firmly on Maui, I’ve lived on the east coast, the west coast, and the big city of Honolulu. My experiences shaped my thinking about both Maui’s present and Maui’s future—which I believe can be a bright one, if we act together to keep Maui the best place to live, work, play and raise our families. I love this place. I love its people. It’s why I made a conscious decision many years ago that this is where I wanted to stay.

Growing up, working and living here, I know our grandparents and our parents who worked on the plantations improved the quality of life and choices for my generation. It took hard work, education, opportunity and, yes, a selfless sense of community.

It also took courage. My grandfather and my dad came to Hawai’i before airplanes made the journey a matter of hours rather than months on an open ocean. They came without first seeing the sand and surf on television or the internet. They came knowing only the people who disembarked on the ships with them. But at some point, they made Maui home.

Whether we were born on Maui or moved here or moved back after seeing America, we all have more economic choices today. We need to make sure government leaders understand the reality that our businesses—mainly small businesses by any measure—face to maintain profitability. Businesses need clarity on operating standards without government-imposed disruptions. Diversification can’t just be a buzzword and chasing the

“next big thing.” Economic development must include building up our existing businesses, promoting self-sufficiency and local resilience.

We should invest to strengthen local skills—for example, health care. Maui Health System (MHS) now hires nurses directly from University of Hawai’i Maui College (UHMC). The hospital also needs local medical technicians to reduce the number of off-island contractors. We can have UHMC partner with Kapi’olani Community College. The John A. Burns School of Medicine is looking to expand medical residencies to the Valley Isle.

It’s easy to focus your attention on challenges facing Maui from narrow, selfish viewpoints. It’s harder but you can recognize problems without being paralyzed into counterproductive and divisive argument and debate.

We place too little value in the shared connections we owe to each other. It’s useful to step back from living our individual lives in even small ways. Valuing achievement in our children and also our neighbors’ children and taking interest in their schools and activities forces us into interacting with other parents and takes us a step towards re-connecting our communities. It opens the possibility we will know the families in our neighborhood and we’ll look out for them because they look out for us. The quality of our lives and our families’ lives depends on being engaged in forming and maintaining a community that serves all of us and not just the privileged few. 🌟

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Ukraine ...

from p. 2

arms race) with the United States and the rest of the world. On June 12, 1987, then President Ronald Reagan made his famous speech at the Berlin Wall saying “Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall.”

The revolution against communism and the U.S.S.R. began in Poland in 1989 and by 1991, Gorbachev was no longer the U.S.S.R. leader. The U.S.S.R. was dissolved, with Ukraine, Belarus and other Soviet republics declaring their independence from the U.S.S.R.

Enter Putin

Vladimir Putin became president of Russia in 2000 and re-elected in 2004, serving until 2008 when he left office due to term limits. He became president again in 2012 and was re-elected in 2016. In 2021, Putin signed a law enabling him to remain as president until 2036. Since he became president, Putin engaged in war with the Chechen Republic of Ichkeria, Georgia, Ukraine and has annexed Crimea.

About Ukraine

Other than Star Trek star Leonard Nimoy’s and That ’70s Show actress Mila Kunis’ ancestral roots to Ukraine, what makes Ukraine so important? Ukraine is the second largest country in Europe (second to Russia which is twenty-eight times the size of Ukraine). Ukraine is rich in oil and gas. (Russia has the most gas reserves in the world and supplies about one-third of Europe’s natural gas.) Ukraine has about 395 million barrels in oil reserves and 349 billion cubic metres of gas reserves. (Russia has about five percent of the world’s total oil reserves.) Ukraine and Russia are major wheat and grain exporters.

A Global Economy

Even though Ukraine is some 7,456.1 miles (or 11,999 kilometers for those of you who ascribe to the metric system) away from Hawai’i, what happens in Ukraine affects Hawai’i. “The war in Ukraine is affecting the supply chain in Hawai’i more than any other U.S. state,” says Chamber of Commerce of Hawai’i President and Chief Executive Officer Sherry Menor-McNamara. “With our isolated location in the Pacific, Hawai’i is the most petroleum dependent state in the country. According to the American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers trade association, Russia represents only 3 percent of total U.S. crude imports.

However, Hawai’i imports several million barrels of Russian crude oil annually, accounting for 10 percent to 25 percent of Russian crude shipments to the U.S., depending on the year. It is not just oil; the entire global supply chain is being affected by the war in Ukraine. Food and other goods are seeing delayed shipments and increased prices in Hawai’i. It is causing ripple effects throughout our economy, which is still trying to recover to pre-pandemic levels. With no end in sight to the war in Ukraine, we will continue to see these sharp price increases continue.”

Yes, gas prices have increased. It was no April Fool’s joke that on April 1, the lowest regular priced gasoline in Central Maui was \$4.699 per gallon at Costco, followed by \$4.789 at Maui Oil, \$5.299 at Texaco and Shell, and \$5.329 at Hele On. AAA tracks gasoline prices throughout the state [see Box for a sampling of average gas prices in Kahului] and since the Russia/Ukraine war, it has jumped an average of seventy cents per gallon in Kahului.

One Year of Average Gas Prices in Kahului	
April 7, 2022	\$5.32
February 17, 2022 . .	\$4.62
July 8, 2021	\$4.05
May 6, 2021	\$3.80

The increase is not surprising due to the sanctions against Russia, as explained by Kahele. “As a result of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, the United States government banned the importation of Russian oil, liquified natural gas and coal to the United States in order to deprive President Putin of the economic resources that he continues to use to further his agenda. On Maui, the U.S. import ban has put an enormous strain on everyone by driving up gas prices at the pump to record levels.”

The increase in gas prices has affected Victor Campos who owns Campos Towing. “I used to fill up my truck for \$100.00; now it’s \$150.00,” says Campos, whose truck’s fuel tank holds



Victor “Vic” Campos
OWNER - CAMPOS TOWING



Sherry Menor-McNamara
PRESIDENT - CEO, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF HAWAI'I



Arnold Magbual
OWNER/OPERATOR - FOUR SISTERS BAKERY

about thirty gallons of gas. “If I go to Lahaina back and forth four times, it gets empty.” Many businesses would pass on the increase in costs to their customers but not Campos. “I can’t increase my prices because I want to serve my loyal customers,” he explains. Campos is not alone in having to withstand the worst of the rising gasoline prices. Every business that relies on transporting goods and services must face the rising cost of gasoline.

But Kahele sees this is an opportunity. “While we feel the impacts now, this moment also presents us a unique opportunity in the long term to divest of Hawai’i’s dependence on imported energy and invest in a transition to a green economy, which will benefit our local economy and our environment.”

Hybrids and electric vehicles are gaining popularity, with tax credits available for electric vehicles. Some car dealer websites claim up to \$7,500 in potential electric vehicle incentives, an average gas savings of \$834 per year and an average maintenance savings of \$405.00 per year.

But electric vehicles aren’t for everyone as explained by Menor-McNamara and won’t immediately help the average person. “Electric vehicles are a great and important long-term solution for combating the issues with oil dependency on other countries but based on the current situation in Ukraine, a transition can’t happen fast enough to mitigate gas prices. Transitioning the masses to electric vehicles is going to take years, between the cost of an electric vehicle and the charging infrastructure that needs to be installed throughout the state.”

The cost is prohibitive explains Menor-McNamara. “The average price for an electric vehicle is \$56,347, according to Kelley Blue Book, which is approximately \$10,000 higher than the overall industry average of \$46,328 that includes gas and electric vehicles. A standard electric vehicle is equivalent in price to an entry-level luxury car. With inflation quickly rising, the average person cannot afford to transition to an electric vehicle immediately.”

Another effect of the Russia/Ukraine war is the cost of electricity. On March 10, Hawaiian Electric announced Maui residents would see an increase of twenty percent. According to the utility company, Maui residents paid 33.32 cents per kilowatt-hour in 2020. Hawaiian Electric is en-

couraging homeowners to consider installing rooftop solar systems.

“The average cost for a solar water heater in Hawai’i, including installation, is approximately \$7,000,” says Menor-McNamara. “A 26 percent federal tax credit and 35 percent Hawai’i state tax credit is available on the purchase of a solar water heater and installation. So, if you purchased a solar water heater for \$7,000, you would receive a federal tax credit of \$1,820 and a Hawai’i state tax credit of \$2,450, reducing the cost to \$2,730 and making it a great alternative. Although the \$2,730 upfront cost may be cost-prohibitive, it is a more cost-effective long-term solution.”

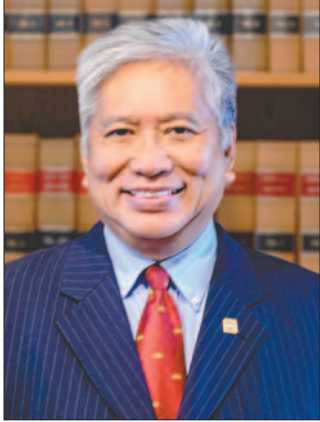
And if the rising cost of gas and electricity doesn’t cause you enough despair (along with blaming the food supply chain for the lack of your favorite items in your grocery store), the Russia/Ukraine war is reducing the supply of wheat and grain ...and it’s hitting home.

In downtown Wailuku, Four Sisters Bakery—started by Stanley Magbual and now owned and operated by his son Arnold and his wife Marjorie—is feeling the consequences of the Russia/Ukraine war. “The war in Ukraine has increased the price of wheat,” explains the younger Magbual. “Plus the cost of propane and electricity has gone up. We were forced to increase our prices a little. Eight pieces of *pan de sal* has gone up from \$2.75 to \$3 while our famous butter rolls have increased from \$12.50 for a dozen to \$13.”

Not to worry, says Magbual. “Despite the slight increase in prices, we’re still competitive. We will continue to be here to serve our customers and share my Dad’s famous Filipino and local pastries.” ✨

Alfredo G. Evangelista is a graduate of Maui High School (1976), the University of Southern California (1980), and the University of California at Los Angeles School of Law (1983). He is a sole practitioner at Law Offices of Alfredo Evangelista, A Limited Liability Law Company, concentrating in estate planning, business start-up and consultation, nonprofit corporations, and litigation. He has been practicing law for 38 years (since 1983) and returned home in 2010 to be with his family and to marry his high school sweetheart, the former Basilia Tumacder Idraca.

Evangelista drives a hybrid.



From the

Editor’s Desk

| Cont’d from p. 4

genuinely care, by showing kindness to one another. And when we do, we will be amazed at how the love of God is intrinsically powerful. Unleash it and see what happens.

The Gospel will become ever more precious and alive! May we all be encouraged to open our hearts and to extend a hand to

someone who may need a little help, some prayers, warm and frequent encouragement and most of all ... LOVE. ✨

Vince Bagoyo

VINCE BAGOYO, JR. | EDITOR



After Mass in the Good Shepherd Church courtyard 2022



Maui High Centennial 2013



Opening Day of the State Legislature in 2017

Laureana Agaran, Gilbert Agaran, Velma Coloma and Lydia Coloma circa 1966



Mom avoids taking pictures with only two other people. She will pose with one or with three others or more. Three in a photo is never an option. She never explains why but we indulge her (except when we play candid camera and she doesn't notice the iPhone).

Lore.
 Some things I write off simply as superstition. I assume some is just folk tales from the *barrio*.
 Don't sleep with your feet directly facing the door—I assume evil spirits could pull you right out of the room. Maybe it's Ilocano *feng shui*.
 After family funerals, you go to the beach and wash off in the nearshore surf. Then you let one of the elders play patty cakes and slap you on the forehead or skull with a vinegar concoction when you least expect it.
 Lore.
 A lot of our received wisdom is stored away without knowing the reasons.

When I was young, both my grandmother and my mother warned don't go to bed with wet hair (something I don't need to worry about anymore).

DINENGDENG
 & PINAKBET
 Lore

Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran



But as a result of the small kid time drilling, I avoid taking showers or baths late at night.
 Lore.
 I appreciate some instruction reflects her life experience. Her teen years passed during World War II in Badoc-Pinili. She's still somewhat of a hoarder (she still uses my baby high-chair as additional shelving for baskets holding fresh vegetables from the backyard garden).

Food especially should never go to waste. Extra rice can be fed to feral chickens at the Maui High parking lot during morning walks. Leftovers can be shared with the neighbors for their dogs. Growing up in Pā'ia, the slop man would come by weekly and pick up leftover food, peels and other waste for his pigs.
 She, in passing, recalled to my sister how she once stole an egg as a child and traded the egg for candy. She still feels guilty about that as she cracks open her soft-boiled egg for breakfast.
 Some traditions need no explanation.
 When we visit the cemetery in Ha'ikū, we take food and drinks for the loved ones laid to rest there. When we were kids, my sister or I would point out a relative never liked a particular dish or beverage. That usually earned a stern look. We just think it now and dutifully set out portions at each grave marker.
 A new project can't start on a Tuesday or Friday. Break ground on Wednesday instead. Or better yet on

Thursday. Back in the day, that was the rule in the P.I.
 Lore.
 She advises my sister, don't clip your nails on Tuesday (but it's probably okay if you have them done by a professional at the salon and you pay for your mother's pedi- and manicure, too.)
 Lore.
 It's things we laugh about, and my sister posts on social media about.
 Sometimes I hear my sister repeating some of the same advice to our nieces and their children.
 We appear to be passing on our family *lore* after all.
Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran practices law in Wailuku. He was told he was named by the doctor that delivered him when his parents had no name picked out for a boy. He has since learned "Gilbert" is a fairly common name in the extended family on both the Agaran and the Coloma side. Lore.



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Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center has a maximum capacity of 464.
PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA

La Galería: Compañía Baile Filipino performs the Tinikling.
PHOTO: ALFREDO G. EVANGELISTA



BINHI AT ANI

Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center is now open for events inside the Center. Including the cleaning fee, the Center can be rented from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. for \$1150 plus a \$300 security deposit; from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. for \$800 plus a \$300 security deposit; or from 2 p.m. to 11 p.m. for \$950 plus a \$300 security deposit (prices subject to change). The office is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



53rd Annual Barrio Fiesta

The 53rd Annual Barrio Fiesta will return to a live event in May 2022. The two-day event will be held on Friday, May 27 (5 p.m. to 10 p.m.) and on Saturday, May 28 (10 a.m. to 10 p.m.).
Vying for the title of Miss Barrio Fiesta

are Angel Alba, Audryanah Latayada Starmer and Kyara Tumacder. The crowning will be held on Friday at 7 p.m.
Food vendors will be selling your favorite Filipino food: banana *lumpia*, *cascaron*, *chicharron empanada*, *dinuguan*, *gulaman*, *halo-halo*, ice candy, marinated *bangus*, *pansit*, pork *adobo*, pork and peas, pork bbq, *pork lumpia*, *puto*, *suman*, vegetable *lumpia*, PLUS your favorite local dishes: *andagi*, bbq beef *teriyaki*, *chow fun*, corn, sweet spicy chicken, AND a Farmer's Market.
Philippine cultural entertainment will feature the Assumpta Choir (Saturday at 8 p.m.), Dance International Production (Friday at 7:30 p.m.), La Galería: Compañía Baile Filipino (Saturday at 7:30 p.m.) and the Students of Aggie Cabebe (Saturday at 6:30 p.m.).

Your favorite contests will return: Any Kine Sisig Challenge (Saturday at 3:30 p.m.); The Barrio Fiesta Voice (Friday at 8:30 p.m.); Barrio Wear Contest (Saturday at 7 p.m.); Climb the Greased Pole Contest (Saturday at 1 p.m.); Da Pansit Eating Contest (Saturday at 3 p.m.); Do the Sungka (Saturday at 10:30 a.m.); Pabitin (Friday at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and 3: p.m.); and Sabado Art Foundation Keiki Art Party (Saturday at 2 p.m.).
Special Events include The Santa Cruzan featuring the Miss Barrio Fiesta queens (Friday at 6:30 p.m.) the Veterans Memorial Service (Saturday at 12 noon), the introduction of the Miss Maui Filipina contestants (Saturday at 6 p.m.) and the Outstanding Housekeepers Awards (Saturday at 8:30 p.m.).
Plus FREE food boxes from Maui Food

Bank for 65 years and older on Saturday, beginning at 10 a.m. until supplies last.
And a lechon demonstration!
And more expected ...
Wow! Double Wow!! Make that a Triple Wow!!!
#barriofiestamaui
#BayanihanFeeding Program
The program provides a Sunday lunch to Hale Mahaolu Residents in Central Maui.
As of March 31, a total of 6,777 meals were delivered.
There is a need for additional teams of volunteers to prepare the free lunches. The teams serving during the month of May are Stanley & Rufina Magbual and family, Friends of Michael Victorino, and Miss Maui USA.
Create a Team by signing up:



Lucy Peros and Reynaldo Ramos display their prize-winning Barrio Wear.
PHOTO: ALFREDO G. EVANGELISTA



The Anykine Sisig Challenge sponsored by Tante's Island Cuisine will be held on Sat. May 28 at 3:30 p.m.
PHOTO: ALFREDO G. EVANGELISTA



LEFT: Nora Takushi and other former Miss Barrio Fiesta queens participated in the Santa Cruzan.
 PHOTO: BASILIA EVANGELISTA

BELOW: Danny Acidera plays Taps during the Veterans Memorial Service.
 PHOTO: ALFREDO G. EVANGELISTA



COMMUNITY... IN ACTION

Compiled by Assistant Editor Alfredo G. Evangelista.
 Send your community briefs to info@filamvoice.com.

<https://forms.gle/cVUGB6XLmtJi7MVH8> or by contacting Chelsea Guzman, chairperson of Binhi at Ani’s Health and Wellness committee at guzman.chelsea.i@gmail.com or Sheena Marie Garo, co-chairperson at sheena.garo@gmail.com.

Tax-deductible donations are accepted via Paypal or a Credit/Debit card <https://binhiatani.org/donate/> or by mailing a check payable to Binhi at Ani, 780 Onehee Avenue, Kahului, HI 96732 [Memo: Feeding Program].

Enhance Fitness for Kūpuna at Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center will begin in early July. Classes are limited.

The Seed and Harvest Dinner honoring the 2022 Scholarship Recipients will be held on July 2 at Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center.

Summer at Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center will begin on June 27

through July 27. Free classes in art, es-crima, Philippine cultural dance, social dance and a few more.

MAUI FILIPINO CATHOLIC CLUBS

Maui Filipino Catholic Clubs consisting of Christ the King Filipino Catholic Club, Maria Lanakila Filipino Catholic Club, St. Anthony Filipino Catholic Club, St. Joseph Filipino Catholic Club and St. Theresa Filipino Catholic Club will celebrate 500 Years of Christianity in the Philippines on Friday, June 10, 2022 at Christ the King Church/Parish Hall beginning at 9 a.m. Register via Eventbrite at <https://mcfcc-gifted-to-give.eventbrite.com>.

MAUI FILIPINO COMMUNITY COUNCIL



The 2022 Miss Maui Filipina Scholarship Pageant will be held on June 4 at Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center. The contestants are Jacqueline Agorilla, Lennel Alvarez, Rochelle Balala, Ahlyzle Calleda, Kailee Delos Santos, Shay-Lea Ruiz and Glenzy Salcedo. They will be formally introduced during the 53rd Annual Barrio Fiesta on Saturday at 6 p.m.

PHILIPPINE NURSES ASSOCIATION MAUI HI

The Philippine Nurses Association Maui Hawai’i (PNAMHI) will be installing the new elected officers on May 29, 2022, at the Rainbow Dining Room at the Maui Beach Hotel. The elected officers will serve from 2022–2024.

President - Angelina Saiki
 President elect - Jeny Bissell
 Vice President - Monica Natividad
 Secretary- Veronica Sagun
 Assistant Secretary- Aileen Concepcion
 Treasurer- Jeanelyn Onnagan
 Assistant Treasurer - Mary Jane Asayo-Paet
 Auditor - Lucy Porte

Board Members are:

Erwyn Bala
 Rowena “Nikki” Baysa
 Christine Gumpal
 Rose Tumacder
 Mary Jean Guira




The event is also an opportunity to honor frontline workers who work tirelessly in support of our healthcare facilities.

Maui Filipino Community Council is one of the teams for the Bayanihan Feeding Program
 PHOTO: LAWRENCE PASCUA



President Melen Agcolicol of Binhi at Ani leads the spaghetti-making with team MFCC’s Lawrence Pascua (also with Binhi at Ani), President Domingo “Jing” Gumpal of MFCC, and Marilyn Oura (also with both organizations).
 PHOTO: CHRSTINE GUMPAL

A Tribute to All Moms!



I love you Mom.
Thank you for
everything you have
done for me.

Jacinta Tumacder Idica **BASILIA TUMACDER IDICA EVANGELISTA**



We love you
Mama Lilia!  **Sharon, Gregory & Michael**





Maligayang Araw sa
lahat ng mga Ina!

From Congressman Kai Kahele,
Linda Kahele, Maria Fe Kahele,
& Eleanor Gorospe Day
(Asawa at ina & biyanan)

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mother

moth-er - məthər - *noun*

A person who loves unconditionally. The
mother and keeper of precious memories.
A person much loved and greatly admired.

a message from the



Fil-Am Voice
Magkaisa Tayong Lahat | "Let Us All Unite"

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MOTHERS DAY



#1 Role Model Mom, Frances Nakaima Kellett.

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Celebrating 20 years in practice

At 20 Dr. Jasmine learned on Maui how she was from a lineage of healing women. Now she is celebrating 20 years in practice, three daughters in college and three more female chiropractors in her family, by teaching on Maui and online. Dr. Jasmine holds workshops throughout Maui with centers in Kula and Wailea.



Jasmine Therese Esguerra



Dr. Jasmine
In Wailea
and in Kula
(808) 500-2195
drjasmine.com

Happy Mother's Day

I was blessed with a strong and loving mother who not only took care of her three children, but always looked out for others who were less fortunate.

Her example guided me as Mike and I raised our son, and it inspired me to enter public service.

As a state lawmaker, I've worked hard on programs that improve life for all of us.

As your Lieutenant Governor, I'll work to make those programs even stronger.

Happy Mother's Day to my mom and to all mothers in Hawai'i.



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Vincent McNabb



Patrick Borden



Bea Dalit



Leanne Osorno

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Is Not Everything ...

Students rely on the extended media to learn what’s happening in Ukraine

Brooklyn Jones | MAUI HIGH SCHOOL, CLASS OF 2022

Living on an isolated group of islands can be both a blessing and a curse. On one hand, our location keeps us far removed from the troubles and politics of the mainland and the rest of the world. But on the other hand, those same factors make us feel removed, both physically and mentally, to major world events. When devastating world events happen, like the declaration of war against Ukraine by Russia, it is difficult for Hawai’i residents to understand the gravity of the situation while living halfway across the world. The fact Ukraine’s refugee crisis rivals that

of World War II is shocking yet difficult to truly comprehend. When there is nothing people can do about such a grand-scale event, the best course of action to take is to become educated and aware of the subject. Students are taking advantage of the internet, social media and expanded media coverage to do so.

Information is easy to find, simply because it is on every screen we own. **Vincent McNabb**, a student at Baldwin High School, became well-versed in the history of the relationship between Russia and Ukraine by taking advantage of his online resources. After intense research, he explained to me that Ukraine, along with other small countries like Armenia, emerged as newly independent from the ashes of the USSR in the nineties. It is probably because of Ukraine’s past relationship with Russia that Putin made such an aggressive decision to declare war.

The Baldwin senior has a theory that President Putin plans to “regain” Ukraine’s territory. Vincent points out: “In [Putin’s] mind, the USSR were all one people” and Putin called the fall of the Soviet Union “the greatest catastrophe of the 20th century.” Coupled with the chance of Ukraine joining the North Atlantic Treaty Association (NATO), Russia saw Ukraine as a growing threat. As Vincent says, however, there are “so many ways” Putin could have dealt with this situation that did not need to include violence.

Like many of us, **Patrick Borden**, a junior at Maui High, fears more people and the global economy will continue to suffer as time goes on. “It’s becoming evident inflation is taking a toll on the families that already struggle financially to make ends meet,” he notes.

In his view, Russia has a corrupt and ignorant leader who is preventing the United States from assisting Ukraine. One of Patrick’s most pressing concerns would be a third World War if the United States would “get involved too much” in the conflict.

The consensus among the students I talked to was a disagreement with President Putin’s war. **Bea Dalit** recounts a time she watched a video clip on the news. The video “showed a father saying goodbye to his daughter and wife because he stayed behind in Ukraine to help fight.” The Maui High freshman admits how it affected her. She felt so sick and her Mom began tearing up after seeing the heartbreaking clip.

Bea doesn’t solely rely on the TV

broadcasts, though. Instagram, an unlikely means, is her primary source of information. “I follow a couple of activism profiles that post updates on the war,” Bea explains. Compared to big news companies selecting events for shocking headlines, she finds the humble accounts include details “the news channels don’t seem to cover.”

Instagram hasn’t been the only resource for students. TikTok, the app famous for dance videos and unique food recipes, gave **Leanne Osorno** an intimate look into what’s happening in Ukraine. “I follow a girl from Ukraine on social media and I’ve been seeing how it has affected her life,” she shares. Numerous young adults in Ukraine have taken to the internet to share their experiences.

Through another series of videos on TikTok, we see another girl’s daily routine: trips from her hideout in a subway station to her abandoned home to pick up personal items little by little.

Being able to connect virtually with individuals in a warring country across the world has been a “very eye-opening experience” for Leanne. But while having an inside perspective on a conflict is fascinating, she hopes for this senseless war to be resolved soon for the good of her online peers.

True, many people look down on this digitally reliant age. But we can’t ignore how knowledge is now more readily available on the internet. Having access to information about big news at almost instantaneous speeds changes the way we view and deal with these events; seeing videos of real war experiences helps us empathize with the affected people. With electronic devices, we feel less removed from the rest of the world and more united in our stance with Ukraine. ✨

Google® Is Not Everything ... is a monthly column authored by high school students. The title of the column emphasizes education is more than just googling a topic. Google® is a registered trademark. This month’s guest columnist is **Brooklyn Jones**, a Senior at Maui High School. She is an assistant editor in her school’s journalism program,

Saber Scribes, and also a member of the Girls Can STEM Club. Brooklyn is in the ACOM Pathway at Maui High, specializing in graphic design. In her free time, she swims for Hawai’i Swimming Club, bakes and likes to go to the beach. She is the daughter of Melissa Ligot Jones and Darren Jones.



To all Moms ...

Happy Mother’s Day!

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DINNER 5 – 8:30PM

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How do you feel now that the mask mandate is finally ending and air travel is no longer restricted by vaccination status? Freedom? Awkward? We don't have to go back to our car or search in our purse for a mask because we forgot one. It is now up to businesses or places if they still have the mask policy for their customers or visitors. I got so used to it that

Let's Talk Pinoy!

Dulce Karen Butay

it feels weird when I don't wear one. So if you see me wearing one, don't feel offended because I am still slowly wean-

ing myself from what used to be part of our lives in the last two years. And besides, I still have a few boxes of masks

so might as well use it rather than go to waste.

Shout out to our April birthday celebrants: my sister Daisy Butay-Hayen, my Auntie Norma Butay Aurelio, my god-daughter Kate Lopez and my friend Carmelita Montero Quemado. Happy, Happy birthday to you! *Maligayang bati sa inyong kaarawan! Naimbag nga panagkasangay yo!*

Michael begins to watch video after video.

"How to start your *saken* (car) with a troubled starter"

He shines his light and begins to hit *anni* (what) he thinks is the starter.

He tries again but the *kotse* (car) still doesn't start.

"How to check for a bad battery"

He checks all the connections and notices one connection is loose.

Yes.

He searches the back seat and finds a small wrench to tighten the bolt.

Rah ... rah ... rah ...

He tries again.

Rah ... Rah ... rah ... then suddenly, boom! The *sasakyan* (car) comes alive.

Yes! As Michael jumps out of the *luga* (car) and begins his *TikTok* dance the *kotse* (car) dies again.

"Hindiiiiii ... (Nooooooooo ...)."

"Ah, come on Mikey Think. *Hani* (What) could be wrong?

"Battery is probably dead because it's been sitting for so long."

"Or it could be the alternator not charging."

It had enough power to crank once, it's a good thing.

"Ok. Let me keep trying," Michael says to himself.

Michael turns the ignition again and the *sasakyan* (car) starts up. It idles for a few moments and dies again.

He tries again and again. Slowly the *luga* (car) is running longer and longer. He tries to press the gas, and the *sakyanan* (car) runs lean but indeed running.

Silly! He says to himself.

He cuts a dirty water hose in the back of the *kotse* (car). He runs over to his *auto* (car) and siphons some gas. In the process, he gulps a small bit into his mouth and pukes it out as a few ounces transfers into the empty gas tank every time. After a few tries, he gets a good flow and nearly empties his *saken* (car).

That should be good enough, he thinks to himself.

Jumping back into the truck, he glances over at Angel, who is sleeping. In the moment, he reaches out to her but retracts his *kamay* (hand). While looking at her exhausted face. "I won't let anything happen to you. I don't know *ana* (what) is going on yet but I will find out. I don't care *ano* (what) you did. All I care is that you are with

English	Pilipino	Ilokano	Cebuano	Ilonggo	Ibanag	Kapampangan
What?	Ano?	Ana?	Hani?	Ano?	Anni?	Nanoyin?
No	Hindi	Haan	Awan	Indi	Dili	Indi
Kiss	Halik	Anggo	Paghalok	Haluk	Ummo	Muma
Hug	Yakap	Arakup	Gakos	Kupo	Gagap-pan	Kawul
Car	Sasakyan	Lugan	Sakyanan	Auto	Kotse	Saken
Hands	Kamay	Ima	Kamot	Kamot	Lima	Gamat
Door	Pintuan	Ridaw	Lukub	Ganhaan	Puwerta	Pasbul
Head	Ulo	Ulo	Ulu	Buntuk	Ulo	Ulo

me."

Hmm ... she murmurs.

As he shrieks trying not to wake her, he touches her *ulo* (head) and she relaxes a bit.

Yah. I don't care. I just want you to be safe.

He turns the ignition and the *luga* (car) holds.

"Yes," as he shifts the *sasakyan* (car) into drive. The Hummer jerks a bit.

"Hehe I haven't driven this thing for so long," brings back some memories.

He mindlessly drives upwards, desperately trying to find any evidence he is on the old path that is well overgrown with cane grass and weeds. But as he drives, he slowly remembers a dip, followed by a bump. Two drops and a hard left, scraping his tire on a boulder. "Yup, I remember that one."

And just like an old video game he played so many times, he suddenly remembers exactly where he is. "We are about five minutes away." As the vehicle loses traction and his rear wheel is stuck. "Dang, we are so close" but now I'm stuck. Mindlessly scavenging around to find as many sticks and stones he dumps everything in front of the sunken tire, just to have some sort of grip to climb himself out of.

His shoes are now soaking and heavy with mud. His pants have a lot of spikey weeds from all the nut grass. He works alone trying to get this rig out of the hole while his Angel is sleeping in the passenger seat. The truck moves a bit but slips. He uses the on-board winch to a nearby tree. With the winch and the all-wheel drive, he finally gets them out of the hole. While he fiddles, releasing the winch, he bumps his *buntuk* (head) and curses.

Stretching out his *lima* (hands), he

remembers. He opens the grass and exposes the gate. An old gate. He swims through the dense grass and finds the center of the gate. The lock.

Dang!

Another password! "Well at least I should be grateful it's not an actual key because I for sure don't have that. Ok. *Nanoyin* (What) could the four-digit code be?"

He tries his birthday, *dili* (no). He tries his Mom's birthday? *Indi* (No). Could it be the zip code? Darn, Grrr, I sure would love to have a bolt cutter right now. Note to self buy a bolt cutter and bring it with you everywhere. Maybe people will think I'm crazy.

Maybe a phone number?

His gritty *gamat* (hands) trembling from his exhaustion. 8736. That is my phone number when I was young. As the lock unshackles, the gate creaks half open. The overbrush is preventing the gates from opening for the truck.

Michael begins to pull the grass. But his *kamot* (hands) slip and slide. He cannot pull out a single blade.

I have *awan* (no) power left. I need to wake her.

He opens the *puwerta* (door) with her pretending to sleep. He goes in to whisper in her ear to get up. She *arakup* (hugs) him and *halik* (kisses) his cheek.

Shocked about this, he collapses on her. She looks up at the silhouette of a cabin in the jungle under the illumination of the moon.

"Where are we?"

Anyways that's all I have. Keep an eye out for my article every issue. I'm Dulce, helping you to master your Filipino Languages. Like always, let's laugh, let's *making* (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 received her Associate in Arts degree in Liberal Arts from Maui Community College. She earned her Bachelor 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 Saladmaster's Travel Club and won an all-expenses paid trip to Cancún, Mexico. Butay has traveled to Texas, the Philippines and Thailand as one of the delegates from Island Healthy Solutions, a Saladmaster dealer here on Maui.



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Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

At daybreak on the first day of the week the women who had come from Galilee with Jesus took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were puzzling over this, behold, two men in dazzling garments appeared to them. They were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground. They said to them, “Why do you seek the living one among the dead? He is not here, but he has been raised. Remember what he said to you while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners and be crucified and rise on the third day.” And they remembered his words. Then they returned from the tomb and announced all these things to the eleven and to all the others. The women were Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James; the others who accompanied them also told this to the apostles, but their story seemed like nonsense and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb, bent down, and saw the burial cloths alone; then he went home amazed at what had happened.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ!

Happy Easter, everyone! Alleluia! It brings me great joy to be with all of you, this day as we gather to remember and celebrate and give thanks for the incredible God we have. This is a God who doesn’t simply watch the world he created. He immerses himself in it. This God who doesn’t simply tell us how to live. He shows us. This God who doesn’t make us do it alone but one who walks with us every step of the way. And this God who isn’t just willing to give a little to rescue us. He’s willing to give everything for our sake—give his very life so that we may have the very thing he laid down—life—and have it abundantly.

What a God we have!

I shall rise again!

“I shall rise again!” Jesus tried to tell his disciples that several times before his death on Calvary’s cross. You would think they would have been prepared on the first Easter morning to welcome him back from the grave. Clearly, they were not. Forgotten, at least momentarily, was his promise that on the third day he would rise again. Paul would later write in his letter to the Corinthians that Christ has conquered the final enemy—the enemy of death but it is clear such was not the expectation of his friends and disciples on that first Easter morning. Their hearts were heavy with grief. They had forgotten Jesus’ promise that, on the third day, he would come back to them. All they knew was their Lord was dead—and with him all their hopes, dreams and aspirations. They were overwhelmed with their sense of loss. But that, of course, is not the end of the story. If it were, you and I would not be here today. According to Luke’s account of the resurrection,

I Shall Rise Again

Deacon Patrick Constantino | PHOTOS COURTESY DCN. PATRICK CONSTANTINO

a group of women made their way to the tomb early Sunday morning to prepare Christ’s body with spices. There they found the stone rolled away from the grave and two men in dazzling apparel who said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and on the third day rise?” And they remembered Jesus’ words and they returned to tell the eleven disciples and the rest of Jesus’ followers, “He is alive! He is

world only. Christ showed us death is no longer our enemy. Death has been conquered. Because Christ lives, we too shall live. We no longer need to fear death. But Easter also says to us we no longer need to fear life. Common sense says to us there are things in life worse than dying. What does Easter have to say to us as we face life—life with its heartaches and disappointments, its hurts and frustrations?

It says, first of all, God is involved in His World. The God of the empty tomb is also the God of the Exodus. The Deists were wrong. God is not



Preaching at Easter Mass Sunday morning.

alive! He has conquered death as he said.”

You may know the story of a gentlemen who stood one day looking into a store window. Standing next to him and also looking in was a little boy. It was Easter time and in keeping with the season the shopkeeper had arranged a setting of the crucifixion. After a while, the boy turned to the man. “Those are Roman soldiers,” he explained. The man said nothing but kept studying the window. “And there’s Jesus,” the boy continued. Still no response. “They killed him,” the boy said. By this time the man, having satisfied his curiosity, started to walk away. Then he heard a patter of young feet behind him and felt a tug on his sleeve. It was the boy. “Mister,” he said, “I forgot to tell you the most important part. He’s alive again!”

That, of course, is the most important part. He is alive. Christ has defeated the final enemy—death. But what does Easter mean in our lives—we who are Christ’s followers today? Doesn’t it mean, first of all, that we no longer have to fear death either? If Christ has overcome the grave, doesn’t that mean that death no longer has dominion over us as well? We are kind of strange in our attitude toward death, aren’t we? We were created for life, not death. No one who is healthy of mind, soul and body looks forward to dying. And of course, that is the point. We were created for life not death. God did not bring us into being for this

off somewhere far removed from the human condition. The God of the Bible is intimately involved with His creation. The greatest heresy in the Christian faith today is the notion Christianity is only about dying. For the Christian, dying is a momentary inconvenience. But it does not interrupt a relationship with God through Jesus Christ begun long before. The saddest Christian in the world is the one who believes faith is simply buying a ticket to some far-off heaven. Such faith leads to a joy-less legalism. Christian faith is an ultimate love affair of life. That is why it is entirely appropriate Easter should come during the springtime. That is why we celebrate this day with brightly colored eggs. Traditionally this has been a day for wearing new brightly colored clothing as well. That is not a custom that grew out of our affluence, as you might suppose. Some of you might remember when the only new dress or new suit you got was at Easter time. That did not grow out of a desire to show off. Early Christians, who were not affluent at all, wanted to symbolize the fact Easter was about new life, new hope, new joy so they attired themselves accordingly. God is involved in our world. Christ is alive in the hearts of those who love him. What joy that brings! God is involved in the world. This leads us to a second thought. Easter is about victory. This is no day for doom and despair. Christ has defeated the final enemy.

We share in that victory. Easter is

the celebration of that victory. Easter belongs to the church. The world may have taken over Christmas but Easter is still a uniquely Christian celebration. For 2,000 years the church has proclaimed *Christus Victor*, Christ is Victor. In the Middle Ages the people would gather at twelve o’clock on Easter to celebrate a midnight mass. The beautiful words of the Gospel were read in the quaint churchyard. They followed the joyous hymn “Christ is Risen” and the clamoring of bells. The priest, holding high a lighted candle, would bid all “Come and receive light” and would pass the flame to the multitude of candles held to receive it. With these flickering torches in their hands, the throng turned eagerly to the House of God. The doors to the church were closed and locked. Loudly they knocked, their voices raised in solemn chant: “Lift the gates, o ye rulers of ours, and ye eternal gates be lifted, for there will enter Christ, the King of Glory!” A voice from within demanded: “Who is the King of Glory?” And the answer broke forth exultantly: “He is the Lord, strong and powerful! He is the Lord mighty in war!” Easter is a celebration of victory—for Christ is still victor today. Bishop Desmond Tutu, speaking at the Horace Bushnell Congregational Church in Hartford, Connecticut said, “It is Christ that will win for ever and ever. Amen.” Easter tells us God is involved in our world. Easter tells us we can live a victorious life in Christ Jesus. But Easter also tells us more than anything else people matter. Why is it important to believe in the resurrection of the dead? Certainly, it is not so we can believe in God. Creation provides more than enough proof of His existence. Many people believe in God who do not believe in Easter.

God’s infinite power is not at stake. What is at stake is whether your life or mine has any ultimate significance. Do we live only for a season, then cease to exist forever? Or are we so significant in God’s eyes even death cannot separate us from His love? Do not say Christianity can exist independently from Easter. Christianity is not simply a set of values, a moral code, a style of living, a grand philosophy. Christian faith is Easter faith. It is the conviction people matter so much to God He gave His own son on our behalf; He allowed Him to be crucified on the cross for our sins and on the third day raised Him from the grave as sign and symbol our lives are of eternal significance. God is involved. Christ is victorious. But even more importantly, we really do matter to God. This is why we are gathered here this day. That is why the empty tomb is central to our faith. Bruce A. Demarest summed it up in a beautiful way in his book, *Who Is Jesus?: Further Reflections on Jesus Christ: The God-Man*. He writes, “Throughout the centuries men have tried to honor their heroes by erecting lavish monuments: the massive pyramids of

Continued on p.18

Is This the Start of the Endemic Phase of Covid-19?

Errol Buntuyan, M.D., FAAFP

Moving into the Spring of 2022, there is quite a stark contrast from just 12 months ago. During the early months of 2021, the COVID vaccines were just beginning to be dispersed and many people were just starting to feel confident to get back into society. Folks from the mainland started to come for Spring Break vacation, eager to travel to escape into our tropical paradise. There were some early news circulating this time last year about a Delta variant spreading in India, and the horrors endured by that country with minimal access to vaccines and oxygen supplies.

Flash forward to today. The mask mandate was lifted and the Hawai'i Safe Travels program was stopped at the end of March. Our COVID infectivity numbers have once again gone below five percent across all regions of Hawai'i. Also, the number of hospitalizations as well as the death rates from COVID have dropped tremendously this past month.

A sense of freedom and normalcy is finally here. Some establishments (i.e. medical facilities, clinics) still require masks indoors and people are choosing to wear their masks in public places for continued protection against infection.

We have seen these lulls in infection rates, hospitalizations and deaths in the past two years only to have been met with brand new variants and surges. Will this lull be different and signal the start of the endemic phase of COVID?

We still press forward with our continued efforts to vaccinate with boosters and protect ourselves from COVID. The second mRNA booster has been approved by the FDA. Here are the recommendations below:

- A second booster dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine or Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine may be administered to individuals 50 years of age and older at least four months after receipt of a first booster dose of any COVID-19 vaccine
- A second booster dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine may be administered to individuals 12 years of age and older with certain kinds of immunocompromise at least four months after receipt of a first booster dose of any authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine. These are people who have undergone solid organ transplantation or who are living with conditions considered to have an equivalent

level of immunocompromise.

- A second booster dose of the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine may be administered at least four months after the first booster dose of any authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine to individuals 18 years of age and older with the same certain kinds of immunocompromise.

For those who had a primary series of Johnson and Johnson:

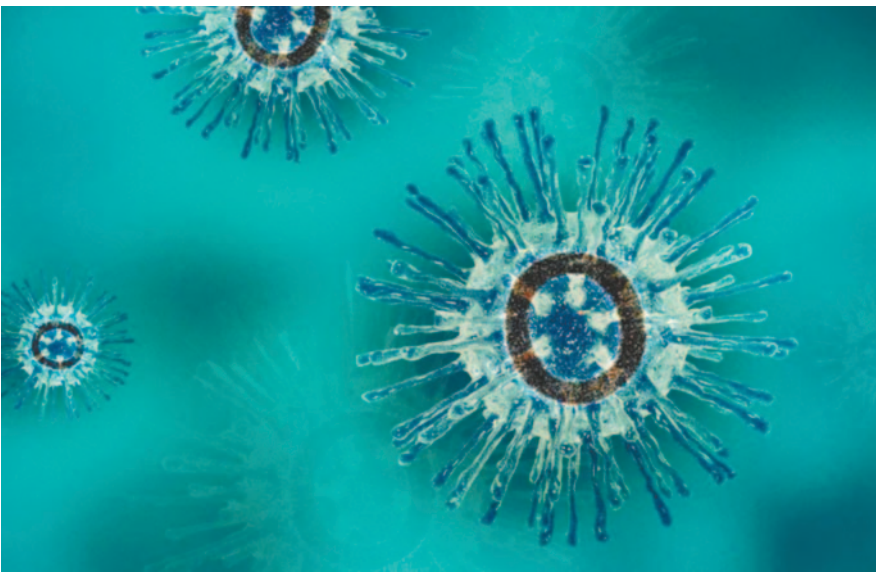
- Anyone 18 years or older who received a J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine for both their primary dose and booster is recommended to get a second mRNA booster. At least two months must pass since the first J&J/Janssen booster.

- Adults 50 years and older who first received a J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine, regardless of what type of booster they received, an mRNA (Pfizer or Moderna) is the only recommended vaccine for a second booster. At least four months must pass in between the mRNA boosters.

As with past lulls, experts are monitoring activity for any new infectivity trends throughout the world. There is news of a subvariant of Omicron, BA.2 causing a

surge in cases in China and areas of Europe. The BA.2 subvariant of Omicron is already in the U.S. and in Hawai'i but so far has not been causing widespread, severe illness as did past strains here in Hawai'i. It presents with similar symptoms of Omicron which surged through our community in January and it is much more contagious than all the prior variants.

Symptoms: The typical BA.2 symptoms



The BA.2 subvariant of Omicron—also known as 'Stealth' Omicron—is already in the U.S. and in Hawai'i.

toms resemble the common cold or the flu. Here's a breakdown of the most common:

- Runny nose
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Sneezing
- Sore throat
- Persistent cough
- Hoarse voice
- Chills or shivers
- Fever
- Dizziness
- Brain fog
- Muscle pains
- Loss of smell
- Chest pain

The spread of this highly infectious variant, however, has not yet translated into a rise in virus-related hospitalizations. This is likely attributable to the relatively high numbers of people who are already vaccinated. Also, many people have already been infected with Omicron in January and thus a level of natural immunity is helping to provide protection against infection.

We should expect a rise in cases in the next few weeks because of the lifting of mask mandates and the end of travel screenings into Hawai'i. Due to the mild nature of illness we have seen thus far, however, the level of worry appears to be very low for many people. In essence, we are all tired of the regulations against COVID and very eager to get back to our normal lives.

Many would like this Spring to be the start of the endemic phase of COVID. In an endemic phase, we know the COVID virus is still circulating amongst our community. Due to the decreased severity of illness, however, we can manage the mild symptoms like we had in the past with the common cold or flu. Those without symptoms can go about our normal regular lives.

In an endemic phase, we should no longer have mask mandates nor have to follow the strict guidelines in most indoor establishments. We can exercise caution if we are around people with

symptoms or have been infected with COVID. We should isolate ourselves if we develop symptoms of our own.

We should continue to be wise and prepared in the upcoming months. We should get the vaccine boosters recommended by the FDA and the CDC when we are eligible. We should also be aware of the latest COVID treatments and prevention medications if we fall in a high-risk group.

New treatments will continue to develop in the endemic phase. There are upcoming monoclonal antibody regimens more effective against Omicron and BA.2. The good news is these treatments on Maui can be obtained at Maui Memorial Medical Center. Information on COVID treatments, eligibility and registration forms are available on the Maui Health Systems website (<https://www.mauihealth.org/>).

Heading into the Spring and Summer of 2022 should feel quite different than last year. More people are now vaccinated or immune from getting COVID, we have more knowledge about medication for treatment and prevention and we are doing our best to have a healthy immune system by lifestyle modification.

Only time will tell if another variant comes after this lull. What we do know is we can only remain aware of the options that can protect us from COVID infection. Vaccines, masks and keeping our immune systems strong are the best strategies to give us hope and traction to finally move into the endemic phase. ✨

Errol Buntuyan, M.D. is a Family Medicine Practitioner and the Physician in Charge of Maui Primary Care at Kaiser Permanente. Born in Quezon City and raised in Southern California, he has been practicing medicine on



Maui since 2007. Dr. Buntuyan promotes whole food, plant based nutrition, regular physical activity, stress mindfulness and sleep hygiene as keys to optimum health and wellness. He enjoys cooking, playing tennis and travel.



Joann Cachola



Karren Caldito, Joann Cachola, Veronica Cachola, Randell Cachola

Joann Cadavis Cachola

Lucy Peros | ALL PHOTOS COURTESY JOANN CACHOLA 'OHANA

“Love knows no age, when you find true love, you will not care about the age difference, all you will care about is spending forever with him/her.” This is what an unknown thinker once said. This proved to be true about the *Sakada* parents of this month’s featured *Sakada Offspring*, Joann Cadavis Cachola.

Joann was born on Maui on April 28, 1972. She attended Kahului Ele-

mentary School, Maui High School (Class of 1990) and Maui Community College. She received her Bachelors Degree in Human Services from Hawai’i Pacific University in Honolulu. She is presently working at Maui Memorial Medical Center in the Utilization Review and Case Management Department.

Joann’s daughter Sierra Perryman (19 years old) attends the University of Hawai’i Maui College and hopes to

be a Clinical Psychologist someday. Sierra was Miss Barrio Fiesta in 2018.

Joann is a community oriented individual. She participated in the Relay For Life and helped at the Christ The King Church Bazaar. She was in the Christ The King Junior Filipino Catholic Club Choir and participated in the Christ The King Flores de Mayo. She is a very physically fit individual. She dances Tahitian, participated in Retail Therapy, Zumba, Yoga and Jui-jitsu.

Besides Joann, there are other siblings in the Cachola Family. Next to Joann is Karren Cachola Caldito. She works at Maui Memorial Medical Center as a Health Unit Clerk. She is married to Chad Caldito. Chad works at the Maui County Parks and Recreation Department. They have a daughter together, Leihiwa Caldito (eighth grade) at Maui Waena Intermediate. They have other children from previous relationships. First is Jared “Riannon” Cachola Kekino. He works for Inspiration Events. Second is Jordan Cachola Kekino. He works for building maintenance with American Property Management in Arizona.

The youngest of the Cachola siblings is Randell “Leimomi” Cachola. He is a painter at Painters Union/Sons. He has three children: Ranson (7), attending 1st Kihei Charter School, Leighsyn (4), a preschooler

at Grace Bible Pre-School and Kyler (21 months).

Joann, Karren and Randell are the daughters and son of the late *Sakada*, Catalino Cacho Cachola and Veronica Cadavis Cachola. Catalino was born in Dasay, Narvacan, Ilocos Sur, Philippines on March 22, 1913. Life in the Philippines was very hard. Catalino and his family were farmers and farmers are always under the mercy of God and nature to raise successful yearly crops. A devastating monsoon weather can wipe out crops in no time. So men like Catalino opted to come to a strange land called Hawai’i to find a better life for themselves and for their families.

Together with his friends, Francisco Cabrera and Mateo Pascua, they left the Philippines from Port Salomague, Cagugao, Ilocos Sur in 1931.

Arriving in the Territory of Hawai’i in 1931, Catalino was assigned directly to the Hāmākua Mill Company on Hawai’i island. After three years, he transferred to the Kaiwiki Sugar Company also on Hawai’i island. He worked there for five years. It was quite a rainy place there. Catalino often mentioned to his wife it was better to forget his lunch cans than to forget his raincoat.

In 1940, he decided to transfer to the Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar Company in Pu’unēnē, Maui. He lived at Camp 2 in Spreckelsville. He was a cane cutter, a mule man, and then as a helper to the cane harvesting machine. In 1946, Catalino became a cultivation contractor. He retired from HC&S in 1975 from his job as a weed controller.

Catalino served with the Maui Volunteers as a private, Company K, 3rd Battalion, 1st Regiment, Spreckelsville, Maui. He was awarded the Volunteer Service Ribbon on July 4, 1945. The Maui Volunteers was the forerunner of the Hawaii National Guard.

In 1970, Catalino decided to go back to the Philippines to get married. At his hometown in Dasay, Narvacan, he saw a very attractive, very industrious young lady by the name of Veronica Cadavis. As a young woman, Veronica was very good in weaving using a wooden loom to weave beautiful blankets and cloths for dresses. She grew up in Santa, Ilocos Sur, Philippines. Santa is famous for their beautiful handcrafted woven blankets and good, handcrafted machetes (*buneng*).

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Chad Caldito, Leihiwa Caldito, Karren Caldito

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Catalino Cachola



Front: Ranson, 2nd row: Jayden, Kayden, Talon, Rhain, Rhija, 3rd row: Kyler, Mom, Leighsyn, Leihiwa, Sierra, Rhailee, Back: Jordan Jared



Joann, Catalino, Randell, Karen

Because Veronica and Catalino did not know each other beforehand, it was the elders from both of their families that planned their marriage (*nag-dadanon*). Though with much hesitancy, because of their age difference, Veronica went along with the wedding plans anyway. Catalino was already 57 years old while Veronica was in her twenties.

Catalino's vacation was coming to an end so quickly. He had to come back to Hawai'i to his work. So to expedite matters, Catalino and Veronica decided to go to Manila to get married. They had to go to two different churches to bless their marriage. The first one did not accept to marry them because when the priest interviewed Veronica and asked her if she really loved Catalino, her answer was, "I am marrying him because I am just following my elders' recommendation." Because of that answer, the blessing was not granted. Veronica was too honest! Then they went to another church. The priest there did not ask too many questions. So he married them right away. They were married on December 2, 1970. In just two short days later, on December 4, 1970, Catalino had to come back to Hawai'i. In June 1971, Veronica followed Catalino to Hawai'i. They lived in the 10th increment in Kahului. Veronica still lives there today.

Catalino enjoyed playing *Sakura*

(*Hanafuda*), gardening and cooking. In fact, he was often asked to be the head chef at parties at the old Pu'unēnē Filipino Clubhouse. His favorite dishes to cook were *igado*, *adobo* and the meaty bone pork *tempura*. Unfortunately, Catalino passed away in November 1999.

When Veronica arrived in Hawai'i in 1971, she worked at the Maui Pineapple Cannery as a trimmer. She stayed home from 1972 to 1973 when her two daughters, Joann and Karren were young. In 1974, she went back to work, this time at HC&S. She did jobs such as cover seed, replant, cut seed, weed control and irrigation. In the meantime, she is so industrious she even went to work at the hotel and at Howard Nursery as her part-time jobs. She retired in 2006.

Veronica lovingly shared her personal feeling about her husband, Catalino. She said, "I learned to love my husband even though he was way older than I was. People even asked me if he was my father and the grandfather of our children. I didn't mind them. I just told them the truth that I wanted to come to Hawai'i and find a better life for me and my family. He was a good and loving husband to me and a good father to our children." That love grew and nurtured between Catalino and Veronica. In time, they were blessed with three now grown-up children and grandchildren, successful in their fields of interest. Veronica is a very active member of Christ The King Church in Kahului as Eucharistic Minister, choir, prayer group whose goal is evangelization, serves the homebound, MBCC (Missionary Basic Christian Community) Renew, Church cleaning and bread making ministries. Veronica is a very loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother. She babysat all her grandchildren and now great grandchildren.

Joann, Karren and Randell shared these very heartwarming and humorous reflections on their Dad, Catalino Cacho Ca-

chola.

Randell reminisces about his Dad. "When I was young, I remember going for a ride in my Dad's brown Chevy Nova. We would go to the old Kahului Shopping Center and get boiled peanuts from Noda Market, eat them while we hang out with the OG's (Older Guys). After that we would head across the street to the Maui Mall to get some Guri-Guri. My Dad was loving, caring and had a sense of humor. Every time someone would come over to our house to get massaged, he had no doubt in his mind that when they left him, they were healed. I'm proud that although my father passed away while I was at a young age, I have these great memo-

ries to hold onto and his legacy to pass on to my sons. It brings me great joy to know that my father, Catalino Cachola was one of the first *Sakadas* to come to Hawai'i to work in the plantation. His hard work and dedication paved the way for me to raise my family. I'm blessed to be able to carry on the Cachola legacy."

Karren Cachola Caldito shares her memories of her Dad. "I remember growing up, people with injuries would come to my dad to get *ilot* (massage) and he would massage them with some vinegar and they would leave feeling much better. He showed us how to take out the seeds from the *achiote* pods and told us to

Continued on next page



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Fr. Michael lighting our Easter candle used for our Baptisms, Funerals and special celebrations throughout the year.

Egypt, built as resting places for the Egyptian pharaohs; the glistening Taj Mahal, the tomb of an Indian emperor and his favorite wife; Lenin’s Tomb in Red Square, the place where the body of the Marxist leader is preserved by some mysterious process; the burial vault at Mt. Vernon, the site of President Washington’s interred body. In its stark simplicity Jesus’ grave can’t compare with these costly crypts. But the tomb of Jesus excels in the most important respect. It lies empty! He is not there!” He is alive. He is victorious, and because He lives, we too can live victorious lives as well! *Jesus, I*

trust in You! Happy Easter Family! Amen! ✨
On June 18, 1987, **Patrick Constantino** was ordained as the first Deacon of Filipino ancestry for the Roman Catholic Church in Hawai’i. For twenty-two years, he served as Administrator at Holy Rosary Church in Pā’ia, St. Rita Church in Ha’ikū and St. Gabriel Church in Ke’ānae. Constantino is presently assigned to St. Joseph Church in Makawao.
Prior to his ordination, Con-

stantino was in government—first appointed in 1966 as Assistant Sergeant of Arms by the Speaker of the House Elmer F. Cravalho. When Cravalho became Maui’s first Mayor, Constantino became his Executive Assistant—the first of Filipino ancestry. Later, Constantino became the first County Treasurer of Filipino ancestry and the first County Grants Administrator and Risk Manager of Filipino ancestry.



Sakada Offspring | from p. 17

rub it on our lips to use as lipstick. He would wake up early every day, boil his eggs and have coffee for breakfast. Then he put on ‘Body by Janis’ exercise and his Budweiser would be on the table ready for an after-exercise drink.”
Joann, the oldest of the Cachola siblings, discusses her Dad’s legacy. “My Dad lived a simple life. He never forgot where he came from. He left his family and came to Hawai’i on a boat with his youngest brother, Roman. Uncle Roman lived a couple of

streets over. So, we would go over often to play with the cousins. My Dad was a humble man. He lived his life to the fullest with Budweiser beer and a shot of gin or whiskey. What I cherish the most is learning life skills from him, learning to eat what was grown in the backyard, how to prepare and cook livestock using everything from it. I love my Filipino food, especially the authentic dishes that I’m sure not too many are familiar with. If you were to put a pig, chicken, rabbit or fish in front of me, I would have the

confidence to know how to slaughter it, remove its hair, feather, fur or scales, cut it open, remove the insides and put it on the side to cook later. We Filipinos don’t waste and cook everything. After slaughtering fresh livestock, it’s the best time to cook fresh soup. With fresh pig, my Dad

the skin, tendons and all its gelatinous parts. We also ate fruits and vegetables grown in the backyard. Fruits like *guabana*, *atis*, *pias* and vegetables like *tarong* (eggplant), *marunggay* and *kamote* (sweet potato). My daughter and her cousins have grown to love eating these authentic dishes as well. Also, back in those days, there were no catering businesses. So, early on a Saturday morning, my Dad and my uncles would gather at our house to prepare to kill a pig and cook the famous foods you would now find at Filipino restaurants. Those foods included *dinardaraan*, pork and peas, *igado* and *tempura* pork bone. And let’s not forget the *pancit*. It was an all-day event. Then the food would be delivered to the old Pu’unēnē Clubhouse for the party. Although my Dad left his country at a young age, what he learned from his ancestors has been passed onto the next generation. That’s us. He made sacrifices so he could live a better life and for his family. With that, I have learned to never forget where you came from and to embrace your culture.




Catalino and Veronica Cachola

used to cook what we called *warek-warek*. Cut pork and fat, liver and intestines. What gives its flavor is the bile. This is the bitter juice extracted by the liver and stored in the gallbladder to aid digestion. A favorite authentic dish of mine is the *pinapaitan* which comes from either cow or goat. Again you use the bile to give it a wonderful flavor, adding tripe, intestines and any other innards you want. My Dad also taught us to eat *kilawen*, anything raw with his special sauce *suka* and *sili*—Hawaiian chili pepper. I always look forward to eating *kilawen*, especially fresh cut beef and liver soaking in *suka* (vinegar). Another dish was *sapsapuriket*, fresh chicken cooked with its blood, gizzards, liver and clusters of young eggs. It’s the same flavor as chicken papaya with added goodness to it. We also ate *kuraikai*—chicken feet. Some people ask what do you get from eating it? For me, it’s just fun eating

For that, I hold dear to my heart.” ✨
Lucy Peros is a retired schoolteacher, having taught at St. Anthony Grade School and Waihe’e Elementary School. Both of her late 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 Senior Center and joins other Waihe’e School retirees when help is needed at the school. Lucy also devotes some of her time to activities at Christ The King Catholic Church. She enjoys writing and reading in her spare time.



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Mothers' Day—"Da Mix Plate Roles" In Various Stages of Our Lives

Liza A Pierce of "A Maui Blog"

Thinking about the upcoming Mother's Day made me reflect on the various stages of motherhood I went through. Some stages overlapped but each has its own challenges and joy. As you read these motherhood stages reflections, I encourage you to think of a mother you can encourage and express your love and appreciation this coming Mother's Day.

Mom to Be and A New Mom

As I was going through my journals this morning, I saw the "journal gift" given to me during the Baby Shower of our first-born son. It is basically a compilation of tips, advice and encouragement from those who attended my baby shower. Being a first-time mom is so exciting but it can also be a time of doubt and second guessing. This book was a precious gift. I wish I could share every tip here with you but since I can't, I picked this one thoughtful advice coupled with a poem. Janis my friend wrote: "Enjoy precious moment, and if things seem to pile up, remember:

*Quiet down cobwebs,
Dust go to sleep
I'm rocking my baby,
And babies don't keep"*

Mom of Young Children and Working Mom

When my kids were younger, I wanted to stay at home and be with them in their formative years. Living on Maui, however, with a high cost of living, meant I needed to work full time outside of home. I so very much appreciate all the help from other moms along the way.

"The days are long and the years are short." This is a famous quote by Gretchen Rubin that resonated with me. When times were tough during these formative years, I kept on reminding myself of this quote. By the grace of God, even though I was tired, I remember these good old days as filled with laughter, joy and happiness. I truly love being a mom.

Sandwich Generation - Having a Mom and Being a Mom

What is a Sandwich Generation? According to Merriam-Webster, it is a generation of people who are caring for their aging parents while supporting their own children. It's a tradition sort of... it's a family value... this taking care of your parents when they are older. I only truly experienced the "sandwich generation" stage when my parents stayed with us for six months while my children were in elementary school. At that time, my Mom's memory was al-

ready deteriorating. Balancing my time between taking care of my Mom and my young children was not easy but it was all worth it.

Empty Nesters - Mother of Young Adults

The truth is we mothers never stop being a mom who deeply cares about our children's well-being, no matter what age they are, or whether they are still living in our house or living on their own. It does not matter if they are near or far. Now that my kids are both young adults, however, the way we interact is quite different from when they were young. Yes, I miss having them at home but I am also proud of them being independent, on their own. I am still at this stage right now and savoring each day and the days we get to spend time together when they are home for a visit or vacation.

Dog Mom ... and Cat Mom Too

Our dear family dog Sonny passed away this month. He crossed the rainbow bridge as others would say. There are many women nowadays who do not have kids but are moms to their dogs and cats. I wasn't by nature a dog and cat lover but I grew into it, and I am thankful.

In the End ...

Although there are various stages and seasons of motherhood, a mother's heart and mind will always be with each one of our children for the rest of our lives. Happy Mother's Day to all of you moms reading this column. May you be pampered on this special day dedicated for you—for us moms. ✨

Liza Pierce of A Maui Blog is an Interactive Media enthusiast. She started blogging in 2006 and she loves talking story online and spreading aloha around the world. She's been living on Maui since 1994 and considers Maui her home. A wife, a mother, a friend and so much more. She loves Jesus; Maui Sunsets Catcher; Crazy About Rainbow; End Alzheimer's Advocate. Her life is full and exciting here on the island of Maui. Liza is currently the Digital Media Specialist with Hawai'i Life Real Estate Brokers. She is the author of the book Maui 2021 and Beyond.



Left: New mom

Right: Liza praying for her kids daily



Left: Liza with her nanay and tatay along with her kids



Above: Liza with her nanay

Left: Liza with her kids, 10,023 ft. above sea level up Haleakalā

Happy Mother's Day to all our Moms



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gil **KEITH-
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SENATE 