



**Filipino Nurses Impact**  
Our community is greatly benefited.

See below



**Freedom is Not Free**  
Reflection on the upcoming Memorial Day celebration.

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## Maui's 53rd Barrio Fiesta

Use our special *special handy tool*, Schedule of Events Program on **Page 11**. Cut it out for use during **Fri.–Sat., May 27–28** at Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center in Kahului



# FilAm Voice

Magkaisa Tayong Lahat | “Let Us All Unite”

May 2022 • Vol 6 No5 | **FILIPINO AMERICAN VOICE • UPLIFTING OUR COMMUNITY** | **FREE**

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Keynote speaking for graduations. Content is important!  
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College for the medical field a difficult challenge  
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Divine Mercy Image: Confession and Communion is key.  
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## It's Time for A Fiesta

*53rd Annual Barrio Fiesta goes LIVE!*

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



Dedicated to the late  
**Agrifina Cabebe**



## Celebrating and Recognizing Nurses

Alfredo G. Evangelista, ASSISTANT EDITOR AND Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, CONTRIBUTING WRITER

**A**lmost every Filipino family has someone working as a nurse or studying to be a nurse or knows a Filipino nurse. Nursing remains as much a calling as a profession. The American Nurses Association theme this year for National Nurses Week is “Nurses Make a Difference” while our neighbors up north, the Canadian Nurses Association are using “We Answer The Call.” Both themes capture the key role nurses play in our health care system, something illustrated daily during this pandemic.

National Nurses Week is now an entire month. Traditionally, it ran from May 6 through May 12, ending on the birthdate of Florence Nightingale, the “Founder of

see **NURSES** p.4



PNAMHI Members flank incoming president Angelina Saiki, outgoing president Christina Porte, incoming president elect Jeny Bissell and incoming vice president Monica Nativida. Standing (from left), Genevieve Magaoay, Member; Angelina 'Angie' Saiki, 2022-2024 President; Sofia Cabilas, Associate Member; Christina 'Lucy' Porte, 2022-2024 Auditor (2019-2022 President); Mila Lampitoc, Associate Member; Marceliza Luwalhati, Member. Kneeling (from left) Monica Natividad, 2022-2024 Vice President; Mary Jane Asayo-Paet, 2022-2024 Asst. Treasurer; Dione Cabilas, Associate Member; Jeny Bissell, 2022-2024 President Elect.

PHOTO COURTESY PNAMHI

**FREE**



In the Philippines, the month of May is Fiesta time. And on Maui, the Barrio Fiesta will be held for the 53rd consecutive year. The 53rd Annual Barrio Fiesta will be held live on Friday, May 27 (5 p.m. to 10 p.m.) and Saturday, May 28 (10 a.m. to 10 p.m.) at the Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center in Kahului (across Maui Waena), according to Melen Agcolicol, president of Binhi at Ani, the coordinating organization. Portions of the Barrio Fiesta will be virtually re-broadcast on Binhi at Ani's Facebook page on June 11 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., thanks to the media students at Maui Waena under the direction of Jennifer Suzuki Felipe.

According to Agcolicol, the Barrio Fiesta was initiated by the Maui Filipino Community Council and first held on May 31, 1970 at the War Memorial grounds near the swimming pool. At that time, there was an influx of recent immigrants from the Philippines which caused many problems, especially in the schools. The initial

purpose of the Barrio Fiesta was to share the Filipino culture with the rest of Maui County and to also instill a sense of pride in local Filipinos of the rich culture of their motherland. Today, the need to share the Filipino culture with all of Maui's residents remains true as Maui's Filipino community continues to grow by leaps and bounds.

The 53rd Annual Barrio Fiesta is being dedicated in memory of the late Agrifina "Aggie" Cabebe, the Chairperson of the first Barrio Fiesta in 1970. Cabebe, also known as the "Mother of Filipino Folk Dance on Maui," passed away in December 2020. "Binhi at Ani is forever indebted to Mrs. Cabebe," said Agcolicol. "Mrs. Cabebe was the first president of Binhi at Ani back in 1985 when it was incorporated. Her contributions to Binhi at Ani and Maui's Filipino community will never be matched and it's fitting Binhi at Ani dedicates this Barrio Fiesta—the first live one in two years—in her memory." Cabebe's family will be in attendance

throughout the Barrio Fiesta.

Food, culture, pageantry, contests, and special events will be featured during the 53rd Annual Barrio Fiesta. Traditional Filipino food such as banana lumpia, cascaron, chicharron, dinuguan, empanada, gulaman, 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 will be offered.

Food and business vendors include Binhi at Ani, Humana; Maria Lanakila Filipino Catholic Club, Maui Filipino Community Council; Millennium Express; Ria Remittance; Grace Sales, Realtor; Sto. Nino Club of Maui; Travelicious; US Renal Care; and World Remit.

Philippine cultural entertainment will be provided by Dance International Production (Friday at 7:30 p.m.), Sheraton Hotel (Saturday at 7:45 p.m.), Sto. Nino Organization of

Maui (Friday at 8:15 p.m.), Students of Aggie Cabebe (Saturday at 6:30 p.m.), Kā'anapali Beach Hotel (Saturday at 7:30 p.m.), Amante Sarmiento (Saturday at 7:50 p.m.), and La Galería: Compañía Baile Filipino (Saturday at 9 p.m.).

Each night, Zumba will close the program. Eva and Friends will lead the Zumba on Friday night at 9:30 p.m. while NRELS will lead the Zumba on Saturday night at 9:30 p.m.

Inside the Center, there will be a replica of a Bahay Kubo created by the Bahay Kubo Heritage Foundation. Projected on stage will be photos of past Barrio Fiestas. Cultural villages depicting several provinces/regions of the Philippines will also be featured: Cebu created by Sto. Niño Organization of Maui; Cordillera created by Sabado Art Foundation; Ilocos Norte created by Julie Agcolicol Cruz; Metro Manila created by Law Offices of Alfredo Evangelista, A Limited Liability Law Company; Mindanao created by La

see FIESTA p.8

## Enter for a chance to win a Monarch Butterfly Kit and raise your own butterfly!

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– Richard Bissen

To all Kama'aina/Residente supporting the Bissen Movement through your time, talents and financial donations, we extend a warm mahalo. Bissen is grateful for the overwhelming generosity of all the hard working individuals across all sectors and political affiliations who have already donated.

Bissen offers Maui, Molokai and Lanai residents a fresh, balanced non-political leadership style with 34 years of proven community service experience. "All people of Maui County want to be heard, respected and part of the decision making process that will affect our entire community." –Richard Bissen.

The more the community interacts the better the outcome. "Bissen Listens" a bi-weekly FB series, demonstrates a willingness to dig-in and share with our kama'aina/residents, learn from experts in their respected fields, extend outreach, and visit areas throughout Maui, Molokai and Lanai. Residents are encouraged to share their mana'o because Bissen believes each island has its own unique issues and responses.

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## From the Editor's Desk

Vince Bagoyo, Jr.  
EDITOR • FIL-AM VOICE



## We remember ... We honor ...

Historians remind us all the Civil War which ended in 1865 claimed more lives than any conflict in U.S. history and required the establishment of the first national cemetery. Citizens then began holding tributes to these countless fallen soldiers, decorating their graves with flowers and gathering for prayers. Originally called "Decoration Day," the nationwide observation was changed to "Memorial Day" by an act of Congress, which became effective in 1971.

Over the years communities across the nation host a variety of activities to commemorate the tradition of honoring the valor of soldiers who willingly fought for our freedom, many making the ultimate sacrifice. Now, on the last Monday of May, a national holiday brings people together for parades including military personnel and artillery, local bands and crowds lining parade routes, ending with picnics at the parade site

or backyards with grills and the aroma of delicious treats wafting where the wind goes.

An incredibly special day, it gives us all some time to remember, mourn and honor those who made it possible for us to enjoy the freedoms everyone deserves. As amplified in the Holy Bible in John 15:13, "*There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends.*" For many, Memorial Day is very personal because of the loved ones lost in their unselfish service to our country. We owe these fallen soldiers a debt we can never repay, as is known in our native language, *utang na loob*.

As we visit the graves at the veteran cemeteries, display American flags at our homes and have a barbecue with our families and friends at our favorite beach or someone's backyard, let us all take a moment to offer genuine prayers to remember and honor all who have sacrificed for us. Perhaps the

see FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK p. 6



Christina "Lucy" Porte is the inaugural president of PNAH.

PHOTO COURTESY PNAH



Angelina "Angie" Saiki will be installed as PNAH's next president on May 29.

PHOTO COURTESY PNAH

## Nurses ...

from p. 1

Modern Nursing."

Maui is fortunate to have an active chapter of the 43-year-old Philippine Nurses Association of America, Inc. (PNA), whose President's message this month is "You Make a Difference."

Organized and installed in May 2019—several months before the pandemic outbreak—the mission of the Philippine Nurses Association Maui Hawaii (PNAH) is to "uplift the positive image of the Filipino as a nurse; uphold the social welfare of its constituent members; promote and support professional excellence through education and community involvement; and contribute to significant outcomes for healthcare and society," according to Christina "Lucy" Porte, the inaugural president of PNAH. The Maui Chapter became one of 55 chapters of the PNA, which represents over 5,000 mem-

bers nationwide.

On May 29, Angelina "Angie" Saiki will be installed as PNAH's next president at a Gala Night dinner at the Maui Beach Hotel, along with the rest of the PNAH Board of Directors: Jeny Bissell, President-elect; Monica Natividad, Vice President; Veronica Sagun, Secretary; Aileen Concepcion, Assistant Secretary; Jeanylyn Onnagan, Treasurer; Mary Jane Asayo-Paet, Assistant Treasurer; Christina "Lucy" Porte, Auditor; and Directors Erwyn Bala, Rowena "Nikki" Baysa, Christine Gumpal, Rose Tumacder and Mary Jean Guira.

In just three years PNAH made significant contributions to Maui, including participating in the American Cancer Society Relay for Life; Maui Fil-Am Heritage Festival Health Fair; Christ the King Church Health and Wellness program; Christ the King Church Annual Bazaar First Aid Station; the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church Ka 'O'hana Kitchen and Binhi at Ani's Bayanihan Feeding Program. PNAH also supported Binhi at



PNAMH members passing out masks during the first Binhi At Ani-coordinated Bayanihan Food Distribution.

PHOTO: BASILIA EVANGELISTA



PNAMH members lobby State Representative Troy Hashimoto, State Senator Gil Keith-Agaran and State Representative Justin Woodson.

PHOTO: BASILIA EVANGELISTA



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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.



PNAMHi at one of the Bakuna at Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center clinics.  
PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA

Ani's monthly Bayanihan Food Distribution from its inception in May 2020. PNAMHi also played a significant role with testing and vaccination clinics at Wailea Pharmacy, Paw, Mauiola Pharmacy, Department of Health, St. Theresa Roman Catholic Church, University of Hawai'i Maui College and Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center.

PNAMHi was also in the trenches fighting COVID-19 misinformation in the Filipino community.

"The members of PNAMHi have been instrumental in our Health & Wellness Program," said Melen Agcolicol, president of Binhi at Ani. "Our Bayanihan Food Distribution, our Bayanihan Feeding Program and our Bakuna at Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center needed support from the nurses and they have consistently

supported Binhi, along with many other volunteers from our community."

"I can't change the world but I can make a difference in someone's life," explains Marceliza "Marcie" Luwalhati, a member of PNAMHi. Public Health nurse Jeny Bissell, who has been a nurse for thirty-four years, looks back at her career and says "It's been a great journey, I met wonderful people in their darkest and brightest moments. I want to think I made a difference in someone's life and I left them in a much better place."

Bissell admits nursing was not her first career choice. "I wanted to be an accountant but I had a change of heart in college after a boring and uninspiring economics professor," she explains. Similarly, Luwalhati wanted to be a psychologist but her family did not have the financial means to sup-



PNAMHi with State Representatives Kyle Yamashita and Sylvia Luke.  
PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA

port her.

Other members (Sofia Cabias, Dione Cabias, Angelina Saiki) say it was the white uniform and cap that attracted them. Today, the uniform is more practical—scrubs in multiple colors. (Even the nursing students at UH Maui College have different color scrubs for each year: teal for the first-year students and burgundy for the second-year students.)

Sofia Cabias and other nurses came to the United States to seek a better life. The 1965 Immigration act opened the doors for family reunification and professionals like nurses to immigrate to the United States. Nurses educated and trained in foreign countries such as the Philippines, however, still had to pass a written exam to practice.

By the mid-1980s, Hawai'i was experiencing a severe nursing shortage

and statistics predicted Hawai'i's aging population would continue to rapidly increase. Then State Representative Romy Cachola introduced House Bill 2330 in 1988 wherein the Legislature determined *[T]here is a need for a program which would immediately increase the number of licensed nurses in the State. There are many graduate nurses in Hawaii working as licensed practical nurses, nurses aids, ward clerks, doctor's secretaries, and other similar nursing related work, who have not yet passed the written examination required for the commission on graduates of foreign nursing schools, or the written examination required by the state board of nursing, or both. The time demands of their occupation and other socioeconomic pressures prevent them from otherwise being able to pre-*

see NURSES next page



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At a Bayanihan Food Distribution  
PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA



Members of the PNAME assist at the Bayanihan Feeding Program with Binhi at Ani president Melen Agcolicol.  
PHOTO COURTESY PNAME



Mayor and Mrs. Victorino pose with members of PNAME.  
PHOTO: BASILIA EVANGELISTA



Nursing students and faculty with State Representatives Kyle Yamashita and Sylvia Luke during one of the Bakuna at Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center clinics.  
PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA

## Nurses ...

from p. 5

pare adequately for the licensing examinations. With some concerted assistance from the private sector and the State, these graduate nurses may be able to pass the written examination and become licensed nurses.

HB 2330 was signed into law by then Governor John Waihe'e as Act 212, establishing a two-year pilot program called "Operation Nightingale" to design a review and training course to enable graduates of nursing schools to pass the required written examination. Operation Nightingale was later extended for another two years.

Bissell estimates about 75 percent of the Maui chapter members received training in the Philippines.

The pandemic exposed the continuing need for more nurses. Although UH Maui College offers a two-year Associate Science degree (ASN) which attracts approximately 150 applicants,

UH Maui College can only accept about 40 students due to the lack of faculty and the current budget. A significant number of the applicants and students are of Filipino ancestry.

"The nursing students at UH Maui College are doing well despite COVID," said Assistant Professor Feliciano "Fely" Domingo Sales. "With COVID, we changed a lot of the teaching methods and many of our clinical partners closed their doors. We did a lot of simulation and initially we were worried at the lack of hands-on-clinicals but we were happy with the results of the high passing rates of the NCLEX exam." Sales, who was born in Hawai'i, received her Bachelor of Science from

Northwestern College in the Philippines and has been teaching at the UH Maui College Nursing school for over fifteen years, where she is the only faculty member of Filipino ancestry.

Sales' story is typical of the obstacles faced by foreign educated nurses. When she returned to Hawai'i in 1996, she could not practice right away and had to start as a nurse aid while successfully proving her BSN from the Philippines was equivalent to a BSN in the United States. Sales initially took the LPN exam and passed and then took the RN exam and passed. She worked at

Hale Makua for nine years and became the Charge Nurse. While working at Hale Makua, Sales received her Masters from the University of Phoenix.

Like Sales, many other nurses continued their education while working full-time. Monica Elaydo Natividad, the first Registered Nurse First Assistant of Filipino ancestry at Maui Memorial Hospital, achieved her BSN at Chamberlain University while working full-time. Sannah Kelly Evangelista, who started at Hale Makua, transferred to Maui Memorial Hospital and is now at Kaiser, recently completed her BSN through online courses at Colorado Technical University. Both Natividad and Evangelista are beneficiaries of the Ben Hudnall Memorial Trust.

The sheer determination of Sales and other nurses to excel, achieve and improve themselves despite the challenges are classic American dream stories. And they have not gone unrecognized, especially by the doctors.



Assistant Professor Feliciano "Fely" Domingo Sales  
PHOTO: ALFREDO EVANGELISTA

"Each year during the week of May 6-12, we recognize the incredible individuals who work in the nursing profession for National Nurses Week. This year is even more remarkable as we emerge out of the devastating COVID pandemic," said Dr. Errol Buntuyan, the Physician in Charge of Kaiser Maui's Primary Care. "Nurses have endured an overwhelming amount of risk, work and sacrifice to care for our island community. At Kaiser on Maui, our nurses COVID tested and vaccinated countless numbers of patients, fielded tens of thousands of advice calls and e-mails, and provided direct patient care and supported their physician partners in the ambulatory clinics and MHS facilities."

Buntuyan, who is also the president of the Philippine Association of Maui Doctors, says it best: "We are extremely grateful for our nurses as they continue to provide compassionate, kind and thoughtful care to all their patients. We appreciate and celebrate

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## From the Editor's Desk

| Cont'd from p. 4

most meaningful way to honor our fallen heroes is to respect and extend love to our fellow human beings. Let us find many ways to help others, to be willing to reach beyond in kindness to the many less fortunate.

The ravages of war always results in pain and suffering for the people whose lives are endangered. Let us make a conscientious effort to pray for the refugees around the world and when possible, send them goods, services and funds for their needs in desperate

times. As every soldier knows, freedom is not free and all people who want freedom of choice must fight for it, too. In a world that yearns for peace, let us help each other to be at peace within our hearts in our daily sharing and caring for each other.

Never forgotten ... We Honor and We Remember ... ✨

Vince Bagoyo

VINCE BAGOYO, JR. | EDITOR

I still dread providing keynote remarks at large gatherings.

I've heard great speakers—the semi-professional toastmaster-trained ones who seem to enjoy being up at the podium and move seamlessly from one thought to another. I have to work at it and I usually prefer speaking from a script rather than notes.

I actually look at people's faces while I'm talking and I note their reactions as I'm speaking.

This is a special year after two years in this pandemic world—graduations will include large gatherings, and, after further review, lei can be given by family and friends to the Class of 2022.

Commencement speakers are expected to provide parting words of wisdom and encouragement. I previously provided some remarks to University of Hawai'i Maui College graduates and some of it remains applicable to this year's high school graduates.



*You, and your friends and loved ones, have good reason to be proud today. When you come up and receive a token of the degree you've earned, you are marking both an end and a beginning.*

*And tonight you can start a new tradition as you come up to collect your diploma—give your principal or Board of Education member Kili Nama'u a tip. One or two bucks to show your appreciation for a job well done, and at a reasonable price.*

*Some of your parents or grandparents may remember when the little towns of Kahului, Waihe'e, and Waikapū straddled the biggest towns on Maui—Pā'ia and Pu'unēnē and Wailuku, and the sugar mills anchoring the large sugar plantations ringed and filled our central valley.*

*Sugar operations have now ended so we're in a time of change. In the six years since HC&S's final cane harvest, Maui's landscape has changed noticeably—Pu'unēnē Mill's stacks no longer billow smoke into the air and Mahi Pono's citrus orchards are well on their way along Kuihelani Highway and you can see rows of vegetables planted on their inner fields and livestock on now rolling pastures on its eastern holdings. Here and there, ratoon sugar stalks go un-*



**Gil Keith-Agaran with niece Gee Bumanglag Luna** at her UH Maui College graduation following his commencement address in 2013.



**Keith-Agaran delivers remarks** at the UH Maui College commencement in 2017.

tended.

*What you know is only what you've experienced growing up over the last two decades and especially during the age of COVID.*

*If you grew up on Maui over the last twenty years, your cultural touchstones—the common experiences that show you live here—are different from those of my parents and probably myself and my high school classmates.*

# DINENGDENG & PINAKBET

## Delivering the Keynote Address

Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran | PHOTOS COURTESY KEITH-AGARAN

*Here's a somewhat updated cultural list from what I provided four years ago for you to consider—you can ask your parents or your older friends about them later if you don't get them:*

1. *You have never been asked if you wanted beans with your guri guri (and the shop has always been at Maui Mall).*
2. *When held, your Maui Fairs (not Maui County Fairs) have always been at the War Memorial sports complex while your Barrio Fiestas have been at Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center.*
3. *NASKA has always been called Kanahā.*
4. *Your UH football team has always been known as Warriors rather than Rainbows.*
5. *The Maui News has always been mail delivered rather than dropped off by the paper boy or girl.*
6. *If you live in Central Maui, shopping for groceries means Safeway, Foodland, Tamura's or Costco rather than Noda's, Ah Fook's or Ooka's.*
7. *The upcountry high schools have always been King Kekaulike, Seabury Hall or Kamehameha Schools Maui rather than Maui High.*
8. *Seabury Hall has always had male as well as female students.*
9. *You have always had the choice of flying directly to the west coast from Kahului Airport without a Honolulu connection.*
10. *Our largest concert venue has always been the Maui Arts & Cultural Center rather than the Lahaina Tennis Stadium.*
11. *Krispy Kreme or Maui Specialty Chocolates are what you take as omiyage rather than Shishido manju or Komoda pastries.*
12. *Kaho'olawe or Kanaloa has been a cultural reserve and not a bombing range.*
13. *Hawaiian immersion education has always been a choice for you.*

*What this means is what you take for granted today as normal is subject to change.*

*The real world is life as you live it. And tonight marks a turning point for you.*

*So here are a few simple suggestions.*

*Live in the now.*

*One of the biggest difference in ex-*

**see KEYNOTE on next page**



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# Fiesta ...

from p. 2

Galería: Compañía Baile Filipino; and Pangasinan created by the Siores Family. The best cultural village will receive a \$500 prize. Cultural villages will be graded on culture, originality, presentation and interactivity.

Vying for the title of Miss Barrio Fiesta are Angel Alba, Audryanah Latayada Starmer and Kyara Tumacder. Alba of Kahului is the daughter of Pablito and Normalita Alba. Alba is an eighth grader at Maui Waena.



Angel Alba



Audryanah Starmer



Kyara Tumacder

Starmer of Wailuku is the daughter of Danford Starmer and Annabelle Latayada Jackson. Starmer is a freshman at Maui High School. Tumacder

of Wailuku is the daughter of Jerald and Heidi Tumacder. Tumacder is a junior at Maui High School. Kyhle Marie Simon, Miss Barrio Fiesta 2019

will assist Mayor Michael Victorino in crowning the new Miss Barrio Fiesta on Friday at 7 p.m.

Former Miss Barrio Fiestas and Little Miss Barrio Fiestas will participate in The Santa Cruzan depicting the finding of the Holy Cross by Queen Helena. As of press time, those expected to participate are Shirley Evangelista, Miss Barrio Fiesta 1970; Concepcion Jaramillo, Miss Barrio Fiesta 1971; Tina Castro, Miss Barrio Fiesta 1976; Nora Cabanilla, Miss Barrio Fiesta 1977, Myrna Baggao, Miss Barrio Fiesta 1978; Ernalín Corpuz, Miss Barrio Fiesta 1979; and

see FIESTA p.17

# Keynote ...

from p. 7

Expectations between my parents' generation and mine is that they hoped, and planned, and even expected to find work in one company and spend most of their careers in that same company or field. My dad, for example, worked for over forty years for HC&S as a sugar irrigator. He tended fields outside Pā'ia that spread towards Baldwin Park for many years.

You're entering an even more challenging and connected world that's dynamic and quickly shifting. So be flexible.

You should be open to opportunities and challenges because change will come even if you're not ready. Life happens.

Take risks.

Or as we used to say in Pā'ia, chance 'em.

Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

Use what you've learned.

Be optimistic.

But keep in mind that you're not and never should be defined by your level of education, or your credentials, or a title, or how much or how little money you're paid. Your education doesn't stop after high school. Your

true education starts today.

You'll find you can pick up something new every day and none of your education will help you if you don't chance 'em when you have a learning opportunity.

But if you need directions, ask someone. We don't get where we are without the support and guidance of other people.

Let me leave you with some notes of caution.

Another cultural touchstone is that Magnum P.I. is the longest running television show filmed locally, and it's not about Filipino guns.

Some of you older students and perhaps people on this stage may know that in my small kid time there

was another Magnum P.I. that ran even longer than the current show. Different actors but the same setting—sun, surf, beautiful landscapes, some humor and a lot of crime.

While the world has become closer in many ways through globalization,

much of the country and the world still views Hawai'i as an exotic place, a paradise. And people come to Hawai'i with romanticized notions about our lifestyle and our people.

**“At your age, I was confident I knew more than my parents and their generation, and in certain terms, I maybe did. ... However, looking back, I did not know better. So try and be better. Be pono even if no one else is.”**

— GIL S.C. KEITH-AGARAN

their generation, and in certain terms, I maybe did. It's much the same way that my nephews and nieces intuitively know how to use my iPhone better than me.

However, looking back, I did not know better. So try and be better. Be

pono even if no one else is.

And whenever you can, put your phone down, and have real conversations with real people. New York Times columnist David Brooks wrote a book around the distinction between the resume virtues and the eulogy virtues. As he describes them, “the resume virtues are the ones you bring to the marketplace that make you good at your job. The eulogy virtues are the moral virtues. They are the things they say about you after you are dead—whether you are honest or brave or caring or capable of great love.” Brooks argues that “we all know that the eulogy virtues are more important than the resume virtues, but we live in a society that puts a lot more emphasis on how to build skills than how to build character.” In short, he observed, “a lot of us are clearer on how to be successful than on how to be virtuous.”

Your sense of self is based on your character. In my own religious tradition, we refer to this notion as the golden rule: do unto others as you would have them do unto you. When I was growing up, Maui was a great place to live, work, play and raise a family. I came home after college because I believed that. I still do.

So I hope you know that whether you intend to or not, you can play a role in determining whether Maui Nui remains Nō Ka 'Oī.

But try doing it with some humility and compassion.

Celebrate and share your humanity and your distinctiveness. You're Americans. Or not. Native Hawaiian. Perhaps Hawai'i-born Filipino, or immigrant. Japanese. Chinese. Korean. Some other Asian. Haole. Or hapa.

You are sons and daughters. Brothers and sisters. Mothers and fathers. Friends and lovers. Never forget those blessings.

As you collect your degrees tonight, think about living in community. We live on an island. We are island people. And we are counting on you to keep Maui nō ka 'oi.

Mahalo and best wishes for all your challenging tomorrows. ✨

**Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran**



provided the Commencement Address at the University of Hawai'i Maui College graduation ceremonies in 2013 and 2017.



HAPPY  
MOTHER'S  
DAY

FROM MIKE & CIELO  
MOLINA AND OHANA



Paid for by the Friends of Mike Molina P O Box 1303 Makawao, HI 96768



# 53rd **BARRIO** Annual **FIESTA**

**FRI May 27**  
5-10PM

**SAT May 28**  
10AM-10PM

**BINHI AT ANI**

780 Onehe'e Avenue



**Filipino Community Center**

Kahului, Maui, Hawai'i



The 53rd Annual Barrio Fiesta is dedicated in memory of the late Agrifina "Aggie" Cabebe

**Culture**

**Entertainment**

**Exciting Contests with Prizes Up to \$500!**

**Ono Food**

**Outstanding Housekeeping Awards**

**Pageantry**

**Veterans Memorial Service**

**And more!**



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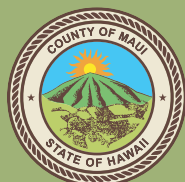
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OFFICE OF  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT

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Strengthening our community  
Protecting our resources

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For information call (808) 242-8100 | [www.facebook.com/BinhiatAniFilipinoCommunityCenter](http://www.facebook.com/BinhiatAniFilipinoCommunityCenter) | #barriofiestamaui



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



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

# COMMUNITY... IN ACTION

Compiled by Assistant Editor Alfredo G. Evangelista.  
Send your community briefs to [info@filamvoice.com](mailto:info@filamvoice.com).

## 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

Binhi at Ani will be selling a pork adobo plate for \$15 and six cascaron balls and

five lumpia for \$10.

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

## #BayanihanFeeding Program

The program provides a Sunday lunch to Hale Mahaolu Residents in Central Maui. As of April 30, a total of 7,182 meals were delivered. There is a need for additional teams of volunteers to prepare the free lunches. The teams serving during the month of June are Binhi at Ani, Friends of Michael Victorino, Maui Filipino Community Council, Miss Maui USA, and

Philippine Nurses Association Maui Hawai'i.

Create a Team by signing up: <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](mailto:guzman.chelsea.i@gmail.com) or Sheena Marie Garo, co-chairperson at [sheena.garo@gmail.com](mailto: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 Onehe'e Avenue, Kahului, HI 96732 [Memo: Feeding Program].

**Enhance® Fitness at Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center** will begin in early July.

Classes will be held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 7 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Enhance® Fitness is a low-cost ongoing evidence-based group exercise and falls prevention program that helps older adults at all levels of fitness become more active, energized and empowered to sustain independent lives. Enhance® Fitness is a great way to stay independent or get stronger after illness or surgery. Helps improve energy, strength and balance as you age. For more information on En-

hance® Fitness, contact Enhance® Fitness Coordinator Ginny Kiick (808) 280-6251 or [gkiick@hotmail.com](mailto:gkiick@hotmail.com) or Wellness Coordinator Claudette Medeiros (808) 463-3166 or [claudette.b.medeiros@co.maui.hi.us](mailto:claudette.b.medeiros@co.maui.hi.us).

**The Seed and Harvest Dinner** honoring the 2022 Scholarship Recipients will be held on July 2 at Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center. Seating limited to 250. Cost of \$40 for Prime Rib Dinner. The twenty-three 2022 Binhi at Ani Scholars (who will each receive \$1,000 except for the top scholar who will receive \$2,000) will be announced in June. Mahalo to our Scholarship Partners: Friends of Gil Keith-Agaran, Vince & Jennifer Bagoyo & family, Bayer Crop Science Hawai'i, In Memory of Rev. Walter Baloaloe, In Memory of Gloria Evangelista Cajigal, In Memory of Mariano Domingo, Emerald Club Realty, McDonalds of Kahului, Maui Island Cozy Dental and US Renal Care.

**Summer at Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center** will begin during the last week of June (Monday, June 27) and end with a "Presentation Night" the last week of July (Wednesday, July 27 at 5 p.m.). The purpose of the Summer at Binhi at Ani program is to provide activities for youth during the summer (with one exception as noted below). The confirmed activities with the date and times are: Mondays




# BARRIO FIESTA

**2022**


**Fundraising \$15**

**Pork Adobo & Rice Plate w/ soda or water**

Pick-up: Friday, May 27, 2022--5 pm to 9 pm  
Saturday, May 28, 2022--10 am to 8 pm  
Binhi At Ani Filipino Community Center



# ENHANCE® FITNESS



# BARRIO FIESTA

**2022**

**Fundraising \$10**

**6 Cascarón Balls & 5 Banana Lumpia**

Pick-up: Friday, May 27, 2022--5 pm to 9 pm  
Saturday, May 28, 2022--10 am to 8 pm  
Binhi At Ani Filipino Community Center



New Summer programs begin in June at the Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center

from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. - Voice Lessons. Taught by Angelina Abapo.

Mondays from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. - BINGO for Seniors.

Tuesdays from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. - Social Dance for High School Seniors and older. Taught by Jeffrey and Lydia Dela Cruz.

Wednesdays from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. - Philippine Cultural Dance. Taught by Made-lyne Pascua.

Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. - Escrima. Taught by Madelyne Pascua.

Thursdays from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. - Art classes for youth. Taught by Philip Sabado.

All classes are FREE. Pre-regis- tration to binhiatani@gmail.com.

**MAUI COUNCIL OF FILIPINO CATHOLIC CLUBS**

consisting of Christ the King Filipino Catholic Club, Maria Lanaki- la Filipino Catholic Club, St. Anthony Fil- ipino Catholic Club, St. Joseph Filipino Catholic Club and St. Theresa Filipino Catholic Club will celebrate 500 Years of

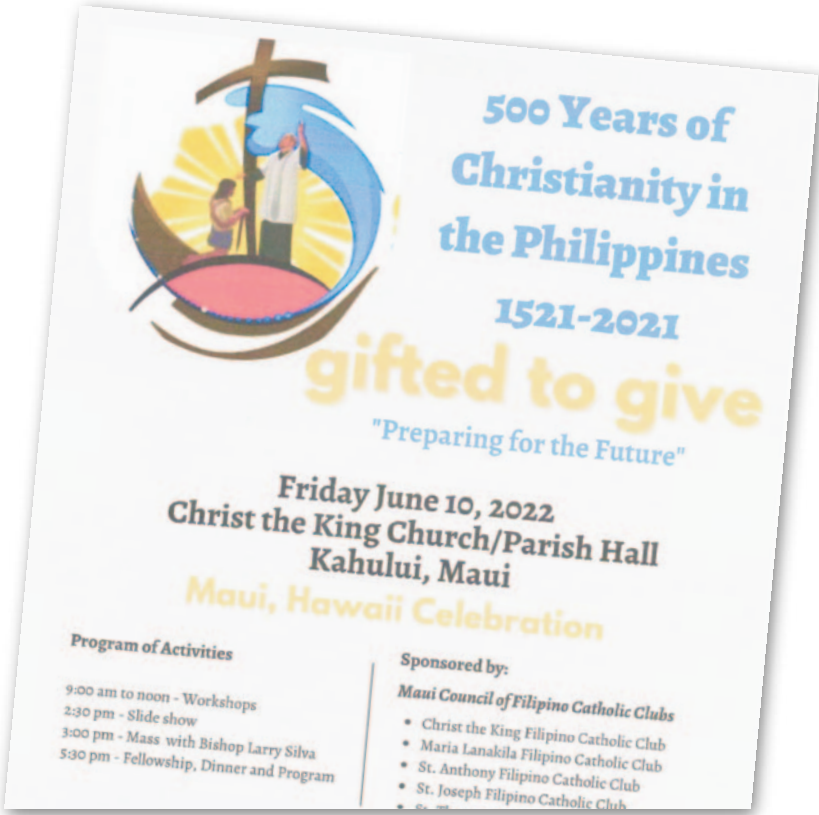
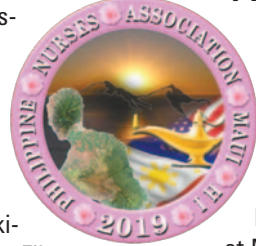
Christianity in the Philippines on Friday, June 10, 2022 at Christ the King Church/Parish Hall beginning at 9:00am. Register via Eventbrite at <https://mcfcc-gifted-to-give.eventbrite.com>.

**MAUI FILIPINO COMMUNITY COUN- CIL**

The 2022 Miss Maui Filip- ina Scholarship Pageant will be held on June 4 at Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Cen- ter. The contestants are Jacqueline Agorilla, Lennel Al- varez, Rochelle Balala, Ahlyzle Calleda, Kailee Delos Santos and Shay- Lea Ruiz. They will be formally introduced during the 53rd Annual Barrio Fiesta.

**PHILIPPINE NURSES ASSOCIATION MAUI HI**

The Philippine Nurs- es Association Maui Hawai'i (PNAMHI) will hold their Installation Dinner on Sunday, May 29 at Maui Beach Hotel. Tickets are available from outgoing president Christina "Lucy" Peros or incoming presi- dent Angelina Saiki.



**53<sup>rd</sup> Annual BARRIO FIESTA 2022 Barrio Fiesta Program**

**Friday, May 27**

- 5 PM.....**Barrio Fiesta opens**  
*Food & Business vendors open*  
**The Barrio Fiesta Experience featuring Cultural Villages**  
Bahay Kubo - Bahay Kubo Heritage Foundation  
Cebu - Sto. Niño Club of Maui  
Cordillera – Sabado Art Foundation  
Ilocos Norte – Julie Agcolicol Cruz  
Metro Manila – Law Offices of Alfredo Evangelista, A Limited Liability Law Company  
Mindanao – La Galería: Compañía Baile Filipino  
Pangasinan – Siore Family
- 6 PM.....**Opening Ceremonies**  
*Ringin of Sakada Bell by Cabebe Family*  
*Ribbon Cutting*  
*Invocation by Arnel Soriano of St. Theresa Catholic Church*  
*Singing of Star Spangled Banner, Pambansang Awit, and Hawai'i Pono'i by Angelina Abapo*  
*Welcome Remarks by Binhi At Ani President Melen Agcolicol*  
*Remarks by Mayor Michael P. Victorino*  
*Presentation of Certificates to Cabebe Family*  
*Pabitin at the Barrio Fiesta! sponsored by Friends of Kai'alii Kahele*
- 6:30 PM .....**Santa Cruzan**  
*featuring past Miss Barrio Fiestas and Little Miss Barrio Fiestas*
- 7 PM.....**Miss Barrio Fiesta**  
*Farewell by 2019 Miss Barrio Fiesta Khyle Marie Simon*  
*Crowning of 2022 Miss Barrio Fiesta*
- 7:30 PM .....**Pabitin at the Barrio Fiesta!** sponsored by Friends of Kai'alii Kahele  
**Cultural Entertainment by Dance International Production**
- 8:15 PM .....**Cultural Entertainment by Sto. Nino Club of Maui**
- 8:30 PM .....**The Barrio Fiesta Voice** sponsored by Law Offices of Alfredo Evangelista, A Limited Liability Law Company
- 9:30 PM .....**Zumba by Eva**

**Saturday, May 28**

- 10 AM .....**Barrio Fiesta opens**  
*Bayanihan Food Distribution for Seniors (65 years and older)*
- 10:30 AM ....**Pabitin at the Barrio Fiesta!** sponsored by Friends of Kai'alii Kahele  
*Do the Sungka!* sponsored by Johnstone Supply Maui
- 12 PM.....**Veterans Memorial Service**  
*Host - Virgilio Agcolicol, SP4, U.S. Army, Veteran*  
*Posting of Colors - Hawaii Army National Guard*  
*Star Spangled Banner - Performed by Sharon Zalsos Banaag, E-4, U.S. Air Force, Aerial Port Squadron, Air Mobility Command, Veteran*  
*Placement of Lei - Sharon Zalsos Banaag, Nenita Evangelista, and Melen Agcolicol*  
*POW/MIA Ceremony - Kai'alii Kahele Lt. Col., Hawaii Air National Guard, U.S. Air Force, assisted by Sharon Zalsos Banaag and Ethan Evangelista*  
*Taps*  
*Closing Prayer - Chelsea Evangelista Fernandez SPC, U.S. Army, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Veteran*
- 1 PM.....**Climb the Grease Pole Contest** sponsored by Residential Care of Maui
- 2 PM.....**Sabado Art Foundation Keiki Art Party** sponsored by Friends of Yuki Lei Sugimura
- 3 PM.....**Pabitin at the Barrio Fiesta!** sponsored by Friends of Kai'alii Kahele  
**Da Pansit Eating Contest** sponsored by Friends of Gil Keith-Agaran
- 3:30 PM .....**AnyKine Sisig Cooking Challenge** sponsored by Tante's Island Cuisine with Guest Host Tante Urban
- 4:30 PM .....**Lechon demonstration**
- 6:00 PM .....**Welcome Ceremonies**  
*Remarks by Binhi At Ani President Melen Agcolicol*  
*Introduction of 2022 Miss Maui Filipina candidates*
- 6:30 PM.....**Cultural Entertainment by Students of Aggie Cabebe**
- 7 PM.....**Barrio Wear Contest** sponsored by Friends of Justin Woodson
- 7:30 PM .....**Cultural Entertainment** by Kā'anapali Beach Hotel employees  
**Cultural Entertainment** by Sheraton Hotel employees  
**Cultural Entertainment** by Amando Sarmiento
- 8 PM.....**Outstanding Housekeeping Awards**
- 9 PM.....**Cultural Entertainment** by La Galería: Compañía Baile Filipino
- 9:30 PM.....**Zumba** led by NRELS

The collage features a variety of photos:
 

- Top left: People at a food distribution event with a red SUV.
- Top center: A large stack of cardboard boxes filled with food supplies.
- Top right: A person in a white protective suit and mask working at a table.
- Middle left: Two men in Hawaiian shirts smiling for a photo.
- Middle center: A large group of people posing for a group photo in front of a table.
- Middle right: A group of people in blue shirts posing together.
- Bottom left: A group of people in green shirts standing behind a table.
- Bottom center: A man in a blue shirt and mask handing a box to a woman.
- Bottom right: A group of people in military uniforms and blue shirts posing.

 A central banner with a green background and white text reads:
 

**VICTORINO**  
FOR  
MAUI COUNTY MAYOR

Paid for by the "Friends of Michael Victorino" • PO Box 3085, Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793



## HALE MAKUA Adult Day Health

by oph

# Nandito Po Kami Para Sa Inyo!

Enjoy peace of mind knowing your loved one is in the hands of our friendly and experienced staff.

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We're conveniently located in Kahului!

**For More Info Call  
(808) 871-9287**

**Scholarships available to help  
cover cost of services!**



Dr. Errol Buntuyan with Lennel Alvarez, who graduates from UHMC Nursing School this month.

PHOTO:  
ALFREDO  
EVANGELISTA

## Nurses ...

from p. 6

you!" ✨

**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 fam-

ily and to marry his high school sweetheart, the former Basilia Tumacder Idica.

He is looking forward to attending the Installation Banquets of the Philippine Nurses Association of Hawaii on May 14 and the Philippine Nurses Association Maui Hawaii on May 29.

**Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran** contributed to this story.



Alfredo Evangelista



Gil S.C. Keith-Agaran

## Enjoy the 53rd Barrio Fiesta

Fri. May 27 · 5-10PM & Sat. May 28 10AM-10PM

We are a proud sponsor of the "AnyKine Sisig Cooking Challenge"

BREAKFAST/LUNCH 7AM-2PM  
DINNER 5-8:30PM

**Take Out Also Available**



Try our  
Sizzling  
Sisig



**Maui's  
Best...**

**for Local and Filipino Favorites!**

At the Maui Seaside Hotel  
100 West Ka'ahumanu Ave. • Kahului  
**(808) 877-0300**



We celebrate Mother's Day this month. Let's wish a Happy Mother's Day to all the *Nanay, Inang, Inay, Yena, Ima*, especially to my mom Dolly Butay. Happy Mother's Day to my sisters Daisy, Diane and Debbie and to my daughter Vanessa Kate Erin.

To Mom: Thank you for loving and caring for me. I love you.

In Ilokano: *Agyamanak iti pinangipateg ken pinangdunggom kanyak. Ay-*

Let's Talk Pinoy!

Dulce Karen Butay

*ayaten ka.*

In Tagalog: *Salamat sa pagmamahal at pag-aaruga sa akin. Mahal kita.*

In Ilonggo: *Madamo gid nga salamat sa pagpalangga kag paghalong sa*

*akon. Palangga gid taka.*

In Cebuano: *Daghang salamat sa paghigugma ug pagpalangga nimo sa akoo. Gihigugma taka.*

Shout out to our May birthday cele-

brants: May-Anne Alibin, Jeslie Butay, Melen Agcolicol, Shane Hayen, Roberta Dumlao, Alfredo Evangelista, Christian Joshua Butay, Jared Hedani, Eleonor Carlos-Galapon, Jowy Langaman, and Brian Hayen. Happy, Happy birthday to you! (Tagalog) *Maligayang bati sa inyong kaarawan!* (Ilokano) *Naimbag nga panagkasangay yo!* (Ibanag) *Makapagayaya nga aggaw na nikeyana mu!*

Where are we in the story of Michael and Angel? Let's find out.

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?" Angel asks.

Michael is passed out on top of her on the passenger side of the vehicle. It is the middle of the darkened night and she doesn't have the energy to push Michael off her nor does she really want to. Instead, she reaches for Michael's nearby jacket that is peeping out of his backpack and covers him with it. She pulls him into her and wraps her arms around him as he unconsciously snuggles into her. She slowly gives him a *muma* (kiss) on his forehead and runs her *gamat* (hands) through his hair.

"Knight in shining armor huh? Fell a few feet short but I'll take it," she whispers to herself as she smirks herself to sleep as well.

Meanwhile, Ray dials the phone to call Michael again.

English	Pilipino	Ilokano	Cebuano	Ilonggo	Ibanag	Kapampangan
Mother	Nanay	Nanang	Inahan	Nanay	Yena	Ima
House/Home	Bahay/Tahanan	Balay	Balay	Balay	Balay	Bale
Girlfriend	Masaya	Nobia	Amiga	Noby	Noby	Noby
Car	Kasintahan	Lugan	Sakyanan	Auto	Kotse	Saken
Face	Mukha	Rupa	Mukat	Lupa/Arap	Nawong/Dagway	Goya/Nawong
Where?	Saan?	Inno?	Aha?	San o?	Sitaw?	Nokarin?
Hands	Kamay	Ima	Kamot	Kamot	Lima	Gamat
Door	Pintuan	Ridaw	Lukub	Ganhaan	Puwerta	Pasbul
Kiss	Halik	Anggo	Paghalok	Haluk	Ummo	Muma

Ring ... Ring ... Ring ... No answer.

"Grrr ... Now's not the time to ignore me, Mikey," Ray murmurs to himself.

Ray dials another number.

Ring ... Ring ... Ring ... Ring ...

"Hello, Ray. Why are you calling this late?" Robert asks his brother.

"Where's Mikey, bro?" Ray asks.

"I don't know. He hasn't been *balay* (home) for a while. I haven't talked to him for a long time now. I have a lot of things to talk to him about, especially the cases that we are handling. His *nanay* (mother) said he might have a *noby* (girlfriend). She is worried sick of him. Why?" Robert says.

"About his *kasintahan* (girlfriend), what do you know about her?" Ray asks.

"Actually, I don't even know her name. He hasn't properly introduced me. I haven't seen them but I know he has *amiga* (girlfriend) that he really likes," Robert replies.

Ray starts to sound agitated on the phone.

"You've got to know something about this girl. *Nokarin* (Where) is she from? What is her real name? *Saan* (Where) are her parents? Who does she work for?" Ray keeps going.

"Whoa whoa, where is this coming from?" Robert cuts off his brother from his questions. "What's going on? Answer me now Ray," he demands.

"This *noby* (girlfriend) of his, she

was involved with a fatal death near the airport. She was spotted last scene with this man." Ray reveals.

"Whaat?! No way," Robert says in shock.

"Yes, my dear brother. There was a case to search for her and it had been apparently going on for a while now. Since it was a homicide, access to information is restricted. Until now. I just got promoted and the Chief gave this assignment to me. As soon as I opened it, I guessed she looked familiar but after a few minutes, I just knew it was her. I can't be wrong because I saw her up close and who wouldn't remember Mikey's first *kasintahan* (girlfriend)?"

"Oh geez," Robert exclaims.

"And then I tried to call Mikey for a while now and he is not answering his phone," Ray continues.

"Wait, let me try and call him," Robert tells him.

Ring ... ring ... ring ... ring ... ring ... This is Michael, please leave a message ...

Robert: Grr ...

He tries again.

Ring ... ring ... ring ... ring ... ring ... This is Michael, please leave a message ...

Robert starts to get mad.

He texts him "Boy, call me NOW. see LET'S TALK PINOY p.17



Magdiwang tayo



Join Kai & Maria Kahele & Family at Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center

Saturday, June 18, 2022  
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Magkakaroon ng maraming libangan at pagkain

Contact: Melen Magpual Agcolicol  
808.243.9032 | melencopy@gmail.com

PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF KAI/LETI KAHELE



Meet Eleanor & Maria Gorospe  
Ipinanganak sa Aparri, Cagayan &  
Ipinanganak sa Baguio, Mt. Province



Kaysa Ong



Ricky Nathaniel Villegas



Camille Haluber



Kristiann Miguel

# Google®

## Is Not Everything ...

### Our Renewed Appreciation for Healthcare Workers

Brooklyn Jones | MAUI HIGH SCHOOL, CLASS OF 2022

One good thing that came from the COVID pandemic was a renewed appreciation for healthcare workers and the people in the medical field. After all, close to everyone here has a friend or family member that had to risk exposure every shift and face the panic at the beginning of lockdown. Now the pan-

demic is beginning to hit its downward pattern, with a new generation of high school students comes a new generation of future medical workers, inspired by the heroic actions of their predecessors.

**Kaysa Ong** recalls her fond childhood memories of watching Doc McStuffins, a kid's television show about

a young girl who uses her magic stethoscope to heal her stuffed animal friends. "I remember lining up stuffed animals, pretending they were my patients all coming for a check-up," she says, just like she saw in the cartoon. Kaysa, now a freshman at Maui High School, has grown a lot since then. She is currently taking a Foundations of Health class and plans on interning as either an optometrist or dermatologist when she becomes an upperclassman. Kaysa explains she can help and interact with people using her sociable, bubbly personality by doing either optometry or dermatology.

Going to the hospital can be a painful experience but if anything, Maui's Aloha spirit shines bright in our healthcare workers' welcoming and caring nature.

"Nurses have always made me feel seen, known and provided [for]," says **Ricky Nathaniel Villegas**. Ricky is fascinated by the highly diverse applications of a nursing degree and feels incredibly excited about the adaptability of this job that is "constantly evolving." Over the years and especially because of the pandemic, hospitals have changed their policies and organization, and Ricky feels ready for the challenge. He plans on pursuing his dream career at the University of Portland, a college with a strong medical program, to become an operating room nurse with an emphasis on general surgery.

Like Ricky, **Camille Haluber's** passion stems from personal experience. She explains that seeing her Dad, a dietary aide, and her mom, a Nurse's aide, sparked her interest. As a kind and empathetic student, Camille realized she could positively impact her community by following in their footsteps. The senior has risen to the top of the Maui High School's HOSA - Future Health Professionals club's Secretary; she loves the organization's combination of community service, healthcare education and competition. To further her experience, she's even job-shadowed a local pediatric doctor for her senior project and found she

"enjoy[s] working with children and seeing how they progress, both in health and life."

Maui High's senior project, a graduation requirement, was an opportunity for many aspiring students to get real-life experience in their chosen field. It helped some realize their career was not a good fit but others could not wait to return to the workplace again. **Kristiann Miguel's** senior project, building a respirator machine, is the perfect bridge for her dream job as a cardiothoracic surgeon.

The "clinical and technical skills" needed for the profession were demonstrated by her commitment and expertise in building the machine which impressed the senior project judges. "After high school, I plan on majoring in Biology," says Kristiann. "My goal is to graduate early and prepare myself for medical school."

Like other careers in the medical field, surgery is a difficult path. These jobs are not for the faint-hearted; every detail matters when healing and taking care of people. These students, however, choose

these jobs because of their innate desire to help others, no matter the challenges ahead. Just like our healthcare professionals are right now, current students pursuing medical careers are determined to make Maui a healthier, happier place. ✨

**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 who will enroll at Marist College in the fall. 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.



## HAPPY MOTHERS DAY

#1 Role Model Mom, Frances Nakaima Kellett.

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## Fiesta ...

from p. 8

rio Fiesta 1981; Joelyn Bularon, Miss Barrio Fiesta 2005; Mary Grace Basig, Miss Barrio Fiesta 2010; Gillian Ped, Little Miss Barrio Fiesta 2012; Christal Bismonte, Little Miss Barrio Fiesta 2015; Elizabeth Thomas, Little Miss Barrio Fiesta 2017; Kimberly Taroma, Miss Barrio Fiesta 2017; Zoe Zane, Little Miss Barrio Fiesta 2018; Raine Lopez, Little Miss Barrio Fiesta 2019; and Khyle Marie Simon, Miss Barrio Fiesta 2019. Playing the role of King Constantine will be John Klyde Simon.

The 2022 Miss Maui Filipina contestants will be introduced on Saturday at 6 p.m. Mary Grace Basig, Miss Maui Filipina 2019 will lead six the contestants: Jacqueline Agorilla, Lennel Alvarez, Rochelle Balala, Ahlyzle Calleda, Kailee Delos Santos and Shay-lea Ruiz.

The Veterans Memorial Service will be held on Saturday at 12 noon. Hosted by Virgilio Agcolicol (SP4, U.S. Army, Veteran) and coordinated by Ryan Sagayaga (E-4, U.S. Army, 487th Artillery Group, Company C, Veteran), participants will include Sharon Zalsos Banaag (E-4, U.S. Air Force, Aerial Port Squadron, Air Mobility Command, Veteran), Vince Bagoyo, Jr.

(Sgt, Hawai'i Army National Guard, Veteran) and Chelsea Evangelista Fernandez (SPC, U.S. Army, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Veteran). Kaiali'i Kahele (Lt. Col., Hawai'i Air National Guard, U.S. Air Force) will lead the POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony while the colors will be presented by the Hawai'i Army National Guard.

The Outstanding Housekeepers Awards—recognizing outstanding housekeepers of Filipino ancestry from several Maui hotels—will be presented on Saturday at 8 p.m.

Several contests with large prizes are scheduled. (Flyers and more details on the contests can be found on Facebook: @BinhiatAniFilipinoCommunityCenter.)

AnyKine Sisig Challenge sponsored by Tante's Island Cuisine. Saturday at 3:30 p.m. A maximum of five contestants will have thirty minutes to cook a Sisig dish. Contestants will be judged on presentation/style; taste; uniqueness; and overall, with the winner receiving \$500. The deadline to pre-register is May 21.

The Barrio Fiesta Voice sponsored by Law Offices of Alfredo Evangelista, A Limited Liability Law Company. Friday at 8:30 p.m. A maximum of ten

contestants will compete to be the 2022 Barrio Fiesta Voice. Each contestant will have up to 3.5 minutes to perform and must use their own phone to play the music. Contestants will be graded on vocal quality, stage presence and audience response. The winner will receive \$500.

The Barrio Wear Contest sponsored

to 13. The winner will receive \$500 while other participants will share in the community pot.

Do the Sungka! sponsored by Johnstone Supply of Maui. Saturday at 10:30 a.m. There will be several preliminary rounds based on time, i.e., the one with the most marbles/pebbles/stones at the end of the time limit will proceed to the next round. The final winner will receive \$500.

Eat Da Pansit Contest sponsored by Friends of Gil Keith-Agaran. Saturday at 3 p.m. The first four participants to eat one pint of pansit will participate in an eat-off, during which each participant will need to eat one plate of pansit. The first one to eat all the pansit wins \$500. The pansit will be donated by Maria Lanakila Filipino Catholic Club.

Sabado Art Foundation Keiki Art Party sponsored by Friends of Yuki Lei Sugimura. Saturday at 2 p.m. Limited to ages 7 to 13. The theme will be announced at the onset of the art party. The winner will receive \$500.

There will also be Pabitin at the Barrio Fiesta! sponsored by Friends of Kaiali'i Kahele. There will be four pulls of the Pabitin from which will be

see FIESTA p.19

## Let's Talk Pinoy! | from p. 15

ASAP."

Robert goes downstairs to check the garage if Michael's car is in the garage. Then he goes to the living room. He paces back and forth in the living room.

Mila, Michael's mom, is watching her favorite soap opera. Robert doesn't see her sitting on the edge of the sofa.

"Robert, why are you still up? What's wrong?" she asks.

He doesn't hear her.

Robert continues to pace back and forth as he stares at his phone. "OMG, Mikey, *sitaw* (where) are you?"

Literally one minute elapsed since his last text message. He writes and sends another one. And clinches on the phone.

He calls again and no answer.

"Hoy, hoy, hoy ..." His wife snaps her fingers trying to get his attention. "What is going on here?" she asks him with irritation.

"Oh, there you are. Do you remember the girl Michael has been seeing?" he asks his wife.

"Yes, of course. She's so gorgeous," she says smiling.

"She might be a murderer," Robert says.

Mila's eyes widen. She is shocked and speechless.

"Yes, that was Ray who called. He was calling you but you didn't answer your phone. He said she was last seen with the cop who went missing a while back. Do you remember?

"No way!" Mila exclaims.

Have you experienced being in trouble and tried to hide it from your mom? Do you wait for your mom to find out about it or do you tell her before she finds out from other people? Mother has many eyes, not literally but it's a figure of speech. Mother will find out eventually about it so you might as well tell her to lessen your punish-

ment.

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 Ac-

counting, 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.



Dulce Karen Butay





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# Divine Mercy Sunday: First Sunday After Easter

Deacon Patrick Constantino | PHOTOS COURTESY DCN. PATRICK CONSTANTINO

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (20:19-31).

On the evening of the first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.’ Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.’ Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.’ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

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

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday, the eighth day of the Feast of Easter in which Blessed Pope John Paul II said we receive the Easter Gift.

And what is this incredibly special Easter Gift? It is the special gift of the total forgiveness of all sins and punishment the Catholic Church offers in the form of a plenary indulgence today.

But why today? What sets this day apart from any other day? Today is the Octave Day of Easter, the last day of the world’s greatest feast. And shouldn’t the world’s greatest feast offer the world’s greatest gift; the total forgiveness of all sins and



St. Theresa Church in Kīhei was the last Church to enthrone the Divine Mercy image on April 23, 2022.

PHOTO: MICHAEL BISSELL

Why would Jesus want this image to be blessed and venerated on this day? ... By Jesus’ own words, the rays indicate the blood and water which gushed from His heart when it was pierced on the cross.

— DCN PATRICK CONSTANTINO

punishment or in other words, “a straight ticket to Heaven” if we should die today in this perfect state of sanctifying grace?

And what is Divine Mercy? The word Divine means “given by God” or “like God.” The word Mercy means “the refraining from harming or punishing offenders.” So simply put, Divine Mercy is “God refraining from harming or punishing offenders.”

How was this feast established in the Catholic Church? In the Jubilee Year 2000, Blessed Pope John Paul II established this new feast indicating he had fulfilled the will of Christ. He must have said this because he believed our Church needed to re-emphasize the tremendous gift of Divine Mercy the Lord wants to pour out on each one of us.

In the Old Testament, God told Moses to celebrate their most important feast called the Day of Atonement, once a year, and to prepare for the feast, they were to afflict themselves and offer up animal blood sacrifices. On the last day,

God would forgive their sins. It was for them, an annual preparation for the Judgment. The Jews of today still celebrate this feast, which they call *Yom Kippur*. This is the Jews’ biggest feast and it lasts for a full ten days. In fact, most of the important feasts in the Old Testament lasted for seven or more days. Even weddings would last for a whole week or more. So why shouldn’t we celebrate Easter for at least a full eight days?

So this Feast of Divine Mercy, Divine Mercy Sunday, is like our mod-

ern-day fulfillment of the “Day of Atonement.” An annual preparation for the Judgment, an annual feast to get perfectly right with God. Are we now starting to understand how important this feast is for us, today?

Okay, let’s take it a little further. What is the last instruction Jesus gave His Church before He died and what is the first instruction He gave His Church after He came to life again? The very last instruction was the Sacrament of Holy Communion, the Eucharist, at the Last Supper. The very first instruction, after His Resurrection from the dead, was the instruction of the Sacrament of Confession. These two sacraments comprise the Fount of Divine Mercy. The two sacraments needed to receive the total forgiveness of sins and punishment on this feast day.

Recall what Jesus said to His Apostles in the Gospel today: “Receive the Holy Spirit, whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.” This happened on the very night of the Resurrection when the Apostles were hiding from fear of the Jews.

Also, recall St. Thomas wasn’t there on that Sunday but was there on the following Sunday. Could this be God’s Providence to set up this feast associated with trust in Jesus?

Now let’s look at the Divine Mercy image. Why would Jesus want this image to be blessed and venerated on this day? Aren’t the sacraments of Holy Communion and Confession displayed in this image? By Jesus’ own words, the rays indicate the blood and water which gushed from His heart when it was pierced on the cross. The Catholic Church teaches the blood and water which gushed out from Jesus on the cross are the sacraments of the Church.

Jesus said the Water is what makes souls righteous and the Blood is the life of Souls. So we can see the Water washes away our sins, just like in Baptism or Confession and the Blood gives us life, just like in Holy Communion. Remember when Jesus said, “Amen, amen, I say to

you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His Blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My Blood has eternal life, and I will raise Him on the last day. For My flesh is true food, and My Blood is true drink. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood remains in Me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent Me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on Me will have life because of Me.”

In the Divine Mercy image, Jesus is moving towards us and asking us to trust in Him. He is asking us not to be afraid to approach Him and to ask Him for His mercy in the Sacrament of Confession. He is calling us to wash away our sins and to receive Holy Communion without stain of sin, because He wants to give us the absolute greatest gift possible today. For Holy Communion to be miraculous, we must be completely clean from any sin or desire to sin.

Don’t ever be afraid to approach Jesus, waiting for you in the Confessional. Jesus told Saint Faustina every time we approach the Confessional, He Himself is waiting there for us. He is only hidden by the priest and the priest is, for Him, only a screen.

So, if you haven’t had a chance to make your yearly Confession in preparation for your Easter Communion, don’t miss this incredible opportunity today to have all your sins and punishment forgiven. The Catholic Church allows about twenty days for Confession, before or after Divine Mercy Sunday, to gain the special plenary indulgence offered today.

If you think you are in the state of serious or mortal sin, the Church teaches you must go to Confession before receiving Holy Communion. If you have gone to Confession but have fallen back into venial sin, you should make a perfect Act of Contrition before receiving Holy Communion. The Church teaches that missing Sunday Mass, without good reason,

Continued on p.22

# How to Combat the Stress and Burnout of the Pandemic

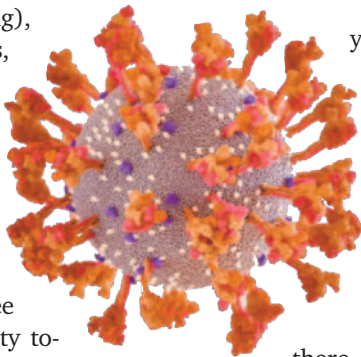
Errol Buntuyan, M.D., FAAFP

With the end of the mask mandate and the Hawai'i Safe Travels program, it seems much of life is back to a new normal. We are remaining vigilant of the news of rising COVID cases, aware of coming variants and mindful of the safety precautions of masking, vaccinations, testing and treatments (See box [right] on a new oral treatment available on Maui). It seems many people are prepared and feeling secure in what to do if they have a COVID exposure or infection. After two years, many are confident they know the drill.

What remains after two years is a sense of exhaustion, weariness and burnout. Aside from the stress of the COVID pandemic, the recent news of the ongoing war in Europe, the rising gas and housing prices, the increased volume of people coming to our island, the demand on our local resources and the worries of an uncertain financial future are all weighing heavy on many of our hearts and minds. These ongoing issues in our world (COVID, politics, economy, etc.) are not going to be a 'quick fix' and will take many more months to resolve.

How do these stressors and burnout manifest in our lives? Poor quality of work at our jobs, low morale, absenteeism (calling in sick), turnover at work (quitting or resigning), health problems, depression and family problems are the most common signs and symptoms of stress and burnout we see in our community today.

How do we take care and nurture ourselves through this all? We must focus on the following individual



## New COVID-19 Treatment Available On Maui

**Paxlovid®** (the brand name for the drug by Pfizer®, which is made up of two generic medications—nirmatrelvir and ritonavir) is the latest COVID-19 treatment making recent local news headlines. The drug was granted an emergency use authorization (EUA) by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) back in December for anyone ages twelve and older who weighs at least eighty-eight pounds and is at high risk for severe disease. Due to the Omicron surge in January and high demand for Paxlovid®, there was limited supply and was not readily available on Maui until recently.

Paxlovid® is an oral antiviral pill that can be taken at home to help keep high-risk patients from getting so sick they

need to be hospitalized. Thus, if you test positive for the coronavirus you can take pills at home and lower your risk of going to the hospital. But to qualify for a prescription, you must have had a positive COVID test and be at high risk for developing severe COVID-19. That means you must either have certain underlying conditions (including cancer, diabetes, obesity or others) or be sixty-five or older (more than 81 percent of COVID-19 deaths occur in this group). The more underlying medical conditions a person has, the higher their risk for developing a severe case of COVID-19, according to the CDC. Paxlovid® must also be taken within five days of developing symptoms to be effective.

Paxlovid® had an 89 percent reduction in the risk of hospitalization and death, a number high enough to prompt the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to prioritize it over other COVID-19 treatments like molnupiravir which only had a 30 percent reduction in risk. Paxlovid® is cheaper than many other COVID-19 drugs (it's provided for free by the U.S. government while there is a public health emergency), more convenient than IV remdesivir treatment and it is expected to work against Omicron.

Currently Paxlovid® prescriptions are being written through Maui Health System. Eligibility and registration forms are available on the Maui Health System website (<https://www.mauihealth.org/>).

## INVEST IN PERSONAL WELLNESS ACTIVITIES

Notice the signs and symptoms of stress and burnout and admit to it. Many of us Filipinos are culturally taught to stay tough and deny we are overburdened. We often downplay the amount of stress we are truly under.

Practice self-care by exercising, getting sleep, eating healthy and receiving regular medical care.

Nurture your relationships by connecting with colleagues and seek friendships both new and old.

Develop your religious/spiritual practices.

Take time to pursue your personal interests and hobbies.

Utilize mindfulness. Use apps like Calm, Headspace or Wobot that are designed to help with this awareness.

As we emerge out of the pandemic into this new normal, we find ourselves exhausted and continuing to face more developing challenges. Because fixing our world problems takes time, using these individual strategies to combat our stress and burnout is something we can do today. Take a moment to honestly determine your own signs of stress or burnout and develop an action plan. We can almost immediately feel better by taking these actions today as we face the ongoing changes and uncertainties of tomorrow. ✨

**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.

strategies to combat this weariness and burnout.

### IDENTIFY YOUR VALUES

Revisit what is important to you and integrate what you value most in your life.

Get rid of the myth of delayed gratification. We often hold off on a reward for ourselves until things get better in a week or month or longer. The truth is, as evidenced by the last two years of the pandemic, there is always something that comes up to potentially delay your goals and desires. Take that time off, spend time with your family and

friends, get your rest.

Integrate and balance your personal and professional life. Many have poured all their energies into their jobs, doing double shifts, working overtime and not finding time for themselves. It is important to strike a balance.

### IMPROVE THE MEANING IN YOUR WORK

Rediscover the meaning and purpose of your work. Many find the people they work with, the satisfaction of completing their daily tasks or the mission of their company are what brings value to their jobs.

## Fiesta ...

from p. 17

hanging an assortment of prizes: Friday at 6 p.m., Friday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 10:30 a.m., and Saturday at 3 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. Maui High School HOSA club members will be assisting in the distribution (and volunteering throughout the Barrio Fiesta). One box per person, must present ID to verify age.

And a lechon demonstration (Saturday at 4:30 p.m.)!

"We're very pleased to continue with the preservation of our Filipino culture by annually having the Barrio Fiesta," said Nora Cabanilla-Takushi, this year's Chairperson. "The Barrio Fiesta is the longest running Filipino fiesta in the United States and we are proud to have it here on Maui. There is definitely something for everyone. And it's a terrific way to continue to share our culture with all of Maui and to be with old and new friends."

The 53rd Annual Barrio Fiesta is funded in part by the County of Maui Mayor's Office, Office of Economic De-

velopment. Other major sponsors include Bayer Crop Science Hawai'i, World Remit, US Renal Care, McDonalds of Kahului, Friends of Elle Cochran, Friends of Richard Bissen and Friends of Michael Molina. Media partners include *The Fil-Am Voice* and KPMW.

#barriofiestamaui ✨

**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 es-



tate planning, business start-up and consultation, non-profit 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 Idica.

Evangelista is Co-Chairperson of the Barrio Fiesta committee and a former Filipino folk-dance student of Aggie Cabebe.



Leila Huynh



Cirilo & Catalina Sinfuego



(Back from left) Joe Huynh, Leila Huynh. (Front from left) Julia Huynh, Cora Sinfuego, Emily Sinfuego, Elmar Sinfuego

# Leila Cielo Sinfuego Huynh

Lucy Peros | ALL PHOTOS COURTESY SINFUEGO HUYNH 'OHANA

American author/writer Ruth Goode said, “Grandparents are always being told that they are living history to their grandchildren, that they give the children the reassurance of their roots. For me and many grandparents I have talked to, it works the other way as well. They give us continuity.” This month’s featured *Sakada Offspring*, Leila Sinfuego Huynh, granddaughter of *Sakada* Ciri-

lo Sinfuego “Cirilo,” is now doing just that. She is expanding the continuity of the roots of the Sinfuego family. Leila was born in Wailuku, Maui, Hawai’i. Her father, Cirilo Sinfuego, Jr., “Lou,” was in the military and they moved around a bit as a family. Some of the schools she attended include Kīpapa Elementary, Mililani, Hawai’i; Ft. Sam Houston Elementary, San Antonio, Texas; Middle Schools,

Robert G. Cole Jr. and Sr. High School, San Antonio; Kirby Middle School, San Antonio; High School, Baumholder American High School, Baumholder, Germany; College, University of Hawai’i at Mānoa where she received a B.A. in Broadcast Journalism and Political Science; and the William S. Richardson School of Law also at University of Hawai’i at Mānoa where she received a J.D.

Leila is married to Dung “Joe” Huynh, a dentist. He attended Houston Baptist University for his B.S. and Boston University for his D.M.D. They have a daughter, Julia Cielo Sinfuego Huynh who is 13 years old. She is in the seventh grade at Christ Redeemer Catholic School.

Leila’s brother Elmar Jose “EJ” Sinfuego lives on Maui. He is a Sales Executive at Hertz. He is an Air Force veteran. He graduated from New Mexico State University in Business-Economics-Finance. He has a daughter Emily Sinfuego. Elmar’s partner is Lory Marques with children: Max and Lorissa Coleman.

Currently, Leila is part of several work committees: Aquent DEI Council member, Aquent Events Committee Co-Chair and Aquent Cooks Cookbook member.

Prior to the pandemic, Leila and family were actively involved at Prince of Peace Catholic Church and Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church in Houston, Texas.

Leila enjoys yoga, kick-boxing, cooking and traveling with her family.

Leila has been in IT (Information Technology)

staffing and sales for over 20 years, primarily supporting large oil and gas companies. For the last two years, she was a Program Delivery

Manager/Account Manager for a software company. In her spare time, she invested in and advised several IT startups.

Leila fondly called her grandparents, “Wowo,” Grandfather Cirilo Sinfuego and “Wawa,” Grandmother Catalina Sinfuego. Both Wowo and Wawa were very proud of their grandchildren’s accomplishments.

In 2006, this writer had the privilege of interviewing Cirilo and his wife Catalina. They were so gracious in sharing the following information and experiences as a *Sakada*.

Cirilo was born in Paoay, Ilocos Norte, Philippines on March 16, 1913. With the encouragement and help by his brother, Francisco Sinfuego who was a 1927 *Sakada*, Cirilo came as a contract laborer for the Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar Company. He left the Philippines at



Cirilo Sinfuego as a young man



Catalina and Cirilo Sinfuego, Elmar Sinfuego, Leila Huynh

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Leila's wedding with Dad, Cirilo Sinfuego, Jr.



Sinfuego Family Portrait



Leila with Grandpa and Grandma Sinfuego

age 33 on April 10, 1946, departing from Port Salomague, Cabugao, Ilocos Sur aboard the ship S.S. Maunawili for a 17-day journey until they reached Hawai'i. Cirilo pointed out that everyone got seasick on the S.S. Maunawili. Cirilo left behind his beloved wife, Catalina and their two-year-old son, Cirilo "Lou" Sinfuego, Jr. Catalina joined her husband in 1976 on Mother's Day and Lou joined them in 1968 on Father's Day after receiving his degree in dentistry from the University of the East in the Philippines. They had another son, Roger who unfortunately passed away at a young age.

Cirilo arrived on April 27, 1946 at the Kahului Harbor. Meeting him was his friend, Ciriaco Nefulda, also a Sakada. Mr. Nefulda helped Cirilo assimilate with the other Sakadas who were already here on Maui. Cirilo was ready to work as soon as he arrived. In May 1946, he started working at HC&S, first as a journeyman. He



Joe and Leila Huynh

called himself a handyman, fixing ditches to irrigate the sugar cane fields. After three months as a handyman, he delivered milk to the families at the plantation camps. At that time, HC&S owned a dairy. Milk was free to all the employees. He was also assigned to be a milker, milking cows. Cirilo was on that job for a couple of years. Soon after, he was assigned to the Pu'unēnē Meat Market as a meat cutter for a year which he claimed was his favorite job. Cirilo even worked at the Kihei Plantation Store as a stock man as well as a delivery man. Because of his versatility as a worker, Cirilo was then transferred to the production department as a cane juice tender, as a seedman, processing

the high- and low-grade sugar. Finally, he became a boiling house operator, the highest job at the mill until his retirement in 1978. Cirilo was a life-long learner. He enrolled in typing classes at Baldwin High School in 1957 and Public Speaking classes in 1958. Cirilo was also a super tennis player. He played at the Pu'unēnē Tennis Club with other Sakadas like Roy Torricer, Johnny Torricer, Faustino Simon, Angel Baatoo, Julian Segundo and many others. Cirilo also played at the Wailuku Tennis Club with Jimmy Shaw, Joe Cardoza and others.

As a community minded person, Cirilo was involved in ILWU together with Pepito Ragasa as President and he as Vice President. He was also a unit editor of the ILWU bulletin from 1967-1978 which made him a recipient of many awards.

Cirilo was the founder of the United Sons and Daughters of the Ilocano Regions Organization (USDIRO). He was the president from 1963-2005 after which his son Lou took over because of health issues. The USDIRO used to celebrate Rizal's Day every last Saturday of December at the old Territorial Building at the old County Fairgrounds. It was attended by many Filipinos and other nationalities. In fact the first Rizal Day queen was Annie Arcangel. They even had Mr. and Mrs. Philippines in which Mr. Elias Evangelista and his wife, Catalina Evangelista—Atty. Alfredo Evangelista's parents—became Mr. and Mrs. Philippines. The audience was entertained by dancers dancing Philippine folk dances such as Rigodon. Some of the dancers were Mr. and Mrs. Cirilo Sinfuego, Mr. and Mrs. Elias Evangelista, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Cacayorin, Mr. and Mrs. Ciriaco Nefulda, Mr. and Mrs. Santiago Dagdag, and Mr. and Mrs. Domingo Dagdag.

Cirilo's advice to the Filipinos especially to the young is to get involved in the community. Words of wisdom from him were: "Be united because one cannot do much but together, we can accomplish a lot. Injury to one is injury to all. As a community, united we stand, divided we fall."

Leila Cielo Huynh shared this heartwarming reflection on her Wawa and Wawa: "I am so proud to have

come from a family that immigrated from Paoay, Ilocos Norte, Philippines. Wawa came to Maui, leaving Wawa and Daddy and an older brother (passed away young). They lived apart for many years until my Daddy went to college and ultimately Dental School. Eventually, Wawa could join Wowo on Maui. They both worked in the plantation and saved every penny. Our family moved to Maui when Mom (Cora Sinfuego) and Dad (Cirilo Sinfuego, Jr.) were pregnant with me (1971). My brother EJ was born in the Philippines."

"Whenever I come home to Maui—it's not the beautiful beaches that get to me. Yes, they are in fact some of

the most beautiful views in the world but I know I'm home when I see the old sugar mill and the former sugar cane fields. They remind me of the sacrifices my grandparents gave so we could live a better life. They worked manual labor jobs in the fields so we (my parents and my brother and I) would never have to. And I can see in all the jobs I have held, I never had to work in a field or even in the sun. We were all sent to higher education because of Wowo and Wawa's hard work. I am so grateful for their hard work and I don't forget I am blessed to be part of an immigrant family. We come from a family which came to

Continued on next page

Advertisement for Mach Dang Dang Hawaiian Fusion Cuisine. Includes photos of the restaurant staff, a bowl of food, and promotional text: "NOW OPEN", "MACH DANG DANG", "Hawaiian Fusion Cuisine", "Phone: (808) 868-0929", "Res'vn: resy.com", "Type in 'maca' in the search feature", "Fairway Shops • 2580 Keka'a Dr., Lahaina, Hawai'i 96761".

Mom Cora Sinfuego with Joe, Leila, Julia Huynh and Elmar and Emily Sinfuego



Cora and Cirilo Sinfuego, Jr.



America so we could grow up free and have the opportunity this country had to offer us, the ability to be whatever we wanted to be when we grew up. I am truly humbled when I think I am who I am, because of my grandparents and parents. They put all their hard work and love into creating a better life for my brother and me. So when I come home to Maui, it's the old sugar plantation and farm fields which warms my heart. Without that plantation and without my grandparents' hard work, I wouldn't be here."

"Even though Wowo and Wawa had only my dad, Cirilo Sinfuego, Jr., they were everyone's grandparents. All the Filipino families on Maui came to love them as their own including the Camposes, Monjes, Rancapollos and Maculams. Everyone loved them. There

wasn't a party without them. Wawo loved to cook especially for large family meals. He cooked all the typical Filipino dishes, such as *adobo*, *dinuguan*, *pancit* etc."

"My favorite story about my Wowo was when one day I was running around playing with cousins and my brother and Wowo pulled me to the side in the kitchen and gave me a long john doughnut. There was only one and he hid it for me. I knew from then on how much he loved me."

"Whenever we would visit or they would visit us, I always wanted to sleep near them. I moved to Hawai'i after graduating from high school so I could be closer to them. Even when I came home from college, I always wanted to sleep in the room with them or have them nearby. It was so

life, filled with loving family and great memories. We celebrated all his accomplishments and were so proud he was a great leader with his organization and at work. His personality was so large it often filled the room. His laughter was so hearty and genuine. In November of that year, we also lost my dear Daddy. While we felt our family and dear friends' love, our small family struggled to make sense of the many losses we endured in a short amount of time. The following year, 2008, we were extremely blessed with Julia, our daughter and Emily, our niece, being born, carrying on our family's legacy. We share stories with our girls,

wonderful to love and be loved by them."

"In 1999, my Daddy retired from the Army and he and Mommy moved back home to Maui to take care of Wowo and Wawa. They were able to provide care for my grandparents as they aged. We lost Wawa in June of 2004. Her loss hit us all hard but we bonded and helped Wowo deal with his grief. We lost Wowo in January 2007, a few months after Joe and I got married. I didn't realize when Joe and I left Maui for our honeymoon that would be the last time we would see him alive. At 93, he had lived an exceptional

talking about our wonderful Wowo and Wawa and their loving Papa as well. I want Julia to know our family story, where our family came from and how they struggled and worked hard so she can one day grow up to be whatever she wants to be. I want her to know even before she was born, her great grandparents and grandparents loved her so much and worked hard to give our family a better life."

"There are two popular sayings about grandparents: 'Grandparents are the perfect blend of love, laughter, and happy memories' and 'Grandparents hold our hands for just a little while, but our hearts forever.'"

**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.

Ti Biag ken Pammati | from p. 18



**The Divine Mercy Image;** while enthroned at St. Theresa Church in Kihei, gave parishioners the extra inspiration and encouragement to engage in the Holy Sacraments of Confession and Communion. PHOTO: MICHAEL BISSELL

may be a serious sin. So if you have been missing Sunday Mass, why not get a brand-new start in life?

Don't miss this excellent opportunity to be prepared for the Second Coming of Christ. We never know when He will call on us. We always must be ready to stand before Him.

Today is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it! Jesus, I trust in You! 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'anae. Constantino is presently assigned to St. Joseph Church in Makawao.

Prior to his ordination, Constantino 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.



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Now on its 11th year, the Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce Foundation invites you to sponsor, form a team, and kick-start summer with us by raising scholarship funds!

**Golf Tournament Scholarship Fundraiser on Saturday, June 25 2022 at Kā'anapali Golf Course. To sponsor or participate, call (808) 359-1616, or visit [www.mauifilipinochamber.com](http://www.mauifilipinochamber.com)**

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# Kwento Kwentuhan

## Two Cultures, One Heart

Liza A Pierce of “A Maui Blog”

I am originally from the Philippines. I was born in Manila and both my parents are Filipinos. There is no doubt, I am Filipino.

I came to Maui in 1994. My husband and I met in the Philippines but he’s been a resident of Maui for 10+ years. Therefore, when we got married, it was natural for me to move to Maui and be with him.

In April of this year 2022, I celebrated my 28th year on Maui!

This year, in June, I will be celebrating my 56th birthday.

When we do that math, I actually have lived on Maui for half of my life!

These facts lead me to write this article. Looking in, I am realizing I love both Filipino and Hawaiian cultures. I grew up with the Filipino culture and it is engrained in me. I embraced the Hawaiian culture and I am growing and learning each day.

There are many similarities between the Filipino and Hawaiian cultures. For example, the love of family (‘ohana), and the respect for elders (kūpuna).

Two cultures, one heart. And I am not complaining. I love them both.

I crave for Filipino food such as Adobo, Pancit, Nilaga, Turon and Halo-halo; and I crave for Kalua Pork, Taro, Squid Lau Lau, Poi and Haupia.

I love dancing hula (I recently joined a Hālau) and I love dancing Tinikling whenever I get a chance (so much fun!)

I enjoy listening to both Hawaiian and Filipino Music—both have a soothing effect on me.

Last April, I was invited to attend the “Celebration of the Arts” at the Ritz Carlton in Kapalua. It was an

honor to attend an event celebrating the Hawaiian Culture.

I also look forward to the Barrio Fiesta celebration this year (May 27 and 28), to celebrate the Filipino culture.

I understand that here at *Fil-Am Voice* we celebrate both Filipino and American cultures, however living here on Maui, I am leaning more on the Hawaiian culture. And I think that is fine. What do you think?

Honoring our culture (from wherever we came from) and embracing the culture of where we are living now is an essential ingredient to growing and enjoying life into the future. We must dig deep, get involved and pass on to the next generation all the good we have learned and practice. ✨

***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*



Liza Pierce enjoys the flavors of home in the Philippines. Here, she is eating a serving of “Pancit” noodles.  
PHOTO COURTESY LIZA PIERCE



Liza Pierce attended the 30th “Celebration of the Arts” held at The Ritz-Carlton Maui, Kapalua which proudly presents the Hawaiian culture.  
PHOTO COURTESY LIZA PIERCE

### “Enjoy the Barrio Fiesta ...



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