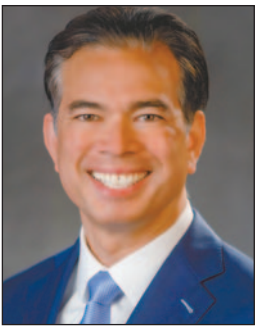




**Scholar's Tuition Awards**  
Each scholarship adds up to help pay college costs.  
**See below**



**Filipino Americans Rise**  
Our editor expounds on the upward trend of Filipinos.  
**Page 4**



**The Win of Bong Bong Marcos**  
Rife with contention, here's a look at the Philippine inauguration.  
**See below**




# Fil·Am Voice


Magkaisa Tayong Lahat | “Let Us All Unite”

July 2022 • Vol 6 No7 | **FILIPINO AMERICAN VOICE • UPLIFTING OUR COMMUNITY** | **FREE**

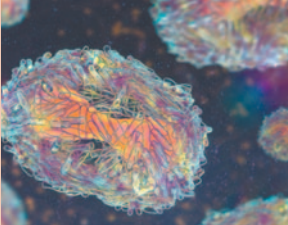
**inside**



Dinengdeng & Pinakbet shares what needs doing on Maui.  
**p7**



Passionate career as Deacon retires.  
**p18**



Monkeypox: What is it? Should you be concerned?  
**p19**



Bongbong Marcos takes the oath of office as he is sworn in as the 17th President of the Philippines at the National Museum of Fine Arts on June 30.  
PHOTO: AVITO DALAN, PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY VIA COMMONS.WIKIMEDIA.ORG, PUBLIC DOMAIN

## Ferdinand “Bong Bong” Marcos, Jr. Inaugurated as President of the Philippines

*Maui’s Filipino community is generally supportive.*

Alfredo G. Evangelista | ASSISTANT EDITOR

[Editor’s note: The Fil-Am Voice reached out to a number of Romualdez Marcos Jr. ay taim-tim na nanunumpa na tutuparin ko nang buong katapan at sigasig ang aking mga tungkulin bilang pangulo ng Pilipinas at ipagtatangol ang kanyang Konstituhon, ipatutupad ang batas nito, magiging makatarungan sa bawat tao at itatalaga ang bawat sarili sa paglilingkod sa bansa. Kasiyahan nawa ako ng Diyos. (I, Ferdinand Romualdez see BONG BONG next page

## Small Scholarly Support Creates Fruitful Impacts

Filipino Community Scholarships in Action

Alexis Joy Viloria

Year after year, college students face a growing obstacle in the wake of a burdening economic situation. Although a college education is seen as a necessity for the minds of the future, rising costs of attendance are only making college less accessible and more financially burdensome for college students and their families. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, for the 2019-2020 school year, tuition and fees at public four-year institutions were 13 percent higher than that of the 2010-2011 school year. The increases in higher education costs reach further than 2010-



The 2022 Binhi at Ani Scholars were presented at The Seed and Harvest Dinner.  
PHOTO: KELSEY HEROLD

2011. This trend has been going on for decades. The National Center for Education Statistics also states the cost of attendance at colleges has risen by about 180 percent, from \$10,231 to \$28,775 between 1980 and the 2019-2020 academic year. The chronic period of increase includes such economically stressful times including the 2008 Recession and, of course, the COVID-19 pandemic. see SCHOLARS p.4

**FREE**



Bong Bong ...

from p. 1

Marcos Jr., do solemnly swear that I will faithfully and conscientiously fulfill my duties as the president of the Philippines, defend its Constitution, execute its laws, do justice to every man, and consecrate myself to the service of the nation. So help me God.)

With those words, Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos, Jr., popularly known by his nickname “Bong Bong” became the seventeenth president of the Republic of the Philippines. (See box for list of Presidents below.) He is the third child of a past president to become Philippine president, joining Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo (daughter of Diosdado Macapagal, who served from December 30, 1961 to December 30, 1965, right before Ferdinand E. Marcos) and Benigno Aquino III (son of Corazon Aquino, who served from February 25, 1986 to June 30, 1992, right after Marcos; she was the wife of Marcos’ political opponent Benigno Aquino, Jr.).

Thirty-six years ago, Bong Bong’s namesake and father Ferdinand E. Marcos was ousted in the People Power revolution. Encouraged and assisted by the U.S. government, the senior Marcos with an 80-member entourage landed in Hawai’i on February 27, 1986. (Marcos reputedly said “I

thought I was going to Paoay,” which happens to be the hometown of various Maui extended clans, including the Agcolicol’s and Evangelista’s and site of the “Malacanang of the North.”) Hawai’i, with its large Ilokano population, generally welcomed the Marcos family. Marcos would die in exile in Hawai’i in 1989.

Two years later, President Corazon Aquino allowed Marcos’ wife Imelda and their children Imee, Bong Bong, Irene and Aimee to return to the Philippines to face criminal charges. Marcos’ body was not allowed to return until 1993 when Fidel Ramos became President. President Ramos (Marcos’ cousin and former military aide who, along with Marcos Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile defected to the Aquino camp during People Power), however, denied burial at the Heroes’ Cemetery in Manila. Instead, Marcos’ body would remain on display in Batac, Ilocos Norte. Finally, in November 2016, President Rodrigo Duterte granted the family request to inter Marcos at the Heroes’ Cemetery.

Upon their return in 1991, the Marcos family re-entered politics even while defending various lawsuits and charges. (See adjoining graphic.) With Bong Bong sworn in as president, the Marcos return to the top of Philippine politics apparently has come full circle.

Bong Bong opened his inaugural address by recognizing, *This is a historic moment for us all. I feel it deep within me. You, the people have spoken and it is resounding.* Members of Maui’s Filipino community noted the decisive Marcos’ victory. “More than 31 million voters elected Ferdinand Bong Bong Marcos to become the 17th President of the Republic of the Philippines last May 9, 2022,” observed Mike Agcolicol who grew up in Pangasinan. “The majority of the Filipinos waited 36 years to vote for another Marcos to lead the country.”

The Political Return of the Marcos Family

1992 Imelda runs for President	2010 Bong Bong wins a race for Senate
1992 Bong Bong wins a Congressional seat for Ilocos Norte	2010 Imee becomes Governor of Ilocos Norte and is re-elected in 2013 and 2016
1995 Imelda wins a Congressional seat for Leyte	2016 Bong Bong runs for Vice President but loses to Leni Robredo
1995 Bong Bong loses a race for Senate	2019 Imee wins a race for Senate
1997 Imelda runs for President again but withdraws right before the election	2019 Matthew Marcos Manotoc becomes Governor of Ilocos Norte and is re-elected in 2022
1997 Bong Bong becomes Governor of Ilocos Norte and is re-elected in 2000 and 2003	2022 Ferdinand “Sandro” Marcos, III wins a Congressional seat from Ilocos Norte
1997 Imee wins a Congressional seat for Ilocos Norte and is re-elected in 2000 and 2003	2022 Ferdinand “Bong Bong” Marcos is elected and sworn in as President
2007 Bong Bong returns to Congress	
2010 Imelda wins a Congressional seat for Ilocos Norte and is re-elected in 2013 and 2016	

The Presidential contest did not repeat the close election for Vice President that Bong Bong lost to the same Leni Robredo just six years prior. Marcos received 58.77 percent of ballots cast, with an 82 percent turnout while the sitting Vice President Robredo received slightly more than fifteen million votes (27.94 percent). (Manny Pacquiao received 3.6 million votes while Manila Mayor Isko Moreno only received 1.9 million votes.) Sara Duterte-Carpio, Bong Bong’s running mate and the daughter of President Duterte, also crushed her opponent, receiving 32.2 million votes (61.53 percent) to Robredo’s running mate, Francis Pangilinan, who received only 9.3 million votes (17.82 percent). (Senate President Vicente

see BONG BONG p.5



Mike Agcolicol

The Presidents of the Republic of the Philippines

Emilio Aguinaldo	January 23, 1899 -April 1, 1901*
Manuel Quezon	November 15, 1935-August 1, 1944**
Jose P. Laurel	October 14, 1943-August 17, 1945
Sergio Osmena	August 1, 1944-May 28, 1946
Manuel Roxas	May 28, 1946-April 15, 1948
Elpidio Quirino	April 17, 1948-December 30, 1953
Ramon Magsaysay	December 30, 1953-March 17, 1957
Carlos P. Garcia	March 18, 1957-December 30, 1961
Diosdado Macapagal	December 30, 1961-December 30, 1965
Ferdinand E. Marcos	December 30, 1965-February 25, 1986
Corazon Aquino	February 25, 1986-June 30, 1992***
Fidel Ramos	June 30, 1992-June 30, 1998
Joseph Estrada	June 30, 1998-January 20, 2001****
Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo	January 20, 2001-June 30, 2010
Benigno Aquino III	June 30, 2010-June 30, 2016
Rodrigo Duterte	June 30, 2016-June 30, 2022
Ferdinand Marcos, Jr.	June 30, 2022-June 30, 2028

\*The Philippines was administered as an American commonwealth until 1946.  
\*\*The Japanese Empire, during its occupation, allowed the Laurel administration to maintain supposed independent governance during World War II.  
\*\*\*Under the People Power constitution, Presidents were limited to one six-year term of office.  
\*\*\*\*Estrada resigned after People Power II and was succeeded by Vice President Macapagal-Arroyo, who later pardoned Estrada.

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Science for a better life

# JOURNEY TO 5

5 YEAR MAUI HEALTH ANNIVERSARY

**Maui Health is proud to celebrate five years of caring for our community! 2017-2022**

**JULY 1, 2022, MARKS THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF MAUI HEALTH.**

Over the last five years, the Maui Health team has worked tirelessly to make many significant improvements in the quality and accessibility of care we provide, building upon the dedication and hard work of those that came before us.

With much of our first five years consumed by the pandemic, we also learned a lot about who we are as an organization, as a team, and what qualities make us special.

Through collaboration with our employees, physicians, and board of directors, we developed our Mission, Vision, and Values. These are our commitments to you, our community:

**OUR MISSION:**  
Maui Health exists to provide exceptional health care for the people we serve with compassion, dignity, and respect.

**OUR VISION:**  
We are the trusted partner in enriching our communities' health.

**OUR VALUES:**

**People:** to support the people we serve and each other.

**Community:** to honor and care for the health and well-being of our 'ohana.

**Excellence:** to maintain our commitment to deliver safe, quality care for every person, every time.

**We invite you to learn more about Maui Health, our mission, vision and values, and all of our accomplishments throughout our Journey to Five, at [mauihealth.org/journey](http://mauihealth.org/journey).**

Maui Memorial Medical Center  
Maui Memorial Outpatient Clinic  
Kula Hospital and Clinic  
Lāna'i Community Hospital

**#JOURNEYTO5**



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## From the Editor's Desk

Vince Bagoyo, Jr.  
EDITOR • FIL-AM VOICE

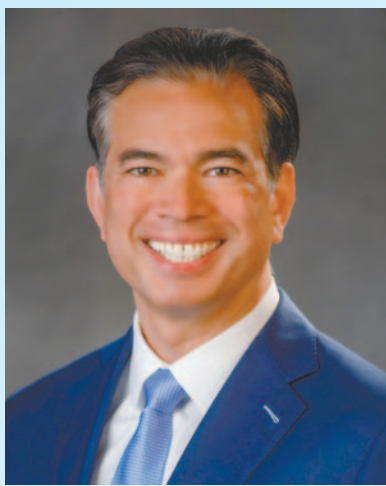
# Filipino Americans on the Move ...

### Youth Leaders, Wise Investment

My wife and I recently spent about two months in Los Angeles to welcome our newest grandson. What a blessing indeed to experience God's amazing grace and we are thankful for answered prayers. It is a joy and a privilege to be grandparents.

While in Los Angeles, we also learned the current Attorney General of California is Robert Andres Bonta, a Filipino born in Quezon City in the Philippines. He is the first Philippine born lawyer to occupy the office of Attorney General in one of the largest states in our nation. As we all know, the previous occupiers of this important office are three well-known public officials: Vice-President Kamala Harris, Secretary of Health and Human Services Xavier Becerra and former Governor Jerry Brown. Bonta was appointed Attorney General by California Governor Newsome in 2021 and Bonta is now running for the position. At the recently held California primary, Bonta garnered 57 percent of the votes against well-known candidates and he is more than likely to win election to a full term as California's Attorney General.

According to his personal profile, Bonta worked his way through college and graduated with honors from Yale University then attended Yale Law School. When his parents moved to California from the Philippines, they found a home in a trailer near the United Farm Workers headquarters in northern California. There his parents worked alongside Ce-



**Rob Bonta** was sworn in as the 34th Attorney General of the State of California on April 23, 2021; the first person of Filipino descent and the second Asian-American to occupy the position.

PHOTO: CALIFORNIA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE - [HTTPS://OAG.CA.GOV/ABOUT, PUBLIC DOMAIN VIA COMMONS.WIKIMEDIA.ORG](https://oag.ca.gov/about_public_domain)

sar Chavez, Dolores Huerta and Philip Vera Cruz, all respected labor movement leaders. Bonta's passion for social justice and fairness was instilled in him by his parents, who served on the frontlines of some of America's most productive social justice movements, instilling in him the lessons they learned from the United Farm Workers and the civil rights movement. Bonta's parents lit a fire inside him to fight against injustice -- to stand up for those who are taken advantage of or harmed. That is why he decided to become a lawyer -- to help right historic wrongs and fight for people who have been harmed. Bonta has been a national leader in the

see FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK p. 6

## Scholars ...

from p. 1

demic. Notably, during the COVID pandemic, the students of the world transitioned into a new mode of learning—remote learning which did not require students to be physically present at their institutions. Tuition, which covers the many costs associated with on-campus learning, continued to increase amid this time of virtual instruction. The ever-increasing costs of a higher education that is said to guarantee success can prove to be quite stressful for the modern student entering the next stage of their academic journey. Thankfully enough, though, there are members of the community who are always willing to give back to the carriers of the future.

Every year, there are a number of community-based scholarships that ensure college access to youth who aspire to attain a successful future. This includes scholarships for Maui students provided by the members of Maui's Filipino community such as Binhi at Ani and the Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce Foundation, both of which recently announced their 2022 scholarship recipients. Although community scholarships like these only represent a small portion of what it takes to pay for and attend college today, often a thousand to a few thousand dollars, they can make a huge difference and release financial strain on young students. Three Maui college students look back on their first year as college students and the impacts that Filipino community scholarships have had.

Fresh out of his Freshman year at Rice University, pursuing a degree in Computer Science with a minor in Data Science, Michael Wong sheds some light on scholarships and the overall financing of his education. Michael was a recipient of the Binhi At Ani scholarship and also received a scholarship from the Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i. With his scholarships, Michael opted to put the money he earned towards paying his college tuition. "As it relates to college specifically, I learned that external financial support is definitely valuable, no matter what size, since the money adds up," he states.



Wong

Though costs of attendance are at an all-time high, it is crucial to note any contribution towards one's educational expenses is a helpful one. When in college, saving money can also be a huge contributing factor toward paying off the costs of education. For Michael, college was an opportunity to practice financial consciousness. "In the bigger picture, going to college has made me more money conscious. I am a frugal person in general but the freedom of college brings with it the freedom to spend a lot of money in different ways." For those currently on their path towards college (and paying for college), Michael leaves his piece of advice.



Peros

"My advice would be to look for colleges that are known for generous financial aid and apply for external scholarships, especially local ones."

Jeremy Peros, who wrapped up his Freshman year at the University of California Irvine also took the time to take a look into financing his education. A recipient of the Binhi At Ani scholarship in 2021, Jeremy opted to take a liberal approach to the use of his scholarship earnings. "The scholarship has helped me cover the various costs of college, including the cost of my textbooks, dorms and tuition," Jeremy explains. On the topic of the affordability of college, Jeremy calls higher education "a very expensive experience." Amid the financially burdening experience that is college, he looked to honor the aid of scholarships in this situation, such as those within Maui's Filipino communities. "External financial support is extremely helpful in covering various costs and expenses and makes attending college much more affordable for prospective students." Jeremy urges students on their academic journeys to "Apply for scholarships! Many organizations are greatly invested in supporting the next generation and they want to help you reach your dreams."



Viloría

Abbygail Cinena Viloría, headed into her Sophomore year at UH Mānoa to major in Secondary Education in English, also took the time to share her thoughts on local community scholarships in relation to financing her education. Abbygail was a recipient of the Binhi At Ani scholarship in 2021. With the scholarship she received, Abby says "The scholarship provided me an opportunity to buy a new laptop for school and pay for my textbooks." She went on to explain that "Since my other laptop was getting old and less efficient, half the money was spent on buying a new laptop that could function better and last longer throughout the day. The other half was spent on paying for my textbooks." Splitting her \$1000 scholarship among two educational necessities, she made sure no money went to waste. Like Michael, attending college has provided Abby with a learning opportunity. "In terms of personal finance, college has helped me understand the importance of budgeting. Eating out, living off-campus and personal expenses can really add up quickly so it is important to balance out my spending." Abby urges prospective college students to "continuously apply for scholarships and budget! Whether you are still in college or about to start, never stop applying for scholarships because each dollar will contribute to less debt and better education!" And to those who funded her journey, Abby states "In terms of external financial



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support, I am continuously grateful for all the programs and people who graciously give out money towards improving students' education."

Although these students are only a portion of the way through their higher educational journey, they have expressed the learning of a lot of lessons within funding their education and even sustaining themselves financially through it. All were able to agree even smaller local scholarships from the communities that fostered their growth can make a great deal of impact on their financial situations. Even more so, they highly encouraged other students just like them to seek help just as they did—within the communities that are so eager to help them succeed. As times change and communities petition for more accessible higher education to ensure opportunities for success for all, we can only be thankful



for those who make the effort within their communities to send youth towards the future. ✨

**Alexis Joy Vilorio** is a Maui High School alum and upcoming Sophomore at Stanford University. As a senior at Maui High, Alexis authored the *Google Is Not Everything* column for *The Fil-Am Voice*. She received a full ride scholarship from Stanford and also received scholarships from Binhi at Ani, the Gromet Foundation, the Maui High School Foundation Make It Scholarship, Ian Walsh Menehune Mayhem Scholarship and the Kenneth O. and Doris A. Rewick Educational Aid Fund Grant from the Central Union Church Women's League. The daughter of Alex and Juvy Vilorio, she is currently interested in pursuing a major in Earth Systems. Alexis is the President and founder of Stanford's surf club and she loves to spend her free time in the water.



*Gintong Pamana*  
LEADERSHIP  
Scholarships  
AND  
Awards

**2022 Scholars**



Jansen Chase Aceret



Athena Mercedes Agcolicol Magbual



Marlon Basilio



Kristine Bonilla



Jessica Mae Castillo



Raymond Marko Galiza Tamayo



Renzo James Garo Gaoiran



Camille Haluber



Almarie Idnay



Dustin Metzler Jr.



Kyra Cabanilla Ong



D'Marco Rabang



Lennel Joy Felix Alvarez



Remy Romo-Valdez

GRAPHIC: KIT ZULUETA FURUKAWA

## Bong Bong ...

from p. 2


Sotto received 8.2 million votes—15.76 percent.) Duterte-Carpio took her oath of office on June 19 in Davao City so she could attend Bong Bong's inauguration. Bong Bong attended Duterte-Carpio's inauguration.

I fully understand the gravity of the responsibility that you've put on my shoulders. I do not take it lightly but I'm ready for the task. I will need your help. I want to rely on it but rest assured I do not predicate success on the wide cooperation that's needed. I will get it done, promised Bong Bong.


Much to the chagrin of his critics, Bong Bong's Inaugural address focused primarily on the future although he made repeated references to his father: *I once knew a man who saw what little had been achieved since independence in a land filled with people with the greatest potential for achievement, and yet they were poor. But he got it done. Sometimes, with the needed support. Sometimes, without. So, will it be with his son. You will get no excuses from me. I am here not to talk about the past. I am here to tell you about our future. A future of sufficiency, even plenty of readily available ways and means to get done what*

see BONG BONG on next page


## 2022 BINHI AT ANI SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS




Jansen Aceret




Aiden Bluh




Kristine Bonilla




Jessica Mae Castillo




Seanna Victoria Dagdag




Camry Gach




Camille Haluber




Gwen Jaramillo




Brooklyn Jones




Amy Khoang




Kaydence Lilio




Julie Ann Limon




Grace Martin




Alexis Nordblom




Kyra Ong




Piper Pascua




Tricia Pascua




Allison Rante




Ku'umakalehiwaonalani Ruidas




Jayde Sagun



Kolea Suehiro



Altene Tumacder



Gabriel Valdez



GRAPHIC: LAWRENCE PASCUA



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Bong Bong ...

from p. 5

needs doing—by you, by me. We do not look back, but ahead. Up the road that we must take to a place better than the one we lost in the pandemic. Gains made and lost. Opportunities missed. Well-laid plans superseded by the pandemic. Indeed, ours was the fastest growing economy in the ASEAN byways now outdated. We shall be again, by radical change in the way the world must now work to recover what we lost in that fire and move on from there.

Jeremy Dizon Zane whose roots are from Laoag City, Ilocos Norte noted “Thirty-one million Filipinos voted for him because they believe in him; they see his love for the people and for our country.” To Marcos’ critics, Zane said “People are always quick to point out about what happened in the past but the thing is, you cannot blame the fault of the father to his son. Those who doubt him, reserve



Jeremy Dizon Zane

your judgment, he is not his father, give him a chance to do his job.” Elmer Tolentino whose roots are from Magsingal, believes Marcos will be his own man and pointed to Bong Bong’s refusal to sign the bill allowing another freeport in Bulacan because the government would lose money. Tolentino, who is on an extended vacation in the Philippines, observed the author of the bill was Bong Bong’s sister, Senator Imee Marcos.

The elder Marcos took office in his forties and remained in office for twenty-one years. At sixty-four, Bong Bong, begins his one Constitutionally authorized six-year term nearly twenty years older than his father. The new President likened both his Dad and President Duterte as “giants” and endorsed continuing Duterte’s Build! Build! Build! Infrastructure Program



Elmer Tolentino

as an extension of his father’s policies: *My father built more and better roads. Produced more rice than all administrations before his. President Rodrigo Roa Duterte built more and better than all the succeeding administrations succeeding my father’s. Much has been built and so well that the economic dogma of dispersing industry to develop the least likely places has been upturned. Development was brought to them. Investors are now setting up industries along the promising routes built. And yet, the potential of this country is not exhausted. Following these giants’ steps, we will continue to build, I will complete on schedule the projects that have been started. I am not interested in taking credit. I want to build on the success that’s already happening. We will be presenting the public with a comprehensive infrastructure plan; six years could be just about enough time. No part of our country will be neglected. Progress will be made wherever there are Filipinos so no investment is wasted.*

Grace Sales, a Hawai’i licensed Realtor waiting for her Philippine real estate license, was born in Caloocan City in Metro Manila but grew up in Laoag City, Ilocos Norte. “I am happy Bong Bong Marcos was elected as President. Mentioning Bong Bong Marcos as President and talking of big real estate opportunities up north is a light bulb moment for most investors. It makes it easier for me to explain to savvy foreign investors and local buyers that a piece of land is located in Ilocos Norte which is synonymous with the Marcoses. Investors know that it’s just a matter of time when Bong Bong Marcos will build infrastructures up north that would support tourism projects, among others, and that would put Ilocos Norte on the map again. This is good news to Ilokanos as it will mean better opportunities and a stronger economy as it will create more jobs. It’s also good news for Filipino sellers who have idle properties up north and sell to investors.”

Grace Sales



“Bong Bong promised to continue

the ongoing projects of past president Rodrigo Duterte,” noted Agcolicol “as well to fight and eliminate drug problems in the country.”

Bong Bong, who was criticized during the campaign for not participating in debates with the other candidates, explained his approach. *I did not talk much in this campaign. I did not bother to think of rebutting my rivals. Instead, I searched for promising approaches better than the usual solutions. I listened to you. I did not lecture you who has the biggest stake in our success and the forthcoming State of the Nation will tell you exactly how we shall get this done.*

By listening to the voters, Bong Bong claimed he understood what the people wanted: *I listened to you and this is what I have heard. We all want peace in our land. You and your children want a good chance of a better life, in a safer, more prosperous country. All that is within reach of a hard-working, warm and giving race. Your dreams are mine. Your hopes are my hopes. How can we make them come true? How can we do it together? But I will take it as far as anyone with the same faith and commitment can as if it depended entirely on himself. In our hope to make our country peaceful, your hope is my hope. In your hope of making our country successful, your hope is my hope. And in our hope for our brighter future and the futures of our children, your hope is my hope.*

Agcolicol says Bong Bong’s administration’s “main priority is to make the agriculture produce more harvest to solve the hunger of the country. A self-sustainable food producing country makes the nation peaceful and healthy.” But Tolentino warned “Critics said he has to fulfill his promises like rice to be sold at 20 pesos per kilo.”

Recognizing how important agriculture is, Bong Bong appointed himself as Secretary of Agriculture while appointing Duterte-Carpio as Secretary of Education. (Bong Bong also appointed the 98-year-old Enrile as Chief Presidential Legal Counsel.)

Bong Bong campaigned on a theme of unity. *By your vote, you rejected the politics of division. I offended none of my rivals in this campaign. I listened instead to what they were saying and I saw little incompatibility with my own ideas about jobs, fair wages, personal safety and national strength and ending want in a land of plenty. I believe*

see BONG BONG p.14

From the Editor’s Desk | Cont’d from p. 4

fight to transform the criminal justice system. He has led statewide battles for racial, economic and environmental justice. Bonta has also worked to further the rights of immigrant families and working Californians. Before becoming the Attorney General, he served in the California State Assembly for ten years.

My primary reason for highlighting Bonta’s personal story of hard work, perseverance, education and passion for public service is to encourage, remind and inspire our young Filipino Americans they too can achieve their God-given potential, if we all come together to support, mentor and guide them.

One way to support and inspire our young students to become future leaders is the awarding of scholarships to graduating high school seniors seeking higher education to move them forward to their chosen careers. Organizations such as Binhi at Ani, Filipino Catholic Clubs, Maui Filipino

Chamber of Commerce Foundation, Maui Filipino Community Council and others have annual or ongoing projects committed to raising funds to honor and support youth scholars, providing our young people direct acknowledgement of the deep pride felt by our community, their parents, families and friends, for their commitment to dedicate years of effort to do their very best. Beyond the educational funds, a number of these organizations also promote leadership development through a variety of activities with the mission to train, mentor and inspire our youngsters to strive to become effective community leaders.

When we do this in unity and with purpose, there will indeed be a brighter future for Filipino Americans! ✨

Vince Bagoyo

VINCE BAGOYO, JR. | EDITOR



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Ipinanganak sa Aparri, Cagayan &  
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PAFORBRIENDSKA'IKALEPOBHILOHI



Over the last month or so I've been filling out surveys from the news media, unions and advocacy groups sent to all candidates running in the upcoming election. Most have word limits which can either spur clearer statements or which give short shrift to the nuance and complexity of many issues.

This is a reapportionment year so every state legislative seat is on the ballot, including my Central Maui Senate seat. In Maui Nui, we have open seats for the retiring Senator Rosalyn Baker's West and South Maui (with a small part of Maui Lani and Waikapū) Senate Seat, and Tina Wildberger's South Maui and Angus McKelvey's West Maui (with Waihe'e and Waiehu and Kahakuloa) house seats. The Mayor, the entire County Council, a vacant Congressional seat, U.S. Senator Brian Schatz and the Governor and Lt. Governor will also be up for election.

I don't know what other candidates are writing but I think making Maui a better place to live, work, play and raise our families must be top of mind. The next Governor and Legislature (and the Mayor and County Council members as well), whether in good or bad economic conditions, should want to chip away at the costs of living—housing, childcare, wages and taxes—that make life challenging for residents even in good times.

I have no opponent this year. I will be re-elected as long as one person casts a ballot for me in the August Primary Election—even though my wife, mother and sister insist I need at least their three votes, too.

So in answering surveys, I'm mulling over what can and should be done next year. The ongoing pan-

dem and now lingering inflation disclosed what we knew: the number of working families living on the financial edge remains way too high.

In recent legislative sessions—even during the Covid-induced economic downturn—the Legislature made down payments on addressing those issues. We adopted for example a package of childcare/preschool initiatives (expanding Open Doors, building classrooms at UH campuses and libraries). We also piloted directly subsidizing (with State and County funded infrastructure) for sale residences (as government programs support HUD income qualified rentals) to bring housing prices down for local working families. In Central Maui, we've worked with State and County agencies to identify key projects that facilitate home construction while meeting State needs (road-

# DINENGDENG & PINAKBET

## Beyond this Election

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

ways, sewer and water that will serve new schools or other state facilities).

Over the last six years, additional funding has been directed to the State housing agencies to provide more resources for HUD-type rental housing developments. But we should be clear housing is needed for Hawai'i's working families that is affordable for what people are paid in the islands. Developing housing for



House Finance and Senate Ways and Means Lead negotiators on the final day of the budget conference: Rep. Kyle Yamashita, Rep. Sylvia Luke, Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz, Sen. Gil Keith-Agaran, Sen. Michelle Kidani.

PHOTO COURTESY GIL KEITH-AGARAN

local working families—not just for families qualifying for the “affordable” units defined and based on HUD income guidelines and limits—must be prioritized.

We continued to tackle quality of life issues this year. We made a billion-dollar investment in housing (including \$600 million for Hawaiian Home Lands) as well as \$200 million for additional pre-school facilities.

But we will need to monitor and build on the investments made in recent budgets and other housing initiatives (i.e. Act 236 [SB3048

CD1]—restructuring funds available to Hawai'i Housing, Finance and Development Corporation to support housing projects; Act 234 [SB2479 CD1]—allowing Hawai'i Public Housing Authority to develop mixed-income and mixed-financing projects; HB1837 CD1—establishing a Yes In My Backyard working group to identify housing development impediments; Act 184 [SB2898 CD1] and HB1600 CD1 providing funding for transient oriented development planning throughout the islands). With a new Governor being sworn in this December, the Legislature needs to make sure these policy directions continue or debate what the new Administration will be proposing.

Along with housing investments, the Legislature also raised the minimum wage (Act 114 (2022) [HB2510 HD2 SD1 CD1]) and made the State earned income credit permanent and refundable. We also

passed a tiered tax rebate to provide a larger payment to taxpayers with lower incomes (Act 115 [SB514 SD1 HD1 CD2]); Act 115 provides a tax refund of \$300 for taxpayers who earn less than \$100,000 a year (or couples earning less than \$200,000), and \$100 for taxpayers who earn \$100,000 or more (or couples earning \$200,000 or more).

We also resumed funding grants to local non-profits who provide services to the neediest residents and save the State money in doing so, increasing the total amount of non-profit grants allocated in the state budget for that purpose.

But the challenge remains making sure that leaving Hawai'i is never just an economic necessity—that residents and our children can make a reasonable choice to live and raise their families in the islands. I don't subscribe to the general notion that any “brain drain” is a tragedy—local students and residents should be free to pursue their dreams even if that means leaving the islands—and we as a community should invest in preparing them to compete successfully in whatever place they choose to live and in whatever fields and occupations that is their passion.

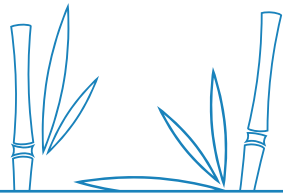
The rapid return of tourism surprised most people, including economists who did not expect the economic recovery until 2024 or later. But the reduction in visitors during the economic shutdown spurred efforts to change the trajectory of the visitor industry from unbridled growth to something more balanced.

Any diversification (and this can't continue as simply a buzz word) see **BEYOND p.22**



Senate District 5 staff: Robert Nishimoto, Jimmy Nelson, Sen. Gil Keith-Agaran, Susan Wong, Pam Ono, Danielle Evangelista.

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**COUNTY OF MAUI  
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For more details about the  
upcoming Elections:

*Para ti ad-adu pay a detalye maipapan iti  
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# Know how to vote. Then make sure your ballot is counted.

More than 2,000 votes were not counted in the last primary election because they arrived late, had signature problems that were not corrected, or people voted for more than one party.

Go to **[elections.hawaii.gov](https://elections.hawaii.gov)** to check your voter registration, change your address and sign up for the new BallotTrax service to track your ballot.

If you return your ballot by mail, send it at least a week before Election Day, Aug. 13. You can also drop off your ballot at a Voter Service Center or official ballot box. Make sure you sign the ballot envelope. If there's a problem with your signature, it must be corrected by Aug. 22.

Get the latest voting information for Hawai'i at **[aarp.org/HIvotes](https://aarp.org/HIvotes)**.



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Community... In Action



Photo Above Left: Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center has a maximum capacity of 464.

PHOTO: CEASAR LIZADA

Photo Left: Bayanihan Feeding Program always could use an extra hand to help feed the residents at Hale Mahaolu.

PHOTO COURTESY PHILIPPINE NURSES ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA MAUI HAWAII

Photo Above: The 2022-2023 Binhi at Ani Board of Directors are sworn in by Mayor Michael Victorino at the Seed & Harvest Dinner.

PHOTO: KELSEY HEROLD

COMMUNITY... IN ACTION

Compiled by Assistant Editor Alfredo G. Evangelista.  
Send your community briefs to 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 \$1,150 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.

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.

2022 Binhi at Ani Board of Directors

During The Seed and Harvest Dinner on July 2, Mayor Michael Victorino installed the newly elected 2022-2023 Board of Directors:

President **Melen Agcolicol**, owner of Copy Services; Vice President **Michelle Balala**, an educator at Kahului Elementary School; Recording Secretary **Jaycel Pardo**, an educator at Kahului Elementary School; Corresponding Secretary **Nora Cabanilla-Takushi**, a retired educator and a Front Desk/Reservations agent at The Plantation Inn; Treasurer **Madelyne Pascua**, business manager at Christ the King Church; Auditor **Rose Balmores**, client manager at Maui Bookkeeping; and Directors **Arnel Alvarez**, Guest Services at Grand Wailea Resort; **Romeo Guzman**, an



Electrician/Electronic Technician Supervisor in the Department of Environmental Management Wastewater Division at the County of Maui; **Rochelle Mendoza**, General Manager of Maui Furniture Gallery; **Cora Molina**, a retired Office Assistant with the Department of Education; **Marilyn Oura**, a retired Housing Specialist with the County of Maui Housing Division; **Lawrence Pascua**, Layout/Proof Editor at Maui News; **Christina "Lucy" Porte**, a retired Registered Nurse and Assessment Coordinator with Hale Makua; and **Hedy Udarbe**, a retired Laboratory Manager with Kaiser Permanente Hawaii'i Region.

Support to the Board of Directors is provided by Operations Manager **Florante Garcia**, Assistant Operations Manager **Jeanice Paa**, and Legal Counsel **Alfredo Evangelista**.

#BayanihanFeeding Program

The program provides a Sunday lunch to Hale Mahaolu Residents in Central Maui. As of June 30, a total of 7,857 meals were delivered. There is a need for additional teams of volunteers to prepare the free lunches. The teams serving during the month of July are Binhi at Ani, Friends of Michael Victorino, Maui Filipino Community Coun-

cil, Miss Maui USA, and Philippine Nurses Association of America Maui Hawaii'i.

Create a Team by signing up: Tax-deductible donations are accepted via Paypal or a Credit/Debit card or by mailing a check payable to Binhi at Ani, 780 Onehe'e Avenue, Kahului, HI 96732 [Memo: Feeding Program].

Stay tuned for exciting news about the #BayanihanFeeding Program!

**Summer at Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center** began on Monday, June 27 and will end with a Presentation Night on Wednesday, July 27 at 5 p.m. The purpose of the Summer at Binhi at Ani program is to provide activities during the summer. The FREE classes are:

Mondays - 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.: Ballroom 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 Madelyne 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.

MAUI FILIPINO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce announced the 2022 Gintong Pamana Leadership awardees:

**Nora Cabanilla Takushi**, who recently led the efforts as Chairperson for Maui's 500 Years of Christianity Celebration. Over the years, she served in various leadership capacities for the Maui Council of Filipino Catholic Clubs.

She is a Past President of Maria Lanakila Church Filipino Catholic Club and a Past President of Binhi at Ani. During her presidency of Binhi at Ani, the Bayanihan Food Distribution program was initiated.

**Lance D. Collins**, an attorney in private practice with a focus on good government law, land rights and appellate practice. He also serves as a *per diem* district and family court judge. He earned his Ph.D. in Philippine Studies from the University of Hawaii'i at Manoa. He has produced several musical albums including, most recently, Nā Hōkū Hanohano award finalist Kāwili—an album of Philippine folk songs reinterpreted as Hawaiian mele.

**Dr. Lui Hokoana** is the current Chancellor of the University of Hawaii'i Maui College. During the pandemic, Dr. Hokoana ensured UH Maui College participated in recovery and healing efforts for the County. He collaborated with the County of Maui, Hawaii'i National Guard and the State Department of Health to ensure successful operations and missions were run at a high level by providing the necessary resources, manpower and technical support for testing, contact tracing and vaccinations.

**Arnold and Marjorie Magbual** work behind the scenes at Four Sisters Bakery, famous for its butter rolls, *pan de sal* and other pastries. The couple took over the bakery operations in 2004 when Arnold's parents retired. Arnold graduated with a culinary degree from Maui Community College and worked as a baker at the Maui Intercontinental Hotel and as a cook at the Grand Wailea Hotel. Marjorie has been an RN at Kula Hospital for the last twenty-six years while also assisting with the business.

**Christina "Lucy" Porte** has been a Registered Nurse for about forty years and is a Clinical Instructor for CNA Hawaii'i Institute, LLC. She is the founding president of the Philippine Nurses Association of America Maui Hawaii'i, where she currently serves as Executive Director. As









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Ilocano

**Nandito ako para tumulong**  
Tagalog

**Naa ko para mutabang**  
Visaya


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for our community.



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August 13th, 2022

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# nohe

## U'U-HODGINS

MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL



Aloha!

My name is Nohe U'u-Hodgins. I am running for Maui County Council because I believe today's political landscape does not always reflect the values we were all raised with:

**Family | Respect | Kindness**

I will work towards restoring these values, so that future generations can cherish a life fulfilled on Maui County. Please join me on this journey.

Mahalo,



votenohe.com @votenohe  
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In 1987, the United Filipino Council of Hawai'i held a Unity Rally featuring Imelda Marcos' first trip to Maui. The original clipping reads, "Former First Lady Imelda Marcos with Dr. Jose Romero entertaining the audience at the Unity Rally."

IMAGE COURTESY MAUI FILIPINO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Bong Bong ...

from p. 6

that if we focus on the work at hand, and the work that will come to hand, we will go very far under my watch. You believe that too. And I listened to your voices who are calling for unity, unity and unity. We will go further together than against each other, pushing forward not pulling each other back out of fear, out of a misplaced sense of weakness. But we are the furthest from weak. The Filipino diaspora flourishes even in the most inhospitable climes, where they are valued for their quality. The changes we shape will benefit all and will shortchange no one. I was not the instrument of change, you were that. You made it happen.

"The new president of the country wants the people to unite and work together for the betterment of the nation," said Agcolicol. "Bong Bong Marcos believes when there is unity there is success."

Historically, Maui's Filipino community has also preached unity generally. In 1987, a Unity Rally was held at the War Memorial gymnasium when Imelda Marcos first traveled to Maui for the installation of Maui resident Antonio Ramil as president of the statewide United Filipino Council of Hawai'i. In just her first trip ever to the Valley Island, Mrs. Marcos wowed the crowd, estimated at 1,500, by singing Ilokano songs with Dr. Jose Romero and posing for photos with those in attendance.

Bong Bong appeared to acknowledge the Philippines' continuing political and social divisions: *We are here to repair a house divided, to make it whole and to stand strong again in the Bayanihan way, expressive of our na-*

*ture as Filipinos. We shall seek, not scorn dialogue, listen respectfully to contrary views, be open to suggestions coming from hard thinking and unsparing judgment but always from us, Filipinos. We can trust no one else when it comes to what is best for us. Past history has often proven that. Solutions from outside divided us, none deepened our understanding. They were always at our expense. Never forget, we are Filipinos, one nation, one republic indivisible. We resisted and never failed to defeat foreign attempts to break our country in my father's watch. His strongest critics have conceded that. So let us all be part of the solution that we choose. In that lies the power to get it done, always be open to differing views but ever united in our chosen goal. Never hesitating to change it should it prove one thing. That is how agile and resilient republics are made. Our future we decide today, yesterday cannot make that decision anymore, nor can tomorrow delay it. The sooner we start, the surer and quicker the prospect of achieving our future.*

During the campaign, the Marcos and Robredo forces were active on social media. On Maui, Agcolicol spent time responding to points espoused by the Robredo sympathizers. For example, on the issue of unpaid estate taxes that some opponents argued should disqualify Marcos as a candidate, Agcolicol argued explained that "an estate tax is a tax levied upon the transference of estate to his/her heirs or beneficiaries." But in Ferdinand Marcos' situation, Agcolicol noted, President Corazon Aquino issued an Executive Order to freeze all the Marcos' assets and "the Executive Order doesn't allow the transference of assets/properties. So how can the estate

see BONG BONG p.19



At the 1987 Unity Rally on Maui, Imelda Marcos posed for photos with some of the estimated 1500 crowd.

IMAGE COURTESY MAUI FILIPINO COMMUNITY COUNCIL





Fun in the sun! How are you spending your summer this year? We have roughly 12,000 visitors coming to Maui each day. With COVID-19 still going on, are you thinking about traveling or doing a staycation? Whatever you decide, I hope you have fun; after all, Life is truly short. We must enjoy and spend time with friends, family and especially with your kids. Kids grow up so

# Let’s Talk Pinoy!

Dulce Karen Butay

fast. One minute you are changing their diapers and the next thing you know, you are sending them off to college. Which is what I will be doing

next month. As for now, I am enjoying the company of my daughter before she will go away for college and become an adult in a couple of months.

Shout out to our July birthday celebrants: Lyndsay Butay-Hayen, Meisen Alibin and Migz Cariaga. Happy, Happy birthday to you! (Tagalog) *Mali-gayang bati sa inyong kaarawan!* (Ilokano) *Naimbag nga panagkasangay yo!* (Ibanag) *Makapagayaya nga ag-gaw na nikeyana mu!* Let’s visit our friends Angel and Michael and see what’s going on with them this month, shall we?

“Ayyyy! bastos!” Angel says as she lowers herself back down into Michael’s *braso* (arms). With her is the backpack.

The buzzing continues.

“Okay missy. I will find you,” Angel blurbs as she tears into the top main zipper of the backpack and sticks her entire arm deep inside. Her *kamot* (hand) darts past the clothing and the hydro flask following the buzzing, left past the notebook, right past the wallet. “Ooohhh, I wonder? *Haan* (No), focus Angie,” she reminds herself.

Follow the buzzing. Tapping into her Zen-like powers she locates the buzzing phone.

“Ah ha!” she exclaims as she rips it out into the air and accidentally presses the green accept call button. “Who is ...,” she belts out as she finally realizes the *nobya* (girlfriend) turns out to be somebody else as the caller ID burns into her eyelids it reads *Nanang* (Mother).

“Michael!” the voice comes in hot.

“Michael! Hello? *San o* (Where) are you? Hello? hello?” the voice cracks.

Angel freezes!

She stares at the phone and it’s at this moment she realizes she messed up.

“Hello? Michael? Michael...” the voice cracks and begins to cry ...

“Michael ... please talk to me, my son. *Nokarin* (Where) are you? Please come *balay* (home).”

Angel turns a pale yellow.

“*Hani* (What) did I just do? I want to scream. *Dili* (No), I don’t want to scream. I want to cry.”

“Michael...” his *Nanay* (mother) whimpers on the phone. “I don’t know *sitaw* (where) you are. I want you to come *bahay* (home). I *dasal* (pray) for your safety. Your dad even *pangadi* (prayed) for you. Please just tell me you’re ok. Please ...”

Michael is still sleeping. Angel gasps as he moves a bit and moans.

“Michael!” his *Yena* (Mother) yells. “Are you hurt?”

“Mmmm,” he groans.

“Oh my gosh Michael. *Aha* (Where) are you? We will come get you right now!” his *Ima* (mother) says firmly.

“Mmmm...” he begins to talk in his sleep.

“Mama, fried chicken. Pizza joe.”

English	Pilipino	Ilokano	Cebuano	Ilonggo	Ibanag	Kapampangan
Hands	Kamay	Ima	Kamot	Kamot	Lima	Gamat
No	Hindi	Haan	Dili	Indi	Awan	Indi
Where?	Nasaan?	Inno?	Aha?	San o?	Sitaw?	Nokarin?
House / Home	Bahay / Tahanan	Balay	Balay	Balay	Balay	Bale
Mother	Nanay	Nanang	Inahan	Nanay	Yena	Ima
What?	Ano?	Ana?	Hani?	Ano?	Anni?	Nanoyin?
Prayer	Dasal	Lualo	Pag-ampo	Pangadi	Dasal	Dasal
Arms	Braso	Takyag	Lima	Gamal	Kamot	Braso
Stop!	Tigil!	Sardeng!	Paghunong!	Untat!	Magimmang!	Patugut!

“Whaaat?” both Angel and Mom blurp out.

“Wait, who is that?”

“Who are you? *Sitaw* (Where) is my son?

Angel just freezes in time.

“*Anni* (What) do I do? *Ana* (What) should I say? Oh I should have never grabbed his phone. Can I put it back? Should I hang up? *Haan* (No), she will continue to call. Grrr. Ahhhh. *Ano* (What) do I do?” Angel says.

“Huh? *Hani* (What) do you do?” Mom asks.

Angel realizes she just spoke her last sentence aloud and immediately covers her mouth and clinches her teeth.

The horror in her eyes, as his mom says “Angel? Is that you? *Nasaan* (Where) is Michael?”

Michael’s mom is overcome with fear as she hears Angel’s voice.

“Angel, *tigil!* (stop!) Don’t hurt my baby!” she screams into the phone.

“*Ana?* (What?)” Angel is confused and stops to process the words.

“*Hani* (What) did she just say?” Angel says, puzzled.

“Angel! Let go of my son and turn yourself in. Please *patugut* (stop) it now,” his *Nanang* (mother) says.

“*Ano?* (What?)” Angel is completely

baffled. “Who is she talking to? Does Michael have another Angel friend?”

“Angel ... We know who you are and *anni* (what) you did!” the mom says.

“*Nanoyin* (What) the? Who is this lady talking to?” Angel thinks, as she is more confused than ever.

“We know *ana* (what) you did to that officer, Angel. Just let my son go. Please, I am asking you,” she pleads to her.

“Officer?” Angel asks herself.

Mom’s voice shatters. “He doesn’t deserve this. He is a good person. Just let him go! I’m begging you, please.”

“*Ano* (What) are you talking about lady?” Angel couldn’t control herself anymore.

“You know *hani* (what) you did,” says the mom.

“*Ana* (What) did I do?” Angel asks confusedly.

“You are on video. They are coming after you!” the mom exclaims.

“*Nanoyin?* (What?)” Angel asks.

“You killed that cop!”

And there it is, she said it. How do you feel when someone tells you something like that? How do you react? What are you going to say?

Anyways that’s all I have. Keep an eye out for my article in every issue.

I’m Dulce, helping you to master your Filipino Languages. Like always, let’s laugh, let’s *making* (listen) and Let’s Talk Pinoy! *Hanggang sa muli!* (Until next time!) *Ingat!* (Take care!) 🌟

**Dulce Karen Butay** was graduated from Maui High School and received her Associate in Arts degree in Liberal Arts from Maui Community College. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, specializing in Accounting, from the University of Hawai’i - West O’ahu. She is currently the Administrative Officer at the County of Maui, Department of Finance. Butay is a licensed Resident Producer of Life Insurance with World Financial Group and an Independent Consultant of Saladmaster. She is now part of Saladmaster’s Travel Club and won an all-expenses paid trip to Cancún, Mexico. Butay has traveled to Texas, the Philippines and Thailand as one of the delegates from Island Healthy Solutions, a Saladmaster dealer here on Maui.







Janella Suzuki



Faith Christy Soliven



Joevie Begata

# Google® Is Not Everything ... Thoughts on our Disconnection to our Motherland

Jazmyne Faith Viloria | MAUI HIGH SCHOOL, CLASS OF 2023

One long plane ride, eleven hours of squishing in a tiny seat, 5,295 miles away from the motherland, Maui’s Filipino American youth have limited opportunities to gain first-hand experience of the aura, lifestyle and traditions of the

Philippines. Most kids rely on family stories, pictures, parties, community events and the internet to create a cultural identity of themselves. Even though second-hand information and limited visits, *Pinoy* pride and the question “What does it mean to be Fil-

ipino?” have been or are yet to be answered.

“I started to realize a disconnection to my culture ten years ago when my grandparents moved to Maui,” **Janel-la Suzuki** reveals. Janella was born and raised on Maui but still partakes in Filipino traditions through family encouragement. She still feels, however, a piece is missing. “My grandparents had trouble speaking to me since they were still learning English but easily had conversations in Tagalog. Having that language barrier between my Mom’s side of the family (parents, brothers, sisters, etc.) made me realize knowing the language is a major piece in my culture.” Since then, she has made an effort to learn Tagalog, “I’m kind of getting the hang of it because sometimes if there’s a specific topic, I can understand what they’re saying.”

Like Janella, **Faith Christy Soliven** also felt disconnected from her Filipino culture due to language barriers. “I was not learning or actively taught the language as much as I wanted to. I felt out of place, understanding only the tiny bits and pieces of Ilokano and Tagalog.” In addition, she found herself surrounded and accompanied by people who did not have similar features as her. “The majority of my female friends at the time were *Wasian* (white and Asian) or had Eurocentric features. It’s no one’s fault in particular but I always felt insecure when looking in the mirror as a pre-teen.” As she advanced to high school, Faith gained confidence and embraced her features through a different genre. “When I began surrounding myself with Filipino songs, movies, role models and communities, I felt immensely grounded in my culture.” She also found it impactful to hear her parents’ stories. “Talking stories with my Mom and family allowed me to learn about their experiences in the Philippines and values they brought home here in Hawai’i. Trying to immerse myself in Philippine culture when I became old enough to under-

stand it was key to appreciating and learning about it. The journey is still a work in progress but I look forward to feeling more whole in my Filipino identity every day.”

Being born in the Philippines, however, does not automatically establish a cultural identity in some Filipino American youth. **Joevie Begata** expresses: “Although I was born in the Philippines and practice the ‘Filipino norms’ (how to bless the elderly, eating Filipino food, speaking Tagalog etc.), I still felt disconnected with my cultural identity.” She moved to Maui at only two years old and traveled to the Philippines three times. Despite visiting prior, during her 2017 trip, she “traveled around the Northern part of Luzon (we are from South Luzon), and as we visited different Provinces, I realized I didn’t know much of the country as a whole.” From there, Joevie wanted to learn and deepen her cultural roots: “Ever since then, I’ve been speaking in Tagalog and Rinconada more. Starting from smaller phrases to carrying on conversations with family and friends. In 2019, I traveled back to the Philip-

*Philippine culture strongly flows and resonates “within Filipino’s hearts, helping the next generation establish and define their Filipino identity.”*

– JAZMYNE VILORIA

pines. I made certain I respected the country by learning more about landmarks and asking my relatives about our province.” After practicing the language and learning Philippine history, Joevie believes there’s just one more step to connect with her culture. “I had the great opportunity to travel back to the Philippines this summer and have a debut. I never imagined partaking in this event because I didn’t know much about it growing up. I feel this will be the moment when I truly feel that I am connected to my Fil-

ipino culture.”



Although an entire ocean separates Maui and the Philippines, its culture has strongly flowed and continues to resonate within Filipinos’ hearts, helping the next generation establish and define their Filipino identity. ✨

**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 **Jazmyne Faith Viloria**, a Senior at Maui High School. She is a member of SaberScribes (Maui

High’s journalism club), Historian of the Video Club and Team Captain of Blue Thunder, Maui High’s Robotics club. Jazmyne is in the ACOM Pathway at Maui High, focusing on videography and photography. In her free time, she sews and refashions old clothes, journals, edits photos/videos and

loves to analyze lyrics in songs. She is the daughter of Ruth Sagisi and Rudy Viloria.





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Ti Biag ken Pammati  
“Life and Faith”



Bishop Larry asked Deacon Pat, “What is retirement?” Deacon responded, “We pass away, we don’t retire.”



Deacon Pat and Cora, Manny Baltazar, Dr Ulep (DCFCC Executive Secretary) and Nora Takushi (President MCFCC) at the celebration.

The Maui Council of Filipino Catholic Clubs held a double celebration on June 10 at Christ the King Church. We celebrated the end of the 500-year celebration of Christianity in the Philippines and my retirement as a Deacon.

After a day of workshops, Bishop Larry Silva challenged us in saying: “Let’s not end this celebration but continue to take it to the Future!” It sounds broad but challenging. We can take it to any direction. We all have different paths and journeys. Let us pray and find it with the help of the Holy Spirit.

“Whoever puts his hand to the plow but keeps looking back is unfit for the reign of God.” Luke 9:62. My friends, our Church does have a past. (We give honor and praise to our past.) Some good and some not so good, of course.

And something incredibly important did happen long ago. No doubt about that. And Jesus was a real person who lived in a particular time and place. And his passion, death, and resurrection were two thousand plus years ago. All of that is true.

But faith—true faith, deep faith—is always forward looking. Put another way, a life of faith is not about who we were yesterday. It’s not about the mistakes and sins we have

made or the hurt inflicted on us or the troubles that have come our way. Rather, faith is all about making honest assessments of who we are today and imagining who we want to be tomorrow. It’s about embracing a whole new way of thinking and seeing and acting. And it’s about following—not someone who is behind us but following someone who is right in front of us and within us—inviting us to *love more and give more and be more*. (We live in the present and believe in our faith.) And we can’t do that if we are constantly focusing only on what was and not on what can be. That’s the power of the Resurrection and power not simply on display in a story from long ago but a power that can change us and transform us this very day, this very moment. But it requires something—us. We must look at ourselves and prepare for the future. With God’s help we can do this.

As for me, my path and journey is one of retirement as a Deacon. In response to my retirement letter dated March 29, 2022, Bishop Larry Silva wrote “I am hereby accepting your intention and granting you retirement status as a deacon, effectively

July 1, 2022. Let me emphasize that even as a retired deacon you remain in good standing with the full diaconal faculties of the Diocese of Honolulu. After retirement you may continue to minister as a deacon at your own discretion. Let me take this opportunity to thank you for your 35 years as a deacon. You have done outstanding ministry and have touched many lives as you witnessed to Jesus the Servant. We are most grateful to you for all you have done, and we pray that your ministry will bear much good fruit for generations to come. I look forward to the June 10, 2022 celebration at which you will be honored. May the Lord bless

you and Cora with good health and many more years of service to the Lord!”

I’ve been blessed with many families and friends—even strangers—and I thank God for all of you! Thank you, Maui Council of Filipino Catholic Clubs, led by President Nora Takushi, Manny Balthazar and Liezl Oandasan, co-chairpersons for this special celebration and all the committee members and to my brother priests, deacons and religious.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. I’m proud of my Filipino heritage and I’m proud to be a *Filipino*! You have made me who I am and I thank you for that. One does not become successful without you and God! Thank you for making me who I am. You will always be in our prayers! We Love You!

Special thanks to my lovely wife, Cora for 61 years, my everything, through the years. *Jesus, I trust in You!* ✨

On July 1, 2022, Patrick Constantino retired as a Deacon for the Roman Catholic Church in Hawaii, after serving for thirty-five years and becoming on June 18, 1987, the first Deacon of Filipino ancestry for the Roman Catholic Church in Hawaii. For twenty-two years, he served as Administrator at Holy Rosary Church in Paia, St. Rita Church in Haiku and St. Gabriel Church in Keanae. His last assignment before retiring was at 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.

Constantino is married to his lovely wife Corazon for sixty-one years.

A Double Celebration  
on June 10, 2022

Deacon Patrick Constantino | PHOTOS COURTESY PATRICK CONSTANTINO



Bishop Larry and the clergy.





# Our Maui Summer Welcomes New Viral Developments

Errol Buntuyan, M.D., FAAFP

Summer is here and in full swing. Many Maui locals are flying out to international destinations like the Philippines as cities open with less travel restrictions to finally reunite with loved ones. There is also the continuation of mainland vacationers pouring onto our beaches seeking respite in our tropical paradise.

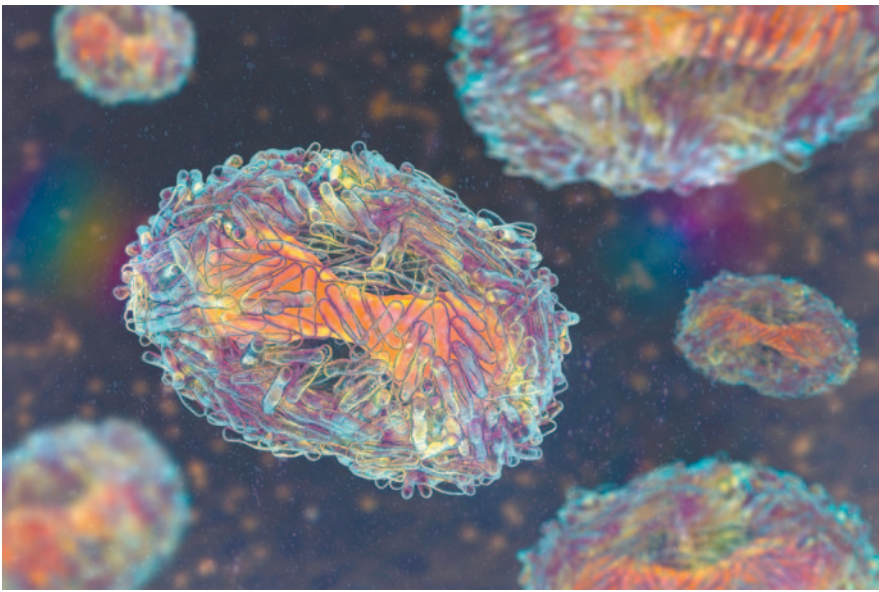
## Monkeypox

Summer has also signaled the arrival of monkeypox on O’ahu shores with a few discovered cases.

Monkeypox is endemic in areas of West Africa and over the years, there have been a handful of cases in the United States. These prior cases have been traced to animal transmission and/or travel from Africa. The monkeypox cases in the U.S. over the last few months are concerning because there does not seem to be a connection with travel or animal exposure. Scientists are still working on understanding the current outcrop of U.S. cases.

Monkeypox is a rare but serious disease caused by the monkeypox virus (a strain of orthopox virus). The monkeypox virus is in the same family and closely related to the smallpox virus. Smallpox was officially eradicated in 1980 because of mass global vaccinations in the 1960s and ’70s. People who received the smallpox vaccine are seemingly protected from monkeypox. The smallpox vaccines stopped being routinely administered in 1972 and there is no anticipation of starting another vaccine campaign because of this recent monkeypox activity.

The  $R_0$  number ( $R$  naught) of a virus refers to how many people one infected person will go on to infect. The  $R_0$  for monkeypox is less than 1.



**Monkeypox is a rare** but serious disease caused by the monkeypox virus (a strain of orthopox virus). The monkeypox virus is in the same family and closely related to the smallpox virus.

PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK

In comparison, COVID’s Omicron has an  $R_0$  of 12. So if a virus has an  $R$  number of twelve then a person who catches it will, on average, go on to infect twelve other people. Based on the current information available, the risk to contract monkeypox to most Hawai’i residents remains very low.

According to the CDC, here are some key points to remember:

- Monkeypox virus can spread when a person comes into contact with the virus from an infected animal, infected person or materials contaminated with the virus.
- Common symptoms: Flu-like symptoms; swelling of lymph nodes; rash or sores, often on the hands, feet, chest, face or genitals.
- Avoid skin-to-skin and prolonged close contact (touching sores, kissing, sex) with anyone who has an unusual rash or monkeypox symptoms.

toms.

As of June 24, 2022, the DOH identified five confirmed monkeypox cases and one probable case in Hawai’i residents.

## COVID-19 Pandemic

In other virus-related developments, COVID Vaccines for our *keiki* are now approved. Immunizations for children aged six months through four years is now approved for the Pfizer® vaccine and approved for six months to five years for the Moderna® vaccine.

This is Moderna’s first entry into being able to be administered to children. Only the Pfizer vaccine has been approved for children five to 17 years old.

For infants and children, Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are NOT interchangeable. Subsequent doses of Pfizer

er must be given if the patient received Pfizer as the first dose and the second dose of Moderna is only given if the patient received Moderna as the first dose.

The importance of vaccination against COVID is still highly recommended. The COVID infectivity rates are still high on Maui but the good news is the death rates have not increased despite the last few months of surges. The reports of severe illness and hospitalization are less and many folks recover after a few days.

The summer months are promising to be full of fun, sun and travel. Though the rare monkeypox virus has landed on Hawaiian shores, it is not expected to have an impactful course. We will watch for further developments in the months to come. COVID-19 however, still continues in our community. COVID will be with us for years. Staying safe by taking the precautions that we know so well and keeping up with the vaccines for our *keiki*, our family and for ourselves is the only way we will thrive in the years to come. 🌟



**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.

## Bong Bong ...

from p. 14

tax be imposed?” Agcolicol said President Aquino determined all of Ferdinand Marcos’ “assets are considered ill-gotten wealth” but Agcolicol questioned “How do you impose an estate tax in this case? The Presidential Commission on Good Government is tasked to sequester all Marcos ‘ill-gotten wealth,’ so if I am a Marcos heir, why would I pay for those assets then?” Agcolicol emphasized “The main point though is, the Bureau of Internal Revenue had the capacity for the longest time to sell the assets in question. Why didn’t they do it?”

Agcolicol also fiercely criticized the administrations after the first Marcos was deposed. “You tell me what’s the difference of what happened after Ferdinand Marcos left the Philippines; it’s worse than what you think of. The Presidential Commission on Good Government was formed and se-

questered properties but we don’t even know where the proceeds went. The new leaders sold all the properties of the Philippine government to their next of kins and friends at a low price, just like the Fort, Philippine Airlines, Meralco, NAWASA, oil companies and other properties that the government owned. The anti-Marcos are blinded by the biased media and propaganda and can’t see and differentiate the progress from the past (Marcos regime) up to the last Aquino administration.”

Agcolicol recognized however “no leaders are perfect. They have their own flaws as well as with their officials.”

For his part, Bong Bong promised to deliver, just like his father. *Government will get as much done alone without requiring more from you. That is what government and public officials are for. No excuses. Just deliver. It was like that, once upon a time.*

“I’m hoping that Bong Bong Marcos is a different kind of leader from

his father, the late Ferdinand Marcos who held onto power for 21 years (1965 to 1986),” said Alfredo Cantorna, whose ancestral roots are from Narvacan, Ilocos Sur. “My late parents were from the Ilocos region but were not fans of Ferdinand Marcos’ dictatorial rule.”

Zane had a different take: “I’m delighted that another Marcos has been elected to the highest position in our country. I’ve seen the evolution of Bong Bong Marcos in politics and he’s done great things to improve and help the lives of our fellow Filipinos.”

“I believe he’s going to be a good president!” exclaimed Lilia Ross, whose ancestral roots are from Iligan City, Lanao Del Norte. “Why? Because he wants to redeem their name, his father’s legacy and for his children and for his beloved country. They



Alfredo Cantorna



Lilia Zalsos Ross

don’t need more wealth. His wife belongs to a well-to-do family. He experienced how to be without a permanent home and country. He went to offer his help to the people

in need in the Visayas when they really needed help during the typhoon.”

Dolly Butay from San Nicolas was also ecstatic. “I am so happy that Marcos is back in power. I believe he will do good as a president because he is a Marcos after all. He had exposures from his late father, President Marcos and he still can ask or seek guidance from his mother, Imelda. He also has experience in politics because he was elected to different positions.”

In his concluding remarks, Bong Bong spoke of his faith in the 110 million Filipinos: *With every difficult decision that I must make, I will keep fore-*

see BONG BONG p.22





Tanya Marie Alconcel Barbero



Tanya in the EKG lab in 1997 at Maui Medical Group



Lee and Tanya's Wedding Day on June 18, 1983—they are making their escape from the Wedding ceremony site.

# Tanya Marie Alconcel Barbero

Lucy Peros | ALL PHOTOS COURTESY ALCONCEL BARBERO 'OHANA

“The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members,” Coretta Scott King, wife of Dr. Martin Luther King once said. This month’s featured *Sakada* Offspring, Tanya Marie Alconcel Barbero together with her husband Lee Barbero prove this to be true.

Tanya was born on January 21, 1961 in Wailuku at Maui Memorial

Hospital and grew up in Waikapū Camp. Her paternal grandfather was Frank Quiteves Alconcel who lived in Pu’unēnē.

Tanya attended Wailuku Elementary, ‘Īao School, Baldwin High School and Maui Community College.

As an offspring of three *Sakadas*, Tanya feels truly fortunate to be a third generation Hawai’i born Filipina. Her maternal great grandfather, Milton Pacheco Salvani, arrived in

Hawai’i from Iloilo in 1911. She remembers growing up in the “old” Waikapū and had the chance to experience a bit of plantation life. She remembers living in the plantation style house with the *banyo* (bathroom) outside the house. She claims it was really a subsistence lifestyle, with her extended family living awfully close by—next door or just a few houses away. Tanya’s family had a pig farm and her grandfather and father each had their vegetable farms. They raised chickens and goats too. When it was time for replenishing, they slaughtered their own livestock. Camp neighbors shared their harvests. Tanya even remembers joining in at *hukilaus* or net fishing with the whole camp in Kihei and then dividing the catch among families. Attending many parties at the Waikapū Filipino Clubhouse are also priceless events to remember for Tanya. Tanya enjoyed her childhood, simple and growing up in the country with lots of fun family time.

and represented Baldwin High School as a member of the Hula Bowl Marching Band in 1978. She was also given the John Phillip Sousa award in 1979. The award recognizes young musicians displaying superior musicianship, leadership, dependability, loyalty, cooperation and other qualities of conduct which school instrumental music programs strive to impart. The Sousa award is the top nationwide prize in the school band field, both in prestige and appearance.

Tanya’s husband Lee Barbero attended Christ The King School, Kahului School, Maui High School and Maui Community College. He received a College Certificate of Completion in Carpentry and Building Maintenance. He currently works at St. Anthony Maintenance.

Tanya and Lee have three children: Marlena Barbero is a graduate of Baldwin High School and Chaminade University with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. Marlena works as a Senior Purchasing Agent at Maui Medical Group. Isaiah Barbero is 16 years old. He is a Junior at Baldwin High School. Ivah Barbero is seven years old, attending Lihikai School.

Tanya’s Dad, Joseph Alconcel, Sr. was a journeyman welder at Wailuku Agribusiness (formerly Wailuku Sugar). He was a farmer and musician playing dinner music at Maui Beach Hotel in the ’70s and ’80s. He died in 2011. Her mom, Judy Arzaga Alconcel was a pharmaceutical tech at Kaiser

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Arzaga 50th Anniversary 1986: Arzaga, Johnson, Pellazar, Alconcel and Barbero Family





Lee, Ivah, Marlana, Tanya and Isaiah are shown in this Barbero family photo from 2016.

Permanente. Prior to that, she worked as a pharmacy tech at Craft’s Drug Store in the old Kahului Shopping Center. Judy keeps busy caring for grandchildren and great-grandchildren and now lives with Tanya and Lee in Kahului.

Tanya’s siblings are Joseph Alconcel, Jr., Journey Mason, lives in Kahului, has two adult daughters.

Trina Alconcel Napaepae, a retired administrative assistant, married to John Napaepae living in Utah with their son and family.

Chad Alconcel and his four children and two grandsons live in Wailuku.

Celeste Alconcel Mollena married to Barney Mollena is a Realtor Broker with Keller Williams Realty. They live in Waikapū with their twins after purchasing and renovating their grandparents’ home.

In 2020, Tanya received the Island Treasure Award for St. Anthony from Maui Council of Filipino Catholic Clubs.

Tanya and Lee are both involved in the following church related ministries: Worldwide Marriage Encounter Presenting Team, Active ministries at St. Anthony Church and School, Youth Ministry, Baptism, Hospitality and Family Life Ministry. They work with couples for marriage convalidation and provide Marriage Enrichments. They are also involved in end-of-life care and advanced health care directives. They are also general license foster parents for over 20 years caring for dozens of children during that time, mostly in sibling groups (because it was hard to think children would be separated from each other).

Tanya has several hobbies and interests. She enjoys cooking, creating graphic designs for organizations and ministry events. When time allows, she tends to succulents, orchids and anthuriums. She enjoys playing with little kids and finding ways to get people together. She loves music, singing and playing guitar or ‘ukulele. She is interested in anything dealing with faith and family. She loves to dabble in foreign languages because she feels that it helps her to learn more about people and their cultures.

Tanya took up a profession in Clinical Medical Assisting, which was a new allied health field in the 1980s. She completed her studies at Med Assist School of Hawai’i on O’ahu. She obtained credentialing and worked as a Registered Medical Assistant at Maui Medical Group in 1982. She was the second Registered Medical Assistant hired at the group. She considers herself as a life-long unconventional student. She worked and studied throughout her 40-year healthcare career where she did direct patient care assisting doctors primarily in internal medicine and OBGYN. At Maui Med-

ical Group, she also studied and earned certification as a Certified Radiographic Technician and ran the EKG and Pulmonary Function labs for 17 years. Her leadership skills allowed her to take on supervisory roles eventually leading to the last 5 years as the Nursing Department manager before leaving to take on a new part-time position as Community Outreach Liaison at Hospice Maui in 2017. Tanya recently started working for St. Anthony Church as the Director of Faith Formation and Family Life. She previously worked there also as Youth Minister in 1984–1985.

Tanya’s grandfather Pegelio Domingo Arzaga came to Hawai’i from San Nicolas, Laoag, Ilocos Norte, Philippines around 1930 with his first cousin Angel Arzaga. They were first assigned to the Big Island and later transferred to Wailuku Sugar. His plantation housing was provided in Waikapū in the bachelor’s quarters. As a single man, he was part of the camp band and played the trombone. He met her grandmother who was born in Waikapū in the camp. Her grandfather’s first job was to *hāpai kō* or laborer that carried the cane transport carts or horses. Later, he worked his way up to an irrigator. He was very smart and as a child, dreamed of becoming a lawyer. Tanya’s grandparents got married in 1936 and had five daughters. During the war, her grandfather moved the family to O’ahu where he worked as a stevedore from 1941 to 1943. He was also an entrepreneur. He had a livestock (piggery) farm. He also had a vegetable garden and provided fresh produce for his extended family. He was also very civic minded and proud of his Filipino heritage. He served as the president of the Waikapū Filipino Community Association for many years. He was also involved in the ILWU to advocate for fair working conditions for immigrant workers. He sustained a back injury that resulted in back surgery. He was fortunate to have a hospital bed at that time. He got better and after he retired from Wailuku Sugar, he worked for about 20 years as the caretaker of the St. Anthony Church Cemetery. Tanya even had the privilege to pick her grandfather up after school after his work and they got to go home together, enjoying each other’s company. Tanya enjoyed listening to her grandfather’s story about him being the Big Boss at his job at the cemetery because he had “800 people under him” (those buried in the cemetery).

Tanya has such fond memories of his grandfather and grandmother. She shares her reflection on them:

*I looked up to my grandpa as a smart man! He always kept up with the news and I have a heartwarming mem-*

*ory of him sitting in his recliner reading the newspaper and talking to me about the headlines. I was only eight years old and remember that he talked to me like I was someone important enough to know these things. Grandpa told us that we should speak English and discouraged us from speaking Ilokano (even though I asked to learn). He said it was important to speak English if we were to get ahead in school. He encouraged education, often reminding me that he didn’t get a chance to go to school so he would do what he could to help his children and grandchildren go to college.*

*Grandpa would wake up early every morning to cook his lunch before he went to work at the plantation. He would make dinengdeng or other simple meals. He always packed peanut butter sandwiches. When he came home from work, he would tell me to empty his kau-kau tin and magically there was always leftovers for me. He was organized and meticulous and very resourceful. He was an excellent cook and after he died, all I asked for was the pots he used to cook my favorite dishes and his kau-kau tin. He took lead whenever we slaughtered pigs for our own home use and also to share/sell with the community. I have wonderful memories of the entire family, aunts, uncles, cousins and freezers.*

*My grandfather had a deep devotion to the Blessed Mother and would say his rosary every night. I liked to be with him as he prayed because it gave me such peace.*

*He and my grandmother were all about FAMILY. I remember how they were always there to help us when we were in need. And my grandmother would make it a point that we get together regularly for Sunday dinner. He and my grandmother were married for nearly 52 years before my grandmother died of cancer in 1988. I remember he wanted the wording on her casket spray to say ‘Forever Loving You’ because love continues. It doesn’t end, so he didn’t want it to be in past tense. That strikes a chord in my heart even to this day!*

✱ **Lucy Peros** is a retired schoolteacher, having taught at St. Anthony Grade School and Waihe’e Elementary School. Both of her late parents, Elpidio Cachero Cabalo (a 1946 Sakada) and Alejandra Cabudoy Cabalo of Hāli’imaile, worked for Maui Land and Pine Company.

Lucy now enjoys retirement and has time to join other seniors in the Enhance Fitness Program under the Department of Aging three times a week. She also attends the line dancing class and other activities at Kaunoa Senior Center and joins other Waihe’e School retirees when help is needed at the school. Lucy also devotes some of her time to activities at Christ The King Catholic Church. She enjoys writing and reading in her spare time.



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Bong Bong ...

from p. 19



Dolly Butay

most in my heart and in my mind the debt of gratitude I owe you for the honor and responsibility that you have conferred on me. Whatever is in a person to make changes for the better of others, I lay before you now in my commitment, I will try to spare you. You have other responsibilities to carry but I will not spare myself from shedding the last bead of sweat or giving the last ounce of courage and sacrifice. And if you ask me why I am so confident of the future, I will answer you simply that I have 110 million reasons to start with. Such is my faith in the Filipino. Believe, have hope. The sun also rises like it did today and as it will tomorrow. And as surely as that, we will achieve the country, all Filipinos deserve.

“The whole world will be watching whether the young Marcos administration will do better than the old Marcos including the leaders for the past 36 years,” observed Agcolicol.

Sales added “I wish him the best



Sarah Duterte takes the oath of office of Vice President of the Philippines. PHOTO: WIKIPEDIA COMMONS

and I join all Filipinos in praying for him because as Bong Bong said, he wants to do well.”

Butay also is praying for Bong Bong’s success: “I pray that he will do a better job than his father, who I think was the smartest Philippine president so far, so the Philippines will progress and be a top nation.” “At the end of the day, whether you voted for him or not, let’s support him and stand behind him because his success is our country’s success,” said Zane. ✨

Alfredo G. Evangelista is a

graduate of Maui High School (1976), the University of Southern California (Political Science 1980), and the University of California at Los Angeles School of Law (1983). He has been practicing law for 38 years (since 1983) and 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. His Dad Elias Acang Evangelista is from Paoay, Ilocos Norte while his Mom Catalina Gonzales

Evangelista was born in San Antonio, Zambales but raised in Paoay. He first visited the Philippines in January 1972 and did not return until he was part of the Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawai’i’s Trade Missions in 1992, 1993, 1994, 1998 and 1999. During those Trade Missions, he visited Cagayan de Oro, Cebu, Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, Metro Manila, Subic and Zamboanga. He last visited the Philippines in 2001 when he accompanied his Mom to Paoay to have a one-year lualo after his Dad’s death.

Beyond ...

from p. 7

must promote self-sufficiency and developing local workforce skills. In the

short-term, no alternative can completely replace the number of jobs visitor accommodations and vendors for hotels, restaurants and activities provide. Maui lacks large scale military investments or presence like Pearl

Harbor, Marine Corps Base Kāne’ohe, the submarine base on Kaua’i or the training area on the Hawai’i island, as an additional economic base. Our County also does not get direct economic benefits of a major research university in Mānoa and other higher education institutions, or the financial centers operating from urban Honolulu. As a result, Maui County remains more dependent on the visitor industry than other counties. We can certainly better balance visitor impacts on our local population, infrastructure and natural areas, without succumbing to the notion that Hawai’i should cater to and only attract affluent visitors. A trip to Hawai’i should remain branded as a special thing with a truer cultural experience.

Government needs to be strategic and build on existing local opportunities—providing tax incentives or other benefits to attract the same businesses our sister states and other Pacific countries want may not pan out unless carefully crafted. Instead, we need to be both strategic and opportunistic in shifting more of our economy into areas building resilience.

In short, any diversification of our economy must promote self-sufficiency and develop workforce skills in alignment from lower education to college and vocational training. The pandemic showed that improving local self-sufficiency in key areas should be priorities. Public investments should advance Hawai’i’s own resiliency in health care (locally training nurses, technicians and physicians), agriculture (supporting farmers with land, water and facilities/equipment to develop value-added products) and alternative energy (developing, adopting, proving and marketing technologies).

Maui Health now hires nurses directly from the University of Hawai’i Maui College (UHMC) and provides

on the job training. Maui Health, needing local medical technicians to reduce off-island contractors, should work with UHMC to develop a program. John A. Burns School of Medicine, with legislative funding, is expanding residency and medical education to the neighbor islands. UHMC, the Farm Bureau/Farmers Union and local entrepreneurs are collaborating to develop value-added products from local crops. The Legislature allocated funding to create centralized kitchens for clusters of schools—a limitation for the Department of Education to buy more locally grown produce, poultry and livestock has been the federal requirements on processing those products to qualify for the federally subsidized lunch and breakfast programs. Centralized kitchens will help bridge that gap. The Legislature also funded UHMC’s expansion of vocational education to support entry into the building trades.


In a couple of weeks the community will have an initial opportunity to choose who will serve as Maui Mayor, County Councilmembers and legislators. Take time to find out where these candidates want to take us. ✨

Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran has represented Central Maui in the Hawai’i State Senate since 2013. He is running unopposed in the upcoming August Primary Election and needs at least his own vote to win a four-year term.



The legislative representatives for Central Maui will be decided in August: Troy Hashimoto is unopposed in Wailuku while the Justin Woodson-Sam Peralta contest for Kahu-lui will be determined in the Democratic Primary.

“Vote ...




and remember  
to plan for your estate.”

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# Kwento Kwentuhan

## Be A Helper...

*An Encouragement to Volunteer*

Liza A Pierce of “A Maui Blog”

The news around the world is overwhelming. News of war, inflation, recession, pandemic, political issues, shooting, natural disasters and so on. It can get discouraging sometimes, or most of the time.

What can we do? Many of us are simply too busy just trying to stay afloat or survive. Some are a little bit ahead but not much. Is there anything we can do during these troubling times?

“Look for the helpers.” That is what Mr. Roger’s mother told him during an overwhelming time. And there is something insightful about that.

Say what? Look for the helpers? Yes. And better yet, *be the helper*.

There is something about giving that makes a situation better. It is about being a community, helping one another to get through tough times.

So today, *mag-kwento-kwentuhan tayo* about being a helper which equates to being a volunteer.

There are many volunteer opportunities here on Maui and I would like to highlight some of them. This is not a comprehensive list but something to get us started. Take a look and see if there is anything here that you want to be involved with. If not, explore, look around, and I am sure you will find something you can be involved with.

### 1. Bayanihan Feeding Program

The program coordinated by Binhi at Ani provides a Sunday lunch to Hale Mahaolu residents in Central Maui. As of May 31, a total of 7,317 meals were delivered. There is a need for additional teams of volunteers to prepare the free lunches. Create a Team by signing on Binhi at Ani’s website or by contacting Christina “Lucy” Porte, chairperson of Binhi at Ani’s Health and Wellness committee at [lucychristin@hotmail.com](mailto:lucychristin@hotmail.com).

### 2. Mālama Hawai’i Volunteerism Program with Lahaina Restoration Foundation (LRF)

Learn more about Maui’s rich history through hands-on processing (measure/describe/photograph/transcribe) of historic artifacts and documents from all eras of Lahaina’s past, including Kingdom of Hawai’i, Missionary, Whaling and Sugar eras. Volunteer opportunities Tuesdays and Thursdays—Reserve a Space. To inquire about other times by appointment, contact [Kimberly@lahainarestoration.org](mailto:Kimberly@lahainarestoration.org) or visit their website <https://lahainarestoration.org/volunteer-malama/>

### 3. Farms and Gardens Volunteering

There are many volunteer opportunities on Maui when it comes to

farming and gardening and I will mention two of them here. Last week-end, I actually volunteered on a farm and it was fun and satisfying. It felt good I was helping with regards to food sustainability and at the same time it is a good exercise.

Grow Some Good, a non-profit organization teaching kids about the importance of gardening, is always on the lookout for new garden volunteers. There are always a variety of volunteer opportunities, like helping with watering and light maintenance in the mornings or joining a class and helping with students during the day. If you are interested in volunteering with Grow Some Good, contact them at [Volunteer@GrowSomeGood.org](mailto:Volunteer@GrowSomeGood.org) for more information or visit their website at <https://growsomegood.org/about-us/get-involved/>.

The Maui Farm provides farm-based, family-centered programs that teach essential life skills for self-sufficient living. They offer services to single mothers and their children in a safe neighborhood setting, where individuals and families are nurtured to develop their full potential. Volunteers play a critical role in helping The Maui Farm’s programs and grounds grow and thrive! Each month they welcome community volunteers to join them at the farm for educational and fun volunteer experiences that support our mission. Space is limited; reservations required. If you are interested, please contact [ihilani@themaufarm.org](mailto:ihilani@themaufarm.org) or visit <https://www.themaufarm.org/volunteerworkdays>.

### 4. Maui Food Bank

Maui Food Bank’s mission is to help the hungry in Maui County by collecting and distributing food through community partnerships. There are many volunteer opportunities such as helping in the warehouse, extra hands for projects and assistance in special events. As mentioned on their website, they rely on the generosity and Aloha Spirit of volunteers to help them fulfill their mission to help the hungry. Find out more at: <https://mauifoodbank.org/volunteer-opportunities/>

### 5. Maui Humane Society

As a volunteer at the Maui Humane Society, you will have the chance to meet other volunteers, MHS staff, like-minded people in your community and countless loving pets looking for their forever homes. You will have the opportunity to work hands-on with adoptable animals, participate in community events and fundraisers, assist Maui Humane Society staff and make a difference in the life of homeless pets. Sign up with a friend to maximize the fun! Make positive change and touch the lives of the animals and people of Maui today! For more information, go to



Lapa’au Farm during a workshop I attended with G Farm Hawai’i  
PHOTO: LIZA PIERCE

<https://www.mauihumanesociety.org/volunteer/>. ✨

**Liza Pierce** of A Maui Blog is an Interactive Media enthusiast. She started blogging in 2006 and she loves talking story online and spreading aloha around the world. She’s been living on Maui since 1994 and considers Maui her home. A wife, a mother, a friend and so much more. She loves Jesus; Maui Sunsets Catcher; Crazy About Rainbow; End Alzheimer’s Advocate. Her life is full and exciting here on the

island of Maui. Liza is currently the Digital Media Specialist with Hawai’i Life Real Estate Brokers. She is the author of the book Maui 2021 and Beyond.





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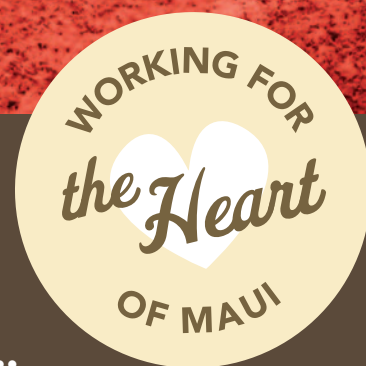
We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.—That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers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



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