



P2 Filipino Studies in our Schools

PHILIPPINE Fiesta

A Division of Five D's Arts, LLC

Volume 21 No. 4 September 2023



P5 Filipino Labor Leader Larry Itliong

Philippine policy toward US 'the right thing' – Romualdez

BY PIA LEE-BRAGO

MANILA, Philippines — The Philippines' stepped-up relationship with the United States is the "right thing" and part of the former colony's defense

in foreign policy to one more US-aligned under President Marcos is seen as a threat to China.

In an interview aired over "The Chiefs" on Cignal TV's One News



More than 2,000 members of Philippine and Australian defense forces and US marine corps aviation from marine rotational forces conduct military exercises.

strategy against perceived bully states, according to the US Philippine Ambassador to the US Jose Manuel Romualdez.

For Romualdez, the shift

last Saturday night, the ambassador said the US government has been offering Washington's "iron-clad" support and

Continued on page 3

Inflation likely went up in August

BY LAWRENCE AGCAOLI

MANILA, Philippines — Most economists believe inflation likely accelerated in August to at least five percent, while some

see the rise in prices easing slightly after cooling for six straight months to 4.7 percent in July from a peak of 8.7 percent in January.



Inflation likely quickened to 5.3 percent in August from 4.7 percent in July due to substantial month-on-month increases in rice, vegetable and oil prices.

Continued on page 3

Black and Asian Unity: Stronger Together Than Apart

BY NIKKI ABELEDA

On August 5, community members, activists, and Black and Asian led community-based organizations gathered for Sacramento's first Blasian March and Book Fair. The Blasian March was founded by Rohan Zhou-Lee in 2020 in New York to center the history of Black and Asian solidarity, including the Black Lives Matter and Stop Asian Hate movements. Rohan Zhou-Lee (They/Siya/Tā), is a Queer/Non-Binary (gender Firebird) Black and Asian author, dancer, and organizer from New York. The inspiration generated by the Blasian March led to additional local iterations across the U.S.

Continued on page 6



Community members, Black and Asian organizations gathered for Sacramento's first Blasian March and Book Fair.

Three Filipinos convicted of elder abuse in California senior care home

A Filipino owner of several senior care homes and two of his employees were convicted of elder neglect and abuse of six severely disabled residents of an unlicensed facility in Riverside, California.

California Attorney General Rob Bonta, whose office secured the convictions, said the victims ranging in age from from 32 to 66, were found malnourished, living in filth and without basic care in a house that did not have the staff, equipment, or licensing needed to care for the residents.



California's Attorney General Rob Bonta secured the felony elder abuse convictions.

Investigators arrived at the location to find the victims being housed in squalor. Many of them were emaciated and dehydrated and were not being provided the care they needed.

Defendants Joel Gallano

Ombao, 70, owner of the unlicensed Secure Hands Board and Care where the victims were housed, Ronnel Tiburico, 58, Ombao's assistant, and Nimfa Molina, 64, a registered nurse, were all found guilty of elder abuse.

The jury trial that began on June 6, and ended Aug.

1 convicted Ombao of four counts of felony elder abuse, Tiburico was convicted of six counts of felony elder abuse, and Molina was convicted of one misdemeanor count

of elder abuse.

Tiburcio could face up to nine years in prison, Ombao up to seven years in prison, and Molina up to six months in county jail. Their sentencing is scheduled for Aug. 25.

"Caretakers of elderly and dependent adults have the responsibility of protecting their patients' dignity, safety, and health," said Attorney General Rob Bonta. "Instead, the victims in this case suffered horrific neglect and lack of care at the hands of those who were trusted with their well-being."

Inquirer.net



BY DR. ROBYN MAGALIT RODRIGUEZ

The month of September marks the beginning of the school year for many families in the Sacramento region and across the state. Whether Filipino American students will be encountering stories that include Filipino American characters in their language arts classes or whether they will learn about Filipinos' historical contributions to American society in their social studies classes has become a major struggle for our community for decades: In this month's article, I examine some of the ways our community has successfully organized to increase our representation in K-12 through college-level curriculum while also highlighting the challenges we continue to face.

"Will the struggles and victories of Filipinos in America be obscured and forgotten through time? Will issues like that of Filipino union organizing in the Alaskan canneries and housing rights of the International Hotel tenants be learned and appreciated by future generations of Filipinos? If the lessons of Filipino history are not preserved and retold in our history books how will the significance of the growing Filipino population in American ever be realized and recognized as it should?"

These were questions posed by Jessica Ordoná in a paper entitled, "Fight Against Racist Textbooks." Ordoná was a member of The Filipino Far West Task Force on Education. She was writing in a June 1977, over 45 years ago.

Since Ordoná's paper was published, the Filipino community has come a long way in advancing Filipino Studies in our public education system, but it has taken some time to do so. Looking at K-12 curriculum in the state of California today, it was only in 2013, several decades after Ordoná's paper was published, when AB123, a law introduced by Attorney General Rob Bonta when he was a state Assemblymember and supported by many Filipino American groups across California and beyond, mandated the inclusion of Filipino contributions to the farmworker struggle. AB101, signed into law in 2021, made California the first state to require ethnic studies in high school. Ethnic Stud-

Filipino Studies in our Schools



Filipino American student groups at University of California, Davis.

ies is the field of study that centers the experiences of people of color in the United States. Filipino American organizations like the Filipino American Educators Association of California (FAEAC) and Filipinx Igniting Engagement for Reimagining Collective Em(POWER)ment – known as the FIERCE Coalition (a statewide assembly of 20 FilAm community-based organizations (CBOs), nonprofits, grassroots and student groups from across California) have been at the forefront of pushing for a statewide ethnic studies mandate in the K-12 level for many years. These groups build upon and expand efforts of groups like Pin@y Educational Partnerships (PEP), which successfully introduced a Filipino-centered, ethnic studies curriculum in the San Francisco Unified School District in the early 2000s. All of these advocacy efforts ultimately trace their origins to the work of the Pilipino American Collegiate Endeavor (PACE), one of the student groups involved in the Third World Liberation Front (TWLF), the coalition that successfully originated the field of Ethnic Studies at San Francisco State University in 1968.

Continuing the work of expanding Filipino Studies at the university-level that was started by PACE was the Bulosan Center for Filipino Studies at UC Davis. Five years ago this month, I along with my students and members of the community launched the Bulosan Center through a grassroots fundraising effort. The Center was the first-ever University of California based research and education center focused on advancing Filipino Studies. Less of a physical center—in truth, the office that we worked from was a small, windowless, unused office in the Asian American Studies department at UC Davis—it comprised a digital "center," the Welga Archives and more importantly it became a center of gravity for scholars, advocates, and the Filipino community at large.

Despite all of our gains as a community in advancing Filipino Studies and Ethnic Studies more broadly in our schools, we are being met with staunch opposition. For example, while there is an ethnic studies mandate for California high schools, exactly what is to be included in that curriculum is being hotly contested at the local level. Meanwhile, around the country, seemingly in response to California's groundbreaking law, states are practically banning the kinds of curriculum and programs that ethnic studies makes possible. At the places where the research and writing that ultimately helps inform the textbooks that get written at the K-12 level, like the University of California, there is an average of less than 1 Filipino tenured professor across the 10 U.C. campuses whose work is in the field of Filipino Studies. Indeed, the

challenges I faced as a faculty member in trying to grow the Bulosan Center at UC Davis were so demoralizing and frustrating that I decided to retire early from job earlier this year to launch the Amado Khaya Initiative outside of the university to better carry out the Bulosan Center's original mission and vision. At this point in 2023, decades after Ordoná posed the question, "Will the struggles and victories of Filipinos in America be obscured and forgotten through time?" especially in the context of the public education system, it would seem that the answer, woefully, is "yes."

One thing to be learned, however, in reflecting on over 5 decades of collective struggle in ensuring that the struggles and victories of Filipinos in America are NOT obscured and forgotten through time, is that we cannot fully rely on educational leaders or other policy makers to help us address our issues and concerns. They will not create curriculum that reflects our experiences on their own accord. Only when we as a community band together to raise our voices can we make certain that our histories are preserved and inserted into the public school curriculum so future generations of students will encounter them in their classrooms. Only when we create alternative sites for learning can we develop curriculum that truly meets our community's needs.

This school year, let's not take for granted all of the work done by our predecessors and continue to advocate for and work toward the kind of education our children deserve.



Editor's Note

These months ending in "ember" are here again! They bring me both happy and sad feelings, as they lead to almost the year's ending. At the same time, they make me think of the year ahead, of another promising beginning!

At the moment, this month calls for a celebration for both PF News and the Laban Group. We've fulfilled our goals and intentions to bring forth awareness about fighting and stopping Asian Hate. And we are continuing on, to make our fight stronger, and to make a difference in serving our community.

This month's issue announces the Filipino Women's Club "Pista Sa Nayon" upcoming event and several community organization's fundraising events. Let's also welcome Nikki Abeleda, in her cover of Blasian (Black and Asian) Unity March.

As always, we feel blessed and forever grateful of our past and existing writers' contributions, as we continue to serve the Filipino community through PF News publication.

With love always,
Dinnah S. San Pedro

Philippine policy toward US 'the right thing' – Romualdez

From page 1

commitment to the Philippines in many ways since the administration of former US president Donald Trump.

"We have now stepped up our relationship with our old ally in the United States. This is where we have been very clear, it's part of our defense strategy," Romualdez said.

He noted that the stepping-up of the relationship with Washington is seen as part of the pushback.

"Of course, there were a lot of doubts at that time, but now, it's very clear that it's aligned with their interests that we push back, and so I think what we're doing right now is the right thing," he said.

The ambassador explained that former president Rodrigo Duterte had his own brand of foreign policy reaching out to China to find peaceful ways to address the differences with Beijing, but experts

said this considerably weakened the Philippine position.

"There was a glimmer of hope that (the Chinese) were going to stop, and in fact, we had an agreement that nothing would happen to our Ayungin Shoal and that was the agreement then – no movement, nothing, but obviously, that didn't work," Romualdez said.

"It was a good try for us to approach China in such a way that we wanted to sit down and work together, especially on the exploration... So there was a glimmer of hope that things will get better, but I guess history will have to be the judge if things did get any better," he added.

Marcos had since shifted away from six years of Duterte's pivot to China.

"It's a different situation we're in right now. President Marcos has always clearly said that it is an



US use of Filipino military bases, suggesting that the total number of bases to be made available to US forces has risen to nine.

evolving relationship that we have with our number one ally the United States and it has come to this, that it is more interesting now to strengthen our relationship with the United States, especially our defense strategy," Romualdez said.

He added that new sites for the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement are also a signal that the

Philippines is pushing back.

The Philippines has ramped up its military ties with the US this year and allowed greater US access to local military bases, which angered China.

China condemned the new sites, saying they threaten the peace and stability of the Indo-Pacific and are aimed directly at Beijing.

"That's a signal that we're

pushing back, and I've always said that if we're going to sit down with our neighbors to the north, the Chinese, we have to sit, we have to talk to them from a position of strength," Romualdez said.

The Philippines' discussion with countries, including the US, Australia and Japan, to conduct joint patrol is also one aspect of the Philippines pushing

back.

Romualdez stated that the country is now making very clear that it is going to start moving in the direction of being able to patrol its own territory.

He called the Chinese territorial expansion claims in the West Philippine Sea/South China Sea and the new map as "very serious" challenges.

"The arbitral award has definitely given us another leverage in the international community, which is very important for us right now. While we have the international community with us, this is an opportunity for us to really push back on what China is doing," Romualdez said.

Nations have rejected and protested China's new standard map, an expansive 10-dash line map, which covers regions beyond its borders and claims in the South China Sea.

Inflation likely went up in August

From page 1

month increases in rice, vegetable and oil prices.

"Sequential typhoons since the end of July pushed up food prices. Imported rice was also significantly higher due to India's exports curbs and reported hoarding in Thailand. Additionally, the price of LPG also ticked up in August," Velasquez said.

Aside from its impact on transport inflation, she said the eight-week increase in domestic pump prices and higher toll rates could have exacerbated food inflation in August.

Lastly, Velasquez said a depreciated peso that almost touched the 57 to \$1 level could have made imports more expensive.

"Inflationary pressures were somewhat mitigated by lower prices of electricity across major island groups as cooler weather dampened demand," she said.

Despite the projected higher headline rate in August, she said that core inflation is expected to continue its downtrend to around six percent in August from 6.7 percent in July.

China Bank, Velasquez said, does not expect the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) to react immediately with higher policy rates to the expected infla-

tion uptick.

"Shocks for the month of August were largely supply side, but have not, so far, derailed the inflation path toward the target range in the fourth quarter. We still expect inflation to fall within the BSP's target by November," Velasquez said.

Jun Neri, lead economist at Ayala-led Bank of the Philippine Islands, said inflation likely picked up to five percent due to higher prices of vegetables, LPG, kerosene and diesel.

Neri said the lower prices of electricity and other food items may help offset other price increases.

Security Bank chief economist Robert Dan Rocas sees inflation settling at five percent or within a range of 4.8 to 5.2 percent in August, or a 0.8 percent month-on-month increase, due to higher oil and food prices.

Although the current diesel pump price is significantly lower than the P75 per liter average recorded in June last year, Rocas pointed out that food and fuel prices continue to be the main drivers of inflation.

"Notably, farmgate prices of other food items decreased in August compared to July. Despite this, retailers may either be reluctant to reduce current

prices, or the price reduction may be taking some time," Rocas said.

According to Rocas, the current inflation increase is mainly driven by the price of rice, which has recently surged by up to P10 per kilo.

"However, this likely uptick in the August inflation is relatively moderate compared to the inflation spike experienced by consumers from December 2022 to February 2023, and was exacerbated by base effects from August 2022," Rocas added.

Security Bank sees inflation falling within the BSP's two to four percent target range by the fourth quarter of the year, barring sustained spikes in rice and fuel in the remaining months of 2023.

ING Bank senior economist Nicholas Mapa also said that inflation likely accelerated to five percent on resurgent price increases for fuel products due to global developments.

"On top of this are higher costs for select food items impacted by adverse weather conditions. The pop in headline inflation likely means BSP will be on hold for the rest of the



Increase in prices was due to the storm damage.

year with the central bank mindful of the ongoing slowdown of the economy as growth loses steam," Mapa said.

Michael Ricafort, chief economist at Rizal Commercial Banking Corp., also believes the rise in prices hastened to five percent for August on the back of higher local paddy and rice prices, rising global oil prices as well as weaker peso.

"The increase in prices was due to the storm damage since the latter part of July that hit northern and central Luzon, the biggest producers of rice, corn, vegetables, and other agricultural products," Ricafort said.

Ricafort said headline inflation still expected to ease year-on-year for the coming months due to higher base effects.

The Yuchengco-led bank sees inflation averaging 5.5 to 5.8 percent this year before easing to a range

of three to 3.5 percent next year. It will average four percent in the third quarter and further ease to three percent in the fourth quarter of the year. Inflation would further ease to two percent in the first quarter of next year before normalizing at 3.5 percent for the rest of 2024.

Alvin Arigo, economist at Lucio Tan's Philippine National Bank, said inflation eased slightly to 4.6 percent in August from 4.7 percent in July due to sustained base effects, but the rate of month-on-month price increase likely accelerated to its highest level in seven months due to the negative impact of weather-related disruptions.

"From September to December, we forecast that the pace of month-on-month price increases will be elevated due to food (particularly rice), fuel, and lagged impact of minimum wage hikes," Arigo said.

Arigo believes the year-on-year rate remains on track to fall below four percent in the fourth quarter of 2023 as the base effects will be more favorable in the next four months.

"As a baseline view, we believe that the BSP will decide to leave the key policy rate unchanged during its upcoming meetings in September, November and December," Arigo said.

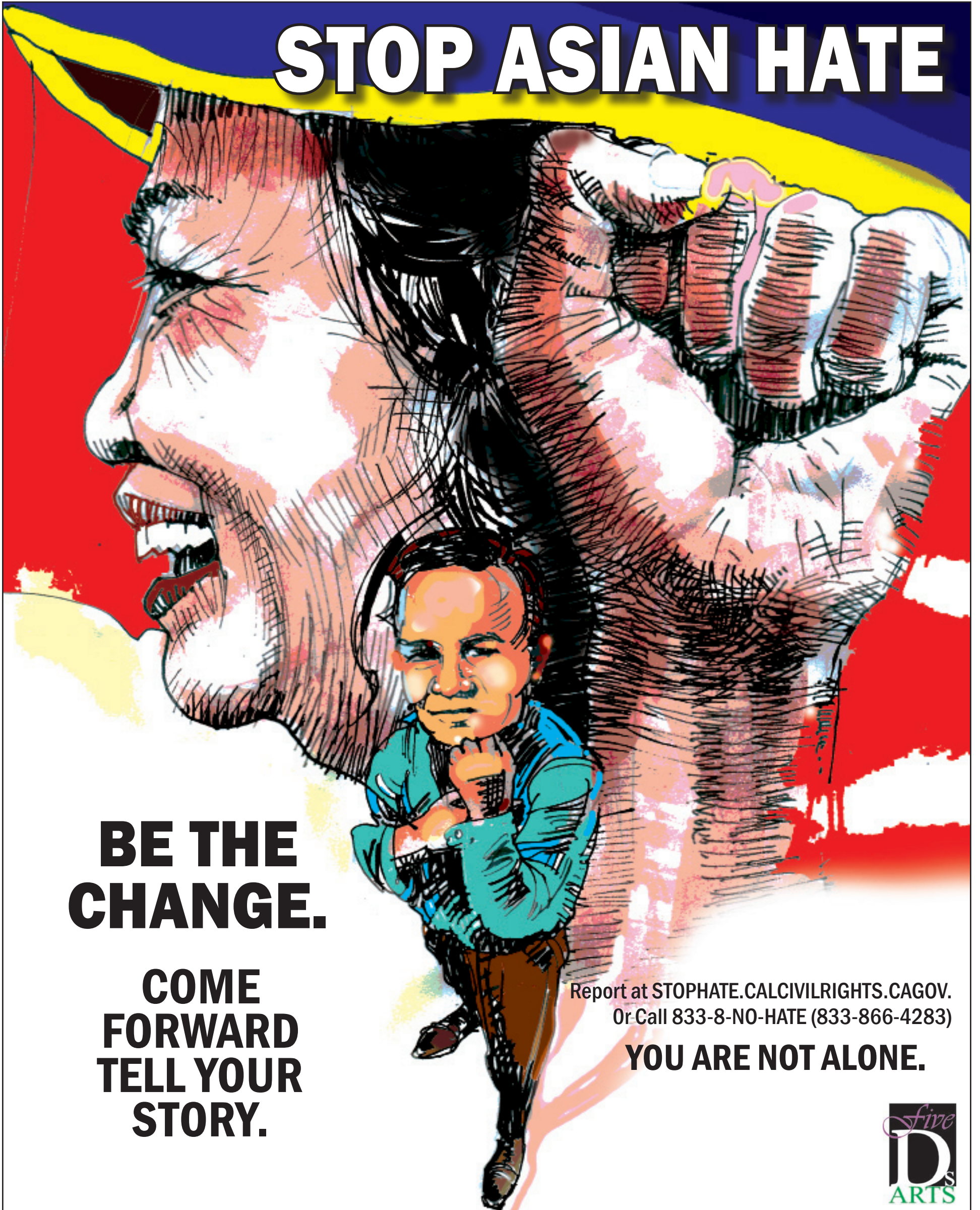
Aris Dacanay, economist for ASEAN at HSBC, also believes inflation eased to 4.6 percent last year, enough to slow the consumer price index (CPI) back to within the two to four percent target band of the central bank.

"These pressures were evident in heavily weighted commodity baskets, most prominent of which was rice. Rice prices rose considerably in August as India's ban on rice exports took a toll on global supply," Dacanay said.

Dacanay added that global oil prices also increased due to the supply cuts by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), leading to a sharp increase in domestic diesel prices that was partly offset by a sizeable 2.5 percent downward adjustment in electricity rates as well as the continued normalization of vegetable prices.

Dacanay warned that there is a risk of the BSP resuming its tightening cycle to suppress second round effects should the rise in rice and oil prices lead to the rise of the prices of other commodities.

STOP ASIAN HATE



**BE THE
CHANGE.**

**COME
FORWARD
TELL YOUR
STORY.**

Report at STOPHATE.CALCIVILRIGHTS.CAGOV.
Or Call 833-8-NO-HATE (833-866-4283)

YOU ARE NOT ALONE.





BY BENJAMIN ABAYA

Industrial Revolution Steers Labor Movement Into Progressive Nation Building



1894 March of Unemployed Workers

As we celebrate Labor Day every first Monday of the month in September as mandated by law since 1894 to honor the American labor force, we trace back in time their dedication and struggle for their great contributions to make the United States of America the richest and most powerful nation on earth.



Industrial Revolution in the 17th century in England

The advent of the Industrial Revolution in the middle of the 17th century pioneered by England and Ireland has brought tremendous changes in the production of goods necessary for mankind's day-to-day survival. The great transformation of the archaic agrarian economic undertakings when manual labor was primarily utilized in the making of necessities into highly mechanized production of everything for human consumption could be made.

The innovation brought by that period in our history has resulted in many changes both in lifestyle and the process of producing goods for everyone's needs. Textiles became the dominant industry both in output and capital investment. Highly efficient machinery in the manufacturing of goods and greater farm products for the growing population were used to meet global demands. England and Ireland tried to exclude other countries for possibly subvert-

ing their newly developed productive machinery, but the lure of greater investment and market were greater than to restrict or isolate themselves on their useful inventions.

As expected, labor on both machine process goods and agriculture products has increased in all the countries that adopted the highly efficient method of production. Such a situation sparked rural workers to move to urban areas such as big towns and cities where they could easily find jobs in accordance with their skills and professions. The influx of people to the urban areas all over the United States became stressful and therefore relaxation and entertainment

were needed to unwind themselves and family members physically and emotionally. Eventually, the movie industry which started from silent movies to black

and white with dialogues gradually improved until it became what it is today. It is an industry employing more than 2 million workers with multi-billion earnings.

Eventually, labor workers of both small and giant industries demanded better pay, benefits, working conditions and many other situations germane for their employment. The labor force needs to organize themselves for their collective bargaining from their employers, and they could only achieve such a purpose by forming labor unions to represent them.

Recently, just a couple of years ago, the social and political climate has been an assortment of cognizance when it comes to strength in numbers, especially in the light of labor workers. In Hollywood, the Mecca of filmmaking, union organizations WGA (Writer's Guild of America) and the SAG-AFTRA (Screen Actors Guild – Ameri-

can Federation of Television and Radio Artists) have been picketing for more than 100 days, as they created a coalition of writers and actors, they are calling for better pay and working conditions, residuals from streaming media services, like Netflix and Max, as well as fairer contracts that include stipulations about the use of artificial intelligence. Also, across this nation, hundreds of individual Starbucks stores, in at least 40 states in the United States, have voted to unionize with Workers United. The labor union represents thousands of workers in all industries, actively assisting workers to get better pay and working condi-

where tens of thousands of doctors in Britain's state-funded health services organized a five-day walkout in August, which was the longest in the history of the National Health Service. Just recently in France, there was a continuous demand from the workers through huge daily demonstrations to show the immediate solutions to their grievances for better working conditions.

These are just a few of the countless examples of workers unionizing, while facing corporations and billionaires, who might not share their objective. Strikes and labor unions have played a significant role



Labor leader Larry Itliong with other Filipino farm workers.

tions.

This is not only happening in America but in many other countries whose workers became vigilant in their working conditions from low wages to employment benefits. Most recently the Nigerian Association of Resident Doctors in Nigeria also walked off their job due to overstretched scheduling and being underpaid. England is facing similar circumstances,

in shaping labor dynamics and workers' rights all over the world.

Throughout history, these actions have served as powerful tools for employees to demand fair wages, improved working conditions and enhanced benefits. Labor unions have united workers across all industries, amplifying their collective voice and bargaining power when negotiating with employ-

ers. With all the innumerable hours on the picket lines this summer, some might call it the "Summer of Labor", and as labor workers stand side-by-side, we cannot forget the legacy of Filipino American labor organizer Larry Itliong.

Filipino labor leader Larry Itliong was born in the Philippines who came to America in 1929, at the age of 16. Itliong's journey to the U.S. was driven by the promises of a better life, as well as economic opportunities that he may not have received in the Philippines. Upon arriving in the U.S., Itliong initially worked as a farm laborer in various states, including Alaska, Washington, Montana, South Dakota, and eventually, California. While in California, he experienced firsthand the challenges and injustices faced by Filipino immigrants, including poor working conditions, racial discrimination, and low wages.

Recognizing the need for collective action, Itliong became involved in labor organizing efforts and joined the Filipino labor movement.

Later, Itliong played a significant role in the Delano Grape Strike of 1965, which marked the beginning of the United Farm Workers' (UFW) efforts to improve the working conditions of farm workers. Itliong, along with other Filipino farm workers, organized the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee (AWOC) and initiated the strike, demanding

better wages and working conditions for grape pickers.

The struggles and supreme sacrifices as well as the dedication of our labor force should not only be remembered for just one day but everyday thereafter to appreciate what they had accomplished that redounded to the best interest and common good for all.

Black and Asian Unity: Stronger Together Than Apart

BY NIKKI ABELEDA
(She/They/Siya)

From page 1

The march and book fair in Sacramento welcomed over 120 guests and opened with a mural unveiling of Darell Richards. Richards was a 19-year-old Black and Hmong youth shot and killed by the Sacramento Police Department in 2018 while he was suffering a mental health crisis. Richards' mother, Christine Vang, and Shawntay Gorman, the Black and Filipina mural artist, discussed the importance of the mural.

"Darell was kind, thoughtful, caring, and responsible. My son was mixed with Black and Hmong. He was proud of both cultures," Vang said. Richards is more than just a statistic of youth lost to state violence, Richards is a beloved son, brother, and community member that the US could not protect. Whose dreams and aspirations were robbed because of the color of his skin.

Gorman recalled how the mural reflected Darell's cultural identities.

"The symbolism of rice plants, cultural garments honor his Hmong side and the powerful colors like red, black, and green represent love, solidarity, and pride to honor his Black side," explained Gorman, the lead mural artist.

Participants then marched through Broadway in Oak Park, a historically Black neighborhood, holding signs and posters with messages of solidarity.

Led by founder Zhou-Lee, they chanted "We march for Black liberation! We march for Asian freedom!" while community members followed behind.

A panel was held after the march to further the discussion of Black, Asian, and Blasian solidarity. Panelists shared the history of Black and Asian organizing efforts in Sacramento and similar experiences of Black and Asian American communities, including the barriers between them and reasons that may have caused rifts between these communities.

Among the panelists was Bob-



Participants marched through Broadway in Oak Park holding signs and posters with messages of solidarity.

by Roy, a Filipino activist, historian, and educator discussed different parts of Filipino history that may have contributed to the barriers between Black and Filipino communities. Roy referenced Carlos Bulosan, a Filipino activist and author of the book, 'America is in the Heart' and discussed the parallels between Black and Filipino people. "Bulosan's book is a reflection on racism in the Filipino American historical experience," they said. The book explores Bulosan's experience of racism, mistreatment, and labor exploitation that many Filipino immigrants faced.

While the exact experience may differ between the Black and Filipino community, Filipinos also experience racism, discrimination, and white supremacist violence throughout history. Filipino Americans are the third largest Asian American group and one of the largest immigrant groups in the U.S, studies report that 99% of Filipino Americans report experiencing racism on a regular basis (FANHS 2023).

The Philippines was colonized by Spain from 1565 to 1898 for 333 years and by the United States from 1898 to 1946 for 48 years. Because of colonization, Filipinos developed Colonial Mentality, which is defined as the perception of ethnic and



Black and Asian community unite againsts hate



Nikki Abeleda (R) and friend

cultural inferiority and a form of internalized racial oppression (Decena, 2014). Thus it has been common for Filipinos to use skin lightening and whitening products to conform to Eurocentric and Westernized beauty standards and to reject Indigenous aspects of their culture. These Anti-Black practices have historically taught Filipino people that whiteness is desirable and that brownness

and dark skin is unacceptable.

Filipinos have endured multiple layers of oppression from corrupt political leadership in the Philippines under Marcos to Duterte to Filipinos Farm Workers working under sub-human working conditions. Further, Filipinos have also experienced violence in the U.S as migrants and in the Philippines with colonization and U.S imperialism. An example of this is demonstrated in the murder of Jennifer Laude, a Filipina transgender woman who was murdered by a U.S soldier.

Zhou-Lee shared the impetus behind the creation of the Blasian march and bookfair. "We don't know each others' stories. To build solidarity with Black, Asian and Blasian communities

- it's important to learn about each others' stories through literature, reading each others' stories and thoughts around empowerment and abolition."

The 2020 Black Lives Matter protests highlighted many issues for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities, that there is a collective and embedded history of struggles for social justice and systemic racism. The history of Black and Filipino solidarity has existed over a century-long, with common themes in the struggle for collective liberation that is often omitted from highschool textbooks. As neighbors, comrades and co-conspirators, solidarity between Filipinos and Black community makes us stronger together than when we are apart.

As panelist Jordan McGowan, founder of the Neighbor Program, activist, and educator expressed, "You gotta get outside and touch people...I really hope we see action. I hope we see people really move to be like, let's do something [together]."

Additional opportunities to learn more and get involved in the Blasian movement include joining grassroots organizations that focus on anti-racism such as the Neighbor Program, California TRANScends, Asian American Liberation Network (AALN), Reclamation Project (TRP) 916, Sunny Side Theatre Co., Lavender Lotus, Sacramento Filipinx LGBTQIA+, and Mahalaya San Francisco. These groups also served as the Blasian march's collaborative partners and provided community resources.

References

Decena, Ashley M., "Identity, colonial mentality, and decolonizing the mind : exploring narratives and examining mental health implications for Filipino Americans" (2014). Masters Thesis, Smith College, Northampton, MA. <https://scholarworks.smith.edu/theses/769>

Roy, Bobby., "Why Filipino Americans Should Be In Solidarity With Black Lives Matter: Lessons From American History" (June 2023). Filipino American National Historical Society.

Photograph by Andri Tambunan



YOUR LIGHT YOUR TRUTH

YOU ARE MULTIFACETED, YOU ARE BRIGHT, YOU ARE SEEN AND YOU ARE NEEDED. DON'T BE AFRAID TO SHINE YOUR LIGHT THE WAY ONLY YOU CAN.

"To exist and be visibly queer, it allows the world to know that we exist and always have existed. I wish the Filipino community knew that spirituality can be more than Catholicism or organized religion. It can look like journaling, reflecting, meditating, energy cleansing, or being a steward to the land." **NIKKI ABELEDA**

TO REPORT A HATE ACT, CALL (833)866-4283 OR VISIT CAVSHATE.ORG



The following ad campaign is brought to you by the Laban Group: Filipino Ethnic Media Collaborative. This group aims to promote awareness in our beloved Filipino American community and the broader public about anti-Asian hate incidents and crimes; reduce stigma surrounding the reporting of hate incidents and hate crimes; enhance understanding of resources for victims and survivors; and, to promote community healing and cross-racial collaboration. This collaborative is funded by the "Stop The Hate" campaign from the California State Library in partnership with the California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs. Learn more at linktr.ee/labangroup.



BY DALE ESPERANTE

American Legion Certificates of Appreciation

Magellan Post 604 presented The American Legion Certificates of Appreciation to the Winuk family for supporting, participating, and successfully completing the American Legion Boys State Co-Ed Program.

Comrade Gary, a member of Post 604, is the proud father of Garrett and Cady who successfully completed the Boys State Co-Ed Program. Garrett attended in 2022 and Cady attended the Boys State Co-Ed in 2023. Both expressed their appreciation for the lessons they learned in how to become better citizens by experiencing the responsibilities of being elected government leaders during the tenure of the program.

The Bayanihan Clinic

More Certificates of Appreciation were presented, this time to the University of California, Davis, Bayanihan Clinic for assisting a couple of 80+year old Auxiliary members who were having car problems during one of the hottest days this



Director of Americanism Rey Ado, Comrade Gary Winuk, Cady, Garrett, Mrs. Winuk, Commander Tom Amaba.



Miles Garcia presenting the Bayanihan Clinic's portrait and an envelope containing their pledge to support Magellan Hall.



Presenting the University of California, Davis, Bayanihan Clinic.

summer, 16 Jul 2023. With the daylight fading and the summer heat outside still intense, the group did not leave until they finally got the car fixed and started. Miles Garcia, who was there on the day of the incident, represented on 20 August 2023 and received the certificates for the group.

She in turn presented the Post with a portrait of the 2022 - 2023 Bayanihan Clinic cohort accompanied with a heartfelt note from the Bayanihan Outreach Coordinators, Hannah Ruelos and Anthony Yap. Miles also handed over an envelope containing Bayanihan Clinic's pledge to support the preservation of Magellan Hall.

Come Dance with Us!



CONTEMPORARY - HIP HOP - JAZZ - BALLET - TAP - HULA - BALLROOM & MORE

4711 Laguna Blvd. Ste. #101
ELK GROVE, CA

Dance@RizeAll.com
916.538.3255



Philippine Fiesta

916) 708-3462 (916) 835-1450 (916) 215-7077

Five D's Arts, LLC (Publisher)

Web Designer: Five D's Arts, LLC

Managing Editor
Dinnah S. San Pedro

Editorial Assistant
Dane San Pedro

Layout and Design
Dave San Pedro

Photographer
Dave San Pedro

CONTRIBUTORS

Ben Abaya
Murray Navarro

Nikki Abeleda
Chris Mateo

Dale Esperante
Madeline Go

Gabriel Ortigoza
Dr. Robyn M. Rodriguez

Website: www.philfiesta.net
For advertising inquiries, email at fivedsarts@yahoo.com
For article publication, include the following information and email to dinnahsanpedro@gmail.com

Name: _____
Address _____
Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____
Email: _____

Ferdinand Magellan

Ferdinand Magellan was a Portuguese explorer best known for having planned and led the 1519 Spanish expedition to the East Indies across the Pacific Ocean to open a maritime trade route, during which he discovered the interoceanic passage thereafter bearing his name and achieved the first European navigation to Asia via the Pacific.

During this voyage, Magellan was killed in the Battle of Mactan, Mactan Island, now Province of Cebu, Cebu group of islands in 1521 in the present-day Philippines, after running into resistance from the indigenous population led by Lapulapu, who consequently became a Philippine national symbol of resistance to colonialism. After Magellan's death, Juan Sebastián Elcano took the lead of the expedition, and with its few other surviving members in one of the two remaining ships, completed the first circumnavigation of Earth when they returned to Spain in 1522.

Born into a family of minor Portuguese nobility, Magellan became a skilled sailor and naval officer in service of the Portuguese Crown in Asia. King Manuel refused to support Magellan's plan to reach the Maluku Islands (the "Spice Islands") by sailing westwards around the American continent. Facing criminal charges, Magellan left Portugal and proposed the same expedition to King Charles I of Spain, who accepted it. Consequently, many in Portugal considered him a traitor and he never returned.

In Seville he married, fathered two children, and organized the expedition. For his allegiance to the Hispanic Monarchy, in 1518, Magellan was appointed an admiral of the Spanish fleet and given command of the expedition – the five-ship Armada of Molucca. He was also made Commander of the Order of Santiago, one of the highest military ranks of the Spanish Empire.

Granted special powers and privileges by the King, he led

the Armada from Sanlúcar de Barrameda southwest across the Atlantic Ocean, to the eastern coast of South America, and down to Patagonia. Despite a series of storms and mutinies, the expedition successfully passed through the Strait of Magellan (as it is now named) into the Mar del Sur, which Magellan renamed the Mar Pacifico (the modern Pacific Ocean). The expedition reached Guam and, shortly after, the Philippine islands. There Magellan was killed in the Battle of Mactan in April 1521. Under the command of captain Juan Sebastian Elcano,



Lapulapu

the expedition later reached the Spice Islands. To navigate back to Spain and avoid seizure by the Portuguese, the expedition's two remaining ships split, one attempting, unsuccessfully, to reach New Spain by sailing eastwards across the Pacific, while the other, commanded by Elcano, sailed westwards via the Indian Ocean and up the Atlantic coast of Africa, finally arriving at the expedition's port of departure and thereby completing the first complete circuit of the globe.

While in the Kingdom of Portugal's service, Magellan had already reached the Malay Archipelago in Southeast Asia on previous voyages traveling east (from 1505 to 1511–1512). By visiting this area again but now traveling west, Magellan achieved a nearly complete personal circumnavigation of the globe for the first time in

Background and preparations

After having his proposed expeditions to the Spice Islands—the Moluccas beside

New Guinea—repeatedly rejected by King Manuel I of Portugal, Magellan renounced his Portuguese nationality and turned to Charles I, the young king of Spain (later emperor Charles V of the Holy Roman Empire). Under the terms of the 1494 Treaty of Tordesillas, Portugal was to control the eastern routes to Asia that went around the Cape of Good Hope in Africa. Magellan instead proposed to seek a southwestern passage around South America to reach the Spice Islands by a western route, a feat never before accomplished. Bergreen further states that Magellan claimed to Charles that his Malaccan or Sumatran slave Enrique had been a native of the Spice Islands and used Enrique and letters from Serrão to "prove" that the islands were so far east that they would fall within the Spanish sphere of influence if the world were truly to be divided in half. (The details of the eastern division implicit in the Tordesillas treaty would later be formalized in the 1529 Treaty of Zaragoza.)

King Manuel saw all of this as an insult and did everything in his power to disrupt Magellan's arrangements for the voyage. The Portuguese king allegedly ordered that Magellan's properties be vandalized as it was the coat of arms of the Magellan displayed at the family house's façade in Sabrosa, his home town, and may have even requested the assassination of the navigator. When Magellan eventually sailed to the open seas in Au-



Battle of Mactan

gust 1519, a Portuguese fleet was sent after him, though it failed to capture him.

Magellan's fleet consisted of five ships carrying supplies for two years of travel. The crew consisted of about 270 men



Portrait of Ferdinand Magellan

of different origins, though the numbers may vary downwards among scholars based on contradicting data from the many documents available. About 60 percent of the crew were Spaniards from virtually all regions of Castile. Portuguese and Italian followed with 28 and 27 seamen respectively, while mariners from France (15), Greece (8), Flanders (5), Germany (3), Ireland (2), England and Malaysia (one each) and other people of unidentified origin completed the crew.

Death

After several weeks in the Philippines, Magellan had converted as many as 2,200 locals to Christianity, including Rajah Humabon of Cebu and most leaders of the islands around Cebu. However, Lapulapu, the leader of Mactan, resisted conversion. In order to gain the trust of Rajah Humabon, Magellan sailed to Mactan with a small force on the morning of 27 April 1521. During the resulting battle against Lapulapu's troops, Magellan was struck by a "bamboo" spear (bangkaw, which are actually metal-tipped fire-hardened rattan), and later surrounded and finished off with other weapons. Antonio Pigafetta and Ginés de Mafra provided written documents of the events culminating in Magellan's death:

When morning came forty-nine of us leaped into the water up to our thighs, and walked through water for more than two crossbow flights before we could reach the shore. The boats could not approach

nearer because of certain rocks in the water. The other eleven men remained behind to guard the boats. When we reached land, those men had formed in three divisions to the number of more than one thousand five hundred persons. When they saw us, they charged down upon us with exceeding loud cries.... The musketeers and crossbowmen shot from a distance for about a half-hour, but uselessly; for the shots only passed through the shields....



Magellan's Cross

Recognizing the captain, so many turned upon him that they knocked his helmet off his head twice.... An Indian hurled a bamboo spear into the captain's face, but the latter immediately killed him with his lance, which he left in the Indian's body. Then, trying to lay hand on sword, he could draw it out but halfway, because he had been wounded in the arm with a bamboo spear. When the natives saw that, they all hurled themselves upon him. One of them wounded him on the left leg with a large cutlass, which resembles a scimitar, only being larger. That caused the captain to fall face downward, when immediately they rushed upon him with iron and bamboo spears and with their cutlasses, until they killed our mirror, our light, our comfort, and our true guide.

Antonio Pigafetta/ Wikipedia

The Untold Story of the Igorots' Revolt

The Igorots taught Spain a lesson it would never forget.

BY MARIO ALVARO LIMOS

Savages. Backward lowlifes. Criminals. That was how Spain viewed the Igorots in the 17th century. Even the teaching of history has not been kind to the Igorots, who were relegated as traitors in the Philippine-American War, thanks to one Igorot named Januario Galut, who led the Americans around Tirad Pass to rout Gregorio Del Pilar's forces. In fairness to Galut, he did not know there was a war, and he was simply helping the foreigners "navigate" the mountains.

One story about the Igorots is largely left out in history books. It was the Igorot Revolution of 1601.

In the late 1590s, Spain had begun to conquer the lowlands of Northern Luzon. They were largely successful because they co-opted the datos into convincing their barangays to resettle in the new towns established by the Spaniards.

But the Spaniards were unsuccessful at bringing the Igorots into the fold. The Igorots had been wary of the lowlanders for centuries and isolated themselves in the mountains up north. Their name "Igorot" is actually an Austronesian term for "mountain people."

In 1601, Spain attempted to Christianize the Igorots by launching a holy crusade to evangelize the "heathens." Another motive for this holy war was to gain control of the gold-rich mountains of the Cordilleras.

Leading the crusade was a friar named Esteban Marín, who was instrumental in pacifying the natives of Pampanga. Marín had previous encounters with the Igorots who came to Ilocos in the 1580s to trade.



Igorots headhunters

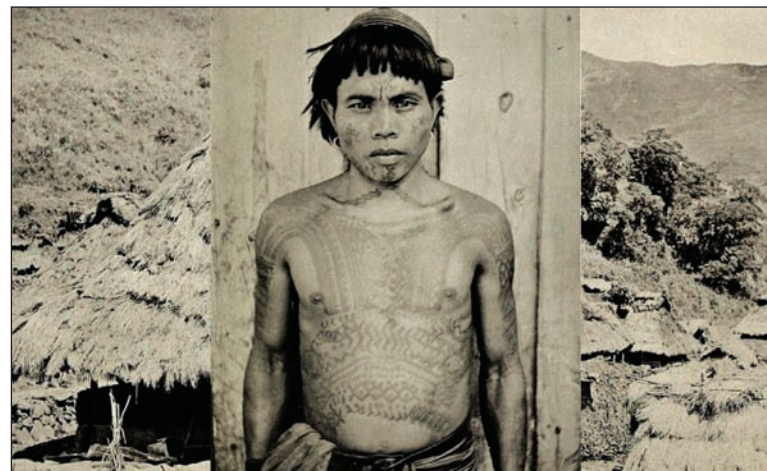
When Marín and his expeditionary force tried to Christianize the Igorots, they were killed.

Apparently, Igorots were highly territorial and not keen on entertaining white foreigners telling them their gods were demons.

After Marín's death, Spain sent a larger crusade to the Igorots' domain led by a certain Lieutenant Aranda. They enlisted locals from Pampanga and Pangasinan to capture every Igorot they could find and turn them into slaves.

It was a terrible decision.

A force of 3,000 Igorot warriors descended on them out of nowhere, decimating the combined Spanish and Indio forces.



Igorot warrior



The Igorots of Cordilleras

It was a humiliating defeat for the Spaniards, who never acknowledged the 350-year Igorot resistance as a fight for independence. They just considered the Igorots as bandits or savages they never got to educate.

effective at wounding enemies when planted in the grassy trails.

The Igorots would also set up numerous defensive blockades of trees and branches in mountain passes. When the enemy

comes near and finds the pass blocked, the Igorots would hurl boulders and tree trunks onto the unsuspecting enemies, killing them.

Another strategy used by the Igorots was to keep the locations of their strongholds very secret. Only an Igorot knows where their villages are. They would not hesitate to kill a fellow Igorot suspected of giving information to lowlanders or foreigners.

In 1789, a Spanish friar documented how the Igorots operated in secrecy:

"Those who come down to trade in the lowlands are only men or chieftains in whom they have confidence, never women or children or slaves. If you ask them for information about their land or mines, they just act dumb, and if they say anything at all, it is just lies or nonsense, and only leaves you all the more confused."

Igorot Military Tactics

Although technologically inferior, the Igorots were no strangers to warfare—they were proficient warriors the lowlanders feared most. In fact, they were notorious pugotulo (headhunters).

According to Kahimyang Project, traditional Igorot arsenal consisted of bamboo lances and wooden shields. They also used stakes planted in tall grass. The stakes were highly

But one of the most impressive Igorot military tactics is the feigned retreat. The Igorots would pretend to retreat and surrender as their enemies gave chase. Once they lowered their weapons and the enemies think they won, groups of Igorots would ambush the enemy.

Spain never succeeded in bringing the Igorots into its fold. The fierce mountain people were pretty much left alone throughout the 300-year colonization of the Philippines. The Philippine government recognized this and tried to grant autonomy to the Igorots by forming the Cordillera Administrative Region.

The Igorots are composed of many ethnic groups residing in the areas surrounding the Cordilleras. Among them are the Ifugaos, Bontocs, Ibalois, Isneg, Kalingas, and Kankanaeys.

Sources:

Scott, William Henry. (1972). *The Igorot struggle for independence*. Quezon City: Malaya Books. (1974). *The Discovery of the Igorots*. Quezon City: New Day Publishers.

Retirement Planning at Every Age

Presented BY MARITES AVILA

Whether retirement is right around the corner or decades away, being strategic about investing and saving for that time can help set you up for a comfortable lifestyle once you stop working. Unfortunately, research finds that many Americans underestimate their life expectancy and, therefore, don't save enough for retirement. Although the current life expectancy is 77 years, many Americans will live much longer. Here are key factors to consider as you invest in your retirement in each decade of your career and aim to maximize your savings and retire comfortably.

In Your 20s

Retirement might seem too far away to concern you at this point, but this is when you can be most aggressive with your investments. Market volatility won't affect your savings as much because you won't cash out your funds for decades. A target date fund is an option that automatically chooses a mix of investments, with risk calculated based on your expected retirement date.

Another benefit of starting your retirement savings as early as possible is compound interest. When you receive interest on your investments, those earnings begin earning interest, and you can save a significantly greater amount over time. So, even investing a small percentage of your income can yield surprisingly high earnings in the long run.

You also might not yet have financial obligations that come with marriage and a family, which could free up some income to set aside for retirement. If your employer offers a matching program, it's in your best interest to contribute the minimum amount to obtain the match. If you can max out your contribution, however, you'll put yourself ahead of the game before life's major expenses cause you to pull back a bit.

If your employer doesn't offer a retirement plan, that doesn't mean you can't start saving. Look into an individual retirement account (IRA) to begin investing for your future.

In Your 30s

Two important warnings as you enter your 30s: If you haven't started contributing to a retirement account, start



now. Waiting any longer could put you at risk of not saving enough for retirement or having to contribute a larger percentage of your income later in order to save enough. If you have been contributing to a retirement account, don't cash out unless you're in a situation where there are absolutely no other options. You will end up paying taxes and a withdrawal penalty—and you'll also deplete savings you worked hard to secure in your 20s. Even if you're given the option to withdraw, possibly because you're changing jobs or need to take a hardship withdrawal, it's in your best financial interest to keep that money where it is.

In terms of investment choices, you still have plenty of time to recover from market fluctuations, so you can still tolerate a bit of risk and aggression in your investments. Beyond this point, as you get closer to retirement age, you'll want to get a little more conservative because you'll have less time to bounce back from market lows.

In Your 40s

You may now be earning a higher salary—and you'll likely have many financial demands to balance. To stay on track for securing a comfortable retirement, try to resist the temptation to spend more just because you have the means. Staying conservative in some areas of spending will allow you to continue steadily contributing to—and earning interest on—your retirement savings. In fact, as your income increases, it's wise to look into increasing your retirement savings contributions rather than spending more elsewhere.

This is a good time to plug your numbers into a retirement planning calculator to estimate how you'll need to adjust your investing and saving strategy to meet your goals. Check with your

retirement plan provider to see if they have a calculator they recommend.

If you have kids, you also might feel conflicted between saving for college for your children and saving for your retirement. But consider putting yourself first. Although that might be tough for a devoted parent to do, there are many financial aid options for college. If you want to retire and still live a comfortable lifestyle, you are the one who needs to fund that. Of course, it's ideal if you can afford to contribute to both. But if you can only afford to focus on one, focus on your 401(k), 403(b), IRA, or other retirement plan.

In Your 50s and 60s

As you near retirement age, you might see a gap between your desired savings and what you've actually saved. Now is the time to catch up, if possible. Once you turn 50, retirement plan contribution limits increase an additional \$7,500 per year for your 401(k) and \$1,000 per year for your IRA. You'll also want to be more conservative with your investments because market fluctuations will have a greater effect on your retirement account the closer you are to accessing your funds.

You can begin taking withdrawals from your IRA and 401(k) at age 59½ without incurring penalties. Don't count on accessing your retirement accounts before reaching that age.

If you haven't already, now is the time to focus on paying off debts and setting aside a fund for medical emergencies. The last thing you want when you've spent your whole career preparing for retirement is for your savings to be wiped out by one unexpected medical event or to have to allocate a large chunk of it for debt repayment. Medicare doesn't start until age 65, so it's

wise to consider the cost of medical insurance in your retirement plan before that age.

Although you can start collecting social security at age 62, you won't receive full benefits unless you wait until your full retirement age (FRA). For each year you delay collecting social security past your FRA, up to age 70, you'll receive an 8 percent increase, so it's beneficial to hold off. It's also worth noting that funding for social security (and Medicare) is set to run out in the next decade. So, if your retirement date is beyond 2033, your benefits won't be determined until the federal government decides how to fund those programs.

In Your 70s

The age at which you are required to start taking required minimum distributions (RMDs) from your retirement fund used to be 72. As of 2023, that age increased to 73. In 2033, the RMD age will increase to 75. One exception is if you're still working for an employer at that age; in that case, you may be able to delay withdrawals.

Even if you've set up a retirement plan and made regular contributions, establishing a budget for living on a fixed income after you stop working can be a challenge. Please feel free to reach out to our office with any questions about investing or saving, or for help strategically using your savings during your retirement.

**Paragon Financial Services 2234
Longport Court Suite 110 Elk Grove, CA
95758 916-427-5172**

Marites Avila is a Registered Representative and an Investment Adviser Representative with/and offers securities and advisory services through Commonwealth Financial Network®, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser.

Investments in target-date funds are subject to the risks of their underlying holdings. The year in the fund name refers to the approximate year (the target date) when an investor in the fund would retire and leave the workforce. The fund will gradually shift its emphasis from more aggressive investments to more conservative investments based on its respective target date. The performance of an investment in a target-date fund is not guaranteed at any time, including on or after the target date.

This material is intended for informational/educational purposes only and should not be construed as investment advice, a solicitation, or a recommendation to buy or sell any security or investment product. Please contact your financial professional for more information specific to your situation.
© 2023 Commonwealth Financial Network®



BY GABRIEL ORTIGOZA, PHD

A Trail of Hope: Timeless Journey of Military Nurses towards Innovation and Transformation

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” - Romans 15:13

This biblical hope is the same hope our early nursing leaders aimed to achieve. Florence Nightingale was fulfilled and joyful with her nursing service when she saw those wounded soldiers she treated using improvised materials during the Crimean War recovered. Just like Nightingale, our local nursing leaders in the Philippines particularly our military nurses did a lot of innovation to bring quality care to the fighting troops.

Military nurses have been an integral part of the healthcare system, providing care and support to soldiers on the battlefield and in military hospitals. Over the years, they have been at the forefront of innovation and transformation, adapting to the changing needs of the military and the healthcare industry.

The journey of military nurses towards innovation and transformation can be traced back to the early days of the military. During World War I, nurses



Florence Nightingale

were primarily responsible for providing basic care and comfort to wounded soldiers. However, as the war progressed,



World War I military nurses



World War II military nurses

the role of nurses expanded to include more complex medical procedures and treatments. During World War II, military nurses played a vital role in the

care of wounded soldiers. They were responsible for administering medications, performing surgeries, and providing emotional support to soldiers. The war also saw the introduction of new medical technologies, such as penicillin and blood transfusions, which greatly improved the survival rates of wounded soldiers.

In the decades that followed, military nurses continued to innovate and transform the healthcare industry. They played a key role in the development of new medical technologies, such as ultrasound and MRI machines, and were instrumental in the creation of new medical specialties, such as critical care nursing, trauma nursing, and emergency medicine.

The Gulf War in the early 1990s saw military nurses facing new challenges, such as

exposure to chemical and biological agents. They adapted to these challenges by developing new protocols and procedures for treating soldiers exposed to



The Gulf War military nurses

these agents. In recent years, military nurses have continued to innovate and transform the healthcare industry. They have been at the forefront of the use of telemedicine and other digi-

tal technologies to provide care to soldiers in remote locations. They have also been instrumental in the development of new treatments for traumatic brain injuries and other conditions commonly seen in soldiers.

In conclusion, the journey of military nurses towards innovation and transformation has been a trail of hope. From the early days of the Crimean War to the present day, military nurses have played a vital role in the care of wounded soldiers and in the development of new medical technologies and treatments.

Their dedication and commitment to their patients have been an inspiration to all who have worked with them, and their legacy will continue to shape the healthcare industry for years to come.

My Sister's House Run for a Safe Haven

bit.ly/r4sh



Saturday, October 28
8am-11am

William Land Park, Village Green Area
Kids 1/2 Mile Run - 5K Run/Walk
www.runforasafehaven.com



PARAGON
FINANCIAL SERVICES

Marites J. Avila, CFP®
CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™

Retirement Planning
Estate Planning
Social Security Planning

916-427-5172

Paragon Financial Services
2234 Longport Ct, Suite 110
Elk Grove, CA, 95758



Marites Avila (CA Insurance License #0112189) is a Registered Representative and Investment Advisor Representative of Commonwealth Financial Network®, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Advisor and offers securities and advisory services.

CALIFORNIA AY PARA SA LAHAT

Upang mag-ulat ng isang
mapoot na gawa
Tumawag sa (833)866-4283
o bisitahin ang CAvsHate.org





**Call 833-8-NO-HATE
or Visit CAvsHate.org**



Photograph by Andri Tambunan



YOUR LIGHT YOUR TRUTH

YOU ARE MULTIFACETED, YOU ARE BRIGHT, YOU ARE SEEN AND YOU ARE NEEDED. DON'T BE AFRAID TO SHINE YOUR LIGHT THE WAY ONLY YOU CAN.

"Trans and non-binary Filipinos exist. Our pre-colonial ancestors had spiritual leaders, the Babaylan (femme priestesses of any gender). They didn't follow colonial ideas of gender and gender roles and were highly respected in their communities. Today, they continue to challenge the status quo and fight for freedom. Knowing this history of our people makes me feel proud to be who I am." **KIANA AQUINO**

TO REPORT A HATE ACT, CALL (833)866-4283 OR VISIT CAVSHATE.ORG



The following ad campaign is brought to you by the Laban Group: Filipino Ethnic Media Collaborative. This group aims to promote awareness in our beloved Filipino American community and the broader public about anti-Asian hate incidents and crimes; reduce stigma surrounding the reporting of hate incidents and hate crimes; enhance understanding of resources for victims and survivors; and, to promote community healing and cross-racial collaboration. This collaborative is funded by the "Stop The Hate" campaign from the California State Library in partnership with the California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs. Learn more at linktr.ee/labangroup.

KEEP OUR COMMUNITIES SAFE.

Photograph by Andri Tambunan



STAND UP TO ANTI-ASIAN HATE.

35% (154) OF INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED TO HAVE OCCURED IN A PUBLIC SPACE (I.E. STREET, PARK, SIDEWALK, PARKING LOT).

*Data pulled from the Bulosan Center's report on California Filipinos which gathered data from Stop AAPI Hate

If you have experienced or witnessed an incident of anti-Asian hate, bigotry, bias, or discrimination, report at **STOPHATE.CALCIVILRIGHTS.CA.GOV** or call **833-8-NO-HATE (833-866-4283)**.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE.



The following public awareness campaign is brought to you by the Laban Group: Filipino Ethnic Media Collaborative. Led by Everyday Impact Consulting, Laban Group aims to promote awareness in our beloved Filipino American community and the broader public about anti-Asian hate incidents and crimes; reduce stigma surrounding the reporting of incidents and crimes; enhance understanding of resources; and foster community healing and cross-racial collaboration. This collaborative is funded by the "Stop The Hate" initiative from the California State Library in partnership with the California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs. Learn more at linktr.ee/labangroup.



FREE TAX PREPARATION

for families who earn less than \$65,000.

JUNE 15, 2023 - OCTOBER 15, 2023

Please Have The Following:

- All **2022** W-2s, SSA, 1099, Retirement, etc.
- Valid Driver's License or State ID
- Social Security Card for You/Spouse and Any Dependents
- 2022 Health Coverage Form
- If Filing Married-Joint, Spouse **MUST** Be Present
- Last Year's Tax Return

Call our offices to schedule an appointment!

Office locations:

6270 Elder Creek Road, Sacramento, CA 95824 | (916) 454-1892
 2411 Alhambra Blvd., Ste 110, Sacramento, CA 95817 | (916) 324-6202
 5750 Sunrise Blvd., Ste 100, Citrus Heights, CA 95610 | (916) 745-4313

Visit YourFreeTaxPrep.org to file your taxes online for free!



We can help enroll for health coverage!



The Filipino Women's Club

Cordially invites you to its

Pista Sa Nayon 2023



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023
SOCIAL: 5:30 PM / DINNER: 6:00 PM
DONATION \$40
ATTIRE: FILIPINIANA

JOSE RIZAL COMMUNITY CENTER
7320 FLORIN MALL DRIVE
SACRAMENTO, CA 95823

MARIA - 916.521.6641
ROSE - 916.873.5434
MERCEDES - 916.266.192
MELIT - 916.690.8294