



FAAV Bi-Annual Publication

From the Upuan

by Chuck Reidy

Hello Kababayans! I'm Chuck Reidy, your 2024 Chair who is both humbled and honored to lead FAAV's 20 hardworking board of directors.

Welcome to our annual FAAV Philippines Independence Day Potluck Picnic at Vancouver Lake. It's a wonderful time to celebrate Philippine Independence with family and friends. Thank you for bringing your favorite dishes to share with everyone. We have lots of activities and games today along with lots of food including Lechons and other delicious favorites. Thank you to all our sponsors for these food donations, events, and game prizes.



I want to thank outgoing Chair, Luis Ordona, for his outstanding service these past two years. Under his leadership, FAAV has continued to flourish and grow; most notably with the new formation and award of four Philippine Scholarships.

Rounding out December of 2023, we held our annual Pasko Na Naman celebration in Embassy Suites not to mention our First Annual Children's Christmas Celebration at Metropolitan Performing Arts Academy in Vancouver. Thank you to our event chairs and their active committees who had successfully executed these events. Your hard work has really shown through. Both events had the venues bursting at the seams, filled with laughter and smiling faces. It was such an Outstanding achievement!

Last year, FAAV awarded four US College Scholarships to students attending USF (San Francisco), UW (Washington State), Pepperdine University and Marymount Manhattan College. At present, we are seeking applicants for this upcoming yearly Scholarships. Eligible applicants should be Clark county WA residents. For more inquiries, please visit our website at www.filamvancouver.org/scholarship

The year 2024 has started with a very generous grant from the Inatai Foundation to support FAAV's mission. Inatai's special assistant to the CEO, Eddie Moreno, found our filamvancouver.org website and reached out after reading all of the recent community activities/events. Eddie informed me of the grant and its award. We are humbled by Inatai's support and we look forward to furthering our endeavors. Thank you so much Inatai Foundation. *(continued on Page 7)*

Editor: Gretel Ness Editor: June Sustento-Reyla

June 2024 Edition

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Alam ba Ninyo? ni Ka June

Mga Katutubo Ng Pilipinas (*Indigenous Groups in the Philippines*) Source:Justo (internet) 5/20/2023

Ang Pilipinas ay pugad ng mga katutubong naninirahan sa kapuluan libong taon na ang nakaraan. *The Philippines is home to numerous indigenous groups that have been living in the archipelago for thousands of years.*

Ang mga liping ito ay may iba't ibang uri ng kultura, wika at mga pamahiin.

These tribes are diverse in culture, language, and practices.

Gayunpaman, sa kabila ng kanilang pagiging pagkakaiba, mayroon silang pangkalahatang ipinaglalaban na pangalagaan ang kanilang namanang lahi at pamumuhay sa kabila ng modernisa syon at pag-unlad ng kabihasnan. *However, despite their uniqueness, they share a common struggle with pre-*





serving their heritage and way of life amidst modernization and development.

Ang Igorot ang isa sa mga tanyag na katutubo sa Pilipinas. The Igorot tribe is one of the most prominent indigenous groups in the Philippines. Nakilala sila dahilan sa kanilang pambihirang hinabing tela, tulad ng bahag at tapis. *They are known for their distinctive clothing made from woven fabrics, such as the bahag and tapis.*

Ang mga Igorot ay nakilala rin dahilan sa kanilang bai baitang na palayan na kinilala ng UNESCO World Heritage Site. Sa kabila ng lahat ng pagsisikap na ito, ang mga Igorot ay nakakaranas pa rin ng diskriminasyon at pagpapa walang halaga ng lipunan sa kanila. *The Igorots are also* famous for their rice terraces, which are recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Despite these achievements, the Igorots still face discrimination and marginalization.

June Sustento-Reyla

Ang tribung T'boli ay mga katutubong nakatira sa bandang Timog ng bansa. *The T'boli tribe is an indigenous group that resides in the southern part of the Philippines.*

Kilala sila sa kanilang masalimoot na abaloryo at tansong alahas na kanilang hinuhugis gamit ang makalumang paraan. *They are known for their intricate beadwork and brass jewelry, which they create using traditional methods.*

Ang mga Katutubong T'boli ay mayaman sa tradisyon ng musika at sayaw na kanilang ginagawa tuwing may mga espesyal na pagtitipon. *The T'boli people also have a rich tradition of music and dance, which they perform during special occasions.*

Subali't ang kanilag kultura ay pinagbabantaan ng mga pagmiminang nagaganap sa kanilang mga minanang lupain. *However, their culture is threatened by mining operations in their ancestral lands.*



Ang tribung B'laan ang isa pa sa mga grupo ng katutubong makikita sa Timog na bahagi ng Pilipinas. *The B'laan tribe is another indigenous group in the southern part of the Philippines.*



Kilala ang mga B'laan sa kanilang husay sa masalimoot na pamamaraan ng pag habi upang makagawa ng makulay na kayo. *They are known for their intricate weaving techniques, which they use to create colorful textiles.*

Alam ba Ninyo? ni Ka June

(continued from Page 2)

Ang katutubong B'laan ay may mayamang tradisyon ng kuwentong bayan, na nagpapasalin salin sa bawat henerasyon. *The B'laan people also have a rich tradition of storytelling, which they pass down from one generation to another.*

Sa kabila nito, ang kanilang mga lupaing minana pa sa kanilang mga ninuno ay may mga naka ambang panganib mula sa pagmimina at pag totroso. *However, their ancestral lands are threatened by mining and logging activities.*

Ang Tribong Manobo ay grupo ng katutubo sa Pilone of the largest indigepines.

Kinikilala sila sa kanilmoot na buslo, na gipamamaraan. *They are basketry, which they creods*.



isa sa pinaka malaking ippinas.*The Manobo tribe is nous groups in the Philip-*

ang pag gawa ng masalinagamitan ng makalumang known for their intricate ate using traditional meth-

Ang katutubong Manobo ay sagana sa tradisyon ng musika at pagsasayaw, na kanilang ginaganap sa mga espesyal na araw. *The Manobo people also have a rich tradition of music and dance, which they perform during special occasions.*

Subali't ang kanilang pamumuhay ay pinagbabantaan ng pag angkin ng pagbabago at pangkasalukuyang buhay. *However, their way of life is threatened by the encroachment of modernization and development.*





Ang tribong Mangyan ay mga kautubong masisilayan sa isla ng Mindoro. Kinikilala ang Mangyan sa kanilang bukod tanging manuskrito na ginagamit upang maisulat ang kanilang wika. *The Mangyan tribe is an indigenous group that resides in the island of Mindoro. They are known for their unique script, which they use to write their language.*

Ang mga katutubong Mangyan ay may mayamang tradisyon ng paghahabi ng mga tela at ibang mga bagay. *The Mangyan people also have a rich tradition of weaving, which they use to create clothing and other items.*

Gayunpaman, ang kanilang kultura ay nanganganib sa dahilang ang kanilang mga minanang lupa ay napapalitan ng pangangalakal ng pananim. *However, their culture is threatened by the conversion of their ancestral lands into commercial plantations.*

OUR PASKO NA NAMAN TRADITION

Pasko Na Naman ("PNN"), which in English means "It's Christmas Once Again," has always been one of the extra special events that Fil-Am Vancouver (FAAV) hosts annually in the Portland-Vancouver Metro area since the 1980's. Last year's PNN, held on December 2, 2023 at The Embassy Suites Hotel, Portland Airport, was attended by four hundred guests dressed beautifully in their formal evening attire. Our two Masters of Ceremonies, the glamorous Evelyn Katigbak Manalo and the brilliant Pia de Leon, made sure the evening was full of fun and entertainment.

One of the highlights of the evening, which I was personally proud of, were the two dance numbers performed by the PNN Santa Ladies and the FAAV Directors' Couples Dance Number. All the hard work behind the scenes, trying to learn the steps and memorize the dance sequences, really paid off when we received very loud applause from the audience. Thank you to Gary De Leon and Dolly Horlton for the countless nights and hours you had spent working with the dancers and for the patience, inspiration, and motivation that kept us going to master the steps.

Another highlight was the awarding of a Plaque of Appreciation and Gratitude to Honorary Consul Eric Tadeo and his wife, Vivian, for their outstanding leadership, dedication, and commitment to the FilAm Community at large. They are the rock and foundation of FAAV, and their tireless, volunteer service is admirable.

A moment of silence was also observed to remember one of our generous and dedicated directors, Amelia (Amy) Ramos Freedland, who passed away last January 28, 2023. Amy volunteered countless hours to serve the Fil-Am community here in Vancouver, Washington for many years.

Not only does our PNN event serve as our platform to officially acknowledge the new set of FAAV Officers and Board of Directors for the coming year, but we also use this occasion to award our FAAV College Scholarship to selected recipients. Moreover, the best part of the evening is being able to provide our guests with the opportunity to get together before everyone becomes busy during the holidays -- to catch up, reconnect and dance the night away!

So, thank you for your continued support and we hope to see you again this Dec 7, 2024 for our annual tradition of Pasko Na Naman.

Joan Barcelon Roberts



Alam ba Ninyo? ni Ka June

Ang tribung Aeta ay mga katutubong nakatira sa mga bulubundukin ng Luzon. *The Aeta tribe is an indigenous group that resides in the mountainous regions of Luzon.* Kilala ang mga katutubong Aeta sa pangangaso at dalubhasa sa paghahanap na kanilang pinaghusay sa paglipas ng libong taon. *They are known for their hunting and gathering skills, which they have honed over thousands of years.*



Ang tribong Kalinga ay mga katutubong nakatira sa Cordillera rehiyon ng Luzon. *The Kalinga tribe is an indigenous group that resides in the Cordillera region of Luzon.*

Kilala sila sa kanilang mga masalimoot na desenyo ng tattoo na ginagamit upang magsalaysay ng kuwento o mag marka ng mga mahalagang pangyayari. *They are known for their intricate tattoo designs, which they use to tell stories and mark important events.*



Malaki ang ang bahaging ginagampanan ng mga katutubo ng Pilipinas sa ating kultura at sa ating kapaligiran. *The indigenous groups in the Philippines play a vital role in the country's cultural and environmental diversity*. Ang mga katutubo ay nahaharap ngayon sa napakaraming suliranin tulad ng kahirapan, problema sa lupa, at diskrimansyon. *The indigenous people face many challenges, including discrimination, land disputes, poverty, and marginalization*.

Napakahalagang maunawaan natin ang kanilang karapatan at maging bahagi sila ng ating kabihasanan tungo sa ikakaunlad ng ating lipunan at sa pagsulong ng kanilang pang sariling kapakanan. It is essential to recognize their rights and promote their participation in the country's development processes to ensure their preservation and well-being.

Mula sa kaitaas taasan ng mga budok ng Luzon hanggang sa mga isla ng Mindanao ay ang tahanan ng mga higit isang daang katutubo ng Pilipipnas. From the highlands of Luzon to the islands of Mindanao, the Philippines is home to over 100 different indigenous groups.

Bawa't grupo ay may sariling kultura, wika, at mga paniniwala, kakaiba at kabigha bighani sa ating bayan sa panlipunang habi. *Each group has its own distinct culture, language, and beliefs, making them a diverse and fascinating part of the country's social fabric.*

(continued from Page 3)

Sa kabila ng mga suliraning hinaharap ng mga katutubo , tulad ng kawalan ng matitirahan, diskrimanasyon, ang mga katutubo ay nananatiling matatag upang mapanatili ang kanilang pagkaka kilanlan.

Despite facing numerous challenges such as displacement, discrimination, and loss of traditional lands, these communities continue to persevere and maintain their cultural identity.



Expanding the FAAV Philippine Scholarship Program

by Rita Schaljo

FAAV is happy to share that our Philippine Scholarship Program is growing and expanding this coming school year 2024-25, adding 2 more High School Scholars to our current 4, and also opening up a Scholarship for College/ Vocational level students. Funds to support these students come from the Fil-Am Vancouver community, generous benefactors, and FAAV Directors who believe strongly in giving back to the homeland by helping struggling students achieve their dreams of attaining an education. We are very excited to plan for a total of eight (8) Philippine Scholarship Recipients for the school year 2024-25.

For our Philippine High School Scholarship, FAAV continues to work with the Sisters of the Poor located in Binangonan, Rizal, as well as, the Shepherd of the Tribes Mission aka God's Harvest Ministries who work primarily with the Aeta Indigenous Peoples of Zambales and Bataan. For our new Sponsor-based Philippine College/Vocational Scholarship, FAAV is working to establish a partnership with Catanduanes State University (CatSU) located in Calatagan, Virac, Catanduanes, Philippines.

FAAV is grateful to our donors and sponsors who support our mission, especially pertaining to educational and charitable giving. Your donation and participation at our events not only support our Fil-Am students here in the US, but also students in the Philippines, who, despite having free tuition, cannot afford basic necessities such as food, lodging, books, and transportation to get to school. We call on anyone who wish to partner with FAAV in this endeavor, to contact our FAAV Philippine Scholarship Committee at FAACCV@hotmail.com. Together we can help more students and give back to our homeland.

Philippine Consular Outreach

The Philippine Consulate General in San Francisco led by Consul Vanessa Bago-Llona organized a Consular Outreach Mission in Tigard, Oregon from April 25 to 28 at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel, providing a total of 938 services to our kababayans.

The consular outreach afforded Filipinos and Filipino Americans passport, dual citizenship, and overseas voting registration services without having to travel to San Francisco. Applicants from throughout Oregon and other states, including Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Washington, and even Arizona, availed of these services during the outreach.

The outreach was held with the support of Philippine Honorary Consul of Oregon and Washington, Enrico Tadeo, along with volunteers from local FilAm organizations led by the Filipino American Association of Vancouver WA (FAAV), the Filipino Bayanihan Center, and the Filipino American Association of Portland & Vicinity (FAAPVI), just to name a few, who all generously shared their time, energy, and much needed patience throughout this three-day event.

A representative from the U.S. Dept. of Labor's Wage and Hour Division also participated, providing invaluable information on laws and regulations protecting not only the welfare of workers, but also of their labor rights.

Filipinos residing under the Consulate's jurisdiction may check out <u>pcgsanfrancisco.org/consular-</u> <u>outreach-missions/</u> for details on future outreach missions.





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From the Upuan

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This year, on May 7th, FAAV held its annual scholarship fundraising event called "Give Back Days" at the Beaches Restaurant. FAAV has been hosted by this restaurant for the past several years and shared as much as 50% of the proceeds with FAAV. Unfortunately, this is Beaches' final year and will close its doors on December 31, 2024. Thank you Beaches, your generous owners and wonderful team of servers have given so much to the Vancouver FILAM community. We will miss you dearly.

Additionally, the Philippine Consul Van and her Consular Outreach team were co-sponsored here in Oregon through a partnership between the Filipino American Association of Portland and Vicinity (FAAPVI) and FAAV. Both organizations and other volunteers were led by PCO event chair, Lorelei Hosmillo. The PCO completed 983 individual transactions fulfilling community needs for Passport, Dual Citizenship, and Overseas Voting Registration. Thank you so much to all barkadas who volunteered both their time and talent to make this such a successful outreach.

FAAV also sponsored and supported FAAPVI event, "Sama-Sama Tayo Sa Sinehan at Kainan" with the movie premiere in Oregon, When I Met You in Tokyo. It was a wonderful movie shown in the FAAVPI Portland building on Stark Street. The interior of the building has been renovated featuring a new audio/video equipment for this five-night fundraising event.

Finally, FAAV supported FilAm Friendship Club's(FAFC) 10th Debutante Ball & 45th Anniversary on March



Open to students pursuing a vocational, certificate, technical, associate, or bachelor's degree program. Details and application online at:

www.FilAmVancouver.org/scholarship

High School Seniors, vocational and academic students, are you aspiring to be a leader in our Filipino Community? The Filipino American Association of Vancouver (FAAV) can help you in this journey. Annually, FAAV offers \$1,000 Scholarships to two deserving students. The criteria are: you must be a permanent resident of Clark County; must be of Filipino descent; and must be a high school senior by the time of selection and award, or must be currently pursuing a vocational certificate, technical, associate or bachelor's degree.

Please go to our website at filamvancouver.org and download the application form. Deadline is October 1, 2024. For questions and requests for additional information, contact Bernie Gerhardt at gerhardtbm@gmail.com. 9, 2024. It was wonderful seeing all the debutantes and their escorts read their aspirations and perform for us. Such a wonderful evening of Philippine cultural performances.

I hope that you will all enjoy the Philippines Independence Day activities just as we have enjoyed preparing them for all of you. Please stop any of our dedicated directors and let them know your feedback about today's events and ideas for future events that you may wish to see in our community. Mabuhay!!!

Chuck Reidy

Thank yon to our barkada supporters!





FAAV - PNN CHILDRENS EVENT 2023

PNN (Pasko Na Naman) Children's event, held on December 23, 2023, filled the Metropolitan Performing Arts Theatre in Vancouver, Washington, with over 120 in attendance and 80 of those were children. First children's event after many, many years...It was a jolly and joyful experience to see all the children and families come together. We had lots of food and games, prizes and Santa and Mrs. Claus even stopped by.

FAAV (Filipino American Association of Vancouver) Board of Directors and their families came together to make sure the children of our community had fun and were showered with gifts.

Thank you to the families who donated gifts and big shout out to "*Les Schwab and Fox 12*" for sharing gifts from their annual "Toy Drive." The amazing feeling that is so heartwarming to see the glowing smiles on the children's faces when they saw Santa, is always a magical vision.

Thank you to Fred & Gladiz Gallardo and Sima Felina of *"Filipiniana Catering"* for sponsoring the venue and to Mike Llorente of *"The Piehole Pizzeria"* in Vancouver, WA, for donating the delicious pizzas for the children. A special thank you to John Oribello of *"Barkada AVP"* and his family for donating their time with their photo booth and photography services for this event.

If you took pictures with Santa and didn't get a copy, please visit his Facebook page to get a copy.

If you missed out last year don't worry, Santa will be back on his sleigh this year for another visit, and we hope you all can join.

Thank you to everyone and MABUHAY!





ACIFIC OFFICE AUTOMATION



Hardinera

by Vivian Tadeo

Ilang araw bago pumutok ang panahon ng tagsibol inihahanda na ni Vivian ang mga kagamitan para sa kanyang mga pananim. *A few days before the spring season, Vivian is preparing the tools for her crops.* Masdan natin ang kanyang hardin ng mga gulay. *Let's look at her vegetable garden.*





Prepping the vegetable garden.. Making room for a greenhouse. Magtanim ay di biro. *Planting is not a joke*.

Upo, ampalaya, sayote. Talong, sitaw, bataw, patani. Kondol, patola, upo't kalabasa....Sibuyas, kamatis, bawang at luya. Sa paligid ligid ay puno ng "sunflowers" para sa mga bubuyog.

Upo, ampalaya, sayote. Eggplant, beans, bataw, patani. Kondol, patola, pumpkin... Onion, tomato, garlic and ginger. There are "sunflowers" all around for bees.

Thank you to our dear sponsors! Without you the Filipino Picnic/ Kalayaan celebration could not have been possible:

Rolly Corre Bernie Gerhardt Cori Harms Hilda Lagamon Dolly Specht Veronica van Dijk LBC Express St. Barbra Pinoy Bakery Filipiniana International Nanay Sima Tambayan Restaurant

Evelyn Manalo of **Portland Care Home** (503) 481-7368

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Vancouver, WA.The universe has a funny way of telling us that we're having way too much fun and that we need to dial it down. For us, it was our rented car getting broken into, with our bags containing our passports being stolen just a few hours before our flight back home. As luck would have it, just on the other side of the river, in a little town called Vancouver, WA, live the Tadeos and their friends from the Filipino-American Association. They made our predicament their own offering the best adobo and sinigang; free night stays; free concert from our Honorary Consul Sir Eric; free tour around downtown, eat-all-you-can sushi while we wait for our Travel Document from the San Francisco Consulate. An unexpected yet perfect ending we didn't see coming. ***Background music courtesy of Sir Eric Tadeo

> Isang Pasasalamat (A Thank you Note) from Glen and Leslie Menor

To engage in educational, activities that promote, and share the customs, the Filipino



humanitarian, civic, cultural and charitable would preserve, with the community values, and heritage of culture.

Check us out on the Web: www.filamvancouver.org



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Important information on back

Advisors

101-year-old Lacey WWII veteran finally receives nation's highest civilian award



Harvey Drahos receives his Congressional Gold Medal from Enrico Tadeo of The Philippines' Consulate during a ceremony held in DuPont's Clocktower Park on May 2, 2024.



The following excerpt is from an article by JM Simpson:

During the City of Lacey's 2023 Mayor's Gala last October, Karen Schoessel introduced the evening's guest of honor, then-100-year-old Harvey Drahos, a World War II veteran who had been wounded in 1945 during the Battle of Okinawa. "Representatives from the Congressional Gold Medal committee were in attendance, and they invited me and Harvey to meet with them to go through the planning process of eligibility for the medal, which he was," she said with a smile.



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Drahos was one of six individuals to receive his Congressional Gold Medal yesterday afternoon at the DuPont Clock Tower in Dupont, WA during the City of DuPont's Purple Heart Sign unveiling and the Congressional Gold Medal Award Ceremony. Now age 101, Drahos is the only living recipient, and the honor comes 79 years following his qualification to receive it. The other recipients are as follows: Staff Sergeant Joe M. Bomersback, Sergeant Lawrence E. Cassidy, Sergeant Clude W. Dro. Sergeant Lucle L. Eleming and Staff Sergeant

Clyde W. Dye, Sergeant Lysle J. Fleming and Staff Sergeant Pastor Palumbarit. The medal is the oldest and the highest civilian award

that the US Congress bestows. Created during the American Revolution, it has been awarded to individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary achievements in their field.

"Today's recipients join the august company of past recipients that included the likes of George Washington, General Uhysses Grant, the Wright Brothers, Winston Churchill, Jesse Owens, General Colin Powell, Mother Teresa and Nelson Mandela, to name just a few," said Andrew Hays, spokesperson for Representative Adam Smith.

The Filipino Veterans Recognition and Education Project (Region 8), and the Purple Heart Chapter 407 cohosted the event to honor fallen and wounded Filipino and American veterans of World War II who fought in the Philippines from 1941 through 1946.

"This is a great honor," said Drahos as friends and family members gathered around him. "It touches my heart."