



Pinoy Bulletin

FAAV Bi-annual Publication

From the Upuan

By Cori Harms

Editor: Bernice Bevard

2019 Issue 2, Dec. 2019

Dear friends of Fil-Am Vancouver,

Mabuhay! As we prepare to say goodbye to 2019, I want to wish you and your loved ones a warm and happy holiday season, and express our heartfelt appreciation for all you have done throughout the year to support the Fil-Am community. As we spend time with family and friends, let us reflect on this year's blessings and how we can do better in the coming year. I am truly honored to be the 2019 Board Chair and humbled to continue the work in 2020. One of my blessings is being with a team of hardworking FAAV board members and "FAAV barkadas". It is inspiring to look at this year's community outreach events and I am very proud of the team who helped us achieve them. Thank you for your generosity & support of FAAV's mission, which has enabled us to undertake many exciting events this year.

- **March:** FAAV co-hosted the Consular outreach with PACCO. This outreach served 458 kababayans from Oregon and Washington. The committee will be working with the Philippine Consulate Office in expanding their resources to accommodate more kababayans during their next visit in 2020.

- **May:** FAAV donated dental supplies to high school students at Remedios National High School, Lubao, Pampanga. On the 22nd of May, FAAV hosted a successful fund raising event at The Beaches restaurant benefitting FAAV's scholarship fund.

- **June:** FAAV hosted the annual Philippine Independence Day picnic at The Frenchman's Bar in Vancouver. FAAV's summer outreach brought together all Filipinos and our American friends and families in the community.

- **July:** FAAV joined other local Fil-Am associations at the July 4th event at Blue Lake Park, Troutdale OR. Also in July, FAAV produced a comedy show titled "Kantawanan sa Portland" which featured Filipino artists from Los Angeles, CA.

- **August:** FAAV hosted a hospitality event at the Port of Vancouver led by Rita Schaljo, Gloria Imperial and Zenny Way. Generous donors fund the maintenance of the Center for the use of Seafarers who come through the Port and who are mostly Filipinos. Also in August, FAAV donated towards welcoming the Bacolod Softball team to Portland.

- **September:** FAAV sponsored launching of a Filipino Children's Book by Maren Flores and Author Christina Newhard held at St. Barbra Bakery.

- **October:** FAAV joined the other local Fil-Am associations at the CFAA convention in Portland.

- **November:** FAAV made a donation to the WHO (Winter Hospitality Overflow) benefit concert held at St. John the Evangelist Church. The Filipino Choir, which includes some FAAV directors, was one of the performers.

- **December plans:** Looking forward to the "Pasko Na Naman" event on Dec. 7 at Holiday Inn, where we will award 2 scholarship grants. FAAV also plans to continue a tradition we started last year: - Christmas Carol outreach to Adult Care Homes in the area.

We are also pleased to announce the return of two former Directors to the FAAV Board: Francis (Kiko) Guevara and Edel Tiolengco. The board is delighted to have them back as they continue to help us promote our mission. If you would like to be one of our barkadas, please contact FAAV's welcome wagon committee chair Vivian Tadeo at evcntadeo@msn.com.

Finally, in the spirit of the season, we ask you to consider making a year-end donation to Fil-Am Vancouver to continue supporting the great work that our board and volunteers do for the community. The easiest way to do so is to write a check payable to Fil-Am Vancouver. We also encourage you to visit our website at www.filamvancouver.org as it is constantly being updated with stories and calendar events, so we hope you check it out.



Thank you in advance for all your support, and may your Christmas season and 2020 be full of joy and prosperity. Maraming salamat po!

From the upuan... sincerely yours,

Cori Susi-Harms, FAAV Board Chair

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- Luis Ordon, Vice-Chair & Auditor
- Chuck Reidy, Treasurer
- Gretel Ness, Asst. Treasurer
- Joan Roberts, Secretary
- Rita Schaljo, Asst. Secretary & Webmaster
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- Evelyn Manalo, PRO 2
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- Amy Freedland, Director
- Bernie Gerhardt, Director
- Bob Osilla, Director
- June Sustento, Director
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A Tribute to Sonny Verzosa

By Vivian Tadeo

Raymundo M. Verzosa



October 28, 1948 - September 3, 2019

Kuyang was my best buddy among my siblings. Being only 2 years apart we understood each other. He was a "big brother" to me growing up in the Philippines, and a "big brother" still.... in the USA.

Gone is the one that calls me up before the break of dawn to tell me that he is in the hospital again. Lately, it was much too often that if the phone wakes me up, I know it is him and instead of saying "Hello?" I ask "nasaan ka?"

Gone is the one whose uncanny sense of humor made the family laugh, the great story teller.

Gone is the one who has a generous heart and helping hands, the "Go To" person of Vancouver.

Gone is the one who volunteers first, be it service or monetary.

Gone is the one who has a passion for good food, happy to share his culinary inventions, and eat with gusto. He recently discovered the bread maker machine. He was so proud and excited to email me the pictures of the pandesal he baked.

Gone is the one who loved life, traveling with his family cross country in his BW bus at a time when owning a BW bus was hip. Numerous camping trips that brought us all together. There is no lack of "baon" (food) if he is around. Don't even bother bringing. He has it covered. Should there be not enough food, out comes the cans of corned beef he stashed in his van. I shall always associate him with "Libbys Libbys Libbys" corned beef. Sarap.

The autumn weather has started and rain was pouring all week leading up to his Memorial service and inurnment. Mass started the day, followed immediately with reception in the church hall. In spite of the rain and being a Tuesday, the church was full. I said to myself, "These are the people whose lives Kuyang has touched through the years." So many I have not seen for a while. It is embarrassing when they come up to me and I am clueless as to who they are. Friends and relatives galore came, some driving as far as 18 hours to be there.

The private inurnment at the cemetery was the saddest. The rain let up a bit as one by one we shoveled dirt and poured it in. The day ended with dinner at Kuyang and Manang's house. Even with just family and friends that are like family, the house was bursting with guests. Likewise, the buffet table was over flowing with food. This is how I remember Kuyang in his house. Everyone and anyone is welcome, near and far, young and old. There is food and room for you.

To perk up the somber atmosphere a bit, Eric started playing the piano softly that became louder and louder as people gathered around and started singing as if to drown the sorrow that we were all feeling. It will be a while before it sinks in that he is no longer around. His love of life and jocularity will be missed. I will miss my Kuyang.

These past few days reminded me of my own mortality. So much love and thankfulness still to be shared, so little time. Though death is inevitable for all of us, it is not the end. For those who believe there is an offer for life everlasting.

Feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz

By Evelyn Katigbak Manalo

On September 29, 2019, the 23rd Anniversary Celebration of the Feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz was held at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic church in Salem, OR. Representatives and leaders of different religious and community associations from Oregon and SW Washington gathered once again to represent their group and be part of the celebration of the first Filipino saint San Lorenzo Ruiz. The Filipino American Association of Vancouver, WA was represented by yours truly as the banner bearer and "barkada" Francis Guevara as one of the karo bearers of San Lorenzo. This annual celebration is organized by the Filipino Faith Community of Oregon and SW Washington.



2019 Philippine Independence Day Picnic

By Luis Ordon

At around 8:30 in the morning of June 15, 2019, FAAV directors and fellow Barkadas (friends) started arriving at the Frenchman's Bar Park in Vancouver, Washington. It was a beautiful almost summer day and everyone started setting up one of the park's shelters and converting it into a Filipino Fiesta type atmosphere.

There were so many things happening all at once: colorful banderitas (small triangular-shaped banners) lined up the ceilings, picnic tables covered in red, white, and blue tablecloths, DJ Jon on the turntable, the Keys Band tuning up their instruments, picnic tents were starting to pop up and line the perimeter of the shelter, and a façade of a Bahay Kubo (Nipa Hut) type structure was coming all together. All in all, it was a very busy morning, but the vibe was not one of being tired and stressed out. Instead, in true Bayanihan spirit (spirit of community working together), everyone had smiles on their faces, working together as a group, with excitement lingering in the air.

As the day drew closer to noon, more and more Filipino-Americans, friends, and family, started to arrive in droves. There were the old timers, but there were plenty of new folks in attendance as well. Each brought their own dish as contribution to the potluck style picnic. Our longtime supporter Myrna Relos of LBC also donated half the cost of the lechon (roasted pig) was also getting all chopped up and readied for serving and the chatting and reacquainting had begun. Soon after, the emcees for the festivity took over the mic and after the singing of the American and Philippines National Anthems and prayer over the food, the party officially started.

The event was jam-packed with activities. From the Two Dudes in Socks Acoustic Band by Mike Griffus and Bill Burton, to the games played, to the Zumba dance numbers lead by our Professional Instructors, Lanilu Phillips and Mhey Guinto, to our talented Big Banks dance performances by Nikki Moore

and Amaya Vitug and the "Halo-Halo" dancers by Jessica Wu and Maria Schaljo really made a great fun-filled afternoon. On top of all of this, there were several stations that showcased our Philippines Games called "Sipa" and "Sungka" and the Traditional Music on Banduria and Guitar played by Ernie Quilban and Victor Antonio along with our very own board member, Rita Schaljo truly brought back an enjoyable recollection of our historical music.

At the end of the eventful day, all the FAAV directors needed to see were the happy, satisfied looks, and the smiles on the faces of all those who attended the picnic to know that they have accomplished the intent of the event and that is celebrating and bringing awareness to our history and traditions while enjoying each other's company.



Dental Supplies Outreach

By Cori Harms



Growing up in a poor community, I understand how it is to live with limited resources. Ten years ago, my children, at the age of 13, thought of visiting the school kids in my hometown of Remedios, Lubao, Pampanga, Philippines. We did a dental supply outreach distributing toothbrushes to all elementary students. What an experience for them to witness how much it was appreciated! It gave them an appreciation of a lot of things we take for granted here in US. Last April, I decided to partner with FAAV to once again distribute dental supplies in my hometown, this time to the high school students. A simple act of kindness goes a long way. Remedios students and the school faculty appreciated the generosity and the thoughtfulness.



Kantawanan sa Portland

By Evelyn Katigbak Manalo



One of the community outreach projects of FAAV over the summer was **Kantawanan Sa Portland** (songs and laughter), a comedy show performed by artists Joseph Gelito and Maritoni “Bona” Wiese from Los Angeles, CA. The show was held at the Fil-Am Center in Portland and the venue was packed standing room only! Friends who came and watched the show had a grand time laughing out loud at Bona’s comedy skits and enjoyed Joseph’s rendition of the popular song “Buwan”. Til next time, don’t miss it!

Left: The performers pose with some of the attendees of the show. Top Left: Joseph Gelito & Bona Wiese with Agnes Villanueva from NYC and Evelyn Manalo

Go Make a Difference WHO Benefit Concert

By Bernice Bevard

The **Winter Hospitality Overflow (WHO)** is an organization in Vancouver, Washington, devoted to helping those in need during winter’s coldest months. The WHO began in 2003 with the partnership of the Council for the Homeless, SHARE House and the Interfaith Coalition of SW Washington as a way to address the homeless crisis in our community. In 2004, St. Andrew Lutheran and St. Paul Lutheran committed to serve as shelters for 5 months each year. WHO provides guests not only a warm place to sleep, but a hot shower, meals, and the welcome and warmth of a caring community working to address the most basic of human needs. Over 50 congregations in the Vancouver area support these shelters through financial donations and volunteer hours to help staff the shelters.

This year’s benefit concert for WHO entitled “**Go Make a Difference**” was held at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. The event started out with a beautiful rendition of “The Prayer” by Francis Guevara and Ann Makar. This was followed by performances by Joshua 24:15 and the choirs from Holy Redeemer, Our Lady of Lourdes, and the Filipino Community. It was an evening of inspirational music showcasing both talented musicians and vocalists alike.

According to the concert’s organizer, Flor Fernandez, just over \$13,000 was raised through the generous donations of those that supported the event. This was the highest amount raised in the concert’s history. WHO representative, Jane Seidel, said that this was their largest fundraiser this year and she was speechless when the proceeds were handed to her.

If you feel called to donate or get involved, please visit www.whoprogram.org or contact WHO at 360.200.8757 or whoprogram@gmail.com.



The Holy Redeemer Choir led by Angela Yang.

Winter Hospitality Overflow

Population Served: Families, single women and couples and single men

Shelter Capacity: St Andrew - 50 [single women, families, couples] St Paul - 30 [single men]

Hours of Operation: 6:30pm – 8:00am

Months of Operation: November 1 – March 31

Volunteers: Minimum of 2 volunteers per shift at each site. St. Andrew requires 4 volunteers for evening and morning shifts
Staff: 1-2 Share Case Managers are on duty from 6-10:30pm each day

Type of Bedding: St. Andrew floor mats/ St. Paul cots

Showers Provided: On site

Meals Provided: Hot dinners are served at Share Orchards Inn [5609 NE 102nd Ave] 6-6:30pm and Share House downtown [1115 W 13th St] 5-5:30pm. Snacks are served by WHO in the evening. Cold breakfast is provided on site. Lunches to go are also provided for guests.



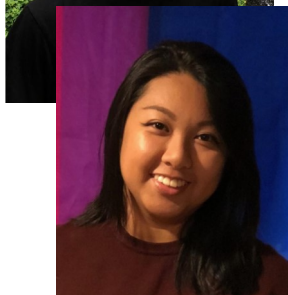
The Filipino Choir: Top (L to R): Bernice Bevard, Tess Mallari, Ida Mendoza, Lou Gaerlan, Raquel Naval, Francis Guevara. Bottom (L to R): Bernie Gerhardt, Fe Gonzaga, Kirstin Walla, Jocy Dollison-Walla, Frances Verzosa, Lyn Rush, Rita Schaljo, Jessie Concepcion. Not in photo: George Gaerlan, Flor Fernandez, Clare Engles, Rodel Flores.

2019 Scholarship Awardees

By Bernie Gerhardt



The Filipino American Association of Vancouver (FAV) has awarded two \$1,000 Scholarships to William Lim and Christianne Verzosa. William Lim is the son of Michelle and Daniel Lim who live in Camas Washington. William is currently attending Azusa Pacific University, in California and majoring in Business Management. He is expected to graduate in 2022. William applied for the FAV scholarship to achieve his goal of completing school and finding a great career to help him and his family.



Our second awardee, Christianne Verzosa, is a repeat recipient of the FAV scholarship. Christianne is currently attending University of Washington and majoring in English-Creative Writing with a minor in American Sign Language. Christianne is expected to graduate in 2020. Christianne is the daughter of Edel Verzosa

William and Christianne will be acknowledged at the FAV's "Pasko Na Naman" on December 7th at the Holiday Inn Portland-Airport.

FAAV will be awarding another 2 scholarships next year. If you know anyone who would like to apply, please watch out for more information at www.filamvancouver.org/scholarship.

Simbang Gabi Schedule (West, East & South)

Westside Schedule

December 15-23, Masses @ 7:00 PM
Saturday, December 21st @ 5:30 PM
Reception will follow after the 23rd Mass

Holy Trinity Catholic Church
13715 SW Walker Road
Beaverton, Oregon 97005
<https://www.h-t.org/simbang-gabi>

Eastside Schedule

December 15-23, Masses @ 7:00 PM
Saturday, December 21st @ 5:00 PM
Reception will follow after the 23rd Mass

St. Therese Catholic Church
1260 NE 132 Ave, Portland, Oregon 97230

Southside Schedule

December 15-16, 20-23, Masses @ 7:00 PM
Reception will follow after the 23rd Mass
Queen of Peace Catholic Church
4227 Lone Oak Rd SE, Salem, Oregon 97304

December 17-19, Masses @ 7:00 PM
St Joseph Catholic Church
721 Chemeketa St NE, Salem, Oregon 97301

December 15-23, Masses at 6:00 PM
Saturday, December 21st @ 5:30 PM
Reception will follow after the 23rd Mass
St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
1010 Columbia St NE, Salem, Oregon 97301

FILIPINO COMMUNITY
OF OREGON AND SW WASHINGTON
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO
Christmas Novena Masses
"Simbang Gabi" 2019

Rosary precedes a half an hour before Mass



December 14, 2019
Simbang Gabi Commissioning Mass - 11:00 AM
Main Celebrant - Archbishop Alexander Sample
St. Mary's Cathedral
1716 NW Davis St, Portland, OR 97209

Simbang Gabi Schedule (SW Washington)

Saturday Dec 14 thru Monday Dec 23, 2019

Simbang Gabi Novena Masses in SouthWest Washington



- 14 Dec Saturday at **11am** - Commissioning Mass at St James Cathedral
804 9th Ave, **Seattle**, WA 98104, Celebrant: Archbishop Paul D. Etienne
- 15 Dec Sunday at **9am** - St John the Evangelist Catholic Church
8701 NE 119th St, **Vancouver** WA 98662, Celebrant: Rev. Thomas Belleque
Coordinator: Bernie Gerhardt, email: gerhardtbm@gmail.com
- 16 Dec Monday at **6pm** - St Joseph Catholic Church
400 S Andresen Rd, **Vancouver**, WA 98661, Celebrant: Rev. Roy Baroma
Coordinator: Rosalie Hedin, email: rphedin@hotmail.com
- 17 Dec Tuesday at **6pm** - St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church
324 NE Oak St, **Camas**, WA 98607, Celebrant: Rev. Rajasekar Savarimuthu H.G.N.
Coordinator: Tess Mallari, email: theresamallari@yahoo.com
- 18 Dec Wednesday at **6pm** - Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church
4701 NW Franklin St, **Vancouver**, WA 98663, Celebrant: Rev. Woody McCallister
Coordinator: Sissy Jacob, email: phryte@comcast.net
- 19 Dec Thursday *not assigned –attend Mass at your Parish or Simbang Gabi in Portland, Oregon*
- 20 Dec Friday *not assigned –attend Mass at your Parish or Simbang Gabi in Portland, Oregon*
- 21 Dec Saturday at **5pm** - St Rose de Viterbo Catholic Church
2571 Nichols Blvd, **Longview**, WA 98632, Celebrant: Rev. Bryan Ochs
Coordinator: Linda La Madrid, phone: 360.425.2592
- 22 Dec Sunday at **12noon** - Holy Redeemer Catholic Church
17010 NE 9th St, **Vancouver**, WA 98684, Celebrant: Rev. Thomas Nathe
Coordinator: Francis Guevara, email: fbguevara@gmail.com
- 23 Dec Monday *not assigned –attend Mass at your Parish or Simbang Gabi in Portland, Oregon*



ARCHDIOCESE
OF SEATTLE

Thank you to all the Parishes participating this year.

The Filipino Community of the
Archdiocese of Seattle, Southern Deanery

For more information please contact:

Rita Schaljo: ritaschaljo@msn.com 360.281.8009

CFAA Convention 2019

By Chuck Reidy

On Oct 5, 2019, Fil-Am Vancouver (FAAV) joined 15 other CFAA affiliates at their biennial CFAA Convention held in the Milwaukee Center.

FAAV had a wonderful display of all its community events and activities for the past several years. FAAV also brought a large "bahay kubo" style sari-sari store offering water and snacks to attendees.

We celebrated CFAA's 20th year since it was established in 1999 with "Bayanihan Spirit". Looking back over 20 years, there are many accomplishments of preserving our Filipino heritage and service to others from affiliate FIL-AM organizations. From University choral groups to medical missions, traditional dance performances to sharing our favorite regional cuisine, cinematic presentations to arts and crafts, paper and pencil school donation drives to distribution of scholarships... together we strive to preserve our Filipino culture and heritage for our children, grandchildren, community and beyond.

Bayanihan was the theme and means "community, a gathering together to accomplish a major task". CFAA came together embracing all the wonderful elements each Filipino American organization promotes in our local communities and in the Philippines with "Bayanihan Spirit". I truly feel CFAA exists today to continue to foster and grow the Bayanihan Spirit amongst our Filipino American organizations through community, collaboration, and connection.

The special guest speaker was Antonio M. Taguba, Major General, US Army (RET) and AARP Community Ambassador. He honored military veterans who attended with an AARP challenge coin. Several FAAV directors, barkada, their parents, and friends were among our honored Veterans. He also spoke about his

personal experience as a caregiver and his advocacy for caregivers and their families.

The 20th Anniversary celebration continued all afternoon. We were blessed with many traditional folks dance numbers and song melodies. Then we took a short break to have some early Filipino cuisine like BBQ Pork on a stick, Lumpia, and pancit for dinner. Followed by a finale of more songs and DJ Jon's magic music to round out the event.

I'm very proud you and your accomplishments! Let us continue to join hands and unite our Filipino -Americans with "Community", "Collaboration" and "Connection". Thank you for your continued support of CFAA!!!



Top: FAAV's Board Members and spouses. Bottom: Military veterans with retired Major General Antonio M. Taguba.



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2020 Census

By Bernie Gerhardt

On Saturday, September 21st, at the Vancouver Community Library, Toshiko Hasegawa, Executive Director of the Washington State Commission on Asian American Affairs (CAPAA) convened a meeting with ethnic organizations. The purpose was to solicit information and develop a work plan for Census 2020 with Clark County Asian Pacific Americans. Ms. Hasegawa introduced Cheryl Cayabyab (Filipina), Principal of KAYA Strategik, who is spearheading the work plan to have Washington Asian Americans adequately counted in Census 2020.

Ms. Cayabyab interacted with the ethnic organizations and discussed Asian Pacific Islanders (API) communities in Clark County and barriers and strategies to local, culturally specific API outreach and engagement.

The group watched a video, "Why Asian Communities Need to be Represented in Census 2020 - Can We Count on You?" The message was that Asian Americans must be counted because this would guide redistricting, if needed, and where resources, money and power would be directed.

KAYA distributed a list of Washington State and Federal Resources along with Asian Americans Advancing Justice (AAAJ) who are advocating for the civil and human rights of Asian Americans and other underserved communities to promote a fair and equitable society for all. AAAJ has a toolkit and a comprehensive website for AANHPI communities.

The API communities were encouraged to collect data on API, devise strategies to promote participation in the Census and report information to our respective organizations.

Filipino Children's Book Publisher Launches Waray Tale in Portland

By Christina Newhard



Sari-Sari Storybooks. "Sandangaw: a Waray Tale," launched this September 29, in partnership with FAAV, at St Barbra's Pinoy Bakery, in Portland.

Philippine eagle mask-making and eating sugar-dusted ensaymada were background activities at the launch. FAAV member Fe Gonzaga read the story in Waray, beside Sari-Sari Storybooks publisher Christina Newhard, who read the story in English.

What would you do if you were only the size of a hand? Would you seek a grumpy talking eagle (rumored to eat children), to find out how to grow? This riddle must be solved by Sandangaw, the tiny hero in the newest title from

Sari-Sari Storybooks shares the quirky magic of Filipino stories through its beautifully illustrated books. Each story comes from a different part of the Philippines, to highlight the rich diversity Philippine languages and cultures. Previous Sari-Sari Storybooks include tales from Batanes, Zamboanga City, and most notably, a Cebu-based story about a vegetable-eating manananggal.

These books bring Filipino culture to children all around the world. They connect young Fil-Ams to their heritage, and boost their self-esteem as Filipinos. This was evident at the book launch—the youngest attendee at the Portland book launch was a Waray toddler. Her parents—both from Tacloban—saw the event listing on Facebook, and were eager to share this rare reading of a Waray children's book with her.

This fourth title, "Sandangaw," was written by Tacloban-based poet and language activity, Voltaire Q. Oyzon. Voltaire adapted the story of Sandangaw from his grandfather's stories. The book shares other Filipino creative talent, in Ray Sunga's colorful illustrations, and the translation by esteemed Visayan writer Merlie Alunan and Waray writer Firie Jill Ramos.

Continued on page 9

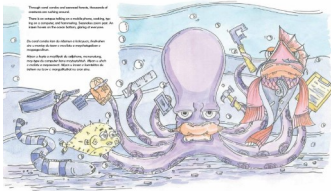


Filipino Children's Book Publisher Launches Waray Tale in Portland (Cont'd)

To buy titles, please visit newharddesign.etsy.com. At just \$10 each, Sari-Sari Storybooks are a wonderful way to gift Filipino culture to children.

Merchandise line coming soon, at www.sarisaristorybooks.com.

About the Books



Melo the Umang-Boy: an Ivatan Tale

Bilingual: English and Ivatan. Themes: ocean biodiversity, shyness, leadership, community, migration, respect for elders. Story by Alyssa Sarmiento-Co and Christina Newhard,

illustrations by Jaypee Portez, translation by Criselda Vinalay

Melo is a painfully shy little boy living with his grandmother and uncle. One day he visits a magical, busy city on the bottom of the ocean, filled with talking sea creatures. Disaster strikes the city, and he must overcome his shyness to help the sea creatures rebuild.

Kalipay and the Tiniest Tiktik: a Cebuano Tale

Bilingual: English and Cebuano. Themes: friendship, play, tolerance, Philippine folklore, vegetarianism, bullying. Story by Christina Newhard, illustrations by Happy Garaje, translation by Jona Branzuela Bering

Daydreaming comes easily to Kalipay, but she doesn't know how to make bullies leave her alone. One day, she makes an unusual new friend in Gamay, who tells the



school bully, Juan, to stop teasing Kalipay. Other children are afraid of Gamay—her strange tongue, split body, and bat wings—but Kalipay is fascinated by the things that make her new friend different. Together they learn how friendship can overcome differences and create happiness for everyone.

Amina and the City of Flowers: a Chavacano Tale

Bilingual: English and Chavacano. Themes: diversity, tolerance, weaving, Yakan weaving, Zamboanga, homesickness, refugees. Story by Christina Newhard, illustrations by Robbie Bautista, translation by Floraime Oliveros Pantaleta



Amina, a young Yakan weaver, is homesick for Basilan, but she finds inspiration for her loom in the diversity and color of her new home, Zamboanga City.

Sandangaw: a Waray Tale

Bilingual: English and Waray. Themes: independence, growth, riddles, etiquette, persistence. Story by Voltaire Q. Oyzon, illustrations by Ray Sunga, translation by Merlie Alunan and Firie Jill Ramos.



Little Sandangaw might just be a handspan tall, but he wants to do all the things that bigger children do. If only his family weren't so afraid he'd be blown away, dragged, or stepped on! When the village magic woman tells him to visit the Eagle of Mt. Danglay for help, Sandangaw learns what it takes to grow.

Keys Band

By Cori Harms



The Keys Band is composed of front man, Louie Roa and the Susi family musicians: Bien Ducut, Boyet Susi, Art Aguilar, Joven Susi and Mackoy Susi. They had their successful debut concert on Nov. 23 at Mekong Bistro in Portland, OR. They featured OPM, easy listening and current hit songs. The Keys Band is your musical group for all occasions.

Barkada Tayo!

Be a Friend of FAV (Nonprofit 501(c)3) and apply for your Barkada card at: www.filamvancouver.org

**Filipino-American
Association of Vancouver, WA**
(Nonprofit 501(c)3)

PO Box 65053
Vancouver, WA 98665

Phone: 360-574-6275
Fax: 360-694-7061
Email: faav@hotmail.com



FAAV

To engage in humanitarian, civic, educational,
cultural and charitable activities that would preserve,
promote, and share with the community the customs,
values, and heritage of the Filipino culture.

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

NW Filipino-American Community Events Calendar

DECEMBER 14, 2019 Sat - **SIMBANG GABI COMMISSIONING MASS**, Seattle, WA
TIME: 11 AM
LOCATION: St James Cathedral, 804 9th Ave, Seattle, WA 98104

DECEMBER 15, 2019 Sun - **SIMBANG GABI MASS**
TIME: 9 AM
LOCATION: St John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 8701 NE 119th St, Vancouver WA 98662

DECEMBER 16, 2019 Mon - **SIMBANG GABI MASS**
TIME: 6 PM
LOCATION: St Joseph Catholic Church, 400 S Andresen Rd, Vancouver, WA 98661

DECEMBER 17, 2019 Tue - **SIMBANG GABI MASS**
TIME: 6 PM
LOCATION: St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, 324 NE Oak St, Camas, WA 98607

DECEMBER 18, 2019 Wed - **SIMBANG GABI MASS**
TIME: 6 PM
LOCATION: Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 4701 NW Franklin St, Vancouver, WA 98663

DECEMBER 21, 2019 Sat - **SIMBANG GABI MASS**
TIME: 5 PM
LOCATION: St. Rose de Viterbo Catholic Church, 2571 Nichols Blvd, Longview, WA 98632,

DECEMBER 22, 2019 Dec Sun - **SIMBANG GABI MASS**
TIME: 12 PM
LOCATION: Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, 17010 NE 9th St, Vancouver, WA 98684

MARCH 21, 2020 Sat – **JO KOY JUST KIDDING WORLD TOUR**, Portland, Oregon
TIME: 8 PM
LOCATION: Theater of the Clouds at Moda Center, One Center Court, Columbia Conference Center, Portland, OR 97227
WEBSITE: <https://jokoy.com>

MAY 15, 2020 Fri – **JOURNEY CONCERT**, Ridgefield, WA
TIME: 7-10 PM
LOCATION: Sunlight Supply Amphitheater, 17200 NE Delfel Rd. Ridgefield, WA 98642
WEBSITE: <http://www.journeymusic.com/pages/tour>

JUNE 13, 2020 Sat – **PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DAY PICNIC**, Vancouver, WA
TIME: 11 AM—3 PM
LOCATION: Frenchman's Bar Park, Vancouver, WA
COST: FREE; Potluck: Bring your favorite dish, fruit or dessert to share.
SPONSOR: Filipino-American Association of Vancouver, WA (FAAV)
CONTACT: Cori Harms 360.521.4198
WEBSITE: <http://www.filamvancouver.org>