

rish LA CHICA

MILILANI • WAIPI'O GENTRY • KOA RIDGE

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Filipino American History Month

October is Filipino American History Month and this is a great time to reflect on the rich contributions of the Filipino community here in Hawai'i and across the nation. To celebrate this month, here's my husband's favorite adobo recipe. Enjoy!

CRICKET'S PORK ADOBO

Cut the pork belly and pork short ribs into $1\frac{1}{2}$ - 2 inch cubes. Then, mix the vinegar, water, shoyu, and sugar in a bowl. (This is the shoyu mix.)

Over medium heat - grab a pot and put the cut meat and shoyu mix inside. Scatter the bay leaves and whole peppers in, cover the pot and wait for it to boil. NO NEED to add oil, since that will come from the pork belly.

Once it boils, remove the cover and reduce the heat to low. Keep mixing the pork every 10 mins or so until most of the shoyu mix has evaporated (total cook time of about 1 hour). Enjoy with a hot bowl of rice!



YOU WILL NEED

3/4 lb. boneless pork belly ³/₄ lb. pork short ribs 1 cup white vinegar $\frac{1}{2}$ cup water

15 pcs. black pepper corns

3 tbsp. sugar

1/4 cup shoyu

3 pcs. bay leaf

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

* THESE ARE **808** NUMBERS

Abandoned Vehicles: 768-2530

Achieve Zero: 379-2532 (homelessness outreach) **Adult Abuse: 832-5115**

Bilingual Access Line: 526-9724

Child Abuse: 832-5300

City Trees: 971-7151 **Dead Animals:** 768-9766

Domestic Violence Action Center:

808-531-3771

605-956-5680 (text, 24/7)

Hawaii Humane Society: 356-2250

Hina Mauka: 236-2600 (alcohol/drug services)

Landlord-Tenant Hotline: 586-2634

Park Maintenance: 677-8849

Potholes: 768-7777

Public Assistance Line: 855-643-1643

Sidewalk Concerns: 768-8118



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DEAR NEIGHBOR,

I have been deeply saddened by the impact of the Maui fires and what everyone is going through. The community is still feeling the effects, and I am committed to doing what I can to support efforts to help them recover and rebuild.

In this newsletter, you'll read about our recent community meetings, what's happening during the interim session, and some highlights from my recent trip to the Philippines.

Over the next few months, I will also be going door to door to meet you and listen to what matters to you. It's been such an honor to serve as your Representative, and I will continue to work hard to make sure that our beautiful Central Oahu community remains the best place to live and raise our families.



SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER • WHAT'S INSIDE:



Updates from the State Capitol



Summer Highlights



TLC in the Community



Taking Action: Constituent Services

SCAN ME

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER • SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2023

Applates from the State Capital



INTERIM WORKING GROUPS

Representative La Chica will be serving on two interim working groups - 1) Jobs and Business and 2) Schools - formed by the Hawai'i House of Representatives tasked with the responsibility of evaluating the Lāhainā wildfire and making recommendations for appropriate legislative action in the 2024 legislative session. A final report will be delivered by December 15, 2023. The public will have an opportunity to participate during public hearings and provide testimony in person or virtually. To sign up for hearing notices, please visit www.capitol.hawaii.gov.

The other four working groups are: a) Environmental Remediation, b) Food, Water, and Other Supplies, c) Shelter, and d) Wildfire Prevention.

Summer Highlights

Earlier this month, I had the opportunity to visit the Philippines as the Hawai'i representative and one of 15 national delegates for the Filipino Young Leaders Program (FYLPRO). We visited Cebu and Manila and met with representatives from government, business, tourism, and health to strengthen ties between the United States and the Philippines.

On one of the days, I was asked to be the Keynote Speaker addressing the business community, and I presented on the history of Filipinos in Hawai'i, provided an update on the Lahaina fires, and talked about the value of advancing the Filipino-American community here in Hawai'i. One of my favorite experiences however, was getting to break bread with the community of weavers in Argao, Cebu and try the famous "Cebu lechon." Truly the best in the world!



Following the Department of Education's (DOE) announcement to suspend school bus service for Mililani and Pearl City High Schools, Rep. La Chica took the City bus from Koa Ridge to Pearl City High School (PCHS) to experience the commute firsthand and shared her experience online. Dozens of affected families in the district and across Oahu reached out, asking for assistance. On Aug. 10th a virtual community meeting was attended by more than 50 individuals, providing an opportunity for the DOE to hear directly from families.

On Aug 25, we received the wonderful news that Koa Ridge students will be getting a school bus route beginning Aug 28. This would not have been possible without the community's advocacy. Our office continues to work diligently with the DOE to find a solution for our students and families that continue to experience public transportation challenges as every student deserves to get to school safely and on time.



As a Filipina legislator, it was truly a life-changing experience.

I am committed to utilizing what I've

learned to support the advancement of Filipino Americans in leadership and business here in Hawai'i.

The community

- A Rep. La Chica volunteers at Kipapa Elementary School's Supply Drive. Big mahalo to IBEW 1186 for helping us raise funds and school supplies for our keiki.
- **B** Rep. La Chica learns about the AES Waiawa Phase 2 Solar project which started in August. The Project will provide a clean, reliable source of power for approximately 18,000 homes on O'ahu.
- presents a joint certificate on behalf of Rep. La Chica and Sen. Dela Cruz to Marcia Domingo Sumile to honor and celebrate the life of her father, Feliciano Manuel Domingo, who passed away after he celebrated his 100th birthday.
- P Rep. La Chica was invited to attend the Future Summit in Indianapolis, the largest bipartisan convening of young state legislators.
- **E** Welcome to the family, Lili!
- F Lili joined our family in July and has been accompanying the La Chica kiddos to their soccer practices. Lili also likes to hang out in Rep's office at the State Capitol.













Taking Action CONSTITUENT SERVICES



Kipapa Gulch Homeless Encampment. On Aug. 7, a constituent expressed concerns about the growing encampment by mile marker 15 along Kamehameha Highway. Our office reached out to Achieve Zero, HPD, and the U.S. Army Garrison - Hawai'i (USAGH). USAGH promptly responded and notified us that the Directorate of Emergency Services (DES) will be taking the lead on this project. Our office accompanied Achieve Zero on Sept 12 to provide outreach. DES cleared out the encampment on Sept. 19 and is working to remove trash and leftover debris in the area.

Riding E-bikes. Our office has been receiving multiple calls regarding children riding electric bicycles (e-bikes) on sidewalks, on private property, in district parks and on public roads. As a reminder, Hawai'i state law (HRS §291C-143.5) prohibits any user under the age of 15 from operating an e-bike. Additionally, e-bike owners are required to be registered with the City and County of Honolulu. E-bike users must be at least 18 years old to register and anyone 15 years and older may operate an e-bike if it is registered to a household member. Finally, helmets are required for anyone under the age of 16. Anyone concerned for an individual's safety when riding an e-bike can call 911.

Zippy's Curbside Services. In March, a resident reached out regarding the cessation of curbside services at Zippy's in the Mililani Town Center. It was a convenient service, particularly for those who didn't want to risk exposure to COVID and other viruses. Our office reached out to Zippy's corporate office, who promptly responded. While it wasn't possible to reinstate curbside services in Mililani due to staffing and parking issues, Zippy's did dedicate five stalls for curbside pick up at their Ka Uka location in Waipio Gentry. Mahalo Zippy's!



Erin Conway, is our Office Manager and handles constituent services.

Contact us at: replachica@capitol.hawaii.gov 808-586-6150