

HAWAII FILIPINO CHRONICLE

HAWAII'S #1 FILIPINO NEWSPAPER

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ARAW NG KALAYAAN FILIPINOS CELEBRATE THE RISE OF A NATION

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EDITORIAL

Happy 112th Philippine Independence Day

The history of any free and democratic nation, it is said, is written in the blood of its heroes. The same holds true for the Republic of the Philippines, which is celebrating its 112th Independence Day celebration.

The day's observance inspires patriotism and reminds Filipinos of the struggles of the nation's heroes in their efforts to free the Philippines from colonization. From turn of the century heroes like Emilio Aguinaldo and Jose Rizal to our gallant veterans who fought in World War II to modern day icons like Benigno Aquino, multitudes of Filipinos have spilled their blood to ensure that their fellow citizens enjoy the freedoms they have now.

Many Filipinos are familiar with the story of Gen. Aguinaldo, from his military base in Kawit, Cavite, proclaiming the Philippines' independence from Spain. The problem was the rest of the world did not listen. It wasn't until 1946 when the Philippines gained its independence from the U.S.

Filipino communities worldwide will celebrate Philippine Independence Day with a parade, large amounts of food, and with no shortage of talents, programs featuring songs and dances. Regardless of how we celebrate our national Independence Day, we must never forget the reasons for which we celebrate—our pride in our culture, our history and our heritage.

If anything, Philippine Independence Day is a unifying force among Filipinos. Despite strong regional affiliations and disagreements in certain issues, Filipinos are united in their collective desire to celebrate their freedom and to recognize the birth of their national identity.

The Tea Party's Anti-Government Hatred Has No Place In Hawaii

Economic hardship has a strange way of turning almost all of us into complainers. Even "no-comment" Joe suddenly is ranting ears off. "It's that commie Obama's fault" or "Bush, yes, he's to blame." After political personalities, our disgruntled fingers quickly point to yet another direction, Wall Street.

Where does it end?

While all is fair game in politics, there is a growing sentiment, a vitriol unlike any other that should have many political watchers concerned: the birth of the Tea Party.

This fringe movement, whose leaders dream of making it into the country's first alternative political party, is capitalizing on Americans' fears during these rough economic times. They -- mostly ultra conservative Republicans and Libertarian ideologues -- are turning traditional, healthy cynicism toward government into a passionate hatred for it. Worse yet, their anti-government movement seems to be gaining momentum.

A recent CNN poll of 1,023 adult Americans found that 35 percent of respondents strongly or moderately "supported" the Tea Party's platform. Another New York Times/CBS poll found 18 percent, or about 1 in 5 Americans "consider themselves" Tea Party supporters. Conservative media pollsters flout even higher favorability numbers for the Tea Party.

Among the issues this Party supports: 1) Challenging Congress' and Federal agencies' constitutional powers (weakening the Federal government); and 2) Eliminating the internal revenue code in place of a single-rate tax system (weakening the Federal government financially). Basically, its members support the dismantling of government as we know it to be.

CAVEAT

Before reasonably minded Americans decide to join the local Tea Party (it has arrived in Hawaii), perhaps they ought to consider

FROM THE PUBLISHER

If you don't already know by now, June 12 is the Philippines' Independence Day. To celebrate the country's 112th birthday, the Consulate General, the Philippine Celebrations Coordinating Committee of Hawaii and various Filipino community organizations have planned a gala bash at the Hilton Hawaiian Village on Saturday the 12th. Over 600 guests are expected to attend the event. We hope you will enjoy a happy and safe Kamehameha Day (June 11) and Philippine Independence Day during this coming three day weekend!



In keeping with this special issue's Independence Day theme, our cover story on pages 4-5 focuses on the history behind the Philippines' struggle for self-autonomy and self rule. Contributing writer Danny de Gracia provides us with an insightful look into what freedom meant to the Philippines' Founding Fathers and the various threats of today that threaten to undermine that very same freedom. In our Chronicle Pulse, we asked several modern day Filipinos the question "Has The Meaning of Philippine Freedom Changed Over the Years?" Their responses can be found on pages 4, 5 and 8.

In closing, while many Filipinos this weekend will celebrate the Philippines' independence, others like Clarence J.R. Olicnaria Jr., will simply be fighting for a longer lease on life. A Waianae resident and leukemia patient, Olicnaria is desperately seeking a matching donor. To help him, the Hawaii Bone Marrow Donor Registry will be holding a donor drive on Saturday, June 12 in Waianae. If you feel moved to help Olicnaria and others like him, please read more on page 6.

Until next time... *aloha and mabuhay!*

Chona A. Montesinos-Sonido

this: "Government in and of itself is good for America."

It is true that wasteful spending, overregulation and taxation are in need of reform. Government must also be kept in check to avoid abusive power. Nor should it be a crutch to depend on and thrive. Given all that, let us not forget ultimately government is the glue that holds America, as well as all advanced societies, together. The anti-government crusaders' agenda to roll back the country to pre-New Deal centralization would lead to widespread poverty, rampant crime, a top-heavy economy, higher illiteracy, deteriorating infrastructure, and most damaging of all, an even greater feeling of helplessness with government too weak to offer any support.

Do a comparison. Travel abroad to almost anywhere outside of the United States and Americans can see quickly the benefits that our government plays in maintaining city streets, utilities, buildings, zoning, technology, traffic, schools, development, basic services, environmental quality, civil liberties, and public safety.

The anti-government demagogues like the Tea Party leadership, represent a movement to take away the freedom and beauty of our country we all take for granted. Their radical policies to undo government, under the guise of creating something healthier and much smaller, is a lie mainstream Americans cannot buy into. It was government that stabilized the recession from worsening. It is government, along with a robust private sector, that will lead us to better days. The Tea Party and anti-government advocates offer no solution but to lop off entire departments, agencies and life-saving programs.

In a world not too long ago when private capitalists reigned supreme and our Republic lacked a true governing authority to fight for its people, the only means by which some sectors of society had to pay for basic necessities were through exploitive labor, namely slavery or indentured contract work. In a future world in which anti-government advocates like the Tea Party would want the private sector to take over most services, could most of us realistically afford all the would-be private benefits that government now provides? The insurance premiums alone for each service, on top of the actual service fees, would be impossible for most to handle. Let's not kid ourselves. Keep the ugly exploitive past behind us. It's one thing to criticize the way in which government is run; it's lunacy to advocate for a society without it.

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COVER STORY

An underground movement known as the Katipunan led by Bonifacio began plans to revolt against Spain in 1892, but Rizal's arrest and execution in 1896 was the final spark to set off the conflagration of civil insurrection and rebellion against European rule.

After many bloody and confusing battles fought all across the Philippines, by June 1898 siege was laid to Manila. The 29-year-old Filipino revolutionary Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, using plans given to him by Mariano Ponce, called for the establishment of a new government and declared independence on June 12, 1898 at his house in Cavite. The rest is history.

2010: ONE HUNDRED AND TWELVE YEARS FROM THE REVOLUTION

Filipinos know all too well that the struggles of their nation and the intervention of foreign powers did not end on that day in which independence was declared, some 112 years ago.

Today, we can be proud of the brave battles fought, won and often lost by Filipinos of all walks of life — clergy, scholars, soldiers, farmers and ordinary men and women — who sought

to free and keep their nation free. The battle continues today as a corrupt and unfairly structured global monetary structure serves to not only stave trade against the Philippines, but perpetuate cycles of poverty, insurrection and famine. The war, however, for a Philippines that brings to fulfillment the land that Rizal dreamed of seeing but never witnessed with his own eyes has not yet been lost.

It is wrong for Filipinos living in America to simply retreat to the presumption that there will somehow always be poverty, lack and sacrifice in the Philippines and that all we can do is at best give them aid. If anything, the Philippines may yet prove to be positioned to become an economic and political leader in the later years of this century.

American Filipinos have a vested interest in seeing their brothers and sisters back home prosper as “hard” currencies such as the U.S. dollar and the Euro are experiencing hyperinflation and currency devaluation from the Federal Reserve and European Central Bank's policies of dumping cash to pay for bailouts of insolvent banks and corporations. Countries around the world which are far less

leveraged than the Western nations may see economic booms as investors flock to places like the Philippines. There are already many economists and investment analysts who suspect that the U.S. may become the first “un-developed” country in the world as a result of its skyrocketing debt and that formerly developing and third world nations may, in fact, become the first world nations of the future.

The Philippines must also consider other threats to its security besides poverty and terrorist insurrections. China, the distant northern neighbor, is amassing a military which will soon rival both the U.S. and Russia in terms of technology, firepower and sheer numbers. The expansion of China into the Philippines via the military annexation of the Spratly Islands is just a preview of things that may come in the future. With America tied down in multiple conflicts around the world and its government bankrupt, China will continue to swell in both power and boldness towards its neighbors. Japan and Taiwan already realize that a regional military conflict with China will come sooner, rather than later. The Philippines must strengthen its

economy and develop a military force capable of more than just internal security but also regional deterrence and leadership.

These are both challenges and opportunities which face not only Americans, but the new President Aquino and his administration. It will take wisdom and courage to seize the opportunities.

“PILIPINO, ANG GALING MO!” – CELEBRATING INDEPENDENCE DAY IN HAWAII

While striving to continue the spirit of revolution, expatriates, Hawaii Filipinos and all those interested in celebrating Independence Day can take advantage of a rare opportunity to meet with the Philippine Consulate at the Hilton Hawaiian Village on Saturday, June 12.

Organized by the Philippine Celebrations Coordinating Committee of Hawaii (PCCCH), this year's theme is “Pilipino, Ang Galing Mo!” (Filipino, You Rock!) and according to Consul Lolita Capco, some 500 persons are registered to attend already.

“This will be the first Independence Day celebration of the new counsel general, and it is an all inclusive celebration,” Capco says. “Filipinos in Hawaii are the most typical of successful but

shy Filipinos. They are remarkably talented, hardworking and determined, yet sensible and unpretentious in the midst of their numerous achievements. In celebration of the 112th Independence Day, we honor them with a resounding ‘Pilipino, Ang Galing Mo!’”

The PCCCH, which was established in 2001 during the tenure of Consul General Rolando Gregorio, has over the last decade led numerous cultural and national events such as Independence Day, Araw ng Kagitingan and Rizal Day.

Officers of the PCCCH include Maggie Domingo, chair; Cecilia Villafuerte, vice chair; Edna Alikpa, secretary; Ethel Ward, treasurer; Dory Villafuerte, assistant treasurer; and Bernadette Fajardo, auditor. Members include Eddie Agas, Sr., Bernie Ardiente, Dr. Serafin Colmenares, Faye Cudal, William Cudal, Maria Etrata, Maria Jo Farina, Melga Gendrano, Leo Rojas Gozar, Dr. Raymond Liangson, Rossita Patton, Bennette Misalucha, Larry Ramirez, Wendle Raping, Ruby Sarmiento, Janice Sevilla and Dr. Arnold Villafuerte. Its adviser is Hon. Leoncio Cardenas, Consul General of the Philippines.

CHRONICLE PULSE

tutions under the late President Cory Aquino, all our freedoms, except freedom from want, have flourished, and in certain cases, to excess. Just look at the political dynasties that have proliferated all over the Philippines.

Freedom of religion has remained virtually untouched over the years.

My wish is for the government to address freedom from want so that no Filipino would have to leave the country to support his or her family.

TERESITA BERNALES

Beyond parades and fireworks, let us remember that Independence Day is to memorialize the struggles and ultimate sacrifices of our heroes who freed us from colonizers. We must uphold their legacy of sovereignty, liberty, justice and peace.

For this year's Independence Day, let us unite to help in passing the Freedom of Information Act that failed in the 14th Congressional Session in the Philippines. Our “Right to Know” is fundamental to the respect of all human rights and to democracy. Without access to information, we will be marginalized and deprived of access to the most basic needs—food, health, education and justice.



TONY BOQUER

It took me 28 years to return home. At our 50th Ateneo High School Anniversary Reunion in 2005, I saw many former classmates and friends in the media (print and television) who are indeed a lot more vocal in their journalistic views. In the late 70s, they would have been locked up for offering such volatile opinions.

I also noticed that more families have broken the chain of poverty as a result of enormous sacrifices by their loved ones who are employed as Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs). The economy seems to have flourished in this era of renewed Philippine Freedom as more families seek jobs abroad. This freedom to travel is far more evident



(continued on page 8)

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HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Big Island Filipinos Assist Stabbing Victim's Family

The Filipino community on the Big Island held a fundraiser and rally on June 9, 2010 for domestic violence victim Catherine Esteves Dingle at Mooheau Park in Hilo.

The recent slaying of Dingle and arrest of her husband deeply saddened and shocked Filipino families across the Big Island. The fundraising event, called "End Violence in Our Community," was a celebration of Dingle's life and included sign waving by attendees in hopes of bringing an end to family violence.

Monies raised for the

event will be used to set up a trust fund at First Hawaiian Bank in the name of the victim's mom, Lydia Esteves, who has custody of Dingle's four children whose ages range from 16 to 9.

Dingle, 38, died on May 30, 2010 after being stabbed multiple times by her husband Steve who was arrested and charged with second-degree murder. His bail has been set at \$1 million.

Those who are interested in making contributions are encouraged to call Ditas Udani at 935-1948 or 895-2398.

Philippine Consulate Observes National Flag Day

The Philippine Consulate General in Honolulu celebrated National Flag Day last May 28, 2010 with a flag-raising ceremony at the grounds of the Consulate General in Nuuanu.

Present during the event were Consulate officers and staff. In his remarks, Philippine Consul General Leoncio R. Cardenas, Jr. highlighted the importance of honoring the role of the Philippine flag as a foremost symbol of the country. He also enjoined everyone to display the Philippine flag in prominent places at the Consulate General and in their homes.

The commemoration of Flag

Day officially opens the month-long Philippine Independence Day Celebrations in Hawaii. The Consulate General, the Philippine Celebrations Coordinating Committee of Hawaii and various Filipino community organizations will lead various commemorative activities that include a flag-raising ceremony and program with Filipino-American Veterans and the Knights of Rizal and a business sector-sponsored Food Festival with Mama Sita.

The main event will be the



Dinner-Show-Dance on June 12, 2010 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, which will feature Hawaii's well-renowned Filipino performing artists

Guests for the gala event are expected to top over 600 and include senior Hawaii government officials, legislators and community leaders.

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Waianae Man Hoping for Bone Marrow Donor

A bone marrow drive will be held on Saturday, June 12, 2010 in Waianae for a young father who is desperately seeking a donor.

Officials with the Hawaii Bone Marrow Donor Registry say that finding a donor for leukemia patient Clarence J.R. Olicnaria Jr., who is Filipino, Japanese, Chinese, Caucasian and African American, will be extremely difficult due to the

critical shortage of minority and mixed ethnicity donors.

Olicnaria's donor drive is scheduled for 9 am to 2 pm at the Waianae Shopping Center Mall. Donors must be between the ages of 18 and 60 and in good general health.

With no one in his family a suitable match, Olicnaria's doctors turned to the Bone Marrow Donor Registry in hopes of finding an unrelated matching

donor.

Founded in 1989, the Hawaii Bone Marrow Donor Registry has recruited approximately 68,000 registered donors throughout Hawaii, Guam and American Samoa. Over 250 of those donors have donated bone marrow or blood stem cells for patients all over the world.

Those who would like more information about becoming a donor are encouraged to call 547-6154 or go online to: www.marow.org.

FOOD & LEISURE

Glad for Snacks

MANILA, Philippines - Discriminating parents, however busy they may be, know that the rewards are plentiful when they take time out to plan and prepare a healthy, tasty fare for the family. Glad wraps and bags knows this only too well, that's why they have tied up with chef Buddy Trinidad, co-owner and pastry chef of Park Avenue Desserts, to share with moms and dads some recipes that they can do together with their kids for a quick merienda.

FOOD FOR THE GODS

Ingredients:

224 g unsalted butter
200 g granulated sugar
1 cup brown sugar (packed)
3 pcs whole eggs
1 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 tsp baking soda
1/2 tsp baking powder
1/4 tsp salt
224g dates (pitted and chopped)
224g walnuts (chopped)

Procedure:

1. Cream the butter with the brown sugar and granulated sugar in a mixer on medium speed using the paddle at-

tachment then add the eggs one by one.

2. Combine the baking soda, baking powder with the flour and salt then turn the mixer to speed number 1 and slowly add the flour mixture till fully incorporated.
3. Fold in the chopped dates and nuts.
4. Pour into a 9x12 Glad Ovenware lined with Glad Cook 'n' Bake paper and bake in a 350o F oven for 25 minutes.
5. Remove when small cracks appear on the edges, then cool in the chiller for 25 minutes. (www.philstar.com)

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LEGAL MATTERS



By Atty. Emmanuel Samonte Tipon



n restless dreams I walked alone . . . And touched the sound of silence . . . 'Fools,' said I, 'you do not know Silence like a cancer grows.' 'Hear my words that I might teach you, Take my arms that I might reach you.'
—The Sound of Silence by Simon & Garfunkel

Silence: Does it Mean "Yes" or "No"? Tales of Miranda and Thompkins

cused of raping their wives who said nothing when the husband made romantic overtures. A few naughty women say nothing and when the husband is about to have an orgasm shout "stop it." If he doesn't, they cry "rape". That is cruel and inhuman.

Marital rape is against the word of God who enjoined wives to "cleave" to your husbands and vice versa. Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:5, Mark 10:7. "Cleave," whose root word apparently is "cleavage" means "adhere firmly, loyally, or unwaveringly." Consider the cleavage, err, cleaving defense when charged with marital rape. My lawyer son, Noel, who served with the Marines, JAG, has successfully defended a service member charged with marital rape. His defense? Military secret.

LATIN MAXIM

A Latin maxim says: Qui tacet consentire videtur. "He who keeps silent is assumed to consent." See "The Horror of Qui Tacet Consentire Videtur." <http://wordpunk.com/2008/20/02>

/the-horror-of-qui-tacet-consentire-videtur.

MIRANDA

In *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436 (1966), the Supreme Court ruled that a suspect in custody and interrogated must be warned that he has the right to remain silent and to have a lawyer present. This implements the Fifth Amendment that no person shall be "compelled in a criminal case to be a witness against himself."

THOMPKINS

On June 1, 2010, the Supreme Court made what dissenting Justice Sotomayor described as a "substantial retreat from the protection against compelled self-incrimination," by ruling, 5-4, in *Berghuis v. Thompkins*, No. 08-1479, that after giving a Miranda warning, police may interrogate a suspect who has neither invoked nor waived his Miranda rights. In other words, a suspect who is interrogated must clearly declare that he is invoking his Miranda rights and will remain silent. It is

not enough that he simply remains silent. Otherwise he is deemed to have waived the right to remain silent. According to Sotomayor, that ruling was "unnecessary to decide this case." In the baseball world this would be a blown call, like the call by umpire Jim Joyce who ruled that a runner was safe, despite the fact that the television replay clearly showed the runner was out, thus costing Detroit pitcher Armando Galarraga a perfect game.

Thompkins was a suspect in the shooting of a man. At the interrogation, he was read his Miranda rights. After 2 hours and 45 minutes of questioning he hardly said anything. Then the interrogator asked: "Do you believe in God?" Thompkins answered: "Yes". The interrogator continued: "Do you pray to God to forgive you for shooting that boy down?" Thompkins replied "Yes." This was used against Thompkins. He moved to suppress the statement, claiming he had invoked his Fifth Amendment right and had not waived it. The trial court denied his motion.

Thompkins was convicted.

WHAT SUSPECTS MUST DO

Detained suspects should get a competent and protective criminal defense attorney before talking. Don't be shy or afraid. Whenever asked a question say: "I do not want to talk without my lawyer." As we always advise: "No talk, no mistake."

(ATTY. TIPON has a Master of Laws degree from Yale Law School and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the Philippines. He practices in Hawaii, specializing in immigration law and criminal defense. Tel. (808) 225-2645. E-Mail: filamlaw@yahoo.com. Website: www.immigration-services-usa.com. He is from Laoag City and Magsaysay, Ilocos Sur. He served as an Immigration Officer. He is co-author of "Immigration Law Service, 1st ed." an on-Solvium practice guide for immigration officers and lawyers. Listen to the most funny, witty, and useful radio program in Hawaii on KN2I at 1270, AM dial every Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. and on KHBC at 1060, AM dial every Thursday at 8 p.m. This article is a general overview of the subject matter discussed and is not intended as legal advice. No warranty is made by the writer or publisher as to its completeness or correctness at the time of publication.)

The Hawaii Filipino Chronicle Joins The Filipino Community in Celebrating The 112th Anniversary of Philippine Independence

We Salute Our Fellow Countrymen Who Died for Our Country Fighting for Our Freedom!



CHRONICLE PULSE

(from page 5)

now compared to the late 70s when travel was restricted.

While these freedoms have appeared to benefit many families in Philippine society, the price may ultimately be too high to bear and involve long-term consequences as far as the meaning of family is concerned. Many children are growing up without a father or mother. At times, both are absent.

Freedom is like a coin with two sides and each one having its own set of ramifications or consequences.

PAUL RAYMUND P. CORTES

The proclamation of Philippine Independence from Spain on June 12, 1898 by Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo in Kavit, Cavite signaled to the whole world the emergence of a new Philippine nation, the first Republic in Asia.



The Philippines was the first country to declare its sovereignty as a nation from a European colonial power.

Like us, our neighbors in Southeast Asia, save Thailand, were all under the tight reign of European colonizers—Indonesia under the Dutch, French Indo-China under France, Burma, Malaysia and Singapore under England. June 12 means that the Filipino people are free to determine for themselves the best way to run their affairs, their country and where to steer the entire nation in the midst of a growing community of free nations.

Now 112 years later, Philippine Independence Day continues to remind the Filipino people what we can achieve in the midst of a new global economy, particularly in light of the emergence of a global Filipino community that spans the six continents of the world. With over 9 million Filipinos abroad, the influence of the Filipino cannot be underestimated.

June 12 gently tells us that our path as a people continues and is enhanced when we become proud of who we represent as

a people, when we remember the lessons of our unique history and when we instill pride in ourselves for all that the Filipino has become, can become and will become.

June 12 must awaken Filipinos all over the world and rouse all of us to reach for greater heights, armed with the knowledge that only when we have self-respect, only when we learn to dignify ourselves, only when we are secure of our ethnicity and only when we are confident of what we can contribute to this world can we gain the high regard we are truly deserving of from other peoples of our new global community.

NIEVA ELIZAGA

I think the concept of freedom doesn't change. What has changed for Filipinos is how it is protected from corruption and the grinding poverty that has been their lot for decades.



A recent article by Antonio Maloto entitled "The Challenge of a Hundred Days" should be required reading for Filipinos the world over. Read it and act on it!

BENNETTE MISALUCHA

I think the Philippines, like any young democracy is still going through growing pains. So I would say the meaning of Philippine freedom has changed over the years.



There is certainly a strong nationalistic sentiment that is pervasive especially amongst the younger generation. I would like to believe that there is less tolerance for corruption as people aspire for higher ideals of democracy for all—as borne out by the results of the recent Philippine elections. Although they are still navigating that journey, they are certainly headed in the right direction. More power to them!

PHILIPPINE NEWS

Foreign Arrivals Reached 1 Million

By Iris Gonzales / Thursday, June 10, 2010

MANILA, Philippines -- The Bureau of Immigration (BI) yesterday reported that more than one million foreigners entered the country during the first quarter of the year.

In a statement, BI Commissioner Marcelino Libanan said that they noted an 11 percent increase in the number of foreigners who traveled to the country this year, from the period of January to April, compared to the same period last year.

Statistics showed that a total of 1,081,794 million foreign passengers came into the country, via the different airports and seaports during the first four months, while there were 982,432 people who arrived last year.

Libanan said this would perk up the country's economy particularly the country's tourism industry.

BI-Immigration Regulation Division (IRD) chief Alberto Braganza attributed the

low number of foreign visitors in year 2009 to the global financial crisis.

Making monthly comparisons, Braganza said that the highest volume of foreigners was registered in March with the arrival of 329,470 passengers, which was 12 percent up over those who came a year ago.

He added that it was only in February that foreign arrivals registered a slight decline of five percent compared to those who arrived in the same month in 2009.

April's arrival volume of 309,693 and January's 252,959 was higher by four-percent and five-percent, respectively, than the figures that were registered in the same months last year.

"But even as we welcome with open arms our foreign visitors, we shall remain vigilant and watchful in seeing to it that those who are deemed as threats to national security and public safety do not slip into our country," the Immigration Commissioner added. (www.philstar.com)

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PHILIPPINE NEWS

Makati Court Stops New Tax Rule on Imported Vehicles

By Iris Gonzales / Thursday, June 10, 2010



MANILA, Philippines — A Makati regional trial court has temporarily prevented the Department of Finance (DOF), Bureau of Customs (BOC) and the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) from implementing a new tax regulation seeking to impose duties and taxes on imported vehicles.

In a temporary restraining order dated June 3, 2010, Judge Winlove Dumayas of the Makati Regional Trial Court Branch 59, prevented the DOF and the two attached agencies from enforcing Joint Order 1-2010 dated April 5, 2010.

The order seeks to impose duties and taxes on imported vehicles based on their "book value" instead of the current "transaction value" as mandated by the Tax Code.

The court acted upon a complaint filed by car importer Benjamin Navea who argued that the regulation would cause "grave and irreparable" injury to vehicle importers insofar as it changes the current transaction method of customs valuation.

Navea claimed that due to the planned shift to the book value system, he would pay an estimated P1-million in taxes and duties for a new Mitsubishi Pajero he plans to import from the United States versus only P500,000 or half the amount if the current transaction value pursuant to R.A. No. 9135, was applied.

He said the government has no basis for use the reference price as primary method of valuation.

"What the law mandates is to look at the price paid or payable for imported goods resulting from the actual transaction between the buyer and the seller... and not on extraneous factors such as reference prices obtained from third party sources, e.g., book values for motor vehicles," Navea said.

He said the current valuation system is called "transaction value" since imported goods are assessed based solely on the transacted amount. "To now use a reference price, that book values are, is to negate the very

essence of the transaction value system established by law," he said.

Furthermore, Navea claimed that the order is discriminatory since it alters the valuation system only as far as personal or commercial car imports are concerned to the exclusion of the rest of all classes

of imports.

Named respondents in Navea's complaint are Finance Secretary Margarito Teves for the DOF, Customs Commissioner Napoleon Morales for the BOC and Commissioner Joel Tan-Torres for the BIR.

(www.philstar.com)

US, China Welcome Aquino's Victory

By Aurea Galica / Thursday, June 10, 2010

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Leaders of the U.S., China and Japan welcomed Philippine President-elect Benigno Aquino III's rise to power, pledging help Thursday as he faces daunting challenges including rebellions, massive poverty and a crippling budget deficit.

The Philippine Congress proclaimed Aquino as the Southeast Asian nation's 15th president Tuesday.

President Barack Obama congratulated Aquino during a telephone conversation, prais-

ing the country's first automated elections on May 10 as a "positive testament to the strength and vitality of democracy" in the former U.S. commonwealth.

Both "looked forward to bringing our cooperation to a new level and to meeting at a mutually convenient time," the White House said.

Chinese President Hu Jintao said his country intends to deepen bilateral ties. "Under new historical circumstances, I would like to work with you to carry forward our traditional friendship, expand our mutually beneficial cooperation," he said. (www.philstar.com)






West O'ahu / Farrington Highway Guideway Contract

PUBLIC NOTICE TO MOTORISTS

The City & County of Honolulu will conduct soil sampling work along Farrington Highway in Waipahu as part of the Honolulu Rail Transit Project.

Work along the Farrington Highway median between Waipahu High School and Fort Weaver Road will begin Thursday, May 27, 2010 and run for approximately 14 weeks. Work will require nighttime lane and intersection closures Sunday through Friday between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. (westbound and eastbound). One lane of traffic in each direction along Farrington Highway will remain open during the work.

Crews or special duty police officers may direct traffic at affected intersections during the night work.

The soil sampling is part of preliminary design work for the first portion of the rail route running 6.5-miles between East Kapolei and Pearl City. Kiewit Pacific, selected to design and construct the first segment of the rail transit route, was authorized by the City to conduct the preliminary testing work.

Motorists traveling along Farrington at night are advised to anticipate possible traffic delays or take alternative routes during work hours.

Please check the city bus schedule for possible detours and delays.

For additional information, please visit honolulurailtransit.org or call the rail project information line at 566-2299.



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By **Mayen Jaymalin /**
Tuesday, June 8, 2010

MANILA, Philippines -- Over two million workers in Metro Manila are to benefit from the mandated P22 increase in daily take home pay of workers starting July 1, the Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board (RTWPB) reported.

Aida Andres, RTWPB-National Capital Region (NCR) secretary, said the salary hike would bring to at least P13,042 the monthly basic pay of Metro workers or 5.8 percent more than what they are bringing home before.

"With the increase the current floor wage rate in Metro Manila is now pegged at P404, but the minimum wage earners would actually receive P533 a day because of the add-ons such as overtime pay and other financial benefits," Andres explained.

Andres noted that the new wage rates would cover all minimum wage earners in the private sector in the Metropolitan regardless of their position or status of employment and irrespective of the method of payment.

Of the estimated 4.2 million workers in Metro Manila, Andres 2.18 million are minimum wage earners and therefore would enjoy the mandated salary increase.

Labor officials, however, said due to wage distortion resulting from the salary hike, those receiving above the minimum wage may also get an increase after negotiations between employers and the employees.

Household workers, persons in the personal service of another, including family drivers and workers of duly registered Barangay Micro Business Enterprises are not part of the salary hike.

The wage board would also provide one-year exemption to distressed establishments, firms with less P3 million capital, retail and service establishments employing not more than 10 workers and those severely affected by natural calamities.

According to Andres, establishments who would like to avail of the exemption from the wage order are given 75 days to file a petition before the board.

Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) and other labor groups assailed the RTWPB's decision, insisting

that the increase is not sufficient to improve the purchasing power of workers.

Andres said that the latest wage order is one of the most difficult decision made the board.

"We have 14 options ranging from granting P18 to P22 increase and it took us a month to come out with a decision. But we believe this is the right amount," Andres said.

She stressed that the wage board considered many factors, including the capacity of workers to pay, the need of workers and the projected inflation rate until the end of the year.

There are more than 199,000 commercial establishments in Metro Manila, but Andres said, about 98 percent are small and micro-enterprises that are not capable to grant big adjustments in salaries.

Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE)-NCR assistant regional director Avito Sto. Tomas said the new wage order would restore the workers' purchasing power to the 2008 level.

"Minimum wage earners in Metro Manila have not receive any salary increase since 2008, but with the latest round of salary increase they could now purchase the same things that they used to buy in 2008," Sto. Tomas said.

Those who are not satisfied with the wage board's decision, Sto. Tomas said, can file a motion for reconsideration before the National Wages and Productivity Commission (NWPC).

Despite the latest round of salary hike, IBON foundation said President Arroyo will be listed as the country's president who provided workers with the smallest wage adjustments.

Although Arroyo administration has the triple distinction of presiding over the fastest economic growth, IBON said, it has the highest unemployment rate and lowest wage increase since the Marcos presidency.

"Arroyo has the longest running term since Marcos, but has seen the smallest increase in workers' real wages over the last nine years," IBON said in a statement.

Based on data, IBON said, real wage only rose by P5 to P242 this year from P237 when Arroyo assumed the presidency in 2001. (www.philstar.com)

PHILIPPINE NEWS

'Prepare for Evacuation of Pinoys in Korea'

By Paolo Romero / Tuesday, June 8, 2010

MANILA, Philippines - President Arroyo ordered yesterday authorities to brace for the possible escalation of tension in the Korean peninsula, to include preparation for the possible evacuation of thousands of Filipinos from South Korea.

The worsening tensions between North and South Korea was taken up during the Cabinet meeting yesterday at

the Palace where economic managers also warned of its possible effects on investments in the Philippines.

South Korea, the United States, and other countries have been pushing to punish North Korea before the United Nations Security Council after it was proven to have sunk a South Korean submarine last March 26, killing 46 sailors.

North Korea responded by cutting ties with its neighbor in the south and has threatened "all-out war."

Deputy presidential spokesman Gary Olivar said Mrs. Arroyo asked Foreign Affairs Secretary Alberto Romulo during the Cabinet meeting whether there is already a need for airlifting Filipinos in South Korea, estimated to be at 90,000, both documented and undocumented.

As of now, the initial indications show that no action is needed yet, but we are monitoring the situation closely," Olivar told a news briefing held after the meeting.

But immediate steps will be taken to secure our countrymen (in South Korea)," he said.

Olivar said he was not sure yet when Mrs. Arroyo would call for a meeting of her security officials on the matter, adding "there are serious diplomatic and security concerns" on the brewing situation in the Korean peninsula.

These kinds of decisions have to be made very carefully," Olivar said when asked whether the Philippines supports moves to sanction the reclusive and

militaristic North Korea. National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) director general Augusto Santos made a presentation to the Cabinet where he noted that South Korea has pledged P23.8 billion in foreign direct investments (FDI) or 52.1 percent of the total approved FDI for the first quarter.

NEDA Director for Planning Dennis Arroyo told reporters that if the situation in the Korean peninsula would worsen, it might have an effect on the planned South Korea FDI to the Philippines. (www.philstar.com)

RP Now a Viable Site for Investment - Banker

By Ma. Elisa P. Osorio / Tuesday, June 8, 2010

MANILA, Philippines - Investors are now looking at the Philippines as a viable investment destination when compared to its Southeast Asian neighbors, the Bank of Tokyo Mitsubishi UFJ said.

In an interview, Trade Undersecretary Elmer C. Hernandez said Singapore-based Takashi Muraoka, Bank of Tokyo deputy chief executive officer for Asia, visited him to report that investors are bullish on the Philippines.

"He informed me that investors are concentrating on Indonesia and the Philippines

right now," Hernandez said. Hernandez said they expect more investments from Japan because Japanese firms are seriously considering expanding in Asia.

Hernandez said the political turmoil in Bangkok has resulted in a number of firms reconsidering their decision to infuse money in Thailand.

On Vietnam, Hernandez said the problem has been manpower. "The attrition rate in that country has been high because there is a limited supply of a good work force," he said. With that, although the production cost in Vietnam is lower, the high turnover of employees means that the training cost for workers is high.

"The Philippines has a quality work force and the turn

over rate is manageable," Hernandez noted.

Hernandez likewise said that the problems the Philippines is experiencing does not bother potential foreign investors. However, he said the investors would like to know how the government is addressing the problem. "Now investors would like to know how the new administration will further enhance the Philippines as a good investment destination," Hernandez said. (www.philstar.com)



Taal Volcano Showing Signs of Unrest

By Paolo Romero / Tuesday, June 8, 2010

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - Tourists have been banned from a misty, picturesque island in a crater lake south of Manila because volcanic activity detected there could precede an eruption, scientists said today.

Rising magma under Taal volcano was increasing volcanic earthquakes, detectable only by instruments, and raising the temperature of the lake, said volcanologist July Sabit of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology.

The island's 5,000 residents should prepare for a possible evacuation, Sabit said. Taal, about 45 miles (75 kilometers) south of Manila and one of the Philippines most-visited sites, is off-limits to tourists as of Tuesday, he said.

The volcanology institute issued a level 2 volcanic alert out of a possible 5, indicating that "the volcano is undergoing magmatic intrusion which could

eventually lead to an eruption."

Seismographs recorded 32 volcanic earthquakes in just 24 hours ending early Tuesday. There also has been a "significant" rise in the temperature of the crater lake, in addition to increases in dissolved chemicals associated with volcanic rocks, the institute said.

Taal island, most often reached by wooden boat, is a favorite destination among tourists who marvel at the site of a volcano rising from the middle of a lake.

Some residents work as tourist guides, but most fish and farm.

René Mendoza, chief of Tabla village _ one of five villages on the island _ said some women and elderly residents left because of the institute's warning, but most people are staying put. Most families on the island volcano own motorized outriggers they can use if an evacuation is ordered.

The volcano has erupted more than 30 times since the 16th century. An eruption in 1911 killed nearly 2,000 people. A mild eruption in 1977 caused no damage or injuries. (www.philstar.com)

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PHILIPPINE NEWS FEATURE

Philippine Volcanoes Explode in Asian Rugby

By Jaime Augusto Zobel De Ayala /
Wednesday, June 9, 2010

MANILA, Philippines - Something great happened this weekend, an event that would make Filipinos very proud... if they only knew about it. The Philippines, the newest addition and lowest-ranked team in Division 2 of the Asian 5 Nations (ASN) Rugby, destroyed powerhouse Thailand in the semis and home favorite India in the final to win the Division 2 Championship.

Our team, nicknamed the Philippine Volcanoes, is unbeaten in three years in the Asian Rugby Football Union (ARFU), having seized the Division 4 Championship in 2008, the Division 3 Championship in 2009, and now Division 2. With this win, they charge into Division 1 of the ASN in 2011, making this the longest promotion

streak in ARFU history.

Amazing, given that until last year the Philippines wasn't even a full member of the International Rugby Board. More amazing when you consider that few people (most of them expats) follow or care about the sport locally.

The Philippine Volcanoes dominated their larger opponents in the final, restricting the Indian team to scoring at the beginning and at the end of the match. "It was a physical game with India," says team captain Michael Letts. "The boys stepped up to the plate and did what they were told. Our forwards laid the platform for the team."

"Coach Expo Mejia taught us discipline," adds Oliver Saunders, who with his brothers Ben and Matt had scored a combined 38 points in the Filipinos' 55-33 victory over Thailand in the



Yes, the Philippines has a national rugby team, and they are on a three-year winning streak. Photo courtesy of the Philippine Rugby Football Union

semifinals. "The team stuck to the game plan and structure. And we never gave up."

"The team showed aggressiveness," coach Mejia notes. "A lot of our players play overseas, and their experience showed. There was unity among the team. Tactically they got it right and did everything that was asked of them. Another factor is that they are very fit."

Phil Abraham was named Man of the Match in the semifinal against Thailand, and Chris Hitch in the final against India. All 24 players on the roster were able to play.

I learned of the existence of the Philippine Rugby Football Union (PRFU) when I was contacted by their secretary-general Alvin San Diego. When Jessica Zafrá interviewed me for The Philippine STAR I had mentioned my passion for rugby, which I played in school in England from the age of 9 to my late teens. I was impressed by what the PRFU had achieved with the most modest of resources, and their determination to put together an effective Philippine rugby program and team.

It turns out that there is plenty of Filipino talent playing rugby abroad - both Filipinos of mixed ethnicity and those whose

parents had migrated. The PRFU has a formal process for identifying and recruiting Filipino talent throughout the world, among them Expo Mejia, a first-class Filipino coach who had worked with the Waratahs in Australia. The Waratahs are a household word in Australia; many of their players have played for the Australian national team.

It was clear that the PRFU board, which includes committed expats like team manager Matt Cullen, were serious in their efforts. Globe CEO Ernest Cu and I committed to watch the national team and help them with sponsorships. As an enabler of communication across national borders, the support of a telecom company like Globe had resonance and relevance.

The newly formed Philippine Volcanoes played an exhibition match last week against the Parañaque-based team Nomads. They had not yet played together as a team, but they were physically imposing, well-trained athletes who obviously played at the competitive level. It was fascinating to see Filipinos from different countries come together to play at home. I have always believed in the Global Filipino, and this is an extraordinary example of the Pinoy talent that resides all over the world.

According to coach Mejia, there are many other nationally ranked Filipino heritage players he could not get hold of for personal and professional reasons, from a massive prop forward in the national league in Italy to players in Japan.

This weekend I was glued to two different rugby tournaments on two continents at the same time. I was physically present for the inaugural US Collegiate Sevens in Columbus,

Ohio, where my son Jaime Alfonso was playing on the Harvard team. Meanwhile, I followed the Asian Division 2 championship half a world away, in New Delhi, India, through text updates from my sister Bea. She was in Delhi to cheer on her son Jaime Urquijo Zobel, captain of the Notre Dame University rugby team until he graduated this year, and now a member of the Philippine men's 15's rugby national team.

Family ties are the real glue of Philippine society. Some will question just how Filipino the national rugby team is, with players named Saunders, Morris, Letts, Zappinga on board. This is a Filipino heritage team in accordance with International Rugby Board standards, composed of players with a Filipino parent or grandparents. Any doubts as to whether they are Pinoy are erased when one sees the team's entourage: Filipino mothers and fathers, traveling at their own expense to support a Philippine team few of us know about. There are four sets of brothers on the RP team (the names listed earlier), surely a record in any sport.

I relayed the ongoing match scores by text to Jessica in Manila, who posted them on her blog while waiting for the ASN Twitter feeds. Incredible what technology now allows us to do. It was particularly engaging because a small group of spectators around me in the stands in Columbus wanted to be kept informed about the results of the Philippine Rugby team on the other side of the world. Every time our Philippine team scored in Delhi, a small group of spectators would cheer in Columbus, Ohio for the reason that was obvious to no rest of the crowd. It happened quite a bit as the Philippine team scored regularly - it was quite surreal.

Rugby is a highly physical and demanding sport that has moved from its "amateur" roots to a global sport at both the 15s and Sevens level. Not only is it exciting to watch, but this is a game that is bringing together the diverse Filipino talent across the globe. To watch a team come together from all over the world, and to see the players so excited and proud to represent their mother country, has been moving and fulfilling. I look forward to seeing them hoist a medal at the Asian Games. (www.philstar.com)



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IFS-A107534 Ed. 12/2006

LEGAL NOTES



By Reuben S. Seguritan

Entering the U.S. for Humanitarian Reasons

filed by the prospective parolee, a sponsoring relative, an attorney or any other interested individual or organization. The application will be adjudicated within 90 to 120 days. Extremely urgent cases may be processed in a few days.

The parole may be granted for a period of time corresponding to the duration of the urgent situation. The maximum time allowed is one year. The individual must depart from the U.S. before the expiration of his/her parole status otherwise he/she would be deportable. If more time is needed, the parolee may submit a request for reparole to extend his/her stay.

The application must include a detailed explanation of the emergency or humanitarian situation, the length of time needed, and the reasons why he/she cannot obtain a visa. If a visa application was previously denied, a copy of the denial should be submitted.

If the application is for medical reasons, a letter from a medical doctor is required, indicating the diagnosis and prognosis. Also included should be information on how long the treatment is expected to last, how much the treatment will cost and who will pay for it and why the treatment is not available in his/her home country or in a neighboring country.

Other relevant evidence such as copy of any approved

immigrant visa petition, tax returns, etc. should also be submitted.

The USCIS has emphasized that parole should not be used to avoid regular visa-issuing procedures or to bypass immigration procedures. In a recent report by the US Government Accountability Office, 76% of the applications submitted within the 6-year period in the report were denied.

About 57% of those denied were due to the failure to exhaust other avenues of immigration available to the applicants. About 64% of the almost 9000 humanitarian parole applications adjudicated in the 6-year period were for family reunification or medical emergency.

An example of a medical

emergency is the case of a 7-year old boy with a congenital heart defect who came to the U.S. with her mother for free open heart surgery.

An example of family reunification is the case of a baby born after the parents became immigrants but prior to their entry into the U.S. An I-130 relative petition was filed immediately after the baby was born but could not be granted an immigrant visa because of the unavailability of a visa number. A humanitarian parole was granted to the baby for one year.

REUBEN S. SEGURITAN has been practicing law for over 30 years. For further information, you may call him at (212) 695 5281 or log on to his website at www.seguritan.com

Individuals who want to enter the U.S. temporarily for emergency or humanitarian reasons but are unable to obtain a visa may apply to the Department of Homeland Security to be granted parole.

The application is filed on Form I-131 Application for Travel Document and must be supported by an affidavit of support to guarantee that the parolee will not become a public charge.

The application may be

MAINLAND NEWS

RP Among Least Peaceful Countries - GPI

By Jose Katigbak/
Thursday, June 10, 2010

WASHINGTON — The Philippines is one of the least peaceful countries in the world, a report by the Institute for Economics and Peace, an international think tank, said.

The institutes 2010 Global Peace Index (GPI) ranked the Philippines in 130th place among 149 countries based on a spectrum of political, cultural and economic indicators from political stability to violent crime and respect for human rights.

New Zealand was ranked the nation most at peace for the second successive year with a score of 1.188 and Iraq remained stuck at the bottom of the index with a score of 3.406. China was in 80th place and

the United States in 85th spot.

At its most basic, the GPI simply defines peace as an absence of violence.

The Philippines dropped precipitously in the annual rankings to 130th place with a score of 2.574. Previously it was in 114th place with a score of 2.327.

The country's slide echoes rises in its indicators of internal conflict and crime, the GPI report said.

It said the security situation in the Philippines worsened in 2009, particularly in Sulu where fighting between the Abu Sayyaf Group and the government claimed the lives of 163 people, nearly double the 82 killed the previous year.

Peace talks between the government and the Communist Party of the Philippines in Norway were postponed and



The notorious Abu Sayyaf terrorist group in Mindanao

clashes between guerrillas and government troops continued unabated, it said.

Violent crime is high in many districts and armed guards are routinely deployed to defend private property.

Kidnap-for-ransom is also a high risk, especially among the ethnic Chinese community, perceived as wealthy and willing to pay a ransom to secure the release of an abducted relative, the report said.

In 2009 perceptions of

The homicide rate also soared with the proportion of the population in jail rising to a score of three, fairly high by regional standards.

Only Myanmar in 132nd position was less peaceful than the Philippines among the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Laos and Malaysia experienced improvements in their GPI scores from last year with greater levels of respect for human rights and increased political stability contributing factors in both countries. (www.phlstar.com)

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DAYASADAS

By Pacita C. Saludes

Palpaliw, Paspasamak Ken Pasken Iti Bulan ti Junio



Daytoy a bulan ti panagkakamaritar dagiti kayatna ti agbalin a JUNE BRIDE . Naisangsangayan daytoy a bulan a

panaglallantip dagiti puspuso. Adu met dagiti agsasaruno nga maararamid a masebraran. Dagiti GRADUATION Parties a pammadayaw kadagiti adu nga anak a nagturpos ken adu nga agkasangay. Mais-agana kadagiti nalalatak a disso tapno agbalin a nakallagalip ti parambak.

Iti daytoy a Junio 12 ti pannakadanon met ti maika-sangagasut ken sangapul ket dua (112) nga anibersario ti INDEPENDENCIA ti FILIPINAS. Masebraran babaien iti PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DAY BALL inton JUNIO 12 mangrugi ti 6:30 pm a maaramid iti TAPA Ballroom iti Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel. Naindaklan a celebrasion daytoy kadagiti

Filipino. Dinner, Show and Dances - dakkal pagtitiponan dagiti Filipino.

Idasar met ti United Filipino Community Council of Hawaii (UFCH) ti Mrs. Hawaii Filipina, inton Domingo Junio 20, 2010, idiyaw Prince Hotel Maunakea Ballroom iti ala siete ti rabii (7:00 pm). Dita ti intay manen pakakitaan kadagiti napipikita a reyna ken naayat a tumutulog iti Kumannad. Isu daytoy ti Scholarship Program nga ilunglungalong ti UFCH iti tinawen. Agayaman ti UFCH ti idaulogno. Dagiti opisyaleng nga idauluan ni Presidente Eddie Agas Sr. ti agyaman kadakay amin.

Junio 27, 2010, isu met ti konbension ti OAHU FILIPINO COMMUNITY COUNCIL (OFCC) a maaramid iti

Philippine Consulate. Napakaammuan dagiti amin a UNIT Organization tapno pabaruenda ti panagkamengda ken maktinlunglonda a mangpabaro ti sumaruno nga administrasion. Ni Presidente Danny Villarus ti nabayag bassiten a nangidaulo ditoy OFCC. No siasino ti sumaruno a makaandur, masapul a mapiili iti daytoy a kombensyon.

JUNIO - BULAN dagiti AMMA! Aldaw dagiti AMMA ti maysa kadagiti kapatgan a lagipen. Ta no awan Ama awan tayoy met. Adu dagiti Amma a nandunggo, adda met dagiti istriktio. Nupay dagitoy nga Amma ti madayaw, husto a makapatanor kadagiti annak a natudio, annak a nalalio. Dagiti patanor dagiti Amma a managpabus-oy, sabali met a wagas ti inda magun-od. Nupay nadu-

maduma ti wagas dagiti amma, dagiti annak rebbeng a a nagduduma met nga anak ti dayawen dagiti tinaudanda. mapatan-ayda. Daya ti lubong Napateg ti Amma. Isuda ti nga inaramid dagiti napagasatan dulo a mangbukel ti pamilya. nga amma. Nupay no kasta HAPPY FATHERS DAY!

DANIW A PARA KADAGITI JUNE BRIDE

Nagasat nga aldaw a naisangrat Panaglantip dua a puso nga agayan-ayat Masaksian adu a tao a managayat Narungbo a selesbrasion a naiwayat

KENKA LILIA!

Naikudamon ti kinabalasang Sanguemon biag a naestaduan Agapatanor pamilya a nakaisangratan Aramidem obligasionmo a nailatgan

KENKA LICIRIO:

Itan ta makituan ni Lilia lipatem napalabas kinamaymaysam Laglagipem nga adda sungsubatam Sumsungka kenka kadagiti amin a sardam

No adda kinasungit ta asawam Aggalabaska ket an-anusam Ayatna kenka a napalaluan Ken lailona dayta no maminisan Galad dayta ti babai a naasawaan

Dimonto koma gamden a pagluaen Makaited dadagsen ken sakit ti nakem Taginayonem ta sam-it kas idi purosem Kasta ti palimed a natalingengen

LILIA KEN LICIRIO:

Dikay kuma liplipatan Dagitoy balbalikasko kadakayo nabalitukan Italimengyo kuma dita kanguan Napatateg ngem iti kuarta nga innak ipaay.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION WITH THEME: PILIPINO, ANG GALING MO! / SATURDAY

June 12, 2010 • Philippine Celebrations Coordinating Committee • Hilton Hawaiian Village, Tapa Ballroom • 7 pm • Contact: Consuls Lolita Capco at 595-6316 Ext. 288 and Maggie Domingo at 783-0068

MISS PHILIPPINES HAWAII BY PHILIPPINE CULTURAL FOUNDATION OF HAWAII / FRIDAY

June 16, 2010 • Empress Restaurant • 6:30 pm • Contact: Maggie Domingo at 783-0068 and Janice Sevilla at 595-8000

UFCH GOLF TOURNAMENT / THURSDAY

June 17, 2010 • Kapolei Golf Course • for Registration • Contact: Eddie Agas Sr. at 783-3327 for more info

UFCH-MRS. HAWAII FILIPINA PAGEANT / SUNDAY

June 20, 2010 • Hawaii Prince Hotel, Maunakea Ballroom • 7 pm • Contact: Eddie Agas Sr. at 783-3327, Carlota Ader at 450-9821, Cleo Bala at 832-5571 and Jema Geronomo at 295-5571

OFCC CONVENTION / SUNDAY

June 29, 2010 • Philippine Consulate • 8 am • Contact: Convention Chair-Leo Gozar at 632-6268, Danny Villaruz at 778-0233 and Mario Palma at 397-8626

KUMU KAHA THEATRE'S ANNUAL KALA-BASH FUNDRAISER AND SILENT AUCTION / SATURDAY

July 24, 2010 • Kumu Kahua Productions • Park outside the theatre at 46 Merchant Street, in Downtown Honolulu • 5 - 9 pm • For more information or to purchase tickets, call 536-4222

UP ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (HAWAII CHAPTER) BIENNIAL BANQUET AND INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS / SATURDAY

August 28, 2010 • Hale Koa Hotel • Contact: Alma B. Phocas at (808) 754-1399 or email upaahawaii@yahoo.com; upaahawaii@gmail.com

GLOBAL NEWS

Pinoy in Portugal to Receive Social Security Benefits

By Pia Lee-Bravo /
Wednesday, June 9, 2010

MANILA, Philippines - Filipinos residing in Portugal will soon be able to receive their Portuguese Social Security benefits in the Philippines after an agreement was finalized in Lisbon on May 28, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) said yesterday.

The DFA said the Philippine embassy in Lisbon reported that the agreement is expected to be signed in Manila in September.

Ambassador to Portugal Teresita Barsana headed the Philippine delegation at the second round of negotiations for the proposed RP-Portugal Social Security Agreement.

Social Security System (SSS) commissioner Jose Sonny Matula, SSS senior vice president Judy

Frances See as chief negotiator, and lawyer Roberto Bautista provided the technical expertise at the negotiations.

The first round of negotiations was held in October 2009.

The draft Agreement adopts the fundamental principles of international coordination of social security legislations, namely, equality of treatment, maintenance of the acquired rights, maintenance of the rights in the course of acquisition, export of benefits and mutual administrative cooperation between institutions, and covers, in general, the legislation of both countries on social protection against the contingencies of sickness and maternity, paternity



Ambassador to Portugal Teresita Barsana signing the RP-Portugal Social Security Agreement

and adoption, invalidity, old-age and death, accidents at work and occupational diseases.

The Social Security team took the opportunity to brief the Filipino community in Lisbon on the SSS Flexi-fund for overseas workers, as well as the future benefits of an agreement.

The gathering was held at the Philippine embassy, which recently reopened in Portugal after 35 years of absence.

The Philippines has signed social security agreements with other EU countries including Austria, Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Spain and UK.

For Portugal, the agreement with the Philippines will be its first with an Asian country. (www.phlistar.com)

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