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FILIPINO CHRONICLE

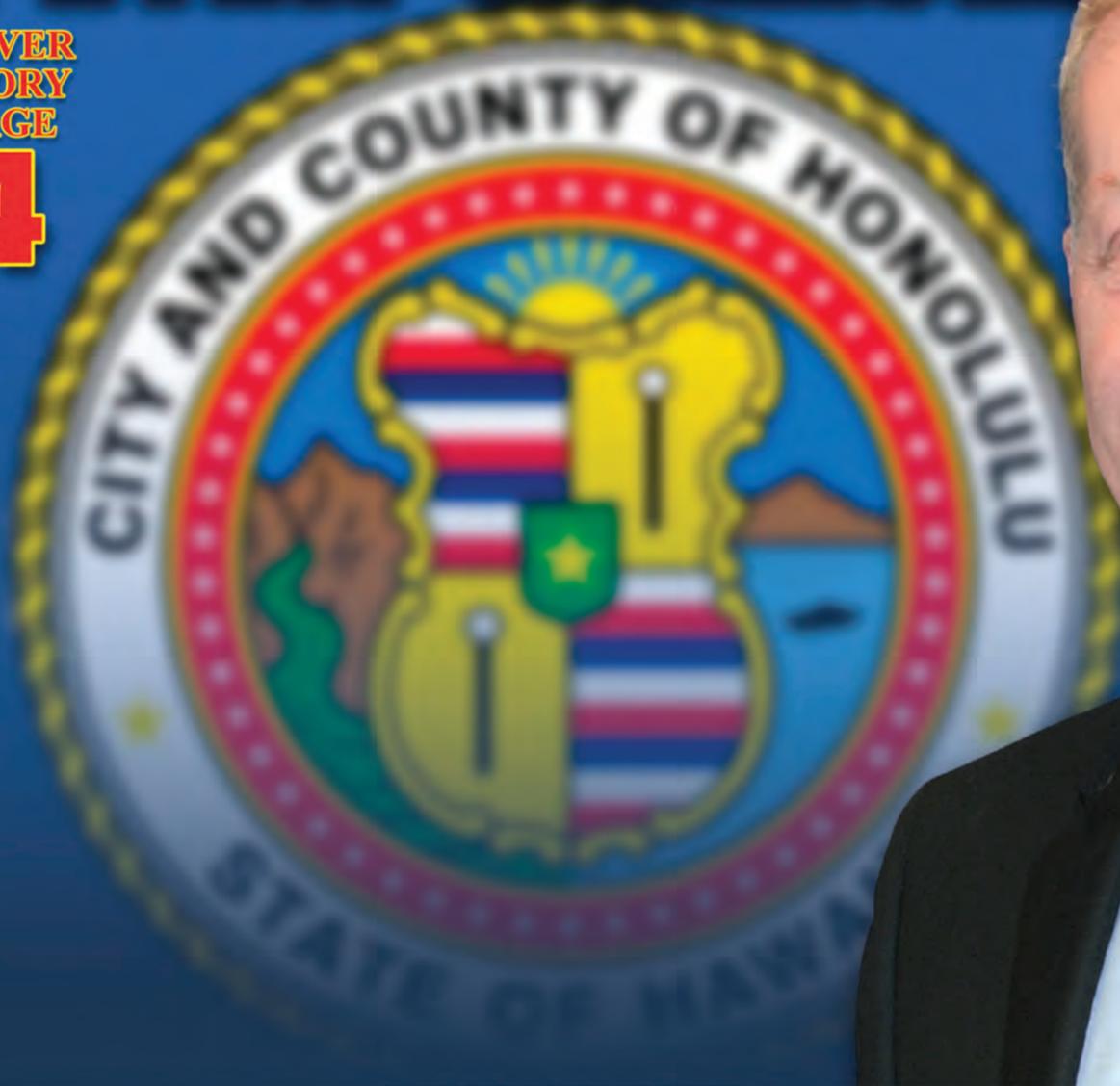
HAWAII'S #1 FILIPINO NEWSPAPER

◆ APRIL 7, 2012 ◆

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EDITORIAL

Register and Rock the Vote!

The 2012 election will prove to be a defining moment in Hawaii's history, particularly for Oahu, where residents will not only elect a mayor but also determine whether the City's controversial fixed rail project will continue. Will voters elect a pro-rail candidate like Peter Carlisle or Kirk Caldwell to see the \$5.5 billion project through to completion? Or will it be former governor Ben Cayetano who has promised to bring rail to a grinding halt?

Though rail will dominate much of the debates and political rhetoric, there are other tough issues that must be dealt with, such as the economy, education, homelessness, sewer upgrades, health-care, rising gas prices—you name it. With so much at stake, it is crucial that the right leaders be elected to lead the City and the State forward.

If you are concerned with the direction our state is headed in and want your voice heard, the 2012 election is a good place to start. There are several steps you must take. First, make sure that you register to vote. By law, voter registration is required to participate in Hawaii elections. Any person may register to vote if he or she is a U.S. citizen, is at least 16 years of age and is a Hawaii resident. The deadline to register to vote for the Primary Election is July 12, 2012. If you have recently changed your name, residence or mailing address, you should re-register to vote.

Secondly, start getting informed. Familiarize yourself with the candidates and their stance on issues that concern you. Then get organized and join the campaigns of those candidates whom you feel best represent your interests.

Thirdly, get out and vote on Election Day! Many registered voters with busy schedules have found that voting via absentee ballot works best for them. To do so, you must first request an application for an Absentee Ballot, which will then be mailed to you.

If you have yet to register or have never voted, don't put it off any longer. Make this the year for your voice to be heard. Let's Rock the Vote in 2012!

Penalize Those Responsible for Freeway Crashes

On April 2, an overturned semi-truck spilled tons of hot asphalt onto the H-1 freeway near Aiea Heights, closing three westbound lanes and snarling the afternoon commute for tens of thousands of motorists.

The incident was the latest crash involving commercial trucks that have frustrated hapless commuters. However, it paled in comparison to September 2006 when a military transport truck slammed into an H-1 overpass, leaving Oahu's roads clogged for hours. Many Leeward motorists did not arrive home until late in the evening or early the next morning. The soldier responsible was ultimately punished with administrative action.

Similar punitive action needs to be taken against owners of commercial vehicles. In the April 2nd incident, the driver reported a problem with the rear tires when the semi-truck flipped. In this case, the company that owns the vehicle should have been fined a hefty amount. Such sanctions would force companies to better maintain their vehicles, train their drivers and hopefully prevent crashes from occurring. The same standard should also apply to owners of private vehicles who should also see to it that their vehicles are fit and safe to drive.

Crashes that clog freeways come with hidden costs which the

FROM THE PUBLISHER

We

hope you enjoyed a very Happy Easter! I'm sure many of you spent Easter Sunday either in church or enjoying a delicious Easter brunch with your family.

By now, you should have noticed an increasing number of campaign signs popping up in your neighborhood. The colorful banners are quite noticeable when driving around town, especially along the main corridors and thoroughfares. The candidates are also starting to show up at many functions in the Filipino community wearing their *barongs*. They are even making appearances at smaller events like family parties, gatherings and even funerals.

Now that the 2012 election season is nearly in full swing, we invite you to stay with the Chronicle for extensive coverage. We will be providing our readers with in-depth interviews with various candidates of interest to the Filipino community. In this issue, we begin with none other than Honolulu Mayor Peter Carlisle, who is seeking re-election. We certainly did not shy away from asking him hard-hitting questions (see page 4). We will do the same in upcoming issues for other candidates in the big races, so please stay tuned with the Chronicle!

Since we are on the subject of the election, I encourage you to mark the following dates on your calendar. The first is **Saturday, August 11, 2012**, which is the date of the Primary Election. The second important date is **Tuesday, November 6, 2012**, which is the General Election. For other important dates and election-related information, please go online to: www.honoluluelections.us.

I would be remiss without mentioning how important it is for the Filipino community to exercise their rights as voters this year. The beauty of living in the U.S. is that we the people can tell the government what we want it to do—by voting. If we think that we're paying too much taxes, we can vote for candidates who promise to lower taxes. If we want more government services, we can vote for those who promise to spend more funds on these services. Let's remember that voting is a responsibility that more people need to take seriously.

In closing, I'd like to once again thank our readers for their faithful support. We encourage you to provide feedback, story ideas, tips or concerns via email at: filipinochronicle@gmail.com. We'd certainly love to hear from you!

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

Chona A. Montesines-Sonido



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OPINION

Why Too Quick to Crucify Fellow Pinoys?

COMMONSENSE By Marichu A. Villanueva

Here is a case that stirred national interest because it involved anti-gay bullying, suicide of the victim, invasion of privacy using the internet, tweeting, Facebook, and the immature “kid” and “jerky kid” defense.

What is it about our culture that makes us quickly condemn one of our own simply because foreign “experts” have accused them of wrongdoing? Why do we have the penchant to accept as gospel truth a mere say so by foreigners who deem unacceptable how we do things if this is not the way they want it done?

Unfortunately, this kind of mindset apparently proliferates even among people in power.

This seems to be the situation that Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor) chairman Cristino Naguiat Jr. found himself embroiled in after being named in a lawsuit filed by feuding giant casino operators in Las Vegas, Nevada. Hence, Naguiat came under fire from certain congressmen who swallowed hook, line and sinker a report prepared and paid for by American casino magnate Stephen Wynn, chair of Wynn Resorts.

In a bid to ease out his partner, a bitter Wynn accused in federal court his casino partner, Japanese gambling mogul Kazuo Okada, after the latter got into other joint venture projects outside Las Vegas. Okada opted to invest in the Philippines under Pagcor’s \$5-billion “Entertainment City.” This is the gaming, hotel and resort project at the reclamation area in D. Macapagal Avenue in Pasay City that was started by Naguiat’s predecessor, ex-Pagcor chief Efraim Genuino.

Local politicians here went to town to ask for Naguiat’s head much like King Herod’s Salome asking for the head of John the Baptist after her enchanting song-and-dance. Worse, they want Naguiat crucified without any benefit of a public trial, not even through a kangaroo court.

Wynn ousted Okada on the basis of an investigation prepared by former Federal Bureau

of Investigation (FBI) Director Louis Freeh. That report accused Okada of having provided Naguiat and other Pagcor officials luxurious rooms, a sumptuous dinner and other perks at the Wynn Resorts in Macau in 2010, in violation of US anti-corruption laws.

Too eager to jump on the bandwagon of administration critics, these politicians took little effort to find out the credibility of the Freeh report, including the credibility of discredited ex-FBI chief. From the outset, the Freeh report was obviously tailor-fit to allow Wynn to ease out Okada for choosing to invest in the growing megagaming business in the Philippines that would compete with the Wynn Resorts in Asia.

At the first break of this news from Las Vegas, it already reeked of intra-corporate dispute reaching our shores.

In his complaint against Okada in the US, Wynn had accused his estranged business partner of using the latter’s two casinos and three hotels at Entertainment City in Manila to lure “high-limit, VIP gamblers” from China. This would certainly eat into Wynn’s casino market in Macau, in direct competition with him.

If we look at Freeh’s tenure as FBI director in the US from 1993 to 2001, we can see a man haunted by his checkered past. In particular, Freeh’s credibility is tainted by his alleged propensity to either hide or play and hype up facts to suit his own agenda: either to butter up his bosses during the Clinton administration, or to gain media mileage.

Our online readers from the US have written to say that people in America are laughing at us for taking the Freeh report seriously. In the US, Freeh has been all but been discredited for figuring in one controversy and scandal after another. The worst scandal of the FBI under Freeh was the so-called Waco siege and firefight of 1993 in Texas. This resulted in the death of four federal agents and six members of the Protestant sect led by their leader David Koresh, thus the group was called “Branch Davidian.”

Although he was not responsible for the bloody raid, FBI men under Freeh have been accused of lying before two separate congressional investigations, an independent counsel inquiry, and a major multi-million dollar wrongful death lawsuit filed on behalf of some Branch Davidian survivors.



Our online US readers related to us another FBI fiasco during Freeh’s watch related to scientist Wen Ho Lee. We checked the Internet about Lee’s case. Dr. Lee, a nuclear scientist at the US lab at Los Alamos, was accused by the FBI under Freeh of stealing “crown jewels” of US nuclear secrets and purportedly passing these on to the Chinese.

A senior FBI agent allegedly misled a federal judge about Lee’s supposed espionage activities that led to his solitary confinement for nine months. With little proof of the charges, the federal judge ordered Lee set free. In his ruling, the judge slammed the senior government officials responsible for both the investigation and the false testimony for it “did not embarrass me alone, but... the entire nation.”

Yes, this is Freeh, the same person now accusing Naguiat of various acts of

impropriety. Sadly for Naguiat, fellow Filipinos refused to believe his vehement denials of Freeh’s accusations. It is simply because Naguiat is one of the so-called “K.K.K.” or “Kaklase, Kaibigan, Kabarilan” of President Benigno “Noynoy” Aquino III, or P-Noy for short.

Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr. was quoted as saying Naguiat and other Pagcor officials were already cleared by the House committee on games and amusements of any wrongdoing. This was in response to fresh investigation being sought ironically by a left-leaning House party-list representative who believed the American propaganda. His name sounded like casino.

Who then do we believe? Do we believe in the testimonies of a Filipino official who clearly got caught up as collateral damage in the fiery intra-corporate war between gaming giants Wynn and Okada? Or do we give credence to the report of a former FBI chief who hid for six years key facts about the death of 76 people and allegedly produced trumped-up, baseless accusations against a Chinese nuclear scientist that resulted in his unnecessary incarceration for nine months?

Should we then crucify the incumbent Pagcor chief for getting into trouble for doggedly pursuing the dream to make the country the newest gaming destination to rival Las Vegas, Macau and Singapore?

Should we crucify someone who decided to pursue and complete the Entertainment City project that could lure in more tourists, create millions of new jobs here and generate additional sources of income for our people and our country? (www.philstar.com)

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COVER STORY

An Interview with Mayoral Candidate Peter Carlisle

By HFC Staff

He earned a reputation as a tough-talking, quick-on-his-feet lawman who loved to put away the bad guys.

During his 13 years as the City's prosecuting attorney, Peter Carlisle handled many high-profile murder cases, including Byron Uyesugi, the infamous Xerox shooter, and Kirk Lankford, the pest control worker who murdered a visitor from Japan. Carlisle gained high approval ratings, thanks to his personality, flair for the spotlight and tough-on-crime stance.

He was also known an effective administrator. The Prosecutor's Office had some 250 employees who handled over 80,000 criminal cases every year, including misdemeanors, domestic violence and jury trials.

In 2010, Carlisle decided to run for mayor when Mufi Hanemann stepped down for a shot at the governor's seat. He emerged the winner in the special mayoral election, edging out opponents Kirk Caldwell and Panos Prevedouros. With the help of trusted staff whom he convinced to join him at City Hall, Carlisle launched his term as the 13th mayor of Honolulu.

Now with the election just a few months away, Carlisle must turn his attention to convincing voters that he has done an effective enough job to win

re-election to a second term. He graciously took time to answer several questions from the Chronicle regarding his performance so far as mayor. His responses have been edited for space and clarity.

Q: What grade would you give yourself and your administration for the two years you've been in office?

A: I'll let the voters grade me and I'm confident that they will do so fairly. But I am happy to give an outstanding grade to the people who have been a part of my administration. I hired based upon ability, not politics. I think the success of that approach is apparent. I have asked the administration team "to do the right thing because it is the right thing to do." This has

helped them focus on important projects and bring transparency, cost-effectiveness and efficiency to the City for the benefit of the taxpayers. The City is running well and smoothly. I would give my administration team an "A."

Q: Is there anything you would have done differently during your first two years in office?

A: Yes, we could have done more to explain our successes to the public. The rail project is on time, on budget and one of the most important public works projects to build a better future for Honolulu. Rail will allow our citizens to live a lifestyle not totally dependent on the automobile. It will allow for choices that will be healthier (walking, biking, less pollution) and give our fellow citizens on the leeward side some relief from their daily traffic gridlock. This in turn will improve traffic for the urban corridor. It will provide for affordable housing so our children can afford to return to the Islands, and it will lower our dependence on fossil fuels by using alternative technologies to create the electricity to run the train. And it will do all this without bankrupting the City.

Q: What have been your biggest accomplishments so far as mayor?

A: The City is running well on a day-to-day basis and that is a major accomplishment. But I feel my biggest accomplishment is to consistently push for financial



Honolulu Mayor Peter Carlisle

responsibility. We are promoting responsible capital improvement projects and paying in cash where we can. Next year, thanks to debt re-funding opportunities, the City's debt service for the first time in 8 years will be lowered by about \$7 million. Last October, the City obtained one of its lowest interest rates ever on a wastewater bond, saving the City millions of additional dollars. If we can lower the amount we pay in interest every year, we can spend the extra dollars in the future on maintaining our City infrastructure such as sewers and roads, which should never be allowed to fall into such a neglected state again. And, of course, it would contribute to subsidizing the operation and maintenance of TheBus, HandiVan and rail.

I am also proud of how well we worked with our partners in APEC. We showed the world that Honolulu can be a hub of the Pacific. We did it under budget and without a single event-related arrest. I'm proud of the many technological advances we have made: we have won many awards for our innovative technology and transparency. We are working hard to make Honolulu a "connected city"—connected by rail, technology and to those across the Pacific.

Q: Where does providing core City services like road maintenance and trash pick-up rank on your list of priorities?

A: Very high. Road maintenance and trash pick-up are critical parts of the City's services. On March 22, the City placed 20 new refuse collection trucks into service. These new vehicles will help maintain the curbside recycling and green waste initiatives that are making our island more sustainable, along with providing reliable refuse collection.

Road maintenance is just as important. We have turned to technology and science to help us improve city roads systematically, while maintaining the ones already rehabilitated. This is the 'pavement management system' and 2012 will see the utilization of this new approach to re-prioritize roadwork, set us on a path to significant long-term improvement, and a future with roads that we can actually enjoy driving on. We are also working toward incorporating the concept of 'complete streets' into our road rehabilitation efforts, which is a framework where cars, bicycles, and pedestrians share the use of our streets safely.

Q: Why has your adminis-
(continued on page 5)



Michael A. McMann, M.D.

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COVER STORY

(from page 4, AN INTERVIEW...)

tration been criticized for its slow response to complaints of poor road conditions and spotty trash pick-up by City workers?

A: One of our problems has been the state procurement process, which has resulted in a few low-bidding contractors winning more contracts than they can keep up with. This results in a backlog of unfinished projects; but even under these circumstances we are not given the option of choosing any but the lowest bidder under the current system. We are working to come up with a solution to this problem.

Sometimes the problem is that the City does not know about the problem. Our new 311 mobile App helps citizens report problems and helps us find them. Soon you will even be able to report road issues such as potholes from this App. In the month since 311 has been available, we have received over 700 reports from the public and the City is responding and fixing them.

Our new refuse trucks will help significantly with the problems of spotty pickup. We are also trying hard to find an enforcement solution to the problem of bulky item pickups, which as you know has contributed to unacceptable unsightly collections of trash in neighborhoods because some people refuse to follow the rules.

Q: You've also been criticized for numerous out-of-state travels. How would you respond to that?

A: My travel has really been for two basic purposes: to support our rail program, which I think is critical for our city, and to support our place and future in the Pacific community. Honolulu's future is tied to our Asia-Pacific neighbors, and I believe in its sister-city program. Long before the campaign season began, I was invited to visit Manila and agreed to do so. I honored that commitment, despite the pressures of the campaign, because I value our relationship with our Pacific neighbors. Besides, I learned a great deal about rail as a bonus. Manila's elevated rail system is a world-class transit system and shows that Honolulu is on the right track.

Q: You said that transparency would be a hallmark of your administration. However, you did not disclose to the Council or the public that the City would suspend its debt policy for the rail project. How would you respond to that?

A: Rail revenue from the general excise tax surcharge and federal funds pays for the rail project. This is like how sewer fees pay for sewer projects, and water fees pay for Board of Water Supply projects. It makes good sense to separate rail—just like sewer and water projects were already separated—from other City projects that are paid for by property taxes and are subject to the debt policy. This was an administrative decision made last fall. In retrospect, it would have been easier to bring this to the attention of the Council and the public at the time. We'll do better. Also, the rail financial plan for the FTA will continue to update and track rail debt.

I hope our citizens will recognize the many transparencies we have initiated; such as the Can-Do Honolulu.com website where we publish the financial disclosure forms of all appointees subject to public disclosure, the line-item budgets in their entirety and give access to an unprecedented number of city records and files.

Q: Public support for the rail project is on the decline. What assurances can you give taxpayers that rail will not bankrupt the City?

A: I am not sure that public support for the rail project is on the decline. Those who oppose it have been aggressive in pointing out what they believe to be its problems. We need to be equally strong in pointing out its benefits. I have seen in your newspaper, for example, prominent Filipino community leaders and elected officials who have said publicly that they care deeply about their community, feel the pain of those who battle traffic everyday and believe that rail is the answer. I share that belief and I think that public support will return as the advocates for rail begin to speak up.

Rail will not "bankrupt" the City. Construction costs for the rail project will be funded by a half-percent increase in the gen-

eral excise tax and the \$1.5 billion in federal New Starts money. By the end of the rail construction, there will be no construction debt. It will all be paid off. I hear the anti-rail forces talk a lot about "bankrupting" the city. But I almost never hear anyone complain about the half-percent GET tax that has been paying for it since 2007. I bet you never even notice it and most other people never notice it either. But compare the reality of that burden, which you have experienced every day for several years now and probably haven't noticed much, with the scare stories of "bankrupting" the City. What do you believe now?

Q: In addition to the \$5.5 billion rail project, the City will spend billions more to upgrade its sewer system and wastewater treatment plants. Will taxpayers be able to afford these projects?

A: These projects will be a challenge, but they have also been integrated into the budget and are both under way and under control. I said earlier that my proudest accomplishment was the City's focus on fiscal responsibility. We are moving forward with projects that will reduce the cost of electricity we have to pay at the treatment plants by recapturing the methane gas and using it to help power the plants. The cost of electricity is rising by leaps and bounds and these co-generation projects will help to keep expenses down so more of the user fees can be applied to system rehabilitation. We were also able to negotiate a longer period of time in which to accomplish the upgrades and rehabilitation, which stretches out the payments and keeps them lower for the ratepayers. In the meantime, we will make every effort to keep rate increases reasonable.

Q: What is your plan to solve Oahu's homeless problem?

A: The solution is long-term affordable housing. We are working with the State to increase opportunities in that area. We recently released a Honolulu Affordable Housing Preservation Initiative request for proposals to turn over operations and maintenance of our 12 affordable housing projects

to the private sector, while retaining affordability of the 1,039 units now restricted based on income-eligibility. This is a win-win for the City and for the tenants.

We continue to use federal funds to increase the inventory of affordable housing on Oahu. We partnered with community organizations to complete construction of 275 units last year, have 298 units currently under construction and expect another 243 units to begin construction this year. We are also working with our partners to preserve an additional 119 affordable rental units through substantial renovation. Transit-oriented development will also provide affordable housing options. In addition, our 'Pathways Project' will partner the Office of Housing with a non-profit agency to plan, develop and manage a new transitional housing project designed to help some of Honolulu's most vulnerable homeless individuals.

At the same time, public places and particularly our parks, are for everyone. We cannot allow some to monopolize resources that belong to all of us. Whenever the City cleans up a public place, we always go in with service providers well in advance of any action to help those who are homeless find alternative housing—if they want it. There are always options available and we work hard to make sure they know that. We can't force these options on

anyone but we help to facilitate the transition if they wish to utilize them.

Q: You gained a reputation as a tough and effective City prosecutor. Now that you've been mayor for two years, which job is easier—prosecutor or mayor? And why?

A: Being mayor is a harder job. The issues are complex and often subtle. But one thing is the same about both jobs for me—you do them with integrity and you look for the right answer regardless of politics or favor. That has not changed for me and will never change for me. The answers may be harder to find as mayor but the process is the same. Honesty and integrity are the keys.

Q: What will it take for you to win this election?

A: One thing that would certainly help me win would be the solid support of the Filipino community. So I humbly ask for your vote. I also hope that the broader community will recognize that we are building a better future for Oahu. If you are fortunate enough to live a few blocks from where you work, I hope that you can still see that there are others who don't have that advantage and that rail is essential for them and for their quality of life. Understanding that, feeling that and doing what is right is, I think, the true spirit of aloha. If voters find that spirit within themselves, understand

(continued on page 11)

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IMMIGRATION GUIDE



By Atty. Emmanuel Samonte Tipon

Here is a case that stirred national interest because it involved anti-gay bullying, suicide of the victim, invasion of privacy using the internet, tweeting, Facebook, and the immature “kid” and “jerky kid” defense.

An alien native of India was a student at Rutgers University in New Jersey. He had a roommate who was gay. Obviously the Indian did not like the gay guy. In school, you do not have much choice over your assigned roommate. If you have a legitimate reason for not liking the person, the school might give you another roommate. But having a gay roommate by itself would not generally be considered a valid reason.

Alien Who Spied on Kissing Gay Who Killed Self Faces Jail and Deportation

He set up his computer web cam so it could take pictures of his roommate. Soon he hit his jackpot. The roommate was kissing another man. The Indian watched them. Then he tweeted about it and invited other students to watch the video.

The roommate, upon learning about it, killed himself by jumping off the George Washington Bridge. Before jumping, the roommate posted on his Facebook “Jumping off the gw bridge, sorry.”

The Indian was prosecuted for 15 offenses ranging from invasion of privacy, invasion of privacy with bias intimidation because of sexual orientation, etc. He was not charged with causing his roommate’s suicide, which probably he did not intend to cause. Theoretically he could have been charged with it since there is a cause and effect relationship, although it would be time consuming and difficult to prove.

It was reported that he was offered a deal. Plead guilty and render community service with no jail time, and possibly avoid deportation. He did not know how to play the game “deal or no deal” well. “No deal,” he retorted. He thought that he could get away with the defense that he was still an immature “kid” or as one writer puts it a “jerky kid”.

The jury did not buy that defense and convicted him. Now he faces jail time. He also faces possible deportation. If the government does not like you they will find a ground for your deportation, such as committing a crime involving moral turpitude. If he asks for voluntary departure, the government would likely oppose it, claiming that he is not a person of good moral character.

The lessons to be learned are:

1. Become a naturalized citizen as soon as you become eligible. Then you do not have to worry about depor-

ation. Don’t say that you will “never” commit a crime. You might be accused of committing a crime, even if you did not do it. Most crimes nowadays are deportable and the list is growing. Your “abogado sin campanilla” might suggest that you plead guilty, threatening you that if you don’t and you go to trial and lose you will be crucified, even if that is not within the range of possible penalties. You tremble and plead guilty. Your lawyer probably did not tell you of the inevitability or certainty of your deportation if your offense is an aggravated felony. He might not even know immigration law and will speculate, saying “you may be deported,” or “there is a likelihood that you will be deported” or similar language. Or you think you are

a tough guy and have a strong defense and fight. You lose. You will be placed in deportation if the offense is a deportable one.

2. Obey the “Golden Rule” or its variant. “Do not do unto others what you do not want others do unto you.”
3. Use social media carefully.
4. If offered a plea guilty, analyze its pros and cons thoroughly. Ask another lawyer for a second opinion.
5. Save money so you can pay for legal expenses, among others.

(ATTY. TIPON has a Master of Laws degree from Yale Law School and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the Philippines. Office: 800 Bethel St., Suite 402, Honolulu, HI 96813. Tel. (808) 225-2645. E-Mail: filamlaw@yahoo.com. Websites: www.MilitaryandCriminalLaw.com, and www.ImmigrationServicesUSA.com. Listen to the most witty, interesting, and informative radio program in Hawaii on KNDI at 1270, AM dial every Thursday at 7:30 a.m., rebroadcast at www.iluko.com.)

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Philippine House of Dance to Perform in Hawaii

The Center for Philippine Studies at the University of Hawaii-Manoa will host the House of Dance Company, a team of young dancers, dance educators and choreographers from the Philippines.

In celebration of Interna-

tional Dance Month in April 2012, the House of Dance will stage a major concert entitled “Ethnisyncracies” on April 21, 2012 at 2 pm and 7 pm at the Mamiya Theater at the Saint Louis Center for the Arts. The matinee perform-

ance is meant for K-12 and college students, while the evening gala performance aims to reach the general public.

Based in Manila, the House of Dance is known for its cutting-edge, innovative dance performances that fuse a variety of different dance genres from classical ballet to modern dance, incorporate elements of modern and traditional Philippine dance, and draw imaginatively on other dance and musical cultures.

Through classical and modern interpretations of Philippine dance, “Ethnisyncracies” is the story of the evolution of Philippine culture, its indigenous roots, foreign influences, and intrinsically hybrid nature.

“Ethnisyncracies” embodies a highly distinctive approach to the relationship between dance and culture. It is at once a presentation of the various traditions that define a singular Philippine culture, and a series of performances that explore the idiosyncratic character of Philippine ethnicity, reflecting the complex indigenous and foreign influ-



ences that shape Philippine culture through a blend of neo-classical and modern dance.

Part I of the performance will highlight the indigenous cultural practices of Filipinos, both tribal and non-tribal, from different regions of the country—Islamic textile weaving; cockfighting; the war dances and honeymoon rituals of the Ivatan and Yakan, respectively from the south; Ifugao mating rituals and the healing practices of the Aeta from the north.

Part II explores the colonial influences that have shaped Philippine society over the past centuries and draws on Spanish courtship and wedding rituals, Catholic traditions of penance and penitence, as well as more contemporary themes centered

around the role of women, violence, community gossip and street play in modern Philippine society. Personal and historical, the performances strive to give audiences a greater understanding of Philippine culture and its diverse origins.

The performances will provide a rare opportunity to bring together the university, artistic, and Filipino communities, and to connect the broader public to the activities and mission of the Center for Philippine Studies at UH.

Tickets are \$10 for the matinee and \$15 for the evening performance. For tickets or more details, please call 956-6086 or visit the website: www.hawaii.edu/cps/events.html.



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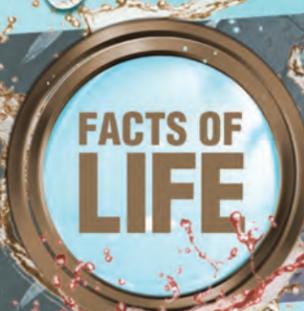
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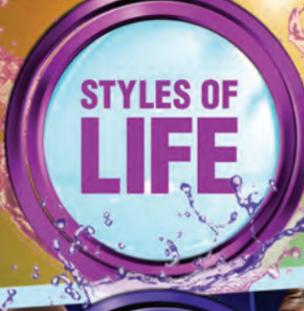
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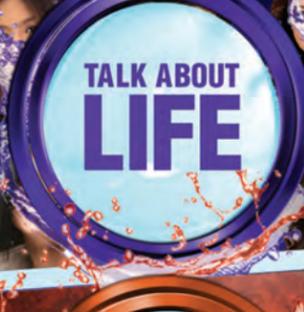
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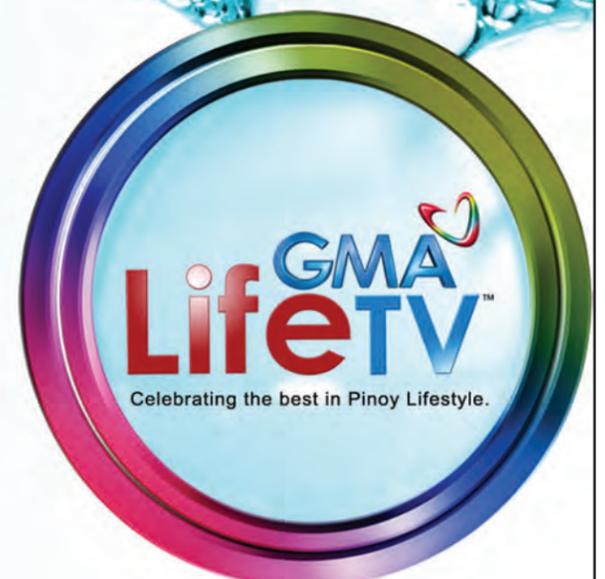
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PHILIPPINE NEWS

**Calamansi Marmalade Bags
 Silver in World Tilt**

by Pia Lee-Brago
 Friday, March 23, 2012



MANILA, Philippines - The calamansi marmalade of the Philippines won a silver medal in the international category at the 2012 World Marmalade Championships held recently in England.

British chef and Bacolod resident Robert Harland made the local citrus fruit with brandy.

This is the first time the Philippines has been represented at the championships, now on its seventh year.

British embassy Charge d' Affaires Trevor Lewis congratulated Harland: "This is a great example of the UK and Philippines working together. A British national uses local produce to make marmalade in the Philippines that then wins an international award in England. It must taste good!" Harland's citrus concoction scored 19 points out of a maximum of 20. Singaporean Sharon Lee Puay Ming won the gold medal.

"I had heard that one can make a very

decent marmalade using calamansi so I decided to have a go. I liked the taste, as did friends so when I heard about the championships I thought why not give it a go. But I knew that competition would be fierce with so many entries coming in from around the world," Harland said.

Calamansi is not very well-known in Europe and the judges noted the marmalade's unusual taste, but they enjoyed its flavor. Harland said he intends to enter the competition again next year, but perhaps with a slightly modified recipe using whisky rather than brandy.

The organizers received over 1,700 entries from all corners of the world – a 30 percent increase over 2011, clearly showing that marmalade is as popular as ever.

The championships were part of a weekend-long marmalade festival held at the historic Dalemain Estate in England's Lake District.

Over 70,000 British pounds, roughly P4.7 million, was raised for various charities. (www.philstar.com)

**Noy: Tourist Arrivals May
 Reach 5M This Year**

by Aurea Calica
 Wednesday, March 28, 2012

MANILA, Philippines - The country could exceed its 4.6-million tourist arrival target this year if current trends continue, President Aquino said yesterday.

Speaking at the Euromoney Philippine Investment Forum, the President cited the "leaps and bounds" in the country's tourism industry.

"I've always said that tourism is a low-lying fruit for the Philippine economy that has long gone unpicked. But thanks to a reenergized Department of Tourism care of Secretary (Ramon) Jimenez, and thanks to an excellent marketing campaign, coupled with a liberalized aviation industry," the President said.

He said the Philippines welcomed more than 400,000 visitors in January alone, making it the "highest monthly visitor count in our history."

"And if we could sustain this, we are set to welcome almost 4.8 million visitors this year. This is really close – or this is very close – to five million. We are still quite away from our target of 10 million yearly visitors by 2016. But imagine: two years ago we were expecting only about three million visitors a year; and now there is the possibility of welcoming five million. We

still have four years and three months left to reach our target and we know that, each year, we can grow our number of visitors closer and closer to our goal," he said.

The President reiterated his invitation to businessmen to invest in the country's infrastructure, agriculture and tourism sectors even as he gave assurance that the government is doing its best to make it easier for people to invest in the Philippines.

"And that means creating a level playing field, curbing corruption, and eliminating inefficiencies," the President said.

He cited the putting up of a Philippine Business Registry and one-stop-shops where entrepreneurs could transact with multiple government agencies. He said investors could also register their businesses in just 20 to 30 minutes.

"The bottom line here is: if we want businesses to set up shop here and create jobs for our people, we have to be competitive," Aquino said.

"We have to focus on industries where there are actual opportunities for mutual benefit. The world is getting increasingly smaller, and we find ourselves pitted against countries (that) have very competitive business propositions," he said.

The President said "we could not compromise our position by making life more difficult for companies because of corruption or red tape." (www.philstar.com)

PHILIPPINE NEWS

Aquino Urges Global Action vs NoKor Rocket Launch

by Dennis Carcamo
Wednesday, April 4, 2012

MANILA, Philippines - President Benigno Aquino III on Wednesday called for a concerted international action to convince North Korea against pushing through with its planned rocket launch this month.

Aquino, speaking at the retreat session of the 20th ASEAN summit in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, said the international community should act to persuade the North Korean government to abandon its plan to launch a long range satellite-carrying missile between April 12 and 16.

He said that the planned

missile launch violates United Nation Security Council Resolutions 1718 and 1874 and presents risks to all concerned.

"It increases tensions, particularly in the period of uncertainty leading up to the launch — where no one is sure of the trajectory of the missile. In particular, debris from the launch may potentially land in our territory. This is a needless provocation not only in the Korean peninsula, but in our entire region," President Aquino said before ASEAN Leaders.

The President also said that the situation in the Korean Peninsula has far-reaching implications on regional stability,

which is essential to the continuing progress of Asia-Pacific countries.

"Stability, peace and prosperity in our region require all of us to continue to engage with each other, and the larger international community in ways that build confidence," the President stressed.

"The way forward is for the DPRK (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) to abandon the launch and return to actions that promote confidence-building among its neighbors," Aquino said.

He added: "We hope for the early resumption of the Six-Party Talks and for the Demo-

cratic People's Republic of Korea to eventually undertake complete, irreversible and verifiable denuclearization," he added.

The Philippine government on Tuesday said that it will a "no-fly zone" over areas along the likely path of the rocket to be launched by North Korea.

National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) executive director Benito Ramos said the move was intended to prevent injuries or deaths in case the satellite-carrying missile "undershoots or overshoots" or strays off course.

"If the rocket undershoots or

overshoots, we will be affected. To avoid accidents, a no-fly zone will be declared. Ships should also avoid the area," Ramos said.

North Korea is scheduled to launch the rocket between April 12 and 16 from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. (Philippine time).

The rocket is expected to fly 190 nautical miles northeast of Northern Luzon in Sta. Ana, Cagayan and 150 nautical miles east of Polilio Island in Quezon.

In a meeting with the NDRRMC on Tuesday, the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP) said the no-fly zone would take effect from April 12 to 16 from 5 a.m. to 1 p.m. (www.philstar.com)

San Miguel to Acquire Minority Stake in PAL

from www.philstar.com
Wednesday, April 4, 2012

MANILA, Philippines - Diversified conglomerate San Miguel Corp. on Wednesday said it will acquire a minority stake in Lucio Tan -owned Philippine Airlines.

San Miguel told the Philippine Stock Exchange that it signed an investment agreement with Tan that will result in the issuance of new shares to San Miguel for a minority stake in flag carrier PAL and low-cost partner Air Philippines Corp.

"Tan and Ramon S. Ang, San Miguel President and COO, said the new investment will allow the two airlines to strengthen operations and stay competitive with the implementation of PAL and Air Phil's fleet modernization program," said the joint statement of Tan and San Miguel Equity Investments Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of San Miguel.



Under the agreement, Trustmark Holdings Corp. (Trustmark) and Zuma Holdings and Management Corp., the holding companies of PAL and Air Phil will issue new shares to San Miguel Equity Investments.

Ang said San Miguel welcomes the opportunity to participate in the refueling and modernization plans of the two airlines.

In the first nine months of its fiscal year, Philippine Airlines Holdings Inc., the listed operator of Philippine Airlines, posted losses of P3.63 billion from earnings of P3.55 billion. PAL Holding's fiscal

year begins in April and ends in March.

PAL Holdings said revenues amounted to P54.38 billion, lower than the P55.22

billion in the comparable period, while expenses rose to P57.97 billion from P51.67 billion.

"Decline in revenues can be attributable mainly to decrease in passenger and cargo revenues by 13 percent, offset by the increase in other income earned during the period," PAL said.

The flag carrier also said the peso-dollar exchange rate fluctuations pulled down pas-

senger revenues by 1 percent.

Following huge losses in 2009, PAL Holdings had adopted cost-cutting measures such as reducing its workforce.

PAL, Asia's oldest airline, used to have a near monopoly on the domestic market but it has faced stiff competition from Cebu Pacific (CEB) of the Gokongwei family.

Cebu Pacific has said it flew about 12 million passengers in 2011, a 14-percent growth from the 10.5 million passengers it had in 2010.

COVER STORY (from page 5, AN INTERVIEW...)

the battle with traffic their neighbors face every day and decide now is the time to address that, then I believe I will win this election.

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PHILIPPINE NEWS

16 Immigration Officers Face Probe for Undocumented OFWs in Syria

from www.philstar.com
Wednesday, April 4, 2012

MANILA, Philippines - Justice Secretary Leila de Lima has ordered 16 immigration officers to explain in three days why they should not be held administratively liable for the processing and departure of undocumented overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) to Syria.

The 16 officers of the Bureau of Immigration, an attached agency of the

Department of Justice, were ordered to explain in writing why the DOJ should not give them administrative sanctions based on their respective malfeasance and non-feasance in the line of their duty as reflected in the travel and departure records of repatriated OFWs from Syria.

The Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking (IACAT), headed by DOJ Undersecretary Jose Vicente Salazar, has formulated a set of procedures on the assessment of departing in-

ternational-bound passengers in all airports and seaports nationwide primarily to reduce the discretion of immigration personnel in assessing would-be tourist workers and other departing passengers by way of strictly following the guidelines.

The IACAT is the government's lead agency mandated to eradicate human trafficking and related concerns.

"The orders issued by the DOJ to these BI officials mani-

fest our earnest efforts in curbing the incidence of public officials having a hand in human trafficking activities," Salazar said.

The government has conducted a series of repatriation procedures for almost 600 Filipinos affected by the civil strife in Syria.

The anti-human trafficking group took the lead role in interviewing the repatriates.

The interviews revealed that 43 percent of the repatriated OFWs were allowed to travel outside the Philippines without being encoded in the query system of the BI.

Out of the 600 repatriated Filipinos, 67 percent were not able to acquire any clearance or overseas employment certificates (OECs).

The findings and interviews conducted by DOJ prosecutors point out that 95 percent of all the repatriates were considered as victims of human trafficking.

Earlier, Salazar assured the public that IACAT will implement measures to prevent incidence of abuse, harassment and extortion at the country's exit ports and ultimately protect the public from being victims of trafficking in persons.

Robin Padilla is MoneyGram's New Celebrity Endorser

Veteran actor Robin Padilla's latest role is as MoneyGram International's new celebrity endorser. The announcement came at a recent news conference in Pasig City, where the MoneyGram also unveiled a new television commercial and marketing campaign, "Moneygrado sa MoneyGram," featuring Padilla.

The campaign supports MoneyGram's strategy for increased awareness and brand affinity among Filipino consumers around the world.

"MoneyGram chose Robin because he is seen by Filipino consumers to be a credible voice in advocating for products," says Juan Agualimpia,



MoneyGram's chief marketing officer. "We believe he will help strengthen our brand awareness among his devoted followers who rely on our money transfer services to help meet their family's financial needs."

Padilla possesses both the credibility and charisma that

have resonated with Filipino fans throughout the years, as evidenced by numerous blockbuster hits under his belt.

"Robin is a celebrity who has also come to symbolize

hope and second chances. His mass appeal among Filipinos gets stronger as time passes. Robin is widely-viewed as a man of his word—the same principle governing MoneyGram," Agualimpia says.

Padilla says it is an honor to

be chosen as MoneyGram's celebrity endorser because the company has provided millions of Filipino workers with an affordable, efficient and convenient way to send essential support to their loved ones.

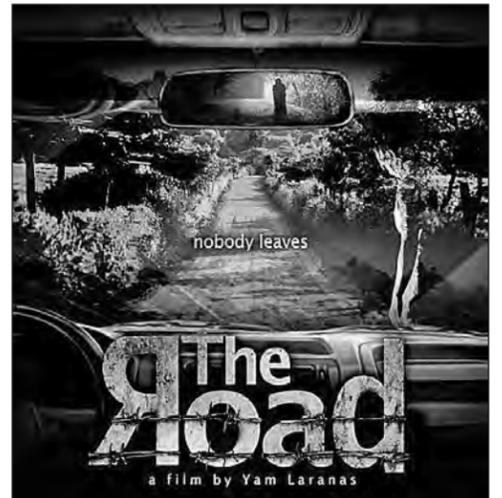
MAINLAND NEWS

Philippine Horror Movie to Terrify U.S. Audiences

Press screenings for "The Road," a Philippine horror movie by acclaimed Filipino director Yam Laranas, are scheduled for New York and Los Angeles on April 10, 2012.

Starring Carmina Villaroel, Rhian Ramos, T.J. Trinidad and Barbie Fortenza, "The Road" tells the story of a 12-year-old cold case that is reopened when three teenagers vanish while traversing an infamous and abandoned road. As investigators try to find leads to the whereabouts of the missing teens, they also unearth the road's gruesome past that spans two decades and includes a history of abduction, crimes and

murders. BeyondHollywood.com calls "The Road" a "fantastic horror film" and a "well-written, sharply directed ghost story." The film was acquired by Freestyle Releasing for limited distribution in the U.S. and will be shown in a select number of theatres nationwide. Prior to its release date of May 11, 2012, by world-famous boxer and Filipino congressman Manny Pacquiao will host a special premiere and at the Hollywood ArcLight The-



ater on May 9, 2012. According to its Facebook page, "The Road" will be shown locally at Pearlridge West 16 and the Kapolei Theatres 16.

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LEGAL NOTES



By Reuben S. Seguritan

USCIS Updates H-1B Guidance as Filing Season Begins

18% in FY 2007 and to a high of 35% in 2009. The RFE rate for H-1B petitions in FY 2011 was 26%, which is still a dramatic increase from the past.

Given these high denial and RFE rates in H-1B adjudication, employers are reminded to follow USCIS regulations affecting H-1B employment. One such regulation is the Neufeld Memorandum which discusses the requirement to establish a valid employer-employee relationship throughout the requested H-1B validity.

Aside from the usual requirements for an H-1B petition (i.e., a beneficiary is coming to the United States temporarily to work in a specialty occupation and he/she is qualified for such occupation), the H-1B employer must demonstrate that it has the right to hire, pay, fire, supervise or otherwise control the beneficiary's employment.

In the Q and A guidance dated March 12, 2012, the USCIS clarified certain issues regarding the right of control in non-traditional H-1B employment scenarios.

Where the petitioner is a consulting or staffing company, a valid employer-employee relationship could still be established if the petitioner has the right to control the work of the beneficiary. The petitioner can submit evidence showing that it will pay the beneficiary's salary, determine the beneficiary's location and relocation assignments, and perform supervisory duties over the beneficiary.

In cases where the beneficiary will be placed at a third-party worksite, the USCIS explained that the petitioner is not required to submit documentation from the end-client identifying the beneficiary, although such evidence would be helpful. A combination of any

of the documents in the Neufeld Memo may establish that the required relationship exists.

Evidence that could be submitted in initial petitions include an itinerary of services or engagements, signed employment agreement, employment offer letter, and contracts between the petitioner and a client. For extension petitions, the employer may include pay records, payroll summaries or W-2 forms, work schedules and samples of the beneficiary's work product, among other types of evidence. The types of evidence listed in the memorandum are not exhaustive.

Petitioners who fail to initially provide sufficient evidence of an employer-employee relationship may be given an opportunity to correct the deficiency in response to an RFE. In order to avoid unnecessary delay, however, it is better to submit all

available evidence with the initial submission.

Petitioners of H-1B employees who will work in more than one location must submit a complete itinerary, which is required by the regulations, and an LCA specific to each work location.

The employer-employee relationship must also be shown to exist for the entire duration of the requested validity period. Otherwise, the USCIS will limit the validity to the time period of qualifying employment as established by the submitted evidence.

In case of continuation or change in previously approved employment, if the petitioner did not maintain a valid employer-employee relationship throughout the validity of the previous petition, USCIS will deny the extension unless there is a compelling reason to approve the new petition.

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

April 2, 2012 marks the start of the filing period for cap-subject H-1B petitions for Fiscal Year 2013. On that date, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will begin accepting petitions with a start date of October 1, 2012 or later, until the 65,000 cap is reached.

A recent report found that the USCIS has been denying H-1B petitions and issuing Requests for Evidence (RFE) at higher rates. Denial rates for all nationalities increased from 11% in FY 2007 to 29% in FY2009. It remained higher than in the past at 21% in FY 2010 and 17% in FY 2011.

RFE rates also skyrocketed from only 4% in FY 2004 to

GLOBAL NEWS

Asean Open to United Approach to Spratlys

by Delon Porcalla
Wednesday, April 4, 2012

PHNOM PENH – Leaders of member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have reached an informal consensus to go along with the Philippines' proposal for a multilateral approach in dealing with China on the maritime dispute over the Spratly Islands, two Philippine officials said here yesterday.

"It was articulated by the President (Aquino) in the summit – that ASEAN must maintain its centrality on any issue (involving the South China Sea)," Philippine Permanent Representative to the ASEAN Wilfrido Villacorta said, referring to the plenary session.

"I can say in general that there was no strong opposition to that. At most they just kept quiet. Remember, you are talking here about 10 member states with different forms of government," he told Manila-based reporters in a briefing at Sunway Hotel.

Secretary Edwin Lacierda, spokesman for President Aquino, downplayed speculations Beijing might retaliate on certain fronts, such as the economy, by cutting or reducing trade agreements with Manila.

"We don't believe it will have an effect. This is just a continuation of what the President has always said about the West Philippine Sea. China knows it," he said.

Lacierda was with Aquino when he was invited for a state visit in Beijing last August.

Villacorta agreed. "I'm sure China will understand. It's not hostility. China is also reasonable with regard to negotiations procedure. We have this territorial claim, but we are not an unfriendly country."

"If only for this morning's session, the Philippines scored points. You should be proud as Filipinos," said the diplomat, who begged off from revealing what countries supported the Philippines' line of multilateral, rather than bilateral, approach. China wants bilateral approach



in dealing with the issue.

Aquino, according to the ASEAN envoy, was emphatic about the Code of Conduct that members of the regional bloc must draft, and he won the support of his colleagues, most particularly the four main Spratlys claimants – Brunei,

Vietnam, Malaysia and the Philippines.

"That's the main topic (COC). That was very significant in the Philippines' participation in the (ASEAN) summit. The country took the leading role, or was at the forefront of the South China Sea issue," Villacorta said.

"ASEAN should first produce the COC before including China. We want to maintain the centrality of ASEAN. ASEAN must have the first crack. China should hear us out first.

It's not alienation, but that's the way it is done," the diplomat added.

Beijing was open to a Code of Conduct, Villacorta said, but "expressed preference" to be included in its drafting, which Aquino flatly rejected.

The Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) that China and ASEAN members signed here 10 years ago was no longer discussed.

"The DOC has no legal character. We all want a legally binding COC," Villacorta said. (www.philstar.com)

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PHILIPPINE LANGUAGE



DAYASADAS
By Pacita Saludes

Dagiti Nangina Nga Aldaw Ti Tawen Panangsubbot ni Apo Jesus ti Basbasol ti Tao

Maipalagip a no madanon ti makuna a SEMANA SANTA isu nga aldaw ti Penitensia ti pangawagtayo idiay Pilipinas isu a pananglagip ti panagtutuok ni Apo Jesukristo a mangsubbot ti basbasol ti tao. Pammati daytoy a naipaagsep kadagiti parsua ditoy daga.

Nupay kadagitoyen a panawen saan unayen a maipap-ati aglalo kadagiti disso a pag-gargarawantayo. Awanen ti pananggilin ti kaaduan a tao, awanen ti balikas a pananggilin. Uray Viernes Santo adda latta dagiti tao ti pagtrabahuan ken disso a saanen a malagip dagiti aldaw a panagtutuok ti mannubbot tayo.

Awanen dagiti libut a sursuruten a mangipagsakripisio iti makuna a nangina nga aldaw a panagsakripisio ni Apo Jesus a mannubbottayo. Dagitoy dagiti estasyon:

Umuna: Kinedngan dagiti Judio a matay.

Maikadua: Ipabaklayda ken Apo Jesus ti Krus.

Maikatlo: Idi maidaramudom ni Jesus iti umuna a gundaway.

Maikapat: Idi sinabet ni Apo Virgen Maria.

Maikalima: Idi sinabet ni Simon ni Apo Jesus tapno tulonganna ni Apo Jesus a mangkarga iti Krus.

Maikanem: Idi punasan ni Veronica ti rupa ni Apo Jesus.

Maikapito: Naidaramudom ni Jesus iti maikadua a daras.

Maikawalo: Nakisaritia ni Jesus kadagiti amin a taga Jerusalem.

Maikasiam: Naidaramudom iti maikatlo a daras.

Maikasangapulo: Inuksobda ti arwatan ni Apo Jesus.

Maikasangapulo ket maysa: Inlansada iti Krus Ni Apo Jesus.

Maikasangapulo ket dua: Inpastrekdan ni Jesus iti sepulkro.

Kalpasan ti adu a panangtutuokda ken Apo Jesus kinoronanda iti siit. Dinuyokda iti

bakrangna a nagpususuakan ti adu a dara ken ad-adu pay a kinaranggas ti impalalak-am dagiti Judio sakbay a napugsat ti angesna. Nalpasen! Nalpasen kinunana ket nagungar iti maikatlo nga aldaw.

Ti NASANTUAN A DAGA ISU TI ISRAEL

Ipakilapmi kadakayo ti put-edputed a pakilap kas maibasbasar kadagiti biblia a koneksion ti panagtutuok ni Apo Jesukristo ken dagiti disso a naggargarawanna. Toy nagsurat nakitana ken nabaddekanna dagitoy a disso kabayatan ti isasarungkarna iti nasantuan a daga. Ti JERUSALEM a nangisursuruan ni Apo Jesus, nakasentensianna, nakailansaanna iti krus, nagtutuokanna, nagungaranna ken immulianna sadi Langit, kalpasan ti agarupen a lima a ribu a tawenen ti pakasaritaan. Ti VIA DOLOSA - Ti dana a pinanurnor ni Apo Jesus kabayatan ti panagtutuokna, agingga iti Kalbaryo.

Dagiti Disso A Nakallagip iti biag ni Jesus

1. THE SHEPERD'S FIELD

ti katalalonan ti Bethlehem a nagparangan ti Angel ti Dios a nangibunannag ti pannakaiyanak ni Jesus kadagiti agpaspastor.

2. GROTO TI NATIVITY ti abay a patakder a nagtataengan da Jose ken Maria idi padpadakelenda ni Jesus ken ti panagisursurona.
3. KARAYAN TI JORDAN karayan a nangburniagan ni JOHN DE BAPTIST ken Jesus, ken pagbununiagan metten dagiti amin a sumarsarungkar iti Jordan River.
4. DEAD SEA Naapgad unay ti danum ti Baybay ket awan a pulos ti agbiag a ruot wenno ikan. Isu ti pagtungpalan ti danum ti karayan Jordan.
5. GETHSEMANY Disso a nagparintumengan ni Jesus tapno agkararag kalpasan ti maudi a pangrabii (LAST SUPPER) sakbay nga inlako ni Judas.
6. CANAL OF GALILEE Ti diso a nangaramidan ni Jesus ti umuna a panangipakitana ti miraglo, idi pinagbalinna a basi ti danum idi naibusan ti basi dagiti agpasken. Amin a bumisita a sumarungkar iti daytoy a disso mabalinda ti agkasar manen tapno adadda ti gracia kadakuada.
7. THE SEA OF GALILEE Ti kadakkelan a danum tam-

nay idiay a disso, kasla idiay Dead Sea adu ti nakaskasdaaw nga impakita ni Jesus a milagro iti daytoy a disso. Matmaturog ni Jesus iti bilog idi palnedan koma ti bagyo ngem pinasardengna. Nagna iti rabaw ti danum. Tinulonganna ni Pedro a nangtiliw kadagiti ik- ikan a pinangpakanda ti 5000 a kaduana, ti bassit laeng a tinapay a pinaaduna sa pinagpakanda kadagiti mabisin.

8. CAPERNUM ti pinagbalin ni Jesus a siudadna idi saanda nga awaten iti ilina a Nazareth. Ditan ti nagarmidan na ti adu a nakaskasdaaw - ti panangagasna kadagiti masaksakit, pinagungarna ti anak ni Jairus (agturay iti synagogue) ken adu pay a milagro.

Dagitoy ti agdama a panunotentayo maipapan iti natalged a panagbiag. Adun ti di makalagip ti Apo gapu kadagiti agtatararuptop a rigat, ti panagsapulan iti kuarta ken iraragpat ti natalged a panagbiag. Panawen ita ti panaglagip ti panagtutuok ti Apo gapu kadagiti basbasol tayo.

Nagasat dagiti makapan iti nasatuan a daga ta maipalagip kadakuada ti panawen ni Apo Jesus a rumbeng a selebrantayo iti agdama.

Happy Easter!

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GLOBAL NEWS

Phishing Scam Targets Filipino Workers

The Fraser Health authority is warning Filipinos not to fall for a recruitment scam offering jobs at B.C. hospitals.

"We have recently received reports of a phishing scam posing as Fraser Health recruitment and asking for funds for an interview/training fee in the Philippines," said a statement issued by the health authority which serves than 1.6 million people including residents from Burnaby to Hope to Boston Bar.

"Please do not respond or send funds if you receive an email like this, it is a scam. Fraser Health would never ask for funds tied to an interview process or recruitment. This phishing email has been reported to local authorities," the authority said.

"When you post your resume on a job search site, you are exposing your personal data not only to potential employers, but also scammers, so be careful," said Hans Leo Cacdac, administrator of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) in Manila. He advises job seekers to "think twice" before replying to emails with the subject "You are selected!," especially those coming from "international companies" they

have never heard of.

Cacdac says the emails promise employment in hospitals and care centers in Canada and the United States, at almost no cost to the applicant.

However, the applicants will have to pay for medical tests and interview coaching in the Philippines.

Cacdac cites a company called "Fraser Health" which recruits nurses and caregivers for supposed employment in Canada.

When asked about sending out mails to would-be workers, the real Fraser Health in Canada denied it had sent any.

The POEA said the fake company uses free email accounts at hush-mail.com whereas the true Fraser Health uses its domain name fraser-health.ca.

The inducements offered by the fake company are very tempting to many people looking for overseas employment, according to Cacdac.

The emails say applicants will not be charged a placement or processing fee and the cost of the air fare and work visa will be paid by the employer.

But the catch is they have to pay 3,750 pesos (US\$88) for "Canadian Embassy Interview Coaching" plus

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Pinoy in UK to Carry Olympic Torch for OFWs

MANILA, Philippines - A Filipino occupational therapist in the United Kingdom has been chosen to carry the torch for some nine million overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) around the world in the 2012 Olympics this July, a report posted on GMA News Online last Wednesday said.

Reymund Enteria, 30, who hails from Antipolo City and works for a medical center based in Tonbridge Kent, told GMA News Online that he was very surprised when he received the news last Saturday because "I'm not an athlete, just an ordinary individual."

Enteria was chosen as one of the 8,000 "Coca-Cola Future Flame" participants, or the "inspirational people

who will carry the Olympic Flame" as it goes around this year's host country for 70 days, the report said.

Enteria said he will be running on July 22, the last Sunday before the Olympic's opening ceremony at the Barking and Dagenham Borough of London.

He said it is a big honor for him to represent his fellow OFWs who "are not all about money, but courage and determination."

The report further said that in a blog entry he wrote for the UK-based Filipino site AdoboRice.com, Enteria said he joined the "Future Flame" call for nominations using insights on the



sacrifices of OFWs.

His mother worked abroad for four years and he eventually followed her footsteps when he left his career in the Philippines to work in Saudi Arabia where he suffered inequalities in terms of salary, the report said.

But his efforts soon paid off when he was recognized in the biggest rehabilitation in the Middle East, and became the first occupational therapist to handle the newly opened brain injury unit.

Years later, Enteria received an offer from UK's The Raphael Medical Center, where he has been working as a full-time OT specialist for more than four years. (www.philstar.com)



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