

**HAWAII-PHILIPPINE NEWS EDITION**

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# HAWAII FILIPINO CHRONICLE

HAWAII'S ONLY WEEKLY FILIPINO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPER

## MANNY RETURNS, HINTS AT RETIREMENT

By Abac CORDERO

**M**anny Pacquiao's fighting days may soon be over. Yes, the greatest boxer in the world today is seriously thinking of retirement, and upon his return from Los Angeles at the break of dawn yesterday said his recent fight with Joshua Clottey in Dallas may be his last.

Pacquiao stood beside his wife Jinkee and their three children at the arrival area of the NAIJA Terminal 2 when he faced the media, and fielded questions regarding his immediate plans in the boxing and political rings.

He looked back at his fight with Clottey, which took place March 13 at the packed Cowboys Stadium in Dallas, and when asked about the highly-anticipated superfight with Floyd Mayweather Jr. he talked about retiring.

"We may never get there (Mayweather fight) because I might retire soon," said the 31-year-old icon.

"My mother has been begging for me to retire and now we're going to talk about it," added Pacquiao, the only boxer in history to

have won seven world titles in seven different weight classes. He has a ring record of 51-3-2 with 38 knockouts.

Pacquiao has won his last 12 fights, most of them big fights, and has never lost since March of 2005 when Erik Morales won a bloody decision in Las Vegas. At the rate he's going, it seems that Pacquiao is unbeatable inside the ring.

But retirement, he said, has been knocking on the door, and soon he may have to finally call it a day.

Besides, Pacquiao is venturing into politics, and in the May 10 national elections in the Philippines he will seek a congressional slot in his home province of Sarangani. In 2007, he lost a similar battle, but vowed to

(continued on page 4)



Manny Pacquiao with wife, Jinkee on a courtesy call to President Arroyo, First Gentleman Mike Arroyo, and their grandchildren in Malacanang hours after his arrival



## PAL to Mark 70<sup>th</sup> Year with 70K Free Seats Offer

By Shalimar LEYBAG-PAGULAYAN

**P**hilippine Airlines has commenced a year-long celebration leading to its 70th anniversary in March 2011 by launching a series of promotional events wherein up to 70,000 free seats on various PAL flights will be given away throughout the year.

The flag carrier announced the introduction of a grand seat raffle, a major discounted-fare promo, a "Philippines Free" international campaign and a new loyalty

program targeting the youth market. These are initial salvoes of an aggressive marketing campaign that will be held during the next 12 months.

The initiatives were formally unveiled during PAL's 69th anniversary at a recent gala dinner at the Century Park Hotel in Manila.

PAL was founded by a group of prominent Filipino industrialists on February 16, 1941. On March 15, 1941, a Beech Model

(continued on page 6)

## St. Luke's Medical Center: A Look at the Future of Healthcare

By Joy Angelica SUBIDO

**M**ANILA, Philippines - The recently inaugurated 629-bed St. Luke's Medical Center (SLMC) at Bonifacio Global City built at the cost of P9 billion surpasses all preconceptions of what a hospital should be. Surely, the primary requisites of highly qualified medical professionals, excellent clinical care, and top-notch medical and diagnostic equipment are in place. But with the addition of world-class design by RR Payumo and Associates, an imper-

(continued on page 4)



The recently inaugurated 629-bed St. Luke's Medical Center (SLMC) at Bonifacio Global City

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# EDITORIAL

## Shameless Opportunism

It's not against the law, a Malacañang official said yesterday in defending the fielding of President Arroyo's son Mikey as nominee of a party-list group that supposedly represents security guards. Besides, Ricardo Saludo said, why single out the President's family? The implication is that there are many others doing it, anyway. Among them, it can be noted, are Mikey Arroyo's fellow nominee in the same group, Ang Galing Pinoy Party. Lubao Mayor Dennis Pineda, the son of the President's staunch supporters Lilia and Bong Pineda.

The Pinedas, who gained notoriety for supposed jueteng activities in Pampanga, could simply be following their leader in using the party-list system as a back-door entrance to the House of Representatives. The president of this weak republic is supposed to lead by example not only in upholding the rule of law but also in avoiding the exploitation of gray areas and loopholes in existing laws and regulations to make a mockery of democratic institutions. Instead what we are seeing is the opposite.

Driving through the traffic-choked streets of Metro Manila, one can see what this attitude can spawn. In the absence of traffic signs, stop-



lights or traffic cops, drivers try to get ahead of others by going against heavy traffic in the opposite lane. The result is often a swastika-type gridlock with everyone stuck. Putting one over other drivers in such a situation is not illegal, but the result is chaos. Applied on a larger scale, in many aspects of national life, that attitude has turned the country into what one international news magazine has described as Asia's laggard. Years earlier, another international news magazine put it in equally unkind terms: the Philippines, according to the article, is a country that is in a hurry to go nowhere.

If the only example being set by the national leadership is shameless opportunism, it is up to the Commission on Elections to prevent the shameless from turning the party-list system into a farce worse than that already is. Even without this latest controversy, taxpayers have already wondered why millions are spent each year for the salaries and perks of party-list congressmen who are anything but margi-nalized, when there are numerous legislative committees that can represent the concerns of genuinely margi-nalized sectors. Comelec officials have said they will soon issue guidelines that will purge the party-list system of certain nominees. The purge must be thorough and a message must be sent: the brazen abuse of this system has gone on long enough. (www.philstar.com) ■

## Funding Sources

By all means, the Commission on Elections must regulate sources of campaign funding. The only question is whether it is up to the task. The Comelec, for all its avowed good intentions, has failed to even make presidential candidates submit an accurate declaration of campaign donors and expenditures to determine if spending limits are followed.

Authorities are reportedly looking at drug money as a source of campaign funds, as noted in a report of the US State Department. In fact a more pervasive problem is the use of money from illegal gambling to finance campaigns. Not many politicians are willing to be identified as friends of known drug dealers. But there are politicians who don't mind being seen as allies of notorious jueteng lords. Political parties accept donations from gambling lords and sometimes even actively court their financial support. In several areas around the country, jueteng lords have entered politics themselves, enjoying the perfect machinery for laundering their illegal earnings.

Gambling barons need not be untouchable. Penalties for illegal gambling have been increased — if only the amended law can be enforced. Gambling lords will still consider the higher fines laughable, but they may not like the stiffer jail time. A serious effort to crack down on gambling lords

should include the Anti-Money Laundering Council and the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

Political campaigns have always provided perfect vehicles for money laundering in this country. Drug dealers and gambling lords aren't the only criminals who help finance campaigns. Smugglers also invest in certain candidates to guarantee protection for illegal activities. Candidates themselves have been suspected of resorting to kidnapping for ransom, car-jacking and robbery of banks and armored vans to finance their campaigns. The New People's Army extorts "permit-to-campaign fees" and uses a portion of the funds to support certain candidates.

The system of campaign finance in this country is so opaque that it emboldens candidates to raise funds even illegally. If the Comelec can bring a degree of transparency into the system, it will be a major accomplishment. (www.philstar.com) ■

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OPINION

# Raising Taxes Will Not Solve The Fiscal Crisis That Hawaii Faces

by Danny DE GRACIA II

You've probably heard this question asked by local legislators so many times that you already know it by heart: "Should we raise the general excise tax to cover the budget deficit and continue to provide essential services?" But the really important question is not whether we should raise taxes, but rather "Why is it that 44 of the 50 states had a budget deficit going into 2010 and more to follow?" The simple fact of the matter is that Hawaii's budget deficit has nothing to do with insufficient revenues and has everything to do with the fact that the U.S. dollar's purchasing power has been eroded by inflation. Understanding this, no matter what state departments we cut, no matter how many workers we furlough, no matter how many taxes we raise, in 2011 we will have a wider deficit than before. We simply cannot dig ourselves out of a hole which the Federal Reserve continues to dig deeper beneath our feet.

**WHY THE STATE HAS NO MONEY AND WILL NEVER HAVE ENOUGH MONEY UNDER THE PRESENT PARADIGM**

Immigrants from nations that have "soft currency" understand better than the average American does that wealth and prosperity has less to do with the size of one's income and more to do with the purchasing power of one's currency. The U.S. dollar, which is currently the world's reserve currency, has been greatly devalued by the fact that the Federal Reserve has pursued an expansionary monetary policy in which cheap credit is produced for banks and unlimited funding is provided for the Federal government by simply printing money out of thin air. As anyone knows, the more money you produce, the less it is worth and the more money is needed to procure products and services. We call that "inflation."

Let's take the example of how inflation affects purchasing power by

looking at the cost of a common item such as a movie ticket. In 1979, the year I was born, the national average price for a movie ticket was \$2.47. In 1989 it was \$3.99, in 1999 it was \$5.06, today it can be \$7.61 or more. Now apply that principle to every good and service in America and you can see how quickly the cost of living, doing business and running the government all begin to skyrocket as a result of inflation.

Where the imminent danger rests is the fact that the Federal Reserve has not slowed down its reserve expansion rate, but has in fact dumped trillions of dollars into foreign banks in the last three years as their so-called "solution" to the economic crisis. Massive liquidity, combined with near-zero interest rates has not allowed a necessary market correction to take place, which in turn is driving prices higher and higher, raising the bottom line. Businesses respond to a higher bottom line by layoffs, reducing salaries, closing down divisions or outsourcing and raising prices. Individuals respond to a higher bottom line by purchasing and consuming less, which drives down business profits. Government, however, always responds to a higher bottom line by increasing taxes on both businesses and individuals alike. Taxing and spending is the only thing a government knows how to do. So what we have here in Hawaii is a lose-lose scenario in which all of us are destined to fail and destined to see more of our wealth taken away from us because of the nature of our present monetary system.

**HIGHER TAXES WON'T WORK, AND WHAT'S NEXT IS RUNAWAY HYPERINFLATION**

Let's look at the example of the nation of Zimbabwe for a preview of what will happen here in America. In 1980, the Zimbabwe dollar was one of the strongest currencies in the world, being worth approximately \$1.59 (that's \$4.18 in 2010 dollars). However, over the course of time, Zimbabwe central bank pursued the

same policy that the U.S. Federal Reserve is currently pursuing, and simply printed more Z-dollars whenever they needed to monetize their debt. Hyperinflation resulted, and by the year 2000, it took 100 Z-dollars to equal one U.S. dollar. By November 2008, inflation had become so extreme that to equal one dollar, a resident of Zimbabwe would need 669 billion Z-dollars. The cost of three eggs in Zimbabwe at that time was 100 billion Z-dollars. Needless to say, as of present, Zimbabwe no longer operates its own currency and now uses multiple, competing currencies.

In America, the only reason why our currency hasn't yet completely gone the way of the Zimbabwe dollar is because of the fact that we are the reserve currency of the world. But the time is coming where private banks and governments all across the world will dump the dollar because of its steadily diminishing value, and when that happens, hyperinflation will set in and Americans will find themselves paying thousands, maybe even millions for ordinary goods and services. The race for the exits has already begun; the Arabs are seeing to create their own currency to replace the dollar, the Chinese are slowly dumping the dollar, and the IMF and United Nations have both proposed replacing the dollar with a new currency to be issued from a central bank of the world.

So what is the end result of all this? The economist John Maynard Keynes wrote, "By continuing a process of inflation, governments can confiscate, secretly and unobserved, an important part of the wealth of their citizens. By this method they not only confiscate, but they confiscate arbitrarily; and, while the process impoverishes many, it actually enriches some." What we will see in Hawaii is the emergence of two classes, the exceptionally wealthy and the overwhelmingly poor - which is everyone else.

**WHAT WE SHOULD BE TALKING ABOUT INSTEAD**

The number one concern of every Filipino immigrant or descendant who escaped the devalued

peso only to work for a rapidly devaluing dollar here in America should be to demand that the U.S. Federal Reserve be abolished. As long as the privately-controlled U.S. Federal Reserve continues to exist, our futures will be a dismal one of hits from inflation and more hits from tax increase after tax increase. Marc Faber, a world renowned investment analyst, believes that the time will come when taxes will need to be raised as high as 50 percent of our income just to account for interest payments on government debt. The truth which you must know is that we are beyond balancing budgets and making dots line up on a spreadsheet: our crisis is the existence of the Federal Reserve.

On a personal note, I would en-

ourage every Filipino to take this opportunity to save whatever money they make and prepare for the real crisis which is about to begin. If you don't need something, don't buy it. Save as much money as you can and create a hedge against hyperinflation by setting aside some money to purchase investment-grade gold and especially silver bullion. When the dollar dies, gold and silver will enable you to exploit the new monetary scheme, whatever it may be.

We need to start thinking about our families and preparing for what will happen to them in the next few years. May God grant all of you wisdom and may He bless all our families and grant us strength in this time that has come upon our world and nation. ■



Michael A. McMann, M.D.

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## HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

# City Launches Recycling Library Tour

**A RECYCLING EDUCATIONAL DISPLAY** sponsored by the City's Department of Environmental Services (ENV) is making its rounds at select state libraries islandwide, beginning this month at Kapolei Public Library and moving to the Hawaii State Library in April for Earth Month.

The display features the City's new curbside recycling program and life-size representations of the cast of The Green Channel—a new interactive, digital television channel on Oceanic Time Warner Cable 332 and online at www.opala.org.

Library visitors can watch current episodes of The Green Channel's "Opalavision," take photos alongside the life-sized cutouts of the actors, peruse through a selection of recycling and opala-related books available for loan and check out the blue/green/gray recycling carts to see how cool recycling can be. Opala educational programs are being offered at each library, including recycled craft activities, storytelling and workshops on "Garbology."

Adult and children's books about garbage are far more interesting than you might think, with titles including:

- *Worms Eat My Garbage* by Mary Appelhof
- *Smash Trash!* by Laura Driscoll
- *Rubbish* by Dr. William Rathje
- *The Dumpster Diver* by Janet Wong

- *Composting for Dummies* by Cathy Cromell
- *Everything Green Classroom Book* by Tessa Hill
- *Sneaky Green Uses for Everyday Things* by Cy Tymony
- *Michael Recycle* by Ellie Bethel, and
- *Garbage, Waste, Dumps and You: The Disgusting Story Behind What We Leave Behind* by Connie Colwell Miller.



ENV is donating additional books to further enhance the State Libraries' selection. Each participating library in the tour will receive its own set of 19 books. Additionally, three sets of another 12 books will be donated to the Hawaii State Public Library System. These books were on many librarians' wish lists and will go into circulation with a bookplate acknowledging ENV's gift.

The recycling educational display is currently scheduled to tour the following eight Oahu public libraries, with more libraries to be added later:

- March
  - Kapolei Public Library
  - April
    - Hawaii State Library
    - May
      - Kaimuki Public Library
      - June
        - Pearl City Public Library
        - July
          - Waianae Public Library
          - August
            - Waipahu Public Library
            - September
              - Liliha Public Library ■

## UFCH to Hold Easter Donation Drive

**THE UNITED FILIPINO COUNCIL OF HAWAII (UFCH)** is sponsoring a pre-Easter celebration and Food Bank drive on April 3, 2010 at Blaisdel Park from 10 am to 3 pm.

The event will feature an Easter egg hunt, snacks, refreshments, games, prizes and much more. The first 500 participants will receive a quilted pot holder with UFCH and U.S. Census Bureau logos. These pot holders are courtesy of the U.S. Census Bureau.

"We request that you please

bring donations for the Food Bank Drive which will be spearheaded by Divine Word College Alumni Association, UFCH, the Oahu Filipino Community Council and other organizations," says UFCH president Eddie Agas, Sr. "Bring the whole family and let us all enjoy this event."

Blaisdel Park is located in Pearl City across the Burger King restaurant. Please call Agas at 783-3327 or Amado Yoro at 699-9814 for more details on the Food Bank drive. ■

## Three Filipino Science Buffs Advance to State Science Fair

by Fiedes **DOCTOR**

**THREE YOUNG FILIPINO SCIENCE ENTHUSIASTS FROM ISLAND PACIFIC ACADEMY (IPA)**—Dustin Agbayani, Gavin Cabsulay and Robyn Cabsulay—have advanced to the 53rd Hawaii State Science and Engineering Fair (HSSEF) scheduled April 5-7, 2010 after successfully emerging as finalists in the recent Hawaii Association of Independent Schools' Science Fair.

Nicknamed "States" by prep scholar athletes and fans, the fair at the Hawaii Convention Center will showcase science projects from talented and hard-working students from grades 6-12. Public and private schools statewide will be represented.

The three IPA students were elated at the chance to join a bigger event.

"I expect to see a bunch of great kids who have awesome science fair topics. After all, this is States," says Agbayani, whose project proved that hydroponically-grown tomatoes grow faster and taller than soil grown tomatoes and might be better to bring on future missions to outer space.

More than 400 awards, scholarships, prizes and travel opportunities will be given to the winners, including an all-expense paid trip to the International Science and

Engineering Fair (ISEF) from May 11-17, 2010 in Atlanta; a trip to Mauna Kea courtesy of the University of Hawaii Institute of Astronomy; and a one-week paid vacation to any National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) facility, courtesy of NOAA.

The HSSEF, the oldest and largest science education in the State, is sponsored by the Hawaii Academy of Science and has been running for 53 years now. More than 7,000 students from different schools participate in the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools' Science Fair every year with an estimated 500 moving on to the HSSEF. Winners at the HSSEF move on to the ISEF.

"To be honest, our team didn't believe we'd make it this far but we are presently working diligently on our board and data sheet. We were told to refine our board so that we can make a better presentation. We are working very hard," says Agbayani. His project, titled "Farms of the Future: Hydroponics vs. Soil," was placed under the Plant Science Research category.

Agbayani is a seventh grader whose interests are geology, space science and the environment. He believes that science is "very important" and will "most likely deal with any future job." It is hard work, he says, because it en-

tails a long process of taking measurements and writing up a lab report.

"We're so proud of all our students and the ingenuity they demonstrated in each of their projects," says Dr. Dan White, IPA headmaster, in a web blog about the recently concluded Hawaii Association of Independent Schools' Science Fair in which 45 IPA students participated. "Their creativity continues to grow."

Gavin Cabsulay won in the Earth and Planetary Sciences Display, while Robyn Cabsulay won in the Physics and Astronomy Research. Other categories were Animal Sciences, Chemistry, Energy and Transportation, Environmental Management, Mathematical Science, Medicine and Health, Microbiology and Plant Science. Thirty different projects were picked out of 89 to join the HSSEF.

The Hawaii Academy of Science describes HSSEF as "an enrichment program that stimulates interest in science and encourages entry into a science-related career."

While at the fair, students can interact with professional scientists and engineers, while the public is educated about science and engineering. Judging for the HSSEF will take place on April 6, 2010 by scientists and celebrity guests. The event opens to the public on April 7, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ■

## HEADLINES (CONT.)

(cont. from page 1; PAL...)

18 aircraft carrying five passengers took off from Nielson airfield in Makati bound for Baguio—a flight that earned for PAL the distinction of being Asia's first airline.

Today, PAL is the country's largest carrier, boasting a fleet of 41 all-jet aircraft that fly to 44 domestic and international destinations. Two more overseas points—Brisbane and Riyadh—join the network later this month. Last year, PAL carried more than 8.96 million passengers, an increase of 17.1 percent over the previous year.

"As we count down to our 70th anniversary, we want to share this milestone with people who helped us get there—our passengers and loyal partners. They deserve credit for steadfastly supporting their airline through both favorable and difficult times," says an unnamed PAL official.

The grand seat raffle covers all customers who purchase PAL revenue tickets in the Philippines and via PAL's website and who travel between March 16 and December 31, 2010.

A total of 16,000 winners will be chosen during nine monthly raffle draws. Prizes include free tickets for routes equivalent to those in tickets

bought and flown. On March 15, 2011—the official date of PAL's 70th anniversary—up to 3,000 lucky passengers will get to travel for free.

The fares promo, known as the "Anniversary Fare Special," features generously discounted rates on all domestic PAL routes. A flat rate of P700 on one-way flights between Manila and points in Luzon or the Visayas, and P1,700 to and from Mindanao destinations are offered. International flights are also covered by the promo and fares vary according to route.

Meanwhile, a campaign from 18 international destinations called "Philippines Free," features free travel within the Philippines. It will be offered to passengers who travel on PAL's international services during selected periods of the year. The sale period is between March 15 and April 7, 2010.

Another promo will benefit passengers celebrating their 70th birthday between March 15 and April 15, 2010. These senior celebrants will receive a free domestic ticket when a companion ticket is purchased for travel on the same date and route. This promo is valid for travel from May 15 to Aug. 20, 2010.

Finally, an innovative program called the Mabuhay Miles "Y Flyer" has taken off. With the young com-

prising an increasingly active segment of the flying public, PAL has developed a product specifically for them.

The program covers passengers between the ages of two and 21. Current Mabuhay Miles members in this age group automatically qualify as Y Flyers. They enjoy a 10-percent discount on published fares, initially for PAL domestic routes.

In addition to accumulating miles by regularly flying PAL, Y Flyers also earn miles by using partner brands' products and services. Earned miles can then be redeemed for free PAL tickets.

As an added incentive, PAL will give away 50 tickets to the March 27 "Changing Lives: Timbaland Shock Value II" concert in Manila, which features Justin Timberlake and JoJo.

The free tickets will go to Y Flyers who register as members and purchase tickets at selected PAL ticket offices—Makati, Cubao, Manila (Padre Faura), and SM Cebu and Davao.

More exciting promotional activities will be announced in the coming weeks and months as PAL gears up for its 70th anniversary next year.

For more details, visit PAL website or call PAL reservations at (02) 855-8888. ■

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# IMMIGRATION GUIDE

## Pacquiao and Sun Tzu: 4 Things You Must Learn from the Masters to Win in Immigration Court



by Atty. Emmanuel Samonte TIPON

Everybody knows Emmanuel "Manny Pacquiao," the pound for pound king of boxing who defeated Joshua Clottey on Saturday to retain his World Boxing Organization welterweight title.

But who is Sun Tzu? He is an ancient Chinese general and military strategist who wrote "The Art of War". The book talks about a philosophy and successful strategy for war. It bought a copy of his book at the International Spy Museum in Washington, D.C. when I went there to take my oath as a member of the United States Supreme Court bar.

Lawyers must learn four lessons from Pacquiao and Sun Tzu to win in immigration court.

### 1. KNOW THY ENEMY

Sun Tzu said: "If you know the enemy and know yourself you need not fear the results of a hundred battles. If ignorant both of your enemy and yourself, you are certain to be in peril." Pacquiao is not a writing man. But obviously he believes in Sun Tzu. He learns about his opponent by watching videos of him. Thus, he knows his opponent's weaknesses, strengths, and style and knows how to combat them.

In immigration court, your opponent is the lawyer of the Department of Homeland Security. You have to learn about him. Is he smart or a novice. Does he know the law and the exceptions to the law as well as the cases interpreting and applying the law? What is his style?

Tora, tora, tora? Does he give no quarter or is he open to compromise. Most importantly what questions does he usually ask?

When I was new in Hawaii, I visited the immigration court regularly for a number of weeks to learn about the government lawyers and their stroke.

I learned, for example, that in fraud cases where an alien obtains a green card by pretending to be single although married, the DHS lawyer will ask: Where you come from, do people line up to buy tickets for a movie? If the alien says yes, then he will throw him a right cross: Do you believe that it is right or wrong for one to break the line to be ahead of the others? If the alien says it is wrong, then he will hit the alien with an uppercut. So why did you break the line?

In cases involving drugs, the government lawyer will likely set up the alien by asking: You have convicted the government time and money to catch you, put you in jail, feed you, and try you in court. Then he will give the alien a straight to the jaw: Why would it be in the best interest of the United States to keep you here.

The client will be floored if his lawyer does not know the DHS lawyer and his line of attack and did not prepare his client.

### 2. DEVELOP A STRATEGY

Sun Tzu said: "Make strategic plans." Strategy without tactics is the slowest route to victory. Tactics without strategy is the noise before defeat. "Take control of the strategic balance of power and move." All men can see these tactics whereby I conquer, but what none can see is

the strategy out of which victory is evolved."

Manny Pacquiao in a pre-fight interview in Dallas said:

"I don't want to predict the fight, because nobody knows what's going to happen, but we've studied hard for the strategy." USA Today, 03/12/10.

Before going to immigration court, the wise lawyer must develop a strategy. Does he concede all the allegations in the Notice to Appear that the alien is removable. If the lawyer does, then the alien will be subject to removal and all that the lawyer can do is to ask for relief (cancellation of removal) which is discretionary.

Or does the lawyer challenge all of the allegations, including allegations that the alien is not a U.S. citizen and is a citizen of a certain country, which will infuriate the immigration judge if the denial appears frivolous.

Or does the lawyer admit some allegations and deny some. For example, my Caucasian associate and I had a case involving a V visa holder (an alien spouse petitioned by his green card holder wife was admitted to the U.S. to await the availability of the immigrant visa). When he arrived, the immigration officer at the airport gave him a 2-year period of stay so he could adjust his status to that of a lawful permanent resident. When it expired, and I got to not adjust his status, he was placed in removal proceedings for overstaying. The immigration judge asked if I would admit that he was overstaying. I said no. I argued that the immigration officer acted without authority in limiting his stay to 2 years and that he should have given him "duration of status".

When I told my Caucasian associate who was abroad what transpired, he remarked: "Why did you not just concede that the alien was overstaying so that the judge could grant relief. I told him that under the law and the facts he was not overstaying and if I conceded that he

was, I would not be true to my lawyer's oath, the judge could order him removed without giving him relief, and I could be charged with being an ineffective counsel. (I just finished writing a book on ineffective counsel in removal proceedings. Conceding removability when it is not appropriate constitutes ineffective assistance of counsel). Besides, I told my associate, what assurance did we have that the judge would grant relief from removal. We would be at her mercy. We eventually prevailed. The alien is now a green card holder and is awaiting her citizenship interview.

### 3. PREPARATION

Sun Tzu said: "The general who wins the battle makes many calculations in his temple before the battle is fought. The general who loses makes but few calculations beforehand."

Manny does not talk much about preparations. He just prepares. He spends a lot of time training. He watches his diet, preferring lots of rice, chicken soup (tinolang manok), and beef.

To win, the immigration lawyer must practice the client with a prepared script. The lawyer must spend significant amounts of time in the library researching the law and precedent decisions which he can cite before the immigration judge. I go to the two law libraries in Hawaii every week. I have never seen an immigration lawyer there. I check the visitor's log. I have never seen the name of an immigration lawyer. When I remarked about this to a lay person, he said that they must be researching through the internet. Oh yeah? Ask the lawyer if he is using Westlaw or Lexis or both, which are expensive legal research services. I use Westlaw because it is the best. If the lawyer says he uses Google, you are free to laugh. Try Googling "defense for fraudulently entering U.S." It will yield 709,000 entries. Google "fraud waiver". It will yield 2,400,000 en-

tries. Do you think the lawyer will spend hours reviewing that number of entries? On the other hand, if the lawyer goes to the library, he can go straight to the books and read the law and the cases applying it. So if a lawyer claims he does his research entirely via internet, namely, Google, then the research is inadequate or he is bluffing.

### 4. CARRY OUT STRATEGY

Sun Tzu said: "Attack where they are unprepared. Go forth where they will not expect it." A general's actions must be "like the well-timed swoop of a falcon which enables it to strike and destroy its victim."

"We're ready," declared Manny Pacquiao during his pre-fight interview in Dallas. So, when the announcer declared "Ready to rumble" Manny showed he was ready. He struck at his opponent. He threw more than 1,200 punches, an average of more than 100 punches per round, winning every round.

And that is the difference between a mediocre and an excellent immigration lawyer. When the case is called, the excellent immigration lawyer is "ready to rumble." The mediocre lawyer will ask for postponement.

At that point, you can decide whether to keep your lawyer or fire him. In immigration court, "there is no substitute for victory." Defeat means deportation and distress for your client and loved ones. ■

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## PHILIPPINE NEWS

### Comelec: Mikey Can Run

by Mayen **JAYMALIN**  
Thursday, March 25, 2010

**MANILA, Philippines** - **DESPITE THE CONTROVERSY OVER GOVERNMENT-BACKED PARTY-LIST GROUPS**, there is no reason to disqualify Pampanga Rep. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo from the party-list race, the Commission on Elections (Comelec) said yesterday.

Comelec Chairman Jose Melo said President Arroyo's eldest son has served as a representative in Congress and is competent to become a nominee of the party-list group Ang Galing Pinoy (AGP).

"He (Arroyo) is qualified to be a member of Congress," Melo said, noting that his decision to give way to his mother in the congressional race in the second district of Pampanga could not be a basis for disqualification.

The young Arroyo, incumbent representative of the province's second district, is the number one nominee of AGP while the group's second nominee is Dennis Pineda, outgoing mayor of Lubao, Pampanga. Pineda is the son of alleged jueteng lord Bong Pineda.

The President is running for representative of Pampanga's second district after Mikey gave way to her.

Melo explained that the law does not require a sectoral representative to be a member of that specific marginalized sector.

"For example, a group of tricycle drivers need not be represented by a tricycle driver. They can be represented by operators or advocates," Melo pointed out.

"No offense, but a tricycle driver, who probably has not completed elementary or high school education, may not be able to represent the interest of their group in Congress," Melo added.

He lamented that the voters have become personality-oriented in choosing their candidates.

"Sometimes, we are against a certain person not because he is not qualified, but only because of things he said or did," Melo stressed.

Melo said he is personally in favor of allowing qualified people to be nominees of party-list organizations.

Melo admitted that there are some people in the administration that might be using the party-list system as a backdoor to enter Congress, adding that it had happened in the past.

He said the government-backed party, which he declined to identify, was eventually disqualified from the party-list elections.

The Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) asked the Comelec to disqualify Arroyo as a party-list nominee.

Bayan secretary-general Renato Reyes Jr. said if the Comelec accepts Arroyo's nomination, it "will be a serious test of the credibility of the poll body."

"The inclusion of Mikey Arroyo as the first nominee of party-list group Ang Galing Pinoy marks a new low for the party-list system. We maintain that Mikey Arroyo is not eligible to become a party-list nominee," he added.

Reyes claimed that Arroyo does not come from the ranks of the marginalized, thus violating the party-list system.

**COMELEC DRAFTS PARTY-LIST GUIDELINES**

Melo said the Comelec is now drafting guidelines in the selection of party-list nominees but it would still be difficult to screen the

organizations and their nominees.

"Those who completed three terms, but would try to seek a congressional seat through the party-list, will definitely be disqualified, but other than that there is really no hard and fast rules," Melo explained.

Melo said the Comelec is expected to come out with the guidelines by next week and seek written comment from sectors concerned.

But in the absence of strict regulations, Melo said, the Comelec is allowing the voters to make the proper choice.

Liberal Party presidential candidate Sen. Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino III urged the Comelec to adopt tighter rules on the party-list nominees.

Aquino said Rep. Arroyo obviously does not belong to the marginalized sector based on his statement of assets, liabilities and net worth.

Aside from Mikey, his mother President Arroyo and brother Dato are also seeking seats in the House of Representatives. Mrs. Arroyo's second son Dato is seeking to represent the newly created second district of Camarines Sur.

Aquino expressed hopes the Supreme Court would act on his petition to nullify the creation of the new district in Camarines Sur due to the violation of the population requirement.

"The party-list system is reserved for marginalized sectors, which are not represented. If he (Mikey) were going to represent the security guards, we must remember that he had been a congressman for sometime now, but I never heard him become part of that industry. I can't understand why he has to be the representative of that group," Aquino said.

He said it must also be established first whether security guards were being abused in terms of salaries and number of working hours so as to be considered marginalized.

Malacañang appealed to its critics not to single out the Arroyo family on the issue of political dynasties.

Presidential spokesman Ricardo Saludo emphasized that a lot of political families have multiple representatives in Congress and so the President's family should not be the sole target of criticism.

Saludo pointed out that there is nothing illegal about having more than one family member in Congress.

Criticisms about the President and her family being part of a political dynasty recently came up following the disclosure that Mikey Arroyo is the principal nominee of the AGP party-list for Congress.

Other members of the Arroyo family seeking reelection in Congress are Negros Occidental Rep. Ignacio Arroyo, the brother-in-law of the President; Maria Lourdes Arroyo, the sister of First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo, again as nominee of Kasangang party-list.

If they all succeed in their respective bids, there would be five members of the Arroyo clan in Congress.

Former President Joseph Estrada expressed dismay over the abuse of the party-list system.

Estrada, presidential bet of the Pwersa ng Masang Pilipino (PMP), said the objective of the party-list system to ensure that the marginalized sectors would have a voice in the House of Representatives enshrined under the 1987 Constitution has been consistently violated. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com)) ■

# RP to Get \$500M vs Corruption

by Elisa OSORIO /  
Thursday, March 25, 2010

**MANILA, Philippines - THE MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORP. (MCC)** has agreed to provide \$500 million or roughly P2.35 billion in grants to the Philippines for the country's anti-corruption reforms.

Jesus Estanislao, founding chairman of the Institute for Solidarity in Asia (ISA), said the MCC has agreed to give the grant to the Philippines after seeing the reform programs of six government agencies, namely the Department of Education, the Department of Health, the Department of Transportation and Communications, the Department of Public Works and Highways, the Bureau of Internal Revenue, and the Philippine National Police.

The six have been undertaking ISA's Performance Governance System (PGS) to track their performance against a set of goals.

ISA is a civil society group engaged in helping raise the standards of public governance in the Philippines.

Estanislao said President Arroyo is scheduled to sign an agreement with the MCC between April 10 and 12 although the actual date for the funds' release has

yet to be worked out.

Estanislao said that four months ago the Philippines was not qualified for an MCC grant because of serious corruption problems.

Moreover, the World Bank no longer considers the Philippines a low-income country but a medium income country.

This prompted the Philippine government to seek the help of ISA in its effort to put reforms in place.

Estanislao said the ISA has used an anti-corruption program recognized globally to help the country reform and make it qualified for an MCC grant.

The Department of Finance will manage the grant.

Inspired by the worldwide success of the balanced scorecard model developed in Harvard and applied to the corporate sector, the ISA introduced the PGS, a strategic management tool that helps communities channel their energies, abilities and knowledge to pursuing long-term development.

The ISA has working relationships with about 30 cities, including Iloilo, which has already achieved Global Hall of Fame status for implementing a balanced scorecard. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com)) ■



# Immigration Bureau to Implement Stick-On Visa

by Evelyn MACAIRAN /  
Thursday, March 25, 2010

**MANILA, Philippines - FAKE IMMIGRATION STAMPS WILL SOON** be a thing of the past as the Bureau of Immigration announced yesterday its plan to implement a stick-on visa for foreigners arriving in the country.

Immigration Commissioner Marcelino Libanan said in his remarks welcoming newly-installed Justice Secretary Alberto Agra when he later visited the BI main office in Intramuros, Manila Tuesday. Libanan informed Agra that the implementation of the stick-on visa will lead to an increase in the bureau's revenues by as much as 10 to 20 percent. More importantly, he said the introduction of the stickers will cripple the activities of members of fraud syndicates who make a living faking immigration stamps on the pas-

ports of unsuspecting foreigners.

Ferdinand Arbas, technical staff head of the office of the BI commissioner, said that they would be introducing "stick-on visa" to replace the rubber stamps on passports which are easily imitated by syndicates loitering outside the BI premises.

"These stickers have security features such as barcodes and hologram that would make it more difficult for the syndicates to duplicate and use in their illegal trade," said Arbas.

Presently, immigration officers at the airports use rubber stamps in indicating the arrival and departure of international travelers on their passports.

Libanan also bared that the bureau has lined up various innovations and reforms to be implemented in the coming days.

The BI chief also sought

Agra's support for the passage of the new Philippine Immigration Act, which is awaiting ratification by both houses of Congress.

For his part, Agra promised to support the programs of the BI even as he lauded the bureau for becoming one of government's most efficient and service-oriented agencies.

"Like my predecessors, I'm also all praises for the achievements of the BI under Commissioner Libanan. Though my stint as DOJ Secretary will be short, there are still many collaborative undertakings in the DOJ family that we can work on together," Agra said.

Agra, ex-Solicitor General, replaced former Justice Secretary Agnes Devanadera who quit her post recently to run for Congress in her home province of Quezon.

([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com)) ■

# CBCP: Clergy May Join Revolt

by Paolo ROMERO /  
Thursday, March 25, 2010

**MANILA, Philippines - A RANKING OFFICIAL OF THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF THE PHILIPPINES (CBCP)** said yesterday some members of the clergy are planning to join another popular revolt in the event of a failure of elections.

Calocan Bishop Deogracias Iniguez, CBCP Public Affairs Committee chairman, said a failure of elections where no president is proclaimed would force people to take to the streets.

"This (event) is one of those instances when the people would need guidance (from us)," Iniguez said.

Iniguez clarified that it is up to each member of the CBCP to decide whether to join such protest actions.

Iniguez said the statements made by Malacañang officials in playing up the scenario of a military takeover in the event of scuttled elections are not helping President Arroyo.

Iniguez appealed to the Commission on Elections (Comelec) to exert all effort to ensure that the elections on May 10 would be clean and peaceful.

Comelec Chairman Jose Melo called on critics to stop discussing a scenario that he said will never happen.

"Let us not talk about failure of elections. There will be elections nationwide," Melo said.

Melo noted that talk of a failure of elections snowballed following the pronouncement



Bishop Deogracias Iniguez

of deputy presidential spokesperson Charito Planas, who played up the possibility of a military junta taking over the government if elections fall through.

Melo said the declaration of failure of elections occurs only in isolated cases, such as in areas where violence prevents the people from casting their votes.

"Failure of elections happens for reasons that cannot be controlled like when there is violence and the people opted not to go out and vote," Melo explained.

Melo said such a scenario occurring on a nationwide scale was highly improbable because the elections on May 10 would be fully automated.

Commissioner Rene Sarmiento earlier advised the public to simply go out and vote on May 10 to defeat the possibility of a failure of elections.

"Even if all the precinct count optical scan (PCOS) machines did not work on Election Day - which is impossible - elections will still occur if the voters showed up and voted... these ballots can still be appreciated and counted manually, just like in the past elections," Sarmiento explained.

Under the Omnibus Election Code, the Comelec can only declare a failure of elections if the voters are not able to cast their votes due to forces beyond their control like earthquake, tsunami, terrorist attack or other violent incidents. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com)) ■

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# PHILIPPINE NEWS

## Noynoy Eyes Street Protests vs Supreme Court Ruling

by Aurea CALICA/  
Wednesday, March 24, 2010

ALAMINOS CITY, Pangasinan - **LIBERAL PARTY (LP) PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE** Sen. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III said he is prepared to take to the streets to protest a Supreme Court ruling allowing President Arroyo to appoint the next chief justice despite an election ban on midnight appointments.

"That is one of the avenues we are exploring, but there are others. But the other avenues have to wait for the composition of the new Congress so the chief justice can be impeached," Aquino said.

"I was the first to question the midnight appointment of a chief justice and I was criticized from the very beginning, when they were just floating the idea. But our position has not changed. We think it is a wrong decision," Aquino said.

Aquino had said that if elected president, he would not recognize the appointee of Mrs. Arroyo. He said the next Congress may impeach an illegally appointed chief justice.

He said LP lawyers decided not to appeal the SC decision because a belated intervention like what the Nacionalista Party (NP) did might no longer be given credence by the High Court.

"We are helping those who already filed the appropriate petition and also help by means of moral support," Aquino said.

LP senatorial bet Franklin Drilon said NP's filing of a motion for reconsideration was "a welcome move but a little too late."

"People might perceive the move of the Nacionalista Party as riding on the issue. That could be

the perception," Drilon said.

### NO BALLS

The NP, meanwhile, scored the LP for belittling its filing of an appeal.

"Ang kapal naman ng mga mukha nila (it's shameless for them) to say that the filing was pure gimmick. They only have the gall to say that because unlike me, they haven't done anything concrete in defending the rights of all Filipinos," lawyer and NP senatorial candidate Adel Tamano said.

"They don't have the balls. All they do is talk. That's all they're good at. They have mastered the art of pure talk," Tamano said. "Do something solid. Don't just complain."

He said he found LP's reaction befuddling considering that his motion for reconsideration was meant to benefit Filipinos.

"(This) only goes to show who you really is sincere in serving the country," Tamano said. "The Liberal Party says that they're part of the opposition and yet they're not doing anything that could stop PGMA in appointing someone as chief justice, which is such a crucial role," he said.

He pointed out that allowing the President to make an appointment despite the ban would send a wrong signal to Filipinos.

"Not only does it undermine judicial independence, it also destroys the image of the judiciary. Kawawa naman ang (Poor) Liberal Party if they don't understand this," Tamano explained.

"It is my fervent hope that you will come to realize that the Constitution should be upheld at all times," said Tamano, a constitutional law professor and the first Filipino-Muslim scholar-graduate of Harvard Law School.

Tamano led the NP senatorial bets in filing a motion for reconsideration last Monday.

They stressed in their petition that under Article VII Section 15 of the Constitution, there is no exception for appointments in the judiciary.

They also argued that the recent SC ruling was in contrast with a 1998 decision on the Villarta and Valenzuela case, which barred the President then from appointing members of the judiciary within the period covered by the ban. The ban starts two months or 60 days before the elections and runs until June 30.

### NOT SURPRISED

Malacañang said it was not surprised by NP's filing of a motion for reconsideration.

"This is not at all surprising because these senatorial candidates are part of one of the opposition parties. They belong to one of the opposition parties so their action is certainly understandable within the context of campaign politics," deputy presidential spokesman Garry Olivar said.

Olivar lamented that the argument raised by the opposition resulted more around political issues than legal ones.

The opposition has claimed that the SC's decision is part of a bigger plan to make the May 10 elections fail and justify Mrs. Arroyo's holding on to power beyond June 30.

### PEOPLE POWER?

Aquino said subverting the wish of Filipinos for a peaceful transition of power might trigger another popular uprising.

"If they feel their will has been thwarted, I am sure they will again retake the sovereignty unto themselves," Aquino said.

But he stressed it might be premature to entertain people power at



the moment.

"It's up to the Comelec (Commission on Elections) whose responsibility is to run the elections and to make the process meaningful, worthwhile and reflective," he said.

"Mahiya sila (They should be ashamed), after nine and a half years they cannot manage a peaceful transition," Aquino told reporters after a mass oath taking of new LP members here.

"If you design a situation of instability, you are playing with the lives of 95 million people. This is not about rumors, this is about the lives of people," he said.

"We should be making their lives better and not put (their future) at risk," Aquino added.

He said recent developments had been sending "mixed and very dangerous signals" to Filipinos.

He called on the administration to "promote the idea that we are a stable country and (will have) peaceful transition of governance."

"Speculations are unnecessary for our people already suffering (from) power shortages and so many other things. And they have barely recovered from (tropical storm) 'Ondoy' and (typhoon) 'Pepeyng,'" Aquino said.

For Akbayan Rep. Risa Hontiveros and another LP senatorial candidate Martin Bautista, there is still hope for Mrs. Arroyo to redeem herself.

"Redemption is still possible. It is not too late. Mrs. Arroyo, don't run

for congresswoman of Pampanga, and don't (name the next chief justice)," Bautista said.

Hontiveros said Mrs. Arroyo should also have missing activist Jonas Burgos surface and be reunited with his mother. Burgos, son of press freedom icon Joe Burgos, has been missing since 2008 after being abducted by unidentified men in a busy mall.

"If we believe there is truly a resurrection in Easter, let us hope she will regain her moment of sanity, as in 2002 when she admitted she was a divisive force and said she would not run for election," Hontiveros said.

Bautista said Mrs. Arroyo was innately good, having been a graduate of a Catholic school in the Philippines and a Jesuit university in the United States.

"Your effectiveness as leader is inversely proportional to your stay in office," Bautista said.

Meanwhile, Malacañang lashed out at Aquino for raising the scenario of people power in case of failure of elections, saying he and other opposition leaders "appear to have developed an unfortunate addiction to Edsa adventurism."

"It's no longer people power we're talking about here. It's nothing but a naked threat of power grab in case the voters turn them down at the polls," Olivar said.

He said Filipinos have grown tired of "unconstitutional shortcuts no matter how well-intentioned." ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com)) ■

## Villar, Roxas Top UP Mock Presidential Polls

by Michael PUNONGBAYAN/  
Wednesday, March 24, 2010

MANILA, Philippines - **NACIONALISTA PARTY (NP) PRESIDENTIAL BET** Sen. Manuel Villar Jr. topped the third and final mock elections among students of the University of the Philippines Diliman campus in Quezon City.

Villar garnered 2,866 votes or 33.8 percent of the total votes cast by 8,468 students from 25 different colleges in the mock polls conducted by the Alpha Sigma Fraternity's Bolong ng Iskolang ng Bayan.

Liberal Party (LP) standard-bearer Sen. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III garnered 1,787 votes, or 21.1 percent, a difference of 12.7 percentage points.

Bagumbayan presidential bet

Sen. Richard Gordon came in third with 1,317 votes or 15.5 percent while administration candidate Gilbert Teodoro, who topped the last mock election, dropped to fourth place with 646 votes or 7.6 percent of the total votes cast.

The students were asked, "If elections were held today, (whom) would you vote for president and vice president?"

Alpha Sigma explained the difference in the results of the three mock polls was attributed to how voters are yet to make a final decision on who they would vote for on May 10.

Villar is an alumnus of UP Diliman, particularly the College of Business Administration where he



Manny Villar (left) and Mar Roxas

earned his bachelor's and a master's degrees.

In the first leg of the mock elections held in September 2009, Villar placed second while he placed third in the December 2009 leg.

The third and final polls held from March 20 to 16 showed a totally different result.

In the polls for the vice presidential candidate, Sen. Manuel "Mar" Roxas of the Liberal Party topped the list with 2,918 votes or 34.46 percent. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com)) ■

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# LEGAL NOTES

## New Changes Affecting H-1B Petitions



by Reuben S. SEGURITAN

sites. Although the demand for H-1B visas last year was not as high as in the prior years, early filing is recommended. Last year was not a good year for businesses that hired H-1B workers and this was one of the reasons why the cap was not reached until December 21, 2009. This year, the economic situation has improved so that the cap is expected to be reached early.

H-1B is a non-immigrant visa category for temporary workers in specially occupations such as accountants, architects, engineers, computer and information technology specialists and teachers. It requires as a minimum a bachelor's degree or its equivalent.

There are several recent changes that employers should be aware of when filing H-1B petitions. The required Labor Condition Ap-

plication (LCA) approval can no longer be obtained in one day. LCAs are now filed through the newly established iCert online system of the U.S. Department of Labor. Under the iCert, it takes at least seven (7) days to get it approved.

The LCA contains attestations by the employer regarding the proposed employment such as work location, period of employment and rate of payment which must be the prevailing wage or actual wage, whichever is higher. The LCA can be filed no earlier than six (6) months before the date of the intended employment.

Since there may be delays in the processing of the LCAs, it is advisable to submit the application early. It is important that all entries in the form are correct, particu-

larly the Federal Employer ID Number (FEIN) of the petitioning employer. Inaccurate completion may result in outright rejection or denial.

Another recent change stems from a new United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) memo that makes it harder to secure H-1B for staffing firms such as healthcare and computer consulting firms that hire professionals to work at third-party sites. The memo requires the employers to show that they have control over the day-to-day tasks of the employees.

Corporations substantially owned by a prospective H-B beneficiary would be restricted to petition for an H-1B on behalf of its owner-beneficiary because presumably, the beneficiary and not the corporation would have control over his/her

own work.

If the numerical cap is met during the first five business days of the H-1B filing period, the USCIS resorts to a random lottery of qualified petitions; otherwise, it will continue to accept petitions until the H-1B caps are met.

Exempted from the H-1B cap are petitions filed by institutions of higher education or related or affiliated non-profit entities or non-profit research organizations or governmental research organizations. Also exempted are petitions for extensions of stay, change in terms of employment for current H-1B workers and concurrent employment in a second H-1B position. ■

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](http://www.seguritan.com)

**A**pril 1, the first day for filing H-1B petitions for Fiscal Year 2011 that starts on October 1, 2010, is fast approaching. By now, employers that wish to hire highly skilled workers in specialty occupations should have gathered all their required documents.

There is a yearly cap of 65,000 and another 20,000 for those with master's degrees from U.S. univer-

# MAINLAND NEWS

## Pinay Boxing Champ Guns for Third Title

**TWO-TIME WORLD BOXING CHAMPION ANA "THE HURRICANE" JULATON** will travel north of the border to fight fourth-time world champion Lisa "Bad News" Brown of Canada for the vacant WBA junior featherweight title on March 27, 2010 in Ontario, Canada.



Julaton, who hails from Northern California, holds a 6-1-1 record. She faces a seasoned opponent in Brown (16-4-3) who has fought more than 150 rounds professionally, including bouts against numerous world champions such as Melissa Hernandez, Alicia Ashley and Sharon Anyos. For Julaton, fighting the left-handed Brown poses a big challenge.

"Lisa is an elite world champion," Julaton says. "I haven't fought a southpaw yet. In amateurs, I fought a couple of south-

paws."

Trainer Nonito Donaire Sr. vows to have the Filipina boxer ready for her southpaw opponent.

Julaton beat Kelsey Jeffries for the IBA junior featherweight title in August 2009 and then beat Donna Biggers four months later for the vacant WBO junior featherweight title. While the WBA title is among her goals, she also seeks to boost interest for female prizefighters.

"I don't think I can do it by myself, but I'm just trying to do what I can," Julaton says. "The more the other female fighters can promote themselves and be successful,

they'll be able to cross over in America. It's going to take a lot but it's like that in any sport."

Recently, her management team has been able to acquire Philippine television interest. Julaton could have remained in the San Francisco Bay area where

she would always be a main attraction and fill up arenas, but she decided to create interest by fighting another world champion.

"It's put a lot more focus into my training," she says. "It's definitely become a huge responsibility. You hear all these comments and praises and don't want to let people down. I feel blessed to even experience something like this." ■

## Pinoys Join Rally to Press for US Immigration Reform

by Jose KATIGBAK  
Thursday, March 25, 2010

**WASHINGTON - FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION** was in full bloom on the first day of spring in the US Capitol on Sunday as tens of thousands of people including Filipino community leaders demonstrated in front of the White House, across Capitol Hill and on the National Mall for or against a variety of causes.

As the nation awaited a historic House vote on a comprehensive health care overhaul, protesters shouted at legislators to "kill the bill," a sea of immigrants on the mall demanded immigration reform and other demonstrators marched close to the White House calling for the pullout of US troops from Iraq and Afghanistan.

President Barack Obama, in a message to immigration reform advocates, said he would do his best to get it done this year because the cost of inaction would be more problems.

But that might be an empty promise because the last thing he

needs now is another contentious issue with midterm elections in November looming, analysts said.

They said the elections could change the political landscape now dominated by Democrats, depending on voters' reaction to health care legislation which the House approved just before midnight by a slim margin.

Obama's videotaped message was played on giant TV screens at the National Mall, a grassy lawn that extends from the Congress building to the Lincoln Memorial about a mile away as demonstrators marched by, shouting "Legalization yes, deportation no."

About 12 million people are in the US illegally, including an estimated 150,000 to 200,000 overstaying Filipinos, and they could be eligible for permanent resident cards, more popularly known as "Green cards," under the proposed immigration reform.

But more importantly, especially for Filipinos who are in the

country legally or who have become naturalized citizens, is the proposal to speed up family reunification.

There are about 2.5 million Filipinos or Filipino-Americans who live in the United States and many are unable to get their adult children or siblings to join them because of an immigration backlog.

Naturalized Americans who petition for their siblings generally have to wait 11 years in order to be reunited with them. For some countries such as the Philippines, the waiting period is as long as 23 years due to high demand by Filipinos for immigrant visas to the United States, immigration lawyers said.

After a week-long drama on health care which forced Obama to twice postpone his trip to Indonesia and Australia, the House approved legislation that would extend coverage to 32 million uninsured Americans and cost \$940 billion over 10 years.

The bill also bans insurers from denying coverage on the basis of pre-existing medical conditions. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com)) ■

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# PHILIPPINE LANGUAGE

## Tumipontayo Iti Naragsak A Goodwill Trip ni Miss Hawaii Filipina Celina I



### ILOKO

by Amado I. YORO

#### NTAYON KUMUYOGF ITI MISS HAWAII FILIPINA GOODWILL TRIP TO THE PHILIPPINES

Wen, mayaw-awis ti mairubrubuat a panagibahe ti Miss Hawaii Filipina Celina Macadang-dang Hayashi ti umuna a gundaway a panagpa-Filipinasna ti Marso 20 agatingna iti Abril 3, 2010.

Paset ti ganggona ti reyna daytoy a panagbakasion kas gunggona iti UFCH Fiesta Filipina Scholarship Pageant. Ti ReyCel Travel ti mangisagana iti itenerayna.

Dumagasda iti Manila, Makati, maangay ti press conference ken panangrabii. Malaksid a pasiarenda ti Metro Manila, samarungkar pay ti grupo iti opisina Bannawag ken Liwayway. Kangrunaan a pasiarenda ti Wowwoeee iti ABS-CBN ken mayasanto a pangrabii iti siudad ti Quezon. Ti Kailokuan, maniyor iti Laoag City, sabten ni Mayor Nico De Cruz iti Bacarra nga ili a nagrumagan dagiti Macadangdang ket mapanda iti balay ti iii ken sangailian ti ama ti ii - Mayor Nico De Cruz.

Sarungkaranda pay ti gobernador ti probinsia - Governor Keon, sadanto pasiaeren ti Fort Ilokandia. Panggedpa pay a sarungkarang Marcos Museum a nakadiluan ni bangkay ni nagpresidente Ferdinand E. Marcos. Dagiti luglugar a sarungkarang ni Miss Hawaii Filipina ken ti grupona, mairaman ti Vigan City, Kalibo, Boracay, Marco Polo, Cebu, Mactan, Tagbilaran, ken dadduma pay.

Ni Celina Macadangdang Hayashi ti agdarna a Miss Hawaii Filipina 2009-2010, anak da Mr. ken Mrs. Agnes Macadangdang Hayashi, dati a Miss Maui Filipina, deputy director of Finance iti Maui County, ken anak ni Apo Sakada Pedro Macadangdang, Papias, Bacarra ken Remigia Macadangdang, Isabela.

Kangrunaan a pagbakasionan ni Celina iti Filipina ken Ilokandia iti panangkitana mismo iti nagrumagan ti ramutna. Dayaw kenkuana ti naisaada a balangkas Ambassador of Goodwill, iti nagan ti UFCH ken iti sibubukel a komunidad Filipino.

====00000====

#### TUNOS UFCH NEWSLETTER, RIMMUAREN TI BORO NGA ISYUNA

Newly born UFCH Newsletter, Tunos [United] [Pagkakaaisa]

Inuranya nga ininaw ken im-

pasngay ti 'ina' ken 'madrona' ken sinuportaran ti UFCH Newsletter committee nga ipanguluan yo nagsurat ken ni UFCH President Eddie Agas, Sr., ken dadduma pay ti nabayagan nga isagsagana ti Committee sipud pay idi Agosto 2009.

Kunami a 'innag' ti langit' daytoy maysa nga aktibo nga opisial iti DWLCLAAH, ni Fe Velasco, tubo ti Bacarra, Ilocos Norte, ka kalpasan wenno kabayatan nga agbiribokkami iti kaduami iti Editorial, ninguan ni Velasco ti agtalunton kadagiti namunganganan nga impormasion ken pakabulkan ti UFCH. Gapu ta dakami ti Membership, Golden Book Project ken Newsletter Committee chairman, intedmi dagiti impormasion a dawdawtanna. Iti maysa kadagiti email, makapabang-ar rikna ti draft a pakabulkan ti warnakan ti Konseho.

TUNOS, itakderna ti Taknang, Urnos, Nabig, Oras ken Saranay wenno Saguday ni Filipino.

Aglaon iti dardamag, kalendario dagiti pasamaken ti komunidad, mensahe ti presidente, sinurat ken artikulo a pakainangan ti komunidad a Filipino, dagiti agtutubo ken dadduma pay a maisurat iti man English, Iloko, Tagalog, Bisaya, ken dadduma a pagasasao ni Filipino.

Silulukat kadagiti amin a kameng iti United Filipino Council of Hawaii, kas iti Oahu, Maui, Kauai, Big Island, Molokai ken Lanai Councils ken dagiti unit organiza-

tions iti sakupda.

Rummur daytoy a warnakan iti tunggal dua a bulan. Raemen, respetuennem dagiti komento pabor ken saan. Makapangalagat ken makalukat lapagay dagiti saan a mapnek iti pannakaisangna iti dalikan dagiti kosinero a karagpin ti pannakapagbassit ti nagluto. Ngem iti sabali a bangir, makapatibker-nakem dagiti agiray ken pabor iti 'nasaysayaat nga adda mairugi na maaraming ngem ti agdarna a kastyo koma ti saoda, ngem dagiti ima ket nakadalikep ken agpating-

gana iti awan magapuanan gapu iti panangkilikda nga agbidud.

Patenni, saanni a matumpongan amin a pagayatan ken paggugustan ti kaaduan, ngem iti baet ti kinairperpekto dagiti yo newsletter, aramidnem amin a kabaelamni a mangpasayaat, babaen iti suporta ken pannakaawat, kaykayamni nga adda maaramindam ngem ti pulos nga awan makitami nga aramid, kayamni nga adda dur-asan, a saan la a sao. Tay pagasasao: "Uray matayon ni mannanin, agtalinaad a sibbig dagiti daninwa". ■

## GLOBAL NEWS — RP to Help Afghanistan on Engineers, Technicians, Development Experts

by Pia LEE-BRAGO

Thursday, March 25, 2010

MANILA, Philippines - **THE PHILIPPINES IS READY TO HELP AFGHANISTAN** with its need for engineers and technicians, particularly in the health sector, and more development experts.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Alberto Romulo made this statement during a bilateral meeting with Afghan Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Zalmai Rassoul at the sidelines of the Special Non-Aligned Movement Ministerial Meeting (SNAMMM) on Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation for Peace and Development on Thursday at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC).

During the meeting, Rassoul also briefed Romulo on developments in Afghanistan, including his country's need for engineers and technicians.

Expressing support for Afghanistan's efforts against religious extremism and violence, Romulo told Rassoul, "We are one with you."

Romulo stressed that the success of an interfaith dialogue depends on countries like Afghanistan whose initiatives foster trust and understanding and combat ignorance.

Despite the Philippine government's deployment ban, the government said the number of overseas Filipino workers in Afghanistan has reached close to 1,500.

Reports said there are about 500 OFWs in Kabul and around 1,000 in Southern Afghanistan.

The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) reiterated its advisory to the public not to travel to or seek employment in Afghanistan due to the unstable and volatile security situation in the country

After 25 years of various con-

licts, and parallel to the rebuilding of political and societal institutions of the state, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan said the country is in the process of rebuilding physical infrastructure and economic foundations.

There have been remarkable achievements in the fields of reconstruction and development but the Foreign Ministry said there have been few reports about these.

Since the collapse of the Taliban regime, the Ministry said Afghanistan's national economy is growing steadily with the support of international partners.

Meantime, interfaith dialogue and the need for a lasting peace in the Middle East were discussed during a bilateral meeting between Romulo and Syrian Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Fayssal Mikdad at the sidelines of the SNAMMM.

"Syria is a model for interfaith dialogue, as it shows how it is open to different religions and how different faiths can live together in harmony," Romulo said.

Mikdad said peace can also be achieved through interfaith dialogue and Syria is taking concrete steps towards achieving a lasting peace in the Middle East through brokering peace agreements with the different countries.

Romulo also met with Serbian Foreign Minister Vuk Jeremic.

It is the first time a Serbian Foreign Minister visited the Philippines. Jeremic expressed his appreciation for the warm welcome he received from Filipinos and lauded the Philippines' efforts in hosting the SNAMMM and pushing for interfaith dialogue.

He said Serbia plans to host a similar NAM ministerial meeting next year in Belgrade to mark the 50th anniversary of a NAM conference held in the Serbian capital.

(www.philstar.com) ■

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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and renovations (parade, booth and food vendors), please call the FilCom Center at 680-0451

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# GLOBAL NEWS

## Filipinos Urged to Turn Off Lights on Earth Hour

by Poolo ROMERO/  
Thursday, March 25, 2010

MANILA, Philippines - WITH AN ALL-TIME HIGH OF 650 TOWNS AND CITIES voluntarily turning off lights last year, Environment Secretary Horacio Ramos called on all Filipinos to again be part of Earth Hour on Saturday.

"We have the power of numbers," he said in a statement issued yesterday, noting that although constituting only about one percent of the world's population of 6.8 billion, "90 million Filipinos, by being good environmental citizens, can make an impact on this side of the biosphere."

Ramos urged Filipinos to again switch off their lights at exactly 8:30 p.m. on March 27, simultaneously with other people across the globe, to trumpet pleas for people to start mending their wasteful ways and save Planet Earth.

The choice Filipinos will make

on Saturday will underscore the seriousness of climate change now occurring in many parts of the world, he said.

"Once more we mark with the world the coming of Earth Hour... responding to Planet Earth's need for a respite from suffocation," Ramos said.

Last year, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) said out of 88 countries with different time zones, the Philippines was top participant in the event with more than 15 million Filipinos voluntarily saving energy.

The country saved around 611 megawatt-hours of electricity in 2009, "equivalent to shutting down a dozen coal-fired power plants for 60 minutes."

Calling the feat "not enough," Ramos sought Filipinos' solidarity on Earth Hour 2010 to carry it out "on a daily basis... in our homes, our communities and our organizations."

He noted that many parts of



the country are experiencing power outages because of the shortage in hydroelectric power generation induced by El Niño.

"Yet El Niño itself is a reminder that we should reduce our carbon footprint and rebuild our carbon sinks, particularly our forests, to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere - the carbon dioxide which, with other greenhouse gases, has brought about global warming," he said.

Started in Australia in 2007, the Philippines was third in participation among nations, with 309 towns and cities joining the event.

Greece placed second with 484 participating towns and cities. (www.philstar.com) ■

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