

HAWAII FILIPINO CHRONICLE

HAWAII'S #1 FILIPINO NEWSPAPER

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EDITORIAL

PMAH Launches New Medical Mission Group

Enough good things cannot be said of our Filipino doctors who have proven themselves time and again as forward thinking, broad-minded visionaries. They are true philanthropists in every sense, working tirelessly to serve others without any expectation of reward or recognition. They see a need and then work quietly behind the scenes to fill that need.

Such is the case for PMAH's latest project—the Ohana Medical Mission. Its formation was necessitated by the success of the larger and venerable Aloha Medical Mission (AMM). Founded also by Filipino doctors, the AMM has grown exponentially over the years. So much so that its missions have expanded to other impoverished Third World throughout Asia and the Pacific. To ensure that the Philippines will continue to have a dedicated outreach medical mission, PMAH members thusly formed the Ohana Medical Mission.

The first Ohana Medical Mission was held in Santiago City in the province of Isabela, in the Northern Philippines during September 2009. The five-day mission was held without much fanfare or publicity, yet the efforts of the small group of medical volunteers forever touched the lives of thousands of needy patients.

An induction ceremony for PMAH's new set of officers was held recently, with Dr. Mary May Ablan elected new PMAH president and Dr. Elenita Alvarez as new president of the Ohana Medical Mission. Congratulations to these two outstanding physicians for their willingness to serve.

Locally, the new Ohana Medical Mission complements the efforts of Bayanihan Clinic Without Walls, another organization conceived by the PMAH to address the health needs of immigrants in Hawaii, most of whom are Filipinos. The group's reach does not end there. PMAH has other local projects in the 50th State, including the Medical Scholarship Program and Waianae Care Project. And to assist the next generation of young Filipino doctors, PMAH's Philippine Medical Student Association encourages, supports and motivates their options in the healthcare industry.

We commend the PMAH for the good work they've done and will continue to do. Best wishes to this remarkable group for continued success!

Civil Unions to Influence Gubernatorial Election

Make no mistake about it—civil unions will be a hotly contested issue in the upcoming election for governor. Sure, there are the usual issues to consider like the economy, education and jobs but in recent memory, no other topic has galvanized Hawaii's voters and brought them in droves to the polls as much as the same sex marriage debate.

The three leading gubernatorial candidates have made their positions known on the hot button issue. Neil Abercrombie supports civil unions and says that he would have signed House Bill 444, which was vetoed by Gov. Linda Lingle last month. That bill would have given same-sex and heterosexual couples the same rights, benefits and responsibilities as marriage under state law.

If he were governor, Mufi Hannemann says he too would have vetoed HB 444. If elected, he is willing to work with the Legislature on expanding the state's reciprocal beneficiaries law to give gay couples additional benefits. But if unable to reach an agreement, he supports putting the issue before voters. The third candidate, Republican Duke Aiona, opposes civil unions and prefers a constitutional amendment that would define marriage once and for all.

FROM THE PUBLISHER



Aloha and welcome to the latest and greatest issue of the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle—the Aloha State's leading Filipino community newspaper. For students, the end of summer means the start of a new school year. We wish all of you students the very best and encourage you to study hard. For those parents who commute to town, enjoy the nice traffic while you can. Gridlock will return when University of Hawaii students resume classes in a few weeks.



Speaking of gridlock, the Filipino community has been engaged in lively political discussion for the past few months. The debate began when Mufi Hannemann omitted former Ben Cayetano's name from a list of previous Democratic governors from Kalihui during his speech at the Democratic Convention last May. The omission apparently touched a raw nerve within some people in the Filipino community. So much so that it caused supporters from both gubernatorial candidates' campaigns to submit editorial letters and articles to the Chronicle—something which Filipinos are not known to do. We like to look at it as a positive sign that Filipinos will no longer take controversial remarks laying down but will readily respond to what they perceive to be negative comments.

For this issue's cover story, contributing writer Gregory Bren Garcia introduces us to the Philippine Medical Association of Hawaii's (PMAH) latest project—the Ohana Medical Mission. The OMM fills the need for regular, dedicated missions of mercy to the Philippines and its impoverished residents. The OMM was needed since the Aloha Medical Mission, which was also founded and led by Filipino doctors, has expanded its global reach to include countries beyond the Philippines' borders. Please read more on the OMM beginning on page 4. On a related note, members of Doctors-On-Stage will perform a musical production on October 9, 2010 at the Fil-Com Center as a fundraiser for the Bayanihan Clinic Without Walls (BCWW), another PMAH humanitarian project. The festive fundraiser will include dinner and a show. Stay tuned for further details. Remember, you heard it first here at the Chronicle!

As for local Filipino news, the Congress of Visayan Organizations (COVO) will be holding its 23rd Annual Convention and 5th Lapu-Lapu Awards ceremony on August 14, 2010. The convention includes a panel discussion on "Youth and Political Participation." Gubernatorial candidates Mufi Hannemann and Neil Abercrombie are expected to attend and deliver remarks at the events. We hope that you will make plans to attend both the convention and awards ceremony.

In closing, we have included other articles of interest in this issue, such as Immigration Guide (page 7), Family Corner (page 12), Legal Notes (page 13) and Philippine Language (page 14). Thank you for faithfully supporting the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle. Our staff is dedicated to providing our readers with informative and timely stories in each and every issue, so please feel free to contact us at: filipinochronicle@gmail.com if you have ideas, concerns or questions regarding Hawaii's Filipino community.

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

Chona A. Montesinos-Sonido

Aiona, a staunch Catholic, has the support of conservatives and religious groups. These religious conservatives may want to consider crossing over to vote Democrat in the September Primary—and cast their vote for none other than Abercrombie. But why the liberal candidate, who has been endorsed by the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Caucus?

Well, in a head-to-head match-up, the lieutenant governor stands a much better chance against the former congressman, especially when the controversial civil unions issue is factored in. The Primary Election will be contentious and divisive. Hannemann's supporters, particularly those who agree with the former mayor's stance on civil unions, would more likely vote for Aiona instead of Abercrombie.

But in a straight up race against Hannemann, Aiona appears to be the decided underdog. We think voting for the liberal Abercrombie in the Primary Election would be a bitter pill for Aiona to swallow, but it is a strategy that would give conservative the best chance of winning come November.

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OPINION

Arroyo Old Defenders Are Truth Body's Detractors

GTCHA By Jarius Bondoc

Militants need not fret that the atrocities of the Arroyo admin are not among the Truth Commission's investigative assignments. Even without that special body, an agency is gearing up to solve the hundreds of killings and abductions of student, labor and peasant activists. That agency is none other than the NBI.

New NBI director Magtanggol Gatdula believes that the force should have poked its nose from the start into the systematic slaughter of leftists. Since its inception the NBI has always specialized in investigating crimes too big for the local police to handle. Even with the Constabulary's parallel Criminal Investigation Service, the NBI took on lurid murders, kidnappings and bank robberies. The Constabulary has

since become the National Police, and CIS the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group. Local cops have become crime-scene savvy. These should have impelled the NBI to further upgrade skills and equipment to fight modern-day crimes like narco-trafficking and cyber-fraud. Instead, however, the brass turned to "fighting" vice — nude beerhouse dancers and petty sakla gambling. Meaning, they dropped crime solving in favor of vice racketeering.

All this must change. A retired National Police general, Gatdula intends to lead the NBI back to its old glory as the premiere law enforcement agency. This he will do, he says, by helping career NBI agents find their mission in the new situation. And, of course, no more protection rackets.

Success has many parents. In the wake of the government's victory in the lawsuits over the

NAIA Terminal-3, a number of peripheral players are claiming credit. But the true heroes are those who gave or risked their lives to free RP from the onerous Piatco-Fraport deal. I already mentioned last Monday assassinated Judge Hendrick Guingoyon, and Assistant Solicitor General Nestor Balocillo and son; and the nearly slain Atty. Jose Bernas. There are also those who defied death threats and blandishments to testify in Washington and Singapore at their own expense. One of them is Gloria Tan Climaco, who as presidential adviser on flagship projects unearthed the bribery under the Arroyo admin. And there are the silent workers at the Office of the Solicitor General, Jane Yu and Jo Arias, under ex-boss Alfredo Benipayo. Plus a handful of other public servants, and pro bono private lawyers and researchers.

Also Monday I misnamed the RP government counsel who resigned the case midway for health reasons. It was ex-

Justice Florentino Feliciano, not Regalado. My apologies for the confusion.

As expected the noisiest defenders of Gloria Arroyo are the loudest detractors of the Truth Commission to probe her plunder. Their chief claim is that the TC usurps the powers of the regular investigative Ombudsman. Too, that it unconstitutionally springs from mere presidential edict and not congressional enactment. Of course, the critics gloss over their idol Arroyo's own creation by executive fiat of special probe bodies. It's not so much because Arroyo ignored the findings of her Feliciano Commission against military corruption and Melo Commission against extrajudicial killings, and hid her Mayuga Commission's report on poll rigging. They just believe perhaps that Filipinos' memories are too short.

To their insouciance Noynoy Aquino staidly replies that they take their beef to court. The critics should be glad that a Presi-

dent who enjoys an 88-percent trust rating prefers to argue his case in a legal forum. Aquino can opt to use the awesome powers of his office and an 87-percent majority control of the House of Reps to have his way. As Commander-in-Chief he can carry out a military-like gathering of evidence and testimonies. But he is so unlike Arroyo, who despite a 70-percent distrust rating still packed the Judiciary with loyalists, including mid-night appointees. In fact, it is because of the dysfunctional Ombudsman and shifty courts that Arroyo led behind why Aquino formed the TC. For Arroyo's attack dogs to now assail the TC is to force Aquino's hand into doing something more drastic.

Perhaps Aquino should mull just that. Filipinos voted him into office, with a 42-percent margin against eight contenders, precisely to reform the land. And it starts with sweeping away old messes, including Arroyo allies who partook of plunder. (www.philstar.com)

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COVER STORY



► PMAH Ohana Medical Mission members and volunteers at work during their first medical mission in Santiago City, Isabela, Philippines from September 7-11, 2009

ical mission, long after the foreign volunteers have left.

Recalling the success of the 2009 Ohana Medical Mission in Isabela, Alvarez credits the same spirit of camaraderie, unity and professionalism that she hopes will define all future missions of the PMAH OMM.

"I would credit the success of the Isabela medical mission to the zeal of Santiago City Mayor Amy Navarro and her team of local doctors. From Hawaii, there were Doctors Glorifin Belmonte, Remedios Sonson, Amelia Jacang, Nicano Joaquin, Douglas Johnson, Thomas Namiki and Tak Ming Chen and Kao Chen—and volunteers from Kapiolani hospital and HMC—Paul Ross and Leovi Viscara, and the Isabela Task Force and donors," Alvarez says.

"Being the first medical mission of the OMM on a shoestring budget, we brought 66 boxes of medical supplies to Santiago, Isabela. We learned a lot about cooperation, coordination, communication, sharing and scheduling—lessons which we brought back home," she adds.

Alvarez acknowledges the fact that all future Ohana Medical Missions will be different from one another. But all the same, there will always be opportunities for improvement.

"No two missions are the same. Every mission has its challenges, needs and advantages. Every obstacle offers lessons we can take advantage of. Every difficulty should be a lesson for improvement in the future. For example, we have to set up rules on choice of sites and

volunteer applications. We can do more with bigger funding, being a 501 C3 tax exempt entity. Having said that, we would definitely appreciate donations from our readers," she says.

Remembering One's Heritage

When asked about the opportunity to help fellow Filipinos back home, Alvarez says it is actually the other way around.

"I believe that they are helping me. Every time I go on a medical mission, I learn more about myself, my roots and the world we live in. It gives me time to look back to my past and plan for my future, to reassess what stage I am in my life. I consider myself as an overseas worker, part of the Philippine workforce exported to foreign lands in pursuit of better opportunities. Now

that I have a piece of the American dream, it is time to share it with our disadvantaged fellowmen back home," she says.

"Do you ever notice that there are many poor people with so little but are so much happier than their rich, successful counterparts? Such things will certainly make us think about going back to the Philippines just to see where we really belong," says Alvarez. "The gratitude that they have for us when we are able to share our blessings is a memory to keep, one that encourages us to keep coming back to render more services," she adds.

Alvarez's PMAH colleagues, Dr. Glorifin Belmonte, Dr. Amelia Jacang and Dr. Erlinda Cachola, all mirror her sentiments.

"Of course, it makes one

feel very good for being able to share with our fellow man what God has given each of us. It is gratifying to share the good opportunities afforded to each of us," Dr. Belmonte says.

Dr. Jacang, on the other hand, sees nobility in service rendered freely and without asking for anything in return.

"I feel that to be able to give back to our less fortunate countrymen is a very noble service and I am so blessed to be able to participate in this endeavor," she says.

For her part, Dr. Cachola reminds everyone that sharing one's blessing should be a continuing commitment—one that should be done anywhere and at whatever time help is needed by any marginalized person.

"I feel that the greatest expression of gratitude for all the blessings we have received is to give back to the less fortunate in the community, wherever and whenever the opportunity arises," she says.

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

City Unveils New Weapon in Fight Against Graffiti

Acting Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell recently demonstrated a new technology that City officials hope will be effective in removing graffiti.

Department of Facility Maintenance crews will add a protective coating on all new City-owned street signs, which will allow for the quick removal of spray paint and ink graffiti, as well as stickers. Cleaning the treated signs will only require a biodegradable spray cleaner or the use of masking tape.

OOOOOOPS!



ACTING MAYOR
KIRK CALDWELL

(Previous photo published on July 24, 2010 issue was mislabeled)

"This new approach in removing graffiti from street signs will help ensure the safety of drivers and pedestrians by keeping traffic signs clear and readable," Caldwell says.

The new protective coating is expected to save taxpayer money by allowing easy cleaning of road signs rather than costly replacements. The City replaces about 300 signs a month because of graffiti and routine maintenance needs. Previous cleaning agents used to remove graffiti from signs were either too weak to be effective or caused damage because they were too abrasive.

The City will partner with community groups like the Mililani Town Association, which will help clean newly-installed City roadway signs in Mililani on a voluntary basis.

"This new technology is a great asset in the fight against graffiti," Caldwell says. "Partnering with the community and the Honolulu Police Department is the best way to truly solve this problem."



Peace Corps Looking for Stories from Volunteers in Philippines

The Peace Corps Alumni Foundation for Philippines Development (PCAFPD) is preparing to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Peace Corps in 2011 by collecting stories from Filipinos about Peace Corps Volunteers who served in the Philippines.

"If you have memories of a Peace Corps Volunteer who was your friend, colleague or neighbor when you or your parents or grandparents were living in the Philippines, we'd like to hear from you," says Sylvia Cabus, a PCAFPD member and Peace Corps volunteer to Cameroon in the summer of 1994.

The PCAFPD was created in 1983 by Returned Peace Corps volunteers, staff and friends as a

way to continue their commitment to the social and economic development of the Philippines. The Foundation provides scholarships for Filipino students who need financial assistance to realize their dreams of attending college in the Philippines. Over the years, more than 120 scholarship recipients have completed their

studies in fields ranging from engineering and architecture to midwifery and community development.

PCAFPD is a registered, non-profit foundation recognized by the National Peace Corps Association as the official group representing volunteers from the Philippines.

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HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Visayans to Hold 23rd Annual Convention and Awards Gala

The Congress of Visayan Organizations (COVO), the statewide umbrella of Visayan organizations in Hawaii, will hold its 23rd Annual Statewide Convention on August 14, 2010 at the Philippine Consulate General. Registration starts at 8:00 am. The Congress of Visayan Organizations (COVO), the statewide umbrella of Visayan organizations in Hawaii, will hold its 23rd Annual Statewide Convention on August 14, 2010 at the Philippine Consulate General. Registration starts at 8:00 am.

This year's convention theme is "Youth and Political Participation" and focuses on the importance of youth involvement in the political process.

A panel discussion on

"Youth and Political Participation" will be held at 9 am with the following panelists:

- Eva Rose Washburn-Repollo, Chaminade University professor
- Jan Javinar, University of Hawaii-Manoa administrator
- Valeric Ancog, Kapiolani Community College student
- Riz Donna Almagro, UH-Manoa student

Elena Clariza, University of Hawaii-Manoa Philippine Studies librarian, will serve as panel moderator. An open forum follows the panel presentation.

The luncheon speaker will be former Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hannemann. The afternoon session will be the business portion

of the convention and will be presided over by Jane Clement, COVO president. Reports from the secretary, treasurer, president, presidents of the various island councils and chairs of various standing and special committees will be given. Several old and new business items will be discussed, and there will be several resolutions for discussion and adoption. The convention ends with the selection of next year's convention site.

During the evening, the 5th Lapu-Lapu Awards Dinner and Gala will be held at the Dole Ballrooms in Iwilei. Tickets are \$45 per person. Doors open at 6:00 pm. The Lapu-Lapu Awards are given every two years to Filipinos of Visayan ancestry who have distinguished

themselves in their fields of endeavor. The Awards Committee has decided to recognize achievers from the neighbor islands and, as a start, most of the awards being given this year will be to Visayans from Kauai.

The guest speaker for the Awards Gala is former U.S. Congressman Neil Abercrombie. Philippine Consul General Leoncio Cardenas Jr. will also grace the event. Entertainment will be provided by Fani and Marie Tedios, the La Galeria Compania Baile Filipino (a dance group from Maui) and Dr. Norman Aranon of Hilo.

A special scholarship fundraising draw to benefit COVO's scholarship program will be held with the following prizes:

- First prize is a round trip to Manila for two—donated by the Renato and Maria Etrata Foundation.
- Second prize is a round trip to Las Vegas for two—donated by Chris Hart of Maui.
- Third prize is a round trip to the neighbor island for two—donated by Noble Travel. Dancing will follow the formal awards program.

The following day, COVO members will hold their annual picnic at Keehi Lagoon Park near the airport starting at 10:00 am.

For more details, please contact Richard Ancog at 383-3691 or Jun Colmenares at 510-734-4491.

UFCH Accepting Nominees for 2010 Progress Awards

The United Filipino Council of Hawaii (UFCH), the umbrella group for some 350 Filipino unit organizations statewide, is searching for qualified candidates for the prestigious 2010 Progress Awards.

The annual award recognizes outstanding Hawaii residents of Filipino ancestry for excellence and accomplishments in their respective fields of expertise, as well as civic mindedness and sustaining service to the community. These individuals serve as inspirational role models for others with similar goals and personal characteristics.

Awards will be presented to

winners in 14 categories, including agriculture, arts, and entertainment, education, entrepreneurship, government service, health care and medicine, humanitarian/community service, law and jurisprudence, labor and construction, media and communication, science and technology, sports, travel and hospitality and Outstanding Youth.

Three additional awards include:

- Ating Kaibigan (Our Friend), which is given to an individual who is not of Filipino ancestry but who has supported and assisted significantly in the advancement of Filipinos in Hawaii.
- Juan Dionisio Sr. Lifetime Service Award, given to an individual who has been consistently active with UFCH and its many programs over the years and who has pursued unity among Filipinos in Hawaii. The awardee must also possess sound moral character and community ethics and embody the ideals of a good community leader in line with UFCH's mission and vision.
- Lifetime Achievement

Award, given to an individual who by his or her exemplary efforts and achievements, has bestowed honor and prestige to our community, to our State and to the world. The awardee has proved that the spirit of "bayanihan" continues to flourish, inspiring others to help uplift the lives of Filipinos.

Nomination forms must be postmarked no later than September 20, 2010. Please mail forms to:

United Filipino Council
of Hawaii

c/o Progress Awards
P.O. Box 498

Honolulu, HI 96809-0498

Forms can also be emailed to: mestralynne@aol.com. Winners will be notified via telephone, e-mail, or postal mail by the UFCH chairperson on or before September 27, 2010. The Progress Awards Banquet is scheduled for October 16, 2010. For further details about the Progress Awards, please contact Lynne Gutierrez at 728-1700 or Maria Etrata at 392-2962.

PAL Officials Say Operations Back to Normal

Philippine Airlines (PAL) officials say flight operations have returned to normal after announcing new flight schedules for three destinations previously affected by flight cancellations.

The country's flag carrier experienced a reduction of its flights due to the recent abrupt resignation of over 20 of its pilots, but things have since "normalized," officials say.

President Benigno Aquino III and members of his cabinet met earlier with PAL management in hopes of resolving the dispute before it affects the nation's tourism and travel industry.

According to PAL spokesperson Cielo Villaluna,



PAL's 160 domestic and international daily flights continue to operate as scheduled. Only one flight each to Iloilo, Bacolod and Cagayan de Oro have been rescheduled, while all other flights to these three provinces remain unchanged.

"All flights continue as scheduled except those to and from Bacolod (PR135/136), Cagayan de Oro (PR181/182 except Thursdays) and Iloilo (PR147/148). Passengers booked on rescheduled flights are being advised accordingly

to avoid any inconvenience or delays at the airport," she says.

With the new schedule, Villaluna says PAL customers still have a wide choice of convenient flight schedules to choose from to all PAL destinations. PAL continues to have four daily flights each way between Manila and Iloilo, Bacolod and Cagayan de Oro.

For a complete listing of PAL's domestic and international flights, go online to: www.philippineairlines.com or call 1-800-435-9725.

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IMMIGRATION GUIDE



By Atty. Emmanuel Samonte Tipon

“ *fear all we have done is to awaken a sleeping giant and fill him with a terrible resolve.*” – Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto refusing to join the celebration after the Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbor sank the U.S.S. Arizona and other ships.

Obama Gov't Assault on Arizona Awakens Sleeping White Giant

which the court finds a likelihood of preemption is not enjoined, the United States is likely to suffer irreparable harm. This is so because the federal government's ability to enforce its policies and achieve its objectives will be undermined by the state's enforcement of statutes that interfere with federal law, even if the Court were to conclude that the state statutes have substantially the same goals as federal law.”

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, the most eminent American jurist said: “The language of judicial decision is mainly the language of logic.” Can you find the logic in the quoted language? Ask yourself: How can a law which has the same goals as federal immigration law cause “irreparable harm” to the United States? “Irreparable harm” means harm that's impossible to repair.

Collateral Damage

Filipinos and other immigrants will suffer collateral damage in the cross fire.

1. Immigration will be a pri-

mary issue in the November elections. No Immigration Reform bill will be enacted this year – and probably during the remaining term of Obama. Republicans are needed to enact such a bill. However, Republicans are now solidly against immigration. They will filibuster in the Senate to block any immigration bill. Even Sen. John McCain who co-authored an amnesty bill with the late Sen. Edward Kennedy is now against illegal aliens. Republicans might gain control of the House of Representatives. If that happens, by bye to immigration reform and amnesty.

2. Since there is no likelihood of an amnesty law, some officials in the Obama administration are planning to give amnesty without legislation. On August 2, I received from a reputable immigration publisher a copy of a “leaked” memo to the Director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigra-

tion Services titled “Administrative Alternatives to Comprehensive Immigration Reform”. It suggests how green cards can be given to illegal aliens by giving parole, using deferred action, relaxing standards, and not deporting aliens. I will discuss the details in another article. Because it has been exposed, a strong negative reaction might come from white people, thus forcing immigration authorities to do the opposite of what was proposed.

More battles ahead

The Obama administration won the first battle in trying to sink Arizona. But bigger battles lie ahead in the U.S. Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court which Obama does not control. Thus, it is premature for the illegals to cry “Viva, Arizona es muerto.”

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

3. The whites who administer the federal agencies dealing with immigration will strictly enforce immigration laws. The pervading anti-immigrant environment will become intensified. Immigration Judges who possess complete discretion in deciding deportation will likely exercise their discretion unfavorably against aliens. USCIS adjudicators will likely deny visa petitions for relatives in cases where they can find loopholes. Fiancé visa petitions and petitions for adopted children are most vulnerable. Employment and business visas are also vulnerable.

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TRAVEL

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Temple

By Tim Yap

MANILA, Philippines - I was born a brave soul. I would get lost in cities I've never been to and just let serendipity (or a taxi cab) help me find my way home. I went to the Maldives a week after the tsunami and had planned on going to Mexico right after H1N1 broke out. Okay, maybe the latter choice wasn't such a great idea, but the first one was one of the best moments of solitude I've ever had in my life. And all it took was that one decision that I took myself, "Never be scared to travel to new and interesting places or you'll never know what life has for you."

Being swamped with work is always a blessing I welcome into my life, but every now and then I pray a trip would come along a trip that would awaken and enrich my spiritual self, whet the taste buds for the exotic and the spicy, and tantalize my vision with the bizarre. In short, I wanted to treat my senses to the wild and the wonderful. This trip was it.

The perfect start? An invite to dinner by Thai Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva himself to be a part of the Thailand Today Mega Fam Tour. To follow that up, Thai Airways GM Nivat Chantarachoti made sure we would enjoy "smooth as silk"

treatment via the renowned airline's Royal Orchid Service. I always make a mental note to catch up on my reading come flight time, but I always fall asleep after takeoff because I'm so relaxed and pampered.

A rejuvenated mind is the first step to enlightenment. Clearing of clutter and unwanted things is the first, that's something we can learn from the Zen Buddhist mindset of our neighbors, who have cleared the air and announced that life is back to normal in Bangkok and all of Thailand for that matter. It took Thai Minister of Tourism and Sports Chumpol Silpaarcha to tell us this over dinner at Centara Grand Hotel, but I knew it and experienced it firsthand when I walked the streets, went to the clubs, and hopped till I dropped for an extended personal shopping trip to Bangkok!

Okay, I'm getting ahead of myself here. Relax. Contrary to the song, one night in Bangkok just ain't enough to make "the hard man humble." So the next day, I met up with the Filipino delegation composed of my partners in crime Tessa Prieto-Valdes, Stephanie Zubiri and Pepper Teehanke as well as some of our country's top travel agents. Our earth mother for this journey? No less than Por-thip Makornpan, who is the director for Tourism Authority of

Thailand for the Philippines (TAT). She was with TAT's Dave de Jesus, who served as our big brother and Jayelle Holdings' Roselle Rebano as our big sister. The rest, our newfound siblings — it's one, big happy Filipino family!

Cultural Capital of Thailand

First flight stop was up north in the mountains of Chiang Mai, Thailand's cultural capital where the streets are filled with shops and great bargains. Tip number one: Stay at Le Meridien Hotel, which is at the center of everything. Step out of your modern posh luxe comforts and you're ready to get everything, within arms reach! That's exactly what Tessa and I did—bought pasalubong for everyone, pronto! By dinner time, we were done with our shopping list. Or half of it at least.

But again, shopping really wasn't the point of our Chiang Mai expedition. It has become a yearly tradition for Tessa and myself to climb 300 steps up to the Wat Pra Thart Doi Suthep temple and have a monk tie a blessed white string around our wrists for protection. So far it has worked for the both of us. It even felt more solemn now that there were fewer people, so no queue going to the monk for his blessing and great for



The author feeling "King" in the monument erected at the Golden Triangle at the northern most part of Thailand

sightseeing and picture-taking, too!

From the temples, we went to the most revered of Thailand's animals, the elephant tour at Mae Sa elephant camp. I have a natural affinity with animals as I grew up with 10 dogs, two cats, three rabbits, two hamsters, some fish and a giant python — all at the same time! So I know my way around them. If I wasn't doing what I'm doing now, I'd be a zookeeper!

At this elephant camp, you'll see elephants play ball against each other, challenge tourists to darts, even paint portraits of themselves. Take that, Dumbo! Nature has a way of dealing with nurture, so the elephants are well-trained, and happy to perform. From performance-oriented elephants, we then hopped over to the Tiger Kingdom, also in Chiang Mai. Here, I really felt the power of the Year of the Tiger. Hear me roar — Roar!

Not all of us are alike

From frolicking cubs to giant, crouching tigers, we posed and played with them like they were our household pets. I had trouble leaving as I felt right at home with the tigers. Steph did, too — until she remembered she was allergic to cats.

On our way to Chiang Rai, we passed by an umbrella painting village, where I hand-picked hand-painted parasols to give as gifts — perfect for the rainy season, even just for decorative reasons. There were also hand-painted fans (we call them abanicos) that were at their wholesale best. It was a bargain hunter's heaven!

"On our way to another temple," our sing-songy tour guide told us. What? Another one? We were tired after all that wildlife and wild shopping. Steph and Pepper chose to binge on snacks while I looked at the best thing I'd ever seen and experienced in Thailand.

(www.philstar.com)

PHILIPPINE NEWS

Stocks Rise to 31-Month High on US Market Rally

By Helen Flores / Tuesday, August 3, 2010

MANILA, Philippines (Xinhua) - The stock market climbed to its 31-month high on today tracking sharp gains in the US equities.

The benchmark Philippine Stock Exchange index rose by 0.83 percent or 28.68 points to 3,484.08.

The last time the bellwether touched the said level was on January 14, 2008 when it closed at 3,482.28.

The broader all-share index added 0.59 percent or 12.97 points to 2,210.93.

But trading volume on Monday reached only 825 million

worth P3.06 billion (\$67.54 million). One analyst said the new trading system "tempered the fluctuations of the market" discouraging retail investors and the day traders.

Advancers led decliners 78 to 51 while 48 stocks did not move. Of the six counters, only the mining and oil sector was sold down. The financial sector jumped by 2.03 percent or 15.65 points to 786.47.

Positive manufacturing activity in July and the strong earnings from European banks pushed up the Dow Jones industrial average index by 1.99 percent or 208.44 points to 10,674.38. The 200-point rally in the US market trickled down to most Asian equities today, including the Philippines.

But what made the Philippines special is that it has a good "storyline" brought about by administration of President Benigno Aquino III, according to Erwin Balita, analyst at SB Equities, Inc.

"The past rallies of the market show that investors are putting some premium on the Philippines because of the hope brought about by the new administration. The Philippines is among those that has been outperforming (major) equities in terms of equity return globally," Balita said.

Most stocks in the 30-company index closed higher. These include heavyweight PLDT Co., Ayala Land, Inc. and Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co. (www.philstar.com)



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'Midnight Appointments'**By Delon Porcalla /
Thursday, August 5, 2010

MANILA, Philippines – Malacañang, through Executive Order No. 2, revoked today the "midnight appointments" made by former President Arroyo.

Chief Presidential Legal Counsel Eduardo de Mesa and presidential spokesman Edwin Lacierda made the announcement at a press briefing at the Malacañang Palace. The briefing is ongoing as of posting time.

According to EO No. 2, "midnight appointments" as those made on or after

March 11, 2010, "including all appointments bearing dates prior to March 11, 2010 where the appointee has accepted, or taken his oath, or assumed public office on or after March 11, 2010 except temporary appointments in the executive positions when continued vacancies will prejudice public service or endanger public safety as may be determined by the appointing authority."

It also includes "anticipated appointments," or those made before March 11 but took effect after that day, or appointments to positions that became vacant only after March 11. (www.philstar.com)

**Belmonte Limits Foreign
Travel of House Members**By Jess Diaz /
Thursday, August 5, 2010

MANILA, Philippines – Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr. is limiting the foreign travel of members of the House of Representatives as part of the austerity and streamlining measures he is undertaking.

Sources told The STAR

yesterday that the Speaker is restricting members who have to attend parliamentary conferences abroad to one trip a year.

A traveling congressman or congresswoman could be away only for a maximum of seven days, while a delegation to a foreign conference could have a maximum of five members.

A member on an official trip abroad is entitled to a free plane ticket and a per diem of up to \$300 a day depending on his destination.

There are at least five parliamentary conferences that are open to lawmakers and officials of the House secretariat every year.

In addition to these, there is the annual meeting of the International Labor Organization (ILO) in Geneva, Switzer-



Speaker Sonny Belmonte

land, a favorite destination of senators and congressmen.

The ILO conference takes place in June or July, when Congress is usually on recess.

There are also the meetings of the United Nations in New York, another favorite sightseeing and vacation destination.

In the past, foreign travels are a big drain on House resources. Many congressmen had three to five trips a year, in addition to invitations to join presidential visits. Delegations were also large.

In her frequent foreign trips, former president and now Pampanga Rep. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo brought along huge congressional delegations.

At one time, on a visit to the United States, she had at least 50 House members in tow. On her last US trip, two of her congressional companions paid a total of \$35,000 for two sumptuous meals her group enjoyed at expensive restaurants in New York and Washington.

Her favorite travel companions are now among her remaining loyalists in the House. (www.philstar.com)

**NDCC: 16,000 Families Displaced
by Floods in Maguindanao**By Paolo Romero /
Thursday, August 5, 2010

MANILA, Philippines (Xinhua) – Over 16,000 families in towns in Maguindanao province were displaced due to flashfloods caused by heavy rainfall over the past few days, the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) said today.

The NDCC said this is roughly equivalent to 80,000 people from the three towns of Sultan Kudarat, Pagalungan and

Datu Montawal in Maguindanao

At least 804 hectares of farm crops have been destroyed by the floods, the NDCC added.

In nearby Datu Salibo town, local officials said their town hall and police station have been flooded as well.

The NDCC said there were no reported fatalities, adding that it is closely monitoring the situation and preparing for mass evacuation of the affected residents if the situation worsens. (www.philstar.com)

PHILIPPINE NEWS

Recto Cautions Noy on Plans to Privatize NAIA Operations

By Aurea Calica /
Wednesday, August 4, 2010

MANILA, Philippines - Sen. Ralph Recto said the Aquino administration should proceed with caution on its plan to privatize operations of Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3 to raise revenues and possibly stem the implementation of new taxes.

Recto said the proceeds of the privatization should go directly to the national treasury and that lawmakers should determine promptly where the funds would be specifically spent.

"If you will privatize it, where will the proceeds go? How can you improve the services and where will the proceeds be spent? Could it be used to modernize our airports? Our navigation devices?" Recto said in an interview.

"It should go to the treasury, and then we will talk about it during the general appropriations act unless there is a special law on it," he said.

Recto has filed Senate Resolution 29 calling for an inquiry by the Senate committee on finance into the status of the privatization program of the Privatization Council and the Privatization Management Office (PMO) "with the end view of generating greater revenues for the government and streamlining the bureaucracy."

"There is an urgent need to look into the status of the privatization program of the government, particularly on the accomplishments of the program vis-à-vis its mandates, as well as the remaining assets that need to be disposed of," Recto said in his resolution.

He noted that the privatization program generated revenues of up to P235 billion from 1987 to 2009.

Executive Order 323 issued on Dec. 6, 2001 created the privatization council and the PMO to succeed the Committee on



Sen. Ralph Recto

Privatization and the Asset Privatization Trust, respectively.

"There is a need for Congress to determine if future legislation is needed in order to expedite the privatization program," Recto said.

"Consistent with the government's effort to generate revenues, it is imperative to review the processes involved in the disposal of government assets," he said.

Meanwhile, Sen. Francis Escudero said he favors the privatization of NAIA 3 but only after legal obstacles to its operations have been resolved.

The International Chamber of Commerce in Singapore earlier ruled in favor of the government in the arbitration case against NAIA 3 contractor Philippine International Air Terminals Co. (PIATCO). The Washington-based International Center for Settlement of Investment Disputes had also dismissed the complaint of Fraport

AG Frankfurt Services Worldwide – a member of the PIATCO consortium – against the Philippine government.

Palace's appeal

Malacañang, meanwhile, appealed for more time to study the intricacies of the government's case against PIATCO.

This developed as the International Chamber of Commerce in Singapore dismissed the \$900-million counter-claim of the Philippine government against PIATCO's \$565-million suit for breach of concession agreements, sources said.

PIATCO had sought the ICC-International Court of Arbitration's permission to revert to its original contract on NAIA 3 signed with the government.

The Philippine Supreme Court had declared PIATCO's contract with the government unconstitutional and void from the beginning.

Presidential spokesman Edwin Lacierda said government lawyers have been meeting since Monday and briefing the concerned officials on the issue.

Lacierda said more briefings had to be done because of allegations that some groups had been trying to convince the Aquino administration to enter into an out-of-court settlement.

"We will present a more comprehensive report on the PIATCO case. But, in the meantime, allow us first not to answer your question. We welcome the decision of the arbitration branch, however, relieving the government of paying all those claims made by PIATCO," he said.

"Because we are a new government, we were just briefed yesterday as to what happened in the case. After that, we will come up with a briefing," Lacierda said.

Sources said all claims and counter-claims were dismissed because the ICC refused to rule on just compensation since it should be filed before an expropriation court.

"It's not really a loss on the part of the government. This is still a major victory because it's PIATCO who filed the case and lost," a source said. (www.philstar.com)

Albay Now Fully Covered By Cash Transfer Program

By Cet Domatara /
Wednesday, August 4, 2010

LEGAZPI CITY, Philippines – President Aquino has approved placing the entire Albay province under the coverage of the government's conditional cash transfer program.

The program provides at least P1,400 a month to each recipient household and when in full swing, would benefit up to 45,000 people in Albay, mostly children of indigent families.

Albay Gov. Joey Salceda said the President and Social Welfare and Development Secretary Dinky Soliman agreed to also include Oas, Camalig and Tiwi towns, thus placing the entire province now under the coverage of the government's poverty alleviation scheme.

"With the inclusion of these three towns, Albay's three cities and 15 towns are now (all) recipients of this poverty alleviation effort that we are implementing in compliance with the world-agreed Millennium Development Goal (MDG) programs in 2008," Salceda told the STAR.

With this development, Albay be-



Gov. Joey Salceda

comes the first province to fully implement the conditional cash transfer program, which started in March last year.

"The province of Albay is most bullish on its efforts to alleviate poverty, improve health outcomes and increase participation in basic education with the full implementation of the conditional cash transfer program," Salceda said.

He expressed optimism that the increased budget of DSWD in 2011 to P29.6 billion, a three-fold hike from the current P10 billion, would ensure full implementation of the government's poverty alleviation programs, particularly the conditional cash transfer.

"This would immediately target the families of 45,600 school-age kids who are not in school, and would enable Albay to become among the first provinces in the country to achieve the MDG of 100 percent participation rate, an achievement we principally owe to the solicitude and support of President Aquino," Salceda said. (www.philstar.com)

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FAMILY CORNER



By Grace Fong, Ed.D. and Sylvia Yuen, Ph.D.

Learning in the Kitchen

In many homes, the kitchen is the family's favorite hang-out. Involving children in preparing their snacks, lunches for school, or family meals makes good sense—you'll know where they are and what they are doing, and it can be fun! Children have many life skills to learn. One important skill is being able to prepare food for themselves and their families. They can start at a young age with simple tasks and repeated practice. As they help with food preparation, young children develop other important skills such as:

- Coordinating
- Working with others
- Being creative
- Making decisions
- Figuring out how to do things
- Handling responsibilities.

Children can learn to help prepare any meal, but fixing snacks is a good beginning for young children. When is the best time to involve children in the kitchen? Any time when children show an interest is a good time, if you're not in a hurry. If your child asks to help when you're in a hurry or extra busy, don't feel bad if you have to say, "Not now" once in a

while. Do schedule another meal or time when he can help you in the kitchen.

The following are examples of ways you can involve your child in the kitchen. As his coordination, strength, and attention span increases, show him how to do new and more challenging tasks. He will probably let you know what he already knows how to do, and when he would like to do more. Give him lots of opportunities to practice. Encourage your child to help in the kitchen, and maybe one day you'll be surprised with an entire meal on a special occasion. Here are examples of ways kids can help:

Two-Year-olds

- Scrub vegetables with a brush
- Wash a few unbreakable dishes and cups
- Tear lettuce and other greens for salad
- Break cauliflower and carrots for snacks, or snap green beans for cooking.

3-Year Olds

- Pour beverages into sturdy cups or glasses—show your child how to use a small pitcher with both hands; mark glass with a rubber band or waxed pen-

cil to show when to stop pouring

- Mix batters and cookie dough, and toss salads—use a bowl twice the size of the amount of mixture and use wooden spoons
- Shake pudding ingredients or a milk and orange juice drink in a jar with tight-fitting cover—place hands at both ends of jar and shake up and down
- Spread margarine, fruit preserves, cheese, or sandwich spreads on bread, crackers, celery, or apples with a plastic knife or small spatula.

4-Year Olds

- Shuck corn, shell shrimp, peel hard-cooked eggs or tangerines
- Roll dough or grated cheese mixtures into round balls
- Squeeze juice from citrus fruits—show your child how to push down and turn at the same time
- Crack raw eggs—each in a small bowl before adding to

other ingredients; clean fingers can remove pieces of shell.

5-Year Olds

- Measure ingredients in small bowls—practice filling and leveling measuring spoons and cups
- Cut semi-soft foods like cheese wedges, hard cooked egg halves, or bananas with a butter knife
- Grind chunky peanut butter, fruit mixtures or nuts in a food grinder (supervised by an adult)
- Beat eggs and other liquid ingredients using a fork, whisk, or hand mixer.

WHEN KIDS ARE IN THE KITCHEN

As you involve your child in the kitchen, keep the following in mind:

- Have fun!
- Always wash hands with warm water and soap before and after handling food.
- Plan experiences that match

SAFETY IN THE KITCHEN

Talk to your child about potential dangers in the kitchen. Children need to know limits to prevent accidents and injuries. Remind your child that an adult must be near to help with kitchen activities.

HOT THINGS: Steam, flame/fire, boiling (bubbling) or hot liquids. One way to tell when something is hot is by touching it. However, touching a hot burner, a hot oven rack, or a hot pan usually results in a burn. Warn your child to use caution when opening hot containers, even wrapped baked potatoes, to avoid hot steam. Have potholders handy and teach kids how to use them.



SHARP THINGS:

Knives, scissors, blender blades, vegetable peeler, can opener, grater. Teach your child the proper way to use these tools—how to hold the tools as well as where to place the other hand and fingers. Demonstrate and practice knife/scissors safety, including carrying with the sharp end pointing downward.



HEAVY AND ELECTRICAL THINGS:

Large pots and bowls, full pitcher, toaster, blender, mixer, food processor, microwave oven. Tour your kitchen and have your child point out heavy equipment and electrical appliances. Teach him how to properly use electrical appliances and only when an adult is there to supervise. Talk about how to handle heavy things to avoid accidents. Keep electrical cords out of children's reach and remind them not to pull on cords.



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LEGAL NOTES



By Reuben S. Seguritan

Aliens With Invalid Green Cards Allowed to File for Waiver

South Korea were part of a group of hundreds of Koreans who obtained their green cards through the fraudulent scheme of a former officer of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. The officer and several middlemen conspired to provide fraudulent green cards after receiving bribes.

The immigration officer and his collaborators were ultimately convicted after the officer turned himself in to the enforcement authorities.

The two brothers were placed under removal proceedings. At their removal hearing, it was proven that they had obtained their lawful permanent resident status through their mother. Their mother, with the help of an immigration broker affiliated with the immigration officer, adjusted to permanent resident status as a spouse of a skilled worker or professional.

This fraud was not known to the two brothers. Their mother told them that she obtained their green card on the basis of her employment as a hairdresser on a U.S. Military base in Korea.

Because the two brothers were linked to the immigration officer's scheme the immigration judge ordered them removed. The judge said that, although the mother had not knowingly engaged in fraud and that the two brothers had relied on their mother's representation of their eligibility for a green card, she nevertheless got an invalid green card, and therefore the green cards of the two brothers were also invalid.

The two brothers applied for a waiver of inadmissibility but the immigration judge denied their request. The Board of Immigration Appeals affirmed the decision of the immigration

judge.

They then petitioned the Court of Appeals (9th Circuit). The Court affirmed the removal order of the immigration judge, holding that because the mother was never lawfully admitted to permanent residence, the two brothers did not present valid immigrant visas at their entry to the United States.

But the Court said that they could not be precluded from seeking a waiver of inadmissibility because they met the three requirements for waiver, namely that (1) they were inadmissible; (2) they were in possession of an invalid visa; and (3) they were otherwise admissible.

They satisfied the first requirement because they lacked a valid immigrant visa when they entered the United States, thus making them inadmissible. They also met the second re-

quirement because they were in possession of invalid immigrant visas. And they met the third requirement because their lack of a valid visa was the only reason that they were found inadmissible.

In its decision, the Court relied on *Mayo v. Ashcroft*, a case involving a Filipino citizen who entered the United States as an unmarried daughter although she was married. The immigration judge and the Board of Immigration Appeals ordered her exclusion because of her misrepresentation of her marital status. But the Court of Appeals (8th Circuit) granted her a waiver of inadmissibility because she believed she was unmarried at the time of her entry.

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

MAINLAND NEWS

Belle, Harrah's in Advanced Stage of Talks for Casino Project

By Zinnia B. Dela Peña/
Wednesday, August 4, 2010

MANILA, Philippines — The owners of Belle Corp., and Leisure & Resorts World Corp. are in an advanced stage of negotiations with US-based Harrah's Entertainment Inc., to build the country's largest casino complex, estimated to cost around \$350 million.

On the sidelines of LRWC's annual stockholders' meeting Friday, Negros Occidental Rep. Alfredo "Albee" Benitez, said Harrah's — the world's largest provider of branded casino entertainment — has an edge over the two other casino players it is in talks with and it is hoped an

agreement would be signed in August or September. "Among the three groups we're talking to, the one with Harrah's has moved to the advanced negotiation level," he said.

Harrah's which generates around \$10.8 billion in yearly revenue, owns and operates about 50 casinos under the Bally's, Caesars, Horseshoe, and Rio brandnames, primarily in the US and the United Kingdom. It also owns the London Clubs International family of casinos and the World Series of Poker.

Owned by Apollo Management and Texas Pacific Group, Harrah's secured leadership position in the global gaming industry after it acquired rival

Caesars Entertainment for \$9.4 billion in 2005. It also acquired Planet Hollywood's Resort & Casino Las Vegas, adding to the group's plethora of locations on the Las Vegas strip

Benitez, former president and majority shareholder of LRWC, said the two other entities have a presence in Asia but refused to name them. He said the multi-billion peso casino which will rise on a 6.2 hectare property near the SM Mall of Asia in Pasay City, will be nearly two times bigger than Resorts World Manila, a flagship integrated entertainment project of Alliance Global Group Inc. and the Genting Group of Malaysia.

The gaming operation will be developed in three phases over a five-year period. The first phase will include the construction of the casino with around 100 VIP suites to cater to high-rollers. Two 15-storey hotel towers of 500 rooms with a Planet Hollywood theme will eventually be built to complement the casino operations.

Benitez said the Las Vegas style casino, which is targeted for opening in the third quarter of 2011, will feature 1,500 slot machines and 250 tables.

Belle's entry into the gaming market was formalized last year following its acquisition of Premium Leisure and Amusement Inc. from SM Commercial Properties Inc. The PLAI holds

a franchise from Pagarcor in the operation of a casino complex in the 800-hectare Bagong Nayong Pilipino Manila Bay Entertainment City.

Together with the SM Group, Belle has committed to inject \$1 billion into the project over a 25-year period.

The SM Group will be in charge of non-gaming developments which include hotels, a sports arena, museum, and an oceanarium.

Aside from its real estate projects, which include its crown jewel Tagaytay Highlands, Belle also generates earnings from Pacific Online Corp. the exclusive online lottery systems provider in Visayas and Mindanao. (www.philstar.com)

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PHILIPPINE LANGUAGE



ILOKO
By Amado I. Yoro

Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii. Hulo 25, 2 0 1 0 . Nagkaykaysaan dagiti aganay a siam a pulo ken lima a delegado a nangibagi ti nadumaduma a gunglo Filipino a naggapu iti inneren nga Island Councils kas iti Oahu, Molokai, Kauai, Lanai, Big Island, Maui, nga imbotos a presidente ni Lynne Gutierrez, kalpasan a naglusulos ni Amado Yoro gapu ti rason a mediko ken salun-at daytoy iti limitado pay laeng a partisipasion iti responsibilidad a makatubeng iti healing process ken full recovery kas pammililn ti doktora.

Naangay ti kombensyon iti Hyatt Regency Marriott Hotel idi Hulo 23, 24 25, 2010.

Nagpaay a Keynote Speaker ni Dr. Belinda Aquino, professor iti University of Hawaii, Manoa. Sangaili pay ni Maui Mayor Charmaine Tavares.

Sumaruno a convention host council ti Lanai Filipino Community Council nga idaulan ni

Lynne Viloria Gutierrez, Baro a Presidente ti United Filipino Council of Hawaii (UFCH)

Juan 'Jaughn' Degamo. Maipakaamonto no sadino ken kaano a maangay intono Hulo 2011.

Ni Gutierrez ti maika-31 a UFCH president ken isu ti maikadua a babai nga agtakem sipud pay nabangon ti UFCH idi 1959. Sakbay a nabotosan ni Gutierrez, isu ti nagsekretaria iti UFCH, nagpresidente iti OFCC [2005-2007].

Kadua ni Gutierrez a nabotosan da:

Norma Barroga
— *bise presidente* (Maui);
Doris Saribay
— *sekretaria* (Maui);
Ben Pulido
— *tesorero* (Oahu);
Domie Bucasas
— *auditor* (Kauai).

Dagiti hunta del gobernador a kabbotos:

Edwin Ranan, Big Island;
Moises Luczon, Molokai;
Jean Sumagit, Lanai;
Ben Caberos, Oahu;
Arnold Villafuerte, Oahu;
Angel Accorda, Kauai.
Holdover da Ryan Piro, Maui, Abe Iloret, Kauai ken Amado Yoro, Oahu.

Ni Eddie Agas. Sr. ti Imme-

diated Past president (2008-2010).

Ni Atty Bryan Andaya, pasado a presidente ti UFCH ti namagsapata kadakuada.

MARGARET PASCUAL, BARO A MISS HAWAII FILIPINA 2010

Lahaina, Maui
Hulo 24, 2010
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Monarchy Room

Uppatda a nagasalip a nangibagi iti bukodda nga Island Council:

Contestant #1 - Tiana Gillia - Miss Big Island
Contestant #2 - Margaret Pascual - Miss Oahu
Contestant #3 - Jayna Shaffer - Miss Kauai
Contestant #4 - Debba Lapid - Miss Maui

Resulta ti pagant:

MARGARET PASCUAL, BARO A MISS HAWAII FILIPINA 2010. Isu pay ti nangabak iti Most Advertisements Sold Award, Spirit Award, Best in Talent, Best in Judges Interview. Maikkan iti

\$2000.00 a gunggona ken libre a round trip ticket a panagbiahe iday Filipino. Anak da Segundino ken Maria Lucy Pascual. Agad-adal iti Nursing iti University of Hawaii - Manoa.

DEBIA LAPID, First Runner-Up. Inabakna ti Most Tickets Sold Award, Best in Speech/Terno. Miss Congeniality. Anak da Dindo ken Maria Lapid. Nursing ti ad-adalenna iti University of Hawaii - Maui College.

JAYNA SHAFFER, Second Runner-Up. Inabakna ti Best in Swimsuit, Anak da Walter ken Patricia Shaffer. Hawaiian Language ti ad-adalenna iti Kauai Community College.

TIANA GILLIA, Third Runner-Up. Inabakna ti Miss Photogenic, Best in Terno Design. Anak da Clarence Gillia ken Karen Mendes. Estudiante iti Business Administration iti University of Hawaii - Hilo.

Maudi a martsa ni Miss Celina Macadangang Hayashi, Miss Hawaii Filipina 2009-2010.

Emcee ditoy a programa da Deputy Consul Paul Cortes ken Laksni Abraham.

Kameng ti hurado: Dr. Florel Felix Lorenzo, Donna Balag

Carbonell, Kalani Au, Dr. Lori Chai, Grace Escrito Ueoka, Ella Angel Eubank ken Colleen Eva Nagasako.

Kmmblaaw ni Maui Mayor Charmaine Tavares.

Da Michelle Santos ken Ryan Piro, ken nangimanton ti Miss Hawaii Pageant bababen ti Maui Filipino Community Council nga ipangulan ni Atty. Herman Andaya ken kakaduada, kas host council daytoy a kombensyon.

Gapu iti gasat a naikorona ken ni Margaret, naisubli ti korona ken balangat a kina-Miss Hawaii Filipina a naipaidam iti Oahu nanipud pay idi 2005 sa 2008.

Kablaawantayo ti pinget ti pamilia Pascual ken dagiti suportada, ti pinget ken suporta ti administrasion da Danny Villaruz ken Maria Etrata itoy a transition period.

Adu dagiti timbunano a pakairamanan dagiti kandidato para masnop a public offices, kas iti kinagobemador da Neil Abercrombie, Mufi Hanemann.

Adda met dagiti para IT Governor, kas kada Bobby Bunda, Norman Sakamoto, Schatz, dadduma pay.

Kas delegado, adda met ni para State Representative Danny Villaruz, 32nd District.

Maangay ti sumaruno a kombensyon iti Lanai bababen iti Lanai Filipino Community Council. Luga? Maipakaamonto kadagiti masungad nga aldaw.

(Adda nayonna)

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

COVO 23RD ANNUAL STATEWIDE CONVENTION / SATURDAY

August 14, 2010 • Philippine Consulate General, Pal Highway • 8 - 4 pm • Contact: Richard Ancog, 383-3691

5TH LAPU-LAPU AWARDS DINNER & GALA / SATURDAY

August 14, 2010 • Dole Ballrooms at Iwili

• 6 - 11:30 pm • \$45 per person • Contact: Jun Colmenares, 485-0390

ANNUAL COVO PICNIC / SUNDAY

August 15, 2010 • Keehi Lagoon Park, Honolulu • 10 am - 4 pm • Contact: Richard Ancog at 383-3691 or Erwin Gabrilillo at 282-4186

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

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

LIVING IN CANADA

BC to Host Biggest Pinoy Event

By Mel Tobias/
Wednesday, August 4, 2010

The largest Filipino event in British Columbia this summer will be "Hataw Pinoy". This maiden event is being presented by Kapamilya Giant Network ABS-CBN, BC Telecom and the Reyfort Media Group. Richmond has been chosen as the host city and the organizers expect thousands of Filipinos in the lower mainland and satellite cities. The venue is the Richmond Olympic Oval grounds from August 28 to 29.

The projected number of visitors/participants to the event is over 15,000 Filipinos getting together for grand prize raffle events, entertainers from the Philippines, local Filipino Canadian talents, magic shows, competitions, band performances and food outlets selling Filipino food.

The Canadian demographics have really changed. A snappy look at new Canadians shows that much of the country's foreign-born population is made up of very recent arrivals. Canada's visible minority population has soared in the past 20 years, and will continue to influence the demographic of Canada's population in the future.

Between 2001 to 2006, immigration was responsible for two-thirds of Canada's population growth. It reflects the waves of new immigrants who continue to arrive from many regions around the world. Between

2010 to 2017, new arrivals will come from West Asian, Korean and Arabian backgrounds.

Another changing demographic is the age of the population, which has been influenced by the smaller number of children being born as well as increased life expectancy. By 2056, the average age in Canada is expected to reach among 47 years, or 20 years older than it was in 1956. By 2015, there will be more elderly people than children for the first time in the country's history.

The impact of an aging population is very striking in the workplace. For example, by the start of the decade, people old enough to leave the labor market will outnumber those old enough to join it.

Henry Yu, an associate professor of history at the University of B.C. who specializes in Chinese immigration reported that the new wave of Chinese are greatly attracted to British Columbia. Mainland Chinese immigrants are slowly invading the province like they have invaded Hong Kong. They are coming more for lifestyle reasons and investment opportunities.

Most of the Chinese investors coming to B.C. are very wealthy, business-oriented people and they are turning their back on China's booming economy for the "good life" in the Lower Mainland. China's burgeoning wealthy class has dominant presence in Metro Vancouver's high end property market for some time now. This trend is fuelling the real estate busi-

ness and tourism with groups of rich travelers scheduling visits to the city for the main purpose of house hunting.

This coming August, there are several groups of 20 from Beijing and Shanghai who will visit Vancouver and Toronto on the hunt for million-dollar or multi-million-dollar listings.

The earlier Chinese waves to Canada had a different set of ethnic Chinese from Hong Kong. They were different people who came in the late 80s and early 90s. They came basically to have a way out in case things don't work out after the Hong Kong handover.

And they have stopped coming in 1997 and many have already returned to Hong Kong. The real estate Chinese boom in the property market is nothing new to British Columbia, it is the players and buyers that have changed.

The abundance of Mainland Chinese brings the abundance of Chinglish in contemporary Vancouver culture. Columnist Douglas Todd of Vancouver Sun noted the following signs:

Standard Sign - Chinglish
Wet Floor - Execution in Progress or Be Cautious to Slip
Keep Off the Grass - Please don't disturb
No Swimming - Keep Off the Lake
No Admittance to Pool - Please Do Not Climb the Pool
Depression - Sadness

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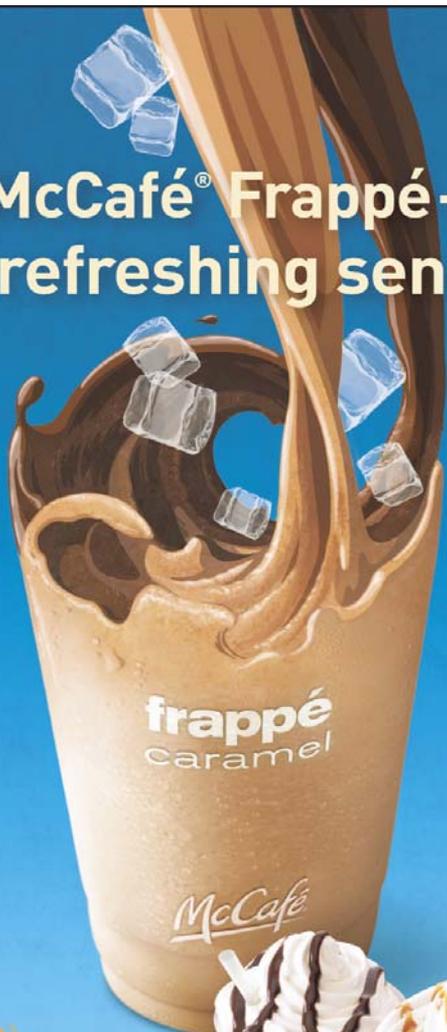
The local Vancouver Chinatown is getting more and more hip, sassy and chic, something like New York's Soho. The gentrification can be seen and felt in the once gloomy area. In the heart of Chinatown is an upmarket boutique hotel called The Keefer. It has two-bedroom, 2,400 square-foot-loft and can be rented for something like \$2,500 a day.

It features original artworks, home theater lounge, stunning roof deck, swimming pool plus great views of the city. The acrylic swimming pool acts as a shimmering skylight for the apartment below.

A recent guest of the elegant, hidden hotel was Hollywood actor Owen Wilson who was filming a movie "The Big Year" with co-stars Steve Martin and Joe Black. He's often seen at Keefer Bar, a cool new boite attracting young professionals and local society folks with tapas, Asian-inspired cocktails, romantic ambience and the beautiful people of Vancouver.

The rebirth of Chinatown is urban renaissance that combined modern with Asian heritage. So who needs Frisco and the Big Apple? (www.philstar.com)

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