

Minister Jason Kenney listens to Filipino community's concerns



After listening to the Ad Hoc Committee that made a list of immigration reforms needed by the Filipino community, Minister Kenney poses for souvenir with some of the committee members.

Montreal, May 30, 2009 - It was a historical event for the Filipino community in Montreal to receive a cabinet member of the Federal government who made an effort to listen to our concerns. The Minister of Immigration, Citizenship and Multiculturalism, Hon. Jason Kenney, sat in a round table conference with a group of community leaders who formed an ad hoc committee that discussed and deliberated on immigration issues, focusing on the Live-in Caregivers Program. Minister Kenney and his staff were cordially received at the FAMAS community centre building on Saturday, May 30, 2009. The meeting which started at 4:00 P.M. lasted for over an hour. During this time, Minister Kenney listened intently to the delegated speakers who were given the task of presenting the most important issues

See Page 4 Live-in Caregivers

Filipino Solidarity Cooperative receives VIP visitor



The Minister of Immigration, Citizenship & Multiculturalism, Hon. Jason Kenney, paid a short visit to the Coop upon the invitation of Zenaida Kharroubi, Coop president, accompanied by Riza Esmealda, FAMAS director and Ben Bade., Coop director. (Photo taken on May 30/09)

Montreal, May 30, 2009 - It was a brief visit but it was a good souvenir to have a prominent Cabinet member of the government visit the Filipino Solidarity Cooperative store. Minister Jason Kenney was scheduled to go to another meeting but he obliged to drop by the Coop for a few minutes.

The Filipino Coop, or "Marché Coop Filipino" (its French name) needs a lot of publicity to attract more Filipinos to go to the store and patronize it. Having the Minister of Immigration, Citizenship and Multiculturalism visit the store is very symbolic of the Coop president's passionate effort to convince people to believe in the cooperative movement as the only way for a community to be united and to be developed economically as well as politically.

Zenaida Kharroubi, the editor and publisher of the Filipino Star, and

See Page 4 Filipino Coop



Contents

Cooperative News	p. 3
Tourism	p. 6
Community News	p. 10
Philippine Cuisine	p. 11
Filstar Photo Gallery	p. 12
Jerry Estrada Column	p. 15
Ask The Video Guy	p. 16
Showbiz Gossip	p. 18
Classified Ads	p. 21

Ajennat Coiffure
 COIFFURE ET ESTHÉTIQUE / HAIRDRESSING & ESTHETICS
 6210 Decarie Boulevard, Montreal, QC (cor. Van Horne)
 Telephone: 514-731-8881 From head to toe beauty and care!

- Hair Cut, Set, Colouring
- Make up
- Manicure
- Facial & Skin Treatment
- Body Massage
- Foot Spa/Pedicure

<p>10\$ DE RABAIS</p> <p>SUR COUPE & MISE EN PISSE</p> <p>\$10 OFF ! FOR CUT AND SET (REG PRICE 35\$)</p>	<p>5\$ DE RABAIS</p> <p>SUR TOUTS SERVICES !</p> <p>\$5 OFF ANY SERVICES !</p>	<p>HIGHLIGHTS 15\$ DE RABAIS</p> <p>POUR FEMME OU HOMME</p> <p>\$15 OFF</p> <p>HIGHLIGHTS POUR FEMME OU HOMME</p>
---	--	--

EDITORIAL

What will be the aftermath of the Iranian protests over the election results?

The current events happening in Iran are quite disturbing as innocent lives are lost and mourned. We stand helpless as bystanders. Iranians in different parts of the world show their concern by demonstrating. This show of support for their fellow countrymen brings to the world's attention the plight of the protesters. All these demonstrations seem futile as the Iranian government continue to crack down on protesters and journalists alike. The United States as well as other countries are helplessly watching for they cannot interfere with Iran's internal affairs. No matter how much the world leaders condemn the unfair and harsh treatment of protesters, the violent attacks by the police and the military are unrelenting. How long will this continue and what will be the aftermath of this tragic event? Will the people eventually win against an incumbent president who is determined to cling to power?

Expert observers of this violent upheaval are convinced that the Iranian people are determined to solve their political problems in their own way. But they are not sure how this will happen. They just know that there are signs of disagreement among the clerics. The people now are openly opposing their spiritual leader. This was never the case before. Therefore, they conclude that the break away from the old beliefs will lead to changes that should happen sooner than later. Nevertheless, it still bothers most people to see the violence being committed against ordinary people who only want to express their protests over the election results which they consider impossible.

The events in Iran over the alleged fraudulent results have made us more aware of how lucky we are to be able to exercise our rights to vote in a peaceful country. We are also made aware of the courage of people to voice their opinions in spite of the apparent danger to their lives. It is an ultimate test of people's strength who are clamoring for reforms. This is like a repetition of the Islamic revolution 30 years ago.

It may appear that the powerful regime of the current president Amadinejad will stand but for how long will the situation remain unchallenged. It is believed that change can only occur eventually. In spite of the government's attempt to block the

press from reporting what is going on in the country, news still filter out through the use of modern tools like cell phones, social networking sites, and the internet.

We are interested in knowing what happens next for it reminds us of a similar situation in the Philippines when people demonstrated about allegations of election irregularities. The late Fernando Poe, Jr. was allegedly cheated out of the presidential seat but because of the powerful lawmakers' support behind GMA, nothing happened. The forthcoming 2010 general elections will certainly raise more concerns about the security of the people's votes – how do we make sure that they are counted accurately? In spite of the news that election results will be automated, they say that these machines are programmed by people. This human element is not guaranteed to be incorruptible.

It is certainly an irony to note that in a democratic country like Canada where people are free to vote, they do not all go to the polls on Election Day. It seems as if they take it for granted that things are going to be well taken care of and they have nothing to worry about. They feel that they do not have to do anything. In sharp contrast to this common lackadaisical attitude, we have the high turn out of Iranians who voted during this recent election. When the results sounded incredible, they all took to the streets to protest the results. We have not seen this type of reaction to an election in this country. Will this make us change our attitude and become more involved in the election of our representatives?

We will not wait very long for the occasion to use our right to vote. There will be a municipal election in November. It is also rumored that we will have a federal election in the fall and maybe even a provincial election if Premier Charest feels he can win a stronger majority. With all these election prospects, do we have the knowledge to choose our representative wisely? Or do we even care to know the issues and who can represent our interests? Do we need to see that there is a danger of losing our rights before we can be moved to exercise them?

With all the modern communication technology, we have

an easy access to information. We can find out about the track record of a candidate and find out what he or she stands for. If we want something done for our community, the only thing we need to do is to have the willingness to assemble and rally behind a cause. We can practically ask anything we want provided we are united and we represent the good of the majority.

In the face of all the tragic events happening around the world, we must be reminded that we have a duty to preserve our democratic way of life by knowing and understanding what our rights are and exercising them. It is not much to ask. On the contrary, we have a lot to be grateful for. We live in one of the best countries in the world.

Zenaida Ferry Kharroubi

Minister Cannon to Attend G8 Foreign Ministers' Meeting,

The Honourable Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs, today announced that he will attend the G8 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Trieste, Italy, from June 25 to 27, 2009. "The G8 forum is an important catalyst for developing concrete and credible solutions to global challenges," said Minister Cannon. "I appreciate the initiative by the Italian presidency and the G8 to deal with new destabilizing

factors, such as piracy and ongoing critical issues like Afghanistan."

During the meeting, foreign ministers from the G8 (Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Russia, the United Kingdom, the United States and the host country of Italy), and the European Union will address international security issues such as nuclear non-proliferation, terrorism, crime and peacebuilding, as well as a range of specific regional situations, including the Middle East, North Korea and Iran. The ministers are planning to meet with their Afghan and Pakistani counterparts to examine regional cooperation in border management and security.

Minister Cannon will also take the opportunity to champion Canada's values of freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law, as well as key non-proliferation goals in preparation for the May 2010 Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Canada's year-long chairmanship of the G8 will begin on January 1, 2010, with Prime Minister Stephen Harper hosting the G8 Summit in Huntsville, Ont., from June 25 to 27, 2010.

"This year, Italy's chairmanship has focused the G8 on the rule of law and human rights in countering terrorism," said Minister Cannon. "As

Marché Coop Filipino

The Filipino Solidarity Cooperative

4711 Van Horne Avenue
Montreal, QC H3W 1H8

Tel.: 514-733-8915

E-Mail: filipinocoop@gmail.com

We thank you for your patronage.

In a few weeks, we will have a COFFEE CLUB for our members and serve organic coffee. We hope to diversify our services to increase revenue.

Will our members be willing to come and use our Coffee Shop?

Your participation in this random survey by e-mail to: filipinocoop@gmail.com will be greatly appreciated.



Litsong Manok
\$11.49 each

Lechon (big size)
\$240.00 plus delivery charge

Order lechon for Saturday pick up but we need at least a minimum order of 15 lbs (\$11.99/lb) no later than Thursday. Call us at 514-733-8915 to place your orders.

THE NORTH AMERICAN FILIPINO STAR

4950 Queen Mary Road Penthouse
(5th Floor) near Snowdon Metro
Montreal, QC H3W 1X3

Tel.: 514-485-7861

E-Mail: marketing@filipinostar.org

Jean Janete Aguilar Jerry Estrada Lina V. Fernandez Dr. Victor Gavino Prof. Isaac Goodine Alvin D. Veloso Contributors	Zenaida Ferry Kharroubi Chief Editor & Publisher Sam Ferry Assistant Editor News & Tourism Bert Abiera Founder	Hilda T. Veloso Community News Mary Joy Lizarondo Sports News Nida Verginom Butaran Sales Representative
--	--	---

Opinions, comments of writers and columnists do not necessarily reflect that of the management of Filcan Publications, Inc.

The North American Filipino Star SUBSCRIPTION

Name _____
Address: _____
Telephone: (Home) _____ Business: _____
E-Mail: _____

1 year (12 issues) \$24

2 years (24 issues) \$40

Gift subscription
Less 10% on the list price

www.filipinostar.org

COOPERATIVE NEWS

The campaign to raise capital is on

At the recent meeting of the Board of Directors last June 5, 2009, it was decided to follow up on the general assembly's resolutions passed during the special meeting held on May 3, 2009, one of which pertains to raising the capital of the Coop by asking members to buy 50 additional shares at \$10 each for a total of \$500. A pledge form to purchase these shares is included in this issue and will be presented first to those who have fully paid the basic shares of \$100 (5 common, 5 preferred shares). A share certificate will be issued upon full payment of these shares. Those who were present at the special general assembly meeting will also be the first ones to receive these pledge forms.

We can no longer afford to pay a full time cashier due to lack of funds. Although the 60% salary subsidy finished on January 15, 2009, she was still retained in the hope of improving the sales of the Coop but this did not materialize. Our daily sales hardly cover the cost of the rent, and the deficit is getting bigger. Hence, the Coop now has to be manned by volunteer personnel. Luckily, we have a new member who is able to give her time during the week from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. But there is a need to have more volunteers as it is not always possible to have the same person operate the store everyday without a break. I have been working with this new volunteer to train her and this made me spend a lot of time away from my own business. I am therefore appealing to other retired people who may have the motivation to help the Coop. Ideally, there should be two people for every shift which can be for periods of 2 to 3 hours or can be morning, afternoon, or evening shifts. Our store hours are from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. We need 6 volunteers a day if we want to have a fair distribution of volunteer labour.

The only way we can decrease the deficit is by using volunteer labour until such time as when we receive additional share capital and government support. But before any government support is obtained, we need time to prepare a business plan and then to have the time to go out and present this to the government. At present, I am too busy with many things at the same time. I have not yet found someone who can help me do most of the work that

needs to be done. Yet, I have remained optimistic, and I have kept trying to do what I can under the circumstances.

In spite of all these difficulties, we may be able to have a little bit of assistance in the improvement of the Coop. The city government's renewal plan may give us a subsidy which is available to all merchants on Victoria Avenue and Van Horne up to the corner of Lavoie and Van Horne. However, we have to spend our own money first and then they will give us 33% of what we spend up to a maximum of \$33,000. For example, if we put an awning and have a sign made, this could cost about \$3000 to \$5000 and we can apply to the government for 33% of this amount to be reimbursed. There is a deadline to submit a claim for reimbursement.

We are therefore urging our members to join the tour to Levis, Quebec and Quebec City on July 18, 2000 in order to raise funds we need to improve the façade of the Coop which may help attract more people to come to the store. The amount we will raise from this trip is certainly not enough to cover the costs of concrete improvements that need to be done not only to the façade of the Coop but also inside. For example, our display shelves are not of uniform sizes and shape. Moreover, there are not enough display shelves to accommodate the different types of merchandise securely and attractively. If we have more funds available, we can re-arrange both furniture and merchandise to maximize the use of space in an attractive fashion. There is a lot of improvements needed in order to create the proper atmosphere for a cooperative so that the members will not only shop but also have a place to have coffee and use the internet to check their e-mail.

There are about 700 members, some fully paid, some partially paid. About 40% of this number have paid. If the 60% would pay their balances, we will have enough funds to be used in the improvement of the Coop. If 100 fully paid members purchase 50 additional preferred shares, we will be on our way to turn things around. This of course depends on the goodwill of all our members and other people in our community. Their quick response to our appeal for support is very critical for the survival of our Cooperative.



Marché Coop Filipino

Filipino Solidarity Cooperative, Inc.
 Coopérative de Solidarité Filipino
 4711. ave. Van Horne
 Montréal (Québec) H3W 1H8
 Telephone: 5 14-733-8915

PLEDGE TO PURCHASE PREFERRED SHARES

I hereby pledge to support the Filipino Solidarity Cooperative by purchasing 50 additional preferred shares at a cost of ten dollars each (\$10.00) for the total amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) which will be used in the recovery plan designed to make the Coop reach a break even point.

I understand that this amount shall be used as part of the capital structure of the Coop and shall only be redeemed at the discretion of the Board of Directors and according to the rules and regulations of the Cooperatives Act of Quebec.

In testimony hereof, I have affixed my signature below on this _____ day of _____ in the year 2009 in the city of Montreal, province of Quebec, Canada.

 Print Name and sign

Name: _____
 Address _____
 Telephone _____
 Cell phone _____
 E-Mail _____
 Terms of payment: Cash Instalment

Note: If installment payment method is chosen, you can pay within 6 months from the date of your pledge. Our six months cash flow chart is outlined below for your information as to where the funds will be used.

Administration Use Only			
ID Control No.	Date of membership		
Amount of payments:	Date of payments	Receipt No	By
\$ _____	_____	_____	_____
\$ _____	_____	_____	_____
\$ _____	_____	_____	_____
\$ _____	_____	_____	_____
\$ _____	_____	_____	_____

Cash Flow Capital Projection Six Months Period - July to December 2009

Item	Amount
Rent (\$2700 x 6)	\$16 200
Utilities Expense (300 x6)	1 800
Insurance Expense	600
Alarm System Expense	300
Maintenance (Extermination Expense)	300
Cooling Equipment Installation	6 000
Supplies Expense	600
Casual Labor (Part time cashier)	3 600
Merchandise Purchase	<u>20 000</u>
TOTAL 6 MONTHS BUDGET	<u>\$50 000</u>



Filipino Dentist
DR. GENE SANTANDER
 DENTAL SURGEON/CHIRURGIEN DENTISTE
 5165 Queen Mary Rd., Suite 304
 Montreal, Quebec H3W 1X7
TEL. (514) 484-3110



From Page 1 Minister Kenney that concern the Filipino Community. Evelyn Calugay, the chairperson of PINAY, was assigned the task of presenting the main report on the problems facing live-in caregivers. The recommendations in her report are:

- 1) Regulate recruitment

Filipino Community and hope to continue to build upon the foundations for successive generations. We have produced professionals, business people, trades people, laborers and even some politicians. Who knows, we may yet produce a Conservative Member of Parliament. It has been my honor and privilege to be before you

later on. For the Canadian employer, help will be immediate, while being able to declare her taxes and the government being able to collect taxes from both individuals. It was also recommended that a general work permit be given for the same period of time without identifying the specific employer. In the event of a change of

meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2009 at Gilmore International College with the same members of the committee who actively participated in the preparation of the reports presented to Minister Jason Kenney, namely, Riza Esmeralda, Francis J. Ocampo-Diaz, Evelyn Calugay, Tess Tesalona, Joan Junio, Zenaida Kharroubi, Melle Lugod, Julie Parado, Angie Ogerio, Au Osdon, Annie Miaral, and Grace Yip. Since Erik Hamon and Flor Rillo were present during the round table conference, they were also invited to attend the follow up meeting.

To ensure that the recommendations are seriously considered, the committee also plans to set up a meeting with Quebec's Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities, Madame Yolande James. Furthermore, the support of our Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of the National Assembly (MNAs) will be solicited.

Based on what had transpired over a period of one month of working together, the ad hoc committee seems to fulfill an important role in protecting the interests of the Filipino Community. On the other hand, the North American Filipino Star will serve as a vehicle to impart the concerns of the community to the government and to record the events that will become part of Filipino-Canadian history in Montreal.



After the round table conference, Minister Kenney chats with some of the committee members. From left: Au Osdon, Evelyn Calugay, Angie Ogerio, Melle Lugod, Famas Directors Vicky Laya and Riza Esmeralda.

agencies through strict monitoring of immigration consultants/agencies (whether recognized by the Government or not);

- 2) Give LIC's permanent residence status on their arrival. If the Government does not wish to implement this recommendation, then allow LICs to submit application for permanent residence upon their arrival.

- 3) Make live-in requirement optional;

- 4) Provide a work visa that is work industry specific rather than employer-specific, allowing LICs to change employers freely and quickly.

- 5) Eliminate the 24/36 months requirement;

- 6) Pass the Juana Tejada law to eliminate the 2nd medical exam;
- 7) Ratify the UN Convention on the Protection of the Rights and Welfare of all Migrant Workers and their Families.

The second presenter at the conference was Francis J. Ocampo-Diaz who tackled the issue of inadmissibility of a caregiver to become permanent resident if one member of her family is inadmissible. In his report, he stated: "... we find that the "all or nothing" policy as being too harsh for individuals who have given up so much for Canadian society. Thus, we believe that the policies regarding inadmissibility should be revisited in such a way that equitable remedies can be provided in accordance with the principles of natural justice. In essence, the "all or nothing: policy" should be modified such that only those who are truly inadmissible not be allowed to enter Canada while allowing the other admissible family members to enter... In conclusion, we all share the values and principles that the Great Canadian Society has afforded the

and we thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to hear our pleas."

The third presenter was Annie Miaral who stated that the "government's administrative practices have caused ongoing problems for both the caregiver and employer." She wondered why there seemed to be no consistency in the processing times at Canadian High Commissions abroad, and the waiting period is much longer for applications being processed in the High Commission in the Philippines." Therefore, she recommended that processing times for all immigration applications should be shortened.

She also pointed out that "there is a widely perceived bias amongst staff at the High Commission. For example, there is a lack of information on the exact process, with no apparent coordination between Service Canada and the Foreign Missions abroad. We therefore recommend that Canadian Immigration be more consistent, efficient and coherent in the administration of the Live-in Caregiver Program. One way to realize this goal is to work harmoniously with the Quebec Government, especially where labor standards and human rights protections are concerned."

Another problem cited by Annie Miaral is the delay of transferring work permits from one employer to another. To remedy the problem, she recommended that the bridge extension be implemented to prevent a caregiver from breaking Canadian immigration rules.

With the bridge extension, both the employer and caregiver will benefit as she will be able to begin working legally and have her employment continue to count towards her application for landed immigrant status

employer, the caregiver is not automatically out of status without any means of financially supporting herself while another work permit is issued.

Finally, she pointed out that the program would have not existed for this long period of time if there was no need by families for the service. Therefore, "on behalf of all caregiver agencies in the province of Quebec, we ask that you give your urgent attention and serious consideration to this important policy matter and to the recommendations we have put forward today."

Julie Parado made a concluding statement to emphasize the main points of the committee's recommendations.

At the end of the oral presentations, Minister Kenney made his response. First, he took exception to the remarks on racism as he believes it was never a part of the government's policy. Besides, live-in caregivers are not only Filipinos but other nationalities as well. Then he posed the challenges that must be met, for instance, he asked whether employers would still be interested in the program if they have no guarantee that their investment will be protected when the work permit becomes work specific. How do we make a balance between the interests of employers and caregivers alike? He also expressed surprise about the "inadmissibility" and "the all or nothing" policy cited by Francis Ocampo-Diaz. He asked for more information about this and how many cases have there been so far.

In order to prepare an appropriate reply to the Minister's questions and challenges, follow up meetings will be set up in order to clarify all points raised during the round table conference. The first follow-up

Join the Coach Tour to Levis, Quebec to learn about the history of the Caisse Populaire Desjardins - July 18, 2009 Reserve your tickets now! Call 514-733-8915 or 485-7861

From Page 1 Filipino Coop

the current president of the Coop, feels it is a tough battle to compete with bigger stores located strategically on the corner just close to Plamondon Metro because most Filipinos are accustomed to going there as well as to other stores owned by Vietnamese and Chinese merchants. To make it worse, some people pass rumors around that the Coop's prices are higher when in fact the prices are the same and even lower in some cases. If they find any price lower somewhere else, all they have to do is to report it to the Coop volunteer on duty so that the price can be adjusted accordingly.

It is hoped that Filipinos themselves will soon realize that the cooperative has a lot of potential to help the community economically and politically. Not only can it serve as a centre for developing entrepreneurship but it can also promote the development of positive attitudes of cooperation among the members. It will be the training ground for newcomers who can acquire Canadian experience by being a volunteer in doing various tasks of running a retail store. If membership increases, it will serve as a proof or a track record to show to both the government and the business community that Filipinos are not only hardworking people but also a political and economic power to reckon with.

Continued Page 9 'COOP'

GMA won't run in 2010

JPE: President wants to avoid lame-duck tag



President Gloria Arroyo

President Gloria Arroyo will not run for Congress in 2010 and there will be no convening of a Constituent Assembly at the inaugural session of the Fourteenth Congress, Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile said on Sunday. President Arroyo has kept silent on her political plans for 2010 amid speculations that she would run for Congress in the Second District of Pampanga, her home province. Her eldest son, Rep. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo, represents the district in Congress.

Enrile said during an interview over radio station dzRH that he understood why the President had kept mum on what she intended to do.

"Anybody who understands the dynamics of leadership knows that the moment she declares she would be out of politics after 2010, she will immediately be a lame duck president," he added.

Enrile said that once Mrs. Arroyo became a political lame duck, there would be a loosening of loyalties and her followers would be looking for other personalities.

"By not declaring her political plans, she is saying that she is still a force to reckon with in the future," he added.

Enrile contended that the President is under no obligation to announce her political plans, and anybody who demanded that she did so was being disrespectful.

"You can suspect anything but who are you to tell the president, 'You must tell me your political plans?' If I were the president and I would be asked that, I would tell that person: 'Who are you to tell me that? How

many votes can you deliver?'" he said.

Enrile also shrugged off speculations that Speaker Prospero Nograles would take advantage of the joint session on July 27 to constitute Congress into a Constituent Assembly, or "Con-Ass."

The Senate president said that the joint session would be held only to hear the President's State of the Nation Address (Sona).

"I know my parliamentary rules. The moment the President has finished her Sona, I will immediately adjourn the Senate session," he added.

During the joint session, the speaker and the Senate president can call for the convening and adjournment only of their respective chambers. Nograles cannot demand the continuation of the joint session once Enrile has adjourned the Senate session.

No more time

Enrile has been calling for constitutional amendments but he admitted that there is no more time left to do so before the 2010 presidential elections.

"You can't finish the amendments in a few months. We need a lot of time to debate proposed amendments and study their repercussions," he said.

Enrile pointed out that even the focusing of amendments on economic provisions of the Constitution would already be time-consuming. He said that there are many facets of the economy and identifying which should be opened to foreigners would entail lengthy debates.

"Let us amend the Constitution after 2010. But there will be a problem if the next president would be against it," he added.

Meanwhile, Sen. Richard Gordon warned the House of Representatives also on Sunday that it would turn the Philippines into another Iran or Pakistan if it insisted on convening a "Senate-less" Con-Ass.

Most of the congressmen, in adopting House Resolution 1109, believe that the three-fourths vote needed in a Constituent Assembly to amend the Constitution could be achieved through joint voting. All 23 senators are against this because their votes would be rendered irrelevant by the more numerous congressmen.

Gordon advised congressmen to stop such move as it is only creating further disorder, "Which could escalate to an uproar like what happened in Iran and Pakistan."

Risking chances

By speculating that Mrs. Arroyo would eye a congressional seat after she steps down from office, administration critics are "risking" their chances in the 2010 elections, Malacañang said also on Sunday.

According to Gabriel Claudio, the presidential adviser for political affairs, it is not important whether the President is compelled by law to resign before running for Congress. What is more relevant, he said, is that the elections would take place.

Mrs. Arroyo's critics claimed that she is planning to run for congressman while her allies in the House of Representatives amend the Constitution to effect a shift from a presidential to a parliamentary form of government. Hence, they further claimed, she can aspire to be prime minister and remain in power under the parliamentary system.

Lawyer Romulo Macalintal, the President's election lawyer, said that Mrs. Arroyo does not need to resign should she seek another public office because there is no legal prohibition against her possible congressional bid.

Macalintal added that Section 14 of Republic Act 9006 had repealed Section 67 of the Omnibus Election Code that requires the resignation of elective officials running for another position.

Resignation, he said, applies only to appointive officials once they file their certificate of candidacy.

Grace won't mind

The President seeking a seat in the House of Representatives poses no problem to Gov. Grace Padaca of Isabela.

But during the weekly Balitaan sa Tinapayan news forum, Padaca clarified that the 2010 elections should be respected and that the President, if she chooses to run, must ensure that no "undue advantage" would go her way.

"We cannot prevent her from running if she wants to. I would be the last person who will stop her from running as congressman or for any other electoral post since nobody could stop her from doing so. All I want

is that there would be no goons, the elections should be clean and their true essence would be respected," the governor told The Manila Times after the forum.

When asked on possible plans of Malacañang allies in Congress to groom Mrs. Arroyo as prime minister, Padaca said, "Those are all speculations. The question now is will she be treated the same way now when she goes down as president?"

Give it to "Erap"

For former President Joseph "Erap" Estrada, his running for president for the second time is made possible by the conditions of the pardon that Mrs. Arroyo had granted him, Malacañang said also on Sunday.

"Everyone has purposes and motives. On the matter of former President Estrada, the conditions [of the executive clemency] say he's not allowed to run again for any elective post. Now, I'm sure his lawyers have an idea how to interpret that," Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said.

"But we have to give it to him. What the former president is doing [indicates] that he is really prepared to help his countrymen. And if the law and the opportunity permit him, he can serve again," he added.

Enrile said also on Sunday that Estrada is dead-set on running for president next year and is now preparing for his bid.

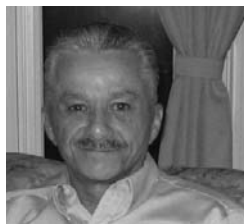
During the radio interview over dzRH, the Senate president, who is perceived as a close ally of the deposed leader, disclosed that Estrada, whom he had been accompanying around the country for sometime, had purchased two-brand new helicopters and 20 vans for next year's campaign.

Enrile warned those who are also eyeing the presidency that they would have a hard time in their bids once Estrada runs. Estrada is said to remain popular among ordinary Filipinos.

The Senate president expressed the belief that Estrada could still seek reelection but he conceded that this legal question would be best decided by the Supreme Court.

Estrada won the presidency in 1998 but was deposed in 2001 for alleged corruption. He was detained after being convicted of plunder but his successor, President Arroyo, pardoned him in 2007 ■

LOOKING FOR A FILIPINA FOR SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP AND MARRIAGE



A slim Filipina 39 to 55 years old who speaks French or English. I am 55, single well educated respectful honest and sincere. I would like to meet a Filipina already in Canada. Please call me: Michel at (450) 680-1220 or write me at: m.couturier@videotron.ca

ART CORTEZ
B.Sc, Civil Engr.
Professional Home &
Property Inspector


cortezgroup
Home Inspection & Consulting
1.514.862.9912
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
REAL ESTATE

HOME AND PROPERTY INSPECTION SERVICES

Don't buy/sell house without consulting professional inspector. Save thousands of dollars and enjoy our prompt and professional inspection services. Written report with pictures provided. Serving Filipinos since 2001. For inspection booking and free orientation seminar, please call 514-862-9912

OUR SERVICES

Pre-Purchase and Pre-Sale Inspections
Expertise and/or Single Component Inspections
Project Management and Monitoring
Seminar and Consultation

TOURISM

SURIGAO DEL NORTE

Sea, Surf & Sun



Beach in the vicinity of Surigao City



Cloud Nine Beach, Siargao Island



The pebbled beach of Mabua

Surigao del Norte is a province of the Philippines located in the **Caraga** region in Mindanao. Its capital is **Surigao City** which is best known as an embarkation point for island hopping adventures. The province consists of three major islands — Dinagat Island, which is the largest, **Siargao Island**, and Bucas Grande

Island — in the Philippine Sea, and a small region at the northernmost tip of the island of Mindanao. This mainland portion borders Agusan del Norte, and Surigao del Sur to the south.

The province is blessed with long stretches of white sand beaches, enchanting rock formations, mysterious caves, and vast mangrove



Pagoda Off Siargao Island



The bonok-bonok *maradjao karadjao* festival is marked by street and stationary dancing festivity in a mardi gras atmosphere. The festival is celebrated annually (September 9) to honor Surigao City's Patron Saint San Nicolas de Tolentino and to show gratitude for the blessings and good graces received.

forests. The strong waves in Siargao Island has made the province the Surfing Capital of the Philippines.

Once a quiet and pristine place, Surigao del Norte rural charm now caught the fancy of local and foreign tourists who frequent the province's numerous islands. Over the years, Surigao del Norte has indeed become a shangri-la for visitors from all over the world, especially for surfers and body boarders.

During the month of September, the **Maradjao Karadjao Festival** is celebrated in honor of the San Nicholas de Tolentino. Various presentations of Bonok-bonok, a dance performed as a thanksgiving ritual, are seen during the fest.

The best white sand beach in the area is on **Sagisi Island**, also an excellent dive site. **Mabua Pebble**

Beach, features parallel lines of native cottages and is an ideal spot for water sports, such as windsurfing and jet skiing. Other noteworthy places include:

- **General Luna Beach** - A discovery of foreign surfers and scuba divers. White sand beaches line the shores for miles and miles facing a handful of islets some hundred meters away from the unrushing waves of the Pacific.

- **Buenavista Cave** - Located near Sitio Pagkawasan . Unique stone formations inside the cave create an illusionary vision of a majestic "King's Court" complete with other chambers.

Access to the province is provided by numerous ferries that cross the Surigao Strait between Surigao and the island of Leyte carrying vehicles and passengers between Liloan in Southern Leyte and Surigao City.



Aerial view Bucas Grande Island



View of some of the islands that form Surigao Del Norte



This is the boundary of two provinces of Philippines, surigao del norte and surigao del sur



Cloud 9, General Luna



Bonok Bonok Festival



Guyam is one of the smallest islands surrounding the mainland. So small it will take you only five minutes to walk around it.

Who was Neda? Slain Iranian woman an unlikely martyr

The young woman who last weekend emerged as a powerful symbol of opposition to the Iranian government embraced life in many ways, but there was little about her that would have led her friends to predict she would become a martyr, one of them told CNN.

She also loved music. She once studied violin but had given it up and was planning to take up piano next. She had just bought a piano, but it had not yet been delivered.

Don't Miss

Her demeanor was typically calm, even serene, but she had a quirky,



Neda Agha-Soltan, 26, enjoyed music and was looking forward to learning how to play the piano.

Neda Agha-Soltan, 26, rose to prominence within hours after a crudely shot video documenting her final moments was uploaded to the Web shortly after she died Saturday from a single gunshot wound to the chest.

"It's heartbreaking," President Obama said Tuesday in Washington, referring to the video of the woman the world has come to know simply as Neda, which means "divine calling" in Farsi. "And I think anyone who sees it knows there's something fundamentally unjust about it."

Since Saturday, the Iranian government has sought to minimize the impact of her death, but one of her friends on Tuesday described her to CNN in an attempt to inject life and context into what has been -- for much of the rest of the world -- just a few seconds of powerful, if grainy, video.

Much about her remains unclear, but here is what CNN has learned from at least one source:

The second of three children, Neda lived with her parents in a middle-class neighborhood east of Tehran.

She was a happy, positive person. Though she studied philosophy and religion at the Azad Islamic University, she was more spiritual than religious.

playful sense of humor. A friend recalled that once, when Neda was visiting her friend's house, she picked up a white Teddy bear, took off her big, purple-studded earrings and put them on the bear. Then she removed a necklace from around the neck of a friend and put it around the bear's neck, taking delight in the bear's transformation.

She liked to travel, having visited Turkey three months ago with a tour group. And she believed in human rights, her friend said.

That may have explained why she was at an anti-government demonstration in Tehran on Saturday afternoon. After being stuck in traffic for more than an hour inside a Peugeot 206 -- a subcompact with a poorly working air conditioner -- Neda and a family friend decided to get out of the car for some fresh air.

Shaky video captured on a cell phone shows her walking with the man, a teacher of music and philosophy, near an anti-government demonstration.

The two are near where protesters were chanting in opposition to the supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, whose calls for an end to anti-

Continued on Page 14 SEE 'IRAN'

Filipino ferry owner, skipper to face charges

Philippine justice officials on Tuesday approved the filing of criminal charges against the owner and missing captain of a huge ferry that capsized last year during a typhoon, killing hundreds of people.

The charges of negligence stem from a criminal complaint filed by victims' families accusing the owner of the 23,800-ton Princess of the Stars of ignoring storm warnings, said Justice Secretary Agnes Devanadera.

Of about 800 passengers and crew, only 33 survived after the ferry overturned in the storm-swollen waves and fierce winds near central Sibuyan Island on June 21, 2008.

Authorities have identified more than 400 bodies, and 316 others are believed to be trapped in the wreckage, whose bow is still jutting from the sea, Transport Undersecretary Maria Elena Bautista said.

approval, although storm warnings had already been raised.

The body of the captain, Florencio Marimon, has not been recovered, Devanadera said.



Relatives release a cardboard replica of the sunken ferry MV Princess of the Stars to commemorate the 1st anniversary of the tragedy by the breakwater off Manila Bay June 22, 2009

Coast guard officials said last year that they approved the voyage because the storm signal was weak but that the captain should have the final word, taking into consideration weather conditions along the way.

Justice officials say the skipper and others in charge of the ferry should have canceled the trip.

"They should have practiced extraordinary diligence considering the very bad weather at the time," Devanadera told The Associated Press.

State prosecutors will continue the investigation to determine if about eight others accused in the case should also be indicted, she said.

Senior State Prosecutor Maria Emilia Victorio, who headed the investigation, said she would file the charges later Tuesday in a regional trial court in Manila, where the ferry originated.

About 50 relatives of victims threw white flowers into Manila Bay during a memorial Mass on Monday. A cardboard replica of the ferry was released into the bay, where it slowly sank in the waves.

Sulpicio Lines also owned the Dona Paz, which sank in December 1987 with 4,340 people onboard after colliding with a fuel tanker in the world's worst peacetime maritime disaster. Two other ferries that it owned also sank before the Princess of the Stars. ■




Norma Fajardo cries as he holds a photo of her son Randy Fajardo, who died in the sinking of passenger ferry MV Princess of the Stars during commemoration rites by the breakwater off Manila Bay in Manila, Philippines Monday June 22, 2009

If convicted, Sulpicio Lines Inc. official Edgar Go, the respondent in the complaint, could face up to six years in prison. The company is facing a separate civil case.

Go did not comment immediately, but Sulpicio Lines said last year that the ferry left Manila with coast guard

DR. EMILIA ESPIRITU

CHIRURGIEN DENTISTE / DENTAL SURGEON



5790 Cote des Neiges Rd Suite A-024 MONTREAL, QUEBEC H3S 1Y9

PHONE: 514-340-8222 (4077)
E-Mail: dr-e_pin@yahoo.ca

Need Money?

Do you have a full time job?
If yes, call (514) 344-1499

AND GET CASH NOW!

Good & Bad Credit Accepted

Continued from Page 4
'COOP'

An educational tour has been organized to visit Levis, Quebec where the powerful credit union, the Caisse Populaire Desjardins started. This has been written about by Jerry Estrada who suggested organizing a tour to this town in order to better inform the members and prospective members that a cooperative can become big business. The tour is set for Saturday, July 18, 2009. More details are found on the ad on page 11 in this issue.

As it is often said, Rome is not built in a day. But if people do not support the Filipino Coop, nothing can be built at all. It is therefore up to each and everyone of the 12 000 people in Cote des Neiges and about 5000 more in the South Shore and West Island to start getting involved by being a member and patronizing the Coop. After all, the benefits will not be for one group only but for the whole community at large. No one can predict the future but we can hope for a better one if we all work together not only for ourselves but also for our children and our children's children. ■

'Swine flu' cases reach 247 in RP

Health authorities on Tuesday reported 54 new confirmed cases of Influenza A(H1N1) flu virus in the country.

The Philippines' now has 247 confirmed cases of the flu—although mostly mild ones—making it the 12th country with the most number of cases among the 76 countries that reported confirmed cases of A(H1N1), according to the reports.

Based on the latest World Health Organization (WHO) report, only 11 countries have more A(H1N1) infection than the Philippines.

The Department of Health reported that of the 54 new cases, 52 involved Filipinos and 29 females. Their age ranges from 5 to 70 years old.

But Undersecretary Ramon Bacani of the Department of Education said the total number could be higher, adding that some schools were likely not to report flu cases to the authorities for fear of being ostracized. He said he had received unconfirmed reports that there were schools in the provinces were not reporting students with flu-like symptoms.

Other institutions were more cooperative health authorities.

In a report posted in the online news website of ABS-CBN, the television

network announced that two of its employees were infected with the A(H1N1) virus. Network executives said the two were already recovering from the disease.

"Company officials have been closely coordinating with the Department of Health on the cases and have also conducted contact tracing to check on the health conditions of the people who may have been exposed to the two individuals," a network official said in a statement.

ABS-CBN said it has already implemented measures to prevent the spread of the disease to the other employees.

Nueva Ecija situation

Meanwhile, health officials also disclosed that from eight previously confirmed cases, 20 people were now infected in Hilera, Nueva Ecija, plus two in neighboring villages in Jaen.

Local officials reported A(H1N1) cases in Pakul and Lambakin, but added that the number of infection in Hilera was decreasing.

Health Secretary Francisco Duque 3rd said the Hilera Elementary School, which was most affected, was closed

temporarily.

Local health officials in the area were also doing active disease surveillance and health education. Plus, residents were advised to practice some social distancing.

The Health department on Monday declared the country's first case of a community outbreak in Hilera, after the eight tested positive to the new virus strain.

In the case of Candelaria National High School in Candelaria, Bulacan, 49 people were placed under medical observation after showing flu-like symptoms. Only eight tested positive for A(H1N1). Affected villages in Candelaria include Bambang, Santa Ana and Matungas.

Earlier on Monday, classes at the tertiary finally started after the Commission on Higher Education suspended the opening for a week after some college students tested positive for A(H1N1).

Commission Chairman Emmanuel Angeles said his agency was coordinating with the different colleges and universities, as well as the Department of Health. "There is no need to panic. We are on top of the situation and we have the measures in place." ■

Happy 111th Independence Day
SM SERVICES INTERNATIONAL
Your Happiness is Mine!
514-928-4318

...The best, fastest and safest way to send balik-bayan boxes to the Philippines.

...2009 annual raffle promo is now going on --- grand prize winner will win round trip ticket to the Philippines or \$1500.00 Cdn cash.

Mei Mendoza-Bebilone
President, SM Services International

- Manila\$70
- Outside Manila\$85
- Visayas\$105
- Mindanao\$110
- Offshore\$145

3150 rue De Miniac
St. Laurent, PQ H4S 1H8
Tel.: 514-965-2825/514-331-0976
Fax: 514-331-8276
E-Mail:smsercan@yahoo.com



Eva Marie Acosta signing the receipt of her prize.



Mei Mendoza Bebilone, President of SM Services International, gives the prize to Eva Marie Acosta. 2008 winner of the trip to the Philippines.



Eva Marie Acosta (holding cheque) poses with her friends and Mei Mendoza Bebilone (2nd from left, back row)

COMMUNITY NEWS

TD Canada Trust Scholarship

(NC)—Each year since 1996, the TD Canada Trust Scholarships for Community Leadership program has rewarded students who are making a difference in areas such as local employment programs, environmental cleanup, support group creation, and family services initiatives.

As one of Canada's most prestigious scholarships, each reward is valued at \$70,000 and includes up to \$10,000 for tuition per year, \$5,000 per year toward living expenses and an offer of summer employment.

Some of the many accomplishments of this year's TD Canada Trust Scholarships for Community Leadership recipients include organizing activities to bridge the social gap for new immigrants, developing an eco-friendly passive solar panel tracking system and preserving the Latino culture in the far north. Winners are selected by a panel of prominent Canadian Senators, business professionals and past award recipients.

offices and online at www.tdcanadatrust.com/scholarship.

Advice from this year's winners

- It is never too late to get involved in your community
- Be passionate
- Get behind a cause you believe in
- Never quit
- Get online at www.tdcanadatrust.com/scholarship and fill out an application

"Helping new immigrants adjust to their new lives in Canada brings me tremendous feelings of satisfaction," said Humza Nusrat, 2009 scholarship recipient. "As the son of immigrant parents, I have grown-up with an appreciation for the fact that Canada is a place of opportunity and I want to expose others to this. Receiving a scholarship from TD will open up a whole new world of opportunity while giving me the financial freedom to continue making a difference in my community."

Sunday, July 12, 2009 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Philippine Community Center (FAMAS), 4708 Van Horne Avenue, Montreal, QC.

For application for candidacy and further information, please call any of the following:

- Lim Collao 514-747-2990
- Tina Lee 514-737-5305
- Evelyn Calusa 514-485-4401
- Dolly Villarino 514-979-8361
- Epang Nicolas 514-744-0667
- Pat Magallanes 514-334-7465

You can now advertise in the Star's website
Call 514-485-7861

LAGING HANDA SCOUTS GROUP 0592

calling all parents to register their children in Scouting

When: Saturday, Aug 8, 2009
 Time: 1:00 - 3:00 P.M.
 Where: FAMAS Bldg.
 4708 Van Horne
 Montreal, QC.

Annual Registration Fee is tax deductible. Financial assistance is available to those who need it. Call 514-485-7861 for information.



Best wishes to the Filipino Community on the occasion of the 111th Philippine Independence Day.

Hon. Irwin Cotler
 P.C., O.C., M.P.,
 Mount Royal
 Telephone: 514-283-0171



"Every year TD rewards individuals who are inspirational role models and exemplify the true potential and passion of young Canadians," said Tim Hockey, President and CEO, TD Canada Trust. "TD's scholarship program continues to be one of the country's most coveted awards, and by easing the costs associated with heading off to university or college, we're helping our all-star team of students stay focused on achieving their goals and dreams of being tomorrow's community leaders."

News Canada
www.newscanada.com
www.leditionnouvelles.com

Nomination and Investiture Meeting

The Filipino community is invited to attend the Nomination and Investiture of Hon. Irwin Cotler, Liberal Party MP for the Town of Mount Royal Riding, on Tuesday, June 30, 2009 at 7:30 P.M. at the Ruby Foos Hotel, 7655 Decarie Boulevard, Montreal.

Bring your family and friends.

Filipino Golden Agers Association General Assembly

The general assembly and elections of FILGA will be held on www.filipinostar.org

How to get started

The TD Canada Trust Scholarships for Community Leadership is open to all students in their final year of high school, and who will be attending post-secondary school during the following year. Applications for 2010 will be available this fall at TD Canada Trust branches, high school and CEGEP guidance

RESTAURANT

LA MAISON NEW KUM MO

6565 Cote des Neiges
Montreal, QC (Corner Appleton)

5047 Henri Bourassa Est
 Montréal, QC H1G 2S1
 Tel.: (514) 322-3133, 322-3130

<p>Bean Curd Seafood Soup 1/2 Crispy Chicken Salt and Pepper Pork Loin Stuffed Bean Curd with Shrimps Sauted Seasonal Vegetables Steamed Rice</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$37.95 4 Persons</p>	<p>Fish Maw Seafood Soup Baked Lobster with Ginger Seafood with Chinese Broccoli Salt and Pepper Cuttle Fish Fried Sea Bass Fish Steamed Rice</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$58.95 4 Persons</p>
<p>Bean Curd Soup 1/2 Crispy Chicken Shrimp Cake with Chinese Broccoli Sweet and Sour Pork Seafood with Bean Curd in Hot Pot Salt and Pepper Squid Fried Sea Bass Fish Steamed Rice</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$63.95 6 Persons</p>	<p>Fish maw seafood soup 2 Baked Lobsters with Ginger Seafood with Eggplant in Hot Pot Stuffed Bean Curd with Shrimp Seafood with Chinese broccoli Fried Sea Bass Fish House Fried Rice Special Fried Noodles</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$125.95 10 Persons</p>

FREE DELIVERY
 Minimum order of \$10
 Delivery hours:
 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 5:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

514-733-6029
514-733-1067
 For party menu, call Kenny



Philippine Cuisine

Quail Eggs with Five Beans



Ingredients

1. 125g mung beans, soaked overnight
2. 200g frozen broad beans
3. 2 shallots, sliced
4. Juice of 1/2 lemon
5. 150g fine green beans
6. 150g Romano beans or stringless green beans, sliced diagonally
7. 410g can red kidney beans, rinsed
8. 12 quails' eggs, hard-boiled and halved (optional)
9. Wheat tortilla, cut into wedges and browned on a griddle pan, to serve
10. For the dressing
11. 2 round shallots, finely chopped
12. Juice of 1/2 lemon
13. 3 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil
14. 1 large mild green chill, deseeded and finely chopped

Method

1. Drain the mung beans and place in a pan of fresh cold water. Bring to the boil and simmer for 10 minutes, then add a little salt and cook for a further 5 minutes, or until tender. Drain and set aside until needed.
2. Boil the broad beans in salted water for 4-5 minutes until tender, then drain and plunge into cold water. Drain again, then remove and discard the tough white skins to reveal the bright green beans. Set aside.
3. Put the sliced shallots into a bowl with the lemon juice and set aside.
4. Meanwhile, make the dressing. Put the chopped shallot and lemon juice into a large salad bowl and leave for 10 minutes. Whisk the oil into the shallots, a little at a time, then stir in the chilli and a little sea salt to taste.
5. Add the mung and broad beans to the dressing and mix together.
6. Put the green and Romano beans into a pan of boiling salted water and simmer for 4 minutes. Drain and refresh under cold water. Add to the salad with the kidney beans and mix.

7. Drain, rinse and dry the sliced shallots, then top the salad with the shallots and quails' eggs, if using. Serve with the tortilla wedges.

Nutritional info

Per serving: 340cals, 14.8g fat (2.7g saturated), 18.9g protein, 35.3g carbs, 7.1g sugar, 1g salt

Pancit Molo



Pancit Molo Recipe is an adaptation of wonton soup, is a specialty of the town of Molo in Iloilo a well-known district in the province. Unlike other pancit, pancit molo is not dry but soupy and it does not make use of long, thin noodles but instead wonton wrappers made from rice flour. Leftover wonton wrappers can also be cut into strips and drop into the hot broth.

Pancit Molo Ingredients:

Filling:

- * Pinoy Pancit Molo 1 cup ground pork
- * 1/2 cup cooked chicken meat, flaked
- * 1/4 cup water chestnuts, chopped
- * 3 tbsp patis (fish sauce)
- * salt to taste

Stock:

- * 8 cups chicken broth
- * 1 small onion, chopped
- * 1 clove garlic, minced
- * 25-30 wonton wrappers
- * pepper to taste
- * chopped spring onions
- * oil for sauteing

Pancit Molo Cooking Instructions:

- * To prepare filling: Combine ingredients in a bowl but use only 1 tsp green onions, salt to taste, and 1 tsp patis. Set aside the remaining ingredients for the broth.
- * Put 1 tbsp of the meat mixture in the center of each wonton wrapper.
- * Wrap by folding one side of the wrapper to cover the filling completely, then turning the "unfilled" sides of the wrapper up so that the dumpling resembles a flower. (The filled portion should be in the center.)

- * Cover the dumplings with a dry kitchen towel and set aside.
- * To make broth: - Saute onion and garlic in oil until light brown.
- * Add chicken stock and the remaining salt and patis from the filling.
- * Allow to boil, then drop the stuffed dumplings into the boiling broth.
- * Stir the remaining meat mixture into the broth. Simmer for 10-15 minutes.
- * Season with pepper to taste.
- * Before serving, garnish with chopped spring onions.

COACH TOUR
LEVIS & QUEBEC CITY
 for the benefit of the
FILIPINO SOLIDARITY COOPERATIVE
 Members and Prospective Members
 are earnestly requested to
 join this tour
Saturday, July 18, 2009
Departure time: 6:30 A.M.
Return to Montreal - 8:30 P.M.
Meeting place: Plamondon Metro
(Van Horne Exit)
Please call 514-733-8915
or 514-485-7861

BOUCHERIE VIAU
 ABATTOIR

Hours:
 Mon. Tue. Wed. - 8 am - 5 p.m.
 Thu. Fri - 8 am- 6 pm Sat. 8 am- 5 pm
 Closed on Sundays

Pork loin Approximately 15 lbs 2.69 lb	Beef Blade steak 3.49 lb	Picnic ham (with bone) 1.29 lb
Half or Whole pork Cut & Wrapped 1.35 lb	Front quarter of beef Approximately 200 lbs 2.25 lb	Boneless leg of ham 3.99 lb
Home smoked meat 8.79 lb	Beef short ribs 3.29 lb	1 litre of fresh blood with purchase when available 1/2 pork
Fresh Belly with skin 3.29 lb	Pork Spare Ribs 2.39 lb	Regular smoked bacon 4.89 lb 10 lbs & over 4.79 lb

St.Chrysostome St. Remi St. Edouard

• Fresh pork blood
 • Fresh bacon
 • Fresh liver
 • Pork skin
Available

83 Covey Hill, Hemmingford QC J0L 1H0
Tel.: (450) 247- 2130 or (450) 247- 3561

Dental Clinic

Dr. Rosario Ambayec, D.D.S.
 Chirurgien Dentiste / Dental Surgeon

Comprehensive Gentle Dental Care for The Whole Family

- > Open Tuesday to Saturday.
- > Days & Evenings.
- > By appointment, Accept emergencies.
- > Free parking for your convenience.

(514) 731-6479
 3535 Côte Ste. Catherine, Suite 1, Montreal, Quebec H3T 1C7
 (corner Côte des Neiges)

The North American Filipino Star Photo Gallery



With the placid lake as background, Ernel Lebario, Mary Salenga, Doris Medina, and Nelson Alvaro pose for a souvenir of the Camp Tamaracouta marker, and their camping weekend on May 29-30, 2009.



The Happy Campers composed of Laging Handa headed by Romy Valenzuela and the Dufferin Court from Lachine headed by Michel Belanger and his wife Doreen pose with the Cubs and Scouts. Laging Handa Cubs and Scouts had their first real experience of camping under tents which they said was lots of fun. They are looking forward to the next one.



Experienced Scouts demonstrating the sawing of firewood while other Scouts and Cubs watch closely, May 29, 2009, Camp Tamaracouta.



Wow, what a delicious meal being prepared by Doreen Belanger



Mr. Ed Vasquez, president of APO, presented a cheque for \$500 to Zenaida Kharroubi, Group Commissioner of the Laging Handa Scout Group in support of the Scouts program. APO members are committed to the goals of youth development. They are also encouraging parents to enroll their children in Scouting. Michel Belanger, former Area Commissioner of Stoney Point (3rd from left, back row) delivered an inspirational talk about Scouting and leadership. APO members and Scouts joined together for a souvenir photo, June 13, 2009.



APO (Alpha Phi Omega Alumni Association of Montreal) members - Cristy Tiburcio, Tess Prado, Aurora Poscablo, Doris Medina with Scout Leader Ernel Lebario showing a cheque for \$500 which the group has donated to the Laging Handa Scout Group during the Scouts open house held at 6767 Cote des Neiges, June 13, 2009.

AGENCE VOYAGES CONCORDE
 Numéro de permis: 702443
Lowest price, best service
Call 514-485-7861
for reservations or information.

TOUR du CANADA
 Dép.: 18, 25 juillet et 16 août **10 jours 695\$**
OTTAWA Départ spécial pour la Fête du Canada **1 jour 25\$**
OBSERVATION DES BALEINES
TOUR GRATUIT «SUPER SURPRISE»
 Départ: 27 juin (spécial) Adulte: 60\$/ Enfant 45\$
1 jour
 TENTEZ VOTRE CHANCE D'ÊTRE MAINTENANT, LES PLACES SONT LIMITÉES!

TORONTO CHUTES NIAGARA
 Dép.: 27 juin (spécial), 1^{er}, 4, 8, 11, 15, 18, 22 et 25 juillet **3 jours 118\$**
 Dép.: 27 juin **2 jours 78\$**
 1, 4, 11 et 18 juillet **1 jour 32\$**
1000 ÎLES et CASINO
 Croisière 1 HEURE dans les 1000 Îles GRATUITE!
10\$ pour machines à sous
 Dép: 24, 28 juin, 12, 15 et 19 juillet

TERRE-NEUVE **9 jours 699\$**
 Dép.: 18 juillet et 8 août **3 jours 118\$**
PROVINCES MARITIMES
 Dép.: 27, juin, 11, 18 et 25 juillet **6 jours 228\$**
GASPÉ, PERCÉ & ÎLE BONAVENTURE
 Dép.: 27 juin, 4, 11, 18 et 25 juillet **3 jours 128\$**


NEW YORK (Tour guidé ou temps libre) **3 jours 118\$**
SEULEMENT 3 jours
 27 juin (spécial), 1, 4, 11, 18, 24 et 25 juillet
VIRGINIA BEACH «SUPER SURPRISE»
 Dép: 26 juillet et 9 août **6 jours 368\$**
 Hôtel de luxe

Orlando Disney
 July 18, 25 **From \$378**
Atlantic City
 July 4, 11, 17, 25 **From \$178**
NOUVEAUTÉ
 RÉSERVATION, HÔTEL ET VOL, POUR LES GRANDES VILLES DE LA CHINE.

can i send more smiles?

Yes!

Ask about our exchange rates!

Mag-sign up for your PCP Card to get discounts¹ on your money transfer.

WESTERN UNION | *yes!*

Cesar Montano,
Movie Personality and
Western Union user

*** IN ADDITION TO THE TRANSFER FEE, WESTERN UNION ALSO MAKES MONEY FROM THE EXCHANGE OF CURRENCIES.**

¹ Valid only for Western Union® Money Transfer™ and Western Union® Quick Collet® transactions completed at participating Agent locations in Canada. Excludes all 1-800-CALL-CASHTM, westernunion.com, Convenience Pay™, Western Union Money Transfer® at ATM and Money Transfer by Phone transactions

² Discounts may vary by destination and do not apply to money transfers to certain markets. Preferred customer benefits are subject to change without notice.

³ A current identification card will be needed to enroll.

©2009 Western Union Holdings, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Send more smiles to loved ones back home. Ask about our exchange rates. Also, get a \$2.00 discount¹ when you make a qualifying money transfer² to the Philippines using your PCP Card. It's free to enroll³ at a participating Western Union Agent location.

1-877-PERA-ITO | westernunioncanada.ca

money transfer

Available at:



LAURENTIAN
BANK

Let Manny be Manny

by Dennis dSource Guillermo

Manny Pacquiao's place in boxing history is safely reserved in the sport's Hall of Fame. His place in Philippine history however is far from being defined.

Other than debating whether he should fight Miguel Cotto, Shane Mosley, Juan Manuel Marquez or Floyd Mayweather Jr next, the talk that surrounds the highest paid and the best boxer in the planet right now is centered on his political aspirations in his home country, the Philippines. The significance of this is that for Pacquiao to be able to serve his constituents when he does end up getting elected is that he would have to walk away from the game.

The Pacman is trying to be a congressman- so bad that he has gone as far as running in Saranggani, his wife's home province in next year's elections after losing in the 2007 elections for the same position in the first district of Cotabato. That's how serious Pacquiao is about entering politics. He is willing to walk away from the money and the fame and as Pacquiao recently told the people of Saranggani and reported by GMANews.TV when he recently donated a fire truck and an ambulance to their district,

"Itong mga kamao ko na ginamit ko pang-knockout sa mga kalaban sa boxing, gagamitin ko para makatulong sa inyo."

Translation: "These same hands I use to knock my opponents out in boxing; I will use to help all of you."

What's the debate here? I am not clueless when it comes to the nuisances and what goes behind Philippine politics as I had my share of experiences helping in campaigns and being around politicians back when I was still living in my old stomping grounds. It truly is a dirty and cutthroat game. But then again, so is boxing!

A lot of people have expressed their concerns for Manny saying that he will just taint his reputation by diving in the dirty game of Philippine politics. That's natural. Manny has been a great ambassador and source of inspiration for his countrymen and hearing or reading negative things about him might prove heartbreaking for his legions of followers. Those sentiments, I can definitely empathize with.

With that said however, I am not one to advise Pacquiao to abandon his plans to run in the upcoming elections. Pacquiao has long stated that he meant to retire soon anyway and enjoy the fruits of his labor and spend more time with his family. The man is free to do whatever he desires and if he's smart enough to have gotten to the point where he is now then I trust that he's smart enough to know what he wants and the best way to get it.

I guess a lot of people fail to give due credit to the intelligence of Manny Pacquiao. Perhaps people dismiss boxing as a grunt sport that only needs repetitive training and conditioning and

the practice of hurting and avoiding getting hurt. Whatever it is, for some reason, people just seem to always underestimate Manny Pacquiao.

Don't be mistaken, the Pacman is a smart man. He may have legions of advisers but he will not get to this point of global recognition if he was an idiot. Perhaps most disapprove of his allegiances and friends but it's those same friends that have helped get him



to where he is now. Granted there are indeed plenty of sharks and snakes as he himself said in a documentary about Team Pacquiao prior to his fight against Hatton,

"I have good friends, not so good friends and really not good friends. I have all kinds of friends!"

The thing that struck me when Manny said that is the fact that he said it with a smile like it was nothing to him that some people around him are truly there to just use him while they can and that he has everything under control regardless of the ones that just try to leech off him. Perhaps there's some use to "friends in need" because they will do anything indeed. I am not in any form or way condoning "freeloaders" but hey, it's Manny's life and it seems that all his choices has led him to the top, so why question that?

And how can anybody assume Pacquiao will not do well in whatever he endeavors? If anything, Pacquiao has been the vessel of every average person's dreams that inspire the belief "anything is possible". For one, if Pacquiao does indeed become a politician, that's one politician you can be more secured in saying who wouldn't be corrupt. Let's be real, there's a lot of corrupt and shady politicians in the Philippines, some may even be hanging around Pacquiao, but

the body of work, the foundations, donations, hand-outs, time, money and everything else Pacquiao has shared freely and from his heart for me is enough gauge to have faith that the guy really intends well to any region he intends to serve. We are talking about a guy who made the same money as LeBron freaking James for crying out loud. If Pacquiao wanted the money, he can stay in boxing and make a ton of it

just like the way he labors in boxing, he maintains that he is doing it for the people.

Win or lose you have to give the guy a try or at least allow him to.

After all, people in the Philippines have been crying for change. They've been looking for somebody to break the trend. Honestly if there were a lot of good people in politics, then why is the situation back in the Philippines so bane? When you ask for a hero, you have to allow him to try and save you. I am not saying he will be successful but the fact that one man intends well and would go against the grain and risk everything to just at the least spark some positive change- man, tell me why anybody would want to discourage that? ■

Continued from page 8 'IRAN'

government demonstrations have sparked defiance across the nation.

Neda, wearing a baseball cap over a black scarf, a black shirt, blue jeans and tennis shoes, does not appear to be chanting and seems to be observing the demonstration.

Suddenly, Neda is on the ground -- felled by a single gunshot wound to the chest. Several men kneel at her side and place pressure on her chest in an attempt to stop the bleeding. "She has been shot! Someone, come and take her!" shouts one man.

By now, Neda's eyes have rolled to her right; her body is limp.

Blood streams from her mouth, then from her nose. For a second, her face is hidden from view as the phone camera goes behind one of the men. When Neda's face comes back into view, it is covered with blood.

Then, the teacher pleads with her by name. "Neda, do not be afraid, do not be afraid," he repeats.

Another man curses as the first man begins to wail. "Somebody come and get her in a car and take her away!" a voice pleads.

She was taken to a nearby hospital and, within a day, she was buried at Behesht Zahra, the city's largest Muslim cemetery, on the outskirts of the capital.

A friend of hers interprets the fact that her body was released so quickly as a tacit acknowledgment by the government that the killing was carried out by government forces. That theory is supported by the fact that Iran's strict gun-control laws mean private citizens cannot carry firearms, the friend said.

Since her death, public displays of mourning for Neda have been prohibited, the friend said.

A gathering of about 60 people at a mosque was broken up by members of the Basij, the pro-government vigilantes blamed for much of the violence against demonstrators, according to New York Times columnist Roger Cohen, who observed the incident. iReport.com: Share your views on unrest in Iran

Neda's family has not been allowed to post a black banner of mourning outside the family's house, the friend said. ■



Sharing Ideas for a better life

5th PRINCIPLE

By Jerry Estrada

Previously, this column had mentioned the purpose of cooperatives and the coop principles. In fact, to be specific, it was already discussed in May 2007. It is worth discussing again because training is very important, as the saying goes, "Education liberates a man."

The success of cooperatives relies on a strong cadre of competent leaders; committed and knowledgeable staff, active and enlightened members. Without these underlying conditions, it is impossible to expect success, or even to conceive it. Coops should be understood and carefully carried out. Without these ingredients, achieving our goal to succeed would become an impossible feat.

Coop training and education program are not only a must but also a continuing process. Informing people to work together in organizing an economic activity for our own benefits is a tedious process but it's the only way to get attention, to make people get interested as well as get involved.

THE COOP PRINCIPLES

The co-operative principles are guidelines by which co-operatives put their values into practice. Coops worldwide are following these principles.

The 5th Principle outlines the importance of Education, Training and Information, to wit: "Co-operatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their co-operatives. They inform the general public - particularly young people and opinion leaders - about the nature and benefits of co-operation."

Other coop principles are: 1st Principle: Voluntary and Open Membership; 2nd: Democratic Member Control; 3rd: Member Economic Participation; 4th: Autonomy and Independence; 6th: Co-operation among Co-operatives; and 7th Principle: Concern for Community.

CAUSE OF COOP FAILURES

If we trace the history of coops in the Philippines, lack of training and education implementation is the major culprit that caused failures in the early years. Some of the constraints faced in the development of cooperatives were vast training needs; and other coops were formed as social groups rather than economic enterprises, thus, coop leaders' exposure to training was limited.

In fact, when Desjardins Caisse Populaire was just starting in the 1960s, Alphonse Desjardins, the founder, studied thoroughly the experience of Schulze-Delitzsch, Raiffeisen and other coop systems in Belgium, Germany and Italy to avoid failures. He was constantly in a brainstorming session with college professors and priests. He had consulted and sought the help of lawyers, a governor, and the Archbishop of Quebec.

The book entitled "The Poor Man's Prayer" mentioned that a wave of eagerness banded Desjardins and several priests together in studying coops most of the nights under the fuming little lamps that cast dim shadows upon the row of bookshelves that lined the walls of Desjardins house in Levis, Quebec.

Dr. William King (England) founded a monthly newspaper called "The Cooperator." The periodical had a wide circulation and a great influence in the emerging coop movement in the year 1820s. The paper served to educate and unify the people.

In the early days of the cooperative, the community was smaller and people's lives were more centered on the co-op. Word of mouth and occasional notice in the Bulletin were enough for cooperators to know all the details they needed to know. As our world has grown more complex and diffused, so has our cooperative; word of mouth no longer suffices to provide essential information. Frequent co-op meetings, aggressive training and education programs are now absolutely necessary.

A QUEST FOR ECONOMIC FREEDOM

The Filipino Solidarity Cooperative is organizing a tour to visit Levis, Quebec and Quebec City this coming July 18, 2009 (Saturday). This activity is designed to help fund the cooperative so that it could continue its plan to provide quality service and a strong community for people of moderate income. To reserve your tickets early, please call 514-733-8915 or 514-485-7861

Let's support this Filipino enterprise owned by 700 people. Also, let's show our support to all the coop leaders who are presently sacrificing their time, money and effort just to help other people.

We are lucky to have the following coop leaders led by Zenaida Ferry Kharroubi and her Board of Directors: Salve Desprez, Joy Estabillo, Merle Valiente, and Ben Bade. Also, ardent supporters like Riza Esmeralda,

Art Cortez, Magnolia Camat, John Aquino, and Jojie Perez. One characteristic that they have in common as good leaders is that they don't mind taking the risk without expecting anything in return.

We hope there are more people with good ideas to come and join. A successful coop need not enough to take just any old risk, there should be somebody to help the abovementioned leaders to make sure that the business idea is solid, and then they do all the research and preparation they can to give it an opportunity to thrive.

We invite you to offer your suggestions on how we could improve our Coop. Remember, a cooperative is built upon the ideas and contributions of all its members. Let's never give up. If we get knocked down, let's just get back up and approach the situation in a different way.

From Page 2 Foreign Ministers

Canadians, we support this direction and we will continue moving forward, as we prepare for next year's summit in Huntsville."

On June 27, 2009, Minister Cannon will be in Corfu, Greece, to attend the NATO-Russia Council meeting.

"The NATO-Russia Council is based on the principles of peaceful dispute resolution and shared democratic values," said Minister Cannon. "We recognize the importance of dialogue and cooperation in addressing security concerns that affect us all."

On June 27 and 28, while in Corfu, the Minister will attend the informal meeting of foreign ministers of the Organization for Security Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) to discuss the security architecture in Europe.

"Canada is a long-standing and constructive partner in Euro-Atlantic security structures, and we support the existing security arrangements in Europe, particularly NATO and the OSCE," said Minister Cannon. "We are ready to engage substantively on any proposals aimed at enhancing our common security, and I look forward to a constructive discussion on how transatlantic security may be further strengthened in the interests of all OSCE members."

Join the Filipino Coop tour to Levis, Quebec for an educational sightseeing trip. Call 514-733-8915 or 514-485-7861 for info.

U.S. Monitors Iran Election Fallout

WASHINGTON, June 13 (UPI) - The White House said Saturday it was monitoring the aftermath of presidential election in Iran, including allegations of irregularities in the voting.

Press Secretary Robert Gibbs said in a written statement: "Like the



rest of the world, we were impressed by the vigorous debate and enthusiasm that this election generated, particularly among young Iranians. We continue to monitor the entire situation closely, including reports of irregularities."

Incumbent Mahmoud Ahmadinejad breezed to victory in a closely watched vote that many observers had predicted would be much closer.

The results triggered weekend protests by supporters of the main challenger, former Prime Minister Hossein Moussavi. Moussavi Saturday said the results indicated an erosion of Iranian democracy and a rise of authoritarian rule.

Iran election fallout: on the streets, in cyberspace, protest faces tough opponent

The vivid, saturated green images of Iran's protests that have aired on the world's television screens have given way over the past 24 hours to a few blurred and snatched images, as the regime turned off the media tap.

Iranian journalists have been arrested, their foreign colleagues ordered out of the country. The few who remained have had their press credentials invalidated and ordered not to leave their homes or offices. The world has become accustomed over the past 20 years to viewing any major international event on television and computer screens on the same day, if not in real time.

Likewise, youth-driven protest movements have come to assume that their natural familiarity with state-of-the-art communication will keep them one step ahead of the authorities.

FOOD PROCESSING Company
is currently looking for FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES
(determined, flexible and punctual)
for the production team.
Starting Salary is \$9/hr + benefits.

8205 Transcanada, St-Laurent, H4S 1S4
Telephone: 514-344-9499, ext. 231
INTERVIEWS: Tuesday to Friday, from 1 to 4 p.m.



Ask the Video Guy

Al Abdon

Dull videos to the Oscars!

There are many ways to make your video dull. I am talking about a single shoot with a video camera pointing to a subject or a scene with no planned vision or script. As an inspiring film maker or just to record for archives, you have an obligation not to bore your viewers and hopefully, you have the desire to make their viewing experience pleasurable. There are plenty of ways you can make your video more interesting with just camera placement, angles, and movement. Here are a few ideas.

1. Get down to their level

One of the most common mistakes made by videographers photographing pets and children is point of view. Adults see children and pets from a wholly different perspective than they see each other. Don't be afraid to crouch down and shoot from the floor. Photographing a Chihuahua from five feet in the air is just plain lazy.

2. Plan for your background

More than making certain that a light pole isn't growing from someone's head. Bad backgrounds can be "busy"--filled with complicated and confusing elements that distract from your subject. They can also be too bright, causing your subject to be backlit (shooting a subject on a shaded porch with a brightly-lit beach in the background, for example). A little time spent planning your shots can go a long way.

3. Use cutaways

If you're going to be on one particular master shot for a long time--a bride and groom exchanging vows, for example--consider editing in some cutaways to break the monotony. Show some closeups of people in the audience, pan across the cars in the parking lot, a child fidgeting, or even closeups of the bride and groom's faces, shot later. This means, don't forget to shoot cutaways--the church windows, the spectacular ceiling, etc.--whenever you get the chance. Shoot more footage than you think you need. You will notice the difference when edited.

Wide-angle and telephoto lenses have other properties than simply making things look closer or farther away; they also change the apparent distance between objects. A wide-angle lens will seem to increase the distance between an object in the foreground and another in the background; likewise, a telephoto lens will compress the distance and make objects in the frame appear to be closer together.

It's common, for example, for movie makers to film dangerous looking car chases with a long telephoto lens to make the cars seem closer together, while in reality, there may have been thirty feet between the two cars in that "near miss." Wide-angle lenses will make objects close to the lens appear larger than objects further back. You could, for example, have a child in the foreground who appears taller than an adult several feet back. Lots of Philippine movie action flicks uses these tricks.

5. Use a natural frame

We like it when things are framed. It draws our interest and tells us where to focus our eyes. Doorways and windows make natural and obvious frames; train yourself to look for them in other places, too, like the crook of someone's arm or the arch of a ladder.

6. Depth of field

This is a very important technique in making your images look professional. Depth of field is defined as the area in front of your camcorder that appears in sharp focus. This means that if you have a shallow depth of field, the foreground and background of your video will be out of focus when your subject appears sharp in the frame. Conversely, when you have a deep depth of field, elements in the foreground and background will appear in sharper focus along with your subject. You can control depth of field with your camcorder in several ways, but by far the most important of these is the aperture, or iris, setting.

7. Avoid on-camera zooms

One thing that's worse than a static shot on a tripod is a static shot on a tripod that zooms in and out. Zoom in, cut away to something else, zoom out. Unless your zoom is for effect, cover it up with a cutaway.

8. Try moving the camera

This doesn't mean jerky, random, shaky camera work, which we see plenty of, but rather a smoother, more standard kind of camera move. Two basic camera movements are trucking and dollying. A dolly shot moves the camera in and out, towards or away from the subject, while trucking is moving the camera left or right while keeping it perpendicular to your subject. Try shooting out of a slow-moving car window (as a passenger, of course; don't shoot while driving!) to track a moving subject, such as a jogger. Try moving through a crowd to create a "you are there" feeling.

9. Try an Unusual Camera Angle

Get down on the ground and

shoot up, or put your camera on a monopod and hold it way over your head for an aerial perspective. Consider using staircases, ladders, or the upper story windows of buildings for vantage points to shoot from. Unusual perspectives can be intercut with more standard views to break up

the monotony of a single shot.

10. Watch TV with a critical eye
When you're watching television or movies, become aware of the production. How long does a director stay on a shot before they cut away to something else? How do they use establishing shots and cutaways to keep the audience interested? Where was the camera? Learning the visual vocabulary of video goes a long way toward learning how to effectively use it. At the same time, look critically at the video productions of your peers. Where do they succeed? Where do they fail? And why? Each time you notice and understand a new technique, you can add it to your repertoire.

11. Edit tightly

Find the clips that get to the core of your video and cut away everything else. Beware of things that have limited, sentimental value or inside jokes if your audience is larger than your immediate circle. You may think that junior mashing his face into a plate of spaghetti is the best video you've ever shot, but folks outside your family will probably disagree. Also, keep it short. Instead of showing all 4 hours of your vacation footage, select only the very best 10-second shots and compile them into an effective and entertaining ten-minute (or shorter) show.

Conclusion

One thing you should always aim for is to entertain your viewer. There are plenty of things that you can do to break up the monotony of boring video. The first key is to look critically at other people's productions, learning to see what they're doing, why they're doing it, and judging for yourself whether or not it really works. Once you understand the various shots and techniques that make good video, it'll be possible to include them in your own work. Motion, cutaways, and unusual camera angles can all add to the impact of your productions and make them more interesting for your viewer.

The cooperative is organizing a trip to Levis & Quebec City in July 18. This is a good start to practice and show your talent and entertain your friends. Who knows, it may make it to the Oscars!

Al Abdon

Hollywood Junkies Productions

(514) 264-8706

JOSEPH ESTRADA LEADS PRESIDENTIABLES AT THE 2ND ANC LEADERSHIP FORUM

Six possible presidential candidates in 2010 will face off for the second leg of "Countdown to 2010: An ANC Leadership Forum" this Friday (June 5), 7pm Manila time at the University of the Philippines School of Economics (UPSE) in Diliman, Quezon City. This will be aired live on ANC, the ABS-CBN News Channel.

The event's high-profile lineup includes former Philippine President Joseph Estrada, Senators Panfilo Lacson, Loren Legarda, and Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay. Vice President Noli de Castro and MMDA chair Bayani Fernando have yet to confirm their attendance. Sen. Manuel Villar has declined the invitation since he said he will be out of the country next week.

This second batch was unable to attend the first leadership forum that ANC and the Ateneo de Manila University sponsored last May 11. Sen. Francis Escudero, Sen. Richard Gordon, Sen. Manuel Roxas II, Gov. Ed Panlilio, and Sec. Gilberto Teodoro Jr. each took the hot seat in the first forum, where they responded to a barrage of questions on their stands, issues, and competence as public servants.

ANC's top anchors Cheche Lazaro and Ricky Carandang will anchor the second forum.

The second "ANC Leadership Forum" is a partnership between ANC and the UPSE and part of ABS-CBN's "Boto Mo, iPatrol Mo: Ako ang Simula" campaign, which aims to empower Filipinos, particularly the youth, to make a difference in the national polls next year.

"Through the forums, we hope to help the Filipino youth see who these potential candidates are and what they stand for," said ANC Chief Operating Officer Glenda M. Gloria.

Visit www.abs-cbnnews.com/botomo for election news and "Boto Mo, iPatrol Mo: Ako ang Simula" updates.

ANC is available in the US, Middle East, Europe, Australia and Japan through TFC's multiple platforms. To find out how you can get ANC, call 514-485-7861.

JOSEPH ESTRADA, PANGUNGUNAHAN ANG IKALAWANG ANC LEADERSHIP FORUM

Anim na posibleng kandidato sa pagkapangulo sa 2010 ang maghaharap-harap para sa ikalawang "Countdown to 2010: An ANC Leadership Forum" ngayong Biyernes (June 5), 7PM Manila time sa University of the Philippines Diliman, Quezon City kasama sina ANC anchors Che Che Lazaro at Ricky Carandang.

Kabilang sa mga dadalo sa forum sina dating PANGULONG JOSEPH Estrada, Sen. Panfilo Lacson, Sen. Loren Legarda, at Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay. Posible ring makapunta si bise presidente Noli de Castro at MMDA chair Bayani Fernando habang si Sen. Manuel Villar naman ay

tumanggi sa imbitasyon dahil siya ay kinakailangang tumalak palabas ng bansa sa linggong ito.

Una ng nagharap-harap sa unang ANC Leadership Forum na ginanap sa Ateneo De Manila

“Boto Mo, iPatrol Mo: Ako ang Simula” ng ABS-CBN na naglalayong humikayat sa mga kabataan na simulan ang pagbabago sa pamamagitan ng pagiging aktibo sa darating na halalan. Bumisita sa



Ricky



Cheche

University sina Sen. Francis Escudero, Sen. Richard Gordon, Sen. Manuel Roxas II, Gov. Ed Panlilio, at Sec. Gilberto Teodoro Jr. kung saan matapang nilang sinagot ang mga maiinit na katanungan mula sa audience na talaga namang sumukat sa kanilang kakayahan at kapasidad bilang tagpaglingkod ng bayan.

Ang ikalawang pagtitipon ay sa pagtutulungan ng ANC at University of the Philippines School of Economics at bahagi ng kampanyang

www.abs-cbnnews.com/botomo para sa pinakasariwang balita kaugnay ng eleksyon at ng “Boto Mo, iPatrol Mo: Ako ang Simula” campaign.

Ang ANC o ABS-CBN News Channel ay napapanood sa Amerika, Middle East, Europa, Australia at Japan sa pamamagitan ng TFC. Para malaman kung paano makakuha ng ANC, tumawag lamang sa 514-485-7861.

TUGON SA OPLAN TUMBA

ni Pambie Herrera

(Nailathala sa Red Ink, ang Opisyal na Kalipunang Panliteratura ng San Beda College of Law)

Hayaan mong ako ang unang magsabi nang walang pasintabi:

Nakita ko sa rabaw ng iyong ginawang pader ang pagkatipon ng isang parnaso

ng mga naulilang tahanan sa isang lugaming bayan.

Lumuluha ang mga daang tinahak ng mga duguang talampakan.

Nagsusumbong ang mga bintangang nakakita ng bawat panggagahasa.

May samut saring sigaw na nagmumula sa mga basag na labing hindi maririnig kahit sa tahimik na lansangan.

Maraming mga nakatanikalang dinukot dahil sa pagwaksi ng kamulatan.

Sa iyong obra kasinlaki ko ang mga batang nayanig ng sumabog na bomba.

Umiiyak ba sila sa ligalig o dahil sa kanilang musmos na mga mata'y

masasalamin ang ginawang pag-alipusta sa kanilang mga ina?

Sa digmaang ito, marami na ang nadamay Kadalasa'y, ang mga walang muwang, mga walang malay.

Maging ang mga napag-utusan ay kasama na sa mga nasawimpalad.

Marami ang namatay nang mulat sa gitna nang pagkapiring,

mga mukha at kamaong nagnanais mabigyan ng pangalan habang natatakpan ng pulang bandila.

At ang mga naghahanap ay nagbabakasakali pa ring matatagpuan nila kahit anong bakas:

bahid ng dugo, nangangamoy na kalansay o ang huling pahimakas taglay ang pamanang awit

na maaring pinakain na sa mga pating sinunog na sa masukal na gubat.

Naipinid na sa yungib ang mga boses na nagpumiglas hanggang sa huling hininga.

Madalas naiisip ko, sana'y ang mga namatay na lamang

ay ang mga nabaril na ibon, nasagasaang aso, bumagsak na saranggola, naluoy na bulaklak

nabiyak na mga bato, nangaghulog na tuyong dahon nasunog na eskaparate, natapakang barya.

Dahil hindi dapat katumbas ng buhay ang pagtuklas at pagsigaw ng isang mapagpalayang tinig.

Dahil hindi dapat namamaalam ang buhay na kasingbilis ng pag-alis ng mga tren sa mga natutulog na riles.

Sa sigwang ito, hindi mo na alintana kung kaninong banda ang nawala o nawalan

Basta, lahat tayo ay nawala at nawalan. Basta, lahat tayo ay biktima.

Nasa iyong mga kamay ang dugo, digmaan, ligalig, luha, armas, kamusmusan, hinagpis, pagpapalaya.

Sa rabaw ng pader na ito, ipininta mo nang walang pasintabi ang parnaso ng isang bansang naulila.

Mang Bert

(Ito ay padala ng isang mambabasa ng Filipino Star para sa 111 taon ng araw ng kalayaan ng Pilipinas)

A poem sent by a reader of the Filipino Star on the occasion of the 111th Philippine Independence Day.



"OPLAN TUMBA" (8 ft by 36 ft.) A mural by PABLO BAEN SANTOS. (makikita ng malinaw ang obra sa <http://www.pablobaensantos.com/>)

Recognizing and accepting our limitations with humility is the birth of wisdom and the beginning of hope in finding our place in the natural order of life.

David Suzuki

Bonne Fête du Canada!
 Nous avons un pays grand, fier et respecté.
 Aujourd'hui, nous célébrons notre unité d'un océan à l'autre.
 C'est notre fête à tous! Profitons-en!

Happy Canada Day!
 Canada is a great, proud and respected country.
 Today, we celebrate our unity from coast to coast, to coast.
 This day is for all of us. Let's enjoy it!

Christian Paradis
 MINISTRE DES TRAVAUX PUBLICS ET DES SERVICES GOUVERNEMENTAUX
 LIEUTENANT POLITIQUE AU QUÉBEC
 MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES
 POLITICAL LIEUTENANT FOR QUÉBEC

Stephen Harper
 PREMIER MINISTRE DU CANADA
 PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA

www.conservateur.ca
www.conservative.ca

FILIPINO STAR

SHOWBIZ GOSSIP

Karylle is everybody's favorite cover girl



Karylle

Since December 2008, the Divine Diva's daughter has lent her serene face, toned body, and contagious smile to numerous magazine covers. Such was the demand for this young lady that there was even a time that she did six in a month. Karylle, to date, is undeniably one of the country's most sought after cover girls.

"I hardly did magazine covers before. I always felt like I could never be a cover girl," admits Karylle in an interview, while waiting for her hair and make-up to be done for a magazine pictorial. But these days, she finds herself ready to face the things that life throws at her. And when she does, she finds herself in the middle of a miracle. "I learned that once you accept the things that can happen to you, that's when it started coming," affirms the multi-talented artist.

Before she became in demand in the glossies, Karylle would always sheepishly smile with her maternal grandmother's request. "My grandma would always say, 'Padalhan mo naman ako ng mga magazines na ikaw ang cover.' And I'd always be like, 'Wala naman eh,'" recalls Karylle. But her Las Vegas-based grandmother was just in town last month and she beams with pride that she can now give her copies of the long-time

request.

"In ASAP, they laugh at me when I would ask permission to plug my magazine covers. Laugh in the funny kind of way because I would tell them, 'Can I plug my cover? Sige na, ngayon lang ito nangyari sa buhay ko,'" she relates candidly. Despite the royal treatment being accorded to her by the industry, Karylle is far from being overbearing. If cover girls are commonly perceived to convey standards of physical beauty, this multi-media performer admits that she is not. She cannot recall ever being extravagant on a beauty product. In fact, she claims that it is her mom who buys her makeup stuff, which she uses for pictorials and TV guestings.

As Karylle lets the make-up artist and hairstylist do their jobs, she multitasks during the shoot. Her constant companions are her laptop—to do her e-mails and check her Facebook account—and her cell phone. In one cover shoot, she was able to organize a reunion with her friends while on the wait. "I always try to manage to do a lot while on a shoot. Time is so precious," stresses Karylle.

And while Karylle has managed to execute different magazine cover concepts in the past, she talks about her dream cover. "I haven't really done

a nice beach shoot or like a Batanes scene. I want something that we can showcase what is good and beautiful here."

The good and the beautiful that Karylle is talking about is bound to roll along in the days to come. Her third album, *Time For Letting Go*, is out in the market. She shares a song with mom Zsa Zsa Padilla in "I Live For Your Love." Three cuts from the album were originally written by her. She continues to share the spotlight with Kristine Hermosa in the remake of *Nasaan Ka, Maruja?* Karylle will also star in ABS

CBN's new soap, *Dahil May Isang Ikaw*, together with Gabby Concepcion, Lorna Tolentino, Kristine Hermosa, Jericho Rosales, Chin-Chin Gutierrez, John Estrada and Sid Lucero. She is in the cast of *SineDirek* film, *Litsonero*. Besides her weekly ASAP gig, Karylle continues to be active in supporting the Philippine Animal Welfare Society and charities for White Cross Orphanage and ChildHaus. She is also the celebrity endorser of popular brands Bench Body and Blue Water Day Spa ■

Philippine National Red Cross honors Toni Gonzaga, Erik Santos



Philippine Red Cross Chairman, Senator Richard Gordon, personally handed plaques of appreciation to singers Toni Gonzaga and Erik Santos for their contribution to the album, *I Move. I Give. I Love*.

Toni Gonzaga and Erik Santos were both presented a plaque of appreciation by the Philippine National Red Cross for their participation in the non-government humanitarian organization's joint project with Star

private humanitarian institution known for extending aid and help not just to victims of armed conflicts; widening its reach, the Red Cross helps the less privileged and needy, whether or not they're war victims.



Records.

The two singers and Grand Star Dreamer Yeng Constantino recorded the song, "Bagong Umaga"—the official 150th anniversary theme song of the Red Cross here in our country—for free. Yeng was not able to attend the plaque-giving event due to another commitment.

Founded in 1863 by Swiss businessman and social activist Henry Dunant, The International Committee of the Red Cross grew into a worldwide

To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Red Cross, Star Records releases the compilation album, *I Move. I Give. I Love*. Proceeds of the album will go directly to the Red Cross.

On June 24, Thursday, the inspirational album will be officially launched together with PNRC's "Our World, Our Move, I Give. I Love" campaign that will alert the public about the pandemic influenza A(H1N1) virus. ■

Charice cries over who she upsets **Guess who's dating Lara Quigaman**



Charice

International singing sensation Charice appeared tearful before viewers on a top entertainment show as she recounted all her struggles and failures when she was just starting out in the music industry.

In an exclusive interview with "SNN: Showbiz News Ngayon," Charice told the show's host Boy Abunda that she had almost given up singing when she was 12 years old. She said she became upset when people had belittled and mocked upon joining ABS-CBN's "Little Big Star."

Charice, who started joining singing contests at 7 years old, said she was the first to audition for the show's pilot episode and was also the first "Little Big Star" grand finalist. She chose "How Could You Say You Love Me", popularized by Singer Sarah Geronimo, as her audition piece.

However, all her excitement faded after she performed the hit Regine Velasquez song "Shine" and was booted out of the show, which came as shock to the young singer.

"Minsan po noong natalo ako, may mga nakikita po ako na natatawa sila noong natalo ako. Sobrang sakit po nun. Ayaw ko pong magsalita pero sana po ay makita nila ang nararating ko ngayon," Charice said, while wiping her tears.

Charice admitted she became depressed and didn't leave her room for almost 2 weeks. At the time, Charice refused offers to rejoin "Little Big Star" as a "wild card" contestant.

The YouTube sensation said her mother had convinced her to give the show another try. "She said 'winning is not everything but what is important was that they try everything to showcase their talent,'" she said.

When Charice reached the Monthly Finals of "Little Big Star", things got worse. She said a lot of people questioned her talent, as well as her age. Some alleged that Charice was 14, above the show's age cut-off, though she was actually 12.

"Feeling ko parang ang dami ko

pong kalaban. Minsan nga po sinasabi ko kay mommy na parang huwag na lang po. Minsan iniisip ko na sumuko na. Pero sinasabi ni mommy na ituloy, kasi sobrang sakit ng binabato nila sa akin," she said.

The petite singer shared she had received harsh criticism from others, who told her that she would not be popular because she had no "star quality."

"Sinasabi nila na 'wala yang mararating, 'di siya maganda.' Masakit din sa akin 'yon. Inisip ko na lang na at least narating ko 'yong grand finals. Itong pangit na ito narating ang grand finals," she said.

Charice eventually ranked third on "Little Big Star." She admitted that she was saddened by the result because she had originally hoped to win the top prize in order to help ease her family's financial troubles.

"Iniisip ko, paano na, kasi kahit sumasal ako doon, kulang pa din ang napapanalunan ko po," she said.

Adding insult to injury, Charice said her schoolmates had mocked her after failing to win big at the singing contest. "Pagdating ko po ng school, 'yon po tinutukso ako. At nagpaparinig sila na 'talo ka pala eh.' Noong narinig ko po 'yon sabi ko kay mommy 'ayaw ko na po.' Pero sabi niya na maghintay lang," she said.



Charice was overcome with emotion numerous times during her interview

As her emotional crutch throughout her life, Charice's mother has definitely been the force behind the country's newest singing superstar. The mother-and-daughter tandem even have a special song for each other - "Maghintay Ka Lamang", originally performed by Ted Ito in 1991.

The road to fame has not been an easy journey for Charice, but she said all the mockeries, hurdles, and difficulties were worth it. She is now in the country to promote her second album under Star Records titled "My Inspiration."

She is also busy rehearsing for her upcoming concert "Charice... The Journey Begins" with Asia's Songbird Regine Velasquez as her special guest. The concert will be held at SMX Convention Center in Pasay this coming Saturday, June 27 at 8 p.m. ■

Actor Marco Alcaraz revealed that he and former beauty queen Precious Lara Quigaman or going on dates - but with their friends.

In an interview with ABS-CBN News during the premiere night of his newest movie "Pitik Bulag," Alcaraz admitted that he and Quigaman are happily enjoying each other's company while out with their buddies.

Earlier, reports circulated that the two were frequently spotted together.

The actor-model said that he is happy to spend time with Quigaman, whom he described as "playful and sweet."

Asked of what makes Quigaman precious to him, the actor said: "Siyempre si Lara, kasi, we see her sa TV na poised, naka-smile lang. Pero in real life talaga, makulit and sweet."

Alcaraz refused to answer whether he is courting the beauty queen but admitted that they spend most of their free time together. "Magkasama [kami] kapag walang work. Basta right now, we are happy with each other's company. Kapag walang work, lumalabas [kami]," the actor



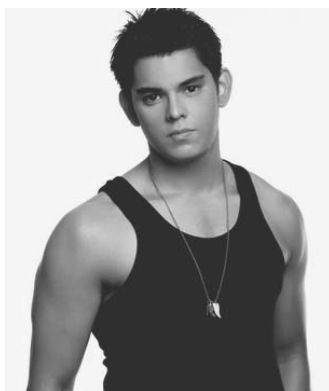
Precious Lara Quigaman

said.

Quigaman, who was the country's Miss International in 1995, used to host the popular noontime variety show "Wowowee." Now, she is part of the country's top television series "May Bukas Pa."

In a previous interview, Quigaman admitted that she already ended her relationship with her non-showbiz boyfriend while Alcaraz, a former varsity player, had ended his relationship with young actress LJ Moreno ■

Richard Gutierrez faces public after car crash



Richard Gutierrez

happy that I'm still alive. I was feeling OK physically, pero spiritually and emotionally, I was really down for the last few days. Now, kasama ko ang aking pamilya, at siyempre mga kaibigan ko, mga supporters ko. At sa lahat ng taong nagmamahal sa akin, gusto ko magpasalamat kasi sila talaga nag-uplift sa spirit ko," he said.

After he survived the accident almost unscathed, Gutierrez said he believes that he has been given a second chance at life. "May mga kailangan pa ako gawin sa buhay ko. I consider this my second life. Kasi nung nakita ko yung kotse ko, hindi ko akalain na ganun na yung itsura ng kotse ko after," he said.

Gutierrez was driving his Nissan Skyline GTX when it crashed into a pole along a blind curve in Silang, Cavite. He recounted how he felt after the crash and climbed out of the car's window then started looking for his companions, his assistant Nomar Pardo and his bodyguard George Matura. The actor said that he and Matura had tried to find Pardo, who was later found dead by police.

"Hindi ko matanggap na hindi ko mahanap si Nomar. Pagkatapos nung aksidente, tinanong ko agad si George kung OK siya, sumagot na OK daw siya. Paglingon ko, tatanungin ko kung 'okay ka ba Mar', eh pagtingin ko wala na siya. Na-shock talaga ako," he said.

He said memories of the accident, from the crash to when he started asking for help from passersby, was still clear in his mind.

"Very clear yung nangyari sa aksidente, kasi the whole time nakadilat ako. Ang daming pumapasok sa isip ko, pero I was very thankful that I was alive and I was breathing. The Lord saved me," the young actor said. ■

Asked how he is coping, Gutierrez said, "I've recovered, and I'm very

Showbiz Gossip *Continued from p.19*

Heart will always be special

– Jericho



Heart Evangelista & Jericho Rosales

Award winning actor Jericho Rosales said that he is happy that he and exlove Heart Evangelista are now in good terms after their messy breakup last year. However, he denied rumors that he and Evangelista have rekindled their romantic relationship. "Hindi naman. Hindi naman kami nagkabalikan," Rosales said.

Rumors had swirled that the former couple were getting back together after he and Evangelista were spotted together in public. "Lagi kaming nagkakabunguan kung saan saan. We talk, small talk. Ang maganda lang, kahit saan kami magkabunguan ay hindi na kami nag-iwasan," Rosales explained.

The couple announced the split in March last year, after Evangelista accused him of having an affair with one of his co-stars. Rosales, meanwhile, denied the allegation, saying that Evangelista was fed with lies.

However, Rosales said he was happy that they have finally started to forget the painful experience.

"I believe that she has forgiven me,

kung anuman ang bagay na nakasakit sa kanya. I [have] forgiven her, kung anuman ang mga bagay na nakasakit sa akin [doon sa] nangyari sa amin. Kung naiintindihan namin 'yon, naiintindihan namin na past is past. Tapos na 'yon. 'I'm sorry, you're sorry.' Sigie, forgiveness is [a] good thing talaga it heals all wounds," the actor said.

Asked if Heart is still beautiful in his eyes, Rosales replied: "Heart will always be special. Sa kanya ko dinidedicar ang song na 'Beautiful In My Eyes.' Sa kanya 'yon and para sa inyong lahat."

Since the former 'lovers against all odds' ended their three-year relationship, Rosales has always said that he has not gotten the chance to see or talk to the actress. Evangelista was reported to have a new boyfriend, while Rosales is now being linked with singer-actress Karylle.

Currently, Rosales is busy with his upcoming television series with another former sweetheart, Kristine Hermosa. ■

Juday vows to be a good wife



Judy Ann Santos

Young superstar Judy Ann Santos has vowed to focus on becoming a good wife.

"Hangga't maaari, gagawin ko at sosobrahan ko pa yong mga obligasyon ko at responsibilidad ko sa kanya. Hindi

lang bilang asawa kundimbilang kaibigan," Santos said.

More than a month after her much talked about wedding with Ryan Agoncillo, the two are happily adjusting to their new life together. She said she and Agoncillo are prepared to address all the changes as long as they face them together.

"Niyakap na namin yong fact na magkasama na kami habang buhay. At lahat ng pagbabago sa buhay namin, magkasabay naming harahapin," Santos said.

For his part, Agoncillo shared that he looks forward to waking up every day and be greeted by Santos.

"Pag gising mo may good morning at alam mong masarap ang kakainin mo. Yong changes tuwang tuwa ako," he said.

Last month, Agoncillo and Santos got married in a private ceremony in the province of Batangas. ■

Anne Curtis back on Primetime Bida



Anne Curtis

Actress Anne Curtis is back on television via ABS-CBN's newest show "The Wedding," which will premiere this coming Monday (June 29).

Curtis said she is happy with her newest show, starring actors Derek Ramsay and Zanjoe Marudo as her leading men.

"Ang show naman po namin is safe for kids, a family show. Very light and charming. It's a pure love story na talagang sa tingin ko naman na people will really appreciate also," Curtis said.

Curtis, who was last seen in fantaserye "Dyosa", said the show has the complete package - a good pace, humor, and romance.

"I like the story and I thought na it's really a good work. And excited ako sa

character ko. Noong sinabi sa akin yong pangalan ko (sa story), I said yeah I will do it. And I'm happy that I did it, no regrets talaga," the actress said.

Curtis said she feels good working for the series, since she is surrounded by friends like Ramsay and Marudo.

The actress, however, admitted that she still feels pressured about launching a new show and watching how it plays out in the ratings game. She said she is praying and hoping for the best.

In the show, Curtis plays the role of Candice, a young lady who dreams of having a perfect wedding with her dream man Warren (Ramsay), who abruptly decides to leave for the States. Meanwhile, when Candice finds out that her parents' marriage is falling apart, she hatches a plan to make her parents stay together. This is by getting engaged with a man, played by Marudo, that her parents will never approve of.

What if Candice falls in love with Marlon? What if Warren comes back for Candice? What will Candice choose a love worth fighting for or a love worth waiting for?

Directed by multi-awarded director Jeffrey Jeturian and Mae Czarina Cruz, "The Wedding" will surely complete the Primetime Bida experience. It also stars William Martinez, Irma Adlawan, Baron Geisler, Alwyn Uytingco, Hiyasmin Neri, Jaja Gonzales, Mich Dulce, Kuanne Dy, and Zeppi Borromeo, among others.

Witness love and romance in all its comic glory on "The Wedding" starting June 29 only on ABS-CBN. ■

Erik Santos r ecords album with Jim Brickman



Erik Santos

be working with him one day. It's a dream come true to collaborate with him. He is my idol!" says local showbiz 'Prince of Pop.'

"All his songs, like 'Valentine,' 'The Gift,' 'Angel Eyes,' and 'Simple Things' are inspiring and timeless. I am lucky to have this once-in-a-lifetime chance."

Just recently, he arrived from the United States where he recorded his sixth Star Records album with no less than the world-class singer-composer as producer. Erik recorded his album in Jim Brickman's Los Angeles studio. The album, to come out in July, includes revivals and original compositions penned by the composer. This means Erik has joined the league of Lea Salonga, Martin Nievera, Pops Fernandez, Sharon Cuneta, Ariel Rivera and Agot Isidro, who have previously collaborated with Brickman.

Erik recalls being very excited on his recording day. He has only good words for the noted artist. "I had a great time working with Jim Brickman and Tom Ameen. Thanks, Jim, for being so nice. I had a blast."

And in October, Brickman will come over to perform with Erik in a concert in Manila.

"Erik Santos: The Jim Brickman Songbook" will be released in select Asian countries including Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand. ■

Rica Peralejo getting married



Rica Peralejo

Actress-host Rica Peralejo has confirmed that she is set to marry her non-showbiz boyfriend Joseph Bonifacio. She said Bonifacio proposed to her while they were celebrating their 10th month as a couple.

Peralejo, a former child star, had declared that she will only say 'I do' when she finally finds a "man of God." Her wish has been granted because Bonifacio is one of the pastors of the Victory Christian Fellowship. Peralejo and Bonifacio are members of Victory Christian Fellowship. The young actress then decided to leave the sexy world of showbiz and joined the christian fellowship, where she met Bonifacio. ■

Ruffa's kids tease ma a bout John Lloyd



Lorin and Venice Gutierrez's song & candid answers delighted the caudience

Ruffa Gutierrez might be refusing to talk about actor John Lloyd Cruz to avoid being romantically linked to him but it's her two children, Lorin and Venice, who are getting her into trouble.

On Monday "Ruffa & Ai," an ABS-CBN morning show hosted by Gutierrez and Ai-Ai delas Alas, held an advance birthday party for the former beauty queen. Gutierrez will turn 35 on Wednesday.

In the special episode, Lorin, 5, and Venice, 4, surprised Gutierrez by performing "You Changed My Life In a Moment," the theme song of Cruz's film "You Changed My Life."

The two kids dedicated the song to their mom.

When asked by Gutierrez why they chose that song, Lorin said: "Because I like it."

"Why did you like it?" Gutierrez

further inquired.

"Because it's John Lloyd," Lorin replied, eliciting laughter and cheers from the audience.

Venice, on the other hand, chimed in that she also liked Sarah Geronimo, who was Cruz's leading lady in the box-office hit movie.

Gutierrez was beginning to get embarrassed but there was no stopping the girls.

When Delas Alas inquired about their favorite actors, Lorin enumerated: "Tito Richard (Gutierrez), Lolo (Eddie Gutierrez), John Lloyd and Tito Elvis (Gutierrez)." ■

Igorots forgive Candy Pangilinan



Candy Pangilinan

Comedienne Candy Pangilinan could now heave a sigh of relief after the Baguio City council finally

accepted, her apology. During its public hearing Monday, the city council junked its resolution declaring her "persona non grata." Also, the council would no longer file any case against her in connection with the "ethnic slur" she uttered against the Igorots.

Last month, Pangilinan was declared an "unwelcome visitor" in Baguio City after she cracked this joke: "Tao po ako, hindi po ako Igorot." This drew strong condemnations from the Igorot community.

To show that she was deeply remorseful over her mistake, Pangilinan personally attended the council's hearing in Baguio on Monday.

"I know that... I have offended and hurt you, for that I'm deeply sorry," Pangilinan tearfully said before the council.

The council had long debated the issue until it finally decided to forgive Pangilinan. The comedienne burst into tears upon hearing its decision.

"Sa totoo po, natatakot ako. Pero natuwa din po sila dahil first time, sabi nila, sa history ng mga nadeklarang persona non grata, ako lang po ang humarap sa kanila," Pangilinan said.

"They commended me for the bravery and for that I'm very thankful," she said.

She thanked the Igorot community for understanding and forgiving her. She said she learned a lot from her blunder. She also vowed to promote their culture in her shows. ■

The North American Filipino Star Classified Ads

ADVERTISING

Cheapest way to advertise!
Heading + 1 line of text = \$10
Additional line - \$2 per line
Please send text by e-mail to:
filipinostar2@gmail.com
and we will let you know cost of
your ad. Please prepay your
ads in person or by mail.
Call 514-485-7861

BUSINESS OFFER

Serious investor/partner in an educational project, preferably who is retired and interested in teaching and managing a school, minimum investment required please send CV with references by e-mail to: profinteg2009@gmail.com

CDN APTS FOR RENT

Bouret-Victoria

Renovated 3 1/2, 4 1/2 \$555+
Heat, H/w, Appliances
Elevator, near Metro
514-2985, (514) 575-4691
WE SPEAK TAGALOG

CLEANERS

Office cleaners for West Island, car needed, work Mon-Fri after 6 pm
Michael call 514-624-3437

COMMERCIAL CLEANERS

Cleaning company seeking cleaners, pref. w/experience
Call 514-731-9682

DENTAL ASSISTANT

In response to public demand, dental assistant course to be offered soon - call for details
5-10 students per class
514-485-7861

DRIVING

Licensed driving instructor with many-years experience and tips on how to pass the road test. Save your time. Exam car available.
Jason 514-691-1816.

Quebec certified driving instructor with 11 years experience in giving driving lessons.
Exam car available
Toton 514-969-9622

HELP WANTED

Female store assistant, general work, Full time, call 514-878-9071.

LAWYER

Lawyer specializing in family Law (divorce, separation) civil, and Rental Board, accepts Legal Aid, and reasonable rates
.ME GERUS (514) 499 2010
EXT.26 OU (514) 688 1775.

NURSING AIDE

P.A.B. Sunday Class available 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
or other schedules on request
Saturday or Weekday evenings
Class size - 10-15 students
Tax deductible fees
514-485-7861

PERSONAL

Gentleman Looking for nice lady age 30-40 for friendship/marriage, call 514-965-2829

TUTORIALS

All subjects, all levels, private or semi-private courses, call 514-485-7861

TECHNICIAN

Having computer problems?
Call (514) 770-4066, 342-3066
An experienced Filipino computer technician can come to your place at a very reasonable rate

TRAVEL TOURS



Ferry Travel Tours

www.ptncanada.com/ferrytraveltours
Committed to your traveling pleasure
Call 514-485-7861
Competitive price
Year-round specials
Airefare, Hotels, Cruises,
Honeymoon & Vacation Packages

VIDEO & PHOTO

www.danvideoproduction.com
Christenings, birthdays, weddings
All Occasions
Call Dan 514-572-9621

Imelda can't have her jewelry - Devanadera

Former First Lady Imelda Marcos will not be getting back her fabled pieces of jewelry after all.

Justice Secretary Agnes Devanadera met Tuesday with officials from the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG) and reviewed the case involving Mrs. Marcos' fabled jewelry collection after Devanadera's predecessor, Chief Presidential Legal Adviser Raul Gonzalez, suggested that the former First Lady was the rightful owner of the jewels.

Gonzalez earlier issued a legal opinion in which he said that Mrs. Marcos evidently "remains to be the legitimate owner of the prized" jewelry.

Malacañang denied forging a deal with the Marcoses for the release of the jewels that remain in the possession of the Philippine government.

"I don't see any logic in connecting Malacañang with that order [of Gonzalez] because Secretary Agnes Devanadera came up with a very clear position that it [jewelry] can't be returned to the Marcoses because there is a legal impediment," Cabinet Secretary Silvestre Bello 3rd said.

Devanadera, speaking after the talks with Commission officials, told reporters that the jewelry collection was considered part of the Marcos family's stolen wealth and remained the subject of a civil forfeiture case pending before an anti-graft court.

"The Supreme Court has said that any property that is well and beyond the legitimate income of President [Ferdinand] Marcos is considered ill-gotten wealth," she said.

Devanadera added that the jewelry collection was covered under one of many unresolved civil cases filed against Mrs. Marcos and her family, and therefore would not be turned over to the former First Lady without a court ruling.

When asked whether the government intended to return the jewels, she said,



Former Philippines First Lady Imelda Marcos looks at her bracelet in Manila July 5, 2007.

"No."

PCGG Commissioner Ricardo Abcede estimated the value of Mrs. Marcos' jewelry, which is made up of three collections, to be at P15 billion.

Mrs. Marcos, known worldwide for her vast collection of shoes that symbolized her wasteful and flamboyant lifestyle, on Monday said the collection included personal pieces and religious images.

She said she was hopeful of having the collection returned after 23 years and has challenged government plans to auction it off.

Three collections

Lawyer Jay Miguel, the head of the legal department of the Presidential Commission on Good Government, revealed that at least one of the two collections that was in the care of the agency has been forfeited in favor of the government, while the other collection was being subjected to legal proceedings before the anti-graft court Sandiganbayan.

He said that Mrs. Marcos actually "surrendered" the "Hawaii collection" consisting of expensive jewels she brought to Honolulu after the Marcos family fled the Philippines at the height of the EDSA "people power" revolt in 1986. US authorities confiscated the Hawaii jewels.

Miguel said that a Hawaii court also ruled that the jewelry seized belongs to the Philippine Republic based on a settlement executed by the former First Lady with the Presidential Commission on Good Government.

The Hawaii collection had a value of \$23.9 million in 1986.

"The Hawaii collection is already conclusive as far as the ownership is concerned for the Republic [of the Philippines] since there is a district court ruling in Hawaii that stated that the jewelry belongs to the Philippine Republic due to the settlement executed by the PCGG and the former First Lady," Miguel said.

The "Malacañang collection," which is made up of jewels left by the Marcoses in the Palace when they fled the country, had a value of \$4 million in 1986.

Miguel explained that this collection was still part of Civil Case 14, which has been pending with the Sandiganbayan

since 1992.

The Roumelotes collection, on the other hand, is not within the jurisdiction of the Presidential Commission on Good Government since it was seized at the airport.

It is the biggest chunk in the fabled Marcos jewelry collection and was confiscated by the Bureau of Customs after a botched attempt by Marcos agents to smuggle the jewelry out of the country in 1986.

The Burmese ruby of the Roumelotes collection is reportedly as big as a lanzones at 150.1 carats and was valued at \$290,000. Meanwhile, the diamond brooch, bracelet and earrings were priced at \$1.4 million.

Mrs. Marcos said many of the jewelry pieces were "intended for religious images, like tiaras for the Blessed Virgin Mary."

"But there are valuable pieces of personal jewelry that are not in the inventory, although I know they were left in our bedroom at Malacañang in 1986. Among those [are the pieces] inside the 34 Louis Vuitton suitcases taken out of the Palace without proper authorization and inventory by Mrs. Tingting Cojuangco," she said. Margarita "Tingting" Cojuangco is the wife of former Rep. Jose "Peping" Cojuangco, now president of the Philippine Olympic Committee. He is also the sister of former President Corazon Aquino.

"This was according to the testimony in my trial in New York by Mr. Chito Roque, a witness for the prosecution presented by the Philippine government," Mrs. Marcos added. ■



6430 Victoria Avenue
Montreal, QC Tel.: 514-733-7816

Prices valid from:
June 26 to July 6, 2009



Barbecue Marinade
250 g 2 / 99¢



Coconut milk
99¢ each



JHL Jackfruit in Syrup
2 / \$5.00



Saba Mackerel
\$1.99 each



BF Fish Sauce
\$2.59 bottle



Diwa Bihone
227 g \$1.19 ea
454 g \$2.39 ea.



San Miguel Pure Foods
Corned Beef 340 g
\$2.99 each



Pilipit 100 g
99¢ each



Pork Picnic
99¢ / lb



Red Fish
\$5.99 bag - 750 g



Gelato Ice Cream
(Banana, Chocolate, Tangerine)
\$3.99 each



Dole Mango Sunrise
1.26 L - \$1.49 can



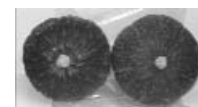
AAI Sardines Oval
99¢ each



Frozen Chicken Legs
99¢ / lb



Eggplant
99¢ / lb



Squash
99¢ lb

EDUCATION RAISES THE BAR

BUT LOWERS THE BARRIERS TO A REWARDING CAREER.



Accounting Class - Standing from left: Lenny Villanueva, Jackie Padua, Mae de Guzman, Sheila Gonzales. Seated from left: Nora Sacdalan, Zenaida Kharroubi (teacher), and Vilma Kelly.

COURSES

- Languages - English, French, Spanish, Mandarin, Tagalog
- Accounting & Bookkeeping
- Keyboarding (Touch Typing)
- Computer Literacy
- Microsoft Word, Excel, Access
- Personal Support Worker (Nursing Aid, PAB)
- Early Childhood Education Assistant
- Office Technology
- International Trade (C.I.T.P.)
- Integration of Foreign Graduates of Nursing (Permit Pending)
- Daycare Management

Seminars:

- Writers Helping Writers
- Intercultural Communication
- Leadership Training



Nursing Aide Students - Standing from left: Rosemary Zagala, Catherine Faytaren, Edenia Dulot, Michele Wong, and Grelina Jaramillo. Seated from left: Eva de la Paz, Vilma Solomon and Elizabeth Lumigao. (Photo taken during their practicum at St. Margaret CHSLD).



GILMORE INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

4950 Queen Mary Road
Penthouse
Montreal, QC H3W 1X3
Telephone: 514-485-7861



Prepare for the global economy. Enroll in the International Trade Program at Gilmore International College. Earn a C.I.T.P. diploma (Certified International Trade Professional) Call 514-485-7861 for information.

- Global Entrepreneurship
- International Marketing
- International Trade Finance
- International Logistics
- International Market Entry & Distribution

- International Trade Research
- Legal Aspects of International Trade
- International Trade Management
- Intercultural Aspects of Trade





Magandang pasimula sa Canada handog sa inyo ng Scotiabank.

As Canada's most international bank, we understand the challenges you face as a newcomer to Canada, especially without a credit history. That's why we've created the **Scotiabank StartRight™** program† with comprehensive financial solutions that can help you build credit history, and settle sooner.



- ✓ FREE Day-to-Day Banking¹
(The *Scotia Powerchequing*[®] account)
- ✓ *No-Fee Scotia Moneyback*[®] VISA* card²
- ✓ FREE Safety deposit box³
- ✓ Save with online Western Union[®]
Money Transfers
- ✓ FREE Newcomers' Handbook^Δ
- ✓ FREE 13 week subscription to
National Post newspaper^{×Δ}
- ✓ FREE International long distance
calling card^Δ

**For more details visit your nearest branch,
www.startright.scotiabank.com or call 1-866-800-5159.**

¹ Free banking for one year when you open a new *Scotia Powerchequing* account with Scotiabank. Free banking offer refers to all account monthly transaction fees for the *Scotia Powerchequing* account package; additional fees apply for shared ATM services, cross-border debit transactions and all other banking services not included in the *Scotia Powerchequing* account package.

² *No-Fee Scotia Moneyback* VISA card subject to meeting Scotiabank's eligibility and credit criteria.

³ Free small safety deposit box or 25% off other sizes for 1 year subject to availability and signing the Safety Deposit Box lease.

† *Scotiabank StartRight* program, created for Canadian landed immigrants from 0-3 years in Canada.

* VISA Int./Lic user The Bank of Nova Scotia.

® The WESTERN UNION name, logo and related trademarks and service marks, owned by Western Union Holdings, Inc., are registered and/or used in the U.S. and many foreign countries and are used with permission.

Δ Promotional offers available to customers who qualify for the *Scotiabank StartRight* program and who open the *Scotia Powerchequing* account, get *No-Fee Moneyback* VISA card or Safety deposit box; or who qualify for the Welcome to Canada mortgage program and obtain mortgage financing with Scotiabank.

These offers are for limited period, subject to availability.

× Offer limited to new subscribers who have not had home delivery for at least 45 days.

© Registered trademarks of The Bank of Nova Scotia.

™ Trademark of The Bank of Nova Scotia.

