

# Canada's medal drought is over

For over a week after the Olympic games started on Friday, August 8, it seemed as if Canada will be embarrassed to be left out of the medal count. But things started changing to the relief of most Canadian Olympic fans. With one medal, a pall that had been hanging over the Canadian Olympic team vanished.

The medal that hurdler Priscilla Lopes-Schliep of Whitby, Ont., captured was much more than a piece of bronze hardware. It was Canada's 13th medal of the Beijing Olympics, moving the Canadian team past the total of 12 in Athens in 2004, away from the low point. With medals still likely in canoe-kayak, mountain bike and possibly softball, the total could reach 16.

As part of the rebound, Lopes-Schliep's medal was Canada's first in an Olympic track since the men's



**Canada's Priscilla Lopes-Schliep didn't get out of the preliminary round in the women's 100 hurdles at the 2004 Olympics. (Ryan Remiorz/Canadian Press)**

sprint relay and 100-metre man Donovan Bailey both conquered won in Atlanta in 1996.

And, coming as it did in the 100-metre hurdles, the medal also put away one of the painful episodes of

2004. Lopes-Schliep completed the mission of getting a medal in the 100-metre hurdles and she did it as an underdog. Four years ago, the opportunity was there for Perdita Felicien as the world champion and

favourite, but she crashed at the first hurdle in the final and has been asked to relive the ugly moment in every interview. With one medal, a pall that had been hanging over the Canadian Olympic team vanished.

The Canadian Olympic Committee's prediction of a top-16 finish at the Beijing Olympics is suddenly looking pretty good.

Canadian athletes won four more medals Thursday, increasing the nation's medal total to 13 and moving Canada into a tie with the Netherlands for 12th place in the overall three-metre springboard for a second straight Games. Priscilla Lopes-Schliep capped the big day with a bronze in the 100-metre hurdles, ending the Canadian track team's 12-year medal drought.

With two gold, six silver and

See Page 4 Olympics 2008



## David Pomeranz and Joey Albert concert revives love for romantic songs



Joey Albert, sang some of her hit songs while David Pomeranz not only sang but also played the guitar and the piano. The two stars gave a heartwarming performance which was greatly appreciated by everyone.

The concert was organized by the Premiere Management Group, a non-profit organization, for the benefit of the Filipino Catholic Mission. Joey Albert and David Pomeranz are noted for being generous with sharing their talents for worthy causes. There were two Filipino media, present, namely, the Filipino Forum and the Filipino Star, and many VIP ticket holders who met them at a brief press conference. Being a first time performer in

Montreal, David Pomeranz received all of the questions although Mikey Bustos, a finalist in the Canadian Idol,

See Page 4 Joey and David

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# EDITORIAL

## Politics and the Olympics

To offer our readers some background information in order to react properly to some current events related to the issue of politics in the Olympics, we cite some materials taken from the free internet based encyclopedia Wikipedia

As can be gleaned from the events cited, the Olympics was created to promote international friendship and brotherhood, yet, it would seem that the main motivation of some countries is to use the Olympics for propaganda.

The Olympic Games were created by Baron Pierre de Coubertin for two reasons: 1) A way for the countries of the globe to become more connected.

2) It was a reason for men to become more "vigoureux" or vigorous. (This was in answer to the Franco-Prussian War in which Germany defeated France). However in the years to come this began to change. In 1900, the Olympics became a great honor for countries who took part.

The 1936 Summer Olympics, held in Berlin, were the first games in which politics had a major role. They were Hitler's Olympics and he took them as a chance to show off the new Germany after WWI. Hitler also wanted to put forward his view of the Aryan race as being the best in every aspect, though non-Aryan athletes like Jesse Owens in fact won many of the games.

The 1956 Summer Olympics, held in Melbourne, were affected by numerous boycotts. Egypt, Iraq, and Lebanon boycotted in protest of

the Israeli invasion of Egypt. The Netherlands, Spain and Switzerland boycotted in protest of the Soviet Union's invasion of Hungary during the Hungarian Uprising.

The political frustrations between the Soviet Union and Hungary boiled over at the games themselves when the two mens water polo teams met for the semi-final. The players became increasingly violent towards each other as the game progressed, while many Hungarian-Australian spectators were prevented from rioting only with the sudden appearance of the police[1]. The match became known as the Blood in the Water match[2].

The 1968 Summer Olympics were held in Mexico City. At these games Tommie Smith and John Carlos, gold and bronze medalists, gave the black power salute during the Star Spangled Banner. The action was deemed to be against the principles of the Olympic Games and the two athletes were expelled from the Olympics.

Students in Mexico City tried to make use of the media attention for their country to protest against the authoritarian character of the Mexican government. The Mexican government reacted with violence, culminating in the Tlatelolco Massacre of October 2 in which more than two hundred protesters were gunned down by government forces.

The 1972 Summer Olympics held in Munich Germany were probably the most negatively affected games. Eleven Israeli athletes

were kidnapped and ultimately killed by Palestinian terrorists. The terrorists demanded the release of 234 Palestinians.

Held in Montreal, the 1976 Summer Olympics were marred with more boycotts as well as drug allegations against the East Germans. The boycotts were held out by 26 African countries because New Zealand's rugby team toured South Africa.

Neither the Republic of China(Taiwan) or the People's Republic of China (mainland) competed.

Canada incurred \$1.5 Billion in debt, which they finished paying off in 19 December 2006. Montreal became the last publicly funded games.

Moscow's 1980 Summer Olympics was the year of the largest boycott in Olympic history. The boycott included the USA and 61 other countries in response to the USSR's invasion of Afghanistan. The 1980 Winter Olympics in Lake Placid, New York stirred controversy because of plans to convert the Olympic athletes' dormitory facilities into a state prison afterwards. This made legal history when the National Moratorium on Prison Construction won a court ruling allowing its use of the Olympic symbol on a poster as protected speech.

Allegedly in retaliation of the 1980 boycott, the USSR, East Germany, Cuba and 14 other countries boycotted the Los Angeles 1984 Summer Olympics.

This was also the first time the People's Republic of China participated, having protested the Republic of China's presence in previous

Olympics. Since the beginning of 2008, especially during the protests of the torch relay of the 2008 Summer Olympics, the prospect of boycotting the 2008 games in Beijing grew. The protesters' aims are not only the human rights of Mainland China, but also the independent campaign and violence of Tibet. Another major factor was the Chinese support for the regime in Sudan, which is accused of committing genocide in the Darfur region; this issue led to Steven Spielberg pulling out as artistic director of the games. U.S. president George W. Bush committed to attending the opening ceremonies. Ultimately, no nations boycotted the games; however, several prominent world leaders such as Angela Merkel and Gordon Brown did not attend the opening ceremony.

The political issues in 2008 were not simply limited to issues involving China. Russia was embroiled in controversy as the Second South Ossetian War started around the same time as the games. This lent extra weight to the victory of the Georgia Women's Beach Volleyball Team over their Russian opponents (although the two players, Cristine Santanna and Andrezza Martins, were originally from Brazil).

It appears that the principles of the Olympics have not always been adhered to. But as the saying goes, the show must go on regardless of the problems we know exist. Perhaps, the only thing one can do is to hope that one day the true meaning of the Olympics may come true.

Zenaida Ferry Kharroubi



4950 Queen Mary Road Penthouse (5th Floor) near Snowdon Metro Montreal, QC H3W 1X3 **Tel.: 514-485-7861**  
**E-Mail: marketing@filipinostar.org**

<b>Jean Janete Aguilar</b> Jerry Estrada Lina V. Fernandez Dr. Victor Gavino Prof. Isaac Goodine Alvin D. Veloso Contributors	<b>Zenaida Ferry Kharroubi</b> 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
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# COOPERATIVE NEWS

By Zenaida Ferry Kharroubi

The past few weeks have been very hectic - supervising our two trainees from Dawson College, ordering and checking merchandise and canvassing for needed equipment. I spent the whole month of July to the middle of August working at the Coop almost 10 hours a day. Consequently, my own work suffered great delays.

As we ordered a lot of merchandise, it is important to keep the store open longer. However, there is not enough manpower to do this. We only have one employee who cannot legally work more than 8 hours a day. She reports for work from 12:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Therefore, the Coop is closed for half a day. For this reason, I tried to open the store as early as possible, starting at 9:30 a.m. I did this for a couple of weeks but I simply could not do this for long as I need to turn to the publication of the newspaper and to accept registrations of students in my school. Then, other things need to be done for my personal and business affairs. Who then would be interested in keeping the Coop open longer? Will there be some members who are retired and can give at least two or three hours a day, twice a week? Please call 514-733-8915, or 514-485-7861, to let us know if you have some time to spare during the week. We will give you some training and prepare you for the tasks you need to perform during your duty.

The Filipino Coop will certainly receive more business if it is open longer and if merchandise is continuously replenished. If we have more volunteers, things will soon get better.

We have just received an inquiry about showing the Filipino Coop to Canadians and other cultural groups. The CDN Community Council through one of its animators named Lisa Fisher, is organizing a tour of the Coop on August 28, 2008. We hope that this exposure to other people in the community will create more interest in buying from the Coop.

Indeed, things are starting to get better. Once we have acquired the needed equipment for fresh meat and vegetables, there will be no more reason to buy anywhere else. We have just found a prospective seller of the equipment we need through a Filipino business owner who operates a big store in Ile Perrot. When I told him

about our need for this equipment, he led us to a Chinese businessman who is trying to sell his equipment. However, it is not easy to make a deal with him as his time is very limited. He is only available from 9 to 12, Monday to Friday. In order to carry out this transaction, we will need to bring someone knowledgeable enough to check that the equipment are in working order.

Buying second hand equipment, although very cheap, is a very risky business. Hence, I feel that must not rush into this transaction, but must negotiate properly to avoid more problems later. I am planning to check this out as soon as I come back from my trip to Mexico this coming week.

I also need to continue recruiting new members to help in the financing of the Coop. My personal credit line is simply not enough to buy more merchandise and to pay for the overhead costs. I am appealing to all Filipinos to come aboard. If they all do, the Coop will certainly become profitable sooner. My newest recruit is Mr. Narciso Mejia who sent us his cheque soon after meeting him at the Philippine Folk Art Society induction last August 3. I also distributed brochures and forms to other community leaders at this event, but they have not yet come around to sending us their memberships until now. I hope that by reading this article, they will be reminded to send their \$100 for membership shares. It is a small amount but it goes a long way in helping the Coop.

Our potluck picnic last August 3 was not well-attended on account of the weather. We will need to think of other activities to have a better chance of communicating with our membership.

A seminar is being planned to be given in the third week of October. The purpose of the seminar is to encourage us to think of how we can work together for our common goals. Professor Isaac Goodine will be the speaker. Please check the advertisement in this newspaper and mark this date on your calendar - October 26, 2008, 1:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. Your participation in this seminar is extremely important for it will determine the future of the cooperative movement in Quebec, in particular, in the Filipino-Canadian community.

**Support the Filipino Coop by buying your groceries from your own store. Call 514-733-8915 to order what you need.**

As part of the cooperative education program, we are pleased to introduce the beginning of our seminar series. All members and prospective members of the Filipino Coop as well as members of all associations and other interested individuals are welcomed to attend this seminar which we believe will be beneficial in helping us learn to work together and develop positive attitudes to achieve our common goals.



Isaac T. Goodine

When: Sunday, October 26, 2008  
Where: To be determined according to enrollment  
Time: 2:00 - 5:00 P.M.  
Seminar speaker: Isaac T. Goodine  
Fee: \$10 Members  
\$15 Non-members  
(Refreshments to be provided)

**Profile:**

Isaac T. Goodine & Associates (ITGA) is a legal entity based in Ottawa and registered under an Ontario Master Business License as a sole proprietorship offering technical advice and consulting services in human development.

Mr. Goodine and his associates bring to clients a wealth of international experience in Education, Culture and Diplomacy. Isaac, also known as "Ike", has contributed to the internationalization of education by thirty years of practical experience at the leading edge of human resource and institutional development, including in-depth knowledge of about sixty-five countries. He is a Retiree of the World Bank Group and a former Director General of the Colombo Plan Staff College and remains active as a part-time consultant and technical advisor with both institutions. Underlying his work is a philosophy and deep belief that the accident of one's place of birth need not determine where one must earn a livelihood forever. He is author of the book "Leaders Leading Leaders: International Dimensions of Distinguished Leadership" (2003) and his column on "Global Perspectives" is published regularly, on-line, by the North American Filipino Star, based in Montreal, Canada.

In the course of his international career he has developed an Ad Hoc network of Associates and has current links to the following organizations: London Diplomatic Academy; International Institute for Public Ethics; United Writers Association of India; Ottawa Independent Writers; World Order of Science Education and Culture; International Vocational Education and Training Association; International Educators Association of Canada; Society for International Development; and the Canada- Philippines Business Council.

Consulting experience includes work with the World Bank; Caribbean Development Bank, and Association of Canadian Community Colleges. Career highlights in Education and Culture include positions of Principal of: New Brunswick Institute of Technology; Zambia Institute of Technology; and Kenya Technical Teachers College. Administrative positions include Director of Technical Education and Vocational Training, Zambia, and Managing Director of the Knowledge Development Institute, Barbados. Diplomatic experience includes assignments as First Secretary at the Canadian Embassy, Manila, and the Canadian High Commission, Bridgetown. Additional information is available at Website: [www.ikes-world.com](http://www.ikes-world.com)

**Description of seminar topic:**

The seminar will be interactive and divided into three Segments  
Part I = Video and discussion on Paradigms, how they are formed and how we can change them.  
Discussion on how we can change our way of doing things and learn to work synergistically and cooperatively.  
Part II = Discussion on Setting priorities and Time Management, with an interactive exercise on Stress management, multi-tasking, and teamwork in cooperative organizations.  
Part III= Video and Discussion on right brain=left brain functions compared with yin=yang. Participants will be sent a self evaluation test to discover their orientation toward left or right brain functions. They will mark their own tests and share as they wish during discussion.

Questions at the end of the seminar, feedback, etc. will be welcomed. We would appreciate it very much if you could also let us know your interest in other topics for the follow up seminars.

Zenaida Ferry Kharroubi, President  
The Filipino Solidarity Cooperative



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## The Cooperative Movement - Bigger than what you think

By Jerry Estrada

In this Issue:

### Creating A Sustainable Economic Development

In June 2008, Zeny Kharroubi, the president of Filipino Solidarity Cooperative, invited me to attend a Cooperative Information Seminar at the Filipino Association of Montreal and Suburbs (FAMAS) centre on Van Horne. The speaker was Art Cortez, who volunteered to share his ideas on the benefits of cooperation should we build our own enterprise.

For me, the topic was good and the program is worth continuing. Continuous coop education and seminar is a must to succeed. Teaching people to work together in organizing our own economy for our own benefits is good, too. It's a tedious process but it's the only way to get attention, become interested, and get involved. Coops should be understood and carefully carried out. Without these fundamental conditions, it is impossible to expect success, or even to conceive it. It is going to be a job of serious teaching, to get the people to understand that. However, this way, we profess brotherhood and solidarity that we can hope to wake up people and respond. It is one way to start. If people could just work together, it will be our salvation in an economic sense.

#### NURTURING A SUSTAINABLE PROGRAM

The Filipino Solidarity Cooperative at Van Horne was a good idea. The vision to help uplift the Filipino people was coop leaders' selfless gesture. However, to sustain a project like this needs Herculean efforts and collaboration to succeed. We should nurture this undertaking so that we may have a better and useful economic activity.

We expect that there will always be problems. We also think there will always be failures. However, if we don't attack the problem, the state of the masses will always be sunk in poverty. In the Philippines, other people who attend coop seminars would ask- "can the poor help the poor? What do ordinary people know about business? What can the poor people save?" But let us keep in mind that regardless of the route we choose-whether it's going solo or buying a franchise-arriving at our million in sales will require persistence, strategy and in most cases collaboration of people

Even in the 1950's, coop pioneers did not know what to do and where to begin since credit unions or co-operatives are new when they started. But they called up all their

neighbors and priests who had experienced the same economic wants to join together and accept a program that was large and well defined.

#### WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE?

Coop history shows us that the success of cooperatives came from dedicated and knowledgeable people like: Robert Owen (Great Britain), the father of the co-operative movement, was a cotton-trade manager; Dr. William King (England), a physician and journalist, inspired the co-operative movement through a monthly periodical (newspaper) he founded called The Cooperator. The newspaper had a wide circulation and was a great influence in the emerging movement. The paper served to educate and unify people who otherwise would be in scattered groups.

Raiffeisen (Germany) who founded Raiffeisen Coops was a Mayor; Schulze-Delitzsch (Germany), who founded people's banks, was a lawyer and economist; Desjardins (Canada) who founded Caisse Populaires, was a journalist and French-language stenographer at the House of Commons (Ottawa). Fr. Masterson, S.J.(Philippines) was a Dean at Ateneo de Manila and Cagayan de Oro; Atty. Pimentel, Sr. (father of Senator Pimentel) was a law professor; and Atty. Cua (Coop Man of Asia 2004) was an Accountant, Lawyer, former City Mayor/Administrator, law and literature professor. The last three people were the founders of the First Community Coop (FICCO) in Cagayan de Oro, the first coop billionaire in the Philippines.

These people are the coop initiators around the world. They turned to the co-operative idea which they knew could stifle selfishness and sought moral improvements in economic conduct.

Here in Montreal, we know there are a lot of Filipino professionals and small/medium entrepreneurs with good hearts and intentions to join together for the benefit of the community. We have a lot of experienced professionals and knowledgeable people in business. Zeny Kharroubi, the editor of this monthly paper is a classic example. She uses her resources, time and efforts to continue helping the first Filipino cooperative in Canada. I think we have a lot of Filipino accountants, managers, businessmen and other people who have the experience in

running a business to come out and help the Filipino Coop. There are several ways of sharing, not money alone. It could be one's talent, ideas, skills or time. Or being a mere customer only - buying a \$10-worth of goods a week is a big help. It's good to remember that the members are the strength of a coop because the members are the coop's captured market.

What would the St. Lawrence River be if those drips of water were separated and scattered all over the mountains? No power, no flow, no drive, no source. A co-op with incohesive or disunited members is like that.

#### NURTURING COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS

While on the road to development, problems and disagreements are always present, for myriad reasons. In this world full of anger (perhaps, that anger most harms the person who feels it) and greed, it is sad to hear that there are a lot of civic leaders some times who are tearing each other apart which is against a man's dignity.

Equality and Democracy, aside from Dignity, are also very important for a man to live peacefully. Equality is fairness of treatment, rights, or value equal to all others in a given group. Democracy is having a free and equal right to participate in the decision-making process. Dignity is the condition of being worthy of respect, esteem, or honor. But, Equality and Democracy are useless if Dignity is ruined.

Either we move forward or we fall backward, either we let the coop falter or we help it grow, either we succumb to our enemies or we defeat them - the choice is still up to us. However, it's good to note that we, as a Filipino community, should realize that violence or tearing each other apart will not produce results and can never solve any of our problems.

#### From Page 1 Joey and David

and Joey Albert, who came twice to Montreal, were also available for the interview. David is known to be a popular singer-composer in the Philippines. However, many of the so-called old timers in Montreal do not have any idea of his accomplishments unless they read his profile from sources such as his website and press releases of his promoters.

Coming to listen to a concert without any prior experience is like being on a discovery tour and I was pleased with what I heard and saw. The concert was preceded by local talents and Mikey Bustos as indicated in the program. When the time came for Joey Albert and David Pomeranz to come on stage, they were warmly cheered. Their opening number was indeed appropriate entitled "The Power of Love" which seems to tie in with the label of their concert "Souls in Love". This was followed by the solo rendition of Joey's hits such as "It's Over Now, Ikaw Lang ang Mamahalin, Million Miles Away." After performing solo, she

she sang again with David in "If you Walk Away." David's most popular hits followed such as: "Got to believe in magic, Born for you, I learned if all from you, and Number One." They alternated singing alone or together.

Joey loved to make the crowd sing along while David stepped down from the stage to be with the audience. He danced with a lady on the front row as his so-called "prom date" while singing an old tune.

If asked which one was the most favorite of the crowd, it would be difficult to name one as it would seem as if all of them were great hits. But I was particularly moved by David's rendition of Charlie Chaplin as he showed such versatility - playing all the roles, singing, and playing the piano at the same time.

Both performers were very friendly, warm-hearted, and possess a great sense of humour. The time flew and everyone seemed to have had a wonderful evening of listening pleasure. Their sweet and melodic voices do not seem to wane in spite of having performed for so many years. It is therefore no surprise to find out that David Pomeranz' songs and recordings have sold over 40 million copies worldwide and his concert performances have delighted and inspired millions. On the other hand, Joey Albert's "friendly and down-to-earth charm disarm many to this day, and yet, she is, arguably, still the pop queen to beat." She also has a share of 10 industry awards and a dozen albums.

As a finale, both artists sang with the Kids Choir, a meaningful song titled "In Our Hands."

The popularity of these two artists was obviously the reason for a big crowd to gather after the show just to wait for their autographs.

#### From Page 1 Beijing Olympics 08

five bronze medals, Canada has already eclipsed its medal count from the Athens Olympics four years ago. The Canadian Olympic Committee's prediction of a top-16 finish at the Beijing Olympics is suddenly looking pretty good.

Simon Whitfield started Tuesday's haul with a silver in men's triathlon. Jason Burnett followed with Canada's second trampoline silver in as many days, while diving veteran Alexandre Despatie won silver in men's three-metre springboard for a second straight Games.



# Music School Expands to Serve Community Better

*The Academy of Music expands into new 4000 square foot facility and adds additional instructors. Busy families in Montreal benefit from extended hours and additional convenient class times*

The Academy of Music has expanded into a new location to offer more diverse programs and convenient class times to the residents of Montreal. According to School Director Rose, the school has grown faster than anticipated since opening in 2003. The fast growth is due to a dedication to providing convenient, top quality instruction to its students.

Every year the school has added more members to its teaching staff and has upgraded facilities by such things as purchasing new pianos, and regularly renovating the facilities. The Academy of Music is part of Montreal's largest growing music school.

### Expanded class choices save time for busy families

School Director Rose says that many of the parents choose the school because in addition to having excellent teachers and programs it is possible to have more than 1 child in music

lessons at the same time. Our new facility has 15 individual air-conditioned music teaching studios including a professional recording studio. It is usually possible to get 2, 3 or even 4 different students in different lessons during the same time period.

The school has also many evening, and weekend class times to accommodate more students in "first choice" times. Between the pressures of homework, sports and family time, a lot of parents can be overwhelmed trying to fit in all the activities.

Rose says that many parents and kids are so busy that saving 45 minutes or an hour of commuting time per week between activities really helps the typical busy family's schedule.

### New Staff

The Academy of Music has added new teachers to its staff for the fall. Educationally parents are very impressed with the staff. The

school currently has over 30 staff members. All of the music teachers hold a university degree in the instrument they teach, and many have master's degrees. Some of the current teachers are completing doctorate degrees and are also on staff at local universities. The music school handles everything from 3-year-old beginners to extremely advanced, university level students. Due to the number of teachers on staff, the students are matched up with teachers that best meet their needs and who relate well to them.

### Large Variety of Music Classes

A large diversity of instruments is taught from the typical piano, guitar, voice, etc. to the less common cello, viola and flugelhorn. Although a large number of students choose to take the classical Royal Conservatory system, the school also has a very large number of students that study pop, jazz or contemporary music. The main

focus is on helping students gain the skills they need to enjoy music long after music lessons are over. In fact School Director Rose says that the mission of the school is "To provide students of all ages with the skills they need to enjoy music for a lifetime."

Students are encouraged to have fun while expanding their skills. Music also provides a fun way to encourage other life skills and activities.

Due to the expansion of teaching times, additional studios and staff, The Academy of Music will be accepting new registrations now and throughout the early fall.

For more information, contact the school at .731.9111 Or visit them at [www.4allaboutmusic.com](http://www.4allaboutmusic.com) for helpful information on getting started in private music lessons or classes.

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the world*



**Benedictine Monastery, Malaybalay**



**Seagull Resort Garden, Kitaotao**



**Alalum Falls, Sumilao, with a height of 148 ft**

Bukidnon is a highland paradise in the heart of Mindanao. It is home to the world's biggest pineapple plantation boasting a classic golf course dating back to 1928. It is the biggest cattle-producing province in the region. It is

well endowed with natural attractions like the *Kitanglad Ranges* that includes *Dulang Dulang*, the second highest peak in the country. And it has been identified as one of the country's richest in biodiversity and endemic



**Kaamulan Festival, Malaybalay - It is held in September and is the biggest festival of the province**

species of flora and fauna.

Bukidnon is in the heartland of Mindanao, linking Davao to the south and Misamis Oriental to the north of the island.

The province has different dialects brought by the immigration of lowlanders that come from the different islands of the archipelago. Cebuano is spoken by 77.9% of the population; Binukid, by 8.9%; and English, by 0.05%.

Bukidnon is an agricultural economy. It is a major producer of rice, corn, sugar coffee, rubber, pineapple, tomato, flowers, cassava, and other fruits and vegetables. It is also a major producer of chicken, hogs, and cattle.

Among its major corporations, **Del Monte Phils Inc.** is engaged in pineapple production and cattle fattening while Bukidnon Sugar Milling Corp. and Crystal Sugar Milling are into sugar milling and refining.

The original migrants of the province were driven internally toward the rugged and hilly ground. Thus, the people are called Bukidnons, which means "people of the mountains" and where the place got its name. They are closely similar with the Higaonon tribe of Agusan del Sur where the settlers are usually packs of 3-10 households with a datu as their chief.

Other tribes that live in the posterior of Bukidnon gather together in the city during the first week of

September to celebrate the **Kaamulan Festival**. Their intention is to unite the tribal groups of the area and to encourage understanding between the minorities and lowlanders who are the inhabitants of the province.

During this festival local tribes people perform unique dances like "inamo" a monkey dance, "binakbak" a frog dance, and the "kayamotan" a dance of birds. One of the main features of the festivities is the enactment of a wedding ceremony between members of the tribe.

Major local attractions include:  
- **Mt. Kitanglad Range National Park** Spectacular landforms and a diverse mix of plants and wildlife cover this vast natural park.

- **Del Monte Philippines Inc.** - It is considered to be the biggest pineapple plantation in the Far East. It also has a famous world class 18-hole golf course  
- **Monastery of Transfiguration** Designed by National Artist Leandro Locsin, it offers solitude and a spiritual retreat.

- **Alalum Falls** - Located along the Syre Highway, less than a kilometer from the municipality of Sumilao. Travelers on motor vehicles can easily see its imposing grandeur.

- **Mangima Canyon** - the zigzag road of Mangima Canyon stuns any visitor who visits the place. It is famous for its natural and scenic beauty. ■



**Mt. Kitanglad with Mt. Dulang-dulang looming - Kitanglad National Park is situated in North Central Bukidnon. It is composed of more than a dozen mountain peaks, including Mt. Dulang-Dulang. Mt. Kitanglad towers to more than 9,000 ft.**



**Del Monte Pineapple Plantation**



**Bukidnon Native Costume**



## RP's Injured Torres leaps but fails to soar; Finishes 35th in long jump

August 20, 2008

An injured Marestella Torres leaped to a distance of 6.17 meters and tumbled out of the women's long jump competitions of the 29th Olympic Games here at the Bird's Nest.

The 27-year-old Torres, who was at least hoping to better her personal record of 6.63 meters, said she injured her knee while picking up speed before taking off, resulting in a paltry 4.27-meter first jump, that even long retired track star Elma Muros-Posadas, now 41 years old, can top via a standing long jump.

"I felt something wrong while on the runway. Perhaps it was because my left leg had the pounding and the knee took all the pressure," she said. "I could no longer get my maximum speed after that. I already wanted to cry. My coach [Joseph Sy] asked me if I could still do it. And I said yes."

With the pain in her left knee almost killing her, Torres still managed to jump in her second and third tries, but her two efforts of 5.94 and then 6.17 meters, weren't enough to earn for her a slot in the finals, held later in the day.

"I didn't know why it had to happen now. I felt I was in top condition. My coach felt I was in shape to break my own personal record. But the unfortunate thing happened," said a teary-eyed Torres.



**The chances of Team Philippines for an Olympic medal in the Beijing Olympics are now down to three after long jumper Marestella Torres failed to qualify for the final round of the Olympic women's long jump qualifiers held in Beijing's National Stadium on Tuesday, Aug 20, 2008.**

"I really wanted to make a record here. These are the Olympics. Kung hindi ko itinuloy, parang hindi ako lumaban!"

Only six leapers, led by American Brittney Reese (6.87 meters), passed the Olympic standard of 6.75, and advanced to the championship round. The other qualifiers were Brazil's Maurren Higa Maggi (6.79) and Keila Costa (6.62), Ukraine's Lyudmila Blonska (6.76), Russia's Tatyana

Lebedeva (6.70) and Great Britain's Jade Johnson (6.61).

Had Torres equaled her personal high of 6.63 achieved three years ago in the 2005 Asian Athletic Championships in Korea, she would have bumped off the Briton from the final list. But she can at least savor the fact that of the 41 participants, three fouled in their three attempts. Four others—from Bermuda, Congo, Trinidad and Tobago and Belize—

could do no better than 6.06.

Filipino doctors—medical head Alex Pineda and orthopedic expert Sonny Odulio—said Torres suffered a mild ilio tibial band muscle strain in her left knee. "But she's all right. She would probably be needing some therapy though," said Odulio of Torres, who immediately rested at the Olympic Village, her knee bandaged after being sprayed with pain killer.

Torres thereby joined to the sidelines, fellow jumper Henry Dagmil, who also bombed out in his own long jump event Saturday. The two did not qualify to the games via the usual route, but as wildcard entries by the International Olympic Committee on the request of the Philippine Amateur Track and Field Association.

The athletics' duo also joined a long list of Filipino athletes who didn't do good here, namely archer Mark Javier, swimmer Ryan Arabejo, diver Sheila Mae Perez and shooter Eric Ang.

Weightlifter Hidilyn Diaz, and swimmers Miguel Molina, Christel Simms, JB Walsh and Daniel Coakley, also failed to advance in their respective disciplines, but at least delivered new Philippines records. ■

**More Olympics coverage on PAGE 23**



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# Manila sets auction of La Consolacion Peso slides despite jump in overseas remittances

August 18, 2008

The Manila City government will be auctioning off the properties of some 300 delinquent taxpayers, including the abandoned Philippine Veterans Bank building in Port Area, several fastfood establishments, and the La Residencia of the La Consolacion College of Manila.

Also being offered for sale at the public auction on Aug. 28 at the Rodriguez Hall of the Manila City Hall are various machines from several branches of Chowking, Jollibee and McDonald's.



La Consolacion College

Based on a published list, the city government aims to raise at least P470 million to offset unpaid real property taxes.

The La Residencia, a hostel for students and employees of the Agustinian Sisters of the Philippines, owes the Manila City government almost P5 million in taxes.

The other schools that were assessed as delinquent were the Asian Social Institute graduate school and the Philippine Women's University, both on Leon Guinto Street in the Malate tourist district.

The Ambassador Hotel had the biggest delinquent account, owing the city government a little over P20 million.

The second largest was Philippine Veterans Bank, which owed more than P11 million in unpaid tax on its already abandoned building on Bonifacio Drive in Manila.

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Manila owed the city government more than P6 million for a property on R. Hidalgo Street.

Other delinquent taxpayers were also scheduled to have either their land or machinery auctioned off to pay for their taxes. Those include several banks with branches in the city: Banco de Oro, Banco Filipino, Bank of Philippine Islands, Prudential Bank and Solid Bank.

In November 2007, the city government auctioned off the delinquent properties of Silahis International Hotel, Grand Boulevard Hotel, Hotel Sofitel, and Pacific Hotel Corp. to a private developer for P106,650,000.

Secretary to the Mayor Rafaelito Garayblas said the November public auction was an administrative remedy for the collection of real property taxes and arrears on the tax payments of delinquent properties as provided for under Book II, Chapter IV, Section 174 of the Local Government Code.

The owners of these properties have one year to redeem them.

In July, City Hall inspectors failed to inspect the Grand Boulevard hotel, which was later found to have stopped operations on July 9. ■

August 16, 2008

The peso fell to 45.31 against the dollar yesterday, its lowest level in five weeks, as a result of the dollar's continuing strength and despite record remittances from Filipinos abroad.

Remittances rose at the fastest pace in 14 months in June—and by 30 percent to \$1.45 billion—as more people found jobs as nurses, seamen and engineers abroad.



The amount was the highest reported in a single month since records began in 1989, and it brought the total remittances 17 percent higher to \$8.2 billion for the first half of the year, the central bank said.

Remittances, equivalent to about 10 percent of the Philippines' \$118-billion economy, are helping to sustain consumer spending as the fastest inflation in more than 16 years erodes household incomes.

But the strong remittances have not been boosting the peso, which has fallen for five consecutive days against the dollar.

"The dollar is just too strong. In

the US, they don't seem to have room to lower rates, so they are looking at rate hikes and that means a stronger dollar," said Marcelo Ayes, vice president of Rizal Commercial Banking Corp.

He said the increasing demand for dollars as a result of the import season—and foreign investors getting out of emerging markets for safer havens—were adding pressure to the peso.

Moreover, traders said the central bank was in the market yesterday selling dollars to slow the peso's fall. Some said the central bank was selling dollars for 45.30.

The peso traded within a 24-centavo range, hitting a low of 45.34 before closing at 45.31 on a volume of \$1.122 billion.

Traders said the market would be testing the 45.88 level, which the peso had hit on July 8, when trading resumes next week.

Remittance growth in 2008 may slip to about half of last year's 13.2 percent pace as the global economy cools, the Asian Development Bank said in March.

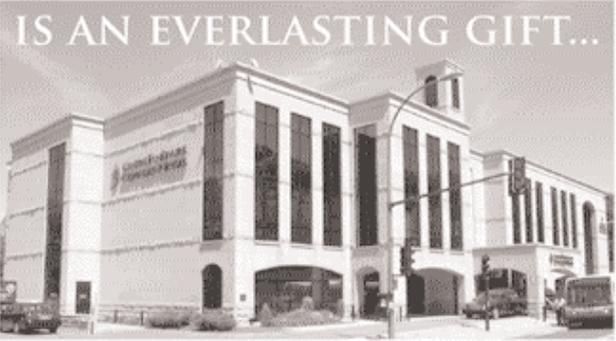
Half of the Philippines' remittances come from the US, where tumbling home prices, mounting job losses and credit restraints are threatening growth.

Still, the number of Filipinos who got jobs overseas rose 33.5 percent to 640,401 in the first six months of the year, the central bank said. ■



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## Global Perspectives



### It's still about Productivity; Stupid!

One year ago the heading for this column was "It's about productivity; Stupid!" So another year has passed and it is "still" about productivity, stupid. For several months now, in this column, we have been highlighting the problems created by Canada's relentless slide in productivity in comparison to other industrialized countries. In this case productivity is measured as a country's economic output per hour worked and is immediately reflected in that country's standard of living. It matters because, as Ronald Reagan once said: "there is no free lunch." A major factor is that a disproportionate number of Canadians work in sectors of the economy that provide services that are financed from the earnings of those who work in the sectors that provide goods and materials that create the wealth for society.

Back in November 2006, MacLean's Magazine highlighted a growing concern in a cover story "HOW TO FIX CANADA: We work as hard as Americans and earn 20% less. Australia has taken our place at world trade talks and Spain wants our spot at the G8. This year, 135 economies will grow faster than ours. It's time for action."

Of course there is no quick fix. This is a compound problem and would require a policy on human capital that would coordinate the production and utilization of human resources so that the key issues causing the steady decline in productivity could be addressed. Canada has two serious economic issues: a chronic lack of productivity growth and an ageing and shrinking work force. As a result the Provincial and Federal Governments have undertaken commitments that will be extremely difficult to meet unless meaningful reforms are implemented. Since these programs were created in the 1950s and 1960s birthrates have declined; income growth has stagnated; and mortality rates have decreased. The next eight years are particularly critical because the "Baby-boomers" are moving into retirement and the system of education and training is not geared to respond effectively to rapidly changing needs in the labour market.

This is associated with the fact that Canadians have surprising low literacy skills compared to other modern countries—that's because no one is really taking charge, according to Frank McKenna, former premier of

New Brunswick, former Ambassador to the United States and now deputy chairman of TD Bank Financial Group. McKenna addressed this issue in an article published in the Ottawa Citizen, on September 13, 2007. His article is revealing as he points out that an alarming number of citizens are unable to comprehend, compute and communicate at a level deemed necessary for a knowledgeable worker. He cites recent studies that show disturbing facts. Almost four in 10 youths at age 15, have insufficient reading skills; while more than two in 10 university graduates, almost five in 10 Canadian adults and six in 10 immigrants have inadequate levels of proficiency in English or French. He states that "these outcomes pose a serious threat to our competitive standing in the global marketplace" and points out that "poor literacy rates have contributed to our anemic productivity levels."

The situation regarding human capital in Canada is bleak. There is no comprehensive or integrated system for policy development, strategic planning, or for management of a coherent labour market or for strategic planning of the overall human capital component of the economy. In particular, production of human resources remains institution-based and is not market-driven, as it was in the 1960s and 70s when Canadians, were the most productive people in the world. Canada must now rely on a combination of immigration and transnational contract-workers with fixed-term work permits. This is necessary to sustain an economy faced with pressures from globalization and introduction of new technologies by other countries that have enabled 17 such countries to overtake Canada in productivity in a decade and a half.

Competent workers are needed now to boost productivity and Canadian authorities recently revealed that work permits will be issued when justified. Still, there is a wide spread attitude in Canada that it is not necessary and this attitude is clearly reflected by the National Post comment on the subject; as one editorial points out that since the jobless rate for new Canadians matches the national average, once they have been here for a decade, it shows that: "...our society and economy can be said to be doing exactly what they should—welcoming

newcomers and permitting them to move up the ladder reasonably quickly.

For the first ten years of their stay, the vast majority of new Canadians and have been relegated to a combination of low paying jobs and guided toward continuing their "education". Usually this is in expensive programs, often financed by student loans, with fees paid to public funded Universities and Colleges offering courses that are "useless" as far as job preparation is concerned. Almost all immigrants are recommended for studies in English or French as a Second Language and on completion become officially certified as having "second class" language skills in the Canadian context—with a foreign accent Eh?

The three main impediments to career advancement for new Canadians have been identified as; lack of Canadian work experience, lack of recognition of foreign credentials, and language barriers.

There are hundreds of thousands of people in Canada who have been impeded in their career aspirations because they lack language skill that can be readily acquired by a competency based approach. We must drop the designation of English as a Second Language and replace it with English as the Global Working Language (EGWL). That is the language in which the World Works now.

The Canadian Center for Global Professional (CCGP) is a not-for-profit organization that is coordinating efforts to address the wasteful and socially damaging issues of under-employment, under-utilization, and under-appreciation of professionals residing in Canada as well as others who will come in the near future. In most cases the impediment of language is based on inexperience and lack of communications skills on the part of both the Canada-born and Foreign-born Canadians. The CCGP will offer workshops to groups from diverse cultures to establish a "common language" and thereby open channels of communication to help develop skills in using EGWL. This is the "working language" of the United Nations system, the Multilateral Development Banks, and International Inter Governmental International Organizations, such as the Colombo Plan Staff College, and other global bodies.

Isaac's Website is: [www.ikes-world.com](http://www.ikes-world.com)

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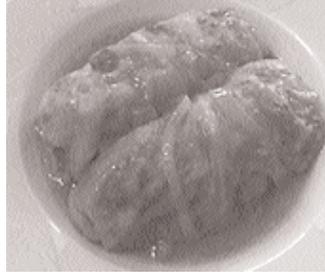
More French  
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# Philippine Cuisine

## Grilled tuna teriyaki



### INGREDIENTS

- \* 2 tablespoons light soy sauce
- \* 1 tablespoon Chinese rice wine
- \* 1 large clove garlic, minced
- \* 1 tablespoon minced fresh ginger root
- \* 4 (6 ounce) tuna steaks (about 3/4 inch thick)
- \* 1 tablespoon vegetable oil

### DIRECTIONS

1. In a shallow dish, stir together soy sauce, rice wine, garlic, and ginger. Place tuna in the marinade, and turn to coat. Cover, and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes.
2. Preheat grill for medium-high heat.
3. Remove tuna from marinade, and discard remaining liquid. Brush both sides of steaks with oil.
4. Cook tuna for approximately for 3 to 6 minutes per side, or to desired doneness.

- 2 tbsp. bread crumbs
- 1 egg
- 2 tbsp. chopped walnuts
- 2 tbsp. oil
- 2 cups water
- 12 pcs. cabbage leaves
- 1 cup evaporated milk
- 1 tbsp. vinegar
- 2 tbsp. tomato paste

### Instructions

Mix first ingredients in bowl. Blanch cabbage leaves until wilted. Put 2-3 tbsp. meat mixture on each cabbage leaf and roll and secure with toothpick. Heat oil in frying pan and saute rolls until light brown. Add enough water to cover rolls and simmer for 15 minutes to 20 minutes. Add milk, vinegar and tomato paste and continue to simmer for another 5 minutes. Serve hot



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## Walnut Stuffed Cabbage Rolls

- Ingredients
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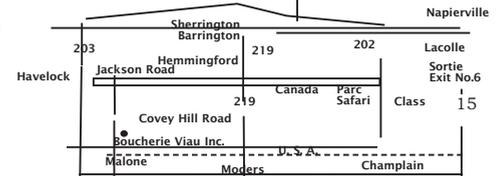
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# The North American Filipino Star Photo Gallery



Participants in the Rigodon de Honor during the 7th anniversary ball of the Kapampangan Association of Montreal pose with their choreographer, Norcy Morales, and their president, Svetlana Suarez, August 16, 2008 at the Hellenic Community Center



Some guests of the Kapampangan Association of Montreal pose for souvenir with the officers from FAMAS headed by Claro Bermudez, president. Also shown are Famas directors Manny Lagasca and Flor Rillo,



The potluck community picnic organized by the Filipino Solidarity Cooperative was adversely affected by the rainy weather, hence, there were only a few people who were adventurous enough to put up a tent at Beaver Lake, August 3, 2008. In spite of the unstable weather, it was a delight to see Emilien Riendeau, son of Mr. & Mrs. Martin Riendeau, shown here on his father's lap. Some people already left when his photo was taken at around 4 p.m.



On August 7, 2008 Michelle Esperon and May Gene Suni (1st and 2nd from the left) who did their practicum in accounting at the Filipino Coop were treated to lunch at the Cusine de Manille. Others in the photo are Joy Estabillo, Zeny Kharroubi and Remy Monteagudo.



On the left are Mr. & Mrs. Narciso Mejia who received a plaque of appreciation from the Philippine Folk Art Society of Quebec. On the right, Albert Gutierrez is shown holding the plaque he received as well during the induction of the Society held on August 3, 2008.



After their induction by Councilor Marvin Rotrand, the new officers of the Philippine Folk Art Society pose for souvenir at the Queen Elizabeth Fairmount, August 3, 2008.



The new and the old officers of the Philippine Folk Art Society of Quebec join together to have a souvenir photo of the brunch held on August 3, 2008 at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel.



Some guests of the Kapampangan Association of Montreal smile to have a souvenir photo.

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## Philippines backs Timor Leste's bid to join ASEAN



August 12, 2008

The Philippines supports Timor Leste's bid to join the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations by 2012, Foreign Affairs Secretary Alberto Romulo said Tuesday.

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo gave this assurance during a meeting with visiting Timorese President Jose Ramos-Horta in Malacañang Tuesday, Romulo said.

East Timor, a former Portuguese colony which was invaded by Indonesia in 1975, has been seeking membership in the ASEAN after winning its freedom in a 1999 UN-backed referendum.

"I hope that by 2012 we can join ASEAN," said Ramos-Horta in an earlier interview. "We set this target as pressure on ourselves to work harder in order to be eligible to join ASEAN because obviously ASEAN countries, with the embarrassing problems of Myanmar, wouldn't want a basket case, an unstable new member."

East Timor gained formal

independence in 2002 but is still facing formidable economic challenges being the least developed country in Southeast Asia with 50 percent of the population unemployed.

ASEAN, which is working to turn itself into a rules-based organization, is composed of Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Ramos-Horta, who was elected president in May 2007, arrived Sunday for a four-day state visit in the Philippines.

The two leaders met in Malacañang where they witnessed the signing of three bilateral agreements covering marine and fisheries cooperation, academic cooperation, and training and development of Timorese diplomats at the country's Foreign Service Institute.

During the two leaders' bilateral talks, Romulo said the Timorese leader pledged his country's vote for the candidature of Senator Miriam

Defensor-Santiago to the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations.

Five seats in the ICJ will be available on February 5, 2009 and Santiago needs to get at least a majority vote in both the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council, voting simultaneously but separately.

Santiago was nominated last year by the Philippine National Group composed of Supreme Court Associate

Justice Consuelo Ynares Santiago, retired Supreme Court Associate Justice Florentino Feliciano, then Integrated Bar of the Philippines National President Jose Vicente Salazar, and University of Santo Tomas Faculty of Civil Law Dean Alfredo Benipayo.

Should Santiago get elected to the ICJ, she will be the second Filipino after former Supreme Court Chief Justice Cesar Bengzon and the first female Asian judge to serve in the court. ■

## 7,000 new nurses take their oath

August 19, 2008

About 7,000 of the 27,765 nursing graduates who passed the June 2008 nursing licensure examination took their oath at the SMX Convention Center Tuesday.

In his speech, Marco Sto. Tomas, member of the Board of Nursing that administered the exam, said that nursing is a "caring profession."

Carmelita Divinagracia, of the

values" wherever the profession takes them.

Carmelita Abaquin, head of the Board of Nursing, administered the oath and welcomed the new nurses to the "caring profession."

Only after the oath-taking can the title "RN" or registered nurse be affixed to their name, said Sto. Tomas, who is also head of the event's organizing committee.



7,000 nurses took their oath at the Mall of Asia, Pasay City, August 19, 2008

Association of Deans of Philippine Colleges of Nursing, asked the new nurses, many of whom are expected to work abroad, to "preserve Filipino

Five function rooms were used for the ceremonies, which will also be held Wednesday. ■

## Erap to decide on presidential plans next year

August 7, 2008

Former President Joseph Estrada said yesterday he would decide a year from now whether to run for president in 2010.

The deposed leader, who flew to Hong Kong last Friday, said he felt vindicated by the recent Pulse Asia survey that showed him getting a 16-percent approval rating from among possible presidential hopefuls. He said this reflects that people still trust him.

The rating was higher than other likely presidential candidates from the opposition.

"I do not mind the elections at this time yet because my concentration is to help the poor Filipinos, particularly the victims of typhoons. I might make my decision one year from now. Let us see," Estrada told The STAR by phone.

Estrada was six percent behind Vice President Noli de Castro, who is being groomed by the administration as its possible presidential bet in 2010.

Other opposition members who made it to the top five included Senators Loren Legarda and Francis Escudero, coming in third with 14



Former President Joseph Estrada

percent each, and Senate President Manny Villar with 12 percent.

Estrada was convicted of plunder in September last year but was pardoned by President Arroyo the following month and released from

detention in his rest house in Tanay, Rizal.

He immediately launched his "Lakbay Pasaalamat" caravan to various places in Metro Manila and nearby provinces to thank his

supporters "for their unconditional support through thick and thin."

Aside from Legarda, Escudero and Villar, other possible presidential aspirants from the opposition include Senators Panfilo Lacson and Mar Roxas.

Estrada, meanwhile, said he was a bit disappointed at not winning the jackpot in the popular game show "Deal or No Deal" Friday.

Estrada won only P750 in prize money after rejecting the banker's offer of P275,000 to quit the game, choosing instead briefcase number 3 which he thought contained P500,000.

Briefcase number 7 turned out to be the one with the half-a-million pesos.

Estrada said he would have donated his winnings to victims of typhoon "Frank" which destroyed properties and agricultural land and left hundreds dead in its wake last June.

Asked if he may have been distracted by the beautiful models assisting "Deal or No Deal" host Kris Aquino, Estrada quipped, "Maybe." ■

# Senators reject charter-change overtures

August 13, 2008

Senators yesterday shot down President Arroyo's plan to use a "discredited" peace accord with Muslim rebels to justify amending the Constitution, suspicious that she would use this to get around a ban on her reelection.

Senate President Manuel Villar and Senators Loren Legarda and Mar Roxas, all prospective presidential contenders in 2010, said that while they favored federalism, any change in the system of government should take place when Mrs. Arroyo was no longer in power.

"The government-MILF peace agreement is already mired in controversy," said Villar of a deal that would give the Moro Islamic Liberation Front autonomy over a wide swathe of land in Mindanao.

"If Malacañang will push for

charter-change, we would like to know what is the head and tail of it. There is apprehension that this may cause the cancellation of the 2010 [presidential] election," said Villar, who is also president of the Nacionalista Party.

"I do not believe that in our search for peace in Mindanao, we should at the same time make a new attempt to change the system of government, which is a very important but difficult undertaking."

Legarda said the initiative for charter-change would have been all right if not for the awkward circumstance in which the term of the President would end in less than two years.

"Let us not use the challenge of time as leverage for personal agenda. It's simply not the answer. Our Constitution and our laws are enough. What we need is implementation," she

said.

Roxas, president of the Liberal Party, said he could not understand why there was a need to amend the Constitution when the government had granted more than enough concessions to the MILF under the new deal.

Saying he was against dismantling the present presidential system of government, Roxas added he was also wary of the possibility that once the proposal for a federal system had been given due course, administration allies in Congress would next push for a shift to a parliamentary system.

Another presidential contender, Senator Richard Gordon, said he was willing to spearhead the proposal for a federal system, but it should take effect only after 2010.

The Senate is set to debate the proposed adoption of a federal system

under Joint Congressional Resolution 10 backed by 16 senators led by Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr.

But Pimentel said he would not allow Resolution 10 to be used as a tool for keeping Mrs. Arroyo in power.

"My espousal of federalism has nothing to do with [the President]. Resolution 10 has adequate safeguards against being manipulated by the President," he said.

Pimentel said the term limit on the presidency could be removed by shifting to a parliamentary system, which is not contemplated under Resolution 10.

"Resolution 10 speaks only of a federal system. It does not deal with the adoption of a parliamentary system under which Gloria [Arroyo] can conceivably extend her term by running for prime minister," the minority leader said. ■

# Are we ready to change?

By Joey Concepcion

August 21, 2008

Sometime early this year, February and March, we featured in this column the topic of "Pagbabago 2010.2016." It is basically a call to our legislators to start the discussion on the need to review the form of government and other economic constitutional provisions. It was a proposal to elevate the awareness and knowledge of our people on what are the different forms of government and what might work best for our country and people. Will it be federalism, parliamentary, the current presidential system, or would it be other forms and modifications thereof?

Perhaps it is more important to start the discussions and debates so we get to better understand the systems and which system will actually work for us. We emphasized that in these discussions, bigger steps will be taken after 2010. That was the proposal when I met some senators. By 2010, the new President and Congress will see through the review and the molding of the new system that will be fully implemented by 2016. This process hopes to address three main concerns by many sectors: that there will be no changes before 2010 on the rules and the term of the current Presidency; that the new set of leaders and Congress will have a mandate from the people on 2010, whether to form a constituent assembly or have a constitutional convention; and that the elected President in 2010, and members of both houses of Congress will have a full term to complete that will

lead a transition, if at all, into a new form of government by 2016. Thus, encouraging greater discussions and debate now will be healthy and if done in phases, the transition would be more realistic and less controversial.

There are pros and cons in doing a constituent assembly or constitutional



convention. There may be realities whereby a con-assembly is better than a new constitutional convention. I see that the new congress for 2010 would form itself into an assembly that would work on the constitutional changes both economic and political.

I am not supporting any view, but what I am totally against is a change prior to 2010. In fact, I have asked the

help of Presidential Management Staff Secretary Cerge Remonde in considering the idea that it will be good for PGMA to support Pagbabago 2010.2016. This time, with an upcoming Presidential election, each candidate will explain his or her vision of the Philippines Inc. and views on the fitting

decentralization of powers to the regions and local government would be good to create a more enterprising culture. The regions under good leaders will be able to push for a quicker development and will be able to attune to the region's inherent strengths. One also has to balance this with national priorities.

These things take time. Upon our survey, we found out that Filipinos do not see the benefit of a change in political system if it will be the same people in power. They may be right. The system is only as good as the people who run it, but we need to start somewhere. A better system can still be instrumental in achieving our progress with more effective controls and balance in power.

What is crucial now, with the recession spreading towards Europe and Asia, is that we do not lose the momentum that has been gained. It is important for our Negosyos to have a relatively stable and progressive climate. I do hope PGMA will support "Pagbabago 2010.2016." This will finally give reassurance that she will finish her term in 2010 and see to it that the political and economic reforms are done through a constitutional review.

All these steps can be taken in 2010, but the debates and discussion can start now. Let the debates begin but the institution to review the charter will start only in 2010 and the full implementation will be in 2016. ■

**DR. EMILIA ESPIRITU**

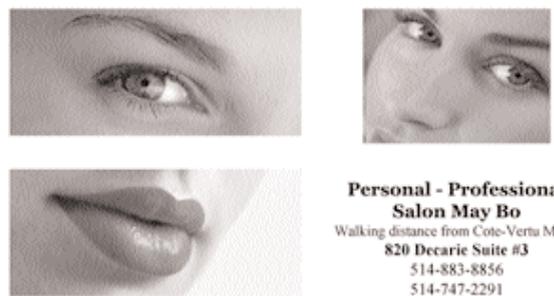
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## all about Home Business

by: Jean Janete Aguilar

### How To Run a Franchise Business From Home

Building a franchise business has many hidden cost, but learning from those who've gone the road before you can be a great money-saving tactic.

They say that wisdom comes from experience and experience comes from making mistakes. How true? This article intends to help you gain wisdom from the experience of others rather than having to pay the cost of learning from your own mistakes. These mistakes can represent real dollars--and avoiding them can make a big difference in the total investment you need for your new business and ultimately how profitable the business becomes.

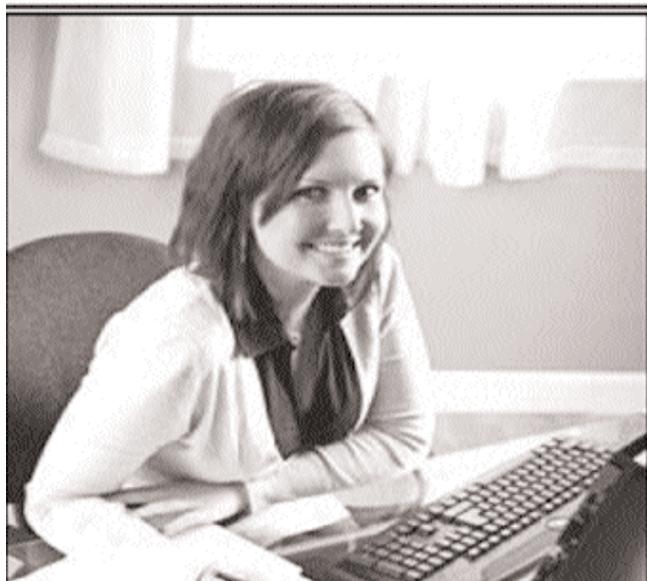
Franchise companies will almost certainly have manuals, training programs and other support documents and services designed to help you avoid making costly mistakes. The challenge is that most new franchisees are trying to learn and execute many new things at once and sometimes make what they feel are logical decisions without remembering or consulting all the advice provided by the franchisor.

It's always a great idea, during your due diligence conversations with existing franchisees in the system, to ask them if they made any expensive mistakes when they were first building or operating their new business. A good form for this question is, "Knowing what you know now, what would you do differently if you got to start all over again in building your business?"

Prospective franchisees seeking an opportunity to work at home are in luck. There are a host of franchisors that have realized practically any business can be run just as successfully from home as from a storefront location, and that includes bookkeeping and financial services, consulting, children's services, computer training and repair, cleaning, home improvement, entertainment, home inspection, fitness, pet care, photography and travel businesses, just to name a few. In fact, many service-oriented franchise systems now not only allow franchisees to work from home--they encourage it. Most of these franchise systems will spend considerable time training you how to work from home. They'll review the requirements for setting up your office, making sales calls and serving your customers. After all, working from home may be convenient, but it's more than just setting up a desk in a corner of your living room. It's a unique working style you'll have to adjust to, and just in case your franchisor leaves out some things, here are the basics of what you need to know to run a franchise from home.

#### Is it legal?

The first thing to realize is not every community allows you to run a business from your home--especially if clients are coming to your house on a regular basis or you need to park a truck in your driveway. Check with your local zoning board or government office for the rules in your town. If



you're living in a planned community, cooperative or condominium, also check to see whether any rules or deed restrictions limit your commercial use of your property.

#### Balancing act

Except for a limited period of time or in unique circumstances, forget the notion of using your kitchen table or family room as your office. If you must use common quarters for a while, at least set aside an area that's used exclusively for work and make sure your family understands that it's your headquarters, even when you're not at your desk.

Of course, the best choice is to use a spare bedroom, a section of your basement or some other isolated area of your home as your office. Creating distinct boundaries between your office and your living space will help you establish your franchise as a professionally run operation.

#### Furniture and equipment

You'll be spending a lot of time in your office making phone calls, writing letters, maintaining your records plus a million other tasks. So make sure you're comfortable.

Even on a limited budget, you can afford to have a professional office. A lot of stationery superstores and low-cost office-furniture retailers specialize in furnishing home offices. A good computer with all-in-one printer, an internet connection to be used for communicating with your prospects and finding good sources is a must.. Also, consider buying used furniture. Thrift stores are a great source. Start with the essentials. As you become more experienced in determining your needs, you can add additional pieces.

#### Setting a schedule

One of the major problems with a home office is...it's in your home. It's so convenient to get up in the morning, put on a robe and work through dinner--and maybe a couple more hours after dinner. But, remember, you have a family and they need you, too.

Set a schedule and try to stick

to it. Get ready in the morning as if you were going out to the office. Shower, put on business attire and get to work. Make it a habit. Take breaks during the day. Try to end your day on schedule as well. Everybody works overtime sometimes--some more than others--but don't get into a rut of working all the time just because your office is nearby. You're at work when you're in your office. Don't allow your friends and family to drop in uninvited, and don't plan your day around doing everybody else's errands. Ask them to respect your workday just as you do theirs.

The nice thing about working within a franchise system is being able to learn from the experience of your fellow franchisees. When you're putting together your equipment shopping list, you might try calling other franchisees who are working from home and ask them for any advice they might have. Also, if you've come from a corporate environment and miss those "water fountain" chats, who better to spend a few minutes with than one of your fellow franchisees? Having another colleague--or two or more--whom you regularly talk to about what's happening at your "office" is one of the major benefits of working within a franchise system.

### Côte-des-Neiges invites you to its big neighbourhood celebration

The big neighbourhood celebration : Côte-des-Neiges en fête, 5 continents, 5 sens will take place one more time next September with a 6th edition having for thematic "The professions of yesterday to today" in the setting of the 310th anniversary of the foundation of Côte-des-Neiges. The event will be Sunday September 7th from 12am to 5pm all along the Côte-des-Neiges Road, from Queen-Mary Street to the Jean Talon Street.

At the program, a lot of activities for everyone entirely free: dance, music, itinerant animations, games for children, sports activities for teenagers, demonstrations of old

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# CDN Community Council features the Filipino Coop in its cultural tour, August 28, 2008



The outside view of the Filipino Coop store located on 4711 Van Horne Avenue



The inside view of the store showing some of the products on display

It was a pleasant surprise to be visited by the animator of the Cote des Neiges Community Council during the last week of July 2008. She asked if the Filipino Coop would be interested to participate in the Cote des Neiges area promotion being conducted by the Council. Our reply was certainly an enthusiastic acceptance of the offer. We were then told that there would be more information to follow.

As the week progressed, Lisa Fischer was busy ironing out the details of the tour. It would appear from her correspondence that she wanted to make sure that there would be someone in the Filipino Coop who could show them around and also show them how exotic recipes are prepared. She also intended to reserve the kitchen at 6767 Cote des Neiges and see if there will be enough interest in an actual cooking demonstration.

Before releasing the posters like the one shown here, she asked for confirmation if the Filipino Coop would be prepared to accept visitors. Of course, I was more than happy to say yes as this is one of the things I would have wanted to do on my own - to promote the Filipino Coop in the whole neighborhood. It was indeed quite a blessing to have someone offer this opportunity to promote the Coop.

Zenaida Ferry Kharroubi,  
President, Filipino Coop

professions, information on the organisms of the neighborhood and the history of Côte-des-Neiges...

For more information, consult the Web site of the event:  
[http://www.cdeccndndg.org/html/cdne\\_nfetelndex.htm](http://www.cdeccndndg.org/html/cdne_nfetelndex.htm)

Come to celebrate with us the beauty, the diversity and the vitality of our district!

- 30 -  
Source :  
Agathe BRUHAT  
Agente de communication  
Côte-des-Neiges en fête, 5 continents, 5 sens  
Tél. : 514-342-6754 / 463-0911

## Discovering the Flavours of Côte-des-Neiges

The Philippines in colour

Do you like discovering new foods?  
When you visit stores in the neighbourhood are you often left curious about unknown foods?



We will be visiting the *Filipino Coop* the morning of **Thursday, August 28th**. In the case of over-enrollment, a second group will visit in the afternoon.

To participate, please sign-up by contacting **Lisa Fischer**, animator for the Côte-des-Neiges Community Council :  
[Lisajanefischer@gmail.com](mailto:Lisajanefischer@gmail.com) or 514-739-7931 ☎

# FILIPINO STAR

## SHOWBIZ GOSSIP

### Miguelito Macario Andaluz shines bright

Appearing in two major Canadian Productions: 'Everest' and 'Less Than Kind' this fall.



Philippine born actor, Miguelito Macario Andaluz will be seen across Canadian small screens this fall. This 20 year veteran of film, TV and stage who has previously worked with artists such as Johnny Depp and Robin Williams is gaining notoriety in his own right.

The Mini-Series EVEREST relives a time when there was a code of mountaineering, and when only a few specially skilled climbers were able to reach the top of the world. And even though the expedition succeeded in placing Canadians at the top of the world for the first time, it was not without tragedy and death. This is a bittersweet story of courage and determination, of ambition and camaraderie, of hope and perseverance, and of the tragedy and triumph of the first Canadians to conquer Mount Everest. An ensemble cast of some of the best actors in Canada portray the climbers of the expedition in Everest. The key cast received basic training from experienced mountaineers, from how to climb to knot-tying techniques and subtle tricks that experienced outdoorsmen use.

Jason Priestley (Don't Cry Now, 90210), Leslie Hope (Never Back Down, 24) and William Shatner (Boston Legal, Star Trek) headline an ensemble cast, telling the drama,

tragedy and triumph of that 1982 expedition.

Eric Johnson (Smallville, Flash Gordon) stars as Laurie Skreslet, Gord Rand (Mayerthorpe, Sue Thomas: F.B.Eye) as Pat Morrow, John Pyper-Ferguson (Brothers & Sisters, Highlander) as Roger Marshall, and Zachary Bennett (The Border, Shattered City: The Halifax Explosion) as Blair Griffiths and Miguelito Macario Andaluz (Less Than Kind, Robson Arms, The Collector) as Sungdare.

The four-hour Mini Series premieres on the CBC National Network . Sunday, August 31, at 8 p.m., and concludes Monday, September 1, at 8 p.m.

Everest Trailer and info

LESS THAN KIND is a smart, edgy, dysfunctional half-hour comedy that follows Sheldon as he attempts to manage his teenage years. It's a sharp and humorous look at the collisions and twists that happen between the hugs and kisses in a "loving" family. Andaluz plays a former migrant worker and widower dad who's daughter crushes on Sheldon. As any Filipino father would, he keeps a close eye on this relationship which leads to a lot of swearing in Tagalog and humorously awkward situations. This 13 part TV series premieres in major cities across Canada on CityTV, Monday October 13, 10:30 pm. ■

## Music museum honors Charice & Charlie

Music Museum is turning 20 this year and Precy Florentino, its owner-manager, wanted something new to celebrate the milestone. As usual, should she invite most, if not all, of the artists who have performed in that landmark at the Greenhills Shopping Center which has to date mounted more than 3,000 shows?

It would be star-studded, a glam/glitz affair, but everybody has been doing it year in and year out, right? Nothing new.



Charice & Charlie Green receiving their well-earned awards

So the other day, Precy did some brainstorming with good friend Kuh Ledesma, who originally built the Music Museum in 1988 and rebuilt it after it was gutted by fire a few years later — "And handed it to me on a silver platter," said Precy. Voila, they cooked up something very new, indeed: Giving plaques of recognition to Charice, 16, and Charlie Green, 11, for reaffirming the reputation of Filipino artists as world-class talents very early in their careers.

"What better way to mark our 20th anniversary than to celebrate Filipino talent, 'no!' said Precy. "We have had several meetings already, thinking of how to celebrate differently, and then we hit on this idea."

Yesterday, Precy and Kuh invited a few friends, among them the two icons in the industry, German "Kuya Germs" Moreno and Pilita Corrales (who, with husband Carlos Lopez, owns and manages a self-named restaurant also at Greenhills), to her own Teatrino (a stone's throw from Music Museum) to witness the awarding.

As the whole world probably knows by now, Charice (reminder again: She

## Willie pays BIR P6.3-M income tax

Television host Willie Revillame yesterday paid P 6,278,644.21 representing his income tax for the third quarter of the year at the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) district office along Quezon Avenue in Quezon City.

"I am performing my duty as a taxpayer," Revillame, host of ABS-CBN Channel 2's noon show Wowowee, told reporters at the BIR office.

Revillame, who was accompanied by a bodyguard and his staff, said he decided visit to the BIR office to find out why his income tax for the last three months has reached over P6 million. "I was shocked to know how big my tax dues are," he said.

He said he is willing to pay taxes because it will help fund the delivery of basic services.

"As an ordinary taxpayer I don't want

to receive any demand letter from the government," he said in Tagalog. Revillame declined to say how much he is earning but said his blessings are so far so good. His accountant Tess Mationg said the P6.2 million represents the tax for the income earned by Revillame in the last three months. At least 200 taxpayers were already inside the BIR office, so if he went through the regular process it would have taken him an hour before he could file his income tax. Most of the taxpayers, however, did not complain after Revillame was allowed to bypass them. "It's okay so that I can watch his Wowowee program later," said Sonny Golpeo who was already waiting in line.

Charlie Green is the Filipino-British boy who landed in the semi-finals in this year's Britain's Got Talent, also a brainchild of Simon Cowell of American Idol fame. (Last year's champion, Paul Potts, is coming for a concert at the PICC on Oct. 8, produced by Concertus, Inc.) He sang two songs, Summer Wind and All I Wanna Do Is Sing. His father, Roger Green, was a member of the Black & White Minstrels. His mother, Cecilia Sumargo, is from Cebu where some of the country's finest singers come from (among them Pilita Corrales, Dulce, Sheryn Regis, Chad Borja, Manilyn Reynes and Dessa).

During the short program hosted by theater-director Freddie Santos, Precy and Kuh awarded Charice and Charlie their plaques.

"I can't believe it," said the teary-eyed Charice earlier while posing for photos with Pilita, Kuya Germs and Kuh. "I never imagined I would be standing side by side with these big stars."

Then, accompanied by Ryan "Mr. C" Cayabyab on the piano, Charice rendered two songs, I Believe (by Fantasia) and And I Am Telling You (by Jennifer Hudson); followed by Charlie also with two, Stars and Smile. The kids have such powerful voices that they sent Intensity 10 shockwaves around the whole Teatrino, with the elite audience breaking into a thunderous applause. Bravo!!!

Freddie aptly described the two hugely-talented kids as he capped the program: "They are two of today's amazing stars!" ■

## What more can John Lloyd ask for?



**John Lloyd Cruz**

Already an accomplished dramatic actor at the young age of 25, John Lloyd Cruz is not stopping. Having won a number of prestigious acting awards, he is even more committed and determined to be a better actor.

He says that he's more picky with the projects that he does. "There's just one thing that we all want, and that's longevity in the business and I feel that this can be achieved by carefully considering each step that one makes." Wise words from a wise young man.

Lloyd, as he is fondly called, isn't the type to rest on his laurels. The actor hones his acting skills by taking classes and experimenting with complex roles. Most recently, he parted with long-time screen partner Bea Alonzo to try untested waters with pop princess Sarah Geronimo. Their highly rated *Maalaala Mo Kaya* episode led to the new *loveteam's* current project, a movie under Star Cinema and Viva Films titled *A Very Special Love*.

As if good looks and talent aren't

enough, John Lloyd has a lot of heart. Traveling straight to Porac, Pampanga after his June 20 pre-birthday party, arranged by ABS-CBN and Star Magic and attended by the press, John Lloyd brought cheers to the Aetas while visiting the classrooms managed by the Religious of the Virgin Mary (RVM) sisters located within Katutubo Village in Planas.

"It was my first visit to the community. I hope I can visit again soon. I was very happy especially since I was able to do this on my birthday. I guess you feel more emotional during occasions like this — you try to find meaning in your life and through this event, I found meaning."

Being one of the hottest young actors in the industry today, John Lloyd still finds the time to develop all aspects of his life. Of course, he is thankful to the people who have been helping him along the way. He balances his time, career and personal life with the help of a professional management team and a new technology from SMART — SMART Money. Dubbed as the *Pambayad ng Bayan*, SMART Money is a reloadable payment card linked to your SMART mobile phone that makes it easier to pay bills, buy prepaid load, and transfer funds with just a few clicks from your phone. Since it also comes with a SMART Money MasterCard, you may withdraw cash from any ATM and even go shopping at MasterCard establishments worldwide.

"Bea (Alonzo) and I have done a lot of endorsements together, but this one I think is the most brilliant. SMART has thought of a way for busy people like us to be able to pay bills and do financial transactions easily and conveniently even when we're out of town. This campaign is perfect for us. We're happy to do this because SMART is one of the most credible brands in the country."

Movie deals, recognition for his talent, a string of endorsements, a healthy family and love life, a great future ahead, what more can John Lloyd Cruz ask for?

"I don't think I can really ask for anything else. I have enough and I am

grateful. If there's something that I wish for, as much as I don't want to be political in my statement, I really do hope that those who are in a position to help would wake up, face their responsibilities and do what is right." ■

## Francis Magalona in hospital ICU battling the big C

It started as blind items in the tabs, referring to "a singer-actor TV host confined at the ICU" of an unnamed hospital.

Yes, the "singer-actor TV host" being referred to is Francis Magalona who has been conspicuously absent from *Eat, Bulaga!* for several days now.

Yesterday on *24 Oras* in a phone-patch with *Chika Minute* host Pia Guanio, Francis' wife Pia Arroyo confirmed that Francis has been diagnosed to have leukemia and is confined at the ICU of a hospital in Pasig City.

But he's not unconscious, contrary to rumors.

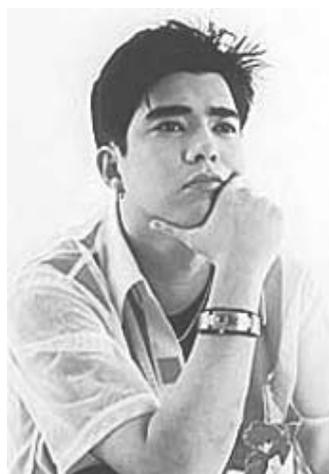
"He's in high spirits," said Malou Choa-Fagar, vice president of TAPE, Inc., producer of *Eat, Bulaga!*, "and he's raring to go back to *Eat, Bulaga!*"

Francis is suffering from a treatable type of leukemia, the same one Hollywood actor Ryan O'Neal is a survivor of.

A few months ago when the *Eat, Bulaga!* guys mounted a show in Las Vegas, Francis reportedly suffered from fever in the afternoons (a bad symptom, according to doctors) coupled with "dizzy spells," turning pale in the process.

"Rudy (Fernandez) experienced the same afternoon-fever symptoms, so you better see a doctor," somebody advised Francis.

So Francis did. His and wife Pia's worst fears were confirmed. (The couple has eight children.) Francis is the son of '50s showbiz royal couple



**Francis Magalona**

Pancho Magalona (who died from complications of emphysema) and Tita Duran (who died from complications of a kidney ailment).

Yes, what's in the blog is true: Francis needs Type O blood (paging Tita Rosa Rosal, head of the Philippine National Red Cross!). Donors are welcome.

Funfare is requesting its readers to pray for Francis' speedy recovery. Remember, as the poet said, more things are wrought by prayers than this world dreams of. Prayer can move mountains. ■

## Cristine Reyes defends her right to privacy



Local showbiz thrives on gossip but sexy-actress Cristine Reyes and her rumored beau, Dennis Trillo, are bucking the trend by keeping mum about their private lives.

In her latest interview with ABS-CBN's "The Buzz", Reyes downplayed intrigues thrown at her and Trillo including their refusal to be interviewed after they were caught watching a sports event in Makati.

"We want a quiet life. When we're going out, we want to keep to ourselves and don't want other people to intrude," she said.

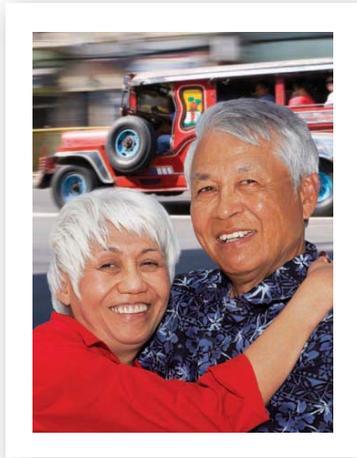
She said she and Trillo are trying to keep their personal lives separate from their showbiz personas.

Trillo and Reyes have been on the receiving end of negative publicity after the revelation that the actor had fathered a child with *Binibining Pilipinas* titlist Carlene Aguilar. The tiff led to a more public altercation last year until Reyes and Aguilar settled their differences before the end of 2007.

(continued on page 21)

**More Showbiz Gossip - SEE PAGE 21**





**NAGPADALA KA NG  
PERA SA MGA MAHAL MO  
SA BUHAY SA PILIPINAS...**



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**Showbiz Gossip** *Continued from p.19*

*Continued from p. 18 'Christine Reyes'*

Last July 5, Trillo and Reyes were again seen together in public, watching the URCC 12 Supremacy event in Makati. A Buzz staffer tried to interview the couple after the show but they refused, which led to rumors that Reyes was banned from appearing in ABS-CBN shows "The Buzz" and "Entertainment Live."

Reyes said she was unfazed by gossip that Trillo refused to be interviewed since he was ashamed of the affair. "Kung ano 'yung nakikita nila na hindi proud or whatever hindi po ako naapektuhan doon. Personal na buhay naman ito, hindi ba?"

**Gabby evasive when asked about Sharon**



**Gabby Concepcion**

Gabby Concepcion chose to be evasive when asked about ex-wife Sharon Cuneta at the launching of his debut album with Warner Music Philippines. "I'd rather not talk about her at all para hindi na lang ma-misinterpret," he says. "If ever I'd say anything about her, I'd only have good words for her as she really raised our daughter KC well. Saludo ako diyani."

Is he dedicating any of the 12 songs in his self-titled album, like "Ako Pa Ba?"

she said.

She also said that she is happy to learn that Aguilar is now open with her and Trillo's affair. "Good. At least para tama na yung away-away," she said, referring to an altercation the two had over Trillo.

She said she will not be attending the first birthday party of Trillo's son, Calix, on September 13 to avoid further intrigues.

"The Buzz" executive producer Nancy Yabut and Entertainment Live executive producer Lani Gutierrez, meanwhile, clarified that Reyes is not banned from their shows.

Reyes, a contract star of ABS-CBN, is set to star in upcoming television series "Eva Fonda, 16." ■

or "Please Forgive Me"?

"No, my songs are not meant for her but for all my listeners. I also want to thank Warner for giving me the chance to do this album and be one part of its roster of multi-platinum artists like Nina, Sitti and Christian Bautista. I was never officially a singer during my early years in showbiz dahil mas nakilala as a matinee idol, as an actor. But while I was in the US, I was able to explore my musical side, singing in concerts that I do for my Pinoy fans there. My record deal with Warner now allows me the chance to explore my love for music while also singing to my fans some timeless love songs."

Gabby will charm his way into the heart of his old and new fans with his album as he embarks on a singing career.

His daughter KC's debut film, "For the First Time," will have its premiere on August 16, will he attend the affair and get the chance of meeting Sharon there?

"KC already told me about it and I told her I will go. I won't be the one naman to make the seat arrangements there at kung sakaling magkakatabi man kami nina Sharon or seated in the same row, walang problema sa akin." ■

**Newbie singer denies rumored affair with Makati mayor Binay**

Radio broadcaster and new recording artist Jennifer Rose Pelaez denied rumors linking her romantically to Makati mayor Jejomar Binay after photos of her supposedly sitting on the mayor's lap surfaced.

"Hindi, hindi naman kandong 'yon kung hindi nagpa-picture kami pumunta kami ni attorney doon and then nagpa-picture taking kami," Pelaez explains.

In the interview, Pelaez also dismissed reports saying that the mayor is wooing her. "Hindi, (siya nanliligaw)," she added.

The singer who is happily married to her American husband David Tucker said that she respect Binay so much but admitted that she admires the mayor for having good looks.

"I respect mayor Binay--Kung crush ko? Oo dahil gwapo," she giggled.

Pelaez also thanked Binay for helping her foundation, JRP Out of School Youth International, in organizing a benefit show titled "Pangarap ng mga Kabataan" on Aug. 20, 7 p.m, at the Makati Park Garden, J.P. Rizal, West Rembo, Makati City.

The show is produced by JRP Out of School Youth in cooperation with Makati Park Garde for the benefit of out-of-school youth..

Pelaez apologized to Binay for whatever distress the rumor may have caused him and his family.

"Mayor kung nakikinig kayo, kung ano ang tismis kayo na lang po ang bahalang umitindi. I thank you also for giving me a letter of appreciation dahil sa foundation namin," she said.

Pelaez said report of romantic affair can't be true since she's very



**Makati mayor Jejomar Binay**

happy and lucky to have a husband who's very supportive, understanding and loving.

Pelaez is launching her eponymously titled debut album under Eon Records. The album's carrier song is "Bawal," composed by Renee dela Rosa; other compositions by Jukebox King of the Philippines Victor Wood are also included.

A native of Iloilo City, Pelaez (real name is Rosa Pelaez Lasanggi) established JRP Out of School Youth International to serve less fortunate children in Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Hong Kong, and the Philippines.

Pelaez, who was discovered by radio broadcaster Tita Suarding, has already done a recording with Victor Wood. She also has her own perfume business. ■

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## A Joyful Community Celebration of History and Diversity In Côte-des-Neiges!

Yesterday and Today: the Crafts of Côte-des-Neiges

Montreal, August 13, 2008 - We are pleased to invite you to the 6th edition of the neighbourhood celebration: Côte-des-Neiges en fête, 5 continents, 5 sens.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 7th 2008

12:00 p.m to 5:00 p.m.

Côte-des-Neiges Road  
(between Queen-Mary Road & Jean Talon Street)

The rich history of Côte-des-Neiges is the inspiration for this year's theme: Yesterday and Today: the Crafts of Cote-des-Neiges. From 1698 onward Côte-des-Neiges developed in the shadow of Mount-Royal, becoming, through time, a vibrant ethno-culturally diverse community where over 100 languages are spoken today. From leather tannery streams to Colleege Notre-Dame, from Saint-Joseph's Oratory to St.-Mary's Hospital, from the Jewish General Hospital to the École Polytechnique, from apple tree orchards to cosmopolitan cafés, from waiting for a tram to riding the subway, from Notre-Dame-des-Neiges Cemetery to HEC Montréal, from Colleege Jean-de-Brébeuf to Sainte-Justine's Hospital, from exotic restaurants to terraces in bloom, 310 years of history forged, in the heart of Montreal, the unique identity of this neighbourhood where all can live in harmony. This is what we want to celebrate in this year's theme: Yesterday and Today: the Crafts of Côte-des-Neiges.

While enjoying the many varied activities take a moment to meet representatives of community organisations and social service providers who contribute to the neighbourhood's vitality and work to improve the quality of life for all.

Artists, musicians and dancers will liven up the length of Côte-des-Neiges Road. Along the way take part in fun, family-oriented activities, at St.-Kevin Church, St.-Joseph Oratory, Maison de la Culture de Côte-des-Neiges and Centre Communautaire de Loisir de Côte-des-Neiges. Once again, the Côte-des-Neiges Business Association will organize a sidewalk sale from September 4th to 7th.

Visit the Alex and Ruth Dworkin Foundation Space (Kent Park) as it overflows with activities and entertainment for the whole family. Over 40 exhibitors will combine the useful to the pleasurable while informing you of the multitude of services and resources available through neighbourhood community organizations. Dive into history on Jean-Brillant Street (partially closed for the occasion) and explore the

exhibition of works by traditional craftsmen. Continue to discover the history of Côte-des-Neiges at the municipal libraries on Côte-des-Neiges Road and at the exhibition stand of the Société d'histoire de la Côte-des-Neiges in the Community Village.

We'll be expecting you next Sunday September 7th. Come celebrate with us while discovering or rediscovering our history, our identity, our neighbourhood: Côte-des-Neiges!

For more information or in case of rain, visit our web site: [www.cdeccdnndg.org](http://www.cdeccdnndg.org).

-30-

Source:  
Agathe BRUHAT  
Communication agent  
Côte-des-Neiges en fête, 5 continents, 5 sens  
Cell : 514-463-0911  
[agathe.cdnenfete@yahoo.ca](mailto:agathe.cdnenfete@yahoo.ca)

## PHILIPPINE FOLK ART SOCIETY OF QUEBEC INDUCTION

The Philippine Folk Art Society of Quebec held its Formal Induction of their new Executive Board 2008-2010 and Service Awards last August 3, 2008. A cozy brunch at the Fairmount Queen Elizabeth Hotel was the venue, and was well attended by a diverse representation of Filipino community leaders, friends and other communities.

The new Board was inducted by Marvin Rotrand city councilor of CDN-NDG boroughs. The Executive Board members are, president Elenita Belgica, Executive vice president Hilda Veloso, VP for socio-culture Jennifer Camposano, treasurer Manny Coquia, auditor Merlita Tambanillo, secretary Daisy Bertiz, assistant secretary Cristine Villanueva, director for gov't relations Lilia Esguerra, director for communication John Linden, director for art and culture May Virola, director for music Marilou Berlow and director for membership Jayjay Villanueva.

Ex-officio president Riza Esmeralda ended her term with the Service awards and certificates of appreciation given to the following people as her gesture of gratitude for the effort and commitment each one has contributed in her term. Service Awardees are as follows: Janet Samaniego, Lira Lou Feliciano, Lourdes Fabia, Shioni de Leon, Nestor Changtengco, Christine Periquet and Elenita Belgica.

Certificates For Meritorious Participation for successful Terno Ball 2007 were given to Annie Miaral and Shinette Khoury. Certificates of Appreciation were given to, Lita Sidedo, Joselito Sarto, Narcing Mejia, Albert Gutierrez and Yuri Fattah.

The event was highlighted by the inspirational messages from past

presidents of the organization Lita Sidedo and Alvin Veloso. A community leadership award was presented to Riza Esmeralda by Annie Miaral who gave a summary of her achievements.

Marvin Rotrand gave a message of reassurance that his presence in the organization will always be a warm and supportive one because he has great appreciation and admiration for the Filipino culture and sentiments. He reminded the new Board to forge forward with determination to uphold the organization's objectives for the road has been paved by the past officer's outstanding terms and contributions.

The Philippine Folk Art Society will be celebrating their Silver Jubilee next year 2009.

## PRIME MINISTER HARPER CONGRATULATES CANADA'S FIRST MEDALISTS AT THE BEIJING GAMES

OTTAWA - Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued the following statement today: (August 16, 2008)

"On behalf of the Government of Canada and all Canadians, I would like to congratulate Carol Huynh, David Calder, Scott Frandsen and Tonya Verbeek for their exceptional accomplishments. Canada is delighted to see them standing tall on the podium with the world's best athletes.

"We are extremely proud of Canada's Olympic team competing in Beijing. Each day, our athletes exhibit dignity, respect, and dedication to their sport and to their country. Their commitment to excellence and to achieving the Olympic dream truly makes them great sport ambassadors for Canada."

Carol Huynh from Hazelton, British Columbia won a gold medal in freestyle wrestling (48kg) while Tonya Verbeek from Beamsville, Ontario won the bronze medal in the 55kg category. Rowers David Calder and Scott Frandsen from British Columbia won a silver medal in the men's pair.

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PMO Press Office: (613) 957-5555  
This document is also available at <http://pm.gc.ca>

COMMUNITY CALENDAR	
September 2008	
2 -	Launching of GK Walk St. Kevin's Church GK WALK DAY (Saturday) 9:00 A.M. Assembly Van Horne Park 10:00 A.M. Start of 3-km walk
6	Tiangge 9:00 A.M. - 5 P.M. Saturday (See publicity below)
6	12:00 - 5:00 P.M. Cote des Neiges Festival
7	
21	Apple Picking, Organized by Gilmore College Assembly: 9:00 A.M. Plamondon Metro (Van Horne exit)

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# Aussie shatters Go's Olympic dream

August 21, 2008

Tshomlee Go was hardly a shadow of the warrior his Korean coach believed he was and it took an unheralded wild card entry from Australia to boot him out of the first round and out of the gold medal match Wednesday in the Olympic taekwondo competitions.

Two clear hits to the body in the second round were all Australian Ryan Carneli unleashed to keep control of the match for a 1-0 win despite being deducted a penalty point in the third and last round of their flyweight (-58Kg) encounter at the Beijing University of Science and Technology.

Philippine media affairs coordinator Joey Romasanta said Go wept and wept for over 20 minutes despite words of consolation from Korean coach Kim Hong Sik at the dressing room moments after they left the playing hall.

So dejected was the Filipino fighter he didn't appear at the mixed zone where athletes and journalists gather for post-game interview. Kim, who was about to enter the zone, stepped back when he saw Manila reporters and a TV

crew.

He also begged off from a STAR interview as he slipped out of the athletes' dressing room and went to the parking lot.

Go unleashed two kicks, the

Both traded kicks early in the second round but neither found its mark even as Go was egged on by shouts of "Pilipinas, Pilipinas" from Filipino spectators led by Philippine Sports Commission chairman

taekwondo president Robert Aventajado.

The 20-year-old Australian, who did not make it past the first round in the 2007 World Championships in Beijing, saw an opening for a 45-degree kick to the body, then countered Go's kick with a defensive kick to the body to go up, 2-0, seconds before the round ended.

Realizing he was two minutes short of losing the match, Go went for broke in the third. He made a perfect ax kick to the head, which could have scored two points and leveled the count. But the judges saw otherwise.

Still, Go had the chance to level the count when the referee slapped Carneli with a one-point deduction after a second warning for backing away in the third round. That reduced the lead to 1-0, but Go failed to deliver a single blow and the 5-7 Australian, who came here on the strength of his silver medal finish as a bantamweight in the 2006 World Cup in Bangkok, twice clinched to prevent an attack and preserved the lead as time ran out on the Filipino. ■



RP's taekwondo bet Tshomlee Go (left) has fallen to his Australian rival Ryan Carneli during their 58 kg match at the Science and Technology University Gymnasium in Beijing, China today.

only attempts he made in the first round. One was parried by the Australian while the other was to the side and did not count.

William "Butch" Ramirez, Philippine Olympic Committee president Jose "Peping" Cojuangco, chef de mission Monico Puentevella and

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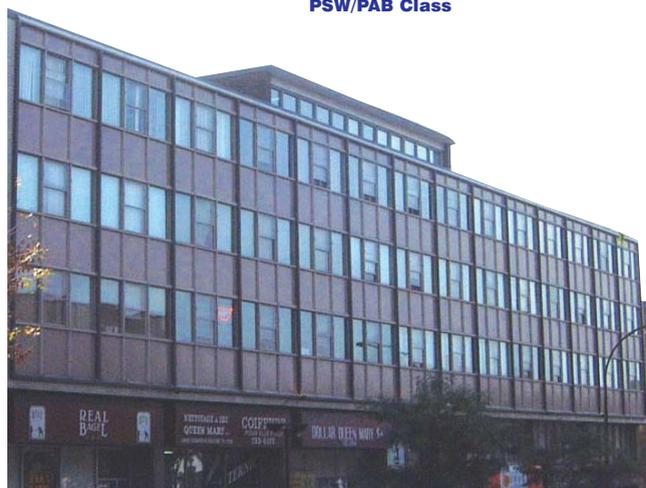
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