

Power for all

PAGE A8 ◀

safety when landing.

The FAA is not the only agency of the Federal government that has benefited from Villarin's inventions. Another is the US Bureau of Census with its mission-critical data centers with computer mainframes dedicated to generating data for the Federal government. Engineer Villarin's another invention was used to make sure there is no power interruption in service, regardless of weather conditions, outside power quality, or building equipment. Villarin holds a US patent for a transfer switch that is used to provide redundant sources of electrical power to computer-based equipment. Many computer servers offer the option of redundant power supplies so that in the event of power supply failure, one or more other power supplies can power the load.

In 2006, 600 of Villarin's transfer switches were installed at the US Census Bureau Computer. Since then, the facility had not experienced any unscheduled downtime of their computers. He also developed a maintenance bypass switch for uninterruptible power supply (UPS). The device allows complete isolation of UPS that provide continuous electric service to computer loads so that maintenance or replacement can be made without computer service interruption.

In recognition of exemplifying Filipino excellence in his field of expertise and profession, Engineer Nilo Villarin was honored by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in Malacanang last December 2008 and was awarded the 'Pamana ng Pilipino' Award.

Villarin was one of seven overseas Filipino awardees who, in exemplifying the talent and industry of the Filipino, have brought honor and recognition through excellence and distinction in the pursuit of their work or profession. Arroyo praised the awardees "who gave the best of their lives to their calling... for their exceptional contribution to Philippine progress and development as well as their commitment to serve the Filipino people".

In conferring the Pamana ng Pilipino Award to Villarin, the

President recognizes his noteworthy inventions in the fields of computer and aviation, and his entrepreneurship for establishing a consulting engineering firm and power systems manufacturing company in the US.

An electrical engineering graduate from Mapua Institute of Technology, Nilo worked as a technician and sales engineer in the Philippines prior to migrating to the US. He became one of the very few Filipino-American engineers to realize their dream of a successful independent professional engineering practice.

In 1986, Engineer Villarin founded the NV Enterprise, Inc. (NVE), a consulting engineering, facilities management and construction firm in Reston, Virginia. NVE designed and integrated the high reliability critical power distribution systems used by the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). He is also the founder and president of Quality Power Company, a startup company manufacturing devices for critical power systems. He invented and holds a US patent for a transfer switch that is used to provide redundant sources of electrical power to computer-based equipment. His transfer switches are now being utilized at the US Census Bureau Computer.

Villarin also invented a glass-cutting machine for mass cutting of glass shapes for the production of stained glass lamps and other similar products. The apparatus which is now being used by some handicraft factories in the Philippines, significantly reduces labor costs in manufacturing stained glass lamps.

More than being a successful engineer, inventor, craftsman and entrepreneur, what makes Villarin stand head and shoulders above the rest is his being a philanthropist. In the indomitable spirit of Bayanihan, he has committed himself to helping Filipinos both in the US and back in the homeland. "My companies in the US are largely staffed by Filipino professionals whom I sponsored to immigrate," said Villarin.

Married to Myrian Reynolds and blessed with two children,

Villarin is one of the active directors of the Philippine Association of Metropolitan Washington Engineers (PAMWE), a group of Filipino engineers in Washington, DC, Maryland, and Virginia. PAMWE is a non-profit, non-partisan, professional organization whose primary objectives include establishing and maintaining an employment and placement assistance program, with special concern for the newly-arrived and unemployed Filipino engineers; granting scholarships program for poor but deserving Filipino college students in the College of Engineering; and serving as a hospitality house for engineers and other related professionals who are new to the metro Washington area.

His patriotism and love for fellow Filipinos is displayed by his assistance and support of campaigns that benefit his kababayans. The hardworking engineer devotes his free time and resources for community work. He provided funding, through Feed the Hungry, Inc., for the building of two classrooms in Hilltop, San Jose, Mindoro in 2006. He also donated computers and laboratory equipment to Venturanza Elementary School in Lemery, Batangas.

A humble professional, Villarin described the key to his success in simple terms. "Just sheer hard work," he stated. ■

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ# 7494)

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING AND RELATED SERVICES

The Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles is seeking Statements of Qualification from professional services firms interested in providing multi-disciplinary architectural, engineering and related services for on-going planning, architectural, engineering and related consulting services, for the acquisition, planning and development of multi-family residential and mixed use properties. Copies of the RFQ may be obtained beginning April 6, 2009 online at www.hacla.org/ps or by calling (213) 252-5405. Proposals will be accepted until 2:00 P.M., Pacific Time, May 6, 2009.

4/4, 4/11/09 CNS-1559763# ASIAN JOURNAL (L.A.)

Obama urges millions to refinance mortgages

'People can really take advantage of this,' President says of low rates

WASHINGTON—Declaring "good news" in the midst of an economic meltdown, President Barack Obama on Thursday, April 9, urged families to take advantage of record low mortgage rates by refinancing their homes.

"We are at a time where people can really take advantage of this," Obama said, seated with a handful of homeowners who have already lowered their bills.

Rates on 30-year mortgages have fallen to 4.78 percent, the lowest on record. Rates are down by more than a full percentage point from a year ago.

"The main message we want to send today is there are 7 to 9 million people across the country who right now could be taking advantage of lower mortgage rates," Obama said in a photo opportunity in the Roosevelt Room. "That is money in their pocket."

The president encouraged people to take advantage of a government web site—<http://www.making-homeaffordable.gov>—to see how they can get help.

In just a handful of minutes of addressing reporters, Obama read the web site address aloud five different times.

The president credited his own government's efforts, in part, for contributing to a recent surge in refinancing. The collapse of the inflated housing market helped contribute to a meltdown in the financial sector and the broader economy, and millions of people have lost their homes or been at risk for foreclosure.

Obama also warned people to watch out for scam artists.

"If somebody is asking you for money up front before they help you with your refinancing," Obama said, "it's probably a scam." (AP)

Villaraigosa: Cut hours or lose jobs

LOS ANGELES—Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa wants Los Angeles city workers to consider a shorter workweek or paying more toward their retirement benefits to help avert the loss of hundreds of jobs.

Recession-battered Los Angeles is facing a projected budget gap that could reach \$530 million.

At a City Hall news conference on Monday, April 6, Villaraigosa said his plan calls for "shared sacrifice" at a time of crisis.

The mayor says that even

after deep cuts the city faces the possibility of losing 2,800 jobs.

He says the city could save 580 of those jobs if every city employee worked one less hour per week.

Villaraigosa says about 1,300 jobs could be saved if workers cut back one hour per week and contribute 2 percent more toward their retirement benefits. (AP)

Wanted: RNs

H-1B Visa Holders needing to Transfer to another Employer

We have Employers/Sponsors available!

Bella Reyes, J.D., LL.M.
FEDERAL TAX AND IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY

LAW OFFICES OF BELLA REYES

421 N. Brookhurst Street, Suite 200, Anaheim, California 92801

Tel: (714) 530-0042

For more information, please check our website at www.bellareyes.com
Practice exclusively Federal Tax & Immigration law.



SAMSON

LAW CORPORATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

PRACTICE AREAS: IMMIGRATION LAW FAMILY LAW BANKRUPTCY CHAPTER 7

Atty. Samson specializes in business immigration, particularly the temporary worker (H), intra-company transfer (L) and investor (E) visa classifications. She obtains immigrant visas for nationally and internationally acclaimed artists through extraordinary ability visas (EB1). She also obtains employment-based immigrant visas for executives and multi-national managers (EB1), advanced degree holders (EB2), professionals and skilled workers (EB3), and healthcare workers (Schedule A).

Ms. Samson has also been successful in obtaining immigrant visas for clients under VAWA (Violence Against Women Act). Ms. Samson handles family-based immigrant visas, including fiance(e) visas, and non-immigrant applications, particularly visitor (B1/B2) and student (F) visa classifications. Her other responsibilities include immigration cases involving deportation/removal defense and asylum cases. Ms. Samson also practices family law cases, including divorce, child custody and child support. Ms. Samson is a member of the State Bar of California, the American Immigration Lawyers Association and the Beverly Hills Bar Association.



RHEA V. SAMSON, Esq.

Juris Doctor, Ateneo de Manila University,
Author, "Working With Labor Laws,"
Published by Ateneo Press and University of Hawaii Press
Professor, Ateneo de Manila University

Visit our website: www.samsonlawcorp.com

3550 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1765, Los Angeles, CA 90010
Phone: 213.249.1605 • Fax: (213) 637-5637

Email: info@samsonlawcorp.com

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR FREE INITIAL OFFICE CONSULTATION.



Darren Silver & Associates

ONE OF THE NATION'S PREEMINENT AND MOST RESPECTED FULL SERVICE IMMIGRATION LAW FIRMS



DARREN B. SILVER, ESQ.
PRINCIPAL ATTORNEY
FORMER USCIS OFFICER



PARDEEP SINGH, ESQ.
BARRISTER & SOLICITOR ATTORNEY
LICENSED CANADIAN & US ATTORNEY



ANIBAL F. SANCHEZ, ESQ.
ATTORNEY

Looking for Alternatives?
We Offer Solutions for difficult cases.
We provide you with unique Immigration options.

"WE ARE PROUD TO OFFER PERMANENT RESIDENCY TO CANADA IN 1 YEAR!
• ALBERTA H1B PROGRAM
• FEDERAL SKILLED WORKER
NO JOB OFFER NECESSARY!"

WE PROVIDE:

- Removal/ Deportation defense
- High Success rate with Immigrant and non-immigrant waivers
- Intercompany Transfer Visa (L-1A and L-1B)
- Difficult H1B and other Professional Visas
- Investment based immigration
- Labor Certification and non-Labor Certification Green Cards
- Family Immigration
- Consular Processing in All Major Consulates with emphasis in Manila.
- And All Other Canadian & US Immigration

WE CAN SPEAK TAGALOG, KOREAN, SPANISH, HINDI, PUNJABI & URDU
CALL NOW FOR FREE CONSULTATION!

213.384.1900

Fax: 213.384.8285 . Toll Free: 1.800.971.7013
3699 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 600, Los Angeles, CA 90010
info@darrensilver.com

Visit our website and sign up for our Newsletter to learn about latest news in immigration www.darrensilver.com