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**FROM THE FRONT PAGE**

**'Pacquiao can't run for Senate...**

**PAGE A1** ◀  
in Saranggani province, where he has built a mansion and transferred his voter registration. Barzaga belongs to pro-administration Lakas-Kampi-CMD coalition where Pichay chairs the arbitration committee. "If he seeks a Senate seat, with his national exposure and popularity, he will be a sure winner," Pichay said in a Quezon City news forum last week. But Barzaga does not share Pichay's view, saying Pacquiao could lose for the second time. "If he runs for congressman of Saranggani against a member of the influential and wealthy Chiongbian family, he is not sure of victory. He could lose again," he said. Saranggani's incumbent representative is Erwin Chiongbian, who is on his third and last term. Another Chiongbian is expected to seek his relative's seat. Erwin took over from another Chiongbian, Victor, who served for three terms. The Chiongbian, who are administration allies, are into shipping and other businesses. Pichay, a former three-term congressman, said Pacquiao should learn his lessons in politics from his defeat in 2007 to Rep. Darlene Antonino-Custodio



of the first district of South Cotabato, which includes General Santos City. "Politics in the district is different. People vote for you because you have built a road, a water system, a school, a multi-purpose pavement, or some other projects in their communities, or have helped them in some other way. They will not vote for you because you are popular," he said. He said the Antoninos have helped a lot of their constituents over the years. "That's why they defeated Pacman," he added. Darlene's mother was a former three-term congresswoman, while her father was a former mayor of General Santos City. Pichay said Pacquiao would have to contend with the same length of public service that the Chiongbian have rendered and the projects they have brought to their province. ■

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**Foundation awards...**

**PAGE A1** ◀  
"While overall foundation giving is down because of the recession, we are fortunate to be able to continue supporting nonprofits at a time when they need it most," said Antonia Hernández, president and CEO at the foundation. "These investments in the community will help nonprofits that are being challenged like never before." Competitive grants range from \$40,000 to \$350,000. Competitive grant recipients include: EngAge, which delivers arts programs to low-income seniors; Fairplex Child Development Center, which provides early learning opportunities in the Pomona and San Gabriel valleys; JWCH Institute, which provides primary health care services to low-income and homeless adults and children; Mental Health Association of Los Angeles, which helps transition homeless people so they can become independent; and Search to Involve Pilipino Americans, which produces affordable housing for families and individuals, including seniors. They also include grants from the Centinela Medical Funds, which support hospitals and community-based organizations serving residents in the South Los Angeles area. Grants from restricted funds include the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, Children's Hospital Los Angeles and American Cancer Society. ■

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