

Asean Washington Committee Meets US Congress Sub Committee Chair on Asia and Pacific and Global Environment



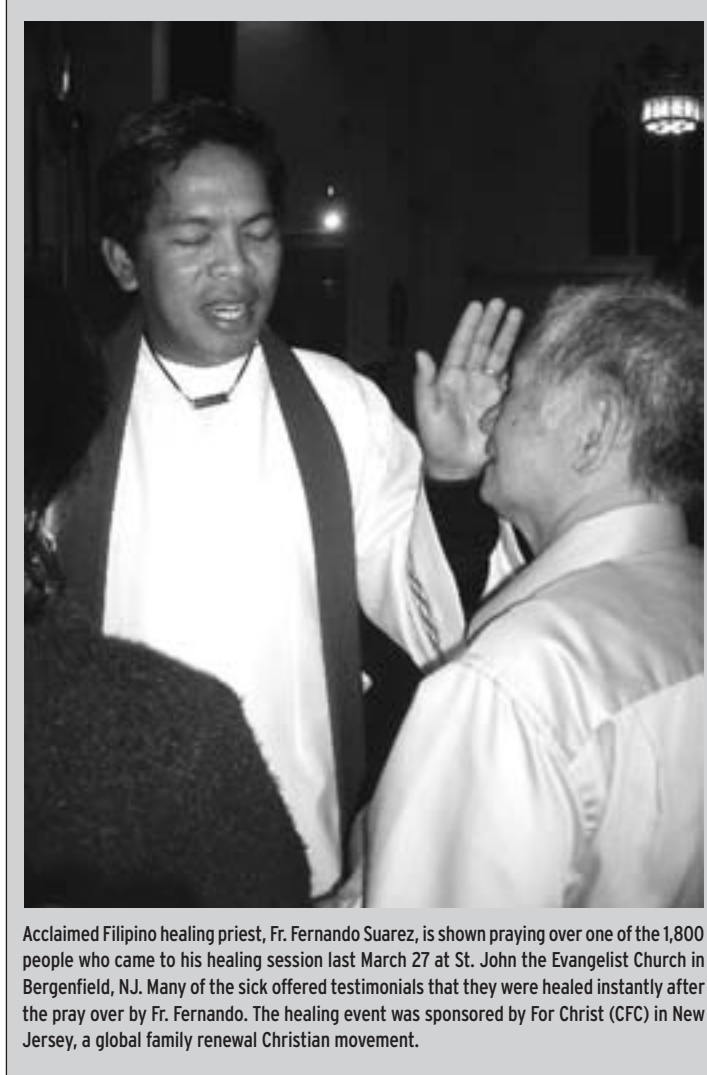
Philippine Ambassador to the United States Willy C. Gaa and ASEAN Ambassadors and Charge d'Affaires meet Congressman Faleomavaega, Chair of the Sub Committee on Asia and Pacific and Global Environment of the US House Foreign Affairs Committee. Ambassador Gaa, who chairs the ASEAN Washington Committee (AWC), urged greater dialogue and interaction between AWC and the US Congress. IN the meeting, Congressman Faleomavaega emphasized the importance of continuing dialogue and strengthening the lines between the United States and other nations and invited the AWC to consider the Sub Committee as a venue and forum for airing concerns and issues that may impact the ASEAN or its member countries.

A get together for the chapel of San Lorenzo Ruiz

THE New York Archdiocese' Filipino Apostolate and the Chapel of San Lorenzo Ruiz' Team Ministry invites everyone to a "Salu-Salo Para Kay San Lorenzo" at the Philippine Center, 556 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10036 on April 24, 2009, 6:30pm (Kalayaan Hall).
Named after our First Filipino Saint, the Chapel of San Lorenzo Ruiz has been identified as the official "Church of the Filipinos" by Edward Cardinal Egan of the Archdiocese of New York and is encouraging everyone to participate in the different spiritual activities with its key challenge of showing "unity" in offering the commitment to pursue the spiritual mission

of the Chapel. Formerly known as the Most Holy Crucifix Church in New York, the Chapel is located at 378 Broom Street (between Mulberry and Mott Streets), New York within the vicinity of Chinatown and Little Italy in downtown Manhattan. Although not an official parish church, Cardinal Egan has authorized the Chapel to offer weekday and weekend masses and all of the Sacraments of the Church, with the exception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. Sunday Masses, Filipino-style weddings, baptisms, and funerals may be done in the Chapel. Having a capacity of 250 persons, the

Chapel is currently managed by a Team Ministry headed by Rev. Dr. Joseph G. Marabe, JCD of St. Patrick's Cathedral as the moderator with four other clergy members, Father Romy Hontiveros of Our Lady of Victory, Father Mike Lagrimas of St. Teresa, Msgr. Romy Montero of Our Lady of Pompei, Father Nil Villaviza of St. Agnes and Mr. Reynor Santiago. Consul General Cecilia B. Rebong will host the Salu-salo and is extending the invitation to everyone. Please confirm your attendance with Mr. Reynor Santiago (212) 966-1019 and Ms. Marivic Dimaculangan (212) 764-1330, ext. 310. ■



Acclaimed Filipino healing priest, Fr. Fernando Suarez, is shown praying over one of the 1,800 people who came to his healing session last March 27 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Bergenfield, NJ. Many of the sick offered testimonials that they were healed instantly after the pray over by Fr. Fernando. The healing event was sponsored by For Christ (CFC) in New Jersey, a global family renewal Christian movement.

Mainitnons sa Amerika

THERE'S a place for us and somehow there's always time for all of us. Mainitnons in the US and Canada once again will get together for the National Reunion in Dallas, Texas on July 17-18-19, 2009. This year, marks the 4th annual gathering and our 1ST as an official certified nonprofit organization. We are celebrating family togetherness with all the exciting events on Western Friday, Glamour Saturday and Festive Sunday hosted by the MsA-Dallas. Mainitnons sa Amerika, welcomes every Mainitnon, together with friends and family embracing our subculture and sharing with us the joy and the true sentimental feelings of being a Mainitnon no matter where we are. As we celebrate and enjoy the company of our MsA family, we intend to establish great camaraderie and desire to bond with our fellow Mainitnons, old-new friends and their families. "Mainit and Mainit Lake"..... these are keywords that give us joy and happiness, make us feel sentimental about our native town. It is the sentimental feelings of our

great memories growing up, and the unique subculture of Mainit that no one can deny made us who we are, what we are, and where we are now. The Board of Directors tirelessly working hard to find more ways to realize our dreams of having the MsA organization as our second community in the US and Canada, with no distinctions from any individual, no matter who we are, what we are, what we have and what we don't have, but to be a proud member of this organization that makes our MsA family. A family that brings us a sense of belonging... sense of belonging that gives us gratitude and great true meaningful feelings. Once you are a Mainitnon, you will always be a Mainitnon in our mind and in our heart. We have a huge population of Mainitnons in the United States and in some parts of Canada. We are trying to reach out and send you our warm invitation for our 4th Annual Reunion. Please join us this year in Dallas, Texas - July 17-18-19 and experience a wholesome togetherness of our MsA family. ■

La Salle Spirit for Easter

At the San Lorenzo Ruiz Chapel in Manhattan, Fr. Mike Lagrimas directed a Day of Lenten Reflection in preparation for Easter, as he linked "Worship, Education and Service" to St. La Salle's "Touching Hearts, Teaching Minds" legacy. Participants included La Salle alumni and a diverse group from NYC, Long Island, and NJ. The event was coordinated by Chester Medina, Jonathan Ong, Iris Buhay, and Robert De Tagle with the San Lorenzo Ruiz Chapel Ministry headed by Fr. Joseph Marabe.

The BLD Music Ministry provided inspiring music such as Christ, Be Our Light and Bukas Palad's "I Will Sing Forever." The day was packed with many activities, capped by the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Mass. The La Salle alumni association in the metro NY/NJ area in 2009 is committed to a full slate of projects to engage both new and renewed members, including the DLSAA World Congress, the Dream Games with Ateneo and other schools, the March of Babies in April and the Central



Park Picnic in July, plus important career networking activities. For more info, contact dlsaa.east@gmail.com. ■

PIDCI: All set for 111th Independence day

PAGE 11
556 Fifth Avenue, between 45th and 46th Streets, immediately followed by a Thanksgiving Mass at the Kalayaan Hall on the second floor, after which a light, packed breakfast is distributed to celebrators.
Independence day parade
The most awaited Filipino event in the Northeast, if not the entire United States, is the annual Independence Day Parade, headlining the trio of major events on this day. Opening ceremonies on Madison Avenue at 41st Street start at 11:45 a.m. highlighted by a ribbon cutting by V-I-Ps, usually the Mayor of New York City, maybe a Guest of Honor from the Philippines, the Independence Day Parade Grand Marshal, this year Dr. Teofila Malanum Santos, Philippine Consul General in New York Cecilia B. Rebong, PIDCI President Austria, Independence Day Parade Chairs Gani Puertollano and Juliet Payabyab and others. At noon, the participants who have assembled on the streets on both sides of Madison Avenue start to join the parade heading south or downtown until it passes the reviewing stand on the east side of the avenue between 30th and 29th Streets before turning off on 27th Street for dispersal. For information on the Parade, call Gani Puertollano at (908) 964-5473 or (908) 230-6468, Juliet Payabyab (718) 267-0221 or (917) 557-7300, or PIDCI President Austria at (201) 238-1785.
Street fair
A veritable festival of Filipino food, the Independence Day Street Fair, is the second of the three major events that awaits the day's celebrators. The main food fare that draws the teeming crowd to the annual Philippine Independence Day Street Fair (Madison Avenue, from 24th

Street to 26th Street, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.) is the distinctive Filipino barbeque. But of course there's the Philippine national dish adobo (pork or chicken, as with the barbeque), the Philippine version of tempura: ukoy, or how about Filipino lumpia (egg roll), it comes as sariwa (fresh), fried or Shanghai (mini rolls). Then there's the ubiquitous pancit (noodles, Philippine style). And if it's a hot day, there is the mysterious looking drink... no, it's not really a drink because you scoop up morsels of mixed preserved tropical and other colorful fruit, swimming in shaved ice, made deluxe with a topping of a scoop of ice cream in exotic flavors, like ube (purple yam) paste or strands of makapuno (a rare type of coconut) and a generous wedge of flan. Cool. Cooler. Coolest. Halohalo. (Mix-Mix.)
Filipino food establishments and catering companies take up booths on both sides of the Avenue between 24th and 25th streets while service companies, merchants and other corporate institutions hawking all kinds of hot-selling Philippine wares take up the booths on both sides of Madison Avenue between 25th and 26th streets. Information on the Street Fair is available by calling the committee chair Gani Puertollano at (908) 964-5473 or (908) 230-6468, or any of his co-chairs; Rev. Gaudencio Soriano, Sr. at (201) 947-2126 or (201) 282-9341; Medy Taeza at (646) 415-3040 or Tambi Wycoco at (212) 420-0145; or PIDCI President Austria at (201) 238-1785.
Cultural Festival
The parting fare for the day is the Cultural Festival. It opens right around the time that the last float of the Independence Day Parade has turned off at the parade's dispersal point at around 2:30pm. The Cultural Festival is presented on an open stage north of 23rd Street on Madison Avenue. It's a three-hour program of songs,

Hudson County Medical Society's 'Dancing with the Docs'

AN eventful gathering of medical practitioners was successfully celebrated last Friday, March 20, 2009 at the Camden and Hudson Halls of Sheraton Hotel Newark Airport aptly dubbed "Dancing With The Docs" and ably hosted by the Hudson County Medical Society headed by its glamorous lady president, Dr. Zoraida De Leon.



At the HCMS "Dancing With the Docs:" (Front Row, L-R) Mrs. Clemente, Mrs. Kelly Phung, HCMS Pres. Dr. Zoraida De Leon and Dr. Meili Yee. (Back row, L-R) Dr. Clemente, Dr. Michael Phung and Dr. Leo A. Dela Cruz.

In joint effort and collaboration with The Guardians of Healing, the affair was the first ever HCMS fund-raising project which proceeds benefit the former's medical mission in Sto. Domingo, Dominican Republic this coming April. Aside from providing and facilitating compassionate healthcare, The Guardians of Healing also provides educational mission and nutrition programs to various underserved communities. ■

THE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- April 4| Saturday**
Eat Bulaga Live!
GMA Pinoy TV, in cooperation with Garden State Travel is welcoming Eat Bulaga in Atlantic City on April, 2009 at the Boardwalk Hall Arena, 7pm.
- April 6| Monday**
Classical Music Benefit Concert for the Street Children of the Philippines
Omnilogy, Inc. will be hosting a classical music benefit concert entitled "Inspiration Heals: Bridging the Gap Across Cultures and Between Cultures" to be held in Merkin Hall, Manhattan, NY (129 W 67th st. between Broadway and Amsterdam Ave.) on April 6, 8pm. Tickets: Single: \$35, Students/Seniors: \$25 (contact box office at (212) 501-3330 for additional information and discounted tickets.)
- April 15| Wednesday**
Riza Hequibal, Filipina Harpist to perform
There will be a performance on April 15, 2005, 7:30pm-10pm at Maribelle's on Madison between 65th & 66th. Featuring Filipina jazz Harpist Riza Hequibal joined by internationally acclaimed Jazz trumpeter, Marcus Printup. Tickets: \$20. Contact (212) 249-4585 for more info.
- April 17| Friday**
Pinoy Talent Festival
Everyone is invited to a one-hour show that will showcase Filipino talents. There will be songs, dance, arnis, tinkling, and Ronnie Alejandro's book exhibition. Venue is at: Labouisse Hall, UNICEF Bldg., East 44th Street (between 1st and 2nd Avenue), NY, NY 10017 on the 17th of April 2009, 1-2pm.
- April 24| Friday**
Salu-Salo Para Kay San Lorenzo
The New York Archdiocese' Filipino Apostolate and the Chapel of San Lorenzo Ruiz' Team Ministry Cordially invite you to a Salu-Salo Para kay San Lorenzo at the Philippine Center, 556 Fifth Avenue, New York (Kalayaan Hall) on April 24, 6:30PM. Please confirm your attendance with Mr. Reynor Santiago (212) 966-1019 and Ms. Marivic Dimaculangan (212) 764-1330 ext. 310.
- April 27| Monday**
Diversity Rocks! Concert with Broadway Rocker Rona Figueroa
Broadway Rocker Rona Figueroa will make her second Canal Room appearance in DCT's "Diversity Rocks!" Benefit Concert with Lyriss Hung on Electric Violin and Ernie Fortunato on Guitar on April 27, 2008, 7pm at The Canal Room (285 West Broadway New York)
- May 1| Friday**
Screening of "Boses by the Assumption Alumnae Association Abroad
The Assumption Alumnae Association Abroad presents BOSES, Directed by Ellen Ongkeko-Marfil. The Film stars Ricky Davao, Cherry Pie Picache, Meryll Soriano and introducing Juilliard-trained violinist Coke Bolipata and his student, Julian Duque, a child violin prodigy on May 1st, 6pm-10pm at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle (59th St. & Columbus Ave., NYC). Ticket: \$25 Group and individual ticket sales, please contact: Vina Francisco (646) 203-1611, Linden Martinez (201) 224-7739, Ching Legarda (914) 793-5351, Rissa Hidalgo (908) 397-7206.
- May 16| Saturday**
5th Diocesan Fiesta of Our Lady of Peace & Good Voyage (Birhen ng Antipolo)
The Filipino-American Community of St. Robert Bellarmine & Other Filipino Communities & Devotional Groups of Brooklyn & Queens invite everyone to join the 5th Diocesan Celebration of Our Lady of Peace & Good Voyage (Birhen ng Antipolo) to be held on May 16, 2009 at St. Robert Bellarmine Church located at 56-15 213th Street Bayside, New York 11364. Celebrations start at 3pm with rosary / novena, street procession and Concelebrated Mass at 5pm followed by fellowship and entertainment. Rev. Msgr. Ronald T. Marino, V.E., Vicar for Migrant & Ethnic Apostolates of the Diocese of Brooklyn will be the Main Celebrant. ■

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dances and other entertainment and cultural fare featuring both area and visiting talents and performers, most of whom are Filipino. For information, call chairman Dr. Bernie dela Merced at (973) 699-1849 or PIDCI President Austria at (201) 238-1785.
Independence Ball
Climax of the 111th anniversary commemoration of the declaration of Philippine Independence is the Philippine Independence Ball. This year, the Ball is scheduled at the Grand Ballroom of the Sheraton Newark Airport Hotel at 128 Frontage Road, Newark, New Jersey 07114-3721, telephone (973) 690-5500; on Saturday, June 13, 2009, with a 7pm reception followed by dinner dance at 8pm. Officers and members of the Board of PIDCI extend their invitation to the greater New York Filipino and Filipino-American community to the commemorative events of the 111th Anniversary of the Declaration of Philippine Independence: the Grand Marshal Gala on April 4th; the "Divang Kalayaan" Selection and Coronation Pageant and Gala on April 26th; the Independence Day Parade, Street Fair and Cultural Festival on June 7th and the Independence Ball on June 13th.
Information, Invitations
For queries invitations to and/or participation in any and/or all of the events of the 111th anniversary commemoration of the declaration of Philippine Independence, please call any of the following officers and members of the Board of Directors of PIDCI: Gerry Austria (201) 238-1785, Joji Jalandoni (201) 401-7559, Sevilla Belen Castillo at (973) 393-8018, Lumen Castañeda at (917) 538-1702, Rudy Mariano at (860) 848-7055, Gani Puertollano at (908) 230-6468, Tambi Wycoco at (212) 420-0145, Dr. Bernie dela Merced (973) 699-1849, Mario Garcia (732) 425-4905, Ner Martinez (347) 837-5853, Francis Sison (201) 388-6364, and Vivian Velasco (917) 623-3827. ■