

**IMMIGRATION CORNER**



**ATTY. MICHAEL GURFINKEL**

## A relative or a friend's legal advice could be wrong

fraud, which could carry a lifetime ban. What makes the situation even worse, is that she may have had a good chance of obtaining the visitor's visa, had she simply been truthful, and submitted genuine documents.

2. People came to the US as visitors and wanted to work. They were told by friends or relatives to apply for political asylum (claiming to be persecuted in the Philippines) or CSS/LULAC (claiming they had been in the US since 1981, and therefore entitled to an "amnesty" green card). By applying for political asylum or CSS/LULAC, they could get work authorization, and everything would be fine. However, in applying for these types of benefits, they had to lie and submit fake papers. But, the friends further advised that, "It's OK, everyone does it, and the CIS will never catch on." Now, people are finding that their applications are being denied, and they are being placed in deportation or removal proceedings by the DHS. In many cases they were qualified for legitimate immigration benefits, such as temporary working visas (H-1B) for college graduates or green cards through Labor Certification (employer-sponsored green cards for professionals and skilled workers). But, they messed up their case, by listening to the advice of friends, instead of attorneys.

The bottom line is that when you are sick, don't you go to a doctor? When you have a toothache, don't you go to a dentist? Then why, when you have a legal matter, don't you go to an attorney? If your child

needed surgery, would you listen to the advice of a friend as to how to perform the surgery, or, would you go to a surgeon?

Therefore, if you have a legal matter, you should seek the advice of a reputable attorney who can possibly help you in solving it. People should know that their immigration status is perhaps the most important thing in their life in America. Not a day goes by that these people don't think about their immigration status and how their whole future in America is up in the air or in jeopardy until they are finally in valid, legal status.

If their friends tell them to commit fraud and submit fake documents, will their friends be there when things go wrong and/or when they get placed in removal/deportation? Or will the friend say, "You need an attorney"?

**Michael J. Gurfinkel is licensed, and an active member of the State Bar of California and New York. All immigration services are provided by, or under the supervision of, an active member of the State Bar of California. Each case is different. The information contained herein (including testimonials, "Success Stories", endorsements and re-enactments) is of a general nature, and is not intended to apply to any particular case, and does not constitute a prediction, warranty, guarantee or legal advice regarding the outcome of your legal matter. No attorney-client relationship is, or shall be, established with any reader. WEBSITE: www.gurfinkel.com Call Toll free to schedule a consultation for anywhere in the US: (866) - GURFINKEL Four offices to serve you: LOS ANGELES · SAN FRANCISCO · NEW YORK · PHILIPPINES (Advertising Supplement)**

## JUNO Healthcare President amongst 50 Outstanding Asian Americans in Business for 2009

NEW YORK, NY- Considered as the most distinguished award program for the Asian American business community, Dante Raul "DR" Teodoro, Founder and President of JUNO Healthcare Staffing System, Inc. was named one of the Outstanding 50 Asian Americans in Business awardees of 2009 by the Asian American Business Development Center (AABDC). According to the Center's website, the awards program "honors individuals with outstanding leadership, vision and accomplishments who have built a successful business or who have distinguished themselves within their community. The award aims to recognize entrepreneurs, business professionals, as well as corporate executives who contribute to the general economy." DR will be recognized as one of the "Outstanding 50" in a formal dinner ceremony on Wednesday, June 10, 2009 at the Hilton hotel, in New York City. No less than the New York State Governor David Paterson will grace the event as a keynote speaker.



**Dr. Dante Raul Teodoro**

Notable figures in business and politics, as well as civic leaders, will honor the outstanding entrepreneurs and corporate executives in the Asian American community from across the United States.

One of the most successful Filipino-American businessmen in healthcare staffing today, Dante Raul "DR" Teodoro founded JUNO Healthcare Staffing, a company that recruits RNs, LPNs, CNAs and allied healthcare professionals and deploys them to healthcare facilities on a full-time, part-time, per diem basis or travel assignments. The company was named one of the 100 fastest-growing companies in America by Entrepreneur Magazine last year. It's triple digit growth, expansion to five locations in its first seven years and continued improvement in its operations, marketing and strategy puts the company on track to one day becoming a leading player in the healthcare industry. (Advertising Supplement)

## Exquisite International...

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cially designed curtains and other window treatments. ECI Executive Creative and Artistic Director is fashion designer-couturier cum artist/event publicist Bobby T. Yalong. Collectively, they aim toward achieving a common goal and believe that every business starts from a small entity and when managed properly could gradually be a giant empire.

The Cabalfins' fully finished and lavishly furnished spacious basement served as a fitting venue for the said occasion. And who could be a better choice to host the momentous affair's program than the toastmasters' pick-- singer-performer JR Lavarro.

One of the notable highlights was the unveiling of the company logo which was even made memorable with the graceful presence of the indefatigable husband and wife tandem of Special Edition Press, Nanding and Mila Mendez, and Asian Heritage Chairperson Ludi Hughes.

With Ben Garcia's Party Music on hand to constantly provide a high spirited atmosphere, the dance floor was kept incessantly on fire with the exhibition of writer-lensman Art Tizon's terpsichorean prowess... who, untiringly led the crowd to a non-stop session of line dancing and moonlighted as dance instructor and a free-for-all partner.

ECI's launching wasn't solely confined to the introduction of the company's corporate organizers for in the midst of the enthusiastic

crowd two untapped talents were discovered and instantly offered management contracts on the spot. Armando Solite, a Cebuano nurse working as an Asst. Director Of Nursing in Clairemont Rehabilitation Center, could put to shame seasoned performers with the way he belts out and executes well-choreographed movements with precision to the very note. Solite, needless to say, was the evening's most exciting revelation although another promising talent who noticeably surfaced was 9-year-old Lianah Sta. Ana, first born of Nathan and Nailah, and could effortlessly hit the notes with octaves high enough to literally pass through concrete ceilings and roofs. So unbelievably impressive, the young chanteuse is definitely bound to hit the big time much sooner than anyone could predict.

The affair also became a preliminary setting to usher in a supposedly surprise advance birthday treat for Pete Cabalfin, Senen's loving hubby, who'd turn another milestone on May 23. Surrounded by his loving wife and children Peejay and Abby, the birthday celebrator excitedly blew his candles without really showing any sign of amazement... but merely gave in, and played the game.

Prominent figures seen in the crowd were: Glenn's dutiful wife Shay and cute daughter Heart (from where Amanda Heart House of Curtains was coined), popular 80's singer/recording art-

ist Cristy Mendoza, who still looks as fabulous as the last day when she abandoned her flourishing career, who came the earliest with hubby Jim de Hitta and son JC, PACCAL Executive Director and former Jersey City Deputy Mayor Linda Mayo with son Joey, PACCAL President Betty Buenviaje, MPG Global Production Executive Producer Mely 'Bing' Pechangco Gabriel, Calla Lilly's Melissa Geling and Minda Cabus, plastic surgeon Dr. Derek Lee, Herbert Y. Magtoto and wife Fely, PABC's Bert Castro with wife Pearl who's impressively gifted with a pair of graceful dancing feet.

Other attendees included Mr. & Mrs. Efrén Gatchalian, Mr. & Mrs. Leo de Castro, Janet Rustia, Michael and Lynette Barbieri, Rene Young, Enrico Uy, Ruby Gallipani, Maria Gido, Oscar Gido, Jun Manalang, Carmela and Sam Weiner, Cindy and Bob Hand, Max and Tipin Mendoza, Mercy Tenebro, Julian Yu, Trinna Reyes, Ruby Gallipani, Richard and Maribeth Vito, Loren Bowen and a lot more whose names we failed to recall.

Guests were treated to a variety of delicious Filipino home cooked foods and delicacies sumptuously catered by Christy Alcantara of Christy's Kitchen who, incidentally, is MPG Global Production's appointed caterer to the up-coming Sharon Cuneta's Megathirty concert at the NJPAC Prudential Hall on Sunday, May 31, 2009.

(Advertising Supplement)

# Pacquiao and the art of war

## IMMIGRANT LIVING: 101 AND BEYOND



**MONETTE ADEVA MAGLAYA**

(Part 1 of 2)

I HAVE never been a boxing aficionado — till now. Watching Rocky Balboa get bloodied and beaten to a pulp, even if I knew that was pure Hollywood, has given me an aversion for any contact sport where someone is bound to get hurt. Who can forget Mike Tyson biting off Evander Holyfield's ear? Talk about appalling. Maybe it's a chick thing or an overly active empathetic hormone making me feel another person's pain on the gut level.

But I will push my queasy stomach aside for the moment because there is an angle to the man that needs to be said. *Time Magazine* ranked him the 22nd most influential person in the world for 2009. Time is right on the mark. For most of the 90 million Filipinos, of which several millions are spread far and wide in every corner of the world as immigrants or overseas foreign workers, there's a bit of Pacquiao's tenacity of spirit in every Filipino.

It's not just the usual rags to riches story of someone who rose from crushing poverty by sheer gumption, prize-fighting with his fists to put food on the table at an early age, from the dusty streets of General Santos City, erstwhile known as Dadiangas by Sarangani Bay, to come to the Wild Card Gym in Hollywood half a world away, step in as replacement on two week's notice to vanquish a seasoned opponent and defeat bigger opponents convincingly since then to become one of the most amazing luminaries of the sport. He found a mentor who took him to his wings and nurtured a relationship that approaches that of a father to a son. Roach, the great boxing trainer of our time, who struggles with Parkinson's disease, is Pacquiao's Yoda. Roach has molded a willing, malleable and brilliant pupil transforming him from an aggressive but one-dimensional boxer into a complete fighter of the sport that is just beginning to recapture its former glory among a world audi-

*"The one who figures on victory at headquarters before even doing battle is the one who has the most strategic factors on his side."*

— Sun Tzu, "The Art of War"

ence, a sport that has sputtered a bit in the absence of a captivating persona people can admire.

Pacquiao's story is engaging and at 30 years old, he does inspire millions. Has there ever been anyone in history that can put a long, protracted war in Mindanao on hold and zap crime down to zilch nationwide for a few hours when he steps into the ring to do battle?

With his no-nonsense, precise, concise, 2-round total demolition of the British boxing champ, Ricky "The Hitman" Hatton, who was pole-axed with the vaunted left hook delivered with power, precision and speed that seemed to come from nowhere, some aficionados remain shell-shocked weeks after the event. Hatton still is. British fans still are. There's a newfound respect for the Pacman as Pound for Pound King. Recriminations and excuses are percolating to account for the devastating defeat in Hatton's camp. Cruel jokes about how Hatton should have gotten sponsors for the soles of his shoes for his 2 knockdowns and his embarrassing knockout and how he defended himself from punches with his face have surfaced on the internet.

Hatton shies away from the public these days admitting he has cried many times in the days since, admitting he never knew what hit him and may never get the courage to watch that footage ever. It guts his soul to be so unceremoniously done away with in such fashion, his tattered reputation needing redemption. Years from now, that particular segment of the "Battle between East and West" will be replayed over and over again as part of boxing history on HBO and the disbelief will still linger. Blink and you'll miss it. I glimpsed Jack Nicholson rising in a flash from his seat in the third row with the audience in utter disbelief at the final blow of the second-round bout, his hand over his mouth in shock and awe. That is one show worth the thousands of dollars such ringside tickets command.

I could almost hear the collective screaming and groaning of 850,000 pay per view American buyers, over 16,000 live audience at the MGM Grand, thousands on short-circuit television, a million in England and several mil-

lions more in the Philippines and around the world, 168 nations in all. Two rounds! Stretch it to 2 more rounds and I'm getting my money's worth. But the truth is, it is brilliant and unforgettable. Roach did say fewer than 3 rounds but Pacquiao wisely and humbly said, only God knows.

Some boxing pundits the worst, over, on print and on the web, are quite ready to crown him as one of the great ones of boxing, putting him up there alongside the likes of the 1930's Henry Armstrong, who won on several weight divisions just like Pacquiao, or alongside Roberto Duran, Sugar Ray Leonard or even "float like a butterfly, sting like a bee" Ali. Some pundits proven wrong are whispering in mild protest saying it's premature. Bob Arum, Pacquiao's promoter, is convinced about his greatness but since he stands to gain financially by his hyperbole, his opinion may not weigh much to the public at large. It's his job to hype it up and get the numbers soaring until the next big fight.

Some critics of the sport remain unconvinced and are still a little less awed by Pacquiao's accomplishments. Over and over again, they have consistently bet on Pacquiao's opponents — those great Mexican boxing warriors — based on physical size and strength alone, underestimating Pacquiao's chances each time. These critics have been cautioning colleagues in the business, about putting Pacquiao in that hallowed category, grudgingly admitting he is good, very good but not great — just yet. No matter. Even if Pacquiao retires today, he has already made his mark in the world of boxing and the Philippine national psyche, where it matters. One credible boxing authority who made a short list of the great boxers by decade beginning in the 1910's has already anointed the Pacman, as the one for this decade.

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## JUNO CONNECTION



**CHARMAINE TEODORO**

AS A PARENT, you make the important decision of where and with whom to entrust your children when you're not around. Typically you could get a babysitter, or else select a daycare center or choose a provider and pay them for their services. So even if you do not have direct control over what's happening when your son or daughter is with a care provider, you are still directly responsible for the outcome, simply because it was your decision. As with all important decisions, several factors should be taken into account. Choosing the 'right' childcare is one such decision where you really can't afford to make a mistake. The points discussed in this article are mainly practical measures, with some requiring a bit more research on your part. Keep in mind, however, that the efforts you exert in choosing the best care for your child is very much worth it.

**Know your child's needs**  
This is the most important step since your child's needs should be the foremost concern when selecting a provider. The following are helpful questions you should ask yourself with the help of the care receiver- your son or daughter.

Does your child have any special conditions that you need to take into consideration?

Is your child comfortable staying in another person's place for an extended period of time?

Would it be ok with him/her if you leave him/her in another location?

What activities does he/she need in order to be preoccupied and not think of Mommy and Daddy?

What elements, or what type of environment, will s/he thrive on?

## Parents: What you need to know when choosing child care

Relative to your child's age-what type of setting would best fit him/her, and with what age group does s/he belong?

Your child's happiness, growth and satisfaction in the environment where s/he will be receiving care are key in selecting the best type of service and arrangement for him/her. Ask them questions, involve them in the process and put yourself in their shoes.

**Know the child care provider arrangements available**

There is a wide range of services and arrangements available for your child. If you have a good grasp of which one is best for them, it'll be easy for you to consider what to choose. Consider these questions when reviewing care provider arrangements.

Do you need someone full-time or part-time to take of your child?

If so, how many hours in total a week, and from what time to what time?

What type of care provider do you need- a nanny, babysitter or au pair? What are the differences?

And last, would you want an in-home service or a family member to look after your son or daughter?

The next step is to dig deep into the details of these services and weigh the pros and cons. It would be helpful to have an in-depth understanding of what this service or arrangement has for you and your child. Sites like Child Care Online provide comprehensive information on what services and arrangements are available for you.

**Know how much you can pay for child care**

Have a clear and realistic figure in mind when deciding on the best arrangement for your child. Know what you can afford and stick to it. The ability to pay in a prompt and timely manner is important in building and developing a healthy relationship between you and your provider. Inability to pay on time will not only cause a strain in the relationship, but can also lead to an undesirable halt to services

given to your child. That's why you need to carefully consider the price you can pay, and have a proper and documented approach when it comes to your payment plans. Don't hesitate to inquire about grace periods in case you need it.

In addition to thoroughly assessing your financial capacity to pay, also consider the value of the service you're getting. Some parents become stingy when it comes to paying for childcare, but have no hesitation spending for an expensive vacation, lavish clothes and shopping. Know the benefits of what you're getting and the overall positive impact it will have on your life and the life of your son or daughter. Look at both sides of the coin- consider the price, but also the value.

Childcare is a huge issue in society today. It's a service that covers a multitude of issues and facets concerning the need of a child and the role of a parent in fulfilling that need with the help of a third party. As a parent, your child is the most important and precious blessing you have, and the best you can do to protect and ensure their growth and well-being is to give them the life and care they truly deserve.

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**Charmaine Teodoro** is the Senior Vice President of JUNO Healthcare Staffing, a group of companies that recruit RNs, LPNs, CNAs and allied healthcare professionals and deploys them to healthcare facilities on a full-time, part-time, per diem or travel assignment. It also sponsors foreign-trained RNs for immigration to the US. JUNO has offices in New York, and in New Jersey where it offers homecare services.

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