

People and Events

Consular Outreach at Island Pacific Supermarket

LOS ANGELES – A team from the Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles will be conducting a Consular Outreach Program in Panorama City, California on 16 May 2009 from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm at the Island Pacific Supermarket, 8340 Van Nuys Blvd., Unit A, Panorama City, CA 91402.

This outreach program is being undertaken in cooperation with Island Pacific Supermarket under Mr. Nino Lim and in coordination with Ms. Janelle So.

The following Consular services will be rendered:

Applications for Machine Readable Passport (Cost: \$50) and returned to the applicant by mail at an additional cost of \$6.

Applications for the retention and re-acquisition of Philippine citizenship pursuant to Republic Act 9225 or Dual Citizenship Law (Cost: \$50). Oath-taking will be scheduled on the same day for qualified applicants.

Notarization of documents (Cost: \$25) will be accepted but this will be processed at the Consulate and returned to the applicant by mail at an additional cost of \$6.

Overseas Absentee Voting (OAV) Registration. (Gratis)

The Consulate will only accept payments in cash, postal money order or cashier's check. Personal checks will not be accepted.

Application forms and requirements can be downloaded from the Consulate's website at www.philippineconsulatela.org.

In view of the anticipated high volume of applicants and in order to ensure an orderly flow of operations, this Consular outreach shall be guided by the following:

All Applicants for any of the above consular services are requested to set up an appointment with the Consulate, not later than 13 May 2009, either through fax at (213) 639-0990, or through email at losangelespcg@earthlink.net.

Passport Applicants should send an advance copy of their passport application forms and data page (bearing the name and photo) of their passports to the Consulate (Attn: Island Pacific Consular Outreach) either by fax or by email. Incomplete forms will not be processed.

Dual Citizenship Applicants should send an advance copy of their application forms and supporting documents to the Consulate (Attn: Island Pacific Consular Outreach). Incomplete forms will not be processed.

OAV Registrants should also send an advance copy of their application forms and supporting documents to the Consulate (Attn: Island Pacific Consular Outreach). Incomplete forms will not be processed.

Confirmed appointments of all applicants will be posted at the Consulate's website (www.philippineconsulatela.org) by 13 May 2009. Personal appearance is required for all applicants.

While walk-in applicants will also be entertained, priority will be given to those with confirmed appointments with the Consulate, as posted in the website. All walk-in applicants are advised to transact their business directly with Consulate officials and not through travel agencies. Walk-in applicants are by definition those who did not pass through travel agencies.

For general information, interested parties may wish to call the Consulate (Tel: 1-213-639-0980 | losangelespcg@earthlink.net), or Island Pacific Supermarket (Tel: 1-626-839-6361).

For the information of the public, the Philippine Embassy and Consulates General in the U.S. started to accept and to process applications for Machine Readable Passports (MRP) on June 2, 2008. This is in compliance with the requirements of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) for its member states, including the Philippines, to issue MRPs not later than 1 April 2010.

Since applications received by the Philippine Foreign Service Posts in the U.S. will be sent to the Department of Foreign Affairs in Manila via diplomatic pouch, it will take six weeks for a passport to be released to the applicants, from the time the application is accepted. Personal appearance for all will be required for data verification, finger-printing and signature capture. Applications by mail will no longer be accepted.

In compliance with the new photo requirements for the MRP, applicants are requested to visit the Consulate's website.

While some countries may still honor valid green Philippine passports beyond 1 April 2010 as bona fide travel documents until they expire, most countries will require travelers to hold either MRP or e-Passport for their sojourn by 2010.

Thus, all Filipinos, including those with valid green passports, are therefore encouraged to apply for their machine readable passports as early as possible. ■

Pananalig, Pag-asa, Pagtulong

SIPA 37th anniversary awards benefit luncheon

THE Board of Directors of Search to Involve Filipino Americans (SIPA) cordially invites the community to participate in "Pananalig, Pag-asa, Pagtulong" (Faith, Hope, Charity) SIPA 37th Anniversary Awards Benefit Luncheon to be held on Saturday, April 25, 2009 from 11AM to 3PM at the Wilshire Country Club, 301 North Rossmore Avenue, Los Angeles, CA, 90004.

This annual fundraiser celebrates Los Angeles Asian and Pacific Islander American Heritage Month and SIPA's more than thirty-seven years of programs and services provided for youth and families of multi-ethnic Historic Filipinotown and greater Los Angeles Filipino American community. It will also recognize the outstanding contributions and accomplishments of these esteemed individuals and organizations:

The Honorable Kevin de Leon, California State Assemblymember, 45th District

LINGKOD BAYAN (Public Service)

- Presented by Jean Martinez, FOX-11

Robert Gnaizda, former Policy Director/Consultant, The Greenlining Institute

BAYANIHAN (Community Support)

- Presented by Cher Calvin, KTLA

Gina Alexander, CEO- Designer, Gina Alexander, Inc.

KALAMPUSAN (Corporate Achievement)

- Presented by Dante Basco, Actor

LA84 Foundation, formerly the Amateur Athletic Foundation

TULARANG KABATAAN (Youth Service)

- Presented by Elita Loresca, NBC-4

The Honorable Judge Mel Red Recana, California Superior Court APO (Pioneer)

- Presented by Denise Dador, ABC-7

Angela Baraquo Grey, Miss Hawai'i, Miss America 2001

ULIRAN (Role Model)

- Presented by Maria Quiban,

FOX-11
HSBC North America
GINTONG TULONG (Corporate Support)

- Presented by Bob Decastro, FOX-11

The Mistress of Ceremonies will be Janelle So (KABABAYAN L.A./LA18). Entertainment will feature recording artist Camille Velasco and the popular Basco Bros. with performances by the Filipino America Symphony Orchestra and our very own SIPA Youth!

Corporate Sponsors include Southern California Edison, Verizon, Citibank, Comerica Bank, The Gas Company - a Sempra Energy Utility, Union Bank of California, Western Union, AEG, and others. Media Sponsors include: California Journal for Filipino Americans, ABS-CBN International, Asian Journal Publications, Balita Media, and LA18/KSCI-TV. Sponsorship, Advertising, and other promotional opportunities are still available.

Tickets are available at both the Corporate Level (\$200/ticket) and the Community Level (\$150/ticket). A reception will begin the festivities and the affair will also feature a Silent Auction. All those interested in purchasing tickets for the luncheon or for more information on any of SIPA's programs, events, and/or activities should inquire at (213) 382-1819 or visit the website at <http://www.esipa.org>. Questions may also be emailed to info@esipa.org.

Search to Involve Filipino Americans is a 501(c)(3) community-based, non profit, charitable organization headquartered at the Temple Gateway Youth & Community Center, 3200 West Temple Street, Historic Filipinotown in Los Angeles, California, 90026-4522. Founded in 1972, SIPA provides health and human services as well as community economic development and arts/cultural programs for youth and families in multi-ethnic Historic Filipinotown and the greater Los Angeles Filipino American community. ■

ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS

You can Bring Down Your Loan Amount to Your Home's Current Value

IF you are upside down by \$100,000 or more

IF you purchased in the last 4 years or refinanced in the last 3 years

IF you have a "problematic loan":

- 1 yr/2 yr ARM or Option ARM loan • Interest Only loan
- Non-Amortizing/Negative Amortization loan
- No Doc or Low Doc Loan • Stated Income Loan

You may be a victim of abusive lending by the mortgage industry
You have legal rights to a WRITE DOWN of your mortgage to your home's current value

**SAVE YOUR HOME!
SAVE YOUR MONEY!
SAVE YOUR CREDIT!**

Not "Attorney-assisted".
Not "Attorney-backed".
Licensed ATTORNEYS fight for your rights against predatory lending.

Total Legal Services for Foreclosure Prevention

**In Foreclosure? Not Behind?
Severely Delinquent? Job Loss or Pay Cut? Investment Property? Residential Property? Struggling to Pay Monthly House Payment?
CALL NOW!**

THIS IS NOT A LOAN MODIFICATION

You must be upside down by 100,000 to qualify. And you do not need to be behind in your payments!

LEGAL Home HELP
LEGAL NETWORK
Protecting Your Legal Rights with Compassion and Action

Legal Home Helpline for Filipino Homeowners **888.233.5485**

www.legalhomehelp.com

Reasonable Fees And Payment Plans Available



Binalonan Association of Southern California
invites you to the

2009 Induction Ceremony of Officers Dinner/Dance

*Olympic Collection
11301 Olympic Boulevard
West Los Angeles, CA 90064*

*April 18, 2009
6:00 pm*

*\$50 per person
Semi-formal*

Reservations and payments must be completed by April 4, 2009.

*For more information, please call
Amelia Arichea at (818) 348-5800
Ludy Garzon at (818) 994-0561
Mika Tadina at (818) 635-2554*