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Dacers file civil case vs Estrada, Lacson

FORMER Philippine President Joseph Estrada and Senator Panfilo Lacson are among seven charged in a civil lawsuit filed by the daughters of public relations practitioner Salvador "Bubby" Dacer who was found strangled and burned in 2001 with his driver, Emmanuel Corbito, after being snatched in Manila in November 2000.

Carina Dacer, Sabina Dacer-Reyes, Amparo Dacer-Henson and Emily Dacer-Hungerford filed the lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California on September 16, 2010, and seeks \$120 million in compensatory and punitive damages against Estrada, Lacson and five others for their involvement in the slayings.

Also named in the civil lawsuit are former Philippine Games and Amusement Corp. president and CEO Reynaldo "Butch" Tenorio, former Best World Gaming and Entertainment Corp. president and CEO Dante Tan, former PAOCTF Chief of Operations Division Col. Michael Ray Aquino (presently detained at the Hudson County Correctional Center in New Jersey), former PAOCTF Chief Inspector Vicente Arnado,

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Ang denies illegal gambling involvement

CHARLIE "Atong" Ang is in the lime-light again, after Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago identified him as the country's top jueteng lord, saying that Ang is the top guy in four out of five regions in the country where illegal gambling is rampant.

In a telephone interview with the Asian Journal, Ang, a close friend and adviser of deposed president Joseph Estrada, denied all the accusations involving him to the illegal numbers game.

"Dine-deny ako na kasama ako diyana. Katunayan, hindi ako kasama sa mga sinasa

bi nila Bishop Cruz at ni Sandra Cam kasi alam nila na never akong na-involve sa mga illegal. Consultant ako ng gambling, tinulungan ko ang jai-alai, hindi ang jueteng," he said.

Ang was referring to Archbishop Oscar Cruz, head of the People's Crusade Against Jueteng, who released a list of jueteng operators and beneficiaries. Ang's name was not in the list that included Interior Undersecretary Rico E. Puno and former Philippine National Police Chief Jesus Verzosa who were allegedly receiving up to P8 million a month in jueteng payoffs.

Santiago, who delivered her privilege

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AQUINO AT THE 65TH UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

'World needs global people power'

by MOMAR G. VISAYA
AJPress

UNITED NATIONS—On his debut on the world stage at the 65th UN General Assembly, President Benigno Aquino III called on his colleagues to "harness the energies of dialogue, solidarity and communal responsibility" so that a global people power toward equitable progress may be achieved.

Pres. Aquino stressed that the solution to pressing global problems lies in nations working together, consistent with the United Nations principle of collective action.

"In a world that has become increasingly glo-

balized, the challenges that we face have become globalized as well," Aquino said. "The challenges posed by increasingly interconnected economies all call for a further strengthening of international cooperation.

He also took pride in explaining that "people power" proved, for many times in the country's history, that "united, nothing is impossible."

Aquino delivered his speech before the General Assembly's 15th plenary meeting on Friday, Sept. 24, taking the podium after the presidents of El Salvador and Estonia.

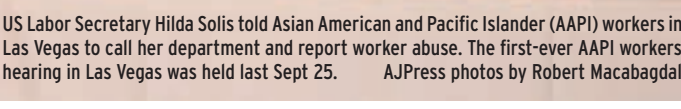
Amb. Libran Cabactulan of the Philippine Mission to the UN said earlier in the week that the Philippines' participation in the UNGA is an op-

portunity for the country to take the lead in international initiatives like nuclear non-proliferation, in the interest of the 2.5 million overseas Filipino workers in the Middle East.

At the sidelines of the UN General Assembly, President Aquino also held bilateral meetings with the leaders of Vietnam, Malaysia and Singapore. He also played a key role in the second ASEAN-US Leaders Meeting as the Philippines currently serves as Country Coordinator for ASEAN-US Dialogue.

The said meeting is the venue for the highest level of dialogue between the leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

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US Labor Secretary Hilda Solis told Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) workers in Las Vegas to call her department and report worker abuse. The first-ever AAPI workers hearing in Las Vegas was held last Sept 25. AJPress photos by Robert Macabagdal

AAPIs encouraged to report worker abuse

by DYPHNA CALICA-LA PUTT
AJPress

ASIAN American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) residents of Las Vegas are encouraged to voice their concerns about the workplace by calling the federal government.

"If you know of instances of malfeasance, stories of employees being shortchanged, or of harassment, criminalization, and wage theft I want to know about it," US Labor Secretary Hilda Solis told a recent forum in Las Vegas.

"My department can help you. What we are doing is to empower workers to understand what their rights are so they will be able to start taking action," she also said.

Solis said she wants to "open the doors of the Department of Labor (DOL) to low-skilled immigrant workers" to make sure that their concerns are met.

"It is particularly important to immigrant community, to those who do not speak English.

My role is to make available the tools and information in your language," she said.

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Asian group backs six candidates in November polls

SINCE their platforms are parallel to the interests of the Asian business community, six candidates have officially received the support of the Las Vegas Asian Chamber of Commerce (ACC) for the November elections.

"The endorsement criteria were based on the candidates' platform that align with the best interests of the Asian American business community," Duncan Lee, chairman of the ACC political action committee (PAC) said.

Included in the list of local candidates are Jason Frierson for NV Assembly District 8, Irene Bustamante Adams for NV Assembly District 42, Susan Brager for Clark County Commissioner for Dis-

trict F. Also in the list backed by the ACC was Clark County Sheriff Douglas Gillespie. The group also supports candidates for Clark County School District Trustee District D, Javier Trujillo and for District F, Carolyn Edwards.

The endorsement was announced during Asian Chamber's September luncheon at the Vdara Hotel in Las Vegas last Sept. 23.

The (candidates) are predominant around the Spring Mountain corridor, and their decisions affect our Asian American community, Lee noted

"We want to make sure our voices are

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Flu myths a challenge to prevention

by DYPHNA CALICA-LA PUTT
AJPress

LAS VEGAS—Myths surrounding the influenza disease continue to be a challenge to its prevention, health care officials' in the city said.

"Flu season in Las Vegas is a major challenge," Veronica Morata-Nichols, community health nurse manager of the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) said.

The most pervasive myth is that the influenza -also known as the flu- is a harmless disease. As such, it is not that important to prevent it by getting vaccinated.

In most ethnic communities,

prevention is perceived as less important than actual treatment, Morata-Nichols told the round-table discussion with ethnic media last Sept. 16.

"A (flu) shot is looked upon as a treatment not as prevention," she added during the discussion organized by the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the New America Media.

She added that most individuals go to the doctor for medication only after they feel the symptoms, thinking the flu is as simple as the common cold.

"The truth is flu causes serious illnesses and at times, it can lead

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Dr. Ben Calderon and Veronica Morata-Nichols AJPress photos by Robert Macabagdal

DREAM Act reintroduced as stand-alone bill

by JOSEPH PIMENTEL
AJPress

LOS ANGELES—Senator Dick Durbin (D-III) reintroduced the DREAM Act as a stand-alone bill days after Republicans voted against the measure as part of a defense authorization bill in the US Senate.

The DREAM Act, an acronym for Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act, would provide a path to citizenship for undocumented youth who came to the US as children (under the age of 16). Under the act, undocumented students can apply for a conditional legal status for a six-year period

provided they graduate from a two-year college, complete two years of a four-year university, or serve in the military for two years.

At the end of the six-year period, they can become permanent legal residents if they have a clean criminal record. The Migration Policy Institute estimates the act would benefit nearly 825,000 students.

Senator Harry Reid (D-NBV) tried attaching the DREAM Act to the Defense Department's annual spending authorization bill so he could hold a floor vote in the precious few legislative days

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