



Community News And Events

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COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS

Community News

Politics of Immigration

The increased number of immigrants to the United States has significantly affected the redistribution of seats in the House of Representatives, according to the Center for Immigration Studies. The think tank, which favors lower immigration, found that a few states lost House seats after the 1990 Census, and seven more may lose seats after the 2000 Census.

Some 800,000 to 900,000 legal immigrants arrive in the country every year, the study said, while, according to the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), 420,000 undocumented aliens enter the United States annually. Three-fourths settle in California, New York, Texas, Florida, New Jersey and Illinois. While New York and Florida gained one seat each from the influx of immigrants after 1990, Louisiana, Michigan, Montana and Ohio lost seats, and Georgia and Kentucky failed to get seats they would have received if immigration weren't factor.

Meanwhile, state legislation signed by Gov. Pete Wilson provides relief for elderly and disabled immigrants in California who were cut off from their Social Security Income (SSI) after last September 30 due to the 1996 federal welfare law. The state SSI replacement program of Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants now gives benefits to certain aged, blind and disabled immigrants. Under the 1996 federal welfare law, Permanently Residing Under Color of Law (PRUCOL) immigrants were no longer eligible for SSI after Sept. 30, 1998, unless they could show proof of permanent residency or U.S. citizenship. Most PROCUL SSI recipients are elderly, in very poor physical or mental health. For verification of their transition from federal SSI to the new state program, PROCUL SSI recipients should contact their county or the Northern California Coalition for Immigrant Rights Assistance Line at (415) 543-6767.

Promo Extended

Western Union has extended its Centennial Pricing and Delivery promotion until Dec 31, 1998. The offer allows U.S.-based customers to send money at a discounted rate with free home cash delivery service within 48 hours or less to most cities in Luzon, the Visayas and Mindanao. The following rates are as follows for cash up to \$900: \$36 for \$600-\$900; \$24 for \$300-\$600; \$12 for up to \$300.

EVENTS

Davao Association, U.S.A

The Davao Association, U.S.A. will hold its annual Christmas party on December 6 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the After Five Ballroom Studio on 121 N. San Fernando Road in Burbank, California. Participants are encouraged to bring canned goods for its

"Operation Canned Goods Drive." Activities include games, raffles, Christmas carols, dancing and giving gifts. There's a \$5 donation. Anyone 17 years old and younger are free. Call Nonoy Morada at (818) 567-4007, Zeny Angeles at (818) 500-7810, Panny Gagajena at (310) 325-8746 or Jimmy Villanueva at (818) 982-0262.

PAWAL Party

The Philippine American Women's Association of Louisiana (PAWAL) will hold a Christmas fund-raiser and crafts sale on December 6 at St Anthony's Parish on 900 Franklin Ave. in Gretna, Louisiana. Mass starts at 11 a.m. with a potluck luncheon to follow. Santa Claus will also make an appearance. PAWAL is also having a canned food drive and taking up collections for the parish and the Mt. Carmel Missions in the Philippines. Admission is free. Call Nina Camacho-Castillo at (504) 361-0458.

ARTS

Tongues Afire

The Asia Society presents "Tongues Afire: A Celebration of Asian and African Writing" on December 11 at 725 Park Avenue in New York City at 6:30 p.m. Modern-day writers of Asian and African descents, including FilAm Regie Cabico, will explore their respective literature and provide readings with musical accompaniment. Co-sponsored by phati'tude Literary Magazine and Asian American Writers' Workshop, the event coincides with the publication of an anthology. Admission is \$7 for members and \$10 for nonmembers. Call the Asia Society at (212) 288-6400 or browse its web site at <http://www.asiasociety.org>.

Pasko sa Nayon

The Asian Art Museum in San Francisco presents "Pasko sa Nayon -- Filipino Christmas Festival" on Saturday, December 5 from noon to 3 p.m. The celebration includes music performances, storytelling and hands-on art activities, including a parol-making contest. All programs are free with museum admission. Call (415) 379-8879.

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