

# International NEWS MEDIA

FEBRUARY 2019

## DOE challenges America's innovators to propose improvements to the Bulk Power System to improve resilience

**S**EATTLE, WASHINGTON — Assistant Secretary for the Office of Electricity (OE), Bruce J. Walker, announced the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) "Electricity Industry Technology and Practices Innovation Challenge." This contest is designed to tap into American ingenuity for ideas on how to modify or replace existing processes and procedures, the use of technology, and traditional energy industry practices to improve grid operations, with the goal of making the nation's Bulk Power System stronger and more resilient.

Under this Challenge, DOE's Office of Electricity will seek ideas from industry, academia, and other innovators. Potential innovations may include technologies or solutions that can eliminate or mitigate existing or emerging vulnerabilities, eliminate and thwart existing and emerging threats, and mitigate or eliminate energy sector interdependencies.

Proposed technologies and solutions should enhance the planning, construction, and/or operations of the Bulk Power System. Solutions that incorporate fuel delivery infrastructure for generation (including hydropower) will also be considered, as long as those solutions have a direct and substantial effect on the reliability and resilience of the Bulk Power System.

This forthcoming Challenge builds on DOE's efforts with the private sector and academia to continue advancing the resilience and reliability of the nation's critical energy infrastructure. More details on the Challenge will be available in the near future. - Source: Dept. of Energy

## US, PHL cut the ribbon on EDCA project

**P**AMPANGA, Philippines — U.S. Ambassador Sung Y. Kim and Secretary of National Defense Delfin N. Lorenzana cut the ribbon on the first major project under the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) at Cesar Basa Air Base, Pampanga, on January 29.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony marked the completion of construction on a Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief warehouse,

which will be used to preposition equipment and supplies critical to the U.S. and Philippines' ability to respond quickly and effectively to humanitarian crises in the region.

EDCA builds capacity for U.S. forces and the Armed Forces of the Philippines by enabling greater interoperability, capability development, and modernization.

The United States is working closely with the Philippine government on future EDCA projects at four other locations: Fort Magsaysay Military Reservation, Lumbia Air Base, Antonio Bautista Air Base, and Mactan Benito Ebuen Air Base.

*Secretary of National Defense Delfin N. Lorenzana and U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines Sung Y. Kim cut the ribbon on the first major EDCA project, a Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) warehouse, at Cesar Basa Air Base, Pampanga, on 29 Jan. 2019. (Photo by US Embassy in the Philippines)*

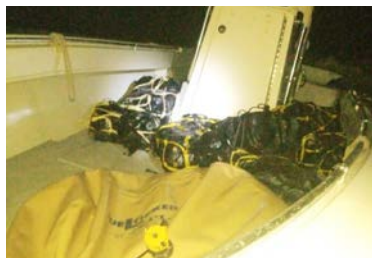


## CBP, FURA seize cocaine worth \$10 million inside abandoned vessel in northern Puerto Rico

**S**AN JUAN, Puerto Rico — U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Border Patrol and Puerto Rico Police Department (PRPD) Joint Forces for Rapid Action (FURA) agents seized 884 pounds (401 kilos) of cocaine found inside an abandoned vessel on the coast of the town of Loiza. The estimated value of the seized narcotics is \$10 million.

U.S. Coast Guard and CBP Air and Marine assets located a suspected smuggling vessel traveling south towards the northern coast of Puerto Rico. U.S. Border Patrol Agents responded to the area of Loiza where the vessel had made landfall. The abandoned vessel contained foreign food products indicating that the vessel had arrived from a foreign country.

After an extensive search, agents



discovered 12 bundles containing 350 bricks, which field-tested positive to the properties of cocaine.

Border Patrol agents seized the vessel, engine and contraband, handing it over to the custody of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for investigation.

## Two Ukrainian nationals indicted in computer hacking and securities fraud scheme

**T**wo Ukrainian men have been charged for their roles in a large-scale, international conspiracy to hack into the Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) computer systems and profit by trading on critical information they stole. In a 16-count indictment unsealed recently in the District of New Jersey, Artem Radchenko, 27, and Oleksandr Ileremenko, 26, both of Kiev, Ukraine, are charged with securities fraud conspiracy, wire fraud conspiracy, computer fraud conspiracy, wire fraud, and computer fraud. The SEC also filed a civil complaint charging Ileremenko along with several other individuals and entities.

The indictment alleges that Radchenko and Ileremenko hacked into the SEC's Electronic Data Gathering, Analysis and Retrieval (EDGAR) system and stole thousands of files.



ADB President meets with PHL Foreign Affairs Secretary to discuss stronger partnership on institutional matters. Turn to BEYOND NEWS on Page 2.

## President Duterte orders AFP to destroy Abu Sayyaf Group

**J**OLO, SULU — President Rodrigo Roa Duterte on January 28, ordered the Armed Forces of the Philippines to crush the Abu Sayyaf Group after visiting the site of fatal bombings in Jolo.

"I ordered you to destroy the organization. I'm ordering you now: *pulpugin ninyo ang Abu Sayyaf* by whatever means," the Commander-in-Chief strongly mandated the government's forces after the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS),

through their local counterpart Abu Sayyaf, claimed responsibility for the bombings.

*"Ang gawin ninyo, sabihin ninyo pagkabobombahin mo 'yang lahat. . . paalisin mo iyong mga tao. Paalisin mo 'yung mga tao, ilagay mo dito kung saan ako. . . ako ang maggastos ng pagkain. . . lahat. Tapos plantsahin ninyo ng bala,"* he added.

"Our duty is to protect the Filipino people. And second is that we have to preserve the nation.



President Rodrigo Roa Duterte ordered the Armed Forces of the Philippines to crush the Abu Sayyaf Group after the deadly bombings in Jolo.

## UN condemns terrorist attack on church in Southern Philippines

**I**n a statement issued by a UN spokesperson, the Secretary-General expressed his sincere condolences to the families of the victims and wished a speedy recovery to the wounded.

According to media reports, twin bombings ripped through the Jolo Cathedral in the island province of Sulu, which is in the Philippines southern Bangsamoro region.

The attack occurred during Sunday morning services and reportedly killed nearly 20 people and left more than 80 wounded.

"The Secretary-General calls for the perpetrators of these crimes to be swiftly brought to justice," the statement said, and added that Mr. Guterres reiterated the support of the United Nations to the Philippines Government and people in their efforts to fight terrorism and violent extremism, and to carry forward the peace process in Bangsamoro region.

In late July 2018 President Rodrigo Duterte signed new legislation — formally the Organic Law for Bangsamoro in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao — which granted extra autonomy to Muslim communities living in the Southern Philippines, raising hopes that years of separatist violence involving central Government troops and militants could be brought to an end.

The attack comes days after voters approved the creation of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in majority-Muslim areas of southern Philippines. But reports suggest that voters in Sulu province, where Jolo is located, rejected it. - Source: United Nations

## Pacquiao will always be the 'People's Champion'

**I**t was at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas where Manny Pacquiao recently won in a unanimous decision victory to retain his secondary WBA welterweight title over Adrian Broner. What is next for Pacquiao? In answer, this Hall of Famer challenged Mayweather to "come back to the ring and we will fight". It seems that this is really what Pacquiao wants, but so far, there is no response from Mayweather, although he is willing to fight anybody in the top list: WBA champion, Keith Thurman, IBF Champion, Errol Spence, Jr., WBC Champion, Mikey Garcia, 2 time Welterweight world champion, Shawn Porter or even multiple world champion, Danny Garcia. One thing is certain, Pacquiao will continue to fight as long as there is a fighter willing to face this 40 year old champion who was raised in Kibawe located in the Bukidnon province of Mindanao, Philippines.

Emmanuel Dapidran Pacquiao, now a Senator in the Philippines has nothing else to prove. He fights "because it is his passion" and he wants to "help the Philippines and the Filipino people", gaining the respect and admiration of the entire world. - Awee Abayari



Photo by: Wendell Alinea/MP Promotions

*"Pag nawala iyang Jolo, maski isang island diyan, well, we have failed in our mission to preserve the territory of the Republic of the Philippines,"* he continued.

The President expressed outrage over the terrorist attacks and said that despite the presence of rebellious groups such as the Moro National Liberation Front of Nur Misuari in Jolo, the Christians and Joloanos "continue to live here in peace together."

*"Meron tayong mga rebelde kagaya nila Nur Misuari. . . Murad. . . pero ang rebolusyon ho nila is territorial,"* he said. Unlike the Abu Sayyaf, the group has "no ideology" and declared loyalty to the "evil movements" of ISIS.

Before his speech, President Duterte visited the bombed Catholic cathedral and inspected the area. There, he witnessed the massive destruction caused by the bombing attacks. He also met with the victims' next of kin at Camp Teodulfo Bautista Multipurpose Hall, where he provided the victims' families financial assistance and vowed to give justice to their loved ones.

The President also visited the wounded military personnel at the Camp Teodulfo Bautista Station Hospital. He provided the soldiers medical and financial assistance and awarded them the Order of Lapu-Lapu with Rank of Kampilan.

## COUPLE CONVICTED OF FORCING YOUNG, WEST AFRICAN GIRL TO LABOR IN THEIR HOME IN TEXAS FOR 16 YEARS

**D**efendants Mohamed Toure and Denise Cros-Toure, of Southlake, Texas, were convicted late yesterday by a federal jury in Ft. Worth, Texas, of forced labor and other federal felonies for compelling the domestic labor of a young, undocumented West African girl for 16 years.

"The defendants preyed on a young and extremely vulnerable girl. Their despicable actions included cruelly abusing her, forcing her to work in their home, hidden in plain sight, for years without pay, and robbing her of her childhood," said Assistant Attorney General Eric Dreiband. "Human trafficking is a disgraceful and unacceptable crime, and this verdict should send the very clear message that the Justice Department will investigate and vigorously prosecute these cases to hold human traffickers accountable and bring justice to their victims."

"Our district is passionate about combating forced labor. I'm gratified that we were able to obtain a measure of justice for this young woman, who suffered for years at the hands of this couple — people who assumed they could deprive a little girl of her rightful freedoms with impunity," said U.S. Attorney Nealy Cox.

"I'm especially grateful to the witnesses who helped rescue this woman and brought the defendants' crimes into the light of day. If we want to wipe out human trafficking, we need the whole community to support the effort and be alert."

"This verdict sends a strong message: Diplomatic Security is committed to making sure that those who exploit and traffic individuals, especially children, will face consequences for their criminal actions," said Jeffrey McGallicher, Special Agent in Charge of the DSS Houston Field Office.

Following a four-day trial, the jury convicted the defendants of forced labor, conspiracy to commit alien harboring, and alien harboring.

what's inside



ADB President meets with PHL Foreign Affairs Secretary to discuss stronger partnership on institutional matters. Turn to BEYOND NEWS on Page 2.



Washington forum spotlights historical perspective and significance of Balangiga Bells return. Read full story in WORLD SPEAKS, Page 4.



Tax identity theft happens when someone uses your Social Security number (SSN) to get a tax refund or a job. Learn how to fight identity theft. Turn to Page 6.



INM's Awee Abayari interviews Oscar and Evelyn Bunoan of C.H.E.W. Foundation. A 'Match Made in Heaven', read their story on Page 7.

## ADB President, Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary discuss partnership

**M**ANILA, PHILIPPINES — Asian Development Bank (ADB) President Mr. Takehiko Nakao and the Philippines' Foreign Affairs Secretary Mr. Teodoro L. Locsin Jr. met recently to discuss stronger partnership on institutional matters.

Mr. Nakao expressed his deep appreciation to Mr. Locsin for the long-standing cooperation of the Department of Foreign Affairs in the implementation of the Headquarters Agreement between ADB and the Philippines signed in 1966.

"ADB is committed to further strengthening our relations with the Department of Foreign Affairs," Mr. Nakao said.

The Philippines is a founding member of ADB and has hosted ADB's headquarters since its establishment in 1966. The country has hosted 16 Annual Meetings of ADB's Board of Governors, including the successful 51st Annual Meeting in May 2018, with more than 4,000 participants.

ADB is a strong partner in the development of the Philippines and is one of the country's largest sources of sovereign and nonsovereign lending, grant, and technical assistance, extending nearly \$19 billion in assistance in areas including public sector management; energy; agriculture, natural resources, and rural development; and finance between 1969 and 2018.

In 2018, ADB lent \$1.38 billion to the Philippines for two policy-based loans on public-private partnerships in infrastructure and financial inclusion, Mindanao growth corridors roads project, and the emergency loans and grants to support recovery for Marawi. In 2019, ADB expects to roll out its biggest program of support exceeding \$2.5 billion with flagship projects including the Malolos-Clark railway project, EDSA Greenways project, Angat water transmission improvement project, the secondary education support project,



**ADB President Mr. Takehiko Nakao (right) with the Philippines' Foreign Affairs Secretary Mr. Teodoro L. Locsin Jr. (left). (Photo courtesy of DFA)**

policy-based loans on local governance, youth employment and capital markets, and a capacity building project to foster competition.

The country operations business plan includes \$7.14 billion in lending for the three-year period of 2019 to 2021. With the Philippine economy recording economic growth of 6.2% for 2018, it continues its longest economic expansion in 50 years. ADB expects the economy to continue this expansion in the medium term with public and private investment and household consumption driving this growth. ADB has projected the Philippine economy to grow by 6.7% this year.

## To aim higher, Afghanistan's central bank bet on upskilling employees

**K**ABUL CITY — Everyday, Madina Rasouli processes employee salaries and handles pension-related documents at the central bank. The work is neither complex nor difficult for Rasouli after four years working at the Human Resources department at Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB).

Rasouli, however, has not been able to move on in her career or apply for better positions because of her lack of qualification. She has a two-year diploma in management and had been unable to go further in university because she could not afford it. "I was always looking for an opportunity to get my BBA [Bachelor of Business Administration] one day," says the 27-year-old.

The opportunity came when she was selected by DAB to pursue a BBA course at Kardan Private University under the Financial Sector Rapid

Response Project (FSRRP). "I am sure studying at university will equip me with better skills and enable me to apply for better positions at DAB," says Rasouli happily.

Rasouli is one of some 700 DAB employees who have been given the opportunity to study for a bachelor's or master's degree at university or pursue professional and technical courses under the DAB Talent Development Program started by FSRRP in February 2018. These employees will pursue professional courses related to their work, such as Certified Internal Audit, Certified Anti Money Laundering Specialist, Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, and Certified Expert in Financial Inclusion Policy.

FSRRP is implemented by DAB, with funding support from the International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank Group's fund for the poorest countries. It aims to help DAB develop a set of action plans to improve banking supervision and implement a modern payment system for efficient and transparent payment transactions.

"One of the ways to tackle corruption and work at international standards is [by] investing in capacity building to equip all employees with much needed up-to-date skills." - World Bank

**"One of the ways to tackle corruption and work at international standards is [by] investing in capacity building to equip all employees with much needed up-to-date skills."**



**Through enhancing capacity of its staff, Da Afghanistan Bank is now able to effectively implement monetary policies and regulations, and in ensuring transparency and stability in Afghanistan's financial system. (Photo Credit: Rumi Consultancy/ World Bank)**

## ADB, Nauru, Australia partner to build efficient, climate-resilient port

**A**IWO, NAURU — The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the governments of Australia and Nauru participated in a groundbreaking ceremony last month to officially mark the first step toward the construction of the country's first international port.

Nauru President Mr. Baron Divavesi Waqa led the groundbreaking ceremony and gave a keynote speech. Australia's Assistant Minister for International Development and the Pacific Ms. Anne Ruston and ADB's Development Coordinator for Nauru Ms. Camilla Solomon participated in the event.

"We waited for more than a century to change our dream of having an international port into reality," said Mr. Waqa. "We are delighted to partner with ADB, the Green Climate Fund (GCF), and the Government of Australia in this initiative, and this event is symbolic of our long-term development partnership."

Financed by ADB, GCF, and the governments of Australia and Nauru, the Nauru Sustainable and Climate Resilient Connectivity Project will upgrade the largely unworkable boat harbor into an international port.

The new, climate-proofed Nauru Port will

allow large vessels to berth with the construction of a wharf featuring a berth pocket and breakwater. Port security will be established to ensure compliance with international best practices, while a container storage area will be built.

"The redevelopment of the port will be transformative for Nauru," said Ms. Ruston. "It will create jobs and spur economic growth through increased trade and investment, deepening Nauru's connectivity to the region and more widely. Australia is proud to be involved in this important project and looks forward to working with the Government of Nauru." - ADB

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## PHL Embassy holds consular outreach in Virginia Beach, joins anti-trafficking forum

**W**ASHINGTON, D.C. — The consular team of the Philippine Embassy in Washington, D.C. conducted its first consular mission for 2019 in Virginia Beach, VA on 18-20 January 2019.

Virginia Beach is a city 4 hours drive from Washington D.C. with a population of more than 26,600 of Filipino origin, many of whom are professionals as well as serving or retired US Navy personnel.

On the night of January 18, the consular team attended an anti-human trafficking forum at the Sandler Center, which was followed by a musical and eco-fashion show featuring the creations of Filipino designer Joseph Aloysius Montelibano. A portion of the show's proceeds will benefit the local anti-trafficking NGOs Virginia Beach Justice Initiative (VBJI) and Butterfly House.

Consul General Renato Villa and Atty. Darlene Pajarito, a Prosecutor at the Philippine Department of Justice (DOJ), talked about civil society and the government's key roles to combat trafficking and providing aid and succor to victims.

Atty. Pajarito, a recipient of the Trafficking in Person Hero Award from the US State Department in 2011, is currently a Hubert H. Humphrey fellow at the American University in Washington, D.C.

The consular team rendered a total of 247 consular services during the 2-day consular outreach mission, including 183 new / renewal passport applications, 2 lost passport applications, 11 dual citizenship applications, 15 civil registration and 36 notarials and legalization. Atty. Pajarito also provided individual legal advice and consultation to the consular applicants.

On the night of January 19, Consul General Villa also spoke at the 43rd Induction Ball of the United Ilocano Association of Tidewater (UIAT) and inducted the association's elected officers for 2019-2020.



**Prosecutor Darlene Pajarito of the Philippine Department of Justice giving a comprehensive presentation on the Philippine efforts to combat trafficking in person and of the need to engage civil society and the community in such efforts.**



**Consul General Renato Villa leads the swearing-in ceremony of the new set of officers of the United Ilocano Association of Tidewater, Inc. (UIAT) on 19 January 2019 after the association's 43rd Inaugural Dinner and Induction-Ball at the Philippine Cultural Center in Virginia Beach, Virginia.**

## Michigan residents arrested for conspiracy to provide material support to ISIS

**T**hree residents of Lansing, Michigan, were arrested without incident Monday afternoon for conspiring to provide material support to a designated foreign terrorist organization, namely the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS). The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Michigan charged all three in a criminal complaint filed today in U.S. District Court in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The conspiracy charge is punishable by up to 20 years in federal prison.

Members of the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) arrested Muse Abdikadir Muse (Muse Muse) at the Gerald R. Ford Airport in Grand Rapids, Michigan, after checking in for a flight to the first of a series of destinations on his way to Mogadishu, Somalia. Shortly thereafter, law enforcement arrested alleged coconspirators Mohamud Abdikadir Muse (Mohamud Muse), and Mohamed Salat Haji (Haji). All three defendants are naturalized U.S. citizens who were born in Kenya. According to the complaint affidavit, Muse Muse purchased airline tickets earlier this month to travel from Grand Rapids to Mogadishu, departing on Monday, January 21, 2019. Among other support, the complaint alleged Haji and Mohamud Muse aided in the purchase of the ticket and drove Muse Muse to the Grand Rapids airport, each knowing the true purpose of the travel was for Muse Muse to join and fight for ISIS.



### Prof. R. William Liddle receives Culture Award Certificate from the Government of the Republic of Indonesia

WASHINGTON, DC, United States of America: The Indonesian Ambassador to the United States, H.E. Budi Bowoleksono on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia granted the Cultural Award to Prof. Dr. R. William Liddle, Emeritus Professor of Political Sciences from Ohio State University and an expert on Indonesia.

The event took place at the Indonesian Embassy in Washington, D.C. and was attended by Prof. Liddle's family, his colleagues and fellow academics, the Indonesian Embassy's officials in Washington, D.C. and former US Ambassador in Jakarta, Robert O. Blake.

Two former Indonesian students under Prof. Liddle's mentorship i.e. Prof. Dr. Mohtar Mas'ood from Gadjah Mada University and Prof. Dr. Bahtiar Effendy from UIN Jakarta, were also present, along with the representatives of the Indonesian Students Association in the United States (Permas) Washington DC Chapter.

"Professor Liddle very well deserves the Award. He has spent his lifetime for outstanding works on Indonesia. Everyone, in particular those in the academic world in Indonesia knows who Professor Liddle is. His research and books are well and broadly recognized as among the best references in political sciences," said Ambassador Budi Bowoleksono in his speech appreciating Prof. Liddle's mentorship for Indonesian students and his love for Indonesian cultural products, such as rendang (caramelized beef curry) and batik.

"Cultural issues provided much of most important challenges to create and maintain modern society," Prof. Liddle explained his reason for studying culture in his political studies which concentrated on development and democratization.

Born in Pennsylvania 80 years ago, Prof. Liddle has done his research on Indonesia since the 1960s. Commenting on the Cultural Award, Prof. Liddle expressed that he was both surprised and proud because he had never expected it before.

Prof. Liddle also hailed the upcoming anniversary of the 70 years of Indonesia-United States bilateral relations by underscoring the importance of people-to-people contact to be continuously strengthened more seriously. This can be done not only by efforts to increase the number of tourists or friendship missions, but also by strengthening the Indonesian-US students' interests on the education in both countries.

The Cultural Award has been granted annually by the Indonesian Ministry of Education and Culture since the 1970s. Along with the increasing attention of the Government of Indonesia, Cultural Awards are granted to individuals/institutions including foreign individuals who extraordinarily contribute in the cultural, social, political, economic, law, scientific fields of Indonesia, and other fields that are of great benefit to Indonesia. - Embassy Of The Republic Of Indonesia

### TULIPS & HORTICULTURE FINDING THEIR WAY TO BEIJING

Tulips are often one of the first things that come to mind when people think of the Netherlands. Last Saturday therefore marked an extra special day in our country: National Tulip Day. On this day, the Netherlands officially celebrates the yearly opening of its Tulip Season in Amsterdam. The Dam Square in Amsterdam was transformed into a special tulip picking garden where visitors could pick flowers for free. This year, some of the 2 billion tulips that the Netherlands exports every year will have a special place in Beijing. After all, this year marks the Beijing World Horticultural Expo, opening in April and lasting for 6 months.

- Embassy of the Netherlands



## Dutch innovative startups present products at Las Vegas annual technology event

Last month, Special Envoy StartupDelta HRH Constantijn van Oranje and State Secretary for Economic Affairs and Climate Mona Keijzer opened Holland Tech Square at CES 2019 in Las Vegas.

In the tech square, 50 innovative Dutch startups will present their products to customers, investors, and companies. The Dutch pavilion is one of the largest single-country pavilions at CES, the largest annual technology event in the world where the latest technologies and next-generation innovations are shown to the market.

More than 180,000 visitors from more than 155 countries visit CES each January. The Netherlands presents itself around the theme "Dutch Spirit."

In addition to Constantijn van Oranje and Secretary Keijzer, Gerbert Kunst, Consul General in San Francisco, will also be present during the event.

**The Netherlands as a hub for innovation**



There is a lot of interest in the Dutch pavilion. Consumer Technology Association (CTA) President & CEO Gary Shapiro also attended the opening of Holland Tech Square. "The Netherlands, an Innovation Champion in CTA's 2019 International Innovation Scorecard, is one of the most innovative countries in the world," said Shapiro.

"From its smart city efforts to its economic policies, the Netherlands has created an environment that allows technology and innovation to thrive. At the global stage for innovation, CES gives Dutch startups and entrepreneurs a unique opportunity to grow and network internationally." - Embassy of the Netherlands

## CELEBRATING LUNAR NEW YEAR

GUNG HAY FAT CHOY  
Cantonese for "Wishing you great happiness and prosperity."

Mandarin: GONG XI FA CAI  
Lunar New Year is celebrated in many countries, it typically lasts for more than 2 weeks and lands on a different day every year.

Each Chinese celebration of the Lunar New Year is related with a Chinese zodiac animal. 2019 is the year of the pig which is associated with kindness and responsibility. During the Lunar year, families eat traditional home cooked food and exchange red envelopes filled with gift money. The lion dance is always an important part of the tradition in the Chinese New Year celebration.



Dr. Cindy Shao  
President, Founder  
Asian American  
Chamber of Commerce



Richard Noserale, President of NHI, and Emily Noserale, President of Philcoman



## EU-US Trade Talks: European Commission presents draft negotiating mandates

The European Commission recently adopted proposals for negotiating directives for trade talks with the United States: one on conformity assessment to make it easier for companies to prove their products meet technical requirements on both sides of the Atlantic, and one on the elimination of tariffs for industrial goods.

The Member States must now give their green light to the proposals before negotiations can begin. Commissioner for Trade Cecilia Malmström said: "Today's publication of our draft negotiating directives is part of the implementation of the July Joint Statement of Presidents Juncker and Trump. Ambassador Lighthizer and I have already met several times in the Executive Working Group and I have made it very clear that the EU is committed to upholding its side of the agreement reached by the two Presidents. These two proposed negotiating directives will enable the Commission to work on removing tariffs and non-tariff barriers to transatlantic trade in industrial goods, key goals of the July Joint Statement."

As part of its commitment to transparency, the European Commission has published the drafts mandates at the same time as submitting them to the EU Member States.

The negotiating directives submitted by the Commission to the Council implement the



25 July Joint Statement and cover two potential agreements with the US.

1. A trade agreement strictly focused on the removal of tariffs on industrial goods, excluding agricultural products;
2. A second agreement, on conformity

assessment, that would help address the objective of removing non-tariff barriers, by making it easier for companies to prove their products meet technical requirements on both sides of the Atlantic.

## Toyota becomes presenting partner of Tokyo 2020 Olympic Torch

Olympic partner Toyota will be a presenting partner of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Torch relay, which will start its journey around Japan on 26 March 2020, bringing its message of hope across the country's 47 prefectures, starting with Fukushima.

Through the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Torch Relay partnership, and thanks to activities such as a campaign to recruit torchbearers, the Torch Relay itself and related events, Toyota aims to build excitement for the Games and empower people across Japan, including disaster-affected areas.

By supporting emergency and long-term economic recovery in various regions of Japan, people at Toyota have been in the unique position to bear witness, first hand, to the challenges and courage of those affected by disasters or hardship. The Torch Relay is thus an opportunity for the company to express gratitude towards its stakeholders, deliver hope and further connect with people, both in Japan and around the world.

## G20 Summit & ministerial meetings to be held for the first time in Japan

On the 28th and 29th of June 2019, the leaders of the G20 will gather in Osaka as Japan hosts its first ever G20 Summit. Concurrent with the Summit meeting, the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting, the Foreign Ministers' Meeting, and other ministerial meetings will also be held at eight different locations throughout Japan.

During its presidency of the G20 Summit, the Japanese government is determined to carry out strong leadership in advancing discussions toward resolving the myriad issues now facing the international community. At the same time, the G20 Summit is a perfect opportunity for people from all over the world to see and experience not only a newly revitalized and transforming Japan—which is thanks to booming corporate profits and a wave of inbound investment as a result of bold regulatory reforms and other stimulus measures—but also the wide-ranging appeal of the various regions that will host these consequential discussions. -- Japan Embassy

## Washington forum spotlights historical perspective and significance of Balangiga Bells return

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Philippine Embassy and the US-Philippines Society co-hosted a forum on the “Return of the Balangiga Bells: A Historical Perspective and Significance” at the Philippine Chancery Annex on 22 January 2019.

The forum brought together a set of renowned speakers who significantly contributed to the effort of ensuring the successful return of the bells to the Philippines in December 2018. They are Philippine Ambassador to the United States Jose Manuel G. Romualdez; Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for South and Southeast Asia, Dr. Joseph H. Felter; Philippine Honorary Consul to Florida, Dr. Henry B. Howard; and Commanding Officer of Naval Supply Systems Command (1988-1991), Rear Admiral Daniel McKinnon, Jr. SC, USN (Ret.).

Admiral McKinnon provided the historical background of the bells, while Consul Howard and Deputy Assistant Secretary Felter recounted the dedicated efforts exerted by Filipinos and Americans alike who worked tirelessly for the bells’ homecoming. Representative Donald Bacon (R-NE 2nd District) also underscored the significance of the bell’s return to PH-US friendship and alliance in his brief remarks.

Ambassador Romualdez again expressed the Philippine government’s gratitude to the United States for “doing what is right”, and further underscored the strong people-to-people ties between the two countries.

“We never forget friends. Once you are a friend of ours, you are a friend forever. The latest survey indicates that 85 percent of Filipinos trust the United States as an ally. We trust that this country will do what is right”, the Ambassador remarked. “The return of these bells will never be forgotten by the people of the Philippines.”

“The forum provided an unusually comprehensive and insightful happy-ending account of a successful effort by a committed team of players both inside and outside of government working for years against the odds with many dramatic near-misses along the way. Presentations underscored the significance of the Bells return in addressing a historical grievance, promoting reconciliation, strengthening people-to-people ties and fostering strategic cooperation,” said US-Philippines Society Executive Director Hank Hendrickson who also served as moderator.



**Panelists of the Forum on the Return of the Balangiga Bells. (L-R) Philippine Honorary Consul to Florida, Dr. Henry B. Howard; Philippine Ambassador to the United States Jose Manuel G. Romualdez; Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for South and Southeast Asia, Dr. Joseph H. Felter; and Commanding Officer of Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) (1988-1991), Rear Admiral Daniel McKinnon, Jr. SC, USN (Ret.)**



**(L-R) US-Philippines Society Executive Director Hank Hendrickson; Philippine Honorary Consul to Florida, Dr. Henry B. Howard; Philippine Ambassador to the United States Jose Manuel G. Romualdez; Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for South and Southeast Asia, Dr. Joseph H. Felter; and Commanding Officer of Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) (1988-1991), Rear Admiral Daniel McKinnon, Jr. SC, USN (Ret.)**

## Poland, US holds “Ministerial to Promote a Future of Peace and Security in the Middle East”

The “Ministerial to Promote a Future of Peace and Security in the Middle East,” held jointly by Poland and the United States, will take place in Warsaw, Poland on February 13-14. We have received very positive responses from our partners and allies around the world, with dozens of countries expressing their willingness and intention to participate in this constructive dialogue.

This Ministerial will be an opportunity for countries to share their perspectives both from within and outside the region. This includes a conversation on current regional crises as well as international efforts to address them. During the Ministerial, participants will also discuss the following topics:

- Regional crises and their effects on civilians in the Middle East;
- Missile development and proliferation;
- Cyber security and emerging threats to the energy sector; and
- Countering extremism and illicit finance.

Countries will come together to prioritize these regional challenges, share information, and discuss how we can cooperate more effectively to address them. There will be a press briefing held at the conclusion of the ministerial to summarize the event’s discussions as well as present a joint statement by the Ministerial co-chairs – Poland and the United States. - Embassy of the Republic of Poland

## First ever UNWTO/IPSOS Survey

### Citizens recognize the positive impact of tourism

MADRID, Spain, — According to the first ever global survey conducted by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and IPSOS, 47% of respondents think ‘they live in cities with a high number of tourists’. Over 50% considers tourism has a positive impact in generating wealth and promoting cultural exchanges, and 49% feel there should be measures to improve tourism management.

The online survey was conducted across 15 countries and targeted 12,000 people to better understand residents’ perception towards city tourism, its impacts and management strategies.

“Today, adequately managing tourism to the benefit of visitors and residents alike, ensuring

that local communities are listened to and benefit from tourism is more important than ever, said UNWTO Secretary-General Zurab Pololikashvili.

Nearly half of the respondents (47%) think ‘they live in a city with a high number of visitors. Yet, results vary significantly across countries, ranging from 68% in Australia to only 33% in France.

The generation of wealth and income, the creation of intercultural exchanges and of new offers of leisure activities stand out as the biggest impacts on cities.

The perception of tourism’s positive impacts is particularly strong in Argentina, Australia, the Republic of Korea, Spain, and Sweden.

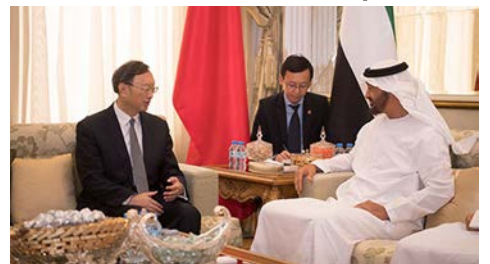
## News Briefs

### Chinese representative meets with Abu Dhabi crown prince

On January 14, 2019 local time, Special Representative of President Xi Jinping, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and Director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the CPC Central Committee Yang Jiechi met with Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in Abu Dhabi.

Yang Jiechi conveyed to Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan the warm greetings from President Xi Jinping to President Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Crown Prince himself. Yang Jiechi expressed that President Xi Jinping paid a state visit to the UAE last year, which was of historic significance.

The main purpose of my visit this time is to implement the important consensus reached by President Xi Jinping and Crown Prince. The Chinese side is willing to make joint efforts with the UAE side to maintain the momentum of close high-level exchanges between the two countries and further



tighten the bond of China-UAE relations. Both sides enjoy smooth progress in cooperation on important projects under the framework of the joint construction of the Belt and Road Initiative. The Chinese side will work closely with the UAE side, well arrange the work of overall coordination, and make sure that relevant cooperation projects will achieve more substantial results. - Embassy of the People’s Republic of China

### The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and Belgium join forces to develop the exploration and utilisation of space resources

Didier Reynders, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Defence of the Kingdom of Belgium, and Etienne Schneider, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Economy of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, signed a joint declaration at the Palais d’Egmont in Brussels on 23 January 2019 in which the two countries commit to collaborate on the development of an international framework for the exploration and utilisation of space resources.

Due to technological developments and the arrival of

new players, there is growing political and commercial interest in the use and exploitation of space resources.

In the initial stages, the exploitation of space resources is set to involve the moon and near-earth asteroids. These contain many resources that could be exploited, such as water, aluminium, cobalt, iron and manganese.

Water is particularly useful as it can be used directly by humans, as well as a propellant for future space missions.

### Fundación ONCE and UNWTO join forces to promote the employment of persons with disabilities in the tourism sector

MADRID, España - The objectives are to raise awareness among UNWTO member states and affiliated entities about the inclusion of people with disabilities in the labour market, to promote the direct, effective and lasting labour

insertion of persons with disabilities in tourism businesses, and to raise awareness among the latter about the employment of persons with disabilities in the context of bids and contracts related to the public sector and the legislation in force. In order to realize these aims, Inserta Empleo, Fundación ONCE’s training and employment arm, will address selection processes of candidates for positions that companies may require and carry out possible training and professional qualification actions.

Inserta’s activity is part of the operational programmes of Youth Employment and Social Inclusion and Social Economy, which are being carried out by Fundación ONCE through Inserta Empleo, with co-financing from the European Social Fund, with the goal of increasing the training and employment of persons with disabilities.

The event also served as an occasion to unveil a video jointly produced by the UNWTO and Fundación ONCE highlighting the contribution of persons with disabilities to the tourism sector, as well as the importance of tourism for the employment of persons with disabilities. - World Tourism Organization



**Vice-President of Fundación ONCE, Alberto Durán, and the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), Zurab Pololikashvili, signed in Madrid on Monday a letter of intent to promote the employment of persons with disabilities in the tourism sector.**

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RED CROSS CELEBRATES AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

February is African American History Month and the American Red Cross pays tribute to the men and women of color who contribute to our humanitarian service – our employees, volunteers and donors.

Frances Reed Elliot Davis was the first African American nurse to be accepted into the American Red Cross Nursing Service. An orphan by the age of five, she became part of the foster care system and taught herself to read and write.

Davis graduated from Knoxville College and entered the Freedmen's Hospital Training School for Nurses in Washington, D.C. She was the first African American to pass the extremely difficult final exam.

In 1918, she was accepted as the first African American in the Red Cross Nursing Service. She made numerous contributions to the Red Cross, serving as the director of nurses training in Tuskegee, Alabama, and organizing the first training school for African-American nurses in Michigan.

Pinners Conference & Expo California comes to Ontario Convention Center

The Pages of Pinterest Come to Life as the Largest Lifestyle Expo Connects Consumers, Retailers, Wholesalers, and Influencers Together

LOS ANGELES, CA – For the first time in the Southland, the Ontario Convention Center will host Pinners Conference & Expo California on Friday and Saturday, March 8 – 9, 2019.

Pinners Conference is a must-attend event where lifestyle experts connect with those who love to craft, cook, and create.

For two days, guests will have the opportunity to attend more than one hundred classes and presentations covering a variety of topics led by industry leaders.

"Pinners Conference is the only DIY, cooking, crafting and style expo where the pages of Pinterest come to life," said Roxanne Bennett, CEO. "We connect consumers with the top influencers in their fields who offer the know-how needed to start (and finish!) any project."

Originating as a women's expo, with a

few retail vendors, the idea of a Pinterest-inspired Expo was born.

Expecting an estimated 10,000-15,000 attendees at the Ontario Convention Center, Pinners Conference showcases the best and brightest influencers in one forum to share their knowledge by offering classes that aren't easily found at local craft stores, community colleges, or boutiques.

Retailers include Michael's Crafts, Bee Kissed Caramels, Clover Needlecraft, Inc., Discovery Toys, Dunn-Edwards Paints, Jada Rose Jewellery, Matilda Jane Clothing, PB Creates, Petal Salad, She Shed Living, The Cat's Meow Shop, and Verse Your Hair.

Want to learn the intricacies of Macrame or

chalk painting? Enroll in Macrame Plant Hanging or Chalk Painting 101. Looking for a twist on flower arranging? Try Wood Floral Arrangements. Discover the secret to creating a Japanese Kokedama, at the Kokedama String Garden Workshop. Other specialty classes include Handlettering, styling a customized gallery wall, sewing and quilting classes, photography workshops, party planning, food arts, beauty secrets to even designing a DIY wedding centerpiece.

Advance registration is recommended (as classes do sellout) however spots are available for walk-ins the day of the event.

For the latest information, and to pur-

chase tickets visit <https://ca.piddersconference.com>

Where:

Ontario Convention Center, 2000 East Convention Center Way, Ontario, CA 91764

Admission:

- General (exhibits and shopping) - \$8
- Class passes (includes admission) - \$19 to \$49
- VIP Pass \$129

Information:

<https://ca.piddersconference.com/Get-Tickets>

Hours:

- Friday, March 8th, 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Saturday, March 9th, 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 pm

Books Worth Reading

BEST SELF

New York Times Bestseller

Foreword by Dr. Phil McGraw

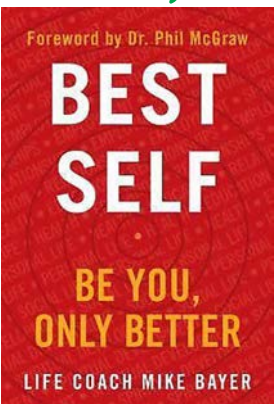
Ask yourself...are you truly who you want to be? Is this the life you really want? Are you living each day as your best self? What can you change, today?

How would you answer those questions? Think about your daily life. Are you thriving, or going through the motions? Are your days full of work, relationships and activities that are true to your authentic self, or do you feel trapped on a treadmill of responsibility? If you dream of a better life, now is the time to turn your dream into reality. And the tools you need are within your grasp, to design a life that is fulfilling on the deepest levels. Best Self will show you how.

Mike Bayer, known to the thousands of clients whose lives he has changed as Coach Mike, has helped everyone from pop stars to business executives to people just like you discover the freedom to be their best selves.

As a mental health specialist, a personal development coach, and an all-around change agent, Mike has seen the amazing ways in which lives can improve with honesty and clarity. He understands our struggles intimately, because he's faced—and overcome—his own. And he knows that change is possible.

By working through each of the Seven SPHERES of life—Social, Personal, Health, Education, Relationships, Employment and Spiritual Development—Best Self is an accessible and interactive book that distills all of Coach Mike's wisdom into a compact, focused guide that will ignite anyone's desire for change. Chock full of revealing quizzes, and full of provocative questionnaires, Best Self will empower you to embrace your authenticity, acknowledge what is holding you back, and break through to live a passionate life to the fullest, forever.



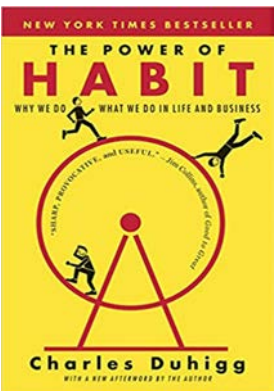
THE POWER OF HABIT

New York Times best seller

Named one of the best books of the year by The Wall Street Journal and Financial Times

In The Power of Habit, award-winning business reporter Charles Duhigg takes us to the thrilling edge of scientific discoveries that explain why habits exist and how they can be changed. Distilling vast amounts of information into engrossing narratives that take us from the boardrooms of Procter & Gamble to the sidelines of the NFL to the front lines of the civil rights movement, Duhigg presents a whole new understanding of human nature and its potential.

At its core, The Power of Habit contains an exhilarating argument: The key to exercising regularly, losing weight, being more productive, and achieving success is understanding how habits work. As Duhigg shows, by harnessing this new science, we can transform our businesses, our communities, and our lives.



Your creative weekend Where Pinterest comes to life.)

# Pinners

California! March 8-9 Friday | Saturday at the Ontario Convention Center, CA

108 classes 250+ shops A million smiles

108 Pinterest-based classes and 270+ shops! DIY, crafts, cooking, self-improvement, photography, party planning, beauty, fashion & more :)

Get tickets & customize your weekend at [PinnersConference.com](https://ca.piddersconference.com)

Use promo code **FUN** for FREE general admission tickets at **free!**

Show sponsors: Michael's, PLAID, JANE, JEWELRYMAKING.COM, ImpressArt, JANOME

# Fight back against tax identity theft

By SEENA GRESSIN

Attorney, Division of Consumer & Business Education, FTC

It's Tax Identity Theft Awareness Week – a terrific time to get up to date on protecting yourself from identity thieves who try to claim your tax refund and imposters who pretend they're from the IRS to get your money. Tax identity theft happens when someone uses your Social Security number (SSN) to get a tax refund or a job. You might find out it's happened when you get a letter from the IRS saying that more than one tax return was filed with your SSN, or IRS records show you earned income from an employer you don't know. Or, the IRS may reject your efiled tax return as a duplicate filing.

Meanwhile, to help fight tax identity theft:

- File your return as early in the tax season as you can.
- Use a secure internet connection if you file electronically, or mail your tax return from the post office.

TAX

Identity Theft

Awareness Week

January 28 - February 1, 2019

ftc.gov/taxidtheft



## USCIS announces countries eligible for H-2A and H-2B Visa Programs

USCIS and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in consultation with the Department of State (DOS), have announced the list of countries whose nationals are eligible to participate in the H-2A and H-2B visa programs in 2019.

For 2019, Secretary of Homeland Security Kirstjen M. Nielsen and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo have agreed to:

- Add Mozambique and Samoa to the list of countries eligible to participate in the H-2A and H-2B visa programs;
- Add Paraguay to the list of countries



eligible to participate in the H-2A visa program;

- No longer designate Ethiopia and the Philippines as eligible countries because they no longer meet the regulatory standards for the H-2A and H-2B visa programs; and
- No longer designate the Dominican Republic as an eligible country for the H-2B visa program because it no longer meets the regulatory standards for that program.

DHS maintains its authority to add countries to the eligible countries list at any time, and to remove any country at any time DHS and DOS determine that a country fails to meet the requirements for continued designation. Examples of factors that could result in the exclusion of a country or the removal of a country from the list include, but are not limited to, fraud, abuse, denial rates, overstay rates, human trafficking concerns.

## DIAGNOSING HEART FAILURE

First steps for getting diagnosed  
It's always important to have regular checkups even if you're not noticing any particular symptoms. If you do notice any of the potential signs of heart failure (HF), take action and talk to a healthcare professional.

Symptoms to report to your doctor  
It may be appropriate to begin testing for heart failure if you or a family member has any of the potential signs of heart failure, such as:

- Shortness of breath
- Persistent coughing or wheezing
- Buildup of excess fluid in body tissues

Unusual fatigue

- Lack of appetite or nausea
- Impaired thinking
- Increased heart rate

Source: American Heart Association

## Help stop the flu from spreading

More and more people are getting the flu and the American Red Cross urges everyone six months of age and older to get their flu vaccine now to be protected.

The number of people sick with the flu is on the rise, with most states (36 out of 50) reporting widespread influenza, up from 30 states earlier this month.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reports so far between 9 and 11 million people have been sick with the flu this season, with as many as 136,000 people needing to be hospitalized.

The CDC also reported there have been more than 40,000 deaths this flu season attributed to influenza and pneumonia, including 22 pediatric deaths.

Most of the time flu activity peaks between December and February, although activity can last as late as May. You should get a flu vaccine before flu begins spreading in your community. It takes about two weeks after

vaccination for antibodies that protect against flu to develop in the body.

Flu vaccine is available now in many locations such as your doctor's office, pharmacies, grocery stores and health departments. Your vaccine will help protect you throughout the 2018-2019 flu season.

**HELP STOP THE FLU FROM SPREADING**

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing, and throw the tissue away after use. If a tissue isn't available, cough or sneeze into your elbow, not your hands.
- Wash hands often, especially after coughing or sneezing. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol based hand-sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home if you're sick.

Source: American Heart Association

## USCIS now accepting copies of negative P Visa consultations directly from labor unions

Effective immediately, USCIS will begin accepting copies of negative consultation letters directly from labor unions relating to a current or future P nonimmigrant visa petition. A consultation letter from a U.S. labor organization is generally required for petitions in the P visa classification, which covers athletes, artists, entertainers and their essential support personnel.

Typically, a petitioner submits the necessary P visa consultation with the petition, and that process requirement remains unchanged. After reported concerns from labor unions that some consultation letters, also known as advisory opinions, may have been falsified by petitioners and submitted to USCIS as no-objections or favorable consultations, when in fact they were negative, USCIS announced that it would begin accepting copies of negative consultation letters for O visa petitions. USCIS is now expanding this to P visa petitions, and labor unions are now able to send copies of negative O visa petition or P visa petition consultation letters directly to USCIS so that they can be compared to the consultation letter submitted by the O or P petitioner.

## Tips from the IRS

The IRS reminds shoppers to protect their tax and financial data from identity thieves. All it takes is a few extra steps to prevent cybercriminals from stealing sensitive data, such as financial account information, Social Security numbers, and credit card information. Thieves could use this data to file a fraudulent tax return in 2019.

The IRS is partnering with state tax agencies and its partners in the Security Summit to remind to taxpayers and tax professionals about the importance of protecting data.

Cybercriminals want to turn stolen data into quick cash. They do this by draining financial accounts, charging credit cards, creating new credit accounts or even using stolen identities to file a fraudulent tax return for a refund.

Here are seven steps taxpayers can follow to help protect their accounts and their money:

- Avoid unprotected Wi-Fi. Unprotected public Wi-Fi hotspots may allow thieves to view transactions.
- Shop at familiar online retailers. Generally, sites using the "s" designation in "https" at the start of the URL are secure. User can also look for the "lock" icon in the browser's URL bar. That said, some thieves can get a security certificate, so the "s" may not always vouch for the site's legitimacy.
- Learn to recognize and avoid phishing emails. Thieves send these emails, posing as a trusted source, such as financial institution or the

IRS. The criminal's goal is to entice users to open a link or attachment. The link may take users to a fake website that will steal usernames and passwords. An attachment may download malware that tracks keystrokes.

- Keep a clean machine. This applies to computers, phones and tablets. Taxpayers should use security software to protect against malware that may steal data and viruses that may damage files.
- Use passwords that are strong, long and unique. Experts suggest a minimum of 10 characters but longer is better. Avoid using a specific word in the password. They should also use a combination of letters, numbers and special characters.
- Use multi-factor authentication when available. This means users may need a security code, usually sent as a text from a financial institution or email provider to a mobile phone. People use this code in addition to usernames and passwords.
- Encrypt and password-protect sensitive data. If keeping financial records, tax returns or any personally identifiable information on computers, this data should be encrypted and protected by a strong password.



73rd Annual

Fred Hall Shows

Presented by PROGRESSIVE BOAT

Supersized! Titanic! Monster!

HUNTINGFISHING

BOATINGTRAVEL

Long Beach

March 6-10

Long Beach Convention Center

Wed. Thru Fri.: 1 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Sat.: 10 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Sun: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

KIDS FREE!

15 and younger

Join CCA CAL and get in free



- Nation's Largest Consumer Fishing Show
- California's Largest Fishing Boat Show
- SoCal's Largest Int'l Hunting & Fishing Travel Show
- Nearly 400 Seminars
- Acres of Boats
- Nearly 1000 booths

- Daiva Saltwater Tank Seminars
- Costa Sporting Chef Café
- Accurate Main Seminar Stage
- Mammoth Lakes Seminar Stage
- Hobie Kayak Fishing Seminar Room
- Ultimate Air Dogs
- DFW Kids Casting Contest
- Great American Duck Races
- Convict Lake Food Court
- 805 and Okuma Bass Bin
- Mammoth Lakes and Shakespeare Kids Fish Free Trout Pond
- Hobie Kayak test rides on the Hyatt Lagoon
- Massive Marine Electronics Section from Johnson-Hicks Marine
- Casting on the Lagoon

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Mammoth Lakes CALIFORNIA

Details at fredhall.com



Staring contests. More fun in the Philippines

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INMN

INTERNATIONAL NEWS MEDIA NETWORK

LIFETIME WORLD HUMANITARIAN AMBASSADORS

Award of Distinction

Given to

Oscar and Evelyn Bunoan

•for the honorable use of their extraordinary gifts and talents to serve the community;

•for establishing C.H.E.W. Foundation (Cancer Help Eat Well) to offer nutritious and healthy food to people with cancer including individuals and families in need; and

•for spreading love and compassion through their altruistic endeavors and divine mission here and abroad making them Lifetime World Humanitarian Ambassadors .

What's Happening?



BACKSTREET BOYS

LARGER THAN LIFE

LAS VEGAS

The BACKSTREET BOYS are starting to wind down their "Larger Than Life" residency at Planet Hollywood's Zappos Theater. Following select dates between February 6-23, the boy-band finishes off their Vegas run with a string of dates in April.



GWEN STEFANI. After taking a break in January and most of February, Gwen Stefani resumes her "Just a Girl" residency at the Zappos Theater inside Planet Hollywood on February 27.



LADY GAGA. Six-time Grammy Award-winning artist and Golden Globe Award-winner Lady Gaga will have two separate shows as a part of her residency: Lady Gaga Enigma will be a performance of her greatest pop hits, while Lady Gaga Jazz & Piano concert, will be a stripped-down version of her Enigma set.

The Fred Hall Show

is top venue for California's ultimate outdoor experience

\*\*March 6-10, 2019 at the Long Beach Convention Center\*\*

LOS ANGELES - What started in 1946 as a Sportsman's show at the Gilmore Stadium in Los Angeles, has now become the world's largest consumer fishing show, the largest boat show in the western United States, and California's finest travel and hunting show.

The Fred Hall Show returns to the Long Beach Convention Center (300 East Ocean, Long Beach 90802) from Wednesday March 6 through Sunday, March 10, 2019. Tickets on sale now at [www.FredHall.com](http://www.FredHall.com) , or available at the box office week of show.

The Fred Hall Show—The Ultimate Outdoor Experience — will feature approximately 1000 booths throughout the convention center with over 10,000 products on display from the world's leading outdoor recreation manufacturers. Over 400 seminars will take place during the five days of the show in seven different seminar venues, plus live entertainment and cooking demonstrations.

World's largest sportfishing show, California's biggest boat show and an international leader in hunting and fishing travel celebrates more than 73 years in the Southland.

"Very few shows can last 73 years," said Bart Hall, Producer of the Fred Hall Show. "The only way to last this long is to take every exhibitor seriously, treat their business as you would your

own and always give your attendees exactly what you promise. Kids 15 and under are always free at a Fred Hall Show."

Show Details:

Wednesday, March 6; Thursday, March 7; & Friday, March 8

Show Hours:

Wednesday, March 6 -- 1:00PM – 9:00PM

Saturday, March 9 -- 10:00AM – 8:30PM

Sunday, March 10 -- 10:00AM – 7:00PM

Tickets:

Adults - \$18

Kids 15 and younger accompanied by paid adult FREE

Seniors 62 and older - \$16

Military with Valid ID \$13 (military discount tickets available at Box Office only)

Tickets can be purchased in advance at [www.FredHall.com](http://www.FredHall.com) or day-of-event at the box office. <https://www.fredhall.com/long-beach/>

"We work very hard to make certain that each year's show is as good or better than the last one," said Hall. "People think this is just a seasonal event but we literally work 365 days a year to provide what we feel is the best product on the planet. We hope everyone will come on down to the Long Beach Convention Center, March 6-10, 2019 and experience the Fred Hall Show for themselves. We'll see ya at the show."

★

INMN

An Exclusive Interview by AWEE ABAYARI

with OSCAR and EVELYN BUNOAN

Founders, C.H.E.W. Foundation (Cancer Help Eat Well)


For more of the interview: [www.youtube.com/ Awee Abayari](http://www.youtube.com/AweeAbayari)

\* A MATCH MADE IN HEAVEN\*

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails." - 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

"Learn to forgive, always do your best and do everything with love."

- Oscar & Evelyn Bunoan



Growing up in Bayombong under the care of his relative upon his father's request after he was captured by the Japanese forces , Oscar felt love and care from his uncle who considered him part of a big family (nine brothers and sisters ).

Intelligent and hardworking, Oscar was a student scholar who studied diligently and finished structural engineering in the Philippines . Seeing a great potential in him, his aunt encouraged him to join the U.S. Navy and after some convincing , he finally agreed , underwent the rigorous training and traveled the globe until he retired with distinction.

However, that was not the end.

Imbued with remarkable energy to work , coupled with an enthusiasm to use his extraordinary engineering talent, Oscar decided to continue working. With his innate intelligence , creative mind and excellent work ethic , he breezed through the application process and landed on a job to work for the U.S. federal government where he attained a string of positive accomplishments that won him many awards.

Aside from his professional career, Oscar is also very community involved and is known for his journalistic work, creative abilities in film production and direction including special drama skills as an actor , a formidable singer and a man gifted with a "great sense of humor".



Experiencing poverty first hand , Evelyn Bunoan , born in Cavite, is the eldest of 6 to a hardworking "stay - home mom" and a "Master Baker" father who she says, " was orphaned at a very early age". Challenged with financial difficulties, Evelyn studied hard and was a consistent scholar in school . She finished a degree in Business Administration major in accounting/minor in marketing although her real dream was to become a doctor . After working for the Philippine government as an auditor , she immigrated to the United States and worked for the World Bank where she spent many years of loyal and commendable service until retirement.

Evelyn is a multi-talented woman with extraordinary ability to manage a business , successfully proven when she set up her own store while she was still working for the bank . Through hard work, her business grew and pretty soon it became the go-to restaurant for the community. Evelyn became known as a culinary expert, but she still wanted to pursue higher goals which she accomplished when she became a French Master Chef after her impressive training at the Le Cordon Bleu in Paris, France. This immediately multiplied her invitations to serve Ambassadors including people of prestige and distinction. Seeing the collection of Awards that decorate the walls of their elegant home, one wonders what is next for this admirable woman?

Evelyn Bunoan is a celebrity chef, a painter, an interior designer/decorator, an accomplished pianist/ singer and also an actress at heart.

OSCAR AND EVELYN ARE MADE FOR EACH OTHER

By God's design, Oscar and Evelyn met and married. Jokingly, Oscar said, he asked the jeweler ;"if he could return the engagement ring in case Evelyn said, No", before he proposed just to make sure. Happily, Evelyn said yes and the rest was history. They had worked together and spent the most challenging of times together. They take care of each other: Evelyn makes sure, "Oscar eats healthy and is never hungry" and Oscar jokingly says he is obedient as the "Sous chef" of French Master Chef Evelyn who has been training him for several years as a "guinea pig" because he gets to taste everything Evelyn prepares before it is served. "To Evelyn, his opinion is important", he added.

Interestingly enough, Oscar is able to use his training in structural engineering especially when Evelyn requests him to make odd sized boxes for the specialty cakes. The next time you order your birthday or wedding cakes from Evelyn, you can be sure that the boxes are "strong as a building", Oscar smilingly adds.

Very compatible, I was amazed at how Oscar and Evelyn almost think alike especially when they talk about "giving" and "loving" and it was pretty incredible when they even came in almost the same themed outfits during this interview.

MOST IMPORTANTLY, Oscar and Evelyn are inspiring because aside from using their gifts to the maximum to serve, they are continuously inspiring people . They established C.H.E.W. (CANCER HELP EAT WELL) a non-profit foundation to help not only cancer patients but individuals and families in need of healthy and nutritious food. They both have strong faith, very close to their family and hand in hand , they have shared their many blessings to all people here and abroad . Indeed, they have built a strong foundation, a legacy of eternal service. They live to serve.

I would consider them: "Lifetime World Humanitarian Ambassadors".

"For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ." -- 1 Corinthians 3:11

INDEED, EVELYN AND OSCAR BUNOAN -- TRULY, A MATCH MADE IN HEAVEN.

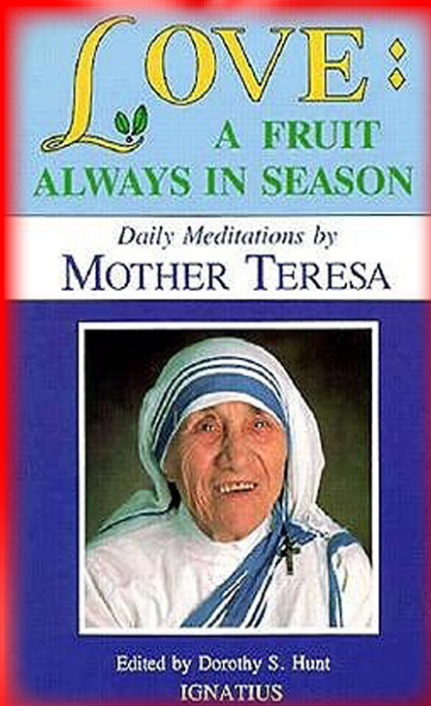
Awee Abayari/ 2/2019

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*The fruit of Love is Service,  
which is Compassion in Action.*



"If you judge people, you have no time to love them."

Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love."

"Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier."

"If we really want to love we must learn how to forgive."

"I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things."

"Good works are links that form a chain of love."

"Joy is prayer; joy is strength; joy is love; joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls."

Prayer is not asking. Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God, at His disposition, and listening to His voice in the depth of our hearts."

Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing."

Do not think that love, in order to be genuine, has to be extraordinary. What we need is to love without getting tired."

"Live simply so others may simply live."

God doesn't require us to succeed; he only requires that you try."

"I don't do great things. I do small things with great love."