

Front page of the Filipino Reporter. Issue # 3; Dec. 24-30, 2010

Written by Special to the Filipino Reporter
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Nestor Sulpico is a Filipino Reporter file photo.

Late cabby N.Y. hero

An Ilonggo, who worked as a New York cab driver and was recognized in 2004 for returning \$70,000 worth of black pearls left in his taxi, was recognized as one of New York's heroes of the decade.

Nestor Ortiz Sulpico joined US Airways pilot Capt. Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger and Times Square T-shirt vendor and terrorist stopper Duane Jackson as among the 10 New York heroes at the beginning of the 21st century.

Sulpico, dubbed "New York's most honest taxi driver" Turn to page 6

N.J. couple faces a bleak Christmas

Tot-tosser granny is denied bail

FAIRFAX, Virginia — The 50-year-old grandmother who threw her two-and-a-half-year-old granddaughter several stories to her death from a walkway at a shopping mall was denied bond in a hearing in Fairfax juvenile court on Monday.

The lawyer for Carmela Dela Rosa of Fairfax, Virginia had asked the court that her client be allowed to stay with family in Turn to page 6



Gideon and Rica Tonog being interviewed by the Filipino Reporter at the law office of Abad, Constancio & Mallonga in New York on Dec. 20.

By EDMUND M. SILVESTRE
Exclusive to the Filipino Reporter

A Toms River, N.J. couple facing deportation is wishing for a Christmas miracle.

Gideon and Rica Tonog, both 37, recently received a notice of voluntary departure from the U.S. Citizen and Immigration Service (USCIS) following the denial of Rica's application to adjust her working permit to permanent residency after the USCIS ruled that the petitioning company — a Fil-Am-owned staffing company — had no financial capability to sponsor.

Gideon, who was a dependent of Rica in her USCIS application, had previously lost his labor certification when his Turn to page 4

Fatal wife beater out after serving 5 years



JONATHAN NYCE

TRENTON — Jonathan Nyce, the Hopewell Township research scientist convicted of beating his Filipino wife to death then staging her murder as a car accident in 2004, has been released from prison and says he's written a book that will prove his innocence.

After five years of incarceration, the 60-year-old father of three walked out of prison on Dec. 5 and has returned to his parents' home in Collegeville, Pennsylvania, where he was reunited with his children, according to the *Times of Trenton*.

"It was a tearful reunion," Nyce told the *Times* in an interview on Dec. 15. "We can't get



MICHELLE NYCE

enough of each other."

The pharmaceutical executive, who insists someone else killed his wife of 12 years, said he's glad to be out in time to spend Christmas with his children Alex, 18, Trevor, 17, and Samantha, 12, who lived with Nyce's brother during his incarceration at South Woods State Prison in Bridgeton.

"I can't believe it. It's wonderful spending time with my kids," he said. "My favorite thing to do is homework with them."

In July 2005, Nyce was convicted of killing his 34-year-old wife Michelle Rivera Nyce in a jealous rage when she returned from a lover's tryst with a Puerto Turn to page 6



An undocumented student weeps as she watched the debate over the DREAM Act, which failed to win approval in the U.S. Senate on Dec. 18. (AP photo)

Senate blocks DREAM Act

WASHINGTON — The dreams of thousands of young undocumented immigrants to stay in the country legally died over the weekend after the U.S. Senate rejected on Dec. 18 the DREAM Act that would have allowed them to pursue a path to legalization and eventually naturalization.

In a 55-41 vote, senators failed to advance the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act (DREAM Act),

which was passed in the House of Representatives last week by a 216 to 198 margin.

Most Democrats supported the legislation and most Republicans opposed it.

President Barack Obama expressed dismay with the decision, declaring that "common sense did not prevail today."

"It is disappointing...but my administration will not give up on the DREAM Act, or on the important business of fixing our

broken immigration system. The American people deserve a serious debate on immigration, and it's time to take the polarizing rhetoric off our national stage," the President said.

U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA) said she will continue to fight for the thousands who worked hard to try to get the DREAM Act passed.

"It is a sad day for our country when we turn our backs on some Turn to page 9

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