



BALITAAN

A Publication of the Pilipino-American Association of Delaware – July 2001

Editor's Brief – Linda Graham



A Filipino trait that has always stood the test of time is 'pakikisama'. Another is 'pakikiramay'. Isn't it true that after all these years and after all the new friends we have made we still tend to look to our kababayan for help when

things go wrong? To me it just seems so natural. After all, you seek help from your family which is what we truly are.

A case in point: When the parents of a young Filipino man from Virginia, charged with manslaughter for abandoning their baby, asked to meet with the Filipino community to seek help, many came to the meeting. Many of you are aware of the Caliboso/Ocampo case which happened in Bear, Delaware in April of this year. For those of you who would want the detail of the case as it presently stands, I refer you to the president's message. In it Patty summarized the facts of the case and the recent developments surrounding it.

Dennis and Lori Ocampo, the parents of the young man, spoke of the family's ordeal and possible outcomes of the case. They are seeking help to persuade the Attorney General's office to change their current legal stand on the matter. After quite some explaining about the legal aspects of the case, there was a unanimous agreement among those present. Representatives of PAAD and other Filipino groups said that the Ocampos can count on us!

As a result, it was agreed on that the Filipino community will work toward a letter campaign to the Attorney General. Yli Vallejo offered to write a personal letter to the leaders of the republican party. In it, he asked the republican party leaders to 'mitigate the harshness of Jane Brady's position'. He continued to say 'Her lack of compassion is hard to overlook. The allegations of racism is hard to defend....' You may view Yli's letter in the PAAD web site (www.paadweb.com).

There are 2 letters that are enclosed in this issue to carry out the letter campaign. Please read them very carefully. One is drafted in a manner that it could have been written by any member of the Filipino Community. If you agree to what it says, please sign your name, fill in your address and mail it directly to Atty. General Brady. You may download

the files from the same web site if you would like to edit it to better reflect your thoughts. You may also make additional copies of the letter for other Filipinos you know who might want to join the cause. The second letter is what a 'concerned citizen of Delaware' may want to say to the Attorney General. The intent of this letter is to ask non-Filipino friends to sign it - perhaps colleagues at work and neighbors. Note that the letter was designed such that one may collect multiple signatures. Please mail them as soon as you have obtained several signatures. As Ely Gueco suggested, they will retain a copy in their office for their clients to sign if they believe in what we are doing. We expect that others will follow.

In addition, there was great enthusiasm on having a rally. Many will be there on August 10, Friday in Wilmington in front of Jane Brady's office from 11 AM to 1 PM. We hope that a rally will give us the press coverage that has in the past proven to serve a critical role in making a point across in a case such as this. Other Filipino groups from the nearby states will be coming to join us.

So you see, I know many will be there for the Ocampos. It is just the way we do things. As parents ourselves, we can easily emphasize and sympathize with the Ocampos. It could have happened to any one of our children.

(You may also ask for electronic copies of the letter by writing to: paad00@hotmail.com. Details about the rally will be announced shortly in the web.)

OCAMPO – CALIBOSO RALLY

Friday, August 10th, 2001
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Wilmington, Delaware

Spencer Plaza, N. French St.
(across the street from the
State & City Bldgs)

Check www.paadweb.com for pre-rally
meeting details

Medical Mission – Linda Graham

Shortly after I met my now son-in-law, Seth, he asked me to pledge for a donation to *Operation Smile*. Operation Smile is an international non-profit organization that goes to countries around the world, usually 2 weeks at a time, to perform plastic surgery on mostly children who are afflicted by some form of congenital disfigurement. Since the Philippines is one country that they regularly visit, he figured that I am a very good prospective funding source! A friend of Seth's parents from Norfolk, Virginia started Operation Smile. Since he was young he has been committed to raising funds for the cause and he never stopped doing it even during his college days at Haverford College. He continues to do so till now.

Very soon after that, I watched a one-hour TV special on work Operation Smile does in the Philippines. I guess the show was designed to inform people of what they do but at the same time boost donations. It was a good show and I remembered wishing that I too should have been a plastic surgeon. It has to give one such a good feeling when giving a small part of one's time and know-how can make such a profound change in someone else's life. Well, the feeling did not last as I am not in a position to help.

Then one evening while waiting for a PAAD meeting to start, I was listening to *Mike Labraque's* animated stories about his week-long stay in Boracay. He had just come back from Antigue for his 50th high school class reunion. That was late 1998. I later then found out that he and his classmates, some of whom are doctors and nurses, were in Boracay to rest after spending the previous week working at a local hospital doing surgical procedures on hometown folks. This medical team went home with drugs and surgical supplies donated by drug companies in the US. With the free supplies on hand and some donated by the local hospital in their hometown plus long days in the hospital, their mission was accomplished. And I thought Mike's greatest talent is his singing voice. Well, he proved me wrong!

In April of this year, *Manny and Marilyn Ting* joined a Canadian group on a medical mission in three islands off the coast of Quezon. A surgeon from the island of Polillio invited the Canadian group that consisted of doctors, nurses, and pharmacists. Together with the group, Manny and Marilyn attended to inhabitants in the mostly fishing villages. Their next stop is Cebu in January. This time they will be working with their classmates from Southeastern University in Cebu.



Somehow, after all these years, I never knew that **Cora Ablao** is a nurse. I know all about the carioka that seems to be everyone's favorite dessert and had chatted with her about many things under the sun. Then I find out that she too has been to a medical mission in the Philippines. She and husband, *Flor*, who is a medical technologist, joined some of our very own PAAD old timers- *Milo Gopez, Alex Balan, and Ron Domingo*. Their February 1999 mission, formed by Alex and Dr. Aguam, a friend from Texas brought the group to Iligan City in Cagayan de Oro which is the hometown of Alex. I realized that one does not have to be in the medical profession to join the mission. Indeed, Alex brought his son, Jason, who kept busy repairing mechanical and electrical equipment needed by the medical team. For one week, they performed all sorts of procedures ranging from thyroid operation to various laparoscopic surgeries. That was not the first time Alex went home for this reason and indeed that was not the last. Alex went back in 2000 and that time *Sancho Manubay* and *Manny and Marilyn Ting* joined the team. The group plans another mission in early 2002. Volunteers anyone? The drugs that they brought home are donated by drug companies and are sometimes supplemented by donations from Christiana Care Systems. Ethicon Company donated surgical supplies.

Well, I don't expect to see a one-hour TV show on any of these missions - the kind of recognition that Operation Smile gets. However, I thought that it is high time that these folks get some recognition from PAAD, even just through this brief article in our little 'Balitaan'. Kudos to all of our Kababayans. This is a wonderful thing you do!

(I am sure that I missed some names of PAAD members and friends who have done similar missions. I apologize. If you or anyone you know should have been mentioned in this article, please write to me at lindagra@udel.edu. I will write an update for our next issue.)



The **2001 PAAD directory** was mailed to all members last spring, who have paid their dues. Let us know if you have not received your copy. To keep the directory current, we would like to be informed of any address, email or phone changes. Contact any of the officers or email at paad00@hotmail.com.

Message from Prez



It's hard to believe that half of this year is gone. Where did all the time go? Like the saying goes, "*time flies when you're having fun*"! Are you all having fun yet? I hope that everyone is having a great and safe summer. With the hot season upon us, take

extra precautions against heat exhaustion and severe dehydration. Oh and those pesky insects, how can I forget! A yellow jacket bit my foot a little while back and I thought I was going to die! Joe Manalo was nowhere to be found but Ellis Kendle calmed me down. The couple of Benadryl he asked me to take definitely calmed me down. In fact they knocked me out for the rest of the evening. Anyhow, thanks Ellis for taking my call, and to Esther Kelly, Linda and Bill Graham for their concern.

At the spring dinner dance, I mentioned in my opening remarks that we are in the process of establishing the groundwork for the scholarship project. Because of a recent development I need to put this aside for the moment. We need to focus on something that has happened earlier this year that needs the cooperation and support of all the Asian-Americans in Delaware if not in the country.

On a Sunday morning in March 2000, a young Filipino couple from Virginia, Jose Ocampo and Abigail Caliboso, left their newly born baby girl inside a portable toilet at a construction site in Bear, Delaware. They did not want to keep the baby but hoped that someone will find it the next day. Unfortunately the temperature unexpectedly dropped that night and the baby died. The couple was eventually identified and were charged with manslaughter. The plea bargaining agreement made by the Attorney General includes a 5-year prison term - a sentence that the judge handling the case argued in his pre-sentencing opinion to be too excessive. He cited a recent similar case, that of Grossberg and Peterson. The 2 were sentenced to only half of what is being recommended for this Filipino couple even after the known facts show that the Caliboso and Ocampo did not in fact leave the baby for it to die. The judge, Judge Gebelein, who himself used to be Delaware's Attorney General said in a subsequent interview that this action of the Attorney General may point to racial discrimination. In an angry response, the Attorney General now plans to indict the couple for murder. If they are convicted they stand to be given the mandatory 10-year prison term. The trial starts on August 20 in Wilmington.



On June 29, Dennis and Lori Ocampo, the parents of Jose, came to my home to meet with representatives of PAAD, APAPD, FHAM and Silayan. The Ocampos are appealing to all Filipinos in Delaware to help seek reduced jail terms for Jose and Abigail - one that will make it more in accord with

Delaware's sentencing guideline than the recommended 5-year prison term. In addition, they need our help in asking the Attorney General to reconsider her plans of indicting the young couple for murder. The 30 or so who were at the meeting unanimously agreed to assist them.



With the assistance of Yli Vallejo and Linda Graham, letters were written to Attorney General Brady as well as to the republican leaders in the state. Enclosed in this issue of Balitaan are two letters for you to consider. I cannot speak for PAAD as a whole. However, if you agree to what are said in those letters, please sign them or get friends to sign and send them to Atty. General Brady. We need all the help that we can get. I hope we can speak in one voice when it is very important that we do so. In addition, I will be reaching out to other Asian-American organizations in Delaware for their support.

One other way that we, as a group, can make an impact on the case is to attend the rally on August 10 in Wilmington. Filipino groups from Washington, D.C. are joining us. The permit was obtained in the name of PAAD although we know that members of other Filipino groups in the state are joining as well. Details on the rally are forthcoming. I hope you can make it to the rally that will prove to be lively. I would like to thank you in advance for your help.

On a different note - a change in the board of officers occurred this spring. Marita Fallorina resigned as the Executive Director. On behalf of the officers, we would like to thank Marita for serving as

the Executive Director even for a short time. Virgie Vergara has agreed to resume this position and we welcome her on board.

I am proud to announce that the new PAAD website is now available online! You can access it at www.paadweb.com. This site will be maintained and updated as new information arises. Please note that this site is best viewed using Internet Explorer. The membership directory page requires a valid login id and password that are case sensitive.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and hope to see you in the next PAAD activity.

Patty Delos Santos

Membership

Currently we have 120 active (paid) family and single members. We would like to welcome the new and returning members. Please update your directory as follows:

Andre Acusta	Lee & Jennifer Ferreira
Gus & Chil Alba	2 Quice St.
Gina & Connie Arriola	Wilmington, DE 19808
Eugene & Veronica Banez	(302) 633-1716
Teresa Crossan	
Lito & Coralyn De Tagle	Donald Finney
Jose & Emy Evangelista	68 Welsh Tract Road #302
Morland Gonzaga	Newark, DE 19713
Ray Lintag	(302) 369-0246.
Nar & Zeny Moccoro	
John Parker*	Fred & Daisy Simpao
John & Patty Scott	1 Clearview Court
Dr. P & Linda Sabanayagan	Newark, DE 19711
Yolanda Taurozzi	(302) 737-3783
Yli & Marilyn Vallejo	
	Ed & Lillia Trujillo
	Woodward Drive
	Wilmington, DE 19808
	(302) 633-4384

*Patron

Address Update

Ben & Ching Torres	Manny & Marilyn Ting
2311 Harrison Ave.	1011 Piper Road
Wilmington, DE 19809	Wilmington, DE 19803
(302) 798-9449	(302) 478-3486

For your Real Estate needs, contact Yoly Goyena-Uy of Re/Max (302) 239-4101

2001 Spring Dinner Dance

For a change, the spring dinner dance was held at the Christiana Hilton, instead of the usual Hockessin Memorial Hall. There was no particular reason for the change. The board of officers just felt that it was time to try a different venue. There were 103 members and guests who attended this affair. As always, everybody had a great time and enjoyed the music provided by Sound Tech from New Jersey. Who says you needed a date to attend this affair? Those who came solo (quite a few) had a swell time on the dance floor, following the lead of the Sound



Tech dance instructor (DI).

Familiar faces we haven't seen in a quite sometime were Dr. Basilio Bautista and his beautiful and charming wife, Amy. For those who are not aware, Basilio's collection of love songs that he composed is now available on CD titled "All My Love".



What a great pleasure to meet some of the new members who are genuine first-timers to PAAD's activities: **John & Patty Scott**, Gina Arriola, Bernard Cosalan, Fred & Daisy Simpao, Ed & Lillia Trujillo, Yoly Taurozzi, and Eugene & Veronica Banez, from McLean, VA. Not to forget our loyal Maharajah friends from NJ/NY. Rudy Santos says they don't mind the drive to see the beautiful people of DE (wow naman!).

Many thanks to those who generously donated the door prizes: Camilo & Marisol Gopez, Eva & Ted Godsell, Roger & Lilia Mosquera, The Christiana Hilton, John Parker, Donna Shoenbeck, Joe & Grace Manalo.

Congratulations to Aida Nye and her social

committee for organizing this affair.



More pictures can be viewed on PAAD's website, www.paadweb.com. Pictures were taken by our dedicated and loyal past president, Felix Vergara. If you want a copy of any of the pictures, you'll have to contact Felix, otherwise they can be downloaded from the website.

Mahjong Tournament Results

The mahjong tournament (fundraising event) held last April 21, at the Vergaras' raised \$400 in tong! Thanks to those who participated. Win or lose, everyone had a great time.

Once again, thanks to Felix and Virgie for hosting this event at their home and to Grace Manalo and Ely Gueco for their endless efforts in organizing this fundraising activity. The winners will be recognized at the annual Christmas dinner dance.

Group A = (major - 10/20) Nar Mocco
Group B = (minor - 3/6) Tom Kendle
Group C = (low stakes - 1/2) Lourdes King

Annual Family Picnic

It was a perfect day for a picnic. About 170 members and friends attended the June 10 picnic at Banning Park. As is always the case, there was a lechon cooked in an open pit somewhere in New Jersey. Chef Ted Godsell made the one-hour trip to get the 50-lbs suckling and proceeded to cut it to order. As per Aida Nye's request, members brought their best dishes, making lunch extra special. Hotdogs and hamburgers were cooked on the grill

by Eva Godsell and Rosie Domingo for those who like to go American. Desserts, both Filipino and otherwise, were plentiful and delicious!

There were games for the children, which were all planned and lead by Eva Godsell. Eva is delighted to do this for the children of those for whom she has planned the same games in the past. While the children were playing, the adults did have their own game as well. Zeny Quiroz and Grace Manalo, with the help of Zeny's son, Ian, lead games of bingo. Incidentally, Zeny won the bingo jackpot! In spite of the \$1/card fee to join, almost all played. Merck Pharmaceuticals donated several consolation prizes of hand and body lotions to the bingo winners. I find it really refreshing that we can find ways to make income-generating activities for PAAD more fun than anything else.

Having the yearly picnic is very good for our association. It gives us the chance to socialize with friends in a very relax setting and to meet the rest of the family that we would not normally meet during our other activities. It was very apparent that there were many young adults who came to the picnic this time. I hope they will continue to come to the affairs.

Thanks to the chef and to the picnic committee for organizing such an enjoyable affair. Picnic photos will be posted on the website soon!

Bayanihan Performs

This maybe your only chance to see the Bayanihan Philippine Dance Company perform here in Wilmington. They will be at the Grand Opera House (818 North Market St) on November 12, 2001 at 8:00 PM. For more information, please call (302) 652-5577 or 1-800-37-GRAND or sign on to www.grandopera.org.

The Natural Way

Yoly Taurozzi, a new PAAD member, is a Shaklee Health & Wellness Consultant. If you are interested to know more about Shaklee's natural food supplements and how they can help stave off aging, other products such as Enfuselle skin care or what you can do with toxins in the household, you may contact Yoly at (302) 292-1286. Yoly is offering to bring anyone to a Shaklee Express Demo on first Tuesdays of the month in Wilmington. She will also work with anyone who would want to host a small group of friends for a demo.

Business Announcements

Advisory Committee for the College Scholarship Program



PAAD is putting together an advisory committee to establish and oversee the

college scholarship program that we will be establishing this year. Members who are interested in serving on the committee or would want to know more about it may call *Linda Graham*, (302) 368-1513 or *Patty Delos Santos*, (302) 292-2486. The group will be a standing committee whose initial function is to layout the basic design of the program and plan its implementation. The committee will be working with the elected officers on its implementation. Since this will be the first time for PAAD to engage in such a project, we need members who are willing to serve on the committee on a long-term basis. A meeting will be scheduled sometime this summer. Cost of education in the Philippines has been very prohibitive for many. The little we can do here will be a big help to a few if not many.

PAAD Dance Costumes

Zeny Quiroz has agreed to store and keep track of dance costumes for PAAD. Please return to her costumes that you might have kept. It is very important that PAAD has an inventory of available costumes for use in future performances. PAAD will pay for the cleaning cost. Call *Zeny* at (302) 234-0469 to inform her that you will be returning item(s) to her.

PAAD Dance Group

Over the past months, PAAD has been invited to perform on occasions of varying nature. *Alice King* is happy to work with members and children of members who will rehearse regularly so that PAAD will always have an on-going group who can readily perform a few dance numbers at any given time. We need grown-ups, young adults, and children to be part of the group. Please sign up and encourage your children to do the same. Call *Alice* at (302) 239-7819 to sign up or inquire about rehearsals. Details will be published.

Sunshine Committee



If you know of any member who for any reason is hospitalized, please call *Marylene Permut* at (302) 994-4989 or email at marylene.permut@gte.net. PAAD has guidelines as to what we would like to do for our members. The same is true for death in the family.

Treasurer's Report

(February 1 – June 30, 2001) as of July 7, 2001

Checking Account:

Opening balance handed over by Marita Fallorina & Tita Medenilla, 1/26/01	\$ 3,000.00
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Income/Deposits:

Membership Dues	1,640.00
Spring 2001 Souvenir Program Ads	1,020.00
Fund Raising	788.00
Spring 2001 Dinner Dance Reservations	4,240.00
Total Income/Deposits:	\$ 7,688.00

Expenses:

Flower arrangements (last xmas 2000)	135.58
Donation	100.00
State of Delaware franchise tax	20.00
2001 Spring Dinner Dance Invitations	178.02
2001 Spring Dinner Dance – Christiana Hilton	3,507.88
Music (DJ)	550.00
Wilmington Country Club deposit (xmas 2001)	1,000.00
2001 Spring Souvenir Program print/mail	269.98
Membership forms mailing	82.86
Membership Address Directory print/mail	277.81
Picnic expenses	324.30
Newsletter expenses (Spring 2001 issue)	235.72
Costumes and tapes for Choral group	176.19
Door Prize	75.00
Miscellaneous	83.92
Band deposit for xmas 2001 dinner dance	150.00
Total Expenses:	\$ 7,167.26

Checking Account Balance:	\$ 3,520.74
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Other Accounts: balances as of 07/07/01

CD (new) – opened 01/26/01 by Marita Fallorina & Tita Medenilla ending their tenure	\$ 5,427.37
CD #1 – opened 08/16/98	\$ 3,854.07
CD #2 – opened 10/11/98	\$ 1,372.43
Money Market	\$ 5,853.35
CD – building fund	\$ 9,235.99
Total CDs:	\$ 25,743.21

Note: Treasurer's books are audited quarterly by Robert Kelly, our current Auditor.

Congratulations 2001 Graduates



Kristofer Quiroz, son of Zeny and Art Quiroz graduated from the Charter School of Wilmington. Kris received the Computer Science Award from his High School and will be attending the University of Delaware

majoring in computer science. Kris is a recipient of the prestigious University of Delaware Scholar Award.

Ryan Singson, son of Malou and Danny Singson will be a freshman pre-med student this coming fall in Ursinus College in PA. He is a recipient of some of the college's merit scholarships. Ryan graduated from Salesianum High School.

CJ Gopez, the youngest son of Marisol and Milo Gopez graduated from the University of Delaware with a degree in Philosophy. CJ is currently taking relevant courses at the University of Delaware in preparation for his application to medical school.

Melissa Gopez Shehan, daughter of Marisol and Milo Gopez graduated from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Melissa will be doing her general internship at Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital in Philadelphia.

Michelle Oneal, daughter of Letty Oneal graduated from St. Marks High School. Michelle will be an accounting major in York College of Pennsylvania.

Preston Schiroky, son of Bessie and Gerhard Schiroky, now of Aurora, Ohio, is starting his freshman year with a full scholarship at Simons Rock College of Bard in Great Barrington, MA. Preston is moving on to the big boy's school only after 2 years of high school.

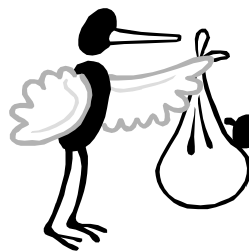
Recognition

Vilma Tadalán-Velasco of Elkton, Maryland was named Union Hospital's Physician of the Year 2001. A published article about her describe her to be 'one of the most caring, compassionate physicians ever.' Vilma retired in March.

Transition

Remedios Del Rosario, 96 and mother of Nene Abad died this past April. She lived in New Jersey for many years with Nene's other siblings. Condolence to Nene and the rest of the family.

Congratulations new and returning members of Grand Parents Club



Alexa Zulueta Vergara was born to Felix Vergara III and Ginny Zulueta on March 7, 2001. Lex is a chief resident in Obstetrics and Gynecology at St. Luke's Hospital in Bethlehem, PA. Congratulations to Lex and

Ginny! **Virgie and Felix**, welcome to the Grand Parent's club and may you have many more grandkids to come!

Patty Delos Santos has recently joined the Grand Parents Club. Her daughter Barbie, married to Sam Bieri gave birth to a 6-pound baby boy, Brian Joseph on June 14, 2001. Congratulations to her and to Barbie and Sam!

Congratulations to the Newly Weds



Loy and Wendy Valdes were married last June 16th at the Church of Holy City in Wilmington. Reception was held at the Gold Ballroom, Hotel DuPont.

Alex Uy, son of Yoly Goyena-Uy married Michelle Lewis on June 8 in St. Lucia. Reception was held on June 30 at Michelle's parents' home in PA. View their wedding photos www.homepage.mac.com.

Engaged!



Jeannie Cagulangan, daughter of Tony and Flor Cagulangan is engaged to Casey Shimane of California. Jeannie belongs to a family dentistry group and Casey has his own private practice as an oral surgeon. Both reside in San Francisco. The Wilmington wedding is planned early April.

Retirement



Gali Inquito retired late last year after 23 years as a forensic pathologist at the State of Delaware Medical Examiner Office. To keep himself occupied, Gali continued to play golf more frequently than before and has begun to seriously learn to dance the rumba and cha-cha with wife Lita. So as not to completely

forget the profession, Gali continues to do private autopsy in a consulting basis.



Alice King retired last June from DuPont Chemicals after 30 years of service as a Senior Information Scientist. Alice was one of the pioneers of PAAD and served on board as the first Treasurer in 1970. Temporarily, working as a Consultant, she still has to get up in the morning and drive to work. She and sister, Lourdes, plans to retire in the Philippines but will occasionally visit family and friends here in the U.S. Meanwhile, Alice continues to serve on the PAAD board as the Vice President for Cultural Affairs.

Silayan Sings

If you have not been to any of Silayan's performances at Borders Books and Music, this is your chance to watch them perform and enjoy their music. Here is their scheduled performances at Borders for the rest of the year:

Aug. 24 Friday, Concord Pike, 7-9 PM
 Sep. 22 Saturday, Newark, 8-10 PM
 Oct. 5 Friday, Concordville, PA, Rt.1, 8-10 PM
 Oct. 26 Friday, Springfield, PA, 8-10 PM
 Nov. 16 Friday, Concord Pike, 7-9 PM
 Dec. 22 Saturday, Newark, 8-10 PM



Front: Marilyn Vallejo, Coralyn De Tagle, Michelle Peters, Lucy Bonman, Jane Aniceto, Back: Yli Vallejo, Gus Alba, Bill Sage, Lito De Tagle, Chris Berlin

More pictures of the Silayan can be viewed at www.paadweb.com

PAAD Balitaan
 c/o Linda Graham
 6 De Ville Court
 Newark, DE 19711



TO: