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FROM THE FRONT PAGE

Immigrants fight to bring adult . . .

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with a painful caveat: Her two elder sons were now too old to qualify as dependents, so they would have to stay behind.

The mother moved to Northern California with her husband and two younger children, and filed a new round of paperwork hoping to get at least one of her older sons into the country without another decade of waiting.

"I have a joke with my son—am I still alive when you come here?" said Santos, 55, a supermarket clerk who lives in Livermore. "I am always praying somebody can help us in the government so we can bring my kids here."

Immigration attorneys say thousands of immigrants are stuck in a similar situation. In countries such as the Philippines, Mexico and China, relatives of US citizens and residents sometimes wait a decade or two for a family-sponsored green card because of country-based

immigration quotas.

Santos is one of several immigrants across the country suing the federal government to try to get their adult children into the country without another lengthy wait.

Immigration attorneys say a 2002 law aimed at preventing children from "aging out" due to lengthy processing means these grown children should be allowed into the country soon after their parents file new paperwork on their behalf.

But the government argues that many of those who got too old during the wait are now new applicants and must start from the beginning.

"They want them to go from the front of the line, where they almost made it, and go to the back of some other line that may be 10 to 20 years away," said Carl Shusterman, an attorney representing immigrants in one of the lawsuits. "It is like double jeopardy." (AP)

Filipino film best sci-fi in Calif. fest

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Cuckoo's Nest), and Derek Lee Nixon among the co-stars.

Ace's other films which he himself produced, directed, and starred in are Last Chance (with Judy Ann Santos, Todd Bridges, and Jamie Bay), Asian Task Force (with Sunshine Cruz and Blain Tyler), Deadly Decisions (with Mandy Marcet), The Golem (with an all-star cast), Fate (with Michael Pare, Philip Michael Thomas, and Lee Majors) and Psychotic (with Kathleen Kinmont, Joe Estevez, and Sam Jones).

Ace's films can be downloaded by next month through

www.spiritfilmsllc.com or ace@spiritfilmsllc.com.

"Aside from watching the whole movie," said Cruz, "you can see the trailers of the other movies, with a bonus of behind-the-scene features."

Born in Manila, Ace migrated to the US with his parents, Bing Herrera and Yolie Cruz, when Ace was three-years old. He was educated at IHM in Los Angeles (elementary) and LeConte Jr. High and John Marshall High School (for high school), and finished AB Fine Arts (major in Drama) at the University of Southern Califor-

nia. After graduation, Ace produced stage plays in which he also acted.

From 1991 to 1996, Ace shuttled between LA and Manila, where he did movies for Viva Films.

"After acting for 10 years," said Ace, "I decided to venture into directing and producing films. It took me four years to finish my first movie, Last Chance. I was learning on the job. I made it for \$10,000. It was a great learning experience."

For his next project in the US, he will start final preparations for Fight Quest. ■

More useful information for OAV registration

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istration to their local Comelec office; they have until September 30 to do so.

5. What are the requirements for applying for OAV registration?

Every applicant should submit a valid Philippine passport to establish his identity. In the absence of a valid passport, a certification of the Department of Foreign Affairs that it has reviewed the appropriate documents submitted by the applicant and found them sufficient to warrant the issuance of a passport, or that the applicant is a holder of a valid passport but is unable to produce the same for a valid reason.

6. Are there special requirements for seafarers?

Yes, a photocopy of the Seaman's Book or any other pertinent documents.

7. What are the additional requirements for dual citizens?

For a dual citizen, the original or certified true copy of the Order of Approval of his/her application to retain or reacquire his/her Filipino citizenship or Oath of Allegiance issued by the Post or the Bureau of Immigration.

8. Where can one register?

OFWs and Filipinos abroad can register at Philippine embassies, consulates, and other designated registration centers abroad. Departing overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) or those processing their papers can register in special voter's registration centers at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport and Terminal 2 which is open from Mondays to Sundays, or at the Philippine Overseas Employment Agency in Ortigas and the Commission on Filipinos Overseas in Manila, both of which are open from Mondays to Fridays. (Inquirer.net)

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