The Dallas Morning News

Asian culture and community events in the Dallas area

12:00 AM CDT on Thursday, June 17, 2010, Dallas Morning News

Celebrating independence

On Saturday, the day Filipinos marked their country's independence, about 600 Filipinos gathered locally to celebrate. The event started with a Festival of Praise followed by a Gala Night at the Westin Hotel Park Central in Dallas. Hosts were Edgar Santiago and Bruce Jones. Nap Ramirez, Edith McCoy and Merna Parcon served as gala chairs. Guests enjoyed performances by the Maharlika Dancers, Silayan Dance Group and Balikatan Performing Arts. There was also the crowning of Ms. Independence.

To learn more, visit www.prdc-dfw.org.

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12:00 AM CDT on Thursday, June 3, 2010, Dallas Morning News

Celebrating independence

Filipinos in North Texas number about 15,000. They mark their country's independence every June with a community festival and gala banquet. Although the Philippines received independence from the United States on July 4, 1946, the archipelago of more than 7,000 islands celebrates June 12 as Philippine Republic Day. The Filipino Festival, or Pista Sa Nayon, will be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at Trader's Village, 2602 Mayfield Road in Grand Prairie. The free event will include a parade of banners, cultural dancing and singing, games and lots of Filipino food. Parking is $3.

Gala Night 2010 will be from 6 p.m. to midnight June 12 at the Westin Hotel Park Central, 12720 Merit Drive in Dallas. A Festival of Praise will kick off the celebration at 4:30 p.m. and will be followed by gala events starting at 6:30 p.m. The evening will include a fashion show of traditional Filipino costumes, a Ms. Independence pageant, live entertainment and dinner. Tickets are $50. Call Merna Parcon at 214-244-9114 or Nap Ramirez at 817-229-9015. Visit www.prdc-dfw.org