

International NEWS MEDIA

JULY 2023

ACTORS STRIKE HALTS FILMS/TV PRODUCTIONS



SAG-AFTRA actors and Writers Guild of America (WGA) writers walk the picket line in front of Paramount Studios in Los Angeles, California, U.S., July 17. (Reuters photo)

On July 14, 2023, the American actors' union SAG-AFTRA went on strike over an ongoing labor dispute with the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP). It has coincided with a Writers Guild of America (WGA) strike as part of broader Hollywood labor disputes.

The strike marks the first time that actors have initiated a labor dispute in the U.S. since the 1980 actors strike and the first time that actors and writers have walked out simultaneously since 1960. Both the 2023 SAG-AFTRA and WGA labor disputes have contributed to the biggest interruption to the American television and film industries since the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

Many actors made a show of solidarity on the writers' picket lines, including Fran Drescher, the Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists president and former star of "The Nanny." The union's 65,000-member actors' branch will now formally join them as fellow strikers.

The two guilds have similar issues with studios and streaming services. They are concerned about contracts keeping up with inflation, residual payments in the streaming era and putting up guardrails against the use of artificial intelligence mimicking their work on film and television shows.

Productions likely to be affected by the strike include sequels to the Avatar, Deadpool and Gladiator franchises, as well as upcoming seasons of shows such as Stranger Things, Family Guy and The Simpsons.

Red-carpet premieres, promotional interviews and events including the Emmys and Comic-Con, have already been halted, rescheduled or scaled back, as actors will not appear in films or even promote movies during the stoppage. - AP/other news sources.

Key US official calls for tech companies to 'do something' about AI

The director of the leading U.S. cybersecurity agency has a message for scientists and top technology company officials who are warning that artificial intelligence could lead to the end of humankind: **Take action.**

"If you actually think that these capabilities can lead to extinction of humanity, well, let's come together and do something about it," the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's Jen Easterly told an Axios News Shapers event in Washington. "Think about what you can do to slow this down."

The comments by the CISA di-

rector come just a day after more than 350 researchers and technology executives issued a one-sentence warning about the dangers of artificial intelligence, or AI.

"Mitigating the risk of extinction from AI should be a global priority alongside other societal-scale risks such as pandemics and nuclear war," they said in a post on the website for the Center for AI Safety.

Those signing onto the warning included the co-founder and CEO of OpenAI, the company behind Chat GPT, Microsoft's chief technology officer, the CEO of Google's AI research lab and

Geoffrey Hinton, sometimes called "the godfather of artificial intelligence."

Hinton, notably, quit his job at Google earlier in May to focus on warning others of the dangers of AI.

U.S. government officials, like CISA's Easterly, have likewise been warning about the dangers posed by AI.

"AI will be the most powerful capability of our time," Easterly told students at Vanderbilt University during a speech earlier this month.

"While one person will use this technology to plan a dinner party, another will use the capability to plan a cyberattack or a terrorist attack," she said. - VOA



File photo shows the OpenAI logo on a mobile phone in front of a computer screen displaying output from ChatGPT. Right photo shows Jen Easterly, director of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency during the National Association of Secretaries of State meeting in Washington in February this year.



Legendary entertainer Tony Bennett dies at 96



Photo credit: Herman Leonard

NEW YORK -- Tony Bennett, born Anthony Dominick Benedetto in Astoria, Queens on August 3rd, 1926, has passed away in his hometown of New York City at the age of 96 earlier today. The beloved singer, who was diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease in 2016, is survived by his wife, Susan Benedetto, his two sons, Danny and Dae Bennett, his daughters Johanna Bennett and Antonia Bennett and 9 grandchildren. The 20-time Grammy winning singer and humanitarian bridged generations during his career that spanned over 7 decades. - PRNewswire

USPS to release "Thinking of You" stamps



The U.S. Postal Service will release five new stamps to help people send a note of celebration, gratitude or just to say hi. These stamps let those we care about know that we're thinking of them and affirm our love and affection.

The first-day-of-issue event for the Thinking of You Forever stamps will be held at the Great American Stamp Show in partnership with the American Philatelic Society, on Friday, August 11, 2023.

Officials say they're meant to capture the excitement and delight of receiving a card in the mail meant just for you.

Greg Breeding, an art director for USPS, designed the stamps with artwork by Ellen Surrey. The stamps, meaning they will always be equal to the current First-Class Mail one-ounce price.

HEATWAVES SHOW IMPORTANCE OF HEALTH EARLY WARNINGS & ACTION PLANS

The World Meteorological Organization is stepping up efforts to strengthen heat-health early warnings and integrated action plans for heatwaves, which are amongst the deadliest natural hazards. Heat is a rapidly growing health risk, due to burgeoning urbanisation, an increase in high temperature extremes, and demographic changes in countries with ageing populations. Hundreds of thousands of people die from preventable heat-related causes each year.

Global temperatures have been at unprecedented levels for several weeks. The extensive and intense heatwaves this year are alarming, but not surprising because unfortunately the conditions being observed are in accordance with projections from the Intergovernmental Panel on

Climate Change.

A new study published last week, calculated last summer in Europe alone 60,000 additional people died due to extreme heat. Experts and governments consider this a conservative estimate.

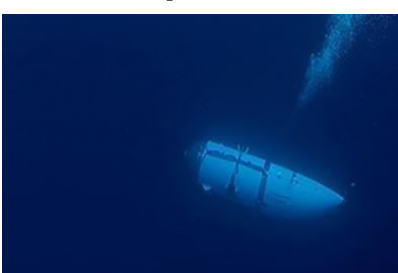
There is currently a simultaneous heatwave phenomenon occurring, with temperatures in North America, parts of Asia, and across North Africa and the Mediterranean above 40°C for a prolonged number of days this week. These types of events are very concerning and have increased sixfold since the 1980s.

The recently declared El Nino is only expected to amplify the occurrence and intensity of such extreme heat events and impacts on human health and livelihoods. - WMO

OceanGate suspends exploration, commercial operations

WASHINGTON -- OceanGate announced Thursday (July 6) on its website the suspension of "all exploration and commercial operations". The decision comes after the Titan submersible suffered a catastrophic implosion during a mission to the Titanic shipwreck last month, which left the company's CEO and four passengers dead.

Communication with the Titan submersible, owned and operated by OceanGate Expeditions, a private research and ocean adventure tourism company that made a tourist visit to the wreck of the Titanic ship in the Atlantic Ocean on June 18, was cut off shortly after the dive. Studies determined that the submersible imploded and sank killing the five onboard. (Anadolu)



NewsBriefs

AG Moody called Zuckerberg to testify on use of Meta in Florida human trafficking cases

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Attorney General Ashley Moody is inviting Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg to testify before the Statewide Council on Human Trafficking about the results of a concerning Florida human trafficking survey and other recent reports that showed more than half of all reported instances of social media platform use in Florida trafficking cases, since 2019, involved Meta platforms—Facebook, Instagram, Messenger and WhatsApp. The Attorney General wants to know what Meta plans to do to stop human traffickers from using its platforms to advance this horrific crime.

U.S. Supreme Court strikes down Biden student loan forgiveness program

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH – The U.S. Supreme Court on July 3rd closed its term with a monumental opinion in Biden v. Nebraska, ruling that the President's efforts to cancel student debts unilaterally were unlawful under the HEROES Act. Attorney General Sean D. Reyes co-led a 17-state amicus brief to the Court in support of Nebraska. The case involved a challenge brought by a coalition of six states, led by Nebraska, over the White House's action to clear approximately \$430 billion in student debt principal under the auspices of the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act of 2003 (HEROES Act).

Texan sentenced to 90 consecutive life sentences for 2019 mass shooting in Walmart in El Paso that killed 23

A Texas man was sentenced to 90 consecutive life sentences in prison for carrying out a mass shooting at the Cielo Vista Walmart in El Paso, Texas, on Aug. 3, 2019, killing 23 people and injuring 22 more. On Feb. 8, Patrick Wood Crusius, 24, pleaded guilty to a 90-count indictment with 45 counts of violating the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act and 45 counts of using a firearm during and in relation to crimes of violence. Crusius was also sentenced for 22 counts of hate crime acts that caused bodily injury and involved attempts to kill 22 people injured in the shooting.

\$130K in unreported currency seized from travelers

STERLING, Va. – U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers seized nearly \$130,000 in unreported currency from four groups of departing international travelers recently at Washington Dulles International Airport.

There is no limit to how much currency or other monetary instruments travelers may bring to or take out of the United States. However, federal law requires travelers to report all currency of \$10,000 or greater to a CBP officer and complete U.S. Treasury Department Report of International Transportation of Currency or Monetary Instruments.

NASA's space telescope discovers oldest supermassive black hole

ANKARA – On July 7, The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) said that its James Webb Space Telescope has discovered the oldest supermassive black hole in the center of the CEERS 1019 galaxy.

According to the US space agency, the black hole was shaped only 570 million years after the Big Bang and has a mass of 9 million times the sun.

The US space agency also said the scientists have "easily shaken out" by two more black holes that are "also on the smaller side, and existed 1 and 1.1 billion years after the big bang."

The James Webb telescope also identified 11 galaxies that existed when the universe was 470 to 675 million years old.

NASA further said the black hole



SUPERMASSIVE BLACK HOLE. NASA says it has discovered the oldest supermassive black hole in the center of the CEERS 1091 galaxy. It said it could have been formed 1 billion years after the Big Bang. (Anadolu)

of CEERS 1019 that is discovered to be the oldest yet "clocks in at about 9 million solar masses, far less than other black holes that also existed in the early universe and were detected by other telescopes." (Anadolu)

New research indicates older workers will fill 150 million more jobs globally by 2030

NEW YORK -- A global study from Bain & Company has found that 150 million jobs will shift to workers over the age of 55 by 2030. That figure is nearly equal to the entire working population of the US. In the Group of Seven (G7) countries, Bain predicts these experienced workers will comprise a quarter of the workforce by the end of the decade—nearly 10 percentage points higher than in 2011.

This trend is most pronounced in high-income countries, such as Japan, Italy, Germany, China and Brazil.

Over the last two decades, fewer young people are entering the work-

force, and a long-term trend toward earlier retirement is slowly going into reverse. Forty-one percent of American workers now expect to work beyond age 65. Thirty years ago, it was 12%.

The UK increased its retirement age from 60 for women and 65 for men by pushing both up to 66, with a plan to move up further over time. In Japan, the government struggled to push the official retirement age from 60 to 61, leaving many firms to solve the problem by releasing workers at 60 and rehiring them on new contracts, often at reduced pay rates.

"There was an increase in retirements in some countries during the peak-Covid Great Resignation, but that moment is now looking more like the Great Sabbatical as those workers increasingly return to work," said James Root, partner at Bain & Company and co-chair of the firm's think tank, Bain Futures. "People work longer into their lives, yet we've found it rare to see organizations put programs in place to fully integrate older workers into their talent system." - PRNewswire

UNTIL NOW, YOU HAVE ASKED NOTHING IN MY NAME. ASK, AND YOU WILL RECEIVE THAT YOUR JOY MAY BE MADE FULL. JOHN 16:24

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF ED'S CELEBRATION OF LIFE AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

Dear Family & Friends,
Death Leaves a Heartache No One Can Heal
But Love Leaves a Memory No One can Steal

That is the sentiment I feel as I remember that unforgettable day when My LOVE WAS GONE FROM ME;

The RAINBOW came and I knew He was with me FOREVER!

So I chose to remember his valor and sacrifice through these photos as he fought in WWI leading the Last Cavalry Mounted Charge in U.S. Army History and as Commander of the East Central Luzon Guerilla Area (ECLGA) and together with other American Guerillas received the Distinguished Service Cross from Gen Douglas MacArthur on June 13, 1945 amid the devastation in Manila.

I also chose this Song "FROM LES MISERABLE" from Colm Wilkinson.

BRING HIM HOME

God on High
Hear My Prayer
In My need
You have always been there

He is young
He's afraid
Let Him Rest
Heaven Blessed
Bring Him Home

Bring him home
Bring him home
He's like the son I might have known

If God had granted me a son
The summers die
One by One
How soon they fly
On and On

And I am old

And will be gone
Bring him peace
Bring him joy
He is Young
He is only a boy
You can take
You can give
Let him be
Let him Live
If I Die
let me Die
let him Live
Bring Him Home
Bring Him Home
Bring Him Home

Thanks for holding me through the years, Giving me Strength and Hope and Love, and as Ed looks from above I know I can continue my journey because you are all there beside me...

Love and prayers,
RAQUI

CGM Recipient Celestino Almeda visits him at Arlington National Cemetery

UNFORGOTTEN SERVICE
Rep. Ed Royce (R-Fullerton), right, talks with Celestino Almeda, a veteran representing the Philippine Commonwealth Army, during a Congressional Gold Medal ceremony honoring him and other Filipino veterans of World War II at the Capitol Visitor Center's Emancipation Hall last week.

WE REMEMBER COL. EDWIN P. RAMSEY
TROOP G, 26TH CAVALRY REGIMENT (PS)

Edwin P. Ramsey

- ★ LED THE LAST CAVALRY CHARGE IN U.S. ARMY HISTORY ★
- ★ C.O. OF THE EAST CENTRAL LUZON GUERRILLA AREA ★
- ★ DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS ★
- ★ SILVER STAR W/OAK LEAF CLUSTER ★
- ★ BRONZE STAR ★
- ★ PURPLE HEART ★

THE PSHS paid TRIBUTE TO HIM with this poster.



Ed and John Boone.



Ed with Filipino staff, including Fidel Ramos.



Ed with guerrillas.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS MEDIA

An Exclusive Interview by **AWEE ABAYARI** WITH **DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD**
 • FORMER AMBASSADOR TO KAZAKHSTAN • UNDERSECRETARY OF TRADE FOR PROMOTIONS • EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CITEM, PHILIPPINES

For more of the interview: www.youtube.com/AweeAbayari • www.youtube.com/AANewsMedia/AweeA



AWEE ABAYARI: Who was Edward L. Ferreira then and who is Edward L. Ferreira now?

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD: Growing up, I was very curious about a lot of things in life. I would spend a great amount of time reading and studying. Coming from a humble beginning of selling vegetables and Pilipino Comics, I always wanted to explore the world that was unknown to me, beyond my circumstances back then. I guess that propelled me to pursue science in college. It's the idea of discovery and finding out what's new and unfamiliar that charted the direction of my interests as a young adult.

When I look in the mirror now, I see a man who has branched out to various fields and disciplines. He is someone who has maintained a healthy sense of adventure, never afraid to try something new. But in addition to an insatiable curiosity, he has been taught by time the value of service. With all the life lessons and opportunities that I have had throughout my career, what I find now truly satisfying is sharing my knowledge and experience to help my country and the Filipinos, especially owners of small, micro, and medium enterprises. It brings me immense joy to be able to go to work knowing that, at the end of the day, I lead an organization that helps in building the nation.

AWEE ABAYARI: You first studied microbiology at the University of the Philippines, completed your Post Graduate studies in lunar microbiology, worked for NASA under the Apollo 11 "First Man Moon Landing" project and became known "as the first Filipino Lunar Microbiologist who examined the moon rocks brought back by Neil Armstrong, Edwin Aldrin, and Michael Collins." When did the turning point (from science to business) in your life occur sparking new diverse interests and why?

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD: While science and business may be two fields that are seemingly unrelated, I think they are very much intertwined. Scientists and business people flourish in experiences involving discovery and problem-solving. My shift from being a man of science to an entrepreneur grew gradually but not unexpectedly. Spending my early years as a scientist provided me the tools and practice to hone my skills. At the same time, I knew I could branch out using my unique background and training to be an entrepreneur. There weren't many Filipino microbiologists during that time, especially with the opportunity to work for a big and ground-breaking project such as the Apollo 11 mission. I put a lot of effort in building my mastery of the field before I jumped into another. And when I knew I was ready, that's when I pursued marketing, and then, eventually, forayed into business.

AWEE ABAYARI: After over 30 years of unparalleled accomplishments, a) What have you learned?

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD: One should never stop learning. While achievements are great, one shouldn't rest on them. For us to remain relevant, we must continue to challenge ourselves and be open to new ideas and ways of doing. In the export promotions industry where I find myself now, technology plays a huge role in reaching out to current and potential markets. Technology and its applications are very volatile. So I find the need to always learn and find ways how we can improve our work to promote the best Philippine products to the world.

AWEE ABAYARI: b) What have been your main challenges?

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD: I do believe that the people you work with are your best assets, but they too can be a source of challenges. So it is important for a leader to be able to inspire thought and action, to create an environment where people can contribute to your cause, move steadfastly, and maintain a growth mindset.

AWEE ABAYARI: c) What were your main achievements in the following specialized fields:

SCIENCE

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD: As a science believer, I am empowered by empirical data, proven methodologies, and imminent technologies, fortified by decades of experiences, and invigorated by the intelligence and ingenuity of the creative workforce I lead.

Through hardwork and dedication, I became the first Filipino to be cited as a lunar microbiologist for my contribution to the American Space program by the Filipino Medical and Scientific Professional Association in the United States. It wasn't an easy feat, but relentlessness and grit, along with passion and curiosity, made it all possible.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD: A personal practice has been to continuously explore possible business and contracting models, and look out for emerging trends and their resulting frameworks in order to stay ahead of the market. These values have been evident in my experiences as the President of Management Association of the Philippines (M.A.P.); President of Association for Philippine Entrepreneurship Corporation (A.P.E.C.); and Chairman of Makati Business Development Council (Makati City Government) among others.

MARKETING

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD: As a leader, I am committed to develop, nurture, and promote local products, services, and talents by implementing an integrated approach to export marketing in close partnership with other government and private entities.

I have a degree in Master in Business Administration (MBA) in Management and Marketing and was elected as the First Filipino and First Asian President of the Graduate School of Sales, Management & Marketing (Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York). I have learned that Marketing is an evolving practice, and as someone who was fortunate enough to study different marketing approaches from across the world, I can proudly say that the knowledge I have acquired is passed on through the many leadership roles I was able to take.

DIPLOMACY

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD: As a former diplomat, I have made sure to include in my action programs to closely work and strengthen our ties with foreign embassies and consulates in championing our quality products and services to the global market.

I have learned so much as the appointee of former President Rodrigo Duterte in 2018 when I served as the Special Envoy of the President to the Republic of Kazakhstan. During this period, I had garnered experiences which allowed me to spearhead collaboration and harmony through strengthening our global connections.

GOVERNMENT SERVICE



CITEM Executive Director Amb. Edward Ferreira Ph.D. during his oath-taking as the Special Envoy of the Former President Rodrigo Roa Duterte at the Malacañang Palace.

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD: As the leader of CITEM, I am committed personally to reinvent the agency to further achieve export dynamic growth. Serving the country and its people has inspired me, and steeled my will to strengthen its export promotion programs. Under my leadership, CITEM is more than ready to cross the threshold of the world market and enter a new age with our new maxim:

"Produktong Pilipino para sa Pilipino at sa Buong Mundo."

Translated in English, reads: "Philippine Quality Products for Filipinos and for the Whole World." Our use of the word "product" encompasses everything we produce or achieve excellently from top export consumer goods to actual skills and services, where we, Filipinos, are known for worldwide. Quality is a Filipino way of life, and we can compete in the global market through our innovative artistry and originality.

AWEE ABAYARI: Growing up, what did you learn from your parents that accompanied you in your everyday journey and helped you become who you are today?

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD: My parents taught me the value of perseverance and hard work. I learned early on that nothing in life comes easy, and that you should be able to work your way if you want to achieve your dreams. I also learned that the only limitations you have are the ones you set for yourself. If your mind is set on a goal, no obstacle should stop you from obtaining it.

AWEE ABAYARI: You adored your mother, what was your dream for her that you were able to realize?

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD: Before I left for the US to pursue my studies through a scholarship grant, I remember telling my mother that I will do my best to uplift our lives when I come back. "We will never be poor again," I said. And when I did come back to the Philippines, I made good my promise. I was able to buy them a house and a car. I also was able to own a building to which I dedicate to my parents.

AWEE ABAYARI: What is FAITH and what role does it play in your life?

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD: I do believe in the presence of the divine. As a devout Catholic, I always have my faith help me make decisions without entertaining fear. Faith is the guiding force that allows me to make the impossible possible. I also associate faith with service. If you're asking for guidance and godly intervention, you should ask for things far bigger than your own needs. You should be able to ask for things that would make you most useful to other people. And through the years, this has been my prayer—to be able to find opportunities that will allow me to be of greater service to others.

AWEE ABAYARI: Define success. Who are your role models that you consider successful and why?

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD: Success, for me, is the realization of the goals you have set for yourself and overcoming the obstacles along the way. Success is not just reaching the destination but conquering the journey as well, no matter how long it is. However, as years pass by, my definition of success has also evolved. True success means being able to think and achieve goals that are greater than your personal needs. It should be anchored on service and helping others using your own skills and capabilities.

As for role models, I've always looked up to Neil Armstrong, American astronaut and aeronautical engineer. I admire trailblazers simply because they face the greatest amount of challenges and dared to make the impossible into reality. I even named my son after him.

The other person I look up to is Steve Jobs. The late CEO of Apple redefined the way we live through technology. He is the perfect example of someone who bridged science, business, and even art to create an impact on the world.

AWEE ABAYARI: What countries have you visited aside from the Republic of Kazakhstan where you were assigned as the Special Envoy by the former President Rodrigo Duterte and what can you say would be the best message the Philippines can bring to the world based on your marketing expertise as a former President of the Management Association of the Philippines (MAP), the country's biggest business and management organization?

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD: My career has led me to many places around the globe, including Belgium and the Netherlands where I joined the Philippine delegation led by President Marcos and DTI Secretary Fred Pascual at the ASEAN-EU Summit last December 12-14, 2022. I also went to Frankfurt, Germany where I spearheaded CITEM's participation in Ambiente, a leading international trade fair for consumer goods, on February 3-7, 2023. And most recently, I had the pleasure of joining President Marcos Jr. and the Philippine delegation during our trip to Tokyo, Japan on February 8-12, 2023.

The best message the Philippines can offer would be an invitation to discover the country as a window to the world, which is how I am reintroducing CITEM. I want to underscore the capabilities of local artisans and manufacturers, as well as Philippine talents who are attuned to the current demands of the international market.

AWEE ABAYARI: How significant is the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Technology Management conferred on you by the Technological University of the Philippines (TUP)?

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD: To be recognized by the academic community and be given such honor is truly remarkable, especially for someone like me who has been a practitioner of various fields. At the same time, I feel it comes with a certain level of responsibility to be a role model and continuously pursue excellence in my field.

AWEE ABAYARI: Is there anything else left for you to explore? Is Politics in your future agenda? Why yes or why not?

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD: At my age, I have been blessed with many opportunities that I could only dream back then. I have no political ambitions. My goal now is to just be better at what I do and continue to serving the Filipino people. I also would like to continue my hobbies which include collecting art and gardening.

AWEE ABAYARI: What is the legacy of Dr. Edward L. Ferreira, PhD? Your favorite quotation?

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD: After my various stints in different industries, specifically in science, business, culture and the arts, diplomacy, and government service, I want to be remembered as a trailblazer, a leader that has had experiences in different fields, but one who always has service in mind when venturing a new landscape.

It is my pleasure to share the personal philosophy I live by, "To recognize the capability of a person is a virtue, but to prove his capability, and give him a chance, it is more than a responsibility, it is a life's commitment."

AWEE ABAYARI: What are the ingredients to becoming a successful leader?

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD: To me, leadership is more than a role or title. It requires an exemplary and inimitable set of core values and virtues rooted in a consistent and relentless pursuit towards greatness—not only for oneself—but for the people he works with and for the country he serves.

There is no one formula to become a leader, but the ones who excel in leadership are those who are continuously evolving and are anchored with a deep yearning to be of service.

AWEE ABAYARI: For the leaders of tomorrow, what is your message?

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD:

I do believe that leadership is a sacred calling. You are put in a position to be on top to serve those at the bottom and lift them up. Act with authority but speak with humility. Lastly, never stop learning. When you continuously learn, you widen your perspective and make better choices.

AWEE ABAYARI: Thank you.

(See Page 4 for photo highlights of Dr. Ferreira's appointment as CITEM Executive Director.)

INM
INTERNATIONAL NEWS MEDIA NETWORK

HALL OF FAME

Award of Excellence

given to

DR. EDWARD L. FERREIRA, PhD

† For his unparalleled achievement in the fields of Science, Business, Marketing, Diplomacy and Government Service; for his lifelong commitment to serve his country and the Filipino people; for defining leadership through his actions turning his dream into a reality worthy of emulation across the world. †

Given by:



AWEE ABAYARI
INM

Washington, DC, July 1, 2023

ELON MUSK LAUNCHES xAI

Announcing xAI

July 12th 2023
Today we announce the formation of xAI. The goal of xAI is to understand the true nature of the universe. You can meet the team and ask us questions during a Twitter Spaces chat on Friday, July 14th.

Team

Our team is led by Elon Musk, CEO of Tesla and SpaceX. We have previously worked at DeepMind, OpenAI, Google Research, Microsoft Research, Tesla, and the University of Toronto. Collectively we contributed some of the most widely used methods in the field, in particular the Adam optimizer, Batch Normalization, Layer Normalization, and the discovery of adversarial examples. We further introduced innovative techniques and analyses such as Transformer-XL, Autoformalization, the Memorizing Transformer, Batch Size Scaling, and μ Transfer. We have worked on and led the development of some of the largest breakthroughs in the field including AlphaStar, AlphaCode, Inception, Minerva, GPT-3.5, and GPT-4.



President Ferdinand Marcos, Jr. appoints Dr. Edward L. Ferreira, PhD CITEM's Executive Director



Department of Trade and Industry Secretary Fred Pascual handing over CITEM's symbol of leadership to Executive Director Amb. Edward Ferreira Ph.D.



Amb. Edward Ferreira Ph.D. delivering his opening address during "Tanyag".



President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. with CITEM Executive Director Amb. Edward Ferreira Ph.D. during the "Tanyag" event held at Shangri-La the Fort, BGC.



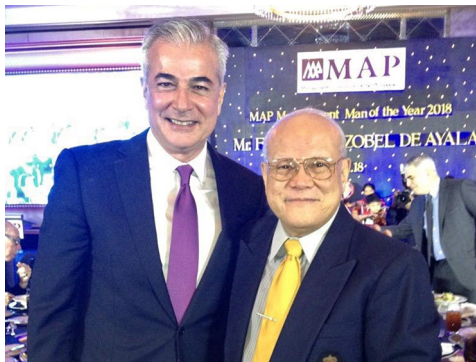
Amb. Edward Ferreira Ph.D. delivering his Welcome Remarks during International Food Expo or IFEX Philippines 2023 Katha Awards Night. IFEX is the Philippines' biggest international food trade show held at the World Trade Center.



Philippine Airlines President and COO Capt. Stanley Ng, CITEM Executive Director Amb. Edward Ferreira Ph.D., and Mr. Nick Brown of MINTEL during IFEX Philippines 2023.



Amb. Edward Ferreira Ph.D. viewing a product from Manila FAME exhibitor Tumandok Crafts.



Filipino businessman Mr. Fernando Zobel De Ayala, who was awarded Management Association of the Philippines (MAP) Man of The Year 2018 with CITEM Executive Director Amb. Edward Ferreira Ph.D.

(SEE PAGE 3 FOR THE INTERVIEW BY AWEE ABAYARI, INM)

Elon Musk discusses SpaceX Starlink in Malaysia with Prime Minister Anwar

Elon Musk and Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim discussed possibly bringing SpaceX's Starlink internet connection to the Southeast Asian country. The pair also discussed Tesla's interest and investment decisions in Malaysia.

Thus far, SpaceX's Starlink internet services are offered in Japan and the Philippines in Southeast Asia. Elon Musk's recent virtual meeting with Prime Minister Anwar suggests that Malaysia also wants Starlink internet services in the country.

The Malaysian Prime Minister believes Starlink internet could provide coverage to rural areas in the country. Tesla Malaysia already received approval to conduct business there, so SpaceX might have an easier time bringing Starlink into Malaysia.

Tesla announced the start of sales in Malaysia earlier this month with a planned launch event in Kuala Lumpur on July 20. The US-based automaker initiated Model Y pre-bookings earlier this week with a starting price of 199,000 ringgit (\$44,000).



Tesla Malaysia is expected to start deliveries next year. It will contribute to the country's goal to develop an EV ecosystem. Malaysia offers tax breaks to encourage EV adoption, like most countries that wish to transition to new energy vehicles. It aims to meet net zero emission goals by 2050.

Tesla Malaysia also plans to build a Supercharger Network in the country to support its EV transition.

PH MAINTAINS TIER 1 RANKING IN US TRAFFICKING REPORT

WASHINGTON D.C. - The Philippines has maintained its Tier 1 Ranking in the fight against human trafficking. In the 2023 Trafficking in Persons Report (TIP) officially released on 15 June 2023 by US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken, the Philippines was one among the 30 countries given the highest rating for fully meeting the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking in persons under the US Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. This is the eighth year in a row that the country has achieved Tier 1 placement since 2016.

During the TIP Report Launch, Ambassador-at-Large Cindy Dyer who leads the US Department of State Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, cited the Philippines and Indonesia for working together "to assist trafficking victims lured by cybercrime syndicates into cyberscam operations."

The two countries were mentioned for exemplifying strong partnership between countries in addressing the vulnerability of migrants, refugees, and international jobseekers to human traffickers.

"The Tier 1 ranking obtained by the Philippines is indicative of our intensified efforts to combat human trafficking. We thank the US State Department for recognizing our campaign against human traffickers," said Ambassador Jose Manuel Romualdez.

Among the ASEAN member states, only the Philippines and Singapore made it to the Tier 1 list. A total of 188 countries were evaluated for government efforts to fight trafficking undertaken during the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.



CIRCULAR ECONOMY FOR TEXTILES

Taking responsibility to reduce, reuse and recycle textile waste and boosting markets for used textiles

The Commission is proposing rules to make producers responsible for the full lifecycle of textile products and to support the sustainable management of textile waste across the EU. This initiative will accelerate the development of the separate collection, sorting, reuse and recycling sector for textiles in the EU, in line with the EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles. Increasing the availability of used textiles is expected to create local jobs and save money for consumers in the EU and beyond, while alleviating the impacts of textile production on natural resources.

The Commission is proposing to introduce mandatory and harmonised Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes for textiles in all EU Member States, where producers will cover the costs of management of textile waste. - EU

TSA TRAVEL TIPS

Most travelers have the option to request a pat-down as an alternative. However, some passengers will not be able to opt out of AIT screening if their boarding pass indicates that they have been selected for enhanced screening. Whenever possible, the pat-down will be performed by a same-gender officer



ADDITIONAL TRAVEL TIPS

- Travelers are encouraged to check carry-on baggage before leaving home to remove prohibited items, such as firearms and knives.
- When packing, de-clutter and organize carry-on baggage to facilitate screening.
- Travelers are encouraged to arrive two hours before scheduled departure time.

- Travelers are recommended to wear slip-on shoes to remove and replace their shoes quickly.
- Pets must be removed from their carrying cases. The case must be screened through the X-ray machine. A leash will help maintain control of the pet but should be removed when carrying the pet through the metal detector.

Volunteer ideas for you and your children

Summer is here, and if you have children, you may be looking for a way to keep them entertained while out of school. Consider volunteer projects. Volunteering is an opportunity to do something meaningful that can help you to make new friends and learn new skills.

Here are some ideas that are great for kids of all ages or to do as a family:

- **Trash pick-up.** Choose a neighborhood, street, or park to beautify by picking up litter.
- **Show neighborly love.** If you know an older person, visit them regularly to give them company, chat, or help with chores or yard work.
- **Check with your local homeless shelters.** Many need help sorting donations or serving meals. You can

also hold a community drive to collect supplies for hygiene kits or activity kits for kids.

- **Consider your local animal shelters.** Your local animal shelter may need help laundering bedding, walking dogs, or taking photos of pets for adoptions.

Remember, small positive changes can make a big difference. - DHS

HOW TO AVOID BEING SCAMMED

If it sounds too good to be true, it is.

- Do your homework and thoroughly research any investment opportunity independently of what any salesperson provides you.
- Never rush into an investment opportunity. If you are rushed or told not to discuss it with others, you're being scammed.
- There is no such thing as a guaranteed return.

IMMIGRATION UPDATE



HOSTED BY AWE E ABAYARI



JACK GOLAN
50 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
IN U.S. IMMIGRATION LAW

Send your questions to: radiotvanchor1@gmail.com
www.youtube.com/AweeAbayari

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A SAFE SUMMER STARTS WITH YOU

BY MORGAN COULSON

For a safe summer, prevention and preparation are key.
BE SAFE IN THE SUN

While some sunlight is necessary for our bodies to produce vitamin D, too much sun can pose a number of health risks. Protecting your skin from the sun's UV rays is the best way to limit your risk of sunburn and skin cancer.

Limiting sun exposure can be simple:

- Stay in the shade—particularly during midday when UV rays are at their peak.
- Wear a wide-brimmed hat, sunglasses, and a long-sleeved shirt.
- Use a broad-spectrum sunscreen with SPF 30 or higher.

Avoid products labeled "tanning oil," and for the best protection, apply sunscreen generously 30 minutes before going outdoors. Reapply every two hours, especially after swimming or sweating.

WHEN THINGS HEAT UP

High temperatures can be dangerous for everyone. Heatstroke, the most dangerous heat-related illness, may occur if your body temperature rises to 103° F or more. Seek medical help immediately if someone is suffering from heat stroke. Call



911 and move the victim to a cool place. Never force the victim to drink liquids.

The best way to avoid a heat-related illness is to limit time outdoors during hot days.

STAY HYDRATED

Dehydration can happen at any time, but it's more likely in higher temperatures, especially with increased exertion.

Alcoholic, caffeinated, and sugary beverages can actually dehydrate your body further. Plain, carbonated, or flavored water or sports drinks with electrolytes should be your go-to choices when hydrating.

Source: John Hopkins

ADVANCE FEE FRAUD



Advance fee frauds ask investors to pay a fee up front – in advance of receiving any proceeds, money, stock, or warrants – in order for the deal to go through.

The advance payment may be described as a fee, tax, commission, or incidental expense that will be repaid later. Some advance fee schemes target investors who already purchased underperforming securities and offer to sell those securities if an "advance fee" is paid, or target investors who have already lost money in investment schemes.

Fraudsters often direct investors to wire advance fees to escrow agents or lawyers to give investors comfort and to lend an air of legitimacy to their schemes. Fraudsters also may try to fool investors with official-sounding websites and e-mail addresses.

Advance fee frauds may involve the sale of products or services, the offering of investments, lottery winnings, found money, or many other so-called opportunities. Fraudsters carrying out advance fee schemes may:

- Offer common financial instruments such as bank guarantees, old government or corporate bonds, medium or long term notes, stand-by letters of credit, blocked funds programs, "fresh cut" or "seasoned" paper, and proofs of funds;
- Offer to find financing arrangements for clients who pay a "finder's fee" in advance; or
- Pose as legitimate U.S. brokers or firms and offer to help investors recover their stock market losses by exchanging worthless stock, but requiring investors to pay an upfront "security deposit" or post an "insurance" or "performance bond." - SEC

Practical way to save money

By RAMSEY SOLUTIONS

Debt robs you of your income! So, it's about time you get rid of that debt. The fastest way to pay off debt is with the debt snowball method. This is where you pay off your debts in order from smallest to largest.

Once your income is freed up, you can finally use it to make progress toward your savings goals.

- *Cut down on your grocery budget.*

Save money on groceries by planning out your meals each week and taking a good look at what you already have in your pantry before you



head to the store.

Want to save money and time? Try online grocery pickup or delivery. Most major grocery stores offer it these days (sometimes even for free), and it can save a ton of money.

Real Estate

Instead of moving, consider improving your home

Right now, moving may be a little challenging as property value has gone up tremendously and the number of homes on the market is low. The next best option is to remodel and expand your home office, home gym, or add a patio for outdoor gatherings.

If you own your home and have a mortgage, a cash-out refinancing option may be an easy way to have the money to tackle your home improvement project. Since interest rates are still quite low now may be a good time to tap into your home's equity.

Many homeowners may not realize that cash-out refinancing can help fund these projects. A cash-out refinance is not a second mortgage. It is borrowing against the equity in your home or money you have already paid towards your mortgage.

A cash-out refinance will require that you refinance your home most likely at a lower rate. The new loan amount will be slightly more than the remaining bal-

ance of your home because it will include the amount of cash you take out for you or your family.

Cash-out refinancing is beneficial because it can increase monthly cash flow and allow you to make good use of the funds you take out, according to Freedom Mortgage, one of the nation's full-service mortgage lending company and a leader in FHA and VA loans according to Inside Mortgage Finance, 2020.

The benefits of cash-out refinancing aren't limited to home improvements. Funds from a cash-out refinancing also can be used to pay for a college education or to consolidate high-interest debts at a lower interest rate. Homeowners can typically borrow up to 80% of the value of their homes without paying the private mortgage insurance (PMI) required by some lending situations. That means if you have more than 20% equity in your home, you can use that equity to get cash now. - NewsUSA

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Environment

Royal Caribbean Group transforms waste management in the cruise industry, helping protect the oceans



Royal Caribbean International's Icon of the Seas (PRNewsfoto/Royal Caribbean Group)



Silversea Cruises' Silver Nova (PRNewsfoto/Royal Caribbean Group)

MIAMI -- Royal Caribbean Group (NYSE: RCL) is building on its industry-leading waste management practices by introducing the next generation of technology to make its way to the high seas. These tools, from waste-to-energy systems, food waste applications and an expanded network of green hubs are a result of the cruise company's relentless drive to deliver the best vacation experiences responsibly. Debuting this year, on two of Royal Caribbean Group's newest ships, will be the cruise industry's first systems to turn solid waste directly into energy onboard. - PRNewswire

Tourism

The Sphere at The Venetian Resort is a spherical music and entertainment arena in Paradise, Nevada, near the Las Vegas Strip and east of the Venetian resort. The project was announced by the Madison Square Garden Company in 2018, and construction was underway the following year.

The 18,600-seat auditorium was initially scheduled to open in 2021, but construction was suspended in April 2020 due to a disruption in the project's supply chain, caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Construction resumed later that year.

The Sphere is set to open on



September 29, 2023, with U2 using the venue to launch their U2:UV Achtung Baby Live at Sphereresidency. - Wikipedia

Sports

PBBM LAUDS YULO FOR WINNING 2 GOLDS IN WORLD CUP SERIES

MANILA – President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. commended Carlos Edriel Yulo for another glory and honor he brought to the country after winning two golds in the third leg of the Artistic Gymnastics World Cup held on March 9-12 at the National Gymnastics Arena in Baku, Azerbaijan.

"We celebrate another shining moment in the world of gymnastics with Carlos Yulo's double gold medal victory at the 2023 FIG Artistic Gymnastics World Cup Series in Baku, Azerbaijan. Congratulations, Carlos, and keep making history!" the President said on his Facebook page post.

Yulo, who was born and raised in



Carlos Edriel Yulo

Manila but is now based in Japan, displayed his awesome form to claim the gold medals in the men's vault and parallel bars.

RECRUIT SUSTAINMENT SOLDIER ADVANCES TO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN POWERLIFTING

CARSON CITY – After placing second in the Powerlifting America Classic Junior and Master Nationals meet in early June, Nevada Army Guard Sgt. Peyton Johnson is preparing for the Powerlifting America World Championships in Romania in September. Johnson just missed out on a national championship in the 205-pound division at the meet in Arizona with his total of 1791 pounds lifted; Shane Nutt of Indiana lifted 1803 pounds to edge out Johnson.

Johnson, 23, is a cadre Soldier in the Recruit Sustainment Program and he also works full-time for the Nevada Guard as a network communications systems specialist. He has been in the Nevada Army Guard since 2018. Earlier in his career, Johnson was in the 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion and he participated in the battalion's international deployment to Kuwait in 2020. - Nevada National Guard News

Imax® and Oscar®-nominated filmmaker Nathaniel Kahn join forces on "Deep Sky", a documentary on NASA's James Webb Space Telescope

WASHINGTON -- IMAX Corporation and Crazy Boat Pictures Ltd., together with Oscar®-nominated filmmaker Nathaniel Kahn, today announced that they've completed production on "Deep Sky", a new documentary on NASA's Webb Telescope (JWST). T

he 40-minute short film is narrated by Oscar®-nominated actress Michelle Williams, and is currently slated for release across IMAX's institutional theater network in October 2023. - PRNewswire



Nathaniel Kahn (Getty images)



Michelle Williams (Getty images)

FROM SOLO TRAVEL TO 'PAY-CATIONS'

Young Americans lead 2023 travel trends with wellness at the forefront

RICHMOND, Va. -- Allianz Partners USA, the travel insurance and assistance company known for popularizing the term "micro-cation" in 2019 has identified yet another travel trend making waves amongst Americans.

Allianz Partners' 15th Annual Vacation Confidence Index* has revealed that around three in 10 Americans will choose to work remotely from a vacation destination in 2023, an intentional move that goes beyond "bleisure" travel that blends working time with vacation.

The new work-from-a-vacation-destination travel trend, which Allianz Partners is calling a 'pay-cation,' has been encouraged by flexible remote work policies developed during the pandemic and is especially popular among young working Americans.

The survey found that respondents in the 18 to 34-year-old demographic are more likely (42%) to travel to a vacation destination to work remotely, compared to 26% of those ages 35 to 54 years old and 12% who are 55 years and older. - PRNewswire

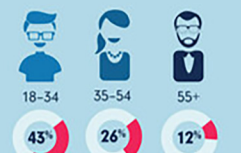
Allianz Partners

15th Annual Vacation Confidence Index



New Travel Trend: The Pay-cation

Pay-cation: A new work-from-a-vacation-destination travel trend.



3 in 10 (31%) Americans will take a pay-cation this year, a remote work trend supported by flexible remote work policies developed during the pandemic

Among Working Americans The 18-34 demographic is more likely to work remotely from a vacation destination

CITY OF LAS VEGAS RESIDENTS INVITED TO JOIN NEW CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

The city of Las Vegas is offering a Citizens Police Academy beginning Aug. 16, 2023. The Academy will be provided by the city's Department of Public Safety and is designed to increase knowledge about law enforcement in the community.

The Academy will run on Wednesdays from 6 to 9 p.m. Aug. 16 through Nov. 8, 2023. Applicants must be at least 18 years old. Sign up online or visit www.lasvegasnevada.gov/DPS or call 702.229.6343 for more details.

Topics will include patrol operations, arrests, search and seizure, bike patrol, motorcycle patrol, case law, use of force and more.

The city's Department of Public Safety provides the public with law enforcement services at city parks and facilities through the Deputy City Marshals, operates the city's detention center and provides animal protection services in the city of Las Vegas.

What's Happening?



Maluma's 'Don Juan World Tour'

LAS VEGAS – Following the wildly successful "Papi Juancho Maluma World Tour 2022," which boasted sold-out shows across the United States, Europe, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East, global Latin music idol Maluma is proud to announce the U.S. leg of his Don Juan World Tour. The tour will make a Las Vegas stop at the MGM Grand Garden Arena Wednesday, Sept. 13.

Ghirardelli Chocolate Company reopens

The Original Ghirardelli Chocolate & Ice Cream Shop will reopen on July 13 in San Francisco's Ghirardelli Square. After a six-month renovation, the store celebrates Ghirardelli's history as a U.S. chocolate pioneer and legacy in San Francisco since 1852.

The newly renovated flagship store will officially reopen with Multiple Grammy Award® winning artist, singer, actor, producer and best-selling writer Kelly Rowland leaning the ceremonial ribbon cutting.



Photo courtesy of Albert Law

PH Dept. of Tourism launches HOHO bus tours



Tourism Secretary Christina Frasco (right) and Manila Mayor Honey Lacuna lead the launch of the Department of Tourism's Hop-On, Hop-Off (HOHO) bus tours at the Kartilya ng Katipunan in Manila on Thursday (July 6, 2023). The new circuit is the second of its kind after the pilot of HOHO Makati Financial Hub tours on May 28. (PNA photo by Yancy Lim)



☆ 4th JULY ☆ INDEPENDENCE DAY

United States of America



Independence Day, known colloquially as the Fourth of July, is a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the Declaration of Independence, which was ratified by the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, establishing the United States of America .

The Founding Father delegates of the Second Continental Congress declared that the Thirteen Colonies were no longer subject (and subordinate) to the monarch of Britain, King George III, and were now united, free, and independent states.[1] The Congress voted to approve independence by passing the Lee Resolution on July 2 and adopted the Declaration of Independence two days later, on July 4.
Independence Day is the national day of the United States. - *Wikipedia*