

TIDEWATER HISPANIC NEWS in ENGLISH

Virginia Delegate Villanueva says young Hispanics will lead the way to electing more Latinos to office

continued from page 1

create new jobs and generate new taxes to help fill depleted city treasuries.

"You look around and you don't see many Latinos in local government, even though they have pretty significant numbers in Virginia Beach; nor do we see that many Filipinos," he said. "Our (Virginia Beach) school board and city council are great; but there's no strong cultural diversity there; but some minority groups are still assimilating in America, particularly here in Hampton Roads."

To help fill the multicultural leadership void, Villanueva calls on "established" minority leaders to "step up" and attempt to help resolve unresolved issues, including a pathway to citizenship for Hispanics.

"It's astonishing that there are no Hispanics in elected office," he said, "and we definitely need more Filipinos."

Both groups' political and economic futures are in the hands of their younger



Virginia Beach native and Old Dominion University graduate Ron Villanueva, being sworn in as the Virginia House of Delegates' first Filipino American member. Accepting his oath of office, on Jan. 13, 2010, from House of Delegates' Clerk Bruce Jamerson, Villanueva was joined by his family for the historic occasion. In attendance, from left to right: His wife, Cathy, who is holding Kate, Matthew and Cole; and Elise. Photo by Romeo Villanueva, Ron's brother.

members.

"Youth is definitely the answer," said Villanueva, a Green Run High School graduate. "A lot of them are assimilating to the American 'way of life' and are beginning to do more networking among themselves."

"Dollars spent, by each community, helps the entire region. They're (minorities) all part of the work force and part of the overall economy."

Delegado Ron Villanueva

For a long time, many Filipinos found it difficult coalescing around a particular Filipino political candidate, Villanueva said. Following his political success, however, the regional Filipino community is more united than ever, he said. But there's still work to be done.

"For the future, we want to see more cultural diversity on public bodies," he said.

Increased cultural diversity on public boards,

commissions and councils, independent commissions to review how local, state and federal governments can streamline operations and become more cost-effective.

"We have to look at core issues," he said. "We can't be overly broad; we have to focus on areas like light rail, housing and transportation."

Transforming government for the "common good" is not a new idea, but economic downturns are forcing legislators to revisit "quality of life" issues that are important to local citizens.

"It really does come down to what is a 'luxury' versus what is a 'necessity,'" he said, "but we have to get the 'stakeholders' involved; there needs to be a cultural change; there needs to be new leadership and all this comes back to civic involvement."

Diversity of opinion is a good thing; that's when we all find 'common ground.'

Contact Virginia Delegate Ron Villanueva at delegatovillanueva.com.



Virginia Lieutenant Governor Bill Bolling recently addressed the Republican Party of Virginia Beach during one of its weekly breakfast meetings.

Lt. Governor Bolling headlines RPVB's send-off dinner, awards

Upcoming breakfast speakers: Stolle, McWaters

By Susan Hurley
THN contributor

Here's what's happening with the Republican Party of Virginia Beach:

Virginia Lieutenant Governor Bill Bolling headlined the 2011 "Send-Off Dinner and Awards" ceremonies, held recently at the Westin Hotel in Town Center. Along with Bolling, our 10 state delegates and state senators, who represent Virginia Beach, were also in attendance. The special event included a fun evening of dinner, cocktails, awards - and yes, some speeches; but what's a good political event without a hearty speech or two?

Delegado Purkey

It was a busy weekend for Delegate Bob Purkey, who, after attending the send-off dinner that Friday night, spoke the next morning at the Republican breakfast meeting, held regularly at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Delegate Purkey, who represents the 82nd House District - the eastern part of Virginia Beach, primarily north of Laskin Road - is the chairman of the most powerful committee in the Virginia House of Delegates, the Finance Committee. Learn more about Delegate Purkey at bobpurkey.com.

Continued from page 11

4027 Bainbridge Blvd. # 401 y 301 Chesapeake VA
757.494.8803

El Manantial

Mexican Restaurant

HORARIO:
Lunes a Jueves:
11am a 10pm
Viernes y Sabado:
11am a 11pm
Domingo:
11:00am a 9:30 pm

CARNE ASADA

MOJARRA FRITA

FAJITA

ENSALADA CON POLLO

Venga a Disfrutar de estos deliciosos platillos!!!

Mojarra Frita	Filete de Pescado	Choripollo
Fajitas Texanas	Caldo de Camarón	Chiles rellenos de Pollo
Camarones a la diablo	Caldo de Res	Cebiche de Pescado
Cocktail de camarones	Tortas de Pollo	Cebiche de Camarón
Carne Asada	Tortas de Carne	
Fajita de Mar	Tortas de Pastor	Manantial Especial
Tacos al Pastor		Camarones al Mojo de Ajo

y Mucho Más...