

HONG KONG NEWS

The No.1 Foreign Newspaper Vol.XVII No.375

July 15, 2017

DFA Chief says more competition is better for OFWs:

PH sees China as 'greener pasture'

By Cheryl M. Arcibal

THE Philippines is looking for "greener pastures" for its overseas Filipino workers.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano said the Philippines is negotiating with China and other countries for the deployment of Filipino workers.

"Because we have better bilateral relations with China, we are bringing up the possibilities and issues about employment...Let me confirm that one of our agenda in our diplomatic relationship with many countries, in all regions around the world...kasama doon sa ating discussion points ay ang ating OFWs.

"Nagpapasalamat tayo pero kasama din doon iyong concern, kasama din doon iyong how to make their labor conditions better...Sa Beijing, mayroon silang program for migrant workers in China, may study program nga sila para maimprove, but kung anong migrant workers or expats ang ina-accept nila, may sarili silang patakaran diyan," Cayetano said when asked about the negotiations for the deployment of OFWs to China.

He added that opening up new markets for OFWs could improve the working conditions of Filipinos in their present host countries.



Foreign Affairs Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano takes a selfie with overseas Filipino workers in Hong Kong who attended an open forum with him at the Philippine Consulate General on July 12.

Turn to page 10



Page 2



Page 9

Kalinga affirms status as a backpacker haven as its attractions include cultural treasures, and stunning views.



Page 20

Tom Rodriguez is still a Kapuso as he signs a new exclusive contract with GMA.

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3 OFWs win refund claims vs. Emry's

By Cheryl M. Arcibal

A Hong Kong court has ordered the owner of the shuttered Emry's Employment Agency to compensate three Filipino workers, including one from Macau, who paid for jobs in the UK, and Canada, which turned out to be non-existing.

Principal Adjudicator Anthony Chow Siu-wo on July 3 ordered Ester Ylagan trading as Mike's Secretarial Services to pay at least \$40,300 to three claimants who were able to produce pieces of evidence against the defendant.

It was unknown, however, how Ylagan

would be made to compensate the claimants as she has yet to make any appearance in court, and her representative had previously said she was in the Philippines to seek medical treatment.

The amount represented the payment the claimants gave to Ylagan in exchange for jobs as caregivers in the UK, and Canada and the costs they incurred in filing their claims with the court.

Judge Chow also said the compensation would bear pre-judgment and post-judgment interests from the day the claimants filed their claims until Ylagan paid them in full.

The three claimants who were awarded compensation were Lilia Junio, who works in Macau; Lorna Decena, and Jenny Rose Pumaris.

Judge Chow noted that the three claimants presented "extremely well-prepared" pieces of evidence, including receipts, statements, and one even had a video, in a compact disc, of Ylagan telling those who gave their payments that a receipt would not be issued to avoid tax liabilities.

The three cases were among the 77 cases that were yet to be transferred to the District Court. Meanwhile, 129 cases were transferred to the District Court for trial.

Judge Chow, however, said that for the other cases, the court never acquired jurisdiction over the defendant as the court's service of notice was returned undelivered.

In the District Court, Ylagan nor her legal representative appeared during a directions hearing held on July 7.

It was Ylagan herself who asked that the cases be transferred to the District Court instead of them being heard by the Small Claims Tribunal.

Court Registrar Ho instructed Edwina Antonio, board member of the NGO Mission for Migrant Workers which represents the domestic workers in court, to seek legal advice if there could be other recourse other than suing Ylagan in Hong Kong courts.



Junio after the judgment

Registrar Ho made the comment after saying that he was aware of the difficulty of serving the notices to the defendant.

In a hearing in February, Judge Chow had told the other batch of claimants and their representative that Ylagan had submitted proof that she had engaged solicitors to represent her in the cases should they be transferred to the District Court.

Judge Chow said he understood the defendant's wish to transfer the cases to the District Court, noting that with some 200 claims pending before the Tribunal, amounting between \$5,000 and \$20,000, each, the total amount involved was some \$2 million.

Antonio had then said they "welcomed" the development.

Previously, Ylagan had sent a represent-

ative, who was her friend and an employee of Mike's Secretarial Services Agency, to the cases against her at the Tribunal.

Judge Chow had scolded the representative, saying that as she had no knowledge of the cases and no way to say whether Ylagan could refund the claims, the representative would be barred from further representing Ylagan.

On Jan. 20, Ylagan was also a no-show at the Eastern Magistrates' Courts for the hearing of 21 criminal cases filed against her. Ylagan was charged with 21 counts of receiving payment other than the prescribed commission, but she sent no representative or lawyer to appear in court.

A clerk of court said they had adjourned the cases' hearing to a later date, but did not say when. These cases were the first criminal charges filed against Ylagan who was accused of receiving commission from more than 200 Filipino domestic helpers so they could get employment in the UK, and Canada.

Emry's was said to be the biggest provider of Filipino domestic helpers in Hong Kong. Ylagan had insisted to officials of the Philippine Overseas Labor Office that she did not intend to dupe the jobseekers and promised that she would refund the applicants. Emry's office in World Wide House in Central has been shuttered since June 2016.

Maid guilty of stealing from disabled boss

By Ally Constantino

FOR stealing money from her disabled employer, a Filipino domestic helper was sent to jail.

Deputy Magistrate Andrew Ma of the Kowloon City Courts said the prosecution proved beyond reasonable doubt that A.M. Castante stole \$1,100 from her wheelchair-bound employer on Apr. 22 in his home in Wong Tai Sin. He added that the defendant showed no remorse, and sentenced her to two weeks in prison.

Castante's employer on June 27 gave

his evidence in court and said the Filipina started working as their domestic helper since 2011 and had suspected her of stealing money from him at least seven times.

Despite these suspicions, he said they renewed her contract for several times because he was a "disabled person" and "very much in need of assistance from others". The first time he noticed that money was missing, he asked the defendant about it, but "she denied it and she became agitated". On Apr. 22, however, he found \$1,100 missing from his wallet.

The employer said he called his wife,

who was in the mainland with their son, and informed her about the missing money and told her to come home immediately and call the police. He said that on the previous day, he withdrew \$3,000 from an ATM and took a photo of the banknotes and their serial numbers. The employer said he did this because he was so angry when earlier that day, he found that Castante "took each and every cent of my money in the wallet".

After withdrawing the money from the ATM, which consisted of four pieces of \$500 notes, and 10 pieces of \$100 notes, he then took \$200 from it to buy food. He also said he took photos of the banknotes because his memory was "poor".

The employer said the defendant also knew his wife and son would be returning home from their travel in China on Apr. 22. In the afternoon, after taking a nap, he discovered \$1,100 was missing.

A few hours after, his wife arrived and called the police. The police checked the defendant's wallet and found money there. They then compared the serial number of the banknotes indicated in the photo taken by the employer on his mobile phone and the serial number of the banknotes found in the defendant's wallet and found they matched.

In defense, the duty lawyer of the defendant asked the witness about his poor memory and insisted that the money found in Castante's wallet was part of her salary.

The employer admitted that he was "forgetful", but he never gave the money to Castante as part of her salary.

He also said he did not give her permission to take his money.

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No more OEC

DOLE to roll out OFW ID

By Albert Hernandez

OVERSEAS Filipino workers will no longer need to secure Overseas Employment Certificate for deployment since they will soon be provided with an iDOLE—OFW Identification Card, Labor Secretary Silvestre Bello III said earlier this month.

Bello said on July 5 that the iDOLE—OFW ID will serve as the replacement for OEC for enhanced and convenient delivery of government services and program for OFWs.

"Under this program, all bona fide OFWs will be given iDOLE, the ID of the Department of Labor and Employment at no cost to the OFWs. This will serve as the OEC of the OFWs," Bello said.

The unique iDOLE Card, which is

the 'best gift' of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte to millions of OFWs, will allow them to easily transact with government and private agencies including Pag-IBIG, SSS, and Philhealth.

With the use of iDOLE Card, OFWs can also access their government records electronically without the need to go to concerned government offices.

The ID card can also serve as a debit card and an ATM card for the OFW Bank as well as a beep card for LRT and MRT.

Bello also said that the labor department is trying to adopt a system which will allow iDOLE Card to serve as the electronic passport for the OFWs, which they can use anytime, whether they are going abroad or going back to the Philippines.

"We are trying to adopt a system that

this iDOLE can serve as OFWs passport. Kakausapin natin nang maigi ang Department of Foreign Affairs and the Department of Justice, through the Bureau of Immigration. Para yang iDOLE na yan ay pwede na ring gamitin bilang passport," Bello said.

Meanwhile, more enhanced and convenient delivery of government services and programs will continue to benefit and ease the lives of OFWs as the OFW Bank will be officially launched in October 2017.

Also, an increasing number of overseas Filipino workers will continue to benefit from a more compact and streamlined frontline services brought by One-Stop Service Center for OFWs (OSSCO) nationwide.

"The President has seen to it that their lives are more comfortable, more secured and their stay abroad are properly attended to. And it has been my policy to prioritize the protection, welfare, and interest of our Bagong Bayani," Bello said.

Bello cited the persistence of Hong Kong OFWs in asking for the abolition of the OEC.

"Our OFWs in Hong Kong were at the forefront in asking for the OEC's abolition," Bello told Hong Kong News.



Bello

Diseases top cause of death of Pinoys in HK

By Ally Constantino

AS of the first half of the year, more than 40 Filipinos died in Hong Kong, data from the Philippine Consulate General show.

Attaché Hermogenes Cayabyab Jr. of the Assistance to Nationals section told Hong Kong News, that out of the 43 Filipino nationals who died in the city, two were work-related, and two were identified as suicide cases.

"Mas madami sa mga namamatay ay dahil sa sakit kaya't dapat po ingatan natin ang ating mga katawan. Kung may nararamdaman sila, at kung hindi sila dalhin sa hospital ng mga amo nila, maari silang makipag-ugnayan dito sa konsulado," Cayabyab said.

He added that Filipinos could contact Hong Kong's emergency services by calling "999". The consulate, meanwhile, could be contacted thru telephone number 2823-8500.

Meanwhile, Assistance to Nationals Officer Danilo Baldon said there was no schedule yet when the remains of a 34-year-old Filipino gardener who allegedly committed suicide would be repatriated. The Filipino was reportedly found dead hanging from the ceiling

of his bedroom in his employer's home in Deep Water Bay on July 3.

"His brother, who also works in the same employer as a driver, is here," Baldon said.

This is the second reported case of suicide of Filipinos in Hong Kong this year.

On March 2, a 38-year-old Filipino was also found dead hanging from a window of his bedroom in his home he shared with his wife and daughter in Wan Chai.

The victim, who was working as a bouncer in Wan Chai, was taken to the hospital but was declared dead upon arrival.

In 2016, six Filipinos committed suicide. Five out of the six suicide cases were allegedly because of debt-related problems.

Meanwhile, on Feb. 27, one Filipino worker - Norman Padilla - fell to his death while dismantling one of the carnival rides at the Central Harbourfront.

On June 15, Filipino domestic worker Rodolfo Villaruel died in a traffic accident in To Kwa Wan.

Prior to Villaruel's death, four Filipino workers in Hong Kong died while performing their job since 2015.

Mga Katungulan ng mga Dayuhang Kasambahay

Umiwas sa labis na pangungutang. Huwag bayaran ang iyong ahensiya sa pamamagitan ng pag-utang sa kahit na anong kumpanya na nagpapautang kahit na hilingin ito ng ahensiya.

Gawin lamang ang mga pambahay na tungkulin para sa pamamahay ng amo sa tirahan na nakasaad sa kontrata. Huwag manilbihan para sa ibang tao bukod sa iyong amo.

Mayroon kang libreng tutuluyan sa pamamahay ng iyong amo sa tirahan na nakasaad sa kontrata, at ditto ka lang puwedeng tumira. Maaring hindi na payagan ang iyong pag-apply ng visa sa hinaharap kung titira ka sa labas kahit na pinayagan o binayaran ito ng iyong amo.

Umiwas sa "job-hopping". Kadalasan hindi pinapayagan ang pagpalit ng amo habang wasto pa ang iyong kasalukuyang kontrata maliban sa pambihirang pangyayari. Maaring hindi na payagan ang iyong pag-apply ng visa sa hinaharap kung aabusuhin ang pagputol sa kontrata nang wala sa panahon.

Huwag tumanggap ng illegal na trabaho o pansamtalang trabaho kahit na pinayagan o pinakiusapan ka ng iyong amo o ahensiya na gawin iyon.

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勞工處 Labour Department

Pinay pleads guilty to hitting baby

By Cheryl M. Arcibal

SHE was exhausted and when the 18-month-old baby that she was caring for had not gone to sleep, she hit the child.

Filipino domestic worker C.B. Sotto on July 4 pleaded guilty to a charge of ill-treatment of a child she was taking care of at the Eastern Magistracy.

"You are convicted on your own plea," said Principal Magistrate Bina Chainrai after Sotto admitted to the charge.

The prosecution said that at about 11:50

p.m., while the parents of the child were not at their home in Sheung Wan, the mother accessed the security camera in the flat through her mobile phone and she saw the helper hitting the child's head and body.

The parents then reported the incident to the police and the baby was taken to the Queen Mary Hospital, where medical examinations revealed no injury to the victim.

At the police station, the defendant admitted that she hit the child and that she

lost her self-control because she was exhausted and wanted to rest and go to bed.

Sotto's duty lawyer told the court the defendant had a series of late nights prior to the incident as the child's parents would go out and the helper would stay up late to take care of the baby.

"The defendant had been taking care of the baby 16 months prior to the incident. This was not premeditated. The act was not hidden, she had known all along that the camera was there," the duty lawyer said.

The defense also said that the helper hit the child after she removed the baby from the cot and was trying to lull the baby to sleep.

"Just to put context into the situation, she is very sorry, but she has not been able to get a proper rest. The defendant was up a lot at nights as the employers would go out regularly," the defense said.

Judge Chainrai, however, said being stressed at work was not "an excuse for hitting the child the way she did."

"This is out of character of the defend-

ant, this was not planned. The child had not suffered any injury and the defendant is very remorseful. She has obviously lost her job," the defense said about the Filipina, who has a teenage son in the Philippines who lives with the defendant's mother.

"She is keen to return to the Philippines to be with her son," the duty lawyer said.

Judge Chainrai ordered a background report on the defendant and adjourned Sotto's sentencing to July 18. The defendant was remanded in jail custody.

Migrants press for printing of PH passports in post

By Ally Constantino

MIGRANT domestic workers in Hong Kong are pressing the Philippine government to send a printing machine here in the city to cut the costs incurred by Filipinos who renew their passports here.

Dolores Balladares-Pelaez, chairperson of the United Filipinos in Hong Kong, told Hong Kong News there was a plan that besides data capturing here, printing should also be done in the post to reduce costs.

Presently, data capturing is held at the post and will then be sent to the National Printing Office in Manila. Once printing is completed, the passport is then sent to the

overseas post via a courier service.

Besides being expensive, it takes months before the new passport is delivered to the applicant.

"That's the plan," Balladares-Pelaez said.

Eman Villanueva, chairperson of Bayan Hong Kong and Macau, said the Philippine post should follow the practice of other consulates in Hong Kong which print their passports here.

"The Indonesian consulate is doing that kaya ang bilis nilang mag-issue ng passport so it's just a matter of magkaroon ng machine dito, pero at the moment kasi parang biometrics pa din, data capturing pa

lang din ang available," he said.

In his meeting with the Filipino community held on July 6 at the Philippine Consulate General, Foreign Affairs Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano said the new passport with 10-year validity would take time before it could be rolled out. Presently, Philippine passports are valid for five years.

"Iyong 10 years na passport, kailangan po iyan maging batas at magkaroon ng implementing rules and regulations," he said.

Cayetano belied reports that the new passport would cost double.

"Siguro naman kung iyong doblehin man ang kapal, kahit makapal ang papel, ang cover naman pareho. Huwag po kay-

ong mag-alala, we will get you the best deal possible. Right now, we are looking at how to do it," he said.

The DFA chief said there was a plan to allow passport applicants to use the same photo and data in their passports instead of periodically going to the consular offices so they could have their photo taken and input their personal details each time they renew their passport.

"Pipilitin natin na in the future, kapag nag-renew kayo, parang sa ibang bansa, mina-mail na lang iyon, hindi na kailangan mag-appear at dalhin pa ang mga dokumento ninyo. This way, we will get it to you cheaper and faster," he said.

Cayetano brought to the PCG two additional data capturing machines to allow the post to process passport renewal faster. Previously, there were four data capturing machines at the PCG.

Cayetano said, yearly, passport applications in the Philippines increase between four and seven percent, translating to 400,000 to 700,000 new applicants.

"As far as passport is concerned, give us sometime, pero months lang iyan at hindi years. Two machines ngayon at naghahanap lang ng tao, but we will try right away na magkaroon kayo ng additional slots every Sunday para mas marami makapunta [dito sa PCG]," he said.

Dayuhang Kasambahay

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 - umpsa sa pangatlong taon, ang bilang ay nadadagdag ng 1 araw sa bawa't taon hanggang sa pinakamataas ay 14 na araw.





Maid jailed for stealing from boss' card

By Cheryl M. Arcibal

HER employer had the receipts.

C.Q. Rovero on July 4 pleaded guilty to five charges of theft at the Eastern Magistracy.

The prosecution said that from May 16 to May 25 this year, the defendant would take money from her employer's ATM card each time she would be told to go the supermarket to buy food and other items.

However, instead of taking money only to pay for food and other items as instructed by her employer, it was discovered that the domestic helper would take some

money for her own.

On May 16, 20, and 22, Rovero took \$500 each time she went to Marketplace in the Mid-levels. On May 24, she took \$300, and on May 25, she took \$200 from the card.

On May 25, the employer checked the account through online banking and compared the amount taken by the helper with the supermarket receipts.

The employer then discovered that the amount the helper took from the account was different to and bigger from the amount the helper paid for grocery items.

"The employer found out the helper

withdrew money without her permission, and the defendant admitted that she took the money," the brief facts of the case as read to the defendant in Tagalog said.

The Filipina was immediately terminated by the employer and was sent away. The employer also reported the incidents to police.

On June 5, Rovero went to the Central Police Station to surrender.

The duty lawyer also said that before committing the offense, Rovero worked for her employer for eight months, earning \$5,000 monthly.

"Her father passed away in March and her 18-year-old son needed money for university exams.

"It is still a breach of trust," said Judge Chainrai.

"This [offense] was done out of desperation rather than greed or personal accumulation of wealth. She surrendered herself and she's very, very sorry that's why she pleaded guilty.

"This is an act of foolishness, and this is out of her character," the lawyer added.

Judge Chainrai said the offenses were committed in a span of 10 days and that there was an element of pre-meditation.

"In my view, the only appropriate sentence is a custodial sentence," the magistrate said.

Rovero was then sentenced to three weeks in prison for each of the five charg-

es.

Judge Chainrai, however, reduced it to two weeks owing to the Filipina's guilty plea.

The prison terms would be served concurrently.

The prosecution added that prior to these charges, the defendant had a clear record.

The prosecutor also asked Judge Chainrai to order the defendant to compensate the victim.

However, Rovero's duty lawyer said the defendant was in no position to compensate the employer as she had lost her job and her earning potential here in Hong Kong.

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Bind over for FDH in shop theft

By Ally Constantino

A Filipino domestic helper who failed to pay for a tube of hair gel was bound over and was warned not to commit any offense again.

On July 4, Juvilyn M.R. appeared at the Eastern Magistrates' Courts.

A bind-over order, according to the Community Legal Information Centre of the Law and Technology Centre of the University of Hong Kong, is "not a form of punishment but a preventive measure whereby the court requires a person to enter into a recognizance, with or without sureties, to be of good behavior or to keep the peace for a period not exceeding three years."

The prosecution said they would deal

with Juvilyn's case by way of a bind over.

Juvilyn was charged with theft for taking a hair gel from a Park 'N Shop supermarket in Aberdeen on June 9.

The prosecution said the hair gel, which had a price tag of \$37.4, was found in a yellow recycled bag of the defendant.

Juvilyn paid for all the other grocery items except for the hair gel.

The anti-theft system of the shop alarmed and then a cashier ran after Juvilyn.

The Filipino was then taken to the office of the shop manager, while awaiting police and when police arrived, she was arrested.

Magistrate Cheng Lim-chi told Juvily-

lyn that she was bound over by \$1,000 for a period of 12 months.

Judge Cheng warned Juvilyn to keep her good behavior within the period and do not commit any offense involving dishonesty.

"If you're able to do that, then you don't have to pay the \$1,000, but if you are unable to do that, then you have to pay the amount on top of the new sentence of the fresh offense," Judge Cheng said.

Juvilyn originally appeared in court on June 20.

Principal Magistrate Bina Chainrai ordered her to pay additional \$300 as her bail money.

The defendant had initially paid \$200 as bail.

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Cook charged over drugs in LKF

By Ally Constantino

A 20-year-old Filipino working as a cook here in Hong Kong has been charged with possession of dangerous drugs.

The prosecution alleged Charles D.J. was found to be possessing 0.32 grams of a solid containing cocaine on May 6 while he was at the Lan Kwai Fong sitting out area.

Charles appeared at the Eastern Magistrates' Courts on July 4. No plea was taken.

Acting Principal Magistrate Bina Chainrai required the defendant to post an additional \$200 bail to the \$300-bail he posted previously. The defendant's case was adjourned to August 1 for mention.



Lan Kwai Fong

Travel document now valid for 7 months

By Cheryl M. Arcibal

THE Philippine Consulate General has began issuing travel documents with seven-month validity starting June, Vice Consul Alex Vallespin said.

In an interview, Vallespin said these travel documents were given, among others, to those 242 Filipino domestic workers whose passports were seized by Hong Kong Police during a raid on a loan shark syndicate.

"Many of these passport owners have expiring visa, so previously we issued travel documents to them with three months of validity. So they go to the Immigration Department here in Hong Kong to renew their visa every two months, but now starting June we are issuing travel documents with seven months of validity so their visa renewal will be made every six months, instead of the previous every two months," he said.

The longer validity for the travel document was approved by the Department of Foreign Affairs office in Manila and was also coordinated with the Hong Kong Immigration, and Police Force.

In March, Hong Kong Police said persons behind the loan shark syndicate preying on Filipino domestic helpers were estimated to have profited at least \$2 million from the illegal activity.

Chan Hon-ming, superintendent of Organized Crime and Triad Bureau of Hong Kong Police Force, said the syndicate gave loans to more than 1,200 borrowers between March and October 2016. All the borrowers were Filipino domestic workers.

In January, Vallespin had disclosed the PCG will crack down on the passport for loan scheme whereby Filipinos here in Hong Kong pawn their passports so they could borrow money from creditors.

He added that they have uncovered the



scheme whereby a domestic worker would pawn their passport, and when they need to renew it, they will take it back temporarily, and once they have processed their new passport, they would inform the PCG that they have lost their old one, instead of having it cancelled.

"These loans, ranged from \$4,000 to \$15,000, were given out at a monthly interest rate of 10 percent and the borrowers all surrendered their passports and con-

tracts for collaterals.

"Over this short period of eight months, the syndicate had already given out a total of \$10 million in cash and the estimated minimum return the syndicate earned from these loans amounted to \$2 million," Chan said.

Besides the eight Filipino women, whose ages ranged 34-58, a local couple, the alleged financiers, was also arrested.

"Our investigation revealed a local cou-

Court hears anew Pinays' HK stay bid

By Ally Constantino

THE High Court on July 10 began hearing again the plea of women who had been denied their right to abide in Hong Kong to take care of their children.

Among the parties was Milagros Comilang, the mother of a minor who is a Hong Kong resident.

The lawyer for the petitioner told High Court Chief Judge Andrew Cheung, Court of Appeal's Vice President Vincent Lam and Justice Jeremy Poon that the Immigration Department erred in refusing to grant extended stay to the mothers of these Hong Kong children.

The mothers were fighting for their right to stay longer in Hong Kong to care for their children.

The lawyer said although family rights were not absolute, the Immigration Department director should take into consideration the circumstances of each of the cases involving the rights and welfare of a Hong Kong child.

In January 2016, the bid of three Filipino women to stay in Hong Kong to take care of their children was dismissed by the High Court, saying that they had no "family right" to reverse the decision

of the Immigration Director to deny their right of abode in or right to enter in Hong Kong.

In a 105-page judgment, Justice Thomas Au of the Court of First Instance rejected arguments that denying the permanent stay in Hong Kong of the Filipino women violated the fundamental rights" of the children, who are Hong Kong permanent residents.

The judgment consolidated the bids for judicial review of Comilang, Victoria Pagtama, and Desiree Luis.

Pagtama, who worked as a foreign domestic helper between 1982 and 1997 in Hong Kong, is taking care of her 16-year-old grandson, who was born in the territory in April 1999 out of wedlock to Pagtama's daughter and one Mr. Kong (a Hong Kong permanent resident). Pagtama's daughter and Kong later married in May 1999.

Since birth, Pagtama had been taking care of her grandson, save for a period between 2000 and 2005, when he was taken by his mother to the Philippines.

When the boy was taken back by his mother to Hong Kong in July 2005, Pagtama resumed taking care of him. Since July 2007, Pagtama had applied to the

Family Court for guardianship of the minor, which was supported by the boy's mother. In April 2009, the Family Court granted an order appointing Pagtama as the legal guardian of the boy.

She and the boy had since lost contact with the latter's parents and that Pagtama was the only blood relative or the next of kin of the teenager.

Before the expiry of Pagtama's limit of stay in Hong Kong in December 2008, she applied for extension of stay to take care of the boy. Her application was denied by the Immigration Director.

After filing several appeals, Immigration on November 14, 2014, granted Pagtama permission to remain as a visitor for the initial period of 90 days together with multiple re-entry visa.

Comilang, meanwhile, is the mother of a nine-year-old girl, who is a Hong Kong permanent resident and whose father is a Pakistani.

Luis meanwhile first came to Hong Kong as a foreign domestic helper, and is mother to three children born between 2002 and 2011. Luis contended that since birth, she had taken care of the children and that the second child was diagnosed with a heart disease.

New ma jailed over drugs possession

By Ally Constantino

A new mom was sent to jail for eight months after pleading guilty to a drug case.

Kowloon City Courts Magistrate Veronica Heung Shuk-han on June 30 initially sentenced A.D. Bugayong to 12 months in prison, but reduced it to eight months after the defendant pleaded guilty.

On June 16, Bugayong admitted to possessing 5.6 grams of shabu when she was searched by a police officer on May 5.

Before sentencing the defendant, Judge

Heung called for a background report and a drug addiction treatment center report.

Mitigating, the defendant's duty lawyer said Bugayong admitted the drugs were only for her personal consumption. But Judge Heung noted that in the background report, the defendant said that in the morning of May 5, she was ill, and had a fever, and a friend came over and out something in her bag.

"What is she trying to imply?" said Judge Heung.

The duty lawyer said the defendant admitted she knew that the packets con-

tained drugs and they were for her personal consumption.

"She was arrested on May 5, and she gave birth [while in custody] on May 8. The baby is now one-month old," the duty lawyer said, while Bugayong, who was in the dock, was cradling her baby.

"I have considered the facts of the case and that the defendant had a clear record, and the mitigation advanced by your lawyer, I sentence to 12 months in prison, and reduce it to eight months," the magistrate said. Judge Heung also said the infant could stay with the defendant in jail.

ple was in control and operating this syndicate by funding the loans. They used their own Filipino domestic helper as assistant to run the loan shark scheme and outreach to other Filipino domestic helpers for recruiting runners and borrowers in order to expand their 'loan shark business'.

"These assistants and runners were responsible to give out the loans and collect debts whereas they would surrender the collaterals to the couple until redemption was arranged," Chan said.

The police, Chan said, started their operations in March. Arrests were made on Mar. 12 after passports were passed on by a Filipino female to the couple. Raids were also conducted at various premises "including a rented service office used by the syndicate and the residence of the syndicate members". The syndicate members, the police said, were arrested for "Conspiracy to lend money at excessive interest rate" and "Conspiracy to blackmail".

Overstayer free to go home

DESPITE a medical report saying she had no illness, a 69-year-old Filipina who had been overstaying in Hong Kong for more than six years escaped a jail term.

On July 5, Shatin Deputy Magistrate Lam Tsz-kan sentenced T. Sabino to six months in prison, and reduced it to four months following her guilty plea.

The sentence was also suspended for one year, which meant T. Sabino was free to go home to the Philippines.

Sabino was set to fly to the Philippines in the second week of July.

The defendant, who looked frail and grimacing in pain when she appeared in court on June 7, pleaded guilty to breach of condition of stay,

She had been overstaying in the city since her

visa expired in February 2011 and had surrendered to authorities on May 19, 2017. Her duty lawyer said Sabino, single, had a clear record in Hong Kong and had been working as a domestic helper in the city for 30 years.

"The main mitigating factor here is that she surrendered to authorities and she pleaded guilty," the duty lawyer said.

Seeing the defendant grimacing in pain, Judge Lam told the defendant she could sit on a chair during the court proceedings.

Sabino's lawyer told the court the defendant was complaining of abdominal pains.

Before her sentencing, Judge Lam had called for medical reports on the defendant.

Ally Constantino

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Helper overstays to find new employer

By Cheryl M. Arcibal

SHE just wanted to find another employer, but she ended up overstaying her visa and being charged in court.

R.T. Bagsit, 41, on Jun. 23 pleaded guilty for breach of condition of stay at the Shatin Courts.

Bagsit's contract was terminated on Apr. 30, but she stayed on in Hong Kong for more than a month and then surrendered to Immigration authorities on Jun. 12.

"I find the defendant guilty of the charge," Acting Principal Magistrate Joseph To Ho-shing after Bagsit's plea.

Her duty lawyer told the court the de-

fendant was a college graduate, and married with a son and daughter in the Philippines.

"She overstayed for one month because she wanted to get a new contract. She is remorseful and pleaded guilty."

"With her conviction, she is unlikely to find work again as a domestic helper in

Hong Kong and this is a great punishment to the defendant," the duty lawyer said.

He added that the defendant hoped that the court would give her a lenient sentence as she wanted to go back to the Philippines to be with her family soon.

Judge To then said Bagsit was sentenced to nine days in jail, and reduced it to six

days owing to her guilty plea.

The magistrate also said the sentence was suspended for 12 months, which meant that if the defendant would not commit any other offense in Hong Kong within the period she would not have to serve the jail term.

Pinay fined \$7,500 over unlicensed restaurant

By Ally Constantino

A Filipino woman who had previous 30 convictions related to operating an unlicensed restaurant was fined \$7,500 by an Eastern Magistrates judge on June 15.

Z. R. Lai pleaded guilty to the offense but told Special Magistrate Ho Lai-ting she did not have money to immediately settle the fine.

Lai told the court that she was willing to pay \$1,000 immediately but asked to pay the balance at \$500 every month until the entire amount is settled.

Judge Ho, however, denied her request saying that allowing a defendant to pay fine in installments for too long, the "punishment will be totally lost".

"I will give you time to pay, but not as you suggested. You pay \$1,000 today, and the rest of the amount, you pay \$1,500 every 15th day of every month starting July 15," said Judge Ho.

The defendant, however, said she is already paying \$3,500 every month as fine for another case and that she could not afford to pay more.

The magistrate, however, warned Lai that failure to comply with the schedule to pay the fine would mean an immediate issuance of a warrant of arrest.

The defendant added that she would be willing to go to jail instead because she had no more money for the additional fine.

Prosecutors charged Lai with operating on August 2, 2016 an unlicensed restaurant at the first floor of World Wide House in Central.



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Kalinga's Culture among the Clouds

By Daryll Saclag

THE province of Kalinga sits high atop the mountains of Cordillera in the north of Luzon. From Manila, you can go by car, which will take you half a day, or by plane to Tuguegarao in the neighboring province of Cagayan. And from there you are just an hour drive away. Sounds quite a journey, doesn't it? But tourists, locals and foreigners alike, have been flocking to Kalinga in recent years with one goal in mind: to experience this culture among the clouds.

Once known as a land rife with tribal wars, Kalinga is slowly transforming itself into a backpacker haven. One of the

province's main attractions is Buscalan in Tinglayan town where Apo Whang Od lives. A petite woman aged around 100 years and whose body is covered with exotic patterns, Apo Whang Od is said to be the last traditional Kalinga tattoo artist. With a small bamboo hammer, thorns, and charcoal, she has been tattooing warriors and women for decades. Her patterns can range from eagle, snake, centipede, lightning, heaven, and fertility, among others.

And there is also Awichon Village from the nearby town of Lubuagan. Considered as the province's "Center for Culture and the Arts", Awichon features traditional Kalinga houses on the edge of a cliff, with views of long mountain ranges. The

houses are made of wood and are slightly raised from the ground. Inside, there are no divisions, no walls, but just one big room with eight sides. At the center is a fireplace that both serve as a heating system and as a kitchen. Outside, gongs, weapons, shields, and carabao horns are hung in the outer walls of the houses.

The village was built by Alonzo Saclag, Sr., a National Living Treasure and is my grandfather, to preserve the rich culture of Kalinga. Dances that usually feature bird-like movements as well as songs that have been passed down from generation to generation are usually performed to welcome visitors who come not just from the Philippines but also from other countries

such as Germany, Israel, Thailand, and the United States. Tourists can sleep in one of the traditional houses for Php500, inclusive of food.

And if you decide to stay the night, I guarantee that you will wake up the next day to a stunning view of the mountains and feel the clouds touch your skin. You will be energized by the aroma of roasted coffee beans and by chirping birds that greet you a good morning.

Those who are looking for some adrenaline rush can also do whitewater rafting along the Chico River.

Participants will surely be thrilled by exhilarating drops and rapids and by breathtaking views along the way. Some

even "top load", which means hopping onto the roof of a jeepney, to have a better view of the journey. One can also hike rice terraces etched unto the mountainsides.

The best time to visit Kalinga is from January to June as it is the rainy season during the second half of the year. It is also advisable that visitors bring enough cash as the city center is far from the places that you will be visiting.

Kalinga is not your usual travel destination when you visit the Philippines. It has no beaches and late-night parties to offer. However, when you decide to go, it will be a different and beautiful experience – one that will last with you forever, just like a tattoo.



Visitors to Kalinga will be welcomed by this arc



Awichon Village features traditional Kalinga houses



A stunning view of the mountains is sure to impress visitors



Gongs, weapons, and shields are hung outside the walls of the houses



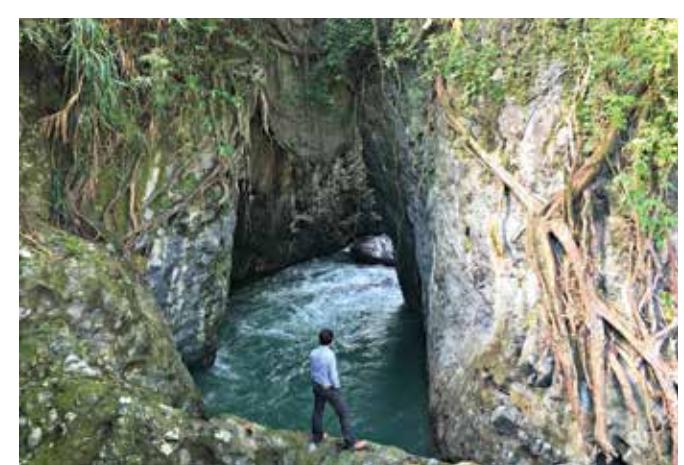
Rice terraces seem like stairways to heaven



Chico River is over 170 kilometers long that runs through Kalinga and Mountain Province



Kalinga is abundant in natural attractions



After a long day of hiking, tourists can take a dip in one of Kalinga's rivers.



Cayetano and Consul-General Bernardita Cataña

PH sees China...

From page 1

"Isang paraan para mapabuti ang inyong kalagayan dito sa Hong Kong is competition; meaning the more employers who would want to hire you, the more they're willing to give you higher pay and more time off, but sa ngayon limited kayo sa Hong Kong," Cayetano said.

The Philippine government, he said, is working hard to open these new opportunities for OFWs so they could choose the best place for them.

"Bagama't nagpapasalamat tayo sa Hong Kong, nagpapasalamat tayo sa lahat ng bansa, hindi nila masisisi na we will always look for greener pastures and will always look for places that will treat our OFWs well," Cayetano said.

He also said the negotiations between Manila and Beijing were continuing.

Cayetano, however, said he did not know when the negotiations would wrap up and refused to divulge more details about the discussions.

Before coming to Hong Kong, Cayetano and his delegation were in Beijing.

"As I said kung nagnenegotiate ka, hindi pwedeng i-announce mo muna kasi hindi mo din alam kung ano ang takbo ng ka-

nlang policy," Cayetano said when asked to about the possibility of a labor agreement between Manila and Beijing.

There are an estimated 200,000 Filipinos living and working in Hong Kong, and some 190,000 of them are domestic helpers, whose current minimum allowable wage stands at \$4,310.

The top complaint of Filipino domestic workers in Hong Kong, however, was the long working hours, with many of them saying they work between 12 hours and 18 hours a day to serve their employers.

A leader of a militant group of migrant domestic workers, however, said that despite Cayetano's claim that opening new markets for OFWs would pave the way for better working conditions for Filipinos, this still depends on the host country's policy.

"Pwedeng mangyari iyang better labor conditions, at pwede din namang hindi. Kasi this is actually beyond our control. The truth is sa Hong Kong kung nag-aapply talaga ang ang tinatawag na law of supply and demand, dapat mataas na ang sweldo ng migrant domestic workers at mas maayos na ang working conditions because of the ever increasing demand."

"Actually mayroong shortage ng sup-

ply kung tutuusin sa migrant domestic workers sa Hong Kong kaya talagang may disconnect. May shortage ng supply pero mina-maintain na cheap ang migrant domestic workers kasi iyon ang policy," said Eman Villanueva, chairman of Bayan Hong Kong and Macau.

In May, Labor Secretary Silvestre Bello III hinted that the Philippines and China were firming up a labor agreement that would expand the market and ensure ample protection for OFWs.

In a previous interview, Labor Attaché Jalilo dela Torre confirmed that he submitted recommendations to Bello about the possibility of allowing Filipinos to seek employment in China.

Should there be an agreement, Dela Torre said this would mean high-skilled and low-skilled Filipino workers could soon go to China and be employed there.

Those who may find work are engineers, tutors, nurses, and household service workers. Presently, there are Filipino engineers in China.

"There are labor opportunities in China and we should at least look at those before we make any decision to open the labor market formally," Dela Torre had said.

POLO still looking for new office

By Cheryl M. Arcibal

THE Philippine Overseas Labor Office may not be moving to the Lippo Centre after all.

Labor Attaché Jalilo dela Torre on July 5 told Hong Kong News they will still leave their current office premises but were unsure whether to proceed to a Lippo Centre office after the area they were looking at was leased out to another tenant.

POLO is presently occupying offices at the 11th and 16th floors of Admiralty Centre.

"Matutuloy naman ang paglipat namin. Andiyan na iyong budget kaya lang na-lease na ang fourth floor doon sa Lippo Centre. Naghahanap na kami ng iba. We can move to the United Centre, Admiralty Centre, or the Lippo Centre," he said.

Dela Torre added that they have asked several agents to help them find a new office.

As of July 10, he said they would be viewing another area - a fifth floor office at the Lippo Centre.

"I scolded the agent on July 4. Sabi ko sa kanila 'you did not protect our interests'. I'm looking for other agents pero sabi nila kasi hindi pa daw naprimahan ng landlord at ako pa lang na-kapirma kaya hindi pa binding. Binding lang daw kapag nabayaran na," he said.

Meanwhile, the Department of Labor and Employment office in Manila has wired P17.169 million to the POLO's account in Hong Kong for the agency's transfer to a new office.

POLO said the amount would cover most of the three months of deposit, and one month of advanced rental requirement for leasing here in Hong Kong.

"We still need some 59,000 Hong Kong dollars and then the money for

the installations of fixtures," a POLO staff member handling the accounts said.

The source also said they would file another request for budget augmentation when they become certain where they would be moving.

"We don't know yet how much we would be requesting. That depends on where we would be moving," the source added.

In April, Dela Torre said the POLO would relocate to a new office so the post could save money and do away with strict building security measures, restricting the entry of Filipino workers to its premises on Sundays.

Dela Torre had said the new office they were originally eyeing in Lippo Centre was smaller in area compared to the two areas occupied by POLO at the Admiralty Centre.

The public area of the Lippo Centre office, however, would allow Filipino workers to wait inside the office, instead of being asked to queue at the bridge near Admiralty Centre.

On Sundays, when many Filipinos come to the POLO to process various requirements, the Admiralty Centre building security would be strict and limit the number of Filipinos who would be allowed in the POLO premises.

"It's (strict security) the main reason we are leaving," Dela Torre had said.

Besides the bigger area to accommodate more POLO clients, Dela Torre added the rent for their present offices would be raised once their contract expires in October.

Dela Torre said they initially wanted to move back to the United Centre, but there was no contiguous space available for them.

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North Point, H.K.

Hung Hom :
Store B31, 1/F, Planet Square
No.1-15, Tak Man Street
Hung Hom, Kowloon

Hung Hom :
Store 67, Level 3,
Shatin Lucky Plaza
1-15 Wang Pok Street, Shatin, N.T.

Shatin :
Store 125, 1/F, Lik Sang Plaza,
No.263-275
Castle Peak Road, Tsuen Wan, N.T.

Tsuen Wan:
Store 25 G/F, Healey Building,
No.221-223 Castle Peak Road,
Tsuen Wan, N.T.

Yuen Long:
Store 36 G/F, Wu Fat Building,
No.8 Wang Fat Path,
Yuen Long, N.T.

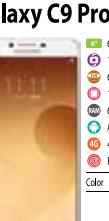
Yuen Long:
Store G62, G/F, Come On Building
Garden, No.33 Lung Sum Avenue, Sheung Shui, N.T.

Sheung Shui:
Store 69, L1, Lung Fung Garden, No.33 Lung Sum Avenue, Sheung Shui, N.T.

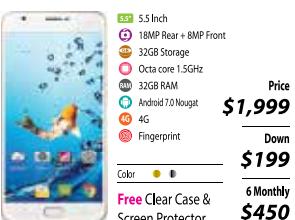
Tuen Mun:
Store G62, G/F, Come On Building
No.387 Castle Peak Road, Castle Peak Bay, Tuen Mun, N.T.

Remarks : • Prices and visuals are for reference only • More brands and models are available at OWTEL Stores • The above available for 3 or 6 months installment

5.5" Screen Size 2G 2G 3G 3G 4G 4G Android iOS iOS System 2 Dual SIM cards WiFi WiFi Bluetooth Front & Back Camera Front Camera Fingerprint Video

Samsung Galaxy S8+ (128 GB) 	Kata i3L 	Sony Xperia X Performance	Kata Selife 	Sony Xperia XA1 	Sony Xperia XZ F8332
 <p>6.2 Inch 12MP Rear + 8MP Front 128GB Storage Octa-Core 4x2.35 GHz 6GB RAM 4G Fingerprint Iris Scanner Color: Black, Gold, Silver Price: \$6,998 Down: \$1,299 6 Monthly: \$1,553</p>	 <p>5 Inch 13MP Rear + 5MP Front 16GB Storage 1.3GHz Quad Core 2GB RAM Android 5.1 Lollipop 4G Color: White, Black Price: \$960 Down: \$99 6 Monthly: \$192</p>	 <p>5 Inch 13MP Rear + 13MP Front 64GB Storage 1.6GHz Quad Core 3GB RAM 4G Dual SIM Fingerprint Color: Black, White, Gold, Rose Gold Price: \$3,750 Down: \$299 6 Monthly: \$888</p>	 <p>5.5 Inch 18MP (Flip Camera) 32GB Storage 2.3GHz Octa Core 3GB RAM 4G Dual SIM Fingerprint Color: Black, White, Gold, Rose Gold Price: \$1,650 Down: \$199 6 Monthly: \$325</p>	 <p>5 Inch 13MP Rear + 8MP Front 32GB Storage 2.3GHz Octa Core 3GB RAM Android 6.0 Marshmallow 4G Dual SIM Fingerprint Color: Black, White, Gold, Rose Gold Price: \$2,048 Down: \$199 6 Monthly: \$479</p>	 <p>5.2 Inch 23MP Rear + 13MP Front 64GB Storage 1.6GHz Quad Core 3GB RAM Android 6.0 Marshmallow 4G Dual SIM Fingerprint Color: Black, White, Gold, Rose Gold Price: \$4,598 Down: \$599 6 Monthly: \$1,050</p>
Kata C2 	Huawei Y6 Pro 	Sony Xperia XZs 	Samsung Galaxy J1 (2016)	Huawei Nova Plus	Huawei Nova 
 <p>5.5 Inch 13MP Rear + 5MP Front 8GB Storage 1.3GHz Quad Core 1GB RAM Android 6.0 Marshmallow 3G Dual SIM Color: White, Black Price: \$699 Down: \$99 6 Monthly: \$135</p>	 <p>5 Inch 13MP Rear + 5MP Front 16GB Storage 1.3GHz Quad Core 2GB RAM Android 5.1.1 Lollipop 4G Dual SIM Color: White, Black Price: \$1,180 Down: \$99 6 Monthly: \$279</p>	 <p>5 Inch 19MP Rear + 13MP Front 32GB Storage 1.6GHz Quad Core 4GB RAM Android 6.0.1 Marshmallow 4G Dual SIM Color: Black Price: \$4,498 Down: \$699 6 Monthly: \$1,008</p>	 <p>4.5 Inch 5MP Rear + 2MP Front 8GB Storage 1.3GHz Quad Core 1GB RAM Android 5.1.1 Lollipop 4G Dual SIM Color: Black, White Price: \$990 Down: \$199 6 Monthly: \$215</p>	 <p>5.5 Inch 16MP Rear + 8MP Front 32GB Storage 1.2GHz Octa Core 3GB RAM Android 6.0.1 Marshmallow 4G Dual SIM Color: White, Black Price: \$2,880 Down: \$199 6 Monthly: \$687</p>	 <p>5 Inch 12MP Rear + 8MP Front 32GB Storage 2.0GHz Octa Core 3GB RAM Android 6.0.1 Marshmallow 4G Dual SIM Color: White, Black Price: \$1,890 Down: \$99 6 Monthly: \$456</p>
Kata i5 	Asus Zenfone 3 Max ZC520TL 	Apple iPhone 7 Plus 128 GB	Apple iPhone 7 Plus 256 GB	Sony Xperia X F5112 	Samsung Galaxy On7
 <p>5 Inch 13MP Rear + 8MP Front 16GB Storage 3GB RAM Android 6.0 Marshmallow 4G Dual SIM Fingerprint Color: White, Black, Gold Price: \$1,290 Down: \$99 6 Monthly: \$263</p>	 <p>5.2 Inch 13MP Rear + 5MP Front 32GB Storage 1.2GHz Quad Core 3GB RAM Android 6.0.1 Marshmallow 4G Dual SIM Fingerprint Color: White, Black Price: \$1,599 Down: \$159 6 Monthly: \$374</p>	 <p>5.5 Inch 12MP Rear + 7MP Front 128GB Storage A10 Fusion Quad Core 3GB RAM iOS 10 4G Fingerprint Color: White, Black Price: \$7,968 Down: \$1,999 6 Monthly: \$1,659</p>	 <p>5.5 Inch 12MP Rear + 7MP Front 256GB Storage A10 Fusion Quad Core 3GB RAM iOS 10 4G Fingerprint Color: White, Black Price: \$8,188 Down: \$1,999 6 Monthly: \$1,714</p>	 <p>5 Inch 12MP Rear + 13MP Front 32GB Storage 1.6GHz Hexa Core 3GB RAM Android 6.0 Marshmallow 4G Dual SIM Fingerprint Color: White, Black Price: \$3,298 Down: \$0 6 Monthly: \$825</p>	 <p>5.5 Inch 13MP Rear + 8MP Front 32GB Storage Octa Core 2.0 GHz 3GB RAM Android 6.0 Marshmallow 4G Dual Sim Color: White, Black Price: \$1,450 Down: \$199 6 Monthly: \$354</p>
Sony Xperia XA F3116 	LG Stylus 3 	Samsung Galaxy J7 Prime 	HTC Desire 10 Pro	Samsung Galaxy C9 Pro 	Huawei P9 Lite
 <p>6 Inch 21.5MP Rear + 16MP Front 16GB Storage 1.6GHz Octa Core Android 6.0.1 Marshmallow 4G Color: White, Black, Gold Price: \$1,598 Down: \$99 6 Monthly: \$383</p>	 <p>5.7 Inch 13MP Rear + 5MP Front 16GB Storage Octa-core 1.4 GHz 3.0 Nougat 4G Dual SIM Fingerprint Color: White Price: \$1,698 Down: \$199 6 Monthly: \$392</p>	 <p>5.5" Inch 13 MP Rear + 8MP Front 32 GB Storage 1.36GHz Octa Core 3.0 Nougat Android 6.0.1 Marshmallow 4G Dual SIM Color: White, Black Price: \$2,098 Down: \$99 6 Monthly: \$508</p>	 <p>5.5 Inch 20MP Rear + 13MP Front 64GB Storage 1.8GHz Octa Core 4GB RAM Android 6.0.1 Marshmallow 4G Color: White, Black Price: \$2,998 Down: \$99 6 Monthly: \$733</p>	 <p>6 Inch 16MP Rear + 16MP Front 64GB Storage 1.44GHz Octa Core 6GB RAM Android 6.0.1 Marshmallow 4G Fingerprint Color: White, Black Price: \$3,698 Down: \$199 6 Monthly: \$892</p>	 <p>5.2 Inch 13MP Rear + 8MP Front 32GB Storage 1.7GHz Octa Core 3GB RAM Android 6.0.1 Marshmallow 4G Color: White, Black Price: \$2,180 Down: \$199 6 Monthly: \$512</p>
Huawei P10 Lite 	Apple iPhone 7 – 256 GB	Samsung Galaxy J5 Prime 	Samsung Galaxy C7 Pro 	Apple iPhone 7 – 128 GB	LG V20
 <p>5.2 Inch 12MP Rear + 8MP Front 32GB Storage 2.15 GHz Octa-core 4 GB RAM 4G Dual Sim Fingerprint Color: White, Black, Gold, Rose Gold Price: \$2,380 Down: \$199 6 Monthly: \$562</p>	 <p>4.7 Inch 12MP Rear + 7MP Front 256GB Storage A10 Fusion Quad Core 3GB RAM iOS 10 4G Fingerprint Color: White, Black Price: \$6,998 Down: \$1,399 6 Monthly: \$1,514</p>	 <p>4.7 Inch 13MP Rear + 5MP Front 32GB Storage 1.4GHz Quad Core 2GB RAM 2.6 Marshmallow 4G Fingerprint Color: White, Black Price: \$1,698 Down: \$199 6 Monthly: \$392</p>	 <p>5.7 Inch 16MP Rear + 16MP Front 64GB Storage 2.2GHz Octa Core 4GB RAM Android 6.0.1 Marshmallow 4G Dual SIM Fingerprint Color: White, Black Price: \$3,098 Down: \$199 6 Monthly: \$742</p>	 <p>4.7 Inch 12MP Rear + 7MP Front 128GB Storage 1.6GHz Quad Core 3GB RAM iOS 10 4G Fingerprint Color: White, Black, Gold, Rose Gold Price: \$6,188 Down: \$1,299 6 Monthly: \$1,331</p>	 <p>5.7 Inch 16MP Rear + 5MP Front 32GB Storage 1.6GHz Quad Core 4 GB RAM Android 7.0 Nougat 4G Dual SIM Color: White, Black Price: \$4,550 Down: \$599 6 Monthly: \$1,038</p>
Kata M3s 	Kata S100 	LG K10 (2017)	Kata C3 	Samsung Galaxy S8 	HTC U Play 
 <p>5.5 Inch 13MP Rear + 8MP Front 16GB Storage Octa Core 4x2.35 GHz 4GB RAM 4G Dual SIM Color: White, Black, Gold Free Kata S100 Price: \$1,290 Down: \$99 6 Monthly: \$296</p>	 <p>2.4 Inch 0.3 MP Rear 32MB Storage Spreadtrum SC6531D 32MB RAM 2G Color: White, Black Price: \$99 Down: \$39 6 Monthly: \$19</p>	 <p>5.5 Inch 13MP Rear + 5MP Front 16GB Storage 1.14GHz Octa Core 2.6 RAM Android 6.0 Marshmallow 4G Dual SIM Color: White, Black Price: \$1,419 Down: \$199 6 Monthly: \$322</p>	 <p>5.5 Inch 16MP Rear + 8MP Front 64GB Storage Octa Core 4x2.35 GHz 6GB RAM 4G Fingerprint Iris Scanner Color: White, Black, Gold, Silver Price: \$899 Down: \$99 6 Monthly: \$201</p>	 <p>6.2 Inch 12MP Rear + 8MP Front 64GB Storage Octa Core 4x2.35 GHz 6GB RAM 4G Fingerprint Iris Scanner Color: White, Black, Gold, Silver Price: \$5,698 Down: \$899 6 Monthly: \$1,275</p>	 <p>5.2 Inch 16MP Rear + 8MP Front 32GB Storage 1.6GHz Quad Core 3GB RAM Android 6.0 Marshmallow 4G Dual SIM Color: White, Black Price: \$3,099 Down: \$399 6 Monthly: \$709</p>
Samsung Galaxy C5 Pro 	Sony Xperia X Compact	HTC U Ultra 	LG G6 	Sony Xperia XA Ultra 	Sugar Y7 Max
 <p>5.2 Inch 16MP Rear + 16 Front 64GB Storage 2.2GHz Octa Core 4GB RAM 4G Dual SIM Color: White, Black, Gold, Rose Gold Price: \$2,798 Down: \$199 6 Monthly: \$667</p>	 <p>4.6 Inch 23MP Rear + 5MP Front Hexa Core 2.15GHz Quad Core 3GB RAM Android 7.0 Nougat 4G Fingerprint Color: White, Black Price: \$2,998 Down: \$499 6 Monthly: \$667</p>	 <p>5.7 Inch 16MP Rear + 12MP Front 64GB Storage 2.15GHz Quad Core 4GB RAM Android 7.0 HTC Sense™ 4G Dual SIM Fingerprint Color: White, Black, Gold, Rose Gold Price: \$5,698 Down: \$899 6 Monthly: \$1,275</p>	 <p>5.7 Inch 16MP Rear + 5MP Front 32GB Storage Quad-Core 2.3GHz 4GB RAM Android 7.0 Nougat 4G Fingerprint Color: White, Black Price: \$5,398 Down: \$599 6 Monthly: \$1,250</p>	 <p>6 Inch 21.5MP Rear + 16MP Front 16GB Storage 2.0GHz Octa Core 3GB RAM Android 6.0.1 Marshmallow 4G Color: White, Black Price: \$2,298 Down: \$0 6 Monthly: \$575</p>	 <p>5.5 Inch 13MP Rear + 5MP Front 16GB Storage 1.3GHz Quad Core 3GB RAM Android 6.0 Marshmallow 4G Dual SIM Fingerprint Color: White, Black Price: \$1,198 Down: \$199 6 Monthly: \$287</p>

Kata M4s



Price \$1,999
Down \$199
6 Monthly \$450
Color ● ■
Free Clear Case & Screen Protector

HP Stream 11



Price \$2,349
Down \$399
6 Monthly \$560
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Canon EOS 1300D with 18-55mm



Price \$3,980
Down \$299
6 Monthly \$1,012
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Casio G-Shock 120A



Price \$730
Down \$99
6 Monthly \$179
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Casio G-Shock 100C



Price \$899
Down \$99
6 Monthly \$224
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Casio Baby G 110PP7



Price \$799
Down \$99
6 Monthly \$197
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Samsung Galaxy T285 Tab A7 LTE



Price \$1,498
Down \$199
6 Monthly \$342
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Acer ES1-131



Price \$3,190
Down \$699
6 Monthly \$681
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Go Pro Hero 5 Black Action Cam



Price \$3,200
Down \$399
6 Monthly \$734
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Casio Baby G 110PP



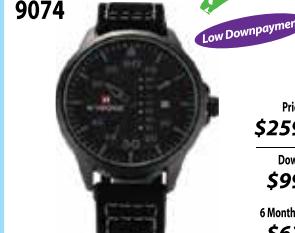
Price \$799
Down \$99
6 Monthly \$197
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Casio G-Shock 7900



Price \$840
Down \$99
6 Monthly \$208
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Naviforce 9074



Price \$259
Down \$99
6 Monthly \$63
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Samsung Galaxy Tab A 10.1



Price \$2,530
Down \$299
6 Monthly \$372
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Lenovo Ideapad 110-14



Price \$4,399
Down \$599
6 Monthly \$1,074
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Canon Power Shot G9X



Price \$3,380
Down \$299
6 Monthly \$796
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Casio Baby G 110TX



Price \$899
Down \$99
6 Monthly \$224
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Alba Active 3111



Price \$680
Down \$29
6 Monthly \$177
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Naviforce 9049



Price \$259
Down \$99
6 Monthly \$63
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Huawei T2 7 LTE



Price \$1,080
Down \$199
6 Monthly \$237
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Fuji Instax Share Sp-2 Printer



Price \$1,390
Down \$199
6 Monthly \$338
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

LG Pocket Photo Printer



Price \$910
Down \$199
6 Monthly \$210
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Kata C2



Kata i3L



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Price \$299
Down \$717
6 Monthly \$4,599

0% Interest



Price \$299
Down \$717
6 Monthly \$4,599



Free

- Romoss sense mini 5000 mah powerbank
- Naviforce watch
- Flip covers
- Screen protectors

Kata V5



Price \$599
Down \$99
6 Monthly \$129
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Romoss DP10 10000mAh Power Bank



Price \$198
Down \$59
6 Monthly \$43
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Romoss Sense 4 10400mAh Power Bank



Price \$128
Down \$29
6 Monthly \$30
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

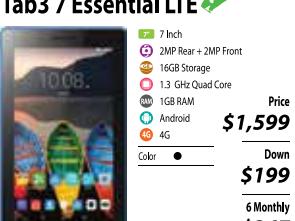
Kata Selfie



Kata i5



Lenovo Tab3 7 Essential LTE



Price \$1,599
Down \$199
6 Monthly \$367
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Astrum ET250 Bluetooth Earphones



Price \$99
Down \$29
6 Monthly \$16
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Soul Ultra Headphones



Price \$599
Down \$199
6 Monthly \$127
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Kata T5



Price \$999
Down \$99
6 Monthly \$225
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Astrum SM310 Bluetooth Speaker



Price \$159
Down \$59
6 Monthly \$33
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Jaybird Bluebuds X



Price \$899
Down \$199
6 Monthly \$204
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Asus Zenfone 3 Max ZC553KL



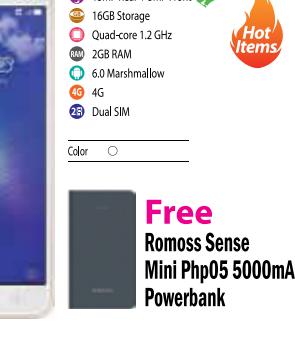
Low Downpayment

Free Romoss Sense Mini Pho5 5000mAh Powerbank



Price \$1,899
Down \$459
6 Monthly \$459
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Asus Zenfone Live



Low Downpayment

Free Romoss Sense Mini Pho5 5000mAh Powerbank



Price \$1,299
Down \$292
6 Monthly \$292
Color ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

OWTEL Appliances



**Philips
Shine Protect Hair Dryer
903**

Price
\$358
Down
\$59
6 Monthly
\$86



**Panasonic
Wrist Blood Pressure
Meter 10**

Price
\$510
Down
\$159
6 Monthly
\$101



**Rasonic
Mini Rice Cooker -
Y5H**

Price
\$219
Down
\$29
6 Monthly
\$52



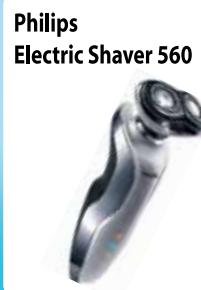
**Samsung
32" 4003**

Price
\$2,590
Down
\$399
6 Monthly
\$581



**Philips
Aquatouch Wet & Dry Electric
Shaver 750**

Price
\$648
Down
\$59
6 Monthly
\$163



**Philips
Electric Shaver 560**

Price
\$498
Down
\$59
6 Monthly
\$123



**Kenwood
Blender Xtract Sport 060**

Price
\$419
Down
\$59
6 Monthly
\$102



**Kenwood
Blender 470**

Price
\$499
Down
\$59
6 Monthly
\$124



**Samsung
22" 5001**

Price
\$1,790
Down
\$199
6 Monthly
\$415



**Samsung
24" 58**

Price
\$2,390
Down
\$299
6 Monthly
\$548



**Panasonic
Men Shaver 34**

Price
\$56
Down
\$19
6 Monthly
\$12



**Philips
Hairclipper 3410**

Price
\$338
Down
\$59
6 Monthly
\$81



**Kenwood
Blender 011**

Price
\$499
Down
\$599
6 Monthly
\$123



**Kenwood
Sandwich Maker 650**

Price
\$498
Down
\$59
6 Monthly
\$123



**Omron
Pulse Massager**

Price
\$840
Down
\$99
6 Monthly
\$201



**Omron
Wrist Blood Pressure**

Price
\$588
Down
\$99
6 Monthly
\$136



**Philips
Hair Dryer 8112**

Price
\$129
Down
\$39
6 Monthly
\$52



**Panasonic
Hair Dryer 51**

Price
\$210
Down
\$79
6 Monthly
\$40



**Kenwood
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Price
\$628
Down
\$59
6 Monthly
\$158



**Kenwood
Weighing Scales 401**

Price
\$319
Down
\$59
6 Monthly
\$76



**Omron
Body Composition Monitor
HBF216**

Price
\$760
Down
\$99
6 Monthly
\$187



**Omron
Upper Arm Blood Pressure
Monitor Hem-7130**

Price
\$699
Down
\$99
6 Monthly
\$165



**Panasonic
Eyelash Curler 2300**

Price
\$110
Down
\$39
6 Monthly
\$21



**Philips
Essentialcare Hair Dryer 603**

Price
\$218
Down
\$39
6 Monthly
\$52



**Panasonic
Lady Epilator**

Price
\$290
Down
\$99
6 Monthly
\$56



**Panasonic
Rice Cooker 105**

Price
\$359
Down
\$79
6 Monthly
\$80



**Sony
Radio 26**

Price
\$138
Down
\$29
6 Monthly
\$32



**Sony
Radio 306**

Price
\$259
Down
\$59
6 Monthly
\$60



**Philips
Easy Natural Curler 10**

Price
\$348
Down
\$59
6 Monthly
\$83



**Panasonic
Hair Curler A11**

Price
\$348
Down
\$59
6 Monthly
\$83



**Panasonic
Rice Cooker 185**

Price
\$399
Down
\$79
6 Monthly
\$90



**Philips
Rice Cooker 3011**

Price
\$289
Down
\$59
6 Monthly
\$65



**Mitsubishi
Fan 12**

Price
\$328
Down
\$59
6 Monthly
\$75



**Toshiba
Radio Txpr-20**

Price
\$119
Down
\$19
6 Monthly
\$29



**Panasonic
Ionity Hair Brush 10**

Price
\$280
Down
\$99
6 Monthly
\$54



**Philips
Essentialcare Ionic
Straightener 403**

Price
\$278
Down
\$39
6 Monthly
\$68



**Philips
Rice Cooker 3017**

Price
\$369
Down
\$79
6 Monthly
\$83



**Panasonic
Blender 1011**

Price
\$288
Down
\$59
6 Monthly
\$65



**Panasonic
Microwave 332**

Price
\$769
Down
\$99
6 Monthly
\$183



**Panasonic
Water Purifier 225**

Price
\$328
Down
\$59
6 Monthly
\$75

'Rollercoaster' year – Duterte

By Maia Lopez

PRESIDENT Rodrigo Duterte described his first year in office as a rollercoaster ride as he waged war on two major fronts -- against drugs and against the ISIS-inspired terrorist groups still holed up in Marawi City.

Duterte, however, declined to give a grade as to his administration's performance.

"I do not make any assessment. I [will] only make [an] assessment after my term," said Duterte, who rose to power on a strong plurality vote.

"If I get to live, then I'll tell you. If I don't exist anymore by that time, you make your own assessment. Just be fair," he added.

Campaigning on a platform of change, Duterte's strong, often incendiary rhetoric has unnerved not only the staunchest of critics but the international arena as well as he made waves over his staunch

defense of his bloody war on drugs, his foreign policy shift, and his promise to address rebellion and conflicts in Mindanao.

"You cannot judge the first year because the concluding programs or projects aren't there yet. What we can only say is that he's on the right track, both in terms of promises he said and its actual impact to our society," said analyst Ramon Casiple, executive director of the Institute for Political and Electoral Reform.

"If his slogan is the measurement, there really is huge change — his one whole year is like three years already. There really is contrasting facts compared to the previous administration. There really has been accomplishments," he added.

Ronald Mendoza, dean of the Ateneo School of Government, said it would be unfair to judge Duterte based on his first year as president.

"This is simply a barometer of the direction where the administration is heading," Mendoza said.

What remains to be seen from the administration, Mendoza said, are "strong institutions" that would ensure that the change Duterte promised would outlast his term.

"Our concern is, what will happen when the President is gone? What will happen when his administration is over? What have they built that will outlast the administration? In terms of the continuity of reforms, what is the administration's game plan?" he added.

If there is one area that the administration has already succeeded in bringing about change, it is foreign policy.

"Definitely, there really is change that was introduced when it comes to our foreign policy -- first of all, pursuing an independent foreign policy," said Aileen Baviera, a professor at the University of the Philippines - Asian Center.

Duterte introduced his "independent foreign policy" shift in the face of what he described as attempts by foreign govern-

ments to meddle in local affairs.

The President then defiantly announced during his visit to Beijing his "separation" from the United States, and the strengthening of ties with China and Russia.

Amid threats over possible sanctions as a result of his anti-narcotics push, Duterte announced that he would no longer accept development aid from the US and the European Union.

But Duterte's attempt to retool his relationships with other countries may have strained relations with traditional allies like the United States, Baviera said.

"There were some missteps in the beginning. Rather than developing relations with new partners, we antagonized those who have helped us in the past," she added.

Baviera said the administration also needs to clearly spell out its position on the South China Sea dispute even as ties between Manila and Beijing have warmed.

"It's positive that the crisis in our rela-

tions with China has already been tempered. The pressure on the security people who are always concerned with China has lessened. But for those who rely on our legal rights — fishermen, our right to oil and mineral resources and exploit our exclusive economic zone — one year is not enough to clearly state the position on this," she said.

While support remains high for the President's campaign promise to stamp out drugs and criminality, Mendoza said the administration should remain open to criticisms and fix loopholes along the way.

"If you look at international evidence on an anti-drugs campaign, many will say that the punitive approach isn't working. Many countries, like Thailand, Portugal, Colombia — they already changed their strategy," Mendoza said.

Saying that he won't let the country go to the dogs, Duterte waged his controversial drug war that has left 3,151 people dead from July 1, 2016 to June 13, 2017.

SC: Martial Law legal

By Maia Lopez

THE Supreme Court has upheld the constitutionality of President Rodrigo Duterte's declaration of martial law and suspension of the writ of habeas corpus in Mindanao after Maute group terrorists overran Marawi City on May 23.

Voting 11-3-1, the justices voted to dismiss for lack of merit the consolidated petitions filed by opposition lawmakers led by Albay Rep. Edcel Lagman,

local Mindanao leaders led by Lumad leader Eufemia Campos Cullamat and a group of women from Marawi led by Norkaya Mohamad.

The ruling affirmed that Duterte's Proclamation 216 declaring martial law in Mindanao complied with Article VII, Section 18 of the Constitution, which provides that the President may declare martial law and suspend the writ of habeas corpus only "in case of invasion or rebellion, when public safety requires it."

"The Court finds sufficient factual basis for the issuance of Proclamation No. 216 and declares it as constitutional," the Court said in an 82-page decision penned by Associate Justice Mariano Del Castillo.

It added that the existence of the ongoing rebellion by terrorist groups all over Mindanao justified the declaration, which it recognized as an "executive act" that gives the President the discretion on its scope.

GUEST HOUSE

Mga Kababayan!

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GALLERY



Ethnic minorities join the annual July 1 March and rally.

Batch 41 of CARD HK Foundation. Free Financial Literacy seminar on July 23 at the Bayanihan Center. For reservation, call 9529-6392 or 5423-8196.



186 Filipino women guitar players join the guitar lesson and jamming at the Tamar Park on July 1. The group played "Anak".

UP wins International Moot Court Competition in HK

THE University of the Philippines team from the Philippines has emerged as the Champion of the Grand Final Round of the Inaugural Pan-Asian Human Rights Moot (PANAHRM) Competition held at the University of Hong Kong on June 30. Jointly organised by the University of Hong Kong's Centre for Comparative and Public Law and Hong Kong Unison, the PANAHRM Competition is the first international mooting competition of its kind focusing on human rights issues and serving as a unique platform for law students from across the region to debate emerging human rights norms in the Asia-Pacific.

Seven teams were selected for participation in the oral rounds of the Competition on June 29 and 30. The teams included law schools from across the region representing Australia, China, Hong Kong, the Philippines, and Singapore. Eighteen distinguished members of the Hong Kong legal community, comprising a member of the judiciary, academics and solicitors and barristers, including senior counsel contributed their expertise and generous support by sitting as judges for the Com-



petition.

The inaugural PANAHRM's Compromis focused on the education system in the fictitious state of Serenatia leaving teams to examine whether it contributes to the marginalization of its ethnic minorities, violating its international human rights obligations. Setting this particular Competition in Hong Kong, Asia's 'world city', serves as an important occasion to highlight the many systemic inequalities that continue to pervade across Asia, particularly in respect of minority rights. The Moots raised issues of equal access to education and systemic racial segregation perpetrated against ethnic minority children in public schools, casting Hong Kong's

own education system under scrutiny in light of the many parallels that could be drawn between the city's educational provisions for ethnic minorities and those described as prevalent in fictitious Serenatia.

Teams representing the Applicant argued that the Respondent state's educational policies (including admission-based disparities, segregation under the parallel track policy, and the preference afforded to the linguistic majorities in siting for the dominant language exam, a prerequisite to university admission) amounted to unlawful racial discrimination and violated the Respondent state's own legislative provisions and international human rights treaty obligations.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Kevin Zervos, Judge of the Court of First Instance of the High Court; Mr. Jose-Antonio Maurellet, S.C., Vice-Chairman of the Hong Kong Bar Association; Mr. Mark Daly, Principal of Daly & Associates; and Ms. Gladys Veronica Li, S.C., Former Chairman of Hong Kong Bar Association presided over the Grand Final Championship Round, hearing arguments from the two teams – National University of Singapore and UP – who had progressed to the Grand Final. After an intense competition, UP was declared the winning team of the Grand Final round.

In other awards, teams were also recognised for their excellence in written submissions and a prize was awarded for the best advocate for their overall performance throughout the oral rounds of the Competition. UP and Peking University were awarded the prizes for the Best Memorandum (Applicant) and Best Memorandum (Respondent) respectively, and Aaron Yoong, from the Singapore Management University, was awarded the prize for Best Oralist.

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Belgian court convicts Emirati royals

By Maia Lopez

EIGHT Emirati princesses were convicted of human trafficking by a Belgian court and given suspended jail terms and fines in a case stemming from their treatment of 23 servants, including three Filipinos, at a Brussels luxury hotel nearly 10 years ago.

Princess Sheikha al-Nahyan of Abu Dhabi's ruling al-Nahyan family and her seven daughters escaped the harsher charges of inhumane treatment in the case that had been dragging on since 2008.

One of their servants managed to escape from Conrad Hotel in Brussels booked by the UAE royals and complained of mistreatment to the local police.

Princess Sheikha and her daughters were handed 15-month suspended sentences and ordered to pay a fine of €165,000 (\$184,000), with half of the

sum suspended.

Defense lawyer Stephen Monod said the term "trafficking" used in the verdict had nothing to do with "smuggling illegal labor into a country" but referred "to employing labor in unworthy conditions."

During the trial, the defense has repeatedly claimed that the Belgian police had violated the rights of their clients by searching their hotel rooms and questioned the credibility of the testimonies by the witnesses.

The UAE princesses reportedly occupied a whole floor at the Conrad Hotel for several months in 2007 and 2008.

They brought 23 servants of eight different nationalities with them who "were not paid" and "worked day and night and had to sleep on the floor," according to the Tribune de Geneve paper.

The servants were forbidden from leav-

ing the hotel and were also "shouted at and abused" by the princesses.

"It gives a strong signal that no one, even if you are a princess, is above the law," said Patricia Le Cocq, a human trafficking expert at migration group Myria.

Cases involving domestic migrant workers are especially difficult to bring to court, highlighted by the princesses' conviction, which took almost a decade to come about, human trafficking experts said.

"Domestic servitude is often one individual in a private house which is very hard to evidence because it is by nature so hidden," said Kate Roberts, head of office at the Human Trafficking Foundation.

"The abuse has been so normalized. Victims are so traumatized it's almost hard to believe," she added.

Saudi extends amnesty program for OFWs

SAUDI Arabia has extended its amnesty program to allow Filipino workers staying in the kingdom illegally there to July 24, the Department of Foreign Affairs said.

DFA Migrant Workers Affairs executive director Raul Dado appealed to the remaining 6,000 OFWs staying illegally in Saudi Arabia to take advantage of the extension to avoid arrest.

"As per policy and the standard information campaign, the embassy will register as many as would like to register. We expect new registrants with the extension until July 24," Dado said.

Data from the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration showed at least 12,000 Filipinos have been working illegally in Saudi Arabia.

At least 12,000 illegal Filipinos who were able

to register under the Amnesty Program; out of which, it has still remaining 6,000 who are awaiting to be repatriated.

A total of 5,376 undocumented Filipinos have already been repatriated following Saudi Arabia's 90-day amnesty period that ended on June 29.

Of the remaining Filipino workers who have to be repatriated, 1,080 are waiting for tickets in Riyadh while 1,217 are in Jeddah.

Dado said the remaining Filipinos in the kingdom still have commercial and private debts to settle before returning to the Philippines.

Among the illegal foreign workers covered by the amnesty are residents whose iqama expired on or before March 19, 2017; workers with work permit but no iqama ID card; runaway workers

reported as such on or before March 19, 2017; Umrah and Haj overstayer (pilgrimage); pilgrims without Haj permit; and "infiltrators" crossing Saudi borders.

In its "extremely urgent" memo, Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs warned that after the grace period, authorities will start arresting the illegal foreigners who failed to avail of the amnesty program.

All repatriated workers are given post-repatriation services including temporary shelter at the OWWA Halfway Home for OFWs from far-flung provinces as their transportation is arranged; provision of transportation fare; and psycho-social counseling, among others.

Maia Lopez

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Pinoys, Egyptians disclose discrimination on ships

By Maia Lopez



An Irish ship

FORTY-one percent of Filipino and Egyptian seafarers working on Irish fishing vessels experienced discrimination, a survey conducted by the Migrant Rights Centre of Ireland (MRCI) showed.

At least 44 percent of the respondents said they also sustained injuries while 33 percent said they "verbal and/or physical abuse."

About 48 percent of the seafarers interviewed said they do not feel safe at work due to lack of breaks and days off.

In a report to Ireland's legislative body Oireachtas, MRCI community worker Dearbhla Ryan said the lack of breaks makes workers prone to work hazards due to exhaustion. Lack of medical equipment

and, in some cases, medical exhaustion were noted by workers who reported injuries that ranged from serious cuts to crushed limbs.

Oireachtas has invited the MRCI and the International Transport Workers Federation to present their findings on the situation of non-EU crew in the Irish fishing fleet.

The hearing was done to assess the status of non-EU crew under Ireland's "atypical worker permission scheme" which was introduced in 2016.

The scheme requires non-EU workers to seek an employment permit or other worker permission in order to work on Irish-registered fishing vessels.

Pinay in Taiwan diagnosed with chikugunya

By Maia Lopez

AN overseas Filipino worker has been diagnosed with chikungunya fever upon her arrival in Taiwan last week.

The Filipina, who was not identified, returned to the Philippines on June 8 and flew back to Taiwan on June 23.

Health workers screened her at the Taoyuan International Airport, where she

tested positive for the mosquito-borne virus. Hers is the first recorded chikungunya case in Tainan municipality and the sixth in Taiwan this year.

Chikungunya, more commonly found in Africa and Asia, is spread by two mosquito species and is typically not fatal.

It can, however, cause debilitating symptoms including fever, headache and severe joint pain lasting months

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Editorial

HONG KONG NEWS

Finally

IN a major victory for overseas Filipino workers, the Department of Labor and Employment has finally listened to their pleas and will do away with the overseas employment certificates starting July 12.

In a bid to ease the burden of so-called modern day heroes, Labor Secretary Silvestre Bello III said the OEC will be replaced by the iDOLE or Integrated Department of Labor and Employment System, which will be given free to all "bona fide" overseas Filipino workers.

"So they don't have to go to the POEA every time they go and they come back and they go back again."

"All they have to do is show their ID, the iDOLE and that will serve as their license to go abroad, come back here, and then go back anytime they want to go back," Bello said.



Haplos at Bigwas

Jun
Concepcion

Malaking Gulo sa OEC at iDOLE OFW Card!

SINABI ni Labor Secretary Silvestre Bello noong July 5 na mula July 12 ay magbibigay na ng iDOLE OFW card sa mga OFWs kapalit ng kontroversiyal na OEC o overseas employment certificate.

Marami tuloy na OFWs sa Hong Kong ang natuwa! Yehey!! Tuwing December ay hindi na dapat pumila ng ilang oras para lang makuha ang OEC!

Pero marami rin ang naguluhan at hindi natuwa gaya ni Dong Guevarra, chairman ng Samahang Tarlaqueno, na umuwi ng Pinas ngayong July. "Gusto ko sanang matuwa dahil mawawala na ang OEC. Pero bakit walang guidelines kung saan at kung paano kukunin ang iDOLE OFW card? Dapat pa bang kumuha ng OEC ngayon o hindi na, lalo na sa mga gaya ko ng pauwi ng Pinas ngayong July?"

"Bakit hindi nila nagawa ng maayos ang iDOLE bago ito ilunsad?" dagdag pa niya.

Gaya ni Dong na matagal ko ng kai-bigan, di ko maiwasang isipin na bara bara sa pagkilos ang DOLE.

The Labor chief said other government offices are also integrated in iDOLE such as the Social Security System, Pag-IBIG, and Philippine Health Insurance Corp.

"That to me is a major gift of the President to our OFWs who we always call as the bagong bayani," he said.

We applaud this move by the DOLE. OFWs, particularly here in Hong Kong, have long campaigned for the abolition of the OEC.

They replaced it with the BM Online last year but that did not work as the long lines to the Philippine Overseas Labor Office showed.

It is good to find out that our government officials in Manila listen to our pleas.

Hopefully, these new IDs will make life easier for OFWs, so that we will truly feel like modern-day heroes of the motherland.

Nakakalungkot. Nakakainis! Maraming staff at advisers si Bello. Pero bakit di muna nila inuna ang paglalabas ng guidelines bago muna ilunsad ito. Para sana maiwasan ang pagkalito ng mga OFWs kung saan kukuha ng iDOLE card, kung kailan dapat itigil na ang gamit ng OEC at kung kailan pwedeng magamit ang iDOLE card.

At paano papalitan isang araw ng iDOLE OFW card ang Philippine passport?

Halimbawa ay paano malalaman ng HK Immigration kung may working visa pa o terminated na ang isang OFW

na gustong pumasok ng HK kung iDOLE card lang ang ipapakita niya?

Panoorin sa Aug. 26 at 27 (Sunday) sa

www.ofws4change.com at sa FB – Alliance of Overseas Filipinos – ang top government officials na tatalakay ng iba ibang usapin ng OFWs sa "Global Forum of Overseas Filipinos & Livelihood/Investments Exhibition."

As We See It


 Currents
Norman Uy
Carnay

OFW Agenda, ano na ang resulta?

ISANG taon makalipas, bakit hindi natin balikan at kamustahan ang OFW agenda natin.

Sa isang dialogue kay DOLE Sec. Bello nitong Mayo nang bumisita si Pres. Duterte sa HK, inanunso niya na papalitan na ang perhuwisyong OEC ng bagong iDole sa loob ng dalawa hanggang tatlong buwan.

Kapag nagkataon, tuluyan na ngang maibabasura ang OEC. Hinihintay pa rin ng mga OFWs ang pangako na ito. Gayundin, inaabangan kung ito bang iDOLE ay may bayad o libre at kung tulad ng OEC ay ikasasakit din ng ulo ng mga OFWs sa pag-apply.

Tatanggalin na rin diumano ang bansa direct hiring sa HK. Dalawang buwan ang nakalipas, hinihintay pa rin natin ang ispesipikong Department Order para bigyan ng awtoridad ang POLO-HK na magproseso ng mga kontrata para sa mga direct-hire.

po ang kompyansa namin na pagtutuwan ng pansiñ at bibigyan ng karampatang solusyon at aksyon ang mga hinaing upang mas mapabuti ang kalagayan ng mga OFWs hindi lang dito sa Hong Kong maging sa iba't ibang bansa.

Maraming salamat din sa inyong lahat sa Hong Kong News ang aming kaagapay sa paghahati ng balita lalo na ang magagandang balita about OFW concerns. More power po!

Sumasainyo,
Cathy D.

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Published by HK Publications Ltd.
Unit 3-9, 10/F, Fook Hong Industrial Building, No.19
Sheung Yuet Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon
Telephone: 2851 1766 Fax: 2858 8979
E-mail: hongkongnews@hkpub.com
PO Box # 60185 at Tsat Tsui Post Office

Printed By: Superflag Printing and Communication Limited
1/F., 8 Chun Ying Street, Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate, Tseung Kwan O, New Territories, Hong Kong

Dear Editor

Dear Editor,
SA inyong lahat sa patnugutan ng Hong Kong News pinaparating ko ang aking mainit na pagbati!

Isa ako sa mga dumalo sa Filipino Community Meeting noong July 2 kung saan nakasama sa isang open forum ang bagong Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) Secretary ng Pilipinas. Nabigyan ng pagkakaataon na magtanong ang ilang kababayan natin na magtanong tungkol sa mahalagang isyu na patungkol sa ating mga OFWs tulad ng tungkol sa 10-taong passport, isyu ng off-loading, iDOLE ID, OFW Bank atbp.

Sinagot naman ni DFA Secretary Cayetano sa abot ng

kanyang kaalaman ang mga isyu ito at sa kabuuan ay nagbibigay siya ng assurance na sa lalong madaling panahon at sa tamang panahon ay matutugunan lahat ang mga OFW concerns na dapat isaalang-alang.

Nagpasya akong sumulat tungkol dito upang ipaabot sa ating Konsulado at POLO ang pasasalamat sa pag-oorganisa ng mga ganitong event kung saan nagkakaroon ng pagkakaataon ang mga OFWs sa pangunguna ng mga leaders ng iba't ibang samahan na ihayag ang kinilang mga hinaing. Mabuhay po kayo!

Nais ko ring ipaabot ang mensahe ng pag-asu na itinanim sa aming puso at isip na dumalo doon. Malaki

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

Hindi baleng mawala na ang poise

By Imelda Mae Bustinera

PATAPOS na sa pangatlong kontrata si Josie, 33, may asawa at dalawang anak, tubong Camarines, pero hindi pa rin niya maalis ang pagkamaselan lalo na sa pagkain. May pagkakataon na ang amo niya na ang naiinis sa kanyang pagkamabusisi. Kapag ang amo ni Josie ang naghimay ng gulay ay halos hindi sumasandok si Josie sa oras ng kainan dahil iniisip niya kung natanggalan kaya ng uod kung meron man. Kapag day off ni Josie ay nagtitiga siyang magbitbit ng malaki at mabigat na bag puno ng mga niluto niyang pagkain para sa pagkain nilang magkakaibigan sa buong maghapon.

Minsan isang Linggo may nakasabay siya paglabas ng gusali at napansin niyang nahihiapan sa dami at bigat ng mga da-la-dalang bag. Hindi nakatiis si Josie na batiin ang nakasabay at pambungad niyang salita ay kung may party raw ba dahil ang daming pagkain dala na nakakagutom ang amoy.

Maayos namang sumagot ang kasa-



Nagbabao ng pagkain si Josie tuwing lumalabas kapag Linggo.

bay at sinabing walang party. Sa tuwing lumalabas daw siya ay talagang nagluluto at dinadala para may pagkain na hindi kailangan pumipila. Sigurado pa raw siya na malinis ang kanyang kinakain. Hindi raw siya sigurado kung malinis ang mga pagkaing mabibili. Sinabihan raw siya ng amo niya na mag-ingat sa pagbili ng pagkain kapag lumalabas. Mura lang daw ang pagkain pero kung magkasakit daw ay ang

mahal magpagamot. Sabi raw ng amo niya na kung maari at may oras siyang magluto kung gusto niya ay magluto bago lumabas at baunin niya. Kaya kinasanayan na niyang magbaon.

Kinakantiawan daw tuloy siya ng mga kaibigan na nawawala na ang poise sa pagbitbit. Ang gagaling mang-alaska pati naman sila kumakain din. Natawa na lang si Josie dahil hindi pala siya nagiisa.

Dismayado pero pursigido!

SI Baby, 35, apat na buwan na lang at matatapos na ang kanyang pangalawang kontrata sa among mag-asawang Intsik na may dalawang anak ay kagagaling lang sa isang buwang bakasyon sa Pilipinas nang siya ay kausapin ng mga amo at sabihing puputulin na ang kanyang kontrata dahi pansamantalang uuwi muna ang among bae sa China kasama ang mga bata.

Sobrang nalungkot at dismayado si Baby sa mga pangayayari dahil di niya sukat akalain na magagawa sa kanya ito ng mga amo. Sa loob ng panahong naniibihan siya sa pamilya, ibinigay niya lahat ang kanyang kakayahon lalo na sa pagluluto. Walang maireklamo sa kanya ang kanyang mga amo dahil bihasa siya sa kusina at sa lahat ng gawaing bahay maging sa pag-aalaga ng bata. Naisip din niya na hindi na lamang sana siya pinagbakasyon ng isang buwan kung ganon din naman na iteterminate siya. Malaki din ang

nabawas sa kanyang ipon dahil sa isang buwang bakasyon. Kahit na dismayado at malungkot, pursigido pa rin si Baby na humanap ng bagong amo. Naniniwala siya na sa kanyang taglay na mga kakayahon makakahanap din siya ng amo at makapagsimula muli.

Tatlong araw pa lang pagkatapos siyang bigyan ng one month notice ay nakanahap na siya bagong amo. Pinagtapat niya lahat ang dahilan baki siya tineterminate at naunawaan naman ng amo at ayos lang na maghintay muna habang hinihintay din niya ang visa sa Pilipinas. Sa kanyang pagmumuni-muni, naisip ni Baby na wala talagang kasiguraduhan ang kapalaran sa mga amo. Importante ang kahandaan hindi lamang sa pinansyal kundi pati emosyonal. Para sa kanya normal na madismaya sa ganitong sitwasyon ngunit dapat pa ring magpursigi para sa magandang kinabukanan.

Vicks Reyes Munar

Walang peace of mind!

By Vicks Reyes Munar

SA loob ng anim na buwang paninibihan ni Ella sa kanyang amo di niya lubos na maramdamang ang tinatawag na peace of mind. Si Ella, 45, ay tubong Pangasinan.

Bukod sa halos walang tigil na trabaho dahil sa stay-in ang among babae, maging ang kanyang mga alagang bata ay walang ginawa kundi mag-utos ng mag-utos. Kabit na ang tubig ay dapat pang iabot sa mga bata at maging sa mga amo.

Kayang tiisin ni Ella ang hirap ng trabaho dahil likas naman siyang matiyaga. Isang pangayayari ang nagpabagabag sa kanya. Madalas siyang hanapan ng mga nawawala daw na mga bagay sa kanilang bahay. Tulad na lang isang araw sabi ng kanyang among babae na nawawala ang kanyang isang relo. Ramdam ni Ella na parang siya ang pinagbibintangan ng amo.

Halos mahilo si Ella sa paghahanap ng relo, nakita niya ito na parang sadyang isiniksik sa isang lugar ng kanilang flat. Hindi lang minsan ito nangyari at habang tumatalag ay dumadalas ito at ang masaklap lagi pang sinasabihan si Ella na tatawag daw ng pulis ang amo. Naikwekwento ni Ella ang mga ginagawa at tinuturan ng amo sa kanyang mga kaibigan, at pinayuhan siyang huwag matakot lalo na at wala naman siyang ginagawang masama.

Dahil sa walang peace of mind sa mga amo, nagpasya siyang mag-break contract. Sobrahang saya niya nang makatagpo agad ng bagong amo sa unang interview. Babalik na siya sa pag-aalaga ng matanda na dati niyang trabaho bago siya napunta sa kabahayang di niya nakamit ang priceless na peace of mind.

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Nangangati sa ibang brand

By Imelda Mae Bustinera

at agad naman naihanda para kunin na ano mang oras.

Tinantiya ni Elaine na kaya niyang kunin ng araw na iyon kaya gumayak na siya.

Sandali lang namang oras ang nagugol ni Elaine dahil ilian lang ang taong manggutang rin.

Ngunit pagdating niya ng bahay ay gulat siya nang mapansin niyang nakaupo sa sala ang among babae at halatang naghinintay sa kanya..

Agad nag-sorry si Elaine at sinabing bumili siya ng sanitary napkin kasi hindi niya napansin ubos na at dumating ang kanyang buwanan daw.

Sabi ng amo pwede naman raw munang kumuha sa mga napkin nila.

Nagdahilan naman si Elaine na nag-aala siyang kumuha ng hindi magpaalam at isa pa nangangati raw siya sa ibang brand.

Sa susunod daw ay magpaalam kung labas ng bahay kasi sagutin raw ng amo kung ano ang mangyari sa kasambahay. Humingi na lang uli ng paumanhin at nagsasalamat si Elaine sa amo.

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Tom Rodriguez renews ties with GMA

SOUGHT-after and multi-talented Kapuso leading man Tom Rodriguez remains a loyal Kapuso as he renewed his exclusive contract with GMA Network, Inc. on June 27.

Tom said he is ecstatic to once again sign with GMA-7 and feels very much at home with the network, "I am very excited and very happy. I feel very, very much at home here. I do really feel that it's the right fit for me."

"I am very happy that I am given another opportunity and cement my place here, my new home," Tom says.

During the contract signing attended by the network's top executives, the actor also added that he is grateful for the continuous trust GMA Network gives him, "Every single time I say it, I mean it. I am very thankful dahil ang dami talagang trusted projects that GMA has been giving me consistently na it forces me to stretch and grow not just as a person but as an actor trying to hone his craft."

Tom currently top bills the rom-com

primetime series *I Heart Davao* together with Carla Abellana. The program, which premiered last Monday (June 26), has already been receiving rave reviews on social media.

"We are very happy to see the reactions ng mga tao na nasundan namin sa internet right after. Masaya kami dahil nagustuhan nila from the cinematography to the rapport of the cast and crew," he says.

Present in the contract signing were GMA Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Atty. Felipe L. Gozon; GMA President and Chief Operating Officer Gilberto R. Duavit, Jr.;

GMA Entertainment TV's Senior Vice President Lilybeth G. Rasonable; GMA Vice President for Corporate Affairs and Communications Angel Javier Cruz;

GMA Senior Assistant Vice President for Alternative Productions Gigi Santiago-Lara; and Tom's manager Popoy Caratativo.

Atty. Gozon expressed his happiness with Tom's contract renewal.

"Well tayo naman, we are really grateful and appreciative na nag-sign up na naman sa atin si Tom dahil siya naman ay talagang magaling na artista at makikita naman yun sa mga programa kung saan siya lumabas," he says.

Mr. Duavit, on the other hand, also has nothing but praises for the actor.

"Tayo ay nagpaparating ng pasasalamat din kay Tom sa kaniyang patuloy na pagtitiwala. Tom is a great example of a professional actor."

"Patuloy siya sa pagiging isang magandang ehempla sa kabataan at bukod tangi siya sa kaniyang propresyon. Siyempre we are all proud that he is a Kapuso and will continue to be," Mr. Duavit says.

He also thanked Tom for continuing to trust GMA-7.

"Pasasalamat din kay Tom sa kaniyang patuloy na pagtitiwala, at makakaasa siya sa mga darating na panahon na sisikapin pa natin maghanap ng mga pagkakataon para lumago ang kaniyang career," Duavit adds.



TOM

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Mature roles na nga ba para kay Nadine?

By Cristy Kasilag

MAGBABAGO na kaya ang imahe ng 23-anyos na si Nadine Lustre matapos siyang mahirang na sexiest woman ng men's magazine na FHM?

Mula sa kanyang pa tweetum at sweet image ay baka magkaroon na nang mas daring na role si Nadine dahil ayon sa lumabas na survey ng FHM ay siya ngay-on ang pinaka-sexy na Pinay.

Hindi malayo na magkaroon ng mas madaming offer si Nadine sa mas mature na roles.

Nakalikom si Nadine ng 491,039 na boto o 9.85 percent.

Kaagad na pinahayag ni Nadine ang

kanyang pasasalamat sa mga bomoto sa kanya at sa magazine na FHM. "I'm really happy and I'm really proud," ang dagdag pa ni Nadine.

Ano kaya ang masasabi ng kanyang Filipino-Australian na boyfriend na si James Reid?

Tinalo pa ni Nadine ang bagong hayag na gaganap na Darna, si Liza Soberano, na pang walo lamang sa Top 10 Sexiest Woman of 2017. Nakakuha lang si Liza na 201,925 votes o 4.05 percent.

Ang pumangalawa naman sa listahan ay ang sexy actress na si Kim Domingo na 450,192 votes o 9.85 percent; pangalito si Rhian Ramos na mayroon 359,405 votes o 7.21 percent; pang apat ay ang

nakaraang taon na FHM's sexiest woman na si Jessy Mendiola na nakakuha ng 350,182 votes o 7.03 percent;

Nasa pang-limang pwesto ang sexy na si Ellen Adarna na mayroon 320,391 votes o 6.43 percent; pang anim ang dati na din naging number 1 sa FHM nuong taong 2015 na si Jenny Mercado na nakakuha ng 318,273 na boto o 6.39 percent; pang pito naman ang two-time FHM sexiest na si Angel Locsin na mayroong 248,192 na boto o 4.98 percent; pang siyam si Maine Mendoza na mayroong 200,182 na boto o 4.02 percent; at pang sampa ang Pinay-French model at aktres na si Solenn Heussaff na nakalikom ng 180,294 percent o 3.62 percent.

Vicki at Hayden, may engrandeng kasalan

By Cristy Kasilag

MATAPOS ang 12 taon ng relasyon ay sa simbahan din ang punta nila Dra. Vicki Belo at ni Dr. Hayden Kho.

Noong nakaraang buwan ay ipinahayag ng celebrity doctors na nagpa-civil wedding na sila at si Makati City Mayor Abby Binay ang nag-officiate ng kasal nila na ginawa sa bahay ni Dra. Vicki sa Dasmarinas Village, Makati City.

Isang pribadong kasalan ang naganap kung saan pito lang daw ang imbitadong bisita na nasaksihan ang kanilang pag-iisang dibdib. Ang ilan sa mga naging sak-si ay ang malalipit nilang kaibigan sina Joji Dingcong, Agnes Ballesteros Lopez at si Eroica Mendoza.

Syempre andun din ang cute-na-cute na anak nila Vicki at Hayden na si Scarlet Snow na dalawang-taong-gulang na.

Pero ang kanilang engrandeng kasal ay magaganap sa Setyembre at ito ay gagawin sa Paris at si Michael Cinco, ang sikat na international Filipino designer, ang gagawa ng wedding gown ng sikat na

doktora.

Ang pagpapakasal nila ay isa na namang papatunay na hindi hadlang ang edad sa dalawang taong nagmamahalan. Si Vicki ay 61 at samantalang si Hayden ay 37 taong gulang, at ang agwat sa kanilang edad ay 24 taon.

Naging kontroversyal ang relasyon nila,



HAYDEN, VICKI at SCARLET SNOW

lalo na noong may mga naglabasang sex videos kung saan kasama ni Hayden ang ibang babae habang ka relasyon niya si Vicki. Umabot pa nga sa Senado ang imbestigasyon.

Dahil din sa masaklap na insidente na ito pansamantalang tinaggal ng Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) ang medical license ni Hayden.

Nagkakilala sina Vicki at Hayden nang parehas silang mag-judge ng Mr. and Miss Medicine sa University of Santo Tomas (UST). Noong panahon na iyon ay mga 25-taong-gulang lang si Hayden na nag intern na sa Makati Medical Center at nung una ay balak niya i-retire si Hayden sa anak niyang si Cristalle na 23-taong-gulang lamang noon at huminto sa pag-aaral ng pre-med.

Ang naiisip ni Vicki nung panahon na yun ay kailangan doctor ang magmamana ng kanyang negosyo. Pero hindi siya naging matagumpay sa match-making dahil noong panahon na yun ay may boyfriend si Cristalle at may girlfriend naman si Hayden.

Goodbye Charice, hello Jake Zyrus!

By Cristy Kasilag

SA bago niyang pangalan na Jake Zyrus na lilingon ang magaling bumirit na singer si Charice Pempengo.

Ipinahayag ng 25-anyos na si Charice Pempengo na pinalitan na niya ang kanyang pangalan, na kung titingin ay akma

Solenn still with GMA Network

MULTI-TALENTED and versatile Kapuso actress and TV host Solenn Heussaff marks her loyalty as a Kapuso as she renewed her exclusive contract with GMA Network on June 30.

Present in the contract signing were GMA Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Atty. Felipe L. Gozon, GMA Vice President for Business Development Department III Darling de Jesus Bodegon, GMA Vice President for Corporate Affairs and Communications Angela Javier Cruz, GMA Senior Assistant Vice President for Alternative Productions Gigi Santiago-Lara, and Senior Program Manager for ETV Charles Koo.

Also in attendance was Reena Dimaculangan of Leo V. Dominguez Management.

Solenn, who has been a loyal Kapuso for the last six years, said she feels happy and fulfilled with her renewal of contract with GMA 7, "I grew a lot here as a person and I got to learn my mother tongue here. Super happy ako. I really feel it's my family here and I just want to be with GMA. And learn more and grow with the company."

The actress further shared she is equally proud to have built a good working relationship with GMA which she considers her second family, "I really feel the sense of family in the network. Dito ko talaga nakita yung balance. Everyone on the set is at the same level. Walang super bida, walang director na maarte, like feeling powerful. Everyone respects each other. Which is what I really love in GMA 7, it makes work fun and easier but still everyone is hard working."

Solenn is currently part of GMA News TV's lifestyle show Taste Buddies.

During the contract signing, Atty. Gozon said he is pleased that Solenn continues to affirm her loyalty to the Kapuso Network, "Tayo rin ay nagagalak dahil meron talagang talent si Solenn. At si Solenn ay talagang hindi lamang maganda, napaka-sexy pa."



SOLENN (center)

naman sa kanyang pananaw na isa siyang lalaki.

Pero kahit na may nakukuha siyang suporta mula sa ilan niyang tagahanga at mula sa kanyang inang si Mommy Racquel, ay matindi itong kinondena ng kanyang lolang si Tess Relucio.

Sabi ni Lola Tess ay pinanganak ang

kanyang apo na Charice at ang ilalagay na pangalan sa kanyang atao kung ito ay mamamatay ay Charice pa din.

Masakit para kay Lola Tess makita ang mga pagbabago sa kanyang apo. Kung noong unang umamin na tomboy o lesbiana si Charice ay nanahimik siya, sa pagkakataong ito na nag-bago siya ng pan-

galan ay hindi na niya ito papayagan.

Saan nga ba nauhu ni Charice ang pangalan na Jake Zyrus? Ang sabi ng singer na nung nag iisip siya ng pangalan madami siyang pinagpipilian.

Ngunit liban sa pagpalit ng pangalan ay naisip niya ang Jake habang nakaharap sa salamin dahil naramdaman niyang ito ang

tama at akmang pangalan para sa kanyan.

Ngunit hindi lamang isang pangalan ang nais niya, gusto niya na may pangalawang pangalan na Zyrus na para sa kanya ay nangangahulugang kanyang muling pag-abuhay. Inamin din ni Jake Zyrus na kung mayroon siyang tinanggal sa kanyang katawan, mayroon din siyang kinakabit.

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Horoscope



Capricorn December 22 to January 19

Kapag gulong-gulo na ang iyong isip, huminga ka muna nang malalim at ilayo mo muna ang sarili mo sa dahilan ng kaguluhan. Kung nasa labas ka, mas makikita mo ang malaking larawan ng sitwasyon.



Aquarius January 20 to February 18

Masagana ang pasok ng buwan na ito para sa iyo. Iwasan mo lang ang madiskarel dahil sa maliliit na bagay na hindi importante.



Pisces February 19 to March 20

Bakasyon? Bakit naman hindi? Matapos mong maghanapbuhay ng walang humpay tama lang na ipahinga mo ang sarili mo sa ibang lugar na masisiyahan ka.



Aries March 21 to April 19

Magfocus ka sa pag-aayos ng bahay o pag-aari sa buwan na ito. Kung hindi mo kaya, kumuha ka ng marunong dahil baka lalong mas madagdagan ang iyong gastos.



Taurus April 20 to May 20

Mabuti ang nagsasabi ng totoo kahit makakasakit iyon sa damdamin ng kausap mo. Mas mahirap kung aayon ka pero hindi naman mapayapa ang pakiramdam mo.



Gemini May 21 to June 20

Buwenas ang buwan na ito para sa iyong negosyo. Pinag-aralan mo ang mga bagay na ito kaya magtiwala ka lang.



Cancer June 21 to July 22

Sadyang mausisa ka. Hindi ka matatahimik hangga't hindi mo nalalaman ang puno't dulo ng mga pangayari kahit di ka naman konektado.



Leo July 23 to August 22

Marami kang naiisip na pagkakaitaan pero kulang ang oras mo. Malakas ang pakiramdam mo at alam mong kakayanin mo ang maraming dokumentong gagawin.



Virgo August 23 to September 22

Baka kailangan mo nang kaunting pagpapakumbaba. Naiibahan ka sa pag-trato sa iyo ng ilan mong kaibigan pero hindi mo naman iniisip ang kalagayan nila.



Libra September 23 to October 22

Kung hindi mo kaya, huwag mong aakuin ang maraming gawain. Alamin mo munang mabuti kung sapat ba ang iyong oras at higit sa lahat, kaalaman upang gawin ng tama ang mga itinalaga sa iyo.



Scorpio October 23 to November 21

Hindi ka dapat makuntento sa nalalaman mo ngayon. Kung may magbibigay sa iyo ng oportunidad para mag-arl, tanggapin mo.



Sagittarius November 22 to December 21

Maraming nag-aaway na magkakamag-anak dahil sa mamanahin. Habang malakas ka ay dapat mo nang planuhin kung ano ang gusto mong mangyari sa maiiwan mong pag-aari.

What's Cooking?

When you feel like trying something new in cooking beef, we recommend this Beef with Mixed Vegetables top with Mashed Potatoes for you. It's new but still quite easy to prepare

Ingredients:

400g minced beef
1 medium carrots, diced
Salt and pepper to taste
1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
1/4 cup celery, diced
1 beef stock
1 onion, diced
3 medium potatoes, peeled and diced
1 tbsp. butter

Procedure:

- In a large fry pan over medium heat, brown minced beef along with the onions and salt and pepper.
- Once the minced beef is browned cover with beef stock and add the diced carrots and celery with Worcestershire sauce.

3. Meanwhile place the peeled and diced potatoes into a saucepan with water to cover and place on high heat to boil for 5-10 minutes. Drain and mash with butter and seasoning.

- Spoon minced beef onto plates and top with mashed potatoes. Serve immediately.



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By Chef Jay Dator



Juan: Eh di ang Biyenan
Juan: Ano sa Tagalog ang "Employee of the Month"?
Pedro: Ano?
Juan: Eh di ang sipsip

Juan: Ano sa Tagalog ang "There's something about Mary"?
Pedro: Ano?
Juan: Eh di, may kwan sa ano ni Maria

Juan: Ano sa Tagalog ang owned asset?
Pedro: Ano?
Juan: Eh di Sariling Ari

Juan: Ano sa Tagalog ang solid asset?
Pedro: Ano?
Juan: Eh di, matigas na ari

Juan: Ano sa Tagalog ang liquid asset?
Pedro: Ano?
Juan: Eh di, basang ari

Juan: Ano sa Tagalog ang fixed asset?
Pedro: Ano?
Juan: Eh di, nakatirik na ari

Juan: Ano sa Tagalog ang asset?
Pedro: Ano?
Juan: Eh di, Ari

Juan: Anong bansa naman ang laging hindi

tama?
Pedro: Ano?
Juan: Eh di, Mali
Juan: Anong bansa ang may bukol sa likod?
Pedro: Ano?
Juan: Eh di, KUBA (Cuba)

Juan: Anong bansa naman ang hindi mainit?
Pedro: Ano?
Juan: Eh di, Chile

Juan: Anong bansa ang walang pangit?
Pedro: Ano?
Juan: Eh di U-Ganda (Uganda)

Juan: Anong bansa ang may madaming kawali?
Pedro: Ano?
Juan: Eh di Ja-PAN.... (Japan)

Juan: Ano sa Chinese ang "ipakita mo ang aking ina"?
Pedro: Ano?
Juan: Eh di, Showmai Mami!

Juan: Ano sa Chinese ang "parang may mali"?
Pedro: Ano?
Juan: Eh di, Sum Ting Wong

Juan: Ano sa Chinese ang " Sino ang nandyan"?
Pedro: Ano?
Juan: Eh di Yu Hai Ding

Crossword Puzzle

PAHALANG

- o; pulis
- Pasakan
- Sayyaf
- Alfabeto
- Panali sa sugat
- Handugan
- Pabango sa pagkain
- Inaya
- Sinira
- Identification
- Hinuha
- Biyulin sa Italy
- Notang musical
- Iwanan
- Daluyan ng dugo
- Nakukuha sa niyog
- Bago ang tatlo
- Sun; Tagalog
- Anjanette —
- Muro —
- Matalas —
- King Cole —

PABABA

- Kawani ng barangay
 - Pamaypay
 - Potpot ng sasakyen
 - Business Administration
 - Paraya
 - Sugod
 - Hawak sa kamay
 - Kasarinlan
 - Diwata
 - Tatak ng gatas ng bata
 - Ugali
 - Pang-ibabang panloob
 - Iwawasto
 - Dinamay
 - Alsado
 - Inisan
 - Laro sa kompyuter
- Balita
 - Tulad
 - Dike
 - Api
 - International Model

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11				12						
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18				19					20	21
22						23	24	25		
26				27	28					
			29	30					31	
32	33								34	
35							36		37	
38									39	

Answer to last puzzle

I	P	I	S	H	A	L	I	K
B	I	L	I	B	A	B	U	S
A	D	O	R		S	U	N	O
T	O	N		A	M	A	O	D
O	G	A	L	A	H	A	D	K
	Y	A			A	T		
K	K	A	M	I	S	N	Y	
A	P	A	I	N	A	A	G	A
S	A	B	O	N		A	Y	A
I	T	U	R	O	T	R	O	N
M	A	L	A	S	A	N	A	S



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NORTH POINT

SHOP 83F&G, G/F, BLOCK 7-14
CITY GARDEN ELECTRIC ROAD
NORTH POINT
TEL. NO. 2478-2999

HUNG HOM PLANET SQUARE

SHOP D38A, 1/F
PLANET SQUARE, 1-15
TAK MAN STREET, HUNG HOM
TEL. NO. 2755-4898

SHATIN

SHATIN TOWN HALL
(EVERY SUNDAY & HOLIDAY ONLY)
TEL. 3709-6684

BOX SIZES & PRICING

SIZE (INCH)	MANILA/ RIZAL	Luzon A & B	VISMIN	ISLAND
GLOBAL JUMBO 24x24x38	740	780	810	830
JUMBO 24x24x26	620	640	700	730
REGULAR 24x24x20	570	590	630	660
MEDIUM 24x14x20	410	430	460	480
SMALL 24x14x15	290	310	350	370
GLOBAL BUDGET 12x12x14	170	190		

GLOBAL BOX EXPRESS LIMITED LOGISTICS INC.

PHILIPPINES ADDRESS

152 OLD SAUYO ROAD

BRGY. SAUYO, QUEZON CITY, PHILIPPINES

TEL. NO. 986-5951

SMART +63.929.333.3999 / GLOBE +63.915.999.9928

Kabayan 2017 Summer Triple Lucky Draw

PROVIDE



or



or



TO
GET



Kabayan Refill Vouchers (Total Value: \$100)

**One Lucky Draw
Coupon**

Subscribe 4G Local Data Package (30 Days) can get ONE MORE!

1

iPhone 7 [32GB]

[Value: \$5,588 - 1 winner]

2

Sony Xperia
Z5 Dual

[Value: \$2,650 - 5 winners]



3

Samsung
Galaxy
J5 Prime

[Value: \$1,698 - 6 winners]

Hong Kong
Disneyland
1-Day Ticket

[Value: \$1,178 - 10 winners]

4
x2



5
Hotel Lunch
Buffet Coupon

[Value: \$800 - 10 winners]

6
x2

30-Day 4G
Local Data
Package

[Value: \$98 - 500 winners]

Customer is entitled to get one Lucky Draw Coupon free of charge by presenting Kabayan Prepaid SIM which is subscribing 4G Local Data Package or presenting Kabayan refill vouchers valued \$100 in total at the single coupon collection centre designated by LIGO between 17 Jun 2017 and 10 Sep 2017. Please refer to Kabayan Facebook page for more details.

Trade Promotion Competition License No: 48854 & 48857

Exclusive Distributor / 獨家分銷商：



利高集團貿易有限公司
LIGO TRADING GROUP LIMITED

• Shop 355, 3/F World-wide House, No.19 Des Voeux Road, Central
Hotline: 2211 7799



Kabayan

