



PNDALahiArts
Page 12

PHILIPPINE Fiesta

A Division of Five D's Arts, LLC

Volume 18 No. 3

August 2019



Idol Philippines
- Page 19

'His word is law':

A list of Duterte's verbal-only orders

Aside from his order to stop PCSO games, President Rodrigo Duterte has made at least 6 other policy pronouncements that were not followed up by written documents defining their parameters and legal bases

BY PIA RANADA

Manila, Philippines – President Rodrigo Duterte's late-night order to stop operations of all Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office games is only the most recent example of a presidential directive issued only verbally, with no written order to formalize it and define its parameters.



BECAUSE HE SAID SO. President Rodrigo Duterte's penchant for not formalizing his shocking policy pronouncements with written documents is part of his governance style but is bad news for transparency and accountability.

Until the morning of Tuesday, July 30, or 3 days after Duterte said his order was to be effective, Malacañang is yet to release any written document, whether an executive order or memorandum order.

The Philippine National Police (PNP) said the verbal instructions are enough. The PCSO itself said it will abide by the directive even without any written document.

By now, Duterte's penchant for making shocking policy pronouncements without following through with documents has become evident. It's part of his governance style.

Continued on page 3

US senators ask Trump gov't to counter Beijing's behavior in South China Sea

BY PATRICIA LOURDES VIRAY

MANILA, Philippines — US senators called on the Trump administration to do more in countering China's aggressive activities in the disputed South China Sea.

Sens. Bob Menendez (D-New Jersey), Ed Markey (D-Massachusetts), Patrick Leahy (D-Vermont) and Brian Schatz (D-Hawaii) asked US State Secretary Mike Pompeo to prioritize discussions on the South China Sea in the upcoming ASEAN Regional Forum in Thailand this week.

Menendez and Markey are minority members of the US Senate foreign relations committee.

Continued on page 7



US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo speaks with reporters aboard his plane en route to Thailand on July 30, 2019. Four US senators asked Pompeo to ensure that China's aggressive and expansionist behavior in the South China Sea is a top priority in the discussions at the ASEAN Regional Forum in Bangkok.

COUNT YOURSELF IN:

Why the 2020 Census is Crucial to the Filipinx Community



Organizations represented on Sacramento County's and local leaders.

BY ALEXA MARK

2020 will be a big year for civic engagement here in the U.S. with the highly anticipated presidential election as well as the 2020 census on April 1st, 2020.

Continued on page 11



Steering Committee

Photo by Dale Esperante

"A NIGHT TO REMEMBER"

International Association of Lions Clubs (LCI) District 4-C5 2019-2020 Installation of Officers and 60th Year Anniversary Celebration

BY CARLETON M. ENLOE

This past July 27, 2019, the International Association of Lions Clubs - District 4-C5 held their 2019-2020 Installation of Officers and 60th Year Anniversary Celebration at the Hilton Hotel, Sacramento Arden West, 2200 Harvard Street Hotel in Sacramento, CA.

The celebration also recognized District 4-C5 Past District Governors (PDGs) – "Our Legacy" for their dedicated service. This year was a very special occasion for the Filipino Community, their very own community leader, Sarah T. Enloe and her Cabinet were being installed.

Continued on page 10



District Governor Sarah Enloe

Everyone deserves a family like yours
BECOME A MENTOR

California MENTOR Family Health Agency

Ask about our Referral Program!

California MENTOR is seeking loving families with a spare bedroom to support adults with special needs.
Receive ongoing support and \$1,075-\$3,820 a month to help cover the cost of care.

Call Olivia Today!
916.383.9785 ext. 17
www.MentorsWanted.com

The Law Office of
ALEX BRAVO
PERSONAL INJURY & IMMIGRATION SERVICES
Tel. 916-684-4432
Fax 916-684-9332
2230 Longport Ct., Ste. 100 Elk Grove, CA 95758

Law Office of
Michael P. Karr & Associates
1275 Halyard Drive, Suite 200
West Sacramento, CA 95691
916.443.2595 Fax 916.443.2515
MkarrAssoc.com
Helping people with their Immigration needs since 1991

Heavenly Food Creations
"A Full Catering Service"
Tel. 916.690.4513
www.heavenlyfoodcreations.info
heavenlyfoodcreations1@hotmail.com

Five D's Arts, LLC
Custom Screenprinting & Design
Photography & Fine Arts
916.835.1450 916.708.3462
dave@fivedsarts.com

Save the date!
Sat., October 26, 2019!
16 Annual My Sister's House Run for a Safe Haven
CAPITAL ROAD RACE MANAGEMENT
START/FINISH

Come Dance With Us!
RIZE ALL
ARTS CENTER
2232 Longport Ct. Ste. 120 Elk Grove, CA 95758
916.538.3255 or Dance@RizeAll.com

Sona episode 4: Corruption is the enemy

BY DINDO MANHIT

Fighting corruption and criminality was the framing theme of President Duterte's fourth State of the Nation Address (Sona), two strong campaign promises that continue to drive his high trust ratings from a nationwide cross-demographic constituency.

"I have identified the enemy who dumped us into this quagmire we are in. I have met the enemy face-to-face, and sadly, the enemy is us," the President said.

The silent pause in the plenary hall underlined the strong point, and perhaps, or hopefully, a realization that the President was referring to the reality of corruption in government that the public officials before him all represent.

Passing the halfway mark of his political timeline, Mr. Duterte has increasingly looked to solidifying his legacy, promising to do more and accomplish more in the next three years.

In the latest Pulse Asia survey, the people were asked, "What would you most like for President Duterte to discuss or mention in his coming State of the Nation Address or Sona?" The responses were as follows: "Pagpapataas ng sahod" or higher wages (17.1 percent); "Pagpapababa ng presyo ng bilihin" or lowering of commodity prices (17.1 percent); "Pagpapalaganap/pagbibigay ng trabaho/hanapbuhay" or more jobs (15.2 percent). All of these are economic concerns. Meantime, 9.2 percent wanted to hear about the raging West Philippine Sea issue with China ("Isyu sa Tsina-Soberanya ng Pilipinas").

On raising wages, the President

talked about his vision of a "comfortable life" and a "better Philippines," and specifically urged Congress to pass the Tax Reform for Attracting Better and Higher-quality Opportunities or the Trabaho Bill, highlighting its objective to energize micro, small and medium enterprises and create 104 million jobs in the coming years.

On fiscal policy, the government aims to fund the "Build, build, build" program and deliver the gamut of committed public services. The country's economic managers were instructed to raise the required funding, which means the public can expect more taxation measures.

While the Duterte administration has thus far demonstrated a judicious approach in continuing, improving and even institutionalizing programs by the previous administration in terms of infrastructure, the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program and conditional cash transfer, these programs could likewise be further improved to cushion the impact of the expansionary fiscal policy on the general population.

With regard to the West Philippine Sea issue, the President reiterated his strategy of appeasement to avoid escalation to war and the legality of allowing fishing rights in the Philippines' exclusive economic zone. He also expressed openness toward an advantageous sharing arrangement in exploring energy resources, while assuring that he would not compromise the country's sovereignty.

Most notable is his long discussion on the deplorable bureaucratic mess of local permits and clearances that has been a handicap for entrepreneurs and has, for decades, pushed down the Philippines' global competitiveness. The President directed all local government units to streamline all their frontline services

to process the public's demand for these documents within a maximum of three days. This means the automation of all government transactions consistent with the ease of doing business law.

Two notable quotes: "We in government talk too much, act too little and too slow... We are long on rhetoric but short on accomplishment... That is why I implore those who occupy positions of power and authority to let your deeds and accomplishments do the talking. Lead by example. Words ring hollow when not followed by positive and prioritized action."

"Our goal for the next three years is clear: A comfortable life for everybody, all Filipinos."

With big political capital and a strong win in the Senate and the House of Representatives in the recent midterm elections, the President is in an ideal position to fulfill his dreams for the country, or at least most of his Sona points. Institutional reforms to substantially curb corruption in government will be a feat that will need heroic determination from him and his trusted lieutenants. Less corruption will mean less leaks in government revenues, which will in turn lessen the burden on the people.

The fourth Sona is just the start of the 18th Congress. After the pageantry and political intramurals, legislators need to keep in mind the people's wish list of urgent concerns that must be addressed. Take note: These are all gut economic issues.

The three burdens we leave to our youth

BY JOEAM

Adults of today are losers. They are leaving the kids of today three huge burdens:

1. Global warming
2. Poisoned discourse
3. Dysfunctional government (Philippines, US, UK, etc)

None of these burdens will be cured by the next president. Or the next. They are built into our way of life.

Global warming

Disasters are coming. Heat, storms, rising seas. Thirst. Starvation. Death.

Countries like the Philippines are basically doing nothing but re-pairing after disasters. The Philippines not only has weak resource management . . . on both seas and land . . . its leaders are so corrupt or inept as to give the nation's precious seas and land resources to the hungriest predator on the planet. China.

The Philippines can't even get to reactionary thinking. It is pro-actively regressive. The Philippines is so regressive that government is helping to destroy its children's resources and future. And citizens applaud!

Poisoned discourse

Social media has made responsible behavior difficult. First of all, knowledge is typically removed from the equation in favor of opinion. And emotion substitutes for reason. Logical fallacies abound. Government spokespeople like Panelo and Locsin are the worst of the worst, substituting slander for analysis and nonsense for reason. They preen and posture, preach and perform. They utter complete nonsense as if it were wisdom that we should be honored to receive.

Honesty is not a platform for discourse in today's Philippines. Sincerity is not a style. Knowledge is irrelevant.

Winning is the goal, and winning is expressed in terms of benefits to the people doing the talking, not to the nation or Filipinos as a whole.

How will the adults ever get to candor, facts, solutions, and progress when the field is overwhelmed by gameplayers?

They won't.

The kids will have to figure out what is wrong with today's debate, and figure out how to get it corrected. Lot's of luck with that.

Dysfunctional Government

When government accepts poisoned discourse as its policy framework, and propaganda as a substitute for candor, laws become tools for punishment, not tools for protection. Problems are not solved, they multiply. Corruption rules.

I won't elaborate. Just look around. The Philippines is a mess. Cruel, illogical, dysfunctional, greedy, destructive, hopeless.

Where youth must start

The adults have botched it. They did not seat values like punishment for crimes. They seated forgiveness. Even worse, they seated admiration for the people who get away with murder and plunder.

The corrective action must start with government. Aggressive good works are needed to address the other two problems. Get government working hard and smart. Put global warming and curing of poisoned discourse first among priorities.

The kids will need to riot, I suspect, to toss out the rot. That's my guess. I don't advocate this, but can't see enough competence among the well-rooted elders to lead the nation to a progressive course. It is unfortunate that the mess is so extreme. The adults are a lost cause. They are a burden themselves, their thinking is so bad. The kids ought not waste too much time with them. Push them aside and start fresh.

Punish those who were negligent though. Don't forgive them.

Clean house. Then rebuild it much, much better. Value honesty, not deceit. And respect, not condescension. And real productivity. Not showmanship.

It's that way . . . or the Chinese way, which ends freedom, independence, and self-determination for Filipinos.

If Filipino kids don't care, there is no reason for the rest of us to care, either. The country and it's people will be lost to history as an irrelevant failed state.



Editor's Note

The heat is on in this hot August month. What's good about where we are in the valley, come around the evening, with the quiet breeze cools it down, and making the night bearable.

Summer is fun with our children on their school break. This is the time for family getaways going camping, traveling, and other outings to make them occupied. Whatever family activities you choose to engage in, encourage everyone to get hydrated and be protected from prolonged exposure to the sun. Wear sunscreen, hats, sunglasses, and appropriate summer clothing.

Our community activities are continuing to happen, as ever. Let me say congratulation to Lions Club District 4C5, with Sarah Enloe, as the newly inducted district governor, along with the other cabinet members.

In this issue are postings about the upcoming golf tournament in support of their respective causes and organization. Don't forget also the upcoming Fun Run by My Sister's House and other community activities and events such as the Filipino Women Club's Hawaiian night and the FAVA's Filipiniana night. Rize All Arts Center announces the re-grand opening of their new and bigger facility.

Till the next issue of PF news.

Best,
Dinnah San Pedro

'His word is law': A list of Duterte's verbal-only orders

From page 1

Unfortunately, this doesn't bode well for accountability and transparency.

Written orders are crucial because they help citizens hold officials accountable for their actions and also serve as a check on their power.

"Written orders make the decisions official. If not written, it is easy to deny that he gave orders," said Professor Ela Atienza, head of the political science department of the University of the Philippines.

"It's as if he is still a mayor. He sometimes forgets that he is a president who needs to be accountable and there is a need for a paper trail," she added.

Written orders like executive orders also cite the laws and legal frameworks that give an official the legal mandate to make such orders. This legal basis is necessary as a safeguard against abuse. Though there are many instances, such as during the presidency of Ferdinand Marcos, when written issuances were used to circumvent the law.

Still, a written order would also give agencies tasked with implementing it a document to look back upon as basis for their actions. Without such a document, an order is open to different interpretations, and possibly, abuse.

Here are major policy pronouncements that Duterte made without a written document:

1. Anti-tambay order

On the strength of a presidential utterance, police arrested some 3,000 loiterers who allegedly violated local ordinances. It was their way

of legally implementing Duterte's vague June 2018 verbal order to tell "tambays" (loiterers) to go home and bring them to a government office. The order included instructions to tie up the loiterers and throw them somewhere.

A group of friends who were mistakenly arrested for loitering in Makati claims the arresting cops never informed them what law they were violating and merely showed them a video of Duterte giving the verbal order. "Basta sinabi ng Pangulo, batas 'yun," (As long as the President says it, it is the law.) one of the cops supposedly said.

2. Boracay closure

The closure of a world-famous island for half a year, affecting the livelihood of hundreds of thousands and making a dent on the country's tourism sector, was also implemented on the basis of a mere verbal order. After calling Boracay a "cesspool" which he would "shut down," Duterte called a Cabinet meeting where officials finalized an action plan for the island's rehabilitation. But no written order on the closure itself was ever issued by the Palace. On the day Boracay was closed, Duterte signed only a proclamation declaring a state of calamity in 3 barangays on the island. An executive order creating a task force was signed, but only two weeks after the island was closed.

3. Threat to arrest of Kapa Community Ministry leaders

After Duterte said leaders of the Kapa Community Ministry should be arrested during a June 8 television interview, Justice Secre-

tary Menardo Guevarra said the arrest can be done even without a warrant. But rules of criminal procedure clearly outline specific conditions when a warrantless arrest can be done: when the person commits the crime in the presence of the officer, when there is probable cause to believe a crime has just been committed, or if it is a prisoner escaping from jail.

At the time, no charge had been filed against Kapa officers in court, thus no arrest warrant had been issued against any of them. Yet after Duterte's verbal instruction, the government was ready to make the arrest even without a warrant.

4. Arrest of WellMed owner

Outraged by payments made by government health insurance provider PhilHealth to a private dialysis center for kidney treatments of "ghost patients," Duterte ordered the arrest of the center's owner on June 8. Only two days later, the National Bureau of Investigation complied, despite having no arrest warrant.

5. China fishing deal

Even diplomatic arrangements with staggering implications on the country's sovereign rights and food security are not spared from Duterte's penchant for verbal-only orders. Duterte claimed in July that he had struck a deal with Chinese President Xi Jinping that now made it necessary for him to allow Chinese fishermen to fish in Philippine waters, even if the Constitution does not allow it.

But it remains to be seen if government agencies will comply with this arrangement, since it also violated

the Fisheries Code and contradicts the 2016 Hague ruling. National Security Adviser Hermogenes Esperon Jr said the Coast Guard would still stop Chinese fishermen from fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zone, if they are able. Foreign Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr said the deal cannot be enforced. Defense Secretary Deflin Lorenzana also said no formal fishing agreement with China is being drafted despite Duterte's remarks.

But the President's public statements continue to make an impact - dismaying Filipino fishermen who now think they have to compete with the Chinese for resources that should have been reserved for them.

6. Rappler coverage ban

Rappler reporters have been banned from covering Duterte's events for a year and 5 months now yet the Palace has not produced any written order stating the parameters of the ban and its legal basis. The ban is being implemented purely on the might of Duterte's verbal order to Malacañang staff and the Presidential Security Group.

To justify the ban, Duterte and his spokesmen have accused Rappler of bias and spreading fake news or of being an "illegitimate" news organization. But they have so far not cited any legal grounds. Rappler reporters have asked the Supreme Court to lift the ban, saying it is unconstitutional and arbitrary. Their petition was supported by over 40 other journalists.

Tolentino insists Duterte-Xi fishing deal 'valid' without knowing what it's about

BY AIKA REY

In his Senate floor debut, neophyte Senator Francis Tolentino insists that the so-called fishing deal between Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte and Chinese President Xi Jinping does not need Senate concurrence



MANILA, Philippines - Neophyte Senator Francis Tolentino on Monday, July 29, asserted the validity of the supposed fishing deal between China and the Philippines without Senate concurrence even if he does not know yet the contents of the deal.

The fishing deal in the West Philippine Sea was purportedly entered into by Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte with Chinese President Xi Jinping "verbally."

Tolentino argued that Duterte can enter into executive deals with other nations, as there are "no restrictions" on the form of international agreements.

"President Duterte can validly enter into legally-binding international verbal agreements with other states, for and behalf of the Philippines. Under international law, states must honor the commitments it takes upon itself under international agreements and treaties, for use of its execution, which maybe written, oral, or implied," Tolentino said in his speech.

"These executive agreements, with due respect, do not require Senate concurrence," he added.

But Senate Minority Leader Franklin Drilon pointed

LACKS INFO? Neophyte Senator Francis Tolentino says he did not have the capacity to 'secure' agreements from the President.

out that to start discussions on the validity of the fishing deal, the Senate "must know" what's in the deal. Asked what exactly the deal was about, Tolentino could not answer.

"I don't have in my possession the contents of the alleged verbal agreement... nor have the capacity to secure the agreements coming from the President," said Tolentino, who admitted that he also relied on media reports.

While Tolentino, a Duterte ally, insisted that there is no law that requires the President to put the fishing deal in writing, Drilon suggested for the Senate to issue a subpoena to the Department of Foreign Affairs to inform the chamber about the deal.

"The Congress and its committees [have the power] to issue a subpoena [as] this is a legitimate inquiry brought up by the gentleman from Cavite (Tolentino) himself. An inquiry is perfectly within the bounds of the Senate," Drilon said.

Continued on page 4



Law Office of Michael P. Karr & Associates

1275 Halyard Drive, Suite 200 West Sacramento, CA 95691

916.443.2595 Fax 916.443.2515

MkarrAssoc.com

Helping people with their Immigration needs since 1991

Adjustment of Status
Family Visa Petitions
Citizenship
V-Visas
Fiance Visas

Deportation Defense
Hardship Waivers
Battered Spouse Petitions
Asylum
Work Permits

Labor Certification/Immigrant worker Visas
World-Wide Visa Processing
Appeal to Board of immigration Appeals
Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals
Consultations on Criminal Defense of Aliens

Speak Spanish, English, Tagalog and Cebuano

Call now for an initial consultation!

Fabiola Vera, Legal Assistant
Estefania Aceves, Legal Assistant
Michael P. Karr, Attorney

Lizbeth A. Galdamez, Attorney
Yesenia Silva, Legal Assistant
Anna Agoncillio, Legal Assistant

DND chief: China actions don't match words

BY JAIME LAUDE

MANILA, Philippines — Despite its repeated declarations of commitment to peace, China cannot hide its “bullying” of countries contesting its claim over the South China Sea, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said yesterday.

He was reacting to Chinese Ambassador Zhao Jianhua's pronouncement on Monday that China would use its military only for defense and “will not fire the first shot.”

Zhao made the remarks at the reception on the occasion of the 92nd anniversary of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) held in Makati City.

“It's good to be heard just to keep us calm maybe or as consolation,” Lorenzana said of Zhao's remark.

“But the bottomline is hindi magkatugma yung sinasabi nila sa ginagawa nila sa WPS (what they're saying does not match their actions in the WPS),” he said, referring to the West Philippine Sea.

“They want peace in the South China Sea, blah blah blah, but it does not reflect what they are doing on the ground,” Lorenzana added.

He maintained that China's seizure of Panatag Shoal, a traditional Filipino fishing ground off the coast of Zambales, was clearly bullying.

“They way that they took over Panatag Shoal (Scarborough), to me that is bullying,” he stressed.

Zhao in his PLA anniversary speech declared the situation in the South China Sea has stabilized through the concerted efforts of China and the Philippines as well as other claimant states belonging to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

“That is what I have questioned during the Shangri-La (Dialogue in Singapore) wherein they said we do not bully people around and they follow international law. But I said, you are not. What you are telling us is not what you are doing on the ground,” Lorenzana pointed out.

He said China's declara-



Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana and Chinese Ambassador Zhao Jianhua inspecting Chinese-made CQ-A5b assault rifles during a turnover ceremony at Camp Aguinaldo.

tion of commitment to peace and stability in the South China Sea is old hat.

“I have heard the version of that speech many times already. I heard that from the mouth of (President) Xi Jinping when we met him with the President, first time we met in 2016,” Lorenzana said.

“Until such time that their words are matched with deeds, then all of the pronouncements of Chinese officials are doubtful,” he said.

Aside from Panatag Shoal, Beijing has seven occupied areas in the Spratlys island chain, three of which have already been transformed into highly fortified forward naval and air bases.

Beijing-occupied areas in the region are all located within the Philippines' Kalayaan Island Group (KIG).

At Malacañang, presidential spokesman Salvador Panelo said President Duterte is not taking at face value Beijing's claim that it “will not take the first shot.”

Despite China's assurance, Panelo said Duterte anticipates possible scenarios that may arise from the West Philippine Sea row.

“We do not take words of other countries on their face value. The President will always think beyond those words,” Panelo said at a press briefing.

“The President is mandated to protect the security of this country, as well as the Fili-

pino people, hence he will anticipate what may come out of any aggressive action that this country may undertake vis-à-vis the conflict in that area,” he added.

When reminded that Duterte believed in the Chinese president's statement that there would be trouble if the Philippines insists on its plan to dig oil in the West Philippine Sea, Panelo said: “We took it as an anticipation of what may happen.”

“Even without those saying that, we always think of the security of the Filipino people,” he added.

Duterte has been using the statement of Xi to rebuke critics who accuse him of not doing enough to assert the Philippines' rights in the West Philippine Sea. Xi reportedly made the remark during a meeting with Duterte in Beijing three years ago.

The Philippine leader has repeatedly said he would not go to war with China over the maritime row, saying it would result in a “massacre” of Filipino forces.

He has also challenged the United States to take the lead in confronting China over its aggressive actions in disputed areas.

Panelo said the Philippines would continue to negotiate with China to resolve the South China Sea dispute. —

‘Bikoy’, Gadon, the dream team of non-credibility – Trillanes

BY CONSUELO MARQUEZ

MANILA, Philippines — Former senator Antonio Trillanes IV on Tuesday said Peter Joemel Advincula, alias “Bikoy,” and lawyer Larry Gadon have formed the “dream team of non-credibility.”

“On the one hand, we have credible public personalities and bishops and priests and on the other, we have Bikoy and Larry Gadon. That is the dream team of non-credibility,” Trillanes said in an interview on ABS-CBN News Channel.

Trillanes made the remark after the Philippine National Police-Criminal Detection and Investigation Group (PNP-CIDG) recently filed sedition and other complaints against Vice President Leni Robredo and 35 other individuals for their alleged link to the “Ang Totoong Narcolist” video series which tagged President Duterte's family and allies



Former Sen. Antonio Trillanes

to the illegal drugs trade. Advincula's affidavit was used as basis for the filing of case against Robredo and 35 other personalities. Gadon is Advincula's legal counsel.

Advincula claimed to the “Bikoy” the hooded narrator in the video series.

After initially linking the President and his allies to the drug trade, he recanted and said the release of the video series is the handiwork of the opposition in time for the midterm elec-

tions last May.

Trillanes also said that Gadon will probably file an impeachment case against Robredo but noted that the sedition case is targeting the opposition members.

“Probably, I would like to believe that the target is opposition in general because it is intended to send a chilling message across the opposition,” the former senator said when asked if Gadon will file an impeachment case against Robredo.

Carpio gets nominated as CJ for 4th time

BY TINA G. SANTOS

He is set to retire in October and had been bypassed for the position thrice, but Senior Associate Justice Antonio Carpio has again been nominated for Chief Justice.

Carpio was automatically nominated to the post to be vacated by Chief Justice Lucas Bersamin who will reach the mandatory retirement age of 70 on Oct. 1. Carpio, who retires on Oct. 26, has yet to decide whether or not he would vie for the post.

The Judicial and Bar Council (JBC), which is tasked to screen nominees to judicial posts, opened the applications and recommendations to the chief justice post on July 5 and set the deadline on Aug. 20.

Apart from Carpio, Asso-



Antonio Carpio

ciate Justices Diosdado Peralta, Estela Perlas-Bernabe, Marvic Leonen and Benjamin Caguioa were also nominated for the post.

It can be recalled that Carpio was bypassed for the chief justice position thrice—in the appointments of the late Chief Justice Renato Corona in 2010, ousted Chief Justice Ma. Lourdes Sereno in 2012, and Bersamin last year.

Meanwhile, Supreme Court justices are pushing

for reforms in the country's legal education system.

As the legal education summit (LES) kicked off, the SC justices, led by Chief Justice Lucas Bersamin, have expressed support for the proposed updating of the basic law curriculum to adopt to best global practices.

The LES, a two-day event with the theme “Shifting Paradigm: Remodelling Legal Education in the Philippines,” was organized to determine the problems in legal education and formulate possible solutions to address them.

“Of late, the quality of the legal training has come under much criticism following the dismal performance in recent years of our law graduates in the bar examinations,” Bersamin said.

Tolentino insists Duterte-Xi fishing deal

From page 3

“In my view, if the agreement seeks to change certain domestic laws, then you need the ratification of the President and the concurrence of the Senate,” the minority leader said.

Tolentino's privilege speech came after Duterte used his SONA to “educate” people about the constitutionality of the supposed agreement.

Duterte earlier said that

he had entered into a verbal deal with Xi in which he allowed Chinese fishermen to access the Recto Bank off Palawan. This, he said, was in exchange for Filipinos' access to the Scarborough Shoal.

Supreme Court Senior Associate Justice Antonio Carpio said that while verbal international deals can happen, albeit “very rarely,” such deals must pass Senate scrutiny and ratification

before it could be implemented

Carpio had earlier said the deal “is so lopsided it should be rejected by the Philippine government.”

The Scarborough Shoal is a common fishing ground, as declared by the 2016 Hague ruling. The Reed Bank, meanwhile, is within the Philippine Exclusive Economic Zone where Filipinos have exclusive rights.

Lorenzana admits China's 'bullying'; says Beijing's peace 'rhetoric' just 'optics'

BY FRANCES MANGOSING

MANILA, Philippines — China's commitment to peace and stability and its assurances of adhering to international law when it comes to the South China Sea is inconsistent with their actions on the ground, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said Tuesday.

The defense chief was asked to comment on the speech of Ambassador Zhao Jianhua during the People's Liberation Army (PLA) anniversary at the Makati Shangri-La on Monday.

"I've heard the version of the speech many times already... There's nothing new with that. They are saying they want peace, but it does not match with what they are doing on the ground," he told reporters.

The defense chief even thinks China's takeover of Scarborough Shoal years ago was a form of "bullying."

"Well, the way they took over Scarborough Shoal, to me that was bullying," Lorenzana said.

The disputed shoal, a small ring of reefs, is located within the Philippines' exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Beijing took control of the shoal in 2012 after a standoff between Philippine and Chinese government vessels.

At the PLA anniversary celebration on Monday, Zhao tackled the sea dispute and said that China will follow "the path of peaceful development" and they are committed to "peace and stability."

He said China "will not take the first shot" as it moves to resolve the sea dispute with other claimants.



Delfin Lorenzana

"China will continue to work with the Philippines and other states directly concerned to resolve the relevant disputes in the South China Sea. Through bilateral negotiation and consultation on the basis of respecting historical fact in accordance with international law which also includes UNCLOS," he said.

UNCLOS refers to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, an international treaty adopted and signed in 1982 which is concerned on territorial sea, contiguous zone, continental shelf, and high seas, as well as fishing and conservation of living resources on the high seas.

Zhao further said that China is the last nation that would like to see that freedom of navigation in the South China Sea is "impeded or disrupted."

But media reports about China challenging the presence of Philippine military and coast guard assets in or above the disputed waters surface every now and then seemed to prove otherwise.

At the Shangri-La Dialogue in June, Lorenzana said he had raised his doubts on China's statements that it does not "bully people around" and it follows international law.

"I questioned them... What you are telling us is not what you are doing on the ground. Maybe until such time their actions (are) matched by their words, then what (they're) saying is doubtful. It's just optics, the narrative is to be heard [positively] just to keep us calm," he said.

"It's like a consolation for us but the bottom line is, their [words] do not match their actions in the West Philippine Sea," Lorenzana said.

In recent years, China has occupied seven reefs and islands in the Spratly archipelago, some within the Philippines' EEZ, and turned it into sprawling military outposts.

China claims it owns almost the entire South China Sea, but the Philippines, Vietnam, Taiwan, Brunei, and Malaysia also have overlapping claims in the resource-rich waterway.

The Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague ruled in 2016 that China's nine-dash line and historic rights claims are invalid. But China refused to acknowledge the ruling.

Despite China's "peaceful" discourse on the South China Sea, it was found to be the least trusted country by Filipinos according to a Pulse Asia survey released last week.

Since they started grabbing the islands there, they are bullying people around; of course, people would doubt them. The US has high trust ratings because they do not bully us. We were once their colony but they never abused us. Until such time that China's rhetoric will match their behavior, then the low trust of the Philippines will continue," Lorenzana said.

Duterte censures Gordon over 'generals' remark, pokes fun at his looks

MANILA, Philippines (3rd update, 10:23 p.m.) — Sen. Richard Gordon vehemently defended President Rodrigo Duterte's controversial war on drugs at Senate inquiries a couple of years ago, but now he has found himself the subject of the chief executive's mockery.

At a speech at the anniversary celebration of the Bureau of Fire Protection in Pasay City, Duterte lashed out against Gordon, who has long been perceived among his collaborators in the upper house.

Apparently heeding calls against the militarization of government, Gordon previously publicly criticized the president's decision to appoint former military generals to key and senior posts in his government.

The remarks reached Duterte who called him a "smart ass," arguing that uniformed personnel become civilians once they retire.

"Don't be too presumptuous about your talent. Why do you criticize me? It's my prerogative. It's not prohibited by law," Duterte said.

He went on to poke fun at the physical appearance of the senator.

"At least I'm from the province. Your brain, Dick, is melting into your belly. You are a fart away from disaster. Understand your belly first," he said, referring to Gordon by his nickname "Dick."

"Your belly looks like a tadpole [Tiyan mo parang butete]," he added in Filipino.

He also ridiculed the lawmaker for having an American surname. "You fool



President Rodrigo Duterte greets Sen. Richard "Dick" Gordon prior to the oath-taking ceremony of newly appointed Chief Justice Teresita Leonardo-De Castro at the Malacañan Palace on Aug. 31, 2018. Also in the photo are Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea and Solicitor General Jose Calida.

[gago ka]. You're not really a Filipino, you're Caucasian [tiso]. Take care of your stomach. It's ugly. You're just a fart away."

Duterte, who has never lost an election, also recalled Gordon's attempt to be elected to a higher post. The president, however, erred in saying that Gordon ran for vice president when he actually ran for president in 2010.

"You will really not become a vice president. If you want that title badly, create a private corporation," Duterte said.

For Duterte, former military men get the job done and do not disobey his orders.

"I am challenging him. Give me one specific instance that the military or the police or the [Department of Interior and Local Government] membership or group of entities, bureaus under it disobeyed a single order galing sa akin," the president said.

Where it all started: When Gordon disapproved of Duterte's move

Following the hiring of retired Lt. Gen. Emmanuel Salamat to the board of a state-run waterworks agency, Gordon criticized the frequent appointment of former generals.

"The only problem with the president, his bench is shallow. He comes from the province, he doesn't know people, so he relies on the military," Gordon told reporters earlier this week.

"It's a dangerous one because civilian authority must remain supreme over the military. It should be three years [after the officer has retired] before you appoint him, to make sure the ties are untangled—the ties that bind," he said.

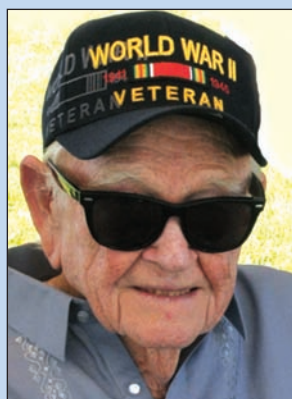
In a previous Philstar.com report, an analyst observed that hiring military officials is characteristic of strongmen around the world who do it to consolidate power and to ensure that no "disenchanted soul" will rebel against them.

(philstar.com)

Time to Re-roof

Best Service! Best Price!

CAPITOL ROOFING COMPANY



We do all types of roofing.

Joseph E. Stayner
(President)

License No. C39-794669

6205 48th Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95828

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATE!
Tel. 916.381.2863 Fax 916.381.7557



'We thought it was firecrackers.' Modestan recounts panic of Garlic Festival shooting

BY MACKENZIE SHUMAN

Armando Victoria and his family were excited to attend the Gilroy Garlic Festival for the first time. The sights, smells and sounds simply epitomize the classic American summer festival.

"I was born and raised in Gilroy," said Victoria, who now lives in Modesto. "But after all these years, this was finally my first time."

Victoria, his 5-months-pregnant wife and their 1-and-a-half-year-old son arrived Sunday at around 3 p.m. They breezed through the security, Victoria said. He noted the lack of metal detectors, the brief and uninterested glances into bags, and the apparent abandonment of the security wands by the guards at the event making the lines move swiftly.

"I walked right by them," he said. "I don't think security was taking their job seriously. I'd been to music festivals where the security was a lot tougher and you couldn't bring anything past them. At (the Garlic Festival), the security was basically non-existent."

So, they walked in and began their quest for fun garlic-flavored snacks, poking around the different booths and entertainment options, surrounded by the thousands of other festival-goers. At one point, Victoria mentioned to his friend how it would be fun for their kids, who are around the same age, to go on the bounce-house at the festival.

"But the kids weren't tall enough to get on



A shooting at the Gilroy Garlic Festival has been reported in California. At least 5 people are injured after a suspect in the mass shooting opened fire at Christmas Hill Park in CA. By @wavyia via Twitter

the jumping house," Victoria said. Turning away, they walked to the opposite end of the festival toward the ranch side.

Just 10 minutes later, shots rang out. Four people were killed — a 6-year-old boy, a 13-year-old girl, a man in his 20s and the 19-year-old gunman, according to local authorities. Twelve others were injured.

"We thought it was firecrackers at first, but then looking around people started yelling and running toward us," Victoria said. The once-fun festival erupted in chaos and fear, people fleeing for their lives while scrambling to ensure their loved ones were still

alive.

For Victoria, he felt lucky to be familiar with the area. He knew where to go and how to get to their car quickly. As they were walking along bike paths adjacent to the park where the festival was located, he heard others speaking on their phones about what had happened.

The firecracker sounds were gunshots. People were dead. Police were responding.

Reality and fear hit Victoria. He barely slept Sunday night. He stayed home on Monday to take care of his wife, who felt sick after

the stress of the event.

Then, on Monday afternoon, pictures of a man walking around Modesto with a long, slender item in his hands wearing camouflage pants circled around social media, inciting panic in Victoria of a shooter in his town just hours after the tragedy in Gilroy.

"I know the gunman got shot down," Victoria said. "But it was scary just thinking that there could be someone in Modesto right after. It could've given more people the idea to go out and shoot people."

Though local authorities later calmed the public down by ensuring them they were keeping a diligent eye out, Victoria said he is still worried.

"We wanted to go to the Watsonville Strawberry Festival coming up soon, but now I don't think we want to go at all," he said. "This guy brought in a gun from another state. I thought California was supposed to have stricter gun laws. It could happen anywhere."

Victoria said he might owe his life to his kid as well as his friend's kid.

"If our kids had been taller and they had been able to go into the jumping house, we would have been on that side of the festival," he said. "And that was the side the gunman was shooting in."

Police officers escort people from Christmas Hill Park following a deadly shooting during the Gilroy Garlic Festival, in Gilroy, Calif., on Sunday, July 28, 2019.

Domestic Violence Advocate Training

September 7, 14, 21
October 5 & 12, 2019
8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Current domestic violence advocates, legal experts, and local community leaders will cover topics such as:

- ▶ Domestic violence and its history
- ▶ Asian/Pacific Islander community and culture
- ▶ Community resources for victims and survivors
- ▶ Crisis line skills development
- ▶ Holistic, culturally competent approach for serving immigrant women

The curriculum is based upon state standards for domestic violence shelters.

Donation: \$35

Participants are strongly encouraged to attend a monthly volunteer orientation prior to attending training.

Class size is limited. Class is not offered again until Spring 2020.

Training sign up and information:
www.my-sisters-house.org
volunteermsh@gmail.com
(916) 930-0626

My Sister's House
A safe haven for Asian Pacific Islander Women and Children

24/7 Multi-Lingual Helpline:
(916) 428-3271
Twitter.com/MySisters_House
Facebook.com/mysistershouse

If you are being abused physically, sexually, emotionally, or financially...help is only a phone call away.

My Sister's House (free) services:

- ▼ 24/7 Multi-lingual Help line (916) 428-3271
- ▼ Safety planning, information and referrals
- ▼ Outreach, training, and education to prevent domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking
- ▼ Shelter for abused women and children



Source: gettyimages.com

A safe haven for Asian Pacific Islander Women and Children

My Sister's House



24/7 Multilingual Crisis Line
(916) 428-3271

www.my-sisters-house.org
info@my-sisters-house.org



mysistershouse



MySisters_House



my_sisters_house

US senators ask Trump gov't to counter Beijing's behavior in South China Sea

From page 1

"While the Administration has rightly highlighted China's militarization of the South China Sea – and we welcome the regular and routine conduct of Freedom of Navigation assertions – we are concerned that much more is needed to counter China's aggressive activities and impede its drive to operate with impunity in the South China Sea," the senators said in a letter addressed to Pompeo.

The US senators noted that China has been encroaching in the exclusive economic zones of other claimant states, using militarized artificial islands as "platforms for coercion", and pressuring the ASEAN to negotiate a "restrictive" Code of Conduct in the South China Sea.

Beijing also continues to ignore the July 2016 of a United Nations-backed arbitral tribunal, which invalidated its historic nine-dash line claim over the South



US Sec. of State Mike Pompeo

China Sea.

China's actions in the contested waterway deserves greater attention from the US, along with cooperation with allies and partners, the senators said.

"China's intimidation, coercion, rejection of peaceful diplomatic arbitration, and threats of the use of force over the past several years represent a serious challenge to those interests," the letter read.

In line with this, the US lawmakers asked Pompeo to use the upcoming ASEAN meet-

ing in Bangkok to come up with a regional consensus to protect the rights of US allies and partners under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

The Trump administration was also asked to form a strategy that would end Chinese infringement of rights of other coastal states and counter its efforts to "undermine" a freed and open Indo-Pacific.

"It is not too late to hold China to account for its behavior, and to deter further Chinese aggression in the maritime domain," the senators said.

In a tweet early Wednesday, Pompeo said he is looking forward to reaffirming Washington's commitment to the ASEAN and strengthening bilateral relations in the region as he lands in Thailand for the ASEAN Regional Forum.

China readies naval exercises off Taiwan as tensions rise

By Agence France-Presse

After Taipei snags \$2.2bn US arms sale, Beijing reserves its right to force

BEIJING/TAIPEI -- China said Monday that swaths of water near Taiwan will be off-limits to outside traffic much of this week for "military activities" in what appears to be a show of force weeks after Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen's administration secured a \$2.2 billion arms deal with the U.S.

China's maritime agency prohibited sea travel in areas off the coast of Zhejiang Province through Thursday and Guangdong Province through Friday.

The Trump administration has been needling China through aggressive support for its defense guarantee with Taiwan,



A Chinese service member aims his weapon during a joint naval exercise with Russia.

recently approving the arms deal with the island. Beijing shot back in a white paper published Wednesday that reunification of the mainland with Taiwan is in the "fundamental interests" of the nation and that to safeguard territorial integrity, "We make no promise to renounce the use of force."

The timing and location of the exercises are notable. Cabinet-level trade talks with the U.S. are being held

Tuesday and Wednesday. Shanghai, the venue of the negotiations, is just north of Zhejiang Province.

Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense said Monday that Beijing's naval drills will invite ill will from the island's 23 million inhabitants and hinder progress toward cross-strait peace. Such activities damage regional safety and stability, the ministry said.

20th-century warming 'unmatched' in 2,000 years

BY PATRICK GALEY

WORLD temperatures rose faster in the late 20th century than at any other time in the last 2,000 years, according to research released Wednesday which experts said undermines climate deniers' questioning of mankind's role in global warming.

As Europe sweltered in a second record-breaking heatwave in a month, the three peer-reviewed papers offered the most detailed overview of regional temperature trends dating back two millennia.

Climate variability — the fluctuation of surface temperatures over time — has long been the subject of debate.

While average global temperatures are currently around one degree Celsius (1.8 Fahrenheit) hotter than pre-industrial times, there have been a number of periods of cooling and warming over the centuries.

This had led sceptics of manmade global warming to suggest that human activity is not the main driver of climate change.

Researchers used data com-

pared from nearly 700 temperature indicators, from tree rings, sediment cores, coral reefs and modern thermometer readings, to provide a comprehensive timeline of our planet's recent climate history.

The findings are clear: at no point in modern human history did temperatures rise so quickly and so consistently as in the late 20th century — the period where the world's post-war, fossil fuel-powered economy reached unprecedented heights of production and consumption.

The first paper, published in the journal *Nature*, examined regional temperature trends over time.

Scientists have long known of periods of unusual climate activity, such as the Little Ice Age, a centuries-long epoch where northern Europe experienced colder winters on average than at



Humans are using up the Earth's resources faster than ever before.

the start of the 20th century.

The study found that temperatures in the Little Ice Age and other anomalous periods did not rise or fall in global lock-step as had long been assumed, and varied regionally for much of the last 2,000 years.

"When we go back in the past these are really regional phenomena, but they are not global," said Nathan Steiger, from Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Earth Ob-

servatory. This is in marked contrast to current warming trends.

"Whereas in the contemporary warm period it really is global — 98 percent of the globe has this coherent warming after the industrial revolution — and that very much stands out in contrast to the climate variability that's happened before in the past 2,000 years." "Finally stop climate deniers"

A second paper, in *Nature Geoscience*, examined rates of surface warming, averaged over sub-periods each a few decades long.

They found that pre-industrial temperature fluctuations were largely driven by volcanic activity. But they also concluded that humans had never witnessed such rapid global warming as in the latter part of the 20th century.

Author Raphael Neukom from the University of Bern, Switzerland, told AFP the finding "highlights the

extraordinary character of current climate change".

A third study found that global temperatures leading up to the industrial period were cooled by a series of volcanic eruptions, which led to droughts in Africa and weak monsoons.

Commenting on the studies, Mark Maslin, Professor of Climatology at University College London, said their results "should finally stop climate change deniers claiming that the recent observed coherent global warming is part of a natural climate cycle".

"This paper shows the truly stark difference between regional and localised changes in climate of the past and the truly global effect of anthropogenic (manmade) greenhouse emissions." ©

Custom Screenprinting & Design

For more information call:
916.835.1450
916.708.3462
dave@fivedsarts.com

‘WPS is ours... no ifs and buts’

BY ARTEMIO PANGANIBAN

During his State of the Nation Address (Sona) on July 22, President Duterte made it very clear that “... the West Philippine Sea is ours. There [are] no ifs and buts. It is ours... we have been acting [applause] along that legal truth and line. But we have to temper it with the times and the realities that we face today.”

The President spent a large portion of his speech — in my estimate, about 18 percent of its length or roughly 17 of his 93 minutes of delivery time — to this raging controversy involving our national territory, sovereignty and honor.

He explained that “[t]he avoidance of conflict — armed conflict — and protection of our territorial waters and natural resources compel us to perform a delicate balancing act,” and that he tried to avoid “war, even on a limited scale... [because] [m]ore and better results can be reached in the privacy of a conference room than in a squabble in public.”

He stressed that “our ownership of the [WPS] is internationally recognized. However, both the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the Arbitral Award in the case of... ‘Republic of the Philippines vs People’s Republic of China’ recognize instances where another state may utilize the resources found within the coastal state’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).”

Fact-checking the President, Senior Justice Antonio T. Carpio instantly reacted, saying that factually and legally, China is not in possession of the entire WPS, and that in any event, its claim over almost the entire South China Sea had been rejected by the said arbitral award.

Moreover, Carpio said the



West Philippine Sea

President cannot — by himself, in a private conversation with Chinese President Xi Jinping — allow other states or their nationals to fish in our EEZ because our Constitution (Art. XIII, Sec. 2, 2nd par.) reserves the “use and enjoyment” of the marine wealth of our country’s EEZ “exclusively to Filipino citizens.” Furthermore, traditional fishing rights are allowed only to foreigners in our “archipelagic waters and territorial sea.”

The learned justice may be correct in his textual reading of the Constitution. However, I think a liberal interpretation may allow the President, with the concurrence of “at least two-thirds of all the Members of the Senate,” to enter into a treaty or agreement regarding the use and enjoyment of such wealth.

In any event, in my humble view, we need not fear that our President may have entered into, to use Carpio’s language, “a lopsided agreement” with the Chinese leader because, if indeed he had done so, such agreement or treaty, by the express wording of our Constitution, shall not be “valid and effective” absent the Senate’s concurrence.

On the other hand, I am glad the President has boldly clarified his stance that the WPS belongs to us per our Constitution, the UNCLOS and the arbitral award of the Permanent Court of Arbitration.

Significantly, the Presi-

dent vowed in his Sona to enforce the award “in due time,” paraphrasing Ecclesiastes 3 of the Good Book that “[t]here is a time... for everything. A time to negotiate and a time to quarrel... a time to antagonize and a time to make peace and a time to go to war, and a time to live and a time to die.”

And even if he will not aggressively enforce it as his critics demand, he has, by his Sona, asserted, not waived, our maritime rights and the arbitral award, thereby allowing his successors, at their discretion, to enforce them aggressively via other options short of war.

Under our laws, President Duterte determines our foreign policies, subject only to constitutional and statutory limits. Some may criticize, rally against, rant endlessly and even spit on his policies; that is their right. But their criticisms will amount to nothing unless he adopts or accepts them; that is his prerogative.

Be that as it may, I think everyone, including his critics, should be mollified that, to repeat, he has not waived our maritime rights or the arbitral award, as his critics had feared.

For this reason, I will not nitpick on the factual and textual issues at this point. For now, I would rather focus on and offer a toast to his bold presidential incantation that the “West Philippine Sea is ours... no ifs and buts.” Cheers!

Rape and the misunderstood law

BY ANDREW MARASIGAN

In October 2017, Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein was accused of sexual assault by several A-list female celebrities. The scandal gave birth to the “Me Too Movement,” a global campaign intended to bring attention to the prevalence of sexual harassment and sexual assault. “Me Too” was a global phenomenon that resulted in sweeping reforms relating to gender

with more stringent laws for sexual crimes.

The advocates of “Respeto Naman” lament how our laws put the burden of proof on the victims and how free legal support is scarcely available. They also decry the misogynistic attitude of most judges and law enforcers toward rape. All these dissuade victims from reporting the crime thereby allowing perpetrators to go scot free. All these undermine the rights of women

equal crimes is largely due to the cues taken from the 1937 statute. It depicts rape and abuse as non-grievous crimes.

Things changed in 1997 when Republic Act 8353 expanded the definition of rape. It was classified as a crime against persons and as such, was categorized in the same strata as homicide and kidnapping.

With this new classification, sexual crimes such as forcible intercourse, sodomy, fondling and incest were made punishable by either life imprisonment, reclusion perpetua (with possibility for parole after 40 years) or prison mayor (six to 12 years), depending on the circumstances.

Moreover, the victim need not be the plaintiff but any condoling party could bring the perpetrator to court. This means, friends and relatives can sue in behalf of a child or a woman unable to file a case on her own.

The amendment further defined rape as sexual act done by force, threat, intimidation or abuse of authority. It is also considered rape if the victim was unconscious. This new definition shifts the burden of proof to the perpetrator.

Sexual contact with anyone under 12 years old, consensual or not, is automatically considered rape and punishable by law.

Further, the act of inserting one’s penis or foreign object into an orifice of another is considered rape too. Thus, men can now be victims with the same legal rights as women and children.

While the law is sufficient, judges and law enforcers across the land still act and/or decided on cases based on the 1937 Penal Code due to ignorance. This is the tragedy of it all. Hence, it is incumbent upon the Department of Justice to reiterate the new amendments to the rape law in its mandatory continuing legal education program.

Until law enforcers and judges fully understand the new parameters of the anti-rape law, justice will continue to elude victims. Until everyone understands the gravity of sexual abuse, nothing will change.

We are fortunate to have a movement like “Respeto Naman” rally the cause.



Local statistics on rape and abuse are worrying. In 2018, records

from the Philippine National Police (PNP) show that 14,116 cases of physical abuse were reported, 1,656 cases of rape were filed and 2,020 acts of lasciviousness were put on docket. For its part, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) reported 804 cases of child rape and 141 cases of child exploitation.

While the numbers are appalling, advocates of women’s and children’s rights claim they are grossly understated. Due to shame, fear of stigma and worry of retribution, the majority of cases remain unreported. The United Nations approximates that only one out of ten incidents of abuse are reported in countries with weak justice systems. Hence, the real number in the Philippines could be a multiple of ten of whatever the PNP and DSWD declares.

Earlier this month, I attended a “Fika” (a Swedish tradition of taking coffee and sweets over conversation) hosted by Swedish Ambassador Harald Fries in his home. The Swedish embassy along with the Office of the Vice President (OVP), United Nations Women and NGOs Spark and Empower, joined forces to mount a campaign called “Respeto Naman”. The purpose of the group is to bring attention to the widespread occurrence of rape and abuse, to empower victims with legal options and pressure the legislature to come up

and children, they claim. I looked at the matter and found that the problem does not lay on our laws but on the lack of understanding of it.

Since the mid-thirties, the law governing rape was the 1936 Revised Penal Code. It was amended in 1997, albeit without an accompanying information campaign.

The difference between the two versions of the law is that the 1936 Revised Penal Code classified rape and sexual abuse as crimes against chastity. The 1997 amendment reclassified them as crimes against persons. What’s the difference?

As a crime against chastity, rape and sexual abuse is categorized as merely a private crime at the same level as concubinage and adultery. Not only does it carry a light punishment, it requires the victims themselves to initiate the complaint before the courts. This prevents children, those economically dependent and those who fear physical retaliation from their perpetrators from reporting the crime.

Under the principle of crime against chastity, it is not uncommon for a rape victim to be deemed the guilty party for dressing proactively or being in the wrong place at the wrong time. In addition, acts of forgiveness or any act of kindness extended by the victim toward the perpetrator could be deemed an absolution of the offense. This, in many cases, absolves the offender if he is a husband, father or relative.

The cavalier attitude of some people toward sex-

Advertisement for Philippine Fiesta. It features a photograph of a band playing instruments like a trumpet, saxophone, and drums. The text reads: "PF always a celebration." Below the photo, it says "Advertise / Subscribe" and provides contact information: "916.708.3462", "916.835.1450", and "philippinefiesta@fivedsarts.com". There is also a logo for "N. TRIAS FAMILY ASSN." on a drum.

Like Hongkongers, Filipinos must warn the world about China

The residents of Hong Kong continue to demonstrate against Chinese rule. Since its hand-over to China in 1997, residents of the former British colony have experienced first-hand what living under Communist China is like.

Hongkongers have generally been spared the brunt of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) rule, thanks to the “one country, two systems” principle agreed upon between Britain and China. They have nevertheless experienced enough over the past 22 years to develop a near-total distrust of China’s communist rulers.

Hongkongers have seen their freedoms steadily and deliberately curtailed as their overlords in Beijing gradually turn Hong Kong into a totalitarian haven like



Hong Kong demonstration

the rest of China.

Like Hongkongers, Filipinos have experienced China’s heavy-handedness as well. China invaded reefs, shoals, and fishing grounds that, according to the United Nations (UN) belong to the Philippines. They destroyed thousands of square miles of under-sea coral. Giant clams, and endangered sea turtles are regularly harvested by China’s fishing militia which operates directly under Beijing’s control.

China prevents Filipino

fishermen from fishing in Philippine waters. And Communist China refuses to adhere to a UN tribunal ruling that unanimously dismissed their South China Sea claims as having no legal basis, and therefore il-

legal.

But unlike Hongkongers, who number just around 7 million, there are over 100 million Filipinos in the Philippines and tens of millions more living abroad. They will warn the world about the dangers of Communist Chinese hegemony. The CCP is bent on taking away the freedom and democracy that Hongkongers and Filipinos now enjoy. But people who have experienced freedom and democracy will not willingly give those up, no matter how high the cost.

‘Somewhat dead’

BY JULIE Y. DAZA

A recent survey showed a low trust rating for China, with the US at the high end. Hard to imagine that only one generation ago, Chairman Mao was the saint and savior of activists who would bring down the Marcos government, liberate peasants and laborers mired in poverty, and seek intellectual and political sanctuary in China. On the other hand, youth groups gathered regularly to rally, demonstrate, and attack the US embassy for America’s so-called imperialist policies.

After all these years and the shutdown of US bases, America continues to be the promised land of milk and

honey to most Filipinos, and there is no lessening of the appeal of a US visa.

Indeed, these are interesting times for Chinese Ambassador Zhao Jianhua, who is the face and voice of Beijing: “China is a peace-loving nation,” and “over the last four, five decades China is firm in adhering to a policy of peaceful settlement” of the West Philippine Sea-South China Sea issue.

The ambassador’s reiteration of “dialogue better than confrontation” at a reception last Monday night fetched from Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana an assurance that “communication between our two countries will remain transparent and honest.”

Mr. Lorenzana and Fi-

nance Secretary Sonny Dominguez, along with VIPs from the Chinese-Filipino community, were guests at the embassy’s celebration of the 92nd anniversary of the People’s Liberation Army, among whose soldiers are 39,000 peacekeepers who have accomplished 24 missions. PLA’s role is “active defense,” not aggression.

Pending settlement of the WPS-SCS issue, Ambassador Zhao said, “We cannot let the one percent in differences hold hostage the 99 percent.” He praised President Duterte for promoting “strategic cooperation” and increased contacts with his country.

China’s GDP of US\$10,000 is the second highest in the

world. But “if freedom of navigation is disrupted or blocked in the South China Sea, China is going to be somewhat dead.” With 75 to 80 percent of food supplies moving to and from China through the South China Sea, “China is the last country to impede freedom of navigation.” It works both ways.

Burst of Violence Grips Philippine Island, Negros, and Some See Duterte’s Hand

BY JASON GUTIERREZ

A wave of violence struck the central Philippine island of Negros, where at least 20 people have been killed in recent weeks in attacks that rights groups have tied to President Rodrigo Duterte’s efforts to suppress critics and op-

ponents. The latest attacks occurred on Saturday, when two people, a former town mayor and his cousin, were killed by unidentified gunmen. The local police said the killings were carried out by communist rebels, an assertion that the rebels and rights activists dispute.

The former mayor, Edcel Enardecido, 60, was a known supporter of the local wing of the New People’s Army, the armed unit of the underground Communist Party of the Philippines, which has broken off peace talks with Mr. Duterte’s government.

The police said that the two were ambushed by masked men who emerged from several vans in the town of Canlaon. Left-leaning groups have denied any connection to the killing of the two.

Also killed on the same day were two local leftist politicians, Bobby Jalandoni and Ernesto Posadas.

Brad Adams, Asia director of Human Rights Watch, noted that Negros, a sugar-producing region, has had a long history of bloodshed, stemming from communist insurgency, poverty and abuses in a land reform program.

The recent violence escalated after the July 18 killings of four policemen, which the authorities blame on the New People’s Army. The police said that the officers were tortured before being executed, an asser-



President Rodrigo Duterte, right, at the wake for slain police officers in Negros, the Philippines. The officers’ deaths have spurred a wave of violence on the island.

tion that the rebels denied. President Duterte offered a reward for the capture of the killers.

“Responsibility for the killings remains unclear,” Mr. Adams said. “But both the government and the N.P.A. should take all necessary measures to end unlawful attacks, either by their forces or armed elements linked to them. Killing civilians and captured combatants are war crimes.”

Mr. Duterte’s spokesmen were not immediately available to comment on the burst of violence and accusations that the government was behind it.

Local officials and politicians worry that the latest killings mark a worrisome return Negros’s history of political violence.

“Negros, the island I was born in, is dripped in blood,” said Neri Colmenares, a left-leaning politician who lost his bid for the Senate in May.

“I strongly condemn the killings, which were committed with brazenness as if the perpetrators were not afraid at all of being accosted by the police,” said Mr. Colmenares, a vocal critic of Mr. Duterte’s drug war. “The perpetrators must be reminded that President Duterte will not be president forever.”

Rights monitors said the weekend killings bring to 20 the number of people slain in Negros during the last two weeks. On Thursday, a 64-year-old man was fatally shot by men who forced their way into his

home. That same night, a high school principal and his sister, another educator and a village official were also killed.

Roel Degamo, the provincial governor, said he had ordered the local police to conduct a “thorough” inquiry into the killings. “This must stop,” he said, but he played down the killings as being isolated incidents.

Edre Olalia, a spokesman for the National Union of People’s Lawyers, tied the rash of killings to vigilante violence connected to Mr. Duterte’s drug war, which has become a convenient excuse to target critics of his rule. “Civilians need protection from the government,” he said.

gs is actually a war on the poor and dissent under the guise of a populist yet brutal approach to the drug menace that has gone from bad to worse under Mr. Duterte,” he said.

The local Catholic church has protested the outbreak of violence by vowing to ring the church’s bells every Sunday night until the killings stop.

During an address to Congress last week, President Duterte said the drug war would continue until his term ends, despite criticism from rights groups.

“Believe me, I will end my term fighting,” Mr. Duterte said. “It has been three years since I took my oath of office and it pains me to say that we have not learned our lesson. The illegal drug problem persists, corruption continues.”

Philippine Fiesta

916) 708-3462 (916) 835-1450 (916) 215-7077

E-mail: philippinefiesta@fivedarts.com

Website: philippinefiesta.net

Five D’s Arts, LLC (Publisher)

Web Designer: Rees Retuta

Managing Editor

Editorial Assistant

Layout and Design

Photographer

Dinnah S. San Pedro

Dane San Pedro

Dave San Pedro

Dave San Pedro

CONTRIBUTORS

Carleton Enloe

Faina Abaya

R. Carado Dizon

Nancy Bautista

Cynthia G. Garcia

Sarah T. Enloe

Jose Abaya, Jr.

Gabriel Ortigoza

Perry Diaz

Dale Esperante

Subscribe to Philippine Fiesta Newspaper and receive by U.S. mail, 12 issues of a true Filipino-American community newspaper for only \$20.00 a year.

Name: _____
Address _____
Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____
Email: _____

Make check payable to Five D’s Arts and mail payment to 2745 Elk Grove Blvd #270, Elk Grove, CA 95758 or charge to VISA/Mastercard No. _____
Signature: _____ Exp. Date: _____

“A NIGHT TO REMEMBER”

International Association of Lions Clubs (LCI) District 4-C5 2019 -2020 Installation of Officers and 60th Year Anniversary Celebration

BY CARLETON ENLOE

This year, the District 4-C5 leadership opted for a traditional formal Installation of Officers. These occasions are a formal dinner and Installation Ceremony in formal attire. District 4-C5 invited Past Council Chair (PCC) David Radtke, and Lion Penny Radtke, his lovely wife, as their Installing Officer. Also, District 4-C5 invited the Honorable Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye, and her family, as the Keynote Speaker for the event.

The evening begin with a reception in the Presidential Suite with light hors d'oeuvres and drinks at 5 p.m. The reception was definitely a hit of the evening. It foretold a well-attended evening.

By 7 PM, the main ballroom was filled to capacity.

The Mistress of Ceremonies for the evening was Lion Judge Dnette (Dee) Brown, who welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance. The program begin with the customary Lions opening ceremony of the Pledge of Allegiance (led by PDG Andy Anderson); Patriotic Song (sung by the Maharlika Singers along with PDG Andy); and Invocation (by Lion Carle Enloe). PDG Erv Gon made the introductions of dignitaries. Afterwards, PDG Nick McNicholas made a very special and very moving Toast to “Our Legacy”.

Following the Opening Program, a delicious dinner was served. During dinner, the guests were entertained by sounds from DJ Paul



Cordero. As dinner ended, PCC Derek Ledda introduced the Key-

note Speaker, Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye. Chief Justice

Tani, as usual, delivered a very powerful, moving, and motiva-

tional speech on diversity in service.

Following the Chief Justice's presentation, PDG Nick introduced the Installing Officer PCC David Radtke. Following a brief but very powerful opening remarks, PCC David invited incoming District Governor (DG) Sarah Enloe to join him on stage to begin the Installation Ceremony. However, he had a surprise presentation for DG Sarah from him and his wife, Lion Penny. He presented DG Sarah with an AI Ohrmund Supporter Award in the Lions 4th District Student Speakers Foundation, Inc. from PCC David and Lion Penny personally.

Following the presentation of the award, PCC David conducted the Installation of Officer Ceremony. Afterwards, Transference of the 2nd and 1st Vice District Governors' Banners was conducted. Then the final ceremony was the passing of the Gavel and presentation of the District's Governor's Banner from Immediate PDG Doug Wight to DG Sarah Enloe.

After the installation, DG Sarah was introduced and gave her Governor's Remarks. Her remarks were very powerful and very well received by all in attendance. Following her remarks, the Maharlika Lions Club Singers were introduced and performed a very entertaining number which was very received by all in attendance.

Afterwards, MC Lion Dee closed the program and opened the dance floor for the traditional evening of dancing.

On behalf of District Governor Sarah, she extends her heartfelt thanks to all for your presence and support. It meant the world to her!

HAND IN HAND, WE CAN DO MORE!

RIZE ALL ARTS CENTER GRAND Re-Opening
 You're invited to join us for the Grand Re-Opening of the Rize All Arts Center at our new location!
 Food Trucks Prizes Dancing Fun!
Date Moved! August 11th 1-4pm



Philippine Fiesta

Advertise / Subscribe

CALL 916.708.3462 916.835.1450
 www.philippinefiesta.net / philippinefiesta@fivedsarts.com

COUNT YOURSELF IN: Why the 2020 Census is Crucial to the Filipinx Community

BY ALEXA MARK

Every ten years, we have a nationwide census to get a count of who is residing in the United States. However, there are many communities that remain underrepresented in the census because of a lack of participation.

Filipinos are one of those underrepresented groups. In order to receive the government funding and resources that we need for our community, we all must participate. The government allocates funding based on the census, so if they see that there is a sizable Filipino population in a particular area, we receive more support for our community.

It's just like if a school district were to count how many students attended a school, and only 50% of the students were counted. The school would only receive the funding for half of the school supplies and programs that it needs and would lack resources for students from underserved communities. The same principles apply to the census.

For Millennials and members of Gen Z, the Census may seem a tad outdated and weird. Due to the fact that the Census is typically counted through mail or by people knocking on doors, Millennials and Gen Z are less likely to participate. While the Census Bureau is trying to find an alternative way to increase Census participation among these two generations, such as through social media, it is important to know why it is so crucial for the younger adults of America to participate in the Census. Census participation can result in gaining seats in Congress, which would allow room for more younger, progressive Congressmembers that speak for a majority of Millennials and Gen



Chris Mateo (PNDA)

Z. If young adults do not participate and are undercounted, we risk losing millions of dollars in funding as well as seats in Congress because we would allow ourselves to be virtually invisible.

As for the Filipino Community specifically, we have been historically underrepresented in the Census. There is a very sizeable Filipino community here in the Sacramento region, but the resources and organizations that we have available to us are not enough and do not reach a large percent of the Filipino population. In order to have more for our community, everyone can take a few minutes to fill out the Census for their household. If you have roommates or do not know all the information needed, it can be a great way for everyone to get together and fulfill their civic duty by completing the Census.

Anyone can be counted in the census! You do not have to be a citizen nor do you have to have a permanent residence or own any property to participate in the census. As long as you are living here in the United States, you can participate and raise awareness about the Census to gain more support and resources for yourself and your community.



The Filipino Community and Vicinity.



Photos by Dale Esperante



Community leader Josie Patria



Megan Sapigao (PNDA)

Host a

COFFEE TALK

and you could receive \$250

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3

- 1.** Contact a recruiter to set up a date and time.
- 2.** Invite family, friends and neighbors who would make a great Mentor.
- 3.** Have fun and let guests know why you love being a Mentor! One of our recruiters will be there to answer any questions and provide additional information.

PLUS you will receive an additional \$250 for each new Mentor who becomes certified after attending your event.

For more information, please contact Olivia Cerda at:
(916) 383-9785 ext 17
www.MentorsWanted.com

SAVE THE DATE FOR

High Tea

**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 28, 2019
11AM - 1PM**

A call home for Asian Pacific Islander Women and Children

My Sister's House

CHINESE COMMUNITY CHURCH
 5600 GILGUNN WAY
 SACRAMENTO, CA 95822

\$35 IF PAYMENT RECEIVED BY 9/18
\$45 IF PAYMENT RECEIVED AFTER 9/18

TO RESERVE YOUR TICKET & FOR EVENT REGISTRATION INFO, CONTACT
INFO@MY-SISTERS-HOUSE.ORG



We are honored and excited to participate in Wide Open Walls, Sacramento's renowned international mural festival scheduled from August 8-18 through the PNDA Lahiarts Program and represented by acclaimed muralist Eliseo Art Arambulo Silva!

The mural will visually narrate the Filipino American journey to the region and depict how we thrive and flourish as a community. To be created on the Sacramento State campus, the mural celebrates our heritage and invites us to connect.

To help us make this mural a reality for our community, please consider making a contribution towards our \$3,500 goal. Donate here: www.artful.ly/philippine-national-day-associat.../store/donate

Donors will receive a limited-edition Larry Itliong shirt designed by our muralist for your \$100 contribution!

PNDA LahiARTS Presents
ELISEO ART SILVA
 in WIDE OPEN WALLS
 August 8-18, 2019

PNDA LahiARTS organizes and builds the Filipino-American community in Sacramento through the voice of contemporary artists and the powerful, bold, thought-provoking creative works and images they create that instigate discussion and social action.

Your contribution makes possible the participation of PNDA in Wide Open Walls, Sacramento's renowned international mural festival. Working with acclaimed muralist Eliseo Art Silva, our mural will depict the migration stories of Filipino Americans to Sacramento.



GRAND RE-OPENING



CONTEMPORARY - HIP HOP - JAZZ - BALLET - TAP - HULA - BALLROOM

You're invited to join us for the Re-Opening of the Rize All Center at our **New Location!**

Date Moved! - August 11th, 1 - 4 PM

2232 LONGPORT COURT SUITE 120
 ELK GROVE, CA 95758

Dance@RizeAll.com

916.538.3255



The Philippine National Day Association (PNDA) is saddened to hear of the passing of Chona Sarte-Lagman. As we grieve this profound loss to our community, we extend our deepest love and support to Chona's family and friends. For anyone that had the blessing and honor to know Chona, whether at the Filipino American Youth Leadership Conference, Pilipino Youth Coalition Sacramento, Samahang Pilipino, doing veterano work in honor of her lolo Eusibio, or in and around the Capitol, you know that Chona is one of the finest individuals the world had to offer. We will miss you, Chona.

Birthdays



DEIDRA SAN PEDRO
AUGUST 7



ANGELIQUE LOBO with Glen
AUGUST 21



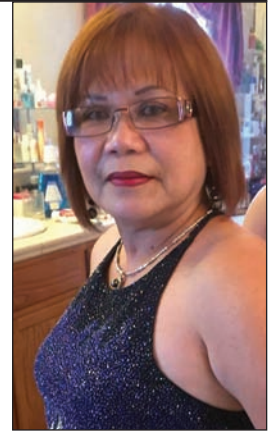
PAOLO SORIANO
AUGUST 1



VICTORIA DEBORD - AUG. 23
MYRNA AGBUNAG - AUG. 3



VIDA GWEN and hubby Bill
AUGUST 7



CAROL MUNAR
JULY 28

A surprise birthday get together for Ida Alvarez!



Made it to the happy hour with these ladies at Logan's Steak House! The pros in "calling the shots".

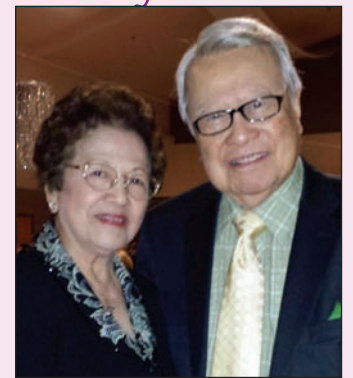
Anniversary



Happy 55th Anniversary
Ate Caring and Kuya Eddie
Esperante! We love you.
Dale & Melita Esperante



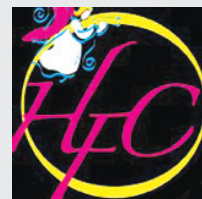
ARDEN and NELDA ABELEDA
33th Wedding Anniversary, Jul. 26



CARING and GEORGE ADUCAYEN
70th Wedding Anniversary, Aug. 1



Having a Special Celebration
or a Company Party?
Heavenly Food Creations
"A Full Catering Service"



Call 916-690-4513

Rhuena Buentipo
Owner/Operator

heavenlyfoodcreations1@hotmail.com
License No. 12-00010606

Stream of Consciousness: Magic

BY NOEH NAZARENO



A friend told me the other day, “You give gifts like no one I know.” At the time, he was talking about a piece of San Diego Chargers merch that I gave him. Actually, two pieces that I gave him two each of.

As of when you read this, there was another day that passed when it was my brother’s birthday. Unfortunately, I wasn’t there for him like I intended, said and promised that I would.

Life, God really, has a funny way of showing us and making sure that things will be better than we see and make it out to be. That is, if we truly and earnestly believe.

In the mid 90s, pretty sure it was 1994, we saw David Copperfield at Arco Arena. My parents, my brother and I were all huge fans of his, seeing and taping most of his specials, watching them time and again.

But this time, we got to see him up close and personal. Floor seats, less than a couple dozen rows from the stage itself. And for what he was doing, that 50 feet or so felt more like 5 feet away.

Switching places with a female assistant in a split second, his spin on getting cut in half, to that point in 1994, you name it, he did it. Especially to his grand finale.

When David Copperfield showed us his dream of flying, it was exactly like we saw on television, only better: WE were there to see it for ourselves! I swear, any closer, and he would have been carrying any one of us!

Blew my mind! Blew all our minds! How did he do

that? Where did he even begin? Where would he go from there?

When you experience something like that, it cracks you wide open. And when you’ve been raised right, open is the key word. And the gains have no limits.

I had seen maybe a couple concerts by that time in my life, my being 13 and my brother being almost nine. I knew that sometimes a performer might come back out for an encore, and in the decades since, I’ve seen some seriously awesome ones. But none deeper and more affecting than the one we saw that night.

It was like a bonus level at the end of a video game. You had no idea what to do. You didn’t even know or realize that just going forth and letting it happen was all you needed to do, really.

He comes back onstage, with a few words about a moment in his childhood and wanting to try to recreate it again. He then takes a spot upstage and center, puts his hands together, and recreates that moment...making it snow out of his hands, before our very eyes!

I only remember this now, having dug into my archives like I do on any given evening and rewatched some old specials of his.

I remember that, being 13, I knew I was no longer the child he was when he first experienced snow, but I was nowhere near yet the adult he was at the time. And yet, I was struck by the sadness that comes with realizing the life that has come to pass, the preciousness of life that came before what passed since, and the fleeting promise that we can all bring it back, if only we truly and earnestly believe.

I’d read and heard things of so much before, but to be breathless and in tears like I was at

that moment, that night, seeing him make Arco Arena awed and speechless, made me afraid of life to come and hopeful that I would not lose the childhood I was still in. And looking back tonight, I can at least say I lived up to that.

But that’s not necessarily the point of this story.

After the show, it had been a long night. Dad had worked, and we were all worked up seeing a man create so much before our very eyes. We had bought a program and heard David Copperfield was going to be signing autographs for a short while shortly. So, Dad went to the van while my Mom, Edmond and I got in line and hoped he wouldn’t decide to go before we go him to sign our program.

It felt like forever, but when you’re a kid, five minutes feels like forever. It was probably more like 20 minutes or so before we saw him, and another five or so minutes before we knew we’d get to him, or him to us.

I’d read and heard things, about how celebrities don’t like getting crazed fans and stuff, and I figured I’d just be polite and play it by ear. He sure looked tired, and from what we saw, he was signing without speaking, sometimes even without making eye contact. Not from being a snob or anything, but the man did pour himself out for about two hours tonight, so that makes sense. Just mostly looking down and signing, barely looking up with each new person or two.

We walked up to him, and we were all variously nervous, because it’s David Copperfield, right there! I think my Mom said something like, “That was a good show!” I was looking mostly at David, but trying not to annoy him, so I tried looking away now and then. And my brother’s kinda basically doing

the same thing. And then, David’s head pops up a bit.

He looks at my brother, who’s looking down or away at that exact second. David says, “Hey. Cool hat, man.”

True to Edmond’s form, even to this day, he doesn’t have much of a noticeable reaction.

Call it Filipino or Catholic humility, or both, but it was years before I could recollect that postshow moment as well as I do now. When I did, I remembered that David making eye contact and saying something was such a big deal, even his assistant had a shocked look on her face.

Frankly, it’s one of the best stories my Mom has; whenever it comes to mind (which is rare but special when it does), I’m always quick to point out that Mom tells it best.

I remember her telling me afterwards, “You know why he said that to your brother?” I honestly didn’t know. Mom said, “Because he sees him.”

You know, there was a sign, back before we had a glimpse of him while in line for the autograph, that said he’d already signed more autographs than McDonald’s had sold hamburgers.

The man had yearly television specials showcasing not just his work, but the greatest magic anyone had seen yet, and many would say ever still.

For his efforts, he’d earned tens of millions of dollars by then, maybe hundreds. His girlfriend back then was supermodel Claudia Schiffer.

But in that moment, David Copperfield and Edmond Nazareno were eye to eye. And as my Mom, and after she pointed it out, I, saw, David and Edmond were one and the same.

Our parents raised us really well, to a delightful fault: When

they are critical of us as adults, they sometimes forget that their worries are nearly baseless because their work prevents us from being so failed in life. And in those lessons, they taught us that the truth is ultimately enough and never to forget ourselves.

In my experience since childhood, I have found it doesn’t take much effort and time to read a person, and that we find difficulty when we tell ourselves the results are different than we know them to be.

Remembering the time that we realized my brother was no different than the world’s greatest magician, and vice versa, instantly recalibrates my consciousness and focuses me to the truth in life.

It also reminds me of the importance of not being cynical and egotistical, lest we forget ourselves. Otherwise, a moment like that would have passed without the truth of it being known by each of us.

I have personal reasons, some having to do with entertainment, that connect that night to nearly everything in my life before and since. But in my heart and eyes, none more so than seeing my own brother and one of the most influential people in my entire life as being so similar that not only were they and continue to be one and the same, and not only that they saw that in each other, but as two of the most introverted people I’ve ever known, one of them took the initiative to acknowledge the other.

Because when you feel like the world doesn’t know who you are and doesn’t want to know, what happens when someone exactly like you lets you know you’re not alone, and they are right there with you?

Frankly, there are times when I really can’t imagine life being any more beautiful than that.

Baybayin revival makes native PH history hip

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

MANILA, Philippines — With deliberate golden strokes, artist Taipan Lucero proudly brings an ancient script back to life, in the hope of promoting an endangered but contentious part of Philippine heritage.

Once confined to history classes, Baybayin, a 17-character indigenous script used before Spanish colonization, is making a comeback among the nation's millennials, young professionals and diaspora.

Even as technology renders writing by hand outdated, on-line clips of calligraphy and digital fonts for the script have gripped the smartphone generation and now Baybayin, last used hundreds of years ago, is appearing on everything, from tattoos and T-shirts to mobile apps.

Proponents hail the curvilinear text as a crucial part of Philippine identity, but in a country with 131 government-recognized languages, critics say investing in the promotion of one ancient text over others is controversial and impractical.

Literate ancestors

"It's bittersweet. It made me proud knowing our ancestors were literate," said Lucero, who studied calligraphy in Japan but returned home to apply his skills to reviving Baybayin.

"What's sad about this is what's being propagated in our education system. It's like our history started with being colonized by Spain," the 31-year-old added.

Baybayin was the form of writing used before the Spanish arrived in 1521, and missionaries had to learn it initially to spread Catholicism before forcing locals to adopt their Roman alphabet, historians say.

Its resurgence has prompted calls from some for a law declaring Baybayin the national script. But regional scholars say the text is important mainly to Tagalogs, the people historically based in and around the

capital, rather than to all Filipinos.

'Wiped out'

Advocates say reviving Baybayin will provide an antidote for a nation grappling with its colonial past and is a way of celebrating indigenous history.

Many are proficient in English because of the American occupation. Spain ceded control to the United States in 1898 and the Philippines only became independent in 1946.

"It's a great achievement to invent our own writing system," Leo Emmanuel Castro, executive director of cultural group Sanghabi, told Agence France-Presse (AFP). "Our language is gender-neutral. Professions and pronouns have no sex whereas English is very sexist."

The campaign to bring Baybayin to the mainstream advanced in January, when the House of Representatives passed a bill mandating its use in signs and educational materials. The bill is stalled in the Senate, but the proposal has been refiled in the new session that started in July.

Holiday hot spot Boracay Island has already ordered the use of Baybayin in signage, in a bid to counter the proliferation of Chinese characters for tourists.

Regional cultural advocates, however, say such efforts threaten all of the nation's indigenous scripts.

Their anger is rooted in a 1937 proclamation that Tagalog be the basis of the national spoken language now called Filipino, and they see the revival of the Baybayin text as another blow for the nation's linguistic diversity.

Kapampangan Kulitan

"The Philippines has become a country only for the Tagalogs," said Michael Pangilinan, an advocate of the Kulitan script of Pampanga province, who warned local identity would be "completely wiped out" if using Baybayin becomes mandatory.



FOR THE SMARTPHONE GENERATION Taipan Lucero shows an artwork featuring "Baybayin" characters during a conference on indigenous languages held in Manila in May. The ornate script, repeated to form the shape of a gong, reads "Kabataan ang pagasa ng bayan" (The youth are the hope of the nation). —LYN RILLON

"The Philippine state makes us ashamed of who we are until the Kapampangan people themselves are the ones repressing their own language and culture to become Filipinos (Tagalog)," Pangilinan said in an email to AFP.

Of the 17 documented Philippine syllabary systems of consonant and vowel syllables, only four remain in use among indigenous communities today, according to Unesco.

"When it comes to a national discussion, you need to use the dominant language known by the majority," countered Jay Enage, chair of Baybayin Buhayin, a group lobbying for the bill.

But the practicalities of bringing a historic script into modern use, teaching it in schools, and honing it to fit places of work and 21st century life, may be the biggest challenge.

"It will just be a novelty, for display," said Joselito Delos Reyes, professor of creative writing and popular culture at Manila's University of Santo Tomas.

"It won't be a platform for communication," he added, saying lawmakers should instead prioritize improving education infrastructure and teachers' salaries.

Virgilio Almarino, chair of the government commission on

Filipino language, said it was important to walk the line between losing scripts to extinction and being practical about usage.

"We need to balance this carefully. We need Filipino as a bridge language but we should also appreciate the languages of all communities," he said.

Colonial mentality

More than division, advocates say Filipinos should see opportunity in belonging to a multilingual country.

"The heart and soul of a country is its culture. The problem is that we don't value it due to our colonial mentality," Filipino-American Baybayin artist Kristian Kabuay told AFP.

Asked if the current Baybayin resurgence is just a fad, calligrapher Lucero insisted it was vital Filipinos take the time to understand the script's importance.

He added: "It's part of our culture and our identity, and if we forget about it, we throw away part of ourselves."



FILIPINO AMERICAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC. Filipiniana 2019 & Scholarship Awards Dinner and Dance

Saturday, August 17, 2019 at 6pm to 11:30pm
Jose Rizal Community Center, 7320 Florin Mall Drive, Sacramento, CA
Donation \$40 / Attire-Barong-Filipiniana Dress
Bill: 916.927.7829 Olive: 916.262.6273 Ato: 916.479.3622



This photo taken on December 29, 1912 shows Dr. Jose Rizal's remains at the Ayuntamiento before its transfer to his final resting place beneath his monument at the Luneta. Notice the finely-decorated urn containing Rizal's remains in the center of the picture, chest level, and a bust. There's also a wreath with a masonic symbol (center on floor). The Rizal family authorized the Masons to lead his funeral and burial.



as the public kept vigil round the catafalque.”

“Next morning, Dec. 30, 1912 — 16th anniversary of the martyrdom — the urn was borne to the Luneta on an artillery caisson drawn by six horses. Thousands joined the procession and thousands more lined the streets.

“At the Luneta, the obsequies were led by acting Governor-General Newton W. Gilbert and the two ranking statesmen of the Philippine Assembly, Sergio Osmeña and Mariano Ponce, the latter one of Rizal's dearest friends. Then the urn was deposited in the center of the base over which would rise the monument...

“The monument they accomplished has become a national landmark, the most visible tribute of the nation to its greatest son.

“But neither of his parents lived to see his monument.”

Rizal's father, Francisco, died in Manila in 1898. His mother, Doña Teodora, died in August 1911; she had lain in state in the very same Ayuntamiento the year before Rizal was buried at the Luneta.

The Catholic Church was barred by the family from the burial rites in 1912 due to their inhumane treatment of Rizal. There was the improper burial after execution without religious rites - they buried Rizal wrapped only in cloth, not in a coffin. Then, the Church's refusal to turnover the remains to his family - he was buried secretly in Paco Cemetery without any markings.

Asuncion Lopez Bantug, Rizal's grandniece, described the events as follows (from inquirer.net):

“In 1912, the foundations were laid for a monument at the Luneta that would also serve as the final tomb for the hero's mortal remains. On

Dec. 29, 1912, the urn containing the remains was borne in solemn procession from the family's house to the Ayuntamiento, that fine Marble Hall that had been a symbol of Spanish sovereignty in the Philippines. [Teodora Alonso was laid in state in the same lo-

cation the previous year.] In the salon of the Ayuntamiento, the urn was enshrined on a magnificent catafalque surrounded by innumerable floral wreaths, offerings of the nation. Throughout that night, the Knights of Rizal and other patriotic groups as well

Rizal's Final Burial

History of the Philippine Barong Tagalog

Just in case you may not have already known how and why the barong tagalog became the national dress shirt of the Philippine male. . . .

During the Spanish occupation of the Philippines from 1561-1899, the barong tagalog was required by the Spanish government of Filipino men (aka: Indios to the Spaniards) to be worn to show the difference between the rich and the poor, the ruler and the subjects. As customary in old European society, the poor [the household servants--the chauffeurs/horsemen, maids, and other employees] who served the rich, especially in royal houses and estates, wore some kind of uniform to distinguish them from their employers and masters. When the Spaniards came to colonize the Philippines, the colonizers made it clear who the boss was

by imposing a similar dress code. The Philippine men were not allowed to tuck in their shirttails, as a mark of inferior status. Secondly, the cloth was transparent so that the person could not conceal any weapon which could be used against the master(s). Thirdly, no pockets were allowed on the shirt as a precaution against theft.

By the start of the 17th century, a new middle class of Filipinos known as the principalia began to emerge. They had mastered Spanish laws and were able to obtain title to lands. They became successful in agriculture and business, and sent their sons to be educated abroad. They were also allowed to build their houses in the poblacion [the city/town center] around the plaza [the main city/town square] near the seats of power. A member of the principalia further earned the privilege and right to be addressed by the title 'Don', and only they were allowed to vote. They had all the trappings of power and status,



but for one undeniable fact: they still had to wear their shirt-tails out, if only to remind them that they were still Indios and inferior to the Spaniards.

What the Spanish authorities underestimated was the Filipino will power and determination to psychological conquer their colonial masters. Through improvisation, the Filipino stylistic bongga --- the Philippine term for flashy [dress] style --- became the tacit reaction against the overt discrimination and insensitive oppression by the

Spaniards. For example, while Filipinos were forbidden to use imported silk and expensive fabrics for their barong, they ingeniously used jusi, a very delicate native cloth made out of fiber from pineapple leaves, which is very luminous and much finer than silk. And to make the barong even flashier, intricate hand-embroidered designs known as calado richly embellished the shirt's front. According to the ethnographer, Palgrave, “The captain's [captain's] shirt was the native barong of fine and delicate fiber, embroidered and frilled; it was light and cool and not tucked in the trousers”. (Corpuz, 74)

The barong tagalog finally gained full power, prestige, and status when Manuel Quezon, the Philip-

pine President in the 1930s when the Philippines was a Commonwealth of the United States, declared the barong as the official national dress shirt. Thus, the originally inferior and lowly status of the barong under the Spanish rule became the Filipinos' symbol of resistance against colonization. After World War II, Philippine presidents began wearing the barong tagalog at their inauguration and installation into office and on every formal state occasion. In contemporary times, the barong is the “power dress shirt”. As an abogado de campanilla [lawyer in high court], one must wear the barong when arguing a case in Philippine court.

Today, it is protocol for foreign male dignitaries and visitors to wear a barong tagalog to a state function in Malacanang [the Philippine presidential palace]. While the traditional coat-and-tie may not be taboo, invitations to state functions specifically indicate barong as the preferred attire for men. So, when the Spanish Ambassador to Philippines wears a barong to a state dinner, one can say, “Ah, what sweet revenge!”

'Eggs-tremely risky luggage:' Australian 'de-teggtor' dog detects Filipino passenger's balut

BY ROSETTE ADEL

Australian Biosecurity, the biosecurity team of Australian government's Department of Agriculture, recently reminded travelers of things that they cannot bring to the country.

The team made the reminder after a passenger from the Philippines arrived in Sydney airport with some "eggs-tremely risky luggage."

Last July 25, Australian security officers found "chicken eggs containing formed embryos concealed within a bag of peanuts, unknown fruit, green mangoes and fish stuffed with pork meat" brought by the Filipino passenger.

"Balut" is actually a fertilized duck egg and the photo posted by Australian authorities looked like duck eggs.

The eggs were detected not by machines but by a security detector dog named "Tyla."

Bringing in poultry products is prohibited by the Australian government.

"Safe to say biosecurity officers were shell-ebating this great find by Tyla," Australian Biosecurity said.

Australian Biosecurity reminded the public that "eggs pose risk because they could be carrying diseases of concern."

"Most notably avian influenza. Also known as bird flu, this disease could significantly impact the health of Australia's poultry spe-



Eggs containing formed embryos locally called "balut" were detected by Australian Biosecurity's detector dog Tyla from the luggage of a Filipino passenger.

cies and decimate our \$2.9 billion poultry meat industry," the biosecurity team said.

"Meat products also pose a huge risk to our agricultural sector with the threat of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) and African swine fever (ASF) currently spreading through other countries. Biosecurity is no yolking matter," it added.

The Australian Biosecurity keeps Australia free from pests and diseases present in other parts of the world.

It reminded passengers to visit the website of the Australian government's Department of Agriculture to learn more on what they can bring and mail to the country.

"Certain items could introduce serious pests and diseases into Australia"

"Certain food, plant material and animal items from overseas could introduce serious pests and diseases into Australia, devastating our valuable agriculture and tourism industries and

unique environment," the Australian Department of Agriculture said.

"Before you bring or mail goods to Australia for your use or the use of family and friends check that it is allowed into Australia," it added.

The agency also reminded passengers that food, plants and animal items should be declared in the Incoming Passenger Card during their arrival.

"You can take these declared goods with you to the clearance point where they will be assessed by a Department of Agriculture biosecurity officer and may be inspected. Alternatively, you can voluntarily dispose of food, plant material or animal items in bins located in the terminal," the agriculture department said.

"When you send mail to Australia, you must accurately declare the contents of your package on the postal declaration label," it added.

LIST: Celebrities arrested in Duterte's drug war since 2016

BY JAN MILO SEVERO

MANILA, Philippines — With President Rodrigo Duterte delivering his fourth State of the Nation Address (SONA) today, his war on drugs remains a top priority of his government and could be a topic in today's SONA.

Philstar.com lists down celebrities who were arrested for illegal drugs since Duterte's drug war started in 2016.

Mark Anthony Fernandez

The son of the late Rudy Fernandez and Alma Moreno was arrested on October 2016 by the Angeles City Police after marijuana was found inside his car.

Nonetheless, Pampanga Regional Trial Court Branch 58 dismissed the drug case against Mark, paving the way for his release.

Judge Ireneo Pangilinan Jr. said he dismissed the case for procedural breaches of the police, which handled the complaint. Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) Chief Aaron Aquino, who was the head of the PNP Police Regional Office 3 when the actor was arrested, said he was surprised by Mark's acquittal.

Krista Miller

Starlet Krista Miller, who rose to fame after being rumored as the alleged reason for the breakup of celebrity couple Cesar Montano and Sunshine Cruz, was arrested in a drug buy-bust operation in Valenzuela City on September 2016.

Police confiscated one plastic sachet of suspected shabu or methamphetamine, the buy-bust cash, mobile phones, a belt bag with wallet and identification, and a motorcycle.

On May 25, 2018, Krista was released from prison after judge Snooky Maria Ana C. Bareno-Sagayo of Branch 283 of the Valenzuela Regional Trial Court acquitted her from the charge of violating RA 9165 or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002.

Sabrina M

Former sexy actress Sabrina M was arrested by Quezon City police during a drug buy-bust operation at her home in Barangay Pasong Tamo, Quezon City on September 2016.

Authorities reportedly seized shabu or methamphetamine, drug paraphernalia, cell phones, and money at the scene. After two

years in prison, the former sexy actress, who starred in many sexy films in the '90s, was released.

Karen Bordador

Radio disk jockey Karen Bordador and boyfriend Emilio Lim were arrested after a buy-bust operation in Pasig City.

Reports said that approximately P3 million worth of ecstasy, marijuana, and marijuana oil were found in their condo unit in Pasig City on August 2016. Also reportedly found at the unit were drug paraphernalia, money, and a money counting machine.

Karen claimed that she was just visiting her boyfriend in his condominium unit when the authorities conducted the operation. The police, however, confirmed that drugs were seized directly from the model and radio DJ.



CJ Ramos

Former child star CJ Ramos was arrested by Caloocan City Police in a drug buy-bust operation on July 2018.

According to police reports, the actor was caught in Tandang Sora, Quezon City along with an alleged pusher Louvella Gilen, who was the original target of the operation. A sachet of suspected shabu worth P500 was confiscated from Ramos. CJ admitted that he was using drugs for 10 years.

A week after his arrest, CJ was released from prison after paying the bail. Half brother Sherwin Ordonez said the court granted his motion to reduce bail, which had originally been set at P200,000.

CJ made a comeback in showbiz after Kapamilya actor Coco Martin tapped him for being part of the longest-running teleserye "Ang Probinsyano."

Zaito

Fliptop rapper Zaito, who is also a part of the longest-running series "Ang Probinsyano," was arrested for illegal drugs on April 2018.

According to reports, Cavite Police searched the house of Zaito in Kawit, Cavite and found three sachets of suspected shabu.

Zaito, who was a voice talent behind the "Oplan Tokhang" campaign jingle of the police, was arrested for violation of Section 11, Article II of Republic Act 9165 or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002.

Zaito denied that the drugs found in his house were his possessions, saying: "Di sa'kin 'yon, naiwan ng tropa 'yon eh. 'Di ko alam kung sinong tropa may galit sa'kin at ginawa 'yon.'"

Julio Diaz

Another "Ang Probinsyano" actor, Julio Diaz was arrested with possession of 12 grams of shabu during a drug buy-bust operation at Barangay Langka in Meycauayan City on April 2018.

According to Bulacan police director Senior Supt. Romeo Caramat, Julio and his driver, Ronald Gomez, were arrested after they allegedly sold a sachet of shabu to an undercover officer.

Reports said that during that time, he just completed a clinical rehabilitation for substance abuse. His rehabilitation was reportedly sponsored by fellow actor Daniel Fernando.

Angela Zamora

Former Star Magic teen star Angela Zamora was the latest celebrity who was arrested because of illegal drugs as she was arrested in a buy-bust operation

in Bacoor City, Cavite recently.

According to ABS-CBN News, Angela, whose real name is Angela Garcia Bobis, was arrested with live-in partner Vladimir Bersana and four others, including Jovencio Isler, Christian Lawrence Macanlalay and Loro Lopez.

Police reports said that Bersana was first arrested then he told the police that his live-in partner was selling drugs in their home. Police collected P68,000 worth of shabu that reportedly weighed 10.08 grams.

Pinoy Kasi Komiks by Dave San Pedro



Fast & Furious Presents:

Hobbs & Shaw Proves There's Such a Thing as Too Much Action



BY STEPHANIE ZACHAREK

An action-packed movie is supposedly a good thing. Is there any such thing as too much action? Of course not! Just keep stuffing it in. Need to cut some banter or character insights to fit more action? Go right ahead. Nobody really cares about that stuff, anyway.

Or do they? For audiences who love either Dwayne Johnson, the affable former pro wrestler whose grin is like the blessing of a benevolent sun god, or Jason Statham, the action star with a sultry rasp of a voice as velvety as the nap on a Gucci tux, the promise of *Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw* is almost irresistible. A whole movie, just for these two guys? Add to that the presence of the appealingly spiky Vanessa Kirby, from the Netflix series *The Crown* but also one of the standouts of last year's *Mission: Impossible—Fallout*: That should be enough sizzle, and enough wisecracks, to carry three movies, let alone one.

But too much of a good thing is a bad thing, and this movie's unwieldy, double-ampersand title should serve as a warning: Johnson, Statham and Kirby are all wonderful in *Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw*—when they're talking. They're terrific for much of the time when they're moving, too—Johnson and Statham aren't action stars for nothing. But somewhere around the midpoint of *Hobbs & Shaw*, the action sequences become so elaborate that they start to weigh the movie down; it becomes less a lean machine than an unwieldy, chubby sausage. And even if you feel certain there's no such thing as too much action, you surely know when you've had too much sausage.

In *Hobbs & Shaw*, Johnson

plays Luke Hobbs, of the Diplomatic Security Service, the guy who tossed Statham's Deckard Shaw into a high-security prison at the end of *Furious 7*. Though Shaw is now out and about and working for the correct side, it's an understatement to say that these two do not get along. At the beginning of *Hobbs & Shaw*, Hobbs is sweetly enjoying spending time with his young daughter, Sam (Eliana Sua), in Los Angeles. Shaw is slinking around London looking cool, at one point stopping in to visit his mother, Queenie (Helen Mirren), in prison. When Hobbs and Shaw are called upon to work together—to save the world from a lethal stolen virus—the volley of insults that fly between them is like a symphony of firecrackers. “I’ll have this job done while you’re still putting on your baby oil,” Shaw tells Hobbs. Hobbs retorts that his ears are offended by Shaw’s “nasally, prepubescent Harry Potter voice.” And so on.

Their nemesis here is Idris Elba's superpower-enhanced supervillain, Brixton—he's the guy out to procure the virus, but just as he thinks he's got it in his clutches, a quick-thinking MI6 agent injects the for-now safely encapsulated virus into herself. That agent is Kirby's Hattie Shaw—sister of Deckard, daughter of Queenie—who's forced underground to keep Brixton off her trail. Hobbs and Shaw locate Hattie and try at first to protect her, though she doesn't need protecting: As Kirby plays her, she's smart and saucy and mildly acidic, a great foil, in particular, for Johnson's grinning-big-guy friendliness.

It seems, in the early half of *Hobbs & Shaw*, that no style or character detail has been overlooked: Statham is called upon to pull off the tricky turtleneck-and-sport-

jacket look, which he does with aplomb. And when he visits Queenie in prison, it must be said that her amazing raspberry-fuchsia lipstick matches her fetching big-house jumpsuit exactly. *Hobbs & Shaw* should be fun, and for a good stretch, it is, particularly the hand-to-hand combat scenes: It's a delight to watch Statham karate-chop and swing-kick his way through a slew of baddies; Johnson uses his brawny might and easy-going humor to dispatch any number of thugs. There are some wonderful touches here and there: The superb character actor Eddie Marsan plays a nerdy scientist who at one point gets to man a flamethrower, even if his moment of glory is disappointingly short-lived.

Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw was directed by David Leitch, the stunt specialist who co-directed the first John Wick movie, as well as *Atomic Blonde* and *Deadpool 2*, and there's no doubt he knows his way around a stunt. But the loud, cluttered sequences that involve dangling from skyscrapers, exploding vehicles and the like are the least exciting elements of *Hobbs & Shaw*. In the movie's second half, the stunts become more and more extravagant. They begin to look less like fun and more like work, and they throw the movie's pacing out of whack: What begins as a rambunctious lark featuring a trio of hugely appealing performers becomes a bottom-heavy spectacle loaded with helicopters and heavy artillery. All of that gets in the way of looking at the stars, and of eavesdropping on their rat-a-tat ribbing. *Hobbs & Shaw* is action-packed all right. But everybody knows you can move much faster when you've mastered the art of packing light.

The Lion King reigns supreme, passes \$1 billion at global box office

BY TYLER AQUILINA

The *Lion King* felt an awful lot of the love tonight...and since its July 19 debut.

Disney announced that Jon Favreau's remake will cross the \$1 billion mark at the worldwide box office Tuesday, achieving the milestone in just 19 days of release.

The film is the fourth Disney-released film to earn more than \$1 billion this year, along with *Avengers: Endgame*, *Captain Marvel*, and *Aladdin*, with the latter hitting that mark just four days ahead of *Lion King*. This marks a triumph for Disney's much-discussed remake strategy, despite both *Aladdin* and *The Lion King* earning fairly mixed reviews from critics (though an “A” CinemaS-



core from audiences).

This development ties Disney's own record of most \$1 billion-plus earners in one year, set in 2016 when *Captain America: Civil War*, *Rogue One*, *Finding Dory*, and *Zootopia* hit the box office milestone. With *Toy Story 4* past \$900 million worldwide and sure-to-be behemoths *Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker* and *Frozen 2* still on the way,

Disney is poised to shatter that record later this year.

With a packed voice cast including Donald Glover, Beyoncé, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Billy Eichner, and Seth Rogen, *The Lion King* has been stampeding (too soon?) box office records since its release. The film earned the biggest domestic launch ever for a PG-rated film and the highest July opening of all time.

CABALEN CLUB GOLF TOURNAMENT



Sunday, September 8, 2019

**Lincoln Hills Golf Club
(Orchard Course)**

1005 Sun City Lane, Lincoln, CA 95648

**Check in - 8:00am Tee time - 9:am
\$75 per player (Cart, balls, food included)**

\$100 for hole sponsors

Reservation deadline - Sept. 5, 2019

Contact any of our coordinators:

Pete Lumbang - 916.718.9928

Rod Lumbang - 916.402.4637

Oscar Reboja - 916.799.7981

Ernie Santos - 916.9375

Tony Luna - 916.501.5353

All proceeds will go to the Cabalen Club Scholarship Fund

Gerald admits courting Julia

BY RICKY LO

This is the story of a boy and a girl, two right people who meet at the right place at the right time. The girl is going through “rough sailing” (may pinagdadaan) with her boyfriend. The boy gives the impression that he and his girlfriend are okay (smooth sailing, that is). Away from their respective loves, they find themselves in a place conducive to “what-might-be.” The boy willingly lends the girl his shoulder to cry on. Cry she does. And you know what happens next...



Gerald Anderson and Julia Barretto

Is that the plot of *Between Maybes*, the recently shown Black-sheep movie starring Gerald Anderson and Julia Barretto?

No, it's not the story of Gerald and Julia's onscreen characters; it's the real story of how Gerald and Julia fell for each other while shooting the movie in Japan in the same manner that...remember?...John Lloyd Cruz and Angelica Panganiban found love in Vietnam while shooting the *Kapamilya* film *24/7 in Love*?



Joshua Garcia and Julia Barretto

The Funfare DPA (yes, it means Deep Penetration Agent, for the information of Maricel Laxa who was wondering what those initials meant) is chronicling the events to put in proper perspective the now much-talked-about Gerald-Julia love story that has caught the fancy of showbiz-watchers here and abroad.

“It's summer love,” related the DPA who waxed romantic, “and it began to bloom amidst the ephemeral sakura (Cherry Blossoms). Obviously, after the shoot, the two stars didn't bid each other sayonara even as the sakura gently vanished as if into thin air.”

As early as end of May, rumors circulated that there was a crack in Julia's relationship with Joshua Garcia and they would “jointly” confirm the rumor and that, despite the split-up, they have remained good friends (for the sake of their forthcoming movie *Block Z*?).

The whole thing turned messy when Gerald's girlfriend Bea Alonzo posted a cryptic message (“You can't make the same mistake twice, the second time you make it, it's not a mistake anymore, it's a choice. ENOUGH.”) on her Instagram and that made the world

feel for her.

While Gerald and Julia (and those around them) wisely kept mum on the matter, the DPA confirmed reports that when Julia's dad Dennis Padilla saw Gerald, he asked Gerald pointblank, “Are you courting my daughter?” And, according to the DPA, Gerald was man enough to say, “Yes.” Did he insinuate that he and Bea have broken up?

There's a word that describes Bea's condition — yes, “blindsided.” The new, millennial word for that is “ghosting,” which means that all too suddenly your partner doesn't bother with you anymore and simply disappears like the...sakura?

Which brings us to Paulo Avelino, the sawsawero who got bashed when he posted, “Na-Bea Alonzo na ba kayo?,” #ghosting. Keen observers said that Paulo should know “ghosting” very well since he's suspected of “ghosting” LJ Reyes, mother of his love son and now happy with Paolo Contis with whom she has a child. They tease Paulo with the derivative question: Na-LJ Reyes na ba kayo?

Moral of the story? Look before you leap; open your eyes and ears before you open your mouth.

Meanwhile, Joshua has refrained from commenting on the Gerald-Julia issue.

“Why does Gerald attract women, younger and older (including two senior actresses)?” the DPA asked and proceeded to answer it herself, “because he's charming, nurturing, caring and is ever ready to offer his shoulder to cry on.”

Let's face it: Gerald is showbiz's current lady killer!

Zephanie Dimaranan wins ‘Idol Philippines’

BY NEIL ARWIN MERCADO

MANILA, Philippines — Teen singer Zephanie Dimaranan was hailed as the winner of ABS-CBN singing reality competition “Idol Philippines” on Sunday night.

Garnering the highest combined score of 100 percent, Dimaranan beat fellow finalists Lucas Garcia and Lance Busa.

Dimaranan was known all throughout her stint as the person who never gave up despite her previous losses in other television singing competitions such as “The Voice Kids” and “Tawag ng Tanghalan”.

During the show's grand finals, Dimaranan performed “Maghintay Ka Lamang” in the first round where the finalists were asked to perform a song that sums up their journey.

Dimaranan then continued to impress the crowd in the second round when she performed an original song “Pangarap Kong Pangarap Mo” composed by Jonathan



Zephanie Dimaranan

Manalo.

Dimaranan, who hailed from Biñan town in Laguna, started her *Idol* journey with Sarah Geronimo's rendition of the song *Forever's Not Enough*.

Hitting the high notes of the song, Dimaranan impressed the judges who noted her “down to Earth” nature and her potential with her “crystal clear” voice earning her all the judges' approval.



First *Idol Philippines* Zephanie Dimaranan (third from left) with ABS-CBN COO of Broadcast Cory Vidanes (third from right) and judges (from left) James Reid, Moira dela Torre, Vice Ganda and Regine Velasquez-Alcasid



PERSONAL INJURY and IMMIGRATION

Law Office of

ALEX C. BRAVO

Bus. 916.684.4432
Fax 916.684.9332

Alex C. Bravo
Attorney

2230 Longport Ct., Suite 100 Elk Grove, CA 95758

SIMPLY MAGIC
Band
Glenda D. Odra
Cell: (916) 955-1546
Office: (916) 447-7100
Glendaodra@hotmail.com

Dj Ozgee
& Entertainment
(916) 239-8895

RJ MATA
DJ and Vocalist
916.642.5390
My goal is to provide the best music & entertainment to your satisfaction.



2019
1ST ANNUAL
GABRIEL LOPEZ MEMORIAL
GOLF TOURNAMENT

Registration Deadline
August 9, 2019

August 24, 2019
Bartley Cavanaugh Golf Course
Sacramento, CA

<p>Schedule</p> <p>8am Check-in 9am Shotgun Start 2pm Luncheon Buffet</p> <p>4-Person Scramble</p> <p>\$150 Individual Player \$550 Foursome \$30 Luncheon Only (Adults) \$15 Luncheon Only (Children)</p>	
--	--

Raffle & Prizes • Mulligans • Longest Drive • Closest to the pin • Putting contest

For sponsorship opportunities, registration, and tournament details visit:
gabriellopezmemorialgolf.com



The Filipino Women's Club
cordially invites you to its

HAWAYAN NAYT SA NAYON

80TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

HONORING OUR PARTNERS

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 14, 2019
AT 6:00 PM

JOSE RIZAL COMMUNITY CENTER
7320 FLORIN ROAD MALL DRIVE
SACRAMENTO, CA 95823

ATTIRE: HAWAIIAN
DONATION: \$30

RSVP by September 1, 2019
Zenny Yagen-916-599-6544
Aida Azurin-916-616-1040
Rose Basos-916-381-3845
Mercy Guerrero-916-266-1923

7th Annual *Celebration in the City... Island-Style!*

ALOHA POLY FEST

Hawai'i ~ Samoa ~ Tonga ~ Tahiti ~ New Zealand



Saturday, August 17, 2019
11am to 5pm FREE ADMISSION & PARKING

Marina Green West (next to Yacht Harbor)
3650 Yacht Road ~ San Francisco, CA USA



Entertainment
featuring Cultural Music and Dances

Food & Drinks
featuring Hawaiian and San Francisco Treats

Merchandise Vendors
featuring Island-inspired Handcrafted and Other items

Information Booths
featuring Community-based Programs and Resources

Raffles and Giveaways



www.AlohaPolyFest.com






RIZE ALL

ARTS CENTER

...a love for the arts.



CONTEMPORARY
HIP HOP - JAZZ
BALLET - TAP
HULA - BALLROOM
and MORE

2232 LONGPORT COURT
SUITE #120
ELK GROVE, CA 95758

Dance@RizeAll.com
916.538.3255