

VP SARA IMPEACHMENT TRIAL OPENS ON JULY 6

Prosecution seeks 62-day trial days, defense wants 30; issues unresolved

By ALFRED GABOT, Editor in Chief

PASAY CITY – The stage is set for the impeachment trial of Vice President Sara Duterte starting July 6 for alleged various offenses as the prosecutors and the defense team are in a frenzied pre-trial conference to mark evidences and clear the preparations for the historic process initiated by the House of Representatives and to be decided by the Senate acting as the Impeachment Court.

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MARKING OF EVIDENCE. Members of the House prosecution panel confer with members of the defense team during the continuation of the pre-trial conference for the impeachment of Vice President Sara Duterte at the Senate in Pasay City

VP Duterte impeachment pre-trial points to likely media circus

By Beting Laygo Dolor, Editor

MANILA – At the very least, it will be a battle of press releases and online trolls exchanging insults and black propaganda.

From the way that the prosecution and the defense panels of Vice President Sara Duterte's pre-trial have been acting this week, a possible – even probable – media circus is likely to take place when the actual trial begins next month.

The first pre-trial conference set the stage for what is expected to be

an acrimonious trial, as shown by the animated disagreements that marked that initial meeting.

Online trolls claimed that defense lawyer Sheila Sison had figuratively “eaten alive” lead prosecutor Rep. Gerville Reyes-Luistro.

The defense dismissed the claim, which became widespread over social media.

One side admitted that “tension” marked that first meeting of the two panels, which prosecutor Renee Co said was not ►Page 3

ICC trial chamber wants Duterte at Sept. 7 status conference

THE HAGUE – The International Criminal Court (ICC) trial chamber wants detained former President Rodrigo Duterte to appear in the September 7 status conference on his crime against humanity case.

At the second status conference held on June 23, ICC trial chamber III presiding Judge Joanna Korner said ►Page 9

BNC/Bilyonaryo News Channel Launches in North America



Union City, June 2026: A multi-City Caravan by BNC team was launched at Island Pacific Supermarket at Union City, California, and ►Page 7

Fil-Am nurse charged in about \$1-B health care fraud, properties seized

By Claire Morales True and Cesar Antonio Nucum Jr.

LOS ANGELES – A dollar healthcare fraud and related crimes, triggering alarm among FilAms in the healthcare industry with good re- ►Page 6

UPSIDE

By Cherie M. Querol Moreno

Millennial, Gen X'er join abuse-prevention team



Daly City Council Member Juslyn Manalo swears in Jacob Sese and Lielzel Chan Lucero with Sherwin Lum as proxy for returning Rev. Mark Reburiano. CMQM photo

SOUTH SF, Calif. - ing ALLICE Alliance for Two generations of Filipino Americans stepped up to take ownership of the relationship health in their community by join-

Gen X'er Lielzel Chan Lucero and Millennial Jacob Sese re-►Page 10

Tacloban school shooting: 3 dead, 20 hurt P5

American in \$2-B healthcare scam nabbed P6



By Atty. Lozano

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Fiancé visa application

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Liza Soberano, Charo Santos, Dingdong 'star' in 'Sun Chaser'

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SPORTS

Yulo brothers cop gold, bronze in Asian championship

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PESO-DOLLAR RATE

\$1.00= P61.42

June 25, 2026 7:08am

Philippine News TODAY

Philippine News Today is published weekly by Philippines Today LLC with business and editorial offices at 156 South Spruce Ave Ste 205 South San Francisco CA 94080 Phone no. 650-872-3200 E-fax # 650-745-1442 and website address www.pnewstoday.com and email address advertising@philippinestodayus.com or editor@philippinestodayus.com

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COLUMNISTS

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What's the real status of the Strait of Hormuz?

What, we have to ask, is really happening at the Strait of Hormuz? Is it or isn't it open to global shipping?

It is well known that some 20 percent of the world's trade in oil sails past the Strait every day. As such, it affects almost everybody.

It certainly affects gas and diesel prices here in the US, as it does in our motherland, the Republic of the Philippines.

Ever since it was closed as a result of the US and Israel's war on Iran, prices of that most precious of commodities have shot through the roof.

And with high pump prices of gasoline and diesel, prices of consumer goods always follow, especially food.

The tragic fact is that consumers are completely powerless in doing anything about it. They live with outrageous prices of nearly everything, while hoping and praying that the war in Iran ends soon.

That was the expectation last week, when the US and Iran reportedly agreed to the terms of a peace deal.

Many analysts say that the US had, in effect, lost the war. The Trump government disagreed, of course.

President Donald Trump had declared yet again that the US had won the war based on the destruction inflicted on Iran's military. Its navy, army, and air force had been decimated, with minimal loss of life on the US side.

Yet Iran's ability to launch missiles appeared unaffected. The Islamic republic was still able to cause damage to the US and Israeli military.

Frankly speaking, we do not give a whit about what either side claims. We are only concerned that the war appears to be an on again, off again operation, from both sides.

It goes without saying that for as long as that war remains unsettled, the global economy will continue to be negatively affected.

This means ordinary Americans, FilAms included, and regular folk back home in Manila, will continue to struggle with high prices, even as the possibility of gasoline and food shortages may take place in the not-too-distant future.

It therefore remains our fervent wish that all sides finally sit down and discuss how the war can end. No temporary cessation of hostilities, please.

What the world is demanding is an end to the war, with a guarantee that it cannot and will not resume anytime in the near future.

All sides, especially Israel, will have to agree to concessions that may seem difficult to agree to. But that is the price that must be paid for a just and lasting peace.

Iran must not be exempted either. For as long as it maintains a policy that Israel has no right to exist, then peace will not be possible. Period.

Guarantee Israel's right to exist and the problem with Lebanon will have a solution. Iran-sponsored terrorist organizations will have to lay down their arms.

This is not to simplify the complex issues regarding the volatile Middle East. But unless all parties agree that there is no alternative to peace, then the war will very likely continue in the foreseeable future.

Under such a grim scenario, we all lose.

Millennial..

(From page 1)

cently recited the organization Pledge to Help End Intimate Partner Violence or IPV before Daly City Council Member Juslyn Manalo, a longtime friend and ally of the all-volunteer team, at the offices of Asian American Recovery Services -Healthright 360 here.

The two inductees vowed to learn about the root causes and dynamics of abuse as well as resources for individuals and families coping with troubled relationships. Above all, they pledged "today and always" to model healthy behaviors in contrast to unhealthy interaction as they go forth and discuss with communities, their team's major objective.

INSPIRATION

"You do life-saving work," Manalo reiterated at the oath-taking. "I've attended your presentations and seen how it inspires and empowers those who hear the stories you share and the testimonies of survivors."

Manalo's commendation echoed the experience of Cavite-born Chan Lucero, who first learned about ALLICE amid a personal tragedy.

"Domestic violence chose my family when it took my daughter Frances," the Daly City resident brought to mind the fate of her eldest child who was shot and killed by her ex-partner in front of their two children on their property three years ago.

Kumares and Kumpares, as the organization members call themselves, were among the first neighbors and advocates along with Council Member Manalo to reach out to the Lucero family. The team offered support at the initial community vigil and through court proceedings.

Liezel and younger daughter Francine soon launched a social media campaign to ensure Frances is not forgotten, especially not by the criminal justice system.

The trial concluded in March with the conviction and sentencing of the defendant. By then Chan Lucero, a mortgage loan account executive, had discerned a new calling.

"I joined ALLICE because no family should have to turn unimaginable pain into purpose. I will continue to be my daughter's voice and fight for those whose voices have been silenced," she said, opting to work with the team Program committee tasked with planning, producing and promoting presentations.

She admitted to having had no inkling of the danger Frances faced until much later.

"I did not witness the abuse directly, but in the months (Continue on page 20)

Fatherhood: A sacred calling

"MY FATHER gave me the greatest gift anyone could give another person: he believed in me."

Those words from Jim Valvano resonate deeply as we celebrate Father's Day.

For beyond the gifts, beyond the provisions, beyond the sacrifices, perhaps the greatest legacy a father leaves behind is the confidence he instills in his children—the belief that they can dream, persevere, and become better than themselves. Father's Day comes but once a year.

Yet fatherhood is lived every single day—through sacrifices made quietly, responsibilities carried faithfully, and love given unconditionally.

As I reflect on this special occasion, I find myself looking back on the blessings that have shaped my life as a son, a father, a brother and a grateful recipient of the guidance of many father figures who helped mold the man I have become.

Foremost among these blessings is the gift of fatherhood itself.

Together with my wife Tess, my partner in life for more than four decades, we were blessed with four wonderful children.

Raising Angel, Andrew, Magi, and Me-Anne has been one of life's greatest privileges and most meaningful journeys.

Like many parents, we experienced sleepless nights, financial challenges, anxious moments, and countless prayers.

But these were far outweighed by the joys of watching our children grow, pursue their dreams, build families of their own, and become responsible and compassionate individuals.

Today, as a grandfather to seven beautiful grandchildren, I realize that fatherhood never truly ends. It simply evolves.

The love that once focused on our children now extends to a new generation, bringing renewed purpose and immeasurable happiness.

My understanding of fatherhood, however, began with my own father. My late father, Perry Pio Palma Velasco—whom we lovingly called Daddy Perry—was a man of quiet strength, discipline, and integrity.

He was not one for grand speeches or dramatic displays. Instead, he taught through example.

I vividly remember his work ethic, his commitment to family, and his unwavering belief in doing what was right even when no one was watching.

He taught me that a man's true measure is not found in (Continue on page 18)



Upside

CHERIE M. QUEROL MORENO



THE OUTSIDER

MELANDREW T. VELASCO

Upside (From Page 10)



Current active Kumares & Kumpares welcome new members with renewed support from longtime ally. From left, seated: Jackie Yujuico, Jennifer Jimenez Wong, Council Member Juslyn Manalo and Nellie Hizon. Standing: Jacob Sese, Liezel Chan Luceron, Mariel Jacinto Valdes, Junior Flores, Colma PD Commander Sherwin Lum, Colma Council Member Joanne del Rosario, Chloe Wong and Dr. Jei Africa. CMQM photo

before her death she began opening up to me about what she was experiencing," she said. "Through those conversations I became aware of the warning signs for abuse.... giving me a deeper understanding of how domestic violence can develop and remain hidden."

Knowing what she knows now, she said, has strengthened her "commitment to raising awareness and preventing it from happening to other families."

EMPOWERMENT

"Jake" Sese had just earned his master's degree in Public Health when the opportunity arose to "help provide training and education on IPV at a national level" with a pioneering organization in San Francisco. A family friend who happened to be an ALLICE officer and had known him since he was a toddler was delighted to hear about his new employer. She invited him to get on board, and he immediately accepted.

"Joining ALLICE allows me to connect on a closer level and see the fruit of those connections," he said of his participation.

"I want to foster valuable partnerships that would educate the community on healing-centered care for survivors of domestic violence and safe relationships. I want to bring what I've learned in my professional life to a space that feels closer to my roots," the Philippine-born, California-raised San Francisco resident made a nod to his Filipino heritage.

Sese's first activity as a Kumpare was the group's annual retreat combining training with team-building.

He picked the Program and Tech committees and has been vital to the Resource Provider team that gathers and vets entities to be included in updating the organization's resource guide called the "A-List."

He shares Liezel's "motivation to ensure help is accessible and "taken seriously."

The first step is to understand the forms of healthy and unhealthy relationships and be able to tell the difference between the two before the latter escalates to abuse.

GROWING DIVERSITY

Team Operations Officer Jennifer Jimenez Wong welcomed the newest Kumare and Kumpare, acknowledging the importance of diversity in membership because the issue at hand "happens regardless of age and background."

"I'm really excited to be growing our team because everyone comes to the table bringing their own unique experience from which others can learn."

She noted the various disciplines represented in ALLICE, from mental health, law enforcement, medicine, clergy, politics and journalism.

"I think that Jacob will be a great addition to the team as he currently works in an Intimate Partner Violence agency. Although I have been an educator of IPV for many years, I still learn new concepts from him. Liezel is the newest member, and I learned from her lived experience on how she navigated getting justice for her daughter through the court system."

Jimenez Wong stressed that IPV "happens to all age groups from teen dating violence to elder abuse." She noted that the team inducted a teen member last year whose perspective has informed the organization's outreach methods.

The teen Kumare related that her peers experience "toxic" relationship patterns that they did not recognize as abuse because it was "normalized" and thus seen erroneously as acceptable.

Outreach Manager Junior Flores concurred that having members of all "ages and demographics" tightens "connec-

tions and creates broader awareness" of IPV, particularly how to stop it before it starts.

Each perspective enhances the team wherewithal, Flores and Jimenez Wong agree.

Formed in 2003, ALLICE is an all-volunteer nonprofit dedicated to practicing and promoting healthy and safe relationships within the organization and the community at large.

Current active Kumares & Kumpares include Chloe Wong, Edna Murray, Jackie Yujuico, Jei Africa, Joanne del Rosario, Jose Antonio, Lydia Pomposo, Mariel Jacinto-Valdes, Mark Reburiano, Nellie Hizon, Rosy Segura and Sherwin Lum.

For more information contact Jennifer Jimenez Wong - jensjimenez@gmail.com or Junior Flores - jstas59@gmail.com.

PNews Executive Editor Cherie Querol Moreno is founder-executive director of ALLICE

Health & Wealth

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PERSEVERANDA JIMENEZ TRINIDAD CELEBRATES 75TH BIRTHDAY

My beloved Virginia Jimenez Madlaing and I were blessed to attend the 75th Birthday celebration of Perseveranda Jimenez Trinidad last Saturday, June 20, 2026 at the Grosvenor Best Western Hotel in South San Francisco, California.

The 75th Birthday celebration was planned and organized by the celebrant's daughter Joanna Trinidad Udasco and niece Darlene Madlaing Gamble who flew all the way from Hawaii and Louisiana, respectively.

Attendees to the 75th Birthday celebration include the celebrant's son Jim Trinidad, his wife Joy Trinidad and children who are residing in South San Francisco, California; son Allan Trinidad, his wife Gabby Trinidad and children who are now residing in Portland, Oregon; her daughter Joanna Trinidad Udasco, her husband John Udasco and children who flew all the way from Hawaii;

Celebrant's older sister Trinidad Jimenez Tuliao from Daly City, California, her son Nathaniel Tuliao and wife Crystal Tuliao, another son Dave Tuliao, his wife Stephanie Tuliao and their sons; celebrant's nephews Don Relosimon, Ferdinand Relosimon and wife Aurora Relosimon and their sons; Jovito Relosimon and family; niece Amy Relosimon and daughter; celebrant's niece Wynema Madlaing Gacusan who flew all the way from Phoenix, Arizona; and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews from San Diego, Elk Grove, Sacramento, Hayward and Fremont, California.

Special guests were Ernie Abalos, Board Chairman of the United Pangasinanes of America, Inc.. (UPAI) and his wife Flory Abalos.

Dinner was held at 6:00 pm. Programs and games for adults and children were jointly conducted and coordinated by Joanna and Darlene.

We wish you a blessed,, happy and wonderful 75th Birthday Perse!!!

(ART GABOT MADLAING is accredited and commissioned Notary Public and licensed Real Estate Broker (DRE #00635976) in California since 1981. He is founder of **MOBILE SIGNING SERVICES, FITNESS FOR HUMANITY (aka FITNESS FOR CHRIST) and ACAPINOY. Art is active Evangelist with the GOLDEN GATE CHURCH OF CHRIST in San Francisco, California USA.)**



OBITUARY of LOURDES MITRA ESCLAMADO

Lourdes Mitra Esclamado, also known as Luly, age 95, of Rolesville, North Carolina went to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on May 13, 2026.

Lourdes was born on February 6, 1931 in Manila, Philippines to Ramon P. Mitra and Salud de Ocampo. She grew up in Manila where she attended school until WWII broke out when she was 10 years old. After the war, at 14, she recommenced her schooling and graduated from St. Theresa's College in 1947. Throughout her childhood, Luly would enjoy family vacations in their summer home in Baguio, in northern Philippines, where her father was Congressman. Later, Luly went on to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry at the University of Santo Tomas, earning her degree in 1951. She quickly passed her Boards and immediately began teaching General & Analytic Chemistry in the pre-

med and pre-nursing programs at the De Ocampo Memorial Medical Center in Manila. In 1953, Luly continued teaching Chemistry at Far Eastern University in Manila.

In 1951, Luly met the love of her life, Alejandro A. Esclamado in Baguio during her summer vacation. Alex is known to have corralled his ROTC officer musicians to serenade Luly at midnight, amongst his many attempts to win her heart. Alex & Luly were married on August 9, 1952, when Alex was starting his third year of law school. In July 1953, their first child was born. Then Alex graduated with his Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Far Eastern University in the Fall of that same year, passing the bar in his first attempt. He joined his father-in-law's law firm in Manila and over the next five years, Alex & Luly had two more sons and a daughter.

In 1959 Alex & Luly decided to pursue a life in the United States, opening the US Edition of the Manila Chronicle. The Philippine News was birthed in 1961 in the basement of the Esclamado home. This was the beginning of a life-long shared quest to unite and empower Filipino Americans to have a unified political voice. Alex & Luly began distributing their small paper locally then nationally, driving across the states to spread the Philippine News. From 1972-1986, as the Marcos dictatorship ruled their homeland, the PN became the opposing voice in the corridors of the U.S. Congress. Alex, Luly and their family stood steadfast in the face of opposition and oppression from the Marcos government who attempted to silence PN's voice. Ultimately, Alex & Luly's greatest legacy to their Filipino American community was the establishment of the National Association of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA) which is the collective, unified voice of all Filipino Americans today. However, Luly would say her greatest joy & love, next to her husband, was for her family. She and Alex had three more children in the U.S. Luly's beloved family legacy is that of her seven children, fourteen grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren. A faithful wife, devoted mother/grandmother/great-grandmother, committed community leader, hard-working entrepreneur and woman of faith, Luly lived a life truly honoring to her Lord, sacrificially serving all whom she loved and others in need.

Luly is survived by her younger sister, Cecilia Mitra Orbeta, her seven children: Carlos Esclamado (Ann M. Savage), Victor Esclamado (Veronica Bengzon), Ray Esclamado (Lorie Kerns), Elisa Glenn (Mack Glenn), Grace Groothoff (Ehrhardt Groothoff), Elena Esclamado and Alex Esclamado, Jr (Janet Girardot), her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Alejandro A. Esclamado, older brother, Ramon V. Mitra, younger sisters, Aurora Mitra Schtakleff and Marita Mitra Lewis, younger brother, Ramon O. Mitra and her beloved great-grandson Ty Williams.

A private mass and interment will be held for family. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that memorial donations be made to the Esclamado Scholarship Fund, established to continue the Esclamado family's deep legacy of service, leadership, education, and community empowerment.

Donations may be made directly through the following link: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/esclamado-scholarship>

All contributions are tax-deductible and will be restricted exclusively for scholarship purposes through EPYC (Empowering Filipino Youth Through Collaboration).