

# Fr. Ray Children's Home

**Nickname:** **Pop**

**Sex:** **Female**

**Birth Date:** **1992.06.14**

**Birth Place:** **Chonburi**

**Arrival Date:** **2000.11.02**

## Family History and General Information

Pop lived with her mother and step-father who is known to be somewhat mentally deficient. The family is very poor. In addition Pop was neglected by both her mother and step-father. On one occasion when Pop failed to follow an instruction by the step-father he struck her on the head which fortunately did not cause severe damage. Her situation came to the attention of the provincial Shelter for Children and Families. From there she was brought to our Home.

## November 2000

Pop, in spite of her difficult background, gives the impression of being a nice child. Here she will be well cared for and has already been enrolled in Year 1 of a local government school.

## June 2001

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> term of Year 1 Pop showed that she was able to maintain the equivalent of a C average in her studies. This was in spite of the fact that most of the students in her class found the going much tougher than in the 1<sup>st</sup> term! Pop has been promoted to Year 2. Well done, Pop! (NOP)

## August 2002

Pop is now in Year 3 at the local school and is finding the going much more difficult than in the earlier two years. Although otherwise a strong and healthy girl she now exhibits the signs of being of a lower level of intelligence that was at first apparent, a pronounced characteristic of her mother. Her progress in this respect is being closely monitored. In personal relationships she gets on very well with friends and classmates. (NOP)

## August 2003

Pop is now in year Four of her primary education. As a reward for her scholastic efforts, she



has been transferred to Muang Pattaya 5. It is hoped that with her new environment and friends that she will meet the challenge and continue to improve in her scholastic abilities. It is thought that her eccentricity may be due to Pop's mistreatment as a young child. She still remains a solid little girl who does all the chores required of her and remains a good friend of her peers. (Tim)

#### September 2004

Pop continues to do well in her studies. She now advances to Year 5 in primary level with a fairly good grade average. Pop is a nice charming young lady who likes to meet people. She is always selected to participate in the group to entertain visitors and guests in various types of presentations, especially in Thai classical dancing. She is obedient and well behaved and is enjoying good health. (NS)

#### December 2004

##### Coca Cola World Carnival Day

To celebrate Constitution day in Thailand, Coca Cola held a World Carnival Day for over 150 Street Kids and Orphans in Pattaya. The company took the children to "Impact Arena" which houses all sorts of death defying rides and a Haunted House that would scare you silly! There were also lots of skill testing games.

The following is an impression from your sponsee who took part in the festivities.

I went to play at Impact Muangthong Thani. I was very happy and if possible I would like to get there again. (PL)

#### November 2005

Pop is now in her 6<sup>th</sup> year in primary level, the last and final year at this level. When the next school year starts in May there is very little doubt that she will be able to advance to a higher level. Pop has always displayed diligence and close attention to her study. Pop is a joyful and happy little lady and always takes part in the various activities in our Home. She is very helpful around the Home and takes full responsibility for all her daily house chores. (NS)

#### June 2006

Pop continues on with her education and is now in her 1<sup>st</sup> year in lower secondary educational level which is equivalent to Year 7. She is doing fairly well and, in the latest exams, has been able to achieve 14<sup>th</sup> place in the class of 40 students. Pop has a keen interest in English. She also likes computer, drawing, and coloring. She does not like mathematics, however. She takes full responsibility in her daily assigned duties at our Home and completes them everyday after school. She returned home during the long holiday to be with her family. The teacher at our Home compliments her in her diligence and active participation in our Home's activities. She also completes her homework without having to be told. Pop continues to be strong and healthy and remains to be a fine young lady! (NS)

#### December 2006

Her supervising teacher at our Home compliments Pop for her continued attentiveness to her study. Pop is doing fairly well in her class of 38 students. She is seen as a joyful and happy person with lots of friends both at school as well as at our Home. She is now participating in running as a regular daily physical exercise with the hope that she may be recruited as one of

the school's track and field athletes representing her school in the community sport competitions. Her supervising teacher also commends her for her general good behavior and conduct. Pop takes care of small children in her free time. All residents were taken for a periodic physical examination at one of the reliable local hospitals in the City and Pop passed the examination showing her to be well and free of undesirable diseases. Pop should not have any problem advancing to the next higher grade when the next academic year starts in May. (NS)

#### July 2007

Pop continues to receive complimentary comments from her supervising teacher for being joyful and happy, being attentive to her study, and for her general good behavior and conduct. Pop now advances to Year 2 in lower secondary educational level, which equates to year 8, with an overall average grade point of 2.54 out of a possible 4.00. From her school's report card, it was noticeable that she did well in physical education (80%), sciences (73%), and English (70%). Pop gets along with just about any body in our Home. She now takes great interest in volleyball and we can often see her playing with her friends every afternoon after returning from school. Pop participates in all of our Home activities, such as those listed below:

After the year-end final examination and at the start of the long summer holiday, a special feast was given to the children as well as to our valued sponsors and invited guests. This was held to give the earned recognition to our students and also to celebrate the joyous event to those who successfully completed their study of the past year. Many of the residents took part in presentations, which were well received and enjoyed by everyone.

All residents of the Children's Home participated in the "Sports' Day" which was held on 2, 3, 4, and 10 of March. This is an event where the whole body of residents is divided into 2-3-4 different groups identified by colors, usually, green, red, blue, and yellow. All residents are urged to participate 100% in order to fully enjoy the event. The end result is that the teams end up with every team being a winning team in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> place. Positions are awarded depending on the number of medals each team accumulates.

Most residents return home for the whole month of April after writing their final examination to be with their families during the year-end summer holiday, Pop included. Those having no family to turn to, remain at the Home for the holiday where there are many events and joyful activities all lined up for them to participate in.

13<sup>th</sup> April 2007 – Most of the residents from the Redemptorist Children's Home – Pattaya, paid a visit to the Banglamung Home for Aged People to give blessings to them and vice versa for the traditional Thai New Year – Songkran.

It is a big official holiday from the 13<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup> of April of each year, as it is observed as the traditional Thai New Year Day. The observation was abolished in the year B.E. 2482 (1939) by the then government cabinet and to observe the 1<sup>st</sup> of January as the New Year Day. Songkran Day is also well known as the country's "Water Festival". The actual ceremony is to bless one another by pouring fragrant or scented water on to the open palm of the receiver's hands. It developed into splashing water in great quantities onto one another and was instigated by the younger generation. This became a favorite function, as during that time of the year, the surrounding atmosphere of the country is very hot as it is in the middle of the

Country's hot season.

19<sup>th</sup> April 2007 – This is the traditional Songkran Day for Pattaya City when all our residents come to take up stations on the roadside in front of St. Nicholas Church to celebrate the event of water splashing. All on-going traffic, trucks, buses, motorcyclists and pedestrians get a thorough soaking but take it in the spirit of the day.

10<sup>th</sup> May 2007 – through the kind sponsorship of AIS, one of the country's main cellular phone service providers, all residents were invited to enjoy "The Spider Man 3" movie at the Big C Cinema, complete with popcorn and drinks, which made a grand day for our kids.

9<sup>th</sup> of June 2007 – another great day of sport activities for the residents at our Children's Home jointly participated in by our Home's personnel and supervising teachers, foreign volunteers, and all residents. After a great deal of exercises, a lot of sweating and exhaustion, the enjoyment of the games, was followed by a big dinner for everyone completing the day. (NS)

#### January 2008

Pop continues on with her education in her 2<sup>nd</sup> year under the lower secondary educational level (Year 8), while being complemented by her supervising teacher at our Home for her good behavior and manners, especially towards those more matured. Pop is known to be joyful and pleasant. She is respected for her diligence and hard-working towards her study and her housework at the Home. While at our Home, she does participate in all of our Home's activities, which include:

24<sup>th</sup> of November – Loy Krathong Festival or River Lantern Festival, can be traced to the idea of water spirits and the floating away of all wrongdoings and uncontrollable calamities that befell people of the north and northeastern parts of Thailand. This is only natural, however, in as much as the north is a major rice-growing area, and also a place where superstitions have held on more strongly than in other parts of Thailand. The earliest Krathongs were simple and constructed from natural materials: the trunk of a banana tree was cut for a base while the leaves of the banana trees were carefully folded into the shape of lotus petals and attached to the base. Finally, flowers, incense sticks and candles were added. People wanting to create the most beautiful Krathong would take great pride in designing and making their Krathongs. This traditional celebration took place in the afternoon of the 24<sup>th</sup> of November. The celebration consisted of praying for oneself to do well and to have a good life, a beauty contest and singing and dancing shows. The high-light of the celebration was a dancing and singing show called "Full Moon Shines" with all participants dressed in glorious fancy costumes. Finally the celebration ended with a great feast in which all residents and teachers took part.

5<sup>th</sup> December – H.M. the King's birthday and National Father's Day. The celebration took place in the morning of the 5<sup>th</sup> of December consisting of food being prepared and offered to the Buddhist monks, followed by a ceremony praising and paying respect to the fathers. Residents were encouraged to express their love to the fathers and finally, a contest for the best father was held (in this case using the teachers and the Home's personnel as models). Chatchawan Wongtipoo was awarded First Place in drawing a picture of his father, while Krisana Dahtong was also awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place for her essay, entitled "My Father". Then it was time for the high light of the day when all students and teachers lit candles in honor of H.M. the King, while at the same time singing songs praising His Majesty the King. This was followed by movies for everyone to enjoy which closed the celebration.

Christmas Celebration December 25 - Events took part in the morning and also in the afternoon and evening. Sport competitions had been enjoyed all day long by the residents, teachers, personnel, and guests, who were divided into different teams represented by different colors. There was a long pause in the late afternoon for cleaning-up, bathing, relaxation, and rest. The evening started with dinner, songs and dances, present distribution and raffles. Everyone left the party with gifts and presents in one's hand having had a wonderful day.

12<sup>th</sup> of January 2008 - the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Year - The Country's Annual National Children's Day. The day started quite early, before sunrise actually, with people gathering around the football field at our Children's Home for the annual group picture taking. This consisted of all residents and personnel from all projects, followed by a hearty breakfast. The day consisted of a most fun-filled day for residents, personnel, and guests with sports, shows, exhibitions, etc. being the main part of the day. Food and beverages were available to all throughout the day. The event continued on until late in the evening with everyone having a great time but being completely exhausted! (NS)

#### July 2008

Pop has just turned sixteen years old in June and is in Year 9 at school. She completed her Grade 8 with a good passing grade of 2.76 out of a possible 4 and she was 11<sup>th</sup> in her class. She did very well in Buddhism, which she was able to obtain Grade A. Her weakness was Sciences. Her favourite classes in school are Social Studies, Vocational Technology, Computer, and Sciences. Her difficult subjects are English and Mathematics. Her current ambition is to be a businesswoman, working in the import line. Pop loves singing and joining in sports. Her people say Pop is a great activist who participated in all events happening in her life. She can perform both in the sport fields and on the dancing stage. Besides her sports and dancing abilities, she shows outstanding skills in crafts, and her handicrafts are always neatly done. Her teacher says Pop loves to work alone. When her teachers at school divide the students in to groups, Pop volunteers to do all the work by herself, instead of working together with her friends. Her people try to point out the importance of team work and she appears to understand. Pop is a joyful talkative young lady who speaks slowly. Pop completes her chores every day, which include sweeping and cleaning her room, washing her own clothes, and helping with the younger children. On weekends, she helps in the kitchen and prepares the food for the younger girls. She now enjoys exercising and reading in her free time. Responsibility and helpfulness are the basic makeup of Pop. (WS)

#### December 2008

The school was closed for the whole month of October for a long holiday between the first and second terms of the year. Pop continues on with her academic study in her 9<sup>th</sup> year, which is her last and final year under the lower secondary educational level. Next year she will be heading for the 1<sup>st</sup> year under the higher secondary educational level (Year 10). In the last school's examination, which was taken towards the end of September, Pop was able to achieve an overall average grade of 3.2 out of a possible 4.0, a remarkable accomplishment on her part! Pop expresses her wishes to continue in vocational training upon having successfully completed her study at the end of this year instead of continuing on with her academic study. Pop has set her aim to major in accounting in the vocational training level. Pop is a good girl and is always in good health. She participates in all of our Home's activities, which include:

Two camps were set up to keep the children occupied during the October long holiday. The first one was from the 14<sup>th</sup> through to the 25<sup>th</sup> of October. The camp was for the older boys aged from 12 – 16 years old. There were 13 boys in this group. This camp was set up at the Center for the Development of Hill Tribe People. The camp was located in Uthai Thani Province in the central part of the country, some distance away from Pattaya City. The course consisted of: the art of living and working with others, acknowledging the surrounding environment and putting it to good use, being responsible to their duties and learning how to make sacrifices, strengthening their capability – physically and spiritually, being trained in and acknowledging self-discipline, encouraging thought development and learning how to take the initiative to change existing environments with the goal of behavioral improvement, and to rest and to relax during the long holiday.

The second camp was from the 23<sup>rd</sup> through to the 25<sup>th</sup> of October. This was held for 40 boys who did not go to the first one. The camp was set up within the compound of the Children's Home in Pattaya City. Participants in this camp were to take part in how to: play baseball and rugby, compete in typing, and become acquainted with desk-top computers.

12<sup>th</sup> of November – The annual Loy Krathong Festival. Each Krathong, or river lantern, was simple and constructed from natural materials: the trunk of a banana tree was cut for a base while the leaves of the banana trees were carefully folded into the shape of lotus petals and attached to the base. Finally, flowers, incense sticks and candles were added. People, wanting to create the most beautiful Krathong, would take great pride in designing and making their Krathongs. This traditional celebration took place in the afternoon of the 12<sup>th</sup> of November. The celebration consisted of praying for oneself to do well and to have a good life. The high-light of the celebration was a great feast in which all residents and teachers took part.

27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> of November – the annual celebration, sponsored by PIBF (Pattaya International Balloon Festival) with balloon rides for the public and our residents, who exhibited the art of Thai boxing and Thai classical dances for those in attendance.

2<sup>nd</sup> of December – a grand visit to the sight by our selected residents who participated in an exhibition of Thai boxing and Thai classical dances.

5<sup>th</sup> of December – HM the King's birthday – the National Father's day. An official celebration of the event at our Children's Home with Father Worawut Saraphan C.Ss.R being the Chairperson and the residents being the participants, it was a fun filled day.

Representatives from the UN office in Bangkok came for an official visit. The visit started by the representatives distributing gifts consisting of items for personal use to all residents and was followed by games.

6<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of December – 2 auto rallies were run on these days, having selected our Children's Home as one of their stops. Some of our residents participated in game playing with the drivers, giving them a bit of rest and relaxation. (NS)

## May 2009

Pop succeeded in passing the year-end final examination and completed her 9<sup>th</sup> year in her academic study and was able to obtain 5<sup>th</sup> place in her class of more than 30 students. In

order to fulfill her wishes, Pop enrolled at Banglamung Technical Vocational Training School in accounting. Pop continues to display good behavior and conduct. She gets along well with just about anybody. She also actively participated in all of our Home's activities which include:

Christmas celebrations were held on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of December. This consisted of our residents being divided into groups of 20 who went around singing traditional carols in 8, five-star hotels in Pattaya City, blessing these hotel guests with their entertainment.

The New Year celebration was held on the evening of the 31<sup>st</sup> of December consisting of shows and exhibitions presented by many groups of our girl and boy residents with the highlight of the evening being a gift presentation to our residents.

The Annual Traditional National Children's Day is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each year with the primary aim being fun and games for all our children. This year, the celebration consisted of 6 different hand-made kiosks built from tree branches for a variety of activities. Thai classical dancing performed by our little ones marked the opening ceremony, followed by fun and games, food and drinks.

Valentine Day celebrations took place on Saturday, the 14<sup>th</sup> of February. Usually a holiday, the various programs started immediately after breakfast with the programs running all the way to noon when a special a "la carte" luncheon, marking the end of the celebration, were served to all our residents as well as to a great number of visiting guests. The highlight of the celebration was the parade of young girls and boys who had been all dressed up very beautifully and handsomely by the older residents and teachers. This was followed by a long session of photo taking by admiring guests.

Selected and well rehearsed of 4 shows from boy and girl residents at our Home participated on the 11<sup>th</sup> of March in the celebration of successes achieved by athletes representing the Chonburi Province in their participation of the national annual traditional athletic competitions for the disabled most of whom are students from our Redemptorist Vocational School for People with Disabilities.

The school is off for a long summer holiday starting immediately after the completion of year-end final examination in March until the start of the new academic year usually in the middle part of May of each year. Some of our children return home to be with their parents, close relative, and family. Some remain in our Home enjoying the association with their close friends and the participation in various activities designed to inspire them to be creative, athletic, and to be in good behavior inclusive of special tuition for those who evidently are weak in some subjects in preparation for the forthcoming new school year.

Annual Water Festival – Thai Traditional New Year, this year, was officially held during the 12<sup>th</sup> through the 14<sup>th</sup> of April when all children splashed water among themselves in and around our Home representing good blessing to one another. Then again on the 19<sup>th</sup> of April which is customarily regarded as the official day for the Annual Water Festival for Pattaya City when all children took their stand in front of the Pattaya Redemptorist Center as the location is right on the main road where a number of people passed and traffic congested with intense participation from general public. It was fun and more fun of water soaking.

There was course for nail painting for those who may be seriously interested being offered at

our Home. Once the course is completed and the evaluation is successful, the training may be applied professionally.

In May just before the start of the new academic year, a short session of camping being arranged within the Home's compound with the primary purpose to teach residents to unite, to help one another, to recognize the importance of education, and above all to enjoy themselves while living in wholesome of good behavior and conduct. (NS)

#### December 2009

After having completed her Year 9 academic study (lower secondary education), Pop has made the decision to continue on with her vocational training at the renowned Banglamung Vocational Training School. The school is recognized to be one of the best in this part of the country. Pop is now in her 1<sup>st</sup> year with emphasis on "accounting". Pop has been and continues to be a well behaved young lady. She is also a good student and had done excellent job in her studies. She has matured and needs very little advice from her supervising teacher at our Home in regards to her general behaviour and conduct. Pop is dependable and reliable in her general contact. There has never been any rumor of her being involved in the so called "unacceptable behaviour" of any kind. Although Pop does not indulge in sports she is always in good shape, physically as well as spiritually. She spends her free time helping around the Home with the daily house chores as well as looking after the younger boys and girls (NS)

#### June 2010

Pop is now in her 2<sup>nd</sup> year at the Banglamung Technical Vocational Training Institute, where she is continuing with her courses in accounting. In the Institute's final examination which took place in March, Pop passed all her subjects with an overall average grade of 3.59 out of a possible 4.00! Everyone, especially her supervising teacher, is so pleased with her remarkable achievement but at the same time it is no surprise to her friends as Pop has always been a high achiever. In addition to being good in her vocational training, Pop continues to be a big help to her supervising teacher at our Home in Pattaya City, looking after smaller children and doing the odds and ends jobs so that her supervising teacher can attend to more important work. Pop has indeed grown up to be a nice charming lady who is well liked by everyone. She is enjoying good health. (NS)

#### January 2011

Pop continues to be a pretty nice young lady who is doing well in her vocational training as well as in her daily conduct. She remains to be one of the top residents in our Home with good integrity and well above average dependability. Her supervising teacher commends her for being attentive to her vocational training. She has done well in all subjects, especially in mathematics and Thai language. Pop gets along well with everyone. In her free time, she always keeps herself busy, in sports by playing badminton with her friends, reading, and doing the school's home-work. She is also one of our Home's best Thai classical dancers. Pop is highly regarded by her supervising teacher at our Home who commended Pop for doing well at school as there has been no negative report from her teacher at school. In the absence of her supervising teacher, Pop can be relied upon to look after the daily house chores successfully. She returned home to be with her family during the school's long holiday, subsequently, she missed the opportunity to participate in one of our Home's worthwhile summer projects. (NS)

#### July 2011

Pop is now in her 3<sup>rd</sup> and final year under the lower vocational training program. In order for

students to be able to work at ease, the Institute is assigning students for apprenticeship courses. Pop is now assigned for on the job training in basic accounting work in the Pattaya City's Accounting Department. Her training will place emphasis on accounting only. If she succeeds in her training by the end of the school year in March, there is a good chance that Pop may be able to continue on with her vocational training with emphasis in accounting under the upper vocational training program at the same Institute. Her supervising teacher commends Pop for her diligence and also for being attentive to her training. She continues to behave well. Pop is enjoying good health. She also expresses her pleasure in having the opportunity to take part in actual on the job training. (NS)

#### January 2012

Pop enjoys her vocational training in accounting. She is a responsible and diligent student who carefully does her school assignments. She likes being a leader in learning and taking part in the school's activities. Her special ability is in Thai traditional dancing, singing songs, and modern dance. She is fully responsible for her routine duties; has good will towards all and cooperates with the Home's superiors and supervising teacher. She; knows how to make fruitful use of her leisure time; and conducts herself as a good example in the matter of learning. Pop is loved by her teachers and friends. Her passing grade at the end of the second semester was 3.59 out of a possible 4.00. She is diligent and is laying good plans for her own future.

Throughout the festive season, Pop sang Christmas Carols at various hotels. Along with the other children under our Care, Pop had a lot of fun during Christmastime. She, our guests, all of the children, students, and staff under the Fr. Ray Foundation, had "a Big Family Day Party" at which she sampled all kinds of delicious food and watched many wonderful shows presented by our children, staff and volunteers. Having received many gifts, including an envelope with cash, at the annual Christmas Party, Pop spent some of the money on personal items and put the rest in her savings account. Our Children are grateful to their benefactors from all over the world for making this time so special. With thanks from all of us at the Fr. Ray Foundation, we ask for God to bless all concerned for making it a real Season of Joy for all of them. (WS)

#### July 2012

Congratulations to Pop! She received a Lower Diploma in Accounts in March. She has now started her first year for the Higher Diploma in Accounts at the same Institution. She goes daily to the Institution by bus. She plans to study there for two years and will continue her education for a bachelor's degree which will take two more years. Her greatest dream is to become an accountant in a good company. She continues to work hard and performs her duties well. She loves singing. A joyful and lively young lady, she is called "Grasshopper" by her friends. Pop displays herself as a good role model to the younger residents at the Home, and she is a good leader in group activities.

Pop had a long school vacation for the whole month of April which is known to be one of the hottest months of the year, but this April the weather has been hotter than usual. Pop and other residents at the Home received an extra bonus during the holidays. They went camping in the open countryside of Central Thailand. Eventually they arrived at their destination and spent two days having lots of fun. They all learned more about not relying on drugs, and about sexology in a teenager's life, which are very important to the young people in our society. They visited a local temple to make merit to the Lord Buddha before making their way to the local river.

Waiting for them at the river was a large pile of life jackets and a row of dinghies; the children were going to be travelling down river, by boat, and they were very excited. For many this was a new experience for them. Many had a worried look on their faces, but when they discovered that the water was not as high or rough as usual, everyone had a great time. (WS)

#### January 2013

Pop enjoys her higher vocational training education. She performs her duties very well and is mature. She is not an extra intelligent student but she is a good learner who actively learns and bravely asks when she does not understand. She is joyful, kind, and friendly. Her supervising teacher at the Home is concerned on her returning to the Home after School. She comes back home quite late in the evening. The way to the Home is not very busy with people therefore Pop is told to come earlier for her own security. She is a good role model for the younger residents who are encouraged to follow Pop's example. During the Christmas/New Year break, Pop was pleased to celebrate at the party held for everyone who worked under the Fr. Ray Foundation's umbrella. She received a large gift-bag filled with new clothes, stationery, and pocket money. (WS)

#### August 2013

Pop is strong and healthy. In the last check-up, she weighed 44 kilograms and was 159 centimeters tall. Pop enjoys her vocational training course and continues to work hard. She diligently does her school assignments. In her last school term, she obtained a fair passing grade; her weakness was accounting. She is now job training at a financial institute in Central Pattaya. She is liked by everyone at the institute. Pop pays respect to her supervising teachers at the Home, but the younger residents prefers playing alone to being with Pop because Pop is quite bossy and fussy. Being a tidy person, she dresses cleanly and keeps herself looking good. Pop actively participates in the planned activities at the Home on her weekends. She enjoys listening to music and reading in her free time. She loves to sing and listen to country songs. Pop is encouraged to start returning to the Home earlier in the evening. Pop visited her mother and her step-father during the long school vacation. (WS)

#### January 2014

Pop enjoys good health and has a good appetite. She does not like sports but she enjoys watching other children play. She was found to be 46 kilograms in weight and is 159 centimeters in height. She is now in the second year of her higher vocational training course and she will finish her high school in February. She is interested in continuing her education in the university and she is making her decision what to study and where to study. She seems to lack self-confidence and appears to be able to be easily led by her friends. Pop continues to be a responsible student who pays attention to her studies. She regularly attends classes and diligently does her school assignments. Being a young adult in the Home, she sometimes complains that the young children are noisy and playful. She gets along well with her teachers and friends at Home although she does not like to spend time with a big group. She prefers being with some of her favorite friends. Pop volunteered to clean up the toilet in the girls' dormitory because she loves to spend her time in a clean toilet. She kindly helps her teachers to prepare the activities at the Home. Pop joined our Christmas carol group that was invited to sing in many hotels.

Christmas is always a happy time for our children. Along with the other children under the Father Ray Foundation, Pop participated in the annual Christmas party which, for the first time ever, had been organized by the children and students and it was a night to remember! She

enjoyed eating a great variety of food which was available before the main party started. She enjoyed watching the performances by the children and students under the Father Ray Foundation. To top it all off, she received a nice Christmas gift.

The second Saturday of January is always celebrated here in Thailand as National Children's Day. Pop and the other children from the Children's Home visited the nearby Pattaya Sheep Farm. Not only did the children get to hold and feed the sheep and goats, but there was also a fun fair, an aviary, a working windmill and a restaurant, to keep everyone happily occupied. (WS)