WHY DEFEND PHILIPPINES?

A nice place to visit. But it's security is not something America should guarantee.

WASHINGTON - Washington treat allies like Facebook friends, the more the merrier. Montenegro or the United Kingdom, allies are viewed as much the same. Administrations routinely sign "mutual" defense treaties and pretend it's a real military alliance, designed to make America more secure.

n fact, most U.S. "allies" are nothing of the sort. The United States backed these countries during the cold war to prevent them from falling under communist influence of Russia and China.

The allies eventually recovered economically, with Japan, Germany, the UK, France, and South Korea becoming important international players. Nevertheless, Washington continues to be responsible for national, regional and global security. The presumption is that its alliances are essentially costless. All Washington needs to do to deter impudent adversaries is make an occasional threat or issue a pertinent demand. There's really no need for allies to even possess weapons.

However, that world, which

never really existed, is gone forever. Both Russia and China are well-armed and hostile; neither is inclined to give way to America. Smaller states, such as Iran and North Korea, have an even greater incentive to establish their credibility in order to resist Washington's dictates.

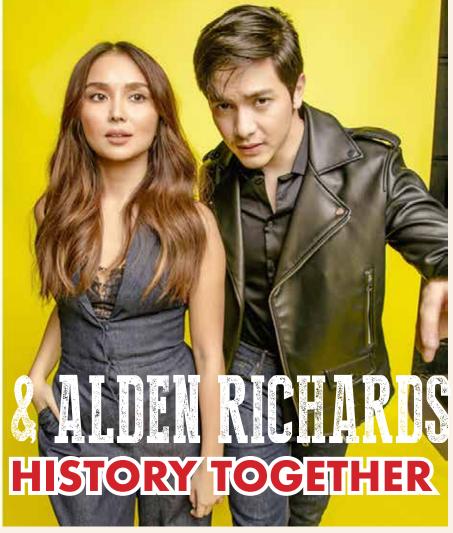
Still, the alliances are supposed to deter aggressors. And surely they do to the degree that they are seen as credible.

The other result of alliances is to ensure Washington's involvement in conflicts involving other alliance members, irrespective of America's interests.

All of these come into play in the Philippines, a dysfunctional state headed by a president irresponsible even by Trumpian

PHILIPPINES continued on page 9





wo of the biggest young stars from two phenomenal loveteams come together to showcase a fresh kind of chemistry onscreen

In a month-long, twenty-person shoot outside the Philippines early this year, Kathryn Bernardo and Alden Richards made history. When Hello, Love, Goodbye was announced in March, both stars had braced themselves for the worst. They'd readied themselves for

angry, diehard fans, but what they'd been faced with instead was quite the opposite. Support poured in, and excitement crackled in the air. It's the dawn of a new era, and both Kathryn and Alden can only hope that it's here to stay.

They're not the first to do this. In

2007, Piolo Pascual and Regine Velasquez starred in the Star Cinema x Viva Films movie Paano Kita Iibigin, when she was still a contract artist for GMA-7. In 2009, KC Concepcion and Richard

> KATHRYN & ALDEN continued on page 18



Rapist-Murderer Ex-Mayor Parole Blocked

Alden Richards fat-shamed to lose weight

CHRISTMAS IS JOSE MARI CHAN SEASON

Darna Actress ignores bashers Melai mastered the art of Ghosting

Climate-change fuels Dengue epidemic Gerald Anderson, playboy like Jose Rizal? Ten year olds getting Pregnant

PAGE 20



Drs. Solon C. Guzman & Josephine Adorna-Guzman & Associates

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Alex Castro reveals reason why he did not reach superstar status

Alex Castro: "Siguro kahit matagal na ako sa industriya, hindi ko inabot yung level na



superstar, kasi hati po talaga yung aking... So hindi ko siya talaga in-aim."

Pangalawang termino na ng Kapamilya actor na si Alex Castro bilang board member ng 4th District ng lalawigan ng Bulacan (Obando,

Meycauayan, Marilao, Sta. Maria, at San Jose del Monte City).

Naging abala sa nakaraang eleksyon, pero ngayon ay handa na si Alex mag-concentrate muli sa showbiz.

Nahihirapan ba siyang pagsabayin ang showbiz at politics?

Saad ng actor-politician, "Nung councilor ako, medyo napagsasabay ko pa siya.

"So ngayon, medyo gamay ko na dahil nakatapos na ako ng isang term.

Gagawin ni Alex ang pelikulang A Family Ghost Story para sa Star Cinema.

Ang huling serye niya sa ABS-CBN ay ang Wildflower.

Alex Castro's Priority

Desidido si Alex na magtuluy-tuloy muli sa pag-aartista.

"Na after election, sabi ko, sige kako, hangga't kaya pa, hangga't puwede pa."

Ano ang mensahe ni Alex sa ibang nagsasabing ang mga artista na tulad niya ay hindi capable or qualified maging politician?

"Yung track record ko. Hindi kasi ako nagsimula na artista, 'tapos siguro nung nalaman ko na wala akong career, pumasok ako sa public service, hindi.

"Nasa public service na ako at the age of 15 years old as SK Federation, hindi ako anak ng pulitiko.

"So part lang dun, nataon na ako ay nasa showbiz, pero gaya nga ng sinabi ko, yung track record ko."

Hindi siya nagpapaapekto sa bashers.

"Basta alam ko na ginagawa ko yung trabaho ko, na marami akong natutulungan, and nakikita ako, visible sa mga tao.

"Hangga't gusto pa rin nila ako, nanalo ako, binoboto nila ako, ibig sabihin natutuwa sila sa trabaho na ginagawa ko sa distrito ko. Iyon po."

Alex as Family Man

Ikinasal sila ng former SexBomb dancer na si Sunshine Garcia nitong March 2019 lamang. Mag-iisang taon na ang kanilang anak. May baby na sila noong sila ay magpakasal.

Naniniwala si Alex na hindi makakaapekto sa kanyang pagiging artista ang pagkakakaroon ng misis.

"Malawak na ang pang-unawa ng viewers ngayon."

JM de Guzman ok to work anew with Barbie Imperial; denies courting Ria Atayde

Handa na raw si Barbie Imperial na makatrabahong muli si JM de Guzman, matapos ng isyung namagitan sa kanila noong nakaraang taon.

Matatandaang naudlot ang kanilang magandang samahan na nabuo noong nagsama sila sa ABS-CBN teleseryeng Araw Gabi.

Inamin ng aktor na bukas din naman siyang makasama muli sa isang proyekto ang dating kapareha.

Agad naming tinanong si JM kung may komuniksyon na ba sila ni Barbie at kung gusto ba niya na mag-usap muna sila ng aktres at i-settle ang naging problema sa pagitan nila bago sila magtrabahong muli.

"Komunikasyon? Wala. Ako wala namang problema, pero bahala na si Lord at si universe.

Not Courting Ria



JM de Guzman (center) on closeness to Ria Atayde (right): "Sobra kaming close, palagi kaming nagsu-support sa isa't isa. Siyempre may career, marami kaming ginagawa at alam namin sa isa't isa na yun ang priority namin."

Kinumusta din namin sa Kapamilya actor ang nabalita noon na paniligaw niya kay Ria Atavde.

Pag-amin ni JM, "Sobra kaming close, palagi kaming nagsu-support sa isa't isa.

"Siyempre may career, marami kaming ginagawa at alam namin sa isa't isa na yun ang priority namin."

Kahit si JM ay naniniwala na sa ngayon ay di pa rin siya handang pumasok sa panibagong relationship.

New Show

Sa ngayon ay abala si JM sa taping para sa seryeng Kapalaran kunsaan makakasama niya ang mga beteranong aktor na sina Sylvia Sanchez, Joey Marquez at Irma Adlawan.

Kuwento niya, "Title niya na ngayon is Pamilya Ko, currently nasa 5th week na kami ng pagte-taping.

"Marami kang matututunan sa kanila dahil matagal na sila sa industriya—sila Tita Irma, si Tito Joey, Tita Sylvia."

Carlo Aquino sa bashers: "Dun sila maligaya, e."

"E, masaya sila sa paglaganap ng galit, e, di..." nasabi na lang ni Carlo Aquino sa kanyang bashers sa social media.

Sabi ni Carlo Aquino, wala na rin daw siyang magagawa sa mga basher sa social media.

Naging tampulan ng pang-aasar, pangto-troll, at pamba-bash si Carlo mula nang lumitaw ang mga litrato niya kasama ang napapabalitang dini-date niya ngayon na si Trina Candaza, na naging dahilan ng pagkalusaw ng pag-asa ng fans nila ni Angelica Panganiban na muli silang magkabalikan.

Anipa ni Carlo, in-off niya dati ang comments section ng kanyang social media accounts, pero in-on niya rin kalaunan. At kahit anong iwas niya raw sa bashing ay may mababasa't mababasa pa rin siya.

Kaya't ang solusyon niya sa mga ito-pabayaan na lang kung saan sila masaya.

"E, masaya sila sa paglaganap ng galit, e, di..." nasabi na lang ni Carlo.

Alden 'di pa puwede muli kay Kathryn

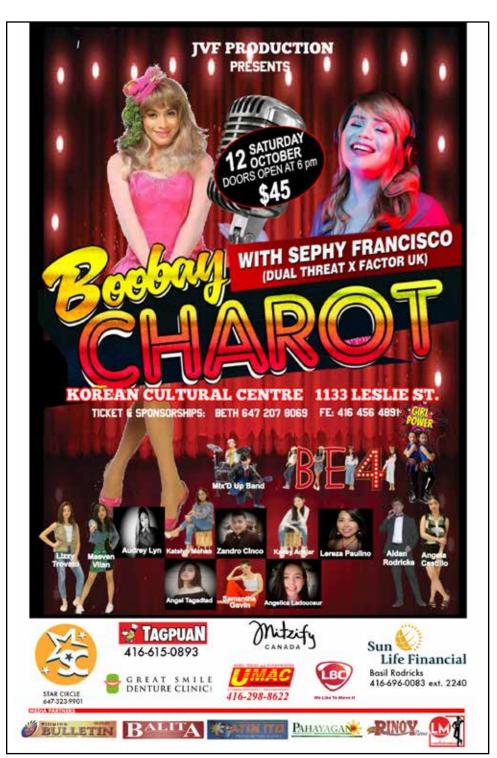
Mukha ngang malalagpasan ng "Hello Love Goodbye" ang "The Hows of Us" nina Kathry at boyfriend na si Daniel Padilla.

Bagama't nagpahayag si Alden na gusto niyang magkaroon ng part 2 ang kanilang pelikula ni Kathryn, mukhang matatagalan pa ito bago mangyari. Kaya naman hinaharap ni Alden ang kanyang upcoming GMA drama series na 'The Gift.' Sumailalim ang aktor sa isang blind immersion para matutunan at maisabuhay ng tama ang kanyang karakter. Ginabayan si Alden ng Resources for the Blind Inc., isang non-government office na tumutulong sa visually-impaired.

Kuwento niya, naantig ang kaniyang puso sa kaniyang karanasan, "Mas lalo akong na-excite gawin 'yung role. Na-kaka-move lang being here today and experiencing first-hand, kung ano 'yung pakiramdam ng pagiging bulag."







Anne Curtis on sleazy comments on her posts: 'I've learned the art of dedma'

Sa Gandang Gabi Vice, natawa si Just A Stranger star Anne Curtis sa reaction ng netizens sa sexy picture niya sa Instagram kung saan naka-one piece swimsuit siya. Ang leading man niyang si Marco Gumabao ang nagbasa ng comments.

Ang isang comment ng netizen ay "harap!" Ang isa namang netizen ay nagsabing, "Come to papa." Habang ang dalawa pa ay, "Pahingi ng tissue," at "Sandali lang ha, CR lang ako ah."

Sineseryoso ba ni Anne ang mga masasamang comments?

"Hindi. Because once you post it out there, public property na yan di ba?" aniya.

Dagdag pa ni Anne, once na nag-post ka ng picture sa social media ay hinihingi mo rin naman ang komento ng mga tao, lalo pa't hindi ka nag-off ng comment section. "Hindi mo

naman in-off yung comments mo," paliwanag ng aktres.



May rebelasyon din si Anne tungkol sa naging butt exposure ni Marco. "Siya nag-suggest nito ha. Nag-

pakita siya ng butt," rebelasyon ni Anne.

Nang tanungin kung matagal ang naging butt exposure ni Marco, ito ang naging sagot ni Anne: "Oo, medyo babad."

Nang tanungin naman si Marco kung bakit nag-decide siya magpakita ng butt, naging honest si Marco sa naging pahayag niya. "Kasi syempre ito na rin yung path na tine-take ko, and what's the best project or movie na ipakita yun di ba?" sagot ni ng aktor.

hat The Fact? **BY JOSE BAKING**

I don't follow chismis

I don't follow chismis.

There are real problems in the world than to follow Bea being hurt coz Gerald was seen with Julia and then Angel, Maja showed support for Bea and Paulo Avelino showed support for Bea 'coz Bea claimed Gerald ghosted her but Gerald said they had one big fight and Julia said that she and Joshua broke up four months ago and accused Bea of bullying her by making her friends accuse her of stealing Gerald but refused to be Bea's victim who she said could have shown leadership for women empowerment but did not and then Gretchen said that Julia's response was ghostwritten for her so

Bea is moving on by writing. I do not follow chismis.

Hope for Phl Movies

Hello Love Goodbye is a rom-com starring kathryn Bernardo and Alden Richards. This one of those movies where you can tell how good it is based on the trailers alone. It gave you an idea of the story, the narrative and the tone of the movie. Friends and I were supposed to watch it at 6:30 but ended up watching it at 9:30 because

it was sold out. Originally scheduled to end showing last August 14, it was extended to August 20. That's how good the movie was. The movie eschewed cliche'lines, but still has them sparingly. The lines and the acting are natural. The cinematography shows Hongkong at it's best and it's gritty side. It also shows Hongkong citizens at their natural, not the crazy, rich, mean Asian stereotype we all probably assume they all are.

It's a wonderful movie. It was time well spent.

Bea Alonzo Moving On Through Writing

- Kapamilya actress Bea Alonzo shared that she's moving forward
- She's using writing to express and let go of her feelings
- Bea Alonzo will star in a series with Actor Richard Gutierrez under Star Creatives

Bea Alonzo is moving on from her relationship with Gerald Anderson and the alleged cheating with Julia Barretto.

During the cast presentation for her new show under Star Creatives, the actress shared her feelings about what had transpired in the past few days.

"I'm moving forward."

Also, the handler of Bea, Monch Nova-



les, revealed that the actress is using writing as an instrument to let out her feelings and to let go and move on. Bea is currently participating in the scriptwriting workshop of Ricky Lee.

Also at the cast presentation, the actress

shared how ABS-CBN honed her professionalism and work ethics.

"Pinalaki ako ng ABS-CBN na professional, and we always have to show up regardless of what's happening in my life."

Bea also thanked and mentioned how the support of her friends help her with

"Malaking bagay na nandiyan 'yung mga kaibigan ko... Maraming nagki-care para sa akin. Actually nagugulat nga ako na marami ang nagpapadala ng bulaklak, marami ang nagti-text. Malaking bagay 'yon para sa akin."

The controversy came to light when

Bea posted a black photo on Instagram with the caption, "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."

After this, Bea began liking photos of Gerald and Julia attending Rayver Cruz's birthday party.

Bea confirmed that Gerald "ghosted" her and that they did not have a formal breakup, Gerald just stopped communicating with her one day.

Netizens also offered words of support for Bea

Maris Racal, nagbigay ng opinyon tungkol sa 'cancel culture' sa social media

agbigay g kaniyang opinyon tungkol sa 'cancel culture' ang I'm Elenya L actress na si Maris Racal.

"Ako talaga, sorry for the word pero naririndi ako kapag may nababasa akong 'cancelledt' parang nase-stress ako, nag-e-exit ako sa Twitter.

"I think people are just doing that just to be in. Yung ibang tao kaya nagka-cancel ng tao para lang masabi na aware sila on what's happening. I think naman para mag-cancel ka ng tao, ang sama naman no'n," pahayag ni Maris.

Diin ng aktres, hindi patas at 'healthy' para sa mga taong nako-call out dahil lamang sa mga maliliit na nagawa

"Kasi usually yung mga naka-cancel ngayon - ang liliit lang ng mga nagawang [mali]. Hindi siya yung karumal-dumal na nagawa. Yung parang may nasabi lang na ganito, ika-cancel mo na siya hindi mo na siya susuportahan.

"And then yung mga taong naka-cancel,

kawawa kasi psychologically at mentally, hindi yun healthy parang it's hard to regain yourself or rebuild yourself again sa social media," pagpapatuloy ng aktres. Samantala, ipinagtanggol naman

> ni Maris ang mga millennials sa konotasyon ng pagiging sensitibo sa mga isyu. Ayon sa aktres, tinitignan niyang mabuti rin ang pagpapa-

halaga sa mga adbokasiya "Kaya may ganong

naka-attach sa mga millennials na sensitive sila, kasi they're more awake and aware of what's

happening in the world and ano ang dapat pinapahalagahan like gender, religion...

"Kaya I think natatawag kami as sensitive kasi we're more aware. Kasi diba before parang yung racism, LGBT, hindi pa aware yung mga tao, but in a good way I think," pagpapatuloy niya.

Gaganap bilang isang aspiring social media influencer si Maris sa kaniyang kauna-unahang lead role para sa pelikula.

Kasama ang kaniyang dating ka-love team na si Iñigo Pascual, mapapanood ang I'm Elenya L ngayong September bilang isa sa mga entry sa Pista Ng Pelikulang Pilipino.

Elmo Magalona makes music comeback

Singer-rapper and actor Elmo Magalona returns to the music scene with his latest single "Crush," which, upon its release, immediately achieved a number of feats on various platforms.

Elmo Magalona makes music comeback

Elmo's got a new 'Crush,' the 25-year-old has just a new single under Universal Records.

The single topped the iTunes Philippines All Genre Chart, joining top hits of OPM and world music alike. Since its release, the song has already garnered more than 120,000 streams on Spotify, with Elmo having been featured as the face of New Music Friday Philippines on the week of the song's debut. On top of this, the track has also been included in several playlists around Asia such as Singapore, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand.

The modern track revolves around the typical high school crush and "getting bit by the love bug"—having such strong feelings for someone, yet so unsure of how they feel about you.

"Crush" was produced in Hawaii, and allowed Elmo to step out of his comfort zone and try new things. As he is still in

the process of finding his sound. He says that this song is "a gateway to an unexplored Elmo."

Prior to this song, Elmo released a self-titled album back in 2016, and recently collaborated with Hawaiian-Fili-

pino artist MiMi, on the song entitled "Keke Love."

With its fresh new vibe and the return of Elmo, "Crush" is definitely a track not to miss out on. The official music video for the latest track will be out soon.



Erich Gonzales resigns from Love Thy Woman for this reason

ABS-CBN confirms that Erich Gonzales will no longer be a cast member of the upcoming teleserye Love Thy Woman.

Erich was supposed to top-bill Love Thy Woman along with Kim Chiu and

Xian Lim.



Erich was supposed to play the fiancée of Xian's character and the half-sister of Kim's character.

In a statement released on August

15, Dreamscape Entertainment confirmed that Gonzales resigned from the project that depicts the world of Filipino-Chinese families.

The statement goes: "Due to creative differences, Erich Gonzales has resigned from 'Love Thy Woman,' a Dreamscape Production from ABS-CBN."

The statement indicated that Yam Concepcion took over the role of Erich in the TV show.

It goes: "Yam Concepcion will be taking the role of Dana Wong in the series.'

A source explained that Erich resigned from Love Thy Woman because her character is being turned into a kontrabida, which was not in the discussion when the role was first pitched to her.

Christopher de Leon, Eula Valdes, Zsa Zsa Padilla, Ruffa Gutierrez, and Sunshine Cruz will also be part of this show.

INVITATION TO ALL DEVOTEES OF THE VIRGIN OF PENAFRANCIA Fluvial Parade/Concelebrated Mass

On September 21, 2019 (3rd. Saturday) is the Feast Day of our Lady of Penafrancia, the Patroness of the Bicol Region in the Philippines.

The Devotees of the Virgin of Penafrancia and the Bicol Canada Community Association (BCCA) together with the Organizers of the 9 Day House to House Novena are hosting the celebration, beginning with the traditional Fluvial Parade at the Bluffers Park Lake at Brimley Rd. in Scarborough, Ontario (by the Lake) and an evening Concelebrated Mass at the Our Lady of Assumption Church at 2565 Bathurst St., Toronto.

DETAILS OF THE FEAST DAY CELEBRATION: September 21, 2019 (3rd Saturday)

Morning Celebration at the Bluffers Park & Marina at Brimley Rd. South (by the Lake)

8:30 AM - Assembly for the procession of the Virgin to the Dock at the Bluffers Park Marina, where the Fluvial Parade will start. (Eastside of the Bluffers Park Marina)

9:30 AM - PROCESSION TO THE DOCK STARTS

10:00 TO 11:30 AM FLUVIAL PA-RADE ON THE LAKE

REMINDER: FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO JOIN THE FLUVIAL PA-RADE ON THE LAKE, PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN LIFE JACKETS. (You can purchase them at the Canadian Tire or sports store. You can re-use them next year and every year). Each province will be allocated with one sail boat that can accommodate 4 to 5 Devotees. (first come first serve, to those with Life Jackets).

11:30 - Procession back to the picnic area for the liturgical services

12:00 – 1:00 – Picnic lunch – this is a pot luck and everyone is welcome to bring their own favorite food to share with everyone.

Evening Celebration at The Lady of **Assumption Church** at 2565 Bathurst St. Toronto.

6:45 PM Starts with a procession of the Virgin of Penafrancia around the church

7:00 PM Con-Celebrated Holy Mass with Bicolano and guest priests.

After the Holy Mass a Fiesta/Celebration will follow at the Church Hall.

Kumustahan, Karakanan, Baraylihan asin Kaogmahan sa Kapistahan "Viva La Virgen".

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Tel # 647 502-5286 Jennifer Amaranto Evening Celebration (Social/Cultural Program)

Toti and Naty Gutierrez Tel # 416 751-9437 (Fluvial Procession)

Gidget dela Torre Tel# 647 531-1582 (Fluvial Parade)

Earl Francis Dacara Tel # 647 302-3508 (Fluvial Parade)

Paena Nebres Tel # 416 618-1362 Fluvial Parade & Novena)

Judy Ann Gladys dating 'magkaaway,' naging best friends

Kung meron mang pinakamagandang naganap sa dalawang lead stars ng



teleseryeng "Mara Clara" nung 1992 na sina Judy Ann Santos at Gladys Reyes, ito ay ang

na-develop nilang special friendship sa kanilang halos limang taong serye.

Magkaaway ang respective characters nina Juday at Gladys bilang Mara at Clara, pero naging mag-best friends sila sa tunay na buhay. Kasama na rito maging ang kanilang respective husbands na sina Ryan Agoncillo at Christopher Roxas maging ang kanilang mga anak.

Parehong busy sina Juday at Gladys sa kanilang respective careers but whenever may time ang dalawa ay nagba-bonding sila kasama ang mga

Ang isang 'di makalilimutang nangyari sa pagkakaibigan ng dalawa ay nang sagipin ng mag-asawang Juday at Ryan ang pamilya ni Gladys sa kanilang lumubog na bahay sa matinding baha sa Vista Verde Executive Homes in Cainta, Rizal dahil sa bagyong Ondoy nung September 2009.

"Kahit hindi kami madalas magkita ni Juday, alam namin sa puso namin na mahal namin ang isa't isa at mananatili kaming mag-best friends," pahayag ni Gladys na tulad ng mag-asawang Juday at Ryan ay meron ding sariling restaurant, ang Estela na matatagpuan sa Brick Road ng Sta. Lucia Grand Mall.



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Bin Laden 'Henchman' Is Arrested in Philippines







MANILA/ISLAMABAD: The Philippine government has taken into custody a 51-year-old Jordanian man accused of having ties with Al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden's brother-in-law.

Mahmoud Afif Abdeljalil is also alleged to have provided funds to the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG), authorities said.

Immigration Commissioner Jaime Morente said that authorities are set to deport Abdeljalil, who has been in the government's custody since his arrest on July 4 in Zamboanga City.

Abdeljalil is alleged to be the henchman of Mohammed Jamal Khalifa, who was also Bin Laden's brother-in-law, and was killed in Madagascar in 2007, Morente said.

"We are going to deport him (Abdeljalil) for being an illegal entrant as he has no record of arrival, after he was arrested and deported in 2003 for being an undesirable alien," Morente said.

However, sources at the Ministry

of Foreign Affairs in Jordan told Arab News that Philippine authorities had not contacted them yet. "Maybe because the case is still under investigation," a source said

Authorities also alleged that "even after Khalifa was killed in 2007, Abdeljalil continued to extend financial support to the ASG using several mosques and religious seminaries as fronts — which he built in the southern Philippines — and which received Al-Qaeda's funding from abroad."

In the same year, Abdeljalil returned to the country allegedly under a pseudonym using fake documents that enabled him to live in the Philippines.

Authorities started monitoring the Jordanian's activities after he and his Algerian companion were flagged at a military checkpoint in August last year.

"After intensive surveillance, it was confirmed that (Abdeljalil) has been unlawfully staying in the country," said Morente, who issued the mission order that led to the Jordanian's recent arrest.

Abdeljalil's legal counsel, attorney Bongabong, has denied the immigration officials' allegations against the Jordanian. "Everything printed (about Abdeljalil) is not true," he told Arab News. Bongabong declined to give any further details.

Abdeljalil's family also expressed shock at his detention. "My father was called by police for questioning and then he was arrested," said his son Salah Abdeljalil. He said that Abdeljalil is well-known in Zamboanga City and has a good record and good relations with local officials.

Meanwhile, a close friend of Abdeljalil, requesting anonymity, told Arab News that he was cleared by the Jordanian intelligence after Philippine authorities deported him to Jordan in 2003.

"He remained in Jordan but because his family is in the Philippines and because of the market condition in Jordan, he moved (back) to Philippines again after he got a visa from the Philippines embassy in Jordan," said the friend who is based in Jordan.

Information obtained by Arab News shows that Abdeljalil is married to a Filipino, and his children are Filipino citizens. He is a contractor whose projects include development of subdivisions and construction of school buildings and mosques in Mindanao.

Javi Benitez: The next big action star

Young actor Javier 'Javi' Benitez left the corporate world to pursue his passion for acting. And to show everybody that he has made the right decision, he gives his 100 percent effort and dedication to his craft.

The 22-year-old Star Magic talent, who is unmistakably Pinoy with his moreno complexion towers at 6 feet. Adrenaline junkie and sports enthusiast, he considers his height and his sporty frame as his strong advantage in his chosen genre -- action.

Currently, he is working on a movie titled Kid Alpha One. It is directed by Richard Somes, who is best known for horror and action films.

Javi Benitez: The next big action star

In an interview with Manila Standard, the young actor was eager to show the trailer of the film, which he described as an action romance movie.

"It's just a teaser. We will release the final trailer soon," he said.

"I believe it's a kind of project that both local and international audience will appreciate. We are used to seeing romantic films all the time that's why there's a strong demand for action movies, something really different," he carried on.

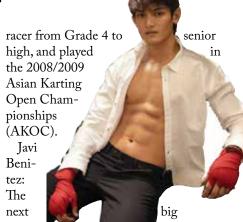
The independent film made him train for five months, mastering arm combat and Filipino martial arts.

Javi Benitez: The next big action star The young action star in a scene from 'Kid Alpha One,' a romantic action feature likened to the Hollywood blockbuster 'Mr. and Mrs. Smith.'

"I used arnis, knife, sticks and Muay Thai. I was part of Muay Thai Association before. I have gun training – shotgun, pistol and riffle. I'm quite familiar with guns," beamed the young actor who grew up watching Chinese action films that starred Jet Li, Jackie Chan, and Bruce Lee.

The action movie also stars Sue Ramirez as his leading lady and he promised that fans and moviegoers will definitely appreciate the kind of team-up the movie has prepared for them.

Javi was born in Quezon City and raised in Manila. He studied in Xavier School until high school (and graduated with honors) and went to Santa Clara University in California where he graduated with a degree in political science. He was a member of his school's badminton and football teams, an active go-kart



Political scion Javi Benitez is an upand-coming action star and rising leading man.

"After graduation, I went corporate for a few months. I felt that the drive wasn't there. I am not challenged anymore. And then I was offered to join show business. I didn't think of it as a full-time job until after workshops," Javi shared.

After dipping his toes in showbiz, opportunities have started to come his way and a lot of doors have opened.

"I'm just grabbing every opportunity that comes my way. I'm a very competitive person so I'll try my best to excel in this field," he ended.



Last night my wife wore a police uniform to bed and said "You're being charged with being good in bed." 90 seconds later the charges were dropped due to lack of evidence.

Is Gerald Anderson a Playboy like Jose Rizal?

- Gerald Anderson was being compared to Jose Rizal for having many girlfriends
- Anderson allegedly admitted that he is now courting Julia Barretto
- Netizens condemned him for being a "playboy"

Having several girlfriends in the past, Gerald Anderson is now being likened to Jose Rizal. Some even claimed that he is the modern-aged Jose Rizal.

In history, our national hero was known for having affairs with different women. The nine women who were romantically linked to Rizal were Segunda Katiahak, Leonor Valenzuela



but after leaving the Philippines he began his courtship with his beautiful housemate, Ortiga, in Madrid.

Anderson has dated a series of women in his life but he failed to maintain these relationships. He was first reported to be linked with then Pinoy Big Brother and StarStruck hopeful Farina Runkle after their old photo surfaced on the internet in 2006. He was able to establish good chemistry with fellow PBB housemate Kim Chiu but they broke up after years of dating.

He was also linked to Chiu's best friend Maja Salvador and singer Sarah Geronimo but their romance did not last long.

Anderson and Bea Alonzo formed a romantic relationship but broke up in 2011. They rekindled the romance in 2017 but rumors of a dalliance with beauty queen and actress Pia Wurtzbach put a strain on the relationship. Bea and Gerald were able to weather this storm in their relationship and were about to celebrate their third year as a couple when trouble struck again.

Last July 21, Alonzo began posting cryptic words on Instagram supposedly talking about her failing relationship with Anderson. The actor is now linked to Julia Barretto after their viral photo circulated on the internet. He allegedly admitted to Dennis Padilla that he is now courting Padilla's daughter Julia after he ended his relationship with Alonzo.

Alonzo clarified in an interview that she and Anderson did not formally break up and that he simply stopped talking to her.

The controversy became a top trending topic on Twitter and many netizens are throwing criticisms at the actor. They also condemned him for being a "playboy."

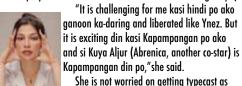


Maika Rivera welcomes villainess roles

'You are as strong and as effective as the bida, kasi a bida cannot be kawawa if you cannot overpower her.'

Unlike other young stars, Star Magic talent Maika Rivera is open to doing screen baddie roles.

After playing Erich Gonzales' nemesis on "The Blood Sisters," Maika plays contravida anew as Ynez on a forthcoming soap.



She is not worried on getting typecast as villainess.

"Okay lana naman po as long as hindi ako ganoon in person. After all, it's just a job, a role. Kung ma-typecast akong contravida, that means effective akong ganoon." In fact, she'd pick playing antagonist over protagonist

"Everything is a blessing naman po but if I have a choice, okay sa akin ang magkontrabida. Kapag bida kasi parang laging nakakawa..."

When playing offbeat characters, Maika draws inspiration from her past.

"I think ang inspiration ko lang po is bad experiences ko when I was a child, 'yung mga nam-bully sa akin. The pains I went through are such big help as 'yung sama ng loob ko ay doon ko na lang nailalabas, parang therapy ko 'yung acting." She cites Julia Montes as good bida-kontrabida.

"She's good at it. She was extremely good on 'Mara Clara.'
She is a versatile actress. She can be sexy and she can be simple."

She remembered what Gelli de Belen, whom she worked with on "Magpahanggang Wakas" with Jericho Rosales and Arci Munoz, told her.

"She said, 'Kung artista ka, you are in a scene na bida-kontrabida, you are as strong and as effective as the bida kasi a bida cannot be kawawa if you cannot overpower her.' Hindi puwedeng maging bida ang bida kung walang kontrabida."

Of late, the Daniela Mondragon character played by Dimples Romana became very popular. Does she think her Ynez character will achieve the same success?

"I think Dimples is a great actres and kung may impact na ganoon, I think I am doing my job very well. Sana po ma-portray ko si Ynez to have an impact like that."

Resign

Maika is no longer a member of all-girl group Girl Trends. She has since resigned from the group and unabashedly admitted she "cannot deliver what 'It's Showtime' expects from me."

"I am not good in dancing," she unabashedly admitted.
"Everybody there is a great performer. Everybody there
has specialty in either singing or dancing. Para sa akin, hindi
ko siya forte and I want to give the best for 'It's Showtime.'
And with the seryes that I had, and with the business that I am
handling, hindi na nga po ako marunong sumayaw at kumanta
so parang mas nahirapan po ako. I know that my capabilities
are not for the show," she said.

Apparently, her resignation was not accepted right away.
"They didn't want to let me go. They said, 'Kaya mo 'yan.'
They were very encouraging. Pero ayun nga, I personally
thought hindi ko na kaya."

Maika recently put out an online cosmetics business called MADE Cosmetics, with products mostly for eyebrows.

"It's really cheap because I want everyone to experience luxury kahit hindi siya mahal. It's been three months pa lang. I think it's a God's gift kasi when I left 'Showtime,' it's when I started it," she related.

Few know this, but Maika, herself, does her own makeup.
"I was self-taught," she mused, sharing that she "started to have kilay problems when I was a child."

"I remember someone was talking to me on the mirror. Imaginary friend ko lang 'to, ha. 'If you shave your eyebrows you will be more beautiful.' 'Really?' So I got a razor and I shaved my eyebrows. 'Mama, look, oh.' 'Hey, what happened to your eyebrows' 'Someone told me that I will look more beautiful if I shave my eyebrows.' The next day may passport photo kami. I have the evidence na shaved ang kilay ko."



- Yam Concepcion speaks about being sec ond choice for the new KimXi reunion teleserye
- Love Thy Woman is Kim Chiu and Xian Lim's reunion teleserye after the 2016 teleserye The Story Of Us
- Yam's inclusion in Love Thy Woman comes less than a week after Erich Gonzales resigned from the show

Yam Concepcion is the newest addition to Kim Chiu and Xian Lim's reunion series Love Thy Woman after Erich Gonzales backed out of the show.

Dreamscape Entertainment met with Yam Concepcion and her management Viva Artists Agency on

YAM CONCEPCION OK being second choice

July 30. Last July 25, news broke that Erich had backed out of the project. According to the news, Erich withdrew from Love Thy Woman because her character is being turned into a kontrabida, which was not discussed when the role was first pitched to her.

According to Yam, her role will be "very interesting" and she'll be working for the very first time with some veteran actors like Eula Valdez and Christopher de Leon, and with the tandem of Kim Chiu and Xian Lim.

"Actually kinakabahan na naman ako dahil bago na naman. It's another adjustment for me but I'm excited and I'm ready to take on the challenge," she said.

When asked if she's doing another kontrabida in this series, she clarified, "Hindi naman sa kontrabida, ayokong magbigay ng labels pero maganda 'yung role. Mayaman naman ako rito. Iba naman."

She also explained how she got the role, "Bago ko naman tinanggap ito, nagkaroon ng pitching sa Viva tapos inexplain nila sa akin ang nangyari, inexplain din nila sa akin ang istorya, ang character, pero humingi muna ako ng script para mabasa ko, tapos the next day nagdecide ako. Sige, trabaho lang ito at saka hello, KimXi 'yan 'di ba? Saka Dreamscape ito, second time ko sa Dreamscape."

Meanwhile, Yam doesn't mind being the second choice after Erich Gonzales backed out from the Love Thy Woman soap. Yam also said that she is excited to work with Kim Chiu and Xian Lim.

'Call Me Tita':

A love letter to middle-aged women

From work meetings and yoga sessions to salon appointments and tea time, nothing beats the flare of Filipino "titas" who seem like they got it all together. But how do they grapple with the challenges of being middle-aged and find meaning in the midst of uncertainty and menopause?

iWant celebrates bold, fearless, and empowered women in its original comedy series Call Me Tita, starring Cherry Pie Picache, Agot Isidro, Mylene Dizon, Joanna Ampil, with Angelica Panganiban, and the special participation of Lorna Tolentino premiered simultaneously on ABS-CBN and iWant—a first for an



'Call Me Tita' creator Andoy Ranay (leftmost) with the digital series' cast members (from left) Mylene Dizon, Agot Isidro, Lorna Tolentino, Cherry Pie Picache, Angelica Panganiban, and Joanna Amnil

iWant original.

A new episode will be shown every Sunday night at 9:00 p.m. on ABS-CBN.

Inspired by stories of Filipinas, Call Me Tita revolves around the lives of five spirited lifelong friends who seek out new experiences while coming to terms with getting older and finding purpose in life.

Their search will uncover layers of their lives---friendships will be questioned, secrets will be revealed, alliances will change, and perceptions will be altered, with each Tita desperate to keep her secret in the dark.

Are they really as confident and courageous as they seem to be? How will their past and present revelations change their friendship?

Call Me Tita is a love letter to middle-aged women who conquer life while making it more interesting—emotional, funny, sharp-witted, thought-provoking, self-deprecating, self-questioning, but always rooted in truth.

Sinu-sinong nagkakandarapa kay Vico?

MARAMING magaganda, matatalino and single ladies ang naga-aspire na makilala at mapalapit sa 30-year-old good looking and most-sought after bachelor mayor ng Pasig City na si Vico Sotto, anak ng veteran singer-composer, comedian and TV host-producer na si Vic 'Bossing' Sotto at ng veteran actress na si Coney Reyes.

Since parehong nasa industriya ang kanyang mga magulang, inakala ng

marami na papasukin din ni Vico ang showbiz tulad ng dalawa sa kanyang (half) siblings na sina Danica at Oyo Sotto pero sa halip, sa public service siya napunta. Hindi ito ipinagtaka nina Vic at Coney dahil noon pa man daw ay nakita na nila kay Vico

ang passion nito sa paglilingkod sa kapwa. Si Vico ay nagtapos ng kanyang college

degree sa Ateneo de Manila University in 2011 where he also took his masters on governance.

It was in 2016 nang siya'y tumakbong independent candidate bilang konsehal ng 1st district ng Pasig kung saan siya ang nanguna sa halalan. Three years later, after one term as councilor at tumakbo siya sa pagka-mayor ng Pasig at nanalo.



Hindi ikinakaila ng binata nina Bossing (Vic) at Coney na hindi ang pagkakaroon ng girlfriend o lovelife ang kanyang priority sa ngayon kundi ang kanyang trabaho bilang mayor ng Pasig. Pero kapag dumating man daw ang panahon na siya'y

umibig at magkaroon ng kasintahan in the future, gusto niya na ito'y maganda, matalino at iisa umano ang kanilang wavelength para sila'y magkasundo.

Although gusto na rin nina Vic at Coney na magkaroon na rin ng kasintahan and eventually sariling pamilya si Vico, hindi umano sila nakikialam pagdating sa desisyon ng kanilang binata who remains single and loveless at age 30.



Climate Change caused Dengue spike

MANILA -- Climate change is one of the reasons behind the rising number of dengue cases in the Philippines, an infectious diseases expert said.

Dr. Rontgene Solante, head of the Adult Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine Department of the San Lazaro Hospital, said the dengue situation worsened in the country, as well as other Southeast Asian countries, due to climate change.

Climate change creates a favorable condition for many vector-borne diseases, including dengue, Solante said, explaining that warming temperatures shorten the time it takes for a mosquito to become a biting adult. Solante added nations in this region are tropical areas, which provide many breeding areas for mosquitoes.

"Our region, in tropical areas like Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines, these are countries na year-round ang dengue. Di gaanong mainit, 'di gaanong malamig," he

He added: "Wala na tayong seasonal episode ng increase ng dengue."

Here in the Philippines, heavy rains ag-



A MUNICIPAL worker carries out fumigation to prevent the spread of mosquito-borne diseases, including the Zika virus.

gravated the spread of dengue, Solante said.

The expert believes high population density is also a risk factor, noting that the more people there are in a particular place, the more garbage is produced.

Solante said Filipinos must practice proper waste segregation and disposal.

He noted that mosquitoes can lay eggs in any space or container that can hold stagnant water — bottle caps, crumpled paper, gutters, trash cans, old rubber tires, even potted plants, among others.

Solante said a person can be infected with the dengue virus as many as four

times in his or her lifetime.

"Apat 'yan. If you get the first dengue, meron ka pang tatlo. It may be milder na, but the fact that you have that, you can increase the risk of transmission to others," he said. That is why, for Solante, it is important to prevent first and foremost the spread and transmission of the dengue virus. This can be done by emptying water storage containers, cleaning the insides of potted plants or pet bowls and changing the water cleaning drains and gutters, and disposing of unused containers and objects that can accumulate water.

Solante also underscored the importance of early recognition and diagnosis of dengue among Filipinos.

"Anybody who has fever, 1-2 days fever lang, magpatingin na. Akala lang nila ordinaryong lagnat. Some patients 4th day may rashes na. Akala nila 'pag walang rashes, wala pang dengue. But the rash will be there 4th o 5th day. Sometimes it might be too late," Solante said.

"The complication of dengue, which is death, can be prevented," he added.

P30 million offered for acquittal of Sanchez in rape-murder case, says ex-judge

MANILA - A P30 million bribe was offered for the acquittal of former Calauan, Laguna Mayor Antonio Sanchez in his rape-murder case, the judge who sentenced Sanchez said.

Former Pasig Regional Trial Court Judge Harriett Demetriou told ABS-CBN News that someone acting on Sanchez's behalf approached her when she was still handling the rape and murder cases of Eileen Sarmenta and Allan Gomez.

"There was this sculptor who went to see me, at sinabi niya: 'Judge bakla si Sanchez, it's impossible na he'll be guilty of that thing'. So ang sabi niya, 'You know Judge, pumunta na lang kayo ng America. Kumuha na lang kayo ng P30 million at saka para wala lahat na ito na kaso," Demetriou said.

But Demetriou said she refused to be bribed.

"So I said: 'May anak ka ba na babae?' 'Meron.' 'Eh anong gagawin mo kung 'yung huwes na naglilitis ng kaso ng anak mo e tatanggap ng suhol?' 'Papatayin ko.' 'Eh bakit ka nagsasabi sa akin ng ganun?'" she said.

Demetriou has called plans to free Sanchez for good conduct as a "mockery of justice" and a "cruel joke."

She also blasted Senator Ronald dela Rosa's statement that Sanchez was a "changed man."

Dela Rosa, former chief of the Bureau of Corrections, said corrections officers had been seeing Sanchez wearing skirts, which proved that the convicted rapist killer was not a bully anymore.

"Exterior 'yan eh. Change is always interior," Demetriou said.

'Ghosting' Judy Ann Santos

ccording to seasoned actress Judy Ann Santos, she also became a victim of "ghosting" in the past but she's learned to just accept the situation and move on.

"Perhaps, it just didn't become a big issue since there was still no social media way back then. What I did was just ignore it. If the concerned party didn't want my affection, so be it. That's how I handled the situation. Of course, it's painful. The mere thought of investing so much in one person but sadly, he didn't want it anymore. Who wouldn't get hurt?" she asks.

'Ghosting' Judy Ann Santos Judy Ann Santos

"But I realized early on that things like that are not worth my time. I believe that each passing hour is essential to one person. So, why would you use it to something which is not positive and productive? If the other party got cold already, then it's time to say goodbye," she adds.

For the critically-acclaimed actress, as

long as her conscience is clean, it's what matters. She believes that as long as she knows that she didn't fool someone and that her love is pure and genuine, she's good with it.

"Regrets? I have none. It's all part of loving. When you give true love to the other person only, he didn't see it. What's important is that I'm happy and is living peacefully because I don't have any guilt feeling."

Interestingly, the Starla lead star doesn't believe in closure. She explains that if the other person doesn't want a formal ending to a relationship, then there's no point of going after the person just to have that "closure."

"I won't push myself to someone who doesn't like my presence anymore. I won't waste my precious time with somebody who doesn't care about me in the first place. But of course, I can only speak for myself. I don't know with the others. This is my experience in the past. I just learned to accept that if a person let go of you, then, it's high time to move on. We don't need closure anymore. It's enough that you've hurt me," she muses.

After going through a series of heartaches before, the popular actress reveals it



come eventually. It will happen in perfect timing---when your heart and mind are ready and you're willing to give everything to the other person. You will feel it."

"Ghosting can happen to anyone. It's inevitable. We got hurt for a reason. You'll realize that it made you a better and stronger person in the process," ends Juday.

Sue describes movie as daring rom-com

SUE Ramirez e plays her most daring assignment to date in her role as a "pokpok" in Regal's "Cuddle Weather", an

coming

Pilipino.

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entry in this year's Pista ng Pelikulang "But hindi siya in terms of hulang but more so language used movie that most would find kasi we use Tagalog words for sex organs and the sex act, mga

ganun," she clarifies. "Malaking bagay talaga that we had

two-day workshop before we shot the movie, para ma-orient kami nang husto sa roles namin and the very frank dialogue that we're supposed to deliver. Ako naman, it's no big deal for me. Kasi I grew up with my dad sick and nakikita ko siyang umihi sa bote so sanay ako sa ganyan. Di ako nao-offend saying the private parts ng mga tao even in Tagalog.

Didn't she have second thoughts accepting the role? "Not really, kasi may tiwala naman akong poprotektahan ako ng Regal at ni Direk Rod. Hindi naman basta porno ang ginagawa namin, e."

She fell in love with her role in "Cuddle Weather".

Na-in love din kasi ako agad sa story after reading the script, the unusual relationship of a call girl and a call boy. Sexy romcom at love story ng dalawang pokpok."

Her and RK's roles are said to be very sympathetic. "You will definitely see something that you've never seen before. Kasi prostitutes sina Adela at Ram. They do the act with your customers and pretend they are having pleasure. Pero pag-uwi mo sa bahay, mag-isa ka. Wala kang kayakap, wala ibang taong nandiyan para maka-share mo ng feelings mo."

Is Lovi Poe teaming up with Gerald Anderson?

• Lovi Poe is set to star in two Kapamilya projects

She recently had a vacation in U.S.

• Gerald Anderson is rumored to be one of her new her leading men

Kapuso actress Lovi Poe is set to make a comeback with two upcoming projects in the Kapamilya network. She returned to the Philippines last June after a six-month vacation in the United States.

One of her tentative projects will be made for ABS-CBN's streaming app, iWant according to a report of Jun Lalin from Pang-Masa. It was rumored that Lovi will be collaborating with Kapamilya star Gerald



"Oo nga pala, speaking of Kapamilya leading men, may narinig ako na may gagawin daw si Lovi sa iWant ng Kapamilya network. Sabi,

si Gerald Anderson daw ang kapareha roon ni Lovi," Lalin wrote.

Gerald last starred in

the Black Sheep movie Between Maybes with co-star Julia Barretto. The movie trended due to their controversial kiss which later led to rumors of a relationship between the two stars.

Meanwhile, Lovi had her

last movie in 2018 titled as The Significant Other with Erich Gonzales and Tom Rodriguez under Cineko Productions.

For now, Lovi is lined up for the Viva film titled In Between Goodbyes with the collaboration of two Kapamilya hunks Marco Gumabao and Tony Labrusca.

Marco and Tony are known for their sexy roles in their respective hit movies Just a Stranger and Glorious.

According to ABS-CBN News' Mario Dumaual, the upcoming movie will be a sexy drama involving the love story of three people with one of them being a

It will be helmed by Director Joel Lamangan and written by Ricky Lee. The movie's release date and other details were not yet revealed.

FilCan Educator to Lecture at Knights of Rizal -Canada Region Convention in Montreal

Noted Toronto educator Tony A. San Juan has been invited and scheduled to present a lecture during the



6th Regional Assembly of the Knights of Rizal-Canada Region. Sir Joe Damasco, KGOR & Knights of Rizal regional commander recently announced that T. San Juan will deliver a lecture on the theme: "The Relevance of Dr. Jose P. Rizal's Ideas, Then and Now" on September 15, 2019 at

the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. San Juan will share his insights and perspectives about the national hero's ideas on government, nationalism, education, leadership, women & youth, racism, religion, and other significant Rizalisms.

T. San Juan , a community leader and retired educator, has taught college and high school in Manila, Kaduna and Toronto. He has worked in various capacities as a Philippine-licenced & Ontario certified teacher, senior lecturer, school administrator, program director, and assistant professor in various educational institutions in the Philippines, Nigeria and Canada. Active in the FilCan community in Ontario as an organizer and convener, Tony served either as a founding officer or president of the Philippine Teachers Association of Canada (PTAC), Camarines Norte Association-Canada-Ontario(CNAC-0) and other community-based organizations such as TFAT, FCPACE, CFCPO, & ACEN. Currently, he

is the Chairman of the federally-registered Filipino Heritage Council of Canada(FHCC), a member of the TCDSB Filipino Advisory Committee, the social-political commentator of Talakayan Radyo Filipino(TRF) public affairs program, and a writer & contributor to Filipino Canadian newspapers.

The K.O.R. quadrennial general assembly is being hosted and organized by officers and members of the Knights of Rizal, Eastern Canada Region-Montreal led by Sir Gerry Danzil, Sir James Dela Paz and Sir Ramon Posadas. The K.O.R. Eastern Region is composed of the Montreal Chapter, Gatineau Chapter, MCC Chapter and West Island Chapter. The 3-day event, starting on September 13 to 15, 2019, will feature for delegates

and guests a City of Montreal day tour, the traditional Gala Night and Commanders' Ball at the Hellenic Community Centre, and Plenary Session at Crowne Plaza Hotel-Montreal Airport.

Expected to register and attend the prestigious Montreal convention are officers and members of the Knights of Rizal chapter organizations especially from the USA, Western & Eastern Canada, Ontario and some fellow Knights from the Philippines and Europe. Sir Joe Damasco, solidly supported and assisted by senior officers of the K.O.R. Canada Region, expects and hopes to achieve a meaningful and memorable September celebratory affair.(JENNIFER S. MACLEAN)

PHILIPPINES continued from page 1

standards, Rodrigo Duterte. He came into office hostile to the U.S., announced his government's "separation" from Washington, talked of aligning with the People's Republic of China, and suggested sending home American troops currently assisting Filipino forces against Islamist insurgents. (Duterte's minister of defense later said the relationship would be reviewed and suggested that his nation adopt a non-aligned foreign policy.)

However, when a Chinese ship rammed and sank a Filipino fishing vessel in June, Duterte did nothing and said that the Philippines does not want a war with China.

But then Duterte put a call into Washington, demanding that the United States send warships to confront the PRC: "When they enter the South China Sea, I will enter. I will ride with the American who goes there first.

U.S. Ambassador Sung Kim said the "Mutual" Defense Treaty could be invoked in the case of "any armed attack" including by "Chinese militia" against Filipino forces in the disputed areas.

Why should America go to war with

the PRC because the Philippines makes territorial claims it can't or won't defend militarily? In fact, the treaty does not automatically trigger military intervention even in the case of an attack on the Philippines proper. Nevertheless, Washington is entangled with an ambitious but unbalanced authoritarian in political trouble. America

Why should America go to war with the PRC because the Philippines makes territorial claims it can't or won't defend militarily?

desperately needs to cut commitments to such "friends." Better yet, the U.S. should use a Facebook technique and begin "unfriending" useless defense dependents, such as Manila.

The Philippines and the United States have a unique history. Washington seized the archipelago from Spain.

Washington granted independence in July 1946. Washington negotiated non-mutual "Mutual" Defense Treaty on the possibility of a rearmed Japan. The Soviet Union became the next threat. Now the new "necessary enemy" is China.

The PRC isn't a good substitute for the USSR. China is more fascist than communist, and is not engaged in an ideological war directed at global domination. Beijing seeks to restore influence lost when the decrepit Chinese Empire was coerced by the Western powers, which means pushing aside Washington and its allies when

necessary, not defeating them globally. The PRC's objective is to aggrandize itself, not destroy the U.S. As such, the Chinese threaten Washington's outsize influence in East Asia, not America's existence and liberal political system.

Nor is there any evidence that Beijing hopes for physical conquest of its neighbors. Indeed, if there is a model for China, it likely is America's decades of domination of Latin America. With the 1823 Monroe Doctrine, Washington asserted its dominance in its neighborhood.

The PRC probably hopes to establish similar control. However, its task is much more difficult. America enjoys peaceful neighbors. China is surrounded by nations with which it has been at war, some wealthier, just as powerful like Russia, Vietnam, India, South Korea, Japan. There's also

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Lea Salonga reiterates importance of mental health, gives props to Nadine Lustre for taking care of herself

Broadway Diva Lea Salonga's column on Inquirer tackles mental health.

She gave a few points regarding taking a break from work and her constant need to do that. Aside from that she mentioned the Multimedia Princess Nadine Lustre in her article. She shared the fact about the actress backing out from a great project, the movie Miracle in Cell No. 7, which she was set to be working with Aga Mulach.

es crazy pace that is show business has taken its toll, and she just needed to take a little break for herself. It's good that she's learning how to take care of herself."

Nadine was replaced by Bela Padilla and the movie is set to be released as an entry to this year's Metro Manila Film Festival.

Nadine's whole statement about the matter read, "Pang third movie ko na po kasi this year 'yun if ever, so I really felt that I needed a break."

"I'm not rushing naman po e, hindi naman po ako nagmamadali. Yes I mean it's a good project but to say na wala nang darating na magandang project in the future... para sa akin, uunahin ko lang 'yung sarili ko and health ko."



Philippines approves plan to build new Manila Airport

MANILA - The Philippines approved a plan to build a new airport near Manila, in a bid to ease congestion with the capital's existing airport operating at full capacity.

Philippine conglomerate San Miguel will build the airport in Bulakan town, north of Manila Bay, that will feature four parallel runways and serve 100-200 million passengers a year, a government statement said. "This new international airport is important in helping ease the congestion of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (in Manila)," Transportation Secretary



Manila's Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) has two runways, handled nearly 260,000 flights and served 45 million passengers last year, according to its website.

Arthur Tugade said in the statement.
San Miguel, which was the only compa-

ny to bid for the project, will have to break ground on the \$14 billion project before the end of the year and open for business no later than 2025, the statement said.

The company has said it plans to run the airport, which would be the biggest infrastructure project under President Rodrigo Duterte's government, after obtaining a government concession.

The existing Manila airport, which has two runways, handled nearly 260,000 flights and served 45 million passengers last year, according to its website.

Everything easy-peasy for Ejay

Ejay Falcon is happy to have both steady career and "quiet and happy" relationship with girlfriend Jana Roxas.

"She understands my work," he said. "She's a good person."

The actor sees himself marrying her in the future.

"I can say this is my most matured (relationship). There will come a time in your life when you will become mature and have your own family. I already see myself in that place."

He added: "We've talked about it (marriage) but (it's) not yet time (to do it). I don't have a specific age in mind as you'll know when it's the right time. We're just enjoying this journey in life."

Still, Ejay will make sure he'll be young enough by then to enjoy quality time with their future kids.

"Like, I still want to be able to play basketball with my future kids," the actor said.

Well, till the bells ring then there's the career to tend. Ejay said that unlike when he was starting, however, he has learned to relax a bit, realizing that everything happens at the right time and that you can't force anything.

"I'm already turning 30. I'm very content with what's happening in my life. Comparing to my life before, I'm really grateful, whatever happens. I'm ready (for bigger things) but (I'm not) in a rush."

Ejay has an upcoming teleserye titled "Sandugo." As onscreen pairings sometimes cause problems to artists' relationships, Ejay advised to always have trust and communication with your partner.

"You just have to talk to your girlfriend even during tapings. You should not lose your communication with her. It's easy now, there are video calls," he said.

But of course, Ejay refused to talk about other female celebrities previously linked to him. One of them is Ellen Adarna, who has been enjoying her life away from the limelight.

"They're happy already. Let's just give it to them," he said.

Meanwhile, Ejay is grateful to have remained active in showbiz. Transferring to

another network hasn't crossed his mind at all as he is happy with the projects he receives from ABS-CBN.

"W've also reached a stage in our life when we ponder what we want to do in our life. There are still things that we want to do, what we want to happen in our career, and the people I want to work with. I have a

contract and I'm thankful for the projects that I have," he said.

Carlo still hopes to work with Angelica someday despite her refusal

Actor-singer Carlo Aquino is vocal about sharing screen time again with Angelica Panganiban given the chance, despite her saying recently that it's not going to happen.

Recall that a few days ago, the 32-year-old actress said there's no chance their loveteam, dubbed by as CarGel, would see the light of day ever again.

"Kahit minsan Lang...... mabuo ang pamileh. #AngelicaPanganiban #CarloAquino #CarGel," the netizen wrote about the two doing a reunion project.

Angelica responded (abridged here): "Nope. Sorry. Spare me... Gusto kong maging mabuting tao. Pero ayokong maging bobo (smiley face)."

It was early this year when the actress revealed she and Carlo are no longer friends.

Carlo was asked to comment on Angelica's refusal to work with him again, saying "kung may apoy hindi mo bubuhusan ng gasul para lumaki pa, 'wag na nating pahabain," he declared.

The actor added he understands where Angelica is coming from.

" Ayoko ng pahabain, ang tagal na rin —

6,7 months (ago pa kami hindi naguusap)."
But he's okay to work with her again,
right?

"Oo," he said. ""Ilang beses ko sinabi, malaking bagay siya kung bakit ako nandito ngayon (sa showbiz ulit). So very thankful ako, every day, sa kanya."

He hopes "in time" they'll be able to reconcile and save the "friendship" they once had.

Wait, are they friends, we asked.

"Sa ngayon ako kasi okay lang naman, hindi ko alam kung paano siya towards me..." Carlo said.

The actor admitted he and Angelica have talked many times about what happened and he claimed to have personally apologized to her.

"Ilang beses naman kami nag-usap so I think okay na 'yun."

Asked if he thinks he did wrong, Carlo pointed out that he wouldn't have said sorry if he doesn't think so.

Projects

Meanwhile, there's no stopping Carlo from spreading his wings as artist.

The actor is set to return to the big screen via a romantic-comedy film co-starring Maine Mendoza.

He also had his pre-birthday show "Liwanag In Concert" on Aug. 31 at the Music Museum. "Nagsimula ako na tinuruan ako ng kapatid ko na mag-gitara ng right-handed, eh left handed ako so hirap na hirap ako. Tapos natuto ako sa kaliwa at dun nagumpisa ang lahat," Carlo was quoted to have said in a release.

Carlo added his father exposed him to different kinds of musical genres, including standards.

"Gagawa ako ng maliliit ng fillers ng iba ko pang musical inspirations ko gaya ng boy groups and alternative and acoustic artists pati old hits," he said.

The actor also promises to play the guitar on the show at one point, like he did with Matteo Guidicelli in their previous joint concert.

"And meron kaming 5 to 6 days of rehearsal cause I'm planning to dance, which is a first for me," he said.

Alessandra de Rossi magdidirek ng pelikula

Sumabak sa kauna-unahan niyang directorial job ang aktres na si Alessandra de Rossi, kung

saan makakasama niya si Piolo Pascual.

Ayon kay De Rossi, kabado siya sa pagtrabaho sa pelikulang "Fuffy and Fream," na kaniyang sinulat, ididirek at pagbibidahan.



Hindi raw niya

inakala na magagawa niyang maging isang direktor

"Lahat naman ng nangyari sa buhay ko, never ko siyang inisip eh," ani De Rossi.

"Mahirap siya kasi after mong mag-take ipipreview mo kung okay tapos may makikita kang hindi okay, na kung sana nasa screen ka na-cut mo na siya," kuwento ni De Rossi.

Ipinagpapasalamat din ni De Rossi na tinaggap ni Pascual ang kaniyang materyal.

Huling nagkatrabaho noong 2017 sina Pascual at De Rossi para sa teleseryeng "Since I Found You."

"I'm just really excited na sa'min niya binigay 'yong magandang material na 'yan," ani Pascual. Wala pang petsa kung kailan ilalabas ang

Ano ang kulang kay Janella?

Bilang si Emma, siya ang katawang lupa na sinasaniban ni Camilla na karakter ni Maja Salvador - sa pilot week lang nito. Dahil sa second week nito, ipinakita na hindi pala totoong patay si Camilla. Magkakuntsaba lang pala ang dalawa para malaman kung sino ang pumatay



kay Camilla. Nag-trending worldwide ang nasabing episode. Bagaman title role ang kay Maja, pivotal din ang kay Janella. Kaya malaking hamon ito sa huli dahil kailangan sabayan niya ang intensity ng acting

ni Maja.

Unang bumida si Janella sa "Oh, My G!"
na sinundan ng "Born for You" na kung saan
nakasama niya ang dating boyfriend na si Elmo
Magalona. Hindi naging matagumpay ang huling
teleserye at nauwi pa sa hiwalayan at awayan
ang kanilang love team. Kaya matagal bago siya
nabigyan ng panibagong teleserye.

Multi-talented itong si Janella. Pero parang may kulang pa. Kahit kasi anong push sa kanya, hindi siya umangat-angat nang todo-todo. Ngayon, may naka-lineup siyang pelikula kasama si Maricel Soriano. The movie ("The Heiress" as working title) will test her appeal in the box office. It seems that everything is falling into the right place for her career. Pero bakit parang may humahadlang sa kanyang full stardom?

It is no secret that Janella now lives independently. Umalis ito sa poder ng kanyang ina na si Jenine Desiderio nang magkaroon sila ng matinding hidwaan. Claim ng dalaga, "on speaking terms" na raw silang mag-ina. But still, she seems to be adamant with her decision to shun away from her mom. Kaya tuloy nega ang dating niya sa tao. Totoo ba na hindi pinagpapala ang mga anak na suwail sa magulang? Just asking...



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Jose Mari Chan happy about memes; huwag lang daw "offensive"

Ilang araw bago sumapit ang September 1, nagkaroon ng countdown ang mga Pilipino para sa pagbabalik ni Jose Mari Chan, ang King of Christmas Carols ng Pilipinas.
Si Jose Mari ang isa sa

mga itinuturing na simbolo ng Pasko, at tuwing magsisimula ang "ber months," naging tradisyon na ang pagpapatugtog sa radyo ng kanyang mga Christmas songs, particularly ang "Christmas in Our Hearts."

Isang sorpresa ang inihanda ng Sunday PINASaya staff at hosts kay Jose Mari sa pamamagitan ng paggagawad sa kanya ng Puso ng Saya, ang parangal para sa mga natatanging Pilipino na may misyon na pasayahin ang kanilang kapwa.

Bidang-bida si Jose Mari sa social media kapag papalapit na ang September 1, kaya tinanong siya ni Jose Manalo tungkol sa kanyang nararamdaman sa atensiyong natatanggap niya mula sa mga kababayan natin.

"Natutuwa ako, I'm complimented. I feel complimented and flattered. I wish they would not make offensive memes. You know, this song is a gift from our Lord that I share with our countrymen," ang sagot ng Philippine King of Christmas Carols na may bagong Christmas album, ang Going Home To Christmas.

"There are 22 new Christmas songs, at kasama ko rin diyan yung mga anak ko at isang apo ko, with my daughter and three sons," ang sabi ni Jose Mari na lubos ang pasasalamat sa parangal na ipinagkaloob sa kanya ng Sunday PINASaya.

Sarah G's 'Unforgettable' is turning out to be more star-studded than expected

MANILA—On her own, Sarah Geronimo is already a strong crowd draw, but with fellow superstars joining her upcoming film, "Unforgettable," longer lines are expected at the box office.

When the Jun Robles Lana film was announced in May, cast members included Ara Mina, Kim Molina, Meg Imperial, Gina Pareño, and Yayo Aguila.

But over the months since then, more big-name stars have been spotted on the set of "Unforgettable," including Regine Velasquez and Anne Curtis.

Now, two screen veterans are confirmed to be on

board, too.

Cherie Gil and Tirso Cruz III each shared a photo with Geronimo. Their captions were tagged with "Unforgettable," confirming their involvement in the film.

"Here I am with the multi-talented, love young lady Sarah Geronimo while we were shooting yesterday," Cruz wrote. "I am one of the many guests in her

Gil, who specified her part as a cameo, meanwhile, described Geronimo as "simple and humble."

"Such a pleasure though short," she added, referring to her shooting day. "Looking forward to watching the film. It's a lovely refreshing story!"

Alden Richards proves ac actor doesnm't need to be in a Love Team to Succeed

Alden Richards proved that being in a love team isn't always necessary to reach success

The film Hello, Love, Goodbye has been Alden's biggest break so far

Many believe that he was "saved" by the

Alden Richards is now reaping the success of his Star Cinema movie Hello, Love, Goodbye. The film is definitely a hit as it has breached the P800 million mark and is still counting. The film is now regarded as one of the highest-grossing Filipino films of all time.

Also starring Box-office Queen Kathryn Bernardo, Alden is now being dubbed as the newest Box-office King.

While many fans felt disheartened about Alden being a solo artist, he said that being in a love team isn't really necessary to be successful in showbiz.

"Minsan hindi talaga kailangang nasa isang love team ang tao," Alden told entertainment reporters at the official launch of his athleisure collection "Avel x Alden."

He cited that he and former Kapuso celebrity Louise Delos Reyes met relative success way back in 2012 through the romance drama One True Love.

"That was also successful and hindi kami in real life," Alden added.

For him, the use of God-given talents and the quality of a series or a film's story are the things that matter the most to hook the audience.



"Naniniwala po ako na kapag mahusay at maganda ang materyal, doon kakapit ang manunuod," he said.

Alden continues to receive praises and attention from the online world for Hello, Love, Goodbye which many believe saved him from the setbacks of his acting career. After being mocked and criticized online, the film has paved the way for him to rise up again and gather new fans.

He is now set to return to Kapuso primetime with The Gift along with Jo Berry, Mikee Quintos, Thia Thomalla, Rochelle Pangilinan, Jean Garcia, Elizabeth Oropesa, Martin del Rosario, Divine Tetay, and many more. It is set to air in September.

Janno Gibbs on past video scandal: "Talagang medyo na-down ako..."

Halatang umiwas na si Janno Gibbs na pag-usapan pa ang tungkol sa kanyang video scandal na kumalat noong August 2018.

Sa mediacon ng pelikulang Sanggano, Sanggago't Sanggwapo na ginanap sa The Music Hall, sa Ortigas City, noong nakaraang linggo, hindi naman niya itinanggi na na-down siya nang panahong may pinagdadaanan siya,



Pahayag ng singer-comedian, "Talagang medyo na-down ako, hindi ko naman itinatanggi yun. But now, I'm very happy na I'm with Viva, at bumabalik ulit ang confidence ko. Medyo missing in action talaga, admittedly.

"Ayoko nang masyadong pahabain, but I must admit na nagkaroon ako ng

problema dito, problema diyan, but since I signed with Viva as an artist, sila na po ang bahala as manager ko ngayon, feeling ko ay unti-unti nang naaayos ulit."

Bumabalik na nga raw ngayon ang kumpiyansa niya sa kanyang sarili, at nanunumbalik na rin ang sigla ng kanyang showbiz career.

Aniya pa, "Of course, yes, yes! Of course, hindi mo naman maaalis yun.

"Ako, habang nagsu-shooting kami nitong movie namin nila Andrew E., actually, may sinu-shoot akong iba pa with Viva also, yung kay Dingdong Dantes. Support lang ako dun, pero tuluy-tuloy talaga.

"Yung sa singing naman, kalalabas lang nang single ko for Viva (Records), hindi pa namin masyadong pinu-promote kasi, gagawa pa kami ng music video. So, lahat nang ito, nagbibigay sigla ulit sa akin."

Sa puntong ito, ay sinigurado na ni Janno na okay na okay siya, at walang dapat ipag-alala sa kanya ang kanyang mga tagahanga.

Saad ng 49-year-old star, "Madami, madami akong pinagdaanan. Okey naman. Gusto ko ngang sabihin sa mga tao, yung iba, parang nagwu-worry sa akin. Parang nagwu-worry na, 'O, Janno, kumusta ka na? Di ka namin napapanood. Di ka naming na nakikita.'

"I'm fine. Alam kong marami akong pinagdaanan na issues, but I have my family. I have a very good family support, and I've always been okay. I'm looking forward for the future."

Ina was exploited in the past

Na-exploit siya noon?

Pag-ulit ni Ina, "Yeah, di ba? Yung mga movies noong '90s talaga.

"May mga ganoong pangyayari, may exploitation. So, yun ang na-promise ko sa sarili ko, I will never ever allow myself to be exploited again."

Unang nakilala si Ina nang ma-feature sa isang beer commercial noong mid-'90s.

Pumasok siya sa showbiz at nagkaroon ng pangalan bilang isang sexy actress.

Inusisa si Ina kung bakit hinayaan niyang ma-exploit siya sa mga pelikulang ginawa.

Tugon niya, "Probably because yun yung uso...Pag kinukunan yung scene, parang sa isip mo, 'Di naman ito kasama...'

"But then you're, like, 'No, you have to do this...' yung ganoong feeling."

Pressure daw ang isa pang dahilan.

"Because I was young. Parang feeling ko, I didn't have a voice, yung ganoong feeling. "Kasi 23-24, so I felt so young.

"And yun yung uso, so parang, 'Okay, I'm doing it because yun ang uso."

LESSONS FROM BEING EXPLOITED

Tinanong din namin si Ina kung ano ang payo niya sa mga baguhan at batang artista para hindi nila maranasan ang ma-exploit.

"Unang-una, siyempre, you have to talk to your manager to help you, di ba?

"Basta kailangan may nakabantay na merong middle person na poprotektahan ka," paliwanag ng aktres.

Wala bang nagbabantay sa kanya noon kaya siya na-exploit?

"Yeah. I don't really wanna talk about it, but, yeah, I was exploited, sobra...

"Kailangan huwag kang papayag.

"Sobra kasi ang bold movies in the '90s.

Natutuwa raw si Ina na kahit may daring scenes ang mga pelikula ngayon ay dekalidad naman ang mga ito.

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Sharon Cuneta gets highest honor from Viva

'I have been blessed to work with the best. Viva made me. I will

egastar Sharon Cuneta is overwhelmed to have received the first ever Viva Icon Award at the Viva

"Siya ang original Viva Star. Kung walang Sharon, walang Viva," Viva big boss Vic del Rosario said

A song medley was rendered and a tribute VTR was shown that tipped a hat to the blockbuster movies Sharon made under Viva, including "P.S. I Love You," "Bituing Walang Ningning," "Sana'y Wala Ng Wakas," and "Maging Sino Ka Man."

"I have been blessed to work with the best. They said that Viva is Sharon and Sharon is Viva. But, really, Viva made me. I will be forever grateful,"

She grew up with the del Rosarios when she was starting in showbiz. Sharon thanked them and Viva for treating her like a true family and honing her talent.

Recalling how their partnership first blossomed, "In 1981, I did 'Dear Heart' for Sining Silangan. After that, Sining Silangan was committed to do a movie with ate Vi. So, they couldn't do a follow-up to 'Dear Heart,' which we didn't expect to be so well-received. I was already a recording artist then for Vicor, which means I'm with Boss Vic's already."

Sharon added, "We dared to do a wholesome movie at the height of the bold trend and it was the kind that has never been seen before. So, my father picked up the phone and called Boss Vic and said, 'Vic, gawa tayo ng pelikula.' Being a good businessmen, they knew timing was everything and to not have a follow-up to 'Dear Heart' would have been a very big mistake. And so, Viva was established."

Amid the popularity of bold movies then, Sharon's movies with Viva became instant hits. Her movie "P.S. I Love You"

"disrespectful," and

was directed by the late Eddie Garcia, who was also given an award at the Viva Convention.

"And so 'Dear Heart' set the standard and paved the way. They (then) came out with the very lovely 'P.S. I Love You,' which again centered on two wealthy families," she said.

Sharon dedicated the award to her late father Pablo Cuneta who was instrumental to her success in showbiz. She also acknowledged her late mother, Elaine Cuneta.

Secondly, she dedicated her award to the late Mina del Rosario. Sharon emphasized how close she was to Viva's former boss, that her mom would sometimes feel "jealous."

"Most of all, next to my dad, I would like to dedicate this honor to Mama Mina. It hasn't been the same without you mama. I still look for you. She picked my projects from comics and let me read the Tagalog out loud because she had to get me used to Tagalog," she said.

be forever grateful.'

Sharon also thanked the people who made a big influence in her career, including Eddie Garcia, who has directed her and was like a father to her; publicist Baby Gil; actor Robin Padilla, who was her onscreen partner in "Maging Sino Ka Man;" the late director Eddie Rodriguez; and composers Willy Cruz and Rey Valera for the theme songs they wrote for her.

While Sharon is no longer an exclusive artist of Viva, she has maintained good relationship with them.

Sharon announced that she is set to do a movie with Viva soon.

Morissette's side on dad's Twitter rants against her

These past few weeks, Morissette Amon's father Amay Amon has been posting on his Twitter account about his daughter who, he said, has left the family to "elope" with her boyfriend whom he didn't identify but is believed to be Morissette's alleged boyfriend, singer Dave Lamar.

On July 24, 2019, the father posted the following: "Question: What's the Tagalog term for elope?" and answered it himself in another tweet the next day, "Google translated as lumayo," adding, "What if hindi lumayo? Live-in ba tawag dun?""Or what if like 2 nights lang? Sleepover?

In sum, the father accused the daughter of choosing love over family and the unnamed



ship with his daughter.

the unnamed boyfriend to destroy his relation-

In fact, for weeks now, Amay Amon (with his supporters) and Dave have been hurling loaded words at each other on social media but Dave denied that the account was not his own, that it was "fake," prompting Amay Amon to tweet, "Why don't you use your real account? Not man enough? And you call yourself having good intentions with my daughter?"

If you are a keen showbiz-observer, you will notice that this kind of incident...a parent publicly showing disapproval of and displeasure against a daughter's suitor/boyfriend...has been happening since time immemorial. Name some? No need.

You know which actress or singer is in the same dilemma, made to choose between family and (unwanted?) boyfriend.

Through it all, Morissette has kept mum, aware that if she says something about or anything against her father she could be accused of being disrespectful.

Morissette and Dave met as contestants in 2013 in the ABS-CBN talent search The Voice Philippines. It's not known when and how Morissette and Dave became an "item" although you must agree that they make a handsome pair, bagay na bagay sila. They belong to different managements, Morissette is with Stages and Dave is with Cornerstone (which released Dave's songs Feel My Love, Something Only We Know and Hi, Kumusta?).

Anyway, now that we have heard her father's side, let's listen to somebody very close to Morissette (who refused to speak up until this column was being written) in her defense:

"The whole issue started last February. We respect and understand the feelings of Morissette's father but some things have to be clarified. It's not true that Morissette has 'eloped' or is 'living-in' with Dave Lamar. The truth is that she is taken care of by Stages head Audie Gemora. She's staying with Audie in his home at a Makati subdivision.

"Morissette loves her family and she has been working hard to support them (parents and a sibling). She has been saving her earnings for a house the family is building and has entrusted a big amount to her father for that. Morissette is 23 and she's old enough, and legally of age, to make her own decisions whether professional or personal."

There. Both sides now.

DepEd Sec. Briones backs bills on 'no-homework' policy

MANILA - Department of Education Secretary Leonor Briones supported the bills seeking to ban giving homework to students to ease their physical burden.

According to Briones, there was already a policy about refraining from giving takehome assignments to students.

"Ang gusto natin, lahat ng pormal na pag-aaral, assignment, project, whatever, gagawin sa loob ng eskuwelahan. Pag-uwi nila, libre na sila, free time nila to be with their parents, friends," Briones said.



"Pagdating ko, ginawa na namin itong policy... Pero meron pa ring mga schools na nasanay talaga sa pagbibigay ng homework," she added.

In a report by the ABS-CBN News, Briones said that she was also looking into the proposals to adjust the academic calendar to cover summer and avoid class cancellations during the rainy season.

As previously reported by KAMI, Quezon City Rep. Alfred Vargas has filed the House Bill 388 or the "No Homework on Weekends Act of 2019."

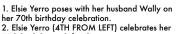
Meanwhile, Deputy Speaker and Sorsogon Representative Evelina Escudero also filed House Bill 3611, seeking to ban giving homework from kinder to Grade 12 students.

The lawmakers want to ease the physical burden of students bringing home their textbooks for the assignments, as well as to spend quality time with family and rest.









- 70th birthday with family.

 3. Birthday celebrant Elsie Yerro (2rd from left front) prepares for a toast by her family and friends.
- 4. Fernanda Skyler models for Mitzify hand-
- 5. Adrienne Lyel Tupas models at the PIDC gala. 5. Adrienne Lyel Tupas models at the PIDC gala.
 6. Elizabeth Leggett, Makayla Leggett, Anita Diaz of Ready Honda, Cecille Araneta, Suzy Llanera, Norma Carpio (BB. Pilipinas 2019 Outstanding Achiever Awardee), Agnes Miranda, Ophelia Santiago and Harold Gutierrez (BB. Pilipinas 2019 Outstanding Achiever Awardee) attend the BB Pilipinas of the World pageant.



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Arci Muñoz Confirms Split With Her Non-Showbiz Boyfriend: 'Maybe it's not the right time'

Arci dated Anthony for two years.

Arci Muñoz confirmed that she is no longer in a relationship with her non-showbiz boyfriend, businessman Anthony Ng who she dated for two years.



At the press conference for her upcoming teleserye "Pamilya Ko" on August 30, Arci revealed that she and Anthony had split up two months ago. Arci didn't divulge the details of her separation with Anthony but she said, "It's shallow. Maybe it's not the right time."

The actress continued, "Everything happens for a



reason. 'Yun na lang po yung what consoles me. I think God has [a] purpose why bakit Siya pumayag sa mga ganung klaseng bagay. Baka it's really not meant [to be]."

Arci, who is a huge fan of K-pop group BTS, added

that her fandom with the boy band has helped her cope with the split and claims that they serve as her "stress reliever." Arci said, "Ayaw ko na po maging malungkot. Kaya siguro sobrang obsessed ko sa BTS ngayon, stress reliever." Arci recently took a trip to Japan with her mom and the actress posted on Instagram two photos of wooden plaques with their wishes written on it. Arci wished for world peace, while her mom wrote, "I wish Mona will [be] blessed with a loving and caring partner in life."

Arci first confirmed that she was dating Anthony in July 2017. The actress posted several sweet photos with Anthony in January 2018 where she said, "A tiptoe for a kiss. Finally, I found my bliss. My best friend, my love. The best is yet to be."

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Dawn Chang says she is still part of It's **Showtime**

Despite leaving GT, Dawn Chang says she is still part of It's Showtime.

Dawn Chang recently surprised the public after announcing that she is no longer part of the all-girl group GT. However, this wasn't bad news for her avid supporters since she confirmed that she is still part of the noontime show It's Showtime.

A netizen left a comment on her

Instagram account asking if she's still part of the show since the group is part of It's Showtime.

"Awww, so wala ka na sa [It's Showtime]? Bilang ang GT (GirlTrends) is part ng It's Showtime," the netizen asked.

"I'm still part of Showtime," Dawn replied.

The TV host-dancer has been part of GirlTrends -- eventually called GT -- since they debuted on It's Showtime in 2016. Members of the group currently include Chienna Filomeno, Mikee Agustin, Mica Javier, Sammie Rimando, Krishha Viaje, Jessica Marasigan, and Joana Hipolito.



Jessica Cianchino, Melissa Ventocilla and Larissa Obediente (BB.

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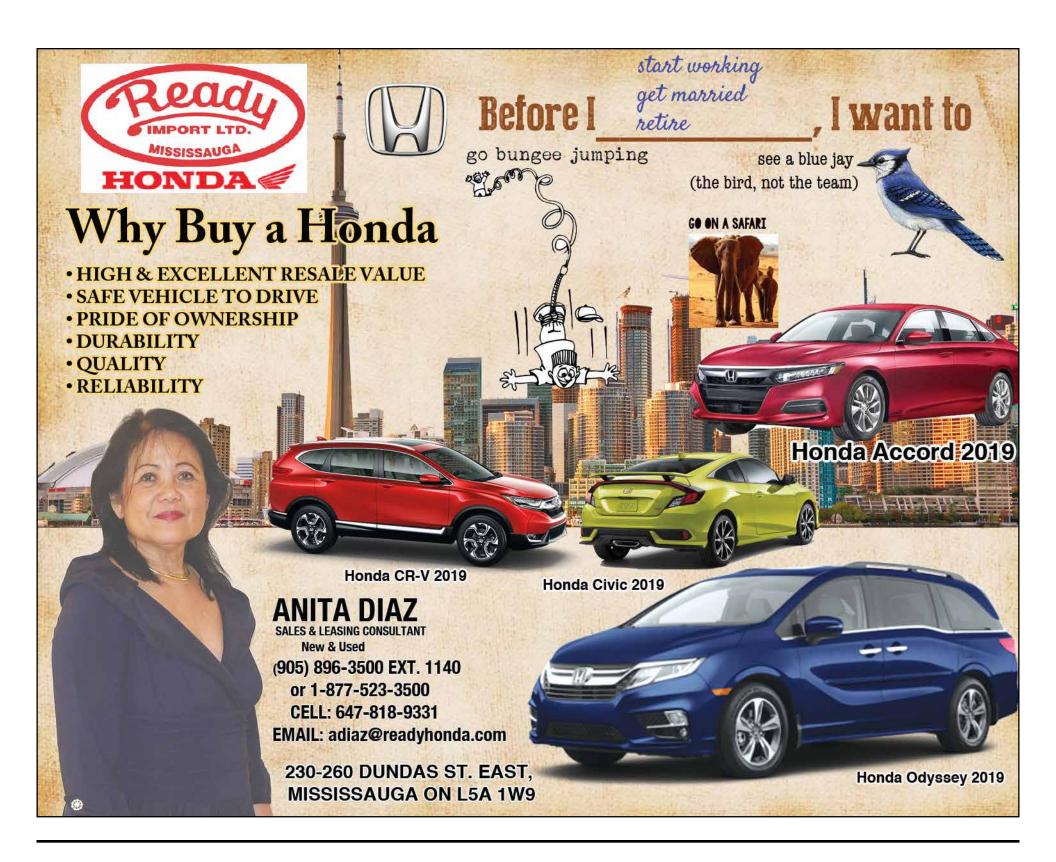
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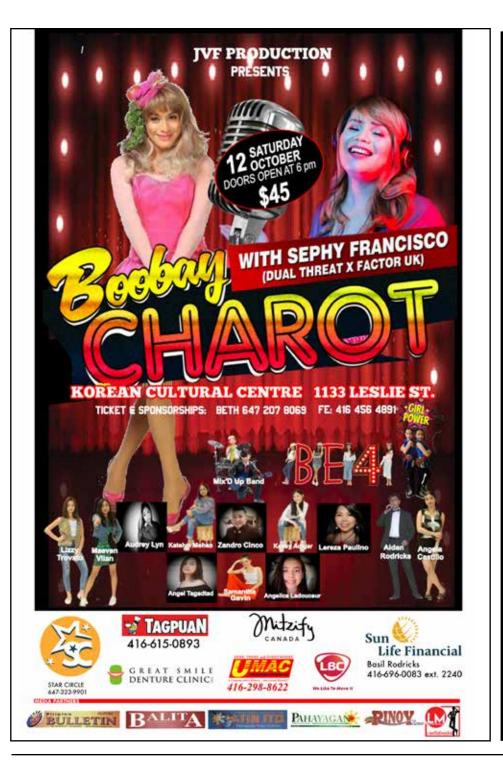
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"Secure your family with insurance"

Sylvia Sanchez recalls Joey Marquez almost made a move on her when she was 17

Inamin ni Sylvia Sanchez, 48, na muntik na siyang pormahan ni Joey Marquez, 61, noong dalaga pa siya at nagkakatrabaho sila sa mga pelikula.

Nagkataon daw na girlfriend na noon ni Joey si Alma Moreno, at bagong kakilala naman ni Sylvia sa napangasawa niyang si Art Atayde.

Pahayag ni Sylvia, "Siguro kung wala siyang Alma nung time na yun, at nung time na rin na pumapasok na rin si Art.

"Siguro naging kami. Kasi gumawa kami ng movies apat, lima na kaming dalawa."

Dagdag ni Sylvia, 17 years old lang siya noong nagsimula silang magkatrabaho ni Joey. Samakatwid, 30 years old noon si Joey.

Kuwento naman ni Joey, gandang-ganda raw siya noon kay Sylvia.

"Si Ibyang napakaganda niya talaga, napaka-sexy, napakaputi, at saka madali kang pakisamahan," tukoy ni Joey kay Sylvia na ang palayaw ay Ibyang.

NOT MEANT TO BE

Sabi naman ni Sylvia, mabuti na lang at hindi naging sila ni Joey noon.

"Sabi ko nga sa kanya, nagkakasama kami sa taping namin, sabi ko, 'Buti Tsong, buti na lang talaga!' Na hindi naging kami kasi sobrang chickboy!"

Natatawang hirit ni Joey, "Baka hiwalay na rin kami ngayon!"

Kung sakali ay hindi raw uurungan ni Sylvia si Joey dahil aminadong matapang daw ang aktres.

"Nagkasuntukan na tayo, Tsong! So hiwalay na kami ngayon. So ngayon, nagtatawanan na lang kaming dalawa."

Nanatiling mabuti raw silang magkaibigan, at kinuha pa ni Sylvia na ninong si Joey ng anak niyang si Arjo Atayde.

The Filipino Centre Toronto Pursues New and Regular Programs & Services to the Community



True to its established vision and mission, the Filipino Centre Toronto-FCT, a prominent and progressive community-based organization in the Greater Toronto Area, is fully determined of engaging and offering well-defined and meaningful programs and projects to the members of the Filipino - Canadian community. The FCT, founded by dedicated community leaders, professionals and active retirees & volunteers almost 2 decades ago, is committed continuously and conveniently to lead and serve by being a solid player and participant in the social life and activities of its targeted beneficiaries -- kababayans, seniors & the elderly, students & youths, and new immi-

grants & other qualified residents in the

Proudplace for Filipino Canadians to meet

province.

participate

social, civic, educational, business, recreational, sports and activities". It conducts and sponsors events "to showcase, enrich and promote our Filipino heritage, history and culture " in this adopted country.

Since it started operating as a notfor- profit and volunteer-run entity in the early 1999, the Filipino Centre Toronto's well-established regular programs and services

are purposefully focused on the participants and recipients continued good physical health and well-being.

Two major upcoming community- wide events are planned for the next 4 months. These include 1) the competition and search for 2019 Outstanding Filipino Canadian students in Ontario this October. It aims to encourage and recognize elementary, high school and post-secondary students to aspire and achieve academic success; and 2) "Sanib Saya", a Christmas party to be hosted by a group of

Filipino-Canadian organizations to bring holiday cheers and "to model unity and love in meeting challenges in community organizations."

The Filipino Centre, Toronto is newly-sited and headquartered at 4395



Sheppard Avenue East, Scarborough, Ontario M1S 1T9. It has a simple party hall and board meeting rooms, available for rents at modest rates. For more information, please call the Filipino Centre, Toronto at Tel: 416-435-0485; Cell: 416-928-9355; Fax:416-435-0486; Email: filipinocentreinfo@gmail.com.

As envisioned, the Filipino Centre, Toronto through its well-meaning & good spirited directors, officers, members and volunteers and in partnership and collaboration with its stakeholders and the community shall continue hoping and praying to aspire, inspire and pursue its avowed purpose and mandate in order to achieve success and move forward in the most meaningful and productive ways. And, as the late Rosalinda C. Javiier always proudly said "This is our Centre, your Centre. Everyone is welcome to visit us!" (Tony A. San Juan, OCT-Ret.)

PHOTOS are taken from FCT end of Summer celebration. The children received their certificate of completion for their tutorial summer classes. The summer students received their certificate of recognition for part in the federal summer proaram where FCT received a grant to hire students.



Kathryn Bernardo & Alden Richards

"It's the start

of a very good

collaboration"

Make Local Film History Together

KATHRYN & ALDEN continued from page 1

Gutierrez were paired up to star in For The First Time and When I Met You, uniting the country's biggest networks. But in this generation, and with two of the biggest names from the biggest love teams no less, it had yet to happen, until finally, it did. "P'wede pala," Alden says. "Medyo unconventional to pull out a certain pair from another love team na currently existing. It was a risk for both Kath and me—both of us took a risk upon accepting this project, but it turns out it's not so bad after all."

"It's the start of a very good collaboration," he adds.

"Never namin in-expect na p'wedeng mangyari 'to," Kathryn tells Metro. Style. "Never ko na-imagine na papayagan na mag-cross 'yung dalawa. Perfect timing din kasi nasa point kami pareho ng career namin na may loveteam pero hihiwalay muna. Sakto lahat ng timing."

Though Kathryn and Alden have an endorsement in common, they've never

shared more than one hi or hello when they bump into each other at events. Their first official meeting took place during the movie's story conference in a restaurant near the ABS-CBN compound, and their

first impressions weren't far off from their actual personalities, either. She shares, "Ang dami ko naman kasing ka-work before na naka-work si Alden so meron akong konting idea kung paano siya. But then nung na-meet ko siya, I thought, he's very mature."

"Pero hindi na ngayon," she jests.

Kathryn shares that Alden made her feel instantly comfortable—thanks to his genuine and gentlemanly qualities. It takes her a while to warm up to co-stars, she reveals, especially if they're guys, but with Alden, it was different because he was a breath of fresh air. "I felt safe," she says. "Walang ilangan masyado. Of course, the normal amount [of ilangan] sa first few days. But I felt safe. He made me feel safe."

"Favorite ko 'yung pagiging genuine niya,"Kathryn adds. "Hindi lahat ng nami-meet mong artista, genuine. Gusto ko 'yung pagiging respectful niya sa'min ni DJ, sa akin as a girl, as his new partner."

Alden talks highly of his co-star as well, saying, "I always thought of her as very sweet, very sincere. And then na-confirm ko 'yun as I worked with her in this film."

Despite their four-year age gap (Kathryn is 23 and Alden is 27), the chemistry between the two stars is palpable. Their energies light up a room, and their fast friendship has made their time on set easier and lighter, especially considering how hard of a shoot it was behind the camera. The movie, shot on location in Hong Kong, took less than a month to film—twenty-eight days, to be exact.

"We're only a group of 20 to 25 people," Alden says. "Crew included. Dala-dala namin 'yung camera, 'yung lights. It was a test of attitude. A test of

> being a person. Test siya sa lahat: 'yung pasensya mo, 'yung attitude mo towards the work, kahit pagod na pagod ka na."

The actor shares that being on the set of Hello, Love, Goodbye really taught him to empathize with people more. He'd regularly have lunch with the film's staff and crew as well as help them carry heavy equipment. "Be with them, feel with them," Alden says. "Share your presence. It's the least you can do. That keeps me grounded as a

Alden values every person involved in making a film—from the cameraman to the production assistant—and to hear this thought said out loud from one of the biggest young actors in the entertainment industry is beyond refreshing. Alden isn't just here to learn from his director or his co-stars, he shares; he's here to learn from everyone. "Kasi kasama sila dito."



na's work, even before he thought of entering show business. (His favorite CGM film? One More Chance, of course.) "It's really Direk Cathy who held our hands," Alden says, calling her a "legendary director" and sharing that he'll forever treasure what he learned from her. "Si Direk talaga ang nag-alalay. If not for her, Ethan would've been the same as other characters na nagawa ko before."

And Ethan is very different from Alden. "The only thing we have in common is that pursuer siya," the actor says. "I'm a pursuer also. If I set my mind on something-if Ethan sets his mind on someone or something—no matter what the cost, he will pursue it. Ganu'n din kasi ako eh."

For Alden's role as Ethan del Rosario, a bartender working in Hong Kong, a lot of the preparation involved had been physical. "I lost a lot of weight. I went on a diet, but it's really mostly exercise. I made my own program. I made my own meal plan, based on the knowledge I've acquired since I started working out when I was 16 or 17." He also did immersion for the film—a locked-in taping lasting for a month afforded nothing else, after all-and that experience increased his appreciation for overseas Filipino workers (OFWs).

I've always known that being outside of the country working for your family

> **KATHRYN & ALDEN** continued on page 24

Alden, Maine wala pang balak pagsamahin muli + other stories

"THE Gift" ang titulo ng pinakabagong TV series ni Alden Richards sa Kapuso Network at nakapagsimula na siyang magtaping.

Kung isang Filipino bartender na nagta-trabaho sa Hong Kong ang papel na ginampanan ni Alden sa

hit movie na "Hello, Love, Goodbye" na pinagtambalan nila ni Kathryn Bernardo at dinirek ni Cathy Garcia-Molina under Star Cinema, isa namang mabait at masipag na naglalako ng mga paninda sa Divisoria ang bagong papel ng actor sa kanyang bagong ginagawang TV series.



Dahil sa malaking tagumpay ng HLG, inspirado si Alden sa

kanyang bagong serye.

Samantala, tuluy-tuloy na talaga ang paggawa ng magkahiwalay na proyekto ng (dating) magka-loveteteam na sina Alden at Maine Mendoza. Although magkasama pa rin ang dalawa sa "Eat Bulaga," they do separate projects outside the noontime show.

Kung si Alden ay nakapag-simula na sa kanyang bagong serye, si Maine naman ay napapanood pa rin sa "Daddy's Gurl" na pinagsasamahan nila ni Sotto. Magkasamang muli ang dalawa sa kanilang pang-Metro Manila Film Festival movie na "Mission Unstapabol: The Don Identity" kung saan kasama rin sa pelikula ang mga Kapamilya talents na sina Pokwang at Jake Cuenca.

Nakatakda ring simulan ni Maine ang first team-up nila ni Carlo Aquino, ang "Isa Pa With Feelings" na nakatakdang idirek ni Prime Cruz under Black Sheep Entertainment.

Sa takbo ng respective careers nina Alden at Maine ngayon, mukhang wala sa immediate plans ang muli nilang pagtatambal either sa pelikula o telebisyon.

Janella on a career rebound, sets aside lovelife

JANELLA Salvador says the second half of 2019 is turning very well for her. She has a new soap, "The Killer Bride", song in Himig Handog now, is wrapping up work for a new movie with Maricel "The Soriano, no less. This is Heiress", directed by Frasco Mortel.

Frasco says its Janella who plays the title role of "The Heiress". "It's a horror movie," he adds. "Mam-

babarang si Maricel Soriano at si Janella ang magiging tagapagmana niya ng kanyang kapangyarihan. Kasama rin sa cast sina Sunshine Cruz and McCoy de Leon."

This is good for Janella. A couple of years ago, she topbilled Regal's Metro Manila Filmfest entry, "Haunted Mansion", and it ended as one of the topgrossers. After that, her next movies with Regal like "Mano Po 7", "So Connected" and "My Fairy Tale Love Story" all didn't do well at the box office. Then she got into that violent break up brouhaha with Elmo Magalona that affected both their careers adversely.

Now, she seems successful in making a comeback and we're happy for her. As for Elmo, he has yet to make his presence felt in showbiz after that story of him beating up Janella that really had a negative effect on his career. Here's hoping the Metro-Manila Filmfest screening committee would accept "The Heiress" as an official entry and that it will also be a big blockbuster at the tills like Janella's "Haunted Mansion" before.

As for her lovelife, Janella is being linked to guys with similar sounding names, Marco Gumabao and Markus Paterson. She's been seen dating both of them, but she denies that she's in a relationship with any of them. "We're just friends," she insists. Ngayon pa lang ako uli nakakabuwelo sa career ko, e. So ito muna ang aasikasuhin ko at hindi lovelife."

Jerald Napoles gets most challenging role

JERALD Napoles gets to play the most challenging role in his career as Carlo, a surfer who takes care of his grandma who has Alzheimer's disease in the movie, "Mina Anud".

His only dream is to win as the number one surfer but he always ends up only as first runner up in the surfing contests he joins, then his life makes a complete turn around when he gets into drug trafficking.

The movie starts with him being apprehended by cops inside a fast food joint. We are then taken via flashbacks to show us what really happened in the story and how Jerald and his friend Dennis Trillo's journey as drug pushers started several months

His character does so many crazy and funny things in the movie. He even makes love with a transgender. It seems natural for him to make people laugh.

So how is it working with Dennis Trillo? "Most of our scenes, magkasama kami. He's cool, very quiet lang, but very hardworking and takes acting very seriously. Mahusay siyang makisama and he's a generous co-actor as he will never make you feel na he's a bigger star than you."

Since "Mina Anud" deals with drug trafficking, does he really think it's a big problem for our country? "Oh yes I grew up in Tondo and even as a child, nakikita ko 'yung drugs noon sa aming lugar. As our movie's ending shows, there are people in authority who take advantage of their position to use drugs they confiscate for their own profit, making it flourish as an industry. "Mina Anud' shows corruption not only among ordinary people who are given the chance to get rich quick but also among law enforcers who have their own selfish motives."

Angelina Cruz, bibida sa kaniyang kauna-unahang pelikula, ang One Friend

Isa ang anak ni Sunshine Cruz na si Angelina sa mga pumirma ng opisyal



hindi ako nervous. Obviously I'm really nervous about it, but at the same time I'm willing to work hard especially on my Tagalog," pahayag ni Angelina sa press.

Nang tanungin kung paano siya sinusuportahan ng kaniyang ina na si Sunshine, sagot niya, "I ask her for advice, and she gives it to me naman. She asks me to say yung mga lines out loud, and then she dictate to me how to say it propoerly, yung mga emotions."

Makakatambal ni Angelina sa pelikulang One Friend ang isa pang baguhang aktor na pumirma rin ng kaniyang sariling kontrata sa ABS-CBN Films, si Bryce Ramos.

JM de Guzman wants to protect Ria Atayde from bashers

Iniiwasan ni JM de Guzman na pag-usapan pa si Ria Atayde, dahil gusto niyang maprotektahan ang aktres sa mga bashers.

Ito ay matapos na muling igiit ni JM na wala silang romantic relationship ni Ria. Matagal nang nali-link sa isa't isa sina JM at Ria, pero paulit-ulit nilang itinatanggi na may namamagitang espesyal sa kanila. Sa presscon ng teleseryeng Pamilya Ko, natanong ang aktor tungkol sa status ng relasyon nila ni Ria.

Tipid na napangiti si JM, 'tsaka sumagot, "Magkaibigan po muna."

Halata ang pag-iwas ng 30-anyos na aktor na sagutin ang mga tanong kapag nababanggit ang pangalan ni Ria.

Dahil dito, diretsahan nang tinanong si JM kung bakit umiiwas siyang pag-usapan si Ria.

Sinabi ni JM na ayaw niyang naba-bash sa social media si Ria, dahil nasasaktan ito.

Paliwanag niya, "The more you ask questions about her, the more she will be bashed, and it hurts."

Bakit kailangang protektahan ni JM si Ria sa bashers?

Ani JM, "Kaibigan ko si Ria and I love my friends."

Marso ngayong taon nang kuyugin ng bashers si Ria, gayundin ang ina nitong si Sylvia Sanchez at kapatid na si Arjo Atayde, kasunod ng pagkalat ng balitang nililigawan ng huli si Maine Mendoza. Sa panahong iyon, sinabi pa ni Ria sa isang panayam na nakatatanggap pa ng pagbabanta ang kanilang pamilya mula sa mga fans ni Maine, na nag-aakusang "user" umano si Arjo.

Samantala, inamin din ni JM hindi pa siya handang makipagrelasyon sa ngayon, dahil hindi pa niya naibabalik sa ayos ang kanyang sarili.

Taong 2012 nang unang sumailalim





sa drug rehabilitation program si JM, na hindi niya natapos, hanggang sa nagkaroon siya ng relapse sa paggamit ng ilegal na droga pagsapit ng 2015.

Ito ang dahilan kaya hindi pa siya handang pumasok sa bagong romantic relationship.

"Hindi pa po," ani JM.

"Baka makasakit lang po ako."
Ang young actress na si Barbie
Imperial ang huling na-link kay JM,
habang ginagawa nila ang ABS-CBN
teleseryeng Araw Gabi.

Sofia Andres, Daniel Miranda exchange "I love you's" on Instagram

Ipinagdiwang ni Sofia Andres ang kanyang ika-21 kaarawan noong August 24.

Sa kanyang Instagram, binati ng nobyo ni Sofia na si Daniel Miranda ang aktres. Sabi ni Daniel sa caption, "Happy birthday love, I love you [heart emoji]." Kaagad namang sumagot si Sofia sa boyfriend.

Tugon niya sa Cebuano international car racer: "I love you more, thank you."

Kahit hindi pa umaamin publicly sa totoong estado ng relasyon nila, hindi maipagkakailang sila na talaga.

Katunayan, mukhang malapit din si Sofia sa mga kamag-anak ni Daniel.

Bumati ang apat na kamag-anak ni Daniel kay Sofia sa post niyang ito.

Kasalukuyang nasa Australia ang magsing-irog. Ilang araw ang nakaraan, si Daniel naman ang nag-post sa kanyang Instagram ng kaparehong larawan na ipinost ni Sofia.

Walang inilagay na caption si Daniel sa post niya. February 2019, "love" na ang tawag ni Sofia sa race car driver.

Ngunit nitong May 2019, umugong ang balitang nagkalabuan na ang dalawa. Binura kasi ni Sofia ang lahat ng larawan nila ni Daniel sa kanyang Instagram. Ngunit, pinabulaanan ito ng akters sa kasunod niyang post pagkatapos ng isang linggo.

Si Daniel ay mula sa mayamang angkan sa Cebu.

Ang huling nakarelasyon ni Sofia sa showbiz ay si Diego Loyzaga.

Beauty Gonzales clueless about John Lloyd-Ellen Adarna split rumors

Tinanong ang Kapamilya actress kung ano ang reaksyon niya sa balitang paghihiwalay nila John Lloyd at Ellen at kung nag-open ba si Ellen sa kanya tungkol dito.

Pag-amin niya, "Hindi naman. Di ko alam kung ano ang pinagdadaanan nila.

"Nung nandun kami sa Bangkok, wala akong yaya, so wala kaming time na magtsikahan sa kakaalaga sa anak ko.

"Di ko talaga alam kung ano ang sitwasyon nila, e. Basta I wish them all the best."

Tinanong din namin si Beauty kung nag-uusap sila ni John Lloyd tungkol sa sitwasyon nila ni Ellen.

Saad niya, "Hindi ko siya nakakausap

kasi everyday ako nagwu-work. "Mas marami pang alam ang asawa

ko, sa totoo lang.
"Wala akong alam tungkol kay Idan kasi I'm working everyday.

"I'm doing another film that will be coming out this Halloween, another horror movie.

"Naku, watch out kayo sa scream ko dito. Itsa-challenge ko yung sigaw ni Kris Aquino.

"Why not? Iniidolo ko si Ms. Kris. Baka naman ako yung the next Screaming Queen, di ba?"

Mylene Dizon's love scene technique is easier

Executing a love scene can be cumbersome but Mylene Dizon has a way to make it easier.

She used the technique in "Belle Douleur" co-starring Kit Thompson.

"Let's say nakakandong ako sa kanya (Kit), nagbibigay pa lang si (director) Joji (Alonzo) ng instruction ay nakadikit na ang noo ko sa noo niya. You need to be comfortable immediately so what I did is that I already put myself into his (Kit) crevices. You really need to be very comfortable para tapos na. Once you've broken that shell, for me at least, you know, it is easier to get into the emotions off because I have already broken that barrier kesa sa pag-5,4,3,2 ko pa lang gagawin," she revealed

Mylene was the director's first choice to play a woman in her 40s who fell in love with a guy in his 20s.

Mylene admitted she still had butterflies in her stomach even after signing up for the project.

"To be honest, in the beginning, I wasn't sure because of the love scenes. I wasn't sure if I was up to it. But I spoke to my partner Jason (Webb) and he kind of encouraged me to do the project," she said. "The

whole journey from the time it was offered to me to shooting it and up to last Saturday's gala, was tough. It was nerve-wracking. Ang sakit ng batok ko."

Mylene doesn't think she can replicate what she did in "Belle Douleur."

"Even when I did '100,' may one scene kami ni TJ (Trinidad) that wasn't even close to this. This is also one of the things I told Jason after I saw the film. I said she (Atty. Joji) has a dream and somebody needs to fulfill it and she's not going to take no for an answer and I said if I am going to do one thing na lang, one big thing let this be it before I turn into a farmer of some sort. Yes, I wanted to contribute in realizing her dream."

It's funny but when the project came along, Mylene already considered herself semi-retired.

"I was almost on my way out. My last soap was 'The Good Son,' that was March. I was thinking of semi-retirement kasi I did soaps na dire-diretso. It was so emotionally draining for me kasi hindi ko naman dinadaya ang trabaho, eh. So napagod ako kasi medyo tumodo talaga ako.

"I think I am going to slow down again. I have to focus on my family. It is not easy because they're growing up and I am missing out."



'Cruel joke': Judge who sentenced Sanchez blasts convict's planned release

MANILA - The retired judge who handed former Calauan, Laguna Mayor Antonio Sanchez seven life sentences said freeing the convicted rapist and killer was a "mockery of justice" and a "cruel joke".

Retired Judge Harriet Demetriou maintained that Sanchez, who was convicted in the rape and murder of Eileen Sarmenta and the slay of her companion Allan Gomez, did not deserve to be freed under a law that allows inmates to be released for good conduct.

"I will question first what is their interpretation of the law... Are people convicted of heinous crimes included or excluded? Wag nilang insultuhin ang intelligence ng Filipino public," Demetriou said.

Demetriou also scored Presidential Spokesperson Salvador Panelo, Senator Ronald dela Rosa and Bureau of Corrections Director General Nicanor Faeldon over their earlier statements that Sanchez deserved to be released.

Demetriou said Panelo, who was the former lead counsel of Sanchez, has been defending his former client's good conduct behavior.

Panelo has denied that he had a hand in the plan to free Sanchez.

The former judge also blasted Dela Rosa over his statement that Sanchez deserved a "second chance" despite being convicted of rape and murder.

Demetriou said the drug suspects who were killed in the police's anti-narcotics operations did not get a second chance.

"Para kay Sen. Bato, ang tingin ko sa kanya he has two different concepts of justice-justice for the poor and justice for the rich. That should not be done in this country," Demetriou said.

Dela Rosa drew flak over his remark and later said that Sanchez should have been given the death penalty.

Demetriou also said Faeldon was wrong in saying Sanchez was qualified for release due to good conduct.

"He (Sanchez) was treated like a king in his cell. Paano masasabi ni Faeldon na qualified siya for good conduct behavior when siya mismo, sila mismo nagto-tolerate?"

The former judge said she had a higher respect for young people who are protesting plans to free Sanchez.

"Yung mga nagra-rally mga bata, alam mo nakikita ko sila, mas may konsensiya pa sila kaysa mga public officials na walang konsensiya ng gustong nalayain si Sanchez"

konsensiya na gustong palayain si Sanchez." Malacañang has said that it will not allow Sanchez to be released.

COME TO OSHAWA FOR THE FIRST DURHAM FILIPINO FEST By Li ERON, Event Organizer

Festivals are akin to Filipinos. "Fiesta", is a simple description of any event that showcased our rich heritage and culture. In villages back home in the Philippines, a fiesta celebration is also a celebration of homecomings and reunions. So, millions of Filipinos who are scattered all over the world, organized festivals in places they called home, and that includes Canada, a home to thousands of Filipino-Canadians.

Festivals also bring communities togeth-

However, there are places, cities or towns nearby where festivals fall short and are done in a more subdued and insignificant celebrations. Places like Durham Region, a beautiful place east of Toronto have few outdoor celebrations. This is where a new not-for-profit organization is born to take on the challenge of bringing our obscured existence to the open for our first Durham Filipino Fest outdoor Festival this coming September

The venue is located in the heart of the city of Oshawa, Durham Region's largest city.

Memorial Park is a landmark in this city. For the first time, Durham Filipino Fest will lay a cornerstone to present the beauty of our Filipino culture joined by many other races. Durham Filipino Fest will bring our Filipino-Canadian spirit in the open in the city of Oshawa. It is a one day free event and everyone is welcome to

come, give support and enjoy a day at the park before the summer folds away.

The highlight of this event is the fashion show from Iloilo's International designer, Aisha Penalosa who is in Toronto for RUNWAY Canada. RUNWAY Canada is bringing Aisha

Penalosa to Durham Region at Durham Filipino Fest. If you are from Iloilo, come and meet her and see her array of exquisite line of creations. We will fill this festival with many presentations.

Please come and support Durham Filipino Fest, September 14, 2019 from 10 AM- 9 PM at memorial Park, 110 Simcoe St. South, Oshawa, ON L1H 7M7. See you all there!!!

30 to 50 pregnancies per year in PH are among ten-year-olds, Population Commission says

Metro Manila — The Commission on Population and Development (POPCOM) has raised the alarm about the growing number of pregnancies among teenagers as young as ten years old, amid the government calling teen pregnancy a "national social emergency."

POPCOM Executive Director Juan Perez III said there is an average of 530 teenagers that get pregnant daily, and the figure has stayed above 500 since 2010. The number hit a high in 2017, when the agency recorded about 574 teen pregnancies per day.

Perez said they are taking a closer look at the 10 to 14 age group, saying they found a 50 percent increase of pregnancies since 2011, amounting to 2,000 cases. About 30 to 50 of these pregnancies are among tenyear-olds, Perez said.

This is likely the result of sexual abuse or incest, Perez mused.

Socioeconomic Secretary Ernesto Pernia said teen pregnancy has become a "national social emergency" in the country with the numbers continuing to soar.

Perez said 16 percent of these are "repeat pregnancies." He attributed the trend to the Supreme Court's decision to remove a provision in the Responsible Parenthood Reproductive Health Law, which allowed minors who had miscarried to recieve family planning services without their parents' consent.

"That teenager needs to get the consent from her mother, even if she is already a mother herself, so that has given us a problem with repeat pregnancies," Perez explained.

Economic losses

Young mothers lose about P24 billion to P47 billion in earnings annually due to an early pregnancy.

Having a child at an early age affects

the teenager's education and income, Perez said.

"They may have dropped out of school." POPCOM is currently coordinating with the Department of Education and Department of Health, he added, on programs to reach out to the youth to guide them on family planning and to ensure they receive the necessary health services.

Education chief Leonor Briones said her agency is working to address the problem through the K-12 curriculum.

Senator Risa Hontiveros also filed a "Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Bill" on August 24, which sought to create a sex education program for the youth and to add more social protection programs for teen mothers.

"If we fail to act and do not guide the youth towards safe and healthy lifestyles, we will not just condemn young Filipinas to lives of poverty and suffering. We will also be hurting our country's chances for progress and development," Hontiveros said.

Star Circle Entertainment Open House









FROM LEFT, Parents attend the open house; Ellen Galorport talks with parents; Fashion Designer John Ablaza and singe Kate Mohan attend the open house; Vocal teacher Peter Tuason talks about the program.



Comedian Boobay & X-Factor UK Singer Sephy to entertain Toronto on October 12

Philippine comedian Boobay & singer Sephy Francisco will be

Saturday. Gates will open at 6:00 P.M. The front act starts at 7:00 P.M. and the show will finish at around 11:00

Boobay is a mainstay in numerous TV shows, teleseryes, drama anthologies and films. He has taken not only comedy roles, but also dramatic roles. His online show with fellow comedian Tekla, The Boobay and Tekla Show, started to be on television just recently and has been consistently been beating the long-running show of Vice-Ganda in the ratings chart. Boobay has been recognized by prestigious award giving entities, like Philippine Movie & Press

Club (PMPC) and Aliw Awards Foundation, for his live shows hosting prowess. The latest distinction

he received was being



Up Comedian and Host for Comedy Bars. His life story has been featured on the TV drama show Magpakailan-

Sephy Francisco is a 27-year old vocalist from the Philippines and X-Factor UK contestant. She

stunned the judges, Simon Cowwhen

male and the female vocals in her duet audition song, The Prayer. Starting off as Celine Dion, Sephy won

over the X-Factor judges, but they were shocked when she dropped her voice by several octaves, turning into Andrea Bocelli, with no effort. This made Simon Cowell see the immediate financial gain of such a vocal treasure and said 'I've never judged a duo who's one person! This is incredible. I save money, you make more money!'

Sharing the stage with the seasoned entertainers will be talented and budding local talents: Audrey Lyn, Leriza Paulino, Charms (Kassy Adajar, Angela Castillo & Samantha Gavin), Chollo Lagdameo, Angel Tagadtad, Zandro Cinco, Angelica

Ladouceur, Girl Power (Eril de Guzman & Riona Anne Quiambao's Dance Life Sothe Star Circle Entertain-Kids. (Fe P. Taduran)

Mariana Deely), JC 🆢 cials, and

Scenes in the City

entertaining their Toronto audienc-

es at the Korean Cultural Centre

to, ON) on October 12, 2019,

(located at 1133 Leslie St., Toron-









Aww, Here's Why Maymay Entrata Isn't **Ready To Commit To A Relationship Yet**

Love team Maymay Entrata and Edward Barber have been working together for three years now, and at this point, we're just waiting for them to announce that they're together together (we totally get that love teams don't HAVE TO date each other, but MayWard is just too cute!).

Maymay shared that she's not ready to commit to a relationship as of now. "Hindi pa po sa ngayon, siguro mas focused ako sa pamilya ko muna. Pero nandiyan naman po si Dodong [Edward] e. Naging bahagi na siya sa buhay ko, ayaw ko na rin siya mawala...may freedom rin siya kung ano ang gusto niyang gawin." She told the press that it's totally a possibility, and if they ever date for real, they'll let us know!

Edward also said that he doesn't want to

rush things and that he respects Maymay. He added, "She's very girlfriend material and to the point na I don't want to see her as the girlfriend of another."

Jameson Blake not rushing things with Elisse Joson

May mga iba't ibang prayoridad pa raw sina Jameson Blake at Elisse Joson kaya hindi pa sila servoso sa kanilang pagliliga-

Pahayag ni Jameson, "There's some personal issues.

"I don't really wanna let it out.

"Siguro, to simplify it, we're taking things step by step.



boss Alan Ocampo. 2. Maria Panaligan performs at Taste of Manila. 3. Gabby Amurao finally ioins Taste of Manila officially. 4.Beth Daliva, Fe Paca-Taduran pose with Financial adviser Ben Lou. 5.
Philip Beloso, Alyssa Datu and
Maria Panaligan hosts the game
portion at the TFC stage. 6. TFC Canada's Rosary Escano speaks at the PIDC gala.

"We are not really rushing things.

"Me and Elisse, we enjoy our time together even as friends or even for... we're, like, together. Parang ganun."

Masaya naman si Jameson na may blessing na ng dating boyfriend ni Elisse na si McCoy de Leon ang panliligaw niya sa

Bilin pa nga ni McCoy sa kanya, ligawan din ang parents nito, hindi lang si Elisse.

Magkasama sa Hashtags sina Jameson at

Nanligaw na ba siya sa mga magulang ni

Sagot ni Jameson, "Nakipag-bonding na rin ako sa kanila.

"Just knowing herself, yung personality niya, she's not only beautiful, but she's really beautiful inside out."

Kung may mga pinagdadaanan si Elisse, nagkukuwento raw ito sa kanya at nagbibigay naman siya ng payo rito.

Jane de Leon unfazed by bashers for 'Darna' portrayal

What she thought was a callback last July 17 turned out to be the biggest surprise for Jane de Leon, finally chosen to play Darna in the nth remake of the Mars Ravelo classic, this time under Star Cinema.

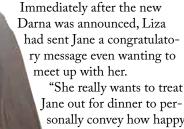
Jane bested more than 300 hopefuls who auditioned for the part shortly after Liza Soberano withdrew from the project in April due to an injury.

Surrounded by network executives, the 20-year-old successor to the iconic role

was nearly in tears but assured all she will try her best to measure up to their expectations.

Early on, Jane had earned notice from top Star Cinema resident director Olive Lamasan back in the Star Magic search as she stood out among her batchmates.

A former member of the all-female group Girl Friends that debuted on "It's Showtime," Jane has since had a string of one-time exposures via "Maalaala Mo Kaya" and "Ipaglaban Mo," among others, until she was regularly cast in "La Luna Sangre." She was last seen in "Halik" where she played Maggie, sister to Jerico Rosales.



sonally convey how happy she is for her," Ogie Diaz, Liza's manager, told Vignettes. Liza though couldn't schedule it until she's done with her thrice-a-week occupational therapy which

> ends this month. Angel Locsin, who played the iconic role

on GMA, also wished Jane the best of luck.

Some netizens, however, have taken to social media their resounding disapproval of Star Cinema's final choice alleging that Jane's looks have been enhanced based on her old photos. Particularly, they took note of Jane's eyes, nose and chin.

Her now-fair skin, too, is reportedly the result of "glutathione."

In showbiz, it is inevitably sad that newbies who get the chance to do plum roles get into a web of intrigues. Either they have a dark past or a problematic present that is likely to stifle their success in the future.

This early, Jane needs to do a Darna who's dauntless enough to face such challenges, and yes, emerge victorious in the



LITTLE MANILA confidential <u>entertainment</u>

Kakai mustered GhostinG

id you know that long before the word "ghosting" became a part of the millennial vocabulary, comedienne Kakai Bautista has already been practic-

ing it? (By now, you should know that "ghosting" means you simply disappear from the life of somebody, whether a loved one or what, just a like a ghost.) "I've never been

'ghosted'," Kakai proudly told Funfare, at the risk of making bashers' eyebrows soar to high heavens, during an interview after the presscon for And Ai, Thank You!, the Ai-Ai delas Alas starrer directed by Joven Tan which is opening nationwide starting tomorrow, Aug. 14. "I jump the gun on them, so ako ang nang-go-'ghost'.

Kakai's "ghosting" targets could be a crush, a friend whom she has stopped trusting or just anybody who crosses her path.

"I pretend that they don't exist," she said. "Ganoon ka-simple. I can be a stalker sa men but the moment I feel na hindi na okey, inuunahan ko na...you know, bye! Who you? As a friend, I am selosa and possessive, and I can be controlling. May pagka-maldita ako, hahaha!!!"

Happily, Kakai doesn't meddle in the Bea-Gerald-Julia brouhaha unlike the legions of sawsaweros and sawsaweras who have

nothing better to do or are being afflicted with the KSP

(Kulang Sa Pansin) virus.

Loveless for more than seven years now, Kakai admitted having been affected by the bashing she got for being (feeling?) close to Thai actor Mario Maurer when they did the 2012 romcom Suddenly, It's Magic. She was accused of being ilusyonada.

"I almost quit, kasi sobra ang bashing na ginawa sa akin."

All she said was Mario was a friend. Suspected to have been behind the bashing were some people around Mario.

"Hindi ganoon si Mario," insisted Kakai. "I know him to be nice and friendly; mabait siya. As far as I am concerned, friend ko pa rin siya."

The same bashing happened when Kakai and Ahron Villena's friendship (also nothing romantic) was played up on social

"Some people mistake my sweetness for something else but I have learned not to be affected by criticism,"

Kakai was firm, not minding even if some people make fun of her physical appearance and tag her a Gilagid Diva. Fine with her. In fact, she uses that "title" to

Besides And Ai, Thank You!, Kakai is also in two movies currently showing, Family History and Hello, Love, Goodbye. She's also in the cast of the hit musical Rak of Aegis which is on its seventh extended run at the PETA Theater until Sept.

It was while in high school in Los Baños, Laguna, when Kakai realized that she wanted to be in theater.

"I asked my mom's permission to attend an acting workshop pero ayaw niya. At Gantimpala Theater (under Tony Espejo), Kakai was an apprentice.

Her most memorable experience was serving as wardrobe assistant for Lea Salonga. At that time, Lea had just done a successful performance as the first Kim in Miss Saigon.

May pagka-maldita ako, hahaha!!!"

"Naturally," recalled Kakai,

"I was star struck. Lea is very humble. Lagi ko siyang kinakantahan habang inaayos ang costume niya. One time, she heard me singing On The Wings of Love and she said, 'You can sing!' That was it!"

After playing teeny-weeny roles (part of the crowd, etc.), Kakai got her break in Sino Ka Ba, Jose Rizal? and then in Alikabok, both produced by Celeste Legaspi. It didn't take long before she crossed over to television and movies.

The breadwinner in the family (her mom and four siblings), Kakai has proven her mom wrong.

So how does her mom feel about her now?

'She's proud of me.'

Maris reveals why she and Iñigo went separate ways

MARIS Racal says she's not worried that the movie "I'm Ellenia L" (a play on the word Millennial) will be shown at a time when she and her leading man, Iñigo Pascual, are no longer together. "Hindi naman kami magka-love team dito," she says. "The movie is not a love story or romance but more of a comedy. Hindi siya about a love team. I play Ellenia, a girl na may vlog at gustong maging sikat na influencer at makilala sa social media. The story is relevant these days kasi halos lahat, nasa social media at marami nang may sarili nilang vlogs and I'm sure, lahat sila, makaka-relate kay Ellenia. And I'm glad that our Director, Boy 2 Quizon, assured us na the direction of the movie's promo will not just capitalize on our love team but on the fact na very hot ngayon ang topic nito about social media."

So why did she and Iñigo break up? "E kasi away-bati kami, e. Wala naman kaming away na naging sobrang seryoso. It really never went overboard, kasi wala naman sa nature ng personality ko na nang-aaway. Basta usap-usap lang kasi may kanya-kanya kaming

differencabout a of things. Magkaiba lang ang mga gusto namin at wala namana anything worse than that."

Was it difficult to accept the break up? "Hindi naman. Natanggap naman namin agad na magkaiba kami talaga, lalo na in making decisions about our respective careers. Kung hindi talaga puwede, huwag ipilit, di ba?"

Are they still friends? "Oo naman. We can work together up to now, like hosting nang magkasama at okay naman kami. We're both professional. And even 'yung fans ng MarNigo love team, supportive naman sila sa amina kanya-kanyang careers. They're happy that I have a new movie on my own, 'Isa Pang Bahaghari', where I play the young Nora Aunor. Kasama rin ako sa isang bagong soap, "Pamilya Ko', with Sylvia Sanchez."

Jimuel Pacquiao receives offer to do Hollywood action film



Talent manager Arnold Vegafria on Hollywood action film being offered to Jimuel Pacquiao (in photo): "Because of the videos yata niya, iyong mga boxing niya. About boxing yata iyong film. So, nakikita iyong boxing skills niya, saka iyong action skills niya. So, nagkainteres."

May offer na Hollywood action movie kay Jimuel Pacquiao, ang panganay na anak ni Senador Manny Pacquiao sa asawang si Jinkee Pacquiao.

"Ang shoot daw ay Manila, Japan and US," sabi ni Arnold L. Vegafria

Si ALV ang business manager ng Pambansang Kamao, at ito ang nakikipag-usap kaugnay sa nasabing Hollywood project.

Kuwento pa ni ALV, "Kung ma-confirm, malalaman natin by this year.

"Wala pa iyong final script, e. Then, siyempre, ano iyong package.

"Kasi siyempre, stop sa pag-aaral, sa pagte-train."

Usap-usapan noon na posibleng gumawa si Manny ng action movie sa Hollywood, lalo pa't hinahangaan ito ng ilang action stars sa Amerika.

"Si Jimuel ang may offer, nabigla rin kami." sambit ni ALV.

"Kasi, because of the videos yata niya, iyong mga boxing niya. About boxing yata iyong film.

"So, nakikita iyong boxing skills niya, saka iyong action skills niya. So, nagkainteres.

"E, guwapo naman si Jimuel! Sana, matuloy. Pag natuloy, bettei

"Di ko pa alam kung papayag si MP [Manny Pacquiao]. Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! Kung papayagan niya iyong anak niya.

"Kasi, nasa college na si Jimuel. Nasa La Salle na, e."

Ryle Santiago talks about his rift with fellow Hashtags member

Despite his rift with one of his fellow Hashtags members, whom he declined to name, Ryle Santiago said he doesn't let their personal issues get in the way of work.

we're be-

if our

deliver ...

stand

"We know that, once we're onstage, we have to do our jobing paid to perform and for our service. So, even blocking requires us to next to each other, even if we have to be partners, that's fine," he said.

"Because at the end of the day, we're still teammates," added. "We consider ourselves family ... It's just that brothers fight

The Hashtags is a 16-man dance group that can be seen regularly in the noontime variety

program, "It's Showtime." Some of its more notable members include Ronnie Alonte, Jameson Blake, McCoy de Leon, Luke Conde and Zeus Collins. He didn't want to identify the one he's

at odds with "out of respect," but Ryle did divulge in an earlier interview that their beef stemmed from a misunderstanding over his ex-girlfriend.

"I was really mad at first. But now I'm OK-I'm past the anger stage. I'm not the type of person who holds grudges," said the young actor, who's willing to patch up and talk things out with the Hashtags member in question. "We're civil right now. We have yet to talk to each other. But I know that, if we did, everything's going to be just fine. And we can still be friends."

Ryle, 20, was recently offered two "daring" projects—one for the video streaming service iWant and another for a Jason Paul Laxamana movie.

"I'm happy that they think they can rely on me for heavier projects. But right now, I'm at an awkward stage where I'm wondering if I should still go for teenybopper roles, or start doing more mature stuff," Ryle related.

His mother, actress Sherilyn Reyes, and his management, Star Magic, still have misgivings. They pointed out that a lot of his endorsements require him to be wholesome, like Megasoft, which has an education advocacy program called "School is Cool Tour."

Ryle said he hopes to be as versatile as Jericho Rosales, who can make things work, no matter whom he's paired with. "I want to be challenged; I don't want to limit myself. I want to be able to stand, with or without a love team," said Ryle, who's also focusing on

Aside from "Showtime," Ryle also has an online music-travel show on One Music PH, titled "Wander Jam."

TD Gives an Apology at PIDC Gala









1. MP Michael Levitt and... 2. MPP Mitzie Hunter present a certificate to PIDC at the PIDC Gala leaving... 3. the TD representative apologizing for not bringing a certificate to present to them. 4. PIDC officers pose with Miss Saigon star Ma-Anne Dionisio (STANDING 4rd FROM RIGHT) and MP Michael Levitt (STANDING 4th FROM LEFT)



AVA's 8th Birthday





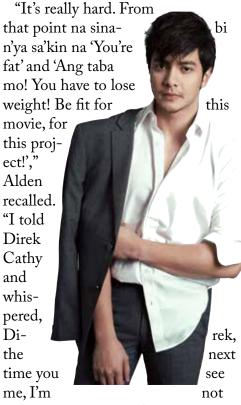
FROM LEFT, Gabrielle Santos gets her cotton candy; Ava Santos blows the candle on her cake; Ava performs with other JDL students on her birthday. Ava and Gabi are Raymond and Christine Santos' daughters.

Alden Richards fat-shamed to lose weight

Alden Richards is thankful to "Hello, Love, Goodbye" not only for its box office success, but also for helping him lose weight.

Alden affirmed that it was the Star Cinema movie and its director, Cathy Garcia-Molina, that pushed him to become fitter.

According to him, it was difficult to be called "fat," but instead of being insulted, he used this to be his motivation to get into the shape he is in.



this person anymore. So a month after, nagulat sila."

Although he also credits Dr. Vicki Belo for getting rid of his chubby cheeks, he stressed that going under the knife was not enough to sculpt his new physique.

"Lahat kasi 'yan ensemble. It's an ensemble – diet, 'di pwedeng aasa ka lang sa workout, 'di pwedeng aasa ka lang to anyone, to anyone who can help you achieve your goal. Kailangan sabay-sabay, kailangan pantay lahat and it's really the dedication – how much do you really want it."

After losing 25 pounds in three months, the actor confessed that not only does he feel better now. He also has high hopes for more opportunities to come his way.

"Parang ayaw ko na bumalik dun sa dati," he professed.

"Hopefully, yes, and right now, after the movie, with the success

of 'Hello, Love, Goodbye,' a lot of doors are opening again para merry ang Christmas natin. Yes!"

Gerald Anderson talks of breakup with Bea Alonzo; clears Julia Barretto

Gerald Anderson finally breaks silence on breakup with Bea Alonzo and allegation that Julia Barretto was the reason of their split.

Pahayag ng Kapamilya actor, "Siguro ang nangyari, just like in any relationship, we had small...



"Let's say we had that fight, after fight, after fight... We had that one big fight.

"Dun niya inilabas lahat ng emotions, lahat ng feelings.

"And then, yung realization na hindi na siya masyadong healthy and we're just hurting each other. Ayaw mo na talaga.

"And after that, you got to stay strong and disciplined para umiwas muna sa communication."

Sa isang panayam ni Bea noong July 25, sinabi ng aktres na wala silang formal breakup ni Gerald.

Ayon pa sa aktres, bigla na lang siyang hindi kinausap ni Gerald.

GERALD: There's no 3rd Party

Mariin namang pinasinungalingan ni Gerald na si Julia ang third party sa relasyon nila ni Bea.

Giit ng aktor, "Walang ibang tao na naging dahilan ng breakup.

"Para sa akin, it's always been our personal issues, things that we... things inside our relationship."

Nadawit ang pangalan ni Julia at sinasabing siya umano ang dahilan ng breakup nina Gerald at Bea.

Nagsimula ito nang lumabas sa social media ang mga larawan nina Julia at Gerald na magkasama noong July 21, 2019.

Ayon sa netizen na nag-upload ng mga larawan, nakunan ng picture ang dalawa habang papunta umano sa parking area matapos dumalo sa birthday celebration ng Kapuso actor na si Rayver Cruz sa Taguig City.

Kasunod nito ay gumawa ng makahulugang Instagram post si Bea na pinaniniwalaang patama kay Gerald dahil sa diumano'y pangangaliwa nito.

Shaina Magdayao, no comment on Bea-Gerald-Julia issue

Shaina Magdayao says she would rather not comment about issue involving friends

Bea Alonzo, Julia Barretto, and Gerald Anderson.

"I do have something to say, but just because I do doesn't mean I will."

Bahagi ito ng pahayag ni Shaina Magdayao, 29, nang matanong tungkol sa isyung kinasasangkutan nina Bea Alonzo,

Gerald Anderson, at Julia Barretto.

Sina Bea, Gerald, at Julia ay mga kasamahan ni Shaina sa Star Magic, ang talent management arm ng ABS-CBN.

Matagal nang kaibigan ni Shaina si Bea. Ang huli nilang pinagsamahang proyekto ay ang pelikulang Four Sisters and a Wedding (2013), kung saan nakasama rin sina Angel Locsin at Toni Gonzaga.

Nakatrabaho naman ni Shaina si Gerald sa indie movie na On The Job (2013) at nakatambal sa teleseryeng Nathaniel (2015).

Minsan na ring na-link si Shaina kay Gerald dahil sa teleseryeng Nathaniel.

Tinanong si Shaina kung ano ang masasabi niya tungkol sa kontrobersiyang kinasasangkutan ng mga kaibigan.

"It's not for me to say, parang I would...
"Of course, I do have something to say,
but just because I do doesn't mean I will,"
pahayag ng aktres sa press conference ng
announcement ng pagpasok niya sa ABSCBN daytime series na Nang Ngumiti ang
Langit, nitong Lunes, August 5.

Patuloy niya, "It's beyond what my own

world now and hindi naman ako parte noon.

"So, kumbaga, parang I'd like to take care of my peace, and sa kanila din.

"I don't want to add anymore sa nangyayari."
Ayon pa kay Shaina, hindi rin makabubuting magkomento siya dahil hindi siya updated sa

tunay na nangyari.

"To to be very honest, hindi ko na rin alam yung mga detalye.

"And kilala niyo naman ako, kung sino lang yung mga nasa mundo ko ngayon, yun lang yung kung kanino ako updated."

Mas mabuti na huwag na lang daw siyang makisawsaw pa sa isyu.

"Para simple lang ang buhay. So, I don't know.

"And ayokong magsalita kung hindi ko pa alam kung ano talaga yung nangyayari, so wala.

"I don't have anything to say."

Nagpaabot ba siya ng mensahe kaninuman kina Bea, Gerald, at Julia bilang pagpapakita ng suporta?

Tugon ni Shaina, "No, because I don't know the whole story and all of them are my friends.

"Gusto ko na lang irespeto iyon.

"And I have other things that are going on in my life na sobrang dami din naman, so huwag na nating dagdagan pa," nakangiti niyang pahayag.





Juan Miguel Severo:

Would you perform for food?

After spoken word artist Juan Miguel Severo called out a mall on Twitter after getting offered free food in exchange for a performance, he once again aired his concern on social media about how artists are often given less than they are due.

Spoken word artist Juan Miguel Severo (Screencap from Words Anonymous Youtube)

Spoken word artist Juan Miguel Severo (Screencap from Words Anonymous Youtube)

"Artists should not be taken advantage, exploited, and given less than they are due, especially by big companies and corporations,"

Severo revealed that he apologized for the way he snapped at the organizer but insisted that his stand remains firmly.

He also gave his 'unsolicited advice' to the mall's management,

"When you invite artists, do so without the assumption that this set up (food is guaranteed but pay only if the artist asks) is acceptable; it is not." the artist lamented.

He added that if an organization wants to truly want to support an art form, then it must support artists as well and make paying them its default.

"I would love it if they are given the chance to promote the art form and the languages we so love, while also earning from it." he ended.

Severo was invited by an event organizer to participate in the mall's activity in celebration of Buwan ng Wika in exchange for meals which he described as 'disrespectful'.

entertainment confidential entertainment

Maja Salvador, BF explain why they're confident they won't break up again + other stories

Maja, who has been private about her relationship with Rambo, opened up about their relationship in a rare vlog.

In the vlog Maja's channel, Maja shared a sneak peek into their romantic life together. Maja asked her boyfriend Rambo 34 questions to answer.

The couple who had

been an item 9 years ago, shared they are confident that they won't break up again.

One question read by Maja goes, "Do you think we'll break up again?" Maja confidently answered her own question, "Ako na sasagot, no."

Rambo also answered, "Of course not. But I think, s'yempre, we will go through a lot. S'yempre, marami tayong pagdadanan but siguro, it's something that we've learned through the years."

He added, "Kung ano yung 'di nag-work before, I'm sure dun sa 9 years na 'di tayo magkasama, 'yun na 'yung natutunan natin, kung paano hindi na mangyari 'yun." Maja nodded in agreement.

Among the other tidbits the couple shared was that they first met at a Sarah Geronimo concert. Rambo admitted he fell for Maja quickly that evening.

They also called each other "Siops" for siopao because they both had chubby cheeks back then. Rambo's favorite film of Maja was the horror flick "Sukob."

Aside from the usual flowers, Rambo's first gift to Maja was a desktop computer. Maja giggled as she recalled that she sold that computer shortly after they broke up. She admitted she doesn't like keeping things from former boyfriends, so she had to dispose the expensive gift as well.

Luna Agoncillo reminds all of us: So long as there is food,

life is good

tube

Luna Agoncillo shows "too much cuteness" in these photos taken by her dad Ryan Agoncillo.

We won't be surprised if Luna Agoncillo becomes a food endorser one day.

It featured a series of photos showing how excited she was to take the first bite only to realize, "Mainit pa."

Host Bianca Gonzalez aptly described it as "too much cuteness."

Her Tita Gladys Reyes exclaimed, "Ganda gandang bata!"
It would seem that the little girl of Judy Ann Santos enjoys eating.
Here's how she greeted her

Love Grown cereals.

Her mom's caption read, "Oh my bunny. you make monday mornings so exciting!"



She had the same enthusiam for ba-

And please don't judge her if she likes noodles a lot.

Her mom wrote, "Huh!? Ako? Mahilig sa noodles!!??? D nga!!?"

She won't say no even to a bowl of malunggay and spinach noodles.

And she is definitely not scared of a huge turkey leg.

Oh, Luna, you make things quite uncomplicated: So long as there is food, life is good.

First-ever breastfeeding 'Olympics' in PH collects breastmilk for infants in need

The first-ever "Breastfeeding Olympics" in the Philippines where hundreds of mothers competed was recently held in Taguig City to collect milk for infants in need.

Hundreds of lactating mothers participated in the breastfeeding Olympics



held last August 27, which also served as a milk-letting mission. Reports disclosed that the whole event generated 18 liters of breast milk from 207 mothers.

During the "Olympics", 28 villages competed in collecting the most volume of breast milk for Taguig City Human Milk Bank. According to the city government, Barangay New Lower Bicutan topped the competition after collecting 1,170 milliliters of breast milk. Barangays Bagumbayan and Lower Bicutan finished as second and third place accumulating 1,130 ml and 1,040 ml, respectively.

All mothers from the winning barangay took home lactation treats such as squash, cucumber, saba, calamansi and pineapple, and five kilos of rice.

According to Mary Rose Santos, a 30-year-old mother, the "Olympics" was more than just a competition. "I was very much willing to participate not only to help my barangay win but also to help fellow moms feed their babies with breast milk," she said.

"Breast milk has properties that make it better food for infants than formula milk, so I wanted to contribute mine to a mother and child who need these benefits," she added.

The event, which was part of the celebration of the 2019 Breastfeeding Awareness Month, also became a platform to change the negative attitude towards breastfeeding and to encourage mothers to be comfortable to breastfeed even in public places.

Breast milk gathered during the event was pasteurized for use of babies confined in Taguig-Pateros District Hospital's Newborn Intensive Care Unit, outpatient infants, and babies admitted in other hospitals who are in need of breast milk.

KATHRYN & ALDEN continued from page 18

is really hard. But with this film, na-experience talaga namin kung paano maging OFW kasi malayo kami sa family. It's really sad pero ang perception ko is walang choice kasi we really have to sustain a living. Majority of the OFWs in Hong Kong are the breadwinners of the family, and I feel the same way because I am a breadwinner myself. It's never easy. Imagine having to endure homesickness, working alone, being away from your family. Ang dami kong natutunan sa kanila," he shares.

Kathryn has similar realizations. "Paguwi ko mas lalo kong na-appreciate kung ano ang meron ako—parang mare-realize mo na ang swerte mo," she says. "Iba na ngayon 'yung tingin ko lalo sa OFWs, 'yung respeto ko sa kanila. Happy ako na, sa role na 'to, imi-mirror ko 'yung life nila para at least, kahit papaano, 'yung mga sacrifices nila—lalo 'yung mga younger generation—ma-witness 'yun. Ito 'yung kwento ng OFWs, hindi joke 'yung ginagawa nila kaya

sila tinatawag na mga unsung heroes."

Joy Fabregas may just be Kathryn's most mature role yet—not just on paper, but also her approach to the character whom she also shares very little in common with. "Nabuhay ako as Joy in Hong Kong, not as Kathryn. I talk, I sit, I eat like Joy," the actress says, referencing how close to method acting she'd been. Her similarities to Joy—like Alden with

Ethan—were few and far between. "Hindi ako maka-relate sa kanya agad. Ang tagal ko siyang makilala," she admits. "Pero kilalang-kilala ko na siya ngayon, kasi na-experience ko kung paano siya, pero

hindi siya 'yung makikilala mo lang kapag binasa mo 'yung script. Sobrang laki ng hinihingi sa kanya."

If Alden is to hold what he's learned from Direk Cathy closest to his heart, for Kathryn, it's the friendships

formed: her and her leading man, her and the ensemble—from Maymay Entrata to Kakai Bautista and everyone else in between. We ask her what her favorite moment of the shoot is. She's silent for a moment, and immediately it feels like the entire experience is replaying in her mind.

"Lahat, kasi mahirap siya," she says finally. "Pero ang dami kong natutunan... Hindi ko makakalimutan 'yung buong experience. Hindi siya naging madali, and ngayon, ang sarap makita na ito na 'yung fruit ng lahat ng pinaghirapan namin."

Both Kathryn and Alden will get to see the finished film for the first time today, and they can barely wait. For Kathryn, she's most excited for her fans to see the story. "Itataya ko buhay ko sa story," Kathryn says, firmly. Alden, on the other hand, is most excited for fans to experience their fresh team-up. "This tandem between Kath and me, it's new, it's new to me, it's new to Kath. It's new to our supporters and I'm so, so grateful because they accepted it."

In the end, both stars hope that this doesn't end with them. "Sana hindi lang sa amin; sana sa ibang love team din. Sana mag-open 'to ng doors ng iba't-ibang opportunities sa ibang networks. Ang saya na may unity," Kathryn says.

"True fanship is really showing support to someone you look up to in all aspects. Hindi naman ibig sabihin na na-partner sa iba, it's the end of this love team," Alden tells us. "It's always good to be open-minded about different things. Showbiz, this is a world of possibilities and we all live in this world of possibilities. Sana mas maging open tayo du'n sa mga p'wede pala."e."

'Para nga walang gulo': Nadine agrees with Kathryn on not switching leading men

MANILA — Nadine Lustre agrees with Kathryn Bernardo on not switching leading men to prevent "gulo," or trouble, between their respective

fanbase.

Aside from being regarded as among the top actresses of their generation, Lustre and Bernardo are popular for their respective love teams JaDine and KathNiel.

Both women also happen to be in real-life relationships with their onscreen partner: Lustre with James Reid, and Bernardo with Daniel Padilla.

The prospect of Lustre and Bernardo being paired with each other's boyfriend came up in the August 5 episode of "Tonight with Boy Abunda."

Similar to an earlier challenge to Bernardo, Lustre was asked to say yes ("Indak," after the title of her latest film) or no ("tadyak") to certain Kapamilya actors as her next leading man.

Lustre said yes to a possible pairing with Piolo Pascual, Coco Martin, and Enrique Gil; and said no to Joshua Garcia, explaining he's too young, and Gerald Anderson, declining to give a reason.

The last on the list was Padilla, prompting Lustre to pause to think of an answer. When host Boy Abunda mentioned that Bernardo had said no to the prospect of a project with Reid, Lustre ultimately agreed.

"Yeah, I respect that. Tadyak na lang. Para nga walang gulo. I respect," she said.

Due to being contemporaries and having similar career breakthroughs with the help of a "love team," Lustre and Bernardo have been the subject of fierce debates among their fans, with some considering them showbiz rivals.

The two, however, have only had kind

PHILIPPINES continued from page 9

growing Islamic Indonesia. The Philippines is much smaller and weaker, but the costs

Washington wants to be the dominant

The Scarborough Shoal is of no interest

Trump has threatened to charge higher

Yet earlier this year Secretary of State

Mike Pompeo warned Beijing against even

looking harshly at Manila, lest war with

America result, citing it's mutual defense

Where is the "mutual" in this relation-

ship? If the U.S. ends up at war in Korea,

Asian power forever but would be secure

to America. Washington should support

the independence of friendly nations, but

that is very different than defending a

military cost to host nations and even

gaggle of subsidiary interests.

withdrawing troops from allies.

without doing so.

obligations."

or Japan,

what will

Manila

contrib-

of occupying is costly with no benefits.

words for each other, and have even expressed interest in teaming up for a

project, given the right material.

Kathryn Bernardo is not open to the possibility of having James Reid as a leading man

In an interview with James Reid, he was asked for his reaction to Kathryn saying no to him as her leading

"I have no reactions," he said with a big smile.

Meanwhile, netizens are looking forward to a team-up project with Kathryn and James. Last year, netizens noticed Kathryn and James' chemistry in a fanmade short film.

Kathryn and Nadine Lustre (real-life partner of James) are often compared to each other, resulting to fans pitting them against each other.



Arielle Fina Abrazaldo (at right) poses with Philippine singer Raymond Lauchengco.

Secretary Delfin Lorenzana announced that if the Trump administration did not clarify Scarborough Shoal status under the "Mutual" Defense Treaty, Manila might

end the alliance relationship. "It is not the lack of reassurance that worries me. It is being involved in a war that we do not seek and do not want. If the Philippines does not want to be involved in a war, it can opt out on that basis."

If Manila doesn't believe the contested territories are worth war, then why should the U.S. believe so?

Of interest to Washington is freedom of navigation. But sovereignty questions are not paramount for navigation. Even in territorial waters, international law recognizes a general right to transit freely. Nor is the PRC likely to end commerce which has benefited it and most everyone in the

The Philippines might be a nice place to visit. But it isn't a nation whose security

America If Manila doesn't believe the contested territories are should guarantee. Nor let the

worth war, then why should the U.S. believe so?

ute? Its naval flagship is a half-century-old American Coast Guard cast-off. The Philippines is not arming to deter and defeat Beijing. The Philippines is crying to get America to deter and defeat Beijing.

And these are not the only territories in dispute in the region.

Until Pompeo's gratuitous statement, Washington had been cautious in its expressions of military support. And doing so inevitably creates bad incentives. The Duterte government has less reason to invest more in the military. It can confidently be more reckless and assertive. And therebyintentionally or not-might pull the U.S. into a war with nuclear-armed China over an issue of no importance to Americans.

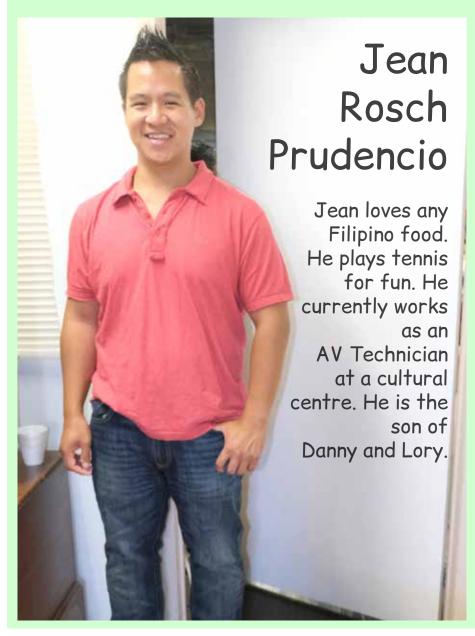
Indeed, in March Philippine Defense

authoritarian ruler of a decrepit government of peripheral interest to America decide when Washington should go to war.

The PRC is likely to pose the greatest challenge to the United States in the coming years. But it is in Washington and Beijing's interest to keep that competition as peaceful as possible. America should not go to war for anything short of fundamental, even vital interests. None are at stake in the Philippines, let alone Scarborough Reef.

Doug Bandow is a Senior Fellow at the Cato Institute. He is a former Special Assistant to President Ronald Reagan and the author of several books, including The Politics of Plunder: Misgovernment in Washington.

Hunk Shot





Filipino Good Life Dancing, Singing in the Rain

TD Apologizes at PIDC Gala. Find out why.



Taste of Manila 2019 festival marked this year with a celebrity-packed line-up for two days in the streets of Toronto. The Filipino Channel, or TFC, the overseas channel of ABS-CBN network jumped into the festival scene

Headlining August 17 were pop singer-songwriter-actor Inigo Pascual, Jugs & Teddy from the megahit TFC noontime show, "It's Showtime", rapper Ruby Ibarra, singer-songwriter August Rigo, pop group rIVerse, the renowned Jordan "DJ Tilt" Rulloda, with the iconic Filipino music and TV star Randy Santiago hosting the MOR Pinoy Pop Regional Finals.

Crystal Voice of Asia Sheryn Regis and international pop singer-TV host Billy Crawford, topbill August 18 entertainment at "Taste of Manila".

Saturday's celebration was rained a bit but that did not stop the festivities as some revelers continued dancing through the rain. It rained in the morning forcing the cancellation of the opening parade and the speeches by politicians.

It rained again in the afternoon but only for 15 minutes.

All in all, there seems to be more booth this year than last year, when it was bailed out by the City of Toronto from being canceled.

There also seems to be more people this year. That looks like a cause for celebration.

Speaking of celebration, Ellen Galorport of Star Circle Entertainment celebrated her 45 birthday with family and friends with a boodle. Some Star Circle students performed song and dance numbers.



1 Randy Santiago was one of the featured Kapamilya artists at (TOM) Taste of Manila 2019 (PHOTO BY RAYMOND SANTOS). 2. Rain did not let Els Mariquit with Dance Life Social group dampen the celebration of TOM. 3. Ellen Galorport celebrated her birthday with

4. Mitzi Faigal (centre) and Gloria Yazdani (right) introduce their designer bag Mitzify with a fashion show (PHOTO BY VERZON MATA).

Ava Santos celebrated her 8th birthday. She is a student of JDL Performing Arts and is the daughter of Raymond and Christine Santos. Christine is a reporter for TFC's Balitang America.

PIDC had their gala at the Sheraton featuring Emilio Zarris, Martha Joy and Maan Dionisio. They also had a preview of the fashion show for their Mabuhay festival. It was a different kind of gala. There were just a few sit down tables, as big a breakfast nook table, good for 5 people. Then, there were a few high tables, good for standing up and putting drinks on them. It was like a club set-up. The gala was hosted by Cristina Carpio, Editor in Chief MarQuee Magazine and Host of Going Global on Amazon Prime and Kayla-Marie Williams Reporter of CP24.

Designers Ditta Sandico and Mimi Pimentel were the featured designers at this year's Mabuhay Philippines Festival last August 24 at Nathan Phillips Square Toronto City Hall.

As is the case with these functions, poli-



ticians always bring a certificate to present to the organization. MP Michael Levitt and MPP Mitzie Hunter each presented a certificate to the PIDC that when it was the turn of the TD representative to give a few words, he humorously apologized for not bringing a certificate to present to them.

"I know how important certificates are to community organizations..."

The guest had a good laugh at that one.

Speaking of fashion, a Toronto-based designer handbag is creating a buzz with it's functional and beautifully-designed bags called Mitzify, named after the designer Mitzi Faigal. They recently held a fashion show to introduce the different designs and lines to a wider audience. Together with her partners and management team, they are making their presence felt through social media. I expect to hear great things about this brand.

Lea Salonga won't be part of new 'Mulan' + other stories

resh from her highly successful UK concert tour, our very own Lea Salonga regaled us in an intimate afternoon serenade over succulent steak at Wolfgang's Steakhouse in Resorts World Manila.

Lea was at her usual peak — vocally and energy-wise — happy to be back home.

Dubbed "The Perfect Ten," the world class performances will round up RWM's monthlong first decade anniversary celebrations.

At the luncheon, Lea performed her Disney classic "Reflection" from the movie "Mulan," which she said she won't part of the live action remake in 2020.

"It's going to be a whole different creative process and it's nice that it's not going to be a musical," she explained why.

Lea also candidly talked about her viral guesting mishap at "Sky News UK," where she was introduced as the wrong guest, Anna Hughes, which she took ever so lightly.

Laughing heartily, Lea said, "I know right? But I think it was a confluence of factors that made that happen. My thing was just, well - it went viral and hopefully people would be more interested in my tour so it was a blessing."

Clearly, work never stops for Lea Salonga, which she considers a blessing at this stage in life, because its proof her talent is still where it was decades ago.

And so over the weekend, Lea returned to her stint as one of the most favored judges in "The Voice Kids Philippines" on ABS-CBN.

Miss Universe-Philippines Gazini Ganados will be the first ever beauty contestant

in Philippine history to be trained by both beauty queen mentors Jonas Gaffud and Rodgil Flores.

Updated with the bashing that other reality talent searches have been getting lately — practically the entire panel of "Idol Philippines" save for Regine Velasquez — Lea empathized with James Reid, Moira and Vice Ganda. Accused of choosing looks over actual singing talents in Idol, Lea pointed out they were coming from their place of experience in the industry.

"They were chosen for a reason — from what they learned in the industry. In the end look who won naman? They chose the right

Rival beauty camps will unite for Gazini Ganados.

So you can definitely expect a whole lot from this year's Miss Universe-Philippines. Not to put pressure on the lovely lady, but it's confirmed that she will be the first ever beau-

> ty contestant in Philippine history to be trained and mentored by both beauty queen makers, Jonas Gaffud and Rodgil Flores of Kagandahang Flores, who produced international beauty crowns for the country.

"It is now a collaboration of many artists and pageant experts. Dapat one Philippines na talaga tayo. I hope everybody is willing to throw their support [behind Gazini] as well para hindi na divisive," Jona

Gaffud said.

All through the Philippines' winning streak in the international scene, the rivalry between Jonas' erstwhile Aces & Queens and Rodgil's Kagandahang Flores had been silently ongoing. Their girls are always pitted against each other so their partnership for Gazini is definitely a big deal.

And as the lucky girl in the middle of all this good will, our Miss Universe-Philippines happily declared, "So you all better get ready! Our plans are a secret for now but I can guarantee to represent the Philippines the best and most authentic way I can!"

Finally, given the close ties of the Miss Universe Organization in the Philippines, rumors are rife around that the 2019 edition will be held in the Philippines again in January.

Asked to comment on it, Gazini said, "I don't think it will be favorable for me if the pageant happened here. Any venue would do but I think I would feel less stressed if it wasn't in Manila," she added honestly.

Candid SPOOF

(Pop-ups are not supposed to be taken seriously - EDITOR)



Dr. Jennifer Yu-Lopez joins the donut-eating contest at the Filipino Dental Society of Ontario picnic.















GREAT SMILE DENTURE CLINIC[§]











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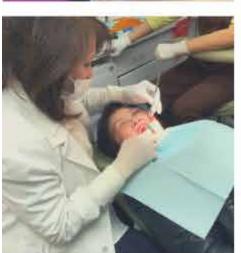




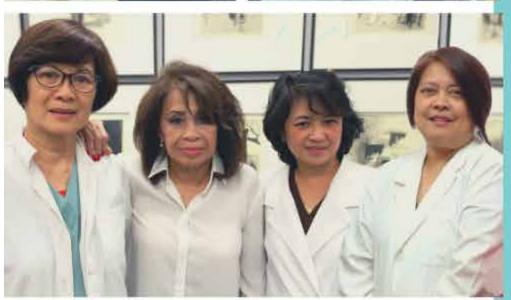












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