

FEB - MARCH 2013

CARDINAL Tagle
The First Filipino Pope

**Marriage is Good
for the Heart**

**Sleep-deprived should
watch their Portion
Sizes**

**Why women care more about
their looks than their health**



PH has Good Disaster Laws - UN

Unfortunately, Weak Governance make these Laws Useless

MANILA, Philippines - The Philippines has good laws on disaster risk reduction but weak local governance tends to render these useless, the United Nations said.

A new UN report released found that poor urban governance led to ineffective building codes and land use planning at the local level.

“Legislation is insufficient unless it is supported by strong political will to ensure implementation,” the report dubbed “Disaster-induced internal displacement in the Philippines” said.

The report lauded the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010 as a possible template for other countries.

It also noted that the Philippine constitution and political system allow local executives to enforce policies that will keep the public out of disaster-prone areas.

“Yet the combination of high poverty

DISASTER
continued on page 22

**Dirty Money
from PHL**

MANILA, Philippines - This made the Philippines place sixth in a ranking of countries that are the biggest sources of financial outflow attributed to corruption, tax evasion, smuggling and other illegal activities,

DIRTY MONEY
continued on page 13

PHL Not Popular to Int’l Investors

MANILA, Philippines - British Ambassador to the Philippines Stephen Lillie called on the Philippine government on Tuesday to “adjust” a law limiting foreign ownership of businesses to allow more investments into the country, particularly in the renewable-energy sector.

The country currently limits to 40 percent the foreign ownership in public utilities, while Filipino investors take in the remaining 60 percent.

According to the ambassador, such limitation, which he described as “unhelpful,” complicates investments.

“I think the government is well aware that the 60/40 limit is unhelpful in a whole range of sectors,” Lillie said at the sidelines of the UK Renewable Energy Systems and Solutions

business seminar and networking event.

He added that various business groups had raised with the Philippine government the need to create a better business environment in the country.

“The British Chamber of Commerce and the [other] foreign chambers collectively raised, as always, one of the issues, ‘Can the 60/40 limit be adjusted?’ I think the Philippine government is well aware of that view,” Lillie said.

In the United Kingdom a foreign company is not required to partner with a local firm to do business there.

Lillie nonetheless cited that the Philippines

NOT POPULAR
continued on page 27

Our Man in the Consulate



Rolly Mangante of the Philippine Consulate (FAR RIGHT IN TAN JACKET) acknowledges the toast of family and friends during his 60th birthday celebration at Prestige bar. PHOTO BY ARIEL RAMOS

Scarborough Toyota *introduces* 2013 RAV 4

Customer Mario Raon talks with Scarborough Toyota Product Advisor Lito Santiago as fellow customer Francisco Sarmiento and Toyota Senior Product Advisor Manny Yanga looks on.



Filipino sa Canada

From The Heart A Studio Six Valentine Show



ABOVE, Gerry Lara, Josie de Leon, Ronniel Mendoza pose for a photo.

LEFT, The whole cast, Gerry Lara, Monarie Ocray, Josie de Leon, Rita Tabago, Ronniel Mendoza are presented to the press.

That “old man winter downpour “ did not stop Studio Six ‘ CEO , Chat Bautista to say “ the show must go on “ as they presented their post –Valentine concert , “ From the Heart” held at the KCCC Grand Hall in Mississauga.

The show started a bit delayed , giving way to the guests , some who came all the way from Ajax and Pickering, to get settled in after a long drive. We were served a sumptuous Roast Beef dinner paired with Potatoes and Salad , while being serenaded by the Josie de Leon School of Performing Arts’ students , Monarie Ocray and Rita Tabago , who rendered endearing songs that warmed up the audience.

Main stars, Gerry Lara and our Toronto’s Diva, Miss Josie de Leon , opened up with energetic numbers “I’ve Had the time of my Life “ and “ Let The Love Begin “ .

Gerry Lara , a Dyna Recording artist , sang love songs which included Vehnee Saturno’s hits , like “Be My Lady” , “Sana Kahit Minsan “ and “ Ikaw ang Simula “ which Gerry originally recorded in his album in 1990.

Miss Josie de Leon , together with her dancers, Kristel and Faye Tuazon , showed a fluid performance , with her rendition of “Sway.” Josie also shared her love for Original

Pilipino Music, when she sang “Special Memory,” “Bakit Ba Ganyan” & “I think I’m in Love” which made the excited audience sing along to these musical numbers.

Gerry and Josie also sang songs honouring the couples with, “Tonight I celebrate my Love “ & “Just You and I .”

As Gerry and Josie reminisce their good old days as members of OPM – Organisasyon ng Pilipinong Mang-Aawit, an organization for Professional Singers in the Philippines, they surprised us with the presence of another OPM member , Mr Ronniel Mendoza who was in the audience that night.

Gerry , Josie and Ronniel – sang a medley of George Canseco songs , like “ Gaano Kadalang ang Minsan”, “Ngayon at Kailanman”, “Dito Ba” and many more , which made all of us in the audience drop our jaws with such powerful renditions!

“ We forgot how bad our drive was with all the performances we saw tonight!” as per Noemi who came with her husband and family.

We are indeed thankful that the show did go on, it was a show too good to have missed !

Ryan Bang on tax evasion charge

Ryan failed to register his income and percentage tax, which amounts to P1.8 million from his P3 million earnings in 2010 and 2011.

Ryan currently hosts the daily variety show “It’s Showtime.” In a press statement released by his legal counsel Atty. Joji Alonso, their party has yet to receive the order from the BIR.

“We have yet to receive summons from the DOJ on the alleged tax evasion charges. Ryan Bang intends to comply with all obligations due the government, if any. He will never knowingly and deliberately violate any law in this country,” Atty. Jojo said.



Judy Ann cleared from tax evasion charges

Actress-TV host Judy Ann Santos feels like winning an award after being absolved from the tax evasion case filed by the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR). The Court of Tax Appeals (CTA) cleared Judy Ann from the P2.7 million tax evasion charges, saying that she only under-declared her income.

“Thankful ako na maganda ang bungad ng taon sa akin, daig pa ang Best Actress Award. I can finally move on with my life. It’s an answered prayer. First of all, nabigyan ko ng peace of mind ang nanay ko,” Judy Ann said . Judy Ann is ordered to pay “P3,418,034.78 representing income tax deficiency for the taxable year 2002” plus 20% delinquency interest for every year.

“Naiintindihan ko. Wala naman po akong planong takasan ang kahit anong gustong pabayaran sa akin. Wala pong kasing katapat na presyo yung peace of mind, yung katahimikan ko at ng pamilya ko. Dasal ko na lang po talaga ngayon is sana matapos na talaga nang tuluyan,” she added. According to TV Patrol, BIR questions CTA’s ruling.

“It has always been the BIR’s position that the tax code provides the presumption of fraud in cases of underdeclaration of 30 percent. Ms. Santos’ underdeclaration exceeds 100 percent and the defense never submitted any evidence to disprove such presumption,” BIR’s statement says.

Rolly Mangante’s 60th Birthday Party



Rolly Mangante celebrated his 60th birthday party with family and friends at the Prestige bar. See more at www.filipinogoodlife.com

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Philippines to compensate Marcos rights victims



Philippine President Benigno Aquino walk past honour guradsat the People Power monument in Manila on February 25, 2013. He signed a landmark law on Monday compensating human rights victims of dictator Ferdinand Marcos, 27 years after a bloodless "People Power" revolution ended his reign

MANILA, Philippines - Philippine President Benigno Aquino signed a landmark law on Monday compensating human rights victims of dictator Ferdinand Marcos, 27 years after a bloodless "People Power" revolution ended his reign.

Ten billion pesos (\$244 million) will be distributed to potentially thousands of people whom Marcos's security forces tortured, raped or detained, as well as relatives of those who were killed, during his rule.

Speaking at a ceremony in Manila to mark the anniversary of the revolution that was led by his mother, Aquino said the law was part of his government's efforts to "right

the wrongs of the past".

"We may not bring back the time stolen from martial law victims, but we can assure them of the state's recognition of their sufferings that will help bring them closer to the healing of their wounds,"

Aquino said.

Loretta Ann Rosales, an anti-Marcos activist who was tortured by his security forces and now heads the country's independent rights commission, said the law would finally allow all his victims to feel a sense of justice.

Marie Hilao-Enriquez, the chairwoman of Selda, a group which represents Marcos rights victims, also welcomed the symbolic intent behind the law but said the money was too little to have a meaningful impact.

"There are so many victims that when you divide it to everyone it will not result to much," Hilao-Enriquez said.

Under the law, a compensation board will accept and evaluate applications for reparations over the next six months. Those victims will be from when Marcos declared martial law in 1972 to the end of his rule in 1986.

The compensation will come from about \$600 million the government has recovered from Swiss bank accounts that Marcos secretly maintained while he was in power.

The government has accused Marcos and his relatives of plundering up to \$10 billion and has so far recovered about \$4 billion.

After millions of people took to the streets in a military-backed protest, US-supported Marcos fled to Hawaii where he died in 1989.

After returning from exile his relatives have made a remarkable political comeback, while always denying any wrongdoing by the family.

Marcos's famously extravagant wife Imelda is now an 83-year-old congresswoman representing the family's political stronghold in a northern province.

Marcos's son and namesake, Ferdinand Marcos Jr, is a senator with public ambitions eventually to become president.

He posted a long statement on his official Facebook page in which he said he had "no problem" with compensating people for rights abuses committed between 1972 and 1986.

But Marcos said the issue of compensating the "tens of thousands" of human rights victims in the post-Marcos era had been ignored.

"That question is like an elephant in the room that some politicians, the typically glib, sanctimonious, and self-righteous, pretend not to see," he wrote, while insisting he was focused on ways to "unify our country".



Pauleen Luna can't see eye to eye with Vic's kids

PAULEEN says she's "very happy" with her relationship with boyfriend Vic

Actress Pauleen Luna, who recently admitted to dating comedian Vic Sotto, confessed that she still doesn't see eye to eye with the latter's children.

Vic's grown kids Oyo and Danica have been very vocal about their disapproval of their father's relationship with Pauleen, his "Eat Bulaga" cohost and who is 34 years his junior.

Oyo, who is five years older than Pauleen, even posted his views on the issue on his Twitter account but later deleted them.

Pauleen said she would still "respect" how Vic's children look at their May-December affair.

"I have not had the chance to see them again, but I look forward to it. It's not as if it's my first time to meet them," she said during a press conference for her latest show "Unforgettable" on GMA 7.

"However, I don't know if they're open to it just yet. As for me, I only have high respect for them," she added.

The actress said she's "very happy" with her relationship with Vic. "I've never experienced seeing and being with (a loved one) every day. I get to mix love with work," she quipped.

"I've already come to my senses—I must value privacy," the actress pointed out.

This could be attributed to the numerous negative comments she has been getting on social networking sites.

Pauleen said she tried not to let these bashers affect her. "People are going to say what they want to say, even though you try to live a really clean life. As long as I'm not doing anything wrong, as long as I'm not stepping on anybody's toes, and I know that no one is hurt by my actions, I'm okay."

She clarified the rumor that Vic gifted her with a brand new house. "It's just not mine. It's my parents'. I only contributed to it a little," she pointed out while insisting that Vic had contributed nothing.

She added: "If he really gifted me with anything, I'd proudly show it off. I was never known to tell lies. I may be more private now, but I don't lie."



Naku ha! by Jose Baking
LittleManilaConfidential.com

The Next Pope is a Filipino

I never put much thought about the chances of a Filipino becoming a pope in my lifetime. But a Macleans issue changed all that. Of course, the article in Macleans was championing Cardinal Marc



Ouellet, who is Canadian. However, there is something in the layout of all the papal contenders that got my attention. I do not know how or why but the photo of Filipino Cardinal Tagle and the caption “once too young to be considered, the Church’s rising Asian star has suddenly become a dark horse possibility” got my attention. Let me make this clear. I cannot tell the future. Otherwise, I would not have gotten a traffic ticket last February 19. I have as much accuracy in my prediction as those who make a living as Psychics telling you that you are going to get rich while they themselves live in run-down houses driving 20-year old vehicles. But, I am going to make this fearless prediction. Cardinal tagle will be elected Pope before Easter. If not, then, I am wrong. After all, I am only human. I am not God.

How sure am I

Sinabi ka na I am not sure. Kaya nga sinabi ko na hindi ako psychic and I am not God. But it’s not to believe in something like this once in a while. I believe in this guessing game of mine that I put Cardinal Tagle’s photo in place of my usual beautiful women. I removed the photo of Jasmine Curtis.



Only in the Philippines

The United Nationalist Alliance (UNA) has removed re-electionists Francis “Chiz” Escudero, Loren Legarda and Grace Poe-Llamanzares from its senatorial slate. This was announced by Navotas Representative Toby Tiangco, the campaign manager of UNA. Legarda, Escudero and Llamanzares are three guest candidates of the alliance but also running under the ticket of President Noynoy Aquino’s Liberal Party or what is now commonly called through its monicker “Team Pinoy”. Only in the Philippines can candidates belong to two parties. Puwede ba iyon? Kaya pala tinanggal. How do you justify belonging to two political and rival parties? How will you dod that specially if the two parties have opposing principles? What is one party wants to raise taxes and the other wants to lower taxes? What if the other wants to legalize divorce and the other one opposes it? How can either party rely on your support?

President Aquino’s Surprising Initiatives

Only in the Philippines will they test a voting machine ang make a big issue to some glitches. They are testing the automated voting machines now for the elections. There are those who want to go back to the manual voting. There are still organizations like Kontra Daya who believe that they will ensure an orderly election. How is that possible? If their figures contradict the Comelec results, are we going to believe them instead of the Comelec? In fact, I am surprised at some of the brave initiatives of President Aquino. Although I did not agree with him starting a war with the judiciary, it is quite surprising that he used his very popular image to pass the Reproductive Health bill which was being debated since World War II. Just kidding lang po. It’s about time. He took on the Catholic church and won. Now, even though there are still some poeple who make a big issue of some voting machine glitches, he has signed a bill to make biometric ID mandatory to go with the automated voting machines. This means, that voters will be identified if they have already voted in another area or not. This means, the chance of the Philippines going back to manual counting is



getting smaller and smaller.

Memory Stronger After 10 Years

Apparently, there are some Filipinos in Toronto who defy medical facts. They also go against the logic of police investigators who prefer asking witnesses in the first 48 hours so that details are still fresh in their mind. However, there are some who say that they can remember details more clearly after 10 years. Hmmm, I wish I can be that person. You might reveal what you claim is the truth after 10 years but will the court believe it?

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Faces from the Past
DO YOU REMEMBER THEM?

Lucita Soriano

Her first movie contract was with Premier Productions, who was then headed by the film company’s matriarch, Dona Adela vda de Santiago. Dona Adela told Lucita to keep her real name, in honor of a movie actress back then named Lucita Goyena. It must have been a good decision, for her name stuck in moviegoers’ minds and soon, Lucita Soriano was on her way to stardom.

Lucita told me that when she was young, she promised to herself that she would never fall in love with a movie star. But promises are made to be broken. When Lucita was paired with Rodolfo “Boy” Garcia in a movie, he fell in love with Lucita. Marissa Delgado was the bridge between the two of them. “Mapagmahal si Boy,” Lucita said. “Wala siyang bisyo kundi manigarilyo,” she added. Like many movie stars, Lucita lived a complicated love life. For many years, she lived with Rodolfo “Boy” Garcia as his partner in reel and real life. The two were blessed with two sons, Garry Boy Garcia and Marco Polo Garcia.



Gun Ban Really Really Effective, Survey Shows

MANILA, Philippines — The election gun ban is apparently very effective, if a recent survey is to be believed.

The result showed a higher satisfaction rating for the gun ban as compared to the last survey done last 2010.

Respondents to the survey consists primarily of members of various criminal groups notorious for their crime spree around the country, including ‘Martilyo Gang’, ‘Donut Gang’, and ‘Acetylene Gang’ among others.



They were all asked one simple question:

How effective is the gun ban?

- a. Really really effective
- b. just okay
- c. don’t care
- d. not effective

The survey by the National Survey Coordination Board (NSCB) showed that 93% of the respondents think that the gun ban is really really effective, with 4% thinking it’s ‘just okay’, while 2% answered they don’t care and the remaining 1% saying that it is not effective at all.

Boy Toothpick, a member of the Northside Crypts, a group that is a product of DEPED’s program, said that his answer was a “no-brainer”.



Ben Panday is the one with the white hat, not the one with the perfectly coiffed hair and scarf around his neck.

“It’s been smooth sailing for all of us so far, and we would like to thank the Philippine National Police for doing a great job in enforcing the gun ban”, said Boy Toothpick while trying so hard to hold back his giggles.

“We all know that the PNP has checkpoints all around the Metro at

night,” explains Luchio, a member of ‘Buy Stuff Inside Mall To Be Used In Committing Crimes Inside Same Mall Group’. “What we do then is commit our crimes in broad daylight. Sisiw!”

“Salamat din nga pala dun sa sikyu sa SM, kasi hindi na nya ako kinapkapan (Thank you to the security guard at Sm who did not frisk me),” said Pepeng Agimat. “Pero balita ko naghigpit at todo check na sila ulit (But I heard that they have tightened their security and making thorough checks again).

The groups said that they would just return to the malls after 2 to 3 months, when the security of the mall will be back to their laid back selves.

Ben Panday, who used a pipe wrench he bought inside the mall to commit a jewelry store heist has this to say: “They weren’t kidding when they say that ‘We got it all for you’. Thanks Henry Syl!”

LAUGH RESORT

A doctor, a lawyer, a little boy and a priest were out for a Sunday afternoon flight on a small private plane. Suddenly, the plane developed engine trouble. In spite of the best efforts of the pilot, the plane started to go down. Finally, the pilot grabbed a parachute, yelled to the passengers that they had better jump, and bailed out. Unfortunately, there were only three parachutes remaining.

The doctor grabbed one and said "I'm a doctor, I save lives, so I must live," and jumped out.

The lawyer then said, "I'm a lawyer and lawyers are the smartest people in the world. I deserve to live." He also grabbed a parachute and jumped.

The priest looked at the little boy and said, "My son, I've lived a long and full life. You are young and have your whole life ahead of you. Take the last parachute and live in peace."

The little boy handed the parachute back to the priest and said, "Not to worry, Father. The 'smartest man in the world' just took off with my back pack."

Tatay: O anak bakit ka umiiyak?

Anak: Pumasa po kasi ako sa test huhuhu...

Tatay: Magaling! Anong subject?

Anak: Pregnancy test po huhu

Boss: Why should we hire you?

John: Kasi po mas bago palang po ako kaya wala pa po akong sungay

Boss: English please

John: Ah...Uhhh well you see im brand new so I'm not yet HORNY

Honey shot

Her favorite food is
Filipino spaghetti.
Her favorite sports
is volleyball and
she loves going
to the mall. She
looks forward to
being one of the
contestants of PCCF
Miss Philippines
Canada contestants
for 2013.



Alannah Sagici



No wedding bells yet for Iya and Drew

TYING the knot with boyfriend Drew Arellano is an event that actress Iya Villania is eyeing to happen soon.

The entertainment press recently caught up with the Kapamilya actress when she was launched as the newest endorser of BlueWater Day Spa, alongside model Ian Batherson and Kapuso actor Aljur Abrenica.

Iya was immediately asked to clarify rumors that she's already engaged to be married to Drew, her boyfriend of nine years.

She said she still doesn't wear any engagement ring, but "according to my senses, I'm sure malapit na. Hello nagugulat pa ba kayo?"

Drew also didn't pop the question during their simple Valentine dinner.

"It was sweet. It was something we needed to celebrate early kasi may work ako ng (February) 14 and si Drew may out-of-town," she said.

Keeping the relationship intact for the past nine years has always been a challenge, Iya said, citing the couple's differences over some stuff.

The experiences, however, taught them to compromise.

Drew also allowed her to chase her showbiz dreams.

"What so sweet is that the further we go, the stronger we get. A lot of people have always been afraid na you'll never make it through the seven-year itch. We also went through that," she said.

Iya added that they still learn new things about each other despite being together for a long time.

"So, there's still so many things for us to enjoy doing together. Kasi kung tumagal kami ng ganito, na eto lang yung mga puwede namin gawin, paano pa kaya pag naging one na kami," she said.

Iya will soon join Diether Ocampo, Angelica Panganiban, and Piolo Pascual in the primetime series "Apoy Sa Dagat" on ABS-CBN.

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Nadeene's Birthday



FIRST, Nadeene celebrates her birthday in Ohio with her family. RIGHT, Nadeene (THIRD FROM LEFT) celebrates in Toronto at Tita Tonet's house. See more at www.filipinogoodlife.com

Philippines

Instant Millionaire in Qatar



MANILA, Philippines - A Filipina healthcare specialist is the latest millionaire of Mashreq Qatar. The Gulf Times reported that Herminia Mescallado won the one million Qatari Riyals prize money from the savings program MashreqMillionaire. Mescallado won the prize during the program's draw last December. She received the cheque from Mashreq Qatar's head of retail banking, Niranjan Mendonca, during a ceremony held at the bank's Gold Centre. The event was also attended by the OFW's family. Mescallado moved to Doha ten years ago and is currently working as a radiographer at the Women's Hospital.

Since its launch in 1995, the MashreqMillionaire program has produced over 300 millionaires. Those eligible for the monthly draws are customers who save by investing in fully-encashable MashreqMillionaire certificates each valued as QR1,000.

New Way to Canada

CALGARY - The newest way to enter Canada is now open as Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) began accepting applications under the Federal Skilled Trades Program. Up to 3,000 applications will be accepted from specific trades currently experiencing shortages in Canada. These include welders, electricians, plumbers, and a number of positions in construction, oil and gas industries among others. A complete list can be seen on the CIC website including the requirements to qualify under the program. The new Skilled Trades Program is just the beginning of many other changes expected in Canada's immigration policy this year. Changes to the Federal Skilled Worker and Canadian Experience Class programs are also coming which is why a free information seminar was held in Calgary to help kababayans in the city. "Basically yung pinasok nilang mga changes dyan napapahirapan tayo pero nakakapag-adjust tayo. Hindi naman nagde-discriminate sa atin. Magko-comply tayo dyan, kaya naman nating mag comply," said Consul General Jose Empeso. Topping their concerns are the language requirements, the length of a skilled workers experience, and the changes in the point system, among others. "Based sa mga comments na natanggap ko, most of their concerns are ano ang effect ng bagong policy sa kanila," said Immigration Consultant Jon Salvador.



Pulitzer Prize-winning undocumented Pinoy gets award



NEW YORK CITY – Award-winning Filipino journalist Jose Antonio Vargas received the "Justice in Action Award" at the annual Lunar New Year Gala in New York. The Asian American Legal Defense Fund presents the Justice in Action Awards to exceptional individuals for their outstanding achievements and efforts in advancing social justice. "I'm honored to even [be] in the same company as Congressman (John) Lewis. He's an icon in the civil rights movement. He's somebody that we read about in high school you know, in my textbooks. To be sitting right next to him is more than surreal and David Henry Hwang, the pre-eminent Asian American dramatist in America," said Vargas. Tony-Award winning playwright of M. Butterfly, David Henry Hwang presented the award to Vargas. "Jose Antonio Vargas is someone who advanced a cause that we all care about, which is immigration reform and he did it in a way that was human, passionate and brave and he really put his own life on the line to do it and that's why he's a hero," Hwang said.



Fatherhood and Kris Lawrence

Kris Lawrence has never been known for hopping from one bar to the next. But the singer-songwriter sure has his fill of late nights and party-till-you drop affairs as part of his high-profile job. The arrival of his now five-month-old daughter Katrence (by Katina Halili) has changed that. "For one, I rarely go out on gimmicks now...my outlook on life has totally changed. Priorities and responsibilities are different now. I strive harder to work," he said.

Lullabies and serenades

Prolific singer that he is, Kris lulls his bundle of joy to sleep and serenades her in his free time. He's not only a doting dad. Kris has turned into a devoted family man. "All the free time I have now goes to my family," he says.

Katrina Halili and Kris Lawrence welcome their daughter Katrence Halili Lawrence Cadevida.

During the first three months his baby was born, the Fil-Am artist, used as he was to having no house help back in the States, went through all the baby routine on his own. He and Katrina changed diapers, prepared the milk formula, fed little Katie, burped her, woke up in the middle of the night when he was hungry to feed her – the works! Today, the couple already have a child care provider they fondly call Ate Mimi. But Kris and Katrina won't scream and shout if Ate Mimi is not around since they're ready to take over with their arsenal of baby care weapons. Again, like all fathers, Kris has big dreams for his first-born. But tops on his list are good old-fashioned values he wants her to live by. "I want her to grow up balanced with a strong foundation, good values, and close to the Lord," Kris states.

Dreams of happiness

Most of all, he wants the little apple of his eyes to be plain happy. Kris swears that he'll be just right behind her in everything she does. Kris doesn't want to take all the credit. He found a "great mom" in Katrina. "I'm so proud of her," he gushes... "She's hands-on and I've witnessed a total transformation in her."

New parents Katrina Halili and her partner Kris Lawrence name their first baby Katrence--a combination of both their names.

If he's so happy with her, is Kris ready to pop the question one of these days? "Hehe, yeah... It's in the plans but I just don't know when," he replies. Now that he has a smiling baby to inspire him some more, the "Party Pilipinas" regular is revving up his career with a slew of projects. The album is as personal as can be for Kris. "I wrote and arranged 85 percent f the album so I'm excited about it," he explains. The guy is on a creative rampage. And all because he's taking his new role as head of the family ever-so-seriously.

Cardinal Tagle as Pope

At 55, he's three years younger than John Paul II was when he was elected in 1978, so a vote for Tagle would be tantamount to a vote for another long papacy, perhaps as much as 30 years

MANILA, Philippines—Manila Archbishop Luis Antonio Cardinal Tagle, the second youngest member of the College of Cardinals which will elect the next Pope, has been tagged by Church observers as one of the papabile, or the cardinals who may likely become the Pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church and its 1.1 billion members around the world.

In his review of the papabile, CNN senior Vatican analyst John Allen on Friday dubbed Tagle as the “Great Asian Hope” for the papal throne.

Allen said Pope Benedict XVI's resignation due to old age benefited Tagle the most among the papabile but he added that some cardinals may have doubts Tagle could clean up the Vatican.

“One could make a pretty strong argument that nobody's chances of becoming the next Pope benefit more from Benedict XVI's resignation than those of Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle of Manila in the Philippines,” Allen wrote in an article posted on the website of the National Catholic Reporter.

“Under ordinary circumstances, Tagle's youth would be seen as an almost insuperable bar to election. At 55, he's three years younger than John Paul II was when he was elected in 1978, so a vote for

Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle anoints the sick with holy oil during a Mass for World Day of the Sick at the Espiritu Santo Church in Manila on Monday. Tagle, 55, who became a cardinal in Nov. 2012, is among those mentioned as possible successors of Pope Benedict XVI, who surprised the world when he announced his resignation effective Feb. 28.



Tagle would be tantamount to a vote for another long papacy, perhaps as much as 30 years,” he added.

Allen said many cardinals might balk at choosing a young Pope and see it as an “awfully big risk.”

“Now that the precedent has been set that a Pope can resign, however, the calculus is different. Tagle could give the church 10 or 15 years, then step aside—a thought that may well induce some cardinals to look past his age to other qualities,” Allen said.

“When they do, they're likely to find a lot to like about the man touted as the Great Asian Hope to take over the Throne of

Peter. One Filipino commentator has said Tagle has a ‘theologian's mind, a musician's soul and a pastor's heart,’” he added.

Tagle has cancelled a scheduled campus tour as he prepares to leave for Rome to witness Pope Benedict XVI's formal resignation on Thursday, Church officials said on Saturday.

“He is attending the last Mass (of the Pope) with the cardinals on the 28th,” said Fr. Nono Alfonso SJ, executive director of Jesuit Communications, one of the organizers of Tagle's dialogue with students of Centro Escolar University in Manila.



Coco and Julia: For reel & for real?

Despite speculations that he is already courting his leading lady Julia Montes, award-winning actor Coco Martin said he is still biding his time.

“After the debut (next month), tsaka natin makikita kung anong mangyayari,” Coco said at the press conference of their upcoming movie “A Moment in Time” in ABS-CBN compound.

The Coco-Julia friendship blossomed when they teamed up in the hit teleserye “Walang Hanggan.” But before he takes their relationship to the next level, Coco wants to be sure about their feelings for each other.

“Hindi naman (nililigawan na). Sabi ko nga, pinapakiramdaman ko muna,” he added.

Coco also understands Julia will have more responsibilities once she turns 18, so he doesn't want to pressure her.

“Hindi naman direct na ligaw kasi sabi ko nga, habang bata pa siya i-enjoy niya lang kasi kapag tumungtong na siya ng 18, alam ko na iyon na ang pagpasok niya sa mas seryosong buhay, kung papalarin ay king saan mapupunta ang aming pagsasama.”

What does he like in Julia?
“Marami kaming pareho. Siya rin yung nagtataguyod sa pamilya niya. Iyon ang mga nagustuhan ko sa kanya,” he replied.

At the press conference, Julia herself asked Coco to escort her in her debut.

“Nagi-expect rin ako, kung sakaling hindi, masasaktan rin ako. Siyempre kapag escort ibig sabihin may espesyal na paghanga,” he said.

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Chamber meets with *Consul-General*

Philippine Consul General Junever Mahilum-West joins the special meeting of newly elected officers and directors of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce - Toronto (PCCT) on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at Kreative Treasures Restaurant in Toronto.

The group discussed issues affecting the Filipino business community. Also covered were projects that the PCCT and the Consulate General's office will pursue early spring this year. During the event, Consul General Mahilum-West congratulated the newly elected officers and directors of PCCT and gave encouragement to the Philippine trade mission scheduled to leave mid-February. (PCCT Media Relations)

For more information, contact:
PCCT Media Relations
Moises Calo
416-827-9355

PCCT Officers and Directors with Consul General Junever Mahilum-West (Seated L – R): Joyce Ortiz, Nimfa Drilon, Consul General Junever Mahilum-West, Oswald Tugadi (President), Flor Vendiola, Emilie Co Sy, Cherrie Liu (Standing L - R): Ace Alvarez, Moises Calo, Steve Pagao, Joseph Alilio, Albert Frias, Ray Jao, Joseph Luat, Leo Torres and Albert Sun.



Camille Prats wishes the best for John, Isabel

Camille Prats doesn't know the official status of John Prats' love life. But the Kapuso actress said whoever can make her older brother happy will get her vote.

"Ako naman, whoever makes my brother happy, masaya ako," she told members of the press during the launch of upcoming afternoon soap opera "Bukod Kang Pinagpala."

John is currently in the news for his rumored blooming romance with Kapuso actress Isabel Oli. And according to Camille, it was she who paved the way for John to meet Isabel.

The "Bukod Kang Pinagpala" star further revealed that prior to meeting Isabel, there was a time when John got depressed because "feeling niya he's not gonna find that person anymore."



Looking for love?

The state of Camille's heart has also been the topic of showbiz chatter, thanks to numerous reports linking her to the likes of actor Sam Milby and Kapuso director Dominic Zapata (she said her relationship with the two are merely friendly).

For the record, Camille said she's currently not dating, although there are a number of guys who have expressed interest. But is she ready to date, more than year after the passing of her husband, Anthony Linsangan?

"Hindi ko naman ipagkakaila, malungkot. My husband and I were together for seven years. (FYI, Camille's husband died of cancer in September 2011) So for that seven years, alam

ko yung pakiramdam nung may nagmamahal sa iyo, may nagaalaga sa iyo, may nakakausap ka sa phone. It's different," she explained.

The Kapuso star is not looking for love right now, but she's also not closing her doors.

"Siguro kung may darating who is worthy of my time, nakikita ko naman na maganda yung intension niya sa akin, sincere naman siya—kumbaga, nakikita kong may future—siguro bibigyan ko ng pagkakataon," Camille explained.

She also admitted still missing her husband, although Camille said she's gotten used to the feeling.

NOT POPULAR continued from page 1

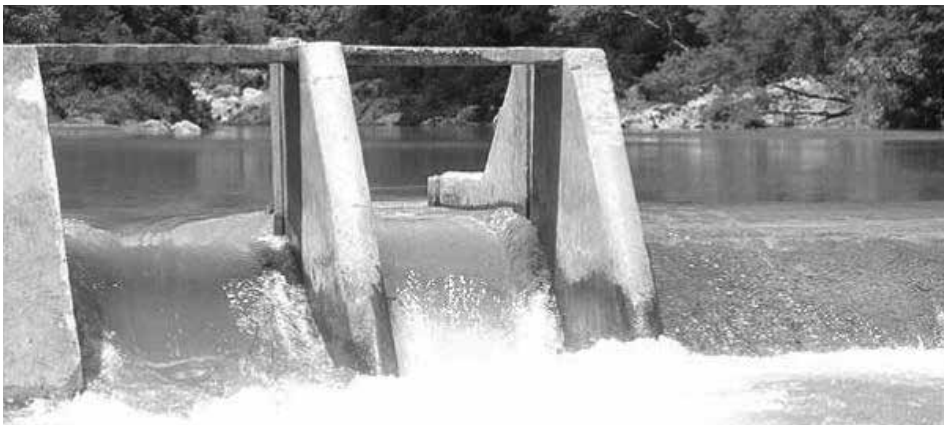
has a huge demand for all kinds of energy sources, and that this is what attracts British companies to investing in the power sector, particularly renewable energy.

For instance, he said, Aseagas Corp.—a joint venture between British company

in the Philippine law that complicate investments here such as the 40-percent equity cap," Lillie added.

He noted the slow pace of implementation of the feed-in tariff (FIT) allocation to renewable-energy developers.

"There is slow progress in the FIT. So fundamentally, the Philippine government needs to take some steps to improve the regulating framework. I think, if we can



Some renewable energy projects have been approved in Northern Luzon. But more projects will be built if foreign ownership rules are eased.

GazAsia Ltd. and Abotiz Equity Ventures—will be building a power plant in Metro Manila as the first pilot site.

"There's a lot of opportunities in the renewable-energy sector here. You have a lot of wind potential, you have a biomass potential and British companies have a lot of expertise in the technology. And, unfortunately, there are limitations

do that, there's a lot of interest in British companies."

MSCI makes stock lists or indexes which global fund managers look up when allocating investment dollars.

One might think MSCI would increase

NOT POPULAR continued on page 23

'Made-in-Payatas' bags a hit at London fashion week

LONDON - From the impoverished neighborhood of Payatas in Metro Manila to the international fashion showcase of London Fashion Week, bags were created with an ethical business model in mind.

Rags2Riches is a social enterprise that primarily uses upcycled fabric scraps, organic and native weaves sourced from indigenous communities in the Philippines.

Bags with bold, intricate weaves were made by empowered women of Payatas.

"There were nanays there who were weaving our scrap cloths who were earning 20 dollars a day because of middle men. That's how we started, with intention to help the group of mothers," said Reese Fernandez-Ruiz, president and founding partner of Rags2Riches.

Handbags and accessories by style icon and bag designer Amina Aranaz were also showcased to represent the Philippines.

Aranaz exclusively uses locally-sourced raw materials from various parts of the Philippines to create timeless, classic pieces.



They proved to be scene stealers in the fashion showcase.

"I've always been a supporter and I always like pushing Filipino design, Filipino craftsmanship, Filipino materials. I really wanted to showcase our variety of natural materials and our wealth of craftsmanship," said Aranaz.

Aranaz said many who came to see her exhibit could not believe her high fashion handbags were made out of coconut shells, abaca, and mother of pearl.

"Here, they are very surprised when I tell the story behind each piece, what its made out of. They are amazed at what our materials can look like," said Aranaz.

She supplies handbags to world-renown brands and labels but she hopes to sell the Aranaz bag label in the international market in the near future.

"I love being able to surprise our audience that this is what we can do that we can go beyond arts and crafts items, that we can create pieces that are creatively designed and showcase our artisanal skills," she added.

"It's a privilege to be here. Its high fashion, its Fashion Week, its all things beautiful but I think its high time for us to know the stories behind the products," Ruiz said.

Rags2Riches and Aranaz handbags were the Philippine's pride in the London Fashion Week, joining 110 international emerging designers.

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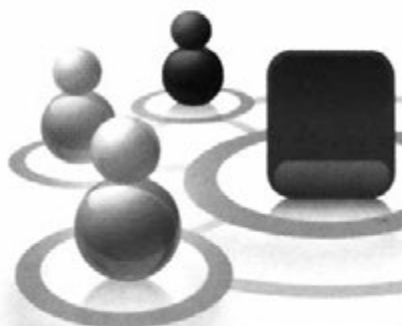
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L. M. Confidential

9

Philippines

Phl Consumers Most Optimistic in Southeast Asia



MANILA, Philippines - Filipino consumers are apparently the most optimistic in the whole Southeast Asia, and second most in the world, a study claims.

Nielsen says Philippines' confidence index swelled by one percent in 2012's fourth quarter, making Filipinos Southeast Asia's most positive-thinking consumers.

"While consumers around the world struggled with increasing economic concerns, consumers in Philippines continue to have a positive outlook," claims Stuart Jamieson, managing director of Nielsen Philippines.

"This optimism can be attributed to the strong performance of the economy in 2012 which was driven by the real estate, construction, manufacturing, services, and trade sectors," he added.

Philippines, whose confidence indexed at 119, was topped only by India in the global ranking.

And while a huge number of the Philippine population is unemployed, Pinoy's optimism for "local job prospects" is among the world's highest--of which 76 percent of respondents believe work opportunities are bound to be "good" or "excellent" this 2013.

At least 77 percent of Pinoy poll respondents are also confident of their "personal finances", while at least half of the total poll participants (51 percent) claimed 2012's last quarter had been a "good time to buy things they wanted and needed over the next 12 months."

"This is an increase of five points from the previous quarter's result and the highest confidence registered for 2012," Nielsen added.

"Purchase of new technology products increased by one point to 35 percent, while purchase of new clothes increased by two points to 34 percent. Paying off credit cards and debt declined one point to 27 percent. Spending intentions for holidays/vacations increased by one percentage point to 28 percent, while out-of-home entertainment increased five percentage points to 18 percent," Nielsen also said.

The number of Filipinos eyeing to save "spare cash" was however at 65 percent, a two-percent decline from the third quarter's poll results.

Nielsen claims the internet-based survey, which "measures consumer confidence, major concerns, and spending intentions" was conducted between November 10 and November 27, 2012.



PCCF UPBEAT ABOUT 2013, THE BEST IS YET TO COME!

Toronto-February 1, 2013 - Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation officers are very much upbeat about the upcoming events for 2013.

To start the year long event, PCCF will hold the pageants that are dubbed as "the biggest and the best", the biggest because thousands upon thousands of people will watch them as they strut through the huge stage of Metro Toronto Convention Center during the much awaited Pinoy Fiesta and Trade Show on June 22, 2012. The best because of the fabulous prizes that await them that include a trip to the Philippines and a special guest in Canada's Omni2 TV channel and on shows of the number one TV Network in the Philippines, the GMA Channel 7 in the Philippines. What else makes them the best? The winner of Miss Philippines Canada will be crowned by one of the hottest leading ladies in Philippine TV. Last 2011, Ms. Carla Abellana crowned Rachel Pantaleon, for 2012 Alev Usta was crowned by superstar Marianne Rivera. Who will crown Miss Philippines 2013? Wait for more exciting announcements to come.

What makes the PCCF Miss Philippines Canada, Little Miss Philippines Canada and Mrs. Philippines Canada pageants special is that everyone is a winner, most especially the needy in the Philippines, who are the beneficiaries of the proceeds of the PCCF events. To name a few, PCCF so far donated \$18,000 to ANCOP to build houses for the poor, \$4,500 to Kapuso Foundation, \$3,500 to build the fence at OLA, the home of the Filipino Mission (AFCM). Thousands were already donated to Typhoon victims. More donations will of course be donated to the poor and the needy in the months to come.

"The biggest event of the summer 2013", as declared by PCCF President, Romy Rafael and PCCT President, Oswald Tugadi. PCCF (Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation) and PCCT (Philippine Chamber of Commerce Toronto) will once again team up to produce the spectacle and the much awaited event of the summer, the Pinoy Fiesta and Trade Show Toronto that will be held on the 22nd of June at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre with the GMA Pinoy TV Superstars on stage. Mark your Calendar now! For more information please visit www.philippinecanadianfoundation.com or email pinoyfiestatoronto@gmail.com or pageantphilippines@gmail.com.

LOVELESS PINOYS RISE

The Philippines has apparently hit another record high last year, a new poll showed, but many Pinoys may not be happy about it--especially not on Valentine's Day. The number of Filipino adults who said they did not have a love life peaked to 13 percent in 2012 from only 9 percent the year previous, the Social Weather Stations said. Things aren't so bright for those who said they have a love life either, results of the survey of 1,200 adult Pinoys in Dec. 8-11 showed.

Pinoys who said they were "very happy" with their love life dropped to 54 percent last year from a record high of 59 percent in 2011.

Noy signs laws on PWDs, biometric voter registration

MANILA, Philippines - President Aquino has signed laws authorizing the Commission on Elections (Comelec) to establish precincts for senior citizens and persons with disabilities and provide mandatory biometrics voter registration.

Under Republic Act No. 10366 or An Act Authorizing the Commission on Elections to Establish Precincts Assigned to Accessible Polling Places Exclusively for Persons with Disabilities and Senior Citizens, the Comelec must have precincts with assistive devices and services of experts in assisting persons with disabilities and senior citizens.

On the other hand, RA 10367 or An Act Providing for Mandatory Biometrics Voter Registration was enacted to establish a clean, complete, permanent and updated list of voters through the adoption of biometric technology.

Biometrics refers to the quantitative analysis that provides a positive identification of an individual such as voice, photograph, fingerprint, signature, iris and/or other identifiable features.

Karen Muere's Birthday



Karen Muere celebrated her birthday party with family and friends. See more at www.filipinogoodlife.com

Ancestors in America

Unearthing the Filipino pioneers of Annapolis



UMD students dig into a Filipino-Black family's 1920s lifestyle : University of Maryland

MARYLAND, USA - The surprisingly complex relations between the groups go back a century, occasionally marked by violence, but also by considerable social mixing and even intermarriage, the researchers say – all propelled by changing racial practices at the Naval Academy.

"We're discovering family stories carved in irony," says University of Maryland Archaeologist Mark Leone, who is directing the research. "The home we're excavating belonged to an African American woman married to a Filipino man, anchored in Annapolis by the Naval Academy, brought together by its racial stereotyping, and yet overcoming cultural and racial barriers quite successfully in their own lives."

This is not an isolated incident, and descendants of those families continue to thrive today in a loose, extended network along the East Coast of the United States. "More than a dozen families managed to do this," Leone adds. "It's an episode of racial coexistence in Annapolis we're just uncovering and beginning to understand."

Leone's Archaeology in Annapolis Summer Field School has resumed digging for a third year at the East Street home of James Holliday, a freed slave and one of the first African Americans employed by the Naval Academy.

Holliday managed a middle class existence before the Civil War, serving as a courier for the Academy's Superintendent.

The house has remained in the family's hands since 1850. Holliday's granddaughter lived there when she married a Filipino cook serving at the Academy, Cosme Portilla.

CENTER OF PHILIPPINE SETTLEMENT

In the early 20th century, a wave of Filipino immigration followed the Philippine-American War of independence. Opportunities at the

Naval Academy made Annapolis an East Coast haven of opportunity for these immigrants, says Leone's graduate student Kathrina Aben, who has collected oral histories and documents as part of the research.

"The Academy hired Filipinos to work in the kitchen as messmen, officer stewards or laborers," Aben explains. "In practice, this meant replacing African Americans in their jobs."

In 1919, the year Holliday's granddaughter got married, the Academy's Commandant of Midshipmen Wat Tyler Cluverius, Jr. expressed a clear preference for Filipinos over African Americans. Filipinos, he said, were "clean, honest, military, studious, amenable to discipline," and "cost less to feed."

The policy had profound implications. "Over the years, it created economic competition between the two groups that occasionally led to racial confrontations and violence," explains Kathryn Deeley, one of Leone's Ph.D. students who is analyzing the archaeological finds at the Holliday House and related sites.

Deeley points to a February 7, 1931 story in Baltimore's Afro- American newspaper reporting a "new kind of race war." It tells of simmering feuds at the Naval Academy, and says that a riot almost broke out when a Filipino enlisted man knocked an African American kitchen worker unconscious.

"The racial realities of the time thrust these minority groups together, even while pushing them apart," explains Leone. "Both Filipinos and African Americans were legally prohibited from marrying whites then, and their economic horizons were limited. They lived near each other, socialized and intermarried, though community relations frayed at times."

INTERMARRIAGE AND CULTURAL BLENDING

By the 1930s, at least 200 Filipinos lived in Annapolis, Aben reports. They were mainly single men, and a number of them got married after they arrived. She has identified at least 18 intermarriages with African Americans or women from other ethnic backgrounds.

"These Filipino men created new lives for themselves," Aben explains. "There were few Filipina women available and the immigrant men were quite adept at social adaptation and

cultural blending. We're working to understand how these immigrants ultimately thrived to become the second largest group of Asian Americans."

Over time, many of these families settled into the community or moved to other nearby locations in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, D.C., but often maintained extended family ties. Aben estimates that between 1,000 and 1,500 descendants from this wave of Annapolis immigration are living today along the U.S. East Coast.

EXCAVATION FINDINGS

Leone and his team look to the continuing archaeological dig and further community research to reveal more of the family dynamics and the extent of the Filipinos' cultural adaptation.

"So far we have not found a signature of Filipino culture in our excavations," says Deeley, who is supervising the analysis of the artifacts. "This could reflect a high degree of Filipino cultural adaptation or families in which these immigrant men left the running of the household to their American wives. Alternately, we might have missed something or not known what to look for. We hope this year to find more evidence to answer the question."

When the UMD team stopped their work at the James Holliday House last summer, they had begun exploring the remains of a former kitchen underneath the building's current basement. The team is continuing work there and nearby parts of the house this summer.

"We were very surprised to find the kitchen used for dressmaking," Deeley adds. "We discovered a large number of common pins, dress buttons, thimbles, and an awl. We also found children's toys showing that this space was used by young children too. It appears to have been workspace for a cottage industry – a way for the women in the family to bring in extra money. We haven't seen an operation like this in Annapolis before."

In terms of household culture, the kitchen revealed a familiar 19th century pattern in Annapolis black middle class homes – a blend of Victorian Era manners and a distinctive African American use of ceramics. "The families use fashionable dishes, but don't buy matching sets," Deeley explains. "Each plate is different from the next, but they form a rich pattern on the table. We only find this in African American homes."

Also, as in other Annapolis African American homes from the period, the team found evidence of a continuing use of West African spirit practices.



Eternal love unfolds on GMA's newest Afternoon Prime

In the tradition of providing quality telenovelas for the viewers worldwide, GMA Network brings another original Afternoon Prime offering, Unforgettable.

The romantic-fantasy drama follows an intriguing storyline that shows how true love lives even beyond death.

Kapuso talented actress Kylie Padilla makes a comeback on the Afternoon Prime block as she acts opposite Mark Herras in the highly anticipated project with Pauleen Luna, Benjamin Alves, and Mr. Phillip Salvador.

In the story, perfect couple Anna (Kylie Padilla) and Ed (Mark Herras) both strive hard to achieve their dreams -- to finish their studies and to live a happy and complete family life.

Aiza denies leaving 'Be Careful With My Heart'

Itinanggi ni Aiza Seguerra ang isyung nag-resign siya sa sikat na seryeng Be Careful With My Heart na pinagbibidahan ni Jodi Sta. Maria at Richard Yap. Sa kanyang Twitter account, sinabi ni Aiza na walang katotohanan ang nasabing isyu.

"FYI resignation issue is not true. Thank you," ani Aiza. Pagkatapos ng pagtanggap ng singer, naglabas na din ng official statement ang Kapamilya network para linawin ang isyu.

Sa statement itinanggi nito hindi totoong umalis si Aiza sa serye.

"Nais linawin ng ABS-CBN na hindi nag-resign si Aiza Seguerra sa top-rating Kapamilya daytime series na Be Careful With My Heart. Si Aiza ay isang mahalagang miyembro ng pamilya ng Be Careful With My Heart at ang karakter niyang si Kute ay importanteng bahagi sa kuwento ng programa," ani Mr. Bong Osorio, head, Corporate Communications Division, ABS-CBN.

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Rolly Mangante celebrated his 60th birthday at Prestige with family and friends. LEFT, Ace and Gie Alvarez, Nives Mangante, Scarborough Toyota's Manny Yanga, Rolly Mangante, Joseph Alilio of Forex Cargo, Oswald and Issa Tugadi and Flor Vendiola of FV Foods pose for a photo. MIDDLE, Rolly receives a gift from Consul General Junever Mahilum-West. RIGHT, Rolly shares a few drinks with man about town Philip Beloso. BELOW, Karen Muere lights the candle to her cake. PHOTOS BY ARIEL RAMOS

From 18 to 60

Counting the blessings at 60

While the snow storm was raging outside, the revellers inside the Prestige bar was enjoying the good food, the flowing drinks, the loud music and the company of friends and family for the birthday of Rolly Mangante.

Rolly works at the Philippine Consulate in Toronto. He has been the assistant to countless Consul-generlas that have passed by in Toronto.

When I started this newspaper, he was the working for Congen Susan Castrence. It was followed by Andy Mosquera, Susan Falcon, Pedro Chan and the latest, Consul General Junever Mahilum-West. But on February 7, he celebrated his 60th birthday and the number of people

attending the event shows that



and at 18.

everyone in the community. To put it in perspective, there as a snowstorm outside but the venue was packed. If that is not love by family and friends, I don't know what is.

A young lady turned 18. Karen Muere had a simple get-together with her family and a few friends at their house when she turned 18. She did not want a debut. Her parents Turing and Joy are proud of her. She was surrounded by family and friends.

Rolly is loved by almost

Whether one is celebrating their 60th birthday or 18th birthday, both are lucky to be blessed with lots of friends and a caring family.

Oman Hiring Nurses & Doctors

MANILA,Philippines---Morethan 3,000 doctors and nurses from other countries are set to be hired by the Sultanate of Oman, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE)

Philippine Ambassador to Oman Joselito Jimeno, in his report to Baldoz, quoted the Minister of Health (MOH) of Oman, Dr. Ahmed bin Mohammed bin Obaid

Saidi conveyed his country's intentions to hire more nurses from the Philippines, particularly nurses specializing in obstetrics, gynecology, anesthesiology, surgery (neuro and cardio), intensive care, and psychiatrics.

The report, furnished the DOLE, said Oman's Ministry of Health announced it will hire 3,288 doctors and nurses from other countries in response to this projected shortage.

Jimeno said the Oman MOH will need 4,464 doctors by 2015, but can only source 1,176 of them locally. In terms of nurses, 5,598 will be hired abroad, he further said.

To meet these needs, Jimeno said Oman's state budget for health was increased by 9.4 percent for 2013.

Records at the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) show that OFW deployment in Oman reached 15, 868 in 2012, with 10,291 rehires and 5,577 new hires.

al-Saidi, as saying that the Sultanate is facing a shortage of around 8,900 doctors and nurses going to 2015.

In a meeting on February 26, 2012, Jimeno said Minister al-



said yesterday.

Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Baldoz said the hiring is in response to a projected shortage of medical professionals in that country.

Zia Quizon:

Maybe Comedy?

After making a big splash in the local music scene with her jazzy, award-winning song, "Ako Na Lang," Zia Quizon surprised Bulletin Entertainment when asked recently if she wants to dip her fingers into acting.

"Maybe, and when I do, I will go for comedy. Pangit kasi ako umiyak, walang poise," she said.

Note that her mother, Zsa Zsa Padilla, and her sister, Karylle, are better known for dramatic portrayals and musicals, respectively. Then again, Zia's father is no other than the late King of Comedy Dolphy so, perhaps, Zia's inclination is one that runs in the blood.

The young "ASAP" regular performer said that she has not moved on from her father's death seven months ago, being a "daddy's girl" through and through.

"Lahat naman ng fathers irreplaceable because each of us just has one dad. I'm glad I got to spend time with him kahit na 70 years old na siya noon and I will always treasure our precious time together."

What advice from Dolphy still echoes in her heart?

"To 'behave' because we're public property. Kahit na hindi namin akalain or kahit hindi namin sinusubukan na maging isang role model, that's what we are so we must be careful of our actions. People are looking all the time."





DIRTY MONEY
continued from page 1

according to the anti-corruption group Global Financial Integrity.

Worldwide, the group estimates that \$5.86 trillion in illicit funds left developing nations from 2001 to 2010.

Among those previously in the top 10 worst, Qatar, Kuwait, Venezuela and Poland were replaced by India, Indonesia, Nigeria and the Philippines.

In 2010 alone, it is estimated that developing countries saw \$859 billion in illicit financial outflow – about 11 percent higher than the \$776 billion in the previous year, according to Global Financial Integrity.

The top 10 countries with the highest measured cumulative illicit financial outflows, from 2001 to 2010, are China (\$2.74 trillion), Mexico (\$476 billion), Malaysia (\$285 billion), Saudi Arabia (\$210 billion), Russia (\$152 billion), the Philippines (\$138 billion), Nigeria (\$129 billion), India (\$123 billion), Indonesia (\$109 billion) and the United Arab Emirates (\$107 billion).

The next 10 are Iraq, South Africa, Thailand, Costa Rica, Qatar, Serbia, Poland, Panama, Venezuela and Brunei.

Trade mispricing, which includes smuggling, was found to account for an average of 80 percent of cumulative illicit flows from developing countries. This was followed by bribery, kickbacks, and the proceeds of corruption.

Trade mispricing was also found to be the major channel for the transfer of

illicit capital from China and Mexico.

The “commercially tax avoiding component” accounted for the largest chunk or about 60-65 percent of illicit cross-border financial flows, followed by dirty money from criminal activities, which accounted for 30 to 35 percent of the global total, according to Global Financial Integrity director Raymond Baker.

He said the corruption component, stemming from bribery and theft among government officials, accounted for three to five percent.

The criminal component does not include proceeds from drug trafficking, human smuggling, and other criminal activities that are often settled in cash.

Moving veritable mountains of money requires a vast and global shadow financial system.

Baker said the essential elements of the system are secrecy, jurisdictions, disguised corporations, anonymous trust accounts, and fake charitable foundations.

“The mispricing of trade is part of this system; various money laundering techniques are part of this system. Quite frankly, another part is holes left in the laws of Western countries that facilitate the movement of money through this shadow financial system and ultimately into our own Western economies,” the director said.

One of the world’s biggest financial “black holes” is the United States, where

DIRTY MONEY
continued on page 23

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RIGHT, Karen Muere poses with friends on her birthday dinner.

FAR RIGHT, Karen poses with dat Turing and mom Jocelyn.



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Zoren Legazpi and Carmina Villaroel on their wedding day

PH named the ‘world
leader in love’

The number of Pinoys who claim to be “loveless” reportedly rose, but data from a global poll show that the Philippines is the country with the “most widespread feelings of love.”

The Philippines topped what U.S.-based pollster Gallup called the “most comprehensive global index of love ever constructed.” The global survey, conducted in 136 countries in 2006-2007, asked respondents: “Did you experience the following feelings during a lot of the day yesterday? How about love?” “The world leader in love is the Philippines, where fully 93 percent of the population reported feeling love,” Gallup said in its blog. “Rwanda isn’t far behind at 92 percent, and Puerto Rico is the only other population surveyed where at least nine in 10 respondents reported feeling love,” it added. Rounding out the list of 10 countries with the most widespread feelings of live are Hungary, 89 percent; Cyprus, 88 percent; Trinidad & Tobago, 88 percent; Paraguay, 87 percent; Lebanon, 86 percent; and Costa Rica and Cambodia, tied at 85 percent.

The Philippines’ new title as world leader in love comes after a local survey showed that nearly four out of five Pinoys said they have no love life. The Social Weather Stations survey results also showed that nearly four out of five Pinoys believe that “love cannot be planned and pursued, it just comes to a person.” But Gallup noted that “love” felt by respondents are not necessarily the romantic kind but “may also be the love of a child, a parent, family, or good friends.”

“On a typical day, around 70 percent of the world’s population report that they experienced love the day before,” Gallup said.

While more than nine out of 10 Pinoys say they experience love, in some countries, the figure drops to less than three out of 10.

Armenia is at the bottom of the list of countries in terms of feelings of love at only 29 percent, followed by Mongolia and Uzbekistan, both at 32 percent.

Also in the bottom 10 are Kyrgyztan, 34 percent; Morocco, Belarus and Georgia, 43 percent; Kazakhstan, 45 percent; Moldova, 46 percent; and Azerbaijan and Tajikistan, 47 percent. But Gallup said “it is important to note that differences between countries may be due to how cultures define “love” and not in actual day-to-day experiences.

For example, in some countries, the idea of “love” is restricted to a romantic partner, while in others it extends to one’s family members and friends.



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT, Celebrant Nadeene Panaligan (far left) and cousins Gabby and Nadia looks on as dad light up her birthday cake in Ohio; Nadeene with Tito Ariel Martinez in Toronto; Nadeene celebrates her birthday here in Toronto too; Elder sister Maria and Tita Flor Martinez helps make the turon as Tita Tonet and other sister Aubrey at the back does the cooking; Angel Dawinan and Ampee Panaligan in Ohio join the party.

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Former sexy star Gwen Garci starts new life in Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS, Nevada – Former sexy star in Philippine show business has embarked on a new life in Las Vegas.

Known for her steamy sexy roles, she was one of the “hot babes” in the titillating Viva Hot Babes group of the Philippine showbiz world.

She starred in several teleseryes and Philippine movies a few years back. Because of her killer body, Gwen Garci, or Mai Lee Ang in real life, was also Philippines’ favorite cover girl of Philippine’s men’s magazines.

Although money in showbiz comes in easy and trouble free for Garci, but she thinks that showbiz is short term.

“In show business it’s hard to say, but even though it’s not true, if they don’t like you, they will destroy you. That’s show business, they’re gonna make a way,” she added.

Garci started her career at the age of 16 as a model, but after over a decade of the glitz and glamour of the showbiz industry, the spotlight softened. She says it takes a lot of guts to endure longevity in the entertainment scene.

“In Philippines, I can go back to showbiz anytime I want. I want to try different things with my life that’s why I went to Hawaii to be a realtor because I want something different and now I’m here, I want to try something different with my life because I want something challenging,” she said.

Garci is not closing her door to showbiz as she still has a contract with Viva Films. But for now, she is enjoying the real world of being a regular gal in the states.

Clinton more popular than Obama Fil-Am supporters await 2016 bid

Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton may be out of a job, but she is now more popular than President Barack Obama. Clinton is the most popular national political figure, according to a Quinnipiac University poll. Her favorability rating is at 61-percent, much higher than Obama’s 51-percent. Clinton’s Filipino supporters in Washington said they’re ready to swing into action if she does decide to throw her hat in the next presidential elections in 2016.



Fil-Am doctor claims NJ governor Christie yelled at her over weight comments

Former White House physician Connie Mariano told KTVK-TV in Phoenix that New Jersey governor Chris Christie angrily called her after she gave an interview to CNN suggesting he’s at risk of having a heart attack or a stroke if he doesn’t lose weight, according to reports from The Ticket.

While on CNN, Mariano described herself as a Christie supporter who wants him to run for president and warned the governor’s health could hurt his potential 2016 race. Her comments came after Christie appeared on the “Late Show With David Letterman” and poked fun at jokes about his weight by eating a doughnut during the interview.

Christie said Mariano’s comment was inappropriate and it scared his children. Mariano countered that as a White House doctor to two presidents, she is used to giving chief executives tough talk about their health issues. She also said she is now rethinking whether she would support a Christie’s presidential aspirations.



Pinoys happy with UK Gay Marriage

LONDON – Filipinos in London join jubilant gay rights campaigners celebrate the historic passage of the same-sex marriage bill in the parliament’s lower house. The Pinoy gay community hopes that the UK society accepts people for who they are by allowing same-sex marriage in the country. While the existing civil partnership for same-sex couples gives the same legal rights as marriage, Pinoy gay couples feel there is a distinction. “It’s different. This one is a contract. It’s government recognition of legal rights but not really a marriage,” said Cathy Dy. “Yes, because when you get married it’s in church. I don’t know if it’s going to be in the church. It’s like God is recognizing the partnership, the union. So, yes, it’s going to be really important for us and for other couples now, who will get married, will have a chance to get married someday,” said Liz Perez.

A few days before the historic gay marriage vote, Dy and Perez exchanged vows in a civil partnership rites. The two still want to get married in Church.

The journey of the gay marriage bill is not complete, but couples like Dy and Perez believe that equality in Britain is not elusive and far fetched.



Filipino veterans in WW2

Filipinos are largest Asian group in California

SAN FRANCISCO—Filipinos are the largest Asian minority group in California today.

They also rank second only to Indians for having the least poor and least low-income community members among all Asians in the state. But they also have the lowest admission rates in the University of California system.

These are some of the findings of a comprehensive new study of the Asian American community in California, “A Community of Contrasts: Asian Americans and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders, 2013,” by the Asian American Center for Advancing Justice, a coalition of several Asian American advocacy groups. One of the study’s aims is to “debunk the model minority myth” by showing the complexities within the Asian population as well as the diverse economic and health realities experienced by each ethnic group.

Crunched from Census data and statistics from several federal and state agencies on the decade spanning 2000 to 2010, the findings present a detailed look into each of the 23 distinct Asian ethnicities concentrated in California.

Fast growth

Filipinos are the largest ethnic group in California at 1.5 million, followed by Chinese at 1.4 million. The Filipino population grew 34 percent during the decade, mirroring the rapid overall Asian American growth rate. Indeed, while Latinos are projected to be the majority population in California by 2014, Asians have a faster growth rate of 34 percent compared with Latinos at 28 percent. Whites, meanwhile, declined by five percent. Up to 55 percent of Filipinos were born in the Philippines, and they represent the highest number of immigrants among Asians who acquired permanent residence in ten years-255,987. As a result, Tagalog is next only to Chinese as the most spoken among Asian languages. But reflective of diverse ages and educational and social backgrounds, 19 percent of Filipinos over five years old have limited English proficiency.

Filipinos are also intermarrying and having offspring with other ethnic and racial groups-16 percent are multiracial.

Lower earning

Filipinos are relatively well educated. Up to 93 percent of Filipinos have a high school diploma or higher, and 46 percent have a bachelor’s degree or higher. But along with Laotian, Cambodian and Pakistanis, young Filipinos have the lowest University of California (the state university system) admission rates. While California’s per capita income is at \$29,188 and the Asian per capita income is \$29, 841 Filipino per capita income lags at \$26,971. Indians have the highest Asian per capita earnings at \$40,303. White per capita income is \$42,052.

However, the Filipino community is next only to Indians in having the least poor and least low-income members among Asian groups in the state-6 percent of Filipinos are poor and 17 percent low-income. More than half of Filipinos in the state—58 percent—are homeowners, while 42 percent are renters, compared with 63 percent Chinese homeowners and 64 percent white homeowners.

Heart disease, cancer, stroke and diabetes are the leading causes of death among Filipinos in California, and 11 percent of them have no health insurance.

How Kapuso Molds Talents

A combination of looks, charm, and talent isn’t enough to make star but an aspirant has to have a winning personality, too.

This is the reason GMA Artist Center goes for “holistic” approach in producing noteworthy talents. In an exclusive interview with Bulletin Entertainment, David Fabros, talent development head of GMA Artist Center (GMAAC), imparted that professionalism, respect for the craft and other people, as well as discipline, are some of, if not the most important traits they strive to instill in their talents.



“Let’s face it, sa day and age na ‘to na maraming artista, sometimes the directors and the producers would rather work with people who they like and who they’re comfortable with. Kesa dun sa mga super galing umarte pero hindi professional – (halimbawa) laging late,” he said.

No wonder that personality development was included in the modules for the extensive, 10-week League of Artists workshop that kicked off last year. Together with director Maryo J. delos Reyes, University of the Philippines professor Kitchie Molina, professional choreographers Danny Vinculado and Sandy Hontiveros, and master star maker German Moreno (PHOTO), to name some, Fabros facilitated classes in acting, dance, styling and wardrobe, and voice modulation, among others.

Late last year, the first batch yielded 60 graduates, while the second batch has 50. Another goal of the workshop is to “refresh” the skills and knowledge of existing GMA artists so that their development would not stagnate.

“Yung mga taong nag-graduate doon mayro’n ng mga casting ngayon,” Fabros said like a proud dad.

A firm believer of education and development, Fabros is sure that stars are made, not born. Many stand proofs to this, he said, expounding, “Marami namang artistang nagsimula sa wala, minsan ang puhunan ay itsura o tangkad lang, pero nade-develop sila overtime. Minsan oras lang ang hinahanap, minsan the right teacher, sometimes it’s the right venue.”

ABS leads in New York Fest Award



ABOVE, Charo Santos-Concio hosts Maalaala mo Kaya.
RIGHT, Gerald Anderson stars in Budoy.

MANILA, Philippines -- ABS-CBN took home several awards at the 2013 Gandingan Awards (7th UPLB Isko't Iska's Br February 2, 2013 by ABS-CBN Corporation emerged as the most nominated TV network in the Philippines in this years' New York Festivals with eight of its entertainment and current affairs programs making it as finalists in different categories.

In the field of news and current affairs, ABS-CBN got the most nominations for four of its programs namely: "Johnny: The Juan Ponce Enrile Story" (Biography/Profiles category); "Failon Ngayon: Mine Tailings" (Current Affairs category); "Ang Simula" (History and Society category); and "Krusada: Child-Headed Homes" (Social Issues category).

ABS-CBN's entertainment offerings proved to be world class with three programs making it to the finalist roster, namely: the hit romantic comedy "Be

Careful With My Heart" (Telenovelas category) and "Budoy" (Drama category). ABS-CBN also bagged a nomination for Best Performance by an Actress in a "Maalaala Mo Kaya" episode. The Kapamilya network's "A Call to Arms" was also named finalist in the Sports Program Promotion category.

Overall, ABS-CBN received eight finalist slots, beating GMA Networks' three and TV5's one.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Celebrity News & Gossip

Sophie Albert

TV5's Artista Academy Winner is a Rising Star



Doors opened for 22-year-old industry new comer Sophie Albert when she won the reality-based search for artists of TV5 called Artista Academy last year. Her new show to be aired on the same network titled 'Never Say Goodbye' (premiering this February) may be her biggest break as she co-stars alongside big industry names like Nora Aunor and Cesar Montano.

It was such an honor for her to be working with the great Nora Aunor. "She is so nice. Parang nakakagulat," she says as she describes the feeling to working with a legend. "The last scene I had with her [in 'Never Say Goodbye'], I had to cry tapos hindi ako maka-iyak. Tapos tinulungan niya ako. Binubulungan niya ako, 'Isipin mo ganito, isipino mo ganyan.' She's really like a mom to me," she explains her work relationship with Ate Guy.

When it comes to the pressure she's feeling when working with the big stars of the industry, Sophie just wants to give it her all. "It's a big opportunity. I want to show them na hindi bale wala ang pagtitiwala nila sa akin. I'm proud to be part of the first prime time show of TV 5. Malakas ang pressure but everyone is just so nice kaya minsan nawawala ang pressure," she says. Pero syempre at night, pag matutulog na ako, I think about it."

At such a young age, there is still so much to look forward to for this bright, young star. She likes writing down her goals in her notebook so she'll always be reminded of how far she has to go. "Doon ko sinusulat ang lahat ng gusto ko mangyari. I check it and as long as I write it down and think about it, it will happen. I'm not rushing, though. I feel like everything will happen in time." Some girls her age are often seen out and about, clubbing and going to parties. But Sophie proves to be a homebody, reading and catching up with her books. The last book she read was the erotic romance novel by EL James, "50 Shades of Grey". If she were to compare herself to something, it would be a bed, she explains. "I'm just chill. I like to stay in one place. I don't like going out so much. I'm laid back so I'm like a bed, I guess."

People may perceive Sophie Albert to be a girly-girl but on the contrary, she trades skirts for shorts. "I'm not really into high-fashion and I'm not eccentric. I just wear what is comfortable and I'm medyo boyish," she says.

We're wondering what else is in store for this celebrity in the coming year. But we're only sure of bigger and brighter things to come for Sophie.



Zanjoe & Bea support each other

Zanjoe Marudo echoed girlfriend Bea Alonzo's statement in a previous interview that in their relationship, it is non-issue as to who is the bigger star. "Kasi naman magiging problema pa 'yun kung kami mismo nag-compete kami, eh; kung sino'ng mas magaling, sino'ng mas sikat, sino'ng mas maraming project," Zanjoe reasoned. "Dapat maging masaya kami sa isa't-isa, suportahan [ang career ng bawat isa].

Paulo Avelino is excited doing more movie projects this year

Currently playing the role of the charming Lance Ledesma in the Kapamilya series Kahit Konting Pagtingin, Paulo Avelino admitted that his 2013 has been doing well so far. "I



was very happy nung 2012 dahil I was blessed with a very good project which was Walang Hanggan. Doon tinanggap pa rin ako ng tao kahit medyo masamang tao yung character ko dun and

I want to thank the audience for their support for me. Tapos ngayon meron kagad na Kahit Konting Pagtingin. I'm very blessed," he told Push.com.ph.

Angelica retaliates via Instagram

Angelica Panganiban made a hard-hitting post against her critics on her Instagram account when she posted a picture enumerating the Ten Commandments, together with a status putting emphasis on the ninth commandment, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor." Below the image was a post wherein Angelica expressed her disapproval of the people who "make up stories" to ruin other people's happiness. Angelica suggested that there are certain people who can't bear the idea that she is happy with the person she loves so they fabricate stories intended to spoil her blissful disposition now.

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Rolly Mangante is 60 years old



LEFT, Rolly Mangante's children entertain the guests with a musical performance at Prestige Bar.

ABOVE, Rolly (2nd from right) and Nieves Mangante poses with Joy Sarmiento and Jenifer Camacho.

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Angeline Quinto has good reason to be glad because her first major primetime teleserye, *Kahit Konting Pagtingin* is consistently posting good ratings.



However, she continued that while the project is doing well, there is still pressure for her and their entire team. “Mas nadadagdagan ang trabaho ko [na] ipakita sa tao [bakit] ako ang nilagay [sa proyekto na ito] at ipakita sa kanila [na kaya ko kaya] dapat mas galingan at husayan. Lalo na po na ‘di po ako batikan sa pag-arte. Alam n’yo naman po na singer talaga ako, so mahirap talaga sa akin ang ginagawa ko ngayon.”

acting ability. “Sa totoo lang po marami din naman akong naririnig na ganyan. Siyempre alam ko naman sa bawat tao eh normal naman talaga na may marinig kang komento sa bawat isa, lalo po ako na nakikita po ako sa TV talagang normal po ‘yon sa amin,” Angeline said.

Nevertheless, Angeline is intent on proving that in time, she can be a better actress. “Sa sinasabi po nilang nakukulangan sila sa pag arte ko, aminado po ako na di ako magaling sa pag-arte pero ipinapangako ko po sa inyong lahat, gagawin ko ang lahat para masabi ninyo na magaling ako sa pag-arte.”

Sam Milby denied that the reason Jericho Rosales backed out from the teleserye *Against All Odds* is because of billing issue. When Push.com.ph asked him about it, Sam explained that unpredictable shooting schedule was primarily the reason why there have been changes in the cast. “Si John Estrada na ang kasama [na gaganap ng role sana ni Jericho]. I don’t know kung dapat ko sabihin pero last year pa kasama na si John sa original cast. Yung role na ‘yan kay John Estrada. Tapos nagkaroon ng *A Beautiful Affair* kaya di niya pwedeng gawin yung *Against All Odds*. Eh dahil tumigil na kami sa taping at that time [nagkataon na] natapos na yung *A Beautiful Affair*. Dapat nga si Jericho ang naging kasama sa teleserye. I don’t know what actually happened with that. Ayun, tapos na taping ng *A Beautiful Affair*, si Echo ‘di na kasama, at si John Estrada na ulit,” he said in an interview

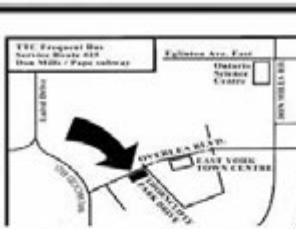


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The high number of Filipinos employed as health workers abroad had United Kingdom's Duke of Edinburgh wondering if the country was "half empty."

“The Philippines must be half empty--you’re all here running the NHS (National Health Service),” the UK-based news site BBC quoted Prince Philip as saying.

The 91-year-old husband of Queen Elizabeth was addressing a Pinay nurse he met during a visit to Luton and Dunstable Hospital where he unveiled a new cardiac center.

But it wasn't the only joke the prince used at the hospital, whose administrators he urged to get a helipad to save him a journey by land.

The hospital's spokesperson, meanwhile, had been quoted as saying that the royal visit had been "hugely motivational."



The spokesperson refused to comment on the “private conversation,” however. So did the Buckingham Palace.

But the hospital did note that it has not conducted a recruiting campaign recently in the Philippines.

The report said, however, that 16,184 out of UK's 670,000 nurses are from the Philippines based on the country's Nursing and Midwifery Council.

Meanwhile, data from the Commission on Filipinos Overseas showed a two-digit increase in the number of Pinoys abroad in 2011.

A total of 10.46 million Pinoys are in 217 foreign countries and territories as of 2011, the commission earlier reported. This is a 10.7-percent increase from 9.45 million in 2010.

The number is also equivalent to

more than a quarter (25.4 percent) of the country's workforce pegged at 41.94 million as per Labor department data.

While some reports called it a “racist remark,” BBC noted that the Duke of Edinburgh is “well known for his outspoken and sometimes controversial comments.”

The report recalled how Prince Philip asked a group of British students during a 1986 visit to China: “If you stay here much longer, you’ll all be slitty-eyed”.

During a trip to Cayman Islands in 1994, he asked a native: "Aren't most of you descended from pirates?"

Speaking to a student who had been trekking in Papua New Guinea, the prince said in 1998: “You managed not to get eaten, then?”

MANILA, Philippines - Kim Dotcom, the controversial founder of file-sharing website Megaupload, over the weekend launched a new cyberlocker called Mega.co.nz with much publicity.

Dotcom, who is fighting extradition to the US on charges of internet piracy, says the new site allows users to control who can access uploaded files. This would mean that Mega would not have access to the files, which could strip them of any possible liability for enabling users to distribute pirated content.

Despite his legal problems, the multimillionaire has continued to be supported by his Filipina wife Mona. A Reuters photo showed Mona, wearing a red jacket and skirt, at the Mega launch at their mansion in Auckland, New Zealand on January 20.

The pretty Filipina is an ex-model who has

been married to Dotcom for several years now.

On her Twitter account (@MonaDotcom), she tweeted about the Mega launch and her husband's birthday. "Happy Birthday to the BEST, most loving and sweet husband in the world!!!! @KimDotcom So proud of you! I will always be your no.1 fan," she said.

Mona is also active on Instagram, where she posts photos of her family. One photo shows the Filipina with a white Birkin bag.

According to various news reports, Kim met Mona Verga in the Philippines in November 2007. They married in July 2009, a day after her 21st birthday. They now have five children, including twin baby girls. The Dotcom family lives in an estate just outside of Auckland, which was where Kim was arrested last year. New Zealand's elite special tactics forces arrived by helicopter on the mansion's grounds



Mona Dotcom, wife of Megaupload founder Kim Dotcom, listens as he launches the new file sharing site “Mega” in Auckland January 20, 2013.

May 2012 that Mona applied with the court for the return of her personal belongings, including a G55 Mercedes, Christian Colin sculptures, a Chanel diamond wristwatch and a Rolex Oyster Perpetual watch. She said these were gifts from her husband.

In a recent interview with Reuters, Kim admitted he and his wife still panic when they hear loud noises.

"Every time you hear a helicopter, you automatically think, 'Oh, another raid', so it's something that stays with you for a long time," he said.

Matteo & Jessy are an Item

+ Juan dela Cruz leads in ratings + other stories



MANILA, Philippines – “Paraiso” lead stars Jessy Mendiola and Matteo Guidicelli admitted that they have a blooming relationship.

Although not yet officially a couple, the Kapamilya stars expressed their love for each other during an interview with “Showbiz Inside Report” aired Saturday.

The two started working together in mid-2012 as the lead characters in the afternoon series “Paraiso,” their first project as a “love team.”

On the set of the “Precious Hearts Romances” offering, Mendiola and Guidicelli eventually became close friends.

Asked on his first impressions of the 20-year-old actress, Guidicelli said, “Nung nakikita ko si Jessy sa pictures, this is like wow, she’s like Kristine Hermosa, super beautiful.”

“It’s also intimidating to approach Jessy, kasi parang meron siyang wall eh,” he said.

Mendiola echoed the 22-year-old actor’s statement, when asked on her first impressions of Guidicelli. “Suplado at mayabang. Very intimidating at nakakahiyang lapitan,” she said.

Eight months since they became co-stars, however, their friendship has bloomed into a romantic relationship, both Star Magic talents admitted.

“Hindi ko sasabihin na nanliligaw ako agad, pero I just want to be the best for Jessy, and I want to give her what makes her happy. If something happens from there, e

‘di maganda. Let’s see where it will bring us,” Guidicelli said.

On the qualities she looks for in potential boyfriend, Mendiola said, “Sino ba naman may ayaw ng understanding, ng caring, sweet or gwapo? But I guess it’s just kung ‘yun na, ‘yun na ‘yun.”

Asked if there’s a chance she and

Guidicelli can become an official couple, the actress said, “Sabihan na lang natin na getting there. Still waiting...Syempre naman.”

Before her “Paraiso” co-star, Mendiola was romantically linked to actor JM de Guzman. Guidicelli’s breakup with former girlfriend, actress Maja Salvador, meanwhile, was confirmed by the “Ina, Kapatid, Anak” star in August last year.

Willie’s show ‘rattled’ us, admits ‘Showtime’ host Anne



MANILA, Philippines - The re-launch of Willie Revillame’s variety game show as a noontime program was admittedly a cause for concern for the hosts of ABS-CBN’s “It’s Showtime,” one of the show’s mainstays actress Anne Curtis said.

“When we met about it, of course, we were rattled,” Curtis said on Tuesday.

However, the 28-year-old actress said the team behind “It’s Showtime” readily agreed to set aside any “competition,” as it may affect the fun-loving atmosphere of the Kapamilya program.

Sticking to the formula has also served to steady the nationwide ratings of “It’s Showtime.” According to TV ratings data from multinational research group Kantar

Media, the Kapamilya program continues to register a higher audience share than TV5’s noontime offering.

Over the years since it first aired in 2009 as a talent search, “It’s Showtime” has become popular for its hosts’ often riotous interactions, not only among themselves, but with the “madlang people” as well.

Curtis noted, however, that the games and segments featured in the variety show may cater more to younger audiences, in comparison to those seen in Revillame’s show and another rival noontime program “Eat Bulaga.”

Piolo talks about son’s mom

MANILA, Philippines - For the first time, actor Piolo Pascual talked about the mother of his son, Iñigo.

During his guest appearance on the ABS-CBN morning show “Kris TV” that was aired on Wednesday, Pascual said there is “mutual respect” between him and his former partner, who is currently living with Iñigo abroad.

“What’s nice about the mom of Iñigo is that she involves me in everything that my son does. Ipinapakita niya, ini-email niya ako, ‘yung report card ng bata. Tinatawagan niya ako kapag may problema ‘yung bata, kapag may male problem sa akin niya dinidiretso. So, well, open. There should be an open communication,” the actor said as he praised his former partner for raising their son well.

“There’s a mutual respect. Importante ‘yon. We are doing it, we are being selfless for the kid. It’s not about us,” he added.

Pascual admitted that it is hard being in constant contact with Iñigo’s mother, but he continues to do it for his son.

“Mahirap ‘yon, mahirap ‘yon. And hindi siya natatapos sa isang usapan lang, sometimes lifetime ‘yon. Hindi para sa inyo ‘yon, you have to think about the kid. Siya ‘yung involved doon, kasi ang ibinigay mo ay broken family and he didn’t deserve that. Wala namang magagawa ang bata,” he explained.

“So the only thing you can do is to be civil. You have to think things for your son or your daughter,” he added.

Currently, Pascual is promoting his upcoming series “Apoy Sa Dagat” with Diether Ocampo and Angelica Panganiban.

Christian Bautista continues to make waves in Indonesia

MANILA, Philippines – Ten years since his debut album reached multi-platinum status in Indonesia, Christian Bautista continues to enjoy success in the country.

On Valentine’s Day, the Kapamilya singer performed at Hotel Mulia in Jakarta before hundreds of Indonesian fans.

He also went to Palu, the capital of Sulawesi south east of Indonesia, where the locals’ welcome to the Filipino balladeer was marked with billboard ads, print ads and even car ads announcing Bautista’s arrival.

This isn’t the first time the former “ASAP” mainstay has been welcomed with enthusiasm and open arms in Indonesia.

Among other accomplishments there, a number of Bautista’s songs earned multi-platinum status in the country. He also topbilled his own musical TV special via Indonesia’s largest broadcast station, on top holding numerous concerts there.

Martin is ‘Big Mouth’ in talk show’s first trailer

MANILA, Philippines – Martin Nievera is returning to late night television as Mr. “Big Mouth” in his own talk show.

Released online, the first trailer of “Martin Late@ Night” sees the Kapamilya singer preparing for his hosting stint, and features the first glimpse of the program’s studio.

Apart from singing and doing concerts, Nievera also carved a reputation as a loquacious late-night host with “Martin After Dark,” which ran from 1988 to 1997. This was followed by “Martin Late@Night,” which aired on ABS-CBN in 1998 and ran until 2002.

Among the first guests of Nievera on the new “Late@Night” are former couple actress



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Brothers Birthdays



Brothers Raf Adrik and RJ De Leon celebrated their joined birthdays with Family, and playmates on Feb. 9, 2013 at their home in North York.

Cristine Reyes and actor Rayver Cruz.

‘Juan dela Cruz’ nationwide ratings soars to 42.6%

MANILA, Philippines -- The everyman-superhero series starring Coco Martin continues to dominate Philippine television, having registered its all-time highest nationwide rating.



The February 21 episode of “Juan dela Cruz” managed to top the series’ previous highest nationwide rating of 40.5%, set only two days earlier with the unfolding of the title character’s abilities as an “aswang hunter.”

Closely trailing “Juan dela Cruz” as the No. 1 TV show in the country is another ABS-CBN primetime series.

Starring Maja Salvador and Kim Chiu, “Ina, Kapatid, Anak” has consistently registered high nationwide ratings as the discovery of Margaux’s (Salvador) and Celyn’s (Chiu) real identity casts conflicts within their families.

Also according to data from Kantar Media, the February 21 episode of the drama series registered 40.4% in national TV ratings.

Completing the list of Top 5 most watched programs on the same day are three other Kapamilya offerings.

Alden Richards and Louise delos Reyes return to primetime TV with MUNDO MO’Y AKIN

Riding high on the success of their love team, Kapuso Network’s most promising talents Alden Richards and Louise delos Reyes set off to charm and seize the hearts of Filipino viewers once more via the compelling series MUNDO MO’Y AKIN.

This latest project serves as another launching pad for Alden and Louise to showcase not only their undeniable chemistry on screen but also their acting chops. They first captured viewers’ interest with their previous projects in the network including the afternoon drama Alakdana and the phenomenal series One True Love, which propelled them to stardom.



In Mundo Mo’y Akin, Alden and Louise will tackle mature and offbeat roles alongside some of the industry’s most respected actors and actresses. Alden plays the role of Jerome Alvarez, a guy who will be embroiled in a complicated love triangle between two women.

Alden expresses his excitement with his new show which will reunite him with perennial partner, Louise. The two became household names with the popularity of their characters in One True Love as Tisoy and Elize, star-crossed lovers who fought for their love all the way until the end.

“Masaya po ako na bibigyan ulit ako ng bagong primetime project, and I really hope na it would run the same as OTL did. I’m keeping my heads up on what lies ahead,” the 20-year old actor says.

Louise, on the other hand, was surprised when she found out she’s part of this big project. She’s very thrilled to work again and excited at the same time with her new challenging role in the series.

“I am very overwhelmed and excited to work again. I’m quite nervous because my character here in Mundo Mo’y Akin is different from Elize Samonte of One True Love. I am preparing myself physically, and emotionally. I need to be ready to face more heavy drama scenes.”



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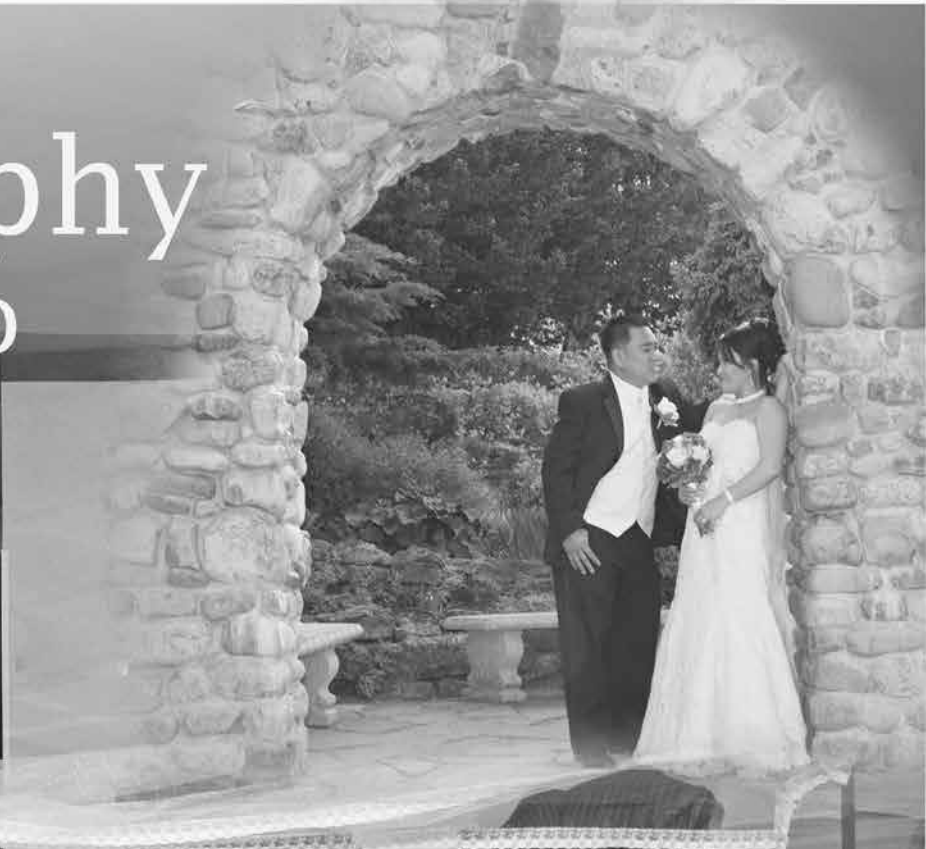


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Curtis-Smith on sister Anne’s four million Twitter followers:
“Yung iba ngang Hollywood artists, tinatalo pa rin niya, di ba?”

Matiyagang hinintay ng TV5 ang pagtatapos ng pag-aaral si Jasmine Curtis-Smith. Kaya buong pagmamalaki naman niya ang gagawing show para sa Kapatid network. Kuwento niya: “Yes, I’m actually doing a show under my name, Jasmine. Yeah... di ba bongga?”

Maganda ang pasok ng Enero para sa Kapatid Princess na si Jasmine Curtis-Smith.

Malaki ang pasasalamat niya sa dalawang endorsement deals at isang bagong show sa TV5 na talagang kinonsepto para sa kanya.

“Yes, of course. Ahm...ganoon talaga kapag you have a good management team,” nakangiting lahad ng little sister ni Anne Curtis.

Kasama ni Jasmine sa inilunsad na mga bagong amabassadors ng Toblerone ang kapwa niya TV5 talent na si Daniel Matsunaga.

A week before, inilunsad din si Jasmine ng isang beauty clinic bilang isa sa kanilang endorsers.

Pahayag niya sa PEP, “I am so much, very much blessed, to be given all these blessings within one month lang, di ba?”

“Yung Toblerone siyempre, parang in time for Valentine’s day.

“But I won’t be here on Valentine’s Day, but Daniel will be here.”

Ngayong araw ang simula ng promo ng nasabing chocolate brand at ang mga magwawagi ay personal na makakadaupang palad si Daniel sa darating na February 14.

SISTER’S FOOTSTEPS. Marami ang nakapansin na parang sinusundan niya ang yapak ng kanyang Ate Anne lalo na ang pagkakaroon ng maraming endorsement



deals.

Ano naman ang masasabi niya rito?

Aniya, “Yes, I am slowly catching all the endorsements that she has, but that being said, I am also trying, you know, to make my own name.

“And I’m so happy because people were able to separate the both of us, despite the similarities of our endorsements.”

Ano naman kaya ang masasabi niya na umabot na sa lagpas four million followers na meron ang kanyang ate sa Twitter?

Tugon ni Jasmine, “Nakakaloka! Kasi when she first reached 100 thousand, naloka na ako noon talaga.”

“When she reached one million naman, I can’t believe it kasi parang siya yung first, di ba na naka-one million?

“Now that she has four million followers, parang nakiki-level up na siya sa mga Hollywood stars, e, na may mga ganoong followers.”

“Yung iba ngang Hollywood artists, tinatalo pa rin niya, di ba? So, I’m very, very happy for her.”

TV5 PRESENTS JASMINE. Isa sa mga ipinagmamalaki ng Kapatid Network si Jasmine bilang bahagi ng kanilang “Faces Of Five.”

Kahit na paroo’t parito siya sa bansa ay ginawan ng paraan ng TV5 noon na mapaganda at matapos ang taping ng seryeng Ang Utol Kong Hoodlum.

Nagtatapos pa kasi ng kanyang pag-aaral si Jasmine noon sa Australia.

Ngayong 2013, isang bagong proyekto na naman ang kanyang gagawin na ayon sa kanya ay kakaiba sa kanyang mga nagawa na dati.

Pagmamalaki niya, “Yes, I’m actually doing a show under my name, Jasmine. Yeah... di ba bongga?”

“And that it’s going to be a sitcom daw po. I’m very much excited pero we don’t start taping yet until March.”

LOVELIFE. Did Jasmine Curtis-Smith and Sam Concepcion become a couple at one point?

Jasmine Curtis-Smith was asked on her rumored relationship with the 20-year-old Kapamilya talent.

“We’re friends, we hang out, we watch movies, ganoon. Hangout-hangout lang. We’re good friends,” said Curtis-Smith, who is the younger sister of “It’s Showtime” host Anne Curtis.

Asked whether Concepcion is courting her, she said: “Tanungin niyo na lang siya.”

Curtis-Smith kept mum, merely saying “basta,” when reporters noted that rumors have surfaced that she and Concepcion were actually a couple for a time.

“Basta we know each other, we hang out, basta ‘yun na ‘yun. I’m not denying we’re really good friends,” she said. “Somewhat, yes, somewhat we’re special.”

According to Curtis-Smith, she is set to stay for good in the Philippines to continue her showbiz career, having finished high school in Australia. The young actress said she will live with her older sister, Anne, to “establish [her] footing.”

DISASTER continued from page 1

and a pervasive system of patronage politics, results in a situation where a large percentage of the population is forced to live in exactly these places,” the report said.

It cited as an example the impacts of typhoon Sendong, which struck Cagayan de Oro, Iligan and nearby Mindanao areas in December 2011, claiming more than 1,500 lives and displacing 430,000 others.

“Many of the tragedies caused by the storm could have been averted or minimised had relevant authorities been held more accountable,” the report said.

Among the accountability mechanisms recommended is transparency in use of funds from international donor agencies.

The report particularly underscored the need to focus more on risk reduction than disaster response.

It also compared the casualties in Sendong to that of Pablo, which also hit Cagayan de Oro and Iligan but only took one life due to pre-emptive evacuation.

The latest tragedy demonstrated “that large-scale casualties can be prevented and that disaster-related internal displacement can be managed” with political will.

Recovery and reconstruction is also one of the areas in which the Philippines is



wanting.

“The slow pace of recovery and reconstruction has meant that tens of thousands of people have become more vulnerable since the disaster,” UN said.

Residents clean their sofa outside their destroyed house after Typhoon Bopha hit Compostela Valley, southern Philippines December 5, 2012. Blocked roads and severed communications in the southern Philippines frustrated rescuers on as teams searched for hundreds of people missing after the strongest typhoon this year killed at least 283 people.

This is especially true for those displaced by the effects of typhoons but have yet to “achieve a durable solution to their displacement.”

“These people were at risk when Pablo struck Mindanao in December 2012,” the report said.

Karen Muere has a Birthday



FIRST, Birthday celebrant Karen Muere and friends fixes the cake before the blowout. SECOND & THIRD, Family members join in the celebration.

FilCans’ generosity at ‘Pablo’ Benefit concert

The Filipino-Canadian community gathered together in solidarity and raised about \$3,500 for rebuilding efforts to help the victims of Typhoon Pablo during the benefit concert “Kapit Kamay sa Pagdamay” on Jan. 18, at the Glenview Presbyterian Church, in Toronto.

The funds will benefit the Gawad Kalinga (meaning: to give care) Canada village in Davao, which was also devastated by the typhoon. To date typhoon Pablo left around 1200 dead and 800 missing. Damages to infrastructure, agriculture and private properties were at CDN\$873 million.

GKC chairman Pidoy Pacis successfully appealed to everyone’s generosity by stressing the urgency of helping our displaced kabayans.

Gawad Kalinga executive director Jose Luis Oquinena updated the community on ongoing ground relief efforts taking place in the Philippines. Vice Consul Bolivar Bao of the Philippine Consulate, Toronto, meanwhile, shared that the government is now focused on rebuilding Mindanao. An AV presentation was also made on GK, an anti-poverty social movement.

The 2-hour fundraising event featured a free concert from local artists, food and beverages donated by Filipino restaurants, raffle draws and a silent auction.

Guests were serenaded by local talents Michael Masangkay, Maria Panaligan, Jonathan Alag, Mark de Leon, Jason Alba, Scott Dion Brown and Jakey “Jives” Franco.

Zaldy Cuachon of Casa Manila won the bidding for Builder of Dreams, a book authored by GK founder Tony Meloto.

Refreshment sponsors were Kanto by Tita Flips, Casa Manila, Max’s Restaurant, GAA Enterprises and Bayan Grocers.

Sponsors and volunteers were Action Honda, Bodybliss, AV Communications, TFC ABS CBN Canada, TFC dealer Aurora Cajucom, Sunlife Financial through Arnold Vallon and Cristina



ABOVE, Performers pose after the show.
BELOW LEFT, Zaldy Cuachon of Casa Manila won the bidding for the book Builder of Dreams.
BELOW RIGHT, Rafael Nebres of Action Honda, Vice Consul Bolivar Bao and Cheryl Cantonjos pose before the concert.



Menzoda, Portia Arriola, Rogelio Diaz, Rhonrose Printing, UMAC Express Cargo, Marylou’s Fashion Boutique, Mary K Jewelry, Seacret agents Jun and Renee Siao, Jeffrey and Theresa Jose, RM Printing, Judith Gonzales, Edna Tiozen, Rory Elefano and FRNAO.

Production crew was composed of Kim Jose, Cheryl Cantonjos, Adrian Manasan, Jose Austria, Chuck Dumrique, Marjorie Jose. Volunteers for registration, raffle



and auction, and food were Harriett Capalla, Odette Montelibano, Maripe Leynes, Elvie Tan and Agnes Manasan. Videography was by George Escano, photography by Gene Laomoc and Ian Suarge, content development by Digital Ink, graphic design by Diana Roldan and event and production by Benchmark Management Events and Promotions.*

DIRTY MONEY
continued from page 13

individual states handle the legal process of incorporation, often with little oversight. The corruption monitoring group says this allows the creation of anonymous companies that serve as shells and conduits for illicit money.

Corruption monitoring groups say that bank secrecy laws in some Western nations such as Switzerland as well as several islands in the Caribbean attract cash from corruption and facilitate its movement.

In recent years, Switzerland has bowed to pressure from other nations and international law enforcement agencies and loosened its secrecy laws.

The Global Financial Integrity report also included inputs from the World Bank on corruption and illicit funds.

NOT POPULAR
continued from page 8

the Philippine share -- or weighting -- in these indexes as Philippine stocks break records and trading increases, but the Philippines’ weighting in MSCI’s emerging markets index won’t budge.

Just last February, MSCI kept the Philippines at under 1% of the emerging markets index where it’s been for the past decade.

This means the Philippines and stocks of Philippine companies could be getting fewer investment dollars than they could.

The reason: The 40% cap on foreign ownership.

Because some companies are close to the 40% cap on foreign ownership, MSCI sees no reason to tell foreign investors to invest more: because they can’t.

Most hurt are the telcos, where a new policy on foreign ownership limits is still in limbo.

“There still continues confusion in terms of how foreign ownership restriction is applied. We’re monitoring closely because we get queries, a lot of investors wondering if there’s a change in the weighting. Depending on how you interpret rule, that will affect the free float factor. But we’re not doing anything because we’re awaiting the regulator, the court to make final decision and come to a final resolution,” Chin Ping Chia, MSCI head of equity research for Asia Pacific, said.

The MSCI Philippines index includes 18 stocks, less than the 30 in the PSE index.

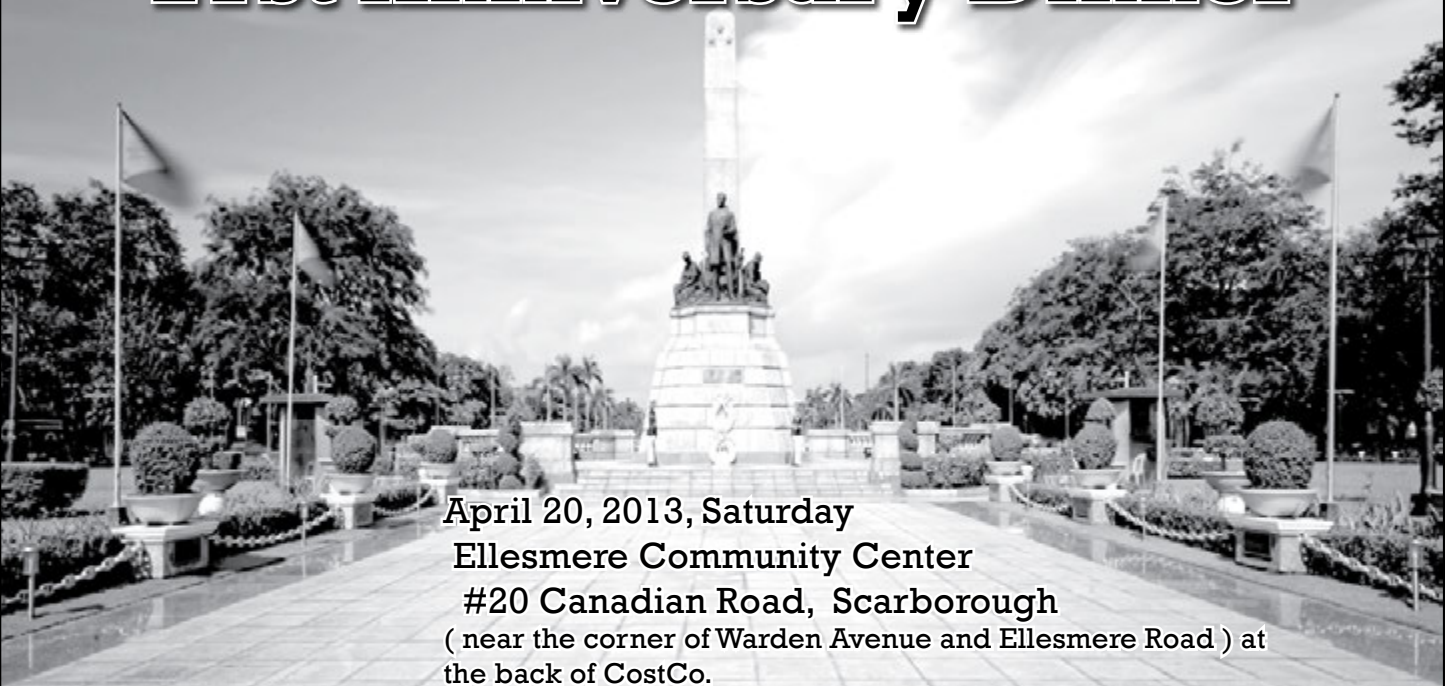
But PLDT, for example, has a weighting of just 8% in the MSCI versus 12% in the PSEi.

MSCI says it cuts a stock’s allocation in its index, when foreigners can’t buy more of the stock.

“The foreign ownership has impact of reducing the maximum amount of shares that investors can buy. You could be a non-strategic shareholder, you can be simply a foreign investor. You start buying into a company, when your peers buy into the company, very soon you will be close to the limit ... When

NOT POPULAR
continued on page 27

Scarborough Knight of Rizal's 21st Anniversary Dinner



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Tickets are for \$30

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Serye Faces Variety show

Be careful with My heart vs Eat Bulaga



Richard Yap and Jodi Sta. Maria

Who would have expected it? Not even the show’s main stars thought it would ever happen. But it did. Who would think that a romantic dramedy or what people now call a “kilig-serye” would beat the formula used by the variety and game show that has dominated the noontime airwaves for decades?

By George, they’ve got it!

For ABS-CBN, it was a puzzle solver, a code breaker that it would now use to the hilt in its attempt to pull the rug from under GMA Network’s “Eat Bulaga.” The Kapamilya network finally realized, as I’ve pointed out in a past blog post, that the competitor must always offer something different. ABS-CBN can’t just copy the formula the longest-running show has upheld for the past 35 years. It needs to innovate for a chance to compete in the noontime ratings. Proof: the Kapamilya network failed with such shows as “Magandang Tanghali Bayan,” “Wowowee,” “Pilipinas Win na Win,” and lately, with “It’s Showtime,” which was doing so well before it went directly against “Eat Bulaga.”

ABS-CBN’s killer move

Though ABS-CBN originally planned “Be Careful with My Heart” as a lead-in to “It’s Showtime,” the network decided to push the dramedy to “airspace,” where no other show had ever survived against the Tito, Vic and Joey top rater. Sensing blood because “Be Careful with My Heart” delivered consistently high ratings since it began, the network thought, why not? Have the kilig- serye compete with the Dabarkads. Now, ABS-CBN is reaping the rewards of this killer move.

‘Kilig-serye’ clobbers the Dabarkads After going to neck-to-neck with “Eat Bulaga,” and sometimes overtaking the show by a few percentage points, “Be Careful with My Heart” has made history by pulling away from its competitor with more than twice its overnight rating. Kantar Media reported that the kilig-serye on January 25 had posted a nationwide rating of 31.3% as against the noontime variety show’s 14.8%. Kantar Media boasts of a wider nationwide panel size than rival AGB Nielsen.

Fresh alternative

While the storyline is nothing new, it’s the kind of fresh alternative programming that noontime viewers have been searching for ages. Add to that the charm of the cast, led by the popular Richard “Papa Chen” Yap and Jodi Sta. Maria, and a story so delightfully identifiable and appealing to the majority of viewers on that slot, the show is set to change the game in the noontime race.

Your move, ‘Eat Bulaga’

Will “Eat Bulaga” do something about it or will it just ignore the surge as mere hype and fad, just as it has always done with other competing shows? After all, no show that went head-to-head with “Eat Bulaga” has ever survived. But can our Dabarkads really afford to ignore its new competitor? Or the other shows ABS-CBN may have in line to replace “Be Careful with My Heart” when it completes its run? While few things are certain, one thing definitely is: that “Eat Bulaga” can’t rest on its laurels forever.



PRESS RELEASE
Office of Sen. Tobias Enverga, Jr.
January 21, 2013

Sen. Tobias Enverga, Jr. highlights the Filipino trait “Bayanihan Spirit”

Senator Tobias Enverga, Jr. has highlighted the Filipino trait of the “Bayanihan Spirit” on two different occasions when he spoke at the Annual Christmas Ball of the “Filipino Canadian Association of Barrie and Suburban Areas” and the Christmas Party of the “Filipino Association of Montreal and Suburbs” (FAMAS). During his talk, Sen. Enverga, Jr. pointed out that the “Bayanihan Spirit” continues to give “a shining star to ‘the Filipino’ in this part of the world.” He called on his “kababayans” to continue helping in the work that he has started in the government so that the voices of Filipino Canadians may continue to be heard in the government.

Since he assumed office on September 7, 2012, Sen. Enverga, Jr. has been doing outreach work with the Filipino Canadian communities in various parts of Canada, so that, in turn, he may take their concerns before the government of Prime Minister Harper.

His work is paying off in that the Harper government has started noticing the Filipino Canadian community.

For example, last January 21, the Harper government held an economic consultation meeting with the Filipino Canadian business community in the Greater Toronto Area in coordination with the Philippine Chamber of Commerce-Toronto. The meeting was aimed at addressing the issues that matter most to the Filipino Canadian business sector.

Last November, Senator Enverga, Jr. traveled to the Philippines as part of the official delegation of Prime Minister Harper aimed at drumbeating increased trade between the Philippines and Canada.

During his talk at the “Filipino Canadian Association of Barrie and Suburban Areas” and the FAMAS, Sen. Enverga, Jr. said that while he serves as the voice before the Canadian federal government, he needs the members of the community as his backbone, “so that we may have one voice together,” adding that “this is what the ‘Bayanihan Spirit’ is all about; a community unity!”

KC Concepcion on Pierre Emmanuel Plassart: *‘Hindi pa ako ready kaya nag-step back muna ako’*

KC Concepcion surprisingly asked for “space” from her French suitor Pierre Emmanuel Plassart, stating that she’s not yet ready for a serious commitment at this point in her life. The two just came from a winter vacation in Japan together with KC’s family and relatives when the 27-year-old actress broke the news to her Twitter followers early this week. “Husband material na nga ‘yung taong ‘yon, kaya lang hindi pa ako ready, kaya nag-step back muna ako. Siya ‘yung tipong settling down type na, alam mo ‘yon? Wala pa ako sa level na ‘yon and I’d been very honest with him about it,” she said in a recent interview with ABS-CBNNews.com.



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A place or face from the Past
Do you remember?

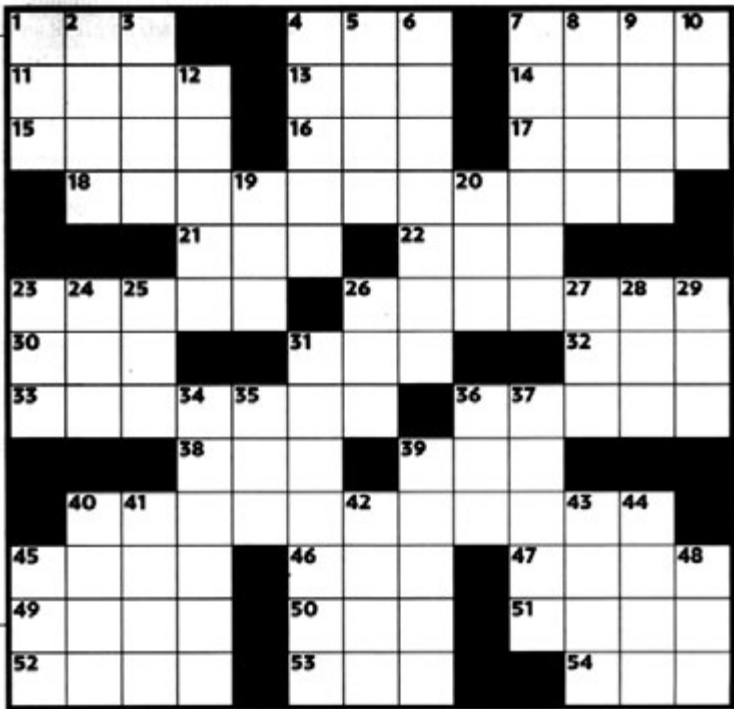


Customers and staff in the dining room of the Bayview Hotel just prior to US involvement in WWII.
Manila, Philippines • November 1941

Crossword Puzzle

- | ACROSS | DOWN |
|---|---|
| 1 ____ the King's Men (movie featuring 18 Across) | 1 Commercials |
| 4 Graduate degree (abbr.) | 2 Security breach |
| 7 Melissa Joan of Sabrina, the Teenage Witch | 3 Annika Sorenstam's group (abbr.) |
| 11 18 Across's Finding Neverland costar Johnny | 4 Search for prey |
| 13 ____ vs. Wade | 5 ____ Met Your Mother (2 wds.) |
| 14 Neighborhood | 6 Actor Brian |
| 15 The Forsyte ____ | 7 Shakespearean film starring 18 Across |
| 16 A League of Their ____ | 8 Singer India ____ |
| 17 Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless ____ (movie starring 18 Across) | 9 "Trailer for sale or ____" |
| 18 Revolutionary Road star (2 wds.) | 10 Win a Date with ____ Hamilton! |
| 21 Hollywood's state (abbr.) | 12 ____ Adams (Robin Williams movie) |
| 22 Extra-wide shoe size | 19 ____ Drink Man Woman |
| 23 ____ Club starring Brad Pitt | 20 ____ of Love (Pacino-Barkin movie) |
| 26 William of Boston Legal | 23 ____ Actress (Kirstie Alley series) |
| 30 ____ Ventura: When Nature Calls | 24 Here, to Henri |
| 31 Never ____ Die | 25 ____ Smart |
| 32 Love ____ Many-Splendored Thing (2 wds.) | 26 Cul-de-____ |
| 33 1997 Oscar-winning movie starring 18 Across | 27 ____ by Mouth (Gary Oldman-directed movie) |
| 36 18 Across's The Reader costar Fiennes | 28 The Sixth Sense subject |
| 38 Captain's journal | 29 Cheerleader's yell |
| 39 Slippery swimmer | 31 Smoke ____ |
| 40 18 Across's The Life of David Gale costar (2 wds.) | 34 Chipmunks leader et al. |
| 45 Return of the ____ | 35 "____ won't be afraid" ("Stand by Me" lyric: 2 wds.) |
| 46 Will Smith title role | 36 Actor Stephen |
| 47 The ____ (Gregory Peck movie) | 37 ____ Theatre (1950s TV series) |
| 49 ____ Brockovich | 39 Ben-Hur and The Ten Commandments, e.g. |
| 50 Jean ____ Picard of Star Trek: TNG | 40 Felicity star Russell |
| 51 ____ Called Horse (2 wds.) | 41 Nicollette Sheridan's Desperate Housewives role |
| 52 Michael J. Fox sitcom Family ____ | 42 Insult |
| 53 Upperclassmen (abbr.) | 43 18 Across's Sense and Sensibility costar Thompson |
| 54 Diamonds ____ Forever | 44 Marilyn Monroe in The Seven ____ Itch |
| | 45 West Side Story gang member |
| | 48 L.A.-to-Vegas direction (abbr.) |

Answers on
Page 26



Community Participation



FRIENDS - Photo shows Peter Mauricio (left), chief executive officer of Philippine Property Management and sales representative of City Scape Real Estate Ltd. Brokerage and Filipino newspaperman Jojo Taturan who are both actively participating in the different Filipino events in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. (St. Jamestown News Service, Romy Zetazate)

Sleep-deprived should watch their Portion Sizes



If you’ve had a sleepless night, think twice before hitting the buffet line, suggest the findings of a new study that found that the sleep-deprived tend eat greater portions of food.

In the study, published online in the journal Psychoneuroendocrinology this week, researchers out of Uppsala University in Sweden looked at the eating patterns of 16 normal-weight males under buffet-like conditions after they were forced to stay awake all night, and following a night of a solid eight-hour rest.

Participants were asked to select their portion sizes of seven meals and six snack items in both states.

“After a night of total sleep loss, [the sleep-deprived] males chose greater portion sizes of the energy-dense foods,” said lead researcher Pleunie Hogenkamp. “Interestingly, they did so both before

and after a breakfast, suggesting that sleep deprivation enhances food intake regardless of satiety.”

The Swedish study builds on a steady stream of research that has shown a link between sleep-deprivation and obesity.

Another study published last year in The American Journal of Human Biology found that the sight of junk food following a sleepless night triggered the brain’s reward centers, making the foods seem more appealing and tempting.

And another study, published in the journal Sleep last year, also found that sleep deprivation and hunger differed among genders: the tendency to overeat among men, for instance, was found to be related to increased appetite, while for women it was related to reduced feelings of fullness.

Why women care more about their looks than their health

Scary research out of the University of Missouri: Scientists have discovered that young women are more interested in how they look over how healthy they are. Researchers conducted several focus groups of

college-aged women and discovered that they paid more attention to calorie counting instead of making sure that they ate a balanced diet. As a result, they’re not always getting the nutrition that they need. What’s up with that? Nutritionists say that a lack of time to prepare a good meal and unhealthy food environments are to blame. They also said that a lot of women might not know how to make a healthy meal, either. Sure, we know it can be tough to eat healthy sometimes-especially when you don’t have much time to cook-but it’s important to take care of yourself.

Marriage is Good for the Heart - STUDY



Married people are less prone to heart attacks than singletons and more likely to recover if stricken, according to a Finnish study.

Researchers collected data on 15,330 people in Finland between the ages of 35 and 99 who suffered “acute coronary events” between 1993 and 2002.

Just over half of the patients died within 28 days of the attacks. The team found that unmarried men in all age groups were 58-66 percent more likely to suffer a heart attack than married ones.

For women the nuptial benefit was even greater -- single women were 60 to 65 percent more likely to suffer acute coronary events, the Finnish researchers wrote in the European Journal of Preventive Cardiology.

For both genders, wedlock also considerably lowered heart attack mortality. Unmarried men were 60-168 percent and unmarried women 71-175 percent more likely to die of a heart attack within 28 days, compared to their unhitched counterparts. “Single living and/or being unmarried increases the risk of having a heart attack and worsens its prognosis both in men and women regardless of age,” the team wrote.

“Most of the excess mortality appears already before the hospital admission and seems not to relate to differences in treatment.”

Speculating on the reasons, the team said married people may have a higher, combined income, healthier habits and a bigger support network. “It may be assumed that resuscitation or calling for help was initiated faster and more often among those married or cohabiting,” said the authors. They could also not discount the psychological effects of marital bliss. “Unmarried people have been found to be more likely depressed and according to previous studies depression seems to have an adverse effect on cardiovascular mortality rates,” lead author Aino Lammintausta from the Turku University Hospital told AFP.

Previous studies on the health benefits of matrimony often had sketchy data on women and older people, the researchers said.

The new study showed that marriage protected women even more than men from out-of-hospital heart attack death.

The study included people from different race groups and social backgrounds and the findings “can roughly be thought to be applicable in other western countries,” said Lammintausta.

Relying on data from population records, the team could not directly measure the effects for unmarried, cohabiting couples.

Candid SPOOF (Pop-ups are not supposed to be taken seriously - EDITOR)



Michelle Dy of the Philippine Consulate Tourism office of New York talks with Ricky Castellvi of Toronto during the PAL launch at the Toronto Shangri-La Hotel.

Crossword Answers

ALL	PHD	HART
DEPP	ROE	AREA
SAGA	OWN	MIND
KATE	WINSLET	
CAL	EEE	
FIGHT	SHATNER	
ACE	SAY	ISA
TITANIC	RALPH	
LOG	EEL	
KEVIN	SPACEY	
JEDI	ALI	OMEN
ERIN	LUC	AMAN
TIES	SRS	ARE

NOT POPULAR
continued from page 23

you reach a limit, even if they're a non-strategic shareholder, it is not possible for another investor to come in and to buy the remaining shares," he said.

"If these foreign rooms get dangerously close to a level that is impossible to replicate, what we typically do is we try to mitigate the effect by cutting the weight of the company," he added.

'PH not a darling of investors'

Despite the tear it's on, one fund manager says the Philippines isn't the darling of international investors.

First Metro Asset Management president Gus Cosio says the Philippines isn't the darling of international investors. "In my meetings with fund managers last month, a very small minority have exposure in the Philippine equity market. All these inflows we are seeing are coming from a smaller minority of Philippine watchers," Cosio said.

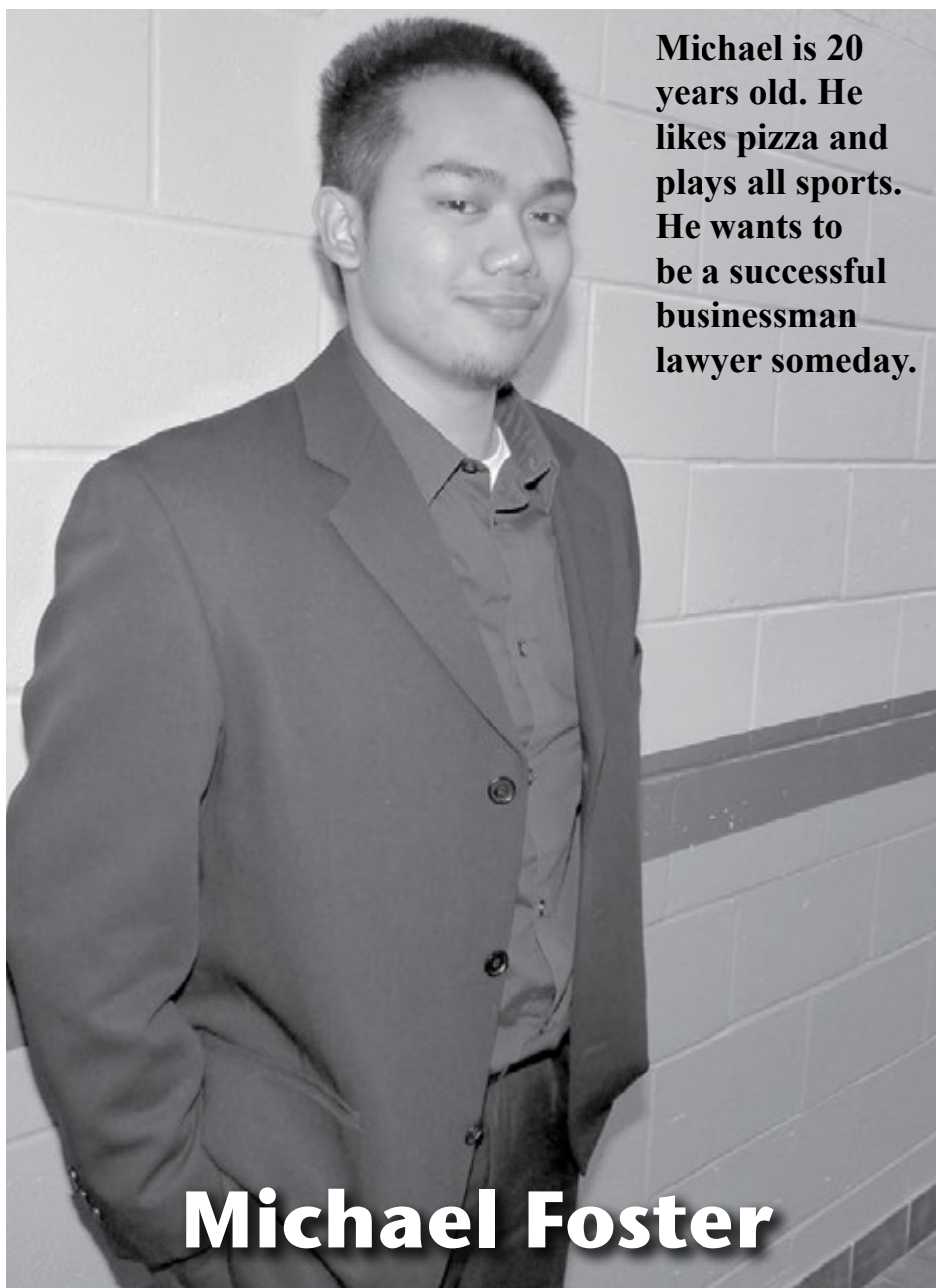
Cosio said net foreign buying remains thin, just \$800 million in the last six weeks, not even half of the volume turnover of the Hang Seng in one day.

April Lee Tan, research head of COL Financial, says it's not just hot money that the Philippines is missing out on. It's also foreign direct investments supposedly for factories, BPOs and capital-intensive industries.

MSCI says it's not there to pick which companies are bad or good, which ones as healthy or not.

MSCI says it helps investors capture opportunities which can't be there if a market's doors are not entirely open.

hunk shot



Michael is 20 years old. He likes pizza and plays all sports. He wants to be a successful businessman lawyer someday.

Michael Foster



Jennylyn, 'unforgettable' to Mark Herras

MANILA, Philippines - It's been 10 years since Mark Herras and Jennylyn Mercado won the first "StarStruck" artista search, became a love team on and off camera; broken-up and now have their respective romance in order. Despite that, Mark admitted that Jennylyn remained unforgettable to him.

"Siguro kaya di ko siya makakalimutan agad-agad dahil yung naging samahan namin sa trabaho. Naging love team kami ng sobrang tagal tapos ngayon naman okay kaming magkaibigan," explained Mark.

Mark and Jennylyn fans also know about their roller-coaster romance which ended after almost two years. The two have worked in different TV and movie projects like "Paano Ba Ang Mangarap," "Encantadia," "Let The Love Begin" and "Ikaw Sana," among others.

Jennylyn may be his unforgettable past, but his relationship with Ynna Asistio is his unforgettable present. He is proud that she is his longest relationship. They've been on for five years already.

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