

TB on the Rise in PHL

Crowded living conditions contribute to rise of TB cases

MANILA, Philippines—A large proportion of tuberculosis patients in the US are Asians, most of them Filipinos, a San-Francisco based medical expert has disclosed.

Dr. L. Masae Kawamura, former president of the North American Region of the International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, told reporters last week about the rising statistics of Filipino patients suffering from TB who are migrating to the United States.

She said in a press forum that TB is an “outcome of poor public health.” She appealed to the local government and health offices to prioritize early TB screening and bolster treatment in the country.

“The Philippines exports more tuberculosis patients than import at this point... TB is a disease of poverty and migration, and urbanization [because] people are moving from the rural

TB ON THE RISE
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Filipino Picnic Day in Milton

The first Filipino Picnic Day in Milton on July 20, 2013 was attended by approximately 500 people, which was more than what was expected. Here, young singer Reena Goze performs at the Filipino Picnic Day in Milton.

INSET PHOTOS FROM TOP, Rommel Billones entertains the crowd with different dance genres to different songs; Noah Bimbo performs a hip-hop dance; The Milton Lighthouse Christian Ministries sing and dance for the audience; Doctor Solon Guzman contributes to the gas money for band, who performed free.

“Ekstra ” retitled “The Bit Player” in Toronto Film Festival

MANILA - As a self-confessed fan of independent films, Batangas governor Vilma Santos admitted that she has long

wanted to be part of an indie film.

“Ang tagal ko na sa pelikula ako bida pero ngayon ako ang extra, yun na. Yun na

yon. In two weeks’ time we were able to start,” she shared.

From her experience, as someone with

over five decades of stellar, titular role

EKSTRA on page 8

PCCF joins Caribana



Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation Miss Philippines Canada 2013 Caitlin Pantaleon (CENTER) poses with dancers at the Caribana parade.

Aquino now wants Pork Abolished

Aquino misleading when he says “Time to Abolish PDAF” - BAYAN

MANILA, Philippines – “Panahon na po para i-abolish ang PDAF.”

President Aquino made this statement on Friday, August 23, in a speech aired live nationwide from Malacañang, weeks after the systematic siphoning of lawmakers’ pork barrel by dubious NGOs was exposed in media reports and later confirmed in a special government audit.

But, really, what he was saying: an overhauled pork barrel system – supposedly designed to be more transparent – will only replace the now much-maligned PDAF.

“Sisiguruhin kong bawat mamamayan at sektor ay makakakuha ng patas na bahagi ng pambansang budget para sa serbisyong pangkalusugan, scholarship, proyektong lumilikha ng kabuhayan, at lokal na imprastruktura,” the President said, before enumerating budgetary reforms.

Days ago, the President stood firm on keeping the Priority Assistance

NO SEX FOR FLIGHT
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Automated voting 99.97% accurate

Machine and People will never be the same

MANILA -The automated counting of votes in the May 13 elections proved 99.9747 percent accurate, according to results of a random manual audit (RMA) of votes in more than 200 precincts nationwide.

The 99.9747 percent accuracy rate is slightly higher than the percentage reported in the 2010 elections, but still falls short of the 99.995 percent rate set by the Commission on Elections, which the RMA Chair says is understandable

as machine and human appreciation will never be the same.

In the 2010 presidential election, RMA results registered an accuracy rate of 99.6 percent.

"Machine and people will never be the same. You cannot ever bed the AES (automated election system) and the manual count and come up with the perfect match because there is always the human factor to consider when the manual system...is concerned," said

Ambassador Henrietta De Villa, the Chair of the RMA Committee.

De Villa is also the chair of the Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting (PPCRV), one of the election commission's citizens' arms.

"It's not perfect but it is definitely accurate, very accurate," says Comelec Chairman Sixto Brillantes Jr. who agrees

AUTOMATED ACCURATE
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Kim Chiu and Xian Lim during the press launch of the new movie "Bakit Hindi Ka Crush ng Crush Mo?"

Xian happy Crush movie a Success

MANILA - Xian Lim was overjoyed with the success of his first big screen team-up with Kim Chiu "Bakit Hindi Ka Crush ng Crush Mo". "Naisip ko lang ngayon na overflowing happiness sa sarili ko dahil we gave our best shot and we gave it all our hearts," he remarked.

Kim and Xian admitted feeling nervous about the outcome of their launching movie since this is the first time they are taking their love team to the big screen.

Xian added, "Finally, it's happening. Sana suportahan niyong lahat at siguradong hindi namin kayo bibiguin."

Is he open to do another movie with Kim? "Para sa akin kung ano man ang ibibigay sa akin ng management don ko nilalagay 'yung buong taya ko eh."

Xian attributed the box-office success of the movie, not only to his tandem with Kim, but also to the efforts of the whole team of the film. "Para sa akin din [it's successful] dahil sa buong team ng Bakit Hindi Ka Crush ng Crush Mo, from the director, to the whole staff and the whole team."

Scrap the Cedula

Why Escudero wants cedula scrapped



Senator-elect Francis Escudero and Heart Evangelista are seen together during the official proclamation of the top six Senators who won the 2013 mid-term national and local elections.

MANILA - Are cedulas really useless?

For Senator Francis "Chiz" Escudero, the community tax certificate has long lost its significance and value in the

modern days.

In fact, Escudero is convinced the government should abolish the use of cedula as a form of identification in Senate Bill No. 1082.

"The cedula now proves to be an unnecessary burden imposed on our people who are required to present it when doing public transactions," Escudero said.

"It was deemed useless by our forebears during the colonial times, it is more so today," he added.

A cedula is required when a person acknowledges a document before a notary public, takes an oath of office or

SCRAP THE CEDULA
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CNE Rising Star 2013 Contest

Maria Panaligan listens to the judges during the preliminary rounds of the CNE singing contest.



Naku HA! by Jose Baking
LittleManilaConfidential.com

Public Service Announcement

As a member of Reporters Without Borders, I go to dangerous places where no other men dare to go and report on the situation as a public service for humanity. One such place is the Fairbanks Gentleman's Club - a strip club - which has been renamed Backstage Theatre, located at 2418 Dufferin St., north of Eglinton. When it was FGC, women dance on stage for three songs each. On the first song, they have their top and bottom covered. On the second song, they remove the top. On the third song, they remove the bottom. Now that it is called Backstage Theatre, they do not remove the bottom anymore on the third song. I asked the Filipina waitress there why is that. "Because it is not a strip club anymore. It is now a theatre," she said. No, she was not being facetious, or sarcastic. She was serious and said it with a straight face. On my way out, I was looking for schedules when they would stage "A Streetcar named Desire," or "Noli Me Tangere." No such luck. Fortunately, they still offer lap dances. Before they cost \$20 for a minimum of 2 dance and \$10 a dance after that. A dance is based on per song played. Now, they charge \$40 minimum for 15 minutes. I forgot what they charge after that. This is a public service announcement for the benefit of the Filipino community. Nudge nudge, wink wink.

Newsflash

Losing candidate tells members to expel president they just elected. HUH? Uh...how?

No Sex for Flight but Sex for Hire

Apparently, the investigation into alleged sex for flight home is turning into a nothing much at all. But apparently, there is a sex for hire by private individuals in the Middle East countries mentioned. So, officials of consulates and embassies are not involved. But there is more to the story.

Officials can still be charged

Sources said both the accused officials could face administrative charges for negligence in their duty for allowing the incident within their jurisdiction.

The PHL government said that the officers failed to help the OFW which forced them to turn to sex for hire operators. In short, the complainants turned to prostitution. And here is where it gets confusing. More confusing is that the government is not indicating what helped was asked and what help could have been given to prevent these OFW's from turning to prostitution. By the way, by making a false accusation, shouldn't these OFW's be charged instead?

Repatriation Calls Ignored

Apparently, when a host country is in a civil war, the Philippines issues a repatriation call

to all OFW's. By the looks of it, a majority of workers ignores the call to return to the Philippines. Bakit ka nga naman babalik? Lalabas ka lang ng Pilipinas, katakot tako na lagay pa ang gagawin mo. Wala ka nang trabaho sa Pilipinas, hindi ka pa makalabas kung hindi ka maglalagay ng katako takot na fees at mas maraming paperwork. Stay put ka na nga lang. Besides, sa feeling nga OFW, getting killed in the country they are in is probably slim if you do not get involved sa gulo nila.

Rain=Flood

It is always like this. If it rains, it always floods. And the usual solutions are always the same. But does anybody really follow up on those solutions? Before Interior boss Jess Robredo died, he said the squatters have to be moved. Now, Interior boss Mar Roxas has the job of moving them. But have they been moved already? Hindi pa rin. If you remove them, who is going to make sure they do not go back? The local politicians?

Pork will now be called Tofu

By the looks of it, the Priority Development Assistance Fund, or pork barrel, will be called something else. Well, actually, Preseident Aquino said it will be overhauled. But critics say, that is not the same as overhauling it. It is just renaming it. So now it will be called Tofy to make it less appetizing to all the pigs (guilty politicians) in the trough.

Spotlight Lo-waist Gang



Fernando Poe, Jr, only 17, with leading lady, Corazon Rivas, in a publicity shot for their movie, Larry Santiago Productions' "Lo' Waist Gang" (1956).

Fernando Poe, Jr. was barely 17 years old when he starred in the first of a series of highly successful "Lo' Waist Gang" in July 1956. It jumpstarted his career after a below par showing of his first movie, "Anak ni Palaris" in 1955.

The public tended to see Lo-Waist Gang as a real-life gang that Ronnie, like any other members of the gang, often found themselves provoked and set upon by kanto boys wanting to test them out. Actually, says Ronnie, Lo' Waist was a gang only onscreen; Zaldy Zshornack had his own barkada, and so did Boy Sta. Romana; and the only members that Ronnie moved around with after working hours were Berting Labra (because Labra worked for Poe senior) and Boy Francisco (because Boy and Ronnie were both courting Corazon Rivas at that time). "I didn't become really close to Zaldy until after Lo' Waist," says Ronnie.

Lo' Waist Gang was the big break, but Ronnie's smile is rather sad as he reels off the once-famous gang's names: Zaldy, Labra, Sta. Romana, Bobby Gonzales, Tony Cruz, Mario Antonio, Butch Bautista, Boy Francisco... "Let me see, have I forgotten anybody?" And melancholy does resound in the litany as one thinks of Boy Sta. Romana, violently dead; or of Zaldy, who soared and slipped and came back; or of the others for the moment of glory was as brief as youth, though the '50s are forever young in their faces.

For Lo' Waist not only summed up a generation, the barkada youth of the 1950s; it was also a landmark in Philippine movies, as may be seen in Ronnie's transformation. From the escapist unreality of the costume pictures he had been doing, he shifted, in Lo' Waist, along with the Philippine cinema, to the contemporary world and became topical, wearing the look of the '50s, speaking the idiom of the '50s. It was the Santiagos who made Philippine cinema of our times.

Lo' Waist Gang was such a huge box-office success and prompted the production of sequels all totaling 8 more (from 1956 to 1960). It also started a fashion fad then: low-waist pants.

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ABOVE, Nitnit Malana celebrated her birthday with family and friends in their home in North York on July 19, 2013.

RIGHT, In front of the Provincial Parliament, on July 30, 2013; Judith Gonzales was interviewed by CBC, and CTV newscasters regarding the illegal action of the Provincial Government's Ministry of Training and Universities (MTCU) to attempt to shut down the CICC School. Since the interview was done, the MTCU employee that did the illegal act is no longer in the same position; and the government lawyers, and the CICC lawyer are working to reach a resolution.

PHOTOS BY ARIEL RAMOS



LAUGH RESORT

Who's Tunto now?

The Lone Ranger and Tonto went camping in the desert. After they got their tent all set up, both men fell sound asleep. Some hours later, Tonto wakes the Lone Ranger and says, 'Kemo Sabe, look towards sky, what you see?'

The Lone Ranger replies, 'I see millions of stars.'

What that tell you?' asked Tonto.

The Lone Ranger ponders for a minute then says, 'Astronomically speaking, it tells me there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, it tells me that Saturn is in Leo. Time wise, it appears to be approximately a quarter Past three in the morning. Theologically, the Lord is all-powerful and we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, it seems we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. What's it tell you, Tonto?

"You dumber than buffalo shit. It means someone stole the tent."

ANG PALAY

Napansin ni Mister ang pagiging matabang ni Misis.

Mister: "Pare palagay ko ang Kumare mo kinakaliwa ako pero hindi ko mapatunayan."

Kumpadre: "May paraan para mo mapatunayan ang hinala mo."

Mister: "Paano?"

Kumpadre: "Di ba Pare ang kama ninyo ay 'yong double bed, 'Yong bang box spring na may nakapatong na mattress sa ibabaw?"

Mister: "Oo. Ngayon?"

Kumpadre: "Maglagay ka ng isang gatang na palay sa kama ninyo. Sa pagitan ng box spring at mattress pero huwag mong ipaalam kay Kumare."

Mister: "Eh, ano naman ang kinalaman ng palay kung totoo ngang kumakaliwa ang Kumare mo?"

Kumpadre: "Pare, iyong palay pag naging bigas.....SIGURADONG MAY BUMAYO."

Honey SHOT



Santacruzian beauty Nica loves ice cream. She loves to travel. She is the daughter of Virginia and Ding of Brampton.

Nica Victa

PH extends visa-free stay for 151 countries

MANILA - The Philippines is extending a warmer welcome to citizens of 151 countries by allowing them to stay in the country visa-free longer.

Starting Aug. 1, 2013, nationals from countries with visa-free privilege may stay for 30 days in the Philippines, SAID the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA). The visa-free stay is an extension of the previous period of only 21 days.

The new policy is in line with government goals of boosting tourism and attracting more foreign investments in various areas in the Philippines.

Under the new scheme, qualified foreign nationals only need to present a passport valid for at least six months beyond their planned stay and an outbound ticket.

"This move will hopefully encourage more tourists and investors to visit and stay in the Philippines by removing the need for them to report to immigration offices for a stay of up to a month," Assistant Secretary of Consular Affairs Jaime Victor Ledda said.

"It will also give them more flexibility in planning and managing their schedules," he added.

Meanwhile, Brazil and Israel nationals may still stay in the country 59-day visa-free given bilateral agreements with the Philippines.

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Authorities:

Princess sold alcohol at cockfights



PORTLAND, Oregon — Investigators say a Romanian princess sold food and alcohol during cockfighting derbies that she and her husband are accused of running at their Oregon ranch.

In an application for a search warrant unsealed last month, investigators say two informants secretly recorded the cockfights for a year.

Authorities say the videos show Irina Walker, daughter of the last king of Romania, selling alcohol and food to spectators.

Walker and her husband, former deputy sheriff John Walker, have pleaded not guilty to charges of running an illegal gambling operation and conspiring to violate the Animal Welfare Act.

Investigators say they seized cash, financial records, cellphones, firearms and fighting implements. They also took needles, medications and a substance they suspect is methamphetamine.

Authorities say roosters are often given drugs to improve their performance.

Irina Walker is shown in this booking photo provided by the Multnomah County, Ore., Sheriff on Friday, Aug. 16, 2013. Two years ago, Irina Walker hobnobbed with European royalty in Bucharest to celebrate the 90th birthday of her own regal father, former Romanian King Michael I. On Friday, she and her husband John Wesley Walker, a former Oregon sheriff's deputy, appeared in court to face charges they ran a cockfighting business on their ranch in Eastern Oregon.



Jericho Rosales engaged to Kim Jones

MANILA - Urian Best Actor Jericho Rosales with girlfriend Kim Jones.

Kapamilya actor Jericho Rosales is now engaged to his Filipino-British girlfriend Kim Jones.

Jericho turned to social media on Sunday, August 4, to announce their engagement. The celebrity sweethearts have been together for more than a year.

He thanked Kim, who is also celebrating her birthday today, for "saying yes" to him.

According to Angeli Pangilinan-Valenciano, Jericho's manager, Jericho proposed during their Church's Sunday service in Alabang.

Many have been sending positive tweets to the newly-engaged couple. Jericho thanked everyone for the support.

Kim also announced on Twitter that she is already engaged. She thanked Jericho for making her the "happiest lady in the world." She also thanked her followers online for their greetings.

It was in 2012 when Jericho revealed that Kim is his girlfriend. Jericho initially wanted people to know her first for who she is and her work. The two met in March 2011 and became sweethearts in October of the same year.

"Normal siyang tao sa loob at labas. Basta importante nagkasundo kami sa surfing, mahal siya ng pamilya ko, mga kaibigan ko, sa Genesis (his management company)," Jericho said in a previous interview.

Kim also previously said that Jericho's fans are very supportive of their relationship.

"I love his fans, they're very supportive. We tweet each other a lot of times. It's nice to have that support," Kim said.

Filipinos ignoring calls for repatriation from Egypt

MANILA, Philippines—The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) said Filipinos in Egypt were coming to the Philippine Embassy in Cairo in trickles to sign up for repatriation after the violence in that Middle East country worsened.



The same lukewarm response from Filipinos was seen by the DFA during past evacuations of Philippine citizens from other crisis-stricken countries in Africa and the Middle East.

DFA spokesman Assistant Secretary Raul Hernandez (PHOTO) called again on Filipinos in Egypt to heed the call of their government and leave the Arab country where protests against the sacking of President Mohammed Morsi have grown increasingly large and violent.

"We are urging our citizens to register with the embassy as soon as possible," said Hernandez.

He said the Philippine Embassy in Cairo had mobilized Filipino community leaders to assist in the repatriation by reaching out to the estimated 6,000 Filipinos all over Egypt.

"We have been advising our people to take extra precautions and to seek help from our embassy. We believe it is for their safety that they be repatriated," Hernandez said in a press briefing on Thursday.

Hernandez said previous mandatory repatriations conducted by the DFA in other troubled countries were also initially met with indifference by Filipino expatriates.

"That's always the challenge that we face with regard to mandatory repatriation. We experienced this in Libya, Syria and also in Yemen," he said.

"What is important is that we continue to encourage them and make resources available to them so that when they finally decide to go home for their safety, we can help them," Hernandez said.

The government has released \$240,000, or about P10 million, to cover the repatriation effort, including the airfare of returning Filipinos.

So far only five Filipinos—three from Cairo and two from Alexandria—had taken up the government offer of a free ride home, arriving in Manila on Wednesday afternoon.

Currently the DFA is also conducting a mandatory repatriation of Filipinos from Syria where civil war has broken out between rebel forces and the military of President Bashir al-Assad. Since 2011, the Philippine government has flown 4,510 Filipinos home, leaving some 3,000 still in Syria.

Eastern Canada Evangelical Mission *Iglesia ni Cristo* (Church of Christ)



The Eastern Canada Evangelical Mission of the Iglesia ni Cristo (Church of Christ) was a very successful event. Members of the INC from the District of Eastern Canada attended en masse at Woodbine Park to celebrate the anniversary of the founding of the church.

Yanga calls on fellow KoR members to support Group Assembly

By Dindo Orbeso



"I am calling all members of the Knights of Rizal throughout the world to support and attend the 4th Canada Regional Assembly of the Knights of Rizal which is slated on August 31, 2013 until September 2, 2013 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, 1255 Jeanne Mance Street, Montreal, Quebec, Canada," said Sir Manny Yanga, KCR, the Knights of Rizal Scarborough Chapter.

The Order of the Knights of Rizal throughout the world is committed to the promotion and propagation of Dr. Jose P. Rizal, the Philippines National

Scarborough Toyota's Manny Yanga poses with Steve Biaco and Philip Beloso during Father Albert Macalipay's dinner celebration.

Hero, ideals of human dignity, freedom, justice, and being the champion of human rights and ease.

According to Yanga, There are about 400 delegates wh are expected to attend the KOR 4tn Assembly which are coming from Canada, United States, Europe, and Asia.

Sir George Poblete, KGCR, Canada Rizal Regional Commander will be on

hand to receive officers and members of the Knights of Rizal from other parts of the world.

The Knights of Rizal Montreal Chapter is headed by Chapter Commander Sir Rey Balansi, KCR. as chairman who has been busy in preparing the venue and other things needed during the assembly. Sir Balansi can be reached at 514 - 2917 - 4365, Email: Reybalansi@yahoo.ca.

Other members of his team include: Sir John Linden, KCR, chancellor, 514 - 823 - 4537, Email: johnlinden@hotmail.ca; Sir Dario Boco, KCR, deputy chapter commander, 514 - 995 - 7612; Email: darioboco@hotmail.com; and Sir Regie Villamor, KCR, 514 - 826 - 9568, Email: rags_reviscon@yahoo.com.

Sir Poblete can be reached at 416 - 298 - 0573 and 416 - 712 - 5735, Email: gpoblete@sympatico.ca; while Rizal Canada Deputy Regional Commander Jaime Marasigan can be contacted at 905 - 472 - 3194 and 416 - 888 - 1262, Email: jmarasigan@sympatico.ca.

The email address of Sir Manny Yanga is mannyyanga@gmail.com, 416 - 858 - 0616. (St. Jamestown News Service)



Billy Crawford Shrugs Off Gay Rumor

One of the issues being thrown to "It's Showtime" host Billy Crawford after his controversial break-up with actress Nikki Gil is his 'sexual preference.'

The host/actor in an interview by ABS-CBNNews.com addressed the issue by asking a rhetorical question: "Mukha ba akong bakla?"

"What the hell is wrong with you people? You guys are just so wrong, man," he added.

Crawford reportedly left the country on Saturday to be with his family during these hard times of his life. He did not disclose when he will be coming back.

His parting words: "Maraming, maraming salamat po sa lahat ng sumusuporta...see you guys soon!"

Newly-Formed Council of Filipino Canadian Professionals in Ontario Slates Free Career Seminar and Official Launch

By : Tony A. San Juan, OCT

TORONTO - Purposefully and meaningfully pursuing its mandate and mission, the newly- organized Council of Filipino Canadian Professionals of Ontario(CFCPO) will hold its official introduction as a partner and participant in the ever- growing Filipino Canadian community and as well in the mainstream community in the province. CFCPO, formally organized on May 5,2013, in Richmond Hill, Ontario, is set to introduce its structure, purpose & programs and procedures largely to targeted Pinoy professionals, internationally-educated newcomer -immigrants and other stakeholders.

The Council will sponsor a free career seminar- cum-soft launch on September 8, 2013, Sunday, 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. at Forest Hills Loblaws, # 396 St. Clair Avenue, Toronto. The event will focus on providing insights, advice and information about effective career search tools & techniques, and networking strategies for newcomer-immigrant professionals and other interested professionals. Likewise, the activity will introduce the Council to the

general public regarding its rationale, goals, expectations and programs. CFCPO is also open to membership or Pinoy professionals . As members and clients they will receive valuable information of CFCPO's initial and planned services regarding professional accreditation/ licensing, mentoring & training services, job links & referral and other career or professional development engagements.

Organized by 7 professionals as an offshoot of their seminar participation at TRIEC(Toronto Region Immigrants Employment Council), the current CFCPO Executive Council is composed of Ontario practicing professionals namely : Dr. Ben Pangilinan(physician), Nestor Perez(accountant), Jesse Panem & Tony A. San Juan(educators), and Armela Marano, Lani Cuevas & Elena Aguilar(social workers). The other CFCO members include Dr. Elmer Espinosa(medicine) ,Anna Maramba (media consultant) Joel Cuevas(IT) and Dr. Silvino Decena(general practice).

The Council and its members aim to rightfully proffer their respective expertise and experiences, through its established programs and projects, by reaching out, contributing and assisting & supporting fellow professionals especially newcomer professionals considered as internationally-trained human resource, from our bayang sinilangan, achieve desirable adjustment and productive integration in the challenging professional and career environment in Ontario.

For seminar registration and further details interested members of the community is requested to contact : Armela Marano, CFCPO executive director, at: amaranoc@dcntex.org/ 647-853-1542 or Nestor Perez, training & development chairman, at: naperez@rogers.com

To join CFCPO, contact Tony A. San Juan, chairman of the the Membership Committee, at : tnysanjuan@yahoo.ca.(TSJ)

Tony A. San Juan, OCT
tnysanjuan@yahoo.ca

Philippine Canadian Chamber of Commerce Toronto Picnic



FROM LEFT, Issa and Flor prepare the food; A funny-looking game is won by the girls team; Winning girls team in one of the games show their prize t-shirts; A game of shoot the ball between couples is not a ball-buster despite how it looks; Katrina Rafael enjoys the festivities. MORE AT FILIPINOGOODLIFE.COM

Fiesta ng Kalayaan

*a Rainway Bigger Success, despite
a stronger rainfall - Again!*

MISSISSAUGA - “Fiesta ng Kalayaan” is jointly hosted by Culture Philippines of Ontario (CPO), Fiesta Filipina Dance Troupe (Fiesta), Kalayaan Cultural Community Centre (KCCC) and Kalayaan Filipino Cultural Organization (KFCO).

Sen. Enverga, Jr. is very familiar with the work of the KFCO as it was with the organization that the only Filipino Canadian Senator in the upper house of Canadian Parliament has had his first volunteer work in the Filipino Canadian community, serving as the Marketing Chair for the “Spirit of Kalayaan” in 1998 at the Skydome (now Rogers Centre) where over 21-thousand people gathered together under one roof and joined in the centennial celebration of Philippine independence.

Last year, the first year of Fiesta ng Kalayaan was accompanied by rain. Still, the people came. This year, it also rained the whole day and the people still came.

“But this one was stronger,” said Rusty del Rosario, as we both held on to a screen tent that was being blown away.

The strong downpour happened at around 4:30 and went on for about 20 minutes. After that, the rain let up a bit and the festival continued to its glorious finish.



LEFT, Kapamilya star Paolo Avelino gets close to the crowd. ABOVE RIGHT, Fellow Kapamilya star Bea Alonzo entertains the fans who braved the rains just to see them. ABOVE - The organizers of the event show with pride a citation given by Sen. Tobias Enverga, Jr. from the Senate of Canada on their support to the government's multiculturalism policy, with the annual staging of the “Fiesta ng Kalayaan” at the Mississauga Celebration Square. Senator Enverga with Conservative MP Wladyslaw Lizon for Mississauga East-Cooksville (extreme left), congratulate Dr. Solon Guzman, Rusty Del Rosario, Ms. Aguinaldo, Ruffy Romano and all the organizers of the Fiesta ng Kalayaan. PHOTOS BY RENE SEVILLA
MORE AT FILIPINOGGODLIFE.COM

EKSTRA
from page 1



under her belt, Santos said that the independent filmmaking is more driven by raw emotions and elements.

“[Ang difference] depende sa script and sa role na ginagampanan mo. Pero ako sa tingin ko, sa mainstream kasi mayroon tayong tinatawag na cinematic effect na parang comics na gustong gusto ng fans. Sa Indie hindi. Mas totoo, mas gusto nila,” she said.

“May dialogue na for mainstream para bumenta, kailangan bibigyan mo ng extra effort. Sa Indie hindi. May sarili silang world and attack kung paano magiging natural,” she added.

Another major difference between mainstream and independent movies that Santos had observed was on the profit-making aspect.

“Sa mainstream, parang kailangan may kadikit na dapat box office. Kailangan medyo comic, kailangan sinasampal. Sa indie, hangga’t maaari, hindi,” the Star for all Seasons supplied.

Apart from the exceptional experience of playing the role of an extra opposite equally big stars like her namely Cherie Gil, Piolo Pascual, Cherry Pie Picache, Marian Rivera and Richard Yap, among others, Santos noted that she was able to discover the sad undertakings of extras who are often “maltreated” on the set thru the film.

“Matagal ko ng nararamdaman yun, hindi ko nalang ie-elaborate kung ano ang ginagawa ko sa set everytime na nakakakita ako ng kung papano sila, sometimes, namamaltrato. Pero nakikita ko minsan na masyadong malayo ang gap between the stars at yung kino-consider na bit players or yung tinatawag na extra,” shared Santos. The veteran actress-politician has highlighted that such shouldn’t be the case because “even if they are bit players or extras, parte parin sila ng pelikula. Dahil walang mabubuo na TV series or pelikula kung walang extras.”

“Ekstra,” the first independent film of veteran actress Vilma Santos, has been invited to participate in the 38th Toronto International Film Festival, which will be held on September 5 to 15. Meanwhile, three other Filipino films will be showing in Toronto. It is retitled “The Bit Player” in the TIFF website.

According to the newspaper, Brillante Mendoza’s “Sapi,” which stars Dennis Trillo, Baron Geisler and Meryl Soriano, will have its world premiere in Toronto as part of Vanguard Section.

“Norte (Hangganan ng Kasaysayan),” starring Sid Lucero, Angeli Bayani and Archie Alemania, will have its North American premiere at the Canadian film festival. The movie, directed by Lav Diaz, was shown in the Un Certain Regard section in Cannes last May.

Also fresh from its Cannes screening, the restored version of Lino Brocka’s classic “Maynila Sa Kuko ng Liwanag” starring Hilda Koronel and Bembol Roco, will be presented at Toronto’s Cinematheque.

US, Phl vow freedom of navigation amid Asia sea spat



Philippine fishing boats are anchored near a foreign cargo vessel facing the South China sea at the port of Santa Cruz, Zambales province, north of Manila on May 10, 2012.

MANILA - The United States and the Philippines have vowed to maintain freedom of navigation in a Southeast Asia increasingly beset by maritime territorial rows, the two military allies said.

The military chiefs of the two countries made the pledge in the United States as their governments held talks on expanding the American military presence in the Philippines, a joint statement said.

“We share a common interest in maintaining freedom of navigation, unimpeded lawful commerce, and transit of people and goods across the seas,”

said Philippine military chief General Emmanuel Bautista and General Martin Dempsey, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff.

“We resolve to... strengthen the Southeast Asia security environment in a manner that protects the interests of all who value unimpeded commerce transiting through the maritime domain, while deterring those who would restrict it or act in a manner that might place it at risk.”

The Philippines has been looking to the United States for military and political support as part of efforts to protect its claims to South China Sea waters from an increasingly assertive China.

Both generals called for a “rules-based approach in resolving competing claims in maritime areas by peaceful means -- within the framework of international law”.

Though the statement did not mention China, the Philippines has accused Beijing of endangering Asian peace and maritime commerce through its claims over most of the South China Sea, including areas close to the coast of the Philippines.

While the United States has insisted

it does not take sides in the dispute, it has been seeking to rebuild its military footprint in the Philippines, a military ally since 1951, as part of President Barack Obama’s strategic “pivot” to Asia.

“We expect a robust, balanced and responsive security partnership... (through) mutually beneficial bilateral military training, exercises and operations, provided by an increased rotational and temporary presence of US military forces operating from Armed Forces of the Philippines-controlled facilities,” the statement said.

The Philippines had hosted tens of thousands of US soldiers at two bases near Manila, but they were forced to leave in 1992 after the Philippine Senate voted to end their lease contracts amid strong anti-American sentiment.

A new agreement in 1999 allowed US troops to return to the Philippines for joint military exercises every year.

US special forces have also been rotating through the southern Philippines since 2002 to help local soldiers who are fighting Islamic militants.

Filipino Picnic Day in Milton

MILTON - The first Filipino Picnic Day in Milton on July 20, 2013 was attended by approximately 500 people, which was more than what was expected. Even some Filipinos from neighbouring towns and cities came to join. The food provided by the sponsors and food brought by the attendees were overflowing. Participants and spectators had a blast of the games.

Each person from different ages enjoyed their time at the picnic. The performers and the live band were fantabulous! A lot of prizes were also given away including two adult bikes, two Samsung Galaxy Tablets, one Dental Treatment certificate, t-shirts and a lot of gift cards. By the way, the event was free of charge. All went home with a big smile on their faces. To the major sponsors and organizers, Anthony Chua of AJS Grocery Inc., Dr. Solon and Josephine Guzman of Milton Dentistry, Dr. Maribel Mendoza of Hawthorne Urgent Care Clinic and husband Mike Orteza, Reynolds Reyes of Crossroads Insurance and Investments, John Protacio of Remax, Atty. Mike and Lucinda Morgan of Gryphon Law Chambers, Maribeth Buhain of Scribble and Splatter and Jennifer Pantaleon of Mortgage Centre with the support of Caren Menchavez from Halton Multicultural Council, and of course the volunteers --- The biggest reward for a thing well done is to have done it. Congratulations!!!

The kids in action for scavenger hunt.



ABOVE, Back row – Dr. Solon and Dr. Josephine Guzman, Dr. Maribel Mendoza, Caren Menchavez, Jennifer Pantaleon and Elvessa Reyes. Front row – Anthony Chua, Mike Orteza and Reynolds Reyes. ABOVE RIGHT, Milton Mayor Gordon A. Krantz partakes a piece of the lechon. RIGHT, Doctor Solon Guzman entertains a couple who wants to join next year. RIGHT BOTTOM, The band plays on. BELOW, Doctor Solon and Josephine Guzman's daughters Angeline and Princess join the festivities. MORE AT FILIPINOGOODLIFE.COM



Some of the sponsors and organizers. One of the highlights of the event is the Balut Eating Contest. *ATINITO*

Pinoy Professionals Set to Launch Free Career Mentoring and Services to FilCan Community

By Tony A. San Juan, OCT

True to its pioneering mission and mandate, the “Council of Filipino Canadian Professionals of Ontario” (CFCPO) will collectively introduce the Association to the general public as well as its free career services and programs to targeted Pinoy new immigrant- professionals who are residents of Ontario

CFCPO, “the new kids on the block” organized on May 4, 2013 and composed of registered / licensed professionals in Ontario, will hold a simple event to formally announce and launch its official presence in the Ontario landscape on September 8, 2013, 12:30- 4:00 p.m. at Loblaws Forest Hill, 396 St. Clair Avenue West, Toronto.

The Council envisions to be a solid vehicle and forum to promote, build and enhance the professional capacities of internationally- educated individuals, especially Filipino Canadians, to participate and integrate productively in the mainstream labour market. It specifically aims to engage members and client-participants on services and projects that will offer opportunities and challenging activities such as career assessment and referral, mentoring and development, career information and advice, strategic networking and other relevant engagements, to identified clients to ensure professional adjustment accreditation and integration in the highly competitive working environment in the province. The Council and their registered professional members hope to develop fellowship and community partnership along the way and employ proven career training systems and approaches.

Comprising the CFCPO Executive Council are the 7 charter members, namely: Dr. Ben Pangilinan, MD, Nestor Perez, CGA, Tony A. San Juan, OCT and Jesse Panem, OCT, Armela Marano, RSSW, Lailani Cuevas. SSW and Elen Aguilar, BSEd. The other Council Members are: Anna Maramba, marketing & advertising specialist , Joel Cuevas, MCSE, Dr. Elmer Espinosa, MD and Ma. Jesusa Besa, RPharm. As a collegial group, the members are proactively expecting to successfully meet its established motto: “Engage. Enable. Empower”.

To maximize its desirable role and professional support to fellow Pinoy professionals especially newcomers, interested individuals are encouraged to join the Association and benefit from free CFCPO services and projects. For membership, please contact Tony A. San Juan at: tnysanjuan@yahoo.ca or Armela Marano, executive director at: amarano@dcntex.org

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Tougher Penalties for Graft

+ Plant a tree for every newborn



MANILA - Senate Blue Ribbon committee chief Sen. Teofisto “TG” Guingona III is pushing passage of a bill that seeks to increase the penalty for those found guilty of graft and corruption.

In filing Senate Bill No. 1086, Guingona said he wants to amend Section 9 of Republic Act No. 3019, the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act, by increasing the penalties of unlawful acts or omissions enumerated under Sections 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the law. “The reason for the increase of penalty for said offenses is to ensure that the penalties imposed by law are commensurate with the crime committed,” Guingona said.

According to Guingona, the bill is a result of the investigation conducted by the Committee on Accountability of Public Officers & Investigations also known as the Blue Ribbon panel on the Philippine National Police (PNP) helicopters deal which was linked to former First Gentleman Jose Miguel “Mike” Arroyo during the 15th Congress.

Guingona, who was also chairman of the committee in the last Congress, acted on the resolution filed by then Senator Panfilo Lacson on the PNP’s purchase of P105-million “pre-owned” helicopters in 2009 for its elite Special Action Force

(SAF) unit.

The senator said the measure also seeks to lengthen the prescriptive period of offenses under Republic Act No. 3019.

It also seeks to ensure that the right of the State to recover properties acquired through the commission of the acts enumerated under Republic Act No. 3019 shall not be barred by prescription, laches or estoppel. Guingona recommended that from six to 15 years, the penalty for graft and corruption should be made 12 to 20 years.

This is aside from perpetual disqualification from public office, and confiscation or forfeiture in favor of the government of any prohibited interest and unexplained wealth manifestly out of proportion to his salary and other lawful income.

A tree for every newborn

MANILA - To engage Filipino families in the government’s reforestation program, a first-time lawmaker proposes mandatory planting of two trees for every child born to them.

House Bill 261 or the proposed “Family Tree Planting Act of 2013,” Parañaque City Rep. Eric Olivarez said his measure is an “appropriate solution

to the widespread flash floods” which the country keeps on experiencing because the forests are denuded.

Citing a statistics from the National Statistics Office and Human Development Report, he said that it will assure at least four million trees yearly with the country’s two million birth rate per year.

The bill provides that each couple, whether legally married or not, residing in the country, shall be required to plant two trees for every child born to them. These trees shall be planted within the premises of their family home.

If this is not possible, the trees shall be planted in the areas to be designated by the concerned Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) or Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) where they reside.

Then, the ownership of the planted tress shall pertain to the parents or to the child for whom these were planted. These include those planted in public lands or along highways, it added. If the measure will be passed, an affidavit by both parents or by the solo parent exercising parental authority over the child attesting they have planted two trees will be a “prerequisite” for the release of the Certificate of Live Birth of the child.

“The number of trees to be planted as a result of this proposal will be very significant and will effectively supplement the 1.5 billion trees to be planted by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) through its National Greening Program (NGP), taking into account the thousands of babies who are born in the Philippines every day,” Olivarez said.

According to the report of National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), the rains and floods brought by ‘Maring and southwest monsoon this week damaged a total of 94 hectares of trees in Laguna that were planted under DENR’s National Greening Program.



Rochelle Pangilinan

on Tropang Trending’s Secret to Winning

It can be said that the spark was ignited by Mark Bautista, the original team leader of Tropang Trending on Sunday All Stars. It was then that audiences were treated to performances that were packed with energy, originality and heart. The torch was then passed on to Mark Herras who bowed out and handed it over to Rochelle Pangilinan. The Kapuso star did not cower from the sudden responsibility but marched on to bag more awards for the group. The crown was then placed on Rochelle Ann Go’s head and reign she did. Last Sunday, Tropang Trending once again blew over the competition to bring home the Best Team Performance Award. What is it that sets Tropang Trending apart from the rest? We caught up with Rochelle Pangilinan to get the scoop.

“Naku hindi kami ang Tropang Trending, kami ang Tropang Career,” Rochelle said with obvious fondness for her group.

Rochelle also revealed how the team leaders focused their attention to the group.

On top of the eagle eye that the leaders kept on the pack, Rochelle disclosed that each team member also had their hearts set on giving their best to every performance.

The actress also disclosed how the stars in Tropang Trending were now more aware of the value of time.

We asked Rochelle to confirm if these are the factors that leant a hand to Tropang Trending’s winning performances and she at once shook her head.

“Hindi. Hindi lang ‘yan. Marami kaming sikreto na hindi namin sasabihin,” she joked.

Will Tropang Trending run away with the trophy once more this Sunday? Tune in to GMA Network to find out! To stay updated with the show, follow its official account on Twitter at www.twitter.com/7sundayallstars and hit “like” on its Facebook fan page at www.facebook.com/SundayAllStars.

Pista ng OLA



Father Ben Ebcas leads the procession with the statue of Our Lady of Assumption at the Pista ng OLA accompanied by the Knights of Columbus like Manny Yanga (LOWER LEFT CORNER OF PHOTO) of Scarborough Toyota. MORE PHOTOS ON FILIPINOGOODLIFE.COM

“Because we breathe, we are all susceptible”

TB ON THE RISE
continued from page 1

countryside to the big cities like Manila,” said Kawamura.

Ranking second in Asia, the Philippines recorded high TB mortality rate next to Cambodia based on the World Health Organization (WHO) tuberculosis report. Among tuberculosis-afflicted persons, 59 percent came from Asia, the report said.

Kawamura said that tuberculosis can be latent, a condition where the infected does not experience any symptoms.

“To minimize the spread of tuberculosis and an outbreak risk, the government should work on providing a screening for people in congregate settings such as dialysis units, schools, hospitals, jails, prisons, homeless shelters and nursing



homes,” she said.
The medical expert claimed that Filipinos living in crowded places, especially those in shanty communities, are more likely to develop and transmit TB.
“Having latent TB even though no one’s

Dr. L. Masae Kawamura, former president of the North American Region of the International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, told reporters in press forum on Aug. 15, 2013, about the rising statistics of Filipino patients suffering from TB who are migrating to the United States. She said large proportion of tuberculosis patients in the US are Asians, most of them Filipinos.

at fault carries a lot of stigma especially among Filipinos. The Philippines has a lot of people coming in from other parts of Asia that have high rates of TB as well,” she said.

According to Kawamura, the Philippine government detects only the full-blown TB cases rather than the latent ones.

“It easily evades our immune system and you may carry it as a child but be diagnosed with the disease 50 years later,” she said.

She added that accurate identification of latent TB bacteria is required since these persist in our body for years and decades; they are only inactive.

Kawamura also stressed that contributors could increase an individual’s chance of getting TB.

“Because it affects most of the children, just dealing with malnutrition will help beat tuberculosis. Preventing HIV and diabetes will help reduce TB cases as well. This is how it all interacts,” she said.

The TB control advocate also claimed that “because we breathe, we are all susceptible. Tuberculosis is an equal-opportunity disease. We can all get infected.”

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Father Abet will be Missed

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish will never be the same



A tearful Father Albert Macalipay says his goodbye to well-wishers.

Father Albert Macalipay is moving to a new parish from the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Father “Abet,” as he was affectionately known was given a “transferring-away” party organized by Precy Muere and attended by by parishioners, friends, family and well-wishers at the Qssis Banquet hall. His transfer will be emotionally heartbreaking to everyone who knows him. He will be missed greatly by all of us.

In light of his transfer to another parish, the 6th Annual Fiesta celebration of the Dolorosa will be held on September 14 at St. Rose de Lima church at 3216 Lawrence Ave. E. starting a 6pm. The fiesta used to be held annually at the Imamculate Heart of mary parish.



Families Receive 250K

L-R: MP Roxanne James, MP (C, Scarborough Centre), Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada Peter MacKay (who is also the MP for Central Nova), Alma Benemerito of the Toronto Police Services and Sen. Tobias Enverga, Jr. (C, Ontario) at the Toronto Police Services Board, August 14, 2013.

Photo was taken after Minister MacKay announced the allocation by the Conservative government of close to \$250,000 in funding to help the Scarborough Family Justice Centre provide services that will ease the trauma for victims of family violence. The Scarborough Family Justice Centre is a pilot project being operated by Victims Services Toronto, in partnership with Toronto Police Services and community organizations. It aims to provide a more victim-focused and victim-friendly approach to criminal justice and social services intervention. For example, the Centre will ensure that each victim is provided with an advocate for support, counselling, case management, case co-ordination and consistent, timely access to information about the criminal justice process.



Bayan Basketball Club Hosts 26th NABA Tournament

in Newmarket, Ontario

by Romy Zetazate & Manny Papa



The 26th Annual Inter-City NABA's Basketball Tournament is slated at the Ray Twinney Recreational Complex in Newmarket, Ontario, and in some other Catholic and High School Gyms around the York Region, specifically in Newmarket, Aurora, King City, and Richmond Hill.

The 3-day event will be held commencing Friday, August 30th, 2013 when it holds its Opening Ceremonies and officially opens. Actual basketball game competitions will be held starting Saturday, August 31st, 2013 through Sunday, September 1st, 2013.

The tournament is one of the biggest basketball tournaments for Filipinos of Filipino descent in North America. There will be about 22 cities participating from the United States, Canada, United Kingdom and Europe.

About 155 basketball teams have confirmed their participation.

The basketball divisions, include: Tykes, Pee wee, Bantam, Damsel, Girls, Ladies, Junior, Juvenile, Open, Senior and Masters.

The host club, Bayan Basketball Club is inviting all basketball aficionados in Canada to come watch and enjoy the games and at the same time welcome visiting teams of all ages and nationalities in the different locations in Newmarket, Ontario. Bayan Basketball Club is also looking for Volunteers and Coaches who will assist the different teams during the scheduled basketball games.

In addition to basketball games, Volleyball games will also be conducted in the sports tournament. The sports tournament organizers are also calling on all volleyball teams not only in Canada, but also other parts of the world to come and participate in this big event.

For more information, please get in touch with Alex A. Dooc, at telephone numbers: (647) 203 - 1260 (Landline) or (647) 203 - 1260 (Mobile) or by email at bayan1260@live.ca. (St. Jamestown News Service)

In photo is Brittany San Agustin of Michigan won Miss NABA 2011 when North York hosted the tournament.

Lita's 50th Birthday



Lita (4TH FROM LEFT) celebrates her 50th birthday with the Panaligan family and Rose (WITH CAMERA)

MISLEADING
continued from page 1

Development Fund (PDAF) of senators and lawmakers.

The announcement for pork barrel “reforms” came 3 days before the anti-pork barrel rallies planned by various sectors in Metro Manila and key cities across the country. The rallies would be the first major demonstration during this administration that has been anchored on an anti-corruption slogan.

Suggestions have been made about checking how the President has utilized his own discretionary fund, which is far bigger than the lawmakers' pork barrel, as well as how Aquino utilized his own pork barrel when he was congressman and senator for 12 years.

The President made the announcement in the presence of the leaders of both chambers of Congress – Senate President Franklin Drilon and House Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr, who both earlier dismissed calls for a congressional probe into the scam.

The President ordered the creation of an Inter-Agency, Anti-Graft Coordinating Council (IAAGCC), which will investigate alleged misuse of pork barrel.

The council will focus on speeding up the investigation and prosecution of cases of alleged pork barrel misuse, and the President called on all government



FLIP-FLOP. President Benigno Aquino III, just days ago, standing firm on his stance to keep the pork barrel. In this photo, President Aquino speaks during a press conference in Malacañang Palace, Aug 23, 2013. Behind him are (L) Senate Pres Franklin Drilon and (R) House Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

officials to give their full cooperation to the council.

Aquino said the pork barrel system will undergo a major overhaul, which he said will prevent public funds from going toward shady, questionable transactions.

He said there will be a limited menu that will be allowed government funding, and project details will be required before funds are released.

Aquino said budget insertions will be stopped, and instead lawmakers should propose the projects upfront and should be approved. These projects, he said, will be included as line items in the budget.

Other measures that the government will undertake, according to Aquino, are:

Consumable soft projects – such as medicines, fertilizers, and training materials, to name a few – will not be approved unless it will be proven that people

Quick infrastructure projects, such as dredging and asphalt overlays, are out.

Non-governmental organizations and select government-owned and -controlled corporations (GOCCs) will no longer be allowed to be used as fund channels.

Lawmakers can only fund projects for their district or sector.

Government bidding processes and budgets will be publicized.

“Hihimayin ang bawat linya, bawat piso, bawat proyekto, gaya ng lahat ng iba pang mga programa ng inyong pamahalaan,” he said.

Aside from overhauling the pork barrel system, Aquino also vowed to prosecute those found guilty of misusing their

MISLEADING
continued on page 27



Marian to do more projects with GMA

A VERY jolly and much inspired Marian Rivera faced selected members of local and national press in her recent visit in Davao City.

The actress is one among GMA-7's stable of stars who joined in the celebration of the 28th Kadayawan sa Dabaw.

The sexy physique of Marian is very obvious, which she claimed a result of her hard work diet and zumba session.

"Dati kasi I tried muay thai and boxing pero tumigil ako kay parang lumalaki yung braso. So, zumba muna tayo kaya siguro lumiliit ako," she said.

Marian also shared her recent charitable activity as part of her birthday celebration.

"Yung mga fans ko talaga ang nag-oorganize niyan. Parang naisip nila na gumawa ng something unique and special on my birthday. It's my way din to reach out sa mga fans, sa napiling charity na pasayahin sila, kumain with them."

"Ang pagbabase ng pagiging number one is galing din naman sa botohan. Naging number one kasi ibinoto ako ng tao, ng mga fans. Kahit anong ganda mo pa, eh kung di mo inaalaagan ang sarili mo wala rin. Kaya ako, I make sure na maganda akong tingnan lagi. Kaya andiyan yung diet, exercise ko. Para din yun sa mga fans."

This time around, the Kapuso actress is all set and excited to do her next projects for the network.

Weeks ago, Marian signed a three-year exclusive contract for GMA-7 which put an end to all the speculation that she is transferring to another network.

Further, the actress said that she is always thankful and feel blessed for the support GMA-7 is giving to her.

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Singaporeans want to boycott Jollibee

SINGAPORE - Nearly a month since the first Jollibee opened in Singapore, lines are still out the door, even on weekdays. Jollibee in Singapore is so popular that even on the weekday afternoon when this photo was taken, customers wait in a side room next to the restaurant just to get to the line inside. Screenshot of video by Katherine Visconti. The boycott still has not deterred business, which is robust thanks to the large Filipino workforce in Singapore. Screenshot of video by Katherine Visconti.

You would never know a group of Singaporeans online called for a boycott of the Philippines most popular fast food restaurant. The petition condemns the chain for prioritizing Filipinos for jobs over Singaporeans - a claim Jollibee denies. Today it is clear most of the customers are overseas Filipino workers. So the real question now is, how long the lines will last?

Under pressure from the public, government is making it more difficult to hire foreign workers.

It's very difficult now. There are many companies who want to hire Filipinos but the problem is getting the work passes for them.

UK Advisory to Avoid PHL Ferries

LONDON - The UK Foreign Office has issued a strong warning to its citizens against the use of ferries in the Philippines following the latest maritime disaster in the country.

In a statement on its website, British visitors to the Philippines have been advised to “avoid travel on ferries if possible” in light of “major accidents” with “large loss of life.”



It stated: “Ferries are often overloaded, lack necessary lifesaving equipment, are not adequately maintained and have incomplete passenger manifests. Storms can develop quickly.”

The most recent incident, a collision between a passenger ship and a cargo vessel near Cebu, has been widely reported in the British and international press, putting a spotlight on the country's tainted

record on maritime safety.

The Telegraph, a UK-based broadsheet and news website, pointed out the recurring nature of the issue by listing previous ferry accidents in the country, including “one of the world's worst shipping disasters,” the Doña Paz incident in 1987 which killed 4,300 people near Mindoro.

Chit Afuang from the Philippine Department of Tourism in London said the British travel warning may have some effects on tourism in the archipelago “but not to a greater extent.”

“Most of our tourists travel via air. Only Cebu and Bohol, Manila-Puerto Galera and Iloilo-Guimaras, less popular destinations, need ferry travel,” she explained.

BB Pilipinas Johanna Datul and her ‘salagubang walk’

Miss Universe 2011 third runner-up Shamcey Supsup had the tsunami walk. Janine Tugonon, 2012 Bb. Pilipinas-Universe had the cobra walk. Ariella Arida Bb. Pilipinas 2013 promised to showcase the ariba walk. Now, Bb. Pilipinas Miss Supranational Mutya Johanna Datul has come up with her very own “salagubang walk.”

MANILA, Philippines- “Exotic ang salugubang, parang ako,” she explains. “Parang nakakatakot, pero kapag nahuli mo, sobrang enjoy.”

She proceeded to show her salagubang walk on stage, a walk that requires one to move na “parang may pakpak.”

Her parents' advice – to use her God-given talents to reach her dreams – will always stay at the back of her mind.

Mutya's sights are not just focused on winning the international pageant. She also wants to join other beauty queens who have tried showbiz.

“I love watching actors and actress since I was seven. Sila ang nagbibigay saya sa maraming tao, especially ang mga komedyante. Inspirasyon ko sila.”

Then, she flashes a winning smile that says, “Don't worry, I can do it!”



‘OTJ,’ an out-of-the-box for Piolo Pascual

Matinee idol Piolo Pascual is very proud of and delighted with his latest movie, “On The Job (OTJ)” which he describes as something different from all he has done. T

Nakakatuwa din na gumawa ulit ng action ang Star Cinema, kasama ang Reality Entertainment at si Direk Erik Matti.”



In “OTJ,” Piolo plays Atty. Francis Cornel, an NBI agent and the son of a former NBI chief who has died. His wife, played by Shaina Magdayao, is the daughter of a corrupt congressman. “Mahirap na role, he is caught in between, but at the end of the day, you'll have to make a choice. Pipiliin mo ba tama o magpapaka-hero ka na lang? But either way, there are consequences.”

“OTJ” was shown at the last Cannes Film Festival's Directors' Fortnight and it received a standing ovation. “The audience was shocked, they did not expect na ganun ka-gritty, ganun kadumi ang environment... I felt so proud for Direk Erik. It was his first time to have his film exhibited at Cannes. And ‘OTJ’ is his baby, and this is something all of us Filipinos should be proud of.”

The film won the Jury Prize and the Best Actor award for Joel Torre in a film festival in Korea. Piolo was equally proud of Joel. “Hands down, he nailed the performance. I've always been a fan of his works. In our few scenes together dito sa ‘OTJ,’ napabilib niya ako sa proseso niya, sa artistry niya. Iba ang ipinakita niya dito, nakita ko ang kanyang disiplina as an actor.”

Frencheska Farr happy with boyfriend

Blooming ang lovelife ng singer na si Frencheska Farr. Bagamat inamin niyang masaya siya sa relasyon nila ng kanyang non-showbiz boyfriend, ayaw naman niyang sabihin ang pangalan ng naturang nobyo. Ayaw din daw kasi ng boyfriend niya na masali sa anumang usapan na pang-showbiz. “Happy ako sa lovelife ko, pero non-showbiz nga siya,” nangingiting sabi niya nang makausap namin siya sa set ng All Stars sa GMA-7 kamakailan. “Kasi, ibang klase kasi kapag public figure din ang lagi mong kasama, di ba? Kasi, parang hindi kayo makalabas... hindi mo magawa ang gusto mo. Ayaw kong nama-Mark Herras ako,” sabi niya, sabay tawa nang malakas.

“Hoy, joke lang! Baka magalit sa akin si Mark. Joke lang po. Sorry, Mark, ha?”

Halatang kampante na siya sa kanyang current boyfriend.

“Right now, comfortable kami sa isa't isa. Ini-enjoy namin ang isat isa lalo na kapag wala akong commitments.

Kinumusta din namin kay Frencheska ang resulta ng audition niya sa Miss Saigon.

“Actually, wala pa talaga,” sabi niya tungkol sa resulta. “Ang sabi kasi nila sa amin, next year [2014] pa mag-a-announce.

“Hindi rin talaga ako umaasa. Kung ma-call back o matawag, sayang-saya na ako—kahit anumang part.”



Scenes in the City



LEFT, Melissa Barbour with her Cotillion Entourage on July 28, 2013 at Mississauga Banquet Hall. PHOTO BY ARIEL RAMOS

RIGHT, Dr. Solon Guzman, leander mendoz and Josie de Leon pose at Song for an Angel concert.



Pinay Nanny can't find Job

MANILA – A Filipina nanny, who was treated like a modern-day slave by her employers in Vancouver, is “embarrassed” by the attention her case has created.

The Canadian Press reported that Leticia

Sarmiento, in a victim impact statement read in court, has lost trust in people and has had difficulty finding employment.

“I’m a good mother, a good daughter. I never do bad things. I help people and I expect the same back,” Sarmiento was quoted as saying.

Her employer Franco Yiu Kwan Orr was found guilty in June of human

trafficking, having brought Sarmiento from Hong Kong illegally.

Sarmiento started working for Orr’s family in Hong Kong in 2007. In 2008, Orr brought her to Canada to work for the family on a visitor’s visa.

Sarmiento claimed she was working 16 hours a day, 7 days a week, for only \$500 a month and her passport taken away.

The Filipina nanny, a mother of 3, said she has not seen her children since 2007, when she left the Philippines. She had believed she would be able to bring her children to Canada.

“In 2010 I stopped having income to send home, so my kids stopped going to school,” she said.

The media attention surrounding her case has also made it hard for Sarmiento to find another job.



Miss Jackie Mangante, is the Miss Maria Clara 2013 in the SANTACRUZAN of the 2013 Mabuhay Festival. PHOTO BY ARIEL RAMOS

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Kapuso Stars Help Out



After areas in Metro Manila and nearby provinces were placed under the state of calamity due to Typhoon Maring, Kapuso stars answered our countrymen's call for help as they participated in relief efforts and manned GMA Network's telethon.

Kapuso Royal Couple Dingdong Dantes and Marian Rivera extended help to the flood victims in Roxas District in Quezon City. The taping for Dingdong's upcoming primetime series 'Genesis' was stopped because of the heavy rains. The dinner originally intended for the cast, production staff and crew that night was then distributed by Dingdong to the affected residents of Roxas District, where the taping of Genesis was held. Marian joined Dingdong in this endeavour.

Also, Dingdong's Yes Pinoy Foundation celebrated its 4th anniversary with a special mission in Barangay San Rafael, Rodriguez, Rizal Province. Together with their partners, Dingdong and YPF officially turned over boat, bags, school supplies, raincoats, life vests and solar powered lamps to each of the dedicated students of Casili Elementary School. Aside from their donations to the school and its students, members of the foundation and their supporters volunteered to conduct a one day seminar among the students and teachers.

Dingdong with the help of his real life girlfriend Marian led relief operations of Yes Pinoy Foundation in distributing help to affected informal settler families in Pasay City.

Another real-life Kapuso couple Carla Abellana and Geoff Eigenmann, helped the Philippine Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) in providing shelter for animals that were displaced by the floods.

Enzo Pineda and Louise delos Reyes also joined in the relief operations of GMA Kapuso Foundation, the socio-civic arm of GMA Network.

Asia's Songbird Regine Velasquez and husband Ogie Alcasid assisted in Red Cross' repacking operations in Kalayaan and Quezon City.

Genesis star Rhian Ramos also helped in the relief operations in Santa Rosa Community Hospital and Barangay Ibaba's Evacuation Center in Laguna.

Meanwhile, Luis Alandy, Barbie Forteza, Lauren Young, Elmo Magalona, Betong Sumaya, Bettina Carlos, Thea Tolentino, Derrick Monasterio, Julian Trono, Mikoy Morales, Luanne Dy, James Macasero of Moymoy Palaboy, Kris Bernal, Bea Binene, Butch Francisco, and Marian Rivera were among the celebrities who volunteered for the Kapuso Helpline that helped raise funds for the typhoon victims last Tuesday in GMA Network Center.

On Wednesday, Miss World Philippines 2013 Megan Young, Miss World 2nd Princess Zarah Bianca Saldua, Miss World 4th Princess Omarie Osuna together with Valerie Concepcion, James Macasero of Moymoy Palaboy, Betong Sumaya, Regine Tolentino, Pekto Nacua, Drew Arellano and Steven Silva were on hand to answer calls in the Kapuso Helpline.

GMA Kapuso Foundation continues to engage in various relief operations in Metro Manila and several other areas in Luzon.



KAPAMILYA STARS Helping Flood Victims

Amidst the calamity that has surrounded most parts of Luzon due to the nonstop rains, Kapamilya stars stepped up and volunteered whatever aid they can extend to relief and rescue operations. Social networking sites were filled with prayers and information about how to help flood victims particularly in Metro Manila. Unfortunately, some celebrities like KC Concepcion and Iza Calzado still received criticisms from online bashers in spite of their good intentions.

"Nakaka-sad din ang mga bashers. Bayad man, o hindi, ginagamit pa talaga nila itong pagkakataong ito para manlait at manira ng tao. Ang isang taong nilalait at kinalinisan ninyo, hindi nyo alam, baka sya pa ang makatulong sa inyo sa mga oras ng pangangailangan," tweeted KC in response to an online basher who misinterpreted her thoughts about long-term plans and effective solutions addressing flood-prone lands in the country.

Iza, who also kept in touch with KC via Twitter, also experienced being criticized for her tweets concerning the natural disaster that has left many of our fellow Filipinos homeless and hungry and what the government should do about it. "Walang nangsisisi, that's useless. Kailangan lang ma-determine who can actually create change an then we can all make personal efforts to make small changes that can lead to a major one. That's why I said we have to try and do something after this." But despite the negative feedback from other people, it did not stop KC and Iza from coordinating with proper authorities/organizations for their donation or whatever form of aid they extended to flood victims.

Meantime, Sam Milby and John Prats reportedly joined relief and rescue operations in Marikina. Sam's handler Caress Caballero mentioned this on Twitter, "Saludo ako sa mag best friends na @samuelmilby at @iamjohnprats. They're out NOW somewhere Marcos H-way area tumutulong sa mga binabahal :)"

Anne Curtis on the other hand encouraged her followers to send out donations via Sagip Kapamilya. "To all my lovely followers, let's get together blankets, towels any clothing items that you have to spare and donate them to Sagip Kapamilya. When the floods subside you may drop them off with canned goods and water at ABS-CBN. SAGIP KAPAMILYA HOTLINE 4114995."

Angel Locsin also supported her Red Cross family in liaising their relief and rescue operations around Metro Manila. "RED CROSS: If you need to be rescued, call 143 and 527-0000. Put a white blanket outside your house so rescuers can locate where you are."

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-One of the experiences of a lifetime for Miss Philippines Canada, Caitlin Pantaleon, Mrs. Philippines Canada, Chona Stinson and 1st runner up Miss Philippines Canada, Jurice Encarnacion had the opportunity to participate and were once again the PCCF Ambassadors. The delegation was led by PCCF Officers, Noemi & Primo Milanes, Fe & Jojo Taduran and Chris Jones. The Scotiabank Caribbean Carnival, the largest festival of its kind in North America, organizers estimated 1 million people packed the grounds for the Saturday's grand parade.

Mayor Rob Ford were on hand to celebrate the festivities and greeted the delegation. This is the third time that PCCF or Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation has joined this big and festive event. True to PCCF's vision of Advocating for Community, only this time, it is for a much wider community. Miss Philippines Canada, Caitlin with a big smile exclaimed, "I am proud and honoured to represent PCCF and the Filipino Canadian Community in this huge and colourful mainstream event."

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Ping Lacson:

‘Pork’ scam include Sex



MANILA, Philippines - Sex for “pork”? Former senator Panfilo Lacson said sex was used as a bargaining chip to obtain Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) or pork barrel from lawmakers. Lacson claimed big businessmen used sex in a carrot-and-stick approach to corner huge funds for their “projects,” and businesswoman Janet Lim-Napoles was just a “poster person” for the modus operandi. Lacson said operators would either offer sex or send attractive women to Congress to get approval for millions of pesos worth of “projects” from congressmen. “Pag pumayag, kasama pati mga babae kasama na (If they agree to a project), the girls are included,” he said. Lacson, a former Philippine National Police chief, is being tapped by President Aquino to head a special investigation team to look into the alleged misuse of pork barrel. He said he is willing to lead the probe but would like to be given a free hand on the job. The former senator said he would know about the scope of his job as he cited the need for a law enforcement component that would work under the Ombudsman to effectively fight corruption. “The pork barrel should never go through non-government organizations and that legislators should be held accountable for how their funds are spent,” Lacson told ANC. In an earlier interview with GMA News, Lacson said the alleged misuse of P10 billion in PDAF shows the evil of the pork barrel system and suggested that Congress go one year without the controversial fund.

He said in many cases, lawmakers could attend to the needs of their constituents by giving them donated items like wheelchairs and reading glasses.

Cagayan town eyed as naval base for US troops

TUGUEGARAO , Philippines – The coastal town of Sta. Ana in Cagayan is being considered as an ideal naval base for American troops to help counter China’s assertiveness in the West Philippine Sea. Sta. Ana Mayor Darwin Tobias said he has no objection to host visiting American soldiers in his town, adding it is strategically located near the disputed sea. “We need the support of allied countries that could help us preserve our sovereignty and security amid the bullying from powerful countries,” Tobias said. He said the temporary deployment of US troops in Sta. Ana could provide livelihood as well as business opportunities for its residents. Sta. Ana, previously known as Barrio Palawig, used to be a part of Gonzaga town, which was cited in history as the location of Japanese forces on Dec. 10, 1941. After the war on Oct. 21, 1949, then President Elpidio Quirino issued an executive order creating the town of Sta. Ana.



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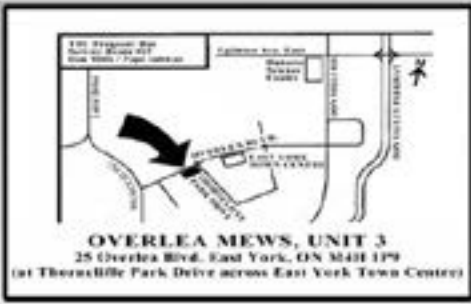
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MISLEADING
continued from page 13

funds. He said the government will first, “exact accountability from those who have abused the system” and second, “find a better way to ensure that the public coffers will be spent with only the public’s benefit in mind.” Aquino said he has ordered the Inter-Agency Anti-Graft Coordinating Council or IAAGCC to probe the PDAF scam.

Leaders of both chambers of Congress – Senate President Franklin Drilon and House Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr. – stood beside Aquino when he delivered his statement.

Misleading

MANILA, Philippines – “Pork is still pork,” a militant group said in response to President Benigno Aquino’s statement that the time has come to abolish the

MISLEADING
continued on page 27



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Tom Rodriguez gains fame for ‘My Husband’s Lover’

+ *Ogie goes to TV5* + other stories



When actor Tom Rodriguez accepted the offer to play closeted homosexual Vincent in the GMA 7 drama series “My Husband’s Lover,” he knew the role would be the biggest challenge in his career so far. What he didn’t expect was that he’d become the talk of the town via his very nuanced portrayal of a conflicted married man torn between his wife Lally (played by Carla Abellana) and his lover Eric (played by Dennis Trillo).

“When I heard about the audition, I had that apprehension, that fear. Nung nakwento sa akin yung theme or the type of show that it was gonna be, I froze. Namutla ako, to be honest,” he said.

“But naisip ko na this is going to be the most challenging thing I’ve ever done. I don’t know if this is going to be the most challenging thing I’ll ever do, because I want to challenge myself pa more in the future. But this is the most challenging role to date that I’ve done.”

Actually, Tom became more than just a local sensation. The Kapuso actor is now being watched all over the globe through GMA Pinoy TV. Even non-Pinoys try to follow the unusual love triangle of Vincent, Lally, and Eric—despite not knowing a single word of Tagalog. “My Husband’s Lover” and its numerous hashtags are constant trending

topics on Twitter Philippines, and the show continues to be the subject of Philippine—and even international—media.

A native of Samar, Tom migrated to the United States when he was 12 years old. Born to an American father and Filipina mother, the actor (real name: Bartolome Mott) got his start in showbiz via a rival network’s reality show. He appeared in a number of critically and financially successful shows, including 2011’s “Temptation Island” produced by GMA Films and Regal Entertainment. But “My Husband’s Lover” has proved to be his tipping point as an actor, the breakthrough of his career.

He credits Carla and Dennis as the best possible co-actors for this kind of show.

“I get to work with a multi-awarded actor. It’s always a bonus because you get to learn so much na you wouldn’t otherwise get,” Tom said. “Same with Carla, because she is a natural, very talented actress.”

As expected, “My Husband’s Lover” received a bit of scrutiny from religious and conservative sectors. But Tom isn’t concerned about this. “For me, I always make it a point to stress na everyone is free to have their own opinion,” he said.

The Kapuso actor added, “As long as GMA and the people are happy with what we’re doing, that’s the only thing that matters to us because we’re only here to entertain the viewers.”

“My Husband’s Lover” can be seen worldwide on GMA Pinoy TV, the flagship international channel of GMA.

For more details, visit the GMA International website www.gmanetwork.com/international, Facebook pages www.facebook.com/GMAPinoyTV, www.facebook.com/GMALifeTV, and, www.facebook.com/GMANewsInternational, or Twitter pages @GMAPinoyTV, @GMA_LifeTV and @GMANewsTVIntl.

Ogie Alcasid transfers to TV5

Ogie Alcasid is facing a whole new ballgame, now that he has decided to turn into a Kapatid after getting the blessings of his former bosses



in GMA-7.

The singer-songwriter’s reported transfer to TV5 (formerly ABC-5) signals his return to his original home network where he started his TV career in the gag show “Tropang Trumpo.”

Ogie will join his “Trumpo” co-star Gelli De Belen (also an ex-Kapuso) in the Kapatid Network.

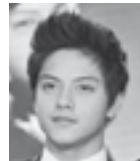
Ogie Alcasid has a Herculean task ahead of him as TV5 talent. The network’s owner, Manny V. Pangilinan (MVP), has assigned him to head the station’s music department.

“It’s not a secret that TV5 is not doing quite well. MVP has been very supportive of me. He was my wedding sponsor. I want to help him,” Ogie said.

Meanwhile, Ogie and TV5 are still ironing out details about the music department and his other projects for the network.

Daniel Padilla says he can relate to his newest character, Joaquin Manansala.

With Got to Believe set to premiere Daniel Padilla said he is very excited for his fans to meet his new character. He plays Joaquin Manansala, a rich boy who gets hit by a bullet when he was young and grows up in a protected and lonely environment until he meets the free-spirited and lively Chichay Tampipi (played by Kathryn Bernardo) who turns his world upside-down. “Maganda ito. Kasi parang sa lahat ng teleserye wala pang ganito eh. Wala pang character na ganun eh, bago eh. At saka gusto ko yung ganun, yung hindi laging masayahin na jolly, ayoko ng ganun. Gusto ko ng tahimik na misteryoso,” he admitted to Push.



Chito apologizes for leaked ‘private video’

Parokya ni Edgar lead vocalist Chito Miranda turned to social media to apologize to their families for a leaked “private video” of him and girlfriend Neri Naig.

Screenshots of the couple taken from the alleged intimate video were posted online.

“We are truly saddened by the fact na may nag-leak na private video of me and my girlfriend, Neri Naig. Humihingi po ako ng paumanhin sa mga pamilya namin for this unfortunate incident. Chito and Neri

have been sweethearts for more than a year already. Neri entered showbiz through the talent search Star Circle Quest.

Following his apology post on Instagram, Chito posted a photo of him and Neri. He said, “Di nyo kami matitinag.”



Kaye Abad assures fans that she has no sex video with ex-boyfriend Chito Miranda.

“Okay ako. Confident ako... Wala,” she said.

The topic was brought up when members of the press asked the Kapamilya actress to comment on Chito’s sex video scandal with his current girlfriend Neri Naig. Kaye and Chito were together for several years before breaking up in 2009. Chito, meanwhile, admitted his relationship with Naig last year.

Kaye understands why her name is being dragged into the Parokya ni Edgar frontman’s current scandal, saying it’s unavoidable since she was part of Chito’s life. But the Kapamilya actress refused to comment any further.

Kaye spoke to press during the pictorial for “Annaliza,” where she plays the series antagonist Stella. The soap opera airs daily before “TV Patrol.”



Zia Quizon says no to acting for now

It’s impossible not to be compared to your family especially if you’re part of a famous showbiz clan. But Zia Quizon said she’s not really making any efforts to avoid comparisons between her and mother Zsa Zsa Padilla and sister Karylle.

“We’re just starting to shape the idea na it’s not about better, or worse or be. Everyone should be the best version of themselves,” the 21-year-old singer said when asked to respond to comments that she’s a better singer than her singer-actress sister.

Zia added that she believes Karylle is the best version of herself. “I can only aspire to be like that,” she said.

Zia just released her second album “A Little Bit of Lovin,” a follow-up to her debut album that spawned hits such as “Ako Na Lang” and “Dear Lonely.”

This early, does Zia know how she would want to be remembered in the music industry?

Scene with the Stars



FIRST, FV Foods owners Mel and Flor pose with ABS star Bea Alonzo (PHOTO BY RENE SEVILLA). SECOND, Flor and Mel pose with designer John Ablaza. THIRD, Maria Panaligan poses with ABS star Bea Alonzo. FOURTH, Maria Panaligan poses with ABS star Paolo Avelino. FIFTH, Dr. Solon Guzman (3RD FROM RIGHT) and family pose with ABS star Bea Alonzo (PHOTO BY RENE SEVILLA).

The young singer would rather not say. Intrigues aside, Zia is excited to work with Zsa Zsa and Karylle in the future.

The “Pasakalye” and “Bakit Hindi Ka Crush Ng Crush Mo” singer said, “It’s something exciting because we get more and more work together, so we get more chances to be together so it’s always a blessing.”

Zia said he wants to focus on her music. This means, of course, that she’s closing her doors on the possibility of venturing into acting—a field her family is also known for.

“It’s really something I’m not too concerned with now,” Zia said. “I think sayang lang yung momentum ng music ko in that sense because I really want to be taken seriously for my music first.”

Angelu de Leon gives advice to young ‘Pyra’ cast

Unlike the norm for birthday celebrants to receive gifts though, the 35-year-old actress gave the most important gift - a career advice to 17-year old Thea Tolentino who plays Pyra, her leading man 21-year old Jeric Gonzales, her bestfriend played by Zandra Summer and her antagonist Elle Ramirez.

So how does one maintain longevity in showbiz? Angelu stressed the importance of loving one’s career or work.

“Yung respeto bilang artista sa lahat, yung punctuality, yung professionalism at siyempre mahalín ang mga press whether or not maganda mga sinasabi ninyo, mahalín kayo. Kasi lahat naman tayo tulungan so I think kailangan yung importance ng bawat isa I think. I think yun ang dapat nilang matutunan,” advised Angelu.

Christopher de Leon as Producer

Veteran actor Christopher “Boyet” de Leon

has long established himself as one of the pillars of the Philippine entertainment industry. Boyet has devoted decades of his life in performing arts, and he shows no signs of stopping. This time around, though, he’s doing it not as an actor, but as a producer.

Boyet’s new production company, Green Wings Entertainment Network, provides a venue for fresh young talents to step into the limelight, and collaborate with some of the industry’s most seasoned leaders. Their first production is a new musical play titled “Lorenzo,” on the life of the first Filipino saint, Lorenzo Ruiz.

With all this talent and creativity powering the production, Lorenzo certainly won’t be just another traditional retelling. “This play is very special because the playwrights have chosen a novel and outside-the-box way to tell the story,” shares Boyet. “It’s a contemporary opera. There will be plenty of surprises.”

GMA Network Launches 1st Parent-Kid Reality Show

Another exciting reality talent search launched by GMA Network. The show is called “Anak Ko Yan” and with it, the network will showcase the saying “Behind the success of every child is a proud parent!”

“Anak Ko Yan” is be hosted by multi-talented Jennylyn Mercado, with Rochelle Pangilinan as dance coach and Asia’s Diva Dulce (PHOTO) as voice coach. Featured are kids from seven to 17 years of age who will showcase their singing and dancing skills.

What makes the show different from other reality talent searches is that the kids’ parents will also be highlighted. “Anak ko Yan” will feature the relationship between the child and the parent, how they overcome all the struggles and challenges, how the parents interact with one another and how they prepare their kids for every performance.



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Jennylyn Mercado

Balancing career and Motherhood

Muling sasabak sa hosting ang Kapuso actress na si Jennylyn Mercado para sa upcoming reality show na Anak Ko ‘Yan. Nakapanayam namin si Jen during the show’s pictorial and plug shoot last August 8, and she talked about the challenges of hosting, motherhood, and time management.



“It’s a reality show na nag-audition ang mga bata between 7 and 17 years old tapos kasama dito ang mga nanay kasi ipapakita rin dito kung papaano nila sinusupportahan ‘yung mga pangarap ng mga anak nila. Tapos mayroong mga competition na may kakanta, may sasayaw. Doon na magsisimula ‘yung magkakaroon ng conflict, mga awayan. Doon na lalabas ‘yung pagiging stage mother nila,” kuwento ni Jen about the format of the show.

Naitanong namin sa kanya na bilang mommy ay papayag din ba siyang ipasok sa showbiz ang anak niyang si Alex Jazz. “Hindi ko papayagan! Ako na lang siguro, huwag na siya. Hanggang pictorial na lang, pero siguro pagdating sa showbiz, I don’t think kakayanin ko pa.”

She then explains her decision. “Bilang bata, ayokong ma-experience niya ‘yun kasi kawawa naman.”

Paano naman kaya niya naipagsasabay ang pagiging artista at hands-on mommy?

“Hindi ko nga rin alam eh (laughs)! Inaaral talaga ‘yan, kumuha ako ng course (laughs). Hindi ko alam, basta ako kasi magaling ako magsingit-singit ng mga schedule. Imbes na itulog ko, gagawa na lang ako ng may katuturan. Hindi ako nag-aaksaya ng oras, hindi ko pinapahinga. Ang hirap kasi magpasok ng schedule pero kapag may libre akong oras, sinisigurado ko na worth it ‘yung time na ‘yun. Ayokong nag-aaksaya ng oras,” paliwanag niya.

Catch Jennylyn Mercado on Anak Ko ‘Yan, soon on GMA.

Sunshine Cruz denies she has a boyfriend

MANILA, Philippines - Sunshine Cruz denied rumors that she currently has a boyfriend.

Speaking to entertainment media at the Office of the City

Prosecutor in Quezon City, she said, “Natatawa na lang ako. Sa palagay ninyo, babalik ko sa inyo, wala.”

The Kapamilya actress added, “Kayo naman ang makakapagpatunay kung sino akong babae at sino lang ang minahal ko.”

Rumors about Sunshine’s current love life allegedly came from Cesar himself via the mobile photo sharing service Instagram.

Sunshine said she’s now preparing to live a life without Cesar. The actress recently made a showbiz comeback via the ABS-CBN afternoon soap opera “Dugong Buhay.”

“I’m saving money because ‘di pwede umasa sa isang tao na masama ang loob kapag nagbibigay ng anuman,” she said.

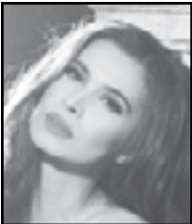
“I’m working double time to buy a house for me and my children, kasi nga nag-re-rent lang kami ngayon,” Sunshine added.

The actress left Cesar January of this year following reports that the actor is having an affair with a starlet.

Sunshine filed a criminal complaint against Cesar for physical abuse and rape. According to the actress, Cesar has also denied her access to their three children since July 29.

“Mawala na lahat, huwag lang anak ko. Napakasakit sa akin because I’ve been a devoted wife and mother to my children. Sinakripisyo ko nga lahat para maalagaan ko mga anak ko. Tapos parang pusa ka na lang na tinanggalan ng mga kuting? Masakati na masakit sa ina yung nangyari,” she said.

Asked if she can handle a full-time career as an actress and facing the charges against Cesar, Sunshine said, “Kaya ko yun. Kakayanin ko yun.”



Marjorie Barretto: I pay for my children’s tuition fee

TV personality Marjorie Barretto clarified that Tony Boy Cojuanco, the long-time partner of her sister Gretchen, is not the one paying for the tuition fees of her children.

The Barretto sisters made headline again this week when Gretchen answered one of her bashers on image-sharing application Instagram. The said basher questions Gretchen’s relationship with Tony Boy and claims that Claudia, the daughter of Marjorie was sent to school by the businessman.

On her Instagram page, Marjorie also encountered her own basher.

A certain user @kimchiupanget posted: “British School Manila (BSM) in The Fort. Her tuition came from Tony Boy Cojuanco. Imagine almost half a million is the tuition there. Such a social climber. Kabit na nga nakihati pa sa kayamanan ng Cojuanco.”

Marjorie, who most of the time prefers to keep her silence on the matter, clarified that her children, especially Claudia, doesn’t attend school at the BSM in The Fort.

“Get your twisted facts straight. And I pay for my children’s tuition fee. I am not a social climber and I don’t get any money from Tony Boy. God bless you,” she replied.



PHILIPPINES

Chiz to Gov’t:

Stop renting office spaces

MANILA - Senator Francis ‘Chiz’ Escudero, chairman of the finance committee, expressed his belief that the national government may be able to save millions of funds if it stops renting office spaces and buildings and just acquires real properties for the use of various government agencies. “By way of policy, the government should make a shift in three years and should not be renting office spaces anymore” said This, he said, is due to the fact that the government spends billions annually just to maintain existing government offices for lease and rental expenses.

The senator said he sees this as a waste of much-needed resources vis-a-vis long-term investments and other needed capitalization.

“Renting spaces at a cost is like throwing money down the drain,” he said.

PHL assures Public

MANILA - After several bombing attacks in Mindanao, Malacanang urged the public to be more careful in believing reports about planned bombing missions by Muslim rebels in Metro Manila.

“Let’s make sure that it comes from the correct sources because as it is, we don’t want to be spreading incorrect information,” deputy presidential spokesperson Abigail Valte said. She was referring to rumors that a group of young members of the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters are in Metro Manila to carry out test bombing missions.

Valte nonetheless assured the public that measures are in place to thwart any other planned explosions and to probe the blasts, which occurred amid a U.S.-issued global terror alert.

“Gumagalaw lahat ng kawani ng pamahalaan para siguraduhin na matigil ang mga ganitong pangyayari katulad ng sinabi ng Pangulo noong nakaraang araw,” Valte said.

Scenes in the City



LEFT, Dr. Solon Guzman, Jeff Rustia and FV’s Mel Galeon appear at the Fashionista 3 show. MIDDLE, Chito Gonzalez of Western Union with Bea Alonzo at Kalayaan Community Centre on July 26, 2013. RIGHT, Ted and Doris Dayno, together with Norma Carpio (PIDC President), and Rose Cruz welcome Premier Kathleen Wynne, and MPP Mitzie Hunter on the Grand Opening of the 2013 PIDC Mabuhay Festival. PHOTO BY ARIEL RAMOS



Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation (PCCF)
PCCF DONATES \$3,500.00 TO
COMPLETE FENCING FOR OLA

Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation PCCF headed by Romy Rafael teamed up with AFCM Temporalities Ministry Chair, Rosemer Enverga to fund the building of the fence on the south side of the parking lot of Our Lady of the Assumption (OLA) Church, home of the Archdiocesan Filipino Catholic Mission (AFCM).

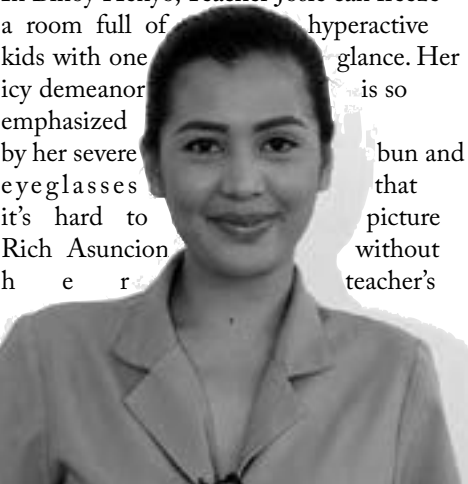
OLA is the spiritual home for the tens of thousands of Filipino Canadians from all over the Diocese of Toronto. The Filipino Mission headed by Fr. Ben Ebcas serves the Filipino Community not only spiritually but also offers various community services most notably the operation of the Juana Tejada Lounge that caters to caregivers. The fence will be a welcome addition to OLA to further enhance neighborhood harmony and security.

True to the advocacy for Charity , PCCF Donated \$3,500.00 total with an anonymous couple donated \$500.00 and AFCM Temporalities raised \$1,845.00 to fully pay the cost to build the fence. PCCF is the organizer of the Miss Philippines Canada , Little Miss Philippines Canada, Mrs. Philippines Canada and the Pinoy Fiesta and Trade Show sa Toronto, hence, your support to those activities generated the funds for the Donation. Indeed, you had fun and helped at the same time . The \$3,500.00 given to the Fence Fund is just the initial donation of PCCF, more donations to worthy causes for our kababayans will be announced . For details please visit: www.philippinecanadianfoundation.com or look: PCCF on facebook or email: pinoyfiestatoronto@gmail.com.



Rich Asuncion on Her Drive to Succeed as an Actress and a Student

In Binoy Henyo, Teacher Josie can freeze a room full of hyperactive kids with one glance. Her icy demeanor is so emphasized by her severe eyeglasses it's hard to picture Rich Asuncion as a teacher's



uniform. In real life, her role is reversed. While she still frequently finds herself in classrooms, Rich is a student and not an instructor.

"Fourth year na ako sa course ko na Tourism at importante din talaga sa akin na makatapos," she expressed. "Sa trabaho din kasi namin, hindi mo talaga masasabi na stable na hanggang sa dulo ang career mo kaya ang education, weapon mo talaga yan. Dapat may plan B ka na in line din naman sa mga interests mo. Ako may pangarap din ako na magkaroon ng sarili kong negosyo na related sa tourism."

"Hindi naging madali para sa akin na makuha ang slot ko sa Star Struck

katulad ng hindi madali para sa akin ang pagsabayin ang pag-aaral at pagtatrabaho. Pero masaya ako, at itong pag-aartista ito na rin kasi yung matatawag ko na calling ko."

KC Concepcion on her most comfortable role yet

KC Concepcion believes she finally found her niche in show business, doing bida-kontrabida roles on television.

The Kapamilya star plays the role of Alexis Ganzon in primetime series "Huwag Ka Lang Mawawala." Concepcion sums up her character as fierce, undaunted and will

do everything for the ones she loves, even if it will harm other people.

Within three months, the actress said doing bida-kontrabida roles is where she's most comfortable at. She's not afraid to experiment on her character, inject her personality on Alexis and try something different on television.

"This is a memorable journey for me. Alam ko na nag-iwan kami ng aral sa maraming tao. Malaking bagay sa akin 'yun, that the viewers accepted me as bida-kontrabida. I never thought na magagampanan ko yung ganitong role," said Concepcion.

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LAWN MAINTENANCE & LANDSCAPING

Bicol Canada Community Association *Picnic*



Bicol Canada Community Association held their annual picnic at Earl Bales Park. With the statue of Virgin of Penafrancia watching, good food, good time, and fun were had by all. From left, a player serves, the statue of the Virgin of Penafrancia, Officers and beauties pose for photos and Arlene Martirez serves her cantaloupe drink to Alex Guerina. MORE AT FILIPINOGOODLIFE.COM

Aljur Abrenica and Kris Bernal draw in huge crowds in Canada

+ Xian Lim happy with success of movie with Kim Chiu + other news



GMA International - the business unit that manages the operations and distribution of the international channels of leading Filipino broadcast company GMA Network - was at the heart of two successful events commemorating the distinctive traits of the Filipino culture in Canada.

Homegrown Kapuso artists Aljur Abrenica and Kris Bernal, products of the phenomenal reality-based artista search Starstruck, were warmly received by our kababayans, and some even came from far-flung places to simply watch and enjoy the shows.

As a true testament to their success, the organizers of Pista Sa Nayon in Montreal and the 2nd Vancouver Original Pinoy Music Festival reported the biggest numbers of attendees in the history of these two events.

At the Pista Sa Nayon held last July 14, the meet and greet organized for Aljur and Kris drew in an estimated 5,000 eager supporters that filled the jampacked venue. The crowd at the MacKenzie-King Park on Côte-Ste-Catherine Road, Montreal also welcomed Aljur and Kris with open arms and showed their appreciation by enduring the scorching heat reaching up to 40 degrees Celsius

to see them perform and ask for their autographs.

Meanwhile, the OPM Festival in Vancouver that took place last July 21 was definitely twice the fun, talent and reach from its humble introduction to the Filipino community in Greater Vancouver last year. Roughly 4,500 people attended the event with some spectators travelling from as far as Seattle, Washington just to support the show.

Aljur shares that he didn't expect this kind of reaction from their mass of supporters in Canada. Kris shares the same sentiment and sends her sincerest thanks to all their fans in Canada. "We couldn't be happier with the turnout of both events and we congratulate the organizers of Pista Sa Nayon and the OPM Festival in Vancouver for their success," shared GMA Vice President and Head of International Operations Joseph T. Francia. "Being their exclusive media partner, it makes us very happy and proud to assume a vital role in propagating the message that we, Filipinos, are creative, talented and simply one-of-a-kind."

The highlights of these events will be aired on GMA Pinoy TV, the flagship international channel of GMA Network.

Nikki gil is back

Nikki Gil is back in the grind as a TV host, VJ, and "ASAP" mainstay, following a brief vacation and her controversial break-up with long-time boyfriend Billy Crawford.

Gil resumed work as a regular VJ of music channel MYX on Thursday, and took to image-sharing service Instagram to express excitement about being reunited with her "family."

"I'm back!" she said in the accompanying caption of a photo showing her striking goofy poses at the MYX studio.

The "Apoy sa Dagat" actress, who was inactive on social media after her separation from Crawford in July, resumed interacting with her followers last week, with a post showing a "meaningful vacay that was."

Since her high-profile break-up in July, Gil has remained tight-lipped on the issue despite numerous reports linking Crawford to an alleged third party in the relationship, which he has repeatedly denied.

Kathryn Bernardo on her new show: 'Binigyan lang kami ng longer time para mapaganda yung project'

As the new teen romance series Got to Believe starts August 26, on Primetime Bida, Kathryn Bernardo said she is thankful to their fans for being patient while waiting for KatNiel's much-talked about return to the small screen after their hit series Princess and I. "Konting wait na lang kasi I'm sure malapit na i-air. I'm sure naman maiintindihan nila yun. Gusto ko pa rin mag thank you sa kanila sa endless support nila from Princess and I tapos naghihintay sila ngayon so sana pag pinalabas na yung Got To Believe tuloy tuloy pa rin yung suporta nila," she said.

The 17-year-old teen star tried to explain why there was a delay from the original airing date of G2B. "Wala naman talagang sinabi sa aming reason muna pero for me I think binigyan lang kami ng longer time para mapaganda yung project and magka-bangko kami ng episodes kasi medyo hindi pa marami yung na-te-taping namin.



No Proof of Sex for Flight

MANILA, Philippines—Not finding any evidence of a sex-for-repatriation racket, the labor official in Riyadh who was the subject of recent complaints from distressed overseas women workers will face charges of "simple negligence" for other work-related matters, Labor Secretary Rosalinda Baldoz said.

Baldoz said two other labor officials implicated in the sex-for-repatriation controversy will also face unrelated charges "for apparently not performing their duties well."

Baldoz has approved the filing of administrative charges against Riyadh Labor Attache Adam Musa for gross negligence; Jordan officer in charge Labor Attaché Mario Antonio for grave misconduct; and Riyadh Assistant Labor Attaché Antonio Villafuerte for simple negligence.

In a statement, Baldoz said the fact-finding team tasked to look into the controversy has found prima facie evidence against the officials, not for the sex-for-repatriation allegations but for other infractions, including their "failure to do their duties well."

She clarified that the team did not find the involvement of any of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) organic personnel in any "sex-for-fly" or "sex-for-hire" activities. The investigation report said some distressed workers had apparently been recruited into a prostitution ring, but it did not involve their personnel.

In addition to the charge of simple negligence against Villafuerte, Baldoz also approved the fact-finding team's recommendation to refer the complaints for sexual harassment against the Riyadh official to the DOLE Committee on Decorum and Investigation.

Nicon Fameronag, DOLE spokesperson, said in an interview that Villafuerte's case of "simple negligence" will be endorsed to the DOLE Legal Service for a formal hearing.

"A case of simple negligence will be treated as a regular case so it was referred to the legal department," Fameronag said, explaining that the charge stemmed from Villafuerte's apparently "failing to take care of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs)" in his jurisdiction.

PCCT goes on a Picnic



Philippine Chamber of Commerce Toronto officers, members, family take the time to pose for a photo during their annual picnic at Milliken Park. MORE AT FILIPINOGOODLIFE.COM

SCRAP THE CEDULA continued from page 1

is appointed to a government position among others.

But Escudero argued that other proof of identifications such as passport, driver's license, and other government-issued IDs practically render cedula "useless."

The veteran lawmaker's bill also seeks to repeal some provisions in the Local Government Code of 1991, which gave authority to local government units (LGUs) to impose residence tax.

"Abolishing the cedula practice is also like scrapping a relic of our colonial past. Yes, we must always look back at our past to know where we are

going," Escudero explained.

"But the cedula is a thing of the past that should already be buried for its obsolescence" he noted.

Books about Philippine history said cedula were implemented to reform the tax system in the country during the Spanish Colonial Period.

In 1896, national hero Andress Bonifacio led other katipuneros in tearing up their cedula as a symbol of their defiance against the Spanish rule in Balintawak.

After the tribute system or head tax to Spain was abolished, the cedula was issued to all Filipinos upon payment of a residence tax.

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Spotlight

Luneta Hotel

Completed in 1918, the Parisian-inspired hotel was designed by the Spanish architect, Salvador Farre. The Luneta hotel is located on Calle San Luis (now T.M. Kalaw) and had commanding views of Wallace field, Luneta, and the Manila bay. It was an ideal location during its glory days to watch the Bay's sunset from or look over the joyous Manila Carnival. The hotel was spared from destruction during WWII, however, it was abandoned later on. It is currently undergoing restoration and will operate as a boutique hotel when it opens its doors once again.



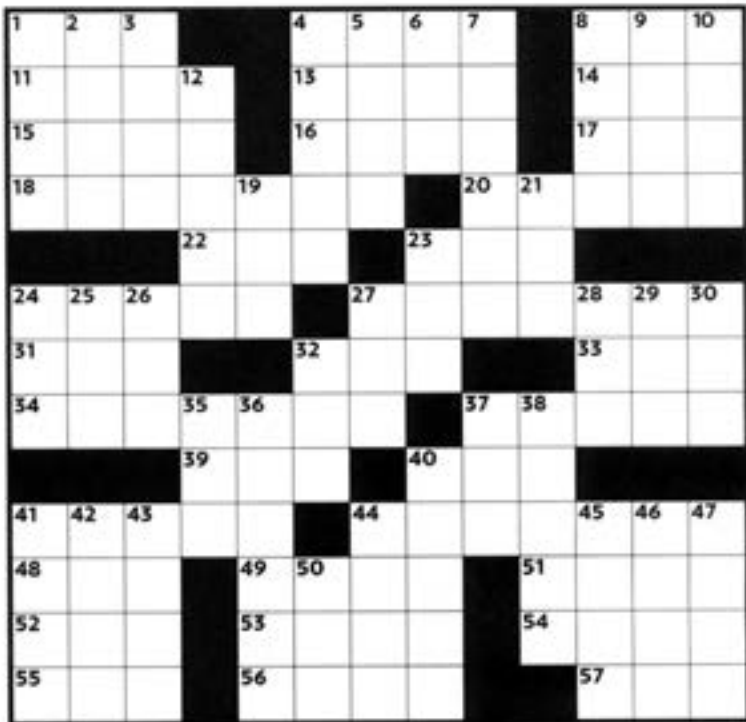
Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Singer Garfunkel
- 4 ____ in Show (Christopher Guest movie)
- 8 ____ It Forward
- 11 Jurassic ____ (movie featuring 18 Across)
- 13 Old-time actor Novello
- 14 Thurman who costarred with 18 Across in 8 Down
- 15 ____ and the Detectives (Disney movie)
- 16 Late-night host Jay
- 17 ____ a Dog
- 18 First name and middle initial of the star of Coach Carter
- 20 Wile's ____?
- 22 Pixar's ____ Story
- 23 Actress Farrow
- 24 Changing ____ (movie starring 18 Across)
- 27 Last name of the star of Coach Carter
- 31 TV Tarzan Ron
- 32 Doris of Pillow Talk
- 33 Jamie Foxx biopic
- 34 Actor Cage
- 37 Julianne who costarred with 18 Across in Freedomland
- 39 "Girls Just Want to Have ____"
- 40 Kirstie Alley series ____ Actress
- 41 Action remake starring 18 Across
- 44 ____ with a Vengeance (movie starring 18 Across; 2 wds.)
- 48 Solo of Star Wars
- 49 Shear Genius subject
- 51 The Sopranos actress Falco
- 52 A League of Their ____
- 53 ____ Bayou (movie starring 18 Across)
- 54 Grade, as a movie
- 55 Snakes ____ Plane (movie starring 18 Across; 2 wds.)
- 56 Rave's partner
- 57 Iron ____ (movie featuring 18 Across)

DOWN

- 1 Planet of the ____
- 2 "____ Lama Ding Dong" (doo-wop song)
- 3 Svelte
- 5 Crystal or Crudup
- 6 Daredevil Knievel
- 7 ____ of Flubber
- 7 ____ Thunder starring Ben Stiller
- 8 ____ Fiction (movie starring 18 Across)
- 9 "Do I have to draw you ____?" (2 wds.)
- 10 Said three times, a Seinfeld catchphrase
- 12 Jane Fonda's Oscar-winning movie
- 19 Goddess of the dawn
- 21 Arnold Schwarzenegger, a.k.a. the Austrian ____
- 23 Actress Elaine ____
- 24 Dancing with the Stars judge Goodman
- 25 Will Smith biopic
- 26 Sex and the City city (abbr.)
- 27 James, for short
- 28 Full house abbr.
- 29 Paddle
- 30 "Steeverino" pal Louis
- 32 Actor Aykroyd
- 33 Ferris Bueller's Day ____
- 36 Martin ____ King Jr.
- 37 L'il Abner's girlfriend Daisy ____
- 38 The ____ Boleyn Girl
- 40 50 ____ Dates
- 41 "Go away!"
- 42 Kate Hudson's mom, Goldie
- 43 Actress Paquin
- 44 Starship Troopers actor Casper Van ____
- 45 Sandler of Big Daddy and Happy Gilmore
- 46 Moreno or Coolidge
- 47 Celebrity chef Paula
- 50 Actress Gardner



JDLSPA show a Success



Josie de Leon School of Performing Arts presented their students from the Scarborough area to a mini-concert or recital if you will at the Gourmet Malaysia restaurant in Scarborough. It was a resounding success. The school, opened by Josie de Leon has been a tremendous success since she opened it to teach upcoming and aspiring singers the finer points of performing arts. Based in Mississauga, she opened a branch in Scarborough because of the growing demand for her services. Her husband Mark Cuizon Crescini is the CEO of her school. MORE AT FILIPINOGOODLIFE.COM

Answers on
Page 26

Judy Ann Santos

Free to Negotiate with other Networks

Now that her contract with ABS-CBN has expired, Judy Ann Santos is open to negotiations with other networks. But the actress hasn't decided on her next move yet. She still needs time to reflect and rest.

"Hindi ko pa po napapag-isipan. Pagkatapos ng teleserye, magpapahinga po muna ako. Hindi ko pa masasagot kasi gusto ko muna magpahinga, siguro a couple of weeks. Gusto ko muna ibigay itong peace sa akin," an emotional Judy Ann said at the press conference of her teleserye "Huwag Ka Lang Mawawala" on Thursday, August 15.

She added that she will always be grateful to her "mother station" ABS-CBN, and that while ABS-CBN's doors "will always be open," the

"possibilities of entering new life will always be there." Yes, she admitted. Other networks have pitched offers. ABS-CBN's offer, among others, is for her to host an American game show franchise called "Bet On Your Baby."

"Ayaw kong magdesisyon ng masama ang loob, kasi baka mali ang desisyon ko. Ayaw kong mag-desisyon ng masaya, kasi baka mali din ang maging desisyon ko. Gusto ko mag-desisyon ng nasa practical ang decision ko. Kasi sa tunay na salita lahat tayo ay nagiging praktikal sa buhay natin at pagdating sa pamilya natin. Tao lang ako, nasasaktan din ako. So, kailangan ko lang magpahinga." Did ABS-CBN give her the respect a "Teleserye Queen" like her deserves? "Hindi ko idi-deny na oo naman, naibigay naman ng bonggang bongga. 'Yung programa lahat, may 'oo' na sagot, mayroon ding 'hindi' na sagot."



Great Prizes Await PCCT Golf

Great prizes, fun and networking opportunities await the golf participants at the Philippine Chamber of Commerce-Toronto (PCCT) 3rd Annual Golf Tournament scheduled on Sunday, September 8, 2013. PCCT President Oswald Tugadi said the hole-in-one prizes include a Toyota Venza 2013 (sponsored by Scarborough Toyota Scion) and "Las Vegas Weekend for two." The golf tournament will be held at the Bethesda Grange Golf Course, 12808 Warden Avenue, Stouffville, Ontario. The cost is \$130 per golfer, which includes green fee, power cart, golfer gift, prizes and Championship BBQ dinner. Registration starts at 10:00 a.m. An exciting putting contest will be held at 11:00 a.m. Tee time will be at 1:00 p.m. For more info, call the PCCT office at 416-850-4966, Ray Jao at 416-838-6775 or Albert Frias at 416-889-4923. (PCCT PR)

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



Milton Mayor Gordon A. Krantz listens to Doctor Solon Guzman talk about Filipino food.

What's Hot on the dating Scene? *Good Credit*

Tall. Brunette. Active. Likes running, tennis, traveling, and sipping tea in front of a roaring fire. Great credit score. Wait a minute. Wha? Great credit score? Yes, good credit is an attribute that has become worth shouting about on dating websites. That, anyway, is the theory behind creditscoredating.com and datemycreditscore.com, matchmaker websites addressing the concerns of the fiscally prudent lovelorn. Never mind that these sites don't appear to be attracting a lot of traffic. They wouldn't exist at all if not for a burgeoning trend where mate seekers long for a peek under your balance sheet before they peek under anything else. This is especially true of young people, who may bring tens of thousands of dollars of student debt to a relationship. That is such a turn-off.

The New York Times interviewed more than 50 daters under 40 from around the country and found that many of them regarded a good credit score as a prerequisite for a good date. As the Times reported:

"Credit scores are like the dating equivalent of a sexually transmitted disease test," said Manisha Thakor, the founder and chief executive of MoneyZen Wealth Management, a financial advisory firm. "It's a shorthand way to get a sense of someone's financial past the same way an S.T.D. test gives some information about a person's sexual past." Is this taking the beau-vetting process too far? I don't think so. Landlords and lenders may look at your credit score to help determine if you are worth taking a chance on. Even employers may do a credit check on you. Why not a prospective mate? How you handle money says a lot about your ability to be organized and responsible. Why would anyone with options risk falling for someone likely to bring heavy debt and poor spending and saving habits to a union? Your credit score is a complex calculation based on your debts and payment history. A low score can keep a bank from lending you money for a house or car, or be the basis for charging a higher interest rate. Any score below 660 is a red flag; anything above 800 is considered stellar. In general, you're fine with anything at or above 750. If your credit is poor, there are steps you can take to fix the problem. One irony is that you must use credit to build a decent credit score. A simple but critical part of this process is using a credit card—but never charging more than 30% of your card limit—and then paying down or paying off the balance in a timely way. That's not just a smart practice; on today's dating scene, it's downright sexy.



Crossword Answers

ART		BEST		PAY
PARK		IVOR		UMA
EMIL		LENO		LAD
SAMUELL		POPPA		
	TOY	MIA		
LANES		JACKSON		
ELY		DAY		RAY
NICOLAS		MOORE		
	FUN	FAT		
SHAFT		DIEHARD		
HAN		HAIR		EDIE
OWN		EVES		RATE
ONA		RANT		MAN

AUTOMATED ACCURATE
continued from page 3

with De Villa that the “deficiencies are in human frailty.”

Elections Commissioner Christian Robert Lim, who is in-charge of the RMA, has another take. “Pag na-match namin ang 99.995 or naka 100 percent kami, niluto na namin yan (If we were able to match 99,995 or 100 percent, then we already rigged the results).”

The accuracy rating was highest for senatorial votes at 99.9775 percent, followed by votes for mayor at 99.9748 percent and district representatives at 99.9719 percent.

De Villa said the recorded variances are mainly due to “clerical” and “mathematical” errors by the RMA team, whose members may have been erred due to drowsiness, fatigue and hunger.

The report RMAC released on covers only 212 out of 234 clustered precincts. Results from 22 precincts were not included for the following reasons: 11 have been elevated to the Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC) for further analysis since the validation team could not explain the variances. 4 are under election protests. One has a probable case of tampering, 3 have incomplete election results, 3 ballot boxes have incomplete ballots

De Villa said the 11 ballot boxes with the TEC will be included in a later report.

RA 9369 or the Automations Law requires a random manual audit of at least one clustered precinct for every legislative district. The RMA is a way to verify whether the PCOS machines correctly counted the votes in the May 13 elections.

Hunk SHOT

George is a soccer-playing lad who loves steak. But for this picture, he was attending a Filipino gathering so he was eating Filipino food. Someday, he wants to be a soccer player or a teacher.



George B.

MISLEADING
continued from page 13

Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) more commonly known as pork barrel.

Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) slammed Aquino for “misleading” the nation that the PDAF will be abolished saying “pork by any name is still pork,” Bayan Secretary General Renato Reyes Jr. said .

“Aquino misled the nation with promises of reform while retaining the very corrupt system of patronage politics that pork represents,” he said.

A Commission on Audit (COA) special audit report released recently found that billions of pesos from the PDAF of lawmakers ended up in the hands of Janet Lim-Napoles, alleged mastermind of the pork barrel scam, through bogus nongovernment organizations.

“Aquino expectedly did not move to abolish presidential pork which is much larger than the PDAF, at least P450 billion by some estimates,” Reyes said. At least 15 senators have called for the abolition of the pork barrel including minority leader Juan Ponce Enrile, who wanted it to be totally removed from all government agencies.

“The protests must push through to call for the abolition of all congressional and presidential pork and for accountability not just of Napoles but all officials involved up to the present Aquino government,” Reyes (PHOTO) said.



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