

Families Angry

Aquino reaches out to relatives of dead SAF soldiers but relatives are not convinced

MANILA - President Benigno Aquino III, arriving late for the necrological services for the 44 slaughtered police commandos at Camp Bagong Diwa, said he feels the grief of the bereaved families because he lost his father too more than two decades ago.

"I was watching television on my own in our house in Boston, waiting for news of my father. I heard the television announcer say: Opposition leader Benigno Aquino was seen lying in a pool of blood; shots were fired. At that instance, time stopped for me, and my world turned upside down," he said.

"At the saddest and most painful point, I had several questions- now that my father is dead, how can we achieve what he wanted to achieve for our country? Does that mean the fight is over?"

ANGRY continued on page 24



Pageant for a Cause

Nathalie Ramos is one of the contestants for this year's Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation's Miss Philippines-Canada pageant. Here, she models one of the gowns during the PCCF Induction dinner. One of the prizes is a free trip to the Philippines for the winner.

Charo Santos-Concio



ABS-CBN PRESIDENT AND CEO CHARO SANTOS-CONCIO NAMED OUTSTANDING PAULINIAN ALUMNA

STORY INSIDE

Give a Helping Hand



Manny Yanga of Scarborough Toyota (3RD FROM LEFT SEATED) and Anna Eusebio of UMAC door to door Cargo (5TH FROM LEFT SEATED) pose with Senator Tobias Enverga and his wife Rosemer, Canada's Finance Minister Joe Oliver, Consul-general Junever Manilum-West (2ND, 3RD, 4TH, 5TH FROM LEFT STANDING) at the PCCF Induction. PHOTO BY ARIEL RAMOS



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China reclamation bad for ASEAN

Philippine Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario says Manila is still exploring 'options' to respond to China's 'massive reclamation' in the South China Sea

MANILA, Philippines – The Philippines plans to raise China's "massive reclamation" in the South China Sea in an upcoming meeting of foreign ministers of Southeast Asia's regional bloc.

Philippine Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario denounced Beijing's construction work in disputed reefs as a "blatant violation" of agreements of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) with China, calling it a "threat" to all 10 ASEAN members.

Del Rosario said that the reclamation will be discussed in the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Retreat in Kota Kinabalu in Sabah from January 27 to 28. The meeting is the first under Malaysia's chairmanship of ASEAN in 2015.

"We'll talk about the massive reclamation, the threats it presents in terms of its implication on freedom of navigation as well as the rising of tensions which are obviously violations of [agreements], in terms of [China's] desire to change the status quo and character of the features there," Del Rosario said.

"I will re-emphasize this and invite the concern of the ASEAN states because it is a threat to all of us."

The secretary was referring to the 2002 Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), a non-binding agreement ASEAN and China entered into. The DOC asks parties to refrain from actions that will "complicate or escalate disputes."

Del Rosario's statement comes a day after Philippine Foreign Undersecretary Evan Garcia also criticized the "huge activities" China is conducting in the disputed area, first reported late last year.

Military chief Gregorio Catapang Jr said earlier this month that Beijing's reclamation activity is already "50% complete" while defense sources said that China will finish building an airstrip in Fiery Cross Reef this year.

Vietnam, Malaysia, and Brunei are also ASEAN members that have claims to parts of the South China Sea. Other members of the bloc are Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Singapore and Thailand.

The strategic sea is believed to hold vast deposits of oil and gas, rich fishing grounds, and a major shipping route.

PH 'exploring options' on reclamation

Del Rosario admitted that the Philippines is still exploring how to respond to China's reclamation activities.

"We ourselves are looking to see what options are open, not only to us but also to other nations in terms of addressing this massive reclamation. We relate this to the expansion agenda of the Chinese in connection with their claim of undisputed sovereignty of the entire South China Sea," the secretary said.

For now, Del Rosario said Manila will continue protesting the construction work.

"Certainly, we're taking a position in terms of registering the necessary protests and consulting with our international partners as to what can really be done," he said.

Manila filed diplomatic protests against China's reclamation work in Mabini (Johnson South) Reef, McKennan (Hughes) Reef, Calderon (Cuarteron) Reef, and Gavin (Gaven) Reef.

With one of the weakest militaries in Asia, the Philippines opted to take the legal track by filing a historic arbitration case against China's expansive claim under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

China is snubbing the case, and continues its reclamation work. Analysts see Beijing's reclama-



tion activities as an attempt to strengthen its control over the disputed features even if the arbitral tribunal rules in favor of the Philippines.

The Hague-based arbitral tribunal has no mechanism to enforce its ruling.

PH wants legally binding code soon

Last year, both the Philippines and its close treaty ally the United States proposed before ASEAN and China a freeze to any activity that may raise tension in the South China Sea, including reclamation. Yet China rejected the call.

This time around, Del Rosario said the Philippines does not have any new proposal but will continue working on the early conclusion of a legally binding Code of Conduct (COC) in the South China Sea.

"I think that the South China Sea is a major topic on the agenda because it concerns the peace and stability of the region. We are looking to ASEAN in terms of the centrality, posture to be able to ensure peace and stability," he said.

While not a party to the dispute, the US also plays a more active role and pushes for a speedy conclusion of the COC.

The Philippines stopped all construction and repair work in maritime features it occupies to maintain the "moral high ground" as its arbitration case is underway.

So what happens when China finishes its airstrip and reclamation?

Beyond protests and talks, Del Rosario hinted that there is not much the Philippines can do for now.

"I can't predict or forecast for you what the scenario is going to be....I wish I could be more definitive in my response but right now, that's the best I can do."

Iya Villania defends Nikki Gil on virginity issue

Nang mabanggit kay Iya ang pagdepensa niya kay Nikki laban sa bashers nito sa social media tungkol

sa isyung virginity, inamin nitong naitawa siya sa naging reaksiyon ng marami sa kanyang statement.

Ayon kay Iya, hindi ito dapat naging isyu dahil

ito naman daw ang dapat, lalo't tayo ay nasa isang Catholic country. Dapat bang ma-maintain ng isang babae ang kanyang virginity hanggang sa araw ng kasal nito?

Pahayag ni Iya, "I do believe in that. "You know, I don't look down upon other girls who practice it [pre-marital sex]. "It doesn't make you less of a person. Kanya-kanya namang values 'yan, e. "But, personally, I do believe that one should not practice pre-marital sex."

Base sa nilalaman ng statement ni Iya, lumalabas na virgin siya nang pakasalan ni Drew Arellano noong February 3, 2014. Bago sila ikinasal ay sampung taon naging magkasintahan sina Iya at Drew.

Ibig sabihin, ganun katagal din ang ipinaghintay ni Drew bago sila nagsiping?

"Yes!" natatawag pagkumpirma ni Iya na parang kinikilig. Dagdag niya, "Doon ko naman na-confirm na mahal niya talaga ako."





What The FACT?

BY JOSE BAKING

MASSACRE

It was not a misencounter. It was an intentional ambush, a massacre. It was not a case of mistaken identity. The Philippine soldiers and special police forces were out in the open with no cover and yet the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) kept shooting. And when the soldiers surrendered, they were shot in point blank range. Their equipment, guns and supplies were taken. Yet, the Philippine government and the MILF negotiators insist on using the word misencounter. A misencounter, one that involves mistaken identity does not last 5 hours. This was the equivalent of shooting fish in a barrel, as they say. Why everyone insists on going on with the peace negotiations is beyond explanation.

Committed to Peace

That's nice. This is the cliché line that the MILF has always used after ambushing our soldiers, during a truce. These rebel groups has never followed the law. Why do we keep believing them?

No Control over their fighters

If the MILF do not have control over their fighters, why are we negotiating with them? It does not make sense.

More Violent Groups

Did we not have a peace treaty with the MNLF already to stop the violence in Mindanao? The ink has not dried up yet on the contract and this MILF came out fighting for their own treaty. What did the MNLF do? They attacked Zamboanga. Did they get punished? As far as I know, nothing happened. The purpose of a treaty is to achieve peace, and law and order. If there is no peace and law and order does not exist, why do we keep signing these treaties?

So, if we sign this treaty with the MILF, it will not bring peace because there is already this BIFF fighting for their own deal. How many years of fighting the BIFF after this deal is signed before we sign another deal with the BIFF which will invalidate this deal with the MILF? This is the reason the MNLF attacked Zamboanga. This MILF deal encroaches on their deal. Getting confused now with all these alphabet groups? I assure you BIFF does not stand for Best infinitely Friends Forever.

China's Moves

How do you solve a problem like China? Well,

embarrassingly, you ask the United States for help. The same country that we kicked out of the country. That would be possible if China is not an economic powerhouse yet. But the US is not going to touch China anymore. It is a manufacturing powerhouse as well as a consumer market rivalling that of the United States and Europe.

European Influence is Bad

President Arroyo scrapped the death penalty and impressed the Europeans. But at what price? The Philippine crime is getting horrifying, with criminals not afraid to commit it. The criminals are getting younger and brazen. Now, President Aquino is trying to sign the peace treaty with the MILF to impress the Europeans and become a candidate for the Nobel peace Prize. Really?

Let me get this straight.

You scrap the death penalty for the worse criminals and the Europeans praise you. You sign a peace deal with the same group that just massacred and murdered 44 of our soldiers and they do not even condemn the rebels.

If we killed one of them in a firefight, the Commission on Human Rights will be calling for an investigation and condemn our forces. How come nobody from the CHR is condemning it now?

Why?

Why do we kept trying to impress Europeans? If they love them so much, why doesn't the Philippines transfer all their embassies to Mindanao? Let's see how much they love them back?

TFC@theMovies' much talked about story about an unconventional family, their lives and loves, unfolds on PPV on TFC

Pay Per View on TFC takes viewers worldwide to a journey with 'EDSA Woolworth'



(QUEZON CITY, PHILIPPINES) – TFC@theMovies' much talked about second original feature film, "EDSA Woolworth" is taking viewers worldwide to a family's journey towards love and self-discovery via Pay Per View on TFC (The Filipino Channel).

"EDSA Woolworth," which was well-received during its North America run and much talked about during its recent premiere on Philippine silver screen, is an endearing and unforgettable movie that is centered on an unconventional family – the Woolworths – who are strongly intertwined by ties that go beyond the boundaries of language, race, culture, and even blood. Team Woolworth as the members fondly call themselves, is an inspiring family composed of people with varying personalities and idiosyncrasies who still manage to stick together through thick and thin. What keeps the Woolworths together, are their shared, stubborn affection and respect for each other's differences.

Playing the titular role of Edsa Woolworth is comedienne Pokwang who displayed another dimension in her acting chops and proved that she is not just a comedienne but a dramatic actress as well. The film reunites her with director John-D Laza-tin who also directed the first feature film of TFC@theMovies, "A Mother's Story" in 2011. Pokwang as Edsa Woolworth is the eldest and only daughter in a family headed by an American father, Papa Frank (Steven Spohn), who is torn between her commitment to the family and her inner desire to find her personal happiness.

Pokwang completely understands what EDSA is going through because she admits that her own mother is experiencing close to what her father in the

movie, Papa Frank is experiencing. "Iyan ang struggle ng buhay ko. Unahin ko ba ang sarili ko o itong pamilya ko na kailangan ako? Sa ngayon iyan ang nararamdaman ko sa totoong buhay." (I am going through a similar experience as what EDSA is. Should I prioritize myself or my family who needs me first?). She adds that the lesson she learned from the movie was to value family. "Sa mga panahon ngayong mas kailangan nila (magulang) tayo. Habang nandito pa sila, habang nabubuhay sila at kasama natin, ibigay natin ang nararapat sa kanila. (There will be times when our parents will need us. So while they are still alive and here with us, we should give them what is due them.)"

Completing the amazing line-up of extremely talented actors are Lee O' Brian as Chad Bauer, Ricci Chan as EDSA's younger brother Bonifacio, newcomer Prince Saruhan as their youngest brother Paco, TFC's Adobo Nation host Lee Robin Salazar as Patrick, and Princess Ryan as Shayne.

PPV on TFC takes its viewers worldwide to a journey with "EDSA Woolworth" via its internet protocol (IPTV) service in U.S. and Canada until March 16 and in Japan, Europe, Australia, and New Zealand until March 21. The family film will also be available via TFC's satellite platform available in Australia and New Zealand from January 21 to 25 and from January 28 to February 1. EDSA Woolworth will be available worldwide via TFC's official online service, TFC.tv until March 21.

For more updates, visit www.facebook.com/KapamilyaTFC or follow @KapamilyaTFC on Twitter and Instagram.

Submit ads & press releases by February 15 for the March 2015 issue.

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LAUGH RESORT

ADEK: Will you marry me?
 GRO: Oo pero meron akong past?
 ADEK: OK lang, wala naman akong future eh!

JUAN: Kahit tindero ako ng fishball, me anak ako sa Ateneo, UP at LaSalle!
 PEDRO: Wow, ano course?
 JUAN: Ala, titinda din ng fishball!

JUAN: Tay, ang CORRESPONDENCE po ba ay dalawang R?
 TATAY: Gawin mo ng tatlo anak, para sigurado!
 JUAN:Galing nyo talaga tay, sigurista!

Sa harap ng Statue of Liberty...
 ITALIAN: Magnifico!
 BRITISH: Brilliant!
 AMERICAN: Amazing!
 PINOY: Picture! Picture! Pang-Facebook!

Pumasok ang isang pasyente sa klinika...
 PASYENTE: Dok, tulungan nyo po ako... pakiramdam ko, binabalewala ako ng mga tao!
 DOKTOR: Next!

FRANK: Alam mo ba na nautusan ko ang aso ko na bumili ng dyaryo para sa akin!
 PNOY: Alam ko.
 FRANK: Pano mo nalaman?
 PNOY: Knuwento sakín ng aso ko!

Nasalubong ng lasing ang isang fat girl na my dalang aso.
 LASING: Hoy,san mo nkuha yang baboy?
 BABAE: Aso to, di baboy!
 LASING: Wag ka sumabat yung aso kausap ko!

JUAN: Dok, sobra lungkot dto s mental kaya sinulatan ko ang sarili ko!
 DOCTOR: Eh ano nman sinabi mo?
 JUAN:Ewan ko,next week ko p matatanggap eh!

TATAY: Bakit BAGSAK ka sa exam?
 JUAN:Dahil po sa pag-absent tay!
 TATAY:Absent ka nung itinuro?
 JUAN:Hindi po! Absent yung KATABI ko nung exam!

Honey Shot



Currently, Hannah is taking up graphic design in school. When not in school or studying, she, with her sister Cassie works part-time in a restaurant. We wish her, and her sister all the luck in their studies.

Hannah Gonzales

Janella stars in her own drama series via ABS-CBN'S

"OH MY G!"

Singer-actress Janella Salvador stars in a unique love story that centers on the journey of an orphaned teenager in ABS-CBN's newest feel-good drama series titled "Oh My G" which began airing January 19. "Unlike other love stories, 'Oh My G' is not purely about romance.



It is about my role Sophie's life as a teenager, her struggles in school, friends, love, and more importantly her faith," said Janella whose character's perfect life is about to turn around because of the death of her parents. Janella considers "Oh My G" close to her heart not only for being her first starring teleserye, but also because of the inspiration, lessons, and values it will impart to viewers especially for teens like her who are too preoccupied with school, family, and social media.

Janella added that the show was conceptualized through the personal request of Carmelite nuns to ABS-CBN president Charo Santos-Concio, in celebration of St. Teresa of Avila's 5th birth centenary on March.

Also joining Janella in "Oh My G!" are Marlo Mortel, Manolo Pedrosa, Sunshine Cruz, Dominic Ochoa, John Arcilla, Edgar Allan Guzman, and Janice de Belen. Eric Quizon and Maricar Reyes will also appear for special participations. It is under the direction of Roni Velasco and Paco Sta. Maria.

Don't miss the beginning of the newest feel-good drama series that will bring everyone closer to God, "Oh My G!" on Monday before "It's Showtime" on ABS-CBN Prime-Tanghali. For more information about "Oh My G!" log on to www.abs-cbn.com, or follow @abcbandotcom on Twitter.

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House joins program vs power crisis

MANILA - The House of Representatives enlisted Wednesday as the first government institution to participate in the Interruptible Load Program (ILP), a program aimed at mitigating a power crisis this year.

Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr. and Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) president and chief executive officer Oscar Reyes signed an agreement where the House will contribute as much as three megawatts to the grid in case of a power shortfall this summer.

"Lead by example," Belmonte said in urging other government agencies to subscribe to the ILP. Also present during the signing was House energy commit-

tee chairman Rep. Reynaldo Umali of Mindoro Occidental and Energy Secretary Jericho Petilla.

Under the ILP scheme, large commercial and industrial establishments are asked to disconnect from the grid and use their own generators during tight power supply situations to free up additional capacity for small users like households.

The House in December approved Joint Resolution 21, which grants President Aquino special powers to address any power crisis.

The House-approved HJR 21 identified mitigating or remedial measures, one of them being the ILP, on the looming

power shortage and set a definite timetable from March until July 31 only.

Belmonte called on the Senate to approve the resolution to ensure a stable power supply this summer.

The Speaker reiterated, however, that the problems confronting the country's power industry needed lasting and long-term solutions.

"The transformation of the power industry from a monolithic structure to one that is divided into different sectors with several industry players, calls for strong coordination and government regulation in promoting a level playing field as well as providing ample protection to consumer welfare," he said.



Charo Santos-Concio

ABS-CBN PRESIDENT AND CEO CHARO SANTOS-CONCIO NAMED OUTSTANDING PAULINIAN ALUMNA

ABS-CBN President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Charo Santos-Concio was recently conferred the Fleur-de-lis Award, the highest form of honor given to outstanding graduates of St. Paul University Manila.

According to St. Paul University Manila President Sister Ma. Evangeline Anastacio, Santos-Concio was cited for her outstanding achievements in the field of television and unwavering loyalty to her alma mater.

"Charo is a true inspiration to the Paulinian community because of her exemplary achievement in her field and her commitment to uplift the human spirit through the creation of meaningful dramas and public service programs on television," said Anastacio about Santos-Concio, who graduated with a degree in communication arts cum laude from St. Paul University Manila in 1976.

Santos-Concio said her love for and fascination with media started even when she was a young girl. And while studying at St. Paul, she worked part-time as a voice talent and a host of a noontime show at a radio station.

"My passion to get into the media industry never died. I realized that I could actually serve my country through media," said Santos-Concio. "At ABS-CBN, I'm doing what I love to do and have always wanted to do, which is to tell stories that inspire, inform, and empower people. And this award means so much to me because more than anything, it is an affirmation that I have had success by simply doing what I love."

Prior to her Fleur-de-lis Award, Santos-Concio bagged three international honors in 2014 for her outstanding leadership and accomplishments as the president and CEO of the country's largest multimedia conglomerate.

Santos Concio won the Gold Stevie Award in the Female Executive of the Year in Asia, Australia, or New Zealand category at the prestigious Stevie Awards for Women in Business; the Gold Stevie Award for the Woman of the Year category for all Asia-Pacific nations (except Australia and South Korea) at the 2014 Asia-Pacific Stevie Awards; and was named Asian Media Woman of the Year by ContentAsia, a premier information resource that covers the entertainment media industry across Asia-Pacific region.

Santos-Concio, who completed an Advanced Management Program at the Harvard University, was appointed CEO in January 2013. Prior to this, she was ABS-CBN's president and chief operating officer since 2008. She was previously the head of Channel 2 Mega Manila Management.

Onscreen, Santos-Concio hosts ABS-CBN Channel 2's longest-running drama anthology "Maalaala Mo Kaya." She began her career in the company as a television production consultant in 1987 after working as a line producer for BanCom, Audiovision, Vanguard Films, Regal Films, and Vision Exponents. She also worked as a film production manager for the Experimental Cinema of the Philippines. (Kane Errol Choa, ABS-CBN Corporation Integrated Corporate Communications)

Worst forms of child labor persist in Philippines



Jeraldine Aboy, 14, tells reporters in Manila about her experience as a child laborer at a sugarcane plantation on the southern island of Mindanao.

MANILA - Millions of children in the Philippines continue to engage in the worst forms of labor despite a massive awareness of the problem and efforts to address it because root causes such as poverty remain unaddressed, various groups said.

Citing a 2011 survey by the Philippine government and the International Labor Organization, speakers at a forum about the child labor situation in the Philippines disclosed around 3 million children aged 5 to 17 remain trapped in hazardous labor activities, mostly in the agriculture and services sectors.

A survey by government a decade earlier showed 2.4 million Filipino children were working in hazardous environments.

"Despite all the efforts of government, the international community and multi-sectoral groups, child laborers still exist," Anna Leah Colina of the Ecumenical Institute for Labor Education and Research, one of the organizers of the forum, told Kyodo News.

"It's good there are these various but concerted efforts of government agencies. But, you still have to go back to the

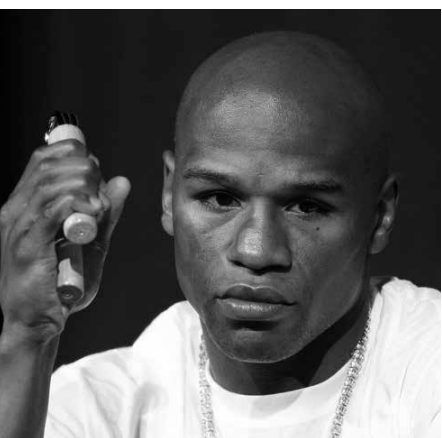
ground level and see how effective were these policies and interventions. Did the people feel it? Based on what we saw, the push factors to the child labor problem are still there," she added.

In her presentation at the forum of her group's study last year on child labor in mining and plantations, Colina said poverty and low family income are the main reasons children work rather than go to school.

Lack of high schools, the difficulty to reach schools and landlessness contribute to the problem, she added.

In his keynote speech at the forum, European Union Ambassador to the Philippines Guy Ledoux called on governments to "implement transformative development strategies that enable their people, especially the children, to enjoy their rights and realize their full potential."

Showtime Boss: Pacquiao-Floyd deal 'not close to being done'



Showtime executive Stephen Espinoza made it clear that a mega-fight between Manny Pacquiao and Floyd Mayweather remains far from a done deal despite reports claiming that the bout was already set.

TMZ reported on Saturday that the fight - expected to be the richest that can be made in the sport - was already a "done deal."



Speaking to Boxing Scene, Espinoza made it clear that TMZ's report was incorrect.

"These series of reports that the fight is done is completely baffling to us," said Espinoza, whose network, Showtime/CBS, has an exclusive contract with Mayweather.

"This deal is not close to being done - and everyone involved knows that," he

stressed.

Espinoza also reacted to Top Rank chief executive Bob Arum's assertion that an announcement of the fight was close, saying: "Top Rank's lawyers have said that there are significant open issues, so I don't understand how Bob can conceivably be saying the fight is imminent and will be closed within the next couple of days."

The executive stressed that the situation remains as it has been "for the last couple of weeks;" that is, both sides are trying to make a deal.

"We are continuing to make progress," said Espinoza. "But there are meaningful open issues."

"We can't celebrate getting two-thirds across a minefield. You celebrate when you completely cross and you are clear of danger," he added. "Right now, we are still in the minefield."

Mayweather himself has made it clear that the bout has yet to be finalized via a post on his Instagram account.

“7 Things I Learned About Metro Manila Traffic While Cycling”



When you come from a country where traffic runs in relative order, taking to the roads in Metro Manila can seem like a terrifying task at first, and especially so if you choose to travel by bicycle and are placing yourself at the bottom of the road user food chain as a result. Over time, however, things become less scary and after a while you learn how to tune in to the frantic frequency of the road, you become one with it, and you learn how to go with the relentless flow of the unstoppable metal avalanche. It's like reaching Zen, on two wheels, while everyone is trying to run you over.

Having done a few thousand kilometers on my bicycle around the Metro by now, a number of things caught my eye over the years. So these are my seven unscientific Metro Manila traffic rules, based on observations while travelling around on two wheels:

1. If there is a gap in traffic, no matter how small, you are legally required to make use of it. If there is no gap, then you are allowed to make one. The

same goes for the impromptu creation of additional lanes in any direction and for using shortcuts, such as the old “cut through the gas station at the corner” favorite. As long as you think it will help you to get to your destination faster than the next man, it's game.

2. Change lanes often, especially in heavy traffic. Change lanes, then change back, and change lanes over again. You will get to your destination faster this way. Change double the number of lanes if you drive a taxi. Change lanes without looking if you are driving a Jeepney or a Bus.

3. If you drive a Jeepney, it's fine to stop wherever you want. Your fellow motorists won't mind that at all. Quite the opposite: they will honk their horns in appreciation of your road skills while trying to squeeze past you. Cyclists and pedestrians also love your safe and soft front bumpers that are unlikely to cause any injury or death in case of a collision. They encourage us to move faster when you come hurtling towards us, training our reflexes and helping us to stay fit in the process.

4. Despite looking that way most of the time, driving is not actually a contact sport. You are allowed to come within millimeters of a crash in order to intimidate your opponents and secure your spot on the road (remember rule 1: you HAVE to make use of that gap), but actual contact is forbidden. You may use various intimidation tactics to further your progress on the road, such as wildly flashing your lights, honking your horn like a man possessed, or if you happen to be a VIP (Very Insecure Person) you can also hire a rent-a-cop on a motorbike who will tell the pesky peasants to get out of your way.

5. Should you ignore the No Contact rule for whatever reason, then stop your vehicle immediately. It's irrelevant if the damage is invisible and you are blocking EDSA during Friday rush-hour as a result: do not move your car for at least 30 minutes while you argue with the other driver and someone creates an oil painting of your vehicles in situ.

6. Bus stops are for losers. Stop your bus wherever you want. Passengers appreciate an impromptu game of Frogger while trying to get on or off your bus. Car drivers following behind also appreciate the impromptu brake and reflex test.

7. There is a way to gain absolute immunity from any traffic rules such as pesky speed limits, using indicators, and slamming on the brakes without warning: simply stick the letters T, a, x and i on your car. You may also use the letters s,e,c,u,r,i,t,y or you can switch the hazard indicators on and simply barge your way through traffic. The latter approach works best if used in a convoy of multiple black SUVs, preferably with a few rent-a-cops thrown in for good measure. Don't try and cheat your way through traffic using an ambulance, though. Nobody cares about those and you will just end up sitting in traffic like everyone else, your siren blaring and lights flashing like an ice cream truck on steroids.

These are just some of the things I noticed until now and there are bound to be loads more. One thing is for certain: you have to be a little bit nuts to take to the roads here, but that's also why I like it. Every trip is a mini adventure that allows you to learn new road survival skills and keeps your senses sharpened.



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United Airlines seeks to grow Philippine business



Almost half a decade after the United Airlines merger with Continental Airlines, which created the world's largest airline, United is re-introducing itself to the Philippines.

United has been operating in the country for over 30 years, with a 4 percent share of the Manila to the USA flights.

But is quandary is being a high-fare carrier in a low-yield market. United's market growth depends on the availability of seats in the country, where the bulk of passengers fly economy class.

"We need higher fares and more seats. We allocate inventory on the basis of fares. Our growth is demand-based, not price-based."

Still, "The Philippines is very important to us, it's a great feeder," noted Maria Perdon, Country Sales Manager.

While the Manila to the US route is a high volume market, high price seats constitute only a small portion of the demand. "In order to be profitable, we need a good mix between business class and economy class seats," she explained.

But inasmuch as the first and the business class seats will not sell as fast as the economy seats, "The way to sell higher fares is to prove we have more value for that price," Cefolia stressed.

This year, United is making Wi-Fi available on more than 370 of its aircraft, with more planes being outfitted at the

rate of one per day.

It has also invested millions of dollars in domestic premium-cabin food and beverage service as well as personal device entertainment which will enable passengers to stream content from a library of music, TV and movies into their own gadgets.

So far, United is the only American airline to offer premium-cabin flat-bed seats on every long-haul international flight to and from the continental USA.

This year, the airline is investing more in service, technology and reliability.

Overall, United Airlines and United Express operate an average of 5,055 flights daily to 373 airports in 60 countries across six continents. Last year, they operated nearly 2 million flights carrying 138 million customers.

In 2014, United netted \$1.97-billion earnings, posting 89 percent increase year on year.



DANIEL WARMLY RECEIVED BY NETIZENS IN "TWO WIVES"

There's another reason to watch "Two Wives," and that is Daniel Matsunaga's character Kenjie, a popular soccer superstar who will be smitten with Janine (Erich Gonzales).

The Brazilian hunk instantly became a top trending topic on social networking site Twitter last Friday (Jan 16) when his character was introduced in the episode of the top-rating primetime series.

Netizens warmly received Kenjie and said that Daniel and Erich exude a great chemistry. What will be Kenjie's role in Janine's life? After introducing Janine to a fan as his girlfriend, will Kenjie pursue the single mom?

Even before Daniel and Erich were paired in "Two Wives," the two have already enjoyed a following. Their fans, who call themselves DanRich, first saw the two's on-screen spark when they guested on "Kris TV" and bonded in Palawan.

With this, Daniel admits that he is very much comfortable being around Erich.

"I don't feel so pressured with the others because I've already worked with Erich. She's helping me a lot. She's throwing lines with me. She's really nice. Thank God because I'm comfortable with the people I'm working with on my first show," said Daniel.

Erich, meanwhile, is very supportive of Daniel in his first ever Kapamilya teleserye.

"It's our first time acting together and I can say he is a natural. Even our director commends him. They will surely see a different Daniel here," said

Don't miss "Two Wives," weeknights after "Forevermore" on ABS-CBN's Prime-time Bida. For more updates, follow the program's official social media accounts at www.facebook.com/2wivesabscbn, www.instagram.com/2wivesabscbn, at www.twitter.com/2wivesabscbn or visit its official website at www.twowives.abs-cbn.com.

Philippines

NEWS

Chile wants Trade

MANILA - A Chilean delegation is set to arrive in March and may initiate talks for a bilateral free trade agreement with the Philippines, Trade Secretary Gregory Domingo said.

"They're [Chile] one of the most prolific when it comes to FTAs [free trade agreements]," Domingo said.

He said Chile was the first to initiate talks to start sectoral and comprehensive trade with the Philippines.

The Chilean trade mission is among the three foreign trade delegations that will visit the Philippines in the first quarter. The two others are the Japanese delegation of small and medium enterprises and a US trade mission.

The Philippines, apart from having Chile as a model country for sustainable mining practices, is also a big consumer of Chilean wines.

Change Tax table

MANILA - The Tax Management Association of the Philippines submitted to Congress the proposed amendments on the Tax Code, including a new income tax table. TMAP president Rina Manuel said the group's proposal presented a simplified yet progressive income tax table. "We proposed an adjusted tax base to address the bracket creep phenomenon," she said. The bracket creep phenomenon was defined by investors as a situation where inflation pushes income into higher tax brackets resulting in increase in taxes without an actual increase in real purchasing power. It calls for a unified tax exemption to P300,000, fixed taxes based on income levels and value added tax simplified.

TMAP proposed an increase in taxes on investments, particularly in capital gains with tax rates of 10 percent for the first P1 million and 15 percent in excess of P1 million.

Rice stocks go up

MANILA - The country's rice stocks improved in December, but the government still plans to import more rice this year.

Data from the Philippine Statistics Authority showed the country's rice stock inventory as of end December was enough for 89 days. Rice stocks increased 21.6 percent to 3.03 million metric tons in December from 2.49 million MT a year ago.

NFA earlier said it might import 600,000 metric tons of rice this year to boost the country's buffer stocks. NFA Administrator Renan Dalisay said the inter-agency council of the NFA recommended the import volume.

"This is the volume advised by the inter-agency council. We have a standby authority to import.. but the NFA Council will have the final say if we will have to import," Dalisay said.

Talakayan with Congen



LEFT, Talakayan Radyo broadcasters during the interview hour with Philippine ConGen Junifer Mahilum-West on January 10, 2015. L- R: Karen Tan, ConGen J.M. West and May Cabrias. Standing: Tony A. San Juan and Rachel Cruz.

CENTER, Toronto's Talakayan Radyo broadcasters pose on January 10, 2015 with Philippine Consul General Junifer Mahilum-West at Fairchild 1430 A.M. Network Station. L-R: Nelson Galvez, Tony A. San Juan, Rachel Cruz, Karen Tan, ConGen J.M. West, May Cabrias, Bobby Achacon and producer Jess Cabrias.

RIGHT, Philippine Consul General Junifer Mahilum-West with Toronto educator Tony A. San Juan at Talakayan Radyo on January 10, 2015.

'Glamorosa Fashion with a Cause' rocks Toronto!

TORONTO (December 28, 2014) – With Mia Parese collections and Qin Winter Jackets highlighting the two-hour display of elegant gowns and winter



apparels by the fabulous 'Anghel ng Tahanan' models, the 'Glamorosa Fashion with a Cause' event was a big success as the cozy Le Passion Lounge managed and operated now by Rodolfo Passion was full to the rafters Saturday night. Producer Elle Dridge

expressed elation over the success of her first venture at the fashion world and thanked all her sponsors "The Philippine Courier, Zahan Zach Khursigara & Mayles Khursigaraga of Mia Parese designs, Daniel Davies and Lainey Li of Qin Winter Jackets, A&LMake-up, Alexis Ledgister and Lesley, Hairstylist Raquel and her sister.

"Foremost, I would like to thank a million times my dearest mentor and event director Ms. Sheng Maligsay for all the dedication and efforts that she put into this event. Our 'Angel Models' that include: Richel Biscayada, Lea Santiago, Joan Dillera, Marichue dela Cruz, Daisy Peralta, Ever Mae Bernabe, Annie Rose Nebres, sheila Calica, Lyn Mendoza, Jemalyn Dancel, Maricel Ermube, Aniza Valenzona, and Shamaine Jalos," Ms. Elle Dridge said.

Entertainment was provided by Ms. Jujelyn Brown of PTAC, and Justin Lima of the Krossover Band. The organizers also thanked members of the PPCO who covered the event led by Joe Damasco, Ariel Ramos, Larry Torres, Bong Molano, Paul Guevarra. MC was TPC's MonDec. (Photos by Larry Torres and Joey Baking of LM Confidential)



Angelica Panganiban on relationship secrets with John Lloyd

Although they are still not on their way to settling down, Angelica Panganiban is very happy with how her relationship with John Lloyd Cruz is currently faring.

To date, it is believed that their almost three-year relationship is John Lloyd's longest.

Angelica shared that the secret perhaps lies in the fact that they are both mature in handling their romance.

"Siguro mature kaming dalawa sa labat ng aspeto. Parang ang hirap ng i-explain. Hindi ko talaga siya ma-explain eh. Siguro maganda lang din talaga 'yung naging simula nung relationship. Naging sobra kaming okay na magkaibigan. Naging swak na swak kami sa isa't-isa. Gets ko siya, gets niya ako," she said.

According to her, they both know each other well that there are times when they no longer need to explain themselves to one another.

"May mga interviews kami na napapanood na

kumbaga hindi na namin kailangan pag-usapan dahil alam namin kung ano ang totoo, alam namin kung ano ang personal sa amin. And I think hindi rin kasi nagiging showbiz ang relasyon namin.

Siguro sa mga past relationships ko din, 'yun din siguro ang naging lesson sa akin na mas maganda kapag mas tabimik ako," she explained.

Another reason possible reason why they jell so well together is the fact that they share a similar passion for the arts.

"Actually mas mabilig siya talaga. Ako naman kasi nakaka-appreciate lang ako and malaking bagay 'yun sakanya 'yung na-a-appreciate ko kung ano 'yung mga gusto niya and ganon din sa akin," said Angelica.



(L-R) Star Creatives head Malou Santos, ABS-CBN broadcast head Cory Vidanes, John Lloyd Cruz, and ABS-CBN president and CEO Charo Santos-Concio

JOHN LLOYD STICKS WITH ABS-CBN.

Matinee idol John Lloyd Cruz ended the speculations that he will leave his home network as he renewed a three-year contract with ABS-CBN this Thursday (Jan 22). Aside from his sitcom "Home Sweetie Home," John Lloyd revealed that his new contract includes both TV and movie projects. "There are a lot of good projects in store for me and I am very excited," the actor said. Though he did not fully give out the details on his upcoming projects, John Lloyd disclosed that he will be working once again with Sarah Geronimo and Bea Alonzo on the big screen. He also shared that it would also be nice to work with Toni Gonzaga again in a movie. Present during the contract signing were ABS-CBN president and CEO Charo Santos-Concio, broadcast head Cory Vidanes, Star Creatives head Malou Santos, Star Magic consultant Johny Manahan, and talent management & development center managing director Mariole Alberto.



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Filam in The Fosters

HOLLYWOOD - 2015 promises to be a good year for Asian-American faces on TV as several shows continue to feature diverse talents.

One of them is Filipino American actress-singer Ashley Argota.

In 2014, Argota was introduced in the ABC Family 'The Fosters'.

Her character is "Lou", the feisty lead singer and bandmate of "Brandon" played by David Lambert.

"It's been a lot of fun... some crazy drama, intense, intense things happening in the first part of Season 2," she said.



The Fil-Am star, who turned 22 last month, said she is happy to be a part of a show that celebrates and promotes diversity.

"My character is a high school dropout who is the lead singer of the band; who is really stubborn and sassy, has a mind of her own and doesn't let anybody push her around. It's so rare that you get to see an Asian girl get to play that because usually we're the super smart girl or the sidekick and things like that. So I'm very grateful for the show for giving me the opportunity to play such a great character," she said.

Argota got her big break in 2008 as a regular cast member of the Nickelodeon series "True Jackson, VP". Last year, her childhood dream of being in a Disney TV movie was realized when she was cast in "How to Build a Better Boy".

She also has a recurring television show "Lab Rats".

With more new episodes of The Fosters set to air this year, Argota is looking forward to revealing more about her character.

The show, which is about a family of foster biological siblings being raised by a lesbian couple, has won a critical acclaim for its realistic depiction of a modern American family.

Mongolia convicts 2 Filipino mining execs of tax evasion



ULAN BATOR—A Mongolian court on Friday found three former executives of a foreign-owned mining company—who included two Filipinos—guilty of tax evasion and sentenced them to more than five years each in prison, prosecutors said.

The court in this Mongolian capital delivered the guilty verdicts and prison terms on Philippine nationals Hilarion Cajucom and Cristobal David and Justin Kapla, a US citizen, according to a statement from the Capital City's Attorney's Office.

Kapla and David received sentences of five years and 10 months each, while Cajucom got five years and six months, it said. There was no immediate word of an appeal.

The verdict is likely to send a chilling message to foreign investors in Mongolia, where the once high-flying economy has been badly hit by a collapse in foreign investment and in commodity prices.

Mongolia, for decades a tightly-controlled Soviet satellite, shook off communism a quarter century ago but has struggled to cash in on its rich natural bounty amid political disputes and resource nationalism.

The three were all former executives of mining company SouthGobi Sands, a Mongolia-registered but foreign-controlled business that operates the Ovoot Tolgoi coal mine, which extracts and sells the resource to customers in China.

SouthGobi Sands is 100-percent owned by Toronto- and Hong Kong-listed SouthGobi Resources, according to the SouthGobi Resources website.

Canada's Turquoise Hill Resources, majority owned by British-Australian multinational Rio Tinto, owns a major stake in SouthGobi Resources, the website said.

SouthGobi Sands was fined 35.3 billion tugriks (\$18.2 million, P800 million) "to compensate for loss from the state," the

prosecutors' statement said.

SouthGobi Resources has denied wrongdoing.

Kapla, a former president and executive director of SouthGobi Sands, Cajucom, and David had been forbidden from leaving Mongolia for more than two years amid suspicions

the company had failed to pay sufficient taxes.

In November, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights registered a claim against the Mongolian state on Kapla's behalf.

Communication issues

The US Embassy in Ulan Bator swiftly issued a statement after the trial, saying it was marred by communication issues.

"Several embassy officials attended the trial, including Ambassador Piper Campbell, and noted that there were interpretation problems during the trial," the statement said.

"Because of these problems, the defendants stated during the trial that they could not understand the interpretation, nor could they express themselves clearly."

The statement said the length of the case and the exit ban had led to "enormous hardship" for Kapla and that the embassy "will continue to monitor the situation closely."

The Great Hural, Mongolia's parliament, voted in November to dismiss the previous prime minister after he was accused of cronyism and failing to address growing economic problems. A new government has been formed.

The landlocked country wedged between giants China and Russia enjoyed world-beating economic growth in recent years, peaking at 17.5 percent in 2011 on the back of a boom in exports of resources, mainly coal, copper and iron ore.

But a new foreign investment law put off investors and economic expansion slowed to 5.3 percent in the first half of last year, while the country faces rising inflation and a falling currency.



OUT ON BAIL. Deniece Cornejo and Cedric Lee, both accused of the January 2014 mauling of comedian-host Vhong Navarro.

Suspect in Vhong Navarro mauling arrested

MANILA, Philippines - More than a year since the mauling of comedian-host Vhong Navarro, one of the suspects accused of the attack has been arrested late Sunday, January 25. Businessman Ferdinand Guerrero was arrested by agents of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) inside the penthouse of Ritz condominium in Makati City around 10:30 pm. Guerrero, who has a standing arrest warrant over the January 2014 beating of Navarro, had tried to disguise himself and used different cars and condominium units to evade arrest, NBI Anti Illegal Drugs Unit chief Eric Isidro said.

"He tried to disguise himself by growing facial hair. Before the warrant of arrest was issued against him, he was sporting a clean look," Isidro added. For two months, NBI agents followed Guerrero's movements until he was arrested at the Ritz condominium, where he was temporarily staying. "[Guerrero] was rich, he could stay in different condominium units in Metro Manila. He doesn't drive the same car and keeps on changing it," Isidro said.

The arrest comes 9 months after Guerrero, businessman Cedric Lee, Lee's sister Bernice, model Deniece Cornejo, Zimmer Raz, JP Calma, and Jed Fernandez were charged with grave coercion over the attack on the television host. The Taguig City Regional Trial Court issued the warrants of arrest against the accused on April 11. The NBI arrested Lee and Raz on April 26 in a resort in Eastern Samar, while Cornejo surrendered in May after weeks of evading arrest. Meanwhile, Guerrero attempted to leave the Philippines two days after the charges were filed against him. Immigration authorities intercepted Guerrero and barred him from leaving for Hong Kong. Cornejo, Lee, and Raz are currently out on bail. Guerrero is now held inside the NBI detention facility.

The mauling of Navarro occurred on January 22 last year at a unit in Forbeswood Heights Condominium in Taguig City.

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Eula Valdes joins cast of The Half Sisters

Viewers of GMA Network's *The Half Sisters*, the Philippines's number one daytime show today, will have all the more reason to stay glued to their favorite Afternoon prime series as veteran actress Eula Valdes joins the cast, bringing an interesting twist to the story.

Eula will play the role of Ysabela Zuñiga, the rich haciendera who saves Benjie (Jomari Yllana) from an accident that left him suffering from post traumatic experience. She will do anything to fight her love for Benjie whatever it takes.

Eula says she is very thrilled to join the cast of the network's top-rating series and to work again with Director Mark Reyes. "Excited ako to work with Direk Mark Reyes again whom I worked with the first time I transferred to GMA via Kamandag years ago. And of course I'm delighted to be part of the #1 daytime soap nationwide."

She is likewise very delighted to reunite with Jean Garcia and share the screen with her good friend in the program. They last worked together in the network's Pinoy version of the Koreanovela *All About Eve* in 2009. "Of course, I'm also looking forward to work with my original loveteam Jean Garci. Yun ang lokohan namin before na kami ang magka-loveteam."

Reyes couldn't be more proud of the program's success since its pilot airing last year. He is very happy for the Filipinos' overwhelming support for his program which explores the phenomenon about hetero-paternal superfecundation.

"A good script and a great cast. That is the formula of



The Half Sisters. From its unique premise to its unpredictable plot twists and sympathetic characters in complicated story arcs, is what makes the show the number one daytime drama. And things get more exciting as Ms Eula Valdes as Ysabela Zuñiga joins the already stellar cast led by

Jean Garcia, Jomari Yllana, Gloria Romero, Barbie Forteza, Thea Tolentino, Derrick Monasterio and Andre Paras. The iconic rivalry of Jean and Eula will once again be enjoyed by local audiences in the next chapter of the consistent top-rating afternoon prime show of GMA."

Meanwhile, *The Half Sisters* is still the uncontested number 1 daytime drama soap nationwide, according to data of the industry's widely trusted ratings service provider Nielsen TV Audience Measurement. Expect more revelations and twists as the drama continues in *The Half Sisters*, which airs worldwide via GMA's flagship international channel, GMA Pinoy TV.

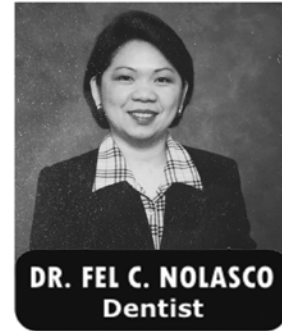
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PCCF Induction of Officers

By Fe P. Taduran

The Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation (PCCF) recently had the Induction of its Officers and Foundation Leaders for 2015-2016 at the Delta Toronto East Hotel.

Inducted into office by Consul General and Ambassador-Designate for Jordan, Junever Mahilum-West, were: President, Romeo Rafael; Executive Vice-President, Rosemer Enverga; Vice-President External, Gloria Rafanan; Vice-President Internal, Mario Alpuerto; Executive Secretary, Lita Leano; Assistant Secretary, Gloria Salvador; Treasurer, Vida Cruz; Assistant Treasurer, Ethel Panganiban; Internal Auditor, Danio Penuliar; Public Relations Officer, Fe Paca-Taduran; Business Managers: Bing Marasigan, Noemi Milanés, Pors Canlas, Kriss Jones; Social Media Director, Chona Stinson; Assistant Social Media Director, June Javier; Community Liaison Directors: Ben N. Ferrer, Mila Lupango, Lizby Eronico; Youth Development Director, Joey Abrenilla; Sports Director, Alex Dooc; Assistant Sports Director, Frank Crawford; Sargeant-at-Arms: Primo Milanés, Alex Saroca, Fidel de Guzman; Foundation Leaders: Fred Tomas, Ann Nacorda, Mitz Canlas, Sena Flores, Tony Leano, Rebecca Rafael, Arnold Cruz, Marita Enriquez, Cristina Ferrer, Rodolfo Perez, Jr., Jojo Taduran, Felipe Rafanan, Nhitz Calvez, Zeny Crescini, Benjamin Escobar, Ron Pantaleon; and Adviser: Jaime Marasigan.

Special guests were Canada Minister of Finance, Joe Oliver, first Filipino-Canadian Senator, Tobias (Jun) Enverga, Jr., Consul General & Ambassador-Designate, Junever Mahilum-West and community leaders, members of the media and friends.

PCCF is now gearing up for the Pinoy Fiesta & Trade Show sa Toronto to be held at the Metro-Toronto Convention Centre on June 27, 2015. Those interested are invited to register as candidates for the PCCF Pageants (Miss Philippines Canada, Little Miss Philippines Canada and Mrs Philippines Canada) or as Trade Show vendors. For more information or any inquiries, please email pageantsphilippines@gmail.com and / or pinoyfiestatoronto@gmail.com.

Berlane Xo "Come to my World" Music Video Launch

**Date: February 28, 2015 @ 8pm,
Venue: forty2supper-club**

Toronto ON- Canadian soul singer Berlane XO will be premiering the video for her recent hit single "Come to my world" off her debut album scheduled to be release later on this year.

The music video was filmed in the beautiful Las Vegas and showcases Berlane XO for the first time.

Berlane XO is expecting a large crowd of entertainers, music industry executives, journalists and corporate sponsors. The mix of people at the luxurious forty2supperclub venue will create an exquisite social experience.

The venue brings an exciting, energetic and high spirited atmosphere. The hosts serving will wear masquerades to bring out the dark, sexy, mysterious, power of the "Come to my World" music video.

The single has been blowing up the airwaves in the UK making playlist from London, England to Birmingham.

UK's award winning DJ Catman fea-



ured her on his popular radio program which airs on 89.4fm (City Lock Radio).

He spoke about her on the radio while engaging with listeners saying "her unique sound is very diverse and how she is able to sing over numerous genres".

DJ Doco Ranks also featured Berlane XO on his popular radio program on Stingdem Radio FM in Birmingham UK.

Since being featured on UK radio, Berlane XO has been getting show bookings and artist collaborations requests from hip hop artists in the UK reggae artists in Jamaica and hip hop and RnB artists in

America.

"This is the fastest I have ever seen an artist connect with the listeners in such a short period of time" says award winning radio presenter Catman.

Visit www.berlanexo.com to view the "come to my world" music teaser.

For further information, booking requests or to arrange an interview with Berlane XO please contact:

Samantha Deschamps by phone 647-520-7133 or by email at bookings@sqrecords.com



Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation officers and members pose for a picture after their induction.

DTI urges speedy passage of Competition Law

MANILA - Trade and Industry Secretary Gregory L. Domingo has asked Congress for the speedy passage of the Competition Law with penalty provision that is pegged



based on the size of the erring company.

Domingo made this call as House Bill No. 5286 is now on second reading. Its counterpart bill in the Senate has already been

approved also on third reading last year through the sponsorship of Senator Paolo Benigno Aquino IV.

DTI Undersecretary Prudencio M. Reyes, head of the Department of Trade and Industry Legislative Liaison, reported that the host of 14 congressmen authoring the bill from various political affiliations, especially the speaker himself and former President highlight the importance of the bill at the House of Representatives.

Domingo said that past measures undertaken to liberalize key sectors of the economy need to be reinforced by measures that safeguard competitive conditions.

"A competition law will level the playing field especially for micro, small, and medium firms that are at a disadvantage in the market place in reference to competing with the big firms. There is a need to provide equal opportunities to all to promote

entrepreneurial spirit, encourage private investments, facilitate technology transfer," Domingo said.

The proposed measures in both Houses of Congress will create an independent commission tasked to implement the competition law. At the same time, it recognizes the valuable work of the Department of Justice- Office for Competition (OFC) (presently designated as the government's competition authority as mandated by Executive Order No. 45) and other government agencies in enforcing the competition policies of the government. The DOJ-Office for Competition shall continue to investigate and prosecute all criminal offenses arising under this Act and other competition-related laws.

"Enactment by Congress of such measure will ensure of a strong and more permanent government office, the present office is only created by an executive order," Reyes said. "An understanding of the market conditions is critical to the effective enforcement of competition laws and policy," Domingo said.

"The mandate of the Department is two-edged, to promote business at the same time regulate it. A competition law will add coherence and balance to the market. With the onset of ASEAN integration in the next few weeks, the need to put in place such mechanism is more compelling."

Regional integration will open up the Philippine market to the nine ASEAN markets, and a competition law in place will

surely protect local firms. Undersecretary Reyes is also the DTI Head for ASEAN/APEC SME Trade Facilitation.

Meanwhile, included in both DTI's and DOJ's wishlist is to make penalties proportional to the size of the violating firm instead of pegging it in absolute amounts.

Senate Bill No. 2882 entitled "An Act Promoting Fair Competition to Protect Consumer Welfare, Advance Domestic and International Trade and Sustained Economic Development by, Among Others, Regulating Monopolies, Anti-Competitive Agreements, Abuse of Dominant Position and Anti-Competitive Mergers, Establishing the Fair Competition Commission and Appropriating Funds Therefor, And Other Purposes," is authored by Senators Sergio Osmena III, Teofisto Guingona III, Miriam Defensor-Santiago, JV Ejercito Estrada, Antonio Trillanes IV and Paolo Benigno Aquino IV.

House Bill No. 5286 entitled "Promoting a National Competition Policy for the Philippines, Prohibiting Anti-Competitive Practices in Restraint of Trade, Abuse of Dominant Position, Unfair Competition, Establishing the Philippine Competition Commission, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes," is principally authored by Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr. and former President and now Congresswoman Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.



Max open to possibility of falling in love with Geoff

Max Collins plays her most mature role to date in "Kailan Ba Tama ang Mali?" that starts airing February 9 on GMA7's Afternoon Prime to replace "Ang Lihim ni Anasandra". "Unfaithful wife ako rito ni Geoff Eigenmann," she says. "I will fall for my boss, Dion Ignacio, and I'm supposed to have love scenes with both Geoff and Dion. Kaya nag-workshop kaming tatlo before taping started, to make sure mawala ang inhibitions namin sa isa't isa."

How's it working with them? "I've worked with Dion in 'Inamorata' so we're used to each other. Si Geoff naman is easy to get along with and he's a very good actor, so walang problema. Matagal na rin kaming magkakilala as we have the same manager, Perry Lansigan."

She's currently being linked to Pancho Magno but she swears they're just good friends and she's still very much unattached. So now that Geoff has broken up with Carla Abellana, is it possible for them to fall for each other? "In life, anything is possible. Hindi naman sarado ang puso ko and we can't foretell the future. But it's still too early. Mas mabuting maging friends muna kami while doing this show."

Does Geoff still look depressed after his breakup? "No, I can say mukhang happy na siya. Mukhang naka-move on na."

She just renewed her contract with GMA for another three years and she's very happy with the first project given to her. "Maganda itong 'Kailan Ba Tama ang Mali' and happy rin ako na ito ang first project ko for this year. I'm also glad to be reunited with Empress Schuck. Actually, we've worked na before nung pareho pa kaming nasa ABS in 'Rosalka'. Nagkontrabida ako sa kanya roon. Ngayon, siya naman ang magiging other woman ni Geoff dito sa 'Kailan Ba Tama ang Mali?' Masarap siyang katrabaho dahil mahusay siyang aktres at very professional kaya mapipilitan ka to also give your best."

Philippines

NEWS

Spain's new aid

MANILA - Spain is designing a new program in the Philippines that will allow corporations to avail of soft loans.

"We are designing new tools that will help the Philippines," Ambassador Luis Calvo said. He said the four new tools being proposed by a working group included program based-aid, financial cooperation, private-public partnership and joint programming with the European Union delegation.

As of end 2014, Spanish development assistance amounted to 270.397 million euros, with 90 percent in the form of grants.

PALACE - No truth Panel

MANILA - Malacanang said there may be no need to form a truth commission on the Palace's botched Mamasapano operation as suggested by Senator Teofisto Guingona III, saying there was a need to form a "unified view" of the incident.

"Maybe they should study carefully if that will be a beneficial step because there is already a board of inquiry. There is also an executive commission [of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front]," Coloma said in an interview over government radio.

Indonesia to build PH ships

MANILA - Flag Officer-in-Command Vice Admiral Jesus Millan said Indonesia is building two ships for P3.87 billion to serve as floating command center with heliports. "The Philippine Navy is expecting the first and second Strategic Sealift Vessels (SSV) to be delivered not later than May 2016 and May 2017, respectively," he said.

On November 18, 2014, the Navy said the Department of National Defense (DND) declared Persero as the "single calculated responsive bidder" for the sealift acquisition project.

Thorncliffe Christmas Celebration

TORONTO ON - A Christmas Eve Mass celebration through the eyes of the children from the Thorncliffe Park Neighbourhood area. In the early afternoon of December 24th, at the Blessed Edith Stein Catholic Church, the children presented a "Christmas Play" to the congregation as they performed and portrayed their roles as Jesus, Mary, Joseph, the Angels & Shepherds and welcomed the arrival of the three Biblical Kings, Melchor, Gaspar and Baltazar, who offered the Baby Infant Jesus with the "Gifts from the Magi", gold, myrrh and frankensence. At the end of the Mass, to their delight, each child received a loot bag filled with toys & goodies.



PCCF INDUCTION

Consul-general Junever Mahilum-West inducts the officers and members of the Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation last January 10 at the Delta Hotel.



Remembering Flor Vendiola

Mel Galeon held a mass and get together for his late wife Flor Vendiola, also his co-founder of FV Foods. LEFT, The Philippine Chamber of Commerce Toronto showed their support for Mel Galeon. RIGHT, Mel Galeon, Rosemer and husband, Senator Tobias Enverga and Philip Beloso paid their respects.



Father Francis Alilio's Birthday

FIRST, Father Alilio blows the candles on his cake. SECOND, Hannah poses with Maria Panaligan. THIRD, Singer Maria Panaligan poses with celebrant Father Alilio. FOURTH, maria, her mom Genelie poses with fellow singer Chyrell Samson.

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Drs. Solon & Josephine Guzman

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



Drs. Solon and Josephine Guzman had their 17th Annual Christmas Party with their associates, employees and their families. As always, the food was flowing and sumptuous, the music was lively and fun was in the air. The roast beef was really, really delicious. Of course, Christmas will not be complete if there was no Santa Claus for the children. Everyone was happy at the end of the night.



“Hindi ako kagalingang mag-English,”

Marian Rivera

“Kapag hindi ka magaling mag-Ingles... ibig sabihin ba nun, bobo ka?” Ito ang naging pahayag ni Marian Rivera sa panayam sa kanya ng Kapuso Mo, Jessica Soho na ipinalabas kamakailan. Sa naturang episode, ipinakita ang pagbisita ni Marian sa De La Salle University-Dasmariñas, sa Cavite, kung saan siya nagtapos ng kursong B.S. Psychology.

Kaugnay nito, pahayag ni Marian, “Para maka-graduate ka ng Psych sa isang magandang eskuwelahan... walang bobong tao na nakaka-graduate ng Psych.”

Pagkatapos ay inamin ng Kapuso Primetime Queen na hindi siya bihasa sa pagsasalita ng Ingles.

“Alam kong mahirap dahil nami-misinterpret, but ako, aaminin ko, hindi ako kagalingang mag-English.”

Gayunman, idiniin ni Marian na hindi ito dapat maging basehan para sukatin ang katalinuhan ng isang tao.

Aniya, “Kapag hindi ka magaling mag-Ingles, pero maprinsipyo ka sa buhay mo, kapag mahal kang anak, mabait kang kaibigan, ibig sabihin ba nun, bobo ka?”

“Parang ang sakit lang isipin at sana maging malawak ang pag-iisip ng tao tungkol sa definition ng isang pagiging matalinong tao. “Kasi para sa akin, ang matalinong tao, e, marunong dumiskarte sa buhay.” Dagdag pa ni Marian,

“Aanhin ko ang kagalingan sa pag-i-Ingles kung hindi naman ako marunong dumiskarte at hindi ako mapagmahal sa mga magulang ko, o nakakalimutan ko ang mga kaibigan ko?”

“Kung ang definition ng pagiging matalinong mag-Englang, ‘wag lang akong maging matalino.”





Action Honda's General Manager Rafael Nebres and Dealer Principal Philip So, receiving the 25 Years Milestone of Excellence Service Awards to Honda automobile customers in Canada. Giving the Award is Gary Gill, Honda Canada Central Zone Manager (left of Nebres) and Craig Simpson, Honda Canada Retail Sales consultant (right of Nebres) Also in the picture are Action Honda's Sales force, from left Philip Shao, Gani Gregorio, Kenny Lo, Ali Asgure, Philip So (dealer Principal) and Geoffrey Tsang (first from the right).

'Bagets' star Cheska Iñigo thinks that stars now have it easy

Former child star Cheska Iñigo revealed to Walang Tulagan how she thinks that the actors of this generation are very lucky to be pampered and taken care of.



"Ang suwerte, suwerte, suwerte nila. Palagi ko 'yan sinasabi 'pag gumagawa ako ng soap or movie, always ko sinasabi sa mga bata, alam niyo ang suwerte suwerte niyo..." she shared.

Cheska, who began her showbiz career at twelve years old, shared how they had to be more independent then.

"... Nung panahon namin, fend for yourself. Fend for yourself talaga," she added.

They didn't get to enjoy the perks and luxuries that teenage stars now get to experience. "Wala kaming acting coach on the set... Dapat alam mo 'yung material mo. Darating ka sa set, alam mo 'yung linya mo, alam mo 'yung expectation sa 'yo kasi pagdating mo dun, kung 'di mo alam, uso pa nun 'yung napapagalitan ka talaga eh. Nasisigawan, among other things. Ngayon, wala nang ganun," she said.

Young stars now have people at their beck and call, get to take breaks in comfortable environments and even request for food that they like.

"Dati wala kaming standby area, walang tent, walang aircon. Hanap ka ng puno, puwesto ka. Ang laki laki ng difference talaga," she declared.

That said, Cheska tries to establish a relationship with her younger co-stars now and help them see how lucky they are to be in the position they're in.

"[Pinagsasabihan ko sila kung kailangan]. Ginagawa ko talaga. So 'pag may nakikita ako [na puwedeng itama, I tell them], kasi I like to build that relationship with them. Kailangan talaga eh," she concluded.

PNP to public: Please respect our uniform

The Philippine National Police leadership yesterday asked anew the public to show full respect to their uniform and avoid making moves that will place the police uniform in a bad light amid the brouhaha created by the so-called "Diaper Patrol" during the recent papal visit which, according to the men behind it, was just a social experiment.

Pictures of the "Diaper Patrol" in which men in uniform wearing adult diapers sans their pants and mistaken to be police officers in patrol drew flak from the police organization which has been feted for its role in ensuring the successful five-day visit of Pope Francis. Senior Superintendent Robert G. Po, spokesperson of the Office of the Chief PNP, called on the citizenry, particularly the netizens, and members of the movie and television industry not to turn the Philippine police into a perennial laughingstock. "We should all be circumspect, sensitive when it comes to portraying our policemen, majority of which are keeping to their sworn duty to serve and protect as what happened during the papal visit," Po said.

He also thanked the local movie and television industry for accepting their calls to stop making movies and TV series which feature actors playing roles of bumbling cops like the movies on "Pulis Patola" in the past. PNP Public Information Office head Chief Supt. Wilben M. Mayor earlier clarified the men in the viral photos are not policemen as he slammed the publicity stunt. "We do not do experiments like that, as I already stated before, policemen did not wear diapers. May I request that you focus on the positive side rather than the negative," he said. One of the actions, he said is the strict enforcement of the PNP Oplan Tamang Bihis which called on the police to go after non-police members wearing police uniforms and accoutrements.

Charges for usurpation of authority and unlawful use of insignias can be filed against non-PNP personnel who will be found wearing police uniforms. Policemen found wearing improper uniforms will also face administrative charges

The order was also aimed at preventing criminals and other unauthorized persons from easily buying PNP uniforms and other gadgets and paraphernalia that can be used in illegal activities.

Drs. Solon & Josephine Guzman CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



Empress Schuck admits acting skills were honed in ABS-CBN



hayag pa niya.

Wala namang in-expect na masyado si Empress sa nilipatan niya except, "Sana ituring nila akong kapamilya kahit kapuso na ako... parang ang labo... ha-ha-ha!" sabay tawa niya.

"I mean, sana alagaan nila ako, kasi siyempre kapag inalagaan nila ako, aalagaan ko rin sila at magiging loyal din ako," makahulugan niyang pahayag.

Masaya din si Empress na muli niyang nakatrabaho sa bagong show niya ang former Kapamilya actress na si Max Collins. Huling nagsama ang dalawa sa TV series na Rosalka ng ABS-CBN.

Sumabak na kaagad ang dating Kapamilya actress na si Empress Schuck sa daring role at pagiging kontrabida sa unang programa niya na Kailan Ba Tama Ang Mali sa ibang network. Bago umalis sa ABS-CBN ay napasama pa si Empress sa Huwag Ka Lang Mawawala, series ni Judy Ann Santos.

"Kabado ako, kasi parang 'Oh my God, ginawa niya iyon?' Natural lang naman yung ganung pakiramdam. Kasi nu'ng nasa ABS-CBN ako, hindi naman ako naging daring do'n, hindi pa ako nakipag-kissing scene, ngayon ko lang talaga 'yon ginawa," umpisa niyang pahayag sa PUSH.

Naikuwento rin ng aktres kung paano siya nagpaalam sa ABS-CBN bago lumipat sa ibang network.

"Kinausap ni Tita Becky (Aguila) ang ABS, kung anong plano sa akin. They told us to wait, kung willing daw kami maghintay, eh, di okey daw. Pero kung may offer naman daw, go naman daw. So nagpaalam naman kami nu'ng nag-offer na yung GMA. Nagpaalam kami and okey lang naman daw, so, siguro 'yon na yung sign talaga," pagre-recall pa ng aktres.

Sa pag-alis ni Empress sa ABS-CBN hindi raw maiwasang may mga nami-miss din siya sa dating home network.

"Ang nami-miss ko sa kabila is yung pagiging komportable ko siguro. Kasi do'n talaga, alam ko na kung saan ako pupunta, kung sino ang kakausapin ko, hindi ko na kailangan ng alalay. Eh, dito medyo nangangapa pa ako... kahit anong galaw ko, tatanungin ko pa rin."

Proud namang sinabi ni Empress na ang mga natutunan niya sa ABS-CBN especially sa acting ay dala-dala niya saan man siya magpunta.

"Mas nahasa talaga ako doon (ABS-CBN). Napakalaki ng utang na loob ko sa kanila at ang dami-dami kong natutunan don... At saka siguro, malaking bagay at tulong na rin na nag-start kasi ako seven years old pa lang.

"At saka sa ABS, ibang klase ang workshop do'n. Matindi talaga... Mas natatatakan kasi don (ABS-CBN), eh. Parang do'n ko nagawa yung mga mabibigat na role, eh," pa-

Is Ash Ortega the next Megan Young?



It's the season of beauty pageants! Sa katatapos lang na Miss Universe 2014 at Miss World 2014, hindi maikakaila ang pagkahilig at pagsuporta ng mga Pinoy sa ganitong patimpalak. Mayroon nga bang inihahandang pambato ang GMA para sumali sa prestiysong beauty contests?

Isa sa mga maaring sumali sa ganitong competitions ay ang 5'5" young beauty from La Union na si Ash Ortega.

Nakapanayam ng GMANetwork.com si Ash sa katatapos lamang na press conference ng Kailan Ba Tama Ang Mali?, at tinanong namin ang young actress kung interesado ba syang sumali sa mga beauty pageants.

Ayon sa dalaga, "Actually gusto ko Miss World e, not Binibini[ng Pilipinas]"

Pagpapaliwanag ni Ash, mas gusto daw niyang lumahok sa Miss World dahil may foreign blood (Chinese, Spanish and German) sya, at mas Filipina beauty naman daw ang mga sumasali sa Binibing Pilipinas.

Dati nang nag-compete si Ash abroad to represent our country sa Figure Skating competitions kaya hindi na bago sa kanya ang sumali sa international contests. Recently, sinubukan din niya ang Muay Thai. Sa parehong discipline na kanyang nakahilig ay kailangan ng matinding ensayo, diet, at exercise. Preparations na ba niya ito para sumali sa beauty pageants in the future?

"Right now, I'm sixteen years old. Sobrang young pa ako para mag-decide. Siguro if I'm at the right age... if I'm twenty plus na, dun na 'yung tama kong pag-iisip to join the pageant. Pero right now dito lang muna ako nagfo-focus kasi dito (acting) ako masaya," paglilinaw ni Ash.

Nang itanong naman kung siya ang next na Megan Young after five years, "Maybe, sana...sana," anya ng dalaga.

Carina Anne Bugarin

Debut



Carina Anne Bugarin celebrated her debut with parents Rodel and Arlene and her brother, with other family and friends. It was a lovely night that everyone enjoyed. The program moved so swiftly that everyone was on their feet after the 18 roses and candles. She entertained the crowd with her talent for music by playing the drums with the band. All in all, it was a night to remember.



“Papanindigan ko ‘to and I will be strong. I will walk on my own.’”
- Heart on her bridal march

Hinandugan si Heart Evangelista ng isang bouquet ng kanyang paboritong mga bulaklak na hydrangeas ng kanyang mga Startalk co-hosts na sina Joey de Leon, Lolit Solis, Ricky Lo, at Butch Francisco habang kinakamusta ang kanyang mga wedding preparations.

Dalawang linggo na lang at ikakasal na si Heart kay Senator Chiz Escudero. Ibinahagi ni Heart na handa na ang lahat, pero may mga pinaplantsa pa silang ilang malilit na detalye.

“All set na, pero marami pa rin kailangang gawin. Tulad kanina, mga thank you cards na never ending,” aniya.

Busy din si Heart sa pagaasikaso sa mga kaibigan at kamag-anak niyang darating mula sa ibang bansa.

Samantala, isang araw bago ang kasal, ise-celebrate naman ni Heart and kanyang 30th birthday. Hindi man siya mahilig mag party, pero nais niyang ibahagi ang huling araw ng kanyang pagiging single, kasama ang kanyang mga mahal sa buhay.

“For the rest of our lives, kaming dalawa na [ni Sen. Chiz] eh. For that night, it will be with everybody,” sabi ni Heart.

Masayang-masaya naman si Heart para sa nalalapit nilang pag-iisang dibdib ni Sen. Chiz.

“Sa tagal ko na din na nag-aartista, marami din akong naging blessings sa showbiz. Pero iba rin pala kapag meron kang solid home that you know you can go to no matter what. Kapag ayaw ka na ng tao, may nagmamahal pa din sayo. That’s the only thing that matters,” paliwanag nito.

Nagkita naman sila ng kanyang ina na si Cecile Ongpaucio, ngunit hindi pa din umaasa si Heart na pupunta ito sa kanyang kasal.

“Kumplikado. Lahat tayo hindi perpekto ang buhay and I have learned to understand that,” wika ni Heart.

At hindi din niya ipipilit ang pagaayos nila ng kanyang mga magulang para lang sa kasal.

“I learned to understand kung ano man yung concerns nila. Eventually [magkakaayos]. Hindi naman ito yung deadline na magka-ayos kami,” sabi nito.

Gayunpaman, umaasa pa din si siya na magkakaayos silang pamilya sa pagdating ng tamang panahon.

“Siguro naman if they see na maayos naman yung magiging buhay ko kapag kinasal na kami, eventually [maayos ang lahat],” bahagi ni Heart.

Baby kaya ang sagot para mapabillis na silang magkasundo?

“Parang hindi atal! Baka lalong uminit yung ulo,” natatawag sagot nito.

Kaagad naman naging seryoso si Heart nang mapunta ang usapan sa plano niyang maglakad nang mag-isa pababa ng aisle sa araw ng kanyang kasal dahil hindi rin pupunta ang kanyang ama dito.

“Siyempre, sad ako. Pero para sakin, big moment na din siguro na I’ll walk alone. Kasi yung mga kapatid ko, tinanong nila: Do you want us to walk you? But I said nobody can replace my dad. My dad is my dad,” naluluhang pahayag ni Heart.

Dagdag pa nito, “It says a lot about ‘yung naging journey ko sa buhay. Sobrang dami ko nang pinagdaanan at a young age, and yet I’ll be brave on that day. Papanindigan ko ‘to and I will be strong. I will walk on my own. I will be happy.”

Lawmaker fears coverup



Members of the Philippine National Police Special Action Force mourn the police commandos who were killed in what authorities said was an accidental clash with a Muslim rebel group, Thursday, Jan. 29, 2015 at Villamor Air Base in Pasay, Philippines. AP

MANILA, Philippines—A militant solon has expressed doubts about the government-led investigation into the bloody clash in Mamasapano, Maguindanao, that resulted in the death of 44 members of the Philippine National Police Special Action Forces (PNP-SAF).

In a statement, Bayan Muna Representative Neri Colmenares said the probe by a PNP board of inquiry would not be objective.

“The PNP Board of Inquiry, composed of PNP Generals, is not expected to objectively investigate the killing of the 44 SAF personnel considering that they will investigate not just the involvement of US forces but also Pres. Benigno Aquino III and PNP Chief Alan Purisima who are their superiors,” Colmenares said.

He added, “President Aquino has practically pre-empted the Board of Inquiry during his televised speech by washing his hands of any responsibility and blam-

ing the SAF forces for failing to coordinate with other units until it was too late. There is no way that the Board will find President Aquino accountable for the botched operation after that speech.”

The lawmaker added that he favored the formation of an independent commission composed of “credible” persons such as former Chief Justice Renato Puno to lead the probe.

An independent probe, the lawmaker said, could “assuage

fears that the investigation will be whitewashed to favor President Aquino and General Purisima, while putting the blame on the SAF forces themselves.”

Also, “the Commission must have the independence and the courage to summon members of the US forces in the Philippines and investigate their involvement,” the House Deputy Minority Leader added.

He urged other PNP officials to come out and reveal what they know about the operation dubbed as “Operation Wolverine.”

“Members of the PNP and other security forces who know what really happened in Mamasapano and in the preparations leading to the operation should come forward and tell the truth about those accountable for the botched operations. Otherwise, the case could be whitewashed with the blame mainly pinned on the hapless SAF,” Colmenares added.

PCCF Miss Philippines Canada 2014 in Lal-lo, Cagayan Tree Planting

By Fe P. Taduran



Krisgelle Maramot, Miss Philippines Canada 2014 of the Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation, did her share to address the problem on environment, climate change, hunger and malnutrition for Lal-loqueños in the province of Cagayan, when she visited the Philippines, as part of her prizes.

In the Philippines, studies show that only less than a quarter remains of its old-growth forests. Deforestation has taken its toll and Filipinos are faced with the tall order of saving whatever is left of the forests and reviving the existing depleted terrestrial and coastal ecosystems.

With this in mind, Krisgelle Maramot, made tree planting as an important part of her trip. Krisgelle planted a Lubeg tree in Lal-lo, Cagayan, to help build a future, a future filled with greenery and hope for a healthier community. ‘Lubeg’ or Philippine Cherry is a fruit that grows only on the western side of the Philippine island of Luzon and is abundant in the municipality

of Lal-lo. The Lubeg fruit is used in making wine, candies, jam and other products which is now one of the booming livelihoods of the organized women’s group in the area. The tree was already adopted as the official municipal tree and its by-products registered as the Lal-lo official One Town

One Product (OTOP) Program products, in which portion of the income is donated for the projects of the municipal nutrition committee. Lal-loqueños were very proud and appreciative of Krisgelle’s accomplishments as Miss Philippines Canada and her efforts for their town.

PCCF is now gearing up for the Pinoy Fiesta & Trade Show sa Toronto to be held at the Metro-Toronto Convention Centre on June 27, 2015. Those interested are invited to register as candidates for the PCCF Pageants and have the same experience as Krisgelle, as either Miss Philippines Canada, Little Miss Philippines Canada and Mrs Philippines Canada, or as Trade Show vendors. Please visit the website www.philippinecanadianfoundation.com or for more information or inquiries, e-mail pageantsphilippines@gmail.com and /or pinoyfiestatoronto@gmail.com.

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Julia Montes shows new acting range in 'Halik sa Hangin'

In the past 20 years, Star Cinema has been pushing its stars out of their comfort zones in an effort to propel them to stardom. 19-year old actress Julia Montes is the latest of these stars with "Halik sa Hangin" now showing nationwide. "Halik sa Hangin" is dubbed as Julia's "coming of age movie."

Directed by **Manoy** from the screenplay of **Enrico Santos**, the movie aims to unsheathe a new layer of Julia's range as actress.

Julia has been preparing for such a break. An actress for some 14 years already, she has already earned several prestigious awards, the most recent of which is the Best Actress plum at the 13th Gawad Tanglaw for her performance in "Ikaw Lamang."

Palo, who has worked with Julia prior in a number of TV and movie projects remarked that she more than met his expectations. He related how the film's script required for intense display of emotions, which could only prove too draining but Julia delivered with aplomb.

Enrico also commended Julia. He described her as a young actress who exude innocence with a hint of rebelliousness and daring.

"I've worked with her not only on television but in film. I already know her capacity as an actress so I was happy that she got the role," Enrico expressed.

As for Julia, she revealed that she changed her acting style specifically for her role in "Halik sa Hangin." Unlike before wherein she would always draw emotions from past experiences to translate her character, this time, she made it a point to become "the character herself."

"I got inside my character and internalized what she is feeling in every scene. That's why I had a hard time snapping out of it after the director yells

cut," shared Julia.

It helped that she was working with Gerald Anderson whom she discovered is as passionate as she is. For her, working with actors that share the same intensity makes work fulfilling.

As Julia described, "I'm just thankful that I was working with Gerald because I didn't have a hard time giving the emotions required of my character."

Is Matteo Guidicelli ready to tie the knot with Sarah Geronimo?

Guidicelli admitted that he wants to star in an action-suspense movie someday. "My dream role is like suspense-action film, I don't know if it's going to be possible but hopefully in the future if there's something like an indie film, thriller-action I would love to do something like that or something involving the nature and the outdoors, trees, ocean."

Does he want to star in a movie with girlfriend Sarah Geronimo? "I don't know now. I know it's difficult because we are in the industry together, but as much as possible we want to keep it separate as much as possible. I'd love to work with her, but I think it's better for our privacy and our relationship that she can do her own thing and I can do my own thing. We don't want to mix our things together," he said.

Now that Valentine's Day is coming up, is he planning for the special day? "We'll see I don't have anything specific yet pero siyempre naman meron on that special day so we'll see." With a lot of celebrities getting engaged and tying the knot lately, Matteo was asked if he is ready to settle down with Sarah. "Not yet, I'm still 24, so I have a lot of dreams of my own that I want to accomplish and prove. I want to accomplish things on my own first but yeah I'm not saying that I don't want to tie the knot, it's just I have something that I want to prove," he said.

"I'm just happy I started the year nice. I'm really thankful of everybody's inspiring comments, you know, so every thing is positive so it's nice and it makes you wake up in the morning with a bigger smile kumbaga," he said.

Toni, Paul Soriano engaged | ABS-CBN News

"Yes, we are engaged." This was the admission of director Paul Soriano on Sunday when asked about the status of his relationship with host-actress Toni Gonzaga, his girlfriend for more than seven years.

Soriano revealed that he proposed to Gonzaga last January 21 in their family home in Rizal -- when she least expected it.

"It was right after her birthday. We just come from a birthday dinner and I had the ring in my pocket the whole dinner. I just wanted to wait for the right private moment. It happened in her home, just very simple. She was in her pantulog already," he said.

Soriano said he first talked to Gonzaga's parents before he asking Gonzaga if she would marry him.

"I was in tears. It was quite an emotional moment. Before we went up to her living room, I had to talk to Tito Bonoy and Tita Pinty and I showed them the ring. I said, 'Do you mind po if I propose to Toni?' And her mom was like, 'Oh it's about time.' So that was nice. And the dad looks at me and said, 'Why are you asking me? Ask her.' That meant there was that blessing. I wanted to give honor to her parents first. We literally ran into her living room," he said.

Aside from Gonzaga's parents, the proposal was also witnessed by the actress' sister, Alex.

Asked what exactly did he say at that moment, Soriano said: "I just told her family -- I know they are only four -- I said, 'I'm not here to take her away from you guys. I'm actually here to join you if that's possible.' When they hugged, I said this is one of the moments where you just have to cry. I just got down on my knee and I asked her if she will marry me. She said yes. Before I was done, I think halfway through the question pa lang, nag-yes na."

According to the celebrity couple, they are planning to tie the knot this year.

"It's been seven and a half years. She's been such a great part of my life. The best blessing I've ever received. I want to spend the rest of my life with her," Soriano said.

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Beauties at the PCCF Induction



These are some of the beauties who paraded at the fashion show presentation at the Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation Induction dinner.

LOOK: Is Kathryn 'too young' for Cosmo debut?



Mara de Lara.

“Paano ba namimili ngayon ng ilalagay sa cover ng Cosmo? Fan votes?” asked Brian Villena. “She’s still too young for the cover.”

Reader Abigail Perez, meanwhile, raised the apparent disconnect between Bernardo and a sex-related blurb placed next to the petite actress: “7 Sex Zones You Mustn't Neglect’ written next to Kathryn Bernardo’s head doesn’t look quite right. But I find her incredibly stunning.”

Nonetheless, fans agreed that Bernardo appeared to be “blooming” and more mature on the cover. Others noticed her defined abs and praised the actress for keeping fit.

Bernardo’s Cosmopolitan debut comes a month after she was introduced as the lead star, along with onscreen partner Daniel Padilla, of ABS-CBN’s modern retelling of “Pangako Sa ‘Yo,” widely seen as the love team’s first foray into mature roles.

Filipino organizations are invited to use the Philcomcen office for meetings

By Dindo Orbeso

The Philippine Cultural Community Centre (Philcomcen), the producer of the Taste of Manila, has put-up an office at Suite 311, 3rd Floor, 3768 Bathurst Street (Corner Wilson), Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

According to Rolly Mangante, chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, pointed out that the Philcomcen office

is open to every Filipino organizations to hold their meetings in that for as long as to schedule their meetings and events in advance in order to help them schedule their activities in the place.

Mangante said that the second “Taste of Manila” is slated on August 22-23, 2015 at Bathurst corner Wilson. He said that there only several Filipino businesses which have requested for reservations to establish their booths during the scheduled “Taste of Manila.”

Filipino community, religious, seniors, and youth organizations are called upon to call Philcomcen chairman and chief executive officer Mangante to book early their organizations to use the Office of the Philippine Cultural Community Centre for their meetings.

Chairman can be contacted at (416) 845 4984. Mangante is strongly supported by the Philcomcen members of the board of directors. (St. Jamestown News Service)

Walang Tulugan with The Master Showman continues to delight viewers worldwide

Contrary to the recent news regarding the cancellation of the late-night variety talk show Walang Tulugan with The Master Showman of German “Kuya Germs” Moreno, GMA promises that the show will still continue to air and

delight viewers all over the world.

After more than two weeks of confinement due to mild stroke, Kuya Germs has been officially discharged from the hospital last January 17. Meanwhile, he continues to undergo therapy.

Aside from the program hosts John Nite, Jackielou Blanco, Sharmaine Santiago and Shirley Fuentes, the promising stars Hiro Peralta, Ken Chan, Jak Roberto and Jake Vargas will continue to bring shine to the show. Also, don’t miss the chance to get to know the guest hosts of the show that will be coming in while Kuya Germs is still regaining his energy.

Be updated on the latest scoops about your favorite showbiz personalities on Celebrity Talk with the entertainment journalist, Aster Amoyo.

There’s no stopping Walang Tulugan with The Master Showman. For more information on GMA Network’s artists, programs, international channels events, visit the website www.gmanetwork.com/international.



MANILA - Teen superstar Kathryn Bernardo appears to be turning a page in her public image as she graced for the first time women’s magazine Cosmopolitan as its January 2015 cover girl.

Bernardo, who turned 18 last March, is dubbed a “girl in charge” on the cover unveiled Wednesday on Cosmopolitan Philippines’ Facebook page. She is seen posing in an off-shoulder, midriff-baring top and a floral mini-skirt.

While some followers of Bernardo expressed excitement over her debut on Cosmopolitan, which is popular for its yearly “bachelor bash” and sex and beauty tips for adult women, others questioned the decision to feature the former “Goin’ Bulilit” star in the magazine.

“She’s too young for Cosmo,” commented

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Max Collins returns to drama front + other stories

One of the prettiest female actors on GMA Network, Max Collins, is back on the drama front after lingering in comedy (as one of the cast of hundreds in the Friday gag show Bubble Gang) for nearly half a year. The last time her fans saw her in a dramatic role was in the historical drama Ilustrado playing an abbreviated role as Consuelo Ortiga.



Collins, a cousin of 2013 Miss World Megan Young a couple of degrees removed, is happy that she is finally back in drama. "It is, after all, why I am in show business," she said.

In Kailan Ba Tama Ang Mali? she plays a married woman whose husband (Geoff Eigenmann) neglects until she meets another man (Dion Ignacio) who treats her like a princess and offers her a lifetime of happiness.

Collins says the show is not just about the character she plays, but about three other people—her husband, her boss, and the woman in between that is being played by Kapuso returnee Empress Schuck.

"It's going to be another heavy drama for me," Collins said smiling. "This early, I am now working on how my tear glands will well up sooner than the director can shout 'cut'... he he he," she says jokingly.

This is the first time she is paired with the now buffed Eigenmann who seems to have moved on after the heart-rending break up with Carla Abellana early last year. He wasn't at the press con when we were talking with Collins. The publicists of the show said he was a bit under the weather, so he sent word he couldn't make it to the conference.

Collins who is rumored to be the apple of Pancho Magno's eye said, "No, there's nothing between Pancho and me. Yes, we go out every now and then but with other friends along."

Has Magno hinted at pursuing her?

Collins was giggly after hearing the question, but blurted out, "No. Honestly, no. We're friends, but no more than that."

What if Eigenmann falls for her during the course of the taping of the show? And that will be about three or four months?

The pretty actress was uneasy trying to find words to answer the question. And then she said, "Hindi naman siguro (I don't think so)! I don't know him that much, but I don't think I am his type."

Collins and Eigenmann belong to the same management team—PPL by Perry Lansigan—and more than colleagues in the business, they have formed fraternal dealings. They try to look out for each other, and while they have not worked in a drama previously, she knows Eigenmann will extend to her the support he is known to give his female co-stars.

"I am glad we will be working together so I'd get to know him deeper than how I know him now. That is if he's open up to me, or he'd allow me to be open with him.

Taping has started for the show, and she hopes it would make her 2015 a year to look forward to.

Does she have any desire to join a beauty pageant? "One beauty queen in the family is enough," she said referring to Megan Young.

Mineque, Taturan to officially represent Rizal Scarborough Chapter in Vigan during a global assembly

Chapter Commander Aristeo (Bert) Mondragon of the Scarborough Chapter of the Order of the Knights of Rizal announced the official designation of Sir Placido (Dong) J. Mineque (PHOTO), KCR and Sir Joaquin (Jojo) T. Taturan, Jr., KCR as the official representatives of the chapter during the 20th International Assembly of OKOR scheduled on February 19 - 22, 2015 in Vigan City, Ilocos Sur, Philippines,



Vigan City is a Heritage City and which was selected as one of the 7 cities wonder of the world. Vigan City is a historical and tourism city which has still buildings constructed during the Spanish era.

The designation of both Mineque and Taturan representing the chapter was unanimously voted upon by the officers and members of the chapter which meeting was hosted by Sir Joe Sison Luzadas in his residence.

Present during the meeting include Mondragon, Vir amante, Immediate past chapter commander of the OKOR Scarborough Chapter, Joe Sison Luzadas, Taturan, willy Paragas Doner Asaret, Dong Manique.

Manique is the OKOR Canadian Region Assistant Chancellor while Yanga is the deputy area commander of the East Toronto. Taturan was for four year Regional Trustee In-charge of publicity and promotions (media).

In the meantime, the OKOR has lined-up several programs and projects for this year and Sir Mondragon is inviting members of the Filipino community to join the Order of the Knights of Rizal in order to help in promoting among the young Filipino-Canadians in Canada the teachings of Dr. Jose P. Rizal, the Philippine national hero (St. Jamestown News Service - DO)

On the Rise



We came up with a list of promising stars that are on track to becoming the next showbiz royalties.

Janine Gutierrez

She had to settle for support roles first in her previous television projects. But when she finally clinched the title role in More Than Words, her rise to stardom is now unstoppable. Many young talents appeared in GMA Network programs but it's only Janine who instantly gain massive popularity and made noise in 2014. This year she's expected to make waves again as her primetime series with Elmo Magalona continues to dominate the ratings race.

James Reid

A lot of people regard this Filipino-Australian actor as the next Gerald Anderson, but we say, he's in an entirely different league. James can perfectly hit decent notes and can glide on stage with his dance moves that make all the girls swoon. He first made a mark in showbiz after being named as the Big Winner of Pinoy Big Brother: Teen Clash 2010 but it's only when he was paired with Nadine Lustre when his star started to shine brighter. With box office movies under his belt and a legion of fans trooping to his every mall shows, James is definitely on the top of the next biggest leading men list.



Liza Soberano

Blessed with good looks that perfectly register on camera, we see this 17-year-old Star Magic talent as an Angel Locsin in training. She is best known for her role as Agnes Calay in the current hit TV series, Forevermore. She was first known for her role as Angel in the 2013 romantic comedy film Must Be...Love then played a pivotal role in the romantic comedy TV series Got to Believe. Liza will star in an upcoming film based on the Wattpad book, The Bet, alongside her on-screen partner, Enrique Gil.



Alex Gonzaga

She had her name changed in 2008, but it's only in 2014 when the comedienne and television host made her presence felt. She is no longer known as Toni Gonzaga's less popular little sister. As she makes her mark in showbiz, she is now referred to as television's fast-rising star. When Alex returned to ABS-CBN and became the media correspondent on The Voice of the Philippines, people instantly got smitten with her bubbly personality. This year, Alex is set to reprise Maricel Soriano's role in the serialized version of Inday Bote.



Nadine Lustre

When Viva Films got the film rights of the best-selling novel Diary ng Panget, the former bit player got the role of the main protagonist. The film was released in April last year and became a certified box-office hit. Three months



later, Nadine together with James Reid and Joseph Marco, starred in another film entitled Talk Back and You're Dead, which is based on another best-selling novel. As expected, the film enjoyed commercial success. The ABS-CBN exclusive talent is again gearing up for two new movies that will be released this year.

Janella Salvador

Being a showbiz scion can sometimes become more of a disadvantage most especially if you have bigger shoes to fill. As the daughter of singer Jenine Desiderio and rocker Juan Miguel Salvador, Janella starts to make a name for herself but not solely because of her parents. The teen star showcases her acting prowess and singing ability. She just recently inked a multi-picture contract with Star Cinema and is set to star in her own series called Oh My G!



Alonzo Muhlach

It's not every day that local television discovers talented kids. Also it's not all the time that the mass appreciates what these young kids show off either on TV or in movies. Just like his father, Alonzo is a little charmer. Like father, like son, indeed. Many observed that the adorable kid is exceptional in gaining the crowd's attention. More than just his wit and spontaneity Alonzo also inherited his father's cuteness. The five-year-old tot appeared in two entries in MMFF and we are expecting more of that in 2015.



Miguel Tanfelix

Ten years ago, the then six-year-old kid appeared as young Pagaspas in Mulawin. Now, Miguel is being groomed as the next top leading man in his mother studio. The StarStruck Kids first prince has continuously awed TV viewers with his acting skills in drama (Niño) and comedy (Ismol Family). To date, Miguel has appeared in almost 30 shows in Kapuso Network. Adding to his long list of prominent television projects is clinching the lead role in the rom-com series Once Upon A Kiss set to air on GMA soon.



Ruru Madrid

He didn't win the 11th Golden Screen TV Awards Outstanding Breakthrough Performance by an Actor or got nominated at the 25th Singapore International Film Festival as Best Actor for no reason at all. The Protégé: The Battle for the Big Artista Break alumnus is gradually making his presence felt through a series of television shows on his mother network. In fact, he's the busiest talent in his batch. With his exceptional acting skills, people see Ruru as the next big thing in drama.



André Paras

The towering 19-year-old actor-host can't easily be ignored literally and figuratively. André's debut series became one of his biggest breaks when he appeared in the fantasy-drama series Blusang Him even if it was just a support role. It paved the way to becoming a GMA Network contract artist in 2011 and a regular performer in Sunday All Stars. Aside from his acting career, Andre is also one of the newest MTV Philippines VJ while he pursues his studies and basketball career.



PCCF INDUCTION

Canada Finance Minister Joe Oliver (middle) and Member of Parliament representing Ontario's Eglinton - Lawrence Riding is shown in photo together with (from left to right) Simeon Sarte, Ontario's branch manager of IREMIT (International Remittance (Canada) Ltd and his wife, Cheri Francisco Sarte; Anna Carina Eusebio, manager of UMAC Forwarders Express Inc. and husband, Andrew Eusebio. They attended the induction of 2015 - 2016 officers and foundation leaders of the Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation (PCCF) at Delta Toronto East Hotel. (St. Jamestown News Service, Romy Zetazate)



Singapore hospital sacks Pinoy nurse



SINGAPORE: A Singapore government hospital sacked a Filipino nurse Friday for “offensive” remarks on social media, the latest in a string of foreigners dismissed from their jobs in the city-state for sparking controversy online.

Tan Tock Seng Hospital said that the decision to fire Ello Ed Mundsel Bello came after it investigated three of his posts on Facebook and Google Plus that touched upon race and religion.

It did not reveal the contents of the posts but described them as “highly irresponsible and offensive to Singapore and religion.”

“We have dismissed Mr. Ello Ed Mundsel Bello from our hospital immediately for his... comments made in 2014 while in our hospital’s employment,” Tan Tock Seng said in a statement on Facebook.

“They have distressed members of the public and our hospital staff... His conduct goes against our staff values of respect, professionalism and social responsibility.”

Police are currently investigating a separate post on Bello’s Facebook page this month in which he described Singaporeans as “losers [sic] in their own country.”

Bello lodged a police complaint saying his Facebook account was hacked after the post went viral.

The hospital said its decision to dismiss Bello was independent of the police investigation.

Anti-immigrant sentiment is on the rise in Singapore, with many complaining that foreigners compete with them for jobs, housing, medical care as well as space on public transport.

In June last year, a Philippine independence day celebration in Singapore was scrapped after organizers faced online abuse and threats.

Also last year, British wealth manager Anton Casey was fired from his job and fled the city-state following his Facebook remarks deriding public transport commuters as “poor” people.

Furious Internet users had lashed out at Porsche-driving Casey, whose wife is a former Singapore beauty queen.

In 2012, a Malaysia-born Australian woman, Amy Cheong, was also dismissed from her job in Singapore and left the country due to angry public reaction to a racial rant she made on Facebook.

Singaporeans make up just over 60 percent of the 5.4 million population, with its low fertility rate forcing the government to rely heavily on migrant workers.

Singapore’s leading activists groups last year warned of a surge in “widespread use of racist, aggressive and militarized rhetoric” against foreigners on social networks.

Scenes in the City



PCCF goes tree-planting in Cagayan.

Kapuso artists conquer the global stage

GMA International marked another banner year in 2014 with a series of successful events held in key regions around the globe.

Driven by its goal of strengthening the Kapuso equity among its viewers in ways beyond television, GMA’s international business unit gave Filipinos abroad a taste of home through various on-ground events featuring the Network’s top artists.

As GMA Vice President for International Operations Joseph T. Francia notes, “More than providing quality programs and services through our international channels, these events are an opportunity for our artists to interact with the viewers, which is integral to extending the Kapuso experience to our audience overseas.”

In the first half of the year, GMA participated in several well-attended events held in various cities worldwide for the annual celebration of Philippine Independence Day.

Last year’s festivities saw Kapuso prime artists Tom Rodriguez and Heart Evangelista gracing the Philippine Independence Day Parade in New York City while Kapuso leading man Geoff Eigenmann joined fans in Carson City, California.

Over in Kuwait, Asia’s Pop Sweetheart Julie Anne San Jose and singer-comedienne Gladys Guevarra were featured in Musika at Tawanan 4, which gathered more than 3000 overseas workers in the region.

And finally, the Independence Day celebrations culminated with Kapuso Primetime King Dingdong Dantes joining his kababayan in Bolingbrook, Chicago for the Philippine Fest Piyesta Pinoy 2014 and Kapuso Premier Actress Lovi Poe delighting over 7000 Filipino-Canadians who came to the Pinoy Fiesta and Trade Show sa Toronto.

Apart from these, GMA also celebrated the vibrancy of Filipino culture as it brought Kapuso stars Benjamin Alves and Steven Silva to the Flores de Mayo Festival in Hawaii, which highlighted iconic Filipino traditions, while Kapuso Soul Diva Jaya headlined the third Vancouver OPM Festival in Canada, commemorating decades of great Filipino music.

Moreover, the country’s longest running noontime show brought its trademark “isang libo’t isang tuwa” to the Filipino community in Canada with the much-awaited Eat Bulaga Live in Toronto concert led by the renowned comedic trio of Tito Sotto, Vic Sotto and Joey de Leon, who were joined by the rest of the Dabarkads Pauleen Luna, Ruby Rodriguez, Jimmy Santos, Allan K., Julia Clarete, Keempee de Leon, the “Sugod Bahay Gang” of Jose Manalo, Wally Bayola, and Paolo Ballesteros, as well as the show’s well-loved Aleng Maliit, Ryzza Mae Dizon.

“Through our continued presence abroad, GMA hopes to remain instrumental in cultivating the Filipino spirit outside our home country,” Francia explains.

Capping off the year’s successful endeavors, GMA International brought some of its brightest stars to Los Angeles, Dubai and Singapore for the much-anticipated Kapusong Pinoy concert series.

As one of the hottest love teams on television, Carla Abellana and Tom Rodriguez thrilled the crowd in the sold-out concert titled Kapusong Pinoy sa LA with their undeniable chemistry. They were joined by Julie Anne San Jose, Kapuso teen star Miguel Tanfelix and actor-comedian Betong Sumaya who portrayed his popular character Antonietta from the country’s longest running comedy show Bubble Gang.

This was followed by the equally successful Kapusong Pinoy sa Dubai which brought the Kapuso Network’s now-married Royal Couple Dingdong Dantes and Marian Rivera and Julie Anne San Jose to Dubai’s Global Village. Over 7000 spectators witnessed GMA’s Primetime King and Queen’s romantic duet and each artist’s individual performances.

GMA completed the concert series and concluded 2014 with a tribute to its loyal Kapuso fans abroad. Drama King Dennis Trillo along with the Fearless Diva Jonalyn Viray and Betong as Antonietta topbilled Kapusong Pinoy sa Singapore, giving their audience an entertainment-filled night to remember.

As another year commences, GMA International remains committed in the service of its overseas audiences, effectively bridging Filipinos all over the world to their home country.

For updates on GMA Network’s artists, programs, international channels and events, visit the website www.gmanetwork.com/international, Facebook pages www.facebook.com/GMAPinoyTV, www.facebook.com/gmalifetv, and www.facebook.com/gmanewsinternational, Twitter pages [@gmapinoytv](https://twitter.com/gmapinoytv), [@gma_lifetv](https://twitter.com/gma_lifetv), and [@gmanewstvintl](https://twitter.com/gmanewstvintl) and Instagram account [@gmapinoytv](https://www.instagram.com/gmapinoytv). (30)




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At the Toronto Consulate



Photo shows how busy is the Philippine Consulate General’s Office serving the members of the Philippine Community in the province of Ontario, Canada who are renewing their Philippine Passports, getting power of attorney, applying for NBI clearance, and among others. Consulate General Junever Mahilum West is the head of the Toronto’s Philippine Consul General’s Office however according to some report she will be given a new assignment as Philippine Ambassador to Jordan. (St. Jamestown News Service, Manuel Papa)

The Bagito effect



The Bagito' effect

Teen stars Nash Aguas and Alexa Ilacad have opened up about learning some useful lessons from their stint on the ABS-CBN hit series "Bagito."

Working on a project dealing with such sensitive topics as pre-marital sex and teen parenthood was an "eye-opener" for Alexa.

"Babae ako eh, dalaga pa. Ang dami minsang gustong maka-chancing sa'yo, kahit pa ayaw mong mag-assume, 'di ba po? Parang, 'Ay feeling ko, may motibo ito.' Inat-ingat na lang, lalayo sa mga kailangang layuan, ganun po," she explained in a recent interview.

At 14, Alexa is properly informed about sex, thanks to her mom. "Nakakausap ko siya tungkol sa mga bagay na tungkol diyani," she shared. "Kasi kung 'di mo siya kinausap at 'yung mga tingin mo lang na tama 'yung pinaggagagawa mo, baka kung saan ka mapunta, 'di ba?"

Alexa, who wears a chastity ring given by her dad, believes intimacy should come only after marriage. "Kung boyfriend mo pa lang, sana pigilin. Dahil hindi ka pa sure kung siya na 'yun eh. Maganda sana ibigay mo 'yun dun sa taong makakasama mo habambuhay."

Nevertheless, she has nothing against those who believe otherwise.

"Napag-usapan 'yan (sa church namin), pa'no 'yung mga nabuntis na? Hindi na ba sila tanggap ni Lord? Hindi, mahal na mahal pa rin Niya tayo. Ang importante lang sa Kanya is tanggap mo 'yung pagkakamali mo and you learn from it."

Like Nash, like Drew

Nash, for his part, has identified himself with the character he plays, Drew.

"Sabi ko nga po perfectionist ako, 'yung pag hindi ko nagawa ng tama (yung gusto kong gawin), grabe ako ma-depress," he explained. "Dito kasi 'pag nagkamali ka, sinasabi niya (nung character) na 'wag kang ma-burden o 'wag bumigat 'yung loob mo kasi may chance para bawiin, and 'yung tingin ng tao sa'yo mas tataas kasi, parang nagkamali ka pero hindi ka natakot bumawi at lumaban pa ulit."

But it doesn't mean Nash readily identified with Drew being a young father, saying, "di ko alam sa'n po ako huhugot."

"Pero habang nagte-taping po kami, dala-dala ko 'yung bata, nag-i-imagine ako na talagang anak ko siya, and nakakadala naman talaga 'yung baby," he recalled. "Pag may hawak ka nang baby - kasi first time kong maghawak ng mga babies - parang nararamdaman ko kung ano 'yung nararamdaman ni Drew..."

Alexa and Nash, together with Ella Cruz and the rest of the "Bagito" cast, are readying themselves for a new chapter of the top-rating primetime drama series, which is set to open this month.

Sarah wants to have more kids with Richard

APT Entertainment is proud to bring one of the country's most popular teen love team Jake Vargas and Bea Binene via the movie, *Liwanag sa Dilim*. It is directed by Richard Somes and also stars Rico Blanco, Sunshine Cruz, Dante Rivero, Freddie Webb and Sarah Lahbati in a role of a mysterious woman.



Many are in the opinion that Sarah still has what it takes to be a big star. Her face and figure could deny that she has given birth. But she enjoys motherhood and live in partner to Richard Gutierrez. While Sarah and Richard really don't plan it, but if you ask her she loves to have as many children. It's a nice feeling raising up beautiful children and working at the same time, she says.

"Doing this film is an awesome experience," says Sarah. "It required so much adrenaline for me that I have to change my sleeping habit."

It good Richard supports her as he knows it is her passion. But of course, being mother to Zion is still her priority.

Robin now makes fun of BB

Robin Padilla is one tough actor who is quite transparent about what he feels, especially when he's not comfortable with any situation. When asked about sensitive questions, he minces no words in saying what his heart and mind say.



For a long time since his brother, Rustom Padilla, decided to come out and announced to the world that he is gay, and eventually turning himself into a 'woman,' calling himself Bb. Gandanghari, Robin has been very vocal about his discomfort about the whole situation. He wanted to disown him. But blood is thicker than water. When BB got hospitalized, it was time for reconciliation. Now, Robin has accepted BB, even not quite forgetting Rustom.

At the TV5 presscon which launches several new shows, Robin is seen in a good mood with his brother, Rommel Padilla and 'sister,' BB Gandanghari as they are presented as the lead cast of a new comedy show, "2 1/2 Daddies."

Time heals all wounds and Robin, Rommel and the rest of the Padilla clan now enjoys the time together with compassion and understanding. Remember that even Pope Francis asks us not to ostracize homosexuals.

Today, as the show progresses, it seems the Padilla brothers are enjoying it to the hilt, bonding together like broomsticks tightly tied. In fact, they are very open asking BB even the most sensitive question in an entertaining manner.

In the story, Rommel is Versikulo, the eldest of the three siblings. Robin is Apostol or Apol, the brawny and macho middle-child who is a good natured raketero while BB is Evangelo /Gelo and Eva, the youngest child whose colorful antics and flamboyant lifestyle is a far cry from how they were before. Celia Rodriguez is the strict matron of the household. "2 1/2 Daddies" is a rollercoaster funny series airing every Saturday on TV5.

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Induction at PCCF



Guests and performers at the Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation Induction dinner enjoy the night away.

OKOR'S Scarborough Chapter will host the 154th birth anniversary of Dr. Jose P. Rizal

By Romeo Ayson Zetazate

Chapter Commander Sir Aristeo (Bert) Mondragon of the Scarborough Chapter of the Order of the Knights of Rizal, announced that the chapter will be hosting the 154th birth anniversary of Dr. Jose P. Rizal, the Philippines's national hero and the pride of the Malayan race which will be held at the Earl Bales Park, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, on June 19, 2015



During the meeting of the Scarborough Chapter of the Order of the Knights of Rizal it was unanimously voted upon that Sir Dong Mineque and Sir Jojo Taduran will represent the chapter during the 20th International Assembly of the Order of the Knights of Rizal on February 19 - 22, 2015 in the Heritage City of Vigan, Ilocos Sur which was voted as one of the 7 cities of the world.

According to Mondragon, the event will be highlighted by the wreath laying ceremony followed by a program which will be participated in by officers and members of the Rizal different chapters in Ontario province.

Other programs and projects lined-up include the recruitment of new members for the Rizal Scarborough Chapter and the chapter 24th foundation anniversary of the giving of recognition to the senior members, past and present.

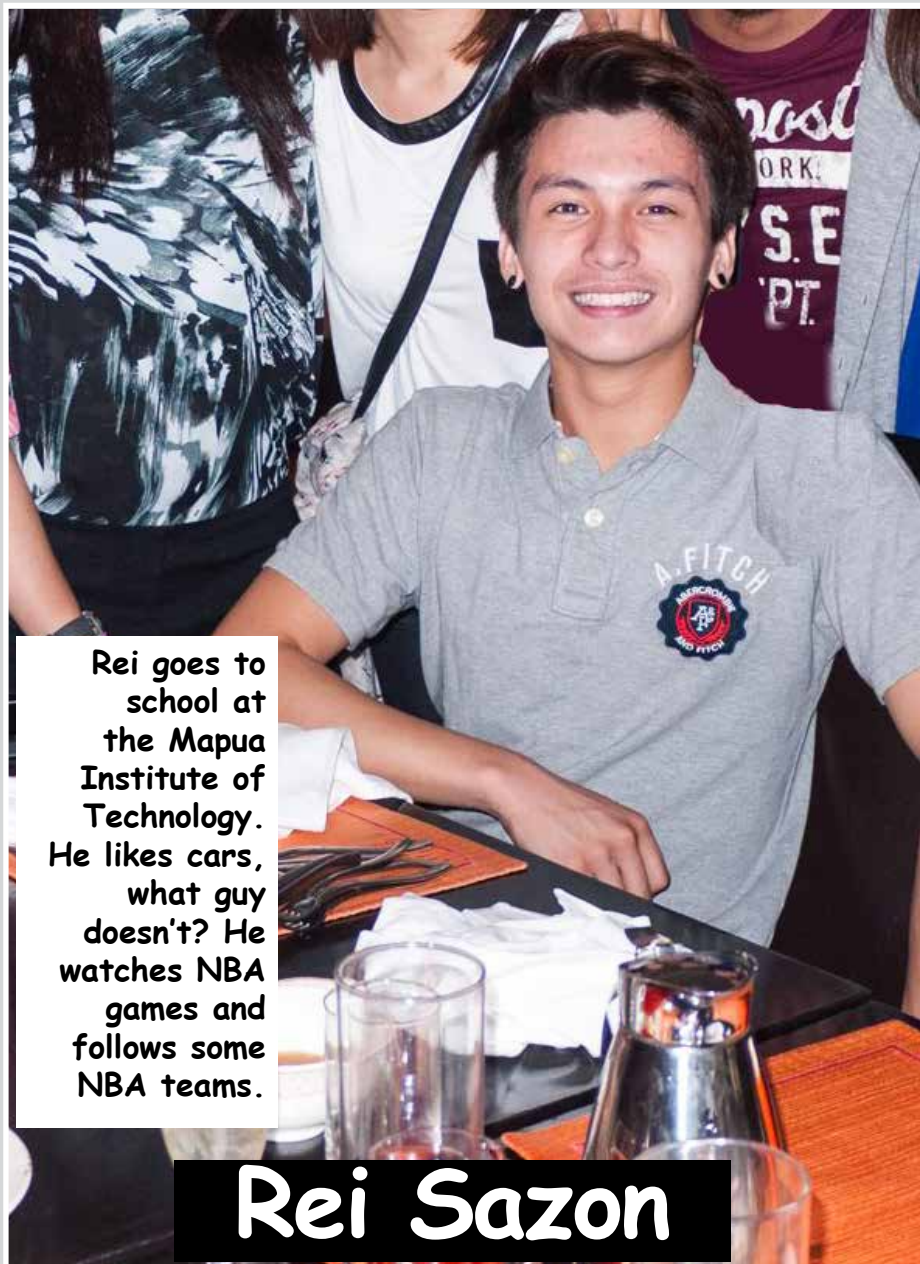
On the other hand, the immediate past Rizal Scarborough Chapter Commander, Sir Manny Yanga, who has been elevated to deputy area commander of Toronto East, of the Canada Region, said that the Auxiliary Ladies of Rizal of the Scarborough Chapter will remain and will be strengthened in support of their husbands who are officers and members of the said chapter.

Aside from Mondragon, the other officers of the Order of the Knights of Rizal include Virgilio Amante, deputy commander; Sir Willie Paragas, treasurer; Sir Jojo Taduran, chancellor; Sir Leo Huerto, trustee; and Sir Virgilio Sanchez, trustee, and Sir Joe Sison Luzadas, adviser. Sir Dong Mineque is now a deputy chancellor of the OKOR Canada Region.

Some other members of the Rizal Scarborough Chapter include Lawyer Sir Alex Guarnes, Sir Larry Bercasio, Sir Nick Alo, Sir Alex Rondilla, Sir Rizalde Quiachon, and many more.

For those who are interested to join the Order of the Knights of Rizal Scarborough Chapter, please get in touch with Chapter Commander Sir Aristeo (Bert Mondragon at >>> 416 - 291 - 8202 and 416 - 388 - 4293, Email: aristeo.mondragon@hotmail.com. (St. Jamestown News Service)

Hunk Shot



Rei goes to school at the Mapua Institute of Technology. He likes cars, what guy doesn't? He watches NBA games and follows some NBA teams.

Rei Sazon

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Jennylyn vows to step up acting

Winning Beast Actress award adds pressure

Actress Jennylyn Mercado feels pressure living up to expectations after winning the Metro Manila Film Festival (MMFF) Best Actress plum for her performance in the romantic-comedy "English Only, Please."

Jennylyn said she is looking forward to doing roles where she would be able to showcase her versatility.

"Kumbaga kasi kailangan matapatan mo 'yung performance mo at kailangan mas galingan mo pa," she said.

The 27-year-old admitted that it won't be easy. "Kailangan kong isipin kung ano pa ang gagawin ko at kung ano pa ang mapapakita kong bago sa kanila (fans)," she said.

In her search for more challenging roles, Jennylyn is clear about one thing: she is determined not to bring work home, noting how she doesn't want to look "stressed" in front of her son, Alex Jazz.

She related how dramatic roles affect her even off cam. "Gusto kong bitawan ang trabaho ko bago umalis sa set kasi ang bigat sa pakiramdam eh. Lalo na may anak ako, alanganang i-uwi ko pa 'di ba?"

Second Chances

As first salvo for 2015, Jennylyn is appearing on GMA-7's newest primetime drama series "Second Chances."

According to a release, "Second Chances" is a story about opportunities and how they change people's lives.

This early, Jennylyn is already being romantically linked to co-star Raymart Santiago. Dismissing the notion, Jennylyn notes, "Siguro magkaibigan lang kami ni Raymart."

She admitted, however, that she is comfortable with Claudine Barretto's ex-husband having worked with him several times in the past.

Marian's Successor

After "English Only, Please", is now a bonafide best actress and box office hit maker. With Kapuso Primetime Queen Marian Rivera now married, there are even those who predict that Jennylyn might be her successor as GMA's top female star. We know of several producers who want to get her services for a new movie, but we're told she's already committed to do a follow up project with Derek Ramsay once again.

Pressure

"You can't please everyone," she said at the press conference for her new TV series on GMA 7, "Second Chances."

"Sanayan lang 'yan (you get used to it)," said the 27-year-old star, adding that the recognition pushes her to strive harder and do better. "Yes, there's a little bit of pressure."

In her 10-year career, Jennylyn starred mostly in heavy



dramas. She found it interesting that she didn't get an acting trophy until she dabbled in comedy.

"Comedy is tough—it's all about delivery and great timing."

Giggling, she said, "Maybe I should be doing more of this! I wasn't expecting to win. I was already satisfied that we worked well and came up with a good product."

No breather

Jennylyn isn't getting much of a breather at the start of 2015, and it goes without saying that she doesn't have much time for romance. That's why, she said, she is surprised when

she hears rumors that she's been spotted on a date with this or that guy.

"Honestly, it's not possible for me to squeeze a love life into my schedule—I'm focused on work at the moment," she said, adding that she does get miffed by the persistent rumors.

There has been talk that she was spotted with Ilocos Sur Rep. Ronald Singson in Boracay; and that she has been frequenting her ex-boyfriend Dennis Trillo's condo unit.

"I get frustrated because they're not true. I just try to laugh and shrug those issues off," Jennylyn said.



Members of the Philippine National Police Special Action Forces load into vehicles Monday, Jan. 26, 2015, bodies of 43 Philippine police commandos who were killed Sunday in a fierce battle with Muslim guerrillas after launching an assault in which they may have killed one of southeast Asia's most-wanted terrorists, officials said.

And if my father died for our country, and we did not change anything, isn't it that my father's sacrifice was in vain," Aquino said.

The lengthy part of Aquino's speech dedicated to his own grief for his late father did not sit well with members of the Special Action Force who paid their last respects for the slain colleagues.

One SAF member remarked: "We are not interested with what happened to your father."

Another described the President's speech as "out of this world."

Even before Aquino delivered his speech, palpable anger could already be felt among the families of the slain commandos and even among the active SAF troopers who went to Camp Bagong Diwa.

While Aquino paid his respects to the fallen troopers one by one, some family members refused to accept the plaque and medal of honor that the commander-in-chief was handing out.

Outside the Moral and Spiritual Formation Center where the caskets were laid, some SAF members who were watching the ceremony in a makeshift tent left when they saw that the President was about to speak.

A SAF official in plainclothes who was initially barred from entering the center vented his anger at a member of the Presidential Security Group, shouting: "Those who were killed were my men, too. I will kick you if you don't let me in."

Erica Pabalinas, wife of slain Sr. Inspector Ryan Pabalinas of the 55th Special Action Company, could not mask her grief and anger as she delivered a message on behalf of the families of the fallen SAF troopers.

"All I ask now is justice, not only for my husband, but for all those who were killed...For the grieving wives like me: let us be strong for our children because behind every brave SAF trooper is a strong wife. Behind every brave SAF trooper is a strong wife," Erica said in tears.

"To our President, we seek your help for justice, please help us," she said.

In his speech, the President did not mention even once the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters who killed the SAF commandos.

Instead, Aquino vowed that the government will come up with a better plan to get Basit Usman, a Jema'ah Islamiya bomb expert who escaped Sunday's clash.

"You can count on your government that we will get the second target. You know me - I always keep my word. Arresting Basit Usman is now number one in our list. I assure you, we will get Basit Usman," the President said.

He said the government will do everything to prevent a repeat of the botched operation. "Let us also

Vina Morales: 'I'm ready to have a relationship'

After being part of the series Maria Mercedes, Vina Morales is happy to be part of the new Kapamilya soap Nasaan Ka Nang Kailangan Kita along with Denise Laurel, Jane Oineza, Jerome Ponce, Loisa Andalio and Joshua Garcia. The 39-year-old actress admitted she is thankful



to start the year with another promising project with her role as Ceciila Macaraig.

This year, Vina said that she promised herself not just to focus on her professional life but her personal one as well. In fact, Vina even went as far as to admit that 2015 is the year to love again for her. "I think at that time I wasn't ready to have a relationship. I guess now is the time for me. I'm ready to have a relationship. Mapaguhuli na ako (laughs). Emotionally

I'm ready na. Nang-yayari sa tao yun na maski siguro even if two years from now hindi pa rin ako ready, wala eh, kung closed pa rin yung pag-iisip ko, yung nararamdaman ko. It's just the right timing na parang gusto ko rin naman may makilala," she shared.

Vina admitted that after she separated from ex-partner Cedric Lee (with whom she has a daughter Ceanna), she has yet to meet someone special. "I was kind of dating for a while but not really like a relationship. Last ko was six years ago pa," she explained.

Vina said she does not have any clear cut list on what qualities she looks for in a man. "Ayoko na ngang maghanap na kailangan ganito, ganyan kasi you know the spark will just start. Kasi ayoko ng

maglista kasi I've been through a lot and mahirap ata magsalita ng ganun. I've gone through a lot. I'm also a single mom but I'm sure that it's going to be coming from God. Yun talaga pini-pray ko at the right time," she said.

The Nasaan Ka Nang Kailangan Kita actress revealed that even her five-year-old daughter Ceana is supportive of her efforts to find a partner. "Yun na nga, nag-pe-pray na nga for a baby brother and a baby sister, 'Dyosko Lord' sabi ko naman (laughs). Kasi when we pray before we go to bed talagang we pray it out loud. So kung ano yung i-pe-pray ko naririnig niya and yun yung pine-pray niya, 'Lord Papa Jesus I want to have a baby sister and a baby brother.' Gusto ko tuloy malaglag sa higaan. Sabi ko, 'Anak, Mommy has to find a husband first.' Parang mas magaan sa sarili ko dahil okay lang sa kanya," she admitted.

AGFO: MILF should surrender men in carnage

MANILA, Philippines - Active and retired senior military and police officers yesterday called on the government to demand that the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) surrender the gunmen involved in the killing of 44 policemen in Maguindanao last January 24.

The Association of Generals and Flag Officers (AGFO) led by retired Army general Edilberto Adan also called on the rebels to return the firearms of the slain Special Action Force (SAF) operatives.

"The government should demand the return of all the firearms stolen from the dead policemen and for the MILF leadership to surrender the perpetrators within their ranks," Adan said.

The AGFO declared the killing of the police commandos as "barbaric and unjustifiable," even under the current protocols of the peace process between the government and the MILF.

The group lamented last Sunday's killing occurred even as the government has been demonstrating its willingness to accommodate the aspirations of the Bangsamoro people, in reference to the peace process in Mindanao.

The 44 slain policemen were part of a team on a mission to arrest Zulkifli bin Hir, alias Marwan, a Malaysian bomb maker on the most wanted list of the US government for his involvement in the 2002 Bali bombings.

The group reportedly encountered a large guerrilla force of the separatist Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) before they were waylaid by the MILF in Mamasapano, Maguindanao.

The MILF claimed the police commandos went into their territory without coordinating with the joint ceasefire committee.

Adan suggested the government must closely examine the security implications of any agreement with any armed rebel force like the MILF.

He also suggested the government consider everything first, including the surrender of the MILF rebels involved in the fighting, before proceeding with its peace agreement in Mindanao.

"It should not be forgotten that even as negotiations are happening, the status of the MILF forces as a combatant force that considers the government forces as its enemy is real, as shown in the Al Barka ambush of Army Special Forces in Basilan in 2011 and many other skirmishes," AGFO said in a statement.

The group also cited the MILF's failure to take disciplinary actions against Ameril Umbra Kato, the disgraced MILF commander who broke ranks in protest of the ongoing peace negotiations with the government. Kato is now leader of the BIFF.

AGFO said the MILF does not have full control over its fighters on the ground.

The group said Kato and his men are also taking refuge in MILF enclaves, with their gunmen mixing with MILF rebels.

In Mamasapano, where the killing of the policemen occurred, the BIFF camp is just beside the MILF enclave.

Spotlight



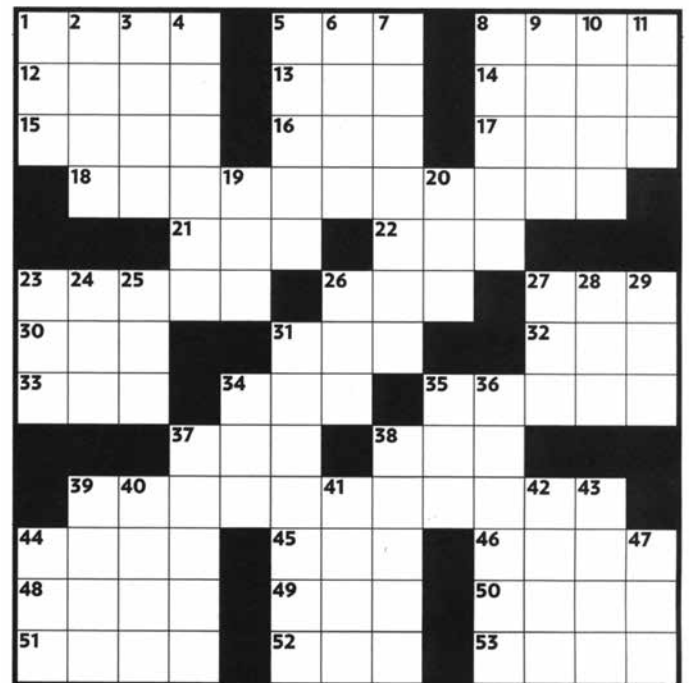
Baguio 1960's

Crossword Puzzle

OUTSTANDING PAULINIAN ALUMNA



ABS-CBN President and CEO Charo Santos-Concio receives her Fleur-de-lis Award from St Paul University Manila President Sister Ma. Evangeline Anastacio.



ACROSS

- 1 *In the Valley of ___* features 18 Across
- 5 Selleck or Woppat
- 8 *Milk* stars Sean ___ and features 18 Across
- 12 Vaccines
- 13 "Rock 'N' Roll Is King" band
- 14 *Happy Days* actress Moran
- 15 Actor Dullea of *2001: A Space Odyssey*
- 16 Scampered
- 17 "The Hand That Feeds" by ___ Inch Nails
- 18 Star of *Pineapple Express* (2 wds.)
- 21 "___ Buttermilk Sky"
- 22 Jazz great Kid ___
- 23 Musial and Kenton
- 26 *When Harry ___ Sally*
- 27 Lady Gaga, ___ Stefani Germanotta
- 30 "A" or "an," to Heidi Klum

- 31 Fourth notes
- 32 Actor McShane of *Kings*
- 33 Brenneman or Grant
- 34 *Gandhi* portrayal Kingsley
- 35 Benjamin ___ (*The Great Raid* costar of 18 Across)
- 37 Always, poetically
- 38 Battery type
- 39 *My Sister's Keeper* and *Charlie's Angels* star (2 wds.)
- 44 ___ Stanley Gardner
- 45 Chang's conjoined twin
- 46 Fashion's Christian ___
- 48 18 Across was nominated for an Emmy for *James* ___
- 49 Jason ___ (*My Name Is Earl* star)
- 50 ___ St. Vincent Millay
- 51 "___ In the Clowns"
- 52 Choreographer Lubovitch
- 53 "Walk on the Wild Side" singer Lou ___

DOWN

- 1 Igloo dweller (abbr.)
- 2 Actor Cobb (Brando's *On the Waterfront* foe; wd. and ltr.)
- 3 Jessye Norman solo
- 4 *NCIS* star Mark ___
- 5 Succinct
- 6 Norway's patron saint
- 7 Marilyn and Vaughn
- 8 Actress-director Marshall
- 9 *Funny People's* Bana
- 10 Brother-sister duo ___ Tempo & April Stevens
- 11 SSW opposite
- 19 Golfer Ernie ___
- 20 High ___ with Ally Sheedy
- 23 *City by the ___* costars Robert De Niro and 18 Across
- 24 Treasury Secretary Geithner
- 25 "___ Love" by Luther Vandross
- 26 18 Across plays Harry Osborn in *Spider-___* films
- 27 Actress Vardalos of *My Life In Ruins*
- 28 ___ and *Run* (Ron Silver sci-fi spoof)
- 29 Tolkien's talking tree
- 31 Will ___ stars in *Land of the Lost*
- 34 *Akeelah* and the ___
- 35 Chris Rock film ___ *Company*
- 36 *Lara Croft: Tomb ___*
- 37 Improve by editing
- 38 Adam Sandler comedy ___ *Management*
- 39 Ontario tribe
- 40 Comedian David ___ Grier
- 41 Draft status (wd. and ltr.)
- 42 Dr. Watson, to Sherlock Holmes
- 43 *The Twilight* ___
- 44 Asner and O'Neill
- 47 X-ray unit

Answers on
Page 26



When women are few, men settle down

PARIS: Women want to settle down while men prefer to play the field, right?

Not quite, said a study Wednesday that challenged long-held views of sexual selection.

It turns out the dynamics of sex are partly driven by the law of supply and demand: a man's fidelity depends to a large degree on the number of available women.

"When women are rare, men respond by desiring long-term committed relationships with a single partner," University of Utah anthropologist and study lead author Ryan Schacht told Agence France-Presse.

"When women are hard to find, the best strategy is to find one and stick with her."

Men who continue skirt-chasing when competition among men is high, essentially risk losing out altogether, said Schacht: "If a man were not to live up to a woman's expectations, she has plenty other options to choose from!"

The findings, published in the journal Royal Society Open Science, are based on a 16-month study of members of the 13,000-strong Makushi tribal community of hunters, fishermen and farmers in southwest Guyana.

Extended families live in villages of 160 to 750 people and premarital sex is seen as a normal part of partner finding before settling down in a monogamous marriage.

Makushi gender relations are egalitarian, according to the study authors.

ABS-CBN's 'Forevermore' Spreading the love worldwide via TFC



The well-loved series dominates Philippine primetime and online views worldwide; Liza Soberano's teleserye abode 'Sitio La Presa,' now a tourist spot in Benguet

There is no denying the impact and power of love that the ABS-CBN kilig series, "Forevermore," spreads to its viewers all over through The Filipino Channel (TFC) as it continues to dominate primetime ratings in the Philippines, generate online hits and create a buzz worldwide.

Based on the recent data Kantar Media Philippines (television audience measurement provider) released, the series starring Enrique Gil and Liza Soberano scored a Philippine TV rating of 23.6%, beating its rival shows from other Filipino networks. "Forevermore" also continues to generate a buzz online as evident in the number of the show's hits on TFC's official online service, TFC.tv. Aside from the high-rating that the show continues to deliver, Filipinos have also fallen in love with the site location of the series specifically where the

character of Soberano resides, Sitio Le Presa in Tuba, Benguet (Luzon).

Sitio La Presa is originally Sitio Pungayan but was coined as such because of the interest created by the teleserye. In a recent report from abs-cbnnews.com, people flocked to Sitio La Presa during the holiday season last year to see the beautiful scenery of the village, take photo opportunities with the cast and take selfies with both the cast and house. Aside from Sitio La Presa, other famous spots featured in the series are Burnham Park, Wright Park, and The Manor which, in the series, is a hotel called Hotel Grande owned by the family of Gil's character.

Continue to feel the thrill of falling in love for the first time in "Forevermore" on TFC worldwide from Monday to Friday (Tuesday to Saturday, Australian Daylight Savings Time or ADST, New Zealand Daylight Savings Time or NDST, and Guam time). Catch every kilig episode via TFC.tv, right after its Philippine airing and through TFC's video-on-demand or VOD (Internet Protocol television or IPTV) service available in the U.S.A., Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and Japan.

Alden Richards

Clears name in Aljur Abrenica issue

Alden Richards admitted to being confused with not a few people accusing him of having caused Aljur Abrenica to lose some TV projects on GMA7.

The 23-year-old actor said he is surprised that his name was also mentioned in relation to the case Aljur filed against the Kapuso Network. "I don't know why these critics are involving me," remarked Alden. Alden made clear that he and Aljur are okay and even looking forward to working with him.

He is confident that Aljur is just taking his time and will be back working with

the Kapuso network again soon.

"Hopefully we could do a movie or TV project this year," he related. Prior, the two worked together in an episode of "Magpakailanman." Their recent encounter was at a GMA-7 show in Sultan Kudarat.

"We talked. We're good," he opined.

Alden Richards is kicking-off 2015 as an endorser of Boardwalk.

According to the brand, they chose Alden because of his "enviable energy."

"I'm very happy with this endorsement. Maybe because it's the Year of the Sheep. I was born in the Year of the Sheep e. But, of course, I believe that humility, hard work and putting Jesus Christ at the center of my life helped as well," Alden expressed.



An Unforgettable Evening

TORONTO - It was indeed another lavish Sweet Sixteen Debutante's Ball thrown by Mr. and Mrs., Anthony deLeon, only this time, in honor of their youngest daughter, Margot-Denyl Bautista de Leon.

Having embraced and integrated the western cultural tradition of celebrating Sweet 16, while at the same time, trying to preserve our very own cultural tradition of the Philippine Debut, the DE LEONs have from the time their eldest daughter turned 16 adopted the concept of a Sweet 16 Debut. The grandiose celebration took place at the elegant Destiny Banquet Hall and Convention Centre in Woodbridge, Ontario on Saturday, December 27th, 2014. Guests were given the red carpet treatment as they make their way into the Grand Ballroom. They were also treated to a sumptuous Italian dinner, prepared by the Haute Chef de la Destiny, and to a lively entertainment by the debutante; her older siblings, Monica-Denise and Mikkel-Brandon; together with her cotillion court, comprised of Pauline Cabreza, Kimberly Catapang, Jodie Constantino, Aliza De La Reyna, Mary-Dannielle Fabian, Alsy Reyes, CJay Reyes, Jessie-Jordan Clemente, Bryan De Lazo, Mark-Leonard De Leon, Mikkel-Brandon de Leon, Christopher Lee-Dumagal, Felix Lui, Varunan Muthiah and Scott Xoxa.

The highlight of the evening was the Cotillion de Honor, thoughtfully choreographed by Mr. Davy Badian and beautifully executed by the 'Sweet 16 dancers' that includes our birthday celebrant. But the most endearing segment was the changing of shoes, from flats to heels, where the father was quoted as saying, 'You may now be a grown up and might no longer be a child, but you will always be our (mommy's and daddy's) child'. Hopping from one designer gown to another, Margot-Denyl fittingly became the Belle of the Ball. Beaming with joy, she was serenaded with a selection of 16 beautiful love songs and was presented with 16 white roses by 16 distinguished gentlemen who were lucky to have gotten the rare honor to dance with her. Furthermore, a group of 16 ladies took turns to light the candle with each

UNFORGETTABLE
continued on page 27

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Candid SPOOF

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

Sabi ko na sa iyo Ace, hindi pa sigurado laban ni Mayweather at Pacquiao.



Journalist Ace Alvarez (RIGHT) listens to a friend at the Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation Induction dinner.

ANGRY

continued from page 24

remember that we have already formed a Board of Inquiry to get to the bottom of this. We do not want a repeat of what happened," Aquino said. "As President, even if I want to get mad, I cannot let my emotions get the better of me. I cannot make decisions haphazardly. If I allow myself to get angry, I might add to the problem instead of solving it," the President added. He assured the families that the government will extend all possible assistance to them.

Despite the massacre, the government is in a hurry to sign the peace deal. Is someone in a hurry to have the Bangsamoro Basic Law passed by Congress before the Aquino administration bows out next year, so that he would be nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize?

Crossword Answers

E	L	A	H	T	O	M	P	E	N	N
S	E	R	A	E	L	O	E	R	I	N
K	E	I	R	R	A	N	N	I	N	E
J	A	M	E	S	F	R	A	N	C	O
O	L	E	O	R	Y					
S	T	A	N	S	M	E	T	N	E	E
E	I	N	F	A	S	I	A	N		
A	M	Y	B	E	N	B	R	A	T	T
E	E	R	A	A	A					
C	A	M	E	R	O	N	D	I	A	Z
E	R	L	E	E	N	G	D	I	O	R
D	E	A	N	L	E	E	D	N	A	
S	E	N	D	L	A	R	R	E	E	D



Lhaica Moraine Debut



Lhaica Moraine celebrated her birthday with her parents Randy and Laine Macapagal, her sister and her brother. She was joined by family, relatives and friends. The night of revelry was marked by good food, entertainment and dancing.



Showbits

Alex Gonzaga naospital na nga, inalipusta pa ng netizens. (Girl, idobol-ded mo silang lahat.)



Kris, nanay ni Elmo Magalona pinayuhang bisitahin si Kuya Germs. (Dapat lang. And get well soon, sir.)

Laplapan, bed scene nina Jolina Magdangal at Marvin Agustin sa bagong kabit-serye ng ABS-CBN pinalakpakan. (Amazing what gets applauded these days.)

Kahit 31 taon nang nagsasama... hindi tutulad kina Aiza Seguerra at Liza Diño; Boy Abunda walang planong pakasalan si Bong Quintana. (To each his own. Next!)

Alex Gonzaga got bashed even while she was sick. Alex Gonzaga got bashed even while she was sick. Onemig Bondoc sa ex-wife: Hindi niya kayang maging nanay! (Oh wow, this should be interesting.)

Jennylyn Mercado mamin: Ilang beses nang nagpakabaliw sa lalake. (Ows? Wait, we know this.)

Relasyong KC-Paulo peke, pilit na pilit ang pagiging sweet. (Parang 'yung... gano'n?)

Paulo ilang beses nang nag-i love you kay KC. "Pero naiinis siya kasi iba ang isinasagot ko." (Word of advice: If you don't love him, set him free.)

Kathryn Bernardo niregaluhan ni Karla Estrada ng kuwintas na mamahalin. (Define "mamahalin.")

Margot-Denyel Bautista de Leon Debut



FROM LEFT, The celebrant, Margot-Denyel de Leon, the Debutante's ball entourage, the de Leon's Family (L-R) Monica, former PIDC Miss Teen Philippines, Mikkell-Brandon, Margot-Denyel, Precious and Anthony de Leon (parents).



UNFORGETTABLE from page 26

one being given the opportunity to share a few words about our birthday girl. Highly notable performances of the evening were rendered by REBELDE LEON, the debutante's family band; soloists, Olivia Xoxa, and the outstanding dance numbers

by Davy & Natalia, the SJMP Spirit Squad and Mikkell & Kimberly. Indeed, it was yet another memorable evening of elegance, sophistication and an all-around classy celebration by LA FAMILIA DE LEON for a well-deserved debutante, MISS MARGOT-DENYEL BAUTISTA DE LEON!

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