

MAY 2015



Confidential

**PRESIDENT
AQUINO IN
CANADA** *Page 17*

Japan to assist US

**Japan eases constitution
restriction**

TOKYO - Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's plans to expand Japan's non-combat role in armed conflicts beyond "areas around Japan" could see Tokyo becoming dragged into action in the South China Sea in support of U.S. forces, government and ruling party sources say.

Abe will send legislation to parliament next month - with the backing of his coalition partners virtually assuring its passage - allowing Japan to ship fuel and ammunition to American units anywhere, should Tokyo judge its national security to be at stake.

Japan and the United States have no territorial claims in the energy-rich South China Sea, but tensions are rising between China and Philippines in the strategic waterway, where some \$5 trillion in ship-borne trade passes every year, much of it heading to and from Japanese ports. Washington is treaty-bound to defend Manila if it is attacked.

"If the Philippines were to clash with China, they would send an SOS to their ally the U.S.," said a policy expert in Japan's Liberal Democratic Party. "If the U.S. military were then to seek assistance from

JAPAN ASSISTS US
continued on page 22

SEE **HEART** EVANGELISTA



at **June 27**
at the **METRO TORONTO
CONVENTION CENTRE**
SEE AD ON PAGE 15 FOR DETAILS

Bishop to Priests:

'Stop Homily Abuse'

'Long, winding, repetitious, irrelevant, unprepared homilies are signs of a sick spiritual life of the priest,' says Archbishop Socrates Villegas.

MANILA, Philippines - Below is the homily of Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Socrates Villegas at the Cathedral of Lingayen-Dagupan, the St John the Evangelist Cathedral in Dagupan City last April.

Today we make a spiritual journey again to the Upper

Room to remember our priesthood. We come once again to thank the Lord for calling us to be priests. The Lord took

HOMILY ABUSE
continued on page 7

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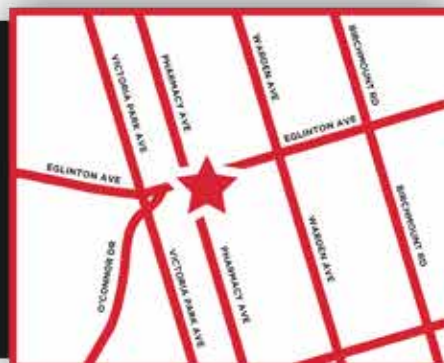
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ALL THE PRESIDENT'S WOMEN: Why President Aquino is still single

MANILA - When the Philippines elected Benigno Aquino president in 2010, many predicted the country's most eligible bachelor would soon claim his next big prize: A first lady. It didn't happen with then girlfriend Shalani Soledad, a local politician he dated for two years. Nor would it be his stylist Liz Uy, television host Grace Lee, or any of the string of other women to whom Aquino has been romantically linked.

When the South China Morning Post asked the 55-year-old Aquino whether he was still hopeful of settling down with someone, he said: "A little less now than I was before."

"At some point in time, it does become kind of a ridiculous exercise," he said.

"You know, just to give you an idea, and you make fun of it. My barkada (friends now) have children more or less ... in the dating stage."

He said three of his friends now have daughters old enough to be dating.

He told his friends: "You know, perhaps, that's where God is kind to me. They looked at me and said: 'Why?'"

Aquino said he told them: "You know, by the time I have a daughter who's gonna ... be going out on dates, I'll probably be senile and won't understand any of it anymore'. So God has a perfect plan for all of us."

The state of Aquino's love life has long been tabloid fodder. One gossip columnist claims to have counted 18 girlfriends – and that was before Aquino even became president.

Lately, he has been linked to 25-year-old Filipino-German beauty queen Pia Wurtzbach (PHOTO), who

described the balding bachelor as "very fun to talk to."

Asked if he still went out on dates, Aquino said coyly: "Secret."

Aquino said he had his first romance when he was a university student. "I've had a lot of serious relationships" starting when he was 18, he said.

But what stops him from popping the question? Aquino points to a childhood experience seared into his memory. His senator father, after whom he was named, was jailed by the Marcos dictatorship on charges of committing murder and subversion when Aquino was 12.

"There was somebody who was detained in the same facility as my father. And the woman left him [probably saying] 'I can't take this anymore. We'll fend for ourselves and you fend for yourself'," he said.

"He never got any visitor for a period of five years, apart from those who visited his cellmate. So when you talk about [being abandoned], that guy represents to me what it meant to be abandoned and still stand up to your beliefs."

He said the story taught him to look for "somebody [who] will stand by you regardless of what or whatever."

"Ours was not gonna be a simple life. So not just anybody can withstand the pressures of it," said Aquino, who was 23 when his father was assassinated, 26 when his mother Corazon was pressured into the presidency, 27 when he nearly died himself from gunshot wounds, and 50 when he was catapulted into the presidency after the death of his mother.

As for the president's taste for younger women, it is because he wants children, he told one TV presenter.



Daniel Padilla to quit Instagram for good

MANILA - Teen King Daniel Padilla is not thinking of going after the person who recently hacked his Instagram account.

Reports have it that the person behind the hacking of his social media account was the same friend who leaked the "audio scandal" last year. The said scandal was a recording of supposedly Daniel and his friends discussing his Bonifacio co-star Jasmine Curtis-Smith.

In an interview at his Pangako Sa'Yo pictorial, Daniel said that they would try to retain the account.

"Yung account aayusin natin 'yun, 'yung sa tao okay na 'yun," he said.

As of the moment making a new account is not part of Daniel's options.

"Aayusin muna ito. Pangalawa na kasi ito eh. Hassle ng gumawa eh, parang ayoko na nga eh. Pero ita-try munang ayusin ito. Papaayos ko muna," he explained. Star Magic is currently working on the problem as well.

Does that mean he's leaving Instagram for good?

"Tignan natin, ang hirap eh. 'Pag pangatlong account na, mahirap na," Daniel said.

The singer-actor only returned to being active on Instagram during the last quarter of 2014 with his second account (@seriousblack_) after he reportedly forgot the password to his first account.

Meanwhile, Daniel likewise addressed the recent incident involving some Kathniel fans who clashed with fans of international performers One Direction, Taylor Swift, and 5 Seconds of Summer.

"Yung mga supporters kasi hindi natin sila masisisi eh, 'di ba? Kumbaga kasi buhay na rin nila ito eh. Siyempre wala tayong magagawa kahit na anong gusto nilang gawin and okay lang sa akin 'yun na pino-protektahan nila ako at po-protektahan ko rin sila," Daniel explained.

A meme of Kathryn Bernardo and Daniel lying inside a coffin has been going around since the online clash. Instead of making a fuss, Daniel was rather amused about how realistic the meme appeared.

"Okay lang astig rin naman. 'Yun nga ang sinasabi ko kanina hindi natin masisisi ang supporters eh kasi kumbaga idol mo eh. Kung ako man idol ko ganunin parang 'pag sa basketball ang idol mo tinitira ng kaibigan mo nakikipagaway ka eh 'di ba? Ganon naman talaga eh," he said.

While he and Kathryn are very supportive of their fans, Daniel claimed that they make it a point to ask their overly passionate fans to keep calm.

"Oo lagi ako, sabi ko nga 'wag ng patulan eh pero hindi mo talaga mapipigilan eh. Tsaka andoon sila sa pag-po-protekta eh siyempre kung ang idol mo ilagay ng ganiyan sa kabaong di ba?" Daniel explained.

If anything, Daniel is very grateful for their "masyado malupit na fans" because they made his recent Nickelodeon Global Slime Star win possible.

"Siyempre hindi naman ako ang nagpanalo nu'n eh 'yung mga supporters kong malulupit eh. Sila ang nagpanalo sakin sa Nickelodeon kaya astig sila," Daniel ended.

MANILA, Philippines—Lovers may have switched to text messaging and e-mail to keep in touch, but “snail mail” remains big business, according to the chief of the Philippine Postal Corp. (Philpost).

Postmaster General Ma. Josefina de la Cruz said the government-owned and -controlled corporation managing the country’s postal system posted a net income of P640.43 million last year, the bulk of which came from “snail mail,” so called because it takes mailmen several days to hand-deliver the letters and documents nationwide.

“Many people think snail mail is dead, but our biggest business is still snail mail,” De la Cruz said on the sidelines of Philpost’s 23rd anniversary celebrations.

“You’d be amazed at the variety of mail we receive and deliver,” she added.

The Philpost head said about 80 percent of the company’s income come from the traditional mail operations, upending the common notion that text messaging and e-mail, among other new communications technologies, have caused the demise of snail mail.

In fact, the Philpost 2014 annual report indicated that the number of mail posted last year increased to 88.48 million, up 44.56 percent from mail in 2013. The company also delivered 133.25 million mail nationwide last year, a 12.75 percent increase over 2013 figures. The increase explains Philpost’s net income of P640.43 million last year, from P588.96 million in 2013.

Commercial post

The increase in mail volume can be attributed mainly to the increasing correspondence between overseas Filipino workers and their friends, families and colleagues in the Philippines, De la Cruz said.

She noted, however, that personal correspondence, such as love letters and greeting cards from all parts of the world have shrunk in number and now account for only 18 percent of Philpost’s deliveries.

“Nowadays the bulk of what we receive and deliver is commercial post—marketing brochures, statements of account, and even credit cards and checkbooks. The nature of items being sent has changed, but there are still items being sent (or mailed),” she said.

Diversifying

Other significant sources of business are the courts, which routinely send out and receive judicial pleadings through registered mail, a system that allows them to track when a pleading has been sent or received by a respondent.

But although the mail business remains strong, Philpost is bent on diversifying the services it offers in a bid to reinvent itself as a complete logistics solutions provider, the Philpost chief said.

Last year, it launched a next-day parcel and cargo delivery service. The company relaunched the service this year to showcase the 50 delivery vans it recently acquired, all of them equipped with global positioning system (GPS) beacons that are expected to make mail delivery quicker and more efficient.

“Our vans are also ready for e-commerce deliveries,” De la Cruz said.

The Postmaster General said the company was also intent on capitalizing on its over 1,300 post offices nationwide to provide unprecedented last-mile delivery services.

“Our nationwide network is unmatched, which means Philpost can really excel in last-mile delivery. We are (also) converting excess spaces in regional offices into warehouses,” she said, adding that private companies can now view the company’s storage capacity for possible use in their businesses.

Postal money order

Already, private enterprises and several government agencies, among them the Department of Budget and Management, are tapping Philpost’s warehouses in the Bicol region and in Mindanao for their logistics requirements.

Philpost has also inked a deal with the Department of Health for the postal delivery of medicines to the barrios and has initiated a remittance service under its postal money order business, using its more than 300 post offices connected to the Internet to transfer cash instantly.

Irreplaceable part

De la Cruz said the logistics and money order businesses of Philpost constitute just a small part of its business for now, but the company was bullish about the growth of these services in the coming years.

Still, the Philpost chief said snail mail remains an irreplaceable part of the company’s business.

“Even with social media, nothing can totally replace traditional snail mail,” De la Cruz said. “If you are courting me, I won’t say ‘yes’ if you don’t write and send me a (love) letter.”

WHO READS BOOKS?

THE JOY OF READING

To fellow Filipinos, there are still fellow Filipinos back home who have no reading



materials. In this case, it is a pamangkin - Renzo Yerro - of my bother in law in a province where the reading material that my sister and brother in law found were showbiz magazines 5 or even 10 years old. This nephew got hold of a book, which we call chick lit, and started reading it. His mother asked him why he was reading that. “This is the only book here,” he said. So, my pamangkin ditto sa Toronto, along

with my sister started sending him all kinds of books. So, canned goods and shoes and clothes are fine too. But ask them also if any, specially the children want to receive books. With books, they get the gift of learning about the world. If you have any that you have not been reading anymore, send them. It will also be appreciated. I did not know that. We take books for granted because we are surrounded by TV, radio, iPhones and every other gadgets. Then, there is the internet. But in the provinces, and other remote areas, these are luxuries that cannot be maintained, even if you send them. Books, on the other hand, are no-maintenance.

Philippines TV Network’s ID’s

Am I the only one wondering why station ID’s in the Philippines last as long like a music video? Here in Canada, and even in the US, the longest is 40 seconds long and as short as 15 - 30 seconds.

Life in the 21st Century

WEDNESDAY EVENING - My internet is down. So, I am disconnected from real life right now.

SATURDAY NOON - My Internet is back up and running. Now, I can have my life back sitting inside the house, in front of the computer, surfing Facebook, interacting with friends I’ve never heard of and who have never heard of me either. Thank goodness for the internet. How else will I interact with people I do not know? Well, almost all of them.

Canadian Election Style

Apparently, the appearance of Indian prime Minsiter and Philippine President is part of a campaign strategy of the Conservatives to attract the thnic votes of Indian and Filipino communities. Based on the CTV News, there ahs been a lot of actions behind the scenes to make sure that President Aquino appears this year, prior to the election. Aba, sino naman kaya ang

iimbatahin ni Presidente Aquino sa Pilipinas para sa election next year?

Taste of Manila is Bitter

Apaprently, there is an action behind the scenes of this festival. A former board, Eugene Deocareza has left in good terms. Then, suddenly, he is in a fight with one of the remaining board members. Or is it two? I am not sure if the problem is connected to the festival anyway. Apparently, another board member has opened an NBI clearing agency among other services. And this is where it gets confusing for me. My problem is I am confused as to what is the problem. This is like me getting mad at Joy Sarmiento of Pinoy News for opening another newspaper. Hmmm... this is so confusing.

Bad Jorunalism

The only thing I am mad about Joy and her husband Warren is they do not check their facts before writing the news. They keep spreading rumors about me. Whenever a showbiz couple splits, they keep saying that I am the third party. I assure you readers, I am not dating Maja Salvador. I am not the reason she split up from gerald Anderson. Ehe, sus Guinoo ni Roxanne. Ano ba itong nasabi ko?

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LAUGH RESORT

The first nun said, "I was going through father's desk and found pornographic magazines in his drawer."

The second nun gasped and asked, "What did you do with them?"

"I burned them."

The second nun then said, "I was going through father's drawers and found a box of condoms."

The first nun gasped and asked, "What did you do with them?"

"I poked holes in them."

The third nun fainted.

Two nuns were in the back of the convent smoking cigarettes, when one said "It's bad enough that we have to sneak out here to smoke, but it really is a problem getting rid of the cigarette butts so that Mother Superior doesn't find them."

The second nun said, "I've found a marvelous invention called the condom, which works really well for this problem. You just open the packet up, take out the condom, and put the cigarette butt in, roll it up, and dispose of it all later."

The first nun was quite impressed and asked where she could find them. "You get them at the drug store, sister, just go and ask the pharmacist for them."

The next day the good sister went to the drug store and walked up to the counter. "Good morning sister", said the pharmacist. "What can I do for you today?"

"I'd like some condoms please" said the nun.

The pharmacist was a little taken aback, but recovered soon enough and asked "How many boxes would you like - there are twelve to a box."

"I'll take twelve boxes - that should last about a week" said the nun.

The pharmacist was truly flabbergasted by this time, and was almost afraid to ask any more questions, but his professionalism prevailed and he asked in a clear voice, "Sister, what size condoms would you like - we have large, extra large, and big liar size."

The sister thought for a minute, and finally said "I'm not certain, perhaps you could recommend a good size for a Camel."

He fainted.

Honey Shot



Lea Marie Alinsod

Angel Locsin alone on her birthday

MANILA, Philippines- Angel Locsin went on a solo trip as she celebrated her birthday in Batanes. She turned 30 last April 23.

"Hindi po ako magpapakaplastic, kaya rin po ako umalis kasi naguguluhan ako kung ano ba ang mararamdaman ko sa pagka-thirty ko," she said.

"Hindi ko po alam kung masaya ba ako o kung ise-celebrate ko ba siya, o magbe-birthday



wish ba ako. So mas pinili kong mag-celebrate kung anong gusto ko. So pumunta po ako sa Batanes," she said.

She has always wanted to visit Batanes, and finally found the perfect opportunity. She intentionally didn't ask her boyfriend Luis Manzano to go with her since she wanted to take the adventure alone.

"Buti nga pumayag," she replied when asked if Luis didn't stop her from her solo trip. "Kasi hindi naman ako pupunta sa isang lugar para mag-party. Gusto ko lang lumawak ang pagkakakilala ko sa mga tao."

Now that she's 30, Angel made a list of the things she wanted to do to have a more meaningful life.

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PHL, a trillion-dollar economy

Development is dependent on a strong manufacturing base

MANILA – The Philippine economy will likely double in terms of overall size, reaching over \$1 trillion by 2029, according to a US-based think tank.

IHS Asia Pacific chief economist Rajiv Biswas said the Philippines had the capacity to transform its economy into a trillion-dollar (\$1.05 trillion) market, if it continued to expand at an average rate of 5.5 percent annually over the 2016-2020 period.

IHS said GDP per capita in the Philippines would rise from around \$3,000 in 2015 to around \$6,000 by 2024.

“This has considerable implications for the size of the Philippines consumer economy. These significant increases in per capita GDP will create one of Asean’s largest consumer markets of the future, as the middle class rapidly expands over time,” Biswas said.

“This will help to attract foreign direct

investment by multinationals into the Philippines manufacturing and services industry,” he said.

IHS also said the gross domestic product of the Philippines might rise from \$310 billion in 2015 to \$500 billion by 2020.

It said over the short term, the Philippine economy would expand by 6.4 percent in 2015 and 5.6 percent in 2016.

The projected figures are below the government’s seven to eight percent growth target for this year and next.

IHS said real consumer spending growth was forecast to remain strong, growing at 5.2 percent per year in 2015 and 2016.

Biswas said the Philippine economy’s rapidly growing business process outsourcing sector and the strong flow of remittances from Filipinos overseas would drive the growth of the economy.

“While the current growth drivers of the Philippines are the IT-BPO industry and the strong and stable remittances of the overseas Filipino workers, the long-term outlook for the future development of the Philippines will be heavily dependent on the ability to make the manufacturing sector more competitive and to mobilize both foreign and domestic investment flows into the manufacturing sector,” he said.

“This will require considerable improvement of the business climate, with the Philippines still ranked very low globally on the World Bank’s Ease of Doing Business rankings,” Biswas said.

IHS said a key priority for the Philippines is attract greater foreign direct investments into the manufacturing sector, in order to boost employment growth and make the Philippines a competitive Asean manufacturing export hub.



Carla Abellana joins the cast of ‘Pari ‘Koy’

Kapuso leading lady Carla Abellana is the latest addition to the stellar cast of the primetime faith-serie Pari ‘Koy.

The series is one of the projects lined up for her since renewing her contract with GMA Network. She also hosts Karelasyon and is also part of Ismol Family.

“I play the role of Michelle Angeles. Taga probinsya siya, pinalaki siya ng lola niya. She studied Education kasi gusto niya maging teacher. Nakatanggap siya ng grant sa US so tinuloy na lang niya. Dito na papasok sa Pari ‘Koy ang story ni Michelle na babalik na siya ng bansa coming from that grant. At this point in time, mayroon na pala siyang boyfriend. Si Jude pala ang boyfriend niya, may two years na sila mahigit,” she tells about her role.

Pero dagdag niya, hindi naging madali ang buhay ni Michelle bago sila nagkakilala ni Jude, played by Gabby Eigenmann.

“She’s well educated. Although marami pa rin siyang sakit na bitbit kasi wala na ‘yung lola niya, wala na rin siyang parents, ulila na siya. Slowly picking up the pieces na siya, nakapag-aral, nakapagtapos, nakatanggap ng grant, nagtuturo na siya. Kumbaga nagsisimula nang gumanda ang buhay niya.”

This is also Carla’s first time to work with Kapuso Primetime King Dingdong Dantes in a teleserye, and she admits to looking forward to share scenes with him.

“Looking forward. It’s my first day today, wala pa kaming eksena together. Siguro mga next week pa,” she shares during the interview held on her first taping day.

Ilang buwan ring hindi nagpahinga si Carla sa drama, kaya maigi niyang pinaghandaan ang role niya bilang Michelle.

“[By] looking back into the roles I have played before. Binabalikan ko lang ang sakit, para at least may motivation. Tina-try ko lang i-remember tapos iipunin ko lang ‘yung emotions na nagamit ko na before. Sana maging smooth ang pagbalik ko sa drama, although sanay na rin naman ako. Sana hindi ako mahirapan sa pagbalik.”

Comelec dismisses ‘no-el’ plot

Law mandates that election be automated

MANILA - An official of the Commission on Elections (Comelec) debunked the claim of poll lawyer Romulo Macalintal that a no election scenario might happen in 2016 if the Supreme Court scraps the P268-million contract for the repair and refurbishment of 81,000 voting machines.

While dismissing Macalintal’s claim, Comelec spokesman James Jimenez however admitted that there is no such provision in the automated election

law that would permit the country to return to manual election. “We share the view that the automation law mandates automation,” Jimenez said.

But he assured that the Comelec will exert all its efforts to prevent a no election scenario. “But if there are absolutely no machines available, will people prefer no elections?” Jimenez said.

“We need to prepare for all contingencies,” the Comelec spokesman added. One of the contingency plans

that Jimenez mentioned earlier is getting its own IT experts to refurbish the 81,000 Precinct Count Optical Scan (PCOS) machines in case the SC scraps the P268-million diagnostic and repair contract with the Smartmatic-TIM.

Jimenez assured that the Comelec will release to the public their contingency plan soon.

“We will release out contingency plans as soon as these are finalized,” Jimenez said.

Tekken may delete ‘Josie Rizal’ from game

MANILA – Tekken chief producer and director Katsuhiro Harada has threatened to remove Filipino character Josie Rizal from the ninth installment of the popular game series.

Harada said he might delete the character from the game if the Philippine government will complain about the character’s name, which was based on the name of the Philippines’ national hero, Jose Rizal. “If Josie can’t get supported in the Philippines, we give her up anytime. TEKKEN7 arcade board has a network update system. We can change plan and change characters anytime & quickly,” Harada said. Harada noted that while there are many Tekken fans in the Philippines, “the Philippine console

market is very small (Arcade market too). We can’t recoup development costs at the Philippines market.”

“I visited the Philippines several times and access to TEKKEN community site was often the top from the Philippines.”

Several of Harada’s Twitter followers asked him to ignore the negative comments on the Josie Rizal character. He also rejected a request by one Twitter user to change the name “Josie Rizal”.

“No. Because we got already tons of positive feedbacks about her. You are minority,” Harada told the Twitter user.

NCCA: No comment yet

The Philippines’ National Commission

for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) said it is still studying what actions it may take on the issue of the name “Josie Rizal”. It said it has not yet issued any statement on the matter. The NCCA also clarified that a certain Dr. Leodenito Cañete, who was quoted in an online news report as saying that Josie Rizal may give a wrong impression about the country’s national hero and the Philippines, is a not an NCCA official nor a member of any of its national committees.

“The Commission shall issue an official statement soon on what actions it will take upon studying the legal aspect of this matter, in coordination with the National Historical Commission of the Philippines,” the NCCA said.



Dr. Solon’s Birthday

Guests enjoy the party at Dr. Solon Guzman’s Birthday party on Easter Sunday.



'Homily abuse can harm souls.'

HOMILY ABUSE
continued from page 1

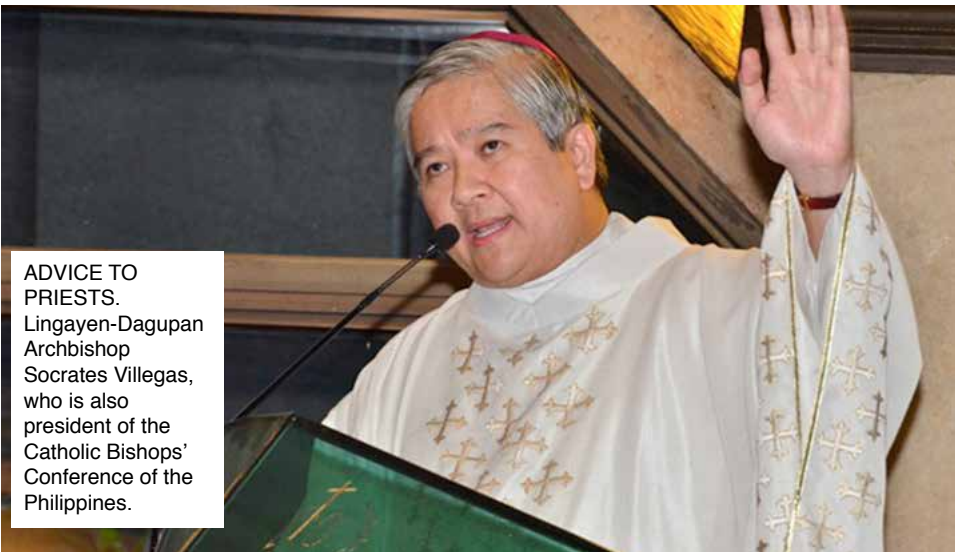
a risk. He entrusted to us His Church. The longer we stay in this vocation, the more clearly we see that it takes more than will power to remain a good priest. It needs grace. We need God. We need God to stay focused. We need God to stay on track. We need God to protect us and preserve us.

We have seen many abuses among the clergy – alcohol abuse, sexual abuse, child abuse, gambling abuse, money abuse, travelling abuse, vacation abuse. Today, I invite you to turn your hearts to another very rampant and widespread abuse among priests – homily abuse. Yes, abuse of the kindness of the people who are forced to listen to long, winding, repetitious, boring, unorganized, unprepared, mumbled homilies. In jest but certainly with some truth, the people say our homilies are one of the obligatory scourges that they must go through every Sunday.

If you listen more carefully to what our people say about our homilies, they are not complaining about depth of message or scholarly exegesis. They are asked to endure Sunday after Sunday our homilies that cannot be understood because we take so long with the introduction, we do not know how to go direct to the point, and we do not know how to end. Be prepared. Be clear. Be seated.

We were all abused by the homilies of our elder priests when we were seminarians. When our turn came to deliver homilies, the abused became the abuser.

If a seminarian lacks chastity, we cannot recommend him for ordination. If a seminarian is stubborn and hard headed, we cannot endorse his ordination. If a seminarian cannot speak in public with clarity and effectiveness, we should not



ADVICE TO PRIESTS. Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Socrates Villegas, who is also president of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines.

ordain him. He will be a dangerous homily abuser. Homily abuse can harm souls.

Long, winding, repetitious, irrelevant, unprepared homilies are signs of a sick spiritual life of the priest. Saint Joseph Cupertino said: "A preacher is like a trumpet which produces no tone unless one blows into it. Before preaching, pray this way: Lord, you are the spirit, I am your trumpet. Without your breath I can give no sound."

It is not enough to prepare our homilies; the good priest must prepare himself. Preaching is a ministry of the soul and the heart not just of the vocal chords and brain cells. Our spiritual life is the true foundation of our homilies. The question is not what we will preach but rather who will we preach? We preach only Jesus Christ; always Jesus Christ.

How shall we rise from the prevalent culture of homily abuse? What is our remedy?

The first call of the times is priestly sincerity. You can preach to empty stomachs if the stomach of the parish priest is as empty as his parishioners. Our homilies will improve if we diminish our love for

talking and increase our love for listening. When our homily is simply a talk, we only repeat what we know, get tired and feel empty. When you listen and pray before you talk, you learn something new and your homily will be crisp and fresh. We will be better homilists if we dare to smell again like the sheep.

The second challenge of our times is simplicity – simplicity of message and even more, greater simplicity of life. Simplicity of life will also help us to stop talking about money and fund raising in the homily; money talk has never been edifying. Simplicity means resisting to use the pulpit as a means to get back at those who oppose us – patama sa sermon. Simplicity also demands that we keep divisive election politics away from the lectern. Simplicity in homilies means not desiring to make people laugh or cry – that is for telenovelas and noontime shows. Simplicity in homilies makes people bow their heads and strike their breasts wanting to change, seeking the

HOMILY ABUSE
continued on page 25

Isabelle
refrains from
appearing on
'EB' rival

Isabelle Daza stars in her first ABS-CBN teleserye in "Nathaniel", where she plays Martha Amante, the lawyer girlfriend of Gerald Anderson.



Also in the show are Shaina Magdayao and new child actor Marco Masa. So how's it so far? "Okay naman," she says. "Siyempre, at first, nangangapa pa ako, kinakabahan kasi on primetime ito. So I had a workshop with Gerald for us to get to know each other better. Before this, they gave me the chance to do an episode in 'Maalaala Mo Kaya' na puro iyakan. Sunud-sunod 'yung sequences ng iyakan and at about midnight, naubos na 'yung tears ko. The director, Jerry Sineneng, screamed at me in front of everyone else. 'Hindi mo na kaya? Ba't ka pa naging aktres?' I was so stressed. I've never experienced that, so ayun, ginawa ko 'yung eksena, full of tears. Nag-sorry ako kay Direk and he said, 'Baliw', then I realized it's just his strategy to make me cry."

Before moving to ABS, she was a regular host in "Eat Bulaga." Would she be willing to be a guest in "It's Showtime?" "I don't think ABS would require me to do that kasi siyempre, they know galing ako sa 'Eat Bulaga' and out of respect and delicadeza, I won't appear in 'Eat Bulaga's' rival show."



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MAY 2015

L. M. Confidential

7

Robredo defends PNOY

Nobody is Perfect

SAN FRANCISCO - In her first trip to the United States on official business, Congresswoman Leni Gerona-Robredo of Camarines Sur feels that now, more than ever, is the time for Filipinos to rally behind the Philippine government.

An administration ally, Robredo disagrees with calls for President Noynoy Aquino's resignation over the failed Mamasapano anti-terror mission, especially with one year remaining in his term.

"He's not the perfect president. He may have had mistakes but we have to be well aware of the fact that we are where we are now because of also the gains we have benefited from his reform agenda," Robredo said.

As the widow of Aquino's former Interior Secretary Jesse Robredo, the congresswoman has gained much



popularity herself.

The photo of her taking the bus going home went viral, further cementing her image as a humble public servant like her late husband.

"We do not need public officials with a great sense of entitlement," she said.

In the latest Pulse Asia survey, Robredo was ranked tenth out of the top ten vice presidential preferences for the 2016 elections. But she downplays any vice presidential ambitions.

"While I would not turn my back on any calls to be of service I am more realistic in the sense I do not think I am the answer to the needs of the nation as of yet. There are so many other public officials who are experienced," she said.

With one the fastest growing economies in all of Asia, Robredo said the success of the future of the country also depends on Filipinos abroad.

"I feel at no other time in our history would we need more Filipinos especially those from outside to be supportive of our fight against corruption," said Robredo.

Robredo also appeals to second and third generation Filipino Americans because despite growing up in the United States, she said they should still be aware of current events in the Philippines.



Make your heart turn around and LET THE LOVE BEGIN

A showcase of how love changes someone's life is GMA network's most recent offering on primetime, Let the Love Begin. The program premieres on May 4 on GMA Pinoy TV.

Let the Love Begin is topbilled by the newest Kapuso, Philippine Comedy Queen Ai-Ai de las Alas as Jeni, the hip and cool mother of Erick with GMA-7's fast-rising loveteam Ruru Madrid as Erick, the eldest son of Jeni, Gabbi Garcia as Pia, the smart childhood friend of Erick and daughter of Jeni's best friend, Tony.

GMA Network is proud to present a stellar cast of the country's most respected artists in film and television: Gardo Versoza as Tony, Jeni's best friend and the single father of Pia; Donita Rose as Celeste, wife of Tony and future step mother of Pia who will eventually despise her and focus on spoiling her niece Luchie; Mark Anthony Fernandez as Jom, the station manager who is in love with Jeni; Neil Ryan Sese as Jess, the best friend of Jom, who secretly loves Jeni; Gladys Reyes as Katy, the Diva DJ and Jeni's rival in the other station; and Ms. Gina Pareño as Lola Tacing, mother of Jeni and Erick's grandmother.

Completing the powerhouse cast are Noel Trinidad as Milton, the head of maintenance in the bookstore where Erick works; Phytos Ramirez as Uno, the spoiled and brat son of Celeste's friend; Abel Estanislao as Makoy, the career-oriented friend of Erick; Ricardo Cepeda as Rodney, the workaholic friend of Tony and the station manager of LSS FM; Joko Diaz as Enrico, Jeni's alcoholic husband; Rita Daniela as Luchie, the 'adopted' niece of Celeste; Ar Angel Aviles as Elsa, Erick's younger sister; Nomer Limatog as Jules, the younger brother of Makoy. Also joining the cast are Angeli Bayani, Sancho delas Alas, Therese Malvar, Ren Escano.

Let the Love Begin is all set to make audiences laugh, cry and fall in love as it presents the beautiful story of Jeni (Ai-Ai delas Alas) and Tony (Gardo Versoza) and their children, Erick (Ruru Madrid) and Pia (Gabbi Garcia) that will withstand the test of time.

Jeni and Tony are best friends who are part of a radio program that gives advices on love and life. Jeni is an independent woman has a live-in boyfriend, Enrico (Joko Diaz), and has two kids by him, Erick, the eldest and the perfect son and Elsa (Ar Angel Angeles), the youngest but the matured one because she thinks just like her mom, Jeni. On the other hand, Tony is a widower, with one daughter named Pia (Gabbi Garcia), a daddy's girl who is deeply in love with arts.

A major problem will destroy Jeni and Tony's strong bond of friendship. After so many years, Jeni and Tony will cross paths once again because Pia (Gabbi) and Erick (Ruru) become close friends and later on fall in love.

Can their love help their parents heal their wounds? Will Jeni and Tony let the love begin for Pia and Erick?

Gina Alajar helms and Agnes Gagelonia is heading the writing team under the creative direction of Roy Iglesias and RJ Nuevas.

Love Begin premieres May 4 on GMA Pinoy TV.

Philippines

NEWS

PHL hopes UN resolve Spratlys

MANILA - Malacañang is hopeful the United Nations would resolve the case in favor of the Philippines in relation to China's nine-dash line concept, which seeks to demarcate the Philippine territory in the West Philippine sea to within 200 meters from the shore.

"The international arbitration mechanism has its own rules and regulations. We abide by it, having filed our case before the arbitral tribunal, we abide by the rules and regulations that are provided and specified under those rules," Presidential Spokesman Edwin Lacierda said.

"Certainly, we would hope for a resolution of the case and a resolution in our favor as we believe that we have a strong case against China in their nine-dash line theory.

Malacanang earlier said that it cannot accept China's nine-dash line concept, which seeks to demarcate Philippine territory in the West Philippine sea to within 200 meters from shore.

Palace legal aide quits

MANILA - Chief presidential legal counsel Benjamin Caguioa resigned last month.

Caguioa reportedly informed President Benigno Aquino III of his decision.

"He talked to the President last Thursday, explaining his decision to resign. He said he wants to focus on his private law firm," the source said in a phone interview.

Caguioa's resignation comes on the heels of the appointment of former deputy executive secretary for legal affairs Michael Aguinaldo as chairman of the Commission on Audit.

Both Caguioa and Aguinaldo are key members of Aquino's legal team in the Palace.

Caguioa, who replaced Eduardo de Mesa in January 2013, was a classmate of the President at the Ateneo de Manila University.

Marcos mulls run with Binay

MANILA - Senator Ferdinand Marcos Jr. said Thursday he was open to forging a partnership with Vice President Jejomar Binay in the 2016 elections, and that he would consider everything and all possibilities.

"They call politics the art of the possible. You never know, you have seen unlikely alliances," Marcos told ANC.

He earlier admitted he was contemplating joining the presidential race next year.

"My plan has always been to run for reelection in the Senate," Marcos told reporters at the Fortune Restaurant in the City of San Fernando.

"But of course things are changing and people are mentioning my name. I have to look at the political terrain and see what's happening."

Marcos made his statement even as a Social Weather Stations survey conducted in the first quarter this year said Senator Grace Poe was the top choice for vice president in 2016 if the elections were held now.

UNA: Sevilla resignation mocks 'daang matuwid'

MANILA - The opposition said Friday the resignation of Customs chief John Sevilla demolished the myth of the Aquino administration's much ballyhooed "Daang Matuwid" or straight path policy.

Sevilla, who blamed political pressures for his decision to quit, was proof of the corrupting influence of key officials in the ruling Liberal Party, said the interim president of the opposition United Nationalist Alliance (UNA), Navotas Rep. Tobias Tiangco.

"This is not straight path. Instead there are signs that Sevilla could not stomach the twisted path of the administration," Tiangco said. He described the LP as "a corruption machine working in the background and putting pressure on government appointees

in sensitive positions, to milk the government coffers in the last two minutes of the Aquino administration and to contribute to its fundraising campaign." Tiangco said Sevilla is known to be an anti-corruption advocate and would rather resign than be tainted by impropriety. He said true anti-corruption advocates could not last long in the Aquino administration, which only pretends to be against graft. In resigning, Sevilla cited his helplessness against influence peddlers and admitted there were political pressures at work. Sevilla did not say who was pressuring him, but said he would not let his agency be a milking cow for the 2016 elections.

"The pressure from the LP for Sevilla to contribute [to the party's election kitty]

was too much for Commissioner Sevilla to stomach so he resigned," Tiangco said.

"He did not want to be used for politics and he did not want his name sullied."

Sevilla replaced former congressman Ruffy Biazon as Customs chief in December 2013, after Biazon was implicated in the pork barrel scandal. Alberto Lina, who was Customs chief under the previous administration, has been appointed to replace Sevilla.

With the 2016 national campaign just a few months away, Tiangco noted that the Aquino administration is circling the wagons by appointing people in key government positions like Lina to government agencies that can contribute to the LP's campaign kitty.

Filipino lost wife and son, closer to justice

The man who admits to the murder is a first cousin, who is taken in as live-in-nanny



GUILTY PLEA. Guevara Wilson Clorina admits to killing a Calgary mother and son. Photo from Facebook

CALGARY – Erwin Manzano is a step closer in his fight for justice over the 2013 death of his wife Chona and son Gabriel, after his first cousin pleaded guilty to the brutal slay.

Manzano's cousin Guevara Wilson Clorina on Wednesday, April 1, admitted to the charges of second-degree murder and first-degree murder before a Canada court, reported CBC News.

"According to an agreed statement of facts, Gabriel witnessed Clorina kill his mother. Clorina then chased the child down and killed him in his parents' bedroom," the report read.

Canada-based Global News, the news and current affairs division of Global Television Network, reported that the Manzanos sponsored Clorina's trip to Canada from "back home" in the Philippines and "treated him as a trusted family member."

"Clorina worked as the Manzanos' live-in-nanny for several years," Global News said.

Erwin's sister Emmylou Nolasco told Global News of the "anger" she felt over the tragedy. "Because we got him from back home and this is what happened," she said.

News reports said Clorina might serve at least 35 years without parole.

By April 6 or later, both the prosecution and defense will "make a joint submission for a sentence," reported CBC. A sentencing hearing will also be set by then.

Crime

The murder happened last May 16, 2013, Global News reported.

Detailing the crime, it said "Clorina stabbed Chona to death, while her little boy watched."

"Clorina used such force, [as] one of the knife blades [is] bent. The 5-year-old ran, arming himself with a backscratcher, but Clorina hunted him down, and he met the same fate," it detailed.

The Manzanos will have to issue victim impact statements in relation to the murder.

"We give him everything. We help his family. For him, a better future," Erwin Manzano told the Canadian press. "And this is how he paid me: took my wife and took my son."

Clorina's lawyer Kim Ross told the media in Canada that his client's plea shows remorse on his part.

"He's remorseful. He feels bad for what happened, and he's evidencing that by his pleas here today," he said.

Sexual touching

CBC News also reported that Clorina admitted to the charge of sexual touching of a minor.

Citing unidentified sources, it said the teen was pregnant.

"He (Clorina) also faced charges relating to a sexual relationship with a 15-year-old girl over a 3-year period," read the report.

Chona Manzano had learned about the sexual relationship of Clorina and the teen before her death, CBC said based on court documents.

"Child pornography charges were also laid in the months following the killings," CBC News added.



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Sarah Geronimo wants kissing scene with Piolo

MANILA -- Sarah Geronimo shared her excitement as she finally started shooting the film "Breakup Playlist" with her showbiz idol, Piolo Pascual.

The film under Star Cinema marks the first team up of Pascual and Geronimo.

"Gusto ko lang sabihin na iba palang experience ang makatrabaho si Mr. Piolo Pascual kasi akala ko noon ay na-overcome ko na ang kilig ko sa kanya at pagka-mesmerize ko sa kanya pero grabe talaga kapag ka-eksena ko siya ay iba, grabe talaga," Geronimo said on Tuesday after the contract signing of her newest endorsement JAG.

"Sabi ko, 'Kuya Peej, di ka tumatanda' kasi grabe sobrang gwapo talaga. Hindi ako nambobola, grabe talaga. Parang ngayon lang ako naka-encounter ng ganoong kagwapong leading man. Iba si

John Lloyd (Cruz), siyempre."

Asked if she and Pascual will have a kissing scene, Geronimo said: "Gustong gusto ko talaga, gustong gusto ko kung mayroon."

"Breakup Playlist" tells the story of a rock musician (Pascual) and an aspiring artist (Geronimo) who collaborate and fall in love.

Directed by Dan Villegas, who also helmed the award-winning "English Only Please," the romantic movie is set for release later this year.

"Kung paano nabuo 'yung love story, kung paano umikot doon sa music, 'yun ang makikita niyo," Geronimo said.

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TCDSB Slates 2015 Proudly Pinoy Day in Toronto

by Tony A. San Juan, OCT.

The TCDSB Asian Heritage Month- Proudly Pinoy Day is to be held on May 23, 2015 (Saturday) from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at James Cardinal McGuigan Catholic Secondary School, 1440 Finch Avenue West, North York, Toronto. The one-day celebration with its theme : "Proudly Filipino: Sa Puso, Diwa at Gawa", is a significant segment of the annual Asian Canadian Heritage Month.

The event is being sponsored and hosted by the Toronto Catholic District School Board in partnership with several student councils , community associations, professional organizations and settlement service providers . It will showcase Filipino heritage and culture and will feature presentations including music, dances, songs, speeches, networking and workshops for parents, students, youths and other guests.

In the afternoon, there will be 2 main activities : 1) a Panel Discussion-Seminar on: "Education and Education-related Concerns in Ontario Schools" of which the Philippine Teachers Association-Canada (PTAC) will officiate , and 2) a Presentation on "Ontario Professional Licensing and Certification" to be arranged by the Council of Filipino Canadian Professionals - Ontario(CFCPO).

Specifically, the PTAC-led Education seminar

aims to provide opportunity for attendees to discuss, learn and share information, insights and advice on various issues and problems identified to be impacting students, youths, parents, and new immigrants in regards to elementary and secondary school education . In the CFCPO seminar, the presenters will cover licensing and certification procedures and requirements for new immigrant Filipino professionals to be able to practice in Ontario.

Leading Filipino Canadian community professionals, educators and other industry-certified practitioners will be invited to engage and facilitate in the 2 seminar -workshops in the afternoon, through group discussions and open consultations with the participants.

Everyone is warmly invited. Anybody who is interested is requested to register ASAP with Jody Huang at : Jodelyn.Huang@tcdsb.org or at : tonysanjuan1963@gmail.com. Participants are earnestly encouraged to bring their family members and friends to the occasion too.(T. San Juan)



HK lawmaker apologizes for comment about Pinoy maids

HONG KONG - The Philippine Consulate General has released a statement saying it is “concerned” about (PHOTO) Regina Ip’s “unfortunate choice of words” when talking about Hong Kong’s domestic helpers. The pro-Beijing lawmaker has received much flak for writing an article about how Hong Kong’s Filipino domestic workers are “sexual resources” for Western expatriate men. She said that while she was secretary for security, she received complaints from women about their husbands having relationships with their helpers. The Philippine Consulate General has decided to take the high road, saying that it believes “this is not reflective of the general sentiments of the Hong Kong community at large”.

The city’s 173,000 Filipino helpers “left their loved ones back home to earn a decent living taking care of Hong Kong families”. They have thus had a positive impact on both their families back home and the Hong Kong economy, the consulate said. “Discrimination should have no place in any society, most especially Hong Kong, which prides itself as Asia’s World City,” the statement concludes.

Regina Ip, the former security secretary-turned-legislator and Executive Council member known for her outspokenness, gave an apologetic statement to people in the Filipino community, including the city’s 173,000 Filipino helpers, “who have felt offended.”

Fil-Am’s video wins Damon and Affleck’s short film award



SAN FRANCISCO — Joshua Ortiz, a Filipino American filmmaker, recently topped more than 20,000 entries across the United States to win in the first-ever annual Greenie Awards launched by actors Matt Damon and Ben Affleck’s Project Greenlight. Ortiz’s entry “Listen” won the Most Unique Short Film award. Originally from San Francisco but now Orlando, Florida resident, Ortiz made a \$30-short film for his younger siblings (the golfer and ice skater in the film). It went on to inspire thousands of people around the world. “I made it for my two siblings because I know that people will try and tell them that their dreams are not worth chasing, but I want them to know that no matter what people say and what failures come their way, you can’t give up,” Ortiz said.

2015-04-04_joshua_ortiz
Filmmaker Joshua Ortiz

“Since my siblings loved it, we decided to submit it to a contest. and out of thousands of entries across the nation, the film recently won the Most Unique Short Film in Ben Affleck and Matt Damon’s Project Greenlight on HBO and had the most views among all the contestants. Also, the film played at several high school assemblies to inspire the youth to reach for their dreams,” Ortiz said. Ortiz’s film has gone on to win multiple awards at film festivals and even played at high school assemblies to inspire the students and teachers. Ortiz has done videos for celebrities like Shaquille O’neal, Olympic gold medalist Bob Beamon and radio host Monica May. His video started to spread online and the video’s motivational message caught the attention of Yahoo, Elite Daily, and several other news websites. His latest film adventure was in Sydney, Australia where he filmed three mini-documentaries for the Adge Hotel, Cambridge Hotel and Gelato Messina. Project Greenlight is a documentary series on HBO that takes an uncensored look at the challenges facing first-time directors.



Willie admits mistakes: PART OF LIFE

JESSICA Soho did a good job in interviewing Willie Revillame in her self-titled show. She was able to ask all the controversial questions about Willie in a nice and diplomatic way and Willie didn’t dodge any of them. For example, there are persistent rumors that Willie squandered his earnings gambling in casinos during his almost two year absence from television. “Hindi ako apektado sa mga sinasabi nila e, kasi ikaw naman ang nakakaalam ng totoo sa buhay mo, di ba?” Willie says. “Naghihirap na raw ako? Ito nga (pointing to the expensive shirt he is wearing), ang mahal nga nito, e. Nagka-casino ako? Yes, ta-tanggapin kong totoo ‘yan. Naglibang lang ako sa buhay ko. Pinakiramdaman ko lang kung ano meron kasi hindi ako sanay dyan, e. So okay, na-challenge ako. Nagsugal ako. Pero part ng buhay ng tao ‘yan. Pero hindi ako magpapau-bos sa casino. Pero tinigilan ko na ‘yan. Kasi, una, bawal na sa aking gawin ‘yan. Kasi with my contract with GMA, hindi na pwedeng mag-casino ako. Sa sarili ko na rin, sinabi ko, tigil na. Kasi pangit, e.” Willie’s new show, “Wowowin”, will start in May.

Tough Work Recongnized



Former US first lady and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton (center) and Georgetown University President John DeGioia (right) present Prof. Miriam Coronel Ferrer, chief government negotiator for the peace process with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, with the Hillary Rodham Clinton Award for Advancing Women in Peace and Security at Georgetown University in Washington, DC, on Wednesday (Thursday in the Manila).

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Liberal MP Nomination Candidate Michele Serrano Gains Momentum

by: Tony A. San Juan, OCT.

Michele Serrano, a credible and competent Filipino Canadian multi- sector practicing professional who is seeking nomination to become the official candidate of the Liberal Party for MP in Scarborough Southwest, has been confidently observed by her supporters and residents in her Riding that she is gaining momentum towards a respectable campaign position . Along her journey, Michele has put out too a personal request and appeal for financial donation and greater volunteer support to build and pursue a strong and winning contest.

Since Michele’s entry into the MP nomination derby, she has been promoting the Liberal Party’s message of “ hope and hard work”as the centre piece of her campaign and understanding the issues and concerns impacting the residents of Scarborough Southwest as well. Currently, there are 7 declared nomination hopefuls in the Riding coming from the mainstream and ethnic sectors and Michele’s supporters and observers are confident that she is the only candidate with solid credentials and strong potential to bag the coveted official nomination. Michele has also gained the respect and support of fellow nomination candidates, with some expressing that they would not mind losing to Michele and they would be equally proud if Michele will be the official candidate for Scarborough Southwest. Those who know and have met Michele certainly agree!



Many in the community certainly agree that running a successful political campaign is expensive and challenging. And, in the case of a determined candidate like Michele, it is a political necessity for her and her supporters that fundraising is a priority at every stage of the campaign. Friends and supporters of Michele who pledged their support are requested to send ,at their earliest convenience, their nomination campaign donation .

In truly facing campaign realities , it is a safe strategy and equally important that resources, especially monetary and manpower are readily available . Asking for money, however, is not easy as it sounds.With a dozen of die-hard volunteers and supporters, Michele is confidently striving to bring her message loud and clear. She needs fund solicitors and generous donors to her campaign coffers and also, dedicated volunteers to enroll more residents to become members to the Liberal Party. ``Let us make history together .... Now is the time! Ang tagumpay ng isang Filipino ay tagumpay nating lahat!``, Michele declares.

Team Serrano is requesting our FilCan kababayans, friends and relatives that should they wish to donate and / or volunteer to the campaign they may contact Michele at: Tel. 416-988-9613 or email : michele_serano@hotmail.com. (T. San Juan).

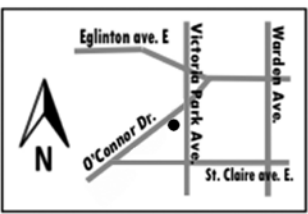
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Marian advises Rhian Ramos

What is Marian Rivera’s message to still jittery Rhian Ramos?

Actress Rhian Ramos didn’t forget to drop a message to Marian Rivera after she was chosen to replace Marian for the lead role in GMA’s new primetime series “The Richman’s Daughter.”



It was on Friday night (April 17) that Rhian received an email from the “The Rich Man’s Daughter” team, asking her to take over the character Marian left due to the latter’s pregnancy.

Rhian said she texted Marian on Sunday (April 19), one day before the start of the series’ taping.

“I woke up Saturday morning and it didn’t feel real yet. I didn’t know yet what kind of preparations needed to be made because I don’t have the script yet. I received it on Sunday and that’s when I messaged her,” Rhian told INQUIRER.net in an exclusive interview on the set of the said series in Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City.

“First I congratulated her. Knowing that she needed to rest because of it, I just wished her a really comfortable and safe pregnancy. I said ‘Tomorrow na ko magsa-start!’ (expressing the emojis she included on the text).

“All she said was... she thanked me first and she told me to take care of the show. Obviously the show also meant a lot to her and she said, “Congratulations and Godbless!”

Rhian admitted she is not that close to Marian but they exchanged numbers sometime last year. She said she’s been really quiet about her acceptance of the role online and on TV.

“I just felt like if I’m going to tell anyone first about it, I wanted it to be her. I am really happy. It’s nice to get a message back as well.”

Rhian plays the role of Jade Tanchingco, an heiress of a wealthy family. Her heart will be torn between David (her suitor) and Althea (her new-found friend).

Acknowledging the fans who had been very eager to see Marian’s comeback on primetime, Rhian added she doesn’t want to disappoint.

“I know naman that they are very excited to watch her in this show. At the same time I am also happy for her because she has found something really important than her life that she really wants to take care of. And I think her fans also know na kung saan siya masaya, masaya din sila for her.”

“I’m just gonna really do my best. I know that this is really her show. There might be that comparison. I’m just gonna try to get that out of my head and do my best. Siya na mismo ang nagsabi sa ‘kin to take care of it and that’s what I am gonna do.”

Rhian’s last drama series on GMA network was “My Destiny”, together with Carla Abellana, Tom Rodriguez and Sid Lucero. It ended October last year.

Ambassador Mahilum-West recognizes George Poblete’s Pro-Patria Award



TORONTO, Ontario, Canada - The newly appointed Philippine Ambassador to the Kingdom of Jordan with concurrent jurisdiction over the Palestine Republic and former Toronto’s Consul General , Junever Mahilum-West, in a simple ceremony at the Philippine Consulate in Toronto before leaving for her new post, recognized the Pro Patria Award, the Presidential Award that Sir George R. Poblete was conferred. The award was given from Knights of Rizal Supreme Commander, Sir Jeremias ‘Jerry’ Singson in Cleveland, Ohio, during the

Knights of Rizal 5th USA General Assembly.

This Patriotic Award is given to an individual by the President of the Philippines to an individual – Filipino or foreigner alike, who has rendered outstanding work in stimulating and encouraging works towards the Rizalian concept of love of country and fulfillment of our duties of citizenship; achieving meritorious individual advancement in the various professions, or promoting, teaching, and disseminating the same through proven competence leading to the general benefit of the individual, the community, and the country at large in the light of Rizal’s teachings and way of life; or promoting and encouraging civic and citizenship responsibility as model citizens, as promulgated by Executive Order No. 429, issued by the President of the Philippines, Carlos P. Garcia, on June 2, 1961. Among the notable Filipinos who have received the much coveted Rizal Pro Patria Award are: Painter Fernando

Amorsolo, Philippine Free Press Publisher Teodoro Locsin, Sr., National Artist for Literature NVM Gonzales, Scientist Emil Q. Javier, Composer Felipe Padilla de Leon, Chief Justice Hilario Davide, the ‘Mother of Philippine Folk Dancing’ Francisca Reyes Aquino and Developer/Builder Reghis Romero II, who is also the past Supreme Commander of the Knights of Rizal.

Poblete holds the degree KGCR, the highest rank awarded to a Knight in the Order of the Knights of Rizal, a fraternal organization whose members aim to study, promote and propagate the teachings of Philippine national hero, Dr. Jose P. Rizal, and to preserve, honor and revere his memory. The civic , non-sectarian, non-partisan fraternity, with headquarters in Manila, Philippines, has a membership of about 14,000 from all over the world. (Fe Paca-Taduran, St. Jamestown News Service)



The food bank run by Friends of Jesus Christ Church - Canada won an award as the Best Filipino-run Food Bank; this group of volunteers is headed by Pastor Teck Uy; picture taken on April 16, 2015. PHOTO BY ARIEL RAMOS

Korean seeks power from PH garbage

Business started from missionaries

MANILA- A Korean missionary discovered a large flock of believers in the Philippines and a thriving market for innovative products and services in the early 1990s. She believes the country's economic potential is so vast, even garbage in cities seem to offer 'powerful' opportunities.

Son Eun Kyoung became one of the first Korean entrepreneurs who established businesses here, long before the 'Korean wave' hit Philippine shores. Son, who is also known by the name Grace Jeong, is the president and chief executive of Rainbow Holdings Inc., a company which started as a travel agency and language training facility and later grew to become a trailblazer in the renewable energy sector.

"Actually, we were [Christian] missionaries when we first came to the Philippines. Then later on, we saw an opportunity to do business privately. We went through all the process and built our way up to be a fully incorporated Philippine corporation," she says.

Grace has been serving as a missionary for more than two decades in the Philippines. In 2002, Grace who has a Master's degree in Education Psychology



from Kosin University, started working as the director of Han EOL Education Foundation Inc. based in Paranaque City.

She put up her own business, Hanbit Travel & Tour in Alabang, Muntinlupa City in 2004. The company was later renamed Rainbow International Business Center Inc.

From a travel agency, Rainbow Holdings now spans various businesses such as immigration liaison work, English language training, online education, business consulting, real estate consulting, trading, government project consulting and recently renewable energy technology marketing.

Rainbow Holdings has recently signed an agreement with REMCo Ltd.,

another Korean company, and the local government of Tacloban City, for a solid waste management plan for the typhoon-ravaged city.

The two South Korean companies are building Tacloban City's first waste integrated management plant this year. The plant, the first of its kind in the country, will convert garbage into electricity for the use of Tacloban residents.

Initially, a multi-million-dollar solar energy harvesting facility donated by the Koreans will be constructed to provide the necessary electricity requirement for the construction of the solid waste resource recovery facility. The solar energy system can produce at least 1 megawatt of electricity, which is more than enough to power 1,000 households.

"Remember, we may not be perfect in everything, every time and we will at times fail. But, it is all a matter of attitude. No good deed will bear bad fruit. For what you sow, you will reap. And that principle applies to all," she says.

Grace says once a person achieves his or her business goals, the next thing to do is "stay humble and be thankful."



Dingdong Dantes and David Remo, mas makulit kapag off cam

First time magsama ng Kapuso Primetime King Dingdong Dantes at child star David Remo sa faith-seryeng Pari 'Koy, pero palagay na agad ang loob ni David kay Dong. Lalo silang naging close ngayong madalas silang magkasama sa eksena.

Sa ulat ni Lhar Santiago sa Balitanghali, ikinuwento ni David kung gaano kabait si Dong sa kanya.

"Mabait po siya. Dati po, nang magkaroon ako ng sugat, ginamot niya po ako."

Si Dong naman, hanga sa pagiging bibo ni David.

"Ramdam mo talaga na gusto niya makasama ang mga tao sa paligid niya. Hindi siya 'yung tipong bata na mahiyain. Talagang pinapakita niya kung ano ang nararamdaman niya."

Kitang kita ang pagiging malapit ng dalawa sa isang Dubsmash video na nasa cellphone ni Dong, kasama si Jillian Ward at iba pang child actors ng Pari 'Koy.

Philippines

NEWS

On Interpol list

MANILA - Interpol has placed Dalia Guerrero Pastor, widow of slain car racer Enzo Pastor, on its wanted list.

Dalia, 29, was earlier ordered arrested for the killing of the international car racer.

A housemaid of the Pastors earlier alleged that Dalia had an extra-marital affair with businessman Sandy De Guzman, who was accused of masterminding the car racer's killing in June last year.

Dalia was charged with parricide, while De Guzman and alleged gunman Police Officer 2 Edgar Angel face murder charges.

Sources saying Dalia left the Philippines in September 2014, three months after her husband was killed, and is now reportedly in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.



No Chinese, PHL, encounter

MANILA - The military brushed aside as a "malicious rumor" a report that a Chinese warship fired at a Philippine Air Force aircraft over the West Philippine Sea.

"We strongly deny that any of our military planes was fired upon by a Chinese vessel while flying to Pag-asa Island to pick a patient. Firing incident in the West Philippine Sea is a serious matter that must not be subject to malicious rumors," said Lt. Col. Harold Cabunoc, chief of the Armed Forces Public Affairs Office.

The alleged incident was leaked out by former Interior Secretary Rafael Alunan 3rd on his social networking site account.

Pilipino stays in school

BAGUIO CITY: The Supreme Court (SC) has halted a move to delete Filipino and Panitikan subjects in the college curriculum.

During the en banc deliberations, it issued an indefinite temporary restraining order (TRO) against the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) memorandum that effectively removed the subject from the General Education Curriculum (GEC).

The stay order was issued without giving due course to a petition filed by group of college professors nationwide.

Named respondents in the case are President Benigno Aquino 3rd and CHED Chairman Patricia Licuanan.

The petition was filed by the group of professors in Filipino headed by National Artist Bienvenido Lumbera.

Solenn Heusaff in Christian Bautista's video

Kapuso "It girl" and Taste Buddies host Solenn Heusaff

reunites with Asia's Romantic Balladeer Christian Bautista in the music video for his second single 'A Thousand Years', off his gold record album Soundtrack.



The two first worked together in 2010 for Christian's 'Beautiful Girl' music video, where they were joined by Anne Curtis, Angel Locsin, and Solenn's "bestie" Georgina Wilson.

The newly-engaged TV personality was recently in Balesin with fiancé Nico Bolzico for some rest and relaxation from their busy schedules.

Western at the Knights of Rizal



Guests pose with Senator Tobias Enverga and Barrie MP Patrick Brown at the Knights of Rizal 22nd Anniversary Dinner-Dance.

Gabriel's 7th Birthday



1. The Panaligan family poses with Nanay Pidya Valenton (FAR RIGHT)
2. Genelie Panaligan, son Joshu and daughter nadeene pose with Nimfa Calingasan (2ND FROM RIGHT).
3. Arnold and Emily Velazquez poses with daughter Christine and celebrant Gabriel (SEATED) and Nanay Pidya Valenton.
4. Gabriel Velazquez blows the candle in his 7 candles ceremony.
5. Gabriel (3RD FROM LEFT, IN RED CAP) poses with friends with his birthday cake.
6. Maria Panaligan sings Let it Go.



GERARD'S BIRTHDAY

ABOVE, Gerard Amparo (FAR LEFT) celebrates his birthday with the Panaligans at Congee Wong. LEFT, Afterwards, he gets his cake at home and poses with baby Joshua Panaligan.

JM, Jessy to do a movie for the first time

MANILA - Actor JM De Guzman expressed his excitement as he is set to do a movie with his rumored girlfriend, Jessy Mendiola.

De Guzman made the statement as he signed a contract with Star Cinema.

"Sobrang saya. Hindi ko nga alam, ngayon ko lang din nalaman. Pwede nang i-announce na may movie akong gagawin with Jessy Mendiola," he said. "Never pa kaming nakapagtrabaho [na magkasama]. First time ko na ma-experience 'yon, na-excite ako. Hindi ko alam, ang sarap i-imagine. Nakaka-excite," he added.

When asked if he and Mendiola, his ex-girlfriend, are back together, De Guzman said: "Sana, pero papunta na

doon."The actor went on to address issues that Mendiola is merely using him to gain popularity.

"Sobrang labo po kasi bago pa kami mag-shoot ng 'Tadhana,' nagkikita na kami," he said, referring to his hit movie, "That Thing Called Tadhana," with Angelica Panganiban.

"Pumunta siya ng birthday ko, wala pang 'Tadhana.' Recently lang 'yung 'Tadhana' eh lumalabas na po kami [dati pa]. Parang baliktad po, parang ako dapat ang matuwa at nali-link ako sa kanya," he added.

Meanwhile, De Guzman said he will also do a television series with Albert Martinez.

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Stars finish and excel in school despite work

Striking a balance between work as actors and studies is difficult but it can be done. Here are some celebrities who've been doing exactly that, even excelling in school:

Ryzza Mae Dizon (PHOTO)

The child wonder received medals for the Multiple Intelligence Award: Excellence in Verbal Linguistic and Eton Achiever from Eton International School. Note that Ryzza Mae hosts "The Ryzza Mae Show" and "Eat Bulaga" five times in a week, not to mention having other show-biz commitments.

Ryzza wrote on Instagram, "Eton International School Thank you so much ! At sa mga dabarkads kayo ang inspiration ko , kaya i have a medals now!"

Julia Barretto

The young Barretto heiress recently graduated from high school, as seen in an Instagram post by her mother, Marjorie Barretto.

"It was very hard for Julia to work and study at the same time... She needed a lot of encouragement from me and I promised her that she will feel good about herself if she finishes high school... I thank God for helping me all these years, for giving me strength and for never allowing me to feel alone in this. Thank you Julia for fulfilling your promise to me that you would finish your studies no matter how much work you have," said Marjorie, whose son Leon also graduated from grade school this year.

Charee Pineda

The Valenzuela City councilor has finished tertiary school with a degree in Political Science at Arellano University. "Finally naka-graduate na rin. Ibang feeling pala talaga," said Charee, who believes her academic degree will be of big help to her career in politics.

Renz Valerio

His diploma was not the only thing the "Niño" teen actor brought home from his high school graduation. Renz also received an Award of Excellence, a Special Academic Citation Award, and the Most Talented Award. Then he's also AMA University's Academic Excellence and Service awardee. Wow.

Renz wrote on Instagram, "I have successfully completed another chapter of my life! Thank you, God! Im definitely ready for the next one!"

Ruru Madrid

renz valerio
Derrick Monasterio, Miguel Tanfelix, Ruru Madrid and Gabbi Garcia

The following Kapuso teen stars have made it through secondary school with flying colors.

"Kung gusto niyo talagang makatapos, may paraan naman talaga. Iba talaga 'yung may pinag-aralan and kailangan niyo 'to para sa future," said Angelicum College alumnus Derrick, who aspires to become a lawyer.

Meanwhile, Miguel's love team partner, Bianca, was present during his high school graduation at Cavite School of Life.

Budding teen actress Gabbi seemed to be twice as lucky on her graduation day with his on-screen dad on "InstaDAD," Gabby Eigenmann, also attending the occasion.

"I'm happy that I made my parents proud," Gabbi said. "Goal ko po 'to eh, na mapagsabay 'yung work and studies."

Gabbi's love team partner, Ruru, rendered a speech during his own graduation at National Christian Life College. He got three awards, by the way.

Zaijan Jaranilla, Xyriel Manabat and Bugoy Cariño

These three young child stars are steadily earning their diplomas. Are more like them. It's a good sign.



Sir George R. Poblete, Rosemer with husband Senator Tobias Enverga and OKOR's deputy area commander of Central Toronto Manny Yanga enjoy the night away.



ABOVE, Barrie MP Patrick Brown addresses the guests.



RIGHT, Sir Bert Mondragon celebrated his birthday too.

KNIGHTS OF RIZAL Scarborough Chapter & Auxiliary Ladies 22nd Anniversary Celebration

The Knights of Rizal Scarborough chapter and Ladies Auxiliary held their 22nd Anniversary Dinner-Dance celebration last April 18, 2015 at the Ellesmere Community Centre. The theme of the night was Western so almost everyone came with a western

outfit or accessories. The special guests of the evening was Senator Tobias Enverga and wife Rosemer. Mrs. Enverga gave away 3 tickets for the Pinoy Fiesta festival on June 27 to be held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Another special guest

was Conservative MP Patrick Brown of Barrie and a member of the Knights of Rizal, Barrie Chapter. There was special performance by PCCF's Pinoy Bulilit Edward Jones. It was also the birthday of Sir Aristeo (Bert) Mondragon, a long time member

of the Order the Knights of Rizal, and b i r t h - c a k e brought out by his family.



Gabrielle Cristi



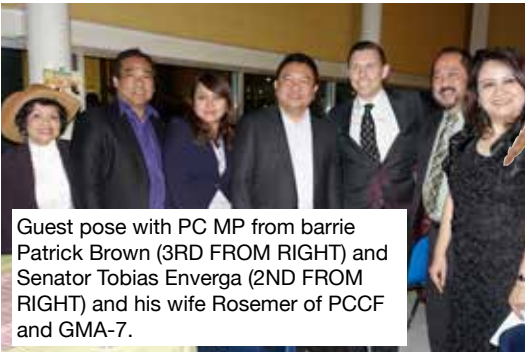
Anais Mondragon takes photos at the booth.



Etobicoke commander Fred Chinagnan poses with OKOR deputy commander Manny Yanga.



Pors and Normita Canlas dance the night away.



Guest pose with PC MP from barrie Patrick Brown (3RD FROM RIGHT) and Senator Tobias Enverga (2ND FROM RIGHT) and his wife Rosemer of PCCF and GMA-7.



Edward Jones entertains the crowd.



Jimmy Marasigan, George Poblete, Rosemer and husband Senator Tobias Enverga, Bert Mondragon, Manny Yanga and Joe Damasco pose for a photo.



Sir Mario Alpuerto (6TH FROM LEFT) wins the best western costume contest.



Sir Bert Mondragon is surprised with a birthday cake by his family.



Sir Dong Meneque calls the raffle winner.



Mrs. Rosemer Enverga of Pinoy Fiesta raffles 3 tickets to the festival.



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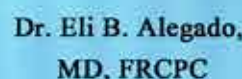
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Sarah believes she’s of marrying age

Sarah Geronimo was asked at her launch as the new endorser of JAG Denims if it’s true that her parents don’t approve of her BF Matteo Guidicelli.



“Kung puwede po, gusto sana naming gawing private ‘yung relasyon namin at bilang respeto rin sa kanya, kay Matteo, at sa pamilya ko, sa amin na lang po ‘yon,” she replies. “As of now, all I can say is tanggap na ng parents ko na nasa tamang edad na ako at pumapayag silang lumabas kami kahit wala akong chaperone.”

Although she’s now of marrying age, they don’t have yet any plans to face the altar soon. “Marrying age na nga ako at 26. Mas matanda ako kay Matteo. Pero ‘yung knowledge ko sa pagmamahal, sa relationship, parang nasa elementary pa lang. Mas kailangan pa naming makilala ang isa’t isa.”

Does she see herself tying the knot with him in the future? “Naku, hindi naman natin madidiktihan ang future, hindi ba? I’m hoping na sana siya na nga ang huli. Pero nagdarasal ako. At kung ano ang will ng Diyos, ‘yun pa rin ang mangyayari. As of now, gusto ko sanang magpatuloy sa pag-aaral ko, kaya lang, sobrang busy. May concert tour ako tapos I’m doing the movie with Piolo Pascual pa.”



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Marian Rivera withdraws from GMA show due to delicate pregnancy

GMA said Rivera has withdrawn from the program as well as her TV appearances abroad due to her delicate condition.

“GMA Network fully supports Marian’s decision and strongly believes that Marian and her baby’s safety is first and foremost,” it said.

GMA has also assured Rivera’s supporters that the actress “will still be seen in various shows in the Kapuso Network,” adding: “We pray for a healthy and happy pregnancy for our dear Marian.”

“The Rich Man’s Daughter” is an upcoming soap opera of GMA, which features a woman in love with another woman.

Rivera married actor Dingdong Dantes on December 2014. The two confirmed on April 13 that the actress was two-months pregnant.

Poe rejects vp run



MANILA - Senator Grace Poe will not be anybody’s running mate in 2016 because for her, it’s the presidency or nothing, a source said . The source who asked not to be identified for lack of authority to speak on the matter said Poe is not considering running for vice president. He said the senator believes that running second fiddle to any presidential candidate would not bode well for her political career since she could just be used as a tool to boost somebody’s chances.

“She doesn’t want to run for vice president. If she will run in 2016, it would be for president. She could be a lock for vice president, but in the long run, she is thinking, how would that work out for her? If she wins as vice president, she will occupy that post until 2022. By that time, she can’t be so sure that she will still enjoy the same high level of popularity and trust of the people, and she knows it,” the source, who has confirmed that some political parties are convincing Poe to be in their team as the vice presidential bet, said.

“Hindi tatanggapin ni Grace yang offer to run as vice president. Ayaw niya. (Grace will not accept that offer to run as vice president. She

doesn’t like it),” the source added .

“She wants to run while she has good chances, and she knows that 2016 is the best time for her to run for president,” the source pointed out.

Poe, daughter of the late actor Fernando Poe, Jr. surprisingly topped the 2013 senatorial race with 20 million votes.

In last week’s Social Weather Stations (SWS) survey, the senator trailed Vice President Jejomar Binay by only five percentage points. Binay, who had consistently topped presidential surveys, got 36 percent, down from his 37 percent rating in December last year.

Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte ranked third, surging to 15 percent from five percent in December. Duterte tied with Interior Secretary Manuel Roxas 2nd of the ruling Liberal Party, whose rating fell to 15 percent from 19 percent in December.

Sen. Miriam Santiago and Manila Mayor Joseph Estrada were tied at 11 percent.

Binay had from the start been very vocal about his presidential ambition. Roxas was reported to have expressed interest in running

for president, but Poe and Duterte have yet to announce their plans to run in 2016.

Poe led the Senate investigation on the killing of 44 Special Action Force troops in Mamasapano, Maguindanao in her capacity as the chairman of the Senate Committee on Public Order and Safety. She has criticized President Benigno Aquino 3rd for allowing then suspended police chief Alan Purisima to be involved in the Mamasapano operations for the arrest of two high profile terrorists.

In its report, the Senate panel found the President responsible for the operation that left at least 60 people dead, including the 44 police commandos.

“The President must bear responsibility for giving assent to and failing to prevent the unlawful exercise of official functions by Purisima in connection with Oplan Exodus,” the report said.

Poe blasted Aquino for allowing Purisima’s “unlawful exercise of official functions” despite being aware that the latter had been suspended by the Office of the Ombudsman for graft.

Senator Enverga welcomes President Benigno S. Aquino III to Canada

Ottawa, April 23, 2015 – Today, His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, announced the State visit to Canada of His Excellency Benigno S. Aquino III, President of the Republic of the Philippines, to take place in early May.

“It is with great pride that I share this news with my fellow kababayans here in Canada,” said the Honourable Tobias C. Enverga Jr., Senator for Ontario, in a statement. “This is a sign of the affirmation of our two countries’ growing ties both on a person-to-person and a government-to-government level,” he continued.

There are nearly 800,000 Canadians of Filipino heritage living in Canada, and the Philippines is one of the largest source countries for immigration. The country also plays an important role in filling the gap in the Canadian workforce through the Temporary Foreign Worker Program. In 2013, Canadian merchandise exports to the Philippines were \$603.3 million, while Canadian imports from the Philippines were valued at \$1.1 billion. Canada’s trade and investment relationship with the Philippines spans many sectors.

In addition, Canada and Canadians have on a number of occasions proved their commitment to the Philippines by assisting with the recovery efforts after humanitarian disasters like Typhoon Haiyan, which resulted in \$170 million in aid.

“I am confident that the ties between our two countries will be further strengthened as a result of this important visit, and that the groundwork will be laid for real progress in our official relationship,” said Senator Enverga. Senator Enverga will join the Honourable Ed Fast, Minister for International Trade, for an official trade mission to Manila and Cebu in the Philippines, from May 24 to 28, 2015.

Dingdong DANTES

Keeping mum on Karylle's revelation



Actor Dingdong Dantes chooses to keep it cool amid people's renewed interest on an issue that might put him in a negative light.

Apparently, the actor's previous relationship with Karylle has been brought to the public's attention anew after the actress, upon the prodding of co-host Vice Ganda, revealed in a recent episode of ABS-CBN's "It's Showtime" that an ex-boyfriend once cheated on her.

While Karylle didn't mention the name, netizens were quick to speculate that she was pertaining to Dingdong, with whom she had a relationship until 2008. Dingdong admitted he has heard about the issue. He said, "Wala naman sigurong sinasabi na ako 'yan (two-timer) so I don't wanna assume (she was referring to me)." He added, "If I react prematurely about a statement that's not clear baka hindi rin naman maganda (ang resulta)." The Kapuso actor urged everyone to move on, noting how he and Karylle are with different partners now.

Dingdong tied the knot with actress Marian Rivera in December 2014 while Karylle has been married to singer Yael Yuzon since May 2014.

"So, you know... happiness and love supersedes all negativity and that's all that matters," he said. Days prior to Dingdong's interview, Marian Rivera was also asked for her opinion on Karylle's controversial quip. Marian reportedly replied, "Binanggit ba nila ang pangalan ni Dingdong? Kung hindi naman (ay) wala akong sasabihin. Pero kapag binanggit nila, doon na ako magri-react."

Read between the lines?

Meanwhile, Dingdong remains evasive on reports that he has been replaced as lead star in director Erik Matti's film "Ponzi."

He said, "Kung ano man 'yung nangyari, it will not hinder me from wanting to produce the films that I love to do, and do the projects that I love to do."

The Kapuso Primetime King added, "Siguro, it's very unfortunate that it happened but I'm fortunate that I found out right now the people whom I should really be dealing with." On reports that he allegedly consulted with Professional Artists Managers, Inc. (PAMI) about the matter, Dingdong explained, "Para sa akin, that's beyond (me). Ako ay isang artista lamang, minsan producer, pero hindi naman po ako nakikialam sa management affairs. So, that's a different thing. Iba naman ang sawsawan ko o hindi." Leaving things to the Lord's grace, he said, "Sometimes you just have to let God dictate what is right and proper for you. It's good to plan sometimes, create the framework, but it's also better sometimes if you'll let Him lead you because definitely, He will lead you to the proper direction."

Father Dong

Issues aside, Dingdong still feels blessed for having not only a happy love life but also a productive career.

The actor will play priest for the first time in the upcoming GMA primetime series "Pari Koy." He described his character Father Kokoy as "the unconventional priest na madaling lapitan, nakikihalubilo, kung hindi siya nakasuot ng pang-pari na damit, maiisip mo na he's one of the people. He does stuff na sinisiguro niyang nakikihalubilo siya sa parishioners niya."

Dingdong clarified that the show is not about religion.

"It's encompassing... andun ang lahat ng mga issues na nagaganap sa'ting pang-araw-araw, lahat ng mga kahirapan and madalas ang sagot talaga dun ay pananampalataya din and how you deal with it," he said.



Juancho Trivino has a new project this year.

Juancho Trivino, ready to accept daring projects

2015 is a big year for Kapuso cutie and comedian Juancho Trivino.

Matapos ang successful run ng Villa Quintana last year, may bagong project ang binata na magsisimula this April 5, ang Sunday afternoon drama series na InstaDad.

Bukod pa diyan, regular cast si Juancho sa longest running gag show ng bansa na Bubble Gang at may-roon na din siyang recurring segment sa show, ang 'Binatilya.' Kasama niya dito sina Boy II Quizon, Jan Manual at Roadfill.

Marami tuloy ang nagtatanong sa binata kung ready na ba siya to take the big step and accept more daring projects, tulad ng pagrampa sa Cosmo bachelor bash.

Kuwento ni Juancho sa exclusive interview ng GMANetwork.com na pinaghahandaan daw niya ang pagsabak sa Cosmo ngayong taon dahil matagal na rin daw may nagsa-sabi sa kanya na sumali dito.

Aniya, "Matagal na rin sa akin sinasabing mag-Cosmo ako, parang last year pa yata and ngayon ko lang nako-consider, parang ngayon ko lang nakikita [ang] sarili ko bilang one of the Cosmo Men. So yeah, I'm working on it."

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Scenes in the City



FIRST, Guest Manolo Araldo, centre, President & CEO of PNB Global Remit-Toronto poses with Talakayan Radyo Filipino co-anchor Karen Tan (left) and special commentator Tony A. San Juan (right) at an interview on affordable financial transfer- and- remittance services during the live broadcast on Fairchild Radio Network AM 1430 on April 18, 2015 in Markham, Ontario. (Photo by: Nelson Galvez). SECOND, THIRD PHOTOS, Josephine Jomaway celebrated her 2015 birthday at Casa Manila with her three sons James Eric, John Fil, and Kevin Cort; together with her closed friends. PHOTOS BY ARIEL RAMOS

Senator Enverga applauds Minister Oliver’s Balanced Budget: ‘Will Help Filipino Families’

Ottawa, April 21, 2015 – Today, The Honourable Joe Oliver, Minister of Finance, delivered Canadians a balanced budget in the House of Commons. This is what our Government under Stephen Harper’s leadership promised.

“I am proud to support this budget that brings our national books back in black, while keeping taxes low for all Canadians,” said the Honourable Tobias C. Enverga Jr., Ontario Senator, in a statement following Minister Oliver’s speech. “Canadians can be confident that the \$1.4 billion surplus and the \$1 billion contingency will ensure our continued and long-term prosperity, not only for us, but for our children and grandchildren, while we do not have to be burdened by excessive taxes.”

Our Government is not doing this by making life harder for Canadians. “An average Filipino-Canadian family of four will receive tax savings and benefits of up to \$6,600. Our government is still maintaining transfer payments to seniors and children, and to our provincial and territorial governments for health-care, education and social services,” Senator Enverga continued.

“Many kababayans, like myself, come to Canada with diplomas and degrees from the Philippines that are not rec-



ognized here. This budget makes the Foreign Credentials Recognition Loans pilot project a permanent programme. This initiative will help those who cannot complete the recognition process because they face financial hardship with a loan and get new Canadians careers in their fields that are often better paid.”

Senator Enverga ended by highlighting the new commitment to support an innovative Public Transit Fund, with \$750 million over two years and \$1 billion per year after that. “This is something that we living in the GTA welcome to alleviate some of the congestion. This budget proves that our Government is the right government for Canadians and the right government for Canada.”

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Unfazed, Mary Jane Veloso’s sister still tried luck abroad

Maritess Veloso Laurente, sister of the OFW on Indonesia’s death row, wants to return to Bahrain through the legal process: ‘Ayaw ko magaya sa kapatid ko.’



HALO-HALO. Maritess Veloso now sells halo-halo, a Filipino dessert, in her village.

CABANATUAN, Philippines – Despite the death sentence looming over overseas Filipino worker (OFW) Mary Jane Fiesta Veloso in Indonesia, her older sister Maritess still took a chance at a job abroad.

Although afraid, given the fate of the younger Veloso, Maritess Veloso Laurente said she had to show a brave face for her 5 children. “Eh kasi alam ko naman kapos na talaga kami. Kapit na lang ako sa patalim nun, kasi walang wala na,” she told Rappler on Monday, March 30. (Because I knew we were really in a terrible bind. I had to grip on a knife’s edge, because we really had

nothing.) Maritess’ younger sister Mary Jane is set to be executed for alleged drug smuggling, a charge she and her family deny. In her own narrative, Mary Jane said she was tricked into a domestic work offer in Malaysia. After 3 days in Kuala Lumpur, her recruiter and godsister Christine allegedly told her to go meet a friend in Indonesia and gave her a luggage to place her newly-shopped clothes in.

It turned out that the luggage had 2.6 kilograms of heroin in aluminum foil beneath its linings.

Mary Jane was meted with the penalty of

death, months after her arrest in 2010.

Four years later, Maritess would find herself in the same predicament Mary Jane was in – to go or not to go abroad for a higher-paying job.

Legal process

This time, Maritess chose to go through the legal process.

Her job was in Bahrain, also as a household service worker.

“[Nag-apply ako] sa agency kasi ayaw ko magaya sa kapatid ko,” she said. (I applied in an agency, because I didn’t want to end up like my sister.)

The 34-year-old said she was extra cautious with her luggage, not allowing anyone to send packages through her.

She said she had to pawn their family’s motorcycle for her expenses in applying for the job.

Sickness

Maritess left for Bahrain in February 2014, but was forced to go back home in a little less than a year after she formed a gallstone.

In need of surgery, Maritess arrived in the Philippines on January 10 this year.

“Awa ng diyos, nabayaran ko naman mga utang ko,” she said. (In God’s mercy, I was able to earn enough to pay off my previous debts.)

Like Mary Jane, Maritess only finished

first year high school.

Now back in Nueve Ecija, Maritess set up a small business in their village selling halo-halo, a popular Filipino dessert.

She is unsure how long her halo-halo store would prosper. She admits she does not have much choices for a living.

Unlike her brother, she said she is not “madiskarte sa hanapbuhay (resourceful when it comes to livelihood).”

Still going back

Having recovered from her surgery, Maritess still wants to give overseas employment another shot. “Balak ko nga po umalis uli. Hirap po kasi ng buhay. Pero gusto ko sana cleaner,” she said in a separate text message. (I intend to leave again. Life is really hard. I want to apply as a cleaner.)

The Philippines is known as a labor-sending country. Of the estimated 10.5 million Filipinos overseas, some 4.93 million Filipino are permanently residing abroad and another 4.22 million are registered OFWs.

Still, there are Filipino migrant workers who go through improper channels to work abroad. Some 1.34 million Filipinos are irregular OFWs, a number the government wishes to shrink.

While OFWs’ remittances boost the economy, President Benigno Aquino III envisions “a government that creates jobs at home so that working abroad will be a choice rather than a necessity.”

Kim Chiu on Gerald Anderson-Maja Salvador breakup: Leave me out of it

"I wish people would leave me out of it. It's their decision. They're asking for privacy. Let's just give it to them," said actress Kim Chiu when show biz reporters sought her reaction to the news that her ex-beau and former screen partner Gerald Anderson has broken up with actress Maja Salvador.



Kim reconciled with Maja, her former best friend, in May 2014, a year after their highly publicized tiff over Gerald. "[Maja and I] are okay now. You can see this through the photos we have been posting [on our social media accounts]," Kim said during the press conference for "Chinita Princess," her sophomore album, produced by Star Music.

Kim has asked the media to "simply let them be. Let's respect what they are going through—it's not easy."

Asked whether she has any advice for Maja, Kim replied: "I have yet to see her, but I know she can handle this. She's a very strong person. She also has a lot of friends around her who are always happy and provide her with positive energy."

Kim also has this to say to other women who are mending broken hearts: "Every struggle in life will make you a better person. The biggest lesson I've learned from my own heartbreak was to never regret anything that has happened. My experiences made me stronger. Problems, be it about love, family or work, are all part of growing up."

Heart Evangelista: 'Baby plans definitely by 2016'



Recently-married Heart Evangelista is in no rush to have a baby with husband Senator Francis "Chiz" Escudero.

In fact, Heart said she intends to put off baby plans until next year saying that "Baby plans definitely by 2016. Somewhere there I will get pregnant."

Heart, who was chosen by Style Weekend as one of their Women Who Wow, shared that married life is treating her very well.

"Very good, very good. Sana it will remain that way. I'm very hopeful it will remain that way. So ask me again in 10 years. No adjustments and I fell in love with him all over again," she said.

As for discoveries, Heart said she has yet to learn something new about her husband but she stressed, "Well I've learned a lot na rin about him. Never naman siya nag best foot forward eh so wala na akong naging ibang discoveries sa kanya."

As a public personality herself, Heart confessed that she had a little adjustment when she married the lawmaker and that's even if they already "went through a lot na before our marriage."

"Wow it's just really all very easy breezy. Yeah there's definitely an adjustment the moment that I married him. You know, with showbiz and politics combination it makes things a little more intense than just being an artista," she said.

But Heart couldn't be any more thankful that she found someone that best suits her.

"You know, he is such a perfect guy, a perfect husband that God has

kindly given to me to bring me back to the ground, to make things a bit normal," Heart pointed out.

Apart from being an actress, Heart is now also gaining following as an artist. Her artworks were recently exhibited in Singapore. Heart gushed on her Instagram account when she saw her painting hung on the walls of a popular hospital.

"It's so fulfilling. It's more fulfilling than being an artista, the honest truth. It's nice and liberating to get your emotions and thoughts out there and to immortalize it through a painting. And actually have it hung on St. Luke's Global, to see it there it's a feeling I never felt even if I won an award," shared the actress.

According to Heart she sees herself creating artworks for the rest of her life. But she was quick to clarify that she's not completely turning her back on the limelight to become a fulltime painter.

"No naman. I think for the next two, three years I'll still be doing the same thing. But definitely I will give myself a chance to really enjoy real life eventually after that," Heart shared.

As of the moment, Heart is gearing up for her 2016 exhibit which she thinks would be housed by the Ayala Museum again.

See Heart Evangelista at Pinoy Fiesta on June 27 at Metro Toronto Convention Centre.



PHL, Vietnam to hold drills

MANILA - The Philippines and Vietnam have agreed to conduct joint naval drills and scientific studies amid concerns over China's intensified reclamations in the South China Sea (West Philippine Sea).

The planned activities are part of the soon-to-be signed "Joint Statement on the Establishment of a Strategic Partnership between the Republic of the Philippines and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam," a copy of which was obtained by VERA Files.

In the strategic partnership agreement, which is considered a final draft until it is signed, the Philippines and Vietnam "reaffirm their commitment to resolve territorial and jurisdictional disputes by peaceful means, as well as to the freedom of navigation in and over flight above the SCS (South China Sea) all in accordance with universally recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Unclos)."

The section on Defense, Security, Judicial and Law Enforcement Cooperation states that the two countries agree to make full use of existing joint mechanisms and agreements to intensify cooperation between their armed services.

"To this end, joint confidence-and-capacity-building activities will be conducted leading to the eventual holding of actual joint exercises between the two navies," paragraph 16 of the agreement said.

In the section on Maritime and Ocean Affairs Cooperation, the two countries agreed to "conduct joint scientific studies in the South China Sea."

Once signed, Vietnam becomes the Philippines' first strategic partner in the Association of Southeast

PHL, VIETNAM continued from page 24

TIDBITS

Angelica's Destiny



Actress Angelica Panganiban on her future plans with boyfriend John Lloyd Cruz: "Yes, we talk about marriage even though it makes us feel awkward sometimes. Maybe it's because we know marriage is possible since we're already of age. We both feel giddy talking about it, but we always say 'not yet.' Can you imagine me being the wife of John Lloyd? I-claim ko ba?"

RJ Padilla strengthens ties with GMA Network

Kapuso artist RJ Padilla feels blessed after signing another two-year contract with GMA Network on



March 25. "It's an honor to be given the trust by GMA and be part of the Kapuso family. I promise to try to do the best I can in all the projects the network will assign to me," expressed RJ.

Apart from being part of the Kapuso Network's longest-running gag show Bubble Gang, RJ plays Ronnie, best friend of Gabby Eigenmann's character, in the upcoming family-oriented series InstaDad which brgins airing today.

Max Collins reveals what she wants in a future boyfriend



Hindi “basted” ang description na ibinigay ni Max Collins para sa kapwa Kapuso actor na si Pancho Magno kung bakit hindi nauwi sa pagiging magkasintahan ang kanilang relasyon.

Ayon sa dalaga, ayaw niyang maging unfair kay Pancho o kahit sa sinong manligaw sa kanya and eventually ay magiging BF dahil hindi rin niya ito mabibigyan ng panahon. Sa ngayon kasi, sa career muna ang focus ng kanyang atensyon.

Ano nga ba ang characteristics na hinahanap niya sa isang manligaw at sa magiging future boyfriend niya?

“Siyempre, gusto ko yung loyal. Dapat loyal siya, gentleman at respectful... Pero parang sa mga panahon ngayon, mahirap yatang humanap ng ganu’n, eh. Parang ngayon kasi, walang masyadong respectable na lalaki... I mean, it’s really hard to find someone that will respect you.

“Well, tungkol kay Pancho, mabait siyang tao. Pinakita niya sa akin na mabait talaga siyang tao. Kaya lang siyempre, mas kailangan kong unahin ang career ko. Alam ko na kapag kami na, mahihirapan din ako kasi wala akong time masyado.

“Eh, di ba kapag may relationship kayo, uunahin mo yung partner mo. Eh, ano siyang tao, eh... He’s very simple, ang gusto niya sa buhay yung regular na relationship at hindi niya rin makukuha sa akin ang ganu’n, yung normal na relationship kasi hindi normal yung trabaho ko, kaya ‘yon,” paliwanag ni Max.

“Siyempre, yung hours, bilang artista ‘di ba, sa taping mahaba tapos parang palaging walang time lalo na kapag marami kang work. Like ako, may mga TV shows ako, kaya mahirap talaga,” dagdag pa ng dalaga na napapanood sa Bubble Gang, SAS at Kailan Ba Tama Ang Mali.

Ayon pa sa kuwento ni Max, tinanggap nang maluwag ng kanyang manligaw ang pasya niya na hindi pa muna makipag-boyfriend. “Tanggap naman niya na hindi pa talaga panahon. At do’n ko talaga na-prove na mabait talaga siya,” sey pa niya.

Goodbye Ambassador Mahilum-West



Photo shows newly installed Ambassador to Jordan, Her Excellency Junever Mahilum West (3RD FROM LEFT) is shown in photo from left with Journalist Joaquin (Jojo) T. Taduran Jr., Ms. Fe Paca Taduran, John West, husband of Ambassador Mahilum West and Sir George Poblete, immediate past Regional Commander of the Order of the Knights of Rizal, Canada Region during the despedida party hosted recently by the Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation (PCCF). (St. Jamestown News Service, Manuel Papa)



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Reunion of Friends in Agincourt Mall



After several years of not seeing each other Romeo Ayson Zetazate (middle), news coordinator of St. Jamestown News Service, hosted a coffee talk with long time friends Johnny Villamil and Farrish Ratag at the Tim Horton Coffee Shop at Agincourt Mall corner Sheppard Avenue East and Kennedy Avenue, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada. They are planning to put-up a Filipino Association along the area. (Dindo Orbeso)



“Nathaniel” begins this April on Primetime Bida

ISABELLE DAZA THRILLED BY HER FIRST TELESERYE ON ABS-CBN

Kapamilya star Isabelle Daza is ready to take on her first drama series on ABS-CBN, “Nathaniel,” alongside Gerald Anderson, Shaina Magdayao, and the newest child actor, Marco Masa.

“I’m excited to be part of this teleserye because my co-actors have such great talent and I don’t want to be left behind. I want to be better and to work harder to prove myself as an actress,” said Isabelle, who will portray the character of a lawyer named Martha.

“TV viewers should watch this beautiful and inspiring story of ‘Nathaniel’ because kids and families will learn a lot of valuable life lessons in the series,” she added.

ABS-CBN’s newest drama series will revolve around the story of Nathaniel (Marco), an angel who will be sent back to earth to fulfill his mission to restore man’s faith in God and remind them the goodness that they can find in everyone’s hearts.

Completing the powerhouse cast of “Nathaniel” are Pokwang, Benjie Paras, Jayson Gainza, Ogie Diaz, Sharlene San Pedro, Jairus Aquino, Yesha Camile, Fourth and Fifth Solomon, and Coney Reyes. It directed by Darnel Joy Villaflores and Francis Pasion.

Meanwhile, “Nathaniel” will hold a special screening of its first episodes this Sunday (April 12), 5PM, at Trinoma Cinema 7.

“Nathaniel” is under the direction of Dreamscape Entertainment Television, the group that created top-rating inspirational masterpieces such as “May Bukas Pa,” “100 Days to Heaven,” and “Honesto.”

Don’t miss the beginning of the story that will inspire everyone to have faith in the goodness of people, “Nathaniel,” this April on ABS-CBN Primetime Bida. For more information about the program, visit the official social networking site of Dreamscape Entertainment Television at Facebook.com/DreamscapePH, Twitter.com/DreamscapePH, and Instagram.com/DreamscapePH.



Work as usual for pregnant Marian

Marian Rivera is still over the moon after publicly confirming her pregnancy. The actress said she considers having a child, her first with husband Dingdong Dantes, the biggest blessing she'll ever receive. "Pangarap ng bawat mag-asawa ang magkaroon ng anak. Para sa akin, kapag nag-asawa ka, ang kasunod niyan ay ang maging isang ina," she says. The actress recalled the moment she and Dingdong learned they're going to be parents. "Tulaley kami pareho," she said. "Parang hindi nagsi-sink in sa amin (na magkaka-baby na kami). Ang bait ng Panginoon sa amin para ibigay niya ang isang buhay sa loob ng tiyan ko. Hindi na kami makapaghintay na lumabas (siya)." Much as they understand people's interest in her delicate condition, however, the actress wants the public to allow her some privacy at this time. "Hindi naman kasi artista ang anak ko at para sa akin ang pagbubuntis ay isang sagradong bagay," she explained. Now that she's on the family way, Marian is beginning to understand the challenges expectant mothers go through for nine months. "Hindi pala biro ang pinagdadaan ng magiging isang ina dahil may mga mornings sickness ako. Mahirap siya. Pero kahit anong hirap, handa ako sa lahat ng sarkripsyo na 'to kung ang kapalit ay napaka-gandang anghel na mula sa langit."

ON WITH THE SHOW

One of GMA-7's prime talents, Marian will push through with her projects "basta hindi ako nahihirapan, hindi ako masyadong napupuyat at hindi mabibigat 'yung mga eksena ko." Marian said she was working on the forthcoming drama series "The Rich Man's Daughter." She, nevertheless, needed to withdraw from it days later; and from "Eat Bulaga!" where she hosts the remote segment "Juan For All, All For Juan." "Kasi hindi ko na kakayanin," she reasoned, disclosing further, "Tapos may niluluto pa kaming isang show sa noontime. Hindi ko alam kung kakayanin ko pa." Marian is one of the most favorite faces on magazine covers. She was, in fact, voted as FHM's Sexiest Woman in 2008, 2013, and 2014.

She is thankful for these but henceforth, she can no longer walk on the runway wearing sexy attire.

"Sa kalagayan ko ngayon na may asawa na ako, parang gusto ko naman iposisyon 'yung sarili ko sa dapat at tama kong kalagayan bilang respeto na rin sa kanya."

In terms of product endorsements, Marian has 11, including 555 Tuna for which the interview was tendered. The product has 12 "lutong-bahay" variants and a new TV commercial featuring the actress should be on the boob tube soon, if not already.

DOTING WIFE

Marian is now more focused on being a hands-on housewife. She sometimes cooks for Dingdong at home. But when she's not in the mood or busy with work, she prepares 555 Tuna that offers "lutong-bahay" variants. "Madali para sa akin (kasi) maraming flavours, marami pinagpipilian. Kanin na lang ang kulang. Puwede rin sa pasta, sa bread. Puwede namang papakin lang. Malakas pa naman ako lumafang!" Marian ended, laughing.

Entertainment

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MEGAN YOUNG

Home is where the Kapuso is

Miss World 2013 is home, both from globetrotting as the international beauty pageant's title holder, and from being a Kapamilya for sometime.

Megan Young, to refresh our memories, was one of the faces that was discovered by the Kapuso network's second season of StarStruck, the artista search.

Last month, the Starstruck II alumna returned to her home network. She inked a one-year exclusive contract with GMA Network.

GMA Network's Chairman and CEO Atty. Felipe L. Gozon and President and COO Gilberto R. Duavit, Jr. were very happy the first Filipina to win the international beauty crown has chosen GMA Network as her home in the next 12 months.

Entertainment TV's Senior Vice President Lilybeth G. Rasonable said the network has big plans for the Miss World titlist, including a major soap opera for primetime.

Vice President for Entertainment TV Marivin T. Arayata, Vice President for Drama Productions Redgie Acuña-Magno, Senior Assistant Vice President for Alternative Productions Gigi Santiago-Lara, Assistant Vice President for Drama Productions Cheryl Ching-Sy were also present during the contract signing along with Ms. World Philippines Vice Chairman and talent manager Arnold Vegafria.

The beauty queen revealed her delight as she will be active again in showbiz with hosting stints and soap opera roles. "Masaya akong nagbabalik dahil I've grown so much as a person, as an artist, and now nandito na ulit ako, I can offer the people a better version of myself," said Megan.

Megan also talked about her relationship with fellow artists and staff, and how she missed most of those who have supported her from the start of her career. She also mentioned that she wants to go back to acting, "Na-miss ko rin ang pag-act, kasi sa Miss World, hindi ka naman nag-a-act doon. Isa't kalahating taon din akong nag-stop, kasi kailangan siyempre yung concentration ko nasa Miss World. Pero ngayong nagbabalik, kailangan ko naman ulit mag-prepare for acting, kasi matagal din akong nawala."

During the contract signing held at the Boardroom of GMA Network, Atty. Gozon expressed his genuine support for Megan, "We are very glad and proud and honored na tayo ang pinili ni Miss World. Kaya maski saan siya nakarating, ang puso niya nasa Kapuso pa rin. At ang puso natin, nasa kanya rin. So we are lining up many things for Megan to do."

Mr. Duavit, in turn, shared that he is both glad and excited now that Megan is back with the Kapuso Network, "Nakakatuwa kapag ang isang nagsimula bilang Kapuso ay nagbabalik bilang Kapuso. And in Megan's case, sa mga dumaang panahon, bukod sa Miss World, she also embodies or personifies certain values that are consistent with ours. So we're very excited. Megan is versatile, she's very professional at meron ng mga nakahanay na mga proyekto para sa kanya. So, welcome back kapuso, we're all very proud of you. And very happy you're back home."

Rasonable revealed some of Megan's upcoming projects this year, "She will be co-hosting StarStruck with Dingdong Dantes, so that's the first big project. And then there's another one coming up. It's a big primetime soap, but we'll announce it when the time comes."

JAPAN ASSISTS US continued from page 1

the Self Defense Forces, the question then becomes what Japan can do." As part of a raft of bills to reform the country's security strategy, the parties in Abe's coalition have agreed to drop a restriction that has allowed Japan to provide ally the United States with logistical support only in "areas around Japan" - code for a conflict with North Korea. Japan's potential non-combat involvement in the flashpoint of the South China Sea, providing logistical support to an American defence of the Philippines, will likely stir debate in coming months over what has so far been Abe's geographically vague push for a more assertive military, one official said.

In two years in office, Abe has eased curbs on arms exports, reinterpreted the pacifist constitution to allow Japan to defend friendly countries under attack and taken a more assertive diplomatic stance.

Uncertainty Over the Law

Japan's military has offered logistical support abroad before, such as fuelling allied ships in the India Ocean on their way to Afghanistan. But those cases required a new law each time. The new laws remove that requirement, although the government will still need parliamentary approval for new operations.

Japanese Defense Ministry spokesman Hirofumi Takeda said it was impossible to "debate in advance whether a specific situation is applicable" under the planned laws.

Security expert Takashi Kawakami at Takushoku University says the possibility of an unforeseen clash between the Philippines and China is rising in the South China Sea.

"The Philippines will get more assertive if they think America's expanded deterrence is at work," Kawakami said. "And China may take a hard line out of consideration for domestic circumstances."

As China creates a series of artificial islands by reclaiming land around seven reefs in the Spratly islands also claimed by the Philippines and Vietnam, Manila in recent days has sought more "substantive" support from Washington.

U.S. President Barack Obama has expressed concern that China is using its "sheer size and muscle" to push around smaller nations in the disputed sea, drawing a swift rebuke from Beijing.

Dennis Blair, former commander in chief of the U.S. Pacific Command, played down the chances of conflict between China and Philippines. In the event of an escalation, an air and maritime exclusion zone would likely be established in the area while diplomatic negotiations were carried out, he added. The White House did not provide immediate comment.

A senior Philippine military official familiar with U.S. Pacific Command operation said Manila would welcome any efforts by Tokyo to extend its maritime operations in the disputed areas in the South China Sea, especially in assisting the U.S. forces.

"Since the U.S. and Japan have an agreement, I would not be surprised if Japan is dragged into a conflict in the South China Sea," said the official, as U.S. and Philippine forces began their biggest combined military exercise in 15 years.

IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU

An inspiration by Jujelyn Brown



NORTH YORK - March 28, 2015 at Le Passion Lounge a fundraising event was organized by Mrs. Jujelyn Brown in support of Autism Ontario. From the theme itself “It’s All about you”, the event promotes bringing out the best of the participants and supporters, allowing them to express themselves in their own way. This event was inspired by Mrs Brown in honour of her birthday. She sponsored and organized the event that was supported by more than a hundred people. Friends, friends of friends, acquaintances and many people whom she had never met. They all turned out to support Autism Ontario.. It was indeed a great night for everyone!

The event started with a licensed Zumba Gold instructor, Sheryl Maligay. Wow!! People had a great time and got pumped-up with high energy routines and burned calories as they shimmy shake shake shake on the Zumba floor.

It was followed by dinner and the amazing live band (THE STATE OF EXPRESSION), a promising local Filipino talent which hails from Scarborough with the new face of the Indie Rock, Darryl Uytico on drums, Christian Nolan bass guitarist and a soloist, and Timothy Dayrit lead guitarist and soloist.

The night was filled with fun, including segments of karaoke singing and dancing! With the fantastic skills of the co-host Miss Mercyl “Spice” Cauton and Mrs. Jujelyn Brown, the event

ran very smoothly.

People appeared to really enjoyed taking part in the souvenir program that Mrs Brown had prepared. Each person placed their name on a large poster which was given to Autism Ontario. It seemed to be such a great idea! It was something everyone will surely will remember!

The night turned out to be very enjoyable, full of love and inspiration for the cause with a powerful inspirational message from our invited guests, Miss Judith Gonzales of Pinoy Dreams and Mrs Margaret Spoelstra the Executive Director of Autism Ontario. Plus, a heartfelt rendition by Mrs Jujelyn Brown- He Aint Heavy He’s My Brother, which was dedicated to those who are dealing with autism.

The event was highlighted with the MOMENT OF TURNING OVER THE PROCEEDS to the Executive Director Of Autism Ontario, Mrs. Margaret Spoelstra. To their amazement that ALL THE PROCEEDS OF THE EVENT WAS GIVEN TO THE SOCIETY FROM THE PAID TICKET PROFIT PLUS ALL THE DONATIONS that Mrs Brown collected.

To sum it up, the money raised for the event was indeed an awesome total of \$2,055.00 !!!! Wooooowwww!! It was indeed a great event!!! It is important to note this was Mrs. Brown’s first fundraising event and to know that for a first time fundraiser she raised this amount and attracted this many attendees and supporters is nothing short of amazing !!! It was indeed a worthy cause and truly a night to remember.

A note from Mrs Jujelyn Brown:

“With so many wonderful compliments that i received, I WANT YOU ALL TO KNOW THAT I GIVE ALL THE CREDIT BACK TO THOSE OF YOU WHO SUPPORTED AND DONATED and made the event such a great success!! To my ever loving husband Curtis Brown who is always there for me, friends, donors , sponsors, acquaintances and friends of friends. I salute you all and I love you all for your support in our quest of community service and love for one another. THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATIONS!!!

PHOTO BY ARIEL RAMOS

Hunk Shot

Joeb Guiller, whose full name is derived from a combo name of his father, mother and grandfather is a very nice young lad from Toronto. He is is very active Kadiwa in his locale. Joeb loves pho, yeong chow and sinigang and maintains his lean body by regular exercise. Top on his list to visit are Japan, Dubai or Paris. One day, he wants to go skydiving while eating a MacDonalds Quarter pounder meal.



Joeb Guiller Responde Ombac

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Jasmine Curtis-Smith
No Paulo Avelino Romance

Jasmine Curtis-Smith sheds light on the rumor that she and Paulo Avelino are allegedly playing beautiful music together at this point. “Of course not!” she avers. “Just like what he said in a recent interview, we’re just friends. There’s nothing special going on between us, period!”

It all started when a picture of them dining in a restaurant together circulated of late in the social media.

“Oh, that one you mean? Actually, we were in a group. Paulo and I are currently filming Mara under Regal Entertainment. So we’re friends and fellow workers who casually like to have dinner with a group. That’s it. There should really be no issue at all!”

The pretty Kapatid talent remains unfazed despite flaks coming from bashers, believed to be followers of Paulo and KC Concepcion. The rumor between her and Paulo cropped up at a time when the latter’s alleged love affair with KC was reported to have fizzled out.

“I’m not really affected because that’s the way it is in the ‘biz. When you befriend someone from the opposite sex, it can be given color instantly. I just have to accept that. As long as I know and everyone else what the truth is, what really went down, it’s enough for me. We heard Paulo saying that we’re just friends and co-workers. That’s the truth!”

For the record, no courtship happened between them?

“There’s nothing like that. He didn’t court me. We’re just friends who like to hang-out together,” says Jasmine.

“Yes! I’m happy to be 21 now. I’m thrilled with the thought that a lot of exciting things await me at this stage.”

Does she have any wish on her special day?

“That would be more and more projects!

I started 2015 with a busy work schedule. I hope it remains that way for the rest of the year. I’m simply grateful. I also wish that I’ll be more mature when it comes to my work relationship with fellow actors,” ends Jasmine.

Bea Alonzo is proud of her boyfriend Zanjoe Marudo

According to Bea Alonzo, she is happy and proud of boyfriend Zanjoe Marudo’s present success because of his hit soap opera titled Dream Dad.

“Oh yes! For one, it’s on prime time...and on the first slot! Everybody knows how stiff the ratings competition is for that block, and yet the show is doing very well. It’s really something that you should be proud of.

“In fact, I’m so glad when outside, he is being called Mr. President. It means, he was able to endear his character to the viewers. I’m simply happy for him,” she says.

In one of his interviews, Zanjoe said that like his role in the soap, he is already prepared to become a father in real life.

“Well...good for him! Ha-ha-ha! It just shows that he is the serious type. He takes our relationship seriously. I’m happy about that. But for sure, he also said not anytime soon!”

When it comes to her own television exposure, many notice that after her soap Sana Bukas Pa ang Kahapon, she’s not that visible anymore.

“It’s because I’m doing the movie Crossroads with Mr. Richard Gomez and Ms. Dawn Zulueta. After shooting this project, I might get back to the soap opera scene,” Bea states.

BF support
Rhian’s job

“I’m in a relationship, a very good one.”

This was the recent revelation of actress-car racer Rhian Ramos.

It seemed her passion for adrenaline rush on the track also brought her towards the love of her life as she committed to three-time Vios Cup Champion Jason Choachuy.

“We became a couple on new year. He asked me before new year and then spent new year with my family,” she narrated.

She also shared that her non-showbiz Filipino-Chinese beau is very supportive of her new career.

“On the same day dapat ng bangga mo, drive ka na ulit kasi ‘yun daw ‘yung way para matanggal ‘yung takot,” Rhian said, sharing one of the advices she got from Jason.

Janice de Belen
dragged into
Maja-Gerald
split

“Oh My G!” actress Janice de Belen has been dragged into the controversial split Gerald Anderson and Maja Salvador, two Kapamilya stars she has worked with in seprated primetime series.

De Belen, 46, portrayed the mother of Anderson and Salvador’s characters in “Budoy” and “Ina, Kapatid, Anak,” respectively, and has since developed a close relationship with the former couple.

While de Belen has yet to directly address rumors linking her with Anderson, who is 20 years her junior, she recently posted a message on Instagram, saying: “Rumors are carried by haters, spread by fools, and accepted by idiots.”



Asian Nations among South China Sea claimants.

So far the Philippines has strategic partnership agreements with only two countries: the United States and Japan.

Vietnam, which initiated the agreement, had wanted it signed in Hanoi either before or after the April 26 and 27 summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in Kuala Lumpur.

But since the schedule President Benigno Aquino 3rd could not accommodate a visit to Vietnam this month, the Department of Foreign Affairs is working on a May or June signing.

Vietnam proposed the strategic partnership when Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario paid a courtesy call on Vietnamese President Truong Tan Sang in 2011.

Sang said at the time he hoped the bilateral relations “will grow from a multi-faceted relationship to a comprehensive one, with a view toward a strategic partnership.”

Del Rosario replied that the Philippines defines a strategic partnership as “one that is deep and nurtured over the years and can be counted upon.”

Aquino and Sang agreed to forge the strategic partnership during a bilateral meeting at the sidelines of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in Beijing last November.

The Philippines and Vietnam are two of the six claimants in the South China Sea.

Vietnam, China and Taiwan claim almost the whole of the area while the Philippines claims a part of the Spratly islands. Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam also claim portions of the South China Sea, a navigation route for 40 percent of global trade.

In the Strategic Partnership Accord, the Philippines and Vietnam agreed not to occupy uninhabited islands in the disputed areas.

They reaffirmed their commitments to resolve differences in a “constructive manner without resorting to the threat or use of force.”

The two countries also restated their commitment “to exercise self-restraint in the conduct of activities that would complicate or escalate disputes and affect peace and stability including, among others, refraining from actions of inhabiting on the presently uninhabited islands, reefs, shoals, cays and other features.”

The agreement does not mention developments on islands and reefs the Philippines and Vietnam already inhabit.

Fundraising for Autism Ontario



Supporters of Autism Ontario had fun in a fundraising event at Le Passion Lounge. See article on page 23. PHOTOS BY ARIEL RAMOS

HOMILY ABUSE
continued from page 7

mercy of God. To be simple is to be great in God’s eyes. The simple lifestyle of priests is the homily easiest to understand.

The third and last challenge is a call to study. Reading and study must not stop after the seminary. If we stop reading and study, we endanger the souls of our parishioners. If we stop studying, then we start forcing our people to read the so-called open book of our lives – the comic book of our lives, hardly inspiring, downright ridiculous and awfully scandalous. The homily becomes our story and not the story of Jesus. Reading a bank book too much is not a good way to prepare our homilies.

Be careful with your life. The people watch us more than they listen to us. Be sincere and true. A double life, a secret dark life is stressful.

Be careful with every homily. God will judge you for every word you utter. Believe what you read. Teach what you believe. Practise what you teach.

Be careful with every homily. They want to hear Jesus not you; only Jesus, always Jesus.

Be careful with your homily. Pity the people of God. Stop the homily abuse. Let your homily inspire and set hearts on fire.

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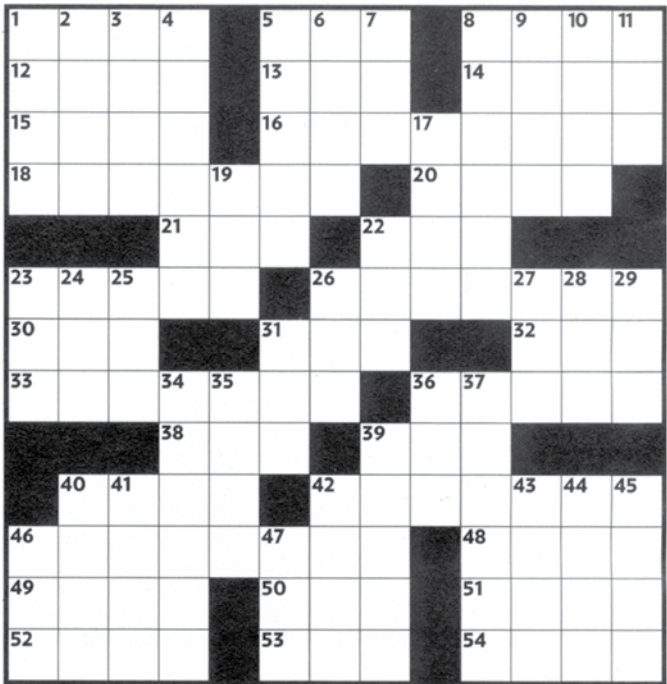


Crossword Puzzle

TADURAN VISITS DILG



Photo shows Toronto Filipino journalist Jojo Tadiran visiting the Department of Interior and Local Government through media consultant Babes Suva during his recent trip to the Philippines. Tadiran is a member of the board of directors of Philippine Press Club - Ontario (PPCO) and a lifetime member of the National Press Club of the Philippines and the Order of the Knights of Rizal. (Romy Zetazate, St. Jamestown News Service)



ACROSS

- 1 The O.C. actor Brody
5 the lawn
8 *Law & Order: SVU* actor-rapper (wd. & init.)
12 Horror actor Lugosi
13 Actress Larter
14 "Zawinul/___" by 21 Across
15 "She's Goin' ___" by the Beach Boys
16 First name of 26 Across
18 Jennifer ___ (46 Across costar of 26 Across)
20 *The Big Country* Oscar winner Burl ___
21 "Another Green World" by Brian ___
22 Rapper Dr. ___
23 "Rastaman ___"
26 *Big Love* star (with 16 Across)
30 *I'm a Celebrity, Get Me ___ of Here!*

- 31 Solo
32 "The dog ___ my homework!" (classic excuse)
33 Actor Cooper (46 Across costar of 26 Across)
36 Actress Rene ___
38 "In the ___ Tonight" (Phil Collins hit)
39 Athlete Dawson
40 "___ I Collapse" by Eminem
42 Chloë ___ (*Big Love* costar of 26 Across)
46 *He's Just Not ___ You* (starring 26 Across; 2 wds.)
48 The A-___
49 ___ reel (samples of previous work)
50 Actor McKellen
51 Actor Bana
52 Actor Hayes (7 Down costar of 26 Across)
53 Rocker DiFranco
54 Designer Oscar ___ Renta (2 wds.)

DOWN

- 1 "Dancing Queen" group
2 Harry ___ Stanton (*Big Love* costar of 26 Across)
3 "___ Wanna Do" by Sheryl Crow (2 wds.)
4 Actress Virginia ___
5 Mr. ___ (nearsighted cartoon character)
6 Lena ___ of *The Reader*
7 ___ a *Date with Tad Hamilton!*
8 "If ___ Under the Sea" (*Barney & Friends* song; 2 wds.)
9 *The Ballad of the Sad ___*
10 ___ *Bayou*
11 "___ Pit" by the Wu-Tang Clan
17 Actor Robert De ___
19 Demolition explosive
22 Actor Cheadle
23 Corn on the ___

- 24 Heston's *Ben*-___
25 *One Day ___ Time* (2 wds.)
26 *The ___ Divorcee*
27 "It ___ a Very Good Year"
28 ___ a *Wonderful Life*
29 *Matrix* character
31 "Can't Let ___ Get Away"
34 Timothy ___ of *Licence to Kill*
35 Leslie Caron musical
36 Clergyman's title (abbr.)
37 ___ States of America
39 Téa ___ of *Spanglish*
40 "___ I Love" (song from *Friendly Persuasion*)
41 "___ Rock" (Simon & Garfunkel hit; 3 wds.)
42 Comic Laurel
43 *Unfaithful*'s Richard
44 "Hammer and a ___" by the Indigo Girls
45 Village People song
46 Football six-pointers (inits.)
47 Actress Long

Answers on
Page 26

Dating apps
Too many fish in the sea

In the dating market, having fewer choices can be more efficient

PEOPLE over the age of 30 may not know what a “topless mirror selfie” is. For young women trying to find a date in many American cities however, it is a major blight: young men who think it alluring to post a photo of their shirtless reflection on dating apps. For men, the equivalent grumble is women who only post photos of themselves posing with more attractive friends.



Apps have transformed dating. There’s no need, as on traditional dating websites, to fill in lots of questions or pay a subscription fee. Choice seems endless. Yet many Americans seem to be using dating apps to find people as similar as possible to themselves.

The market leader is Tinder, which allows you to filter potential matches by age, sex and location only; profiles consist of a few photos from Facebook and a couple of lines of text. A left swipe is rejection; right, acceptance. If two people both swipe right, they match, and only then can they talk and arrange a date.

Many bright young things prefer a newer app called Hinge. This displays information about your job and education, and displays only potential mates with whom you have Facebook friends in common. Since the start of 2014, it has expanded from four cities to 38. Justin McLeod, the firm’s boss, claims that 99% of its users have college degrees.

Ernesto, a 25-year-old student in Washington, DC, has dated 17 women since installing Hinge and Tinder on his phone in October. Hinge is better, he says: “It tells you what people are passionate about.” Christine, another Hinge user, says it is like meeting people at parties, but she is “even more selective on the app than I would be in person”.

Hinge is popular for a simple reason. Online, there are too many choices. Narrowing them down saves time—a blessing for busy young professionals—but at a cost. When the elite date only friends of friends, it is hard for those outside this happy circle to break in.

Love’s many facets in ‘Karelasyon’

It may be the greatest gift one could have, but as beautiful as love is, relationships that are romantic in nature also have their share of trials.

GMA News and Public Affairs proudly presents Karelasyon—the newest drama anthology that explores th real nature of relationships. The stories are based upon true-to-life experiences of people who have faced different ordeals in tring to keep the love of their lives.

Carla Abellana hosts new drama anthology on GMA. Since not all love stories speak of warmth, hearts, and butterflies, Karelasyon sheds light on situations that comes with choosing to be with someone, for example extramarital relations; secret identity; extreme jealousy, ambition, and vices; family or work-related issues; obsession with sex, money, and even material possessions.

Each story, brought to life by Kapuso stars, depicts the difficulty, pain, controversy, and even tragedy that a Filipino deals with the moment he falls in love and chooses to be attached to someone.

Karelasyon is hosted by Carla Abellana and airs every Saturday beginning April 11 on GMA.



“Siyempre feeling ko success kasi ang hirap pagsabayin eh. Pero ina-allow naman ako ng school na mag-absent at least two days,” she said.

Sofia is looking forward to taking up Film or Multimedia studies next year when she enrolls in college. This year she is still concentrating on the Wansapanataym series, an upcoming movie project, and Forevermore.

In Wansapanataym Presents: Kung Fu Chinito, Sofia will be paired with fellow Star Magic artist Enchong Dee. “First time ko to work with Enchong and lahat sila sa Dreamscape. Magaan sila kasama. Kasi minsan ‘di ba ‘pag nakikita mo ang isang tao parang nakaka-intimidate? Sila hindi kahit nung storycon pa lang. Very chill people.

Sa show ang role ko si Carla, crush ni Enchong and ako yung teacher ng kapatid niya. Hindi pa kami nag-start mag-taping. Merong yin yang medallion na yun yung nagbibigay ng powers sa tao na maging kung fu fighter,” she explained.

Sofia also shares that her character will also be making a comeback on Forevermore, “Nakaka-miss mag-teleserye pero babalik ako sa Forevermore.

Siguro mga end of April or start ng May. Okay na ako dito. Parang I’ll help them get back together. Kasi ako yung sumira sa kanila so kailangan ko sila ayusin,” she added.

Sofia Andres misses Inigo Pascual

After graduating from high school last March, Wansapanataym Presents: Kung Fu Chinito actress Sofia Andres said she considers it a big milestone in her life.

Facebook Friends offer Prayers
Joey Albert battles Cancer Again

The Facebook (FB) friends of singer Joey Albert were stunned by a message posted on her page on March 26.

“On Jan. 28, 2015, Joey’s medical tests confirmed that her colon cancer had recurred. Please join us, her Facebook administrative team, in praying for her successful surgery on March 27. Let’s claim another victory over cancer...”



In 1995, the singer fought cervical cancer. In 2003, she was diagnosed with colon cancer, which claimed the lives of her father and sister.

She was a cancer survivor for over a decade before this latest bout. Her FB page has been deluged with good wishes and prayers from fans and peers, including Ivy Violan and Becca Godinez.

Candid SPOOF

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



Guests at the Knights of Rizal Dinner-dance do the line dancing.

Crossword Answers

ADAM	MOW	ICET
BELA	ALI	LAVA
BALD	GINNIFER	
ANISTON	IVES	
ENO	DRE	
CHANT	GOODWIN	
OUT	HAN	ATE
BRADLEY	RUSSO	
AIR	LEN	
TILL	SEVIGNY	
THATINTO	TEAM	
DEMO	IAN	ERIC
SEAN	ANI	DELA

Taiwan formula may settle sea dispute

TAIPEI: A Taiwanese official has called for a peaceful settlement of maritime disputes in the South China Sea (West Philippine Sea).

Joseph S.C. Hua, director-general of Taiwan’s Department of Cultural and Educational Affairs at the Mainland Affairs Council, said Taiwan’s peaceful approach to resolving maritime disputes with Japan and the Philippines “can be applied in settling issues in the South China Sea to create a winning situation for all parties.”

“In fact, [Taiwanese] President Ma [Ying-jeou] already said the countries involved in the South China Sea could also use his formula [in settling maritime issues] in East China Sea,” Hua said.

He was referring to President Ma’s proposal, the East China Sea Peace Initiative, which aims to address disputes over the Diaoyutais, also known as the Diaoyu Islands in China and the Senkaku Islands in Japan.

The island group, which is also being claimed by China and Taiwan, has been under Japan’s administrative control since 1972.

The peace initiative calls for parties concerned to shelve differences and jointly explore resources.

After Ma proposed the initiative, Taiwan has taken a similar approach to dealing with fishing disputes with the Philippines, with both countries negotiating an agreement on cooperation in maritime law enforcement in their overlapping economic waters.

“The main goal of this initiative is to have multilateral talks between concerning parties to resolve the issues in a peaceful way,” Hua said.

But he pointed out that “Taiwan is not giving up its territorial claim over Senkaku Islands.”

“It’s not the case. But it is a hope that concerned parties could sit down and talk to resolve their disputes,” Hua said.

He cited as a “good example” the fishery agreement between Taiwan and Japan that was signed last April. This allows fishermen from both countries to operate in a designated area of their overlapping economic waters in the East China Sea to resolve long-standing disputes.

“We hope this could be applied to the South China Sea. Like I said, no unification, no use of force and the issues in the region, whether political or economic could be resolved in a peaceful way,” Hua said.

He added that Taiwan also called for continuation of talks for a Code of Conduct (COC) in the South China Sea between the Asean and China.

“We hope the COC could be established among parties concerned to govern such standoffs at sea,” Hua said.

The South China Sea has become a hotbed of political tensions between surrounding nations, with overlapping claims by six parties (including Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam and Taiwan) centered mostly around fishing and oil rights.

Manila, which calls part of the disputed areas the West Philippine Sea, has sought international arbitration before the International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea (Itlos).

It has asked the Itlos to nullify China’s massive claims over the South China Sea.

The Philippines already has alliances with the United States and Japan, who have also been critical of perceived Chinese expansionist moves in the South China Sea.

Dr. Solon Guzman's
Birthday Party



Dr. Solon Guzman held his birthday party last Easter Sunday and a lot of people still packed the house. Well, of course it will still be packed. Well-loved by family and friends, he is also a much-respected community leader. Dr. Guzman is just a bundle of energy. He is like an energizer bunny. I have never seen this guy tired. Late, yes. Why late? This guy takes more time dressing up than a male model. So I heard, from Alma Torreno. That is why unlike some of us members of the media, like yours truly, you will never see this guy look slovenly. Here's to you doc and may the blessings and happiness of that special day last for as long as you live.



Fans protest Miguel, Bianca split

Miguel Tanfelix and Bianca Umali somehow feel sad that their show, "Once Upon a Kiss", is now on its last two weeks, to be replaced by Marian Rivera's "The Rich Man's Daughter" on May 4.

"Malalaman na ng viewers kung ano ang magiging ending ng characters na ginagampanan namin, sina Prince at Ella," says Miguel.

"Buti na lang, we still have 'Ismol Family' every Sunday kaya magkikita pa rin kami at mapapanood pa rin kami ng fans ng aming love team," says Bianca.

It's said that for their next soap, they will be separated from each other so that their followers won't quickly tire of them. "Yun ang plano," says Miguel. "But our fans say magpoprotesta sila, so let's kung see kung paghiwalayan talaga kami for our next projects."

Georgina Wilson faces sanctions

MANILA - British-Filipino supermodel Georgina Wilson is facing sanctions from the Philippine Association of Managers, Inc. (PAMI), after she was accused of bypassing her former manager Shirley Kuan in striking an endorsement deal with phone brand Samsung.

In a statement given to ABS-CBN News, PAMI said it recently held a meeting where Kuan filed her formal complaint against Wilson for her "unprofessional conduct."

The organization said: "After careful deliberation, PAMI expresses its support for Shirley Kuan and strongly condemns the unacceptable act of disrespect of Ms. Wilson. PAMI sanctions shall be strictly implemented on her effective immediately."

On April 19, Kuan announced that she had dropped Wilson from her stable of talents after the "Asia's Next Top Model" host supposedly negotiated with Samsung without informing her.

On April 18, Samsung launched Wilson as one of the brand ambassadors of Samsung Galaxy S6 and S6 Edge in the Philippines, in a press event held at the SM Mega Fashion Hall in Mandaluyong City.

"Samsung is run by unprofessional executives," Kuan said in her earlier statement. "Their agent called my office for Georgina and we gave them the rate. Then Samsung went straight to Georgina and closed the deal. No wonder I did not hear back from their agent after we gave the rates. The nerve."

When asked for her reaction to Kuan's move last Monday, Wilson only said, "I'll have my lawyer comment on that."



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