

CONFIDENTIAL



Dr. Solon Guzman pose with the winner of Miss FBANA 2016 Miss Winnipeg, "Princess Wy".



UMAC and Forex staff pose with Bamboo and Abra.



The singing group Charms perform at the PIDC Mabuhay festival.



Jasmnine Flores, Miss Teen Philippines Canada 2016 Chiara Silo and PCCF 1st runner-up Shnaia RG perform at the Tamil Festival.

Obama warns China

Obama and Duterte meet

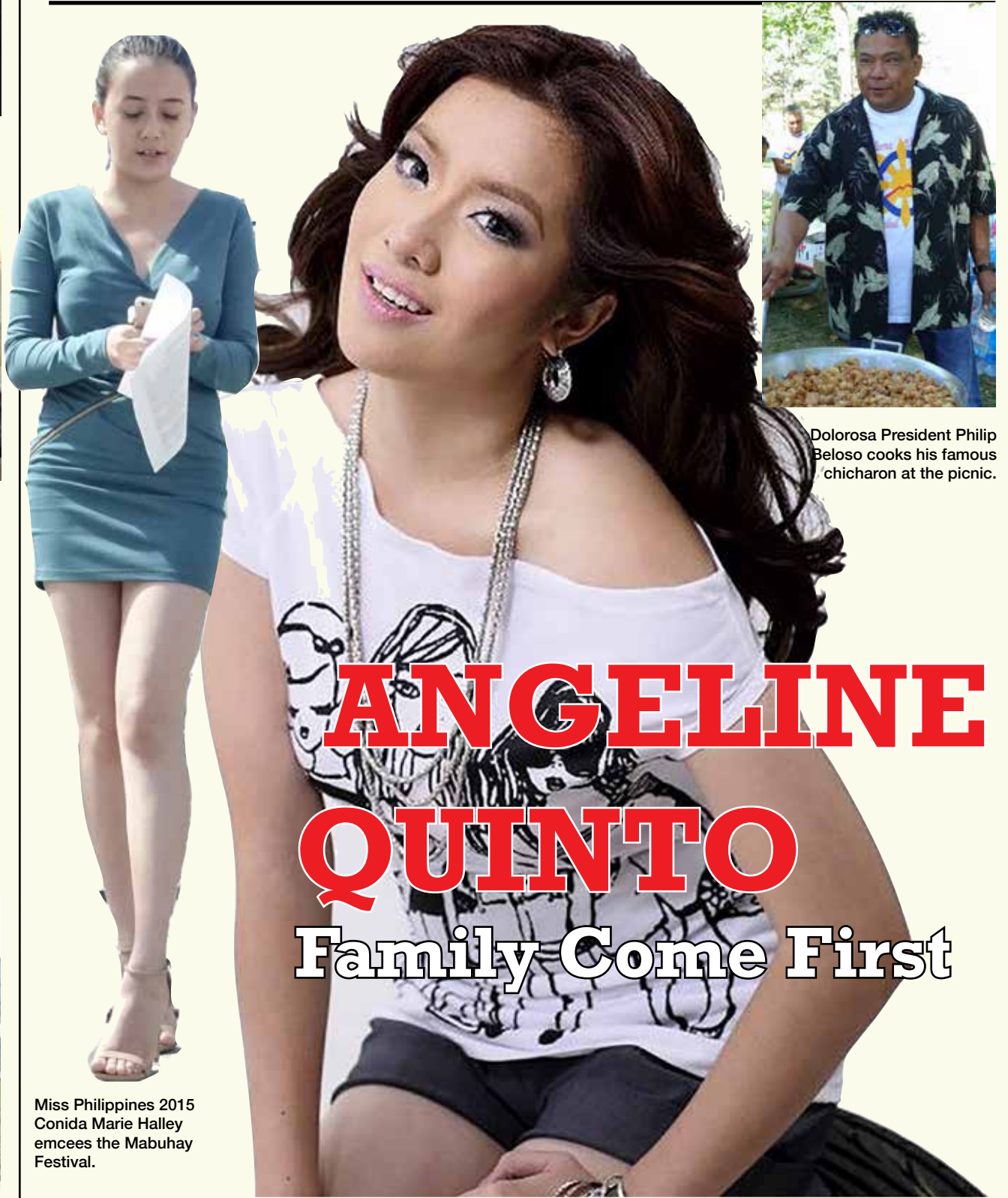
VIENTIANE—US President Barack Obama warned Beijing Thursday it could not ignore a tribunal's ruling rejecting its sweeping claims to the South China Sea, driving tensions higher in a territorial row

that threatens regional security.

The dispute has raised fears of military confrontation between the world's superpowers, with China determined to cement control of the

strategically vital waters despite a July

OBAMA
continued on page 7



Dolorosa President Philip Beloso cooks his famous chicharon at the picnic.

Miss Philippines 2015 Conida Marie Halley emcees the Mabuhay Festival.

Beautiful Girls



Samantha Gavin and Melissa Saldua Ventocilla walks the ramp at the PIDC Mabuhay Fashion Show.

THE VOICE



JDL's Josie de Leon performs at the Mabuhay Festival.

MMK



FV Foods' owner Mel Galeon poses with Charo Santos Concio, Chief Content Officer of ABS at the recent Maalaala Mo Kaya (MMK) forum in Toronto.

Bicol Canada

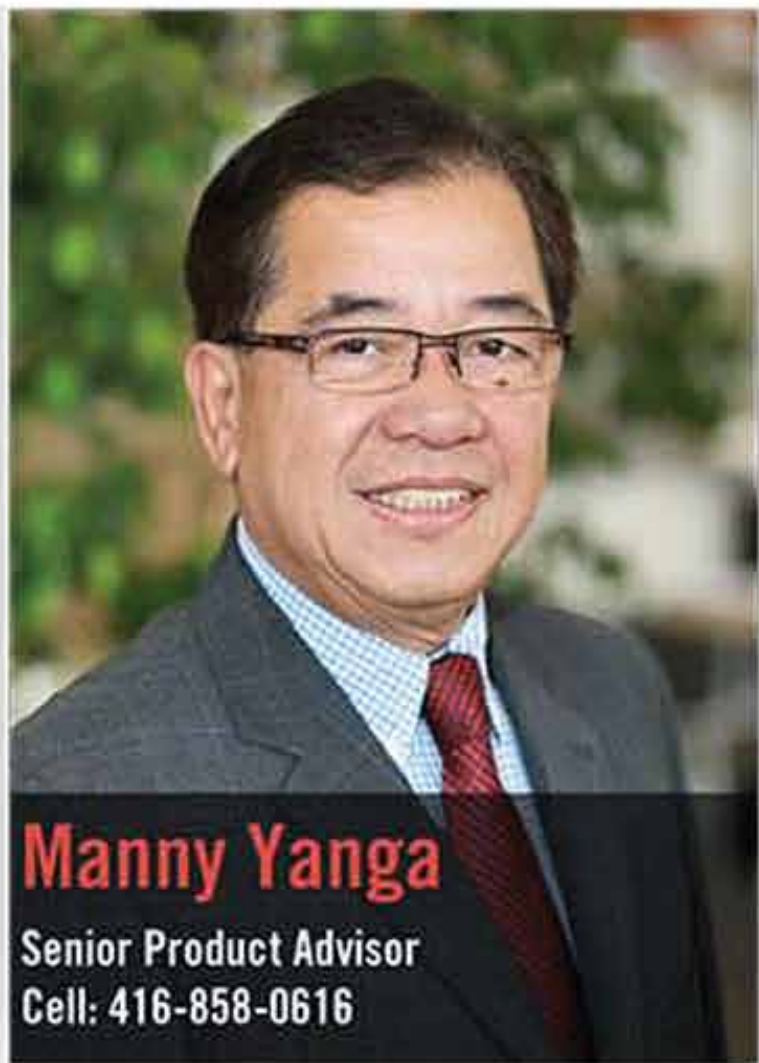


Bicol Canada President and Action Honda Manager Rafael Nebres (5TH FROM RIGHT) poses with participants at the Bicol Canada Community Association Summer Picnic at Earl Bales Park.

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Assassination attempt on Duterte thwarted; smuggled gun parts seized by police

- An alleged assassination attempt on President Duterte was thwarted by police
- Two men were arrested early last month for smuggling gun parts from the US
- The smuggled firearms were reportedly ordered by someone who wants Duterte assassinated

MANILA, Philippines – Authorities have reportedly thwarted an alleged assassination attempt on President Rodrigo Duterte following the arrest of two men involved in the smuggling of gun parts supposedly to be used in the hit job.

The suspects were nabbed early last month at the Atlas, Villa Cristina Subdivision in Brgy. Tangub in Bacolod City from a tip-off by an intelligence report from the United States where the gun parts were purchased and sent in balikbayan boxes.

Philippine National Police (PNP) chief Director General Ronald “Bato” Dela Rosa presented one of the suspects, Wilford Palma, on Thursday at Camp Crame.

Dela Rosa said Palma admitted that the smuggled firearms amounting to P4.5-M are to be used “to assassinate President Duterte”. The suspect also identified his boss as a certain Bryan Ta-ala who is currently confined at a hospital in Bacolod

and is currently under police custody.

“Ang sabi sa akin ng boss ko, ‘yung number one customer namin may balak umorder ng lower end gun parts at gagamitin sa assassination ni President Duterte,” said Palma.

[My boss told me that our number one customer is planning to order lower end gun parts which will be used in the assassination of President Duterte.]

The smuggled goods allegedly arrived before Duterte was elected president. The suspects were nabbed on August 6 by operatives of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG), the police said.

The PNP chief believes the two men are not personally involved in the said assassination attempt, but only in the smuggling of gun parts delivered from US via Atlas



Shippers International Incorporated in several shipments.

Palma said their customer ordered 100 upper receiving parts, 40 barrel, and 30 bolt assembly; enough to make 100 M16 rifles.

Dela Rosa declined to give the name of the customer who ordered the shipment while investigation is still going on.

Meanwhile, Ta-ala, Palma and his other cohort had been charged for violation of RA 10591 or the Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulation Act.

More than 20 other individuals who reportedly transacted with Palma voluntarily surrendered to authorities and are now facing inquest.



Ogie Diaz twits ‘networking people’ who brag on social media to lure prospects

MANILA, Philippines – Comedian-host Ogie Diaz has called on ‘networking people’ that has now become ubiquitous on social media following the proliferation of the so-called ‘multi-level marketing’ or MLM.

In his viral post, Diaz scored some of these ‘networking people’ for posting pictures of their luxurious cars which they supposedly claimed are the fruits of their hard work.

The comedian said they need to think of more authentic and creative ways to lure prospective clients into their business, rather than simply posting ‘selfies’ of their Porches or Ferraris or Maseratis.

“Yung rehistro niyan na nakapangalan mismo sa inyo ang ipakita nyo, wag yung sume-selfie lang kayo katabi ng sasakyan para mas maniwala yung mga prospect downlines nyo na kayo ang rightful owner,” Diaz wrote.

[You should show the registration of these cars under your name, not just ‘selfies’ with you standing beside them for your prospect downlines to believe that you are the rightful owner.]

Diaz said he finds it very impractical, if not unbelievable, that most of the networking people would prioritize buying expensive cars over – say, house and lots or condo units – unless they are indeed earning millions.

“Unahin nyo ang bahay dahil mas nag-a-appreciate ang value nyan yan kesa sa sasakyan. Nang sa ganon, ma-inspire nyong mag-join ang mga tao dahil magkakabahay sila, hindi magkakaroon agad ng magarang tsikot,” he said.

[You should prioritize buying a house as its value appreciates compared to cars. In that case, you can inspire other people to join because they can finally buy their own houses, not cars, from their earnings.]

He also urged those trying to convince prospects to invite the latter at fine dining restaurants, and not at a coffee shop (where only coffee is served) or at fastfood outlets, since it is them who are announcing to everyone that they have become rich, in the first place.

Finally, Diaz said he hopes that ‘networking people’ won’t get him wrong over his suggestions and ended his post in jest, saying: “Tulad na rin ng lagi nyong tanong... Openminded naman siguro kayo, di ba?”

[Just like your usual question, you are open-minded as well, right

FilCan Educators Group Sets Annual Conference for Internationally Trained Teachers

By: Tony A. San Juan, OCT.

The Philippine Teachers Association of Canada (PTAC) slates its 10th Annual Conference of Filipino Canadian teachers and education professionals on October 15, 2016, Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Finch - BathurstHub, # 549 Finch Avenue West, North York, Toronto, Ontario.

PTAC, organized in May 2006, is composed of certified –and– practicing Filipino Canadian teachers in public, Catholic and private educational institutions in Ontario. The only samahan ng mga guro is holding the yearly gathering in joint sponsorship with Kababayan Multicultural Centre (KMC), a 35-year old community service provider in immigrants settlement and adjustment.

This year’s theme is: “Commitment to Teaching and Learning Beyond the Classroom”. The conference topics include, among others, are Filipino Families Alongside Migration Issues & Educational Challenges; New Policies and Procedures in Ontario Teacher Certification; Alternative Career Building for Teachers. Noted Canadian academic leaders and exemplary Filipino education professionals are invited to participate and make presentations.

The Conference is free and complimentary meals & snacks will be served. “Certificates of Participation” will be issued to full-day Attendees. Interested teachers, PTAC members and community members are encouraged to attend by registering, ASAP via: www.philippineteachers.ca or contacting Perly Laganas-Tel. 416-763-8724 or Maricon Bernasor-Tel. 905-795-2617. (Tony A. San Juan)

Growing crystal meth use by Filipino community in Banff sparks concern



BANFF, Alberta - There are concerns in Alberta’s Bow Valley that members of the Filipino community are using shabu — a slang name for crystal meth — to help them work longer hours.

“A few clients had reported knowledge of this being used, that it went by a different word than what we’ve heard before, and that they’re facing different kinds of barriers in seeking help and support,” said Meagan Stewart, coordinator of the Bow Valley Immigration Partnership.

The organization has taken part in two community meetings with local employers, Alberta Health Services and the RCMP this year to discuss the use of shabu.

“It seems to be ... people in the community are trying to work multiple jobs and then trying to maintain the level of stamina in that work,” RCMP Staff Sgt. Eneas said.

“Often times, from the discussions, they were working anywhere from 14-, 16 and 18-hour days in two or three jobs.”

Sharing information

The meetings have been an opportunity for different organizations to share information about the drug.

“It seems to be very underground,”

Eneas said. “We — the police — haven’t had a lot of information come to light about it, but other service groups are hearing discussions about it ... talking about specific shabu abuses.”

Shabu use isn’t common but it’s important to get ahead of the issue before it grows, said Heather Bates with Community Connections, a group that welcomes newcomers to the

Bow Valley.

Bates attended both meetings about shabu.

“Our conversation has essentially been about what we as a collective community can do to support all community members,” she said.

“How can we improve barriers that might exist for individuals accessing services? What do we as service providers and employees need to know to best support those in the community.”

Use not widespread

Banff Filipino community member Ericson Dizon, who moved to Canada three and a half years ago, said he’s surprised to hear that shabu is in the Bow Valley.

“As of now, I’m still clueless,” he said. “I haven’t been exposed to it and I haven’t heard about anyone using it.”

Dizon, who works as a housekeeper at a hotel, added that drugs are not the answer.

“If you’re somebody who is a professional and the only reason you’re going to take it is to catch up, you’re not actually helping yourself. You’re actually trying to destroy yourself,” Dizon said.

JADINE'S LOVE FOR MUSIC + others stories

James Reid and Nadine Lustre have always been vocal about their love for singing and music in general. In fact, the celebrity couple known as JaDine admits it's their first love.

At some point in their relationship, James even penned a song titled "Forever" for Nadine to mark their first month together last March. Recently, he created another that puts a smile on her face whenever she thinks about it.

"Kilig. Pero pinaka-favorite ko pa rin 'yung 'Forever' kasi parang andu'n na lahat. Tsaka 'yun 'yung una kong narinig na song from him," she said.

In writing the still-untitled song, James said, "I was at a taping and alone in a room. The difference is that when you are alone, words just come up and you can create a song."

Nadine agreed.

"Mahilig lang talaga siyang kumanta. 'Yun 'yung ginagawa niya minsan habang nasa taping..."

One of their favorite songs right now is The Chainsmokers' charttopper "Closer."

"Di ko po talaga maalis sa utak ko yang song na yan. Talagang everyday pinapatutog ko yan maya-maya," she said. James echoed, "I'm also fan of their music." The couple even performed the song at their "JaDine In Love" concert in Cebu recently. It gained a lot of likes and comments on social media, and two of those came from Andrew Taggart and Alex Pall of The Chainsmokers. The Chainsmokers posted the comment "Awesome" on the Instagram post showing JaDine's performance of "Closer."

"Meron nag-screenshot nu'ng performance tapos ginawan ng collage then tinag sa kanila. Tapos, ayun, nakita namin," she shared.

Nadine is just happy that international artists are noticing their talent.

"Super happy. Ako kasi 'yung tipo ng tao na gusto ko talaga 'yung ginagawa ko. Tapos ngayon na-recognize pa," she said.

Ylona Garcia fulfills dream as singer

Becoming a popular singer is a dream shared by many teenagers and former "Pinoy Big Brother" housemate Ylona Garcia is no different.

She recently launched her debut album "My Name Is Ylona Garcia" under Star Music and the rising star couldn't be happier. "It's overwhelming. It's weird pero it's nice. Mixed talaga 'yung feelings ko," Ylona told reporters. The Australia-raised teenager was still in Kuya's house when she started displaying her singing and songwriting skills. Naturally, it caught the attention of ABS-CBN's music recording arm.

"She's 14 years old, sobrang bata. Pero sa 'PBB' nakita na namin na may talent siya. 'Yung personality niya, alam mo na malayo ang mararating. Hindi lang iyan, she's very talented. Nakakapagsulat siya ng songs. She's a singer. Nakitaan namin na malayo ang kanyang mararating," Star Music's Rox Santos said.

Her album is a mix of different genres, which show-

cases Ylona's versatility.

"Kapag mapakinggan mo 'yung album, iba-iba siyang atake. Kaya si Ylona, nagamit niya 'yung lahat ng technique na puwedeng gamitin sa tamang pagkanta. In-explore namin 'yung different ways ng pagkanta dito. Makikita niyo naman din na 'yung boses ni Ylona, unique. Talagang sasabihin natin na 'Ah singer talaga siya,'" Rox said.

Ylona has always been passionate about singing. Prior to joining the reality TV show, she performed as front act for Pinoy artists visiting Australia including Martin Nievera, Sarah Geronimo and Gary Valenciano. The singer has also performed with Toni and Alex Gonzaga.

Growing up, Ylona listened mostly to R&B. Discovering OPM was, as she put it, an eye opener.

"I find OPM really nice. Especially 'yung mga ballad. Learning Tagalog songs was a little hard pero kinaya ko naman. It was really fun. It's different."

From the heart

Ylona wrote four songs for the album namely, "My Name Is Ylona Garcia," "Win The Fight," "Don't Say Goodbye" and "Each Day."

"The songs I contributed in the album were written at different times. I wrote 'Don't Say Goodbye' for 'PBB' as part of a task. We had like a week to write it. I remember that time I was very sad because one of my friends got evicted. I just write whatever comes to my head."

The other songs were composed by Marion Aunor, Nica Del Rosario, Moira Dela Torre, and Jamie Rivera.

"Madami pong composers ang nagbigay ng kanta nila. Pinili namin 'yung sa tingin naming babagay kay Ylona. Siyempre si Ylona ay singer-songwriter siya, so meron din siyang pinitch sa amin. Maganda 'yung mga songs niya," Rox said.

Ylona's remake of "Stop Think," a finalist at the 2005 "Himig Handog," also fits her well.

"Nakita namin na parang bagay at her age, at 14. Na para siyang nag-a-advice sa mga bata, sa mga teens na huwag muna padalos-dalos. So naisip namin na bagay kay Ylona," Rox said.

Passionate soul

The singer was very hands-on in making the album.

"Sobrang makulit, passionate. Talagang hindi siya tumitigil kapag hindi pa niya gusto 'yung naririnig niya," Rox shared.

The recording sessions pushed Ylona to give her best. "That's why with every song I had to record, it took me three to almost five hours," she said. "I want to show people who I really am as a person. So, what I learned is to really feel everything and work harder and keep going."

Ylona has been getting many opportunities. She just did a concert for ABS-CBN's music portal OneMusic.ph.



Tax free, hands-off policy on balikbayan boxes pushed

MANILA - Senate President Aquilino Pimentel III is seeking congressional approval of his bill adopting a "no opening of box" policy of balikbayan boxes by the Bureau of Customs (BOC).

The Pimentel measure, Senate Bill No. 1168, also seeks to exempt from taxes and duties imposed under National Internal Revenue Code (NIRC) on one balikbayan box per month regardless of the total dutiable value of its contents.

"In recognition of the significant contribution of our OFWs (Overseas Filipino Workers) to our national economy, this legislation is but a small measure of assistance in view of the tireless efforts of our OFWs who work tirelessly abroad and endure long separation and loneliness from their loved ones," Pimentel in his explanatory note to his bill instituting the expanded balikbayan program.

A balikbayan box measures 24 inches by 24 inches by 30 inches (24" x 24" x 30") whose contents shall not be in commercial quantity.

Pimentel said relatives and loved ones of OFWs in the Philippines receive 400,000 balikbayan boxes every month on the average.

"The balikbayan box is an enduring testament of their sacrifice and hard work abroad in order to secure a better future for their families back home. It represents the love and care of OFWs for their families who have to bear months or even years of separation from each other," he explained.

Methods allowed

In 2015, approximately 2.377 million OFWs were deployed abroad with their remittances reaching \$2.7 billion in March, 2016 which is higher by 4.3 per-



cent compared to the first quarter of last year.

"We cannot thus take for granted the crucial role played by our OFWs in helping sustain the continuous development of our economy through foreign currencies remitted to their families back home," Pimentel noted. The Senate chief said that upon entry at each government port, balikbayan boxes shall only be subjected to non-intrusive methods of inspection by BoC personnel through the use of trained canine units, X-Ray detection and inspection and inspection systems or other similar technologies and shall not be opened by BoC personnel.

Balikbayan boxes, however, can only be opened by BoC personnel under two situations: when the sender's export declaration and packing list are not attached to the balikbayan box; or when the BoC is in receipt of a written derogatory alert/information from law enforcement and other government agencies, provided that in the latter case, the information is embodied in a sworn statement alleging that the balikbayan box contains banned, prohibited, or regulated import commodities as listed under the Tariff and Customs Code of the Philippines (TCCP) or other related laws and issuances.

Janine Gutierrez: Challenges shape a person's character

For Janine Gutierrez, the decision of her boyfriend Elmo Magalona to transfer to a rival channel is "a learning experience on independence."

Janine used to work with Elmo on Kapuso shows "Villa Quintana" and "More Than Words," before she teamed up with Aljur Abrenica in "Dangwa" and "Once Again," which aired its finale in June.

"I had to learn to adjust to the changes. In a way, it is related to the story I read for the kids—you should embrace new experiences, always be friendly and respectful of others," she said.

Janine was referring to the story written by Ines Bautista Yao, titled "A Place Called Home," that she read to 120 schoolchildren ages 7 to 12 at the recent Inquirer Read-Along session held at the newspaper's Makati office.

The story, about a young child's quest to make friends in his new home, is part of DMCI Homes' "Bata, tara na!" project to promote the love for reading. "I was thrilled to read for the kids. In the beginning, I was nervous that they might get bored, but they were so energetic and cooperative. They had ready answers to my questions," the 26-year-old actress

recalled. The recent Inquirer Read-Along session was already her second. Along with Elmo, Janine was a celebrity storyteller in April 2014.

Janine is also involved in the National Youth Commission's campaign for environmental awareness and conservation. "We go around encouraging everybody to recycle. It's important, especially for a country like the Philippines, which is small but is rich in natural resources," the NYC ambassador pointed out.

Janine is one of a few local artists who prioritized getting a college degree—European studies at the Ateneo de Manila University—before pursuing show business. For the actress, "this is important because, in school, you learn not just about academics, but also about yourself. The challenges you encounter help shape you as a person."

To her young supporters, Janine has this advice: "Always stay curious and keep on reading."



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CORRESPONDENTS

Ed Tubale

No baby plans yet for Solenn Heussaff and husband Nico Bolzico

At 31 years old, actress and recording artist Solenn Heussaff said that she already feels content with who she is as a person.

"I'm very content with life right now. I'm very content with myself. I'm doing different things also." Aside from acting and singing, Solenn is also a painter, a restaurateur, and a book author.



Having married Argentinian national Nico Bolzico last May, Solenn said that she is just enjoying things right now and that she is very pleased with how everything is going.

When asked about the things she looks forward to doing in the future, Solenn expressed interest in shooting more independent films and for holding a second exhibit for her paintings next year.

As for her personal life, Solenn said that she has no plans to have a baby yet. "Not this year. Siyempre naman gusto ko ng pamilya in the future, maybe end of next year or two years from now. Nothing too soon. Kakakasal ko lang so dapat mag-enjoy muna."

When asked about it again after the press conference, she answered, "In the near future. Kasi syempre naman, my clock is ticking din. Just to be safe, in the future. Not naman five years from now, before that but not this year."

Nonetheless, she said that Nico is, "Game whenever. He's been ready for three years na but ako, hindi pa."

Honey Shot

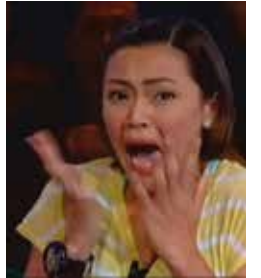


Pinky is a member of the Iglesia ni Cristo congregation of Yorkdale. Someday, she wants to be a businesswoman. We wish her all the luck in her endeavours.

Pinky Magno

JODI STA. MARIA IS "MINUTE TO WIN IT'S" LATEST MILLIONAIRE

Actress Jodi Sta. Maria became the newest contestant to win the P1 million jackpot prize in ABS-CBN's top-rating game show "Minute to Win It: Last Man Standing" after completing her Ultimate Challenge last Sept 19.



"I just thought I needed to finish the game. I needed to give what was required of me. I didn't mind the audience. I went to 'Minute to Win It' to play, enjoy, and experience the game. The expectation of winning was not with me," shared Jodi.

Jodi remained calm and focused while doing her Ultimate Challenge "Mouth to Mouth," which tested her skill and quickness in pulling out a paper bill in between empty bottles without toppling them.

She took home a total cash prize of P1.07 million after defeating comedian Poo in the Head-to-Head Challenge. Jodi said she will be donating her cash prize to charities and foundations she has long supported.

"Minute to Win It" continues to draw viewers nationwide and win in the ratings game, according to data from Kantar Media. Its episode last Monday recorded a national TV rating of 22.6%, compared to its rival program on GMA, "Wowowin," which only garnered 17.6%.

Don't miss "Minute to Win It," hosted by Luis Manzano, weeknights before "TV Patrol" on ABS-CBN. For updates on the program, visit www.facebook.com/ minutetowinPH or follow @MinutePHL on Twitter.

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House bill on SIM registration pushed

MANILA - The House committee on information and communications technology for the passage of a bill mandating the registration of SIM cards to make phone users more responsible.

Valenzuela Rep. Wes Gatchalian, the author of House Bill 2648, pressed for the bill's passage after several schools and establishments in Metro Manila received bomb threats following the recent Davao City bombing.

He said that the bill should be deliberated upon as soon as possible.

In a letter dated Sep. 8, 2016, Gatchalian asked Rep. Victor Yap, the committee chairman, to review the proposals regulating the issuance of SIM cards.

"With progress in technology, we have made leaps and bounds in our ability to communicate, so much so that it has outpaced the laws," Gatchalian said.



The lawmaker explained that scams and various acts of terrorism are just several examples of how the unregulated sale of prepaid SIM cards contribute to criminal activities aided by the anonymity of prepaid

phone cards.

He said the bill, if passed into law, will require all network telecommunications to maintain the registration of all users, including prepaid users.

The bill will also require users to present valid identification cards before he or she can purchase SIM cards.

The bill, however, will only go as far as identifying the owner of the number and not the full content of communication which is deemed private.

Bayan Muna Rep. Carlos Zarate however opposed the registration of SIM cards saying it will burden subscribers and infringe on the privacy of users.

"Mandatory registration for prepaid mobile phone subscribers is not the answer to terrorism, crime, or the impunity that persists in our country. Contrarily, we at Bayan Muna see the great risk of misuse of registered user's personal information and exchanges as being proposed today by some legislators," Zarate said in a statement.

Other countries including Singapore already passed laws requiring the registration of SIM cards.

"There is no cogent reason why some should not be applied to prepaid users in our country," Gatchalian said.

In the Philippines, at least 97 percent of 100 million active users are using prepaid SIM cards.



JK Labajo defends Darren Espanto on gay rumors

Sa presscon One Voice concert ay tinanong namin si Juan Karlos Labajo kung ano ang reaksyon niya sa ayaw mamatay-matay na gender issue ni Darren Espanto na ka-batch niya sa The Voice Kids. Ayon sa binatilyo, hindi siya naniniwala na gay si Darren.

"I know him, eh. I know him personally and I don't think he is gay," paglilinaw niya.

"Me, personally I'm not trying to lie or defend him para ganyan-ganyan. Kasi he's my brother and I know naman yung galaw niya, eh. He is not like that. Hindi naman siya ganun at wala naman akong nakikitang ganu'n sa kanya," pagdidiin pa ni JK.

Kahit daw off-cam ay lalaking-lalaki naman ang kilos ni Darren.

"Yeah, even off-cam, we're really close. So, I don't really see anything na nagbabase sa ganun. I don't know other people see na I don't see, pero me, personally as his best friend and as his brother, wala akong nakikitang ganu'n."

Kinausap ba siya ni Darren nu'ng lumabas ang naturang isyu?

"No, kasi busy ho siya, eh. I'm trying to find time to talk to him about it nga kasi baka naapektuhan yon, kasi baka naniwala sa mga sinabi ng mga tao. Hindi pa kami nagkausap since then nang one-on-one talaga.

"Pero plano kong gawin yan kasi nga baka naapektuhan siya, di ba?"

Ilang buwan na raw silang hindi nagkakausap ni Darren at baka nga raw iniwasan na rin siya ni Darren dahil sa isyu.

"Baka nga... yon nga po yung ayaw ko, eh, yung naniniwala agad sa mga sinasabi ng ibang tao, eh. Dapat kausapin muna ako. Sana hindi siya nagtampo sa akin. Pero kakausapin ko talaga siya about that," he said.

Once and for all, gustong linawin ni JK na wala siyang sinabing gay si Darren o kuwestyunable ang pagkaka-lalaki nito.

"Actually, I did not even say the word. Wala nga akong sinabing anything against about it, so yon lang. I'm not even going to defend myself... I'm just sharing," paglilinaw pa niya.

Offensive against Abu Sayaf Continues

MANILA - The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) has rejected calls by Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) founding chairman Nur Misuari to suspend military operations against the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) while negotiations are still ongoing for the release of the 15 remaining hostages of the terrorist group.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said suspending military operations against the ASG is not possible as of the moment.

Air Force Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla, AFP spokesman, said it's very important for military troops in Sulu and Basilan to continue with their military operations while negotiations are ongoing for the release of the other hostages to prevent members of the bandit group from escaping.

In previous years, he said, suspension of military operations led to the escape of the Abu Sayyaf bandits.

Padilla, however, said they are still open for a brief halt in military operations if another hostage or hostages will be turned over to authorities.



NO WAY - The military has rejected an appeal by Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) founding Chairman Nur Misuari to suspend operations against the Abu Sayyaf.

In an ambush interview at the 44th anniversary of the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO) held at Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Lorenzana said the request for suspension of military operations was made by Misuari last Sunday following the release of Norwegian national Kjartan Sekkingstad from the hands of his Abu Sayyaf captors.

Sikkengstad was abducted, together with three others, on September 21, 2015 at the Ocean View Resort in Samal Island.

Lorenzana said the request was relayed by Misuari to Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process Secretary Jesus Dureza.

Lorenzana said giving in to the request

could give enough "breathing space" for the bandit group to recuperate, escape, and strengthen their forces.

"Sinabi ko na hindi ko magagawa iyan baka magkaroon ng breathing space ang ASG at lalo sila lumaki. Kung mayroon siyang (Misuari) negosasyon sa isang lugar o sitio o specific area, doon ko lang io-order pero hindi buong Jolo," Lorenzana said.

The military said the bandit group is still holding captive six Malaysians, four Indonesians, four Filipinos, and a Dutch national.

The AFP had earlier said that focused military operations also led to the release over the weekend of Sekkingstad and Indonesian fishermen Lorens Korten, Teodurus Kofung, and Emmanuel.

Padilla, in the same interview, said that a handful of Abu Sayyaf fighters have already been killed due to intense focus military operations by the AFP Joint Task Force Sulu.

"Halos 481 sila bago nagkaroon ng sunod-sunod na engkwentro, maaring mga 300 na lang sila ngayon," Padilla stressed.

Subways to ease traffic, BF urges

FORMER Metro Manila Development Authority and now Marikina City Rep. Bayani Fernando expressed optimism that the government will pursue the planned construction of a subway system to ease traffic in the metropolis.

"A subway is the most possible thing. All cities in the world ended up with subways. Here in the Philippines we are only thinking about that now. We should done so long ago," Fernando said, backing the proposals of the Japan International Cooperation Agency.

Among the proposals contained in the JICA study are the construction of a mega-Manila Subway System and secondary mass transport lines as well as reforming the road-based public transport system.

"We need mass transit but not at 40 kilometers per hour. It should be underground with a speed of 80 kilometers per hour," said

Fernando.

The National Economic and Development Authority and the Department of Transportation had earlier planned to construct the subway or the Mass Transit System Loop traversing the major business districts of Metro Manila.

The project forms part of the more than P2-trillion transportation plan presented to the Philippine government by JICA.

The government admitted that Metro Manila is still in need of an inter-city expressway of 426 kilometers until 2030 and urban and suburban railways of six main lines with 246 kilometers and five secondary lines with 72 kilometers to improve traffic.

The transport roadmap emphasizes the need to establish better north-south connectivity and appropriate hierarchy of different transportation modes such as roads, railways,

and other mass transits.

"We need the mass transit system. Before we're said [the Metro Railway Transit system] was not right, and now we are saying it is right to have MRT," said Fernando.

Under the proposal, the subway project would link the Central Business District in Makati City, Bonifacio Global City in Taguig, and the SM Mall of Asia complex in Pasay City.

It stated that one of the routes for the 20-kilometer train system is Market! Market!, St. Luke's Medical Center, MRT Line 3's Sen. Gil Puyat Station, Ayala/EDSA, Ayala Triangle, Makati Post Office, Philippine National Railways' Sen. Gil Puyat station, Buendia/Taft Avenue, World Trade Center, Mall of Asia and EDSA/Taft Avenue.

RIGHT, Suzy Llanera and Karen Pascual Binaday pose with ABS' Charo Santos Concio during a forum.



FAR RIGHT, PIDC President Norma Carpio and Joy D'Aoust pose with Ontario premier Kathleen Wynne.



Gwen Zamora ready for more indie film roles

After earning a nomination in the forthcoming Film Academy of the Philippines awards for Best Actress for her role in Mario Cornejo's *Apocalypse Child*, Gwen Zamora is looking forward to working in more independent film projects in the future.



her interest in the field of entertainment.

At 17, with her Eurasian features, commercial talent agents cast her in a variety of Television commercials like *Belo Essentials*, *Jollibee* (*Jolly Hotdog*), *Bingo Cookies*. At present she is one of the *Lux ladies*.

"It excites me to think about playing more characters in other indie films," the pretty Franco-Filipina said over lunch recently at Victorino's in Quezon City.

Movies is where Gwenaella Tasha Mae Agnese (now more familiarly known as Gwen Zamora) started in show business. She played a small role in *Enteng Kabisote* (*Entent at si Agimat*). She was 18 then and the role gave the teenager the biggest surprise of her life then, a Best Newcomer Supporting Actress nomination at the Metro Manila Film Festival awards night. From there, she appeared in other films, like *Boy Pick-up* and *My Kontrabida Girl*.

Movie producers from Indonesia noticed her acting potential she was cast in the film *The Witness* that was screened, apart from Indonesia, in Singapore, Malaysia and the Philippines.

Gwen is also starring in Dave Fabros' gay romp called *Straight to the Heart* along with actors Carl Guevarra and Kiko Matos.

Gwen Zamora was born on Aug. 10, 1990. She is the youngest daughter of Italian chef Philippe Agnese and wife Therese. She was born in Australia and moved to the Philippines when she was still a toddler. She attended the French school in Parañaque and College of St. Benilde. She now lives in Parañaque after moving from neighboring Las Piñas.

As a little girl, she attended a variety of dance classes, like ballet, jazz, belly dancing and flamenco. She manifested a preference for performance that at the age of 13 she started acting in school plays, cementing

On television, Gwen was introduced to the audience as member of the cast of the gag show *Bubble Gang* on GMA Network, the longest running gag show on local TV. She also starred in soap operas among which were *Grazilda*, *Machete*, *Inamorata*, *Indio*, *Aso ni San Roque* and *My Mother's Secret*.

Gwen now feels that she is ready to venture into more independent films, stage performances, and other platforms since she is no longer exclusively a GMA artist. Although she is extremely grateful for the opportunities and experiences the Kapuso network has given her, she feels like she is ready to go where the wind takes her. She also wants to have a taste of how it is to be behind the camera.

Outside of show business, Gwen is passionate about culinary arts. It is something that she got from her dad, Philippe, who is the Executive Pastry Chef of the City of Dreams at the Entertainment City in Parañaque.

Apart from being busy with her showbiz commitments, she recently ventured into the food business by becoming a partner at *Elarz Lechon* in Taguig City.

Gwen feels that being nominated by the Film Academy of the Philippines is an achievement in itself. Given the prestige of this award giving body, she had mixed emotions about her nomination. She is excited for the opportunities that will come due to her nomination, but at the same time she is anxious and nervous of the outcome during the awards night.

OBAMA continued from page 1

verdict that its claims have no legal basis.

"The landmark arbitration ruling in July, which is binding, helped to clarify maritime rights in the region," Obama told Southeast Asian leaders at a summit in Laos.

"I recognize this raises tensions but I also look forward to discussing how we can constructively move forward together to lower tensions and promote diplomacy and stability."

The verdict by an international tribunal in The Hague said China's claims to most of the waters—through which \$5 trillion in global shipping trade passes annually—had no legal basis.

It also said that a massive burst of artificial island-building activity undertaken by China in recent years in a bid to bolster its claims was illegal.

China angrily vowed to ignore the ruling, describing it as "waste paper," even though it had legal force through the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Obama's emphasis on the ruling being "binding" will undoubtedly attract a strong reaction from China, which has argued the United States has no role to play in the dispute.

Other claimants in the sea are the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia and Brunei—all part of the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations bloc meeting in Laos—plus Taiwan.

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang is also in Laos this week, with Asean hosting a series of regional meetings, and will meet Obama later Thursday at an 18-nation East Asia summit.

Migraine forced President Rodrigo Duterte to skip two of his scheduled events on the sidelines of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations summit here.

Duterte, who recently made headlines for cussing at US President Barack Obama, was absent in two events Thursday morning, including the US-Asean summit hosted by the American leader and the India-Asean meeting because of a severe headache.

In a text message to reporters here, Peace Process Secretary Jesus Dureza confirmed that the President was not feeling well since

Wednesday night.

"He was not feeling well in the morning so he missed the two sessions," Dureza said.

"But he was able to attend the East Asia Summit with 18 world leaders and the rest of the day's remaining schedule until departure for Indonesia early evening," he added.

Special Assistant to the President Christopher Go said that while the President failed to attend the two earlier meetings, he was able to give a "more than 10-minute speech" at the East Asia Summit, where he discussed human rights.

Go said Duterte did not follow the prepared speech but went impromptu with "very strong words."

Foreign Affairs spokesman Charles Jose said Duterte had met Obama during the summit and the two had ironed out their differences.

Obama later told the press he urged Duterte to conduct his war on illegal drugs "the right way," after more than 2,000 suspected drug pushers and users were killed in a crackdown in just over two months.

"As despicable as these [crime] networks may be and as much damage as they do, it is important from our perspective to make sure that we do it the right way," Obama told reporters when asked about his conversation with Duterte on the sidelines of the regional summit in Laos.

"Because the consequences of when you do it the wrong way are innocent people get hurt and you have a bunch of unintended consequences that don't solve the problem."

Relations between long time allies the US and the Philippines saw a spectacular setback this week after Duterte branded Obama a "son of a whore" for questioning his human rights record.

The outburst on Monday was in response to being told Obama planned to raise concerns about his war on drugs.

"You must be respectful. Do not just throw away questions and statements. Son of a whore, I will curse you in that forum," Duterte told reporters shortly before flying to Laos.

"We will be wallowing in the mud like pigs

OBAMA continued on page 9



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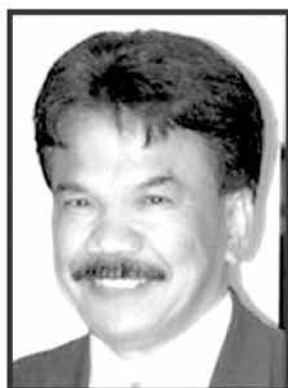
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Duterte pursue closer ties with China, Russia

MANILA - President Duterte is moving to forge closer alliances with Russia and China, traditional rivals of the United States, after getting irritated with the latter's alleged interference with local affairs.

Apart from his planned frequent trips to China, the President has bared plans to travel to Russia to revitalize the country's trade and investment relations.

Duterte said he already held preliminary talks with Russian and Chinese leaders on how to boost economic cooperation in various sectors.

"I will not break ties but we will open up alliances with China and (Russia). I had a good talk with Prime Minister (Dmitri) Medvedev. They are waiting for me," the President said in a press conference after the oath-taking of new Malacañang Press Corps officers at the Palace.

"After China, I think I will go to Japan and I'll go to Russia. Never mind about the ratings. I will open up the Philippines for them to do business, alliances of trade and commerce," he added.

Duterte said boosting economic cooperation on telecommunications, shipping, and airlines was among the topics he discussed with Medvedev on the sidelines of a recent regional

summit.

"I told him I'm about to cross the Rubicon between me and the United States at least for the six years. I would need your help in everything - trade, commerce and I will open up," the President said.

Despite a lingering territorial dispute in the South China Sea, the President is also seeking closer trade and investment relations between the Philippines and China.

"I have talked to Xi Jinping. I'm going to China. I will open up all avenues of trade and commerce. They can come in," Duterte said.

Duterte said since the Constitution has yet to be amended, he could give Chinese investors "60 years" to lease land in the country for their businesses. "It's not a matter to hinder investments, it's a matter of principle that my land should only be for my people," he said.

Duterte also expressed readiness to open the airline sector to investors from Russia and China amid complaints some airline companies are causing inconvenience to passengers. He told the business especially the airline firms to "observe humanity" in extending service to the public.

Lower Taxes Eyed Time to free suffering Pinoys, lawmaker says

MANILA - It's time to free the Filipino people from the highest income taxes in Asia by increasing tax exemptions and tax brackets and do away with cumbersome reportorial requirements that are cumbersome both to taxpayers and the bureaucracy.

"Since 1997, the ordinary Filipino has been paying for the highest tax rates in Asia. It's time to set them free," said Deputy Speaker and Marikina Rep. Miro Quimbo.

Quimbo proposed that those earning an annual gross income of P300,000 and below be spared income taxes while the uber-rich earning P10 million and above will be imposed a higher tax rate.

"Since the government is eyeing a radical overhaul of the income tax structure at this juncture, it will better achieve its aspiration for social justice by giving the low to middle income earners a higher income tax exemption," Quimbo said.

The latest available data showed that there are 9,495,547 tax filers with annual income of P300,000 and below. "With this proposal, almost 10 million taxpayers will finally be liberated from decades of suffering," he said.

"Having an annual income of P300,000 or below for a family of five is barely enough to make ends meet with food expenses, rent, and education for three children. This does not factor in emergencies, which destabilizes their finances," Quimbo argued.

"Thus, exempting these low to middle income earners from paying any income tax would give them some needed breathing room. They may not qualify as 'poor' if we apply the official poverty definitions, but these are people who are just making ends meet and are highly vulnerable to economic shocks or crises," he added.

He said once enacted, his proposal for a tax exemption would help these 9.5 million



low to middle income earners achieve a simple and decent life. "That is a Tax Cut for Every Juan who truly deserves it," Quimbo said.

In the current system of individual income taxation, only those who are earning the statutory minimum wage are exempted by virtue of Republic Act 9504.

Quimbo said the proposed gross income taxation would also unburden the taxpayers with the voluminous documentary requirements of personal exemptions and allowable deductions. In proposing gross income taxation, the process will be simplified for the taxpayers, he added.

Quimbo's proposal is embodied in House Bill 20, saying "it is the first step in his Tax Reform Proposal, which is calibrated but comprehensive, partitioned but correlated, and phased but realistically doable."

House Bill 20 also serves as the centerpiece bill in income tax reform deliberations in the House of Representatives, he said.

"I envisioned tax reform in phases so as not to severely affect the country's fiscal health, and not to protract the much-needed inflation-adjustment of individual income tax. That is akin to an emergency solution even while discussions on sweeping restructuring are ongoing," Quimbo said.

"I am bringing into the discourse the most significant aspect of my proposal: a restructuring that would unburden the low to middle income classes earning P300,000 and below, and slap a higher tax to the uber-rich earning P10 Million and above. That will surely bring about genuine change to our taxpayers," Quimbo said.

Quimbo is also the principal author of HB 2379 which seeks to lower corporate income tax from 30 percent to 25 percent, and HB 3010 which grants tax amnesty for all unpaid estate taxes.

Russia arms deal eyed

Moscow plan- ning donation or loan

MANILA- Moscow is planning to donate or loan military equipment and technology to Manila, only days after President Rodrigo Duterte said he would go to Russia or China if the United States did not like his "dirty mouth."

Ambassador to Russia Carlos Sorreta announced the plan after he met with Russian officials over how the two countries could boost trade and security cooperation as Duterte discussed with Russian Ambassador Igor Khovaev last May.

At the same time, the US State Department also announced on Saturday that Washington approved the release of \$6.725 million (more than P300 million) from the \$32 million fund that US State Secretary John Kerry pledged during his visit to Manila last July.

Sorreta said the plan to donate or loan military equipment was discussed when he and vice consul Luningning Camoying were briefed by officials of the Russian Federal Service for Military-Technical Cooperation (FSMTC).

The FSMTC is a federal agency directly under the Office of the President of the Russian Federation responsible for control and oversight in the field of military-technical cooperation between the Russian Federation and foreign countries.

Russian officials who hosted the briefing are First Department on Military and Technical Cooperation with Foreign States chief Sergey Buganov; and Section on Military-Technical Cooperation with Countries of the Asia-Pacific Region chief Valery Orel.

"We welcomed the briefing, which was quite revealing, particularly the extent that Russia is able to interact with a large number of countries in this field and the different mechanisms that are employed, including acquisition and transfer of Russian military equipment," Sorreta said.

"This is all part of our job to explore opportunities that could contribute to our government's efforts to modernize our defense capabilities," Sorreta said.

Aside from the military equipment and technology, Sorreta said Russia is also willing to provide training, after-sales service and maintenance, transfer of technology, investment in domestic military production and servicing and different modes of financing.

Sorreta and Camoying were briefed after a similar meeting between a Department of National Defense delegation, led by Undersecretary for Finance and Materiel Raymundo de Vera Elefante, and Russian defense officials including officials of the FSMTC.

The talks with Russia developed after Duterte met with Russian Ambassador Khovaev, who met with

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Congress commends ABS-CBN'S "FPJ'S Ang Probinsyano" for Promoting Crime Awareness and Pre- vention

The House of Representatives has commended ABS-CBN primetime series "FPJ's Ang Probinsyano" for its efforts to promote crime awareness and prevention among viewers and endorsed Coco Martin as "Celebrity Advocate for a Drug-Free Philippines."

Rep. Ace Barbers, Chairman of House Committee on Dangerous Drugs, recently filed House Resolution No. 358 last September 14 commending the producers, cast, and crew of "FPJ's Ang Probinsyano" for courageously presenting relevant and controversial issues like corruption, medical malpractice, narco politics, ninja cops, sex trade, manufacture of dangerous drugs, drug couriers, and the sale of party drugs.

"'FPJ's Ang Probinsyano' exposes the network of drug syndicates including the scalawags in uniform while also revealing the struggles of the white knights of law enforcement units," said Barbers in the House resolution.

According to Rep. Barbers, the show tackles issues like homicide, illegal recruitment, extortion, robbery, kidnapping, carnapping, cybercrime, guns for hire, riding in tandem, fraud, child abuse, human trafficking, terrorism, and drug trafficking.

He also said the program promotes awareness of the modus operandi of syndicates in recruiting the pawns or abducting their next victim using their infomercial segment where crimes, penalties, and crime prevention are discussed by Coco.

"The TV series highlights the role of the family and the community, particularly the barangay official in helping law enforcements identify and apprehend the criminal elements," he said.

Coco was also commended for his commitment and dedication in his craft by taking on different roles, including portrayal of lead character SPO2 Ricardo Dalisay, his twin brother Ador De Leon, and the female undercover agent Paloma.

"FPJ's Ang Probinsyano," which has been on air for a year now, has received praises for teaching viewers about the consequences of crimes and imparting life lessons about family and patriotism. It revolves around the life and struggle of Cardo while performing his duty as a member of the Philippine National Police Criminal Investigation and Detection Group.

The program is also the most watched program in the country, based on the national TV ratings of Kantar Media covering urban and rural homes. In August, the program averaged 41.2% and topped all programs nationwide. It has also received several awards from various award-giving bodies, including Gawad Tanglaw, Anak TV Awards, and Paragala Awards.

Dennis Trillo wins big in Seoul International Drama Awards

Drama King Dennis Trillo bagged the Asian Star Prize in Seoul International Drama Awards in South Korea. The award recognizes and rewards Asian talent widely beloved by the Korean audience. To date, Dennis is the first ever Filipino actor to receive the said award.

In his acceptance speech, the Kapuso actor thanked the award-giving body for the honor and recognition. He also dedicated his award to GMA Network, his family, loved ones, and to all Filipinos.

"I would like to thank the Seoul International Drama Awards for this honor and recognition. This is very special to me because it was given by the Korean people

who are very well known in creating the best dramas in the world."

"In the Philippines, we also do our best in trying to create quality programs for the Filipino audience. This award will continue to inspire me in honing my craft as a dramatic actor."

"I also would like to share this award with my home network, GMA7, to my family, to my loved ones, to



all the Filipinos and all my supporters. Thank you very much! Kamsahamnida! To God be the glory! Mabuhay ang mga Pilipino!" Organized by Seoul Drama Awards Organizing Committee and Korean Broadcasters Association, Seoul International Drama Awards is a festival that brings together all professionals in the field of TV drama production

and media industry and global audiences who enjoy television dramas.

The award-giving body is supported by The Ministry of Culture, Seoul Metropolitan Government, KBS, MBC, SBS, EBS, Corea Drama Production Association, Korean TV & Radio Writers Association and Korean TV Drama Producers Association. The Seoul International Drama Awards Ceremonies is broadcasted live on KBS 2TV.

Dennis Trillo topbilled the recently concluded well-loved Kapuso primetime series Juan Happy Love Story with Philippine TV's Sweetheart Heart Evangelista.

Host FBA of Durham concludes FBANA 2016 with a Win

The XXII FBANA (Filipino Basketball Association of North America) intercity basketball tournament was held on Labour Day long weekend (Sep 3-4) 2016. Host city Durham (Filipino Basketball Association of Durham) welcomed players and visitors from US cities like Chicago, Bolingbrook, Detroit, San Antonio, Coral Springs and from Canadian cities like Winnipeg, Windsor, Mississauga, Vaughan, Montreal and Toronto. The opening ceremony was held at Centennial College sports complex in Scarborough. Host city Durham won three championships namely the Tykes, Junior Boys and under 6 feet divisions. Durham Masters was a finalist in the Masters division. FBAD would like to thank all its sponsors and volunteers that helped Durham host the tourna-

ment. The tournament would not have been possible without their support. FBANA 2017 tournament will be hosted by the city of Detroit. Congratulations to the Durham officers George Lalata (President), Eli Pardinias (VP), Lolita Gito (Treasurer), Jenny Padua (Secretary), Josie Pardinias (Overall Coordinator), Girlie Padiillo and Tammy Walker (Public Relations Officers), Ron Acedillo, Mailo Padiillo, Tony Padua, Pedro Chan and Rudy Gito (Sports Commissioners) for all their hard work and for a successful tournament. For all tournament results check www.fbadurham.org.



Miguel Tanfelix has no interest in unhealthy vices



Miguel Tanfelix, who turned 18 last Sept. 21, said he will strive to live his life responsibly, especially now that he's legally an adult and is currently representing a program for the youth.

"It's an honor for me, because I get to act as a role model for people from my generation. I want to maintain a clean image so I could set a good example for them," said the actor, who was recently named the ambassador of U4U—an initiative of the Commission on Population and the United Nations Population Fund that aims to help teens make informed decisions about different kinds of relationships.

By keeping a "clean image," Miguel meant—among other things—resisting common vices, like smoking, drinking alcohol and taking drugs. "I wouldn't be surprised if one or two people started egging me to try those things. Luckily, I have no interest in them," said Miguel, adding that it's important to surround himself with family and good friends.

Drugs, in particular, are something that don't need to be experienced, said Miguel.

"I'm aware of the negative effects. I don't feel the need to try it, not even once. A lot of people go through with their lives without it...I'm not curious," stressed Miguel, adding that he would rather play basketball or travel, for recreation.

What would he do if someone offered him drugs? "I would tell President Duterte about it," he quipped, laughing.

Miguel has already begun his duties as U4U ambassador, visiting schools, where he facilitates different activities and gives talks. "I was just at the Commonwealth High School. We want to encourage the youth to avoid bad things. We tackled premarital sex, early pregnancy and drugs," he related.

A former child star who entered show biz through the reality talent search, "Starstruck Kids," Miguel is now a sophomore at De La Salle University-Dasmariñas, where he's taking up entrepreneurship. "I want to run my own business in the future. I want to make sure that what I'm earning doesn't go to waste," he pointed out.

Miguel admitted that while juggling his studies and acting career has been big a challenge, it isn't impossible. He's part of the Kapuso network's first interactive rom-com anthology, "Usapang Real Love" (Sundays, starting Sept. 25). But despite his busy schedule, he makes sure to find time for his school work.

"If I get a break during taping, I study. It's tough, but it's all about knowing your priorities," said Miguel, who's coheadlining the program's first story, "Dream Date," with his screen partner Bianca Umali.

"I want to finish school, because I know that show biz is not permanent," Miguel added.

"TILL I MET YOU" DRAWS MORE VIEWERS VERSUS RIVAL PROGRAM IN NEW TIMESLOT

Viewers showed their love and support for Kapamilya stars James Reid and Nadine Lustre as their series "Till I Met You" consistently attracted more viewers in its new timeslot compared to its rival program last week.

Fans were captivated by the kilig brought by the real-life couple as the series hit an average weekly nationwide rating of 18% (September 19-23), much higher compared to its rival program "Someone to Watch Over Me," which only got 11.3%, according to data from Kantar Media.

Netizens were also sent into a frenzy as they expressed their overflowing joy and kilig when Iris and Basti shared a kiss last Wednesday, sending the episode's official hashtag #TIMYTheRooftopKiss to the list of the micro-blogging site's most about topics. The hashtag also garnered a total of two million tweets.

Avid viewers were also sure to catch up on the episodes they missed. So far, "Till I Met You" has hitting a total of 3.5 million views on iWant TV since it started airing on television last month.

Meanwhile, as the story continues, the scars of the past have now affected their present lives after Iris and Basti discovered that their parents, Cassandra (Carmina Villarroel) and Nestor (Zoren Legaspi), were once lovers but went their separate ways after a bad breakup. Considering her



mother's feelings, Iris then decided to leave Basti and forget the love she has for him. But he will not give up and follow her to the Philippines to prove he is worthy of another chance.

Will Iris and Basti be able to fix their relationship? How will their friend Ali (JC Santos) help them in mending their broken hearts?

Philippines

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Gov't plans P10/liter 'sin tax' on sugary beverages

MANILA - The Department of Finance (DOF) plans to impose a P10 per liter levy on sugar-sweetened beverages as part of the Duterte administration's effort to reform the tax system and promote healthier lifestyle among Filipinos.

"That sin taxes [will be] implemented to safeguard public health," Dominguez said. "The DOF is seeking to impose an excise tax on sugar-sweetened beverages, which would be a uniform rate of P10 per liter regardless of whether it is in liquid or powdered form."

The proposed sugar tax would cover soft-drinks, soda-pop, energy drinks and sweetened teas and coffees, Dominguez said.

Earlier, the finance chief said that people consuming unhealthy foods should pay higher taxes.

As part of the Duterte administration's "creative" ways to generate more revenues, the finance department is also looking at imposing higher levies on fatty foods.

"We're looking at increasing or including taxing those items that don't contribute to [good] health," Dominguez, noting to "discourage people from consuming foods that are not good for the health... we will be helping the society in the very long run."

Dominguez explained that aside from revenue generation, the government also wants to help Filipinos to become a healthier race.

"We are also looking at the tax on sugary and fatty foods to encourage consumers to buy healthier foods," he added.

Among the several items being considered to be included in the so-called fat tax is junk-food, Dominguez said.



Based on DOF's initial estimates, the planned sugar tax would yield P48.7 billion, while P20 billion will be generated from the fatty food tax.

The finance department also mulling to further raise the excise on tobacco and alcohol in 2018.

Just like the "sin" tax on alcohol and cigarettes, the new administration wants to package its sweet and fat taxes as a health measure.

At the same time, the DOF expects the proposed measure to deliver the much-needed government funds to improve social services.

US, Philippines set war games amidst Duterte tough talk

MANILA- Philippines and US troops will hold war games in various areas in Luzon in October despite President Rodrigo Duterte's recent statement on the pull out of American soldiers.

In a statement on Saturday, the US embassy in Manila said the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) "invited" the US marines and sailors from the 3rd Marine Expeditionary Brigade and Bonhomme Richard Expeditionary STRIKE Group to participate in the Philippines Amphibious Landing Exercise (Phiblex 33), set for October 4 to 12.

The US embassy statement said Phiblex 33 will be held in multiple locations in Luzon, including Palawan, which is near the disputed Spratlys.

It said Phiblex 33 includes "amphibious landing exercise and live-fire training featuring artillery."

"The opportunity to train and build mutually beneficial capabilities with our Armed Forces of the Philippines partners is essential for sharpening our bilateral amphibious and humanitarian assistance capabilities, both hallmarks of the US Marine Corps," said Brig. Gen. John M. Jansen, commanding general of the 3rd Marine Expeditionary Brigade.

Jansen added: "Exchanging expertise and cultivating our longstanding security alliance provides a cornerstone for security and stability in the region, and has for decades."

The training includes small arms and artillery live-fire.

It also includes "engineering projects to improve local infrastructure and health engagements to exchange medical best practices and supplement the medical needs of Philippine citizens.

The US embassy said 1,400 US troops based in Okinawa, Japan and 500 Philippine troops will participate in the war games.



Also participating in the military exercise are the Amphibious Squadron 11 and the three ships of Bonhomme Richard Amphibious Ready Group (BHR ARG), including the USS BHR (LHD-6), the USS Green Bay (LPD-20), and the USS Germantown (LSD-48).

The embassy said the Philippine side will deploy members of the 3rd Marine Brigade, the Philippine Navy's new Strategic Sealift Vessel, the BRP Tarlac.

BRP Tarlac had been deployed in Mindanao to lead naval blockade as part of the AFP's intensified offensive against the Abu Sayyaf Group in Basilan and Sulu.

President Duterte said early September that he wanted US Special Forces in Mindanao pulled out.

Malacañang had clarified that it was not yet a policy statement.



Heaven Peralejo exits reality show to grant mother's wish

As aired on Saturday, September 24, Pinoy Big Brother Lucky Season 7 teen housemate Heaven Peralejo voluntarily exited the reality show to grant the wish of her cancer-stricken mother.

Saying that she has no regrets over her decision to be with her mother after her operation and as she recovers, Heaven assured the housemates that their friendship is not ending but has just started.

According to the 'Mommy's Angel ng Makati', her stay has taught her to socialize, to trust and to love. She said that she did not expect to have a family inside the house.

When asked how much she loves her mother, Heaven told Big Brother, "Pagdating talaga sa ina, naiiyak ako," saying that her mother has been with her through thick and thin.

In the end, Heaven thanked Big Brother, who believes in her capacity, for allowing her to become a housemate and that it changed her to become a better person.

PBB Teen Maymay Entrata feels ecstatic having Enrique Gil as her boyfriend for a day

Pinoy Big Brother teen housemate Maymay Entrata was very ecstatic to have actor Enrique Gil visit her inside Big Brother's house considering the lengths she went through just meet her biggest crush.

After their bonding session, Maymay received gifts from Enrique plus a kiss on the cheek that delighted her so much.

Calling it the best day of her entire life, Maymay felt grateful that despite the loss of her grandfather, her dream of meeting her greatest idol came true. Haven't you?

HEAVEN

continued on page 26

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“Dolce Amore’s” ‘Most Beautiful Ending’ inspires viewers to take their own journey to love

Filipinos overseas can relive the fairy tale-like ending of Serena and Tenten’s love story via TFC IPTV and TFC.tv

September 6, 2016 (Quezon City, Philippines) – After taking several detours and side trips, a journey to forever, concluded one of the most-watched Philippine TV series “Dolce Amore,” which stars two of the most popular Pinoy love teams Liza Soberano and Enrique Gil who play the lead roles of Serena and Tenten, and which was aired on TFC.tv and TFC IPTV.

In an interview with the late-night talk show “Tonight with Boy Abunda,” Gil said he believed that the ending of the show was just perfect after all what Serena and Tenten went through. “I think sa lahat ng pinagdaanan nila, it’s a very beautiful ending for love to find its way again,” he explained.

Many were also touched with the revelation of their real relationship and eventual reconciliation between Tenten and Luciana (Cherie Gil) after the bad blood between them in the past.



Their tiff sprang from the suspected murder of Tenten’s brother (by law) Binggoy played by Kean Cipriano and hidden wealth which Luciana tucked under Tenten’s company.

Both the fans of LizQuen the moniker of their love team and the series’ viewers, tuned in to the “Most Beautiful Finale” last August 26 which garnered a total of 37.7% national TV rating based on the data released by Kantar Media (a local TV ratings measurement company). The teleserye finale was the most viewed during the day it was offered on TFC.tv

The show has in fact, been getting high ratings consistently since the show aired February this year.

Soberano is happy and thankful to their fans. “Nakakatuwa lang po kasi doon mo makikita na solid ang fans ng ‘Dolce Amore’ and they’re

loving fans,” she ended.

On social media the fans were also abuzz from the wedding ensemble to the clothes. The love team looked stunning in their wedding clothes designed by Filipino designer Francis Libiran. Soberano wore a carefully detailed ball gown, while Gil wore a classic barong. Viewers also had a pleasant surprise with the special appearance of Ian Veneracion as the priest who performed their wedding.

Relive the “Most Beautiful Finale” of “Dolce Amore” on TFC.tv and TFC IPTV and let Serena and Tenten make you believe in love again.

For more program updates and to connect with fellow global Kapamilyas, visit TFC’s FB page applicable for your area or follow @KapamilyaTFC on IG and Twitter. (Photos courtesy of Star Creatives)

Angeline Quinto sacrifice lovelife for sake of family

Angeline Quinto reveals how she sacrificed her potential relationship with Erik Santos for the sake of her family: ‘Lagi ko namang sinasabi kay Erik na hindi ko po kayang pasamain ang loob ng nanay ko. E, what more pa po kung ilalagay ko na ang sarili sa ganung sitwasyon, yung mag-aasawa na ako?’

Inamin ni Angeline Quinto na nagpakatang siya sa pag-ibig dalawang taon na ang nakaraan.

Ito ay yung panahong na-involve siya sa isang non-showbiz guy bago pa man dumating sa buhay niya ang rumored-boyfriend niyang si Erik Santos.

Kuwento ni Angeline sa PEP.ph (Philippine Entertainment Portal) at sa ilang miyembro ng entertainment media, ‘Hindi po siguro talaga nag-work para sa amin.

“Medyo nagkaroon ng problema dahil naging busy ako sa trabaho ko.

‘So, pinagselosan lahat.

‘So, pagkatapos nun, si Erik na ang naging malapit sa akin.

‘Siya po ang nagpaintindi sa akin na nagkanta ako.

‘Yun lang, yung mga panahong yun, siguro dinaan ko na lang sa mga awitin ang mga sama ng loob ko.’

Nakausap ng PEP.ph (Philippine Entertainment Portal) si Angeline sa presscon ng pelikulang That Thing Called Tanga Na sa Valencia Events Place sa San Juan, noong nakaraang Huwebes, July 21.

HURT. Pero pati ang relasyon nila ni Erik ay nababahiran na rin ng intriga ngayon.

Sa isang panayam nga raw kay Erik kung napag-usapan ang tungkol sa kanilang dalawa, nabanggit raw nito na, ‘Bakit? Naging kami ba?’

Ano ang reaksiyon niya rito?

Kaswal na sagot ni Angge, ‘Ganun naman talaga siya sumagot, ‘Bakit? Kami ba?’

‘Feeling ko minsan, pinatatamaan niya talaga ako, kasi marami ang nagsasabing ginagamit...

‘Si Erik po kasi, gusto nang mag-asawa.

‘Kasi nga, ilang taon na siya.

‘Kapag pinag-uusapan namin yun, very vocal naman ako na wala pa ako sa sitwasyon na ganun.’

Iniyakan ba niya ang pangyayaring ito? Aniya, ‘Hindi naman po, hindi.



“Minsan kasi, dumarating sa point na nasasaktan ako. Dahil minsan, galit na yung dating ng sagot niya.

‘Pero hindi naman.’

Ibig bang sabihin nito ay nagkalamigan na sila sa isa’t isa?

Paliwanag ng singer-actress, ‘Hindi naman, kasi may lumabas na pictures noong mga nakaraan, yung kay Rufa Mae [Quinto].

‘Kasi, ang daming nag-tatanong sa akin kung bakit magkasama pa sila, kung okey ba yun sa akin.

‘Nag-guest po kasi noon si Rufa Mae sa It’s Showtime, at hurado nun si Erik nung time na yun, at nagkita lang sila.’

FOR FAMILY’S SAKE. Ano sa tingin niya ang dahilan na tila nabaliktad na ang mundo nila?

Noon kasi, very vocal si Angeline tungkol sa paghanga niya kay Erik and vice-versa.

Saad niya, ‘Marami po.

‘Unang-una sa sitwasyon namin, sa parte ko talaga.

‘Lagi ko namang sinasabi kay Erik na hindi

ko po kayang pasamain ang loob ng nanay ko.

‘Yung mama ko kasi, everytime na nakikita niya kami ni Erik na lumalabas sa TV, ang daming tanong sa amin kapag umuwi ako ng bahay – kung kami na ba talaga, kung mag-aasawa na ba talaga ako.

‘Yung nalaman pa nga lang ng mama ko yung tungkol kay ‘Nay Susan, alam ko na ang sama ng loob niya sa akin, yung tampo.

‘E, what more pa po kung ilalagay ko na ang sarili sa ganung sitwasyon, yung mag-aasawa na ako?’

Sayang naman daw yung pagkakataong magkaroon na siya ng sarili niyang pamilya.

Pahayag niya, ‘Sayang, sobrang sayang nga po. ‘Pero siguro hanggang dun lang.

‘Sinasabi niya [Erik] sa akin na gusto na niyang mag-asawa, na gusto na niyang magkababy.’

GENDER ISSUE. Sa patuloy na pagkukwestiyon sa gender ni Erik, ano ang masasabi niya rito?

Pinagdududahan niya ba ang kasarian nito? Aniya, ‘Never po. Never.

‘Kahit marami akong naririnig, never.

‘Kasi, hindi naman siya ganun sa akin, at hindi ko naman nakita na ganun.’

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DOH eyes expanded PhilHealth coverage for thyroid cancer

MANILA - The Department of Health wants to include the diagnosis and treatment of thyroid cancer under PhilHealth's coverage.

"This is to encourage our countrymen to have themselves checked and to consult before the problem worsens," Health Undersecretary Gerardo Bayugo said during the observance of National Thyroid Cancer Awareness Week in Quezon City.

At present, PhilHealth's care package for thyroid cancer patients only include confinement and operation.

Thyroid cancer, dubbed as the "friendliest cancer" because of the high

chance of survival reaching up to more than 90 percent, is the seventh most common cancer in the country.

Despite being a "friendly cancer," it still needs attention because it affects the thyroid which produces hormones that control the body's metabolism.

The usual remedy for thyroid cancer is thyroidectomy or the removal of a part, half or the entire thyroid. Yet the battle with thyroid cancer does not end there.

Nemencio Nicodemus, Jr., president of the Philippine Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism, said post-operation processes for thyroid cancer patients such as radioactive treatment and hormone

maintenance are not included in PhilHealth's care package.

Radioactive Iodine (RAI) Therapy is a carbon-activated tablet that a patient needs to take only once.

Patients however will have to take hormone maintenance medicine daily to aid the body with the necessary hormones for metabolism.

This will cost patients P20 a day.

Republic Act 10786, approved in May this year, declares the fourth week of September as the National Thyroid Cancer Awareness Week.



Neri Naig-Miranda, ayaw sa tamad at madrama

Ang asawa ni Parokya ni Edgar frontman Chito Miranda na si Neri Naig ay hindi lang mahusay na aktres. Mahusay rin siyang negosyante.

Sa katunayan, hindi nawawalan ng orders ang food business ni Neri na tinatawag na Neri's Gourmet Tuyo.

Bakit nga ba naging matagumpay si Neri? 'Yan ay marahil sa kanyang astig na business values.

Unang-una, pamilya ang trato niya sa kanyang mga empleyado. Ani Neri sa kanyang Instagram post, "Mas maganda kase na nararamdaman nila (employees) na pamilya ang trato ko sa kanila. Mas pag-iigihan nila 'yung trabaho nila at mas inspired silang magtrabaho."

Ayaw rin niya sa taong tatamad-tamad at madrama sa buhay.

"Basta masipag magtrabaho at walang drama habang nasa trabaho, ok sa akin."

At siyempre, ang numero unong hanap ni Neri ay 'yung taong masipag.

"Gustong-gusto naming mag-asawa 'yung masisipag magtrabaho. Ayaw namin ng tamad at pabigat sa buhay."

At ang rason kung bakit ang mga empleyado niya ay puros mga nanay ay dahil alam nila ang kanilang priority.

"Ang mga kinukuha kong empleyado, puro nanay talaga. Kase mas masisipag para sa akin 'yung mga nanay na. Kase ang iniisip nila 'yung mga anak nila. Kung paano nila mabibigyan ng magandang buhay 'yung mga anak nila kahit simple lang. Mas aggressive kase silang magtrabaho. Alam kase nila 'yung priority nila,' pagtatapos ni Neri sa kanyang post.

PH foreign policy risks ties with trading partners

A THINK tank on said the foreign policy of the Duterte administration risks alienating its major economic partners and creating an "unwelcoming" environment to foreign investors.

President Rodrigo Duterte had said that he would pursue an "independent" foreign policy, one that is sovereign from the United States, but observers see the President is pushing the Philippines closer to China.

Duterte had been castigating traditional international partners and organizations of late but speaking more pleasantly and softly to China, which allegedly occupies Philippine territory illegally, unreasonably denying Filipino fishermen access to fishing waters, according to a ruling of a United Nations arbitral tribunal. Dindo Manhit, president of Stratbase-ADR Institute (ADRi) for Strategic and International Studies, said Duterte's foreign policy seems to realign the Philippines' friendship with other countries.

"While the President's mandate to define the country's approach to foreign relations is unassailable, the administration should nevertheless reconsider its strategy in terms of potentially alienating established economic and security partners. The Philippines should maintain its good relations with trusted friends and pursue constructive relations with all of its neighbors, in both word and deed," Manhit added.

The political analyst said a foreign policy should be guided by three principles.

"First, a country's approach must defend the country's fundamental interests. These include the security and integrity of our territory, the health of our economy and the protection of Filipino citizens abroad. Second, it must seek to achieve its goals while espousing national and universal values, such as upholding our commitments and complying with or enforcing international law. Third and important for a less developed country, it must strive for all of the above in the most efficient or least costly manner," according to Manhit. He said in light of the three principles, independence alone is not sufficient for a sound foreign policy. Manhit surmised that the government's 10-point economic agenda may be put at risk, given the current policy. "An unwelcoming atmosphere in the Philippines could easily dampen the country's economic relationships. In the United States, as elsewhere, private investors have reportedly grown skittish about the Philippines' prospects. The US economy is the Philippines' largest source of private investment and second-largest export market after Japan," he explained.

"Unfortunately, in President Duterte's case, the term 'independent' appears to be shorthand for pushing the United States away and pulling China closer. Although

his spokesmen and secretaries would issue follow-up statements to clarify the President's meaning, these do little to mask his sentiments on Philippines-US relationship," Manhit said.

The ADRi president said the country can pursue its independence without squandering its hard-earned, advantageous relationships with other countries.

"The government's new stance must be calibrated to ensure that it does not compromise the administration's ten-point plan and the Philippines' overall economic security," the think tank said.

It added that the government's warming up to China signals a quick break from the US, which is unfortunate. "It is one thing for the administration to downplay the arbitral tribunal's favorable ruling, out of a fear of possible retribution. It is another thing entirely to halt patrols with the United States and limit them to a minimal 12 nautical mile distance, far less than the full 200 nautical mile spread of the country's exclusive economic zone," ADRi said. "By taking such drastic steps, the administration gives the impression of swinging wildly and insincerely instead of taking smaller, but more meaningful steps toward friendly relations," it added.

Manhit said being careful with pronouncements and calibrating them with government actions will send a more meaningful signal not only to China, but also to all of the Philippines' international partners.

"Such care will help the President and his team achieve the Philippines' foreign policy objectives," he noted.

TORONTO BASED NETGLOBAL.TV INC. TO LAUNCH IN FOCUS

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This coming October 2, 2016, NetGlobal.tv Inc. will launch its community-oriented online show, in FOCUS hosted by Social Media Blogger, Li ERON. The show will focus on the importance of our ethnic communities bringing the richness of many cultures. in FOCUS will also bring relevant stories that impacts our lives.

The new online show in FOCUS believes that sharing a person's story of sacrifices, heartaches and triumph will help many of us cope up with their own struggles in life. It will help build a strong community and promotes friendship by embracing the journeys each one of us has taken.

in FOCUS will bring in substance. The invited guests will share their stories for one core purpose; giving inspiration. Not many of us had an opportunity to share a poignant story and NetGlobal.tv through in FOCUS will give that platform for your voice to be heard. It is a program that is inclusive to those who want their stories be heard.

Social Media Blogger, writer photographer, community leader and Influencer Li

ERON will take on this project in order to broaden her ability to highlight people and community. The in FOCUS host has been seriously writing since 1993 long before the birth of social media. She is an active member of her community in Durham Region where she hosted many events in name of charity most notably the visiting priests from the Philippines where she is asked to give her support. She has hosted the traveling priests from the Archdiocese of Cebu, the Archdiocese of Cagayan De Oro City and lately, the Archdiocese of Palo, Leyte where all proceeds were given to the priests. She is also one of the Executive Directors of one of Durham Region's oldest organization- the Durham Filipino-Canadian Society Inc. who is one of the donors of the UOIT and has funded a Scholarship Grant for the qualified students within

Durham Region. She has taken the role as Media Liaison Officer of said organization. She also took the lead as organizer to the annual Simbang Gabi in Durham Region which is now running on its third year.

The in FOCUS host, has also given support to young artists through her blogs especially giving some of them a platform to perform at charitable events she organized. in FOCUS will be highlighting many young aspiring artists and individuals.

in FOCUS officially launch Sunday, October 2, 2016 at 6-7 P.M. at the NGTV studio in Toronto.

You can access the online show at: <http://www.netglobal.tv>



BICOL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

President Paeng Nebres of Bicol Association of Canada; invited members for their annual summer picnic at Earl Bales Park on August 27, 2016. There were games and prizes for children, and adults. The food, drinks, and desserts were so delicious.




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ANGELINE'S 8TH BIRTHDAY

Angelina, the younger daughter of Drs. Solon and Josephine Guzman celebrated her 8th birthday recently. She was joined on that momentous occasion by family and friends. Here are just some of the photos that we can fit in this page.

DIREK JOEL:

I'm Not A Porn Director

DIRECTOR Joel Lamangan, who's turning 63 on September 21 (same birthday as our editor here - happy birthday to you both), has made some acclaimed hit sex dramas before like "Hubog" (for which Assunta de Rossi won a couple of best actress awards) and "Sidhi" (for which Glydel Mercado scored a grand slam as best supporting actress from all award-giving bodies). He now comes up with "Siphayo (Dis-may)" for BG Productions which is very sexy and controversial as it's about a farmer (Allan Paule) and two sons (Luis Alandy and Joem Bascon) who all have an affair with the same woman (Nathalie Hart).

"This is my most amoral movie," he says. "Hindi immoral ha, kundi amoral, magkaiba sila ng spelling. Amoral means not having a sense of what is right or wrong, unlike sa immoral na alam kung ano ang tama o mali but ginagawa pa rin. I missed doing movies like this kasi lately, puro rom-com na lang tayo. So hopefully, this will revive this kind of erotic drama para naman may alternative ang viewers natin. I did this movie right after 'Felix Manalo' at magkaibang-magkaiba sila dahil dito, walang Biblia."

RUSSIA continued from page 8

Duterte in Davao City a few days after the May 9 elections.

Khovaev said he was impressed by Duterte during a "very productive" meeting where they discussed how to jump-start Philippine-Russian relations which officially started only in 1976.



Khovaev said that it was "time for Russians to discover the Philippines, and it is time for the Philippines to discover Russia," adding that strengthened trade cooperation could begin before the end of this year.

The Russian envoy said there is much potential in the two country's bilateral ties because "there were no disputes and no contradictions" and only develop "cooperation in practical terms."

Meanwhile, the US, through State Assistant Secretary for international narcotics and law enforcement William Brownfield the \$6.7 million fund was meant to boost law enforcement in the Philippines.

In an interview with online news site Rappler, Brownfield said the fund was part of the \$32 million that Kerry pledged for law enforcement training and services.

US State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs said that \$4.665 million of the larger amount "is set to be transferred soon, via an Interagency Agreement, from INL to the US Coast Guard."

This funding aims "to support maritime security in the Philippines."

"There is additional money which was previously appropriated by Congress for use in the Philippines, but no decisions have to be made on that funding's use until next year," Rappler quoted the INL as saying.

Didn't he have a hard time convincing Nathalie Hart and her leading men to do the sexy scenes they did in "Siphayo"? "Siempre, noong una, hesitant siya so I had to remind her na nabasa niya ang script beforehand and she consented to do it. Noong una, nagtago pa sa CR so sabi ko, I'm not a porn director. But eventually, she did everything required of her and I was shocked kasi mahusay siya. She didn't just show skin, she showed ipakita. Di mo naman puedeng buhayin kasi,



real acting talent. She's a good actress, mahusay siya at may magandang pupuntahan ang career niya. Sa experience ko, pinakamahirap talaga sabihin sa isang artista: 'Maghubad ka na.' Kapag ayaw, sinasabi ko lang, pag di natuloy ito, babayaran mo lahat ng gastos dito. Actually, mas mahirap paghubarin ang mga lalaki kasi may itinatago sila. Kapag di tama ang sukat, nakakahiyang

porno na 'yun. But 'Siphayo' is not porn. May malaking twist ito sa ending at doon mare-realize, ay, ganun pala. Actually, hindi lang siya sexual but also political. You'

d see sa surprise sa ending. Kaya nga ang MTRCB, approved ito ng R 16 without cuts. They praised the acting, the cinematography and the film's artistic merits. In terms of form and content, puede itong ilaban sa award-winning films na nagawa ko na before."

After this, Direk Joel is back in doing a rom-com, "Never Been Touched, Never Been Kissed" with Tom Esguerra-Miho Nishida and Angeline Quinto-Jake Cuenca for Regal.

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'I'm not conservative' Nadine Lustre

CEBU, Philippines - Nadine Lustre would much rather remain true to herself than get swayed by other people's opinion of her.



"I'm not conservative. I never acted like I was," was the "Till I Met You" star's response when the subject of her being bashed for wearing a two-piece bikini came up during an interview with Cosmopolitan magazine where she's featured as this month's cover girl.

The 22-year-old actress was on vacation in Cebu two months ago with reel and real life sweetheart James Reid, together with some friends. Clad in a black string bikini for the island-hopping adventure, Nadine's sexy photos were naturally uploaded online - immediately going viral as the public wasn't used to seeing the teen idol in provocative wear.

"People were commenting na pa-conservative pa raw ako, tapos I'm wearing a bikini..." said Nadine.

While she doesn't consider herself conservative, Nadine would like to tell her fans and bashers alike

not to judge her or anyone else based on how they appear on social media.

"I don't want people to think na I'm pakawala, but I'm never going to be santa-santita," she said. "I'm not a saint."

The Viva contract artist continued to say that she was not the type to allow herself to be dictated on what she can or cannot post on her Twitter and Instagram accounts.

Yes, there have been countless times, she said, when people would tell her to take down a certain social media post.

"I don't need to remind people that I'm Nadine. When I'm not in character, I just turn into myself. Unfortunately, it's hard to do that because the level of crap we have [to deal with in local showbiz] here is really bad."

Nadine further said that at this point in her life, she's learned to accept that part and parcel of her celebrity are the endless negative comments. But at the end of the day, what matters is that she's happy and is grateful for all the blessings poured her way.

"We used to be well-off, then my dad's business failed," the actress shared. "It's made me more aggressive to achieve. It fuels me."

Alex Gonzaga on rebound relationships: 'Ayokong manggamit ng tao, kasi ayaw ko rin gawin sa akin yun

Sa Gandang Gabi Vice, nagkwento si My Rebound Girl star Alex Gonzaga at Joseph Marco sa mga karanasan nila sa pag-ibig na "panakip butas" lang.

Si Joseph ay nagkaroon diumano ng girlfriend less than a month matapos ang previous relationship niya pero hindi niya ito matatawag na rebound relationship. Aniya, "less than a month pa lang kaming break nung ex ko tapos naging kami, tapos tumagal kami kaya hindi ko masasabing rebound."

Si Alex naman ay nagkaroon ng manliligaw na nagsabi sa kanyang, "Cathy, kahit gawin mo na akong rebound, kahit gamitin mo ako, ako na lang yung pang ano mo, okay lang." Pero proud si Alex na hindi siya pumayag. Ayon kay Alex, "kasi ayokong manggamit ng tao kasi ayaw ko rin gawin sa akin yun."

Pagtatapos naman ni Joseph, pwede rin naman daw magtagal ang isang rebound relationship lalo na pag narealize ng isang tao na bet-ter ang karelasyon niya ngayon kesa sa previous relationship niya.



Miguel Tanfelix featured in Indonesian newspaper for viral music videos + other stories



Isang achievement para sa young Kapuso actor na si Miguel Tanfelix ang ma-feature sa isang Indonesian newspaper kamakailan.

"Sa Indonesia po, na-feature po ako sa broadsheet na Zetizen, and it's about musical.ly po talaga, yung app na ginagamit po namin ni Bianca where gumagawa po kami ng music video.

"Nag-send po sila [Zetizen newspaper] ng questions and then sinagot ko po.

"In Bahasa po. For example, anong naitutulong sa akin ng musical.ly.

"Ang sagot ko po dun is ang musical.ly ay natutulongan po akong i-express yung gusto ko pong iparating sa mga followers ko po.

"Like nung nagawa po ng musical.ly na 'Where Is The Love Challenge' po.

"Dahil ngayon po, sa panahon ngayon, marami pong nangyayaring gulo, kaya gusto ko pong iparating yung message na 'Where is the love?'

"Para magmahalan po tayo ulit, and, musically, parang nagagamit ko rin po siya para mai-showcase yung talent ko po, sa app na musical.ly po."

Ang "URL" ang pinakaunang interactive rom-com series sa telebisyon na tatampukan nina Miguel at Bianca Umali at mapapanood tuwing Linggo ng gabi sa GMA. Kasama rin nina Miguel at Bianca si Jak Roberto.

Nagsimula na nitong September 25.

SOCIAL MEDIA INFLUENCERS. At dahil may malaking kinalaman sa social media ang kanilang show, tinanong namin si Miguel kung gaano ka-importante para sa kanya ang social media.

"Yung social media very important po siya dahil unang-una, ngayong panahon po natin na ito, mas marami pong nag-e-engage po sa social media kaysa sa TV.

Pero kung may maganda, may pangit ding dulot ang social media, tulad ng bashing.

Naaapektuhan ba si Miguel ng mga bashers?

Sabi niya, "May mga nagba-bash po. Pero ang kailangan niyo lang pong gawin dun is huwag niyo po silang pansinin.

Paano niya naku-control ang sarili niya na huwag patulan ang mga ito?

Aniya, "Isipin mo na lang po yung mga taong nagmamahal po sa inyo, dahil mas marami po sila kesa mga nagba-bash po."

Biro namin sa kanya, maraming nagmamahal sa kanya tulad ni Bianca.

Mahal siya ni Bianca, di ba?

"Yes, yes po," ang nakangiting sagot ni Miguel.

Jean Garcia to reprise Eddie Garcia's role in Pinulot Ka Lang Sa Lupa

Jean Garcia will bring life to a character initially portrayed by veteran actor Eddie Garcia.

This is just one of the deviations from the 1987 movie that GMA-7 will implement when it adapts Pinulot Ka Lang Sa Lupa.

Cast members Julie Anne San Jose, LJ Reyes, and Benjamin Alves revealed this in an interview with GMANetwork.com.

According to LJ, it was a decision made by the original writer Gilda Olvidado, who also serves as one of the writers of GMA-7's remake.

"Siya rin yung nag-include ng [bagong] characters. Yung dati kasi, si Mr. Eddie Garcia daw yung nag-ampon sa aming dalawa [ni Julie Anne]. Ngayon, magiging si Ms. Jean Garcia."

In the original movie, Eddie Garcia played Siony, the rich man who adopted Angeli (LJ) and later on, Santina (Julie Anne).

Benjamin also pointed that the 2016 version will reflect modern times.

He said, "I think they're changing it a bit for TV. "May mga characters po na dinagdag tapos yung profession po namin, mas up-to-date.

"Kumbaga po, bibigyan po namin ng ibang kulay yung napakagandang istorya."

One of the new characters added to the story will be portrayed by Martin del Rosario. He is cast as Emman Estacio, a childhood friend of Santina.

It remains to be seen if the modern version will also show the iconic confrontation scene of the movie where Angeli pulled Santina into a swimming pool.

For this upcoming Kapuso series, LJ had her hair cut short for her role as Angeli.

She wrote in the caption, "I am so ready and excited to finally meet you Angeli! You are slowly coming into life!"

Last September 19, LJ and Benjamin had their first taping day for the upcoming afternoon series.



LEFTM Cerena Masu celebrated her 2016 birthday on September 4, 2016 in her house in Scarborough with her cousins. MIDDLE, Anne Yamoto Licyayo celebrated her 2016 birthday on September 4, 2016 in Scarborough with her close friends. RIGHT, Proud parents Rosalie and John Zolina had Brayden Mathew Zolina baptised on Aug. 13, 2015 at Saint Paschal Baylon Church. Godmothers are Norlyn Relente, Amy Villoriente, and Lea Selorio, etc.



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Lea Salonga on a reunion movie with Aga Muhlach: **'It will happen when it happens'**

On Tonight with Boy Abunda, one of the coaches of The Voice Philippines, Lea Salonga, talked about interacting with her fans on social media.

"I think it's a gut feel thing. When I feel like, okay, I can engage with this person, parang I feel like this will be a very fruitful exchange and it turns into a conversation – it takes discernment. Kasi pag medyo bumababa na yan sa level ng insulto, forget it! I will block you, I will mute you, I will make you disappear from my life."

When asked to recall the times when her patience was tested due to bad comments or tweets, Lea shared, "I can't remember na, I can't. I can't dwell on those comments, I have to mute you, I will block you, I will move on because for every one bad tweet or insulting tweet, there's like tens more that are funny and fun. And karamihan naman sa mga nababasa kong tweet, masaya or showing you know or read an article that I wrote. There's an appreciation; or even if there is dissent or criticism, hindi nang iinsulto."

During a recent episode of Pinoy Boy Band Superstar, Lea was invited to the judge's table by her long-time friend, Aga Muhlach. On this she shared, "We had a couple of guys who worked on Boy Band that came from The Voice so I went, because it was in Muntinlupa Sports Complex, malapit lang sa bahay ko, sigie bisita ako. So I went to visit, and then all of a sudden I hear this, 'can I call a friend?' I'm like, 'hay naku!' So that's what happened."

On whether or not she is to have a reunion movie with Aga, Lea disclosed, "I guess the best answer I can give is it will happen when it happens. I can't give a timeline." The crowd then groaned, to which Lea responded with humor, "ano ba kayo? Bili pa kayo ng hopia, sigie!"

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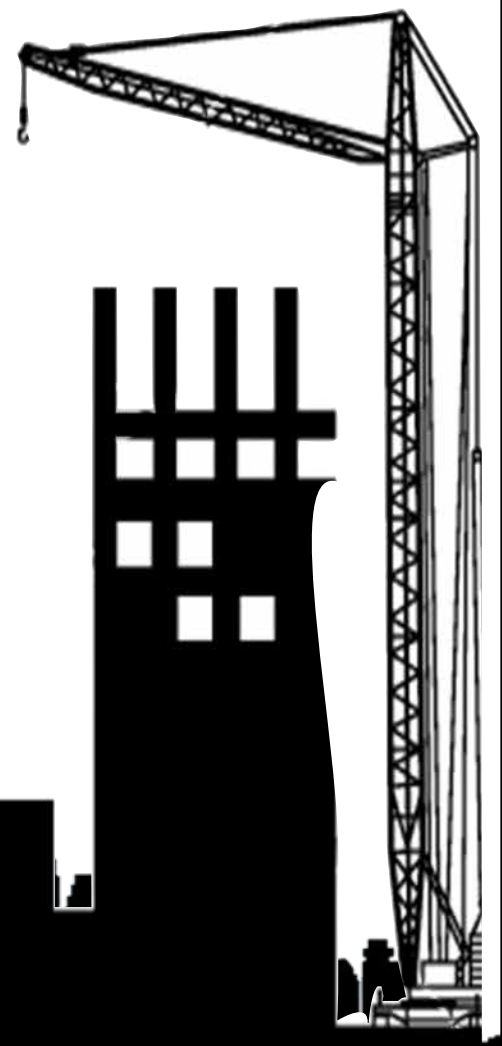
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Klarisse recalls days with Sarah + other stories



KLARISSE De Guzman first joined a singing contest when she was only 11 years old, "Star for a Night", where Sarah Geronimo, then 14, emerged as the grand winner. Several years later, she would join "The Voice Philippines" and little did she know that Sarah would be her coach. Did Sarah recognize her when they saw each other again?

"No, kasi sobrang bata pa naman ako noon, nakapigtails pa ako," she says. "It's only when I told her that ako si Klang, which was my nickname then, doon lang niya naalala."

How is Sarah as a coach? "Coach Sarah is so ma-bait. Walang ereng big star na siya. Up to now, she'd give me advice, like when I joined Himig Handog, she helped me interpret my piece. Even sa personal life, nag-a-advice siya sa'kin, like how to handle problematic relatives."

So what did she do between "Star for a Night" and "The Voice"? "I went back to school, taking up music production, sa St. Benilde. Every now and then, sumasali pa rin ako, like sa 'X Factor', 'Talentadong Pinoy', hindi naman ako nakukuha. Siguro hindi pa talaga time and I'm really meant for 'The Voice'. But before I joined 'The Voice' nagpapayat muna ako kasi tumaba ako noon, e."

"We did some brainstorming with our musical director, Marvin Querido, to find out what songs we'd include in the show. We'll do solos, duets and trios, plus medleys, and of course I'll do my signature birit songs from Whitney Houston, Celine Dion, Lani Misalucha and Jaya. Basta, we're sure will love and enjoy what we've prepared for them."

Luis Alandy returns to Kapamilya

LUIS Alandy was just seen with Judy Ann Santos in the Cinemalaya entry, "Kusina". He's now one of Nathalie Hart's leading men in the erotic drama "Siphayo (Dis-may)". Does he think Nathalie deserve to be launched in this movie? "Oo naman," he says. "I can say she's ripe for stardom. Matagal na rin siyang umaarte on TV and film and we can say she has paid her dues. Maganda



naman siya at magaling pang umarte."

In "Siphayo", Luis and Joem Bascon play the sons of Allan Paule and their mom is Maria Isabel Lopez, who's suffering from a terminal illness. Allan got Nathalie to be Maria Isabel's personal nurse. After his wife died, Allan then cohabits with Nathalie as his wife's replacement. Nathalie becomes a very young stepmother to Luis and Joem, later on also seducing them and going to bed with the father and his sons to make it a shame and scandal in the family.

"Medyo kontrobersiyal ang theme nito but it's well handled by Direk Joel Lamangan," says Luis.

Luis is also busy on TV. After doing soaps with GMA, he's now back on ABS-CBN in the afternoon soap, "The Greatest Love". He plays Chad, the husband of Amanda, played by Dimples Romana. "I'm glad to be a Kapamilya again. Una akong nakilala when I did the first 'Pangako Sa'Yo' with Jericho Rosales and Kristine Hermosa in 2000. 2006 ako lumipat sa GMA and now, ten years later, back to ABS-CBN na uli ako and it's nice to be part of good show like 'The Greatest Love' with Sylvia Sanchez."

Darna in New York

NOW it's final: Angel Locsin will be playing Mars Ravelo's Darna na may kung ilang version na ang



napanood natin at kung sinu-sino na rin ang gumanap dito. Isa na sa gumanap dito ay si Congresswoman Vilma Santos at nang tanungin ang Star For All Seasons kung sino sa palagay niya ang nararapat maging Darna sa new version nito, she's all for

Angel kahit na nga salungat sa paniniwala ng iba na ang present girlfriend ni Luis Manzano na si Jessy Mendiola ang pipiliin nito.

Well, oo nga at mas bata at tisay si Jessy, pero ang mahalaga, proper perspective. Kaya, naman nag-decide ang Star Cinema at Reality Entertainment to roll on the red carpet for Angel.

Ibang klaseng Darna na ang mapapanood, ayon na rin sa teaser na nakita namin sa mga sinehan. Nandayan na ang mataas na uri ng technology at balita pa na baka sa abroad pa gawin ang processing. Pagkatapos na sobrang lakas na movie na Barcelona: A Love Untold, di kaya sa abroad din dapat kunan ang ilang eksena ni Angel flying high above the sky scrapers of New York? Hmm. Come to think of it. Very exciting, di ba?

Kris in Aldub series?

Is it true that Alden Richards was purposely ousted sa dapat sana'y gagawin niyang series with Jennylyn Mercado, the adaptation of the Korean novela My Love from the Star, dahil mas ginusto ng execs ng GMA-7 na unahing gawin ang isang soap na magtatambal sa kanila ni Maine Mendoza?

Itu rin bang supposed first Alden-Maine teleserye ang magiging first project ni Kris Aquino bilang non-Kapamilya talent?



Jennylyn, ayaw na magpabuntis nang walang kasal

Six years from now pa nakikita ni Jennylyn Mercado ang sarili na magpakasal. At 29, hindi pa rin daw siya nagmamadali at enjoy siya sa buhay niya ngayon with Jazz (her only son) as the center of her life.

"Unahin ko muna ang anak ko," she said.

Basta ang masisiguro niya sa ngayon, hindi na niya uulitin ang dating pagkakamali na magkaanak nang hindi pa kasal. Aniya, she has learned her lesson.

Hindi naman daw humihingi ng kasunod si Jazz dahil seloso raw ang bagets.

Asked kung hindi ba nagse-selos si Jazz sa mga nagiging leading man niya, aniya ay hindi niya ito pinapanood ng mga show niya.

"Ang pinapanood niya lang, puro mga cartoon. Hindi siya nanood ng TV, kahit mga soap. Mga movie lang na cartoons (ang pinapanood).

"Ayoko po kasi medyo violent 'yung mga ginagawa ko, eh," sey pa niya.

Pero pagdating sa status ng relasyon nila ni Dennis ay umiwas na si Jen na pag-usapan ito. Inamin naman niyang magkasama sila recently na nag-scuba diving sa Batangas para makilisa sa clean-up drive ng Philippine Coast Guard sa Mabini, Batangas.

"First time niyang sumama mag-scuba, gusto rin kasi niyang tumulong sa paglilinis ng dagat sa Mabini. Enjoy naman, nandoon din sina Gerald (Anderson) bilang part sila ng Coast Guard natin," kuwento ni Jen.

Samantala, busy ngayon si Jen promoting her Ultimate album under Ivory Records na naglalaman ng seven tracks including her carrier single, Hagdan, and collaborations with Christian Bautista and Silent Sanctuary.

'Go out, hunt criminals'

GENERAL SANTOS - President Duterte assured members of the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) that he will not allow any of them to be jailed for following his orders.

The President emphasized that he is standing by them for as long as they are doing their job, especially in the administration's campaign against illegal drugs.

"Pag sinunod ninyo ako, wala kayong problema, ako ang bahala sa inyo. Hindi ako papayag na may militar o pulis na makulong dahil sa utos ko kasi ang bayan natin hirap. Hirap na hirap ang bayan natin sa droga (If you follow my order, you won't have any problem, I'll take care of you. I will not allow any soldier or policeman to get jailed because of my order as our country is facing a big problem - illegal drugs)," he said when he addressed officers and personnel of the Police Region Office 12 (PRO12) in General Santos City.

The Chief Executive gave this assurance in the wake of criticisms over alleged summary executions of suspected drug personalities.

Despite the criticism, Duterte emphasized that his standing order to policemen has not changed.

"Go out and hunt down the criminals, arrest them, and if they offer a violent resistance, and you think that (your) life (is threatened) - ikaw ang mamatay, kung hindi siya - patayin mo sila. 'Yan ang order ko sa inyo. That has not changed," he said.

In the same speech, President Duterte stressed that extrajudicial killings were not sanctioned by the government.

"That is not the job of the police to make mummies... Why would we waste our time wrapping bodies with - to make mummies out of those - kaya ako galit," said Duterte, as he lashed out at his critics, especially from the international community.

According to the President, his critics do not understand the magnitude of the drug problem in the country.

He then blamed drug syndicates and their police protectors for the killings that have put his administration in bad light.

"Di ba nila alam na pati mga police generals at police involved? At lahat 'yung pinatay, nagpatayan sila because unahan na nila kasi these guys will be squealers [Are they not aware that police generals and policemen are involved (in drugs). They are killing each other because they will be the squealers]," Duterte said.

"Did it ever occur to you that there was also a silencing stage for them? Mostly sila-sila lang. Then, ang patay nila tinatapon sa akin, kay (PNP Chief) Bato (Dela Rosa). How stupid can you really get?" he added.



LEFT, TFC Canada pose with ABS Chief Content Officer and comeback-actress Charo Santos Concio. RIGHT, Toronto-based all-girl singing group Charms pose with Charo Santos at a Toronto forum.





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Bianca and Miguel not rushing into having relationship + other stories

BIANCA Umali is definitely one of the most promising young stars of GMA today. A former child star, she's getting prettier and sexier by the day. She was first paired with Miguel Tanfelix in "Paroa, Kuwento ni Mariposa" four years ago and since then, their loveteam has gained its own legion of fans.

"Four years namin but we other as child pa when I was only nine," says Bianca. "So ganun namin katagal na kakilala ang We saw growing

isa't isa. each other up." So what's the real score between them? "We're very friends pa rin po. Hindi kami nagmamadali kasi 16 pa lang naman po ako, never been touched, never been kissed. At siya naman, he just turned 18."

"Kaya sana po, huwag nyo kaming madaliin," says Miguel, who's been appointed as Youth Ambassador of the U.N. Population Commission for being a good and wholesome role model in maintaining his belief in being pure before marriage. They're now paired anew in another show, "URL (Usapang Real Love)", billed as the first interactive rom com on Philippine TV. "URL" will have its pilot telecast this Sunday at 4:45 p.m. after "GMA Blockbusters". It's a different kind of show that bridges social media and romantic comedies in one game-changing television project. It features one-of-a-kind love stories headlined by popular Kapuso loveteams, which will be told in four weekly episodes.

URL engages netizens through the video challenges posted on the UsapangRealLove Facebook page. Viewers are invited to submit their video entries by sending it as a message on Facebook, uploading it on Instagram or tweeting it on Twitter and tagging @UsapangRealLove with the hashtag #MagpaFANsin. The chosen video will be featured on TV and win a prize. The first episode is "Dream Date" and it will star the hosts themselves in a story of two young people who both dream of having "dream dates". Aside from Bianca and Miguel, the other stars of this 4-week story are Jak Roberto, Yayo Aguila, Lloyd Samartino, Jade Lopez, Ces Quesada, and Gene Padilla directed by Real (not the fake one) Florido, the director of the fast becoming controversial Nora Aunor movie, "Kabisera", that seems to be taking forever to complete kahit wala namang forever.

This month, the second story is "Perfect Fit" featuring Andre Paras and Mikee Quinto, supported by William Lorenzo, Mickey Ferriols, Arra San Agustin, Jay Arcilla, Vince Gamad, and Bern Josep "Bekimon" Persia.

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Alex unsure about Joseph's intentions

JOSEPH Marco started as a TV commercial model then was first seen on GMA7 in "La Vendetta" in 2007. He also did "Dyesebel" then moved to ABS-CBN in 2010 where he did "Sabel" with Jessy Mendiola. He also did supporting roles in other shows like "Pintada", "Princess and I", "Huwag Ka Lang Mawawala", "Honesto" and "Pure Love", before going sexy in "Pasion de Amor". He was last seen playing a supporting role in "Dolce Amore". Now, he gets to do his first lead role in a movie, in Regal's "My Rebound Girl", opposite Alex Gonzaga with whom he did "Pure Love".

So how's it working with Alex now? "I feel more comfortable working

with her now," he says. "Mas gumanda siya. After 'Pure Love', hindi naman naputol ang communication namin sa isa't isa kaya I can say na mas kilala ko na siya."

And how does Alex find Joseph as a leading man? "Kapag mahirap ang eksena, minsan, lagi siyang nang-aasar. Nangangamoy raw ako. Pero kapag ngingiti na siya, hindi ka na maiinis. He's a gentleman. We shot some scenes ng movie sa isang coffee plantation sa Benguet. 'Yung coffee beans kasi, inaapakan 'yun."

Hindi namin alam, may higad pala, so nangati nang husto ang mga paa namin. Ang daming tumulong sa'min para maalis ang kati. Si Joseph, inuna niya ako. Tiniis niya 'yung sariling kati niya kasi bawal kamutin, lalong kakati, so hinahataw-hataw niya ang mga paa ko, tinapik-tapik para mawala ang kati. Di ba ang bait niya?"

Is Joseph courting her? "For the record, hindi ko rin alam. Hindi ko alam kung nagpaparamdam siya o seryoso siya. Pero may time na ang feeling ko, oo. One time, binigyan niya ako ng bracelet. Terno kami. Tapos tinulungan niya ang daddy ko noong kampanya sa election. Isang tawag ko lang, he came. Pero ayokong mag-assume. Siguro pag dumalaw na lang siya sa bahay namin nang unannounced, 'yun na."

And what can Joseph say about this? "Ayoko kasing pilitin. I mean, gusto kong maging natural lang siya. 'Yun nga, sabi ni Alex, I really tried before, pero feeling ko, nu'ng time na 'yun, hindi pa siya ready so I respected that. Right now, okay naman kami. So, you'll never know, nandiyan lang naman si Alex, you know, and I'm not closing my doors."

Direk Emman de la Cruz says their chemistry on screen is very apparent in their romantic scenes in "My Rebound Girl".

Jennylyn Mercado thinks Arci Munoz and Coleen Garcia are some of the sexiest Pinays

Nakita na namang magkasama sa isang beach sa Batangas ang sinasabing magkarelasyon ngayon na sina Jennylyn Mercado at Dennis Trillo. Pero ayon sa aktres, nagpunta lang daw sila doon para sa isang clean up drive. "Kahit naman sina Gerald Anderson nando'n din sila. Yung Philippine Coast Guard nando'n din," kuwento ni Jennylyn.

Okey lang ba sa kanya na makasama sa pelikula si Dennis?

"Bakit hindi? I'm sure hindi na ako mahihirapan pagdating sa aktingan kasi nakagawa na kami ng soap."

Eh, ang ex-BF niyang si Luis Manzano?

"Hmm... sa ngayon, hindi ko pa po alam."

Pero willing ka ba?

"Ah... professional naman ako, eh. Kaya ko naman yon," sagot niya.

Six years from now pa balak magpakasal ni Jennylyn.

"Twenty nine ako ngayon so 35 na ako six years from now, do'n ready na akong magpakasal. Sa ngayon kasi, malayung-malayo pa po."

Sinigurado naman ng singer-actress na hindi na mauulit ang nangyari sa kanya noon na nagka-baby kahit hindi kasal.

"Ay hindi na, dapat ngayon tama na. Ngayon kasal muna bago baby.

Nadala na ako, eh," sey pa niya.

Samantala, kinumpirma naman ni Jennylyn na hihinto na muna siya sa pagpo-pose ng sexy sa FHM.

"Hindi na muna. Pero depende naman. Kung magra-rank ulit, bakit hindi? "Okay lang din kasi kumbaga, sa ano ko ngayon, parang nanay na ako, parang hindi na rin tama na mag-aano-ano pa (magpo-pose ng sexy). "Kasi siyempe, ang tanda ko na rin, parang hindi na ako ganu'n ka-confident," pag-amin pa niya.

Eh, kanino ba niya balak ipasa ang kanyang trono bilang sexiest Pinay?

"Naku, ang dami kong nasa isip, yung girlfriend ni Billy (Crawford), si Coleen Garcia at si Arci Muñoz," wika pa niya.

People...are talking about: Alden Richards

Alden Richards



The sales numbers for the music industry are looking particularly bad but not for showbiz's golden boy. Alden has reached another milestone in his music career as his 2015 first full-length studio titled *Wish I May* (GMA Records) is now a certified 8 times Platinum. The record, which was released at the height of Eat Buluga's "Kalyeserye," sold more than 120,000 units. We wouldn't be surprised if the album reaches Diamond status before the year ends.

Inah de Belen

The daughter of Janice de Belen and John Estrada officially joined the roster of talents managed by GMA Artist Center.

And for her television

debut, she is given

an important assign-

ment, and mind you,

in a starring role. Will

she live up to the

people's expecta-

tion? Will she join the

ranks of showbiz scions able to make a

name for themselves? With the initial feed-

back she's receiving for her role in *Oh My*

Mama!, it's very likely to happen.

KathNiel

The love team's latest screen offering is in the running to become one of the biggest films of 2016. *Barcelona* earned

more than P23 million on its first day and P130 million in just five days. In comparison,

AIDub's Imagine You and Me earned P21 million on its first day and P120 million on its first week when it was released in July.

Truly, Kathryn Bernardo and Daniel Padilla have proven once again that their tandem is still a force to reckon with.

People...are not talking about

Till I Met You

Is the James Reid and Nadine Lustre starrer romantic drama losing steam?

It's easy to tell. Based on the rating data of

TNS Kantar and AGB Nielsen, the

primetime TV series shows

an obvious decline in viewership.

On the other hand, its closest rival,

Descendant of the Sun,

which was almost banned in China early this

year for having

NAGCARLAN PICNIC

LEFT, Ricky Cruz celebrated his 2016 birthday with his wife Edz, and children Sam, and Alex; and with his close friends at Earl Bales Park on Sep. 11, 2016.

RIGHT, Marcus Manansala Palasics celebrated his 4th birthday at North York on Aug. 30, 2016 with play-mates, and friends.



an audience of more than 400 million, was steady strong in its performance in the numbers game. It's a tough competition indeed. But does the series still have time to level up against *Alyas Robinhood*?

Enzo Pineda



The actor went for a physical makeover and is now in perfectly fine form. Actually, he's been flaunting his body literally dropping his trousers for a mass produced undergarment brand. While people understand why Enzo chose

to go all out daring, talent watchers are not really that impressed. Perhaps, instead of spending hours in the gym, he might want to spend some time in acting workshops, too.

Jennylyn Mercado

The so-called "Ultimate Star" should've seen it coming. Her TV project with Pambansang Bae, the local adaptation of the Korean drama entitled *My Love from the Star*

has been shelved to give way to Alden Richards' TV series with Maine Mendoza. Obviously, the network knows how to give priority to its bigger stars.



Spotlight



Buses outside the Tutuban Railway Station, Manila, Philippines. (1987)

LOVI

continued from page 24

Some actors don't settle for less than what is required. Simply because we owe it to our writers, directors, and our bosses who entrusted us with this project. But most especially we owe it to ourselves. An actor's job is to make every scene believable which I'm completely flattered that we have achieved despite a lot of positive and couple of violent reactions.

"But more than anything else, what I'm really thankful about as an actress and as a person who is passionate about her job is that I found in Tom someone who is equally as passionate as I am... who thankfully has a wonderful partner who has been nothing but supportive, real and such a dear friend to me. Thank you, Carla..."

"Mahirap naman talaga trabaho namin, pero nasa tao talaga 'yun na hindi magpadala sa mga superficial na bagay. Work is work. REAL is different from

REEL. And no apologies will be given... unless what I have is less than a job well done."

Derrick: Busy is OK

DERRICK Monasterio is busy taping for his new show, "Tsuper Hero", and also rehearsing for his concert "Oh Boy!" at the Music Museum this Friday with Rocco Nacino, Jake Vargas and Aljur Abrenica.

"Wala munang pahinga but I'm enjoying it," he says. "Mas okay na 'yung busy kaysa wala kang trabaho."

About the "Oh Boy!" concert, Derrick says the audience will be in for an entertaining night of song and music, plus a naughty number where he and his co-stars will dare show some skin. "Sizzling hot ito so don't miss it! Ngayon lang namin ito gagawin on stage at baka hindi na mauit!" he naughtily warns.

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Nathalie locks herself up inside bathroom after sex scene



Nathalie Hart with Luis Alandy and Joem Bascon

NATHALIE Hart used to be known as Princess Snell when she was with ABS-CBN's Star Magic then she later joined GMA's Starstruck when she was 17 years old. She also joined "Survivor Philippines" and played supporting roles in soaps like "My Beloved", "Kasalanan Bang Ibigin Ka", "Captain Barbell", "Yesterday's Bride", "Makapiling Kang Muli", etc.

She then got Leo Dominguez as her manager and changed her name to Nathalie Hart. She did several movies for Regal like "Dilim" and "Somebody to Love". Now, she agrees to go sexy in BG Productions' "Siphayo", an erotic drama that aims to revive the bold and titillating film genre of the Seiko Films era. How far did she go in the movie?

"I have hot love scenes with Luis Alandy, Joem Bascon and Allan Paule," she says. "And yes, I showed some skin, actually, a lot of skin."

What convinced her to accept such a provocative role? "I read the script by Eric Ramos and it's very good. Then napakagaling ng director, si Joel Lamangan, na respetado sa industriya at gusto ko talagang makatrabaho, so I accepted it. Pero kung hindi si Direk Joel, hindi ko tatanggapin."

She admits doing the sex scenes were quite a torture for her. "Sobra akong kinakabahan sa set kasi first time ko gumawa ng love scenes. Noong unang eksenang makikipagromansa ako, hindi ko nakontrol ang emotions ko, nag-iiyak ako at nagkulong sa CR. Tinalakan ako ni direk, hindi raw siya porn director. So I just needed to calm myself at naging okay na ako."

So, which of her three leading men (Luis Alandy, Joem Bascon and Allan Paule) did she enjoy the most? "Para walang problema, I'll just say nag-enjoy ako sa kanilang lahat. Pero hindi naman ako talaga nag-enjoy na hinahalikan nila ako at hinahawakan nila ang katawan ko. Paano ka naman mage-enjoy or mate-turn on sa ganun e ang daming ibang tao sa set, may mga ilaw, kamera? How can you get carried away with that? So ginawa ko na lang ang trabaho ko para matapos na. Nakatulong sa akin si Maria Isabel Lopez, who plays the wife of Allan Paule, kasi she gave me advice. Iba 'yung may kausap kang aktres na nakagawa ng ganito kasi she understands my situation. She told me you should look at the bright side and you're lucky kasi nag-start ka muna sa sweet roles."

E, siya raw, first movie niya, sumabak agad siya sa sexy. E, ako, ang ganda ng material ng 'Siphayo' at si Joel Lamangan pa ang director, so that makes a lot of difference. I really had to prepare myself physically, mentally and emotionally. Kasi making love with three different guys is not an easy thing to do. But now that we've finished it, I can say I'm proud of the movie, so watch it when opens in theatres on October 5."

Aside from "Siphayo", Nathalie is in three other new movies. She plays Joseph Marco's first girlfriend in Regal's romantic-comedy "My Rebound Girl" that opens on September 18 and she has also completed "Balatkayo" with Polo Ravales and "Tisay", an entry in Cinema One Filmfest in November.

Lovi defends self from bashers: No apology



LOVI Poe was alarmed when fans of the Tom Rodriguez-Carla Abellana love team bashed her for doing torrid love scenes with Tom in "Someone to Watch Over Me". "I got worried kasi sabi, tinotoo ko raw 'yung love scenes with Tom kaya awang-awa sila kay Carla," says Lovi. "Insensitive daw ako. Hindi ko raw ba naisip that as a woman, I might hurt the feelings of Tom's loved one."

To clear things about this issue, Lovi decided to write a message in her social media account: "Recently, Tom and I had a lot of good and negative feedbacks about how 'believable' our portrayals are in 'Someone To Watch Over Me'. It was quite upsetting that people actually put so much color into it, just because we wanted to give our best in our craft."

"Some actors don't do it half-baked."

LOVI
continued on page 23

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Alessandra de Rossi vows not to have love life anymore

Actress Alessandra de Rossi stressed several times that she does not want to have a love life anymore during her guest appearance on the morning show, Magandang Buhay

September 26.

Host Karla Estrada then asked, "Pero ito, masasabi mo ba na nagsasalita ka na ng tapos?"

Alessandra, who is now 30 years old, answered, "Of course, at this point, oo naman. Parang narealize ko lang na siguro mas okay talaga ako na single kasi masyado lang akong emotional. Kagaya nga ng sinabi ng nanay ko na masyado talaga akong mapagmahal ng sobra whether friends, family or kahit sinong nandiyan... Ayoko nang masaktan."

According to reports, Alessandra was once linked to actors Sid Lucero, Jeremy Marquez, Biboy Ramirez, Polo Ravales, and Oyo Boy Sotto.



OBAMA continued from page 7

if you do that to me."

At the press conference marking the end of his trip to Laos, Obama said he was unfazed by Duterte's jibe.

"I don't take these comments personally because it seems as if this is a phrase he's used repeatedly including directed at the pope and others," adding that such choice words were "a habit, a way of speaking for him."

Duterte has branded Pope Francis, the US ambassador to Manila and the United Nations as "sons of whores."

However, Obama canceled a meeting with Duterte scheduled for Tuesday because of the outburst.

They met briefly on Wednesday night before a leaders' dinner, but only exchanged "pleasantries," the White House said.

Duterte was elected to office in a landslide this year after pledging to kill 100,000 people in an unprecedented war on crime.

He vowed in the campaign that so many bodies would be dumped in Manila Bay that the fish there would grow fat from feeding on them.

Duterte has also repeatedly promised to protect police from prosecution if they are charged over the deaths and insisted human rights cannot get in the way of his war.

Duterte has said the Philippines is in danger of becoming a "narco state", and eliminating drugs in society is the top priority of his administrations.

On the day he was sworn into office, June 30, Duterte urged people living in a Manila slum to kill drug addicts in their community.

His handpicked police chief, Ronald dela Rosa, last month called for drug addicts to kill traffickers and burn down their homes.

The United Nations special rapporteur on summary executions has warned incitement to kill is a crime under international law.

Despite growing condemnation of the comments and what rights groups say are rampant extrajudicial killings, Duterte has vowed to continue.

"More people will be killed, plenty will be killed until the last pusher is out of the streets," Duterte said on Monday.

Earlier, Obama said the ruling by the Permanent Court of Arbitration in favor of the Philippines in its territorial row with China was already binding, and urged Asean leaders to use

the decision constructively to move forward and lower tensions in the region.

"With respect to maritime issues, we'll continue to work to ensure that disputes are resolved peacefully including in the SCS. The landmark arbitration ruling in July which is binding helped clarify maritime rights in the region," he said.

Leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations on Wednesday expressed serious concern over China's continued and escalating reclamation activities in disputed areas in the South China Sea, even as the 10-member regional bloc avoided mentioning a landmark ruling favoring the Philippines in its row with Beijing.

The Philippines had recently released photos of Beijing's island building in the Scarborough Shoal, labelled "illegal" by the arbitral tribunal whom Philippine officials described as a "worrisome" threat to the country's territorial integrity.

Obama has urged China to adhere to the rule of law and not take unilateral measures that could raise tensions.

China in turn accuses the United States of interference and using the ruling to stoke confrontation.

"I recognize this raises tensions," Obama said referring to the ruling "but I also look forward to discussing how we can constructively move forward together to lower tensions and promote diplomacy and stability."

Obama added that the United States will continue deepening its economic partnerships within the Asean, through the completion of the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP), a free trade agreement of Pacific Rim countries which removes tariff and non-traffic barriers in trade.

The United States also committed to address transnational threats and combat terrorism in Southeast Asia.

"We're expanding our cooperation to address transnational threats."

We will stay vigilant in combating terrorism, including in Southeast Asia, where we have very strong partnerships with many of you."

Asean leaders released a statement on Wednesday saying they were "seriously concerned" over recent developments in the sea.

But intensive Chinese lobbying helped to ensure there was no mention of the July ruling in the Asean statement.

OBAMA
continued on page 24

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DOLOROSA CELEBRATION

Dolorosa Canada had their Welcome party at Qssis to start their 3-day event. The Welcome party, obviously welcomes members and the Hermanos and Hermanos that supports the organization. It also introduces the years Reynas of different barrios and barangays of Dolorosa Quezon. Everyone is welcome and if seats and tables are needed, more are added. The Welcome party opens the 3-day celebration of Dolorosa Canada. Their President is Philip Beloso.

Dolorosa Canada, led by their President Philip Beloso had their annual picnic at Bluffer's park last Sunday, September 4, 2016. it was a nice sunny day and everyone had lots of food, music and great company. It was a wonderful closing celebration to their annual 3-day event with members visiting from the US and Philippines.



Grace Ocampo, Allan Ocampo and Mel Galeon of FV Foods were honored for their support of Dolorosa.



GMA gears up for an Alden-Maine TV series + other stories



Alden Richards is so lucky. For a non-professional singer, his album, "Wish I May", has achieved 8 times platinum according to GMA Records, who has found a real gold mine in him. Not even true singers have reached that kind of status. No wonder he is now all set to release his next album, "Say It Again", on October 10. Its first single, "Rescue Me", is now available and it's fast becoming a favorite of radio listeners. Before this, Alden will hold his first show in London on October 2 as part of GMA Pinoy TV's promo tour.

His fans who have long been clamoring to see him on a primetime show were pleased as his character, the winged Mulawin called Lakan, finally appeared in GMA-7's primetime hit, "Encantadia", as part of the new changes instituted in the show. Director Mark Reyes said the remake or retelling parts have ended and, starting this week, "Encantadia" will start its sequel of all new stories and characters.

Will Alden's added presence in "Encantadia" help to boost the show's ratings? We will find when the next results of the ratings come out.

We're told Alden's part will be with the show for the next three weeks. After that, GMA will be preparing his own primetime soap opposite his reel and real life girlfriend, Maine Mendoza, geared for an early 2017 telecast. Meantime, you can still continue to watch their love team as hosts of "Eat Bulaga".

Yasmien-Katrina match followed

YASMIEN Kurdi is ecstatic that her afternoon show "Sa Piling ni Nanay" continues to be the toprater in its slot

even if a new show was pitted against it. "Nakakatuwa kasi hindi kami iniwan ng loyal followers namin," she says.

"Talaga naman kasing mas umiinit at mas tumitindi ang mga eksena namin ni Katrina Halili at tuwing maghaharap na lang kami sa eksena, lagi kaming nagkaka-pisikalan with matching sampalan at sabunutan na nagki-click nang husto sa viewers. Kasama dito

si Mark Herras who just renewed his contract with GMA Network."

"Thirteen years na ako sa GMA and whatever I have achieved up to this point, utang ko 'yun lahat sa kanila," Mark says. "Kaya I didn't hesitate to renew my contract and be a true blue Kapuso."

Charo, Too classy for an ex-convict role

Charo Santos plays the role of Horacia, a teacher who is imprisoned for a crime she did not commit through the machinations of her boyfriend, Rodrigo (Michael de Mesa) in the Venice filmfest best picture, 'Ang Babaeng Humayo.'

How did Charo prepare for her role, her comeback vehicle after not acting for 17 years and focusing on being an ABS-CBN executive? "I went to an acting workshop by Malou de Guzman, then I went to the Correctional Institution for Women to get to know the place and interview some inmates to get the essence of what it's like to live in prison for years.

"I also had a lot of discussions with our director Lav Diaz about the motivations of my character and my co-actors gave their own contributions, like Mae Paner who said I act too classy for someone who's a convict."

How is it working with Lav? "Lav is a brilliant man, but he's very well-grounded and humble. His passion for cinema is the reason he comes out with excellent movies, kasama na 'yung pagmamahal niya sa bayan. And as a director, he's always cool, calm and collected. Walang tension sa set. Chill lang."

Did they expect to win in Venice? "No, we went there without any expectations.

They just saw the film for its own merits and we're so fortunate to get very good reviews.

Noong awards night, they gave us special treatment, pinasakay kami sa limousine going to the red carpet. Kami ang huling tinawag and the people there said, kapag ganun, we're sure to win something. But they called na the best director, Silver Lion, pero wala pa rin kami at nag-iyakan na kami kasi, 'yun pala, we will win the best picture, the Golden Lion. Masayang-masaya ako for Lav, para sa aming lahat, para sa Philippine cinema because the Golden Lion is a celebration of the Philippine cinema.

I'm so proud of Lav. It deserves a bigger audience at sana, magustuhan ng mga kababayan natin."

Cristina Gonzalez is ready for daughter Sofia to remake her songs

Abala man sa kanyang tungkulin bilang lingkod Bayan ng Tacloban, tutok pa din ang dating aktres na si Cristina Gonzalez Romualdez bilang isang ina sa kanyang anak na si Sofia Gonzalez na kamakailan ay pumirma ng kanyang Management Contract sa Viva Entertainment.

Sa personal niyang pa-anyaya sa ilang miyembro ng press sa kanilang bayan sa Tacloban, proud nanay niyang naikuwento ang pag uumpisa ng kanyang anak na si Sofia sa industriya ng showbiz.

"I really can't say showbiz but her passion is music, she writes music, she plays instruments, she sing songs. Dati hindi ko naman pinapansin pa kasi bata pa naman, but now she really wants to write songs and have an album na, so ngayon naintindihan ko ang kanyang passion bilang isang dating arista."

Dahil sa potensiyal ng kanyang anak sa pag-awit at bilang isang dati din mang aawit naitanong din kay Mayor Cristina kung papayag ba siya na ipamana ang ilan sa kanyang mga naging awitin sa kanyang anak na si Sofia,

"Siguro yung 'Handang Umibig' yun lang siguro yung hindi trendy kasi most of my songs. Parang iba and hindi na bagay siguro sa kanila ngayon, kaya ayun yung medyo pwede niya gawin at akma pa kasi love song."



Pizza Is A Better Workplace Motivator Than Money, Says World's Most Obvious Study

Is there really anything on this planet better than pizza? The combo of melted cheese, customizable toppings, and variety of crust options is truly unbeatable. And for many of us — I'm looking at you, fellow millennial ladies — pizza is the key to our hearts. There's no denying its deliciousness, but did you know it's also a powerful motivational tool? If you're like me, then, yes. But now there's real evidence to prove what we've known all along.

A study presented in Dan Ariely's new book, *Payoff: The Hidden Logic That Shapes Our Motivations*, revealed that pizza can unlock a person's full potential, First We Feast reported (probably feeling very vindicated in the process). The experiment presented in the book took place at a semiconductor factory in Israel. There, the workers were separated into four groups, and each group was promised a different reward for their work. The rewards included \$30 bonuses, "well done" text messages from the boss, and, you guessed it, pizza. There was also a control group, which wasn't promised any sort of incentive. Must have been a bummer to be placed in that group.

So, you must know where this is going. At the end of the week, those who were promised they would receive the pizza reward performed 6.7% better overall than the control group. (That explains how I managed to perform so well in my third grade math-a-thon. The pizza party prize must have temporarily transformed me into a numerical genius.)

Even more surprising are the results from the \$30 bonus group. On the second day of the study, these workers actually performed 13.2% worse than the control group. The employees who got the "attaboys" from their boss performed almost as well as the pizza peeps, at 6.6% better than the control.

The takeaway: If you're a boss, show your workers some love by treating them to a pizza party. It won't just improve morale, it will up their productivity, too.

HEAVEN continued from page 10

ing turned emotional, she said that no amount of money could match how happy she is feeling. Maymay said that she made the most out of the opportunity — to have the Kapamilya star as her boyfriend for the day. She also stressed the importance of doing your best to achieve your dreams.

Big Brother, on the other hand, said while he was just testing how far Maymay will go for her dreams, she was able to prove herself.

As for Enrique who promised Maymay that they will go on another date after her stay at the PBB house, he wishes her the best, telling her to think positive and not to change.



OBAMA from page 24

Asean works by consensus, and China has successfully pressured Cambodia and Laos in recent years to ensure the bloc does not gang together to pressure Beijing.

However, the Philippines released photos on Wednesday it said showed renewed Chinese island-building activity, in a deliberate move to throw the issue into the spotlight.

The Chinese ships were at Scarborough Shoal, a small fishing ground within the Philippines' exclusive economic zone that China took control of in 2012.

If China did build an island at the shoal, it could lead to a military outpost just 230 kilometers from the main Philippine island, where US forces are stationed.

It would also be a major step in China's quest to control the sea, giving it the ability to enforce an air defense identification zone across the waters.

Obama warned Chinese President

Xi Jinping in March not to build at the shoal.

Chinese island-building in the Spratly archipelago—another strategically important location—has already triggered various US military shows of strength.

The United States has sent warships close to the new islands, and warplanes over them, deeply angering China.

Security analysts have said Chinese island-building at Scarborough Shoal could trigger a military confrontation.

China insisted repeatedly this week it was not undertaking any island-building activities at the shoal.

A barrage of other security threats were also in focus in Laos on Thursday, including North Korea's nuclear ambitions following its latest missile tests.

Obama warned on Monday that Kim Jong-Un's regime was dooming itself to further isolation, and the UN Security Council condemned the tests.

But North Korea responded by threatening on Wednesday to take "further significant measures."

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RIGHT, Ted Dayno and wife Rhodora attend Imelda Gasmena Bautista's birthday at Rembrandt last August 6.

BELOW, Mel Galeon, Joy D'Aoust pose with Abra and Bamboo.

BOTTOM, Dr. Solon Guzman, Girlie padillo and son pose at the FBANA tournament.



ABOVE, PCCF Beauties Krista Bella, Lea Alinsod and Chiara Silo pose at an event. BELOW, PCCF beauty Chiara Silo pretends to milk a cow statue.



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Dr. Mark Mojgani

-Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon
-Periodontist

Nickee Dela Cruz-Recuenco & Gayle Baylon
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