

Killings are not state-sponsored-CHR

However, Amnesty International's 2016 report accuses the PNP of paying officers and assassins to kill alleged drug offenders

MANILA - Extrajudicial killings in President Duterte's war on drugs are not state-sponsored, according to an official of the Commission on Human Rights



Speaking on the sidelines of a CHR-sponsored forum on women and children victims of the campaign against narcotics on Monday, CHR Commissioner Gwen Pimentel-Gana said there was no official policy ordering the Philippine National Police to kill suspected drug pushers and users.

"We never said that it was state-sponsored at all," Gana said.
"There is no such finding that we can conclude that way. But what we can say is that the killings are still continuing and in an apparent vigilante manner [by] unknown assailants, so this is a police matter and they should be attending to this right away," she said.

All the current CHR officials are appointees of then President Benigno Aquino III: Chair Jose Luis Gascon and Commissioners Karen Gomez-Dumpit, Leah Tanodra-Armamento, Roberto Cadiz and Gana.

Written policy

Gana said that to conclude that the war on drug killings were state-sponsored, there must be a written policy.
But she acknowledged that no such policy could be found, "because who will do that?"

KILLINGS
continued on page 23

Pinoylicious



FV Foods' Mel Galeon finishes plating the Brazo de Mercedez at the Pinoylicious event.

SANYA Lopez

Heating up Encantadia



LIZA SOBERANO
Is she the next Darna?



It's Official: Jollibee To Open In Scarborough This Year

It's Official: Jollibee Will Be Opening In Scarborough This Year @insideretail
Attention Filipinos and food lovers – Jollibee Canada will be opening a second fast-food restaurant in Scarborough this year.
As per an announcement made a few months ago, Jollibee will be arriving at the Kennedy Commons area in Scarborough along Kennedy Road just north of Ellesmere Road. It will be the second location in the GTA, following the opening of another chain in Mississauga.
As of now, there are no official opening dates; however, some job postings were made available a few weeks ago (some are now closed). Stay tuned for more on this story in the upcoming months!

Filipina Movement



Ambassador Garcia joins the panel on the Filipino Women's Network at the Toronto Consulate.



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Why Angel Locsin can no longer play Darna

MANILA -- Actress Angel Locsin no longer can play the Filipina superhero Darna in Star Cinema's movie adaptation of the Mars Ravelo-created character.

In an interview with ABS-CBN News reporter MJ Felipe, Locsin explained that she had to back out again because



of her spine problem. According to the actress, who already played the superhero before, it was her training coach who reported to ABS-CBN that she was

again feeling pain in her back. "Actually hindi ako nag-report. Nalaman na lang nila kasi nakatutok ang ABS-CBN sa training. Na-report ng coach ko na nakaramdam ako ng pain ulit. Sinabihan na ako ng ABS-CBN, 'O pinipilit mo na naman, masyado mong pinipilit, baka kailangang pag-usapan 'yung safety mo talaga,'" Locsin recounted.

"Sinabihan ako ng doctor ko na hindi ako bibigyan ng clearance kapag nakaramdam ako ng pain. Gusto kong magawa siya kasi parang ang daming umaasa. Ayaw kong maka-disappoint kahit alam ko na inilagay ko na ang sarili ko sa risk," she added.

On Monday, Star Cinema managing director Malou Santos announced that Locsin will no longer play Darna in the upcoming movie due to health reasons.

The film's director Erik Matti stressed that he and Star Cinema are just after the welfare of Locsin.

The announcement was made more than a year after Locsin backed out from doing the project after her spine was damaged.

Honey Shot

Cecilia is currently a contestant for Miss Teen PCCF 2017. Cecilia plays volleyball and badminton. Someday, she would want to be Psychiatrist. We wish her all the luck.



Cecilia Gamit Hussanee

US ready to provide more military assistance to PHL, says US envoy Kim

United States Ambassador Sung Kim on Monday assured President Rodrigo Duterte that the Philippines' long-time ally would remain committed to the nation's defense alliance.

Kim paid a courtesy call on Duterte in Davao City where they discussed the Philippines and the US relations, presidential spokesperson Ernesto Abella said in a statement.

"On H.E. Sung Kim part, he is quite proud of the cooperation between US and PH intelligence forces in terms of intelligence and information sharing, training and equipment support," he said.

"H.E. Sung Kim also assured PRRD that the US understands the security concerns of the Philippines and that the US is ready to provide more military equipment, assistance and training," he added.

Despite his sentiments against the US especially during the administration of former President Barack Obama, Duterte reiterated the partnership of the two countries in his meeting with Kim.

"The President said that PH-US relations at the bilateral level remain strong and there is readiness to discuss more matters of mutual interest with the US," Abella said.

"They agreed that PH and the US have mutual interests and shared values. Both stressed that these fruitful engagements and discussions are very important in ensuring that both states are on the same page," he added.

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Tax church-run schools like NYC taxed the PHL Consulate when it rented out space

When the city of New York found out that the Philippine Consulate was renting out spaces to fast food eateries, the threatened to revoke its tax-free status. The Consulate stopped renting out the spaces.

Complaints about TV show Madam Secretary about portrayal of Philippine president

They complained more about a fictional TV show than China passing at Benham Rise. Ano ba iyan?

Republican President Trump achieves 2 things

1. President Trump managed to silence his own party - the Republican party. Not even former Democrat President Obama was able to do that. From his accusations of election fraud to wiretapping, the Republicans are curiously silent on these accusations. They just wish he would stop making them.
2. Divide the Republican party. The Republican party withdrew the bill repealing Obamacare because they did not have enough votes. So, rather than face defeat in the House of representatives, they withdrew it from consideration. Ironically, they have the majority, an absolute control of Congress and the White House. Regrettably, they are 10 to 15 short of the votes to pass it because their own members were going to vote against it. Fortunately, there still members of the Republican party who worries about the 24 million who will lose health care if their party bill passes. So, they were going to vote against it.

Another warning about corruption from whistleblower Jun Lozada about the National Broadband Project.

Wala nang kaptapusan ito. He gave that warning before. If all the major players involved in the bidding were cleared of corruption, why not just ask the Chinese company ZTE to proceed with the project. Whether they will keep the same price is very doubtful. That's understandable. After all, that was two presidents ago. The Philippines got lucky that China did not sue us for restitution. They simply said not to involve them in our zarzuela. If we open a bidding again, the losers will claim corruption again and we are back to a never-ending investigation again. It just never ends. And projects never get started and stay on budget.

Nothing New

Remaking, or rebooting old movies - call it what you want - and changing the gender of the star from male to female or vice versa is not really being creative, or exciting. It is the same with killing a popular character in a TV series. Once, one TV show did it and gave a bump to their ratings, everybody copied it.

You can demand an apology but you'll never get one

Duterte ally demands apology from New York Times Now, it's the New York Times destabilizing the Duterte government. Davao City Rep. Karlo Alexei Nograles said the Times article was "nothing more than a rebooted, rehashed, exaggerated remake of a movie script." Well, at least he did not say that it is fabricated or a lie.



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Ed Tubale

First Golden Balangay Awards For Filipino Canadian Achievers Launch

By Tony A. San Juan, OCT.



TORONTO - Truly meeting the long-cherished desire of recognizing purposefully the “remarkable achievements of Filipino Canadians across Canada”, the 1st Golden Balangay Awards was significantly launched on March 18, 2017 at the Edward Village Hotel in North York, Toronto. Thus, the first nationwide search for outstanding Filipinos in Canada is now underway !

Under the auspices of iKubo Media and Awards Online Canada, the initiative will provide a vehicle for the pangalahatang masa to choose and honour the high achievers and exemplary members of the ever-growing community in respect of their highly significant contributions and meaningful participation into the life, work and well-being of the Filipino Canadian and mainstream communities.

Specifically, the Balangay Awards aim “to promote excellence, hard work, higher education, entrepreneurship, public service and community involvement.” When asked why the name Balangay was chosen,

Ronnie De La Gana, iKubo CEO and project co-founder reasoned out that : “ we wanted a moniker that would symbolize our journey in chasing our collective dreams as well as one that would give us the sense of community.”

The Project's major sponsors and partners are: Awards Online, Canadian Industry Event Awards, Filipino TV, iKubo Media, Kubo Magazine, Philippine Chamber of Commerce -Toronto, Pinoy Radio and Proximity Wave.

Nominations are now accepted and will close on August 12, 2017. The full list of nominees and judges will be announced on August 19, 2017. The Awards Night will be held on September 9, 2017(Saturday) at the BMO Institute for Learning. For more details about the awards and to nominate , visit : www.goldenbalangayawards.com or contact : Ronnie Dela Gana at 647-300-1970. With the mantra “Libo-libong kwento ng paglalakbay, isang gabing pagdiriwang”, aptly encapsulates the novel celebration of the 2017 Golden Balangay Awards.

Pinas Sarap shows a different taste of Philippine cuisine starting April 9

Prepare for a gastronomic journey featuring Filipino food as GMA News TV launches “Pinas Sarap”, the newest travel documentary and cooking program to hit international television starting April 9 on GMA Life TV.

Pinas Sarap is the latest addition to GMA News TV's buffet of top-notch public affairs programs and hosting it is no less than award-winning documentarist Kara David.

Every week, Kara takes viewers on an adventure that will enable them to have a deeper understanding and appreciation of Filipino food. Each trip will present the history behind the featured local dish as well as the latest unique Filipino cuisine.

Discover the story behind each dish that has become part of the Pinoy life and find out how these dishes have evolved over the years to answer Filipinos' ever-evolving palate.

Known for her adventurous nature, Kara further rolls up her sleeves as she immerses herself in each featured dish—from gathering ingredients to actual cooking. “You will continue to see my adventurous side because I will be joining fishermen, farmers, and ordinary people in getting the ingredients for each recipe,” she shares. Viewers will see Kara milking a carabao, hunting for octopus, fishing in the ocean, among others.

For its pilot episode, Kara travels to Bicol to learn the origin of the popular dish “Bicol Express”. And to make it more exciting, Kara joins a group of fishermen as they catch balaw or shrimp directly from the sea. The balaw gives this spicy food an extra flavor. Bicolanos are known to be “uragon” or brave, thus the spicy characteristic of most of their dishes. But not everyone knows that the name Bicol Express came from the train that used to travel from Manila to Bicol.

Savor our history and discover new flavors of Filipino food as Kara David invites you to Pinas Sarap, every Sunday starting April 9 on GMA's international channel, GMA TV.



Camille Prats, nanloko ng dating boyfriend?

Tampok sa Mars Sharing Group ang Pinoy hugot song na "Let Me Be The One" ni pop singer Jimmy Bondoc at sa hindi inaasahang pagkakataon ay may naibahagi si Mars Camille Prats tungkol sa kanyang past relationship.



Kinumpleto ng TV host ang song lyrics sa pamamagitan ng pagdagdag niya ng sariling words sa kanta: "Let me be the one to

break it up so we won't have to make loko each other."

Nangyayari daw ito lalong-lalo na sa mga hindi pa seryoso makipagrelasyon, "Kasi minsan ang mga ganyan naglolokohan pa kayo or parang 'yung isang tao [is] trying to do something para bigyan ka nila ng dahilan para makipaghiwalay sa kanya."

Naranasan raw ito kasi ng Kapuso star at patawa niyang inamin, "Gawain ko 'yun eh. Natatandaan ko, Mars, siyempre bagets pa naman ako noon."

Kuwento niya sa programa, "Hindi ko na masyadong bet 'yung jowa ko, Mars, pero feeling ko hindi ko kayang makipag-break so gumagawa na lang ako ng mga dahilan para ayaw niya na sa akin [at] para mabuwisit na lang siya."

Nang lumaki na ang dating sikat na child star, naging mature na rin siya para harapin ang mga ganitong klaseng pangyayari.

"Na-realize ko na hindi rin pala siya dapat. You have to be upfront with the person tapos maging honest ka na lang kasi pinapatagal tapos niloloko mo na lang 'yung sarili mo [at] sinasaktan mo pa [ang tao]," pagtatapos ng Mars host.

Happily married na ngayon si Camille sa kanyang dating kaklase na si VJ Yambao at kasalukuyan niyang pinagbubuntis ang kanilang anak.

'Liza Soberano was considered as the next Darna'

Talent manager and host Ogie Diaz has confirmed that his talent Liza Soberano was considered as the next Darna.

"Isa siya sa mga choices," said Ogie in an interview with the press.

Ogie said he would accept the role for Liza in the event that it was offered to her.

"Itong Darna, super hero, maraming may gusto na gumanap pa ring Darna," he said.

"Imagine-in mo yung history ng mga gumanap na Darna, like si ate Vi (Wilma Santos), so kung si Liza ang mapipili for the role, siyempre tatanggapin namin 'yun," he continued.

Meanwhile, Ogie likewise commented on the persistent suggestions for Liza to join a beauty pageant. Many were saying that the My Ex and Whys star was a shoo-in for the crown.

Unlike many, however, Ogie isn't too keen in letting Liza join any beauty pageant.

"Paano kung hindi siya manalo? Sa tingin ko, hindi niya na naman kailangang sumali sa Bb. Pilipinas dahil Liza Soberano na siya," said Ogie.

The seasoned entertainment columnist likewise stressed that Liza is really busy these days.

"At ang dami-dami niyang raket, kaya hindi niya na mabibigyan ng oras yung training para sa Bb. Pilipinas," he further explained.

According to Ogie, the Binibining Pilipinas is the best avenue for newbies who are looking at a good jumpstart in their career.

"Ang dapat sumali sa Bb Pilipinas, yung mga baguhan lang, na kung mananalo sila ay makakatulong sa kanila yung title," Ogie stated.



Zsa-Zsa wedding tuloy

IT was in May last year nang sumambulat ang paghihiwalay ng engaged couple na sina Architect Conrad Onglao at ang tinaguriang Divine Diva na si Zsa Zsa Padilla ending their two-year relationship. Ang dating couple ay nakatakda sanang magpakasal sa isang lugar in Europe noong nakaraang

September pero ito'y naudlot nang magkahiwalay ang dalawa. Pero almost five months after their break-up ay muling nagkabalikan ang dalawa last October.

Marami ang naniniwala na malamang ituloy pa rin nina Conrad at Zsa Zsa ang kanilang planong pagpapakasal sa ibang bansa na malamang mangyari within the year.

Announcement!
To all Bicolanos and Bicolanas

The 4th. month Novena Devotions to the Virgin of Penafrancia will be on April 9, 2017, Sunday . (second Sunday of April)

Feast Day Celebrations will be on the 3rd Saturday of September, September 16, 2017.

This month's Novena Devotions:
Date: April 9, 2017, Sunday (2nd Sunday of April)
Place: Our Lady of Assumption Church (OLA) 2565 Bathurst St. Toronto
Time: 2:00 pm Devotion starts
Rosary
Novena to the Virgin of Pnafrancia
Holy Mass
Refreshments, Kumustahan at the Church Hall

Sponsors for this month - Devotees of the Virgin of Penafrancia from Sorsogon, hosted by Toti and Nati Gutierrez.

We encourage all bicolanos from Sorsogon to attend and participate in the sponsorship of this novena to the Virgin, for abundant blessings for the province of Sorsogon and the Bicol Region.

Our Lady of the Virgin of Penafrancia is the Patroness of the BICOL region. SHE listens and Loves us all !

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No turning back from war on drugs

President willing to die to win fight against illegal drugs trade

MANILA - The President said there was “no turning back” in his anti-drug efforts, adding that human rights and due process could not be used as an excuse to allow drug traffickers and their protectors in high places to destroy the country.

“Do not rely on due process and human rights. It won’t pass, we will still see each other in hell,” Duterte said during the recent turnover of a drug rehabilitation facility n Davao del Norte. He even warned that he will show no mercy to drug pushers and their protectors as the government continues its campaign against the narcotics trade.

“You think that those two basic principles can protect you. Well I’ll tell you, I’m sorry. It cannot,” he added.

The President said he is determined to “catch” the drug pushers and “preserve” the Filipino nation from the enormous drug problem without resorting to the declaration of martial law. “Martial law? Mine is to preserve the Filipino nation. I don’t think I need to impose Habeas Corpus, suspension, martial law. It is given that I will protect and defend the Constitution of the Philippines and protect the Filipino people,” he said.

“There’s no turning back because it is my job. When I took my oath of office, I have to protect the Filipino people,” he said.

Duterte also said he was ready to die, go to prison or be removed from office amid the government’s deadly campaign against the narcotics trade.

He also reaffirmed his vow to protect law enforcers performing their duty, saying he will take full responsibility if they are forced to kill criminals to defend their lives.

“Do not scare me because I am not scared to go to prison or face the firing squad. It actually feels good to die knowing that you have protected the nation,” he said.

“I am willing to be assassinated for

whatever reason or you sabotage the plane I am than die while using illegal drugs. I will be glad to die for my country,” he added.

The government has drawn criticisms for the soaring death toll linked to its deadly war on illegal drugs. Some groups have deplored the alleged human rights violations from the spate of killings since the administration started. But the government has repeatedly argued that it was not behind the alleged extrajudicial killings in the country.

He said the country’s drug problem has become enormous with the suspected involvement of government officials and lawmen.

He said 6,000 police and 32 municipal mayors were allegedly involved in illegal drug trade while 40 percent of the country’s barangay captains are into the drugs.

RELAUNCH ‘TOKHANG’

Senator Alan Peter Cayetano urged the Duterte administration and the Philippine National Police (PNP) to relaunch their anti-drug campaign that came to be known as “Oplan Tokhang.”

The senator said that for 31 years since the EDSA Revolution, people go out and clamor for change and cited how the Duterte administration’s war on drugs has brought change in the communities.

The senator pointed out how illegal drugs play a factor in 60 percent of the crimes committed in the country.

WIN BACKS ‘TOKHANG’

For his part, Senator Sherwin Gatchalian said yesterday he has no qualms over the proposal for President Duterte to re-launch his intensive war on drugs, but that rogue

cops within the PNP should first be taken out.

“I’ve served in the local government for a long time and I know what really needs to be done by our police and this administration is to cleanse the ranks of the PNP. That should be the priority,” Gatchalian said.

Duterte suspended his drug campaign after the killing of Korean businessman Jee Ick Joo whom members of the PNP’s Anti-Kidnapping Group (AKG) “arrested” supposedly for being a drug suspect.

Gatchalian said there is no doubt the Duterte administration’s intensive war on drugs was effective even though his program of change, particularly his fight against illegal drugs, “raised a lot of eyebrows.”

The senator said it is essential that the government finds an effective strategy and the right balance to counter the illegal drug trade, which he noticed is also slowly seeping back in unsuspecting communities.

DUTERTE’S FOLLOWERS

Sultan Yusoph Impal Guinto of the Muslim Center in San Miguel, Manila, who came to the event together with 500 others, said they came because they are willing to sacrifice their life for Duterte.

“Handa kaming itaya ang buhay namin para sa pagsuporta namin kay President Duterte,” he said. “Wag nating harangan ang pamamalakat niya sa Pilipinas, kundi dapat ay suportahan natin siya.”

He said that the Muslim Center has become more peaceful since Duterte started the war on drugs.

“Sa amin sa Muslim Center, ngayon ay tahimik na. Nawala na ‘yung mga drug lord,” he said.



Kapuso’s chinito heartthrob

Social media influencer, model and now aspiring actor David Licauco has been tagged as Kapuso Network’s “Chinito Heartthrob.”

It’s a fitting moniker for the Mr. Chinatown 2014 first runner-up, who recently signed with GMA-7 and Regal Films.

The showbiz newbie gets his baptism of fire as he joins the stellar cast of GMA’s upcoming fantaserye, *Mulawin vs. Ravena*, the much-awaited sequel of the 2004 TV epic, *Mulawin*.

He reveals, “I’ll be playing Malik. It’s a new character.”

“I’ll be the best friend of Bea Binene, whose character was played by Angel Locsin before.”

“I’ll be doing a lot of action stuff, ‘coz I heard there will be a lot of fight scenes.

Because of his action-intensive role, David has been getting physical lately—hitting the gym to pack more muscle, and getting back into his martial arts regimen, which includes Muay Thai, boxing and even arnis.

“It’s a great honor to have been included in this epicserye!” David exclaims.

“Not many newbies get the chance to act alongside such established artists, and I’m still amazed by the sheer immensity of the entire production! Mounting a fantasy series with all the props and costumes is no joke! It’s almost like a Hollywood feel!”

“This early, I’d like to thank the management and of course, the production staff for trusting me with this role. I’m still a work in progress, but I promise to give it my best shot!”

Despite being the showbiz greenhorn among the cast members, David finds himself blending in well with the group.

“I’ve been bonding more with Kiko [Estrada], but I’m slowly getting to know more of them.”

“I must admit that even now, I still feel kinda starstruck being amongst such luminaries, like Carla Abellana and Dennis Trillo,” he confesses.

Aside from immersing himself in acting workshops, David has improved immensely with his conversational Tagalog.

“I’ve been reading a lot of Tagalog books lately, and watching a lot of local flicks. I actually checked out the original *Mulawin* series, just to cop the right feel,” he says.

David is also currently working on a movie project for Regal Films, *Flames of Summer*, where he stars alongside Isabelle de Leon and Martin del Rosario.

He will also be appearing in GMA-7’s newly-launched teleserye, *Pinulot Ka Lang Sa Lupa*.

David is currently managed by ALV Talent Circuit and GMA Artist Center.

DOF mulls taxing idle lands

MANILA - The Department of Finance (DOF) is considering to draft a legislative proposal that would require the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) to tax real estate properties that have not been developed for at least 10 to 20 years to encourage owners to either develop them or lend them to local communities for utilization.

To recall, President Rodrigo Duterte earlier made pronouncements of his desire to impose heavy tax on idle lands.

According to him, if a certain property hasn’t been developed for 10 to 20 years, he will double its real estate tax or triple it unless the property owners are willing to lend it to somebody or to the local government units (LGU) for the community to use it temporarily.

Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III said he will consider proposing measures on taxing idle lands.

“It’s a certainly good measure to consider,” Dominguez said. “We will consider it on orders of the President but you know taxing idle lands will go to local governments, that doesn’t go to national government.”

During the term of former President Benigno Aquino III, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and DOF issued a joint memorandum that reinforced a 1991 legislation that imposes ad valorem tax on idle lands.

According to Duterte, idle lands could be used for agriculture ventures to help improve the country’s food production.

In line with this, Dominguez said he will also push for a legislation that would order BIR to set an adjusted tax rates for the land values of all cities across the country.

Dominguez pointed out that such adjustment is needed because some cities have not adjusted their rates for almost 25 or 30 years.

“Local government officials approached me and they liked that approach because they can blame the BIR in setting the rates but they are the beneficiaries,” the finance chief said. “We are willing to take the blame but many things will go to the local government.”

As part of the Comprehensive Tax Reform Program (CTRP) of the DOF, there is now a legislative proposal that would grant a one-time amnesty on estate tax payments and lowering its rate from the current 5-20 percent to a flat 6 percent

At the presentation of the 2017 national budget last year, Dominguez said that lowering estate tax rates will encourage the updated documentation of land ownership and the development of idle lands, which, in turn will “unlock the land market, help local government units raise more revenues and encourage more efficient land use that can help foster investments and create jobs.”



Ontario Filipino Women’s Club (OFWC) held its election at the Toronto Public Library - Saint James Town Branch on February 18, 2017. Newly elected President Anne Yamoto, and Vice President Chona Stinson promised an open and cooperative BOARD. Other board members are Cerena Masu, Mary Grace Enciso, Purisima Robinson, Marilyn Rasie, Ludivina Cabales; and treasurer Noemi. The after party FOOD and DANCING was indeed a FUN to everybody. PHOTOGRAPHY BY ARIEL RAMOS

Labor dept issues new rules to fight ‘endo’



MANILA - The Department of Labor and Employment released new rules that it hoped would end illegal labor contractualization.

Employers and labor groups have wrangled for months over the guidelines, which aims to help President Rodrigo Duterte deliver on his campaign promise to stop “endo,” wherein employment contracts are deliberately terminated before the sixth month to avoid paying benefits that are due to regular workers.

Labor Secretary Silvestre Bello acknowledged the “impasse” and said he was compelled to use his powers under law to “put closure to this issue.”

Bello said he instructed his undersecretaries, Joel Maglunsod and Bernard Olalia to review its enforcement.

The department said the following practices are prohibited:

- Labor-only contracting
- Farming out work to a “cabo”
- Contracting out of job or work through an in-house agency
- Contracting out of job or work through an in-house cooperative that merely supplies workers to its principal
- Contracting out of a job or work because of a strike or lockout, whether actual or imminent
- Contracting out of a job or work being performed by union members and such will

interfere or coerce employees in the exercise of their rights to self-organization

- Requiring the contractor’s or subcontractors’ employees to perform functions which are currently being performed by the regular employees of the principal

- Requiring the contractor’s or sub-contractor’s employees to sign, as a precondition to employment or continued employment, an antedated resignation letter, a blank payroll, a waiver of labor standards, including minimum wages and social or welfare benefits, or a quit claim releasing the principal or contractor from liability as to payment of future claims, or require the employee to be a member of a cooperative

- Repeated hiring by the contractor or subcontractor of employees under an employment contract of short duration

- Requiring employees under a contracting/subcontracting arrangement to sign a contract fixing the period of employment to a term shorter than the term of the service agreement, unless the contract is divisible into phases for which substantially different skills are required and this is made known to the employee at the time of the engagement

- Such other practices, schemes or employment arrangements designed to circumvent the right of workers to security of tenure



Uber complies partly with LTFRB, no suspension yet

Metro Manila (CNN Philippines Staff) — Drivers and users of the popular ride-sharing app Uber can heave a sigh of relief.

Uber will not be suspended after complying with some requirements set by the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB).

The LTFRB gave online transport applications until March 4 to display four requirements on their mobile apps including their drivers’ case numbers in a bid to reduce the number of drivers who have not registered their service with the government.

LTFRB board member Aileen Lizada said there were four requirements that Uber needed to comply with: a picture of the driver; the name of the driver; the vehicle’s plate number; and the case number. Users of Uber can see the first three except the case number.

The reprieve was given to Uber after the LTFRB’s legal department received on March 3, a report indicating partial compliance, Lizada told CNN in an interview.

She added, “The Board has yet to sit down and set it to another hearing – either this week or next week – to determine the next move of the board.”

The requirements for compliance come as the LTFRB works to clear a backlog of nearly 30,000 applications to operate units under Uber.

Lizada said that in 2016, they received 28,000 applications covering 32,000 units. This prompted the board to issue a suspension on applications in Metro Manila on July 2016, while suspension on the processing of existing applications nationwide was imposed in September 2016.

“So out of the 32,000, more or less, 2,000 plus have been approved. So the balance would be somewhere around 29,000 to 30,000,” Lizada said.

LTFRB’s role is to accredit transport network companies such as Uber “while we await guidance from Congress for legislation of this new technology.”

It also “troubleshoots” irregularities such as price surges and monitors compliance with LTFRB requirements.

In December 2017, the LTFRB asked Uber and Grab, another app-based transport hailing service, to place a cap on price adjustments amid consumer complaints on sky-high fares during the Christmas season

In January 2017, A group of taxi drivers filed a petition to cancel the permits of the app-based services.

Uber began operations in the Philippines in February 2014.

In May 2015, the Philippines became the first country in the world to create ride-sharing regulations.

In November 2014, the company tested cash payments in the country to make it more accessible to commuters and passengers.



International news anchor Annalisa Burgos joins ANC

ANC LAUNCHES NEW MORNING SHOW “EARLY EDITION”

There’s a new morning show on ANC, the ABS-CBN News Channel to jumpstart our day with the top news and business stories in the country and around the globe.

“Early Edition,” anchored by TJ Manotoc and Annalisa Burgos, debuted last Monday (Feb 27) to deliver the latest news, financial updates, and breaking news reports as early as 5:30 am from Monday to Friday.

The fast-paced news-oriented program also features veteran broadcaster Paolo Abrera and ANC news correspondents Michelle Ong and Christian Esguerra to help TJ and Annalisa in arming viewers with significant and relevant information and analysis that they can use as they face another busy day ahead.

To add spice in the morning, “Early Edition” will also have sports, lifestyle, and entertainment news, and live discussions on the trending topics in the country and in the world today. Resident ANC analyst Richard Heydarian will also be there to explain and dissect issues on foreign relations and foreign policy.

The show formally introduces Annalisa as the newest anchor of ANC, considered as the gold standard in news and analysis in the Philippines. The Los Angeles-born international journalist brings with her over 17 years of experience as a multi-media journalist covering news, business, and lifestyle beats in Asia, New York City, Washington, DC, and Los Angeles.

Prior to joining ANC, Annalisa was an anchor and lifestyle correspondent for Channel NewsAsia’s regional English-language morning show “FirstLook Asia,” where she got to interview global newsmakers. She also hosted a popular weekly food and travel series “What’s Cooking,” covering topics like luxury travel in Japan, fine dining on the Mekong River and sustainable farming in Central Vietnam.

Before moving to Asia, Annalisa was a New York-based anchor, reporter and editor for several major media companies, including Yahoo, HGTV, Forbes, CNBC and Bloomberg. She graduated from UCLA and Columbia University’s Graduate School of Journalism.

Aside from “Early Edition,” she also fronts “News Now” on ANC at 10am and 11am.

Catch “Early Edition” on ANC and ANC HD from Monday to Friday at 5:30am. For more information, visit news. abs-cbn.com/anc, or follow ANC on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ANCAlerts>) and Twitter (@ANCAlerts).

PACQUIAO-KHAN FIGHT IS DEAD

MANILA, Philippines -- The proposed May 20 showdown between Manny Pacquiao and Amir Khan will not push through, says Top Rank chief executive Bob Arum. Arum, who had always been skeptical about the fight due to financial issues, said that the fight was “dead.”



Duterte OKs national broadband program



MANILA, Philippines - President Duterte has approved the national broadband program, a project that was canceled during the Arroyo administration following allegations of corruption.

The matter was discussed in a Cabinet meeting at Malacañang, Agriculture

Secretary Emmanuel Piñol said in an online post.

“President Duterte has approved the establishment of a national government portal and a national broadband plan during the 13th Cabinet meeting. After a presentation made by Department of Information and Communications Technology Secretary Rodolfo Salalima, President Duterte emphasized the need for faster communications in the country,” the post read.

Piñol said Duterte had wanted “to develop a national broadband plan to accelerate the deployment of fiber optic cables and wireless technologies to improve internet speed.”

An executive order is needed to implement the national government portal.

The government under then president Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo intended to establish a similar network that would link all government agencies via the internet.



US bans most electronic devices, including cameras, on flights from eight countries

If you are planning to fly to the US from some Middle-Eastern and African countries and carry camera equipment or other electronics, you should probably have a closer look at the new rules put in place by the Trump Administration on Tuesday.

Passengers departing from 10 airports in Jordan, Egypt, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Morocco, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates won't be allowed to carry on electronic devices larger than a cellphone. This includes laptops, tablets and cameras.

The new rules took effect at 3 a.m. E.D.T. on Tuesday, and must be followed within 96 hours by foreign airlines flying to the United States from the affected airports – but not US-carriers. It is currently unknown how long the ban will remain in place.

According to Royal Jordanian airlines, medical items are exempt from the ban and banned electronic items can still be transported in checked baggage. Officials estimate that overall 50 daily flights to the US will be affected. Homeland Security says the ban is not based on a threat of an imminent attack.

Knights of Rizal Canada Regional Commander sends report on the recent 21st International Assembly in Davao & Tagum Cities

By Sir Ed Prillo, KGOR,Regional Commander, Canada Region, Knights of Rizal



Sir Jo Damasco and Sir Jojo Taturan attend the KOR Int'l Assembly in Davao.

The 21st KOR International Assembly Conference started with the Parade and Wreath laying ceremony at Rizal Monument, San Pedro St. Davao City, with Sir Bert Nanquil, KGCR who deliver the Tribute to Dr. Jose Rizal.

All the delegates then proceed to SMX Convention Center for the Processional March, headed by Chapter Commanders, Area Commanders, Regional Commanders, Council of Elders and Supreme Council with Entry of Colors and the Tagum Quartet and Teachers Performing Arts provided the entertainment. The afternoon first speaker Sir Reynato Puno, KGCR deliver the History of Federalism while Hon. Nene Pimentel Jr. delivered the Philippines change in Government from Unitary to Federalism.

Sir Reynato Puno, KGCR confer our president Sir Rodrigo Roa Duterte to KGCR and his Honorable deliver a short message follow by group photo opportunity with all the delegates. While Sir Gerry Singson, KGCR received the Rizal Pro Patria Award as the

outgoing Supreme Commander of the Order.

The Second Plenary session started with Sec. Adelino B. Sitoy who deliver the National and Local Initiatives Presently Being undertaken towards a shift to Federalism. Followed by Atty. Raul L. Lambino who deliver the Problem in Transition in Shifting from Unitary to Federalism form of Government and Dr. Adrian M. Tamayo who deliver the Impact of Federalism among Indigenous People of Mindanao. The Third Plenary session started with Unveiling Ceremonies of the Rizal Monument in Tagum City. With the re-enactment of the Martyrdom of Dr Jose Rizal by the Student of Tagum City National Comprehensive High School. The afternoon was the Knighthood ceremonies with closing Fraternal Message by our Supreme Commander Sir Reynato Puno, KGCR.

Congratulation to our new 4th Degree of the Order, Sir Joaquin Jojo Taturan, KGOR and Sir Frank Crawford, KGOR, and also to Sir Pastor Elmer Manzo, KCR who received his Lifetime plaque with Sir Frank Crawford, KGOR.

Our Supreme Commander Sir Reynato Puno, KGCR presented the Award of Recognitions to Lady Rose Cruz and Lady Espie Balansi of the Kababaihan Rizalista, and Lady Rose Dhaliwal, Lady Ligaya Cana, Lady Virgie Sinajon and Lady Lourdes Prillo of the Ladies of The Knights of Rizal.

The Supreme Council reviewed and deferred the other recommendations submitted by the Canada Region Tribunal. I would like to sincerely thanks all the Canadian delegates who attended and represented the Canada Region in the 21st KOR International Assembly Conference.

Non Omnis Moriar

DZRH suspends Mocha Uson

MANILA — Radio station DZRH, owned by Manila Broadcasting Company has indefinitely suspended a commentary program anchored by Mocha Uson, the singer-dancer who has become President Duterte's ardent supporter and propagandist. One of the complainants, Jozy Acosta-Nisperos, head of the civil society group The Silent Majority, sent MBC president Ruperto Nicdao Jr. a formal letter that pointed out Uson's violations of broadcasting rules: "On March 18, during a live streaming of her segment on DZRH, Uson verbally attacked Vice President Leni Robredo in a coarse, vicious language dripping with malice—an act that she has regularly resorted to as a propagandist of President Rodrigo Duterte. "What Uson does for a living is none of our business, but in that live steaming, apparently she overstepped the boundaries of decency. "To quote: "Kasi nga sinungaling ka at fake news ka... Huwag mong araw-arawin ang katangahan mo! Expletive (bleeped out)... Bumili ka ng utak! ... Nakakahawa na yang katangahan mo ... Sobra lang talagang nakakagalit ang kabobohan ng babae na to..." "To paraphrase: The Vice President is a liar and a bearer of fake news. She is stupid, an idiot. Her stupidity arouses my anger.

"In addition, Uson also attacks the Philippine media: "Ito namang mga lokal na prestitutes natin puro pera ang inilisip kaysa sa kapakanan ng bayan..."

"To paraphrase: The local media are nothing but paid hacks.

"May we point out that, in the 2007 Broadcast Code of the Kapisanan ng mga Brodkaster ng Pilipinas (KBP), Uson is liable of having violated certain sections.

"May we also raise the point of whether Uson has a professional broadcaster's license?"



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Allies affected after vote on Death Penalty

Arroyo, 10 others lose house posts

MANILA - House leaders on pushed through with a revamp that punished allies who failed to vote in favor of the Palace-backed death penalty bill, including former President and now Pampanga Rep. Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, who gave up her post as deputy speaker for Central Luzon.

House Majority Leader and Ilocos Norte Rep. Rodolfo Fariñas declared seats vacant for 10 committee chairmanships and Arroyo's post as deputy speaker.

Arroyo, in a statement, said she has no regret for voting against the death penalty.

"The issue required a vote based solely on conscience and the deepest of personal convictions," she said.

Arroyo said she voted against House Bill 4727 despite her support for Duterte and Alvarez.

"I thank the President for his expression of understanding late last year regarding my position on the issue. I also thank the speaker for the honor of having served as deputy speaker of the House of Representatives. It meant much to me. As a plain congresswoman I will continue to do all I can to support both President Duterte and Speaker Alvarez," Arroyo said.

A lawmaker who asked to remain any-



mous said Arroyo resigned as deputy speaker before Fariñas' announcement.

Before the announcement, Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez said the revamp would spare no one.

"If I am burning bridges, then so be it. We can't do anything about that," Alvarez told reporters.

Aside from Arroyo, those who will be replaced include Reps. Vilma Santos-Recto of Batangas, civil service and professional regulation; Sitti Turabin-Hataman of Anak Mindanao party-list, Muslim affairs; Henedina Abad of Batanes, government reorganization; Carlos Zarate, Bayan Muna party-list, natural resources; Mariano Velarde, Buhay party-list, overseas workers affairs; Anto-

nio Tinio, ACT Teachers party-list, public information; Carlos Zarate, Bayan Muna party-list, natural resources; Kaka Bag-ao of Dinagat Islands, people's participation; Jose Christopher Belmonte of Quezon City, land use special; Evelina Escudero of Sorsogon, basic education and culture; Emmi de Jesus of Gabriela Women's Party, poverty alleviation; Jose Christopher Belmonte of Quezon City, land use special; Kaka Bag-ao of Dinagat Islands, people's participation; Emmi de Jesus of Gabriela Women's Party, poverty alleviation; Emmeline Aglipay-Villar of DIWA party-list, women and gender equality; and Antonio Tinio, ACT Teachers party-list, public information.

Escudero, mother of Senator Francis Escudero, was replaced by Cebu Rep. Ramon Durano IV. Escudero was appointed as vice chairman of the basic education and culture committee.

The House passed the bill on third and final reading by a 217-54 vote and one abstention.

Republic Act 7659 or the Death Penalty Law was abolished in 1986 during the term of President Corazon Aquino. It was restored by President Fidel V. Ramos in 1993, and was suspended again in 2006 by President Arroyo.



Mike Tan on his loyalty to GMA Network: "Never nila ako pinabay-aan"

Kapuso actor Mike Tan remains a loyal Kapuso as he renewed his contract with GMA Network on Thursday, March 16. Joining him were GMA SVP for Entertainment Lilybeth Rasonable and SVP for Alternative Productions Gigi Lara.

In an interview after the event, the Ika-6 Na Utos star shared why he is staying in his home network.

"Hindi ko lang makita at hindi ko lang din ma-imagine na umalis sa network na nagpasikat sa akin, nagturo sa akin, nagmamahal sa akin. Kumbaga, ever since naman, andito sila for me. Never naman nila ako pinabayaan, in ups and downs, andiyan sila. Never nila ako binigyan ng hindi ko gustong proyekto. Lagi kong nararamdaman ang pagtititwala nila sa akin pagdating sa mga projects na binibigay nila."

Mike, who got into showbiz after being the Ultimate Male Survivor in StarStruck Season 2, admits that playing the role of Angelo in Ika-6 Na Utos is a challenge.

"Challenge siya sa akin siyempre. Parang ngayon lang ako ulit gumawa ng ganito kabigat na role. Aaminin ko, hindi siya maddali. Mahirap siya. Kasi 'yung mga nakaraan kong ginawa, sa akin mahirap 'yun pero hindi kasing bigat nito, hindi kasing lalim ng hugot nito."

He adds, "Kasi parang lagi mong ipaglalaman ang love mo sa tao na yun. At the same time, vulnerable ka. Ipapakita mo na kung kailangan mo umiyak, iiyak ka. Sa [The] Millionaire's Wife, kailangan mong pigilan. Dito, kailangan mong ibigay. Kailangan mong umiyak, magalit, magselos, minsan hindi ko na alam ang reaction kasi hindi ko naman na-experience 'yun. Ang ginagawa ko, nakikinig na lang ako tapos kung ano ang maging reaction ko, 'yun na 'yun."

He likewise expressed his happiness on the show's consistently high ratings.

"First time ko makasama sa isang show na umaabot ng 8.4 [ang rating]. Iba 'yung pressure, nakakatakot. Kaya minsan, kapag bumababa kami sa 7, 7.7, walang nagpansin sa group chat namin. Pero kapag 8.1, 8.4, 'Congratulations everyone! Lahat naman nagtatrabaho ng 100 percent or more."

Probe ex-BIR chief on fake tax stamps

MANILA - Senator Emmanuel Pacquiao said former Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) Commissioner Kim Henares should be investigated in connection with the proliferation of fake tax stamps that had deprived the government billions of pesos in revenues.

Pacquiao noted that fake tax stamps have been in existence even before the administration of President Rodrigo Duterte and it is only proper to determine why the previous BIR leadership was not able to address the problem.

"There is really a need to investigate. We have to know if there was big money involved or if there was corruption," he said in Filipino.

The BIR's tax stamp system requires all cigarette packs, both local and imported, to bear tax stamps as part of efforts of the tax bureau to effectively collect excise tax from manufacturers.

Cigarette packs that do not have the required tax stamps are presumed to be illegal and could be ground for tax evasion.

The tax stamp system was implemented

during Henares' term as BIR commissioner.

Pacquiao made the call over the discovery of over P2 billion worth of cigarettes with alleged fake stamps by the Bureaus of Customs and the BIR.

The cigarette packs belong to local manufacturer Mighty Corp. owned by Alexander Wong Chu King.

"And they should be made accountable if it turns out that they did not do something to stop [the proliferation of fake tax stamps]," the senator added.

More jobless after 2016 polls

MANILA - Unemployment in the Philippines worsened to 6.6 percent in January from 5.7 percent a year earlier, when temporary jobs were created ahead of the May 2016 elections, the latest Labor Force Survey (LFS) showed.

The National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) said the same trend occurred in January 2011, the year that followed the 2010 elections.

However, the NEDA added that the

unemployment rate in January 2017 reflected an improvement from the average 7.4 percent recorded from 2006-2015.

"We mainly observe the employment losses in the agriculture sector, which has been greatly affected by typhoons," said Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Ernesto Pernia.

On the other hand, underemployment, which refers to the lack of enough jobs for those who are working but for less than 40

hours a week, declined to 16.3 percent from last year's 19.7 percent. That means there were 1.6 million less underemployed workers than in the comparative year-earlier period.

Pernia added that the government must focus its interventions on diversifying the sources of income for workers in the agriculture sector, increase women's labor participation, and address youth unemployment.

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Klea comes of age

Is the Ultimate 6” ready to

Female Survivor of “Starstruck Season

pursue her other dream?

Klea Pineda turned 18 last March 19 and many believe she is more than ready to fulfill her goal of becoming a bonafide beauty queen.

The talented 5’9” stunner, however, would rather take her sweet time.

“Maybe three to four years from now,” she said in an interview.

“Siguro ’pag 20 or 21 na ako, kapag sobrang buo na ako, kapag sure na ako.”

If anything, she is now willing to start training for it.

“Actually gusto ko nga po sana ngayong taon ’to mag-start na mag-training para sobrang hasang-hasa na ako ’pag sumali ako.”

To this end, Klea makes sure she doesn’t tarnish her image, doing away with sexy pictorials.

But what about her pre-debut photos, which some deemed “sexy and fierce?”

She maintained, “Hindi naman po sexy ’yun, balot na balot nga po ako du’n eh.”

Among her beauty queen idols is Miss Universe 2015 Pia Wurtzbach.

Klea hopes that like Pia, she’d be crowned Miss Universe, too.

“Sobrang nakaka-inspire lang po kasi talaga siya eh.”

Transformation

She shared to media her birthday wish.

“Napatunayan niya po kasi na kahit nag-fail ka at first, at ’yun talaga ’yung dream mo, kailangan i-pu-push mo siya ng i-pu-push hanggang sa ma-reach mo ’yung dream mo, ’yung goal mo sa buhay and I like that,” she



noted.

“Birthday wish ko po para sa sarili ko, hindi man ako maging forever sa showbiz sana kahit man lang magtagal at magkaroon ng tatak sa bawat tao. Okay na okay na po ako du’n.”

Klea also wants to have her own car. “Ang sa akin lang po kasi para ’pag may taping ako hindi ko na kailangan hiramín ’yung family car namin,” she said.

She has asked her father to buy her one but she was made to choose between a car and a party.

On having a party, she reasoned, “Sa isang babae, isang beses ka lang mag 18 years old, so bakit hindi mo gawin ang mag-debut, ’wag mong sayangin ’yung chance. So ayun nag-decide po ako na party na lang, kasi ’yung car naman po kahit kailan pwede lalo pa po’t working naman po ako.”

Klea was hands-on in organizing her party.

“Kailangan ko kasing malaman kung ano na ’yung progress ng party eh, kung ano ’yung mga mangyayari,” she explained.

Klea’s coming-of-age shindig had a modern bohemian-theme but with traditional elements like the 18 roses and candles.

Some celebrities present were Jeric Gonzales, Juancho Trivino, Carlo Gonzales, Pancho Magno, Rocco Nacino, and Jak Roberto.

Klea had three wardrobe changes. Although now of legal age, Klea maintained she will be the same old her.

She said, “Gusto ko pa rin mag-depend sa parents ko when it comes to decision-making. Gusto ko malaman

kung ano ’yung idea nila, kung ano ’yung dapat ko bang gawin, gusto kong manghingi ng tulong sa kanila. Ayoko nu’ng super independent ako.”

Not yet

Klea is not ready to enter into a romantic relationship, either.

“Wala po, bawal pa po eh,” she answered. “Pinagsasabihin din po ako ng parents ko na ‘Mag-aral ka muna, tsaka na muna ’yan.’ Eh siyempre ayoko din namang i-disappoint sila.”

But what about her admirers, we asked.

“Wala rin nga po eh,” she said.

“Nagtataka nga po ako kung bakit eh, kung anong mali sa akin, kasi parang wala talagang nanliligaw eh.”

If ever she gets into a relationship, she prefers being with someone not from show business.

“Kasi parang feeling ko po sobrang gulo ’pag showbiz ’yung boyfriend mo,” she explained.

But it doesn’t meant she doesn’t like anybody from showbiz.

“Ang crush ko sa artista si Dennis Trillo, ang gwapo niya eh,” she revealed, giggling. “At si André Paras... ay sorry, nadulas lang.”

Klea related many of her followers wanted her paired with André.

“Sabi nila, ‘Uy bagay kayo ni André magka-loveteam,’ gusto raw nila makita kaming magka-work together.”

And how about her?

“Gusto ko rin naman, kasi siya lang ’yung kakilala kong guy na kahit naka-heels ako, mas matangkad siya sa akin.”

What if she and André are asked to engage in a kissing scene for a project?

“Ay bawal po, kahit po 18 na po ako, parang ayoko pa rin,” she said.

In the meantime, Klea continues to play Muyak on “Encantadia.”

Balita Newspaper, Cusipag committed criminal contempt

Toronto, March 8, 2017 – Today, the Honourable Frederick L. Myers, Judge of the Superior Court of Justice, in the contempt of court case: Enverga v. Balita Newspaper, Balita Media Inc., Tess Cusipag, Romeo P. Marquez (a.k.a. Romy Marquez) and Carlos Padilla (deceased), ruled that the media defendants committed criminal contempt of court after having continued to publish and distribute false accusations about the Honourable Tobias C. Enverga Jr., Ontario Senator.

Senator Enverga filed the contempt motion after Cusipag continued to publish and email defamatory statements in violation of a permanent injunction that prohibited her from publishing such statements. Cusipag sent a number of emails containing defamatory statements to several people, including the Speaker of the Senate, Hon. George Furey, and Ontario Senators Salma Ataulhjan and Thanh Hai Ngo. One of these states: “...Please help me disseminate the truth out there. I have permanent injunction. I am asking all our contacts all over the world for the truth to come out...”

To give an overview, in the July 13, 2016 judgment when Balita and Cusipag was found guilty of libel, the Honourable Ontario Superior Court Justice Sidney N. Lederman stated that the defendants, and in particular Cusipag, “has done virtually everything she could to destroy and discredit Senator Enverga in an unrelenting manner”. The judge ordered the defendants to pay the legal costs incurred by Senator Enverga, along with the general and aggravated damages and punitive damages awarded, thus bringing the total amount to which the Senator is entitled to \$340,000 plus pre-judgment interest.

“They engaged in absolutely no investigation whatsoever as to the truth of what they were publishing. They were recklessly indifferent to the truth of the Article ... At no time has there been any retraction or apology given. Cusipag vows to continue to make defamatory statements against the plaintiff [Senator Enverga] and has shown no interest in stopping her efforts or refraining from misconduct,” the Judge added.

Justice Lederman, in granting an injunction order on the same July 13th judgement, recognized the likelihood that the media defendants would continue in their crusade to destroy the reputation of Senator Enverga, saying: “Here, there is an ongoing concern that the defendants will continue to publish defamatory statements about Senator Enverga. They have engaged in a persistent campaign to injure Senator Enverga and ruin his reputation...They have refused to apologize and they have given no indication that they are prepared to stop their irresponsible defamatory attacks.”

The handwritten decision of Justice Myers dated March 8, 2017 states: “For reasons to be delivered in the near future, I am satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt that the ‘media defendants’ defined in the plaintiff’s notice of motion have committed criminal contempt as alleged. I write this now so as to give the media defendants fair warning that the Order of Lederman J. remains binding on them and is to be obeyed in letter and in spirit...”

Sentencing will be scheduled at a case conference to be held after Superior Court Justice Myers’ reasons are released.

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Bid to tax church-run schools a 'wake-up call,' says priest-dean

MANILA - Remarks about expensive and constantly increasing tuition charged by church-run schools should be a wake up call for the Catholic Church, a priest working in the academe said, in light of a lawmaker's proposal to look into the church's compliance with tax laws.

"It's really very hard to insist that we have options for the poor pero Catholic schools naman are pricey na only the rich can afford. Talagang wake-up call sa amin yan," Fr. Ranielio Aquino (**PHOTO**), dean of the San Beda College of Law, told DZMM.

(It's really very hard to insist that we have options for the poor but Catholic schools are pricey that only the rich can afford. This is really a wake-up call for us.)

House Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez on Monday said that the Catholic Church and other religious groups should be taxed for running schools and renting out property because these fall outside "non-stock, non-profit" activities.

According to Aquino, while it is true that private schools, church-run or not, gain profit from students' payments, there is a reason why these are considered "non-stock, non-profit."

"A well-run school will make some profit. But you call it 'non-profit' because ang kita ay hindi mapupunta sa miyembro kundi sa operasyon ng eskuwela," he explained further.

(A well-run school will make some profit. But you call it 'non-profit' because the profit does not go to the members, but to the operations of the school.)

According to Aquino, private schools have their own audit and are also required to submit their statements to the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), even if these institutions are not taxed.

He also added the private schools follow



standards set by regulatory bodies, such as the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) for tertiary education.

"You have to pay for quality. If you want to get good teachers, you have to pay them well," he said, stressing the fact that state universities and colleges (SUCs) get funds from the government.

However, he said that if a private school ventures into activities that gain some profit that do not go directly for education, like renting out buildings, these will be taxed.

Aquino said the Constitution provides tax incentives for private colleges and universities because they are doing a service that the government cannot provide.

He said that in the Philippines, a larger percentage of college students are in private schools because the number of SUCs is small compared to the total studying population.

Latest data from the CHED for the school year 2015-2016 show that there are only 112 SUCs and 102 local universities and colleges (LUC) in the Philippines, as opposed to 1,706 private schools for tertiary level.

"Kung hindi makakaya ng estado na i-absorb silang lahat (students), you have to

put up a campus, you have to put up buildings, you have to raise payment for teachers and employees. You have to buy all your equipment, which explains kung bakit mataas ang singil at kung bakit binibigyan sila ng tax exemption," he said.

(If the state cannot absorb all of the students, you have to put up a campus, you have to put up buildings, you have to raise payments for teachers and employees. You have to buy all your equipment which explains why the tuition is high and why they are being exempted from paying taxes.)

Aquino said he considers it a problem that many of private schools are "elitists," and added that it is a good time now to discuss these institutions' purpose.

But, he said, while many popular Catholic schools in Metro Manila like Ateneo and La Salle are considered expensive, there are still a lot of good private schools in the provinces that are affordable, like St. Louis University in Baguio.

He added that the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) has been consistent in reminding Catholic schools "to keep their charges between the limit of students' ability to pay."

Aquino said he is open to discussions on the possibility of taxing church-run schools. But the public should also understand the reason behind the tax incentives.

He also said he welcomes the idea of opening the gates of private schools to low-income families, but these schools should also get help in their expenses.

"Let the church be true to its options for the poor. Let's open the gates of these universities to low-income families. But the next question is, how do you help these schools also finance themselves," he said.



FAVORITE PINOY STAR. Nadine Lustre wins Nickelodeon's Favorite Pinoy Star.

Nadine Lustre wins as Pinoy Star at Nickelodeon Kids' Choice Awards 2017

Nadine beats Janella Salvador, Liza Soberano, and Janine Gutierrez for the award

MANILA, Philippines - For Nadine Lustre, bagging the Favorite Pinoy Star trophy at the recent Nickelodeon Kids' Choice Award was "#childhoodgoals achieved!"

"This means a lot [to me]. I grew up [watching] Nickelodeon [programs], and seeing that orange trophy being given to amazing artists. I am humbled to get one for myself, even though I feel I am not worthy of this great honor," she told the Inquirer in an e-mail.

Nadine won the award over other Pinoy actresses Janine Gutierrez, Janella Salvador, and Liza Soberano.

"Thank you everyone for voting for me as your Favorite Pinoy Star at the 2017 Kids' Choice Awards. You're all amazing. I love you," Nadine said in a video message.

Before the announcement, all 4 nominees went through a series of challenges. Janella had to dance while balancing a bucket of slime, Janine had to take SpongeBob SquarePants toys out of buckets of slime without using her hands, Liza had to catch and pop balloons without using her hands, and Nadine bobbed for apples in a container of green goo.

According to the release, Nickelodeon conducted a survey asking kids 14 years old and below to determine their favorite stars. Voting happened between March 3 to 6 through Facebook, Twitter and ballot boxes at Toy Kingdom.

Eat Bulaga star Maine Mendoza won the title of Favorite Pinoy Personality last year.

Nadine is one half of the popular JaDine tandem together with real life boyfriend James Reid.

Duterte bats for passage of tax reform bill

MANILA - President Rodrigo Duterte has given his full support to the Finance department's tax reform plan, saying the government needs additional revenue for infrastructure spending.

In a joint press conference with Senate President Aquilino Pimentel 3rd and Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez in Malacañang, Duterte batted for the passage of the tax reform bill being pushed by Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez 3rd.

"Apparently it's a rough sailing for the reform law ni Dominguez," the President said.

The President said he believes the proposed measure will be passed despite the difficulties involved.

"Government runs on taxes. Iyon ang gasolina ng gobyerno. We cannot collect any other, except taxes. We do not go into business. Walang profits ang gobyerno, except taxes. We do not compete. That's why government is prohibited from putting up proprietary entities. Kasi we cannot compete with the private sector, that's not allowed," he added.

Duterte said he is also willing to accept criticisms from taxpayers.

"Well, to the Filipino people, I said I made promises. Few, far in between the campaign days, ginagawa ko. And if you think that it's out of order, then tell me. Why did you vote for me? I told you na gagawain ko kung anong pinagdadaldal ko dito. So, gagawain

ko. So, ginagawa ko lahat. Nakita naman niyo, simple things," he said.

"We're just trying to get the money on time to start on the things that we plan, we envision to have this year," the President added.

Earlier, the Department of Finance decided to divide the proposed reform measure into five packages to make it more acceptable to legislators.

The first one includes a cut in personal income tax, higher oil excise levies and lower value-added tax exemption. It aims to raise an additional P200 billion in revenues.



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ARIEL'S BIRTHDAY: FIRST & SECOND, Birthday celebrant Ariel Martinez (IN YELLOW TIE) and with wife Flor (IN AQUA DRESS) pose with friends. THIRD, Ampee Panaligan, Shirley Leblanc, Aubrey and Nadeene Panaligan pose at the lobby.



PHOTOBOMBERS



Shirley Leblanc avoids photobombing Aubrey Panaligan and Joshua Panganiban but ends up doing it.



Sister Aubrey then photobombs younger sister Nadeene twice with Joshua joining on the second shot (INSET).

What James Reid thinks of GF Nadine's sexy photos

MANILA – James Reid does not disapprove of Nadine Lustre posting sexy photos of her in bikinis on social media.

In fact, the actor supports his girlfriend, saying Lustre is just “expressing herself.”

“It’s up to Nadine. She’s happy, she’s expressing herself and she’s enjoying so I don’t know why they have to stop her or limit her,” he said.

In January, Lustre made headlines after she flaunted her beach-ready bod while on vacation in La Union. She made the news again in the same month when Reid’s sister, Lauren, shared a shot of her with Lustre showing their backsides in bikini while on vacation in Na-Batangas.

Last month, the old actress once again had of her fans racing after from her latest photo unveiled.

Asked if he is not



tive type of boyfriend, Reid simply smiled and said: “It’s not that bad. People wear bikinis at the beach.”

Meanwhile, Reid shared that their recent trip to Japan together was his ideal way of celebrating their anniversary. “I don’t know what people

usually do for anniversaries like go out for dinner or big surprise, a picnic. But for me, that was my ideal anniversary date. We went to walk in a lot of parks, walking around, shopping, eating, taking videos of each other,” he said.

As to what he bought for Lustre, he said: “We didn’t give each other gifts. The trip was our gift to ourselves. But to be honest, mas ako ‘yung [ipinag-shopping niya].”

Reid and Lustre will be flying to the United States on Tuesday for their concert tour in the east and west coasts. Reid said they will also be working on movies within the year.

Ibinalita ni James Reid ang naka-line-up nilang mga proyekto ni Nadine Lustre ngayong 2017. Wala daw munang teles-

erye at mas nakatuon ang kanilang career sa musika at pag-gawa ng pelikula. “We’ve done two teleseryes in one year. It’s very tiring [and] we really want to try something different. We want to focus more on music for a while. It’s something I always wanted to do, something I’m really passionate about so I’m giving it a try,” panimula nito.

Malapit nang ilabas ang bagong solo music album ni James kung saan siya ang sumulat ng mga kanta. Ani pa ni James, lahat ng mga kanta dito ay tungkol kay Nadine na inspirasyon niya sa musika.

“Maybe a movie this year, but now my album is 99.9 percent complete. Just finishing some touches. The music video is already done. We’re expecting to release the first single this month,” ani pa ni James.

Mula naman sa kaliwa’t-kanan na endoresment, pelikula, at masayang love life kasama si Nadine, masasabi na ba ni James na kuntento na siya sa ngayon?

“I can’t complain. I feel like it’s almost perfect. We always want something more and now that I’m here, my dreams are getting bigger each time. Now that I have my album, I want to help and evolve OPM,” saad pa ng binata.



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Doctor Chito Collantes (MIDDLE) hosted a reception on Larry's returned from the Philippines after marrying in the Philippines. Also present in the reception were Paul, and Ariel at the Legend Chinese Restaurant on February 19, 2017. PHOTO BY ARIEL RAMOS



Toronto's Talakayan Radyo Filipino interview guests on February 25, 2017 at Pinoy Radio station. Shown L-R : Political commentator Tony A. San Juan, Special guests MSLE corporate communication director Abby Albino & Volunteer Toronto program director Louroz Mercader, Life-style reporter Karen Pascual-Binaday and IT coordinator Bobby & Lorna Achacon " (Photo by : DJ Ryan Orlanda)



WCOFA winner and singer Gian Carlo Bobila (THIRD FROM LEFT) poses with friends after his concert. PHOTO BY ARIEL RAMOS

Yen denies rumors linking her to director, politician

YEN Santos never thought that in the very first movie she will ever do, "Northern Lights: A Journey to Love" that opens this coming Wednesday, her leading man will be no less than Piolo Pascual. "Ang laking pasalamat ko kay Direk Dondon Santos dahil ako ang napili niyang kapareha ni Papa P, na lahat naman ng aktres, gustong makapareha," she says. "Nagpapasalamat din ako kay Mother Lily ng Regal dahil pumayag siyang makasama ako sa movie at pinapirma pa ako ng kontrata as a Regal Baby."



But more than anybody else, she'd like to thank Piolo. "Higit sa lahat talaga, thank you Papa P kasi tinanggap niya akong kapareha gayong he could have requested for a more big name leading lady. He was very patient with me kasi noong una, tawa lang ako nang tawa.

Sabi niya, puro ka tawa, puro ka giggle, ang laki ng gastos ng Regal dito sa New Zealand, magtrabaho na tayo.

Tuwing umaga, nagpapauna ako sa service bus namin from our hotel to the location site, kasi gusto kong nakikita siyang lumalabas from the hotel at lumalakad papunta sa sasakyan namin. Kinikilig talaga ako. Feeling ko, slow motion ang lakad niya at may background music pa, napapabuntunghininga talaga ako at di makapaniwala na ako ang katambal niya."

And how was she when they did their love scene in the movie? "Kinakabahan siyempre. Pero excited. But naitawid naman namin nang maayos. He was such a gentleman at take one lang lahat."

Direk Dondon Santos says Yen impressed

everyone. "Lahat kami, nagustuhan ang acting niya. Very raw, very natural, but she succeeds in delivering all the emotions required of her. Tiyak, masusundan pa itong pelikula niyang ito."

Some folks insinuate she's having an affair with Direk Dondon that's why he got her for "Northern Lights"? "Tinatawanan na lang namin 'yun ni Direk kasi hindi naman talaga totoo. Na-meet ko na po misis niya, writer sa ABS, at Ate ang tawag ko. Nakakaloka nga po kasi ang daming tsismis sa'kin. Nili-link ako sa politiko raw, may congressman, may governor. Sino kaya 'yung mga 'yun na karelasyon ko raw? May nagsabi pang 'yung youngest sister ko, ang totoo raw, anak ko 'yun. Kaysa magalit, inagtatawanan ko na lang. Sa totoo lang, wala po akong boyfriend. May mga nanliligaw, pero wala po akong time. Sa career muna ako."

Vic and Joey will try to make audience cry



JOEY De Leon and Vic Sotto are the best of friends in real life. Now, they also play the best of friends in a special

Lenten episode of "Eat Bulaga", directed by Joel Lamangan. Titled "Kaibigan", this is the heartwarming story of long time friends who face many struggles and trials together that elevate their bond from the status of just friendship into being family.

"The theme of this year's "Eat Bulaga" Holy Week presentations center on family relationship and friendship that will offer hope and inspiration and will surely melt your heart," says Vic. "Abangan nyo ang story namin ni Joey dahil magdrama kami rito, pero may touch pa rin ng comedy na humahaplos sa puso. Siguro naman, mapapatunayan namin dito na kaya rin naming magdrama."

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New Beginnings

Take

Kris Bernal stays Kapuso

Kris Bernal renewed her ties with GMA Network, Inc. She feels grateful for her strong relationship with GMA through the years, “Eto yung gusto ng puso ko, kung saan ako kumportable, where I feel complete, where I’m satisfied and contented. I’m very thankful na nandito pa rin ako at binigyan ulit ako ng chance.”

Kris Bernal plays dual characters in “Impostora” remake After her commendable portrayal of a woman with learning disability in Little Nanay, GMA once again entrusted Kris with another challenging project as she topbills the remake of the successful TV series Impostora where she will play a dual character. “Masaya ako dahil ang ganda-ganda ng project na binigay nila sa akin, yung Impostora. Dito talaga ako mahahasa, at mag-go-grow. Ito na siguro yung pinaka-challenging character para sa akin. Sobrang hirap din nung sa Little Nanay pero at least dun, isa lang ang role ko. Eto kasi sa Impostora, pabago-bago ako, hindi lang sa acting, sa pananamit din, may prosthetics pa ako and iba’t-ibang makeup at look.”

Derrick Monasterio leaps from athletics to acting

“I really wanted to be a professional basketball player,” Derrick Monasterio candidly shares in an interview during the shoot for Blackwater the product he is endorsing. It’s easy to see why —standing six feet tall with a build that can rival that of professional athletes, he has the traits of one playing for the big leagues, like the Philippine

Basketball Association (PBA). But fate had directed him somewhere: in 2010, Derrick found himself portraying Rick Montano in the now defunct GMA youth-oriented series, Tween Hearts. He recalls, “I tagged along while my mom (actress Tina Monasterio) who was appearing in a show, when my manager (now) saw me and asked me to do a photo shoot so he could submit the photos to GMA. At that time, they were looking to cast one more guy for a show they were about to launch.” Proving that he inherited his mother’s talent, charisma and persistence in working hard, he clinched the role. Taking a leap into showbiz was something to be grateful for – Tween Hearts catapulted him to fame. It led him to win Best Male New TV Personality at the 25th Philippine Movie Press Club Awards for TV and be nominated as New Male Recording Artist of the Year at the 60th Filipino Academy of Movie, Arts, and Sciences (FAMAS). He also earned nominations at the Entertainment Press Society (ENPRESS) Golden Awards in the Best Breakthrough Performance by an Actor category. After playing mostly supporting roles, 2016 saw him play the lead in Tsuperhero. While he enjoys the challenge of acting, he maintains his natural athleticism and love for basketball. A self-confessed “super human,” he admits that he doesn’t tire easily: “Even at 1 a.m. after taping, or during my rest days, I play basketball.” The dedicated fitness buff adds, “I go to the gym every other day, and I spend about one and a half hours doing workouts that vary from weightlifting to cross fit. But my personal favorites are cardio like burpees and jumping jacks or body weight training.”

Of course, both sports and showbiz demand that he be physically fit, well-groomed, and polished. And being the new face of Blackwater, a brand that caters to men’s personal grooming needs, he stresses the importance of maintaining good personal hygiene: “My daily routine is composed of a shower in the morning and another at night, and putting an ice cube on my face to close my pores.” Like his dual personality as an actor and

athlete, Blackwater also offers fragrances that target his different lifestyles. To keep him smelling good, he says, “While playing or working out, I prefer Blackwater Sports, but when I’m at tapings or attending events I always go for Blackwater Classic.” Whether he’s portraying a role or playing basketball, Derrick is always grateful for the support he gets, especially from Blackwater. “This is such a milestone for me because Blackwater’s campaign is to really build up their endorsers,” he says. “I know I am in good hands with them.”

Gerald Anderson and Arci Munoz all set to star in “Can We Still Be Friends”

Gerald Anderson revealed he is excited to have a simple celebration in the U.S during the story conference for his new film “Can We Still Be Friends” at the Star Cinema office. The new Star Cinema project reunites Gerald with Arci Munoz. Dubbed as “#TeamRelate,” Gerald explained why he and Arci have been called that kind of love team. “Ganun talaga yung brand namin ni Arci eh. Makaka-relate talaga yung mga tao lalo na sa movie na ito. Kinukuwento pa lang nila kanina parang merong isa sa amin nakaka-relate na sobra (laughs). Pareho kami. Sobrang nakaka-relate din ako,” he said. In “Can We Still Be Friends,” the story revolves around a former couple who try to see if they can still be friends after their failed eight-year relationship. “Gusto namin ni Arci na iparating sa mga tao yung totoong relationship, yung mga nangyayari talaga sa totoong buhay,” he remarked. When asked if he believes exes can remain friends, the Star Magic heartthrob gave an honest answer. “Siyempre hindi agad agad yan. Ang dami niyong pinagdaanan eh tapos kunyari pag nag-be-break kayo hindi naman puwedeng agad agad. It takes time. Depende sa break up. Depende sa sitwasyon. And oras, time heals everything. Don’t force it. But siyempre um-effort ka kung kaya,” he added.

Barbie gets four new leading men

BARBIE Forteza is temporarily dumping the four hunks she’s working with in the hit primetime show, “Meant to Be”, to work with another set of four young men in the special “Eat Bulaga” Lenten presentation, “Home Sweet Home”. The four new guys in her life this time are Jake Ejercito, plus the good-looking Baes of “Trops”: Miggy Tolentino, Kim Last and Jon Timmons. “I enjoyed working with all of these new guys, for a change naman,” says Barbie. “Sawa na kasi ako sa mga kasama ko sa ‘Meant to Be’ kasi puro sila na lang ang nakikita ko. Joke! The truth is na-miss ko nga agad sila, e.” While “Meant to Be” is more of a romantic comedy, “Home Sweet Home” is more of a serious drama about family relationships. “Tiyak na maiiyak kayo dahil very touching ang story, may kurot sa puso,” adds Barbie. “And take note na ako lang ang babae sa buong big cast. Puro sila boys na kasama ko at inasikaso nila ako.” Also in the cast playing important roles as senior stars Tito Sotto, Jose Manalo and Jimmy Santos, under the direction of Linnet Zurbano.

Kapuso fans fall in love with ‘Destined To Be Yours’

It was like holiday for every AIDub fan and the fans of either Alden Richards or Maine Mendoza, most of them skipping work or classes in school (especially those with late afternoon or night classes) so they could watch the premiere (simultaneous in every country where GMA Network has a significant presence) last night of Destined To Be Yours after the top-rating Encantadia.

After a long wait, the first primetime series starring Alden Richards and Maine Mendoza finally hit the small screen The long wait was over for these fans of the phenomenal love team of Richards and Mendoza for their first-ever teleserye together. It took the Kapuso entertainment TV

group almost a semester to cement a concept that would fit the two stars and how it would impact on the minds and hearts of their fans. Destined To Be Yours revolves around Benjie Rosales (Alden) and Sinag Obispo (Maine), two entirely different people from two different worlds, and how they meet as destiny works its magic on both of them, eventually love weaves its way into their lives. During the press conference held on Valentine’s Day in a ballroom at a Quezon City hotel, Richards expressed his happiness and excitement over the highly anticipated series. “Sobrang happy ako with the team and with the actors na nakakasama po namin dahil ramdam ko po ‘yung passion nila to make the soap work and to make the script very effective sa audience and

Heard:Luis Manzano’s dream roles

TV host-actor Luis Manzano talks about his dream acting projects: “I’m not the best actor on the planet, but I can hold my own. You should always play on your strengths. That’s why ABS-CBN gets me as a TV host. I’m more used to doing that.” “However,” he adds, “I still have dream roles. The first one—as a complex gay character. I’ve already had the chance to portray one in ‘In My Life.’ I’d also like to portray someone who is disabled or mentally challenged. My peg would be Sean Penn in ‘I Am Sam.’ I’ve seen that movie several times, and it never fails to amaze me.”

Advertisement for the event "BRITNEY WRITO The Journey Begins! SPECIAL GUEST: STAR CIRCLE KIDS" at St. Michael's College School Centre for the Arts, 1515 Bathurst Street, Toronto. The event is scheduled for July 22, 2017, at 5:00 PM. A ticket price of \$25.00 is shown. The background features a city skyline at night and a woman in a white dress.



Sanya Lopez, Rocco Nacino being paired In Encantadia

Hindi maikukubli ang chemistry ng Kapuso stars na sina Sanya Lopez at Rocco Nacino sa fantaseryeng Encantadia.

Sa katunayan, gabi-gabi nga silang tinitilian ng kanilang fans tuwing magkikita ang kanilang mga karakter na sina Danaya at Aquil. At dahil parehong single ang dalawa, marami ang nagtatanong kung maaari bang mauwi sa totohanan ang pagmamahal nila sa isa't isa.

Napansin naman ng karamihan na tila nagpakita si Rocco ng senyales na gusto niya si Sanya, “Isa siya sa mga nakakapagpa-smile sa ‘kin ngayon. And talagang na-e-enjoy ko ‘yung company niya,” nakangiting kwento ng aktor.

Habang si Sanya, sinabing hindi niya sinasara ang kanyang pintuan kay Rocco, “Kung anuman ang mangyari (sa amin), I’m open sa lahat,” pahayag niya. So does this mean nalalapit na ito maging true to life? Yan ang dapat nating abangan!

Huwag palalampasin ang painit nang painit na mga tagpo sa Encantadia gabi gabi sa GMA Telebabad. Kabilang na riyan ang isang malagim na yugto na muling haharapin ng mga Sang’gre.

Sabi nga sa teaser ng kanilang video, “Aagos ang luha...Dadanak ang dugo... Guguhu ang pag-asa...!”

Ano ang klase ng lalaki na puwedeng mapusuan ni Daiana Menezes?

Ibinunyag ni The Fiercest of Them

All host Daiana Menezes sa Mars ang tatlong katangiang napupusuan niya sa isang lalaki.

Importante raw para sa Brazilian actress-model na ang kanyang pipiling lalaki ay may ambisyon at pangarap sa buhay.

“Walang kwenta” daw para sa kanya ang mga wala nito, “I don’t feel attracted to that. Dapat meron silang focus [sa kanilang] goals sa buhay.”

Kinakailangan din na klaro ang kanyang financial goals, “Lalo if you’re talking about asawa. Dapat may plano kayo, talagang pamumuhay. Kumbaga, everything should be planned before you actually get into a [deep] relationship.”

Kahit anong edad na daw ang kanyang natitipuhang lalaki, kailangan bukas ang kanyang isipan para matuto sa mga bagay-bagay.

“I think we should always try to evolve or like always try to learn something new even if you know everything. You feel you know everything, [but] there’s always something new to learn, and that’s like very attractive to a man at saka nakaka-in love,” pagtatapos ng Brazilian beauty.

Tunghayan ang nagbabalik Kapuso sa kanyang pinakabagong show na modelling reality search, soon on GMA!

Rocco Nacino moves on

More than a year after he and Lovi Poe broke up, Rocco Nacino finally found a chance to have a heart-to-heart talk with Lovi that lasted until the wee hours of the next morning.

“Finally, “I was able to get out of my chest, kung anuman yung mga dinadala ko.”

For one year, the hurting lover boy was in denial, refusing to talk about the break-up. “Whatever the reason doesn’t matter anymore. What’s important is that (Lovi) and I are okay now.”

There was a bit of hesitance (ilangan), some ribbing and teasing from the un-couple’s friend stars at the restaurant, until Rocco turned serious and asked Lovi if they could talk.

“I felt light when I woke up the next day,” confessed Rocco. “Ang gaan-gaan ng pakiramdam ko.”

Lovi has had one or two romances with foreigners since then while Rocco opted to remain fancy-free.

With the “closure,” according to Rocco, “I can move on and look forward to my next relationship.”

Rocco is being matched with his Encantadia co-star Sanya Lopez.

Janine, Andre chosen national youth ambassadors for nature + other stories

JANINE Gutierrez, the star of the hit afternoon show, “Legally Blind”, and Andre Paras, who’s part of “Encantadia”, both feel honored to be the National Youth Ambassadors of the World Wide Fund for Nature Philippines.

Both of them are nature lovers so they’re happy to be part of a campaign to help protect our environment and Mother Nature.

“I think it should be everyone’s concern on how we can contribute towards environmental protection,” says Janine. “I’m a beach lover and every time I go to the beach, I can’t help but feel sad whenever I see people leaving their trash on the sand or on the water. Hindi ba puedeng pag-alis nila, dalhin nila ang sarili nilang mga basura. Sobrang ganda ng ating tourist spots, ng ating natural resources, kaya dapat lang alagaan nating mabuti ang mga ito. Let’s all do our part in keeping our surroundings clean and nurturing Mother Nature through proper garbage disposal and waste management.”

“I am so proud to be of help to this significant organization that watches over nature and our environment as I’ve been an active supportive of Earth Hour for many years now,” says Andre. “I’m learning a lot about how to be a more responsible citizen of Mother Earth at sana, lahat ng mga kabataan, maging mas conscious kung paano sila makakatulong kasi sila rin and the future generations ang makikinaabang dito.”

The two stars were present at the Earth House Philippines’ main switch off event held at the MOA Complex on March 25. We totally agree with this advocacy of these two socially conscious stars. We hope they can visit various colleges and universities so they can enlighten today’s young people on the need to be more vigilant and aware about the importance of protecting our environment and nurturing all of nature around us.

Bashers ng topless post, binira ni Kim!

PINAGKAGULUHAN ng netizens ang topless photo ni Kim Domingo na kanyang pinost sa Instagram account niya.

Siyempre pa, ang malaking boobs ang dahilan kaya tulo-laway ang kalalakihan pati na tomboy na nakakita nito, huh!

Siyempre, may pumuri pero may bumira rin sa post na ‘yon ng Kapuso artist.

Banat naman ni Kim, “Kung ayaw ninyong makita mga post ko e ‘di i-iblock n’yo ko. ‘Wag masyado dibdibin mga pinopost ko. ‘Wag paapekto sa buhay ng ibang tao. Love You.”

Julia Barretto’s career gets a Loveteam Boost

Nagkaroon ng bagong buhay ang career ni Julia Barretto nang makapareha niya si Joshua Garcia.

Matapos magpapalit-palit ng ka-loveteam, kay Joshua kuminang ang career ng young actress matapos pumalpak ang kanyang launching series.

Ngayon, visible na si Julia sa TV commercials na kasama si Joshua. Take note, bida silang dalawa at hindi suporta, huh!

Maging careful na sana si Julia sa career niya ngayon dahil kapag umarte-arte pa siya, eh, tuluyan na siyang lumubog, huh!

Kathryn Bernardo likes a simple celebration

TWENTY-ONE years old na pala si Kathryn Bernardo last March 26. Dalagang-dalaga na pala ito pero napaka-wholesome pa rin ng image. Batambata pa rin ang tingin sa dalaga na unang nagsimula ang showbiz career sa Goin’ Bulilit.

Sa 21st birthday ni Kathryn, wala kaming balita kung magkakaroon siya ng magarbang selebrasyon. Ang alam kasi namin at ayon na rin sa kuwento ni Mommy Min, hindi mahilig si Kathryn sa magarbang birthday bash. Gusto raw nito ay simple lang.

Masaya na raw ang dalaga na kasama ang kanyang pamilya on her birthday sa isang simpleng dinner sa bahay o sa restaurant. Pero siyempre, lalong makukumpleto ang birthday ni Kathryn kapag kasama niya si Daniel Padilla. Nag-date kaya sila o nagsusyuting ng Can’t Help Falling In Love nu’ng mismong kaarawan niya?

Anyway, isa of course sa birthday wish ni Kathryn ay ang maging box-office hit ang pelikula nila ni Daniel na ang balita namin ay ipapalabas sa April 15 (Black Saturday).

Nakakaaliw ang teaser ng pelikula at ma-rami ang kinikilig sa version ni Daniel ng Can’t Help Falling In Love kaya ngayon pa lang ay excited na ang kanilang followers.

Saka na namin tatanungin si Kathryn kung ano ang birthday gift sa kanya ng rumored boyfriend na si Daniel. I’m sure very special ‘yon.

Happy birthday, Kathryn!



Jak and Barbie has own Legion of Fans

JAK Roberto was surprised to know that he and Barbie Forteza have their own loyal fans who are supporting their loveteam and who have dubbed their tandem in “Meant to Be” as JakBie. “Nakakatuwa nga kasi some are even rooting for us na kami sana ang magkatuluyan sa story ng ‘Meant to Be’ as Andoy and Billie,” he says. “But of course, wala naman sa amin ang

decision kung kami nga talaga ang siyang will end up with each other. Malayo pa itatakbo ng kuwento so abangan na lang nila.”

He was also surprised when he came up as the top choice of gays in an online survey on who is the sexiest young actor on TV today. “Honestly, I was not even aware na may ganung survey, so maraming salamat na ako ang napili nila. At least, nagbunga yung pagsisipag kong mag-workout sa gym to have the kind of body that I have now.”

Has he received an indecent proposal because he’s always shirtless in front of the camera? “May mga nagpapadala ng message na pinupuri ako, yung abs ko, nakikipag-date din at nago-offer ng kung anu-ano. Wala pa akong tinanggap na kahit anong offer. Okay lang na makipag-kaibigan pero kung higit pa roon, sorry po, wala po akong maibibigay.”

In “Meant to Be”, aside from Gloria Romero as his doting Lola Madj, he is now given his own father, Jay Manalo. “Happy akong siya ang tatay ko kasi some years ago, bit roles pa lang ang ginagampan ko, sinabi niya dun sa isang manager ko, ‘Alam mo, sisikat itong alaga mo.’

Hindi ko talaga makalimutan yun and now, nang magkita kami uli, at least, isa na ko sa leading men in ‘Meant to Be’.”

Sarah Geronimo on becoming the next Darna: ‘Hindi talaga iyon para sa akin’

Marami pa rin speculations tungkol sa kung sino ang gaganap na Darna, matapos sabihin ni Angel Locsin na hindi na talaga niya pwedeng gawin ang role ng super hero sa pelikula.

Ilang mga pangalan ang lumutang na maaring gumanap dito gaya nina Nadine Lustre, Maja Salvador, Jessy Mendiola, Pia Wurtzbach , Liza Soberano at Sarah Geronimo.

Sa panayam na ito mariing pinabulaan ni Sarah na isa siya sa option upang gampanan ang role bilang Darna. Pero aniya ikinatutuwa niya na kabilang

siya sa mga napapagpilian para dito.

“Nagpapasalamat po ako at flattered naman ako na may mga kino-consider ako,” pahayag ni Sarah sa press visit sa set ng The Voice Teens kung saan ay isa siya sa mga coaches.

Pagbibiro pang sabi ni Sarah, “Wala akong boobs, anong magagawa natin?”

Nilinaw din ni Sarah ang kanyang naunang pahayag noon sa media tungkol sa mga kumukonsidera sa kanya sa pagiging Darna.

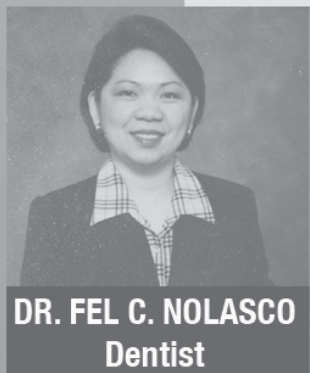
“Baka naman na negative-an sila sa akin noong sinabi ko na, ‘Eh, ‘di wow! Gusto niyo ba makakita ng Darna na naka-jumpsuit?’ Kasi matagal ko na po iyang sinasabi na hindi talaga iyon para sa akin kasi iconic iyong role,” paliwanag ng singer-actress.

Sa ngayon abala ang Pop Star Royalty sa pag buo at pagtapos ng pelikula na pagsasamahan nila ni John Lloyd Cruz at looking forward sa pag uumpisa ng newest season the The Voice.

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Pope urges faithful to consult Bible as often as cellphones

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Francis has called on the faithful to consult the Bible with the same frequency as they might consult their cellphones for messages. Francis urged a packed St. Peter's Square following his weekly Angelus blessing Sunday to give the Bible the same place in daily life as cellphones, asking: "What would happen if we turned back when we forget it, if we opened it more times a day, if we read the message of God contained in the Bible the way we read messages on our cellphones."

The message was a twist on Francis' frequent use of social media to reach the faithful, including regular messages on Twitter.



Pope Francis salutes as he leaves the St. John in Lateran Basilica after meeting parishioners in Rome, Thursday, March 2, 2017.

Some married Filipino men admits to being unfaithful

MANILA - A construction worker, "Tom" (not his real name), admitted that he entered into an extra-marital affair right after he just got married.

He said his work place at that time was far from his home.

Tom, however, stopped seeing other women when he saw the negative effect of his actions on his wife.

His wife cried when he admitted his infidelity to her.

"Siyempre, naawa naman ako sa kanya. Doon ako nagsisi..." Tom said in an interview with GMA News' Tina Panganiban-Perez on "24 Oras", Friday.

Another construction worker, "Rome" also did not deny that despite his 26 years of marriage, admitted that he too had extra-marital affairs.

"Di naman ako pwedeng magsinungaling, syempre andoon din 'yun eh..." Rome said.

There are no available data on the number of men who engaged in extra-marital affairs.

However, in a study conducted in 1995 by advertising agency McCann-Erickson showed that half of 500 male respondents or 250 men admitted to having extra-marital affairs.

The National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women, on the other hand, said in 2009, 36 percent of men admitted having extra-marital affairs.

In 2015, the Philippine National Police data showed that there were more than 300 cases of concubinage or married men having extra-marital affairs in the country.

"Given 'yung culture natin ano... 'yung prevailing machismo, mas ikinatutuwa pa dahil sukatan ng pagiging macho..." Gabriela Party list Rep. Emmi de Jesus said.

During counselling sessions of married women, most of them want to live separately



The Temptation of Wife stars Marian Rivera, Dennis Trillo and Glaiza de Castro

from their husbands.

"Almost always ang sinasabi nila gusto na nilang humiwalay eh. Pagdating na doon sa economic independence and dependence, doon na nagkakaroon ng problema kasi 'yun ang hindi nila kaya," said De Jesus.

Meanwhile, the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) advised women who have husbands engaging in illicit affairs.

"She could have recourse to legal empowerment by going to court kung gusto niya, para ihabla yung kanyang asawa or pwede rin siyang mag-file ng legal separation kung gusto niya or annulment," PCW executive director Emeline Versoza said.

Since 2007, Gabriela party-list has sought to legalize divorce in the Philippines.

The Philippines and the Vatican are the only states that do not allow divorce.

"Kasi ito rin 'yung nakikita namin na option ng babae, na rights-based siya na kinikilala ng lipunan na 'yung kontratang pinasok niya ay pwedeng ipawalang-bisa dahil nawala na 'yung mga sangkap ng marriage eh," said De Jesus.

There are divorce bills pending in Congress, but whether these will be signed into law remains uncertain.

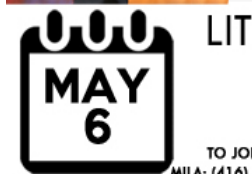


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10 fun facts about ‘Legally Blind’ star Ashley Rivera + other stories

Do you remember the Internet sensation Petra Mahalimuyak who rose to fame in 2011? She is definitely back in the spotlight!



ask her if they were related. She claimed in an interview, “Pareho kami ng dad at magkaiba kami ng mom tapos maniniwala na sila.” (PHOTO)

2. Her most-viewed video to-date “How To Dance In A club” reached almost five million views in YouTube. “How To Get Abs In 1 Min” got two million views, while her “How to Dougie” and “My British accent” videos have one million views each.

3. Prior to becoming a social media personality, the YouTube comedian was once an actress in the Philippines before she moved to Las Vegas where she made her videos. She moved back to her home country to pursue her showbiz career the second time around.

4. Ashley signed with GMA Artist Center earlier this year. She is now part of the high-rating GMA Afternoon Prime soap ‘Legally Blind’ as Diana Perez.

5. She’s always had that star quality--may it be her talent, sex appeal, wit, and wacky personality.

6. The talented actress has posed for FHM as its cover girl for April 2014. She is as hot as summer!

7. Apart from her acting career, DJ Ashley spins in clubs, music festivals, and other events.

8. Ashley Rivera made her alter ego Petra Sigamuyumuy Mahalimuyak six years ago due to boredom. She is best known for her spoken English with “exaggerated version of the Filipino accent” in her viral videos.

9. She’s traveled to several countries all over the world. Here, Ashley is in the Garden of Versailles in France.

10. A body like hers is made in the gym! Check her Instagram videos to see what we mean.

Xian Lim ok to do sexy roles with Arci Munoz

Humakot na ng dalawang acting award si Xian Lim para sa pelikulang Everything About

Her. Isa ay Best Supporting Actor sa GEMS at kamakailan lang ay sa 15th Gawad Tanglaw.

“Sabi ko nga, ‘ano bang nangyayari, totoo ba ito?’ Hanggang sa sinabi na ni mommy, ‘nanalo ka daw.’ ‘Talaga, baka sila-sila lang ang nagsasabi na ako lang ang nanalo.’ Tapos yon nga, nu’ng binanggit na sa akin ng Star Magic, ‘Ah talaga, ang galing naman.’

“Tapos nu’ng nabasa ko nga yung sa Gawad Tanglaw, napatawag nga ako kay Direk Joyce (Bernal). Pinuntahan ko rin siya sa taping niya para makausap at para personal na magpasalamat,” kuwento ni Xian.

Patuloy pa ng actor, “I’m overwhelmed. Hindi ko in-expect na nung ginagawa namin yung pelikula, sobra akong kabado, ang dami kong iniisip pero ngayon ano (napansin pa).”

Kahit recognized actor na si Xian, hindi pa rin daw siya sanay na pinupuri.

May isang seksing aktres na gustong makatrabaho si Xian in the future.

“Si Arci Munoz,” pabulong niyang pahayag. Pero pa-sexy ang image ni Arci at ang mga ginagawa niyang pelikula, kaya ba niya yung ganu’n, like magpakita ng puwet?

“Okey lang naman. Topless, underwear, pero wag naman muna siguro yung puwet,” sabay tawa niya nang malakas.

“Yung topless, underwear scene, kung kailangan naman talaga sa story at kung hindi naman siya para lang sa kalaswaan, kung may sense naman kung bakit ginagawa, okey lang,” dagdag niya.

Sa palagay ba niya kaya na niyang mag-solo? “Kung mabibigyan po ako ng pagkakataon. Yung lang naman ang hinihingi ko palagi sa kanila, eh. Chance lang talaga, mahirap po talagang manghingi ng chance, eh. Kaya kung bibigyan po nila ako, pagbubutihin ko naman,” sambit pa ni Xian na napapanood ngayon sa A Love To Last kasama sina Bea Alonzo at Ian Veneracion.

Lauren hangs out with sister Megan’s BF

Lauren Young is happy that her soap with Janine Gutierrez, “Legally Blind”, is rating well on GMA’s Afternoon Prime and more and more viewers are making it a habit to watch it. “Lahat kami, ganado sa taping dahil sa ganda ng reaction ng viewers and we’re doing our best to make sure na mas mapaganda pa namin bawat episode ng aming show,” she says.

So how is it working with his sister Megan Young’s BF, Mikael Daez?

“Parang may Kuya ako sa set. Six years na sila kaya comfortable na rin ako sa kanya. I’ve met all his brothers and sisters and they’re all nice.”

So she approves of him as her Ate Megan’s future husband? “Oh yes. I want to see them getting married, having their own kids.”

She herself is very happy with her own non-showbiz BF Robbie Garcia.

Do they also have plans of getting married? “Naku, we’re still too young to settle down.

We’re only 23, so dapat mauna ang sister ko kasi 27 na siya. Hindi naman kami nakikipag-contest o nakikipag-unahan sa kanila.”

A Personal Film For Direk Dondon

DIRECTOR Dondon Santos of “Northern Lights: A Journey to Love”, says the movie’s main story concerning a father who is estranged from his son is inspired by the story of his own dad and his half brother. “Years ago, may dumating sa amin, hinahanap ang father ko, kung kilala ko raw si Ricardo Santos, at siya raw si Dondon,” he says. “E, sabi ko, ako rin, Dondon ang name ko. ‘Yun pala, half brothers kami. He’s ten years older than me and he passed away recently. ‘Yun, sayang, they never really got close to each other ng father namin.

Dito naman sa ‘Northern Lights’, anak ni Piolo Pascual si Raikko Mateo. Nang magpunta si Piolo sa Alaska, naiwan si Raikko as a baby sa mother niya, si Maricar Reyes. The story then becomes how a father tries to win the love of his son na lumaking hindi siya kilala.”

He has never worked with Piolo in a movie before but they worked in the “Maruja” soap starring Kristine Hermosa. “Actually, guest lang siya roon, and after that, di na kami nagkatrabaho uli. But after he read the script of ‘Northern Lights’, nagustuhan niya agad. He’s very cooperative and very collaborative while we’re shooting the movie and he gave a very good performance here. There’s a two minute scene with his parents, Tirso Cruz III and Sandy Andolong, na wala siyang dialogue, puro mata lang ang pinagagana niya, but he’s very good and it’s very effective.”

Direk Dondon is the only member of the movie who got to actually see the Aurora Borealis or Northern Lights in Anchorage, Alaska. “It’s really awesome at makikita ‘yun dito sa movie in all its glory.”

Arci Munoz denies reconciliation with ex: ‘Na-friend zone na nga ako’

After admitting to her breakup late last year, Arci Munoz said she has been busy focusing on her newest project with Star Cinema which reunites her former crush Gerald Anderson. “Sino bang hindi magkaka-cursh kay Ge? (laughs) Nung una pa lang na binigay nila sa akin yung script tapos nakalagay Can We Still Be Friends, hindi ko na nga binasa eh. Sa title pa lang umoo na ako eh. Tapos si Ge pa ulit. Para sa akin, sobra akong naging kumportable sa kanya sa Always Be My Maybe eh so nung sinabi nila na si Ge ulit makakasama ko ang saya ko (laughs). Okay siges yes! Ganun talaga, ganun ulit. Happy happy set kasi kami nun eh so I wouldn’t mind doing it one more time,” she shared.



One year after she was first paired with her Always Be My Maybe leading man, Arci shared why they have now been dubbed as “#TeamRelate.” “Meron na kaming team, #TeamRelate (laughs). Kasi makaka-relate yung mga tao. Love story ko kasi sobrang relate ako,” she explained.

In Can We Still Be Friends, Arci plays a woman who will learn if she can still be friends with her former boyfriend of eight years. The timing could not have been better for the 27-year-old actress to relate to the film. “Yung ngayon, yung nangyayari sa akin mismo sa present ko talaga na love life ko talaga ngayon,” she admitted.

When asked if it was true that she and her ex-boyfriend were back together again, Arci dismissed the rumor. “Na-friend zone na nga ako. Basta, huwag natin pag-usapan yung akin. Yung movie na lang. Kaya pag napanuod niyo yung movie, yun yun. Yun yung nangyayari sa present ko na buhay. Baka umiyak ako eh (laughs),” she added.

The pretty actress elaborated on whether she thinks exes can become friends and seemed to share some unintentional and personal “hugot” with her answer. “Sa estado ko ngayon, depende eh. Pero sa ngayon kasi sinasabi lang naman nila parang kung kaya mong makipagkaibigan sa ex mo, it’s either mahal mo pa siya or never mo siyang minahal. Yun lang yun eh. Eh sa ngayon hindi ko alam, ewan ko. Ayoko sagutin yung tanong (laughs),” she said.

New child stars of ABS-CBN TFC teleseryes capture the hearts of the viewers

Adorable and talented child stars Awra Briguela, Xymon Pineda, James Sagarino, Rhian Lorraine Pineda, Shantel Ngujo, Nayomi Ramos and Enzo Pelojero charm in “Ang Probinsyano” and “My Dear Heart”

Just like in every Filipino family, elements that add love, fun, and color to the viewing experience of every Kapamilya are the cute and talented child stars in ABS-CBN top-rating teleseryes “FPJ’s Ang Probinsyano” and “My Dear Heart,” airing outside the Philippines via The Filipino Channel (TFC).

These child stars get intense support from viewers not only because of their superb performances, but also because they are good role models to young audiences both in and out the country.

Aside from action and drama, “FPJ’s Ang Probinsyano” offers fun and laughter, with the help of Macmac (Awra Briguela) and Onyok (Xymon “Onyok” Pineda).

They have not only impressed viewers with their characters’ wit, but also shared stories that have left marks on people’s hearts. Macmac’s

coming out showed viewers that there is nothing wrong about being true to oneself. While Onyok’s despair when Cardo (Coco Martin), whom he treats as a father, got jailed exemplified that one need not be related by blood to consider another as family.

The series has also brought fun to a notch higher for Filipino families with the introduction of the newest young characters: Paquito (James Sagarino), Dang (Rhian Lorraine Pineda), and Ligaya (Shantel Ngujo).

Meanwhile, the touching story of “My Dear Heart,” which stars Nayomi “Heart” Ramos, also



touches and lightens the hearts of the viewers.

Though young and small, Heart (Ramos) is her family’s biggest source of love and inspiration. So even after she falls comatose and becomes nothing but a spirit which is seen only by Dra. Divinagracia (Coney Reyes), Heart does what it takes to soften the heart of the doctor so she could be well again and be back with her family.

Joining Heart in her journey is her best friend Bingo (Enzo Pelojero), who helps her find her way back and reunite with her family.

With the unwavering support of viewers, both series have maintained their lead in their

respective timeslots and in terms of views since they started airing on Philippine television, according to data from Kantar Media, a local viewership measurement company. The two shows are also part of the Top 15 shows with the highest views online (TFC.tv). These shows are also constant trending topics on Twitter and have also earned praises from netizens.

Continue to be inspired and spread love and positive vibes with the kids of “FPJ’s Ang Probinsyano” and “My Dear Heart” which air in key countries worldwide via TFC. Catch up episodes are available via TFC online (TFC.tv) and TFC IPTV.

For more updates about the show, visit TFC’s Facebook page applicable for your area. Connect with fellow global Kapamilyas, follow @KapamilyaTFC on Twitter and Instagram.

ABS-CBN involved in Enforcement Effort Against Sellers of Pirated DVDs of ABS-CBN Content

DALY CITY, CALIFORNIA, March 21, 2017 – Six stores selling DVDs in Toronto and Montreal surrendered last March 7 and 8 over a thousand pirated DVDs of ABS-CBN content. Included in the enforcement effort were the following stores: Bulacan Fashion, Bon-Bon, Waynes Collectibles, a store at 23 Glen Watford Drive in Dragon Centre, Universe Communication Ltd. in Oriental Centre, and a store located at 6057 Victoria Avenue in Montreal, Quebec.

ABS-CBN AVP and Head of Global Anti-Piracy Elisha Lawrence remarked: “ABS-CBN partners with the top DVD manufacturers to manufacture DVDs of our movies that give customers the best viewing experience possible. The stores were selling poor quality copies of ABS-CBN’s movies which tarnish our customers’ viewing experience and damage the ABS-CBN brand. In addition, Canada is robbed of the taxes it deserves as these stores sell these



(TOP ROW, Left to Right) Bulacan Fashion, Universe Communications and Bon-Bon were among the six stores in Montreal and Toronto which recently surrendered hundreds of pirated DVDs of ABS-CBN content. (BOTTOM ROW, Left to Right) Samples of the pirated DVDs that the stores were illegally selling in Canada.

DVDs for cash and pay no taxes to the government. Everyone are losers if this isn’t stopped.” ABS-CBN North America Head of Sales

& Distribution Ray Olano stated: “With the zero tolerance policy of our ABS-CBN Global COO Raffy Lopez, we will continue to go after these stores throughout Canada that sell pirated DVDs of our content or illegitimate boxes streaming our content.” David S. Lipkus of Kes-tenberg Siegal Lipkus LLP, Canadian counsel for ABS-CBN said: “The distribution and sale of pirated copies of ABS-CBN’s intellectual properties will not be tolerated, and these enforcement activity efforts send a signal to all Canadians that ABS-CBN will enforce their copyrights under the laws of Canada.”

More than 100 persons nabbed for violating Parañaque ordinances

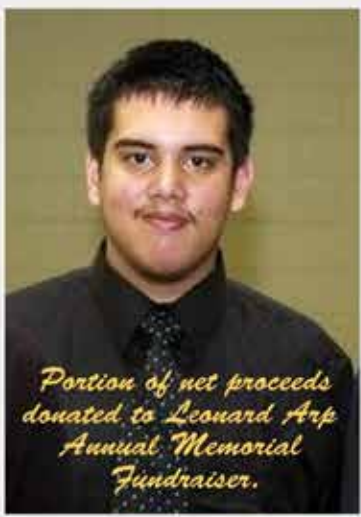
MANILA - At least 103 persons were arrested on a Friday night under the Oplan Rody or the Rid the streets Of Drinkers and Youth in Parañaque city, reported Luisito Santos for Super Radyo’s dzBB. Parañaque City Chief of Police Senior Supt. Jemar Modequillo said the suspects were arrested for violating a City Ordinance in Barangays San Dionesio and San Isidro. Among the suspects were 46 minors, who

violated the curfew while 31 were arrested for drinking liquor in a public place, 15 were half naked and 11 persons had standing warrants of arrest against them. The suspects who were arrested for drinking liquor in public and for being half naked were instructed to do push ups while the minors were reminded of the ordinance on the curfew before they were allowed to go home accompanied by their parents.

Meanwhile, 24 motorcycles were confiscated after the drivers failed to present registration papers. The police is verifying the ownership of the motorcycles to determine if these were stolen. Modequillo said Oplan Rody is aimed at lessening crimes committed at night as well as to impose discipline on young people who are out on the streets late at night.

Flip-flop on China may lead to crisis’

MANILA - Confusing remarks by President Rodrigo Duterte about Philippine claims in the Scarborough Shoal and Benham Rise could bring about a crisis in the country’s relationship with its long-time ally, the United States. Stratbase ADR Institute Inc. trustee and program convener Renato de Castro warned that in the near future the Philippines could be downgraded to the weakest link among other members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana revealed that a Chinese survey ship was seen in the Benham Rise which lies in the eastern part of the Philippines on the Pacific Ocean, where there is no island or country nearby. A professor and a maritime expert Jay Batongbatal slammed China’s explanation, however, noting that the “criss-cross or back-and-forth-pattern” of the Chinese ship as reported by Lorenzana does not look like an exercise of freedom of navigation. Asked about Chinese activities in the South China Sea, Duterte said there was nothing the Philippines could do if China started building structures on Scarborough Shoal. De Castro said this remark would give the US, Australia, Japan, and South Korea the wrong impression. “Given the policy of the government right now... how do you think the US and its allies would look at the Philippines? We might be the weakest link in this alliance,” he said. Gatchalian, chairman of the Senate committee on economic affairs, cited the need to hold another hearing to paint a clearer picture of the facts as the lawmakers explore long-term strategies to uphold and defend the country’s sovereign rights.



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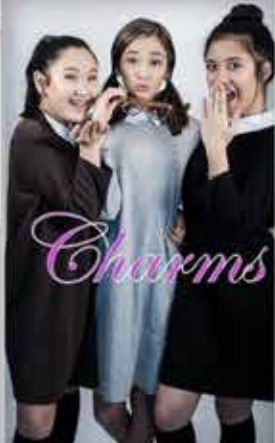
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Paano mag-move on si Rafael Rosell sa isang breakup? + other stories

Hindi porket guwapo siya ay hindi na siya nakakaranas ng dalamhati pagdating sa love life. Sa katunayan, isang lover boy itong si Kapuso star Rafael Rosell.



Kapag ikaw ay nagmahal, hindi maiiwasang mahahati ang iyong puso sa dalawa at aminado ang Kapuso hunk na minsan niya rin itong napagdaanan.

“There was a time in my life that was very dark. I was recovering from a breakup tapos pumunta ako sa dagat,” kuwento ng aktor sa Unang Hirit.

Sa dinami-dami ng kanyang outdoor adventures, ang surfing ang nakapagbuo ulit ng kanyang puso. Dito niya

naranasan ang katahimikan na inaasam-asam niya kaya siya ay nakapag-move on mula sa matinding heartbreak.

“Ang weirdo [ko] eh, feeling ko kinakausap ako ng dagat. I felt one with nature, and then I just crave to go out to the ocean para mag-surf. Nandun ‘yung sobrang tahimik ‘pag umaga eh, and you’re just there in the ocean. No one else. Nakalimutan ko lahat,” pagtatapos niya.

Pagkatapos ng success ng GMA Afternoon Prime soap na Sinun-galing Mong Puso, muling mapapanood si Rafael sa 2017 remake ng Impostora kasama si Kapuso star Kris Bernal.

Happy and grateful for the continued success of ‘Pepito Manaloto’

GMA Network’s Pepito Manaloto is one the country’s favorite and well-loved family sitcoms.

Lead star Michael V. expressed his gratitude for the overwhelming support of fans and viewers through the years.

“Ginagawa naman talaga namin ang Pepito Manaloto for all ages. The people, our viewers, are the ones who inspire us sa bawat episode



na pino-produce namin for seven years. Kung wala yung society, wala kami. Wala ito,” he said.

The award-winning actor/TV host also revealed that their unity in the set is one of the reasons for the show’s continued success.

“Actually, sama sama kami sa lahat dito e, sabay kami mag-brainstorm para lahat may partisipasyon. Hindi ka lang artista dito, hindi ka lang writer, director. Dito sa set, cool lang kami. Kita naman di ba? Sa seven years namin together, pamilya na kami talaga,” the Kapuso actor held.

Pepito Manaloto airs Saturdays after 24 Oras Weekend.

Mika says she is not ‘ungrateful’

MIKA De La Cruz thought she’d have a hard time doing ‘Meant to Be’ as it’s her first show with GMA7. “Pero hindi, madali akong nakapag-adjust kasi happy ang atmosphere sa set, good vibes lagi ang mga kasama ko, so na-relax ako agad at comfortable na ako with everyone kahit galing ako sa Dos,” she says. “Maganda ang bonding namin lalo na when do out of town shows to promote ‘Meant to Be’ kaya mabilis kaming naging friends ng mga kasama kong sina Barbie Forteza, Jak Roberto, Ivan Dorschner, Addy Raj at Ken Chan. Grabe ang dami ng fans ng show everywhere we go, sa mall shows man or maging sa social

media.”

So she has no regrets on being a Kapuso actress? “Wala po talaga kasi mababait sila pati ang staff at lalo na ang director namin, si L.A. Ma-drideos. Alagang-alaga kami sa taping and even sa regional shows.”

How did she feel when some folks bashed her for leaving ABS-CBN? “Siyempre, hindi naman po maiiwasan ‘yun. Sinasabihan akong walang utang na loob kasi sa ABS ako nagsimula as a child star. Pero ‘yung real fans ko from way back, they understand my decision na career move lang po ito and they stay with me. Talagang you cannot please na-man everyone. Basta I’m happy with my decision to be with GMA kasi ang babait nilang lahat sa akin dito.”

Is she happy with her role as Mariko in “Meant to Be”? “Okay naman po kasi hindi naman siya talaga kontrabida like what others thought.”

This week in “Meant to Be”, the rivalry of the four guys over the attention of Barbie as Billie is slowly becoming more intense. Addy Raj as Jai has an edge because he got Barbie to be his coach in teaching him Tagalog. In turn, Ken Chan as Yuan is getting more and more grumpy when he sees Barbie being more close to the other hunks than him, as he

cannot express his own feelings for her. Addy suggests that they have a team building exercise and so they all go camping to have more intimate bonding.

Alden treats lotlot as real mom

Lotlot De Leon won an acting award last year at the All Lights International Filmfest at Hyderabad, India for the movie “1st Sem”. We’ve seen the film and Lotlot truly delivers a convincing and touching performance as a single mom trying her best to juggle her time for her three sons, but the film itself is amateurishly done. The film is now accepted anew at the 50th Worldfest Houston International Festival from April 21 to 30 in Texas, USA.

Lotlot will attend the affair next month but she has to excuse herself from the taping of GMA7’s hit primetime soap, “Destined To Be Yours”, where she plays the role of Alden Richards’ mother. So how is it working with Alden?

“Mabait na katrabaho,” she says. “Nang mag-taping kami sa bundok sa Dolores, Quezon, napakalayo ng location at nagkasakit ako kasi ang lamig-lamig doon. Nilagnat ako sa set, so I have to lie down and rest. Ay, talagang hindi niya ako pinabayaan. He watched over me and even made me take my medicines.”

And what does she think of the Alden-Maine Mendoza loveteam?

“Maganda talaga ang chemistry nila. Hindi naman makakaila, on screen and even off screen. No wonder ang daming supporters ng loveteam nila. Pareho rin silang okay umarte. Abangan nyo kasi as the story goes on, mas paganda nang paganda ang plot developments sa love story nina Alden as Benjie and Maine as Sinag. It turns out, the two of them have already met when they were kids, but they never found out each other’s name. Now, Benjie is an architect in his grandfather’s architectural firm na naatasan to do the company’s big project in Pelangi, while Sinag is a DJ at the local radio station who strongly opposes the development of their town to preserve their land and culture. Now, Benjie starts courting Sinag to make her fall in love with him and convince her to sell their land. Even though Sinag’s mother believes that Benjie is her soul mate, Sinag still has her doubts because of the pain she experienced from her past relationship. Abangan n’yo if she’d open her heart again and fall for Benjie’s sweetness to her o mabubuko ang tunay nitong motibo.”



Transit users lose tax break on monthly passes in federal budget

TORONTO - The 2017 federal budget has delivered a financial blow to frequent transit riders by eliminating a 15-per-cent tax credit on transit passes.

The decision means that TTC passengers will no longer be eligible for a tax rebate on monthly Metropasses, weekly TTC passes, and weekly GTA passes and also affects GO Presto pass holders.

The measure was introduced by Stephen Harper’s Conservatives in 2006.

TTC chair Josh Colle said the agency doesn’t have statistics on how many people were making use of the rebate, so it’s not clear what effect it will have on transit usage. But because adult Metropass holders account for almost half of all trips on the TTC, it’s something Colle said he’ll be watching closely.

“If this was in fact supporting ridership growth and transit use, then we of course would want it to stay.”

This year, Metropasses cost \$146.25, which works out to a discount of \$21.94 for one pass, or \$263.25 for a year’s worth.

When the TTC raised the cost of the passes in 2015, their sales dropped by 3.6 per cent, which the agency said was a “significant contributor to the slowdown in the TTC’s ridership growth.”

The TTC is already struggling with lower-than-expected ridership. Last year the number of trips fell 15 million short of the target of 543 million, leaving a \$46-million hole in the agency’s budget.

WHAT JULIE ANNE HAS TO ENDURE

JULIE Anne San Jose says her face has become numbed because of the slaps she got from LJ



Reyes and also Jean Garcia while taping her confrontation scenes with them in “Pinulot Ka Lang sa Lupa”, whose ratings have climbed up the charts so it’s not true that it will be ending soon.

Drama shows that feature the female characters engaging in violent catfights seem to be a favorite scene among local audiences. This is the reason why “Sa Piling ni Nanay” (with Yasmien Kurdi and Katrina Halili fighting all the time) and now, “Ika-6 na Utos” (with Sunshine Dizon and Ryza Cenon as the adversaries), are all winners in the ratings game.

So does Julie Anne now avoid doing slapping scenes? “As an actress, part talaga ‘yun

ng trabaho namin,” she says. “Hindi maiiwasan. In fairness to Ms. Jean Garcia, she asked me kung gusto ko raw, dayain na lang namin ang sampal. Sabi ko, totohanin na, itodo na ang sampal, para take one lang. Ni-ready ko talaga ang pisngi ko, kasi gusto kong maramdaman ko talaga ‘yung sakit para makapag-react din ako nang tama. Kapag fake kasi ‘yung sampal, baka ipaulit pa ni Direk Gina Alajar. Okay lang naman ‘yung sampal, ang mahirap ‘yung suntukan. ‘Yun, dapat, i-fake na lang.”

Is she feeling inspired now that she’s paired with her beau, Benjamin Alves, in the show? “Basta masaya kami tuwing magkasama, lalo rito sa taping. ‘Yung loveteam, binuo ng fans namin in May last year. So this coming May, first anniversary ng loveteam namin.”

BASTE IS DIFFERENT

BAEBY Baste of “Eat Bulaga” is only 4 years old but he can certainly carry a tune. All the hosts in the number one noontime show admire

him so it’s no wonder that Vic Sotto, Joey de Leon and the rest are always requesting him to do a song number.

Unlike another obese little boy, Balang, who became popular because of dancing, Baste’s advantage is he can really sing. Sometimes, you can’t exactly figure out the lyrics of what he’s singing, but still, he never gets out of tune and he showed this when he had his own Baste Concert in the noontime show recently.

His female co-hosts led by Ruby Rodriguez couldn’t help but cry out of happiness for him while he was performing, with his own mother, Mommy Shiela as his personal coach. He even played musical instruments while jamming with some co-hosts and dishing out different kinds of songs, making him the youngest concert artist over.

Baste’s full name is Sebastian Benedict Arumpac and he comes from General Santos City. He first gained public notice through



his dubsmash videos. Ryzza Mae Dizon is his favorite Dabarkads then and it was in Ryzza’s now defunct morning show that he got his first exposure on national TV. Now, he’s part of top TV honcho Mr. Tony Tuviera’s stable of talents.

Baste is seen daily in the hit Jackpot En Poy game portion where he is considered the Most Valuable Player since he is the record holder in terms of having the most number of wins. He is such a winner when he’s garbed as Cowbaeby Baste or PrinsePogi Baste who always beats his opponents.

But we’re told Baste really feels so bad and feels so down each time he’d lose that his Mommy Shiela would take him to Rockwell to go swimming to console him and lift up his spirits. So all we can say is: Go go, Baste! Don’t take Jackpot en Poy so seriously. It’s only a game and you win most of the time anyway!

PCCF donates to Charities in the Philippines

Last January 2017, the PCCF Pageant beauties travelled to the Philippines to enjoy the sights and sounds of the Philippine Islands as well as to experience first hand what a positive difference one can make in the lives of others.

Due to the success of the Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation (PCCF)'s 2016 events including the Pinoy Fiesta & Trade Show sa Toronto and Pageants with a Cause, PCCF was able to fulfill its mission to support various worthy causes in the Philippines. To-date, PCCF has donated over a million pesos to Philippine-based causes!

The PCCF delegation led by EVP Rosemer A. Enverga and goodwill ambassadors, Miss Philippines Canada 2016 – Krista Bella, Miss Teen Philippines Canada 2016 – Chiara Silo, Mrs. Philippines Canada 2016 – Amelia Arcillo and runner-ups Len Salvador, Loida Cox and volunteer, Lilca Cana, travelled to the Philippines and distributed donations to ANCOP (ANswering the Cry of the Poor) towards the completion of the PCCF-TALA ANCOP Village, Missionaries of Charity founded by Mother Theresa, Tahanan Walang Hagdanan Inc, Cornerstone Baptist Academy, “Ngiti Mo Sagot Ko” Dental Mission, Bukas Lapad Foundation & Elementary School and the Kapuso Foundation.

We are proud of all our ambassadors and candidates!

Let us continue to have fun, while helping others! Join us for this year's Pinoy Fiesta & Trade Show sa Toronto on June 24th, 2017 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Hall A.

For more info, please e-mail: pinoyfiestatoronto@gmail.com, pageantsphilippines@gmail.com, visit www.philippinecanadianfoundation.com or LIKE www.facebook.com/ PhilippineCanadianFoundation

Spotlight



Session Road, Baguio City, 1960's

KILLINGS continued from page 1

Mr. Duterte's pronouncements defending his war on drugs were not proof of state-sponsored killings, Gana said.

"Honestly ... You see I'm a lawyer and you have to show there is a direct causation to what happened. If there's a policeman involved [in an extrajudicial killing], can you say Duterte ordered that, that (the policeman killed) because of what Duterte said? A lot of motivations come in," she said. Gana said such policemen were likely rogue officers who were trying to cover up their own criminal activities, rather than following orders.

"As CHR [commissioner] I cannot randomly

say that's because of what the President said. What kind of investigator or lawyer [am I], what is my basis [in making such a conclusion]?" she added.

"I'm not Amnesty International, I'm not the Human Rights Watch who are advocates and probably can just say that. But we are CHR, we have to [make conclusions] based on something. We're not an NGO, we're in government. We have to be based on facts and evidence," Gana said.

Killings systematic

She was referring to the London-based Amnesty International's 2016 report that accused the PNP of paying police officers and assassins to

kill alleged drug offenders, and concluded that majority of the drug-related killings were "systematic, planned and organized" by authorities and could constitute crimes against humanity.

The New York-based Human Rights Watch, in its 2016 report, also slammed Mr. Duterte for the "unprecedented level of apparent extrajudicial killings by law enforcement."

"Amnesty International came up with a conclusion with just 33 cases investigated. That's not CHR. That may be your style but not CHR. We have a mandate. We are after the truth. We cannot just condemn anybody," said Gana, who heads the CHR task force on extrajudicial killings.

She said after investigating 490 cases, "we can't say whether they are state-sponsored."

FIL-AM ACTOR'S LIFE: Rene Gube

LOS ANGELES—"It's important to me that the show is as accurate as possible with the Filipino stuff," stressed Rene Gube, who is one of the writers of "Crazy Ex-Girlfriend," the comedy-musical TV series where he also acts as Father Brah. The CW show has been hailed as the first series to portray Fil-Am life, with a number of Filipinos in the cast, on primetime US television.

Rene, the son of immigrants from Batangas and Pampanga, is also an actor. In the show that stars Rachel Bloom (she and Aline Brosh McKenna are creators), he plays chill and compassionate Father Brah, with whom Josh Chan (Vincent Rodriguez III) shoots hoops and has heart-to-heart talks.

Josh is the Fil-Am character that Rebecca Bunch, as delineated by Rachel (who won a 2016 Golden Globe for her performance) obsesses on. She gives up a chance to be a partner in a top New York law firm to follow Josh in West Covina, California, where he and his family and many Filipinos live.

"I hope to see a lot more of Josh's family (in the coming episodes)," said Rene who's responsible for the Filipino storylines, including the groundbreaking episode that featured Thanksgiving, Pinoy-style, in 2015, and the one where Lea Salonga showed up as Josh's Aunt Myrna at his sister Jayma's (Tess Paras) wedding. Fil-Ams in the cast include Coryn Mabablot and Albert Isaac.

Rene also wrote and acted on TBS' "Ground Floor," where he played a character named Threepeat. Of this stint, he told Vulture magazine: "I fought all year to get one joke in that identified me as a Filipino. I saw how much that meant to Filipino people on Twitter, and I can relate because growing up, there were only Rob Schneider and Lou Diamond Phillips."

Born in Waukegan, Illinois, but raised in San Diego, California, Rene developed his interest in performing when he signed up for the speech and drama club at Mount Carmel High School. He earned his BA in political science at the University of California, San Diego. Before Hollywood claimed him, Rene taught history at the Belmont High School in downtown LA.

As a comedian, Rene still performs every Friday with his comedy sketch group, JV, at the Upright Citizens Brigade in LA.

Rene and his wife, Briga Heelan, who's also an actor and a comedian, are expecting their first child—a girl—"any day now."

The story behind selfless father in viral photo

MANILA -- A photo of a scrawny man watching his daughters enjoy a fried chicken meal in a popular fast-food chain recently went viral on social media, garnering thousands of likes and shares from people who were touched by the iconic image that depicts selfless love.

The photo was taken by Jhunnel Sarajan, a real estate professional, who returned the following day to get more details about the family as people expressed interest to help.

In his conversation with the man in the photo, Sarajan found out that he is a stroke victim and a single father to his two kids. He also shared details on how to help the family, including the phone number of JR Arebuabo, the man's uncle.

Ryan Arebuabo, the man in the viral photo, lives in a 4-square-meter shanty made of used plywood and rusty iron sheets. Hanging just beside the worn out door is a portrait of Arebuabo's priceless possessions, his two children Rose May and Rose Ann.

The 38-year-old had a stroke attack four years ago, back when he was still selling boiled corn in the neighborhood. He said he never underwent therapy sessions, and his last visit to the doctor was three years ago.

Due to his condition, Arebuabo was unable to work for months after he was released from the hospital.



Half of his body was paralyzed, and he had a hard time speaking.

Another tragedy also struck him. His wife left him, taking their two kids with her.

"Dati sabi niya may tindahan daw siya sa Bulacan," Arebuabo told ABS-CBN News. "Babalik, tapos aalis na naman. Hanggang sa hindi na talaga bumalik. Isinama pa pati mga anak ko."

According to Arebuabo's younger sister Ria, they expected that his wife will leave him. "Alam niyo naman, karamihan sa mga lalaking na-i-stroke ay iniwan ng asawa," she said. "Kawawa talaga 'yong kuya ko."

Ria said her brother did all he could to convince his wife to return. He even renovated their house and bought a second-hand television to show her that he could support them.

"Siya, kahit ano pang masasamang marinig niya tungkol sa asawa niya, talagang gusto niyang mabuo 'yong pamilya niya. Tatlong beses nga

niyang sinundan sa Bulacan 'yong asawa niya, pero wala talaga," she said.

Although Arebuabo was unable to win his wife back, he succeeded in getting custody of their children.

"Buti na lang iyung mga bata, naibalik sa kanya. Baka kasi kung ano pa ang gawin niya. Baka sila ang maging lakas niya para humaba pa ang buhay niya," Ria said.

Despite his condition, the dedicated father persevered to bring food on the table and support his children's education. Both Rose May and Rose Ann are studying at Jose Corazon De Jesus Elementary School.

Rose Ann, 8, is in Grade 2, while Rose Mae, 6, is in kindergarten.

"Mahirap din, minsan napapagod ka. Pero kahit pagod ka, lumaban ka-- kahit ang tulog ko konti lang kasi nagtitinda ako eh," Arebuabo said.

Arebuabo is one of the beneficiaries of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), a government initiative that provides conditional cash grants to the "poorest of the poor, to improve the health, nutrition, and the education of children."

Every other month, Arebuabo

SELFLESS FATHER continued on page 26

Maine-Alden relationship getting deeper + other stories

ALDEN Richards and Maine Mendoza are both very happy that their first primetime show, “Destined to Be Yours”, rated well and got positive feedback from all those who watched its pilot episode last Monday. “Nakakatuwa dahil nagbunga ang pagpapagod namin ni Maine para mapaganda ang show, lalo na ‘yung pagsu-shoot sa bundok na marami sa amin ang nagkasakit dahil malamig at laging umuulan-ulan,” says Alden. “Lahat kami ngayon, lalong naging inspired to give our best to make sure na each episode of the show will be worth watching for all those who support us every night.”

“Sobrang saya naming lahat na connected sa show and we all want to thank our director, Irene Villamor, dahil nagustuhan ng viewers ang show,” says Maine. “It’s nice to know na appreciated lahat yung paghihirap namin sa location taping sa Quezon Province.”

So what have they discovered about other now that they’re taping the show almost every day? “Si Maine naman, she’s always very easy to work with kahit nung kalyeserye pa, kahit sa movie namin, and now, teleserye. Maganda talaga lagi ang working relationship namin.”

“Never ending process naman ‘yung pag-discover mo sa isang tao and yes, habang tumatagal, mas lumalabas ‘yung tunay na Alden and Maine and we’re getting to know each other better,” says Maine. “With ‘Destined to Be Yours’, we are getting deeper knowledge about one another at mas nare-realize kong napakagaling ni Alden umarte and he’s very generous dahil tinutulungan niya ako sa mga eksena namin together, he being the more experienced one sa aming dalawa.”

Fans waiting for Julie Anne and Benjamin to kiss



JULIE Anne San Jose and Benjamin Alves got positive comments for their first kissing scene in “Pinulot Ka Lang sa Lupa” and it went trending on social media. Their fans said it was really “nakakakilig” and they’ve actually been waiting for that kissing scene to happen since the show started nearly a month ago.

“We’re really glad that they liked it,” says Julie Anne. “Pero marami pa silang dapat abangan sa show. Mas paganda kasi nang paganda ang story nito kaya huwag kayong bibitaw.”

Eula threatens viewers

EULA Valdes was in the afternoon soap, “Hahamakin ang Lahat”, that ended just recently. After its taping, she went on a cruise to Alaska with her inamorato, actor-model Rocky Salumbides. But now, she’s back on TV and it’s on primetime, as Avria, Queen of Etheria, in “Encantadia”.



She’s also in the new Regal Entertainment horror movie, “Pwera Usog”. In both projects, she plays very dark and sinister characters who possesses the body of another person.

In “Encantadia”, as the evil Reyna Avria, she possesses the body of Solenn Heussaff as Cassiopeia.

In “Pwera Usog”, Eula plays Catalina, an evil enchantress who possesses the body of Devon Seron as Luna, a taong grasa. Needless to say, Eula enjoys playing both roles to the hilt. “Matakot na kayo habang pinapanood nyo kung paano ako maghahasik ng lagim on the small screen in ‘Encantadia’ and on the big screen in ‘Pwera Usog’!” she threatens. ’

Encantadia’ star Sanya Lopez talks about her role as Danaya in her latest online fashion feature

Sanya discussed her experiences portraying Danaya in the much-awaited telefantasya.

According to Sanya, “Hindi biro. I went through a lot during the audition process. Now, we’re all working hard and really preparing for it. Aside from acting

workshops, I’m preparing for my role by getting fit and learning arnis.”

The Kapuso actress also talked about her reaction when she first found out about her role.

“I had mixed emotions. At first, ang sarap ng feeling. But I did feel nervous because Encantadia was such a huge hit before and Diana Zubiri was an amazing actress. I just try to control the feeling of being pressured because I don’t want it to affect my work,” Sanya said.

Lastly, she shared what it’s like to work with her Sang’gre sisters Glaiza de Castro, Kylie Padilla, and Gabbi Garcia, “We’ve all gotten very close. They’re very welcoming and approachable. I feel blessed to be working with them because they’re so professional at ang sarap nila kasama.”



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Ivan hopes Barbie would end up with him

IVAN Dorschner’s first claim to fame was when pop star Katy Perry performed here in Manila in 2012 then she asked someone to come up on stage while she’s performing. Ivan did and she even gets to kiss him. The video of their kissing scene went viral.

“It was my aunt who pushed me to go up on stage,” Ivan says. “I was so embarrassed but after the kiss, it all became unforgettable.”

He has now embarked on a new chapter in his career. “I went back to my studies in the States after that and tried to forget showbiz. But when James Reid came for a show there and we met, he encouraged me to return to Manila to try showbiz anew. And now, I’d like to thank GMA-7 dahil mas nakilala ako rito because of ‘Meant to Be’. People who see me in public now call me Ethan, my name in the show.”

It’s said that his tandem with Barbie Forteza as Billie has so many supporters, calling their love team as Vanbie. “Yes, I know. But in fairness, may kanya-kanya ring supporters ‘yung love team ni Barbie with the other guys. But siyempre, gusto kong kami ni Barbie would end up with each other, kaya lang, it’s not for me to decide. Malayo pa naman ang tatakbuhan ng show so abangan na lang nila.”



PH cannot stop China’s plans in the South China Sea: Duterte

President Duterte will eventually talk about the UN ruling with China during his term

MANILA- The Philippines neither can stop China from its planned construction in the Panatag Shoal nor will declare war with the powerful Asian neighbor since it would only result to local casualties, President Duterte said.

“We cannot stop China from doing his thing. Hindi nga napara ng Amerikano,” the President said in a press conference in Davao City before leaving for Myanmar and Thailand.

“Ano bang gawin ko? Declare war against China? I can but we’ll all lose all our military and policemen tomorrow, and we are a destroyed nation,” he added.

The President was reacting to reports that China is preparing to build an environmental monitoring station at Pantag Shoal located within Philippine territory. The monitoring station will reportedly form part of China’s island restoration and erosion prevention efforts slated this year.

As the country moves to strengthen economic ties with China, the President explained that he would “not invoke” the arbitral judgment



upholding the country’s maritime entitlements in the South China Sea at this time.

“We cannot assert even a single sentence of any provision that we signed,” he said.

But Duterte recalled that he told Chinese President Xi Jinping that he would eventually raise the arbitral ruling in their discussion within his term.

“There will be a time in my term when I will

bring the issue back on the table on the four square of the arbitral ruling and it will come,” he said. “When? When they shall start to tinker with entitlements. Tubig pa lang ngayon eh,” he added.

The President also found nothing wrong with his invitation to China to send its ships to visit the Philippines, saying it was the same invitation extended to another ally Russia.

Duterte said he considers China as a friend of the Philippines and will not discriminate against their ships exercising right to innocent passage.

“Your ship are welcome, just like Russia, to come here and dock. And let me see your armaments there — and Russia, sinabi ko rin ang China,” he said.

Duterte, however, reminded China not to harass the country’s coast guard protecting territorial waters during their passage in local waters.

“Do not do anything to my coast guard kung mamasyal-masyal rin sila diyan. Kasi you claim to own it, I claim it to be mine. In the meantime, just keep open at ‘wag mong galawin ‘yung mga coast guard ko,” he said.

Recently, the President announced he permitted Chinese research ships to sail through the Philippine-owned Benham Rise as part of an agreement. He said no incursion happened since he was informed ahead of the passage of the Chinese ships.

Kalibo bans smoking, vaping



KALIBO, Aklan—The local government here has announced that the smoking ban in public places effective last March 23.

Councilor Cynthia Dela Cruz, chairman of the municipal council's Committee on Health, said the implementation would start soon after the required local publication of the ordinance.

The “no smoking and no vaping” in public places is embodied in Municipal Ordinance 2016-008. Violators may be fined with as much as P2,500.

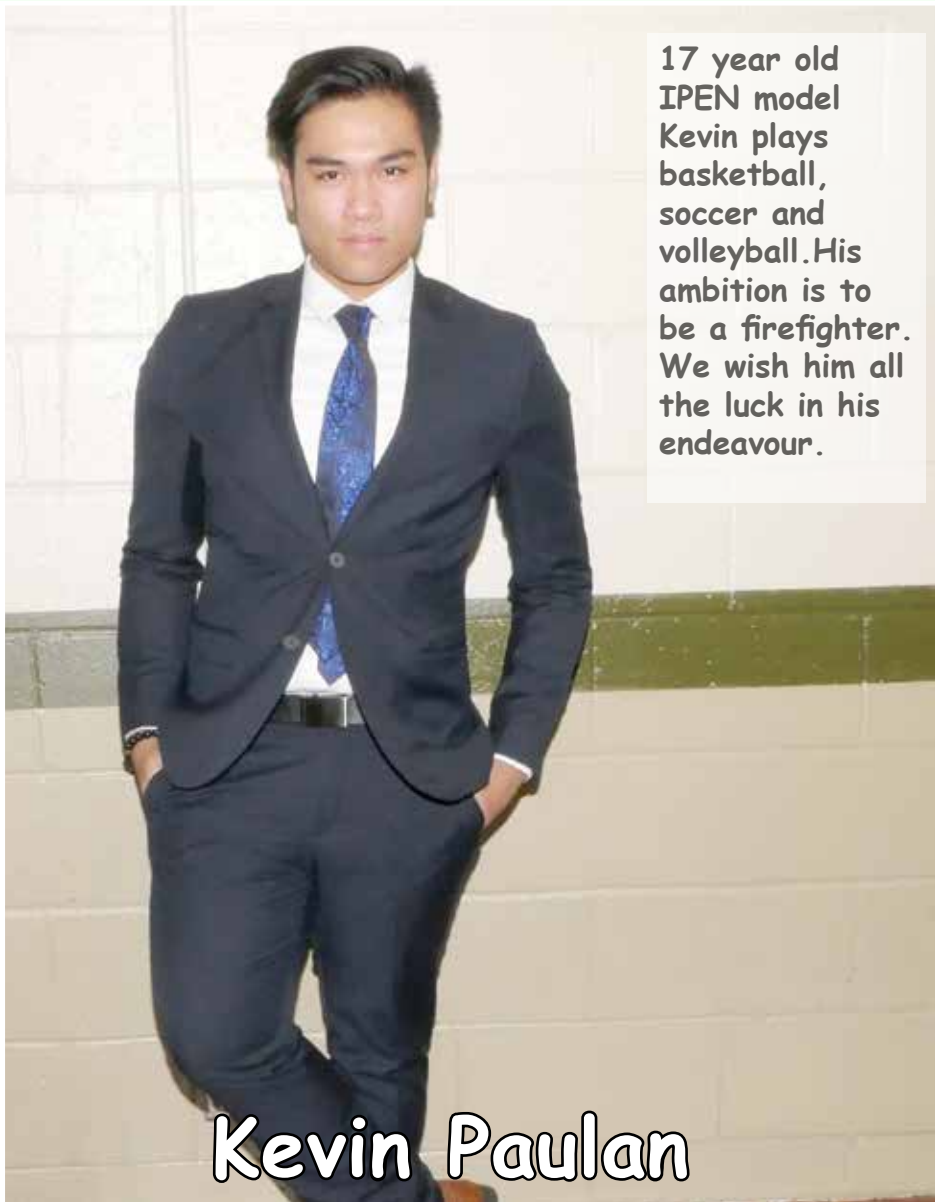
“The anti-smoking ordinance includes 18 provisions, including no smoking and no vaping in public places and conveyances, and no selling to minors,” Dela Cruz said Wednesday.

The violators would be apprehended not only by Kalibo’s auxiliary policemen, but also by several volunteers who were previously trained by resource persons from Manila and the Iloilo City Anti-Smoking Task Force or ICAST.

“Tourists coming to Kalibo will be informed of the new comprehensive ordinance on ‘no smoking, no vaping’ in public places,” she added.

Kalibo is a gateway to Boracay Island in Malay, which is expected to teem with local and foreign tourists as the summer hits its peak in April and May.

Hunk Shot



Sarah-Daniel, balak pagsamahin: Payag kaya ang Kathryn fans?

MAINIT na pinag-usapan ang duet nina Sarah Geronimo at Daniel Padilla sa ASAP kamakailan. Bagay daw ang dalawa. At marami ang kinilig ayon sa mga nabasa naming comment ng mga netizen. Maging si Sarah aminadong kinilig din siya.

Dahil dito marami ang nagsasabi na bagay silang magsama sa isang pelikula. Malaking hamon ito para sa Star Cinema. Kapwa wholesome ang image nila. Kaya dapat hindi lilihis ang story material nito sa kanilang image. Malaking konsiderasyon din ang age gap nila. Pero sa totoo lang, maraming pwedeng gawing istorya para sa dalawa. ‘Yun nga lang, papayag ba ang fans nila? Lalo na sa fans ni Daniel kung hindi kasama si Kathryn Bernardo. But again, it is more exciting if Kathryn is also in the cast. Sigurado kami na pinag-iisipan na ito ng Star Cinema dahil sa magandang feedback sa dalawa.

OK naman kay Kathryn. Pero, matuloy naman kaya ito?

Senator Enverga questions federal government’s commitment to fund Scarborough subway extension



Ottawa, March 2, 2017 – Today, the Honourable Tobias C. Enverga Jr., Ontario Senator, questioned the Government Representative in the Senate during question period about the Trudeau government’s commitment to provide funding for the completion of the Scarborough subway extension.

“Cost estimates for the Scarborough subway extension continues to rise, which means that it is now more important than ever that the federal government keeps its promise of providing funds for this

infrastructure project,” Senator Enverga said in a statement. “However, the Trudeau government has a tendency to not follow through on its commitments and to allow significant funding to lapse, as indicated in the recent report of the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance. This trend has become a source of alarm for many concerned citizens in Scarborough who would like to see the subway extension project come to fruition,” the Senator added.

The question raised by Senator Enverga aims to confirm the federal government’s commitment to support public transit projects in the Greater Toronto Area, specifically that of the subway system extension to Scarborough.

The Government Representative, Senator Peter Harder, responded with a promise to inquire about the funding for this specific project.

“I assure all members of the public that the government’s response will be shared with them as soon as it is available,” Senator Enverga ended.

A woman accompanied her husband to the doctor’s office. After his checkup, the doctor called the wife into his office alone and told her:

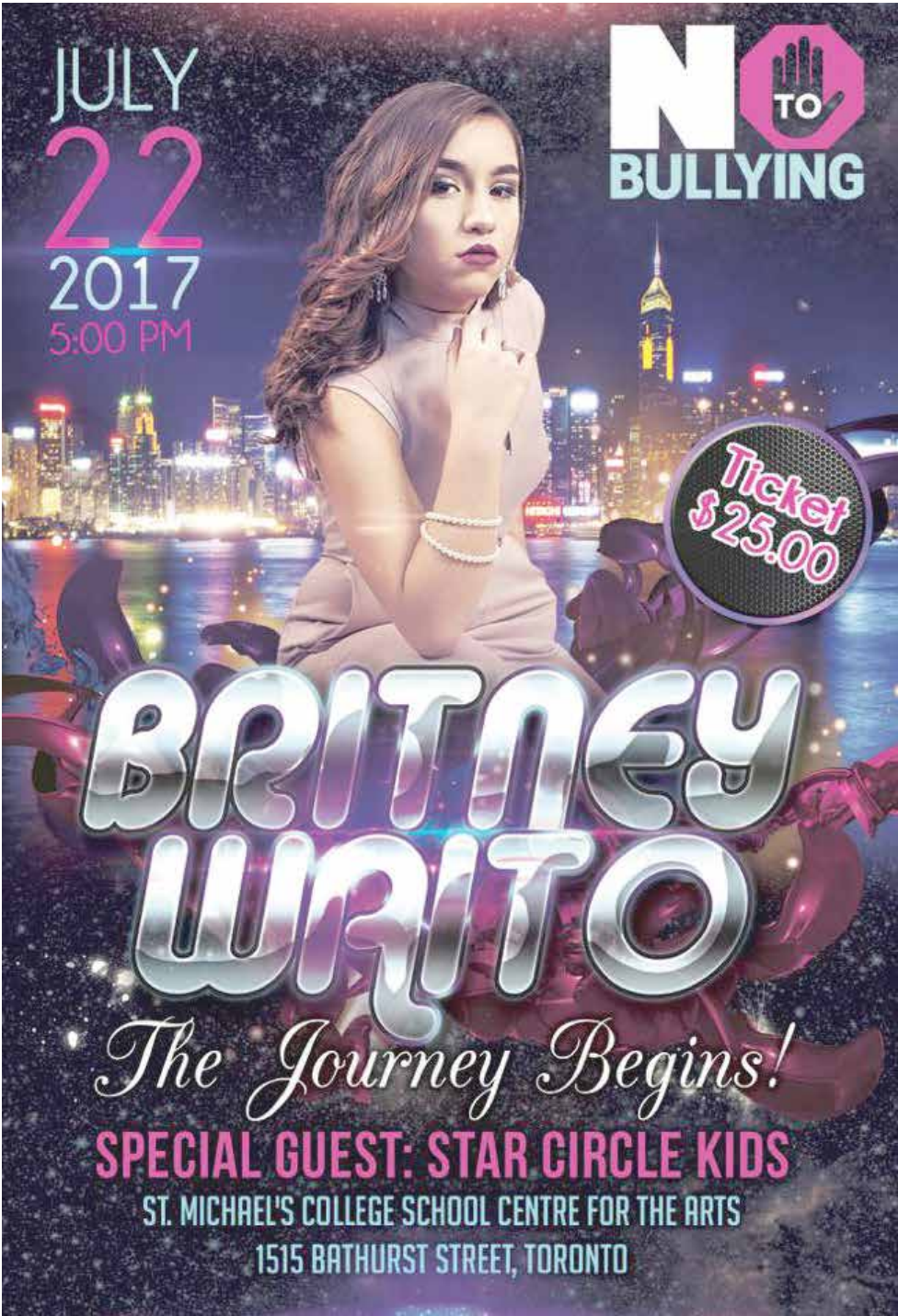
“Your husband is suffering from a very severe disease, combined with horrible stress. If you don’t do the following, your husband will surely die.

Each morning, fix him a healthy breakfast. Be pleasant, and make sure he is in a good mood. For lunch make him a nutritious meal. For dinner prepare an especially nice meal for

him. Don’t burden him with chores, as he probably had a hard day. Don’t discuss your problems with him as it will only make his stress worse. And most importantly, satisfy his every whim. If you can do this for the next 10 months to a year, I think your husband will regain his health completely.”

On the way home, the husband asked his wife, “What did the doctor say?”

“You’re going to die,” she replied.



What's the one thing Gabbi Garcia hates about Ruru Madrid? + other stories



With her much coveted role as Alena on Encantadia and a picture-perfect Instagram account (which is now a million followers strong), all eyes are on rising Kapuso princess Gabbi Garcia. Due to her rising presence, online publication Preen got together with Gabbi to get to know the young actress better.

Gabbi celebrated her debut last December and they wanted to know what the best thing is about turning 18 and she said, "Honestly, my decisions changed. It surprised me that turning 18 changed me. I became more open-minded about things."

She also talked about her relationship with her castmates in Encantadia.

According to her, "Right now, the Sang'gres in Encantadia are close. Kylie [Padilla] and I get to bond even outside of taping. We always eat out. We love Japanese cuisine."

Gabbi adds, "She's an introvert and [I'm an] extrovert. We talk a lot between scenes and our conversations are deep, sensible. I treasure those conversations."

The Kapuso actress also shared one thing she dislikes about her on-screen partner, Ruru Madrid.

"He's too kind. I think some people abuse him because he's too kind. Sometimes, he can't stand his ground because he's too nice. [Unlike

me,] I am straight to the point and when I want to say something, [I say it.] Ruru thinks that he might hurt someone," said Gabbi.

Kylie Padilla will no longer play Amihan in Encantadia; new Kapuso star takes her spot

Kylie Padilla's Encantadia character Amihan returns as a reincarnated spirit through the body of Ariana, played by StarStruck 6 finalist Arra San Agustin.

However, Kylie Padilla will no longer be portraying the role anymore.

In her last scene in the telefantasya, Amihan ate a fruit from a tree in Devas. This caused her ivtre (spirit in Nchan) to be reincarnated and find the "Sarkosi" or her reincarnated body.

Any ivtre that will be reincarnated can only find her Sarkosi through a newborn baby or a dead body.

Amihan's ivtre found the body of a Punjabwe named Ariana, played by StarStruck 6 finalist Arra San Agustin.

On her Twitter account last March 3, Kylie revealed that she did a marathon of Amihan's scenes in Encantadia 2016.

Kylie also expressed her gratitude and appreciation for the Encantadia staff.



Kylie Padilla's Encantadia character Amihan returns as a reincarnated spirit through the body of Ariana, played by StarStruck 6 finalist Arra San Agustin.

She said, "Encantadia's whole team has been working so hard, I am thankful that they also want Amihan to find the peace she deserves #abangan yan"

In January, Kylie's Amihan character got killed off in Encantadia after it was revealed that she got pregnant by boyfriend Aljur Abrenica.

Glaiza on love, business and Coldplay

Glaiza de Castro has been wondering why no one is courting her.

She thinks its either men are intimidated of her or that – gasp – she is not good-looking enough. "May ganu'n," she said. "Minsan dumarating sa isip ko 'yung ganoong klaseng insecurity na 'Teka, pangit ba ako?'" Not that she's losing sleep over it. "Mas gusto ko isipin siyempre na naandayan lang siya sa tabi-tabi, 'di lang kami nagtatagpo pa." At the moment, she contents herself with crushes. Glaiza is into K-pop admitting she finds most Korean stars cute.

"Ang pinaka-nagpapakilig sa akin si Park Bo-Gum ng 'Love In The Moonlight,'" she revealed. "As in ini-stalk ko pa 'yan sa social media." And how about local actors?

"Si Gil Cuerva siguro, type ko siya physically, ang cute niya. 'Di ba kasi parang Korean din siya? Ta's long hair pa."

She has met Gil through the instigation of her "Encantadia" co-stars.

"Last Christmas, tinuro ko lang 'kila Kylie (Padilla) at Sanya (Lopez) na cute, maya-maya pinapakilala na sakin. Pero 'yun lan 'yun. Alam ko naman bagets pa siya."



SELFLESS FATHER continued from page 1

said he receives P2,200, which he uses to buy school supplies and other needs of his children.

He also received a stall cart from DSWD, which he turned into a sari-sari store wherein he earns P100 to P200 in a day-- enough to bring meals to the table.

Everyday, Arebuabo wakes up at 5 a.m. to help his children prepare for school. One afternoon, he decided to bring his kids to a fast-food chain to celebrate Rose Mae's upcoming graduation.

Both kids ordered their favorite meal, while their father just satisfied his hunger by watching them enjoy the meal. "Hindi na po ako kumain. Makita ko lang na busog sila, okay na ako," he said.



Early in his life, Arebuabo learned the meaning of unconditional love.

Arebuabo's father, now 60, was also alone in providing for

his four siblings. His mother died after giving birth to their youngest.

"Sipag at pag-aalaga sa mga anak," Arebuabo said. "Kung paano ako inalagaan ng tatay ko, gano'n din ang ginagawa ko ngayon."

Arebuabo's father continues to work as a jeepney driver to help out with the family's expenses. In his spare time, he does the laundry for Arebuabo and his two kids.

"Siya talaga ang idol ko," he said. "Malaki ang sakripisyo niya para sa mga kapatid ko,

lalo na sa pamilya ko."

According to Arebuabo, a father's duty is not just to provide food on the table. He is also tasked to make sure that his children will achieve their dreams.

"Gusto ko lang makapagtapos sila sa pag-aaral," he said. "Kahit hirap akong magbasa, tinuturuan ko pa rin sila."

Arebuabo said he wants to prove to his estranged wife and the rest of the world that he can continue being a good father to his children despite being almost incapacitated by stroke.

The photographer, Jhannel Sarajan did buy the father his meal that is why in the next photo on facebook, the father is seen eating.



Candid SPOOF

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



Shirley Leblanc fails to un-photobomb Aubrey Panaligan and Joshua Panganiban at Ariel Martinez's birthday party.

Marvin Agustin opens his first US restaurant

Actor turned entrepreneur Marvin Agustin happily shared on Instagram that he already opened his first restaurant in San Francisco, California. Bao Down Gastrobar is originally from Canada and serves contemporary Pacific Rim fusion dishes.

Marvin's last TV series on ABS-CBN was Super D in 2016. He also went back to the Ateneo Graduate School to finish his Master of Entrepreneurship.

The actor currently owns 50 restaurants in the Philippines.



PH TELLS CHINA: Explain Panatag construction

MANILA has sought clarification from Beijing amid reports China was planning to build an environmental monitoring station on Panatag (Scarborough) Shoal.

"We are seeking information from Chinese authorities to clarify the accuracy of the report," presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella said.

Communist Party Secretary Xiao Jie has reported that China would begin preparatory work this year to build environmental monitoring stations on a number of islands, including Panatag Shoal.

This comes as the Philippines seeks a diplomatic solution with China to resolve a dispute over the West Philippine Sea (South China Sea).

Manila is not insisting on its rights over the contested waters despite an international arbitration tribunal ruling favoring the Philippines.

China seized Panatag Shoal in 2012 after a standoff with the Philippine Navy. It then denied Filipino fishermen access to the disputed area, forcing the previous Aquino administration to take legal action against Beijing.

The United Nations-backed Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague invalidated China's claims to the West Philippine Sea in July 2016, ruling that the Philippines has sovereign rights over Panatag Shoal and other areas within its 200-nautical-mile exclusive economic zone. China refused to recognize the ruling.

Tensions eased when President Rodrigo Duterte visited China the same year, telling his counterparts that he was not yet ready to insist on the tribunal decision.

Recently, Chinese survey ships were monitored at the resource-rich Benham Rise, an area that is part of the Philippines' extended continental shelf east of Luzon, for about three months.

The Chinese foreign ministry said the Philippines did not own Benham Rise but the Philippine government maintains that it "belongs to the Filipino people and the Philippines."

Last March 17, Friday, President Duterte met with Chinese Vice Premier Wang Yang in Davao City to unveil a new six-year development cooperation plan, but the two did not discuss the maritime dispute.

No monitoring

Malacañang denied that Chinese ships were in Benham Rise to monitor the alleged presence of US submarines in the country's continental shelf.

Abella said the Philippine government does not allow Chinese vessels in Benham Rise to do such monitoring.

"We have not heard of such information," Abella stressed as he reiterated Duterte's previous statement that he does not want the Philippines to be caught in the conflict between the US and China.

"Be that as it may, the President will not allow that as he said in numerous occasions that he does not want the Philippines to be caught in the middle of a conflict between the United States and China," the Palace official said.

Duterte had downplayed the presence of Chinese ships in Benham Rise, China sought permission to send its ships to the area.

The Palace official said the Philippines is duty-bound to protect its sovereign rights over the Benham Rise and can oversee and regulate the ships that pass through the area.

"Other countries can exercise innocent passage and territorial navigation. But they are disallowed to stay and establish any structure in the area... The Philippines has the responsibility to oversee and regulate the sailing ships of other countries that pass with the waters around Benham Rise," Abella said.

Scenes in the City+



1. PCCF-TALA ANCOP VILLAGE in Caloocan, Philippines
2-3. Krista Bella, Miss Philippines Canada 2016 and the PCCF delegation at the Tahanan Walang Hagdanan, Inc
4. PCCF delegation and recipients pose for a picture.
5. PCCF presents a donation to the Kapuso Foundation



The send-off dinner party of National Basketball Training Center (NBTC) team was a well-attended affair.

In ‘Destined To Be Yours’ Thea Tolentino plays the girl that cheated on Benjie

It seems the Kapuso guys are bent on making the first soap with Alden Richards and Maine Mendoza a real audience drawer. Recently, the production staff added another character to the series –Trish.

Who did they choose to play the role? Well, it’s none other than the emerging diva of character roles – Thea Tolentino!

Tolentino, a very versatile young actress and homegrown Kapuso, has been proving in the industry how effective she is in playing antagonist in many series. Among the well-known roles she has played was the character of Ashley, the evil sister in GMA Network’s highly successful family drama series, The Half Sisters. Since then, Thea has become one of the network’s most sought-after contravidas. She was last seen in the recently concluded series Hahamakin Ang Lahat, also as the main antagonist.

“I have been groomed by the network to be the contravida,” she said during an interview with members of the press last week when the network decided to announce her entry to the primetime series with Richards and Mendoza.

She said that when she received the call telling her she should report to the set of Destined To Be Yours as she’d be playing an

important part, she was overwhelmed even just by the thought that she’d be part of the show with the popular love team.

“Na-overwhelm ako, siyempre sila Alden and Maine yun eh,” Thea said. “Naghalo yung excitement, at kaba, kasi kailangan kong pantayan yung energy nung dalawa, kailangan makipagsabayan ako sa eksena.”

Trish, the character Thea is playing in the series, was raised in a refined family, ergo manifests poise as is usual among girls from a well-to-do families. Benjie loved Trish, the first and only ever loved, but she broke his heart. Trish cheated. Trish makes a dramatic come back and will she attempt to steal Benjie’s heart from Sinag.

Certainly, this creates complications in the already convoluted relationship between Benjie and Sinag. Will Benjie’s feelings for her be re-ignited?

Thea’s addition to Destined To Be Yours will definitely make your nightly viewing even more exciting. That is if you’re an AIDub fan.



Yet another VERY VERY SUCCESSFUL Toronto Men’s Fashion Week was held on March 7, 2017 at Waterworks in Toronto; under the leadership of Jeff Rustia. This full house event generated at least \$23,535.35 for CHARITY. PHOTO BY ARIEL RAMOS



NADEENE’S BIRTHDAY

Nadeene (LEFT PHOTO) celebrated her 11th birthday with her friends and family at Sky Zone.



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