

FIGHTING FOR CAREGIVERS

Before he died, the late Senator Enverga strongly condemned Liberal Government's plan to decrease Caregivers program by 72% over two years

Two days after fighting for maintaining immigration levels for caregivers, Filipino-Canadian Senator Enverga passed away on November 16, 2017.

OTTAWA, November 14, 2017 – On November 14, the Honourable Tobias C. Enverga Jr., Ontario Senator, voiced his shock and grave concern

upon hearing the specific details of the Liberal government's 2018 multi-year Immigration Levels Plan.

"Recently, the government announced an overly ambitious plan to increase the number of immigrants coming to Canada in 2018 to 2020. While I had reservations about this plan and what it would mean for Caregivers coming to

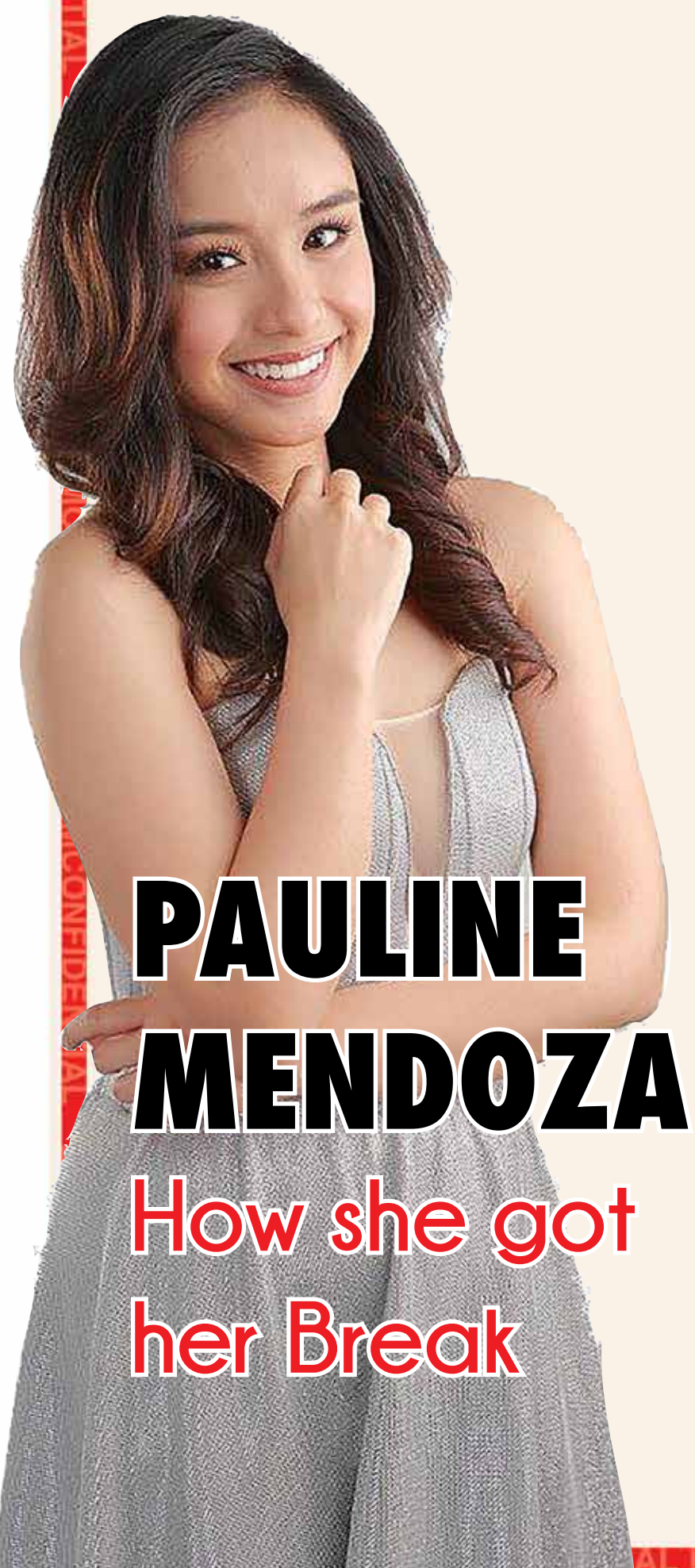
Canada, I am outraged and disappointed to learn the specifics of what this will truly mean," said Senator Enverga.

"While every other immigration category increases or maintains its status quo in the target number of permanent

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Fighting for caregivers is one of the late Senator Enverga's battle. He fought against the Liberals plan to reduce their numbers.



PAULINE MENDOZA

How she got
her Break

'We've got it all': Why malls have chapels



MANILA - On a recent busy evening in one of the Philippines' top malls, shoppers wandered through luxury brand shops while prostitutes sat expectantly at a bar and a priest gave a sermon at a chapel.

The scene may appear an unlikely combination but in the Philippines the Catholic Church has successfully set up shop where millions increasingly spend their leisure time.

As a visit by Pope Francis to the Philippines this week shines a spotlight on the nation's vibrant brand of Catholicism, local Church leaders said he would endorse the mixing of faith with consumerism.

"It was Jesus who went to market places to preach the good news of salvation. We must go where our people are," Father Rufino Sescon, a member of the local organising committee for Francis's visit, told AFP.

"Gone are the days we just have to wait for our people to go to our parish churches."

'God is everywhere'

The 30-year-old Santo Nino de Paz chapel in the financial district of Makati's upmarket Greenbelt mall helped to pioneer mall worshipping in the Philippines.

In the 1980s, when the retail complex was much smaller, the chapel was surrounded only by greenery and a serene lagoon.

But gradually the mall encircled the chapel as it developed and expanded.

Today it offers almost anything a shopper might desire -- including the city's best restaurants, luxury fashion outlets, a fish-feeding pond to amuse the children and a bar well known for its prostitutes.

On any early evening, Father Paul Marquez presides over mass, as brightly dressed women and transvestites sit on chairs within view of the altar at the front of the bar and tout for clients.

Following one recent mass, Marquez said he was happy with his chapel's setting.

"Jesus went to the prostitutes, the tax collectors. He was criticised but we cannot remain an antiseptic church," he said.

Susana, a self-described "sex therapist" who works the bar and other establishments in the mall, said she was comforted by the presence of a place of worship nearby.

"I go there to pray occasionally," Susana, who asked that her surname not be used, told AFP as Marquez's evening mass concluded.

"I pray for good health, for my kids to finish school and that I earn enough to pay my bills," she said, wearing a tight skirt, a low-cut tube top and a jewelled cross on a necklace.

Looking out at the bars near the Greenbelt chapel after mass, lawyer Cherry Bayot said she saw nothing wrong with fulfilling her religious obligations in such an atmosphere.

"God is everywhere and prayer is a very personal act. You can do it anywhere," she said.

**MALL CHAPELS
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Composer of Filipino-descent returns for ‘Frozen’ sequel

Left: This May 23, 2011 file photo shows Robert Lopez and Kristen Anderson-Lopez at the 56th annual Drama Desk Awards in New York. AP Photo/Charles Sykes, File. Right: Scene from “Olaf’s Frozen Adventure.”

MANILA, Philippines — Walt Disney Animation Studios has recently announced the release of its untitled feature-length follow-up to the hit film “Frozen,” slated for November 2019 and to reunite filmmakers Jennifer Lee, Chris Buck and Peter Del Vecho with the Grammy and Oscar-winning songwriting duo Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez.

Award-winning composer of Filipino descent Robert Lopez, who co-composed the Oscar and Grammy award-winning hit “Let It Go” with his wife Kristen Anderson-Lopez, has been tapped again by Disney to compose new songs for the “Frozen” sequel.

An American songwriter, Lopez co-created the hit musicals “The Book of Mormon” and “Avenue Q.” He is reportedly the youngest of only 12 individuals who have won all four of the biggest awards in the entertainment world — an Oscar, an Emmy, a Grammy and a Tony Award — in just 10 years.

In 2013, his and his wife’s composition “Let It Go” won the Academy Award for Best Original Song. In 2015, “Let It Go” also won the Grammy for Best Song Written for Visual Media.

Besides “Frozen,” Lopez also wrote songs for “Finding Nemo,” “Winnie the Pooh” and “The Simpsons,” among others. Lopez was born in Manhattan to parents Katherine and Frank Lopez, whose father was Filipino and whose mom was Filipino and Scottish-American. Robert’s Filipino dad became director of publications for New York University’s Langone Medical Center.

Prior to the much-awaited “Frozen” sequel, Walt Disney Animation Studios has posted previews of the new songs from “Olaf’s Frozen Adventure,” an all-new featurette that will open in Philippine cinemas as a front to Disney/Pixar’s “Coco” on November 22.

The songs are “Ring in the Season” by Kristen Bell, “That Time of Year” by Josh Gad and “When We’re Together” by Idina Menzel.

Featuring four new original songs, the 21-minute featurette “Olaf’s Frozen Adventure” welcomes the original cast and characters of “Frozen” back to the big screen, including Olaf (voice of Josh Gad), who is on a mission to harness the best holiday traditions for Anna (voice of Kristen Bell), Elsa (voice of Idina Menzel) and Kristoff (voice of Jonathan Groff). The featurette is directed by Emmy-winning filmmakers Kevin Deters and Stevie Wermers-Skelton (“Prep & Landing”), produced by Oscar winner Roy Conli (“Big Hero 6”), with original songs by Elyssa Samsel and Kate Anderson (“Between the Lines”).

Pope Francis wants better translation in ‘Our Father’ prayer

VATICAN CITY - Pope Francis has said the Roman Catholic Church should adopt a better translation of the phrase “lead us not into temptation” in the “Our Father”, the best known prayer in Christianity.

“That is not a good translation,” the pope said in a television interview.

Francis said the Catholic Church in France had decided to use the phrase “do not let us fall into temptation” as an alternative and indicated that it or

something similar should be applied worldwide.

The prayer, also called “The Lord’s Prayer”, is part of Christian liturgical culture and memorized from childhood by hundreds of millions of Catholics.

It is a translation from the Latin vulgate, which was translated from ancient Greek, which was in turn translated from Aramaic, the language spoken by Jesus.

Liturgical translations are usually done by local Churches in coordination with the Vatican.



Honey Shot

Conida Marie Halley

Marie is a PIDC Miss Philippines 2015 beauty titlist. When not working, she is busy emceeding charitable community events, She is the daughter of loving parents Josa Leonen & Gary Halley.



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Rey Valera recalls rivalry with George Canseco

MANILA, Philippines — The local music industry should be thankful for the fact known among insiders that there was a time when ace songwriter Rey Valera was pitted against the late George Canseco in terms of penning bound-to-be classic love songs. That served as catalyst for the creation of music and lyrics most of us are now familiar with.

For one, that rivalry certainly pushed Rey to come up with a style that somewhat deviated from George’s which at the same time gave him his now-acknowledged identity both as songwriter and singer.

“Para maiba ako kay George, the style I adapted is ‘in your face.’ Heto lang ako sa tabi mo. Hindi malalim ang mga words ko,” shared Rey during an early evening chat with the press to promote his upcoming concert with Hajji Alejandro.

Though the words to his songs are categorically far from being shallow, what he’s trying to point out is his conscious effort to use words that can easily be understood and are part of everyday Filipino language. Whereas the forte of the revered composer was grounded on Balagtasan-type of Tagalog poetry, Rey anchored his lyrical writing to what regular modern Pinoy would utter to someone he is romantically affectionate to.

Asked to name the hit compositions that he thinks fall among his favorites, Rey mentioned Malayo Pa Ang Umaga, Kahit Maputi Na Ang Buhok Ko and Maging Sino Ka Man. Just by the titles of these three songs alone, one is led to the idea that he indeed embraced such style.

It is a style that spawned numerous hits, enough to make him, in his jovial tone, crack joke about colleagues billed alongside him who do not have a catalogue as loaded as his.

Throwing a punchline for his dear friend Hajji, he mused, “Tatlo lang ang hit ni Hajji, yung isa anak niya pa ang nagpasikat.”

Of course, he meant no harm and was just fooling around with someone dear to him and whom he has successfully worked with professionally for a number of times.

Tipping at Toronto takeout is so confusing

To tip, or not to tip? That is the question I ask myself pretty much every time I pick up lunch from a restaurant to-go.

Conventional wisdom used to hold that tipping was unnecessary on takeout orders. I mean, you’re welcome to throw some bucks in the jar if you want to, but it isn’t expected, and certainly won’t affect your level of service.

Lately, though, it feels like every other restaurant has a tip prompt on its card reader. Most of these machines don’t even ask if you’d like to tip – only how much you’d like to tip; 15%, 18%, 20%, more?

When the only way out of that screen is to press “other” and type in a zero, the practice of tipping on takeout starts to feel... a little bit less optional.

So is it? A recent thread on this subject in the Food and Wine Navigator Industry Facebook group has many answers, but they’re all different.

Some people say don’t even bother, arguing that counter tips go directly into the pockets of business owners anyway – and we all know how Toronto feels about restaurant managers taking their employees’ tips.

Others say yes, that cashiers have to tip out the kitchen or other staff from their total sales and need the extra money.

Impact Kitchen co-founder Josh Broun said that most people don’t tip on orders that are strictly takeout, though it does happen sometimes.

Like many restaurants, Impact has an automatic tip prompt on its debit/credit machines – but it’s important to note that those machines are also used by customers who dine in and have servers bring food to their tables.

It’s second nature for people to tip in the latter scenario, and would be weird not to have a tip prompt when paying for sit down service.

The same can be said for Fresh, which has four locations in Toronto and does a considerable amount of both dine-in and takeout business. “We use the same debit/credit machines for both dine-in and takeaway,” says brand manager Tory Aston. Because of this, tip prompts are par for the course. She says that people tip on takeout sometimes, but “it really depends on the person - our regulars tend to tip.”

On average, people tip around \$1 for take-out at Fresh but, again, these tips are not expected. They are appreciated, however, on bigger orders.

Take-out customers at the Yonge and Dundas area sushi bar Japango are similarly free from the obligation of tipping, according to staff.

The restaurant’s debit machines do prompt for tips, but a server I spoke with says that patrons usually don’t tip, “unless it’s a big order.” In those cases, customers tack on about 10 per cent of their order as a gratuity.

The moral of the story? Cashiers aren’t trying to pressure you into dishing out extra cash for them to hand you a bag – they simply don’t have separate POS systems for dine in, takeout and delivery.

Tip if you think it’s warranted, but don’t stress over the decision - and if you’re really struggling, err on the side of a small tip. The gesture is never not appreciated.

Toronto declared June as Filipino Heritage Month

Filipino Canadians make history as Councillor Shan’s Filipino Heritage Month Motion passes at Toronto City Council



Suzy Llanera and Paulina Corpuz pose with Councillor Neethan Shan (CENTRE).

First time in Canada that Filipino Heritage Month is passed by any level of government

Toronto – Councillor Neethan Shan congratulated Filipino Canadians after Toronto City Council passed his motion for June to be declared Filipino Heritage Month, and for City Council to ask the province and the federal government to do the same.

“I congratulate all those individuals and organizations within the Filipino community in Toronto and around Canada that have been working for a long time for this day to happen,” said Shan, Councillor for Scarborough-Rouge River, Ward 42.

The initiative sprung from a petition started by Paulina Corpuz, president of both the Filipino Canadian Parents Association in Catholic Education and Philippine Advancement through Arts & Culture.

“As people of colour, in city council, we are under-represented,” said Corpuz.

Shan is the first Tamil Canadian to serve on the city council. He is also a youth worker.

Today marks the first time in Canada that Filipino Heritage Month is passed by any level of government.

In Toronto, the population of the Filipino community numbers over 160,000, while Tagalog is one of the top most spoken languages in the city’s neighbourhoods. Tagalog is also the fastest growing language in the country that speaks to the growing numbers of Filipinos calling Canada home.

“Proclaiming June as Filipino Heritage Month will give Filipino Canadians, Torontonians, Ontarians and Canadians of all backgrounds an opportunity to learn, celebrate, enjoy and experience the rich heritage and histories of the Filipino Canadian community,” said Shan.

“It will also provide our City with an opportunity to reflect on the many outstanding contributions Filipino Canadians have made in Canada, and in the world.”

Councillor Shan’s motion recommended that City Council formally declare June as Filipino Heritage Month for the City of Toronto in 2018, and for future years, and calls on Toronto City Council to formally request that the province and the federal government do the same.

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Senator Enverga lauds the city of Toronto for recognizing June as Filipino Heritage Month

Ottawa, Ontario, November 9, 2017 – The Honourable Tobias C. Enverga Jr., Senator from Ontario, voiced his pleasure upon hearing the news that the city of Toronto has passed a motion declaring the month of June as Filipino Heritage Month within the city, beginning in 2018.

“I would first like to extend my warmest congratulations to Councillor Neethan Shan, whose motion before Toronto City Council made this month of recognition possible for Filipino Torontonians. I would also like to congratulate all organizations that supported this great initiative,” Senator Enverga said in a statement.

“This is indeed wonderful news not only for the Filipino community within the city of Toronto, but for all Filipino-Canadians from coast to coast. Filipino-Canadians have an ever growing presence within our great country, as Filipinos are consistently among the top source countries of Canadian immigration,” the Senator continued. “Filipino-Canadians continue to have a positive impact on Canada’s society and economy and I am thrilled that the city of Toronto has taken this first step towards recognizing the importance

that Filipino-Canadians have on strengthening Canada’s multicultural mosaic. I would like to thank the Filipino community, with the leadership of Paulina Corpuz, for their support of this endeavour. I urge all cities across Canada, large and small, to follow suit and support this initiative by recognizing and celebrating Filipino heritage in the month of June as well,” the Senator concluded.

Filipino-Canadians have been recognized similarly before, as the city of Vancouver, led by the initiative of Jojo Quimpo, had declared August 14 as “Filipino Fiesta Day” in recognition of the contributions made by the Filipino community and held in tandem with Vancouver’s large Pinoy Fiesta celebrations.

Since 2010, the Philippines has been the number one source of Canadian immigration in each year, except for one. In 2015, the last year under the previous Conservative government, a record high was set as an incredible 50,816 Filipinos came to Canada. The city of Toronto’s Filipino community has a population of 160,000.

Under the 2016 census, 510,425 Canadians reported Tagalog as their mother tongue.

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Just Friends -MAINE



relationship of a TV-film star with his or her fans is fraught with hidden “hooks” and “conditionalities.”

Some local fans think that it’s their patronage that has “made” their fave idol a famous and wealthy luminary. So, they feel “entitled” to dictate the star’s career moves—and even his personal decisions!

Some stars who want to ingratiate themselves with their followers aggravate the situation by feelingly declaring that they “owe” their stellar status to their fans, who chose them, out of many other starlets, to idolize.

So, can “feeling empowered” fans be blamed for believing their impassioned pledges of endless gratitude and “sipsip” subservience?

Fact is, however, stars don’t owe anything to their followers—other than their best performance!

Some less subservient luminaries have in fact made it a point to underscore this in statements that have become “quotable quotes” in the TV-film industry. And it’s encouraging to see that some even younger stars have “come out” recently to express that nonsipsip point of view.

The latest young-adult star to express herself clearly in this regard is Maine Mendoza, “Eat Bulaga’s” “overnight” discovery, who has since profitably headlined a number of other TV-film productions, plus many icing-on-the-cake product endorsements.

In a recent social media missive to her fans, she expressed her undying gratitude for the millions of viewers who helped transform her from total unknown to stellar sensation. But, she went on to reveal, “I feel I’ve been living in a box. I have not been able to do what I want and say what I feel, because every time I try to express my thoughts and feelings, some of you tend to misapprehend and invalidate them in so many ways!”

Opening her heart—and hurts—further to her fans, Maine went on to reveal that she felt sad when people dissed not just her, but also some of her relatives. And, at the end of her long “open letter,” she movingly declared, “This time, I am choosing myself. I do not want to compromise my own happiness for other people’s desires.”

While she was at it, Maine decided to “tell all,” and revealed that she and ka-love team Alden Richards were “just friends,” not a real-life romantic tandem.

In doing so, she realistically observed that, after these declarations and revelations, some of her supporters could turn their backs on her. But, she still opted to tell the whole truth and nothing but—even if her voice was “shaking.”

We’ve always liked Maine for her gusto and gumption, so we hope that her worst fears won’t transpire, and that her fans will in fact appreciate her decision to treat them like thinking adults, instead of giddy and ga-ga fan-atics. Time to grow up, one and all!

ANSHA JOY HIPOLITO



Miss Ansha Joy Hipolito competed in the Miss Canada Globe Productions in August 2017 and was amazingly crowned Miss Teen Ontario, winning the overall highest score and then brought home the winning crown and sash of Miss Teen Petite Canada 2017. She will soon expand her pageantry by competing in 2018 for Miss Teen Petite UNIVERSAL. Here, she poses with DK Tijam who was a grand finalist in season 1 of Star In A Million, where it produced the likes of Erik Santos, Christian Bautista, and Sheryn Regis. This event was the Patty Austin concert at the Global Kingdom Ministries where Ansha was introduced to the crowd.



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Rule of Law boosts Economy

Sereno urges gov't officials to support, not undermine institutions

MANILA- Chief Justice Maria Lourdes Sereno called on government officials to support, not weaken, institutions to promote democracy and economic growth.



“When it comes to building institutions, all government leaders must ensure that they support, not weaken institutions.

Institutions build a nation, strong institutions enable nations to prosper,” Sereno said in her keynote address during the 55th Philippine Economic Society Annual Meeting and Conference held at the Novotel Hotel in Quezon City.

The chief magistrate’s words come at the heels of an impeachment complaint filed against her and amid President Rodrigo Duterte’s call for her to resign along with him.

Sereno said support for the country’s rule of law is not only beneficial to the country’s democracy but also engenders an environment conducive to economic growth.

“We can only ensure protection of the rights of every citizen, including those in the business community, if we have a judiciary that is truly independent and strong,” she said.

Despite the ouster attempts against her,

Sereno assured that the judiciary under her helm will continue to ensure that confidence in the justice system will be built up.

“We have worked hard from day one to restore this confidence, and we are relentlessly working on it,” she said.

Sereno added that given the proliferation of “fake news” and “alternative facts,” there is a need to make the public believe again in public institutions that the judicial reform programs were rooted.

“The Rule of Law carried out by strong justice institutions undergirds economic development. The Rule of Law is not only essential for defending basic political and human rights but is also essential to achieve fair and broad-based economic prosperity,” Sereno said.

The chief justice also emphasized the importance of what she called “economy of good words” or “words that build up, rather than tear down.”

“Words that elevate the level of discourse in a nation, words that allow people to hope, to look forward to a country that they can be proud of—a country where truth, justice, fairness, and righteousness abound,” she said.

“A country where one can hear words of kindness, compassion, empathy for those who have little, but a country also made strong and firm by honesty and integrity.”



How powerful is the Philippine passport? Not much, says study

MANILA- For Filipinos dreaming of traveling the world, fulfilling that desire may be a bit difficult with a Philippine passport.

A ranking of passports by international global financial advisory firm Arton Capital shows that the Philippine passport is moderately weak, with its holders having visa-free access to only 61 countries.

The Philippines ranked 66th on the global index and shares the spot with Uganda which has visa-free access to the same number of countries.

This pales in comparison to the Singapore passport which topped the list and has visa-free access to 159 countries and runner-up Germany which has visa-free access to 158 countries.

Other Asian countries included in the top 10 were South Korea at the 3rd spot, followed by Japan, and Malaysia at 6th place.

The Afghanistan passport meanwhile was deemed as the weakest passport with visa-free access only to 22 countries.

The index ranks the power of passports by assigning a “visa-free score” or the number of countries a passport holder can visit without a visa or with visa on arrival. The index also takes into account the United Nations Human Development Index into account.

Included in the rankings are a total of 199 countries, 193 of which are United Nations member countries and 6 territories namely Taiwan, Macao, Hong Kong, Kosovo, Palestinian Territory and the Vatican.

Mark Neumann does not mind being “extra” in KathNiel prime-time teleserye

Mark Neumann on his supporting role in La Luna Sangre: “For me, it doesn’t really matter as long as I can expand my craft. Any role is a role. Work is work.”

Masaya si Mark Neumann na katrabaho sina Kathryn Bernardo at Daniel Padilla sa ABS-CBN primetime series na La Luna Sangre.

“Napakabait sila. And really chill lang sila sa set.

“Napaka-down to earth sila. Super-masayang kausap.

“Tapos, nagtatawanan lang minsan between the takes, di ba? So...” nakangiting sambit ni Mark sa premiere ng pelikulang Kamandag ng Droga.

Noong July pa nagsimulang mag-taping si Mark sa La Luna Sangre. Close na ba siya sa KathNiel?

“Well, I wouldn’t say close,” matamang pakli ng binata.

“But we went through a lot of things actually, sa init ng araw pag may fight scenes, ganun.”



LIMITED EXPOSURE. Bidang-bida noon si Mark sa TV5. Nang pumasok siya sa La Luna Sangre ng ABS-CBN, puro reaction shots lang siya.

“Yeah, first na walang lines!” natatawag sabi ng former Kapatid star.

“And then, dumadami naman ang lines ko. Nakaeksena ko ang KathNiel...

“Minsan, there was one time na pinasa sa akin ang script. Mas bagay raw sa character ko.

“Si Daniel mismo ang nagdesisyon. Mahaba ang lines. Sobrang mahaba po.

“I wasn’t ready. I think three pages siya and kailangan ko siyang i-memorize in 20 minutes.

“Nagawa ko naman. Tuluy-tuloy naman.”

Bakit kaya ipinasa ni Daniel sa kanya ang script?

Paliwanag ni Mark, “Kasi, very passionate si Daniel sa kanyang character. Importante na alam ng isang aktor ang kanyang character.

“And explaining about medical terms, parang wala sa character niya. Mas bagay sa character ko na may police background.

“It’s really good if an actor knows his character. Nako-control din niya ang performance niya nang maayos.”

Okay lang daw kay Mark kung nagmumukha siyang “extra” sa fantaserye ng KathNiel.

Aniya, “I don’t mind. Before, di ba, in England, I was a factory worker, newspaper boy. I was a warehouse cleaner.

“For me, it doesn’t really matter as long as I can expand my craft. Any role is a role. Work is work.”

STILL SINGLE. Mabilis naman ang tugon ni Mark nang usisain namin kung single pa siya, “Yeah!”

Mas masuwerte ba siya sa career, mas nakakapag-focus sa work pag single?

“Single or not single, if you’re focused sa work, it doesn’t matter.”

Maraming magagandang Kapamilya girls. May natitipuhan na ba siya sa mga ito?

“At the moment, wala po. I’m more focused sa work ko.

“In love ako sa work ko,” sagot ni Mark.

Angkas closed’ – LTFRB

The LTFRB says the popular motorcycle ride-hailing service has been operating without a mayor’s permit



APPREHENSION. LTFRB board member Aileen Lizada catches Angkas drivers without permits.

MANILA, Philippines – Angkas, the popular motorcycle-based ride-hailing service is “considered closed,” the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) announced on Thursday, November 9.

LTFRB board member Aileen Lizada made the announcement to reporters after she led the apprehension of 19 Angkas

motorbikers without the proper permits.

“Considered as closed na [already],” Lizada told reporters in a text message.

She also sent reporters documents from the Makati Business Permits Office (BPO) serving the company an apprehension notice for not having a mayor’s permit to operate.

According to the Makati BPO apprehension order dated November 9, Angkas was given 3 days to explain why they should continue to operate.

As of posting time, the Angkas mobile application still allows passengers to avail of their service.

With motorcycles rather than cars as the main composition of its fleet, Angkas has been widely used by its passengers to slip through the horrible Metro Manila traffic.

Senato Tobias Enverga Passes Away



FIRST, Philippine-Canadian Charitable-Foundation President Romeo-Ibbas Rafael and Philippine Press Club of Ontario’s Jojo Taturan with Canadian Senator Victor Oh, Mrs Rosa Oh, and Japan Consul General to Toronto, Takako Ito, during the viewing for Senator Tobias Jun Enverga, who passed away during a parliamentary trip to Colombia. SECOND, Former Canadian Ambassador to the Philippines, Neil Reeder, with Jojo Taturan during the Mass for the late Senator Tobias Enverga, Jr. at St Michael’s Cathedral Basilica in Toronto. THIRD, Filipino Clergy pray for the late Senator Enverga. FOURTH, Toronto Mayor John Tory pays his respects to the late Senator Tobias Enverga.

When indie movies win over studio projects



Direk Jason Paul Laxamana (SECOND FROM LEFT) with the cast of *Fallback* (from left) Lemuelle Pelayo, Daniel Matsunaga, Zanjoe Marudo, Rhian Ramos, Tetchie Agbayani and Marlo Mortel. He likes the challenge of writing and directing in one setting.

MANILA, Philippines — Whether we like it or not, this is a good year for good indie directors who now manage to overtake mainstream output in the unpredictable box-office.

Director Andrea Sigrid Bernardo made box-office history in *Kita Kita* by producing an indie film reportedly costing only P11M and earning close to P400M thus upstaging a Sarah Geronimo and John Lloyd Cruz starrer.

Jason Paul Laxamana's *100 Tula Para Kay Stella* is another case of a triumphant indie-conceived film.

Because at the outset, you don't really expect an indie film about a campus poet with his juvenile poems to connect with a kilig-oriented Filipino audience. But Jason found a way into the heart of both millennials and non-millennials and literally laughed his way to the bank.

Direk Jason's latest output is *Fallback* produced by CINEKO Productions and distributed by Star Cinema.

Here, the young director (he is only 30) explores a situation where people explore fallback positions when certain decisions or relationships don't work.

His film was an offshoot of a study of British women with fallback choices when relationships don't work. "Of course, it doesn't apply to Filipino women who were raised in different culture. But what if indeed they have fallback positions hidden in their minds when they are not sure of present partners? This probability will open a can of worms, but I made sure the characters in this movie will not put Filipino mindset in a bad light.

"Having a fallback position is pretty much a very internal thing. We don't discuss it but what if in our minds we do have one such a plan without taking it up with your close friends?"

Jason has lost count of his films starting with *Babagwa* (The Spider's Lair) and *Magkakabaung* (The Coffin Maker) and on to *The Third Party* and beyond. Indeed, he is on his prolific stage as filmmaker as he commutes from one production meeting and on to location shootings and on to hectic post-production schedules.

But his latest films remain focused and are fairly vindicated well in the box-office. "I think it is just a matter of dividing your time well and making sure you have the energy and passion for the projects as they come. I basically like the challenge of new projects. I want to explore new subjects and new possibilities in this career."

Media men notice his penchant for answering criticisms, especially those aired in social media.

"I deal with them better now than

before," he says. "Out of ten criticisms, I answer only two and that is for me a good batting average."

From the way he deals with them, it is obvious he accepts criticism for what they are but only if they make sense. Otherwise, he snaps back and puts the critic on the spot. "Well, life goes on now. I just let my films speak for themselves."

After several projects, he considers himself the "explainer" type of a filmmaker rather than the "motivator" type.

He adds: "I like explaining things rather than motivating actors. It is enough for me that I tell them what I want. It's up to them how they will deliver. I have high respect for actors in that sense. I really trust them all the way."

Rhian Ramos and Tetchie Agbayani are working with Jason for the first time and in the initial location encounters, they didn't know what to expect.

Points out Tetchie: "He is the quiet type but very effective. I like it this way because I hate directors who scream on the set."

Rhian: "On the first shooting days I was restless of course because I have no idea how direk Jason deals with actors. After a take, he is usually quiet, but he doesn't tell you if you did well or not. That's just a clue that he likes good output on the set without having to articulate it all the time. You just have to do your best."

It is obvious this young filmmaker is doing well wearing two hats as writer and director. "It works very well with me. When things don't work, I can easily rewrite on the spot without consulting another person. Of course, it involves more work, but it is very good for your creativity. It is good to have a good vision of how your film will turn out. It is equally challenging when you do the writing yourself."



Former Vice President of the Philippines turned newscaster Noli de Castro poses with FV Foods's owner Mel Galeon.

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PHL Support Small Business

Small businessmen poised to ride on PH economic boom

MANILA – The Philippines needs to take advantage of a young workforce and a fast-growing economy to help grow micro, small and medium enterprises, a business group official said.

Foreign investors are “looking at the Philippines as a good market” in Southeast Asia, Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry president George Barcelon said.

“We have been cautioning our industry players here that they really have to work for us to be more competitive,” he said.

Doing business in the Philippines should be made easier and less costly, he said.

The declaration of support for MSMEs from President Rodrigo Duterte and Bangko Sentral Governor



Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry president George Barcelon speaks to ANC's Cathy Yang

Nestor Espenilla can help struggling entrepreneurs compete better, Barcelon said. “Finally, we have a president who understands the needs of the MSMEs, which is financing,” Barcelon told ANC.

Barcelon said the launch of an ASEAN mentoring program for small businessmen was a success, with speeches from Myanmar State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi and Indonesian President Joko Widodo.

Duterte warns corrupt officials:

Do not withhold business permits

MANILA—President Rodrigo Duterte warned that he will fire corrupt government officials who withhold business permits for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

“I will suspend any local government official and especially yung appointed by me. ‘Pag nakita ko na pinapahirapan niyo or you

allow corruption to thrive in your locality, then I will order the new secretary of the DILG (Eduardo) Año, to investigate, give you about 3 days to explain,” Duterte said.

Duterte said corrupt local executives and cabinet members hinder the growth of the economy by delaying the issuance of business permits for MSMEs. “When you go into graft and corruption, they hang on to the papers, documents for their approval at inabot ng minsan 6 months, naghihintay lang ng pera,”

he said. “Okay tayo, we’re one of the fastest growing economies but I want to hurry it more.”

The President last October signed an executive order creating the Presidential Anti-Corruption Commission in a bid to rid government of corrupt public officials.

Under Executive Order No. 43, the commission shall directly assist the President in investigating and/or hearing administrative cases primarily involving graft and corruption cases against all presidential appointees.

PH Red Cross clears Gordon of corruption allegations



MANILA - The Philippine Red Cross (PRC) denied allegations of Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV that its chairman, Sen. Richard Gordon, funneled part of

his discretionary funds to the agency in the past.

In a statement, PRC Secretary General Oscar Palabyab cleared Gordon of alleged misuse of his Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF), as Trillanes had alleged in the plunder case he filed against his Senate colleague before the Office of the Ombudsman.

Palabyab explained that Trillanes was referring to projects that the Red Cross undertook as an implementing agency of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in the past, which have been properly accounted for.

“Senator Richard J. Gordon had no participation at all in the

implementation of those projects and the disbursement of the funds the PRC received from the DSWD. Proper liquidation reports were submitted to the DSWD as required, and provided answers and explanations in the course of the liquidation process,” Palabyab said.

The PRC also expressed confidence that Gordon can defend himself from the accusations hurled against him.

“We are confident too that Senator Gordon can very well defend himself and clear his good name as a long time Red Cross volunteer and humanitarian worker who happens to be a Senator of the Republic, who fearlessly pursues his advocacies for good governance and the public good,” Palabyab said.

Myrtle Sarrosa gets over heartbreak:

“Yun, malas sa love life, trabaho na lang.”

Myrtle Sarrosa has her way of healing a broken heart: “I have to be more grateful kung ano ang mayroon. Tumulong yun, getting heartbroken, para pumayat ako lalo. Imbes na magmukmok sa kuwarto, pumunta na lang ako sa gym at mag-work out.”

Sa isang interview kay Myrtle Sarrosa, nabanggit nitong isang non-showbiz guy na nasa Amerika ang malapit sa kanyang puso.

Pero putol na raw ang ugnayan nila.

Sabi niya, “We decided to call it quits.

“It’s timing, hindi talaga right yung time.

“Nung una talaga, parang medyo na-down yung morale ko pero I had to look at everything positive.

“I have to be more grateful kung ano ang mayroon.

“Tumulong yun, getting heartbroken, para pumayat ako lalo.

“So imbes na magmukmok sa kuwarto, pumunta na lang ako sa gym at mag-work out.

“Yun, malas sa love life, trabaho na lang.”

Actress, singer-songwriter, host and cosplayer Myrtle Sarrosa is the 2018 calendar girl of Ginebra San Miguel.

The 22-year-old from Iloilo City, who first rose to prominence as the grand winner of the reality show, “Pinoy Big Brother: Teen Edition” in 2012 was formally introduced as the face of the sought-after calendar of the popular liquor brand during “The Epic Mix” event of GSM Blue Tuesday at C3 Events Place.

In a nod to her passion for cosplaying, Ginebra San Miguel is printing five different calendars depicting Myrtle in various fantasy personas while she highlights several of Ginebra’s products.

In addition to being Ginebra’s calendar girl, the event also launched Myrtle as the official GSM Blue Endorser which also coincided with the introduction of two new GSM Blue Flavors — Margarita and Gin Pomelo.

In expressing her elation, Myrtle noted that this is the 30th year for the Ginebra calendar. “It’s a big honor to be selected for their calendar on their 30th year. With so many big names that have graced their calendars, I could not believe I was even considered for this,” she exclaimed during the event.

Previous Ginebra calendar girls include Solenn Heussaff, Georgina Wilson, Marian Rivera, Ellen Adarna, Arci Muñoz and Kim Domingo.

Myrtle’s announcement as Ginebra calendar girl is the latest feather in her cap for what has so far been an eventful 2017 for her, which began when she graduated cum laude with a degree in broadcast communications from the University of the Philippines.

As an actress, she also delivered memorable performances in “Ipaglaban Mo,” “Maalaala Mo Kaya” and “La Luna Sangre” on television.



Dolorosa Association



FIRST, Melissa Ventocilla poses with Nene Panganiban. SECOND, Philip and Maritess Beloso and Flora Saldua and Louise Aquino enjoy the night. THIRD, Precilla and Rusty Muere pose with Dolorosa President Philip Beloso. FOURTH, Family and friends help out in the kitchen.

FIGHTING FOR CAREGIVERS
continued from page 27

Castro, Tita Winnie Cordero of Umagang Kay Ganda, Jaya and Xian Lim graced the ABS-CBN - TFC event and at the same time paid tribute to the two winners of the Nanay Kong Kay Ganda search and local talents via the region finals of DZMM's Global Pinoy Singing Idol.

A happy crowd made all the hardwork in mounting an event in 3 weeks so worth it. Despite the not so good weather, a big

capacity crowd came out to enjoy the show that was brought by the combined efforts of DZMM, Integrated News & Current Affairs and TFC.

For the Global Singing Idol, the top 2 winners for Global Pinoy Singing Idol Competition 2017 representing North America were Candace Santos and Shairah Garrido .

It was a night full of games, singing and events.

Global Singing Idol - Search for the next Pinoy Singing Superstar of Canada with

special guests Jaya and Xian Lim. The winners that evening were Candace Santos and Shairah Garrido .

TV Patrol Caravan - Celebration of 30 years of TV Patrol with kabayan Noli de Castro

Nanay kay Ganda ng Canada - Tribute to Pinoy nanays of Canada with Tita Winnie Cordero.

The hosts for the evening were Ahwel Paz and Ginger Conejero.

Elvie Tomas was the winner of Nanay Kong Kay Ganda from Toronto.

Gov't partners
with Facebook
for high speed
broadband

MANILA - The Philippine government said Tuesday it partnered with Facebook, the world's largest social network, to build high-speed internet infrastructure.

The Bases Conversion and Development Authority will construct the Luzon Bypass Corridor, composed of 2 cable landing stations connected by a 250-km cable network corridor, according to a joint statement from the BCDA and the Department of Information and Communications Technology.

Facebook, the "first party" to use the government-built facility, was tasked to build and operate a submarine cable system that will land on Luzon's east and west coasts, the statement said.

The cable system will connect Luzon to internet systems in the US and Asia, it said.

"In exchange for utilizing the bypass infrastructure, Facebook will provide the Philippine government with spectrum equivalent to 2 million Mbps, significantly expanding the capacity available for the government's connectivity programs," it said.

The Luzon Bypass will be online in 2018, said DICT officer-in-charge Eliseo Rio.

Duterte approves national broadband plan, gov't portal

President Rodrigo Duterte has promised to improve internet connection in the country, which is among the slowest in the world. Last March, he approved the creation of a national broadband plan and government portal.

MALL CHAPELS
continued from page 1

Mall lures worshippers

The mall worshipping phenomenon can largely be traced back to the family of Henry Sy, the country's richest man who made his initial fortune in shopping malls and still dominates the sector.

SM malls are in nearly every major city of the country, and he has created a range of "supermalls" in Manila that are the biggest in the country.

At first, masses were held in the lobbies of Sy's SM malls every Sunday, before opening hours, for the benefit of mall employees and tenants. Gradually, these masses were opened up to outsiders.

Sy's wife, Felicidad, a devout Catholic, worked to set up designated chapels in many SM malls, complete with stone altars and ornate statues.

The Sys' daughter, Teresita Sy-Coson, who is vice-chairwoman of the SM Investment Corp., insisted chapels had not been placed in the malls to attract consumers, but rather to help them.

"It is a convenience service for the family who gets together on Sunday. The masses

provide the spiritual aspect of the modern lifestyle," Sy-Coson said in a statement.

Mall power

However, these places of worship fall short of the status given to a church in the traditional sense.

Father Esteban Lu, chaplain of the SM Megamall chapel, said they were "blessed", not consecrated like an actual church. That way, the mall owners could take the space back and turn it into a shop.

Because of this, the mall chapels can only hold masses and hear confessions. They cannot hold weddings, baptisms or other sacraments, according to Lu.

Despite these limitations, Father Reynaldo Reyes, chaplain of the penthouse chapel on the seventh floor of the new SM Aura shopping mall, said his parish enjoyed huge benefits in hosting a mall chapel.

"The (mall) management pays for everything. The altar, the pews, the maintenance, the janitors, the air-conditioning. We can use all the money from our collections here for catechism," Reyes told AFP.

Office worker Charito Montecillo, a regular patron of the chapel, also praised

SM management, saying it took pains to make their services attractive.

"It is comfortable. I like the pews and the choir. I like the homilies. They make sure to get good priests," she said.

Retired government employee Editha Ramos, who patronises several mall chapels, said she preferred them to the traditional churches.

"They are air-conditioned and so clean and orderly. Not like the old churches, so hot and so dusty," she said.



LMC Philippine Correspondent Froilan Baking poses with singer Gary Valenciano at Davao Airport.

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More than 500 Reds surrender, avail of aid

NPA hardships forcing rebels to join mainstream society



The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) said the rebel returnees had availed of the government's Comprehensive Local Integral Program (CLIP), that also includes livelihood projects.

MANILA, Philippines — More than 500 New People's Army (NPA) rebels have surrendered this year, availing of the financial package offered by the government for them to return to the fold

of law.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) said the rebel returnees had availed of the government's Comprehensive Local Integral Program (CLIP), that also includes livelihood projects.

"NPA rebels who surrendered to the authorities have already reached to 531 since termination of the peace negotiation with the communist organization on Feb.

4," said AFP Public Affairs Office chief Col. Edgard Arevalo.

Five of the NPA returnees came from the Ilocos Region while the rest came from Mindanao and the Visayas.

Lt. Col. Eugenio Julio Osias IV, commander of the Army's 81st Infantry Battalion based in Ilocos Sur, said P444,000 in cash were handed out by the provincial government to the five NPA rebels surrenderees.

Government forces also recovered 578 high powered-firearms from the slain and arrested rebels.

"It is apparent that hardships inside the NPA organization are now taking its toll on its members, leading them to cross the line to join mainstream society," AFP chief Gen. Rey Leonardo Guerrero said.

Guerrero said the AFP welcomes the rebel surrenderees, adding that they will all receive financial assistance and livelihood projects through the government's integration program.

Peso extends gains tax reform bill approved

The Philippine peso extended a winning streak after the Senate approved the

administration's tax reform proposal.

The Senate approved its version of the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion Act (TRAIN) on third and final reading.

"The passage of the tax reform is definitely an upside for the peso," Union Bank of the Philippines chief economist Ruben Carlo

Asuncion said.

Despite the downward pressure from US Federal Reserve chair nominee Jerome Powell's comment that points to a likely interest rate hike this month, the peso managed to get firmer against the greenback, he said.



PRESS RELEASE
TORONTO CANADA – November 09, 2017

Asenso Remit Launches Online Money Transfers in Canada.

Kabayan Capital (Canada) Inc. trading as Asenso Remit has launched its remittance operation in Canada in October 2017. Asenso Remit is a wholly owned subsidiary of Kabayan Capital Limited, which has thousands of Filipino customers in the UK since 2012. With Asenso Remit, customers can go online and send money anytime they want. Asenso Remit provides a fast, cost-effective, and convenient way

of sending money to the Philippines.

Overseas Filipinos in Canada can now register through Asenso Remit's website at www.asensoremit.com to transfer money to the Philippines. Money can be sent via Bank Transfer to any bank in the Philippines, Cash Pick-up to any collection partners such as MLhuillier, Cebuana Lhuillier, Palawan Pawnshop, LBC, RCBC and BDO. They also offer Door to Door Delivery and Bills Payments. Interac or Debit Card payments are accepted. Asenso Remit service fee starts from \$3.99 for customer's first remittance.

Asenso Remit has created a better way of assisting our kababayan who are working very hard overseas to send money to their loved ones in the Philippines. It primarily offers online remittance, but

customers have options to call or visit its office to make the transfer. It has bilingual quality trained customer service representatives with Filipino roots, who will understand and happily help its customers. With Asenso Remit, customers will always feel like they are home!

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ABS-CBN actress Maris Racol sets own rules for social media use

Former Pinoy Big Brother housemate Maris Racol declared that "Social media is beautiful and people should stop abusing it."

This was ABS-CBN actress Maris Racol's battle cry regarding the proper way of using social media which she posted on Twitter last March.

The 20-year-old former Pinoy Big Brother housemate has always been championing ethical use of social media among her peers and followers.

Maris has personally experienced the downside of social media when hundreds of netizens made fun of her photo from a performance with Kira Balinger, Andrea Brillantes, Ylona Garcia, and Loisa Andalia for the Kapamilya network's Sunday variety show ASAP early last May.

Her photo sparked hundreds of memes which sprung around different social media sites.

Maris admitted that the negative comments took a toll on her confidence.

However, the Star Magic talent eventually learned "the art of dedma" and made sure that these comments wouldn't go to her head.

"Wala, e, if you just laugh at it, parang nawawala na rin ang consciousness."

The ASAP singer-performer listed down some of her do's and don'ts when it comes to using social media.

She narrated, "Posting too much. Posting where I'm currently at.

"Huwag mag-reply sa bashers at makipag-meddle sa issues."

Maris refrains from reacting to anything negative using her social media, but the Kapamilya star noted that she makes an extra effort to use it as a platform to communicate with her fans, mostly on Twitter.

She said, "Of course, I talk to them more on Twitter kasi bihira lang talaga ako nag-o-open ng Instagram, more on Twitter talaga ako.

"So I talk to my fans and I try to reply to them."

When asked how she curates her photos for her Instagram account, Maris said she prefers to have it authentic.

She explained, "Actually wala akong pattern, wala akong feed goals. Kung ano lang yung gusto ko, mas nag-post lang ako ng memories."

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Sen. Enverga ‘embodied the Canadian dream’: ex-PM, colleagues remember country’s first Filipino-Canadian Senator

Ontario Senator Tobias Enverga’s sudden death in Colombia shocked and saddened colleagues who remember him as warm, funny, and dedicated to his community.

“The guy never stopped.” Conservative Senator David Tkachuk was still processing the news Friday morning that colleague Tobias Enverga wasn’t going to be in the Red Chamber when the Senate reconvened on Nov. 21.

Sen. Tkachuk (Saskatchewan) described the news that fellow Conservative Senator Enverga had died suddenly Thursday morning in Medellin, Colombia, while attending the interparliamentary group ParLAmericas’ annual plenary assembly as a member of the Canadian delegation, as “unfortunate, surprising, shocking.”

Appointed to the Senate in 2012 by Stephen Harper, Sen. Enverga—also known as Jun—was 61 years old. He is survived by his wife Rosemer, who was in Colombia with him when he died, and three daughters.

“We’re going to miss him,” said Conservative Senator Pierre-Hugues Boisvenu (La Salle, Que.). “I will always remember his voice, because he had this loud voice. And when he speaks at Question Period or in the caucus, he was very dynamic, he was very engaging in his mission as a Senator.”

The nearly six years Sen. Boisvenu spent as Sen. Enverga’s seatmate were “long and short at the same time, because we never know what each day will bring to us. Six years, when you’ve lost a friend like that, it’s a very short time because you would like to have them for life.”

Described as warm and funny by those who knew him, Conservative Senator Claude Carignan (Mille Isles, Que.) also said Sen. Enverga was “very authentic.”

Conservative Senator Victor Oh (Mississauga, Ont.), said in a statement Thursday he was “deeply saddened” by Sen. Enverga’s death.

“While being away from our families in



December 2, 1955 – November 16, 2017

Conservative Senator Tobias Enverga was the first Filipino-Canadian to be appointed to the Canadian Senate. He was appointed by prime minister Stephen Harper in 2012 and died suddenly at the age of 61.

Ottawa, the two of us spent many days together inside and outside of the Chamber,” he said. “I will forever cherish the memories we shared and the joy and laughter he brought to my life.”

Representing Ontario, Sen. Enverga “embodied the Canadian dream, the first Filipino-Canadian to be appointed to the Senate of Canada, he worked tirelessly for his community & our nation,” Mr. Harper said in a tweet.

Those who knew him all pointed to Sen. Enverga’s

engagement with his community, proudly wearing the mantle of the first Filipino-Canadian to serve in the Senate.

Prior to being appointed to the Senate, Sen. Enverga also made history as the first Filipino-Canadian to be elected to public office in the city of Toronto when he joined the Toronto Catholic District School Board in 2010. He was also the first visible minority to be elected to the board.

“But it was in his advocacy for the Filipino community that he truly left his mark,” Conservative leader Andrew Scheer (Regina-Qu’Appelle, Sask.) said in a statement Thursday. “The founder of the Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation, Sen. Enverga received several awards from both Canada and the Philippines as a result of his charitable work.”

This included the Lingkod sa Kapwa Pilipino presidential award, given to him in 2008 by then-president of the Philippines Gloria Macapagal Arroyo.

Lita Leano, the executive secretary of the charitable foundation he founded, PCCF, said in a statement that Sen. Enverga “was an extraordinary example of a man with a strong sense of involvement and service to others.”

In a statement Thursday, Senate Speaker George Furey (Newfoundland and Labrador) said that of Sen. Enverga’s numerous contributions, he would “be most remembered as a fierce advocate for persons with disabilities and a tireless champion for multiculturalism.”

One of Sen. Enverga’s daughters has Down syndrome.

In February 2016, Sen. Enverga introduced a public bill to designate October as Latin American Heritage Month.

“Coming to Canada as an immigrant, I am one of many in this Chamber who has been fortunate to be welcomed here to contribute to our society. There are few countries in the world that are as open and accepting as Canada to immigrants seeking to make a new life for themselves,” Sen. Enverga said in the Senate on Nov. 7 as he moved third reading of Bill S-218. “The Canadian policy of multiculturalism is a great success when it comes to allowing for and celebrating the various cultural backgrounds and languages we have.”

Senate of Canada 150 Medal awarded to Ricky Cuenca for ANCOP Canada Work

Early this year, Senators were asked to nominate and award in November the prestigious medals to Canadians who are thoroughly involved in their communities, whose generosity, dedication, volunteerism and hard work make their home towns a better place to live.

It was a fitting expression of true friendship and partnership between the late Senator Tobias Enverga, Jr. and ANCOP Canada through its President Ricky Cuenca.

“Senators want to take this opportunity to reflect on the incredible contributions made by Canadians from all walks of life. We want to give some much-deserved recognition to Canadians who share the Senate’s goal of giving voice to people or issues that sometimes fly under the radar or don’t grab headlines.”

- Senator David Wells, Co-Chair, Advisory Working Group on the Senate

150th Anniversary Medal

The late Senator Jun Enverga nominated ANCOP Canada and its president, Ricky Cuenca. Unfortunately, he wasn’t able to live to see the awarding. His wife, Rosemer Enverga, was on hand to award the medal to Ricky.

Today, at the Senate Chambers in Ottawa, 150 medals were awarded and one of them was for ANCOP Canada President, Ricky Cuenca. Presenting the prestigious medal was Mrs Rosemer Enverga, wife of the late Senator Tobias Enverga Jr.

“Today, was a great day for all ANCOP Canada volunteers and our beneficiaries. As I share this award to all advocates, volunteers, officers in various areas were ANCOP Canada



Mr. Ricky Cuenca with Mrs. Rosemer Enverga at PCCF dinner

is, and members of Couples for Christ, I remember as well the hardships we’ve gone through to make ANCOP Canada where it is today - an organization of people who truly answer the cry of the poor. I am blessed to be a Canadian, and doubly grateful for our friend, the late Senator Enverga for this honour.”

- Ricky Cuenca, ANCOP President on his thoughts about the Senate 150th Anniversary Medal honor.

“As the Senate approaches a milestone anniversary of its own, this is an appropriate time to celebrate the volunteer work of Canadians. Not only will the medal highlight the contributions of Canadians – from coast to coast, from all walks of life and from varied backgrounds – it will highlight the wide

diversity of the people whose efforts make Canada great.”

- Senator Serge Joyal, Co-Chair, Advisory Working Group on the Senate 150th Anniversary Medal

Ricky was acknowledged as “co-founder and president of ANCOP Canada, provider of solutions to extreme poverty by responding to basic needs”. It was also mentioned that “ANCOP Canada and its partners together with Ricky worked to build 2,500 homes for the poor in the Philippines and sent over 3,000 poor children to school”. These students come from various countries including India, Nigeria, Kenya, Tanzania, most recently Ethiopia, Indonesia and the Philippines.

Congratulations Ricky! Congratulations CFC ANCOP Canada



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Nobody won the war in Marawi - Duterte

Killing many terrorists does not promote peace

MANILA – Despite the government troops’ victory over Islamic State-inspired terrorists in Marawi City, President Rodrigo Duterte on Sunday said nobody really won the war in the predominantly Muslim city.

“Nobody won that war, not the government. We were able to kill many... [but] it does not promote peace in this world,” Duterte said in his speech during the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Business and Investment Summit. The five-month long siege in Marawi ended

last October 23, leaving over 1,000 people dead, mostly terrorists, and hundreds of thousands displaced. It also left the city, considered one of the centers of Islamic faith in Mindanao, in ruins. The President said both sides “got nothing” from the siege, which erupted on May 23 as local terrorist groups Maute and Abu Sayyaf sought to establish an Islamic State stronghold in the region. The threat of terrorism has also drawn Duterte closer to Manila’s non-traditional allies, such as China and Russia,

even as the United States continued to provide valuable support for the Philippine military in dealing with terrorism. Duterte said the government will do its best to bring back Marawi City to its original state, with billions of pesos set to be allotted for rehabilitation efforts. “We will rebuild Marawi. I said we collected so much taxes,” he said. “I was informed by my revenue officials that there’s enough to start, to lay the foundation of the city again.”

DOTr: Sumitomo, Mitsubishi back as MRT3 maintenance providers starting 2018

Japan and the Philippines are signing a government-to-government agreement that will pave the way for Sumitomo Corp. and technical partner Mitsubishi Heavy Industries to take over the maintenance works for the Metro Rail Transit Line 3 (MRT3). The signing will take place before the end of the year, the Department of Transportation (DOTr) said on Wednesday. “High-level discussions with the Government of Japan are ongoing to pave the way for DOTr’s direct engagement of Sumitomo Corporation and its technical partner Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, under a government-to-government (G2G) Official Development Assistance (ODA)

platform,” the department said. The three-year contract will include the rehabilitation and restoration of the mass rail transit system to its original performance standards. “Sumitomo and Mitsubishi Heavy, as the original MRT3 maintenance contractor, has ‘designed, built, and maintained’ the train line its first 12 years,” the DOTr said. “DOTr is pushing to have the maintenance and rehabilitation service provider in place by early Q2 2018,” Transportation Assistant Secretary for Rails Timothy John Batan told GMA News Online. “The main reason for this is the time needed to do a technical review of the system to find out the works that need to be done to restore the system after years of under-investment in preventive maintenance and renewal works,” he said. Batan noted rehabilitation priorities have yet to be determined during the technical

review, which would commence right after the G2G agreement is signed. The DOTr terminated the contract with Busan Universal Rail Inc. (BURI) last November 6 for its supposed “failures” in the last 22 months as the MRT3 maintenance contractor. “BURI failed to perform its maintenance obligations, both due to its inability to meet the performance indicators in the contract (e.g. number of trains running) and its failure to procure spare parts,” the department said. The company supposedly did not overhaul the train cars in line with a schedule BURI itself proposed, the DOTr noted, saying only two out of the 43 train coaches were actually overhauled. “These failures led to the many passenger unloading and train removal incidents during the 22 months that BURI was maintaining MRT-3,” it claimed.

Heart’s bad breakup with Jericho finally resolved

HEART Evangelista bumps into ex-boyfriend Jericho Rosales in an exclusive dinner organized by Tim Yap and we could almost hear the lyrics of the song popularized by the late Frank Sinatra, “Just Friends, Lovers No More”. It was in 2005 when they were paired in the first TV version of “Ang Panday” and they really became an item, on and off screen. Heart even defied the wishes of her parents but eventually, their relationship ended in a bad breakup. Now, looking at their photos posted by Tim Yap on social media while talking to each other casually at the dinner which was also attended by Jericho’s wife, Kim Jones, it’s obvious that all the past heartaches have been forgotten. “Whatever happened before, sobrang tagal na noon,” says Heart. “We’ve both moved on at may kanya-kanya na kaming buhay kaya let’s just all be positive and don’t dwell



on the past.” As we all know, Heart is now also happily married to Sen. Chiz Escudero, who was not present at the said dinner. Other stars invited to the affair were Iza Calzado, Solenn Heussaff and Nadine Lustre. Meantime, Heart is happy that her primetime show, “My Korean Jagiya”, is getting more good feedback with the inclusion of another Korean actor in the cast, Andy Ryu. Isn’t Alexander Lee, her first Korean leading man jealous of Andy? “No, we all get along fine. Masaya ang lahat and we’re all just doing our very best to cooperate with our director, Mark Reyes, para mas mapaganda ang bawat episode ng show namin.” **Alexander befriends Rival** ALEXANDER Lee says he doesn’t at all feel

bad that another Korean actor was hired by GMA7 to be his rival over Heart Evangelista in “My Korean Jagiya”. “I think Andy’s inclusion in the show made the story more intriguing for the viewers so we all welcome his being part of the show,” he says. His local fans seem to really care for him as they even noticed that he looks so thin lately and advised him in social media to eat some more. “Filipino fans are all very caring and they’re not afraid of expressing what they feel.” He says being to be able to work in Manila and with Heart as his leading lady is truly a big blessing. “When I met her in person, I was even more impressed because she’s so kind and warm. When we had a kissing scene, I couldn’t believe it, that I’m kissing a superstar. My whole experience of doing ‘My Korean Jagiya’ will be unforgettable for me for the rest of my life.”



Rocco Nacino is elated to earn his Master of Arts in Nursing. He dedicated his achievement to his parents. “This one’s for you mom and dad! It’s a different sense of fulfillment when it comes to pursuing education.”

Rocco Nacino finishes masters degree in nursing cum laude

Kapuso Actor Rocco Nacino keeps adding notches to his belt. Rocco, who took his Master of Arts in Nursing while busy with acting projects and business ventures, presented his thesis to a panel of deans/doctors at St. Bernadette of Lourdes College. In a series of Instagram stories, Rocco documented his day as a graduate student. His first post showed a short video of the room where he was about to present his thesis titled Use of Interactional Parenting and Reciprocal Behavior for Children: Basis for Total Development of a Child. “I have never been more nervous in my life,” he said. His next post then asked for prayers, and hoped that his panel would like his presentation. After a couple of hours, the 29-year-old actor/entrepreneur/registered nurse then showed a video of his dean inside the room. He then said into the camera, “My dean is discussing my grade. Will I pass? Will I get a good grade? Just finished. I’m so happy!” Rocco confirmed the good news on his Instagram feed. He posted a photo with his panel and gave his message of thanks. “Finally, another one checked off my bucket list!” he wrote. “Passed my thesis defense!” “It’s been a crazy 2 years of balancing everything, and now I am almost at the finish line.” Rocco dedicated this achievement to his parents, Ralph and Linda Nacino. “This one’s for you mom and dad! “It’s a different sense of fulfillment when it comes to pursuing education. And now I can finally breathe a huuuugge sigh of relief!” He then introduced himself with his new titles: “I am now Enrico Raphael Quiogue Nacino, R.N, M.A.N. (Registered Nurse, Master of Arts in Nursing). To God be the Glory!” Rocco became a registered nurse in 2009.

Dolorosa Association Dinner



Dolorosa Canada held their Christmas dinner last November and fun, entertainment and good food was enjoyed by everyone. The beauties of Lunijo, winners of their Miss Grand Continental were the special guests for the night. Here some photos of that night.

Imelda Milanes Cacayuran's 50th Birthday

Imelda celebrated her 50th birthday with her family and friends at the Kanayan Restaurant last November. It was a festive affair marked with entertainment, dancing and merriment.





Camilineos President Harold Guarin and Nenita Lora make a beautiful couple.

Nenita Lora performs a traditional dance.

Roger Guarin poses with family and friends.

Noemi (IN RED) and Primo Millanes enjoy the night away.

Camilineos Association of Toronto

Camilineos Association of Toronto had their Christmas dinner last November at the Garnet Williams Community Centre. It was a well-attended dinner by their members, family and friends. The funds raised by the Christmas dinner will go towards charitable programs by the organization to help those in need in Camiling, Tarlac. We wish them all the luck in their charitable endeavours.


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Daniel Padilla answers: Will Kathryn Bernardo be in ‘Gandarrapiddo: The Revengers Squad’?



refresh ako kasi nandon naman ermat ko, nandon naman si Vice so tawanan lang kami sa set so masaya,”

he said.

Daniel Padilla is working with two people very close to him in the upcoming Metro Manila Film Festival entry Gandarrapiddo: The Revenger Squad. The actor is starring in the film alongside his mom Karla Estrada and Vice Ganda.

He added that The Revenger Squad is such a happy set that shooting has been such a breeze. “Sabay ko ‘yung La Luna (Sangre) and Revenger and alam naman natin ang tema sa La Luna and medyo nakakapagod talaga siya and araw-araw kami. So paglumilipat ako ng Revenger, medyo nare-

Daniel is starring in the movie without his perennial onscreen partner Kathryn Bernardo. Asked how he felt shooting the film without his ka-love team, he replied, “Siyempre nakakapanibago na wala si Kathryn. Pero hindi mo na rin kasi mapapansin kasi sabay din naman namin ginagawa ‘yung La Luna eh so actually every day kami magkasama sa La Luna and one day shooting day ko wala si Kathryn don, nakakapanibago rin.”

Daniel still had great news for KathNiel fans. “Merong cameo si Kathryn dito sa pelikula,” he revealed.



SENATOR TOBIAS ENVERGA’S FUNERAL

FIRST, Cardinal Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto blesses the late Senator Enverga. SECOND Senators Victor Oh, Thanh Hai Ngo and Yonah Martin pay their respects to Senator Enverga. THIRD, Ontario PC Party leader Patrick Brown consoles widow Rosemer Enverga. FOURTH, Conservative Party of Canada leader Andrew Scheer pays his respects to the late Senator Enverga. FIFTH, City of Toronto Mayor John Tory remembers Senator Enverga.



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Duterte eyes acquisition of 23 attack helicopters

MANILA – President Rodrigo Duterte said his government is eyeing the acquisition of 23 new attack helicopters to boost the capability of the military.

Duterte said acquiring new air assets would help the Philippines deal with terrorism and rebellion.

“Meron tayong acquisition na 23 attack helicopters. ‘Yun supisyente (sufficient) na ‘yon for a --- ‘yung mga rebellion-rebellion lang,” Duterte said in a speech in front of wounded soldiers at the Army General Hospital in Taguig City.

The President said he would ask military officials to scout for the new helicopters and other military equipment. He also reiterated his vow not to purchase secondhand hardware.

“I am ordering new ones para pangpalit doon sa inyo. Alam ko nagreklamo kayo sa barrel pati vault. Baka in the next few months... I am in a hurry, nagmamadali ako. May papuntahin akong mga opisyal ng militar doon sa ibang lugar para mag-negotiate kaagad,” he said.

“Kung mahirapan tayong maghingi, nakakahiya naman palagi sige hingi, mag-utang tayo, payable in 25 years ng soft loan ng armas.”

The President has been repeatedly expressing his desire to leave a “strong military” after his 6-year presidency, especially in the wake of the Marawi siege, which tested Filipino troops in urban warfare.

“I will build a strong military, dahan-dahan. Talagang strong na strong. At after five years, four years from now, ‘yun na lang naiwan sa termino ko, baka modern na tayo,” he said.

“Pero mag-aral kayo ng bagong doctrine, how to fight in the urban areas. ‘Yan ang bago ngayon.”

Duterte visited the Army General Hospital to confer on 26 soldiers the Order of Lapu-Lapu. Twenty of the soldiers were wounded during the Marawi siege while the rest were wounded in clashes with rebels from the New People’s Army and Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters.

Established by Duterte in April, the Order of Lapu-Lapu is an award given to officials and personnel of government as well as private individuals “in recognition of their invaluable or extraordinary service in relation to a campaign or advocacy of the President.”



Alden Richards chooses to ignore bashers: “In their eyes, we’re always wrong no matter how good we do.”

Alden Richards on haters: “In their eyes, we’re always wrong no matter how good we do. The wrong ones are still what count when it comes to those bashers.” Tanggap na raw ni Alden Richards na hindi mawawala ang bashers sa buhay niya bilang artista.

Sandaling nakapanayam si Alden bago siya pumirma ng kontrata para sa bago niyang endorsement noong Biyernes, November 24.

Dito ay kinumusta namin kung hanggang ngayon ba ay nakatatanggap pa rin siya ng hate messages.

Kamakailan lang ay inulan ng batikos ang isang Thai host dahil sa ibinulgar nitong sinabi umano ni Alden na single siya ngayon.

Hindi rin nagustuhan ng ilang fans ng tambalan nina Alden at Maine Mendoza, na kilala bilang AlDub, ang sinabi ng Kapuso actor.

Thai host draws flak from Pinoys for saying Alden is single
Thai host draws flak from Pinoys for saying Alden is single

Maine Mendoza pours her heart out in open letter to fans
Maine Mendoza pours her heart out in open letter to fans

Sabi ni Alden sa PEP.ph, “They’re still there, always around, lurking around our social media accounts and personal lives.

“But I’ve learned to accept the fact that they will exist no matter what we do.”

Sa tingin ni Alden, kahit anong mabuting gawin nila ay ang masama pa rin ang unang makikita ng haters.

Aniya, “In their eyes, we’re always wrong no matter how good we do.



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Veteran newspaperman Manny Mogato (middle) poses with another veteran media man, Jojo Taduran and Ms. Fe Paca Taduran. Manny Mogato is the 2017 Marshall McLuhan Fellow.



“The wrong ones are still what count when it comes to those bashers.

“Ako, pinagpapasa-Diyos ko na lang talaga sila, kasi wala naman talaga akong magagawa if that’s the way they’re brought up by their parents.

“I can’t do anything about it but just to pray for them.

“You know, sana ma-enlighten sila to be busy with their own personal lives.”

Dahil madalas ay sa social media nagpu-post ng mensahe ang haters, iniwasan daw ni Alden basahin ang mga ito.

Paliwanag niya, “I don’t read kasi doon nag-i-start, e.

“Di ba, minsan may mga kapwa tayo artista na hindi napigipilan, sumasagot sila sa mga tweets?

“Ako, as much as possible, I really don’t read para hindi na ako umabot sa ganun.

“At saka mas masaya ako nang ganun.”

Japan donates patrol cars to PNP

Japanese Ambassador Koji Haneda was present for the turnover ceremonies in Camp Crame of the 87 Mitsubishi Montero and 13

Nissan Urvan, estimated to be worth ¥500 million.

The vehicles may be deployed to areas frequented by Japanese tourists, as suggested by the Japanese Embassy, said PNP Chief, Director General Ronald dela Rosa.

“Sabi nila ‘itong lugar na ito maraming Hapon na nakatira. Lagyan niyo ng marami’....Yung suggestions are well taken properly kasi sa kanila nanggaling yan,” he told reporters.

(They said ‘there are a lot of Japanese living in this area, put several here’...The suggestions are well taken properly because these were from them.)

Dela Rosa said he already ordered cops not to use the vehicles for personal activities.

“Kung saan intended doon talaga ang intendend use. Huwag tanggalan ng markings. Baka ang gagawin doon, tanggalin yung markings na ‘Pasay Police Station,’ gagawin na lang puti. Wala nang markings para magamit ng personal,” he said.

(It must be used for what it was intended for. Markings should not be removed. They might remove the markings that said, ‘Pasay Police Station,’ and make it all-white...or remove the markings so it may be used for personal functions.)

DECADES concert - Retrospect with Lani Misalucha

it was a very entertaining show from beginning to end. The Rembrandt Banquet Hall was packed. Retrospect sang the popular hits through the ages, hence the name of the concert, decades. Lani was spectacular. She did not disappoint in singing Filipinos songs. The concert was a production collaboration of Lenlay Memita and Belinda Reyes, two of Toronto’s very successful concert producers.



LEFT, Belinda Reyes poses with Lani Misalucha. RIGHT, Singer Lani Misalucha poses with pianist Alex Reyes.



FV Foods’ Mel Galeon (2nd FROM LEFT) poses with star Lani Misalucha.

Piolo Pascual on joining Home Sweetie Home:

“You can’t replace Lloydie.”



wala, wala.
“Patay na ako dun, patay na ako sa Lobo.”

Rocco Nacino reveals he is building his multi-million peso dream house

Kapuso actor Rocco Nacino revealed that he is in the process of building his own house intended for his future family.

Though he is currently single, the 30-year-old actor said he hopes to settle down before he turns 35.

“It will come,” he said, referring to his love life.

Apart from acting projects, the StarStruck alumnus is busy with five business establishments he co-owns, either with family or business partners.

He is seen in the GMA Afternoon Prime drama Haplos, after portraying the role of Aquil in the 2016 reboot of Encantadia.

“I’m putting up my house, so dagdag stress,” he admitted.

Rocco was interviewed at Backyard Kitchen + Brew.

He is one of the partners in the resto-bar located on the 4th level of Uptown Mall in BGC, Taguig.

Rocco said the house he is building is located in Antipolo, Rizal.

“In the process pa. Ang pinakamatagal pala na proseso, yung permits, how to have it ready.

“Ang dami ring binabayaran. It’s like P20,000 agad just to remove all the trees.

What’s the budget for his future house?

“With their estimate, it’s like P15-20 [million]. It is big,” he conceded.

“I’m doing my best in cutting down cost.

“The Kapuso actor revealed, “For me, nakaka-mature din ito, this whole process of putting up a house.

“You learn how to make decisions of your own.

The Haplos star added that his architect is his mom’s friend.

“It’s very modern, a lot of wood, a lot of windows.

“It’s going towards a glass house.

Siguradong magastos yun,” Rocco said, describing his future house.

Piolo Pascual says he doesn’t mind filling in for John Lloyd Cruz in Home Sweetie Home, as the latter took a leave of absence in showbiz. “I’m just doing this because we are one family in this network, so whatever help you can give.”

Napanood na si Piolo Pascual sa Home Sweetie Home noong nakaraang Sabado, sa November 4 episode ng weekly sitcom.

Marami tuloy ang nagtatanong kung si Piolo na kaya ang papalit bilang love interest ni Toni Gonzaga dahil sa pansamantalang pag-alis ni John Lloyd Cruz.

“It’s an easy set, malamig ang studio, happy ako kay Direk Bobot [Mortiz] kasi he’s very supportive.

“I’m just doing this because we are one family in this network, so whatever help you can give.”

Paliwanag pa ng Kapamilya hunk, “Hindi, you cannot replace Lloydie.

“I don’t know how they’re gonna twist the story but I came as a cousin of him.

“Galing ako sa isang episode na nag-guest ako bilang pinsan, we didn’t change my character, ganun pa rin.”

LA LUNA SANGRE RUMOR UNTRUE. Tinanong din namin si Piolo sa nabalita noon na papasok na rin siya sa La Luna Sangre dahil sa pinost niya na larawan niya na may caption na “La Luna sangre (Weeknights),” sa kanyang Instagram stories.

Agad namang binigyan linaw ng aktor na walang planong maging bahagi siya ng show gaya ng dating kapareha sa Lobo na si Angel Locsin.

“Full moon kasi, sabi ko may buwan, La Luna Sangre. Pero wala yun.

“I’m starting a soap with Arci [Muñoz], Empoy [Marquez], Alex [Alessandra de Rossi], JC [de Vera] and a lot more, so di na naman siguro nila ako kailangan dun. Marami na sila.

“I know, tinanong nga sa akin sa presscon sa Singapore. Sabi ko, wala,

Thea Tolentino stay friends with ex-bf Mikoy Morales + other stories



Thea Tolentino says she’s not closing her doors on getting back together with ex-boyfriend Mikoy Morales.

Nananatiling magkaibigan ang dating magkasintahang sina Thea Tolentino, 21 at Mikoy Morales, 23.

“Okay naman, friends kami,” sagot ng Kapuso actress.

Sa ngayon, bihira raw silang magkita ng dating nobyo.

Pero nagkakasama raw sila sa tuwing lababas ang barkada nila, kasama ang iba pang Kapuso actors na sina Juancho Trivino at Kristoffer Martin.

Hhindi ba sila awkward ni Mikoy sa isa’t isa.

Pag-amin niya, “Meron kahit konti, pero kaya.”

August 2017 nang unang napabalitang break na ang dalawa, ilang buwan matapos aminin ni Mikoy ang apat na taon nilang relasyon.

Hindi rin ito ang unang beses na nag-break sina Thea at Mikoy, na unang nagkasama sa 2012 GMA artista search na Protégé: Battle For The Big Artista Break.

Noong 2016 ay naghiwalay sila, subalit nagkabalikan din pagkatapos ng pitong buwan.

SECOND CHANCE. Bahagi si Thea ng pelikulang This Time I’ll Be Sweeter, na pinagbibidahan nina Barbie Forteza at Ken Chan.

Umiikot ang kuwento ng pelikula tungkol sa second chances, kung saan ang karakter ni Barbie ay minsan nang niloko ni Ken, at makalipas ang ilang taon ay nagkita silang muli at susubukan kung para ba sila sa isa’t isa.

Dahil dito ay natanong si Thea kung handa rin ba siyang bigyan ng second chance ang ex-boyfriend.

Sagot niya, “Depende kasi yun, e. Depende yun sa sitwasyon.”

Paano kung ang sitwasyon nila ni Mikoy ang pagbabasehan?

“Ako? Kasi mas... wala kasi kaming away noong nag-break kami.

“Hindi naman ako... ewan ko, hindi naiwan sa akin yung galit, e.

“Dala na lang din siguro na makakalimutin ako!

“Hindi ko naman isinasa yung doors ko.

“Kung mangyayari, mangyayari. Yun ‘yon. Kung hindi, hindi.”

Sa ngayon daw ay tapos na rin si Thea sa healing process ng breakup.

“Okay na. Actually, yun yung... kasi positive ako.

“Yun yung advantage ko na kaya kong hindi maapektuhan.

“Maapektuhan ako kung pipiliin ko or mararamdaman ko lang kung merong makakapagpaalala, pero wala naman na.”

Matteo Guidicelli supports Sarah Geronimo’s silence over persistent rumors

Sigurado si Matteo Guidicelli na matatag ang loob ng kanyang girlfriend na si Sarah Geronimo pagdating sa pagtanggap ng anumang negatibong komento.

Isa na rito ang hindi matapus-tapos na isyu tungkol sa diumano’y paglalayas ng Pop Superstar sa bahay nila.

Ang bagong usap-usapan ay nakabukod at nakatira na raw sa isang condo ang 29-year-old singer-actress.

“I think she’s a strong person. Why would she be affected?” sabi ni Matteo.

Paglililaw pa niya, “Hindi siya nagko-condo, nasa bahay pa rin siya.”

Sa kabila ng mga intrigang tulad nito, nananatiling tahimik si Sarah.

At tila pabor dito ang kanyang 27-year-old na boyfriend.

Sabi ni Matteo, “Bakit mo ide-defend ang hindi naman totoo?”

Pagdating sa mga intriga, lalo na kung hindi totoo, pipiliin din daw ni Matteo ang tumahimik na lang.

Aniya, “My defense is not to say anything, because alam naman natin hindi totoo yung mga bagay-bagay.

“So, the best defense is to just keep quiet and do your thing.

“Alam mo yun, gawin mo lang ang ginagawa mo, tuluy-tuloy ka lang.”

Gayunman, nilinaw ni Matteo na handa siyang ipagtanggol ang girlfriend kung kinakailangan.

“Siyempre naman. Siyempre, we’re as one,” paniniguro niya.

Hanggang saan ang kayang gawin ni Matteo para ipagtanggol si Sarah?

Sagot ng actor-singer, “Hindi ko alam. Hindi ko iniisip ‘yan.

“You know, let’s look at the positive side of everything.

“Huwag natin i-negative. Positive lang, masaya lang tayong lahat.”



Dolorosa Canada



Dolorosa Canada had their Christmas party last November. These are some of the photos of that festive celebration.

How did Pauline Mendoza get her big break in Kambal, Karibal?

Kapuso teen actress Pauline Mendoza narrates how she got her big break in the new Kapuso teleserye Kambal, Karibal: “Natuwa po ako kasi hindi ko na po kailangan mag-audition for the role of Criselda. Kasi malaki raw ang hawig ko kay Bianca Umali who will play my twin sister Crisanta. Pinagtabi po kami at nakita nila ang maraming similarities namin. Kaya binigay na sa akin ang role na Criselda.”



Biggest break para sa Kapuso teen actress na si Pauline Mendoza ang gumanap bilang kambal na nagmumulto sa GMA primetime teleserye na Kambal, Karibal. Lumabas na si Pauline bilang kapatid ni Barbie Forteza sa That’s My Amboy at bilang batang Jennylyn Mercado sa My Love From The Star. Lumabas din siya sa mga shows na Little Nanay, Alyas Robin Hood, Karelasyon, Juan Happy Love Story at Magpakailanman. Kaya natuwa si Pauline na isang challenging role bilang multo ang ipinagkatiwala sa kanya.

BIANCA LOOK-ALIKE. Hindi na raw kailangan pa ni Pauline mag-audition dahil sa magkahawig na raw sila ng lead actress ng teleserye na si Bianca Umali. “Natuwa po ako kasi hindi ko na po kailangan mag-audition for the role of Criselda. “Kasi malaki raw ang hawig ko kay Bianca Umali who will play my twin sister Crisanta. “Pinagtabi po kami at nakita nila ang maraming similarities namin. Kaya binigay na sa akin ang role na Criselda. “It’s the biggest break so far para po sa akin kaya thank you, Lord!” masayang kuwento ni Pauline sa presscon ng Kambal, Karibal.

DOING THEIR OWN STUNTS. Noong unang araw pa lang daw ng taping nila nina Bianca at Miguel Tanfelix ay malaking challenge agad ang hinarap nila. “Kinunan po kami sa isang bangin na hinahatak ko si Bianca. “Kami po ang gumawa ng stunt na iyon. Walang po kaming dobol. “Pero naging okey naman po ang first day shoot naming lahat. “Walang naaksidente o nasaktan.”

STORY. May dahilan daw kung bakit nagiging vengeful ghost siya sa istorya. Pero kailangan daw munang hintayin ni Pauline ang script para rito. “Hindi po kasi nila sinasabi yung mga magiging eksena namin. “Surprise po lahat ng eksena namin para nae-excite kaming lahat. “May big reason kung bakit ako nagalit sa kambal ko at kung bakit pumasok ang spirit ko sa isang tao para nakapaghiganti ako. “Abangan na lang po nila kasi kahit kami, di namin alam ang mga susunod na mangyayari sa story,” diin ni Pauline.

CRUSHES. Nagsimulang commercial model si Pauline bago ito pumasok sa showbiz. Ang tunay niya pangalan ay Pauline Bianca Cruz Esquieres. Kung bibigyan daw ng ka-loveteam si Pauline, pipiliin niya ang Chinito Heartthrob ng boyband na One Up na si Nikki Co. “Close na kasi kami ni Nikki. Ilang beses na kaming nagkasama sa mga workshops. “Tsaka he’s very cute talaga. K-pop cutie siya,” tawa pa niya.

Showbiz crushes naman ni Pauline ay sina Dingdong Dantes, Derrick Monasterio at Gil Cuerva. Next year ay graduating na sa Pauline sa Grade 12 at plano niyang mag-aral ng kursong architecture. “Kakayanin ko po na ipagsabay ang acting, modeling at school. “Kung yung ibang mga artista po nakayang gawin iyon, kaya rin po natin siguro iyon,” paninigurado niya.

Christmas pkgs stolen from family’s front step

A character lurking around houses and stealing presents is a familiar plot line from Dr. Seuss’ How the Grinch Stole Christmas. It’s also reality for one family who lives in the northwest corner of Regina. Candace Schwindt calls herself a Cindy Lou Who sympathizer. Her packages were filched from her front step on Monday less than two hours after they were dropped off by a United Parcel Service (UPS) courier. “I felt very violated because someone was trespassing on our property and taking something, even though it wasn’t officially mine yet,” Schwindt said. The gifts were for her niece, nephew and two sons. She asked him where they were and they realized neither of them knew, so they reviewed the footage. The Schwindt family has a doorbell camera that caught it all on tape. “It was a man that we did not know who first took the top two parcels and put them in his car and then went back and grabbed the third parcel.” Schwindt was initially in contact with UPS before she contacted the companies. All three are going to send her new packages because they were covered by insurance, she said. Furthermore, Schwindt has a renewed appreciation for her doorbell. “We’re pretty glad that we have the technology in our house to be able to definitely say this is what happened,” she said. “I don’t know that the shippers would have been as open to sending us parcels a second time if we had not had video evidence.” “UPS drivers are trained to leave packages

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out of sight,” said Nirali Raval, spokesperson for UPS Canada, in an emailed statement. “If an area is deemed high risk for theft, drivers will be notified to not release packages unless signatures are obtained.” The spokesperson also said that if a customer would like a signature at the time of the delivery they are responsible for telling the “supplier that you want your package shipped using a UPS Signature Required service.” “Signature Required service must be selected by the shipper when they prepare your shipment.” Schwindt has filed a report with the Regina police. A spokesperson for the Regina Police Service says they are unaware of any other similar thefts this holiday season. In Toronto, the thefts are more common. ‘It’s not uncommon’ Toronto police said package thefts are reported all across the city, with a slight increase this time of year. It’s a topic buzzed-about on local Facebook groups, too. During the holiday season, packages and Christmas cards with money and gift cards inside them are “very accessible to thieves on porches and unlocked mailboxes,” wrote Toronto police’s Division 55 crime

prevention officer Const. Jonathan Morrice in a public Facebook post on Dec. 5. **Const. Morrice offered the following tips:** • Ask your courier company not to leave your package on your porch. They can take it back to their main office. • Tell a neighbour you are having a package delivered, to watch out for it and hold it until you get home. • Be alert if you see a courier truck on your street. Thieves follow them and steal packages within minutes of them being delivered. • Get a strong, secure lock for your mailbox. Limit the amount of cash/gift cards you send in the mail. There are many e-transfers/online options available. • If you send money/gift cards, follow up with the recipient, because they may not even know it was stolen. Various delivery companies, from Canada Post to UPS, have options where you can have items delivered to one of their offices instead of your home. It’s a bit less convenient, but it’s safer than having something dropped off on a front porch. Canada Post, for example, offers FlexDelivery, a free service where you can have packages delivered to your local post office instead of your home.

Block Rosary Crusade

Block Rosary Crusade of Toronto had their Christmas celebration last November. These were some of the photos of that lovely evening.

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LM confidential 2017

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Miggy Tolentino on his humble family background:

Humihiram lang kami dati ng washing machine +other stories

Miggy Tolentino is making hay as a mainstay in Eat Bulaga! and everything he earns goes to his family: “Ang goal ko para sa pamilya ko. Huwag nang magtinda ang mama ko, huwag nang magtrabaho ang papa ko kasi matanda na po sila, e.”

Naging emosyunal ang ‘That’s My Bae’ member na si Miggy Tolentino nang tanungin kung ano na ang naipundar niya mula sa mga kinita niya sa showbiz.

“Inuna ko po muna kasi ang family, e, bago ako nagpundar ng para sa sarili ko,” may kalungkutang sabi niya.

Ano ang mga binili niya? “Yung mga gusto nina Mama, kasi nanghihiram lang kami minsan dati ng washing machine.”

Dito ay nagsimula nang mangilid ang luha sa mga mata ni Miggy.

“Yung kapatid ko, mama ko, nagpapaaral, nagtitinda lang po kasi ng almusal ang mama ko.

“Ang papa ko naman nagpipintura ng mga jeep, so minsan hindi sapat para mapag-aral kami so nagpaparaya ako.

Mainstay sa naturang GMA-7 noontime show si Miggy at ang buong That’s My Bae group.

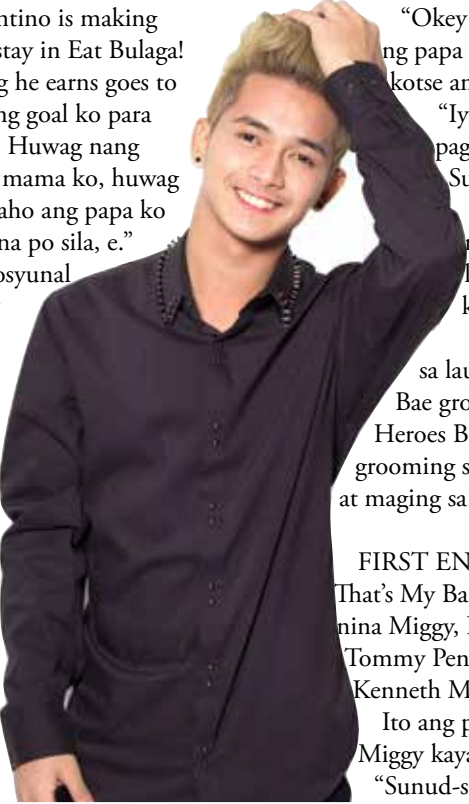
ALL FOR FAMILY. Dalawang taon na si Miggy sa Eat Bulaga!, “Hard work po talaga.

“Huwag nang magtinda ang mama ko, huwag nang magtrabaho ang papa ko kasi matanda na po sila, e.

“Gigising ka ng 2 a.m., kasarapan ng tulog, magluluto ka, mababasa ka kasi kailangan mo ring maghugas ng pinggan.

“So ang pangarap ko simple lang, yun lang, na matapos na yung pagtitinda nila, na ako na ang magtatrabaho.”

Two years na raw hindi nagtatrabaho ang mga magulang niya simula nang maging artista si Miggy.



“Okey na po yun, kasi po pangarap ng papa ko... Mag-drive nga lang ng kotse ang pangarap niya, e.

“Iyon nagda-drive siya ng kotse pagka minsan may taping ako sa Sublic, malalayo.

“Gusto ni Papa nakakapunta siya sa ibang lugar, sinasama ko yung papa ko, yung kapatid ko.”

Nakausap si Miggy kahapon, sa launch ng buong That’s My Bae group bilang endorsers ng Heroes Barbers, na isang barber shop/grooming salon para sa mga kalalakihan at maging sa mga kababaihan.

FIRST ENDORSEMENT. Ang mga That’s My Bae members ay kinabibilangan nina Miggy, Kim Last, Jon Timmons, Tommy Penaflor, Joel Palencia at Kenneth Medrano.

Ito ang pinakaunang endorsement ni Miggy kaya labis ang pasasalamat niya. “Sunud-sunod po, bale first teleserye, first movie ‘tapos first endorsement.

“Actually, pagkatapos ng Trops, nagkaroon na ako ng mga guesting na first time din.

“Sobrang nagpapasalamat ako kay God, kada matutulog nagpapasalamat ako na.

“Kaya ginagalingan ko po. Nakakatuwa kasi.”

IN THE COMPANY OF JOWAPAO. Kakatapos lamang umere ng Kapuso daytime series na na Trops nitong September, at pinalitan ito ng The Lolás Beautiful Show, na pinagbibidahan ng grupong JoWaPao na sina Jose Manalo, Wally Bayola, at Paolo Ballesteros Kasama rin si Miggy sa pelikulang Trip Ubusan: The Lolás VS Zombies kung saan bida rin ang JoWaPao.

Nang nalaman ni Miggy na Graded A ang Trip Ubusan, ano ang naramdaman niya?

“Sobrang nakakatuwa po,” ang bulalas ni Miggy. “Kasi ako para sa akin Graded A talaga, e.

“Kasi po nung napanood ko talaga kagabi, nakakaiyak, nakakatuwa, so talagang napakagandang movie po talaga.

Here’s why Empress Schuck can do projects in ABS-CBN, GMA-7 at the same time

Empress Schuck explained on Instagram why she can work with ABS-CBN and GMA-7 at the same time. The actress will be seen in two programs of rival networks this weekend: Maalaala Mo Kaya on December 2 and All Star Videoke on December 3.

Since her television comeback early this year after her pregnancy, Empress Schuck has been appearing in drama anthologies of ABS-CBN and GMA-7.

She would also do occasional guest appearances in TV shows of the rival networks.

In an Instagram post last November 28, Empress explained that working with two networks at the same time is not an issue since she is a freelancer.

The 24-year-old actress, who was dubbed as the Empress of Drama of the Kapamilya network, explained why she opted to become a freelancer.

She wrote in the caption, “Since many have been asking, I’m a freelance artist. Meaning [I] can be seen anywhere unless I’m currently in a Teleserye which I’m not.

“I hope you understand and its ok with you. We’re only young once. Grab every chance given to us.

“I wish that wherever you see me you’ll be happy for me. It’s nothing personal.

“Just like all of us, I only want to work and try to give the best that i can. Thank you for listening!

Xo, empress.”

CAREER HISTORY. When she started as a child actress in the late ‘90s, Empress starred in projects in both ABS-CBN and GMA-7.

She was first seen in the Kapamilya shows Oka Tokat! (1997) and G-Mik (1999), and later did shows with GMA-7, mainly the mini-series Munting Anghel (2000).

Empress also played the younger version of lead stars in the Kapuso shows Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin (2001) and Ang Iibigin Ay Ikaw (2002).

She also played the young Cassiopea in Encantadia’s prequel Etheria in 2005.

While appearing in GMA-7, Empress would do occasional guest appearances in ABS-CBN’s drama anthology show Maalaala Mo Kaya.

In 2006, Empress was officially launched as a drama actress of ABS-CBN when she played an important role in Super Inggo.

In 2009, while doing shows with ABS-CBN, Empress also top-billed TV5’s blocktimer show Goals and Girls, which aired on a weekly basis.

In 2010, Empress was given the title “Empress of Drama” by the Kapamilya network when she top-billed her first solo project Rosalka.

In 2015, Empress decided to transfer to GMA-7 as a freelance actress, and did the afternoon series Kailan Ba Tama Ang Mali.

However, after three months, the show ended its run, coinciding with Empress’s announcement that she is pregnant.

When she returned to acting in 2016, Empress first appeared in the drama anthology Ipaglaban Mo, aired in ABS-CBN.

She also appeared in ABS-CBN shows Magandang Buhay and Maalaala Mo Kaya, and GMA-7 programs Tadhana, Trops, and All Star Videoke.

Empress is also announced to be a part of GMA-7’s blocktimer program Let The Sunshine In.

Erich Gonzales Is Tanduay’s Calendar Girl For 2018

The Kapamilya star looks fit and fab



Kapamilya actress Erich Gonzales is Tanduay’s Calendar Girl for 2018.

Tanduay described the 27-year-old star as “modern, bold, and pioneering,” which, according to the distillery label, are the best words that capture Erich’s essence and the brand’s identity.

“Erich will not just be a figure of beauty and sexiness, but an icon of Tanduay as it stands out of the clutter through embracing experiential effort and fore fronting technology,” Tanduay said during the press launch held earlier today.

“The year of 2018 will be an exciting time for both Erich and Tanduay as they drive a momentum for the Tanduay Experience—being more aggressive in the digital and content space, leveraging on augmented realities and virtual experiences, being first in bold executions, and creating daring properties that all encapsulate everyone’s #TibayNgLoob,” they added.

Kris Bernal thanks mom for being her angel on earth

Kris Bernal is a showbiz personality and businesswoman but she’s also a sister and a daughter. And on her mom’s special day, the Impostora actress did not forget to greet Mommy Analyn via social media.

She wrote: “Wala man akong milyon-milyong fans, sapat na ang mabiyayaan ako ng NAPAKA-mapagmahal na ina. ???????? Happy Birthday Ma! 28 na ko, pero hanggang ngayon sinasamahan mo pa rin ako sa mga trabaho ko kahit kaya ko na.

Kris continued, “Maraming salamat! There’ll never be a day in my life when I won’t say I love you and won’t pass a day na hindi mo maramdaman yun. ?? There’s so much to share and countless reasons to be proud of you, pero nailiyak na ko! ???????? I treasure you, ma, and love you more than life itself! Araw-araw pinagdadasal ko lang na pahabain at pahabain pa ang buhay mo. Thank you for being my one and only angel on earth! ??????”

Dolorosa Canada



Dolorosa Canada had their Christmas celebration last November. These are some photos of people enjoying that evening.

Kris' role puts her life in danger

Bernal says that as much as possible, she herself does all her dangerous scenes in her hit afternoon series, "Impostora", even if their director, Albert Langitan, wants to give her a stunt double. "Wala siyang takot," says the director when we visited them on the show's taping. "Kahit mahirap ang eksena, ginagawa niya."

"Natatakot din naman po ako," says Kris on the set. "Tao lang po, kinakabahan din. Pero siyempre, hangga't maaari, ayokong dayain ang viewers na talagang sumusuporta sa aming show tuwing hapon kaya laging mataas ang aming rating. Doon sa eksenang ikinulong ako sa loob ng kotse, tapos 'yung kotse, ihinulog sa bangin, sobrang nerbiyos ko doon. Kasi umuulan-ulan pa, madulas, so may possibility talagang mahulog nang todo 'yung kotse sa bangin. But they assured me na may proper safety measures naman so ginawa ko. Sobra-sobra na lang ang nasabi kong dasal habang sinu-shoot 'yung eksenang 'yun at awa ng Diyos, naitawid naman namin nang maayos."

But more than the risky scenes, she finds her regular exchange of personalities on the set even more tiring. "Struggle talaga 'yung tuwing may taping, walang tigil ang pagpapalit-palit ko ng roles as Nimfa and Rosette. Kasi hindi lang looks, costume, make up ang ginagawaan ko ng make over kundi pati ang pagkatao nila dahil exact opposites 'yung dalawang characters na



ginagampanan ko. Pero kahit na draining siya, masayang-masaya akong sa akin napunta ang dual roles na ito dahil dito ko naranasan maging both ako 'yung bida at 'yung kontrabida. Si Nimfa, laging umiiyak, si Rosette laging matapang at palaban. Mas hirap ako kay Rosette na nagmumura at nananakit ng co-stars ko kasi hindi talaga ako sanay sa ganun in real life."

Kris' leading man, Rafael Rosell, celebrated his birthday on November 10 and she wrote him a beautiful message in her socmed account: "Happiest birthday, Pogi. I feel so lucky to work with an actor who knows the balance between great professionalism and fun! Enjoy your day, you deserve it! I would like to take this privilege to tell you that you are a perfect

onscreen partner and a friend." To which Rafael responded: "Thank you so much. I'm really happy to be your screen partner. Thanks for the love and trust. I'll always be grateful."

It looks like Kris and Rafael have really become so comfortable and at ease with each other after working in "Impostora" for more than half a year now. No wonder some folks are insinuating something romantic must now be really going on between them now even off cam. (But both are taken, right?--Ed.)

Statement from the office of the late Senator Tobias C. Enverga, Jr.

On behalf of the Enverga family, I wish to convey sincere thanks for the outpouring of love, support, and prayers given in the days following the passing of the Honourable Tobias C. Enverga, Jr.

The family would like to thank the more than 7,000 individuals who attended the viewings on November 24-26, as well as the 1,500 individuals who were present for the funeral on Monday, November 27. Those in attendance came from all over Canada to pay their respects and included many of the late Senator's friends and family as well as a number of dignitaries and colleagues from the Senate, the House of Commons, and representatives from all levels of government.

The many well-wishers who have reached out in person or have sent lovely notes and flowers – which lined the funeral home – have been a source of strength for the family, who are deeply appreciative.

Please note that Senator Enverga's website and Facebook page will remain active and the family requests that any organizations or individuals who have had the Senator attend their events send these pictures to be posted online. These photos can be sent to SenatorTobiasEnverga@gmail.com.

At this time, the family looks forward to ensuring that the legacy of Senator Tobias "Jun" Enverga lives on through the establishment of the Senator Tobias C. Enverga Jr. Foundation. More details will follow on this initiative.

Sincerely,

James Campbell
Parliamentary Affairs Advisor
James.campbell@sen.parl.gc.ca
613-996-8895

on behalf of Mrs. Rosemer Enverga
Spouse of Senator Tobias Enverga Jr.

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other stories

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Frencheska Farr enjoying married life in U.S.; puts baby plans on hold

Former Kapuso actress-singer Frencheska Farr has been based in the U.S. since marrying her non-showbiz boyfriend Gino Jose last August. She set aside her music career for now, and has been more focused on acting for her husband’s small films.

Kinasal noong nakaraang August 2017 ang former Kapuso singer-actress na si Frencheska Farr sa kanyang non-showbiz boyfriend of five years na si Gino Jose.

Sa Las Vegas, Nevada naganap ang kanilang civil wedding.

Una naming tinanong ay kung adjusted na ba si Frencheska sa kanyang pagiging Mrs. Jose?

Lahad niya, “Ayos na ayos naman ang buhay misis dito at medyo hindi pa ako sanay sa term na ‘misis’ or ‘asawa.’

“Pero masaya talaga kasi may katuwang ako sa life at nag-e-enjoy lang kami.

“Wala munang baby. Gusto muna namin enjoy-in ang life habang wala pang kids.”

MISSING FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

Nagdesisyon si Frencheska noon na subukan ang buhay sa ibang bansa.

Pero madalas daw ay naho-homesick siya.

Pag-amin niya, “Nami-miss ko rin ang Pilipinas, lalo na kapag naiisip ko ang family at friends ko na matagal ko nang nakasama.

“Pero ine-embrace ko rin itong bagong environment ko dito.

“Marami na akong mga new friends at iba pa rin ang mga opportunities na dumarating sa iyo.

“Habang bata pa tayo, grab that opportunity, di ba?”

Matagal na raw walang kontrata si Frencheska with GMA Artist Center

(GMAAC).

Una siyang pumirma sa GMAAC noong 2009 pagkatapos niyang manalo, together with Geoff Taylor, sa reality music competition na Are You The Next Big Star?

Lumabas si Frencheska sa maraming shows ng GMA-7 kabilang na ang SOP, Party Pilipinas, BandaOKE: Rock n’ Roll To Millions, Sana Ngayong Pasko, Captain Barbell: Ang Pagbabalik, Kokak, One True Love, Bukod Kang Pinagpala, Sunday All Stars, Binoy Henyo, Innamorata, Second Chances, Pari ‘Koy, Because of You, Just Duet, Maynila, Magpakailanman at Alamat.

Nagbida rin si Frencheska sa musical film na Emir na dinirek ni Chito Roño.

THANKFUL KAPUSO. Kahit na raw hindi na under contract si Frencheska sa Kapuso network, malaki pa rin ang tinatanaw niyang utang na loob dito.

“To be honest, pag nagre-reflect ako about GMA, talagang thankful ako sa GMA dahil kung wala sila, hindi ako makakarating sa kung nasaan man ako ngayon.

“Malaking part sila ng pag-shape ng aking pagkatao at talagang binago nila ang buhay



ko.

“And for that, super grateful ako.

“Siguro time to move on na rin talaga at maghanap ng bagong opportunities para rin sa growth ko as an artist,” diin pa niya.

MUSIC CAREER ON

HOLD. Sa U.S. ay patuloy pa rin ang pag-arte ni Frencheska sa paglabas nito sa mga short films ng kanyang mister.

Pahinga naman daw muna siya sa pagiging singer.

Kuwento niya, “May mga small acting projects pa din ako, at nag-a-assist pa rin ako sa paggawa ng short films ni Gino.

“Nakakatuwa nga dito at nai-invite kami to screen our films sa film festivals.

“Recording naman ay wala akong ginagawa sa ngayon.

“Yung last na ginawa ko ay independent EP na nasa Spotify at nirelease ko yun last year.

“Pero araw-araw pa rin ako kumakanta. Sa bahay, sa park, sa kotse...

“Nag-aaral din ako dito ng music, at hopefully makapag-share ako ng new songs soon.”

Maine Mendoza is most tweeted Filipino celebrity

Kapuso Dubsmash Queen Maine Mendoza makes it to Twitter’s most tweeted celebrity list along with the likes of Justin Bieber, Niall Horan, Seventeen, and Bangtan Boys to name a few.

Maine Mendoza was officially hailed as the most tweeted Filipino celebrity on the microblogging site Twitter.

According to Twitter Philippines, the 22-year-old Kapuso Dubsmash Queen ranked fifth in the most tweeted celebrities in the world.

But she is the only Filipino celebrity who made the cut in the Top 10 most tweeted celebrity list of Twitter.

Other stars who were named in the list were K-pop all-male boy bands Bangtan Boys (BTS) and Seventeen, as well as international singers Justin Bieber and Niall Horan, to name a few.

The phenomenal teamup of Maine and Alden Richards, also known as AIDub, also topped Twitter’s most tweeted love team category.

AIDub defeated four Kapamilya love teams who made it to the Top 5 list, namely: Kathryn Bernardo and Daniel Padilla (KathNiel), James Reid and Nadine Lustre (JaDine), Liza Soberano and Enrique Gil (LizQuen), and Maymay Entrata and Edward Barber (MayWard).

Maine and Alden ranked number one and number two, respectively, in Twitter’s list of most tweeted Filipino accounts.

Phenomenal box-office star Vice Ganda was hailed as Twitter’s most followed Filipino account on the microblogging site.



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De Lima wants restos, fast-food chains to provide calorie count in menus

PHILIPPINES - A bill that requires restaurants and fast-food chains to display calorie-content and nutritional information in their menu to help curb obesity and improper diet among Filipinos was filed at the Senate, earlier this week

“Nutrient content information provided at the time of food selection in food service establishments would enable consumers to make more informed and healthier food choices, promote health awareness and proper dieting, and assist consumers who are monitoring their diets or dealing with chronic diseases, such as cardiovascular disease and diabetes,” Senator Leila de Lima said in a statement released, Friday.

Under Senate Bill 1621 or the “Nutritional Information Disclosure Act of 2017,” food providers will be mandated “to display calorie content information on the menus of away-from-home foods.”

Besides restaurants, food served in “salad bars, buffet lines, cafeteria lines or similar self-service facilities” should also display calorie-content information “clearly and conspicuously” on menu boards.

“The health conscious have to guess at the nutritional content of meals taken in restaurants. On the other hand, those who are less aware of the need for proper dieting are left unaware of the nutritional values that they intake,” De Lima said.

Under the proposed measure, operations of non-compliant food establishments will be suspended, while business owners will be fined P300,000 for the first violation, and P600,000 for the second violation.



CELEBRATE LOVE on VALENTINE with Martha Joy

February 10, 2018

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Kim wants her character killed + *other stories*



KIM Domingo confesses that her fight scenes as Avenir in “Super Ma’am” are so intense and demanding that there are times when she feels so tired and wants to give up. “Sabi ko, patayin na lang sana ang character ko, pero mabuti na lang at nandyan si Ate Marian (Rivera) to encourage me to go on,” she says. “Siya ang laging nagpapalakas ng loob ko at sinasabi sa aking kaya ko ang lahat. Mahirap lang sa umpisa, pero masasanay rin daw ako. Malaking bagay ‘yung nandyan siya to inspire me, cheer me up and boost my self confidence lalo na kapag sobrang pagod na ako at tinatamad nang mag-training for our action scenes.”

Kim is happy to be part of another comedy movie, “Barbi D’Wonder Beki”. “Riot ‘yung eksena namin dito ni Paolo Ballesteros na sine-seduce ko siya, without me knowing na bading pala siya.”

Going back to “Super Ma’am”, the show gets more intriguing and exciting with the addition of new characters who will play aswangs.

Anne’s friends urded to marry too

Because Anne Curtis has already tied the knot with Erwan Heussaff, some writers are now urging or making “buyo” to two couples who attended the nuptials in New Zealand to also walk down the aisle

soon: Luis Manzano and Jessy Mendiola, and Angel Locsin (one of Luis’ exes) and businessman-producer Neil Arce.

Luis is most especially singled out because his mom, Rep. Vilma Santos, has allegedly requested to give her an apo soon. Of course, both of these showbiz couples, are not biting. They both say they’re not in a hurry even if some of them are already in their mid-30s.



Psychics Galore

And because the recent collapse and subsequent death of Isabel Granada was hogging the headlines for a couple of weeks, now that she’s been laid to rest, you can expect occult stories of her making her presence felt to some people, including psychics who are actually the ones who want to make their presence felt in showbiz.

During the heydays of the late Ate Luds’ talk shows, after the death of celebrities, the next stories to come out will be their “pagpaparamdam” to their loved ones. And come next month, expect psychics, feng shui experts and fortune tellers to be on the limelight once again as the year ends and a new one is about to start when they make their predictions and give their advice to celebrities.

The Beautiful Lolas aim to scare and make people laugh

The Beautiful Lolas who gained their own loyal following in the hit Kalyeserye of “Eat Bulaga” now have their own movie, “Trip Ubusan, Lolas vs. Zombies”, which was obviously inspired by the Korean zombie movie, “Train to Busan”, which is a big hit worldwide.

“Noon pa nire-request ng fans ng mga lola na magka-movie sila,” says Jose Manalo who plays Lola Tinidora. “O heto,

sa wakas, napagbigyan na sila rito sa ‘Trip Ubusan, Lolas Vs. Zombies’ at opening na kami sa November 22.”

“Horror-comedy ito kaya tiyak na matatakot na, matatawa pa ang audiences,” adds Wally Bayola who plays Lola Nidora. “Directed ito by Mark Reyes at co-producers ang APT Entertainment ni Mr. Tony Tuviera at ng MZet Productions ni Bossing Vic Sotto. From start to finish, maraming mga eksenang mae-entertain and audience dito.”

PAOLO: ‘Di ako nagrereklamo

Paolo Ballesteros, who plays Lola Tidora, is so busy as he also has a film to open the following week, “Barbi, D’Wonder Beki”. “Sobrang nakakapagod maglagari kasi aside from these two movies, meron akong isa pang movie sa Viva, ‘Amnesia Love’, with Yam Concepcion,” he says. “Then we all know meron kaming ‘The Beautiful Lolas’ talk show every morning at ‘All for Juan’ pa sa ‘Eat Bulaga’ every afternoon naman.

Kaya talagang lagari ako from one set to another. Shooting dito, taping doon, and I do all my make up at wala akong driver so I drive my own car to and from each set, kaya pinaghihirapan ko sila talagang lahat.”

He has really experienced sleep deprivation these past couple of months. “May times na madaling araw na akong nakakaui at natutulog na lang ako nang naka-make up pa. Hindi ako nagrereklamo, ha. Sabi nga, make hay na lang while the sun shines. Nagpapasalamat na lang ako sa mga taong patuloy na nagbibigay ng tiwala sa akin. Nago-overlap nga ang promo ng two movies kong ‘Trip Ubusan’ at ‘Barbi, D’ Wonder Beki’ so sabay ko na lang silang pino-promote.”

In “Trip Ubusan”, which is a road trip movie, the Lolas are inside a big bus in the countryside when they encounter an attack of zombies.



Duterte threaten to arrest Left’s ‘legal fronts’

MANILA – President Rodrigo Duterte slammed the Left, threatening to arrest members of its “legal fronts” as its peace talks with the government collapsed.

“We will treat you as a criminal, period. We will arrest everybody connected and ang mga legal fronts nila.”

Duterte has been lashing out at left-leaning groups, saying in a speech on Tuesday that they “are in cahoots, in conspiracy with the armed NPAs (New People’s Army).”

The President issued the threat following the collapse of peace negotiations between the government and the National Democratic of the Philippines (NDFP).

Prior to the termination of talks, Duterte announced he would soon have the NPA declared as a terrorist group. The communist party’s armed wing has long been under the United States’ list of terrorist organizations.

Duterte, a former student of Communist Party of the Philippines founding chairman Jose Maria Sison, had sought to end the nearly 50-year communist insurgency early in his term. Government officials and NDFP negotiators had 4 rounds of talks in Europe, where Sison is based, before Duterte suspended the negotiations in May.

The talks were stalled following armed clashes between government troops and communist guerrillas.

Roque defends shoot-to-kill order vs armed rebels

MANILA - Presidential Spokesman Harry Roque defended President Duterte’s shoot-to-kill order against armed communist rebels following the collapse of peace negotiations between the government and the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP).

Duterte orders cops, soldiers to shoot armed NPA rebels

Roque said the President’s order was very clear that government forces will only shoot armed members of the communist underground.

“Ano naman ang bago diyan? E di ba krimen ang rebellion? Atsaka meron tayong batas na umiiral pag meron labanan, yan po ang international humanitarian law..Kapag meron digmaan, lahat ng kasapi sa digmaan ay pupwedeng barilin. Alangan naman sambahin natin ang armadong NPA at sabihin ‘Mahal ka namin’ samantalang siya’y in the process na nag-aalsa at gumagamit ng dahas para mapatalsik ang ating gobyerno,” Roque told radio DZMM.

“Hindi po lahat ng tao ay babarilin. Siyempre yung mga kasapi lamang sa nagaganap na rebelyon sa ating bayan,’ he added.

He said there has been no letup in the communist rebels’ attacks on soldiers and civilians, which prompted the cancellation of peace negotiations.

Solon asks SC to nullify 5-year driver’s license

MANILA - A lawmaker filed with the Supreme Court (SC) a second petition that seeks to stop the implementation of the P836-million Land Transportation Office (LTO) 5-year driver’s license cards project.

Lawmaker Aniceto Bertiz of ACTS OFW Party-list alleged that the project is unconstitutional because it was publicly bidded out despite the absence of legally appropriated funds under the national budget. Bertiz cited that under the Constitution, “[n]o money shall be paid

out of the Treasury except in pursuance of an appropriation made by law.”

“There is no existing or continuing appropriations for purposes of the expenditure for the Procurement of Drivers’ License Cards With Five Year Validity CY (Calendar Year) 2017 since Congress has not enacted a law authorizing the expenditure in the form of an existing or continuing appropriation,” the petition read.

The project was awarded on March 31,

2017 to the joint venture of Dermalog with Nextix and CFP with a bid amount of P829.668 million.

The lawmaker also alleged that the public bidding was “rigged and manipulated.” On May 26, 2017, a similar petition was filed before the High Court by the Anti-Trapo Movement of the Philippines, Inc., which alleged the contract was awarded to the joint venture “in clear violation of existing procurement laws.”

Star Entertainment sings at Air Canada centre



Star Circle Entertainment students with vocalegacy6 get to sing the Canadian and American national anthems at the NBA games at Air Canada Centre.

New terror leaders emerging after Marawi war

Rewards being given for capture of leaders



Marawi City is left with destroyed and damaged buildings and houses after 100 days of intense fighting between government troops and ISIS-Maute gunmen.

MARAWI CITY - New terror leaders have begun to emerge one month after fighting between government forces and Islamic State-inspired extremists here ended, a military official said.

These include Malaysian Amin Baco alias Abu Akmad, whom authorities said could succeed Abu Sayyaf leader Isnilon Hapilon and Maute group leader Omar Maute, who were both killed in the 5-month long conflict.

However, Baco's condition is unclear. Troops are matching DNA samples from bodies retrieved from Marawi with those taken from the suspect's relatives, said Col. Romeo Brawner, deputy commander of Joint Task Force Lanao.

Aside from Baco, 4 other Filipinos are emerging as terror leaders, the military said. "Sila yung mga leaders sa sususnod na grupo ng terorista that is why kailangan ng information galing sa mamamayan," Brawner said.

(They are the emerging terrorist leaders, that is why we ended information from the people.)

Owayda Benito Marohomsar, alias Abu Dar, has a reward of P3 million and was last seen a week ago in the suburbs of Balindong and Piagapo in Lanao del Sur.

Intelligence sources said Abu Dar left the main battle area during the early parts of the siege to guard the huge sums of gold and money that they looted.

"Sa aming reports sya ang isa sa mga recruiters ngayon sa paligid ng Lanao del Sur," said Brawner.

(Based on our reports, he is the one recruiting in Lanao del Sur.)

Also on the most wanted list is Ali

Amintao, alias White Lawaan, who also has P3-million reward. He is believed to be one of the financiers of the Maute group and is continuing to support Abu Dar and other terror groups.

Another suspect, Zacaria Romato, alias Zacariah, is the uncle of the Maute brothers who has his own men that joined forces with the extremist group during the Marawi siege. He carries a P2-million bounty.

A P1-million reward was put up against Najib Calimba Pundog, a foreign-trained terrorist and one of the closest allies of Omar Maute.

Sources said he was the one responsible for taking over the V150 Special Forces tank that was burned during the height of the war. He was also said to be active in recruiting youth and child warriors.

Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao Assemblyman Zia Alonto Adiong proposed arming the Baranggay Peacekeeping Action Team of each municipality to help law enforcers.

The military's Task Force Lanao advised the public to report information on the terror suspects to the following hotlines: 0945-318-5006 and 0929-495-4906.

Presidential Spokesman Harry Roque, in his briefing in Marawi, said charges have already been filed against 37 Maute members who have been arrested.

He said a special panel of investigators was created by the Department of Justice to investigate the Maute group's offenses.

"Some cases being investigated include killing, kidnapping for ransom, cruel and inhumane treatment, including cases of beheadings and recruitment of children as combatants," Roque said.

DOH chief says 'it is now all systems go' for distribution of contraceptives

MANILA, Philippines — The Roman Catholic-majority Philippines will re-allow the use of contraceptive implants after certifying 51 drugs and devices safe and not the cause of abortions, the health department announced on Thursday.

Congress passed a law allowing contraceptive devices in 2012 but the Supreme Court imposed a restraining order in 2015 after bishops said some drugs and devices caused abortions.

Abortion, divorce and same-sex union are not allowed in the Philippines and some lawmakers oppose artificial methods of family planning. Pills and condoms are sold freely.

"With the Food and Drug Administration's issuance of an advisory declaring all of the 51 contraceptive products ... cannot cause abortion, it is



now all systems go for the Department of Health to fully implement the law," Health Secretary Francisco Duque told reporters.

Hunk Shot



Nicolò is 16 yrs old and studies at Notre Dame Catholic Secondary school. He plays basketball and likes everything computer-related. He wants to be an IT professional or a professional basketball player. He is the son of Banj and Leslie Calma Ruiz. We wish him all the luck in his endeavours.

Nicolò Ruiz

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Science Confirms: Intelligent People Go To Bed Late, Leave A Mess Everywhere, And Use Bad Language

Highly intelligent people view the world differently from the average IQ people. What scientists have managed to find out about intelligent people is that the higher their IQ, the less they are concerned about many everyday things that seem to occupy most of the people, such as tidiness, 'watching their language' and going to bed on time.

1. They swear like sailors
The common presumption when a person is swearing is that they are not intelligent enough to engage in proper communication and compensate with swearing. However, a recent study shows that the ability to generate swear words is closely linked to high vocabulary rate and fluency. This debunks the idea that low fluency is correlated and dependent on swearing. On the contrary - swearing and slurs are dependent on high fluency and vocabulary - something highly intelligent people possess without doubt.

2. They are night owls from an early age
In a study, it was shown that the higher the IQ of a person, the later they tend to go to bed. The study showed that "more intelligent children grow up to be more nocturnal as adults than less intelligent children." The results showed that children with IQ of less than 75 tend to go to bed at around 23:41 on weeknights in early adulthood and children with IQ of more than 125 go to bed at around 00:29.

3. They live in their organized chaos
It turns out that creative people have messy desks by default and if you put a person in a messy environment, they will generate more creative ideas. A messy environment also correlates to breaking free from conventional thinking and attitude and thus the ability to create new concepts about many things we take for granted.

So next time you see an intelligent person, feel free to imagine them late at night on their messy desks, swearing like sailors while working out their creative ideas into reality.

Entertainment

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Ruru's Career on a Roll + other stories



RURU Madrid's career is on a roll these days. He just won his first acting award at the recent PMPC TV Awards as best actor for his performance as Ybarro in "Encantadia". And now, after supporting Dingdong Dantes in Book 2 of "Alyas Robin Hood", he's being launched to full stardom in a new primetime soap, tentatively titled "K9 Detective" as he will have a canine friend in the story. He's also part of the Vic Sotto-Dawn Zulueta Metro Filmfest entry this Christmas, "Meant to Beh".

"Sobrang dami ng blessings," he says. "I remember when I was chosen to play Ybarro, ang daming tumutol, na-bash ako nang husto, pero heto, dahil sa role na 'yun, nanalo ako ng unang acting award ko kaya salamat sa pamba-bash nyo, na-inspire ako to prove myself. Salamat din sa GMA Artist Center at sa handler ko, sa manager kong si Direk Maryo de los Reyes, at ang mentor ko noon sa 'Protege' na si Phillip Salvador na malaki talaga ang naitulong para magpursigi ako pagbutihan ang craft ko."

He won as best actor in a tie with Dingdong Dantes for "Alyas Robin Hood". How does it feel? "Naku, napakalaking karangalang manalo akong kasama si Kuya Dingdong kasi idol ko talaga siya ever since. Sabay pa nga kaming umakyat on stage to get our trophies. Napakabait na tao niya at matulungin sa isang baguhang gaya ko. Napatunayan ko 'yan after makasama ko siya sa 'Alyas Robin Hood'. So proud akong nang manalo ako, tie kaming dalawa."

And how does he feel that he's just the second choice for his new show as it was first offered to Alden Richards? "Naku, nang mabalitaan ko 'yan, ang laki talaga ng pasasalamat kong sa akin ito ipinagkatiwala ng GMA kasi si Alden, Alden Richards

na 'yun. I'm just so happy and thankful na sa'kin napunta ang ganito kalaking project. Para i-offer nila sa'kin 'yung show na unang kinonsider si Alden, talagang sobrang na-excite ako. Ang laking blessing nito at napi-feel kong simula ito ng isang bago at magandang chapter sa career ko."

Ruru is reunited with his ka-loveteam, Gabbi Garcia, in his new show, but off cam, he's currently being linked to Asia's Next Top Model winner Maureen Wroblewitz.

Sylvia gets new chance to prove her worth as a 'mother'

SYLVIA Sanchez' career got a big boost when she did the afternoon drama, "The Greatest Love", for which her crackerjack performance as a martyr mother suffering from Alzheimer's disease just won her the PMPC best actress award. And she now plays the lead in a new soap, "Hanggang Saan" (formerly titled "All That Matters"), and also in a new movie from Regal, "Mama's Girl", where she plays Sofia Andres' doting mother.

"2017 is really a good year for me sa dami ng magandang projects na dumating sa akin," she says. "I thank the Lord for all the blessings at sana magtuluy-tuloy hanggang sa darating na taon."

Sylvia gets to work with eldest son Arjo Atayde as Paco in "Hanggang Saan", a family drama about a caring mother, Sylvia as Sonya, who will do anything and everything for the welfare of her children.

"After my role as Gloria in 'The Greatest Love', na blessing talaga dahil hindi ko inakalang at my age, magiging bida pa ako sa teleserye, I thought mahihirapan akong makakuha uli ng isang bagong matinding role but heto, dumating si Sonya, at nagpapasalamat uli ako sa ABS-CBN sa panibagong tiwalang ibinigay nila sa akin," says Sylvia.

Does she feel any pressure with "Hanggang Saan" since "Greatest Love" seems like a tough act to follow? "Siyempre, oo, kasi very successful ang 'Greatest Love'. But more than the pressure, I'm thrilled and

excited na ipakilala si Sonya in 'Hanggang Saan' sa viewers. Iba siya kay Gloria kasi I make sure iniba-iba ko ang body language at mannerisms ko sa bawat role na ginagampanan ko. Dito, pati lakad ko, ginawa kong parang lalake."

She stresses that Gloria and Sonya are two different faces of a mother. "Nagtitiwala akong si Sonya ang bagong ina na mamahalin ng viewers dahil sa mga ginagawa niyang pagpapakasakit at pagsasakripisyo para sa mga anak niya. Ipapakita niya kung hanggang saan ang makakayang gagawin ng isang ina para proteksyunan ang kanyang mga anak. Natitiyak kong tatatak din si Sonya sa puso't isipan ng viewers gaya ni Gloria. Masarap ding katrabaho lahat ng artistang kasama sa ensemble dito kasi lahat, magaling, may effort to cooperate and contribute to make sure na mapapaganda namin ang aming bagong show."

"Hanggang Saan" is directed by Jeffrey Jeturian and Mervyn Brondial and the huge supporting cast includes Ariel Rivera, Teresa Loyzaga, Sue Ramirez, Yves Flores, Maris Racal, Marlo Mortel, Nikko Natividad, Rommel Padilla, Nanding Josef, Anna Luna, Mercedes Cabral, Junjun Quintana, Jenny Miller, Rubi Rubi, Viveika Ravanese, Sharmaine Suarez, Ces Quesada, Arnold Reyes, Maila Gumila and child star Luke Alford as the young Arjo. It will start airing on November 27 replacing "The Promise of Forever".

Second Hand Stories

IT'S customary now for a lot of showbiz writers to depend on the social media accounts of celebrities to get news stories they can write about in their entertainment pages. Parang nangangahoy sila sa Instagram, Twitter and Facebook, then quote the stories of the stars and copy and paste the pictures posted by celebrities on their columns or pages.

We really don't know how effective or worthwhile this is, because if we're the reader, then we'd rather not read these second hand stories on newspaper columns. We'll prefer to just go directly to the primary source and read the actual accounts of movie stars in their Instagram, Twitter or Facebook walls. You get first hand, direct information pa and not mere hearsay. What do you think?

FIGHTING FOR CAREGIVERS continued from page 1

residents being admitted, the Caregivers category is the sole group to actually decrease over the duration of this plan,' the Senator continued.

"More troubling than this fact is the statistics that accompany it. In 2018, the government's target number for Caregivers is 17,000. This number decreases to 14,000 in 2019. By 2020, this number will plummet to a mere 5,000. To put this into context, under this plan, the number of Caregivers coming to Canada will decrease by more than 72% in just two years. I will continue to fight for Caregivers and highlight their importance here in Canada," the Senator concluded.

The 2018 multi-year Immigration Levels Plan was announced by the Liberal government on November 1, 2017. The Economic category will see a total increase



of 7,300 permanent residents over two years, as every other Economic category will see their numbers boosted during this period. This increase for the Economic class exists after accounting for the decrease of 12,000 Caregivers over this same two year period.

Except for Caregivers, every other category within the Economic; Family; Refugees and Protected Persons; and Humanitarian and Other categories will see their numbers increase or, in one case, maintain its base level.

Candid SPOOF

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



Dolorosa Canada president Philip Beloso takes care of the Christmas celebration.

Gabi ng Pasasalamat honors local Talents

As TFC Canada continues to celebrate its 10th anniversary this year, they had their final event for the year entitled, GABI NG PASASALAMAT: A Kapamilya Thanksgiving show held on Saturday, November 18,

2017 at the Global Kingdom Ministries, 1250 Markham Road, Scarborough, ON. It was an evening that celebrated the community through its local talents, mother heroes and our commitment to public

service.
Former Vice President Noli (Boy) De

PASASALAMAT
continued on page 9



FIRST, Winners Candace Santos and Shairah Garrido display their trophies. SECOND, Ginger Conejero, Xian Lim and Ahwel Paz entertain the crowd. THIRD, TFC Marketing Manager Rosary Escano pose with Toronto Mayor John Tory. FOURTH, Shairah Garrido pose with her trophy.



LEFT, Keeana Cerezo, Philip Beloso, Miss Teen Canada Petite Ansha Joy Hipolito and Alyssa Grace pose at the show (PHOTO BY NOLI GUMAPAC). ABOVE, Candace Santos pose with the ABS stars. RIGHT ABOVE, Ryan Orlanda, Winnie Cordero, Joy D'Aoust, FV Foods' Mel Galeon and Bong Castillo pose for the camera. RIGHT, ABS star Xian Lim pose with FV Foods' Mel Galeon FAR RIGHT, FV Foods' Mel Galeon pose with Ginger Conejero.

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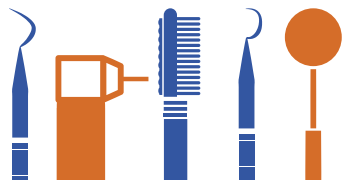


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