



{ **NEW Kapuso Loveteam?** *Andre & Klea*

ANNULMENT OK

PHILIPPINES - The House of Representatives has approved a proposed law that eliminates the costly judicial process for marriage annulment.

Under the bill, marriage annulments

ANNULMENT
continued on page 25

JADINE MOVIE 'NEVER NOT LOVE YOU' not happening?

Am- **FILIPINO** Star in **HOLLYWOOD**

Dengue Vaccine Side Effects Blown out of proportion



This photo, taken on April 4, 2016, shows a nurse showing vials of the dengue vaccine Dengvaxia, developed by French medical giant Sanofi Pasteur, during a vaccination program at an elementary school in Metro Manila.

A group of physicians and scientists has issued a statement expressing dismay at how the controversy surrounding the anti-dengue Dengvaxia vaccine has started to "erode" public confidence in the country's vaccination programs.

The statement, which was emailed to media outfits, was signed by 58 doctors, including former Health secretaries Esparanza Cabral and Manuel Dayrit.

"The unnecessary fear and panic, largely brought about by the imprudent language and unsubstantiated accusations by persons whose qualifications to render any expert opinion on the matter are questionable, at best, have caused many parents to resist having their children avail of life saving vaccines that our government gives," the statement read.

"Even deworming efforts are being met with suspicion and resistance, with many parents afraid to give consent; all because of the misinformation that has been allowed to take hold of the collective psyche," the group said.

DENGUE VACCINE
continued on page 26

Versace Assassination TV Show

PEOPLE Who use EMOJIS a LOT have More SEX

VICE President OFFICE will Disappear

FILIPINOS 4th year TOP longest on PORNHUB

WHY showbiz need GOOD KONTRABIDAS

SEX reduce STRESS

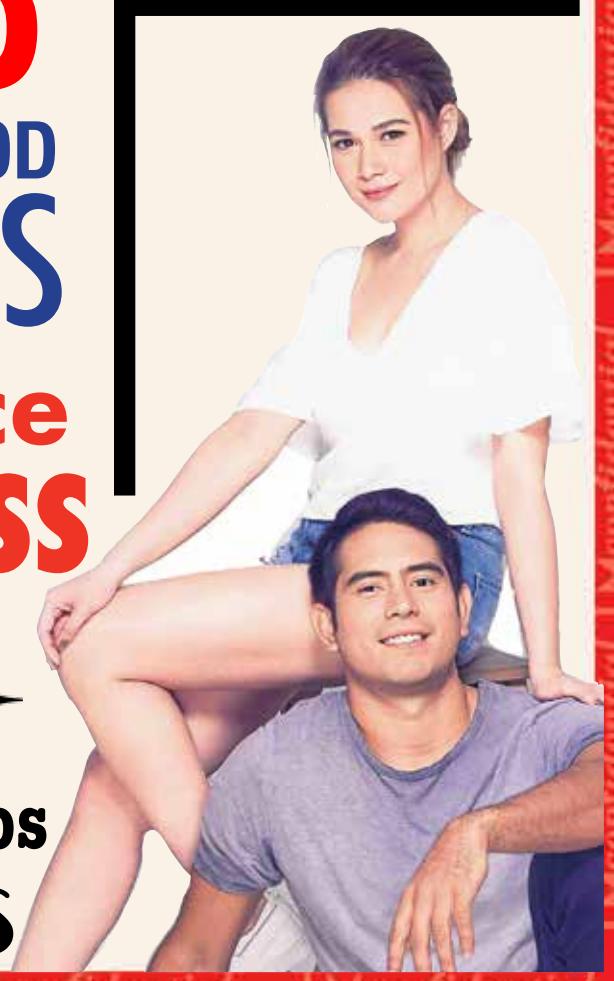
GERALD ANDERSON defines **SEXY**
and life with *Bea Alonzo*

US MAGAZINE says Charo Santos 'snubbed' by Oscars



Binibining Pilipinas

Binibining Pilipinas contestants like Agatha Romero (TOP) and crossover beauty queen Catriona Gray (ABOVE) are ready to represent the Philippines.





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'Fatty' Pinoy food has a place in 'Glee' star Darren Criss' heart

What's the best way to celebrate the premiere of your new show?

If you ask Darren Criss, the "Glee" star whose mother is from Cebu, the answer is to indulge one's craving for Filipino food.

The Hollywood actor shared his love for the cuisine he grew up with in an interview on "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" this Friday (JAN 12), namedropping his favorite Pinoy restaurant in Los Angeles.

"Tuesday morning (JAN 9), I said to my mom, 'Let's go get some fatty, unhealthy Filipino food,' as you do when you want to celebrate and you're half-Filipino," he quipped.

He then mentioned LA Rose Cafe Hollywood, a restaurant established by Lemuel Balagot in 1982, before saying: "I go there all the time. It's very, very Filipino."

"The guy that runs the place will give you a hard time if you don't finish your food, like a real Filipino uncle," he added.

Criss was on "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" to promote his new show, "The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story."

Xian parts ways with Star Magic, costars with Sarah

After almost 10 years with ABS-CBN's talent management arm, Star Magic, Xian Lim has transferred to Viva Entertainment. As part of his five-year management contract with Viva, the 28-year-old actor-singer will do 10 films and record albums.

"We're excited to work with Xian. He's a talented actor and singer with so much potential," Viva's corporate communications head Baby Gil said in a text message to the Inquirer.

The actor's first project with Viva is the coming local movie adaptation of the Korean comedy-drama "Miss Granny," which costars Sarah Geronimo and James Reid, with Joyce Bernal at the helm. "Xian will be Sarah's love interest in the movie," Gil disclosed.

Maine Mendoza says sorry for accidentally unfollowing Alden Richards on Instagram

Humingi ng paumanhin si Maine Mendoza sa kanyang fans matapos kumalat ang balitang in-unfollow niya ang ka-love team na si Alden Richards sa Instagram. Napindot lang daw niya ito at hindi sinasadya.

Maraming AlDub fans ang nalungkot dahil sa pag-unfollow ni Maine Mendoza sa ka-love team na si Alden Richards sa Instagram kagabi, January 29.

Kaugnay nito, nag-post naman si Alden sa kanyang Instagram story ng salitang "clueless."

Ngunit binura rin ito kaagad ng Kapuso actor. Nakarating na kay Maine ang kaguluhang nilikha ng kanyang pag-unfollow kay Alden sa Instagram, at kaagad siyang humingi ng paumanhin.

Nilinaw ng phenomenal star na hindi niya ito sinasadya.

Makikita rin sa kanyang Instagram na muli niyang finollow ang Instagram account ni Alden.

Honey Shot

Celine Grey



Beautiful, tall and talented, Celine can sing and dance. She was one of the performers at the Lions fundraising concert last year. Being beautiful, she is also a beauty titlist. This girl is the complete package. She can also do hosting duties. To celine, we wish her all the luck in her endeavours.



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Remember Joyce Jimenez?

Joyce Jimenez enjoys quiet life with husband and two kids in California: “It’s a 180-degree change but it’s the best change ever!”

Naging matunog ang pangalang Joyce Jimenez noong 90s at early 2000s dahil sa kanyang pinagbidahang sexy films.



Unang nakilala si Joyce Jimenez, o Joyce Reintegrado sa totoong buhay, sa mundo ng showbiz bilang isang sexy star. Binansagan din siya noong bilang

domestic life. Kinumusta ni Mr. Lo ang buhay ni Joyce sa Amerika bilang isang domesticated na maybahay na malayo sa buhay niya noon bilang isang sikat na artista.

“Iba, sobrang sobrang iba!

“Pero kahit naman noon na I was living in the Philippines, I didn’t really naman go out, I wasn’t really like a party-party girl.

“So it’s a nice quiet life that I enjoy, it’s different, its quiet, but it’s great! I mean it changes you. It’s a 180-degree change but it’s the best change ever!”

Spoiled raw si Joyce ng kanyang mister.

“Yes! He’s a very good provider and he’s really good to me.”

Blessed with two girls, pangarap daw ni Paul na magkaroon sila ng baby boy or at least two more kids.

At kung si Paul ang masusunod, papayagan ba niya na balikan ni Joyce ang showbiz career nito?

“Of course! You know if the opportunity is right, yeah! Why not? “I would love to!”

Nami-miss na raw ni Joyce ang Pilipinas.

“It’s been a while since I’ve been back there. Sana puwede akong bumalik doon within the year. I’m really hoping but oh, I miss everyone there! I wish I was there.”

Being a starlet to being a mama was a difficult shift “Iba, kasi you went from everyone doing things for me, to me doing everything for someone else.”

‘Pantasya ng Bayan.’ Married ten years to Paul Ely Egbalic, Joyce is now a mom to Jorja Ely, Jaysen Elise at Julian Elysson. At the peak of her showbiz career, Joyce chose

She unexpectedly vanished from the limelight. Joyce decided to settle down in 2008 with her Fil-Am companion, United States airforce soldier Paul Ely Egbalic.

Daniel Padilla can’t wait to become a vampire in ‘La Luna Sangre’

MANILA, Philippines — “Malapit-lapit na ang katapusan ng ‘La Luna Sangre’,” “Teen King” Daniel Padilla declared in a recent interview with the press.

“Ang tagal narin kasi eh. Magwa-one year na,” Daniel said.

For him, it is all right to put an end on his prime time series with love team partner Kathryn Bernardo, even if it still tops the charts.

“Okay na siguro kasi na-strech na rin ‘yung storya,” he enthused.

He admitted that he cannot anymore wait to show people what will happen to Tristan, his character, in the story.

Daniel revealed that he will become a vampire in the series.

“Kahit ako ito hinihintay ko na maging bampira na ko eh. Medyo ang tagal ko nang naging tao,” he said with a laugh.



In “La Luna Sangre,” Daniel can be seen wearing shades a lot, so he is ecstatic DJR, to be wearing pieces from a collection he personally co-designed with i2i New York own-ers, husband and wife tandem of Ricco and Tina Ocampo.

“High school pa lang ako, mahilig na ko magsuot ng salamin,” shared Daniel, whose set of hip and on-trend yet inexpensive sunglasses was inspired by his music influences and Hollywood idols like Johnny Depp, Robert Downey Jr., and John Lennon.

If he were to become a real vampire, who would he like to bite first?

During a “La Luna Sangre” press con, he said without thinking twice: “Si Kath, siyempre!”

Marian Rivera to focus on daughter Zia after Super Ma’am stint

Marian Rivera reveals “resolutions” for 2018: “Siyempre una palagi para sa anak namin.”

Dahil 2018 na, tinanong namin si Marian Rivera kung may New Year’s resolution siya.

Lahad niya, “Actually, every... pagka natatapos ang taon, nagde-date kami ng asawa ko.

“Katulad nito, siyempre ang tagal ng itinakbo ng Super Ma’am, instead of three months, naging six months kami.

“After ng Super Ma’am gagawa kami ng program, yung swimming lessons niya masasamahan ko na,” kuwento niya.

GROWING UP FAST. Patuloy pang nagkuwento si Marian tungkol sa two-year old daughter nila ng mister niyang si Dingdong Dantes.

“E, sabi ni Dong sinama niya sa gym,



nagbububuhay yung anak ko! “Mga ten seconds daw ang kaya, hindi nakabitaw,” pagtukoy ni Marian sa paglambitin ni Zia sa monkey bars ng gym.

“Sabi ko, ‘Ah, baka puwedeng maging gymnastics ang sports niya.’

JOINING SHOWBIZ? tanong kung pag-aartistahin nila si Zia, ayaw daw sana ni Marian, pero ipinaliwanag din naman niya ng hindi nila ito mapipigilan kung sakali mang dumating ang panahong gustuhin yun ng kanilang unica hija.

“Naku, kung anuman ang gusto niya sa buhay niya ang usapan namin ng tatay niya kailangan makatapos muna siya, parang ako.

Dog to help Ruru push his career

DOGS are said to be ‘man’s best friend. In fact, years ago, a pet dog named Brownie saved us from burning. Many other people have good memories about their own pet dogs. In the movies, Liz Taylor had a fave pet dog named Lassie and even Thalia, the Mexican TV icon gave us awesome memories in the tele-serye Mari-Mar with a dog named Fulgoso.

On the 29th of this month after “24 Oras” on GMA7, a new primetime TV series titled “Sherlock Jr.” hopes to bring young actor Ruru Madrid to greater heights as he stars along with a clever dog named Serena. It is sure to excite dog lovers with a trick or two



to show everybody-- children, women, men, young and old alike. Majority of the cast during its press launching swore to love dogs: Gabbi Garcia, Tonton Gutierrez, Andre Paras, Sharmaine Arnaiz, Matt Evans. Kate Valdez and Alyana Asistio.

Ruru, for his part, had an aversion to dogs but when he got to interact with Serena, his passion for having pet dogs simply returned.

This makes director Rechie del Carmen’s job easier as she finds Ruru to be a humble and hard working young man.

Maja Salvador reveals romance with high school Friend

Maja Salvador admitted that she is currently dating a non-showbiz guy, whom she first met when she was still in high school. Maja only gave a few hints about his identity, but it appears that things are going really well for the Wildflower star and her new romance.

But why haven’t they been spotted together yet? She explained, “Lumalabas kami, pero siguro kasi sanay na ‘yung tao na nandun siya sa group ko kasi magkaibigan na kami for fifteen years.”

All she’s willing to divulge now is that she finds it better to be dating a non-showbiz guy this time around.

She pointed out, “Okay kasi iba ‘yung foundation. ‘Yung friendship buong-buo.

“Kung anong nangyayari sa mundo niya, nangyayari sa mundo ko. Maraming napag-uusapan.

“Fifteen years na magkaibigan, so kabisado namin ang isa’t isa.”

This is also why, according to Maja, her mystery man has no problems adjusting to her celebrity status.

So how does she balance her time for career and love?

Smiling, Maja replied, Kung masugid naman

yung love life mo, wala namang problema dun, kasi meron at merong time.

“Pag bata ka kasi, hindi mo talaga alam ibalanse ang lahat, e.

“Or tayo, nagpo-focus kasi talaga tayo ‘dun sa ‘yung tingin natin dito tayo magiging successful. Pero siguro pag naaral niyo na ‘yun, kung saan ka masaya, kung saan ka magiging successful...

“Hindi lang kasi dapat yun ang iniisip natin, ang pagiging successful.

“Kung saan tayo magiging happy, hindi lang ‘yung sarili mo; ‘yung meron ka ring peace of mind, ‘yung puso mo masaya.

“Pag nagamay mo na ‘yun lahat, magiging maganda ‘yung flow ng lahat.”

Maja’s last high-profile relationship was with Gerald Anderson. They were together for two years before parting ways in April 2015.



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Nadine Lustre to
Direct Short Film



Multimedia Princess Nadine Lustre dropped a bomb when she directed James Reid's music video for "The Life".

Nadine's directorial debut was so good that it now has 700K+ views on YouTube!

However, directing shouldn't be too hard for her. She studied film back in college and now, she's applying what she learned. 2018 is a year to boost JaDine's artistry. Aside from her album and movies, Nadine is planning to focus on directing.

She shared, "This year, 'yun talaga 'yung goal ko. Magsa-start ako sa mga music videos and then hopefully, short film by the end of the year. Sana. Short films or 'yung mga online series, ganun. Kasi gusto ko talaga."

James was all praises for Nadine as a director.

ASAP Chillout host Alex Gonzaga asked him how Nadine is as a director.

He answered, "Magaling siya. She knows the shots that she wants. She's the one that's aligning the camera, "I want the shots to be like this", "I want this in the camera", and everything."

"She's very hands-on," he continued.

Host Maris Racal commented that Nadine has the director's eye.

York Region officer guilty of
dangerous driving causing death

A Toronto jury has convicted a York Regional Police officer of dangerous driving causing death after a third trial.

A York Regional Police officer who killed a pedestrian while speeding on a Toronto street has been found guilty of dangerous driving causing death after standing trial in front of a jury for a third time.

Det.-Const. Remo Romano was on duty and driving an undercover pickup truck as part of a surveillance team when he hit Natasha Carla Abogado as she crossed St. Clair Ave. E. at around 8 p.m. on Feb. 12, 2014.

Court was told Romano was travelling 115 kilometres per hour in a 60-km zone, trying to catch up to and assist other members of his team.

The latest Superior Court jury deliberated for about eight hours before delivering the guilty verdict Wednesday afternoon.

It was the third time the case was argued in front of a jury, each with different outcomes.

In May 2016 a jury was unable to come to a unanimous verdict, resulting in a mistrial. A different jury acquitted him at a retrial in September 2016. The Crown filed an appeal, arguing the judge had improperly instructed the jury.

Last fall, the Ontario Court of Appeal ordered a new trial finding the second trial judge "made irrelevant and adverse comments" about the victim's conduct during his charge to the jury.

The trial judge had asked the jury to consider that the 18-year-old victim was jaywalking and described it as an "inherently risky activity," and that "pedestrians must be aware, when they jaywalk, that



drivers are not always paying attention, not always concentrating on what is going on ahead of them."

Those statements diverted the jury's attention away from the main issue of

whether or not Romano's driving was, in fact, dangerous, the appellate court said.

Because of that direction, the prosecution in the latest trial focused the evidence almost entirely on the manner of Romano's driving.

Wednesday's jury verdict exposes the criminal justice system as a "crapshoot," said Bill MacKenzie, Romano's lawyer.

"How else do you explain how one jury not being able to decide a case, another jury acquitting, and the third jury saying guilty all on the same presentation of facts," he said. "While I have the greatest respect for the jury system, I'm at a loss to understand what happened."

He added his client, a father of five who is in his mid-40s, is "absolutely devastated."

A York Regional Police spokesperson wrote in an email that Romano has been on administrative duties since the charges were laid and that will continue until all criminal proceedings have concluded.

An internal review will also wait until the case has concluded, including the 30-day appeal period.

Romano will be back in court March 14 to set a date for sentencing.



INVITATION

To all Bicolanos and Bicolanas (Devotees to the Virgin of Penafrancia) The 2nd. month Novena Devotions to the Virgin of Penafrancia will be on February 18, 2018, Sunday. (3rd. Sunday of February 2018)

NOTE : Feast Day Celebrations will be on the 3rd Saturday of September. (September 15, 2018.) With Fluvial Parade at the Bluffers Lake.

This month's Novena Devotions:

Date: February 18, 2018, 3rd Sunday of February

Place: Our Lady of Assumption Church (OLA) 2565 Bathurst St. Toronto

Time : 1:30 pm Devotion starts Rosary, Novena to the Virgin of Pinafrancia, Holy Mass. Refreshments, Kumustahan at the Church Hall.

Sponsors for this month - Devotees of the Virgin of Penafrancia from The Sorsogon and Masbate c/o : Sorsogon - Toti and Nati Gutierrez, Tel# 416 751-9437 • Masbate - Michelle Serano, Tel # 416 988-9613 We encourage all bicolanos to attend and participate in the sponsorship of this novena to the Virgin, for abundant blessings for all the provinces of the Bicol Region especially for the province of ALBAY.

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

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90% of Filipinos covered by health insurance

Labor questions lack of workers’ representation in PhilHealth

MANILA, Philippines — Most or 90 percent of Filipinos are now covered by social health insurance, the Department of Health (DOH) reported.

Health Secretary Francisco Duque III said the DOH through PhilHealth provided health insurance coverage to 91 percent of the country’s total population and paid out a total of P361 million “Z benefit” claims in 2017.

Duque said the Z benefit package covers peritoneal dialysis, coronary artery bypass graft surgery, breast cancer surgery, kidney transplantation and ventricular septal defect surgery.

In 2017, Duque said about 1.33 million

poor patients were provided medical assistance amounting to P3.71 billion, while 1.48 million received free medicine for hypertension, diabetes, stroke and other diseases.

Duque said the DOH ended 2017 on a positive. “We will aim once again to regain the trust of our people through integrity and good governance in 2018,” Duque said.

As this developed, organized labor questioned what it called lack of workers’ representation in PhilHealth. Federation of Free Workers (FFW) president Sonny Matula said PhilHealth approved a 25 percent increase in contribution without

consulting the labor group as required under the Labor Code. “The arbitrary increase is a violation of Article 218 of Labor Code which requires workers’ participation in policy and decision making processes, including consultations on matters affecting their rights, benefits and welfare,” Matula said in a statement.

Matula said trade unions were not consulted on the increase while workers also remain unrepresented in the board of PhilHealth and other tripartite bodies.

Matula said labor groups have been requesting the President to review the appointments in tripartite bodies.

US study: Nearly 9 out of 10 Filipinos think news are reported accurately

MANILA—Many Filipinos, in fact a good majority of them according to an international study, believe news media outlets are fair and accurate in their reporting.

Based on a report published by the Pew Research Center titled “Publics Globally Want Unbiased News Coverage, but Are

Divided on Whether Their News Media Deliver,” 86% of those surveyed said news is reported accurately while 78% thought political issues are covered fairly in the Philippines.

Meanwhile, 83% think that Philippine news media outlets do well reporting about government leaders and officials, while 87%

think the same when it comes to reporting the most important news events.

Thirty-eight countries were covered in the study.

According to the Pew report, 86% of Filipinos said they follow national news, 49% of which follow such reports “very closely.”

ANDANAR: Firms from Japan, Korea, Taiwan keen to be third telco

MANILA— Big Japanese, Taiwanese and Korean companies are interested in becoming the third telecommunications player in the Philippines, Communications Secretary Martin Andanar said.

The Department of Information and Communications Technology last week said 32 firms were eligible to become the challenger to PLDT Inc and Globe Telecom. Among these firms are KDDI Corp of Japan, South Korea’s LG Uplus and an unnamed Taiwanese firm, said Andanar.

The government, however, was not interested in working for a fourth telco to enter the market, he said.

“We have to take into consideration the size of the Philippine market,” Andanar told DZMM radio.

“Palagay ko hanggang third player lang eh, para maging at least lucrative yung merkado ng Pilipinas for these telcos.”

(I think a third player is enough, so that at least the Philippine market remains lucrative for these telcos.)

He said the government expects interested companies to finish submitting their terms of reference by February 19, with the open bidding to begin by March.

China Telecom and Philippine Telegraph & Telephone Corp have both expressed interest in setting up the third player, according to Malacañang.

PLDT and Globe Telecom continue to dominate industry after San Miguel Corp backed out last year and sold its telecommunications assets to the 2 players.

Filipinos top Pornhub’s ‘most time spent’ list again

For the 4th straight year, Pornhub stats show that Filipinos spend the most time on the world’s biggest porn site

MANILA, Philippines – Pornhub, the world’s biggest porn site, revealed that for the 4th straight year, Filipinos spend the most time on the site in 2017, data released by the site showed. Filipinos spent 13 minutes and 28 seconds on the average, representing a 43-second increase from the previous year’s results, which coincides with the 23-second increase to the global average of 9 minutes and 59 seconds. The Philippines’ average visiting time is

higher by around 3 1/2 minutes than the global average. Other countries with a higher-than-the-global-average visiting time are South Africa, USA, Canada, Argentina, the United Kingdom, and France, which are ranked 2nd to 7th respectively.

The top traffic sources, ranked in descending order, are the USA, UK, India, Japan, and Canada.

Population size aside, this means that while some countries

visit the site for a shorter time, they may also be visiting it more frequently.

EDITOR: Maybe, they did not factor internet speed and reliability. Otherwise, we may not be on top.

BROADWAY BOYS MAKING WAVES

CURRENTLY making waves in “Eat Bulaga” is the all male quartet called Broadway Boys who really sing so well and can do all kinds of songs, even those that became hit years before they were born. They’re called Broadway Boys because the group was born in the studio of “Eat Bulaga” in Broadway Centrum. They first won in the longest running noontime show’s Lola’s Playlist Singing Contest where they did their interpretations of the songs of veteran foreign crooners like Nat King Cole and Matt Monroe and

local icons like Basil Valdez and Nonoy Zuñiga.

Francis Aglabtin won in the contest but his runners up then joined him to form Broadway Boys: Joshua Torina, Joshua Lumbao and Benedict Aboyme. They sing live every Saturday and are made to do duets with local music legends while singing songs from various genres. To put it simply, they’re just amazing!

They’ve performed with local singers like Anthony Castelo (PHOTO) Lani Misalucha, Kuh Ledesma, Bituin Escalante, Ima Castro, Frenchie Dy and Lolita



Carbon of Aegis, as well as foreign singers like John Ford Coley (best known for “It’s Sad to Belong to Someone Else” and “Just Tell Me You Love Me”).

Now, they’ve cut their first single, “Nag-iisa”, an original composition of Sen. Tito Sotto who said it’s best for them to sing an inspirational song rather than a love ballad since they’re very young. The Broadway Boys now have their own loyal fans and we’re not going to be surprised if they’d come up with their own full album soon.

Fifty Shades of Grey’s wedding gown by Pinay designer



This is Monique Lhuillier’s second collaboration with the film’s costume designer, Shay Cunliffe Ready for Mrs. Grey?

The third and final installment of Fifty Shades of Grey will finally be released this coming Valentine’s Day.

One of the highly-anticipated highlights of this final film will undoubtedly be the wedding of Anastasia Steele and Christian Grey, and all eyes will be on Anastasia’s wedding gown!

Who designed her lace-embellished wedding frocks?

Commissioned by the film’s costume designer Shay Cunliffe, Filipino designer Monique Lhuillier was tasked to craft Mrs. Grey’s wedding gown.

This is Monique’s second time to dress actress Dakota Johnson after creating the silver number her character wore to the masquerade ball in the previous installment, Fifty Shades Darker.

Known for her romantic approach to wedding frocks and evening wear, Monique created an off-shoulder gown with a relaxed trumpet silhouette.

Robin Padilla forced a Korean contestant to speak Filipino in Pinoy Got Talent. Then, instead of apologizing for his rudeness, Robin’s excuse was his “love for the Philippines”.

Meanwhile, when Mariel Rodriguez was into her pregnancy, Robin sent Mariel to the United States so that she could deliver their baby in US soil making their daughter an American citizen.

‘Kita Kita’ director like box-office over awards

Sigrid Andrea Bernardo, the brains behind the surprise blockbuster of 2017, “Kita Kita,” is at it again. She directed and wrote its screenplay. She works her magic anew in Viva Films’ charming pre-Valentine movie, “Mr. & Mrs. Cruz,” starring Ryza Cenon and JC Santos portraying lost souls who find each other. Sigrid seems to be a master in love matters. She shows us that sometimes it’s not the “ever after” but the story that counts.

Don’t you feel pressured that “Mr. & Mrs. Cruz” must outdo or at least equal the success of “Kita Kita”? I do feel the pressure. But I will always go back to why I do films. When I did “Kita Kita,” there were no expectations, but I hoped that my producers would at least recoup the film’s expenses. But it made a lot in the box office, which was a real surprise.

I try not to think about it too much. But what I feel now is the pressure to make a good or better film for the audience to enjoy. At the end of the day, what’s important is that you are happy and satisfied with your work.

If you could only pick one, which would you choose, box-office success or awards? Box-office success. I want more people to watch my films. I want to tell my stories to more people.

How would you compare directing Alessandra de Rossi and Empoy Marquez to Ryza and JC? It was a different process. With ALEmpoy, we didn’t have time to do workshops before the shoot. The lines were not too lengthy. Working with them was a breeze because Alessandra and Empoy became instant friends during the shoot.

With “Mr. & Mrs. Cruz,” the material was difficult because of the lengthy lines. The script was like a play. It was JC and Ryza’s first time to work together. We had to do workshops every day for more than a week, from morning till night, so that they can work on their chemistry and master their lines. So, during the shoot, it became more natural when they delivered their lines.

What changes would you like to see on the local movie scene? I’d like the audience to experiment more in watching different kinds of movies. I’d like to bring back the Filipino culture of watching movies in the theater—and with that, I hope to fight piracy.

Why should we watch “Mr. & Mrs. Cruz”? I wrote “Mr. & Mrs. Cruz” even before “Kita Kita.” It’s about two broken people who find healing in each other. It doesn’t only talk about love, commitment and marriage; it’s also about finding oneself and learning to accept your pain by realizing you aren’t the only one hurting.





Lead Stars of TOTGA (L-R): Max Collins, Rhian Ramos, Dennis Trillo, Lovi Poe

Did Dennis Trillo ask permission from Jen Mercado for his kissing scenes in TOTGA?

Dennis Trillo admitted that there were awkward moments the first time he shot intimate scenes with his leading ladies in The One That Got Away (TOTGA). In this show, he gets to work with three actresses of GMA-7: Lovi Poe, Rhian Ramos, and Max Collins. Based on the trailer, Dennis shot several kissing and intimate scenes with each of his three leading ladies, who are cast as his ex-girlfriends in the show.

TOTGA VS. JHLS. When GMA-7 first introduced the three leading ladies of TOTGA, Dennis did not know yet that he will be the leading man in the series. Before TOTGA, Dennis is known for his other adult romantic-comedy Juan Happy Love Story (2016), where he

played the cheating husband of Heart Evangelista. How would he compare this new rom-com to his previous show? “Actually, na-train ako doon ng konti, mas tame ito kasi medyo may pagkabastos talaga yun, e, pero love story.

DENJEN. In real life, Dennis is the boyfriend of Kapuso actress Jennylyn Mercado.

Just like him, Jennylyn also did several intimate scenes with her previous leading men in both movies and television. In fact, the actress did torrid kissing scenes with Derek Ramsay in the 2017 Metro Manila Film Festival entry All of You.



Dennis Trillo said that he and girlfriend Jennylyn Mercado do not have to ask permission from each other everytime they have to do a kissing scene. “Well, ano ‘yan, e, trabaho ‘yan. So you gotta do what you gonna do!”

each other before doing a sensual scene? Dennis answered with a smile, “Well, ano ‘yan, e, trabaho yan. So you gotta do what you gonna do!” Dennis previously worked with Jennylyn in the 2015 drama series My Faithful Husband.

Marcos is dreaming on claims of 2016 poll cheating



Election lawyer Romulo Macalintal.

The camp of Vice President Leni Robredo on Tuesday branded as “childish” the claim of former Senator Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos that the cheating in the 2016 polls is “Marcos specific.” Marcos, accused Robredo, Smartmatic and the Commission on Elections (Comelec) of conspiring against him. “For sure, Marcos has no evidence to prove this ridiculous claim and we will not dignify it with further comment for it is highly impossible that a vote counting machine could be directed to cheat for only one person,” Atty. Romulo Macalintal, counsel for Robredo said. Marcos said they have acquired ballot images showing that votes in his favor has been counted as “undervote” or ballots that are not counted while ballots with “mysterious square” marks were counted in favor of Robredo. But Macalintal said the allegation of Marcos is “laughable.” “At itong mga sinasabi nyang ito ay nakakatawa—laughing matters as far as I am concerned *(And all of these things he is saying are just laughable)*,” Macalintal said. “If laughter is the best medicine, then we can consider it medicine for us for the

day,” he added. Macalintal added that Marcos is only dreaming when he claimed that he could overtake Robredo by over 200,000 votes. The Marcos camp said there are over 240,000 undervotes in three pilot provinces—Camarines Sur, Iloilo and Negros Oriental. “That is just under his dream na iyong mga undervotes na iyon ay mabibilang para sa kaniya. Pero iyon ay pangarap lang ni Marcos. It’s just a dream and when he wakes up, he will realize the truth that these undervotes are not really votes , and these undervotes are votes that are not really counted for any candidate at all,” he said.

(This is just under his dream that these undervotes will be counted in his favor. But that’s only the dream of Marcos.) Macalintal added that the claim of Marcos that the “oval shape” feature of the ballot has disappeared. He said if the ballots that Marcos has shown to the media were used in the elections, Marcos’ poll watchers and supporters should have noticed it especially it is claimed that there were “hundreds upon hundreds” of such a ballot. “Since the time of election and up to the present not a single poll watcher from among the hundreds upon hundreds of Marcos’ watchers has ever come up to confirm Marcos’ excited and fantastic claim of poll fraud,” Macalintal said. “The best evidence to prove if “hundreds upon hundreds” of ballots contained the questionable features raised by Marcos are the copies in the custody of the PET and not the self-serving copies of Marcos,” he added.

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Federal system will allow Duterte reelection

‘Cha-cha’ may oust Robredo before her term ends in 2022, - Colmenares

MANILA - The Charter change proposal by the ruling party may abolish the Office of the Vice President, but will allow President Rodrigo Duterte to be reelected as Chief Executive in 2022, a former lawmaker said. “Under the PDP-Laban (Partido Demokratiko Pilipino-Lakas ng Bayan) Constitution, the office of the Vice President will be abolished by 2019 if they succeed in having the new Constitution ratified during the 2019 elections,” Bayan Muna chairman Neri Colmenares said. “The Vice-President is not mentioned at all in the line of succession because, upon ratification of the new Constitution, her office no longer exists,” he said. Robredo’s legal adviser, lawyer Barry Gutierrez, stressed that the OVP has been in Philippine government system for 80 years, and the only time it there was no vice president was during the dictatorship of the

late Ferdinand Marcos. “The question therefore is, how does abolishing the OVP relate to the establishment of Federalism? Or is the abolition already in service of some other, unstated, agenda?” Gutierrez said. Vice President Leni Robredo said she is strongly against the possibility of having no elections in 2019 and extending the term of incumbent officials. “Kontrang kontra tayo sa ‘no elections’ kasi yung eleksyon parang ito ang pinaka-buod ng ating demokrasya. Ito lamang yung natatanging paraan para yung ordinaryong Pilipino (ay) makilahok sa isang proseso, na siya yung pipili ng kung sino yung mamumuno sa kaniya,” Robredo said. Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez, an ally of President Rodrigo Duterte, said there could be no midterm polls if Congress succeeds in changing the charter to shift to a federal form of government.

Several senators and Malacañang said next year’s elections will push through until the Constitution is amended. Senators cast doubt on Speaker’s ‘no election’ scenario in 2019

DUTERTE PRESIDENCY

On the other hand, the current proposal to change the Constitution does not disqualify Duterte from running for President again when his 6-year term ends in 2022, Colmenares said. Malacañang had said that Duterte does not find a term extension “attractive.” The Duterte has administration has pushed for charter Change to pave the way for a shift to a federal system of government, which they said will be vital to fighting poverty in Mindanao and ending a Muslim separatist insurgency there.

Abolition of VP under federalism Questioned

- The camp of VP Robredo questioned the abolition of the OVP under the proposed federal government
- The VP was no longer mentioned in the succession in case of death, permanent disability, removal from office, or resignation of the President
- Robredo's legal adviser pointed out that the only time there was no VP was during the time of the late president Ferdinand Marcos

PHILIPPINES - The camp of Vice President Leni Robredo questioned the plan to abolish the Office of the Vice President (OVP) in the proposed federal government. As pointed out by former Bayan Muna Representative Neri Colmenares, the vice president would be a lame duck under the proposed federal government. Under the PDP-Laban proposed charter change, the Vice President was not mentioned in the

succession in case of death, permanent disability, removal from office, or resignation of the President. “In case of death, permanent disability, removal from office, or resignation of the President, the President of the senate, or in case of his inability, the Speaker of the federal assembly shall then act as President until the President shall have been elected and qualified,” Section 7, Article VII of the

PDP-Laban backed constitution stated. As mentioned in a Rappler story dated January 15, 2017, the Vice President’s legal adviser, Barry Gutierrez, pointed out that the only time the country has no vice president was during the time of the late president Ferdinand E. Marcos. “The only time since then that we have had no VP was during the dictatorship of Ferdinand Marcos,” Gutierrez said.

2019 polls to proceed, may include federalism plebiscite

MANILA - The mid-term elections will push through next year and may also include a plebiscite for the new federal constitution, Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez said.

Alvarez said last month that “anything is possible” and the 2019 elections might not push through if the shift to a federal system was happening by that time. Malacañang and several senators opposed a possible “no elections” scenario unless the Constitution is amended. Alvarez was asked if he was assuring the public that there would be elections next year. He replied: “Oo (Yes).” Alvarez also admitted he will again seek the congressional seat in the first district of Davao del Norte.

The plebiscite may be moved to 2019 if the constituent assembly tasked to amend the constitution fails to finalize proposed amendments this year, he said. The Commission on Elections also said it was on a “wait and see” mode in the face of a possible no-election scenario in 2019 and the postponement of the barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan polls in Mindanao in May. Alvarez said the barangay and SK elections may also be moved to 2019, but then it would be an “election issue.”

ANGEL LOCSIN continued from page 19

The 32-year-old actress revealed that for her next television series, she will work with a new business unit. “Ayaw pa nila pasabi pero I’m very excited kasi first time ko makakatrabaho ang Dreamscape.”

In her previous TV shows, Angel worked with the Star Creatives business unit. “Matagal ko nang wini-wish na makatrabaho sila kasi super nice sa akin sila Sir Deo [Endrinal, head of Dreamscape] and excited rin naman ako makakilala ng ibang unit. Ibang challenge na naman ‘to para sa ‘kin.” Given the chance to choose her co-star, Angel

would pick Coco Martin. “Matagal ko na ring inaawitan si Coco, e. “Limang taon ko na yata inaantay si Coco pero nakapag-antay naman ako so ano pa ba yung mga susunod na taon na aantayin ko? Busy rin kasi si Coco. Ikaw ba naman mag-Panday tapos Ang Probin-syano,” she said.

LAOS NA AKO -Regine

Para iwas-stress, hindi na raw iniisip ni Regine Velasquez kung laos na ba siya o hindi. Nabanggit kasi nina Martin, Ogie, at Regine na napanood nila ang bagong pelikula ni Hugh Jackman na The Greatest Showman. Sa Hollywood film na ito, ang karakter ni Jackman na si P.T. Barnum ay dumating sa puntong na-depress dahil halos nawala na ang itinataguyod niyang career sa sirkus. Dahil dito, natanong ang Pinoy veteran singers kung ano ang kanilang mararam-daman kung umabot sila sa sitwasyong pababa na rin ang estado nila sa showbiz. Sagot ni Regine, “Personally, sa akin, nandito na ako sa time ng career ko na ganun na.



“Ako kasi, praktikal ako na tao. At saka nire-recog-nize ko naman yung pinamalagi ko sa industriyang ito. “I am very aware of where I am now in this industry. “Alam ko na hindi na kagaya noong dati. Hindi na ako yung sikat, alam ko na yun.” Gayunman, patuloy ang pasasalamat ng Asia’s Songbird dahil hindi pa rin nahihinto ang pagpasok ng mga oportunidad sa kanya. Saad ng 47-year-old singer-actress, “I just feel very blessed that I am still given the opportunity to be able to perform, or nasa TV pa rin naman ako. “Kumbaga, nasa TV pa rin naman ako. “Pero nandito na ako sa age na ganun, pababa na talaga, accepted ko na yun.

Why Teejay Marquez cannot do local projects yet

Indonesia-based actor Teejay Marquez is currently starring in an Indonesian teleser-ye, Siapa Takut Jatuh Cinta (Who’s Afraid To Fall In Love?). August 2017 noong lumipat si Teejay Marquez sa ALV Talent Management Circuit at Regal Entertainment.



Pero hanggang ngayon ay tila wala pang nang-yayari sa kanyang showbiz career sa Pilipinas mula noong naging big hit siya sa Indonesia noong 2016. Ito ay bunga ng kanyang dubsmash videos na pu-matok sa kanyang libu-libong teen fans sa Indonesia, kaya siya naimbitahang gumawa ng ilang proyekto roon. Kamakailan lang ay kinumusta namin ang Indone-sia-based actor sa pamamagitan ng direct messaging sa Instagram kagabi, February 2. Ayon sa kanya, kasalukuyan siyang nagtagal sa Indonesia dahil may ginagawa siyang teleserye doon, ang Siapa Takut Jatuh Cinta (Who’s Afraid To Fall In Love?) para sa SCTV. November 2017 ito simulang umere sa nasabing bansa. “Tapusin ko lang ‘tong teleserye ko dito ‘tapos babalik na ng Pilipinas.” Dagdag pa niya, “Dapat gagawa na ‘ko ng film sa Regal kaso di ako makaui dahil sa serye. “Number 1 din kasi yung show dito kaya medyo hindi makahanap ng free time.” Hindi pa rin daw niya alam kung kailan matatapos ang show dahil mataas daw ang ratings nito.

Scenes in the City



FIRST, Tony San Juan and wife Joy (FAR RIGHT) attend a 60th anniversary at Rembrandt. SECOND, Binibining pilipinas contestant Agataha Romero (MIDDLE) poses with two other contestants. THIRD, Alma Garrido poses with Kapamilya star Maja Salvador. FOURTH, Sheena Garrido, Alma pose with Kapamilya star Vice Ganda.

Why Ryza prefers to be in a relationship

As the countdown to Valentine’s Day begins, do you know where your heart is? Whether Feb. 14 will be a red-hot or a red-alert day for you, Viva Films and Idea First Company’s “Mr. and Mrs. Cruz” offers some answers to your heart’s crazy questions.

It is written and directed by Sigrid Bernardo, the same director who gave us 2017’s highest- grossing film, “Kita Kita.”

The charming film shot in postcard-pretty El Nido is topbilled by Ryza Cenon and JC Santos.

Since they’re from rival networks, it’s quite a delight to watch their first onscreen teamup. The chemistry is undeniably there.

They portray strangers who go soul-searching (or is it soulmate-searching?) in Palawan.

Their unconventional love story flourishes. But soon enough, trouble in paradise arises as their views on love, marriage and the “Big C” (commitment) clash.

Whether you’re single, taken or in a “complicated” status, Cupid highly recommends that you watch the film.

What’s your dream wedding? *Simple and intimate, with the man of my dreams.*

Do you prefer being single or in a relationship? *I prefer being in a relationship, because I can define myself better with a partner. There are more things that I can accomplish when I’m inspired by my partner.*

What scares you about commitment? *When my partner is not committed to me as much as I am committed to him—that’s what scares me.*

What did your movie make you realize about relationships? *Self-worth is more important than any relationship. You need to love yourself first in order to love someone fully.*



What was the most important lesson that 2017 taught you? *To keep both feet on the ground at all times.*

What’s your shout-out for 2018? *Please be nice to me and send more blessings my way, 2018.*

Andre Paras: I can’t let romantic relationships distract me

Andre Paras is fully aware that at some point in his life, he would have to choose between acting and basketball. For now, he’s bent on exploring those two possible career paths for as long as he can.

“I’m enjoying the best of both worlds at the moment. I love doing both, but I’m still trying to figure out which of the two I want to get stuck with,” the 22-year-old actor-cager told reporters at a press conference for GMA 7’s coming mystery-fantasy series “Sherlock Jr.”

Aside from “Sherlock Jr.,” which airs week-nights starting Jan. 29, Andre is part of the fantasy series “Sirkus,” and plays ball for the AMA Titans in the PBA Developmental League.

Andre related, “What I do may seem easy to most, but it’s not. You stay up late for tapings, then wake up early for training. But, I hope to excel at both endeavors.”

Andre related, “I get as much rest as I can, because sometimes, my dad—after watching me on television— would tell me that I looked tired or sleepy. Sometimes, he would tease me that my face looked big or that I had to watch what I eat.”

Needless to say, Andre has no time for romantic relationships. “I can’t let such things distract me—I want to focus on work, for now,” he stressed.

As a prerequisite for being part of the AMA Titans, Andre is currently enrolled in the said school, taking up an online course in English Studies. Getting a diploma is likewise a goal, because he acknowledged that celebrities and players have a limited shelf life.

“Acting isn’t forever. In basketball, you play until you’re in your mid- or late 30s, then you retire. Andre, plans to use his current studies as a potential stepping stone into screenwriting or



directing in the future.

In “Sherlock Jr.,” Andre plays policeman Pido, the best friend of investigative journalist Jack (Ruru Madrid), who owns a talking golden retriever. “I enjoy doing fantasy series, even at my age,” said Andre, who rarely does heavy drama.

Is he following in his father’s footsteps? “The latter episodes of ‘The Half Sisters’ were the closest thing I’ve gotten to doing heavy drama,” he recalled. I don’t think I can be as good as my father. I see the similarities—with the awkward, Kenkoy or sablay type of roles I usually play. But, if I’m being compared with my father, that isn’t such a bad thing!”

Kim Chiu supports Xian Lim’s decision to leave Star Magic

Kim Chiu on Xian Lim’s decision to leave Star Magic and sign up with Viva: “Wala, parehas lang naman yun, e, management lang naman yun. Choice niya yun, suportahan naman kaming dalawa, kaya wala namang problema.”

Tiniyak ni Kim Chiu na walang magbabago sa samahan at kahit na sa tambalan nila ni Xian Lim.

Ito ay sa kabila ng pag-alis ni Xian sa bakuran ng Star Magic, ang talent management ng ABS-CBN, at pagpirma ng kontrata sa Viva Artists Agency at Viva Films.

Sabi ni Kim, “Wala, parehas lang naman yun, e, management lang naman yun.

“Choice niya yun, suportahan naman kaming dalawa, kaya wala namang problema.”

Inalis din ni Kim ang agam-agam at pag-aalala ng KimXi fans na ang paglipat ni Xian ng management ay simula na rin ng pagkabuwag ng kanilang tambalan.

“Wala naman, parang nagpa-management lang din ako sa iyo.

“Parang ganun lang yun.

“Tuloy? Oo naman.”

Isang malaking desisyon ang ginawang paglipat ni Xian sa bakuran ng Viva.

Nagpaalam o nagsabi ba sa kanya si Xian bago ito nagdesisyong lumipat.

Tugon ng Kapamilya star, “Hindi naman niya ako magulang, wala naman.

“Susuportahan ko naman kung saan siya.”

Is StarStruck graduate Dave Bornea replacing Jak Roberto in Dear Uge?



Dave Bornea (left frame) joins GMA-7’s comedy anthology Dear Uge. Is he replacing Jak Roberto in the show?

StarStruck 6 graduate and former Alyas Robin Hood actor Dave Bornea is joining the regular cast of GMA-7’s comedy anthology Dear Uge, hosted by Eugene Domingo.

The One Up member plays Diego, a water boy who regularly goes to Uge’s (Eugene) sari-sari store.

Dave said he was only supposed to guest in the show as a friend of one of the series’s regulars, Aaron Yanga.

“Actually, sumabay lang ako kay Aaron Yanga noon, finollow ko lang yung script.

“Tapos noong dineliver ko yung script, sabi ni Miss Uge, walang character itong batang ito, nalungkot ako! Ano bang kailangan kong gawin? “Tapos tinanong ako ni Miss Uge, ‘Taga-saan ka ba?’ ‘Taga Cebu po.’

“[Sabi niya,] ‘O, mag-Bisaya ka nga,’ Nag-Bisaya ako. Nag-ano naman si Miss Uge tapos tinanong niya sa director na magiging regular na ba si Diego, pagbalik ko dun, sinabihan ako na regular na ako.”

During the first year of Dear Uge in 2016, Jak Roberto used to be a regular cast member of the show. The Kapuso actor usually flashed his abs in episodes, allowing him to earn his “Pambansang Abs” title.

However, Jak had to leave the show when he became one of Barbie Forteza’s leading men in Meant To Be (2017).

Currently, Jak is also busy taping his new show, Contessa, as Glaiza de Castro’s leading man.

Does this mean that Dave will be replacing Jak in the show? Dave answered, “Hindi ko po alam, e. Kasi sa akin lang, ang point of view ko lang sa eksena at saka sa pagpa-sok ng character ko, ako lang kasi yung water boy na Bisaya.

“So sabi ni Miss Uge, ‘Uy, pwede mong gamitin yung pagiging Bisaya mo para may character naman.’ So nagpatuloy na yung character ko.”

What if he gets compared to Jak when it comes to body built?

The 20-year-old actor said with a smile, “Naku, kasi trademark na yan ni Jak Roberto, e, so hindi ko mapantayan.

“Pero siguro in time, makakaisip o makakagawa din ako ng sarili kong trademark so yun lang, abangan niyo na lang.”

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Carpio:

PHL dumb to grant China request to do research in Benham Rise

PHILIPPINES - Supreme Court Associate Justice Antonio Carpio said it would be “dumb” if the Philippine government would allow the request of China to explore the resource-rich Philippine Rise.

“China has squatted on the West Philippine Sea and refuses to leave despite the ruling of the UNCLOS tribunal. Now, China requests to be allowed to survey the Philippine Sea on the east side of the Philippines. The Philippines would be dumb to grant China’s request,” Carpio said in a 24 Oras report by Raffy Tima.

Magdalo partylist Representative Gary Alejandro last week said that he had recieved information that the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) had granted the

request of a Chinese entity to do research in waters off eastern Luzon.

The Philippine Rise, formerly known as the Benham Rise, is located east of Luzon and is part of the Philippines’ continental shelf. In 2012, the United Nations gave the country exclusive sovereign rights over the rise, believed to be rich in minerals and gas.

Chinese vessels were spotted surveying the said area in 2017, prompting the Philippine government to send Beijing a note verbale, seeking clarification as regards the presence of its ships in the resource-rich area. Presidential Spokesperson Harry Roque said Carpio should respect the executive branch once a decision was already made.

“Sana respetuhin natin ‘yung separation of powers kapag meron ng kasong nakahain sa kanya,” Roque said.

DFA secretary Alan Peter Cayetano had said “Philippine law says research can be done as long as there is a Filipino on board.” “So there’s nothing suspicious about approval or disapproval of scientific research whether they’re Americans, Japanese, Chinese, Mongolians, Singaporeans. If they comply we will approve, if they do not comply we will not approve,” Cayetano said.

It is the DFA which usually grants applications to conduct research in the area, with coordination from technical agencies depending on the type of research.

Coleen Garcia reveals who will hold the purse strings once Billy Crawford and she are married

Is Coleen Garcia quitting showbiz after she gets married?



Coleen Garcia reveals who will hold the purse strings once Billy Crawford and she are married

On Tonight with Boy Abunda, Coleen Garcia revealed whether or not she will stop working if her fiancé Billy Crawford asks her to. Coleen said, “It’s not him to say something like that. But if he does say something like that, he must really feel that I have to. He would have his own reasons for saying that and ako naman I’d base it off on my own judgment pa rin... But when it’s out of concern, the fact that we would need help at home, because ako I want na when I have children ako talaga ang tututok e.”

With regards to having babies, Coleen said, “We have talked about it. Definitely, it’s all part of our progression as a couple and it’s not going to happen right after the wedding. I’ve said this before that I want to work on our dynamics as a married couple. Kasi I want to know how we’ll be able to tackle all our problems. I want to know how we face everything before we have a child because I want to be able to set everything aside.”

Asked who will hold the purse strings once they’re married, Coleen said they only talked about the financial aspect of things when they started planning for the wedding. “I’m the type kasi na nahihiya talaga ako if I’m asking from other people so I really still have to support my own wants and everything. Siguro everything that we purchase together like the house, the bills, and everything we’ll help each other with that. But yung mga personal na gusto ko, I’ll work for that.”

China NOT Needed

Philippines has been conducting Benham Rise research without China

China’s motives raises eyebrow

MANILA, Philippines — Filipinos have been conducting research in Benham Rise even without China’s help.

Last January 23, presidential spokesperson Harry Roque defended the approval given by the Philippine government to China to conduct maritime studies in the continental shelf off the eastern seaboard of Luzon by saying that Filipinos couldn’t research there without China’s help.

Roque added that it’s China that had qualified so far while the requests of the other applicants had been turned down for failure to qualify “according to [the] fixed guidelines” set by the government.

“And no one can do it because, apparently, it’s capital intensive,” Roque said in a media briefing in the Palace.

However, in 2016, Oceana, an international organization working to protect and restore the world’s oceans, joined marine scientists from the Philippine Bureau of

Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and the University of the Philippines in an expedition to the Benham Rise.

The team explored the Benham Bank, the shallowest portion of the seamount, on board the government research vessel MV DA-BFAR, according to Oceana.

The international organization provided remotely operated vehicle and technical diver-videographers during the expedition to get more footage and to allow a more extensive analysis of life in Benham Bank.

Back in 2014, UP and BFAR scientists found more than 50 species of fish and a thick cover of tiered plate corals and were able to dive for 25 minutes and film at a depth of 50 meters.

With Oceana on the team, the scientists were able to document more than 200 fish species and soft and hard corals, algae and sponges.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Alan Cayetano

said that the Philippines had approved requests from the US, China, Japan and South Korea for the past 18 years.

He said that only two of China’s 18 requests had been granted while all the requests of Japan (nine) and South Korean (four) were approved. Germany’s two requests were all denied.

The Philippine government should also extend more support to its local marine industry to strengthen its capability to conduct research, according to a fisherfolk group.

Pamalakaya pointed out that the research vessels Merchant Vessel (MV) Pampano, MV Albacore, and the Research Vessel (RV) Sardinella, which were acquired by the University of the Philippines College of Fisheries, could have been used in exploring Benham Rise had they not

CHINA NOT NEEDED
continued on page 220

California man gets life for buying Filipino children

SACRAMENTO, California — A California man was sentenced to life in federal prison Tuesday for buying Filipino children for sex and pornography in what prosecutors called one of most “lurid, willful, and disturbing” child exploitation cases in the nation.

U.S. District Judge John Mendez said he was sickened by the crimes committed by Michael Carey Clemans, 57, of Sacramento.

Prosecutors said he gave detailed instructions on how young girls should be posed, how their hair should be cut, whether they should wear makeup or have their bodies

oiled.

“His true plan was to find young girls, virgins, and then go have sex with them,” Assistant U.S. Attorney Andre Espinosa said. “A 57-year-old man doesn’t have sex with a 7-year-old girl — he rapes her.”

The sentence came after defense attorney Daniel Olmos argued that the judge should consider Clemans’ co-operation in helping authorities catch his co-conspirators.

But Mendez agreed with prosecutors, saying the “unthinkable, inexcusable” crimes



outweighed the assistance.

“He has taken away the childhood of those victims,” Mendez said.

Investigators found three of the children who posed for the pornographic photos, including one called “Angel,” when they were 7, 9, and 10.

Prosecutors brought them from the Philippines to Sacramento to testify at Clemans’ trial.

A jury found Clemans guilty in September of buying children, conspiracy and travel-

ling with intent to engage in illicit sexual conduct. He previously pleaded guilty to conspiracy, producing and receiving child pornography.

Olmos said Clemans will appeal his life sentence. Clemans stood seemingly emotionless during the hearing, but Mendez let him hug his parents and other family members before he was led away.

“Thank you for your support and love,” he told his mother. “I’ll see you on the other side.”

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Gabbi inspires Ruru: But Janine is comfortable to work2with

Driven with its goal of offering Filipinos world-class entertainment, GMA Enter RURU Madrid was just the runner up in GMA7’s “Protege” artista search in 2012. He was just a very thin 15-year-old when he won and now that he turned 20 years old last December 4, he has since grown in bulk to sport a much hunkier physique and he now stands almost 6 feet tall.

Janine Gutierrez, Ruru Madrid and Gabbi Garcia

After playing supporting roles, he has also surpassed the career of the male winner, Jeric Gonzales, as he’s now being launched in his first primetime show where he plays the title role no less, “Sherlock Jr.” “I’d really like to thank GMA sa pagtitiwala nila sa akin and for giving me this big break kaya I promise to always do my best para mapaganda ang show at hindi ako mapahiya sa kanila,” he says.

He is paired anew with his ka-love team, Gabbi Garcia, and also with Janine Gutierrez as his first girlfriend who dies tragically when she tries to expose the misdeeds of a corrupt senator played by Tonton Gutierrez. “I’m happy na makatrabaho ulit si Gabbi. Napakadali, napakagaan niyang katrabaho so it’s always nice working with her kasi very comfortable na rin kaming dalawa sa isa’t isa.”



How about Janine? “We’ve worked before nang maging guest namin siya noon sa ‘Encantadia’, pero sandali naging magka-eksena. Nakaka-inspire to work with her kasi napak-agaling niyang artista. Natutuwa rin ako kasi hindi ko ine-expect na sobrang bait pala niya. Nakakahugot ako from her kapag kaeksena ko siya. Kasi ‘yung eyes niya nangungusap kapag tinitigan mo at madadala ka. I’m happy

na nagkasama kami dito sa ‘Sherlock Jr.’” In the story, he plays a fearless reporter seeking justice for victims of crime. His

sidekick is a dog named Siri in real life, but who is given the name of Serena in the show. “Dati, takot na takot ako sa mga aso. Pero dahil sa show na ito, na-over-come ko ang phobia ko sa dog. Dati ilang pa ako kay Siri, pero ngayon, nayaya-

kap-yakap ko na siya.” Siri is actually the dog of Janine’s character, Irene, and she’s at odds with Ruru as Jack when the show starts. But when Janine dies, Ruru inherits her and she becomes Ruru’s defender. Also in the show are Ai Ai de las Alas as Ruru’s mom, Roi Vinzon as Ruru’s stepdad, Tonton Gutierrez as Sen. Lawrence, the senator who’s married to Rochelle Barrameda, Sharmaine Arnaiz as the mom of Gabbi Garcia who’s not aware she’s really the daughter of Sen. Lawrence, Andre Paras as Ruru’s policeman best friend, Matt Evans as the son of Tonton with Rochelle, and newcomers Kate Valdez and Sofia Pablo as Ruru’s younger sisters, under the direction of Rechie del Carmen

Villegas weighs in on JaDine’s alleged unprofessionalism

It’s all about getting her groove back. This was according to writer-director Dan Villegas, whom movie scribes recently interviewed in relation to his girlfriend and collaborator Antoinette Jadaone’s controversial blog post.

On her blog, Jadaone vented out her frustrations over the delay in the production of an unnamed movie. However, it had been announced recently that Jadaone would be at the helm of the romantic film “Never Not Love You,” starring James Reid and Nadine Lustre.

“I understand her because I’m also a director. Delays make you lose your momentum,” explained Villegas during the media gathering for his latest project, the film adaptation of the musical “Changing Partners.”

“It always feels like we’re groping in the dark during the first few shooting days, in terms of how to work well with the staff, crew and the actors. Then, you start to get the hang of it,” Villegas explained.

He added: “That’s when the brilliance of the production team comes out ... If you suddenly stop production, that magic will disappear.”

Villegas said there had already been four or five instances when the movie’s shoot was packed up. He even wrote down those instances in his log book.

“Tonette is a very emotional person. That was what



she felt at that moment, so that was what she posted. Some people are overthinking things,” defended Villegas. “If that happened to my movie, I’d be irritated, too.”

Lustre’s failing health was among the reasons for the delay, Villegas reported.

Shortly after Jadaone uploaded her blog entry, Lustre posted on her Instagram account a spinal X-ray image captioned: “Diarrhea, fever, severe back pain since Friday. That’s all you need to know.”

Instead of issuing a statement, Viva Entertainment, her talent management, opted to repost Lustre’s photo with the caption: “Loud and clear. Get well soon, Nadine.”

“There were other reasons,” Villegas added. “One was the scheduling conflicts; another problem was about the location.”

What about the rumor that Reid got so drunk the night before the shoot that he failed to make it the following day?

“I refuse to judge anyone, not just the actors, but also the members of the production staff. I don’t care about your life outside work. I don’t mind if you partied the night before. What’s important to me is that you show up the next day and you deliver,” declared Villegas.

The director was then asked to comment on JaDine’s alleged lack of professionalism. “I want to be fair to all the people involved. I’ve worked with them (JaDine) before, whenever I’d pinch-hit for Tonette on the set of ‘On the Wings of Love,’” he pointed out. “I know them to be kind and responsible. It’s normal for actors to get negative publicity at some point in their careers, so it depends on one’s experience with them.”

“Changing Partners,” based on a stage musical, features actors Agot Isidro, Anna Luna, Sandino Martin and Jojit Lorenzo.

EDITOR: A good dodge, evade, obfuscate reply without clearing, confirming and / or denying any of the issues or accusations.

Political dynasty ban sought in QC

A proposed ordinance in Quezon City seeks to ban members of political dynasties from seeking elective positions starting in next year’s midterm elections.

The proposal’s author, however, acknowledged he could be aiming for the moon. Councilor Ranulfo Ludovica filed the proposed ordinance on Jan. 19.

The proposed measure would require candidates to submit sworn statements to the city election officer of having no relative currently occupying an elective position in the local government.

It seeks to punish violators with a prison term of up to one year only. “Public office has become the exclusive domain of influential, prominent and celebrated families and clans,” he said.

Ludovica, former chair of Barangay Batasan Hills, decried “family corporations” running the city government.

“There are many qualified leaders who do not get the chance to serve because of the situation,” he said.

In the 38-member city council, 11 councilors share the same surnames—Belmonte, Castelo, Liban, Medalla and Sotto.

Imelda takes post seriously

IMELDA Papin is taking her job as the new president of the local actors guild, Katipunan ng mga Aktor ng Pelikulang Pilipino at Telebisyon or KAPPT, very seriously. She has also formed the Showbiz Industry Alliance that includes as members stage performers, singers, dancers, magicians, acrobats, actors who are not part of the actors guild.

She has now come up with a memorandum of agreement so that its members can be eligible members of SSS and PhilHealth. She also recently celebrated her birthday at ICON Hotel and her grandchildren with daughter Maffi, who came home from the U.S. for the occasion, performed to entertain her and her guests. Last night, she organized a benefit concert at Teatrino Greenhills for the benefit of the SIA members.

Since its her 40th anniversary in showbiz, she also plans to have a big concert for her fans this year. Meantime, she will have a Valentine concert, “Timeless OPM,” on February 14, along with Rico Puno, Claire de la Fuente and Rey Valera to be held at Newport Performing Arts Theatre. They’re all happy to hear from their producer, Anna Puno of StarMedia, that the tickets for their show are selling very fast. “We promise to give the audience a rousing good time in time for the season of hearts and romance,” adds Imelda.



Team Crossover Canada held a zumba fundraising session to send and represent Canada at the SM NBTC National High School Championships in the Philippines.





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De Lima ‘vindicated’ by evidence of fake news in Senate probe

MANILA - Vindicated. This was how Sen. Leila de Lima felt as she read the transcript of the second fake news hearing at the Senate, where Rappler CEO Maria Ressa explained how government “enemies” are being systematically trolled.

De Lima said that Ressa’s statement at the hearing was “proof that I am not just making up the persecution against me.”

“In many ways, I have been vindicated this past year: not just by the various awards and recognitions I have been honored with, acknowledging my plight as a human rights defender under attack, but also by the very acts of my persecutors,” De Lima said in a statement.

“Now, I am again vindicated, this time before my colleagues in the Senate and the whole world, through the statement made by Ms. Maria Ressa during the hearing on fake news,” she added.

“Nung binabasa ko yung transcript ng statement ni Ms. Ressa, parang nagliwa-

nag ang mundo ko! Here is proof that I am not just making up the persecution against me,” she noted.

De Lima said that seeing the pattern of “state-sponsored” trolling—allege corruption, sexualize the target, and call for the arrest of the target—brought on a “Eureka!” moment.

“Yes, that is exactly what happened to me!” she noted.

“Repeat ad nauseam because if you repeat it enough times, lies become truth, and truth becomes lies,” she added.

She said that it was an “immense relief” to see what happened to her be laid down and be threshed out to be a “systematic operation by people who not only train for it, but also have the backing of the State.”

During the hearing on Tuesday, Ressa said Rappler took part in a study looking at “patriotic trolling” — a state-sponsored online hate and harassment campaign “to silence and intimidate.”

She did not provide details of the study, but said it mirrored the findings of a survey of 65 countries released last November by the US-based Freedom House that showed China and Russia were flooding social media with lies and disinformation rather than seeking to control them.

De Lima said that it is “terrifying” to think that the country is “at the mercy” of a lobal syndicate of authoritarian governments and rulers that attack democracy and freedom by “killing” the truth.

She called it gaslighting, a form of psychological manipulation aimed at gaining more power by “making the target question his or her reality.” It is a common tactic of abusers, dictators, narcissists and cult leaders, De Lima said.

“You see, this is a horror story. And I am not even the real victim. What was done to me is just one piece of the bigger plan to gaslight the Filipino people,” she added.

Ryza, iniasa kay JC ang mahahabang linya

Ryza, iniasa kay JC ang mahahabang linya Sa totoo lang, hindi biro ang haba ng mga dialogue nina Ryza Cenon at JC Santos sa Mr. and Mrs. Cruz. Kung hindi ka magaling na artista at mag-memorize, you’d end up retaking the scenes over and over.

Between Ryza and JC, ang aktor ang mas sanay sa mahahabang lines since galing nga siya sa theater.

Aminado naman si Ryza na talagang binigyan siya ng mga tip ni JC while doing the film.

“Nagbibigay din siya sa akin ng mga advice kasi more on lines po talaga, dialogue na mahaba, mas sanay siya du’n kasi theater actor siya. Binibigyan niya ako ng tips so lalong gumagaan ‘yung pakiramdam ko habang nagsu-shoot,” sey ni Ryza.

Ginagampanan nina Ryza and JC ang roles na Ella and Raffy Cruz, respectively, na nagkakilala sa airport ng Palawan kung saan kinunan ang buong pelikula. Dahil magkaapelyido nga sila, napagkamalan sa trip na mag-asawa sila.

Habang nagtu-tour sa buong city ng Palawan ang dalawang karakter kung saan sila uni-unting nagkalapit, ipinapakita rin sa viewers ang lahat ng famous scenic spots dito, kabilang na nga ang Underground River. Kaya naman, while watching the film, para ka na ring nakapag-tour sa place.

Child talents make the key transition

This season, a few of them have already made that key transition, paced by Zaijian Jaranilla, who

recently served notice that he was no longer a kid, and was poised to tackle grittier and more challenging roles.

Zaijian’s “transition vehicle” to that effect was a “Maalaala Mo Kaya?” episode in which he portrayed a conflicted youth with a disabled older sibling exacerbating his already turgid tale of woes.

It was an acting assignment that could easily have gone awry and overboard due to the thespic temptation to “push and shove” the already obvious—but the young actor resisted the facile way out, and came up with an admirably felt and focused portrayal.

So, it looks like Zaijian is good and ready for what else will be thought up by his mentors and managers to further challenge and “stretch” him this season.

We hope that the lineup will include a new teleserye and full-length film, to more firmly focus on and showcase his “twinning” set of performing skills.

But, no “love team” route for Zaijian, please. Drama is more his cup of thespic tea, so he should be given scripts and characters that deepen his gifts in this regard.

All set for launching

On the other hand, the love team route is the avenue chosen for another tweening star, Andrea Brillantes, who is being initially paired off with Grae Fernandez.

When she was a child performer, lovely Andrea tended to be shy—but, her new teen-star persona is pushing her to be more vivacious, with-it and thus truly stellar.

The way we see it, Liza Soberano’s own long and sometimes even painful transition has proven to be so successful and effective that the template

is also being applied to Andrea’s teen career.

From the cute kid she was, she’s been noticeably styled and packaged into a younger Liza—effervescingly lovely and gamine, the gorgeous girl next door for all reasons and seasons, and a potentially versatile performer.

In addition, just as Liza was given Enrique Gil as screen consort, Andrea is being partnered with Grae. It’s much too early to tell if the same casting chemistry and “magic” will work in their case, but we can expect their handlers to give it their best shot.

Finally, we hope that Xyriel Manabat will be given the big build-up treatment as a tweening or teen star, because she was the best child actress of her generation.

Her unique “selling and differentiating” factor as a



juvenile performer was her “precocious” approach, uncommonly wise and insightful for one so young.

So, we trust that Xyriel’s upcoming teen portrayals will similarly underscore her signature smart and perceptive projection, perhaps in “quotable” screen comedies or satires that give her enough elbow room to sassily sally off and hit her comedic targets.

But, make no mistake, Xyriel can also go dramatic really well and movingly, so room should also be made for that other strength of hers.

How about romantic shows and films? Only if Xyriel gets to play confident young women who don’t depend on men for approval—or permission!

Nadine Lustre’s health problems caused movie shoot delay

Nadine Lustre reacts to director Antoinette Jadaone’s frustration over delayed shooting of Never Not Love You, her movie with real-life boyfriend James Reid.

Inamin ni Nadine Lustre na ang kanyang madalas na pagkakasakit ang dahilan ng delay sa shooting ng pelikula nila ni James Reid na Never Not Love You.

Ayon sa aktres, napag-alaman niya mula sa kanyang doktor na mayroon siyang inverted cervical curve, bukod sa kanyang scoliosis.

“And then I also have scoliosis which causes the headache, the fever, lahat, Tito Boy. Super sakit siya.”

Sabay na nakapanayam ang reel-at-real-life couple na sina Nadine at James sa ABS-CBN late-night talk show na Tonight With Boy Abunda, Biyernes ng gabi, January 19.

Dito nilinaw ni Nadine na tuloy pa rin ang pelikula nila ni James.

Ito ay sa kabila ng lubos na pagkabahala ng Never Not Love You director na si Antoinette “Tonet” Jadaone sa makailang-beses na pagkaantala ng kanilang shooting.

Ano ang reaksiyon nina James at Nadine sa sentimiyento ni Direk Tonet sa nabibinbin nilang proyekto?

Sagot ni Nadine, “I guess, because the shoot has been pushed back and pushed back...”

Hindi na nagbigay ng karagdagang komento si James hinggil sa isyu.

DIREK TONET’S BLOG POST. January 13, Sabado, nang unang mag-post sa Twitter si Direk Tonet tungkol sa biglaang pagkansela sa dapat sana’y shooting nila noong araw na iyon, sa hindi malamang dahilan.

Nasundan ito ng blog post ni Direk Tonet noong January 15, kung saan sinabi niyang “worried” siya sa “erratic” shooting schedule ng kanyang latest film project na tinawag niya sa hashtag na #foolishmovie.

Hindi man direktang pinangalanan ni Direk Tonet, napagtagni-tagni ng netizens na ito ang pelikula ng JaDine.

Ang orihinal na title ng pelikula ay Five Years Later, na naging Here’s To The Fools, hanggang sa nauwi sa final title na Never Not Love You.

Sabi pa rito ni Direk Tonet, “Sayang, andun na ang momentum eh.

“More and more shooting days cancelled – some reasons more heartbreaking than others, so heartbreaking they make me cry.”

NETIZENS’ SPECULATIONS. Nasundan ito ng iba’t ibang espekulasyon ng netizens tungkol sa pagka-kaantala ng shooting ng pelikula, partikular na sa biglaang pagkansela sa shooting nila noong January 13.

May ilang netizens na nagsabing ang “sobrang kalasingan” dumano ni James ang dahilan kung bakit hindi ito nakasipot sa shooting.

May nagsabi namang nagkasakit si Nadine kaya hindi ito nakarating sa shooting.

Ngunit hindi na nagbigay ng reaksiyon si Direk Tonet hinggil dito.

January 16 at 17 naman nang magpahiwatig si Nadine tungkol sa kanyang health issues sa pamamagitan ng pagbahagi ng X-ray ng spinal column niya sa Instagram.

DIREK DAN’S TAKE. Sa presscon ng pelikulang Changing Partners noong Huwebes, January 18, nahingan ng reaksiyon ang boyfriend ni Direk Tonet na si Dan Villegas tungkol sa espekulasyong naglasing si James noong gabi bago ang dapat sana’y shooting day ng Never Not Love You.

Ngunit ang tanging kinumpirma ni Direk Dan ay “frustrated” si Direk Tonet sa pagkakaantala sa shooting ng pelikula, at bilang isa ring direktor ay naiintindihan niya kung bakit lubos na nababahala ang nobya.

Kung anu’t ano man, naniniwala raw si Direk Dan na hindi isyu ang pagkakasakit o pagpa-party ng isang artista o sinumang staff sa isang film production.

Ang mahalaga raw ay makapag-deliver ng kung anuman ang requirement sa kanila.

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RIGHT, Celine Grey, Miss Philippines PIDC 2016 had recently celebrated her 18th birthday on December 29, 2017 at the Venetian Banquet Hall, Vaughan, Ontario. She graced her guests with her voice and in duet with local Toronto artists namely Emilio Zarris, Glenn Montero and Aaron Hernandez. A great finish to 2017
Celine Grey wearing a Manny Halasan creation.



Sophie denies she still sees Vin: We're just friends now

SOPHIE Albert is the female winner in TV5's Artista Academy search but now that TV5 has become a sports channel and no longer produces entertainment shows, she has moved to GMA-7, managed by Manny Valera, and happy to be part of their new primetime show, "The One that Got Away".

"I'm glad kasi maganda 'yung role na ibinigay sa akin," she says. "I play Chanel, the current girlfriend of Dennis Trillo at ang past girlfriends niya are Lovi Poe, Rhian Ramos and Max Collins. Di ba, mapahanay lang sa kanila, it's an honor na for me. At ang maganda, they're all very nice to me. Siyempre, noong una, I have my apprehensions kasi baguhan lang ako sa GMA, but it turned out ang babait nilang lahat so I felt comfortable right away. I'm very positive that thing will be going well sa paglipat kong ito sa Kapuso Network."

Will she be a contravida to Lovi, Rhian and Max? "Hindi naman exactly contravida. Medyo sweet 'yung character ko. Magkaka-sakit dito si Dennis and he will be in coma, at ako ang mag-aalaga sa kanya. Pero nakaka-insecure katrabaho sina Lovi, Rhian and Max kasi ang gaganda nila. Baka magmukha akong pangit kapag kaeksena ko sila. But I really like them, very professional, hindi nagpapa-star sa set so I'm having a pleasant experience. But I do play a contravida role in a movie I just did for Regal, 'Recipe for Love' directed by Joey Reyes. Contravida ako kay Christian Bables and his new leading lady, Cora Waddell."

Does she have a new boyfriend after she broke up with Vin Abrenica? It's said they still see each other? "Wala akong boyfriend at hindi totoong nagkikita pa kami. Wala na kami talaga. But we're good friends. Pareho kaming nagsisimula uli, e. Ako rito sa GMA at siya naman, sa kabila. It's better that way so we can really focus well on our own careers."

She was wearing a revealing red outfit with plunging neckline that shows her ample cleavage at the presscon of TOT-GA. Is this the sign that she's now reading to go sexy? "Hindi naman. Actually, galing ito sa kanila (production). Kasi lahat kami, dapat, red ang suot. When I wore it, sabi ko, naku, sobrang daring. Ano ba to? But I had to wear it kahit nako-conscious ako. Pero puro tape 'yan sa loob ha. Para hindi lumabas at nang hindi makita ang hindi dapat makita. Ha ha ha!"



BELOW, Tawag ng Tanghalan champion Maria Panaligan sings at the Sheryn Regis concert. BOTTOM, Sheryn Regis fixes her hair as concert producer Randy Bucac tells the fans they have to finish at 12AM during the photo-op after the concert.



Shai Garrido (PHOTO AT LEFT) and Candace Santos wins the DZMM Global Pinoy Singing Idol in the Philippines (CENTRE) Grand Champion- Shairah Garrido fom Hamilton (RIGHT) 1st Runner up- Candace Santos from Mississauga (LEFT) 3rd Runner up - Berna Stiger from Vienna Austria



ABOVE, FV Foods owner Mel Galeon had a birthday celebration complete with fun, games and prizes.

Myrtle Sarrosa paints the town red

Actress and cosplayer Myrtle Sarrosa embraces her sensuality and shows off her sensational curves as she dons something fit for the love month. The rising star graces the cover of a popular men's magazine and proves everyone that she's one of the faces people should watch out for this 2018.

Described by FHM as the "New Myrtle," the 23-year-old puts on a revealing red two-piece matched with faux fur coat falling off her shoulders.

The popular men's glossy noted, "She's also back to show you that she has more in store. This is just the tip of the iceberg, gents. She was just starting last year—marking the year with a Cum Laude finish and an epic Ginebra Calendar gig. This time around, she promises that nothing's going to stop her from blossoming."

COSPLAY GODDESS.
Actress and cosplayer Myrtle Sarrosa is red hot as she covers FHM February issue.

In an article on FHM website, the magazine also added that the Pinoy Big Brother: Teen Edition 4 Big Winner has "come into her own after many changes from previous year embraced her innate sexiness to eventually project a more confident version of herself."

Before entering show business, Myrtle, at age 14, started participating in Cosplay Conventions and had won several awards for representing numerous characters inspired by anime, cartoons, comic books, live-action

films, television series and video games.

In 2012, she joined the teen edition of Pinoy Big Brother and eventually emerged as the season's Big Winner. Thereafter, she launched her acting and recording career being cast in television series like Kahit Puso'y Masugatan, Moon of Desire, Forevermore, and My Super D. She's been recently cast in La Luna Sangre, The Good Son, and FPJ's Ang Probinsyano.

Myrtle Sarrosa is a certified eye candy in numerous shots for the cover story where she shows off her sensational figure.

As a recording artist, she collaborated with Young JV in releasing a digital single entitled, "Your Name," which ranked Number 1 on MYX's Myx Mobile Top Picks. She has released two CDs, a self-titled album, and a sophomore record that was certified Gold by the Philippine Association of the Record Industry in October 2016.

She's also ventured into songwriting and was able to pen a few songs for Maia Salvador and Jennylyn Mercado.

On the big screen, she debuted in her entry Lola in 2014. In the same year, she was cast in Star Cinema's Once A Princess. Later, she joined the cast of movie Just The Way You Are in 2015, and in MMFF 2017 entry, Haunted Forest.



James at Nadine, Pinagsasabong!

Nananatiling naka-off ang comments box ng Instagram (IG) ni Nadine Lustre kaya ang bashers nito, sa IG ni James Reid pumapasok at nagku-comment. Hindi natapos ang isyu sa dalawa after ng guest-

ing nila sa Tonight With Boy Abunda. May solo fans ang dalawa na pinagsasabong pa rin sina James at Nadine. Sabagay, uso ito kahit kaninong fandom.

'Let's do this!' Catriona Gray is ready

for Bb. Pilipinas 2018

MANILA – After Miss World, Catriona Gray is ready to conquer the Binibining Pilipinas 2018 stage. Photos of the 40 official candidates of Bb. Pilipinas have been posted online by Bb. Pilipinas, and this

includes Gray, who previously represented the country in Miss World 2016. She had a controversial Top 5 finish, with many pageant fans believing that she should have won the crown. "Hopeful that today the doors to my dreams will

be open for you. Moments like these are the ones you want to remember. You who are one. Moments like these are the ones you want to remember. You who are one. Moments like these are the ones you want to remember. You who are one.



It was a great celebration. The delicious food was overflowing, the mood was happy and festive, the crowd was game for fun, and prizes galore by the man of the night, FV Foods owner and birthday celebrant Mel Galeon. While the weather outside was frightfully frigid, there was a lot of warmth indoors. FV Foods employees, their families and friends were there to join Mel in celebrating his birthday.

GOD BLESS YOU ALWAYS MEL!

ned," she said in an Instagram post. "At this
t, more than anything, in my mind are all of
o have ceaselessly supported me since day
araming, maraming salamat sa inyo. This is
"

Cheryl Diaz Meyer

Filipina photojournalist sweeps coveted White House Awards



A Filipina American photojournalist recently swept up awards at an annual photo contest held by the White House.

Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer Cheryl Diaz Meyer bagged every single award for the international news category at the White House News Photographers Association's 'The Eyes of History' still contest last January 21.

The Quezon City-born freelance photojournalist won first, second, and third place, as well as both awards of excellence for her photos of Myanmar's Rohingya refugees.

In a Tweet, Diaz Meyer said she hopes her win would increase awareness for the plight of the Rohingya refugees.



Klea Pineda-Andre Paras Loveteam?

sa sa magandang nangyari sa
Sirkus ay ang pagkakatiskubre na
may chemistry sina Andre Paras at
Klea Pineda at puwede silang gawing
loveteam. Pareho silang matangkad
at bagay ang hitsura dahil kung tisoy
si Andre, morena si Klea. Hindi na
mahihirapan ang GMA Artist Center
na hanapan sila ng loveteam.

Nakita ang chemistry nina Andre
at Thea sa presscon ng Sirkus nang
pagtabihin sila para sa pictorial. Okay
naman siguro sa dalawa kung gawin
silang love- team dahil pareho silang
walang ka-loveteam.

Si Andre ay ang strongman na
si Martel sa Sirkus at si Klea ay ang
fire-breather na si Selfira. Nag-train-
ing muna ang da- lawa
bago simulan ang
taping at
sinamahan
ng bonding
para kahit
pa-paa-
no, mag-
ing close
sila.



FV Foods owner Mel Galeon (STANDING) play Pinoy Henyo at his birthday party.



Roadsport Honda's Harold Guarin and Nenita Lora attend a golden wedding anniversary.



Kris Lawrence "on very good terms" with ex-girlfriend Katrina Halili

Kris Lawrence shares details about recent bonding with ex-girlfriend Katrina Halili and their five-year-old daughter.

Bagamat wala sa poder ni Kris Lawrence ang five-year-old daughter nila ng ex-girlfriend na si Katrina Halili, regular naman daw niya itong nakikita.

Ayon sa R&B singer, "My relationship with Katy is superb.

"I've been seeing her about two to three times a week.

"Well, it's only been this January. Usually, I try three to four times.

"But since I'm in the process of moving, I finally got my own place,

hihiwalay na kami ni Jay. So, we're both going separate ways.

"I've been really busy with moving in my own place."

Ang tinutukoy na "Jay" ni Kris ay ang matalik na kaibigan at kapwa singer na si Jay-R.

KRIS IS SINGLE. Kumusta naman ang relasyon nila ni Katrina?

Ayon kay Kris, "We're on good terms, actually. Now, we're on very good terms.

"Kasama din siya when we went to Solaire with her family.

"So, I invited her, her whole family. Everyone had a good time.

"We're sitting at a table, just talking about life, we talked about stuff, we have a good relationship."

January 2014 nang maghiwalay sina Kris at Katrina pagkatapos ng limang taong relasyon.

Isa raw sa rason ng kanilang paghihiwalay ay ang kawalan ng growth sa loob ng maraming taon nilang pagsasama.

Kasalukuyang single si Kris matapos makipag-break sa kanyang non-showbiz girlfriend noong December.

Aniya, "Unfortunately, wala po.

"I just actually got out of a relationship, so let's stay clear muna—focus on work, focus on myself.

"And then if it comes, it comes."

Dalawang taon din daw silang nagsama ng kanyang ex-girlfriend.

Bakit sila naghiwalay?

"It didn't work," maiksi niyang sagot.

She will go independent in the national pageant, which sends representatives not only to Miss Universe but also Miss International, Miss Supranational, Miss Intercontinental, Miss Globe, and Miss Grand International.



Binibining Pilipinas

Taking a break are #5 Rose Murphy, #9 Agatha Romero(ABOVE & RIGHT) & #20 Catriona Gray in between photo shoots for the Bb. Pilipinas pageant.



Kim Chiu, Ryan Bang unlikely pair in new romcom

Kapamilya stars Kim Chiu and Ryan Bang are teaming up for the first time to headline a Star Cinema movie to be directed by Tony Reyes.

Reyes revealed that Kim already started filming but a release date is yet to be announced. He added that the new team-up will be joined by Moi Bien, Pepe Herrera, and Lassy Marquez.

Former 'Pinoy Big Brother' housemates Kim Chiu and Ryan Bang team up in a new Star Cinema flick.

"Siyempre, sikat ngayon ang mga Korean heartthrob, at isa na po siya doon," Kim said is jest referring to her leading man.

In a separate interview, Ryan said he feels fortunate to be paired with Kim, "Kasi si Kim Chiu ang pinaka crush ng mga Korean dito sa Pilipinas."

"May mga hindi kilala kay Ryan Bang, pero kilala si Kim Chiu ng lahat. Lahat ng kaibigan ko nababaliw na. Promise!" Ryan added, triggering laughter among some members of the press.

Kim's latest film was the horror flick The Ghost Bride while Ryan was part of the 2017 romantic comedy film Loving in Tandem. Kim and Ryan both rose to prominence after joining the teen editions of Pinoy Big Brother in 2006 and 2010, respectively.

Jillian Ward, gusto maging Dyesebel

Kapuso child actress Jillian Ward is blooming into a lovely young lady. In her recent beach trip photos on Instagram, Jillian expressed her wish to portray Dyesebel one day.

In a post, she asked her fans, "I [want to] play Dyesebel one day. What do you think?"

She also recently covered The Little Mermaid's soundtrack, "Part of Your World."

Netizens agreed that Jillian's innocent charm, mestiza features, and soothing voice would make her a perfect Dyesebel.

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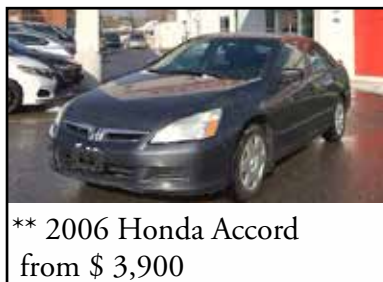
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BELOVED KAPUSO MARYO J. DELOS REYES PASSES AWAY AT 65

GMA Network deeply mourns the passing of one of the country’s beloved entertainment pillars, television and movie director Maryo J. Delos Reyes.

The award-winning Kapuso director died Saturday (Jan. 27) after suffering from heart attack in Dipolog City.

In his enriched and fulfilling 65 years of life, he created a body of work — including films, dramas and comedies, adaptations and remakes — that changed the landscape of the Philippine movie and television industry.

The ace filmmaker directed ground-breaking and blockbuster movies. He also directed the iconic youth-oriented film “Bagets” in 1984 and the Nora Aunor-starrer “Naglalayag” in 2004.

He also directed the inspirational film “Magnifico” in 2003. Magnifico won the Crystal Bear in the 2004 Berlin Film Festival Children’s Category and Deutsches Kinderhilfswerk Grand Prix for Best Feature Film in the same festival. It also garnered major recognitions in the FAMAS Awards, Gawad Urian Awards, Golden Screen Awards and FAP Awards in the Philippines.

In the small screen, he has helmed numerous soap operas in GMA 7 including “Someone To Watch Over Me”, “Pari Ko’y”, “Niño”, “Magkano Ba Ang Pag-ibig”, “Pahiram Ng Sandali”, “Little Star”, “Gumapang Ka Sa Lusak”, “Biritera”, “Munting Heredera”, “Magdusa Ka”, “Dapat Ka Bang Mahalin?”, among others.

The noted filmmaker was a former seminarian who began his movie career in the 1970s. He studied Communication at the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City and has won accolades here and abroad.

Apart from being a brilliant director, he has been a mentor to various actors in the industry and a catalyst in shaping their careers. He was a consultant for GMA Artist Center and was deeply involved in its Talent Development program.

Direk Maryo was a visionary and an extremely talented soul that GMA Network is proud of. His legacy will always remain in the hearts of all his loved ones, friends, colleagues, and talents in the industry.

Rommel Padilla proud to say that son Daniel is a one-woman man

Aminado si Rommel Padilla, 52, na naging tatak ng Padilla brothers ang pagiging mapagmahal sa babae.

Pero gusto raw niya ang pagiging stick to one ng anak na si

Daniel Padilla, 22, sa girlfriend nitong si Kathryn Bernardo, 21. Pahayag ni Rommel, “Ayoko naman na kung anong dinanas ng tatay, dapat danasin ng anak, especially when it comes to women.

“Kung ako maraming dumaang pag-ibig sa buhay ko, ako, hindi ko ina-advise sa kanya yun.

“Hangga’t maaari, isa lang makilala mong babae, isa lang babae na kasamahan mo sa buhay, perfect!”

Anong ibinibigay niyang love advice kay Daniel?

Sagot ni Rommel, “Hanggang silang dalawa ay nagmamahalan, tuloy lang. Be straight and true to each other.

“Yun lang naman ang sinasabi ko, especially kay DJ.

“Lagi naman niya sinasabi, ‘Iba ang pagka-Padilla ko’ dahil one-woman man siya.”

Kuwento ni Rommel, saksi siya sa tibay ng pagmamahalan nina Daniel at Kathryn.

Kahit na noong mga panahong hindi pa umaamin sina Daniel at Kathryn tungkol sa kanilang relasyon, napapansin na raw ni Rommel ang pagiging malapit ng dalawa.

As early as 2014, naiulat ng PEP.ph na magkarelasyon na sina Daniel at Kathryn.

Ngunit noong early 2017 lang naging bukas ang dalawa sa pagsasabing sila na.

Bago mag-Pasko noong 2017 ay naka-bonding pa ni Rommel ang anak.

Nagkukuwento ba si Daniel tungkol kay Kathryn?

Sagot niya, “Oo naman. Super Bal niya ‘yan, di ba? Si Kathryn, ganun din.

“Hindi lang sila. Pati si Min, si Karla, at pamilya, talagang sobra ang bonding.”

Si Min Bernardo ay ina ni Kathryn, at si Karla Estrada ang ina ni Daniel.

May mga pagkakataong nakakasama rin daw ni Rommel ang young couple.

“Oo minsan, nagkakaroon naman ng pagkakataon. Kapag may mga shows, ganyan, konting kain-kain.”

Boto raw siya kay Kathryn, lalo na’t nakikita niyang masaya ang anak sa piling ng dalaga.

Ayon pa kay Rommel, sa tingin niya ay The One na ni Daniel si Kathryn.

“I guess! Kasi kasasabi lang niya recently, di ba? Kakaiba yung nararamdaman niya kay Kathryn.

“Sinasabi ko nga kanina, as long as mapapanindigan mo yung true love mo till the end, so be it.”

Rhian stays with GMA, Happy and contented

RHIAN Ramos just laughs off the rumor that she’s planning to leave GMA-7 soon because it took so long before she was given a new show, “The One That Got Away”, since her last show was still “Sinungaling Mong Puso” almost one year ago.

“Wala akong balak umalis sa GMA as I’m very grateful for the projects they give me. Kahit wala akong soap, I did ‘Taste Buddies’, a lifestyle show which I host with Solenn Heussaff.

And while wala akong soap, nag-movie naman ako, so I’m still

busy kaya okay lang. Happy naman ako na ang new project ko is a light romantic comedy like ‘TOTGA’ kasi nga, my last show na ‘Sinungaling Mong Puso’ was such an intense and heavy drama na napagod ako sa kaiiyak as a battered wife.”

It’s common knowledge she’s now on with a non-showbiz guy, Jason Choachuy. Do they plan to get married soon? “Ay, wala pa. Sabi ko, sa kanya, I’m only 27, so give me mga eight more years pa kasi marami pa kong gustong gawin sa buhay. At this point, I’m just not ready yet. Someday, when I’m fully totally completely ready, we will get there.”

‘TOTGA’s feedback is very positive. Rhian plays the very sexy Zoe. “I’m a swimwear designer in the story. That’s why you’d see me wearing sexy swimsuits in the show.

In a publicity photo that went trending in social media, she is shown wearing a daring and revealing gown and those who’ve seen it say she’s not wearing any panties. “Actually, may panties ako roon. Hindi lang kita kasi siyempre, concealed siya. There are different kinds of underwear na babagay sa kung anong dress na suot mo, so huwag na silang maiskan-dalo.”

Randy Bucao produces successful Sheryn Regis concert

Randy Bucao produced his first successful concert of Sheryn Regis. Starting at 8pm, they finished at around 11:40PM. After a front act consisting of Kayleigh Cerezo, Maria Panaligan, Fieness Mendoza, Joel Sebag, Marky Hugh and Edwin Andres, Sheryn Regis took the stage singing a variety of songs. She joked with the crowd, made them laugh and made them feel at ease. At onepoint, she felt so warm that Joel brought an electric fan. I guess the lights and the heater at the stage was warmer than the rest of the theatre. She was probably onstage from 9am up to 11:40pm. Well, she left for around 15 minutes while a Singing Idol veteran Thomas Stringfellow took the stage while she changed outfit.

Unlike other stars who sing 4 songs and stay onstage for a maximum of 30 minutes after an hour-long of front acts,

Ms. Regis stayed for 2 and a half hours. She was entertaining and funny so people felt that it was worth it.

Afterwards, some mebers of the audience wanted their photos taken with her. At this point, producer randy Bucao reminded the crowdn that they have to vacate the theatre at 12AM. It was already 11:45, the crowd rushed for their photo-op with the star.



FIRST, kate Mohan and fmaily pose with Sheryn Regis. SECOND, Ryza Quijano and mom pose with Sheryn Regis. THIRD, Maria Panaligan, Edwin Andres and Fienness Mendoza pose with Sheryn Regis. FOURTH, Genelie Panaligan, daughter Maria pose with Sheryn Regis.



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‘Raisins,’ not ‘Virgins,’ Quran scholars say

It has been said that Muslim martyrs will be rewarded with 72 virgins in heaven, or paradise. But a growing number of Quran scholars and Islamic theologians have contested its interpretation.

In the CNN special show “Why They Hate Us” in 2016, Canadian author and Quran scholar Irshad Manji said the word “virgin” in the Quran meant “raisin.”

“Nowhere in the Quran does it promise 72 virgins, 70 virgins, 48 virgins. ... The Arabic word for ‘virgin’ has been mistranslated. The original [word] that was used in the Quran was the word for raisin, not virgin. In other words, that martyrs would get raisins in heaven, not virgins,” Manji said.

Likewise, New York Times columnist Nicholas Kristof said “the Arabic language

Cruise ship offers visa-free trips to Japan, Taiwan

MANILA - Cruise ship operator Star Cruises on Monday said its flagship vessel will call Manila its home port in March offering themed tours to Japan and Taiwan.

The summer deployments from Manila ports aim to bring affordable and hassle-free vacation to Filipino families by arranging visa-free visits to Taiwan and Japan, company officials said.

“Both Japan and Taiwan won’t require visas so it would really be very convenient and also cost-saving for the Filipinos that go on board the cruise ship,” said Andrea Solis Manzano, Star Cruises sales assistant vice president.

The cruises will run from March 5 to May 29. In 2017, Star Cruises offered trips from Manila to Laoag in Ilocos Norte then to Kaohsiung in Taiwan and in Hong Kong before going back to Manila.

GREATEST HITS AND BASKETBALL

New themed cruises will be introduced this year on top of their signature Superstar Virgo amenities.

‘Kambal, Karibal’, lalong umiinit ang mga eksena

Muling pinatunayan ng tandem nina Bianca Umali at Miguel Tanfelix pati na rin ng buong cast ng Primetime series na ‘Kambal, Karibal’ na unstoppable sa paghahatid ng kalidad na programa. itang-balita ngayon na sila ang tinututukang kwen-kumpara sa katapat nitong programa sa kabilang network. Paano ba naman kasi painit nang painit ang mga eksena dito lalo na sa pagitan nina Crisan (Bianca Umali) at ng kanyang kakambal na si Crisel (Pauline Mendoza) na nasa katawan ni Cheska (Kylene Alcantara). Hindi na nga nakapagpigil ang viewers na ilabas ang kanilang emosyon sa social media lalo na nang ireveal ng programa ang katotohanan. Tunay ngang kakaiba ang mga plot twist nito, huh!



Binay wants 20% discount on public school

was born as a written language with the Koran, and there’s growing evidence that many of the words were Syriac or Aramaic.”

“The Koran says martyrs going to heaven will get ‘hur,’ and the word was taken by early commentators to mean ‘virgins,’ hence those 72 consorts. But in Aramaic, hur meant ‘white’ and was commonly used to mean ‘white grapes’,” Kristof said.

Christoph Luxenberg (pseudonym), a scholar who pioneered such research, said in an e-mail interview with Kristof that grapes made more sense in context because the Quran compares them to crystal and pearls and that paradise are described as abounding with fruit especially white grapes.

“But Muslim fundamentalists regard the Koran—every word of it—as God’s own language, and they have violently attacked freethinking scholars as heretics. So Muslim intellectuals have been intimidated, and Islam has often been transmitted by narrow-minded extremists,” Kristof said.

There will be a “Greatest Hits Cruise” on March 5 featuring members of Filipino disco groups The Boyfriends and VST & Co from the 70s.

On March 30, they will also offer the “Sports Cruise” with an on board basketball clinic led by sports legends Alvin Patrimonio, Johnny Abarrientos, Jerry Codiñera and Benjie Paras.

“Aside from the nightly entertainment we developed more entertainment to add value to the cruise fare,” Manzano said.

During the three-month Manila homeport deployment, a Mother’s Day Cruise and a Labor Day Weekend Cruise will be offered plus a special Free Kids Cruise for children below 12 years old.

FILIPINOS ABOARD

Filipinos make up forty percent of the SuperStar Virgo crew, including some who have been with the company for 25 years, said Goh.

Executive chef Chua Chong Hooi, who supervises all meals served on the ship, said Filipinos comprise more than half of the 130 chefs on board, feeding up to 2,600 guests.

“Filipino are the most hardworking guys, they earn money and they work hard for it,” Chua said.

Star Cruises is a subsidiary of leisure corporation Genting Hong Kong.

teachers’ funeral

Public school teachers, who died due to work-related sickness and injuries, would receive “funeral discount privileges” if Senator Nancy Binay’s bill is enacted into law.

In Senate Bill No. 1670, which she filed on Monday, Binay sought a 20 percent discount on funeral services for families of public school teachers of the Department of Education and the Commission on Higher Education “who died on account of work-related sickness and injuries.”

“The amount of discounts granted in pursuance of this Act shall be allowed as deductions in the computation of taxable incomes of funeral homes granting the same, provided however, that the tax deductions shall not exceed 10 percent of its taxable income,” the bill said.

“Provided, further that the tax deduction under these sections shall be evidenced by the Public School Teacher’s identification card used by the Department of Education and the Commission on Higher Education,” it added.

Under the proposed measure, violators should be penalized by imprisonment of up to six years and/or a fine of up to P200,000.

Binay hopes that these “special discounts” to the public school teachers would somehow





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Frequent Emoji Users Have More Sex

A recently released survey by Match.com found that people who used emojis more often also had more active sex lives.

The survey also found that we have some go-to smileys when we’re looking to get it on. The wink, blushing, and kissy faces were most popular.

On the flip side, there are emojis we tend to avoid when flirting. The least popular are the “information desk person,” lips, and see-no-evil monkey (but we love that one!). These special characters are helping us outside the bedroom too. According to the survey, emoji users are twice as likely to tie the knot than their non-using counterparts.

The survey looked at other aspects of dating in our hyper-connected world, including the biggest social media turnoffs. Topping the list: excessive selfie taking, drama-queen Facebook posts, and asking someone to unfriend an ex.

Can Sex Reduce Stress?

Okay, okay. It’s hard to disagree that, in many circumstances, getting all up in those sheets can do wonders

for the mind and body. And it’s not just about the heat of the moment— science suggests sex can improve mood and combat anxiety by reducing stress signals in the brain.

There’s no bone(r)s about it: Life is stressful. And anxiety goes way beyond the need to dine with Ben and Jerry for dinner— stress can be harmful to our physical health. Yet science suggests there are natural ways to regulate anxiety. In one study, researchers found daily intercourse for two weeks led to cell growth in the hippocampus, the part of the brain that keeps stress levels under control. Disclaimer: This study was tested on rats, not us feisty folks, but it might still help explain that post-coital bliss.

In another study, people who had daily intercourse for two weeks showed lower stress-related blood pressure than those who chose to fool around in other ways or abstain from sex altogether. (Solo sessions didn’t cut it either.) . And more good news: The body also releases oxytocin (aka the love hormone) when two become one— it acts as a natural sedative and can trigger feelings of compassion.

Before we go lookin’ for love every time those stress signals go off, know that sex may also let loose glucocorticoids, molecules the body produces during the stress response. But the rat study also suggests sex becomes less stressful the more often we do it . Rats that had 14 sexual encounters compared to one over the course of two weeks had lower levels of cortisol, the hormone that signals high stress levels. (Less really is more, huh?)

Plus, the pleasures of a little love-making seem to outweigh the short blasts of stress that can occur; experiences that provide pleasure (including sex and a side of fries), have been shown to reduce the stress response. So perhaps getting in on the action won’t just be a physical joyride— it could also help calm the mind.

ease their economic burden caused by their meager income. “Public School Teachers never ceases to uphold their responsibility in educating the youth despite being overworked with long hours and large class sizes. The State recognizes the efforts of Public School Teachers in shaping the youth towards becoming productive and responsible members of this country,” she said in her explanatory note in the bill.

“Considering these significant contributions, it is only appropriate to extend assistance and grant Public School Teachers special discounts to ease them of their economic burden caused by a meager income. The discount privileges provided under this bill thus, seeks to help improve the plight of Public School Teachers,” she added.

Kris Aquino says ‘political reality’ is reason TV networks won’t hire her

Queen of All Media Kris Aquino reveals what she thinks is the reason why major networks are shying away from getting back on television.

On Instagram, a concerned fan asked the actress

why no TV network has opened doors for her despite being among the premiere TV hosts in the country.

“Bakit po walang kumukuhang network sa iyo Miss Kris, eh ang galing galing niyo po... Every Filipino wants [to see you on] television,” a certain @jonaldojmanalo1565 said.

His concern got the TV host’s attention and was lucky enough to draw out an answer from her.

To Aquino, it’s simply a “political reality,” which she did not elaborate on.

Although Aquino has stopped appearing on TV since separating with her former mother network ABS-CBN, she has got herself a successful back-up plan – being an online personality.

Apart from her sharing her daily living with her followers though her online episodes, she continues to be a prime endorser, working with over 40 brands as of the moment.

Apart from being a TV personality, she’s also an accomplished businesswoman. In fact, she certainly doesn’t need an acting career to make a living. But being in the limelight, doing acting and hosting, has always been her passion, which she intends to do for the long haul.

Among her latest endorsements is a local cosmetics brand.

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GMA Network takes viewers to a magical journey in Sirkus

To all GMA Pinoy TV viewers, prepare to be spellbound by GMA Network’s newest adventure-filled fantasy series Sirkus. Produced by the award-winning GMA Public Affairs team, Sirkus is a family-oriented program about fraternal twins Mia and Miko who find themselves in the company of a travelling circus called Sirkus Salamanca after trying to escape from the hands of an evil villainess. On the road, the twins will discover secrets about their new-found family as well as their own identities.

Portraying Mia and Miko are two of today’s promising young actors Mikee Quintos and Mikoy Morales. Mikee, who won as the Best New Female TV Personality at the 2017 Star Awards for TV, is best known for her role

as Lira in the hit telefantasya series Encantadia. Mikoy, on the other hand, is a finalist in the reality TV show Protégé: The Battle for The Big Artista Break. After their parents mysteriously disappear, Mia and Miko will have to rely on the protection of a rag-tag group of circus performers who include a magician, a fire-breather, an acrobat, a strongman, and a clairvoyant. In the middle of this cat-and-mouse chase, the circus becomes key to revealing the truth about the siblings’ identity.



They will eventually learn the reason behind the villainess’ obsession to catch them. Joining Mikee and Mikoy in this colorful series are some of today’s brightest stars: Andre Paras, who plays the lovable strongman Martel; Chariz Solomon as the quirky clairvoyant Astra; Sef Cadayona as the funny acrobat Al; and Klea Pineda (PHOTO) as the gorgeous fire-breather Selfira. Veteran actor Gardo Versoza plays Leviticus—the leader of the Sirkus Salamanca who will serve as the father figure of the twins. One the country’s best actresses known for her

remarkable portrayals as an antagonist, Ms. Cherie Gil breathes life to the coldhearted and vengeful La Ora. Helping La Ora in her quest to catch Mia and Miko are her minions Luca (Divine Teta) and Facundo (Gerard Arca). Playing special roles are Zoren Legaspi and Angelu de Leon as the twins’ parents Miguel and Liza. This latest Kapuso offering is created by Program Manager Angeli Atienza. At the helm of this upcoming magical series is internationally-awarded writer-director Zig Dulay. Join Mia and Miko’s magical journey in Sirkus via GMA’s flagship international channel, GMA Pinoy TV.

Jak Roberto reveals downside of being in a love team

Jak Roberto prefers to work solo rather than be part of a love team, “For me, mas nabibigyan ng kalayaan na mabigyan ng ibang project.”

Jak Roberto considers his upcoming GMA-7 teleserye Contessa another big break for his showbiz career. “Ito yung isa sa mga big break ko, bukod sa Meant To Be,” said the Kapuso hunk actor in an interview recently.

Unlike his previous TV series with rumored girlfriend Barbie Forteza, Jak won’t be competing against his co-actors.

This time, he will be working closely with Contessa lead actress, Glaiza de Castro. “Parang kada-taon, nag-a-upgrade nang nag-a-upgrade.

“Sobrang natutuwa ako sa takbo ng career ko. “This time din kasi drama naman, unlike yung dati rom-com, e,” he said about Contessa.

Although this will be the first time for Jak to work with Glaiza in an acting project, he does not feel the need to adjust since they already know each other.

“Siguro nakatulong yung nagkasama kami sa Singapore noong may show kami.

“Same lang din ang gym namin, so kapag nagka-kasalubong... nagkakilala naman na kami, nagkaku-wentuhan naman.

“Mabait si Glaiza at saka alam naman natin na magaling siyang aktres.

“Kapag magaling ang katrabaho mo, nadadala ka, e. Ganun ang nararamdaman ko.”

NO LOVE TEAM PARTNER. In this series, Jak does not need to be the leading man of Glaiza. He actually prefers this setup rather than be dependent on a love team.

“Okay lang naman sa akin ang walang ka-love team,” he said.

Then, he explained, “Bukod sa nasusubukan ko na ma-partner sa iba’t ibang leading ladies, hindi rin po ako nata-tie up sa isang love team.

“Para kasing ang hirap kapag may ka-love team

ka, kapag may project ang leading lady mo, siyempre, isasama ka palagi.

“Kung walang project ang leading lady mo, pahinga ka rin kasi hindi naman puwede yung isa sa inyo ang [angat] kasi nga love team kayo.”

More importantly, Jak pointed out, “For me, mas nabibigyan ng kalayaan na mabigyan ng ibang project.”

Here’s How Klea Pineda Deals with Nasty Comments

Staying positive is key.

As a young actress, Klea Pineda is always put under the microscopic view of society more than most girls. With her line of work, it’s harder to cancel out the external voices that always seem to have comments on everything that she does. But Klea knows better. We caught up with her and had a short chat on how she deals with nasty comments. Read on and see how she maturely handles criticism!

As an actress, you’re always in the spotlight. Because of this, have you ever been called names because of your body type? How did you feel about those comments?

“Sometimes they tell me I am fat. Of course, I get conscious with those comments and insecure sometimes. But I have learned how to take criticisms constructively.”

How do you deal with this emotionally and concretely?

“I begin by dealing with it on an emotional level. I take time to self-reflect, and if there’s truth to what they say, I work on ways to improve myself. If I do notice that I am gaining weight in several areas, I use their comments as motivation to lose weight, to be healthier.”

How did you learn to accept and love the body that you have? What pushed you to this way of thinking?

“I’ve learned to be more thankful of my body. I am thankful that I have a body that is functioning, healthy and complete. Not everyone has this blessing. I believe that a way to show gratitude I have toward my body is by learning how to help it to be the best that it can be. It’s a process that entails going to the gym and being more careful about what I put into my mouth – having a balanced diet, avoiding junk food, etc.”

What advice can you give to other girls like you? “I’d tell girls like me to stop placing their self-worth on other people’s opinions. To all those precious girls out there: stop thinking that you are fat, ugly, not worthy. Stop, because you are beautiful! If you’re not yet satisfied about what you have and who you are, then work on it but do it for yourself. There’s something in you that only you have, and that makes you very special. Always remember that.”

Diego Explains How Nude Video Leaked

DIEGO Loyzaga says that his nude photo was just accidentally uploaded in his social media account while he and his mom, Teresa Loyzaga, and brother Joseph were on vacation in Amsterdam. “Actually, it’s a video, not a picture. I took videos kasi of our whole European trip. I was vlogging the whole time to show the culture of the people in the countries we visited. Sa spa nila, it’s a tradition na get into the bath tub sa sauna na butt naked. By accident, napasama ‘yung footage doon sa My Story ng Instagram account ko, pero na-realize ko agad and I deleted it right away. May isa pang video na tumakbo ako nang hubad sa gitna ng snow on New Year’s Eve in Amsterdam. Buti na lang di napasama pati ‘yun.”

Someone said he did it on purpose so that his new movie, “Mama’s Girl”, with Sofia Andres will be talked about. “Ay hindi po. Makakatulong ba ‘yun, e family movie itong ginawa namin? As it is, we’re all proud of our movie kasi it imparts good values about family relationships.”

Would he say he is a mama’s boy? “Yes, I think so. I grew up with my mom in Australia, so we’re really very close to each other. I have so much love and respect for her.”

He doesn’t want to talk about his rift with his dad, Cesar Montano, anymore. “Tapos na po ‘yun. We’re okay now. At kahit anupang sabihin, he’s my dad and I love him.”

Lovi says getting married isn’t on her agenda yet

LOVI Poe is so busy these days. She’s in GMA7’s new primetime soap, “The One that Got Away”, that will start airing this Monday. And she’s also in three new movies. She figures in a love triangle story with Tom Rodriguez and Erich Gonzales in “The Significant Other” that will be shown in February. And she’s now also doing “Latay” where she plays the abusive wife of Allen Dizon, a battered husband, directed by Ralston Jover. Her third movie is “Pisonet” with the comebacking director Tikoy Aguiluz.

Lovi no longer hides that she is in an LDR (long distance relationship) with French BF Chris Johnson who spent the recent Christmas holidays here with her. But among her ex-BFs (Jake Cuenca and Rocco Nacino among them), who would she say is the one that got away for her? “Sorry po, but wala po akong ganong TOTGA,” she says.

Is it because she’s the one who got away for those guys she left behind? “Ay, wala po akong sinabing ganyan. Parang ang yabang naman kapag nagsalita ka ng ganyan.”

She admits that breaking up is a very hard thing to do and not at all her exes are her friends. “Yung iba kasi, we’ve lost communications. But I’m hoping they know that I wish them well and I want to be in good terms with them.”

Is she more serious with Chris? Have they talked about marriage? “Wala pang ganun. Even if all of my friends, halos married nang lahat, hindi ko iniisip ang ganyan. Wala pa ‘yan sa aking scheme of things right now. Mas focused pa rin ako sa work, lalo ngayong I’m so busy sa dami ng ginagawa ko. And I can feel na kung pakakasal ako ngayon, I will be just half hearted about it. If I ever I’d commit myself in marriage, gusto ko, ‘yung buong-buo, nandun ako.”

How would she describe the past year for her? “Okay naman. 2017 was good for me. I did a lot of traveling, which I enjoyed so much. I also did one of my best dramas ever, ‘Someone to Watch Over Me’. And now, kapapasok lang ng taon, meron naman akong TOTGA and three new movies so it’s a very good way to start 2018.”

Garrido Family & the Stars



Shairah Garrido foes to Manila and wins DZMM’s Global Pinoy Singing Idol in the Philippines and her family meets the kapamilya stars. FIRST, Sheena and Shai meet Tyang Amy Perez. SECOND, Sheena and her mom Alma Garrido meet Dumbo. THIRD, Alma and Sheena meet Ariel Ureta. FOURTH, Kapusos tar John prats pose with Sheena and Alma.

Nadine recreates Claudine Barretto’s iconic pose



She’s one of the most sought-after young celebrities today.

So it’s no surprise that Nadine Lustre was tapped to recreate Folded & Hung’s popular advertising campaign starring Claudine Barretto, considered at one point the country’s “Optimum Star.”

It was back in 2004 when Barretto was featured in the successful ad wearing the Swarovski-adorned Folded & Hung logo shirt and white denim cut-offs. More than

a decade later, it’s Lustre’s turn to sizzle in the same outfit.

She was photographed by BJ Pascual during the shoot, which was to mark the start of the 20th anniversary campaign of Folded & Hung.

It’s also one of the first projects starring Lustre to be unveiled this year. The Kapamilya actress will also be topbilling a movie and a teleserye with her real-life boyfriend, James Reid.

MOCHA USON RETURNS UST AWARD, DECRIES ‘PANG-AALIPUSTA’

MANILA - Palace Communications Assistant Secretary Margaux ‘Mocha’ Uson decried what she described as “pang-aalipusta” (insult) she has received over the award given to her by the University of Santo Tomas Alumni Association (USTAAI). Uson confirmed to reporters that she has returned the Thomasian Alumni Award for Government Service to USTAAI in protest of the ‘bullying’ that the association’s president,

Henry Tenedero, has received over the issue.

“Hindi ko hiningi ang award na ito. Binigay sa akin, tinanggap ko, pero para matigil ang issue na ito na isang maliit na bagay, ibinalik ko na lang po dahil sobra na ang pambu-bully ng ilang Thomasians kay sir Henry Tenedero,” Uson said.

“Masaya naman po ako. Dapat po wala naman isyu dito. Hindi naman po Nobel Peace Prize yan.”



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BICOL Canada ELECTION

The Bicol Canada Community Association (BCCA) will hold the election of its New Officers and Directors for 2018-2019.

*FIRST as you may all be aware, there is a calamity unfolding in the region and this election will be even more significant and crucial to the assistance we can provide to our fellow Bicolanos back home! Please come and participate, be involved and join BCCA. BCCA’s VISION is to have Directors that have roots in any of the 6 Provinces of the Bicol region namely: CAMARINES NORTE, CAMARINES SUR, ALBAY, SORSOGON, CATANDUANES & MASBATE.

BCCA’s GOAL is to bring Bicolanos together through various activities that create lifelong relationships, awareness of our vibrant culture and heritage and, of course, to form an effective and unified response to the calamities that may befall the Philippines and, most especially, our Bicol region.

ELECTION DATE: Sunday, FEBRUARY 18, 2018

TIME: 3:30pm Registration
4:00pm Election of 21 Directors
5:00pm Election of Officers from the 21 Elected

LOCATION: Our Lady of the Assumption (OLA) Church HALL • 2565 Bathurst St., Toronto, ONTARIO • North of Eglinton Ave. on the east side of Bathurst • TEL#: 416-787-4547 (OLA)

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Rafael Nebres BCCA President: 416-618-1362
Earl Dacara- Vice President: 647-302-3508
Joseph Redoblado- Secretary: 416-728-1964

JC REVEALS LOVE PROBLEM: PRICE OF SUCCESS

JC Santos ended 2017 with his first mainstream movie, “Meant to Be,” which did very well at the box office. And now, he starts 2018 with his second mainstream flick, “Mr. and Mrs. Cruz” for Viva Films, where he’s paired for the first time with Ryza Cenon of “Ika-6 na Utos” fame.

“Ang ganda nga ng naging ending ng past year at gayundin ng start ng new year for me,” he says. “Last year, I also had my first big hit, ‘100 Dula Para Kay Stella’, with Bela Padilla. Sana, ‘yung ganda ng takbo ng career ko in 2017, magtuloy-tuloy ngayong 2018. After ‘Mr. and Mrs. Cruz’, I’m doing my reunion movie with Bela Padilla. Tapos, there’s another new movie lined up for me with Director Andoy Ranay.”

He enjoyed working with Ryza Cenon in “Mr. and Mrs. Cruz” and with their director, Sigrid Andrea Bernardo, who hit it big last year with the biggest grossing indie film in local cinema, “Kita Kita”, that raked in more than P300 million at the tills. He wants to emphasize that Ryza and he do not play husband and wife in “Mr. and Mrs. Cruz”.

“Sa story, ako, I’m Raffy Cruz at Cruz talaga ang family name ko. Siya naman, si Gela, married to

a guy na Cruz ang apelyido, but iniwan siya. Ako rin, brokenhearted, at nag-meet kami sa Palawan where we both went to forget our problems. Doon nagsimula ang sarili naming relationship. The movie is about love and commitment, set amidst the beauty of the secret beaches in Puerto Princesa and El Nido. In one scene we shot in an exclusive beach, inabot kami ng malakas na ulan. To get there, dapat gumapang ka sa isang malakuwebang butas. While shooting, it started to rain. Hindi namin alam, nag-high tide na pala at puwede kaming malunod. Nang makalabas kami nung butas, ang lakas na ng alon, so stranded kami sa boat namin for two hours at nagdasal na lang kami nang nagdasal. Buwis buhay talaga.”

So how is it working with Ryza and Direk Sigrid? “Ryza is very disciplined. She knows how to act for the camera. Magkaiba kami ng networks so I’m glad to be given the chance to work with her in this movie. Si Direk Sigrid naman, nasubaybayan ko ang career niya kasi pareho kaming galing sa teatro. She’s a good actress at dream ko noong makatrabaho siya. Nangyari ngayon, pero as my director pala. Before we shot the movie, we had a series of rehearsals muna, kasama na ‘yung blocking. I learned about the process and ‘yung discipline niya. Malaki kasi akong umarte because of the theatre so she really toned me down.”

There’s no chance for Ryza and him to be linked to each other since it’s common knowledge that she is into a relationship with actor Cholo Barretto while he’s on with a theatre actress named Teatin Villanueva with whom he’s been going steady for five years now. But JC revealed that his being so busy these days has affected their relationship. “Yes, we have a problem. May kinalaman sa career ko ngayon. But I hope you understand, I want to keep it private.”

Obviously, JC has to pay a price for the big success of his acting career now.

Angel Locsin drops hints about 2018 projects on renewing ABS-CBN contract

Angel Locsin on her upcoming projects: “Tinitimpla na ngayon yung teleserye at saka pelikula.”

This year, Angel Locsin marks her fourth contract renewal since she transferred to ABS-CBN in 2007.

Angel was quoted as saying: “I’m so happy. Iba yung pakiramdam ‘pag alam mo at nararamdaman mong pinapahalagahan ka at may malasakit sa ‘yo ang mga tao.”

“Lagpas 10 years na ako sa ABS-CBN. Nakakatuwa na patuloy mo pa ring nararamdaman yung care nila sa ‘yo.”

She added that she enjoyed working in the Kapamilya Network because of the concern shown by her co-workers.

“Hangga’t kailangan naman nila ako nandiyan lang ako kasi iba yung suportang pinakita nila sa akin. Ang dami kong natutunan dito sa ABS-CBN.

“Nag-grow ako as an actress, masarap yung nagmamalasakit rin sa ‘yo yung company, ang sarap magtrabaho.”

Angel is slated to work on a TV series and a movie, which she hopes will be released this 2018.

“Malapit nang maluto. Tinitimpla na ngayon yung teleserye at saka pelikula.”

“Target namin itong year na ‘to maipalabas. Sana hindi magsabay para matutukan. Pero I’m happy to have work na mahal ko. Medyo matagal pa tayong magkakasama.”

When asked if she will reunite with Richard Gutierrez in a project, the former GMA-7 actress answered: “I think sa movie [makakasama ko] si Richard kung mafa-finalize na. Siya rin naman yung first choice ko kasi, di ba, noong nag-transfer siya dito sabi ko ‘eto na yung opportunity ko para makatrabaho ko siya ulit. Iga-grab ko talaga ‘to.”

ANGEL LOCSIN
continued on page 8



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Lack of Acting Award frustrates Kris Bernal

Kris Bernal is thinking she's not yet an actress without validation from a jury of peers or from an award-giving body: "Parang dun ko pa lang matanggap ang mga sinasabi ng mga tao na, 'Ay, magaling ka.' Ngayon feeling ko parang baguhan pa rin ako na nangangapa."

Inamin ni Kris Bernal na na-frustrate siya nang hindi niya nakamit ang acting award sa telebisyon para sa dual role na Nimfa at Rosette sa GMA-7 afternoon series na Impostora. "Siyempre napu-frustrate ako," pag-amin niya.

Ayon kay Kris, "Yeah, every time naman na I'm given a show, I always give my best kasi.

HER LAMENT. Himutok pa ni Kris, "Hindi ko na alam, ano pa ba ang role na puwede akong ma-recognize o makakuha

ng award? "Parang ginagawa mo naman ang best mo, binibigyan ka naman ng tamang project.

"Pero parang hindi mo alam kung ano ang kulang pa, may times na parang gusto kong mag-give up.

NOT GIVING UP. Goal pa rin daw ni Kris na mapansin siya at makatanggap ng acting award. Nakaka-pressure ba yung meron siyang ine-aim na award?

Sabi naman niya, "Hindi naman nakaka-pressure... Siyempre kapag

may goal, gagawin mo ang lahat para makuha mo yun. Ako naman, siguro may mga time na nagiging pabaya rin ako sa mga eksena ko.

"Pero karamihan talaga kinakarir ko, ang hirap lang talaga na walang nangyayari."

TOUGH ROLE. *Ikinuwento hin ni Kris kung gaano kahirap ang dual role na magkaibang-magkaiba ang karakter at pisikal na anyo na ginanap niya sa Impostora.*

Bukod doon, inaabot ng mahabang oras ang paglalagay ng prosthetic niya at yung pagpapalit palit depende sa hinihingi ng eksena.

"Nakakabaliw talaga siya... Nakakabaliw siya na masarap gawin. Natsa- challenge ako na maging kontrabida, maging matapang. Pero yung

mga comments ng mga tao, natutuwa sila nagsasama. Paano nga raw nangyayari yun, parang nakakalakas din ng loob."

Ang tinutukoy ni Kris ay ang dalawang karakter—si Nimfa at si Rosette—na siya rin ang gumaganap.



kapag

New Kapuso Matt Evans leaves his ego at the door

Kapamilya-turned-Kapuso-actor Matt Evans is all work and no ego: "Tinanggal ko po agad sa sarili ko na wala po akong insecurities sa ibang artista."

Kontrabida ang karakter na ginagampanan ng bagong Kapuso na si Matt Evans sa upcoming primetime series ng GMA Network, ang Sherlock Jr.

Isang bagay raw ito na talagang gusto niyang gawin sa paglipat ng network—mula ABS-CBN papuntang GMA-7.

Ayon kay Matt, "Yung maganda rin po, noong lumipat po ako rito, tinanong po ako nila Ms. Lilybeth [Rasonable] kung ano raw po ang gusto kong role.

"Sinabi ko sa kanila, ayoko naman pong magbida." Paliwanag niya, "Iba po ang pressure ng bida. "Sabi ko, doon na lang po ako sa mga character roles. "At least, mas mabilis na maka-penetrates at saka ano po, challenging din po."

Noong nasa ABS-CBN pa si Matt, naging bida siya sa adventure series na Da Adventures of Pedro Peduko (2007).

MATT AS A KAPUSO. Labindalawang taon naging Kapamilya si Matt. Naisip ba niya noong darating ang araw na posibleng lumipat siya ng network?

Tugon ng 31-year-old actor, "Ay, hindi ko naman po binigyan ng restriction ang sarili ko.

Patuloy ni Matt, "At saka, sa kanila rin naman po galing na, at least, hindi nalilitimahan ang trabaho ko.

"Puwede naman po akong tumanggap sa kahit anong network. Sobrang ganda rin naman po ng paalam ko, at sila rin naman po ang may sabi na anuman po ang mangyari, puwede naman po akong bumalik."

WORKING WITH KAPUSO STARS. Nakatrabaho na noon ni Matt sa ABS-CBN ang direktor ng Sherlock Jr. na si Richie del Carmen, gayundun ang ibang Kapuso stars na kasama niya sa show.

Lahad ng former Pinoy Big Brother Teen Edition housemate, "Matagal ko na rin po silang nakakatrabaho.

PADRE DE PAMILYA. Inamin ni Matt kung bakit nagde-sisyon siyang lumipat ng network.

Aniya, "Siyempre, tatay na rin po ako at kailangan ko rin po ng mas maraming trabaho.

Tatlo na ang anak ninina Matt at Katrina; sampung taon ang panganay, apat na taon ang pangalawa, at dalawang taon ang bunso.

Mayroon ding isang anak ang aktor sa dati niyang girlfriend.

Bukod dito, businessman na rin siya. Nagtayo siya ng sailing outlet ng Beautederm kamakailan lang.

"Kailangan po talaga, e," nakangiting sabi ni Matt.

"Kung anuman po ang mga trabahong dumating sa akin, nagpapasalamat po talaga ko lagi."

GMA presents 'The Stepdaughters'

Step into a world filled with beauty, jealousy, and love as GMA Network proudly unveils its newest Afternoon Prime drama series, The Stepdaughters, beginning February 12.

The Stepdaughters is a story of two women who are both beautiful and intelligent but with personalities that couldn't be any more different. They have always been destined to be rivals and both of them aren't ones to back away from a fight.

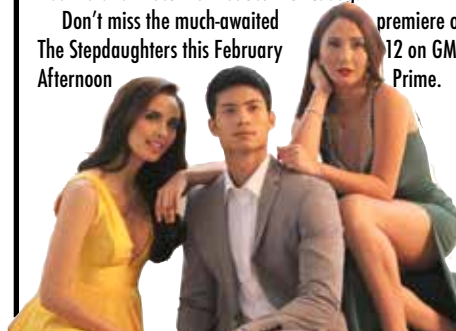
Headlining thus drama are Miss World 2013 Megan Young and versatile Kapuso actress Katrina Halili, together with GMA's prime leading man Mikael Daez.

The Stepdaughters is a classic soap which highlights some of the most important values in life—honesty, love for family, the determination to reach one's dreams despite the odds, and how true beauty stems from having a genuinely good heart.

The series is under the helm of director Paul Sta. Ana with the creative team composed of creative director Roy Iglesias, creative consultant Aloy Adlawan, concept creator and headwriter Geng Delgado, writers J-mee Katanyag and Kutz Enriquez and brainstormers Evie Macapugay, Wiro Michael Ladera, and Nehem Dallego.

The Stepdaughters is created by the GMA Entertainment Content Group under the supervision of Senior Vice President for ECG Lilybeth G. Rasonable, Vice President for Drama Redgie A. Magno, Assistant Vice President for Drama Cheryl Ching-Sy, Senior Program Manager Hazel F. Abonita and Executive Producer Lui Cadaq.

Don't miss the much-awaited premiere of The Stepdaughters this February 12 on GMA Afternoon Prime.



WHAT'S the big fuss about who takes the biggest return at the till during the last MMFF run? Well, Vice Ganda's camp says "The Revenger Squad" is way up than Coco Martin's "Ang Probinsyano" as far as box office returns is concerned.

What Vice Ganda and Coco have proven



Whoever lorded it over the box office between the two, do they think they've changed the attitude of the moviegoers about appreciating good films?

Well, the two are now richer by millions but many are saying that they just proved how poor the local moviegoers are when it comes to appreciating real good movies.

Only in the Philippines.

Charo Santos considered 'snubbed' by Oscars

A San Diego-based news magazine called City Beat claimed that ABS-CBN Chief Content Officer and returning actress Charo Santos was snubbed by the Academy awards.

In an article posted on January 23, City Beat listed the "unsung roles" that the Academy awards "missed out" by not including them in their list of nominees for the Oscars.

"Consider the following list of superb, but unsung performances to be another frank reminder to all Oscar voters that cinema's best spans far beyond the limited reaches of their DVD screener pile," the article said.

Charo's impassioned performance as the vindictive teacher Horacia in



Lav Diaz's opus Ang Babaeng Humayo was among the films that made the cut.

"Rage, empathy, heartache, joy: This performance has it all," claimed the article.

The feature likewise noted how the multi-awarded director "convinced one of Filipino cinema's titanic figures to return to the big screen."

Also included on the said list are Mexican-American star Salma Hayek for Beatriz at Dinner, Korean star Ahn Seo-hyun for Okja, English actor Robert Pattinson for Good Time, among others.

Prior to this, John Lloyd Cruz, who plays the role of Hollanda in the same film, earned a nomination from the 15th International Cinephile Society.

Why the need for effective Kontrabidas

"Every story needs a good antagonist," said actress Bianca King when asked what she thought was the importance of her character, Marga Verdadero, the most-hated villainess in the recently concluded drama series, "Pusong Ligaw."

For the show, With-will Raymond Bagatsing, who plays scheming Jaime Laurel in the "a kontrabida pulls the strings. out this character, the bida appear very boring. As it is in martial arts, we need the yin with the yang. We are the people who make it hard for the hero."

Raymond, however, said that for every villain role he agrees to take on, "I always make sure he has a good backstory," he explained. "It's important for viewers to understand why he is the way he is. He used to be a good person but was forced to change because of his experiences in life. Jaime offers a lot of lessons on that part."

Bianca said he and Raymond were aware of how viewers hated their respective characters. "It's a good thing my 'nonacting image' is also known to people. I'm very open on social media about who I am in real life and the things I like. It's my way of connecting with people," she pointed out.

Raymond, on the other hand, said: "All my IG stories are funny. There, you will also see me goofing around with my brother RK (star of 'Wild Flower')." Bianca added: "He posts

a lot of quotes about spirituality. He's very much in touch with his inner self."

Prior to working on the ABS-CBN show, Bianca was an artist of rival network GMA 7. Asked what's in store for her as a Kapamilya, the 32-year-old actress said: "Let's wait and see. For the moment, I want to take a break and heal." She recently suffered a fracture in her left arm during a snowboarding accident in Japan. "I also want to declutter my home and sleep for nine hours for at least a week," she added.

Raymond, meanwhile, is considering the offer he recently received to do a Hollywood movie. "A friend, who is a movie producer based in the United States, e-mailed me last week, asking for my schedule for the year. She said the film would be about magic and demons," he beamed.

RK Bagatsing Admits 'Wildflower' is His Biggest Break

RK Bagatsing always treats every project he gets as his big break but playing the role of Mayor Arnaldo Ardiente-Torillo in ABS-CBN's hit primetime series "Wildflower," he admits, is the biggest so far in his career.

"Who would have thought that I will end up acting with Maja, Aiko, and Tirso, and can also be called 'pogi' besides Joseph and Vin?" he quipped.

"A few years ago, I was just going around Makati, going



from one rejection to another in VTRs and auditions hoping I could land just one TVC or film project to make ends meet. That's why I am super grateful to the show," he added.

Just like avid viewers who embraced his character, RK would definitely miss playing his role as Arnaldo and most

especially, the people he worked with every day.

"I will miss Arnaldo because he taught me a lot of things. Because of him, I learned to follow my instincts and get out of my comfort zones. But of course, Arnaldo wouldn't be Arnaldo without the characters surrounding him. From my director to my co-actors, I will definitely miss all of them more than I will miss playing Arnaldo," RK shared.

He may already said goodbye to the show but the lesson he learned from being part of the top rating drama will forever remain.

"I learned to relax and not put pressure on myself because it only leads to being a failure. Somewhere along the road, I learned to let go and follow the process. I realized that mistakes and disappointments are part of our lives and it only shows that you have tried. As long as I do my best and come in prepared, even if I commit mistakes, I know that things will be okay. These are the tools I'm bring with me as I move-on to my next projects," he stated.

Erich topless on magazine cover

After showing off her sensational curves as calendar girl for a popular liquor brand, Siargao lead star Erich Gonzales stunned her online followers when she shared a photo of her latest magazine cover where she went topless.

Rogue Magazine wrote on its official Instagram page, “Erich Gonzales covers Rogue’s Night Life Issue, fresh off of starring in the Metro Manila Film Festival hit Siargao.”

Looking radiant as she flashed a smile toward the camera, while wearing nothing but trousers, “This next phase of her life symbolizes a moving on from her own personal crossroads, a journey back to self-discovery and self-love,” Rogue continue



with the caption accompanying the photo.

Meanwhile, Erich is currently working on a new TV series entitled the Blood Sisters. In suspense drama, which is set to replace Wildflower starring Maja Salvador, Erich will be portraying three different roles.

Based on the trailer for the new program, the actress will portray the role of a stripper who witnesses a murder, a rich woman, and a delinquent.

According to ABS-CBN news, the clip hints that they may be triplets separated at birth, similar to the plot for Claudine Barretto’s 1999 series, Saan Ka Man Naroroon.

John Lloyd on int’l nod: It utterly blew my mind



In Venice for “Ang Babaeng Humayo” (from left): John Lloyd Cruz, Charo Santos and Lav Diaz.

John Lloyd Cruz believes this latest blessing, a nomination for best supporting actor from the International Cinephile Society, is personally and professionally significant—if only for the chance to be mentioned in the same breath as an Oscar-winning legend.

“I think this is the closest I’ll get to Daniel Day-Lewis,” John Lloyd sheepishly told the Inquirer via text message.

John Lloyd scored a nomination for best supporting actor for Lav Diaz’s “Ang Babaeng Humayo,” while his acting idol got a nod for best actor for his work in Paul Thomas Anderson’s “Phantom Thread.” (The English actor received his sixth Oscar nom for the same film this year.)

“It is totally unbelievable,” John Lloyd said of the citation from the critics’ group. “It utterly blew my mind, and it’s profoundly humbling.”

He pointed out that, for him, the creative process was more important than the critical plaudits.

“The magic isn’t really here right now,” he clarified. “The real essence of the experience I shared with Lav Diaz happened during the process of preparation. It was during the time when I was doing all I can to lose myself into the character.”

Transforming himself into the troubled, tragic character was a mighty challenge, he admitted.

“It was tough. I wish I could do it all over again,” he remarked. “But that kind of magic you can never simulate or recreate. That kind of magic is something special and sometimes rare.”

The other nominees in the supporting actor category are Willem Dafoe for “The Florida Project” (who also got an Oscar nod for the same role), Armie Hammer and Michael Stuhlbarg for “Call Me by Your Name,” Barry Keoghan for “The Killing of a Sacred Deer” and Arnaud Valois for “BPM.”

John Lloyd is the only Asian actor on the list.

John Lloyd asserted, however: “Awards and recognitions are just mere celebrations of taste and execution. I am after the rare kind

of magic.”

Established in 2003, the International Cinephile Society is an online group composed of a hundred journalists, film scholars, historians and other industry professionals from all over the world—from countries as diverse, such as Serbia, the United States, Peru and France.

As Lav Diaz’s latest film, “Ang Panahon ng Halimaw,” premieres in the Berlinale’s main tilt next month, “Ang Babaeng Humayo” is also having a theatrical run throughout Germany at the same time.

Benjamin Alves refers to Julie Anne San Jose as “love”

Despite heartbreaks, Julie Anne San Jose said, “I still believe in love, love is love, parang masaya lang. Masayang magmahal.”

The GMA-7 singer highlighted the love cycle during her #Julie concert.

“Kumusta ang love life mo?” she asked fans who filled up the Music Museum.

The GMA-7 singer-actress was supported by her boyfriend Benjamin Alves who was present that night.

In his Instagram account, Ben boosted Julie Anne’s confidence by giving words of encouragement and referring to her as his “love.”

During the concert, Julie Anne talked about the power of love.

“This is really emotional,” said the 23-year-old performer.

She then asked concertgoers, “Sino ba ang in a relationship dito?”

The audience answered in unison, “Ikaw!”

Some people even shouted her boyfriend’s name, Ben Alves, who was in the audience with GMA Network’s senior vice president Lilybeth Rasonable and GMA’s assistant vice president for alternative production Gigi Santiago-Lara.

“Alam niyo ba usually kung ano ang pinanghuhugutan ng mga taong may hugot? Hopia. Hopiang-hopia tayong mga romantiko, as in hoping that everything will be all right, that everything will fall into its right place kahit minsan hopeless na ang sitwasyon.”

“Forever ba talaga ang love o sadyang dinadama lang natin ito hanggang sa mawala?”

In a pre-recorded video shown during the concert, Julie gave advice about knowing the end of a relationship.

To move on, Julie sought help from God, her family, and her friends.

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“We have to tell ourselves also that we need to stop because we deserve someone better.”

She said in another pre-recorded video, “Declutter, lahat tanggalin mo—pictures, contact numbers, yung mga gamit sa bahay na nakapagpapaalala sa’yo sa kanya.”

“I’ll surround myself with people na alam kong makakapag-uplift sa akin, lalo na sa career ko sa work.”

She then ended her spiel with this positive message, “I still believe in love, love is love, parang masaya lang. Masayang magmahal.”

Morales refuses to enforce ‘unconstitutional’ suspension of deputy Ombudsman

Finally breaking her silence, Ombudsman Conchita Carpio-Morales maintained on Wednesday that her office will not enforce Malacañang’s suspension order against Overall Deputy Ombudsman Melchor Arthur Carandang, claiming it is unconstitutional.

Saying that the recent spate of events was a “great cause of concern,” Morales said that she would not “allow herself to betray her sworn duty to uphold the Constitution.”

Morales’ reaction came after President Rodrigo Duterte ordered the suspension of Carandang despite issues raised on its constitutionality. The Supreme Court, in 2014, declared such move as unconstitutional.

Malacañang announced on Monday that it preventively suspended Carandang for 90 days after he made public the documents related to Duterte’s bank accounts.

“The recent spate of events poses a great cause for concern. With the institutional significance and national interest involved, the Ombudsman is constrained to now state her position on the matter,” Morales said in a statement.

“The Ombudsman cannot, (s)eriously place at risk the independence of the very Office which she has pledged to protect on the strength of the constitutional guarantees which the High Court has upheld,” she said.

Morales called Malacañang’s order as a “clear affront” the High Court and “an impairment of the constitutionally enshrined independence of the Office of the Ombudsman.”

“In a society founded on the rule of law, the arbitrary disregard of a clearly worded jurisprudence coupled with a confident stance that it will be changed should never be

countenanced,” she said.

Morales cited the SC’s Jan. 28, 2014 decision declaring as unconstitutional Section 8 (2) of the Ombudsman Act (Republic Act 6770), which provides that “a Deputy or the Special Prosecutor may be removed from office by the President or any of the grounds provided for the removal of the Ombudsman and after due process.”

“Like any government official, the Ombudsman has sworn to uphold the Constitution and the laws of the land. The Ombudsman will thus not allow herself to betray her sworn duty to uphold the Constitution by recognizing what is patently unconstitutional as ordained by the Supreme Court en banc in Gonzales III v. Office of the President (G.R. No. 196231, 28 January 2014),” she said.

Hiwalay na sina Roxanne Barcelo at Will Devaughn.

Ayon kay Roxanne, “Actually, pinakikinggan ko yung advice kanina ni Maja [Salvador], yung closing spiels niya, na kapag naibigay mo na lahat, wala na.

“Hindi ko alam, kasi meron namang patsika si Miss Zsa Zsa [Padilla] na after six months, nagkabalikan.

“Pero I don’t know, e, ayokong tuldukan.

“Pero at the same time, I really want to focus on making myself happy and cool by myself muna.

“Kung may mga dumating, e, maganda. Sakto lang.”

Sino nag-initiate ng hiwalayan?

“Uhm, [ako] nag-initiate, pero it was a mutual breakup,” pag-amin ng 33-year-old actress-singer.

Noong August 2017, masaya pa ang dalawa sa pagpu-pomate nila ng pelikulang I Found My Heart In Sta. Fe na sila mismo ang producers.

Marami pa ang nagsasabing mauuwi na sa kasalan ang relasyon nila dahil kahit sa pinansiyal na aspeto ay nagkakasundo na sila.

May kinalaman ba sa hiwalayan nila ang pagsosyosyo nila sa pelikula?

Sagot ni Roxanne, “It was many little things na parang pag nagma-mature ka na kasi...

“Hindi kami nagbi-blame ng isa’t isa. Hindi dumating dun.

“It was more of... admittedly, we have our pagkukulang sa isa’t isa.

“We could have done better.”



Mikee Quintos close to Andre Paras

Mula December 21 hanggang January 8 ay nasa Amerika si Mikee Quintos kunsaan nagbakasyon siya kasama ang kanyang pamilya.

Ano ang pagkakaiba ng Pas-ko sa Amerika at sa Pilipinas? Bulalas niya, “Sobrang lamig doon!

Bukod sa bakasyon ay may inayos raw silang Indian wedding ng isang kamag-anak nila sa Amerika sa darating na Mayo.

DOON AY NAGKITA RIN SILA NI ANDRE PARAS NA NAGKATAON DING NAGBAKASYON DOON.

Nagkataon raw na pareho silang nasa L.A. kaya nagdesisyon silang magkita.

Nakilala rin ni Mikee ang kapatid ni Andre na si Kobe Paras.

Ano ang magiging reaksiyon ni Mikee kapag nanligaw sa kanya si Andre?

O nanligaw na ba ito sa kanya?

Mabilis niyang tanggi, “Hindi pa po!”

Dahil sinabi niyang hindi pa, ibig bang sabihin ay may chance?

“Patay tayo diyan!” at tumawa si Mikee.

Co-star ni Mikee si Andre sa bagong Kapuso fantasy show na Sirkus.

Lahad niya, “Ever since naman po, Andre’s a very good guy. Nakita ko kung paano and pag nagkukuwentuhan kami kung ano ang gusto sa girls, ganyan. Nakikita yung pagka-inosente niya. Hindi siya like yung usual sa showbiz na very straightforward sa feelings. Makikita mo kay Andre yung pagka-gentleman niya, makikita mo na ang bait niya.”

Paano nga kung manligaw ang binata sa kanya?

“We’ll see, I guess, kung anong mangyayari.

“Ayoko pong pangunahan if ever.”

DIET REGIMEN. Kahit

slim si Mikee ngayon, inamin niyang dati ay nagkaroon siya ng problema sa kanyang timbang.

Inamin niyang marami na rin siyang na-try na iba-ibang klaseng diets, pero hanggang ngayon daw ay pinag-aaralan pa rin niya kung anong diet ang mas epektibo para sa kanyang lifestyle.

Dahil nauuso ngayon ang keto diet, sinubukan din ito ni Mikee.

Kuwento niya, ang kaibigan niyang si Ruru Madrid ang nagrekomenda sa kanya nito.

Sabi niya, “I’m trying

different diets. May nirekomenda si Ruru na ginagawa niya, yung keto. I tried it.”

Bukod sa tulong ni Ruru ay inspiration din ni Mikee ang Hollywood actor na si Jonah Hill, na isa rin sa mga masugid na advocates ng keto diet.

Ani Mikee, “Sobrang pumayat siya! Nag-keto siya, iyon yung diet niya.”

Dalawang buwan bago siya umalis patungong Amerika noong December, nagsimula na raw si Mikee sa kanyang keto diet.

Pagklaro niya, “Pero a week before I left, I stopped po, para hindi ako mabigla since alam kong hindi ko masusunod

yung keto dun sa States.

“So ngayong kakabalik ko lang po, I wanna try the cleansing [diet] ngayon.”

Hindi naman daw niya naranasan na mapadalhan ng “fat memo” mula sa GMA management.

“May mga verbal na panakot,” at tumawa si Mikee. “Na, ‘Sige ka, bibigyan ka,’ mga ganun.”

Naging determinado si Mikee sa kanyang diet dahil naghanda rin siya para sa Sirkus.

Ito ay sa direksyon ni Zig Dulay.

‘Wildflower’s’ Social Media Updates Are Insanely Winning The Internet

If there’s one TV show that knows how to use the power of social media competently, it’s ABS-CBN’s Wildflower.

The Maja Salvador-starrer has been on air since February last year. And all throughout its run, it has consistently been one of the network’s top-rating teleseryes. It’s also a favorite (and always-trending) topic on social media.

Most will argue that few people are actually watching TV show these days (because most of us are focused on our smartphones), but we just can’t help but wonder how Wildflower manages to make relevant noise on both broadcast and digital mediums.

Even if you haven’t watched the show, you’ve heard of the characters Lily Cruz and Ivy Aguas (both played by Maja, who is a revelation in the role).

The team behind Wildflower have become experts in social content, garnering more attention from the public as the plot of the series moves forwards. With so much digital clutter, getting the praise of netizens is a challenge, but the show has triumphantly snagged a millennial audience. This, of course, translates into ratings.

This 2018, the show’s social media team has taken things a notch higher. Since fake news (posted on social media, of course), tokhang, EJKs, and politics are hot topics, the teleserye is exploiting these social elements in order to become viral.



Kris Aquino thanks Willie Revillame for blessings

Kris Aquino expressed gratitude to TV host/comedian Willie Revillame for his help to get her back on television, even if the plans didn’t push through.

Along with her birthday greeting for Revillame, Aquino thanked the “Wowowin” host for sharing with her his “lucky” vibe, which she believes opened up recent blessings for her.

“Hindi man natuloy ang mga pinag-usapan namin, but after that talks so many good things happened. I think nabahaginan niya ako ng swerte niya. Kaya happy, happy birthday and more blessings pa sa kanya,” she said at the recent launch of her new endorsement for a local cosmetics brand.

(Our plans might have not pushed through but after the talks, so many good things happened. I think he shared to me his luck. Happy happy birthday and more blessings to you)

In previous posts, the actress/TV host regarded Revillame as her “future boss” and the latter expressed willingness to get Aquino back on TV in GMA network.

Both were longtime prime stars and program hosts of ABS-CBN. Aquino left the network after two decades.

Currently, even without a television presence, she has more than 40 brand endorsements along with a line-up of movies and other projects.

She also continued her stardom through a strong online presence.

MARTIN NIEVERA on fading Fame

Aminado si Martin Nievera na hindi na tulad ng dati ang kanyang kasikatan ngayon. Pahayag ng Concert King, “Obviously, I’m not the in-demand artist I used to be, but I’m okay with that.

“I’ve embraced the fact that I am no longer the guy.

“When ABS restarted, I was the guy. When ASAP started, I was the guy. When TFC started, I was the guy.

“Marami na kaming guys ngayon and ang daming girls.

“And ang daming mas bata pa sa akin, mas sikat pa sa akin.”

Katulad ng kapwa niya singer na si Regine Velasquez, natanggap na rin daw niya ito.

Saad ni Martin, “I just embraced it.

“I’ve embraced my role or where I am in the business.

“I just want to continuously performing and making a difference in people’s lives.”

Sa ngayon, kuntento na raw si Martin sa kanyang mga nagawa sa industriya at sa patuloy na pagiging bahagi nito.

“It sounds like a showbiz answer.

“But truthfully, that’s my new game plan—to stay in the game and not watch it from outside looking in. I wanna be inside looking out.”

CHINA NOT NEEDED continued from page 10

succumbed to deterioration.

“Unfortunately, these research vessels have not been maintained to maximize marine research and development,” the Pamalakaya said.

China’s motives for research in Benham raises eyebrows

While foreign organizations have been allowed to do research in Benham Rise, most of the requests made by China since 2004 were rejected by the DFA’s Maritime and Ocean Affairs Office.

Observers, however, have raised concern over the Duterte government’s recent grant for China to do scientific research in the undersea area.

Analyst Richard Heydarian from De La Salle University suggested how the growing Asian power has a geopolitical interest in the area east of the Philippines including Benham Rise.

Reports from Beijing say that it has recently installed acoustic sensors or listening devices in waters near Guam where the United States maintains a military base.

Rep. Ruffy Biazon (Muntinlupa), a senior member of the lower house’s national security committee, said that dismissing China’s expedition in Benham as merely for research purposes is the “height of naïveté.”

Biazon said the mission may involve data gathering for China’s strategic military objectives in the Western Pacific where the US has dominated for decades.

Nadine Lustre begins own healing by letting go

Nadine Lustre hopes to heal herself by way of reaching out and helping others cope with their personal struggles. Nadine Lustre is moving forward from a family tragedy, the suicide of her younger brother last year.

“Today, im starting my healing...” began her message in her Instagram post this Thursday, February 1.

She said she has been paying attention to the messages and stories of personal struggles that her followers have been sending her.

“I am listening,” the 24-year-old Kapamilya actress wrote.

“I hope sharing my stories and thoughts will help,” her message read.

She ended her post with an advice to those who are coping with their own struggles.

According to reports, depression drove Nadine’s brother to commit suicide. In some of her previous interviews, the actress said that she herself struggled with depression. At a press conference last January 5, Nadine opened up about her emotional struggles with her brother’s death.

She said everyone in her family has yet to fully recover from their loss but, on the other hand, they’ve also become closer because of the tragedy.

She even gave advice to people struggling with depression.

Celine Grey Debut



RIGHT, Celine Grey, Miss Philippines PIDC 2016 had recently celebrated her 18th birthday on December 29, 2017 at the Venetian Banquet Hall,Vaughan, Ontario. She graced her guests with her voice and in duet with local Toronto artists namely Emilio Zarris, Glenn Montera and Aaron Hernandez. A great finish to 2017. Celine Grey is wearing a Manny Halasan creation.

What Ivan Knows Now That Others Like Him Don't + other stories

VAN Dorschner is glad to have a new show as followup to “Meant to Be”. He plays Dennis Trillo’s best friend and confidante in the new GMA primetime show, “The One That Got Away”. Is he okay with playing a supporting role when he’s already one of the leads in “Meant to Be”?

“That’s just fine with me,” he says. “I’m just thankful opening to GMA for many doors for me to show my talent in acting. I will forever be a new direction to my career. Dito sa



‘TOT-GA’, maganda ang role ko as Iniigo Sandoval, a rich guy gentleman of leisure na ayaw magtrabaho as he’d rather just rely on the big trust fund left to him by his parents. I welcome the chance to work with Dennis Trillo in this show. He’s one of the most accomplished actors in the industry today. Most of my scenes are with him kasi best friends nga kami and I know I will learn a lot from him about acting. I also have scenes with Rhian Ramos and Max Collins, but not with Lovi Poe.”

He’s proud to say he now speaks Tagalog more fluently. “When I went home to the U.S. during the Christmas break, nagulat sila kasi kahit sa bahay, nagsasalita ako ng Tagalog. Even on TV, I watch mostly local shows para masanay ako sa sound ng Tagalog and its right pronunciation. It’s not easy, pero nagagawa ko naman. Pag aktor ka working dito sa Pinas, it’s important na matutuhan mo ‘yung language dito.”

Big gamble pays off for RYZA

RYZA Cenon was the female winner in Starstruck 2 in 2004 when she was just 16 years old. She has now just turned 30 last December 21 and finally gets to play the lead role in a mainstream film, Viva’s “Mr. and Mrs. Cruz”, opposite JC Santos and directed by “Kita Kita” helmer Sigrid Andrea Bernardo.

She says it was a big gamble for her to leave GMA Talent Center that has been managing her all these years. “But you have to take the risk kasi. Otherwise, how will you move forward? But kahit Viva na ang manager ko, I will forever be grateful to GMA for all their help to me. At siyempre, kahit may offers ako ngayon from other networks, priority ko pa rin ang GMA. Sabi, hanggang March pa raw ang ‘Ika-6 na Utos’ and I’m glad na we’ll end habang nasa peak pa rin kami at mataas pa rin ang ratings everyday.”

How’s it working with Direk Sigrid and JC Santos who’s a Kapamilya? “Si Direk Sigrid, very detailed sa gusto niya but also open to suggestions kaya masarap katrabaho. Si JC naman, magaang katrabaho. Hasa siya as a theatre actor so he gives me tips about acting. ‘Yung mga nakaranas ng heartbreak, maka-ka-relate sila kay Gela dito sa ‘Mr. and Mrs. Cruz’ kasi it’s about closure. Gela kasi goes soul searching at naghahanap siya ng sagot sa

questions about herself after she was dumped by her husband. Tuturuan kayo nito how to move on and go on with your life after a failed relationship.”

LizQuen do Good

Before they flew to London to spend Christmas, the love team distributed packed meals to street dwellers around the metro. And yes, it was captured on camera, not by a major news outfit though but by someone close to the duo who was amazed by their generosity and genuine concern. The trouble in our society, no matter what you do, people will always have something terrible to say about your act. But just like what the viral Thai commercial about a woman who didn’t care about what social media think about her, continue doing good deeds is better than doing nothing at all. Most people don’t see what happens behind the camera or the story behind a short video clip.

fashion and art. They’re all created for me by Fanny Serrano. I haven’t done anything like this before and it’s full of magic and fantastic special effects, so I myself will be delighted to watch it as there’s a little child in me.”

She’s acting with mostly young Kapuso stars like Mikoy Morales, Mikee Quintos, Andre Paras, Klea Pineda, Sef Cadayona and Chariz Solomon. How does she find them?

“Oh I just love the whole cast, especially Mikoy and Mikee. They’re new but talented, very open and authentic. They’re really a good batch of new stars and they make me feel like their well loved Tita.”

Both Mikoy and Mikee say they feel awed working with a respected actress like Cherie. “Nung sabihin sa’king kasama si Ms. Cherie Gil, sabi ko, wow, I saw her in ‘Alyas Robin Hood 1’ and she’s really one fantastic actress,” says Mikoy. “It’s really an honor na

gether in ‘Poor Senorita’ with Regine Velasquez before. But then, ‘yun ang gusto ng parents niya and it’s just proper for him to obey them. We stay in touch naman po, kumustahan. Nitong last two shows ko, ‘Mulawin vs. Ravena’ and ‘The Grind’, wala na akong ka-loveteam. I was on my own na, just like in my latest assignment, ‘The One That Got Away’, where I play Ekay, the younger sister of Lovi Poe na babaeng bakla. Parang birthday gift po ito sa ‘kin when I turned 19 noong January 10.”

Is she open to being paired with other young male actors? “Why not? It would be nice to work with other GMA stars like Ken Chan, Jeric Gonzales, Dave Bornea, Ivan Dorschner. Sabi, eventually, in TOTGA, baka maging love interest ko raw si Migo Adecera, the male winner sa batch namin in Starstruck, who plays naman the younger brother of Rhian Ramos in the story kasi pinaghiwalay rin sila ng female winner na si Klea Pineda na kasali naman ngayon sa Sunday show na ‘Sirkus’.”

GMA-7 is very pleased with the wonderful feedback that TOTGA for its pilot week. Instant fans of the winning romantic comedy say it’s worth the long wait. They like the feel good atmosphere of the story and they think all the characters, beginning with Dennis Trillo as Liam, are all cute and relatable. But they say they also miss the show that replaced it ‘My Korean Jagiya’ that always sends good vibes each evening. They’re requesting GMA to give it a part 2 as they miss Heart Evangelista as Gia and Alexander Lee as Jun Ho. Will GMA listen to their request? Let’s see.

Atom Araullo is crowd-sourcing his travel in ‘Adventure Your Way’

Veteran journalist Atom Araullo’s upcoming travel show “Adventure Your Way” is the country’s first and only crowd-sourced program that lays its fate solely on the netizens travel suggestions.

Promising a unique kind of backpack spontaneity, “Adventure Your Way” is actually a reverse transfer of travel information. Instead of featuring a destination’s attractions to the public, it’s the netizens who will introduce new sights and adventures to Atom.

Atom is set to start his journeys with a blank bucket list which rapidly becomes populated with a variety of suggestions and tips from the least to the beasts. Among endless suggestions are skydiving, bungee jumping and camping by a cliff edge under the stars.

A certified go-to guy for travels, Atom shared what it feels like to surrender his fate to his smartphone and spoke of the prime advantages of always having one in trips.

“I always bring my smartphone even if it doesn’t have any data lalo na abroad ‘pag nagtitipid ka ng konti. But you download certain maps, you try ask people about the best places to go. If you have people that you know from a place and you’re still in touch and say ‘oh can you take me out’ etc. In a way it makes things more spontaneous,” he said.

On the other hand, he said it’s also nice to just go for a complete surrender to nature.

“I’ve been in some places where I’m really not sure what to do for today, let me just walk around and see what’s in store. It has to be a balance of both,” he added.

As a hardcore journalist, Atom has been all over the country. But now, he will visit places not as a newscaster, but as a plain traveller led by adventure-seeking netizens.

“Being at the mercy of people on the internet is quite thrilling, again it goes back to the idea that sometimes you don’t know that best thing to do. Kaya nga crowd-sourcing is such a powerful method of getting information not just for the serious stuff but also for the light and fun stuff because you’re relying on the wisdom of the crowd and usually the crowd can regulate itself by telling you or me specifically what are the choices and then I can make that choice.”

Find out the other activities suggested to him by his online friends and see what he discovers.



CHERIE ENJOYS WORKING WITH YOUNGER ACTORS

CHERIE Gil usually spends the holidays with her children who are based abroad, but during the last Christmas season, she chose to stay at home. “I had a knee operation kasi, so for three weeks, I had to stay put,” she says. “Also, my parents (Eddie Mesa and Rosemarie Gil) are here now and I produced my dad’s concert at the Meralco Theatre. Tapos, dumating itong offer ng GMA News and Public Affairs to do ‘Sirkus’ and I really like my role as La Ora, ang kontrabidang gugulo sa buhay ng mga characters sa show. I’ll be appearing in a lot of fabulous costumes na mala-Jean Paul Gaultier ang dating and stunning make up and wigs na mahirap but I’m willing to do them all for the sake of

makatrabaho ko ang isang iniidolong aktres like her.”

Ayra misses Elyson but willing to be paired with other Actors

AYRA Mariano is the first runner up in the last Starstruck search and she was initially paired with the male runner up Elyson de Dios, who’s now missing in action as he felt nothing much is happening to his career so he decided to return home to his native Cebu to resume his high school studies.

“After we did ‘D’Originals’ last year, walang bagong show so his parents told him to just go home sa kanila sa Cebu,” says Ayra. “Ang sabi raw sa kanya, kapag tapos na siya ng high school, it’s up to him if he still wants to return to Manila and pursue a career in showbiz. Nakaka-miss din kasi we were also cast to-

Mystery and friendship play out in GMA Network's primetime series Sherlock Jr.

They say that dogs are a man's best friend. But many times, these warm and loveable pets are so much more than that. GMA Network takes its viewers on a fun investigative journey with its newest primetime offering featuring a star-studded and interesting cast, *Sherlock Jr.*

Headlining this series are two of the network's brightest young stars and one of today's hottest love teams Ruru Madrid and Gabbi Garcia, along with an endearing dog named Serena. There will also be a special guest participation of beautiful and



talented Kapuso actress Janine Gutierrez. Ruru breathes life to Sherlock "Jack" Jackson, Jr., a clever investigative reporter who never backs out from solving mysteries. Aside from being a good son and brother, he also loves his girlfriend very much. Gabbi plays the role of Lily Pelaez, a jolly and bubbly veterinary clinic assistant. She loves joining anything that could make her famous including various contests and beauty pageants.

Janine is Irene Manansala, Jack's girlfriend and a lifestyle reporter. Despite being an orphan, she felt the love and belongingness that she longs for from Jack.

The show also introduces the golden retriever named Serena, the wonder dog who will touch everyone's lives and will teach them lessons on love, life, family and friendship.

Joining them is Philippine Comedy Queen Aiai Delas Alas, Tonton Gutierrez, Andre Paras, Roi Vinzon, Sharmaine Arnaiz, Rochelle Barrameda, Matt Evan, Kate Valdez, Alyana Asistio, and Sofia Pablo.

Sherlock Jr. is all set not only to pique viewers' interests with its thought-provoking storyline filled with action, mystery and drama, but also to show how love and family are some of life's greatest joys. More importantly, that true friendship knows no boundaries—humans, animals, and all.

Kapuso viewers abroad can catch Sherlock Jr.'s grand premiere via GMA's flagship international channel, GMA Pinoy TV. To check the program schedule for each territory, visit their official website at www.gmapinoytv.com.

Gerald Anderson defines sexy

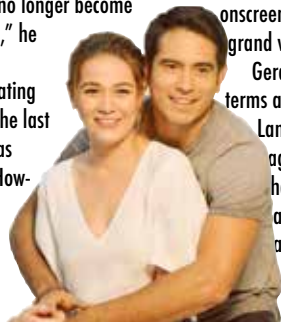
At age 28, actor Gerald Anderson now has a new definition of the word "sexy."

"I'm now attracted to someone who is independent, motivated and who lives her life with a purpose—that is sexy for me. More than the face, I prefer to be with someone who knows what she wants in life & works on getting it," he said.

"I admit that when I was younger, I'd chase girls who were fair-skinned and pretty. Now, I know that looks fade; and when you're already together, these traits no longer become your basis to carry on with the relationship," he pointed out.

For over a year now, Gerald has been dating fellow Kapamilya actor Bea Alonzo, whom he last worked with in July 2016 in the Dan Villegas romantic-comedy film "How to Be Yours." However, the two actors refuse to put a "label" on their romance.

Gerald pointed out. "But I'm also human, and I also feel that I need to keep certain things about myself private." He added: "I don't want to be unfair to a particular project that



I'm promoting. If I keep talking about my private relationships, that would always be the focus of interviews and not the project's merits. Let's just say all was good for me in 2017 and that my 2018 started in a positive way."

Reacting to a feng shui master's prediction that he would tie the knot this year, Gerald said: "If you would ask me now, yes, I'm more prepared to settle down at my present age compared to when I just stepped out of 'PBB' ('Pinoy Big Brother's' house at age 17)."

Gerald is a product of the first season of the "Teen Edition" of the reality show "PBB," where he finished third place. His onscreen partner and ex-girlfriend Kim Chiu was the grand winner.

Gerald and Kim had admitted to not being in good terms after they broke up seven years ago, but in "Ikaw Lang ang Ibigin," the two got to work closely again. "The project has proven that, despite what happened to us in the past, we are both passionate about our work as actors. We are professionals when we're on the set. I can say that we're in a better situation now than before."

Gerald is now busy working on another romantic-comedy film, this time with 2015 Miss Universe Pia Wurtzbach, titled "My Perfect You."

WHY DANIEL PADILLA WEARS SHADES

Daniel Padilla is rarely seen without his favorite accessory: a pair of sunglasses. So it's no surprise that he would one day come up with his own line of sunglasses. This year, it came to a reality as Daniel collaborated with i2i New York owners Tina and Ricco Ocampo to come up with a stylish, affordable, and unisex eyewear line.

STARTING YOUNG. Daniel said his penchant for sunglasses started when he was young.

"Parang ito yung magkukumpleto ng look ko, and ito yung parang kumportable ako, puwede ako lumabas."

The young actor also revealed that his reason for wearing sunglasses is not just for vanity, but because of his eyes' sensitivity to light as well.

"Kasi meron din akong eye problem sa liwanag, Kaya kahit sa taping, may problema ako kasi siyempre ang lalaki ng mga ilaw na ginagamit natin, di ba?"

Daniel has lost count of the sunglasses in his collection. "Sa ngayon, well, bottomless ako ngayon! Walang katapusan ang choices ko ngayon. Siyempre hindi ko naman sila masusuot lahat, so ang ganda na i-share natin sa mga tao."

"Kami nila Ma'am Tina [Ocampo], mas shine-share namin itong trip namin and sa tingin namin na maganda."



Judy Ann shares opinion on having a gay husband

JUDY Ann Santos' last film was the Cinemalaya entry, "Kusi-na", an indie film. She's now back doing a mainstream film, "Ang Dalawang Mrs. Reyes", a co-production between Star Cinema, Quantum Films and IdeaFirst that opens on January 17. She and Angelica Panganiban play the title roles of two wives who discover the deep dark secrets of their closet queen husbands, Joross Gamboa and JC De Vera. She admits she feels tense and nervous with her comeback movie.

"Ewan ko ba, siguro, hindi ako that confident sa sarili ko," she says. "I know we have a good movie, pero 'di ako confident kasi iba na 'yung viewers ngayon compared sa viewers noon dahil ang bilis magpalit ng trends, ng panlasa ng tao. Mas sanay rin ako sa drama. E, dito, nagko-comedy kami. Ang co-star kong si Angelica, hasang-hasa sa ganyan on TV kaya mas gamay na niya ang pagpapatawa. Kapag magkaeksena kami and I watch her, ang galing niya, parang napakadali. E, ako, nangangapa pa. Kasi lately, puro hosting ang ginagawa ko. So naninibago ako. After each take, I ask our director, okay ba 'yung trabaho ko, I need reassurance, e. Pero happy ako sa pag-challenge sa sarili ko. When I said yes to this project, alam kong ibang-iba ito sa anything na nagawa ko before, I have to go out of my comfort zone, so with the help of (direk) Jun Lana and my co-stars, sana naman naitawid ko nang maayos ang role ko."

She plays Lianne, a cosmetic surgeon ala-Vicki Belo. "Glamorosa ako rito, laging nakabihis, naka-heels, nag-English. Maganda ang message ng movie about gay relationships. Makakatulong for people to understand more about how gays feel. Kami ni Angelica, initially, we were shocked and angry na 'yung husbands pala namin, may gay relationship."

What if her husband Ryan Agoncillo would turn out to be like that and replaces her with another man? "The point there is: niloko ka. 'Di importante kung sino o ano ang ipinalit

sa'yo. The issue is niloko ka dahil meron pala siyang iba at tinarantado ka niya. But as far as my husband is concerned, wala siyang bahid, 'no? Walang-wala. Sigurado ako diyan."

Aside from this, Juday has also finished a drama with internationally acclaimed director, Brillante Mendoza, "Bayang Magiliw", where she plays the Muslim wife of Allen Dizon.

Snooky's good advice from Politican BF

SNOOKY Serna visibly gained some weight when she showed up at the presscon of "The One that Got Away" where she plays the mom of Lovi Poe. But she also obviously looks happier now. It's common knowledge she's now in a relationship with former Bulacan Vice Gov. Ramon Villarama who apparently has a good influence on her. "Very positive talaga ang influence niya sa akin," she says. "I used to be so gastadora before. But he thought me how to spend my money wisely. Tinuruan niya akong mag-apon for the rainy days."

She's happy to be doing shows now with GMA-7 where she's been doing one show after another like "Poor Señorita", "Sinungaling Mong Puso", "Hahamakin ang Lahat", and several episodes of "Magpakailanman". In "The One that Got Away", she is paired with Bembol Roco as her husband. She's managed by Leo Dominguez who's also the manager of Lovi Poe, so someone quipped that she must be on a package deal with Lovi as they now play mother and daughter in TOTGA.

"Hindi naman," she smiles. "Ang dami ko na ngang nagawang shows sa GMA pero ngayon lang kami nagkasama ni Lovi. I enjoy working with Lovi as she's really a good actress. First time namin to work together was in the movie 'Sagrada Familia', which is about incest and where she won a best actress award."

Korean Actor Sad about Ending Show



LEFT, Ronnie and Jemilie pose with Sheryn Regis. right, Kayleigh Cerezo gives the ok at Sheryn Regis concert.

KOREAN actor, Alexander Lee is understandably sad because his show, "My Korean Jagiya", is ending tomorrow, Friday, and he'll soon be returning to Korea.

"I will never forget all my good experiences during my stay here in the Philippines," he says. "Everyone was pleasant to me, from my co-stars to the staff and the bosses of GMA. They all made working here memorable."

What's his most unforgettable scene in "My Korean Jagiya"? "It's the gondola scene shot in Bataan. I had a great time talking with Heart Evangelista about our personal lives while we were on the boat. This made our friendship even closer."

He also enjoyed the place itself, Las Casas de Acuzar in Bagac. "The old houses are so beautiful, their architecture, and I had fun dressing up in traditional Spanish costumes. My whole stay here is a great learning experience for me as I found out more about Filipino culture, how it is to work in another country and I made so many valid reflections about life. I think the most important thing I learned is also what Jun Ho himself learnt: Fame and popularity do not make you happy. It's your relationship with the loved ones around you that is more important and could bring you true happiness."

He'll also miss working with Heart. "Heart is a joy to work with. I enjoyed having heart-to-heart talks with her as she has given me so many pieces of good advice about work and about life in general that I will treasure forever. I will definitely miss working with her as our chemistry is perfect. Don't miss our last telecast this Friday night."

Duterte appoints a comedian to OWWA

Arnell Ignacio is now the Deputy Executive Director V of OWWA

He was previously PAGCOR's AVP for community relation and services

Roque confirmed that the transfer was Ignacio's "preferred" post. He really wants to be of service to the OFWs."

President Rodrigo Duterte appointed Arnell Ignacio to the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA). Ignacio is now the Deputy Executive Director V of OWWA.

The TV host-comedian was a strong supporter of Duterte during the election campaign. Back in 2016, he was previously appointed as the AVP for community relation and services department at the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR).

Philippines is world's top social media user: study

For the third year in a row, the Philippines emerged as the country that spent the most time on social media.

An average Filipino social media user spends almost 4 hours on different platforms daily followed by Brazilians and Indonesians, respectively, the report said.

SM backs out of Goldilocks takeover

MANILA - SM Retail Inc has backed out of its planned acquisition of Goldilocks Bakeshop, the head of the country's anti-trust watchdog said.

SM informed the Philippine Competition Commission of its decision in writing, PCC Chairman Arsenio Balisacan said. "It's a completely business decision on their part," Balisacan said.

After Balisacan's announcement, SM said it agreed with Goldilocks "not to pursue the transaction given changes in the general business environment." It did not elaborate.

Commissioner Johannes Bernabe of the PCC quoted SM as saying in its notice that the acquisition was called off due to "commercial" considerations. Bernabe said he was surprised with the move, which came a month after the PCC said it could proceed.

The watchdog had expressed concern that the deal might limit the supply of retail space in SM Malls for Goldilocks' competition and the mall operator might also share the competition's sales information with Goldilocks.

SM addressed the PCC's concerns and the deal was approved in January.

Sharon Cuneta forgives someone who isn't sorry

How do you forgive someone who is not sorry in the first place? Megastar Sharon Cuneta maybe has an answer...

Nagbahagi ng personal na karanasan tungkol sa pagpapatawad si Sharon Cuneta.

Sa kanyang Instagram ngayong Biyernes, Pebrero 2, nag-post ang Megastar ng quote na ito:

"I never knew how strong I was until I had to forgive someone who wasn't sorry, and accept an apology I never received."

Sa caption, sinabi ng 52-year-old actress-singer na makakagaan sa pakiramdam ng isang tao kung walang hinanakit na dinadala.

Sa comments section, may ilang netizens ang naka-relate sa mensahe ni Sharon.

Sinagot niya ang ilan sa mga ito.

Sinabi ni Sharon na may mga araw na gusto mo nang sumuko, pero huwag daw bibigay.

Sa sumunod niyang mensahe, ibinahagi ni Sharon na matagal bago niya nagawa ang magpatawad.

Pero napansin daw niyang masyadong negatibo ang idinudulot nito sa kanya.

Sinabihan din ni Sharon ang isa niyang follower na kalimutan na ang nakaraan at ituan ang pansin sa kasalukuyan.



House ok’s bills on security of tenure, annulment, farm aid

MANILA - The House of Representatives had a productive day last January 28, approving three controversial bills on third and final reading. The three measures—strengthening the security of tenure, providing immediate financial assistance to agrarian-reform beneficiaries and recognizing the civil effects of church-decreed annulment—will now be transmitted to the Senate for its own deliberations.

Lawmakers passed House Bill (HB) 6908, which seeks to strengthen the security of tenure of workers. The measure prohibits labor-only contracting and defines its existence when any of the following is present: the contractor does not have substantial capital or investment in the form of tools, equipment, machineries, work premises, among others; and the contractor has no control over the workers’ methods and mean of accomplishing their work; and the contractor’s workers are performing activities which are directly related to the principal business of the employer.

The bill also introduces a new provision requiring all persons or entities doing business as job contractors to obtain a license from the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE).

DOLE support

Labor Undersecretary Joel Maglunsod said they support the passage of the current

version of HB 6908 since it will grant them more authority to go after erring contractors.

“We hope they would fast-track its passage since it will help us in our enforcement [of basic labor standards] and in complying to with the President’s campaign against contractualization,” Maglunsod said.

Annulment

Meanwhile, HB 6779, or “An Act Recognizing the Civil Effects of Church Annulment Decrees”, has also been approved by 203 lawmakers.(SEE BELOW)

Agrarian Financial assistance

Also approved on third and final reading is HB 6686, which seeks to provide immediate financial assistance to affected agrarian-reform beneficiaries in the event of natural calamities to make their losses more bearable.

The bill mandates full crop-insurance coverage to farmer beneficiaries whose losses were the result of natural calamities such as typhoon, drought, volcanic eruption and flood.

The measure also included in the crop-insuranceagricultural losses triggered by plant diseases.

Sen. Binay wants transparency in China’s Benham maritime research

Sen. Nancy Binay on Thursday urged the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) to publicize the details regarding the controversial permit issued to China for the maritime research in Benham Rise.

DFA Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano earlier said that the Chinese researchers pose no threat in the country and was actually favorable on the Philippine’s end. Cayateno said that the DFA has allowed foreign experts to conduct research as long as local scientists were also on board and that details found must be shared to the government.

“In the interest of transparency, it would be best for the DFA to share to the public the extent of the study, research and exploration of China in Benham Rise,” Binay said in a statement.

“And since it is the DFA which approves or disapproves scientific researches in both the West and East Philippine Seas, it is only appropriate if they could provide a list of all Filipino and foreign-led expeditions in our waters since 2010,” the senator added.

The government changed the name of Benham Rise to Philippine Rise in April 2017 by President Duterte to assert jurisdiction over the area.

Binay, according to the statement, could not see anything wrong if the DFA would disclose the details of the permit. “Mas mabuti nang malaman natin kung hanggang saan ang tulong na ibibigay ng China sa atin sa pagre-research (We must know

as to what extent the assistance China would give us in terms of research). If it does not undermine the country’s sovereignty, then I don’t see anything wrong why the DFA cannot provide us with the details of the agreement between the Philippines and China,” Binay, chair of the Senate committee on tourism, cultural communities, and social justice, welfare and rural Development, said.

The senator said that the information—about the location, number of vessels, offshore platforms, area and period of coverage and members of the technical team—is relatively important for the Senate to know and review the Financial and Technical Assistance Agreements (FTAA) entered into by the Philippine government.

“While nothing legally hinders joint explorations, for years, it has always been an issue of policy whether or not government should allow foreign corporate interests or foreign governments to join the Philippines in exploring for resources,” Binay noted in her statement.

“Sa ngayon (For now), we need to be cautious and sparing in giving approval for joint explorations. We must first bear in mind the interest of the Filipino people. Baka naman iba ang agenda ng MSR (Maybe the agenda of the MSR is different)? Our foreign partners should first acknowledge and recognize our territorial integrity and sovereignty over our waters—and that’s non-negotiable,” she said.

Earlier, Presidential Spokesperson Harry Roque said that Filipinos were free to conduct a research in Philippine Rise.

EDITOR: She is starting to surprise me, for one. She has mass appeal sa voters kaya naboto, she possess an astute and keen mind. She talks with sense without hysterics, not like online trolls and bashers.

ANNULMENT continued from page 1

approved by the Catholic Church or any other religious group will have the same effect as a civil annulment. “Hindi na kailangan mag-file ulit in any court for judicial recognition of that annulment. You just file it with the proper civil registry,” Deputy House Speaker Gwendolyn Garcia, co-author of House Bill 6779, told DZMM.

The bill also allows either of the former spouses to marry again after recording

their annulment in the civil registry and complying with the requirements of the Family Code, according to a press release from Congress.

Annulled couples are also required to execute a public document on the partition of their properties, and the custody and support of their children.

House bill 6779, entitled “An Act Recognizing the Civil Effects of Church Annulment Decrees” was co-authored by Leyte Rep. Yedda Marie Romualdez.

HunkShot

Jason is a member of Team Crossover Canada that will represent Canada at the SM NBTC National High School Championships in the Philippines. We wish him and the team good luck.



Jason Diaz

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The group said that if the trend would continue the public might face outbreaks of “debilitating and life-threatening diseases” that the government would be able to control through vaccination programs.

The only way to continue to prevent deadly epidemics of infectious diseases, the group said, would be to sustain a high rate of immunization or vaccination in the population.

“This will not be possible if parents refuse to consent to vaccination for their children because of fear,” the group said.

The group also lamented how some “hard working, competent, honest and dedicated” physicians and career personnel in the Department of Health (DOH) were “maligned and deprived of their right to defend themselves.”

“Available documentary evidence that might have been offered to prove the innocence of some of the accused has not been made public for reasons that we can only speculate on. The public hearings have become avenues for “expert bashing” rather than a genuine search for truth,” the group said.

Moreover, the group stressed that “there is no such thing as a perfect vaccine.”

“The history of vaccination from the 18th century to the present is rife with controversy. A study of the history of these controversies teaches us lessons about the tragic consequences and harm to the general public that result when we allow hysteria to rule over logical and scientific judgment,” according to the group.

The group also expressed support in the DOH’s decision to suspend the Dengvaxia immunization program until there would be a quick cost and effective way to determine whether a person has had dengue in the past or not.

But the group also urged the DOH not to remove Dengvaxia from the market.

“Already we are faced with patients who have had dengue infection in the past, who are now at a loss because they cannot get their doses of Dengvaxia because it has been taken out of the market,” it said.

The group also urged their colleagues in the medical profession to be careful about “unfairly slandering colleagues by careless, sweeping and unsubstantiated accusations.”

“We urge those who have documentary evidence that can truly shed light on the current controversy to please come forth with the truth. And we beg our legislators to be open to hearing both sides,” the group said.

“Allowing half-truths to prevail is dangerous. It not only causes persistent confusion but has also caused mass demoralization among the dedicated and hard working personnel and physicians of the DOH. This is both cruel and unjust,” it said.

EDITOR: It’s like those who believe the flu vaccine gives them the flu just because they got the flu after getting the shot. They are looking for the perfect vaccine.



Megan Young, Mikael Daez celebrate 7th year together



Kapuso stars Megan Young and Mikael Daez on Saturday exchanged sweet messages for their 7th anniversary together, which incidentally coincides with Mikael’s 30th birthday.

Megan shared several photos on Instagram and in the captions lovingly referred to Mikael as her best friend. “Happy birthday to my best friend, travel buddy, gym buddy, and FOFO,” she wrote.

“For us it’s year number 7 together! Always such a happy day with this loverbutt,” she added.

Mikael officially confirmed their relationship in February 2017 and said that they hadn’t intended to keep it secret from the public, but they simply got used to staying low-key because of where they were in their careers when they began dating.

The two had long been posting photos as “travel buddies” before then.

The pair will be working together in a show for the first time this 2018 in “The Stepdaughters.”

Pia Wurtzbach reacts to “crossover beauty queens” joining Binibining Pilipinas 2018

Miss Universe 2015 Pia Wurtzbach on new batch of Binibining Pilipinas candidates: “Hindi ko pa sila nakikitang lahat, pero sa mga nakita ko na, laging sinasabi ko, ang daming magaganda this year.”

Ilang araw pa lamang ang nakakalipas mula nang ianunsiyo ang 40 official candidates ng Binibining Pilipinas, kaya wala pang napipili si Miss Universe 2015 Pia Wurtzbach kung sino sa tingin niya ang malaki ang tsansang manalo at mag-uwi

ng mga korona.

Pahayag ni Pia, “Hindi ko pa sila nakikitang lahat, pero sa mga nakita ko na, laging sinasabi ko, ang daming magaganda this year.

“Forty candidates, medyo marami yun. Good luck to all the girls.

“Bet? Wala pa kasi based on my experience, gaganda pa silang lahat, simula pa lang ito nag-i-screening pa lang sila.

“Siyempre, yung hitsura ko din naman dati, di ba?

“Nagbago din naman nung lalaban na ako, pag malapit na yung pageant.

“Siguro I’ll start looking at the girls more and more as the pageant night is getting closer.”

Ano ang reaksiyon ni Pia sa mga tina-tawag na “crossover beauty queens”?

Dalawa kasi sa mga kandidata ngayon sa Binibining Pilipinas ay titleholders na, gaya nina Catriona Gray na nanalo na bilang Miss World Philippines 2016 at Vickie Rushton na kinoronahang Mutya ng Pilipinas 2011.

Ayon kay Pia, “Okay lang naman yun.

“As long as okay sa organization, walang magiging problema sa contract, okay lang yun.”

People...are talking about :

Moirá dela Torre



She is, without a single doubt, the most popular upcoming singer in town. Not only has she dominated Spotify, YouTube, and Billboard PH, she’s also able to amass a number of solid following in a very short span of time. Now for a litmus test, the young singer, who’s behind the hit songs “Malaya” and “Titibo Tibo,” will finally be in a concert of her own. Will she get the same reception from concertgoers? That’s what we are more excited to find out.

Donna Carriaga

From winning the stand-up comedy contest in It’s Showtime to being an online sensation, the comedienne and former stage actress is now making it big.

With her videos watched by millions on YouTube, everyone is just excited about what she’s going to do next. No wonder, even the country’s most watched music channels have tapped her to be their celebrity VJ this month.



My Fairy Tale Love Story director defends Janella Salvador on “cause of delay” issue

My Fairy Tale Love Story director Perci Intalan clarifies that Janella Salvador never caused any delay during the making of the movie, despite her issues with her mom: “Everyone is aware of what’s happening sa mag-ina pero ang maganda naman is Janella is very professional. Wala akong makitang problema with her when she’s on the set. She comes on time and wala kang makitang problema sa mukha niya kasi she’s always excited to shoot.”

“Hindi lang naman kasi si Janella ang artista namin sa movie, marami sila.

“It’s beyond our control kung biglang may papasok sa schedule sa kanila kaya naantala nang matagal ang shooting namin. “But we’re so happy now that we’ve finally finished the film.

“Hindi rin kami nag-overbudget. We are just right sa budget na sinet namin sa movie despite all the delays.

LAUDING JANELLA’S PROFESSIONALISM. Naging big issue naman ang naging personal na alitan ng mag-inang Janella at Jenine Desiderio. Kaya marami ang nag-isip na naging reason din ito ng delay sa shooting.

“Wala akong makitang problema with her when she’s on the set. I guess Janella has learned to set her personal problems aside. And in fairness naman to her mom, she never went to the set. Never ko siyang nakitang dumating.

“Maybe it’s her way of respecting her daughter’s place of work.”

Klea Pineda set on joining Bb. Pilipinas

Even if Klea Pineda, 18, has no plans to join Binibining Pilipinas until she turns twenty one years old, she wants to start training as early as now. “Sana po makapag-training na ako this year, as soon as possible.”

Hindi man umabot sa selection of candidates ng Binibining Pilipinas ngayong 2018, nais pa rin ituloy ni Klea Pineda ang pangarap na makasali sa patimpalak isa o dalawang taon mula ngayon. “Plan ko pong sumali, twenty-one, twenty-two years old [na ako],” sinabi ng 18-year-old Kapuso artist. Dagdag niya, “Para life experience po, di ba, para trained na trained na talaga.” Ngunit ngayon pa lang, nais nang mag-training ng dalaga para sa kanyang pagsali sa beauty pageant sa hinaharap. Ayon kay Klea, sinunod niya ang payo sa kanya ng kapwa Kapuso artists na beauty queens din. “Kasi ang dami pong nagsasabi sa akin, like sila Miss Ariella Arida, sila Miss Winwyn [Marquez],...

“Sinasabihan nila ako na, ‘Huwag kang magmadaling sumali agad-agad kung alam mong hindi ka pa sure sa nap-feel mo, na sure ka na, na confident ka nang rumampa.’ “Lumalapit ako sa kanila, sa set, makikita ko sila, ‘Miss

Winwyn, penge namang tips.’
“Binibigyan naman nila ako.”

MODELING CONTEST EXPERIENCE.

Ikinuwento rin ni Klea ang pagsali niya sa Asian Supermodel noong December 2017. Para raw itong America’s Next Top Model. “Ang GMA po kasi, sumasali na po talaga sila diyan, dati pa. Dalawa sila ni Koreen Medina na isinali ng GMA-7 sa contest. Ayon kay Klea, “Kaso, mag-isa lang po akong nakalipad kasi she lost her passport po. “Sayang! Kaya mas nakaka-pressure po sa akin kasi mag-isa lang po ako nun.”

Ang representative ng China ang itinaanghal na grand winner sa naturang competition. Napanalunan naman ni Klea ang award na Miss Photogenic.

“At least, may naiuwi po ako dito,” nakangiting sabi niya.



Candid SPOOF

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



Employees of FV Foods had fun trying to pop the balloon at Mel galeon’s birthday party.



Chiara Silo

Chiara Silo is Miss Ontario World First Runner-Up. Her next goal is to continue her journey towards nationals for Miss World Canada, bringing with her the platform of her past pageant: accessible health care for low income communities.



Tony and wife Joy San Juan pose with anniversary couple Maria and Juan.



ABS star Gerald Anderson poses with FV Foods' Mel Galeon.



JULIE ANNE SAN JOSE

The brightest music artist in the Kapuso network has made history after her single "Nothing Left" was released on Monday. Thirty minutes after it was dropped on iTunes Philippines, the song topped the singles chart and has remained in the top 5. The song, her first single under Universal Records, gives people a sneak peek of what Julie Anne can deliver once her full-blown album under the music label is released. No wonder, fans can no longer wait for that moment to come.

Nutritionist claims it's healthier to eat pizza than cereal for breakfast

Yeah, you read that right!

Mornings just became a little more bearable after a nutritionist named Chelsey Amer stated that eating pizza for breakfast isn't just for the severely hungover, but is actually a healthier option than a bowl of cereal.

"You may be surprised to find out that an average slice of pizza and a bowl of cereal with whole milk contain nearly the same amount of calories," Amer explained in a report by the Chicago Tribune.

"However, pizza packs a much larger protein punch, which will keep you full and boost satiety throughout the morning."

Pizza is almost universally-loved—long-standing pineapple on pizza debate aside—so this is definitely good news for a lot of people.

But before you decide to chow down on a slice every morning, here's the catch: Amer also said that pizza isn't a healthy food per se—just that it is a more balanced meal compared to a bowl of sugary flakes and milk. It definitely isn't the healthiest breakfast option there is.



SIRKUS

How did the pilot episode of GMA-7's fantasy drama fare in the ratings game? Well, it's safe to say that the network has just cemented its being a ratings leader on weekends. According to data from Urban Philippines, the new program starring Mikoy Morales and Mikee Quintos got an AGB TV rating of 8.6 percent or 3.1 percent higher than its direct competition. And that's quite a big lead.

Bret Jackson defends Nadine Lustre from bashers



Bret Jackson (left) appeals to netizens bashing Nadine Lustre (right): "Why would anyone bash Nadine in the first place?"

Bret Jackson expressed his dismay at netizens who have been persistently bashing Nadine Lustre, girlfriend and onscreen love team partner of James Reid.

This is in relation to Nadine's recent exchange with bashers who have accused the 24-year-old Kapamilya actress of being "nega" and "patola queen."

Bret, 26, is a close friend of James, 24. They were both former housemates in Pinoy Big Brother Teen Clash in 2010.

According to Bret, he doesn't see any reason why netizens would want to attack Nadine.

Nadine directly replied to some Instagram comments from her bashers.

She wrote, "To all the trolls, I don't know you and yall don't know me. What makes you think your words will affect me and put me down?"



MEL'S BDAY

FV Foods owner Mel Galeon had a birthday party complete with food, fun, games, prizes and friends. Here are a few of the photos.



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