

MISS GRAND CONTINENTAL TEEN 2017 PHOTO BY NOLI GUMAPAC
MELISSA Ventocilla



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Tax Reform
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who **SAVE** for
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FILIPINOS Live
LONGER but **NO Pension**

Liza Soberano as
a Good Businesswoman



JEN Mercado's
SEX **SCENE**
too HOT

Piolo Pascual to **PRODUCE**
international **MOVIES**
ALDEN RICHARDS
SHOW in Toronto

MISS INTERNATIONAL
2016 KYLie Versoza
talks about
OVERCOMING DEPRESSION

NADINE



Lustre
Most Beautiful Woman

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MANILA, Philippines — Why are restaurants and “carinderias” packed full at all times of the year? Why do Filipinos love to share meals and

MAMA SITA
continued on page 9



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Piolo Pascual be producing international movies next?

Piolo says he has talked with various Asian producers and actors at the recent Variety Asian Stars Up Next Awards in Macau.

Masaya at proud na ikinuwento ng Kapamilya actor na si Piolo Pascual ang kanyang naging experience sa katatapos lang na international film festival and awards ceremony sa Macau kung saan tumanggap siya ng pagkilala bilang isa sa 10 Asian Star ng Up Next Awards for 2017.

Ayon kay Piolo, walang kapantay na kasiyahan ang kanyang naramdaman sa pagkilala na ibinigay sa kanya ng international film festival.

"Ang sarap ma-recognize and mabigyan ka ng karangalan especially dala mo pa ang pangalan ng bansa natin kaya for me it is just one way of showing na very active talaga ang entertainment industry natin." sabi ni Piolo.

Ani pa ni Piolo, naging daan din daw ang international film festival upang makilala niya ang ilan sa malalaking International film producers.

"It was a good experience. I was able to chat a lot of movie producers, iba ibang tao kasi they



chose from different countries and there's one producer who is willing to partner up with us," saad pa ng aktor.

Bilang movie producer, looking forward din daw si Piolo na maumpisahan ang ilang proyekto kung saan posible pang makatrabaho niya ang ilan sa malalaking Asian stars.

"Yes marami na akong nakausap, mag-reply na lang sila sa e-mail, then we will finalize kung ano ang mga concept, even doon sa mga actors na nakasama ko, marami din kami napag-usapan na mga projects na pwede i-collaborate ang concept. I'm just really excited sa mga ganitong pagkakataon na minsan lang mangyari sa buhay mo so you got to grab it," paliwanag ni Piolo.

At kung matutuloy nga ang mga ito, positibo din daw si Piolo na magiging magandang simulain ito para sa antas ng pelikulang Pilipino.

"It was very interesting conversation, it's more of advancing the film industry for the Philippines and also how we can impact the global market."

PH among top 5 most dangerous for journalists in 2017

BERLIN - At least 65 media workers around the world have been killed doing their jobs this year, media freedom organization Reporters Without Borders said on Tuesday.

Among the dead were 50 professional journalists, seven citizen journalists, and eight other media workers. The five most dangerous countries were Syria, Mexico, Afghanistan, Iraq and the Philippines.

Of those killed, 35 died in regions where armed conflict is ongoing while 30 were

killed outside of such areas.

Thirty-nine of those killed were targeted for their journalistic work such as reporting on political corruption or organised crime while the other 26 were killed while working due to shelling and bomb attacks, for example.

"It's alarming that so many journalists were murdered outside of war zones," said Katja Gloger, a board member of Reporters Without Borders. "In far too many countries perpetrators can assume they'll get off scot-free if they're violent towards media professionals," she added.

The organization said more than 300 media workers were currently in prison, with around half of those in five countries, namely Turkey, China, Syria, Iran and Vietnam.

Honey Shot

Crystal Castillo

Crystal is a student of Star Circle Entertainment. She is also a member of the Charms singing group. Obviosuly, she can siong and dance. Add acting to her talent as she is in a pilot TV show. We wish her all the luck in her career.



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Isabel Granada

An Appreciation of a Woman Who Made Her Own Way



She might always be remembered as the doe-eyed beauty from That’s Entertainment, but Isabel Granada is no one-hit wonder. When teenybopper roles became scarce, she wisely transitioned to more grown-up roles. And when even the showbiz world began to feel small, she quietly left the limelight to finish school and become an entrepreneur, content with dropping in from time to time with smaller supporting roles.

The gorgeous mestiza may not have turned into a household name after the ‘90s, but she was a picture of beauty and strength throughout her life. Let’s look back at some of the reasons we love Isabel Granada:

She opened Filipinos to a new mermaid.
At a time when all the mermaids most of us knew

She was a pilot, a fighter, and one of the most underrated artists of her generation.

were Dyesebel and Ariel, Isabel boldly took on the role of Mina in Halik ng Sirena. She was 24 at that time (2001) and chose the film to solidify her maturity as an actress (she marked her transition with a part in Ligaya Ang Itawag Mo Sa Akin). While the role of half-fish, half-human is always innately sexy, Isabel amped it up by opting not to wear a bra (shellfish or otherwise) and refusing to pad her breasts. She gamely told Ricky Lo in an interview 16 years ago: “Yong hair hindi naka-plaster sa katawan ko, it flows freely, so inevitably mayroon akong frontal nudity.” The movie was a sex drama about a mermaid who falls for a womanizer, her kiss, however, keeps him committed to her. The twist is that she only becomes a full human every 10 years and only for 10 days.

She’s a fighter.
In 2006, Isabel had her right ovary removed due to a cyst. In 2008, during another surgery to remove a benign tumor in her left ovary, they discovered two more cysts. She took it in stride, dispelling cancer rumors and continuing to work right after the procedures.

She’s a licensed pilot.
After her showbiz career stalled, Isabel continued to soar—literally through the sky. With an Aeronautical Engineering from the Philippine Air Transport and Training Services (PATTS) College of Aeronautics degree, she was licensed to fly commercial flights.

In 2001, Isabel talked about death after a turbulent flight on a Cessna where she insisted on landing in Bacolod instead of the actual destination, Dipolog. “I never feared death because my mom is always there. With her, I feel safe...I can’t do anything.”

She’s a singer too.
Remember when entertainers could do it all? They could act, dance, sing; they could do drama, comedy, horror, action. Isabel was part of that glorious age when movies ended with campy dancing and random musical numbers, when you could ask actors to do something and they’ll do it without question or autotune. She launched three albums within 10 years.

‘Sunday beauties’ revisited

Life goes on for the stars of MMFF 2016’s best film

In Hong Kong (from left): Mylyn Jacobo, Hazel Perdido, Cherrie Marie Bretana and Rudelie Acosta



which supports Selomenio’s Global Alliance, as well. As the president, Acosta

A year after Baby Ruth Villarama’s documentary, “Sunday Beauty Queen (SBQ),” made history in the Metro Manila Film Festival (MMFF) for winning best picture, the trials and triumphs of its lead stars, a bunch of feisty and fearless Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) in Hong Kong, continue to unfold.

In a way, a documentary never really ends, as its main characters’ stories go on in real life, 24-7. Villarama said that the docu’s stars (Leo Selomenio, Rudelie Acosta, Cherrie Marie Bretana, Mylyn Jacobo and Hazel Perdido) have become instant celebrities among their colleagues in Hong Kong and Manila. “Some Filipino tourists seek them for a photo and a hug,” Villarama related.

They’ve also gained a few fans among the country’s movers and shakers—including two lawmakers. Selomenio said two Filipino senators approached him for a snapshot in Hong Kong. “They told me that I had made their wives cry,” Selomenio, who heads the organization Global Alliance, is still busy engaging in charity work and mounting beauty pageants in Hong Kong.

Acosta, for her part, is also active in her own group, United OFW Panaboan Incorporated,

is heading several projects for the migrant community. “I plan to go back to the Philippines in July next year, for our Operation School Supply in, Davao del Norte.” Perdido aims to come home next year when her current employment contract ends. In the meantime, she preoccupies herself with various activities.

Perdido hopes that the docu will be shown in her home province of Ilocos Norte soon.

Bretana is still working in Hong Kong, as the breadwinner of her family in North Cotabato. She plans to return home in 2019, after 10 years abroad. “I want to experience Christmas with my loved ones in the Philippines,” she explained. The biggest surprise was reserved for Jacobo, who stumbled on a belated acting career, post-“SBQ.” “My first TV exposure was ‘Magpakailanman,’ and I shared a scene with Janice de Belen,” she recounted. “I was nervous, but I enjoyed myself.”

“I realized how hard it was to make movies and TV shows,” she conceded. “I’m not yet a full-fledged actress, but for my relatives and fellow OFWs, isa na akong ganap na artista! A domestic helper who became a Sunday Beauty Queen... I am proud of my journey!”

Alden Richards renews contract with GMA Records, prepares new album

Pambansang Bae Alden Richards renewed his recording contract with GMA.

The multi-platinum recording artist is excited for his upcoming album, which he said will have a



kami na kasama pa rin natin siya sa GMA Records, and hopefully magkaroon ulit tayo ng concert this year.”

The plans for his music career is already up and running as

millennial sound, including his most favorite praise songs. Alden is thankful that the label has been helpful and attentive with what he plans on doing about his newest album.

“GMA Records has been continuously researching and doing a lot of brainstorming kung ano yung mga project na ibibigay sa’kin, which I appreciate, dahil like what I’ve said before, hindi naman talaga ako kumakanta. And with their help, slowly, nahanap ko na yung fulfilment sa singing. So I’m happy that I’m still with GMA Records, it’s my 3rd year and I’m looking forward to more,” he said.

Meanwhile, Yalong has noted that despite being in the digital age, Alden remains to sell out in physical sales, “We are very happy, especially GMA Records, kasi pumirma muli sa’tin ng kontrata si Alden. The last albums that he released, lahat ‘yan platinum kaya masaya

Salta discloses the upcoming activities for the Pambansang Bae under GMA Records. “Ngayon, limited edition ang magiging album ni Alden and it will probably be a bundle sa upcoming concert niya na ipo-produce ng GMA Records. Kumpleto na ang album, but the recording is still in the process and it will contain 5 songs and syempre kasama yung praise songs na si Alden mismo ang pumili,” he reveals.

Surely, the New Year has welcomed Alden with positivity and another successful year is in view as he begins to roll up his sleeves for his upcoming shows and album.

Meanwhile, Alden’s supporters abroad will also get a chance to kick-start 2018 with the Pambansang Bae in the “Alden Richards Live in Sydney”. The event, through GMA Pinoy TV, is set to happen on January 20 at the Evan Theatre in Panthers Penrith, Australia.

Nadine Lustre on doing projects without James Reid: **‘Nagu-grow din kami kahit hindi kami magkasama’**

Nadine Lustre reacts to rumored kissing scene of boyfriend James Reid and Sarah Geronimo.

Sa ulat ng TV Patrol, nagbigay ng reaksiyon si Nadine Lustre sa diumano’y kissing scene ng kanyang boyfriend na si James Reid at ni Sarah Geronimo sa kanilang pelikula na Miss Granny. Ani Nadine, “It’s for work naman so okay lang naman.

Saka si Ate Sarah, I mean wala namang ano yun ibig sabihin so I’m okay with that.”

Ayon naman kay James, ang Miss Granny ang first project niya na hindi kasama si Nadine. May horror movie din na gagawin si Nadine na hindi kasama si James. Todo suportang naman sila sa mga solo projects ng bawat isa.

Ayon kay Nadine, “Ako excited ako sa mga projects niya, siya excited din sa akin. Kasi parang we grow together pero at the same time nagu-grow din kami kahit hindi kami magkasama.”



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PAL crosses
Polar region, a *1st*
for the **Filipino** carrier

MANILA - Philippine Airlines said it flew non-stop over the Polar region from Toronto to Manila, the first for a Filipino carrier.

The flight, PR 119, left Pearson International Airport at 12:53 a.m. on Dec. 17 and arrived in Manila 16 hours later at 6:10 p.m. on Dec. 18, the flag carrier said in a statement.

The new Polar route will cut travel time between Toronto and Manila by 4.5 hours, PAL said, adding it would now operate flights between the 2 cities 4 times a week.

"I am truly honored to have been given the privilege to lead this milestone flight. More than that, I was glad to be part of a journey that brought much happiness to passengers on board as they were given a rare treat of the Northern Lights," said Capt. Florendo Jose Aquino, who flew the Boeing 777 jet.

The plane traveled 13,300 kilometers at an altitude of 29,000 to 37,000 feet over Canada, Greenland, the Arctic Circle, Russia, Mongolia and parts of China, PAL said.

"Kudos to the PAL team which made this flight a reality and most importantly, congratulations to our PAL flight deck crew under the leadership of Capt. Chuck. You make us proud," PAL president Jaime Bautista said.

Aside from the Boeing B777, the ultra-long range Airbus A350s, which will be delivered starting 2018 will also serve the Polar route, PAL said.

James Reid Named Sexiest Man in the Philippines for the 2nd Year in a Row!

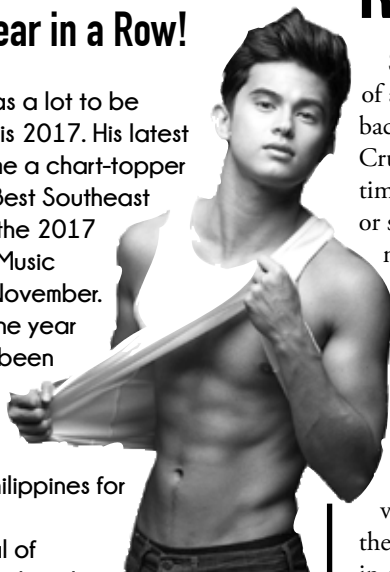
James Reid has a lot to be thankful for this 2017. His latest album became a chart-topper and he won Best Southeast Asian Act at the 2017 MTV Europe Music Awards last November. And before the year ends, he has been voted by netizens as the "Sexiest Man in the Philippines for 2017!"

With a total of 979,396 social media and online ballot votes, James grabbed his 3rd "Sexiest Man in the Philippines" title. Although he didn't top our Twitter, Instagram and Online Ballot polls, He ruled Facebook with 627,514 votes which contributed to around 60% of his total score.

This is James' 2nd win in a row. His first win was in 2014 when he had a tough bout against Paulo Avelino and Matteo Guidicelli for the top rank. Last year, he defeated Xian Lim for the title. This year, it was Daniel Padilla who posed a threat to James' title by garnering a total of 765,567 votes. The "La Luna Sangre" star, by the way, topped our Twitter poll.

Placing 3rd is Elmo Magalona with a total of 404,378 nods from netizens. Elmo ruled our Instagram poll with a total of 358,818 votes, where around 75% of his total score came from.

2013 winner Enrique Gil settled for fourth place this year with a total of 83,664 votes. He was the leader in our online ballot.



SHANAIA GOMEZ MADE A STUNNING RETURN TO HER ROOTS IN TORONTO

Shanaia Gomez is one of the members of a teenage singing group a couple of years back and they called themselves "Candy Crush." Forgive my honest opinions all the time because when I am watching a show or something, I always

made and formed an honest, at times brutal perception of what I saw. Shanaia obviously possess a mixed beauty attributes that her presence is highly visible even among the same beautiful faces in a group.

I do that all the time...distinguishing and predicting outcomes of what may come of some particular people. It's similar to watching the Canadian Idol many years back when I choose Kaylan Porter as winner even during the audition process. His beautiful face and persona was irresistibly sharp. Same with Carrie Underwood in American Idol when I knew she was going to win the first time I saw her.

Shanaia Gomez is one of those whom I guessed early on to have the ability to make it a little bigger one day. Fast forward to January 2nd 2018, my guess was building up. She's been signed up as one of GMA Channel's new discoveries last year. She disappeared from Toronto's congested singing aspirants and was on training for acting and to become a full-pledged star of one of the Philippines biggest TV Network.

Looking up on stage at her latest appearance and guesting with the two Comedians, Donita Nose and Super Tekla, her transformation is highly visible. From the way she carried herself, dressed herself up

and the slimming figure of an artist climbing up to one day dominate the Entertainment scene in her mother's native land, Shanaia is an example of a well-disciplined artist. That ready smile and warmth in dealing with the



GMA7 artist Shanaia Gomez (CENTRE) pose with Donita Nose and Super Tekla.

audience is a character a successful artist must possess.

A true artist leaves an imprint to every person she/he mets. Shanaia has that sparkle in her eyes indicative of being real, respectful and one who knows the trade even at this fragile stage of her acting career.

She's not related to me. It's just that her mom hails from the same province as I do, Bohol. it's not even that and why this blog is written. It is because some artists deserve a space on my blogs. Meaning, I am her fan long before she went home and did commercials with the authentic heartthrob, Ian Veneracion.

Down the road....you will see her again on this platform, read more about her. This one will ultimately become an inspiration to the many kids her doting mom is molding at their studio- Star Circle Academy of Entertainment where she most likely began.

By Li Eron on eronli.blogspot.ca

NOTE: Candy Crush is now Charms.



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CELEBS who are or were Pure before Marriage



We all know that many people are always watching different celebrities either on TV or social media. Yes, because of the advanced technology that we have right now, and as well as the social media that connects us, many people can easily get updates on famous people like celebrities and showbiz personalities.

Social media allows us to know more about our favorite celebrities and see how they spend their day.

People nowadays are becoming a little liberated because of the influence of social media. Some of them no longer believe in the old tradition of saving yourself for your loved ones. It is just sad to know that most of us are already influenced.

However, despite all these influences, some still remain true to their belief.

Here is the few list of people who kept their belief strong and vow to save themselves until marriage.

1. Iya Villania is very open on her stand in maintaining her chastity until marriage. however, the great thing about her is she's not against the idea of women who practice "it" before marriage. Now, she is a happy mother and a loving wife to his husband Drew Arellano.

2. Toni Gonzaga is known as a Christian so it's not surprising that she keeps her word and maintain true to their

accustomed belief. Currently, She is a mother and wife of director Christian Paul Soriano.

3. Yeng Constantino is a singer and songwriter, she is known for performing quite popular songs and very talented. She is a Christian as well and shares the teachings to everyone. - to save her purity until marriage.

4. Nikki Gil is very well-known to firmly stand to save herself from anyone unless she is married to the person. In one of her interviews, she has shown a promise ring that signifies her promise and stands against pre-marital lovemaking.

5. Rocco Nacino (PHOTO) is a celebrity with a bad boy image. It is really hard to imagine that a guy like him also believes in this. Well, despite the outside image he is a conservative and will follow the tradition.

6. Kim Chui is known for her comedy skill. Like everyone else, she is willing to wait until a man walks her down the aisle.

7. Janine Togonon is the Philippines Miss Universe, she strongly believes that marriage is sacred and will wait for the right time.

8. Robi Domingo is a well-known host. according to him, you should give it to the one you will spend the rest of your life with.

9. Megan Young is also a TV host, she wouldn't think twice about saying "NO" to the person if they don't value the belief that purity should be surrendered after marriage.

10. Sarah Geronimo is a singer and his current boyfriend Mateo Guidicelli understand her views and agrees to wait until marriage.

noon?
Saad ni Migo, "I am, like, excited. "It's an age that I wanted to be dahil siyempre, nainggit ako sa mga friends ko, sa labas nila [gimik], na marami silang freedom. Puwede sila mag-gimik.

"At yung buhay nila, more interesting, dahil more free sila.

"I think I was able to experience that at an early age dahil GMA gave me that freedom to work here.

"To be eighteen, I'm just happy to be eighteen.

"Can't wait to see the outcome on who I am to become, more as a mature person.

"Kasi, right now, I'm just... I feel like I'm sixteen, I still feel like a kid, so I wanna see any character changes for the better, of course."

Isa raw sa mga wish ni Migo ang maging maayos pa ang kanyang pagsasalita ng Tagalog.

Sabi niya, "Sana ma-improve ko ang Tagalog ko para mas diretso at magandang pakinggan.

"At sana mas marami pang roles at mas mahaba pa yung career ko dito sa Pilipinas."

Maganda ang pagpasok ng 2018 para sa binata dahil kasama siya sa bagong primetime series ng GMA Network na The One That Got Away.

CUM FEEDING IN LAGUNA Makes News but Got Lost in Translation

MANILA - We gotta hand it to the provincial government of Laguna. It consistently holds programs and activities for its constituents to promote gender and development.

Most recently, it held a gift-giving and feeding program for malnourished children. But it trended online for all the hilarious, albeit twisted, reasons. Go look at the tarp. (PHOTO ON PAGE 26)

On Facebook, GMA News Online got in touch with Governor Ramil Hernandez whose name appears in the tarp. His social media manager quickly replied — "Ang ibig sabihin ng cum dito ay 'comes with'" — and instantly referred us to Ms. Arlet Estrosa, who heads the Gender and Development Program for some three years already.

CUM FEEDING continued on page 26





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'That's life'

Alvarez defends move to scrap opposition solons' projects

MANILA – “That’s life.”

That is how House Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez responded to claims that he caused the deletion of projects proposed by some lawmakers in the 2018 budget.

Alvarez told ABS-CBN News that he had to make sure that his allies allocations and needs were addressed.

He claimed this was a practice done by previous administrations.

Alvarez said the only difference now is that he was “more transparent” about it while previous administrations kept the allocations of critics in the budget but did not release funds.



He said not all 24 lawmakers named in a list that circulated among House media lost their projects for their districts.

Albay Rep. Edcel Lagman earlier said Alvarez ordered the removal of projects in the constituencies of “critical” and “wayward” lawmakers from the 2018 national budget due to

“vengeance.”

“Vengeance plus caprice equal zero allocations for authentic opposition representatives and other targeted legislators in the House of Representatives,” he said.

Among the allegedly scrapped projects were roads and bridges leading to tourist destinations; diversion roads to de-congest traffic; dikes and seawalls; and public buildings.

Majority of these are included in the 2018 National Infrastructure Program of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) under the “Build, Build, Build” scheme, he said.

How to tell ‘fact’ from ‘fake’,

Veteran reporter Joseph Morong, a McLuhan Fellowship awardee, will be tackling this widespread phenomenon referred to as “fake news” in the digital platform where it matters most.

As one of the leading media outfits in the country, GMA is creating pioneering content for digital natives.

“Fact or Fake with Joseph Morong” is one of the three shows GMA Public Affairs is launching in 2018 as part of GMA ONE Online Exclusive.

During the press launch for the show on Wednesday, Morong explained that fake news hinges on “intention to lie and to masquerade as the truth” and is

different from mistakes, misinformation, and disinformation.

He added that this is not a new development. Clickbait, for example, is just the online version of attention-grabbing headlines.

As a primer, here are some quick tips on how to tell fact from fake:

1. When the headline is sensationalized. If the headline sounds like it’s being yelled out loud by a strange person running in the street, Morong said, stay skeptical.

2. Mimicking. There are websites that look completely legitimate because they imitate the layout, the logo, and even the url of actual news outfits. Take the extra step to check the official website. For GMA News, it’s gmanetwork.com/news.

Remember that logos can be edited into anything, so verify the information from official sources!

3. Lack of by-line. Established news organizations publish articles that include a by-line or the name of the journalist who wrote the article. This is done for accountability — something that propagators of fake news don’t want to face, which is why they might omit their names from articles or use a pseudonym.

Morong emphasized that everyone is susceptible to fake news and even people who believe themselves to be discerning need to be cautious.

“Fact or Fake” tackles a very controversial topic and Morong admits that he feels the pressure to promote good content — but he hopes that the program is able to demystify fact-checking and help the public understand the importance of being discerning in the information age.

Actor-Solon Alfred Vargas advocacy: Education for everyone

MANILA - His latest movie “Ang Guro Kung Hindi Marunong Magbasa” which was shown recently is very relevant and meaningful to solon-actor Alfred Vargas because he advocates for education for everyone.

“Everyone, meaning without prejudice to ethnicity, gender, social class or economic class,” he said. “Actually, I just came from an inclusive education summit where we are advocating for education for all. So you could just feel that ‘Guro’ is very dear to me, being an advocacy film. You could also feel how disheartened I was when at first review the movie was given an ‘X-Rating’ by the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB) because of what the

described as significantly violent scenes.”

On second review, “Guro” was given a PG-13 rating (with minimal cuts) by MTRCB,

“Guro” is Alfred’s first movie after four years during which time he concentrated on public service. “But when I read the script, I couldn’t resist it. I can make my craft as an actor to make socially relevant films like this one which must be an eye-opener to the government,” he said.

In the movie, Alfred plays the lead role Aaquil, a farmer who struggled to teach the children in his town to read



and write, in spite of being illiterate himself. “Guro” was a finalist of the 2007 Cinemalaya Philippine Independent Film Festival held last August.

Another project which excites Alfred is the primetime series “Kamba,

Karibal,” now aired on GMA Network.

Alfred said he’s impressed with his young co-stars Miguel Tanfelix and Bianca Umali. “Kay Miguel nakita ko ang sarili ko nung baguhan pa ako. Silang dalawa ni Bianca, they’re so talented and professional. Gustong-gusto ko silang dalawa. I believe na malayo ang mararating nila.”

Miss International 2016 Kylie Versoza reveals how she survived depression

Miss International 2016 Kylie Versoza on overcoming depression: “The best way is to always ask for professional help.”

Kylie Versoza has admitted she suffered from depression before she took home the Miss International title in 2016.

She recalled, a year before she joined her first Binibining Pilipinas pageant, “I was going through a lot of things...

“Ayun, it just hit me, and I didn’t understand what I was going through.

“Luckily enough, my mom and my father sensed it.

“And they knew about it because one of them went through it.

“I was very lucky na I had a good support system.

“And going through it, it took six to seven months.”

Kylie described that phase.

“So medyo aloof ako sa friends ko.

“I didn’t know what I was going through and I felt lost.

“And parang I had no will to live anymore.

“Very dark, very dark yung life ko.

“Na everything was going okay, but deep inside parang I didn’t wanna be here.

“Even though I was doing well in my career, when I was modelling before.”

According to Kylie, her bout with depression was the main reason why she chose the issue as her advocacy.

To overcome this mental illness, Kylie said she had to “have positive social connections, read more, educate myself about it, changed my diet, I slept more, took care of myself more.”

The 25-year-old beauty queen and model said there are many ways to survive depression.

And the most important is to seek professional help. “It depends sa sarili mo.

“There’s the Western way, which is going through medication.

“I decided to go through it naturally, but the best way is to always ask for professional help.”

She said part of her advocacy is to remove the stigma of going to a psychiatrist.

“Minsan kasi we just really need someone to talk to, to give us professional advice.

“So that’s where the psychiatrist or therapist comes in, and then, taking the proper steps to heal.

“By medication or just by natural way, which is distancing from the people that are bad for you.”

She also stressed the importance of the right diet, and exercise in the healing process.

“A lot of it comes from your lifestyle, how you deal with things emotionally, psychologically, physically.”

“After going through it, six to seven months, parang pa-wala na siya.

“And I realized, ‘Why is no one talking about this? How come I suffered so much in silence?’

“Bakit hindi ito alam ng ibang tao? What if other people are going through it?”



Scenes in the City



FIRST, Journey singer Arnel Pineda poses with Cecille Araneta. SECOND, WFG Canada's Agnes Miranda, poses with Journey singer Arnel Pineda. THIRD, Sugarbops, rests before the start of Pinasayang Bagong Taon 2018's Super Tekla and Donita Nose concert.FOURTH, Star Circle Entertainment's Samantha Gavin of Charms poses with SPinasayang concert producer Mike Cruz. FIFTH, Star Circle Entertainment's Samantha Gavin of Charms poses with Onofre Quijano.

“So joining Binibini, they asked me what I want to talk about and sabi ko, mental health.
“And they said, ‘Why? It’s such a sad advocacy? Why did you want to talk about it?
“It’s sad, it’s not something people talk about...’
“But I still went on to talk about it and even on the second time I joined Binibini, I still decided to talk about it.
“There were some hurdlest, especially after winning Miss International.
“I still spoke about it and I didn’t know na it will be such a big thing and a lot of people would relate din.”

Kylie is continuing her advocacy of spreading awareness about depression through her online support group called Mental Health Matters.
She is also an ambassador for the mental health campaign of the World Health Organization called Let’s Talk.
It follows she strongly supports the Mental Health Bill that was pushed by Senator Risa Hontiveros, and passed by both the Senate and House.
Kylie is hopeful, “It will give more importance on mental health treatments in the Philippines, not only in the city level but also in the barangay level.”



Charms' Crystal Castillo and Miss Teen Canada Petite Ansha Joy Hipolito prepare to award the winner of the Star Circle Lip-Sync battle.

INVITATION

To all Bicolanos and Bicolanas
(Devotees to the Virgin of Penafrancia)

The 1st. month Novena Devotions to the Virgin of Penafrancia will be on January 14, 2018, Sunday . (2nd. Sunday of January 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 : January 14, 2018, 201, Sunday (2nd. Sunday of January 2018)
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 Province of ALBAY! c/o Mr. Rafael (Paeng) Nebres Telephone # 416 618-1362
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 !

For more information please call :
Jenifer Amaranto 416 781-3105
Joseph & Lorelie Redoblado 416 728-1964
Bobby and Lorna Achacon 647 456-3641
Paeng Nebres 416 618-1362

MAMA SITA
continued from page 1

even offer a complete stranger a spot in their dinner table? Why are our tables groaning with food during fiesta and the holiday season?
That is because Filipinos have this “naya-naya” spirit, said food historian Felice Sta. Maria, author of “What Kids Should Know About Filipino Food: Mama Sita’s Centennial Edition” (Adarna Books).
The celebrated author explained that “naya-naya,” a word used in the Philippines back in the 1800s, means “happy meal.” It reflects the Filipinos’ love for feeding not only the body, but the soul.
“We are not only after a full stomach,” she revealed at the launch of the book that celebrates Teresita “Mama Sita” Reyes’ 100th birth anniversary. “We’re after the spirit.”
This makes her extra proud of fellow Filipinos, because she knows what women who have won and kept their men knew all along – when the tummy smiles, the heart follows.
“Naya-naya” is not the only value Sta.



The Mama Sita Foundation recently donated commemorative stamps and cookbooks to Cebu City Public Library, honoring the 100th Birth Anniversary of the nation's culinary icon figure Teresita “Mama Sita” Reyes. Ruth Chua (left), chief librarian of Cebu City Public Library, received the commemorative stamps and cookbooks in a turn over ceremony, which was led by Mama Sita Foundation delegate Chinggay Utzurum. Teresita Reyes' vision of bringing the taste of Philippine cuisine to the world motivated her to build ‘Mama Sita’, which is now available in more than 40 countries. Despite of the increase popularity of processed foods in the present period, Mama Sita continues its legacy of bringing original Filipino flavors throughout the world.
Maria wants to share. She also wants to guide parents on the right food to give their school-age children. Contrary to what many people think, Sta. Maria said it is not good to serve pancit and pasta meals to children

before an exam.
Carbohydrates, she explained, triggers a chemical change in the body that makes the child sleepy. And that is the last thing you want your child to feel before the exam, when he or she should be fully alert.
Scientific findings support this. The Jakarta Post says a full stomach induces sleepiness because the brain releases the chemical serotonin, which makes people drowsy. Food also triggers another sleep-inducing agent, melatonin.
Thus, Sta. Maria stressed the importance of eating in moderation.
“Don’t overload on sugar because it can give you a temporary high. You think you’re so alert, and then bagsak. You have to take sugar again to sustain that level,” she warned.

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Purge of corrupt govt officials to continue

Ombudsam included in probe

MANILA - President Rodrigo Duterte has vowed to continue purging government of corrupt officials and personnel even if the Presidential Anti-Corruption Commission has yet to begin operations three months since its creation.

Palace spokesman Harry Roque Jr. admitted that the anti-corruption commission has yet to be constituted but insisted that this did not prevent the President from going after corrupt officials in the government.

“The President stated that he will continue with the process of cleansing the bureaucracy and that he will now turn more of his attention to local government units, including the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao. I believe the office will still be constituted, but he is not waiting for its constitution before he moves against corruption,” Roque SAID.

“He has shown that with or without it, he has a firm resolve against corruption,” Roque added. The President established

the anti-graft body under his office after Ombudsman Conchita Carpio Morales approved a request to obtain the Duterte family’s bank transaction records from the Anti Money Laundering Council “for intelligence purposes.”

The President accused the Office of the Ombudsman of corruption, claiming that it accepted bribe money to either prosecute or dismiss graft cases. He said his own anti-graft office would probe the Ombudsman.

PNP not keen on proposal for ‘dedicated’ group protecting legislators

MANILA - The Philippine National Police (PNP) is cold on the proposal seeking the creation of a Philippine Legislative Police (PLP) that would keep an eye on the safety and security of all Congress members.

During the recent technical working group (TWG) meeting of the House Committee on Public Order and Safety, Chief Superintendent Joel Crisostomo Garcia, director of the PNP Police Security and Protection Group (PSPG), warned that House Bill 6208, filed by

Majority Leader and Ilocos Norte Rep. Rodolfo Fariñas, would encroach into the powers of the Executive.

“While the PNP recognizes the intention of the bill, it sees a possible encroachment into the powers of the Executive,” he said, citing Section 6, Article XVI of the 1987 Constitution.

Section 6, Article XVI of the 1987 Constitution provides that “The State shall establish and maintain one police force, which shall be national in scope and

civilian in character, to be administered and controlled by the National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM).”

Garcia instead asked the panel members to just strengthen and expand the PSPG, which is currently performing the duties and functions akin to the proposed duties of the PLP.

Pangasinan Rep. Leopoldo Bataoil, who heads the TWG, vowed to deliberate further on HB 6208 when Congress resumes session on January 15, 2018.

Pinasayang Bagong Taon with Super Tekla and Donita Nose concert

They started the front act at 8 o’clock. It started with Elle Renee, Sugarpops with their medley of songs, then Gian, then Gian with the Star Circle kids dancing the Espacito, then Charms, and then with GMA7 artist Shanaia Gomez . By the time the Star Circle Kids came out, the people were already antsy. Thankfully, when the Star Circle kids came out, all their numbers were fast-paced and non-stop.

Afterwards, DJ Zoleta had the unenviable task of keeping the audience entertained until the headliners Super Tekla and Donita Nose comes out.

After 20 minutes, they came out and all was forgiven. The two started with a fast-paced number that kept the audience paying attention and laughing. Then, Super Tekla left the stage and Donita Nose had the audience’s attention to herself. We knew it was going to be lewd, crude and funny and she delivered. Donita was a

natural. She was crass but still funny. Unlike others who resort to crudeness for the sake of crudeness, to get the laughs - albeit, forced from the audience, hers was still funny and the you will laugh naturally. She had the audience in stitches. Her jokes and puns were dead on target. Her timing was good. As in she gave a back-handed compliment to an audience member who can sing, “Why don’t you join iyong mga search...” she said. With the audience thinking she meant “Search for the next singing star” or other talent contests, she delivers the punch line, “and rescue operation ng bansa natin, para may silbi ka naman.” She also had three “supposedly” good-looking men onstage.



When she came to the third “good-looking” guy, she asks “what is your name?” The guy says “Pabling” which is a Filipino word for playboy. “Alam mo, may binabagayan ang mga pangalan.” The audience laughs. Afterwards, Super Tekla came out and it was his turn to entertain the audience alone. Afterwards, both of them came out, entertaining the audience. The audience loved them so much that they were also giving them money which the duo added to their comedy improv. It was money well-spent. They entertained for hours. Too bad, people had to go to work the next day.



Why Ai-Ai’s relationship with Gerald works

A close friend of Ai-Ai delas Alas, director Rechie del Carmen, told me why the May-December love affair of the actress and her hubby, Gerald Sibayan, works. “Even if Gerald is much younger than Ai, he is an old soul,” Rechie explained. “It is he who makes important decisions for their family, like the time when Ai’s daughter wanted to stay in a boarding house close to school.

Gerald told Ai not to allow her to do so, because he heard horrible dormitory stories from his classmates. Ai has been to hell and back in the name of love. Now she has finally reached paradise as Mrs. Sibayan.

‘That’s’ reunion



Ana Abiera was raving about how fun their “That’s Entertainment” reunion was at Salo, the resto of Harlene Bautista and Romnick Sarmenta. Most of the former members of the iconic show were present, including Piolo Pascual and Ian Veneracion.

They even had a standee of Kuya Germs (German Moreno, the brains behind the show in the ’80s) that looked so real. “Nobody had star complex at all,” Ana said. “There was no network war. We bonded like long-lost family members.”

Isabel Granada’s death brought them together again. “We shouldn’t meet up just during sad moments, like the wake of Isa,” Ana sighed. “Our group should get together more often.”

Another reunion is in the works. Who knows? A remake of “That’s Entertainment” may come up next. I remember Kuya Germs telling me that he had long wanted that to happen. Perhaps the Master Showman can orchestrate the return of the show from up above.

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GMA Network Rewards Viewers With Cutting-Edge Programs in 2018

Driven with its goal of offering Filipinos world-class entertainment, GMA Entertainment Content Group never fails to feast the eyes of every Kapuso with pioneering and ground-breaking concepts as it presents a showcase of its forthcoming programs slated to premiere in the first quarter of 2018.

First on the list is the sexy, romantic-comedy series *The One That Got Away* headlined by three lovely Kapuso leading ladies *Lovi Poe*, *Max Collins* and *Rhian Ramos*. Kapuso Drama King *Dennis Trillo* plays an important role in the program as Liam, the ex-boyfriend of the three women.

Joining them are *Ivan Dorschner*, *Migo Adecera* and *Jason Abalos*. This is an extraordinary story about three women who formed an unlikely but strong friendship after discovering that in different times in their lives, they were romantically linked with the same guy. Also in the cast are *Bembol Roco*, *Snooky Serna*, *Luz Valdez*, *Ayra Mariano*, *Ashley Rivera*, *Sophie Albert*, *Jason Francisco*, *Ervic Vijandre*, *Nar Cabico*, *Dea Formilleza*, *Euwenn Aleta*, among others. The *One That Got Away* is under the helm of award-winning director Maryo J. Delos Reyes and Mark De La Cruz.

Ruru Madrid and *Gabbi Garcia*, one of GMA's hottest love teams, reunite in the original primetime series *Sherlock Jr.* Beautiful and versatile actress *Janine Gutierrez* joins the cast in a special role. Viewers of all ages will enjoy this program filled with action and drama about the friendship between an investigative reporter and a dog. The series introduces Serena



Gabbi Garcia and Ruru Madrid in Sherlock Jr.

a lovable and smart Golden Retriever who will touch everyone's lives and will teach them a lesson about love, life, family and friendship. *Roi Vinzon*, *Rochelle Pangilinan*, *Andre Paras*, *Kate Valdez*, *Sharmaine Arnaiz*, *Matt Evans*, *Yann Asistio*, *Sophia Pablo* and Philippine Comedy Queen *AiAi delas Alas* complete the star-studded cast of *Sherlock Jr.* *Rechie del Carmen* helms this program.

Three upcoming Afternoon Prime series are set to premiere next year namely *Hindi Ko Kayang Iwan Ka*, *The Stepdaughters* and

Contessa.

Hindi Ko Kayang Iwan Ka is topbilled by *Yasmien Kurdi*, *Martin del Rosario*, *Jackie Rice*, and *Mike Tan*. This intriguing series tells about the struggles of a woman who is HIV positive and how she battles her own frailties and demons in life. This is also the first "advoca-serye" which tackles one of the most serious, deadly diseases in human history. Joining the cast are *Shamaine Buencamino*, *Charee Pineda*, *Ina Feleo*, *Mike "Pekto" Nacua*, *Catherine Rem*, *Caprice Cayetano*, *Sef dela Cruz* and actress-director *Gina Alajar*. Neal del Rosario directs the program.

Kapuso viewers will surely be hooked with *The Stepdaughters* starring real-life sweethearts *Megan Young* and *Mikael Daez*. Versatile actress

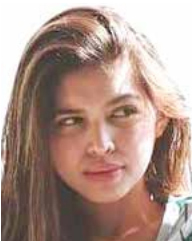
Katrina Halili joins the cast together with *Glydel Mercado*, *Sef Cadayona*, *Samantha Lopez* and *Gary Estrada*. This upcoming Afternoon Prime soap revolves around the story of Mayumi and Isabelle, two strong-willed women who will do everything for family, honor and love. Paul Sta Ana directs The Stepdaughters.

Another program to watch out for is *Contessa*. Multi-talented actress *Glaiza de Castro* bags the coveted role of Contessa, a woman who quests for justice after being accused of a crime she did not commit. Playing important roles in the series are GMA leading men *Jak Roberto*, *Geoff Eigenmann* and *Gabby Eigenmann*. Completing the all-star cast are *Lauren Young*, *Dominic Roco*, *Leandro Baldemor*, *Bernadette Allyson*, *Phytos Ramirez*, *Denise Barbacena*, *Will Ashely* and *Tetchie Agbayani* with special participation of *Mark Herras*. Albert Langitan directs *Contessa*.

Catch these exciting new programs which will soon air abroad via GMA's flagship international channel, GMA Pinoy TV.

THIS PROVES THAT MAINE MENDOZA HAS A BIG HEART

Maine Mendoza once again proved that she's more than just a TV personality with a pretty face. The phenomenal star surprised everyone when she randomly sent a heartwarming message to Janica Nam Floresca, girlfriend of late actor-performer and Hashtags member Franco Hernandez.



Franco's untimely death left Janica's heart and soul shattered, especially that the unfortunate incident happened right before her eyes. Since then, fans and online netizens never stopped sending Janica words of encouragement on social media to somehow make her feel that she's not alone during this time of grief.

What surprised the netizens was when Janica posted a screenshot of a DM (direct message) from Maine Mendoza on Instagram. The actress from GMA Network sent a touching message to Janica telling her how she admires her relationship with Franco, calling them a "beautiful couple" which makes her feel in love. Maine also cheered her up and said "stay strong."

Losing a significant other is one of the most difficult challenges in life. But with the love and support of family, friends, and concerned individuals like Maine, things will be more bearable for Janica as she continues her fight.

Kapuso actress Ryza Cenon inspired by Kapamilya actress Jodi Sta. Maria

Ryza Cenon on other celebrities who seemed to have given up: "Huwag silang mag-give up, huwag silang mag-quit, huwag silang mag-question na bakit ito. Mismo yung blessing ang lalapit o yung break."

Pagkatapos ng 12 taon sa showbiz, ngayon lang nabigyan ng pagkakataong maging bida sa isang mainstream movie ang Kapuso actress na si Ryza Cenon.

Ito ay sa pamamagitan ng pelikulang Mr. & Mrs. Cruz ng Viva Films, kung saan katambal niya si JC Santos.

"Yes po. Sa 12 years ko po, ngayon lang po ako nakagawa ng pelikula.

"And may pressure for me kasi hindi ko alam yung process," paliwanag ng Ultimate Female Survivor ng StarStruck 2.

Hindi ito talaga ang unang pelikula ni Ryza, pero supporting roles ang papel niya sa mga ito: Lovestruck (2005), Puso 3 (2006), Migrante (2012), Diyos-Diyosan (2016), at Enteng Kabisote and the Abangers (2016),

Nagbida na rin siya sa Ang Manananggal sa Unit 23B noong 2016, pero isa itong

indie movie.

Pahayag pa ni Ryza, "Masaya, sobrang blessed ako na unti-unti ko siyang nakukuha.

"I know it's late. Kasi I'm 30 na, kaya I think it's late na rin."

Kaya naman peg daw niya ang 35-year-old Kapamilya actress na si Jodi Sta. Maria, na late na rin nabigyan ng lead roles.

Saad ng Kapuso actress, "Peg ko pa rin talaga si Ate Jodi, e.

"Nakita ko kay Ate Jodi yung career, nagkaroon ako ng chance.

"Parang siya yung nagbigay ng hope sa akin na may pag-asa pa ako, and this is it."

Mensahe pa ni Ryza sa mga naiinip na mabigyan ng break sa showbiz:

"Huwag silang mag-give up, huwag silang mag-quit, huwag silang mag-question na bakit ito.

"Mismo yung blessing ang lalapit o yung break.

"Basta mapatapat lang ang tamang role sa kanila na kaya nilang gawin at mailalabas nila yung talent nila, dun sila mapapansin."



BIG GAMBLE. Alam daw ni Ryza na malaking pakikipagsapalaran nang umalis siya sa poder ng GMA Artist Center, na nag-manage sa kanyang career higit sa isang dekada.

Iniwang ni Ryza ang talent arm ng Kapuso network noong 2017.

Nasa ilalim na siya ngayon ng pamamahala ng Viva Artists Agency, kung saan mayroon siyang 10-year contract.

"Yes. Kailangan, e. Medyo risky siya.

"Pero kailangan talaga para mas lalo akong mag-move forward," paliwanag niya tungkol sa desisyon paglipat ng talent management.

Pero nananatiling Kapuso si Ryza dahil ongoing pa rin ang pinagbibidahan niyang afternoon teleserye sa GMA-7, ang Ika-6 Na Utos, kung saan kasama niya sina Sunshine Dizon at Gabby Concepcion.

Prayoridad pa rin daw niya ang GMA-7 sa paggawa ng TV projects.



ABOVE, Phoebe Yap Chan cuddles with GMA7 artist Shanaia Gomez at the Star Circle Christmas party. RIGHT, Shanaia poses with her tito, Journalist Jojo Taduran.



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Nadine Lustre wins MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN title Again

Kapamilya star Nadine Lustre emerged as the winner of "100 Most Beautiful Women in the Philippines 2017" by virtue of 3,230,519 votes she received from Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and Online Ballot. This is Nadine's second consecutive year to nab the title. The Viva Princess topped all categories of the 5-way poll except Online Ballot which was dominated by Liza Soberano.



ABOVE, Dr. Solon Guzman treats Girlie Padillo and family at Seafood City and shows his soon-to-be-open office.



LEFT, Samantha and mom Emely Abuno Gavin pose at Pinasayang Bagong Taon concert. ABOVE LEFT TO RIGHT, Fe Taturan, Sheena Yap Chan and Ellen Galorport pose for a picture; GMA7 artist Shanaia Gomez pose with her Tita, Fe Taturan; Ellen Galorport, Cassandra Adajar and Fe Taturan chat at the Star Circle Entertainment Christmas party; FV Foods' Mel Galeon pose with Kapamilya star Kim Chiu; Angela Castillo celebrates her birthday last January 9.

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John Lloyd promises to good care of Ellen and baby

It's said Ellen Adarna and John Lloyd Cruz are officially tying the knot on a beach wedding in Cebu at the end of this month. Here's hoping they took a helpful marriage preparation program like the Discovery Weekend to help them face the problems they will surely encounter later in their marital life.



Like always, it's happy and rosy at the beginning, but once the rigors of living day in and out as a married couple set in, there's some reality check and, if they're not prepared, it will be very difficult for any married couple to handle the potential problems that might crop up. Which is where a good marriage mentoring and adjustment program can be very helpful.

But a lot of young couples think they don't need such helpful programs and believe they'll just live happily ever after automatically. Then they wake up one day realizing the magic is

gone and it's time to call it quits as they've given up and think the damage to their marital relationship is irreparable.

We're told that Ellen is due to deliver their baby around May or June. And John Lloyd has promised to take good care of her and their baby, taking a leave of absence from his work for a while. He believes that he still can make a comeback later.

It's said his peg is Richard Gutierrez, who was gone for some years after Baby Zion came, but still returned successfully in showbiz via "La Luna Sangre". The advantage of Richard is he has retained his matinee idol good looks. As for

John Lloyd, he should pay full attention to the forehead won't get any wider.

Nadine says loss made f

Nadine Lustre is happy to leave 2017 a good year for her, what with her yo that caused her to feel depression. S "I feel really great now kasi, even



Dr. Victoria's CHRISTMAS PA

Dr. Victoria Santiago had their Christmas party for her staff and their families at Rembrandt Banquet Hall. While the weather outside was delightful-ly frigid, the feeling inside was one of celebration and joy. Delicious food was in abundance. Of course, A Filipino celebration will not be

Cathy Garcia-Molina on Joshua Garcia: 'He will never be John Lloyd Cruz'

She said both actors are incomparable. 'Unexpectedly Yours' director Cathy Garcia-Molina refused to compare young actor Joshua Garcia and seasoned star John Lloyd Cruz to one another, no matter the comparisons made by other people.

Some viewers have been saying that Joshua is the next John Lloyd. Cathy, at a recent bloggers' conference, said, "He will never be John Lloyd. John Lloyd will always be John Lloyd. No matter how good Joshua is, he can only be Joshua."

"Hindi kasi ako naniniwala 'dun eh, 'yung mga 'next next' kasi iba si John Lloyd. Incomparable (siya) as much as Joshua is incomparable. He has his own strengths. Joshua will make it on his own."

While Cathy only got to work with Joshua in their now showing movie, the blockbuster director worked with John Lloyd in several projects including the well-received film trilogy 'A Very Special Love,' 'You Changed My Life' and 'It Takes A Man and A Woman.'

Bianca Gonzalez's thoughts on celebrity bashing trigger netizens

Television host Bianca Gonzalez thoughts, which she shares to follow pages. This time, she could not help "Too much negativity with some rivals. Kelan ba naging ganito? (WH) tweeted with curiosity on Tuesday. "Pwede naman maging civil kum

his receding hairline and make sure his

family stronger, closer

behind. She's the first to admit it's not
younger brother's untimely passing away
how is she now?

n though bad things really happened to

us, ganun talaga. Minsan, hindi natin ine-expect 'yung mangyayari. If it's meant to
happen, it's gonna happen. Our family learned so much from what happened and
we all became better people. We promised to each other that we'd be stronger
and closer. A lot of other people were also touched by the incident. Sila 'yung
nag-push talaga sa'kin to get out of my depression. They were messaging me
through Instagram, may e-mails and I feel really blessed because all these people
encouraged me kaya pinilit ko ang sarili to pull myself up and stay strong and be
there for everyone."

She directed the new music video of her BF James Reid and people say she did
a good job. "I took up filmmaking in school at noon ko pa talaga gusto magdirek



so I'm happy
nagustuhan nila ang
trabaho ko. Mahilig
din ako sa music
and the songs of
James inspired me,
so I suggested that
I direct his music
video. I'm really
thankful na pumayag

siya at ginastusan niya talaga ang music video."

She and James are back big time in "Revolution: The JaDine Concert" at the
Big Dome on February 9. She's elated as she'll have a duet with special guest,
Sarah Geronimo. "I'm really excited kasi we'll sing my favorite songs since bata pa
ako," she says.

"Britney and Madonna ang peg nila sa number nila," says James.

Nadine is back in two new movies. She's now shooting "Never Not Love You"
with James, directed by Antoinette Jadaone. Later, she will shoot a horror-thriller,
"The Nurse", co-starring Lorna Tolentino, to be shot in Japan directed by Jun Lana.
"Revolution, The Jadine Concert" is directed by Paul Basinillo.

Santiago's PARTY 2017

complete lechon.

There was music, dancing and games. They also had their
exchange gifts. It was the season of happiness and to be
thankful for the blessings the year has brought.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



has always been vocal about her
wers through her social media
but pose a question.
fans bashing their idols' perceived
men did this happen?)" Gonzalez

ng di mo talaga bet (You can be civil

if you do not really like someone)," she added.

Because of her tweet, one netizen asked Gonzalez to name who she
was referring to. "This kind of tweet will just fuel more negativity. [I]
f it's clear who you were referring to, maybe the fans can address your
concern," @nasasprismworld wrote.

Not stopping there, the commenter pointed out that Gonzalez is "a
media practitioner" who "should know better." "Also, maybe this isn't

a simply 'hindi bet' situation," the netizen added.

On this note, Gonzalez fired back that it was the netizen's comment
that fuels the negativity, because it implies that the bashers are in
groups; she asserted that bashing relies on the individual.

Meanwhile, another netizen answered back at her first tweet by
sharing a quote from Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's comic opera, "The
Marriage of Figaro".

Once again, the television host replied that everyone was free
to criticize. "Pero iba ang criticizing sa bashing/pambabastos/
pambabalahura (But criticizing is different from bashing/humiliating/
being vulgar)," Gonzalez shot back.

So far, Gonzalez has not opened up on who or what kind of bashers
she was referring to, leaving netizens speculating.

Piolo Pascual ventures into the food business

Piolo Pascual's business ventures are definitely on the rise this 2018.

Aside from his film production, Piolo has also ventured into food business. He recently opened his own franchise of a shawarma brand which he endorses.

"There was an opportunity so why not, di ba? And when you believe in the product that you endorse, of course, you want to do something else. And a lot of my friends have already done the franchising and sabi ko, why not do it myself? I'm always here. I'm always in the area. And the owner of this place is a good friend of mine so just thought of putting up a branch here," he told PUSH during his branch's ribbon-cutting event.

Partnering with three more people, one of his colleagues in his new venture is Alex Gonzaga's boyfriend Mikee Morada.

"Matagal na kaming magkakilala ni Mikee and magbabarkada kami. Since they own the property, we just thought of putting a business... kasi patok na patok siya sa tao. Mahilig kaming kumain din... After workout, wala kaming makainan. Ang sabi ko they have this area, they have this opening here, why not Turks? Kasi matagal na rin. Akala ng tao, ako ang may ari ng Turks. It's only my first branch and I'm sharing with a lot of other people," he said, adding that he is happy with the growth of the brand.

Aside from his entrepreneurial activities, Piolo will also be busy with his acting career as he got an invite to this year's Berlinale (Berlin International Film Festival) for "The film that I did with Lav Diaz that we shot in Malaysia so we're going to Berlin in February."

He is also working on a teleserye with Arci Munoz, Alessandra de Rossi, Empoy Marquez, and JC de Vera. "So far, okay na kami sa pilot (episode). We're just waiting for a timeslot sa grid ng ABS. Sana 'wag agad kasi medyo mahirap gumawa ng soap, eh. We delayed a bit para makapagbangko ng mas maraming (episodes)."



Duterte signs law Prohibiting Gift check expiration

MANILA - President Rodrigo Duterte has signed a law that prohibits the issuance of gift checks with expiry dates, according to a copy of the measure that was released by his office.

The Gift Check Act of 2017 states that consumers bearing gift checks “must not be unduly deprived of the value of their money.” The measure was signed Dec. 19.

It outlaws the refusal to honor the unused value, credit or balance of the gift check.

However, gift certificates issued under loyalty, rewards or promotional programs, as determined by the Department of Trade and Industry, are not covered by the law.

Coupons or vouchers for discounts for pre-identified goods or services are also not covered.

The law allows the merchant to refuse gift

checks that are either lost or mutilated. Gift checks can be used with promotional sales, loyalty programs, warranties, return policies for cash purchases, and discounts for senior citizens and persons with disability.

The measure covers gift checks that are already issued. Those with unused and unexpired gift checks can have them replaced.

The fine for first time offenders was set at P500,000 to P1 million. Second-time offenders will also be fined the same amount and have their authority to issue gift checks be suspended for 3 months.

Third-time offenders, in addition to the fine, will have their authority to issue gift checks cancelled.



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Alden can continue solo

ALDEN Richards hosted a thanksgiving party for the press. The only big star who did so this year. He raffled off so many cash prizes. No wonder the press continues to love and appreciate him for not forgetting their help to him all throughout the passing year and his entire career. Love begets love and that is what's Alden is getting in return.

Alden's thanksgiving lunch was held at his own resto, Concha's Garden Cafe at Sct. Madrinan.

He says the passing year is a good one for him. “Ang daming blessings na dumating. My endorsements were renewed and extended up to next year. Itong Concha's will soon be available for franchising. Sa TV, nasa planning stage pa kung ano ang magiging next program ko. Siyempre, tuluy-tuloy pa rin ako sa ‘Eat Bulaga’. Wala pang final word sa movie namin ni Maine (Mendoza) so abangan na lang natin.

May international shows din pala ako in January. Unang-una na sa Sydney, Australia, then GMA Pinoy TV shows sa New Jersey in the U.S. and Toronto in Canada.”

Does he have any birthday wish? “For myself, wala na kong masyadong hinahanap kasi I'm contented na with everything. Wish ko na lang, peace and stability.”

And what can he say about Maine? “I'm very happy that she's having fun with her family sa holiday vacation nila abroad. Just like me with my family. We both deserve those breaks. Abangan na lang natin ang pagbabalik niya when we go live sa ‘Eat Bulaga’ on January 1st.”

Even his countless fans appreciate Alden's gesture of making a video presentation of his new home in Sta. Rosa, Laguna which was posted on social media. Those who've seen it were impressed because Alden had a special room constructed for his grandparents at the ground floor in his house so that it will be easily accessible for them. No wonder he continues to be so

blessed. Most writers believe that if ever Maine would choose to exit from showbiz, Alden can still go solo and sustain his career on his own.

Erich quiet about new BF

ERICH Gonzales shows off her sexy figure in several scenes in “Siargao” where she is seen in her skimpy bikinis. This is really her sexiest appearance on the big screen. “Well, I'm not getting any younger po,” she says. “At pinaghandaan ko po yan. I've been eating healthy. At talagang nagworkout ako, maski noong nasa Siargao kami mismo. It came to a point sa life and career ko na kung hindi ko gagawin ngayon, kailan pa? I felt I'm ready for it now at dumating naman 'yung tamang project, so proper timing naman ang lahat.”

She's happy to be part of the annual Metro Filmfest again. “My last entry was ‘Shake, Rattle & Roll’ three years ago, so it's nice to be back and do this movie na nakaka-excite as it shows the viewers the beauty of one of the best places in our country. Marami kong ginawa rito na exciting talaga, like surfing and cliff jumping. Ako rin ang nag-drive sa sarili kong motorbike around Siargao. Halos three months kaming nag-stay roon, pabalik-balik, at lahat kami sa cast, sobrang ganda ng experience namin kasi you're working but at the same time, parang nagbabakasyon ka rin lang in such a beautiful idyllic place by the beach.”

How does she feel about all the rumors linking her to their director, Paul Soriano? “E, hindi na lang po pinapansin yun kasi malayo naman sa katotohanan. Even his wife, Toni Gonzaga, is not bothered by it kasi alam niyang intriga lang, gawa-gawa lang. Personally, I admire Direk Paul for his passion sa craft niya. Lahat kami, pati my

Wala nang damo, Buhay pa ang Kabayo

Despite longer life, nearly 40% of aging Pinoys lack pension – ILO



GENERATIONAL SEWERS Luningning Tan-Gatue, 83, gets help from granddaughters Addrianne Marie Tan and Addrielle Ann in preparing the Philippine flag to be flown on Independence Day today at their shop in Santa Cruz, Manila. Her family has been making them for decades.

MANILA, Philippines — Almost 40 percent of elderly Filipinos do not have a secure income or pension at a time when life expectancy has risen by five years (from 2000 to 2015), according to the International Labour Organization.

In its recent World Social Protection Report 2017/19, ILO observed that the Philippines' social protection system continues to have “serious gaps,” which can be seen in the lack of a pension for a great number of senior citizens, “despite a significant increase in allocation”.

Based on the latest available Philippine data, ILO reported that public social protection expenditure on pensions and other benefits, excluding health, for persons above the statutory pensionable age is only 0.6 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP).

Nevertheless, it pointed out that this

year, the government “made efforts to increase benefit levels of senior citizens receiving contributory pension, and to increase the social pension coverage of indigent senior citizens.”

It also said that health protection measures were announced in 2014 in the Philippines, making health insurance coverage automatic to citizens 60 and above, and expanding the package of health services for them.

‘Particularly troubling’

But the low pension coverage is still “particularly troubling”, as it creates an additional financial burden to the family, “as the ratio between elderly parents and adult children rise.”

“ILO's new report shows many countries, regionally and across the world, are prioritizing their social protection systems,” said ILO Manila Country Office director Khalid Hassan in a press release. “We think this is a good time for Philippines to follow the same path and extend protection to its elderly through the launch of a universal pension.”

The Philippines was named one of the countries that have “more than doubled their public expenditure in social protection in the last 20 years,” even though public social protection expenditure, excluding health, based on the latest available Philippine data is only 0.8 percent of the GDP.

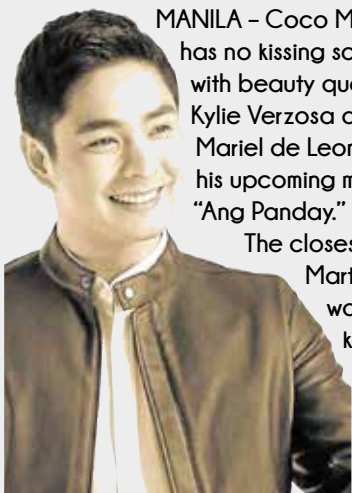
As for social protection for children, ILO mentioned the creation of conditional cash

Scenes in the Star Circle



The Cerezo family poses with GMA7 artist Shanaia Gomez at the Star Circle Christmas party; Young ones join Mercy Lagumbay's birthday bash; Mercy poses with her family; Being an alcohol-free office, Mercy and company do a pretend-toast with a bottle of 7-Up.

COCO has no **KISSING** scenes with Mariel, Kylie in ‘Panday’ **nice to newbies**



MANILA – Coco Martin has no kissing scenes with beauty queens Kylie Verzosa and Mariel de Leon in his upcoming movie, “Ang Panday.”

The closest that Martin got was a kiss on the

cheek from Verzosa, who won Miss International in 2016.

“Beso lang po. Well, nahiya din po ako [kung sabi niya nahiya din siya]. Pero beso lang ‘yun. Siguro mga tatlong takes yun,” Verzosa said.

Martin also took into consideration how De Leon’s parents, veteran actors Christopher de Leon and Sandy

Andolong, would react.

He said: “Siyempre ipinagkatiwala sa akin ni tito Boyet (De Leon) and tita Sandy (Andolong) si Mariel. Gusto ko na kapag napanood nila, mapaproud sila sa anak nila.”

De Leon, for her part, said she is grateful to Martin for taking care of her and Verzosa while they were filming.

“I was very comfortable kasi super, super bait ni Coco. He really took care of us,” she said.

“He wanted me to push myself in terms of acting, especially ‘yung mga crying scene,” she added.

Like De Leon, Verzosa is thankful that her acting debut was with Martin.

Asked why he decided to include Verzosa in the movie, Martin said: “Narinig ko na gusto niyang pumasok sa showbiz. Naisip ko nung nagsisimula ako. Gusto kong magbigay ng opportunity. Binabalik ko lang ‘yung mga nangyari sa akin noon.”

Migo Adecera opens up about how his best friends battled with depression

Gist of Migo Adecera’s recounting of how music and faith helped his friends battling with depression: “They felt nice to have some type of role model in their life, like a really strong pillar. To call upon someone’s name when you’re down. Someone who would never give you wrong expectations. It gave them this kind of strength in their heart.”

Kapuso actor Migo Adecera, 18, said it was music and faith that changed the lives of his two best friends previously battling with depression.

“It’s a topic that isn’t spoken too much to the youth nowadays.

“There are a lot of youth that struggles with depression and struggles with this sadness that they think they are going through it alone.

“Yun ang mali. Kasi they think they are going through it alone.

“Little did they know that there’s a lot of people who struggle.”

The StarStruck Season 6 Ultimate Male Survivor opened up about going through an “emotional” phase when he was growing up in Australia.

He was in his early teenage years, living the typical school-home-hang-out routine, when he found out that his two best friends were having a hard time dealing with personal troubles and have been inflicting harm to themselves.

It proved to be an ultimate test of friendship, maturity, and true mettle among them.

Migo recalled, “My friends started self-harming themselves to the point that when they came to school, they’d be bleeding all over their arms. Deep cuts.

“They’re not only friends but like brothers to me talaga. As in we did life together.

“We see each other every single day. We go home together every single day. We eat together every single day.

“And all of a sudden, nagkaroon ng problema sa dalawa—mga family problems, high school problems.”

For someone who was aged 12 or 14 years old at the time, Migo admitted that he had no clue as to how he should go about his friends’ plight.

“And I even thought sa self ko, ‘It seems so

normal sa dalawa. Is there something wrong with me that I’m not doing these type of things?’

“I grew up thinking self-harming is bad. That you should love yourself.

“And seeing this was just so unreal to me.”

Migo went on to say that he and his two friends struggling with depression did not discuss with him what was going on at first. Then they lost contact for six months when Migo went to the Philippines for vacation.

He continued, “When I came back, I decided that instead of being a bystander, I want to be someone to make a change.

“They weren’t helping themselves. And me leaving will just worsen the situation.

“I went back and brought them to church.”

SHARED LOVE FOR MUSIC.

According to Migo, he is a praise and worship leader of a Christian fellowship youth group at Hillsong Church in Australia.

Migo recalled that it was one Friday night when he brought his friends to a Hillsong extension service, hoping that its music ministry can help ease whatever troubles they were experiencing at the time.

“We’re all music students kasi. So, how we deal with our problems is through music.

“That’s why music is a big part of my life.

“Because on the times that I felt the lowest of lows, mahirap, e. You can’t speak to somebody who hasn’t experienced it.

“It’s like you’re a mold of clay and because of all the situations that you’ve been through, sobrang abnormal ng size ng clay mo.

“And for someone na match with you, they have to be in the exact same mold.

“E, they can only be as close, pero hindi pareho talaga.

“Pero with music, it’s like liquid, it can really go and shape mold into what you are.

“And it feels like it understands you because each to his own experience sa music.”

As a friend, Migo said it helped just to be there standing by them.

“Kasi, medyo hindi sila confident.

“Sabi ko, ‘Don’t let your insecurity get the better of you. When you’re here, close your eyes and let your body move the way you want it.

“Forget that everybody is there. I am here. Don’t worry about anybody else.

“I know you, guys. Trust me. Whenever you feel scared, I am here.’

Gabbi Garcia aims for work-life balance in 2018 + other stories



“Hindi naman pwedeng magpakalunod ka sa trabaho,” says Gabbi Garcia about her New Year’s resolution, which is to achieve work-life balance.

Punung-puno ng pasasalamat ang Kapuso star na si Gabbi Garcia sa mga oportunidad na naibigay sa kanya ngayong taon, lalo na ng home network niyang GMA-7.

Pahayag ng 19-year-old actress, “I’m just really thankful for what happened to me this 2017.

“I’ve been really blessed. I’ve learned a lot this 2017.

“I’ve done so much for me, for my family, and for the people who support [me].”

Dalawang bagay raw ang pinaka-goal ng actress-singer para sa kanyang buhay: “To be successful and to be genuinely happy.”

Sa katunayan, ngayong darating na Pasko, sa halip na materyal na bagay, ang hiling ng dating Encantadia actress ay tuluy-tuloy na trabaho.

“Nothing specific, just really sustainability for my career in 2018,” sabi niya.

Ang bagong show ni Gabbi na #Goals ang isa sa mga ila-launch na online shows ng GMA-7 sa 2018.

Kabilang din sa GMA Online Exclusives ang show ni Atom Araullo na Adulthood at ang kay Joseph Morong na Fact or Fake.

GIVING HER BEST. Bukod sa #Goals, mapapanood din si Gabbi sa upcoming series na Sherlock Jr.

Hindi ba nape-pressure si Gabbi sa dami

ng mga proyektong ibinibigayr sa kanya ng Kapuso network?

“Pressure is always there naman po for me,” sagot niya.

“I feel like it’s good to be pressured para hindi ako nare-relax, so that I know there are people who are counting on me and there are people who believe in me.

“I had to work hard to pay back din.”

Hindi rin daw sumasagi sa isip ni Gabbi na mas pinapaboran siya ng network kumpara sa ibang kapwa Kapuso artists.

Aniya, “Basta ako, nagtatrabaho ako kung anuman yung ibigay nila sa akin.

“I make sure na I do my job 101 percent, so it’s all about hardwork talaga.

“Hindi ho kasi ako nakiki-involve...

“I’m concentrating on my work talaga kasi, yun nga, sobrang daming ibinibigay na work for me.

“Siyempre, I make sure na gagalingan ko [sa] lahat.”

BALANCE. Dahil sa kanyang mga pinagkakaabalahan, hiling din ni Gabbi na sa paparating na bagong taon ay matutunan na niya ang work-life balance.

“Right now, I’m slowly trying po—balance sa work, balance sa friends and family, nag-i-school din po ako ngayon.

“Parang I’m slowly learning how to balance yung music, acting.

“Sana lang ma-sustain ko po yun kasi, for me, balance is really important.

“Hindi naman puwedeng magpakalunod ka sa trabaho.

“Honestly, mahirap po talaga siya, lalo na kung pinagsasabay mo ang work and school.

“Pero kasi, gusto ko po talaga. Nandun yung eagerness sa akin to really finish and go on with the process.”

Sa ngayon, hindi raw alam ni Gabbi kung paano niya nababalanse ang kanyang oras sa trabaho at sa personal na buhay.

“Hindi ko rin po alam kung paano ko nama-manage.

“Pero talagang mine-make sure ko po na nakikipag-coordinate ako sa lahat, na ito ang araw ko sa school at ito ang araw ko sa work.

“That night was very special. They sang ‘Oceans.”

Migo sang a few lines from the song that goes, “And I will call upon Your name / And keep my eyes above the waves / When oceans rise, my soul will rest in Your embrace / For I am Yours and You are mine.”

Talking about his friends strengthening their faith in God, Migo elaborated, “They felt nice to have some type of role model in their life, like a really strong pillar.

“To call upon someone’s name when you’re down. Someone who would never give you wrong expectations.

“It gave them this kind of strength in their heart, and through finding such pure innocent and bright emotion, they started crying.

“They were just crying.”

LIFE-CHANGING DECISION. What was crucial then, said Migo, was that his friends owned the decision to overcome their difficulties.

“When the pastor finally said, ‘If anybody wanted to come upon the altar to dedicate their life to God,

come forward.’

“At first, hesitant sila. I didn’t want to push it kasi it has to come from the person’s own decision.

“No matter what you say, it’s still their choices at the end of the day.

“So, I just said to them, ‘Follow what your heart says.”

In the end, Migo noted that having a strong support group helped his friends move forward.

“They walked down and they dedicated their life to Christ.

“And from that day on, every single Friday night, it’s called Friday night GWS—Great Western Sydney Youth.

“And then, Sunday yung Hillsong main service sa Baulkham Hills, yung original mothership church.”



Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation holds their Christmas party at Our Lady of Assumption church.

Bela Padilla: “I’m very single and I’m very happy!”

Actress Bela Padilla declares that she is single as of the moment: “I’m very happy. I’m very single and I’m very happy.”

Single pero masaya ang estado ng puso ngayon ng aktres na si Bela Padilla.

Ito ang sinabi ng 26-year-old actress nang makausap siyal

Nataatawag sabi ni Bela, “I’m very happy. I’m very single and I’m very happy!

“That is my only statement for that. Hahaha! Yes, I want to emphasize the word ‘happy.’”

Hindi naman nagbigay ng detalye si Bela kung mayroon ba siyang idini-date sa kasalukuyan.

ZANJOE’S “HUBAD PHOTO.”

Pero hindi naman lingid sa publiko ang pagkakaugnay ni Bela sa aktor na si Zanjoe Marudo, na nakasama niya sa teleseryeng My Dear Heart.

Sa katunayan ay kinakiligan ng marami ang naging biruan nina Bela at Zanjoe sa Instagram noong Nobyembre 2017.

Lalo na’t hindi kailang makailang-beses nagpahiwatig sina Bela at Zanjoe sa pagkakamabutihan nila noon.

Komento noon ng aktres sa larawan ni Zanjoe na naka-topless: “Last hubad photo mo na ‘yan.”

Nang banggitin ito ng PEP.ph, napangiti si Bela nang maalala ang kulitan nila ng dating leading man.

Paliwanag ng Kapamilya actress, “Well, it was really just a joke, that’s all it was.

“And like he said, hirit-hirit lang naman talaga yun. Ganun lang talaga yun.”

How would Rhian Ramos rate Dennis Trillo as a kisser?

Rhian Ramos admits she felt nervous while doing kissing scenes with The One That Got Away leading man Dennis Trillo. “My gosh, kiss kaagad? Parang kakasimula lang natin, wala bang pa-cute muna?!”

GMA-7 actress Rhian Ramos takes on the challenge of portraying a funny and flirty character in the upcoming Kapuso prime-time series The One That Got Away (TOTGA).

Playing as one of Dennis Trillo’s ex-

girlfriends in the show, Rhian engaged in several flirting scenes with the Kapuso actor.

According to the 27-year-old actress, she initially felt nervous shooting these scenes since it’s the first time that she is working with Dennis as a love interest.

She said, “For the first couple of days, nakaka-nervous kasi yun nga, you have to look like hindi ka nahihiya.

“Siyempre, hindi pa naman kami close ni Dennis noong first couple of days, di ba! So parang... oh my gosh, tapos ganito ako ka aggressive? Parang nakakahiya!

“But, ayun na nga, siyempre, you want to make your audience happy, you want to make your director happy and you wanna do the role justice, you just have to erase the idea that it’s you and just do it!”

TOTGA, which will premiere on January 15 on GMA Telebabad, is helmed by directors Mark Sicat Dela Cruz and Conrado Peru.

The Kapuso actress disclosed that there are a lot of flirting scenes between her and Dennis, which they had to shoot immediately since the present story will already show them as exes.

Dennis’s two other ex-girlfriends in the show are played by Lovi Poe and Max Collins.

Rhian narrated, “Ang dami... kasi kapag napanuod natin yung story, exes na silang lahat so parang supposedly, napagdaanan na nila lahat ng intimacy na yun, pag naipakita mo kung ano sila dati, dapat ganun sila ka-comfortable lahat.

“So parang sa first week lalo na, doon mapapakita, parang, ‘My gosh, kiss kaagad? Parang kakasimula lang natin, wala bang pa-cute muna?!”

How did she feel while shooting these scenes with Dennis?

She answered with a smile, “Siyempre, nervous so parang you just... tapos parang after, mapapa-sorry ka.

“Siguro dahil nahiya or something. ‘Hehe sorry, hindi naman ako nag-write noon.’”

These intimate scenes also came with several kissing scenes.

When PEP.ph asked Rhian to rate Dennis as a kisser, she only said, “You know what, hindi ka makafocus kasi doon, e!”

She further elaborated, “Kasi alam mong ang dami-daming nanunuod, so you just wanna... Ako, that’s how a kissing scene feels to me or love scene, hindi mo siya parang kasi ano...

“I’m sure for a lot of girls, it’s their dream to kiss Dennis Trillo, di ba?

“But ako, parang hindi ko siya na-enjoy kahit dream ‘yan ng marami kasi nakakahiya! Basta yun yung feeling, nakakahiya. Basta pag ginawa mo, mahihiya ka sa kanya tapos ang daming tao!”

What happens after each kissing scene?

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She said in jest, “Ano, hindi ko siya matitignan sa mata na, ganun! Lolokohin ko siya pero hindi ako nakatingin, or kakausapin ko siya pero hindi ako nakatingin.”

Rhian is positive that sooner or later, she’ll get used to doing such scenes with her new leading man.

“I’m sure at a certain point, as the show goes on, it will start to feel normal or something. I’m sure masasanay kami at some point.

“Pero ngayon, hangga’t bago, we just want to make sure that we all respect each other, we’re not making each other feel uncomfortable in any way. Siyempre, the priority is do a good job.”

When asked to describe her leading man, Rhian praised Dennis whom she called a “super” gentleman.

“It always shocks me kasi I feel like hindi niya kailangan ng preparation time!

“Kasi for some actors, parang may actor’s cue or they’ll prepare first or they’ll internalize. For him, it’s now you see Dennis and 5-4-3-2-1 action na!

“So parang wow, ang galing, kasi ako I prepare. Nakakatawa nga kasi tatlo kaming babae, isa lang siyang lalaki so pag lahat kami nandoon sa eksena, puro kaartihan pinag-uusapan namin and I feel like he’s just getting a headache!” she quipped.

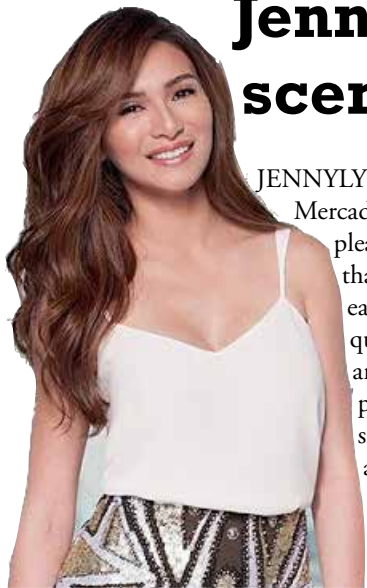




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Jennylyn and Derek's sizzling sex scene too hot for Dennis + other stories



JENNYLYN Mercado is so pleased that this early, some quarters are predicting she'd win another best actress award in the coming Metro filmfest for her entry, 'All of You', but she wouldn't bank on it. "Dapat, mapanood muna 'yung ibang entries bago magsalita ng ganyan," she says. "But still, salamat sa tiwala nila sa'kin kasi compared to my other two films where I won awards before, 'English Only, Please' and

'Walang Forever', mas mature talaga at mas challenging ang papel na ginampanan ko rito sa 'All of You'. Medyo takot magmahal 'yung character ko rito kasi galing sa isang masakit na relationship. E, hindi naman ako ganun, kahit naranasan ko na rin 'yung masaktan. Ito na rin 'yung pinaka-daring na ginawa ko in terms of love scenes with Derek Ramsay. Tinodo ko na rito. I trusted our director, Dan Villegas, alam ko namang in good taste at hindi laswaan lang lababas ang bedscenes namin."

Will her current BF Dennis Trillo watch it with her? "Tinimbrihan ko na siya at sabi niya, hindi raw siya manonood para hindi siya mailang. At okay na rin sa'kin 'yun, para hindi rin ako mailang." Jen says the passing year, 2017, has been a good year for her, on and off cam. She's now in better terms with Patrick Garcia, the dad

of her love son Alex Jazz. "Thanks to him and his wife, si Nikka, na napakabait at very supportive kay Alex," she says. "Nikka is very understanding. Everytime na dalawin nila si Alex, buong family sila, kasama ang daughters nila, so lumalaki si Alex na close sa dad niya, stepmom and his sisters." Is Alex also close to her current BF, Dennis Trillo? "Yes, Tito ang tawag niya kay Dennis at naglalaro sila." How about to Dennis' own love son, Calix? "Bihira namin siyang makita. 'Pag may okasyon lang like kung birthday niya at ngayon, Christmas and New Year." So will they be going away this holiday season? "No, I have to promote my entry, 'All of You', may parade of stars pa and may awards night na required kami to attend so hindi puwedeng umalis."

GMA jump-starts 2018 with exclusive shows for millennials



(From left) Atom Araullo, Gabbi Garcia and Joseph Morong provide millennial ideas toward adulthood, style and fake news

Millennials are in for a wonderful viewing this 2018 as GMA Network unveils three online exclusive shows bannered by Atom Araullo, Gabbi Garcia and Joseph Morong. Beginning January 1, netizens can watch "GMA One Online Exclusives" on GMA's YouTube channel featuring not just one, but three shows: "Adulthood with Atom Araullo," "#Goals with Gabbi Garcia" and "Fact or Fake with Joseph Morong." In "Adulthood with Atom Araullo," the new GMA Public Affairs host joins millennials in their journey toward adulthood. Atom gives netizens a peek at his everyday struggles as he faces the responsibilities of being on his own, and living on a budget. Atom also shares tips on love, like how does one go through courtship and online dating.

Meanwhile, Millennial It Girl Gabbi Garcia shares her personal objectives thru videos in #Goals with Gabbi Garcia. A program that definitely tickles the fancy of the kikays out there, it shows Garcia exploring her goals in beauty, style, makeup, travel and music. "We're in a new age now where millennials appreciate digital content, they're really into social media," says Gabbi. "The show is very relatable to the youth because in #Goals, we will talk about makeup tutorials, new trends, how a typical teenager lives her life". Kapuso reporter Joseph Morong, on the other hand, debunks false news items in Fact or Fake with Joseph Morong. As more news sources are available online, Morong tries to help millennials spot fake news. New episodes are uploaded every Monday at 5 p.m.

Edgar Allan Guzman or EA first gained fame when he won the title in the Mr. Pogi contest of "Eat Bulaga" in 2006. He has since worked with all networks. He's now a Kapuso in "My Korean Jagiya". "Hanggang February pa raw kami extended."



He currently played a gay role in the Metro-Manila Filmfest entry, "Dedma Walking." It's easy for him to play a gay role since he has a gay brother in real life. "I love him and respect him so much."

Edgar ALLans's Lovelife can wait He used to clash a lot with his manager, Noel Ferrer, about his girlfriend then at TV5, Shaira Mae de la Cruz, but they've since broken up. "I have no lovelife now. I want to devote all my time sa career ko kasi nagpapagawa ako ng bagong bahay. Hopefully, by next year, makalipat kami ng family ko sa aming new house. I realized na tama ang manager ko, no need na magmadali sa lovelife at marami pang ibang opportunities na darating for me."

Derrick and Barbie in 'Almost a Love Story'

Derrick Monasterio is happy that after three years, he will be paired anew with former screen partner Barbie Forteza in a grand movie project titled Almost a Love Story. It can be remembered that the two headlined successful soaps in the past like Luna Blanca, Paroa: Ang Kuwento ni Mariposa, Anna Karenina, and The Half Sisters. This will be the first time that they'll do a film opposite each other. "The movie will also be shot abroad, Italy in particular so it's just exciting." This early, many ask if Jak has nothing to be jealous about with their upcoming screen pairing. "As I've said, there should be



no cause for alarm because we're professional actors. We'll just do our job." It's not a remote possibility that they might have a kissing scene in the movie. Is he prepared for such eventuality? "Personally, if it's really vital to the scene or story, it's just okay with me. I will just follow what the script and director says." The handsome Kapuso hunk doesn't want to disappoint the fans who still dream of seeing him and Barbie ending up together eventually. "It's not for me to decide—it is fate. I don't want to pre-empt things. If it's going to happen, let nature take its course, right?" ends Derrick.

Ces Oreña-Drilon, Now Lifestyle Content Head of ABS

Award-winning broadcast journalist Ces Orena-Drilon is ready to open a new chapter in her career in media with her appointment as content acquisition head of the ABS-CBN lifestyle ecosystem Group. In her new assignment, Ces is in the forefront of building the lifestyle content of ABS-CBN as the country's leading media and entertainment company transitions into an agile digital company. With her new role in ABS-CBN, Ces is stepping down as one of the anchors of the late night newscast

"Bandila," which began in 2006 with her as one of its original anchors. ABS-CBN head of integrated news Ging Reyes, meanwhile, stated her full support for Ces in her new endeavor. ABS-CBN's news chief has been instrumental in this shift in her career after appointing her as News Lifestyle Ecosystem head last year. "I am very happy that she is evolving. No one can question the passion and excellence Ces has shown throughout her career here in ABS-CBN," she said.



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Miss Grand Continental



FIRST, Miss Grand Continental 2017 Denise Jane Lopez pose for photos. SECOND, Miss Teen Grand Continental 2017 Melissa Saldua Ventocilla pose with family. THIRD, Melissa Saldua Ventocilla pose with Philip and Marites Beloso. FOURTH, Mutya ng Maynila 2017 Jaeybee Martinito helps her friend Miss Grand Continental 2017 Denise Jane Lopez with her crown after the pageant. FIFTH, Beauties pose for photos.

LOVI POE ON HANDLING SPURNED LOVERS

“Be kind to them even if they’re not kind to you.”

This is the guiding principle of Lovi Poe in dealing with disgruntled ex-boyfriends. Having had several relationships in recent years, it’s also wise to heed her advice that holding grudges against them is a no-no.

“Because you loved this person for how many years – you guys once shared a life together – the least you could do is to be kind (when it’s over),” she said at the press conference of “The One That Got Away,” a show about exes that’s why the subject was brought up.

The actress categorically said she had never been bitter over her breakups, “as in never.” In fact, she can face her exes anytime and greet them with a warm “Hi” or “Hello.”

Even if they spoke ill of her after the split?

“Some people deal with breakups in a different manner na para lumuwag ’yung loob nila,” she said. “Kaya naman I won’t take it against whoever spoke against me kasi hindi mo naman maiiwasan ’yun.”

Despite some people’s perception that Lovi is a “player,” it actually takes her a long time before she decides to end relationships.

“Honestly, in terms of breaking up, there’s no gentle way about it but the better way is to cut ties completely.”

Here’s another way to do it according to Lovi: Let the guy hate you so it would be easier for him to move on.

“My door will only be open to anyone just once,” she added.

Like whoa.

The one?

Good thing Lovi has seemingly found someone, her rumored French boyfriend

Chris Johnson.

The actress explained she’s enjoying the ride and going with the flow.

“Never expect, just enjoy,” she said.

So does it mean wedding bells won’t ring for her anytime soon?

“Wala pa, so far...

“So ako kasi before that even enters my minds I have to make sure that as a person and as an individual gusto ko buo na talaga ako ’cause I cannot share myself with someone halfheartedly,” she added.

So does she have an ideal age to marry, we asked.

“It’s like I have an ideal person to be with but I don’t have an ideal age (for that). I will only marry if I find the right person.”

TOTGA

Lovi stars in a teleserye, GMA Network’s romantic comedy series “The One That Got Away,” is about love, family, friendship, and all the craziness that goes with it.

Lovi’S role is that of a career-oriented woman who rejected a marriage proposal and they parted ways.

Does Lovi have a man who got away from her?

“Parang I’ve never had someone that got away from me. I’m the TOTGA,” she said.

“Every relationship, even when it ended, it’s a success story because there are always a lot of things to move forward to. And at the end of the day, masama man ’yung break up niyo, in the future you’ll just laugh about it,” she added.



Dennis Trillo gets asked: did he experience ex-girlfriends fighting over him?

Dennis Trillo may have been earned some sort of playboy image during his younger years, but the Kapuso actor claimed that he never had three ex-girlfriends fighting over him. Such is the case in his latest role as Liam in GMA Network’s romantic-comedy series The One That Got Away (TOTGA), which he co-headlines with Lovi Poe, Rhian Ramos, and Max Collins.

In real life, did it ever happen to him?

Dennis jokingly answered, “Hindi pa naman. Parang dalawa lang yata dati. Loko lang, loko lang!” Looking back at his dating history, he went on to say that he doesn’t have an ex-girlfriend whom he can call his TOTGA. “Parang wala naman. Wala naman akong pinagsisisihan na relasyon na nakawala. Kung hindi para sa ’yo, hindi para sa ’yo.” Asked about being paired with three lead Kapuso actresses for the show, Dennis said he was motivated to level up his game.

“Nakaka-intimidate sila dahil ang



gaganda nila, ang si-sexy. Tatlong pinakamagandang artista sa GMA kasama ko sa isang show.

Describing the theme of TOTGA, Dennis said, “May konting sexy. Medyo may pang-mature na audience. Medyo Sex and The City na mas feel good and mas batang audience. (Sex and The City is a popular American TV series) Does he have kissing scenes with all of his three leading ladies?

“Meron kasi naging kami, e. So, kailangan ipakita yung intimacy para mag-work yung eksena.”

But Dennis made it clear that his character Liam is not the playboy type of guy.

“Kaya nga sa tingin nila ako yung ideal para sa kanila dahil talagang matinong boyfriend ako.

kasi very peaceful, but even before we got there, hindi na ako lost. But still I found Siargao to have a calming effect on me. Napakaganda talaga.”

We heard she already has a new boyfriend, non-showbiz, but she won’t confirm this. “Sa ‘Siargao’ na lang tayo. I really like the story sa movie namin. About three brokenhearted people, pero very light ang treatment. We enjoyed shooting it and we know viewers will enjoy watching it also.”

ERICH continued from page 17 co-stars Jericho Rosales and Jasmine Curtis Smith, we all got along fine. Kapag walang shoot, kuwentuhan kasi kami-kami lang ang nandun, e. Palitan ng views about life in general. Tulung-tulong din kami sa set, walang nagpa-diva na kahit sino.”

Everyone knows before Siargao, she had a bad breakup with Daniel Matsunaga so shooting the film is a welcome break for her. “Ideal ang Siargao for soul-searching

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Derrick Monasterio assures Jak he's off lim- its from Barbie + other stories

DERRICK Monasterio left for Italy to do a movie, "Almost a Love Story", with Barbie Forteza. Of course, he's excited to go as it's his first trip to Italy.

"Traveling is the best way to broaden one's horizons and I know going to Rome, Venice and Trecase in Italy will be a great experience for me," he says.

He's also happy to be reunited with Barbie Forteza.

Their Derby love team seems to have its own set of supporters, but off cam, it's common knowledge that Barbie is on with Jak Roberto, the Pambansang Abs. Won't Jak get jealous now that Barbie and he will be all alone in Italy?

"Bakit naman siya magseselos? Barbie and I naman won't be sharing the same hotel rooms in Italy. Also, kasama niya ang handler niya at kasama ko ang handler ko para chaperones namin. 'Yung sa amin, close friendship lang talaga. So 'yun."

Will they have a kissing scene? "As of now, we don't know yet. Pero bahala na po si Direk Louie Ignacio. Sa'kin, okay lang naman, pero si Barbie, di pa yata ready sa ganyan. Palagay ko, sa ganda nung story, tatayo naman ang movie kahit walang kissing scene. Basta gagalingan namin ang acting namin sa bawat eksena para masulit ang ibabayad ng viewers."

Dawn wants can work with everyone

DAWN Zulueta says M-Zet Productions didn't have a hard time convincing her to do comedy in the filmfest entry, "Meant to Beh".

"I really welcome the chance to do comedy naman with Vic Sotto," says Dawn, who's 48 but looks much younger than her age. "Maski sa teleseryes, puro iyakan ang ginagawa ko, so gusto ko naman sumubok ng comedy, lalo na si Bossing Vic ang kapareha ko na sa TV ko pa lang nakatrabaho before in 'Okay Ka Fairy Ko' ages ago. I'm grateful naalala nga ako ni Bossing dahil na-miss ko rin siya."

Didn't the actors from different networks feel uncomfortable while shooting together?

"Ako, I used to work with everyone. I worked with Viva, with Regal, with all companies and all co-stars, walang problema

to be paired with anyone. Sa bagay, I come from a different era na wala pang social media. Today, the fans and almost everyone feel they have the right para panghimasukan ang careers and private lives ng mga artista because of Instagram or Twitter.

Everyone can bash anyone and they're all very negative, which is sad kasi it's not really helping the industry. Before, we're just one big family. E, ngayon, kanya-kanya na, kampo-kampo na. So support our movie, 'Meant to Beh', kasi bihira magkasama-sama ang mga artista from different networks.

Let's have unity, not division, dahil Christmas season naman ngayon."

Gabby still reluctant on movie with Sharon, Still high on TV success

GABBY Concepcion, Sunshine Dizon and Ryza Cenon are grinning from ear to ear. Their afternoon show, "Ika-6 na Utos", just celebrated it's first anniversary and the ratings remain consistently high. 8.9 recently, which is very high for an afternoon show. It now also has the distinction of being the only soap being shown from Monday to Saturday.

"At huwag kayong bibitaw dahil sa pagtatapos ng 'Ika-6 na Utos' in the next few months, marami pang pasabog na magaganap," adds Sunshine.

We ask Gabby if he'd be ready to do his reunion movie with Sharon Cuneta after "Ika-6 Utos" ends? "I think we all need to talk again. As of now, I'm still enjoying doing this show immensely. Sa buong career ko, I can say ito ang most successful teleserye ko. But I'm very happy for her and Robin (Padilla) sa success ng movie nila."

What can he say about Robin's statement that he's actually just a replacement for him? "That's not true. Kanya talaga 'yun. Iba 'yung story for us ni Sharon, iba rin 'yung sa kanila."

Taping for "Ika-6 na Utos" will temporarily stop on December 18. "We'll have a two-week Christmas break, so I will take my wife and daughters for a vacation in the States."

Jameson Blake on being bashed by ElNella fans:

"I'll be quiet na lang."

Jameson Blake of the ABS-CBN all-male group Hashtags reveals that some fans of Janella Salvador and Elmo Magalona, a.k.a. ElNella, are reacting negatively to his teamup with the young actress in the upcoming movie So Connected.

He said, "Working with her as my leading lady, there are always some people na medyo nagdi-disagreee."

So how is Jameson taking it?

"I can't control it, to be honest naman, I'm not saying I'm getting her or whatever.

"It's people's views, people still bash me, saying parang ang yabang-yabang ko.

"Ano ang sinasabi ko? It's like I'm sticking my nose in them. I'm not.

"I even said everyone sees they're [ElNella] the official love team.

"We can see their success together, you can see how close they are.

"So why do I have to butt in, di ba?" the budding actor reasoned.

He continued that his teamup with Janella is for the fans.

As for their negative reactions, "It's their own opinion, so I'm leaving it behind.

"Even if you do the right thing, people will still say bad things about you.

"They will always have something bad to say

"Everyone has his own opinion, so let's leave that behind.

"I'll be quiet na lang."

Remember Angelica Yap?

Popular men's magazine FHM's December issue featured Viva's Angel Yap.

Angel, who was first known as Angelica Jane Yap, shot to fame as the heartbroken girl who humorously channeled the anger she felt for being left behind into a video of her making pastillas.

Two years later, social media's "Pastillas Girl" is now a sexy vixen with a following of more than 300,000 on Instagram.

Her avid followers are regularly treated with photos where she flaunts her incredible bikini body. Her feed is also filled with racy photos that leave her admirers in awe.

In a feature in the magazine, Angel pondered on her being an erstwhile Internet sensation and what she has learned about making her mark in Pinoy pop culture.

"There's no guarantee [that it will last forever]," she explains. "Plus, it's up to you to sustain it your momentum and that's the hardest part."

Few Filipino film buffs

Even as the Filipino indie film trend continues to make waves locally and internationally, many of its best productions have a hard time reaching their intended audience, which includes mainstream viewers.

The big cineplexes tend to be leery of indies because, with only a few exceptions, they aren't "commercial" or accessible enough for many people to view and enjoy.

To fill in this all-important blank, we've tried to help develop an alternative film circuit.

Logically, it should be school-based, so we've helped put up a pilot film viewing club in a local university, even inviting indie filmmakers to interact with viewers after their movies were screened.

Alas, the pilot effort eventually fizzed out, so we were back to square one.

Next, we interested the owner of a restaurant to feature weekend screenings of indie films.

To make the endeavor work, we effected a tie-up with a group of indie filmmakers, who were only too happy to be offered a new way to reach viewers, and to make money besides.

Lack of support

Unfortunately, despite everyone's best efforts, the resto film club also withered on the vine due to lack of regular support and patronage.

These unsuccessful attempts have made us come to the conclusion that, aside from occasional exceptions like "Kita Kita" and "Heneral Luna," indie productions can't earn back their expenses (so filmmakers can produce more movies), because there aren't enough committed film buffs here to profitably support regular screenings of good indie productions.

We asked the "failed" venue owners how many real film buffs would be needed to support regular indie screenings; and they came up with the "magic" number of 500 film lovers who would go out of their way to watch and support a good indie film per week.

Based on their unhappy experience, it appears that we don't have that many committed film aficionados.

That can be seen in part as a downbeat evaluation of the effectiveness of our many colleges and universities with Communication departments.

Aren't they supposed to develop students into appreciators, supporters and makers of good TV-film productions?

If they can't even produce 500 such graduates, there must be a disconnect somewhere that should be identified and remedied, because the local indie wave can't rise and crest without committed film buffs' essential support and patronage.

How to produce more committed film lovers? It would help if Communication teachers themselves were less theoretical in training and became hands-on practitioners.

That way, they would experience the many problems that filmmakers have to contend with on the local scene, and thus become more realistically appreciative of their "hard-won" finished films.

Best of all, teachers should be committed film lovers, actively helping filmmakers to find their viewing place and opportunities in the run, by themselves watching at least one good indie movie each week.

Only when we come up with at least 500 such supportive and determined people, teachers and students both, can alternative screening venues survive and thrive, and indie filmmakers can get the continuing support they need to keep making meaningful and memorable movies.

PNB opens at Seafood City



FIRST, A customers sends money. SECOND, PNB President Manolo Araldo and staff pose at the opening. THIRD, father Sol blesses the new outlet with Mr. Manolo Araldo. FOURTH, Newsman Jojo taturan, producer Mike Cruz visits Mr. Manolo Araldo. FIFTH, The very first customer gets her remittance fee waived from Mr. Manolo Araldo.

Nadine Lustre has advice for people going through depression

Nadine Lustre and her family may have been through a lot since her brother Isaiah's passing but they managed to face the reality of his death, start over again, and welcome 2018 with stronger hearts. In an interview during a press conference for her upcoming concert with James Reid, Nadine had some advice for those who are going through depression.

"For everyone going through depression, find someone who will listen to you when you go through it. Kasi iyon lang... kailangan lang i-share siya sa taong pinagkakatiwalaan mo. Kailangan kasi ilabas nang ilabas 'yung nararamdaman mo," she said.

"You can't just hold it inside kasi ang ending no'n, sasabog ka talaga. Makinig lang po kayo. Kasi hindi niyo alam kung gaano kalaki 'yung tulong na nagagawa n'yo just by listening," she added.

Last year, the It's Showtime host admitted that she also suffered from depression but a strong support group like her family and friends were a big help for her to get through it.



NO PENSION continued fromon page 17

transfer programs in the Philippines, as well as neighbors Indonesia and Timor Leste. However, "coverage levels are relatively low: in the Philippines, coverage is a mere 14 percent."

"Social protection for maternity remains a challenge," ILO said, referring to Asia Pacific as a whole. "On average, countries in the region cover only one-third of women giving birth for cash maternity benefits."

In the Philippines, with its high fertility rate given that women give birth two to three times during their lives, only nine percent of women giving birth receive maternity cash benefits as of the latest available data.

"Low levels of coverage are found in

Acme Super Market, Padre Faura 1953



countries where maternity protection is limited to workers in the formal economy," ILO added.

It also painted a grim picture of coverage for disability benefits. "In Cambodia, India, Myanmar, the Philippines, and Vietnam, fewer than one in ten persons with severe disabilities are covered," ILO said.

In particular, 3.1 percent of Filipinos with severe disabilities receive cash benefits as of the latest available data.

As for public social protection expenditure, excluding health, on people of working age as of the latest available data, the Philippines allocates 0.3 percent of its GDP.

In terms of unemployment, ILO said "the introduction of unemployment insurance schemes is gaining momentum, with several countries, such as Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, and the Philippines, currently involved in national dialogue on the design of such schemes."

Related to this, ILO said, "Some countries in Eastern and Southeastern Asia, including Japan, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Philippines, and Thailand, have a long history of implementing and gradually expanding coverage in case of employment injury."

Climate-responsive social protection

ILO also touched on the design and implementation of programs "to provide

climate-responsive social protection for households at risk."

It cited the Philippines post-Yolanda as an example. "The Government used a pre-existing employment guarantee scheme to provide income-earning opportunities for poorer households. With support from the ILO and local governments, program participants were affiliated to state-run social protection schemes for health and employment injury."

ILO pointed out that the bright spot in Philippines is that social protection is part of its major agenda based on the Philippine

Development Plan 2017-2022, where strategies are laid out, such as "establishing an unemployment insurance system; enhancing social protection for the informal sector; improving the social pension system; expanding health insurance packages; and strengthening mechanisms to ensure enrollment in the social security system".

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Lharby Policarpio still waiting for biggest break in showbiz after three years + other stories



Hindi nagmamadali si Lharby Policarpio na mabigyan ng malaking break sa showbiz. Hinihintay ng former To The Top contestant ang magandang oportunidad na ibibigay sa kanya.

Magtatatlong taon na sa show business si Lharby Policarpio ngunit hindi pa talaga siya nabibigyan ng masasabi nating big break sa kanyang karera.

Pagkatapos niyang sumali sa To The Top boy band search ng GMA-7 noong taong 2015, nagkaroon siya ng mangilan-ngilang proyekto sa telebisyon.

Katatapos lang niyang mag-guest sa daytime series na Ika-6 na Utos at masuwerteng nakasama sa Meant To Beh na entry sa 2017 Metro Manila Film Festival.

Sa tingin ba niya matagal ang kanyang break sa showbiz? Saad ng 23-year-old Kapuso star, “Well, I think yes, matagal ang process.

“And I think depende naman ‘yan sa luck ng bawat tao. Meron naman kapapasok lang tapos andyan agad ang luck nila.

“Ako siguro, as much as binibigyan ako ng time, kahit wala pang project, at least wala pang big project, nagiging training ground ko yung paghihintay ko kung kailan nila ako bibigyan ng break or something.

“Kasi nagiging inspiration ko yung maraming artista, e, kung kailan sila nabigyan ng chance na sumikat kasi siyempre lahat naman kami, lahat naman kami hindi lang naman ganito ang gusto, they want something more pa na matuto sila.”

Ngayon, maituturing niyang big break na napasama siya sa pelikulang pinagbibidahan

nina Vic Sotto at Dawn Zulueta para sa MMFF 2017.

Sabi ni Lharby, “Sobrang nakaka-flatter kasi ayun nga, I used to watch Bossing Vic’s films.

“Bata pa lang ako mahilig na ako ng mga fantasy films, Enteng Kabisote mga ganyan. Parang to be part of this kind of film tapos entry pa siya ng MMFF and sobrang nakaka-overwhelm kasi naging part ako ng pelikula and achievement yun for me.”

Ano ba ang role niya sa Meant To Beh? Lahad ni Lharby, “Ako po ay si Brad dito, isa po akong famous guy sa school namin.

“May gusto sa akin si Sue [Ramirez], pero ayaw ko sa kanya and then si JC Santos may gusto siya kay Sue kaya lang ayaw sa kanya ni Sue kasi ako nga yung gusto niya so parang dun umikot ang istorya. Si JC, nerdy guy kaya medyo binu-bully ko siya.”

Nakasap ng PEP.ph (Philippine Entertainment Portal) si Lharby sa December 14 pocket presscon nila ni Andrea Torres para sa pelikulang kinabibilangan na Meant To Beh na ginanap ng GMA Artist Center sa Cave Restaurant, Quezon City.

Biguel’s breakthrough

The BiGuel loveteam of Bianca Umali and Miguel Tanfelix will have two breakthroughs this month in their careers- they will be headlining a TV show with more mature roles on GMA-7’s newest primetime series tentatively titled Santa Santita

They are also with Paolo Ballesteros in Barbie: D’Wonder Beki, showing in theaters now.

BiGuel, the most durable love team on the Kapuso Network or/and one of the most successful reel couples of their generation, has a very “millennialish kilig” role in the Tony Y. Reyes’ directed movie co-produced by OctoArts Films, T-Rex Productions and M-Zet.

Will they become lucky charms for Paolo Ballesteros’ first foray into a commercial

movie?

Miguel Tanfelix and Bianca Umali in a romantic scene from the comedy film, “Barbie: D’Wonder Beki”

Both have been quick to reply when visited on their movie set, “Hopefully. Sana nga!”

Will they replicate their “kilig” first kiss in their Wish I May on TV last year?

Since both are now grown up – Miguel is now 19, and Bianca will soon be turning 18 – are they ready for a more passionate kiss and not just a smack like what we saw on the boob tube?

Miguel is more definite with his answers. He is always handy when tackling any roles required, including a torrid kiss both on TV and movies.

But Bianca is still understandably hesitant, she being a minor. She’s giving the final decision making to her handlers over GMAAC.

Christopher works two networks at the same time

Christopher De Leon is one of our busiest actors these days as he is making “lagari” on the sets of two TV dramas from the top two competing networks. He is now seen on primetime in “Kambal, Karibal” as the father of Marvin Agustin.

With ABS-CBN, he is now taping “Sana Dalawa ang Puso”, which will be replacing the Kim-Gerald morning drama, “Ikaw Lang ang Iibigin”. He plays the dad of Jodi Santamaria.

Actually, he started taping for “Sana Dalawa ang Puso” ahead of “Kambal, Karibal”, but the project was shelved for a long time, so he’s been jobless for several months, until the offer of GMA-7 came to do “Kambal, Karibal”. This is just okay for both networks since “Kambal, Karibal” is seen on primetime while “Sana Dalawa” will be aired in their morning slot as pre-program for “Showtime”.

Liza Soberano wants to be known for her Business acumen

MANILA, Philippines — Filipino-American model-actress Liza Soberano has been chosen as “the most beautiful face in the world” by a group of British-led critics.

According to The Independent Critics’ 2017 list of “The 100 Most Beautiful Faces,” Soberano has taken the top spot, followed by French model-actress Thylane Blonde and Japanese singer Tzuyu for the second and third slots, respectively.

Soberano is currently among the Philippines’ most popular stars for bagging the role of iconic Filipino comics heroine Darna.

In 2015, she placed sixth in the “The 100 Most Beautiful Faces” list and placed second last year, after British model Jourdan Dunn.

Other Filipinas in the list this year are Kathryn Bernardo (top 60); Jessie Mendiola (71); Nadine Lustre (78); and Kim Domingo (96).

Other stars who are also in the array are Emilia Clarke of “Game of Thrones” (27th), Margot Robbie of “Suicide Squad” (33rd) and singer-actress Selena Gomez (56).

According to The Independent Critics, the list is based not only on physical looks. “Aesthetic perfection is only one of the criteria,” the critics say in their website. “Grace, elegance, originality, daring, passion, class, poise, joy, promise, hope... they are all embodied in a beautiful face.”

The Independent Critics led by British film critic TC Candler has been creating the list since 1990.

Enrique Gil came in at top 61 while Daniel Matsunaga was number 88.

She stressed that she’d rather be recognized for her confidence and courage to take new roles in her career ... and business acumen on the side.

Before 2017 ended, she entered the wellness industry through her own Hope Hand and Foot Wellness Center located along Tomas Morato in Quezon City, just a few meters away from her home studio.

She revealed that it was her aunt who inspired her to get into the business.

It’s not far from possibility that Soberano could be entrenched as one of the most successful artist-turned-entrepreneurs not just in the country but the whole globe as well.

Despite her busy schedule, she is bent to finish her Online Business Management Course at the Southville International School affiliated with foreign universities.



Popular Toronto FilCan Athletic Association Slates Officers Induction and Winter Dance

TORONTO - The North York Pinoy Athletic Association - NYPAA, will hold a Winter Dance and Induction of its executive officers and directors on March 3, 2018, Saturday from 6:00 p.m. at St. Peter and St. Paul Banquet Hall, 231 Milner Avenue, Scarborough, Markham Avenue and Highway 401 area.

Among those to be inducted to office under a 2-year term for 2018 - 2019 are: President: Brendalet Agoncillo; Vice-President: Sharonne Salanguit; Secretaries: Judith Cortez & Elizabeth Pascual; Treasurers: Arlene Pacia-Perez & Vilma Tahsin; Sport Commissioners: Roger Tarca & Marc Victoria; Youth Training & Development: Victor Montero; Advisors: Jimi Fernandez, Cristina Fernandez, Mylene Escalona, Tim Sinclair & Ariel Villamil; Webmaster: Judith Cortez & Arnel Dipaling; and Board of Directors: Bob San Juan, Edgar Sotto, Vilma Tahsin & Roger Tarca.

NYPAA, organized in 1999 as a not-for-profit organization, is

composed of dedicated volunteer parents, professionals, youths and students in the Filipino Canadian community who are engaged in fostering youth development and promoting healthy individual and group competitions through its challenging sports programs and productive well-being activities. The association has been a leading participant of different Filipino-Canadian amateur basketball championship leagues in the GTA and in the province. It also conducts clinics and training on basketball basics and coaching techniques.

Purposely, the event is a fundraising social and adult tickets are sold at \$40 per person and semi-formal attire is requested. All proceeds will go towards sponsoring and supporting amateur basketball clinics, house league competitions and participating in various city and inter-city tournaments in Canada and the USA. North York is a member of the North American Basketball



Association (NABA) since 2005.

NYPAA is based at Antibes Community Centre, 140 Antibes Drive, Toronto ON M2R 3J3 with mailing address at 1917 - 5 Parkway Forest Dr., Toronto ON M2J 1L2. Its social media addresses include

Website- www.nypaa.ca and Facebook- <https://www.facebook.com/NYPAA/>. Tickets are now available from any of the NYPAA officers or directors. Come & join us and let’s celebrate the wintry season. (Bob San Juan / tsj).

Star Entertainment sings at Pinasayang Bagong Taon



Star Circle Entertainment students performed a big portion of the front act entertainment at the Super Tekla and Donita Rose concert.

Lovi Poe and Erich Gonzales’s slapping scene for movie became Real – SNOOKY



Snooky Serna (right) recalls witnessing Lovi Poe and Erich Gonzales’s controversial confrontation scene in The Significant Other.

Veteran actress Snooky Serna witnessed the controversial confrontation scene between Lovi Poe and Erich Gonzales in the upcoming movie The Significant Other.

The action became real between Lovi and Erich while shooting their confrontation scene for the movie. Their characters had to physically hurt each other after a fashion show.

The incident left Erich with a wounded finger and Lovi with a swollen neck.

Snooky said that she was present at that shooting day when the incident happened.

She narrated, “My goodness, I witnessed it. Talagang nagkasakitan sila, like Erich broke a nail and then si Lovi, nagkaroon ng parang I think pasa somewhere on her face.

“Tapos, paulit-ulit pa yung takes so paulit-ulit yung sampal, yung sakitan nila! Shocked kaming lahat.”

According to the 51-year-old actress, who plays the mother of Erich in the film, the staff and other cast members did not expect that the two ladies’s fight scene will become too real.

Snooky recalled, “Noong rehearsal kasi, although expected na kapag rehearsal, you don’t give it your all, but we did not think that they would go that far na din.

“Parang nagkapikunan, ganun ang dating. Pero they’re both good sports naman, thank God.”

However, Snooky pointed out that the two actresses were able to make amends after hurting each other during the slapping scene.

She said, “After the scene, medyo nagpahinga muna sa kani-kanilang corners tapos nakita namin nagreconcile na.”

So does this mean that the “pikunan” only happened between Erich and Lovi’s characters? Snooky answered, “I think so naman. They’re both troopers naman.”

In a behind-the-scenes video after shooting the intense scene, Lovi and Erich were seen hugging each other, including their leading man Tom Rodriguez.

After filming The Significant Other, Snooky is now busy with GMA’s upcoming prime-time series The One That Got Away, which also stars Lovi and Dennis Trillo.

Snooky is cast as the mother of Lovi in TOTGA.



Lost & Found

Black Nazarene devotee Cesar Navarro (LEFT) returns via GMA News a wallet that contains a cellphone and P5,700. “Lahat naman kailangan ng pera pero ang turo ng Nazareno huwag kukuha ng hindi sa’yo. Alam kong kailangan ng may-ari ang napulot ko,” he said.



Leo Mijares (RIGHT) receives the wallet that he lost in Quiapo earlier. He says that he felt the blessing from the Black Nazarene on his 58th birthday today. “Personal kong pasasalamatan si Cesar na nakapulot.

Salamat sa Nazareno,” he added.

Sofia, Diego play sweet despite Break-up?



SOFIA Andres is so happy to play the title role of “Mama’s Girl” in Regal’s first salvo for 2018 that opens in theaters on January 17. She plays Sylvia Sanchez’s daughter in the story, Abby Potpot, who wants to assert her independence from her doting mom. How is it working with Sylvia?

“Noong una, intimidated po ako,” she says. “But sobrang bait niya kaya naging comfortable agad ako sa kanya. Para siya talagang nanay sa set na very caring sa akin at sa iba pang co-stars namin. Naging very close kami at isinama pa niya ako when she and her family went on a trip to Singapore. We’re both excited to share this wonderful heartwarming film about the relationship between a mother and a daughter. If you feel that everything

is falling apart and when everyone else leaves, it will show that our mother remains to support us always.”

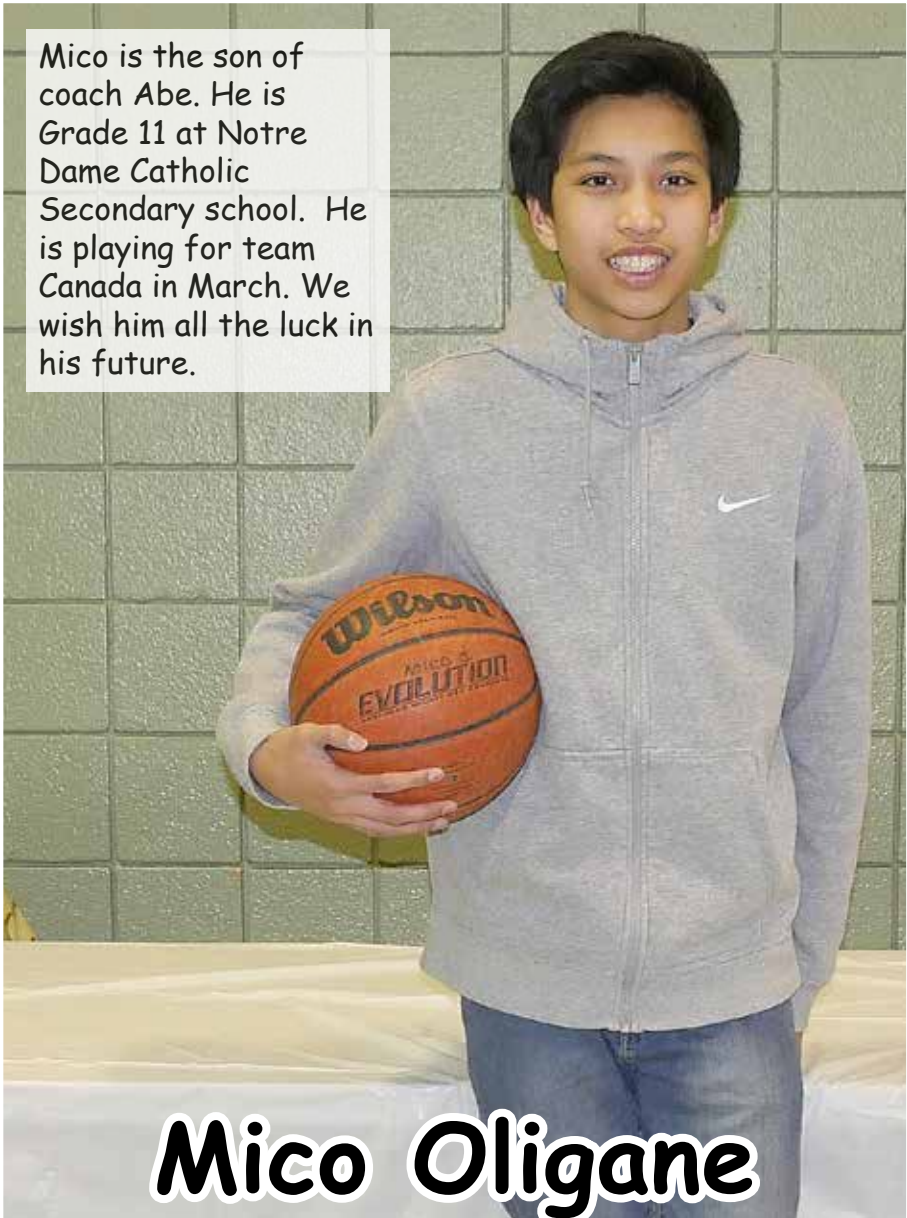
Sofia is paired with ka-love team Diego Loyzaga who, recently, posted a new nude photo of him on social media. Did she see it and how did she feel about it? “Actually, hindi ko po alam ‘yun. Nalaman ko lang nang tanungin ako dito sa presscon ng ‘Mama’s Girl’. I can never ask him about it unless siya mismo ang magkukuwento sa’kin. I think it’s very awkward for any girl na magtanong ng tungkol sa ganon. And I guess it’s all up to him dahil he’s big enough to make decisions for himself.”

So what’s the real status between her and Diego now? “We’re good friends pa rin po. Tanong nga ng tanong ‘yung ibang writers kung kailan kami aamin, e wala naman kaming aaminin.”

Someone observes, though, that they must have called it quits. Although they seem sweet to each other, it could be only for the promo of their movie “Mama’s Girl”. “They no longer posts their pictures sa social media accounts nila,” says one writer. “Dumaan nga ang Pasko’t Bagong Taon, ni hindi nila binati ang isa’t isa. Pero dito sa presscon, sweet sweetan sila.”

Hunk Shot

Mico is the son of coach Abe. He is Grade 11 at Notre Dame Catholic Secondary school. He is playing for team Canada in March. We wish him all the luck in his future.



Mico Oligane

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Going out good for seniors' long life

For older people, getting out of the house regularly may contribute to a longer life - and the effect is independent of medical problems or mobility issues, according to new research from Israel.

For study participants in their 70s, 80s and 90s, the frequency with which they left the house predicted how likely they were to make it to the next age milestone, researchers report in Journal of the American Geriatrics Society.

"The simple act of getting out of the house every day propels people into engagement with the world," said lead author Dr. Jeremy Jacobs of Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center in Jerusalem. "We saw similar benefits that you'd expect from treating blood pressure or cholesterol with medicine," Jacobs said. "Social factors are important in the process of aging."

"We included people who had mobility difficulties, so this isn't just about people moving their legs up and down," Jacobs said. "That's quite exciting. There's something about interacting with the world outside that helps."

Airplane seat choice reveal personality

"The window seat offers great views and a place to lean (because falling onto your neighbor is not OK), but the aisle seat means easy access to the bathroom and more opportunity to stretch.

According to two psychologists from the UK, choosing a window seat or aisle seat isn't just a matter of comfort—it could reveal something about your personality.

The scientists revealed that passengers who prefer the window seat may be more selfish, while those who prefer the aisle may be more reserved.

Dr. Becky Spelman, chief psychologist at the Private Therapy Clinic in London, said, "Passengers who favor the window seat like to be in control, tend to take an 'every man for themselves' attitude towards life and are often more easily irritable. They also like to 'nest' and prefer to exist in their own bubble."

Yikes. Behavioral psychologist Jo Hemmings agreed, adding, "Aisle passengers are often more sociable and definitely more amenable as people; they are also more likely to be restless fliers and less adept at sleeping on planes."

There's no word on the personality traits of those passengers who prefer the middle seat, possibly because no one would actually choose that nightmare.

Kapuso love teams take the lead in 2018



'GabRu': Gabbi Garcia and Ruru Madrid

Kapuso love teams seem to be taking center stage at the GMA camp as 2018 enters. The hottest team-ups of GMA are not wanting in project. The reunited **Derbie** of Derrick Monasterio and Barbie Forteza (**BELOW**) have their big romantic movie shot in Italy and to be shown first quarter of the coming year. The movie is just one of the projects that they will do. GMA is also cooking-up another big television project for the two former tween stars.

Not to be outdone is the loveteam of Gabbi Garcia and Ruru Madrid as they headline one of the new primetime offerings of GMA for 2018. "Sherlock, Jr." is Ruru's first title role and he just can't contain his happiness. This is also some sort of reunion for The Gabru loveteam after it was rumored that "Encantadia" was their last project together. Ruru and Gabbi both got busy with separate projects since then which fanned the fire even more. Until the network announced that Gabru will star together in a new series which is Sherlock, Jr.

Crossing over from 2017 to 2018 is the Biguel loveteam of Bianca Umali and Miguel Tanfelix. Their team-up is said to be one of the strongest. Their ongoing series "Kambal Karibal" is doing so well at the ratings game, giving it's competitor a tough time. Biguel however humbly believes that the story and the execution of the scenes have big roles on the success of their primetime soap. They are, of course, very

thankful that Kambal Karibal is rating high and it rates more as the story progresses.

What's good with the three Kapuso premiere loveteams is that they have very good working relationship. Derrick and Barbie's friendship has passed the fire, so to speak. The friendship which started when they were doing the youth-oriented show, "Tween Hearts" has remained even after they did separate projects. Both Derrick and Barbie

have proven that they can carry shows separately. Derrick's weekly comedy-fantasy series "Tsuperhero" was a hit among kids and teenagers. Barbie, on the other hand, holds the record of leading the cast of the longest running afternoon soap, "The Stepsisters."

Their team-up also proved to be strong on primetime when they did "Anna Karenina" which ruled the ratings on its time slot. And now that they are together again, the two top young stars are happily excited because they work together well. They are so comfortable with each other that they can even tell their secret to each other.

They have finished their shoot in Italy of "Almost A Love Story" under the direction of Louie Ignacio who swears the chemistry between Derrick and Barbie us still there.

"They have very strong chemistry. They look very good together on screen. Even during the shoot, kitang-kita. I think it has something to do with the way they regard and treat each other. They have this genuine concern for each other, they were taking care of each other while we were shooting and they are very sincere. I think that's where the chemistry comes

from," said Direk Louie.

In the case of Gabru, the two admitted that they almost drifted apart especially when rumors started circulating that Encantadia would be their last project together. Even if they are together in the weekly Sunday show "Sunday Pinasaya," the spark was just nowhere. They would just do their segments together treating it as part of their job. Affected by the rumors? "Perhaps," Ruru admitted.

Upon starting the taping for Sherlock, Jr., Gabbi and Ruru tried to rekindle the kind of relationship they had when they were doing "Let The Love Begin" but it seems that there was a thin wall between them. The fire was missing! Until they went to Palawan for a three-day commercial shoot



for a clothing brand they were endorsing. It was there that they had a heart-to-heart talk. They talked about their careers, about the two of them. They realized that there was actually no communication between them. They admitted that they were so near yet so far. That was when they resolved that they would bring back their kind of relationship. They would be more caring toward each other and that's what the public, especially their fans, are seeing now with Gabbi and Ruru.

Separation is something strange for Bianca and Miguel (**ABOVE**), not in their vocabulary as a loveteam. They are always together in projects. After starring in "Mulawin" with Derrick, they were given another primetime series which has proven successful. Fans talk about it. Social media is abuzz with it. The high ratings proves how strong the show is.

HEADLINE: Purge of corrupt govt officials to continue - Roque
LMC: We hope so. Was it a program that was supposed to stop? "Only in the Philippines" is this headline news.

CUM-Feeding

continued from page 7

A sweet 44-year-old lady, Estrosa quickly clarified what they meant: "Together with' ang ibig sabihin namin duon sa 'cum'."

She tells us they've been using the word in question in tarpaulins for their previous programs too, but it was only on this occasion that their usage of the word was, erm, picked on.

"Wala talagang malisya, kasi 'together with' naman talaga ang ibig ng salita. Talagang nagulat na lang kami - hindi pa ako nakakapag-check ng Facebook, may tumawag na lang sa akin."

In case anybody needs a refresher's course, "cum" is traditionally a preposition that means "combined with."

In recent times, it's become a slang term for



what men ejaculate during sexual encounters.

We asked Estrosa if she was aware of the other meaning of the word "cum" and she fervently replied, "Hindi po talaga. Hindi po talaga. Wala po talaga sa amin ang may alam."

She went a step further and asked help for clarification: "Tulungan niyo po kami ma-clarify kung ano talaga ang ibig sabihin namin."

Moving forward she says she'll never use the word for her programs ever again.

"Nako, hindng hindi na po talaga."
Aww, Ms. Estrosa. How pure of heart.

Candid SPOOF

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



Kassandra Adajar tries to name that song during a game at the Star Circle Entertainment Christmas party.



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