

FOOD PRICES TOO HIGH

'Siling labuyo' shoots up to P1,000/kg at wet market

MANILA - The wet market price of "siling labuyo"—the chili variant used to spice up sauces and dips in many Filipino homes skyrocketed to as much as P1,000 per kilo, which vendors blamed both on rising inflation and recent inclement weather that flooded farms and ruined the country's supply of vegetables.

From just P600 a kilo a week ago, "labuyo" prices at Langa-ray Market in Malabon City reached at least P900, as vendors there blamed the high cost of vegetables they purchased from Divisoria, Metro Manila's depot for most goods and commodities from across the country.

"Even a single piece of 'siling pansigang' [green chili] now goes for five pesos a piece, when it used to go for just one peso each," a Malabon vendor told Manila Standard in the vernacular.

The green chili variant is usually used for "sinigang," the soup dish that's a staple for most Filipinos. Prices of other chili variants and spices in general have also risen, vendors admitted.

The Department of Finance also announced that inflation

FOOD PRICES
continued on page 10



ABOVE, Star Circle model Samantha Gavin models a John Ablaza creation at the Flavours festival. Samantha and co-Star Circle students Lizzie Trovato (ABOVE RIGHT) and Kathryn Rodricks (RIGHT) will walk and perform on November 17, at John Ablaza's fashion show at 6pm at Toronto Pavilion, following the Star Circle presentation of The Greatest Showman Musical at 2pm.

President Duterte deny RICE SHORTAGE Barbie Forteza is Lucky to have Jak Roberto as Boyfriend

SOFIA ANDRES wants to STOP GIVING a "F*CK" to Haters

Duterte fails to unite PARTY

Will solo PROJECTS be the end of JADINE?

How LONG must SEX last?

RURU MADRID DENY COURTING BIANCA UMALI

FRIEND-ZONE: Yam Prefers Echo over Sam

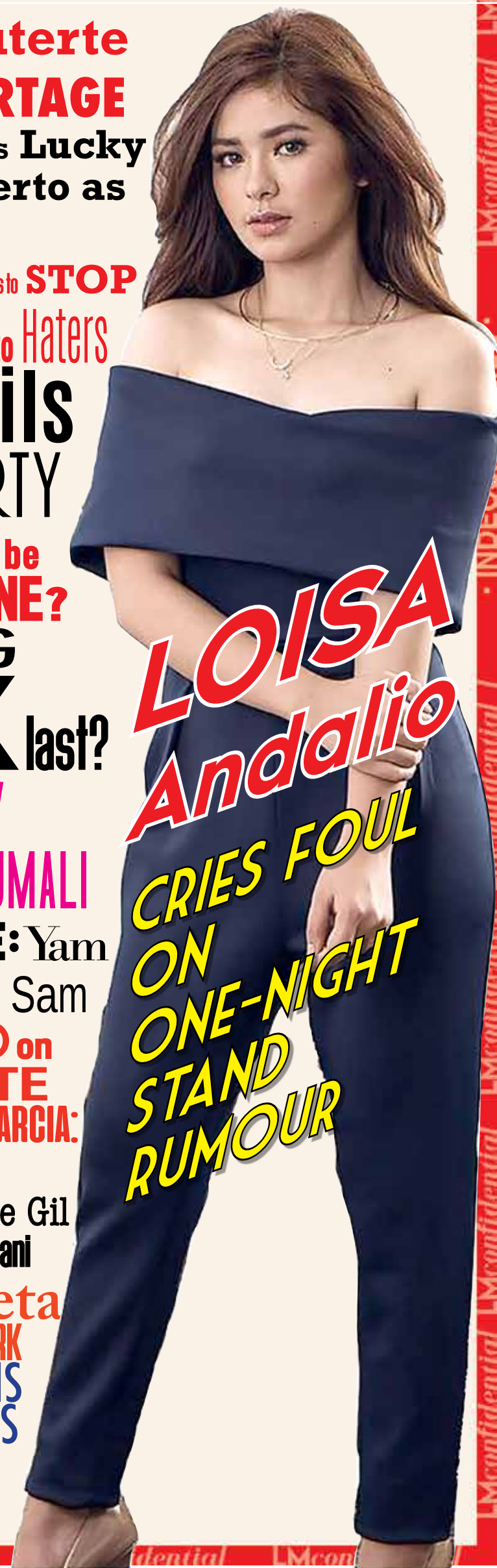
JULIA BARRETTO on Doing INTIMATE Scenes with JOSHUA GARCIA: "I'm VerY OPeN"

Liza Soberano, Enrique Gil to go their separate ways after Bagani

Sharon Cuneta LAUNCHES her OWN NETWORK

WHY NORA AUNOR IS different from other STARS

MALAYSIA to SCRAP China DEALS

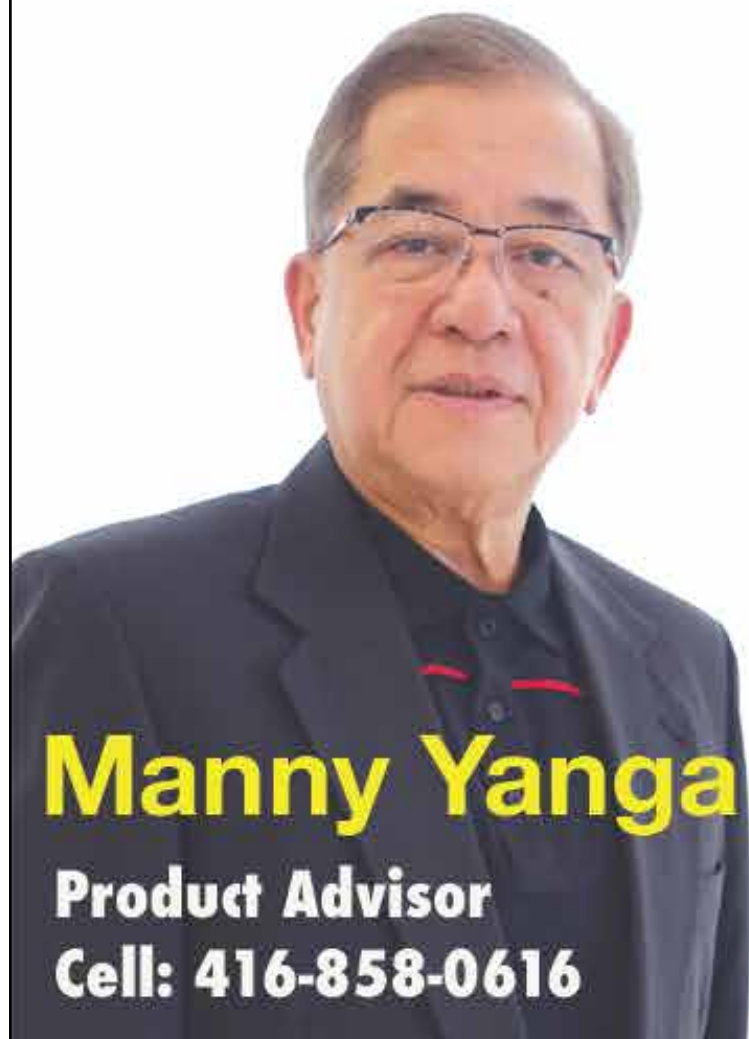


LOISA Andallio CRIES FOUL ON ONE-NIGHT STAND RUMOUR



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Ruru Madrid denies court- ing Bianca Umali

Usap-usapan na nililigawan diumano ni Ruru Madrid, 20, ang kapwa Kapuso star na si Bianca Umali, 18.

Madalas daw silang mamataang magkasama in public. Sa Twitter, may mga kinilig sa posibilidad na maging magkarelasyon ang dalawa.

Pero pagtangi ni Ruru sa isyu, “Hindi totoo.”

Paliwanag pa niya, “Marami nagsasabi, pero akala lang nila siguro, kasi ngayon mas naging close kami dahil nga parang lagi kaming magkasama sa SPS [Sunday PinaSaya].”

“And then, pagka lumalabas kami ng mga magkai-bigan, magkasama kami.

“So, parang iniisip ng mga tao na may something sa amin, pero wala naman talaga.”

Wala naman sigurong masama kung ligawan niya si Bianca dahil pareho silang single?

Saad ni Ruru, “Yeah, pero alam ko rin naman na si Bianca, parang I don’t think na ready na siya sa relationship.

“And feeling ko, hindi pa rin naman kasi... ngayon, ang ganda ng takbo ng career niya, ganun din naman ako.

“So, uhm, ito na, tinatanggap na namin lahat ng opportunities na dumadating sa amin.”

Ang Barangay 143 ang kauna-unahang anime series sa bansa at mapapanood ito simula October 2018 sa GMA-7.

HAPPY FOR GABBI GARCIA

Samantala, ang dating ka-love team ni Ruru na si Gabbi Garcia ay nililigawan naman ngayon ng Kapamilya actor na si Khalil Ramos.

Ano ang masasabi niya rito?

Sagot niya, “I’m very happy for her kasi, siyempre nga, si Gabbi naman nasa tamang edad na rin naman siya para sa mga bagay na iyan.

“Ako, susuporta ako sa kanya kahit saan siya mapunta.

“Dito lang ako lagi, isipin lang niya na nasa tabi lang niya ako lagi.

“And, ayun, masaya naman ako sa mga achievements niya.”

Heart reveals how she almost got the part for ‘Crazy rich asians’

HEART Evangelista just renewed her contract as a Kapuso.

“I’m very happy to be with GMA-7 as they’re always very understanding when it comes to my schedules,” she says.

“Dapat noon pa ako magsa-sign ng new contract but I had a miscarriage so we had to postpone it.

Now, I have to move on and I really enjoy working with them. Despite what happened, I’m very content with my life right now and I’m very happy where I am. I know the Lord has other plans for me and my husband (Sen. Chiz Escudero.) My last show with GMA was the first ever Filipino-Korean romcom, ‘My Korean Jagiya’, and it really got high ratings. I’m confident the next project that they will assign to me will also be a big winner.”



GMA top honcho Atty. Felipe Gozon is glad that Heart remains loyal to GMA and has nothing but praises for the actress.

“Si Heart ay isang very talented actress sa movie man o sa TV. Super talented painter rin siya whose paintings are very much in demand. We are fortunate and gratified na nag-renew siya ng exclusive contract sa atin because she is really a very valuable asset for any showbiz organization.”

Heart confessed that she auditioned for the Hollywood film, “Crazy Rich Asians”. “That’s my little secret and I almost got the part actually, that’s what the author, Kevin Kwan, told me. I met him when he was here last year for his promotion of the book, and we got along fine. And later, he wrote about my painted bags for New York Times. So nagulat ako, naalala niya ako. And then I got a call from him, asking if I was attending Paris Fashion Week, because he had something for me in Paris. They were going to shoot something very special. So nagulat ako that he messaged me. And when I went to Paris and I met him, we became very close and we worked on something together and hopefully it will not be the last.”

She then made an audition tape for the movie. “But I made sure na in case na ma-leak ‘yung audition tape ko hindi nakakahiya. I hired a crew, tinape ko siya like a telenovela. Nakakatuwa. It was a memorable experience and it’s funny because sobrang na-appreciate nila ‘yung audition tape ko.”

Heart is so blessed as she was chosen to be the endorser of Sequoia Paris, a top French leather good brand. She already did a pictorial in Paris for their billboards. Their bags are as classy as other bags with bigger brand names but not as expensive. Watch out for her formal launching as the brand ambassadress of Sequoia Paris.

Honey Shot

Nineteen-year old Maya plays soccer. Her favourite food is pasta. She is currently taking up psychology. Someday, she wants to be a Police Officer. She is the daughter of April and Chris Holmes. We wish her all the luck in her endeavours.



Maya Sermonia-Holmes



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INVITATION
TO ALL DEVOTEES OF THE
VIRGIN OF PENAFRANCIA
Fluvial Parade
By : Paeng Nebres (BCCA and Devotees of Virgin of
Penafrancia)

On September 15, 2018 (3rd. Saturday) is the Feast Day of our Lady of Penafrancia, the Patroness of the Bicol Region in the Philippines. The Devotees of the Virgin of Penafrancia from the Bicol Canada Community Association (BCCA) together with the Organizers of the 9 Day House to House Novena are hosting the celebration, beginning with the traditional Fluvial Parade at the Bluffers Park Lake at Brimley Rd. in Scarborough, Ontario (by the Lake) and an evening Mass Celebration

at the Our Lady of Assumption Church at 2565 Bathurst St. , Toronto.
DETAILS OF THE FEAST DAY CELEBRATION : SEPTEMBER 15, 2018 (3rd. SATURDAY)
MORNING CELEBRATION AT THE BLUFFERS PARK & MARINA at Brimley Rd. South (by the Lake)
8:30 AM – Assembly for the procession of the Virgin to the Dock at the Bluffers Park Marina, where the Fluvial Parade will start. (Eastside of the Bluffers Park Marina)
9:30 AM - PROCESSION TO THE DOCK STARTS
10:00 TO 11:30 AM FLUVIAL PARADE ON THE LAKE
Devotions will be celebrated at the park after the Fluvial Parade. Pot Luck lunch (picnic) at the Park will follow after the Devotions.

REMINDER : FOR THOSE THAT WISHES TO SAIL WITH THE FLUVIAL PARADE ON THE LAKE, PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN LIFE JACKETS. (You can purchase them at the Canadian

Tire or sports store. You can re-use them next year and every year)
Each province will be allocated with one sail boat that can accommodate 4 to 5 Devotees. (first come first serve, to those with Life Jackets).

EVENING CELEBRATION AT THE LADY OF ASSUMPTION CHURCH at 2565 Bathurst St. Toronto.

6:45 PM Starts with a procession of the Virgin of Penafrancia around the church yard.
7:00 PM Con-Celebrated Holy Mass with Bicolano Priest. After the Holy Mass a Fiesta/Celebration will follow at the Church Hall.
Kumustahan, Karakanan, Baraylihan asin Kaogmahan sa Kapistahan para “ Viva La Virgen ”.

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Gidget dela Torre Tel# 647 531-1582
(Fluvial Parade)
Earl Francis Dacara Tel # 647 302-3508
(Fluvial Parade)
Paeng Nebres Tel # 416 618-1362
(Fluvial Parade & Novena)

SHARON CUNETA LAUNCHES A NETWORK

IN LINE with the year-long celebration of her 40th anniversary in show business, which leads to a grand, major concert titled “My 40 Years, Sharon” on Sept. 28 at Araneta Coliseum, Sharon Cuneta launches SharonCunetaNetwork, which synergizes her newest online platforms on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube.



SharonCunetaNetwork provides exclusive and

original content on everything about the Megastar as it integrates film, television, music, live performances, and endorsements as well as a peek to her colorful and inspiring personal life as a mother, wife, sister, and friend.

On Facebook, her newest official handle is SharonCunetaNetwork; on Twitter it's @SharonCunetaNet; on Instagram it's @SharonCunetaNetwork; and on YouTube it's Sharon Cuneta Network. These are all additional platforms that reinforces Sharon's personal social media accounts which include her verified Sharon Cuneta Facebook Page with over 1 million followers; her @sharon_cuenta12 Twitter account with 1 million followers; and @reallysharoncuneta Instagram account with over 652,000 followers.

The platform will also further re-introduce Sharon and her amazing body of work that spans four prodigious decades to a new generation of fans.

For its initial offering, SharonCunetaNetwork will feature one-of-a-kind webisodes that will document different facets of Sharon's career and personal life. This includes her exciting on-going journey leading to the landmark event “My 40 Years, Sharon” – which is considered as one of the most highly-anticipated and grandest musical and industry events of the year with Louie Ocampo, Mell Villena, and Ryan Cayabyab as musical directors with Zsa Zsa Padilla, Kuh Ledesma, Regine Velasquez, Martin Nievera, Basil Valdez, and Gary Valenciano as her special guests.

Megan reveals secret of trips with Mikael abroad

MEGAN Young and Mikael Daez have been on for almost 8 years now and they're still growing strong. What's



the secret of their long lasting relationship? “I think it's because we have so many things in common,” says Megan. “Nagkakasundo kami sa maraming bagay.”

Like what? “Unang-una, we both have the same spirit of adventure,” says Mikael. “Pareho kami, we love to travel and we've visited a

lot of foreign places together where we made plenty of good memories. You can see the photos we've taken in our travels that we post on social media. There's really nothing like traveling together for you to become closer to each other.”

“And also, we both love dogs,” adds Megan. “Parehong clingy sa amin ang aming pets at itinatabi pa namin sa pagtulog.”

And now, there's also the fact that they are working together in the same show, the hit afternoon soap, “The Stepdaughters”, that started airing in February and is now on its 6th month of telecast and still going strong.

“We're both happy to be part of a hit show,” says Megan. “We never thought mae-extend kami nang paulit-ulit. Thanks sa lahat ng palaging nanonood sa amin every afternoon. Sana, mas tumagal pa sa ere ang ‘The Stepdaughters’.”

In the story, the tables have been turned as Katrina in her role as the villainous Isabelle has been deposed and Megan as Mayumi is now the president and general manager of their company selling beauty products, Coco Bella. But aside from Katrina, Megan finds a new opponent in Joyce Ching as Grace, who will connive with Katrina to bring her down and for Katrina to get back her position.

“So bale nadagdagan ang mga kalaban kong kont-rabida in the story,” adds Megan. “Makikipagtarayan ako hindi lang sa isa kundi sa kanilang dalawa. At ‘yun naman ang gusto ng viewers, e. ‘Yung nilalabanan ko ang mga kamalдитahan nila, so abangan nyo lang ang mas mainit na eksena ng pag-aaway namin in ‘The Stepdaughters’.”

Gelli warmly welcomed on return to GMA7

GELLI De Belen is back with GMA-7 where she did a long running talk show, “Sis”, with sister Janice and Carmina Villarroel. Janice and Carmina were the first to return in their respective Kapuso primetime soaps. Now, Gelli plays one of the lead roles in “Ika-5 Utos”.

“It's good to be back,” she says at the show's presscon on Monday night. “I'm so thankful they welcomed be back warmly. At katrabaho ko pa rito ang niece ko, si Inah. And I get to work again with Director Laurice Guillen na siyang very first director ko. I was only 4 years old when I appeared in my first movie, ‘Kasal’, first directorial job ni Direk Laurice. Flower girl ako sa kasal. 1980 ‘yun, then we worked together again in ‘Apoy sa Puso’ for Viva with Dawn Zulueta in 1992 na, tapos ngayon lang ulit.”

No doubt Director Laurice Guillen's “Ika-6 na Utos” is of GMA-7's biggest in their Afternoon So it's not a surprise back in the same with “Ika-5 Utos” Not Kill), which “Contessa” September 10, “Eat Bulaga”. The show truly has a big powerhouse cast led by three strong women. Aside from Gelli as Kelly Manupil, also in the cast are Jean Garcia as Eloisa Lorenzo and Valerie Concepcion as Clarisse Buenaventura.

They plays three close friends whose friendship will be destroyed by betrayal. Jean is married to Neil Ryan

Sese as Angelo Lorenzo and their son is Jeric Gonzales as Jeffrey. Valerie is married to Tonton Gutierrez as Nardo Buenaventura and their children are Kiko Rodriguez as Leo, Migo Adecera as Francis and Klea Pineda as Candy. Kelly is married to Antonio Aquitania as Benjie and their son is Jake Vargas

as Carlo, with Inah de Belen as Jake's battered girlfriend, Daniella.

The first conflict in the story happens when Jean and Tonton discover that their respective spouses, Valerie and Neil, are having an affair. During a confrontation, Valerie eventually causes Neil's accidental death. The second conflict occurs when Kiko is killed in a hazing incident where the frat master who punished him is Jake Vargas, who hates him so much because Jake is jealous after seeing him with Inah. But it is Jeric who gets accused of being the guilty party in Kiko's sudden demise.

“Napakaganda ng material,” says Gelli. “So when they offered it to me, yes agad ako. Very complicated ang emotions involved in all the characters kaya sure akong susubaybayan na naman ito ng mga tao.”

Direk Laurice says this is much harder to do than “Ika-6 na Utos”. “This is much bigger kasi sa Ika-6, there were only 3 major characters in the story involving infidelity. E, ito, hindi lang infidelity but also murder ang tina-tackle. And there are three different families involved so mas maraming characters. As a director, mas marami kang artistang iga-guide, lalo na among the younger stars, unlike sa Ika-6 na alam na nina Gabby, Sunshine at Ryza ang gagawin.”



Barbie Forteza enumerates reasons why she's lucky to have Jak Roberto as boyfriend

Kapuso stars Barbie Forteza and Jak Roberto celebrate their first anniversary as a couple in Hong Kong.

Bumiyahe patungong Hong Kong ang magkasintahang sina Barbie Forteza at Jak Roberto noong Sabado, September 1.

Kasama nila ang kapatid ni Jak na si Sanya Lopez at ang ama ni Barbie na si Antonio Forteza.

Mukhang sa bakasyong ito ay isinabay na rin nina Barbie at Jak ang pagdiriwang ng kanilang unang anibersaryo bilang magkasintahan.

August 21, 2017 nang kumpirmahin ni Barbie, 21, ang relasyon nila ni Jak, 24, sa pamamagitan ng isang Instagram post kung saan inilarawan niya ang kanilang mga sarili bilang “monay at pandesal.”

“Monay” ang tawag ni Barbie sa sarili dahil sa bilugan niyang mukha.

“Pandesal” naman ang deskripsiyon sa “Pambansang Abs” na si Jak.

“I'M LUCKY”

Kasunod nito, inisa-isa ng Kapuso actress ang mga dahilan kung bakit masuwerte siya



bilang nobya ni Jak.

Aniya, “Get a man who would annoy you, take you to the highest of heights knowing how much you hate it and make you walk all day and get lost in the rain just to get to the shoe store.

“But also... Make you laugh even when you don't want to, eat a looooot with you even when he has a body to maintain, never tells you, ‘You're getting fat,’ even when you're sure you are, tells you, ‘You're so beautiful,’ when you're sweating from long walks, pulls you close and kisses you on the forehead outside that shoe store, and never let's go of your hand no matter what.

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Luis Manzano: Stop asking about "soon-to-happen wedding" with Jessy Mendiola

zano on being frequently asked about his 'soon-to-happen wedding' with Jessy Mendiola: "If people ask you over and over again, parang you get desensitized, na parang it becomes one of those many questions thrown at us..."

Nagpaliwanag si Luis Manzano kung bakit ayaw na niyang magsalita tuwing tatanungin tungkol sa proposal o kasal niya sa girlfriend na si Jessy Mendiola.

Pahayag ng Kapamilya TV host-actor sa kanyang Facebook Live ngayong Lunes ng hapon, September 3, "I understand and I am thankful and I respect the interest.

"People always ask about the soon-to-happen wedding namin ni Jessy.

"But [when] asked it too much na, kahit papaano, you get desensitized.

"You wanna keep it special, you want it na when you speak about it, you feel the goosebumps, you feel the happiness and everything."

Ayaw raw ni Luis mawala ang excitement niya kapag dumating na ang tamang pagkakataon. "If people ask you over and over again, parang you get desensitized, na parang it becomes one of those many questions thrown at us, instead of putting a smile when people ask you kailan ba, ganyan-ganyan. "So, ibigay niyo na sa amin yun," pakiusap niya. Maging ang mga miyembro ng press ay pinakiusapan din ni Luis na huwag na siyang tanungin ukol dito. "That's why I even tell my friends sa press na, as much as possible, I don't wanna talk about it anymore, dahil gusto ko pag pinag-usapan ko, it's special. "Hindi yung bawat ganito or people even on social media, you get tired.

"It gets too repetitive, instead of having it so much special every time you answer that question."



Jessica Soho thanks GMA-turned-ABS-CBN executive for giving her break in broadcasting

Jessica Soho becomes the 14th University of the Philippines Gawad Plaridel Awardee. In her speech, she thanked GMA-turned-ABS-CBN executive Tina Monzon-Palma for hiring her way back in 1985. Jessica said, "It was through her example and courage that my newsroom contemporaries and I learned the value of upholding the truth no matter what."

Jessica Soho thanked former GMA-7 news executive Tina Monzon-Palma for allowing her to start a career in broadcasting. Tina hired Jessica as a journalist for the Kapuso station in 1985. Back then, Tina was GMA News Senior Vice President. Jessica included Tina in her speech when the GMA News pillar accepted her Gawad Plaridel Award for Journalism conferred to her by the University of the Philippines last August 29. The GMA anchor turned emotional as she said in her speech: "I have Tina Monzon-Palma to thank for this most important lesson that saw me into some pivotal questions in my career.

"She was the one who hired me and it was through her example and courage that my newsroom contemporaries and I learned the value of upholding the truth no matter what, to defend the integrity of the story. And now more than ever, we need more of this in these perilous times."

Coincidentally, it was Tina who received the Gawad Plaridel award in 2017. The veteran news reporter resigned from GMA-7 in 1992. Tina took responsibility for reporting on live television that Maureen Hultman had died, when at that time, Maureen was still in coma.

Tina then transferred to TV5 after one month, and in 1997, she moved to ABS-CBN.

She just recently returned to ANC's The World Tonight after taking a year-long sabbatical leave in January 2017.



Meanwhile, Jessica was the first University of the Philippines College of Mass Communication alumna to receive the Gawad Plaridel award. She currently anchors GMA News TV's flagship newscast State of the Nation with Jessica Soho (SONA).

She also hosts the top-rating GMA-7 magazine show Kapuso Mo, Jessica Soho and is the chief correspondent/host of the investigative news magazine program Brigada, aired on GMA News TV.

Jessica is the 14th person to receive the U.P. Gawad Plaridel.

Dina doesn't want to ask Money from Husband

WE heard Dina Bonnevie will go to GMA-7 right after the conclusion of "Blood Sisters" which will have its final episode this afternoon. She will be playing an important role in the Dingdong Dantes-Dennis Trillo starrer, "Cain at Abel". "Yes, I need to work kasi for three months now, my father is in and out of the hospital. He's 88 years old, had a stroke, nagka-colon cancer pa 'yan at may Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's. Ayoko namang humingi ng pera sa husband ko for his hospitalization. I called my mom who lives in Switzerland and told her na he might not last long so my mom, who's 81, will be flying in soon to visit him, kahit hiwalay na sila."

Does any of her granddaughters have any inclination to follow the footsteps of their grand-ma? "Kay Oyo, 'yung anak nila ni Kristine na si Ondrea. I see her acting in front of the mirror. Kay Danica naman, si Micaela, ginagaya si Elsa sa 'Frozen' and has memorized all the songs in 'Greatest Showman'. Sabi ni Danica, mana raw sa'kin. What I really want to do is a teleserye with my daughter-in-law (Kristine Hermosa), 'yung mag-ina kami."

INVITATION

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

The 9th. month Novena Devotions to the Virgin of Penafrancia will be on September 9, 2018, Sunday . (2nd. Sunday of September 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: September 9, 2018, Sunday (2nd. Sunday of September 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 Camarines Sur c/o : Isabel Gregorio Tel# 416 409-6083 .

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 Camarines Sur.

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 :

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Duterte fails to unite 2 PDP-Laban factions



UNITY TALKS Special Assistant to the President Christopher Lawrence 'Bong' Go takes a selfie with Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea, while President Rodrigo Duterte discusses party matters with former Senate president Aquilino Pimentel Jr. and son Aquilino 3rd.

MANILA - PRESIDENT Rodrigo Duterte failed to unite the ruling PDP-Laban during a meeting, with the party president, Sen. Aquilino Pimentel 3rd, vehemently refusing any settlement with a rival bloc.

Palace spokesman Harry Roque Jr. admitted that PDP-Laban members did not find common ground despite efforts by the President to reconcile the two warring factions.

"The President said that the members should talk among themselves and then the President will meet them again in September," Roque said. "Then if they really cannot settle all their issues, they can go their separate ways," he added.

Duterte, the chairman of PDP-Laban, met separately with the group of Pimentel and that of lawyer Rogelio Garcia, the President's classmate.

In a statement, Special Assistant to the President Christopher Lawrence "Bong" Go said Duterte asked his party mates to thresh out their differences and think of the good of the country.

The meeting came two weeks after the faction of PDP-Laban led by Garcia held an assembly and elected a new set of officials to replace Pimentel as party president and Davao del Norte Rep. Pantaleon Alvarez as secretary general. The group also elected Go as interim national auditor of the party.

But Pimentel dismissed the actions of the

group, whose members, he said, had been expelled from PDP-Laban.

Sham election

Pimentel said he would not enter into any settlement with lawyer Garcia, who claims to be the new president of PDP-Laban.

The senator said the July 27 assembly organized by Garcia was a "sham election."

"[There's] no need for any settlement. No one recognizes them except themselves. And maybe some media practitioners," Pimentel said in a text message.

Pimentel also said he would not allow anyone to enjoy the gains of PDP-Laban that he and his father, former Senate president Aquilino Pimentel Jr., had labored to achieve through the years.

The older Pimentel formed the PDP-Laban to fight the Marcos regime.

"I do not intend to cling to my position and title," the younger Pimentel said.

"But why is it that he wants to eat what we have planted, harvested, cooked, and prepared? Why him?," the senator stressed.

"We have no problem if the one who will eat our harvest also labored with us in expanding the party."

"They should not resort to shortcuts or try to hit the jackpot. They must exert effort, too," he said.

Asked whether President Duterte scolded Garcia for organizing on July 27 the supposed "unauthorized" election of officers, Pimentel said: "I have no personal knowledge because he met us separately."

The President, Pimentel said, considers PDP-Laban as "his party and that he is duty-bound to campaign for its candidates" in the 2019 midterm elections.

"He requires only two qualifications of PDP Laban's candidates: competence and honesty," Pimentel said.

'Hugpong won't poach PDP-Laban members'

Also, the new regional party formed by the President's daughter, Davao City Mayor Sara Duterte-Carpio, clarified that it had no plans of recruiting members from PDP-Laban or other national parties.

Hugpong ng Pagbabago (HNP), which means Alliance for Change, issued the statement following reports that some PDP-Laban members were planning to jump ship amid party infighting.

"Hugpong ng Pagbabago (HNP) is a regional political party whose members are from Region XI. While the party has supporters outside of Davao Region, we advise them to form their own local parties or join other national parties — the NUP (National Unity Party), NP (Nacionalista Party), NPC (Nationalist People's Coalition), or PDP-Laban," the regional party said.

"HNP does not intend to recruit members of PDP-Laban or other national political parties. HNP respects the history, experience, and the wisdom of the PDP-Laban Party," it added.

The regional party however said it "finds it truly unfortunate that PDP-Laban is embroiled in an internal problem and hopes that competing party members resolve their differences."

On Monday, Roque, the Palace spokesman, said he had joined HNP because this was the party of President Duterte.

The President ran under the PDP-Laban in 2016.

"I think it's only right that I also join his party. This is without prejudice to alliances that Hugpong may enter into, including with PDP-Laban," Roque said.

Roque, along with Special Assistant to the President Christopher Lawrence "Bong" Go, joined the party, which Alvarez, who does not see eye to eye with the Davao mayor, had earlier derided as part of the opposition.

Roque and Go are said to be running for senator in next year's elections.

Sofia Andres wants to stop giving a "f*ck" to haters

Nihayag ni Sofia Andres, 19, na mas kumportable na siyang ihayag ang kanyang damdamin sa social media kahit pa may ibang kontra sa opinyon niya.

Itong raw ang kanyang paninindigan pagkatapos dumanas ng anxiety at sumailalim sa counselling halos tatlong buwan na ang nakararaan.

Sabi ni Sofia, "Goals? Siguro not to give a f*ck anymore."

"I mean, I'm just being honest."

"I still know how to respect people. But if hindi sila marunong rumespeto, then I'm sorry."

Natutunan daw niyang aminin kung nasasaktan siya o kung kailan wala siyang pakialam sa mga nambabatikos sa kanya sa Twitter.



Paliwanag pa ni Sofia, "I really don't care what they're gonna say. Kasi palagi namang may masasabi, e."

"I'm just being honest with how I feel. If I have anxiety, then I don't give a... you know."

"Kasi may mga tao din naman na nakaka-experience nun, e. Not only me, e. May mga tao talagang nakaka-relate sa akin."

"So yun lang. I'm not afraid."

Noong Pebrero, nasangkot sa kontrobersiya si Sofia matapos batikusin ng ilang entertainment bloggers ang diuman'y hindi magandang pakikitungo ng aktres sa tuwing nakakasalamuha ito sa media-related events.

Nakadagdag dito ang tweet ni Sofia na nagsasabing "too tired to be nice."

Matapos ang insidente, humingi ng dispensa si Sofia at inam-ing mayroon siyang personal "insecurities" at "fear of rejection."

"Na-stress out ako sa mga tao sa paligid."

"And then I didn't expect na being in showbiz is really hard, which is true. Everybody knows that."

"So ako, I'm still learning."

Isang buwang nag-leave of absence si Sofia dahil sa kanyang mental health concern.

Bagamat nakakaramdam pa rin siya ng anxiety, mas kaya na raw niyang i-handle ang sarili ngayon.

Nagpapasalamat daw siya dahil sinuportahan din siya ng ABS-CBN talent arm, ang Star Magic.

Nakangiting dagdag ni Sofia, "Star Magic understands, which is good. They gave me a therapist."

"Sana mas happy ako. Sana wala ng stress ang life ko."

Valerie Conception on getting married: "Finally may nabingwit din ako."

Valerie Conception on fiancé Francis Sunga: "ung sino pa yung malayo, taga-Guam siya, he is based there, pero siya yung nakapagpa-feel sa akin na kahit malayo siya, secure ako sa kanya, hindi ako siguradong napa-paranoid, hindi ako nagseselos. I don't know, that's how he makes me feel."

Matagal na raw pangarap ni Valerie Conception na maikasal sa lalaking minamahal niya. Ngunit ngayon lamang ito matutupad matapos mag-propose sa kanya ng kasal ang non-showbiz boyfriend na si Francis Sunga noong July 11, 2018.

Saad ng 30-year-old actress, "Siyempre, sobrang happy ako kasi alam mo ba, sa totoo lang, 23 years old pa lang ako, dini-dream ko na ikasal. "Kasi, my parents got married when my mom was 25. "So, I was hoping to get married nung 25 years old din ako. "So, 23 pa lang ako, nasa dream ko na na ikasal."

Patuloy ni Valerie, "Now, I'm 30, finally may nabingwit din ako, di ba, finally?"

"Sabi ko nga, unti-unting natupad ang mga dreams ko."

"Like, una, gumradweyt ako [BA Psychology, June 2018]."

"Pangalawa, ang ganda-ganda ng show na ibinbigay sa akin [Ika-5 Ulos] ng GMA, ang ganda ng opportunity."

"Ang tagal ko na sa showbiz, ang dami ko natutunan sa mga kaeksena ko, kay Direk Laurie [Guillen]."

"Pangatlo, ito nga, ngayon magpaplano na kami ng kasal."

"So, di ba, parang everything is falling into place."

The Difference between Nora & Company and the New Stars

NORA Aunor has no reluctance working with newcomers in "Onanay". "Yung anak ko rito, si Jo Berry as Onay, wala raw siyang previous acting experience kasi she just played herself when she was first featured in 'Magpakailanman,'" says Ate Guy. "But in fairness, okay siya, nakakasabay siya sa amin nina Cherie Gil. Gayundin 'yung mga gumaganap na anak niya, sina Kate Valdez and Mikee Quintos. Newcomers din daw pero magagaling din."

Director Gina Alajar says these newcomers are so lucky because GMA-7 got acting coaches for them who guide them in interpreting their roles. "At siyempre, nandiyan pa ako para alalayan sila," she



adds. "Sina Kate and Mikee, mga nagsikuha rin 'yan ng acting workshops to help hone their talents sa harap ng camera."

We tell Nora and Gina that in their younger days, which includes the likes of Vilma Santos, Hilda Koronel and Lorna Tolentino, there were no acting coaches and workshops and their acting prowess springs from them instinctively, like an inborn talent. So these younger stars today are really more fortunate because they can resort to workshops and coaches to help them in their craft.

"Totoo, nahahasa na sila bago pa sila isalang sa harap ng camera," says Ate Guy. "Pero masuwerte rin kami kasi we got to work with the best directors then like Lino Brocka, Mario O'Hara, Ishmael Bernal.

Malaking tulong talaga sila sa aming propesyon bilang artista."

Even during the time of the late Lolita Rodriguez and Charito Solis, there were no acting workshops or coaches, but they still turned out to be two of the country's best actresses. "Kaya nga, ngayon, kung sa kabila ng napakaraming acting workshops na kinuha mo at may acting coach ka pa, pero hindi mo pa rin maiarte convincingly ang role mo, magbago ka na lang ng career dahil iisa lang ang ibig sabihin niyon, tatanga-tanga ka talaga at bano kang umarte," says one writer who's listening to our conversation with Nora and Gina.

Incidentally, our condolences to Ate Guy for the recent passing of her sister, Tita. May she rest in peace.



FIRST, JDL students performs at Flavours festival. SECOND, Alyssa escueta of JDL sings at Flavours festival. THIRD, Bella Regatillo, a student of DK Tijam performs also. FOURTH DK Tijam performs at Flavours festival.



Yam prefers Echo over Sam + other stories



Yam Concepcion, Jericho Rosales and Sam Milby

YAM Concepcion has love scenes with both Jericho Rosales and Sam Milby in ABS-CBN’s new drama, “Halik”, that starts airing tomorrow as replacement of “Since I Found You”. Didn’t she have any qualms about doing it?

“No, first movie ko pa lang, ‘Rigodon’, sexy movie na at di ko pa masyadong alam noon ang ginagawa ko. But now, I’m used to it. I think mas may depth na kung makipag-love scene ako ngayon.”

So how is it doing such scenes with Echo and Sam? “Si Echo, mag-asawa kami rito, at ang galing-galing niya, masyadong in character ang treatment. Maniniwala ka talagang totoo kaming mag-asawa. ‘Yung kay Sam, more wild, passionate, kasi nangangain siya ng labi.”

If there’s one actor she’d like to do a kissing scene with, who would it be? “Si Coco Martin. Nag-guest ako noon sa ‘Ang Probinsyano’ niya but sayang nga, kasi wala kaming kissing scene.”

It’s common knowledge that she’s in a long distance relationship with her non-showbiz boyfriend named Miguel Cu-unjieng who’s working in the U.S. Isn’t it hard for them to be physically apart? “Yes, but through today’s technology, we’re always naman communicate so okay lang.”

So who between Echo and Sam would she choose in rea life? “Siyempre, si Echo. Si Sam, friend lang ang tingin ko sa kanya, walang malisya.” Sam acted like he felt hurt so Yam tried to assuage his feelings. “I love you, Sam! But si Echo kasi, may character siya, parang iba ang personality niya. Kanya-kanya namang choice ‘yan, di ba?”

Bea and Benjamin’s Tandem Heats up

BEA Binene and Benjamin Alves’s morning soap, “Kapag Nahati ang Puso”, quickly gained a lot of followers curious on how the story of Bea’s rivalry with her mom, Sunshine Cruz, over the attention of Benjamin will be developed. Now, Bea and Benjamin’s tandem is further strengthened with their appearance in this afternoon’s episode of “Dear Uge” entitled “Nosi Balae”.



In the story, Bea plays Heidi while Benjamin plays Floyd. They met only four months ago and quickly became engaged. People can easily see that they’re so much in love with one another. Of course, Bea as Heidi dreams of walking down the aisle on the arms of her father on their wedding day. But there are some grave complications.

Bea’s dad is not the usual dad people expect. Her dad is also her mama.

Yes, her dad is actually a transwoman named Izzy, as played by the very colorful Gardo Verzosa who has done this before as Jennylyn Mercado’s swishy father-mother in the movie “The Prenup”. As maybe expected, Benjamin as Floyd finds it embarrassing to have a cross-dresser to be his future father-in-law. He convinces Bea to make her dad pretend to be a real man during their engagement dinner. But it turns out that Gardo has a previous unsavory history with Benjamin’s mom so everything ends up in disaster.

So will the wedding still push through or will Bea and Benjamin just decide to part ways and let go of their love for each other?

You’ll get the answer when you watch “Nosi Balae” in “Dear Uge” after Sunday Pinasaya this afternoon at 2:30.

“Ayoko!” Ogie Alcasid urged to run in 2019 election:

Biggest reason why Ogie Alcasid will not enter politics: “Ayaw ng asawa ko, ayaw niya.”

“Ayoko, ayoko!” todo-iling na sabi ni Ogie Alcasid nang tanungin kung papasok ba siya sa pulitika.

Tubong-Batangas ang pamilya Alcasid, at marami ang nag-aalok at kumukumbinsi kay Ogie na tumakbo sa May 2019 elections.

“Madami! Iba-iba, basta sa Batangas, Congress... meron nga senador, e,” sambit niya.

Ayaw niyang maging senador?

Ayon kay Ogie, “Mas masaya ako dito, e. I’d rather be a singer, an actor.

“Ayoko, ayoko!”

“Nakikita ko si Herbert, ni hindi ko naka-kausap, parang ang dami niyang...”

Kaibigan ni Ogie si Quezon City Mayor Herbert Bautista.

Wala bang pulitiko sa pamilya nina Ogie?

“Parang wala akong alam... parang dignitary, mga ganun, naging ambassador...”

Nagsasalita nang tapos si Ogie na hindi siya tatakbo dahil hindi rin siya papayagan ng misis niyang si Regine Velasquez.

“Ayoko talaga, ayoko. ‘Tsaka ayaw ng asawa ko, ayaw niya.”

Nasubukan na ni Ogie minsan na ma-involve sa gobyerno sa administrasyon ni former President Benigno “Noynoy” Aquino III.

Sabi niya, “Nagawa ko na yun when I served a little bit under Noynoy—nang walang bayad, ha.

“I was with the EDSA People Power Commission.

“Bale ang job ko every year, ako ang nagpe-prepare nung concerts, nung anniversary, yun lang naman yun.”

Arra on possible romance with Ken: It depends on him

ARRA San Agustin is one of the most promising new actresses today at the Kapuso network. Born on April 25, 1996, she’s a runner-up in Starstruck 7 in 2015. A psychology major at La Salle, she’s also into ballet and figure skating.

She was initially given supporting roles in various drama shows then was made to join the cast of “Bubble Gang” where she learned to do comedy. She was later cast in “Encantadia” as Ariana. In “The Cure”, she was paired with Ken Chan and they played husband and wife. Their love team gained a lot of fans so it’s not surprising that they are now paired anew in the new soap, “My Special Tatay”, that starts airing this afternoon to replace “Hindi Ko Kayang Iwan Ka”.

“I play the role of Carol,” she says. “Mas may challenge ito kaysa sa ‘The Cure’ kasi full length na ang role ko as leading lady ni Ken. Magkaibigan kami ni Ken as Boyet since childhood and I act as his protector, parang guardian angel niya kapag may mga ibang batang nang-aapi sa kanya dahil may mild autism nga siya rito. Hindi ko alam, may secret love pala siya sa akin but hindi niya ma-express ang sarili niya.”

So how is it working with Ken? “Masarap siyang katrabaho kasi hindi lang siya mabait sa kapareha niya kundi napakahusay niyang artista kaya mamo-motivate ka sa eksena.”

Ken has said that she is his crush? Does she believe this? “Oo. Kasi sinasabi naman niya sa’king crush niya ako.”

What if they get linked to each other?

“Malayo pa naman ang tatakbuhin ng show, mag-uumpisa pa lang this Monday (today), so tingnan na lang natin. It depends on him naman, so huwag na lang nating pangunahan.”

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Duterte denies there is rice shortage in Phl



JERUSALEM – President Duterte yesterday denied that the Philippines is facing a rice shortage as he chided his critics for politicizing the issue.

Duterte said the country has more than enough supply of the staple, a major agricultural crop of the country.

“They are saying there is rice shortage. We have lots of rice. Some of them are set to arrive. Now there’s even an excess,” the President said during a meeting with the Filipino community here. “You know, those are politics. But I would like to remind you that I won because of the vote of the Filipino.”

The National Food Authority and the inter-agency NFA Council blamed each other for the lack of cheap rice that led to price spikes in some parts of the country.

NFA deputy administrator Tomas Escare told a House hearing last week that his agency asked the council in October last year to allow the importation of one million metric tons of rice, a request that was approved only last May.

But NFA Council member and trade undersecretary Ruth Castelo disputed the claim, saying the delay was caused by the NFA’s failure to provide information on its inventory.

Last month, the local government of Zamboanga City declared a state of calamity after rice prices rose to P70 per kilo because of the

lack of supply. Price spikes were also reported in Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi provinces.

Duterte had said he was ready to order government forces to raid rice warehouses to prevent a shortage of the staple. He also allowed the entry of rice from small traders in Malaysia to address the shortage in those provinces.

Presidential spokesman Harry Roque Jr. said the President wanted to alleviate the lack of sufficient supply and soften the impact of high rice prices there.

He said rice coming from Malaysia will be subjected to tariffs, although he did not mention whether these will be passing through trading posts, which was earlier recommended by the agriculture department.

The spokesman added that 152,000 metric tons of rice is due to arrive and, when coupled with the expected rice harvest in the country, is expected to flood the market with supply.

Before leaving for Israel last Sunday, Duterte said he would not think twice about using the police powers of the state and the power of eminent domain against erring rice traders, referring to those who are hoarding supply to jack up prices.

Roque reiterated the President’s call to stop the artificial rice shortage, which is attributed to abusive traders.

Not a solution

For Vice President Leni Robredo, Department of Agriculture (DA) Secretary Manny Piñol and NFA officials led by administrator Jason Aquino should resign because of their “inability to manage the agency.”

Senators also said that raiding rice warehouses would neither solve the country’s rice shortage nor stabilize prices.

“The rice supply situation is a result of incompetence and corruption in the NFA that at this point cannot be solved by raiding warehouses. The solution is more than just going after traders when the NFA itself, through corruption and incompetence, caused the problem in the first place,” Sen. Francis Pangilinan said.

He added that until new imports come in and the local rice expected in October’s harvest are effectively distributed, “these raids will just be for show.”

Sen. Frank Drilon said raiding warehouses is just a band-aid solution.

“The long-term solution therefore is to provide support to our farmers,” Drilon added, as he urged the administration to prioritize the construction of agricultural infrastructure in its Build Build Build program.

But Sen. William Gatchalian welcomed Duterte’s plan to tap the police in strictly enforcing laws against rice smuggling and profiteering.

“The President is also correct in saying that the rice crisis may be attributed to a weak legal framework. This does not, however, absolve DA and NFA officials of their culpability in the ongoing rice crisis,” Gatchalian said.

At the House of Representatives, leaders have also called for the resignation of Piñol and Aquino because of their failure to address the spike in prices and the limited supply. – With Christina Mendez, Helen Flores, Paolo Romero, Delon Porcalla, Louise Maureen Simeon, Rhodina Villanueva, Eva Visperas, Jack Castaño



Donny Pangilinan reminds youth: Put down phones when spending time with grandparents

For actor and singer Donny Pangilinan, there should be nothing more important than spending time with one’s grandparents — and yes, that includes getting off one’s phone.

“Sat beside the table of a lola who took her three apos (grandchildren) out to eat,” wrote Pangilinan in a Twitter post last Saturday, Aug. 25. He recounted how the three grandchildren were so busy with their phones that



no one among them bothered to talk to their grandmother.

“When you have the privilege of spending time with your lolas and lolos, please get off your phones,” he reminded his fellow young people. You’ll never know how long they’ll be around [pensive face emoji].”

Netizens were quick to react to his post, agreeing with what he said. Some netizens shared how they spend their time with their grandparents.

“Agree! I have a 100-year-old lola and I always make sure na tuwing uuwi ako from school dadaan muna ko sa kanya para kamustahin sya,” said netizen Justine Tolentino (@chrislina19). “Ang sarap kayang making sa mga kwento ng matatanda.”

(Agree! I have a 100-year-old lola and I always make sure that every time I go home from school, I drop by her house to check how she is. It feels so good to listen to the stories of the elderly.)

Another Twitter user shared photos of her daughter bonding with her grandmother: “So true kaya yung baby ko pag dadalaw kami sa lola lagi nya pinaparamdam kong gaano nya ka love lola nya and makikita mo sobrang saya ng matanda.”

(So true, that’s why whenever my baby and I visit her grandmother, she makes sure to let her grandmother feel her love, and you can see how happy her grandmother is.)

Other netizens reminisced about their grandparents who passed away.

Meanwhile, some expressed their regrets about not spending time with their grandparents.

Replying to a fan who said that the three grandchildren Pangilinan talked about had it good because they still have their grandmother with them, Pangilinan said, “So sad I wanted to just hug her for them.”



LEFT, FV Foods by owner Mel Galeon wins Best Float at the Mabuhay festival. ABOVE, FV Foods’ Alan Ocampo and Mel Galeon pose with Kapamilya star Martin Nievera.



LEFT, Martha Joy, Maria Panaligan and Alyssa Datu are introduced by Philip Beloso at Taste of Manila. They will be having a concert entitled Golden Voices on October 13 at Toronto Pavilion.

RIGHT, Teresa Torralba, chief of staff of Taste of Manila poses with founder Roland Mangante.



Blame rapists

MANILA - Vice President Maria Leonor “Leni” Robredo on Monday reiterated that rape only happens because there are rapists, and not because of women’s good looks.

“Ako, hindi lang bilang babae pero bilang tao, kahit anuman na statement na kasalanan ng babae iyang rape, hindi iyon nakakatawa. Kailangang i-protesta natin. Alam natin na hindi iyon tama. (For me, not just as a woman but as a person, whatever statement that puts the blame on women when it comes to rape, it is not funny. We should protest. We know that it is wrong),” Robredo told reporters.

She made the comment a week after President Rodrigo Duterte said in a speech that as long as there were beautiful women, there would be more rape cases.

“Ingon sila nga daghang rape ang Davao. Basta daghang gwapa, daghang rape gyud na (They said there are many rape cases in Davao. As long as there are many beautiful women,

there will be more rape cases),” Duterte said.

The President made the remark after the Philippine National Police (PNP) showed in a report that Davao City had the highest number of rape cases in the second quarter of 2018.

The Gabriela Women’s Party lashed out at Duterte on Friday, saying a person who finds humor in demeaning women and enabling rapists “is not fit to be a President.”

However, Malacañang downplayed Duterte’s remarks, saying the public should not “give too much weight on what the President says by way of a joke.”

Duterte: ‘It was freedom of speech’

In Israel, Duterte defended his rape “joke” as merely an exercise of freedom of expression.

“They can say that I am misogynist. Which is why, I just said that there are a lot of rape [cases] in Davao. I [just] said there are a lot of beautiful women in Davao, I did not say they are all raped,” Duterte told Filipinos in Israel.

The crowd burst in laughter.

“But you are almost mesmerized or tempted. That is how you control yourself. It is a democracy, freedom of expression,” Duterte added.

In the same speech, Duterte said that he could still walk and he was still strong despite rumors of him being sick, because there were a lot of beautiful Filipinas.

On Monday, Chief Presidential Legal Counsel Salvador Panelo said detractors of the President were merely “nitpicking” and “making a fuss” out of the statements of Duterte.

“The President reveres his late mother and as Davao City mayor had undertaken projects and measures protective of the rights of women and advancing their cause,” Panelo said.

Panelo also said Duterte had given women recognition by appointing them to important posts, the latest of which was Teresita Leonardo de Castro as chief justice.



Joshua Garcia cautioned by Star Magic to lessen PDA with Julia Barretto

Joshua Garcia admits he was asked by their management, Star Magic, to tone down his public displays of affection for girlfriend Julia Barretto. The young actor says he can do it, but adds, “Mahirap din kasing pigilan kapag nararamdaman mo, e.”

Hindi naiilang ang reel- at real-life sweethearts na sina Joshua Garcia at Julia Barretto na ipakita ang kanilang lambingan o public display of affection (PDA) sa isa’t isa.

Sa kanilang dalawa, si Joshua raw talaga ang mas clingy o walang pakialam na ipakita ang paglalalambing kay Julia.

Marami sa nakakakita ng kanilang sweetness ang natutuwa. Pero naiisip daw ni Joshua na hindi na rin tama ang PDA niya kay Julia.

“Hindi, e,” sambit ng young actor.

“Pero pinagsasabihan na po ako nila, ng Star Magic, na bawas-bawasan nga yung pagiging PDA.”

Babawasan niya na ba o itutuluy-tuloy pa rin niya?

“Oo, nga, e,” sagot ni Joshua, na ang ibig sabihin ay hindi niya mapigilan ang sariling lambingin si Julia.

Singit na komento ni Julia, “Pero tuluy-tuloy pa rin naman siya. Parang mas naging...”

Pagkontra ni Joshua, “Hindi, nababawasan na.

“Kaya naman... pero mahirap din kasing pigilan kapag nararamdaman mo, e.”

Paano kaya pag may nangyaring hindi maganda sa kanilang relasyon? Naiisip ba nilang maaapektuhan tiyak ang kanilang fans, kapag hindi na nakikita ang lambingan nila sa isa’t isa?

Sagot ni Julia, “Ahh, but also at the end of the day, parang tao rin naman po kami.

“Kapag nagkakasamaan ng loob, nagkakatatampuhan over a little thing, parang I think it’s normal and we have the right to feel upset or to feel sad about something.

Sabi naman ni Joshua, “Ang maganda sa amin, kapag may ganung tampuhan kami, hindi nagla-last ng ten minutes.

Kapag kaharap naman ng dalawa ang pamilya ni Julia, partikular na ang ina ng aktres na si Marjorie Barretto at mga kapatid nito, ibinuko ni Joshua na mas clingy o sweet sa kanya ang girlfriend.

Sabi ng binata, “Mas siya. Mas siya na ang nagiging sweet.

“Di ba? Siya na ang nagiging sweet kasi...”

Pagtuloy naman ni Julia sa sasabihin ni Joshua, “Actually, sasabihin ko na, siya na yung nahihiya.”

Rico Puno perkier with new pacemaker in place

Fresh from a successful operation, I was expecting a calm and collected Rico in recuperation when I met with him recently. But surprisingly, the singer-politician was like this battery bunny in telling jokes left and right.

“I want to celebrate life! I have a new pacemaker! I will never have arrhythmia ever again!” he declared.

According to medical dictionaries, arrhythmias are problems with the rate or rhythm of the heartbeat. A pacemaker is a small device placed in the chest to help control abnormal heart rhythemics.

Three years ago, Rico underwent open heart surgery. Last December, he had successful angioplasty operation (a surgical repair by unblocking a blood vessel).

With a new pacemaker in place since last week, the concert performer gets a clean bill of health.

“I will never experience fatigue anymore during shows,” Rico said then pointing to his girlfriend, Queen Natividad, who is half his age. “And most especially, I can keep up with that woman!”

Queen just laughed off the comment and continued to fix his things. I remember thinking she looked so different from the Queen I met eight years ago in Singapore when she was just 22 years old.

“I will take care of myself once Rico is fully re-

cuperated in three days,” she told me. “The eyebags are courtesy of the sleepness nights in the hospital making sure his pacemaker operation was going to be successful. Once he is 100 percent okay, then you will see the Queen you used to see before. ” Now that’s true love!

In his coming comedy concert “Music And Laughter (Sana Tatlo Ang Puso Ko),” Rico wishes to have three hearts – one for Marissa Sanchez, one for me, and one physical brand new heart for himself without a pacemaker. The show is the second in a series produced by Grand Leisure Corporation. Marissa and I are the guest performers.

The narrative of the concert is about this happily married man who exchanges his wife for a mistress after which things go crazy.

Sharon, inisa-isa ang mga naging BF

NAKA-ON din pala, Ian F, ni Sharon Cuneta si Rowell Santiago, who, to date, is single pa rin.

This was, of course, when they were both younger. Sharon has twice been married na. First to fellow actor Gabby Concepcion, with whom she has a daughter, KC (Concepcion).

Her marriage to Gabby has been annulled. And with now husband, Senator Kiko Pangilinan, tatlo ang kanyang anak: si Frankie, Niel at Miguel.

Sa interview with Vice Ganda ni Sharon in the former’s show Gandang Gabi, Vice, ibinunyag ni Sharon na ang first love niya, when she was still a teenager, was Albert Martinez.

Albert would have been her kapartner in her first big movie, Dear Heart. Pero, ‘di ito pinayagan ng Regal Films kung saan under contract dati si Albert.



gawin ni Sharon ang Dear Heart for Viva Films with Gabby Concepcion as her leading man.

The rest is history.

Hindi inililihim ni Sharon kay Vice Ganda and the audience ng talk show na naka-on din niya si Richard Gomez, now Ormoc City mayor and married to Ormoc Representative Lucy Torres.

The two of them will soon be reunited in a movie, Three Word To Forever for Star Cinema with Cathy Garcia-Molina directing.

Nagkaroon daw siya ng ibang manliligaw. Some of whom ay ‘di taga-showbiz.

And did we hear it right na naka-on din niya si Robin Padilla?

It might interest Sharon to know na sa isang recent interview ng former Bagets star na si JC Bonnin, who is now based in the U.S. with his family, ibinunyag nitong nagkagusto siya sa megastar.

But as JC himself revealed, Sharon advised him to grow up. He is younger than her.

Bagets was the phenomenal hit movie of the 80s directed by the late Maryo J. delos Reyes. Kasama sa pelikula sina Aga Muhlach, William Martinez, Raymond Lauchengco and Herbert Bautista, now the incumbent Quezon City mayor.

The word ‘bagets’ was ‘coined’ by the late phenomenal starmaker and film producer Douglas Quijano to describe the youth of the mid-80s.

Hanggang ngayon, ginagamit pa ang word na

Regal Films produced for Albert and then also a teenage star Snooky Serna the movie Bata Pa Si Sabel. Natuloy din

bagets referring to the Pinoy youth of today. Two young and pretty actresses featured in Bagets, who, to date, still remain active in showbiz, are Yayo Aguila at Eula Valdez.

MARKHAM RIZAL MONUMENT UNVEILING SET FOR OCTOBER 13TH.

If all goes well, Canada will have its first full-size Rizal monument on October 13, 2018.

The tentative date was set at a meeting of the project committee recently. “We are ready for the installation. The statue and granite pedestal are done,” said Councillor Alex Chiu, speaking for the Filipino Canadian community and referring to its part of the deal.

The Rizal monument is a partnership project between the City of Markham and the local Filipino Canadian community, led by Councillor Chiu. Both partners equally share in the expenses, which is budgeted at over \$300,000.

Markham City officials, for their part, agreed to expedite construction of the foundation in time for the inauguration.

Mayor Frank Scarpitti, as he made the big surprise announcement in June 2016, said, “I want a full-size statue, and I will have a choice location for it.” The monument will be erected on its Luneta Gardens at the Boxgrove community park, facing across the road where Rizal Avenue begins. The unveiling is set for Oct. 13, Saturday at 10 a.m. at the Luneta Gardens site.

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‘Siling labuyo’ shoots up to P1,000/kg

Lacson prods Duterte to focus on solving economic woes

FOOD PRICES
continued from page 1

likely hit its fastest pace in more than nine years at 5.88 percent for August, driven by “largely supply-side challenges which need to be addressed by improving productivity.”

Senator Panfilo Lacson urged President Rodrigo Duterte to stop focusing on the war on drugs and focus on addressing the country’s economic problems, including a looming food crisis.

“Prices are too high, even for fish,” Lacson said in Filipino. “People, especially the poor, can no longer afford to put even basic food on the table. We could say that we still don’t have a food crisis, but it’s getting there because the prices of goods are rising.”

In television interviews, the Nepa vendors said eggplants were now priced at P60 a kilo, followed by P70 for okra, cabbage and garlic; P80 for tomatoes and white onions; P100 for red onions; and P180 for carrots.

Even prices of dry goods are still rising, despite the Department of Trade and Industry issuing new guidelines for suggested retail prices

in supermarkets effective Saturday, Sept. 1.

Consumer group Laban Konsyumer Inc. said Monday it evaluated the latest SRP with the last DTI guidelines posted on Aug. 6 and found at least 13 items that saw their prices rise during that span. LKI president lawyer Vic Dimagiba said the Trade department’s agreement with major food manufacturers not to increase prices for at least three months wasn’t being followed.

The most notable increase, Dimagiba said, was for iodized salt, as supermarkets in Luzon priced it 10 percent higher than their counterparts in Visayas and Mindanao.

Warning that inflation may reach 6 percent in September or October, Lacson said the President should leave the drug war to the Philippine National Police and the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency.

“The President’s marching orders are already clear and don’t have to be repeated all the time,” he said. “What we are facing now is a bigger problem—the economy.”

Lacson’s call came as Finance Undersecretary Gil Beltran reported that inflation in August rose

to 5.9 percent from 5.7 percent in July, mainly due to supply-side pressures.

Marikina Rep. Romero Quimbo filed House Bill 8171 in response to the steadily rising prices of basic goods and services, including fuel.

Quimbo’s bill provides for the automatic suspension of the implementation of fuel excise tax increases whenever inflation for a given quarter exceeds the government’s quarterly target. It is a counterpart to Senate Bill 1798, also known as the “Bawas Presyo Bill” filed by Senator Paolo Benigno Aquino IV.

Vice President Leni Robredo joined calls for the suspension of the excise tax on fuel products.

“At the start of the year, we have already felt inflation. [Even] The Department of Finance admitted that they did not expect that inflation [rate] would go up that high,” she said.

“From their admission, it is high time to review if [excise] tax is applicable on fuel products,” she added.

Robredo, along with the other Liberal Party members, backed the passage of Aquino’s Bawas Presyo bill.



Kathryn Bernardo-Daniel Padilla movie *The Hows Of Us* reached P116 million in the box office in a span of three days according to Star Cinema. This movie is directed by Cathy Garcia-Molina (left).

Direk Cathy reacts to allegations about “padding” of *The Hows Of Us* box-office gross

Direk Cathy Garcia-Molina reacted to a netizen who alleged that the box-office gross of *The Hows Of Us* has “padding” or has been inflated to make it higher than the actual amount.

The director reposted the announcement of Star Cinema indicating that the Kathryn Bernardo-Daniel Padilla movie earned PHP116 million as of August 31, 2018.

The quote card disclosed that *The Hows Of Us* grossed PHP116,943,914.02 in a span of three days.

Last August 30, Direk Cathy also reposted the opening day gross of *The House Of Us* on her Instagram account.

In the comments section, she responded to a netizen who commented that the amount looks questionable because of the cents included in the figure.

A day after its premiere, Star Cinema announced that *The Hows Of Us* grossed PHP35,938,622.74 on its opening day.

In the comments section, a netizen using the handle @dsd.16 asked the director: “Bakit may butaldirek?!?! Dito magsisimula ang padding issue na naman.”

Direk Cathy responded by writing: “@dsd.16 hindi po. Jan nga matatapos padding issue. Kasi galing mismo yan sa official statement. Pag rounded off ang figures, yan ang mas nakaktakot. Kasi impossible na saktong walang butal ang gross. May butal ang presyo ng tickets e. [smiley] eksakto to. Promise!”

Former movie actor Alpuerto is the new regional commander of the Knights of Rizal Canada Region

By Dindo Orbeso & Romy Zetazate

A very active and familiar face in the different Filipino events in Toronto, Ontario, Canada is the new Deputy Regional Commander of the prestigious and respected Knights Rizal of the Canada Region. He is Sir Mario Alpuerto, KGOR, the former chapter commanders of the Rizal Dimasalang Chapter and the Toronto Chapter. In fact, based on our backgrounder about him, he was a movie actor together with the late Mario Montenegro at the LVN Productions. It was well known that he together with Mario Montenegro were the stars of “Bataan” movie in the late 1950’s.

Sir Mario Alpuerto is not only a hardworking person but he has also wide range of patience at the same time he is a very friendly person.

He is presently the vice president for external affairs of the Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation and an active member of both Couple for Christ and Knights of Columbus.

Sir Alpuerto is a very religious person. (St. Jamestown News Service)

Kris Bernal: Show biz can drive you crazy if that’s all you do

While Kris Bernal feels that she’s still not ready to settle down, she admitted that the idea did cross her mind recently.

“I’m already at that age where I’m planning my future. I don’t think I’m set for marriage or having a baby right now. But I’m thinking maybe in three years,” the 29-year-old actress told reporters at a recent press conference at House of Gogi, her newly opened Korean restaurant.

She’s currently in a one-year relationship with her nonshow biz boyfriend, who’s also her business partner. “I love that he’s more mature than me; he’s five years older. He not only directs the relationship, but also guides me when it comes to running, managing the business,” she related, adding that they’re both financially independent.

“We have our own money. I’m not one to freeloader because I can stand on my own and provide for myself ... But I have been in relationships in the past in which I pay for almost everything,” she said, laughing.

The reason she ventured into business is that she wanted to have something else on her plate besides show biz. “I was at a point where I was wondering what else I can do apart from acting. Show biz can drive you crazy if that’s all you do or think about,” Kris said.

“And I’m not getting any younger,” added the GMA 7 talent, who pointed out that being a celebrity helps a lot, because “I can use myself to market my business. I have to make my own decisions ...”

Aside from her restaurant, she also recently bought a house in West Covina, California, in the United States, and is set to launch her own lipstick line soon. How did she manage to invest in all these? By being stingy, Kris said candidly.

“I have always been wary of getting my own driver, stylist or makeup artist, because all these things add up at the end of the day. I had to control my spending. I save up for my travels and make sure they’re all well-planned,” she said. “And I put my money in time deposit.”

But all this business talk, however, doesn’t



mean she’s putting acting in the back seat. In fact, Kris is set to top-bill a coming soap opera, “Mag-asawa, Mag-karibal,” which also features Jason Abalos and Thea Tolentino. She’s also doing the film “KontrAdiksyon” with Jake Cuenca.

“I still love acting, of course. And as long as there are projects coming and there’s interest in me, I will keep going,” she said.

But unlike when she was young and just starting out in the industry, Kris said that her initial competitiveness had mellowed down. She has a more relaxed mind-set toward her career these days.

“There was a time when I felt like there was not much growth or change in my status, despite doing lots of shows. But I realized that maybe this is just how things are for me. I don’t feel the need to be competitive anymore. I don’t get jealous of other actresses who have more projects or endorsements,” she said.

“I have been here for 11 years now, and I’m very thankful that I’m still being offered lead roles,” Kris said.



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Why Israel Invited President Duterte

MANILA – As Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte touched down in Israel, a lawmaker there remarked in a radio interview that Israelis may just have to take an anti-nausea pill to get through Duterte’s 4-day stay in their country.

“It would have been more comfortable to receive a president here who had not made the kinds of comments we have heard, and it might be that we have to take a pill against nausea to receive him,” said lawmaker Avi Dichter of the ruling Likud party on Kan Bet radio, as quoted by the Jerusalem Post.

An opposition lawmaker, Tzipi Livni of the Zionist Union, said Duterte’s visit must be kept “very low profile,” another indication that while the Philippine president’s presence there is historic, it’s not welcomed by everyone.

Livni also described Duterte as a “very problematic person” who the Israeli government should “not roll out the red carpet for.”

His meeting with President Reuven Rivlin is already being protested by human rights activists. An op-ed in the Times of Israel declared Duterte “has no place” in Israel.

Here are just some of Duterte’s actions and words cited by Israeli media outfits as reasons why he is

seen as controversial in their country:

Comparing himself to Hitler who murdered millions of Jews - Tag Meir, a civil society group, called Duterte “racist and anti-semite.” Many Jews have not forgotten that Duterte, back in September 2016, compared himself to Nazi leader Adolf Hitler, saying he would be “happy to slaughter” drug addicts as Hitler ordered the deaths of Jews during the Holocaust. To Livni, Duterte “compared Jews to drug dealers.”

Duterte made the other mistake of understating the number of Jews killed in the Holocaust. He pegged the number at “3 million” when most historical accounts say 6 million died.

Why Duterte was invited

Despite the frustration and outrage of many, there’s one major reason why the Israeli government has opened its doors to Duterte.

The Philippines, under his presidency, has become a major buyer of Israeli defense equipment. In 2017, the Philippines bought US\$21 million worth of radar and anti-tank equipment from Israel, according to the Stockholm International Peace

Research Institute. In 2015, the year before Duterte took office, Israel sold only US\$ 6 million worth of equipment to the Philippines.

Israel-manufactured GALIL ACE rifles were among the purchases, worth P2.1 billion, made by the Philippine National Police for its Capability Enhancement Program from 2016 to 2018.

Israel no doubt seeks to benefit from Manila’s Armed Forces modernization program, which will have the government shelling out billions for new defense assets.

Back in 2016, Duterte had this to say about Israel as a supplier of military equipment.

“In the matters, I said of arms, I said, ‘Do not buy from anyone except from Israel.’ Why? Because we have excellent relations and if you send us this gadget they will not include a bug there that for them to listen also to what we’re saying,” he had said in a meeting with Jews where he apologized for his Hitler remark.

Military and police officers, including Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) commandant Admiral Elson Hermogino, are part of Duterte’s delegation to Israel. The Philippines eyes purchasing equipment for the PCG.

Separate projects for KathNiel

Several showbiz love teams like JaDine, LizQuen and AlDub have taken at one point, a “breather” by doing projects outside their pairing.

Pointing this out to the other half of KathNiel a few days ago, Kathryn Bernardo said she and Daniel Padilla are also ready to do that. They first worked together in 2012 via the TV series “Princess And I.”

The young actress revealed they have been wanting to work separately for some time now, believing that the setup would be healthy for her and Daniel, who happens to be her real-life boyfriend of more than five years now.

“It saddens me but we all know it is necessary,” she said, then joked that “walang forever” adage is true, even with their love team.

According to Kathryn, that separation would let them grow and explore their capabilities as actors. She said she wants to be known as “Kathryn, the actress,” not just “Kathryn, the other half of KathNiel.”

She made clear the “breakup” is just for a while and having other love team partners won’t be necessary.

“We want to explore other opportunities but not me having a different partner or him, having another leading lady. I think that would hurt KathNiel fans’ big time,” she explained.



Louise delos Reyes says she found “the best boyfriend”

Louise delos Reyes reveals non-showbiz boyfriend helped her organize her 26th birthday bash last Saturday, September 1: “Thank you for helping me make our DIY decors, from going to Divisoria to drawing and cutting decors, I finally found someone who is as DIY crazy as me!”

Inihayag ni Louise delos Reyes na wala na siyang mahihiling pa mula sa non-showbiz boyfriend niyang naggangalang Jino. Pahayag ni Louise, “Thank you for helping me make our DIY decors, from going to Divisoria to drawing and cutting decors, I finally found someone who is as DIY crazy as me! “Thank you for making sure that everything is well executed. Thank you for the surprise!”

Base ito sa Instagram post ni Louise kahapon, Setyembre 3, kung saan nakalakip ang ilang litrato nila ni Jino na kuha sa party. Dito rin buong-pagmamalaking idineklara ni Louise ang pagmamahal para kay Jino, na tinawag ng Kapamilya actress na “My Love.”

“Totoo sinasabi nila, YOU ARE THE BEST BOYFRIEND! Thank you for your patience and understanding Love.

“Wala na akong ibang masabi kundi Thank you. I’m so lucky to have you in my life @jinob08.

“Life’s better with you.”



Loisa does not believe Vice-Ronnie rumours

Hindi naniniwala si Loisa Andalio sa matagal nang usap-usapang may tagang relasyon diumano sa rumored boyfriend niyang si Ronnie Alonte at sa kasama nito sa It’s Showtime na si Vice Ganda. Ilang beses nang nilinaw nina Ronnie at Vice na walang malisya ang pagiging malapit nila sa isa’t isa, pero patuloy pa rin ang pagdududa ng marami.

Ani Loisa, “Actually, sa sinasabi ng ibang mga tao, hindi ako naaapektuhan. Ewan ko, sobrang manhid ko na sa kanila.

“Kung ano ang mga sinasabi nila, hindi ako naniniwala dahil napakatalino nilang gumawa ng kuwento.”

Patuloy pa ng dalaga, “Siyempre maniniwala ako kay Ronnie.

“And kaibigan ko si Ate Vice... hindi lang kaibigan, nanay-nanayan ko na.

“Wala, hindi ako naaapektuhan.

“Grabe ang mga tao, kahit gaano ka pa kabuti o kahit gaano kaganda ang ipakita sa kapwa mo, may masasabi at masasabi sila.”



TAIWANFest 2018 Fête with the Philippines

The Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation (PCCF) would like to thank the Taiwanese government for inviting the organization to represent the Philippine-Canadian community at the 2018 TaiwanFest and Fete with the Philippines Concert at Harbourfront Centre, Toronto last Friday August 24th, 2018.

The PCCF delegation was led by PCCF EVP Rosemer Enverga, PCCF Officers Mario Alpuerto, Sena Flores, Cherri DiGregorio, Marita Enriquez, Zeny Crescini, Amelia Arcillo and the 2018 Pageant entourage: Samantha Sarmiento-Little Miss Philippines Canada 2018, Sophia Sambrana-Little Miss Philippines runner-up, Ranielle Macapagal-Miss Philippines Canada 2018, Elvie Ortiz-Mrs. Philippines Canada 2018 and Edna Avila-Mrs. Philippines Canada runner-up.

Highlights of this 3-day event included a special plaque of recognition to commemorate the life and contributions of the late Senator Enverga presented to his wife, Rosemer Enverga. The event also included the Fête with the Philippines! – Symphony Concert by Maestro Ken Hsieh with the Auba Children’s Choir, The Jeepney Experience and Let’s Savour Taiwan. The event was attended by thousands! Kudos to Maestro Ken Hsieh & the TAIWANfest Orchestra as well as to the Asian Canadian Special Events Association for organizing this fascinating event that explored the cultural connections between Taiwan and the Philippines!

John happy with GMA, pursues case vs writer

JOHN Estrada is satisfied with his role in his very first show, “Victor Magtanggol”, now that he has moved to GMA-7. He plays Loki, the god of mischief in Norse mythology who wants to get the powerful mjolnir or hammer given by Thor to Alden Richards, who plays the title role.

“I’m in full costume here so I’m quite excited kasi matagal akong hindi nakakagawa ng ganitong role,” he says. “When they told me na itong role ko, dun ako napa-transfer dito sa GMA. It’s such a big project, ginastusan talaga, and I’m proud to be part of it. Later on, magkakatawang tao si Loki as Dr. Nikolai para makuha niya ang mjolnir.”

So how is it being a Kapuso? “Okay. Masarap silang katrabaho. At first, kabado ako kasi 22 years ako sa ABS-CBN, since ‘Palibhasa Lalake’ pa. Akala ko I’ll be out of place kasi kokonti lang ang kilala ko sa GMA, but they made me feel welcome. Lalo na si Alden at si Pancho Magno na kaeksena ko, ang babait nila. Ang maganda rito, when you give a suggestion, they take it in a nice way. At mas malaki rin ang talent fee ko.”

There was talk of ABS-CBN frowning on the issue between him and Mylene Dizon when they did “The Good Son”. “No, wala akong problema sa ABS-CBN. They made an offer to me after ‘The Good Son’ at ayan nga, I also appeared in the movie ‘I Love You, Hater’, di ba? So wala kaming problema kasi nagpaalam din ako nang maayos sa lahat ng bosses doon. Puwede pa rin uli akong magtrabaho sa kanila.”

So will he still sue the writer who wrote about the alleged issue between him and Mylene? “Yes, tuloy ang demanda. Mali

naman ‘yung ginawa niya. Ang tagal ko na sa industriya, ‘di man lang niya nirespeto. Puwede siyang makulong ng six years for libel. Lalo akong nagalit doon sa sinulat pang maghihiwalay na raw kami ng misis ko (Priscilla Mereilles), which is definitely not true.”

ERICH Praised by Older Co-Stars

TWO of Erich Gonzales’ co-stars in “Blood Sisters” have nothing but praises for her. “Ang galing niya,” says Dina Bonnevie who plays Debbie. “Yung ibang young stars ngayon, ang tagal mag-internalize before doing heavy dramatic scenes. But her, when I said I’m ready, ready na rin siya and in no time at all, nag-build up again ang emotions niya in front of the camera.”

“She plays triplets in the show na iba-iba ang character pero never siyang na-confused,” says Tessie Tomas who plays Dr. Bermudez. “You’d be amazed sa pagiging consistent niya in portraying each character. At kahit makikita mong pagod na pagod siya, you’ll never hear her complain.”

SON BEING GAY NEVER AN ISSUE FOR TESSIE

TESSIE Tomas is flying to the U.K. to have a one-month vacation with her husband in the Isle of Man between England and Ireland. She’s now also writing her no-holds barred memoirs. Her son, Robin, a fashion designer in New York, is now married in a same sex marriage. “His being gay was never an issue between us. I openly supported and embraced him ever since and I think same sex marriages should be treated the same way we treat heterosexual marriages.”

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LEFT, Doris and Ted Dayno attend the PIDC gala. RIGHT, FV Foods owner Mel Galeon poses with Yassi Pressman.

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Mutya ng Pilipinas 2018 candidate Agatha Romero (LEFT) wins 1st runner-up as Darling of the Press.



ABOVE, FV Foods' Alan Ocampo and Mel Galeon pose with Kapamilya star Martin Nievera. BELOW, Mel Galeon (in green) poses with Morissette, Jason Dy and Thea Cruz.



Ready Honda's Anita Diaz and husband attend the Mabuhay gala.

RIGHT, Nenita Lora (IN RED) of Camilineos attend the Santaginian Dinner. RIGHT BELOW, Nenita Lora and Harold Guarin of Roadsport Honda pose with Santaginian Association officers and members.



PCCF beauties attend the Taiwan festival with PCCF VP Rosemer Enverga (FAR LEFT).



GMA-7 star Sheena Halili shoots MMFF 2018 entry with ABS-CBN actresses

Sheena Halili works with ABS-CBN actresses Ria Atayde, Jessy Mendiola, and Hannah Ledesma in the 2018 Metro Manila Film Fest entry



The Girl In The Orange Dress.

GMA-7 actress Sheena Halili gets the opportunity to work for the first time with actresses from rival network, ABS-CBN.

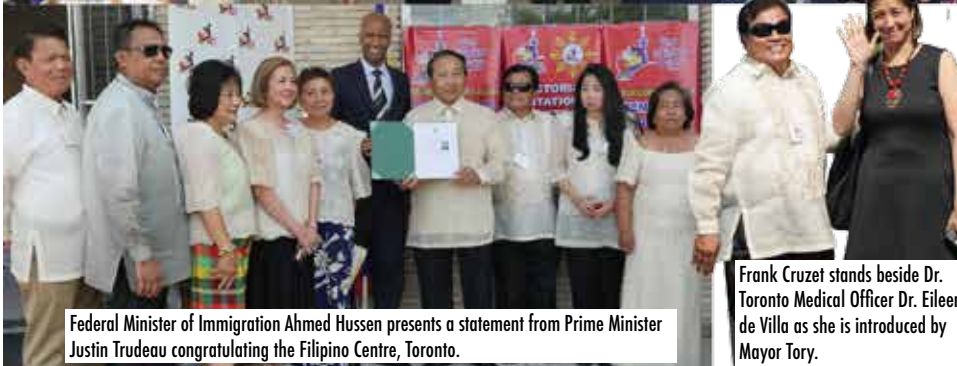
She will be part of the 2018 Metro Manila Film Festival entry The Girl In The Orange Dress, top-billed by Jessy Mendiola and Jericho Rosales. Sheena has been posting behind-the-scenes photos with co-stars Jessy, Hannah Ledesma, and Ria Atayde on her social media accounts. In separate Instagram posts, Sheena and Jessy revealed the names of the characters they are set to portray. Ria will portray Kakai while Jessy will play Anna, the main character of the movie. Sheena is set to play Sasha, while Hannah's name is Denise.

Sheena wrote in her caption, "Den... Napaka-dali at saya ninyong kat... Jessy then replied to her co-star, "GMA-7 director LA Madrilejos, who Jessy in the comments section, "@se... sheenahalili" This is the first time th... after a few years. Her last film was th... starring Julie Anne San Jose and Elm...



FV Foods' Mel Galeon, Arielle Fina Abrazado, Joy Sarmiento and Peyton Garcia join the opening festivities.

Dr. Nenette de Villar and Dr. Vicky Santiago have a light-hearted moment during picture-taking.



Federal Minister of Immigration Ahmed Hussen presents a statement from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau congratulating the Filipino Centre, Toronto.



Consul General Rosalinda Prospero and Mayor John Tory raise the Philippine and Canadian flags at the FCT opening ceremonies.



ni Iza. Sabi ng netizen, mali umano ang mensaheng ipinaparating ng glossy magazine dahil maisip daw ng batang babaeng mataba na walang masama sa pagiging mataba at hindi na ito gagawa ng paraan upang pumayat at maging malusog. Banat pa ng netizen, sa palagay daw ba ni Iza ay magiging sikat siya ngayon kung nanatili siyang mataba?



Sumagot si Iza at nagkomentong walang tama o mali sa magkaiba nilang opinyon. Aniya, ang kanyang pananaw ay bilang isang dating "obese teen who did stupid and harmful things to my body just to achieve what is socially acceptable as think and sexy - most of the times at the expense of my health both mind and body." Mensahe pa ni Iza sa netizen, "Your comment on my

weight and being artista is a perfect example of words that stopped me from wanting to pursue my dream of being an actress at a young age." Ang tinutukoy ni Iza ay ang pananaw na hindi magiging artista o sikat kung mataba o hindi maganda ang hitsura ng isang tao. Paglinaw niya, "Size should not be a hindrance to performing, expression and entertaining people." Alam daw ng aktres na hindi

masama ang intensyon ng netizen sa... "I just wish we would also celebra... to celebrate their bodies no matter th... **Erich is Physically drained but H...**

The Filipino Centre Toronto - FCT Inaugurates New Main Office in Scarborough

by Tony A. San Juan, OCT.

The Filipino Centre Toronto- FCT, a non-profit, volunteer-run and service-oriented hub in the Filipino Canadian community in Ontario, had its grand re-opening and inauguration of its offices on August 12, 2018 in Scarborough, Toronto. The well-attended event was held at its new site at 4395 Sheppard Avenue East, a one-story refurbished office building, and was attended proudly by the FCT's current and past members of the Board of Directors and executive officers led by Mary Ann San Juan, president

& CEO, Efren De Villa, chair of the Board of Directors and other FilCan community leaders, as well. Formerly, the iconic community centre was located downtown at 597 Parliament Street, Toronto. The "new community home" in the east end was purchased for \$ 1.9 million in early April of 2018. Specifically, the 3-hour occasion was attended by city, provincial & federal officials and other political

FILIPINO CENTRE continued on page 22

Mayor John Tory cuts the ceremonial ribbon.



Federal Minister of Immigration Ahmed Hussen praises the FCT for the work it does for the community.

Frank Cruzet stands beside Dr. Toronto Medical Officer Dr. Eileen de Villa as she is introduced by Mayor Tory.

Supporters and friends of FCT attend the opening ceremonies.

FCT President Mary Ann San Juan makes a speech.

FCT President Mary Ann San Juan poses with Member of Provincial Parliament Mitzie Hunter.

Supporters in attendance are Rembrandt's Maria Geroche, Dr. Gamo, FV Foods' Mel Galeon, volunteer Julie Almaria and Joy Sarmiento.



nise, Sasha, Anna & Kakai.
trabaho #girlintheorangedress”
“SISTER CODE!!!!”
o formerly worked in ABS-CBN, told
norita_jessy mabait yan si @my-
at Sheena will be seen in the movies
ne 2012 movie Just One Summer,
o Magalona. This is also the first

time
she will
be seen in a movie dominated by Kapamilya stars.
The Girl In The Orange Dress is directed by Jay Abello who previously
directed the 2018 indie Pinay Beauty.

Iza Calzado believes people

should be confident regardless of their body size

ABS-CBN actress responds to a netizen who contradicted her opinion
about being overweight. Iza emphasized that people should be confident
regardless of their body size.
Sinagot ni Iza Calzado ang isang netizen na kinontra ang pananaw

niya tungkol sa pagiging overweight.
Ipinost ni Iza sa kanyang Instagram ang cover ng isang international
glossy magazine kung saan ang cover girl ay ang plus-size model na si
Tess Holliday. Sa kanyang caption, sinabi ni Iza na sana ay ganito raw
ang mga nakita niyang larawan noong bata pa siya—ang panahong ma-
taba siya at puno ng insecurities—para nagkaroon siya ng kumpiyansa
sa sarili sa kabila ng kanyang hitsura at timbang.
Subalit sa comments section, isang netizen ang kumontra sa pananaw



OUR LADY OF PIAT NOVENA

The annual novena to Our Lady of Piat was held at the
Cristo Rei Catholic church in Mississauga. It was attended by
devotees and other followers.
The saint is known for granting miracles.
Mama Zeny Guzman of her healing miracle when her
cancer was suddenly gone upon being prayed upon in the
name of Our Lady of Piat.
Dr. Solon Guzman has been an annual supporter of the
Our Lady of Piat novena. Other sponsors have also been
helping with the annual novena.
The history of Our Lady of Piat dates back to 1604
when a black image of the Virgin Mary with the infant
Jesus on her left arm was brought to the Philippines

from Macau by the Dominican friars. It was originally called
the Nuestra Señora del Santísimo Rosario (Our Lady of the
Holy Rosary). A small sanctuary for the religious image was
built in 1604 by the local Itawis. The image was brought to
La-lo, Cagayan(then the Episcopal See of Nueva Segovia) to
be known by the Cagayanos. The image was also brought to
Piat, and Tuguegarao in 1622. During the visitation, it was
replaced by a more beautiful image from Manila but the
people demanded that the original image be returned to them
so it was brought back to Piat and was enthroned in the small
sanctuary.

Mama Zeny Guzman recounts
the miracle healing she had in
the name of Our Lady of Piat.

Dr. Solon Guzman and his aunt
Dr. Venus Guzman reads the
names of the other sponsors.

a kanyang komento.
ate those who are confident enough
e size,” dagdag niya.
y and Emotional-
appy

ERICH Gonzales says “The Blood Sisters” is the hardest
assignment she did in her career as she played the triple roles
of Agatha, Carrie and Erika, which can all be physically and
emotionally draining.
“Hindi biro ‘yung paulit-ulit kang mag-change ng costume
and make up and mannerisms for each scene,” she says.
“And I shoot about 60 to 65 sequences per taping day kaya



sobrang nakakapagod. But I’m not complaining. In fact, I’m
grateful na sa’kin ipinagkatiwala ng Dreamscape ang project
na ito because kahit it’s tiring, I really enjoy what I’m doing.
It tested my limits at napatunayan ko sa sarili ko na kaya ko
palang gawin ito.”
Just as the show is about to end this week (to be replaced
by the new remake of “Meteor Garden”), her three roles will

merge into one as Agatha to rescue Cherrie Pie Picache as Adele from
the clutches of the villains, Jake Cuenca as Rocco and Dante Rivero as
Fabian. Forgiveness will rule the show since Dina Bonnevie as Debbie will
also learn to forgive the erring Jestoni Alarcon as Norman. “Punumpuno
ng action at drama ang last few episodes ng ‘The Blood Sisters’ kaya
huwag na huwag kayong bibitaw,” adds Erich.

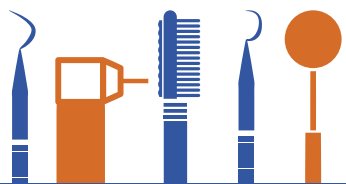
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Liza Soberano stays grounded despite stardom



Liza Soberano: “In this world, you tend to lose that especially when you’re out in front of big crowds every day, it kinda gets into your head. It’s also important to know who you are.”

Sa kabila ng kasika-tan, hindang-hindi pa rin nakalilimot si Liza Soberano sa mga taong nakilala niya bago siya sumikat sa showbiz.

Ito raw ang isa sa mga mahahalagang payo tungkol sa showbiz na lagi

niyang tinatandaan hanggang ngayon: “To be someone else outside showbiz, I guess.”

Nabanggit ni Liza na hanggang ngayon ay naglalaan siya ng oras para makipag-bonding sa mga taong malapit sa kanya sa labas ng showbiz.

“I really know how to separate my showbiz life from who I really am.

“Sometimes it’s good to feel that you’re still human.

“In this world, you tend to lose that, especially when you’re out in front of big crowds every day, it kinda gets into your head.

“It’s also important to know who you are.

“I do that by hanging out with people that I used to hang out before becoming Liza, when I was Hope.

“I get that when I’m not Liza, people call me Hope because it makes me feel that I am still Hope, and I don’t lose that sense of who I really am.”

MAINE itinanghal na ‘Ultimate Asian Sweetheart’

WALA talagang humpay ang support ng fans ng tinaguriang Dubsmash Queen-turned-phenomenal star at “Eat Bula-ga” mainstay na si Maine Mendoza. Tinanghal itong “Ultimate Asian Sweetheart of 2018” sa pamamagitan ng online votes na isinagawa ng Starmometer online poll kung saan kasama sa listahan ang mga kilalang celebrities mula sa iba’t ibang bansa ng Asya na pumasok sa Top 100 Asian Sweethearts of 2018.

Sa tulong ng Instagram, Twitter and Facebook votes nanguna si Maine, pumangalawa ang Thai-Norwegian TV star na si Urassaya Sperbund ng Thailand. Siya ang bida sa TV series na “The Crown Princess”. Pumangatlo naman ang Bollywood actress na si Sanaya Irani na nakilala sa kanyang mga TV shows na “Left Right Left” at “Iss Pyaar Ko Kya Naam Doon?”. Siya lamang ang kaisa-isang Indian actress na napasama sa Top 40 Most Beautiful Women ng People Magazine (India). Pumang-apat naman si Jennie Kim ng South Korea (22). Siya ang main rapper ng K-Pop girl group na Blackpink. Panlima ang Chinese actress na si Shen Yue, ang lead actress ng TV series na “A Love So Beautiful” na naging big hit sa Asya at isa na rito ang Pilipinas. Pinakamalaking break naman niya ang pagkakapili sa kanya bilang lead actress as Shan Cai sa Chinese remake ng hit TV series na “Meteor Garden” na palabas ngayon sa Pilipinas.

Hindi man gaanong aktibo ngayon ang phenomenal pair nina Alden Richards at Maine bilang magka-loveteam, hindi ito nangangahulugan na huminto na rin ang kanilang mga tahagahanga, ang AlDub Nation maging ang kanilang mga fans as individual artists.

Will Paulo Avelino do a John Lloyd Cruz?

Paulo Avelino has been dropping hints about slowing down, and he has his reason: “Importante

sa akin... yung work-life balance. Yun ang kulang ko, work, work ako, e.”

Nilinaw ni Paulo Avelino ang pahayag na gusto na niyang magretiro sa showbiz, lalo’t may mga nag-iisip ngayong baka may plano na siyang magpakasal.

“Sana kung may magpapakasal sa akin!” na-tawang biro naman ng 30-year-old actor.

“Hindi ko pa masasabi yun, e. Kung mangyayari, mangyayari.

“At saka, marami pang magpapakasal diyan bago ako.”

Pero ano nga ba itong sinasabi niyang pagpapahinga o break?

“Malay natin, three days lang pala or one week or one month or three months. Hindi natin masabi, e,” sagot niya.

ADMIRING JOHN LLOYD CRUZ

Posible bang na-inspire siya sa ginawang hak-bang ni John Lloyd Cruz na matagal-tagal na rin namamahinga sa showbiz?

Saad ni Paulo, “Nakakabilib yung ginawa ni John Lloyd to step back totally.

“I’m sure, babalik din siya eventually and, I’m sure, patuloy rin naman ang suporta niya [sa film industry].

Ito bang mga sunud-sunod niyang proyekto ang nag-trigger kay Paulo kaya pumasok sa isipan niya ang pagreretiro?

Paglilinanaw ng Kapamilya actor, “Wala namang nag-trigger, mas gusto ko lang na mas relaxed.

“Ayokong napi-pressure sa schedule ko, ayoko na magsabay, maglagare.

“After siguro ng soap, slower pace lang. Ayoko lang ma-pressure sa work.

“Actually, importante sa akin, sa inyo, yung work-life balance.

“Yun ang kulang ko... work, work ako, e.”

Kris Aquino boosts CRA

KAHIT ano pa ang sabihin ng mga detractor ng tinaguriang Queen of All Media na si Kris Aquino na extra lamang umano ang role na ginampanan nito sa movie adaptation ng “Crazy Rich Asians” na patuloy pa ring pinipilahan sa mga sinehan ngayon since its opening last August 22, her brief appearance in the movie had a strong impact sa mga curious Pinoy.

Gumastos man nang malaki si Kris sa kanyang audition video, sa kanyang maraming entourage at mga mamahaling gown sa shooting in Singapore at maging sa red carpet premiere in Hollywood last last July, sulit naman ang gastos (no matter how big) at efforts ni Kris dahil may impact ang kanyang paglabas with one line dialogue. She wore a Michael Cinco yellow gown na siguradong hindi bababa sa isang milyong piso.

Hindi man sang-ayon ang marami, malaki ang naitulong ni Kris para pag-usapan at maging curious ang Pinoy moviegoers sa “Crazy Rich Asians” na hango sa top-selling book ng popular Singaporean author, ang New York-based na si Kevin Kwan na kaibigan din ng Kapuso star na si Heart Evangelista.

CRA vs Ms. Granny

SAMANTALA, kung sabay ang showing ng “Crazy Rich Asians” sa “Miss Granny” ni Sarah Geronimo (na patuloy pa ring pinipilahan sa mga sinehan) super lakas din ang movie nina Kathryn Bernardo at Daniel Padilla, ang “The Hows of Us” na nagbukas last August 29.

Pero kahit nasa pangalawang linggo na, nakiki-pagpukpukan pa rin sa takilya ang ‘CRA’ movie na tinampukan ng all-Asian cast, making it the biggest movie ng Warner Bros. sa Pilipinas sa taong ito ng 2018.

Kathniel wants rest

Wish nina Daniel Padilla at Kathryn Bernardo na makapagbakasyon muna sandali bago sumalang ulit sa kani-kanilang proyekto lalo na nga ang young actress na sisimulan na ang movie niya with Sharon Cuneta and Richard Gomez. Pwede naman talaga silang magrelax-relax na ngayon since tumatabo sa takilya ang kanilang The Hows of Us. Pero hinahanapan pa nga raw nila ng schedule ang pagbabakasyon. Sey ni Kathryn, gusto raw sana niyang magpunta sa beach.

“Sana maka-beach,” sambit niya.

Kung si Kathryn ay may sisimulang movie, si DJ naman ay magiging abala sa paghahanda para sa nalalapit niyang concert sa October.



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Awkward! Bela confronted JC Santos about calling her ‘crush’ prior to meeting

Prior to their first personal meeting, JC Santos identified

Bela Padilla as his “crush” in a magazine interview – something that reached the actress and which prompted her to proactively break the ice with her then-new leading man.

The two were first paired onscreen in the 2017 romance-drama film “100 Tula Para Kay Stella,” which followed his mainstream breakthrough via the ABS-CBN teleserye “Till I Met You.”

Then transitioning from theater to television, Santos was featured left and right in magazines introducing him to new fans. One such interview was with Candy magazine, where he mentioned Padilla prior to them working together.

“Aminado naman po ako – bago ko makatrabaho si Bela, she was my crush,” he said in an interview on

“Tonight with Boy Abunda” aired Monday.

Padilla, who was seated beside Santos, recalled:

“Unang-una ko pong nalaman [tungkol] kay JC ‘yan, may nag-tweet sa akin, interview niya sa Candy magazine. ‘Showbiz crush?’ Nakalagay, ‘Bela Padilla.’”

The actress went on to narrate how she approached Santos on their first day of filming of “100 Tula Para Kay Stella.”

“So pagdating ko sa set – kasi mahiyain ako sa co-actor, e – para ma-break na agad na ‘yung ice – kasi ‘yung unang eksena namin mabigat – ‘Hoy, crush mo raw ako!’ Ta’s iyon na, okay na, naging mag-barkada na kami,” she said, laughing.

Asked by host Boy Abunda whether he ever intended to romantically pursue Padilla, Santos answered: “Walang niligawan. Sobrang komportable

namin sa isa’t-isa para umabot sa gano’n... I adore this person. I love this person, I respect her.”

The two got candid on their relationship as they promoted their reunion film “The Day After Valentine’s,” which sees them as love interests anew.

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IS THIS THE END OF JADINE?

Is James ready for more 'solo' projects?

MANILA, Philippines — James Reid has gone “solo” in his film Miss Granny, working without his perennial love team partner, Nadine Lustre.

Prior to starring in the Viva Films-produced comedy-drama, the 25-year-old star said that he has been onscreen partners with Nadine for roughly five years. They’ve been a real-life couple for two years now.

“I’ve done movies without Nadine before. It’s been a long time since I’ve done that though,” James said.

“I was nervous at first because I was comfortable having her on the set. For how many years, it was just the two of us, together every day so... (But) I got used to it. It just felt weird at first not having Nadine around,” he added.

Asked if his newest film signals the start of more individual projects for JaDine, or as fans call their popular love team, James said, “We’ll see. Right now, she’s shooting another movie without me. Then after this, I’m doing Pedro Penduko. Actually, she’s going to be part of it... We just let things evolve as we go. We give each other mutual support.”

Directed by Joyce Bernal, Miss Granny is the Philippine adaptation of the South Korean blockbuster of the same title, which has also spawned other — and equally successful — versions in China, Japan, Taiwan, Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, India, Germany, et al.

In the film, James is Jeboy, the aspiring musician grandson of Nova Villa’s character, the 70-year-old pensioner Fely who magically transforms into her 20-year-old self as Audrey, played by Sarah Geronimo.

“My role here is Jeboy. His nickname is



Jebs (laughs). It’s a very smelly name but that’s the point. And he’s the apo of Tita Nova (Villa). When she becomes Audrey, she joins his band, a heavy metal rock band, and then, he changes everything, their looks and their sound (into pop). It’s also really funny, their relationship ‘cause Jeboy is falling for her, but she knows that she’s my lola, so it’s really funny and awkward.”

To prepare for his role, James watched the original film. “That’s the first thing I did,” he said, adding that the whole movie is “Filipinized... The script itself is very similar to the original. It’s just that some themes were made more Filipino, like in terms of (the relationship with) family and loved ones.”

Miss Granny differs from his previous big-screen projects in the sense that “I mean, this is not a rom-com, this is more of a comedy. There’s no real romance here.”

CBN for “Maalaala Mo Kaya”, then GMA-7 for shows like “Captain Barbell” and “Mga Mata ni Angelita” and TV 5 for “Nagbabagang Bulaklak” and Nora Aunor’s “Sa Ngalan ng Ina”, then back to ABS again to do “Wansapanataym” and the recent teleserye “Since I Found You”. He’ll also start a new movie with Director Joel Lamangan where he’ll play a shocking role.

“ML” is about a retired military officer who used to be with the Metrocom, played by Eddie. In their neighborhood, he is known as the mysterious Colonel, who is having dementia and believes that it is still Martial Law. So he holds captive a curious teenager, Carlo as played by newbie Tony Labrusca, who he tortures like what he used to do to political activists

What does he like (or dislike) about his latest film role? “I can’t really say there’s nothing I like about him, or I can’t really say I don’t like this, because his flaws make him real. So, as he grows, he becomes better. Things that I don’t like about him or things people won’t like about him make him good,” he answered.

Nevertheless, James can readily relate to Jeboy “because he’s a musician and I’m also a musician.” And his character, he added, develops from someone who doesn’t know what to do with himself to one who pursues his dream to be a songwriter. “The challenge in every role is to really get across the character’s message to the audience. In here, it’s about realizing his dreams and realizing what he’s supposed to be.”

In real life, James is realizing his own music dreams as well. He’s CEO of the music label Careless Music Manila. And under his record company, he financed, executive-produced and wrote all of the songs on his 2017 album Palm Dreams, including the single Cool Down which became a huge hit on the radio and MYX music charts.

“We have several artists now, seven artists. We’re making a mixtape and we’re releasing it this September. It’s just a lot of songs, from pop, R&B, to hip-hop and trance. It’s pretty broad. Some of the songs I’ve released already. I’m really excited, it’s something I’m into for a while,” James said.

“I really just want to develop my music. I want to see a change in the mainstream music... to see it evolve. I’m happy to be part of it.”

during the military regime.

“This film is in tune with the times,” says Eddie who can identify with his role as he used to be with the Philippine Scouts before he joined showbiz. “The youth of today should watch it para may background sila kung ano ang nangyari noong martial law.”

Tony says it’s an honor to work with Eddie. “I felt humbled and intimidated at first. He’s a living legend and I’m so proud I got to work with the Eddie Garcia. He gave me acting tips, like using your eyes to do a lot of acting for you.”

According to Martti Franca, he and his mother met Chan at an airport. He wrote: “I pulled my mom and asked if I could go up to him (Chan) and ask for a photo. We did. I was so nervous [be]cause his songs were the sound of my childhood, adolescence and now, adulthood.”

Franca said Chan made time to actually talk to him instead of leaving immediately.

He added: “He asked about what I do for a living, gave life tips about being an entrepreneur and a musician, talked about family and who he might know from mine. At the end of it, he asked for my name and my address cause he said he’d send over some of his CDs. Didn’t think he would, but a couple of days later, BAM! The LBC [courier] dropped by and gave me three CDs, all with his signature.”

“There’s a reason why he’s the voice of Christmas. Because he embodies a goodness and generosity that no other musician has,” Franca ended.

Sounds like a swell guy.



Heart featured sa Harper’s Bazaar: ‘Most amazing’

DAHIL kay Heart Evangelista, tiyak na madadagdagan ang September 2018 print copy ng kilalang American fashion magazine na Harper’s Bazaar dahil kasama sa issue na ito ang exclusive feature interview ng well-known Singapore-born writer at author ng best-seller book na “Crazy Rich Asians” (which was made into a movie), ang New York-based na si Kevin Kwan.

Isang malaking karangalan para sa misis ni Sen. Chiz Escudero ang makadaupang-palad at maging kaibigan si Kevin Kwan na kanyang nakasama sa Paris Fashion Week (Haute Couture) – July 1 – 5, 2018 recently.

Kevin considers Heart as one of the “crazy rich Asians” and “a modern day incarnation of Audrey Hepburn”.

Heart was interviewed and featured alongside other popular Asian personalities in Paris including Hong Kong’s Feiping Chan and Malaysian sisters, Hollywood actors Michelle and Rachel Yeoh.

Heart considers the interview/feature of Kevin Kwan on Harper’s Bazaar as “the most amazing features in my life” hindi lamang dahil naroon siya sa haute couture week ng Paris kundi na-invite pa siya ni Kevin



(Kwan) na naging kaibigan niya.

Kilala si Heart sa pagiging fashion plate among our local celebrities hindi lamang dahil afford niya kundi dahil kaya niyang dalhin at malaki ring tulong sa kanya ang kanyang pagiging isang artist (painter) na nakaisip mag-paint sa mga mamahaling luxury leather



bags tulad ng Hermes bags which caught the attention ng ilang kilalang designers in Paris.

Samantala, ang Harper’s Bazaar Magazine ay ang kauna-unahang American fashion magazine na nagsimula in 1867. Ito bale ang ‘bibliya’ ng mga taong mahilig sa fashion and beauty worldwide kung saan featured ang mga kilalang writers, photographers, artists, designers, models and personalities hindi lamang sa Amerika kundi maging sa Paris (France) at ibang bansa.

Hindi lamang ito karangalan para kay Heart kundi ng mga Filipino at ng buong Pilipinas to be featured sa Harper’s Bazaar Magazine with no less Kevin Kwan who wrote the article.

We could just imagine kung gaano ka-proud ang mister ni Heart na si Sen. Chiz Escudero sa kanyang

Who is Jose Mari Chan and why is he trending in the PH?

While the rest of the world was pretty chill over the weekend, many Filipinos were excited over the start of the Christmas season.

For those unaware, the Philippines has one of the longest Christmas seasons in the world — it starts in September and will end the following year at the Epiphany, which will fall on Jan. 6, 2019.

But instead of posting Santa Claus memes and videos, most Filipinos posted memes featuring local singer Jose Mari Chan instead. Jose Mari who?

Chan is a multi-awarded Chinese-Filipino singer-songwriter and businessman whose name has become synonymous with Christmas in our neck of the woods.

See, he came up with the biggest-selling

local album of all time in 1990, titled Christmas in Our Hearts. It features several original singles and reinterpretations of Christmas classics.

Thanks to malls and commercial establishments playing them on an endless loop, these songs (and Chan’s voice) have become a sign that the Christmas season is upon us, which is why Pinoys have posted tons of memes featuring Chan over the weekend.

There is also a video of Chan that resurfaced over the weekend which shows him singing at a mall food court in Mandaluyong City in 2015.

A Facebook poster named David Andrei de Mesa dug up his files after he saw several memes featuring Chan on the internet. It’s gone viral, naturally.

De Mesa told Coconuts Manila: “We all thought the mall was just playing his song, so we were all surprised when he suddenly showed up. A lot of people were so happy and asked for his photo, some even sang along with him.”

wife na si Heart.

Intriguing stories about Bianca and co-stars

BIANCA Umali and Miguel Tanfelix want to thank all the fans of their love team who followed their primetime drama, “Kambal, Karibal”, for nine months and where they played the lead roles of Crisanta and Diego. “When we started airing in November last year, we’re told one season lang kami, which is three months,” says Bianca. “Pero dahil nagustuhan ng viewers ang kuwento ng mga kaluluwang naglipitan ng katawan, heto, inabot kami ng siyam na buwan, so salamat talaga sa lahat.” “Big learning experience sa amin ni Bianca doing this show as we get to work with great actors like Christopher de Leon, Carmina Villarroel, Jean Garcia, Alfred Vargas, Gloria Romero and Marvin Agustín, from whom we learned a lot,” adds Bianca.

The series no doubt helped a lot in boosting the careers of newcomers Kyline Alcantara and Pauline Mendoza in their pivotal roles as Cheska and Criselda who now have loyal fans in their own right. “Malaki talaga ang naitulong ng show na ito para mas makilala ako ng tao,” says Kyline, who moved from ABS-CBN to GMA-7 for this show. “Mami-miss ko lahat ng mga kasama namin sa cast kasi naging parang one big family kami while doing it for the past nine months. It was really a great experience for me.” “Yes, very memorable talaga for me doing this show,” adds Pauline. “I gained a lot of new friends not only sa co-stars namin but also from the production staff. Mami-miss ko lahat ng magandang bonding namin sa taping. And my role as the ghost, tumatak talaga sa tao dahil Criselda talaga ang tawag nila sa’kin when they see me in public.” Of course, there were intriguing stories that the young stars didn’t really get well on the set as some felt insecure over the others, but this is now all water under the bridge. What they urge the public to do is to watch the last few episodes as it’s full of surprises. “Marami talagang pasabog kaya panoorin



The man of all seasons !!!

By Romy Zetazate

It has been for quite sometime that I together with long time friends were talking about Filipinos in our community who may excel in some of his volunteer works not only here in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, but even during his time in the Philippines. We have picked Joaquin (Jojo) T. Taduran, Jr. who has been around specically in majority of the Filipino events in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. We remember him a few years ago while supporting and helping the husband and wife team of Ramon and Teresa Torralba at the Dundas Square in downtown Toronto, Ontario. He was also very visible at the Pillars Seniors Association and the Silayan Community Centre, Ancop, Philippine Canadian Community Association, and other events specifically those supported by the Philippine Consul General’s Office of Toronto, and

nila,” adds Bianca. “It will be a truly thrilling and satisfying ending for the show.”

Angelica, 'di nagbago ang feelings kay Carlo

PUMAPAG-IBIG ang pagbati ni Angelica Panganiban sa dating child sweetheart na si Carlo Aquino sa kanyang Instagram, huh! Pero wala pa namang kumpirmasyon kung magdyowa na sila, huh! “Sayo lang hindi nagbago ang salitang pagmamahal. Maligayang kaarawan @jose_liwanag,” caption niya sa halos maghalikan na nilang picture.

Eh, after madurog ang puso sa relasyon kina Derek Ramsay at John Lloyd Cruz, tanging si Carlo ang naging aktor na naging malapit sa puso niya, huh! Malay natin, manumbalik muli ang pagtitinginan nina Angelica at Carlo habang ginagawa ang movie nilang Exes Baggage, huh!

Pagsasama nina Alden at Maine, parang habagat

ABA, magkasama sa barangay sina Alden Richards at Maine Mendoza sa Eat Bulaga kahapon, huh! Take note, maaga pa lang, kumalat na ang pics ng pagdating sa barangay ni Alden sa Tondo at sa kalagitnaan ng show, eh, nagpakitang-gilas ng pagsasayaw ang Pambansang Bae. Siyempre, nakasilip ng pag-asa ang AIDub Nation sa pagsasamang muli nina Alden at Maine sa kalye episode ng Bulaga. Refreshing din kasi para sa nakita na napapanood nang magkasama ang AIDub loveteam sa programang unang nadiskubre ang pagiging phenomenal, huh! Eh, nakasuot pa ng shirt na kulay yellow na paborito ni Meng kaya ’yung pagsasama ng dalawa sa barangay ay ikinumpara nilang isang habagat na Maichard ang pangalan, huh! Magkatabi pa sina Alden at Maine kaya fiesta na naman sa Twitter ang AIDub Nation dahil ang hashtag na gamit nilang #ALDUBParaSakin ay humamig ng 147K tweets as of this writing!

among others. Taduran was trained by his late uncle, Col. Edmundo Naldo Isaac, to write while the put-up a newspaper in Iriga City which was the Bicol Midweek whose editor was the late Ben Hur Salcedo, a professor in the University of Nueva Caceres and eventually became an Undersecretary of Energy in the Philippines. When his uncle, Col. Isaac, went to Manila to teach at the Manuel Luis Quezon University, Bicol Midweek community newspaper stop circulating and then he was taken in by the late Ramon S. Tolaram, then the publisher-editor of the Naga Times in Naga City. After 3 years he decided to work in Mindanao and then in Ilocos Norte and Ilocos Sur. He learned the art of public service from his Godfather, the late Cmarines Sur Rep. Felix A. Fuetebella and his uncle, the late Camarines Sur Governor Felix O. Alfelor, Sr. Taduran used to write with the defunct Manila Chronicle through Chronicle News Service with the late Rey Jaleco who became the President of the National Press Club then the Philippines Herald with his editors namely Tony Partido, Nemesio Dacanay, and Tony Nieva. While in the Evening News his editors include Neal Cruz, Charlie Castaneda, and Gabby Manalac Pace Magazine. He also joined the Philippine Graphic Magazine during the editorship of the late Lawyer Manuel Almario and with big boss editor-in-chief Nick Joaquin, When Martial Law was declared, he joined the Media National Production Center which now called Philippine Information Agency and produced a nationwide radio program. At 76, Taduran is still very active although he slow down because he jokingly said that he is no longer a “SPRING CHICKEN.” (St. Jamestown News Service)

Nuggets of wisdom on life, love from 'Miss Granny' main cast



(From left): James Reid, Sarah Geronimo and Xian Lim

Sarah Geronimo, James Reid and Xian Lim understand that to be truly happy, one must listen to his heart then let it guide him towards his destiny. The subject was brought up at the pocket interviews for the three main characters in Viva Entertainment’s “Miss Granny.” James revealed that about two, three years ago, he suffered a crisis wherein he felt everyone was telling him what to do. Yes, there was a ton of projects and making money was almost ridiculously easy, but he knew there were other things that could complete him. Music saved James. Recall that last year, the singer released his third studio album “Palm Dreams” under his own label Careless Music Manila. Writing all the songs himself, he did not use formula at all. The bid paid off. James album is up for several awards and, more importantly, people recognize the artist is bonafide one. “When I started my own music, writing my own songs, that’s when I found fulfillment,” he said. Sarah pointed out that ones self is responsible for steering the course of his life. She added that parents, friends, and loved ones are only there to help and guide. Xian agreed. “And if you’re not happy with whatever it is you’re doing now, then you should look for your happiness,” he said.”You really have to work at finding it.” The singer-actor shared there also came a point in his life when he wanted to take a different direction. “Every day we are not sure where we are going or what we are going to do, there’s no certainty,” he related. “But whatever it is, make sure what you’re doing is not half-hearted.” “Miss Granny” is a woman in her ’70s who magically finds herself back in the body of her 20-year-old self after having her picture taken at a mysterious studio. According to director Joyce Bernal, the takeaway is a deeper understanding of the elderly. She said that at some point in the lives of grandparents, because their kids grew older and have families of their own, the seniors go back to their own struggles having their own life and struggles, including feeling left out and isolated. Joyce said Sarah is perfect for the role because as a singer, she can go deeper into her emotions. Well, the 30-year-old singer-actress didn’t disappoint the director as Joyce said Sarah really has “it.” Between James and Xian, the director said she had to work around one thing about James. “Because he’s really handsome, it was hard to make him look regular to fit his role as this ordinary musician,” she said. James, whose status can carry a film by itself, has no qualms sharing the spotlight with Sarah and Xian, if only for the chance to work with them. Sarah immediately accepted the project, seeing that it imparts important lessons in life. This is the reason she insisted the story remains true to the original. The movie imfluenced her perspective on time and love. She said hatred and jealousy have no place in people’s hearts. “Just always focus on yourself and be happy. Do your best to be a good person,” she said. “It is really hard to be kind, to be obedient, not only to your parents but also to God. But at the end of the day, you should go back to what He meant you to be.” When it comes to love, she said people should give it everything they have but not to lose themselves in the process.

MYSTICA DATING SUPER RICH, HUMIHINGI NG TULONG

KUMAKATOK sa puso ni Coco Martin ang tinaguriang ‘Rock Diva’ at ‘Split Queen,’ na si Mystica (Ruby Rose Mau-anay Villanueva sa tunay na buhay) na sana’y tulungan siyang makabalik sa showbiz matapos nitong aminin na naghihirap siya ngayon at may sakit ganundin ang isa sa kanyang mga anak. Kung dati-rati’y namamayagpag si Mystica, nakatira sa isang magarang bahay in an exclusive subdivision in Quezon City, may mga negosyo, ngayon ay nangungupahan siya sa isang maliit na bahay o kuwarto sa Gen. Trias, Cavite at nagtitinda ng fried chicken na kanyang niluluto na siya niyang pangtawid sa kanyang pang-araw araw na buhay. Ang masaklap pa, tila tinalikuran na rin siya ng kanyang mga kaanak. Kilala si Mystica sa pagiging kontrobersyal noon. May panahon pa na nag-agawan sila ni Madam Auring (na isa ring controversial figure noon) sa isang lalaki na napunta naman sa singer-businesswoman na si Anna Dizon. Kilala rin noon si Mystica sa pagiging pasaway. Noong 2005 ay umalis si Mystica patungong Amerika at muli siyang bumalik in 2009. Tinawag na “Split Queen” si Mystica dahil parati itong nagi-split sa tuwing nagpi-perform. Bumalik ang pagiging controversial ni Mystica bago ang Presidential elections in 2016 kung saan nag-post ito ng isang video laban sa Presidente na ngayon na si Pres. Rodrigo ‘Digong’ Duterte na naging dahilan ng pamba-bash sa kanya ng netizens. Months later ay nagsimula siyang manawagan ng tulong dahil may sakit ang isa niyang anak habang siya naman ay may infection sa kanyang lalamunan. Marami na ring mga inactive at jobless actors ang natulungan ni Coco sa pamamagitan ng kanyang “FPJ’s Ang Pronsyano.” Ang pinakahuli niyang tinulungan ay ang bagong laya sa kulungan, ang dating child actor na si CJ Ramos. Robi Domingo mum about non-showbiz girl he’s dating Robi Domingo refuses to talk about the non-showbiz girl he is currently dating. Nananatiling tikom ang bibig ni Robi Domingo tungkol sa bagong non-showbiz girl na nakaka-date niya ngayon. Nakita ni Alex Gonzaga si Robi na kasama ang isang non-showbiz girl, na sinasabing espesyal sa buhay ngayon ng Kapamilya male TV host. Ito ay ibinahagi ni Alex sa kanyang Instagram Story. Marami ang napatanonng kung sino ang kasa-mang babae ni Robi sa video. Ang maiksing tugon ni Robi, “Well, for now, I got a new phone. “I got a new story to tell siguro, but that one is going to be reserved for another time siguro.” Minsan na ring sinama ni Robi ang bagong inspirasyon niya sa pag-ibig sa premiere night ng pelikulang BuyBust noong nakaraang buwan. Ipinakilala niya ang kanyang kasama na si Maiqui Pineda, isa ring Atenista. JM in-love kay barbie? GAANO kaya katotoo ang balitang nagkakaigihan umano ngayon ang lead stars ng afternoon TV series na “Araw Gabi” na si JM de Guzman at Barbie Imperial? After his second break-up with ex-girlfriend Jessy Mendiola (na girlfriend na gayon ni Luis Manzano), unti-unti naman umanong nadi-develop ngayon si JM sa kanyang kapareha sa “Araw Gabi” na si Barbie na ex-girlfriend naman ng young actor na si Paul Salas. JM is 29 habang katu-twenty pa lamang last August 1 ni Barbie. Samantala, patuloy na tinututukan ang “Araw Gabi” TV series dahil nakakaapat na buwan na itong tumatakbo sa ere since its first airing nung April 30, 2019 at tumatakbo na sa kanilang ika-limang buwan. Marami naman ang nagtataka kung bakit ginawang mag-ina sina Vina Morales at Phoebe Walker sa nasabing serye. Sobrang bata naman daw ni Vina para maging ina ng character ni Phoebe. Marami rin ang nakakapansin sa mannerism ni Barbie sa madalas na pagpa-pout ng kanyang lips. Kailangang matanggal niya ito dahil hindi maganda tingnan. Ang “Araw Gabi” TV series ang first lead role ng ex-PBB teen housemate na ipinagkatiwala sa kanya ng ABS-CBN.



Gwen admits she and Paulo had a ‘past’



GWEN Zamora feels so fortunate to be part of the big-budget historical epic, “Goyo: Ang Batang Heneral”. “This is an

event movie that should be watched by all Filipinos as it provides valuable insights about our heroes and our history,”

she says. “I play the role of Remedios Nable Jose, the love interest of the young Gen. Gregorio del Pilar played by Paulo Avelino. I auditioned for the role and I was so happy na ako’ng nakuha nila. I researched on Remedios and I saw her picture as an older woman. I was surprised because she looked a lot like my maternal grandmother, Maxima Zamora.”

Her last movies were indie films, “Straight from the Heart” and “Apocalypse Child”. She got acting nominations for the latter as the leading lady of Sid Lucero and RK Bagatsing.

“Mahirap itong ‘Goyo’ kasi my lines in the screenplay is written in old Tagalog so I got myself a teacher in Filipino kasi gusto ko, maging fluent ‘yung delivery ko on screen.”

How was it working with Direk Jerrold Tarog? “I was scared noong umpisa kasi he’s very quiet on the set. But as the shooting went on, he might seem serious, but he also has a lighter side. I saw his vision as a director for Goyo. He doesn’t want to just put him on a pedestal as a hero. He wants people to see Goyo’s human side as

a person, a friend, a lover, a leader, all the important aspects of his personality to make him truly three-dimensional. I was really amazed at the entire production kasi parang I’m working on a Hollywood set, from the call sheet

they give the actors na everything is indicated, including all the shots where you will be included and what time this will be shot, like the medium shot at 8 a.m., then the close up at 9a.m., ganun ka-detailed. ‘Yung set namin ng isang buong town reconstructed in a backlot in Tarlac complete with church, market, various houses and municipal hall, parang nagbalik ka talaga sa nakaraan. Even the costumes we wore are authentic. My baro at saya had four layers of clothing. Siguro, before, we had a cooler climate. But not now, kasi sobrang init na niya sa katawan.”

Is it her first time to work with Paulo Avelino? “No, before he left GMA-7, we got to work in ‘Alakdana’ and he was even my first screen kiss, so magkakilala na kami and it’s really nice to work with him again in a mammoth superproduction like ‘Goyo’ which we’ll be proud of for the rest of our lives.”

Gwen remains going steady with Jeremy Marquez. They were supposed to officially tie the knot some time ago but they had to postpone it. No reason was given but we heard it’s because Jeremy’s first marriage when he was very young was not yet officially annulled.

Sunshine says role unlikely to happen in real life + other stories



AFTER Sunshine Dizon and Ryza Cenon in the undeniable hit “Ika-6 na Utos”, catfights between two actresses became quite common in GMA-7 dramas since local viewers seem to really enjoy watching it and can’t have enough of such scenes. So we now also have catfights between Glaiza de Castro and Lauren Young in “Contessa”, Megan Young and Katrina Halili in “The Stepdaughters” and Yasmien Kurdi and Jackie Rice in “Hindi Ko Kayang Iwan Ka”.

Mind you, the contravidas in these shows are really excellent and all out in portraying their roles, even eclipsing the leads with their sheer impudence and shameless audacity, like Jackie Rice who shines in the court room scene where she taunts Yasmien for losing her kids in a bomb explosion. Now, the latest ladies to be added to this list of “warring” actresses are Sunshine Cruz and Bing Loyzaga in the hit morning drama, “Kapag Nahati ang Puso”.

They’re both fashion designers in the story and the scene where Sunshine goes to Bing and berates her for being “laos”, then Bing tries to slap Sunshine who defends herself and hits Bing with her bag, is truly the stuff that melo-drama fans will surely just lap up with so much glee. But naturally, Bing is fuming so mad because she was not able to hit back at Sunshine as her husband, Zoren Legaspi, comes along to stop them.

This is actually a very crucial scene as it’s the first time that the characters played by Sunshine and Zoren meet again after events conspired to separate them away from each other many years ago. Sunshine doesn’t know that the daughter she thought had died, now played by Bea Binene, is actually with her dad,

Zoren, and his wife, Bing, doesn’t know at all that Bea is really Zoren’s biological daughter and not just an “ampon”. The show becomes more interesting to watch from hereon to see if Sunshine and Zoren would also be reunited or if Sunshine would choose to stay in the arms of her younger lover, Benjamin Alves.

Does Sunshine have any hesitation to be a cougar to Benjamin’s hunky lover character in the story? “None at all. After all, we’re just playing our roles. Dito nga, magiging karibal ko pa si Bea Binene kay Benjamin, without knowing na mag-ina pala kami talaga. But in real life, mag-iisip muna akong mabuti before I fall for a much younger man.”

VHONG CONSIDERS ‘ORDEAL’ A HUMBLING EXPERIENCE

VHONG Navarro doesn’t have any hesitation in working with a new director like Miko Livelo in his Pista ng Pelikulang Pilipino (PPP) entry, “Unli Life”. “He may be younger than me but I can trust him,” he says. “Magaling siya. He knows his craft.”

The story idea of “Unli Life” comes from his own manager, Chito Roño, who’s present at the presscon to show his support for Vhong. Chito himself, as a director, has an entry in the PPP, “Signal Rock” starring Christian Bables. How does he feel when people say that “Unli Life” will be the number one topgrosser in the PPP?

“Okay lang,” he shrugs. “Si Vhong bida rito, e. May track record na ‘yan at story concept ko naman ito.”

So what will happen to his “Signal Rock”? “Yun ang magiging number 2,” he laughs. “Siyempre, I also love my own movie! Hindi ko naman kasi alam na magkakasabay pala silang ipalabas sa PPP. But we’re proud of both movies. Magkaiba naman, drama ang ‘Signal Rock’ and comedy ang ‘Unli Life’, so sana, parehong panoorin ng mga tao.”

What can he say now that Vhong’s tormentors, Cedric Lee and Deniece Cornejo, have both been found guilty by the court of grave coercion? “Hindi pa nagsi-sink in kasi may ibang mga kaso pa. ‘Yung serious illegal detention at perjury cases. Sana maganda rin ang kalabasan nito.”

Some folks have made an effort to settle this out of court but Vhong rejected the idea as he just adamantly wants the truth of what happened to him to

come out. For Vhong, what happened is the Lord’s way of waking him up.

“It was really a humbling experience,” he says. “Inaamin ko namang naging overconfident ako noon, sobrang bumilib ako sa sarili ko. Kaya ngay-on, everytime I pray, I say, ‘Lord, sana huwag nyo na hayaang lumaki uli ang ulo ko, sana marunong pa rin ako laging tumingin sa pinanggalingan ko at kunsaan ako nagsimula. Matindi rin ang pinagdaanan ko, lalo na nang mawala ang father ko who’s very close to me. But I just dwell on the blessings. Sunud-sunod din naman ang magagandang blessings na dumaraming sa akin. Isa na itong ‘Unli Life’ where I play Benedict, a podcast DJ na naging broken hearted after makipag-break sa kanya ang girlfriend niyang si Victoria, played by Winwyn Marquez, kasi nasasakal na ito sa sobrang pagkontrol niya sa buhay nito. Feeling depressed, napadpad ako sa bar called Turning Point where I meet Joey Marquez as Mang Saro, a bartender na inalok sa’kin ang alak called Wish Key na makakatulong para makapag-time travel ako at para baguhin ang pagkakamali sa nakaraan ko and then mailagay sa tama ang kasalukuyan. Doon na nga ako mapupunta sa iba’t ibang eras in history na lagi kong pipiliting bawiin si Winwyn. Dahil sa pagbabalik-balik ko sa past, doon ko matutuhan ang isang mahalagang lesson na makakapagpabago sa buhay ko. When we shot this, di ko alam na mapapalagi pala sa PPP so another blessing ‘yun.”

If he’d really be allowed to go back in time, what will he change? “More than anything, I want to go back to the time my father was still alive so I can spend more time with him.”

VANCE GETS FIRST LEAD ROLE

VANCE Larena is a newbie actor whose real first name is Kierwin. Vance is his screen name. Just like JC Santos and JM de Guzman who are now established movie and TV actors, he started in theatre while still in high school with plays like “Lorenzo Ruiz”, “Katips” and “Orosman at Zafira”. He took up operations management at San Beda College but his real passion is acting.

He was in third year law proper in San Beda when Director Kip Oebanda met him and got him to play the role of the fraternity master in “Bar Boys”, a film about law students. He then decided to take a leave from law school to focus on film acting and played bit roles in movies like “Bar Boys”, “So Connected”

and “Liway”. Turning 25 on September 28, he plays his first lead role as Elias Datul, one of the title rolers in the Pista ng Pelikulang Pilipino entry, “Bakwit Boys”.

“Ako ‘yung gumaganap na kuya ng three boys played by Nikko Natividad, Ryle Santiago and Mackie Empuerto,” he says. “Nang masira ng bagyo ang hometown namin sa Isabela, napilitan kaming mag-evacuate sa lolo namin in Pampanga. ‘Yung word na Bakwit, galing sa evacuate. Pero sa kabila ng sinapit naming setback sa buhay, hindi kami nawawalan ng pag-asa because of our love for music and songs. Balak naming maging maging boy band na napapakinggan sa radio. Si Devon Seron as Rose, a girl from Manila, ang makaka-discover sa amin and will help us achieve our dream. Nag-audition ako for my role and I didn’t expect my role will be this big. I’m glad napili ako ni Direk Jason Paul Laxamana kasi nga I not only act, but I also get to sing. Nag-click naman kami agad ng actors who play my brothers at magkasundo kaming lahat. Kasi kung hindi, it will manifest in the movie.”

The movie features six original songs by singer-songwriter Jhay Cura from Tarlac, who was discovered by Direk Jason Paul. They are sung by the members of the cast, but some also have pop versions rendered by other singers like “Tayong Dalawa” by Ice Segueria, “Ligtas Ka Na” by Sean Oliver, “Fiona” by Mark Oblea and “Patibong” by Jay-R. These songs are included in the original motion picture soundtrack.

Gabbi Garcia apologizes for buckling while hosting Chika Minute

Gabbi Garcia responds to a netizen who bashed her for buckling while hosting the Chika Minute segment of 24 Oras.

A netizen using the Twitter handle @aldenAllTheWay criticized Gabbi by posting: “Haaaay, naku @_gabbigarcia 10 mins exposure na nga lang nagba-buckle pa sa Chika Minute. Chaar”

The GMA-7 actress replied by writing: “oo nga eh hahahah sorry na hahahah di perfect”

The netizen responded to Gabbi’s apology by writing:

“Sorry naman, atat na kasi ako sa Victor Magtanggol!!”

Star Circle Entertainment students performs at Flavours festival.



Still on top: Inday Will Always Love You now on its second season

There is no denying that the romantic comedy series Inday Will Always Love You (IWALY) is a hit among viewers. It continues to lord over its timeslot buted last May and is among the trending topics on social media every night.

And viewers can expect more things from the Barbie Forteza-starrer as IWALY enters its second season!

In the coming weeks, IWALY fanatics can look forward to bigger revelations as new characters and guest stars will be introduced in the primetime series. Upcoming guest stars are Jean Garcia, Kylene Alcantara, and Kim Domingo.

After Amanda (Gladys Reyes) successfully amassed everything that Philip (Ricky Davao) owns, Happylou (Barbie) and her family goes back to Manila to start again. As they rebuild a new life, Philip is reunited with Florence, an “old flame” played by Jean Garcia. Florence (Jean) helps Philip put up the small business, but Philip’s girlfriend Marta (Manilyn Reynes) smells a threat. A love triangle ensues between Florence and Marta, and IWALY fans will be treated to funny banter and explosive catfights between the two veteran actresses.

Meanwhile, Happylou’s best friend Kimberlou (Tekla) reveals a secret: His mother doesn’t know he’s gay. As he reconciles with his mother, Kimberlou convinces Happylou to pretend to be his girlfriend. Watch out for the surprise celebration guest who will play Kimberlou’s mother.

IWALY fans were on the edge of their seats as Happylou fought for her life after being stabbed a few days ago. As Happylou battles for her life, Patrick (Derrick Monasterio) realizes the danger he and his mom (Amanda) has brought to the love of his life. Patrick decides to slowly let go of Happylou for her own safety. Will this mean Ernest (Juancho Trivino) gets a second chance to prove he is more worthy of Happylou’s love? Will Patrick continue to fight for his love amidst his mother’s will?

More exciting twists, heart-warming scenes and surprise guests are coming your way as Inday Will Always Love You hits season 2.

Kapuso viewers abroad can also catch Inday Will Always Love You via GMA Network’s flagship international channel, GMA Pinoy TV. For the program guide, visit www.gmapinoytv.com.

Cyberspace and courtship

‘Ang Babaeng Allergic Sa WiFi’ stars weigh in on life disconnected



Markus Paterson, Sue Ramirez, and Jameson Blake

Who doesn’t need WiFi!?! Millennials, that’s a rhetorical question, relax.

The young cast members of “Ang Babaeng Allergic Sa WiFi,” an entry to this year’s Pista ng Pelikulang Pilipino (PPP), were asked if they could live a life disconnected from the Internet.

The 22-year-old actress Sue Ramirez said that being a celebrity, she actually welcomes more quiet time, even if it means turning off cellular data and, yes, Wi-Fi connection.

“If not for the fans or the people who look up to us or who get inspired from our posts, I think I could live without it sometimes,” she said.

Jameson Blake agrees, saying Wi-Fi is not “necessary.”

“I mean if I could focus on the real world, be more in the moment, socialize more, and be more with nature, I think I can do that, live life without Wi-Fi,” he said.

The 21-year-old actor said that if connection fails him for a week, he’d spend the time with friends, go hiking, or write poems at home.

The 20-year-old Markus stated the obvious: Going online is addictive.

“Some people do it to get validation,” he said. “It’s not healthy.”

The budding actor advises young people to seize the day, seize the moment even without Wi-Fi.

“Ang Babaeng Allergic Sa WiFi” is about Norma (Sue), a typical millennial who is dependent on Wi-Fi for her daily interactions with friends and her boyfriend Leo (Markus). Unfortunately, she develops an allergy to Wi-Fi and is compelled to live with her grandmother in a far away province where she will not be exposed to any radio waves that can worsen her condition.

With no digital gadgets and no Wi-Fi, how will Norma cope? How will her relationship with Leo be affected and how will his brother Aries (Jameson)

bridge the gap between their worlds? In the movie, the tale will showcase Norma’s journey to self-discovery and her realizations about what makes personal connections more meaningful. The film is nostalgic as it features old-school type of romance. Remember writing love letters using pen, paper then sending them by post? Yes, that type.

Director Jun Robles Lana personally loves the way it was.

“It’s just more romantic.”

Sue thinks so too, admitting she sometimes feels jealous of people who’ve experienced it.

“These days it’s just too easy to connect with people,” she said.

Lani Misalucha breaks down at press-con for concert with Morissette Amon

Asia’s Nightingale Lani Misalucha (in photo) is all praises for young singer Morissette Amon: “Yung the quality of her voice, yung tone, yung power, strength, andoon. I wasn’t like that when I was 22, siguro nung nagba-banda pa ako.”

Nalalapit na ang joint concert ng Asia’s Nightingale na si Lani Misalucha at ng isa sa mga successful young artists ngayon na si Morissette Amon.

Bilang was malawak ang karanasan ni Lani sa entertainment industry, natanong ito sa press conference ng concert nila kung ano ang mabibigay nito na reminder sa nakababatang singer.

Panimula ni Lani, “Meron tayong mga priorities sa buhay, if you think that this is something you want to do for the next several years and do it, because this is what you love.

“Kasi sa akin, iba ang naging priority ko talaga nung bago pa ako sa industry, iba na yung priority ko sa buhay.

“May pamilya na ako when I got into show business, so yun yung talagang inuna ko, which was to nurture my family.

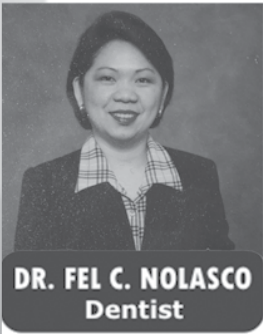
“Hindi ko talaga, ano ang tawag mo doon? Hindi ko talaga binulusok nang todo-todo.

“It was good that I was able to balance both worlds, yung sa ‘yo [Morissette], since hindi mo siguro priority ang magkaroon ng relationship at this time.

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“And I don’t think anytime soon you want to get married dahil wala naman, then, go ahead.

“I-mold mo po ang ‘yong craft at iyong talent, and I’m telling you, you already are a very good artist and you’re going a long away.

“You’re gonna go a long way, it’s just, never, never forget, uh, bakit nagka-crack ang boses ko?”

Dito na nga naging emotional si Lani, “Hindi talaga, never forgetthat was given to you,” hanggang sa napaiyak na ito nang tuluyan.

Pahikbi-hikbi niyang lahad, “God gave you that, all of us, all of our talents, all of our skills, are given from heaven.

“It was given to us, and anytime it can go away. It can be taken away from you in a snap.

Beauty Gonzalez signs “first contract” with this TV network

After Beauty Gonzalez’s stint with GMA-7 last June 2018, the actress formally renews her ties with



ABS-CBN as she signs a two-year contract today, August 16.

Beauty Gonzalez finally puts an end to questions about her home network by signing an exclusive contract with this TV station.

The 27-year-old actress inked a two-year contract with her original mother station ABS-CBN earlier today, August 16, 2018.

On Instagram, Beauty first dropped hints that “something special” will happen today.

She wrote, “To Eternity And Beyond. Today will be a very special day, one that i have always dreamed about. I’ll keep you guys posted.”

During her interview at the contract signing, which was published on ABS-CBN PR’s Instagram account, she said that this is her first contract with the network even though she has been a Kapamilya for the past 10 years.

Beauty said, “I’m very excited because it’s my first contract with ABS-CBN, exciting times ahead.”

Her projects with the Kapamilya network are yet to be disclosed.

Beauty’s contract signing finally ends speculations whether or not she will remain a Kapamilya or if she will transfer to GMA-7.

PEP.ph (Philippine Entertainment Portal) re-



IPEN Beauty Jurice Encarnacion walks at the Mabuhay Fashion show wearing a creation by Renee Salud.

ceived a feed in May 2018 that Beauty was accompanied by her manager Arnold Vegafría during her meeting with an executive of the Kapuso network.

In June 2018, Beauty was welcomed as a new Kapuso during her guest appearance in the defunct game show Celebrity Bluff. In this episode, she played with David Licaucó, a Kapuso artist whose career is also managed by ALV Talent Circuit.

On August 11, Beauty surprised viewers when she starred in an episode of ABS-CBN’s drama anthology Maalaala Mo Kaya.

This prompted people to ask if she has returned to ABS-CBN after her stint in the Kapuso show.

Beauty’s last drama series was the Kapamilya afternoon drama Pusong Ligaw, which she top-billed along with Bianca King, Sofia Andres, and Diego Loyzaga.

JULIA BARRETTO on doing intimate scenes with JOSHUA GARCIA: “I’m VERY OPEN”



Julia Barretto declares that she’s open to doing intimate scenes with Joshua Garcia for Ngayon at Kailanman. “We are adults na so I’m very much open,” says the 21-year-old actress.

Julia Barretto is open to doing intimate scenes with Joshua Garcia for their teleserye Ngayon at Kailanman.

Julia said that having “special feelings” for Joshua helped

“We don’t want someone who can just sing…”

them in doing intimate scenes together.

She said, “In real life we’re so comfortable, it means even sa trabaho namin, parang mas nakakapag-explore kami with each other, mas komportable kaming gumagawa ng eksena with each other, na pag kailangan... ‘pag intimate na o nagiging sensual na yung eksena, it’s more comfortable and more open.

“And may trust, e. It’s a different level of trust na alam naming maalagaan yung isa’t isa.”

Julia was then asked by an entertainment reporter if she will do more intimate scenes with Joshua for the Kapamilya teleserye.

The Star Magic talent declared,

“I’m very open, wow!”

Creative Manager Henry Quitain then quipped, “It’s good news for us, for the creatives!”

Julia explained, “No, but you know, honestly, because I think we’re also above 20, we’re 21, turning 22, I also feel like it’s healthy to be able to explore and take a little bit of risks.

“Because in reality naman talaga, when you fall in love, there are no limitations when you fall in love.

“I’m sure the creatives

are gonna do something about it. I’m excited for the scenes that will challenge the both of us.”

Henry then said, “Accepted!”

Joshua admits having a hard time with his role, especially

since he is not accustomed to speaking the English language, which he is now required to do for the role.

“Mahirap ang English!

“Ganun daw kasi yung kailangang pag-deliver, kailangan slow din para walang buckle. Tama yung pagkakabigkas.

“Challenging dito talaga yung pag may confrontation na, ang hirap. Tapos English,” he said in jest.

The ABS-CBN actor has a speech coach with him on the set to help him with his lines.

JoshLia’s co-star Iza Calzado, who is also one of the show’s lead characters, peaised Joshua by saying, “I have to say congratulations for even being open to be coached for some people don’t want to be coached.”

Meanwhile, Julia is thankful for being able to portray a role far from what she used to do in her past projects.

“Finally, nabigyan ako ng role na malayong malayo po sa akin. The character itself already is different even without delivering [the lines].

Ngayon at Kailanman, the first teleserye of JoshLia, airs on ABS-CBN’s Primetime Bida block.

Kapamilya actress Cherry Pie Picache reveals first impression on Kapuso star Maine Mendoza



Kapamilya actress Cherry Pie Picache (left) will work for the first time with Kapuso star the storycon, it was very pleasant. “She was a very pleasant lady.” Masaya rin daw si Cherry Pie na malamang makakatrabaho niya sina Vic at Coco. “I was very grateful. I’ll be working with people you love to work with talaga. Grateful lang,” sambit niya.

Maine Mendoza (right) in the upcoming MMFF 2018 entry Jack En Poy: The Pulis Incredibles, starring Vic Sotto and Coco Martin.

Masaya ang Kapamilya actress na si Cherry Pie Picache na makakatrabaho niya sa unang pagkakataon ang Kapuso star na si Maine Mendoza.

Kasama ang dalawa sa cast ng upcoming Metro Manila Film Festival (MMFF) 2018 official entry na Jack En Poy: The Pulis Incredibles, na pagbibidahan nina Vic Sotto at Coco Martin.

Hindi ito ang unang beses na makakatrabaho ni Cherry Pie sina Coco at Bossing Vic, pero first time niyang makakatrabaho si Maine.

“I’ve worked with Coco all the time.

“With Maine, actually, first time ko siyang nakilala. Very quiet. Tahimik.

“So, hindi mo maisip na siya pala yung pinapanood,” paglalarawan niya kay Maine, na kadalasan ay kalag kapag napapanood.

Hindi raw sila nagkaroon ng matagal na pag-uusap ni Maine noong story conference ng Jack En Poy, pero maganda naman daw ang karamasan niya sa Eat Bulaga! host.

“I haven’t really had a chance to get to talk to her, pero with the little time that we had, during

NO COMPETITION

Tinanong din si Cherry Pie tungkol sa pakikipagbanggan ng kanilang pelikula sa pelikula ng kapwa niya Kapamilya star na si Vice Ganda sa MMFF 2018.

Si Vice ang bida sa Fantastica: The Princess, The Prince and The Perya.

Ngayon pa lamang ay matinding pagtatapat na ang ginagawa sa pelikula nina Vic at Coco sa pelikula ni Vice.

Pahayag ni Cherry Pie, “I’m sure it’s all positive, constructive competition.

“It’s a very good time of the year, Metro Manila Film Fest, it’s a very good opportunity to show all the Filipino films.

“So we all pray that they all make it good.

“Naniniwala ako na ang intensiyon lang ng bawat pelikula sa Metro Manila Film Fest, of course, bukod sa kumita, is mapasaya lang talaga ang mga tao.”

Mariel ready to bare after split with bf

MARIEL De Leon has finished shooting two movies and is now about to shoot another one, making her real busy. She just finished the domestic drama, “Latay”, directed by Ralston Jover, and the remake of the classic horror film, “Patayin Mo sa Sindak si Barbara” directed by Chris Castillo, whose dad, the late Celso Kid, directed the original movie with Susan Roces and Rosanna Ortiz. What are her roles in these movies?

“In ‘Latay’, kasama ko sina Allen Dizon and Lovi Poe and I was intimidated at first as they’re both award-winning actors,” she says. “But they both turned out be very nice and very welcoming. I had lots of scenes with Allen and he really guided me along with Direk Ralston. Lovi is his wife and I’m his first girlfriend. Allen is a battered husband and when Lovi got jealous, pati ako sinugod at binugbog. Bilib nga ako kay Lovi, ang galing niya. You’d really think tinatamaan ako ng mga sampal niya, but hindi naman. In ‘Barbara’, I play the role of Ruth, ‘yung multa, played by Rosanna Ortiz in the original and by Dawn Zulueta in the remake. For the film’s climax, talagang ginawa nilang scary ang face ko with ugly prosthetic make up.”

Soon, Regal Entertainment will launch



her in a sexy drama to be directed by Jay Altarejos. She will figure in a daring love triangle with Enzo Pineda and Sophie Albert who will also be given their biggest movie break here. So she’s ready to go sexy and show some skin?

“Okay lang naman, but with limitations, like what I did in my pictorial as the cover girl of FHM’s first digital issue this month of August. Basta classy ang dating at hindi bastos o malaswa. At siyempre, nagpaalam muna ako sa nanay at tatay ko and I’m doing this with their permission.”

She’s deadset on making it as an actress so even her lovelife is on hold. She broke up with her boyfriend and he understands that she wants to focus all her undivided attention to her budding career. Aside from movies, she wants to try doing teleseryes. “Gusto kong magkontrabida, ‘yung kainisan ako ng viewers,” she adds.

She’s no longer as opinionated as before. “After all the bashing, I came out stronger. I still read comments about me but if it’s negative, I just ignore them as it’s useless to fight back, waste of time and energy lang.”



Vietnam opposes China’s activities in East Sea

HANOI — Vietnam resolutely objects to China’s recent activities in the Hoang Sa (Paracel) archipelago and reiterated Vietnam’s sovereignty over the islands, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ spokeswoman Le Thi Thu Hang.

Hang made the remarks in response to reporters’ questions regarding China’s recent activities in the area, including celebrations marking six years of the so-called “Sansha city” and installing wave monitoring devices on Phu Lam Island. Meanwhile, China Central Television’s (CCTV) children’s channel recently organised a reality TV show for kids on the Hoang Sa archipelago. The Sun Yat-sen University of China also conducted a series of scientific surveys on the Hoang Sa islands.

Hang said Vietnam had sufficient legal foundations and historical evidence affirming its sovereignty over Hoang Sa and Truong Sa (Spratly) archipelagoes in line with international law.

“The aforementioned actions of China have not only seriously violated Vietnam’s sovereignty over the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagos but also run counter to the agreement on basic principles guiding the settlement of sea-related issues between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People’s Republic of China; do not conform to the important common perceptions of the two countries’ senior leaders on controlling sea-related disagreements; as well as disobey the solid development trend of bilateral relations.”

She added that these actions are also “contrary to the spirit and content of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the East Sea (DOC) and do not benefit the negotiations between Asean and China on a Code of Conduct in the East Sea (COC), as well as the maintenance of an environment of peace, stability, cooperation, and development in the East Sea and the region.”

“Vietnam resolutely opposes these actions and demands China immediately stop the aforementioned activities; respect Vietnam’s sovereignty over the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagoes; seriously implement the agreement on basic principles guiding the settlement of sea-related issues between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People’s Republic of China, along with the DOC; not continue actions that complicate the situation; and practically and actively contribute to developing the friendship and comprehensive co-operation between Vietnam and China for the sake of peace, stability, and co-operation in the East Sea and the region,” the spokeswoman said.

A representative of the Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs met with a representative of the Chinese Embassy in Vietnam to talk about this issue, Hang added.

FILIPINO CENTRE TORONTO OPENS AT NEW LOCATION

FILIPINO CENTRE continued on page 14

& community dignitaries. Among those who graced the gathering, delivered greetings and presented official certificates of recognition, were: Federal Minister of Immigration Ahmed Hussen, City of Toronto Mayor John Tory, Federal Members of Parliament Gary Anandasangaree, Jean Yip & Salma Zahid, Ontario Minister for Seniors Raymond Cho, Member of Provincial Parliament Mitzie Hunter, City Councillors Jim Karygiannis, Norm Kelly, Neethan Shan & Michael Thompson. Zachary Nixon represented the Federal Minister of Border Security Bill Blair and Sana Srithas represented MP Shaun Chen. Some municipal candidates also present were Randy Bucao, Ashwani Bhardwaj & Cynthia Lai (Toronto) and Marlene Mogado (Markham); and political nomination candidates Mazhar Shafiq

(Scarborough) and Gary Gladstone (Thornhill).

The mid- afternoon program, ably hosted by FCT director Philip Beloso, started with the traditional “house” blessing by Father Alberto Macalipay, followed by a merienda salo-salo. Hon. Ahmed Hussen addressed the guests and read the greetings of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. Hon. Mayor J.Tory and Philippine Consul General Rosalita Prospero jointly led the raising of the Canadian & Philippine flags and the ceremonial ribbon cutting, together with other distinguished guests. Prominently present were: City Medical Health Officer Dr. Eileen De Villa, former FCT chair Dr. Victoria Santiago, ex - PIDC president Norma Carpio, WFG exec. vice chair Agnes Miranda, Cultural Officer Cecilia Santos, LM Confidential publisher & editor Joey Baking and a host of other community association heads, business leaders and media personalities.

At the newly opened facility, Mayor J. Tory

congratulated the Filipinos for “their hard work and compassion” and stressed the values of “affection, respect, faith, family, fun & finances to emulate good citizenship”. Philippine Consul General R. Prospero cited that the “new home comes renewed commitment and dedication to our culture” and for FCT to “continue with bigger and better initiatives” for the community. In her remarks, FCT head honcho M. San Juan proclaimed that the Centre was “bought in cash, capital C..A..S..H., purposefully “to unite proudly in supporting and continuing its multiple projects and services.” Board chairman E. De Villa, announced that “ in our operation.....we are openly & honestly transparent and we do our finances religiously”, adding, everybody is “welcome to look” at them.

Through its various established and proven programs & projects, The Filipino Centre continues to offer and conduct community-building

activities and free related services. Among the productive initiatives are the: comprehensive health & wellness program including free medical clinic; health information & medical workshops; seniors services; homework club; Filipino language class; tax preparation & estate planning assistance; employment networking & mentoring partnership; and Filipiniana resource library. Seasonal events include the Pistahan Sa Toronto & Santacruzian summer festival, the Dr. Victoria Santiago invitational basketball competitions, the Dr. Guillermo De Villa golf tournament, the Rosalinda C. Javier outstanding student awards, and Christmas for the kids event. These collaborative and meaningful services are being undertaken to meet the Centre’s raison d’etre and goals as a leading community player and participant. (Tony A. San Juan).



FAMILIES AND FRIENDS SHOW OF SUPPORT FOR PAULINA CORPUZ

From left, entertainer Emil Zarris, Agnes Miranda, Deo Moreno, Mila Ibrahim of Santaginian, Monina Serrano Lim and Action Honda's Rafael Nebres, sister-in-law Cecilia Corpuz Santiago show their support for Toronto council candidate Paulina Corpuz.

Myrtle Sarrosa reacts to being objectified: "I just ignore them."

Myrtle Sarrosa admits to getting inappropriate comments about her body on social media, but she chooses not to get affected.

Nasa edad na raw si Myrtle Sarrosa para tumang-gap ng sexier at more mature roles, gaya ng role niya sa fantasy movie na Wander Bra.

"Yes, I'm at the age na nagta-transition na ako to more mature roles and to always take that step forward.

"Kasi, parang I've been in the industry for six years, so gusto ko lagi to bring out something new," paliwanag ng 23-anyos na aktres sa presscon ng kanyang pelikula.

Ginanap ang presscon sa Max's Restaurant, Quezon Avenue, Quezon City, nitong Huwebes, August 16.

Sa pelikula, gaganap na superheroine ang Big Winner ng Pinoy Big Brother: Teen Edition Season 4 kung saan suot niya ang two-piece sexy costume.

So far, positive daw ang feedback sa kanyang outfit.

Sabi ni Myrtle, "Sa ngayon, it's all positive comments from most of my supporters.

"So I'm grateful na ang daming tao na excited na rin para sa akin.

"Kasi it's a long way coming here and I'm so grateful for my very first lead film."

Si Myrtle ay two-time FHM cover girl (2014 at 2018) at calendar girl ng isang alcoholic drink.

Hindi naman niya itinangging may mga nababasa siyang bastos na komento sa social media.

"But I just ignore them," sagot niya.

Ano ang ginagawa niya sa tuwing ino-objectify siya o nase-sexualize ng ibang tao?

Ayon kay Myrtle, "I think it's your mind na you have to tell yourself na what they say is not who I am.

"And also, at the same time, it's how they grow up.

"It's also their environment kung bakit ganun sila mag-comment sa mga babae.

"For me, I just ignore them."

Kumpiyansa rin daw sa sarili ang kailangan para hindi siya mailang kung ano ang opinyon ng ibang tao sa kanyang pagpapa-sexy.

"I think it's just being confident with yourself.

"Hindi ko na iniisip kung ano ang iniisip ng ibang tao.

"As long as I'm happy with myself na, whatever I'm wearing, I would be comfortable with my own skin. I'm okay.

"Ako naman, hindi ko iniisip kung ano pa ang iniisip ng ibang tao."

Ang Wander Bra ay pinagbibidahan din nina Kakai Bautista, Zeus Collins ng Hashtags, Gina Pareño, Gardo Versoza, Wacky Kiray, at Brian Gazmen; mula sa panulat at direksiyon ni Joven Tan.

Ipalalabas ito sa mga sinehan simula sa September 12.



Winwyn talks about Unli Life + other stories

In Unli Life, real life father and daughter Joey Marquez and Winwyn are starring in a movie for the first time together with Vhong Navarro whom Winwyn remembered as a member of the dance group Street-boys that used to perform during dad Joey's election campaigns.

"I never imagined that I would be his leading lady," gushed Winwyn. "I was calling him 'Kuya' but he stopped me kasi daw leading lady na niya ako ngayon. In soaps, I played kontrabida, so I welcome the chance of playing a bida and in my first movie pa."

"Winwyn has her own comedic style," said Vhong, "and she's always in character."

Winwyn regrets that she doesn't have a single scene with her dad but he did give her comedic tips.

"But in the story, our characters are connected," explained Winwyn. "Our only chance to see each other was during the pictorial. We stay in the same house so when we have dinner, he asks me what scene I have done and to share with him what I did on set, etc. He just reminded me to have fun on set and not to over think. Humor just comes out naturally naman daw sa scene and dapat kausapin mga kasama sa eksena so it will work."

Like Joey, Winwyn's mom, Alma Moreno, always reminds her to keep her feet on the ground.

"They always tell me that showbiz requires a lot of patience and understanding but when people tend to cross the line, that I should speak up but with respect pa rin."

We asked what their favorite comedy films and who their favorite comedians are.

- Joey: "Facifica Falayfay by the legendary Dolphy. It's so entertaining that I can't stop laughing. My favorite comedian is Dolphy. I look up to him. I've seen all his movies."
- Vhong: "Tito Dolphy and Jim Carrey kasi they are also good dancers and they're good in drama."
- Winwyn: "Siempre I look up to my dad. Comedy is hard so you must be good in timing and mabilis ka mag-isip. My dad has this certain charm with people and he has a different kind of humor. Not many actors can do that. He has been in showbiz for years and he has proven his versatility. And I really like his movies with my mom."



fluence on career

DEVON Seron loves her role in the Pista Ng Pelikulang Pilipino entry, "Bakwit Boys", as it gives her the chance to do something she loves, which is singing. "Before I joined PBB, member ako ng isang band in Cebu at pinagkakitaan ko rin noon ang pagkanta," she reveals. "Tapos, our movie now is about pursuing your dreams. Even if you're rich or poor, may kanya-kanya tayong struggle to fulfill our dreams. And that's exactly what I did when I joined PBB and came to Manila to join showbiz."

In "Bakwit Boys", she plays Rose, a rich city girl who sees the potential of four brothers in singing and helps them record their own songs. The four brothers are Vance Larena, Ryle Santiago, Nikko Natividad and child singer Mackie Empuerto. "Musical ang movie but not the type na bigla na lang kumakanta 'yung characters," she adds. "Yung musical numbers, integral part ng story kasi puro singers kami rito and we do our own songs."

Devon started with ABS-CBN, then did movies with Regal like "Pwera Usog" and "Walwal" and also with a Korean company, "You with Me". She was paired with Kiko Estrada in the movies she did with Regal and the rumor now is that they're really on and he influenced her to transfer to GMA-7. Her first assignment was the primetime show, "The One that Got Away". How true is this?

"Mabait po si Kiko and he's special to me. Pero hindi siya ang dahilan ng paglipat ko ng network. Basta happy ako sa bago kong tahanan and I'm now waiting for my next assignment with the Kapuso Network. Being the breadwinner in our family, I just go where the work is. I'm thankful sa ABS-CBN for giving me the break in showbiz and I didn't burn my bridges naman with them. Kaya lang, I felt it's time to move on and try a new environment."



Christian grateful for being Kapuso

CHRISTIAN Bautista is proving to be quite an effective judge in "The Clash". At first, some people thought he'd be easily eclipsed by his co-judges, Ai Ai de las Alas and Lani Misalucha. But in fairness to him, he's able to hold his own with the words of wisdom he gives to the contestants, who are called clasher, to help them in their performances during the competition.

He gives them valuable advice regarding their

choices of songs and how to balance their emotions while they are singing. Among the three judges, Christian is actually in the best position to give tips as he was once in a reality show competition himself in "Star in a Million", where he was a runnerup but emerged to be more popular than the winner. More and more people are now watching "The Clash" and viewers now are starting to have their own favorites as they see some potential winners among the clasher.

Meantime, Christian has just renewed his exclusive contract with GMA.

Christian feels glad and fulfilled about his contract renewal with the Kapuso Station. "It's nice to stay here. GMA has been taking care of me for the last few years. I keep on growing and going to the next level with them. They really take good care of their artists."



Andi Eigenmann replies to netizen criticizing her simple life in Baler

In response to a netizen questioning her minimalist lifestyle in Baler, Andi Eigenmann says, "not that you need to be informed but the point is that — I sold everything." Andi Eigenmann, 28, did not pass up the chance to emphasize that her decision to live a simple life in the province is real and refused to take a netizen's saucy comments sitting down.

This had to do with a netizen contradicting the praises that Andi has been getting since it was reported that she gave up most of her luxuries and left her home in Manila in favor of solitude in Baler, Aurora.

Andi's critic wrote, "define simpleng buhay... of course she still have all the perks in life, big haus, yaya, cook, etc. the only thing she's living in a small town away from the metropolis."

In response, Andi insisted that she and her six-year-old daughter Ellie have been living in Baler without any household help for quite some time now.

"not that you need to be informed but the point is that — I sold everything. And no. Ellie and I don't have help around the house. Its just the two of us."

It was in July when Andi spoke about how she sold most of her material possessions, including her van, after realizing her dream to build a simple home with a garden that is also near the beach since she loves surfing. Andi said she has been renting a place while building her own home in a lot that she purchased in Baler.

"Simple lang po talaga, maliit lang siya na bahay pero malaki lang yung garden.

"Ako na siguro yung magpa-plant ng sarili kong vegetables."

She also admitted to travelling by bus from Baler to Manila whenever she needs to be in the city for work commitments.



ABOVE, Star Circle students performs at Flavours festival. FAR RIGHT, Charms attends the Batapreneur festival (PHOTO BY RAYMOND SANTOS).

Liza Soberano, Enrique Gil to go their separate ways after Bagani + other stories



After Bagani, onscreen love team and rumored couple Liza Soberano and Enrique Gil will do separate movie projects. However, the former revealed there's also a plan for them to do a movie together, "I don't think we'll feel separated kasi mayroon din kaming project na gagawin aside from our solo projects."

Sadya raw huminto muna si Liza Soberano sa shooting niya sa pelikulang Darna para pagtuunan ng pansin ang nalalapit na pagtatapos ng ABS-CBN prime time series na Bagani.

"Right now, they're giving way to Bagani kasi matatapos na po.

Dahil magiging abala siya sa Darna, ibig sabihin kaya nito ay maghihiwalay muna sila ng kanyang love team partner at rumored boyfriend na si Enrique Gil sa

trabaho?

Habang abala si Liza sa Darna, maghahanda na rin si Enrique sa susunod niyang sariling proyekto.

Ayaw pang sabihin ng Kapamilya actor, pero pahapyaw niyang nabanggit na ito ang naging kapalit ng dapat sana'y pagiging bahagi niya ng Darna.

Ani Enrique, "Well, dapat kasama talaga ako [sa Darna]. Nag-meeting na kami, nag-storycon, pero..."

"Dapat kasama talaga ako. Maganda yung character, interesting.

"Pero a couple of weeks after, they called me back, sabi nila huwag na ituloy.

"Because they're offering me another project, na mas mabigat naman talaga.

"Basta abangan niyo na lang."

Tinanong si Enrique kung Captain Barbell ito, sagot naman niya, "Hindi ko pa po alam."

TEMPORARY SEPARATION

Kung sakali, sinabi nina Liza at Enrique na hindi naman nila mararamdamang maghihiwalay sila sa kani-kanilang mga susunod na proyektong gagawin.

Sabi ni Enrique, "Well, matagal din

naman kaming nagsama sa Bagani.

"Magse-separate lang naman because of Darna.

"She'll be shooting Darna. After Darna..."

FAMILY FIRST

Personal daw na hiniling ni Enrique Gil sa Star Magic head na si Johnny Manahan, o mas kilala bilang Mr. M, na bigyan siya ng panahong makapagpahinga pagkatapos ng prime time series niyang Bagani.

Sa panayam, muling nilinaw ng Kapamilya actor na gusto niyang mas pagtuunan ng pansin ang kanyang pamilya.

"Siyempre, tumatanda na rin ang mommy ko. Yung kapatid ko, she's growing up.

"I just felt lang na I lost a lot of years also with them kasi I gave my life to showbiz. Sabi ko, 'Ano lang, Mr. M, relax tayo nang kaunti ngayon.'

"Pero I'm gonna be back sa ASAP, I'm gonna be back and do everything else after Bagani.

"Kailangan ko lang mag-rest nang kaunti."

Christian Bables on love scene with Elora Espano: "Merong umaatikabong pumping scene!"

Christian Bables (right) and Elora Espano (left) shot a love scene for the Chito Roño film Signal Rock.



Chito.

Since this was the first time that Christian did a love scene, Elora helped him in her own way.

"In a way, parang ako yung nag-guide sa kanya. Pero kasi si Christian, very open siya na tao saka very honest siya if he needs

help. Give and take ang nangyari.

Elora also revealed that she always uses plaster before doing sex scenes with her partners.

"Sa mga love scenes ko before, kadalasan may plaster. Ang hindi lang nag-plaster one time si Kuya KK [Kristoffer King] para sa movie na Purgatoryo [2016]."

The 26-year-old actress said she doesn't mind shooting sensitive scenes for her craft.

When shooting intimate scenes, Elora says she prefers not to have breast exposure.

"Para mas seryosohin naman ako."

Aiside from having intimate scenes with Kristoffer in Purgatoryo (2016), Elora has shot a sex scene with JM de Guzman in Tandem (2015). She also took part in an orgy scene in Ninja Party (2015) and did a rape scene in Citizen Jake (2018).

Does she feel that she has been typecast into doing sexy roles in indie films?

"In a way pero as of last year, medyo may variety naman. Kasi naging Santa pa nga ako [sa Seklusyon] at sana hindi naman. Yung Baconaua [2017], wala namang sex scene.

"Sana may serious roles na hindi lang siya seseryosohin dahil may nudity."

She then reminisced about doing her sex scene with JM de Guzman for the indie film Tandem.

"Yung love scene ko with JM, medyo

brutal yung nasa script at wala namang love dun. Gustong maging physical ng director so may rehearsal with clothes on para makita yung movement.

"Pag alam na ng camera yung movement, then we do the scene."

No threat on Duterte's life, Palace insists

MANILA - There is no threat on President Rodrigo Duterte's life, the Palace stressed, as the chief executive revived his allegations that the United States' Central Intelligence Agency was out to kill him.

"Wala naman po dahil ang Presidente naman ay hindi nababahala sa mga threat sa buhay niya. Ang sabi nga niya, kung panahon na, panahon na. Pero ngayon po wala naman pong ganyang threat," Roque told reporters in Lipa City, Batangas.

The President has said that if he would die, the CIA would most likely be behind it.

He also accused the intelligence agency of eavesdropping in his conversations.

The chief executive from time to time issues tirades against the US and has preferred to nurture ties with its rivals, China and Russia. His gripes include the criticism of former US President Barack Obama on his war on drugs and the suspension of a US arms sale to the Philippines, a deal which he eventually cancelled.

Philippine National Police chief Director General Oscar Albayalde, meanwhile, has said it is the communist New People's Army, and not the CIA, which is a threat to the President's life.

Malaysia's Mahathir to scrap China deals

Malaysia's Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said he will seek to cancel multibillion-dollar Chinese-backed infrastructure projects that were signed by his predecessor as his government works to dig itself out of debt.

PUTRAJAYA, Malaysia — Malaysia's prime minister said Monday he will seek to cancel multibillion-dollar Chinese-backed infrastructure projects that were signed by his predecessor as his government works to dig itself out of debt.



Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad made the comments during a wide-ranging interview with The Associated Press days before the 93-year-old leader heads to Beijing for his first visit there since returning to power in an electoral upset four months ago.

Mahathir said he wants to maintain good relations with China and welcomes its investment, so long as the projects benefit Malaysia.

But he took his toughest stance yet on Chinese-backed energy pipelines and a rail project along peninsular Malaysia's eastern coast struck by his predecessor Najib Razak, who faces trial on multiple charges related to the alleged multibillion-dollar looting of the 1MDB state investment fund.

"We don't think we need those two projects. We don't think they are viable. So if we can, we would like to just drop the projects," he said.

During his time in office, Najib drew Malaysia closer to China, which sees the multi-ethnic Southeast Asian country as a key part of its ambitious One Belt, One Road global trade initiative. The former prime minister reached deals for the 688-kilometer (430-mile) East Coast Rail Link and two gas pipelines in 2016.

Malaysia's new government has already suspended work on the projects, being built by Chinese state-backed companies, and called for drastic cuts in their ballooning cost, which it estimates at more than \$22 billion. Some of that money has already been paid and could be difficult to recoup.

If scrapping the projects altogether isn't doable, Malaysia will need to at least put them on hold until the future, "where perhaps the need will arise," Mahathir said.

Mahathir also urged China to respect the free movement of ships throughout the South China Sea, where China and multiple Southeast Asian nations including Malaysia have competing claims on islands and reefs — along with the rich fishing grounds and potential fossil fuel deposits around them.

China claims much of the sea as its own and has built up several man-made islands equipped them with runways, hangers, radar and missile stations to bolster its claim. It has accused the United States, which routinely deploys aircraft carriers, other warships and aircraft to the sea, of meddling in a purely Asian dispute. Chinese ships also patrol the sea.

Mahathir cautioned against further militarizing the disputed body of water by reiterating his call for warships to not be permanently stationed there.

"We are all for ships, even warships, passing through, but not stationed here," he said. "It is a warning to everyone. Don't create tension unnecessarily."



FIRST, Belinda Reyes and family poses with singers Jason Dy, Morissette and Thea Cruz after the concert (PHOTO BY BING MARIANO). SECOND, A nipa sari sari store is in display at Flavours festival. THIRD, LBC's Raffy Policarpio poses with veteran newsman Jojo Tadoran. FOURTH & FIFTH, Peyton Garcia and Kayleigh Cerezo are no members of Minio Pop Kids 2018 batch.



Sue torn between two brothers



SUE Ramirez has played a lead role in the Regal horror flick “Debutantes”, but she has several co-stars also playing the title roles. She now stars in her first solo title role as “Ang Babaeng Allergic sa WiFi”, written and directed by the prolific Jun Lana.

Is it based on a true story? “It’s inspired by a report I read about a British guy na mahilig mag-post online then discovers that he’s allergic to anything that emits radiation. This is what happens to Sue in the movie as the lead character, Norma.”

“I find out that allergic ako to electro-magnetic waves na galing sa gadgets,” Sue adds. “My nose bleeds at nagkaka-rashes ako hanggang bigla na lang akong hinimatay. This affects my relationship with my boyfriend, Markus Paterson as Leo. My mom, Yayo Aguila, takes me to my grandmother, Boots Anson Roa, who lives in a distant province na walang wifi or any radiowaves that can worsen my condition.”

It’s there that she discovers the beauty of living a simple life without gadgets. “Nag-back to basics ako kasi if my friends and other loved ones want to see me, they have to travel, sasadyain ako to come and visit me. I also start communicating by doing handwritten letters that you mail sa post office. E, di ba ngayon, text-text na lang. Dito, something will happen to me and my boyfriend at mas mapapalapit ako sa younger brother niya, si Jameson Blake as Aries, with whom I’ll be exchanging love letters.

In real life, what is she allergic to? “Nothing. I can eat seafoods and anything, wala akong allergies. Except sa bashers. They’re more of a pet peeve, also people na sinungaling.”

Would she be able to live without gadgets? “Yes, I think kaya kong mabuhay ng walang wifi. Masarap din ‘yung wala kang gadget na hawak lagi and you can really talk and communicate with your loved ones nang harapan.”

KC Concepcion’s French bf ok’d by mom and dad

Looks like there’s another reason for KC Concepcion to be happy about her blooming love life. Her parents, Sharon Cuneta and Gabby Concepcion, express their approval for KC’s French boyfriend, Pierre Emmanuel Plassart.

Botong-boto sina Sharon Cuneta at Gabby Concepcion, at maging si Senator Kiko Pangilinan, sa bagong boyfriend ng kanilang anak na si KC Concepcion—ang French businessman at film producer na si Pierre Emmanuel Plassart.

Hindi nga mapigilan ng Megastar na maging emosyunal dahil nakikita niyang masaya ang panganay na anak sa piling ni Pierre.

Katulad na lamang nang mag-post si KC ng birthday message para sa French boyfriend nitong Huwebes, August 30.

Sa comments section, ibinahagi ni Sharon ang nararamdaman.

“Crying cos am so happy for you... Happy Birthday to my dear Pierre! I love you my Tutti,” komento ng 51-anyos na singer/host/actress.

Pero hindi lang si Sharon ang masaya para kay KC, kundi maging ang kanyang biological father na si Gabby Concepcion at stepfather na si Senator Kiko Pangilinan.

Komento ni Gabby sa post ni KC, “In love baby ko. Congrats.”

Mensahe naman ni Senator Kiko para kay KC, “Goodspeed! Love will withstand all, will conquer all.”

JC and Bela comfortable on Friend Zone

JC Santos’ tandem with Bela Padilla in “100 Tulad Para kay Stella” was a big hit in last year’s Pista ng Pelikulang Pilipino so there’s high hopes that their reunion in “The Day After Valentine’s” in this year’s PPP will also be a blockbuster. Even the bookers obviously believe this as they gave “Day After Valentine’s” more theaters than the other entries and the reason is that the JC-Bela love team already has a good track record.

And this is true, because when JC was paired with Ryza Cenon in “Mr. & Mrs. Cruz”, the box office result was not as rosy. So how is “Day After” different to “100 Tula”? “Mas mahirap ang role ko rito,” says JC. “Mas mature ang character ko as Kai in the movie. Simula pa lang, brokenhearted na siya. At mas enjoy ako sa challenges offered ng ganitong character kasi mas masarap siyang himayin at paglaruan. Marami kang itatanong at mas marami kang matutuhan kasi sinasaktan ko ang sarili ko rito dahil sa depression, so I really love its challenges.”

After two movies with Bela, what are the chances of their falling for each other now that they’re both currently loveless? “Malayo siguro, kasi simula pa lang, best friends na kami agad. But it’s true na we have lots of similarities at para kaming pinagbiyak na bunga. But friend zone na lang muna talaga. Unang-una, ang tawagan namin sa isa’t isa ngayon is Kaps, short for Kapatid. At ako, I’m really happy being unattached at the moment. Walang commitment. You can go anywhere you like and do anything you want to do na hindi mo na kailangang magpaalam pa kahit kanino.”

Didn’t they shoot some scenes of their movie in Hawaii? Didn’t they find the place romantic with just the two of them in the cast? “Yes, we shot some scenes in Lanai Island kasi part-Hawaiian ang character ko rito. Maganda talaga ang lugar but we stayed there only for three days. At nandun naman kami para magtrabaho, not for anything else.”

Inah de Belen opens up about past abusive relationships

Inah de Belen reveals she’s had two emotionally abusive ex-boyfriends, a fact that she’s hidden even from her mom Janice de Belen. Even though it was a harrowing experience even after she got out of these relationships, Inah said she didn’t let dark thoughts win against her. Instead, she prayed.

Sa kauna-unahang pagkakataon ay umamin si Inah de Belen na naranasan na niyang maging isang verbally abused girlfriend.

Ginagampanan niya rito ang papel ni Joana, isang battered girlfriend, na ginagampanan naman ng kanyang real-life boyfriend na si Jake Vargas.

Kung sakaling mangyayari iyon sa kanya sa tunay na buhay, mananatli ba siya sa piling ng boyfriend o iiwanan niya ito?

Pag-amin ng 26-year-old Kapuso actress, “To be honest, kaya medyo nag-struggle din ako sa role na ito, kasi the feeling and the situation is very similar to me.

“Not physical, no, no, no... ano lang, emotional.

“A former boyfriend.”

Verbal o emotional abuse daw ang dinanas ni Inah mula sa dating karelasyon.

Non-showbiz ang naturang lalaki at hindi raw niya alam kung nasaan na ito.

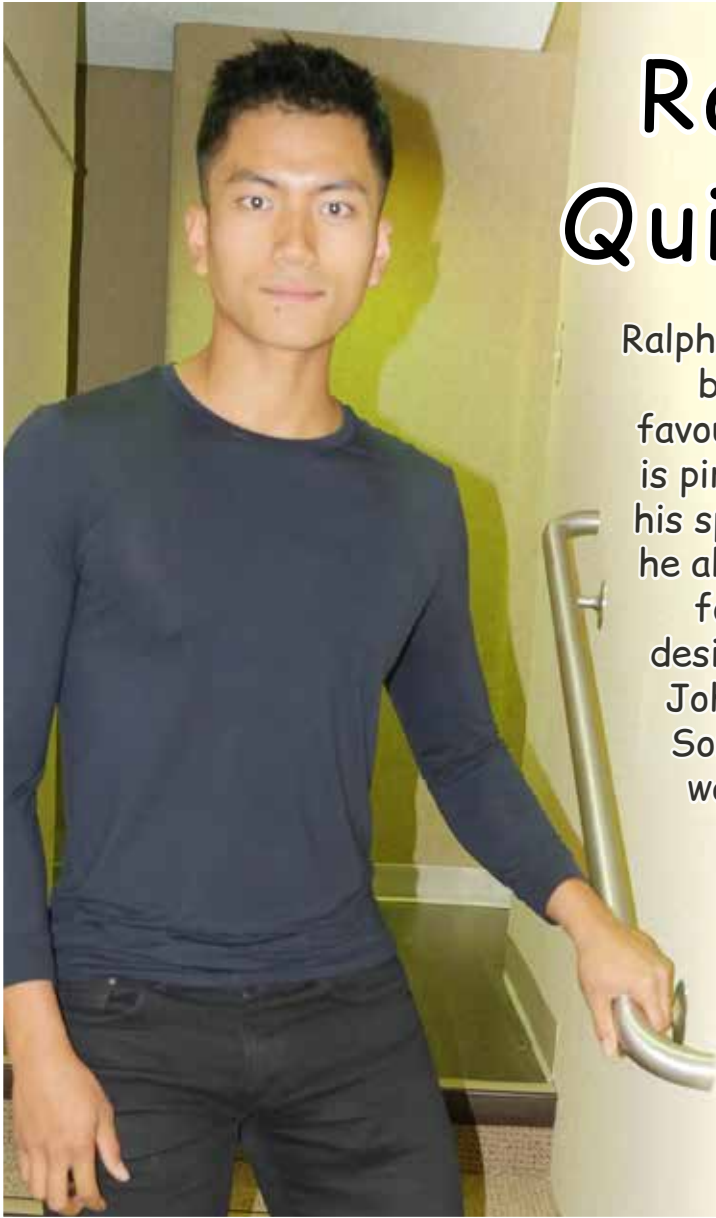
At ang nakakagulat pa, nakaranas si Inah ng verbal o emotional abuse mula sa dalawang karelasyon.

Hindi naman siya sinaktan ng pisikal, kundi puro verbal abuse lamang daw ang ginawa sa kanya ng mga ito.

Hiningan namin si Inah ng example ng verbal abuse na dinanas niya.

Aniya, “Wala, minumura lang.”

HunkShot



Ralph Quinial

Ralph practices boxing. His favourite food is pinakbet. In his spare time, he also models for fashion designers like John Ablaza. Someday, he wants to be a Physical Therapist

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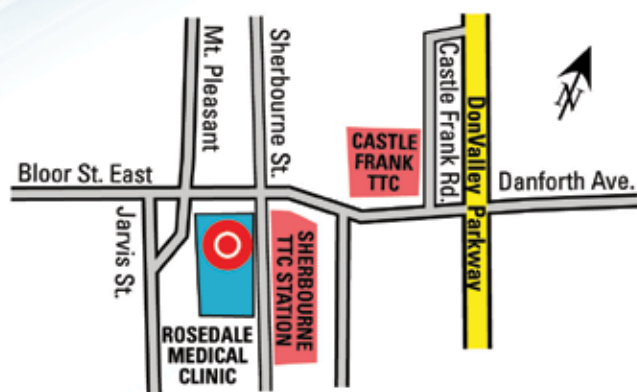


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