

RED OCTOBER? MATRIX?

President Duterte is sole source of conspiracies as Police and Armed Forces deny existence of any plots /P11



Who is the next Darna?

Nadine Lustre, Kathryn Bernardo, Catriona Gray and even Maine Mendoza are just some of the names being pushed by showbiz insiders and their fans.



No OHIP out of Canada
Coco Martin, Yassi deny Romance
Yam Conception hospitalized for Halik
Bad sex causes Christine Reyes' Divorce
Barbie Imperial has wardrobe malfunction
Keanu Reeves rival is Filipino
Yam Conception regrets doing Nude Scenes
Janella Salvador suffered Depression
Lorin Gutierrez defends baring her body



JOAQUIN 'Jojo' T. TADURAN, Jr. at daughter Regine's wedding.

Tribute of Regine Andrea Taduran Kunszt for her Father

Thank you all for being here today.
Let me start off by telling you some things about the man we are here to pay our respects to. Joaquin (Jojo) Teoxon Taduran, Jr. was
JOJO TADURAN
continued to page 17

Filipinos, other migrants keeping Christianity alive in 'unreligious' Netherlands

THE HAGUE - Churches are being converted or just closed forever because the practice of religion is declining. The Netherlands is no longer a Christian nation. Church attendance has fallen dramatically and the belief in a personal God has fallen sharply, the research concluded.

Pastor Jan Eijken, a member of the Pastoral Council who is in charge of immigrant communities at the Maria Sterre Parish in The Hague, said the decline of faith

among the Dutch started not long ago.

CHALLENGING PERIOD
The Catholic Church, with scandals, and criticized for covering up scandals, contributed to loss of faith.

But all is not lost. Christian migrants, among them Filipinos, may just be the future of the country's faith.

CHRISTIANITY
continued on page 4

A History of Why Filipinos Are Obsessed with Skin Whiteners

Jose Rizal even depicted Filipinos' obsession with whiter skin in Noli Me Tangere.

"Uy, ang guwapo naman ng anak mo – mestisong mestiso!"

How many times have we heard this line, repeated by our titas during random encounters, reunions, and get-togethers? Filipinos have always ascribed higher value to whiter skin, especially in the entertainment industry where it pays to have a lighter complexion.

In 2004, the skin whitening products industry in the Philippines

was only an emerging market, but that is not to say that Filipinos haven't been obsessed with whiter skin prior to that year. In fact, this obsession goes back to more than 400 years.

Filipinos were Taught to Love Whiter Skin

Our obsession with fairer skin is related to how our national psyche was shaped by colonial powers who relegated brown-skinned indios to lower class citizens, and elevated the white-skinned insulares, peninsulares, and mestizos to the nobility.

Together, they form a class of pure- and half-blood Spaniards living in the Philippines.

While their skin color was simply incidental, their status as Spaniards living in the Philippines afforded them unspeakable advantages such as not doing forced labor, not paying tributos (fealty), and the automatic and honorific titles of Don and Doña that came with their heritage. It was customary for regular indios to greet or stop for them in the streets and give them priority.

WHITENER
continued on page 4

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Benjamin Alves replaces Rocco Nacino in this GMA-7 teleserye

Benjamin Alves will replace Rocco Nacino as Sanya Lopez's leading man in the upcoming GMA-7 series, Dahil sa Pag-ibig.

Formerly titled Blood Money, it was announced during the story conference that Sanya and Rocco were teaming up anew in this series. This comes two years

after their last show together, Haplos.

However, the omnibus plug of the 2019 second quarter shows of GMA-7 indicated that Benjamin will now be part of the series.

Winwyn Marquez and Pancho Magno, who were present at the story conference, are retained as cast members of the show.

Aside from the four leads, Dahil sa Pag-ibig also features the comeback of Sandy Andolong to the Kapuso network. She is still part of the ABS-CBN sitcom Home Sweetie Home.

An airing date has yet to be announced for Dahil sa Pag-ibig.

It is rumored that it will replace the afternoon drama series, Inagaw na Bituin, starring Sunshine Dizon, Angelika dela Cruz, Angelu de Leon, and teen stars Kyline Alcantara and Therese Malvar.

Bernardo on being the next Darna:

It's not for me

MANILA, Philippines — Playing the role of Darna is every girl's dream, but Kapamilya actress Kathryn Bernardo believes that the role is not for her.

With Soberano's withdrawal, fans of various celebrities have started pitching for their idols, among which was Bernardo. However, Bernardo felt the role was not for her.

"Personally, Darna is such an iconic role. Alam mo, dream lahat ng babae siguro na maging si Darna, pero, maybe it's not for me kasi hindi porke't gusto mo yung role, pwede siya sa iyo, e," she said in an interview over the weekend.

"For me, may binabagayan siya, and yung nai-imagine, napipiktyuran ko as Darna is someone who's a bit older than me. Someone na parang mas woman. Woman na talaga," she added.

Despite this, she said she was delighted to hear her fans pushing her to take on the Darna role.

Bernardo added that she could not see anybody playing Darna after Angel Locsin.

"Kung tatanungin nila ako kung sino yung perfect for the next role, I dont know kasi kahit ako inisip ko sino pa ba yung pwede after Ate Angel? And, hindi ko alam kung sino," she said.

"So whoever man yung mapili for the role, kailangan talaga yung sobra sobrang paghandaan. Bigyan ng maraming trainings kasi hindi joke yung darna," she added.

She then expressed her "full support" for whoever will be picked by the network for the role.

Before announcing her withdrawal, Soberano started filming "Darna" in July 2018 when director Erik Matti still handled the project.

Matti stepped down as director in October 2018 due to "creative differences" with Star Cinema. He was replaced by director Jerrold Tarog.

LEFT, Catherine Chan-Thomas, Dr. Vicky Santiago and Agnes Pasaporte Miranda pose at the Filipino Centre Toronto Spring gala.

RIGHT, The cast of GMA-7's upcoming series, Dahil sa Pag-ibig (L-R): Benjamin Alves, Sanya Lopez, Winwyn Marquez, Pancho Magno



Birthday celebrant Hermie Esguerra and wife Luth poses with their grandchildren at his birthday celebration.



(1) Anita Diaz of Ready Honda, (2) Mary Ann Gamboa and FV Foods owner Mel Galeon judges the PIDC Ms/Mrs Pageant. BELOW, Nadeene Panaligan poses with the bishop after her confirmation at Prince of Peace Parish.



Here’s why Venus Raj does not own many pairs of shoes



Venus Raj recently got herself a new pair of shoes because her “go-to comfy heels retired.”

Fame has not changed the way Venus Raj lives.

Her life is definitely more comfortable now, but she remains frugal, practical, and a big believer of spending her hard-earned money wisely.

Her latest Instagram post read, “Until your slippers/shoes are worn out, you couldn’t get a new one.

“I grew up in this discipline, kaya sinisira ko tsinelas ko para ibili ng bago.

“But this discipline also taught me to be contented with what I have and maximize the use of things before I dispose them.”

This belief, the morena beauty said, extends to other things.

She continued, “Same discipline applies to my gadgets, bags, clothes, hangga’t nagagamit pa, hangga’t puwede pa, bakit ka bibili ng bago?”

When this Bicolana joined her first pageant, she bought a pair of shoes with her cash prize, and that was because, “Nanghihiram lang po ako noon ng sapatos para sa graduation ko sa elementary.”

Venus recently got herself a new pair of shoes because her “go-to comfy heels retired.”

But even before doing that, she had to pray for a new pair.

The 30-year-old host explained, “You may think this is just a small thing, why do I even have to pray to God for a new pair of shoes?

“If I can trust God with the big stuff of my life, what more with the small smilingly insignificant things? God is a God who knows even the numbers of our hairs, He would be delighted if we trust Him even with the littlest details of our lives.”

Venus became a household name in 2010, after she was dethroned and reinstated as Bb. Pilipinas Universe due to a citizenship issue. She also started the country’s lucky streak in Miss Universe.

Direk Laurice describes Gabby as ‘older but wiser,’ Jodi as ‘mysterious’

DIRECTOR Laurice Guillen wants to make it clear that her new movie, “Man and Wife” from Cineko Films, is not a remake of the classic radio show, “Gulong ng Palad”, which has been turned into a movie twice and also into a TV soap twice. “We’re still using the name of the lead characters, Carding and Luisa, but we have given it a modern touch to update the material,” she says. “Hindi na masyadong stressed ‘yung conflict ng rich and poor kasi mayaman sina Carding at mahirap sina



Luisa, now played by Gabby Concepcion and Jodi Sta. Maria. The story

now starts nang bumalik sila from the States but Carding’s mom, Menang as played by Liza Lorena, continues to hate Luisa. But we now have a realistic way of dealing with the in-law problems. We changed the title to ‘Man and Wife’ because ‘yun naman talaga ang sinasabi when you get married, you become man and wife. So we try to show here what does it mean to become man and wife.”

How is it working with Gabby and Jodi? “This is the first time they work together and they’re both fine. I’ve worked with Gabby in movies like ‘Una Kang Naging Akin’ and ‘Tayong Dalawa’, both with Sharon Cuneta, then ‘Rosenda’ and ‘I Love You Goodbye’, so this is our fifth movie together. On TV, we worked together for more than a year in GMA’s ‘Ika-Limang Utos’. And through the years, he hasn’t changed at all. He’s very professional, well-mannered, very charming. Kung male-late ‘yan sa shoot, magte-text pa ‘yan to tell you where he is, kahit hindi mo tinatanong. He’s older but definitely wiser. He plays here an ordinary husband na may darkness nang konti. Friends kami, so we’re now comfortable with each other that I



Jennifer Lancaon, daughter Jessica Mae, Arielle Fina Abrazaldo, Melissa Saldua Ventocilla, Flora Saldua Ventocilla, Brenda Virtucio Cianchino pose after the Youth Talk program.



Jessica Mae Lancaon, Arielle Fina Abrazaldo, Melissa Saldua Ventocilla smile for the camera after the Youth Talk program

can ask him to deliver things sa eksena na alam ko namang kaya niya.”

How about Jodi? “The first time I met her was when we were casting ‘Santa-Santita’. Pinadala siya ni Mr. M (Johnny Manahan of Star Magic) along with other young actresses to audition for the role. She was just about 16 or 17 then. But I found her na kulang sa kamalditahan which is needed for the role, so we got Angelica Panganiban. Now, she has become a real lady, refined, with good manners, but you cannot just reach her that easily. May mystery. But both she and I gave played their roles well and really delivered as ‘Man and Wife.”

Also in the cast of “Man and Wife” are Amy Austria as Jodi’s mother, Edgar Allan Guzman as Jodi’s brother, Klea Pineda as Edgar’s girlfriend, Dexter Doria as Liza Lorena’s friend, Francis Magundayao as Peping, Ina Feleo as Nene, Denise Laurel as Mimi and Teroy Guzman as Liza’s associate.

We congratulated Direk Laurice as she will be given a lifetime achievement award by the FAMAS on Sunday, April 28, for her contributions in the local film industry. “Ricky Lee called me up to notify me about it and I was really dumbfounded,” she says. “Kasi lifetime achievement award ‘yan, e. Salamat naman that they recognize pala ang mga pinaghirapan ko for so many years. I’m really honored and grateful, and I’m happy to be alongside with Charo Santos and Marilou Abaya, women who have done so much for the industry.”

As a director, Laurice is best known for such films as “Salome”, “Tanging Yaman”, “Kapag Langit ang Humatol”, “Dolzura Cortez Story”, “Kung Mahawi Man ang Ulap”, among others. As an actress, she is memorable for her performance in “Tinimbang Ka Ngunit Kulang”, “Ina, Kapatid, Anak”, “Sister Stella L”, “A Dangerous Life”, “Nagalit ang Buwan sa Haba ng Gabi” and as Blanche Dubois in the Tagalog stage version of “Streetcar Named Desire” where she was even better than Vivien Leigh.

Sharon shocks John: ‘Sige sam-palin mo ako. Sakalin mo ako.’

JOHN Arcilla says he never thought that one day, he’d be the leading man of Sharon Cuneta, with whom he is now paired in the Reality Entertainment horror offering, “Kuwaresma”. “Never ko talaga na-imagine na magkakapareha kami sa isang pelikula,” he adds. “We were all praying na sana tanggapin niya ang ‘Kuwaresma’ and I got so excited when I learned from Direk Erik Matti that she accepted the project.”

He admits he was cautious at the start of their shoot. “Siyempre, Sharon Cuneta ‘yan, megastar yan, diva, and she earned all her titles. At first, I didn’t know what to expect, but first meeting pa lang namin, nag-click kami agad, kwentuhan kami agad. We talked about life, lahat. Di ko ine-expect, ang Sharon Cuneta, totoong tao pala. Napakasarap kasama.”

Acting with Sharon turned out to be a memorable experience. “It’s an honor to have the chance to work with her, an experience I can never forget. She’s a very generous actress. Kapag kaeksena mo siya, lahat ng kailangan mong emosyon, makukuha mo sa kanya kasi she’s very giving. I also saw her performance sa concert niya abroad and her performance on stage is an experience in itself.”

John is noted for his intense performances, like in “Heneral Luna”, and you can expect another superb portrayal from him in “Kuwaresma” as Sharon’s abusive husband.

“Bida-kontrabida ‘yung role ko. May scenes na sasaktan ko si Sharon and siyempre, hesitant ako, pero siya pa ang nagsasabing, sige, sampalin mo na ako, sakalin mo na ako. Ang galing niya talaga at may ginawa siya sa ‘Kuwaresma’ na hindi pa niya nagagawa sa kahit anong movie. Hindi ko sasabihin kung ano, basta abangan na lang ninyo when our movie opens in theaters nationwide on May 15. Guaranteed to give you a good scare.”

Direk Erik Matti says John is their only choice for the role of Sharon’s domineering husband.

“Si John kasi, very reliable na artista na puede mong itapon sa kahit anong role. Wala kaming ibang maisip kasi wala na sina Vic Silayan at Dindo Fernando na perfect for this role. E, si John, kayang-kaya niya ang character na bida-kontrabida so bagay na bagay siya sa role niya in ‘Kuwaresma’. At very professional siya dahil sinu-shoot namin ito sa Baguio, nagte-taping din siya for ‘Probinsyano’. So lagari siya sa shoot sa Baguio

at taping sa Manila. At kahit pagod siya at napuyat sa taping, darating talaga siya on time sa Baguio to shoot for us. Ganun siya ka-professional.”

Honey Shot



Hayley Garcia

Twenty-year Hayley loves Greek and Filipino food. Her favourite sport is volleyball. Shje wants to be a pharmacist in the future. Her talent is singing and we bumped into her auditioning for Jenifer Camacho's Revolution conert.

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JM de Guzman & Arci Muñoz

Their fight versus ‘paralyzing pain’ of depression

I try my best not to show it, but I still wage an internal war with depression every single day,” admitted actor JM de Guzman, who spent time in a rehabilitation center twice for substance abuse.

I’m not giving up. When I feel like it, I remind myself that I’ve already gotten this far. Palag lang nang palag, kasi may buhay,” added the actor, as he was speaking to reporters during a gathering to promote his latest film, Eduardo Roy Jr.’s “Last Fool Show.”

“I learned from therapy that I was unconsciously trying to sabotage myself [when I did drugs]. The second time was a cry for help, also unconsciously,” JM explained. “I was so overwhelmed by emotions that my mind failed to function right. At the time, I wasn’t just merely dealing with heartache. Sometimes, depression attacks you suddenly—and for no reason. It’s so strong that you feel intense and paralyzing pain.”

At one point during the press con, JM, and his leading lady, Arci Muñoz, were asked for their opinion on the campaign by the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA), urging broadcast networks to conduct surprise and mandatory drug tests on their talents.

“It’s a smart move by the PDEA,” said JM. “As celebrities, we are aware that we have a social responsibility to set a good example to our audience.



I have been in rehab for three years. I’ve spent time with drug dependents, who did drugs because they were going through something that proved too difficult for them to handle. They have now chosen a different path, and have chosen to fight.”

He added: “What I’m asking for is that, sana ‘wag lang masyadong masaklap ang trato sa kanila. Yes, there’s no death penalty in the Philippines, but these people are already as good as dead.”

JM said he was also well aware of his duty to inspire former drug dependents to combat addiction. “It’s not too late for us. We can still fight it. Whatever help the PDEA needs, I will give my all-out support. I’m willing to help anytime, anywhere,” he declared.

Arci agreed: “Drugs are not the solution, but merely a distraction. If drug testing will help stop the spread [of substance abuse], why not do it?”

Arci then admitted that she once went through depression, “but it didn’t reach a point where I became suicidal. I’m glad to have my family beside me. There was a time in my life when I got really depressed, but I kept on going, thanks in part to my strong relationship with God,” she recalled.

For Arci, it was her first-ever heartbreak. “I was still so young and naive then. I remember it was Christmas Day. My Papa asked me why I was feeling

down, then he said, “There’s only one man who will never hurt you. That’s me. I’m here for you.” Then, he danced with me. I’m thankful that I have people around me comforting me.”

JM said he was able to relate to his character Paulo because “I’m like him. I need to see for myself [that my girlfriend is cheating on me] before I move on. Sometimes, even though I’ve already seen her do it, I still need to feel the hurt more, ‘yung nadudurog ako, before I’m able to let go,” he explained.

Arci said she could relate to Mayessa because “I was able to use my heartaches in all the crying scenes I’ve done as an actress. If I need to show anger, I would just think of my ex and what he did to me. I also use this to motivate myself when I work out. I would tell myself, ‘I have to be sexy. I have to be a better version of myself.”

John Lloyd continues to make news

JOHN Lloyd Cruz may be in a self-imposed hibernation at the moment, but he’s obviously still considered as a very hot copy. Showbiz writers are still watching his every move. Each post made about him on the internet spawns many speculative and embroidered stories in gossip sites and columns, some of which are frankly preposterous.



His photos showing him sporting a thick moustache and goatee prompted some showbiz writers to declare: “John Lloyd, mukha nang ermitanyo (hermit).” And because he is shown on his own in various parts of Mindanao like Cagayan de Oro, Lanao and Bukidnon while his inamorata, Ellen Adarna, is also on her own in Bali, Indonesia, this instantly triggered speculations that they’ve called it quits: “John Lloyd at Ellen, hiwalay na!”

But they should all now be embarrassed as the latest social media postings on John Lloyd show him being reunited with Ellen and their son, Elias Modesto, in Bali. John Lloyd and Ellen are obviously now having their last laugh.

Speculative stories continue to circulate about John Lloyd. When he agreed to do an endorsement, some writers quickly concluded: “John Lloyd, magbabalik-showbiz na!” But this didn’t happen.

Then someone wrote that he has already sent feelers to ABS-CBN to say that he wants to make a comeback, but Kapamilya exec reportedly said they’re no longer interested.

We honestly doubt the veracity of this story. John Lloyd is one of their biggest stars and has made many blockbuster hits for them, so we don’t think the Kapamilyas would reject him that easily. We ourselves have no doubt that, eventually, he will be able to make a successful showbiz comeback.

What happened to him has happened to Richard Gutierrez before. Burnout is real and can cause chronic stress that leads to physical fatigue and emotional exhaustion, so Richard took some time out and, in the process, started his own family. Now a dad of two good looking boys, he was eventually able to make a good successful comeback on TV and films.

We have no doubt that, if and when John Lloyd feels well rested and is ready to work again, ABS-CBN and his fans will also be more than ready to take him back with open arms. In the meantime, let’s leave him alone and in peace as he enjoys having an ordinary stress-free life.

Canada to launch dedicated Agri-Food industry immigration pilot

The Canadian government announced plans for a new three-year immigration pilot designed to support the growth of Canada’s agri-food sector.

In its Budget 2019, released March 19, the Government of Canada stated, “To help the agri-food sector meet Canada’s ambitious export targets and attract and retain needed

labour, the federal government will launch a three-year immigration pilot to bring in full time, non-seasonal agricultural workers that will include a pathway to permanent residency.” The Canadian Meat Council (CMC) supports the federal government’s plans. In an update, the CMC says it has been requesting 2,750 immigration spots to fill meat packers, meat processors and equipment supplier positions that have not been filled by Canadians.

According to Industry Canada’s ‘Agri-Food Economic Strategy Table’ report published September 2018, there is an alarming need to address the immediate labour shortages

facing the agriculture sector and to utilize Canada’s permanent immigration and temporary foreign worker programs to attract workers across various skill levels.

Canada’s Agriculture and Agri-food system contributes \$111 billion to the economy annually and \$304 million per day.

The federal government’s immigration division, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), has yet to announce details on the pilot.

Further details will be published on CICNews as they become available.



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Water pump is a weapon against ISIS

PADAS, Philippines (NYTIMES)
- While neither guided bomb nor armoured vehicle, a gray oblong water pump sticking out from the brush along a remote dirt road is intended to be just as clear a sign of US efforts to stop the spread of the Islamic State in Syria and Iraq (ISIS).



Contractors installing a water pump in Padas, in the Philippines, on April 13, 2019.

It has taken two months, a US Special Operations civil affairs team, three non-profit organisations and an entire platoon from the Philippine army to bring the pump to Padas, a village of about 3,000 people in the Mindanao chain of islands in the country's south.

If all goes to plan, water from the pump will help impoverished farmers establish trust in the government, and, in turn, seek to undermine the militants' influence.

"Whatever the international community gives us, we'll accept," said Mr Macaraya Ampuan, an influential leader in the village. "But first thing to address is security. Eliminate ISIS so our livelihoods can be stable."

The project in Padas is also linked to the defeat of the Islamic State's self-proclaimed caliphate in Iraq and Syria and the Pentagon's race to stop its resurgence in other parts of the globe.

Years ago, the Pentagon identified the Philippines as a remote locale where the Islamic State could expand and flourish. The US military's focus on Padas was fuelled by concerns about a backlash among local residents, and a possible regrouping by insurgents after the bloody battle for a nearby city, Marawi, in 2017.

The months-long siege there left hundreds dead, displaced thousands more and plunged much of the city into ruin. What remained of the Islamic State affiliate fled to the south and to other islands, and they started to rebuild and recruit around villages like Padas.

The Philippines is a majority Christian country with a minority Muslim population

in the south. A November report to Congress put the number of Islamic State fighters in the Philippines at around 500.

The US military has deployed about 250 troops to the southern Philippines. The mission is rarely promoted because of sporadic political tensions between Washington and Manila, the Philippine capital. President Rodrigo Duterte has previously threatened to eject US forces from the country.

During the battle for Marawi, the Pentagon played down the US military's role, but Marine commandos trained Philippine snipers who were struggling to defeat expert marksmen among the extremists who proved difficult to target within the city's concrete buildings.

Now, Marine Special Operations units work quietly alongside Philippine troops spread throughout the country's southern isles and is also helping the villages around Marawi.

At the tip of that effort is the US\$58,000 water pump in Padas.

The project to bring it to the village was started by Captain Angela Smith, leader of the four-person civil affairs team, after residents told her of their over 2-km trek to get water. The machine, and the solar panels that power it, was donated by two non-profit organisations: the US-Philippines Society and Spirit of America.

"One water pump, one classroom that we help build, those things make a difference," Ambassador Sung Yong Kim, the US envoy to the Philippines, said in a recent interview. "So we want to do as much as that as possible."

The State Department and the US Agency for International Development have funded nearly US\$60 million for reconstruction efforts around Marawi.

Captain Smith's team, whose soldiers wear civilian clothes and are often escorted by a Marine Special Operations unit based in Marawi, is the military's latest embrace of a trademark American counter-insurgency strategy of winning over local populations.

Similar efforts were taken in Afghanistan and Iraq, including by US troops, at the height of the Iraq War. That mission was largely credited with turning the tide against the insurgency in Iraq, before US forces withdrew in 2011 and the Islamic State swept across much of the country three years later.

Broadly, the US military's practice of counterinsurgency since 2001 has been plagued by frustration and failure.

In Padas, officials said it is a gamble to ensure that the extremist group does not regain the strength it mustered before the siege of Marawi, which caught the Pentagon almost entirely off guard.

"This village used to be controlled by the Islamic State," said Corporal Jumar Dayanan, a soldier with the Philippine army platoon who was sent to live in Padas. "But now we're trying to win the hearts and minds."

Last month, Philippine troops killed Abu Dar, last surviving Islamic State leader who was responsible for planning and carrying out the battle in Marawi.

The Philippines' southern islands have long been a home for insurgents. But in Padas, and the other villages around Marawi, the United States is fighting just as much against economics as it is against a creeping ideology.

Wages as low as US\$6 a day are the market compensation for untrained construction workers in the Marawi area, can get triple that amount by joining rebel groups.

In 2017, the Islamic State's leadership in the Middle East funnelled thousands of dollars to its Philippine counterparts to recruit fighters

ISIS
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Ogie Diaz ok if anak has no awards

Sa kabila ng pagiging matagumpay na public figure, hindi raw kailanman inobliga ng comedian-reporter na si Ogie Diaz ang kanyang mga anak na magkaroon ng honors o awards.

Ito sabi ni Ogie "Umiyak pa ang anak ko bago ang Moving Up Day, dahil wala daw siyang nakuha kahit na ano," kuwento niya tungkol sa kanyang anak na si Erin. "Okay lang 'yan, 'Nak. Basta hindi ka kulelat at alam mong ginawa mo naman ang best mo."

Aniya, maraming bagay ang mas mahalaga sa kanya kaysa sa pagkakaron ng honors o awards.

"Lagi kong sinasabi sa mga anak ko, 'di baleng walang awards or honors, basta hindi babagsak, at hindi sakit ng ulo ng lipunan, mabuti kang tao, happy na kami ng mama nila," wika ni Diaz.

"Ang tunay na laban ng buhay ay nasa labas ng eskwela. Importante ang abilidad at diskarte na wala sa curriculum, kun'di nasa 'yo, nasa impluwensiya ng mga tamang tao sa paligid mo," dagdag pa niya.

Pagbabahagi ni Diaz, noong may nagtanong sa kanya kung ayos lang sa kanya na walang honor ang anak niya, ang tugon niya, "Okay lang naman po. Basta naka-graduate. Ako din po, walang nakuhang honors no'ng nag-aaral ako, mami. At high school lang po ang natapos ko."

Sa kabila ng kawalan ng honor sa eskwela, hindi maikakaila na malayong-malayo na ang narating niya at isa na siya sa mga haligi ng showbiz industry; mula sa pagiging showbiz reporter hanggang sa pagiging komedyante, sa pagiging manager ng popular actress at LizQuen other half na si Liza Soberano, sa pagiging isang manunulat at awtor ng libro, at marami pang iba. Patunay lamang ito na hindi nagtatapos sa loob ng paaralan ang buhay ng tao, bagkus ay nagsisimula pa lamang. Samantala, napag-usapan din ni Diaz at ng kanyang anak kung mag-aaral pa ba ito ng kolehiyo.

"Sabihin mo nga lang sa akin na tatapusin mo lang ang senior high school at ayaw mo nang mag-college, okay lang sa akin. Basta sa isang kundisyon—kukuha ka ng at least, five crash courses one at a time, dahil baka isa don, matumbok mong gusto mo pala at 'yon ang itutuloy-tuloy mong ima-master. Dahil gusto ko, gawin mo kung saan ka masaya and at the same time, nata-translate mo 'yong happiness mo into income," aniya.

"Magka-college ako, daddy," sagot umano ng kanyang anak.

"Okay. If that will make you happy, I will support you all the way," tugon naman ni Diaz.



Huwag mo ako sasagarin

Stern Charo leaves Vice Ganda speechless

Known for his wit and considered as local showbiz's top comedian, Vice Ganda doesn't usually run out of jokes and quips — unless he's in front of his boss whom he has impersonated time and again.

Charo Santos-Concio, star of "Eerie" and chief content officer of ABS-CBN, was an image of a stern and somewhat disappointed superior when she sat across Vice Ganda in the latter's eponymous talk show "Gandang Gabi Vice."

She had been the subject of Vice Ganda's numerous parodies, particularly Santos-Concio's letter-reading duties as host of the long-running drama anthology "Maalaala Mo Kaya."

Initially all-smiles as she entered the studio, Santos-Concio shifted moods as she told Vice Ganda: "Bakit lagi mo akong pinaglalaruan? Masakit, e. Ni hindi ka nga nagpapaalam sa akin."

The stern look left Vice Ganda uncharacteristically speechless. After a lengthy explanation and "tribute" to Santos-Concio, the veteran actress then turned serious, saying, "I just want to assure you — you have not done anything offensive towards me. "Masakit lang na 'yung nunal ko, hindi na nirespeto," she quipped, referring to Vice Ganda's skit in his recent concert where he, as "Charot Santos," pinned an artificial mole on several different spots on his face throughout the segment.

"Ako'y mapagpatawad na nilalang, pero huwag mo ako sasagarin. Baka masampolan kita," she warned, in jest.

Santos-Concio's first guest appearance on "Gandang Gabi Vice" was part of the promotional cycle for the horror film "Eerie." It marks the ABS-CBN executive's first collaboration with actress Bea Alonzo and acclaimed director Mikhail Red.



Faith Joy dela Peña and Lina pose at the Fiesta Filipina Dance gala.

WHITENER
continued from page 1

For 300 years, indios were made to fawn over these nobility, to the point of idealizing them and desiring to be like them. Jose Rizal very accurately depicted in his Noli this symptom in the character of Doña Victorina de Espadaña — a brown-skinned Filipino woman who pretended to be a Spanish mestiza, wore heavy white makeup, and spoke very broken Castilian to the point of hilarity.

Whiter Skin is More than just a Standard of Beauty

Today, marketing skin whiteners is more than just trying to appeal to Filipinos' standards of beauty. For Filipinos, having a lighter complexion is

desirable because it signifies social status, noble ancestry, and most significant, economic status. It also affords one the occasional preferential treatment — a reality that a certain skin whitening brand tried to exploit in their marketing campaign but instead received generous criticism.

Another reason why skin whitening products appeal to Filipinos is that many people associate dark or brown skin with low economic status.

On television and film, there is also a disproportionate representation of people with whiter skin. Despite Filipinos having just 5 percent of European heritage in our blood (we're predominantly Malay), switching on the television or watching any Filipino film will show you that majority of the cast are mestizo and have fair complexions.

While there are many actors who are brown-

skinned or dark-skinned, they are often relegated to playing the minor roles as maids, drivers, or "poor" people. It indicates how, after more than 100 years of our emancipation from colonizers, we still can't shake off the social tenets that stratified society based on heritage and skin color.

Heck, even grade school textbooks teach us to adore whiter skin.

There is nothing wrong with wanting to lighten our complexion, just like there is nothing wrong with Caucasians doing the opposite by tanning or bronzing their bodies. But if colonizers were able to rewire the national psyche to our preferential treatment for people with fairer skins, perhaps we can also learn to reset that by imposing social content guidelines not only for textbook authors, but also for teachers, media producers, and advertisers.



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Cindy Kurlito teaches daughter to love her Pinay features



Cindy Kurlito wants her daughter Noa to see beauty as more than skin deep: "Appearance is secondary."

Beauty, according to Cindy Kurlito, shines best when you feel complete.

She said of people in general, "They might be physically attractive, they might have all the physical attributes, but because of their own worry or their own stress of their own life you can sense..."

"They don't look buo, balanced, in their appearance if something is off."

"They won't look as pretty or as handsome to you as they could...the inside talaga that makes a person beautiful... If you can share happiness, you will become pretty in other person's eyes."

So when Cindy and her family lived in a country where her daughter Noa's Pinay features would stand out, the two had a girl talk.

"She's only eight at that time... I sat down with my daughter. Together, we wrote down things that make a person beautiful, but don't mention the physical appearance," she said. "Mention everything else that makes everyone beautiful—confidence, clarity of mind, content...the reason we did that is because she is in a country where everyone else is blonde and blue-eyed, and she stands out different."

"I wanted to talk to her that appearance is secondary. It's important how you feel about yourself, how you believe in yourself, and how content you are with the life that you chose."

HOW TO TREAT YOURSELF

As a parent, Cindy thinks schools should teach children more about mindfulness, especially in terms of taking care of the self.

"It should be common knowledge that the power of your mind talaga makes you either healthy or unhealthy," she underlined. "The drama in reality is all just noise... If you're gonna let anything stress you, you can get unhealthy. You don't want to do that to yourself, and I think it comes from experience that you know that...It is empowering to know that your thoughts have that power. Again, that's your arsenal—the healthy eating, the healthy exercise, your supplements, your food and your brain food, what you feed your mind."

Cindy encouraged young adults to practice mindfulness as well.

She continued, "Step away from the drama, step away from the ego...Believe me, other people don't care so much about you like you've imagined they do, you know? You should care for yourself first and foremost. Nobody will ever care as much about yourself as you, so take care of yourself. Take care of your thoughts."

Cindy suggested that the best way to talk to yourself was to do so like you would converse with a child—with kindness.

She said, "When I had my children, I realized that the tone I have with my daughters when they do something wrong, you know, 'That's okay, don't worry.'"

"If they spill something, 'Don't worry, it's quickly fixed.'"

"But if I spill something on me, I would you know be hard on myself... Talk to your own insecurities like you would talk to your child."

"That's the tone that you should have with yourself. I believe that strongly."

Cindy has a second daughter named Lima. She is three years old.

Jessy Mendiola ready for 'big decisions in life'

You can't blame poor box-office results on one particular actor.

This was according to actress Jessy Mendiola, who reacted to a comment saying she jinxed her previous two films—Jay Abello's romantic comedy "The Girl in the Orange Dress" and Miko Livelo's buddy comedy "Tol"—resulting in their lackluster performance at the tills.

"These days, we can no longer understand what the audience wants. Some romcoms do well compared to the reliable heavy dramas, while sometimes, we get surprised when a slapstick-comedy flick becomes a hit," Jessy pointed out.

But since January of this year, Jessy observed, there has never really been a big hit, except for "Alone/Together." "Let's be honest. That's a love team, and it has a huge following," she stressed.

"It's sad that these [industry] bashers, instead of supporting each other, would always prefer to put each other down. Let's lift each other's spirit. If films start earning well again, then we'll all benefit."

She also pointed out that "Orange Dress" was one of the country's

representatives to the 2019 Osaka Asian Film Festival in Japan. "If people here didn't appreciate the film, it was definitely received well in Japan," she declared.

Jessy is currently promoting another rom-com, Ice Adanan's "Stranded," which also features Arjo Atayde. Incidentally, it will directly compete with another rom-com, Eduardo Roy Jr.'s "Last Fool Show," featuring Jessy's controversial ex-boyfriend JM de Guzman, who shares top billing with Arci Muñoz.

Asked whether she was willing to work with JM again, Jessy replied in the affirmative, but "I feel as if he is the one who's not yet ready. Also, I don't call the shots. It will really depend on management or on any company willing to produce a project for us. This has not happened yet, so I guess it's not meant to be."

Jessy said she had a chance encounter with JM in ABS-CBN two months ago, and hasn't spoken with him since.

The actress is now dating actor-TV host Luis Manzano.

"We've both been very busy lately, so we rarely see each other. If we do, I hope we get a chance to chill and really talk. What I would be interested in knowing is whether Luis still has future plans for himself," Jessy told the Inquirer. "You see, he is a generally happy person. I don't think I've seen him at his worst."

As to what could

Jessy said she would often answer bashers not because she wanted to pick a fight with them, "but because I feel that I have something to clarify."

possibly exasperate Luis, Jessy said, "it would have to be the negativity in people. Luis is someone who readily helps those he feels are in need of it. He is very giving. He is also a patient man, so if you piss him off, that means you've done something really hurtful."

Like Luis, Jessy said she would often answer bashers not because she wanted to pick a fight with them, "but because I feel that I have something to clarify." "Di naman ibig sabihin, patola na ako. It's more of letting the person know what the truth is. I don't see anything wrong with that."

She was referring to her recent controversial post that had the caption, "Old endings and new beginnings." People thought the Kapamilya artist had decided to transfer to rival network, GMA 7.

"I'm still very much in touch with my bosses in ABS-CBN, and I am not aware of any offers from the other channel," she clarified. "The post was about my new business. It's also about the personal changes in my life. I'm at a point where I feel I need to make big decisions."

Jessy, however, admitted that she has started feeling restless, especially since it has been a while since ABS-CBN gave her a project. "It's up to you to explore what you can do with your free time. If you feel bored, then think of something productive to do," she declared.



Tanging Ina back as Nanay Sabel

Perhaps, the most notable role, at least for the millennial batch of moviegoers, that Ai-Ai Delas Alas breathed life into was Ina Montecillo, the central character in the Tanging Ina movie series that raked in more than half-a-billion pesos at local tills.

The movie series made Ai-Ai firmly seated on the throne as the comedy queen, a moniker no other actress could steal from her unless someone from the new crop of comediennes would step up and exceed her success on the big screen doing the specific movie genre.

Excluding Mo (2011), crossover long to play



the Enteng ng Ina a Tanging Ina Mo film, it took nine years for Ai-Ai a similar role. But of course, "there's a conscious effort to make the role different" from the iconic Ina Montecillo.

cillo that appeared in three film installations. Sabel was

The 54-year-old comedienne is back on the big screen with her extraordinary "Motherly Love" that promises to tickle and touch the audience's heart in Sons of Nanay Sabel.

This time, Ai-Ai plays the role of a former bar-

tender (Sabel) who was supposed to be married to a prince. Unfortunately, the prince found out about that Sabel was leaving her six children at an orphanage, so he decided to call their wedding off. Thereafter, Sabel decided to look for her sons and reunite her family once again.

Her sons were left to the care of Sister Mary (Sheree), who kept all the details of Sabel's kids' foster families and handed it to her when she finally came back as she promised.

Sabel's sons are played by the members of the hit rap group Ex-Battalion. Bieber (Daryl) and Justin (Archie) were both adopted by a rich businessman and grew up with their Yaya Bona (Jon Santos) who went with them when Sabel took back her two sons; Troll Montero (King Badger) was adopted by a barber; Baby James (James) AND EZ (Mark) were both adopted by an old lady named Lola Narcisa, and they only discovered that they were brothers when



Ai-Ai with beauty queen Kylie Versoza and members of Ex-Battalion

took them; Bhoy (Rhenn) adopted by a couple who abused him and never loved him, that's why Sabel forcefully took him from his foster parents.

Sabel and her sons will experience the riot of living together for the first time and will form the family bond that Sabel has always dreamed of. But it will soon be tested when the beautiful

and flirty Helen (Kylie Versoza) makes the brothers fall in love with her and fight for her.

"Sons of Nanay Sabel is not Tanging Ina," says director Dado Lumibao during the films press conference held recently, "In the film series, Ai-Ai was an extremely caring mother and would go out of her way to keep her family intact. The same thing cannot be said of Nancy Sabel. She's an imperfect person. That's the conscious effort to make this role really different from the previous role Ai-Ai played."

Apart from the cast members' crazy antics, the movie offers something new for the fans of Ex Battalion as they release their new tracks "Sama-Sama," "Huwag Siya," and "Bagong Umaga" featuring Ai-Ai in the movie.

Sons of Nanay Sabel is written by Mel Mendoza Del Rosario, the same writer who wrote the blockbuster trilogy of Tanging Ina.



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Luis Manzano reveals Vilma Santos once rescued Jessy Mendiola and her sister from fire

Luis Manzano has just revealed that his mom Vilma Santos once saved Jessy Mendiola and her elder sister, Pam, from a fire.

The television host shared about the incident involving his girlfriend while they were enjoying a seafood feast, as it appears on Mendiola's vlog entry posted on her YouTube channel.



Vilma Santos; Jessy Mendiola

Manzano and Mendiola were asked if they had nicknames when they were kids. Mendiola got it right with Manzano's popular nickname "Lucky"; however, Manzano did not guess right Mendiola's nickname, leading her to reveal it as "Tisay," a nickname she earned for her fair skin.

At this point, Manzano said that while Mendiola was still young, she, her sister and his "Star for All Seasons" mom Vilma Santos, once

worked together for a television commercial. "Nasunog yung set, niligtas sila ni mommy," he recounted.

(The set got caught on fire, mommy saved them.)

Manzano added that a stove from the set may have been the cause of the fire.

"Three years old lang yata ako noon, karga-karga niya ako," Mendiola said.

(I think I was only 3 years old at that time. Santos carried me when she saved me.)

Mendiola said that another thing they have in common is that their respective fathers knew each other way before.

"Naging mag-on dati," Manzano joked. (They used to be a couple.)

Mendiola has previously expressed gratitude to the veteran actress-turned-politician for being kind to her.

"She will never make you feel you aren't welcome," she said of Santos. "She's always warm, and makes me feel like I'm part of the family when I visit."

Is Claudine Barretto appearing in Ang Probinsyano with Raymart Santiago?

Claudine Barretto is okay to appear in Ang Probinsyano when estranged husband Raymart Santiago is no longer part of the ABS-CBN show.

It seems like Claudine Barretto cannot appear yet in Coco Martin's ABS-CBN teleserye, Ang Probinsyano.

This is based on her answer during her guest appearance in Tonight With Boy Abunda last night, April 24.

Claudine entertained a question from a netizen asking if she will soon appear in Ang Probinsyano, a TV show known for featuring actors who have been not been visible in TV shows and movies.

TV host Boy Abunda then told Claudine that her estranged husband, Raymart Santiago, is also currently part of the cast.

Claudine said, "Ah talaga, andun ba siya? Sorry, sorry."

Laughing, Claudine added, "Pag wala na siya. At saka yung sweldo ko basta mapunta sa akin!"

Still, the 39-year-old actress is open to working with Coco, who is the lead star and one of the directors of the Kapamilya series.

"Of course, with Coco Martin. With Coco Martin! Clear 'yon, ha."

It was in March 2013 when Raymart and Claudine separated after 13 years of marriage.

Ang Probinsyano is Raymart's first appearance as an official Kapamilya after being with GMA-7 for a long time. His first assignment is the upcoming drama series, Starla, where he will play the leading man of Judy Ann Santos.

Claudine is set to make a television comeback after almost three years via Maalaala Mo Kaya (MMK) this Saturday, April 27.



CLAUDINE ON WORKING AGAIN After three years of not doing a regular project, Claudine told Boy Abunda that she is ready to work again.

Claudine also revealed that the last time she did a movie, the 2015 Star Cinema film Etiquette for Mistresses, she got terribly sick.

She said, "This time, I really want to work na. I really want to work again because the last time I did Etiquette, I got sick."

"I got really, really sick and I got really, really big and that's something I'm not ready to talk about yet."

"I couldn't work, I was always in the hospital. I had six operations in four months."

"Now, I'm okay. So, no more medicines, no more anything."

During the fast talk part of her interview, Claudine was asked if she's okay to playing a kontrabida.

In her previous TV projects, Claudine was always tapped to play kind-hearted lead roles.

When she was asked to choose among her triplet roles in her 1999 series Saan Ka Man Nararoon, she picked Rosenda, the kontrabida one. Her other two roles were Rosario and Rosemarie.

Claudine is now slated to do a movie with her Milan leading lady, Piolo Pascual, whom she considers as her favorite leading man, apart from Aga Muhlach.

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SHIFTING FOCUS FROM DISASTERS TO DEFENSE

Locsin: It’s time for PH to get warships, missiles

MANILA, Philippines —Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. said that the government must begin focusing on national defense and start buying warships and missiles. Locsin made the statement after a netizen expressed the hope that the Philippine Navy would be able to send a boat to the Rim of the Pacific event this year.

“I just hope the Philippine Navy participate in Rim of the Pacific event with a boat this year as I remember back in 2014 where they only sent 2 personnel without even a bangka [boat],” the netizen said in a tweet.

“They should also focus on obtaining medical ships for disaster relief and life-saving operations,”



the netizen added.

Locsin then said that the government must start considering focusing on national defense.

“It is time we get warships and missiles. It is time

we stop whining about natural disasters and doing something about national defense,” Locsin said.

The Philippine Navy earlier announced that the first of its two missile-armed frigates would be launched in May this year.

In an interview with military radio station DWDD, the Philippine Navy chief, Vice Adm. Robert Empedrad, said he would be with Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana in South Korea from May 17 to 19 to witness the launching.

The launching of the first frigate, which will be named BRP Jose Rizal, will be followed by the keel-laying of the second missile-armed frigate BRP Antonio Luna.

Bianca Gonzalez, Bela Padilla air sentiments about ‘influencers’

Celebrities Bianca Gonzalez and Bela Padilla aired their sentiments regarding social media “influencers” after the White Banana Beach Club resort in Siargao recently announced its refusal to collaborate with “self-proclaimed influencers” who had sent several messages offering collaboration.

Gonzalez and Padilla did not drop any names, but it seemed their recent tweets were aimed at a certain Lance de Ocampo, an influencer who called out the beach club via Instagram after it made its announcement. Ocampo has since deleted his Instagram Stories and issued a statement apologizing for his post, although screenshots of the Stories have been shared via FashionPulis.

Ocampo, then, defended the role of “influencers,” saying they have big contributions to boost Siargao’s tourism. He claimed that the island would not be as appreciated today if it were not for the “breathtaking and well-curated Instagram photos” of influencers.

Padilla, however, did not seem to agree. The “Camp Sawi” star took to Twitter on March 28 to express her thoughts.

“It’s soooo sad that you felt the need to take credit for a place so beautiful to begin with and would be perfectly fine with or without you,” said Padilla. [By the way], we all started going to Siargao three years ago NOT



because of your posts.”

Gonzalez also took to her Twitter where she shared how the word “influencer” is being thrown a lot these days.

“All of us, regardless of follower count, have influence with people around us, for sure,” she said. “But it should never be a license to feel entitled to demand to be given free things.”

She added one should be grateful if given a free service or product, but they should never demand to be given such things.

“Hintayin na sila ang mag-bigay, ‘wag ikaw ang mag-demand na bigyan ka,” she said. “Kung gusto mo, bayaran please. Lumugar. #influencer.” (Wait for them to give it to you, don’t demand. If you want it, then pay for it. Know your place. #influencer).

She also clarified she was not shading anybody and only wanted to remind everyone.

“This is a reminder for all of us who might at times feel entitled to demand because of this new social media ‘influencer’ culture.”

Meanwhile, White Banana Beach Club on March 27 clarified via Facebook that it is not against “influencers,” just freeloaders.

“A REAL influencer is called as such by the rest, he does not address him/herself as an influencer,” the post said. “They are bloggers. We have actually collaborated with a few of them, in different terms and conditions, and we support them.”

The beach club added that it is they who contact and pay real influencers: “They’ve never contacted us, as they don’t need us. We

need them.”

Joyce Pring thanks Juancho Trivino for being a constant in her life

Isa sa mga in-demand host ngayon si Joyce Pring.

Bukod sa pag-host nito ng kanyang segment sa GMA-7 morning show na Unang Hirit, may iba pa siyang hinu-host na events sa gabi tulad ng mga media at corporate events.

Nagpapasalamat si Joyce sa mga blessings na dumating sa kanyang career, pero hindi niya itinatangi na nakakaramdam na siya ng matinding pagod.

Isa sa pinapasalamatang ni Joyce ay ang pag-aalaga na ginagawa sa kanya ng UH co-host at manliligaw niyang si Juancho Trivino.

Sa pinost ni Joyce sa Instagram account niya noong nakaraang March 22, nasabi niya na isang blessing na makilala niya si Juancho dahil sa mga magagandang nagawa na nito para sa kanya.

Bukod sa lagi siyang kinukumusta at pinadadalhan ng pagkain, nagagawa rin daw ni Juancho na samahan si Joyce sa mga lakad niya at minsan ay pinagmamaneho pa siya kapag sobrang pagod na siya.

Ramdam nga raw ni Joyce ang sincerity ni Juancho.

Laging inaabangan ang tambalang #Juanchoyce dahil sa mga nakakakilig moments nila sa kanilang segment sa Unang Hirit kunsaan pinupuntahan nila ang iba’t ibang vacation spots ngayong summer.



Crime-drama series on love and justice

Two mothers with opposing versions of the truth will take a stand in the name of love and justice on the ABS-CBN primetime crime-drama series “Sino Ang May Sala?: Mea Culpa” to premiere tonight.

Starring in the series and returning to primetime is award-winning actress Jodi Sta. Maria, who plays Fina, a hardworking farmer who hopes to give her family a better future, and later on looks for and fights for her missing child.

She clashes with Bela Padilla, who plays a lawyer who covers up a crime, along with Tony Labrusca,

Kit Thompson, Sandino Martin, Ivana Alawi, and Ketchup Eusebio.

Their real-life nightmare begins when Juris (Bela), Andrei (Tony), Gaylord (Sandino), Greco (Kit), Lolita (Ivana), and Bogs (Ketchup) travel to Baguio to celebrate after passing the bar.

The road trip takes a disastrous turn that will compromise their future – they get into an accident that will separate Fina from her child, while Juris takes on adopting and raising the little girl.

They keep their dark secret hidden in the grave up until construction unearths a rotting corpse. Because of the news, Fina gets her hopes up, starts to believe that her daughter is still alive, and embarks on a search for her.

The controversial case then sparks a dispute between the two mothers – Fina believes her daughter is with Juris, who, in turn, defends herself against the accusation in order to keep the child she has raised and come to love.

Does Fina stand a chance to obtain justice against the five successful lawyers? Will she ever be reunited with her daughter? How long will Juris and her



TV Foods owner Mel Gideon and Alan Ocampo poses with TNT Boyzin Edmonton.

friends hide the truth?

Also part of the “Sino Ang May Sala?: Mea Culpa” cast are Agot Isidro, Janice de Belen, Ayen Munji-Laurel, Jay Manalo, Allan Paule, and Boboy Garovillo. It is under the production of Dreamscape Entertainment and directed by Andoy Ranay and Dan Villegas.

Jinkee Pacquiao says ‘kumare’ Claudine Barretto doesn’t owe her money

MANILA, Philippines – Jinkee Pacquiao has broken her silence and clarified that Claudine Barretto does not owe her any money.

Barretto held an Instagram livestream on Wednesday night to address the issue of her alleged debt to the wife of Sen. Manny Pacquiao.

Jinkee left a comment on Barretto’s livestream: “Mare ipaalam ko lang sa kanila na wala kang utang sa akin. At wala din tayong business. Masaya ako na friends tayo at kumare kita. I love u mare!”

In the livestream, Barretto belied rumors that she has unpaid debts to Pacquiao.

“Lately, may mga lumalabas na baon baon daw ako sa utang kay Jinkee Pacquiao at saka lumalabas rin, meron kaming business or transaction or trabaho na pinasukan na hindi nagprosper, parang ganyan,” Barretto said.

“So kaklaruhin ko ngayon pa lang, wala po akong kahit na anong utang kahit kanino. Kahit kay Miss Jinkee Pacquiao na kumare ko,” she added.

Barretto also thanked Pacquiao for speaking up on the issue and clearing her name.

Barretto posted a screenshot of Pacquiao’s comment on her livestream captioned: “Thank you for clearing my name, @jinkeepacquiao.”



Pinoys among most stressed

Filipinos are among the most stressed people in the world according to a global survey.

The same survey said the Philippines, along with three other countries, also topped the list of most emotional nations last year. Asked about their feelings the previous day, Gallup’s annual Global Emotions report found 58 percent of Filipinos in 2018 to have experienced stress the day before the survey.

Last year, the Philippines was the most emotional country in Asia and the fourth in the world with 58 percent average “yes” responses to all questions.

Only Greece is more stressed than the Philippines with 59 percent of its population feeling the negative experience.

Tanzania (57 percent), Albania, Iran, Sri Lanka, and the United States of America (55 percent) ranked high on the list of world’s most stressed populations.

More than one in three people said they experienced a lot of stress (35 percent) in the survey of more than 151,000 adults in over 148 countries in 2018.

The study measures life’s intangibles—feelings and emotions—that traditional economic indicators such as GDP were never intended to capture.

PH among most emotional countries

The Philippines is among the world’s most emotional countries in 2018, according to a global well-being index.

Six in 10 Filipinos reported experiencing positive or negative emotions the previous day the poll was conducted, the Gallup 2019 Global Emotions Report found.

The Philippines, along with Niger, Liberia and Ecuador, had an average 60-percent “yes” response among respondents, making up the top tier in the list of 12.

They were followed by Costa Rica, Sierra Leone, Papua New Guinea, and Peru at 59 percent, and Nicaragua, Honduras, Sri Lanka, and Guatemala at 58 percent.

Meanwhile, fewer than 4 in 10 residents in Azerbaijan, Belarus, and Latvia reported experiencing any positive or negative feeling.

Sociologist Clifford Sorita said the Gallup report shows that Filipinos are “in touch” with their emotions and does not necessarily mean they are predisposed to “place our feelings above our intellect.”

“Rather, the positive and negative questions asked in the survey regarding our day-to-day experiences reveals that Filipinos are “in-touch” with our emotions and that we do not hide behind them. This is possible because we have a strong social support mechanism of family and friends, which allows us to ventilate how we feel and cope with these emotions in a healthy way,” he said.

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Dueling Ouster Plots ignite the Philippines

Alleged “Oust Duterte” plot aimed at toppling the president targets journalists and could presage a clampdown ahead of pivotal mid-term elections

In the run-up to crucial midterm elections, Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has accused his media and civil society critics of plotting to overthrow his government, a politically charged accusation that some fear could presage a severe new crackdown on dissent.

The alleged plot, first published in the Manila Times newspaper and likely based on information provided by the President’s Office, involves journalists who have allegedly attempted to “manipulate public emotion, touch base with the Leftist organization, enlist the support of the police and the military, then go for the ‘kill’ [of overthrowing Duterte].”

Presidential spokesman Salvador Panelo backed the validity of the conspiracy diagram published by Manila Times’ owner Dante Ang, a known Duterte ally and advisor, which exposed an alleged “matrix” of progressive groups and media personalities involved in an anti-government plot.

The spokesman claimed that the “Oust Duterte” matrix corroborates the president’s own intelligence findings, without elaborating.

“The source of that is from the Office of the President. It’s from the President himself,” Panelo said on April 22 during a press briefing. “I was supposed to release it [separately] today,” he added, implying that there was no coordination with the Manila Times report.

In particular, the diagram accuses leading journalistic outlets such as Rappler, the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism and the Vera Files, as well as the left-leaning National Union of People’s Lawyers (NUPL), which counts prominent opposition senatorial candidate Neri Colmenares among its ranks.

The accused journalists and lawyers have flatly rejected the matrix and related conspiracy as “a lie” intended to intimidate government critics and distract public attention from potential illicit activities by the presidential family and its closest allies ahead of hotly key elections next month. PCIJ lashed out at the plot accusation for being “wrong on many points” and constituting a violation of the named journalists’ privacy.

Colmenares, meanwhile, threatened to sue the government on behalf of the NUPL. “It is an option, for this latest script that is absurd, funny, hilarious, if not life-threatening to those whose names are listed in the matrix,” he said. The conspiracy claim came days after the circulation of a series of videos entitled “Ang Totoong Narcolist”, or “the real narco list”, by an anonymous source known as “Bikoy.” The videos accuse the presidential family of years-long collaboration with Davao-based and international drug syndicates, including from China.

Last year, Paolo Duterte resigned from his vice mayor position in Davao amid Senate investigations into his alleged involvement in the drug trade and ties with drug syndicates. He has consistently and strongly denied the accusations. In September 2017, Duterte told police to “kill” his son if the drug trafficking allegations were proven true.

Still, the viral videos have undermined certain confidence in the tough-talking president, who has placed a scorched earth drug war at the heart of his policy agenda. Rights groups estimate as many as 16,000 suspects have been killed in the campaign.

His critics accuse him of not only widespread human rights violations, some of which have been taken up by International Criminal Court investigators, but also of a systematic

cover up of the real roots of the country’s rampant and lucrative drug trade.

Certain opposition members have accused Duterte of orchestrating the drug war in order to conceal his family’s involvement in the illicit business as well as eliminate any competition. Duterte and his family members have steadfastly denied the unproven claims.

Enraged by the “Bikoy” videos, the president has apparently struck back with his own accusation of a coup plot against his perceived political enemies, which if proven could justify their incarceration on treason or other anti-state charges.

Significantly, Philippine security forces have been quick to question the conspiracy plot.

“There is always that possibility about groups wanting to oust him, but as of now we have not seen any specific threats likely to succeed to oust the president,” Armed Forces of the Philippines public affairs chief Colonel Noel Detoyato said on April 22.

Even the Philippine National Police (PNP), which has been largely subservient to the president and a key actor in implementing his controversial drug war, has been openly skeptical of the supposed plot.

“As of this time, we don’t have specific evidence on that,” PNP chief General Oscar Albayalde said. “But the police will always be on their toes, regardless of whether there is an ouster plot or not.”

Duterte’s own daughter, Davao City mayor Sara Duterte, has also questioned the veracity of the alleged conspiracy to topple her father’s government.

“I don’t know if there has been a concerted effort, but let’s give the media entity the benefit of the doubt on what they choose to report and deem as deserving of coverage for the people” she said.

Vice President Leni Robredo, Duterte’s top political opponent, echoed that assessment. “This is the second matrix: if you remember, in the first destabilization matrix, I was included. And it wasn’t true.”

In 2018, Robredo, was accused of involvement in a supposed conspiracy with leading businesses that included Jollibee, to topple Duterte’s government. The list was circulated by Duterte’s son, Paolo, who at the time was facing accusations pursued by the Senate of his involvement in the drug trade. No action was taken against those identified on that plot list.

But with this month’s pivotal mid-term elections many seen as a de facto referendum on Duterte’s nearly three years in office, there are concerns the latest allegation could be leveraged to justify a clampdown to quiet rising anti-government criticism.

Sophie Albert levels up her kontrabida game

Pagkatapos sampal-sampalin ni Carla Abellana sa Pamilya Roces ay si Max Collins naman ang mananampal nang bongga kay Sophie Albert.

Pangalawang beses nang isang kabit ang role ni Sophie. Hindi raw takot na ma-typecast si Sophie sa other woman roles. “No naman. As long as there’s work, why not, di ba?” Mas challenging nga raw para sa kanya ang ganitong klaseng role. “And actually because nga TV, I’m not so worried about the scenes kasi nga it’s still gonna be wholesome.

“Hindi naman siya talagang intense or super-sexy,” paninigurado niya.

KONTRABIDA ROLE
At kahit magmula noong lumipat siya sa GMA-7 at kontrabida (o kabit) ang roles niya, wala pa naman daw fans na nang-away sa kanya kapag



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nakikita siya sa mga pampublikong lugar tulad ng mall. “I guess siguro sa Pamilya Roces kasi kahit kontrabida siya nabigyan namin ng... medyo lovable pa rin siyang kontrabida.

“This one [Bihag] is different, though. “Hindi siya masyadong lovable. “Dito talagang full-force na kontrabida. “So let’s see. First time, first time.”

CHARACTER PEGS
May pinanood ba siyang mga pelikula para paggayahan ng papel ni Reign. Lahad niya, “Hindi naman gaya, but more on I really had to get into the mindset of somebody who’s obsessed. “So, I have to really get myself into the character na medyo not in the right state of mind.” Sa tunay na buhay ay hindi pa naman daw naranasan ni Sophie na ma-obsess sa kahit na kanino. Dagdag pa ni Sophie tungkol sa karakter niyang si Reign sa Bihag.

“Ibang level of obsession, medyo dark obsession. And in real life meron talagang mga tao na ganoon! And will go thru any length to make the life of the person they’re obsessed with miserable.

Marami akong napanood na documentaries na ganun, and also Fatal Attraction, The Hand That Rocked The Cradle also, The Nanny.

“Very innocent looking siya and all, pero yun pala, pamatay.”

Foreign doctors working in PH without permits

MANILA, Philippines — Sen. Richard Gordon

on Saturday called for a probe of syndicates allegedly bringing in foreign doctors in the country even without working permits.

Gordon’s stemmed after reports that several Pakistani or Nepalese doctors had been practicing medicine as medical consultants here in the Philippines. “I am concerned because they are allowed to deal with patients on a one-on-one basis. They prescribe medicines. The patients hardly understand them,” Gordon said in a statement. “Marami na kong natanggap na reklamo tungkol dito na nakumpirma namin.” [I have received a lot of complaints about that this that we have confirmed.] “Are they supervised by Filipino doctors? Are they even allowed to practice medicine here? As I understand it, we only have a reciprocity principal with Japan, Spain and the United States, including ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangements,” he added.

Gordon, who chairs the Senate Blue Ribbon committee, said that his office first saw a related incident at the James L. Gordon Memorial Hospital, a government facility in Olongapo City. “Dapat matigil ito [this should be stopped] because this concerns the health and well-being of the public and I fear that this is being practiced not just in Olongapo but in other areas too,” Gordon said.

Under the law, only the PRC is authorized to issue licenses or “special temporary permit to foreign professionals who desire to practice their professions in the country under reciprocity and other international agreements.”





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Yam Concepcion regrets doing nude scenes in the past

Actress Yam Concepcion admitted she would not have done her nude scenes in award-winning director Erik Matti's drama film "Rigodon" had she known they would be spread online.

Concepcion made the revelation in an interview on "Tonight with Boy Abunda" on April 22 when she was asked if she regretted doing sexy scenes in the past. The question came from a netizen via Twitter, which Abunda flashed on screen.

"This has always been an issue sa akin. I'm not gonna deny, dun ako nanggaling (This has always been an issue for me. I'm not gonna deny, that's where I came from)," she said.

"Of course, dapat hindi mo kalimutan kung saan ka rin nanggaling, but I don't get it kung anong gusto niyong patunayan, kung anong gusto niyong maramdaman ko (Of course, we shouldn't forget where we came from, but I don't get what people are trying to prove, what they want me to feel)."

Concepcion appeared to be referring

to those who spread her nude scenes in "Rigodon" online. Just this April, she called out a netizen after she found them sharing the scenes on Twitter. She also appealed to those spreading the scenes to stop, saying she felt disrespected.

"That is why I'm working hard also, to prove also that's not only what I can do," she added.

"So looking back, nagsisisi ka ba or do you view it as 'I needed to do it to get to where I am today?'" asked Abunda.

Concepcion answered that everything happens for a reason, but that had she known, she would not have done the scenes.

"Everything happens for a reason, I guess that's part of my journey," she said. "I'll be honest with you, kung alam ko lang Tito Boy, hindi ko na ginawa (had I known, Tito Boy, I wouldn't have done it)."

Concepcion, back in 2014, said the sharing of the scenes in pornographic websites was disrespectful to the art she and director Matti created, adding they were done tastefully.

"Rigodon" was one of the Filipino films showcased in the New York Asian Film Festival in 2013 and the New Filipino Cinema Festival at Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco, California, in 2014.



CLAUDINE BARRETTO TO STAR IN COMEBACK MOVIE WITH PIOLO PASCUAL

Claudine Barretto is set to return to the big screen with her former leading man, Piolo Pascual. The film will be directed by Cathy Garcia Molina and will be shot in Florence, Italy.

On her most recent guesting on Tonight With Boy Abunda, Claudine Barretto confirmed that she will start shooting the film this coming June or July with Piolo Pascual. The Optimum Star will be flying to Florence, Italy to shoot the film.

Host Boy Abunda first opened up the topic by asking Claudine if there is a possibility of her working on a project with Judy Ann Santos to which the actress replied, "Matagal na yan eh. Matagal na namin yan pinagusapan ni Juday. It's just that siguro wala talagang maganda pang project but I will be doing a movie this end of June or July in Florence with Piolo."



After Liza Soberano's backs out of Darna, Angel Locsin responds to fans asking her to take the role of Darna once more.

'No': Angel Locsin says won't take back Darna role after Liza's withdrawal

Angel Locsin remains to be the top choice to play Philippine heroine Darna.

At least, that's what fans keep telling her, usually –one can imagine– with hands clasped together in prayer, ignoring that she herself has said that her time as the Pinay superhero is up and that it's only right to hand down the fabled "bato" to someone else to keep the character's legacy alive.

It's been more than a decade since Locsin wore the iconic costume for a TV series, imbuing it with gravitas and grace –a famous performance that defined, in the eyes of many, what a strong female superheroine should be for years to come.

She was supposed to don it again for a movie but had to exit the project due to health concerns regarding her back. Since then, she has expressed her full support for her replacement, young actress Liza Soberano, and yet there were still rumblings.

This noisy clamor for her to take the role back found headwind when she was seen doing stunts for her primetime series "The General's Daughter." It only grew stronger when it was revealed that Soberano has decided to back out because of a finger injury.

But Locsin's answer remained to be a firm "no."

Her first thought when the news broke out, she shared, was not that if she could possibly reconsider putting on the costume again. Rather, it was one of worry.

"Nag-alala ako sa kaniya," she said of Soberano. (I was worried about her.)

"Kung mayroon man sigurong tao na makakaintindi sa pinagdadaanan niya ngayon, ako iyon. Nag-alala ako na sana OK lang siya. So nag-try ako mag-message sa kanya. Sabi ko lang, 'Liza.' "Sagot niya, 'Ate, I'm sorry.'"

"Naramdaman ko kung gaano siya ka-devastated sa nang-yari and kung gaano niya kagusto i-please iyang network and fans niya na nagaantay. Pero siyempre, kailangan din niyang alagaan iyang sarili niya. Siguro ganon din niya kamahal iyang role, na feeling niya hindi niya maibibigay iyang buo niya."

She also begged fans to give the selection process for the new Darna some time, true to the comics' lore about the hero, "ang bato talaga ni Darna, namimili ng tao. Hindi basta basta lang." (Darna's stone chooses. It's not that simple.)

Kathryn, ikinalungkot ang pagbitiw ni Liza bilang Darna

MANILA – Ikinalungkot ni Kathryn Bernardo ang pagbibitiw ni Liza Soberano sa pelikulang Darna.

Umaasa naman si Kathryn na makakahanap ng doktor si Liza para maipagamot ito at alam ng aktres na hindi biro ang pinagdadaanan ni Liza.

Nanghinayang din si Kathryn lalo at puspusan na rin ang naging paghahanda ni Liza sa proyekto.

Sa ngayon ay gusto muli ni Kathryn na gumana bilang Darna si Angel Locsin.



Shaira says there's no secret understanding between her and Edgar Allan

SHAIRA Diaz auditioned for "Sahaya" and she felt sad when she did not qualify as a member of the cast. "But it turned out, may iba palang project waiting for me," she says. "Kasi mas maganda ang role ko as Sam in the new primetime romcom na 'Love You Two,' as the sister of Jennylyn Mercado na magiging ka-love triangle niya kay Gabby Concepcion."

There were many young actresses who auditioned for the role of Sam and she was surprised when she was informed that she was the one who got it.

"Naisip ko nga, baka mas deserving 'yung ibang nag-audition kay sa'kin, but the fact na sa'kin ito ibinigay, it means may nakita sila sa'kin and it's now my turn to show na pagbubutihan ko talaga para naman hindi sila magsisi na akong kinuha nila as Sam. I really feel so blessed to be given the chance to work with Jen and Kuya Gabby kasi, bukod sa ang laki ng role, it's really great to be working with such established stars in the industry like them. Second show ko pa lang ito sa GMA after 'Pamilya Roces,' pero ang laking role agad ang ibinigay sa akin. I'm really very thankful to GMA for making me a part of this show. Nang sabihan akong ako ang nakuha, pinamalita ko agad sa family and friends ko. 'Yung mga tita ko, naiinggit sa'kin, lalo when they learned may kissing scene with Kuya Gabby. Dapat daw, sila na lang ang kinuha. Sa simula pa lang ng taping namin, si Kuya Gabby, very helpful agad. He felt na kinakabahan ako noong una, but he guided me. Sabi niya, practice muna tayo para hindi ka mailang, so we rehearsed our scene so I would loosen up. Ang

bait niya. Sa story, I would fall in love with him kahit malaki ang agwat ng ages namin. In real life, very charming talaga si Kuya Gabby so I'm not surprised women easily fall for him."

Has she experienced falling in love with someone older than her in real life? "Naku, hindi po. Kaya nga challenge din po sa'kin ang role kasi I want to show kung ano ba ang personality ni Sam at nabaliw siya sa isang lalaking puwede na niyang maging daddy in real life. With the help of our director, Irene Villamor, hindi naman po ako nahirapan in interpreting my role."

Didn't Edgar Allan Guzman, her boyfriend when she was still with TV5, get jealous when she kissed Gabby? It's said that they didn't really break up and it's just a ruse to distract those who are against their relationship. "Totoo pong nag-break kami. But we've remained friends naman. Bawal ba pati 'yung friendship? Sa lahat ng nagsasabing ayaw lang namin umamin, e di bahala kayo sa gusto nyong paniwalaan. Basta whether you believe it or not, I want to focus on my career muna, lalo na ngayong



binibigyan ako ng GMA ng chance to show what I've got as an actress. Tama na muna ang love life. I want my work to be more stable muna."

What can she say to the conclusion of some people that she's really the reason why Edgar left Noel Ferrer as his manager and transferred to Arnold Vegafria of ALV Productions who's also handling her now? "Ay, hindi po ako ang dahilan. Bakit ako? May sarili naman siyang pag-iisip, so he can make his own decisions. Siguro, mas maganda 'yung offer sa kanya ng ALV kaya 'yun ang pinili niya. Labas na po ako diyan."

Meantime, GMA is happy that "Love You Two" quickly became a trending topic online right from its pilot episode. Various netizens registered their approval on social media. Says @PinoyTr1013 "First few scenes pa lang, it's easy to see that Jennylyn Mercado is really the Queen of RomComs #LoveYouTwo." And @1995xeign adds: "Ang husay ni Jen pagdating sa rom-com, very very light lang and natural itong atake ng #LoveYouTwo. Queen Jennylyn Mercado is really the ROMCOM Queen. Revelation din si Clint Bondad! Ang husay ni Shaira Diaz! Thank you again for this @gmadrama @gmanetwork @mercadojen @Shairadiaz..."

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HANNAH MAKES HER FAMILY PROUD

(1) Johannah Baguisa Alilio makes her family proud playing the part of Dorothy in her school musical. Posing with her are her mom (2) Perly Baguisa, her tita Teo Baguisa Paculan and (3) family and friends. She is currently grade 11 at Father Michael McGivney Catholic Academy.

2



3



Congratulations Hannah, remarkable Dorothy!
You made us so proud, we love you ❤️ FMM's Wizard Of Oz

ryn Bernardo and Alden Richards.

Entrata happily announced the news in a video posted by ABS-CBN Music Head Roxy Liyigan on Thursday via his Twitter account.

"Ang movie po ni Ms. Kathryn Bernardo at si Sir Alden, makakasama po ako doon," Entrada said.

"Sobrang excited na ako dahil sobrang kakaiba 'yung story nila. Tapos kakaiba 'yung support ko dito kay Ms. Kathryn. Kahit na support na po talaga ako sa La Luna [Sangre]," she added.

The 21-year-old actress previously worked with Ber-



nardo in ABS-CBN's 2017 fantasy drama series "La Luna Sangre."

She also thanked Garcia-Molina for the opportunity to join the upcoming movie's cast: "Direk Cathy, maraming salamat din po ma'am, kung isa man po kayo sa sumang-ayon na maging parte po ako ng cast niyo, maraming salamat po. Talagang napakalaking oportunidad po nito."

Bernardo and Richards' new project together was announced by film production company Star Cinema in early March.

Nadeene Panaligan,(4TH FROM LEFT), poses with family at her confirmation at the Prince of Peace Parish.

RAFAEL NEBRES GETS FCT AWARD

Rafael Nebres, (3RD FROM LEFT), manager of Action Honda, receives an Outstanding Seniors Award at the Filipino Centre Toronto Spring Gala.

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Therese as one of 'most hated':
Preparing for fallback

THERESE Malvar is now one of the most hated villains on televi-

sion for her portrayal of Ariela in "Inagaw na Bituin". How does she react to all the bashing she's getting for being so mean and bitchy to Kyline Alcantara and her sister who has since died? "Actually, expected ko naman pong magagalit ang viewers sa kamalditahan ko but 'yung grabeng feedback ng haters is more than I expected," she says. "One episode na i-sabotage ang performance nina Kyline and Melbelline, umabot ng 1 million hits at sobrang galit talaga ang viewers sa akin, hating me with a passion. At first, medyo ako affected ako, but then, iniisip ko na lang na hindi naman sila sa akin galit nang personal but doon sa character ko, so hindi ako dapat magalit din sa kanila. It's Ariela who's being bashed, not



really me as Therese."
But since then, there have been some changes in the way that the story is going. "Lately, mas bumait na 'yung character ko, e," adds Therese. "Lumambot na ang puso ni Ariela."

ONTARIO FILIPINO CANADIANS V
TORONTO OUTSTANDING SENIO

True to its commitment and desire to recognise and honour senior members of the Filipino Canadian community in Ontario, the Filipino Centre Toronto - FCT, through its Outstanding Filipino Canadian Seniors Awards board of judges, selects and names 7 active seniors to receive the "Outstanding Senior of the Year-2019" awards. These still-engaged seniors who have made invaluable contributions, exemplary service, and magnanimous engagement into the quality of life and living in their communities, were chosen via a 3-month competitive search. The seven deserving recipients were honoured and presented with a "Plaque of Recognition" at the FCT-Filipino Centre Toronto's Bi-annual Gala Event.



Gabby happy to be
with young co-stars

GABBY Concepcion says he's thankful to GMA-7 for giving him

shows where his leading ladies are much younger than him, like Carla Abellana in "Because of You" and Sunshine Dizon and Ryza Cenon in "Ika-6 na Utos", both big hits. He's now paired with Jennylyn Mercado who's just turning 32 on May 15. He's 54, so Jen could very well be his daughter, since his own



eldest child, KC Concepcion, is now 34 years old. But in all fairness to Gabby, he has really taken very good care of himself and looks much younger than his age. His star quality has not diminished and a lot of girls still find him very appealing. And judging from the way the viewing public has warmly accepted his shows with his past younger

co-stars, we have enough reason to believe that "Love You Two" will also be a big hit on GMA Telebabad." "Masaya talaga na mas bata ang mga nagiging kapareha ko kasi nakakabata rin ng feeling, e," he says. "Dito ngayon sa set ng 'Love You Two', I'm really enjoying kasi batambata rin ang director namin, si Irene Villamor, so nakakabagets talaga at

Lalo na nang si Angelika de la Cruz as Lucy, nabisto nang siya pala ang kumidnap sa anak ni Sunshine Cruz as Belinda na si Ana kaya pinaghahanap na siya ng mga pulis. Nag-sorry na nga ako kay Angelu de Leon as Aurora para sa mga kasamaang ginawa ko sa kanila ni Kylene Alcantara as Elsa. Pero magkaka-roon ng bagong villain sa show, si Gabby Eigenmann as George

who felt betrayed pagkatapos na umurong si Belinda at ayaw nang ituloy ang showbiz career niya after matagpuan ang nawawalang anak at maging reunited na sila nito. Paplanuhin naman niyang maghiganti kina Belinda at Anna.”
Off camera, Therese is a very obedient to her mom, Cherry Malvar, who’s also a character actress. Despite her hectic

showbiz work, she strives hard to continue with her studies. “Yes, I make it a point to do my homework and assignments kaya dinadala ko sila sa set so I can do them during shooting breaks,” she says. “It’s good high tech na tayo kaya, with the help of my laptop, I can accomplish the requirements I need in school while I’m working on the set. I promised my parents

na hindi ko pababayaan ang aking pag-aaral kaya naman I’m doing my best para tuparin ‘yon, kasi alam ko namang it’s for my own good. We all know naman na ang acting is not always stable so mas mabuti na rin kung may maganda akong fallback kung wala nang magandang offers sa’kin sa showbiz.”

WIN FILIPINO CENTRE ORS OF THE YEAR

by Tony A. San Juan,OCT

The winners of this first-ever top recognition are Caroline Banez, Norma Carpio, Teodorico “Ted” Dayno, Agnes P. Miranda, Rafael “Paeng” Nebres, George Poblete, and Arturo T. Viola. Three other seniors, namely Erlinda Insigne, Rolando M. Dela Cruz and Joel Reda were presented with “Certificates of Recognition” as well.

Evaluated, deliberated and analysed, the OFCSYA judges selected the winners according to profession, civic affiliation, community & volunteer work, professional association or union

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para lang kaming naglalaro sa taping namin. Pati ibang co-stars namin, puro mas bata, like Solenn Heussaff, Sheena Halili, Kiray Celis, Michelle Dee. So magaan ang trabaho ng lahat. Feeling ko, introducing ulit ako and I have nothing to complain about, but only a lot to be thankful for.”
In “Love You Two”, Gabby plays Jake, a rich hotel owner who

is initially at odds with Jennylyn Mercado as Raffy, who he hired to do some designs for his hotel. Complications occur when both Jennylyn and her younger sister, Shaira Diaz as Sam, both fall in love with the irresistible Gabby.
A lot of writers wanting to interview Gabby one-on-one at the presscon of “Love You Two” were disappointed. Right after

the question-and-answer portion, Gabby quickly left, obviously avoiding being interviewed more intimately. He’s currently in the news because his younger brother Mike filed a case in court against him for “fraudulent sales” of a family property.
While Gabby seems to be hiding, Mike is allowing himself to be interviewed in various media. He was on DZMM saying

to Gabby: “Bro, you have a lot of the things that can make this right. Sundan mo lang ‘yon and everything will be back to normal. We can have breakfast tomorrow morning sa bahay, we can hug each other, we can do what we used to do. That’s all. Maisauli lang, mailagay lang sa ayos lahat and all will be fine.”

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Cindy Kurleto, iniwan ang showbiz dahil sin-
abihan ng limang doktor na ‘hindi na siya magkakanak’



Inamin ng aktres at modelong si Cindy Kurleto na ang kagustuhan niyang maging isang ina ang nagtulak sa kanya para iwanan ang show business at manirahan sa ibang bansa. Ayon sa isang pahayag sa GMA News, nagkaroon daw si Kurleto ng polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS), isang kondisyon na nakaapekto sa hormone level ng isang babae kaya nagkaroon ito ng komplikasyon na magbuntis.

Hindi rin daw naging madali ang pagharap ni Kurleto sa nasabing sakit dahil limang doktor na ang nagsabi sa kanya na hindi na raw siya magkakanak dahil sa kanyang kondisyon.

“At the end of my ten years in show business, I had a hormonal imbalance which led me to have PCOS and five doctors told me that I will never have children,” paliwanag ni Kurleto na nagbabalik sa Pilipinas para sa ilang commitments.

Sinabi pa ni Kurleto na ang stressful environment daw ng showbiz ang isa sa mga nakapagpalala ng kanyang kondisyon kaya minarapat na lamang niyang magpahinga muna sa kanyang trabaho sa loob ng isang dekada.

“I wasn’t fertile because of the stressful environment that I was in,” paglalahad ni Kurleto.

Gayunman, kaiba sa sinabi ng limang doktor na tumingin kay Kurleto, ngayon ay ganap na siyang ina sa dalawang anak na babae.

Kuwento ni Kurleto, binago niya ang kanyang lifestyle upang mas matugunan ang pangangailangan ng katawan para magkaroon sila ng anak ng asawang si Daniel.

“I changed my lifestyle around and I try to live healthier,” sabi ni Kurleto.

Masayang namumuhay sina Kurleto, ang kanyang asawa at dalawang anak na sina Noa, 9, at Lima, 2, sa Vienna.

Binago raw ng pangyayaring ito ang pananaw ni Kurleto sa buhay at mas pinahalagahan ang kanyang kalusugan bago ang anupamang bagay.

Kinakailangan niya rin daw mamuhay nang malusog ngayon dahil kailangan niyang alagaan ang kanyang mga anak.

Iniwan ni Kurleto ang showbiz noong 2007 para lumipad sa Peru kasama ang asawa, at kalaunan ay nanirahan sa Vienna upang alagaan ang ama niyang may karamdaman.

Jessy Mendiola slams
bodyshamer criticizing
her boobs

Hindi pinalampas ni Jessy Mendiola ang isang bodyshamer na malisyosong pinuna ang kanyang boobs.

Binatikos si Jessy ng isang netizen na nagkomento sa post niya.

Sabi ng netizen, “Bat lawlaw dede mo?”

Prangkang sagot ni Jessy, “OA ka naman sa lawlaw [laughing with tears] ganyan ang normal na boobs hindi tayong tayo”

Dinepensahan din si Jessy ng ilan niyang Instagram followers na nagsabing wala raw modo ang netizen na nambatikos sa aktres.

Sila na rin mismo ang kumastigo sa bodyshamer upang matigil na ito sa paninira sa 26-year-old Kapamilya actress.

Sadyang may mga pagkakataon daw na kailangang paalalahanan ang netizens na hindi tamang basta na lang sila manira ng tao. “It’s more of letting the person know kung ano yung totoo. Kung ano yung truth mo. And I don’t see anything wrong with that, di ba?”

Despite rift, director Jadaone reaches out to Nadine Lustre after FAMAS win

Nadine Lustre holding the Best Actress trophy at FAMAS 2019. (Instagram/fdcppofficial) Despite the misunderstanding that occurred between the two last year, director Antoine Jadaone congratulated Nadine Lustre for winning Best Actress in the 67th FAMAS Awards for “Never Not Love You.”

The 25-year-old actress bested nominees Judy Ann Santos, Angelica Panganiban and Perla Bautista who have lengthier acting experiences.

Lustre in her acceptance speech shared that she initially did not want to star in “Never Not Love You” since she was facing a very difficult challenge in her life that time.

“October 2017, may malaking bagyo na dumating sa buhay ko, sobrang laki ng damage na ginawa sa buhay ko. Ilang beses ko din po gustong umatras. Kahit po nandun ako sa lowest point ng buhay ko, naitawid ko po with flying colors,” she said.

That time, the actress admitted that she was struggling with depression. Her younger brother also passed away.

Jadaone, the director she worked with in the movie, congratulated the actress on Twitter and cited other roles Nadine took on in their projects together.

Jadaone has worked with Lustre in the television series “On the Wings of Love,” “Till I Met You” and the drama-romance film “Never Not Love You.”

Lustre shared a picture of her FAMAS trophy on her Instagram Stories and tagged people she had worked with in the movie—Jadaone, Dan Villegas and her boyfriend, James Reid.

“Atin to,” she wrote as a text within the picture.

The rift Not too long ago, Jadaone and Lustre were embroiled in a controversy during the filming of “Never Not Love You.”

The director in her blog on Jan. 15, 2018 lamented the unexpected cancellation of the shooting dates, saying that filming the entire movie was “becoming erratic.”

“Filming for #foolishmovie is becoming erratic. Sayang, andun na ang momentum eh. More and more shooting days canceled — some reasons more heartbreaking than others, so heartbreaking they make me cry,” Jadaone wrote.

She did not directly mention any names but she used a hashtag that was associated with her earlier blog posts stating she had a project with Lustre and James Reid.

Two days after, Lustre shared an Instagram Story of what appeared to be an x-ray scan and wrote, “Diarrhea, fever, severe back pain since last Friday. That’s all you need to know.”

The actress also shared in an interview that she was diagnosed with an inverted cervical curve on her back, apart from her scoliosis.

By February 2018, social media users noticed that Lustre stopped following Jadaone on Instagram. The director eventually admitted that she pressured the love team to work faster so that the movie could be released on its play date on Mar. 31, 2018.

NO OHIP OUT OF CANADA?

The Ontario government is proposing to end OHIP coverage for Canadians travelling outside of the country. According to the proposal, the amendment “aligns with government’s commitment to implement changes to restore accountability and trust in the use of taxpayer dollars and to bring greater modernization, efficiency and transparency to OHIP to benefit both providers and patients.” “Ontarians who decide to travel outside of

Canada may continue to seek the best, most comprehensive coverage from travel insurance companies who already cover 94 per cent of reimbursement for eligible costs related to emergency care services out of country,” the proposal reads. If the amendment passes, the change would start October 1. OHIP currently covers up to \$400 a day for out of country inpatient care.



She also shared that she reached out to Lustre to talk about the issue.

“Ang ginawa ko nung lumabas ‘yun, kinausap ko agad si Nadine. ‘Yun ang first instinct ko. Actually nasa soap nga ako noon, nagdi-direct ako noon. Hindi ako makapag-direct. Hala kailangan ko makausap si bakla,” Jadaone recalled.

“So tinext ko siya, ‘Te, may ginagawa ka ba? Tawagan kita.’ Sabi niya, ‘Ay direk, nasa shoot ako.’ Minessage ko siya after,” she added.

As of now, the two appear to be on friendly terms and has continued following each other on Instagram.

Janella Salvador opens up about depression after breakup with Elmo

Actress and singer Janella Salvador opened up about her depression after her breakup with ex-boyfriend Elmo Magalona, who she accused of physical abuse back in 2018.

“I got depressed, I didn’t want to get out of the house anymore,” she said. However, she received text messages from three different friends who were not particularly close, like actress Erich Gonzales.

“[She] told me, ‘Hi Jea, I know we just became friends now but I feel like I’m very much connected with you and I think God wants to tell you this,’” she said. “She sent me a long message telling me that there is something better in store for you, God wants to tell you that...”

She attested it is in time of need when one realizes that God is there. “I didn’t realize it while I was there, but I gave too much of myself away that I forgot that I had my own person.”

Magalona has not apologized to Salvador after the alleged physical altercation, but despite his refusal, Salvador shared back in March that she forgives him nevertheless.

It was also reported in October 2018 that Salvador sought professional counseling after the alleged abuse.



LEFT, Sir Mauro “Jun” Calaguio, Jr, KGOR of the Knights of Rizal, Canada Region (seated left) posed with Talakayan Radyo Filipino broadcast staff after a discussion on Dr Jose Rizal’s early European studies & travels (1882-1885), at MCBN TV Pinoy Radio station on April 13, 2019. L-R: producers Sir Jess Cabrias & Lady May Cabrias, and Tony A. San Juan. Back row: Sir Joe Damasco, Sir Nelson Galvez and Sir Bobby Achacon. (Photo by May Cabrias)

RIGHT, The Talakayan Radyo Filipino broadcast staff with Action Honda general manager Rafael Nebres and service advisor Ronaldo Aquino at MCBN -TV Pinoy Radio studio on March 30, 2019. L-R: Nelson Galvez, R. Nebres, Jess Cabrias, R. Aquino & Tony A. San Juan. Back: Joe Damasco & Bobby Achacon. (Photo by Nestor Von Canton).



Tom RodriGuez, Not too concerned about TV Ratings



Bulalas niya, “Sobra! Hindi ako nakagalaw nung second day, gumugulong akong parang uod sa kamal!” Kapag nagkaroon ng pagkakataon ay itutuloy ni Tom ang rowing bilang regular sport activity niya. “Gusto ko sana. “Medyo inaano

For Kapuso actor Tom Rodriguez, TV ratings, whether afternoon or prime time, don’t really matter: “Sa akin it’s no different, e. For me it’s the same.”

“As long as I’m there working with brilliant people, with people who are just as excited and just as passionate to be where they are, I already feel like a winner. “Sa akin hindi ko inisip yung... “I know it’s seguro bad of me to think about it, pero hindi naman sa dini-disregard ko yung rating, coz I know that it’s important. “Pero since it’s not something I directly have influence over, I mean kung ano lang naman yung trabaho ko, iyon lang makakaya kong gawin, e.

“So dun lang ako nagpuo-focus, so nagpu-focus ako sa kung ano yung mae-enjoy ko. “Iyon nga, itong team na napakagaling at napakapassionate sa ginagawa nila. “Sobrang excited ako na makasama sila, ganun kababaw yung iniisip ko usually when I’m preparing for a show. “So whether it’s primetime or afternoon, for me it’s the same level of stakes and passion.” Sa Dragon Lady ay gumaganap si Tom bilang si Michael Chan at si Janine dito si Celestina Sanchez.

SHAPING UP FOR HIS ROLE Passionate si Tom sa kanyang acting career kaya bukod sa pag-aaral ng Mandarin ay nag-aral siya ng rowing. May eksena kasi sa Dragon Lady na nasa isang rowing competition siya. Lahad niya, “One day lang, kasi humingi ako sa GMA na kung puwede akong mag-immers sa kanila. “Pinagbigyan ako, yun nga lang the next day nag-taping na kami.” Na-enjoy ni Tom ang rowing.

ko kasi grabe kapag nasa ilalim ka ng araw dun. “Kahit naka-sunblock ka hindi tumatalab,” at tumawa si Tom. Ready din si Tom sa shirtless scenes niya sa Dragon Lady. “Kasi ngayon naka-keto diet na ako. “So far, parang okay naman sa akin. “Ang hirap lang ng walang... ang dairy bawas, tsaka yung mga carbs talaga,” hinaing niya. Nakakatulong din daw sa allergy ni Tom ang keto diet. Patuloy niyang kuwento, “I initially thought na since I have to prepare for a new role, I have to lose weight. “At the same time, it might help me with my atopic dermatitis, yung allergies na meron ako. “Sabi nila, since lately me-

“Sa akin it’s no different, e. For me it’s the same.”

dyo umaano siya nung umuwi ako ng Pilipinas galing sa States, nagpe-flare up, sabi daw a keto diet is ano... kasi carbs is very inflammatory, e. “So nakaka-inflame yung ano, nakakamaga yung mga rice, kahit mga quinoa. “So for me daw, baka makatulong.” Bago magsimula ang taping nila para sa Dragon Lady ay nagbakasyon sa Amerika si Tom. Any wedding bells para sa kanila ni Carla Abellana this year? “Ahh... I don’t wanna put a definite date to it, pero working up to it.” This year kaya? “Secret,” natatawa niyang hirit.

Arci gets a new ally in Rufa Mae: ‘Pareho kaming baliw’

ARCI Munoz is so busy both on the big and small screen. Her movie, “Last Fool Show”, with JM de Guzman is currently showing in theaters nationwide. And now, she’s doing another new movie with JC Santos. Tentatively titled “Open”, this is about a mature, open relationship and will require them to do sexy scenes, co-starring Vance Larena and Alexa Ilacad, under the direction of Andoy Ranay. So is she ready to be more daring and sexy? “Okay lang, kasi maganda talaga ‘yung material. First time ipapakita how couples in a long time relationship would react when they decide to open up their relationship. ‘Yung dapat, walang selosan. Let’s see kung ano’ng mangyayari.” On TV, Arci is now taping a new teleserye for ABS-CBN, “Project Kapalaran”, where she co-stars with Sylvia Sanchez, Joey Marquez and JM de Guzman. With iWant, she plays the leading lady in a new comedy show, “Jhon and Martian”. They call this an intergalactic romcom since Arci plays an alien named 223 from the planet Mars. 223 falls down to earth and meets comedian Pepe Herrera as Jhon, a delivery boy who gets her space ship, which has been reduced to miniature size, by mistake.

“Kulang na nga ako sa tulong kaya ako nagkakasakit,” she says at the presscon of “Jhon and Martian”. “Buti’t nagagawa pa rin namang ayusin ng handler ko ang very hectic schedule ko.” How is it working with Pepe Herrera in “Jhon en Martian”, where they even have a kissing scene? “First time naming magkasama at magaan siyang katrabaho. ‘Yung kissing scene, required ‘yun sa story kasi the Martians communicate directly through their lips para maipahatid ang thoughts nila sa mga tagalupa. Nag-imbento sila rito ng sariling Martian language at ‘yun ang ginagamit ko sa umpisa, hanggang magkahalikan nga kami ni Pepe at dahil doon, nakakapag-Tagalog na ako. Wholesome po kami rito. Sa planet namin, gusto akong ipakasal sa isang taga-Pluto so I escape at napadpad nga ako sa Earth.” Rufa Mae Quinto plays her mother as the Martian Queen. How is it working with her? “Ang saya! First time namin to work together but nagkahulihan kami agad ng loob kasi pareho kaming baliw. Tawanan kami at kuwentuhan lagi sa set. Napagkuwentuhan na namin ang buong buhay namin and I’m learning so much from her kasi natural comedienne siya.”

Janine’s siblings not interested in show biz ... for now



Clockwise from top left: Jessica Gutierrez, Maxine Gutierrez, Janine Gutierrez, Lotlot de Leon and Diego Gutierrez —INSTAGRAM

Actress Janine Gutierrez initially did not want to enter show biz when she was younger because, as she recently told us, the unexpected acting commitments of her parents—Lotlot de Leon and Ramon Christopher—would sometimes get in the way of planned family time when she was a kid. But she eventually found herself interested in an acting career, as well, and learned to love the business. The “Dragon Lady” actress, now 29, and with a number of

high-profile film and TV credits under her belt, is busier than ever. Janine, the eldest of four, has similarly good-looking siblings—two sisters and a brother. But while some of them have had modeling gigs, do they wish to follow in her and their parents’

footsteps? “Right now, they say no, pero ‘yun din ang sinabi ko dati, so I’m not sure,” Janine tells the Inquirer of her siblings (Jessica, Diego and Maxine), with whom she is close. In their Instagram pages, the kids post photos with each other during down time. And, speaking of family, Janine feels elated that her mom has found happiness and tied the knot with Fadi El Soury last December. “I’m happy for her,” Janine declares. “I saw during the wedding how [the] family was so supportive.” The actress adds: “I really wanted to be there for her and show her that she deserves to be happy.”

Jayda Avanzano thanks Darren Espanto for defending her against bashers



Jayda Avanzano denies copying Ylona Garcia: “Hindi po. I’m focused on being true and myself both as a person.” Malaki ang pasasalamat ni Jayda Avanzano, 15, sa at kap-singer yang Dar- Espanto, 17, sa pagtatanggol nito mula sa mga bumabatikos sa kanya sa social media. Pahayag ng baguhang singer, “I’m very appreciative and I’m very thankful to have a friend like Darren. “And I’m just thankful for the love and support that I’ve been getting from everybody else.” Matatandaang nitong March 7, mismong si Jessa ang sumagot sa isang basher ni Jayda na natukoy bilang isang fan ni Darren. Inakusahan ng nasabing basher na ginagaya umano ni Jayda ang kapwa ABS-CBN talent na si Ylona Garcia. Sa pakikipagpalitan ng tweets ng naturang fan ni Darren sa isang kaibigan nito, umabot pa sa puntong sinabihan nito si Jayda ng “kill that girl” laban kay Jayda, dahilan upang lubos mag-alala ang mag-asawang Jessa at Dingdong. Pinagtanggol naman ni Darren si Jayda sa Twitter and sinabing, “Please RESPECT JAYDA and STOP THE HATE.”

NOT COPYING ANYONE Samantala, itinanggi rin ni Jayda ang paratang na ginagaya umano nito si Ylona. Aniya, “Hindi po. I’m focused on being true and authentic to myself both as an artist and as a person.” Pahayag pa nito, “I feel like, part of it is being in showbiz. Hindi maiiwasan to be compared. “But I don’t have much to say on that.” Alam ni Jayda na makakatanggap ito ng samu’t saring komento bilang isang artista lalo na sa social media, kaya naman handa na ito sa mga negatibong komentong matatanggap niya. “I think it’s something that I was kind of aware that it comes with it when you step into the business. “But I think, you know, to a certain extent, you have to get used to it.” Dagdag pa nito, “That still doesn’t justify that people should be able to be allowed to do it. “I think people should be held accountable for their actions.” Paano naman kaya siya nagre-react sa mga negative comments na natatanggap niya sa social media? Sagot ng Kapamilya singer, “It depends on what it is, but as much as possible, I don’t let it get to me. “But if it’s constructive criticism, I try to use it to better myself as a person and as an artist.”

MayWard signs contracts with ABS-CBN



LOVE team MayWard, consisting of Maymay Entrata and Edward Barber, officially inked their respective two-year network contracts with ABS-CBN. Edward currently top-bills the recently launched fantaserye “Hiwaga Ng Kambal” which replaced “Wansapanataym.” “Everybody works doubly hard on the set. You may see them tired after a long day but everything’s worth it just to make our Kapamilyas happy,” shared Edward. Maymay, who also appears on the said program, is busy taping for the Kathryn-Alden movie “Hello, Love, Goodbye.” “I was very nervous on the first few days of the shoot. But I’ve already adjusted and have learned to be more comfortable especially, now, that I’ve seen how caring they can get with their colleagues,” Maymay remarked. Present in the signing were ABS-CBN chairman Mark Lopez, ABS-CBN president and chief executive officer Carlo Katigbak, chief operating officer of broadcast Cory Vidanes, head of treasury, investor relations, business decision support & finance operations cluster 2 Rick Tan, Star Magic head Johnny Manahan, and Edward Barber’s father Kevin.

The Filipino Centre, Toronto receives Government of Canada Grant



The Filipino Centre, Toronto received \$100,000.00 grant funded by the Government of Canada’s 2018 Enabling Accessibility Fund (EAF) program – small projects component. The Enabling Accessibility Fund (EAF) provides funding for eligible projects that increase accessibility for people with disabilities in Canadian communities and workplaces, creating more opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in community activities, programs and services, or access employment opportunities. Shown in photo is Shaun Chen, MP Member of the Canadian Parliament for Scarborough North presenting the grant and certificate to FCT officers and board members during the FCT Spring Gala.

Boobay & Ate Gay to entertain T.O. fans on October 12

Boobay thankful for support after 'TBATS' beat 'GGV' in the ratings war

Prior to the premiere of “The Boobay and Tekla Show” (TBATS) in January, comedian Boobay admitted that he was nervous about the show going up against the long-running “Ganding Gabi, Vice” (GGV).

But Boobay, whose real name is Norman Balbuena, can now breathe a little.

According to AGB Nielsen, the weekly talk-comedy program “TBATS” has been beating its competitor in the ratings war since its pilot on Jan. 27. Latest figures (March 10) show “TBATS” getting 5.3 percent compared to “GGV’s” 3.9.

“We didn’t have any intention of competing; we just wanted to have fun and make viewers laugh,” Boobay told reporters in an interview during a GMA 7 regional tour in Baguio City early this month. “But we’re thankful our

porters for the good ratings. I don’t want to compare, will just on our needs done,” added. The show, which originally a weekly online contains segments that include skits, riotous discussions about pop culture, celebrity interviews, live pranks, mances, as man-on-the interviews. Like most entertainers in show biz, Boobay used to have a “work, work, work” mindset where his career con-

cerned. He went from one taping to the next and did as many gigs as his schedule allowed.

But after suffering a stroke in 2016, Boobay learned the hard way that there’s no job more valuable than one’s health—and life.

“I have learned that it’s important for us to put a premium on our health. Our bosses always re-mind us to we rest, so can give in tapings shows,” Boobay, need-

dergo speech therapy after being hospitalized for a week.

The Katalent, who topbills “TBATS” with fellow standup performer and television host Super Tekla, has been getting more offers than ever before.

But Boobay has also become smarter in how he handles his career and health, making sure to listen to what his body tells him. “I’m getting old, so every so often, I have lutang moments. But once I feel I’m starting to get exhausted, I slow down or take a day off,” said the 32-year-old celeb, who has trimmed his stint in “Unang Hirit” from five times a week to three.

Boobay also looks for different ways to relieve stress. Luckily, spending time with my family, or playing with his “baby”—6-year-old Shih Tzu Kendra—usually does the trick.

Coco Martin’s simple text brings overwhelming joy to Ate Gay

Ate Gay spotted Coco Martin at Bacolod airport. He sent Coco a DM to confirm if it was really him. Coco Martin replied and it overjoyed the comedian.

Comedian Ate Gay, out of

extreme happiness, he can’t help but share it to the world his short text message exchange with Coco Martin.

He sent an SMS to Coco saying that he spotted the “FPJ’s Ang Probinsyano” star in Bacolod.

The comedian wrote, “Nasa Bacolod ka. Nakita kita airport hehe.”

After 30 minutes, he was caught by surprise when he received a reply from Martin and answered, “Sayang di tayo nagkita. Manila npo ako now.”

He immediately replied, “Ang saya ko naman sumagot ka hahaha. salamat mwaaah.”

Ate Gay posted their conversation on Instagram captioned, “Eh yung Napasaya nya ako ng sobra sa pagsagot nya hahaha ang

sayaaaaaah kooooooooh.”

Boobay and Ate Gay will entertain you, make you laugh and make you forget your problems on October 12.

They will be joined by our Toronto artists.

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2. Samantha Gavin
3. Angela Castillo
4. Angelica Tagatad
5. Lady Diana Alvaro
6. Audrey Bushell
7. Angelica Ladouceur
8. Chollo Lagdameo
9. Ariana Pantaleon



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Michelle Madrigal marries American boyfriend in Texas

Michelle Madrigal is now married to her American boyfriend, Troy Woolfolk. The couple tied the knot in Austin, Texas last April 12 (U.S. time). Base sa mga larawang lumabas sa social media, dumating ang ilan sa mga kaibigan ni Michelle at ang kapatid nitong si Ehra Madrigal. Ilang araw bago ang kasal ay nag-post pa si Ehra ng litrato kasama ang kanyang kapatid. Huling napanood si Michelle sa teleseryeng Pasion de Amor, na siyang naging comeback project niya sa ABS-CBN pagkatapos niyang maging bahagi ng GMA-7 sa mahabang panahon.

Tumakbo ang teleserye mula June 2015 to March 2016. Bago pa matapos ang Pasion de Amor noong January 2016, lumipad na patungong Texas, USA, si Michelle para sa kanyang “culinary journey.” Dito niya nakilala si Troy, na tinatawag niyang “MyWillSmith.” May 2017 nang inanunsiyo ni Michelle na siya ay 13 weeks pregnant sa panganay nila ni Troy. Noong July 2017, ilang buwan bago manganak si Michelle, ay na-engage siya kay Troy. Noong October 2017, nagsilang si Michelle ng isang baby girl, at pinagalaman nila itong Annika Austin.

Lorin Gutierrez, now all grown up, is a beauty queen in the making



Lorin Gutierrez, the firstborn of Ruffa Gutierrez, will turn 15 this 2019. Lorin Gutierrez is all grown up now. The young model surprised Instagram when her mom Ruffa Gutierrez posted a poolside photo of her wearing a printed bikini. Ruffa captioned, “Family bonding with my first born @loringabriella” Sarah Lahbati, Phoemela Baranda, Sunshine Cruz, and Almira Muhlach were among the first to comment on Lorin’s photo. Sarah wrote, “Insaanaaane [fire emoji] [red heart emoji] my beauty queen” Almira seconded this, writing, “Beauty queen [crown emoji]” Sunshine remarked, “Beautiful Lorin!!!” Phoemela added, “Oh em gee thought Kendall?” “Kendall” is international model Kendall Jenner.

FUTURE BEAUTY QUEEN? Ruffawas asked about the idea of her firstborn joining beauty pageants back in 2017. The former Binibining Pilipinas World said, “She’s thinking more about college. Happy ako na ganun.” A year later, Lorin told the press at her first endorsement event that pageantry was the farthest thing from her mind. When asked to choose between becoming a beauty queen and acting, the young Gutierrez said she’d go for the latter. But if acting would turn out to be “too time-consuming,” Lorin would “rather focus on school.” The young lady, who will be 16 on August 3, 2019, plans to pursue a Business degree in college.

Coco Martin, Yassi Pressman cozy in Japan amid romance rumors

Amid romance rumors, Coco Martin still remains close to FPJ’s Ang Probinsyano leading lady Yassi Pressman. Hindi nakaligtas sa mapanuring netizens ang umano’y pag-aalaga ni Coco Martin kay Yassi Pressman habang namamasyal sila sa Japan. Si Yassi ay halos tatlong taon nang leading lady ni Coco sa ABS-CBN prime-time series na FPJ’s Ang Probinsyano. Noong April 18 lumipad ng Japan sina Coco, Yassi, at iba pang cast members ng show para sa show na Kapamilya Fiesta World Japan. Base sa pangtrabahong Instagram account ni Coco, nagkaroon ng pagkakataon ang kanilang grupo na lumibot sa Asakusa Temple sa Tokyo, April 19. Dito napanin ng netizens ang sunud-sunod na posts kung saan makikitang tila sweet si Coco kay Yassi. Sa isang litrato, tila tinutulungan ni Coco na ayusin ang mga dala-dalang gamit ni Yassi. Hindi maiwasang bigyang-pansin ang sweet gesture ni Coco lalo pa’t kamakailan lang ay naangkat ang espekulasyong may namumuo diumanong magandang pagtiinginan sa pagitan ng aktor at ni Yassi.

May hiwalay ding video na nakabandera ang pag-akbay ni Coco kay Yassi habang kinukunan sila ng litrato ng kapatid ng aktres na si Issa Pressman. KILIG REACTIONS Marami sa mga tagasuporta ng tambalan nina Coco at Yassi ang kinilig at naghinalang tohohan na raw ang ugnayan ng dalawa.



Sa comments section, nagsihulaan ang mga netizens at panay sina Julia at Coco ang binabanggit. Ilang industry insiders ang nagsabing nanganak na si Julia at si Coco ang ama. Diumano, hindi raw maamin-amin ni Coco ang tungkol dito “dahil mayroon na itong ibang napupusuan, at nangangamba itong makasira ang balita sa bagong relasyon.” Parehong tahimik ang kampo nina Coco at Julia sa isyu. Sa parte ni Yassi, noon ding April 8 ay may sinagot siyang netizen na inakusahan siyang third party sa ugnayang Coco at Julia. Sinabi ni Yassi na hindi welcome sa kanyang Instagram feed ang anumang negatibong comments. Nasundan ito ng cryptic posts ni Yassi tungkol sa kanyang pagbabakasyon sa Palawan upang maibsan daw ang pinagdadaanan niyang problema. Kung ano man ito ay hindi naman binanggit ng aktres.

Jennylyn denies she’s living in with Dennis

JENNYLYN Mercado is happy to be back on primetime TV after the thriller, “The Cure”, which ended in July of last year. Her co-star in that show, Ken Chan, has since been quickly given “My Special Tatay” and it has also ended. It took almost 8 months before Jen is given a new show, “Love You Two”, which pairs her for the first time with Gabby Concepcion. How does she feel about it? “Well, I’m really happy to be doing a romantic comedy again kasi bahagi ito ng comfort zone ko as an actress,” she says. “Even sa movies, andami kong nagawang rom-coms. But I must admit that during the start of our taping

for ‘Love You Two’, kabado ako kasi first time ko to work with my leading man, and let’s face it, Gabby Concepcion yan, ano? Medyo starstruck ako noong una at sa pictorial pa lang, parang nahihya ako sa kanya. Sa taping naman, nabubulol ako, nalilimutan ko ang lines ko sa first few scenes namin. Sir Gabby pa ang tawag ko sa kanya kasi I didn’t know how to address him. Pero sabi niya Kuya na lang. And very friendly naman siya, approachable, laging nagjo-joke, so naging comfortable din ako agad sa kanya. It also helps that our director, Irene Villamor, na first time ko rin to work with, ang gaan katrabaho so enjoy lang kami sa taping.”



So what occupied her time while she’s not busy acting? “Di ba I started some businesses? Isa roon ‘yung pagbake ng cookies. Kasosyo ko si Dennis (Trillo, her inamorato) at kung minsan, he joins me in baking cookies na talagang nakakaaliw naman and it’s doing good business.” But she quickly clarifies that the speculation she and Dennis are living in are not true. “Hindi po, hindi po kami live in. Nagpupunta lang siya sa’min to help me, but may sarili naman siyang bahay. May bago rin kaming business that will be launched soon. Malalaman nyo later kung ano. It’s something really big.”

GTA Toronto Hoops to Conduct Summer Palarong Basketball 2019

By: Bob A. San Juan



The First GTA Hoops Basketball Invitational Tournament graced by special guests Hon. Marco Mendicino, MP for Eglinton-Lawrence and Hon. Michael Levitt, MP for York-Centre at HoopDome June 16, 2019.

Once again the ever-popular sporting league, the GTA Hoops, will host its “2nd Annual Basketball Invitational” competitions on June 14, 15 & 16, 2019. The 3-day exciting event known as the Palarong Basketball - 2019 will be conducted at the HoopDome, Downsview Park, 75 Carl Hall Road, North York, Toronto.

The Palarong Basketball is being held in the Filipino Canadian community in conjunction with the inaugural commemoration of “June Filipino Heritage Month” across Canada as proclaimed by the Canadian Parliament in the House of Commons on October 22, 2019. As most basketball aficionados will attest that playing basketball is “Pinoy’s national sports” and, almost “a national pastime”..... a genuine part of our Filipino heritage. According to the organizers, the Paloro will have 11 age-group player divisions, such as: 2009 - Novice; 2008 - Atom; 2007 - Major Atom; 2006 - Bantam; 2005 - Major Bantam; 2004 - Midget; 2003 - Juvenile; 2001/2002 - Junior; 2000 & older - Open; 2004 & younger - Girls; and 2003 & older - Ladies. As usual, leading basketball teams from the Greater Toronto Area and suburban communities are expected to join the challenging basketbolan liga. Interested participating clubs and teams are requested

and encouraged to register early. 3 games are guaranteed to be played by each team. Registration deadline is set on June 1, 2019 (Saturday). Team directors and leaders are requested to contact any of the following: call/text Bob San Juan -416-697-5197; Manny Villamor -905-301-6118; Roger Tarca -416-527-7784 or Vilma Tahsin -416-697-7201 or email: gta hoopsbasketball@gmail.com. Moreover, a meeting of the leaders and /or representatives of participating ball clubs will be called sometime in May 2019. Every registered ball club or participating team will be duly invited and notified to attend, accordingly. The members of GTA Hoops Basketball Organizing Committee are sponsoring and conducting anew the summer tournament in purposeful pursuit and support of community and youth development through friendly games of competitive basketball. Specifically, the organizers expect and hope to help promote sports fitness, discipline, leadership skills, fellowship and goodwill amongst the players, participants, officials, parents, sponsors and spectators alike. (BSJ/tsj)

JOJO TADURAN continued from page 17

He touched the lives of many. My Mom and I have been getting overwhelming messages from all over the world, many of which are from people we do not know. For the testimonies we



have been receiving, we are truly humbled and immensely proud. To our family, March 21, 2019 was a life-changer. This was the day when we found out that my Dad had pancreatic cancer and when we were told that he had “a few weeks to a few months” to live. He calmly accepted this information, and we had to follow his lead. My Mom and I promised each other that we would make however long he would have, to be private, memorable and comfortable. I told him I was going to write his story and he was enthusiastic about the idea. It was two-thumbs up! I spent the next few days talking to him about anything and everything. He relayed stories of his growing up days, getting started in his chosen career path, his experiences as a Journalist, the people he met. He left me words of wisdom. He left profound advice and messages for future grandchildren.



On March 29th, he went to bed at 9:30pm and woke up at 12:30am saying, “That was the best sleep I’ve had in days.” My Mom asked, “Do you feel rested?” to which he answered, “Not just rested, I feel rejuvenated!” He then sat down with my Mom for 4 hours, listening to his playlist, checking emails and his Facebook, going through photos and chatting. When they were tired, they lay down and he went to sleep peacefully. On March 30th, 2019, he signed -30- to his life story.

Papa, our time together will always be in our hearts. The week after your diagnosis was truly heartbreaking and painful, yet cathartic. Being able to spend all that time with you and being able to tell you how much I love you, and hearing you say that back to me, will always be in my heart and mind. We are devastated that you are physically gone but are comforted by the thought you will not have to endure the pain brought about by this terrible, terrible disease. There is so much to say about you and we all wish your story could have continued on further.



Phoebe Yap Chan, Fe and Jojo Tadiran, Ellen Galorport at Regine Tadiran’s wedding



JOAQUIN ‘Jojo’ T. TADURAN, Jr. (September 26, 1941 – March 30, 2019)

In your own fashion, you faced “the final curtain” and left the world your way. You would not have had it in any other way. We love you so so much! (April 5, 2019)

Jewish Prayer of Comfort by Sylvan Kamens & Rabbi Jack Riemer (Adapted)

At the rising sun and at its going down, We remember him.

At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter, We remember him.

At the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring, We remember him.

At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer, We remember him.

At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of the autumn, We remember him.

At the beginning of the year and when it ends, We remember him.

As long as we live, he too will live, for he is a part of us, We remember him.

When we are weary and in need of strength, We remember him.

When we are lost and sick at heart, We remember him.

When we have decisions that are difficult to make, We remember him.

When we have joy we crave to share, We remember him.

When we have achievements that are based on theirs, We remember him.

For as long as we live, they too will live, for they are now a part of us, We remember him.

PIDC welcomes Miss Universe, Catriona Gray to Toronto!!!



Toronto, ON, March 24, 2019/PIDC/ - “Philippines!!!” That was the enthusiastic cry of Miss Universe host, Steve Harvey, when he announced Catriona Gray as the winner of Miss Universe 2018. And with that, many Filipinos, globally, shared that same proud moment, from seeing one of their own reach such a crowning achievement on an international stage.

PIDC was humbled and delighted to welcome Catriona Gray, Miss Universe, to Toronto, as part of a charity gala, to benefit Bantay Bata 163. The gala event raised a total of \$6000.

The evening gala, which took place at the InterContinental Toronto Centre Hotel, offered Catriona Gray the opportunity to share her mission as reigning Miss Universe. Needless to say, those in attendance, experienced an unforgettable moment.

PIDC would like to thank the InterContinental Toronto Centre Hotel; WFG with Agnes Miranda; Knowledge First Financial; Task Network; Mercedes-Benz Burlington; Papercrane; Honeylen’s Event Management; Partyon Productions and Vintagebash Décor.

Apart from being graced by Miss Universe’s presence, other distinguished guests were in attendance, including Marta Stepan, Miss Universe Canada 2018 and MP Rob Oliphant.

Guests were treated to a number of performances from: Michael Elefano, Danny Orbillo, Thelma Dillon, PIDC pageant alumni Bianca Manlapaz (Little Miss Philippines PIDC 2016), Celine Grey (Miss Philippines PIDC 2016), Elizabeth Mabb (Miss Philippines PIDC 2017), and Melanie Lazarro (Miss Philippines PIDC 2018). The Mini Pops Kids rounded out the evening’s entertainment.

PIDC would like to thank Shawn Walen, recipient of the prestigious Certified Master Chef designation, who prepared an award-winning menu for the evening’s festivities.

Last, but not least, PIDC would like to

thank Cristina Carpio and Bea Santiago for sharing the emcee responsibilities, and keeping the crowd engaged, for the evening.

For more information about becoming a member, please contact us at: info@pidctoronto.com.

- About PIDC
- PIDC is an organization, whose main objective is to foster unity within the Filipino-Canadian community by showcasing the best of Philippine Arts, Culture and Heritage. Events for 2019, will include:
- Mrs. Philippines (Saturday, April 6, 2019, at Rembrandt Banquet Hall; featuring dinner, show and dance);
 - Salu Salo Community Potluck Picnic, marking the inaugural National Philippines Heritage Month (June 1, 2019, at Earl Bales Park);
 - Independence Day Flag Raising (Wednesday, June 12, 2019, at Toronto City Hall);
 - Mabuhay Cup (MCup) Basketball Tournament date TBD at Durham College);
 - Miss and Little Miss Philippines PIDC (Saturday, July 6, 2019); at Sandra Faire and Ivan Fecan Theatre, York University and
 - Mabuhay Philippines Festival (Friday, August 23, 2019 to Sunday, August 25, 2019, at Nathan Phillips Square).
- For additional information, on these events, as well as other upcoming events or to join and/or volunteer with PIDC, please check their website at www.pidctoronto.com or their Facebook, Instagram and Twitter page under Philippine Independence Day Council Toronto or pidc.toronto.

Barbie Imperial Experiences Wardrobe ‘Malfunction’ in Boracay

The Kapamilya actress took a quick break from work to relax in the white beaches of Boracay. And of course, her summer vacation will not be complete without a few Instagram-worthy shots.



For her Boracay vacation, the 20-year-old actress prepared several ‘outfits-of-the-day.’

However, prepared as she might be, Barbie still encountered wardrobe malfunction during her Boracay getaway. Apparently, some of the undergarments she brought were too loose for the petite actress.

If you think a little wardrobe malfunction will dampen Barbie’s summer spirit, then think again.

On Instagram, she shared how she managed to fix her clothes: “Pag hindi kasya ang bra, itali mo. Pag maluwag ang shorts, tahiin.”

Because of this, many people were impressed with the creativity of the actress! As expected, her Boracay photos immediately went viral. As of writing, one of her shots has already garnered more than 247,000 likes on Instagram alone.

Barbie’s photo also elicited praises from other celebrities like her half-sister Chiena Filomeno, Joj Appangan, Sarah Lahbati, Elise Jason, and many more.

Hunk Shot

Jeremie Macale

Jeremy's favourite food is pizza. Somedya, he wants to be a doctor. We wish him all the luck in his endeavours.

Sharon Cuneta prefers not to be on good terms with ex-husband Gabby Concepcion

After briefly patching things up early last year, former couple Sharon Cuneta and Gabby Concepcion had a falling out again a couple of months later.



Inamin ni Sharon Cuneta na hindi pa sila nagkakabating muli ng dating asawa na si Gabby Concepcion.

Pero ayon sa Megastar, mas mabuti na raw ito. Noong nakaraang linggo, nag-post si Sharon ng collage ng larawan nila ni KC Concepcion, anak ng singer-actress kay Gabby.

Caption dito ng singer-actress: “The VERY BEST PROJECT/PRODUCTION of Sharon & Gabby. She got her Pa’s perfectly handsome face, and most everything else from Ma.”

Sa comments section, isang fan ang nagtanong kay Sharon kung bati na ba sila ni Gabby. Sagot ng Megastar: “No pa nga eh. Hayaan na

natin buti na ganito.”

A VERY SHORT REUNION

Noong February 2018, nagkaroon ng TV reunion sina Sharon at Gabby para sa endorsement ng isang kilalang fastfood chain.

Nagkaayos ang dating mag-asawa at finollow pa nila ang isa’t isa sa Instagram.

Ikinatuwa naman ito ng anak nilang si KC.

Nagkaroon din ng planong magkaroon ng reunion movie ang dating magka-love team.

Pero pagdating ng April, nag-unfollow ang isa’t isa sa social media, kasunod ang balitang hindi na matutuloy ang kanilang reunion movie.

Hindi tinukoy kung ano ang pinag-ugatan ng muling pagkasira ng samahan nina Sharon at Gabby.

Pero matalinhaga ang posts at comments ng dating mag-asawa sa social media.

BIRTHDAY GREETING FOR KC

Samantala, ipinagdiwang ni KC ang kanyang 34th birthday nitong April 7, Linggo.

Idinaan nina Sharon at Gabby ang pagbati nila sa anak via social media.

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Filipino Good Life

RIGHT, Dr. Solon Guzman (4th FROM LEFT) celebrates his 55th birthday.

Lighten up, just enjoy life, smile more, laugh more...

Actor Kenneth Branagh once said “ Lighten up, just enjoy life, smile more, laugh more, and don’t get so worked up about things.” I believe Jojo lived life by that rule.

On April 6, Jojo Taduran, Dr. Solon Guzman and Clowie Layoso celebrated different milestones in their life.

Jojo Taduran left this world on that day. His family and friends attended mass at the Our Lady of Assumption before his body was brought to St. John’s Norway Cemetery and Crematorium to be cremated.

Dr. Solon Guzman was celebrating his 55th birthday that day.

Clowie Layoso was celebrating her 18th birthday that day.

I know what you are thinking. How could Jojo’s death be a celebration of life? You see, when a person dies, family and friends remem-

ber his life and how he lived it.

“His smile,” Father Ebcas said, of what he remembers about Jojo. “He always had that smile when he greeted me ‘how are you father?’”

There is a TV show entitled “A million little things.” You will be remembered for big things as well as the little things that you do to people. Obviously, Jojo loves to be around people. You wouldn’t be a member of many associations if do not love being surrounded by people, specially friends.

When Father Ebcas said that story about Jojo’s smile, I remember it too. Jojo always had a smile when he saw me. When he greeted friends, he always had a smile. And a joke. It may be a bad joke. But he will always follow



Jojo Taduran (FAR LEFT) wife Fe Paca-Taduran and me in one of our foodie outings at Cacao 70.

it with a laugh. You may not laugh but now that he’s gone, I know I will miss it. Why? Because if you were not having a good day, Jojo’s smile, that joke, and that laugh will make you feel a little better, a little lighter. You will not feel worse I can tell you that.

Like I said, “a million little things” and those are Jojo’s million little things, his smile, his joke and his laughter.

“Kulang na kayo, Kuya,” says Nathan Mendoza, referring to me, Jojo and his wife Fe when we go on our our foodie outings.

“I know,” I said. I will definitely miss him when we eat out. While we will surely miss him during our eat-outs, Jojo will be eating in GOD-ly company, GOD.

Then, there’s Dr. Solon Guzman who never



Debutante' Clowie Layoso (RIGHT) dances the 18 roses.

fails to celebrate his birthday, his wife’s birthday, his children’s birthdays, his mother’s birthday, etc... I wouldn’t be surprised if, one day, I get an invitation for a party for his househelp’s birthday. I always wondered if he ever gets tired of celebrating birthdays. I believe he doesn’t get tired of celebrating birthdays. He loves being with people. He loves celebrating life.

Clowie Layoso’s life is just starting. I don’t know much about her. She is one of the students of Star Circle Entertainment. All I can say is, “Clowie, enjoy life to the fullest like Uncle Jojo Taduran did and like what Dr. Solon Guzman is doing.”

Life is too short not to be enjoying it to the fullest with family and friends.

Ria Atayde ready to take a chance on JM de Guzman

He is worth taking the chance for,” said actress Ria Atayde when reporters asked her to confirm the rumor that fellow ABS-CBN artist JM de Guzman is courting her. However, Ria said she wasn’t sure of the actor’s real intentions.

“It’s hard to assume with this generation—labo-labo na kasi. It’s not like courtship in the past,” she said at a recent thanksgiving lunch she hosted with her brother Arjo and mom Sylvia Sanchez. “I feel more pressured whenever you (members of the media) are asking me about it. It’s like mas malaki ang issue kapag sa inyo. [But when we’re together], parang wala lang.”

The rumor between JM and Ria started when Arci Muñoz, JM’s good friend and leading lady in Eduardo Roy Jr.’s romantic comedy “Last Fool Show,” kept teasing the latter to Ria in one of their press conferences. JM even fanned the flames when he replied, during an ambush interview, that Ria “is someone I’d want to keep in my life forever.”

To this, Ria said: “I feel that if you have a connection with somebody no matter who he is, and if he has such a high value in your life, you’d truly want to keep him forever. I think that person is someone worth treasuring.”



The actress insisted that she and JM were simply “hanging out.” In fact, the two last saw each other at John Mayer’s concert in Hong Kong two weeks ago.

“As for the question ‘may pag-asa ba?’ I see no problem. We click. He is kind-hearted and respectful. Like me, he also loves his family so much; and yes, he is boyfriend material,” Ria pointed out.

JM entered a rehabilitation facility twice for drug dependence.

When asked what she thought of his “difficult past,” Ria replied: “I see no problem. I think he wouldn’t be the person he is now if he didn’t go through all of that. The person he is now is a good person and is worth giving the chance.”

However, she said they don’t see each other as often as people thought they do.

“We’re both busy. He isn’t someone who is fond of calling or sending text messages. We would communicate only when we feel like it,” she confessed. “Being single has been therapeutic for me. I’m able to focus on myself, able to explore more things. I feel like it’s been good for me.”

She added: “Having a relationship now would mean having less time for myself. It’s a matter of finding somebody who is worth breaking up with myself for. I hang out with a lot of couples. People would make fun of me on social media. Excuse me, ang sarap kayang maging single!”

As for the qualities she is looking for in a man, Ria said: “I have never liked someone because of his looks; as long as we click emotionally and mentally, as long as we have a connection.”

Jasmine says she’s no comparison to Anne

JASMINE Curtis Smith is ecstatic over the glowing reviews she received for her short but sweet appearance in “Sahaya” in its first two weeks. Everyone says she completely disappeared in the role of Manisan, a young Badjao maiden impregnated by a city boy and oppressed by her mother in law. Even her older sister, Anne Curtis, praised her and urged GMA to give a lead role next time. What’s her reaction to this?

“First of all, I want to thank all those who took time in posting on social media to praise my performance,” she says. “I was really overwhelmed by the good reviews and they’re all music to my ears. As always in any role I do, I just gave my 100 percent and I’m so glad viewers appreciate it. As for my Ate Anne, kinilig ako sa kanyang very sweet gesture and I want to thank her for always supporting me.”

How does her Ate Anne feel when people say that Jasmine is much better than her?

“Hindi naman namin napag-uusapan ‘yan. We



always encourage each other kapag may napapanood kami ng trabaho ng bawat isa na maganda ang execution. At saka, magkaiba naman kami.

Hindi naman ako singer like her. Hindi ako nakakapuno ng concert sa Araneta, siya ‘yun. Pinupuri niya talaga ako at ganun din naman ako sa kanya. Inaangat namin ang isa’t isa and we don’t treat it as a contest or competition.”

She’s glad to star in a new film, “Maledicto”, a horror movie, and it so happened she’s also doing two other horror flicks. We tell her she’s now the new Horror Queen. “Ay, ayokong ng ganyang title, ayokong ma-identify lang sa iisang genre,” she laughs. “Nataon lang, sunud-sunod nga ang horror na ginagawa ko. But I really like my role in ‘Maledicto’ as a nun.”

She finds her role very challenging. “To begin with, it’s my first time to play the role of a nun. Challenging din ‘yung possession scenes na habang may rite of exorcism, nagliliparan ang mga plato and other objects sa paligid namin.

FILIPINO CENTRE TORONTO continued from page 15

membership, professional certification, awards, honours, distinctions received, education and training, and overall assessment like effectiveness, impact, quality, commitment, engagement, and amount of accomplishments, contributions, service and volunteer time to the community before and after the age of 65.

The FCT-OFCSYA board of judges is composed of Dr Alice Herrera, University of the Philippines Alumni Association -Toronto President; Steve Pagao, Philippine Chamber of Commerce -Toronto President; Nita Rejdiak, Filipino Centre Toronto Director; Garry Tanuan, Toronto Catholic District School Board Trustee; Antonio Villarin, Toronto Solicitor-Barrister; and Tony A. San Juan, retired Toronto educator (Chairman).

Introducing briefly, Carol Banez, a registered nurse, is president of Scarborough Ontario Seniors Association & ex-president of Philippine Heritage Band; Norma Carpio, a travel agency owner, is chair emerita of Mabuhay Philippines Festival & former president of Philippine Independence Day Council; Ted Dayno, a CPA, is an entrepreneur & president of UMAC & FOREX; Agnes Miranda, a supporter of community organisations, is the senior executive vice-chair of World Financial Group; Rafael Nebres, a community & faith-based leader, is the general manager of Action Honda; George Poblete, a retired engineer, is a top officer

of the Knights of Columbus & the Knights of Rizal; and Arturo T. Viola, a retired medical technology manager, is former politician and Lord Mayor of the Niagara-on-the-Lake township. Also, Erlinda Insigne, a real estate broker is long-serving president of Filipino Canadian Assn. of Vaughan; Rolando Dela Cruz, a Lion & former district governor, is an optical lab technician; and Joel Recla, a K of C Maharlika member, is a multicultural TV-Radio producer, creator & host.

In attendance were dignitaries, civic and community leaders such as Canadian Members of Parliament Shaun Chen, Salma Zahid & Majid Jowhari, Philippine Deputy Consul General Bernadette Fernandez, Toronto Councillor Cynthia Lai, Gary Gladstone, Jess Cabrias, Joe Damasco, Earl Dacara, Karen Binaday, Ramon Estaris, Ed Prillo, Ed Joaquin, Mel Galeon, Suzy Llanera, Willie Rafanan, Lito Martin & Danny Orbillo. Nestor Canton and Ctherine Chan ably hosted the evening’s program.

Organised in 1990 as a not-for-profit, volunteer-run, community-based organisation, the Filipino Centre Toronto-FCT operates and offers its many well-established programs and services to the community from its newly owned site at 4395 Sheppard Avenue East, Scarborough, Toronto, Ontario M1S 1T9. The current major officers are Mary Ann S. San Juan, President & CEO and Efen De Villa, Chairman of the Board of Directors. (Tony A.San Juan, OCT.)

Candid SPOOF

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



Filipinos Centre Toronto board member Philip Beloso talks on the phone at the FCT Spring Gala.

Nadine Lustre

Is she willing to play Darna?

MANILA- Nadine said she is happy that

she is one of those being suggested to remake the movie of the Pinay heroine. "I know naman kasi that the role is going to be given to someone who's deserving and someone who can do it. I mean, it doesn't have to be me.



It just has to be someone who can give justice to the role," Nadine said. When asked if she is willing to do the role, Nadine said it depends. "I don't know. It depends. I don't really like saying that I don't want to

do it or not because mapupunta talaga 'yan sa kung sinong deserve nung role na 'yun eh," she said. Nadine admitted that she does not have a new teleserye coming soon, but said she has a new movie with Sam Concepcion.



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