

Sex on the Menu

‘Women for order’: Hontiveros slams Chinese prostitution dens in POGO industry

MANILA, Philippines — Risa Hontiveros, who chairs the Senate Committee on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality, presented at a livestreamed Senate probe the findings of her investigation on the rescues of sexual trafficking victims in Metro Manila, which included a menu of sex services. According to the Senator, the aforementioned “menu” displayed photos of trafficked Chinese women and was passed around through online messaging apps Telegram and Chinese-owned WeChat. One of these victims shared

SEX ON THE MENU continued on page 11



Visa Upon Arrival suspended amid risk posed by novel coronavirus

MANILA, Philippines — The Bureau of Immigration has suspended its visa upon arrival facility to address the risk of novel coronavirus (nCoV) by “[slowing] down the influx of group tours.”

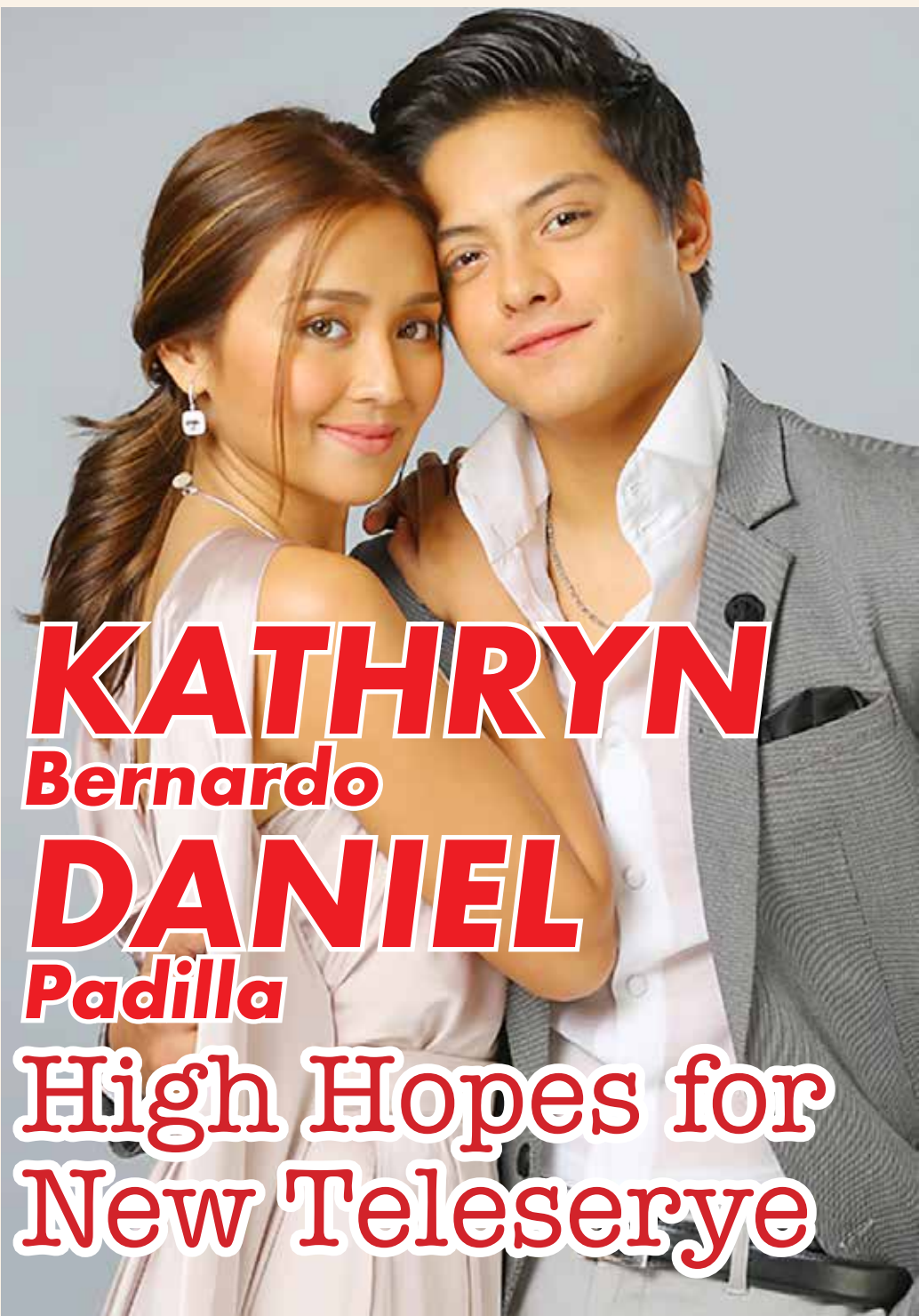
Immigration Commissioner Jaime Morente said in a bureau press release that Chinese tour groups visiting the Philippines often use the VUA facility. Chinese tourists have had VUA privilege since 2017 by request of the Tourism department.

Visas upon arrival are granted to Chinese tourists screened by Department of Tourism-accredited tour operators in China and vetted by the BI.

“The Civil Aeronautics Board has already suspended direct flights from Wuhan province,” Morente said, referring to the city in Hubei province in China that has been identified as the epicenter of the nCoV outbreak.

The commissioner clarified that the Philippines is not barring Chinese tourists from the country, “but we are taking this proactive measure to slow down travel, and possibly help prevent the entry of the 2019-nCoV.”

Bureau spokesperson Dana Sandoval last week said BI “has been denying applications for [visitors upon arrival] for tour groups who will be flying in from Wuhan, following the announcement of the Civil Aeronautics Board to suspend all direct flights from Wuhan to the Philippines.”



KATHRYN Bernardo DANIEL Padilla High Hopes for New Teleserye

Kidnapping Among Chinese How Tala Almost Did Not happen

LIFE IS HARD FOR HANDSOME MEN

Kiray Celis is a 24-Year old Virgin

Nadine Lustre & VIVA in A Legal Showdown

Meron Forever, Mikael Daez & Megan Young

Lack of Milk cause of Pinoy kids’ ‘poor’ performance

MANILA - Senator Cynthia Villar blamed the Department of Agriculture for the “poor performance” of Filipino students and for failing to produce efficient and competitive farmers.

“Of course, because our dairy production is 1 percent of the demand. Ninety-nine percent are imported. This means that if a child is poor, he cannot drink milk since it is, of course, expensive and imported. You are a poor kid, can you buy imported? So that’s the problem,” said Villar.

Because of this situation, she said most poor children cannot drink milk.

“If that’s the case, the development of their mental ability would be affected,” said Villar.

“What I’m saying, it is not only the Department of Education [DepEd] who should be blamed but our inability to provide good nutrition to our children,” she said.

She particularly took to task the government’s dairy program for the poor students who do not perform well in school.

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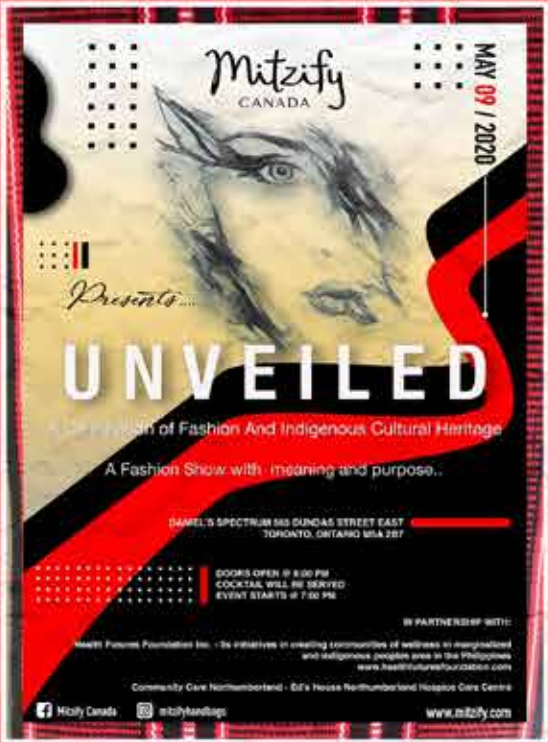
Life

An Iconic Woman behind the bag



AUDREY HEPBURN

In 1930, French heritage brand Louis Vuitton introduced the “keep-all” bag, designed as duffle luggage for the traveling elite. After the Keepall became a huge success for Louis Vuitton, the brand introduced a similar interpretation of bag that was called the Speedy. While the original bag was only offered at 30 cm wide, actress Audrey Hepburn requested that the company invent a smaller version so she could carry the bag on a daily basis. Vuitton listened, and created the timeless Speedy 25.



Why I Love Valentine’s Day

Here’s a surprise for you: I, a single 21-year-old woman, love Valentine’s Day. In fact, it’s my favorite holiday. There are so many reasons why I love Valentine’s Day. I love all the pink and red, the flowers, balloons, getting funny meme-inspired Valentine cards. But most of all, I love what Valentine’s Day stands for. I love being reminded that there are so many people in my life that I care about.

For me, Valentine’s Day is not tied to mushy romance or obligation. I love it for its core concept. It’s about love — and what’s not to love about love?

When I bring up Valentine’s Day to my friends I’m met with a mix of reactions. Mostly eye rolls, a few shrugged shoulders and the occasional excited smile. Even when I told people in the newsroom how much I love Valentine’s Day, I got a lot of strong “whys,” shocked looks and “I absolutely hate it” responses.

It’s not that I’ve been lucky enough to have amazing, over-the-top Valentine’s Days. Actually, my only official Valentine was my eighth-grade boyfriend, who gave me a lollipop in second period. Other Valentine’s Days saw bad first dates, fresh breakups and being stuck at home alone in my college house for the long weekend. I’m not complaining, though. I also met my first love on Valentine’s Day, and for as long as I can remember, I have received so much love and appreciation from those closest to me.

As a kid, I would spend hours addressing valentines to classmates, agonizing over the perfect cartoon inspired pop-up card to give my crush and sneaking extra candy into my best friend’s heart-shaped construction paper folder. Spending half a school day eating candy hearts and overanalyzing the Super Mario card with a

flirty innuendo from the boy who sat next to me was always the best day of my school year. The holiday hasn’t changed much for me since those days, and that’s probably why I haven’t adopted a cynical view of Valentine’s Day.

Now I celebrate in a very similar way to my fourth-grade Valentine’s Day party. Instead of eating candy hearts, I drink wine. Instead of reading into cartoon cards, I read into flirty text messages. I still make cards for my friends and find a way to do something special.

These past few years, I’ve been lucky enough to find many great valentines in my best friends. We celebrate our friendship on Valentine’s Day. We hang out with each other instead of boyfriends. Think Leslie Knope’s Valentine’s Day meets Taylor Swift’s girl squad. This year, our plans are a secret Santa-esque gift exchange, splurging on a nice meal and going to see “50 Shades Darker.”

A lot of the disdain toward Valentine’s Day comes from the pressure to celebrate the right way or the pressure to be in a relationship. But there are so many ways to be in love other than a romantic relationship. The day is about celebrating the love from all relationships in life — parents, siblings or even pets — not just the romantic ones.

So this Valentine’s Day, when 99 percent of you are annoyed with the heart-shaped decorations and abundance of sappy couples, remember that this day is more than an excuse to buy chocolate or another obligation on the calendar. It’s a day to remind us how lucky we all are to have love in our lives.

And that’s why I love it so much.

“Fly without wings;
Dream with open eyes;
See in darkness.”
— DEAN STODOLNICK



A former King of Sweden made Roses Popular for Valentine

Long-stemmed red roses are practically synonymous with Valentine’s Day. How did this association come to be?

The tradition of giving Valentine’s Day flowers dates back to the late 17th century, during the reign of King Charles II of Sweden. During a trip to Persia, King Charles II was exposed to a new art—the language of flowers. This expressionist art focused on one’s ability to communicate using flowers without uttering any words at all. The fad boomed throughout Europe, with lists of flowers and their meanings widely distributed.

In the language of flowers, the red rose, as you may have guessed, translated to deep love.

The rose took on this meaning because of its affiliation with Aphrodite, the goddess of love. In Greek mythology, it is said that rose bushes grew from the ground through Aphrodite’s tears and the blood of her lover, Adonis. The Romans, who turned Aphrodite into their goddess Venus, kept the rose as her symbol of love and beauty. So when Valentine’s Day became the mainstream holiday we know today, the rose was an obvious choice for the most fitting gift.



“The best thing is to look natural, but it takes makeup to look natural.”

CALVIN KLEIN



LECHE FLAN

- Ingredients
- 12 egg yolks
 - 1 can evaporated milk, especially Carnation brand
 - 1 can condensed milk
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 - 3/4 cup granulated sugar
 - 2 tablespoons water

- DIRECTIONS
- Preheat oven to 350°F/180°C.
 - Whisk egg yolks gently, then add condensed milk, evaporated milk, and vanilla extract and stir until combined. (If you whisk too hard, you’ll get little bubbles in your flan.)
 - Add the sugar and water to a pot over medium heat and cook until sugar dissolves. Lower heat and cook, shaking pan (don’t stir!) until dark golden brown. Pour melted sugar into a baking pan (I used a 9-inch cake pan) and tilt pan around until evenly coated. Let set for a few minutes until it hardens.
 - Pour the milk and egg mixture through a fine sieve into the pan, on top of the caramel. Take a baking tray or dish—anything that is large enough to fit your flan—and place the pan inside. Pour about an inch of boiling water into the large, outside tray. Put the tray (with the pan inside) into the oven and bake until a toothpick comes out clean, around 50 to 60 minutes.
 - Remove the pan from the water bath and let cool. Then, refrigerate until cold. (Don’t rush this! If it’s too warm, it might fall apart.) Once cold, run a knife around the edges. Invert onto a rimmed serving plate (there will be extra syrup that flows around it).



Why I Hate Valentine’s Day

Valentine’s Day is terrible for two kinds of people — those who are single and those who aren’t.

Single people can choose to ignore Valentine’s Day. However, if you’re in a relationship, the last thing you want to do is ignore Valentine’s Day.

What may have started out as a holiday intended to bring couples together has been transformed into a commercial spectacle peddled to us by florists, greeting card companies, jewelry stores and makers of stuffed animals.

My issue is not with being romantic. My issue is being required to do so on February 14.

Shouldn’t romance be organic?

I understand that Valentine’s Day earnestly purports to bring couples closer together. Great idea, but let’s be honest, how many of you have had fights on Valentine’s Day because of Valentine’s Day?

I certainly have had my share, usually when one of us in the relationship (namely me) didn’t buy a nice enough gift or put in enough time planning a special “VDay” activity — thus, transforming Valentine’s Day from a romantic evening for two into a scene from the film “The War of the Roses.”

Recently I posed this simple question on Twitter: Do you love or hate Valentine’s Day?

The findings of my less-than-scientific survey surprised me.

Men were silent. But women responded in large numbers they too hate Valentine’s Day.

Here is a sampling of a few of the tweets I received from women:

I hate the colors. I hate cheap chocolate, I hate the pressure it puts on couples and singles, and Cupids are stupid. If you can’t tell me you love me with flowers or candy on any day but Valentine’s Day, see ya around buddy.

To be honest I hate it cuz I dont have one!

It’s one big commercialized scheme to buy overpriced red & pink crap, I never liked it nor will I ever.

And then there’s this woman’s objection: I have to wear leopard lingerie although I hate it.

Ahh, the sacrifices we make for love. ...

True some men and women expressed their support for the day. But more lamented Valentine’s Day as artificial, contrived and absurdly overly commercialized.

Valentine’s Day has a muddled history. However, the most accepted belief is that the holiday marks the day that “birds begin to pair,” which is the day they choose their mate. So somehow because birds picked February 14 to “get it on,” I have to spend \$100 on roses?

This tweet best sums up my sentiments: Why program couples into thinking Feb 14 is the only day they can express their feelings to 1 another?

I would love to organize an “Occupy Valentine’s Day” movement. We would hold protests outside flower shops, Godiva chocolate factories and Build-A-Bear stores.

The protests would continue until these businesses stop bombarding us with commercials or until Valentine’s Day is moved — from February 14 to February 29 so that we are only compelled to observe it once every four years.

Never underestimate the power of red lipstick & high heels.
JANE DE LEON

Count your rainbows, not your thunderstorms

All Women Are Pretty Without Makeup. But With The Right Makeup, They Are Pretty Powerful

Filipinos initiate relief efforts for Taal calamity

TORONTO – Some organizations have just barely finished relief efforts for typhoon victims in the Philippines when another calamity struck the country.

Philippine Independence Day Council (PIDC) just released this last January for typhoon victims last December.

The Philippine Independence Day Council (PIDC) Fundraising Committee, through Christ for Life Ministry was able to raise funds for the victims of Typhoon Ursula in Intampilan, Panitan, Capiz. The much needed monetary donation was forwarded to CLF on January 7, 2020, for \$2,879.85. PIDC continues to accept monetary donation, slightly used articles of clothing and canned goods. Thank you all for your support!

Then, last month, in the province of Batangas, just South of Manila, the eruption of the volcano has caused over 30,000 villagers to leave their homes.

Community organizations such as Gawad Kalinga went into fundraising mode. Carmela Pacis of AC Tristar posted GK's fundraising on facebook.

GAWAD KALINGA CANADA is now accepting your generous contribution for our affected brothers and sisters in the Philippines. "Your generosity matters"

DONATIONS ACCEPTED for TAAAL VOLCANO ERUPTION Relief Effort!

Please go to <http://gk1canada.com/donation>

GK Canada is a registered charitable organization. Any donations of \$20 CDN or more will receive a tax receipt.

Multiple government offices and schools were closed due to health risks from the ash.

Filipinos in other aprts of Canada did their part to help the evacuees back home.

Philippines resident Von Sarino has been on the search for face masks to bring back home. He

is currently in Toronto, waiting for his flight, after visiting family for the holidays in Sudbury, Ont.

"Most of them are asking for the N95 face masks because they're out of stock in the Philippines and there are some people that will purchase a box of face masks from pharmacies and they will resell the face masks at a higher price which is just inhuman," said Sarino.

According to the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety, N95 masks are respirators



Jam Lazaro of Kusina ng Ating Bahay restaurant in Ajax & others pose with a UMAC box with donations for Taal volcano evacuees.

that block out 95 per cent of airborne contaminants. Sarino says they have been selling in the Philippines for up to 10 times their normal cost.

Sarino had a layover in Tokyo on his way home and continued to purchase face masks until he got to the Philippines.

Anthony Insigne, a Toronto real estate agent, and his family are active members of the Filipino community.

Insigne says his parents are currently in the Philippines for an annual five-week trip to the city of Baguio, for the Panagbenga "Flower" Festival. On the way to the country's capital, Manila, they were forced to land in Hong Kong when the volcano erupted.

"It's hard to focus and personally I couldn't go on until I knew my parents were OK because I knew

THE SOCIALIST
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Simple wedding caps 9-year romance of Mikael and Megan

No announcement. No invitations. No fanfare.

So unlike most showbiz couples who make a big fuss about their engagement (some of which don't usually end up at the altar, but only in the publicity mill), , and which network will bid the highest for the coverage (now passé, no thanks to the social media that has rendered such gimmickry so yesterday!). Megan Young was as radiant as the day she won the country's first Miss World crown in 2013 in Indonesia when she said "I do" to Mikael Daez, her boyfriend of nine years. (Trivia: Megan has become the favorite of Miss World organizers who invite her as host of the annual beauty search like the last one in London)

Again, unlike some beauty queens who drop the boyfriend faster than the crown lands on their pretty heads, Megan and Mikael have stuck to each other through thick and thin, as if to prove that, yes, there is forever.

The newlyweds are as public as "public properties" are deemed to be and yet they have managed to keep a big piece of their privacy and sharing their beautiful



moments together only by limited postings on social media. They are probably the most wholesome, the most lovable, the most admirable and most ideal couple who are very much part of the limelight and yet, again, successfully shielding themselves from the harshness and unkindness of it. They enjoy an untainted image that is so exceptional in a field that leaves nobody without a trace of mud in the face.

True to form, Megan and Mikael opted for a simple wedding witnessed only by family members and close friends.

Mikael posted this on his Instagram, complete with a laughing and heart emoji: Hello, Megan Young-Daez and it's time for me to get used to Mikael Daez-Young.

And Megan's younger sister Lauren posted a photo of the newlyweds about to kiss at the altar, calling them, "Bonez and Fofo forever!"

Asked where the honeymoon would be, Megan texted Funfare, "Wala pang planong honeymoon. May trabaho pa."

Honey Shot

Manette Acosto

IPEN beauty, 17-year old Manette 's favourite food is mango float. She plays badminton. In the future, she wants to be a flight attendant. She is the daughter of Janet and Matias Acosto. We wish her all the luck in her future endeavours.

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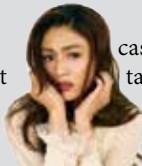
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Do not Lie to the Media

The unwritten rule with media expose is “you do not lie.” If the article is true, and you do not want to verify it, do not deny it, do not confirm it. Even if it makes you squirm, or it makes you uncomfortable, do not deny it or confirm until such time that you are ready to either confirm or deny it. Nadine Lustre just broke this cardinal rule. When reporter Ricky Lo wrote that she and James Reid have already broken up, she went public that “none of it is true.” Tellingly, James kept quiet. After two weeks, they confirmed that they have broken up. She will now be tagged as a liar. And it is a reputation that will stick with her for the rest of her life, whether showbiz related or not. So, what happens now if she has a court



case? Her reputation is already tainted. She should have shut up.

Duterte’s Revenge

US cancels senator Ronaldo “Bato” dela Rosa’s visa. Duterte then threatens to cancel the Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA) if Bato’s visa is not renewed. If Pacquiao has a fight in the US, Bato cannot join his entourage anymore. So, Duterte is telling Boxer and Senator Manny Pacquiao to hold any future fights in China. Take that USA. Ehe, sus Guinoo ni Roxanne, ano ba itong nasabi ko?

Let Contracts end, then, negotiate

When companies sign contracts, they do so based on the current conditions. If party A wants a deal with party B to get an obligation off their back, and party B agrees,

fine. Contracts are then signed for a set period of time. If party B manages to make a profitable enterprise before the end of the contract, party A cannot demand to renegotiate the contract. They have to wait for the contract to end. In the Philippines nowadays, companies that get the attention of President Duterte are suddenly getting “audited” with their unpaid tax “liabilities.” Which begs the questions, did they really have tax liabilities before? If not, then, these are nothing short of extortions, isn’t it? Chevron, an American company is one of those getting Duterte’s attention because of it’s supposed low “rent” of a piece of government land it signed with the government since 1975. I wonder what Trump would do if Chevron gets the Duterte treatment.

Coleen Garcia back to the showbiz grind

It was nice seeing Billy Crawford in the studio of Tonight with Boy Abunda (TWBA) a few nights back. He was there not as a guest but as a “supporter” of his wife Coleen Garcia who is back to the grind after a temporary hiatus in showbiz.

Coleen greeted the new year with Mia, her first acting vehicle after her two-year absence in front of the cameras. Sin Island was the last film she starred in before getting married to Billy in 2018. After that, “everything kind of slowed down,” as how Coleen put it. Yet, it turned out to be an opportune time for her to discover what else she can do apart from

acting. Coleen shared she did a lot of traveling. “That’s why, it’s also hard to commit. But those travels were not just for fun because a lot (of them) were opportunities as well. I got to experience many things and I feel like a whole different person now that I got to experience so much not just here but outside of our comfort zone; outside of the country. I also got to meet a lot of people that got to teach me a lot of things that I didn’t know.”

It was exactly the same time when Coleen realized how she truly missed the movies. “I needed also to stop because the entire time I’ve been here in showbiz, I always had a bit of, like, reluc-



tance and even the people around me, they just sensed that in me — that I was so reluctant and I wasn’t sure if I wanted to be here and if I wanted to do this. Back then, it was true I wasn’t sure because I never thought I would have the backbone for this. I never thought that kasi di ko naman pang-arap noon na to sing, to dance, to act or anything.

I was always so shy.” Coleen (with husband Billy Crawford, said she did a lot of traveling during her temporary acting hiatus. Fast forward after two years of absence, has that changed? “Yes, definitely it took time away for me to realize that I miss, actually, more than anything, film talaga.”

Iza feels no pressure to become a mom

Iza Calzado knows exactly the amount of pressure put on women to enter into motherhood just several months after marriage. The actress swapped “I do’s” with longtime boyfriend Ben Wintle in December 2018. During her interview with Boy Abunda (TWBA), Iza expressed her willingness to having a baby but she’s still mentally and emotionally preparing for it, and stressed, “this is my body, these are my choices, and you have to respect it.”



“But sometimes, people just, of course, they come from a place of ‘concern,’ ma-pre-pressure at ma-pre-pressure pa rin, especially, if you are that kind of person. Me, I do not feel the pressure because to be honest, like I said, I’m working through a lot pa so I’m actually not even mentally and emotionally ready,” she added, hoping to be ready by end of this year. Iza, 37, likewise confirmed that

she had her embryos frozen “because I’m not that young anymore. It’s because of age and it’s a security ‘thing’ for me.” Since both of them are busy, Iza said they have to really arrange their timetable. Ben is the CEO and founder of Booky, while Iza has her hands full with acting projects. But they always make sure to squeeze in their schedule some quality time whenever possible. Meanwhile, Iza was visibly amused in such Fast Talk questions as, “Gaano kahaba ang, pasensya ni Ben?” And everyone will certainly agree to her answer that love is better than sex.

Karla Estrada admits sepanx now that her kids are grown up

Karla Estrada is fondly called “Queen Mother” by her friends because of the strong motherly image she projects on- and off-cam. But despite her tough persona, she is actually a softie at heart, especially with her kids. These days, it hurts her to think of the inevitable reality that her kids will soon fly the coop now that they’re all grown up.

The 45-year-old mom of four confesses, “Hanggang ngayon nandoon ako. “Meron talagang fear of separation, sepanx na tawag natin, especially kapag hands-on na mother ka. Recently, Karla expressed her separation anxiety in her caption for a photo of her



daughter Margaret or “Magui” on Instagram (published as is), “My 1st baby girl will be turning 18 soon... [sad with tear emoji] Why so fast? [crying emoji]” The Kapamilya star has been a single

mom since she gave birth to her eldest son, Daniel, who is turning 25 this year. Her two other children are Jose Carlito and Leila. With the wisdom she has gained from raising her brood, the Kapamilya star knows that the best way to deal with her fear is just to let things flow naturally. “Just be there, be attached, and constant communication is very important para

ma-feel mo na they’re still there, nandiyan lang sila.” Karla also makes it a point to maintain their family’s strong ties by holding bonding sessions every week. “Every Sunday, hanggang pag tanda ko, magiging tradisyon na kikitain ako, na mabubuo ko sila,” she says.

Chinese men who have two families, like in Kim’s Chiu’s show which hits close to home

Kim Chiu is making her TV comeback via the afternoon family drama Love Thy Woman.

The series explores the complex dynamics of a Filipino-Chinese family, and no other person can best relate to it but the 29-year-old star herself.

Love Thy Woman “tells the story of a modern Filipino-Chinese family headed by patriarch Adam (Christopher de Leon), who is determined to keep his family intact despite having two of them.

The wives have long accepted the situation but the conflict and rivalry continue and spill over to the daughters.

During the presscon on Friday, Kim surprised the press with the revelation that her reel family story is similar to real life.

Kim, who’s “75-percent Chinese,” belongs to the “first family”. “In real life, I’m the first family, my dad also has a lot of wives. Pero pinapansin sila (other families) ng Papa ko, fair kasi yung Papa ko. He’s like the real Adam,” she shared.

“This is really what happens in the true Chinese family kaya nga pag-tinitingnan ko, pag nag-aarte kami, shucks, kawawa rin pala yun mga anak ng Papa ko noh? Yung mga ganun. Pag first family, ikaw yung pinaka matapang (you are the most feisty). My character plays (the

daughter in) the second family but now I understand how they’re feeling, mga kapatid ko sa labas.”

Nevertheless, she was very honest about what it was like growing up in that kind of family arrangement.

“Growing up, lagi ako nag-wonder nasaan ang Papa ko, bakit siya nawala-la... ang dami kasi niyang pin-upuntahan, hindi kasi bahay siya, city siya, so nililipad talaga niya yun.

“So, while I was growing up, I was OK without a father figure. However, if there were special events, he would be there. For example, aawardan ako kasi honor student ako nung elementary ako gusto ko lang sabihin, sino pupunta, sino aakyat, tapos magugulat nalang ako, si Papa pala. Dumating pala siya. That became my motivation to study hard so that everytime I would receive an award, he would be there. Then during birthdays... naiiyak ako, ayoko na, yun lang, kaya iyakin ako sa Love Thy Woman.”



Liza Soberano reacts to being called Miss Universe material

Liza Soberano says she is not closing her doors on possibly joining the pageant world in the future.

queen takes a lot of time and I have to prepare physically, I have to prepare my walk, because I am not a beauty queen. I mean it requires a lot of training and I don’t think kaya kong mapalaya sa acting that long.” She added, “I won’t say that [I’m closing my doors] because we’re humans and we change our minds every now

Liza Soberano reacted to Catriona Gray’s recent statement that she is Miss Universe material. It can be recalled that



Catriona mentioned Liza as one of her picks from local personalities who has the potential to be in Miss Universe “Well of course it’s flattering coming from Miss Universe herself and of course ate Pia (Wurtzbach) was also very supportive of me on that matter,” Liza said.

“I don’t want to say that I’m completely closing the doors but I honestly don’t see it in my career path because I am very passionate about acting and I feel like being a beauty

and then.” The media also asked Enrique Gil about his thoughts on the possibility of Liza entering the pageant world. “I would make jokes and tell her na you know why don’t you join, you’re still my Miss Universe but she really doesn’t feel it inside her kasi gusto ko siyempre genuinely she really wants it and I do think it’s not really for everyone but who knows, di ba? Maybe, maybe not, it really depends,” he remarked.

The definitive Jadine break-up timeline

JANUARY 1
PEP breaks news that James Reid at Nadine Lustre, break na

JANUARY 4
Ricky Lo writes “JaDine breakup: A case of too much, too soon?”
Despite the protestations of JaDines who seem to be in denial about their idols James Reid and Nadine Lustre’s reported breakup, the sad reality is that Jojo Gabinete’s scoop in pep. ph is true, and not fake news.

JANUARY 5
Nadine Lustre with James Reid, Ricky Lo’s article.
It seems that all is still well between celebrity couple Nadine Lustre and James Reid, as the actress took to Instagram to dispel rumors that have



been circulating since New Year’s Day.
Lustre posted on Instagram to deny allegations in a story by entertainment columnist Ricky Lo that ran on The Philippine Star on Saturday.
“None of what you said was true,” Lustre said.
Citing an unnamed source, Lo also said Reid is “handling the breakup with care to cushion the impact on Nadine who has admitted grappling with mental illness,” noting that the actress’ brother died by suicide.
Lustre lashed out at Lo, saying, “That was use some-past just illness is a very sensitive matter.” “You think you know so much about my me, you can’t even get last name right. Ano na, 2020 na! [What the heck, it’s 2020 already!]” she added.
The online version

of the story has been edited to remove references to Lustre’s mental health and her brother’s suicide.
JANUARY 9
Nadine and James take a trip to Mt. Ulap with friends.
Amid all the drama surrounding their relationship, James Reid and Nadine Lustre started the year together as they went on a hike along with their friends in Mt. Ulap, Itogon, Benguet.

JANUARY 20
James and Nadine confirm the break-up.
This one hurt. Nadine Lustre and James Reid have split. The beloved Filipino stars, both 26, have decided to go their separate ways to focus on their “personal growth,” they said in a joint statement.
“It’s true that we have split up but not for all the reason that are being spread on the tabloids and social media but because after quiet and mature conversations, we decided to focus on our ourselves not only for our careers but more for our personal growth as we are

still young and we want to achieve as much as we can,” Nadine and James said in the statement.
WHO GOT DRAGGED IN?
The JaDine breakup left a lot of Filipinos shocked. Some netizens have even posted harsh comments and cheating accusations toward James Reid and Issa Pressman. Others who got dragged in were Iza Calzado, motoring journalist James Deakin, and Julia Barretto.
Issa denied it.
Lustre expressed her love to the sisters in a comment on Yassi’s post, while Reid left an apology to them both for getting dragged into the issue — clearing Issa of any involvement in the relationship.
Somebody accused James Deakin of cheating on social media because of his first name.
And Julia Barretto’s sin is having a photo with Issa Pressman and netizens harshly and hastily applied the saying “birds of a feather flock together,” though the rumour of Issa as a third party to the break-up was never true anyway.

Dina Bonnevie reveals Vilma Santos is convincing her to enter politics

Walang intensiyon ang aktres na si Dina Bonnevie na pasukin ang pulitika.
Pero sa isang banda, masasabi niyang “pulitiko” rin siya dahil sa kanyang mga adbokasiya para matulungan ang mga kababayan sa Ilocos Sur.
Bilang asawa ni Ilocos Sur Vice Governor Deogracias Victor “DV” Savellano, may mga programa si Dina para sa mga residente ng kanilang lugar.
Saad niya, “Hindi ko dream na maging politician... You have to talk to constituents, you have to give them projects, you have to give them kinabuhayan.”
Kabilang sa mga programa ni Dina ay ang pagbibigay ng kabuhayan sa mga ta-



Dina Bonnevie (left) on being convinced by Lipa City Representative Vilma Santos-Recto to give politics a chance: “Ate Vilma tells me, ‘Kaya mo ‘yan, kaya mo ‘yan. Ako nga, e, artista. Ngayon nakatawid ako. I became a politician.’”

ga-Ilocos na nasa weaving industry, bagnet at longganisa industry, at fabric industry.
VILMA SANTOS IS CONVINCING DINA
Isa raw sa mga humihikayat kay Dina

na pasukin ang pulitika ay si Lipa City Congresswoman Vilma Santos-Recto, na kasamahan ng mister ni Dina sa Kongreso.
“Ate Vilma tells me, ‘Kaya mo ‘yan, kaya mo ‘yan.’
“Magulo kasi ang politics, e, kaya ako natatakot, especially in our town, magulo...
“Sabihin na natin, sana... kung ako ang masusunod, sana lahat ng taong ibinoboto sa posisyon ay dahil sa mga mabuting nagawa niya, dahil sa mabuting serbisyo niya, dahil sa mabuting pamamalakad, dahil sa mabuting pakikisama, o pagtutulong sa kapwa.
“Pero hindi. Dahil sa pera.
“Pero aminin na natin, maraming nanalo

dahil sa pera,” paliwanag ni Dina.
Hindi naman daw tuluyang isinasara ni Dina ang pinto niya sa pulitika, lalo pa’t kung ito talaga ang plano para sa kanya ng Panginoon.
“I just go with whatever His plans for me.
“Ngayon na naging Christian ako, I learned to lean on God.
“Parang, ‘God, use me how You want to use me.’
“Parang, ‘Isinilang Mo ako sa mundo for a purpose. Let me serve that purpose.’”



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OVP distributes food packs donated by anti-poverty partners



Vice President Leni Robredo visits evacuees currently staying at Mendez-Nuñez town in Cavite, on Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2020.

MANILA, Philippines – At least 1,500 food packs, hygiene kits, sleeping blankets, and mattresses were distributed by the Office of the Vice President (OVP) to Taal Volcano eruption victims on Tuesday.

According to OVP, Vice President Leni Robredo visited families staying in different evacuation centers in Mendez, Cavite, and the Batangas towns of Nasugbu, Tuy, and Lian. Each food pack contains 1.5 kilograms of rice, assorted canned goods,

and instant noodles.

The OVP stated that the relief items were obtained through donations of their private sector partners, which are also supporting their Angat Buhay and Ahon Laylayan initiatives.

Some of the donations were also provided through the Kaya Natin! Movement for Good Governance and Ethical Leadership, which Robredo's late husband former interior secretary Jesse Robredo was a part of.

Robredo previously visited Taal victims, days after the volcano erupted — but not without controversy. After her visit, administration ally and Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA)



Vice President Leni Robredo visits evacuees currently staying at Mendez-Nuñez town in Cavite, as she made her rounds to areas affected by the unrest of Taal Volcano on Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2020. The OVP and its Angat Buhay partners donated food packs and hygiene kits to the evacuees.

Deputy Administrator Margaux “Mocha” Uson shared an unverified article claiming that Robredo only distributed pan de sal (salted bread).

The Vice President has debunked this claim, questioning why the government keeps a purveyor of fake news among its ranks.

As of now, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology maintains Alert Level 4 over the area, which means that residents within the 14-kilometer radius should be evacuated.

The explosion has already displaced thousands of residents, with data from non-government organizations saying that around 300,000 individuals have been forced to flee their homes.

Barbie confident about Jak: ‘Swerte kami sa isa’t isa’



BARBIE FORTEZA was introduced in the presscon of “Anak ni Waray Vs. Anak ni Biday” as the Kapuso Primetime Princess. How does she feel about it?

“Grabe no?” she says with a laugh.

“Talaga ba? Baka may kumontra, e

hindi po sa’kin galing yan ha. Sa kanila po. Basta I’m sobrang grateful to my network who has been taking good care of me for ten years now.”

She almost becomes teary eyed. “Gusto ko lang magpasalamat nang maraming-marami for all their love, trust and continuous support. But siempre, may pressure din, kasi hindi biro mabigyan ng ganyang title. But like I always say, basta I will give my 100 percent sa lahat ng projects na ipinagkakatiwala sa akin ng GMA. Kagaya nitong ‘Anak ni Waray vs. Anak ni Biday’, napakalaki at napakagandang project nito. Kinunan sa iba’t ibang parts ng Pilipinas and supported kami ni Kate Valdez ng mga batikang artista like Snooky Serna, Dina Bonnevie, Celia Rodriguez, at marami pang iba. Kumpletos rekados talaga.”

And this is the second time she’s being pitted against “Ang Probinsyano” after “Kara Mia”. “Opo nga. Round 2 na. Wala naman pong problema sa’kin yun. I just consider it as a new challenge for me to do better than before. I think any kind of com-

petition is good kasi it serves as an inspiration that will motivate you to strive harder. So ayun, bring it on. Ang panalangin na lang namin, magustuhan sana ng viewers at panoorin nila ang ‘Anak ni Waray vs. Anak ni Biday’ kasi hindi lang ito basta comedy, kundi may drama rin, ipinapakita ang magagandang tanawin sa Leyte at sa Ilocos, and it also offers good insights about family values kaya masisiyahan talaga sila.”

She was paired with her real life BF Jak Roberto in her last two shows, “Kara Mia” and “Wait Lang, Is this Love” in “Wagas”. Jak is almost always seen shirtless in his pictorials and shows. In social media, the comments usually say: “Ang sarap-sarap naman ni Jak.” Does she somehow feel offended when other people make remarks like this?

“Not really, naku, alam ko namang masarap talaga siya, e,” she laughs. “Kaya may mga nagnanas sa kanya. Pero swerte rin siya dahil ang ganda ko kaya, di ba? Ha ha ha!”

So how is their relationship doing after almost three years? “Okay naman so far. Smooth sailing kasi friends talaga kami. We travel together, like we experienced winter in Japan. May travel vlog kasi siya, which he himself edits, and yung kinikita niya roon, yun ang pan-treat niya sa akin when we travel. Next destination namin is South Korea, but we would have to wait kasi very busy ako right now sa bago kong show. Panay-panay ang taping namin kaya bihira nga kami magkita lately. Trabaho muna.”

An Urgent Appeal To Our Kababayans!

TORONTO

You must be aware by now of the recent disastrous eruption of Taal Volcano in Batangas, Philippines. True to our traditional Bayanihan Spirit, “Project Damayan” was launched into action.

“Project Damayan” is a humanitarian outreach initiative to extend relief assistance to targeted Kababayans who were victims of the volcanic calamity in the surrounding towns and villages in the area. Thus, this appeal for your benevolent gesture and kind donation to this project.

This is a joint effort of the Filipino Centre Toronto-FCT in cooperation with other concerned community organizations. All cash contributions received will be endorsed directly to ABS-CBN Foundation-Philippines whose Sagip Kapamilya Program will directly help those affected families, including the elderly, the children and other residents.

You may donate any amount of cash through any branch of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce under CIBC Account # 2544016, Transit # 01732., or to visit and drop your donations at the FCT Office, 4395 Sheppard Avenue, Scarborough, ON M1S1T9. The Filipino Centre Toronto will issue a corresponding FCT official receipt of your cash contributions.

Should you have any question, please contact Mary Ann S. San Juan (President) at Tel. 416-728-9313 or Wendy Arena (Treasurer) at 416-283-2611 or Philip Beloso (Director) at 647-267-9649. (TSJ)

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Mikhail Red Signs With Major Hollywood Agency

It's the same agency that represents the directors of Aquaman, Shazam, and The Conjuring.

The stars are well aligned for Filipino director Mikhail Red.

Red's management company 3Arts Entertainment has announced the millennial filmmaker was picked up by Paradigm Talent Agency. Back in November, it was revealed he had gone to Hollywood to talk with major U.S. Studios (Paramount Pictures, Sony, Blumhouse, XYZ, and more).

"Mikhail Red, who is managed by 3Arts Enter-



tainment, has recently signed with Paradigm Talent Agency, a major Hollywood agency," said Ari Labet of 3Arts Entertainment.

Paradigm represents a long list of critically acclaimed directors, many of whom are foreign imports who did horror like Eerie and went on to do big franchises. Among the directors

represented by Paradigm are James Wan (Saw, Insidious, The Conjuring, The Nun, Furious 7, Aquaman, Aquaman 2) and David Sandberg (Lights Out, Annabelle; Creaton, Shazam, Shazam 2). Joko Anwar, the director of HBO's Halfworlds 1, is also represented by Paradigm.

The prolific millennial filmmaker has been active in the Philippine movie industry for years. At the age of 15, Red created his first feature-length film; at 21, he became the youngest director to participate in Cinemalaya. When he turned 26, Netflix bagged Red's Birdshot, a critically acclaimed film and also the Philippines' lone entry to the 2018 Academy Awards. A year later, Red's Eerie premiered on Netflix to outstanding

international acclaim (audiences called it the scariest movie of 2019). In the same year, Netflix bagged the rights to his film Dead Kids, which became the first Netflix Original from the Philippines.

Then, just before 2019 ended, Red surprised everyone when HBO announced he would direct its Halfworlds 3, about engkantos at war with each other. The entire series will be shot in the Philippines with an all-Filipino cast.

With Paradigm representing Red, it will be easier to land a project in a major Hollywood studio, especially since Paradigm will be sending Red's team U.S. open directing scripts to read, which are potential projects for the filmmaker.

But it could take a while before Red actually helms a Hollywood project. After he selects which project he wants to pursue from the directing scripts sent to him, it will still be a long process before it hits the big screen.

Kate wants to disprove bad attitude rumors about her

KATE Valdez says she was so surprised when she was informed that she'll be starring with Barbie For- teza and will be one of the title-rolers in GMA- 7's newest primetime show, "Anak ni Waray vs. Anak ni Bidaday."

"I couldn't believe it kasi I'd be playing one of the lead roles," she says. "Tapos, si Barbie pa ang kasama ko. Nang mag-sink in sa akin, I have nothing but gratitude in my heart. Kasi very big blessing ito at very big break din for me as my last role was as contravida in 'Onanay' na maraming viewers ang nagalit sa'kin dahil sa kamalditahan ng character ko."

Her new show will hopefully now stop the rumors that GMA is peeved at her because she allegedly had an attitude problem while she was doing 'Onanay'.

"I really don't know kung angangaling ang tsismis na 'yun," Kate says. "You can ask the people I work with in 'Onanay' and I was in good terms with them. She's just thankful that her co-stars in "Anak ni Waray vs. Anak ni Bidaday" are all very nice to her. She's also grateful to Barbie who's very friendly to her. "Mas senior siya sa'kin at ang dami na niyang nagawang shows na siya ang bida, pero wala siyang ere at all. She welcomed me warmly sa familiarity workshop pa lang namin. "

It is said that she's now chummy with a Kapu- so actor, Manolo Pedrosa, who has been courting her ardently. How true?

"Friends kami ni Manolo kasi nagkasama kami sa isang movie last year, 'yung 'Black Lipstick', but as of now, I'm really so busy. Kasi aside from regular tapings sa bago naming show, I'm also busy with school. Nagtatapos ako ng high school sa Miriam College, so 'yan muna ang priorities ko ngayon, work and studies."

Gerald Anderson: 'Hindi ako yaya- man sa bashing'

Kapamilya actor Gerald Anderson said that social media bashers will not stop him from working.

"Open kami d'yan sa social media e. Kumbaga open sa kahit na sinong tao na mag-comment. Nasa atin na 'yon kung paano natin tatanggapin. Alangan namang dahil may

nam-bash sa akin, titigil na ako? Ang dami ko pang pangarap, ang dami ko pang pinapakain. Hindi naman ako yayaman sa bashing," he said during the recent press conference for his new action-drama TV series, "A Soldier's Heart."

It can be recalled that Anderson became a viral Twitter topic last year following cheating allegations from ex-girlfriend Bea Alonzo.



Jinggoy Estrada on showbiz comeback, ABS-CBN franchise renewal

MANILA, Philippines – Former Senator Jinggoy Estrada refused to comment on the issue surrounding ABS-CBN's franchise renewal.

Jinggoy said he doesn't know yet the status of the franchise renewal.

"I'm not really into it. I don't know the ins and outs, the status of the franchise of the ABS-CBN, so as much as possible I don't want to comment about that," he said

"It's the decision naman of the lawmakers sa House," he added.

Paired with Sylvia Sanchez in the movie, Jinggoy is set to return to showbiz via ALV Films and Maverick Films' "Coming Home."

"Hindi ko pwedeng talikuran ang aking pinanggalingan dahil dito ko nakilala, sa pag-aartista," Estrada said of his showbiz comeback.

His last movie before "Coming Home" was "Ang Tanging Pamilya: A Marry Go Round" in 2009. It can be recalled that he received a Best Actor award from the 2007 Metro Manila Film Festival for "Katas Ng Saudi."

"Matanda na tayo, hindi na maniniwala ang viewers na nakikipagsuntukan ako o nakikipagbarilan. So family drama na lang na may halong comedy, which I've done before in 'Katas ng Saudi'.

"Coming Home" is also the screen debut of Miss Universe 2013 third runner-up Ariella Arida, who plays as Jinggoy's mistress in the movie.

Barbie's acting technique

Ever wonder how Barbie For- teza is able to present an acting performance in a manner that is not repetitive despite the many characters she had portrayed in the past?

Barbie is once again taking on a new lead role in the drama series titled Anak ni Waray Vs. Anak ni Bidaday. As expected, Barbie is going to plunge into the character with her impressive acting skills.

"It's heartening and it makes me feel like a newbie (actor) again because it will be my first time to work with such seasoned actors as Dina Bonnevie, Snooky Serna, Celia Rodriguez and Teresa Loyzaga," said Barbie, who is feeling the excitement more than the pressure of starring in a new Kapuso drama series.

She continued, "Of course, there is pressure on my part. I don't know when this started but I have this reputation or feeling ba na parang kailangan laging maganda dapat or my show always has to do well. It's a good thing that all the projects I've done, they were presented with different flavors and they turned out so well due to the combined efforts of the actors and directors."

Her acting awards also serve as good motivation to excel in her



next onscreen projects. "Those (awards) inspire me to show what more I can do during a scene. Honestly, I know it is a must to memorize my lines. What I don't really like is to rehearse before the take because I prefer (that my acting will be) as raw, as organic and as natural as possible."

That way, Barbie is able to create a well-rounded character and present something unexpected yet true to the scene. "I just don't really prepare for a scene, I just let the emotions come out naturally and I just go for it."

No wonder, Dina has nothing but praises for Barbie at a media gathering held recently. According to her, Barbie never comes to the set without studying the script and memorizing her lines.

"It's the only preparation that I do — to read the script and read it well. "

Next President should preserve democracy, protect the people - ROBREDO

MANILA - Vice President Leni Robredo, if given the chance to be President, would start her term as Chief Executive by sparing institutions from political intervention in a bid to preserve the country's democracy.

Robredo made the response when asked what the first thing she would do if she is elected President.

"That would be strengthening institutions. Our institutions have suffered a great deal over the past several years. Judiciary, Congress, and many other government offices. Pinakamahalaga sa demokrasya, 'yung bawat institusyon, naaasahan. Not just about a particular case. Iyong mas pangkalahatan...dapat siguraduhin natin na ang mga institusyon...iyong Judiciary, Congress, nilalayo sa pakikialam ng ibang sangay ng pamahalaan," Robredo, a lawyer,



argued.

"That [strengthening of institutions] is paramount to our preserving democracy, paramount to protecting the rights of our people, businesses included. I think that is the first thing that anyone who comes after this administration should do," Robredo added.

The Vice President said that having government institutions tainted with political intervention increases distrust in

government.

"Dapat sinisiguro natin na hindi nababahiran ng duda ang mga ito sa pagdedesisyon, pagpapasa ng batas, kasi kapag nabahiran ng duda, magiging dahilan ito ng pagkawalang tiwala sa pamahalaan," Robredo said.

She stressed that the primordial concern of Judiciary and Congress, among others, should be dispensation of justice and following the law.

"There should be separation of powers and everybody should go by what is mandated of them," Robredo added.

In the same forum, Robredo said that she is not aspiring for the Presidency, since that job is best left to destiny and aspiring to be the Commander-in-Chief would ruin the good work they do in her office in aiding far-flung communities.

JC's biggest regret

Those who settle for bottles of beer, instead of red roses on Valentine's Day will be able to relate to Viva Films' "On Vodka, Beers and Regrets" starring Bela Padilla and JC Santos. Even if they aren't a couple, their team-up works. Nothing schmaltzy, just reality.

For those who have had enough of Cupid's tricks, may JC and Bela's movie show you that love is more intoxicating than alcohol. Your "tipsy-ever-after" can turn into "happy-ever-after." Cheers to no more tears.

What do you love about working with Bela, and what challenges you about working with her?



She makes me look good, physically and acting-wise. I am able to bring out my best when she's the one I'm with in a scene. It's no challenge because it's always a breeze working with Bela.

Did it ever cross your mind to court Bela? Nope, because I love our tandem as friends. I don't want to lose our good chemistry. Romance can sometimes mess things up when you work together.

What's your fave line in the movie? "Alam mo kung anong OK sa 'yo? Hindi mo na alam na OK ka, na OK na OK ka."

What's your biggest regret? Didn't spend so much time with my family.

Local Showbiz's Three Kings

Pioolo Pascual, Dingdong Dantes, and Derek Ramsay are considered local Tinseltown's A-list leading men. And having them in one room is extremely rare because that would mean overwhelming star power.

The three kings of local showbiz made every jaw dropped when they gathered at Dunkin' Aurora Blvd. outlet and surprised its loyal patrons as they came in full force to grace the newly-renovated branch in Quezon City.



A-list celebrities and Dunkin' ambassadors Derek Ramsay, Piolo Pascual, and Dingdong Dantes.

People queried whether they have considered working in one project outside their contract as Dunkin' Donuts celebrity endorsers.

"If Dunkin' was able to put us three together then why not? I mean, we can do something else. Just like my vlog,

I'm able to express myself better and connect with fans," Piolo said instantaneously.

To which, GMA's primetime king Dingdong replied, "Nabitin nga ako sa shoot namin. So, I guess we should all do something different."

Piolo is open to the idea of doing a movie with co-endorsers Derek and Dingdong, "Definitely, sana may mag-produce, malay natin ang Dunkin' gawan kami."

During the event, Derek shared that like Paolo and Dingdong, he's also going is going to venture into vlogging. Apart from doing two movies this year, and one of them is with girlfriend Andrea Torres, clogging excites him so much because of the material he and his team already have.

"We might launch the vlog early February, we wanted to launch it last year but a lot of things had happened, and we've got so many materials to share with our fans," Derek shared.

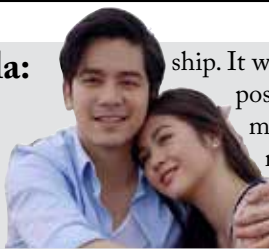
Joshua and Janella: Are they?

JOSHUA Garcia is reunited with former GF and ka-love team Julia Barretto in the zombie horror flick, "Block Z". But, as the movie's play-date neared, he was intensely linked to Janella Salvador, his love interest in "Killer Bride", just when the series has ended its telecast last week.

So you can't say that the stories of his being sweet and caring to Janella is just part of the promo for their TV show as it has already been terminated. And for sure, all the publicity he's getting with Janella won't be of help to his movie with Julia. What's happening is that his rumored romance with Janella is now getting more mileage than his movie with Julia.

Photos of Joshua with Janella being sweet to each other are going viral on social media and it looks like there's truth to the rumor that they're now making beautiful music with each other.

It is said that Maja Salvador, their co-star in "Killer Bride", was the one who acted as matchmaker and pushed for their romantic relation-



ship. It was Maja who posted on social media the many sweet video clips of Joshua and Janella

being lovey-dovey with each other during the farewell and thanksgiving party of "Killer Bride" for all its cast members.

The most incriminating video clip showed Joshua kneeling in front of Janella and giving her a bunch of flowers while Janella was singing. Then they sang a duet where Joshua was hugging Janella all the time.

No wonder Julia Barretto allegedly got jealous and had already erased all previous photos of Joshua in her Instagram account and also unfriended him, along with Janella and Maja. Obviously, she feels offended that Joshua is acting sweet and romantic with Janella when they have a movie that is just about to be shown.

Fans are so kilig with Joshua and Janella being chummy to each other, but they're also asking whatever happened to actor-singer Markus Patterson, who was earlier rumored to be Janella's special someone. Have they already broken up because of Joshua?

Vice Ganda prefers to stay mum on viral 'stop' joke about Quiboloy

Kapamilya host and actor Vice Ganda refused to comment on a media query regarding Kingdom of Jesus Pastor Apollo Quiboloy.

During the recent press conference of his Metro Manila Film Festival entry "The Mall, The Merrier,"



Vice was asked by a member of the media what he will do if Quiboloy asked him to join in mall shows.

"I love you, but sorry, I'd rather not comment on that para mas masaya ang Pasko natin, di ba?" Vice answered.

The veteran columnist, who asked the question, then clarified that she only wanted Vice to tell Quiboloy to "stop."

"Eh bat hindi ikaw magsabi niyan sa kanya? May kakayan ka, may panulat ka di ba?" Vice then answered.

Last month, Vice jokingly challenged Quiboloy on his noontime show "It's Showtime" to stop "Ang Probinsyano" after videos of Quiboloy showing the pastor claiming he stopped an earthquake in Mindanao. "Nako, kabahan si Cardo! Si Quiboloy lang ang magpapahinto ng 'Ang Probinsyano,' abangan niyo 'yan," Vice said.

"So ano, Quiboloy, hinahamon kita, ipahinto mo nga ang 'Probinsyano'! Napahinto mo pala ang lindol, e," Vice jokingly added.

Days after, the pastor accepted the challenge, saying in his show: "When do you want it stopped? One month? Two months? Four months? You choose."

He then threatened not only to end "Ang Probinsyano" but even its parent TV network ABS-CBN.

"Maybe in four months it's not just 'Probinsyano' that comes to a stop; maybe it's your network, too," the pastor said.

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Zaijian learned to love acting

Zaijian Jaranilla is all grown-up. Yet people are used to calling him Santino, his character in the 2009 TV series *May Bukas Pa*. Zaijian doesn't mind at all. *May Bukas Pa* is close to his heart because it was his biggest break. He was initially not inclined towards acting.



“Syempre nakatulung ‘yun sa ‘kin, nakatulung po sa family ko. I admit that at first, hindi ko talaga gusto yung acting. But when my supporters told me that I was doing good and (after hearing) all those positive reviews, I told myself, ‘Ah sige ipagpapatuloy ko na ‘to,” recalled Zaijian.

“I learned to love my job later on. I love what I’m doing now kasi nabigyan ko ng magandang buhay yung family ko. And every time I am given projects, I make sure that I give my best. Ina-apply ko din sa personal na buhay, that is to be professional not only at work but also (in how I deal with) the people I encounter every day.”

For his latest acting assignment, Zaijian portrays a challenging character that struggles with depression in *Story Of My Life*, his first digital series now streaming on iWant.

The Kapamilya actor said he can't help feeling the pressure every time he is given a new project and for this one, he has to prepare for the role by watching movies that tackle issues about depression. "It is a totally different role from the ones I did before. Kaya medyo nahirapan din po ako kasi hindi pa ako nakaka-experience ng depression."

Zaijian added he has been getting positive feedback after it premiered last December.

“Siguro relatable naman po siya. I’ve been

receiving a lot of positive feedback on my IG na sobrang na-inspire sila, na naintindihan nila yung kwento and I'm so happy that they can relate to it," he said.

Zaijian plays the troubled
and sensitive loner named Rex.

The iWant original series aims to shed light on what teens are going through and encourage understanding, compassion and empathy towards the feelings of others.

 “I learned na hindi lahat ng tao ay okey pakisamahan. You should know how to deal with other people because you don’t know what they’re going through. So be nice to everybody,” said Zaijian who revealed that there was a time in his life when he experienced being rejected.

It was disappointing, he said, but thankfully he was able to manage it. "Playing video games" was also his outlet.

Zaijian also knows how to handle himself when it comes to expressing his feelings through social media because he prefers to keep his personal life private. In fact, his girlfriend is non-showbiz.

“Hindi po siguro ako kagaya nung ibang teenager that whenever they express what they feel or see around us, pino-post na nila. I don’t do that kaya naman walang masyadong nakikialam sa buhay ko,” said Zaijian who also knows fully well how people would instantly give comments on things or issues they feel are unfavorable to them.

“Parang konting kibot mo lang ma-i-
issue ka na. We are only human and it’s
normal to commit mistakes and lose our
patience. But then sa tinagal-tagal ko
naman na dito sa showbiz hindi pa naman
ako na-i-issue kaya I’m thankful po.”

WHY JADINE DELAYED ANNOUNCEMENT

Insider sources, who are close to the couple but requested to stay private, revealed to Philstar.com and The STAR that James and Nadine waited before announcing their breakup because they allegedly still had a commitment to appear in a project as JaDine. The former couple are yet to confirm this.



Migo learns from mistake

MIGO Adecero is so fortunate that right after "Sahaya", GMA-7 now has given him a new show right away. "Anak ni Waray vs. Anak ni Biday", which starts airing this Monday night right after "24 Oras". He plays the lucky role of Cocoy, the charming city guy who comes between sisters Barbie Forteza as Ginalyn and Kate Valdez as Caitlyn.



At the presscon, someone asked if girls have fought over him before and if he's really worth fighting for. "Honestly, kahit sobrang guwapo ng isang guy, hindi siya dapat pinag-aawayan," he replies. "Just get another guy or just play with him. Paglaruan nyo lang siya, then look for a better guy."

How does it feel that he quickly had a follow up project when his co-stars in "Sahaya", Miguel Tanfelix and Bianca Umali, do not have a new assignment yet with GMA? "I guess I'm just lucky and I'm very thankful to GMA for their trust in me. That's why I'm really doing my best para mas pagbutihin nang husto ang trabaho ko."

It seems that he as the Starstruck Season 6 male winner and Klea Pineda as the female winner are both just hitting their stride now after more than three years since they won. Klea herself is doing well in the hit afternoon drama, "Magkaagaw".

"I'm happy for her. Ever since, we said naman na hindi kami nagmamadali. You have to gain muna a lot of experience before they would give you bigger and more challenging assignments."

But last year wasn't really that good for him after he got arrested to a minor traffic accident, right? "Yes, it was bad, but I guess it's an experience that I have to go through kasi I learned a lot from it. Grabe 'yung journey ko to maturity and adulthood, but it prepared me for a lot of things.

When you did something bad, pinapalo ka, di ba? So napalo ako. From there, you have two choices. Either you do it again or you learn from it. And I chose to learn from it. Nagalay ko sa ayos ang work ethic ko, naging more professional ako and I really took my job more seriously."

It's good GMA-7 didn't dump him after that incident which generated a lot of bad publicity. "Yes, and I'm just thankful that kahit nangyari 'yun, hindi ako pinabayaan ng GMA, they gave me 'Sahaya', which really did well, and I even got to do my very first movie, 'Black Lipstick'. So the year started bad but naging maganda naman ang ending. And now, 2020 is starting right for me with 'Anak ni Waray vs. Anak ni Biday' and also, 'All Out Sundays' where I get to sing and dance naman, so sana, magtuluy-tuloy lang."

Migo is very honest in saying he won't be linked to his co-stars as he has a non-showbiz girlfriend. "Her name is Katrina Mercado and one year na rin kami. We just celebrated our first anniversary. Mas okay na 'yung hindi taga-showbiz ang karelasyon mo. Mas tahimik."

[illegible]

Kidnapping Cases Rise among Chinese

MANILA, Philippines – The number of kidnapped Chinese has risen by 71% from 2018 to 2019, according to the latest data from the Philippine National Police (PNP) Anti-Kidnapping Group (AKG).

The PNP AKG counted 34 victims of kidnappings in 2018. In 2019, the number jumped to 58 as of November.

Just on Monday evening, December 9, a woman believed to be a Chinese worker for a POGO company was abducted in a high-end commercial district in Makati City. The incident was recorded by a bystander who then posted online, sparking fear for thousands on social media. (POGO refers to Philippine offshore gaming operators.)

Thousands of Chinese workers have flocked to the Philippines following the rise of online gambling operations here, the influx of infrastructure projects run by Chinese businessmen who hire only Chinese laborers, and the warming of ties between Manila and Beijing under the Duterte administration.

The AKG divided its cases into 3 types: kidnap-for-ransom cases, casino-related cases, and POGO-related cases. The PNP AKG has counted KFR cases since 2012, casino-related cases since 2017, and POGO-related cases since 2018.

PNP AKG spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Joel Saliba said that they created the new categories throughout the years to

keep track of the new schemes of abduction.

- Kidnap-for-ransom cases refer to incidents where a ransom is demanded because of a broad set of motives.

- Casino-related kidnappings involve Chinese getting kidnapped after accumulating huge sums of debt from loan sharks.

- POGO kidnapping is a new scheme, which involves companies abducting their own employees who attempt to leave them. Gambling operations are banned in China, and Beijing has already asked the Duterte government to shut down POGO operations here.

The PNP AKG has begun studying how to prevent more of the abductions from happening.

K-Pop joins Tala Craze

MARAMING fans ng K-pop star na si Sandara Park ng South Korea at pop superstar ng Pilipinas na si Sarah Geronimo ang umaasa na sana'y magsama ang dalawa sa isang major concert sa Pilipinas maging sa South Korea.

Ang 35-year-old na si Sandara ay unang nakilala sa Pilipinas nang ito'y sumali sa "Star Circle Quest" in 2004 bago ito bumalik sa South Korea in 2007 kung saan naman siya na-establish bilang K-pop star. Habang si Sarah, 31, ay unang nakilala nang ito'y sumali sa TV singing contest na "Search for A Star" in 2003. Viva manages Sarah up to now, her home studio for the last 17 years.

Sandara personally asked choreography from Teacher Georcelle ng G-Force.

Si Sandara ang second K-pop star na nakisali sa dance challenge ng "Tala" ni Sarah G. Nauna na rito si Hoony ng Winner K-Pop boy group na sumayaw ng "Tala" sa kanilang recent concert sa MOA Arena to the delight of their cheering fans.

Bukod sa inaasam na back-to-back concert, maganda rin siguro kung pagsasamahin sa pelikula sina Sandara at Sarah.

Two Sarahs wed in March

Wedding bells will be ringing for two Sarahs in March.

Sarah Lahbati and Richard Gutierrez will start sending invitations to their wedding on March 14 right at home and not, as previously rumored, out of the country.

It is expected to be an engrande event and their two children might be included in the entourage (Zion as Bible Bearer and Kai as Ring Bearer?).

Sarah eronimo and boyfriend Matteo Guidicelli are somewhat secretive about their wedding which is also set in March, according to a source who is close to the sweethearts. If we are to believe Matteo, it will be a 'simple and small

wedding with the family' as he told in an interview in May last year at about the time he and

Sarah got engaged abroad. The source didn't mention the venue and the exact date. 'There might be last-minute changes, though,' she added.



Is Ellen Adarna dating again?

Netizens are now speculating if Ellen Adarna is dating again after seeing her Insagram post with a man named Carlos Lemus.

Ito ang katanungan ng mga nakakita sa recent Instagram posts ng 31-year-old actress.

Sa kanyang Instagram, ibinahagi ni Ellen ang ilang larawan mula sa kanyang bakasyon sa Spain kasama ang ilang non-showbiz friends.

Nakalagay sa caption: "Central America



in Madrid [laughing, heart emojis]."

Ngunit ang higit na nakapukaw ng pansin ay ang post ni Ellen noong January 24, kung saan kayakap niya ang isang lalaki.

Naka-tag dito ang account ni @doncarlemuss.

Naka-private ang account ni Carlos.

Sa isa pang larawan na in-upload ni Ellen kahapon, January 26, makikitang nakahawak si Ellen sa baywang ng lalaki, na pinaniniwalaang si Carlos din.

Nakalagay sa caption: "¡Siiii!!!¡¡¡¡¡"

Iñigo Pascual optimistic about international singing career

UNTI-UNTING nakakagawa ng pangalan sa international music scene si Iñigo Pascual. Kumanta siya sa NBA half-time show noong Nobyembre 18, 2019 sa Staples Center ng Los Angeles, California.

"Ang dami ko ring nagawa after that. I was able to collaborate with more people," lahad ni Iñigo.

"Mayroon akong collaboration with boyband named Pretty Much under Simon Cowell's management.

"I'm going to the U.K., I was touring with the New Rules, it's a boyband in the U.K.

"First time kong magtu-tour sa U.K., we're gonna do nine shows, so I'm gonna be there for one month. I'm gonna be on a tour bus, so excited ako to be able to do that and perform to a different audience.

"Di lang puro Filipino ang nandoon, iba't ibang lahi na. So, nakakatakot, nakakakaba. Pero I'm grateful for the opportunity given to me."

Kung ipu-pursue ni Inigo ang kanyang international career, maaaring mapaba-

yaan niya ang kanyang career sa Pilipinas.

"Yun nga ang pinag-iisipan ko, I've been thinking about that: what can I do to give back to my local supporters?" matamang saad ni Iñigo.

"I wanna make Tagalog music still and nag-iisip din ako na baka posibleng makapag-act uli. Sabi ko, gusto ko uling makagawa ng movie or kaya short TV series na puwede kong gawin.

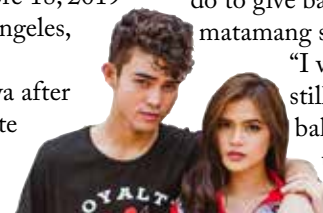
"Kasi, puwede naman, kaya naman.

"Willing naman ako in order to show people that I appreciate the opportunity given to me and them supporting me as well.

"A lot of people are asking me to start acting again. Why not, di ba?"

WORKING AGAIN WITH MARIS Huling napanood si Iñigo sa pelikulang I'm Ellenya L., isa sa sampung official entries ng 3rd Pista ng Pelikulang Pilipino noong Setyembre 2019.

Katambal niya roon ang ex-girlfriend na si Maris Racal.



Nag-comment naman dito ng tatlong "in love" at tatlong "heart" emojis si Carlos. Pati ang mga malalapit na kaibigan ni Ellen na sina Vito Selma at Mimi Qui Reyes ay nagkomento rin ng "heart emojis."

Noong Hunyo 2019 ay napabalita ang pakikipaghiwalay ni Ellen sa dating live-in partner na si John Lloyd Cruz.

Ayon sa ilang sources na malapit sa dalawa, co-parenting na lamang ang status nila sa kanilang one-year-old son na si Elias Modesto.

Si John Lloyd ay abala ngayon sa kanyang showbiz comeback.

Willing si Iñigo na gumawa uli ng movie with Maris, lalo na't andiyan pa rin ang mga sumusubaybay sa MarNigo tandem nila.

"Siyempre, I'm not closing my doors to other stars, other opportunities.

"Pero kung mabibigyan ako ng opportunities to be able to work again with Maris, okay naman," pahayag ni Iñigo.

"Kanina, magkasama kami sa prod. Hindi magkasama na magkasama, pero we're able to rehearse together.

"Okay naman, I'm happy for her. Ang dami niyang projects.

"Siyempre, sobrang hit na hit yung teleserye nila, Pamilya Ko. Nakakatuwa, I'm very, very happy for her.

"The communication is still there, medyo nabawasan, but the friendship, hindi naman nababawasan, hindi naman mawawala."

Magkabalikan kaya sila?

Napangiti si Iñigo, "We never know. The universe, the world works in a crazy way.

"We never know where it will lead us."



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Kathryn Bernardo-Daniel Padilla have lots of Projects together lined up for 2020

MANILA, Philippines — Onscreen love team and real-life sweet-hearts Kathryn Bernardo and Daniel Padilla remained Kapamilyas as they sign their respective three-year contracts with the network on January 15.

After working on projects separately for more than a year, the phenomenal box office couple shared their sentiments on what people should expect, now that the sought after KathNiel tandem will be back on TV this year with an upcoming teleserye, "Tanging Mahal."

"It's going to be something fresh, especially that we have waited for this to happen again. I think that the fans are really excited to see us work together again, and personally, we are excited for this, too," Daniel shared.



Apart from his project with Kathryn, Daniel also mentioned his excitement about his movie titled "Whether the Weather is Fine" with ABS-CBN executive and veteran actress Charo Santos-Concio.

"I'm hoping that people would watch out for this film because this is really different, this is something new. The attack is different, the feel of the movie is different, that's why it's exciting," Daniel mused.

Kathryn, on the other hand, shared her happiness about the support she's gaining

from her YouTube channel, "Everyday Kath," which garnered almost a million subscribers in just two weeks after its first vlog release.

"I'm happy. More than the subscribers, I'm more delighted towards the comments that we receive because we do not know that a simple glimpse into our personal lives would have a positive effect on them," Kathryn shared.

KathNiel fans should also watch out for a comeback movie that the love team will be cooking for this year.

When asked about how they feel toward staying a Kapamilya, Daniel answered: "Very happy and very thankful that ABS-CBN still trusts us the same way we trust it. We're very happy, blessed, and excited for the things in store for us."

Pikon na si Luis



He speaks his mind whenever he gets involved in a controversy. Diretso niyang ipinaliliwanag ang kanyang punto. But seemingly, he easily gets piqued of late.

Ito ang obserbasyon ng isang kasamahan sa panulat. "Patola ngayon si Luis, no?" aniya. Sa showbiz lingo, ibig sabihin ng "patola" ay mapagpatol. Nitong kasagsagan ng Taal Volcano eruption, na-bashed nang husto ang actor-host nang akusahan siya ng isang netizen na nago-overpricing daw siya sa N95 mask. Na kaagad namang sinagot ni Luis na yung price na yun ay yun na ang presyuhang bago pa ang nasabing kalamidad - 15 weeks ago, that is. His online store Lucky and Lulu sells the said item.

Isa pang ikinapikon ni Luis ay ang pag-aakusa sa kanya ng ilang citizen na "bitter" daw siya sa relief operations efforts ng kanyang ex-girlfriend na si Angel Locsin. Binigyan kasi ng masamang kulay ng isang netizen ang post niya na patutsada raw ito kay Angel. His tweet post reads:

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Julia hinihintay ang sa-got tungkol kay Coco

Almost one year ding nawala ang 24-year-old na si Julia Montes na huling napanood sa panghapong action-drama series na "Asintado" in October 2018.

Si Julia ay muling nagbabalik sa kanyang pinakabagong serye na isa ring action-drama na pinamagatang "24/7".

Ngayong aktibong muli si Julia, sagutin kaya niya ang mga katanungan na may kinalaman sa kanya umangong pagsilang ng baby nila ni Coco Martin nung isang



taon?

In fairness kay Julia, siya ay isang actress na hindi dumipende sa isang love-team at tanggap siya iba't ibang ang kanyang nakakatabahong leading men.

Still on Julia, bumagay sa kanya ang kanyang short hair. New look sa kanyang comeback teleserye.

"Gusto mo tumulong and post? Great job, gusto mo tumulong behind the scenes? Great job pa rin. But never invalidate help or someone just because it is not posted online."

Sa tono ng pananalita sa pagsagot ni Luis sa kanyang mga basher, obvious na pikon na siya. We can't blame him for some netizens have become so insensitive and harsh in expressing their thoughts. Pero dapat bang patulan ni Luis ang kanyang mga basher? Just asking..



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Coleen says Billy 'a different person' after giving up booze

Coleen Garcia said Billy Crawford was "like a different person" now that he has recovered from his dependence to alcohol.

The actress said her husband had been sober for over a year now. "He has always had a temper. Since he quit



drinking, he has become very reasonable and level-headed. There were no more outbursts like before," Coleen said.

"Billy has changed for the better," she declared, also noting that the TV host-actor also struggled with being 80 pounds

overweight last year. "It was a side-effect of everything; and the result of his quitting all his bad habits was the loss of weight," explained the actress.

Coleen, who tied the knot with Billy in April 2018, said she was the happiest person now that Billy had greatly improved. "I'd like to think I was able to influence my partner to be better, to live better. It feels great to be a source of inspiration of someone. Billy is like that for me, too," she pointed out.

Coleen recalled the time when Billy used to drink even at home, when he could down a bottle of whiskey all by himself. "It's not healthy or productive; it's not good for him in any way. But what's good with Billy was that I didn't have to scold him for anything. He knew that what he was doing had a negative effect on him. In fact, he already quit smoking and has not had one in six years now. He really worked hard on it. He was determined. When he says 'no' to something, he would never go back to it," said Coleen.

Nadine Lustre's camp reacts to Viva's legal action threat

MANILA, Philippines — The lawyer of Nadine Lustre has challenged Viva Artists Agency to act on its threat of filing a lawsuit against the singer-actress and any party that works with her.

"We welcome any legal action by VIVA so their unconscionable, oppressive and illegal Contract with Nadine (and their other artists) can be litigated in the proper forum," lawyer Lorna Kapunan of Kapunan & Castillo



Law Offices said in a statement sent to the media.

In a press statement released by the law firm on Monday, Nadine is now self-managed and bookings and inquiries may be directly addressed to her.

The artists agency, however, replied that "Nadine cannot unilaterally withdraw from her contract with VIVA," insisting that she was still an exclusive artist under them.

"Any dealings or professional engagements entered into by Nadine, without the consent or approval of VIVA constitutes breach of contract. VIVA shall initiate appropriate legal action against Nadine and/or third parties that directly deal with Nadine in contravention of VIVA's Management Contract," the agency said.

Nadine's lawyer begs to differ.

"It's about time that a David strikes out a Goliath that has taken advantage of young artists in the industry for the longest time," Kapunan said.

"Viva lawyers have not replied to our earlier letters but chose to wait in ambush to malign Nadine and harass Third parties dealing with her in good faith...This is wrongful and malicious Contract interference by Viva actionable in law for damages."

In December 2019, Nadine signed a contract with Careless Music, a recording label founded by longtime ex-boyfriend James Reid.

She left Viva after more than 10 years with the agency, rising to prominence in teen flicks like "Diary ng Panget" and "Talk Back and You're Dead" in 2014.

Jodi ok being single forever

JODI Sta. Maria was last seen on the big screen in the hit horror flick, "Clarita". Now, she is in the newest iWant on-line series "My Single Lady," which she herself also produced together with Dreamscape Digital.



nga itong 'My Single Lady' and I got excited, but at the same time, kinakabahan din because I'm embarking on a new role. So now, I'm happy I was able to help create more jobs for other people."

In the story, she plays Chona, a single mom devoted to her 6-year-old son (Ynigo Delen) and an avid fan of Regine Velasquez as her adoptive mom is a gay who's an impersonator of Regine. So would Regine be

appearing in "My Single Lady"?

Regine Velazquez is a gay icon...

no problem with that. If it's the Lord's

So would Regine be appearing in "My Single Lady"?

"Yes po. She's a gay icon and siya lang talaga ang babagay rito sa show. I got her number and sent her a message if I could call her. At first, ayaw niyang maniwala. Pati mga kanta niya, gag-aminin namin dito. Sabi niya, ewan ko sa inyo kung bakit santo ang tingin nyo sa'kin. But in the end, napapayag din namin siya. We used many of her songs

at hindi mura ang pagbili namin sa rights nito but okay lang, sa ikagaganda ng show."

Also in the cast are Carla Martinez, and three gay actors who play Jodi's best friends: Iyah Mina, Brenda Mage and new discovery, a tranny named Vitex Paguirigan. Since the title of the series is "My Single Lady", does this mean that Jodi is remaining single all her life?

"Sa season ng life ko ngayon, I have will for me, I will accept it. I don't mind remaining single, but I'm not closing my doors."

What can she say now that her ex-BF Jolo Revilla has tied the knot with Angelica Alita last month in the U.S.? "Ay, tapos na po 'yun. Matagal na, kaya huwag na nating pag-usapan."

"My Single Lady" is streaming at iWant and they're hoping it will be a big hit so they can have a season 2.

George & Dolly Poblete celebrate 63rd Wedding Anniversary in Toronto

George and Dolly Poblete recently celebrated another milestone, their 63rd wedding anniversary.



Blessing at Prince of Peace Church on December 22, 2019 by Fr. Lorenzo Salandanan and Fr. Michael Holmes with Dr. Cecilia Poblete, Natasha Valentin, Amy Isaac, Ferdie Poblete and Dinah Perron

The Pobletes have been very active members of the Filipino-Canadian community for over 50 years. In their early years, they helped build better youth in the Montreal and Toronto community through sports, particularly in the field of Self-Defense and Judo. Later in life, they prominently figured in the activities of civic organizations, like the Knights of Rizal. In their eighties, the Pobletes still are very much into their religious involvement. They help in their parish events and until recently they have taught the Rosary in Toronto Catholic Schools. They are vital to the formation and coordination of the activities of the Block Rosary Group in Toronto, which was established in 1982. George is a Knights of Columbus active leader and a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre. Dolly is a member of the Carmelite Order (OCDS) and Holy Sepulchre.

For their community involvement, George has received numerous local and international citations and awards from the Vatican, U.S.A., U.K., Canada, Japan, Philippines and Venezuela. Prominent among these distinctions, George received the Pro Patria Presidential Medal which was given to an individual by the President of the Philippines to an individual – Filipino or foreigner alike, who has rendered outstanding work in stimulating and encouraging works towards the Rizalian concept of love of country and fulfillment of duties of citizenship. He also received the Queen's Sovereign Medal for Volunteers (2017),



which handed out at Sussex Drive in Ottawa by Canada's Governor General, in recognition of his over sixty years of volunteerism in Canada, South America and the Philippines.

The Pobletes, are blessed with six children and 14 grandchildren, who are all supportive of their civic and religious undertakings.

Notable amongst the greetings the Pobletes received on their 63rd wedding anniversary were from: Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II and Canada's Governor General, the Hon. Julia Payette.

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Perly Baguisa (7th from left) of Forex celebrates her birthday at the office.



George and Dolly Poblete celebrate 63rd Wedding Anniversary Blessing at Prince of Peace Church on December 22, 2019 by Fr. Lorenzo Salandanan and Fr. Michael Holmes with Dr. Cecilia Poblete, Natasha Valenton, Amy Isaac, Ferdie Poblete and Dinah Perron



1



2

1. Dr. Vicky Santiago (SEATED AT RIGHT) and friends pose at the Mel Galeon 50th birthday dinner at Rembrandt.
2. Zyra Monica and Mitzi Faigal of Mitzify Fashions pose at the casting call for the upcoming show. PHOTO BY BONG MOLANO
3. Birthday celebrant Teresa Torralba pose with Action Honda's Rafael Nebres & wife Sylvia, and Lorelei Redoblado
4. Birthday celebrant Teresa Torralba pose with Roadsport Honda's Harold Guarin and wife Nenita.
5. Birthday celebrant Arielle Kayleen Perez poses with her cake.



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1	CONSOLACION GONZALES
2008	- Ansel Ramos (\$57,640)
2009	- Marlina Reyes (\$56,223)
2010	- Jacqueline Lopez (\$57,950)
2011	- Daisy Raymundo (\$116,515)
2012	- Vicky Sacla (\$90,115)
2013	- Leticia Torio (\$98,110)
2014	- Elizabeth Pascual (\$89,735)
2015	- Jocelyn Nadua (\$51,550)
2016	- Denia Javier - \$87,650
2017	- Teresita Sumayod (\$68,670)
2018	- Caroline Mina - \$86,875

TOP ROOKIE

2019	JOCELYN GETUTUA
2009-	Reynaldo Tenorlas
2010-	Agnes Asuncion
2011	- Daisy Raymundo
2012-	Vicky Sacla
2013	- Leticia Torio
2014	- Myrna Valenzuela
2015	- Joemari Deximo & Filomena dela Cruz
2016	- Emelda Banza & Arsenia Takinan
2017	- Leticia Bal, Eula Benitez, Marina Abuce
2018	- Caroline Mina

TOP RECRUITER

2019	MARY GRACE SERNADILLA
2009-	Dale Docil (13)
2010-	Carmen Skulj (15)
2011	- Daisy Raymundo (11)
2012-	Leomar Cabison (17)
2013-	Heidi Gutierrez (15)
2014	- Myrna Valenzuela / Michael Panganiban - (5)
2015	- Felipe Manaois - (11)
2016	- Myrna V. & Felipe M. (7)
2017	- Leomar Cabison (8)
2018	- Mary Grace Sernadilla - 16

TEAM SPIRIT AWARDS
VEGA

TOP PERSONAL SALES - CONSULTANTS' CATEGORY 2019

3	CHITA ORPILLA
2	CONSOLACION GONZALES
1	JOCELYN GETUTUA
2007	- Chita Jove (\$69,040)
2008	- Grace Gavino (\$68,280)
2009	- Rey Tenerlas (\$52,665)
2010	- Carmen Skulj (\$96,205)
2011	- Violeta Buli-e (\$97,390)
2012	- Vicky Sacla (\$96,005)
2013	- Leticia Torio - (\$88,520)
2014	- Elizabeth Pascual (\$80,840)
2015	- Joemari Deximo & Filomena dela Cruz (\$69,210)
2016	- Denia Javier - \$99,910
2017	- Leticia Bal, Eula Benitez, Marina Abuce (\$72,215)
2018	- Caroline Mina - \$73,280

TOP PERSONAL SALES - MANAGERS' CATEGORY 2019

3	BIENDA & DEUEL GABRIDO
2	LEOMAR CABISON
1	MARY GRACE SERNADILLA
2010-	Flor Cabangan (\$184,945);
2011	- Flor Cabangan (\$134,975)
2012	- Flor Cabangan (\$159,345);
2013	- Heidi Gutierrez (\$167,450)
2014- 2015	- Myrna Valenzuela (\$188,035)
2016	- Myrna Valenzuela - \$107,460
2017	- Abigail Danzil (\$206,450)
2019	- Mary Grace Sernadilla (\$129,125)

TOP DISTRIBUTORS 2019

3	CATHERINE PALSI & NORIEDA CARINGAL
2	LEOMAR CABISON
1	MARY GRACE SERNADILLA
2009	- Flor Cabangan (\$751,023)
2010	- Adelina Navarro (\$1,765,979)
2011	- Flor Cabangan (\$1,197,819)
2012	- Melissa Talaro Ramos (\$584,690)
2013	- Flor Cabangan (\$727,631)
2014	- Heidi Gutierrez (S 1,149,100)
2015	- Myrna Valenzuela (\$1,054,600)
2016	- Felipe Manaois \$947,580
2017	- Leomar Cabison (\$1,155,698)
2019	- Mary Grace Sernadilla - (\$1,060,450)

TOP SENIOR DISTRIBUTORS 2019

1	LEOMAR CABISON
2015	- Myrna Valenzuela (\$1,758,400)
2016	- Myrna Valenzuela \$1,778,475
2017	- Myrna Valenzuela - \$1,992,773

STAR OF THE NIGHT - MALE 2019

2014	- Felipe Manaois;
2015	- Yitzhak Shim-Touv
2016	- Leomar Cabison
2017	- Gerrard Valenzuela
2018	- Felipe Manaois

STAR OF THE NIGHT - FEMALE 2019

2014	- Melissa Ramos & Flordeliza Cabangan
2015	- Venus Trinidad
2016	- Myrna Valenzuela
2017	- Myrna V.
2018	- Janet Viado

2019 SERVICE PAR-EXCELLENCE AWARD

ELIZABETH REYES
MILA FRONDA
RAVI MAHATOO
ARNALDO MACAALAY

2019 TOP LEAD GENERATION LIFE CHANGER

JENALYN & JUN BABIA

RETURN OF THE CHAMP

Rasheed & Fareez Haquini

MOST PROMISING LIFE CHANGER AWARD 2019

1	Chita Orpilla
2	Jocelyn Getutua
3	Analyn Yarcia
4	Thelma Latina
5	Santie De Leon
6	Julie Ann Kristine Andaya
7	Manny & Valeriana Gutierrez
8	May & Willy De Venecia
9	Lorena & Ramil Alinsunurin
10	Elnory Sidon
11	Felina Gladys & Ferdinand Acosta

2011	- Chona Deu
2012	- Bai Caasi
2013	- Mary Grace Fernandez
2014	- Arnel Gomez & Critea Balingbing
2015	- Kim Pacis
2016	- Junior Distr. - Mary Grace Sernadilla
2017	- Jenalyn Babia, Catherine Palsi
2018	- Bienda Gabrido

MOST IMPROVED LIFE-CHANGER AWARD 2019

Bienda & Deuel Gabrido

2009	- Lowen Tenerife
2010 - 2012	- Heidi Gutierrez;
2013	- Carmen Skulj
2014	- Bayani Caasi & Terisita Filio
2015	- Cristeta Balingbing
2016	- Rowena Panlilio
2017	- Norie Caringal & Ramil Arioja
2018	- Catherine Palsi

MOST ENTHUSIASTIC LIFE-CHANGER AWARD 2019

Lorena Alinsunurin

2014	- Carmen Skulj
2015	- Leomar Cabison & Carmen Skulj
2016	- Heidi Gutierrez
2017	- Aurea Valdez
2018	- Bienda Gabrido

MOST CONSISTENT LIFE-CHANGER AWARD 2019

Mary Grace Sernadilla

2011	- Heidi Gutierrez ;
2012	- Adelina Navarro
2013	- Raymond Arguelles
2016	- Chita Jove
2017	- Felipe Manaois
2018	- Mary Grace Sernadilla



PACIS FAMILY



Ron Pacis with girlfriend



LOYALTY AWARDEES

1	ANN MARGARETTE CUSTODIO	2017	5	DENIA JAVIER	2016	10	LEOMAR CABISON	2010
2	MARITES TUY	2017	6	MARY GRACE SERNADILLA	2016	11	KIM CHRISTIAN PACIS	2009
3	CATHERINE PALSI	2017	7	NORIEDA CARINGAL	2016	12	MELISSA RAMOS	2009
4	JENALYN & JUN BABIA	2017	8	DARIO & ABIGAIL DARIO	2014	13	RAYMOND ARGUELLES	2006
			9	DENNIS ORNEDO	2013			



Power Couple
Pidoy & Ting





Kim & Julia Pacis Family



Clyde and
Thula Pacis
Family



Consul General
Orontes Castro



MOST RELIABLE LIFE-CHANGER AWARD 2019
Melissa Ramos
Ferland Constantino

2011 - Violeta Bulie
2012 - Analyn Bolano
2013 - Flor Cabangan
2014 - Raymond Arguelles
2015 - Bayani Caasi & Dennis Ornedo
2016 - Carmen Skulj & Dario & Gail Danzil
2017 - Ann Custodio & Tess Tuy
2018 - Jenalyn Babia & Carmen Skulj

MOST DEDICATED LIFE-CHANGER AWARD 2019
Mary Grace Sernadilla

2011- Tess Filio
2012 - Monica Mateo
2013 - Adelina Navarro
2014 - Melissa Ramos
2015 - Raymond Arguelles
2016 - Leomar Cabison
2017 - Mary Grace Sernadilla & Dennis Ornedo
2018 - Felipe Manaois

GMC CONSISTENCY HONORS:
Mary Grace Sernadilla

2018 Felipe Manaois
2017 Leomar Cabison
2016 Myrna Valenzuela
2015
3 LEOMAR CABISON
2 FLORDELIZA CABANGAN
1 DARIO & GAIL DANZIL
2014
3 MYRNA VALENZUELA
2 CRISTETA BALINGBING
1 LEOMAR CABISON

ROLEX EXCLUSIVE CLUB

2012 - Chita Jove; Melissa Ramos; Heidi Gutierrez;
Carmen Skulj; Flordeliza Cabangan
2014 - Leomar Cabison ,
2015 - Dario Danzil, Flordeliza Cabangan,
Leomar Cabison
2016 - Felipe Manaois
2017 - Mary Grace, Felipe, Myrna, Heidi, Abigail, &
Leomar
2018 - Felipe Manaois & Mary Grace Sernadilla

GMC ROLEX WATCH RECIPIENTS:
2019 Mary Grace Sernadilla & Leomar Cabison

TOP TEAM BUILDER 2019
Leomar Cabison

2009- Heidi Gutierrez;
2011- Chita Jove;
2012 - Diasy Raymundo;
2013- Melissa Talaro;
2014 - Dario & Gail Danzil
2015 - Heidi Gutierrez
2016 - Felipe Manaois
2017 - Leomar Cabison
2018 - Mary Grace Sernadilla

RIISING STAR AWARD 2019
Marites Thuy & Ann Custodio

2012- Carmen Skulj
2013 - Leomar Cabison
2014 - Myrna Valenzuela
2015 - Jonathan & Venus Trinidad
2016 - Bayani Caasi
2017 - Gerrard Valenzuela
2018 - Norieda Caringal

SOARING SPIRIT AWARD 2019
Bienda & Deuel Gabrido

2010- Chita Jove
2011- Melissa Talaro
2012- Trina Tionko
2014 - Leomar Cabison
2015 - Felipe Manaois
2016 - Dennis Ornedo
2017 - Mary Grace Sernadilla
2018 - Heidi Gutierrez

MOST VALUABLE LIFE CHANGER 2019
Mary Grace Sernadilla

2008 - Adelina Navarro;
2009- Flordeliza Cabangan
2010- Frankie Wong;
2011- Raymond A ;
2012- Melissa Talaro
2013- Heidi Gutierrez;
2015 - Melissa Talaro Ramos
2016 - Myrna Valenzuela
2017 - Leomar Cabison
2018 - Mary Grace Sernadilla

ELITE AWARDS:
RECORD-BREAKING AWARD:
Mary Grace Sernadilla

2010 - Flor Cabangan & Adelina Navarro
2014 - Heidi Gutierrez
2015 - Myrna Valenzuela
2017 - Leomar Cabison & Myrna Valenzuela
2018 - Felipe Manaois & Mary Grace Sernadilla



Before I

start working
get married
retire

, I want to

go bungee jumping



see a blue jay
(the bird, not the team)



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BICOL CANADA PICKS NEW SET OF OFFICERS, EARL FRANCIS ORIÑO DACARA IS REELECTED PRESIDENT



The Bicol Canada Community Association (BCCA), at its general membership meeting on January 12, 2020 elected its new set of 21 directors and officers for the 2020-2021 term at the Our Lady of Assumption Church Parish Hall, Bathurst St., North York, Toronto under the electoral supervision of Comelec officials Tony A. San Juan and Lorelie Redoblado.

Earl Francis Dacara has been unanimously reelected to his second two-year term since taking the helm in 2018. Dacara continues to lead the 6-province organization, of Filipino Canadians of Bicolano descent from

Bicol Region's Albay, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Catanduanes, Masbate and Sorsogon.

Elected to a 2-year term as Executive Officers and Members of the Board of Directors are:

CHAIRMAN & PRESIDENT: Earl Francis Oriño Dacara; VP - GOVT AFFAIRS: Joseph Redoblado; VP - SPORTS AND YOUTH DEVT: Noli Aquino; VP - MEMBERSHIP AND PR: Isabel Delima; SECRETARY: Jennifer Amaranto; ASST. SECRETARY: Lea Lue Qui; TREASURER: Jose Gutierrez; ASST. TREASURER: Josie Tait; AUDITOR: Erwin Bobis; ASST. AUDITOR: Ely Olayon; PRESS RELATIONS

OFFICER: Marcelino Mendizabal; SPECIAL PROJECTS AND EVENT COORDINATORS: Cecil Nardo, James Laqui, Bong Cabaltera, Eddie Tanada; DIRECTORS: Nanette Nardo, Gidget dela Torre, Bibian Cabaltera, Naty Gurtierrez, Edgardo Acuna, Bryan Colambo; BCCA ADVISER/ DIRECTOR: Rafael Nebres.

Honored by the task of leading the six-province organization on his second term, Earl Francis Oriño Dacara maintains adherence to the organization's mandate of bringing closer the Bicolanos/Bicolanas in Canada. The main activities of BCCA include its annual summer picnic and Palarong Bicol basketball and other sports activities, monthly novena, various outreach programs, and annual fluvial parade of Our Lady of Peñafrancia. Dacara believes it is vital to enhance its membership by engaging in more meaningful activities throughout the year, ensure its participation in Provincial and Federal Filipino heritage related activities, and be able to respond quickly to the pressing needs of the Bicolanos affected by the Mayon eruption and other natural calamities. He is determined to establish a significant link between BCCA and the Bicol Region in the Philippines through cultural, social, economic and immigration related programs that would benefit his fellow Bicolanos.

He believes that the new blood on board organization would further revitalize the organization. He would want to encourage the participation and involvement of all existing Bicolano groups in Canada to collectively participate in the BCCA activities.

Dacara is a pure Bicolano by descent, born to Emerlina Oriño Dacara from Libmanan, Camarines Sur and Elpidio P. Dacara from Iriga City and Albay. He is married to Francia Madrid also a Bicolana from the same town of Libmanan and blessed with their daughter Francheska Mae Dacara.

At present, Dacara is a Licensed/Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultant, a Canadian Licensed Paralegal, Hons. AB, MA, LL.B./J.D (Ph), member in good standing of the Immigration Consultants of Canada Regulatory Council (ICCRC) and the Law Society of Ontario (LSO). He is an associate of YSN and Associates Professional Corporation (Paralegals, Barristers, Solicitors) and the Chief Executive Officer of Northern Quest Canadian Immigration Services. He has an extensive international legal work experience from Manila, Dubai, Doha before settling in Ontario, Canada.

The Bicol Canada new set of Officers and Directors for 2020-20201 term.

Xian at Viva sunud-sunod ang projects

HINDI pa man naipapalabas sa sinehan ang first team-up nina Xian Lim at Crsitine Reyes, ang "Untrue" na dinirek ni Sigrid Andrea Bernardo (of "Kita Kita" fame), may bagong movie na namang sisimulan ang nobyo ni Kim Chiu sa bakuran ng Viva Films, ang period romance film na pagtatambalan nina Xian at Ryza Cenon.

Over at Viva, sunud-sunod ang mga project

na tapos na at sisimulan pa lamang. Balak din ng Viva ng magsumite ng dalawang movies sa first Metro Manila Summer Film Festival at kasama na rito ang "A Hard Day" na local adaptation ng 2014 award-winning Korean movie of same title na tatampukan nina Dingdong dantes at John Arcilla.

Samantala, palabas ngayon sa mga sinehan ang horror movie na "Night Shift" na

pinagbibidahan ni Yam Concepcion at kung saan din tampok sina Michael de Mesa, Epy Quizon, Soliman Cruz at Ruby Ruiz mula sa panulat at direksiyon ni Yam Laranas.

Nakatakda namang ipalabas on Feb 19 ang "Untrue" nina Cristine Reyes at Xian Lim.

Ginagawa naman ngayon nina Bela Padilla at Marco Gumabao ang pelikulang "Spell-bound" na local adaptation din ng isang

Korean movie. Ito'y pinamamahalaan ni Thop Nazareno.

Sa rami ng pelikulang naka-can na at ginagawa pa lamang, halos kumpleto na ang line-line ng Viva sa buong taon hanggang sa 2020 Metro Manila Film Festival. Meron din silang isusumite para sa ikaapat ng Pista ng Pelikulang Pilipino.

Teresa Torralba celebrates her 60th Birthday



James Reid-Nancy McDonie project push through this 2020



Amid past reports that James Reid was thinking twice about working with Momoland's Nancy McDonie, ABS-CBN has announced that their project is included in the network's lineup for 2020.

K-pop star Nancy McDonie is all set for her Philippine drama debut via ABS-CBN's "Soulmate Project" with James Reid.

McDonie, best known to Filipinos as part of the girl group MOMOLAND, revealed that filming of the series is scheduled to start in February.

Antoinette Jadaone ("Alone/Together," "Never Not Love You") is reuniting with Reid and Dreamscape Entertainment ("On the Wings of Love," "Till I Met You") as writer and director of this new project.

McDonie shared updates about "Soulmate Project" over the weekend, on the sidelines of a cleanup drive for Manila Bay as part of an upcoming reality TV series in South Korea.

"I started doing workshops [when I was last in Manila]. Now, there are workshops planned with James in the future," McDonie told ABS-CBN News' MJ Felipe.

The series, she confirmed, will be partly set in the Philippines as well as her home country, saying: "I'm going to stay here for a while. It's planned in Korea, too."

Asked what details she can share about the story, McDonie quipped, "It's a secret!"

"I can't tell you much, but I can tell you that my character is Korean-American who lives in the Philippines," she said.

Jadaone was similarly tight-lipped on the subject in a previous interview, but did divulge that "Soulmate Project," in terms of format, will be more comparable to K-drama or Western TV series.

Unlike the traditional teleserye, it is set for a 13-episode run and will be "canned." That means the entire series will have been done filming by the time it premieres.

"Soulmate Project" was among the titles confirmed for a release this year, as seen in ABS-CBN's "Sama-Sama Tayo sa 2020" trailer released early this month.

McDonie is aware of the excitement surrounding her acting debut. Asked for her message to her Filipino fans, she said: "I actually saw a lot of comments and people really are happy about this, so I'm really happy for you guys, too."



Joshua & Julia: 'We're okay. Thanks for asking'

Joshua Garcia and Julia Barretto didn't deny that they both miss each other since they went separate ways in the middle of 2019 as JoshLia loveteam on- and off-screen. They are together again as two of the lead stars of Block Z, the initial movie offering of Star Cinema this year.

Joshua and Julia stressed that everything is okay between them after one writer raised a question pertaining to the status of their relationship as co-stars in the zombie-themed movie directed by Mikhail Red.

"Okay naman kami. Okay kami and...okay kami (laughs)," began Joshua. "Actually, nung nakita ko s'ya, ito personally, na-miss ko din s'ya. So, ayun kasi ang tagal naming 'di nagkasama. Na-busy s'ya, na-busy ako."

For her part, Julia said, "We're okay, thank you for asking. One of the things that I'm super grateful for is that we were able to protect and make sure that the friendship will stay and will remain."

"And tama siya (Joshua), when I first saw him also, it felt familiar. Kumbaga, parang it's a familiar place, it's a comfortable, safe place," she added.

It can be recalled that it was in April of last year when the two admitted they were going steady for two years already. But a few months after, news broke that the romance had already fizzled out and that Joshua and Julia had mutually agreed to remain friends.

Ejay Falcon chooses school over politics: "Iyon na lang po ang kulang sa akin"

Masayang ikinuwento ni Ejay Falcon ang pagpunta niya ng Batangas para magbigay ng tulong sa mga nasalanta ng pagputok ng bulkang Taal.



Nagamit na raw niya ang pagiging reservist niya sa Philippine Air Force, na kasama niyang nagdala ng tulong sa mga nasalanta sa Batangas.

Ngayon pa lang daw niya na-experience ang magdala ng tulong bilang isang reservist sa Philippine Air Force. Pero matagal na siyang nagbibigay ng tulong at regalo tuwing Pasko sa mga kababayan niya sa Pola, Oriental Mindoro.

Nitong nakaraang December 26 - 31 ay umuwi siya sa Bakawan sa Pola, Oriental Mindoro to give gifts, have a basketball tournament with friends and classmates, and bring joy to senior citizens.

Ten years na itong ginagawa ni Ejay.

He has no plans to enter politics.

"Hindi po talaga, e. Sa trabaho ko na lang po sa showbiz ako mag-focus."

Ejay hopes to pursue college.

"Hangga't hindi pa po ako nakapagtapos ng pag-aaral, ayoko pong pasukin ang isang bagay na wala naman po akong magagawa," pahayag ng bida ng ABS-CBN series na Sandugo.

"Pagkatapos ng Sandugo, gusto ko pong subukan na matuloy ang pag-aaral," sabi niya.

'Unfair': Derek Ramsay reacts to 'play-boy' allegations

Derek Ramsay denied allegations that he is a womanizer.

"That's a funny thing, I don't," he said.

"Sabi ko, 'Guys, bilangan n'yo, I don't."

He thinks he has been stereotyped as "womanizer" because of his movies.

"I went out with Angelica (Panganiban) for six years. I was with Solenn (Heusaff) before showbiz for almost five years. Then I went out with a past relationship, that was five years," Derek shared.

"So, if I were such a womanizer, why would I last so long in my relationships? I guess, it all comes from, this is my job and a lot of the roles that I play, the one that put me on the map of movies was 'No Other Woman,' which was about cheating. So parang na-label na 'ko sa ganun, which is unfair but alam ko naman 'yung totoo."

When asked if his current girlfriend Andrea Torres has heard about the allegations and what she could say about them, Derek said: "She told me nga, she doesn't understand why people say that about me because she sees how I am with family."

For Derek, as long as his loved ones know the truth, it does not matter what other people say.

According to him, "There are other factors naman in relationships why it ends eh. It's not always naman about the third party."

When asked if he thinks Andrea is already the one for him, he said: "Most definitely."

He said he is ready to settle down.

"I'm at that age, definitely. I wanna start a family, I wanna start the next chapter of my life. And hopefully, you know, eto na 'yun."



From Mitzki to Madrid, from signing to action

MASAYA ang singer-actress na si Kara Madrid (formerly Kara Mitzki) na siya'y napasama sa "Ang Probinsyano" where she plays the role of Lt. Serena Mendoza na miyembro ng Task Force Aguila.

"I'm so honored po na mapabilang sa isang popular action-drama series na pinagbibidahan ni Direk Coco (Martin)," pahayag ni Kara na balik-Viva ngayon.

Bakit nagpalit ng screen name si Kara? "Mitzki po talaga ang surname ko kasi Greek ang father ko. Pero nahihirapan ang mga tao bigkasin ang family name ko pati spelling kaya ginawang Madrid na madaling tandaan," paliwanag pa ni Kara na excited sa kanyang pagbabalik-Viva.

Although singing ang first love ni Kara, bukas na rin siya ngayon sa acting kahit sa mga action scenes dahil nag-aral din siya



ng martial arts including mhuay thai, ninja academy training, boxing and even firing. She also took-up dance lessons under G-Force maging acting lessons. "I can do action scenes," aniya.

Hindi tulad ng ibang singers and artists na hindi tapos sa kanilang pag-aaral, si Kara ay nagtapos ng high school with honors sa University of South Wales in Sydney, Australia. Nagtapos naman siya ng college degree taking up Business Administration major in Marketing sa International Academy of Business and Economics in Makati City and took her Master's degree in Business Management sa Integra Business School nung isang taon.

Very optimistic si Kara na matutulungan siya ng Viva na maabot ang kanyang mga pangarap.

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New Beginnings



A TV host of Kapamilya's TV Patrol news channel took her puppy to work with her. They were together the whole time during a news program, but the viewers could see only the upper part of her body.

UNITED STATES

LA public schools to recognize October as Filipino Heritage and History Month

Los Angeles, USA - The Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) will now recognize October as Filipino Heritage and History Month, following a resolution passed by the district's Board of Education.

Sponsored by Filipina American Frances Suavillo, who is the student member on the board, the resolution declares "Filipino Heritage and History Month starting October of the 2020-2021 school year and onward."

The resolution, which was introduced in December 2019, was co-sponsored by all seven board members and passed unanimously during the board meeting on Tuesday, January 14.

"As a proud Filipina, I wanted to share our beautiful culture, a culture so rich with history and heritage, with everyone else. I noticed that my country never got the recognition I believe it truly deserves," Suavillo, a senior at Carson Senior High School, told the Asian Journal in an email.



Frances Suavillo, the student board member of the LAUSD Board of Education, smiles after she was sworn into her position on September 3, 2019. She introduced a resolution for the district to recognize October as Filipino Heritage and History Month.

Binibini vs. Miss U-Ph, a bad taste in the mouth

It's a pity that Binibining Pilipinas slowly loses its premium as the country's most prestigious pageant.

Sa panahon ngayon, hindi na talaga uso ang loyalty. Kung saan ang pera, doon ang loyalty. Temporarily, that is. Nakakalungkot na sa unang wala na ang crown at title para sa



Stela Marquez-Araneta and Pia Wurtzbach

sa Miss Universe Binibining Pilipinas Charities Inc. Undenably, it's the pageant's most coveted title. Pero mas

nakakalungkot na mismong mga personalidad na nakinabang sa pageant ang tumalikod sa organisasyon at sa founder nito na si Madam Stela Marquez-Araneta. Itinalaga bilang National Director ang 3rd runner-up Miss Universe 2011 na si Shamcey Supsup-Lee habang Creative Director naman itong si Jonas Gaffud. They should not be blamed for accepting their roles in the Miss Universe Philippines Organization. Dahil personal choice nila 'yun at may sarili silang motibo kung bakit nila tinalikuran ang BCPI. As they say, to each his own. But personally, their decision leaves a bad taste in the mouth.

Sa ngayon, mukhang mas marami ang gustong sumali sa Miss U-Ph dahil 'di maikakaila na pangarap ng bawat beauty queen ang maging Miss Universe. Extended pa nga ang screening nito until January 31. Sabay pa ito sa screening period ng Bb. Pilipinas. Sinadya ba ito ng kampo ni Gaffud para maunahan nila ang Binibining Pilipinas sa paghahanap ng mga mas magaganda at magagaling na kandidata? Just asking...

How motherhood changed wacky Melai Cantiveros

Every weekday morning, Filipino homes are energized by the unique laughter and witty lines of "Magandang Buhay" host Melai Cantiveros.

Forming the popular trio of "momshies" — the slang for moms the show popularized — Karla Estrada and Jolina Magdangal, Cantiveros daily does her share of imparting relatable parenting advice and highlighting inspiring stories via guest interviews in her signature comical way.

But before Cantiveros became an official momshie, it will be remembered how she aspired to be a Pinoy Big Brother (PBB) grand winner and succeeded, thereafter making a name as a funny woman across countless ABS-CBN shows.

Since starting a family with husband and fellow PBB contestant Jason Francisco, however, the 31-year-old bade farewell to comedy shows and movies and seems to have concentrated on the morning female talk show.

Formerly one of the funny women of ABS-CBN, Cantiveros is now happy to let go of comedy shows and focus on her career as a host and product endorser.

Given the chance at Cantiveros' official launch as restaurant chain Adobo Connection's first brand ambassador, The Manila Times had to ask the celebrity if she's missing her string of wacky roles on TV these days.

"Na-mi-miss ko din yung 'Banana Split' namin dati

[the afternoon gag show]. Pero kapag may anak ka na, wala ka na kasi dun sa mga pangarap mo, kumbaga ang pangarap ko na lang ay para sa mga anak ko. Kaya kung ano ang ibibigay sa akin na blessings ni God, I will grab it," Cantiveros animatedly replied.

Cantiveros added that her top priority now together with her husband is to be able to provide for all their daughters' needs, while raising them in a way they are equipped for whatever challenges may come their way in the future. The Franciscos have been blessed with two adorable girls named Mela, 6 and Stella, 2.

"Gusto lang nami ma-equip sila para alam nila paano harapin ang obstacles and struggles later in life. Sa ngayon nabibigay namin ang needs ng mga anak namin kaya blessed talaga kami."

Grounded kids But the TV host assured that despite achieving a much better life compared to her pre-showbiz existence in General Santos City, she keeps her children



Cantiveros and husband Jason Francisco with their adorable daughters Mela and Stella.

grounded. "Yung buhay ko noon, yun ang pina-pa-experience ko sa kanila, para maging aware sila. Like nung Pasko, umuwi kami ng province, hindi kami nag hotel at nag stay kami sa bahay ng mga kamag anak namin." The result of her efforts, according to Cantiveros, is manifested in her daughters' behaviors nowadays.

"Nakita ko nga sa kanila mas masaya sila with experiences kesa sa mga material things, and that makes me happy kasi parang I'm

on the right track in my role as a momma." Cantiveros is also evidently a proud momshie when she specifically talked about her eldest who is slowly forging her own identity online and gaining many followers in the process.

Via YouTube channel "Pop Babies," Cantiveros' eldest Mela, together Magdangal's son Pele and Estrada's nephew Jordan showcase nursery rhymes and songs to 66,000-strong subscribers.

"Happy kami kasi dumadami ang following nilang tatlo and even sa labas, madami na nagpapa-picture kay Mela. Minsan nga sa kanya na lang, wala na sa amin," laughed the proud mom. "So pinapaalala ko sa kanya na dapat nice siya and smile lang siya kasi fans ang reason bakit siya may show."

MITZIFY

MITZIFY FASHIONS is busy preparing for their fashion show on May 9.

RIGHT, Mitzi Faigal (seated, centre) poses with the models. FAR RIGHT, Parents of the models

PHOTOS BY BONG MOLANO



Tala

The current dance anthem that almost didn't happen

Sarah Geronimo's Tala is lighting up the music charts, getting the whole country dancing and just shining more brightly than when it was released as part of the Pop Star's 2015 album The Great Unknown.

And its awesome story doesn't stop there. Did you know that the nation's current dance anthem almost didn't happen?

According to Tala composer/lyricist Nica del Rosario, Tala was the last track added to The Great Unknown. The 30-year-old singer-composer works as the head writer for FlipMusic Productions, which has been supplying music to Viva Records. She shared that none of the songs they initially submitted made it to Sarah's album.

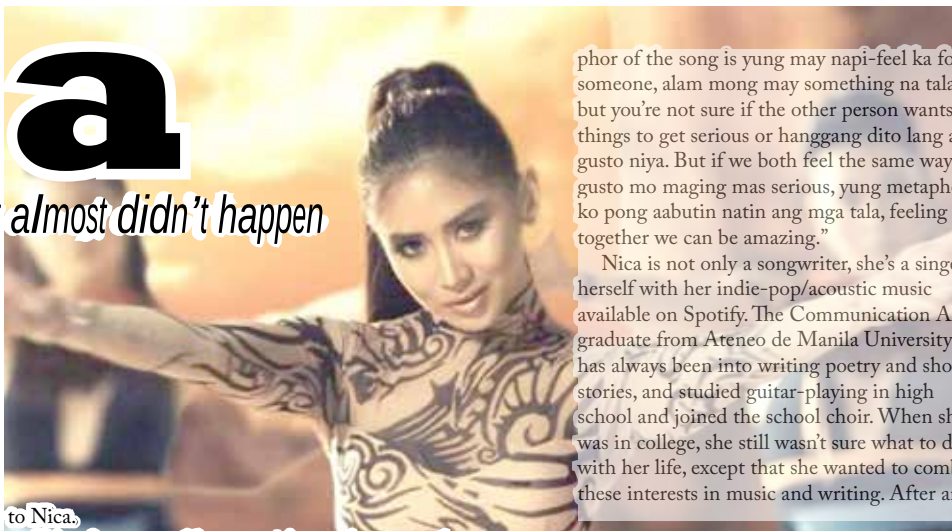
"After a while, tumawag po yung Viva sa amin, kulang pa kami ng one song, baka gusto niyo mag-pitch ulit?"

"At that time, we were quite a small team, there were only three of us in the production. Thus, in the original demo recording, Tala was a slower number. Then Sarah asked for a final revision because 'nagbago yung vision ni Sarah, gusto niya maging dance song.'"

According to Nica, it was FlipMusic head producer Jumbo "Bojam" de Belen that transformed the song's beat, picking up its pace, to become the tune that sparked the dance craze today.

"During the recording, kinukwento nga ni Sarah, gusto niya at ini-envision niya na maging dance craze, na gagawa po sila ng choreography."

The resurgence of the song in the later part of 2019 came as a shock to Sarah, and moreso



to Nica.

"It's a four-year-old song so it's somehow surreal na bigla siyang sumikat ulit and more than ever before. When it was first released, it became popular among the Popsters (fans of Sarah G) and then after a year or so, it became popular within the LGBT community, so it's a bit gradual," Nica said.

"But I really thought, personally, that was it. OK, naging anthem siya ng LGBT community at sumikat sa mga Popsters, yun na yun. I didn't expect it to reach this level, nationwide, and that everywhere I go, I would hear it."

As of writing, Tala is the first Sarah G song that has secured a spot on Spotify's Global Viral 50, which is a playlist of the "most shared and most trending tracks across the entire world." Its music video, on the other hand, has generated over 34



Sarah Geronimo with Tala songwriter Nica del Rosario.

million YouTube views. With its infectious choreography, courtesy of G-Force, Tala has spawned viral dance covers from celebrities, animated characters to the "common tao."

"I'm grateful because OPM ang naging dance craze because recently mga foreign yung mga dance craze, like K-Pop. So,

masaya po ang feeling na we penetrated the dance craze (charts)," Nica said.

The lyrics have also taken on different interpretations for its listeners. Nica enjoys reading and reposting them on her soc-med pages. "Ang di ko lang kinaya ay yung song daw ay tungkol sa komunista," she laughed.

Nevertheless, when asked about the real inspiration behind the song, she said, "Basically, the main meta-

phor of the song is yung may napi-feel ka for someone, alam mong may something na talaga, but you're not sure if the other person wants things to get serious or hanggang dito lang ang gusto niya. But if we both feel the same way at gusto mo maging mas serious, yung metaphor ko pong aabutin natin ang mga tala, feeling ko together we can be amazing."

Nica is not only a songwriter, she's a singer herself with her indie-pop/acoustic music available on Spotify. The Communication Arts graduate from Ateneo de Manila University has always been into writing poetry and short stories, and studied guitar-playing in high school and joined the school choir. When she was in college, she still wasn't sure what to do with her life, except that she wanted to combine these interests in music and writing. After an

internship for a small music studio, she decided to venture into the music business and started to work at FlipMusic in 2013.

"From there, dun nag-start yung career ko as a songwriter. Nica said she isn't really aiming to become a popular singer because as it is, she's found fulfillment in writing songs for other artists such as Daniel Padilla (Reyna ng Puso Ko) and Kim Chiu (Okay Na Ako). Other songs she

...yung metaphor ko pong aabutin natin ang mga tala, feeling ko together we can be amazing.

wrote for Sarah include Mi-namahal, San-data, Ganito, Tagu-Taguan and Hingang Malalim.

"We're planning a follow-up, like paano kaya susundan ang who's very grateful to Sarah for never failing to acknowledge her as the songwriter. "Nothing set, but hopefully it pushes through."

Nica has this advice to aspiring artists: "Siguro po, wag sila ever mag-stop matuto. Always listen to different kinds of music and talk to other songwriters. The world is so huge and music is so complex. For me, I don't think I can say, I've learned enough already, there's always room for improvement. So, never stop learning and be open always to discover new things."

Nationwide 'Tala' dance festival to be held on 'ASAP Natin 'To'

MANILA — "ASAP Natin 'To" is kicking off 2020 — its 25th year on air — with a grand dance festival featuring Sarah Geronimo's juggernaut hit "Tala."

The Sunday concert variety show will feature performances of the viral dance craze from across the country. "ASAP Natin 'To" announced on its social media channels.

With the hashtag #TalaNation, "ASAP Natin 'To" has been sharing dance covers from fans of diverse backgrounds: cops, athletes, baristas, teachers, newlyweds, and medical professionals, among others.

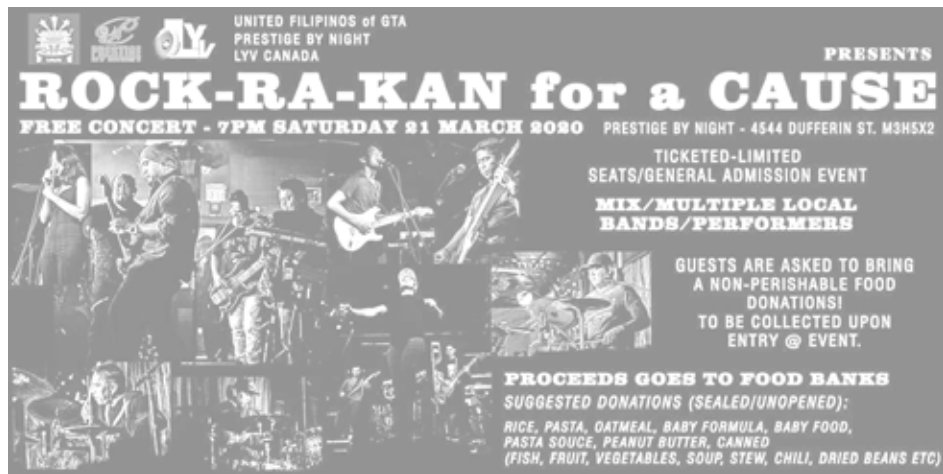
Geronimo had been counting on "Tala" to become a dance craze since its original release in 2016, she recently revealed.

Somehow, three years later, it finally happened, and the fad shows no signs of abating.

From drag performances, TikTok challenges, to Christmas parties, "Tala" became ubiquitous in the latter half of 2019.

But Geronimo is aware of what helped propel the tune to its status.

"Of course, maraming salamat sa LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) community kasi sila talaga 'yung yumakap dito sa awiting ito na 'Tala,'" she said in December.



Philippines imports red onion from China to tame prices

MANILA -- The Philippines' agriculture chief authorized the importation of red onions from China to help bring down prices.

The authority to import up to 35,000 metric tons of red onions started will last until mid-February, before the local harvest begins in March, Sec. William Dar said.

Red onions are currently sold at P250 per kilo, Dar said, without giving comparative figures. On the Philippine Statistics Authority's website, red onion prices were monitored at P180 per kilo in Metro Manila last month.

The DA will start distributing more aid to farmers this year to ensure productivity.

A P3-billion fund will be disbursed to farmers who are part of cooperatives. More farm-to-market roads will be built in areas infested with communist rebels, he said.

Mitzify in the City



LEFT, Mitzi Faigal (3rd FROM LEFT) of Mitzify fashions poses with the models for her upcoming fashion show on May 9.

RIGHT, Two models attend the casting call.

PHOTOS BY BONG MOLANO



'Darna' trends as Angel Locsin posts about helping Taal Volcano victims

Kapamilya actress Angel Locsin has been getting praises again from social media users after she asked for the needs of Taal Volcano eruption victims.

In her Twitter account, Angel asked her followers where she get an assessment what the needs of the victims are.

"Anyone here na may na-conduct na assessment kung anong mga kailangan, anu-anong baranggays ilang families baranggay? Thank Angel wrote.

Social media users commended Angel for the post, saying that the actress is the real Darna.

"Here she goes again, our real life darna," a netizen wrote.

"Anyone can be a social media influencer but not everyone can be as true & helpful as Angel Locsin. Parating na si darna," another user wrote.

"Darna carrying our government responsibilities AGAIN, Angel Locsin is the proof that you don't need to be a government official or a billionaire to help other people in needs," a netizen wrote.

Because of the post, "Darna" was among the top-trending topics on Twitter on Tuesday.

Apart from her "Darna" TV series on GMA, Angel has been known for her philanthropy. She was seen giving relief goods in war-torn Marawi City, earthquake victims in Mindanao and the recent typhoon victims. For aiding disaster relief efforts, she was included in last year's Forbes Philanthropy List.

LizQuen shares couple bucket list

MANILA, Philippines — Enrique Gil and Liza Soberano are oozing with maturity in their new series Make It With You or at least that's what the teaser trailer is promising viewers as their reel and real pairing returns to ABS-CBN prime-time bida tonight.

The two having grown much since their last series in

2018, Bagani, going by how they talked about their new roles, new challenges and all.

"We always say this, but expect a new LizQuen because each time we try to be better and better at our craft, and all we want is for our audience to be happy and satisfied with the show, and of course, we want them to learn something from it. That's what we're looking forward to," said Liza.

Asked about other things they hope to do as a couple, they've added a few more to their bucket list. Liza enumerated, "Go to another country that we've never been to and do a dream project together that we've never done. We dream of doing a docu film and a horror film, and maybe a business together." Ending up with each other in the future is also part of the wishlist. Enrique told reporters that he believes Liza is the one for him. "Yes, I really believe so, 100 percent in my heart, yes," he said.

"I'm happy because he makes me feel secure," Liza responded. "He's always assuring me and I think that's what any girl in a relationship is looking for."

They're still young Enrique is 27 and Liza is 22 but they and their fans certainly hope they make it.

Make It With You airs weeknights after FPJ's Ang Probinsyano.





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SCARBOROUGH CIVIC CENTRE

Ai-Ai is not for same-sex marriage

Among those who commended the Supreme Court decision to junk the petition for same-sex marriage was Ai-Ai delas Alas who got bashed after she posted her opinion on her Instagram.

“I am a Catholic at bawal naman talaga sa Catholic Church ang same-sex marriage,” explained Ai-Ai at the recent presscon for D’Ninang, Regal Entertainment, Inc.’s opening salvo for 2020 which is a follow-up to Ai-Ai’s movie Our Mighty Yaya, the company’s hit Mother’s Day offering in 2017. But, and that’s the Big But, added Ai-Ai, “it’s okay for same-sex couples to be in love, siempre been there done that. Nadaanan ko ’yan, eh. They can exchange vows if they want to, pero para sa akin huwag lang sa church.”



Ai-Ai delas Alas (fourth from left and far right) with D’Ninang director GB Sampedro and co-stars (from left) McCoy de Leon, Kisses Delavin, Angel Guardian, Kiray Celis and Lou Veloso

In a follow-up text to Funfare, Ai-Ai said that she has been invited to her (same-sex) friends getting married.

“I would say ‘yes’ but I don’t attend. I just give them my pa-kimkim (financial gift) and assure them that I love them. As I said,” added Ai-Ai who is a Marian devotee, “I am Catholic and I believe what the Bible says that a man is for a woman, and vice-versa; ang lalaki ay para sa babae at ang babae ay para sa lalaki.”

Ai-Ai was puzzled why she was being bashed for expressing her opinion.

“They have their opinion and I respect their opinion.



They should also respect my opinion. Why would they be angry at me for speaking up? Wala naman akong sinabing masama, hindi lang ako pabor sa same-sex marriage. Kasalanan bang maghayag ang opinion mo? Naw-i-weir-do-han ako sa reaction ng mga bashers.”

McKiss is a New Loveteam

D’Ninang was not, contrary to what some people thought, submitted to the 2019 (45th) Metro Manila Film Festival (MMFF), but Ai-Ai is included in the MMFF entry 3Pol Trobol (with Coco Martin).

Incidentally, Ai-Ai served as ninang in the mass baptism of some 20 kids in Quiapo.

If a picture paints a thousand words, imagine how many thousand more words these two photos of McCoy and Kisses can paint?

Directed by GB Sampedro, D’Ninang introduces McCoy de Leon and Kisses Delavin as a new loveteam, McKiss. The two seem to be comfortable with each oth-

er. McCoy admitted that he was “busted” by Miles Ocampo when pressed by the movie writers if he really courted her.

“Hindi naging kami,” McCoy clarified. “Pero sig, since lalaki ako, aaminin ko na nabasted ako.” Then he laughed, his eyes disappearing into slits. (Note: But McCoy and Elisse Joson were an “item.” They starred in Sakaling Magiging Tayo before they parted ways.)

On the other hand, Kisses at 20 is NBSB (No Boyfriend Since Birth). She’s so wholesome that her roles (like the one in D’Ninang) are patterned after real life. Will her new management (Triple A) give Kisses more “mature” roles?



SEX ON THE MENU

continued from page 1

her affidavit at the probe under the alias Carina and via a video call from elsewhere. She shared her and other women in the den were told that they would be taking part in a “massage with extra service” business.

Carina, among other Filipina women, said she was later kept by a Chinese national in a house in Makati.

‘POGO benefits at what cost?’

According to her, the women in the house primarily serviced Chinese clientele and were paid at least P6,000 per job, an amount that they halved with their Chinese handler but also increased if they were asked to spend the night or perform extra services.

The girl also said the Chinese ringleader of the prostitution den had long been based in the Philippines and was not a tourist or a new entry.

Carina shared that one member, under the alias Shaira, was as young as 14 years old. It was Shaira too, she said, who later contracted a sexually transmitted disease. Once she was healed of her affliction, she was made to go back to work as a prostitute.

“Is it worth it?” Hontiveros asked of the benefits supposedly brought by the presence of POGOs.

“At what cost ito? It shouldn’t ever be at the cost of any Filipino woman.”

Sen. Joel Villanueva echoed this sentiment late last year, saying that the benefits of POGOs in the country were ultimately outweighed by the rise in kidnapping incidents involving Chinese nationals and the “social ills” they brought to the country.

‘Just like GrabFood’

As she presented screenshots of an on-

line transaction, Hontiveros likened the workings of Chinese prostitution dens to restaurants.

“Yung mga babae parang inoorder lang sa app ng mga Chinese members ng group na ito - parang Grabfood, may menu, may presyo, then darating na lang sa hotel o condo mo,” she said.

Her presentation revealed a system of purchasing separated according to the women’s ethnicity and the extent of the sexual acts.

“Brothers, we have new tea available, we welcome old customers to come and drink tea,” one translated text message from a Chinese handler read.

According to a side note in Hontiveros’ report, the term “tea” in China sex industry means prostitutes and was used to avoid Chinese online censors.

‘Other changes besides banning POGOs’

According to members of the panel, “the focus has always been on recruiters involved in the trafficking. If there’s no demand side, then there are no traffickers.”

A representative from the Coalition Against Trafficking In Women – Asia Pacific recommended that the government look into the entry of foreign buyers, direct efforts towards the demand side and penalize the perpetrators and the entry of buyers such as single men coming in as sex tourists.

Also mentioned was the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, which was approved by the United Nations in 1949 and prohibits the running of brothels and renting accommodation for prostitution purposes.

Resource persons from the PNP and the NBI were careful to point out that these rings served primarily Chinese customers who were not necessarily POGO workers. “It just so happens,” they said, “that

majority of these worked in these gaming operators.”

“Our main problem is about rescuing victims,” they said.

“Hindi pwedeng nagiging pugad tayo ng Chinese prostitution dens (We can’t be haven of Chinese prostitution dens),” said Hontiveros.

“Tatlo ang anak kong babae, ang isa menor de edad. ‘Pag nakikita ko sa TV ang mga babaeng nahuhuli sa raid na punong puno ng hiya at takot, isa lang ang tumatakbo sa isip ko: this girl is someone’s daughter. And we have failed her (I have three daughters, one of them is a minor. Everytime I watch television and see women caught during raids, filled with shame and fear, this runs through my mind: this girl is someone’s daughter. And we have failed her) .”

Other recommendations of the panels include:

- Requiring ISPs to inform PNP or NBI of any leads, monitoring suspicious photos
- Suspend the Anti-Wiretapping Law for similar cases
- Address existing controversies with the implementation of Anti Child Pornography Act (ISPs still require a court order even when the shouldn’t anymore)
- Institutionalize recovery and rehabilitation program of DSWD so funds can be properly allocated (DSWD encountering lack of social workers especially for child and minor victims)
- Filing expanded anti-trafficking bill

“Pati yung mga sarili nating kababaihan at kabataan, nabibiktima na (Even our own women and youth are being victimized),” Hontiveros said.

“Kailangan na nating umakasyon (We need to act now). We need to look into suspending POGO operations because they attract criminals into our country.”



‘Your Moment’ kinulang nga ba sa moment?

MUKHANG hindi lahat ng talent search ng ABS-CBN ay patok.

Isa na rito ang ‘Your Moment,’ na malapit nang mag-final moment. Ni hindi man lang mainit na pinag-usapan sa social media. At napansin din namin na manipis ang commercial load nito.

The show is open to artists from other countries. But, in general, it’s just the usual talent contest we see on TV. Nothing new except for that revolving stage. Maging host, sila-sila rin. If not for Luis Manzano, its hosting department could have been a big flop. Co-host Vhong Navarro has never improved his hosting skills despite his decade-long stint on It’s Showtime as one of its pioneer hosts. Maging ang kanyang mga jokes, lumang-luma na. In short, he’s a boring host.

Kung sa judges naman, walang question sa credentials ng tatlong judges na sina Boy Abunda, Nadine Lustre at Billy Crawford. Pero sarcastic na tanong ng isang kaibigang writer, “wala na bang iba?!” Actually, sobrang safe ang kanilang comments. Madalas inuulit-ulit lang nila ang sinasabi ng isat-isa. Kaya hindi biting at gripping. Para ka tuloy na nanonood ng talent search for kids dahil sa filtered nilang evaluation sa performance ng bawat contestant.

Maging ang mga contestant wala ring nerve-wracking performance. Hanggang ngayon na napili na ang mga maglalaban sa “Your Moment of Power” stage ng kompetisyon, wala pa ring nagba-viral. Sa dismal performance nito, magkakaroon pa kaya ito ng Season 2? Just asking...

Marcelito Pomoy says worst time in his life was when he saw himself as a has-been

Mula sa pagiging pal-aboy at construction worker, nagbago ang takbo ng buhay ni Marcelito Pomoy nang magwagi siya sa Pilipinas Got Talent, second season, noong 2011.

Pero sa paglipas ng panahon at pagdating ng mga bagong mang-aawit, naramdaman niyang palaos na siya.

“Noon pong 2015, parang... depressed na po ako. Umiiyak po talaga ako,” pag-amin ni Marcelito.

“Marami na po kasing bagong singer noon. Every year po, maraming pumapalit.

“Kaya parang... iyong mundo mo, gumuho na.”

Gusto na sana niyang tumigil sa pag-awit at asikasuhin na lang ang dalawang hardware store na naipundar niya.

Ngunit noong Pebrero 2019, nakatanggap ang asawa niyang si Joan ng tawag mula sa mga taga-America’s Got Talent (AGT). Baka gusto raw mag-audition ni Marcelito.

“Actually, noon pong una na kinuha nila ako sa America’s Talent, iyon lang ordinary, hindi iyong Champions edition,” paglilina ng Kapamilya singer.

“Kinuha nila ako, sabi ko, ‘Ayaw kong sumali.’ “Kasi, sabi kong ganoon, ‘Kung natalo ako, ano iyong pangalan ko dito sa Pilipinas?’



Got po

“Champion ako, ‘tapos tatalunin na parang ordinary lang?”

“Dun dumating yung sabi nila, ‘Sige, doon ka sa Champions edition. Nana-lo ka naman pala sa Pilipinas.’

“So, iyong mga nanalo sa ibang lugar, naglaban-laban noong October, at isa ako sa Pilipinas na nakuha.”

Siyempre, hindi na kailangang mag-audition si Marcelito sa Champions edition.

Alam ng AGT staff ang gimik ni Marcelito sa pagkanta, pero hindi alam ng mga hurado.

AMERICA’S GOT TALENT SEMIFINAL ROUND

Last week ng January ang balik ni Marcelito sa U.S. First o second week of February ang salang niya sa semifinal round, kung saan dalawampu (20) ang magka-kalaban. Sampu ang malilig-wak doon.

Pinapraktis na ni Marcelito ang kanta kung saan magboboses-babae at boses-lalaki pa rin siya.

“Kumbaga, mas malala ito kaysa sa unang sinalihan ko na Pilipinas Got Talent. Kasi, international po iyan.

“E, ang mga kalaban ko po, hindi basta-basta. Lahat po, nanalo iyon.

“Lahat po, nag-champion din iyon. Kaya Champions edition po ang laban.”

Ano ang pakiramdam niya na pinag-uusapan siya maging sa ibang bansa? “Hindi nga rin po ako makapaniwala sa sarili ko. Kumbaga, nagulat ako nang sabihan,

‘Trending ka na!’ ‘Ha?’ ‘Oo! Kasi, pinag-uusapan ka!’

“Sa ratings kasi ng America’s Got Talent, saka iyong mga kasamahan kong dating performer, ako iyong pinakamataas talaga.

“Siguro, marami ring mga Pilipino sa U.S., ganoon. So, sobrang blessed po talaga ako.”

NO HURT FEELINGS

Walang hinanakit si Marcelito kahit may panahon na binebalewala na lang siya ng mga tao. Na kailangang mapansin muna siya sa ibang bansa bago muling mahalin ng mga kababayan.

“Sa akin kasi, parang... parang siguro... Pasalamat na lang siguro ako sa asawa ko.

“Ako, nawalan ako ng pag-asa, siya ang talagang nagtayo sa akin, ‘Kaya mo pa ‘yan! May boses ka pa. Ako ang gagawa ng paraan.’

“Pasalamat ako sa ABS-CBN, kasi kung hindi dahil sa kanila, hindi ako nakilalala.”

Ano ang pinakamataas niyang pangarap? Inaasam ba niyang maging international singer?

“Actually, maliit lang naman ang pang-arap ko, e,” pagpapakumbaba ni Marcelito.

“Na makarating lang ako sa ibang bansa. Hindi ko naman akalain na makapag-perform at makilala ako.

Sinong international singer ang pinapanagarap niyang maka-duet?

“Si Celine Dion talaga!” mabilis na tugon ni Marcelito.

If ever, wish ni Marcelito na magsalo sila ni Celine sa pag-awit ng “Beauty and the Beast.”



Remember Ivana Alawi was in GMA-7 reality show?

Did you know that ABS-CBN actress and YouTuber Ivana Alawi was a product of GMA-7’s StarStruck?

Ivana joined the sixth season of the reality-based artista search which aired in 2015.

She used the name Mariam Al-Alawi in the Kapuso show.

Ivana was able to move forward to two rounds of the competition: The Door Elimination and the Top 28 Dreamers.

The Door Elimination was the first round of StarStruck Season 6, where each hopeful enters a door leading to the “destinator,” a mechanism that reveals if they will continue or end their journey in the contest.

After The Door Elimination, Ivana made it to the Top 28 round, where StarStruck had two sets of Final 14 contenders. The 28 hopefuls were divided into two groups: The Dream 14 and the Believe 14. Ivana was part of the Dream 14 group.

Unfortunately, during the second elimination night for the Top 28 round, Ivana ended her StarStruck journey.

In real life, Ivana is the elder sister of GMA-7 child actress Mona Louise Rey.

IVANA ALAWI AFTER STARSTRUCK

Three years after ending her StarStruck journey, Ivana stopped using her real name Mariam Al-Alawi and appeared again on television using the screen name Ivana Alawi.

At present, Ivana is preparing for her first title role, the upcoming drama series Ligaya.

Ligaya is one of the shows included in ABS-CBN’s 2020 omnibus plug, showcasing the network’s programs for the year.

Her role was believed to be first offered to Maja Salvador, who turned down the project because it will tackle infidelity. Maja said she declined because she already played a mistress in The Legal Wife.

Kisses Delavin goes traditional on Chinese New Year

Kisses Delavin may not be pure Chinese. But the Chinoy in her, courtesy of her mother, Carrie Tan-Delavin, makes the annual Chinese New Year celebration extra special to the young actress. So, she has followed certain traditions since she was a little girl.

Believing that tikoy brings good luck to anyone who consumes it, Kisses eats the sticky, sweet delicacy that is supposed to bring prosperity for the rest of the year.

“Fried tikoy with egg, served hot is my favorite,” she tsaid.

Round fruits like oranges are also good food choices for her at this time of the year. Like most Filipinos, Kisses believes eating round fruits bring good luck.

Meanwhile, the Chinese in Kisses keeps her from buying anything and spending a single centavo on January 1. But since some purchases, like basic necessities, have to be made, Kisses and her family buy them ahead of time.

Whether these traditions are true or not, the year 2020 seems to have started on the right foot for Kisses. She plays Mikhail, Ai Ai delas Alas’ daughter in the currently showing romance drama “D’Ninang.”



TFC launches first original comedy

Welcome the new decade with lots of fun and laughter with TFC’s latest offering, Stand Up for Laughs, which can be seen for free by all registered users outside the Philippines via TFC Online and soon in the Philippines via iWant.

The comedy show is an eight-episode stand-up comedy series which is TFC’s first venture into producing content under the comedy genre.

“We are excited to launch not only our first comedy series but also a fresh batch of comedians who turn to humor to raise awareness about the lives of the Filipinos



Alex Calleja and Orca



Yuki and Nicki Morena

abroad and some parts of our culture

that is uniquely Filipino,” said Global Content head Ned Legaspi.

Bringing non-stop laughter while featuring some scenarios in the lives of the Filipinos abroad are stand-up comedians lead and directed by Laugh Factory’s Funniest Person in the World 2016 finalist Alex Calleja, with GB Labrador, Orca, Winer

Aguilar, Nicki Morena, Clark Llaga, Ramon Cabochan, and Yuki.

“We wrote our own materials,” Calleja relates. “Kasi ang stand-up comedy is based on your experience. Pero ito lumabas kami sa comfort zonenamin, nilagayan ng konting storytelling na hindi lumalayo sa reality.”

Get ready to laugh your hearts out in the relatable eight-episode standup comedy series Stand Up for Laughs, which can be seen outside the Philippines via TFC Online (www.TFC.tv) and soon in the Philippines via iWant. This is free for all registered users.

What Maymay misses about her life away from show biz

Reluctant star, Maymay Entrata, one half of the MayWard tandem, says she misses “life away from show biz, sometimes.”

“I miss not thinking about being a celebrity all the time, about it not being my responsibility,” says Maymay, whose entry to show biz was via the reality talent search “Pinoy Big Brother: Lucky Season 7,” where she was declared grand



Entrata (left) and Edward Barber

champion. Her love-team partner, Edward Barber, placed fourth in the competition.

“When I joined the contest, I didn’t

realize that it was work, or that I’d be working from then on. I miss my simple life (in Cagayan de Oro, where she grew up). I used to worry just about school assignments. I miss my life without all of you asking me to answer questions about all sorts of issues,” Maymay tells reporters, laughing.

“If I’m finally able to fulfill all my plans for my family, I want to travel,” Maymay says, turning serious. “Australia is my dream destination, but I also want to see Korea and Italy. I also want to go to New York and Paris.”



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Mitzi Faigal (left) OF Mitzi fashions talks to some models during the casting call for the Mitziify fashion show on May 9.

THE SOCIALIST

continued from page 3

they were headed in that direction. They're there right now but it's sad to see that happened. Manila itself has around 100 million people and just to know that the volcano is remotely close to the area is devastating to realize what could happen," said Insigne.

As the volcano remains active, Save the Children Philippines say an estimated 900 people have been taken to their evacuation centres. Many of them are children who are facing respiratory illnesses and emotional trauma from the events.

As of this writing a little under 100,000 persons are already affected by the eruption, 14 towns nearby the volcano are on lockdown.

Thousands have left their homes and are in shelters. The impact of a disaster is heavily felt when the ones affected have to leave their homes.

Riza Khamal posted a fundraising.

Prayer is another way of helping the victims, but if you are in London, ON, you can support the Bayanihan Filipino Federation's Zumba Fundraising Event on February 1st @ Fred Merrill Hall, from 1-5pm

for only \$10. There will also be dessert auction at the event. All proceeds will be donated to the victims of this disaster.

Jam Lazaro of Kusina ng Ating Bahay restaurant in Ajax initiated a drop-off, accepting clothes, food or anything that can be of used to the evacuees. UMAC frowarders helpOed by sponsoring 4 boxes.

We just want to thank UMAC Forwarders Express Inc. who sponsored 4 boxes going to the Philippines and to all who donated for the Victims of Taal Volcano Eruption. Mabuhay po kayo lahat!

Clarissa Cacanindin from Windsor held a pasta fundraising Last january 25. For \$10, you get a pasta.

A TAX RECEIPT will be issued for those who donated at least \$20. Pls come and join us at the Filipino Center but for those who can not come but is willing to donate can give us a call at 519 966-8661 or call any of the Board of Directors, that includes me of the Filipino Community Centre.

As we went to print, the evacuees are returning to their homes. Barring any other natural calamities, the disparate fundraising initiatives for the Taal disaster would probably be winding this month.



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Jodi stars in a digital series inspired by Regine

Songbird Regine Velasquez has a very important role in *My Single Lady*, the digital series that starts streaming on iWant today. According to its star, who also produced the content, Jodi Sta. Maria, the series would have been completely different had the seasoned chanteuse declined to be part of the project.

The six-part original series, a charming and enlightening take on the life of a single mother with a romantic twist in its modern family comedy series, features original Regine Velasquez songs and is directed and co-written by Carlo Catu, written by Janina Gacosta, and produced by Jodi, B617, and Dreamscape Digital. Ian Veneracion and Zanjoe Marudo are also in the cast.

“Ate Reg, is one of the foundations of the story. Hindi talaga puwedeng hindi sya umoo dito. Chona, the main character in the story, was raised by Regine Velasquez’s impersonator. And Chona, grew up having an illusion that Regine was really her mother. Talagang napaka-importante ng character niya sa story,” Jodi said during the the series’ press conference held early



Zanjoe Marudo, Jodi Sta. Maria, and Ian Veneracion in a scene from iWant’s latest offering ‘My Single Lady.’

this month.

The 37-year-old actress even shared how nervous she was when she tried getting in touch with the Songbird for the first time.

“She didn’t have my number so when I sent her a text, she couldn’t tell whether it was really me or just some prankster,” she recalled. “But she’s very accommodating. It wasn’t hard for us to convince her. She’s a very busy person but she sat down with us and gave us a date so she could shoot for the series,” she added.

In *My Single Lady*, Jodi plays hard-working Chona, a devoted single mother to six-year-old Red (Ynigo Delen) and an avid Regine Velasquez fan.

Amid various jobs and PTA meet-

ings, a spark starts when she meets sweet, reliable electrician BG (Zanjoe), who then vies for her affection. The situation becomes complicated, however, as running mayor Chester (Ian)—Red’s MIA father—returns to the picture and wants to be involved in his son’s life. Although adamant at first, Chona eventually allows father and son to bond upon seeing how Red really wants to get to know his dad.

Chona further becomes conflicted as Chester also attempts to woo her back. In her confusion, she finds comfort in her three best friends.

“It’s a story of a modern family, what a person would sacrifice just to raise a child, acceptance, things that we would really do to make things work. There are so many things that people could learn from the series,” Jodi said.

My Single Lady is the comeback project of the well-received Jodi-Ian tandem since *Achy Breaky Hearts*, and is the first team-up of Jodi and Zanjoe.

My Single Lady is streaming for free on the iWant app (iOs and Android) or iwant.ph.



Losing doesn’t change Aga

Aga Muhlach started out as a popular matinee idol in the early ‘80s, until he remarkably transformed into a critically-acclaimed actor. Aga has already bagged numerous Best Actor trophies from the different award-giving bodies in the country.

At the recently-concluded 2019 Metro Manila Film Festival, many said he was a shoo-in for the Best Actor plum for *Miracle in Cell No. 7*, which was also the official top-grosser. However, come awards night, he lost to Allen Dizon.

The actor recalls that his past experiences taught him how to accept results of awarding ceremonies.

For Aga, what matters is that the public appreciates and supports his offerings.

“For me, the real trophy is when the people watch and enjoy my films.”

The popular actor points out though that he still likes to win acting awards in the future.

“Oh, yes, I like that. But when you lose, it shouldn’t change you.”

When it comes to his recent loss to Allen, Aga remains positive and optimistic.

“I’ve always been happy for any of my co-nominees who would bag the award.”

“It’s simply inexplicable. So to Allen, my sincerest congratulations. There’s nothing wrong really if he got the award. It’s just okay with me,” he states.

Ai Ai lashes out as ‘basher’ criticizes sweet note from husband

Celebrities’ relationship with fans, especially online, are fraught with unwanted criticisms.

Proving this point was Ai Ai delas Alas, who could not help but respond angrily to a follower asking her if she really had to share a handwritten note she received from her husband, Gerald Sibayan.

Delas Alas posted this the note from Sibayan about him preparing her breakfast. She wrote on Instagram: “*Thank you LORD sa blessing na ito.*”

The comments were praising Sibayan, except one who called Delas Alas out and implied that she should be keeping things “private” instead.

The “basher” questioned the need for Ai Ai delas Alas to post the sweet note she received from her husband. “*Why [the] need to post this? You could try to leave something private in your lives to yourselves,*” wrote the person.

Irked, Delas Alas replied: “Ang inggit nakamamata’y yan magbago ka na! IG ko ‘to at kahit anong I-post ko wala KANG PAKIALAM.”

She added: “Mag lagay ka muna ng [profile] picture at mag trabaho ka para makatulong ka sa bayan hindi ‘yung bash ka ng bash! Kaya hindi ka umuunlad kasi ‘yan ang gawain mo.”

Sibayan also came to the defense of his wife, saying: “Huwag mainggit okay.”

The person wrote “ok” in response, although Delas Alas fired back again: “Hindi ok! Magtrabaho ka! Para makatulong ka sa pamilya mo!”

Karla Estrada, ‘bantay sarado’ ng anak na si Daniel Padilla

Taong 2019 ng ipakilala sa publiko ng “Magandang Buhay” host sa ang kaniyang non-showbiz boyfriend.

Kasiyahan ng kaniyang ina ang hanggad ngayon ng aktor na si Daniel Padilla para sa ina na si Karla Estrada, na nakita muli ang bagong inspirasyon sa buhay niya.

Sa naging panayam kay Daniel ng PUSH at ABS-CBN News sa aktor, inamin niya na hindi siya nanghihimasok sa masayang relasyon ng ina.

“Hindi ako masyado nakikialam, importante



lang sa akin, masaya ang ermat ko [Nanay ko] ‘yun lang,” sabi pa ni Daniel.

Hindi man raw nakikialam, bantay sarado naman daw si Karla sa anak na laging sumusub-

aybay para sa kaniyang ina.

“Alam niya na bantay sarado naman siya sa akin,” seryosong tugon ng aktor.

“I’m just happy na masaya siya, maganda mood niya lagi, ‘yun ang importante.”

Matatandaan na Nobyembre ng 2019, sinimulan na ipakilala sa publiko ng “Magandang Buhay” host ang kaniyang boyfriend na si Jam Ignacio.

At sa parehong programa rin, ikinuwento rin ni Karla kung paano nabuo ang kanilang relasyon.

John Prats daughter bound for showbiz

This early, John Prats already senses that his three-year-old daughter Feather has inclinations to enter the ‘biz.

“She loves to sing and dance. Whenever she watches me in *Ang Probinsyano*, she says she also wants to see herself on television. I remember myself in her when I was a kid. I also wanted to see myself on TV. That motivated me to go into show business,” he avers.

Curiously, will he allow his children to enter showbiz at a young age?

“As much as possible, no. As of now, I want them to prioritize their studies. That’s what I found difficult when I was young—to balance my studies with my showbiz career. There were things that I had to sacrifice as a kid. In their case, I want them to experience such stuff,” he relates.

“Eventually, when they grow up and they want to try showbiz, I can’t do anything about it. It’s their choice. I’m just here to support them. But for now, I want them to enjoy a normal childhood.”

John Prats with wife Isabel Oli and children Feather and Freedom



John knows the uncertainties of show business.

“Not everyone is blessed to stay long in the field. Like me, I’m thankful because I’m already on my 28th year here. But not everybody will be as blessed. I want my children to have long-term goals through formal studies. Like if they want to be a doctor, I will support them. That’s long-term. It’s every parent’s concern that his children are secured with their future, which cannot be said of the ‘biz due to its unpredictability,” he ends.

FCT Painting Session



Dr. Solon Guzman holds a Christmas party and everybody attends.

‘Starla’ ended despite high ratings



Teresa (Judy Ann Santos) tearfully forgives Gregg (Joel Torre) in a December episode of the the primetime series 'Starla.' Dreamscape Entertainment

MANILA — Judy Ann Santos’ teleserye comeback, “Starla,” has proven to be a big hit since its October 2019 debut, but unlike other primetime programs, its success has not translated to an extended run. According to Santos, the Dreamscape Entertainment production has always been meant to air for only one season.

“At that time, napapagod na ‘yung mga tao sa sobrang mahahabang teleserye. ‘Di ba, ‘pag highlight na, tapos in-extend, baba-ba, bababa, tapos mahirap na siyang iakyat ulit — which nangyari rin sa akin a lot of times,” Santos began, referring to television

ratings sometimes determing story arcs and the length of a show. She then narrated the filming of a scene with Torre, her onscreen father, where she had to calibrate how Teresa would react to seeing him. “Kailangan iba ‘yung tingin ko sa kaniya, hindi galit, may pain pero ang daming levels. Ang lumalabas lang sa akin, galit, so iyon ang kailangan ko aralin. I had to restrain myself from too much anger, and kailangan ko maglabas ng kaunting emo-syon,” she recalled.

This year, Santos is already committed to doing two film projects, but is not discounting the possibility of starring in another Kapamilya series. Santos, 41, also brought up her family as a top priority. She has three children with her husband, TV host Ryan Agoncillo. “Nalulungkot ako ‘pag hindi ko sila nakikita. Iyon ang realization ko, nitong nakaraang mga taon: I work hard, but I don’t see them often. It’s useless, parang walang sense ‘yung ginagawa ko, kasi hindi ako happy na hindi ko nakikita ‘yung mga anak ko growing up,” she said.

Tagalog spoken in top US sitcom

Two characters from an American sitcom television series “Superstore” spoke fluent Tagalog in one of their episodes. The sitcom TV series tells a story of a family of employees at supersized megastore “Cloud 9,” a fictional store in St. Louis, Missouri. Two of its characters Mateo (Nico Santos) and Marcus (Jon Barinholtz) were arguing and spoke Tagalog in a scene from the series’ fifth season episode called “Favoritism.” This was Mateo and Marcus’ conversation in the scene. Mateo: Tarantado ka talaga! (You’re a dumbass!) Marcus: Narinig ko yon gago! (I heard that stupid!) Mateo: Kapal ng mukha mo, alam kong ikaw kumuha ng gamit ko. Tumigil ka na! (You thick-faced, I know that you’re the one who got my stuff, just stop!) On Twitter, the show’s official account tweeted a short clip from the scene with a caption: “Mateo and Marcus arguing in Tagalog is everything we never knew we needed.) Nico Santos, a Filipino-American actor is known for his role in Crazy Rich Asians 2018 as Oliver while Jon Barinholtz is an American writer and actor who is famous for his portrayal in Marvel One-Shot: Agent Carter as an analyst. “Superstore” airs in NBC network and now on its fifth season starring America Ferrera as Amy and Ben Feldman as Jonah.



Gerald Anderson slowly recovers from bigtime controversies in 2019



The Kapamilya actor confirmed though that he and Bea broke up on the third week of July. But as far as the latter was concerned, “We didn’t break up, he just stopped talking to me.” What further got Gerald in a pickle was his rumored relationship with Julia Barretto. As expected, both denied it but their constant togetherness thereafter indicated otherwise. Like Bea, Joshua earned public sympathy while Julia and Gerald suffered the opposite. Generally, the aggrieved parties are wished well by the public that they may find more deserving partners as well as brighter career prospects than their

aggressors. Thankfully, Joshua was then about to appear in a suspense drama series, “The Killer Bride,” while Bea was getting ready for a new show opposite Richard Gutierrez. In stark contrast, Julia and Gerald had nothing going for them, at least for a couple of months after all four lives intertwined in a romantic mix-up. For all this, their mother station should take credit for standing by them believing that everything would come to pass. Gerald is slowly recovering from all the backlash he had to suffer for “ghosting” Bea. In “A Soldier’s Heart”, he plays a man in uniform whose love for family and country remains on top of his list. Judging from its first few episodes, Gerald’s thumbs-up performance is his one redeeming value that quite erases a romantic blunder he may feel sorry to have committed. Women’s rights groups, too, seem to have softened on him.

K Brosas is flattered that some people say she has abares a resemblance to sexy star Ivana Alawi

“Ako na ‘yung haggard o nausog version,” was what K Brosas told a friend who flatteringly compared her to Ivana Alawi. This exchange between the singer-comedienne and her friend, ex-TV host Janelle Jammer, happened on Instagram, under a swimsuit photo Brosas



shared. “Nakikita ko talaga is Ivana sayo,” said Jamer. According to Brosas, it’s a compliment she regularly receives and the reason why she went ahead and check who Alawi was. She joked: “Grabeeeee naman ang ganda at ang sexy niya syet! Pero sigie ako na ‘yung haggard o nausog version ni Ivana. lol!” “Thanks pa din,” she added. Alawi is primarily known as a vlogger. Her YouTube channel has more than 3 million subscribers, and has amassed more than 135 million views since it was first created in May 2018.

Hunk Shot

Jhon Mendoza

An IPEN model, 12-year old Jessie loves pizza. His favourite sport is basketball. He wants to be a soldier in the future. He is the son of Lilian and Jessie Mendoza. We wish him all the muck in his future endeavours.



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The future of Nadine without James, & vice versa

JAMES Reid and Nadine Lustre have finally declared that they've split up after vehemently denying it when some reporters wrote that they've already called it quits. They made a joint statement saying: "It's true that we have split up, but not for all the reasons that are being spread on the tabloids and social media, but because after quiet and mature conversations, we decided to focus on ourselves not only for our careers but more for our personal growth as we are still young and we want to achieve as much as we can."

This would negate current reports that Nadine got jealous because James was seen in a video kissing Issa Pressman, Yassi Pressman's sister who's the ex of Derrick Monasterio. They add that they're in good terms and Nadine says James will always have a special place in her heart.

They thanked their fans for their support and said they hope their fans would



continue to support their individual careers. Nadine has since left the house in Quezon City where they've been living in for two years and moved to her own condo unit in Makati.

Their fans became so emotional after their admittance of their breakup. "Ang sakit!" they said in social media. "It hurts so badly." The fans added that Nadine broke millions of heart with their revelation that they're no longer the couple they supported in movies like "Diary ng Pangit" and "Never Not Love You".

Admittedly, the careers of both James and Nadine are currently down in the gutter.

James didn't have any movie or teleserye the whole of last year, specially after he left Viva that nurtured him. Nadine had two movies, both without James, "Ulan" with Carlo Aquino and "Indak" with Sam Concepcion, which both didn't do that well at the box office.

Nadine made the wrong decision when she rejected doing "Miracle in Cell No. 7", which turned out to be the topgrosser in the last Metro Filmfest. The movie went to Bela Padilla. If she did it, then she would have been a part of a monster hit at the box office.

Between them, it's James who seems to have a brighter future because he has an upcoming teleserye, tentatively titled "Soul Mate", which will pair him with a Korean actress, Nancy of Momoland. If it becomes a hit, then that means James is being accepted by fans even if he's going solo, minus his perennial ka-love team. As for Nadine, it has already been proven that viewers do not really care when she's paired with other actors, so what would she do now?

Marione Aunor drops Aunor

There's a saying, "If it isn't broke, don't fix it." So why change something that's been working for you in the same vein?

We're pertaining to singer Marione who officially dropped her surname Aunor for reasons we don't understand.

Is she not happy with the way her career is going thus the name change and image turnaround?

"It's simply time for change," she replied in this interview where she has packaged herself as a sensual singer.



Indeed, splashed all over social media are Marione's sexy photos, apparently as preparation for the launch of her second single under Viva Records.

"Since the songs that I sing border on the sensual then I might as well match the song with a new image," she argued.

As such, she didn't have second thoughts when her manager, Daddie Wowie Roxas, told her to undergo a transformation.

"I am very open-minded," she quipped.

24-YEAR OLD VIRGIN

Ipinagmamalaki ng komedyanteng si Kiray Celis na hanggang ngayon ay virgin pa siya.

Pinag-usapan sa mediacon ng pelikulang D'Ninang ng Regal Films ang pakikipag-break ni Kiray sa unang boyfriend niya matapos ang tatlong taong relasyon nila.

May bago siyang boyfriend ngayon na kaibigan daw ng kapatid niyang lalaki.

Matagal na raw silang magkakilala at kalaro pa raw niya ito sa Mobile Legends, hanggang sa nagkadebelopan silang dalawa.

Pero hanggang ngayon ay wala pa raw nangyari, at virgin pa rin siya dahil choice niyang huwag munang subukan ang ganoong bagay.

"Wala po talaga. Malakas po ang mens ko ngayon!" bulalas ni Kiray nang nakita niyang parang hindi kami naniniwala sa sinabi niya.

"Hindi naman porke't mag-boyfriend kayo, ganoon na kayo. Hindi naman kail-

angan yun, e."

Paliwanag pa ni Kiray, "Hindi naman lahat ng tao... hinihiling naman yun. Yung iba, marespeto talaga.

"Ayoko pa, e!"

Ipinagmamalaki pa ni Kiray na mas guwapo ang bago niyang boyfriend kesa sa kanyang ex-boyfriend.

"Guwapo talaga ang boyfriend ko. Very proud ako dun," napapangiti niyang pahayag.

JERRY OLEA

Magandang halimbawa si Kiray sa mga kabataan.

Kahit 24 anyos na siya, nakapagtitimpi siya.

Iwinawaksi ang tukso ng laman. Hindi pinapairal ang kapusukan.

Nawa'y dumami pa ang katribo ni Kiray!

NOEL FERRER

Okey naman kung moralidad ang usapan.

Pero sana, dumating ang pagkakataon na yung artistry ni Kiray ang mas pag-uusapan kaysa sa mga relasyon, di ba?

Life Is Harder For Handsome Men

Apparently, the world really is fair.

A new study from the University of Maryland has reported that good-looking men find it difficult to get employed in highly-competitive fields.

Researchers found that potential employers turn down physically attractive men because they perceive them as threats, especially in fields where individual successes play an important role, like in sales. Previous research has also found that good-looking men made more money and were perceived as more competent, so it makes sense that bosses feel threatened by the Joey Bakings and Piolo Pascuals of the world.

Sorry boys, mahirap pala talaga maging pogi.

#Hassle.



Traveling Can Make You Happier Than Getting Married, According to a Study

It doesn't matter if you travel with nothing but a backpack or make a reservation at a luxurious hotel: all travel experiences positively influence your health and give you a significant endorphin boost. For some people, the joy it brings can actually outweigh other important events in their life like getting married or having a child. And research conducted by Booking.com confirmed that people value traveling so much that it even topped the list of things that bring them the most happiness in life!

Bright Side summed up the results of this curious study and we'd love to discuss them with you.

1. Traveling gives you an immediate happiness boost.

To get the proper results, Booking.com interviewed 17,000 people who came from 17 countries so they could get a more diverse attitude toward traveling. Respondents confirmed that very few things can replace going on vacation when it comes to happiness. For example, 77% of the people said that they book a holiday when they need to brighten up their mood immediately.

2. Traveling can bring more happiness than some other important life events.

The most intriguing part of this study is that people claimed that they value traveling way more than they do their significant other and even happy events in their life. 49% of respondents said that they felt a greater level of happiness when they planned and went on vacation than they did on their wedding day!

Almost half of the people interviewed stated that going on a date with their partner doesn't lift them up emotionally as much as traveling does. 45% claimed that getting engaged didn't give them as much of an emotional boost as traveling did. Even having a baby doesn't provide 29% of the respondents with enough of an endorphin rush!

3. Buying things can't provide you with that much joy.

It also turned out that people appreciate getting new experiences more than possessing lots of material things. 70% of respondents said that going on vacation provides them with satisfaction that lasts way more than the happiness they get from buying things.

It seems like people are ready to sacrifice their comfort for the sake of having new travel experiences. For example, 56% of respondents would rather go on vacation than buy new clothes or gadgets and 48% of them are ready to postpone home improvements to visit new places.

4. Even planning a vacation improves our emotional well-being.

Surprisingly, for 72% of the respondents, it's enough just to start planning a vacation to feel happier. For example, 80% feel more excited when they just look at a map and choose places they'd like to visit.

6 out of 10 respondents feel an emotional boost when they read hotel reviews and imagine their future trips. However, nothing can replace shopping: more than half of the respondents claimed that buying clothes for a vacation was one of the greatest mood-lifters!

Candid SPOOF

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



Chris Zoleta emcees Teresa Torralba's 60th birthday party at the Korean Cultural Centre.

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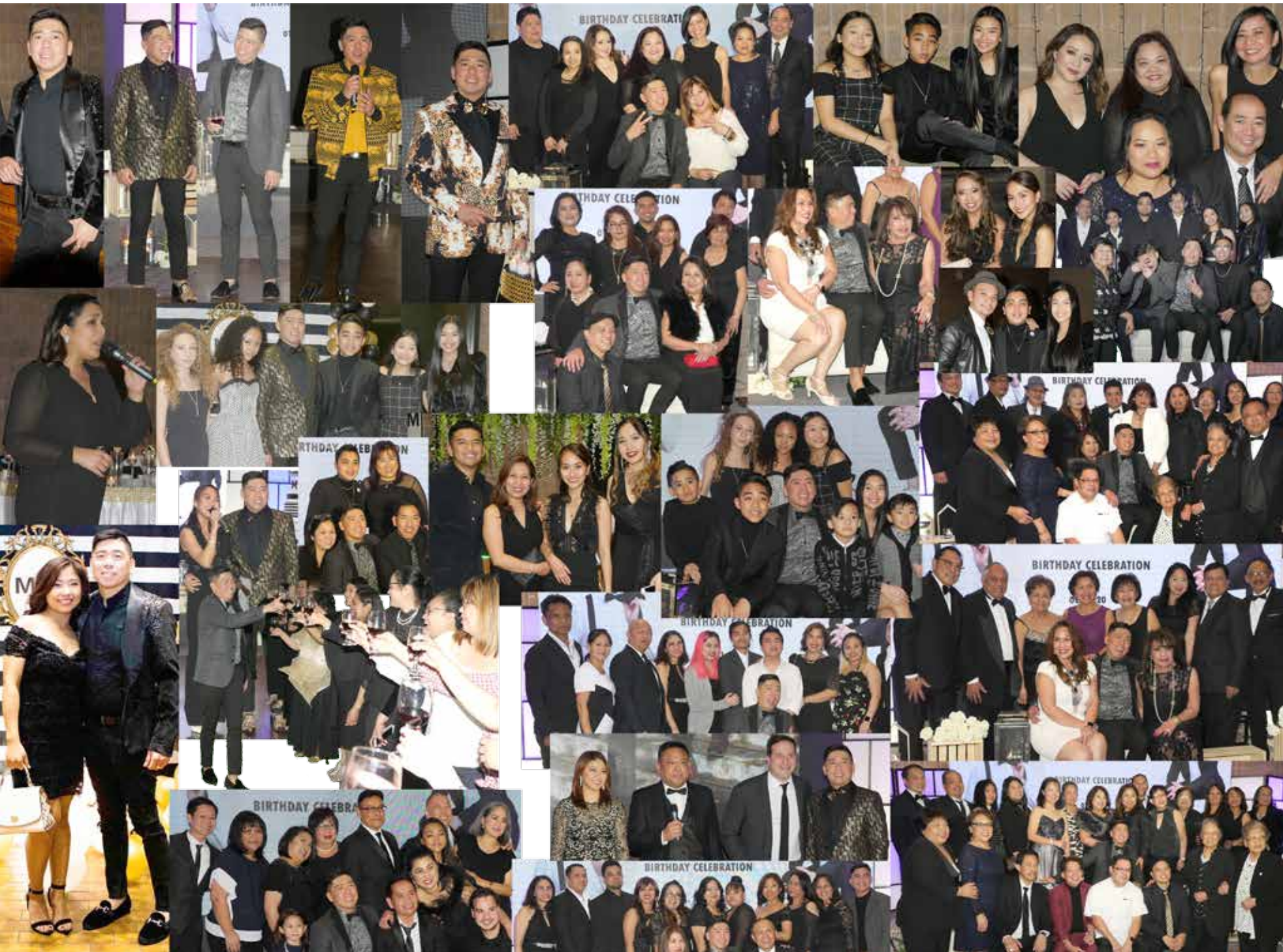
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