

DATING APPS CAUSING RISE IN HIV

Authorities urged to take battle against disease to schools in Philippines

A Filipino lawmaker said authorities must look at the part played by dating apps in the rise in incidence of Aids-HIV in the Philippines.

"Interventions like sexuality education should sound the alarm on social media and dating apps' role in the rise of the HIV epidemic," Senator Sherwin Gatchalian said.

The lawmaker also added that based on studies conducted by the Joint

United Nations Program on HIV and Aids (UNAIDS), computer and mobile phone dating platforms had made it easier to link up anonymous people for casual meetings.

Likewise, the same study, released as early as 2015, pointed out that these

dating apps gave Asia's teenagers expanded options for taking the meetings further by engaging in casual and spontaneous sex.

DATING APPS
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"As the year passes, what else besides age have we achieved?"

Anthony T. Hincks

Words to think about when you are thinking about the coming year!

NADINE

Lustre

JAMES

Reid

IS IT OVER, COOLING OFF, SAME... ?

Duterte's Presidency may end the Philippines' entanglements with the US

While Trump promised that America would no longer "seek to impose our way of life on anyone", his Democratic rivals in Washington moved in the opposite direction.

Under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act, named after a Russian whistleblower, the US government can impose targeted measures against foreign officials accused of gross

human rights violations.

US congress passed a law, approved by Trump, which could be used to call for travel bans and financial sanctions against Duterte's inner circle, if not the president himself.

Former police chief and current senator Ronald dela Rosa, a staunch Duterte ally, is reportedly among the first targets of America's punitive

measures.

In retaliation, Manila has taken the unprecedented decision of banning several senior US legislators, with Duterte officially boycotting the White House until the end of his term in office.

In 2017, while aboard a Chinese warship that called in at his hometown of Davao, Duterte balked at Trump's invitation to the White House, stating

that he "cannot make any definite promise", as he was too busy.

Now, he seems determined to be the first Philippine leader, and among the few in the world, to completely boycott the US. The escalating diplomatic tensions with Washington will only drive Duterte further into the embrace of China, his ultimate "protector".

2020 IS A LUCKY YEAR-Feng Shui
US GIVE ASYLUM TO DUTERTE CRITICS

James Reid Speaks Up- Cooling Off, not Break up

Toronto Recruiter charges Dismissed

Philippine Mall Tourism in March

Chris Aquino's Appeal still Strong

KathNiel Wedding being Planned?

BUYERS & NON-BUYERS OF ABS

Spotlight

Plaza Sta. Cruz, Bustos St., 1960's



PORNHUB

Thais beat Filipinos for top Spot

Despite being a supposedly conservative country, Filipinos are big fans of porn — and not just the fellas, if Pornhub's newly released data on traffic this year is to be believed.

While most people

tend to think watching porn is a man's pastime, in the Philippines it's definitely more of an equal opportunity hobby. According to Pornhub's stats, released today, 39

PORNHUB
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The Rise of the New Oligarchs called Dutertegarchs PAGE 21



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Happy New Year

May the best day of the past year be the worst day of the coming year.

Live The MITZIFY Life

"I think the most important thing we should be teaching young girls today is leadership. It's something that has been lacking in young girls and women for a very long time. Not because we don't want to but because of what society has labelled women to be.

"I think we are the most powerful beings in the world and that we should be given every opportunity. And that is what we should be teaching these young girls, to take up space. Nothing is as important as taking up space in society.
- MISS UNIVERSE 2019 SOUTH AFRICA'S ZOZIBINI TUNZI

THE WOMAN BEHIND THE KELLY BAG



The original prototype for the Kelly bag was created in 1892, named *Haut à courroies* for its high handles. The *Haut à courroies* inspired future shapes in the brand's handbag collection, including the Birkin bag and Kelly bag. Grace Kelly received the trapezoid-shaped bag to wear in the film *To Catch a Thief* by Alfred Hitchcock. Kelly instantly fell in love with the bag and months later in 1956, she was seen wearing it while shielding her baby bump from the paparazzi. The picture went viral as Kelly was seen as incredibly glamorous and known as a fashion icon. The bag became known from that moment forward as the Kelly bag and was officially renamed in 1977.

NEW ACCESSORY LINE FOR KIDS



Kim Kardashian Gifted \$1,000 Mini Louis Vuitton Purses To ALL Her Nieces & Yes, Some Of These Kids Are Under 1 Year Old

She turned one last February 2019 but she's already a fashion icon. That's not simply because her mother dresses her in leather leggings and Burberry jackets, either. Kim Kardashian bought Stormi Webster a Louis Vuitton handbag for Christmas and her social media reaction to the over \$1,000 present was absolutely priceless. Seriously.

Kardashian also posted a shot of the bags in her Instagram story, noting that she bought the mini purses from Japan as Christmas presents for all of the baby girls in the family — some of which are under the age of 1. So Stormi wasn't the sole recipient of a high-end bag that most people save months for. Khloe's daughter True, Kourtney's daughter Penelope, Rob's daughter Dream, and Kim's own daughters North and Chicago were all gifted with the pricy accessory.

Stormi's mother Kylie Jenner posted a video while handing the tiny, top-handle black bag off to her daughter. The adorbs clip wins the Internet for the day.

The 11-month-old flashed an ear-to-ear grin, joyously reached for the designer bag, and then flung it over her shoulder like any seasoned influencer or front row fashionista.



The bag is from the 2003-launched Takashi Murakami

Collection? The mini HL Speedy bag retails for approximately \$620 while a similar bag of a different color costs over \$1000 on the brand's site.

Stormi is totally upping her fashion game with every outfit her mother chooses for her. That said, she already has an eye for accessories based on her bag reaction.

A follower inquired about the lucky recipients of the additional bags and the reality star and makeup mogul responded that she was keeping one for herself and another for the future. She and hubby Kanye West are expecting their fourth child via surrogate and reports have suggested Baby No. 4 is a boy. But one cannot help but wonder if Kim is saving a Vuitton bag for another daughter — sooner or later.

Some sectors of the internet might question the idea of young children being gifted with such expensive items that they can't truly appreciate. Others are chalking it up to "rich people problems." But at the end of the day, Kardashian can gift her nieces in any way she pleases.



CLASSIC MACARONI SALAD

INGREDIENTS

- 200 grams elbow macaroni
- 1/4 cup sliced carrots
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped onions
- 1/3 cup pickle relish
- 2/3 cup drained and sliced pineapple tidbits
- 2/3 cup cooked shredded chicken breast
- 1/2 cup diced cheese
- 470 milligrams mayonnaise
- 2 tablespoon white sugar
- pinch of ground black pepper
- iodized salt

4 C'S FOR PREPARATION

STEP 1: COOK

Cook the macaroni and chicken then set aside and cover

STEP 2: CHOP

Chop the carrots, cheese, onions, pickle relish, pineapple, ham, and chicken.

STEP 3: COMBINE

Combine the ingredients and mix with the mayonnaise. Toss well and season with sugar, salt, and pepper.

STEP 4: CHILL

Chill the macaroni salad in your refrigerator overnight before serving.



Life doesn't have to be perfect to be wonderful.
www.mitzify.com

The Power of Red Lipstick

For centuries, red lips have largely been seen as a stamp of immorality. In more God-fearing medieval times, it was believed that creating a plump, sexualised mouth would earn you a fast-track ticket to hell.

Perhaps most famously, Queen Elizabeth I, known for her piercing red lips, elevated the shade into something regal, instead of seedy. It wasn't until the Golden Age of Hollywood, with its Technicolor films and glamorous studio portraits, that red lipstick came to be considered widely acceptable — even aspirational.

Consider Jean Harlow's pointed red pout in the 1930s, Veronica Lake's in the 1940s and Marilyn Monroe's in the 1950s. None of these actresses was known for playing the girlish ingénue. They were women with overtly feminine power. They were knowing. The lure of looking feminine but remaining powerful was such a glorious notion, it's little wonder women started to use red lipstick as a tool to communicate their own self-possession.

'Red lipstick is a source of strength,' says Poppy King, creator of Lipstick Queen. 'You put it on and suddenly you feel more capable than you did without it.' Debbie Harry asserted herself in the boys' club that was the New York City punk scene with talent and red lipstick. Gwen Stefani is rarely without her signature crimson pout. And shy Heather Sweet from Michigan probably wouldn't have made the same cultural impact as Dita Von Teese if it weren't for her red lipstick.

If some of the world's most intelligent and charismatic women are using red lipstick for all

it's worth, it begs the question — why do so many women avoid it? If red lipstick is a sign of self-assurance, our collective confidence must be coming on in leaps and bounds. On the small screen, we've elevated Mad Men's office vixen Joan Holloway into an unlikely style icon. Hardly a slip of a woman, she wears red lipstick and a quiet confidence, to boot. 'It's a show of female strength,' says King. 'Look at where we are at the moment: some think this economic mess we're in is men's fault. So it's as if subconsciously, we're feeling entirely justified in going back to the way we women do things.'

Even the act of applying red lipstick is empowering. By dressing your lips in red, it draws people's attention to you, especially your mouth, and subsequently, the words that come out of it. 'It's a symbol of prowess,' says King. Unlike other cosmetics, many of which correct or camouflage something we don't like about ourselves, red lipstick is about assertion. 'When I cajole a red-lipstick virgin into wearing it, they often say they feel like they could do anything now,' says King. 'One customer said she put it on before giving birth because it made her feel strong.' That's the thing about red lipstick — it's a beautiful case of chicken and egg. It may require confidence to wear, but confidence can actually be a result of putting on red lipstick — and no one needs to know which comes first.





Lips without LIPSTICK ARE LIKE CAKE without frosting



For beautiful eyes, look for the **good** in others; for beautiful lips, speak only words of **kindness**; and for poise, walk with the knowledge that you are **never alone**.

- Audrey Hepburn



"Good girls go to heaven, bad girls go everywhere." Mae West

Dear New Year's Resolution,
Well, it was fun while it lasted.
Sincerely,
January 2nd



MONDAY... ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE WITH COFFEE AND MASCARA

American colour company Pantone has chosen "universal favourite" Classic Blue, or Pantone 19-4052, as its colour of the year for 2020. Announced 4 December, the Classic Blue colour is described by Pantone as "a reassuring presence instilling calm, confidence and connection".



PANTONE
19-4052 TCX
Classic Blue



LIQUID LINER DEFINE LONGWEAR EYELINER INKJECT EYELINER

BEST GIFT UNDER £50



WITH MAKEUP

Mitzify's EPIC Idea

Launching a Kid's line by making them design is pure genius

It all started with a utilitarian bag that was useful and also fashionable.

Next in line was cosmetics line with different products from mascara to lipsticks to eyeliner.

Now, the next line they launched are line of backpacks and other pouches for the kids.

The kids line was launched in cooperation with EPIC TV.

EPIC stands for Empowered, Positive, Inspirational, Creative. It has a TV show called EPIC Generation.

EPIC Generation is a weekly show

on Filipino TV (cable) that features 4 bite-sized segments that kids of all ages can enjoy: #GenerationDIY where kids showcase their latest DIY creations

#GenLearners where kids learn something new in Science, Math, Arts, Life Skills and more

#RatedPGPinoyGeneration where kids of Filipino descent discover and nurture their heritage

#GETinspired (Generation Epic Talks Inspired) where kids meet amazing guests that share their inspirational

FILIPINO GOOD LIFE
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Karisma ni Kris, 'malakas pa rin

HININTAY pala talaga ng may-ari ng Dalisay Ultra Premium Rice si Kris Aquino mula sa pagpapagamot nito sa Singapore.

Bagamat alam ng mag-asawang Patrick at Rachel Renucci, may-ari ng Dalisay Ultra Premium Rice na matatagalang bumalik si Kris, nagpa-una na itong nagsabing hihintayin nila ito.

Nagustuhan ni Kris ang Dalisay rice dahil masarap at malasa. Kaya naman ibinahagi rin niya ito sa mga entertainment press. Iba kasi si Kris, nariyan pa rin ang kanyang karisma.

Speaking of karisma, nakita namin ang post ng isang katoto ukol sa pag-apir ni Kris sa isang



mall sa Makati para sa kanyang isa pang ineendosong produkto, ang Lady's Choice. Aba naman, halos hindi mahulugang karayom ang napakaraming sumalubong sa kanya. Tila nasabik talaga ang publiko kay Kris.

Ayon sa kuwento ni Dindo Balares ng Balita, dinumog ng fans ang naturang venue. Isang oras pa lang bago magsimula ang event naroon na agad ang mga iyon.

Ramdam ang excitement.

Hindi man napagkikita si Kris sa TV o madalang lang sa pelikula, hindi pa rin talaga kumukupas ang ningning at paghahangad ng tao na makita at mapanood siya. Iba talaga ang karismang

Kris.

Kitkat, lalong tumataas ang value 'pag nananalalo ng award

PANG-APAT na pala ni Kitkat Favia ang nominasyong natanggap sa Aliw Awards para sa kategoryang Best Stand Up Comedian.

Ayon kay Kitkat, may pagkakataon pang nang magwagi siya ng Best Actress ay kasabay ang nominasyon bilang Best Stand Up Comedian at Best Crossover Artist kaya naman sobra-sobra ang kasiyahan niya.

Ani Kitkat sa patuloy na nominasyon, "Hehehe ang sarap po palagi, kasi 'yung appreciation super nakakataba ng puso as in. Siyempre supporting lang naman ako lagi so, madalas sa madalas hindi na kami napapansin. So ang sarap sa pakiramdam na kahit saan napapan-sin po pala ako. Iba rin ang dating 'pag nano-nominate, tumataas ang value ha ha ha lalo pa 'pag nanalo."

Hindi naman itinanggi na umaasa si Kitkat na manalo.

"Siyempre naman (manalo) po sinong ayaw. Competitive po akong tao so, sa lahat ng bagay gusto ko lagi akong panalo. Kahit mga palosebo na laro or habulang baboy 'di ako papatalo eh ha ha ha. Pero manominate palang, iba na ang saya eh lalo pa 'pag nanalo."

Dahil panay ang nominasyon ni Kitkat sa Aliw Awards, natanong naming siya



kung ano nag sikreto. "Ha ha ha 'yun po 'di ko nga alam. Alam ko rati sa mga bida lang at prime ang mga award-award.

"Aminin natin lagi natin iniisip sa kahit anong award-award kahit best in friendship award pa 'yan usually 'yung pangalan ang nagdadala so, 'di ko naiisip na mano-nominate kasi 'di naman ako star. Katuwa lang po na lagi akong napapansin," giit pa ni Kitkat na taong 2016 nagwagi bilang Best Actress in a Featured Role Musical, Best Stand Up Comedian, Best Crossover Artist samantalang nominado naman noong 2017 bilang Best Stand Up Comedian at naulit muli noong 2018 at ngayong 2019.

Sa ngayon ay abala si

Kitkat sa mga gig at corporate shows lalo ngayong December na fully booked na siya.

Ani Kitkat, kailangan niyang kumayod dahil, "halos ubos ako sa pagkamatay ni nanay at now need gumastos ng malaki para sa operasyon ni papa ko."

Bukod dito, may mga negosyo rin si Kitkat na ayaw nang ipabanggit kung ano-ano iyon. Pero ang tiyak, masinop si Kitkat kaya hindi nakapagtataka kung marami siyang negosyo. Marami ring endorsement si Kitkat at isa riyang ang Beatederm.



Honey Shot

Margaret Rodrigo

IPEN beauty, 19-year old Margaret is taking up Environment and Urban Sustainability studies at Ryerson University. Her favourite food is palabok and likes watching basketball. She is the daughter of Philip and Christy. We wish her all the luck in her endeavours.

present

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What The F^{ACT}?

BY JOSE BAKING

I am not the 3rd Party in the Jadine Break up

Everytime there's a split in showbiz, people keep looking at me as if I am the third party. I don't know why. I am a very private person. It is not true that Nadine and I have been texting. Apparently, James saw the texts. Ehe, ano ba itong pinagsasabi ko?

☺☺☺☺

Where MVP failed, Dennis Uy succeeds

Manny V. Pangilinan tried to buy or at least, co-own, GMA-7 in the past. He wanted to put the GMA entertainment properties on his PLDT-Smart telecom to get an advantage over Globe. He failed. Enter Dennis Uy. Dennis Uy is a Davao-based tycoon known for his closeness to Duterte. He was the biggest

contributor to Duterte's presidential campaign. Duterte has vowed not to renew ABS-CBN's franchise when it expires in March 2020. The stars seem to be aligning for Dennis Uy to succeed with ABS. Uy's company, Dito Telecom, partnered with the Lopez-owned SkyCable and is seen as a savior of ABS-CBN's franchise. SkyCable will allow Dito to use the latter's unused fiber optic cables located in Metro Manila to jumpstart its plan to smash the Globe-Smart duopoly. The SkyCable deal would allow Uy to build his network rollout (after March 2020) "without having to build everything from scratch." This partnership showed that ABS-CBN saw Uy as a dependable partner and that more cooperation in other areas was possible.

But, will Uy be content with having a small share sa ABS or will he want the whole company? After all, the Aranetas gobbled Ongpin's Philweb when Duterte went after it. Well, what are your friends in power for?

Duterte as Reason for Asylum?

US granted an ayllum to a Filipino couple because they claimed they will be in danger if they come back to the Philippines. Here's the crazy part. The couple arrived in the US in 2000. The name Duterte only became popular during the election n 2016. before that, nobody heard of Duterte. Naku ha, ilan kaya ang gagaya nito?

The heyday of Pip, Boyet & Bobot

There's a massively long list of good-looking actors in Philippine cinema but Baby boomers and Gen X-ers will certainly agree that Tirso "Pip" Cruz III,

Edgar "Bobot" Mortiz and Christopher "Boyet" de Leon are as dashing and famous as their millennial heartthrob counterparts James Reid, Enrique Gil and Daniel Padilla during their showbiz heydays. Pip, Bobot and Boyet are box-office icons and scene-stealers in their younger years. They were tremendously popular that they would fake their exits in events. There were also instances when they couldn't even go out of the house or attend their own movie premiere nights knowing how adoring fans would turn into hysteria. Their respective fans would clash and often hurt one another physically. It also came to a point when Pip, Bobot and Boyet were caught in a rivalry issue because all of them were partnered with Superstar Nora Aunor. "You know, it wasn't us; it was the people around us na alam mo 'yung mga sulsol," said Pip. "The word is sulsol and if you are not wary about it, talagang teka nga bakit nga ba ganun? Ginagalit ka. They (fans) basically pitting us against each other without us wanting to."



Tirso 'Pip' Cruz III, Christopher 'Boyet' de Leon and Edgar 'Bobot' Mortiz

"Sila lang 'yung nag-aaway, nagpapaluan ng silya," was how Bobot described the intense reaction of their fans. Fast-forward to the present day, Pip, Bobot and Boyet continue to deliver mesmerizing acting performances. Most recently, it was portraying antagonist Santiago Guerrero in The General's Daughter that earned him positive comments from viewers and netizens for his truly affecting character representation. Boyet, on the other hand, never ceases to give riveting onscreen performances regardless of film genre while Bobot focuses on TV directing but he still agrees to do acting once in a while. All three are singers, too. Did you know that Bobot was a champion in Tawag ng Tanghalan back in the day? "Yan ang hari ng Tawag ng Tanghalan (that first became popular in the '50s)," declared Boyet. "Pero hindi kagaya ngayon ha," said Bobot, referring to the singing-talent search revived by ABS-CBN noontime show It's Showtime. "Alam mo naman ang Tawag ng Tanghalan ngayon palakasan ng tonsil (laughs)." Pip, Bobot and Boyet had a concert tour in the US titled Timeless Through The Years

ending last Dec. 22. Boyet said he admired Pip and Bobot who started out in showbiz a couple of years ahead of him. Pip and Bobot, on the other hand, described Boyet as their

generation's chick magnet. Pip described Boyet's charm to women with the term "Flavor of the Week" while Bobot said, "Kung may Gerald ngayon, may Boyet noon (laughs)." Meanwhile, Boyet and Pip clarified the rumor about them turning down the offer to star in Isa Pang Bahaghari which would have reunited them with Nora Aunor. The two seasoned actors said it was impossible for them to accept the project due to tight schedule. "Like for me, I'm doing Kid Alpha One and OTJ Season 2," shared Boyet. "And I'm taping for Love Thy Woman plus we'll be doing the tour and we've been rehearsing like crazy." Pip was equally busy when the offer came. He was then doing The General's Daughter and he was beginning to work for Starla. "Sabi namin trabaho 'yan, hindi kami tatangi but we also do not want to be the cause of delay or become the problem in work scheduling. We did not refuse. If there is a chance at alam namin na kaya, why not?" explained Pip.

Binibining Pilipinas confirms losing Miss Universe franchise



In an official statement, Ms Stella Marquez de Araneta's (left) Binibining Pilipinas Charities, Inc. confirms losing Miss Universe Organization license to the new Miss Universe Philippines Organization, headed by its national director, Shamcey Supsup (right).

Kinumpirma ng Binibining Pilipinas Charities, Inc. (BPCI) na tinapos na nito ang 55-taong partnership sa Miss Universe Organization (MUO). Sa official statement na ipinost sa Instagram ngayong Martes, December 10, inihayag ng organisasyon ni Ms. Stella Marquez de Araneta na hindi na ni-renew ng MUO ang lisensiya ng BPCI.

Inilabas ng BPCI ang official statement nito isang araw makaraang ihayag ng MUO nitong Lunes, December 9, na hindi na hawak ng organisasyon ni Madame Stella ang Miss Universe franchise. Ito ang inihayag ng MUO ilang oras makaraang coronahan si Miss Universe 2019 Zozibini Tunzi sa Atlanta, Georgia.

Shamcey heads new new Miss Universe Philippines Org

Kasabay nito, sinabi ng MUO na simula sa 2020, ang Miss Universe Philippines Organization (MUPO) na ang pipili ng ilalaban ng bansa sa itinuturing na pinakaprestihiyosong beauty pageant sa mundo.

Movie project with Bea, Angelica, and Angel?

Anne Curtis reacts

Anne Curtis gamely took on the 'Go or No' challenge, where she has to answer whether she's up for a given situation or not.

Actress and television host Anne Curtis seemed to have fun as she took on the 'Go or No' challenge, where she has to answer whether she's up for a given situation or not, including the possibility of doing a movie project with her fellow female stars Angel Locsin, Bea Alonzo, and Angelica Panganiban. The 34-year-old, unsurprisingly, answered "Go". She also gave an affirmative response when asked if she's willing to go on a movie date with her longtime celebrity crush, "Goblin" star Gong Yoo, and whether or not she's

Ang MUPO ay pinamumunuan ng national director nitong si Miss Universe 2011 3rd runner-up Shamcey Supsup. Simula 1964, biniyang kapangyarihan ng MOU ang BPCI na piliin ang mga nag-ing kinatawan ng Pilipinas sa taunang Miss Universe pageant. Sa parehong statement, nagpasalamat ang BPCI sa 55 Pinay na lumaban para sa Miss Universe crown simula 1964.

Pinay Miss Universe Winners

Nakasaad sa BPCI statement na sa nakalipas na 55 taon ay nagbigay ito sa bansa ng apat na Miss Universe titlists, siyam na runners-up, at sampung Top 20 finalists. Ang apat na Miss Universe winners ay sina Catriona Gray (2018), Pia Wurtzbach (2015), Margie Moran (1973), at Gloria Diaz (1969). Isa sa siyam na Pinay Miss Universe runners-up si Shamcey, ang bagong may hawak ng Miss Universe franchise. Nilinaw naman ng BPCI na bagamat wala na ang kanilang Miss Universe license, ipagpatuloy nito ang pagpili sa mga ilalaban ng Pilipinas sa iba pang international pageants. Kabilang dito ang Miss International, Miss Supranational, Miss Intercontinental, Miss Grand International, Miss Globe, at iba pa.

Gazini's loss ends Bb. Pilipinas-Universe era

MALUNGKOT ang naging partisipasyon ng Pilipinas sa katatapos na Miss Universe 2019. Dahil hanggang Top 20 lang ang inabot ng ating pambato na si Gazini Ganados, pinutol niya ang winning streak ng Pilipinas na inumpisahan ni Venus Raj sa nasabing international pageant mula noong 2010. Bilang kunswele, napanalunan naman ni Gazini ang Best in National

Costume. The Philippine eagle-inspired costume was designed by Cebuano-based designer Cary Santiago. In fairness, the Cebuana beauty queen did her best. But as they say, she was not destined to be the 5th Filipina to bring home the Miss Universe title and crown for the Philippines. The "back-to-back" win was nipped in the bud. And jokingly, it was a "back to backstage" finish. Isinisi ng isa

naming friend na TV writer sa Kagandang Flores Camp ang pagkatalo ni Gazini. Ayon sa kanya, "hindi pang Miss Universe ang level ng KF Camp ni Rogil Flores." Aray ko! "Iba pa rin talaga ang Aces and Queens ni Jonas Gaffud," dagdag pa niya. Mukhang may personal na galit ang friend namin kay Rogil. But come to think of it, why did Miss Universe 2018 Catriona Gray bolt out from KF Camp when she competed in Miss

U? Well, the issue may have been long under the bridge. Pero palaisipan pa rin sa ilan (our TV writer friend, included) kung bakit umalis si Cat at nag-solo na lang. Gazini's dismal performance in Miss Universe 2019 coincided with the announcement of Miss Universe Organization that its franchise would no longer be with the Binibining Pilipinas Charities, Inc. of beauty queen maker Stella Marquez-Araneta.

Dahil dito, mukhang mag-iiba na ang landscape ng beauty pageant sa bansa simula sa susunod na taon. Si Gazini ang huling Binibini na lumaban sa Miss Universe. Magiging exciting at captivating pa rin kaya ang Binibining Pilipinas ngayong wala na sa roster nito ang Miss Universe? Just asking...



Did Julia Barretto unfollow celebrities close to Bea Alonzo?

Her previous endorsements with Joshua also ended with few updates regarding her future projects.

Controversial young actress Julia Barretto unfollowed some celebrities who are connected or close to Bea Alonzo. It seems that Julia got rid of her online connection with Gabbi Garcia, Dominic Roque, and Khalil Ramos.

Julia has been keeping a low profile ever since she was embroiled in controversy as the alleged third party in the Bea Alonzo-Gerald Anderson breakup.

Even her upcoming thriller movie with ex-boyfriend Joshua Garcia and Dimples Romana was put on hold. As per the Block Z director Mikhail Red, the special effects for the movie needed more time to be done.

Her previous endorsements with Joshua also ended with few updates regarding her future projects.

Recently, Gerald Anderson strongly denied that they both have a love bracelet. During the interview, Gerald mentioned that his family is more than enough to be



his inspiration.

His focus now is more on his work and his advocacies as the newly appointed Philippine Youth Commission Ambassador.

Julia is now busy doing video blogging on her YouTube account.

Melai Cantiveros admits getting jealous of Ivana Alawi

Melai Cantiveros and husband Jason Francisco have been married for six years now and just like any other couple, they still get jealous.

During their interview on Tonight with Boy Abunda, the Magandang Buhay host was brave enough to name the last person she got jealous of and it was actress-vlogger Ivana Alawi.

"Ivana Alawi, ako naman si Ivana Mulawi," she joked.

The couple also admitted that there were several times that their marriage was put to test.

"Many times na talaga, Tito Boy. Sa marriage kasi marami talaga 'yung mga hindi pagkakaintindihan at tsaka kasabay ko nga din siya nagma-mature, kasabay din niya ako nag ma-mature doon namin mas nakikilala ang isa't isa kung paano kami sa relasyon namin," Melai explained.

Host Boy Abunda then asked if they were referring

to a moment where Jason allegedly got jealous of Carlo Aquino when he was paired up with Melai in the TV series We Will Survive in 2016.

"Hindi naman 'yung dahilan na 'yun ang hira kasi i-explain kasi dahil iisip ng ibang tao trabaho lang, so maaaring sa inyo trabaho lang o maliit na bagay maaaring sa akin hindi yun," Jason said.

He then explained that as a husband, there are some things that he sees differently and one of which is getting in physical contact with another man even if they are actors. Jason also said that people might perceive him as a close-minded person but he then said that they got to know each other more after the incident.

"Meron akong mga bagay na kumbaga hindi pala niya lubos na nalalaman pa. Para maging maayos iniisip ko na lang na hindi naman pa niya ako naiintindihan... Kahit pa sa lalaki, sabihin mo na ganyan, taping yan 'di ba? Pero nandoon kasi 'yung [body] contact ng isang lalaki sa babae so doon mo makikita 'yung respeto talaga ko sa kanya, asawa ko na siya eh," he said.

"May mga duration talaga na hindi namin naiintindihan pero dahil nga naiintindihan niya ako na hindi ko talaga siya masyado maintindihan, noong sinabi



niya 'yun naintindihan ko na siya na 'Ay dapat nirespeto ko na siya sa gano'n na part,'" Melai said.

Jason, who is also an actor, honestly answered that he would not consider having a love team because he would initially think of what would Melai think.

"Hindi. Actually ko na sayo noon (referring to Melai), bilang 'yung respeto ko sa kanya na doon kasi magsisimula 'yung bago pa mangyari 'yung problema iniisip ko na kaagad kung ano ang magiging mararamdaman niya bilang ako iniisip ko kung magka-love team ako iisipin ko hindi lang ako, hindi lang trabaho, iisipin ko anong mararamdaman ni Melai" he said.

Melai then realized that that challenge made her know Jason more.

"Lesson learned sa amin tito Boy dahil mas nakilala namin ang isa't isa dahil doon sa pagsubok na 'yun. Noong nalaman ko na 'Ay gano'n pala ang naging impact sa kanya' after no'n naging sensitive na talaga ako. Mas na-realize ko kung gaano ako ka-strong and gaano ako ka-mature mag-handle ng problem."

Jason and Melai were both housemates in the Pinoy Big Brother: Double Up edition in 2009. They started teasing each other inside the house until they eventually fell in love with each other. "MelaSon" tied the knot in 2013 and they now share two daughters - Amelia Lucille and Stella Rosalind.



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Palace slams Filipino couple for using Duterte for US grant of asylum

MANILA - Malacanang on Tuesday, December 10, criticized a Filipino couple for using President Rodrigo Duterte’s human rights record as a reason to seek political asylum in the United States.

Last December, Rene Flores and his wife Joy were granted asylum by a San Francisco immigration judge after claiming that they might experience political persecution from the government if ordered to return to the Philippines.

The couple sought help from immigration lawyer Ted Laguatan, who said the rulings affirmed that many American officials are already aware of what he described as the “extensive human rights violations” of Duterte.

The couple, who flew to the U.S. in 2000 to visit relatives, participated in U.S. protests against Duterte for the alleged extrajudicial killings and the war on drugs in the Philippines.

However, presidential spokesperson

Salvador Panelo said Malacañang “have never heard of Rene and Joy Flores being political activists in the Philippines.”

“We consider the application of the Flores couple highly doubtful. Their attendance to political rallies and issuance of anti-Duterte statements while in the U.S. are more of a stratagem of their lawyer for them to stay permanently in the U.S. and to shield them from being deported. Apparently, they have opted for an easy way out at the expense of the Duterte administration,” he said.

According to the spokesman, the Flores couple “have been illegally overstaying in the U.S.”

“The ignorant granting of the judge of their application would, therefore, set a dangerous precedent to other illegal aliens who can abusively use politics as a scapegoat in violating immigration laws of the United States,” Panelo noted.

He assured that no citizen of the

Philippines has been charged in court nor clamped in jail by reason of criticism against the policies of the present government.

“If they happen to be critics and they presently face criminal charges, it is because both the administrative and judicial officers found probable cause for certain infringement of laws and for which by law should be properly charged,” Panelo said.

“Their being critics have absolutely nothing to with their criminal prosecution. They can not hide behind the mantle of the freedom of the press and of speech when they are found violating the laws of the land. This circumstance alone casts doubt on the scheme employed by the Floreses,” he added.

Panelo also stressed that the Duterte administration does not resort to any form of persecution and welcomes criticisms as long as they are based on facts and not on rumors or fake information.

TOP 5 WORST CITIES TO DRIVE IN THE WORLD ACCORDING TO WAZE			
			RANKED PER KILOMETER
1	 MANILA PHILIPPINES	4.88	
2	 BOGOTÁ COLOMBIA	4.00	
3	 JAKARTA INDONESIA	3.83	
4	 TEL AVIV ISRAEL	2.38	
5	 SAO PAULO BRAZIL	2.34	

Failed New Pairings

OTHER realizations this year: That the unlikely pairing of Alessandra de Rossi and Empoy Marquez in the hit 2017 movie, “Kita Kita”, is just a fluke.

All other movies shown after this that attempted to pair two stars with no previous film together before turned out to be flops, some are first day-last day in theaters. Examples are Jake Cuenca and Kris Bernal in “Kontra-diksyon”, Jasmine Curtis Smith and Ruru Madrid in “Cara X”, Janine and Jagger, Dee and Gutierrez Enchong in “



“Elise”, Xian Lim and Louise de los Reyes in “Hanggang Saan” filmed in Japan no less, Karla Estrada and Jobert Austria in “Pamilya Blandina”, Carlo Aquino and Nadine Lustre in “Ulan”, Myrtle Sarrosa and Teddy Corpuz in “Papa Pogi”, Gelli de Belen and Bayani Agbayani in “Pansamantaga”, Arci Munoz and JM de Guzman in “Last Fool Show”, Arjo Atayde and Jessy Mendiola in “Stranded”, Jodi Sta. Maria and Gabby Concepcion in “Man and Wife”, Gerald Anderson and Julia Barretto in “Between Maybes” also filmed in Japan, Jerome Ponce and Jane Oineza in “Finding You”, David Licauco and Shaira Diaz in “Because I Love You”, Glaiza de Castro and TJ Trinidad in “Letters to Happy”, Nadine Lustre and Sam Concepcion in “Indak”, Khalil Ramos and Andrea Brillantes in “The Ghosting”, Khalil Ramos and Gabbi Garcia in “Last Song Syndrome”, Maris Racal and Inigo Pascual in “I M Ellenya L”, Dennis Trillo and Alyssa Muhlach in “Hellcome Home”, JC de Vera and Roxanne Barcelo in “Love is Love”, Epy Quizon and KZ Tandingan in “The Art of Ligaw”, Louise de los Reyes and Ivan Padilla in “My Bakit List”, Rocco Nacino and Miles Ocampo in “Write About Love”. The first thing any producer should ask is: would the viewers want to watch our movie with these stars in it?

Many neophyte directors debuted with fairly promising films: JE Tiglao in “Metamorphosis”, Rae Red in “Babae at Baril”, Arden Rod Condez in “John Denver Trending”, Crisanto Aquino in “Write About Love”, Joji Alonso in “Belle Douleur”, Jordan Sebastian in “The Art of Ligaw”, Pertee Brinas in “Letters to Happy”, Daniel Palacio in “Pailalim”, Boy2 Quizon in “I’m Ellenya L” and Darryl Yap who did the big commercial hit, “Jowable”.



Ms. Camille Gimeno-Deng picks up her Lechon Belly from Kusina ng Ating Bahay. She won it at the raffle of the Kusina ng Ating Bahay last Christmas. Congratulations.

‘Bata’ Reyes bows to Vietnamese foe for another SEA Games bronze

MANILA, Philippines—In what could likely be his last Southeast Asian Games stint, Efren “Bata” Reyes, as all legends do, yielded to Father Time and bowed out in the 1-Cushion Carom semifinal after a 100-14 loss to Vietnamese star Dinh Nai Ngo.

Reyes, widely hailed as the greatest pool player ever, settled for the bronze medal, his fifth medal overall—all bronzes—throughout his SEA Games career.

“I think you all saw what happened. I only scored 14,” Reyes, the many-time world champion also known as The Magician for his wizardry on the pool table, said in Filipino.

“If he played the way he performed back in my heyday, I would’ve beaten him. I used to hit 20, 30, even 40 straight before, but now I can only do two,” he said, wearing the familiar toothless smile of his.

In a game where taking the first turn is crucial, Ngo zoomed to a 23-0 headstart

before Reyes finally got his first crack at the table.

Kept waiting on his chair, Reyes blew his first chance and just couldn’t get into his groove.

The 65-year-old Reyes’ longest run was six but that was when Ngo had already taken an insurmountable 76-8 advantage in the race to 100 points.

Reyes was coming off a 100-37 romp of Punyawee Thongchai of Thailand to enter the semis.

There was no denying though, that the magic that captivated the sport for decades had worn off.

His charisma, on the other hand, is an entirely different story.

After hitting the century mark and barging his way to the gold medal match, Ngo shook Reyes’ hand and asked for a picture.

“I admire him a lot. He’s a legend,” Ngo said through a Vietnamese television reporter, who served as his interpreter.



After beating Reyes in the match, Dinh Hai Ngo of Vietnam even asked for a selfie with the Filipino legend which ‘The Magician’ gamely accommodated.



Mga bokya sa award, kumikita sa takilya

ALTHOUGH patuloy na tumatabo sa takilya ang Philippine adaptation ng Korean hit movie in 2013 na “Miracle in Cell No. 7” na pinagbibidahan nina Aga Muhlach at Xia Vigor mula sa direksiyon ni Nuel Naval, wala itong nakuhang award sa kabila na si Aga ang mainit na pinag-usapang mananalò ng Best Actor award.

Ang tanging nakuha ni Aga ay ang Scratch It Male Star of the Night.

Bokya rin sa anumang parangal ang tatlo pang box office hit movies na “The Mall, The Merrier” nina Vice Ganda at Anne Curtis, “3pol Trobol: Huli Ka Balbon” nina Coco Martin, Ai-Ai de las Alas at Jennylyn Mercado maging ang “Mission Unstapabol: The Don Identity” nina Vic Sotto, Maine Mendoza, Pokwang at Jake Cuenca.

Gayunpaman, ang mga pelikula nina Vice Ganda, Coco, Aga at Vic ang siyang pinipilahan ngayon sa mga sinehan nationwide. Inaasahan namang aangat sa takilya ang Mindanao, Write About Love at Sunod. Pero paano na lamang ang mga sinehan na na-pull out na sa mahihina ang performance sa takilya nung first day at idinagdag sa malalakas na pelikula. Maibabalik ba ito sa kanila?

In fairness, worth watching din ang mga pelikulang “Mindanao,” “Write About Love” at “Culion.”

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Trafficking charges junked against Filipina labor recruiter in Ontario

TORONTO — Charges of human trafficking have been dropped against a Filipina former owner of a mi-



Lilwayway (Lily) Miranda is shown outside the courthouse on University Avenue on Wednesday after human trafficking charges against her were dropped.

grant-worker recruitment company after border authorities admitted on Wednesday that there was not enough evidence to convict her.

Liwayway “Lily” Miranda, the owner-operator of A&L Hammer Workforce Management in Toronto was one of three

people in 2018 by the Canada Border Services Agency (CSBA) in an alleged scheme to traffic and exploit Filipino workers.

Miranda was in court on Wednesday with supporters she previously recruited for a mushroom farm in Sharon, Ontario.

She said her reputation and finances have suffered. Miranda says she was forced to close her business and spent large sums on legal representation. She’s planning to sue the government for damages, according to a City News report.

“Financially, emotionally, spiritually I was really destroyed,” she said. “Even now the case is finished, but it will never be the same. How many people have I helped to come here to Canada? Hundreds.”

The Toronto Star reported in March 2019 Miranda was ordered in small claims court to repay \$43,350 in fees she charged 8 migrant workers to secure jobs at the farm in Sharon.

“(Her company) provided immigration services that they are not legally entitled to provide or charge for,” the judge wrote in his decision.

ON REMARK ABOUT BONG REVILLA

‘Medyo unfair’: Lotlot de Leon backs daughter Janine

Veteran actress Lotlot de Leon supported her daughter Janine Gutierrez, saying that it is “kind of unfair” for artists to be judged for expressing an opinion.

De Leon made the remark following Gutierrez’s “Oh God” comment to a Twitter post about the return of Sen. Ramon “Bong” Revilla Jr. to the small screen.

Gutierrez’s comment earned the ire of Revilla’s talent manager, Lolit Solis.

The veteran actress recalled the time when her daughter expressed her intention to enter the world of show business.

“I asked her, ‘Are you sure?’ I asked her that question not because wala akong bilib sa kanya o sa kakayahan niya [not because I don’t have trust with her or her capabilities], but because I was afraid that this industry that I have grown up into can be very harsh sometimes,” De Leon said in an Instagram post.

“Andyan yung pag nagsalita ka keshodang maganda intention mo nagiging mali pa din para sa iba. Pag nasa industriya ka kailangan maging handa ka sa lahat ng pagbabatikos at sari-saring opinyon. When you’re in this industry puwede ka kaagad mahusgahan ng hindi ka natatanong kung bakit may nasabi ka o nagawa ka,” she added.

[There’s a time when you speak, regardless of whether your intention is good, it is still wrong for others. When you are in the industry, you should be ready for all the criticisms and a lot of opinion. When you’re in this industry, you can easily be judged without being

asked why you said or did something.]

De Leon continued: “Everyone else can give their opinions and share how they feel pero dahil artista ka may hangganan ang pagbibigay mo nun [but since you are an artist, there is a limitation when giving your opinion]. Medyo unfair [it’s kind of



unfair].”

It is because of this, De Leon said, that half of her did not want to allow Gutierrez to get into show biz.

“On the other hand I can’t stop her from what she wants for herself, for living her dreams, for proving herself and giving her a chance to go after that,” De Leon said.

“What I saw in Janine’s eyes and felt when we had that conversation that day is

that she was willing to learn and ‘accept everything’ that comes with being an artist and be the best version she can be in this profession that she has chosen. That’s why I said yes,” she added.

De Leon said she was proud of having raised a daughter who was “respectful, level-headed, smart, humble, and willing to take risks when needed.”

“In the many years that I have also been in this industry at sa lahat ng nakita at napagdaanan ko, I have also learned to choose my battles, hindi lahat pinapatulan, sinasagot at pinapalaki,” De Leon said.

[In the many years that I have also been in this industry and with everything that I have seen and experienced, I have also learned to choose my battles, not engage in everything and make everything a bigger issue.]

“At the same time I have also learned that it’s okay to say what you feel, to give your opinion and to be heard. Hindi kabawasan ng pagkatao yun lalo na kung nasa tama naman [It does not diminish one’s reputation especially when you are in the right],” she continued.

Solis slammed Gutierrez for her remark, saying, “How can she be so cruel for a second chance to a co-actor like Bong without even thinking if not for the goodness of people she won’t be where she is today.”

The talent manager said Gutierrez should be respectful when giving her opinion, especially when her grandfather Christopher De Leon is friends with Revilla.

The senator will star in “Agimat ng Agila” which is set to air on GMA Network in 2020.

Gerald Santos not resting on his laurels in 2020

The year 2019 was very kind to former “Pinoy Pop Superstar” champ Gerald Santos. But the singer-actor, who played Thuy in the UK and international production of “Miss Saigon” and Anthony in the Manila and Singapore runs of “Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street,” refuses to rest on his laurels.

For 2020, Gerald, who visited the Inquirer office on Dec. 18 and sang the showtune “Why God Why” (from “Miss Saigon”) and the Michael Buble hit “Everything,” among others, says that he wants to hone his theater skills even more.

“I want to get better at what I do,” he muses. “I’d



like to develop more skills as a theater actor. Kasi, after doing ‘Miss Saigon,’ there’s something about my singing style that changed—from my technique, to the way I interpret the

stories behind the songs that I sing. I would like to keep polishing this skill. I hope to make easier, smoother shifts from pop and ballads to showtunes and theater pieces and back, because nagbago na ang placement ng boses ko after those theater stints. More than that, it has also matured considerably since I won ‘Pinoy Pop Superstar.’ After all, I was only a teenager then.”

Gerald is set to reprise the role of San Pedro Calungsod in a series of performances for the musical about the well-loved saint, directed by Antonino Rommel Ramilo.



PANALIGAN CELEBRATION

LEFT, Photographer Noli Gumapac poses with the Panaligan family. RIGHT, The nightshift band poses with band member Maria Panaligan (3RD FROM LEFT) and her mom Genelie (4TH FROM RIGHT).



Will Dennis Uy be ABS-CBN's white knight?

MANILA - The Lopezes are still hopeful of saving their television franchise, ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp., most probably with the help of one of President Rodrigo Duterte's biggest campaign financiers.

Sources believe the the Davao-based businessman Dennis Uy will be the most likely white knight of ABS-CBN's franchise which is set to expire in March 2020.

Uy's recent partnership with the Lopez-owned SkyCable has fueled speculation that the fast-rising bilyonary would be the long-awaited savior of ABS-CBN's franchise and its thousands of employees.

Dito Telecom, a joint venture of Uy and

China Telecom, announced that SkyCable has allowed the company to use the latter's unused fiber optic cables located in Metro Manila to jumpstart its plan to smash the Globe-Smart duopoly.

Dito Chief Administrative Officer Adel A. Tamano said in a statement that the SkyCable deal would allow Uy to build his network rollout (after March 2020) "without having to build everything from scratch." This partnership showed that ABS-CBN saw Uy as a dependable partner.

Uy is reportedly looking at digital content as his prime weapon in stealing market share from the Big Two and who better to provide

him with the most tried and tested programs than the country's most dominant media company.

If the Lopezes and Uy do agree to help each other, it remains to be seen how much equity the Duterte BFF will own in ABS-CBN. We heard Uy was up for at least one board.

But even if a deal with Uy does not pan out and its franchise gets stuck in a Congress' hellhole, ABS-CBN is ready to make the full shift to digital with the relaunched streaming app iWant, which has 12 million registered users and 2 million active monthly users; and its YouTube channel with 15

million subscribers for entertainment and 5.6 million for news. Its website is among the Top 200 in the world.

TV5 chair Manuel V. Pangilinan is open to supporting media giant and rival ABS, but fears over political retribution could hinder any deal.

"Setting aside politics, if they want to blocktime, we are prepared to talk," Pangilinan said.

A potential alliance between ABS-CBN and TV5 would help keep ABS-CBN's massive television business afloat should its broadcast franchise expire by March 30, 2020.

Vice Ganda, hindi man nanguna muli sa takilya pero panalo naman ang love life

You can't have your cake (or beefcake, as the case may be for carnivores) and eat it, too. Cliche, pero nagdudumilat na katoto-

hanan. Namumukadkad ang buhay pag-ibig ni Vice Ganda, ngunit hindi na ang pelikula niya ang topgrosser ng 45th Metro Manila Film Festival (MMFF).

Ganoon din ba ang kaso ni Maine Mendoza, na lubos ang ligaya sa piling ni Arjo Atayde?

No. 1 sa takilya ng MMFF ang pelikula ni Aga Muhlach na Miracle in Cell No. 7, pero hindi niya natamo ang tropeyo ng best actor. At least, hindi na niya kailangang magpa-party sa mga taga-media.

History repeats itself. Isa pang cliche, ngunit napatunayang muli sa MMFF 2019.

Nag-best actress si Nora Aunor sa Cairo International Film Festival noong 1995 para sa The Flor Contemplacion Story.

Kapagkuwan ay nag-best actress si Nora sa MMFF 1995 para sa Muling Umawit Ang Puso.

Nag-best actress si Judy Ann Santos sa Cairo International Film Festival 2019 para sa Mindanao. Kapagkuwan ay nag-best actress si Judy Ann sa MMFF 2019 for the same movie.

Marami ang humula na tatanghaling best actress si Vilma Santos sa MMFF 1978 para sa pelikulang Rubia Servios. Pero ang pinarangalang best performer ay si Nora Aunor para sa Atsay.

"Mamay, mali ang hula nila!"

Marami ang humula (kabilang ako) na si Aga Muhlach ang tatanghaling best actor sa MMFF 2019 para sa Miracle ni Cell No.

7, pero ang nagwagi ay si Allen Dizon para sa Mindanao.

Humakot ng awards ang Mindanao at Write About Love.



Vice Ganda with boyfriend Ion Perez during mall tour for their movie The Mall, The Merrier.

May mga um-Alma Moreno. Sour grapes. Bitter Ocampo. Hindi matanggap ang mga hagupit nina Carmi at Carmina.

Maraming realizations actually.

Hindi husto ang ipakita ang dating gawi

o ang nakasanayang nakikita na sa TV o sa mga dating pelikula.

Hindi puwedeng tumigil sa paglapit sa mga audience at magpasalamat sa kanila.

Ang mahalaga, wagi ang mga manonood! Hindi na biro ang maglabas ng PHP300

para makapanood ng isang pelikula. Kaya inaasahang sa taong 2020 ay maging 20/20 na rin ang vision ng filmmakers natin kung ano talaga ang mga pelikulang gagawin para kagatin ng mga manonood.

KZ Tandingan engaged to boyfriend TJ Monterde

Engaged na ang singers na sina KZ Tandingan, 27, at TJ Monterde, 30, na halos limang taon nang magkasintahan.

December 30, masayang inanunsiyo ni TJ na nag-propose siya sa girlfriend niyang si KZ. Proud din niyang ipinakita ang litrato nila kunsan suot ni KZ ang engagement ring na bigay niya.



TJ Monterde on KZ Tandingan saying yes to his marriage proposal: "Thank You God, for my wife to be."

Sabi ni TJ sa caption (published as is): "and Thank You God, for my wife to be. [heart emoji] #TJxKZFinally" Saksi sa proposal ni TJ kay KZ ang ilang kapamilya at malapit nilang mga kaibigan. Ginanap iyon sa mismong pagdiriwang ni TJ ng kanyang 30th birthday ngayong araw.

Sa January 28, 2020 ang ika-limang anibersaryo nila bilang magkasintahan.

FRIENDS TURNED LOVERS

Nagsimula ang kanilang love story sa pagiging magkaibigan.

Kaibigan ni TJ ang kasabayan ni KZ sa The X Factor Philippines na si Kedebon Colim. "Friends lang talaga at first. Walang love at first sight."

"Tapos unti-unti ako na-develop sa personality niya kasi mabait, mahilig sa music, tapos we share the same faith."

HOW KZ FEELS ABOUT TJ

Nang maging magkasintahan sila, naging bukas si KZ sa pagsasabi kung gaano niya na-appreciate ang pagmamahal sa kanya ni TJ. Gustung-gusto raw ni KZ ang pagiging maintindihin ni TJ, lalo na sa mga pagkakataong hindi sila nagkikita dahil sa trabaho. Minsan ay nakatulugan pa raw ni KZ ang pag-Facetime nila ni TJ kapag nasa ibang bansa ang dalaga.

"Sobrang understanding niya na minsan di ko na naiintindihan, feeling ko baka nag-tatampo na siya na we don't talk enough," sabi ni KZ.

Alam daw kasi ni TJ na kailangan nila i-prioritize ang kanilang showbiz career dahil nagsisimula pa lang sila noon sa music scene.

Alex Gonzaga recalls how Piolo Pascual introduced her to her current boyfriend Mikee Morada

Alex Gonzaga recalled how Piolo Pascual introduced her to her boyfriend Mikee

Morada. "So one time sabi ni Papa P na, 'merong may crush sa'yo na kaibigan ko,'" Alex relayed. The actress

recalled that Piolo told her about Mikee during their conversation in a dressing room at ABS-CBN.

"Sabi [ni Piolo], 'Uy meron ka bang dine-date? Kasi meron akong ipapakilala sa'yo.' Tapos sabi ko, 'Pogi ba?' Tapos pinakita niya 'yung picture tapos sabi ko, 'Sige pwede,' tapos sabi ni kuya Luis (Manzano), 'Huwag may manliligaw 'yan.' Sabi ko 'Pag hindi natuloy 'to pakilala mo ako,'" Alex stated.

Four months after, Alex asked Piolo about Mikee.

"After four months [sabi ko], papa P nasaan na 'yung papakilala mo sa akin? Tinawagan niya tapos the rest is history," Alex relayed.

The actress also relayed that Piolo shared her number to Mikee so they started texting each other.

"Si papa P talaga ang daan kaya maligaya ang puso ko," Alex remarked.



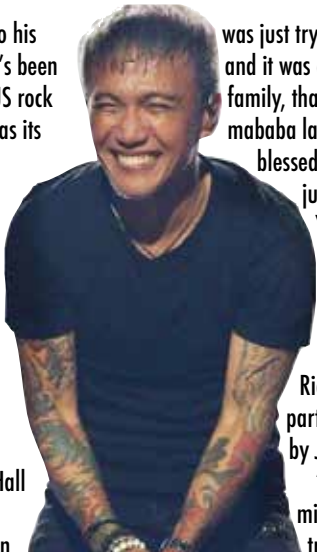
DR. SOLON & JOSEPHINE GUZMAN ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY 2019

Last Dec. 6, Arnel Pineda took to his Facebook page to share that it's been 13 years since the legendary US rock band Journey announced him as its new lead singer.

Apart from rocking stadiums and arenas all over the world, another highlight perhaps of singing for Journey, was meeting the original lead singer himself.

Asked how long does he see himself singing for Journey, Arnel who's on a break from a Vegas residency with the band at the Colosseum at Caesars Palace, replied, "It's up to them. As long as they need me, I'm going to be there. If the time comes that they don't need me anymore, they can always tell me. You know, from the very beginning, I told myself, I'm already good with doing one or two concerts with them. But what happened was, we already did almost 700 shows in 12 years and they're still keeping me."

"It's serving and representing a legacy like this in America, it's part of American history, so it's just hard, it takes a lot of discipline and self-control and focus, which is one thing I've really learned. Like before Journey, I



The rocker's life story will get a big-screen retelling as Jon Chu — yes, the director of the blockbuster hit *Crazy Rich Asians* — has decided to do his biopic in partnership with Warner Bros., to be written by Joker screenwriter Scott Silver.

was quoted as saying in a report by the US website Deadline in December 2018.

Nevertheless, if given the opportunity to mentor budding singers in some platform, like a singing competition for example, he's open to it. In fact, five years ago, he was offered to be a coach on *The Voice of the Philippines*.

I'm very open to that, and if our schedules meet, of course, why not!"

As for those seeking his advice, he just encourages them to always be passionate about their craft and to stay professional. “Dito sa showbiz, maraming nakasunod sayo, sa likod mo. If you quit, madali kang kalimutan, madali kang palitan. Hangga’t mainit ka, you just have to do everything you can. You gotta work hard at it.”

Arturo Vergara Medina (1928-1986) better known by his stage name Bentot. He spent most of his career under LVN pictures. He made many box office hits with another famed comedian Pugo who played as his father in their films.



1. Cecile Araneta (2ND FROM LEFT) celebrate her birthday with her family and friends at Republika Restobar. 2. Friends pose with the Panaligan family.

The image contains two photographs. The top photograph, labeled with a large number '1' in a white box, shows a group of people at a restaurant. Cecile Araneta is the second person from the left, wearing a grey jacket. She is surrounded by family and friends, including a man in a black jacket and a woman in a black dress. The bottom photograph, labeled with a large number '2' in a white box, shows a group of people posing for a photo. Cecile Araneta is the second person from the left, wearing a grey jacket. She is surrounded by family and friends, including a man in a black jacket and a woman in a black dress.

of Bromance, a Filipino-Canadian movie poses at the red carpet 2 sold-out showings at Yorkdale Cinemas.

A woman with long blonde hair, wearing a black crop top with 'LIVE FIT' in orange letters and blue jeans with large rips, stands on a paved beach. She is holding a white surfboard under her right arm and a black skateboard on the ground with her left foot. In the background, a green and white classic car is parked on the sand. The ocean and waves are visible in the distance under a bright sky. The text 'FELISTON SPORTS' is overlaid in the top left corner, with 'UPPER CANADA MALL' below it.

GM golden rice approved in the Philippines

MANILA -The Philippines has become the first country with a serious vitamin A deficiency problem to approve golden rice – which is genetically modified to prevent the deficiency – as safe for humans and animals to eat. According to a government report, it is as safe as conventional rice varieties.

“This is a victory for science, agriculture and all Filipinos,” member of congress Sharon Garin said in a statement.

In the Philippines, many children under 5 years old are severely vitamin A deficient, according to the World Health Organization, even though most of them are given vitamin A supplements. Vitamin A deficiency affects the immune system and

makes children vulnerable to diseases, as well as leading to blindness.

Golden rice has been altered produce the orange pigment beta-carotene, which the body can turn into vitamin A. Because rice is a major part of the diet in the Philippines, if children eat golden rice instead of normal rice, it should substantially reduce vitamin A deficiency.

It could reduce deaths among children by up to a third, says Adrian Dubock of the Golden Rice Humanitarian Board, a non-profit group of experts who help with the development of golden rice. “This decision is huge,” says Dubock.

The Philippine Rice Research Institute and the International Rice Research Insti-

tute will now carry out taste tests as they seek approval for farmers to grow specific strains commercially.

Greenpeace, which has long campaigned against golden rice, has asked the agriculture department to overturn its decision. According to The Philippine Star, Greenpeace has said the approval is unwarranted due to incomplete data and a lack of transparency. These claims are rejected by Dubock.

Golden rice has already been approved as safe to eat in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the US. Bangladesh, which also has a vitamin A deficiency problem, is expected to make a decision soon.



Kathryn Bernardo, part of ‘People of the Year’ list by PeopleAsia

Kathryn was named as one of the 16 “People of the Year,” alongside Lea Salonga, Dr. Vicki Belo, Gary Valenciano, Michael Cinco, and more!

Kathryn Bernardo has added another feather to her cap when she was included in the People of the Year list along with 15 other personalities, released by renowned magazine People Asia.

The local magazine unveiled their People of the Year issue on Instagram December 18. The 16 people on the list were chosen based on how they stood out and made a difference in their respective fields.

Among them was Kathryn, who was recognized for her exceptional prowess in film after becoming the undisputed Box Office Queen of her generation

Other people included in the list were music legend Lea Salonga, Mr. Pure Energy Gary Valenciano, Dubai-based designer Michael Cinco, Dr. Vicki Belo, and more.

Kathryn immediately took to Instagram to express her gratitude towards PeopleAsia, feeling very honored to be featured alongside some of the country’s most influential names.

Congratulations, Kathryn!

Kathryn most recently starred in the worldwide blockbuster hit and now the highest grossing film of all time “Hello, Love, Goodbye” alongside Alden Richards.

Bea Alonzo admits changes in life after loving herself

Bea Alonzo welcomed 2020 in Germany.

With all the challenges she has faced this year, Bea Alonzo learned one thing and that is loving herself first.

The Kapamilya star reminded her Instagram followers of the importance of self love and pointed out that her relationship towards other people changed as she learned to value herself.

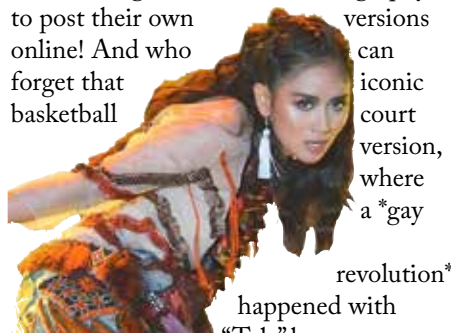
“As I began to love myself, my relationship with everyone changed. Them not loving you does not mean you are unlovable. It does not mean you can never be loved or you are unloved. Repeat this to yourself when you need it most,” she wrote on her Instagram story.

One big controversy that Bea faced last year was her breakup with actor Gerald Anderson.

Here’s The *Actual* Meaning Of The Sarah G Anthem ‘Tala’— According To Its Songwriter

It’s a song for everyone who’s “marupok” in love!

Sarah Geronimo’s hit song “Tala,” which was released back in 2015, still has fans dancing to it during Christmas parties and learning the detailed choreography to post their own versions online! And who can forget that basketball



someone wanted them to leave the court?

A lot of us have been wondering what the song actually means, and “Tala” songwriter Nica del Rosario finally shed some light on the matter. On Twitter, she responded to a *conspiracy theory* about the track, which connected it to “a star about socialism/communism” and even analyzed the lyrics in depth!

Nica’s tweet reads: “Sana ganito ako katalino kaso sinulat ko lang yung ‘Tala’ kasi may dine-date ako noon tapos umpisa palang fu-mall na ako agad HAHAAHA.” Nica adds that the literal meaning of “Tala” is basically: “Eyes so bright you can see the stars in them when they shine.”

Fans couldn’t help but reply to her tweet! @Crissa_MD said, “Hahahahaha ang lalim ko inisip yung lyrics. Karupukan lang pala yung point!” and @ken_chie joined in with, “So ‘Tala’ pala talaga ang national anthem ng mga marurupok?” It sure seems like it!

KC Concepcion, a no show at mom Sharon Cuneta’s birthday, Apologizes

Nag-sorry si KC Concepcion, 34, sa inang si Sharon Cuneta dahil hindi ito nakadalo sa 54th birthday celebration ng Megastar sa ABS-CBN musical-variety show na ASAP Natin ‘To nitong Linggo, January 5, 2020.

Sa ASAP, nagkaroon ng star-studded birthday production number para kay Sharon, kung saan kasama niyang nag-perform ang kapwa Kapamilya stars and singers katulad nina Regine Velasquez, Judy Ann Santos, Sarah Geronimo, Martin Nievera, at Gary Valenciano.

Nagpunta rin ang pamilya ni Sharon: ang asawang si Senator Kiko Pangilinan, ang mga anak nilang sina Frankie at Miel na nag-perform din, at ang bunsong si Miguel.

Kapansin-pansin na si KC lang ang kulang.

Si KC ay anak ni Sharon sa una niyang



asawang si Gabby Concepcion.

KC SAYS SORRY

Sa kanyang Instagram account nitong Linggo, isang mensahe ang ipinaabot ni KC para sa ina.

Binanggit ni KC na hindi siya nakadalo dahil sa personal na kadahilanan.

Humingi rin siya ng sorry sa anumang pagkukulang niya sa ina.

Kalakip ang throwback photo nilang mag-ina, ito ang pahayag ni KC:

“Happy birthday, mama. [heart emoji]

“I’m sorry I couldn’t join the ASAP celebration for personal reasons.

“We may not be perfect, but in the many ways I know how to LOVE you, I have, I do and I always will.

“I have done all I can to help you when I could and to make you proud knowing you had me so young.

“If I fail, I’m only human and I’m sorry.

“But I try my best. Happiest birthday to you mama.

“May your light shine brighter and brighter and I will see you soon.

“I love you and pray for your happiness always.

[praying, sparkle, heart emojis]”

Maria Panaligan and Jezriel, Joseph and Ampee Panaligan, Aubrey Panaligan and Joshua pose at the Panaligan celebration.



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Cooling Off - JAMES REID

JADINE BREAK UP continued from page 14

hiwalay na ang dalawa.

Despite the protestations of JaDineans 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.

It was confirmed that Nadine packed up and left the Loyola Grand Villas home of James that has served as their love nest for more than two years, and moved to a rented unit in a posh Makati condo. But even if they are now living apart, the un-couple is said to still see each other.

In 2017, they began living together, prompting Nadine to hush up critics (who claimed that JaDine was setting a "bad" example for their fans) by saying, "Come on, guys, it's 2017!"

It was towards the end of 2019 that cracks in the relationship were reported. After James left Viva, the studio that built him up, he embarked on a solo flight, set to firm up his career as a singer under his own recording company called Careless Music Manila. ABS-CBN announced a project that would star James with KPop star Nancy Jewel DeDonie (of Momoland). Nadine frowned on James being paired with another actress.

James is handling the breakup with care to cushion the impact on Nadine who has admitted grappling with mental illness (he has a brother who committed

suicide). Jojo mentioned "irreconcilable differences" as the cause of the breakup. Was it a case of "too much, too soon"... too much togetherness and too soon to be living together?

Based on other reports, James admitted that he and Nadine had a misunderstanding because of their tight schedule but it doesn't mean that they totally broke up. In addition, the couple are just in a "cool off" situation.

Nadine Lustre belied the article written by Philippine Star columnist Ricky Lo. The actress took to Instagram Stories to deny what was being said about her and her relationship with James Reid by the columnist.

Many of their fans hope that they will surpass this problem and the love birds will remain strong during their hardest time.

A week ago, Nadine posted on her Instagram a picture of a bikini-clad girl standing in the veranda, captioned, "I can't be who you want," followed a few days later by a photo of four people in the sea, captioned "No questions, just go with it," and still another (black and white) photo of hers surveying a city by night from her condo unit or hotel room, captioned "for good reason, lost all of my love."

Come on, Nadine, it's 2020. James is not the only "fish" in the sea.

Catriona Gray just achieved this social media milestone

MANILA – Even after her Miss Universe reign, Catriona Gray shows no signs of slowing down as she looks to expand her career in the Philippines.

And going by her ever-growing followers on social media, millions around the world are curious to see what she's up to next.

On Monday, that digital fanbase reached a milestone just before yearend, with Gray thanking her eight-million strong following on Instagram.

"What a wonderful way to end 2019 with all of you following along on this whirlwind journey! I lava you all!" she wrote, referencing her famous pageant walk.

Gray, the fourth Filipino Miss Universe,

appears to have much in store for her fans in 2020. For one, she will make her writing debut with "Conquering Your Universe," a collaboration with ABS-CBN Books.

Gray is also pursuing a music career tied with her advocacies, and is hard at work on her own jewelry line, inspired by her Miss Universe accessories.

Pia Wurtzbach & Marlon Stockinger split up

Miss Universe 2016 Pia Wurtzbach and boyfriend Marlon Stockinger called it quits in September, as confirmed by her business manager Rikka Infante-Fernandez.

A quick look into their respective Instagram accounts give clues on the breakup.

The photos of Marlon on Pia's account have been deleted. On the other hand, his last post about her was uploaded May.

Pia and Marlon, a professional car race driver, were together for three years.

Pia issued this statement on the mat-through Rikka: "It's that Marlon and I are no longer together. I wish him and his family well, and out of respect for them, let me make it clear – Marlon and his family never depended on me financially. This will be my only statement on the matter. Thank you for your support."

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Daniel inamin na sa kanya unang inalok ang 'HLG' role ni Alden

INAMIN ng Kapamilya matinee idol na si Daniel Padilla na inalok sa kanya ang role ni Alden Richards sa mega blockbuster hit movie na "Hello, Love, Goodbye" na dinirek ni Cathy Garcia-Molina na siya ring nagdirek ng "The Hows of Us" nila ng kanyang ka-loveteam and real-life girlfriend na si Kathryn Bernardo.

Ayon kay Daniel, pagkatapos ng "The Hows of Us" ay nag-usap umano sila ni Kathryn na magpahinga muna sa paggawa ng pelikula na magkasama. Ito ang rason kung bakit napunta kay Alden ang role that was supposed to be for Daniel. Hindi naman ito pinagsisihan ni Daniel at natuwa pa siya for Kathryn and Alden.

Hindi rin umano niya

pinagselosan si Alden kundi nahirapan umano siya na nagkalayo sila ni Kathryn nang mahigit isang buwan nitong shooting sa Hong Kong. Hindi rin naman umano niya matawagan nang madalas si Kathryn dahil busy ito sa shooting. It was the first time na nagkalayo sila ni Kathryn nang matagal. Samantala, may magandang balita si Daniel sa kanilang mga fans ni Kathryn dahil malapit na silang mapanood sa kanilang bagong te-

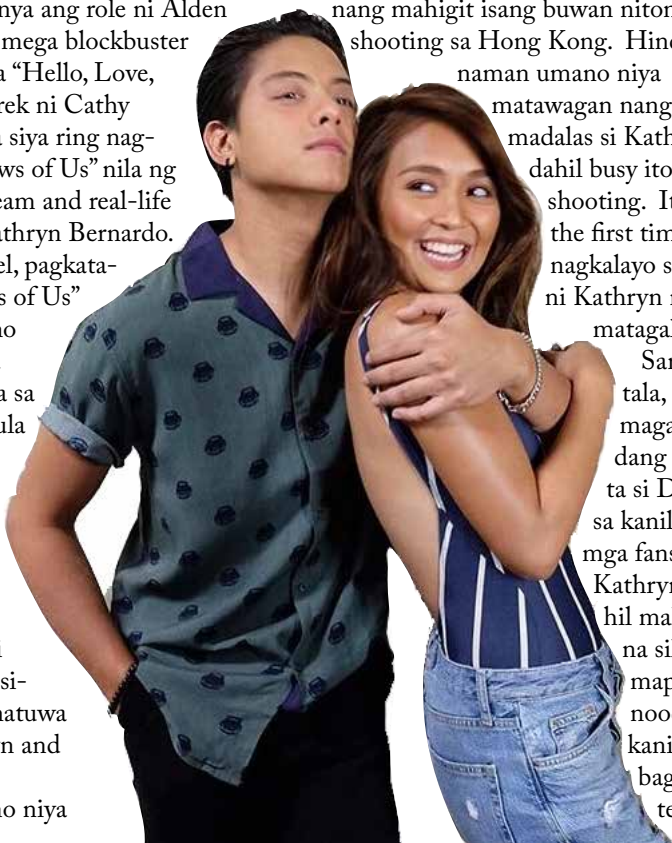
leserye ngayong 2020 under Dreamscape Entertainment ni Deo Endrinal. Ito bale ang kanilang follow-up sa kanilang hit primetime series na "La Luna Sangre" in 2017. Huling nagtambal sina Kathryn at Daniel sa super hit movie na "The Hows of Us" in 2018 which broke all existing box office records until "Hello, Love, Goodbye" came along this year.

Umaasa ang kanilang supporters na muli silang makagawa ng pelikula in 2020.

Samantala, may lumalabas na balita na malamang na mag-guest si Daniel sa top-rating and longest-running action-drama series na "FPJ's Ang Probinsyano" na pinagbibidahan at co-directed by Coco Martin. Nagawa na rin ito noon nina Vice Ganda, Anne Curtis and Judy Ann Santos bago naipalabas sa ere ang kanyang "Starla".

Still on Daniel, puring-puri ito ng Concert King na si Martin Nievera dahil sa pagiging grounded nito sa kabila ng kanyang estado as matinee idol at box office star.

Sina Martin at Daniel ay magkasama sa "ASAP Natin 'To".



Maja in no rush to marry Rambo

Maja Salvador is enjoying her romance with boyfriend Rambo Nuñez so much that she is not keen on making the big leap.

"Ayokong i-pressure ang lahat kasi masaya kami. Ini-enjoy namin ang pagiging mag-boyfriend and girlfriend. So, doon muna tayo," she said in an interview.

A lot speculate that they're altar-bound as photos of their vacation seemingly suggest a pre-nup shoot took place.

"Yun nga ang nakikita ng lahat pero baka hindi pa namin nakikita pareho. Natutuwa kami na 'yun ang tingin ng lahat, na parang approved sa iyong lahat 'yung relationship namin," she said.

Is she ready to take the plunge?

"31 na ako so kung darating, kung papunta na tayo doon ay i-check natin," she mused.

When someone said they will surely take their relationship into a more serious level such as marriage—as most couples who get a second chance at love do—Maja countered she is not sold to the idea as "merong mga nagkakabalikan na hindi pa rin (nagkakatuluyan)."

Recall that her being focused on her work derailed their relationship nine years ago.

"Siyempre, bagets pa ako noon. I was just 21 years old, ang dami pang kailangang patunayan..."

Pre-nup shoot?

Maja and Rambo posted photos of their Cuban trip recently, making their followers think they might have already shot their pre-nup there.

Nothing of that sort happened, Maja insisted.

"Di ba nauuso 'yun so nakiuso kami sa mga city escapes na 'yan. So noong nandoon na, sayang naman kesa puro selfie lang so kumuha kami ng photographer."

Bad talk irks Rita Daniela: 'Di po totoo 'yan'

RITA Daniela considers the past year as one of the most successful years in her showbiz career. Her surprise hit afternoon show with Ken Chan, "My Special Tatay", ended in March 2019 and soon after that, their love team was given its own show on GMA Telebabad primetime, "One of the Baes", which is a hit so it's now extended up to February.

Not only that, she and Ken were given the chance to co-host the successful reality show, "The Clash Season 2". It has just ended and now, they're given a new show in 2020. They're so happy to be part of GMA's new weekend noontime show, "All Out Sunday", where they are given the chance to sing and dance in fabulous production numbers.

"I really feel so blessed dahil kasisimula pa lang ng taon pero heto't we're given another new show," says Rita. But how come there are rumors that she has become a swellhead and has become difficult to work with as she has become quite demanding? "I really don't know kunsaan nangagaling ang ganyang stories but hindi po 'yan totoo," she says. "You can ask anyone sa shows na nakatrabaho ko, lalo na sa 'One of the Baes', and I think I get along fine with all of them. Kung totoong nag-iinarte ako, bakit hayan at na-extend pa ang show namin at nabigyan pa ako ng bagong show. Never lalaki ang ulo ko kasi ang tagal kong naghintay at pinaghirapan bago ako nabigyan ng good breaks that I'm enjoying now. Alangan namang sayangin ko pa ito. Kung sinuman 'yung naninira sa'kin, sana tigilan na nila dahil 2020 na. Peace and harmony na lang po tayo."

Will Ruffa Gutierrez allow daughter Lorin to become a beauty queen?

Ruffa Gutierrez is glad her two girls—Lorin, 16, and Venice, 15—do not have much to worry about when it comes to skin care.

Since Ruffa allowed her to be more visible on social media, Lorin has been taking the Internet by storm with her sexy beach photos.

The big question naturally pops up: Will Lorin follow in her mom's footsteps as a beauty queen?

She echoes the clamor of Lorin's followers, but explains, "Marami nagsasabi for Lorin most especially to join Bb. Pilipinas, but she is only 16.

"You have to be 18 to join for Miss Universe.

"And times have changed. Binibinis now are much older, kasi back when I joined, 17-18 yung mga kasama ko.

"Ako, 15 pa lang, kinukulit na ako ni Ms Stella," referring to Stella Marquez de Araneta, the chairperson of Binibining Pilipinas Charities Inc.

The Miss World 1993 second runner-up continues, "Now, they want more mature candidates. It's a trend na they are all in their 20s, late 20s."



Apparently, Lorin has already gone through a few preliminary workshops with the pageant gurus from beauty camp Aces and Queens.

She says, "I want Lorin to enjoy her youth, she has one more year of high school left."

And unlike most Western parents and even some modern Asian parents, Ruffa doesn't subscribe to the gap year idea, where high school students take a year off after graduating before pursuing college.

She explains, "Gap year, no. Baka tamarin sila, once you're making money, and they are already making some money now, thanks to Cornerstone."

Ruffa ends, "So, I want them to focus on their studies first. So if they take a gap year, they get lazy and they don't come back. Ako, gusto ko tuluy-tuloy sila."

Aga mum on best actor loss

Right after the MMFF (Metro Manila Film Festival) 2019 awards night, I sent a message to my good friend, Aga Muhlach. I told him that for me and so many others, he was the rightful winner of the best actor award and not Allen Dizon. Aga replied, "Thanks, Dolls. Love you. It's all good. Appreciate you."



He's such a good sport. Even if he didn't win, Aga still gamely presented the best actress award, which came right after the announcement for best actor. The box-office success of his movie, "Miracle in Cell No. 7" is more than enough validation for Aga.

With all due respect to Yeng Constantino and Joem Bascom, I think Bela Padilla and John Arcilla deserved to win best supporting actress and actor awards more. For sure, they will get due recognition from other award-giving bodies. Win some, lose some.

CELEBRATIONS



LEFT, Philippine Chamber of Commerce Toronto raffles off a painting. RIGHT, IPEN Beauty Melissa Saldua Ventocilla (SEATED 2ND FROM LEFT) celebrates her birthday with family and friends at Crave Restaurant.

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1. Ipen 2019 Melissa Saldia Ventocilla and Miss 2019 Miss Asia Pacific 2nd Runner up Jessica Cianchino receive the Loyalty award from IPEN.
2. The Esguerra family pose for their Christmas pictures.
3. Ted Dayno of UMAC and wife Doris joins Action Honda's Rafael Nebres at the bicol Canada Christmas party.
4. The Yerro family pose for their annual Christmas picture.
5. Ed Virola, birthday celebrant Cecille Araneta poses with Philippine star Jovit Baldovino (RIGHT).
6. Arielle Kayleen Perez sings at the MH Marky Hugh Christmas party.

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Filipino Dentists Raise Funds For Dental Missions

The Christmas dinner was was held at Chateau Le Jardin. It was a great and successful event. Kudos to the officers who organized it. **DENTISTS** continued on page 23



1. Dr. Vicky Santiago (MIDDLE) pose with his staff. 2. Sylvia Nebres wins an LBC box at the Bicol Canada Christmas dinner. 3. The Panaligan family holds a Christmas celebration. 4. Cecille Araneta (2ND FROM LEFT)celebrate her birthday with her family and friends at Republika Restobar. 5. Ted Dayno of UMACE and wife Doris joins Action Honda's Rafael Nebres at the Bicol Canada Christmas party. 6. Maria Panaligan sings at the Dolorosa gala. 7. Melissa Ventocilla (2ND FROM LEFT) celebrate her birthday at Crave Restaurant. 8. Birthday celebrant Cecille Araneta (MIDDLE) poses with Philippine star Jovit Baldovino (RIGHT). 9. Arielle Kayleen Perez sings at the MH Marky Hugh Christmas party.



FILIPINO GOOD LIFE
continued on page 3

stories
This show embraces differences and promotes inclusion. It encourages kids to be curious and reach for their dreams. Nothing is impossible if they follow their true passion. Produced by Christine Santos, it features kids and their skills and talents. They recently featured the Mix Up band by Star Circle Entertainment last Christmas.

The bags are made of good durable materials, perfect for kids who just throw them on the ground when



Jadine break up FINAL

Malapit na kaibigan ni Coleen at ng mista niyang si Billy Crawford sina James at Nadine.

Ayon kay Coleen, kasama niya sina James at Nadine sa pagsalubong nitong Bagong Taon.

Umiwas naman si Coleen nang usapin kung may alam siya tungkol sa balitang

JADINE BREAK UP
continued page 1

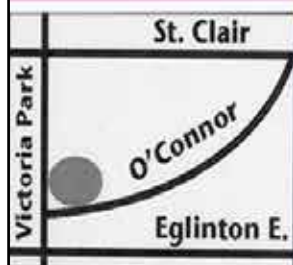


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Catriona Gray on welcoming 2020:

A New Love

Miss Universe 2018 Catriona Gray will co-host ABS-CBN's noontime show "It's Showtime" for a limited time.

ABS-CBN's entertainment reporter MJ Felipe confirmed the news on his Twitter account.

MJ wrote, "CONFIRMED: Miss Universe 2018 Catriona Gray will be one of the co-hosts of It's Showtime starting tomorrow, Monday - for a limited engagement."

Catriona will be joining Vice Ganda, Vhong Navarro, Karylle, Jhong Hilario, Jugs Jugueta, Teddy Corpuz, Amy Perez, Kim Atienza, Amy Perez, and Ryan Bang on the show. Meanwhile, Anne Curtis and Mariel Rodriguez are currently on leave.

Halos isang buwan matapos niyang kum-pirmahin ang kanyang pakikipaghiwalay



sa race-car driver na si Marlon Stockinger, nakatagpo na nga ba ng bagong pag-ibig si Pia Wurtzbach sa katauhan ng travel editor-entrepreneur na si Jeremy Jauncey Kinikilig ngayon ang maraming fans ng Miss Universe 2015 dahil sa nababalitang pagkakamabutihan nila ng Scotland-born model at professional traveler. Naniniwala ang fans na magkasamang sinalubong nina Pia, 30, at Jeremy, 34, ang bagong taon habang nagbabakasyon sa isang isla sa Indonesia.

Louise defends live-in setup with bf

LOUISE De Los Reyes says she's happy to have moved to Viva.

Since she signed up with them, she has appeared in several shows on ABS-CBN and Sari-Sari Channel and she has done three movies: "Para sa Broken Hearted", "Hanggang Kailan" which was filmed in Japan, and the comedy "Sanggano, Sanggago at Sangguwapo". She has now completed her fourth movie, "My Bakit List."

She's happy with her role as it's very challenging.

She did some sexy scenes in "Hanggang Kailan" with Xian Lim. Does she also have sexy scene with Ivan this time?

"A, wala muna kasi hindi ko naman tala-ga gustong magpa-sexy. Ayokong madamay ang pamilya ko sa mga ginagawa ko sa showbiz. Kaya nga kahit sa men's magazines, I refused to do sexy pictorials.

When asked who else she'd like to be her leading man, she said it's John Lloyd Cruz. "We both live in Valle Verde kasi at nakikita ko siya roon at ang baby niya, si Elias. Nung beybing baby pa, he's so cute and looks like Ellen (Adarna), but now na lumalaki na, mas kamukha na ng ama. But lately, hindi ko na sila nakikita, e."

She admits she now lives in with her

non-showbiz boyfriend who's an architect-businessman. Does she see herself also having a baby soon?

"Naku, hindi po. I promised my late mother na kasal muna bago baby. As of now, happy lang kami being together for almost a year na. Actually, less gastos din. Kasi when I was living alone, lahat, ako. Bukod sa boyfriend ko, may dalawa pa kaming ibang kasama sa bahay, so bale apat kami. We already know so much of each other. Ni hindi nga kami nagkakaroon ng mabigat na away kasi mas natatantiya na namin ang isa't isa. Wala nang pretensions."

Don't they have plans of making their relationship more permanent by walking down the altar? "As of now, it's not in our plans. But siempre, if you'd ask me, siya na talaga ang gusto kong mapangasawa."

What can she say to conservative haters who bash her for living in? "Guys, magtu-2020 na po. Wala na akong ibang masasabi kasi, in this age, kahit ano naman ang gawin naming mga artisa, may masasabi pa rin sila sa iyo, e. Besides, I'm 27 na, I'm of the right age, hindi naman ako teenager na wala pang muwang sa buhay, so I guess I can now make such decisions for myself."



Beauty Gonzalez reveals why she doesn't bring a yaya during trips abroad

'Kadenang Ginto' actress Beauty Gonzalez and her family say they enjoy bonding without any outside help during holidays.

Currently spending the holidays in Hanoi, Vietnam with her daughter Olivia and husband Normal Crisologo, Beauty Gonzalez replied to one of her followers who asked if she brings her househelp along with them on their trips overseas. The talented actress explained that traveling with her family is always without any yaya because it is their bonding time. But Beauty said that there are plans to bring a yaya with them in the future.

CARLA ABELLANA SLAMS POLICE INVOLVED IN DOG MEAT TRADE

Actress Carla Abellana slammed authorities after reports arose of police allegedly participating in the meat trade has been inside a in Manila.

Abellana, an animal advocate, animal group PAWSsion Project's post about a certain NHA Compound in Paco being a slaughterhouse for dogs.

Both Abellana and the animal welfare group called out to Manila mayor Isko Moreno to help put a stop to the dog meat trade in the city.

The actress previously spoke out against stray cats and dogs being killed in pounds in the country, and called on aspiring pet owners to adopt straight from the city pounds.



Maui Taylor clarified she never did 'porn' movies.

It's been over a decade since Maui Taylor joined showbiz with her raunchy image. The former Viva Hot Babes member soon retired from making daring movies and is now portraying more



wholesome roles on screen but some netizens still look at her as 'hot.'

One netizen offended Maui's supporters when he asked, "Ang hot mo po. Kailan ka ulit gagawa ng porn?" on Instagram.

Maui then clarified that the type of movies that she made in the past was never categorized as "porn."

"Porn was never the word for the mature roles we did before. Pls take note of that!" she wrote.

Maui joined Viva Hot Babes in 2003 where other members included Katya Santos, Andrea del Rosario, Kristine Jaca, Sheree, Gwen Garci, Jen Rosendahl, Myles Hernandez, and Hazel Cabrera. They recently reunited for a photo shoot and also appeared on FPJ's Ang Probinsyano.

After working in the industry for years, the sexy actress decided to stay away from the limelight for a while to focus on her personal life. She now has two adorable sons, Antoine Miguel and Matteo Alonzo, with her non-showbiz partner, Anton Sabarre.

Janella mahirap gisingin, sabi ni Joshua

AYAW patawag ni Maja Salvador kay Janella Salvador ng Tita kahit pamangkin sa pinsan ng una ang huli.

Okay lang kay Maja ang "ate," "wag lang 'Tita,' dahil pakiramdam niya tumatanda siya sa tawag na ito.



Joshua Garcia, Janella Salvador

Pero halatang sobra ang lakas ng lukso ng dugo ng dalawa dahil naging close sila habang ginagawa ang "The Killer Bride" na malapit na ring magtapos sa ere.

Mabilis din kung ipagtanggol ni Maja si Janella, lalupa't mukhang naiipit ito sa isang situwasyon. Sa thanksgiving presscon ng "The Killer Bride," sinabi ni Joshua Garcia na "Hindi mahirap katrabaho si Janella...mas mahirap siyang gisingin."

Na kaagad namang nilagyan ng malisya ng ilang reporter at vlogger. "Private joke 'yun," kaagad na sinalag ni Maja ang tanong ng isa kung paano raw nalaman ni Joshua na mahirap gisingin si Janella. "Alam nyo yun sa mga mag-kakaibigan, may mga biruang ganyan. Pero hindi sila magdyowa."

Open na rin naman sa lahat na mukhang close na si Janella sa isa pang ABS-CBN young actor, si Markus Paterson, samantalang loveless at ayaw munang makipagrelasyon ni Joshua sa ngayon. Mukhang na-trauma siya sa nangyari sa kanila ni Julia Barretto na unti-unti na ring nabubunyag ang relasyon kay Gerald Anderson.

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New Beginnings

Kiray Celis talks about a past relationship: ‘Yung taong mahal ko, binabalewala ako’

Kiray Celis shares her thoughts on learning and moving on from heartbreak.

“Para sa mga taong nasaktan at niloko... MAKAKARELATE KAYO DITO!

MALING TAO
Paano nga ba malalaman kapag mali ang tao? Kapag ba, binigay mo na lahat pero hindi parin nakutento? Pinatawad mo na hindi parin natututo? Pinapayagan mo na sa lahat pero nambababae parin at nagloloko? Nako! Habang maaga, magisip kana dahil sayang ang oras mo. Sige eto ang aking kwento.. Isang araw nag-mahal ako. Pangarap ko



na sana, siya yung una at huling tao sa buhay ko. Kaso nauubos rin pala ang pasensya no? Akala ko nga UNLI to. Pero napagod rin ako. Oo naging masaya ako. Binigay lahat ng bagay na gusto ko. Kahit anong hilingin ko. Pero kapalit pala nun, sakit ng puso ko. Kaya napaisip ako.. Nasakin nga lahat.. pero yung taong mahal ko, binabalewala ako. Sunod sa uso na mga gamit. Pero yung tunay na pagmamahal hindi ko makamit. Ang sakit.

Dumating na nga sa punto na, hindi ko na kilala ang sarili ko. Na kahit alam kong mali, patuloy akong lumalaban kasi mahal ko yung tao. Pero sa relasyon pala, dalawa kayo. Kahit gaano ka ka sweet, ka honest, ka loyal at kabait, kailangan pala hindi nawawala yung respeto. Yun ang pinaka importanteng natutunan ko.

Kaya sa lahat ng taong napunta sa maling tao, pagsubok lang lahat ng ito. Kagaya ko, nanggaling ako sa umiiyak gabi gabi. Pero ngayon wala ng mapaglagyan ang saya at ang ngiti ko. Wag mo pagsisihan lahat ng ginawa mo sa maling tao. Kasi dun ka matututo. Dun ka magiging malakas, para pagdumating yung tamang tao, ikaw yung pinaka matapang kasi deserve mo. ”

Consul General Orontes Castro poses with a guest at the Bicol Christmas party.



Are Alden Richards, Sam Milby courting Catriona Gray?



Miss Universe 2018 Catriona Gray on Wednesday clarified rumors that actors Alden Richards and Sam Milby are courting her. According to Gray, her fans tend to pair her with Richards, whom she has never met before. “I feel like the fans are really shipping [us], which I think is a thing that fans do. I’ve never met Alden before,” she said on “Tonight With Boy Abunda.” As for Milby, Gray said they go to the same church and they are under the same management company, and so they are friends. “Sam naman, we go to the same church, we’re under the same management, so friend naman siya,” she added, clarifying that Milby is not courting her. Gray, in an interview on the same show earlier this year, revealed she and model Clint Bondad broke up after more than six years of being in a relationship.

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POPULATION GROWTH SLOWS

MANILA— Despite attempts by some sectors, including the Catholic Church, to prevent the full implementation of the reproductive health (RH) law passed in 2012, the country’s population growth slowed down by 0.2 percent, resulting in a drop of 1.2 million from the projected population increase by 2020, according to the Commission on Population and Development (Popcom).

“[This is] proof that our nationwide efforts on reproductive health, as well as family planning, are yielding positive results as they are steadily being embraced by Filipinos,” said Popcom executive director Juan Antonio Perez III.

More seniors
But the number of senior citizens (age 60 and above), is “growing at a faster rate than other age groups,” Perez said. By 2020, the elderly are seen to make up 8.8 percent, or 9.7 million, of the total population.

The Popcom official noted that 64 percent, or 70.3 million Filipinos, will still be of working age next year.

‘Lingering issues’
“There are still lingering issues that we all have to address as we usher in the new decade, among them the management of limited resources in the face of climate change, unrestrained internal migration leading to congestion in urban areas, as well as the disturbing rise of adolescent and teenage pregnancy nationwide,” Perez said.

PORNHUB continued from page 1

percent of visitors to the site from the Philippines were women, the highest percentage worldwide (tied with Brazil). The same survey showed that Filipinos, more than any other group, like to take their porn on the go. Ninety-one percent of Filipino visitors visited the website from their phones — the highest percentage in the world — with just 5 percent logging in from their desktop, and the rest checking the site from their tablets. Pinoy — and Pinay — pride was also at play, it would appear. Both terms were among the most searched on the site (“pinay” came in at number 1, and “pinoy”

at number 4), with “hentai,” “japanese,” and “korean” rounding out the top five. Top trending searches — measured in increase in prevalence compared to the previous year — included “reverse missionary” (OK, that’s very specific) up 3,758 percent; followed by “locker room” (again, really specific), up 2,737 percent; and “perfect body” (booooooring!) up 1,636 percent. Our five favorite pornstars, meanwhile, were Lana Rhoades, Lexi Lore, Leah Gotti, Johnny Sins, and Jordi el Nino Polla. Our top five categories, meanwhile, were Japanese, hentai, lesbian, amateur, and — in another nod to our gender-blind love of smut — videos popular with women. But Filipinos weren’t just in it for the

cold, impersonal boning. No! We love a little loooove — as evidenced by the fact that we watched “romantic” porn 226 percent more than the global average. We also apparently loooove Koreans, watching 188 percent more Korean porn than the global average. Unfortunately, Filipinos are actually slipping in one crucial regard: the amount of time spent per visit. While we claimed the top spot last year, this year our average fell by 22 seconds (we swear, that’s the first time it’s ever happened, honest!) to 11 minutes and nine seconds. Thailand beat us off — sorry, out! — Thailand beat us out for the top spot this year, clocking an average of 11 minutes and 21 seconds per visit.

EPIC EVENTS

EPIC TV was busy last December. They featured the mixd Up band by Star Circle Entertainment and they also had their Chrstmas party.

PHOTOS BY RAYMOND SANTOS



Liza ‘better’ in kissing scenes than bf Enrique Gill kisses like a 2nd 2nd grader’

“I’m better at doing kissing scenes ... He kisses like a second grader.”

This was how Liza Soberano described real and reel-life partner Enrique Gil to reporters during a media gathering for their latest project, the romantic-comedy series “Make It With You.”

The couple was asked whether or not they have kissing scenes in the series, to which headwriter Mark Angos replied: “They will be super intimate. They’re currently working on Week 2 so they don’t know this yet. They have yet to find out what will happen to Week 10, for example.”

Liza quipped that whenever Enrique would have a kissing scene, like the one with Bea Alonzo in the movie “She’s the One,” the actor would down half a bottle of mouthwash. But when it was time to do their kissing scene for their most recent project, “Alone/Together (2018),” not only did Enrique fail to gargle with mouthwash, he also ate a lot of street food before the take.

“He is too comfortable with me already,” Liza observed. “But your breath also smelled like the tuna you ate. Mas mabaho nga ‘yon,” Enrique interjected.

“All I can say is that when it comes to doing kissing scenes, I do it better than Quen (Enrique’s nickname), not in the context that I’m a good kisser. It’s just that I’m more at ease because to me, it’s just work.”



Enrique agreed: “It’s true! I’m the better kisser, but she’s more relaxed. I get nervous. I feel uncomfortable. She handles it better.”

How would Liza describe a “Quen kiss?” She replied: “Parang Grade 2 lang! In the kissing scene we shot at a park in New York for ‘Alone/Together,’ Quen would whisper, ‘I will kiss you now, I will kiss you now...’ He was scared because Tito Ogie (Diaz, her manager) was watching, even though I kept telling him to relax.

BEING PAIRED WITH OTHERS
“We’re open to it, but we’re not gonna rush.”

Sagot ito ni Liza Soberano tungkol sa posibilidad na ipareha sila ng reel at real-life boyfriend niyang si Enrique Gil sa ibang Kapamilya stars.

Kilala ang Kapamilya love team bilang LizQuen.

Sa katinayan raw, isang executive mula sa kanilang home network ang nagtanong sa kanila tungkol dito.

“I think it comes to a time when everybody has to,” pahayag ni Enrique.

“Tsaka kung iisipin mo rin, if you use two different love teams, siyempre both [supporters of] love teams manonood,

siyempre sure hit yon, di ba?”

“It can be really, really good.”

Dagdag ni Enrique, “You really have to change up stories, and it’s also nice to see somebody portraying different characters.”

Maaaring magalit daw ang ibang fans, subalit para na rin daw ito sa growth ng kanilang mga idolo.

Natanong sina Liza, 21, at Enrique, 27, tungkol dito sa ginanap ng press conference ng Make it with You, ang kanilang upcoming teleserye.

Ginanap ang press con sa ELJCC Building sa ABS-CBN Compound, Quezon City nitong Biyernes, December 6.

Inamin naman ni Liza na si ABS-CBN Films Creative Manager Olivia Lamasan, na tinatawag nilang Inang, ang nagtanong sa kanila tungkol dito.

“It actually was brought up, pero it wasn’t brought up like at the moment,” lahad ng aktres.

“They were, like, asking us, sina Inang, ‘Are you guys open to working with other actors and actresses in the future?’”

Pero paglililaw ni Liza, wala pa namang katiyakan kung kelan ito mangyayari.

“Parang I don’t think it’s really time for us yet to separate; but it’s really inevitable because we really need it for our growth and also for the company’s growth as well.

“So it’s not like when they partner certain individuals from a love team, they’re separating the love team. It’s not really like that.

“They can always do another project, so the love team is always there.

“They’re just expanding their craft and their talents.”



An even busier new year for Alden

ALDEN Richards says the passing year 2019 has definitely been a good one for him. After all, he became local filmdom’s top box office male lead for “Hello Love Goodbye” and he also won the Asian Star Prize in the Korean Drama Awards. His primetime soap, “The Gift”, is always trending and its loyal followers just love it and continue to praise his acting as the blind hero.

Now, it looks like 2020 will be even brighter. He’s hosting the GMA New Year Countdown to welcome the New Year and on January 5, he will be one of the main stars of GMA-7’s new comedy-variety show, “All Out Sunday”, and he’s getting new movie offers.

“The Gift” is extended until February. It rated very high recently. Alden shows in each episode also continues to garner more praises from viewers. As one netizen wrote: “Pinaiyak kami ni Alden sa eksena nila ng tunay niyang ina. Sobrang galing niya sa kanyang restrained kind of acting na walang halong pago-DA na teleserye kind of emoting pero tumatagos talaga sa puso.”

As for his lovelife, some fans are linking him to a Korean actress and to former Miss Universe Catriona Gray, but Catriona herself already declared that she has not even met Alden in person.

Duterte ally says no plan to buy ABS-CBN

ISM Communications Corp., which is a media holding company of Davao-based businessmen Dennis A. Uy, said there were no current plans to buy television broadcast giant ABS-CBN Corp.

“We wish to clarify that ISM Communications Corp, has not executed nor entered into any terms or agreement as regards the acquisition of ABS-CBN,” the company said.

“Currently, there are no definitive plans to acquire ABS-CBN so the news article is merely speculation,” it added.

Stock market speculators were betting that a deal between ISM and ABS-CBN would push through, the Inquirer said.

Uy is a known friend and campaign donor of President Duterte, who has repeatedly threatened to block the renewal of ABS-CBN’s franchise when it expires on March 30.

Bills to renew ABS-CBN’s franchise have languished in Congress for years under Mr. Duterte, who accused the company of failing to air his political advertisements ahead of the 2016 national elections.

The President ramped up his rhetoric against the Lopez family that owns ABS-CBN, telling them to “just sell it.”

The Lopez family has not publicly signaled any intention to sell ABS-CBN, which has grown into one of the country’s largest media groups.

The company was seized by allies of the dictator President Ferdinand Marcos during the Martial Law years from the 1970s until the regime was toppled by the People Power Revolution in 1986.

It has since diversified into high-speed internet services, theme parks and retail stores while offering more digital media content.



Joshua fans gustong makipagbalikan ang idolo

TIYAK na magsasamang muli ang dating magkasin-tahang Julia Barretto at Joshua Garcia sa promotional activities ng kanilang coming zombie movie under Star Cinema, ang “Block Z” na pinamahalaan ng mahusay na director na si Mikhail Red.

Habang ginagawa nina Julia at Joshua ang “Block Z” ay may problema na ang kanilang relasyon ipinakita nila ang kanilang professionalism sa kanilang trabaho bilang actors nung ginagawa nila ang pelikula.

Kung ang mga fans lamang ng JoshLia ang masusunod, gusto nilang magkabalikan sina Julia at Joshua lalupa’t pareho pa rin silang single hanggang ngayon although si Julia ang itinurong dahilan ng paghihiwalay ng dating magkasin-tahang Bea Alonzo at Gerald Anderson nung nakaraang taon



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.



Scenes in the City



LEFT, JDL’s Cupid Arch performs at EPIC TV’s Christmas party. RIGHT, Congen Orontes Castro (2ND FROM LEFT) attends the the Philippine Chamber of Commerce of Toronto Christmas party. On the left is PCCT President Primo Pagao along with the guests from PCCF.



PHILIPPINE-BOUND

IPEN held their Discorama 2019 party and pageant. In photo on the left are the beauties, winners and the judges. On the right photo are the winners of IPEN Ambassador titles. From left, Mr. Ipen Ambassador of Charity Jerico Ramos, Miss Teen IPEN Ambassador of Hope Jacklyn Bowdery, Miss Ipen Ambassador Shannon Mulholland, Miss IPEN Ambassador of Charity Jessica Mae Lancaon, Miss Teen IPEN Ambassador Alexa Orillaneda Rigonan, Mr. IPEN Ambassador of Hope Keiffe Randa Manzano. They will all go to the Philippines.



RISE OF THE NEW OLIGARCHS

Filipino leader promoting his own class of ‘Dutertegarchs’

President Duterte has renewed his populist assault the nation’s traditional business elite, a group of so-called “oligarchs.”

He claims they have stunted development by monopolizing sectors of the economy.

At the same time, there are rising concerns that Duterte aims to supplant the old elite with his own business allies, some are already referring to as “Dutertegarchs.”

Duterte has singled out liberal-leaning business elites known to be more aligned with the “yellow” political opposition. Among them are the Ayala and Pangilinan clans.

Duterte’s tirade came on the heels of a recent ruling by the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) in Singapore which awarded Manila Water 7.4 billion pesos (US\$150 million) in damages in addition to an arbitration fee and 85% of other claimed costs amid a pricing standoff with the Philippine government.

That threat coincided with Duterte’s persistent vow not to renew the franchise of the country’s largest media conglomerate, ABS-CBN, which is owned by the

Lopez family, likewise known for their liberal-leaning politics.

ABS-CBN is the nation’s leading television news broadcaster and has aired award-winning critical reports on Duterte’s controversial war on drugs campaign, in which thousands of suspects have reportedly been killed in extrajudicial fashion.

Duterte has similarly threatened to annul multi-billion dollar concession agreements with Manila Water, owned by the Ayalas, and Maynilad, originally owned by the Lopezes but now by the Pangilins, that have dominated Metro Manila’s water supply under concessionaire deals with the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS), in a deal brought by privatization in the late 1990s, then-president Fidel Ramos.

Over time, however, problems have arisen.

The upshot has been some of the world’s most expensive utility costs, which have strangled domestic manufacturing and made basic services such as water, fuel and electricity unaffordable.

Tensions came to a head earlier this year when Manila faced a full-blown water crisis, causing Duterte to openly lash out.

To be sure, many have welcomed

Duterte’s audacious approach to the country’s once-untouchable business elite.

That’s raised concerns that Duterte may aim to switch out the old elite with pliable new ones who are dependent on his political patronage.

There is at least one clear example, critics say. Just months into office, Duterte openly attacked and vowed to destroy another so-called “oligarch”, the long-time gaming tycoon Roberto Ongpin.

The threats eventually compelled the tycoon to sell his shares in a gaming company to one of his administration’s allies.

Now, critics worry that Duterte is selectively leaning on the liberal business elite to again favor his business allies. They reportedly include the powerful Vilars, which have recently risen to become the richest Filipinos.

Meanwhile, Dennis Uy, another Duterte ally from Davao, is reportedly eying ABS-CBN as the Lopezes broadcast franchise appears to be in jeopardy.

Many thus wonder whether Duterte is truly committed to shaking up the country’s elite-dominated economy in the name of market-liberalizing reform, or aims instead to replace the old traditional elite with new ones beholden to him.

Does Tony Labrusca See Julia Barretto as a Potential Girlfriend?

Here’s What He Has to Say

Tony Labrusca and Julia Barretto are the newest onscreen couple to bring kilig feelings to fans everywhere with their newest iWant digital series “I AM U.” But what does Tony have to say about seeing Julia as his potential girlfriend?

Tony explained his current relationship with Julia and how he feels about her.



“I would love to be friends with her [but] let’s not get ahead of ourselves, Tito Boy,” he said candidly to host Boy Abunda.

He then added that he empathizes with Julia after she has received so much flak from people following her alleged involvement in the breakup of Bea Alonzo and Gerald Anderson.

Despite this, he denied any possibility of him falling in love with her.

“I’m just gonna say this. You know what, one day, when she gets married, the man that she marries will be a very lucky man,” he shared.



Coleen Garcia, Anne Curtis has no issue

MAYNILA – Wala muna sa plano nang TV host-actress na si Coleen Garcia ang magbalik sa “It’s Showtime.”

Mas nag-e-enjoy muna siya ngayon na lubusin ang buhay-asawa kasama si Billy Crawford.

Matatandaan na taong 2016, kinumpirma ni Coleen na hindi na siya magiging bahagi nang Kapamilya noontime show na nasundan ng kabi-kabilang haka-haka na iringan umano nila ni Anne Curtis.

“Never kami nagka-anything (iringan). I mean she even invited me sa BLK in Australia after everything. I don’t know, siguro mga tao lang ang gumagawa ng drama. I mean it’s always exciting when there’s drama but with us, never naman nagka-fight, tampuhan or anything,” ani Coleen.

Alam rin daw nila ni Anne na may mga naglabasan na isyu tungkol sa iringan umano nila sa “Showtime.”

“Noong time na ‘yun kasi ang daming isyu na lumalabas. It wasn’t just that. Although, I did adjust with these before as far as I remember. Actually noong nawala ako sa ‘Showtime,’ isa siya sa unang nag-text sa akin,” paliwanag niya.

At kung ilalarawan ang kanilang relasyon ngayon ni Anne, ani Coleen: “Very good. Alam mo ‘yung parang you’re all like settled down and you’re all married, parang you all kind of share a similar mindset also, di ba? So parang andon kaming lahat ngayon sa ‘Showtime’ – sina Jhong (Hilario), Ryan (Bang) na lang ata and si Vice ang hindi ikinakasal eh.”

Sa ngayon, tutok muna bilang aktres si Coleen na bida sa pelikulang “Mia” na mapapanood ngayong Enero 15.

Nadine or Kathryn?

People confused over netizen’s resemblance to the two actresses

Reactions to the video ranged from awed and “confused”, as people couldn’t decide who the girl looked more like, while others said that she is a mix of the two stars, who could unite the supposed opposing fandoms of Kathryn Bernardo and Nadine Lustre

The original video from Cassie, the girl featured in the video, has been liked for more than 40,000 as of writing, while the fan who



captioned the video (“Nadine Bernardo is shaking”) had similarly tens of thousands of likes from Twitter users.

Comparisons between contemporaries Kathryn and Nadine are in fact nothing new.

Their supposed physical similarities were first noticed by fans when the latter had her showbiz breakthrough in 2014 via “Diary ng Pangen”. At the time, the two would be asked in respective interviews about being compared to each other, with both agreeing that they have no problem with it and rather found the comparisons flattering.

DATING APPS

continued from page 1

Among the popular dating apps are Hinge, Tinder, Grindr, OKCupid, Ship, Tastebuds, and Coffee Meets Bagel.

Gatchalian urged in particular the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Education (DepEd), and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) to strengthen interventions to protect Filipino youth from sexually-transmitted diseases.

In 2018, the Philippines started implementing its HIV and AIDS Policy Act (Republic Act 11166).

According to the Philippine Department of Health’s (DOH) Epidemiology Bureau, there has been a rise in the

number of cases of Acquired Immune deficiency Syndrome (Aids) in the Philippines.

According to DOH Epidemiology Bureau, 36 new cases were recorded per day at the end of 2019. This is higher than 32 cases documented every day in 2018. A 2019 report by the UNAIDS said that there are approximately 77,000 people living with HIV in the Philippines, more than 19,000 of which belong to the 15-24 age group.

The UNAIDS had also identified the Philippines as the country with the fastest growing number of HIV cases. Between 2010 and 2018, new HIV infections spiked from nearly 4,400 to more than 13,000 or 203 per cent.

Among these new infections were men who have sex with men (MSMs) which accounted for 81 per cent. Only 27.9 per cent of these MSMs are covered by prevention programmes and 49.8 per cent use condoms as a preventive measure.

Gatchalian said that given that the youth are at the forefront of the battle against Aids/HIV, it is necessary to bring the fight to prevent the disease to the schools

“For us to defeat this HIV epidemic, we have to go to schools and maximise opportunities to engage young and vulnerable people. And we can’t just teach them what the solutions are, we have to provide them access on those interventions,” Gatchalian added.

Pregnant in her teens her one big mistake - DIMPLES ROMANA

Actress Dimples Romana, who got pregnant when she was a teenager, said she hoped that her story would inspire young women to triumph over their personal mistakes.

Dimples said her daughter, Callie, now 16, knows her story quite well. "Our children can do the math. I didn't have to tell her. I just want to say that we all have scars that we've gotten while going through life. Nobody is perfect. We all have a chapter in our stories that we draw lessons from. For me, it was that particular chapter—I got married at an early age," she said. Dimples



was only 19 then. "This is also the reason I'm talking to you today with so much knowledge. Of course, this is also from the people who shared their wisdom with me when I was young," the actress pointed out.

"I'm so proud that even up to now, our marriage is still in tact. We're still together

as a family," she said of her husband, Boyet Ahmee. "At the end of the day, our story doesn't end with a mishap, or a failure. In our story, the mistake was only at the beginning. It's all about how, with all those broken pieces, we were able to build an even better and more beautiful nest of love."

Boy and Dimples also have a 3-year-old son named Alonzo.

"For me, as long as you are humble enough to accept that you've made a mistake, and you know how to listen and ... are willing to change your ways, it will all make sense in the end—just like what happened to us."

Kathniel talking of wedding plans

COUPLE DANIEL PADILLA AND KATHRYN BERNARDO ARE NOW TALKING ABOUT WEDDING PLANS

One of the most loved and anticipated love team on television is the Teen King Daniel Padilla and Kathryn Bernardo.

They are couples not just in television, but also in real life. In fact, they just celebrated their 7th anniversary this year. In this 7-year relationship, does Daniel and Kathryn think or talks about wedding plans already?

Apparently, this was also the question which Tito Boy Abunda asked Daniel in an interview recently.

"Bakit hindi mo na pakasalan si Kathryn", Tito Boy asked during the interview with Daniel in Tonight With Boy Abunda.

Daniel directly answered him, "wag muna tito Boy, kulang pa ang dating."

However, he and Kathryn already talked about

wedding plans. They are just preparing everything so if the right time comes they will settle without any regrets.

Although he said, that he doesn't want to be late in having a family, they have to work more to prepare for the future.

"Sinabi ko naman sa kanya, basta not too late and 'yun lang basta not too late sa lahat. Siyempre ayaw naman natin na mapag-iwanan din. Mahirap din kung masyado nang ma-late," Daniel said. "Il-ang anak ang gusto mo?"

Tito Boy asked again.

Daniel happily answered, "The more, the merrier. It's a happy family". But he added, they just wanted 2 or 3 kids in the future.

According to Daniel, he and Kathryn look forward to have a beach wedding.

Isn't it exciting?

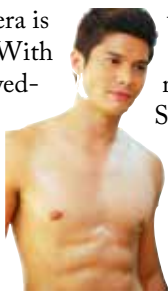
Daniel and Kathryn are soon to have a teleserye together and another movie in 2020.

For JC, life is a bed of roses

Life for JC de Vera is a bed of roses. With an upcoming wedding and a beautiful daughter, his acting career is equally making his timetable quite full. He plays one of the lead characters in the GB Sampedro-directed rom-com movie Love is Love.

Netizens are flooding his social media handles with comments for his posts showing his well-chiseled physique. JC said he appreciates the compliments over what he referred as his "dad bod" yet he didn't hide his reaction over one indecent proposal on his private message box. JC replied with LOL.

Later on, he felt different about the message. He felt disrespected. The next thing he did was post his reaction along



with the screenshot of the message and, again, gained mixed reactions from people. Some felt offended. But the actor had already apologized for his action.

"Parang nainis ako ng slight doon," he said. "Di ba merong mga situations before sa co-artists namin na 'pag sinasagot nila 'yung ganun tapos ina-out sila, bina-black-mail sila. They use social media for blackmail or whatever."

It's a normal reaction for anyone to do something when one feels being violated. We make our own judgment when we feel something is not right. In JC's case, he also knows to say his apologies for his mistakes.

"My main purpose why I work out now is because I want to be energetic for my family. I need to protect them. That's why, I need to have lots of energy."

JC's Reaction to Low MMFF Goss

In 2018, top-grosser "Fantastica" earned P400 million on its first day alone.

"Weather-weather lang 'yan (The situation is as unpredictable as the weather). Different people have different tastes. It's just that, we're offering these films because watching MMFF entries has become a Filipino Christmas tradition," he pointed out.

"We did our part in promoting our films. Kuya Aga was so diligent at promoting 'Miracle.' And because I have two film fest entries, I made sure to be available to promote both," said JC, who is also part of the horror thriller, "Sunod."

JC said he was lucky to be learning from the best.

While his introduction to acting was via theater and the indies, JC said he has had the privilege of working with top mainstream

talents. In 2017, he starred with Vic Sotto in the comedy flick "Meant to Beh." This year was with Aga. JC said that like Vic, he wants to last long in this industry and be among the reliable ones. With Aga, he said he saw "great determination as an actor to come up with the best work."

The 31-year-old actor added: "Kuya Aga goes to work prepared. He already knows what to do. He's our leader. While working on the film, we gave our full trust to him. I admire that kind of bravery. I'm not as sure of myself as he is. I often hesitate and take so much time to decide."

Wasn't playing lead in the well-received Tanghalang Pilipino stage play "Lam-Ang" a form of bravery?

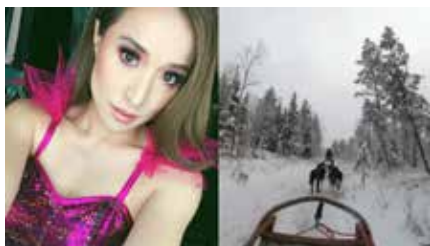
"I don't know, but theater is my first love. I'd do anything for theater, even if I don't get paid for it. It's what keeps me grounded as a person. It reminds me of where I started. It's my 'reset mode.' It's like going back to college," he said.



Kate Alejandrino (left) and Carmina Villaroel

talked highly of, but when we were on the set, doing training and rehearsing our lines, we were like, 'Wow, this is hard!'" she said.

"You have to be patient. You can't get mad. You can't get irritated," she pointed out. "And talking to people all day, you're bound to lose patience."



Cristine Reyes accused of "animal cruelty" over dog sledding tour

Binatikos si Cristine Reyes ng ilang netizens na nagsabing "animal cruelty" ang dog sledding tour na ginawa ng aktres at ng anak niyang si Amarah sa Finland.

Ipinost ni Cristine sa Instagram ang video kunsaan sakay sila ng sled na hinihila ng limang aso sa isang snow-covered husky safari sa Rovaniemi, Finland.

"I have two dogs and I think I'm fully aware what animal cruelty means."

Kanya-kanya raw ng trip na adventure.

"Again, to each their own. Merry Christmas," dagdag ni Cristine.

NETIZENS DEFEND CRISTINE

Dinepensahan ng isa pang netizen si Cristine. Nae-enjoy raw ng trained dogs na ito ang racing at pati ang dog sledding. Trained din umano ang mga tagapag-alaga na siguruhing may sapat na pahinga ang mga aso sa pagitan ng tours sa husky safari.

Sumunod na comment ng nambatikos na netizen ay naintindihan na raw niya na safe ang dog sledding.

ARE THE DOGS COLD?

Base pa rin sa artikulong naunang ibinahagi ng isang netizen, sinabi ng isang turistang nakapunta sa isang year-round winter husky safari na hindi nilalamig ang huskies dahil likas na makakapal ang mga balahibo ng mga ito.

Hindi rin daw nakita ng turista na nanginig ang mga aso sa kanilang tour.

Bianca Umali's career to Soar

It seems that Bianca Umali's career will zoom higher in 2020. After the ratings success of her last soap opera Sahaya over at GMA-7, she's set to shoot a new series for HBO Asia titled, Halfworlds.

The pretty actress is very excited with this new



project in which she was the only Kapuso artist who auditioned for the part. It was learned that many stars from rival network ABS-CBN also auditioned but it was Bianca who was chosen to

play the lead part.

"Of course, I'm so happy and proud that the role landed onto my lap," she avers. "It's really a huge honor and privilege to do this series for HBO Asia. Actually, 'Halfworlds' is already on its third season. The first was shot in Thailand then the second one was in Indonesia. Now, they picked the Philippines as the location for the third. It's such a big boost to my career!"

Interestingly, what's the concept of the show?

"Well, Halfworlds focuses on the folklore of each country it presents. So, for the third season, there will be lots of mythical creatures from our country like the 'aswang', 'kapre', 'manananggal', 'tiyanak' and 'engkanto.' It's simply exciting!"

This is the reason why for the past month, Bianca flew to Singapore several times.

"Yes, to meet with HBO people. We engaged in workshops there along with my director Mikhael Red," she states.

Carmina on call center agents' job: Wow, this is hard!

More than its spooky storyline and eerie aspects, the horror drama "Sunod" aims to give the audience a glimpse of what it's like working in the BPO (business process outsourcing) industry. Lead star Carmina Villaroel said working on the film gave her deeper respect for call center agents.

"Nosebleed! Not only do you have to speak in straight English, you have to be patient because you work with customers," she said in an interview for the said Metro Manila Film Festival entry.

"Because many of them work in the graveyard shift, it can become taxing. And you become more vulnerable, but at the same time you have to maintain high energy," she added. "It's almost similar to how it is in show biz."

Kate Alejandrino shared Carmina's sentiments, describing a call center agent's job as "hard and very tedious." "They aren't usually

Iza describes kissing scene with Jameson Blake

I see a boy and part of me doesn't want to corrupt that boy," said actress Iza Calzado about doing love scenes with Hashtag member Jameson Blake, who is 15 years her junior.

The two, along with Epy Quizon, will be starring in "400 Miles."

Iza reported that they first had to attend a sensuality workshop facilitated by actress Angeli Bayani. "I've always found Jameson very boyish. That was difficult for me. When I look at him, I don't see a man. In my mind, I would say, 'Ang bata nito! Para naman n'ya akong nanay.'"

The two first worked together in the Kapamilya teleserye "Ngayon at Kailanman."

"The love scenes were intense," said Iza, who added that she was well aware of the fact that it would be compared to "Glo-



rious," also an iWant project. But when I saw the trailer, I thought, 'May laban!' We didn't have the love scene inside the bathroom, but we did it on the beach."

She had no body double, Iza declared. "I have no qualms about doing that kind of stuff, although I have limitations. There's no frontal nudity here. I also had to do love scenes with Epy, and ours were different because we play husband and wife here. It was an interesting ride."

Seriously, I don't mind these things, as long as I know that they're needed in the story."How was it like to have kissed both Epy and Jameson? "It's the same as when I kissed Piolo Pascual, Max Eigenmann or whoever. It's just work. I'm supposed to feel for the story. That's it!"

Filipino held for drugs in Canada fears EJK if deported to PH, says lawyer

NORTH VANCOUVER, B.C. — A Filipino sentenced to five years in prison after pleading guilty to drug charges faces the more worrisome likelihood of being deported to the Philippines where he could become a victim of extrajudicial killing, his lawyer warned.

Al Victor Pascual Inocencio sold cocaine, heroin and fentanyl to undercover police 17 times from November 2017 to June 2018, almost all of it from the parking lots of North Vancouver fast food restaurants and stores, according to a report by North Shore News.

The first 16 sales included 300 grams of fentanyl, heroin and cocaine. The last sale was for 284 grams of fentanyl, which is 100 times more powerful than morphine, in exchange for \$20,000.

His lawyer Mark Cacchioni said Inocencio grew up poor in the Philippines, struggled in school in Canada, held jobs as a delivery driver and construction worker until an acquaintance persuaded him to sell drugs.

Cacchioni said the five-year sentence was appropriate for first-time offender Inocencio, but what comes after he has

served time was more worrisome.

Barring direct intervention by the minister of immigration, Inocencio would almost certainly be deported back to the Philippines where he could face extrajudicial killing by death squads acting on the orders of President Rodrigo Duterte, he said.

"The discretion, even in a hardship case, is extremely limited, so essentially Mr. Inocencio is going to have to present a compelling case his life will be in very real, not imagined, danger from the moment he steps off an airplane," Cacchioni said.

"I am told anecdotally that it is not uncommon for persons who are suspected even of being drug users in the Philippines to receive beatings and to receive death. ... That's not what we believe in Canada but that's what they believe there."

Cacchioni asked Judge Joanne Challenger to recommend his client serve his sentence in a low- or medium-security prison where he will have better access to programs to improve himself.

Asked if he had anything to say before she adjourned, Inocencio simply said "I'm sorry, your honor."

FILIPINO GOOD LIFE continued from page 15

they have to do something else. Good luck to Mitzify and we wish it would grow beyond the Filipino community.

Finally, the Filipino community in Toronto gets Consul General Orontes Castro who is the life of a party. Consul General Orontes Castro showed his dancing skills at the Bicol Community Christmas party. Not only him, but his assistant Bong Baranda also dances. It's actually refreshing to see the top official of our consulate know



LEFT, Consul General Orontes Castro dances with a guest. ABOVE, Cha-Cheska Dacara, Sylvia Nebres and the Congen do the line dance. BELOW, Bong Baranda dances with a guest.

how to loosen up a bit in a party. And with that, I leave this greeting for all of us. May we have good health, lots of happiness, and a great New Year.



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‘No script, no fuss, no pretense’: Kathryn Bernardo launches own YouTube channel

Box -office superstar Kathryn Bernardo is the latest A-list celebrity to launch her own YouTube channel, promising a look at her personal life with “no script, no fuss, no pretense.”

Bernardo, 23, had been teasing in the past week, through Instagram photos, a “new beginning.” On Friday, she finally unveiled the project to be her eponymous page on the leading video-sharing platform.

In her first-ever video, titled “Everyday Kath,” Bernardo is seen in a dreamy setting



apparently inspired by fairy tales, with “So This Is Love” from Disney’s animated classic “Cinderella” as background music.

“She’s dressed like a princess but she walks around barefoot. She’s all dolled up but she’s not afraid to bask in the sun. She

looks familiar so you believe you know her... but perhaps you don’t know her as well as you think you do; in fact, perhaps you don’t know her at all,” its description goes.

Within an hour of the channel’s launch, Bernardo became the top trending topic on Twitter, with her legion of fans expressing excitement over the prospect of getting to know the actress on a new level.

Bernardo’s foray into vlogging is seen to help cement her status as a social media superstar, having been listed as among the top Filipino personalities across platforms, including Twitter and Instagram.



Kakai is now a book author

After being part of the highest grossing Filipino movie of all time, Hello, Love, Goodbye, Kakai Bautista is closing 2019 with her first-ever book, *La Na Bye*, published by ABS-CBN Books.

Kakai said she’s been writing about any subject that catches her interest since high school. “I love observing people like for example when I am seated in one corner and then suddenly, there’s something interesting, susulatin ko ‘yun kaya naipon na yung mga tula and one-liner quotes. Thank you to ABS-CBN for publishing them. I presented (to the bosses) those poems and they liked it.”

Kakai added that many find it hard to admit that they are hurting, especially after a breakup. And the title of her book indubitably connotes separation from a relationship or saying goodbye to the one you love.

On the hot seat of Tonight with Boy Abunda (TWBA), the Dental Diva gamely revealed quite a mouthful regarding her past romantic involvement with Mario Maurer and Ahron Villena. Her answers were honest when asked how her affairs with both actors ended, and to whom she had a hard time moving on.

Recall about the rumor that Kakai fell for the Thai actor when the two worked together in Suddenly It’s Magic in 2012. According to her, they were exchanging “I love you’s” and his being “real” made her fall in love with him yet nothing clear came out of it.

“Wala kaming relasyon ni Mario,” she cleared. “At na-stop lang po makipag-communicate sa akin. We’re not talking for seven years already but I still talk with his brother Marco. We talk but never naming pinag-usapan si Mario.”

On Ahron, Kakai admitted that what happened between them was too painful for her. “We were somehow physical, yakapan ganyan so parang mag-dyowa na talaga. We’re happy so nung nagkaproblema, isang drum na luha ‘yung naluha ko. Pero okay lang kasi tapos na ‘yun.”

Kakai and Ahron were rumored to be in a relationship in 2016. Their sweet love affair turned sour after the latter suddenly deleted photos of them together on social media. It was at the same time when Kakai was openly telling about her frustrations that her relationship did not lead to a beautiful romance.

“I am happy that we have remained good friends,” Kakai declared.

Asked if she is in a relationship now, Kakai said that she’s been going on dates but still very much single, and added, “May nagpaparamdam? Meron nagpaparamdam, paamoy kandila, hahahaha.”

COLEEN GARCIA IS HAPPY

One of the most talked-about wedding in 2019 is the wedding of former Its Showtime hosts Billy Crawford, 37, and Coleen Garcia, 27.

Four months after the wedding, Coleen spoke on being a married woman. According to an interview, Coleen expressed that “everything basically changed”.

However, on their first Christmas together being husband and wife, Billy got his last slam on a netizen before the year 2019 ends on his Instagram account last December 18.

Apparently, bashers are always there waiting for the right time to attack. One netizen commented about

how Coleen looks.

The netizen questioned Billy if Coleen is happy about being Mrs. Crawford because it doesn’t see it on her awra on their picture.

Another netizen also commented Coleen doesn’t look good because of their early marriage.

(Published as is): “Hindi naba HAPPY si Coleen as Mrs. Crawford?”

“Yan kasi ang bata pa nagpakasal tal-agang hahanapin ang dating nakasanayan...” “Nawala na yung Masayahing Mukha at Awra ni Coleen na dati ay puno ng Kasiyahan Kaligayahan Lang at GV ang



Mukha ni COLEEN”

These comments got Billy’s attention.

He replied, “[Laughing emoji] mas marunong ka pa sa panginoon ah. Ever heard anyone say don’t stick your nose into someone else’s business? You don’t live with us so you definitely wouldn’t know. Tis’ the season to be jolly fa la la la la la la...plus I think my wife is absolutely gorgeous and sexy. [thumbs-up emoji]”

Coleen then answered, “@billycrawford We’re both blessed [heart emoji] I love you so much!!!”

After Miss International, will Ahtisa Manalo join Miss Universe PH?

MANILA – Miss International 2018 first runner-up Ahtisa Manalo made a cryptic post on Instagram, prompting her friends and fans to ask if she is setting her sights on the Miss Universe Philippines crown.

“It’s time to give it a go!



Bring your dreams with you!” she said.

Manalo did not give further details, but the timing of her post drew speculations that she is planning to join the new Miss Universe Philippines pageant.

She made the statement

shortly after Binibining Pilipinas Charities Inc. (BPCI) confirmed that it has lost the Miss Universe franchise in the Philippines. BPCI is the same group that sent Manalo as a representative to Miss International, as well as Catriona Gray to Miss Universe, last year.

2020 is prosperous, lucky year – FENG SHUI EXPERT

It is going to be a year of new beginnings and renewals as 2020 falls under the Year of White Metal Rat based on feng shui, a traditional practice originating from ancient China.

“Basically it is going to be a good year for almost all of the animals signs because 2020 will be a strong, prosperous and lucky year,” said Master Hanz Cua during an interview for his annual feng shui forecast

in Mandaluyong City over the weekend.

Cua also said that it is a great year to launch new business ventures or find a new job. The Year of White Metal Rat will begin on January 25, 2020 and will end on Feb.11, 2021. Cua said that long-term projects that have been carefully planned will have greater chances of being satisfied in the future. “Initiatives will only be successful if they are carefully planned.”

The luckiest direction for 2020 based on feng shui will be the Southeast where there is Heavenly Wealth Star.

“The same direction will attract good fortune, op-

portunities, helpful friends, windfall luck, influential people and good breaks,” Cua said.

The feng shui master said that the Southeast direction will likely benefit those who are born under the signs of Dragon and Snake. “It will also affect the eldest daughter.”

To boost the Southeast direction, Cua advised feng shui followers to put lucky charms such as Kwan Kong, Arowana fish, Prosperity Rat, and Money Tree.

Other lucky directions for 2020 are: Southwest, West, Northeast, and Northwest. The luckiest color for 2020 is blue, he said.



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

Alden, Maine masuwerte sa isa’t isa -- Sylvia

BAGAMAT marami pa rin ang umaasa na magkakasama sa isang project sina Maine Mendoza at Alden Richards, mukhang hindi pa ito mangyayari in the near future.

May binabalak ang director at producer na si Mike Tuviera para sa dalawa, pero “matagal pa siguro ito bago mangyari.”



Open na rin si Maine sa kanilang relasyon ni Arjo Atayde at mukhang mauuna pa ang pagsasamahang project ng dalawa na mukhang si Arjo ang magpo-produce.

Napag-uusapan na rin daw ang kasal, at sabi nga ng ina ni Arjo na si Sylvia Sanchez, masuwerte ang dalawa sa isa’t isa. “They are both good persons,” ani Sylvia.

Siyempre, hindi nakakaligtas si Sylvia sa mga basher, na sinasabing ginagamit lamang nito si Maine. But on her own, may sarili ring hukbo ng tagahanga si Sylvia na sa kanyang edad ngayon ay nagbibida pa rin sa mga teleserye tulad ng hit series na “Pamilya Ko.”

At sa mga hindi nakaalam, kung hayag na mayaman si Maine dahil sa kanyang restaurant business at endorsements, ang pamilya Atayde na kinabibilangan ni Arjo ay kinikilala na isa sa old rich families sa Pilipinas.

Yun lang.

Jinri Park gets married

Former “Pinoy Big Brother” housemate Jinri Park is closing the decade as a married woman, as she revealed Monday having exchanged wedding vows with her partner, John.

On Instagram, the South Korean TV host shared photos of the ceremony held in her native country.

“Sharing my Korean wedding pictures. Welcome to our family, John,” she captioned a set of photos, which includes her now-husband, who is Filipino-Australian, posing with her Korean family.

Last December 11, Park shared photos of her in a white dress, with John at her side, on the steps of the Sydney Opera House. Comments were a flood of congratulatory messages.

When Park announced her engagement with John in July 2019, they shared, through a vlog, that they met in Sydney, Australia, where the latter is based.

“I’m grateful I found a Filipino guy because I can always have a part of the Philippines, a place I called home, with me in my heart. Excited for this next chapter of my life,” Park said at the time.

Robin Padilla airs opinion on why Aga Muhlach did not win as MMFF best actor

Nagbigay ng kanyang opinyon si Robin Padilla tungkol sa hindi pagkapanalo ni Aga Muhlach bilang best actor, para sa pagganap nito sa Miracle In Cell No. 7, sa nakaraang Gabi ng Parangal ng Metro Manila Film Festival (MMFF) 2019.

Si Allen Dizon ang hinirang na best actor para sa pagganap nito sa Mindanao, na itinanghal ding best picture.

Ayon kay Robin, baka dahil adaptation mula sa South Korean film ang Miracle In Cell No. 7 kaya hindi si Aga ang nanalo.

Pahayag niya sa kanyang Instagram post kagabi, December 29 (published as is), “Sa akin opinyon baka dahil Adaptation

po kasi ang miracle kaya nahirapan po ito lumusot sa criteria ng mga masusing artist at jurors pero sigurado po ako sa kanilang puso ay nagmarka ang miracle”

“God willing may ibang award giving bodies pa naman kaya sa ngayon ay ipagd-iwang muna natin ang tagumpay sa takilya ng pelikula ni Mr Aga

“tatal alam naman natin lahat na best actor of all time si Muhlach.”

Bilang Muslim, hinikayat ni Robin ang mga Pinoy na suportahan ang pelikulang



Robin Padilla praises Aga Muhlach’s outstanding performance in the movie Miracle In Cell No. 7; encourages moviegoers to give Mindanao movie a chance.

Mindanao na pinagbibidahan din ni Judy Ann Santos.

Dagdag pa niya sa kanyang post, “Suportahan rin natin ang pelikulang mindanao mga kababayan panoorin din natin kung bakit nanalo ito ng maraming awards in shaa Allah.”

Pinuri naman ni Robin si Aga dahil sa paghataw ng pelikula nito pagdating sa box office.

Balitang nakikipagtagisan ang Miracle In Cell No. 7 sa pelikula ni Vice Ganda na The Mall, The Merrier sa pagiging top-grosser.

“Mr Aga is a reasonable man i know he is very happy for that young actor from the movie Mindanao.

“Congratulations mr muhlach again you have ruled the box office and set a new trend to our movie goers and the entertainment world.

“Mabuhay ka Pare ko at pagpupugay sa sultan ng Viva Films boss vic del rosario!”

Ang tinutukoy ni Robin na “that young actor” ay si Allen.

78% of Pinoys think US ties more important than China

MANILA, Philippines — It is possible for the Philippines to simultaneously have good ties with China and the United States, but most Filipinos think relations with their former colonial master are more important than with their centuries-old trading partner, according to a survey by the Social Weather Stations (SWS).

The survey, conducted in September, showed that 52 percent of the 1,800 adult respondents thought that having good relations with the US and China at the same time was possible while 41 percent believed it was not possible and 7 percent did not answer.

At the same time, 78 percent said the Philippines’ ties with the US are more important than its relationship with China, while 12 percent said the opposite. Five percent answered that the country’s links with both countries are equally important.

The belief that the Philippines can have good relationship with the US and China at the same time was stronger among those with “much trust” in China (67 percent) compared with those who have “little trust” in China (48 percent).

The proportion of respondents who said it is possible to have good ties with both the US and China was lower among those with “little trust” in the US (45 percent) than among those with “much trust” (53 percent) in the US.

Hunk Shot

Oliver Trovato

Oliver plays hockey, baseball, volleyball, and basketball. His favourite food is pasta. He wants to be an NHL player. He is turning this month. We wish him all the luck in his future.



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Tekla, Boobay don't believe in overexposure

THE comic tandem of Boobay and Tekla debuted in January 2019 in "The Boobay and Tekla Show" and it quickly became a big hit on Sunday nights.

They'll soon celebrate their first anniversary. But even before they can do that, they are now given another new comedy show, also on Sunday but at noontime. So expect a Boobay-Tekla overload on Sundays.

Their new show is GMA-7's "All Out Sunday", a musical variety show that will make the home viewers' Sunday noons never the same again with their riotous dose of comedy and great musical production numbers.

"Excited ako kasi sa 'Boobay and Tekla Show', we do mostly comedy," says Tekla. "Pero in this 'All Out Sunday', mabibigyan kami ng chance to do musical numbers so

panibagong challenge ito para sa amin."

"It's really nice to be a part of 'All Out Sunday' kasi magkakaroon din kami ng pagkakataong makatrabaho lahat ng talented Kapuso stars na kasama namin sa show," says Boobay. "Kahit sa rehearsals pa lang, ang saya-saya na namin lagi. Napakaganap na ng friendship among GMA stars and we all agree na dapat magtutungan kaming mabuti para mapaganda namin nang husto ang show at mag-rate ito nang mataas."

They're glad to be working in "All Out Sunday" with Alden Richards, Rayver Cruz, Glaiza de Castro,



Julie Anne San Jose, Rita Daniela and Ken Chan. Singers Christian Bautista, Aicelle Santos, and Mark Bautista, plus the discoveries of "The Clash, Seasons 1 and 2", notably the new love team of Jeremiah Tiangco and Thea Astley who now have their own legion of fans.

Christian looking forward to fatherhood

Christian Bautista told me that he and his wife, Kat, are planning to have a baby this year. "It's been a year since we got married, so parenthood is already on our agenda," he says. "Although I understand why some couples would rather not have kids. They are wary of raising children because the world is deteriorating, so the future seems bleak." But for Christian, he's all set for his "DaDventure."

Alice Dixson's heart of gold

Alice Dixson is one of the many showbiz gems who have a heart of gold.

The actress spearheaded a celebrity bowling tournament two years ago to raise funds for Kalipay Foundation in Bacolod, an orphanage for children who were abused, abandoned and victims of human trafficking.

"Two years ago, when I first guested here, it was our first year to do it and we raised P250,000 for Kalipay," said Alice. "And then last year, we raised P750,000. So, this year, we're hoping to make a good result again." Of course, it won't be too much to wish for the tournament to raise more so that many children could benefit from it.

"Whatever amount is a big deal because in actuality, it only costs P8,000 to sponsor a child — to shelter them, to feed them and to educate them for a whole year," she declared.

Besides organizing a charity event, Alice has also started her own vlog on her YouTube channel showcasing the beauty of our country. "I vlog about Philippine tourism because I want to show people na napakaraming pwedeng gawin dito sa Pilipinas."

In another vlog, Alice and Dina Bonnevie were having a conversation in a safari village in Vigan with the latter telling the former, "May pagkamaldita ka noong

bata ka pa." Alice related how Dina used to "hate" working with her.

"I was 17 when I first met her and then 30 years later, eto pa rin kami we're very close, we're very good friends. Ayaw n'ya dati sa akin kasi teenager ako, medyo matigas ang ulo ko. Even Mother Lily, nag-away kami."

She narrated how she wanted to be late simply because she felt like a prima donna at that time.

"I was doing a lot of things and I got famous too fast so lumaki ang ulo ko. From that experience, a lot of people got very upset with me."

She appreciated how her ex-husband Ronnie Miranda helped her get her feet back on the ground. He's being non-showbiz actually helped Alice to learn things from him. They migrated to Canada where Alice learned to apply for jobs. Now, she knows how to negotiate her own contracts, to review legal stuff and represent herself. "I can talk frankly to someone where my yes is yes and my no's are no."

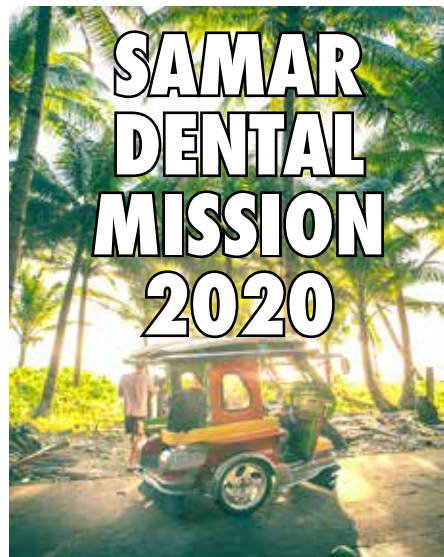
With her beauty, it is not surprising why she's the ultimate crush of men. But Alice just smiled upon learning some of the showbiz guys who reportedly have a crush on her and then she quipped, "So, all of you who have a crush on me, you are invited to the Alice Dixson Celebrity Super Bowl."



DENTISTS continued from page 14

ingly organized this successful event.

The current President is Dr. Victoria Santiago-Liu, Vice-President is Dr. William Rodriguez, Secretary is Dr.



Maria Ana Marcelo-Abogado and Treasurer is Dr. Annette Simbulan.

Godspeed to you all on your forthcoming charity dental project in Samar, Philippines this coming February 2020.

Melissa Ventocilla (2ND FROM LEFT) celebrate her birthday at Crave Restaurant.



DOT to promote mall tourism in March

Major Philippine shopping malls will hold a month-long nationwide sale in March 2020, the Department of Tourism (DOT) said.

"For the first time, lahat ng malls magsasama-sama: SM, Ayla Malls, MegaWorld, VistaLand, Robinsons, SSI, Shangri-La, Powerplant Malls, lahat magsasama, lahat magkaka-one month sale [sa] March," Tourism chief Bernadette Romulo-Puyat said.

She said the initiative aims to encourage tourists to visit the country.

Puyat said the private sector has cooperated with the government in its tourism efforts and that companies have been helping individually.

"So what we decided [was] why don't you help? Let's have this Philip-



pine Fun Sale na sabay-sabay lahat magsa-sale nationwide, hindi lang Metro Manila," she said.

The DOT has recorded 6.8 million international visitors in the first 10 months of 2019, 15.04 % higher than the figures from the same time last year.

Most visitors came from Korea, China, the United States, Japan, and Taiwan, accounting for 4.8 million arrivals.

In a DOT statement, Puyat attributed the increased figures to "improved air connectivity, intensified marketing promotions including the refreshed 'It's More Fun in the Philippines' campaign, budding relations with other countries, as well as the growing recognition of the country's sustainable tourism advocacy."

Maxene Magalona assures fans she has no eating disorder

Maxene Magalona spoke once more about her lean figure after questions arose online about her health.

When the actress posted a picture of her in a bikini yesterday, Dec. 6, some Instagram users wondered about her diet and alleged that she had anorexia or bulimia.

Magalona responded with an Instagram post of her eating a vegan lasagna yesterday "to put their minds at ease."

"So many people have been asking me if I still eat, so I thought of sharing with you one of my meals — vegan lasagna!" she said in her post, which included a video of her scarfing down the lasagna.

"Not that I need to explain myself but since a lot of people have been assuming that I've become anorexic or even bulimic, I thought of posting this to put their minds at ease," she added.

Magalona previously attributed her fitness and wellness journey to her husband, Rob Mananquil, in an Instagram post back in August.

She admitted then that being in show biz had pressured her to look a certain way but that she could not achieve this with diets and exercise because she was doing it for others.

It was only after becoming more spiritual that she shed pounds. "And I'll be honest that when I started practicing yoga and meditation, the results came only after I submitted myself to the Lord," she said.

The actress regularly practices yoga with her husband; both became certified yoga teachers last September in Thailand.



Candid SPOOF

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



Requirement dito sa Bicol party magsayaw. Kay iiwan ko na kayo Congen, Bong.

Bong Baranda and Congen Orantes Castro attend the Bicol Canada Christmas party along with Monsignor Edgardo Pan.



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