

Filipino-Canadians working for themselves & family in PHL

Filipino Canadians are struggling to support themselves and family back home during this pandemic.

The economic crisis brought about caused by the covid19 pandemic is affecting racial and ethnic groups in bigger numbers according to data from

Statistics Canada.

But for Filipinos in Canada, they are being squeezed between two worlds. Most of them have lost their jobs or business and

the financial pressure of making a living, paying their bills

FAMILY
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KIM Chiu Finding Good in this World in the middle of Chaos



It's the Jose Mari Chan Season

Singer-songwriter Jose Mari Chan became a trending topic on Twitter on Saturday, August 1, due to this obvious reason.

Chan is one of the pillars of OPM or Filipino music. He has popularized many songs that are still being remembered until now. Among his songs, probably that most popular ones are the Christmas songs.

That is the reason why he trended on Twitter on the first day of August. Next month will be the start of "ber" months and the holiday season is just around the corner.

In the Philippines, as they say, the holiday season is being celebrated for the longest time com-

pared to other countries. It is because, at the start of September, Pinoys are already starting to decorate their houses, doing their holiday shopping, and buying gifts for their loved ones.

In this most celebrated season in the country, the Christmas songs of Jose Mari Chan has become the Pinoy's background music. His songs are being played in malls, markets, and practically wherever.

For this, netizens on the micro-blogging social media platform are already expressing excitement to hear the voice of Chan. "One more month to go",

JOSE MARI CHAN
on page 26

I'll give you my Nike for 2 chickens

Report: Filipinos barter possessions for food as pandemic continues

PHILIPPINES - With the coronavirus pandemic hitting the Phil-

ippines hard, Filipinos have started flocking to Facebook

BARTER
continued on page 26

Tourism reopens for Rural Jobs Julia Barretto sues Sonza

Broadcasters train teachers for online teaching

Angel Locsin opens online show to help

ABS-CBN is Surviving

Jennylyn Mercado defends single moms

Possible for Philippines to get Vaccine at Q2-2021 at the earliest

Sex is part of life, it's about time we face the reality! – Dawn Chang

DAPAT lang na gawing mas komprehensibo ang pagtuturo ng "sex education" sa mga paaralan.

Ito ang paniniwala ng actress-dancer na si Dawn Chang matapos uminit ang usapin tungkol sa pahayag ng Commission on Higher Education sa pagkakaroon ng comprehensive sexuality education (CSE).

Pero ayon sa Ched, dapat daw ay ii-integrate o isasama na lang ito sa mga kasalukuyang asignatura sa mga kolehiyo at unibersidad.

Sa ilalim ng panukalang Senate Bill 1334, planong isama ang CSE sa education curriculum para maiwasan o makontrol ang teenage pregnancy sa bansa. Ayon sa ulat, magiging bahagi ng curriculum ang pagtuturo sa epektibong paggamit



ng mga contraceptive sa kabataan.

"It's about time we face the reality. Sex is part of life," ani Dawn Chang sa kanyang tweet.

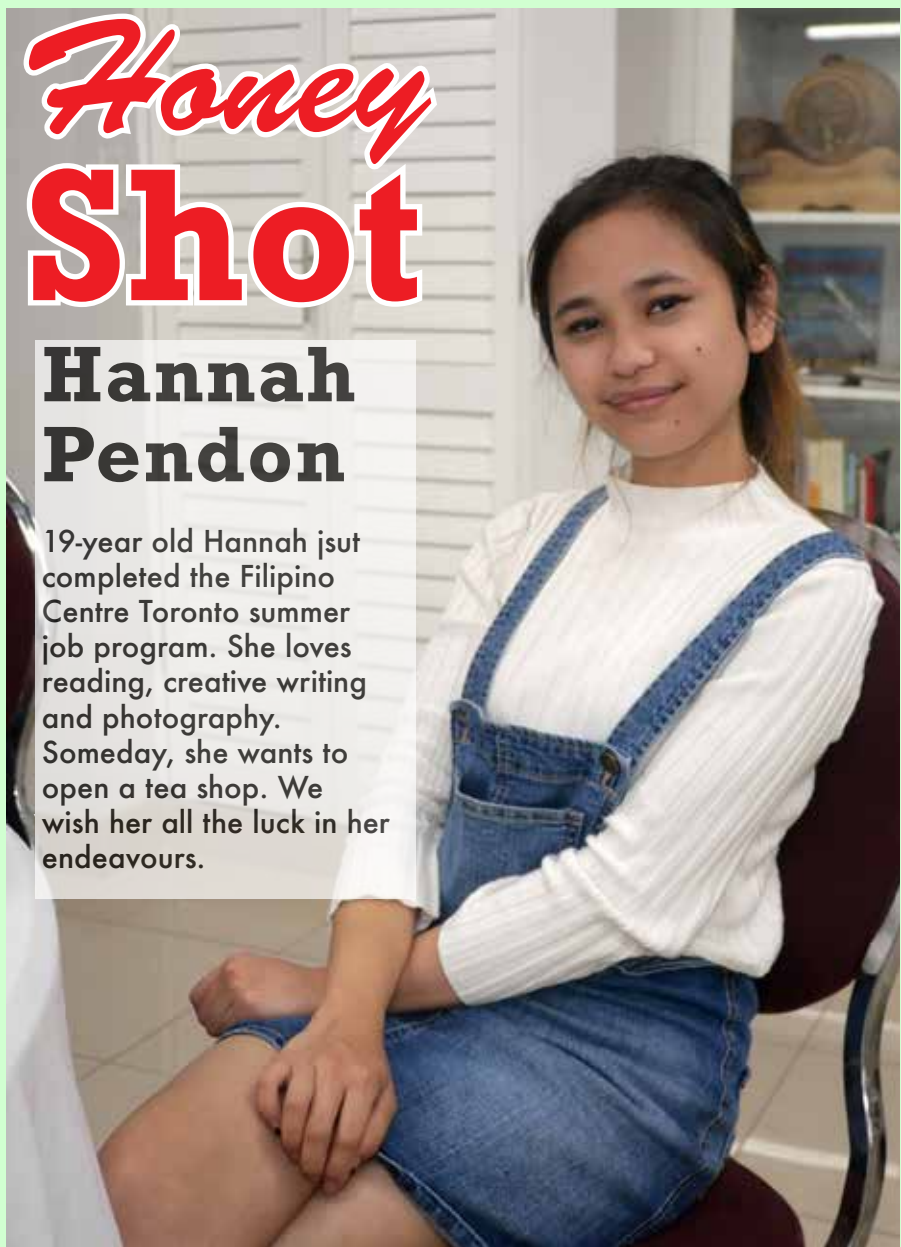
"Teach young children how to protect themselves instead of telling them not to have sex at

SEX EDUCATION
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Honey Shot

Hannah Pendon

19-year old Hannah jsut completed the Filipino Centre Toronto summer job program. She loves reading, creative writing and photography. Someday, she wants to open a tea shop. We wish her all the luck in her endeavours.



FAMILY PORTRAIT Hermie and Luth Esguerra, and family have a photo session last summer.



Covid doesn't stop us to celebrate a unique Dolorosa Fiesta celebration this year! Happy 26th anniversary Dolores Association of Canada. Many more years to come! @ Mayor Philip Beloso residence!

LOOK:

Ylona Garcia uses free time as fast-food server in Australia



Young singer Ylona Garcia just cannot stay put. While with her family in Australia during this pandemic, she found work at a fast-food joint. Here she is in her service-crew uniform. PHOTO/S: @YLONAGARCIA ON INSTAGRAM

Not one to stay idle, young singer Ylona Garcia has been keeping herself busy back home in Sydney, Australia.

The 18-year-old former Pinoy Big Brother teen housemate has been trying new things, and is now working for a fast-food eatery in Bonnyrigg, a suburb 36 kilometers west of Sydney's central business district.

On Monday, August 31, 2020, Ylona uploaded on Instagram a selfie showing her clad in her service-crew uniform.

She wrote, "hey y'all, i decided to work at @mcdonaldsau :) feel free to come thruuu && i'll serve you xx"

R&B Prince Jay-R and Kadenang

Ginto actress Raine Salamante were the first among Ylona's celebrity friends to cheer the singer on in her latest adventure.

Jay-R commented: "Get it lil Homie!!!!"

Raine was upbeat: "OH MY GOD THERE SHE GOES"

Ylona decided to return to Australia with her family last July.

On July 1, she uploaded her photo at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, writing simply: "bye po."

Before she left, Ylona spent much of her free time during quarantine playing the piano and violin.

She also wrote songs and, in fact, finished at least 20 singles within two months of isolation.

She told MYX Philippines, "Ngayon, songwriting has been really going in full circle because I only have time for myself."

"Before when I realized I love songwriting, it was something that I did not really do on a daily basis kasi I have work, I have other schedules."

Ylona also enrolled in an online business class, did yoga, and helped with household chores. Busy lady.

Judy Ann Santos, Angel Locsin pay homage to ABS-CBN retrenched workers



Nobenta porsiyento ng ABS-CBN workforce ang namaalam na sa kanilang trabaho August 31.

Ito ang resulta ng pagbasura ng Kongreso sa franchise renewal bid ng ABS-CBN noong July 10, 2020.

Ang Kongreso ang tumupad sa matagal nang kagustuhan ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte na huwag bigyan ng panibagong prangkisa ang broadcast giant.

Dahil sa pangyayari, hindi na maaaring mag-broadcast sa free-to-air television and radio airwaves ang Kapamilya network. Mula nang mawala sa himpapawid noong May 5, 2020, bilyong piso ang nalugi sa ABS-CBN kaya kinakailangan nilang magbawas ng libu-libong empleyado.

Nakikidalamhati sa mga nawalan ng trabaho ang dalawa sa top actresses ng Kapamilya network—sina Judy Ann Santos at Angel Locsin.

Ipinaabot nila ang kanilang mensahe sa sa Instagram September 1.

Ayon kay Judy Ann, "habangbuhay" na nakaukit sa kanyang puso ang masasayang araw at alaala na pinagsamahan nila ng mga dating tauhan ng network.

Saad ng 42-year-old actress, "Sa lahat ng mga nakasama ko sa abs cbn.. mabuhay kayo!"

"Hanggang sa muli nating pagkiki-

ta.. maraming salamat sa mga masasayang alaala at maraming taon ng pagtatrabaho.. habangbuhay kayong nakaukit sa aking puso..."

Ito rin halos ang buod ng mensahe ni Angel, 35, sa kanyang post.

Sabi niya, "Isang pagpupugay sa mga nagpaalam na kapamilya. Maraming

salamat. Hanggang sa muli."

53 REGIONAL TV, RADIO STATIONS, OTHER AFFILIATES

Noong August 28 ang huling broadcast ng lahat ng local TV and radio stations na bahagi ng Regional Network Group (RNG) ng ABS-CBN.

Bukod sa mga provincial offices ng ABS-CBN, nagsara na rin ang ilan pang mga negosyo na pag-aari ng ABS-CBN Corporation.

Kabilang sa mga ito ang ABS-CBN Studio Tours, ABS-CBN Store, Hado Pilipinas, Heroes Burger, at ABS-CBN Studio Experience sa may Trinoma Mall, Quezon City.

Ayon sa pahayag ng network, kasama ang mga ito sa mga serbisyo ng broadcast giant na apektado sa pagpatay ng Kongreso sa kanilang franchise application.

Ang iba ABS-CBN personalities katulad nina Ted Failon, Anthony Taberna, at Gerry Baja ay lumipat na ng ibang istasyon.

Ang ilang Kapamilya stars na may show na sa TV5 ay sina Pokwang at Ria Atayde. May balita ring negosasyon sa pagitan ng istasyon at ni Billy Crawford.

FDA aims to reduce vaccine trial approval process to maximum of 43 days – DOH

MANILA — As the Philippines continues to negotiate for COVID-19 vaccine allotment with other countries, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has promised to expedite the approval process for vaccine trials.

"Dati we are pegging na mga 55 days ang ating span of time from the vaccine experts panel review to ethical clearance to FDA's review o evaluation...Pero the FDA has committed to shorten the process. So we are now looking at 43 days. Ito na yung maximum natin," Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario said in a virtual briefing.

(We used to estimate 55 days from the time the vaccine experts panel reviews the documents to ethical clearance to FDA's evaluation...But the FDA has committed to shorten the process. So we are now looking at 43 days. This would be the maximum.)

Vergeire said this as she discussed the government's meeting with the Russian Embassy last week.

She said they discussed the regulatory process of the Philippines.

"Isa sa hinihingi natin sa kanila yung clinical trial protocol. Hanggang ngayon kasi, inaatay pa ng ating vaccine experts panel para maumpisahan nila ang pagaaral ng clinical trial na gagawin dito for the Sputnik V vaccine," she said.

"Ito ay nagkaroon ng magandang

response ang Russian Embassy (This got a good response from the Russian Embassy). They committed to us that they will follow up...so we can start the evaluation by our vaccine experts panel," Vergeire added.

Last week, the DOH said the Philippine government has already signed and transmitted the required confidential disclosure agreement to access documents of the vaccine manufacturers from different countries.

Vergeire said the 43 days will definitely be feasible as long as the manufacturers provide complete documents upon application.

The health official said that besides arranging for COVID-19 vaccines to be trialed and distributed in the country, the government is also preparing for the necessary logistics.

This includes the warehousing and distribution of vaccines that might need to be maintained at a certain temperature.

"Ito ay kasama sa paguusapan. Merong na tayong mga plano ukol dito para po tayo ay magkaroon ng adequate at appropriate na logistic system when it comes to vaccines," Vergeire said.

(This is included in the discussions. We already have a plan for this so we can have an adequate and appropriate logistic system when it comes to vaccines.)

Karla Estrada on celebs venturing into social media platforms:

"Saan po kami pupunta, e, entertainers kami."

Ipinagtanggol ni Karla Estrada, 45, ang paglipana ng mga artista sa social media bilang alternative platform bukod sa telebisyon.

Kapansin-pansin kasi ang biglang pagdagsa ng maraming artista sa social media ngayong panahon ng pandemya.

Hindi maikakailang tinamaan nang matindi ang showbiz industry dahil sa pandemya.

Maraming mga proyekto ang natigil o kaya naman ay hindi natuloy pagdating sa telebisyon, movies, at concerts.

Isama pa rian ang pagkakait ng pamahalaang Duterte, sa pamamagitan ng Kongreso, ng panibagong prangkisa sa broadcast giant na ABS-CBN.

Dahil sa mga rason na ito, nagsipuntahan ang mga artista sa Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, at YouTube upang makipag-ugnayan sa kanilang fans at followers.

KARLA DEFENDS CELEBS' TRANSITION TO ONLINE PLATFORMS

Sa episode ng Magandang Buhay nitong Martes ng umaga, September 29, nagsalita si Karla bilang depensa sa mga kritikong minamasama ang transition ng mga artista sa digital at online platforms.

Sinimulan niya ito tungkol sa isang komento na nabasa raw niya.

Sabi raw ng isang netizen, "O, lahat ng artista nasa online na kayo lahat."

Katwiran ng actress-TV host, "E, alam niyo po...saan po kami pupunta, e, entertainers kami, di ba?"

Paliwanag ng ina ni Daniel Padilla, hindi maitatangging malaki ang naidudulot na kasi-

yahan ng mga artista, lalo na sa mga ganitong panahon.

"Lahat ng plataporma na kami po ay makakapasaya at makaka-entertain ng ating mga kababayan, especially ngayong may pandemic, ay gagawin po naming lahat iyon."

"Actually, mas maganda ang ginagawa ng mga kapatid natin sa industriya—lahat na nag-o-online at nag-e-entertain ngayon sa digital platform—kasi talagang ang laking tulong natin."

Bagamat may mga pumupuna raw sa ginagawang adjustment na ito ng mga artista, mas marami pa rin daw ang pumapabor.

Sabi ni Karla, "Yung isang comment na hindi maganda, ang katumbas noon ay isang libong magaganda at pasasalamat na comment na,

'Thank you, napapasaya niyo kami. Nandidiyan kayo ngayon and everything,' di ba?"

Sinegundahan ito ng kanyang co-host na si Melai Cantiveros, na sinabing hindi lang naman mga artista ang gumagawa nito.

"Kahit iba din, kahit mga simpleng tao, mga normal na tao, nag-i-stream na rin, mga vlogger, andami na nila," hirit ni Melai.

Kinatigan ito ni Karla, "Nandidiyan na sila lahat, politicians, lahat... nakakalat ngayon din sa digital, sa social media, di ba?"

At bilang entertainers, hindi raw mapipigilan ang mga taga-showbiz na humanap ng paraan upang patuloy na makapagbigay-aliw sa mga tao.

"Of course, the actors, entertainment world, nandidiyan because we are all entertainers."

"At kung saan kami makakapag-entertain na plataporma, nandodoon kami. Makikita niyo kami lahat para pasayahin kayo," sabi pa ni Karla.

Si Karla ay may sariling YouTube account na may halos 200,000 subscribers.

Sa Instagram ay mayroon siyang higit three million followers, at sa Twitter naman ay mayroon siyang 674,000 followers.

Facebook to disappear in the Philippines?

President Duterte threatened to ban Facebook in the Philippines after facebook took down some advocacy apges that was being run by the Armed Forces of the Philippines. But, who actually benefits with the existence of facebook in the Philippines? Who has an army of trolls posting fake news? Is it the government? Is it the opposition?

POLICING ONLINE SHOWS

There has been talk of screening online shows in the Philippines. Proponenets of the bill say they want to make

sure that the shows promote Filipino values, whatever that means. There ahve been whispers that the real target of the proposal is still ABS, who still manages to produce and show them online. Will the proposal really fly?

COOKING, BAKING, RENOVATING

Filipinos in the Philipines and abroad were forced to earn by doing a side hustle. Facebook was flooded with photos of friends cooking and baking creations being offered for sale. There is also a shortage of lumber materials from hardware and lumber stores

as people started renovating everything in the house. In the Philippines, financial problems forced people to resort to the old practice of barter. Barter groups started appearing on facebook.

ONLINE FAME

Just as youtube stars want to be famous through old media, entertainers in the Philippines flocked on the internet to remain visible, specially after ABS closed down. it may not pay much but it remains a way for them to be visible and get hired for some productions.

Broadcasters to train teachers for TV programs

MANILA -The broadcast journalists who will train teachers on TV presentation and elements of video production include Jessica Soho, Korina Sanchez, and Karen Davila

The Department of Education (DepEd) tapped the country's top broadcast journalists to help its teachers for the broadcast learning this coming school year as the schools shift to distance learning.

"We are very fortunate to have the decades of combined broadcast and hosting experience of multi-awarded broadcast journalists, and television and radio personalities from the country's biggest networks – GMA7, ABS-CBN and TV5 – to guide our Teacher-Broadcasters for DepEd TV," said Education Undersecretary Alain Pascua in a statement on Friday, September 18.

In a Viber message to Rappler, Pascua said the training sessions were done virtually and began on July 2. They will last until next year.

"Trainings [are] done via video lessons and then there are some broadcast journalists that appear live on the webinar. Everything is done voluntarily and the networks have graciously supported the effort," Pascua said.

The broadcast journalists include Jessica Soho, Korina Sanchez, and Karen Davila, among a host of other knowledgeable industry figures.

DepEd said its Teacher-Broadcaster Training Program will help select Teacher-Broadcaster candidates to be effective presenters on television, and allow them to better understand the elements of video production.

Information and Communications Technology Service Director Abram Abanil said that DepEd is eyeing to produce 130 TV episodes per week, which cover only the major subject areas under the most essential learning competencies.

Aside from training teachers, DepEd is also planning to build broadcast-ready studios nationwide to cover all Division Offices. To date, 16 areas are already preparing for this, including Ilocos Norte, Lanao del Norte, Pangasinan, Zamboanga, Palawan, and Davao.

DepEd is set to have its final test broadcast from September 21 to 25 via IBC-13 and other partner networks. This includes the evaluation of content materials, designs, themes, and templates.

The agency has identified at least 9 channels for the airing of

the TV episodes.

In August, DepEd's test broadcast of TV episodes drew criticism following the glaring and "painful" grammar errors spotted by netizens in sample questionnaires for a Grade 8 level English course. (READ: After glaring, 'painful' grammar errors, DepEd vows to improve TV episodes for distance learning)

DepEd said the TV episodes and online learning would just supplement the modular mode learning for the first two quarters of school year 2020-2021 as the agency fine-tunes the alternative learning modes.

DepEd shifted to distance learning for the coming school year to comply with President Rodrigo Duterte's directive for schools to delay face-to-face classes until a coronavirus vaccine becomes available.

So far, a total of 24,491,395 public and private schools have signed up for the school opening. This is 3 million lower than last year's 27.7 million enrollees.

Public schools are set to open on October 5, while some private schools began their classes in August.

ABS-CBN'S Star Hunt expands talent roster to include TV, movie directors

FROM discovering and developing promising Filipino on-camera talents, ABS-CBN's Star Hunt is now expanding its talent pool to include off-camera creatives and will start representing and managing the careers of three seasoned television and film directors.

ABS-CBN Star HuntStar Hunt's new talents include award-winning director Ted Boborol, who directed blockbuster movies such as "Vince and Kath and James," "Finally Found Someone," "Just The Way You Are," "James and Pat and Dave," and the 2019 Cinemalaya's "Iska," which participated in different film festivals around the world.

Director Jon Moll, meanwhile, successfully translated the elements of international franchises "Master-Chef Pinoy Edition," "I Can See Your Voice," "World of Dance Philippines," The Biggest Loser Pinoy Edition," and "Little Big Shots" for Filipino audiences.

Star Hunt also signed one of ABS-CBN's veteran creatives Jillmer Dy, who has occupied directing, writing, and producing roles in various programs since 1991 such as "Gimik," "Sang Linggo nAPO Sila," "The Buzz," "ASAP," "Ipaglaban Mo," "MMK," "Nasaan Ka Nang Kailangan Kita," "It's Showtime," and many others.

Launched as ABS-CBN's grand audition program in 2018, Star Hunt has discovered and developed Filipino talents that became a part of various ABS-CBN talent and reality shows and gave opportunities to them to appear in ABS-CBN's different platforms, whether it is on television, radio, online, movies, or music.

Kathryn Bernardo, Daniel Padilla, magbabalik tam-balan para sa isang digital series

Kapamilya stars Kathryn Bernardo and Daniel Padilla are talking about getting married during the pandemic.

Collectively known as KathNiel, the stars finally broke their silence on rumors that they are taking the plunge. KathNiel confirmed that they are really

getting married not in real life but only in their digital movie.

"We're getting married... sa pinakabagong handog sa ating lahat ng Star Cinema. Sa digital movie series na 'The House Arrest of Us,'" the real-life sweethearts revealed.

"The House Arrest of Us" is a 13-part romantic family digital movie series about two individuals caught by the lockdown under one roof, together with their families, the news program reported.

But the stars clarified that the digital movie is not a sequel to their 2018 blockbuster film "The Hows of Us."

"It's not a sequel. Basically hindi siya connected sa 'Hows of Us'. It's a family series, nandun din 'yung romance. Halo-halo siya pero it's not related kay George at kay Primo' (their characters from 'The Hows of Us')," they said.

The cast and crew for the digital movie have been shooting for the past two weeks

now.

"Iba siya sa nakasanayan namin. Naka-lock in lahat 'yung set-up tapos limited lang talaga 'yung mga pumapasok,



at lahat fina-follow 'yung safety protocols. Nakakapanibago pero lahat naman nagko-comply," Bernardo said.

Padilla said: "Kakaiba 'yung experience na nandito kami sa village, parang nasa bubble lang din kami. Walang pwedeng lumabas o pumasok. Kami kami lang ang nandito, astig din siya."

Fans of KathNiel speculated that the stars were finally getting married for real after the mothers of the stars, Min Bernardo and Karla Estrada, posted photos of a wedding gown and invitation with the 'KN' initials.

Also appearing in the digital movie are: Herbert Bautista, Ruffa Gutierrez, Gardo Versoza, Arlene Muhlach, Dennis Padilla, Riva Quenery, Alora Sasam, and Anthony Jennings.

The "House Arrest of US" premieres on Oct. 24 on KTX.ph and Oct. 25 on iWantTFC.



LEFT TO RIGHT, Krypton, Arielle Perez, Tracy Mai and Ryza Quijano of MH Talents, Josie de Leon with Cupid Arch perform at Asialicious TO.



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Liza shrugs off DDS comments

LIZA Soberano leads the celebs who complained about Du30's absolute pardon given to Pemberton, the American soldier who was convicted of homicide for killing transwoman Jennifer Laude in 2014.

Liza first replied to Sec. Teddyboy Locsin's statement that Pemberton was pardoned and wrote in her social media account: "PARDONED?!?! HE MURDERED AN INNOCENT PERSON.

ONE OF OUR PEOPLE. HOW CAN WE LET THAT JUST PASS? Damn! At a time when all we need is unity, the government decides to make a mistake like this. Who's side are you on, really? Who are you really serving? The people of the Philippines or yourselves?"

She added: "So a murderer was just released for good conduct. Are we supposed to just forget that he killed Jenni-

fer Laude because he's done some good? #JusticeForJenniferLaude #TransLivesMatter."

And another post from her: "Another question, you think this murderer (I'm not even gonna say his name) wasn't treated fairly but, was it fair that Jennifer Laude was murdered out of hate just because of her sexual orientation? #TransLivesMatter."

Of course, this opens her to bashers, specially Dutertebros who'll defend their idol come what may. So someone told her: "What? Ang boba pala ng babaeng ito. Now naniniwala na talaga akong acting lang 'yung kunwaring matalino siya. Stick to your craft, girl. Huwag masyadong pahalata na wala kang alam sa basic comprehension on laws & current events. Lening Leni ang peg."

But looks like Liza couldn't care less. The important thing is she's able to voice out her feelings, which are all valid anyway.

Angel launches online show

ABS-CBN public service program hosted by Angel Locsin, "Iba 'Yan" has found more ways to help Filipinos as it launched its digital show "IbaYanihan," which reiterates its call to help those who are greatly affected by the pandemic on Kapamilya Online Live.

Streaming during commercial gaps, "IbaYanihan" features Kapamilya artists talking about the inspirational stories shown on "Iba 'Yan" while providing ways where people can send donations and other forms of assistance from their homes.

One way is by donating through the ABS-CBN Lingkod Kapamilya Foundation's BDO Account 005630050932 (Mother Ignacia branch). Donors can also send their donations via GCash to the same bank account.

On the show's first streaming last

August 23, Robi Domingo encouraged viewers to donate to Wipe Every Tear, an organization which helps women and children who are victims of human trafficking. On August 30, Dimples Romana, appealed for more funding for Nanay Ligaya Piadoche's recently opened charity for frontliners.

Apart from the heart-wrenching stories, the digital show also features inspiring performances from Kapamilya singers. In its last episode, Angeline Quinto sang her heart out by performing a touching OPM song.

"Iba 'Yan" airs every Sunday, 6:15 PM on Kapamilya Channel and Kapamilya Onlin Live.

To be updated on the extraordinary stories shown in "Iba 'Yan," follow the show on Facebook (fb.com/IbaYanPH), Twitter (@IbaYanPH), and Instagram (@IbaYanPH).



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Tourism opens to create rural jobs

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Tourism (DOT) has started to reopen tourist destinations in the country in its bid to create livelihood in rural areas.

In her message for this year's celebration of World Tourism Day, Tourism Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat yesterday said rural areas depend on tourism, which has been hard-hit by the coronavirus pandemic.

"This year's theme 'Tourism and Rural Development' is particularly relevant to the country as many of our rural areas depend on tourism. I am pleased to report that, in concurrence with our local government units, tourism stakeholders and local communities, we have slowly began reopening our destinations for domestic travel with health and safety protocols in place," Puyat said.

"This gradual revival of the industry will bring back jobs and livelihoods to rural areas where many of our tourism products such as beach, diving, ecotourism, arts and culture and farm sites are found," she added.

Puyat cited a recent United Nations



On World Tourism Day yesterday, visitors take selfies before the newly renovated Basilica de San Martin de Tours in Batangas. Renovations are still ongoing after the church was damaged in the earthquakes caused by Taal Volcano's eruption early this year.

policy brief where Secretary General Antonio Guterres asserted that tourism has been a vehicle for integration, empowerment and income generation for rural communities.

"This statement recognizes, at the highest level, the importance of tourism to a nation's development," she said.

She stressed that the tourism industry in the Philippines has been promoting development in the countryside, supporting farmers, indigenous peoples, women and other marginalized groups through sustainable programs that uplift and empower various sectors.

"We have been given this time of tourism closure to transform the crisis into an opportunity; a chance to rebuild tourism on the foundation of safety, sustainability, inclusiveness and resiliency," Puyat said.

"Let us remain steadfast in our commitment to pursue equitable and responsible growth as the legacy of our industry," she added.

Puyat had earlier stressed that restarting tourism is a priority to be able to give employment to workers who lost their jobs amid the pandemic.

Tourism is a key driver of the economy, contributing 12.7 percent to the country's gross domestic product in 2019 as well as 13.5 percent to the total employment with 5.7 million employed in the sector.

An estimated 4.8 million Filipinos employed in tourism-related industries have been affected by the pandemic, the DOT reported. Both the department and stakeholders emphasized that domestic tourism is seen to lead the country in its economic recovery.

Ronnie Lazaro says ABS-CBN is alive

Ronnie Lazaro has been dominating the industry for a long time and he has been very active in television and various soap operas.

One of the stars of ABS-CBN's newest action-drama series Walang Hanggang Paalam, veteran actor Ronnie Lazaro, believes that the network has not been shattered despite the setbacks.

Recently, during the show's media conference, Ronnie shared how ABS-CBN made possibilities amid its franchise non-renewal and pandemic restrictions.

With conviction, he said, "The feeling of continuity, the continuance of us working, for us to work normal. Hindi nila napatay ang ABS, ABS is alive."

He also thanked ABS-CBN for still reaching out to support and for being professional in putting up a show.

"First of all I have to acknowledge the station ABS-CBN, you know the guts, the courage of these people to put up a show in the middle of the



pandemic is working, and thank God I'm part of that. And we have trust, we trust the company, who will protect. This is like a cure, a cure from the outside."

Ronnie Lazaro has been dominating the industry for a long time and he has been very active in television and various soap operas. He started his career in 1977 and was first seen in Captive Virgins where he played the role of

Hermes. Throughout the years he has gained various prestigious awards, from Best Supporting Actor to Best Actor. Not only was he an actor but he also experienced being a producer, casting director, and art director.

And now his latest project is a soap opera titled Walang Hanggang Paalam produced under Dreamscape Entertainment and is directed by Emmanuel Palo and Darnel Villaflor. It is set to premiere on September 28 thru the Kapamilya Channel and Kapamilya Online Live.

The drama will tackle a reunion of former lovers Celine (Angelica Panganiban) and Emman (Paulo Avelino) due to their son's captivity. Their crisis will complicate their current relationships with their partners portrayed by Zanjoe Marudo and Arci Muñoz respectively.

KIM CHIU JOINS SHOWTIME

After a number of appearances as a guest host, Kim Chiu officially joined "It's Showtime" as its newest host Sept. 28.

Kim, who also opened the live episode with an explosive song and dance number, shared her excitement to finally be part of the noontime show's family.

"Thank you for welcoming me and for allowing me to be part of the program. I'm really happy that I will get to spend every day and have fun with the 'madlang people.' Thank you very much. Kapamilya Forever," she said while holding back her tears.



Dr. Guillermo de Villa
MEMORIAL CUP

17TH Invitational
GOLF
Tournament
2021
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Jose "Joey" Baking



PCSO Celebrates 2020 Taste of Manila Virtual Festival

By: Tony A. San Juan, OCT-Retired

The Philippine Community Events & Services of Ontario(PCESO) remarkably holds its first virtual event in celebration of the ever-popular “Taste of Manila” street festival in Toronto, Ontario. PCESO, a newly-formed community organization, conducted the online festival through a Facebook presentation mode on August 29, 2020, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. It was a solid commemoration of the 7th year anniversary of the “Taste of Manila”, a renowned city-wide activity considered to be the largest Filipino-held festivity, attendance-wise, in North America.

Founded and started in 2014 by Filipino Canadian community leader Rolando Mangante with then officers and directors of the Philippine Cultural



Community Centre(PCCC), the T.O.M. has grown admirably well over the years. Last year, the community-wide project was sponsored by the Philippine Legacy and Cultural Alliance(PLACA), a Toronto- based entity. City of Toronto Mayor John Tory and Ward 6 Councillor James Pasternak are the solid supporters of T.O.M.

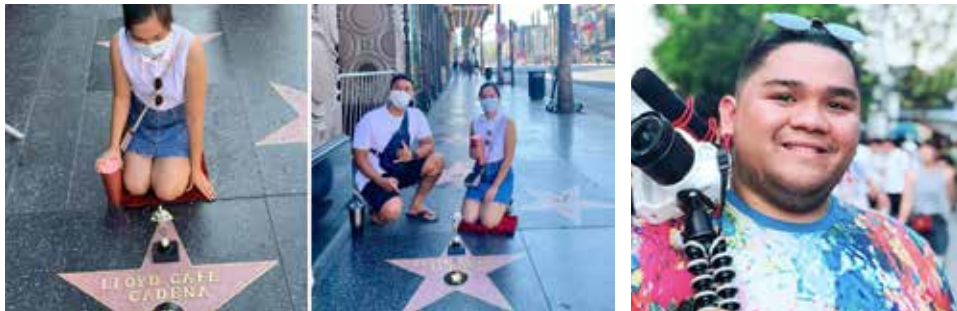
With this year’s theme “Super Saya !”, the 3- hour food, fun, music & culture presentation was sponsored by BDO/ Remitly Inc., World Financial Group-WFG, Harina Bakeshoppe and CG.C.S. with exclusive media partners GMA Pinoy TV and Our Radio. Among the PCESO officers and directors are Rolly

Mangante -Chief Executive Officer/ Founder, Philip Beloso-President, Pepito Torralba-Vice-President/Finance, Cecille Araneta-Chief of Staff, Mon Datol-Chief Adviser & Media Director, Edward Que-Chief Communication Officer and other leading organizers & members of the T.O.M. production team.

The virtual event opened with the singing of the Canadian and Philippine national anthems interspersed by visual images of the Canadian and Philippine landscapes as well as a curt historical tracing of the 1896 Philippine Revolution, Filipino national heroes and health front liners. With voice over, the main review of the past T.O.M. celebrations from 2014 to 2019 was highlighted. Eleven “Silver” and 8 “Bronze” sponsors

from the Toronto Filipino Canadian business community generously supported the wonderful performances of more than 20 musical artists and talents. Among the great performers, in sequence, were Belle Veneracion, Jenifer Camacho, Marky Hugh, Thea Cruz, Josie De Leon, Maria Panaligan (PHOTO), Shariah Garrido, Tray Mai, Candace Santos, Arielle Perez, Alyssa Datu, Garrett Bolden, Kylene Alcantara, Mix’d Band, Elle Delizo, Martha Joy, Shania Gomez, Laraine Dumlao, and Jasmine Flores. Filipino singer Christian Bautista and Asin, the famous Pinoy nationalistic band provided the penultimate numbers. More than 10,000 users have registered “likes” to the online streamed presentation. (Tony A. San Juan, OCT-Retired)

Why Lloyd Cadena is a star to fan who got him on Hollywood Walk of Fame



Following Lloyd Cadena’s passing, a fan decided to pay the vlogger tribute by putting his name on a star at the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Rica Mae Tianson Domingo posted a photo of herself on Facebook, kneeling on a star that had “Lloyd Cafe Cadena” written on it. She said she did this to pay tribute to one of her “mental health saviors.”

“Lloyd has played a very big part in helping me cope up with my daily struggles,” she wrote.

“His loudness, being genuine, and his humanitarian acts inspired me to watch his vlogs whenever he uploads a new one. Together with his LC Creations Team, the Bnt production Bakla Ng Taon, Madam Ely, Madam Avian, his mom Mother kween page, and Erika Embang,” she added.

Rica said vlogs she mentioned have kept her “moving forward.”

“Watching videos is one of my ways to heal,” she added.

The fan said she had been eager to meet Lloyd in person, “but then it was

too late.”

According to Rica, “Lloyd deserves a star in the walk of fame as he has helped A LOT!!! virtually and physically.”

“Wherever you are right now, I hope that you still continue to push for your dreams and guide those who look up on you, your love ones, and the rest of your family. Rest well and I salute you for everything that you have done. Thank you very much

Lloyd Cafe Cadena,” she ended her note, sending her condolences to the family. On September 4, news of Lloyd’s death made headlines and swept social media as celebrities and vloggers mourned Lloyd’s death.

His family revealed that the vlogger tested positive for COVID-19 shortly before his death.

The Cadena family earlier asked for privacy regarding the cause of the vlogger’s shocking death at age 26.

The family said Lloyd was cremated on September 5 and his remains are at their home in Cavite.

Katrina Halili on finding love: “Gusto ko nga sana maging choosy, wala naman ichu-choose.”

Kuwelang sinabi ni Katrina Halili na pitong taon na siyang single, at naudlot pa ang plano niyang makahanap sana ng bagong pag-ibig.

“Parang seven years na ata akong single. Wala talaga, e.

“Gusto ko nga sana maging choosy, wala naman ichu-choose!” natatawag saad ni Katrina.

Ang huli niyang nakarelasyon ay ang singer na si Kris Lawrence. Isinilang ni Katrina ang anak nilang babae noong 2012.



Instagram account, “No one is too old for fairytales.”

Sabi ni Katrina ukol dito, “Nagpaparinig-parinig na nga. Wala pa rin.”

“Ang hinahanap ko siyempre yung mapapangasawa ko na. Hindi ako para maghanap ng pabebebehan ko. Siyempre yung may pakinabang, di ba? Siyempre ako, yun naman hinahanap ko. Hindi lang yung kaemehan lang diyan!”

Mahalaga rin daw na mama-halin ng lalaki ang kanyang eight-year-old daughter na si Katie.

Sinabi niya na siya ang nag-initiate na maghiwalay sila ni Kris dahil tingin niya ay mas mabuting magkaibigan na lang sila.

Mula noon ay hindi pa raw ulit nagkanobyo si Katrina.

“Open naman ako,” sabi niya. “Actually, dati sinabi ko, pag 35 na ako sana may boyfriend na ako. Sinasabi ko yun, pero wala rin kasing dumadating. Tapos sabi ko, pag 34 na ako, aba, kung wala pa rin dumating, magta-travel-travel na ako, maglalabas-labas na ako. E, ending, nagka-pandemic. Paano?!”

Ipaubaya na lang daw niyang kusang dumating ang taong itinakda para sa kanya.

Kuwelang hirit ng 34-year-old Prima Donnas star, “So, mukhang mamu-move na naman ito. Baka i-surprise na lang ako ni Lord, dahil sinabi ko 35. Hindi natin alam.

“Destiny ko ba ang maging single? Or may ka-destiny ba ako? Yun ang mga dapat nating abangan.”

IDEAL BOYFRIEND

Dati man siyang bigo sa pag-ibig, naniniwala pa rin daw si Katrina sa true love.

Minsan ay nai-post pa niya sa kanyang

“Siyempre yung kaya akong buhayin. Alangan naman buhayin ko pa, di ba? Aba, sandali lang!”

ON BEING A SINGLE MOM

Pero kahit na single siya ngayon, masaya raw si Katrina sa buhay.

Hands-on mom siya kay Katie, lalo na nitong nakalipas na anim na buwan na quarantine period.

Todo raw ang bonding nila pagdating sa pag-bake ng cookies, at tinuruan daw niya ang anak ng ilang gawaing-bahay.

Mahirap bang maging single mom?

Sagot ni Katrina, “Wala naman akong struggles. Happy naman ako kasi isa si Katie sa bumuo sa pagkatao ko para magkadireksiyon.

“Mas mahal mo na sarili mo, yung trabaho mo. Gusto mo magtrabaho for her.

“And lagi mo pinagbubutihan ang work mo para naman siyempre maging proud din siya sa iyo.”

Filipinos told to be optimistic

but cautious on declining trend of COVID-19 cases



People flock to the newly opened stalls along Ylaya Street in Divisoria, Manila on August 26, 2020.

MANILA — While the reported decline in new COVID-19 cases is a reason to be optimistic, Filipinos should still be cautious of the virus, an official leading the country's pandemic response said.

Researchers from the University of the Philippines said Metro Manila—the country's coronavirus epicenter—and the neighboring Southern Tagalog region are starting to flatten the pandemic curve, as the virus reproduction rate in the two regions is estimated at 0.95,

below the threshold of "1."

"Iyon pong tinatawag nating optimism with caution, dapat i-caution pa rin natin na huwag tayong magkumpiyansa," COVID-19 policy chief implementer Secretary Carlito Galvez Jr said. *(It should be optimism with caution. We cannot be complacent.)*

The reported decline in new virus infections can be attributed to increased public awareness on the needed minimum health standards such as wearing of face masks, he added.

"Nakita natin dahil siguro tumaas na rin ang consciousness ng ating mga mamamayan ay talagang nag-a-ano na sila ng face shield at saka face mask kaya bumaba po ang nakita nating reproduction," Galvez said. *(We saw the increased consciousness of the people that they are now wearing face shields and face masks that's why the reproduction rate of the virus*

is slowing.)

Earlier, the government required the public to wear face shields on top of the mandated face masks in public transport and commercial establishments.

The government is looking at September as a "transition point" to more relaxed virus restrictions, Galvez said after it made quarantine protocols implemented on Sept. 1 effective for a month instead of the usual 15-day period.

"Nakikita po namin itong September po na ito maganda po ito na maging transition," Galvez said. *(We see September as a good period for a transition.)*

Only Iligan City, Bacolod City, and Lanao del Sur remain under the stricter modified enhanced community quarantine until the end of September.

The rest of the Philippines have eased virus restrictions to general community quarantine and modified GCQ.

Cristine Reyes, di ipaparanas sa anak ang hindi masayang childhood

Sinabi ni Cristine Reyes na magkaiba ang personality nila ng kanyang anak na si Amarah noong bata siya.



Ayon sa Viva artist at Kapamilya star na si Cristine Reyes, kabaligtaran ng ugali niya noong bata ang ugali ngayon ng anak niyang si Amarah Khatibi, 5 years old. Madalid daw si Amarah samantalang siya ang very quiet noon.

Ani Cristine, "Si Amara, siya yung tipo na kailangan mong pigilan kasi tuluy-tuloy siya kung magsalita. Minsan po kasi inuunahan pa yung teacher niya. So lagi ko siyang sinasabi-hang, 'Amarah, you have to listen to your teacher. You have to wait. You have to give chance to your classmates. If it's their turn, be quiet and let them talk to their teacher.'"

Dagdag pa niya, "Parang baliklad po kami nung bata ako. Ako kasi super quiet ako sa class. Si Amarah naman, naku, ewan. Hindi ko po alam."

Katulad ng iba pang mga nanay, naramdaman din ni Cristine na tila napunan ang lahat ng pagkukulang niya sa buhay nang dumating sa buhay niya si Amarah.

"Ito pala yung ibig sabihin ng unconditional love. Kasi hindi mo siya malalaman hangga't hindi ka pa nagkakaroon ng anak. Nag-iba ang outlook ko sa buhay," lahad pa niya.

Julia Barretto leaves Star Magic for Viva

MANILA, Philippines — Actress Julia Barretto was officially launched as the new artist of Viva, according to ABS-CBN entertainment reporter MJ Felipe.

"Julia said that she consulted and asked for blessing from Mr M and Mariole Alberto of Star Magic. Big factor for her departure from Star Magic was Alberto's retirement," MJ said.

"When I made the decision to make the move to Viva, of course ang mga una ko talagang kinausap ay si Miss Mariole and Mr. M. Bakit? Bilang sila po ang head ng Star Magic, sa kanila po ako nagpaalam," Julia explained in a video MJ posted.

"Si Tita Mariole kasi nag-announce siya ng retirement niya in December a few months back na rin. Kami-kami pa lang nakakaalam sa Star Magic. After nun, 'yun talaga 'yung mga oras na I really took some time to think and pray. Nag-pray talaga akong matindi para tulungan lang malaman kung ano pa ang mga posibleng tahakin ko sa karera ko. Like I said, they were always guiding me," she added.

Julia also clarified rumors that the production team of upcoming ABS-CBN TV series "Cara Y Cruz" was surprised with her departure from Star Magic. She said she understands the



decision to replace her in the series, reportedly, with Barbie Imperial.

"Regarding 'Cara Y Cruz' naman po, hindi totoo na hindi na lang ako nagpakita bigla. I was present in all our script readings, in our general assemblies. I was present for our look test. I was present for our one-on-one meetings with the director. Nakapag-usap na kami ng mga gagawin namin sa character. If I'm being honest, nakapag-empake na rin po talaga ako, (for the lock-in taping)," she said.

Julia also expressed her gratitude and appreciation to ABS-CBN for the big breaks and career milestones she had with the network.

"(I have) friends na naging family ko na rin po sa ABS-CBN, the staff, the production, my Star Magic family, my road managers, my handlers, talagang lahat naging parang pamilya ko na. Hanggang ngayon naman, nakaka-usap ko pa, nakakakamustahan. Solid ang relationship with ABS-CBN. I'm just so proud to have a journey with them," she said.

On Instagram, Viva said it formally welcomes Julia as "the newest gem" in its roster of artists.

"Giving you our warmest welcome, Julia! We are so excited to work with you!" the agency said.

'Mahilig din ako sa showbiz'



LUCHI Cruz Valdes had an online presscon for her show, "Usapang Real Life" or URL.

Luchi at 54 is now hosting a lifestyle and entertainment show, "URL." It shows Luchi in a new light as a nurturing and compassionate talk show host to her celebrity guests from the world of entertainment.

Is she moving away from news and public affairs?

"No, it's not a career shift," she explains. "It's just a parallel."

Did she have to adjust hosting a lighter show? "It's not like naman I'm doing something that is absolutely new. I'm sure you've seen Christiane Amanpour on CNN interviewing celebrities on her show. It doesn't detract from the fact that she's a hardline journalist, and she's not the only one. As far as we journalists naman are concerned, everything naman to us is news."

For her, showbusiness is most certainly also news. "And yes, celebrities, whether they like it or not, are potential great news subjects. E, mahilig din naman ako sa showbiz. Bata pa ako, Vilmanian na ako, e. I do a lot of surfing and I check out what stars are doing. Pero yun na nga, napunta ako sa hard news, e. Kasi, ang gusto ko nga, maging news anchor. Talagang dream ko 'yun. Pero mas na-sideline ako sa trabahong investigative journalist. So dun talaga ako for the most of my career."

Erich Gonzales drops hints about relationship with Mateo Lorenzo

It was in 2018 when Erich Gonzales first confirmed that she has a non-showbiz suitor, whom she identified



as the brother of Claudia Barretto's boyfriend, Basti Lorenzo.

And after years of being evasive, it appears that the actress has finally decided to open up about her love life, as she recently started to drop hints about her relationship with businessman Mateo Lorenzo.

In her recent vlog, where she shared how she celebrated her 30th birthday, Erich is seen going out on a date with a man presumed to be Mateo as her "birthday salubong."

She also shared the espresso pod machine she received from her rumored boyfriend as a birthday present. The gift came with a letter, which Erich refused to read publicly.

"Sasarinin ko muna ito ha," she said, as she thanked Mateo for the present.

Moreover, Erich included the link to Mateo's Instagram account in the description of her vlog. She then confirmed their date when she posted on Instagram Stories a screenshot of herself in the car with the mystery man in her vlog and tagged Mateo's account.

Meanwhile, based on a post on Mateo's page, he and Erich have been going out since 2017.

In a previous interview with ABS-CBN News, Erich confirmed going to Japan with Mateo to visit her sister's art exhibit.

At that time, she claimed, "Unang una ay wala naman po tayong itinatago," before adding: "Ako, single po ako and he's single also."

Erich was previously in a relationship with model-actor Daniel Matsunaga. The two broke up in 2017.

DR. GUILLERMO DE VILLA MEMORIAL CUP 18th Invitational Golf Tournament

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Life's brighter under the sun

COVID-19 vaccine may arrive in in PH Q2 of 2021 at the ‘earliest’



In this file photo Dr. Nita Patel, Director of Antibody discovery and Vaccine development, lifts a vial with a potential coronavirus, COVID-19, vaccine at Novavax labs in Gaithersburg, Maryland on March 20, 2020, one of the labs developing a vaccine for the coronavirus, COVID-19. Andrew Caballero-Reynolds, AFP

MANILA - A public health expert said Tuesday he doesn't expect a COVID-19 vaccine to be available in the Philippines until the second quarter of 2021, urging the public to take coronavirus precautions more seriously.

Dr. Jaime Montoya, executive director of the Philippine Council for Health Research and Development, tempered hopes that a safe and effective vaccine against the respiratory illness could be ready for use within the year.

“Base sa nalalaman namin at sa mga datos na available, hindi po yata, kung Pilipinas ang pag-uusapan, sa

Pilipinas magkakaroon ng bakuna by December, mukhang sa ngayon po ay malabo po ‘yun na mangyari,” he told Teleradyo’s “SRO” when asked after President Rodrigo Duterte earlier said a COVID-19 vaccine could be made available by December.

There are currently no approved treatments or vaccines for COVID-19, the disease caused by the novel coronavirus.

The COVID-19 vaccine is likely to be priced between P500 to P1,000 per shot if approved, Montoya said. Two doses of the vaccine could be given per person between 20 to 28 days apart, he added.

The infectious disease specialist also assured the public that the government has already allocated funds to procure the vaccine once it becomes available.

Asked how much of the population should be vaccinated to ensure herd immunity, Montoya said at least 60 percent.

“Kapas 60 percent ng population ay immune or protected by vaccine, titigil o babagal ang transmission ng virus,” he said.

Jennylyn says relationship with Dennis ‘different’ now

JENNYLYN Mercado has completed all her scenes in the locked in taping of “Descendants of the Sun” and the show will start airing again on GMA Telebabad primetime. First, they will have a recap of what happened before its telecast was disrupted by the virus seven months ago. Then they will show the newly taped episodes until its exciting conclusion.

“It’s no joke pala to do taping ng may lockdown,” says Jen. “Sa set, naka-face mask and shield kami lagi. Tinatangal lang kapag a-acting na kami sa harap ng kamera. We taped sa Tanay, Rizal. Ako, for nine straight days at ‘yung ibang cast like Dingdong Dantes, naiwan pa roon,

along with the crew and entire production team.”

The staff was very strict about following safety protocols. “May swab test kami before and after the taping to make sure no one gets infected by the virus. This is the new normal of taping at mahirap siya.”

She says she’s so happy that everyone cooperated well while they’re taping on the location. “Dahil walang uwian, kasi nga locked in kayong lahat, doon mo mas makikita ang tunay na ugali ng



isang tao. I have nothing but good words for my leading man. Doon ko nakita kung gaano kabuting tao si Dingdong Dantes, mabait talaga, considerate sa lahat, very professional.”

Jen is now resting but she will soon go back before the cameras to tape an episode for GMA-7’s new drama anthology show, “I Can See You”. She will co-star with her on and off screen sweetheart, Dennis Trillo. This will be a reunion for them on screen.

They were last paired in the drama series “My Faithful Husband” in 2015, where they reconciled after breaking up in 2013. Theirs is definitely a case of

“love is lovelier the second time around.” Now, they’re together even in distributing help to medical health workers.

They first gave alcohol, soaps, face mask and shields to doctors at the Philippine General Hospital and now, to the medical staff at the Amang Rodriguez Medical Center in Marikina. She’s hoping her relationship with Dennis would definitely be for keeps.

“We’re now more mature compared to the first time we were together,” she says. “Nag-evolve na kami bilang tao. We used to have misunderstandings over the pettiest things but now, we know how to talk things over and resolve them.”

Veggies, fruits, fish: Oldest grandma’s secret to longevity

LINGAYEN, Philippines — A 104-year-old grandma, the oldest living centenarian in this capital town of Pangasinan, does not break a habit she has developed over the years: eating vegetables, fish and fruits, which is her secret to longevity.

Aquilina Todio of Barangay Libsong West, known as Nanay Inay, was born on Jan. 4, 1916 and has 10 children. She worked as a vegetable vendor in Bayambang town public market where she originally hailed from and sold piglets in nearby Tarlac province during her prime. The vegetables were from her backyard garden.

Erlinda Campued, her seventh child, said that her mom stopped selling vegetables in 1990 when she migrated to the United States to be with Nanay Inay’s eldest. She stayed there until 2008 and



Aquilina Todio receives a certificate, cash gift and a basket of fruits from Lingayen Mayor Leopoldo Bataoil and Vice Mayor Judyay de Leon Vargas-Quiocho.

returned home with her other child and stayed in Novaliches City for eight years, then moved to Lingayen in 2015 where she has been staying with Erlinda.

Nanay Inay can still talk and remember her name, as well as her late husband’s name and the number of children they have.

“When I ask her what food she’d want to eat, she’d say catfish and boiled banana (locally known as seba in Pangasinan dialect or saba in Filipino),” Erlinda

said.

“She eats vegetables daily,” Erlinda said, adding her mom’s good habit must have been because she came from a poor family and veggies were readily available in the backyard.

“She behaves well,” Erlinda said.

When she turned 100 years old, her family celebrated it among family members and close friends. She also got her centenarian cash incentive from the government.

Nanay Inay is gifted with good health, without any need for maintenance medicine.

But at her age, she stays in bed most of the time now.

Lingayen Mayor Leopoldo Bataoil, Vice Mayor Judy Vargas-Quiocho and Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer Lorenza Decena visited Nanay Inay on Sept. 9 and awarded her with a certificate, cash gift and a basket of fruits.

She is now the oldest living centenarian in Lingayen. The other living centenarians here are in Barangays Poblacion, Malimpuec and Balangobong.

Erlinda, who retired as a nurse supervisor at the Region 1 Medical Center in Dagupan City, said it gives her so much joy to take care of her mom with the assistance of her child.

She said she, too, reminds her children to take good care of their parents.

“It’s not easy but it feels good, a different kind of happiness deep inside,” Erlinda said.

Renovating, Cooking & Hibernating

Filipinos have been celebrating birthdays, get-togethers outdoors. It's the only way we can follow social distancing guidelines and still be with family and friends. And some have been renovating. It's the reason there has been a shortage of lumber.

What happens when fall and winter comes? How do we celebrate the get-together? As they say, that's a bridge we'll have to cross when we get there. Meanwhile, Dolorosa Canada

celebrated their fiesta on the backyard of President Philip Beloso. Dolorosa usually has an annual three-day celebration. There's the formal dinner on a Friday, a fiesta on Saturday and capped by a picnic in the park on a Sunday.

Honeylen Tan celebrated her birthday on the backyard of Taste of Manila's founder Rolly Mangante and his wife Nieves. She followed it two

THE SOCIALLIST
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Liza Soberano: No intention to brag about faster internet connection

The actress calls on internet service providers to give better service 'especially at a time like this when internet has become an essential'

When Liza Soberano's internet went spotty, the star, like most people, took to twitter to call out her internet service provider.

But unlike most people, her internet problem was fixed by the next day, when a new internet provider had her connection up and running.

"Okay so [PLDT] came to my house yesterday and hooked me up with the best internet I have ever experienced in my whole 5 years of living in this house," she tweeted on September 8.

This didn't seem to sit well with some people, who commented on Liza's tweet, accusing PLDT of "favoritism" while wondering why the company acted so fast to respond to her, while they've been waiting for weeks to get their internet fixed.

In a separate thread on September 9, Liza clarified that she meant no harm with her tweet, saying "In no way was it my intention to brag. I was just genuinely relieved to finally have fast internet."

She called out on internet providers to improve their service "especially at a time like this when internet has become an essential."

She also called out an employee of her former internet provider, Converge, who supposedly divulged her personal information.

"Don't try to turn this on me. My whole rant was about bad customer service. That's pretty sketchy of you trying to make it look like it's my fault why I have bad internet," she said.

"I could go on and on, but bottom-



line treat your customers fairly, no matter who they are. Cause people work hard to pay for their internet and most of our work is done online now," she added.

Liza is one of ABS-CBN's biggest stars and top endorsers. The actress, whose teleserye Make It With You was cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic, has turned to vlogging, launching her channel Life with Liza in July.

Aga Muhlach, tuloy ang TV comeback

Marami ang nag-aabang sa pagbabalik-telebisyon ni Aga Muhlach sa ABS-CBN. Pero dahil nagsara ang giant TV network sa Pilipinas kaya sa TV5 muna matutuloy ang TV comeback ng award-winning actor.

Magiging hurado si Aga ng reality singing competition na Masked Singer Pilipinas nanag-originate sa South Korea at magsisimula na sa October 24, 7 p.m.

Makakasama ni Aga sa Philippine franchise ng reality show bilang judges sina Cristine Reyes, Kim Molina, at Matteo Guidicelli.

Ang host naman ng Masked Singer Pilipinas ay si Billy Crawford.

Hindi na bago kay Aga ang maging hurado dahil nag-judge na rin siya noon sa Pinoy Boyband Superstar ng ABS-CBN taong 2016.

Sa Masked Singer Pilipinas ay maraming celebrity contestants ang mabibigyan ng trabaho at TV exposure dahil 12 hanggang 18 mystery celebrity contestants ang sasalang every taping ng show.

Ayon sa TV5 executive at noted film producer na si Perci Intalan, excited sila na muling makatrabaho si Aga.



"We are excited to start working with Aga because we have great plans for him. We're planning to do a series for him, give him a hosting job for a game show, and another program that's totally different from what he does," sambit pa niya.

Samantala, matatandaang noong 2016 ay pumirma ng kontrata si Aga sa ABS-CBN para sa Pinoy Boyband Superstar.

Sabi pa noon ni Aga during the press conference, "FYI, I was in ABS for 19 years. But the only difference now is I was gone for six years and I didn't work for three years and I stopped. So this is my first day na makahawak ng microphone, first day na makunan ako ng picture, first day akong na-interview."

Isa sa hindi malilimutang TV show ni Aga sa ABS-CBN noon ay ang Oki Doki Doc. Marami rin siyang pelikulang nagawa sa Star Cinema, ang movie arm ng ABS-CBN.

Kris Aquino's TV comeback is not pushing through

Kris was meant to return to the small screen via the show 'Love Life with Kris' on TV5

Kris Aquino's TV comeback has been foiled again, the veteran TV host and endorser said.

Kris was originally set to return to the small screen with a show called Love Life with Kris, which was set to air on TV5 on August 15.

"My hoped for TV comeback isn't happening, the producer chose somebody else he and his sales team felt was more viable," Kris said in what she called "a life update post I wish I didn't have to make."



1 Meter, Not Less: Health workers reject reduced physical distancing in commute

Medical workers are asking the Duterte government to walk back its decision to minimize physical distancing in public transport, arguing that the measure will only increase the number of coronavirus cases in the country.

Dr. Anna Ong Lim of the Healthcare Professionals Alliance Against COVID-19 said that coronavirus transmissions will increase by the "hundreds" because of reduced distancing in public vehicles.

"These are assumptions that will change based on data that were plugged in, but with just a 0.75 meter [distancing] we were seeing hundreds of cases increasing because of the recommendation or new rule.

The Department of Transport imposed the distancing rule in public commutes to 0.75 meters, then reduced to 0.5 meters and 0.3 meters.

She added that the government should also look into other ways to improve transport such as adding more vehicles and staggering commuters' work hours instead of cramming them into crowded vehicles.

"I think everybody agrees that there's a need to provide better, safer, more public transportation, otherwise it will be very difficult to open up the economy," she said.

More Filipinos think COVID-19 pandemic will worsen, says survey

At least 57% of Filipinos believe that the "the worst is yet to come" with the coronavirus pandemic.

The percentage is 10% higher than the SWS survey done in May, which showed that 47% held the same belief. Most of those who live in Metro Manila, the epicenter of the pandemic, believe that things will take a turn for the worse, with 70% predicting this outcome. This was followed by the Visayas, at 61%, Balance Luzon (or areas in Luzon excluding Metro Manila) at 56%, and Mindanao at 49%.

Quarantine restrictions have been eased throughout most of the Philippines despite the increasing number of COVID-19 cases. As of September 14, the country has the highest number of cases in Southeast Asia with 265,888, including 207,504 recoveries and 4,630 deaths.

After 6 months, gov't to hand out 20 million face masks to 'poorest' Pinoy

Department of Trade and Industry Secretary Ramon Lopez told ABS-CBN's Teleradyo today that the three-layer face masks will be made by women cooperatives and micro-enterprises that have received grants from the government. However, the project will still undergo bidding that will be overseen by the Department of Budget and Management.

The government imposed the mandatory use of face masks in April to curb the spread of the coronavirus. Filipinos can use surgical masks, reusable masks, hankies, or any shield to protect their faces.

Supreme Court junks plea to mass test Pinoy for coronavirus

The Philippine Supreme Court has dismissed a group of frontliners' petition urging the Duterte government to conduct free COVID-19 mass testing for Filipinos. The SC reason is for "failure of petitioners to show that they are entitled to the issuance of a writ of mandamus."

A mandamus is a court order compelling someone to execute a neglected duty that they are legally obligated to complete. The court, however, said that a mandamus is only necessary if there is no other remedy available.

"While the Constitution enjoins respondents to protect the right to health...The job of the Court is to say what the law is, not dictate how another branch of government should do its job," the resolution read.



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Entertainment

Jennylyn Mercado

Defends single mothers tagged by critic as “mga inanakan lang

Jennylyn Mercado, a proud single mother, reminds fellow single moms: “Mahirap maging nanay at tatay ng ating (mga) anak pero kinakaya natin.”

Hindi pinalampas ni Jennylyn Mercado, 33, ang pagmamaliit sa mga kagaya niyang single mother.

Pagtatanggol ng Kapuso actress, hindi dapat ikinahihiya ang pagiging single mom, bagkus ay dapat silang hangaan.

Ni-repost ni Jennylyn ang tweet ng isang netizen na may sarkastikong komento tungkol sa single mothers.

Ganito ang tweet: “Respeto naman sa mga babaeng inanakan lang!”

Kalakip ng screenshot ang tweet ni Jennylyn na nagpapaalala sa mga kagaya niyang single mother na huwag hayaang maliitin sila.

Mensahe niya: “To all the single moms out there, Never let comments like this get to you. Having a kid early doesn’t make you less of a woman. In fact it’s the opposite.

“Being a single parent made us stronger than ever. Mahirap maging nanay at tatay ng ating (mga) anak pero kinakaya natin.”

Paghimok ng aktres, dapat ay ipagmalaki ng mga nanay na mag-isang itinataguyod ang mga anak.



“Kaya always hold your head up high. We are more powerful than they think we are.”

May balik din ang aktres sa mga taong mababa ang tingin sa single mothers.

Tweet ni Jennylyn: “And for those people na minamaliit pa rin kami hanggang ngayon, I feel so sorry for you.

“Lahat ng mga kritisismo sa pagkatao namin nasabi na samin, and yet here we are. Raising our kid(s) the best we can.

“Whatever you say, You can and will never bring a strong woman down.”

Si Jennylyn ang ina ng 12-anyos na si Alex Jazz, anak ng aktres sa dating boyfriend nitong si Patrick Garcia.

Ilang buwang buntis noon si Jennyn nang maghiwalay sina Jennylyn at Patrick noong February 2008.

May kanya-kanya na silang buhay ngayon. Ikinasal si Patrick kay Nikka Martinez noong 2015, at mayroon silang tatlong anak na babae.

Karelasyon naman ngayon ni Jennylyn

ang Kapuso actor na si Dennis Trillo.

Maayos din ang relasyon ni Jennylyn kay Patrick at sa asawa nito.

CHYNNA, NETIZENS SUPPORT JEN

Samantala, nakahanap naman ng kakampi si Jennylyn sa mga netizen, at maging sa kapwa niya GMA actress na si Chynna Ortaleza.

Pinuri ni Chynna ang katatagan ni Jennylyn na mag-isang pinalaki ang anak nito.

Ani Chynna patukoy sa komento ng netizen: “Whoa! So meant yan to break down strong willed single parents? Go Jen!

“Hindi madali maging single parent at long hindi madali na maging maayos sa mga tao na ang may hurt or misunderstanding before. E ikaw.. kinaya mo lahat yan. So APIR!”

Nakuha rin ni Jennylyn ang simpatya ng netizens. Ang iba, ikinadismaya kung bakit kadalasan ay babae ang sinisisi sa pagiging single mother.

May mga single mothers ding naka-relate kay Jennylyn.

May isang netizen ang nagsabing naging single mother siya dahil pumanaw ang kanyang asawa, pero ipinagmamalaking mag-isa niyang itinataguyod ang anak.

Sabi naman ang isa pang single mother, mas nakakaawa ang mga taong mababa ang pagtingin sa mga single mother.a

GTA Filipino Canadians Engage in

York Centre Federal Byelection

By: Tony A. San Juan(OCT-Retired

The normally quiet and reserved Filipino-Canadian community in the Greater Toronto Area is reported to be “abuzz and alive” again because of the exciting news that a Filipino-Canadian politician is now running for Member of Parliament in a Toronto electoral riding. Historically, the only and first Filipino-Canadian who was elected Member of Parliament and served as a Cabinet Minister was Dr. Rey Paktakhan of Winnipeg, Manitoba during the Liberal governments of Jean Chretien and Paul Martin in the early 1990s to 2006.



Julius Tiangson, a former candidate for MP for Mississauga Centre in 2015, is now the Conservative Party’s official candidate for Member of Parliament for York Centre in the coming byelection on October 26, 2020.

He is running against the Liberal Party Member of Parliament contender Ya’ara Saks, a Jewish-Canadian woman, community and former policy and public-relation consultant who was also acclaimed by the Liberal Party of Canada.

With a population of 100,277 in 2015, the York Centre federal district has 71,000 eligible voters with a turnout of about 83,851 or 62 %. According to the 2016 census, 17.0% of York Centre residents are of Filipino ethnic origin which is considered the highest among all City of Toronto ridings. Also, the riding has Russian (9.5%) and Jewish (5.6%) ethnic origins. It is considered one of the coveted safest Liberal ridings in Canada according to the governing Federal Liberal Party.

The upcoming electoral process will be the first time Election Canada will have had organized a vote since the COVID 19 pandemic started. The Parliament of Canada and Election Canada are still looking at changes to how the vote will be undertaken, such as the processes of online, in-person, mail-in balloting or a blend including a 2-day voting period or the traditional 1-day Monday vote. Election details are expected to come out soon. (Tony A. San Juan, OCT-Retired)

Jodi Sta. Maria inspires followers with series of meaningful posts

Actress Jodi Sta. Maria can give the major boost you need with her inspirational posts.

For quite sometime now, Jodi has been sharing inspirational messages on social media – the latest of which is the simple life lessons people could learn from pottery.



Jodi, 38, likened life to pottery which is about “staying centered.” Sometimes she believes that it is hard to center a piece of clay unless people are centered and peaceful.

She also tackled how imperfections can also be beautiful. “Life just like the bowl making process isn’t perfect somewhere along the way somethings gets accidentally broken. But there is beauty in brokenness.”

Jodi pointed out the importance of not giving up. “If one didn’t succeed at first, they could always try again.”

“Nobody does it perfectly the first time. Don’t be afraid to make mistakes. Don’t be discouraged when you fail. Don’t be too hard on yourself. Learn from it and aim to be better,” she said.

The seasoned actress also said that people always need a helping hand.

She cited the term Zone of Proximal Development in Psychology which she said reminds everyone that they can’t learn everything on their own.

Jodi reiterated that sometimes people need other people with more skills, expe-

rience, knowledge, and wisdom to guide and teach them things they aren’t familiar with.

The actress-mother and psychology student also said that life is not always about “power” and “aggression” but rather it’s about “control” and “stillness.”

“A lot of people try to force the clay to do things..but the secret is controlling our actions and see it reflected on the clay. Stay calm,” she said.

Jodi capped her post with a thought that God has plan for everything.

“He is the potter, I am the clay... God shapes us and forms us and molds us turning us to vessels fit for His use. Without the potter the clay will never know its purpose. Without the potter the clay will never know what it’s made for.”

Prior to the said post, Jodi talked about having faith in God in this trying time.

“We all have our days when we feel we can’t survive. Sometimes, dreams may shatter, friendships may fall apart. Loved ones may hurt us. Finances may worry us. Sickness may overcome us. We may even lose people dear to us... BUT...JESUS will ALWAYS be there to guide us through the toughest of times. He will ALWAYS be there to heal our wounded spirit. He will ALWAYS be present regardless of how we feel. He will ALWAYS be there to help us pick up

the pieces. He will ALWAYS provide for every need,” she promised. “Never lose faith. Hold on to hope. Trust in Him... always.”

‘Magkasama man or hindi, they rocked it’: Fans react to James, Nadine performing at same event

MANILA — It could’ve well been the best early Christmas present for fans of James Reid and Nadine Lustre. But alas, perhaps it was too good of a wish to come true.

During a virtual concert organized by a telecom company, their supporters were left waiting for them to share the stage for a performance, though it never happened.

Instead, Lustre sang after Reid’s set, bringing the night to a close. They each performed three songs, with Reid singing “I Know You Care,” “16B,” and “Fiend.” Lustre’ batch of three included “I like it,” “St4y Up,” and “No 32.”

Fans wanted the two to close the concert with a duet but, based on their reactions on Twitter, that would’ve been just icing on an already satisfying cake of stellar sets.

Some were even saying that perhaps this turned out better, since Reid and Lustre both got to shine individually as artists, as opposed to them being a love team.

Reid and Lustre have continued to work together, despite splitting up after a three-year romance, with the latter releasing an album under the former’s record label, Careless.

They were both included in the lineup for the Smart virtual concert, along with rapper Curtismith and KZ Tandingan.

Marian Rivera to make stage debut in Tanghalang Ateneo

Kapuso star Marian Rivera will debut as a stage actress as she joins the cast of an upcoming play by Tanghalang Ateneo.



Rivera will be part of Tanghalang Ateneo’s adaptation of “Oedipus Rex.”

This was announced by writer and director Katski Flores on Instagram.

“This is a launching pad. Welcome to the tribe, Marian Rivera! Enjoy and stay, will you?” said Flores.

Rivera replied in the comments section: “Maraming salamat po.”

Yan Yuzon will play the lead role in “Oedipus Rex. Other talents in the cast include Miren Alvarez-Fabregas, Gabe Marcado, and Marlon Rivera. It will be directed by Ron Capinding.

No details were given as to the play-date of the stage play.

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Darna to the rescue

Before Jane de Leon (whose “takeoff” was thwarted by the invisible enemy), memorable actresses have had the pleasure of playing Darna, the classic Mars Ravelo superheroine that has thrilled generations of movie fans, including Rosa del

Rosario (the original), Eva Montes, Liza Moreno, Vilma Santos, Lorna Tolentino, Gina Pareño, Angel Locsin, Marian Rivera, Anjanette Abayari, Rio Locsin, Sharon Cuneta and...have you forgotten?...yes, Nanette Medved.

Makes you wonder, whatever happened to Nanette who, out of her Darna costume, has proven her mettle as a drama

actress in some Viva films?

Well, Nanette is now Mrs. Chris Po, happily domesticated with their two children, one aged 16 and the other 12.

Now simply attired minus her cape and all, Nanette Medved-Po has retired from showbiz but she continues to, in a way,

DARNA
continued on page 25

Antoinette's Virtual Inspiration Concert



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3. Antoinette with Miss Josie de Leon (Founder of JDL Performing Arts)
4. Special Guest : Precious Hernandez
5. Special Guest : Shane Aludud



Family Fun on Labour Day Hermie and Luth Esguerra, and family had fun on Labour day.



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Super Tekla, Boobay unstoppable

COMEDIAN Super Tekla is so grateful that his son Angelo, who was born last June with a congenital anal and rectum defect (no hole) is now doing well after undergoing surgery.

“He’s okay now,” he says. “Sobrang likot na at ang lakas dumede. Tapos napakaganda ng response niya, ‘yung psychomotor reactions niya, ang bilis. Nakakatuwa lang kasi napaka-positive ng development ni Angelo at nalagpasan niya na lahat halos eh. At ngayon, nasisilaw siya kapag may biglang ilaw na malakas. Tapos magugulatin. Ibig sabihin, everything is now normal with him. I want to thank all my co-stars sa GMA na nag-show pa to raise funds for his operations. Salamat sa lahat.”

Super Tekla and co-host Boobay spread laughter with fresh new episodes starting this Sunday in your favorite late-night comedy-variety program “The Boobay and Tekla Show”. Following their several months of rest due to the virus pandemic, Boobay and Tekla express their excitement on returning to work and tease their loyal viewers on what’s in store for their much-awaited comeback.

“Salamat naman at nagte-taping na kami uli ng bagong episodes at kikita na kami uli dahil naiipon ang mga Judith



(due date),” says Tekla. “Mapalad kami ni Boobay na makabalik at mabigyan ng chance na makapagpasaya ulit ng tao. Sobrang thankful kami dahil alam namin na mahirap ngayon ang buhay. Gagalingan namin para kahit papaano ay maibsan ‘yung nararamdaman

ng viewers natin ngayong panahon ng pandemic.”

And Boobay adds: “Napakaraming dapat abangan ng viewers gaya na lang ng bagong segments at hindi lang sila basta manonood dahil may segment kami na ang audience mismo ang bibida. At syempre, makikisaya rin ang naglalakihang Kapuso stars sa aming bagong episodes.”

The comedic duo also shares how their entire team carefully complied and observed all the safety protocols before and during the taping. “Sinunod talaga naman ang lahat ng protocols and testing,” shares Boobay.

“In terms of paghahanda, talagang maingat kami. Kung ano ang protocol ng aming kumpanya, sinunod namin ‘yun para na rin sa safety ng lahat,” adds Tekla.

Not even a global health crisis could stop the two from spreading fun, laughter and positivity together with their virtual audience – live via streaming!



der of Generation HOPE, Nanette leads her team in building public school oms nationwide, with the 100th classroom inaugurated recently. Some of the iaries are tribe members. Says Nanette, 'The future of our country and the es in education.'

Sunshine Cruz says she’s alive after online death rumors

MANILA, Philippines – Kapamilya actress Sunshine Cruz debunked rumors that she’s dead.

In her Facebook account, Sunshine posted screenshots of the news article, alleging that her lifeless naked body was found in a room. “Hindi po ito totoo! Buhay na buhay po ako,” the actress wrote in the caption. She also asked her followers to report the RBB Savage Facebook account responsible for spreading the fake news. “Please report this (RBB SAVAGE) facebook account. Thank you!” she added.

The page, which was already taken down as of this writing, wrote that Sunshine was found dead in a room.

“Sunshine Cruz! Natagpuang patay at walang saplot sa isang kwarto. Inaalam pa ng mga pulis kung sino ang suspek. Sana

mabigyan ng hustisya ang kanyang pagkamatay,” the page wrote. “(May CCTV footage bago bago mangyari ang krimen nilabas ng NBI, panoorin niyo po ang footage sa profile ko. Rest in peace Sunshine Cruz,” it added.

Supporters of the actress commented on her post, expressing their dismay to the fake news.

“Grabe naman ang tao ganyan.. Pandemic na nga ganyan pa makagawa ng fake news.. Hay kakasad... Ingat po kayo Lagi Miss Sunshine at mga anak mo.. God is with you,” a Facebook user commented.

“Grabe talaga ang mga tao ngaun. Walang magawang tao sa buhay nila. Miss sunshine take care po. God bless you po,” another netizen commented.



Pinoy Ontario Vendors Raffle for Frontliners



LEFT, Pinoy Vibes Toronto’s Ryan Orlanda poses with sponsor Rafael Nebres of Action Honda at the Pinoy Ontario Vendors Raffle for frontliners. CENTER, Cesar Marquez poses with Toronto Chief Medical Officer Dr. Eileen de Villa. RIGHT, Philippine Consul General Orontes Castro graces the event.



Asialicious participant (1)Mike Cruz and his (2) crew with FV Foods Mel Galeon (3) join the festivities at Woodside Square Mall.

Ai-Ai in favor of renaming NAIA back to Manila International Airport

Pabor si Ai-Ai delas Alas na ibalik ang pangalan Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) sa dati pang tawag na Manila International Airport (MIA).



Sa kanyang Instagram post ng, September 26, pinuna ng Sunday PinaSaya star ang tila malamalam na ilaw sa signage ng paliparan. Galing si Ai-Ai sa South Korea kung saan nagkaroon siya ng show roon.

Sabi niya sa caption: “Touchdown ... Mga sir na namamahala sa airport palitan nyo naman yung ilaw ng sinage hehe walang n, a malabo yung M nung mabuhay .. Tapos dito gagawin

ang ms universe sa 2017 hehe pag landing palang sasabihin nila ay ano to waley jilaw te ... #mu-ranalangangled #perohomesweethomepadin.”

FROM MIA TO NAIA TO MIA. Sa comment section, may mga nagsabi namang dapat daw ibalik sa dating pangalan na MIA ang NAIA.

Sinang-ayunan naman ito ng tinaguriang Philippine Queen of Comedy.

Ang Manila International Airport ay naitatag noong 1981.

Pinalitan ang pangalan ng paliparan sa Ninoy Aquino International Airport noong taong 1987 upang pagbibigay-pugay sa nasirang asawa ni noo’y Pangulong Corazon ‘Cory’ Aquino na Benigno ‘Ninoy’ Aquino, na pinasalang sa tarmac ng MIA noong August 1983.



Rhian Ramos is single again

Actress Rhian Ramos admitted to nursing a broken heart following her breakup with Israeli businessman Amit Borsok.

She didn’t exactly offer details as to the actual cause of their split but in her recent vlog, the 29-year-old actress-singer divulged, “It was so hard, I really had a hard time.”

“I was, like, brokenhearted and, like, shattered,” she added.

Ramos added, the breakup, among other things, led to her losing a lot of weight.

“I was in so much pain and under so much stress and I wasn’t getting out of my bed. I wasn’t sleeping right. I couldn’t eat. Nothing tasted like anything. I was under so much stress that my body basically started eating itself...everyone thinks that I did this to myself on purpose but I didn’t. I was just having a really hard time,” she related.

She is now trying to bounce back by reading the Bible.

Ramos and Borsok made public their relationship only last year.

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Students Alfonso Manalo, Justyne Benico, Caitlyn Gujol, Hannah Penden complete their 2020 summer job at FCT.



Different vegetables like alugbati, basil, tomatoes are planted at the FCT.



FCT Summer Students 2020 Jobs Completion

Why Pinoy food is not as famous as other Asian cuisines



THAI, Chinese, Japanese — their cuisine, or at least iterations and versions of them, have already made themselves known to the world. The West has adapted some of these dishes for their own repertoire. If California Maki and Orange Chicken exists, well, why haven't we heard of, say, a San Francisco adobo?

Mikey del Rosario, Chef Consultant at Mabini's in Malate, shares its space with another icon, Tesoro's. Both serve the same goal: Tesoro's shows the refinement of our craft and native dress; and so does Mabini's with our food, with such creations as a pancit with **FILIPINO FOOD** continued on page 23

Alfred Vargas reveals why PWDs have a special place in his heart

Actor-politician Alfred Vargas always has a soft spot for the less privileged, specifically persons with disabilities (PWDs).

Unknown to many, the amputation of his beloved grandmother's leg due to bone cancer when he was still a young eight-year-old boy exposed him to the challenges faced by a PWD and made a lasting impact on him.

He felt sad that how a vibrant grandmother who led an active lifestyle could suddenly be imprisoned in a wheelchair and her movements be limited until her dying days.

"Losing her leg changed my Lola's life. That's why I wanted to help in my own little way to make things better for her somehow."

These days, in his pursuit of better governance towards providing social services for his constituents in the district of Novaliches in Quezon City, the lawmaker sees to it that the lessons he learned from the experience and the advocacy it consequently spurred in his spirit, shall never be lost on him.

Last August, on the occasion of his late Mother Susana Vargas' birthday, Cong. Alfred launched via a Zoom press conference, a new program called PWeDe!



for PWDs that focuses on supporting PWD livelihood centers, offering puhunan programs, providing wheelchairs and hearing aids.

Alfred also talked about his Pantawid Graduation program that grants financial aid to senior graduating students with disabilities. At the same time, the third-term legislator also laid out plans for skills development and leadership trainings for both young and old this year.

"It's time to empower PWDs who have long suffered from neglect. Sa tulong ng PWeDe!, gusto nating mabigyan ng pagkakataon ang PWDs na mangarap, makapagtrabaho, makatapos ng pag-aaral

at magkaroon ng magandang buhay. Because in the end, PWeDe! naman talaga kung magtutulungan lang tayo," Vargas said, during a recent Zoom interview.

On his first term as councilor in 2011, Alfred filed an ordinance establishing a Persons with Disabilities Affairs Office (PDAO) in Quezon City.

Vargas continued his advocacy for PWDs in the House of Representatives. Among the bills he has already filed are expanding the Benefits and Privileges of PWD's, exclusive Parking Spacey and Penalizing Unauthorized Use, Accessibility to Transportation, Information and Communications Technology and to Other Facilities and Services, and providing PWD's with Online Volunteerism Opportunities.



Honeylen Tan's Birthday

Menudo ni Marian na-miss ni Dingdong

NAG-SELF quarantine si Dingdong Dantes matapos ang lock-in taping ng Descendants of the Sun PH para makasiguro sa kaligtasan ng pamilya. Pero hindi nakaligtaan ng kanyang asawang si Marian Rivera na padalhan siya ng paborito niyang pagkain.

Sa Instagram story ni Dingdong, ibinahagi niya ang pinadalang menudo ni Marian na sinamahan ng caption na,

“Salamat mahal ko! I’ve been craving for this! #MenudoNiIngkang #MenudoNi-Marian.”

Agad naman siyang sinagot ni Marian at pinost sa kanyang Instagram story na,



“See you soon, Mahal!”

Cassy hihiwalay na sa pamilya

SA isang video ng Legaspi family sa YouTube channel ni Carmina Villarroel,

inanunsyo ni Cassy Legaspi na malapit na siyang mapanood sa kanyang sariling YouTube channel.

Kuwento ni Cassy, “I’m just settling things. Pero most likely, I would say second or third week of September.”



Ipinaliwanag naman ni Carmina kung bakit nahihirapan ang kanyang anak sa pag-asikaso ng kanyang channel, “Medyo busy rin siya because aside from taping Sarap, ‘Di Ba? Bahay Edition, of course they have school. It’s not really easy to make your own YouTube channel. May limit lang ‘yung mga galaw namin because we don’t go out.”

Inamin ni Carmina na hindi madali ang pagbuo ng channel base sa kanyang experience. “It’s not a joke to have a YouTube channel. I can say this because I can relate. Because I have my own channel and it’s not really easy,” lahad ni Carmina.



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Rocco utang na loob kay Wolf ang pagiging navy reservist

HALATANG emotional si Rocco Nacino sa Instagram post niya sa last taping day ng primetime series na ‘Descendants of the Sun.’

“Finally home. Yesterday was the last day na suot ko ang uniporme ni Diego Ramos. Mangiyak-ngiyak ako habang hinuhubad ko ang outfit na ito, realizing that yes, tapos na kami sa show na ito.”

Nagpasalamat din si Rocco sa lahat ng bumubuo sa show, “Thank you Wolf, talagang minahal ko ang pagganap sa character mo, dahil sayo kaya ako naging isang Navy Reservist. The tears weren’t for the last taping day, it was all for the blessings that came because of the show. Now we sit back and wait, sabik ako makita ang produkto ng pinaghirapan namin ng isang taon. Thank you to everyone involved in this show. This is Technical Sergeant Diego Ramos, aka Wolf, mission accomplished! Abangan ang Descendants of the Sun: The Philippine Adaptation, soon on GMA Telebabad.”



Winwyn may takot sa pagbabalik-taping

KABADO pero excited na nag-share ang beauty queen-actress na si Winwyn Marquez sa kanyang fans sa nakaraang Kapuso Brigade ZOOMus-tahan tungkol sa upcoming GMA show na ‘I Can See You.’

Nagsimula na ang taping ng cast nito kung saan ay kasama ni Winwyn sina Alden Richards, Jasmine Curtis-Smith, Paolo Contis, Yasmien Kurdi, Andrea Torres at Benjamin Alves.

Naikuwento niya na may takot pa rin siyang nararamdaman sa nakakapanibagong work setup, “I’m leaving this week for a lock-in taping, so ‘di ko alam kung ano i-expect ko at paano ako mag-a-adjust. I just want to be honest. Natatakot ako, siyempre, kasi ‘di ko alam kung papaano kikilos, ‘di ko alam kung maapektuhan ba ‘yung pag-a-acting—it’s all new, e. Siguro, I’ll just take it day by day kung paano ako mag-a-adjust sa work.”



Erich Gonzales

Talks Enrich Originals & Her Relationship With Enchong Dee



Katorse was a primetime television series that came out on August 24, 2009. It was then that Erich Gonzales captured our hearts with her tenacious and persistent portrayal of 14-years-old Elena Reyes. The years have now come and gone, and Erich herself has had numerous versatile roles since. But one constant presence in both her work and personal life is her best friend and fellow Katorse co-star, Enchong Dee.

Katorse was a primetime television series that came out on August 24, 2009. It was then that Erich Gonzales captured our hearts with her tenacious and persistent portrayal of 14-years-old Elena Reyes. The years have now come and gone, and Erich herself has had numerous versatile roles since. But one constant presence in both her work and personal life is her best friend and fellow Katorse co-star, Enchong Dee.

There's a certain allure to the idea of falling in love with your best friend. It's the chemistry, the relatability, and the idea of being with someone without the trappings of pretension. And this is something that Erich Gonzales and Enchong Dee have encountered throughout their time together.

In the days leading up to Katorse's 11th year anniversary, Erich has been dropping crumbs of information on Enrich Originals, their latest project together. The YouTube channel will act as a catalogue of different original stories, series, and feature films star-

ring and produced by the two of them.

While die-hard fans of them as a couple may be disappointed to find their platonic standing with each other, they can still have that romantic experience with "Enrich" through the channel. "The reason why it's called Enrich Originals is because the possibilities are endless."

Presently, they are filming the

first season of their first series. The upcoming series will see Erich play Gianna Reyes alongside Enchong as Gian Carlo Santillan. As a passion project, their team is composed of a small but talented group of people. Some of those involved include those they have worked with before such as Noreen Capili, a writer from Katorse, their cameraman from The Blood Sisters, and an editor from Be My Lady.

While unable to release further details, Erich shares that they aim to spread positive and feel-good vibes with their series. "We don't have any expectations but, we're hopeful for a good outcome."

As for Erich herself, she has been having a successful run with her own YouTube channel. She recently achieved the milestone of 1 million subscribers. She's also been offered a couple of new TV series and films, which remain undisclosed until finalization. For now, she isn't chasing success so much as she wants to connect with her fans.

"My main goal is for my supporters and I to get closer. What's important for me is that through my channel, I am able to connect with them."

Why Andi Eigenmann prefers island life to showbiz

Actress Andi Eigenmann has revealed the reason for choosing a simple life in Siargao over show business.

Andi said that she just wanted to free herself from the limelight for a while but then she found herself there.

But she maintained that her basis to stay away from the spotlight is not about showbiz itself but just the "timing."

"Parang I started at a time I was so young and I didn't really know who I was yet and I felt so lost. So, in turn, hindi na ako naging masaya. So putting myself away from it gave me the chance to find myself somehow, or my happiness," the daughter of seasoned stars Mark Gil and Jaclyn Jose said.

There, Andi was able to build her own family along with professional surfer Philmar Alipayo and one-year-old daughter Lilo. Andi is now pregnant with their second child.

Andi shared that the island life has been giving her a "sense of freedom and peace" that's why she wouldn't trade those things for anything.

"Parang I get to be who I want to be or who I really am without anybody judging me," her words were. "And being the public eye for so many years and everyone seeing me make every single mistake in my life as I was growing up, it's really refreshing what the island has given me."

"So parang that feeling of giving myself the dream life that I've always wanted allows me to be my best self, be happy."

Anak nina Rochelle at Arthur sumasaway na rin

LAST August 8 ay nag-celebrate ang mag-asawang Rochelle Pangilinan at Arthur Solinap ng kanilang third wedding anniversary. Ang kanilang first born na si Shiloh Jayne ay magtu-two years old na on February 24, 2021.

Kahit wala pang two years old si Shiloh ay nakakitaan na ito ng pagiging mahilig sumayaw na tila minana niya sa kanyang mga magulang. Dancer-actress si Rochelle at naging dancer din si Arthur nung kabataan niya.

Donita bumalik na sa San Francisco

LAST August 19, 2020 ay Bumalik na ng San Francisco, California, USA ang Fil-Am host-actress na si Donita Rose kung saan naka-base ang kanyang pamilya.

Bago bumalik ng Amerika ay binigyan si Donita Rose ng despedida dinner ng dati niyang mga kasamahan sa "That's Entertainment" na ginanap sa bahay ni Vina Morales in Quezon City. Ito'y dinaluhan din nina Karla Estrada, Ruffa Gutierrez at Jackie Forster.

Si Donita ay matagal nang hiwalay sa kanyang Fil-Am husband na si Eric Villarama kung kanino siya may 16-year-old son na si Joshua Paul or JP.

Sina Donita Rose at Eric ay ikinasal nung June 2003 sa Santa Barbara, California, USA.

During their "That's Entertainment" days ay naging nobyo ni Donita Rose ang actor-politician-entrepreneur na si Gary Estrada who is now happily married sa actress-entrepreneur na si Bernadette Allyson.

Si Donita Rose ay huling napagod in 2017 sa pelikulang "Seven Sundays" na tinampukan nina Ronaldo Valdez, Aga Muhlach, Dingdong Dantes, Cristine Reyes at Enrique Gil.



Billy Crawford breaks down in tears to say goodbye to ABS-CBN for TV5

MANILA, Philippines – Former Kapamilya TV host Billy Crawford turned emotional as he bid farewell to ABS-CBN to move to TV5.

In his recent guesting with Vice Ganda's "Gabing Gabi na Vice," Billy said it was difficult for him to leave the Kapamilya network, but he will do it for the sake of his family.

"I just want to say thank you. Thank you sa pagkakaibigan at pagpapatotoo mo sa akin," Billy told Vice.

Vice told Billy that he understands his transfer and will not forget Billy.

"Maaaring lumipat siya ng bahay, pero family pa rin tayo. Kaya kahit lumipat ka ng bahay, kahit saang bahay man tayo mapunta, family kita at magkapamilya [pa rin tayo], at mahal na mahal kita," Vice added.

"Mahal na mahal ko kayo. Mahal na mahal ko kayo," Billy replied to Vice.

Billy will be hosting a noontime show and a variety game show on TV5.

Ellen Adarna to fan with cheating partner: 'You deserve what you tolerate'

When asked for advice on how to deal with a cheating partner, Ellen Adarna became frank and said that one deserves what they tolerate.

The actress shared her thoughts on the topic while answering questions from her followers on Instagram Sept. 29. As questions poured in, one person lamented that she had caught her partner cheating on her again and sought advice from the actress.

After reading the question, the actress simply told the fan: "You deserve what you tolerate." Her reply quickly went viral online and gained her praise on Twitter. One user (@pattiechoo) posted a video of Adarna's answer and likened her to a friend who is fed up with one's foolishness.

Meanwhile, one @nardfeels stated that Adarna's answer can also be applied to the Philippines' "state of governance."

"We deserve the politicians whom we elect," he said. "And history would tell us that we are not learning our lessons."

Ellen Adarna's "you deserve what you tolerate" statement timely reflects not just in romantic relationship but also our country's state of governance. We deserve the politicians whom we elect. And history would tell us that we are not learning our lessons.

Along with entertaining questions from her fans, Adarna is currently enjoying quality time with her son Elias Modesto in Cebu. She shares Elias with fellow celebrity John Lloyd Cruz.





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New Beginnings

ICONIC TALAKAYAN RADYO FILIPINO SHUTTERS MICS



The Talakayan Filipino Radyo Family composed of , shown left to right, Tony A. San Juan, Nelson Galvez, Karen Tan, Jess Cabrias, Karen Pascual- Binaday, Bobby Achacon, May Capobres- Cabrias and Joe Damasco.

Paalam!

It is the end of an era. Yes, mga Kababayan. The beloved and quintessential Talakayan Radyo Filipino (TRF), “ang tinig ng Filipino sa Toronto” turned off sadly its microphones to its legion of listeners and viewers saying good-byes after more than 17 years of community-wide broadcasting and bringing news and commentaries on current affairs, issues and developments in the Filipino- Canadian community in Ontario as well as in the Philippines. TRF ceased to continue its public service mission due mainly to the sudden retirement of its founder and producer for health reasons. Sorrowfully, the amiable community leader, journalist and indomitable gentle giant, Bicolano Jess Cabrias passed away at age 76 on May 3, 2020.

The very difficult and melancholic decision to get off the air definitely was made last March 14, 2020 (Saturday), after its farewell broadcast on March 7, 2020, 11:00 am. EST at the MCBN Media- Pinoy Radio station in Thornhill, Ontario. The popular weekly radio show admirably heard and watched commencing from its maiden broadcast in 2002, has been purposefully serving its discriminating followers coast-to-coast from Canada to the Philippines, USA and across continents. It has also generously accommodated requests from special-interest groups

and individuals for specific announcements and promotional endorsements to the general public.

Historically, TRF is well known for inviting to its many shows remarkable guests who discussed and shared meaningful insights, cutting-edge information and up-to-date advice on relevant and reflective themes especially during its every Q & A period time. The TRF broadcast team, over the years, has proudly invited and engaged more than 750 Filipino personalities from the various disciplines and walks of life such as professionals & practitioners, politicians & aspiring candidates, business executives & entrepreneurs, community association heads & leaders, film and musical entertainers & concert producers, local newspaper publishers & journalists, fashion designers & couturiers, diplomats & foreign service officers and blue-collar workers.

Some of its distinctive and distinguished guests were former Philippine President Fidel Ramos, then-Secretary of Tourism Wanda Tulfo Teo and a host of then serving Philippine Ambassadors to Canada, Consul-Generals and Consuls as well. Among its long-time sponsors and prominent supporters was Ra-

The hours fade, the moments fly, and time never stand still. We now look into the pool of memories and pause awhile in pious meditation to think of the things we did not do but should have done and hope that in tomorrow, we shall improve upon today. Good day, pleasant weekend and Dios mabalos sa indong gabos”

fael Nebres of Action Honda, Ted Dayno of UMAC, Agnes Miranda of World Financial Group and many others.

Founded and produced by the late Jess Cabrias and his wife May Capobres-Cabrias who acted as Main Anchor and Administrative Coordinator, respectively. Among those who served with the wonderful couple were Karen Tan(“Pangalawang Abala”), Nelson Galvez(Event Coordinator), David “Bobby” Achacon(IT Coordinator), Joe Damasco(Roving Reporter), Karen Pascual-Binaday(Lifestyle Editor), and Tony A. San Juan(Political Commentator) and for a time, Paul Dela Cruz, Cecille Chan-Lim, Anne Quinto-Wong, Cheryll San Juan, Roberto (Butch) aka “ Mang Kepweng” Galicia, Rachelle Cruz and Mon Datol.

Operating under the banner of Toronto Syndicated Network, the communication vehicle has its on-air beginnings in a Toronto east-end industry park, next into an Etobicoke site, then to Fairchild Radio (Dial AM 1430) in Richmond Hill, and lastly at the Pinoy Radio studio(online live stream) in North York’s Bathurst & Wilson Avenue and at the Patricia Kemp Community Centre in Thornhill, Ontario.

With countless happy memories, Talakayan Radyo Filipino is greatly appreciative and grateful to all its faithful fans, supporters, advertisers, media friends, technical & administrative staff and network partners for the trust, loyalty, contributions and encouragement continually extended over the many challenging years throughout its service and existence as a pioneering brand for a Filipino Canadian community communication forum.

Appreciating before signing off the weekly broadcast, the signature voice of “Kuya Jess” Cabrias prominently rings out: “The hours fade, the moments fly, and time never stand still. We now look into the pool of memories and pause awhile in pious meditation to think of the things we did not do but should have done and hope that in tomorrow, we shall improve upon today. Good day, pleasant weekend and Dios mabalos sa indong gabos”. Lights off, sounds out, goodbye folks! (Tony A. San Juan, OCT-Retired)



Angeline humihingi ng dasal para sa ina-inahan

ANG 30-year-old singer-actress na si Angeline Quinto ay hindi lumaki sa kanyang separated biological parents na sina Pop Quiros at Rosemarie Susan Mabao. Pagkapanaganak niya ay inalagaan na siya ng kanyang paternal grandmother (aunt of her father) na si Sylvia Quinto (Mama Bob).

Although may communication si Angeline sa kanyang ama na may ibang nang pamilya, she only got to meet her biological mother seven years ago, when she was 23 years old.

Nalaman niyang nung ipinagbubuntis siya ng kanyang ina ay kamuntik siyang ipa-abort nito.

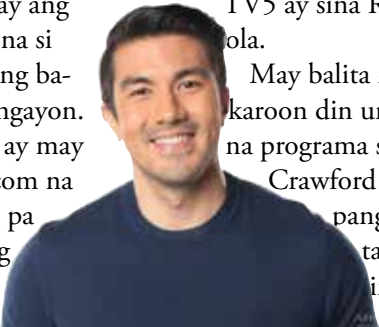
Speaking of Angeline’s Mama Bob, humihingi ng prayers ang singer-actress for her grandmother (at ina-inahan) na may heart ailment at naoperahan sa puso nung isang taon.

Iba pang ABS-CBN talents na lumipat na

SAMANTALA, kung ang ibang contract talents ng ABS-CBN ay kanila nang ni-let go, ang mga natitira naman nilang talents ay maluwag na nilang `pinahihiram’ sa ibang network.

Dalawa sa mga dating contract talents ng Star Magic na sina McCoy de Leon

at Diego Loyzaga ay lumipat na sa Viva Artists Agency. Isa rin sa kanilang pinakawalang artist ay ang singer-comedienne-host na si Pokwang na may dalawang bagong TV shows sa TV5 ngayon. Habang si Vina Morales ay may nakatakdang bagong sitcom na sisimulan sa Net25 labas pa ito sa pagiging hurado ng isa nilang singing competition program.



Ang iba pang talents na identified with ABS-CBN na may bagong programa sa TV5 ay sina Ria Atayde at Jessy Mendiola.

May balita ring kumakalat na magkakaroon din umano ng magkakahiwalay na programa sina Luis Manzano at Billy Crawford sa TV5 bagay na ayaw pang kumpirmahan ng mga taga Singko at mga taong involved.

Samantala, sa kabila ng

pagkawatak-watak ng mga empleyado at talents ng Kapamilya network, marami pa rin ang naniniwala na mare-restore ng said TV network ang kanilang prangkisa balang araw. Ang nakakalungkot lamang na balita ay tuluyan nang nawala sa kanila ang kanilang frequency na binawi ng National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) and up for grabs sa ibang interesado.

How sad.



Entertainment, Culture, Santacruzanan Food, ...and many more!

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SCARBOROUGH CIVIC CENTRE

Single mom Sunshine Cruz on raising 3 daughters

Since her marriage fell apart (in 2013), Sunshine Cruz has been acting as both mother and father to her three beautiful daughters Angelina, 18; Samantha, 16; and Francheska, 15. From plain housewife, Sunshine turned into a full-fledged working woman carefully balancing and dividing her time between home and showbiz with amazing success.

Up to now, seven years after she separated from Cesar Montano (their marriage was annulled in Sept. 2018), Sunshine hasn't stopped working. She is in the cast of Love Thy Woman.

Asked what the hard part of raising her daughters is, Sunshine candidly replied, "The hardest part of raising them alone is noong time na kailangan ko mag-work full time but I also have to be there for them. They had gotten used to my being with them at home all the time. At first, hindi nila maintindihan why I had to leave and go home late or morning na.

"But thank God, my children are understanding and smart kids. I made them understand and be thankful kapag may opportunity for work si mommy kasi that's what gives

us food on the table.."

Sunshine has never been the controlling type. "We don't hide secrets from each other, we always have to be honest. We share and discuss whatever bothers us. I always tell them, I am always here to help, protect and support them whatever issues or whatever worries them. They cannot go out of



With daughters Angelina, Samantha and Francheska: Showbiz is in their genes so it's okay for mom to let them follow in her footsteps

the house without my permission and I should always know the friends they hang out with. But I always remind them that school should always be their top priority. Napaka-importante para sa akin ang makatapos sila ng pag aaral."

Minus a patriarch, their home is ever sunshiny, full of girlish laughter.

"We are like barkadas most of the time. We joke around, naglalambingan at kulitan but when I need to be strict, they must listen and follow my rules.

Andito lang ako to guide them.

"I always tell them to learn from their mom's mistakes. Hahahaha!!! I did not listen to my mom before kaya huwag gumaya sa pagkakamali ko."

Since showbiz is in their genes (remember, Sunshine is descended from the showbiz Cruz clan), she understands her daughters' decision to follow in her footsteps. Showbiz can be, well, somewhat risky, especially if people don't know how to handle it (the temptations and all).

How does Sunshine prepare (train) her daughters to deal with, for example, gossip? "Honestly," admitted Sunshine, "wala namang

nakakatakas sa ganyan, especially fake news na masyadong personal. I'm 43 and I still get hurt or affected. I want to think my kids are stronger and smarter than me. Palagi kong pinagdarasal ang safety nila and to always protect their hearts and mind. And that they will always choose their battles even online."

It was September four years ago when she met Macky Mathey, her current love.

Isn't she and Macky ready to settle down? Didn't she develop a phobia for marriage? Sunshine broke into a triumphant laughter.

"Next question, please! Hahahaha!!!"

Jodi Sta. Maria, Raymart Santiago are dating

MANILA — "Ang sa Iyo ay Akin" star Jodi Sta. Maria is dating Raymart Santiago.

The two are thought to be "happy" in a relationship, reported talent manager Noel Ferrer.

Ferrer shared that Santiago confirmed the news to him, after he asked him about a photo that showed the actor and Sta. Maria embracing one another inside a private residence in Alabang.



"WE ARE HAPPY THAT YOU ARE HAPPY!!!" Ferrer exclaimed, sharing the photo on Instagram and tagging both the accounts of Sta. Maria and Santiago. "GOD BLESS YOU

BOTH!!!" he added.

Sta. Maria last dated Jolo Revilla, whom she broke up with in 2018.

She was also married to Pampi Lacson, but they split in 2011 after five years together. They have a son, Thirdy.

Santiago's last relationship was with a non-showbiz woman. He also had a failed marriage, with actress Claudine Barretto. They have two kids, Sabina and Santino.

IPEN joins Asialicious TO



Fake news vloggers shock Angel, Neil: 'Di namin alam, hiwalay na pala kami'



ANGEL Locsin says she and fiancé Neil Arce were shocked when vloggers and other social media platforms reported that their projected wedding will no longer push through as they have already broken up. So they quickly corrected this in their own accounts

"Fake news po 'yan," says Neil. "Ni hindi namin alam, hiwalay na pala kami."

He said in jest that he realized it's not him being referred to in the reports as he addressed him as Neil Arce when his family name is Arce. Could it be they're now pairing him off with Arci Munoz? Hahaha!

Angel, who's reported to have backed out of their wedding, wrote in turn: "Oh wow. Can't believe some people would stoop this low. Why do some people make this much effort to put me in a bad light? That is the question!"

The sad thing is that people so quickly believe fake news these days. Some unscrupulous vloggers are doing this so they can gain more hits in their youtube channels, which could mean more income for them. So they'll do anything just to get more viewers, even inventing false stories that have no basis on truth whatsoever.

Haven't they already killed a lot of celebrities in their vlogs, like Michael V, Gary Valenciano, Sunshine Cruz, just so people will click their sites and view them? These people absolute have no qualms, no morals, no compunction. Karma is waiting for all the lies.

Going back to Angel and Neil, what is true is that they have postponed their wedding earlier scheduled this coming December. But because of the corona pandemic, they have decided to postpone it for next year, no definite date yet as of now.

Alden at Jasmine mai-involve sa isang lockdown love affair



PUMAPASOK na sa third taping day ang inaabangang pagbabalik TV drama ni Alden Richards via the mini series, I Can See You episode na Love On The Balcony. First team up ito nina Alden and Jasmine Curtis-Smith with Pancho Magno and Denise Balbacena.

Maganda ang team up nina Alden and Jasmine na tungkol sa mga karakter na pare-parehong na-lockdown sa isang condominium building. Di makalabas kaya madalas silang magkikita sa building, particularly sa balcony sila magkakananawan.

Dito nagsimula ang kanilang sweet relationship.

Sa kuwento, si Alden ay isang wedding videographer at assistant niya si Pancho, samantalang si Jasmine ay isang registered nurse.

Magkakaroon ng relasyon sina Alden at Jasmine kaya timely ang istorya dahil love sa panahon ng lockdown.

Vina lands new shows, wins case against former lover

VINA Morales is given a second wind in her career on Net 25. She used to just play supporting roles in ABS-CBN soaps.

Now, she'll play a lead role opposite former boyfriend Robin Padilla in the sitcom which, we must admit, has a very contemporary and millennial title, "Kesaya-saya."

Aside from TV5, it's good that another TV station is going full blast now that ABS-CBN is out of circulation on free TV and that is Net25, the official station of the Iglesia ni Cristo which is best known for the "Moments" show of Gladys Reyes.

Aside from the sitcom, we heard Vina is getting another show in Net 25. She will be the host of a talent show that has another contemporary and millennial title, "Tagisan ng Galing", while Robin will also host a livelihood show with a similarly millennial title, "Kaagapay sa Hanapbuhay". They will eventually also make teleseryes and even full length movies. Our best wishes!

Pilita Corrales will play her mom in the sitcom and they'll be supported by other Iglesia ni Cristo actors. Vina is truly so happy these days because a libel case filed against her by Cedric Lee, the father of her lovechild, Ceana, has been dismissed in Caloocan. Lee has actually filed six libel cases against her and, so far, five have been dismissed. Only one remains, the one filed in San Juan in 2013.

Vina ended her relationship with Lee, also involved in the cases filed by Vhong Navarro against him and Deniece Cornejo, in 2009. While she was abroad, Lee took their daughter

and she filed a kidnapping case against him. In retaliation, he then filed libel cases against her. A court in Mandaluyong convicted Lee of kidnapping and failing to return their daughter in 2018.

Paolo gets breaks he deserves

PAOLO Contis obviously profited well from the good feedback he got for his fine performance in the drama flick, "Through Night and Day" when it was rediscovered by viewers of Netflix. We've always maintained that he's one of our better actors. It's just too bad he got so identified with comedy through 'Bubble Gang' and also with villain roles.

We're glad he's now shooting a new movie for Viva and also playing a lead role in GMA-7's new drama anthology, "I Can See You", with Yasmien Kurdi and Andrea Torres as his leading ladies. It's very noticeable that he has lost weight lately, unlike before when we'd see him in "All Out Sundays" looking chubby and chunky. What happened?

"Pinangatawanan ko ang pagpapayat kasi masyadong bumibigat ang timbang ko," he says. "Nahihirapan akong yumuko to tie my shoes. E kasi noong quarantine, wala kang ginagawa dahil walang tapings, kain ka pa ng kain. So lolobo ka talaga. Now, it's so hard to diet."

He has stopped eating a lot. "The first thing I did is to resort to juicing. Puro juice lang muna, so dusa, kasi ang sarap kayang kumain. In one week, six days, puro juice lang ako at isang araw lang ako kumakain ng totoong food. Napapanindigan ko naman."

He also now does some exercises.



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"Sinasabayan ko ng jogging, around our village lang. Sa panahon ngayon ng pandemya, it's really important to stay healthy and strengthen our immune system, para mas lumakas ang resistencia ng katawan natin laban sa virus."

So how is it taping his "I Can See You" episode? "Okay naman, kasi na-miss ko rin talagang umakting. We shot on location in Laguna, sa Cavinti and sa Caliraya Lake in Lumban. Walang virus cases doon, but we still practice the usual safety protocols and restrictions to make sure walang mai-infect sa amin."

Paolo has also found a new career as talk show host in GMA Artist Center's online show, "Just In, Kumustahan on Line". His recent interview with now U.S. based former actor Leandro Munoz registered a lot of hits after he admitted he has a daughter who's now a transman. Paolo is so relaxed as a host.

"Talagang parang nangungumusta lang ang style ng pagi-interview ko," he says. "Ayokong nape-pressure 'yung celebrity na kausap ko, para mas makapag-open up siya to the viewers."

Will Philippine malls survive?

- Movement restrictions, unemployment and health concerns saw retailer visits fall 55 per cent from February and July
- Shopping centre operators are preparing for the new normal by focusing on deliveries, e-commerce and logistics.

MANILA - Over the past five years, summertime has been one of the busiest seasons for Patty Marabut, who co-owns a dessert shop called The Lost Bread..

"Before the pandemic, we'd done several studies on how to transport our products and came to the conclusion that it was best to not offer delivery to maintain product quality," she said – but the small business was left with no choice.

The Lost Bread transitioned to delivering tubs of ice cream to stay afloat and keep most of its staff employed.

"Consumers have been very hesitant to visit the malls or stay inside for a long period."

In a nutshell, that is the predicament afflicting shopping centre tenants as well as operators. When the government partially eased lockdown restrictions in June, Filipinos did not return back to shopping centres in big numbers.

Visits to retail establishments across the Philippines fell an average of 55 per cent between February and July. In Manila, the capital, visits slipped 68 per cent over that period – a huge

blow to an economy that heavily relied on household spending.

In the archipelagic country, there is more than one shopping centre for every city and province, while

the count in Metro Manila alone

rivals that of similarly mall-heavy Bangkok.

While sales draw crowds every month to major malls, most customers now go shopping with the intent to make a particular purchase instead of just browsing, according

to Jonjon San Agustin, senior vice-president of the Philippines' largest retail operator, SM Supermalls, which has 74 centres



A security guard watches as a shopper exits from a disinfection channel installed at the entrance of a shopping mall in Manila.

around the country.

"Foot traffic did not reutrn to noraml," San Agustin said. "Here, they just go to groceries or

the pharmacies."

Part in the reson for the consumer behaviour is the Philippines' high number of 200,000 Covid-19 cases , the most in Southeast Asia.

Public transportation and financial difficulties have also been affected, with 27 million adults are now unemployed.

The situation has forced shopping centre operators to embrace digital solutions, ranging from personal shopping services to deliveries, to help their tenants.

A mall tenant who said SM Supermalls is building an e-commerce platform. Robinsons Mall, Megaworld, Vistamalls has also ventured into these services.

These industry has to innovate to survive this year.

Some retailers might now also start exploring the possibility of turning vacant spaces into offices or warehouses, according to Colliers senior research manager Joey Bondoc.

In the post-pandemic world, shopping centre operators are preparing for this new consumer behaviour to remain for the long haul. "Convenience is the 'new experience'.

As to how shopping centres will handle shoppers' growing affinity for online retailing, San Agustin is hopeful they will go back to their old ways.

"Filipinos love gatherings. We are highly social," he said. "I believe the market's mall-going ways will be back."

Liza Soberano support Star Magic staff affected by ABS-CBN retrenchment

The actress says she is ready to support the staff's businesses or new ventures

Liza Soberano offered her support "in any way or form" to the staff of ABS-CBN's talent management arm Star Magic that have been affected by the network-wide retrenchment that took effect on August 31.

In a video message posted on Star Magic's PR head Thess Gubi Instagram, Liza said, "I know that you guys are going through a really hard time right now, and it just breaks my heart to think about it but I just want you guys to know that there is always



a rainbow after the storm. As cliché as it may sound it's true and this may all be part of god's big plan for all of us."

She went on to pledge her support to the Star Magic staff who may need it.

"If you guys have new businesses

that you guys are planning on opening up, or new ventures that you guys are looking into, I wanna show my 100% support all the way through, just please let me know how to," she said.

True to her name, she remained hopeful that their Star Magic family will be reunited, and that the network will come back.

"I don't believe this is the end for all of us, I believe that ABS will one day come back stronger and better than ever and I believe that all of us will be together again," she said.

Pokwang still lost in translation with Lee

POKWANG just celebrated her 48th birthday and shared on her vlog how she misses her daughter Malia's nanny, Yaya Gina, who went home to their province and decided not to return to Manila anymore due to the pandemic.

"As a mom, I can understand, nag-aalala 'yung family niya sa kanya," says Pokey. "Sayang kasi we really like her, she can be trusted as a good yaya, but then may anak din siyang naiwan sa probinsiya, so naiintindihan ko. Andaming naging epekto nitong pandemic sa'ting lahat and we have to learn how to let go sa mga tao o bagay for their own good."

Pokey remains busy hosting two shows on TV5, "Chika, BESH" and "Fill in the Bank". What can she say to the criticism that she, Pauleen Luna and Ria Atayde are just imitating the former talk show on ABS-CBN, 'Magandang Buhay', and they don't have good chemistry yet.

"Marami namang ibang morning shows in the past hosted by women,

nauna na 'yung 'Sis' sa GMA, so hindi naman basta gayahan lang ito," she says. "As for the chemistry, darating naman 'yan. Maski 'yung 'Magandang Buhay', nangaparin sila noong una (Jolina Magdangal, Melai Cantiveros and Karla Estrada). Nade-develop naman 'yung chemistry as the show goes along. Ang importante, kami nina Pauleen and Ria, we really like each other and we all want to improve as hosts para mapaganda ang show namin."

No doubt that among them, she has the most life experiences, having worked as a dancer in Japan, having a child there with a Japanese guy, making it in the Philippines, and now having another kid with an American. Since she is the most senior and the natural comedienne among them, she can also be considered the "bangka" or



team leader.

When she had her recent birthday presentation in "Chika, BESH", she couldn't help but cry tears of joy when her inamorato, Lee, suddenly popped up to greet her and praised her for being such a good and generous mother and partner to him. She said she's very lucky to have a partner in Lee who's very considerate and even cooks for her.

"Yun nga lang, nahihirapan talaga ako sa English kaya kapag nagsasagutan kami, tumatalikod na lang ako kasi nauubusan ako ng sasabihin," she says. "Pero later, siya pa ang susuyo sa akin at tatawagin ako, halika na, kumain na tayo, in Tagalog ha. Puro pasasalamat talaga ako kay Lord. Very powerful ang dasal, e. Kasi ayan, andaming walang trabaho, pero ako dala-dalawa pa ang bagong shows ko. Hindi talaga ako puwedeng magrekلامو."

THE SOCIALIST
continued from page 4

weeks later by celebrating the 5th year anniversary of her event planning business, also on a backyard in a different house.

More difficult to present are festivals where people are used to gathering shoulder to shoulder. But some hardy souls and organizers are still pushing through.

Benny Cheung, President of the Federation of Asian Canadians Toronto and Councillor Cynthia Lai, Honorary Chair of Asialicious Carnival, launched Asialicious Carnival

Asialicious Carnival was a kickstart to Asialicious TO, a month-long restaurant program, with entertainment and showcasing Asian food. With Asialicious TO, you can order food at participating Asian restaurants and have it delivered free by Chowbus up to October 11. Chowbus is the



Councillor Cynthia Lai and Benny Cheung

exclusive food delivery partner and you also get first month free delivery when you sign up.

The favourable reactions from Asialicious TO is encouraging.

"Restaurant owners are calling me and saying that sales have definitely increased because of Asialicious TO," says Councillor Cynthia Lai, in a meeting at FV Foods, one week after the launching.

The carnival was held at Woodside Square in Scarborough. There were food trucks and presentations to entertain people. It's a drive-in entertainment where people stay in their vehicles as entertainers performed on stage. It wasn't a convenient way to attend a festival but during this pandemic, we all have to sacrifice a little. Congratulations to the organizers for pushing with the festival under trying circumstances.

It seems some people have been

busy renovating. There has been talk of lumber shortage. I guess people have been busy fixing things in the house. My sister was one of them. She asked me to check on a "1" x 5" x 8' Treated cedar" at Home Depot. She needed 3 of them. There was one left. I called her and she came to pick it up. The salesperson said that they expect the shipment to arrive on September 29. My sister will just have to come back on that day.

Some have been cooking, baking and selling them to friends, family and others. Suddenly, almost everyone became chef, or a baker.

Then, there are those who entered the world of fashion. With what? Making masks, what else?

With a reduced capacity for gatherings from 50 to 10 for indoors and from 100 to 25 for outdoors, life will have to be put on hold. More restrictions are being considered as infections continue to rise.

It is not going to be easy, convenient but we have to deal with it while we are under a pandemic.

Dimples Romana on playing 'best friend' roles: 'Nakapagpatayo ako ng bahay sa mga roles na 'yan'

Dimples Romana shares how she waited for her breakthrough in Bianca Gonzalez's 'Paano Ba 'To' vlog.

Dimples Romana became the celebrity guest of Bianca Gonzalez in her latest "Paano Ba 'To" vlog.

Bianca asked Dimples to give advice to a letter sender who was having a hard time waiting for her breakthrough.

Dimples shared that there was this instance when someone commented on her playing best friend roles and how she did not let it shake her perspective in life.

According to Dimples, her "best friend roles" actually helped put a roof over her head.



"Kaya ang iniisip ko 'pag sinabi nila 'yun, sabi ko na lang don sa lighting director ko, 'Kuya sabihin mo nakapagpatayo ako ng bahay sa mga best friend roles na 'yan kaya lahat ng best friend role na pwede kong kuhanin okay lang 'yun, kahit araw-araw pa kong maging best friend, okay lang 'yun,'" Dimples said.

On her advice to the letter sender, Dimples remarked that we all have different paths in life, hence why we should never compare our journey to others.

"Iba-iba 'yung pinagdadaanan natin, iba-iba tayo ng gusto, iba-iba tayo ng galing, [at] iba-iba tayo ng husay," she said.

"I would also pray [for our letter sender] na you would have a heart that is patient, a heart that will embrace every single thing that is beautiful in your journey right now because when the time comes that it is going to be a breakthrough for you, it is going to be sweeter," she said.

Maja Salvador says goodbye to ABS-CBN, treats family to street food party

MANILA, Philippines — Kapamilya actress Maja Salvador bade farewell to ABS-CBN, her home network for almost two decades, as she thanked the TV station for the support through the years.

In her Instagram account, Maja said she will join Star Magic head Johnny Manahan in a project with another network.



"Ako po ay taos pusong nagpasalamat sa mga taong walang sawang sumusuporta sa akin at sa ABS-CBN," she said.

"Mga kapamilya, sasamahan ko po muna ang aking tatay na si. MR.M kaya sana wag po kayo magulat kung makikita niyo akong lumabas sa ibang network at patuloy makapagbigay ligaya sa inyo kahit sa anong paraan at plataporma," she added.

Maja also asked her fans to support her in her latest journey..

"Sana po ay tuloy tuloy niyo akong samahan at suportahan sa kahit anong landas na aking tatahakin. maraming salamat po," she said.

Prior to this, Maja revealed that she now has over one million subscribers on YouTube. She celebrated her milestone with a street food party with her family and boyfriend Rambo Nunez. She documented the celebration in a YouTube vlog.

"Salamat sa pagsama sa masayang journey na ito. Marami pa tayong pagsasamahan mga beshies," she said.

"Isang milyong pasasalamat mga beshies. One million na tayo, one million subscribers. Maraming-maraming salamat po sa inyong lahat. Isang milyong pasasalamat dahil sa sinamahan niyo ako sa journey na ito. Noong naisipan ko na gumawa ng YouTube channel mga beshies, ginawa ko 'yon dahil mas gusto ko na makilala niyo po ba ako ng mas personal pa, kalalimlalaman na pagkakakilala, 'yung ganu'n," she added.

Jay Sonza claims Julia Barretto is pregnant, gets sued

Actress Julia Barretto filed a complaint against former broadcaster Jay Sonza at the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) today, Sept. 25, over rumors of her alleged pregnancy by Gerald Anderson that came out on Sonza’s Facebook page last Sept. 21.

Barretto, accompanied by her mother Marjorie Barretto, personally appeared before the NBI Cybercrime Division to ask the Bureau to investigate the “untrue and irresponsible statements made by Sonza on his social media account.”

She is bent on pursuing the case in spite of a succeeding post by Sonza last Wednesday retracting his earlier statements.

Barretto said, “I am pursuing this case because the statements made by Mr. Sonza are untrue and irresponsible. The widespread reposting of the news

based on his post caused distress to me and my family. I don’t want to take this matter lightly. Mr. Sonza, and all those who publish these reckless and baseless posts, must be held accountable for their actions so that they think twice before claiming things as fact.”

Following is the excerpt of Sonza’s Facebook post about Julia and Gerald last Monday, Sept. 21.

“Dito muna tayo sa mga balitang may katotohanan, may pag-iibigan, may pinagsaluhang nakakapanginig ng laman at higit sa lahat, nagbunga.”

“Napatunayan nina Visoy (visayan tisoy) Gerald Anderson at anak nina Dennis Padilla at Marjorie Barretto na si Julia Barreto na kapuwa hindi sila bago. After months of love lockdown and ESQ (exact sex quadrant) – may nabuo sa sinapupunan ni Julia.



Last Wednesday, Sept. 23, Sonza posted the following on his same Facebook page, seemingly taking back what he has formerly written:

“Hindi ako buntis. – Julia
Hindi buntis ang anak ko. – Marjorie
May umamin kasi kaya nagalak ako.
Kung ganoon po, binabawi ko ang aking masayang pagbati.
Happy & excited kasi ako kappa may nabibiyayan ng Buhay.
Pasensya na kung napaaga ang aking Congratulations.”



The actress exercises daily to stay fit and mentally sharp.

Kim Chiu: ‘Bawal Lumabas’ doesn’t define me as an artist

Who are they to judge me? The [‘Bawal Lumabas’] video was just two short minutes of my life. It doesn’t define me.”

Thus said actress Kim Chiu when asked her how she managed to recover from the incident that had caused her to feel depressed and experience anxiety attacks while on quarantine.

“Of course there was a time [during the enhanced community quarantine] when I felt mega down. That’s when I received mega bashing from people,” said Kim while being her usual chatty self. “I’ve managed to live this long and stay in show biz after all these years, I will definitely survive online bashing.”

Kim received intense criticism from netizens after she posted on her vlog and Instagram account a video of her trying to compare the implementation of the National Telecommunications Commission’s cease-and-desist order against ABS-CBN to classroom rules. This later became known as the “Bawal Lumabas” video.

“Since then, I promised I will not let myself get affected by what other people are saying about me. I will just be myself, continue doing what I want, and expressing how I feel. This is me. I never said I know the law well. I just want to share my feelings,” she pointed out.

Kim admitted that the experience felt “slightly hurtful,” but she has managed to “develop immunity for it (bashing). We have to learn to shrug off negative things, because if not, we will surely get affected emotionally,” the actress said.

“I refuse to feel stressed. I just want a happy environment. Depression usually sets in when you’re alone so it’s also good to surround yourself with people who truly care for you,” Kim declared, adding that she received enough emotional support from family and friends at the time.

Carmi Martin wins COVID-19 battle

Veteran actress Carmi Martin has recovered from her bout with the 2019 coronavirus disease.

The 57-year-old star shared her story via Instagram.

According to Carmi, she tested positive for the virus last Sept. 13 when she went to the Philippine Red Cross for a swab test, a requirement for a digital series under Star Cinema.

Carmi admitted that she really felt “bad” about it because she was raring for work.

“I was so prepared and really was so



excited to do it,” she said.

In any case, she’s thankful she is now COVID-19 free.

The seasoned star related the past two weeks she spent under quarantine was a “honeymoon with God.”

She shared how she spent each day praying for others, singing beautiful songs for the Lord and listening to excellent preaching.

“Having a Positive attitude, exercising and eating healthy food specially prepared by @gourmadebychefrobblau made me recover well,” she continued.

Carmi also expressed gratefulness for all the people who supported her during those hard times, among them

the ABS-CBN Medical team.

“Panginoong Diyos Salamat sa pagkakataon na mas lalo akong manalig sa iyo at maging blessing sa ibang tao na may mga pinagdadaang sa panahon ng Covid. My 2 week quarantine was so precious because spending time with GOD will always be the BEST! PRAISE GOD for I am now Covid free!”

She ended her post with the hashtags: “#ProudtobeMakatizen,” “#salutetofrontliners,” “#covid survivor,” and “#TeamMFSStrong.”

Carmi is the latest addition to the list of celebrities who recovered from the virus, aside from Enzo Pineda, Kakai Bautista, Christopher de Leon, Iza Calzado, Sylvia Sanchez, Michael V, and journalist Howie Severino.

FAMILY continued from page 1

brought by COVID-19 is being compounded by pressure to send money to their families back home, who are even hard-pressed by the ineffective response to the pandemic by the Philippine government. It’s a dilemma Filipino Canadians know all too well.

“People lost employment, had decreased hours,” says Mauriene Tolentino, the Filipino youth co-ordinator at the Urban Alliance on Race Relations.

But Filipino Canadians have redoubled efforts to send remittances to loved ones in the Philippines.

“Especially for those Filipinos who are the main income earners for their families back home, you ... have to send more money than usual because of what is happening,” says Clarissa Cacanindin, a financial adviser and insurance agent in Windsor, Ont.

Filipino Canadians fare better

When one looks at the increase in unemployment rates amid COVID-19, Filipino Canadians have fared better than other racial minorities in Canada.

While the jobless rate among South

Asian and Chinese Canadians was up by 9.1 percentage points and 8.4 percentage points respectively in July compared to the same month last year, among Filipino Canadians it climbed a lower 6.2 percentage points.

Crisis in the Philippines

Compounding the stress of financial losses at home is a dire situation in the Philippines.

The country, until recently one of Asia’s fastest-growing economies, plunged into recession as a strict lockdown left millions jobless.

But the Philippines’ shutdown of the capital Manila also came with draconian measures, which cut off millions of day labourers from their jobs, led to food shortages and protests.

But the militarized lockdown has not stemmed the spread of COVID-19. The country has the highest case counts in Southeast Asia.

The crisis puts an additional onus on ex-pat Filipinos around the world, whose remittances count for more than nine per cent of the Philippines’ GDP.

Filipinos around the world sent \$46 billion in 2019.

The Philippines was also the No. 1 destination of remittances from Canada in 2017, with Filipino residents transferring \$1.2 billion to relatives and

friends abroad that year.

Between a rock and a hard place

Worried about the well-being of loved ones in the Philippines, even some low-income Filipino workers in Canada are upping the amount they send abroad every month, according to Cacanindin.

She knows caregivers who earn less than \$25,000 yearly who increased their transfers from \$500 to “at least” \$1,000. They know the needs of family and friends in the Philippines have more than doubled, Cacanindin adds.

And for some who lost their jobs, the only option to keep providing financial aid is to take on debt, she says.

“Some Filipinos I know have to borrow some money from other sources just to be able to send money in the Philippines.”

This explains why remittances from Filipinos abroad sustained their uptrend in July to hit \$3.09 billion and marks a second straight increase this year despite the global COVID-19 crisis. The inflows were likewise the biggest so far this year, hovering close to the surge in remittances during last year’s Christmas season.

But the pandemic has also spurred the

FAMILY continued on page 26



Financial adviser Clarissa Cacanindin

Kisses Delavin hailed as Philip-
pines' 'Most Beautiful Woman' for
2020

MANILA, Philippines — Kapuso actress Kisses Delavin is the "Most Beautiful Woman in the Philippines" for 2020, according to an online poll by entertainment site Starmometer.

The former "Pinoy Big Brother" housemate reportedly garnered 2,180,769 votes, winning over Maine Mendoza, Nadine Lustre and Kathryn Bernardo.

Maine is in second place, receiving a total of 1,873,741 votes while two-time titleholder Nadine is in third place with 1,406,627 votes.



Kathryn, winner of the poll last year, is in fourth place with 905,596 votes. It was Kisses' second time to top the poll, having done so in 2018.

Among the new entries were Adrianna So, who is in fifth place, while Jennylyn Mercado, Julie Anne San Jose, Loisa Andalio, Marian Rivera and Sanya Lopez are in 6th to 10th places.

In the poll's 15 years, Angel Locsin is still the record holder, topping the poll as the most beautiful

of the 100 Most Beautiful Women in the Philippines seven times.

DARNA
continued from page 14

pursue her Darna mission of extending a helping hand to the needy as founder of Generation HOPE whose flagship product is the bottled water called Hope in a Bottle.

Explained Nanette (who is as shape-ly as she was when she took flight as



With Manila Mayor Isko Moreno in partnership with the Aling Tindera program that helps safely dispose of plastic waste to avoid polluting the environment

Darna in 1991), "Generation HOPE is a company that donates 100 percent profit to building public school classrooms in partnership with DepEd. We just finished our 100th classroom recently."

Humbly, Nanette said that she doesn't want to take credit for it.

"I don't want people to think na ako ang nagbibigay ng mga classroom na 'yan. They are the people who patronize Hope in a Bottle which you can buy at Starbucks, 7-Eleven, Shangri-la, Rustan's and other supermarkets. So remember that every time you drink Hope in a Bottle, you are giving hope to school children who need classrooms."

Asked why schools are the beneficiaries of Generation HOPE, Nanette said, "The hope of the country and the world is in education, although it's a long-term proposition."

With the reopening of classes, pos-

sibly with schools adapting the online system (and avoiding crowding in classrooms), Nanette expressed some apprehension.

"I'm super takot," she admitted. "The online system could lead to education gap because the infrastructure is not available. But there's hope since the private sector is stepping in to help the government."

She observed that the new (millennial) generation is different from its predecessor.

"They are educated, connected, diverse and socially-conscious. Hindi lang pera ang hinahanap, very encouraging."

Aside from Generation HOPE, Nanette also heads two other companies — Friends of HOPE which deals with education and livelihood intervention and the new Plastic Credit Exchange (PCE) that works with companies that

use plastic packaging. "We help them safely remove post-consumer items para naman hindi mapunta sa dagat."

In partnership with Manila Mayor Isko Moreno and the DENR, Nanette recently launched the Aling Tindera program.

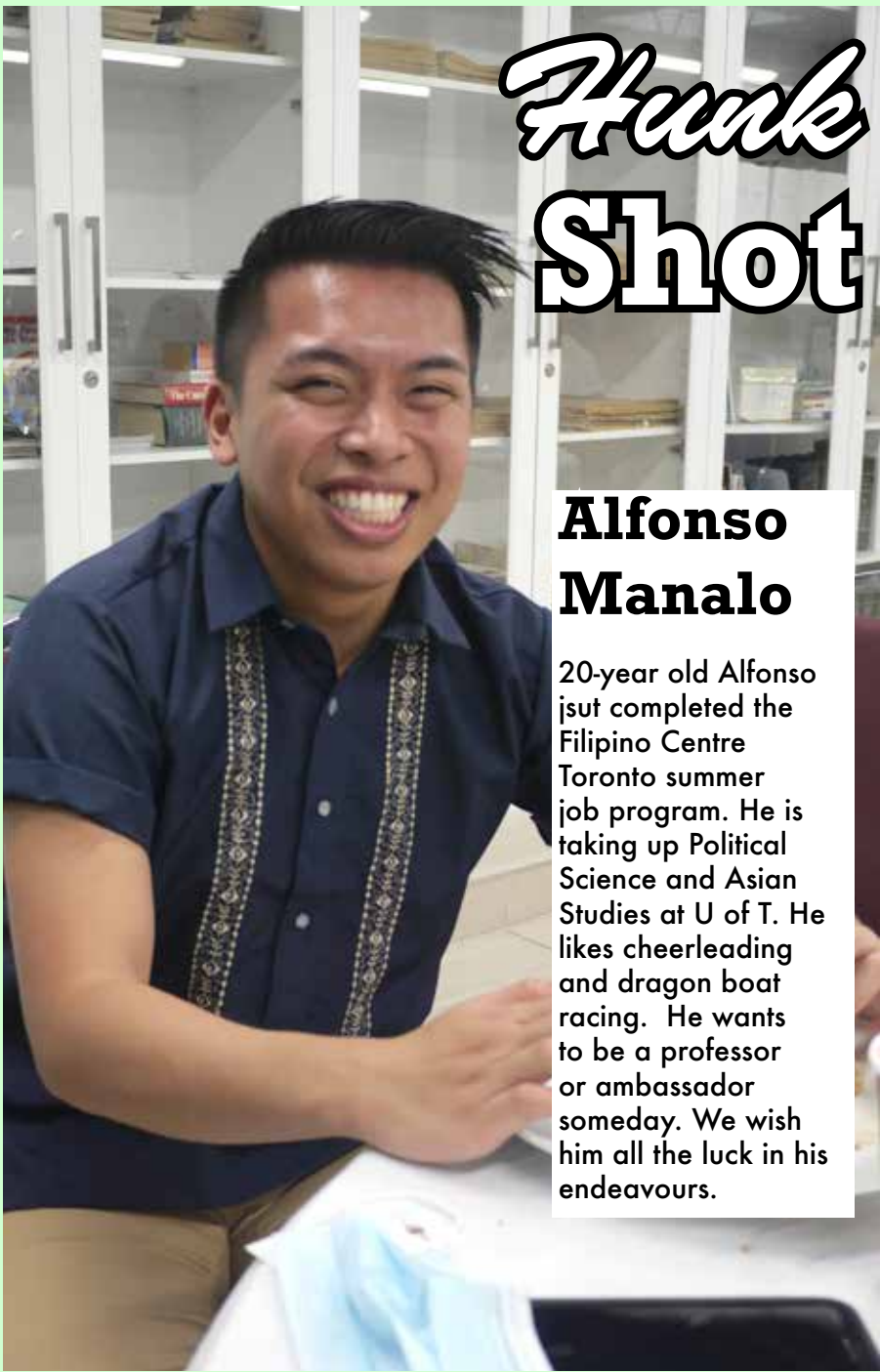
"We encourage the people not to throw away their plastic waste and exchange it with cash or goods at the Aling Tindera outlets. We help transport the plastics to our partner processing facility which is able to get rid of the plastics in a way na hindi makaka-pollute ng environment."

Incidentally, doesn't Nanette miss showbiz?

She laughed, "They don't need me anymore; hindi na nila ako kailangan. Maraming magaganda dyan na magagaling, di ba? Makikisingit pa ba ako? Huwag na! Hahaha!!!"

Okay, Ding, ang bato!!! Darna!!!

Frank
Shot



Alfonso
Manalo

20-year old Alfonso just completed the Filipino Centre Toronto summer job program. He is taking up Political Science and Asian Studies at U of T. He likes cheerleading and dragon boat racing. He wants to be a professor or ambassador someday. We wish him all the luck in his endeavours.

'When my car stops in certain
area': Kim Chiu reflects on horrific
van shooting

MANILA — Half a year after the horrific van shooting that almost took her life, which she claims was a case of mistaken identity, Kim Chiu continues to process her emotions.

In a pair of Instagram Stories posts Friday, the actress admitted to still feeling fear whenever her "car stops in this certain area," while showing a video of a road.

Kim Chiu appeared to have reflected on the ambush that almost took her life back in March via a pair of Instagram Stories post. Instagram: @chinitaprincess

She also reflected on how "you will never get over a particular thing if you keep on avoiding it."

"All you have to do is to face it and give a different perspective. Though it takes time and courage," she added.

It was back in March when she, her assistant, and driver miraculously emerged unscathed after unidentified gunmen fired eight shots at her van. The incident happened along Katipunan Avenue in Quezon City.



She admitted to being traumatized by the shooting, though she was also hurt by the accusations that followed claiming that she staged the ambush to garner attention.

She rebuked them by asking: "Gusto ko lang silang tanungin, kailangan ba talagang may mataman o mamatay para sabihin ninyong totoo iyong nangyari?"



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Why Jose Mari Chan became Mr. Christmas

JOSE MARI CHAN
from page 1

several netizens expressed this.

Here are some of the tweets about the OPM icon. Jose Mari Chan has been musically-inclined since he was young. He wrote his first song when he was just 13 years old. A year after that, he started composing already. Aside from his popular Christmas songs, he also had several hit love songs such as Beautiful Girl, Afraid for Love to Fade, Please be Careful with My Heart, and Can We Just Stop and Talk A While.

Noli de Castro, insensitive sa ABS-CBN talents na nawalan ng kontrata?

“Noli de Castro, gusto din naming maging Kapamilya Forever kaso ikaw na lang ang sumusuweldo, e. Be sensitive naman.”

Ito ang reaksiyon ni Willy Cuevas sa birong binitawan ni Noli de Castro tungkol sa mga dating kasamahan nito sa ABS-CBN na lumipat na sa ibang mga kompanya.

Nagsara ang Kapamilya Network matapos hindi pagkalooban ng Kongreso ng bagong franchise.

Si Willy ang creative manager ng mga game show at comedy show ng ABS-CBN tulad ng Minute To Win It at

Banana Sundae.

Tatlumpu’t tatlong taong naglingkod si Willy sa ABS-CBN.

Kabilang siya sa mga libu-libong empleyadong nawalan ng trabaho matapos magsagawa ng malawakang retrenchment ang pamunuan ang ABS-CBN.

Sa radio program ni Noli sa DZMM ng September 23, nagpatutsada siya sa mga dating kasamahan sa ABS-CBN na lumipat ng ibang networks.

Sabi niya, “Hay naku! Totoo ang sinasabi ko, kaya Kapamilya Forever. “Yung iba, e, nagsasabi [Kapamilya Forever], hindi naman pala forever. Wala naman forever kasi.”

Kumbinsido si Willy na naging insensitive si Noli kaya hindi niya pinalampas ang pahayag ng TV Patrol anchor na ito ang tunay na “Kapamilya Forever.”

“Para kasing nagpaparinig siya sa lumilipat, e, kaya lang naman lumipat ang mga yun kasi na-terminate na ang kontrata nila,” sabi ni Willy sa pakikipag-usap sa kanya ng Cabinet Files ngayong umaga, September 24.

“Ano pang gagawin nila doon kung wala na silang pagkukunan ng ikabubuhay? I think kaya niya lang nasasabi yun dahil may suweldo pa siya at hindi pa terminated ang kontrata niya.”

Ikinumpara ni Willy si Noli sa isang mascot.

“Kumbaga, mascot na siya ng kompanya. Wala namang kompanya ang magbebenta ng mascot kahit ma-bankrupt at wala rin bibili.

“Kumbaga, aanhin naman ng Jollibee si Ronald McDonald?

“Konting sensitivity lang ang hinihinagi namin sa kanya kasi masakit pa ang



sugat. Kumbaga, sariwa pa.

“Pwede naman kaming tawaging Kapamilya Forever kahit wala kami sa ABS-CBN,” paliwanag ni Willy, na hindi itinago ang pagkadismaya sa biro ni Noli.

Nagsimula ang TV career ni Willy sa gag show ng ABS-CBN na Goin’ Bananas noong 1987.

Ang Tropang Trumpo ng TV5 at Bubble Gang ng GMA-7 ang dalawa sa mga gag shows na inumpisahan niya.

Si Cuevas ang sumulat ng kuwento ng Pera O Bayong Not Da TV at direktor ng comedy series na Tarajing Potpot, bago siya naging abala bilang creative manager o taga-isip, ng mga new concept at pamamahala ng mga franchised programs ng ABS-CBN.

AIDub fans, pinuprotesta ang pagpasok ni DJ Loonyo sa Eat Bulaga!

“DLubyo at Same Step” ang sarkastikong tawag ng fans nina Alden Richards at Maine Mendoza kay DJ Loonyo.

Trending ngayon sa Twitter ang mga hashtags na #NoAldub-NoToEB, #AIDub-FullOfHope, at #AL-DUBatADNWasteNot dahil ayaw nilang napapanood sa Eat Bulaga! ang dancer at social media influencer na napansin sa panahon ng coronavirus pandemic.

Nagtatampo ang AIDub fans dahil matagal nang hindi nakikita si Alden sa Eat Bulaga, pero may DJ Loonyo na dalawang araw nang napapanood sa “Bawal Judgmental” segment ng Kapuso noontime show.

Nagsimula kahapon, Lunes, September 28, ang “Bawal Judgmental” stint ni DJ Loonyo. Mga dancer noong dekada ’80 ang choices na pinahulaan sa celebrity judge na si Pauline Mendoza.

Sa pangalawang pagkakataon, muling napanood sa Eat Bulaga! ngayong araw, September 29, ang popular male dancer para ipakita ang kanyang dance moves.

Unang lumabas si DJ Loonyo sa Eat Bulaga! noong September 19 bilang celebrity judge sa “Bawal Judgmental.”

Magiliw na magiliw at bilib na bilib si Vic Sotto sa mahusay na pagsasayaw ni DJ Loonyo.

Pero hindi ito aprubado sa mga tagahanga nina Alden at Maine na tutol na magkaroon ng bagong mukha sa Eat Bulaga.

Si DJ Loonyo ang napagdiskitahan ng AIDub supporters dahil sa exposure niya sa “Bawal Judgmental” at “Pamilya Nunal” segments na dating tinatampukan ni Alden.

Ang ibalik ang tandem ng AIDub sa Eat Bulaga! ang panawagan ng loyal supporters nina Alden at Maine.

Hindi na raw kailangang magdagdag ng bagong talent dahil masaya na sila sa grupo nina Maine, Alden, Wally Bayola, Jose Manalo, at Paolo Ballesteros.

“Cost cutting” pero kumukuha ng ibang guest at nagiging paningit na lamang sina Pia Guanio at Ryan Agoncillo ang mabigat na paratang ng AIDub fans sa Eat Bulaga! management.

Pero ayon sa isang insider, walang cost cutting na nangyayari dahil limitado lamang sa tatlo ang mga host sa Cainta studio ng noontime program ng TAPE Inc. bilang pag-iingat laban sa coronavirus.



BARTER
continued from page 1

groups to trade their possessions for food.

“Online bartering groups have provided a lifeline to... Filipinos hit hard by the country’s months-long virus restrictions that started in March and have sent the economy plunging into a deep recession,” it said. At least 98 groups are operating across the archipelago, of which some have tens of thousands of members. “Nearly all of them started during the pandemic as many Filipinos resorted to the ancient trading practice to feed their families,” the report said. One of the affected Filipinos who resorted to the barter system was Lorraine Imperio, a mother of two whose husband works part-time at a doughnut shop in Manila. She traded possessions such as a baby’s down jacket and a Ralph Lauren hoodie for six kilograms (13 pounds) of rice.

She also bartered a pair of Nike slip-on shoes for chicken. “It’s so difficult nowadays. You don’t know where you’ll get the money to settle the bills for groceries,” she was quoted saying.

“With bartering, it’s easier to convert them into food,” she added.

Citing information aggregator iPrice

Group’s recent study, AFP said the Google search volume in the Philippines for the keywords “barter food” soared 300% in May from April as lockdowns were enforced.

“Its analysis of 85 popular Facebook barter groups, with more than two million members in total, found food and other groceries were among the most sought-after items,” AFP reported.

“People post photos and specifications of the goods they want to swap, indicate what they want in return and then negotiate via the comments section,” it added.

Jocelle Batapa Sigue, who launched Bacolod Barter Community four months ago, attributed the influx of barter groups to the pandemic.

“Without the pandemic, I don’t think the barter community would be popular,” she said.

Charles Ramirez, who runs a 14,000-member bartering site in the capital, echoed this sentiment.

“People are realizing that while they have no money, they have accumulated a lot of material things (they can swap),” he said.

“It’s a depressing feeling, of course, having to let go of things you have accumulated just to be able to survive,” he added.

FAMILY
continued from page 24

creation of community-based initiatives to support the most vulnerable Filipino residents in Canada.

For a time, Tolentino volunteered in a food-box program for Filipino residents in Toronto set up by Kapit-Bisig, a nationwide network of mutual-aid organizations whose name means “linking arms” in Tagalog.

That program, however, has folded

amid a dearth of financial support, Tolentino adds.

One of the biggest lessons from the pandemic for Tolentino is that community-led initiatives are often the most effective at addressing racial inequalities in an emergency.

“There is a lot of strength within the Filipino community,” she says. “There’s not just not enough genuine, meaningful financial investment” in those resources.

Candid SPOOF

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



FCT summer job student-worker Alfonso Manalo helps cook the food.

Honeylen Tan 5th Business Anniversary



Honeylen Tan celebrated her 5th Business Anniversary in the company of family and friends.

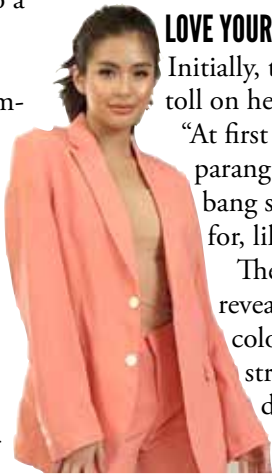


ASIALICIOUS TO: LEFT, Melissa Ventocilla of IPEN and RIGHT, Arielle Perez joins the festivities at Woodside Square Mall.



Gabbi Garcia recalls often getting rejected because of morena skin

Gabbi Garcia is proud of her morena skin. But the 21-year-old actress admitted that growing up, she used to feel insecure about her skin color. More than a dozen times, she auditioned and got rejected because the part went to a mestiza. “Mag-o-audition ka, magvi-VTR ka for a commercial. Out of mga 30 plus or 40 plus VTRs, parang tatlo lang iyong commercial ko. You know why? “I was so insecure when I was a kid kasi laging iyong mga kinukuha, iyong mga may lahi. Iyon iyong maben-



ta before, e, di ba? “E, I was just this cute kid—cute talaga?—’tapos sobrang morena ako, as in. ‘Tapos laging hindi ko siya nakukuha because iyong mga nakukuha, laging iyong mga may lahi, iyong mga half-half.” **LOVE YOURSELF** Initially, the experience took a toll on her confidence. “At first I was so insecure na parang, ‘Bakit ganun? Wala bang spaces, wala bang spot for, like, Pinay beauty?’” The Beautiful Justice star revealed that embracing her color was not without a struggle. Colorism runs deep in the showbiz industry.

She said, “Doon ko na-realize the importance of loving yourself and your skin color, na hindi ka magpapa-sway sa ibang tao. “Kasi it’s like crushing your own confidence. Imagine people around you telling you, ‘Your skin color is not good enough, you have to be whiter.’ Gabbi clarified that she sees nothing wrong if a person chooses to whiten his or her skin. “Pero iyong taong nag-iisip na, ‘Do I have to take these whitening products to fit in?’ Ayun na, dun tayo nagkakatalo. “If you’re just using these whitening products to fit it, then think twice. Ngayon kasi, mas open na iyong mga tao when it comes to skin color, which we all appreciate, di ba?”

SEX EDUCATION
continued from page 2
all,” diretsahan pa niyang mensahe. May isang Twitter user naman ang nagkomento sa naging pahayag ng Kapamilya actress-dancer. Anito, “OMG this is such a

brave statement @thedawnchang , but yeah I agree, children will do it anyways whether restricted or not, so just teach them to be smart about it.” Sagot naman ni Dawn sa kanya, “I’m sure every single one of us has a friend who got or got someone pregnant unexpectedly. “Protection is way better than abortion and/or dreams being shattered because of unplanned pregnancy,” dugtong pa ni Dawn. Pahabol pa niya, hindi lang naman ang pakiki-

pagtalik ang nakapaloob sa mas comprehensive sex education. “It is also discussing about proper hygiene and a lot more. Children must be taught so they grow up informed,” diin pa ni Dawn Chang.

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