

Philippine salary among lowest in 110 countries

IVANA

Alawi

You can look
but not
touch

The Philippines' average salary of P15,200 was ranked as among the lowest in 110 countries surveyed by think-tank Picordi.com.

MANILA - Of the 110 countries reviewed, Picodi.com said the Philippines' average salary of P15,200 is 95th – far-off Switzerland's P296,200 (1st), Luxem-

bourg's P198,500 (2nd), and United States' P174,000 (3rd), as well as Singapore's P168,900 (5th) at P168,900,

LOWEST SALARY
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How Yassi Pressman turned a Triple Whammy Around

Yassi Pressman, the 25-year-old actress, glowed as she shared how she dealt with the recent death of her 90-year-old father, the shutdown of ABS-CBN



and feelings of uncertainty when the lockdown was declared in March. "The world has changed so much since the start of the pandemic," Yassi mused when asked about how she had

YASSI
on page 26

PHL is top in Online Sex Abuse
Darna is Postponed

PHL as Province of China label denounced

Angel Locsin prays for her basher

Liza Soberano starts again

Jinri Park immigrates to Australia

Philippines positions itself as the 'crew change capital of the world'

The Philippines is trying to position itself as a crew change hub, adding three more ports along with Manila where ships can get seafarers on and

off. The ports of Panila, Capinpin and Subic Bay have all been given the green light to become crew change locations. Other ports including Cebu, Davao and Batangas are likely to get approval to carry out interna-

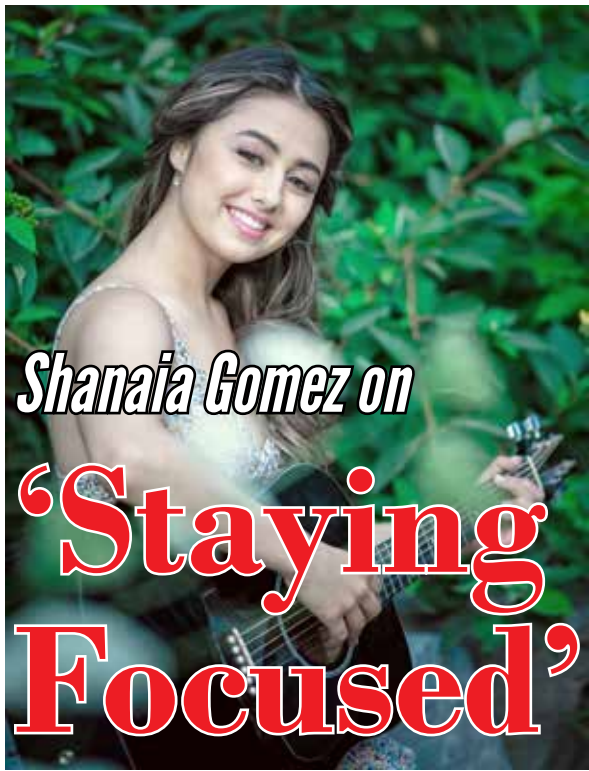
tional crew changes soon.

It is my hope for the Philippines to become a major international hub for crew change

"It is my hope for the Philip-

CREW CHANGE
continued page 21

ABS-CBN exports more telenovelas, movies to 3 continents



You do not often come across a 15-year old who knows what she wants and bravely goes about making it happen.

learned through immersion. Shanaia was with the GMA Artist Center before becoming a freelance artist. She was recently featured in ABS-CBN's Idol Philippines. She has starred in television commercials, like: Maggi Sinigang Asim, Maggi Mango Sinigang, Clover Chips, Cornetto Ice Cream, Boysen Paint Roof-guard, Globe Telecom, Rebisco Biscuits, Chibs Chicken, EO Eyewear and Sunsilks Shampoo. She has graced highway billboards in the Greater Manila area for EO Eyewear, and in Cebu for Dewfoam, a mattress brand. Shanaia is also a model for Bench and an endorser for Faces & Curves Skin Care.

It is not all work for this young lady with a very positive and happy disposition though. Shanaia is free-spirited, friendly and can talk for days on end. She's well aware of how crazy she can get and is unapologetic about it. It comes as no

STAYING FOCUSED
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Honey Shot

Jainna Alexis

(PHOTO BY KRYPTON)

Jainna is World Championship of Performing Arts 2020 Semifinalist. She is a WCOPA silver medalist-Junior Model and a bronze medalist in Junior Dance category. She is a Marky Hugh talent. She was formerly Little Miss Philippines PIDC in 2017. All grown up, this girl is going places. We wish her all the luck in her endeavours.



Joshua's 7th Birthday at the Park

Joshua Panaligan celebrates his 7th birthday at Milliken Park.



LEFT, Birthday celebrant **Jemima Adajar** (seated) is treated to dinner by friends **Ellen Galorport** and **Emely Abuno Gavin**. RIGHT, **Phoebe Yap Chan** takes a selfie of everyone.



Fashion designer **John Ablaza** poses with his models **Samantha Gavin** and **Junita Desautels**.



Birthday celebrant **Ellen Galorport** (IN RED ABOVE) goes out of town with family.



Models **Jenni** & fellow model **Joy Bucac** do some modelling with photographer **Bing Mariano**. BELOW, **Samantha Gavin**, mom **Emely** and dad **Shaun** wait to start strawberry picking.

Pokwang, naging mas main-gat sa pagbibiro during this pandemic

Unti-unti nang nakaka-adjust si Pokwang sa tinatawag na new normal na epekto ng COVID-19 health crisis. Pero ayon sa kanya, medyo hirap siyang gawin ito.

"Ako, to be honest, hindi pa ako masyadong nakaka-adjust talaga," pagtatapat ni Pokwang. "Alam n'yo naman ang mga komedyante malilikot kami. Pag nagkikita-kita kami sanay na nagpipisikalan kami.

Aminado si Pokwang na nung magsimula ang



COVID-19 crisis ay naging conscious siya nang konti sa pagbibiro kahit pa isa siyang komedyante.

Rason niya, "As a comedian, lalo na sa pinagdadaan natin ngayon, ang hirap magbitaw kasi ngayon ng joke, kaya be sensitive. Siyempre, hindi mo puwedeng i-joke yung mga nagkasakit, ang hirap di ba?"

Samantala, nagpaalam na si Pokwang sa ABS-CBN at nakahanap naman agad ng trabaho sa TV5 bilang host ng game show na Fill In The Bank. Natutuwang ibinahagi ni Pokwang na kahit pandemya ay nakakaluwag-luwag na daw siya ngayon.

"Awa ng Diyos, dahil kay Lord, di ba? Very blessed ako na sa panahong ito may hanap buhay ako. Thank you at nakakaluwag-luwag po ulit," huling tinuran ng actress/TV host.



LOOK:

Daniel Padilla celebrates 25th birthday at home amid quarantine



Daniel Padilla celebrated his 25th birthday yesterday, April 26, with his family in the safety of their home, in light of the enhanced community quarantine.

Padilla's mother, Karla Estrada, posted moments from the intimate gathering on her Instagram page on the same day.

"Maligayang kaarawan anak (Happy birthday, son)!" she said.

Estrada also joked that she was not able to stream the live online concert of Regine Velasquez since she and her family waited for Padilla's birthday. The actress-TV host said she will watch Velasquez's performance on YouTube instead.

"[Ganoon] pa man ay nairaos [natin] ng maligaya at matiwasay ang [birthday] salubong mo anak, kasama ang isang masaya at malaking angkan na meron tayo," Estrada added.

(Despite this, we were able to happily and safely pull off your birthday celebration, son, together with the one happy and big clan that we have.)

Addressing Padilla, Estrada said, "[Y]ou are a Blessing to all of us. [Y]ou are a gift from heaven and our

biggest joy. You're the first boy who stole my teenage heart."

"No matter where you go, no matter how old you are... [y]ou will always be my loving [s]on," she assured him. "My [h]ero and [m]y [s]uperstar."

Padilla's younger sister Magui Ford Planas also posted photos and clips from the celebration on her own page, along with a greeting for him.

"Maligayang kaarawan sa kaisa-isang lolo ng bahay (Happy birthday to the one and only grandfather of the house)," she said.

"Thank you for being the sweetest, kindest, most annoying, and weirdest kuya (older brother)," Magui added. "You deserve all the love the world could give."

Congressman's wife says sorry for husband's vote on ABS-CBN franchise

The wife of Maguindanao Rep. Esmel Toto Mangudadatu, Mylene Mangudadatu took to social media to thank all Kapamilyas and apologize for her husband's vote on the ABS-CBN franchise application.

Mylene said she was against Congressman Mangudadatu's vote to deny the ABS-CBN franchise. However, she said that she couldn't do anything because he's always with his mistress who's not smart.

"Thank you, Kapamilya! Pasensya na

kayo kung nakalimot si Toto sa pagtulong n'yo sa [Maguindanao massacre] noon. Against ako sa [pagboto niya ng "yes"] (sa franchise denial ng ABS-CBN); kaso ang 'lagi niyang kasama ay ang kabit niyang mahina ang utak. Alam n'yo naman, behind every man's success is a woman."

Toto Mangudadatu was one of the 70 congressmen who denied ABS-CBN's franchise application.

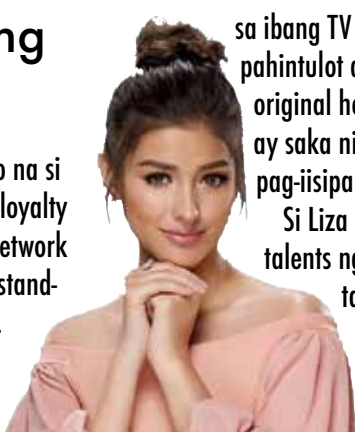
Many netizens also criticized the Maguindanao representative on his vote because media organizations like ABS-CBN were the ones who supported the cause of bringing justice to the victims of the Maguindanao massacre which cost the life of Mangudadatu's family and several journalists.

Meanwhile, Mylene's post also went viral on social media because of her revelation about Toto and his mistresses which she named as former Miss Asia Pacific International 2018 Sharifa Akeel and a certain Michelle Schulte.



Liza may standing offer sa GMA7

AYON sa manager ni Liza Soberano na si Ogie Diaz, mananatili umano ang loyalty ng kanyang alaga sa Kapamilya Network pero hindi nito ikinakaila na may standing offer sa young star ang GMA-7. Pero kapag pinayagan umano si Liza na makagawa ng proyekto



sa ibang TV network na may pahintulot ang kanyang original home studio ay saka nila umano ito pag-iisipan.

Si Liza ay isa sa prime talents ng Star Magic, ang talent management arm ng ABS-CBN.

Star Magic's Johnny Manahan recently revealed that the agency is currently in talks with rival networks to get jobs for its stars.

As reported on Rappler, Manahan, who is the head of the talent arm of ABS-CBN, stated that the company has been talking to contacts from TV5 and GMA-7 even before the network decided to go online.

"Our artists had already been exploring opportunities in digital space. With the rejection of the franchise, cable and cyberspace became the only venues for



network content. Almost immediately, instantaneously, advertising revenues began to dry up, projects cancelled, contracts suspended. And with that, we began to look elsewhere for opportunities for our artists," he said.

Referring to his artistes as "gypsies", Manahan stated that the company has already talked to them about the situation.

"We are not going the way of the franchise: down the toilet. Never to be seen again. Although depleted, Star Magic will still be around," he added.

Manahan also stated that this is the time for people in the entertainment industry to work together despite the difficulties.

"We should now do away with network wars and help each other in these very hard times," he stated.

Investors flee China, go to Vietnam

PH fails to 'get biggest chunk' of investments fleeing China due to infra lack: DTI



Workers help load a carriage of a China Railway High-speed train that is to be exported to Sri Lanka onto a COSCO container ship at a port in Qingdao, Shandong province, China March 3, 2020. China Daily/Reuters

MANILA - The Philippines is "not getting the biggest chunk" of investments fleeing from coronavirus-epicenter China due to the country's lack of infrastructure, Trade Secretary Ramon Lopez said.

While the Philippines has "started to get the interest" of at least 16 Wuhan-based companies and 119 other China-based firms, other investors from Asia's largest economy have opted to relocate to other Southeast Asian countries, Lopez told senators during a Senate Committee of the Whole hearing.

"I will admit, Mr. Senator, that we are not getting the biggest chunk. That can also be seen in the foreign direct investments," Lopez told Senate Minority Leader Franklin Drilon when asked about the Philippines' standing in the region as an alternative investment destination.

"Our effort to build the infrastructure, doon po tayo medyo talo," he said.

But the Philippines is "not entirely losing" as the country is still able to bag some new investments, the Trade chief said.

"Ang Pilipinas po nakakuha din tayo. (The Philippines is also getting some investments.) We started to talk already to companies in China," he said, without giving details on the number of new investors in the country.

Most Chinese investors seeking to relocate to Southeast Asia turn to Vietnam because of Hanoi's geo-

graphical proximity to mainland China, Lopez said.

"It is like an extension of China," he said.

PUSH FOR 'CREATE' LAW

The executive branch hopes Congress would pass its second tranche of tax reform which will "immediately" cut corporate income taxes in the Philippines to 25 percent to lure more investors to the country, Lopez said.

"We are actually offering or asking companies what [incentives] do they need to come over," he said.

"We have to continue to improve the environment sa atin through financial reforms and infrastructure," he said.

The Philippines' 30 percent corporate income tax rate is the highest in Southeast Asia, as its regional peers offer rates between 17 and 25 percent.

But under the Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises Act (CREATE), an "improved version" of the Corporate Income Tax and Incentives Rationalization Act (CITIRA), a "sunset clause" will be placed on "unlimited" incentives to ensure that the government can profit from industries that have been enjoying tax breaks and holidays for decades.

The Philippine Economic Zone Authority earlier asked lawmakers to keep the status quo on incentives in economic zones which are "tried, tested and proven" to attract foreign investors, especially amid the global coronavirus pandemic.

While laws have yet to be finalized, the Philippines needs to settle uncertainties in its economic policies to benefit from the investor exodus from China, senators have said.

Women with balls. Where are the Men?

Angel Locsin was the most vocal defender of ABS after congress denied the renewal of it's franchise. On the rival network from GMA7, Jennylyn Mercado is also critical of the government for not renewing the franchise of ABS. While there have been some men who defended ABS, these two women stand out for their vigorous defense of ABS and outspoken criticism of the government. God bless them.

Philippines is just like Singapore? REALLY? 🤔

The van actress Kim Chiu is riding in is shot at. Really? An actress? She does not even touch political topics. Some can or will dismiss a politician being shot at. But an actress? What did she do

wrong? Maybe, make a bad movie that you paid for? The effect of all this shooting is widespread. We know locals have been killed. By police even. But Filipinos have just shrugged them off. If an actress will be shot at, what more of the ordinary Filipinos? There is a ripple effect when stars are harmed. We ignore bad things that happen to politicians or big business people. But harm happening to stars have a different effect on the public. For some reason, we see ourselves through them. They may be larger than life, but we identify with them. If the police catches those shooters and they start claiming that it was ABS-CBN who put them up for it, fingers will be pointing at Duterte. Everyone knows he is looking for a reason to acquire

the network for his friends at a cheap price. Hell, for free even. I've never been to Singapore but I know this things do not happen in Singapore. 🤔 But who knows? 🤔 Maybe once, if it did. And if it happens, not regularly.

Ressa in TIME's influential women list a mistake – Palace

They want to be included instead. They, meaning Panelo and Duterte want to be included. In the Time influential “women” list. Btw, Duterte already demanded her removal from the list or else he is going to unilaterally abrogate another agreement. He's still checking all the agreements. Ehe, sus Guinoo ano ba itong nasabi ko?

No Live Audience for Eat Bulaga

The management of “Eat Bulaga!” has decided to suspend the admission of live studio audience in view of the COVID-19 situation in the country.

The noontime show explained the decision is part of its effort to help prevent the spread of the virus and to ensure the healthy and safety of its talent, staff, crew, and member of its audience.

“Please understand that this decision was made after extensive and careful consideration in order to cooperate with government efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19,” the statement read.

“Araw-araw pa rin po kaming maghahatid ng isang libo’t isang tuwa sa inyong mga tahanan. Ingat po tayong lahat, Dabarkads!”

“Eat Bulaga!” has Vic Sotto, Joey de Leon, Paolo Ballesteros, Jose Manalo, Pauleen Luna, Maine Mendoza, and Wally Bayola, among others, as hosts.

President Rodrigo Duterte has placed the country under a state of public health emergency after health official confirmed local transmission of the coronavirus.

“The outbreak of COVID-19 constitutes an emergency that threatens national security which requires a whole-of-government response...” Pres. Duterte said in Proclamation No. 922 through Executive Secretary Salvador Panelo. “The declaration of a State



of Public Health Emergency would capacitate government agencies and LGUs to immediately act to prevent loss of life, utilize appropriate resources to implement urgent and critical measures to contain or prevent the spread of COVID-19, mitigate its effects and impact to the community, and prevent serious disruption of the functioning of the government and the community.”

The declaration shall remain in effect until the President Duterte lifts or withdraws it.

Ejay Falcon, ibinahago kung paano nabago ni Jana Roxas ang pag-katao niya

Apat na tao nang magkasintahan sina Ejay Falcon at Jana Roxas.

Naudlot ang plano nina Ejay Falcon at ng girlfriend niyang si Jana Roxas na mag-travel sa Amerika ngayong August 2020 in time for Jana's 30th birthday. Ito ang inamin ng aktor sa PUSH nang makausap namin siya.

“Dapat may America kami bukas, August 24, pero dahil sa COVID na-cancel,” pagtatapat ni Ejay sa aming Viber conversation nitong Linggo, August 23.

Dagdag pa ng Kapamilya actor, “Si Jana kasi hindi materialistic na tao. Mas gusto niyang nagta-travel kami together kasi malaki naitutulong no’n sa amin.”

Apat na taon na ang relasyon nina Ejay at Jana. Ayon sa binata,



mas lalo pa itong pinatitibay ng panahon.

“Going strong kami at wala namang nagiging problema. Mabait kasi talaga si Jana,” sey pa ni Ejay.

Ibinahagi rin ni Ejay kung paano nabago ni Jana ang pagkatao niya simula nung maging kasintahan niya ito.

“Maraming nabago sa buhay ko. Masasabi ko na yung maturity ko sa napakaraming bagay, sa mga decision making, malaking part siya no’n. Kapag malungkot ako ay andyan din siya para palakasin ang loob ko,” sambit pa niya.

Samantala, nag-post din si Ejay ng sweet birthday message

para kay Jana sa kanyang Instagram account.

Aniya, “Palagi ko ipagpapasalamat dahil dumating ka sa buhay ko. Maraming salamat sa lahat. Napakabuti ng

puso mo kaya madaming nagmamahal sa ’yo. Napakasuwerte ng mga taong mahal mo.

“NAPAKASWERTE namin lalong-lalo na ako dahil grabeng magmahal ang isang tulad mo. Happy birthday baby, Love you so much.”

Ano ba ang birthday wish niya sa girlfriend?

“Ang wish ko, sana wag siyang magbabago, Alam ko palagi niya inisip ang magpapasaya sa mga mahal niya sa buhay. And siyempre good health din sa kanya at sa lahat ng mahal niya sa buhay,” pahayag niya.

Are we there yet?

This pandemic is starting to feel like a never-ending road trip and we are like children as driver and passenger in one asking if we are there yet. Do you see the light at the end of the tunnel? If you do, is it the dawn of a new day of a covid-free world or is it a train coming of more bad news?

A lot of people have lost their jobs. Most will never get it back in the near future.

Meanwhile, everyone we know has become a cook, a baker and a sewer, selling it to their friends first, and everyone else. But as entrepreneur Honeylen Tan ironically pointed it

out in her facebook posting, “we’re the manufacturers and bsafduyers of our products.” Everyone who finds themselves cooking, baking and making masks is selling to their circle of friends and also buying from

THE SOCIALIST continued on page 23



Photo from PBA Representative Jericho Nograles

Nograles is a nephew of Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte, who has long held a pacifist view on the increased Chinese militarization of the West Philippine Sea, a part of the South

China Sea that belongs to the Philippines but is claimed by China.

Duterte is a third cousin of Nograles’ mother Rhodora Bendigo.

Duterte has been downplaying the Philippines’ 2016 tribunal victory against China on the latter’s false claim over the West Philippine Sea in favor of getting grants and loans from the Asian economic giant. (READ: Philippines loses to China 3 years after Hague ruling)

How did this story make you feel?

In 2018, Duterte even joked to make the Philippines a province of China. Nograles apparently doesn’t share his uncle’s sense of humor.

The administration-allied congressman wrote separate letters to Trade Secretary Ramon Lopez, and Food and Drug Administration Director-General Eric Domingo seeking for an investigation into Ashley Shine.

“Any act to undermine our sovereignty must be taken seriously. It is in this light that we respectfully ask your Office to immediately investigate this detestable and repulsive offense against our nation, and, if legally justified, prohibit the continued distribution of these products in our country,” Nograles said in both letters.

Manila Mayor Isko Moreno ordered the closure of the business establishment on Thursday afternoon.

A video posted on the mayor’s Facebook page showed a team from city hall heading to the address indicated in the packaging, to carry out Moreno’s order.

Nograles thanks Moreno for his speedy action. “I’m happy that Manila Mayor Isko Moreno has taken this matter very seriously and has acted very swiftly to protect the integrity not only of the City of Manila but the entire sovereign Republic of the Philippines,” he said.

Lawmaker wants Chinese product banned for listing Manila as China ‘province’

Pwersa ng Bayan ng Atleta Representative Jericho Nograles wants a Chinese hair product “blacklisted” in the Philippines after its box identified its address in the Binondo district in Manila



as a “province” of China.

On Thursday, August 20, Nograles shared photos of the packaging of Ashley Shine Keratin Treatment Deep Repair, where its complete manufacturing address was listed as “1st floor, 707 Sto Cristo Street, San Nicolas, Manila Province, P.R. (People’s Republic of) China.”

“It is hard to dismiss this insult as a simple error. The label clearly shows Manila, as a province of China,” Nograles said in a statement.

“This incident must be investigated at the very least, and the manufacturer and importer should be blacklisted, as soon as legally permitted,” he added.

The lawmaker said Ashley Shine was manufactured in 2018 and is still being distributed around the Philippines.

FALSE CLAIM. A closeup photo of the Ashley Shine packaging which claims its Binondo address is a ‘province’ of China.

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our event. We will keep everyone posted.
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What ambush revealed about Kim Chiu

After Kim Chiu was named the winner of “Pinoy Big Brother: Teen Edition” in 2006, her name became synonymous with sweet and girly. That’s because of her charming personality. So, when someone is being demure, people would say, “Uy! Kumi-Kim Chiu ka!”

But today, the Kapamilya star’s name symbolizes something more. Even if she was still traumatized after the shooting incident on Wednesday, Kim went straight to her taping of “Love Thy Woman.” So now, when we refer to someone who’s a true professional, we



can say, “She’s doing a Kim Chiu.” It must have been a case of mistaken identity. As her driver said, “Wala namang kaaway si Kim at ang pamilya n’ya.” I totally believe him because I can vouch for how genuinely nice Kim is. When my son IC Mendoza did a movie with her, she volunteered to buy the jacket that IC was eyeing in the shop where they were shooting. Sweetness is indeed her forte. Show biz would be a kinder place if there were more celebs like Kim, so hooray for her second lease on life.

Why Ogie embraces ‘tito’hood’

I remember when Regine Velasquez-Alcasid told me, chuckling, “Ogie wonders why people call me Ate Reg, but they call him tito, instead of kuya.” And so it goes. Ogie now fully embraces “Tito’hood.” He’s joining forces with Ian Veneracion in their fun concert, “Kilabotitos” (KT). It will be on March 20 and 21 at the New Frontier Theater (call TicketNet or 0906 287-8049). The concert features a vast repertoire of “tito hits” from the Beatles, James Taylor, Hall and Oates, Spandau Ballet and more. Ogie and Ian will make the audience sing along and join in their laugh-out-loud repartee. Being close to Ogie, I must say that the wonderful qualities he has as a friend are the same ones he has as a “tito.” Here’s my chat with Ogie:



being a tito? I don’t hate anything about being a tito. I love everything about it—the respect, security, seniority and responsibility that come with it.

How do you handle midlife crisis? I have gone past the midlife crisis already. It’s been quite a journey, but what keeps me afloat are my friends and family.

What makes your tandem with Ian click? Ian and I are really different in the sense that I am a singer-songwriter who dabbles in acting and he’s the complete opposite. We make an interesting combo.

How would you define a “kilabot” tito? Someone who can laugh at himself and not worry about aging. He is someone who can still be naughty at times, but prefers to be responsible as a husband and dad.

What do you find hard to understand about millennials? Their being fickle-minded.

What’s your advice to millennials? To take their studies seriously. The discipline of learning and mastering will benefit them in their adult life. Never be afraid to take risks.

What do you love and hate about

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Farmers lose P68 billion from influx of cheap rice imports



FFF asked Dar to give the real basis for his figures as the farmers got all their data from the Philippine Statistics Authority.

MANILA, Philippines — The Federation of Free Farmers (FFF) claimed that farmers lost around P68 billion with the entry of cheap rice imports, more than eight times the P8.2 billion reported by Agriculture Secretary William Dar.

“I think they are playing around with numbers and providing a lot of misleading data to deflect criticisms against RTL (Rice

Tariffication Law),” FFF national manager Raul Montemayor said.

“And why is he depending on PIDS (Philippine Institute for Development Studies)? The department should have its own monitoring and evaluation and that’s where he should get his statements,” Montemayor said.

However, the PIDS clarified that the P8.2 billion loss was only from April to September 2019.

FFF asked Dar to give the real basis for his figures as the farmers got all their data from the Philippine Statistics Authority.

“His data only show that farmers lost more than consumers gained, which validates our basic assertion that the first year implementation of RTL failed to provide what the proponents promised,” Montemayor said.

According to the FFF study, average retail prices of regular milled rice declined by P2.61 per kilogram while prices for well-milled rice fell by P1.99 per kilo.

When multiplied by consumption volumes, this resulted in a gain for consumers of P34.16 billion in the form of lower prices of rice.

On the other hand, farmgate prices of palay (unhusked rice) declined by P3.62 per kilo and resulted in total losses to farmers of P68.18 billion, or double the gains for consumers.

Rice watch group Bantay Bigas said Dar’s statement is “inconsiderate and insensitive to the family of rice farmers who have suffered from bankruptcy, indebtedness, hunger and distress due to the damage of rice liberalization to their livelihoods.”



Pokwang does what she has to for the family

POKWANG says she’ll forever feel indebted to ABS-CBN for giving her the big break in showbiz. She was discovered when she won in ABS-CBN’s search for new comedians, “Clown in a Million” in 2004.

“Bale 15 years na akong Kapamilya,” she says at the zoom presscon for her new shows on TV5. “At talagang nagbaggo ang buhay ko dahil sa kanila. Isa ako sa sandosenang magkakapatid at natulungan ko ang pamilya ko. Sobrang nagpapasalamat ako dahil nabigyan nila ako ng lead roles sa TV shows at sa movies. Sa movie kong ginawa sa America for Star Cinema, doon ko nakilala ang partner ko ngayon (Lee O’Brien) and we have a daughter, si Malia.

“But after 15 years, natapos na ang kontrata ko sa kanila at sinabi nilang hindi na mare-renew so dapat akong mag-isip para sa pamilya ko. Kasi hindi po ako puwedeng huminto, maraming umaasa sa akin. Kaya sa isang banda, hindi ko rin po dapat ikatampo ‘yung hindi ako na-renew, kasi in-inform naman nila ako agad at maaga kong nai-handa ang sarili ko para maisalba ‘ang pamilya ko. Kaya nagpapasalamat ako APT Entertainment sa Archangel Media na talagang bukas po ‘yung pintuan nila for two new shows sa TV5.

“Buti na lang may sumalo kaagad sa akin kaya sobrang thank you po talaga. Napakalaki ng tulong na ito sa pamilya ko. Pero siempre, hindi mawawala ang utang na loob ko sa ABS dahil sa kanila ako nagsimula. Yung mga kasama ko sa ‘Banana Sundae’, na nakansela na rin, very happy for me. Naiintindihan nila ang paglipat ko kasi may mga anak ako at may inang may sakit na umaasa sa’kin. I can feel naman yung suporta nila sa akin.”

Pokwang is in new two shows. First is the daily weekday 10 AM morning show, “Chika, BESH”, with Pauleen Luna and Ria Atayde, with replays on Cignal TV. The second show is in ‘Fill in the Bank’, a game show which she is hosting with Jose Manalo, which is seen on Monday, Wednesday, Friday on primetime at 7:30 PM and where the winner wins as much as P150,000 per episode.

She says they’re all having a hard time adjusting to the “new normal” way of taping. “Ang hirap kasi hindi na gaya ng dati na puwede kayong magbeso, maghug, now kailangan ng social distancing. We all have to be responsible. Lahat nagri-risk magtrabaho para makapagbigay kami ng magandang show, para mapasaya ang mga manonood, pero siyempre pag inisip mo na meron kang responsibilidad, you really have to be more careful.”

Robredo urges Duterte to stop ‘illegal’ rev-gov push

MANILA - Vice President Leni Robredo said Sunday the proposal for a revolutionary government by President Rodrigo Duterte’s supporters was “illegal” as it calls to “overthrow” the Constitution.

Last month, a group called the Mayor Rodrigo Roa Duterte National Executive Coordinating Committee (MRRD-NECC) launched the movement urging the public to join them in declaring a revolutionary government and shift to federalism.

Robredo said such proposals by Duterte’s supporters should not be entertained as it veers away government’s focus from the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Bakit hinahayaan iyong mga ganitong exercise na mangyari, na mangyari at a time like this? Iyong sa akin lang, parang ang gusto mo ma-overthrow iyong Konstitusyon, na iyon iyong sandigan nating lahat,” she said in her weekly radio program.

(Why do they let these kind of exercises happen at a time like this? It’s like they are letting them overthrow the Constitution.)

“Sana iyong mga kasama ni Pangulo, hindi hinahayaan na bumuwelo ang mga ganito. Kasi ito talaga iyong panira, sa lahat na ginagawa natin, lalo na ngayong pandemic. Iyong lahat na efforts natin, dapat nasa

COVID-19, pero ang pinag-uusapan natin Anti-Terror Bill, pagpasara ng ABS[-CBN], ‘di ba, pag-amend ng Constitution, pagdeklara ng RevGov, federalism.”

(I hope the President’s advisers won’t let this gain traction because this will ruin our efforts against the pandemic. Our focus should be on the virus but we’re talking about the Anti-Terror Law, ABS-CBN’s closure, Constitutional amendment, declaration of RevGov, federalism.)

Robredo said such proposals do not help in the country’s fight against the pandemic and only fuels rumors such as complications on the President’s health.

“Hindi siya nakakatulong kasi ito, iyong panahon na tayo lahat naghahanap tayo ng leader. Ito iyong panahon na tayo lahat, ‘di ba, gusto natin naririnig natin iyong lider natin na nagbibigay sa atin ng direksyon,” she said.

(It doesn’t help because this is the time we are looking for a leader who will give us direction.)

The Vice President urged authorities to stop the movement as Malacañang said the group was “free to publicly express their opinion.”

The Department of National Defense and the Philippine National Police said they do not support the movement.

“Sa panahon na lahat na Pilipino dapat nagtutulong-tulong para masugpo iyong COVID—ang dami-dami nating mga kababayan na nagkakasakit, ang dami-dami nating kababayan na namamatay, ang daming frontliners ang nakataya ang buhay—tapos ang pag-uusapan natin ganito? Parang hindi siya makatarungan,” Robredo said.

(At a time when Filipinos should help each other fight COVID-19--many of our countrymen are falling ill, dying, the lives of frontliners are on the line--then we talk about this? It doesn’t do them justice.)

Presidential spokesman Harry Roque said the administration’s focus is on addressing the pandemic and mitigating its socioeconomic impact.

“The most pressing and most urgent concern, which requires the Executive’s full attention, is the gradual opening of the economy while safeguarding the people who are working/going back to work amid the pandemic,” he said in a statement.

The proposal has earned public ire, with some lawmakers saying there was no need for such movement.

The Philippines as of Saturday reported 187,249 COVID-19 cases, with 114,921 recoveries and 2,966 deaths.

Rayver boxing training ang bagong workout

SA nakaraang episode ng ‘Mars Pa More,’ ibinahagi ni Rayver Cruz ang kaniyang workout routine sa bahay sa pamamagitan ng boxing training. Importante raw para sa kanya ang cardio fitness kaya ito ang napiling exercise.

Habang hindi pa muna maka-bisita sa gym, marami pa rin namang paraan para manatiling batak at pinatunayan ito ni Rayver. Inaanyayahan din niya ang iba na subukan ang boxing training sa isang pasilip na video kasama ang kapatid at kapwa Kapuso star na si Rodjun Cruz.

Mapapanood ang ilang minutong guide ni Rayver sa workout na ito online sa GMA Network YouTube channel.

LM confidential

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Jose “Joey” Baking



Martin, Edu go back-to-back + other news

TWO of the country's well-loved hosts Martin Nievera and Edu Manzano are doubling the fun and entertainment via their respective programs "LSS: The Martin Nievera Show" and "Good Vibes with Edu," streaming on ABS-CBN's Kapamilya Online Live starting this August 23.

Additional vibrant conversations await viewers as Martin chats with American Idol runner-up Jessica Sanchez on September 13; seasoned personality Johnny on September 20; and "Pop Diva" Kuh Ledesma on September 27.

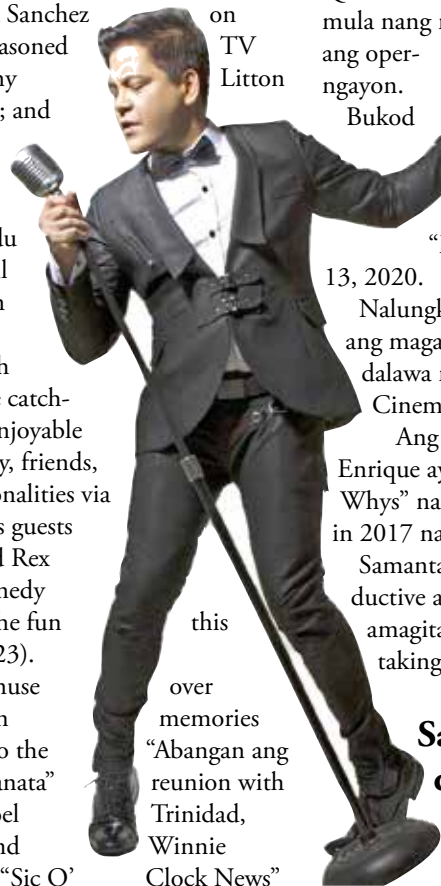
Meanwhile, Edu levels up the thrill and laughter with Metro Channel's "Good Vibes with Edu," wherein he catches up and plays enjoyable games with family, friends, and various personalities via Zoom. Tune in as guests GB Labrador and Rex Navarrete of Comedy Manila amplify the fun Sunday (August 23).

Edu will also muse over memories as he plays host to the "Susunod na Kabanata" reunion with Tessie Tomas, Noel Carmi Martin, and Cordero and the "Sic O' Clock News" reunion with Jaime Fabregas, Joji Isla, and Nonie Buencamino in "Good Vibes with Edu's" upcoming episodes.

The gabfest featuring Martin and Edu is truly reminiscent of old times as the two ruled the '80s and '90s with their late-night shows "Martin After Dark" and "Not So Late Night with Edu." Now, they return to the hosting scene and dip into modern-day talk shows.

Kapamilya Online Live ushered in a new era of viewing experience for Filipinos as ABS-CBN airs its fresh and classic programs on ABS-CBN Entertainment's YouTube channel and Facebook page for free to amplify its digital presence and reach more audiences.

Catch "Good Vibes with Edu" and "LSS: The Martin Nievera Show" on Kapamilya Online Live back-to-back every Sunday at 4:30pm and 5pm, respectively, beginning August 23. Watch the livestream of your favorite Kapamilya shows, old and new, on Kapamilya Online Live and subscribe to



ABS-CBN Entertainment's YouTube channel (youtube.com/abscbnentertainment) and Facebook page (fb.com/ABSCBNnetwork). For the complete programming schedule, visit www.kapamilyaonlinelive.com.

Liza naapektuhan ang negosyo, nag-aral na lang

MARAMING celebrity entrepreneurs ang apektado ang mga negosyo dahil sa lockdown. Kabilang dito ang 22-year-old Filipino-American actress and celebrity endorser nasi Liza Soberano.

Si Liza ay may dalawang branch ng kanyang Hope Hand and Foot Wellness Spa in Tomas Morato, Quezon City at sa Alabang. Magmula nang magka-ECQ, huminto ang operations nila hanggang ngayon.

Bukod sa negosyo, nahinto rin ang airing ng kanilang tumatakbong primetime TV series ni Enrique Gil, ang "Make It With You" nung March 13, 2020.

Nalungkot man ang LizQuen fans dito, ang magandang balita ay may gagawin ang dalawa na bagong pelikula under Star Cinema.

Ang huling pelikula nina Liza at Enrique ay ang hit movie na "My Ex and Whys" na dinirek ni Cathy Garcia-Molina in 2017 na kumita ng mahigit P400-M.

Samantala, gusto ni Liza na maging productive ang pananatili sa bahay sa pamamagitan ng pag-aaral. She's currently taking up Psychology.

Sanya ipinakita na ang dream house

ISANG bagong milestone ang narating ng Kapuso actress na si Sanya Lopez.

Finally ay natupad na ng magandang aktres ang pagkakaroon ng kanyang dream house matapos ang halos isang taon na pagpupursigi para rito.

Sa kanyang Instagram account, ipinasilip ng aktres ang naipundar na bahay. Dito na rin siya nagdiwang ng kanyang kaarawan noong August 9 kasama ang kapatid na si Jak Roberto at malalapit na kaibigan.

Samantala, patuloy pa ring napapanood si Sanya bilang Sang'gre Danaya sa rerun ng Encantadia sa GMA Telebabad.

Alden may bagong advocacy, finalist bilang Sexiest Man

MAY bagong adbokasiyang isinusulong ngayon ang Asia's Multimedia Star na si Alden Richards. Ito ay ang #EndTB campaign ng USAID kung saan kaisa ang GMA Network.

Bilang ambassador nito, layunin ni Alden na ipalaganap ang impormasyon tungkol sa tuberculosis, pagwaksi sa stigma ng sakit, at

ang kahalagahan ng pagkakaroon ng healthy lifestyle.

Aniya, "I am honored and grateful to be chosen as #EndTB Ambassador supporting the #TBFreePh campaign. I am excited for this new role and I hope I will be able to contribute to this public health advocacy. I have always been promoting a healthy lifestyle and I am embracing this challenge to promote health seeking behavior for tuberculosis especially in the midst of the pandemic."

Samantala, isa si Alden sa finalists ng Sexiest Man in the Philippines ngayong 2020

ayon sa entertainment website na Starmom-eter.com. Nagsimula ang global fan vote noong August 14 at magtatapos sa August 24. Maaari pang bumoto sa Facebook, Twitter, at Instagram accounts ng entertainment site.

Sophie naghanap ng kausap habang nasa lockdown

SA E-Date Mo Si Idol episode noong August 13, nagkuwento ang Kapuso actress na si Sophie Albert ng kanyang mga realization habang naka-community quarantine.

Ayon kay Sophie, nakakapagod umano na wala siyang masyadong kausap sa bahay kaya natutuwa siyang nakilala sa GMA Artist Center virtual date si Nelo.

"I'm so happy kasi nga wala akong kausap na ibang tao so I'm excited to talk to you. I'm excited to learn more about you. To learn more about someone else. Ang mga kasama ko lang sa house kasi ito si Ginger, and my mom. Nakakapagod rin pala kapag wala ka masyadong kausap," lahad ng aktres.

Ibinahagi rin ni Sophie na napansin niyang mas nakakatipid siya sa oras nang magsimula siyang mag-workout sa bahay.

"Feeling ko after ng quarantine ay sa bahay na lang talaga ako magwo-workout kasi parang ang daming oras na nase-save 'pag sa bahay lang. Unlike 'pag nagwo-work out ako dati everyday sa gym, parang nauubos yung buong araw ko, wala akong na-a-achieve."

Glydel hindi nagsisi na naghubad sa pelikula

AYON sa ng 45-year-old singer-actress na si Glydel Mercado, pinaka-memorable sa kanyang acting career ang pelikulang "Sidhi" na pinagsamahan nila nina Nora Aunor at Albert Martinez which was directed by Joel Lamangan and produced by Crown Seven Film Productions of Jesse Ejercito. Ang nasabing pelikula ay Palanca award-winning



story na isinulat ng yumaong writer, actor, director, poet, dramatist, essayist at educator na si Rolando Tinio na siya ring sumulat ng script kasama ni Ricky Lee. Ang nasabing pelikula ay hindi lamang nanalo ng maraming awards including Best Picture kundi ito rin ang nagbigay kay Glydel ng kanyang kauna-unahang grand slam win bilang Best Supporting Actress.

Sa aming panayam kay Glydel, inamin nito na kamuntik umano niyang hindi tanggapin ang nasabing pelikula dahil sa requirement ng frontal nudity. Kinausap umano siya nang masinsinan ni Direk Joel at ipinaliwanag sa kanya ang kahalagahan sa istorya ng eksenang 'yon. She was also assured by the award-winning director na magkaka-award siya sa kanyang role.

Pagkatapos gawin ni Glydel ang "Sidhi" ay nahanay na siya sa liga ng mahuhusay na actress ng bansa.

Si Glydel ay nagsimulang kumanta-kanta sa mga fiesta or out of town shows kung saan niya madalas nakakasama ang sikat nang actor noon na si Jestoni Alarcon.

Ang yumaong si Vir Mateo umano ang unang tumulong sa kanya para makapasok sa showbiz. Hindi nagtagal ay tinulugan umano siya ni Annabelle Rama para makapag-audition sa youth oriented program na "That's Entertainment" ni German 'Kuya Germs' Moreno. Pero dalawang taon lamang nanatili si Glydel sa nasabing programa nang magsimula siyang gumawa ng mga sexy movies.

"Napakalaking tulong sa akin ng "That's Entertainment" dahil doon ako unang nakilala," sabi ni Glydel.

"Sa 'That's....' kasi, na-train kami sa acting, hosting, singing, dancing kahit napakarami namin," aniya.

Ang love affair nila ng mister na si Tonton Gutierrez ay nagsimula sa set ng afternoon TV series na "Del Tierro" produced ng TAPE, Inc. (same producer ng "Eat Bulaga") ni Tony Tuviera.

Anim na taong naging magkasintahan sina Glydel at Tonton at nung March 15, 2004 ay nagpakasal sila. Bago si Glydel ay naging kasintahan ni Tonton ang actress na si Maricel Laxa na misis ngayon ni Anthony Pangilinan.

Ang mag-asawang Glydel at Tonton ay biniyayaan ng dalawang anak na parehong babae, sina Aneeka (16) at Aneza (12).

Glydel is grateful kay Tonton sa pagiging isang responsible husband and father.

"I can't thank God enough for blessing me with a good husband," pagtatapos ni Glydel na mas madalas mapanood sa mga TV drama series ng Kapuso network.

Palace calls for calm amidst COVID-19 Crisis



Passengers of a jeepney in Manila are seen wearing face masks to protect themselves against the coronavirus.

MANILA, Philippines — President Duterte appealed for calm as the country reels from the confirmation of its first local transmission of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), with at least two confirmed cases recorded in two major business districts in the densely populated Metro Manila area.

Invoking public safety and public health, Duterte also directed the Department of Health (DOH) and other concerned agencies to be more transparent about the developments of the new cases, particularly on local transmissions, as well as the possible areas where the disease was recorded and other pertinent details.

“At the very outset of the surge of news reports concerning COVID-19, the Pres-

ident has categorically mandated relevant instrumentalities of the government to be absolutely transparent to the Filipino people as regards this health issue, aware that we have the right to be informed of the conditions surrounding us,” presidential spokesman Salvador Panelo said.

“We call on everyone to be the voice of calm and sobriety,” he said in a statement.

The DOH, which has been following established international protocols, continues to monitor persons under investigation, he stressed.

According to Panelo, teams have been dispatched to do contact tracing of the persons who had contact with the confirmed COVID-19 patients.

To avoid panic, the Palace also appealed to the public to be more careful and discerning before spreading unconfirmed information about the disease.

“Accordingly, we also ask the public to be scrupulous in reading informative materials and not to share unverified and unofficial information that may only cause undue panic among the population,” Panelo said.

The Palace added that the government is continuously coordinating with the countries of foreign nationals purportedly contracting COVID-19 in the Philippines.

‘Utmost prudence’

Health Secretary Francisco Duque III said it is imperative for health care providers, institutions and stakeholders to “exercise utmost prudence in sharing sensitive information” to uphold an individual’s right to privacy.

This, as Vergeire reported that 162 Filipinos were repatriated from Macau.

Contact tracing

According to Duque, the DOH’s Epidemiology Bureau and regional offices are currently establishing travel history and identification of individuals who might have had contact with the three foreign nationals who were found infected after visiting the Philippines.

Vice President Leni Robredo urged Filipinos to remain calm and alert.

“We continue to remind our countrymen not to panic and to remain calm and alert. Share only the correct information coming from authorities,” she said in Filipino.

Meanwhile, Senate President Vicente Sotto III urged the public to observe ways to prevent the spread of the disease, and said he would not blame people for opting not to go out in public as a precaution.



Lolit Solis happy for Nadine Lustre’s ‘walang pagka laos’ new business

MANILA, Philippines – Veteran columnist Lolit Solis is happy that Kapamilya actress Nadine Lustre entered food business because according to her, food is forever unlike a showbiz career.

In her Instagram account, the talent manager said food business is perfect during this time of the pandemic.

“Ang ganda naman na naisip ni Nadine Lustre na pasukin ang food business ngayon pandemic. Dapat talaga marami kang idea para kumita lalo pa at uso ngayon ang mga small business na hindi kailangan ang malaking puhunan,” Lolit said.

“Dapat sa mga artista na meron mga kaalaman sa food o anuman bagay maging maabilidad, tignan mo ang daming mga bagong business na lumalago at bigla na lang malalaman mo na meron palang market dahil hinahanap ng iba,” she added.

Lolit also said that other showbiz personalities who have a hobby like cooking should make it a business.

“Ang pagkain walang pagka laos, tuloy tuloy ang gusto diyan ng tao, lahat ng makita nila na bago sa mata, tiyak gusto nila lalo pa at masarap. Kaya nga iyon mga artista na may wido sa pagluluto, dapat gawin nila ito hindi lang hobby kundi business para pagka kitaan,” she said.

She added that she was sure that Nadine’s business will succeed.

“Pag artista pa naman, feeling mo masarap agad ang niluluto, kaya bongga agad. Sure ako, malakas iyon food business ni Nadine Lustre, dami order,” she said.

Apart from food, Nadine is also into flower business, as seen on her Instagram account.

Last June, months after their much talked about breakup, Nadine and former boyfriend James Reid joined together in an online interview.

In an interview with Myx, James and Nadine talked about their excitement in releasing Nadine’s upcoming full-length album.

“We’re focusing mainly on empowerment and self-love,” James said of the theme of the album.

He also pointed out that the upcoming album is personal for Nadine because it tells stories she has gone through in the past.

“It’s Nadine’s experience. She’s one of the strongest women that I know. She’s been through so much, and I’ve seen her grow. The inspiration was all there. It was really just getting the people together to help tell that story,” James said.

For Nadine, the album is a perfect platform to help inspire people.

“This is the perfect platform or catalyst to help empower and inspire people who listen to my music. The album is very personal because it’s all about what I went through, my experiences,” she said.

Acress-turned-Carmelite nun Chin Chin Gutierrez asked to pray for Philippines amid COVID-19 pandemic

MANILA, Philippines — Former actress Chin Chin Gutierrez is now a full-pledged nun, according to veteran showbiz columnist Lolit Solis.

In her Instagram account, Lolit said she’s happy that Chin Chin fulfilled her calling.

“Ang gandang balita na ngayon ay isa ng full pledged Carmelite nun si ChinChin Gutierrez. Magandang balita dahil mula sa glittering world ng showbiz heto si Chinchin Gutierrez isang mahusay na actress pero mas pinili ang spiritual growth,” Lolit wrote.

It was March last year when rumors

circulated that Chin Chin became a Carmelite nun and is now reportedly known as Sister Lourdes.

“Nuon pa balita na pumasok si Chinchin sa kumbento, isang malaking hakbang papunta sa sisterhood at heto ngayon, isa ng madre ng Carmelite mission,” Lolit said.

“Isang mahusay na artista na mas pinili ang maging madre upang masilbihan ang spiritual needs ng tao,” she added.

Lolit then asked for Chin Chin to pray for the country in the midst of the pandemic.



“Pray for us Sister Chinchin, iyan ang kailangan natin ngayon, ang dasal ng mga tulad mo. Pray for us,” Lolit said.

Before becoming a nun, ChinChin was an award-winning actress known for her roles in “Maalaala Mo Kaya: The Movie,”

“Sa Aking Mga Kamay” and “Jose Rizal,” to name a few.

She was also an environment advocate and the founding chairman and president of the ecological foundation Alaga LAHAT, which she created in 2006.

The Filipino Centre Toronto 2020 Outstanding Students Awards

The prestigious competition is open to all eligible elementary, high school and post-secondary school graduates in Ontario who completed their respective studies with academic honours and other scholastic proficiencies. The selection criteria includes: Academic Grades(50%), Extra/ Co-curricular Activities(12.5%), Community Involvement(12.5%) and Interview Performance(25%).

Applications(hard copies) are now being received by mail or by hand at the Filipino Centre Toronto-FCT, c/o Tony A. San Juan, RCJ OSA Chairman at: 4395 Sheppard Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario M1S 1T9. Deadline for the submission of Completed Applications is on September 26, 2020(Saturday).

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

2021? Hopefully!

Granite Ridge Golf Club,
9503 Dublin Line,
Milton, Ontario.



"I gatecrashed into the audition for that movie," Devon, a 2010 PBB (Pinoy Big Brother) Teen Edition graduate, recalled in a 2017 interview. "I thought it was for an indie movie kasi I wanted to do an indie, so I nagged my friend to let me in. That's how I got the Kim Soriano role, a rich girl

Sarah was sentenced to death at first, but this

“Sobrang sarap at gaan pala sa feeling ng magshare ka ng blessings galing kay Lord. Eto po ay sa lungsod po sa amin kung saan po ako lumaki which is Minglanilla. Naisip ko po sila sa panahong ngayon na alam ko kung gano sila kahirap ngayon kaya sa konti naming nakaya ay nakapagbigay kame ng konting regalo sa mga nangangailangan

“Siguro may plan talaga si God at may reason ang lahat,” she smiled. “Siya ang first boyfriend ko na super suportado ng family ko. Sobrang guided kami ng parents namin kaya siguro kahit long-distance relationship kami ay umabot kami ng ganito katagal.”

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FIGHT CHINA INCURSIONS IN WPS

Military official hits lack of gov’t action to stop China incursions, reclamations

MANILA, Philippines — A high-ranking military official last month stressed the need for “political will” in defending the country’s sovereignty over the West Philippine Sea, saying the military needs resources to “send the message that this government is serious about protecting its rights.”

Facing a panel of the Commission on Appointments (CA), AFP Southern Luzon Command chief Lt. Gen. Antonio Parlade Jr. criticized the supposed lack of action to stop China’s reclamation activities in the contested waters back in 2013.

This, following the question of Senator Risa Hontiveros regarding the capabilities that the Philippine military would need to safeguard the Philippines’ interests and maintain a credible defensive posture in the West Philippine Sea.

“What we need is really political will. Because if from the start we did something to stop China in its reclamation in 2013, perhaps we could have nipped from the bud this attempt by the Chinese to reclaim,” Parlade said, apparently alluding to the administration of Benigno “Noynoy” Aquino.

“As the military is the extension of politics, we would abide [by] whatever the President, what the Commander-in-Chief will tell us,” he added.

According to Parlade, the AFP had reported all of China’s reclamation activities “as early as 2013 and 2014.”

“All of these were documented but nobody took action on that. The Department of Foreign Affairs did not take action. The Office of the President did not take action,” he claimed.

Further, he said the National Security Council at the time “did not take action until such time that they were able to completely establish the military bases in the West Philippine Sea, and until there was this ruling from the arbitral tribunal.”

“Currently, the policy is, I don’t want to say peaceful co-existence, or to increase the stability, but of course we are not saying that we are foregoing the ruling of the arbitral tribunal, because we are still looking at this ruling,” he further said, referring to the July 2016 ruling of the UN-backed Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague, Netherlands, which invalidated Beijing’s nine-dash line claim that covers almost the entire South

China Sea, including parts of the West Philippine Sea.

To recall, the Aquino administration brought the Philippines’ case against China before the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) in January 2013, following a tense standoff between Chinese and Philippines ships at Scarborough Shoal in April 2012.

Since the initiation of the arbitration case, China has conducted several massive reclamation projects to turn submerged reefs into artificial islands capable of hosting military structures and equipment.

“The first capability that we need is the wherewithal to send the message that this government is serious about protecting its rights,” Parlade said.

“It doesn’t matter if we only have a few floating vessels, or fighter jets; [if] we are clear and we are equivocal about our position then I guess the message would be very clear not only to China but other places we have issues in the West Philippine Sea,” he added.

AFP spokesperson Maj. Gen. Edgardo Arevalo, however, said the military would be needing additional aircraft that can capacitate the Air Force to do its aerial patrols within the country’s territory.

With regard to the Philippine Navy, he said more patrol boats are needed to be able to conduct “regular maritime sovereignty patrols.”

“Of course, our littoral monitoring stations, [we need] to upgrade our capability to look over our borders regularly if and when, for example, the weather does not permit our aircraft and our vessels to do regular maritime and aerial domain patrols that we do,” Arevalo added.

Last week, the Philippines lodged a diplomatic protest against China over its Coast Guard’s “illegal confiscation” of fish aggregating devices installed by Filipino fishermen in a Philippine-claimed shoal off Zambales.

The Department of Foreign Affairs also said that it “resolutely objected to China’s continuing illicit issuances of radio challenges [to] Philippine aircraft conducting legitimate regular maritime patrols in the West Philippine Sea.”

China claims nearly the entire South China Sea, including waters within the exclusive economic zones of Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines (the West Philippine Sea), Vietnam, and Taiwan.

Pauleen Luna-Sotto speaks up on ‘Eat Bulaga’ losing ‘It’s Showtime’ as free TV competitor

MANILA, Philippines — Even long-time “Eat Bulaga” host Pauleen Luna-Sotto was sad when their rival noontime show “It’s Showtime” went off-air on free TV when ABS-CBN’s franchise expired last May and when Congress declined to renew its franchise.

“Honestly, for me and my husband, competition is okay,” Pauleen told Philstar.com in an exclusive phone interview when asked about what she feels now that “Eat Bulaga” and “It’s Showtime” are no longer competing in the free TV ratings game.

“And ang competition naman sa amin, hindi naman personalan eh. It makes the



show better if you’re always on your toes, ‘di ba? You always try to better yourself.”

Pauleen, however, clarified that losing a major competitor did not mean that they in “Eat Bulaga” have to rest on their laurels.

“N’ung nawalan s’ya ng ka-kompetensya, ‘di ko sinasabing nagrelax na ‘yung ‘Eat Bulaga.’ Of course, we’re still doing the best we can especially in a given situation like right now. But ‘yun nga, my husband (Vic Sotto) and I feel that competition is very important.”

Pauleen hosts the new TV5 morning show “Chika, BESH! Basta Everyday Super Hap-

py” with former Kapamilya star Pokwang and Star Magic artist Ria Atayde.

The show, which airs every 10 a.m. on TV5 with a next day replay in Colours Channel (Cignal TV ch 60) at 11 a.m., has on its lineup a lot of ABS-CBN stars that lost work when the network failed to renew its franchise.

Apart from Pauleen’s co-hosts Pokwang and Ria, among the Kapamilya stars to be seen on “Chika, BESH!” were pilot episode guest Sofia Andres, as well as upcoming guests JC de Vera, Ruffa Gutierrez, Richard Yap and celebrity couple Kim Molina and Jerald Napoles.

“Marami pong nawalan ng trabaho, hindi

lang artista, marami talaga. Even ‘Eat Bulaga’ was off-air for a while. Even my friends, non-showbiz friends... In general na lang po. Filipinos are really very resilient. Gagawa nang gagawa ng paraan,” said Pauleen, who shared that even she had to make milk tea from home and deliver her products around their village when her milk tea business was shut down.

“For Filipinos everywhere, ‘wag na lang natin tanggalin ‘yung dasal. Magdasal tayo araw-araw. ‘Wag tayo agad-agad mawawalan ng pag-asa. Ako, I really believe that one day, it will all come back to normal. Hopefully, that day would be soon.”

Kapamilya, Kapuso stars display ‘unexpected’ chemistry in new TV5 show



‘Chika, Besh!’ hosts Pauleen Luna-Sotto, Ria Atayde and Pokwang with pilot episode guest Sofia Andres (second from left).

‘MANILA, Philippines — Kapamilya actress Sofia Andres turned emotional upon recalling how her parents always reminded her about life.

During the pilot episode of TV5’s “Chika Besh” with hosts Pauleen Luna, Ria Atayde and Pokwang, Sofia admitted that she’s hard-headed and now understands where her parents are coming from.

She also shared her pregnancy story and how it changed her life. She admitted that her life and

pregnancy in Australia were not that smooth especially without the comfort of having friends and family by her side.

Most importantly, Sofia shared how deeply in-love she is with her racecar boyfriend Daniel Miranda, the father of her child.

Sofia was the first guest of the TV5’s new morning talk show.

In the show’s Instagram account, the show thanked the viewers for watching their pilot episode.

“Salamat mga kachika sa pagsama sa amin ngayong umaga! Sanay napasaya namin kayo and have a good day ahead! Smile and good vibes lang lagi! See you again tomorrow at 10am!” the show wrote.

The show’s producer, Archangel Media, told Philstar.com that they are satisfied at how the show was well-received on social media and

with the unexpected chemistry among Pokwang, Pauleen and Ria, especially since Ria is new to hosting. They also achieved their goal of giving good vibes for featuring stories of real people, apart from celebrities.

‘Still grieving’: Bea Alonzo shares life a month after ABS-CBN franchise denial

Kapamilya actress Bea Alonzo admitted that she is still grieving ABS-CBN’s failure to get a 25-year franchise renewal when the network’s fate was decided in Congress last July 10.

In an exclusive e-mail interview with Philstar.com, Bea said she believes everything happened for a reason.

“We’re still grieving. But I believe that everything happens for a

reason. This experience is teaching us something. Now is the best time to reflect and take care of one another,” Bea said.

Bea has been busy helping Filipinos that are greatly affected by the pandemic due to the novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

Her advocacy and outreach initiatives with Angel Locsin’s Shop n’ Share, which sold celebrities’ second-hand branded staff for mass testing, has been a success.

“Shop n’ Share was successful. But I won’t take credit for that. I just helped. Angel and Anne were the ones who really worked hard for that drive,” she said.

Bea also has her own organization called I AM HOPE.

“I am very focused on my organization called I AM HOPE. At first, our goal was just to help the frontliners during ECQ but now we have transitioned into helping

the underprivileged through livelihood programs and we aim to help the children with their education. We are in this for the long haul,” she assured everyone.

Bea has also been recently named as new Avon Philippines brand ambassador. She said she agreed to become the company’s brand ambassador because they both believe in women helping women and they share the same advocacies they can collaborate in.

“She’s an embodiment of the power of dreams, and the Floral Wonderland lipstick collection (which Bea endorses) is for those who want to pursue their dreams,” added Anna Garces, Avon Philippines’ Director for Marketing.

Last month, Bea, together with her I AM HOPE foundation, met with Pasig Mayor Vico Sotto to donate relief goods and disinfectants for the city.



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ABS-CBN Shutdown: Kapamilya Celebs, where are they going?

The shutdown of ABS-CBN, one of the major networks in the Philippines, rippled through the country’s media industry.

After the shutdown of ABS-CBN, Kapamilya celebs were deprived of their livelihood and are now looking for projects elsewhere in the entertainment industry.

With the majority decision of the house of representatives committees to reject the franchise renewal of ABS-CBN, it impacted the lives of 11,000 employees.

These employees have lost jobs, projects, and sources of income. Among these employees are prominent Kapamilya celebrities beloved by the public.

The question in people’s minds now is, “where are these celebs now?”

Following the network shutdown, the staff of Kapamilya shows were released from contracts to allow them to work with other networks. Talks of the possible network transfers of prominent Kapamilya Stars have been circling the entertainment news circuit.

Here is what we know so far:

- Rumors are circulating that some Kapamilya celebs are in negotiation with TV5 and GMA Network for possible network transfers.
- Kapamilya shows are still streaming via the ABS-CBN Entertainment YouTube Channel, Kapamilya Online Live.
- Former Kapamilya celebs have already moved to other networks even before the shutdown.

There are rumors of network transfer among the existing pool of Kapamilya personalities.

One of the most recent reports for the talks regarding the possible move to another network is Korina Sanchez. A



netizens asked whether there if there was any truth to the rumors of her having negotiations with TV5 to which she replied, “Abangan ang susunod na kabanta, Salamat sa pagmamahal.”

While other celebrities like Julia Montes and Sarah Geronimo have been subject to rumors of negotiations of network transfer to GMA Network after the shutdown, Montes’ camp discredited this rumor stating that there were no talks of moving to GMA Network. Geronimo’s camp has yet to release any statement addressing the reports.

On the other hand, Pokwang, Ria Atayde, and Jessy Mendiola already have TV shows lined up with TV5 where they will be working with Kapuso Stars. Pokwang and Ria Atayde with Pauleen Luna, a host from GMA Network, will be co-hosting the morning talk show, Rise and Shine, currently known as Chika, BESH! Mendiola is said to host a fitness TV show in the same network titled, Fitness For Life.

Other celebs are still waiting for new projects and the renewal of ABS’ franchise despite the release of their contracts.

The Kapamilya network has already migrated some of their programs to digital platforms like YouTube, in which

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Alden runner ng pamilya para sa groceries

ISANG masayahang hapon ng kwentuhan at kamustahan ang inihandog ni Asia’s Multi-media Star Alden Richards sa kanyang fans sa gitna ng enhanced community quarantine. Sa kanyang Instagram live, ipinakita ni Alden ang kanyang mga koleksyon, ilang parte ng kanyang bahay, mga alagang aso, at sumagot din ang Kapuso actor ng ilang questions mula sa kanyang mga tagahanga. Ikinuwento rin ni Alden na kasama niya ang kanyang ama, nakababatang kapatid, lolo at lola, at mga kasambahay sa kanilang bahay sa Laguna. Siya rin daw ang runner na bumibili



ng groceries para sa kanyang pamilya. Wish ni Alden na sama-sama nating ipagdasal ang frontliners, ang mga taong maysakit, at lahat ng apektado ng COVID-19 pandemic. Mara-mi talaga ang nakamiss kay Alden kaya naman hindi katakatakang nagtrend ang #Alden Richards at #IGLiveKwentuhanWithALDEN sa Twitter.

Aljur Abrenica admits he also fell in love with Kris Bernal

Inamin ni Aljur Abrenica na mas naunang nahulog ang loob niya kay Kris Bernal noon. Pero sadyang hindi nagtugma ang kanilang nararamdaman para sa isa’t isa kaya hindi ito nauwi sa relasyon.

Sinabi ito ni Aljur, 30, sa isang video na in-upload niya sa kanyang YouTube channel noong August 17.

Sa video, naglalaro sila ng asawang si Kylie Padilla ng “jojowain o totropahin challenge.” Dito ay sasabihin nila kung sino sa mga artistang pinangalanan ang gusto nilang maging kaibigan o karelasyon.

Isa sa mga itinanong kay Aljur ay si Kris, na naging leading lady niya sa mga teleserye sa GMA Network. Sabi ni Aljur, totropahin niya si Kris at hindi jojowain. Sa kanyang paliwanag, sinabi ng aktor na hindi sila nagtugma ni Kris pagdating sa nararamdaman nila para sa isa’t isa.

“Para ano, alam ninyo. Hindi lang kami nagkaabot. “Mas nauna ko siyang nagustuhan. Then, dumating yung time na siya na yung nagkagusto sa akin.”



Sabi pa ni Aljur, blessing in disguise na hindi nauwi sa isang relasyon ang kanilang turingan.

“Nag-move forward kami. Tapos nagkaroon kami ng ibang klaseng friendship, grabe!

“So, yung onscreen, lahat, that’s more than blessing in disguise na maging magkaibigan talaga kami. “Kesa sa nagkaroon ng serious relationship, kasi it could have been, di ba, baka masira sa set, di ba, pag nag-away kayo.

“Feeling ko, siya na yung magiging kaibigan ko nang ganun, di ba?”

Inusisa naman ni Kylie si Aljur kung posibleng naging magkarelasyon sila noon ni Kris kung pareho silang available.

Sagot ng aktor, “Oo, baka pwede nung time na yun. Possibility na maging jowain.”

Hindi nabanggit ni Aljur kung ipinagtapat ba niya ito kay Kris noon, o kung may karelasyon noon ang aktres kaya’t hindi ito niligawan ng aktor.

prominent TV shows like It’s Showtime and Magandang Buhay are live-streamed.

Former Kapamilya celebrities like; Aiko Melendez, Jon Lucas, John Estrada, Rayver Cruz, Kiray Celis, Myrtle Sarrosa, Kisses Delavin, and Paul Salas have already moved to GMA Network even before the talks for the shutdown have started.

ABS-CBN was shut down back in

May after it received a cease and desist order from National Telecommunications Commission (NTC). It was a result of the rejected franchise renewal of the network via the congressional hearing. ABS-CBN’s team filed a temporary restraining order against the cease and desist order via the Supreme Court and is currently awaiting the new schedule of the trial.



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Entertainment

Ivana Alawi

You can look but you cannot touch

Sorry to disappoint prospective “bidders” but Ivana Alawi is not up for grabs. “I am not for sale,” stressed the half-Moroccan/half-Filipino stunner who created quite a storm on YouTube (she has over eight million subscribers to date) while venturing into showbiz. “Some people think they can dazzle me with their money and it used to annoy me. I’ve gotten used to it; I just shrug it off. Yes, they can look but they cannot touch.”

Brave words, those, calculated to warn the wolves to keep distance. Ivana’s fighting words must be emanating from her Waray blood (her mom is Waray) — remember the song made even more internationally popular by the seductively throaty version of Eartha Kitt...you know: Waray-Waray, hindi tatakas/Waray-Waray, handang matodas/Waray/Waray, manigas!

Ivana with mom Fatima Marbella and sister, Kapuso actress Mona Louise, and (below) when she auditioned for the GMA talent search StarStruck. ‘I’ve tried for a few other shows but I was rejected,’ confesses Ivana. ‘But my mom nagged me to not give up, so...’

“I guess that wrong impression is created by the write-ups that focus on my figure, sa pagiging pa-sexy ko. But there is so much more to me than that.”

In 2015 when she was 18, Ivana joined the GMA talent search StarStruck Season 6 but got eliminated. Her younger sister Mona Louise joined showbiz ahead of her. Instead, Ivana broke into social media and drew a big following. She’s into varied pursuits: Singing, acting, modeling and IG influencer, safe and secure in the stable of stars managed by



Perry Lansigan.

“Yes,” she confirmed, “nauna sa akin si Mona sa showbiz (she started at a young age. Lagi kaming nag-pa-practice umarte together since before pa. There is no competition between us; we do our best to help each other in every possible way. Her success is my success and the other way around.”

Actually, showbiz has never been her priority.

“Honestly po, I did not expect to boom or become known. Dahil sa ilang beses na akong na-re-reject since I was younger so I felt this was not for me. Pero ‘yung nanay ko said subukan ko one more time. To stop her from nagging, I agreed po. I met Sir Perry (of PPL Entertainment, Inc.) and I remembered being so happy because he was one of the first people to believe in me. Sinabi ko sa kanya that I wanted to be myself and I am comfortable in my skin and I wanted to do more daring roles. But limited to no nudity.”

Mariam Sayed Sameer Marbella Al-Alawi was born on Christmas Day in 1996 to Samier Al-Alawi (a Moroccan) and Fatima Marbella (a Filipina from Samar).

“Before showbiz, my dad told me how important my studies are. I took up Culinary & Pastry Arts and then Fashion Marketing

in Enderun. I kept myself busy by studying as much as I could. I was going to take my third course and start my clothing line but then I had my first project in ABS-CBN,” said Ivana who had supporting roles in Araw Gabi and FPJ’s Ang Probin-syano (2018), and became part of the main cast of Sino ang Maysala?: Mea Culpa (2019).

Ivana described her childhood as “very kept” because her dad is very strict, limiting her routine to home-school-home.

“He worked hard to give us a good life. Bawal kami mag-shorts and sleeveless, bawal makipag-usap sa lalake.”

That was then. Things are different now, especially since she penetrated showbiz with razor-edge preciseness, voted Best TV Personality by the Star Awards for Television by the Philippine Movie Press Club (PMPC).

Did she really, according to rumors, inherit a fortune from her dad, including, ehem, a mansion?

“Sakto lang po,” clarified Ivana. “Everything he left for us is shared with me, my siblings and our mother.”

Was she raised in mixed cultures?

“Yes, when I came here to follow my mom, nagulat ako. Lahat naka-shorts, lahat naka-sleeveless. I saw that mixed ang mag-babarkada, girls and boys. Hindi din ako marunong mag-Tagalog noon, only English, so nahirapan ako maka-intindi,” adding, “I do not mind wearing swimsuits and showing skin. But I have my limits to no nudity.”

How does she deal with indecent proposals, ward off aggressive men?

IVANA ALAWI
continued on page 23

‘My family and a loved one’: Julia Barretto’s birthday dinner sparks speculation about new romance



A photo of a bouquet of roses was among the photos in Julia Barretto’s post about her birthday dinner, which gathered ‘my family and a loved one.’ Instagram: @juliabarretto

MANILA — Is Julia Barretto dating anew?

This was the question among her followers on Wednesday, as the actress shared on Instagram photos of her intimate birthday dinner the night before.

Barretto, who turned 23 on March 10, had previously celebrated her birthdays with a grand bash, gathering her friends and family.

“For my birthday this year I decided to do things differently. A dinner for 10, my family and a loved one. And today, I woke up fuller than ever. Thank You, Jesus,” she wrote, with a heart emoji.

The mention of “a loved one,” who is counted apart from her family, sparked speculation in the comments on Barretto’s post. Some fans asked whether she meant a romantic interest, while others guessed the mystery person’s identity.

That Barretto included a photo of a bouquet of roses in her post were taken as a hint by her followers that she, indeed, was likely pertaining to a romantic relationship.

Barretto was last known to be in a relationship with her former onscreen partner Joshua Garcia. They parted ways in mid-2019.

She was then linked romantically with her “Between Maybes” co-star Gerald Anderson. The two denied having romantic ties, amid the controversy surrounding his breakup with fellow Star Magic artist Bea Alonzo.

LizQuen got offers from GMA, TV5, Viva

Kapamilya TV host and talent manager Ogie Diaz revealed that GMA7, TV5 and Viva expressed their interest to have Liza Soberano and Enrique Gil on their roster of stars.

Ogie said in his latest video blog that they will consider the offer once ABS-CBN fails to give LizQuen a project.

“GMA expressed their interest. TV5 also and ‘yung Viva. Nagbigay sila ng kanilang interes. This is a good problem for us pero siyempre priority muna namin ang

ABS-CBN,” Ogie said.

“Kapag wala talagang maibigay na ang ABS-CBN at in-allow naman silang lumipad sa ibang bakuran, doon pa lang kami magko-consider. Pero at least napakagandang problema nito para sa amin. Actually hindi ito problema. Isang ano lang ito, isipin,” he added. Ogie, however, said that the Kapamilya network has no plans of letting the love team go.

“Actually, ang LizQuen ay isa sa mga hindi binibitawan ng ABS-CBN. As per Tita Cory Vidanes, nung nakausap ko, gumagawa naman daw sila ng paraan kung paano maitatawid ‘yung mga love teams na



pinoprotektahan nila at sinesecure talaga nila. Alam naman natin ang KathNiel, nandiyan iyan. Ang LizQuen andyan din,” he said.

Ogie also confirmed that LizQuen have an upcoming movie with Star Cinema that will reunite them with blockbuster director Cathy Garcia-Molina.

“Merong pinitch sa aming movie si Inang Olive (Lamasan) sa Star Cinema. Excited ‘yung dalawa na gawin ‘yung movie provided kailangan mag-flatten ‘yung curve ng pandemya,” he said.

Ogie earlier confirmed the news via a tweet by ABS-CBN’s MJ Felipe.

“Ogie Diaz confirmed that Liza Soberano is doing a movie with Enrique Gil under Star Cinema. Cathy Garcia Molina will be directing the movie,” MJ wrote.

“Diaz said that they would just like to wait for the cases of COVID-19 to flatten before they begin filming. Quen and Liza liked the pitch,” he added.

Liza and Enrique, popularly known as LizQuen, last teamed up for the movie “Alone Together” directed by Antoinette Jadaone.

Their last series together, “Make It With You,” was cut short due to the pandemic.

LizQuen and Cathy’s last movie project together was the 2017 film “My Ex and Whys.” The film earned P400 million worldwide.



Parents and performers enjoyed the rare sun out at the Filipino Street Eat Festival.



From left, Marky Hugh Production talents Arielle Perez, Jainna, Jarius, Ice Belen, Althea Justine, Ryza Quijano, Nathalie B, Geron, Clemence, Andre Anne, and Therese perform at the Filipino Street Eat festival.

Iza Calzado grateful for new TV show

Arielle Perez

Iza Calzado, who just celebrated her birthday last August 12, is grateful that their new ABS-CBN show titled “Ang Sa Iyo Ay Akin” is premiering on August 17. The show was supposed to air last March but the Covid-19 pandemic stopped it on its tracks.

“I am grateful that despite the many things we went through during this pandemic, we are finally opening,” said the actress who also got infected by Covid-19 but was able to recover. “We have been chosen by God to do this on a new platform. I am beyond grateful that despite the many challenges, were able to pull through.”

The actress added they are excited to

share “Ang Sa Iyo Ay Akin” to the viewers now tuned in to the new Kapamilya network.

“Life goes on and I am truly grateful that I survived Covid-19. God moves in mysterious ways. From where started last March and now we are here, it is God’s will. We just lift everything to God.”

Iza is working with Maricel Soriano, Jodi Sta. Maria and Sam Milby in the series directed by F.M. Reyes and Avel Sunpongco, and produced by JRB Creative Production.

Iza first worked with Jodi in the movie “Maria Leonora Teresa” where they became good friends. They would message each other every day and looked forward to working together on the set of their new show despite the social distancing being imposed on the cast and production team.

“Our friendship grew deeper while doing this series. I appreciate her as much as I did before. I know she is a good person and I



believe we were both handpicked by God to be together,” Iza shared.

Iza added that there is no contest between her and Jodi on the set, “We are team players. If your co-star has the highlight, you’ve got to play your part well to support her. If you think that you should be better than your co-star, then

that would not work. Dapat walang sapa-wan. Dapat tulungan kayo.”

Besides, she added, she is not competing with Jodi but with herself. “I am competing with myself because I want to be better. I want to be good that’s why I always asked after every take if I did well. I want to outdo myself and be better. If there is a second take, I always think how to make it better.”

Iza also cherished the opportunity to work with Diamond Star Maricel Soriano whom she described as “a generous actress” because the latter always shares acting tips and makes them feel good in every scene.

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Fun Out

Photographer B. Mariano has been with assignments the great outdoor treats Samantha and Shanaia G. a Jollibee picnic a photoshoot. B. Samantha, Shan and Shaylene K. Alogbate on a cover. RIGHT, B. assistance from sons in making a video for Shana



Ai-Ai delas Alas is amazed by Sandara Park's "kabaitan." kabaitan She appreciates that a "super sikat" star in South Korea took the time to reply to her message.

Ai-Ai delas Alas praises Sandara Park:

“Napakabait na bata”

Napahanga si Ai-Ai delas Alas sa kababaang-loob na ipinamalas ng K-Pop star na si Sandara Park. Noon August 22, ibinahagi ng Kapuso comedienne sa Instagram feed nito ang screenshot ng maiksing usapan nila ni Sandara, na kilala rin bilang Dara.

Makikitang nag-send si Ai-Ai ng litrato ng “Mang Tae nightmare catcher doll” kay Dara.

Ang “Mang Tae nightmare catcher doll” ay sumikat dahil sa K-drama series na It’s Okay Not To Be Okay, na pinagbibidahan nina Kim Soo Hyun at Seo Ye Ji.

Sa caption, ikinatuwa ni Ai-Ai na nag-reply pa rin si Dara kahit na “super sikat” na nito sa South Korea.

Aniya (published as is), “Sobrang ang saya saya ko .. kasi follow ko si kim soo hyun nung isang araw ..

“tapos nakita ko name ni sandara kaya follow ko sya ..

“kinamusta ko sya nagulat ako sumagot kasi super sikat ma sikat na sya sa korea icon na nga sya ..

“pero napakabait pa rin na bata .. may opo pa din sumagot ..”

Sa pagtatapos ng kanyang post, muling nagpasalamat si Ai-Ai kay Dara sa oras nito.

Aniya, “baby girl salamat sa tsika at salamat napaka bait mo pa ding bata...

“may GOD BLESS YOU MORE AND MORE ..

“take care always be safe and i love you baby girl..

“sorry sa storbo para kay mang tae doll..

“hahaha tawa sya saken ako din bigla oo nga ano ba yan nakita ko kasi kay gabbi garcia natuwa ako ...

“basta thank you sa kabaitan mo @daraxxi”

Matatandaang nagkaroon ng cameo role si Dara sa superhero movie ni Ai-Ai na Volta (2004). Ito ay matapos nitong manalo bilang runner-up sa reality artista search ng ABS-CBN na Star Circle Quest.

Kilala rin si Dara bilang dating miyembro ng K-Pop girl group na 2NE1.

Currently, Dara is busy hosting several talk shows, including Video Star and Follow Me Review On.

She recently starred in the musical theater adaptation of the K-drama series Another Oh Hae Young.

In June, she had a cameo role in the K-drama series Dinner Mate, which starred Song Seung Heon and Seo Ji Hye.



1. Min-Pop Peyton garica reaches out to the crowd in one of their shows. 2. Mini-Pop Kayleigh Cerezo happily acknowledges the crowd in one of their performances. 3 & 4. JDL Cupid Arch and Josie de Leon perform at the Ivory Keys dinner concert. ALL PHOTOS BY RAYMOND SANTOS

Happy 9th Birthday to Ava

Happy 7th birthday to Ava Raymond and Christine’s younger daughter celebrated her 7th birthday with family and friends.



Margaret Grey, dad Ronnie, mom Marlene, sister Celine go biking at Niagara on the Lake.



MH Talents Sarong sisters perform at the Filipino Eat Street Festival.

KIM MAHISTRADO gets ready for his fashion show in December



Ella Cruz retrieves facebook page

Memorable para kay Ella Cruz ang August 17, 2020.

Bukod kasi sa 24th birthday niya ito, sa araw ring ito na-hack ang Facebook page niyang may 4.2 million followers.

Mabuti na lang, sandali lamang ang lungkot na naramdaman ni Ella dahil na-retrieve nito ang kanyang account.

Pero, nabura ang karamihan sa mga posts niya.

“Nakakalungkot man na halos lahat ng posts ko ay nawala, pero ita-try pa rin natin na ma-recover lahat. Ang mahalaga, nandito na ulit,” ang mensaheng ipinarating ni Ella sa kanyang milyun-milyong followers sa Facebook.



SIMPLE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Dahil sa coronavirus pandemic, simple lamang ang nagin selebrasyon ng kaarawan ni Ella.

Masayang-masaya ang Viva artist dahil may nagregalo sa kanya ng dream cat niya.

“Masaya po ako dahil kasama ko noong birthday ko ang lahat ng mga tao na mahal ko, at may nagbigay ng dream cat ko,” ang kuwento ni Ella sa Cabinet Files noong August 2020.

Ginamit din ni Ella ang pagiging social media influencer sa pamamagitan ng pagbibigay ng payo sa kanyang mahigit Facebook fan at 1.5 million subscribers sa YouTube na naapektuhan ng COVID-19 pandemic.

“Maraming nakaka-experience ng hindi maganda ngayon. Magwala lang tayo at, siyempre, kung kaya natin, kahit sa simpleng mabagay, tulungan natin ang isa’t isa at ang sarili natin,” saad niya.

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Sanya ibinida ang cooking skills sa vlog

MAY bago na ring kinahihiligan ang Kapuso actress na si Sanya Lopez ngayong naka-quarantine. Sa kaniyang latest vlog, ibinida ng aktres ang kaniyang skills sa kusina sa pamamagitan ng pagpe-prepare ng paborito niyang ramen.

Pupuwede palang ma-enjoy ang sikat na pagkain na ito kahit na sa bahay lang. Tinuro ni Sanya kung

paano niya inihanda ang ramen broth, noodles, at egg na kagaya at kasing-sarap ng mga nabibili sa Japanese restaurants. Mapapanood ang kabuuan ng video sa YouTube channel ni Sanya.

Samantala, nagdaos ng simpleng birthday celebration noong August 9 si Sanya sa bahay kasama ang kapatid na si Jak Roberto at ilang kamag-anak.



Fun & Sun at the Cottage Hermie and Luth Esguerra, and family, which includes up to their grandchildren have fun in the sun at the cottage.

Fun & Sun at the Cottage



Alden Richards names his dream leading lady



Given the chance, Alden Richards said he would like to do a movie with Bea Alonzo, whom he was able to work with for an endorsement.

"It's common knowledge that Bea is one of my idols. I love her tandem and projects with John Lloyd Cruz," Alden said. "I was starstruck when I worked with Bea [in a shampoo commercial], and I was surprised by the chemistry we had," he revealed.

Another goal of his, he said, is to do an indie film. "I would like to try taking on dark roles," he said. "For commercial films, I just want something more mature than what I have previously done. That way, I get to raise my level with every project."

For now, work mostly revolves around "Eat Bulaga!" There are plans for a movie and some television shows, the Kapuso hunk related, but nothing's certain yet. "Everything's up in the air because of our situation," Alden said.

In this time of pandemic, where days can be stressful and dispiriting, the actor draws strength and the will to keep on going from prayers and the people he's determined to take care of.

"I'm staying positive about the future, that this will end soon. But right now, I'm currently focused on surviving each day, not just for myself, but for my family and those who depend on me. Those people include members of his

personal team and employees working at his restaurants and fast-food chain franchise. Although business is slow because of the safety measures and quarantine restrictions in place, Alden has yet to lay off anyone.

The Kapuso star is determined to keep everyone for as long as he can, because losing one's livelihood in these challenging times is unfathomable for him. Alden admitted that he has experienced moments of anxiety while in quarantine. His grandparents live with him in his Laguna home, and he's constantly worried about their safety and health.

The 28-year-old actor also observed that anxiety can end up dictating the things you do. And one of the things that has helped him, he related, is trying to restore some semblance of normalcy to his life.

Now more than ever, it's important to stay healthy, physically and mentally. "Right now, I want to help raise awareness about taking care of our health," he pointed out.

"It's a blessing," Alden said of the fact that he continues to get endorsements, even while on lockdown. "The more people who trust you, or the more endorsements you get, the more opportunities to help others."

Aside from taking supplements, Alden continues to work out and stick to intermittent fasting. His hard work has been paying off, as can be seen in his bare-chested photos on Instagram, which he has no qualms showing off. He's particularly proud of his abs—the area he had the hardest time improving.

"I just want to show what I have been working on for months. We're not getting any younger, so we should always seek to do things that will allow us to level up," he

pointed out.

He has never been more conscious about his physique. "But as I began to get more interested in entertainment, I started going out more and being around people. That was when I started being mindful of being physically fit. And I needed to be healthy because work is demanding."

Jinri Park from actress to waitress: 'I am not ashamed'



Jinri Park then and now

It's been awhile since people learned Korean DJ and model Jinri Park left her glamorous life in the

Philippines to lead a quiet married life in Australia.

I touched base with the "PBB Lucky 7" celebrity housemate recently after seeing her Instagram post that shows her wearing an apron and waitress' trainee I.D..

I asked her if it was for real or a prank for her almost 1 million followers.

"This is my life now, ate," she said. "I am now in my 30s and I must admit my life in my 20's there in the Philippines is what others may call glamorous— working as a DJ, an events host, a model, being dolled up for photoshoots, working as an actress in television..."

"But now that I am in Australia, I'd like to think ahead. My life goal is to finish a degree I will use until I grow



Crown in the Park

is a 3-day outdoor summer basketball tournament. Arielle Perez participated in the summer tournament that was held in Scarborough and Mississauga.

old. I graduated with a degree in Hotel and Restaurant Management and now proceeding to study another degree."

Jinri said that tuition fee is very expensive in Sydney so she needs to help her husband financially.

"That's why I got a job as waitress and maite d'. I am not ashamed serving in a restaurant because this is good decent work. My parents always taught the value of hard work and its benefits in the end."

I admire this woman because as FHM's top 7 sexiest woman in the Philippines before, I am sure she had affluent suitors.

Yet she wisely chose to lead a simple life with a man she truly loves.

So, when you see Jinri in Sydney serving you, talk to her. Tell her you recognize her and start a conversation.

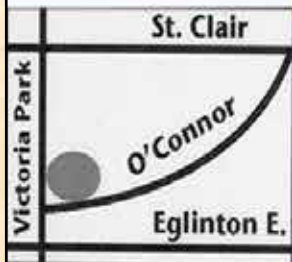


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JOJO TADURAN'S MEMORIAL SERVICE



Memorial Services were held for the late Joaquin (Jojo) Taduran, Jr. in Quezon City and in Naga City, Camarines Sur, in the Philippines last February/March 2020. It was attended by Jojo's wife, Fe Taduran, children Regine & Dr. Ferenc Kunszt and Dr. Richard Taduran, brother-in-law Romeo Paca, Jojo's siblings and other family members. The bereaved family also visited Jojo's closest friends, Meneleo (Ito) Carlos and DBP Chairman Bert Romulo.

Jane De Leon 'deeply saddened' by 'Darna' postponement

MANILA, Philippines — The highly-anticipated “Darna” film starring Kapamilya actress Jane De Leon will not take flight anytime soon.

ABS-CBN on Friday announced its careful decision to postpone the film production indefinitely due to the impact of COVID-19.

“We are committed to following production guidelines under the new normal and the safety of the actors and production team is a top priority. However, because the movie requires complex logistics, crowd shots, and fight scenes that involve physical contact, it will be difficult to give justice to the superhero film while strictly adhering to the guidelines,” ABS-CBN said.

Aside from production woes, the media network cit-



ed difficulty assessing whether cinemas would recover and audiences would return with the ongoing health crisis.

“I’m deeply saddened by the postponement of the Darna project. However, safety comes first as always. Thank you so much for the support & understanding. Let’s pray for everyone’s safety. God Bless!” Jane wrote on social media.

The rights to the movie will remain with ABS-CBN, which thanked the cast, staff and production crew for their hard work on the longstanding film project that has already suffered numerous delays.



GMA's Jennylyn Mercado on ABS-CBN issue: To be silent in times of injustice is injustice

GMA Kapuso actress Jennylyn Mercado recently clapped back at individuals who asked her to stay neutral or silent on the junked franchise application of ABS-CBN.

“But I am a Filipino and that alone is enough,” Jennylyn said on Twitter after a netizen advised her to be neutral or silent about the issue, since she is not even a part of the embattled Kapamilya network.



“To be neutral or silent in times of injustice is injustice,” she added. “If being ‘bashed’ is a small price to pay for practicing my right to freedom of speech. Then I am fine with it.”

Jennylyn earlier lashed out at the people who rejoiced over the “killed” franchise bid of the TV network.

The House of Representatives’ adopted the report of the technical working group, which recommended the denial of the network’s franchise application.

Jennylyn likewise asked her bashers if expressing one’s opinions has ever been considered wrong

“[Kailan] naging mali ang ‘mangialam’ o speak out?” the actress answered her detractors in another tweet.

“Have you forgotten that one of our basic rights is Kalayaan ng Pananalita (freedom of speech)?” she added.

“The moment you hinder someone from speaking their mind is the moment you failed to respect the rights of your fellow Filipino.”

Snooky Serna admits she was raped by a former love-team partner

Snooky Serna came in just one score short of perfect in the lie-detector test conducted by John “Sweet” Lapus in the “Don’t Lie To Me” segment of Showbiz Central. She failed when asked if she wanted to reconcile with ex-husband Ricardo Cepeda.

John “Sweet” Lapus, had an interesting guest for Showbiz Central’s “Don’t Lie To Me” segment—Snooky Serna, one of the local showbiz’s most controversial actresses both past and present.

Snooky sat on the lie detector seat as John grilled her with sensitive questions on her personal and professional life.

John, who still had not realized how ma-kuwento Snooky can be, took note of Snooky’s newly acquired tattoo.

“Frustrated band member ako and na-stereotype lang ako na ‘Sweet, sweet, sweet!’.”

John asked the final and most controversial question: “Matapos ang iyong tell-all interview sa YES! magazine, ang diumanong pang-aabuso sa iyo noon. Ka-love team mo ba na artista din ang diumano’y nagsamantala sa ‘yo nung araw?”

Snooky bowed her head and answered, “Yes.”

Due to the sensitivity of the topic, John immediately addressed the audience: “Hindi na po natin babanggitin kung sino o pangalan ng aktor na ka-love team ni Snooky Serna. Ang mahalaga, e, na-clarify na siya din ay aktor at ka-love team ni Ms. Snooky Serna nung araw.”



Flora Ventocilla and family goes on a family outing to the beach.

Jessy and Luis share deep thoughts about love and settling down someday

The recent “heart-to-heart” talk between celebrity couple Jessy Mendiola and Luis Manzano revealed some of their thoughts on the years-long relationship they have.

In the vlog, Luis asked Jessy if there’s anything he said in the past that she doubted.

“Na papakasalan mo ako,” Jessy immediately answered.

She then explained it just boils down to “trust issues” given her previous experiences.

The two also talked about how and when she realized she was falling for him.

Jessy said it was on one of his birthdays after they had a long talk.

“So much positivity naramdaman ko nu’n. Para sa akin ‘This person is a good man. This person is such a positive person.’ It’s just so nice to talk to such a relatable guy. So sabi

ko may chance na maging kami,” she shared.

But, actually, it took more months before Cupid came calling.

“Mid-June na realize ko na lagi kang nagsasabing ‘I love you,’ ako thank you ng thank you. Pero nu’ng June 25, 2016, na-realize ko during one of those time na nag-‘I love you’ ka na I want to say I love you back.”

Jessy revealed Luis is not her “ideal guy” at first, as she likes them moreno. Ultimately, though, his sense of humor won her over.

And what finally made her say yes to be his Howhow (their term of endearment for each other)?

“For the first time in my life pinili ko kung ano ‘yung gusto ko kasi for the longest time, I would always consider so many things before making a decision,” she said.

“Hindi ko na siya pinagisipan. Naramdaman ko na lang siya. Pa-



rang sabi ko sa sarili ko hindi ko na siya pag iisipan, hahayaan ko na lang sarili ko... Being happy with you was the reason why I said yes. ‘Yun ang importante dapat happy ka.’

Jessy admitted she can’t wait for the day when everything is back to normal. By then, they will be able to fulfill their dreams, hopefully including settling down by the beach .

Luis also gave his two cents about their four-year relationship.

He said that among reasons he fell for her is that they “complement” each other.

“Para tayong Lego, parang puzzle. Kung anong pagkukulang ko bilang ako, napupunan mo ‘yun and I would like to think the other away around,” the actor said.

Luis was also game when the 27-year-old actress asked if he ever thought of breaking up with her whenever they fight.

“Oh sure,” he answered. “Lahat naman tayo may matinding away. It’s not always lambingan. Umaabot tayo sa point na maiisip natin baka nga meant to be separate paths, na things may be better for you individually if you go down different paths but nalalam-pasan naman ‘yun.”

ABS-CBN exports more tele-novelas, movies

ABS-CBN Corporation, the Philippines' leading media company, continues to generate revenues from the export of its locally-produced shows to viewers across three continents.

In a statement, the firm said it is set to bring 16 hit titles to international territories including Africa, Asia, and Latin America this year and in 2021.

Of the 16 ABS-CBN programs, 14 will be shown in Africa starting this year. In Latin America, a classic drama will premiere in Ecuador this August—the third ABS-CBN show to air in Ecuador.

In Asia, one show will have an Indonesian remake. Currently, three ABS-CBN shows are airing in Myanmar, namely.

The Pacific Islands will also be enjoying two shows as they air this August and September.

Meanwhile, ABS-CBN's hit romantic fantasy will be shown in Brunei this year. This follows the successful showing of two movies in Vietnam recently.

ABS-CBN has produced the highest-rating shows in the Philippines and has been recognized as a reliable foreign



content provider in the global market. Its films and shows are available across other territories through ABS-CBN International Distribution.

The firm recently launched Kapamilya Channel on cable and satellite TV across the

Philippines and Kapamilya Online Live on ABS-CBN Entertainment's YouTube and Facebook to broadcast and stream its programs following the denial of its legislative franchise for its free TV and radio operations last month.

Its shows and films are also available on

iWant and TFC streaming platforms.

The company continues to syndicate its content through various streaming services and operate other businesses that do not require a legislative franchise, such as international licensing and distribution, digital, and cable TV.

ABS-CBN has been a premier source of high-quality Filipino programming in over 50 territories all over the world and has sold over 50,000 hours of content worldwide.

Living up to this recognition, ABS-CBN International Distribution commits to add to its first line-up of high-caliber programs and movies with cast and storylines that appeal to various cultures.



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Teresita Dacula, the 63-year-old mother of former sexy star Klaudia Koronel, passed away Saturday morning, August 15, at her home in Culiati, Quezon City.

Klaudia di makauwi para makita ang namatay na ina

PUMANAW na ang ina ang dating sexy actress na si Klaudia Koronel (Milfe Dacula in real life) nung nakaraang Sabado. Ang masakit, hindi makakauwi ng Pilipinas si Klaudia dahil sa pandemya gayundin ang isa niyang kapatid na nasa Mindoro dahil walang masakyan. Ang isang kapatid ni Klaudia na kasama ng kanilang namapayang ina ay siyang mag-isang mag-aasikaso.

Masakit sa kalooban ni Klaudia na hindi man lamang niya makikita sa huling pagkakataon ang kanyang ina bago ito ihatid sa huling hantungan.

Si Klaudia ay hiwalay na sa kanyang Chinese-American husband na isang businessman na si Andy Zhang na kanyang pinakasalan sa Pilipinas nung August 28, 2009.

Sa pagkakaalam namin, maganda ang buhay ngayon ng dating actress sa Amerika dahil nagma-manage ito ng sarili niyang care home sa Arizona, USA sa tulong ng dating mister.

Nung aktibo pa si Klaudia sa kanyang showbiz career sa Pilipinas ay marami itong pelikulang nagawa at kasama na rito ang "Pisil," "Kesong Puti," "Anakan Mo Ako," "Dugo ng Birhen," "Sagot Ko ang Buhay Mo," "Torotot," "Pasasabugin Ko ang Buhay Mo" at marami pang iba.

Nakuha naman ni Klaudia ang kanyang kauna-unahang Gawad Urian trophy bilang Best Supporting Actress para sa pelikulang "Live Show" in 2001 na dinirek ni Jose Javier Reyes under Regal Entertainment.

They all did it before Nadine



Nadine Lustre isn't the first actress to bolt out of her movie studio. Surely, there were other movie stars before her who unilaterally decided to terminate their respective contracts with their mother studios. Most of them ended up getting embroiled in legal tussles over contractual obligations.

One of the most celebrated cases involved Amalia Fuentes vs. Sampaguita Pictures in 1962.

Discovered by Sampaguita when she was a 15-year old high school senior in 1955, she had become a huge movie star after only a few years and commanded a salary of P8,000 per picture.

Sometime in 1961, Amalia got a house for herself and her family.

Before she could finish paying for the house, however, she fell from a horse while shooting the action-drama Tulisan (with rival Susan Roces) and was put in a cast for several months. She panicked at that point and thought about the future.

She had been in the movies for seven years and all she had was a house that she was still paying for. And then came a delicious offer from an independent film company called RA Fans that was willing to pay her P50,000 for one film – a re-union movie with then sweetheart (and later ex-husband) Romeo Vasquez.

Amalia asked permission from Sampaguita to do this one picture, but the answer was no. With that response from her mother company, she left the studio and went on to negotiate with the new producer.

Sampaguita went on to sue her in court and the case landed at the sala of Judge Lourdes San Diego who deemed it best for everyone to agree to an amicable settlement.

In the end, the judge ordered Amalia to stay with Sampaguita for another eight months to finish her projects – after

which she was free to go. It was actually a win-win situation for everyone, except maybe for RA Fans because its investment went on to sleep for another eight months.

Amalia eventually became an independent film producer herself and churned out mostly movies shot abroad in the 1970s. Until her death on October 5, 2019, she was basically on good terms with most of the Sampaguita heirs, particularly Gina de Venecia, who had been her friend since

they were in their teens.

A decade after its legal problem with Amalia was resolved, Sampaguita went to court again – this time to sue Nora Aunor, who left the studio that gambled on her after winning in Tawag ng Tanghalan.

Upon the enticement of Artemio Marquez who directed her in some of her Sampaguita movies, Nora was lured to do pictures for Tower Productions that

There were loopholes in Nora's contract that stated that "she should be elevated to lead status in her fourth film.

Marquez himself had established. According to Marquez, there were loopholes in Nora's contract that stated that "she should be elevated to lead status in her fourth film." Sampaguita, however, kept to the tradition of properly molding its stars first before launching them big-time. In her early movies therefore, she languished as support to Rosemarie Sonora at 400 pesos per picture.

Nora's contract with Sampaguita was actually signed on her behalf (being a minor then) by her Aunt Belen (who acted as her guardian). To get around

BEFORE NADINE
continued on page 25

Maymay a 'master love caster' in her latest project

It appears that Maymay Entrata, the other half of the popular "May-Ward" love team, has fallen in love, broken her heart and moved on without us knowing it.

During a recent media gathering for her latest show "Listen to Love," the actress was asked about the most important

lesson about love that she has learned through time. To this, she answered: "It's important

that I first find myself before falling in love again. I have to first fill my

heart with self-love. I should first focus on my relationship with God because God is love. And then, if I feel that I'm already bursting with love in my heart, then maybe I'd be ready to share it with someone else.

In "Listen to Love," Maymay plays DJ Zari, the "master love caster."

In reference to the show's title, Maymay was also asked whether or not she would fall in love with a bad boy. She replied with: "I believe that once a bad boy will always be a bad boy. You won't be able to change who he is just by being his girlfriend, but you will be able to control how to choose who to love. So if I'd pick a guy, doon ako sa good boy."

But aren't good boys boring sometimes: "Not all good boys are boring. You still have to have standards even though you're looking for a good boy."

Maymay also acknowledged that this was a project without Edward. "We already started working on our respective solo projects late last year. The setup is OK with us."

Alden at Jennylyn, may nilulutong show

Walang dudang si Alden Richards ang biggest TV artist ngayong pandemic!

Aba, kumpirmado na ang pagkakaroon ni Alden ng weekly drama anthology sa Kapuso Network. Bukod sa weekly drama, may gagawin din siyang TV special sa GMA News and Public Affairs. Confidential pa ang title ng weekly drama ng kanyang weekly drama. Sa nakuha naming impormasyon, sina Jasmine Curtis-Smith at Pancho Magno ang makakasama ng Asia's Multimedia Star.

Sa unang napabalita na si Jennylyn Mercado ang makakasama ni Alden, ibang show pala ang gagawin niya.

Samantala, sa report na magre-resume na ang taping ng Descendants of the Sun, kahapon, sumailalim na ang cast, staff and crew (sa swab testing).

Then, after ng quarantine ay paghahandaan nila ang resumption ng taping ng Kapuso series.

Handa namang maiwan muna si Marian Rivera ng asawang si Dingdong Dantes na lead actor ng series.



Philmar Alipayo on giving Andi Eigenmann pechay instead of flowers during courtship

Andi Eigenmann doesn't look at Chinese cabbage the way other people do.

Seeing "pechay" makes her kilig whenever she remembers it's a "thoughtful gift" from her partner Philmar Alipayo, who used to bring her a bunch instead of a bouquet of flowers back when they were newly dating.

The picture circulated after Philmar posted it on his Instagram account. "Ato first pic! Remember i give you pichay instead of a flower mingaw nako sa imo mahal ko (face blowing a kiss emoji)," his caption read.

Andi reposted it on her Instagram story, relating it's one of her favorite pictures of them.

The actress even noted she had wanted to use that photo during the recent birthday of Philmar, but she couldn't find her copy then.

"So I can make some yummy fish sinigang! What a thoughtful gift," Andi wrote about the pechay. Few days ago, the actress penned sweet birthday message for her longtime partner and father of her second daughter.

It read: "Malipajun na katauhan sa ako one and only mahal!" (Siargaanon for Happy Birthday to my one and only love)."

They are currently in "long-distance" relationship due to some of the lockdown guidelines. Andi is in Manila with their year-old Lilo and her eight-year-old child, Ellie, who is staying with her father, Jake Ejercito when the lockdown was implemented last March; while Philmar is in his hometown of Siargao.

Philippine English is legitimate

MANILA – Contrary to what many Filipinos think, Philippine English is a legitimate variety of the English language, according to an expert.

Dr. Danica Salazar, world English editor for the Oxford English Dictionary (OED), stressed that Philippine English is "not slang, not wrong, not carabao English, or any other derogatory word that's been used over the years."

She said that just like British, American, Australian, and Singaporean variants, Philippine English plays an important role in the historical development of the language, which OED seeks to document.

"What OED does is it tells the history of the English language through the development of its words, and that story is not complete if we don't tell the part that Philippine English plays," she said in a recent webinar organized by the Philippine Embassy in Spain.

"Philippine English, just like American English or British English, or Indian English or Singapore English, are all part of the same story," she added. "We all have a role to play in this. Philippine English has as much of a place in the history in the lexicon of the English language as all these other varieties."





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New Beginnings

How busy JC juggles fatherhood and acting

After a week of taking care of his new-born baby girl, actor JC Santos said he now has so much respect for women, especially those who are single parents.

“It’s difficult to take care of babies, even



with both parents around. I can imagine how tougher it is for single

mothers,” JC told reporters during the media gathering for his latest film, Bradley Liew’s horror-thriller “Motel Acacia.”

“Right now, I’m running on coffee,” declared JC. His baby was only 6 days old at the time of the interview. “I chose to be hands-on. I’m enjoying it no matter how tiring. She would wake up almost every hour.”

JC tied the knot with his high school sweetheart, theater actress Shyleena Herrera, in September 2019.

The actor said that since he would be at work during mornings, he would devote his nighttime to the baby. “Sa kanya na rin ang buong madaling araw ko. I would just rest during taping breaks if I could,” said the cast member of ABS-CBN’s drama series, “24/7.”

He admitted it was always difficult for him to leave their home in Pampanga to go to work. To be able to finish an average of five films per year, JC said he would work on one film per month. “Yes, I am able to manage my time that way. With movies, you get to study your lines ahead of time; while for TV series, you can only do so much, since the script is given to you on the day of taping,” he explained. “I’m so proud of this one. This has been shown in different countries, and now, it’s here in the Philippines,” JC beamed. “I experienced a lot of firsts while doing this one. I enjoyed a shooting process that I never thought would be possible in the Philippine setting. Sana, laging may ganito.”

Belle Daza’s side hustle while in Hong Kong

If you are into pre-loved items, then, Isabelle Daza, who has opened her closet to online shoppers, might be your chance to treat yourself to high-quality and designer items sold at a fraction of their original price.

Since Carousell tapped the 32-year-old celebrity mom more than a year ago, she has been selling items from designer clothes, shoes, bags, and other accessories to high-quality pieces like her handcrafted ceramic set on the online consumer marketplace. “I worked with them and then I sold stuff and then it did really well. And then we’ve built a great relationship of working together because I think I love the company and the brand and what it does. And I think it helps me get rid of my clothes, which eventually find new owners that love them,” Belle, who is currently in Hong Kong with her husband Adrien Semblat and son Balthazar, shared.

As a celebrity, Belle has to wear new things whenever she appears on TV or attends entertainment events. And buying new clothes takes up a lot of space in her closet. As her way to market the items on the platform, she puts funny stories on her ads telling online shoppers how her preloved items added value to her life. “With the pandemic, everybody is stuck at home and feeling the burden. It’s a very rough time. Carousell really wanted to make the best of this situation and wanted to encourage people that not only can you discover great finds on the app, but you can also resell items that you don’t need anymore and to have extra income. And that’s why I call it my side hustle. I earn from it and it’s a significant amount of money if you are selling things that are, I guess, of value,” Belle said alluding to her Instagram post where she said online selling is her side hustle.



Jennylyn & Yassi, hindi lumaki ulo



Ilang pictures na kasama si Yassi Pressman ang pinost ng businesswoman/philanthropist na si Chemist Pinky Tobiano sa kanyang social media accounts.

Kuha sa The Farm at San Benito (Batangas) ang pictures na ‘yon.

Akala ko ay noon pa magkakilala ang dalawa, pero nang makatsikahan ko kahapon si Pinky, nabanggit niyang sa lugar lang na ‘yon sila nagkakilala.

Pero puring-puri ni Pinky ang isa sa stars ng FPJ’s Ang Probinsyano.

“I met her here lang. She’s so sweet. Yassi’s with her sister.

“When I arrived, they’re here na. Hindi ko lang alam up to when sila dito, but they’re still here,” sabi ni Pinky.

‘Katuwa lang na kahit maituturing na ring big star ngayon si Yassi ay wala kang maririnig na nagbago ng ugali ang dalaga.

Actually, kahit ako naman, Ateng Salve, kapag nakikita ko sa mga event nina Richard Gutierrez at Sarah Lahbati si Yassi, palagi siyang sweet.

Malayo siya sa ibang mga artistang sumikat lang ay naging isnabera na!

‘Yan din ang maipupuri ko kay Jennylyn Mercado!

Since Starstruck days niya, mabait na si Jennylyn at kahit sabihing isa siya sa most important stars ng GMA 7, hindi rin nagbabago ang ugali ng aktres.

Kung gaano siya ka-sweet noong 2004 na nakilala ko siya sa Starstruck, ganoon pa rin naman ang ugali niya hanggang ngayon.

Naalala ko pa nga nang makita ko sila ng boyfriend niyang si Dennis Trillo kasama ang anak niyang si AJ sa Power Plant Mall sa Rockwell Center, sila pa ang unang bumati at nakipagtsikahan sa akin.

Ipinakilala pa nga ako ni Jennylyn sa kanyang anak.

Actually, isa nga si Jennylyn sa mga

artistang kilala ang entertainment press na madalas niyang nakakatsikahan sa mga showbiz event.

Sana nga ay tularan sina Yassi at Jennylyn ng mga baguhan sa showbiz, huh!

Angel Locsin on COVID-19 positive vlogger who’s critical of her: ‘Nobody deserves COVID’

Angel Locsin is urging fans to stop bashing a vlogger, who has been “habitually criticizing” the actress, after he recently got infected with the novel coronavirus.

Locsin took to her Instagram Stories Aug. 19, to share her appeal along with her well-wishes for the vlogger, whom she did not name.

“I’ve been receiving messages about a vlogger who’s been habitually criticizing me and is now positive of [COVID-19]. Let’s not wish ill of him,” the actress stressed.

“Nobody deserves [COVID-19]. Hope you get well soon,” Locsin added. She likewise shared her message via Twitter yesterday and has since gotten over 1,800 retweets and almost 30,000 likes, as of writing.

Fans and fellow actress Alessandra de Rossi have meanwhile expressed their admiration for Locsin and agreed with her appeal.

“Totoo naman [prayer hands emoji] nobody deserves it,” de Rossi replied to Locsin’s tweet also yesterday. “Get well soon [na lang] talaga.” (That is really true, nobody deserves it. We can just wish for him to get well soon.)

“Totoo [lang] Idol masakit sa amin ma bash ka ang daming hindi magagandang sinasabe sayo nila. But coming from you OK I will pray for his recovery,” a fan, one @Fatimateamangel, meanwhile replied.

Although Locsin refrained from dropping a name, fans were quick to speculate that the said vlogger was Banat By (real name: Byron Cristobal), a staunch supporter of the Duterte administration.

Banat By confirmed this also yesterday after Locsin’s post blew up on Twitter, saying he was indeed the vlogger the actress was referring to.

“Ay pinapatrending pala ako ng mga pa woke na NPA. Anyway salamat [Ms.] @143redangel (Locsin), ako po yung blogger na yun,” he tweeted. (Oh, so these woke NPA are making me trend. Anyway, thank you Ms. Locsin, I am that blogger.)

“Ty uli. Sa mga salot sa pulitika meron tayo tinatawag na ceasefire pag usapin ay sakit o kamatayan. Ang alam ko lang na hindi sumusunod sa ceasefire ay mga NPA,” he added.

Banat By revealed through his Facebook page that he has COVID-19, noting that he has not been feeling well since Aug. 6, his birthday.



Joshua Garcia now a vlogger

Joshua Garcia is the latest celebrity to try hand at vlogging. The actor launched his YouTube channel on



Aug. 24. For his first vlog, Joshua shared highlights of the birthday celebration of his nephew, Sky. He also featured a surprise for his sister, Lorenza, who will soon go back to school.

Joshua gave her a MacBook unit to help her prepare for her online classes. Joshua joins the growing number of local celebrities who have gone into vlogging, such as his former onscreen partner and girlfriend Julia Barretto, Vice Ganda, Judy Ann Santos, Toni and Alex Gonzaga, Kathryn Bernardo, Kim Chiu, Erich Gonzales,

and Liza Soberano. As of writing, Joshua has nearly 8,000 subscribers.

The 22-year-old actor is gearing up for his first solo movie “Ang Mga Kaibigan Ni Mama Susan.”

Pokwang gets sentimental over leaving ABS-CBN years after being Kapamilya

It was a tough decision for comedy actress Pokwang to transfer network after being part of ABS-CBN for more than a decade.

The 49-year-old celebrity said she is thankful that ABS-CBN informed her in advance that should they lose their bid to renew a franchise, she is among those who will lose their contract with them.

The memo, Pokwang said, gave her time to look for other options. “Hindi po ako puwedeng huminto. Hindi

po ako puwedeng ngumanga (kasi) marami pong umaasa sa akin,” she said. “Ang laki po talaga ng nabago ng buhay ko at nagpapasalamat po ako nang sobra-sobra sa ABS-CBN, sa mga nagtiwala sa akin...”

It was July when ABS-CBN was denied a franchise. Few days later, it was announced that Pokwang will have projects on TV5.

“Buti na lang at may sumalo agad sa akin kaya sobrang thank you po talaga. Napakalaki po talagang tulong nito sa pamilya ko,” she said.

New Lea Salonga song to raise money for The Actors Fund

Filipina Broadway star Lea Salonga extends a helping hand to some of her colleagues through a pledge drive.

Proceeds from her latest release “Dream Again” will benefit The Actors Fund that fosters stability and resiliency, and provides a safety net for performing arts and entertainment professionals over their lifespan.

Her effort is appreciated by the organization. “We’re so grateful to #LeaSalonga for sharing her beautiful voice & generosity with us!” they wrote as caption to video of Lea performing the song.

“Dream Again” music video features different people from around the world holding up a banner that has their “dreams” written on it. Among the wishes are hug and kisses from parents, meeting newly born nephews, going home to be with family, and going back to school, to name a few.

Lea’s daughter, Nicole Chien, also showed support for the advocacy by doing the cover art of the new song.



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

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SCARBOROUGH CIVIC CENTRE

Kim Chiu mourns death of grandmother:

“Rest well in heaven, ama”

Nagluluksa ngayon ang ak-
tres na si Kim Chiu sa pag-
panaw ng kanyang lola.

Eighty-five years old ang paternal grandmother ni Kim, 30, na si Francisca “Ayling” Chiu.
Linggo, August 9, nang binawian ng buhay ang “Ama” ni Kim habang natutulog sa bahay nito sa Cebu.
Chinese ang salitang Ama, na ang ibig sabihin ay lola.
Ang lola ni Kim ang nagpalaki sa kanya simula nang maghiwalay ang mga magulang niya noong siya ay eight years old.

“REST WELL IN HEAVEN, AMA!”
Sulat ni Kim sa caption: “She slept peacefully, and little did she know she would wake up in heaven. [white heart emoji]”
“Rest well in heaven, ama! You don’t have to wait any-
more sa sunrise ug sunset. I guess in heaven sun is always shining.”
“You always taught us that tomorrow is another day.”

KIM SINGS CHINESE SONG FOR HER AMA
Nagpasalamat din si Kim sa pagmamahal at pag-aalaga ng kanyang lola sa kanilang buong pamilya.
Saad sa post ni Kim: “Thank you, ama for taking care of us, unconditionally.”
May paliwanag naman ang aktres tungkol sa back-
ground music sa tribute video para sa kanyang lola.
Si Kim mismo ang umawit ng Mandarin love song na “Yue Liang Dai Biao Wo De Xin (The Moon Represents



Actress Kim Chiu was raised by her paternal grandmother, Francisca Chiu, in Cebu, after her parents separated in 1998. PHOTO/S: @CHINITAPRINCESS ON INSTAGRAM

My Heart).”
Isa raw kasi iyon sa mga paboritong kanta ng kanyang lola.
Ang kanta ay tungkol sa napakalaki at napakalalim na pagmamahal ng isang tao, na tanging Moon lang ang maaaring kumatawan.
Dagdag ni Kim: “I will miss you ama.”
“Visiting Cebu will never be the same again,” sulat sa post ng aktres, kalakip ang pensive face, crying face at broken heart emojis.
KIM’S FAMILY CAN’T TRAVEL TO CEBU
Ayon kay Kim, napakahirap para sa kanilang pamilya ang magpaalam sa lola.
Pero mas mahirap pa raw ngayong hindi sila makabiya-
he papuntang Cebu dahil sa COVID-19 pandemic.
“Felt hard to say goodbye. Felt even harder that this happened in this kind of situation. We were not able to fly there to whisper our last goodbye.”
“Rest In Peace Ama.”
Nagpaabot ng pakikiramay kay Kim ang mga kapwa niya celebrity na sina Sunshine Cruz, Iza Calzado, Angelica Panganiban, Kakai Bautista, Patty Yap, Eula Valdes, Kaye Abad, at Melai Cantiveros.

Liza Soberano admits going through an ‘ugly duckling’ phase

Pretty actress Liza Soberano shares how she couldn’t appreciate her own beauty.
After the abrupt cancellation of her series Make it With You last June, Liza Soberano made it known how she felt sad for the fans who would not be able to watch the ending they deserve of the latest LizQuen romantic drama. That same month, the 22-year-old Fil-American actress and model also admitted she had been experiencing anxiety attacks ever since the pandemic had been affecting the whole world.
Despite being known as one of the most beautiful faces in the country today, Liza admitted she is just like any average girl who goes through an “ugly duckling” phase. “Honestly, yes. I think we all have our own



versions of ourselves that we imagine and that we want for ourselves. But we can never really attain it because of course we only want the best for ourselves. Before, I couldn’t really appreciate the beauty that I already had or the beauty that others would see in me because I’d pinpoint all the little things that I don’t like in myself. But I realized that it’s more important to focus on the whole package and to just appreciate what God gave you. So if I get one pimple or two, I don’t like to stress out about it anymore because I know it’s a natural pro-

cess of being a human and it will go away. We can get through it,” she shared.
Liza said that not having to go to taping for a series or movie at the moment has given her skin time to rest from heavy makeup.
“I know a lot of us know this already because we’ve been using alcohol a lot lately. You can see how drying or how it can damage our skin. When I’m doing a shoot, usually I wash my face twice a day. But if it’s a commercial shoot I can’t, that’s like way too much makeup to remove. But for a taping or a movie shooting, probably after lunch I’ll wash my face and re-apply my makeup just to allow my face to kind of rest for a bit while I’m enjoying a meal or even just to freshen up because sometimes, especially when we’re shooting under the sun, we get really sweaty and oily and all that dirt can just build up on your skin and on top of your makeup. And that can really bad. It can cause breakouts,” she said.



FROM LEFT, Music Box MB The Place to Be, Tala and Tinuno joined the Filipino Street Eat Festival at the Scarborough Town Centre.

More Filipino families go hungry amid COVID-19 crisis



Residents living under the bridge in San Andres Manila wait for volunteers distributing relief beside a signage they put up along Osmeña Highway, Manila on April 27, 2020. George Calvelo,

MANILA - More Filipino families experienced hunger in the past 3 months, according to a Social Weather Stations (SWS) survey released Thursday, as the coronavirus crisis raged across the country and brought economic activities to a standstill.
The May 4 to 10 poll found that 16.7 percent of respondents went hungry due to lack of available food, which translates to around 4.2 million families nationwide.
The latest figure is the sum of 13.9 percent or 3.5 million families who experienced “moderate hunger” and 2.8 percent or nearly 700,000 families who experienced “severe hunger.”
“This is nearly double the 8.8 percent (est. 2.1 million families) in December 2019, and the highest since the 22.0 percent (est. 4.8 million families) in September 2014,” SWS said in a statement.
The pollster defined “moderate hunger” as experiencing hunger “only once” or “a few times” in the last 3 months, while “severe hunger” refers to experiencing it “often” or “always.”

According to the survey, the hunger rate doubled in Metro Manila and Balance Luzon while the Visayas and Mindanao also experienced a rise in hunger.
Metro Manila, the epicenter of the COVID-19 outbreak, appeared to suffer the brunt of the crisis. From 9.3 percent or 307,000 families, the hunger rate in the Philippine capital rose to 20.8 percent or 693,000 families.
Hunger also went up in Balance Luzon to 12.6 percent or 1.4 million families from 6.3 percent or 688,000 families in the December 2019 survey.
In the Visayas, some 14.6 percent or 685,000 families missed meals while 24.2 percent or 1.4 million families went hungry in Mindanao.
The SWS noted that 99 percent of the families surveyed nationwide have received assistance from the government.
Due to lockdown restrictions, the poll was conducted using mobile phone and computer-assisted telephone interviews with 4,010 respondents. It has a margin of error of plus-minus 2 percent for national figures.

Like most countries, the Philippine government imposed lockdown rules, which had taken root for 2 months, to rein in the spread of COVID-19.
Since emerging in Wuhan City in Hubei province, China in December, the novel coronavirus has sickened 13,434 people in the Philippines, whom 846 died while 3,000 survived.



Brief History of the FCT Rosalinda C. Javier Outstanding Student Awards Program

By: Tony A. San Juan, OCT-Ret.

During a chance meeting one summer in 2004 at the Filipino Centre Toronto, 3 like-minded educators briefly debated the idea broached by retired Quebec schoolteacher Aida Elago-D’Orazio of conferring citations to honour top and deserving Filipino Canadian students in the community. Sharing their thoughts and agreeing to the proposal, the three education professionals decided to initiate and pursue a student recognition endeavour... thus the FCT Outstanding Student Awards project was born. The tatlong butihing guro were Aida D’Orazio, FCT director and PR lady, Rosalinda C. Javier

(RIP), then FCT President and a retired Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board teacher, and Tony A. San Juan, FCT lifetime member and a teacher then at the Toronto District School Board(TDSB).

The OSA program is envisioned “to encourage the pursuit of excellence in all levels and areas of learning among Filipino Canadian youth, with appropriate recognition and award.” Specifically, the project is purposefully designed to encourage and challenge students to achieve academic success and to develop their potentials to become productive members of society.

The honourees of the annual competitive search are selected by members of a judging panel who are leading members of the FilCan community in Ontario. Awardees are adjudged based on a structured evaluation rubrics and weighed in against the established four main criteria of 1) Academic Grades Average- 50% 2) Extracurricular Activities-12.5% 3) Community Involvement- 12.5%, and 4) Personal Interview Performance- 25%.

The first and original members of OSA were A. Elago-D’Orazio (Chair), Rosalinda Javier(-Co-Chair), Victor Agaton, Jodelyn Huang, Tony A. San Juan, Luchi Sevilla, and Herman Viloria who all served from 2005 until 2014; then from 2015-2017 Mary Ann S. San Juan became the

Chairperson and in 2017 up to the present, Tony A. San Juan, heads the OSA Committee as Chairman. Currently, the committee is composed of Wendy Arena(FCT Director), Jodelyn Huang(TCDSB Community Relations Officer), Steve Pagao(PCCT President), Mary Ann Salcedo San Juan, Co-Chair(FCT President & CEO), Fermer Santos(Agincourt Collegiate Institute-TDSB Vice-Principal), Rose Tijam(PPCO President) and Tony A. San Juan, Chair(OCT-Retired).

With the full support of the FCT Board of Directors and Executive Officers, the Centre’s first recognition event was held in November 2005 at the Rizal Hall of the former FCT Building on 597 Parliament Street, Cabbagetown, Toronto with 7 elementary and two secondary school honourees. To date, since the award program’s inception in 2015, the FCT through its OSA -Outstanding Student Awards Committee has selected and awarded a total of 120 honourees, broken down as follows: elementary category-57; high school level - 47; and post-secondary tier-16. FCT only started awarding top post-secondary graduates in 2012. Honourees are presented with coveted Trophies or Plaques of Recognition and cash prizes solicited from generous and notable leaders, professionals, families and businesses in the Filipino Canadian community.

Distinctively, out of the 120 awardees, there were 4 who were consistently awarded both in their Grades 8 & 12 categories(J. Bouckley, B. Chavez, K. Chavez and M. Sotto); three brothers and a sister received honours in their G.8 & G.12(Bouckley siblings); 2 pairs of brothers and sisters(Nagallo & Samocino) and two pairs of sisters(De Castro & Gonzales) received accolades. In 2016 and 2017 there were no awardees as FCT put on hold the OSA Program, due to the focus and attention given to the engagements involved in the sale of the old FCT Parliament Street -building and the attendant transfer and transition challenges in the newly-purchased Scarborough site.

Known presently as the “Rosalinda C. Javier Outstanding Students Awards-RCJ-OSA”, the rigid competition was named in honour of the late President & CEO of the Filipino Centre Toronto. The yearly search is continuously on track and the Awards Committee is fully determined at inspiring students of Filipino descent to aspire and study rightfully in order to accomplish good things and win academic distinctions that their parents, siblings and loved ones will be proud of. More than half of the previous awardees are currently pursuing high school & university studies and/or working successfully as professionals in their respective careers and disciplines.

Vice Ganda does an Oprah, to open own network

He already conquered television, the movies and even the world of cosmetics. Now, Vice Ganda is set to follow the example of media mogul Oprah Winfrey by opening his own network.

His website Vice Ganda Network will have exclusive access of anything and everything Vice Ganda. “Know the latest Vice News, get some Vice Beauty tips, get a chance to win some Vice giveaways, join



the fun Vice Games and get to watch the latest Vice videos”—these and more are the things there, according to a statement.

Online show “Gabing Gabina Vice” will premiere on July 24. It offers front row seat of laugh trip from Vice Ganda, as well as hilarious segments featuring special guests.

The comedian is one of the most followed celebrities in the country. His Instagram account alone, has 9.3 million followers.

Tom Rodriguez performs his

Waray song

Actor Tom Rodriguez is surely productive during quarantine and he has even found time and inspiration to write a song in one of the dialects in the Philippines.

The song “Diri La Waray Mahimo,” which he performed on video uploaded on Instagram, is his “unofficial entry” to a rap contest in his hometown of Catbalogan in Samar.

“Being a Catbaloganon at heart, but not meeting the current resident criteria, I still wanted to extend my support for their socially distanced Manaragat Festival celebrations. Maaram ako, diri masayon an tanan nga nahitatabo yana...pero marig-on kita...kay WARAY gud kita! Thank you to



Homage beats for the awesome track!” he wrote as caption to the post.

In his interview with Aubrey Carampel of GMA News, Tom hopes for his song to serve as encouragement for his fellow

Warays amid pandemic.

Before doing the track, Tom joined an online song writing workshop with seasoned rapper Gloc-9.

He even expressed excitement to have been part of Gloc’s Batch 3 class.

“Sobrang dami kong natutunan! Salamat sa lahat ng ibinahagi mo samin, idol @glocdash9 !!! Mabuhay ka!,” he wrote, along with a screenshot of Zoom meeting he had with the teacher and his co-students.

CREW CHANGE continued from page 1

pires to become a major international hub for crew change,” transportation secretary Arthur Tugade said.

Filipinos account for the largest share of seafarers in the world.

“By becoming a crew change capital of the world, we would not only prime up our seafaring and maritime industry. We also expect to boost our hospitality industry,” Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) general manager Jay Daniel Santiago said.

Qatar Airways has said this month it has the capacity to fly three times daily to

destinations across the Philippines, but is awaiting approval from Manila to get the extra flight slots. In the last four months, a total of 734 ships docked or anchored in the Port of Manila for the purposes of crew change. Japanese shipping lines have been the quickest to use the Philippines’ established green lane protocols for crew change. Japan relies on Filipinos for approximately 75% of its crewing needs.

On July 2 the government in Manila created a green lane for seafarers to finally speed up crew repatriation during the coronavirus pandemic.

The joint circular for the Philippine Green Lane provides safe and swift dis-

embarkation and crew change during the Covid-19 pandemic as well as aiming to prevent the spread of Covid-19 for both Filipino and foreign seafarers whether inbound, outbound or transiting.

The country was one of just 13 to sign up last month to new international measures to open up foreign borders for seafarers and increase the number of commercial flights to expedite repatriation efforts following an international crew change summit convened by the UK.

Dario Alampay, chairman of the Joint Manning Group based in Manila, wrote to Splash earlier this month outlining global

solutions to fix the current seafarer travel impasse that has left 300,000 crew stranded at sea thanks to Covid-19 restrictions.

The Joint Manning Group is composed of the five leading manning associations in the Philippines.

Alampay is calling for a global approach to have all seafarers of all nationalities adopt a common digital quarantine pass recorded via blockchain as well as a seamless contact tracing system.

Once the different countries agree on and implement a common protocol, it will give airlines and ports confidence in allowing crew changes.



LEFT, Marky Hugh Talents pose after performing at the Filipino Street Eat Festival. Marky Hugh is the CEO at the end on the right. RIGHT, Marky Hugh, parent Melanie Perez, and me, Jose Baking enjoy the Filipino Street Eat Festival.



Love Thy Woman down to last 3 weeks; Ruffa Gutierrez, Eula Valdes laud ABS-CBN



Ruffa Gutierrez (left) and Eula Valdes (right) are proud of Love Thy Woman which has reached 25,000 viewers on Kapamilya Online Live and ranks first on iWant.

Now that Love Thy Woman is moving toward its last three weeks on the Kapamilya Channel beginning August 24, the three glamorous mommas in the show—Ruffa Gutierrez, Eula Valdes, and Sunshine Cruz—look back with gratitude in their hearts.

Top-billed by Kim Chiu, Yam Concepcion, and Xian Lim, Love Thy Woman topped the most-watched programs on iWant immediately after it began showing on ABS-CBN's live streaming platform on June 15, 2020.

Its real-time viewers on Kapamilya Online Live have also reached more than 25,000 users.

During the Love Thy Woman Chikahan session with Sunshine, Eula, and Macoy Dubs on Kapamilya Online

Live on Friday, August 21, Ruffa thanked viewers for continuing to watch their TV show.

She said, "Ako, gusto ko lang sabihin na talagang all of us, in behalf of all of us, gusto naming magpasalamat sa inyong lahat na

hindi kayo bumitaw sa amin.

"Kahit na isinara na iyong istasyon sa TV, sa free TV, nandiyan pa rin kayo sa Facebook, sa YouTube, number one pa rin kayo.

"We can see the numbers and it's growing every day. So, I think the future is now digital, so nandiyan po kayong lahat, it's streaming, and nakatutok pa rin silang lahat sa atin."

For her part, Eula lauded ABS-CBN for braving the odds: "Siyempre, i-commend din natin ang ABS dahil iyong foresight nila.

"Kudos sa kanila na nakagawa sila ng paraan para ituloy iyong show natin kahit na ang daming nangyayari para i-stop lahat, iyong programming, everything, sa ABS-CBN.

"Yet itinuloy pa rin ng ABS na ipalabas iyong show natin, and makagawa ng paraan para mapanuod ng televiewers."

Love Thy Woman is the first teleserye to air its finale on ABS-CBN's new broadcast platforms: Kapamilya Channel on cable and satellite and Kapamilya Online Live on YouTube and Facebook.

The series premiered on February 10, 2020 on ABS-CBN's Kapamilya Gold block. It also features Christopher de Leon and Zsa Zsa Padilla, together with Mari Kaimo and newbie Karl Gabriel in important roles.

On March 23, 2020, Love Thy Woman had an airing break after ABS-CBN halted production of its entertainment and drama programs due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

ABS-CBN decided to air replays of its past programs in the time slots of its drama programs.

On May 5, 2020, ABS-CBN stopped its broadcast operations after the National Telecommunications Commission issued a cease-and-desist order following the expiration of the network's congressional franchise.

Love Thy Woman is one of the three programs that resumed airing via the Kapamilya Channel on June 15, 2020.

The other two were A Soldier's Heart and FPJ's Ang Probinsyano.

Before the pandemic, Love Thy Woman had put in the can four weeks worth of episodes.

Sometime in June 2020, the cast began its month-long lock-in taping for the remaining episodes of Love Thy Woman.

Julia Barretto reveals how she kept busy during the ECQ

After moving into her own home last year, Julia Barretto said that she still had some adjustments to make when the country went on lockdown last March. "At first it was so hard for me to adjust lalo na nung in-announce na na lockdown because I am rarely home. We're always working, we're always on the go so nung nangyari nung lockdown it was important for me to have a routine because it was another way to keep myself sane. Para lang hindi lang ako masyado ma-buang sa bahay. And I think naturally my body adapted to it and na-enjoy ko na rin yung time ko, yung opportunity na maka-



pag-spend ako ng time dun sa bahay ko. And ayun naka-create ako ng routine, naturally ang nangyari nagiging na ako ng maaga and because The pretty actress, who stars in the Kapamilya Online Live's latest digital special Love Unlock, said she was happy to be able to cook more for her family.

The 23-year-old actress said she had a lot of

realizations while doing home quarantine. "I think I'm not going to state just one thing, I think just overall it's just to never take anything for granted. Because before the lockdown, ang dami pa nating nagagawa na hindi natin akalang it would be taken away from us, na hindi na pala natin ito magagawa in just a snap of a finger. So just to never take anything for granted, the simple things like being able to go to the grocery, go see a friend. Don't take anything for granted kasi hindi mo alam kung kailan mawawala yun. Honestly, just be in constant communication with the people you care about is also important pala. Check up on them. Make sure that they are okay. Kasi tayo tayo lang din yung naghuhugutan ng lakas," she said.

Bernadette Sembrano, natanggal as field reporter sa ABS-CBN

Na-retrench na bilang field reporter ng ABS-CBN Lingkod Kapamilya ang broadcast journalist na si Bernadette Sembrano. Ang Lingkod Kapamilya ay ang public service segment ng TV Patrol na nagbibigay ng tulong sa mga Kapamilyang nangangailangan sa pamamagitan ng ABS-CBN Lingkod Kapamilya Foundation, Inc.

Ito ang kanyang ini-announce nung August 25, sa pamamagitan ng isang video sa kanyang Facebook page.

"By noon time, I got a call from my superior, sa aking trabaho as a reporter for ABS-CBN. I was told that I was retrenched," pagtatapat ni Bernadette.

"Masakit din. But this isn't the first

time that this happened to me, that I was enjoying the morning tapos pagdating ng hapon, medyo not so good news," dagdag pa niya pagkatapos ng kanyang announcement.

Lolit Solis defends Arnold Clavio over Sarah Balabagan issue

Veteran entertainment columnist Lolit Solis defended Kapuso broadcaster Arnold Clavio on the issue of allegedly fathering the first born of former overseas Filipino worker (OFW) Sarah Balabagan.

In her Instagram account, Lolit posted a photo of Arnold, saying that the issue is not new. "Si Arnold Clavio naman ang nasa news Salve. Katawa dahil matagal ng issue iyan na paulit ulit na lang binubuksan pag gusto 'buwisitin' si Arnold," the talent manager said.

"Isa sa pinaka mahusay at fair radio journalists natin si Arnold Clavio, iyon private life niya hindi kahit kelan naka

interfere sa kanyang fair judgement at mga komentaryo," she added.

Lolit also said that the issue is not enough to destroy the credibility of the veteran broadcaster.

"Hindi iyan isang lumang issue ang puwede sumira sa kredibilidad ng isang Arnold Clavio. Kung anuman ang tutoo, kung anuman ang gusto nila palabasin sa pagbubukas ng isang private na bagay sa buhay ng isang tao, this time sure ako palpapak ang plano nila kay Arnold Clavio," she said.

She also advised Arnold's critics to leave him alone. "He is a good man, a good person doing his job, hayaan natin siya. Kaya mo iyan Arnold, ikaw pa, Idol kita noh," she said.

Sarah recently revealed in a Facebook Live video that Arnold is the father of her first born.

Social media users blasted Arnold for flaunting his new hairdo amid the issue.

The Filipino Centre Toronto Sets 2020 Outstanding Students Awards

By Tony A. San Juan(OCT-Retired)

The Filipino Centre Toronto-FCT wishes to announce the "FCT- Rosalinda C. Javi- Students Awards" for the year 2020 will proceed as earlier communicated. FCT is a community-based, volunteer-run and service-oriented non-profit hub in the Greater Toronto Area(GTA), Ontario, Canada.

A trailblazing project of the Centre since 2005, it is an annual event purposely established to encourage and challenge Filipino Canadian students to perform satisfactorily well in school and to achieve academic success by recognizing and awarding the top graduates with appropriate incentives such as a cash prize and a plaque of recognition.

The prestigious competition is open to all eligible elementary, high school and post-secondary school graduates in Ontario who completed their respective studies with academic honours and other scholastic proficiencies. The selection criteria includes: Academic Grades(50%), Extra/ Co-curricular Activities(12.5%), Community Involvement(12.5%) and Interview Performance(25%).

Applications(hard copies) are now being received by mail or by hand at the Filipino Centre Toronto-FCT, c/o Tony A. San Juan, RCJ OSA Chairman at: 4395 Sheppard Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario M1S 1T9. Deadline for the submission of Completed Applications is on September 26, 2020(Saturday). Interviews for qualified Elementary(Grade 8) and Secondary(Grade 12) school graduates are scheduled to be held at the FCT Board Room on a Saturday and/or Sunday beginning in October 2020, with time still to be arranged. Post-secondary school graduates are exempted from the interview provided they meet the qualification requirements and their academic honours are rightly notated in the documents(diploma or certificate) as well.

The Awarding Day event is tentatively set on November 22, 2020(Sunday), 2:00 pm. at the FCT Social Hall. To protect the health and safety of guests, participants and the public due to COVID-19 crisis, the FCT will strictly observe the protocols and procedures(such as a face covering, physical distancing, sanitizers, % of attendees) established by the City of Toronto and other government agencies during the selection interview, the awarding program and the reception.

The members of the FCT- RCJ OSA Committee are Wendy Arena(FCT director), Jodelyn Huang(TCDSB Community Relations Officer), Steve Pagao(Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Trade-Toronto President), Fermer Santos((TDSB- Agincourt Collegiate Institute Vice-Principal), Rose Tijam(Philippine Press Club-Ontario President), Mary Ann S. San Juan(FCT President) and Tony A. San Juan(OCT-Retired Ontario Educator).

For further information, interested applicants are requested to check, download and print out the Application Form, Criteria and Qualification Requirements shown in the Attachments or website: filipinocentretoronto.com.

Matteo with Sarah now the best moments in Matteo's life

THERE are three showbiz couples who are all newly married. There's Sarah Geronimo and Matteo Guidicelli who had a civil wedding at a hotel in BGC last February. Juancho Trivino and "Unang Hirit" co-host Joyce Pring also tied the knot in a garden wedding last February. In November, it's singer-actress Aicelle Santos and broadcaster Mark Zambrano who exchanged I do's in a garden wedding in San Juan, Batangas.

All of them were not able to have their usual honeymoon because of the worldwide corona health crisis. For Matteo G., he says that although they were not able to have the usual honeymoon elsewhere, the days he is now spending with his wife are still "the best moments of my life".

In a Facebook Live chat for a product he is endorsing, he was asked how married

life is and he quickly replied: "It's great! It's amazing! I recommend it to all my friends. I was talking nga to my other batchmates, about married life. At sabi ko, 'Bro, I think you should get married too, man.' I don't know, maybe I'm just in my honeymoon stage or I'm still in the beginning of my marriage, but you know, it's amazing to wake up, to sleep beside the person you love the most."

He considers his wife Sarah a real blessing. "Yes she's a real blessing, kasi kumbaga, I found my partner. You know, there are just so many things we can do together and so many things we can achieve together."

So he doesn't mind if the lockdown came so soon after their wedding? "Siempre we're worried din, but staying home also makes you learn about yourself so much more and



you learn also about humility so much. One thing I learned, you are not always right, because the wife is always correct."

He laughs but quickly adds. "But on a serious note, you know, you really learn how to balance things and when to just give in, or just how to agree. We are given more time by the ECQ to just focus on each other and learn how to be more patient and all these things. It's a nice phase kumbaga. Being with my wife, it's also in a way, a blessing in disguise that we have an extended honeymoon. It's a time na we're really "locked-in" in our place and we're getting to know each other more and more every single day. That's the interesting part. We even take turns sa pagluluto ng meals namin."



Ressa's inclusion in TIME's influential women list a mistake – Palace

President Duterte at the oath taking of newly-appointed officials, 2020March-03Duterte to continue public engagements

The policemen accused of recycling illegal drugs seized from a November 29, 2013, operation in Mexico, Pampanga attend a reinvestigation hearing at the Department of Justice on Wednesday, October 16, 2019. Police Major Rodney Baloyo IV failed to attend as he was detained by the Senate. Danny PataAlleged 'ninja cops' plead not guilty to criminal charges

a man wearing sunglasses: Presidential spokesperson Salvador Panelo, Feb. 11, 2020© PCOO Presidential spokesperson Salvador Panelo, Feb. 11, 2020

TIME Magazine may have erred in including journalist and administration critic Maria Ressa in its list of the most influential women of the century, Presidential Spokesperson Salvador Panelo said Friday.

Ressa, CEO of online news site Rappler, joined former President Corazon Aquino in the list which was released by the New York-based publication this week.

"You can't be correct all the time. Mistakes happen. Maybe this is one of them," Panelo told reporters.

"But if that is the perception of those who measure her, eh di wala tayong magagawa."

President Rodrigo Duterte had been vocal about his displeasure with Rappler's critical reports on his policies, especially the war on drugs.

In February 2018, the President banned Rappler from covering all his activities, which the media outfit challenged before the Supreme Court.

Rappler and its officers led by Ressa faced a number of lawsuits including cyber libel, violation of the country's anti-dummy law, and tax evasion.

"She's a good journalist as far as I am concerned except that she cannot go over and beyond her biases," Panelo said.

Kris' comeback TV show stopped again

WE feel sad for Kris Aquino since her journey to return to primetime TV is stalled once again. We're told there's been a conflict between Kris and the producers of her show called Positive Exposure Production, that's why the supposed airing of "Love Life with Kris" has been stopped again.

Too bad because the promotion for the show is now going full blast.

We also feel sorry for the loyal fans of Kris who have been sending us messages saying they're so happy she would finally be back on TV and they promise to support "Love Life with Kris" once it starts airing. This is so different from that time when her mother, the late Cory Aquino, was president and everyone was trying to get her.

Her career turned sour when her brother Noynoy no longer became the president and ABS-CBN let go of her and no one would get her so she turned to digital broadcasting. Maybe her fans should just pray for all the kinks to be ironed out as soon as possible, so that there will still be some possibility for her show to be aired on free TV in the not-so-distant future.

Carmina's charmed family life churns TV show



Carmina Villarroel turning 45 years old on August 17. She's one actress we saw growing up before our very own eyes. She was discovered as a child actress for a fastfood commercial then Regal got her to do movies and she became a part of "Palibhasa Lalake". Her life and love journey is an open book to everyone.

Now, she has one of the happiest families in showbiz with her durable marriage

to Zoren Legaspi and their twin kids, Cassy and Mavy Legaspi. The whole family is now part of the morning talk-variety show, "Sarap, Di Ba?", which Zoren himself is directing now that it is being shot right in their own home for safety protocols.

The show will now be seen on an earlier time slot at 10 AM. "Yes, mas maaga na po kami and please join sa aming unli-chikahan as a family as we share with you easy recipes to cook and fun activities with our whole family," says Carmina. "May special guests kaming Kapuso stars na makikisaya sa atin and magse-share ng kung anu-ano ang mga pinagkakaabalahan nilang gawin sa panahong ito ng lockdown."

Aside from the show's exciting segments, "Sarap, Di Ba?" will also give P5,000 worth of giveaways for their loyal viewers.

LOWEST SALARY continued from page 1

and Australia's P164,800 (6th).

The Philippines' average salary of P15,200 is likewise lower than its other neighbors in Southeast Asia: Malaysia P41,300 (49th), Thailand P30,700 (60th), and Vietnam P20,000 (80th). Although it was somewhat higher than Indonesia's P15,100 (96th), Bangladesh's P15,100 (97th), and Georgia's P14,100 (100th). Egypt's average salary is at P10,800 (104th), Nigeria at P9,100 (108th), and Cuba at P1,800 (110th).

The survey, which was conducted for August, processed data coming from Numbeo, a website that surveys hundreds of thousands of citizens about their salaries after taxes, and arranged the rank using the value of the Philippine peso based on the prevailing exchange rate in Google Finance for this month.

"The average wages after taxes come from the website numbeo.com. Local currencies were converted at the average Google Finance rate for August 2020," Picodi.com explained.

It likewise pointed out that, "When it comes to Asian countries, the Philippines

ended up in the second part of the ranking (12th out of 16). It was outrun by countries such as Thailand (P30,600), India (P21,600), or Vietnam (P20,000)."

"Following was Indonesia (P15,100), Sri Lanka (P12,800), Cambodia (P10,500), and Pakistan (P10,300). The ultimate leaders are Singapore, Australia, and Hong Kong — the only countries with average wages higher than P140,000," it added.

The Philippines — also a developing country — has long suffered from low wages prompting labor groups to seek wage increases and regularization for job security. However, the current pandemic has worsened existing conditions, as some companies were left with no choice but to terminate employees to ensure continuous operations.

The latest surveys from the Social Weather Stations said that the country's unemployment rate increased to 45.5 percent in July as people were left out of jobs while lockdowns were placed to avoid coronavirus transmissions.

The Philippine economy, on the other hand, contracted as the gross domestic product decreased 16.5 percent for the second quarter of 2020.

Barbara may international film na hindi maipalabas

MATAGAL ding hindi naging visible ang young actress na si Barbara Miguel sa telebisyon pero ngayong Sabado (August 29), mapapanuod siya sa episode ng Wish Ko Lang kasama ni Kris Bernal.

Gagampanan ni Barbara ang anak ng karakter ni Kris sa kuwento.

Bukod sa paglabas sa TV, aminado ang award-winning actress na nami-miss niya na rin ang paggawa ng pelikula. Ang last kasi niyang movie project, di pa naipalalabas.

"Nag-shoot po ako for an international film pero di pa siya pinapalabas," say ni Barbara. Wish ng award-winning actress na magampanan ang isang role na iba sa mga nagawa na niya dati. "I wish to have a role na sobrang powerful na woman. A girl na hindi umuurog sa laban and I hope it's gonna be sci-fi/adventure! Para iba naman po from my heavy roles."

Paano naman nakarelata si Barbara sa karakter niya sa Wish Ko Lang? Sagot niya: "Yung pagmamahal ng isang anak sa kanyang ina, [na] kahit anong mangyari nandyan sila para sa isa't isa. Kagaya po ng pagmamahal namin ng mama ko."

Makakasama rin nina Kris at Barbara sa Wish Ko Lang sina Biboy Ramirez at Ahron Villena.

Vaness may message sa kapatid na frontliner sa US

SA isang Instagram post, proud na pinasalamatan ni Vaness del Moral ang kapatid niyang si Juliene Marie na isang frontliner sa US.

Aniya, "To my sister @chinkybabyyy, a nurse in the US. Thank you for your sacrifice and work, for making sure your patients get the proper care they need, for the risk you take every time you go to work knowing that the virus is still out there."

Nagpaalala rin ang 'Love of my Life' actress sa kapatid na magpahinga at 'wag pababayaang sarili, "When you're tired and exhausted, send me a message anytime (bilang magkaiba tayo ng time-zone, babasahin ko nalang pag gising na ako) after all, you are human and it's OKAY to feel frustrated, tired, sad, angry. Stay safe sis and be careful. I love you and I will keep praying for you!"

Sa huli, sinaladuhan ni Vaness ang lahat ng nurses sa serbisyong patuloy nilang binibigay sa publiko, "Para sa sakripisyo mo kabsat! Salute to all nurses out there! You are not just a nurse, but God's army!"



BEFORE NADINE
continued from page 18

this contract, Marquez sought out Nora’s biological mother, Antonia, and made her sign a new one with Tower. Her first project with Tower was Musical Teenage Idol that paid her P15,000.

Sampaguita, of course, was unhappy with Nora’s action and sued her for breach of contract. While the case was ongoing, Nora was allowed to make movies for both production outfits. But when the decision was handed down by Judge Ulpiano Sarmiento, it ruled in favor of Sampaguita.

Sampaguita was actually allowed to garnish some 1.3 million pesos of Nora’s then existing properties. (A house and lot in a posh subdivision in those days cost a lot less than that.) In the end, Sampaguita just forgave her and didn’t take any of her properties – if only to prove that what they fought for was never about money, but matters of principles.

About a decade after Sampaguita, LVN and Premiere stopped making pictures, a new batch of major movie studios came along – Regal, Viva and Seiko.

Seiko wasn’t exactly known to be generous to its contract stars. All that Cesar Montano, for instance, got for doing Machete in 1990 was P60,000.

In the 1990s, Seiko made a lot of money producing Rosanna Roces films. Rosanna was also paid P60,000 in movie after movie.

In 1997, however, Armida Siguion Reyna wanted Rosanna Roces so much to do Ligaya ang Itawag Mo sa Akin and was willing to pay the actress a million pesos just for



In the 1990s, Seiko paid Rosanna Roces P60,000 per movie. In 1997, Armida Siguion Reyna wanted Rosanna Roces to do “Ligaya” and was willing to pay her a million pesos just for that one project.

that one project. Since Armida was married to one of the most brilliant lawyers in the country – the esteemed Leonardo Siguion-Reyna – she knew how to get around Rosanna’s contract. When Rosanna entered into a long-term agreement with Seiko in the early 1990s, she already had two kids. Seiko must have thought that male moviegoers would probably get turned off if they found out that the sex siren they were selling was already a mother. It was therefore stipulated in the legal agreement between the two parties that if and when it was discovered by the public that Rosanna had two kids, the contract would automatically be null and void. With pleasure – Rosanna lovingly introduced Grace and Robert Dennis (Onyok) to anyone who would care to ask about her lovely children and went on to do Ligaya ang Itawag Mo sa Akin for a cool one million pesos. And that was how her slavery contract with Seiko was terminated. Rosanna

Roces became an award-winning actress shortly after that.

In the case of Nadine Lustre, she decided recently to leave Viva Artists

Agency even if company officials insist that she still has an existing contract with them. Neither party has gone to court – at least, not yet.

Perhaps Viva may just sue her if she decides to accept work outside of the company without the blessings of Viva Artists Agency. Will Nadine dare do it? Let the legal battle begin.

‘It’s important to start brand new’ - Liza Soberano



MANILA, Philippines – When ABS-CBN was denied of its franchise renewal last month, among the thousands of employees who lost their jobs are the network’s superstars like Liza Soberano.

“It’s so weird to be not doing anything. And when all of that goes away, I was like ‘Is it the end of the world, end of my life, now?’” Liza confessed on what her “new normal” felt like. Apart from losing her high-rating TV series “Make It With You” with boyfriend Enrique Gil, Liza was forced to close her spa since such businesses are still restricted under community quarantine.

“Of course, I miss the relaxing feeling of the spa, but of course, our safety is what matters,” she said.

Out of job and out of business, Liza thought of starting anew by venturing into what she previously had no time for: Vlogging. Similarly, she asked people, especially on social media, to be more sensitive about others’ feelings especially since studies show anxiety is on the rise due to the pandemic.

“It’s not good to pick up on other people’s flaws, making fun of people. It’s time for everyone to connect more together in battling the crisis.”

To those who lost their jobs during the pandemic just like her, Liza said: “I just want to let them know that there’s something to be hopeful about... It doesn’t really matter what other people say. What matters is what is important for you.”

STAYING FOCUSED
continued from page 2

surprise that Shanaia loves doing TikTok mobile videos and is recognized as a TikTok Social Influencer with more than 100K followers.

“It’s really overwhelming when people at school would tell me how they’re inspired by what I’m doing now,” Shanaia says. Even before signing with a major network, Shanaia would encourage others to see where performing can take them. “They would say that they’re not going to make it anywhere, or that

they really do not have much talent. But I disagree. I’m really happy when I’m on stage, and I want them to find and experience that too.”

Coming back to Canada during the pandemic has given Shanaia a break and enjoy time with her family. When things are better, she will go back to

the Philippines to continue studying and hone her craft more. She is now comfortable singing Tagalog

STAYING FOCUSED
continued on page 27

Hunk Shot

Jarius Monzon
(PHOTO BY KRYPTON)

Jarius, with singing partner Ryza Quijano won the World Champion Jr Vocal Group title at the World Champion of Performing Arts (WCOA) 2020 contest. He and Ryza are members of Marky Hugh Productions. With his talent, and his looks, he is going ot get far. We wish him all the luck in his endeavours.



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YASSI
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managed to stay positive amid a string of stressors. “I just decided to eliminate everything that was causing negative thoughts, because when the pandemic was just starting, we were all so unsure about what was happening.

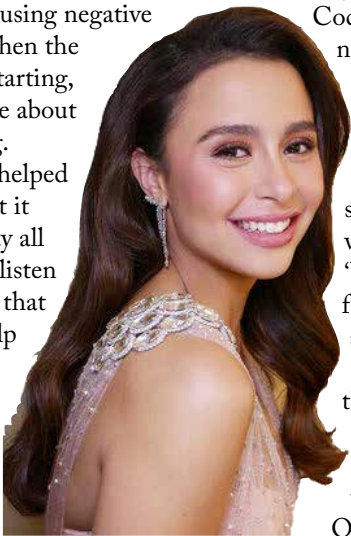
“But the time off helped make me realize that it was best to take away all the negativity. Sure, listen to the news, process that information, and help others if you can. Then, focus on your life and family. Napansin ko that if a person doesn’t take good care of himself, there’s no way he’ll be able to take care of the people around him.”

Asked for her advice to those having difficulty during the quarantine, she said, “Hold on to the people who are still there for you. Kasi, the pandemic could strip away everything you own. At the end of the day, you realize those things don’t really matter. Sana, when this is over, we can all go back to how things were—to dine out with our loved ones or spend time with friends.

“For now, I’m trying to fix our house and start life without dad. It’s just me and my sister Issa now. When the ECQ (enhanced community quarantine) was lifted, I had my father’s room renovated because it’s hard to keep seeing it without him.

“In a way, my dad is still there. I know he’s always going to be there when I’m having a hard time, whether in my dreams or when butterflies come to me. I’ve never really felt he had left us completely, so just changing the room helps me cope [with the loss] a little better.”

Of course, Yassi knew someone would



How Yassi turned a a triple whammy around

eventually ask her about Coco Martin and their long-running action series, “Ang Probinsyano.”

“If you were surprised about the way Coco reacted to the shutdown of the network, please understand that many of the guys who lost their jobs were the same people we’ve worked with on the set daily—the makeup artists, the people who clean our set, the ones who build it, the guys who buy us coffee. We feel their pain. ‘What will happen to them and their families?’ That’s where the pain or anger was coming from.

“I distinctly remember the day the network was shut down—we went out of the room during taping, gathered by the pool, and we cried together. We sobbed in silence.”

On a lighter note, a quarantine-related “accomplishment” that Yassi said she was proud of was how the period of isolation helped her develop her culinary skills. “I was able to cook for the people at home,” she beamed. “My whole life, it was something I thought I’d never learn. Now I can feed them paella (laughs)!”

If you think it sounded like Yassi had kept to herself during the lockdown, you’ve got another think coming. In fact, she and Issa spent a considerable chunk of time embarking on a “mission” to raise money for the needy and feed front-liners.

“The pandemic was a wake-up call for everyone,” she explained. “No one could have predicted that this global health crisis was going to happen. So, let’s look at it as an opportunity to either help people or make a fresh start.

“My sister and I started making small sandwiches for front-liners almost every day. We would go to checkpoints [and distribute them]. Hindi kami tumatawid, basta pumupunta lang kami kung hanggang

saan puwede. I realized that being isolated doesn’t mean we have to go through this [emotionally] apart.”

And to celebrate her 25th birthday last May 11, she decided to spend it with sick children in hospitals. “I decided to give away toys,” Yassi related. “Just by seeing them happy made my day special. Masayang masaya ako on my birthday!”

Erich Gonzales, Enchong Dee reveal new project together

Erich Gonzales and Enchong Dee announced that they are working together on a new production, which will be shown through the platform “Enrich Originals”.

“Can’t wait to share this with all of you [heart emoji],” Gonzales said on her Instagram page last Friday, Aug. 21, alongside a photo of them.

“Soon on ENRICH ORIGINALS,” she added while tagging an Instagram account dedicated to their upcoming project.



They later showed stills of them playing new roles, as seen on the Enrich Originals account. Dee will be portraying a character named Gian Carlo Santilla while Gonzales is set to play Gianna Reyes.

While neither of them has shared further details of the project, they revealed that they have already started shooting its pilot episode. The two posted a photo of a whiteboard which stated they were working on the eighth sequence of the first episode.

They also tagged various people in the said post on their project’s page, possi-

bly hinting at their involvement. Fellow actors Janella Salvador and Arjo Atayde, along with screenwriter Noreen Capili, were among the individuals included in the post.

Aside from the Instagram page, the two actors have also launched a YouTube channel with the same name.

Gonzales and Dee first starred together in the 2009 TV drama series “Katorse” alongside Xian Lim and Ejay Falcon. The pair then went on to costar in other TV series such as “Tanging Yaman”, “The Blood Sisters” and “Magkaribal”

Jerome Ponce at Teejay Marquez, bibida sa isang BL series

Isang bagong proyekto ang nakatakdang pagsamahan ng dalawang guwapong aktor na sina Jerome Ponce at Teejay Marquez na bibida sa unang BL o Boys Love series ng Regal Films.

Isang bagong proyekto ang nakatakdang pagsamahan ng dalawang guwapong aktor na sina Jerome Ponce at Teejay Marquez na bibida sa unang BL o Boys Love series ng Regal Films. Sa pamamagitan ng isang



shared link mula sa Facebook page, kinumpirma mismo ito ni Teejay. “And the craze for boys’ love content continues as

Regal Entertainment, Inc. ventures into their first web-series, a BL story starring Jerome Ponce (A Soldier’s Heart, Ang Henerasyong Sumuko sa Love) and Teejay Marquez (Hellcome Home, G! LU!).

Jerome will play the role of Jim and Teejay plays Ben. “It’s a story about friendship that develops into love,” said writer and director Easy Ferrer (Finding You, The Missing).

Currently titled #BenxJim, the webseries has a September 2020 target release and will be shown on Regal Entertainment, Inc.’s Facebook page and YouTube channel.”

Ito ang unang BL series na gagawin ng Regal Entertainment na unang pinasikat ng Thai stars na sina Bright Vachirawit at Win Metawin ng 2gether series na napapanood sa Kapamilya Channel at iWant.

Ang upcoming BL series ni Jerome at Teejay ay sa direksyon ni Easy Ferrer.

Philippines tops world for online child sex abuse: study

The Philippines has become the world’s largest known source of online child sexual exploitation, with endemic poverty helping drive a surge in abuse, a report said.

Parents and relatives were responsible for facilitating the abuse in nearly all cases, according to the International Justice Mission aid group’s seven-year study.

The combination of English fluency and high internet connectivity in the former US colony had helped make the country a “global hotspot” for child pornography, the report said.

The proportion of Philippine internet addresses used to host child pornography had tripled in the three years to 2017, said the study, which based its findings on data collected by law enforcement data.

“There are children who need rescue now, but rescue starts with timely detection and robust reporting,” said IJM’s Philippine director Samson Inocencio.

The report said of the victims it identified had been preyed upon for years and the youngest was less than a year old.

“We need to act as a global community -- ending impunity in both source countries like the Philippines and demand countries,” Philippine Justice Undersecretary Emmeline Villar said in a statement responding to the findings.

The United Nations Children’s Fund said in February that the Philippines is one of the top global sources of child sex abuse materials, with 600,000 “sexualized” photos of Filipino children bartered and traded in 2018 alone.

Last April, the Manila-based Child Rights Network warned the country’s coronavirus lockdown had led to an increase in the online sharing and selling of child sexual abuse materials.

Isko Moreno: They ‘could be conditioning our mind-set’

MANILA - Manila Mayor Francisco “Isko Moreno” Domagoso said on Friday night that the issue on the Philippines’ sovereignty should not be ignored.

“They could be conditioning our mind-set. Soon we’d be surprised who’s in our backyard, we’d be surprised at our children’s answers in Social Studies,” he said



in a tweet. The Manila city government shut down on Thursday four establishments of Elegant Fumes Beauty Product Inc., a Binondo-based cosmetics company which described in the packaging of one of its products that Manila is a province of the People’s Republic of China.

The city cited several violations committed by the company, including misrepresentation and distribution without the necessary permit from the Food and Drug Administration. Domagoso also sought the deportation of two Chinese who own the company.

Candid SPOOF

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



Joshua Panaligan celebrates his 7th birthday at the Milliken Park.

Arci dares Gerald to court her

When asked whether or not she would “entertain” her “Love Unlock” costar Gerald Anderson if ever the actor decides to court her now that both of them are single, Arci Muñoz wittily replied: “I really don’t know. Let’s allow Gerald to try it first.” “I haven’t really tried dating a guy from show biz yet. Ge (Gerald’s nickname), do you want to try it?” Arci quipped.

The actress and frontman of the rock band Philia quickly added: “I keep saying that as much as possible,



I don’t want to have a boyfriend who works in the same industry as I do. I don’t want to feel awkward—just like what I always observe from the people around me—if ever I don’t end up with the guy.

“I also noticed that all the actors I get to work with feel that I’m ‘one of the boys.’ None of them has tried courting me yet. Also, it’s hard to be in a relationship these days because of the pandemic. Being in an [long-distance relationship] is tough.”

Arci said what worked well with her and Gerald was that “we already felt comfortable with each other even during our first project together. ‘Di ko kasi hinahaluhan ng malice,” she said, laughing

STAYING FOCUSED continued from page 25

songs but would like to do more acting. “Acting is great because you have to have a connection with your co-actors or else it shows that it’s fake. I’ve learned a lot during the workshops, and they even let us do crazy things like pretend to be other things aside from people.”

Shanaia is one of the talents being managed by Atty. James Christopher Domingo. She just turned 18, but knowing her focus for one so young, she is definitely is on the right track. Watch out world!



Shanaia Gomez



Canada’s Top Choice held their Giveback Fundraising concert last March at the Fairview Library Theatre.



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