



LMconfidential

TWO WEEKS

Without income, half of Filipino households would survive for only 2 weeks – study

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

If the COVID-19 pandemic is prolonged, many households in Southeast Asia

may suffer from hunger and increased poverty, says the Asian Development Bank Institute. If they lose their income

amid the coronavirus pandemic, around half of Filipino households would have enough resources to cover necessary expenses for only

up to two weeks, results of a study by the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) showed. The household finance

crunch in the Philippines is more severe than most countries in Southeast Asia, with

TWO WEEKS
continued on page 17



WHOA!
KIM CHIU
Learns to love Herself



Look Back
Avenida Rizal, 1960's



RISE
Shai GOMEZ
Toronto Girl Gets Her 2nd Chance at ABS

With billions in loans, Lacson asks:
‘Nasaan ka bakuna?’

MANILA, Philippines — Nasaan ka bakuna? (Where are the vaccines?)

This was the question posed by Senator Panfilo Lacson as he cited the P126.75-billion government funding for the procurement of COVID-19

vaccines, a bulk of which is from approved loans sourced from multilateral lenders.

In a tweet, Lacson enumerated the supposed approved loans from the World Bank (WB), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), and Asian Infrastruc-

ture Investment Bank (AIIB) from April last year to March 2021 to finance the country's purchase of vaccines.

Lacson also noted that the Bayanihan to Recover as One

VACCINE
continued on page 20

WORST DATE: Ivana Alawi walks out on a date with celebrity

Ivana Alawi has revealed that she got frustrated with a rude celebrity that she decided to walk out in the middle of their date.

“May time kasi na we were eating in a restaurant. Pinagsisigawan niya ‘yung waiter. Pinagmumura niya,” Iva-na recalled during an interview with Toni Gonzaga.

“Parang siguro he was trying to impress me. Pero hindi niya alam sobrang na-turn off ako du’n. The way that he treated that waiter.”

She believes if a person could do it to someone, then he can treat anyone else like that as well.

“Sabi ko, ang lala niya!”

Upon walking out, she immediately extended her apology to the waiter, who was crying. “Kasi ayoko nang nakakita ng ganu’n,” she related.

Asked if the man is a celebrity, Ivana was quiet for a minute then smiled and said: “Thank you.”



But Toni teased her with: “Feeling ko artista. Ah, tala-ga?” “Hindi ko alam, Ate Toni. Baka maghulaan na naman sila niyan,” Ivana replied, laugh-ing.

Ivana Alawi recalls how veteran host ‘humiliated’ her in front of other actors

Though, during the introduction of the vlog, Toni could be heard saying:

“May celebrity palang ganu’n ‘no, naka-ka-turn-off naman ‘yun.”

To which Ivana agreed, revealing the place where it took place.

“Ayoko ko ng ganu’n talaga. Nag-walkout talaga (ako),” she said. “Akala niya siguro na-o-off ako sa kanya, pero hindi ko na in-isa-isa, na parang, ‘Bastos ka magtrato ng ibang tao.”

“Pag nagkita kami, dedma parang ‘Stranger?’ And sama ng ugali mo!”

In the same interview, Ivana shared she’s now looking for “the one.”

ANSWERED PRAYER: Alice Dixson is pregnant at 51

Actress Alice Dixson will be a first-time mom at 51.

Dixson broke the good news on Insta-



gram as she showed a piece of paper with baby footprints on them on Good Friday, April 2.



Honey Shot

Beautiful and multi-talented, Samantha can sing, dance and play the guitar. She was a finalist at the PCCF Little Miss Philippines in 2018. Her hobby is painting Maybe someday, she wants to be an artist. She just turned 12 this January. Her sports are roller skating and skate boarding. She is the daughter of JR and Bonna Esporas. We wish her all the luck in her future.

PHOTO BY: Phoebe Yap Chan

Samantha Jayna Esporas Sarmiento

Her full post:
“Despite the unexpected trials this year, God gave us a little miracle...
“For those of you who really know me – you’ve known that I’ve been praying for this every year on my birthday for 10 years now. Each year – my wish the same when I blew out my candles

“So with great patience, belief and trust – I am happy to announce my wish has finally come true
“Our newest little family member has arrived From my family to yours Advanced Happy Easter.”
Celebrity friends and netizens congratulated the star of the upcoming GMA teleserye “Legal Wives” for her first baby.

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Is this it?

Pageant insider spills tea on Vickie Rushton's Bb. Pilipinas bid

Looks like the Negros Occidental beauty is no longer competing for the prestigious sash and crown.

Well, that is, based on pageant insider Voltaire Tayag's recent social media post.

Sharing a photo of Vickie, he wrote, "When I saw your sash hanging on the rack, I couldn't help but think what your journey could have been."

"You were always so sweet and nice everytime we saw each other."

"This phase in your life may be over



but the rest of amazing future has just begun.

"I wish you all the best in everything you do Vickie. You will always be the Binibini queen we never crowned. I hope to see you around."

Talk about Vickie being no longer part of this year's roster of candidates emerged a few weeks ago with some speculating on her eligibility due to age restrictions.

Ivana Alawi on her alleged violation of the anti-mendicancy law: 'Lalaban ako'

Ivana Alawi recently revealed some people are saying she might be sued due to a recent prank, which allegedly violated Presidential Decree 1563 or the Anti-Mendicancy Law of 1978, signed by President Ferdinand E. Marcos.

She is not backing down.

"Kung may nalabag akong batas eh 'di kasuhan na lang nila ako, haharapin ko 'yun. Lalaban ako, 'di ba? Kasi para sa akin I didn't do anything wrong," she said.

She maintained her intention was simply to help and inspire other people. "Wala akong tinapakan na tao, wala akong nasaktan na tao and masaya ako sa video ko and I would do it again," she declared. "Ngayon kung may nalabag akong batas, eh de kasuhan na lang ako."

Recall that a few weeks ago, Ivana disguised herself as a beggar hoping to catch the attention of a few good souls.

Though many commended her for highlighting



problems relating to mendicancy, there were also some people who accused the sexy vlogger of engaging in poverty porn.

"Hayaan na lang sila. Na realize ko sa buhay no matter what you do, kung may

gagawin kang maganda, kung may gagawin kang hindi maganda, laging may masasabi sila," Ivana said, pointing out she's not out to please everyone.

On a lighter note, Ivana talked about the reunion she had with the rice cake vendor she helped following the prank.

She shared that after talking with him over lunch, she tried to help out in her own small way.

The video showed her helping the man buy groceries, home appliances and gadgets.

She also gave him a motorcycle.

Joanna Ampil to return to UK stage via 'South Pacific'

Joanna Ampil was recently announced as among cast members of Chichester Festival Theatre's "South Pacific" that is set to open in July.

In an article published on Whats On Stage, the Filipino thespian is said to be playing the role of Bloody Mary in the musical.

She'll be joining the



likes of Gina Beck (Nellie Forbush), Julian Ovenden (Emile de Becque), Keir Charles (Luther Billis,) and Rob Houchen (Joe Cable), among others.

The musical will be directed by Daniel Evans.



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Life's brighter under the sun



"I'm no Saint" NADINE LUSTRE

MANILA – Self-managed since controversially leaving Viva Artists Agency last year, Nadine Lustre admitted that "the job is five times harder." But for the actress, her newfound freedom to express herself is "worth it."

Lustre, 27, spoke extensively for the first time about her decision to "terminate" her contract with Viva, which she had been a part of since 2009. According to Viva, which filed a lawsuit against Lustre in December 2020 over her "utter disregard" for their contract, she is their exclusive talent until June 2029.

Lustre's camp previously referred to the deal as "oppressive and illegal," and alleged that the agency has long "taken advantage of young artists" through its contracts. "When you say independence, it really is freedom," Lustre said of what she has gained since departing Viva. "Freedom to do what you want, say what you want without anyone really stopping you."

"Before, there were so many things that I couldn't do. I was branded differently, you know, the usual artista where everyone has to look up to you like you're a saint, which I'm not," she said.

During her decade with Viva, Lustre was initially a pop performer with a teen group, before she transitioned as a rom-com star, and then an acclaimed actress. She continued her music career under Viva's re-



cord label, and also dabbled in hosting. At one point, Viva dubbed her local showbiz's "Multimedia Princess."

"As soon as I left the agency, I was able to say no to things that I didn't want to do," Lustre said. "I was able to say yes to things that they probably wouldn't take me do, but I really wanted to do. I was able to dress the way that I want, I was able to put out things that are up to the quality that I want. Before, there were so many limitations."

After parting with Viva, She was also due to star in an ABS-CBN action series, "Burado," but that project was cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

"I'm not going to say it's easier. It's definitely harder," she said. Now, it's like, you want do this? You have to do it by yourself... no one else is going to back you up financially this time. Mas mahirap siya."

"But it is worth it."

Referring to being creatively in charge of her album, for instance, Lustre said, "I don't look back anymore because I feel like I'm free, just expressing myself and showing everyone who I really am."

"And I believe it should have been like that from the very beginning."

Actress and singer Nadine Lustre is set to return to the concert stage as Careless Music announced her upcoming digital concert on live streaming app Kumu in May.



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SCARBOROUGH CIVIC CENTRE

I am shocked with Kris Aquino’s Tell-All!

I am shocked, shocked with Kris Aquino’s tell-all book. She is scaring a lot of people in sport, entertainment and politics with her still-to-be-published book. Fans are already disappointed that it has not come out yet. But I assure you readers, that the biggest shocker of all is me. I am not in the book. Ehe, este, ano ba itong nasabi ko? Sorry po, dala lang po ito ng boredom. I’m begging you Kris, please include me in your book.

Puro Lockdown

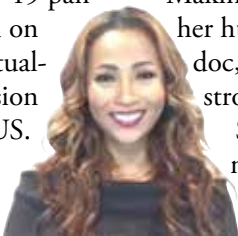
As of this writing, the Philippines is on another lockdown. It was supposed to end at Easter Sunday but they extended it



I guess not everyone can be proud of the Toronto Chief Medical Officer, who happens to be of Filipino parentage. Sad.

until April 11. It seems some governments have now been using this pandemic to get the people used to lockdown as a political tool. With no news of any vaccine contracts being

signed, news of vaccines arriving may be viewed with a “grain of salt.” Ususally, contracts signed with vaccine manufacturers are met with full-blown news fanfare. With the Philippine government, it’s more hush-hush. The only vaccine in the news are the two vaccines arriving from China. Maybe, that is why there is such a silence of contracts signed with them. Why Duterte is insistent on signing with Chinese vaccine manufacturers is only a guess everyone in the Philippines would keep to themselves for fear of the worse. They said they expect to vaccinate 70 of the 100 million this year. We can only hope.



The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has taken a toll on soul singer Jaya, eventually leading to her decision to move back to the US. Jaya admitted the imposed lockdown in the country affected her in a bad way. “Naramdaman ko lang na nag-focus ako sa isang bagay na hindi ko alam, nalulungkot na pala ako, natatakot at nadi-depress.” She explained. I started to lose weight, hindi ko na-anticipate na hindi pala ako kumakain nang tama o tama sa oras, o nag-one meal a day lang ako. Hindi ko ‘yun napansin,” she added.

Making matters worse, is her husband, Gary Gotidoc, suffering from a stroke. She said, “Hindi namin alam na na-stroke na pala ‘yun. So, na-hospital siya, ako rin ang nagbantay, lahat...three days later, gumaling siya. Pero sa likod ng utak ko, parang, ‘Teka... anong nangyayari? Nakakulong tayo, wala tayong work, at may asawa kang nagkasakit, paano ‘yung mga bata?’ This is where she surrendered everything to God. She has since sold some of their properties here.

Donnalyn Bartolome to launch tree-planting project



Fresh off her role in “Tililing,” actress-vlogger Donnalyn Bartolome excites her fans as she announced her tree-planting project through her charity organization “Influence Us.” Through “Influence Us,” Donnalyn along with several donors helped raise funds in times of calamities. As for her tree-planting project, she will use the collected amount of P1,083,418. She announced this via Instagram along with some photos of their previous charity work with the caption: “All that subscribing and not skipping ads will all be worth

it! I remember the stress of knowing that I can’t do anything more than I did but cry for the people affected. I knew you guys felt the same so I collected donations through my (YouTube) revenue and other ways so if you’ve subscribed and watched my videos (then) YOU HAVE DONE SOMETHING,” said Donnalyn. The schedule for the tree-planting project is yet to be announced, but for those who are willing to join the organization’s project, you can message them at @influence_us.ph.

Liofer of Zamboanga de Sur named as ‘PBB Connect’ big winner

Liofer Pinatacan, the “Dong Diskarte ng Zamboanga del Sur,” was voted by fans and viewers as the Big Winner of “Pinoy Big Brother Connect” during the first virtual Big Night on Sunday (March 14).

Liofer Pinatacan garnered 20.90 percent of combined Kumu and text votes followed by Andrea Abaya, the ‘Cheerdance Sweetheart ng Parañaque,’ with 16.60 percent. Clinching the third and fourth Big Placer titles were Kobie Brown, ‘Ang Charming Striker ng Parañaque,’ that earned 3.36 percent, and Jie-Ann Armero, ‘Ang Kwelang Fan Girl ng Sarangani,’ that got 2.66 percent of votes. Big Winner Liofer turned emotional and speechless after the big reveal after the many challenges they faced in more than three months inside the ‘PBB’ house wherein they were challenged to stay true to themselves, believe in their capabilities, and connect with people from various backgrounds. “Grabe. Gusto ko lang



magpasalamat sa lahat lahat ng sumuporta sa akin dito,” the newly-minted Big Winner said, who also shared during the Big Night that the first thing he would if he wins is to help his mother. Liofer won a house and lot from Phirst Park Homes and P1 million from Brilliant Skin Essentials. Andrea Abaya, Kobie Brown, and Jie-Ann Armero will also take home P500,000, P300,000, and P200,000, respectively. Big Winners from the different “PBB” editions were also present to welcome Liofer to the outside world, including Nene Tamayo, Bea Saw, Ruben Gonzaga, Ejay Falcon, Slater Young, Daniel Matsunaga, Jimboy



Martin, and Yamyam Gucong. Besides the Big Winner announcement, netizens on Twitter were also hooked on the world-class performances from BGYO, the heart-swooning number of the KarJon and KaoRhys love teams, and the reunion of the “PBB Connect” ex-housemates. Kapamilya stars and other personalities were also in attendance at the Big Night to spread fun and love like Charlie Dizon, Denize Castillo, Edward Barber, Francine Diaz, Heaven Perales, Jem Macatuno, Maris Racal, Michelle Vito, Nikki Valdez, Nikko Natividad, Pamu Pamorada, Ryan Bang, Tony Labrusca, Vivoree Esclito, Yves Flores, and Zeus Collins. Meanwhile, “PBB Connect” fans can look forward to seeing the housemates on Kumu as all of them will have their own livestream on Kumu to continue spreading light and joy.

Mimiyuuuh on homophobic relatives

Behind the good vibes, the internet star brings back the hands of homophobic uncles. On his latest vlog, Mimiyuuuh detailed how he needed to prove himself somebody to earn their respect love. He said, “Ngayon nagu-unahan na po sila magpa-picture sa’kin!” “Hindi ko ‘yun pinagma-mayabang in fact sobrang sad; ang daming beses ko nang sinasabi sa vlog ko na ‘you really have to be ‘someone’ to be appreciated by the homophobic people, family member... everyone and I ‘m so done with that culture,” he added. He went on to advise everyone, specially those who are part of the LGBT community that “you don’t need to prove anything to anybody – Do the things that will make you happy as long as wala kang tinatapakang tao and your intentions are good.”



Pokwang slams bashers calling her ‘pangit’

Pokwang is quick to react to online users critical of her. She is quite incensed particularly with those resorting to name-calling. The actress tweeted, “Halata mo mga BOBO kapag ang atake na sa opinyon mo ay personal nandyan ang tawagin kang pangit, chaka, etc. excuse me ang kapangitan ko ang nagpaganda sa buhay ng pamilya ko at mga nagtatrabaho sa aking negosyo na binubuhay ang pam-



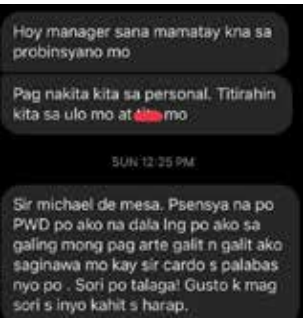
ilya nila na natulungan ng kapangitan ko e ikaw?” She added: “Hanggang sumusunod ka sa batas at wala kang ginagawang ilegal sa batas ng tao, gobyerno at sa Diyos wala ka dapat ikatakot.” Aside from Pokwang, the likes of Alessandra de Rossi, Janine Gutierrez, Angel Locsin, and Liza Soberano were also bashed for sharing their two cents in relation to the new surge of COVID-19 cases in the country.

Michael de Mesa gets death threat for his role in ‘Ang Probinsyano’

Multi-awarded actor Michael de Mesa has revealed that he received a death threat from a netizen for playing a character in the popular TV series “FPJ’s Ang Probinsyano.” “Hoy manager sana mamatay ka na sa probinsyano mo. Pag nakita kita sa personal. Titirahin kita sa ulo mo at sa i*** mo,” a netizen commented on De Mesa’s Facebook. De Mesa plays Pat. Ramil ‘Manager’ Tadiran in the series. De Mesa, also one of the directors of the serye,



commented: “Ganun ba ako ka effective? Bro, teleserye lang yan. Wag masyadong seryoso. Positive vibes lang. Hahaha!” Later, the netizen apologized to De Mesa.



“Sir Michael de mesa. Pasensya na po PWD po ako na dala lang po ako sa galing mong pag arte galit na galit ako sa ginawa mo kay sir cardo sa palabas nyo po. Sorry po talaga! Gusto ko mag sorry sa inyo kahit sa harap,” the netizen wrote. De Mesa told his followers: “Guys, nag sorry na siya! Thank you for having my back. Let this be a teachable moment for all of us. To be careful of what we say to each other online and in person. Basta good vibes lang tayo!”



THE DEODORANT NAME WAR

“What’s in a name? That which we call a deodorant by any other name would smell as sweet.” Not to a Filipino businessman.



MANILA – Prince Harry and Meghan Markle are reportedly going after a small-time Filipino businessman for using the word “Archewell” on one of his prod-

ucts, but the said entrepreneur has vowed that he would fight the couple “to the death.” Cobblestone Lane LLC, which represents the couple, is going after a certain Victor Martin Soriano, to dispute his decision to name his powdered deodorant (AKA “tawas”) “Archewell Harvatera.” Soriano filed for a trademark

DEODORANT continued on page 26

Arabella del Rosario sets record straight

Arabella del Rosario sets record straightStar Magic talent Arabella del Rosario has been the subject of rumors linking her to Jimuel Pacquiao, the eldest son of boxing champion and senator Manny Pacquiao. In a virtual event where Arabella was launched as the face of beauty brand Orabella Philippines, the 20-year-old showbiz newbie set the record straight and admitted that she and Jimuel are playing beautiful music together. She also clarified the issue citing her as the reason why Jimuel and former girlfriend Heaven Peralejo called it quits. “We met long after they broke up. So, it’s not possible,” she started.

Asked by the event host if she’s the girl Jimuel was holding hands with in a social media post, she replied, “Yes, it’s me.” Following up the question, the event host asked, “Is Jimuel your boyfriend?” to which she responded with a big smile on her face, “Yes!” The young actress, who is also into singing and figure skating, has already appeared in several television projects. Most notable was in the ABS-CBN series, Wild Little Love. The Liza Soberano look-alike admitted that she’s dating Jimuel Pacquiao. As Orabella’s latest endorser, she was formally introduced to the members of the media and the blogging community.

“Being a new face show business its advantage, too. There are trustworthy brands like Orabella that believe beautiful skin is achievable with a consistent skincare routine,” she said. Ever since a kid, I know that taking care of my skin should be a priority. It is not vanity but it’s self-care because our skin is the largest organ of the body,” ended Arabella, who is also a college freshman taking up Veterinary Medicine in De La Salle Araneta University.





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PH ‘has lost’ its battle against COVID, says hospital association president



Health Secretary Francisco Duque in a hospital visit.

The country has lost its fight against the pandemic, the president of the Philippine Hospital Association said today, as more hospitals refuse to take in COVID-19 patients.

“What we fear has happened. Our hospitals are overrun and overwhelmed,” Dr. Jaime Almora said in English and Filipino in an interview with the news program Unang Balita.

“We are not losing [against COVID]. We have lost already,” he added.

Almora said this after reports emerged yesterday that singer Claire dela Fuente, who tested positive for COVID, died inside a tent while waiting to be admitted into a hospital. Another elderly patient, whose name was not disclosed, also died of COVID while he was outside an emergency room after several hospitals refused to admit him.

“When a hospital says that it is full they no longer have the capability, but it doesn’t necessarily mean they don’t have the capacity. If you’re talking about beds, there are beds available. What is missing are people who will take care of the patient,” Almora said.

Almora explained that the country is facing a serious dearth of nurses due to the closure of some

nursing schools that did not perform well in the country’s licensure exams. Another factor is the higher salary offered by government institutions, which attracted nurses to work for state-owned hospitals, the police, the Bureau of Fire Protection, and the military. The implementation of the K to 12 curricula also meant that for a year, no one graduated from nursing schools.

He added that some nurses have also died of COVID-19, leading to the shortage.

“All of these [factors] conspired for private hospitals to lose their nurses,” he said.

He appealed to the government to allow private hospitals to borrow their nurses.

“In a war, they’re in the firing line and they need reinforcement. We are asking the government’s various agencies who employed a lot of nurses who are doing non-nursing jobs to provide them to us as reinforcement,” he said.

He requested COVID patients who are suffering from mild cases to just stay at home and consult doctors over the phone.

At present, the Philippines has the highest number of active COVID cases in Southeast Asia at 124,680. At least 13,191 people have died from the disease. The dire situation has led some people to believe that the country will end up like Brazil, where at least 318,000 people have died.

Almora supports the extension of the enhanced community quarantine, which has been imposed in the Greater Manila Area and is supposed to end on April 4, Easter.

“There’s no question. That’s the solution if you don’t want this to continue,” he said.

The Philippines was the last in Southeast Asia to start its vaccination drive, and as of today (MARCH 26), only donated vials of AstraZeneca and CoronaVac are being used. President Rodrigo Duterte, whose government borrowed billions of dollars in loans for its anti-COVID program, said that he is “pray[ing]” that procured vaccines will arrive within this month.

Russia’s Sputnik vaccine OK’d

MANILA— The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has granted an emergency use authorization (EUA) for the Sputnik V COVID-19 vaccine developed by Russia’s Gamaleya Institute.

“After a rigorous and thorough review, the FDA is granting EUA to the Sputnik V COVID-19 vaccine,” FDA Director General Eric Domingo announced on Friday.

“It is decided that all conditions for an EUA are present and that the benefit of using the vaccine outweighs the known and potential risks,” he added.

Based on interim data from ongoing Stage 3 clinical trials, the vaccine

SPUTNIK
continued on page 20



Shayne Sava is ready to forge own showbiz path

Winning the reality-talent search “Starstruck” is one thing, but going on to actually carve a showbiz career out of it is a whole new ball game.

Being the 7th winner of the talent search, Shayne Sava joined the ranks of other Kapuso Stars: Jennylyn Mercado, Jackie Rice, Ryzza Cenon and more.

The young actress is fully aware of this and she’s looking to cement her own identity in showbiz.

As she explained, “Sometimes po its kinda pressuring sa akin, (to be compared to previous winners) pero ang dami rin po kasing naga-advice na ‘you just need to do your best lagi, kailangan mo lang talaga ng more workshops, improvements and you’ll get there.”

“Hindi ko na rin po masyadong pinu-push yung sarili ko from pressures but nakaka-help rin sa akin yung pressure para mas lalo ko ‘pang gina-galingan sa craft ko.” she added.

When it comes to work ethics, Shayne has a firm grasp on it as she related, “Siyempre po kailangan aware ka kung ano yung nangyayari sa paligid mo, kailangan aware ka rin sa kung ano yung mood ng scene para alam mo kung ano yung ibabato sa’yo, yung mga camera kailangan alam mo para maka-acting ka ng maayos sa mga co-actors and actress mo.”

Shayne, 18, became “StarStruck” Season 7’s Ultimate Female Survivor back in 2019 but due to the ongoing pandemic, her TV appearances were limited until she was tapped to be a part of the upcoming romance-drama series “Legal Wives.”

Rhen Escaño isn’t too keen on doing daring roles soon

Known mainly for her daring turns in films, including the sexy thrillers “Adan” and “Untrue,” actress Rhen Escaño maintained she is now to veer away from the same.

She shared in a recent interview, “Kaya ko pang ibigay kung ano yung nasa script, pero di ko po masasabi na katulad pa nung sa ‘Adan’ at ‘Untrue.’ Bed scenes I’m okay with that, kissing scenes I’m okay with that, but yung frontal (nudity), hindi na po muna.”

The 23-year old actress recently renewed her contract with Viva Artist Agency.



Yeng Constantino makes DIY beds for cats

Singer Yeng Constantino has a big heart for her pet felines as she shared how she makes a DIY bed on her latest vlog.

With the help of her husband, Yan Asuncion, the couple finished a double-deck bed for their cats.

The “Chinito” singer even hammered herself accidentally while building the bed, but after a brief pause she went on and finished it.

Fans of Yeng and everyone who love their pets would surely love how the couple teamed up to finish the task.



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LM confidential

CORRESPONDENTS

CONTRIBUTORS: Ed Tubale • Nena Gumapac

WWW.LMCONFIDENTIAL.COM

EMAIL: josebaking@gmail.com

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Jose “Joey” Baking



High-spirited Julie Anne charms David

JULIE Anne San Jose’s fans are happy, she is now given another acting job in GTV’s new series, “Heartful Cafe”. In her new show, she is also given a new ka-love team, David Licauco.

GTV is really beefing up its entertainment programming with youth-oriented shows like “Lost Recipe” and “My Fantastic Pag-ibig” that launch new young love teams for the public to idolize, like Mikee Quintos-Kelvin Miranda, Migo Adecer-Kate Valdez, Kim de Leon-Lexi Gonzales.

Now comes Julie Anne-David. Those who have seen their show’s trailer say they have good on screen chemistry. What is Julie’s role in “Heartful Cafe”?

“I play Heart Fulgencio,” says Julie Anne. “I’m a writer online. I do romance novels and I also have my own coffee shop business. I become a matchmaker for some of my customers.”

She then meets David as Ace Nobleza, who will become her co-investor in her coffee shop.

How is it working with David?

“First time ko to work with him so I’m excited,” she says. “We see each other around GMA studios, but we never

really got the chance to talk or magkamustahan. Dito sa show, mas nakilala ko si David. I hope the viewers will support our love team as we’re doing our best and everything to offer something new to those who’d watch ‘Heartful Cafe’.”

How about David? How is it working with Julie Anne?

“She’s very nice, on and off camera,” David replies. “As we all know maganda naman talaga si Julie and she’s very talented. But what amazes me is that her mood on the set at 8 in the morning is not at all different from her mood up to the last scene we’d shoot at night.”

He really admires Julie Anne’s positive work attitude and sunny disposition. “I think



that says a lot about her na masipag talaga siya at gusto niya ‘yung ginagawa niya. Sinabi ko nga sa kanya ‘yun, e. Na hanga ako sa kanya kasi di ko siya nakita ever na sumimangot. Kasi minsan naman, talagang nakakapagod sa taping at di naman madaling maging artista. So minsan, may ilang co-stars na parang wala ng gana, but si Julie, same lang ‘yung vibes niya throughout the day hanggang sa madaling araw ng the next day. That’s rare and she’s really one of a kind.”

Community Leaders Form Filipinos For Liberals Coalition in Canada

by Tony A. San Juan, OCT-Retired)

Historically, for more than 15 years since the retirement of the first Filipino elected to the House of Commons, Liberal MP Rey Pagtakhan of Winnipeg, Manitoba, the Filipino communities in Canada have not had any real political voice and representation in Canada’s Parliament. Albeit we have sitting Members of Parliament who are considered to be allies and also supporters in key posts in the governing Liberal Party, it is desirable that Parliament should better reflect its citizens and it is time to have someone from the Filipino communities who make up so many in Canada.

To address this recurring situation and in response to the dreams and hopes of bringing qualified Filipino Canadians into the hallowed halls of Ottawa and/or Queen’s Park, dedicated, determined, and responsible individuals accordingly, must take concerted and coherent political actions.

On March 10, 2021, a number of like-minded Filipino Canadian community leaders in Ontario have decided to bring into focus and rationalize the community’s goal and aspiration of being democratically and realistically represented.

Thus, in an exploratory zoom meeting, a number of Filipino Canadian community leaders in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) discussed ideas and have unanimously decided to form a coalition, called “Filipinos For Liberals”. This is a group of politically-oriented people thus far, scattered across electoral ridings, and agreed that now is the time for a formal coalition to better focus their collective support of the Liberal agenda in the community. The movement is alive and it is thriving. Sabi nga ng karamihang kababayan : “Oras na! Panahon na !”

Moving forward with great enthusiasm and expectations, the “Filipinos For Liberals” movement, has designated an organizing committee to pursue its goals. Let us wake up the sleeping Tamaraw!, cried the organizers.

For further information, Liberal friends and supporters are encouraged to directly contact: Norma Carpio at 905-257-1059 or Conrad Corpus at 416-319-0053 or email: ffilipinofriends.ca. (Tony A. San Juan, OCT-Retired)

Angelica Panganiban calls for free mass testing amid COVID-19 surge

Amid the surge in COVID-19 infections in the country, Angelica Panganiban called for free mass testing.

Angelica Panganiban called for free mass testing amid the surge of COVID-19 infections in the country.



On her Twitter page, the actress posted, “Hinang hina ka na... maglalabas ka pa sa balsa mo ng pera, para ma swab. At malalaman mo, pasitib ka sa covid mami!”

She added, “Pano na pa ospital? Gamot? Mental care?! Yung vaccine ba aasahan pa namin sa inyo? D naman diba? KKB! Nakakaiyak. Ito ang emotional. #freemasstesting.”

In another Twitter post, Angelica also reacted to the record-high cases in the country.

“15k?! To think ang mga nagpapa-check lang ay mga may symptoms at may kaya mag pa swab test.. eh pano ang wala? Hay nakakaloka! Nakakaloka p**ah!” she said.

On Friday, April 2, the Department of Health recorded 15,030 daily cases of COVID-19 infections. The numbers include the 3,709 backlogs due to technical issues.

Toni Gonzaga reveals saying no to her role in ‘Four Sisters and a Wedding’

Not once, but twice!

Actress-host Toni Gonzaga sat down with the King of Talk Boy Abunda recently revealing she actually didn’t want to take her role in the 2013 blockbuster film, “Four Sisters and a Wedding.”

Apparently, as experienced as she was as actress at the time, Toni has been having doubts if she could actually pull off the role of “Teddie,” the eldest of the five siblings.

Toni shared, “Dalawang beses akong nagpunta kay Tita Malou (Santos, ABS-CBN head) noon. I was begging off. Nakiusap ako, ‘Tita Malou, ‘di ko po ‘ata kaya. Nakakahiya po, baka di ko maibigay yung hinihingi.’”

Toni also mentioned how her co-stars Angel Locsin, Bea Alonzo and Shaina Magdayao have all excelled in dramatic roles while she was used to doing mostly romantic-comedy films.

“Syempre, kilala natin si Angel, action-drama queen. Bea, movie queen, drama queen. Lahat



sila queen in their own rights. They are all best actresses at that time already. E parang yung mga ginagawa ko nun, rom-com, rom-com. So ano bang maibibigay ko?”

Thankfully, in the end, she accepted the role, creating movie history in the process.

Toni, 37, is celebrating her 20th year in the industry.

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Citizen group helping Filipinos one ‘ambagan’ at a time

Filipinos are generally charitable and that unique trait is what inspired Ambagan PH to start its initiative.

Citizen-led Ambagan PH was formed in the beginning of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic when a group of people came up with an idea to form a network of volunteers and initiatives to respond in crisis situations through “ambagan,” a Filipino word for contribution. On January 12, 2020, the Taal Volcano awoke from

43 years of quietude and began to spew gases, ash, and lava into the air. As a result, thousands of residents living in the danger zone and nearby towns were forced to evacuate. The group initiated relief operations to the victims of the eruption before its official launch in February 2020. “We formed Ambagan to consolidate and coordinate the initiatives and efforts of Filipinos in responding to crisis situations,” Angelica Reyes, Ambagan PH national president told the Manila Bulletin. The group was formed by Reyes, Jonathan Caiña, John Rufinel Sagun, Gian Siapo, Nathaniel Camacho, and Rodel Valenzuela Jr. Ambagan PH launched a project to provide laptops and gadgets for the online classes of indigent students and initiated a donation drive to give assistance to homeless people and jeepney drivers who lost their income during the lockdown. The group also focused on helping microentrepreneurs by lobbying to stop interest charging on loans during lockdown. “Even our volunteers had their own ways of volunteerism [such as] provid-



ing psychosocial support services. We realized that each of us has an ‘ambag’ in responding to the crisis. This is how we came up with the idea of ‘ambagan,” Reyes said. Months after establishing Ambagan PH, a series of strong typhoons devastated the Philippines. The group immediately formed relief efforts to help typhoon-affected Filipinos. “Even our founders and volunteers were affected by these typhoons, so the relief operations became even more difficult. But with everyone’s hard work, we were able to continue and inten-

sify our efforts,” Reyes shared. Reyes said Ambagan PH also received support from different groups and individuals. “Artists started accepting art commissions for a cause, benefits concerns were organized, OFWs (overseas Filipino workers) organized donation drives, [and] ordinary Filipinos did whatever they [could] to extend support. Everyone really wants to help. And we are happy that we’re able to consolidate the efforts of many individuals and organizations. This is the essence of ambagan

AMBAGAN continued on page 15

Manny Pacquiao challenges anti-Asian racists: Ako labanan mo

He didn’t address anybody in particular but Manny Pacquiao, multi-millionaire pugilist-actor-singer-senator, made clear his disgust against those who have inflicted violence against Asians in the US in recent weeks.

In a recent social media post, Pacquiao challenged the culprits in several languages including English, Mandarin, Korean, and Filipino.

Despite the seeming vitriol, he was quite congenial in the caption: “We have one color in our Blood! Stop discriminating. LOVE AND PEACE TO EVERYONE!!”

We could imagine him smiling that familiar sweet smile of his while writing the caption.

Fans loved the post, giving it over half a million likes.

Some of the comments:

“The people’s champ!”

“Go get em Manny!!”

“Any takers?”

“I doubt if any of these cowards would actually take on the challenge...”



Sarah Geronimo promotes Mommy Divine’s farm products

On face value, it seems like Sarah Geronimo and her mother, Divine may be on good terms after all.

This, after Sarah posted a series of Instagram stories dedicated to promoting her mother’s fresh farm products.

Sarah G and mother Divine

The text: “Freshly organic fruits and vegetables from my Mama’s Farm. order now. :)” was written on all of the posts which include photos of their produce.

It can be recalled that in February 2020, an altercation happened after Sarah’s mom discovered the secret wedding.

These days, Divine is busy with the family’s cafe and resto in Quezon City that has resumed operation as well as maintaining her online business.



Jillian abala sa pag-aayos ng bahay

MATAPOS ang tagumpay ng GMA Afternoon Prime series na Prima Donnas, pinagtutuunan ngayon ng atensyon ng teen actress na si Jillian Ward ang pag-aayos ng kanilang second home sa Pampanga.

Sa Instagram, nagbigay siya ng update sa pinamiling appliances para rito. Kamakailan lang ay nai-tour rin niya ang fans sa bagong bahay na ito sa isang vlog sa kaniyang YouTube channel.

Dito, ipinakita ni Jillian ang kani-



yang magiging kuwarta, “My room is really lit because I don’t like it very dark. Maybe I can place a sheer curtain here but my mom wants blinds. But I don’t want blinds. I also wanted to paint my ceiling with a sky or maybe some of Van Gogh’s paintings in there.”

Kyline: Self-love is real love

SA isang Instagram post, may importanteng mensaheng ibinahagi ang Kapuso actress na si Kyline Alcantara sa kaniyang followers. Bilang selebrasyon na rin sa International Women’s Month, isa siya sa female celebrities na advocate ng self-love.

Aniya sa caption, “Self-love is real love. It is as real as it can be. So, flaunt that marks, loosen up that unruly hair, smile with your crooked teeth, and be PROUD of your imperfections. No judgment just self-love.



Start love with yourself and everything will follow. Since we are normalizing a lot of things now, why don’t we normalize self-love?”

Dagdag pa ng aktres, simula raw nang mahalini niya ang sarili, naging maganda at maayos raw ang kanyang pakiramdam. Kaya naman, hinihikayat din niya ang lahat na subukan ito.

Samantala, nalalapit na ang pagtatapos ng pinagbibidahang GMA Afternoon Prime series ni Kyline na ‘Bilangin ang Bituin sa Langit’ kung saan siya ay gumaganap na Maggie. Napapanood din siya sa weekend variety program na ‘All-Out Sundays’ tuwing Linggo.

DR. GUILLERMO DE VILLA MEMORIAL CUP 19th Invitational Golf Tournament 2022? Hopefully!



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Sexy preggy Roxanne Barcelo wows fans

She related in the caption, “So hard to not giggle, I thought my husband was just taking photos...” doing the camera work, asked Roxanne what she loves about kids.

Roxanne added, “Celebrating all the women everywhere who have made an impact in the lives of others through their strength, sensibility, and sensitivity. We are all #phenomenal.”

She also shared a poem a written by Maya Angelou.

Fans were quick to laud the effort.

Some of the comments: “Sexy pa rin!” “Congratulations idol!” “We are having a beautiful baby boy.” This is what actress Roxanne Barcelo revealed in her most recent vlog.

Her husband, who was

Roxanne gleefully replied, “I love how creative they are, they are not pretentious at all. There’s no fear yet, there’s no judgment. If they like you, they like you. If they don’t like you, they don’t, it’s very straight up with kids.”

In addition, Roxanne said she also loves how kids are “curious, enthusiastic, and positive.”

Roxanne, 36, announced her engagement and wedding ceremony last December. It intrigued fans because she didn’t name her groom.

Why did Rico Blanco say ‘I love you’ to Maris Racal?

Are Rico Blanco and Maris Racal a couple?

This is the question asked by netizens after the 48-year-old singer-songwriter made his presence felt on the 23-year-old actress-singer’s Instagram feed, recently.

Not that he initiated it.

Maris herself made it all possible posting a sweet video of her and Rico jamming on Aqualung’s “Brighter Than Sunshine.”

She wrote as caption, “Hi Rico. Happy birthday” going on to use a yellow smiley wearing a wide-brimmed, brown-leather cowboy hat emoji.

Maris also posted a black and white photo of the former Rivermaya front-man.

Showing his appreciation, Rico commented, “Hahaha love you!!!”

Fans as with some celebrities reacted to the exchange.

Maja Salvador, Awra Briguela, and Chie Filomeno posted heart emojis.

Alex Gonzaga wrote, “Ay iba.”

“You go beh,” Markus Paterson added.

Antoinette Jadaone, on the other hand, said she thought the two would actually kiss at the end of the clip.

Kakai Bautista thanks Kim Atienza for kind words following Mario Maurer’s ‘demand letter’

Kim Atienza is seemingly peeved that



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Life’s brighter under the sun



comedienne Kakai Bautista is being asked not to associate herself further with Thai heart-throb Mario Maurer.

Kuya Kim tweeted, “In other news, Hayaan mo @kakaibautista you deserve to be linked to someone more deserving of you and your talent. Kainis.”

Kakai acknowledged his show of support replying: “@kuyakim_atienza love you kuya (heart emoji).”

News of Kakai being ordered to refrain from using the name of Mario or referencing him directly or indirectly in any way emerged only a day ago.

The last time Kakai ever mentioned Mario was late last year sharing how he mostly remember him as “kind,” “good,” “authentic.”





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The Race Against the Virus

Even against the advice of the medical community, Ontario Premier Doug Ford reopened the province in varying degrees. Ford has always said that he bases his decisions on science and the advice of the medical community. With the supply of vaccine more assured, I believe he is hoping that the race between the vaccinated and the covid-positive will result in the positive, for

“If everything is God’s will, then so is the invention of the vaccine, just like the seatbelt.” Els Borst

the vaccinated population. He’s hoping that more population will be vaccinated faster than the virus can spread. Herd immunity, or community immunity, is when a large part of the population of an area is immune to a specific disease. If enough

people are resistant to the cause of a disease, such as a virus or bacteria, it has nowhere to go.

But I guess the cases are so high that he had to go on color-coded closing again.

Hang in there everyone.

Gabby Concepcion, Sanya Lopez admire each other

Gabby Concepcion and Sanya Lopez may just be the new love team that Kapuso fans never knew they needed.

That is, until they caught a glimpse of Gabby’s timeless charm and acting prowess complemented by the tender and loving image of Sanya on the teaser of their upcoming primetime series “First Yaya.”

Gabby and Sanya both shared some details on how their love team and obvious on-screen chemistry came to be.

Sanya related, “Ano siya very formal, ako kasi ako parang kalog ako talaga; parang di ko siya pwedeng makausap ng sa mga jologs na salita, makasama

sa TikTok kaya ang laking bagay talaga nitong lock in taping na to, para mas makilala ang isa’t-isa hindi lang sa amin kundi sa buong production eh, isang pamilya na kami at lahat yun ay dahil sa lock in taping.”

Gabby agreed, saying “Hindi kami magkaka-bonding kung hindi dahil sa lock in taping. Kaya yung closeness sa lock in, talagang magiging close kayo, sabay kami (Sanya) nag wowork-out and the rest is history.”

Asked what they love

about each other, Sanya said, “Hinahayaan ka niya po maging ikaw, kasi tiwala siya sa’yo.”

On the other hand Gabby, liked the “straightforwardness” of Sanya, saying “Kung minsan merong image kasi na mahirap katrabaho yung artista. Akala ko ganun si Sanya pero hindi! First time ko makakasama ang lahat and it turns out lahat nag blend, nag jive. Mabuti na lang siya yung walang ‘front,’ wala siyang pinapakitang ‘eto ako,’ just straightforward, kaya maganda ang work relationship namin, nag-click.”



Gabri Panlilio finds pop vibe in classical music

It’s never too late to study music classically.

Gabrielle “Gabri” Panlilio has been hailed as one of the country’s emerging classical crossover artists, like her musical idols such as Renee Fleming and Cecilia Bartoli.

“Classical music is the fountain to every music. For me, the more you are trained classically, the more your voice gets stronger and it’s healthy,” like wine or an athlete. When you train in classical music, it takes years to make it perfect.”

Gabri lamented how the Filipinos have embraced the “birit” culture in music. “Sa Pilipinas I feel sad that many people embrace the ‘birit’ culture when it comes to music. They don’t venture into other styles anymore. If you’re into classical crossover, you promote it gradually. Then you go your way up there. Kailangan little by little.”

Over the past five years, Gabri had represented the Philippines in various music festivals across Asia, and a couple of unforgettable performances performing before Japan’s Crown Princess Kiko (Akishino) and the prime



With Broadway star Lea Salonga (left) at the backstage of Aliw Awards 2019

minister of Singapore.

For most of her foreign performances, Gabri seemed content with doing her

own renditions of her favorite Broadway, pop and operatic staples. But that all changed three years ago when she found a deeper sense of artistic fulfillment in writing her own songs.

“I believe that an

artist must also evolve to prove his or her versatility. This is also an effort to reach out to a wider audience. A good example is Mike Oldfield, who started out with a new age and then evolved to rock, and then later combined influences of rock, New Age and World Music,” said Gabri.

To date, Gabri’s Spotify discography

features a mix of covers and originals including A Place Called Home, Liwanag, Tuloy, Kung Wala Ka, Narda, Panaginip Lang, Kisapmata, Kundiman, Boy With Luv, and Let Me.

Not surprisingly, most of her originals were conceptualized, recorded and released during last year’s pandemic. It turned out to be a good creative outlet, in addition to her volunteering for her brother Aldo and girlfriend Michele Gumabao’s Y2P (Your 200 Pesos) charity advocacy.

Aside from rock, jazz, and pop, the globally-acclaimed Korean group, BTS, gets heavy rotation on her playlist. She sheepishly admits, “They’re such an amazing boyband! I even

“Gabri lamented how the Filipinos have embraced the “birit” culture in music.”

made a cover of one of their tunes.” Gabri also idolizes Broadway star Lea Salonga.

On top of keeping herself busy learning Japanese and Italian, Gabri also plans to further her voice training with some of the best institutions abroad.

Mayor Zamora’s daughter pens appreciation post on ‘PBB’ stint

Though she failed to snatch a spot as “Pinoy Big Brother (PBB): Connect” Big Four, young model Amanda Zamora shared the experience was still one for the books.

“Exactly 60 days in this house has been the craziest rollercoaster ride of my life. I always say that it hasn’t been the easiest but it was the most fulfilling,” she wrote on Instagram along with a selfie of her in front of the “PBB” house.



According to her, the said stint taught her a lot of things, from being more responsible to having self-confidence and how to get along with people from different walks of life.

“Natuto ako sa mga bagay na dati ay hindi ko nagagawa at tumayo sa sarili kong paa. At ang pinakamahalaga, nagkaroon ako ng bagong friendships na pang habang buhay at natuto din sa mga kwento ng bawat isa,” she said.

“Before joining, lagi ko sinasabi na sana bigyan niyo ako ng pagkakataon na patunayan ang sarili ko na deserving akong maging housemate. At ngayon ay nagpapasalamat ako dahil binuksan niyo ang mga puso niyo para kilalanin ako,” she continued.

Amanda noted that the amount of support she has been getting the past days has really been “overwhelming” for her.

“Hindi ko alam kung paano bumawi sainyo. But for now, maraming maraming salamat sa pagsuporta at pagsubaybay sakin sa buong journey ko sa loob ng bahay. Masaya ako na naibahagi ko ang kwento ko sainyong lahat,” the teen daughter of San Juan City Mayor Francis Zamora said.

“Sa lahat ng naging bahagi ng pamamalagi ko sa bahay, sa lahat ng housemates, staff, at crew, thank you dahil hindi ako nag isa. I really will bring this experience with me for the rest of my life. Maraming salamat sa pagconnect sa akin.”

TBATS wagi sa Best Choice Awards

PINARANGALAN sina Boobay at Tekla, pati na rin ang The Boobay and Tekla Show (TBATS), sa katatapos lamang na virtual awarding ceremony ng Best Choice Awards for 2020-2021 nitong Sabado, March 20.

Nakamit nina Boobay at Tekla ang ‘Most Outstanding Stand-up Comedian’ award habang natanggap naman ang The Boobay and Tekla Show ang ‘Most Outstanding Variety Show’ award.

Sa isang Instagram post ay nagpaabot ng pasasalamat ang host ng TBATS na si Tekla, “Maraming maraming salamat sa Best Choice Awards sa binigay nyong parangal sa amin ni @boobay7 at sa The Boobay and Tekla Show @boobayandtekla. To God be the Glory! #TBATS”

Congratulations, mga Ka-TBATS!



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Kylie Padilla pens inspiring message on self-love

Amid ongoing rumor about her marriage, Kylie Padilla is still very much motivated to inspire her followers.

In her recent Instagram post, she opened up about how “acceptance” is one of the “hardest” things to do for her.

“Especially for someone like me who needs to feel like I am in control at all times. Even if it just my own illusion,” she related.

Kylie admitted this caused her so much pain in the past.

“But then begs the question, life is never in our control so will I keep subjecting myself to this

kind of misery? Trying to control things that I can’t? I am as I am,” she declared.

“And so are you, though it is the hardest thing for me to grasp. I accept all that is. All that I am. All that life is. Pain, pleasure, all of it is growth. And that is beautiful.”

Kylie then ended her post with the question: “What is the kind of life that we aim for?”



Never get tired of doing little things for others because sometimes those little things occupy the biggest part of their hearts.
JANE DE LEON



PRANKED! Arci Muñoz & JM De Guzman are not in a relationship

It was too good to be true. JM de Guzman and Arci Muñoz made fans giddy recently, making as if they have finally decided to get romantically entangled several years into their friendship. Well, it was just a joke. Apparently, the two were simply helping Arci’s brother Manolet propose to his girlfriend. The whole thing was revealed in Arci’s vlog dubbed “Boracay revelation.”

Fans were quick to air disappointment



about it. Some of the comments: “Akala ko naman... kapikon!” Ang galing ! Napaniwala ninyo kami!” Oh, well...

Denise Laurel is taking COVID-19 protocols seriously

Actress Denise Laurel did something beautiful recently, reminding social media followers to keep safe amid the ongoing pandemic.

And by beautiful, we mean the selfie that came with the gesture.

Denise wrote, “Anybody else’s heart breaking with all the new cases of COVID?”

Please for the sake of the people that love (yo)u love and for yourself please don’t go out unless (yo)u really really have to. I also understand that we have to work; so again unless it’s necessary stay in..

Praying for everyone and all the families



that have lost someone... Just this week I lost 4 people I know... Add that to the 7 people I lost since last year... Life is short to everyone I have ever crossed paths with Thank you and I love (yo)u... To my friends we might lose a bit of connection but I’d rather lose that temporarily than permanently miss (yo)u guys...”

The post has garnered over 17,000 likes as of writing.

Denise, 32, has been busy posting anything and everything on social media, including her cleverly edited photos with Korean Oppas.

Her last TV appearance was in “24/7” and “The Haunted.”

BIRTHDAYS



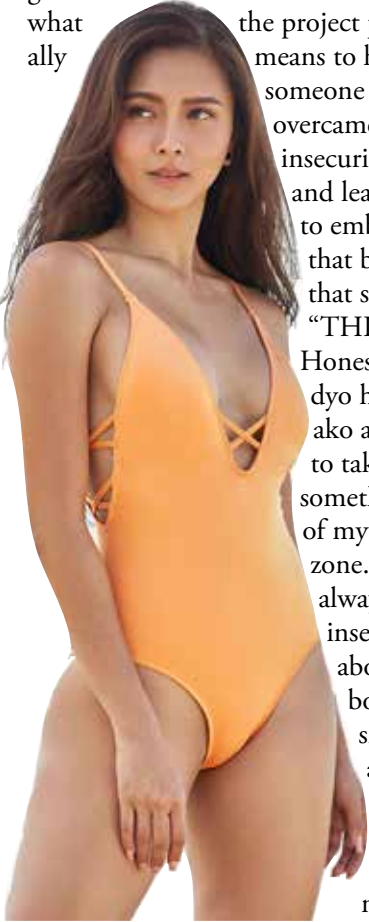
1-2,Samantha Gavin; 3,Christine Villa; 4,Christine with brothers RJ and Carlo

She Looks Amazing Whoa! Kim Chiu Is the New Face of H&M

The actress stars in the brand’s new Tropical Essentials collection for the summer!

It’s official: Kim Chiu is the newest face of H&M!

The 30-year-old actress took to her own YouTube channel to share the good news to her followers, noting what the project personally means to her as someone who



KIM CHIU

continued from page 21

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Ivana Alawi accused of using the poor for publicity

Many commended Ivana Alawi for highlighting problems relating to mendicancy in her latest vlog, but, as with everything in the toxic world that is social media, there were a few whiners.

One of them, a Twitter user, accused the sexy vlogger of engaging in poverty porn, a catch-all phrase defined as any activity that exploits the poor for entertainment, among others.

"Dude pls stop saying you're inspired about Ivana's video, IT'S A POVERTY PORN y'all," the netizen wrote.

Another posted: "Y'all praising Ms. Ivana Alawi because of her YT vid lately lamao that's POVERTY PORN."

Is it?

In the video, Ivana disguised herself as a beggar hoping to catch the attention of a few good souls.

She explained, "Kasi araw-araw 'pag lumalabas ako may nakikita akong mga

taong kumakatok sa binatana, nanghihingi, may dala pang bata minsan, may dalang matanda. Kasi mahirap talaga ang buhay at dumoble pa ang hirap nu'ng nagka pandemya tayo. Gusto ko maranasan ano 'yung feeling nila and also rewarding the people who help out... So manghihingi ako ng pamasahe, kung sino magbibigay sa akin i-times 1000 ko!"

Her fans deemed her effort commendable, noting it is way better than creating content that are

both toxic and negative.

"I'm no subscriber, but I think what she's doing helps more than being a self-righteous, virtue-signaller online," one said.

"Minsan di mo na talaga maintindihan mga tao e. Poverty porn? How about helping in a way she can? You can do good with your best intentions and people will still criticize you. Say what you want, at the end of the day, she helped those people. And for sure she inspired others to do the same. This type of influence is what we need from these so called 'influencers,'" another wrote.

RIGHT PHOTOS, Maria Panaligan celebrates her 23rd birthday.



Rachel Alejandro recalls experience in New York

Singer Rachel Alejandro gave her fans a glimpse of what she experienced when she finally got her COVID-19 vaccine overseas.



On Instagram, Rachel posted a snap of herself while showing the bandage on her arm with the caption: "Just got the one dose J&J shot at the community center in Brooklyn. A year ago I didn't leave the apartment for six weeks straight as New York was the epicenter of the virus."

"My heart is full of gratitude that we made it today but at the same time, it bleeds for those who are sick right now or have lost loved ones. To be honest, I don't know how we can go back to the way things were."

"We are forever changed. We were told to wait 15 minutes after getting the shot and now, 'Don't Stop Believing' is blasting in the hall. How fitting!"

Fellow singer Geneva Cruz expressed her joy in the comments section.

Rachel, 47, now based in the US, is best known for her hit songs "Nakapagtataka," "Kay Tagal" and "Paalam Na."

Mikael Daez recalls time Megan Young did her 'awra-mode' in a party

Kapuso actor Mikael Daez shared a short video of how her beauty queen wife Megan Young unleashed her "awra-mode" at a party with her bangs. On Instagram, Mikael captioned: "I found this clip of Boneezy and I in a party years ago. She decided to get some bangs but was very insecure about it. Now I'm trying to figure out what she was trying to say when she realized I was recording na hindi naka 'awra-mode' Help me, what was bonez trying to say???"

Bangs or no bangs, Megan looks fine nonetheless.

Posted last Friday, April 2, it garnered over 100,000 views as of writing.

Mikael and Megan are enjoying their time together, posting contents from their social media accounts, most notably for their podcast titled "Behind Relationship Goals."



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How Kim Chiu reacted when Vice Ganda teased her about Gerald Anderson

Vice Ganda made fun of “It’s Showtime” co-host Kim Chiu recently in relation to the latter’s ex-boyfriend Gerald Anderson’s recent revelation about his relationship with Julia Barretto.

He did so with the help of actor Jerald Napoles.

It started with Vice telling Jerald, “Huy Jerald napanuod

ko ‘yung interview mo kay Tito Boy ah. Pasabog ka.”

Jerald was game, going on



to reply: “Ay oo nga! 20 minutes din ‘yun.”

He added, “Ganu’n na pala ‘yung itsura ko!”

Later, when Vice introduced Kim, along with Jerald and Roxanne Guinoo, he asked her:

“Happy naman kayo ni Jerald diyan?”

Immediately understanding the double meaning,

Kim quickly answered: “Ayo-kong sumali diyan!”

Angelica Panganiban is sad and she needs flowers

It’s Easter Sunday, April 4, but it seems like actress Angelica Panganiban is not happy.

This after Angelica, star of “Love Or Money,” tweeted that she wanted to buy flowers ngayon? Meron ba online? Kailangan ko bigyan ang sarili ko ng pampasaya,” tweeted Angelica Sunday night.

Why is Angelica sad? Is it connected with love? Angelica is currently in a



relationship with businessman Gregg Homan who is based in Subic, Zambales.

Friends and netizens consoled the Kapamilya star on Twitter.

“Sending you hugs and kisses ate from Angelix. love you.”

“Smile Becky! Dito lang kami for u!”

“Sending hugs”

“Parang gusto ko rin

ng flowers :(((“

“Madam, gusto ko po kayo mag smile. pasensya na po dto.”

Jessy Mendiola, Luis Manzano get married



Actors Luis Manzano and Jessy Mendiola have finally tied the knot.

Manzano, 39, and Mendiola, 28, made the announcement on their respective Instagram accounts on Easter Sunday, April 4.

No other details were given about the wedding. But a series of wedding snaps were

uploaded on the Facebook account of Kapamilya Online World. Reports said that Lipa City Congresswoman Vilma Santos and husband Senator Ralph Recto attended the secret wedding. Actor Edu Manzano, father of Luis, also went to the special occasion.

Celebrity friends and netizens congratulated the newlyweds.

On March 14, rumors about Manzano and Mendiola that they already got married started circulating after a picture of them at a luxurious resort in Batangas City on Feb. 21 went viral.

Others assumed that they already got hitched when Mendiola showed her wedding ring in one of the photos. The assumption was also

fueled when Angeli Valenciano congratulated the couple.

On March 26, netizens pushed the couple to release the video of their wedding.

Manzano and Mendiola have been married since Feb. 21, reports said.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Luis and Jessy Manzano!

Will Vice Ganda fulfill mom’s wish of a grandchild?

Rosario Vical, Vice Ganda’s mom has come out to reveal her ardent dream.

She is hoping that her son would allow her a grandchild and soon.

Rosario told Vice in his vlog, “Kasi iniisip ko, sayang itong mga ipinundar mo, anak, na walang magmamana...”

“Kanino mapupunta ito? Kami nama’y patanda na. Maliban doon sa dalawang pamangkin mo. Pero iba



talaga, anak, ‘yung may sarili ka.”

She then shared how it is possible citing openly gay perfume magnate Joel Cruz having kids with a surrogate.

“Nung nabalitaan ko, sabi ko, ‘Ay naku sana si Tutoy ganito rin. Ang ku-cute ng mga anak,”

Rosario said.

She then revealed her ideal surrogate: “Yung simpleng simple lang siya, ‘yung gusto mo rin noong araw. Si Kaye Abad.”

It was then that Vice quipped in jest, “Kaye Abad, alam mo na. Baka naman pwede natin pagbigyan ‘yung nanay ko. Charot lang.”

Will Kaye take on the challenge? How will they go about it? And what is Lon Perez’ take on the matter?



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Shanaia Gomez dreams of working with these top-rated actresses

A dramedy starring Shanaia Gomez? Why not!

18-year-old Shanaia Gomez is among the five new artists who recently became part of Star Magic and Rise Artists Studio.

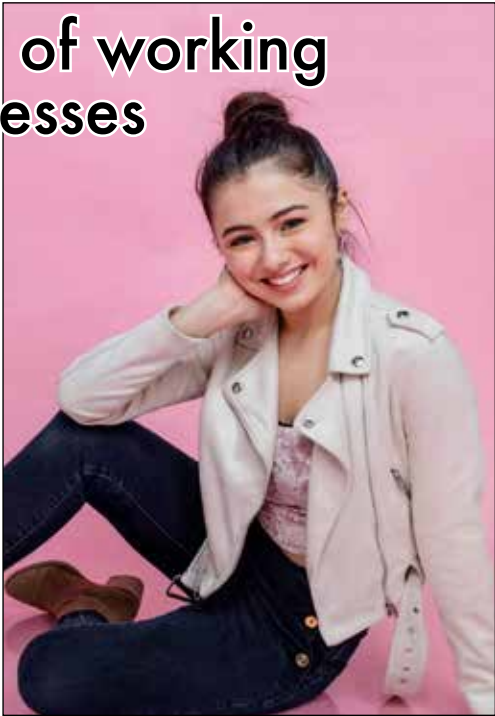
And even at the onset of her career, Shanaia already knows what she wants when it comes to the genres she wants to try, as well as the celebrities she dreams of working with.

“Ang dream project ko is to be in a dramedy [where] I can show my funny side... and I can also show na kaya ko rin ng drama,” she shared in an exclusive interview.

The “Idol Philippines” hopeful also confessed how big of a Kathryn Bernardo fan she is, and how she looks up to her when it comes to acting.

“Mga artist po na I will really be honored to work with like sila Kathryn, kasi isa po siya sa mga inspirasyon ko sa acting. Or maybe si Liza (Soberano),” she said.

Among all the projects of her idol, Shanaia said that the 2019 movie “Hello, Love, Goodbye” is her favorite.



“Recently lang po I watched it, and for me, it was very different from a traditional Filipino movie. Para sa’kin, it really hit a

spot for me,” she admitted.

“I just loved the way that they act, their facial expressions, everything. Kahit po yung directing, si Direk Cathy (Garcia-Molina) po sobrang galing po. I just really, really enjoyed that movie,” she continued.

And for the leading man she wants to work with? Shanaia said that she dreams to have Ian Veneracion as her leading man someday.

We hope to see you working with these stars in the future, Shanaia!



LEFT, Jainna Alexis celebrates her 12th birthday.



BELOW, Elmo Penano celebrates his birthday with Lenlay Mamita (old photo from facebook)

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Kapuso stars Carla Abellana and Tom Rodriguez are engaged

Kapuso star Carla Abellana is engaged to Kapuso hunk Tom Rodriguez!

This after Abellana and Rodriguez shared a snap on Instagram which showed him holding her hand with a ring on March 21.

Rodriguez, 33, wrote on IG: “I love you without knowing how, or when, or from where. I love you simply, without problems or pride: I love you in this way because I do not know



any other way of loving but this...” -Pablo Neruda

Abellana, 34, captioned the photo: “A million times, YES.”

The couple started dating in 2014.

‘She blew me away’: French actress Eva Green shows admiration for Chai Fonacier

MANILA, Philippines – French actress Eva Green showed her admiration for Filipino actress Chai Fonacier.

In her Instagram account, the international actress posted a photo of her with Chai.



“My fabulous co-star, @chaifonacier and I from the film we are shooting, NOCEBO directed by the amazing @lorcanfinnegan,” Eva captioned the post.

The actress then said that the Filipino indie star is a great actress and an incredible partner.

“Chai is truly a great actress with extraordinary depth and sensitivity and she was an incredible partner - she blew me away,” she said.

Chai joined international film stars Eva and Mark Strong in a psychological thriller “Nocebo” directed by Lorcan Finnegan.

She will be playing a Filipino caregiver who will use folk healing on Eva’s character who has a mysterious disease. The movie is the first co-production between the Philippines and Ireland.

Chai is known for her roles in “Miss Bulalacao” in 2015 and “Patay na si Hesus” in 2017, for which she won Best Supporting Actress for both films.

AMBAGAN continued from page 8

— it’s about the ordinary Filipinos who are willing to contribute to help their fellow Filipinos in need,” she added.

Ambagan PH was able to provide relief packs containing food, hygiene kits, basic medicines, drinking water, new clothes, and blankets to 50,000 Filipinos in Marikina, Rizal, Laguna, Marinduque, Camarines Sur, Albay, Isabela, Cagayan, Surigao del Sur, and Agusan del Sur who have been affected by the typhoons.

The group was also able to provide assistance to 500 families of fire survivors in Manila and 500 families of Indigenous Peoples in Zambales.

This year alone, Ambagan PH already launched different projects including “Ambagan Para sa Kinabukasan,” an initiative supporting the reconstruction of schools and provide educational materials to typhoon-affected children; “Alkansyang Bayan Para sa Kalusugan,” which aims to help to Filipinos who need medical and hospitalization assistance; and “Project Tsuperhero,” a livelihood project for jeepney drivers who lost their jobs because of the pandemic.

Under its “Ambagan Para sa Kinabukasan” project, the group already reconstructed a school building in Viva Antipolo Elementary School in San Francisco, Quezon and provided school materials, armchairs, new clothes, and hygiene kits to

AMBAGAN continued on page 20

Covid-19 survivor Dennis Padilla advises Filipinos

His advice to all Filipinos: “Stay at home and if you really have to go out, always wear your mask and face shield and practice social distancing. If someone is in charge of going out your household, you should always wear a mask around that person. Stay away from house gatherings or eating with persons who do not belong in your household even if these are your good friends. COVID-19 is real and it will take your life. I was just lucky that God gave me a second chance to live.”



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Showbiz stars donate P6M to COVID19 relief efforts

Forty-four entertainment personalities led by Angel Locsin donated P6 million cash raised from an initiative that will help the country in the fight against COVID-19.

On Instagram March 25, Locsin said that the P6 million proceeds from Shop and Share online store will be split among five cities and an organization active in the fight against the pandemic. The chosen beneficiaries are: Baguio City, Taguig City, Quezon City, Manila City, Pasig City and Philippine Red Cross.



This year, 44 entertainment personalities have given their personal items either for auction or selling. These stars are: Angel Locsin, Anne Curtis, Arnold Reyes, Bea Alonzo, Billy Crawford, Catriona Gray, Chito Miranda, Dimples Romana, Dingdong Dantes, Dir. Ruel S. Bayani, Dr. Aivee Aguilar-Teo, Dr. Vicki Belo, Hayden Kho, Jodi Sta. Maria, Joshua Garcia; Karla Estrada, Karylle Tatlonghari-Yuzon, Kathryn Bernardo, Kim Chiu, Liza Soberano, Marian Rivera-Dantes, Mariel Rodriguez-Padilla, Maris Racal, Mark Bautista, Maymay Entrata, Nikki Valdez, Ogie Alcasid, Pia Wurtzbach, Raymond Gutierrez; Regine Velasquez-Alcasid, Rhea Tan, Richard Gutierrez, Rina Navarro, Robert Sena, Sarah Lahbati-Gutierrez, Scarlet Snow Belo, Solenn Heussaff, Sylvia Sanchez, Toni Gonzaga, Tony Labrusca, Vhong Navarro, Vice Ganda, Yael

Yuzon, and Zsa-Zsa Padilla. “In hopes of truly flattening the curve and helping our kababayans who are most in need, in the sectors of the urban poor and working groups, we have decided it is best to donate the rest of the proceeds of Shop and Share to LGUs and an organization that now have solid COVID-19 vaccination initiatives for members of their communities,” Locsin said. Locsin said: “These beneficiaries have reassured us that the funds we are donating will be used for Vaccinations and Testing especially for citizens on the priority list.” She thanked those who supported this year’s Shop and Share online program. “The Shop & Share Initiative goes back to 2009 for those who were affected by Typhoon Ondoy and was able to provide essentials to families devastated by the typhoon via the Philippine Red Cross,” Locsin said. “A decade after, our help is once again needed. Together we can help save lives. “Shop&Share is dedicated to help our fellow Filipinos who need to be tested during this COVID-19 pandemic. It is our aim to provide testing kits to the underprivileged who are affected by this global crisis. We pursue this mission with compassion and kindness in hopes of aiding the government in increasing testing for COVID-19. If we all work together, we can get through this,” Locsin added.

‘So what’s the plan?’: Anne Curtis asks about government’s next steps amid COVID-19 surge

Anne Curtis expressed concern over the new surge of COVID-19 cases and questioned the government’s plans to address it. “This is quite alarming. Specially knowing that not everyone can/has gotten tested,” Curtis said through a Twitter post yesterday about the 15,310 new COVID-19 cases recorded on April 2. She also asked about the government’s next steps to address the surge. “So what is the plan?” she asked. “I would like to think that everyone understands we have to take the necessary precautions to stay safe but it would be nice to be given more

light on what is to happen while waiting for vaccines to arrive.” Some, apparently trollish accounts, were not pleased that she expressed her concerns online and responded harshly to the actress. Meanwhile, a few netizens told her to “help the government instead.” Curtis, as early as the first few months after the lockdown last year, has been actively assisting fellow celebrities such as Angel Locsin in raising funds for COVID-19-related efforts. The two revived their “Shop and Share” project, first launched for Typhoon Ondoy relief back in 2009, to raise funds this time for testing kits. The 15,310 cases recorded by the Department of

Health on April 2 set the record for the new largest single-day increase in COVID-19 cases. It includes a backlog of 3,790 cases supposedly caused by technical problems in the department’s database. In the government’s attempt to contain the surge in cases, the enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) for Metro Manila and four nearby provinces was extended until April 11. But with over a year of lockdowns imposed on the public, more celebrities are voicing out their observations on what they see as the government’s lack of effective pandemic response, including Janine Gutierrez, Liza Soberano and Albie Casiano.



TINGNAN: Nag-viral sa social media ang larawan ni Franco Emperado na isang buwang nag-apon para mabibili ang T-shirt na pinapang-arap ng anak.

“Natutuwa lang ako sa mag-ama kasi pansin ko na parang talagang kulang ‘yong budget ni tatay para sa mga price ng damit. Kaya ginawa ko ibinigay ko nang mababa kay tatay... Nakakatuwa lang kasi kita mo ang ngiti sa kanilang mag-ama na halos magtatalon no’ng pauwi na,” kuwento ni Bayan Patroller Remie Mark Baon, may-ari ng tindahan ng mga damit. Sa panayam ng Bayan Mo, Ipatrol Mo sa asawa ni tatay Franco na si Florentina, sinabi niya na paghahatid ng diyaryo ang hanapbuhay ng asawa sa loob nang 20 taon. Dapat sana’y dalawa silang nagtatrabaho pero dahil sakitin ang kanilang anak na si Federico, 12 anyos, nagpasya siyang tumigil sa hanapbuhay para maalagaan ito. Mensahe ni Tatay Franco, patuloy lang magsikap hangga’t kaya na maalagaan at maibigay ang hiling ng anak at maglaan ng nararapat para pasayahin ang pamilya lalo na sa panahon ng #COVID19 pandemic.

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KIM CHIU
continued from page 13

bata ako. Thankfully, as I grew older, I’ve slowly come to accept and love my body. And who else to better collaborate with [for] this milestone of mine on self-love and body positivity than H&M,” Kim captions the video. She adds, “I’m so proud and excited to finally share with you #KIMforHM—the #HMTropicalEssentials: a collection of everyday essentials na alam kong ma-

gugustuhan niyo rin as much as I did!” Fronting the Swedish retail giant’s Tropical Essentials collection, Kim has brought the campaign to life as she happily frolicked on the beach and basked in the glowing Zambales sunset. Clad in fun bikini sets and colorful maillots

that show off her toned bod, as well as flowy dresses and casual loungewear pieces, H&M’s summer style star proves that looking good also comes down to feeling good about yourself. On why they chose

Kim as the newest face of the brand, H&M’s official announcement reads: “Being someone who loves fashion herself, Chiu is the perfect face for this campaign, and not to mention the most fitting addition to H&M’s roster of beautiful and empowered Filipina ambassadors given how she’s grown through both trials and triumphs and turned into the strong, confident Kim that she is today. Much of how she carries each piece of the collection so well is also owed to her all-around fashion sense.”



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TWO WEEKS continued from page 1

the regional average showing that nearly 50% of households can survive with no income under a month.

Only 8.8% of surveyed Filipino households reported that they can survive for over 3 months with no income, while only 14.1% can last for up to 3 months.

Indonesian households reported that 86.6% can only afford less than two weeks.

Not surprisingly, Indonesia and the Philippines, the countries with the worst COVID-19 infection rates in the region, had the largest shares reporting financial difficulty, at 84% and 85%, respectively.

"Nearly 80% of respondents who suffered from financial difficulty reduced their food consumption. This may have some implications for food security. Other items that people reduced include utilities and non-essential daily expenditures," the report said.

The Philippines also topped the list

with the most households with at least one person losing work amid the pandemic.

Some 70% of Filipino households reported that they had at least one person who lost their job or had to reduce work. The proportion of those in the Philippines who lost their job permanently or temporarily is very high at 22.5% and 28.5%, respectively.

The proportion of those in the Philippines who lost their job permanently or temporarily is very high at 22.5% and 28.5%, respectively.

The country's unemployment rate rose to 8.8% in February, equivalent to some 4.2 million people, the Philippine Statistics Authority said on March 30.

Meanwhile, the underemployment rate stood at 18.2%, equivalent to 7.9 million individuals.

The ADBI survey was conducted over the phone, in 8 countries in Southeast Asia. Around 1,000 calls were made per country.

Is Emphy Marquez sitting pretty?

Until he was tapped as the unlikely leading man of Alessandra de Rossi in the 2017 surprise hit *Kita Kita*, he shuffled from one supporting role to another, usually as the sidekick of the bida, always one of the groom's men and never the groom.

Emphy is starring in a TV5 series titled *Niña Niño*. He couldn't be any luckier. He's paired with the industry's pretty actresses such as Maja Salvador in the TV5 Kapatid Network's *Niña Niño*.

"*Kita Kita* was a romantic film and *Niña Niño* is a family drama with a touch of comedy," added Emphy. "I provide the comic touch (with, among others, *Moi Bien*)."

Emphy is busy but Emphy isn't complaining and, contrary to the lead photo on this page, can't be sitting pretty all the time. "I've been working since 2003 after I won the Mr. Suave contest on ABS-CBN," shared Emphy. "It was made into a movie starring Vhong Navarro. I was in the cast playing a supporting role. That was my first-ever movie."

Before that, Emphy was earning his keep from odd jobs.

No choice, he said. He's the eldest among seven children and he served as the main breadwinner.



Did he ever imagine himself an actor?

He quit school when she started working. And then he joined the Mr. Suave contest.

"I didn't mind playing supporting roles. Sayang ang kita."

Now that he's a star, Emphy has learned to put value on his career (pinahalagahan ang trabaho), thankful that producers continue to trust him and give him work.

"After *Kita Kita*, maraming nabago sa buhay ko. So many changes in my life."

He has become a fodder for the gossip mill. Like, how come he doesn't have, well, "a love life?"

"Mayroon bang interesado?" he laughed. "Yes, I have had three girlfriends."

He has done his obligation to his siblings, sent them to school and helped them raise their own families.

What kind of partner is he looking for?

The Miss Right he is dreaming of is somebody "na katulad ko." Meaning, she should be "masarap kasama, masarap kausap, masarap magluto at nakakatawa. 'Yung mai-intindihan ako sa lahat ng ginagawa ko. Maalaga."

Is he hard to understand?

"Hindi naman. Madali akong kausap." Then he laughed and laughed.

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What's in store in 2021 for Karina Bautista and Aljon Mendoza

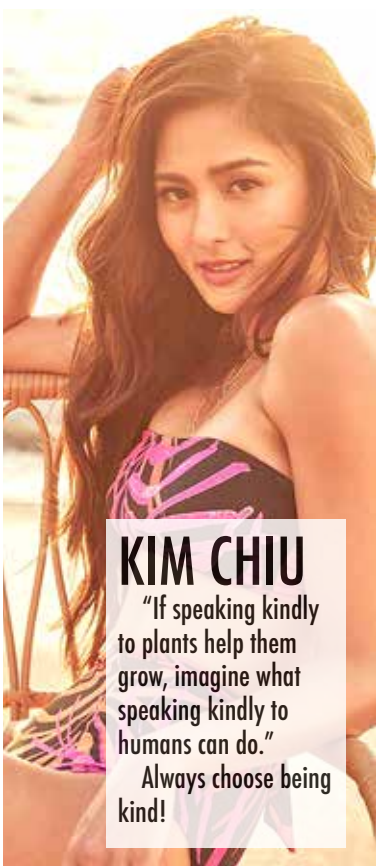
Ever since their “Pinoy Big Brother: Otso” stint, young stars Karina Bautista and Aljon Mendoza have had a promising path ahead of them.

They were established as an official love team collectively known as KarJon, and they have a legion of fans supporting them in every single project. They’ve been cast in one show after the other, starting from the television series “Sandugo” to the digital lovecast “The Four Bad Boys and Me,” and the latest, the iWantTFC series “Hoy, Love You,” and they are practically inseparable.



Now, they are securing their spots in the industry, starting with their official launch as artists under Star Magic and Rise Artists Studio, who are known for nurturing the careers of some of the most talented and successful stars in showbiz. And 2021 is going to be an even more fruitful year for KarJon, as they are already gearing up for their upcoming projects as Kapamilyas. “Ang masasabi ko munang aabangan nila sa’min is parte kami ng teleserye na

‘Viral,’” Aljon began. Although they haven’t started filming yet, the 19-year-old said that they’ve been gearing up for the series. “Hindi pa namin siya nashu-shoot pero pinaghahandaan na namin,” he said. Karina also talked about “Viral,” where they will be working alongside their fellow Rise artist and 2020 Metro Manila Film Festival Best Actress, Charlie. The 18-year-old is also ecstatic about their other series, which will star some of the rising love teams today. “Yung isa pa po is ‘yung ‘Love on Da Move.’ Siguro ‘yun po muna this year pero of course marami pa po dapat silang abangan,” she added.



KIM CHIU

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VACCINE
continued from page 1

Act provides for P10-billion funding under the Department of Health (DOH) for the same purpose.

The total budget of the Philippine government for vaccine procurement, according to Lacson, so far amounts to P126.75 billion.

“NASAAN KA BAKUNA?” he said in his tweet.

‘We might all die waiting’

Asked what he thinks could be the reason why the government-procured vaccines have yet to arrive, Lacson said: “[T]he problem lies with the concerned agencies in charge.”

“[Finance] Sec. [Carlos] Dominguez as early as last year kept repeating that there’s money available. In fairness to DOF (Department of Finance), they already anticipated the ‘crowding’ for

loans so they already booked to get ahead of the rush,” he said.

“That being said, the problem lies with the concerned agencies in charge. Even the private sector and eventually the [local government units], not having the patience to wait for government action, took it upon themselves to procure vaccines for their employees, even offering 50% of their vaccine purchases to the government,” he added.

As of February, LGUs and the private sector have secured a total of 17 million doses of AstraZeneca vaccines through the signing of tripartite deals with the national government.

“Instead of treating them as partners and assisting them, [the] government

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WB/ADB/AIIB approved loans for Ph Covid vaccines:

- April 20,2020 - US\$100M
- May 28, 2020 - US\$500M
- Dec 16, 2020 - US\$600M
- Mar 12, 2021 - US\$500M
- Mar, 2021 - US\$400M
- Mar, 2021 - US\$300M

plus:
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7:41 PM · Mar 17, 2021

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regulated and controlled everything by requiring them to go through government procurement,” Lacson went on.

Meanwhile, the senator expressed both hopes and doubts that the country’s health authorities “have a sound analysis and assessment” on the sudden spike of Covid-19 cases in the country.

“The thing is, how can we have a solution when we don’t know the cause of [the] problem?” he said.

“Unless some drastic and innovative steps are undertaken, we might all die waiting,” he added.

For its initial vaccination rollout, the

Philippines is currently using donated vaccines from the Chinese government and the COVAX facility, a global vaccine sharing pool led by the World Health Organization.

The country kicked off its vaccination drive on Mar. 1 following the arrival of 600,000 doses of the CoronaVac vaccine from Sinovac Biotech which were donated by the Chinese government

On March 4, 487,200 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine from British-Swede firm AstraZeneca arrived in the country through the COVAX facility. This was followed by another set of 38,400 doses that arrived on March 7.

Vaccine czar Carlito Galvez Jr. earlier said that the Philippine government has already secured 108 million doses of vaccines from different manufacturers through signed term sheets, which indicate that supplies have already been “locked-in” for the country.

Where’s the tell-all of Kris Aquino?

Fans were disappointed with Kris Aquino failing on her promise to release a tell-all on social media. She has a ready explanation, though. According to her, she actually tried to make the deadline but was sidetracked for a variety of reasons. “I have earned the right to take my time until I’m sure I am giving you what you have come

to expect of me,” she related. Well it isn’t as if we were the ones who made the promise. She went on, “We had yesterday, we have today, now I know I have to protect tomorrow BECAUSE I owe that to the 2 people who will be most affected

1. NAMES will be named.
2. All issues I’m aware of will be addressed and the questions I had evaded shall be answered.
3. My TRUE feelings will all be revealed.
4. I did not spare myself, because I refuse to be a coward.
5. But we have to wait... I had meticulous editing instructions BECAUSE I wanted my message viewed & heard clearly, with no room for misinterpretation.

by whatever I put out on my social media feeds. So for now, tulog na muna tayo... Yes I still believe in #lovelove (BUT now only for the loyal, the brave, the trustworthy, and the deserving. May tinamaan ba? Simply a rhetorical



question).” Prior, she teased the tell-all will have her name names. She also vowed to cover all issues relating to her. “My true feeling will all be revealed,” she vowed further exciting those who care. She even added, “I did not spare myself, because I refuse to be a coward.” “But we have to wait... I had meticulous editing instructions because I wanted my message viewed and heard clearly, with no room for misinterpretation.”



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Janus Del Prado to trolls: ‘Ibahin niyo naman script niyo’

Janus Del Prado seems to be undeterred by the bashing of netizens, whom he said are just recycling the same old “script” again and again. “Ibahin niyo naman ang script niyo, memorize ko na eh (Please change your script, I already have it memorized),” Del Prado said in an open letter to “trolls” he shared on Instagram yesterday, March 24. “Paano po maging bobo, Dilawan, Kaw na kaya mag Presidente, Dito samin sa (insert country) may pandemya din pero di kami nagreklamo, Sayang idol pa naman kita, etc.,” the actor listed down as examples. (“How to be stupid,” “Dilawan,” “how about you replace the president,” “here in our [insert country] there is also a pandemic but we do not complain,” “what a pity, you used to be my idol,” etc.) “Ibahin niyo naman para hindi halata na iisa lang nagpapasweldo sa

inyo (Change it so that it is not too obvious that you have the same employers),” he quipped. Back in 2016, a self-confessed “professional troll” told Inquirer that they are run “like a call center operation,” having organized teams and leaders who assign trolling tasks to them. They reportedly earn P2,000 to P3,000 a day. Del Prado is among the vocal celebrities who express their opinions on national and political issues. Most recently, he slammed those defending the government from criticisms amid the apparent mishandling of the health crisis.



“Yung mga obob dyan sabi [nang] sabi na wag namin sisihin ang gobyerno ng Pilipinas dahil di nila kasalanan na may virus, eh sino sisihin namin? Gobyerno ng Mars?” he posted on Instagram also yesterday. (To the idiots out there telling us to stop blaming the Philippine government because they did not create the virus, who do you want us to blame? The government of Mars?) “Totoo na di nila kagagawan na may Covid pero responsibilidad nila yan.

Commander in Chief diba? So command responsibility. Otherwise wag na kayo tumakbo next election,” Del Prado stressed. (It is true that they did not create COVID-19, but it is their responsibility. Commander in Chief, right? So command responsibility. Otherwise, just do not run in the next elections.) “Responsibilidad niyo ang tumulong, magmalasakit, at ang kapakanan ng mga Pilipino. Simple. Kung di na kaya. Baba na. Tapos,” he stressed in the caption, addressing politicians. (It is your responsibility to help, care, and you are responsible for the well-being of Filipinos. Simple. If you cannot do it, step down. Done.)

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Another gem of the Visayas, Bohol's Historical significance extends way back to the blood compact between boholano chieftain sikatuna and the Spanish Conquistador, Miguel Lopez de Legaspi, in 1565.

Scenic Bohol Casts an enigmatic charm drawn from the many archaic mementos spread throughout the oval-shaped island: from the chocolate hills and the tarsier to the 16th century watchtowers and jesuit baroque mission churches. The Chocolate Hills that abound in Central Bohol, two have been developed into top class resorts.

Sunset @ Sta. Fe Beach

Chocolate Hills

One of the Rare Faunas found in the Phillippine archipelago, the Tarsier is the smallest primate in the world. It is a nocturnal primate measuring from four to fice Inches, with a tail that is longer than body.

Those interested in tarsier watching are always welcomed by the Boholanos to see the famous primate in its natural adobe up the hills in the town of Corella

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Rhian says past is past and no regrets

RHIAN Ramos wants to thank all viewers who made the GMA prime-time soap, “Love of My Life”, a big success. When she was told they’d do its remaining episodes on a lock in taping, she was not that enthusiastic at first.

“Yes, that’s true, medyo skeptical ako noong una about lock in, but I agreed to do it kasi trabaho ito and I’m committed to it,” she says. “I was a bit nervous at first but as we went along, sa totoo lang, I really enjoyed doing lock-in taping kasi para lang kaming nagbabakasyon ng buong cast and crew sa location namin in Tagaytay. I enjoyed everyone’s company and it came out as a very positive experience.”

“Love of My Life” followers are polarized between her as Kelly and Carla Abellana as Adelle. How does she feel about this?

“It’s really quite amusing na nag-aaway ang Team Kelly versus Team Adelle, but I think the conflict really helped to make the show more in-



ter-esting and the ratings go higher. Sa last survey kasi, 19 plus percent na ang rating namin, an all time high. But this week, makikita nyo ang reconciliation between Kelly and Adelle and it will be really so moving. Kaya make sure you don’t miss the final episode of ‘Love of My Life’ as I assure you that your hearts will be touched by the way the story is resolved. Maganda pati ang mga mangyayari sa two other major characters, Mikael Daez as Nikolai and Tita Coney Reyes as Isabella.”

When she joined showbiz about 15 years ago, most people predicted she’s going to be a real big star, but she made some indiscretions along the way that somehow affected her career adversely. Does she have any regrets about this?

“Not really. I always say that anything that you have already done, there’s no point in regretting them kasi you cannot change them naman anyway. And whatever you are now, you are part of all the things that happened to you before, and that includes the ups, the downs, the good times and even the painful times. And now, I can honestly say I’m happy naman, so there’s really no reason for me to regret or change anything.”

The pandemic has definitely been an unforgettable experience for her. “I was planning to put up my own business last year, creating my own products, but the lockdown happened. The lesson I learned is: when you are planning to do something, why wait? Kawe-wait ko, naabutan ako ng pandemic. You never really know when you’re going to have the opportunity, so don’t procrastinate.”

Kathryn Bernardo delights fans with first up-close selfie at 25!

A day after she uploaded her 30-minute vlog on how her friends surprised her on her 25th birthday, Kathryn Bernardo made her fans gush over her up-close selfie on Easter Sunday, April 4.

Kathryn posted a gorgeous-looking selfie captioned: “Still can’t believe I’m 25! Another quarantine birthday for me. I’m blessed to have a loving family and thoughtful friends who make me realize the most important things in life.”

Her face says it all, as she garners over 370,000 likes and counting as of this writing.

Actress performer Chie Filomeno commended Kath: “Skin Goals.” The same goes for Ruffa Gutierrez who wrote: “Flawless!!” while Daniel Padilla’s mother, Karla Estrada, greeted her once more.



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Pilar Pilapil on young actors distracted with cellphones

Veteran actress Pilar Pilapil’s desire for quality work continues to this day and she is hoping it would rub off on young stars she gets to work with.

In a recent online interview with the all-star cast of the upcoming romantic comedy primetime series “First Yaya,” Pilar vividly recalls getting peeved with young workmates not delivering on the set.

“Before in a teleserye (she didn’t mention the title nor director) I saw these actors who are using their cellphones, so I had to talk to



the directors about it, kaya di naging maayos yung rehearsals.”

Good thing for her, she didn’t experience any of that while filming the rom-com series.

“I love it, its my first time pero nagustuhan ko kasi tuloy tuloy yung trabaho, everyone is on time because everyone is controlled by the production and the work goes very well.

“Okay lang naman nasama rin ako sa barkada nila, sometimes I get to be

a counselor, I love them. They are a very nice group. Suma-sama ako sa TikTok nila! Pero sabi ko wag nila ipalabas.

“I consider myself a flexible person kasi I knew there would always be someone similar or someone who won’t be intimidated with me, I had fun mixing up with them.”

Pilar, who was last seen in GMA with the 2007 hit drama-series “Marimar,” felt right at home returning to the Kapuso Network.

“Well, sa nakita ko, I think I only thought that the people in this series are professional and I see a lot of improvement in their professionalism, more organized, noong una it doesn’t matter what channel, nagkakaroon ako ng problem sa wardrobe but now, wala akong problema so far.”

Covid-19 has thrown up another risk – an addiction to lockdowns

During the early days of the Covid-19 pandemic, authorities around the world asked people to put their lives on hold for a period of days or weeks to “flatten the curve” and save lives.

More than a year into the global crisis, governments continue to enforce lockdowns and other restrictions in response to Covid-19, while sluggish vaccine roll-outs cloud expectations for a swift return to normal.

“Populations have changed their views of the role of government and people’s freedoms,” said Lawrence Gostin, director of the O’Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at Georgetown University in Washington.

“The pandemic has made them more accepting of harsh crackdowns that they previously would have resisted. I think this could be a long-term problem as political leaders gain power and infringe on human rights in the guise of an emergency. What is at stake is not only freedom, but also accountability and the rule of law.”

The Philippines on March 27 implemented a lockdown and curfew on the 25 million residents of Metro Manila after logging a record 9,838 new coronavirus cases in a single day. The reintroduction of these restrictions, following one of the world’s longest and strictest lockdowns last year, came after President Rodrigo Duterte last July expressed hope the country would be back to normal by the end of December.

Shortly after the announcement on Saturday, the hashtag #DuterteResign was among the trending topics on Philippine Twitter.

Many Filipinos have questioned why the government has not done a better job of managing the pandemic, with the country’s death toll of more than 13,000 being one of the highest in Southeast Asia.

“When China locked down all of Wuhan, I said it couldn’t happen in London, Paris, or New York,” Gostin said. “But it did. I fear that lockdowns and other excessive measures will return to haunt us when the next crisis hits. And we will have repeated crises going forward.”

We have the longest lockdown in the world and yet we have seen little to no improvement in our situation

Philippine government employee



Kyle Echarri’s new ride

Kyle Echarri has purchased his dream wheels: A Dodge Ram 1500 pickup truck. He shared the news to fans via his latest vlog. The 17-year-old said he wanted one even as a kid noting how his father owned something similar.

“I got this truck because when I was younger, mga 9 years old ata ako nu’n, may dad had a Dodge Ram 5500 nu’ng nasa States pa kami. E, pangarap ko talaga maging kagaya ng papa ko...Imagine paglaki ko ganito na ‘yung magiging akin,” he said.

And to think his showbiz career only bloomed via “Kadenang Ginto.” In any case, he was quick to thank fans.

“It’s crazy. Never in my wildest dreams that I think that at 17, I’d be able to buy my own truck at ‘yun pa ‘yung pang-arap kong truck. Hindi ko makukuha ‘yung truck kung hindi dahil sa inyo. Thank you guys so much for all the support,” he said.

Echarri is one of the stars of the upcoming inspirational series “Huwag Kang Mangamba” along with other members of Gold Squad, Francine Diaz, Andrea Brillantes, and Seth Fedelin.

DJ Loonyo signs with Universal Records

DJ Loonyo is now officially a recording artist under Universal Records.

Social media sensation DJ Loonyo has joined Universal Records, adding a recording artist title under his belt.

DJ Loonyo signed with Universal Records.

Among those present during the contract signing event were General Manager Kathleen Dy-Go, Operations Manager Peter Chan, and DJ Loonyo’s Manager Haydee Bel-len-Serrano.

According to Loonyo, he entered the recording scene not to compete, but rather to share what he has to offer through music.

“Hindi naman ako pumunta sa linya na ‘to para makipag compete e, kung ano yung pwede kong ibahagi na meron sa puso ko,” he said.

He added that he still



couldn’t believe that he is now officially a recording artist under the said local record label.

“Iba yung tuwa, iba yung saya. ‘Di ko inexpect na mangyayari sakin ‘to,” he said.

Sharing his excitement for what’s to come now that he’s with Universal Records, DJ Loonyo said: “Excited ako sa kung ano pa ang pwede kong magawa together with Universal Records.”

Born Rhemuel Lunio, DJ Loonyo rose to fame after releasing several dance videos on social media.

DJ Loonyo also founded the dance group called Rockwell.

DEODORANT continued from page 5

application for the brand in July 2020 and learned four months later about Cobblestone’s opposition to his plan. Cobblestone also asked the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines for “additional time to notarize and apostille the documents” in the United States and have these sent to Manila.

The Duke and Duchess of Sussex own a non-profit foundation called Archewell, named after their son Archie Mountbatten-Windsor. They filed for trademarks for the term “Archewell” in the United Kingdom, the U.S., and the European Union. But this didn’t deter Soriano, who even came up with choreography for Archewell Harvatera deodorant.

Soriano, who owns a company called Cyclone Trading, told British tabloid The Sun that he would have changed his deodorant’s name if it was Queen Elizabeth II who asked him to do so. He added that he felt like Roxie Hart as she was being put on trial in the musical

Chicago.

“If the Queen asks me to withdraw, I will do it promptly, no questions asked. But Meghan, we call her the Wicked Witch of the West,” he said. “We’re really nice people here [in the Philippines]. This affects me but I’m willing to fight to the death out of principle.”

“I think I should win because I’m a small guy from a poor small country about to be swallowed by a greedy monster. I must succeed in this fight,” he added.

In a separate interview with World Trademark Review, Soriano said that Markle must “be taught a lesson” and accused the former Suits actress of “bullying” Buckingham Palace.

“You bet I can slug it out with them when it comes to legality, which I will. Fresh from her legal victories, I expect Meghan to take me head-on. All I can say is bring it on – I’ll fight you, you’ll see. We both have active marks so it’s a showdown and I’m not backing out if that’s how they handle things. It’s a duel to the death, I will never give up!”

Soriano said.

Markle successfully sued a newspaper for publishing a letter she sent to her father, Thomas Markle. A judge declared in February that Mail on Sunday breached her privacy for printing the contents of

the said letter.

In January 2020, the royal couple said that they will step back from being senior royals and try to become financially independent, a move that reportedly disappointed Buckingham Palace.

Candid SPOOF

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



Phoebe Yap Chan celebrates her 40th birthday. This picture was taken in December 2017. 😊😊😊

Heaven Peralejo deny involvement in Kiko Estrada-Devon Seron split



“I am not in any way romantically associated with Kiko.”

Ito ang bahagi ng pahayag ni Heaven Peralejo ukol sa pagkakadawit ng kanyang pangalan sa breakup nina Kiko Estrada at Devon Seron.

Sa kanyang Instagram Stories, pinalagan ni Heaven ang akusasyong siya ang dahilan ng hiwalayan ng dalawa.

Pahayag ng 21-year-old Kapamilya actress, “Associating me with actors I have scenes with can be easy.

“At the end of the day, we’re nothing more than just co-actors working with each other.”

Magkasama sina Heaven at Kiko sa Kapamilya teleseryeng Bagong Umaga.

Ayon pa kay Heaven, hindi siya dapat kinakaladkad sa isyu at bansagang “third party.”

Naglabas daw siya ng pahayag upang ituwid ang mga ibinabatong isyu sa kanya.

Saad niya, “I should not have been dragged into the personal issue between Devon Seron and Kiko Estrada.

“However, I will not stay silent about it especially after being harshly accused of something I didn’t and would never do.

“To set things straight, I am not in any way romantically associated with Kiko nor am I the reason behind their breakup.”

Alam daw niyang masakit ang pinagdada-anan ng mga taong naghihiwalay, pero hindi raw tamang isisi ito sa ibang tao na wala namang kinalaman.

Ani Heaven, “I know how painful the process

of heartbreaks can be but this does not justify pinning the blame on others who are not involved.

“Although, I do sincerely hope Kiko and Devon would heal from this.

“Anyway, there are far more important issues that we should concern ourselves with.

“Stay safe everyone!”

Pumutok ang balitang hiwalay na sina Kiko at Devon noong March 9 dahil sa cryptic post ni Devon.

In-unfollow rin nila ang isa’t isa sa Instagram.

Ang netizens ang nagdawit ng pangalan ni Heaven sa issue.

Wala pang inilalabas na pahayag sina Kiko at Devon tungkol sa balitang break na sila.

Hunk Shot

Jared plays the piano & guitar, and he can sing. His is also gifted in drawing and painting. He loves spending time with family. For sports he is into swimming and he plays basketball.

Jared goes to Runnymede Collegiate Institute. He wants to be an Engineer. He is the son of Jackie & Rafael.

We wish him all the luck in his endeavours.

Jared Cajuigan

Heaven Peralejo’s mother demands public apology from rumormongers accusing daughter of being involved in Kiko-Devon breakup

Mariing kinondena ng ina ni Heaven Peralejo na si Shiela Luanne Peralejo-Angeles ang paratang na ang anak umano ang third party sa hiwalayan nina Kiko Estrada at Devon Seron.

Magkasama sina Heaven at Kiko sa ABS-CBN drama

series na Bagong Umaga.

Sa pamamagitan ng Instagram, isang mensahe ang ipinarating ni Luanne sa mga nagpapakalat ng mga kasinungalingan umano sa kanyang anak.

Pahayag niya, “I am calling out to those who are responsible for spreading LIES about my daughter, HEAVEN, with clear intent to destroy her reputation.

“They are outright FALSE and MALICIOUS.

“For days, IG posts are insinuating that Kiko Estrada



has been cheating on his ex-girlfriend, unnecessarily dragging HEAVEN as the third party.

“Without even trying to know the truth, these irresponsible people took to social media with ill-intent to create a bad image out of HEAVEN.”

Babala pa ng ina ng Kapamilya actress, hindi siya mangingiming magsampa ng reklamo kapag hindi tumigil ang paninira sa kanyang anak.

Saad ni Luanne, “We exerted all efforts to reach out, and to DEMAND to PUT A STOP to these malicious acts.

“Sadly, these culprits refused to speak with me or HEAVEN and continued to malign my daughter.

“Your failure to clear the name of HEAVEN has led to the continuing spread of these LIES to which my daughter is now being the subject of social media bullying.

“You show no mercy!

“As a mother, I simply cannot allow this. If it will mean bringing this matter to court in order for these culprits to publicly apologize and admit to their fault, then so be it.”

Apela pa niya, “AGAIN, I appeal to you to STOP committing these malicious acts of spreading FALSEHOOD and APOLOGIZE PUBLICLY.”

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Who is Basil Rodricks?
Hi my name is Basil Rodricks and I want to help you achieve lifetime financial security. I want to provide you with innovative, insightful and simple solutions backed by one of the most reliable financial companies in the world.
I am here for you to enjoy the protection and guarantees that you need to live healthy, vibrant and financially secure life.
I promise to make your Life brighter under the sun.

What Else Should you Know?
I have extensive experience in handling various life, car, home, travel, family and mortgage protection insurance policies.
I as well deal with Disability Plan, Critical Illness, RRSP, TFSA, Drug Plan (Group & Individual), Super Visa Insurance. All of which can be handled in the best manner to save and grow YOUR money.



Basil Rodricks B. Eng
Advisor
150 Ferrand Drive, Suite 1500,
Toronto, Ontario M3C 3E5
Tel: 416-696-0083 ext. 2240
Fax: 416-696-0089
Cell: 416-858-5492
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Today, many of us can expect to live into our 80s, 90s, and some us even into our 100s. . .
When you add up today's long life spans, economic uncertainty and the prospect of inflation, the need for sound financial planning is more important than ever. Meeting with me, I can help you quantify your longevity risk and choose investments that will guarantee you a steady stream of income to meet your ongoing needs.

ARE YOU ON TRACK TO REACH YOUR FINANCIAL GOALS FOR RETIREMENT, AND HOW WILL YOU TURN YOUR SAVINGS INTO INCOME?
OR
WHETHER YOU'RE TRAVELING, RELAXING OR TRYING SOMETHING NEW, LET'S MAKE SURE YOUR MONEY LASTS SO YOU CAN ENJOY LIFE TO THE FULLEST AND EVEN LEAVE A LEGACY.
OR
HOW ARE YOU PLANNING FOR YOUR FUTURE TO MAKE SURE YOU ARE PROTECTED ALONG THE WAY?







Sun Life Financial

Life's brighter under the sun

26

LM confidential

26

*Kung good deal ang
hinahanap ninyo,
Harold Guarin
ang tawagan n'yo...*



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