# Philippines eyes 100% vax target

DOH says inoculating all will stop community transmission of variants

PHILIPPINES - The Philippines may increase its COVID-19 immunity vaccination target from 70 percent to 100 percent of the country's population to prevent community transmission of emerging coronavirus variants, a Department of Health (DOH) official said.

Health Undersecretary Leopoldo Vega said the 70 per-

cent target would only protect people from severe infection from the original coronavirus strain.

"With the new variants, we need to raise the herd immunity to 90 percent or possibly 100 percent," Vega said in Filipino.

Over 55.4 million individuals have already received at least one

COVID-19 vaccine dose.

Some 37 million individuals are already fully vaccinated, the National COVID-19 Vaccination Dashboard, as of Dec. 4, showed.

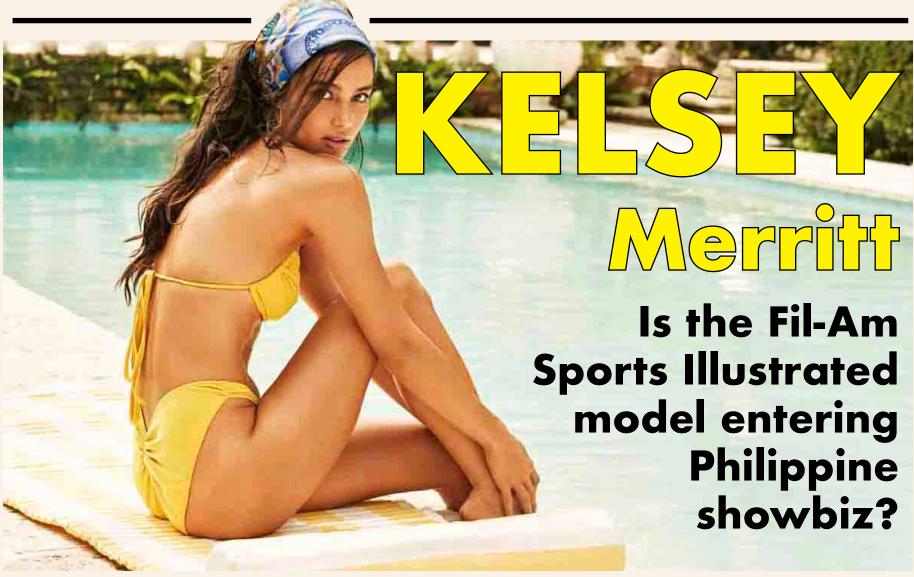
With the threat of the Omicron variant, Vega urged the public to get inoculated, saying that vaccines are effective against severe infection even

with the variants.

"This is one of the ways to stop transmission or viral loads of COVID-19," Vega said.

The new variant, which was first detected in South Africa, has been recorded in Europe, United States, and some parts of Asia.

**VACCINATE ALL, page 15** 



# China tells Philippines to leave Ayungin shoal

Meanwhile, two maritime experts asserted that Ayungin Shoal belongs to the Philippines and China has no right to demand the removal of the BRP Sierra Madre from the area, which a UN tribunal affirmed in 2016 is part of Manila's EEZ in the South China Sea.

China's ambassador to Manila expressed confidence that the relationship between Beijing and the Philippines could withstand differences following the incident last week at the Ayungin Shoal.

In a Facebook post, Chi-

nese Ambassador Huang Xilian said it was "normal" for differences to occur "even among best friends and neighbors."

"What matters is how we handle and manage those differences in the spirit of seeking common ground while shelving differences," he added.

However, the Philippines will fully exercise its sovereign rights in the West Philippine Sea, Malacañang reiterate.

"President Duterte has repeatedly reiterated this in various summits, as well as in his speech before the United Nations. We refer to the UNCLOS and arbitral award that Ayungin is within our EEZ (exclusive

**DUTERTE** page 20

#### Marites, Marisa, Mariposa: Get to know Mosang's distant cousins when you want to get your tsismis on

The creativity of Pinoys knows no bounds, especially when it comes to inventing terms that depict day to day life (and types of people).

Filipinos love to be entertained and as the social media capital of the world, nothing escapes the eagle eyes of Marites (Mare, ito ang latest) and Mosang (short for tsismosa) when it comes to the comings and goings in the entertainment world

Perhaps, you may be familiar with the latest showbiz happenings but not with Marites and Mosang's close cousins. We recently

MARITES, page 11



## Christmas caroling now allowed under certain conditions- DILG

MANILA - With the relaxed alert level system comes good news for the Christmas

After being banned last year, the traditional Christmas caroling will now be allowed in areas under alert level 2 under certain conditions as the number of new coronavirus disease-2019 (COVID-19) cases had declined, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) said last November.

DILG Undersecretary Jonathan Malaya said that persons

**CAROLING**, page 18

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## Kelsey Merritt to enter showbiz?

Swanepoel,

She confirmed the news herself, announcing it on Instagram.

"So excited because I booked my flight home to the Philippines in a few weeks !! I'm coming home," she wrote as caption to a throwback picture of her in Boracay Island.

Recall that Kelsey has been living abroad for quite some time now following her historical Victoria's Secret Fashion Show stint in 2018.

Note that the then-22-year-old model is considered the first-ever Filipina Victoria's Secret angel.

Anyway, after that milestone, Kelsey was featured by Vogue in their "Beauty Secrets" series, joining the likes of Rihanna, Victoria Beckham, Adriana Lima, Miranda Kerr, Candice Ashley Graham, and Kendall

Is he planning to enter Philippine showbiz? There have been talks that either Viva or Cornerstone entertainment is in talks to represent her. Whatever her plans, she is not revealing them. Or maybe, she is still in the middle of negotiations with the different companies that precludes her from talking about the details.

Early this year, the first Filipina to feature on Sports Illustrated Swimsuit, made an appearance on the same magazine and for the third time.

Kelsey, who was born and raised in Pampanga, started her modeling career at age 15.

Then, when she was 17, Kelsey got an e-mail from a modeling agency based in New York.

And the rest is history.

## Belle Mariano responds to basher

Just like other celebrities, young star Belle Mariano has her fair share of bashers on social media.

Though at 19, she already knows how to handle navsavers.

During her recent live stream, where she sang several popular hits like "12:51," "I Knew You Were Trouble," and "Maybe This Time," several non-fans took to the comment section to insult her.

One wrote, "Hindi ka maganda." Another said, "Ang laki nang ilong."

Belle gracefully clapped back at them saying simply: "Sa lahat po ng nagsasabi ng negative comments, thank you still for watching my live (stream)."

Her fans, meanwhile, quickly defended their idol, reiterating how those detractors are just jealous of her.

Belle has gone global recently along with her reel partner Donny Pan-

The two actors appeared in digital billboards in New York City, South Korea, Switzerland, and Dubai.

Belle started her career as a child star and was part of the comedy-themed show "Goin' Bulilit." She is best known for starring in the film "Four Sisters Before the Wedding (2020)" and the television series "He's Into Her (2021)."

## Ivana binasted si Marco, 'di bet ang malaking 'tooth-tooth'

Kaloka pala ang nangyari sa ibang mga artista, na minsang nag-date, pero hindi nagtuloy-tuloy. Siguro, hindi talaga nagtugma ang kanilang mga isip at puso, kaya nagdesisyon na lang sila na maging magkaibigan na lang.

Katulad nina Marco Gumabao at Ivana Alawi, ha! Kung titingnan mo, bagay na





bagay ang dalawa dahil parehong matipuno at sexy. Pareho pa silang vlogger, at mahilig din sa mga adventure.

Pero, hindi nga nauwi sa relasyon ang dalawa. Ano kaya ang naging problema?

Inayawan kaya ni Marco si Ivana? O binasted ni Ivana si Marco?

Anyway, sayang naman dahil si Marco nga, sabi ni Ate Shawie, o Sharon Cuneta, the Megastar, eh, ang laki ng tootoot – notah, di ba?



## Janno Gibbs and Manilyn Reynes reunite in 'Mang Jose'

"Mang Jose", the superhero that Parokya ni Edgar created and introduced as a song back in 2005, will be seen first on Vivamax Plus this November! Now a superhero movie with a twist, "Mang Jose" joins other extraordinary films that Vivamax is known to deliver.

Janno Gibbs stars as Mang Jose who has a special ability of energy absorption and redirection.

People in need of saving call upon him. But the catch is, they must have some savings to be able to pay him thereafter. Mang Jose's services can actually cost a few thousand bucks.

Now causing havoc in the city is King Ina, played by Janno's former love team partner, Manilyn Reynes. When people drink the milk tea called Peace Tea, King Ina is able to control their minds and make slaves out of them. King Ina's army is called the Turborats.

When the Turborats abducted Tina (Bing Loyzaga), her son Tope (Mikoy Morales), a call center agent, hires Mang Jose to get her back safe and sound.

This rescue mission will most likely cost Tope a fortune, but the discovery that he and Mang Jose will make along the way is

The movie is full of fight and laughout-loud scenes. Mang Jose and his wacky sidekick Charlemagne (Jerald Napoles) promise to take the audience to an out of this world experience.

Janno and Jerald worked together in



the recent 2020 MMFF International Film Festival entry Pakboys.

"Mang Jose" also serves as the big screen reunion of Janno and

> Manilyn after over two decades. The JannoLyn tandem was one of the biggest love teams in the '80s, so even if they play rivals in this comedy-fantasy film,

avid fans will be delighted about this reunion project.

Bing Loyzaga's participation in her husband's movie is an added bonus. As for Mikoy Morales, it can be said that "Mang Jose" is the start of many big opportunities as he is named to join in an iconic superhero series very soon.

Directed by Rayn F. Brizuela, "Mang Jose" was featured at the Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival (BIFAN) in South Korea last July. It was not the first time for director Brizuela to have his movie included in an international film festival. His first feature film, "Memory Channel" (2016) was in competition at the World Premiere Film Festival.

Experience first the power of "Mang Jose" on Vivamax Plus, the newest payper-view service of Viva starting Nov. 17, 2021 and catch it on Vivamax this Dec. 24. Go to web.vivamax.net or download the app and subscribe via Google Play Store, App Store or Huawei App Gallery.



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## **Cristy Fermin reveals Rayver** Cruz was supposed to propose to

**Janine Gutierrez** 

Rumor about Kapamilya star Janine Gutierrez and Kapuso actor Rayver Cruz having already gone their separate ways is still going around.

Veteran columnist-TV host Cristy Fermin even tackled it in her show.

She revealed how Rayver was already plannign to propose marriage to Janine.

She said: "Alam mo mayroon akong nakausap na super close kay Rayver Cruz. Ito palang si Rayver kaya nagpursige talaga, nagsipag at nag-ipon para makapagpatayo ng sariling bahay, 'yun palang kanyang pananaw sa kinabukasan, malapit pala. Pinaghahandaan niya na pala 'yung panahon na kung saan sakaling magkakaroon na siya ng asawa, ng pamilya, mayroon na silang bubong na matitirahan, 'yun na pala

"At alam mo ba, ilang linggo na ang nakararaan, nakaplano na pala si Rayver

na mag-propose kay Janine. Kaya nabigla 'yung mga kaibigan niya, biglang naghiwalay. Sayang ano, papunta na pala sa proposal ito."

Note that as of writing, neither of the two confirmed or denied the rumor.

#### Solid Kapuso: Barbie Forteza, Rocco Nacino renew ties with GMA

Actor Rocco Nacino thanks GMA Network for the advancement of

reer, while television darling Barbie Forteza enjoys her journey as Kapuso. The award-winning stars both renewed their contract with the network on

Looking back on Rocco's journey, the talented actor is filled with gratitude as Starstruck laid the right foundations for him as an artist.

"I started late in my early 20s. It was a half-hearted decision to join showbiz. But hindi talaga ako nagsisi because the learnings that I got through Starstruck paved the way for me to be where I am right now. Kung may pasasalamatan talaga ako, of course, it's the network, the executives, but also Starstruck," he said.

Barbie, on the other hand, looks back on her Kapuso journey sharing that series Meant To Bo and the movie Duwokan sa Tuos are among her most unforgettable projects.

#### **Enchong Dee sued for cyber libel**

Enchong Dee is in hot water.

Congresswoman Claudine Diana Bautista-Lim, party-list representative of Drivers United for Mass Progress and Equal Rights or DUMPER, has filed a cyber libel case at the Office of the Provincial Prosecutor in Davao Occidental against

This was allegedly due to Enchong issuing supposed "malicious" and "defamatory" statements against her via social media following her wedding to businessman Jose French Lim Feb. 20 this year in Balesin.

According to Claudine's complaint, Enchong "went as far as saying that I used public coffers to fund my wedding by categorically saying that 'The money for commuters and drivers went to her wedding', to the detriment and injury to my honor and name..."

She added, "The posts were meant nothing more than their malicious intentions of maligning my person, depicting me as a corrupt public official."

Claudine is seeking moral damages amounting to P500,000,000 as with exemplary damages amounting to P500,000,000 due to the same.

Although she admitted to having learned about Enchong already issuing a public apology about the whole issue prior, she maintained it wasn't enough.

"He was not sorry to me and for the damage that he has done. He just wants to deflect, albeit unsuccessfully, this criminal charge against him...

"This does not do any good for him. It only bolstered and magnified his admission of guilt beyond reasonable dount for his un-provoked and baseless libelous

Enchong is yet to issue a statement on



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## 

"In politics, nothing happens by accident. If it happens, you can bet it was planned that way." Franklin D. Roosevelt

#### Rumble in Manila

Are they having fun yet? Well, it seems the ruling party in the Philippines is having all the fun. Bong Go is running for president, then withdrew. Now, PDP-Laban has no candidate. It's probably just to flank Leni Robredo. Isko Moreno? Same. There are whispers he is actually a Duterte stooge. He's also there to get some votes from Leni Robredo.

This is the scenario to watch out for.
Sara Duterte or SD is running for
Vice President or VP under Bongbong
Marcos or BBM, the failed VP in the
last election. BBM becomes president.
After serving more than half of his term,
the complaints against him about his tax



poses with Tony San Juan at the PIDC Mabuhay Festival at Xinflix Media.

return will blow up. He will be impeached or his presidency declared null and void by Comelec which is staffed by Duterte loyalists. SD takes over as president. Since she takes over after more than half of BBM's term, it is not counted as a first term. She can then run for president for the "first time." This is from the playbook of Gloria Macapagal Arroyo. There is nothing illegal because that is the law

It's going to be a messy, nasty rumble in Manila.

#### TRIP TO ITALY

A young woman in New York City was so depressed that she decided to end her life by throwing herself into the ocean, but just before she could throw herself from the docks, a handsome young man stopped her.

"You have so much to live for," said the man. "I'm a sailor, and we are off to Italy tomorrow. I can stow you away on my ship. I'll take care of you, bring you food every day, and keep you happy."

With nothing to lose, plus the fact that she had always wanted to go to Italy, the woman accepted. That night the sailor hid her in a small but comfortable compartment in the boat. From then on, every night he would bring her three sandwiches, a bottle of red wine, and make passionate love to her until dawn. Three weeks later she was discovered by the captain during

a routine inspection.

"What are you doing here?" asked the captain.

"I have an arrangement with one of the sailors," she replied. "He brings me food and I get a free trip to Italy."

"I see," the captain says.

Her conscience got the best of her and she added, "Plus, he's screwing me"

"He certainly is," replied the captain. "This is the Staten Island Ferry."

## It's a cold Christmas for Erik Santos

At the presson of his latest Christmas song "Paskong Kayakap Ka," Erik admitted he has no special someone to celebrate the holidays with.

"Wala talaga. Siguro unan ko," said Erik when asked about the special someone he wanted to hug this Christmas. "Medyo malamig (ang Pasko ko ngayon)."

But the 39-year-old balladeer said he is inspired these days. "Meron akong gusto pero kung nagkakaroon ako ng ganap, yung parang hindi kayo akma. Meron naman, tao lang ako."

Asked about the qualities he's looking for a girl, Erik said: "Sa ngayon ang hinahanap ko na qualities 'yung mamahalin talaga ako. Kailangan grabe yung faith niya kay God, pareho kami ng values in life."

Despite this, Erik said he is not in a hurry to find his special girl.

"So I am still taking my time. Kung ano ang plano mo pero kung hindi plano ng Diyos, mas naniniwala ako na meron mas magagandang plano sa'yo ang Panginoon."

Erik also revealed he suffered panic attacks during the pandemic.

"So ngayon natutunan ko sa buhay ko lalo na ngayong pandemic, chill lang, Kasi mas pinagpapasalamat ko ngayon I'm still here and alive. Para sa akin mas mahalaga ngayon ang relationship with

the people who matter."

Erik is regularly seen as a host and performer on "ASAP Natin "To." On Dec. 3, Erik and other artists from Cornerstone Entertainment Inc.

stone Entertainment Inc. flew to Dubai to perform for the Filipino communities there.

During the Facebook Live for the launch of his Christmas song, Erik said that it was the first time he

performed face-to-face once again since the pandemic. "Na-miss ko rin ang live audience for almost two years." He also launched the Erik Essentials Kit. Michelle Vito reveals why she chose Enzo Pineda as her boyfriend: 'Siya yung consistent talaga'

#### Michelle Vito on why she chose Enzo Pineda as her boyfriend

Just three months shy of their second anniversary as a couple next year, Michelle Vito said she and boyfriend Enzo Pineda have become closer than ever, and not just because of the ongoing pandemic.

Last month during a beach trip to La Union, netizens started speculating pregnancy rumors because of the way Michelle posed during their couple photo. The 24-year-old actress denied the rumors and said she and Enzo are really not the type to post everything about their relationship on

social media.

"Sabi ko nga nung last time nung na-issue ako, 'Bakit pag single ang sasabihin sa 'yo nag-gain ka ng weight, pero kapag may boyfriend ka na, ang sasabihin sa 'yo buntis agad.' Pero yung relationship namin hindi naman super public talaga na lahat ng kilos

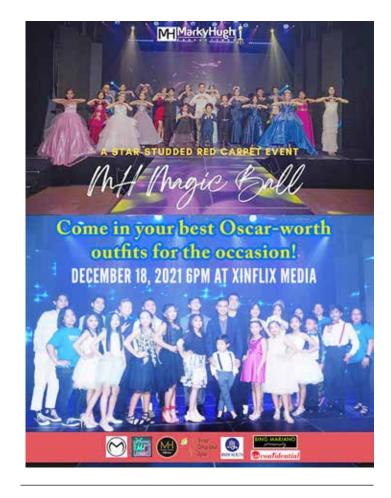


namin pinapakita namin sa mga tao," she admitted.

After first meeting Enzo as costars on the set of the 2019 ABS-CBN series Nang Ngumiti Ang Langit, Michelle revealed why she chose him out of all her suitors.

"Siya yung consistent talaga na mag-effort, ganyan so yun yung nag-matter talaga. Kasi parang sa umpisa naman talaga meron naman talaga sa tao kung ano yung type natin, ganyan. May standards tayo kung ano ba ang gusto natin. But sa huli kasi ang mag-ma-matter talaga is yung ugali, yung personality nung tao and yung love talaga," she said.

Michelle said that they are so close now that even gift-giving is easy when it comes to Enzo. "Sinasabi niya kung anong gusto niya eh. Siya yung open na sinasabi niya kung ano gusto niya," she added.



## Sarah lumaylay career

Dahil sa kapu-post ni Sarah Geronimo ng mga iniendorsong mga produkto, naisip tuloy ng mga fan niya na hiritan siya ng ayuda.

Sabi nga nila, ang yaman-yaman na raw ni Sarah, lalo na noong nagpakasal sila ni Matteo Guidicelli, na mayaman din talaga, kaya hiling nila, mag-share naman daw ito ng blessing sa mga fan.

Mga salitang "beke nemen" (baka naman), "padalhan mo ko niyan", "ayuda pls", ang laman ng mga comment sa tweet ni Sarah na nagpu-promote ng isang brand ng body pain reliever menthol patch.

Heto nga ang hirit ng mga netizen:

@ChristmasGS18, "beke nemen may pa-ayuda sakto malamig this December Season My love PhenomenalQueenSarahG ehem..Wemissyou." @lovelykeri\_cano, "Labyou Mahal kong sarah..padalhan mo ko yan..masakit katawan ko ngayon..hahaha. Charot."

Anyway, tila nabawasan na rin ang mga nagkakainiteres mag-comment sa

mga tweet ni Sarah ng mga plug niya ng mga produktong iniendorso.

Hindi na umaakyat sa 1,000 ang like ng kanyang mga post. Hanggang 200 na rin lang ang nagre-retweet.

Pero nanatili pa ring 1.4M ang mga follower niya.

Ayaw naman naming isipin na lumamlam na ang appeal ni Sarah sa social media dahil nanatili pa ring excited ang mga fan niya sa mga susunod niyang project.

Baka nagsawa na lang mga fan na puro naman mga endorsement ang pinu-post niya.

#### NBTC Global Games Come to Canada on

**July 2022** 

With the recent announcement of NBTC getting global by NBTC founder Coach Eric Altamirano, Mike Cruz (PHOTO) of Crossover Sports Canada was tasked to head the global games in Canada.

In 2015 Coach Mike
pioneered the participation of international
teams at NBTC (National Basketball Training
Centre) National High School Championships,
a prestigious annual basketball event of the
best high school teams in the Philippines.
The participation led to influx of Fil Canadian
recruits for colleges and universities in the
Philippines and interest from other countries
like United States led by Bong Ulep, New
Zealand of David Perez and Australia by Cromwell Alvarez. In 2018 Italy of Ever Cuerdo and

Vancouver's Nap Santos joined the fray.
Coach Mike will lead the NBTC Global
Games in Canada with the help of provincial
leaders across Canada. Up for grabs are two
slots allotted for Canada for the NBTC finals on
March 2023 in Manila. Provincial teams from
BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Quebec,
Nova Scotia – Maritimes and host Ontario will
fight it out and qualify. Leading Vancouver BC
is NBTC veteran Coach Nap, Alberta is headed
by ex PBA Andy De Guzman, Danilo Cruz and
Jhong Rapada, Regina Saskatchewan is led by
Marlou Poquiz, Manitoba Hall of Famer Manny Aranez heads the Winnipeg delegation,

By: Emar Sy

another Hall of Famer awardee
Jex Mendiola and Percie De
Guzman team up for Montreal,
Quebec, Ramil Aquino gathers
the best from Nova Scotia and
the Maritimes while long time
NBTC advocate Dome Florido
is Toronto, Ontario's provincial
leader. Coach Rod Garcia is

tasked as Commissioner with Ms. Leslie Ruiz as Overall Coordinator and future Hall of Famer Wallie Landicho as consultant.

NBTC Global games will be held on July 1-3, 2022 at The Playground and Pan Am Sports Centre in Toronto with MCBN and Pinoy Radio as its media partner. It is also being supported by Asenso Remit and Smart Philippines. Fil Canadian players born 2004 and younger is qualified to participate and may contact their provincial leader for their scheduled tryouts. Other division participating as side events includes 40 and above, Open, Collegiate (2002-2004), 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011. Legion of fans, supporters and teams are expected to flock to Toronto to witness and participate at this prestigious event. Also expected to grace the event includes dignitaries and VIP's including NBTC Founder Coach Fric Altamirano.

For more information and interested parties may also contact Coach Mike Cruz at 4167958985 or email crossoversportscanada@gmail.com Latest updates is available thru their fb page@nbtcglobalgamescanada.

## KZ Tandingan crosses borders with New York Times Square billboard feature

Asia's Soul Supreme KZ Tandingan makes global waves as she lands a coveted feature on Spotify's EQUAL Global Playlist, as seen sky-high on the most prominent billboard in Times Square, New York City, positioned right above where the ball drops on New Year's Eve.

"My heart is full. I don't know what I did to deserve these people, achievements, and moments but I am grateful, Lord," said KZ on Instagram, sharing photos of recent special moments in her life, including a snapshot of the Times Square billboard. "When I find myself doubting the path and questioning my abilities, I will look at these photos to remember that Your plans are always greater than mine."

Unveiled last Nov. 16, Spotify's EQUAL fea-



ture aims to empower female artists from around the world and increase their music's visibility. KZ's newest single under Tarsier

Records, "11:59," amplifies her presence in the music industry as she is selected as the cover artist for Spotify Philippines' EQUAL playlist for the month of November.

Launched last month, the soulful track "11:59" landed on Spotify's New Music Friday playlists in 10 territories, including Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Taiwan, Vietnam, Thailand, Gulf, Korea, and the Phil-

ippines. KZ was also the top seed on keystone Spotify PH editorial playlists Tatak Pinoy and OPM Rising, her bold,

red-clad likeness also gracing the latter as the featured cover artist. To date, the single has amassed 150,000 streams and counting on Spotify alone.

"11:59" was produced by Grammy-nominated producer Luigie "LUGO" Gonzalez with additional composition by Traci

Hale, America Jimenez and Dennis Matosky. It was released internationally by Tarsier Records as part of ABS-CBN Music's continued effort to showcase Filipino talents on the global stage.

Keep streaming KZ's "11:59" single and watch the amazing, one-take music video on the Tarsier Records YouTube channel.

#### Paolo Contis sending messages to Yen Santos online?

Early this week, controversial actor Paolo Contis uploaded a selfie on social media.

It was accompanied with the text: "pssssst.. good morning!"



An online user was quick to notice that he tagged sexy actress Yen Santos.

Recall that some days ago, Yen also posted a selfie along with the text: "do you floss though?

(grinning face with smiling eyes emoii)" A few days after, Paolo uploaded a picture

of him on Instagram with the caption: "Naa suklay, pero di nag floss.. (face with tears of joy emoji).'

Many believe the two shared an inside joke of sorts.

Today, Yen shared a photo of a bouquet. "woke up to these beautiful tulips," she

#### Janella Salvador is 'Darna's' Valentina

The cast of "Darna" is now complete!

Janella Salvador was recently introduced as this generation's Valentina, Darna's main nemesis.

Recall that a few days ago JRB Creative Production teased about it on social media.

The post came a day after the show had their first taping day.

It was last month when ABS-CBN introduced the cast of "Darna: The TV Series."

Among those sharing the screen with young star Jane de Leon (as Darna) are Joshua Garcia and Zaijian Jaranilla.

Zaijian will breathe new life into the character of Ding, the younger brother and sidekick of Darna/ Narda. Joshua, a policeman and EMT named Brian, will be Narda's love

Meanwhile, as previously announced, Iza Calzado (Leonor) is taking on the role of the first Darna, who is expected to pass the magical stone to her daughter

Completing the cast are Rio Locsin, Simon Ibarra, Levi Ignacio, Richard Ouan, and Kiko Estrada.

Also part of the series are Joj Agpangan, Zeppi Borromeo, Mark Manicad, Marvin Yap, Dawn Chang, Tart Carlos, L.A. Santos, Yogo Singh, Young IV, and Gerard Acao.

The show, based on the iconic Filipino superheroine created by Mars Ravelo, whose 115th birth anniversary was commemorated last Oct. 9, will be directed by Chito S. Roño.

#### Kim Chiu's witty, funny sayonara to face shields

Kim Chiu is

149, ratifying

among those happy with the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) approving Resolution

the recommendation of its technical working group to allow businesses and employers to use their discretion in the wearing of face shields.

She took to social media to pen an open letter to the implement recently.

She wrote: "Salamat sa lahat

ng pinagsamahan natin, almost two years din tayong mag-ON, masaya ako na dumating ka sa

🛮 buhay ko kahit minsan naiinis nako sayo pero wala akong narinig na reklamo mula sayo, salamat sa pag protekta

sakin sa mga bagay na kinakatakutan ko. Ikaw pa nga ang unang humaharap. Masaya ako na nakilala kita face to face. Mamimiss kita, pero I think its about

time to let go!!!! Ingat ka ha?? Wag kana balik. Salamat nalang sa lahat. Move on na tayo!"

She added the hashtag #SalamatFaceShield.

Fans loved it.

The post has since gone viral, accumulating over 60,000 likes.



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Joseph Redoblado Service Advisor



Roland 'Regi' Geraldez Sales and Leasing Consultant





Honda Accord 2021





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## 'The strong must not trample on the weak'

PRESIDENT Rodrigo Duterte invoked the rule of law in maintaining peace and stability in the South China Sea, stressing there can be "no real peace if the strong trample on the

"Excellencies, we all want progress and prosperity for our peoples. And we know that peace and stability are the preconditions for these to happen. There can be no real peace if the strong trample on the weak — just because it can," Duterte said in his speech during the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Summit last November 26.

"There can never be another acceptable basis for a just maritime order but the law, particularly the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Unclos). All countries — big and small — must adhere to the rule of law faithfully and consistently. Otherwise, there will be chaos," he added.

Duterte reaffirmed the Philippines' position favoring peaceful resolution of territorial disputes despite China's continued aggression in the region.

"Ours is a region full of promise but fraught with potential flashpoints. These include disputes in one of the world's most important sea lanes of communication. The Philippine position is clear and unchanging — disputes must be settled peacefully in accordance with international law," Duterte

"The South China Sea must remain a sea of peace, stability and prosperity, where the vital interests of stakeholders inside and outside the region are recognized and respected," he added.

Duterte was grateful for China's willingness to discuss territorial issues.

'We acknowledge China's reaffirmation of commitment to an early conclusion of negotiations on a substantive and effective Code of Conduct on the South China Sea," he said.

The President also thanked ASEM for facilitating dialogue and cooperation among leaders of the two continents.

"We thank our ASEM partners that have issued statements of support on upholding the rule of law in the South China Sea. We also welcome their interest to enhance cooperation, including in maritime security. We are encouraged by these developments," Duterte said.

Duterte's statement came a week after Chinese Coast Guard vessels blocked and water cannoned Philippine boats on a mission to resupply the grounded BRP Sierra Madre at the Ayungin Shoal, a territory being claimed by China.

The Unclos as well as The Hague's 2016 ruling on the South China Sea stated that the Ayungin Shoal was within the Philippines' 370-kilometer exclusive economic zone.

China rejected the ruling.

## Rabiya Mateo on ex-BF Neil Salvacion: 'If he needs me, I'm gonna be there as a friend'

There is no bad blood between Rabiya Mateo and her ex-boyfriend Neil Salvacion.

This, even after Neil seemingly used Rabiya's

name while auditioning to be part of a show prior, maintaining the beauty queen left him for the Miss Universe Crown.

In a recent interview, Rabiya related that Neil already apologized for it and that they remain friends.

"Hindi basta-basta pinagdaanan namin. But now, I know he's happy. I am happy. I'm happy kung saan kami ngayon," she said.

Rabiya maintained the relationship didn't work simply because they lost their connec-

"It has nothing to do with the years that you are together, but it's the kind of connection na you guys are on the same page all the time. Kasi it's gonna be hard if you wanna do this, if you wanna take Path A, if you wanna take Path B, and you're not meeting in the middle. So, I guess, it's also God's gift if you're gonna meet the same person who shares the same values, who understands your responsibility. Alam ko andaming opinion, and for them it was a tragic love story, but for us, it was a lesson learned."

In any case, she vowed: "Kahit anong ibato ng tao for the both of us, alam ko po na he's my best friend. Hindi rin madali yung seven years na pinagsamahan namin. If he needs me, I'm gonna be there as a friend."

## Vico Sotto switched hot cocoa brands for Pasig's Christmas packs, and people are loving

Pasig City Mayor Vico Sotto was praised after the city government switched hot cocoa brands for its annual Christmas packs to save costs. The city replaced Goya Marshmallow for the more affordable Swiss Miss chocolate, cheaper by a mere peso.

The mayor posted a copy of the city government's purchase order, revealing that Pasig

In a Facebook post, Mayor Vico noted they did not include rice in this year's Pamaskong Handog (Christmas gift) packs to avoid discrepancies.

2021; sa bigas kasi madalas nagkakaproblema kapag ganito karaming packs. Dinamihan na lang natin yung ibang items—mas mabigat to kaysa sa last year!" (This year's Pamaskong Handog does not have rice in its packs; we often run into problems with rice when it comes to these many packs. Instead, we increased the quantities of other items—this bundle is heavier

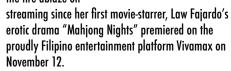
The mayor also said that the Pamaskong Handog program was proof that it is possible to have governance where people are seen and treated equally, allies or not.

While praising a local government for its transparency is akin to praising a dog for

#### Viva's next big star Angeli Khang stuns on 'Mahjong Nights'

Despite its challenges, Angeli Khang is pleased that her decision to go daring has paid off in proving her worth as an actress.

Twenty-year-old Filipino-Korean Angeli Khang has kept the fire ablaze on



In a virtual interview, the showbiz newbie admitted her conservative parents aren't on board with her decision to take on very daring roles and explained to The Manila Times Entertainment that she heeded her manager's advice to take the sexy route to stand out among countless aspiring actresses and then proceed to build a stellar career.

First introduced in the psychedelic erotic thriller "Taya" in September, Khang has since been regarded by Viva Films as its next most important star, thus this major lead in "Mahjong Nights." From her breakout supporting role, the certified "Vivamax Crush" now plays Alexa, whose mom Esther (Mickey Ferriols) regularly organizes Mahjong night games with her long-time friends at home. Little does Esther know that while she unwinds with all-night chitchats and friendly gambling, her daughter keeps finding herself in precarious circumstances.

For one, when Alexa's mom is busy, her stepfather Leo (Jay Manalo), who had long been lusting for her, grabs every opportunity to molest the young girl. Then there are her sexual encounters with the driver of her mom's friend, which, though consensual, might be Alexa's way ot coping with her trauma. As the movie progresses, it turns out that Esther is feigning ignorance on her daughter's predicament and is only compelled to step in when an unexpected person who knows all the family's secrets threatens to ruin their reputation. As the gripping plot and its hot and dramatically-charged depiction continues to draw audiences to Vivamax, Khang is ecstatic that the public is taking notice of her acting chops and raising her initial regard as another sexy starlet.

Completing the cast of Mahjong Nights are Arnel Ignacio, Jamilla Obispo and Maricel Morales, who play the roles of Esther's friends, and the young, in-demand sexy actor Sean De Guzman as the driver and Alexa's love interest. "Mahjong Nights" is available on Vivamax, whose reach beyond the Philippines is far, wide and growing across Asia, the Middle East and Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and officially beginning today, the US and Canada. Log on to www.vivamax.net or download the streaming app on the Google Play and Apple stores and the Huawei App Gallery.







Dr. Guillermo de Villa

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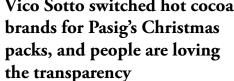
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YEAR



City saved P375,000 in costs.

"Wala pong bigas ang Pamaskong Handog

walking on four legs, it's hard not to admire honest governance in this political climate.





## Another career Salvador, Andrea

Weeks before Christmas, Andrea Brillantes and Maja Salvador got the most beautiful career blessing as the new brand ambassadors of the highly Beautederm Corporation by Rei Anicoche Tan.

Andrea is one of today's most accomplished home-

grown young actresses of ABS-CBN with an impressive body of work which includes top rating teleseryes "Annaliza," "Pangako Sa 'Yo," "Kadenang Ginto," and the recent inspirational primetime drama "Huwag Kang Mangamba" as well as notable appearances in such films as "Crazy Beautiful You," "Everyday I Love You," "Banal," "The Ghosting," "The Mall, The Merrier," and the action thriller "On The Job: The Missing 8."

"I'm a huge fan of Beautéderm, which is such an amazing company that is helping a lot of people live better lives," says Andrea. "A lot of the closest friends are brand ambassadors of the same company, and it is such a dream come true for me now that I am officially part of the family. A well-balanced and healthy lifestyle are very important to maintain nowadays, and I am honored to be chosen by Ms. Rei to represent Reiko and Kenzen Beautéderm Health Boosters to the market. I cannot be more excited to share them to everyone." Andrea said

It should also be noted that the launch of Reiko and Kenzen Beautéderm Health Boosters is in line with the ongoing 12th anniversary celebration of Beautéderm which

#### blessing for Maja Brillantes

kicked-off last August. It also coincided with the birthday celebration of Rhea, company president and CEO, last November.

Maja, meanwhile, is one of the most acclaimed and prolific artists in the industry today who has conquered television, film, and even music as both a dancer and a singer.

Aside from her legendary live performances and the iconic characters that Maja breathed life into in the silver screen and on TV, she added another feather to her cap as she returned to hosting as one of the mainstays of "Eat Bulaga."

"Beautéderm is such a blessing, and I am honored to be its brand ambassador," says Maja who is also well known as a serious health buff as evident from her active lifestyle. "It is the perfect set of supplements that are ideal for my lifestyle. I am a firm believer of balance – there's a time to work and a time to unwind and have fun. I am encouraging everyone to make this line of health boosters a part of their daily lifestyle for that added boost of strength and vigor."

Rei said: "We have been working on Reiko and Kenzen Beautéderm Health Boosters for a very long time and now that it is finally here, I could say that it is worth the wait. Even before the pandemic, I have always been very conscious about my health, I am with Maja and Andrea in advocating a balanced, healthy lifestyle. I really think that Maja and Andrea are perfect, and I am overjoyed to welcome them to the family."

## No more politics for

In 2013, actor Aga Muhlach attempted to dethrone the Fuentebellas in Camarines Sur by seeking a seat at the House of Representatives. But fate had other plans for him. He failed on this political move.

"That's already enough," stated the 52-year-old actor.

Aga Muhlach returns as one of the judges in the second season of 'Masked Singer' airing on TV5 in 2022.

"I used to believe in politics but after seeing so many things, experiencing politics first hand, I realized that it's enough that I tried. It was a nice experience. I was able to reach out sa kung saan-saan talaga, mga isla, pinuntahan namin, mga barangay sa dagat. Nakita ko 'yung kabuhayan ng mga tunay na Pilipino. 'Yung tunay na makita mong...wala pa ring kuryente," he carried on.

Unlike his fellow actors, Aga had closed his doors to politics after failing to win during his first attempt. Aga shared that he quite content with his current life. And despite the pandemic, he feels blessed for all his projects.

The actor is one of the resident judges, alongside Matteo Guidicelli, Cristine Reyes, and Kim Molina, of the Philippine adaptation of Masked Singer. The show that airs on in TV5 is hosted by Billy Crawford.

"I am excited because we are more bonded now—Billy, Matteo, Kim, and Cristine. We're all happy," enthused Aga.

## 🖢 Aga Muhlach

Masked Singer Pilipinas is set to have it second season in 2022 with new twists and world-class performances, a year after Daryl Ong was announced as the grand champion of the

first season

"I want to work longer pero gusto ko 'yung happy ako. So, when Masked Singer knocked again, that we're doing Season 2, I said, 'Thank you, that would be nice."

Moreover, he also has hosting gigs with two shows on Net25—Game Agad-Agad and Bida Ka Kay Aga.

"I am also happy with those shows because it's a totally different environment."

When asked if he has plans to do movie projects, the '80s matinee idol hopes to do acting again when "everything's okay, and once a lot of people are already vaccinated."

"We're hoping next year. Kasi sabi ko kahit 50 percent lang kahit next year, ayoko pa. Sayang. I will wait na lang," Aga said alluding to the current set up of cinema houses following the safety and health protocols implemented.

"We're hoping next year. Sana next year, December, bakunado na lahat ng buong Pilipinas mas lalakas ang loob ng tao."

The last movie that Aga did was the hit Miracle Cell No. 7, an official entry to the Metro Manila Film Festival in 2019.



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## Malacañang claims dismal COVID-19 resilience rank due to importance on reopening

Malacañang Palace claims that a lack of a country-specific gauge and its emphasis on reopening progress are to blame for the Philippines ranking dead last in the Bloomberg COVID-19 Resilience Ranking.

Bloomberg, which based its ranking on reopening progress, COVID-19 status, and quality of life placed the Philippines last among 53 nations in November.

"We acknowledge that the data provided by Bloomberg in its COVID-19 Resilience Ranking may be useful in evaluating our pandemic response. [But] we have to consider that the 53 countries in the report have different COVID-19 experiences and strategies. There is little consideration for



A health worker walks around to check on coronavirus disease patients admitted in the chapel of Quezon City General Hospital turned into a COVID-19 ward, in Quezon City, Philippines,

country-specific COVID-19 context, which in our view is imperative to objectively assess how countries managed pandemic response," acting presidential spokesperson Karlo Nograles was quoted as saying.

According to Nograles, the country's Alert Level System policy has reduced the number of active COVID-19 cases, with only 425 new COVID-19 cases reported last November 30 – the lowest number reported in 2021 – and a positivity rate of

2.1%, one of the lowest rates since testing data became available in April 2020 and well within the standard 5 percent set by the WHO.

Nograles
went on to
claim that
there is no
congestion in

Philippine hospitals and that the case fatality rate remains below 30 percent.

The spokesperson also noted that the country's third-quarter economic growth of 7.1% surpassed expectations, as did the ongoing, three-day COVID-19 immunization, which is projected to immunize nine million people by the end of the day.

The Philippines also ranked last in the Bloomberg list last

#### **Getting to know Eva**

AS the cold nights of December approaches, a girl named Eva will turn the heat up as she arrives on Vivamax.

Eva is an erotic-drama movie featuring Vivamax's K-Krush Angeli Khang, fresh from the massive success of her first lead role in Mahjong Nights. This time, she plays the role of Eva, a young

housemaid who is sexually curious and is willing to try anything to explore and satisfy her libido. Because of this curiosity, she finds herself, one night, in a threesome with her boss, Victoria (Sab Aggabao), and Lauro (Marco Gomez), a neighbor's houseboy who she often has sexual encounters with. This one careless night leads Eva to have confusions about her feelings and makes her choose between Victoria and Lauro

Joining Angeli in this film by Jeffrey Hidalgo are vivamax hottest stars. A hunk actor known for his roles in Maria and Encounter, Ivan Padilla plays the role of Andrew, a model who will have a steamy sexual encounter with Eva's lady boss. Pornstar 2's Sab Aggabao is Victoria, the

seductive and sexually liberated boss. The star of Silab and House Tour, Marco Gomez plays Lauro, a young houseboy who feeds Eva's sexual desires.

In one of her interviews, Angeli expressed her gratitude for the opportunities coming her way, "Sobrang nakaka-flatter talaga. Thankfully

na-deliver ko lahat... I'm thankful din na nakita nila yung potential ko and sobrang thankful ako na na-appreciate nila yung efforts ko..." (I'm very flattered, thankful that I was able to deliver well... I'm thankful that they can see my potential and appreciate my efforts.) Eva is directed by actor, singer Jeffrey Hidalgo. Aside from being oncam, he has also proven his talent for directing both in television and movies, he even had nominations from two of the most prestigious award-giving bodies in the Philippines, FAMAS awards and Star Award for movies. Hidalgo will once again show his talent in storytelling as Eva arrives on our screens. Get to know Eva and her sinful world as it premieres on Vivamax this December 24, 2021.





Milton, Ontario.

Toronto

# Pops Fernandez on past romance with Aga Muhlach, Piolo Pascual

Pops Fernandez is still quite the hottie at 54.

No wonder she has an impressive list of lovers.

Note that apart from ex-husband Martin Nievera, Pops also counts Jomari Yllana and Brad Turvey among past flames.

Add to that Aga Muhlach and Piolo Pascual.

Pascual.

Of course, rumors about her Aga have been going on for ages but Piolo?

Well, it isn't as if we're just making this up.

Pops admitted to her past with the two as part of the "Jojowain, Totropahin, Dededmahin o Dadakmain Challenge" as seen in her recent vlog.

On Piolo, she said: "Na-jowa ko na siya so Jojowain. Jowa lang,

As to Aga, she quipped: "Nasa listahan, wala akong choice."

But in the end, she picked "Totropahin." Why?

She explained: "Ex ko na siya so friends na..."

It's all fun and games but Pops admitted prior that dating young men is a huge hassle.

The biggest challenge?
Being "judged" for it.

"They don't see it as an honest-to-goodness relationship. I went through a lot of that and I cried about those things also," Pops

If you want to be in her "list" know that Pops is "open" to finding new love.

She said: "I'm not looking huh? I'm just waiting..."

## Chie Filomeno defended by her brother on PBB

Chie Filomeno's brother, Rio Filomeno, came to the actress' defense after she was nominated for eviction from "Pinoy Big Brother" for supposedly not contributing anything to the reality competition.

The actress was recently voted for nomination by her fellow housemate, internet personality Madam Inutz (real name: Daisy Lopez). Lopez explained that she wanted Chie to leave the reality TV show because "wala naman siyang mai-ambag sa bahay kundi pagpapaganda (she has nothing to contribute to the house aside from making herself look beautiful)."

Chie has since received negative comments on her social media accounts, which Rio called "shallow" and a form of body shaming on his Facebook page yesterday, Nov. 16. He also showed a compilation video of Chie doing tasks inside the PBB house.

"My sister does not deserve the shallow hate that she's receiving right now. She's a very genuine and hardworking person," he

Rio then pointed out that Chie started being the bread winner of their family at a young age and has faced false accusations in the past, but remained to "see the good in them."

"My sister is still facing cyber bullying, body shaming and misogyny



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Life's brighter under the sun



from nasty people in all different social media platforms with them not knowing who she really is," he told the actress' fans.

Rio also expressed disappointment over the "unfair" judgment that his sister has been receiving.

"Ang masama din dito, kapwa babae pa nagbo-body shame and nag-spread ng misogyny about her," he said. (What's also bad about this is that a fellow woman is the one body shaming and spreading misogyny about her.) The actress' brother also listed some things that Chie accomplished inside the PBB house, like being a choreographer for a task during PBB's first week and taking on the role of leader during the show's third week.

Chie is part of the third batch of housemates to be nominated for eviction on PBB, alongside KD Estrada, Eian Rances and Benedix Ramos. Housemates who were previously evicted from the competition were Mister Supranational Philippines 2021 John Adajar and actor Albie Casiño.





"In politics, nothing happens by accident. If it happens, you can bet it was planned that way."

Franklin D. Roosevelt

## Let's be careful out there

Sgt. Esterhaus (played by Michael Conrad), would finish his roll call every week with prescient advice for his cops in the TV show "Hill Street Blues" with "Let's be careful out there." The show run from 1981 to 1987.

Little did we know that 3 decades later, that advice will gain more weight in our current situtation. Just when we thought we are seeing the light of a dark tunnel of this pandemic comes another variant that threatens to send us back to the tunnel.

While scientists are still studying everything about

this new variant, called omnicron, we should still keep the precautions that we have been doing, like social distancing if possible, keep wearing masks, hand sanitizing as often as possible. We do not know yet if omnicron is more easily trassmissible and more severe. Just becasue it's highly transmissible, it does not mean more severe. Based on what I've read, those infected had mild symptoms and even even asymptomatic.

Meanwhile, we've been slowly reclaiming our normal life, slowly and

little by little. PIDC had their scaled down festival and a singing contest.

EPIC generation had their graduation rites.

JDL students performed at the Oriental Centre for a Christmas presentation.

The Filipino Centre Toronto has been holding their Wednesday weekly art class

Randy Bucao has been holding their Pinoy ito radio show every Sunday at The Filipino Centre also.

#### DonBelle pinakasikat na loveteam sa socmed

Kung manonood lang ang 29,300 na nag-likes at 7,208 na nag-retweet, at 2,226 nag-comment sa lalabas

na movie nina Donny Pangilinan at Belle Mariano, ang "Love is Colored Blind", siguradong tiba-tiba na talaga sa takilya, at sila na talaga ang maituturing na phenomenal love team.

Sa tweet ni Donny ng teaser ng pelikula nila ni Belle, na may hashtag na #HelloCaraAndino, ang mga nasabing number figures ang lumabas sa post na young actor.

Consistent ang DonBelle sa pagsikat dahil sa milyong followers nila sa lahat ng social media, lalo na si Donny na kahit anong i-post sa IG, hindi bumababa sa 5,000 ang mga natatanggap na mga comment.

## How Vic del Rosario intervened in Sarah Geronimo-Matteo Guidicelli-Mommy Divine quarrel



Viva Entertainment top honcho Vic del Rosario Jr. is more than just the talent manager of celebrity couple Sarah Geronimo and Matteo Guidicelli.

He is more than ready to help relating to their personal problems as well.

Boss Vic shared how he intervened between Sarah, Matteo and Mommy Divine.

"Normally, ayoko makialam sa personal dahil, di ba, di na kasama sa pagma-manage. I don't get involved, except kay Sarah because I personally handle her," he started.

"Ako naman, magmula nang mapapirma ko sila nung bata, with the Geronimo family, I always took the side of Mommy Divine kapag may problema sa personal. Kasi sa personal iba naman sa business," he continued. "Kasi sa business naman, ibinigay naman talaga nila Mommy Divine ang pagdiskarte sa akin sa anak nila. So, pagdating sa personal—like having a boyfriend o kung sino—di ko na pinapakialaman."

"And when she (Sarah) took the chance to elope or get married, dun sinuportahan ko siya," Boss Vic shared. "Siyempre, I was there, sa ano, the great awayan nila. I was there because I got a call from Matteo, 'Boss, punta ka na dito.' So, nandun ako."

"I really have to take the side of Sarah. Sabi ko kay Mommy, 'Pasensya na kayo pero this time, suportahan ko kung ano decision ni Sarah."

In any case, Boss Vic hopes that soon things will be better among the three.

"Sana maayos. Hindi pa siya ayos, pero sana maayos sila."

Anyway, Boss Vic said Sarah will be returning to showbiz in 2022 after almost two years of break.

## Jeremiah Lisbo is thankful to be part of MMFF this year: 'Sobrang grateful talaga ako'

After working with Donny Pangilinan and Belle Mariano on the series He's Into Her, Jeremiah Lisbo reunitec with the love team in their first movie project together Love is Color Blind under Star Cinema.

"Ang pangalan ng character ko dito si Sky Bernardo. Schoolmate niya si Ino (Donny) at

Cara (Belle). Sky is smart, confident, driven, alam niya yung gusto niyang tahakin sa buhay," he said.

Even though it was just this year that he was offered his first lead

role in a project after joining Star Magic Circle in 2019, Jeremiah said he was never impatient when it comes to his career.

"It's part of the process eh. Talagang nagtitiwala lang ako sa proseso. Kasi itong prosesong ito madami rin akong napupulot na mga aral. Magandang experience ito kasi mas confident ako ngayon dahil sa mga experience ko sa ibang projects. So-

brang excited lang ako sa resulta ng proyektong ito dahil na-apply ko yung mga natutunan ko sa past projects," he explained.

December is proving to be one of the busiest months of the year for Jeremiah as he is not just promoting Love is Color Blind but also preparing for his first Metro Manila Film Festival entry Love At First Stream.

"Nagpapasalamat ako sa Diyos at sa management sa tiwala. Grabe kasi dati pag nanunuod ako ng MMFF movies with my family, tapos ngayon ako na. Sobrang grateful talaga ako. Sobrang na-challenge ako dahil galing ako isang proyekto, yung Love At First Stream. Nagpapasalamat ako ng madami, kay direk Leo (Garcia) dahil tinulungan niya ako maintindihan at maunawaan ang character ko. Kasi medyo hindi pa ako naka-move on agad dun sa last project ko eh," he recalled.

#### DJ Durano Reveals Reason Why he Left ABS-CBN

DJ rose to fame as a character actor on ABS-CBN. He started in 2001 via bit roles until he was given substantial roles.

But in 2014, he decided to transfer to the GMA network.

Presently, he's gearing up for his upcoming teleserye titled Lolong starring Ruru Madrid.

He revealed the reasons why he left his home network.

According to him, he "was not getting respect anymore" during those times, prompting him to shift to another network.

"Marami lang naging issues na hindi na rin ako naging masaya. And I was not getting the right roles na rin siguro," he added.

However, he clarified: "But up to now, wala pa rin akong masabi. Thank you pa

rin sa ABS. Ganoon lang ako."

When asked if he told the ABS-CBN management about his transfer, he said: "Wala namang pagpapaalam kasi hindi naman ako superstar sa ABS... bit character actor [ako], so hindi naman ako yung

mahirapan magpaalam."

But according to him, he spoke about it to two executives of the network. Unfortunately, he

refused to reveal their names.

DJ Durano stressed that he chose the right decision to transfer to GMA-7.

He also said that he understood why some famous Kapamilya stars are transferring to other networks.

Among the latest addition to the GMA powerhouse stars is no other than award-winning actor, John Lloyd Cruz.

DJ is excited about the possibility to work with John Lloyd as well as Bea Alonzo, who's also now a Kapuso, and Maja Salvador, who's rumored to transfer to GMA-7.

#### Kimpoy Feliciano on Heaven Peralejo: 'Nakahanap kami ng parang safe place sa isa't-isa'

As expected, Kimpoy Feliciano vlogged about rumors relating to her and Heaven Peralejo.

Content, y'all.
In there, he cleared
the score between him
and Heaven.

"Ini-expect ko naman

'yan na lalabas 'yan sa mga questions natin," he started, then straightly pointed out: "Hindi talaga kami. Hindi kami ni Heaven."

"And hindi ko alam kong maniniwala pa rin kayo dahil siyempre, yung iba meron na silang sariling paniniwala na kahit sabihin mo hindi, iisipin nila na, 'Ah, tinatago lang or ayaw niyo lang aminin, blah-blah.' So, yun guys nasa sa inyo na kung maniniwala kayo o hindi. Sinabi na rin naman ni Heaven sa interview niya na friends lang talaga kami."

Note that he's referring to Heaven's earlier interview with Darla Sauler.

The Kapamilya star explained why she used "beh" in addressing Kimpoy, maintaining they are

close firends.

Anyway, Kimpoy reiterated, "Friends lang kami ni Heaven. We're really close and siya yung lagi kong nakakasama recently. Talagang sobrang nagkasunodo kami. Yun, we're friends."

He noted that their friendship started way back.

"Matagal na kami magkakilala ni Heaven noon pa, siguro pagkalabas pa lang niya ng 'PBB.'"

Recall that Heaven eked notice via "Pinoy Big Brother Lucky 7" in 2016.

"Merong mga events na usually kami ang magkasama, so ayan, ha. Hanggang sa naging friends kami. Dun din talaga kami naging close sa 'Happy Times,' lagi kaming magkausap, sabay kaming kumakain. Tapos nagkataon na nagkaroon ng Siargao trip, tapos kami yung magkasama for like a week, kami lang (at ibang friends)."

"...There were times during that trip na nagshare din kami ng hinaing sa isa't-isa pagdating sa personal lives namin and sa industry. Nakahanap kami ng parang safe place sa isa't-isa." The comedian took a swipe at his fellow housemate, Alexa Ilacad.



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E-Mail: Alexguarnes@yahoo.com WWW.GUARNESLAWOFFICE.COM \*Outrageous but fun': Claire Castro on her viral, campy scene in 'Nagbabagang Luha'

In a now viral scene from the GMA 7 series "Nagbabagang Luha," the character Cielo, played by Claire Castro, gets busted for faking her pregnancy. And then, in a span of a minute, Cielo gets her hair pulled, slapped around silly, doused in vase water, and had her face shoved repeatedly into a red cake by her boyfriend's mother, Calida (Gina Alajar).

The newbie actor, whose parents are 1990s celebs Diego Castro and Raven Villanueva, thought that the sequence was "outrageous" when she first read the script. But then again, outrageous is par for the course in the sleepy afternoon timeslot, and the scene ended up being watched 2.4 million times on YouTube.

"I was taken aback because some of the things needed to be done were outrageous. But it was fun doing such scenes, compared to just the sweet ones, because you get to express more," she said in a recent Zoom conference. "I was already sleepy when we did that scene, so I was just happy and running on adrenaline."

Plus, getting manhandled by an award-winning artist like Gina Alajar is a badge she proudly wears. "It's an honor to be slapped by a great actress and director like Direk Gina," she quipped, adding that scene, mercifully, took only one take.

#### One take

"The setup was long and the blocking lasted an hour. But we did it in one take. Before the scene, Direk Gina told me, 'Claire, this is just a job. I'm sorry, but we have to do it.' After that, someone yelled, 'Action!'" Claire related. "I couldn't open my eyes after because there was so much cake on my face. Three days after, I feel like there's still some left in my ears!"

Looking back, intense scenes like that can be quite therapeutic especially for

someone like Claire who doesn't voice out her feelings often. "I'm the type who gives others many chances, even if they have done me dirty. So, I don't let it (the pain) out immediately. I feel like it's my chance to release those emotions when I do those scenes," she said.

Because she has only been in show biz for two years, the 23-year-old Kapuso talent said she still has much to learn. And working with someone like Gina was exactly what she needed.

#### Veteran techniques

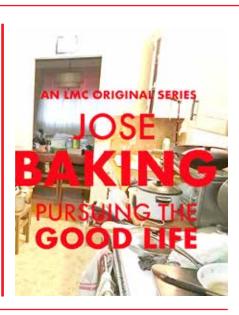
"I have this process where I curl up in a ball and wait for the tears to come. And Direk Gina was concerned about that, because she believes it would be too draining for me, especially if I have to shoot a lot of crying scenes in one day," she said. "She taught me techniques I could use."

CLAIRE, page 18



#### FV FOODS AWARDS WINNERS

FV Foods owner Mel Galeon awards the prize to Rodel Acaylar who composed the song "Pasko na naman" and lyricist Marivic Fuentes who won the prize for best commercial in a Christmas contest sponsored by FV Foods.



## **PIDC Mabuhay Festival 2021**

The Universal Peace Federation (UPF) gives out "Award for Service to the Community" during the 2021 (PIDC) Philippine Independay Day Council 's Mabuhay Philippines Festival Event on November 27, 2021 at the Xiniflix Auditorium, Markham, Ontario, Canada.







IPEN celebrates 34 years of sending beauties to prestigious apgeants around the world. 1. Beauty titlists who will be sent to apgeants around the world; 2. IPEN founder Edgar Sulit; 3. Miss Friendship Melissa Ventocilla poses with Philip Beloso.









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Wholesale / Bakery Plant: 757 Warden Ave. Scarborough ON M1L 4B5 Tel: 416-759-2000 Email info@fvfoods.com Order@fvfoods.com Are John Lloyd Cruz, Isabel Santos an item?

etizens are speculating about actor John Lloyd Cruz being the mystery guy that painter Isabel Santos often features on her social media posts.

An online user claimed Isabel posted a photo of the veteran star with her beloved dogs Noah and Benny.

Many are insinuating the two are making sweet music.

Some netizens started digging into Isabel's Instagram account, pointing out that the man seen in a candid photo going inside a house looks like

They also reiterated that the said home looks very much like John Lloyd's house in Antipolo.

Meanwhile, on the Instagram account of Isabel's furbaby, there's a post of the dogs enjoying the

According to many, the swimming area resembles the one that John Lloyd has

On the other hand, some reports claim that John Lloyd already featured Isabel's artwork on his Instagram account last June with the caption: "Mona/Isabel."

Anyway, in the comment section, a certain netizen wrote: "Paano babatiin ni @beaalonzo? May iba na si @johnlloydcruz83 si Isabel Santos @ somethingstarwars na kasama niya sa Vargas museum. Isabel posted the dress she wore in the museum para mapansin. She posted Lego toys of Flias

for the same reason- to be acknowledged as JLC's girlfriend. The problem is she posted lego toys of Elias with liquor bottle, not a good look for JLC even if Isabel thinks it's artsy. Kaya deadma si JLC kay Bea,

because of new airlfriend. Kasi Bea has always mentioned JLC even if she's dating Dominic pero ngayon, hindi na kasi nga Isabel. Isabel was the sleeping woman painted on the solo portrait JLC posted to greet her on her birthday recently. Kaya kahit gusto ko sana JLC and Bea, okay na sa akin for Bea to move on and find true Love kaysa waiting game with JLC (sad face emoji)."

Isabel is the daughter of contemporary Filipino artists Soler and Mona Santos and the granddaughter of late award-winning painter and cartoonist Mauro Malana Santos.



## Politics takes a backseat for Alma Moreno

This year, Alma did two films, in which breakout stars were born amidst the pandemic situation of showbiz. First was Darryl Yap's Paglaki Ko, Gusto Kong Maging Pornstar, with other sexy legends Rosanna Roces, Ara Mina and Maui Taylor. Next was its second installment, #Pornstar2:

Pangalawang Putok.

Alma Moreno might have some aloof bone in her body when it comes to granting intimate interviews, and we're very happy to be one of the few journalists to corner her for a conversation on how she is doing at the moment.



We also got to talk about her film #Pornstar2: Pangalawang Putok, which dropped yesterday on the very successful streaming service

Alma was relaxed in her bedroom while she

reminisced about her heydays being dubbed as the Sex Goddess of Philippine Movies and how her past roles were so simple compared to today's risqué sequences.

"Ako kasi noona araw, youngest sexy star

ako noon, ang bold namin naka-two piece ka, bold na yun," she said. "Nabasa ka lang, yung puting suot mo medyo kita lana dibdib na see-through, bold na. Ngayon mas iba, mas matindi yung mga sexy scenes ngayon kesa samin, ah sa panahon ko."

This year, Alma, who goes by the name Ness in her inner circle. did two films in which breakout stars were born amidst the pandemic situation of showbiz. She did the first installment of Darryl Yap's sexy-comedy film

Paglaki Ko, Gusto Kong Maging Pornstar with other sexy legends Rosanna Roces, Ara Mina and Maui Taylor, along with then newcomers

CALENDAR, page 16

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Cristy Fermin Slams Barbie Imperial:

#### "Wala kang karapatan na tawaging kabit ang sinuman"

The showbiz veteran slammed actress Barbie Imperial telling her that she had no right to call someone a "mistress."

It was just recently when Barbie had an exclusive interview with Boy Abunda.

In the said interview, Barbie responded to claims of controver-

sial social media personality Christian Albert "Xian" Gaza about AJ and Diego.

The so-called social media influencer has been known for his series of claims and pronouncements against wellknown celebrities.

Aside from his exposé on social media, he is also prominent for his extravagant date proposals to celebrities.

In fact, he once bought a car as a gift to his TikTok crush, Yukii Takahashi and his most popular stint to date is when he asked Blackpink member Jennie for a date via a billboard poster.

Previously, Xian Gaza claimed that Diego went to Pampanga to personally visit AJ while Barbie is allegedly waiting for him in Manila.



To refute Xian's claims, Barbie aired her side on the issue. She also gave a message to AJ Raval, reprimanding her for not speaking up amid controversy with Diego.

Meanwhile, radio host and columnist Cristy Fermin slammed Barbie Imperial following her statement about AJ Raval and Diego Loyzaga.

The showbiz veteran defended AJ and said that Barbie has no right to call or accuse anyone of being a "mistress" because she is not yet married to Diego.

"Ineng, magkarelasyon pa lang kayo ni Diego Loyzaga, hindi pa kayo mag-asawa. Kaya wala ka pong karapatan na tawaging 'mistress' ang sinumang babae na napapalapit kay Diego," Cristy said.

'Wala ka pang kasiguruhan kung magiging kayo. Iwasan mo'yan. Pagsasabi ng ganyan. Wala ka pang pasaporte para i-brand ang isang babae na mistress. Wala, wala. Kasi wala ka pang hawak na dokumentong magpapatunay na si Diego at ikaw ay kasal na," she added.

Barbie Imperial has yet to issue any statement with regards to the comments of Cristy Fermin against her.







1-2. JDL students performs at Oriental centre. 3. Bicole Gumapac (SEATED) celebrates her birthday with her

pero hindi natuloy," sabi ni Bea.

loob ng kotse.

Patuloy ni Bea, "Hindi pa siguro meant to

Napaisip pasumandali si Bea, "Parang ang

"Kasi, napaisip ako nung time na ginagawa

be na magkatrabaho talaga kami before...

Ano ang favorite moments nila sa set habang ginagawa itong One Pair The Movie?

dami. Ha! Ha! Ha! Ako, siguro yung

namin yun. Back in 2002, during the first

teleserye na ginawa namin together, when

doing tracking scenes with John Lloyd.

we were starting out as a love team, I hated

"Nineteen years later, ginagawa pa rin

namin ang tracking scene, only this time, I

this time, nag-uusap na kami. At friends na

Napatango si John Lloyd, "Kasi si Bea,

ang galing, e! Parang meron siyang switch, e!

Kapag nag-'action' na si Direk, parang... she

gets into a character like... in a snap of the

Malaking bagay na gamay na nina John

Patuloy ni John Lloyd, "Na parang nagig-

ing atin na lang, and tayo na lang yung tao,

just two characters. Two actors na sobrang

finger. Parang ambilis niya!

Lloyd at Bea ang isa't isa.

enjoy being in a car with him, and you know,

pinakapaborito ko yung tracking scene, nasa

## Are McCoy de Leon, **Elisse Joson getting** married anytime soon?

Inamin ni McCoy de Leon, 26, na hindi sila nagmamadaling magpakasal ni Elisse Joson, 25.

Kilala sa uniname na McLisse, mayroon silang seven-month-old daughter na si Baby

Prayoridad nila sa ngayon ang pagpapalaki sa kanilang anak.

"Lagi naming pinag-uusapan ni Elisse, pero lagi naming binabanggit sa sarili namin, maging praktikal lang kami.

"Siyempre di rin biro ang manganak lalo na ngayon pandemya, kailangang mag-ipon.

"Siguro soon, wala namang problema

Sabi niya sa pag-propose ng kasal kay Elisse in the future: "Saka di naman ako ang sasagot, ako naman ang magtatanong."

Nakapanayam si McCoy sa premiere night ng Yorme: The Movie.

Aminado si McCoy na malaki ang ipinagbago ng buhay niya ngayong isa na siyang ama kay Baby Felize at magkasama na sila ni Elisse sa iisang bubong.

"Masasabi ko lang, masayang-masaya ako sa buhay ko ngayon. Ibang-iba, ibang turning point ito.

"Kumbaga, nagkaroon lalo ng direksiyon. Di ko ma-explain yung words, pero ang sarap pala magkaroon ng anak lalo na ng pamilya," saad ni McCoy.

Mas inspirado raw si McCoy na magsumikap para sa future ng anak nila ni Elisse.

Patuloy ng Yorme actor, "Mas lalo kong gustong magpurisge sa buhay. Di lang sarili ko ang binubuhay ko, di lang pamilya ko,



kapatid o magulang ko.

"May sarili na akong pamilya na bubuhayin ngayon. Dodoblehin

ko kung paano ako magtrabaho ngayon.

TV, movie, and now stage: Belle Mariano on a roll with January 2022 concert

MANILA — With a phenomenal series, a just-released album, an upcoming movie, and now a concert in the works, Belle Mariano is cementing her status as a budding superstar.

The latest major undertaking, her first major digital concert, was announced Friday during a virtual listening party for her debut album "Daylight."

Mariano, a former child actress who successfully transitioned as a teen star, was visibly thrilled with the announcement, saying she has been wanting to have her own concert since the early part of her career.

"Finally, mangyayari na siya," she said. "Hindi ko 'to magagawa kundi sa lahat ng nag-stream ng 'Sigurado,' my very first single and up to now, sa album ko. Maraming, maraming salamat. Kayo ang inspirasyon ko dito."

Mariano's concert repertoire is expected to include the seven tracks from "Daylight," including the self-empowerment anthem "Rise," which she said reflects her journey so far in showbiz.

"All throughout my years here in showbiz,

I feel like each and every step I take, I'm

It's also my journey. Actually, it's not just me, it applies to each and every one of us. We're all on the rise. We're all trying to get by each and every day, trying to look for hope, trying

Mariano expressed gratitude to the lyricists and composers, crediting them as instrumental to another dream of hers coming true.

akin," she said of her debut album. "I'm just so glad to be given this opportunity. Sobrang natutuwa ako, kasi ang tagal ko nang

> Aside from the album and concert, Mariano will be seen in major follow-ups to her successful launching series with Donny Pangilinan. Their first movie together as lead stars, "Love Is Color Blind," will be released on December 10. Beyond that, they will reprise their roles as Max and Deib in the second season of "He's Into Her."

Bea Alonzo on why she used to hate tracking scenes with John Lloyd Cruz: "Kasi, hindi kami friends!"

Na-enjoy at na-appreciate nina Bea Alonzo at John Lloyd Cruz ang pakikipag-collaborate kay Direk IP Habac for the first time sa

One True Pair The Movie.

"I've seen some of his films and we were supposed to work together in one of his films



immersed dun sa characters nila. "I think yun yung na-enjoy ko. Kasi, ang tagal. Sabi ko nga kanina, akala ko, hindi na siya mauulit.

"At sa cue ng isang word like 'action,"

masosolo na ninyo yung mundo pag narinig n'yo yung 'action."

Ano ba ang ipinahihiwatig sa kanila o kaya ay ibig sabihin ng 'one true pair'?

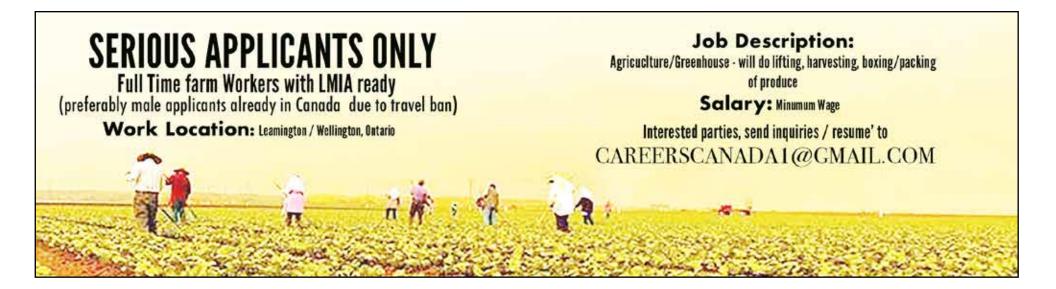
Napangiti muli si Bea, 'Para sa akin, a team that transcends the test of time.

rising," she told ABS-CBN News. "Sobrang, grabe, naka-relate ako sa 'Rise.'

to get that inspiration," she explained.

"Ngayon pa lang talaga nagsi-sink in sa pinapangarap 'to."

confident



## Manitoba Teen wins first PIDC-Mabuhay Philippines Festival Songwriting Competition

By: Tony A. San Juan, OCT-Retired

Competing against the best Filipino-Canadian songwriters and singers across Canada, Isaac Yehoshica Estioco of Winnipeg, Manitoba was adjudged the Grand Finals winner of the "First Annual Songwriting Competition" organized and presented by the Philippines Independence Day Council in celebration of the "2021 Mabuhay Philippines Festival" on November 28, 2021. The nationwide competition, a part of the 2-day MPF events, was conducted to meet PIDC's artistic development program by encouraging Canadian residents to showcase their songwriting skills and singing talents.

Isaac Y. Estioco, who has traveled from the City of Winnipeg, garnered the prestigious title for having composed and interpreted his own song titled "Would You Listen?". He received a C\$3000 cash prize, trophy & certificate donated by Ms. Agnes P. Miranda, WFG -World Financial Group Senior Executive Vice Chairman. The other 2 grand finalists are Madette Mendoza of Niagara Falls, Ontario who was declared the First Runnerup, while Whitby's own Kayleigh Angela

Cerezo won the Second Runner-up title. K. Cerezo was awarded the "Best Song Interpreter". Madette and Kayleigh received C\$1000 and C\$500 cash and plaques awards, respectively.

Kayleigh

The 7 other grand finalists of the contests, who were awarded medallions and plaques of appreciation, were Conrad Belisario & Marisa Gozun of Toronto, Ontario, Ryan-Jay Castillo of British Columbia, Danilo Estioco of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Matthew Fasullo of Toronto,

Ontario, John Eidref Gabriel of

Brampton, Ontario, Jose Rodolfo Lopez

of Edmonton, Alberta, and Norman Taniegra of Toronto, Ontario. Grammy and Tony awardee Jhett Tolentino proposed for PIDC to "come out with an album incorporating the music of the 10 Grand Finalists" and offered Madette Mendoza a special part in his upcoming special film production. Interesting to note was the "father-and-son showdown" of "tatay", Danilo Estioco, and "anak", Isaac Estioco in the competition. Four musical

artists, Emil Zarris, Bayani Yagas, April Joyce Bulangcao, and JR Teodoro, likewise, participated by interpreting the song compositions of other contestants. Popular Fil-Can singer Josie De Leon performed the opening act and Masbate native Danny Orbillo rendered the finale song "This is the Moment".

Beautifully hosted by Bea Rose Santiago, Miss Philippines International 2013, and Danny Orbillo, WFG Senior Manager, the 2- hour part virtual, part

in-person concert was memorable indeed. The Celebrity Judges, icons in the world of music, theatre, and fashion, were Lani Misalucha, Albert Malignat, Gino Padilla, JayR, Renee Salud, Vehnee Saturno, and Jhett Tolentino. The Preliminary Judges included Jai Sabas Aracama, Madonna Decena, Nhick Ramiro Pacis, and JP Sunga. The contestants were evaluated and selected based on 3 main criteria: Lyrics-40%, Musical Content-20%, and Overall Impact-40%. Scoresheets were tabulated by AFCA members Eva Bolivar, Lalaine Legazpi, Estee Ortiz, and Emma Villanueva.

"Mabuhay Philippines Festival-MPF", a popular yearly event held in the Greater Toronto Area( GTA), Ontario, is the flagship project of the 32-year old Philippine Independence Day Council(PIDC). MPF is founded and chaired by Ms. Norma Carpio with Ms. Agnes P. Miranda as vice-chairman. PIDC, headed by President Ramon Estaris, is a non-profit, volunteerrun umbrella organization established to foster unity and harmony and help promote Filipino heritage and culture in Canada. Dr. Moonshik Kim, Universal Peace Federation-Canada Chairman graced the event and presented Norma Carpio with a "Certificate of Recognition".

In grateful acknowledgment, Ms. Norma Carpio and Ms. Agnes Miranda jointly thanked all the event partners & sponsors, such as TD Canada, WFG, Imperial World, Canadian Heritage, The Filipino Channel-TFC, and the Universal Peace Federation-Canada as well as the players and participants like the members of the organizing & production teams, the officers of the "PIDC Family", the WFG staff, the Xinlix studio personnel and the enthusiastic attendees who made the event a remarkable success. ( Tony A. San Juan, OCT-Retired)



#### **VACCINATE ALL, from page 1**

Omicron is tagged a "variant of concern" like the Delta variant by the World Health Organization.

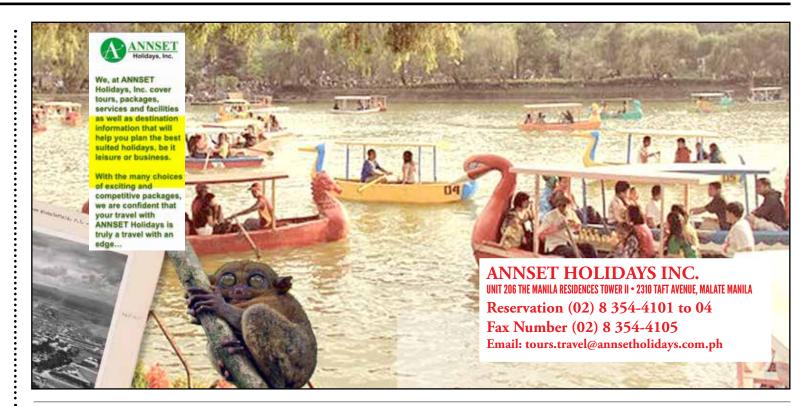
The University of the Philippines COVID-19 Pandemic Response Team (UP PRT), meanwhile, said that being inoculated with the primary doses of vaccines and booster shots could still help fight the Omicron variant should it enter the country.

UP PRT spokesman Dr. Jomar Rabajante, told radio dzBB that they are monitoring the studies from other countries regarding the Omicron variant of the COVID-19.

"Many experts from other countries say that Omicron spreads fast and this is evident in South Africa which reports plenty of Omicron variant cases," Rabajante said. He also noted, however, that some experts said the severity of these cases was mild.

As Christmas draws nearer, Rabajante reminded the public that while there has been a decline in new reported cases, people should still be careful because the disease can still lead to death or land people in intensive care units. A molecular biologist with the OCTA Research Group urged the government to procure two anti-COVID drugs that deal with all variants of the respiratory disease, including the newly detected Omicron.

"We have drugs now from Merck and Pfizer and these drugs will attack all the variants equally well. The



Philippines has to try to buy these drugs," said Fr. Nicanor Austriaco.

Austriaco, who has a PhD in Biology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was referring to molnupiravir and paxlovid, which were developed by American pharmaceutical companies Merck and Pfizer, respectively.

In November, a shipment of molnupiravir arrived in the Philippines. Pfizer's recent study on paxlovid also showed the drug could significantly reduce the chances of hospitalization or death for adults at risk of developing severe COVID-19.

We anticipate that both of these drugs will be used in our hospitals probably in the next few

weeks. Austriaco said studies have yet to show if current COVID-19 vaccines are less effective against the Omicron variant. The head of the International Red Cross said the emergence of the Omicron variant is the "ultimate evidence" of the danger of unequal vaccination rates around the world. Francesco Rocca, the president of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, also raised concerns about the politicization of migrants and for the plight of civilians in Afghanistan as winter approaches.

Asked about the global approach to vaccinations, the head of one of the world's largest humanitarian groups said more needed to be

done to fight rampant vaccine inequality.

"The scientific community has warned... on several occasions about the risks of very new variants in places where there is a very low rate of vaccinations," he said.

About 65 percent of people in high-income countries have had at least one dose of vaccine against the coronavirus, but just over 7 percent in low-income countries, UN numbers show.

Western countries have been accused of hoarding vaccines and the WHO has urged them to avoid a rush to give out booster shots when millions worldwide have yet to receive a

## **Heaven Peralejo** breaks silence on rumored relationship with Kimpoy Feliciano

Are you among those who can't sleep wondering about the real score between Heaven Peralejo and Kimpoy Feliciano?

Well, fret not.

Here's the tea:

They're nothing but "best friends." Heaven addressed the non-issue in Darla Sauler's recent vlog, and that is exactly what she said.

She also explained why she calls Kimpoy "beh."

"Di ba, pag kunyari yung friend mo, 'Uy beh,' ganun? Pero kami ni Kimpoy, we are very best friends,"



Heaven said. "Ano talaga, single ako pero not ready to mingle. Yung kay Kimpoy, guys, masaya lang din na nagkaroon din talaga ako ng kaibigan sa showbiz. Yun yung parang thankful

> kami sa isa't-isa na finally nakahanap ka rin ng kaibigan talaga na lumalabas kahit hindi magkasama sa work. So, yung amin talaga ni Kimpoy, yung pagmamahalan namin, e, hanggang best friends lang, guys, okay? Masanay na kayong may kaibigan akong lalaki."

So, there.

#### on why it's hard for him to forgive Andi Eigenmann Albie Casiño

Kapamilya hunk actor Albie Casiño got candid about his relationship with former girlfriend Andi Eigenmann.

In an interview with Cinema News, Albie shared why it's hard for him to forgive Andi.

According to him, his turned upside down afcontroversial paternity with her a few years ago.

"Let's take away all of the bashing, all of the defaming my name in public, even my family's name. They even went up (to) my mom, all the while knowing I wasn't the dad. Let's take that out of the consideration," said he. "How about I lost a lot of millions of pesos worth of projects and endorsements from that? And it wasn't just a P100,000, bro. It's a million pesos

life

ter the

issue

father of Andi's daughter.

them?"

"First of all, you didn't make a public statement I wasn't the dad. You never made a public statement apologizing to me, when everything

> you did to bash me was done publicly."

#### Luis Hontiveros embarks on first sexy role in indie film

With his shirt on, 29-year-old actor Luis Hontiveros easily cap-

tivates dozens of fans. Shirtless, Luis even oozes all the more with tons of sex appeal undoubtedly, not to ignore his good-looks.

As a hunk actor and ramp model, Luis is one of today's hottest male celebrities. Although he recently invaded the sexy route, Luis wants to be known beyond all those flattering remarks. Understandably, he wants to make a name for himself.

After appearing in a number of drama series and playing supporting roles in a few films, Luis gets his first lead role in director Brillante Mendoza's newest sexy drama, Palitan, where he stars with seductress Jela Cuenca, newest temptress Cara Gonzales and sexy, young newcomer Rash Flores.

When Luis learned he would work with the award-winning director, he

initially found it unbelievable. "Until now, I'm still overwhelmed and in awe," Luis admits. "I couldn't believe it at first that I would be working with direk Brillante Mendoza. For someone na nagsisimula pa lang sa industry, then first indie film ko pa, I was really blessed with a director like him."

Sexy drama is apparently up Luis' alley. The nephew of Sen. Risa Hontiveros and newscaster Pia Hontiveros enjoys the support of his prominent family to the career he decided to pursue.

"I'm old enough and I'm just trying to build my name and career as an actor," Luis explains. "They know

my passion in acting. This is just another role that I can put in my experience as an actor.

"Like any other family, I think they will understand because I'm doing what I love.

They saw me pose for Bench recently and they didn't have anything against it. My aunts were also performers before in theater.

"I may be the first one in the family to do sexy roles, but no judgement. I'm sure they will also be supportive of me. I have teenage sisters who cannot watch this film yet. I guess I will just tell them after. I know they will understand because I'm doing what I really love. Hindi naman pagpapa-sexy lang. I want my character to leave a mark and not just Luis Hontiveros na naghubad."

AJ Raval ends speculation about her and Diego Loyzaga

"Last statement about all the issue, I'll stop clearing my name in front of these people who spread false rumors and lies, it's a waste of time. just let people think what ever they want to think. I don't have to win every situation to prove my worth."

This is what controversial sexy star AJ Raval wrote on Facebook posting a link to her interview.

According to AJ, she actually watched the viral interview of Barbie Imperial calling her out for not clearing Diego Loyzaga's

AJ believes there is no need for it.

"Para saan po? Parang ganu'n. Alam naman po nilang dalawa na hindi totoo 'yon," she said. "I think my peace of mind comes from the fact that I did nothing wrong."

In the end, she cleared: "Never po nanligaw si Diego sa akin. Wala po kaming naging relationship ni Diego. One time ko lang po siyang nakasama, sa set pa po ng 'Death of a Girlfriend.'"

"Hindi po totoo na pumunta siya ng Pampanga. Last kita ko pa po sa kanya sa set pa ng 'Death of a Girlfriend.' Sa totoo lang, wala po akong contact sa kanila... kay Diego. Hindi po kami nag-uusap. Parang one year ago huling usap ko po kina Barbie at saka isang beses ko lang din po nakita si Barbie. Parang Hi, hello lang po. So, wala po talaga kaming connection."

Anyway, she wishes the couple well. "Sana po maging okey po sila ni Diego. Sana po wag na po nila akong idamay kasi po unang-una, sila po 'yong magkarelasyon. Hindi po ako

#### kasali są relationship nila. Kaya dapat ayusin po nilang dalawa 'yon kasi wala naman po talaga ako sa relasyon nila. Hindi po ako kasali," AJ said.

She added: "Wag po silang magpapadala sa mga sinasabi ng mga tao. Sana po maiintindihan nila na normal lang po sa industry namin, artista po kami, wag po sila masyadong magpadala sa mga tao."

> Rikki Dela Pena tells youth: Be an

#### inspiration

For Miss Philippine Youth 2019 Rikki Dela Pena, the COVID-19 pandemic is not a hindrance for her to stop helping the needy and

inspiring other people. Rikki, 23, continued her brand called Modernò wherein she showcased some of the sunglasses she designed.

Last May, she and her friends, family and neighbors helped the victims of an unexpected calamity through a donation drive.

They were also able to provide help to the families that were affected but the no work no pay situation and provided a community pantry for the families.

"During the pandemic, as the cases were getting higher, I was able to create a community pantry for our beloved friends.

"I would like to use this opportunity to give thanks to all the people who supported our projects. Life is short. Let's not waste it.

"Let's make every minute worth it by helping, inspiring others so that we will not regret anything at the end. Let us all live as an inspiration by doing simple act like taking action on what matters, joining organizations and communities can change lives."

#### **ALMA MORENO p13**

Ana Jalandoni, Rose Van Ginkel and Aj Raval, who now rose to prominence, thanks to their early acting guidance.

"Natutuwa ako 'pag nakikita ko yung mga batang nakakasama ko sumisikat, lalo na pagkatapos ng proyekto namin. Lagi ko lang silang pinaaalalahanan na manatiling simple and focused sa trabaho," she shared.

Ness said that she cannot wait for more newbie stars to get noticed after her new film. The newcomers in #Pornstar2 are Sab Aggabao, Cara Gonzales, Ayanna Misola and Stephanie Raz.

The plot of the second install-

ment starts with the legendary sexy stars of Philippine movies in search for the next Pinay pornstar. Alma, Ara, Maui and Rosanna are back to teach young and fresh faces the ropes of the industry. This time around, another sexy star legend, Lara Morena, will help recruit aspiring pornstars, who will undergo long, hard and strenuous training.

As of now, Alma is just enjoying the daily waiting for the next project that pleases her in showbiz. Though she joined LAKAS-CMD recently, she is really out of the political loop and just guiding her son Vandolph Quizon,

CALENDAR, page 17

worth of, I guess, damages." Recall that 2011 when Albie was identified as the father to Andi's eldest child, Ellie. But after five years, it was revealed that Jake Ejercito was the real

"That's literally money they put out of my bank account. That's money that could have changed my family's life. Money that could have changed my life, right? So how can I be okay with them? Why would I be okay with

#### MARITES, page 1

discovered them with the help of our friendly neighborhood Facebook and wanted to share them with you. Full credits to the geniuses who came up with these terms and for community members who shared them.

First up, we have Marietta, which means Mare, ito pa (Girl, here's more). You use the term when there is a follow up to a story you've been following. Next, we are introduced to Marisol, which means Mareng tagasulsol (provoker). This is used for a person who fans the flame of intrigue by adding more controversial information to the already hot issue.

Who can discount Marissa, which means Mare, isa pa (Girl, there's more). This is the person who shares new information as soon as it is discovered by the Marites of cyberspace.

If a person is a passive participant but wants to be in the know, she is simply called a Maris which is short for Mare, ano ang tsismis? (Girl, what's the tea?)

Marina may have been a popular mermaid character on television before but now, the name is associated with Mare, ano na? (Girl, what now?) It is used by someone who wants to know the latest development in a running story.

And finally, we have Mariposa which is short for Mare, post mo na (Girl, post it already). This is used by a Marisol on someone who has the dish on an ongoing story to make it more interesting.

And there you have it folks. As with every issue, be discerning of your sources, before you spread the info. You don't want to Marina fake news, do you?

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## Getting ready for pregnancy is now Jessy's priority

I miss acting, but it's not my priority now," said actress-vlogger Jessy Mendiola, who has not been accepting job offers since she tied the knot with actor-TV host Luis Manzano in February this year.

"This is why people think I'm already pregnant, but really, I'm not. Don't worry about it. I will let everyone know. I'm prioritizing my health because I'm also preparing for that. I still work out, even though people say one shouldn't work out and move so much if you want to get pregnant. I've gotten used to it already. But of course, I tried to lessen weight training and doing strenuous activities," said the 28-year-old actress.

Jessy said Luis has always wanted to have a big family. He is hoping to have five kids. "I said, 'Really? Like, one basketball team?' I'm OK with having three at the most, since I also have two sisters. I'm hoping to have twins because my own dad has a twin brother. I'm praying that I get that. They say it's the female offspring who most likely gets that gene," she explained.

Right script
The actress, however, admitted to missing doing the

she loves the most. "I miss acting. I miss ing to tapings, as well as being with my leagues in the business. But I guess, I'm just waiting for that good script I can't say 'no' to," she pointed out.

Jessy said being married to Luis has changed her. She now takes care of herself even more. "I admit, mas naging maarte ako when I got married. I

really look after my skin, hair and body. I realized that in order to effectively take care of Luis or of others, I must take care of myself," Jessy said during her launch as the latest celebrity endorser of Cathy Valencia's Skin Clinic.

"When I'm feeling bloated, I cut down on meat and salty food," she added. "I think this is really important, even though you're still single ... to watch out for what you eat," she stressed.

On being an inspiration to married girls to still look as fresh and beautiful, Jessy said: "I don't think marriage will make you look haggard—it shouldn't—but it's really all up to you. You still have to maintain that glow, so that even if the relationship doesn't work out, basta ikaw, maganda?"

#### **Seafood City opens Bakers Avenue**

Mildred Smith and Raymond Olgado of Seafood City invited me to the opening of Bakers Avenue. Thank you also to Josie de Leon, who is the community coordinator of Seafood City.

Baker's Avenue by Seafood City Scarborough is the

third branch in Canada. I
was invited to their tasting
event on the eve of their
opening. They open November 18, 2021.
All the baked goods

All the baked goods were delicious but two stood out for me. One of them is this Mango cake

which to me is a mango-flavored sansrival and the other one is the custard cake. The custard on top is so velvety smooth and rich.

They have all the Filipino pastries that you have come to love.

They have an ube roll which is delectable. "Filipinos will not have a celebration without ensaymada," says Mildred Smith. Bakers Avenue would be a welcome addition to bakeries catering to the Filipino community in the GTA.

#### **ALMA MORENO, from page 16**

who is gunning for his last term as councilor in the first district of Parañaque. If Vandolph makes it, he will be serving for three terms just like Alma, who is very proud of his son's political achievements.

"Lagi kong sinasabi kay Vandolph, magtrabaho ka lang ng magtrabaho. Iyon ang naging sikreto ko noon kung ano ang kinampanya ko, iyon talaga ginawa ko kaya naka-nine years ako," she said.

Alma is aware that she is one of the most targeted celebrities when it comes to memes because of her English-speaking skills. She said that even though she was quiet, she was hurt about it and that is one major reason that she wants to be on the down low at the moment. She also turned off the notifications of her celebrity group chats that have members fighting over which candidates to support in the upcoming elections.

"Maraming binato sakin. I'm sure alam mo lahat yung binabato sakin," said Alma. "Nasasaktan ako para sa mga anak ko, pero kung ako lang, pake ko. Bahala kayo, masaya kayong tumira sakin, edi sige."



## **DonBelle: Closer than** ever in 'Love Is **Color Blind**'

2021 is a breakthrough year for the love team of Donny Pangilinan and Belle Mariano. Only six months after their highly-successful romantic comedy series "He's Into Her," now

comes their first full-length movie under Star Cinema "Love Is Color Blind" showing on Dec. 10.

It can be said that Team DonBelle is stronger and closer than ever. Their onscreen chemistry is unmistakable and their fellow actors in the movie are amazed how DonBelle are very at ease with each other. Could it be just friendship, or is real-life romance brewing between the two? Only time will reveal.

"Sobrang comfortable nila together. I had to sit down with them in the middle of shooting. Sabi ko, starting tomorrow, maghiwalay muna kayo so you can digest your characters," LICB director John Leo Garcia quipped.

Belle says that communication plays a big part in her partnership with Donny, especially as they have more projects lined up. They do a lot of script readings and character analysis together.

> After LICB, they're supposed to be prepping for the second season of "He's Into Her."

Donny says there are Top 3 things about his screen partner that earns his admiration.

The fact that Belle has a good heart, how she loves her craft and how real she is.

The pair has been dubbed the "New Gen Phenomenal Love Team" that rose out of the pandemic. Their hashtag #DonBelle trended on Twitter several times, fueled mainly by die-hard fans. The same fans have mounted attention-grabbing LED billboards about the duo in areas like Times Square in NYC and Gangnam in South Korea. A lot of people also

liken them to reel-and-real life couple Kathniel.

On the subject, Donny has this to say: "We do not want to compare ourselves to Kathniel, marami na sila napatunayan. Belle and I are focused on forging our own path and our own journey. We never stop learning our craft, and we keep our feet on the ground. Lastly, we give glory to God for everything.'

"Love Is Color Blind" is the heartwarming story of Ino and Cara (played by Donny and Belle). The two characters thought they are the best of friends, until Cara feels something more. But there are many challenges along the way to turn the friendship into love. Another problem is that Ino is color blind, he only sees the world in gray and white.

The film's producers assure that movie watchers will see an entirely different Donny and Belle while keeping the kilig factor high. The two are playing characters they've never portrayed before, and that keeps the team-up fresh.

With them in the movie are the supporting cast which includes Jeremiah Lisbo, Angelina Cruz, John Lapuz and TikTok sensation Esnyr Ranollo.

#### **Janine Berdin's timely** reminder

The young singer reminds people that it's okay not to be okay in her new single, 'Pagod na Ako.'

Janine Berdin leaves a lasting reminder to take a break when life gets overwhelming in her latest self-penned single, "Pagod Na Ako."

"When writing this song, I wanted to tell myself that it's okay to feel exhausted. It's okay to feel like something's draining you," said the 19-year-old "Tawag ng Tanghalan" champion.

Through the song, she hopes to remind people, especially the young ones in her age, that denial and putting up a front will only add more gravity to someone's existing woes.

"Setting big goals and high expectations for

An 84-year-old man is having a drink in Harpoon Harry's. Suddenly a gorgeous girl enters and sits down a

The girl is so attractive that he just can't take his eyes off her.

After a short while, the girl notices him staring, and approaches him.

Before the man has time to apologise, the girl looks him deep in the eyes and says to him in a sultry tone, "I'll do anything you'd like. Anything you can imagine in your wildest dreams, it doesn't matter how extreme or unusual it is, I'm game. I want \$100, and there's another yourself is good, yes, but if it starts stressing you out too much and becomes a huge threat to your overall well-being, you have to realize that."

"Pagod Na Ako" is made more special with the Cebuana signer's collaboration with her kababayan, Juan Karlos Labajo who also hails from Cebu. The "The Voice Kids" alumnus turned hitmaker produced the single under Star Music.

"I just helped her out on how to materialize what she had in mind and put it into music, into reality. But how you hear this song is really Janine's genius. Ako lang yung isa sa mga instrument na tumulong."

"Pagod Na Ako" adds to Berdin's list of self-compositions that capture her relatable and honest musings about life including "The Side Character" and "Wala Ako N'yan." She is regularly seen on "ASAP Natin 'To" alongside other New Gen Divas.

Completely stunned by the sudden turn of events, the man asks her what her condition is.

"You have to tell me what you want me to do in just three words."

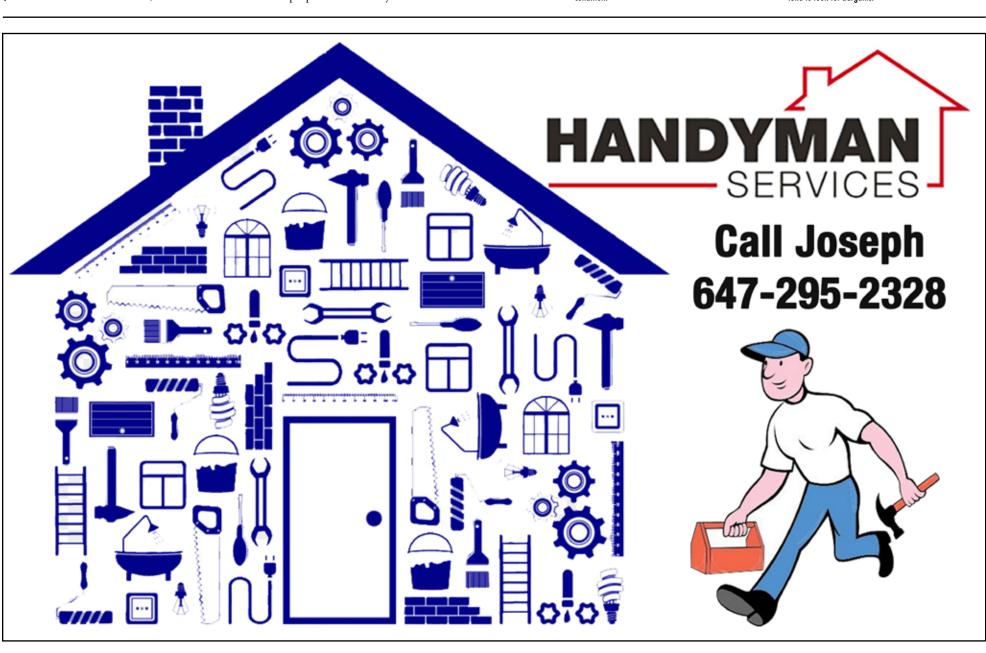
The man takes a moment to consider the offer from the beautiful woman.

He whips out his wallet and puts \$100 dollars into

He then looks her square in the eyes, and says slowly and clearly.

"Paint my house."

Our needs change as we get older, we get smarter and tend to look for bargains.



#### CLAIRE, page 11

"I learned that the more you force your tears, the faker they look. So you have to be relaxed before a heavy scene," Claire added. "Being in the show also taught me the value of discipline.

And her preconceived notions about working on a television series, Claire said, couldn't be farther from her actual experience. "When I was outside looking in, I had this image that people on the set are always masungit ... that the directors are scary. But it wasn't true. All my colleagues were all kalog and very nice,"

she said.

Phonecalls with dad

When she's feeling down in the taping bubble, she calls her father for some reassurance.

"When it's a long day and you're doing one scene after another, I would call him for a bit of stress relief. His voice calms me down and makes me work better," she said, adding that having celebrity parents doesn't really make her feel pressured.

"It's not so much pressure, but motivation," she pointed



out. "I want to make my mom and dad proud."

Claire doesn't mind taking the character actor path. But while she enjoys doing offbeat char-

acters, she still hopes to play more typical protagonist roles.

"I like doing offbeat roles because I'm a quiet person and I get to express things I can't in real life. But I have been told by more experienced coactors that playing pitiable characters is actually challenging. I will study and prepare if I get something like that, because I want to be better."

#### **CAROLING, from page 1**

must be vaccinated against COVID-19 before conducting caroling indoors, which is subject to the establishment's capacity.

"Under Alert 2, caroling is allowed provided that (minimum public health

standard) is strictly followed and subject to the operational capacity of the venue of the caroling: 50 percent and vaccinated individuals only if indoor, and 70 percent if

outdoor," Malaya said in an interview on ABS-CBN News.

He pointed out that the carolers must wear face shields "as of now" but the policy may change as the Inter-Agency Task Force Against COVID-19 is set to meet on Nov. 11 to decide on the matter in selected

The Metro Manila mayors earlier had strongly pushed for lifting of face shield use except in hospitals and medical facilities with Manila Mayor and presidential hopeful Isko Moreno already implemented the proposal.

> Moreno noted that the Palace should 'go to court' for Manila to revoke the no face shield policy

> Last year, the traditional practice was banned in a bid to curb the spread of

the respiratory disease which has so far killed over 44,000 in the country as of Nov. 8.

On Nov. 5 Metro Manila was placed in the more relaxed alert level 2 until Nov. 21 from the previous stricter alert



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## Charity has no tag price

ALBEIT now-deleted on his Facebook account, comedian Ate Gay's September post — on unfriending those who have nothing to say but criticize the current administration — had courted a slew of controversies particularly involving Vice Ganda. The "It's Showtime" host is known for being critical of the government.

Ate Gay, Gil Morales in real life, was subsequently branded as "walang utang na loob." Ate Gay had been in and out of the hospital due to toxic epidermal necrolysis.

Vice Ganda told Ogie Diaz vogger, "'Teh, tulun-

To prove the netizens wrong for their accusation, Ate Gay felt a compelling reason to post a list of

fellow celebrities who had sent their monetary help alongside the amounts. Among them was Vice Ganda with his P20,000-donation.

Netizens bashed Vice for his P20,000 only help."

Vice Ganda explained that Ate Gay didn't have to acknowledge him, but questioned the netizens' reactions to the amount he gave.

"Dapat ba, pag tumulong, may presyo?" The seemingly hurt Vice Ganda said.

It's actually the netizens' fault but Ate Gay did not ahe to mention how much each of them gave. After all, it was not a

This is also a familiar encounter with beggars on the streets who impose the exact amount upon people they approach. Worse, pester until they vanish in

Ate Gay should know better since he's a product of comedy bars. Most stand-up comedians can

smell "galanteng customers" even a mile away, who shell out bills in exchange for a requested song to be sung.

Did Ate Gay at one point demand how much he deserved to get for granting the

Vice Ganda is right. Charity has no tag

A P20,000 help during these pandemic times, more so coming from someone Ate Gay had a rift with early on, is manna from heaven.

Ate Gay had already sent his apologies to Vice Ganda. But was it enough to undo the harm he had caused himself?

#### USING YOUR WIFE

A guy sends a text to his nextdoor neighbor:

"Bob, I'm sorry. I've been riddled with guilt and I have to confess: I have been helping myself to your wife when you're not around, probably more than you. I know it's no excuse but I don't get it at home. I can't live with the guilt any longer. I hope you'll accept my sincerest apology. It won't happen again."

Bob is in complete shock, didn't know what to do.

Moments later, a second text came in: "Damn spellcheck! I meant 'wifi'."

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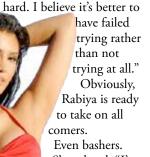
## LM confidential Entertainment Is Rabiya Mateo ready for show business?

Rabiya Mateo just made formal her bid to conquer TV, signing up as exclusive talent of GMA.

hile some quick to rejoice about it, there are a few who are questioning the

Rabiya is unruffled. She perfectly understands where the naysayers are coming

But she assured, "I will simply try my best to be worthy of the trust given me. Not everyone is given this opportunity. I know some might question my abilities but I will work



She related, "I've learned how to handle them already. I used to cry a lot about what I see and read on social media because by nature, I'm a 'people-pleaser' but now, I'd rather focus on myself. To just do my best and learn and keep improving." But why GMA?

"I really feel like it's home. They made me feel welcome even before. To be honest, I am not that well -experienced but they believed in me. They saw potential in me and I am just grateful, honored in fact to be part of the GMA family."

For her first big project, Rabiya is to be paired with Senator Bong

How does she feel about it? "I'm excited, of course. But I'm also a bit nervous. That's why I'm

already preparing hard." Sanya Lopez will also part of the

Is she going to actually compete with her?

"No," Rabiya exclaimed. "There's no competition. I look up to her. She knows a lot more than me. She's done a lot of work. I'm looking forward to learning a lot from her."

#### **DUTERTE from page 1**

economic zone). It is part of our territory and we will fully exercise our sovereign rights over our territory," presidential spokesman Karlo Nograles said.

The Chinese Coast Guard blocked and fired water cannons at twoPhilippine boats transporting supplies to military personnel of the BRP Sierra Madre at the Ayungin (Second Thomas) Shoal on November 16. China insisted that the Philippine supply boats trespassed into Chinese waters "without China's consent" and demanded Philippines "honor its commitment and remove" its grounded vessel BRP Sierra Madre from Ayungin Shoal.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana called it "an affront to the Filipino people" and denied there was any commitment to remove

the BRP Sierra Madre.

Meanwhile, two maritime experts asserted that Ayungin Shoal belongs to the Philippines.

Rommel Banlaoi, president of the Philippine Association for Chinese Studies, said the Philippine government never committed to removing the grounded ship that has become the country's outpost in the West Philippine Sea.

The Philippines has expressed outrage over the Nov. 16 incident, with Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin, Jr. reminding Huang that public vessels are covered by the Philippines and United States Mutual Defense Treaty.

Senator Risa Hontiveros said she stands with Lorenzana in his assertion that Chinese personnel taking pictures and videos of Philippine forces is indeed an act of harassment and intimidation.

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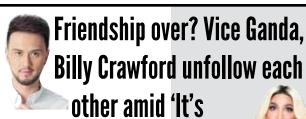
She said China has no right to make our Filipinos feel threatened or unsafe in their own seas.

China's foreign minister is also incorrect to say that Ayungin Shoal is part of China, when Ayungin is well within the Philippine EEZ, as ruled by the Permanent Court of Arbitration, she said.

It will be in the interest of all for China to cease its blockade of Ayungin immediately to avoid any incidents that risk the peace and stability in the region, she added.

"We have the right to go anywhere we please in our EEZ, and the Philippines will fight for our right," she said.

Lacson, who is running for president, said he would build up a stronger defensive posture against foreign military aggression in the West Philippine Sea if he wins the election next year.



Showtime' fiasco

"Ang

I got

maa-

Is it friendship over for Vice Ganda and Billy Crawford?

That was the question asked by social media users after they noticed that Vice and his former "It's Showtime" co-host no longer follow each other on Instagram.

It can be recalled that Billy announced his network transfer to TV5 via Vice's YouTube channel. The "Unkabogable Star" then assured Billy that they will remain a family despite his network shift.

"Maaaring lumipat siya ng bahay, pero family pa rin tayo. Kaya kahit lumipat ka ng bahay, kahit saang bahay man tayo magpunta, magkakapamilya, family kita, at mahal na mahal kita," Vice told Billy.

#### Alex Gonzaga says sister Toni was first to know about failed pregnancy

No doubt, sisters Toni and Alex Gonzaga are quite

They have always been there for each other. Through good and bad.

> As such, it was no surprise to learn from Alex that it was Toni who first learned about her pregnancy August this year. Toni was also the first to learn when she suffered a miscarriage, October.

> > Alex told us during a recent chat, ate ko ang una kong sinabihan when pregnant. And then, siya rin yung isa mga una kong sinabihan nang hindi ing maganda yung outcome." added, "Ang ate ko, hindi mo man

mararamdaman yung physically na nandiyan siya because iba na yung bahay niya, pero her presence, her love, and yung care niya, nararamdaman mo." For Toni, it is instinctive.

She said, "Lagi kaming may time ni Alex for each other, kasi I think nakatulong din na dalawa (lang) kami (na magkapatid), so talagang yung bond na nabuo namin, connected na talaga kami kahit magkalayo kami.

"We may not be physically together all the time, pero yung communication namin, laging tuluy-tuloy.

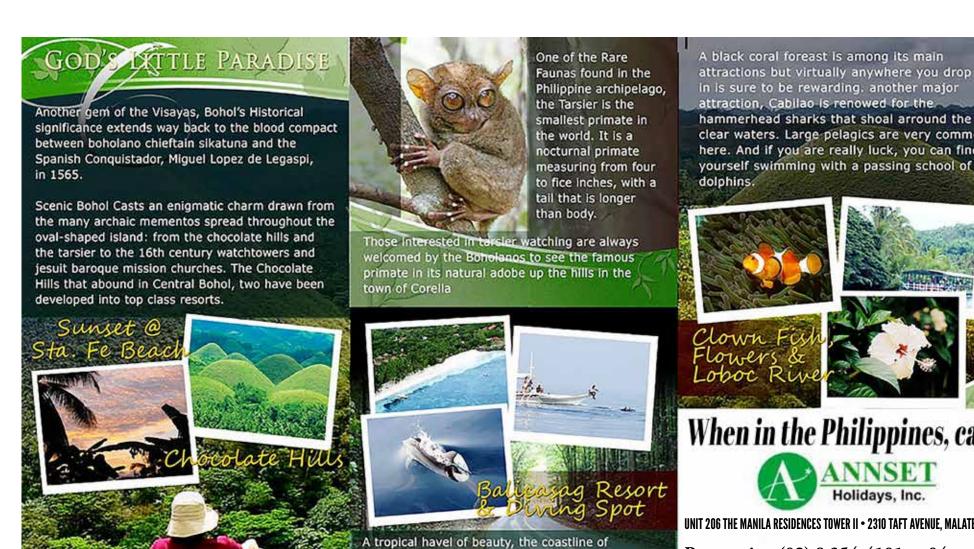
"So, lagi kaming updated sa mga pangyayari sa buhay ng bawat isa, yung mga milestone, kung anuman yung mga pinagdadaanan ng bawat isa, lagi kaming present."



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## How Luis Manzano reacted to Edu Manzano's newfound **love with Cherry Pie Picache**

Veteran host Luis Manzano admitted that he was shocked finding out that his dad Edu Manzano and seasoned actress Cherry Pie Picache are now a couple.

In an interview with G3 San Diego, Luis said: "Sobrang we were caught off guard. No one saw it coming. I don't even think Dad and Tita Pie saw it coming.'

Apparently, Luis learned about the brewing romance of Edu and Cherry Pie when a friend took a group photo and sent it to him.

"He was with Daddy and Tita Pie. Date night yata sila. So I sent the picture back to Daddy. I said, 'Uy daddy, happy boy ka.' Sabi niya, 'Yes anak, happy-ng happy,'" Luis

The funny guy teased: "Kung maibabalik ang prangkisa ng ABS-CBN next year, baka si Daddy at Tita Pie, itapat sa KathNiel."

Luis said that during his first teleserye 'Kampanerang Kuba," to some degree,

Cherry Pie was his stepmom.



ried advice Edu imparted to him, Luis answered: "It would boil down to the same thing, kung paano niya nirerespeto ang kanyang kasama. That's one thing na nakikita ko kay Daddy. How he takes care of his partner talaga. Nakikita ko rin naman how happy he is with Tita Pie."

A few days ago, when Edu confirmed his romance with Cherry Pie after rumors started circulating on social media.

Their recent cozy snaps in New York fueled talks they're making sweet music together.

What added to the fire was Edu and former girlfriend Iryne Garcia are no longer following each other's Instagram accounts.

The two actors are working together in the Kapamilya series "Marry Me, Marry You" as love interests.

#### **Angel Locsin lectures those accusing Kris** Aquino of supposedly 'stealing' Marcos

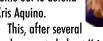
jewels

province is skimmed by gentle coves and white sand beaches. You can fins some of the country's

great dive sights here. Balicasag in Bohol is one

of the most popular dives in visayas.

Angel Locsin has come out to defend Kris Aquino.



bashers posted about Kris supposedly using stolen Marcos jewels.

On Instagram, Angel reiterated that Kris "can afford to buy her own jewelry with her hard-earned money." Note that the post also included a screenshot of an article titled "Sereno warns: Those accusing Kris Aquino of 'stealing' Marcos jewels will face criminal case." On Facebook, the former chief justice wrote:

"FIRST WARNING PO: Criminal case na po ang maaaring harapin niyo sa pagbibintang na ginamit ni Kris Aquino ang alahas ni Imelda na ayon sa Supreme Court ay galing sa NAKAW NA YAMAN."

"Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas at PCGG na po ang nagsabing imposible ito. Simula ngayon, kukuhanan na namin ng screenshots ang lahat ng magko-comment ng ganito, pati ang profile details niyo, at ipadadala sa Bangko Sentral, sa PCGG, at sa sinisiraan niyong tao."

Anyway, a few days ago, Kris shared that it was Angel who also alerted her about the controversial post of Herbert Bautista relating to her engagement to Mel Sarmiento.

Brenda Mage on Alexa Ilacad: 'Wala siyang

#### silbi, ganda lang talaga...panay lamon pa'

The comedian took a swipe at his fellow housemate, Alexa Ilacad.

Credit to the rightful owner of the photos In the recent episode of the reality show, Brenda Mage and Madam Inutz couldn't hold back their frustration at Alexa.

According to them, the young actress has no contribution inside the house especially in household



chores and their recent tasks. Their conversation was recorded

via the 24/7 stream of PBB season 10 on Kumu.

"Puro lang siya music, wala nga siyang ambag dito. Tingnan mo sa grupo nila, siya 'yung iyakin kasi wala siyang nagagawa," Madam Inutz said.

Brenda Mage on the other hand said, "Wala siyang silbi, ganda lang talaga. Sa HOH laging lampa. Sa lutuan naman walang kwenta. Panay tago pa ng tinapay. Panay lamon pa."

The comedian added that every mealtime, Alexa tends to eat first without telling her fellow housemates and even without prayer.

Meanwhile, Madam Inutz and Brenda Mage also talked about the upcoming eviction wherein two housemates out of four nominees (Alexa, TJ Valderrama, Samantha Bernardo, Karen Bordador) will have their exit.



Maja Salvador says "every day is still a process"

May kurot sa puso ang pagsasabihan ng "I miss you!" nina ABS-CBN field reporter Mario Dumaual at Maja Salvador sa Beautederm mediacon.

Tanong ni Mario, "Paano mo ia-assess ang status mo ngayon, yung buhay mo ngayon, as a... well, as an individual more in control of her career?"

"May proseso pa rin sa akin yung... ahhmm... of course with 18 years with ABS-CBN, very grateful.

"But still, every day is a process pa rin for me. Yung acceptance... kung nasaan. But I am happy.

"Kasi... siguro po, sa 18 years ko na yun sa industriya, nandun na yung mga experiences ko at may mga taong nagtitiwala sa akin kaya di po ulit tayo napapabayaan ni God.

"Kaya andami rin pong mga offers, ganyan.

BUILDING HER OWN EM-PIRE

> Tuluy-tuloy pa rin ang Niño Niña series ni Maja sa TV5. With boyfriend Rambo Nuñez, they started Crown Artist Management, that

includes John Lloyd Cruz as a client. In a way, Maja is on her way building her own

empire.
"'Yan po ang goal
nating lahat. Gagayahin
ko na si Miss Rhea
[Anicoche Tan, CEO

ng Beautederm].

"Very happy ako.

"Proud ako sa team namin sa management. Si Crown Artist Management, kumbaga, nabuo po yun dahil sa pandemic.

"May mga nawalan ng trabaho sa ABS, and so, yung mga nawalan ng trabaho,

nagsama-sama, nagsanib-puwersa.

"Kumbaga, minsan iisipin natin, na ang hirap ng pandemic pero may mga magagandang nangyari rin.

"So, yun. Nagiging optimistic pa rin kami sa mga puwedeng mangyari."

#### SILVER LINING

Nagka-silver lining si Maja sa nakaraang dalawang taon...

"Siguro po, tayong lahat," malumanay na lahad ni Maja, na tila tinitimbang nang lubos ang bawat salita.

"In general, ganun na lang, oo. Di rin ako nakatakas kahit sobrang masayahing tao ako, minsan talaga aatake sa 'yo yung mga... ganun, anxiety attack. Yung ano...

"Kasi, may mga bagay sa buhay natin na hindi natin makokontrol. Pero kapit lang talaga sa Kanya!

"And yun, totoo yung may mga nangyayari na mga bagay-bagay na may rason kung bakit nangyayari."

Kapag nagkaka-anxiety attack si Maja sa madaling-araw, nagte-text daw siya sa mga handler niya.

## Did Herbert Bautista refer to Kris Aquino as 'the one that got away?'

Senatorial aspirant and former Quezon City mayor Herbert Bautista is nursing a broken heart.

This, based on his recent Twitter post as



addressed to Senator Ping Lacson.
It read: "Mr.
President Ping @
iampinglacson,
na-inspire din tuloy
akong mag-propose. Kaso,

sayang... may napili na po sya. (broken heart emojis)."

He also used the hashtags "#KungMaibabalikKoLang" and "#TOTGA" which is the abbreviation for "the one that got away."

Many believe that Herbert is referring to the publicized engagement of Queen of All Media Kris Aquino and former Secretary of the Interior and Local Government Mel Sarmiento. Prior, Herbert reacted to Kris' latest milestone, admitting he's not aware of it.

"Masaya ako dahil yung peace and quiet ... yung ang hinahanap niya eh. Happy ako sa kanya," said he during press conference. "Hindi ko alam na ikakasal na siya pero happy ako sa kanya. Hindi ko naman kasi sinusundan yung social media niya."

According to previous reports, Kris and Herbert made sweet music in 2014 starting when the actor-turned-politician asked for her phone number.

During their on-and-off relationship, the 53-year-old star proposed marriage to Kris twice, in 2014 and 2017 — which the 50-year-old TV host-turned-vlogger both declined.

Then a few months later, Kris revealed that she finally put an end to her friendship with a special someone who netizens believe was Herbert.

## Lawmakers pass bill that requires airlines and hotels to play Filipino music

Lawmakers at the House of Representatives passed a bill that would require tourist establishments such as hotels, resorts, tourist buses, and inbound international flights to play Filipino music.

Once passed, the bill would mandate international flights landing in the country to dedicate 50% of its piped-in music to Filipino songs, hotels, resorts, and restaurants 25% percent and tourist buses 50% of their playlists is composed of Pinoy tunes.

Deputy speaker Lito Atienza, the bill's primary author, said that the purpose of the measure was to promote nationalism and showcase the culture of the Philippines through music.

And if these establishments don't comply? They will face some hefty fines, imposing a penalty of P500,000 for airline companies, P50,000 for tourist bus owners, and P20,000 for hotels, resorts, and restaurants.

## Seth Fedelin talks about overcoming his problems in acting: 'Proud ako sa sarili ko'

Even with the current pandemic, Seth

Fedelin and his love team partner Andrea Brillantes are thankful for their fans for supporting all their work.

"Kasi lahat ng meron kami ngayon, kaming

dalawa, yung meron na natatanggap namin sa itaas, siyempre lahat din yan ay sa tulong din nila. So lahat ng ginagawa namin ay para sa sarili namin at sa pamilya namin at sa lahat ng tumatangkilik, lahat ng humahanga sa amin at nagmamahal," he said.

# Jake Cuenca says he is not afraid to be typecast in 'mayabang' roles

'Viral Scandal' actor Jake Cuenca talks about how he and girlfriend Kylie Verzosa prepare

for new roles while at home. Playing the role of mayor Troy drama series Ramones in the Viral Scandal, Jake Cuenca said he does not mind playing difficult characonscreen, even if may typecast him as being arrogant or dislikable. But unlike his previous roles, Jake said his latest one is not what it seems.

"Maybe aesthetically he looks

mayabang or pompous but I think you'll be quite surprised with what we're trying to achieve with Troy in this show. I know the trailer doesn't show it yet but that's the beauty of this show eh. The plots are so surprising, with the script our mind was blown. This role is not the stereotypical bad politician role," he said.

Known for having a strong personality on and off screen, Jake said he puts in a lot of work with every new character he plays.

"I'm not really worried about being typecast because that's why I do make an effort to make a complete transformation with every role that I do. Whether it be physically or mentally. I try to make every role different and even if something was similar, I would do my homework and still try to make it different even if it was an arrogant bad guy type of role. That's the beauty of being an actor, we're portraying people eh," he explained.

## Candid SPOOF

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



Second runner-up Kayleigh Cerezo poses with Tita Jemilie and Tito Ronnie Adajar.



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Madison Torreno celebrates her 9th birthday with family.







1. MH talents Ryza Quijano and Arielle Perez performed at the Lions Achiever Christmas dinner; 2-3. Flora Ventocilla celebrates her birthday with family.





4. MP Ya'ara Saks poses with FV owner Mel Galeon at the PIDC Festival; 5. Mel galeon and staff prepare the dessert table.

(L-R) Miss International 2016 Kylie Verzosa, Miss Universe 2016 finalist

Tourism 2013 Cindy Miranda and all

nade a crossover to

showbiz.



Tony A. San Juan received the Universal Peace Federation(UPF) "Award for Service to the Community" during the 2021 Philippine Independence Day Council's Mabuhay Philippines Festival Event on November 27, 2021. At right is PIDC founder Norma Carpio.

## Kylie Verzosa, Cindy Miranda dedma sa pahayag ni Maxine Medina tungkol sa pagpapaseksi?

Dedma lang sina Kylie Verzosa at Cindy Miranda sa naunang pahayag ni Miss Universe Philippines 2016 Maxine Medina.

Sinabi nitong hindi niya kayang sundan ang pagpapaseksing ginagawa nina Kylie at

Cindy sa pelikula.

"For me, hindi talaga ako ready sa ganoon," diin ni Maxine noon.

Bahagi ng paliwanag niya: "Kinalakihan ko

akihan ko na rin po talaga yung very

conservative...

beauty queens.

Pero hindi naman daw minamasama ni Maxine ang "path" na tinatahak ng ibang

"...that's my opinion. I

think, yung ginagawa naman nila is art."

Walang paliguy-ligoy pero maikli ang sagot ni Kylie tungkol sa deklarasyon ni Maxine.

"I respect her decision and I wish her the best."

Hindi naman sinagot ni Cindy ang tanong tungkol kay Maxine,

pero bago ito napag-usapan sa presscon ng My Husband, My Lover, magiliw siyang nagkuwento tungkol kay Miss Universe Philippines 2020 Rabiya Mateo na pumasok na rin sa showbiz.

"Our Miss Universe [Philippines 2020] Rabiya, she actually messaged me na sobrang tuwang-tuwa raw siya sa akin. Nakaka-inspire daw ako kasi nakikita nga niya yung

"Sabi ko nga sa kanya, I wanted to meet her kasi never pa kami nag-meet in person. Natutuwa ako, pina-follow niya ako, tinitingnan niya yung mga stories. Sana makatrabaho ko siya."

Hindi lamang si Cindy ang may kuwento tungkol kay Rabiya dahil ibinahagi rin ni Kylie ang pagkikita nila ng former Miss Universe Philippines titleholder.

"Nakasama ko siya the other day," ang sabi ni Kylie.

"Very sweet girl, I think na nasa GMA na siya. Feeling ko, gusto niya talagang maging aktres so we support her."







Epic Generation held their graduation dinner at Rembrandt Hall. In the middle is Consul General Orontes Castro. Far right is MP Rechie Valdez, Epic Generation founder Christine Santos and President of the Philippine Canadian chamber of commerce Primo Pagao.











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