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100,000 Government Employees Facing Layoffs

Bongbong Marcos opposes gov't job cuts to save funds

MANILA - Budget Secretary Amenah Pangandaman eyes laying off employees across 187 government agencies and state-run companies to identify redundancies and cut costs.

Marcos Jr. appoints Amenah Pangandaman as DBM chief to complete economic team

"Halimbawa po, kung 5% po ang maapektuhan ng programa, ang katumbas po nito ay P14.8 billion po kada taon na matitipid natin sa ating personnel services," she noted.

That would mean sending

100,000 government employees jobless out of an estimated 2-million workforce.

Pangandaman said she will operationalize the order of President Bongbong Marcos to "rightsize the bureaucracy," and will be finalized before his first

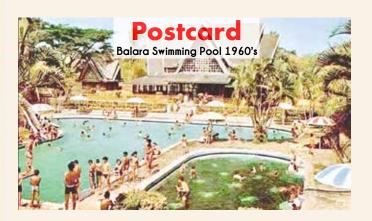
State of the Nation Address.

"Ang overarching objective nito ay magkaroon ng maliit na burukrasya na agile at responsive sa makabagong panahon. Aayusin po ng programang ito 'yung mga ahensya na mayroong repetitive functions or

overlapping functions," the new Cabinet secretary told DZBB.

"Pwede po silang mag-apply doon sa ibang position na pwede nating gawin at mabuo because of the rightsizing po. Iyong iba, magbibigay tayo ng

LAYOFFS page 15



New taxes needed, Balisacan says

MANILA - New taxes may have to be introduced to fund the incoming Marcos administration's priority projects, but the timing would have to be carefully considered, Socioeconomic Planning Secretary-designate Arsenio M. Balisacan

"If you want more public services, if you want to invest a lot into our health and education, and social sector, and to our farmers,

you must have sources of money for that. Obviously, you can only go so far with an improved tax administration."

Mr. Balisacan said new taxes will have to be introduced.

Incoming Finance Secretary Benjamin E. Diokno has said that he wants to avoid new taxes for now, preferring to focus on improving tax administration

TAXES p22

U.S. warns it will defend Philippines if China breaks sea ruling

MANILA - U.S. Secretary disputed sea. comply with a 2016 arbitration ruling that invalidated Beijing's vast claims in the South China Sea and warned that Washington is obligated to defend treaty ally Philippines if its forces, vessels or aircraft come under attack in the disputed waters.

Blinken's statement, issued by the U.S. Embassy in Manila on Tuesday, was released on the sixth anniversary of the 2016 decision by an arbitration tribunal set up in The Hague under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea after the Philippine government complained in 2013 against China's increasingly aggressive actions in the

of State Antony Blinken re- China did not participate newed a call to China to in the arbitration, rejected its ruling as a sham and continues to defy it, bringing it into territorial spats with the Philippines and other Southeast Asian claimant states in recent years.

"We call again on the PRC to abide by its obligations under international law and cease its provocative behaviour," Blinken said, using the acronym of China's formal name.

"We also reaffirm that an armed attack on Philippine armed forces, public vessels, or aircraft in the South China Sea would invoke U.S. mutual defence commitments" under the 1951 U.S.-Phil-

DEFEND p19



Gen Z, Young Millennials are boosting economy by Shopping

MANILA - Gen Z and young millennials are driving economic growth with their spending, the country's finance chief said as the new normal allows for a return to restaurant dining and shopping in brick-and-mortar stores.

Domestic consumption led



by the youth remains to be the top contributor to economic

Meonfidential

growth, Finance Sec. Benjamin SHOPPING p17

LMconfidentia:

Napilitang maghubad Diana 10 beses niligwak ng ABS-CBN

Nag-open up ang dating sexy star na si Diana Zubiri ng kanyang life story mula pagkabata, pagpasok sa mundo ng showbiz, at estado ng kanyang buhay ngayon.

"Aaminin ko po. Mula Star Circle 1 hanggang 10, ako po ay nag-apply! Pero naligwak ang lola niyo," pagbubunyag pa ni Diana.

Nawalan na umano siya ng pag-asang maging artista dahil dito.

Naranasan din daw niyang maging extra sa mga show. Dumating sa puntong wala nang kumukuha sa kanya kaya naisipan na lang ni Diana na maging dancer sa Japan.

Bago pa man siya makalipad, na-discover siya ng Seiko films. Pero ang catch, kailangan niyang maging sexy star.

"Sabi ko, kaya ko ba? Sa isip ko talagang gustong-gusto ko," kuwento pa niya.

Pinipigilan umano siya ng kanyang ina dahil masyado pa siyang bata that time (16 anyos) ngunit sinuway niya ito.

Tinangkilik man siya ng madla bilang sexy star, parang may kulang pa rin at hindi siya kontento.

Nang maging semi-regular na siya sa "Eat Bulaga" ay doon naramda- man ni

Diana na artista na talaga siya.

Tinuturing niyang full turn to stardom ang kanyang pictorial noong 2002 para sa FHM magazine sa isang flyover sa Mandaluyong nang naka-red two piece na talagang hanggang ngayon ay nakatatak na sa mga Pinoy.

Kaaliw din ang kuwento niyang



Friends Angela Castillo, Ryza Quijano and Samantha Gavin have an impromptu reunion at the Niagara Fiesta Extravaganza.



Basil Rodricks (MIDDLE) of Sun Life helps promote the services of the company.

pumayag siya sa pictorial sa kondisyon na bibigyan siya ng pinakaunang cellphone noon na may camera at siyempre, mamahalin.

Nakilala rin si Diana sa pagganap bilang Danaya sa fantaseryeng "Encantadia" ng GMA.

Abot-abot ang kanyang pasasalamat sa Seiko, FHM, GMA-7 sa napakalaking tulong sa kanyang showbiz career.

Sa ngayon, nasa Australia si Diana kasama ang asawang si Andy Smith at mga

> Babalik pa umano siya sa Pilipinas dahil gusto pa niyang ituloy ang career. May isinasaayos lang umano siyang papeles para na rin sa kapakanan ng kanyang mga anak.

"Hindi ko iiwanan ang showbiz. Aaminin ko po. Ang showbiz ang nagpaganda ng buhay ko. Utang ko sa showbiz ang lahat ng kung anong meron ako ngayon at meron ang pamilya ko," dagdag pa ng aktres.

Trabaho lang naman 'to Direk GB Sampedro makes sex movies kahit may mga anak na babae

ANG tarush ni Direk GB Sampedro dahil number one na agad sa Vivamax ang pelikula niyang "Purification" pati na ang sexy series na idinirek din niya na "High On Sex."

Consistent number one sa online platform ng Viva Films pati mga nauna niyang pelikula noon tulad ng "Doblado", "Kinsenas Katapusan" at "Kaka."

At dahil moneymaker ng Vivamax ang mga pelikula ni direk GB kaya kinontrata na siya ng 10 movies ngayong 2022 na posible pang madagdagan.

Tanda namin ay inspired by true

events ang lahat ng kuwento ng pelikula ni direk GB na siya mismo ang nakararanas o ng mga kaibigan niya.

Aniya, "Most ng pelikula ko ay konsepto ko then nagcko-collaborate ako sa writer sa paggawa ng script."

Karamihan sa mga artista niya sa pelikula ay mga baguhan lalo na si Wilbert Ross na unang nakilala bilang miyembro ng Hashtags, pero dahil nawalan ng prangkisa ang ABS-CBN kaya hindi na matunog ang binata.

Pero dahil sa "Crush Kong Curly" ay muling umingay ang pangalan ni Wilbert na sinundan ng pelikulang "Boy Bastos" at ito ngang "High on Sex."

> Natutuwa naman si direk GB dahil may mga kontribusyon siya sa pagsikat ng mga bagong stars ng Vivamax.

Say ng direktor, hindi naman siya nahirapang idirek ang mga baguhan dahil bago gumiling ang kamera ay, "Sumasailalim ang cast sa workshop. Di naman ako nahirapan kasi kinikilala ko sila mabuti para alam ko on how to handle them."

Pamilyadong tao at may mga babaeng anak si direk GB kaya natanong kung hindi ba siya naaalangang gumawa ng sexy movies at ano ang say ng misis niyang doktora.

"May mga do's and don't's. At the end of the day, trabaho lang naman ito. Ginagawa ko lang naman ang work ko as a director and naiintindihan nila ito," esplika niya.

Kilalang concert director din si direk GB kaya para sa kanya ano ang mas exciting gawin? "Sa bawat project na ginagawa I make sure na gusto ko ang trabahong tinatanggap ko para nae-excite at nae-enjoy ko itong gawin at the same time.

"Preference ko rin kasi ang iba't ibang uri ng proyekto ang tinatanggap ko para laging bago para sa akin ang gagawin ko.

"Kahit sa pelikula mas gusto ko na ibaibang genre para rin di ako mapako sa isang uri lang ng film," paliwanag nito.



Pokwang, American husband Lee split

Comedienne Pokwang put an end to speculations about her relationship with actor Lee O'Brian, admitting that they have called it quits.

Pokwang revealed that they have separated since November 2021 but added that they parted ways in a good way.





No third party involved and we're both co-parenting kay Malia. Maayos naming tinapos ang lahat. Hindi kami pait-paitan," she said. "We're okay. No third party involved and we're both co-parenting kay Malia," sagot ng actress-TV host kay Leo Bukas.

Pokwang also took a swipe at her bashers.

"Pakisabi sa mga bashers na nagsasabing karma ito—NO!!! Hahaha! Do not wish anything bad sa kapwa, yon ang karma. Babalik sa kanila yan! Nililinis lang ni God ang daraanan ko papunta sa tamang tao at sa mas maraming blessings na nakapila na," she said.

O'Brian, on the other hand, is expected to return to the US, according to the report.

Seven months na pala silang hiwalay at maayos daw ang setup nila.

Good for them.

Mayaman na, pogi pa' Nadine super kilig kay Christophe

Bihirang pagkakataon lang na nagbabahagi si Nadine Lustre ng tungkol sa kanyang non-showbiz boyfriend na si Christophe Bariou.

Pero sa naging interview niya kay Boy Abunda, sinagot niya ang ilang tanong nito tungkol sa kanyang lovelife. Simula



nang maging item sila, talagang marami na ang nasusulat at napag-uusapan tungkol sa kanila ni Christophe, lalo na ang buhay nila sa Siargao.

Sabi naman ni Nadine, kumportable na

rin daw ito na biglang nasa limelight na rin.

"He is, well, he's getting used to it. I think, he understood that it's something he cannot escape. Yes, it's part of it, he's okay with it."

Natawa naman si Nadine sa diretsong tanong ni Kuya Boy kung sino raw ba talaga ito.

"Si Chris kasi, he's half-French, half-Filipino. He's been living in Siargao for 8 years na. Since his dad bought land din in Siargao, matagal na... 70's, 80's, basta long time ago. I don't know why he ended up in Siargao aside from business. Kasi, they started developing like two years ago... hindi ko rin alam," natawang sabi niya.

May mga ari-arian na private villa/resort nga raw si Chris sa Siargao na maaring marentahan. At ang larawan pa ni Nadine, sa place nito, may spot na nagmi-meet ang ilog at dagat. At nag-cross naman daw ang path nilang dalawa through a common friend.

"We went to Siargao for a vacation last year, kasi medyo maluwag na no'ng time na 'yon, we we're able to fly-out."

Sa tanong naman kung ano ang impression ni Nadine sa boyfriend, "Well, when we went there, my friend we're actually saying, he's cute. So, when I met him, well, okay, he's cute, hahaha!" kinikilig na sagot ni Nadine.

'Di retoke ilong ko – Aiko

Hanggang ngayon pala, kahit early teens pa lang ng isa sa Konsehal ng Quezon City na si Aiko Melendez ay artista na siya at napapanood na siya sa telebisyon at pelikula, may nagdududa pa rin kung may pinagawa siya sa mukha niya.

Pinagtatawanan na lang ni Aiko pero, ipinost pa rin niya sa kanyang Facebook account ang pagkukuwestiyon sa kanyang ilong. Pati na ang kanyang before and after photos.

Sabi ni Aiko, "May nag-message sa akin. Ms. Aiko maganda pagkakagawa ng ilong mo po. Sino po doctor, papagawa ko po sakto ganyan po. Gusto ko mahulog sa up-



uan ko. Hahahaha! Ka level ba ito ng lagi sinasabi ni Mader Ogie Diaz sa akin, manager ko na kapag may post ako na picture, 'Aiks anong beauty app yan? Sige na nga, pakita ko

before and after picture ko."

In fairness, isa sa may magandang hugis talaga ng ilong sa mga artista ay si Aiko. Kaya nama siguro pinagdududahan ng iba na retoke ito.

Christophe keber na artista si Nadine

First time na nag-open si Nadine Lustre hinggil sa relasyon niya sa French businessman boyfriend na si Christophe Bariou.

Ayon sa aktres, nag-meet sila ng guy through common friends nang pumunta siya sa Siargao July last year.

"I have friends who have been living in Siargao for a while now. In July last year, two of my friends (and I)ended up going to Siargao just for a vacation kasi nga medyo maluwag na nu'ng time na 'yun so we were able to fly out," pagbabalik-tanaw niva.

Nagwo-work daw ang isang friend niya kay Bariou, kaya nagsabi silang grupo kung puwede pumunta sila sa secret beach spot na malapit sa private resort nina Christophe kung saan doon daw sila nagmeet and that was when they first met.

"She asked him if we can go to his spot kasi there's a secret beach there, there's no one there most of the time. 'Yun 'yung



kung saan
magmi-meet
yung ilog at
dagat. Asked
him if we
could go, but
we ended up
just swimming
in his pool.
That's pretty

much it," ani Nadz.

Ano ba ang first impression niya kay Christophe

Lahad ng actress, "My friends kasi were talking about him and they were saying na he's really cute. When I saw him, I'm like 'Okay fine, he's actually kinda cute."

Ayon pa sa kanya, si Bariou ay half-Filipino and half-French at 8 years nang naninirahan sa Siargao.

Komportable ba ang boyfriend niya na ang karelasyon nito ay isang public person-



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Life's brighter under the sui



ality?

"He is. He's getting used to it at least. I think he understands that it's something that he cannot escape. It's part of it. He's okay with it," ang sagot ni Nadine.

Cristy Fermin, nabanggit ang tsismis na tamad daw umano si Lee O'Brian

- Cristy Fermin has posted a new 'Showbiz Now Na' vlog where she talked about Pokwang's split with Lee O'Brian
- In the vlog, Cristy discussed some of the rumors surrounding the former celebrity couple's break up
- Among these rumors was about Lee who was allegedly said to be lazy, as mentioned by Cristy
- Rommel Chika, one of the hosts of the vlog, also talked about Pokwang's family allegedly not being in favor of Lee

Cristy Fermin, 65, mentioned a rumor about Lee who is allegedly said to be lazy.

Cristy Fermin, nabanggit ang tsismis na tamad daw umano si Lee O'Brian.

"Ito nga yung mga lumulutang na kwento, tamad daw si Lee O'Brian. Tamad. Kumbaga, si Pokwang talaga yung nagta-

trabaho, yung kumikilos para sa kanilang pamilya," Cristy said.

Upon hearing this, Rommel Chika also discussed another rumor about the former celebrity couple.

In the vlog, Rommel said, "Parang ang nangyari eh you and me against the world na parang hindi boto lahat ng kapamilya ni Mama Pokwang dun sa asawa niya kasi walang trabaho. Ang akala nila, dahil foreigner eh makakatulong sana, tulungan sila. Eh kaso ang nangyari, parang si Pokwang pa ang kumikilos sa ikabubuhay ng kanilang pamilya."

Needless to say, the said rumor also elicit-

ed a reaction from Cristy who summed up the rumors in their vlog.

"Sa madaling salita, parang pabigat pa si Lee, ganun," Cristy remarked afterwards.

Kris Bernal todo landi sa Switzerland

May pagka-witty rin si Kris Bernal sa ginawa niyang wording sa caption niya sa ipinost na pictures nila ng asawang si Perry Choi.

Kasalukuyan ngang nasa late wedding honeymoon nila si Kris at Perry at nagtutour sa Europe. Nasa Switzerland sila dahil sa mga location sa K-drama na "Crash

Landing On You."

Marami na rin Pinoy celebrities ang nagpunta rito, bago sina Kris at Perry ay ang pamilya nina Sen. Manny Pacquio at Jinkee Pacquiao.

Pero si Kris, mukhang kinakareer ang "paglalandi" sa kanyang Mister, pero sey niya, dedma naman yata sa Mister niya ang paglalandi niya rito, huh! Kaya ang caption niya, "Crash 'landi' on you... But husband, not landi..."

Kinuwento rin ni Kris na, "When we were deciding which country to replace London (due to our UK Visa arriving late), I asked my husband if we could visit Switzerland instead, primarily because I wanted to visit some of CLOY's filming locations.

"Ta-duuhh, this is the exact spot where Captain Ri played a beautiful, piano song, featured at the end of Ep. 7. Kan-ya-kanyang awra kami ng asawa ko. As a CLOY fan, feel ko nayakap ko si Captain Ri! Haha! Lol!"

Sa isang banda, magbunga kaya ang landi ni Kris sa kanyang mister at posibleng magkaroon sila ng baby na made in Europe?













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'At least 'di pala siya

baog: Jeric Raval on daughter AJ's rumored pregnancy

Action star Jeric Raval denied that his daughter AJ is pregnant.

In his interview with actor and talent manager Ogie Diaz, Jeric said AJ is currently shooting for her upcoming project for Viva.

"Sabi ko nga kay Bats (AJ), bakit kaya hindi mo sagutin? Sabi sa akin, 'Nagsawa na ako sa kasasagot 'Tay



Eric, three months ago, four months "Sabi ko,

elebrity father and daughter

ago'," he said. 'Asan ka ba ngayon?' At sabi nga niya,

nagso-shooting siya. Nasa Angeles sila ngayon, tinatapos niya 'yung movie niya sa Viva," he added.

He also said that it is okay with him once AJ gets pregnant.

"Hindi (s'ya buntis). E bakit siya nagshu-shooting? Saka kung buntis, e, 'di mabuti, at least hindi pala siya baog," Jeric said, laughing.

AJ recently dismissed pregnancy rumors by going live on Instagram.

In the live video, AJ was seen being attended by her hairstylist while she's on the set of her new project "Us X Her." It was seen that the camera angle was showing her body to prove that she has no baby bump.

"Shoutout sa inyong lahat! Huwag na kayong masyadong nagpapaniwala sa tsismis... Tsaka kahit anong gawing eksplanasyon, 'yung mga galit lang naman ang maniniwala du'n," AJ said.



This was proven true yet again when a Filipino martial arts expert recently sprang into action to subdue a man who has been accused of attacking multiple random people on the street.

Filipino-American martial artist heroically subdues attacker accused of randomly assaulting New Yorkers

Ro Malabanan, who holds a black belt in jiu-jitsu, shared that he was in Manhattan's SoHo district on his way to work last morning of August 3 when he saw a man sucker punch a nearby construction worker before running away.

After checking on the construction worker, Malabanan decided to intervene, telling NBC News 4: "Who knows what he's capable of... My jiu-jitsu training kicked in, and I immediately just jumped on his back, he tried to fling me off of him. I had what's called the seatbelt position, which helped me to drag him down to the ground."

A passerby took a video of the immediate aftermath showing Ro holding down the suspect after police arrived at the scene.

The suspect reportedly punched several other people, including a 50-year-old and a 17-year-old, before Malabanan apprehended

Born in the Philippines but raised in New York, Malabanan told ABS-CBN News he was no stranger to attacks and hate crimes, which led him to study jiu-jitsu.

Aside from being a jiu-jitsu black belt, he also teaches boxing.

Cebuano tourist assaulted in New York; Consulate asks Filipinos to 'be vigilant'

THE Philippine Consulate General in New York (PCGNY) on Saturday, July 16, 2022, advised the Filipino community in New York to remain vigilant after an 18-year-old Filipino tourist from Cebu was reported to have been violently assaulted near the Philippine Center in Manhattan on

In a Facebook post Saturday, the Consulate has reminded the Filipino community and kababayans visiting New York to exercise necessary precautions while on the street or in the subways.

The PCGNY said that it received information that the Cebuano tourist was walking with three other Filipinos



near the corner of 6th Avenue and 46th Street when he was assaulted.

"The Filipino sustained facial injuries from the beating he received from the suspect who was eventually subdued and turned over to authorities," the Consulate said.

The agency said this was the 41st incident since 2021 that involves a Filipino who was either a victim of a hate crime or incident or a criminal act.

'The Consulate is in touch with the New York City Police Department to get more information on the incident. It is unknown at this point if the incident was anti-Asian-hate-related," the Consulate said.



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LM confidential PHILIPPINES

The Philippines Has One of the Worst Retirement Systems in the World

Want to retire early? Maybe hold off until you're sure you can really make it on your own because a new report has found that the Philippines has the worst retirement system in the world.

The 2019 Melbourne Mercer Global Pension Index, a report that measures pension system performance, graded the Philippines an overall index value of 43.7. Other countries in the same value include Korea, China, Japan, India, Mexico, Turkey, Argentina, and Thailand.

The countries in the top 10 are Netherlands, Denmark, Australia, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Singapore, New Zealand, Canada, and

The report also offers suggestions on how to bring up the index value:

- increasing the minimum level of support for the poorest aged individuals
- increasing coverage of employees in occupational pension schemes thereby increasing the level of contributions and assets
- setting aside funds in the public system for

the future thereby reducing reliance on the pay-as-you-go system

• introducing non-cash out options for retirement plan proceeds to be preserved for retirement purposes

It's not all bad news, however. The Philippines scored fairly well in terms of sustainability, which means it provides long-term benefits as opposed to generous short-term benefits.

It's all still alarming, to say the least, since most Filipinos don't even save enough for retirement to begin with.

Kat Dovey pabor sa condom, abortion

Namumukod-tangi sa lahat ng cast ng "High On Sex" si Kat Dovey na may nakakalokang opinyon tungkol sa "condom" at "abortion".

Sa presscon ng nabanggit na serye, tinanong namin sina Angela Morena, Denise Esteban, Kat sa usapin ng "condom", kung pabor ba silang ilagay ang mga ito sa mga eskuwelahan partikular sa high school, para maiwasan ang pagbubuntis at sakit na rin.

Sumagot si Angela na hindi siya pabor. No rin ang sagot ni Denise.

Pero si Kat, diretsong "of course" ang sagot dahil siya mismo ay nakasaksi sa mga kaklase niya na nagsi-sex sa loob ng paaralan.

Parehong hindi rin pabor sa "abortion" sina Angela at Denise. Pero, suportado ni Kat na gawig batas ito sa Pilipinas.

"Everyone deserves to decide for their body," sabi ni Kat na lumaki sa ibang bansa. Marami raw karanasan si Kat sa isyu ng sex at pang-aabuso.

Ang 'High On Sex' ay dinirek ni GB Sampedro.

Yassi feeling Hollywood star sa Barcelona Mas malawak ba ang network ni Yassi Pressman kaysa sa ibang Philippine based star, pagdating sa international connection?

Kung maka-yate naman kasi si Yassi sa Spain, talbog talaga, at pagkayaman-yaman ng itsura niya, ha!

Tumambling sa gulat ang mga netizen sa pinoste ni Yassi na video ng pagsakay nila sa private yacht sa Barcelona.

Makikita ang bonggang interior ng yate, na maihahalintulad sa mga inaarkila ng mga international star. May pa-Champagne pa ang team ni Yassi.

Sponsored ng isang party host, na si Aimad Brown o @brownbcn (Instagram), na pinasalamatan ni Yassi sa kanyang message.

"We got a boat yesterday & it day was a

greeeat day. Thanks kuya & gracias por hacer esto realidad @brownbcn," sabi

> Kaya naman ni Yassi ang magrent ng private yacht sa Spain. Pero siyempre, dahil wais sap era si Yassi, hindi ito maglulustay ng libong dolyares para sa ganung kapritso.

What Janine Gutierrez finds endearing about Paulo Avelino

-Inamin ni Janine Gutierrez na patuloy pa rin silang nagkikita

ng rumored boyfriend niyang si Paulo Avelino.

Nagkatambal sila sa seryeng Marry Me, Marry You sa Kapamilya Channel, at dito nabuo ang malalim at espesyal

na relasyon sa pagitan nilang dalawa.

Sabi ni Janine sa PEP.ph (Philippine Entertainment Portal): "Nakikita ko naman siya. Go out? Yeah, oo. Yes, always naman I'm happy. I'm happy that he is in my life.

"But aside from that, ang daming magandang trabaho. Parang yung mga matagal ko ng minimithi na mga projects tulad nitong Sleep With Me, Dirty Linen, yung Ngayon Kaya, marami lang blessings kaya nagpapasalamat ako."

Halatang mailap pa rin si Janine sa pagdetalye sa tunay na estado ng relasyon nila ni Paulo.

"Ligawan? Ewan ko. Hahaha! Ang daya, wala siya dito. Saka na lang pag nandito na siya," paiwas na sagot ni Janine nang usisain tungkol sa kanila ni Paulo.

Ang tanging idinetalye niya ay ang mga espesyal na katangian ng aktor na nagpapakilig sa kanya.

Paglalarawan ni Janine kay Paulo: "Well, siguro, alam ko lang na maasahan ko siya.

"Palagi siyang mayroong encouragement, na malaking bagay yun coming from someone like him."

Nakapanayam ng PEP.ph si Janine sa presscon ng pelikulang Sleep With Me na ginanap sa ABS-CBN compound kahapon, August 4, 2022.

FOLLOW-UP PROJECT?

Mataas ang ratings ng Marry Me, Marry You at positibo rin ang feedback sa pelikula nilang Ngayon Kaya.

May next project ba sila?

Sagot ni Janine, "Mayroon ding inquiry for follow-up projects and I hope we'll also get to work together again in the future.

MOVIE DATE WITH PAULO

Sa ngayon, aayain daw ni Janine si Paulo na panoorin ang Sleep With Me lalo't excited ito para sa pelikula.

Sabi ni Janine: "Yeah, super excited siya to watch this. Well, I'm happy kasi nga excited siya. I appreciate his opinion bilang isang magaling siyang artista, producer din siya. I hope he likes it."

Ang Sleep With Me ay pinagbibidahan nina Janine at Lovi Poe na may same-sex relationship sa takbo ng kuwento.

Dati nang nakatrabaho ni Paulo si Lovi sa Cinemalaya 2013 entry na Sana Dati.

Amanda game sa dog style

Ang Vivamax hottie na si Amanda Avecilla ay

walang arte kapag maiinit na love scene ang pag-uusapan. Dito'y natanong si Amanda na kung may eksenang kailangan siyang lamutakin ng

leading man niya, sino ang type niya?

Tugon niya, "Sa lalaki po ba o sa babae? Kapag sa lalaki po, ang gusto ko ay si Albert Martinez, gusto ko po kasi yung maangas pero sexy looking guy. Kung sa babae naman,

gusto ko si Rhen Escano

po, kasi ay gandang-ganda ako sa kanya."

Katatapos lang niyang mapanood sa Scorpio Nights 3 at this August ay sa Sitio Diablo naman mapapanood si Amanda sa Vivamax.

Sa mga pelikulang nagawa niya, nabanggit ng sexy actress na madalas siyang mapasabak sa mga orgy scenes. Pero okay lang ito sa seksing-seksing alaga ni Jojo Veloso dahil itinuturing niya ito bilang part lang ng trabaho niya bilang aktres.

Sa Fast Talk segment ng show, inusisa si Amanda kung ano ang best time for sex para sa kanya? "Ang best time for sex para po sa akin ay sa tanghali, para meryenda. Yes, okay po sa akin na meryenda ang buhay na hotdog,

Ano ang kanyang favorite sexual position? "Mahilig po kasi ako sa aso eh, so dog style po, hahaha! Iyon ang sa tingin ko ay pinaka-satisfying for me, based on experience lang po," nakangiting wika pa ni Amanda.







Happy na sa US: Tom walang balak bumalik ng Pinas

Maraming netizen ang natuwa sa muling pagbabalik ni Tom Rodriguez sa social media.

Huling post pa ng Kapuso actor sa Instagram ay noong February 24 pa at nag-promote siya ng pelikula nila ni Meg Imperial na 'The Last Five Years'.

Peto heto nga at nag-post ng video si Tom habang nagpapaaraw siya at ang music na gamit niya ay "A Great Day To Be Alive" ni Travis Tritt. May caption pa ang video niya na: "Great day to be alive indeed! Wishing

everyone a blissful day...You hold the power to make your day however you choose...make it a positive one."

Two days ago ay nag-post si Tom ng isa pang video niyang si Carla Abellana, marami pakunsaan nagpi-piano siya. Nilagyan niya ito ng caption na: rin ang gustong marinig ang side ni

"Music has got to be one of the best and free ways I've found to soothe. Not much of a piano player, but it was fun trying to find my own way to play this John Mayer song."

Pinost din ni Tom sa kanyang IG

Stories ang view ng bahay ng pamilya niya sa Arizona.

Ayon sa kanyang manager na si Popoy Caritativo, hindi pa rin daw handang umuwi ng Pilipinas ang aktor at patuloy ang pananahimik nito sa Amerika.

Kahit na napatun-

gan na ng maraming showbiz issues ang paghihiwalay nila ng ex-wife niyang si Carla Abellana, marami pa rin ang gustong marinig ang side ni Tom sa naging marital issue nila.

Tinanong nga si Popoy kung ano ang pinagkakitaan ni Tom sa Amerika? Marami raw itong gagawing show sa US at marami roon ay bilang guest sa mga shows ni Ai-Ai delas Alas.

Hiling ng ilang netizen na sana ay kunin siyang guest ni Alden Richards sa mga gagawin nitong show sa US since nagkasama sila sa teleserye na The World Between Us.

May ibang netizen naman na nagsa-suggest na subukan na ni Tom ang suwerte niya sa pag-audition sa Hollywood. Yaman din lang at American citizen siya at maganda ang acting credentials niya dito sa Pilipinas, malaki ang chance nito na ma-penetrate ang paggawa ng pelikula at TV shows sa Amerika basta't may magaling siyang agent doon.

MVP on ABS-CBN, TV5 joint venture: "An agreement is high, near'

Businessman Manuel V. Pangilinan (MVP) revealed on Thursday that the joint venture between ABS-CBN and TV5 is near completion.

Speaking at sidelines of the PLDT financial briefing, he said, "We have been having discussions with them for over a year. But it is fair to characterize it as we're in the closing stages."

in the closing stages."
He added, "I think the likelihood of an agreement
with them is high. It's near."

MVP made clear: "We are not acquiring ABS-CBN. We are not acquiring any shares in ABS, instead they will be investing in TV5."

"The model we are working on is, it will be a joint venture between TV5, using the platform of TV5 as the free-to-air broadcast platform of both TV5 and PLDT Group and the ABS-CBN group," he explained.

MVP related they are now inthe process of securing board approval which he believes will be decided "Sometime August definitely, maybe in the next 2 week, 3 weeks."

ABS-CBN has been operating sans TV franchise for

It has a block time leasing deal with TV5. It has also established a partnership with Zoe Broadcasting Network Inc.



GLOBAL EMERGENCY A man in New York who has recovered from monkeypox shows scars from rashes on his skin in a photo taken July 19.

Monkeypox reaches PH; DOH turning to US for jabs

The Department of Health (DOH) reported the first monkeypox case in the Philippines last July 29 and officials said they were trying to obtain vaccines and medicines against the viral disease from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The 31-year-old Filipino who returned from abroad early on July 19 had already recovered but was still isolating at home, according to Health Undersecretary Beverly Ho.

Mode of treatment

These vaccines would only be for a "select population group" that is most at risk in contracting the disease.

"It's not like COVID that all of us need to be vaccinated," Ho said.

The main mode of treatment, she said, was still "supportive therapy." This involves relieving symptoms to prevent the patient's condition from worsening. "The medicines will come in handy just in case the case is not a simple one," Ho said.

Sexual contact

Health authorities say that disease transmission can occur through contact with skin lesions caused by the virus, as well as

body fluids, large respiratory droplets and contaminated bedding.

Not hard to handle

Dr. Rontgene Solante, head of San Lazaro Hospital's adult infectious diseases unit, told the Inquirer that the disease was "not too difficult to handle" because it was "not as complicated as COVID-19."

"Our experience with COVID will help us in terms of room allocations for isolation and clinical management diagnosis. But there are important points that we need to know about this monkeypox and why it is not difficult to handle," Solante said

"Most patients will only have mild to moderate symptoms, mostly skin lesions," he said

Caring for patients entailed lesser use of equipment to manage COVID-19, like mechanical ventilators. Monkeypox patients may just isolate themselves at home and may not need hospital treatment, he added.

"Minimize close sexual contact with suspected cases, especially those with rashes or open wounds. Keep hands clean. Wear a face mask, cover coughs using the elbow, and choose areas with good airflow," it said.

Newbie Elle Villanueva proves her acting mettle in Return to Paradise

Aminado si Elle Villanueva na nahirapan siya sa mga intimate scenes sa Return to Paradise.

Pero ang baguhang aktres ay handpicked para sa role na si Eden.

Mukhang nakita ng Kapuso ang kanyang potenat pagiging palaban sa pagpapaka-darkaya bida siya agad sa kanyang unang teleserye.

Inamin naman ni Elle na talagang palaban siya bilang aktres.

Paninigurado niya, "Lalo na ngayon, kahit anong project na ibinibigay sa akin, talagang tinututukan ko. Takot akong pumunta sa set nang hindi prepared o hindi binabasa ang script at hindi kinikilala ang mga makaka-trabaho ko.

"It's just my anxiety, hindi ko kayang pumunta talaga na hindi prepared o hindi immersed sa character ko.

WORKING WITH LEADING MAN DERRICK MONASTERIO

Samantala, malaking bagay daw kay Elle na ang kanyang leading man sa Return to Paradise ay ang Kapuso Hunk actor na si Derrick Monasterio.

"Actually, ang impression ko po sa kanya, parang nakukuha po niya ang lahat ng gusto niya sa babae at sa lahat ng bagay," natawang sabi ni Elle.

Kahit na "playboy" ang first impression niya sa kanyang leading man, nilinaw ni Elle na nabago naman ang pagtingin niya kay Derrick kalaunan.

"Kasi, sobrang bait pala niya, sobrang genuine niya na tao. 'Tapos, maalaga siya, as in, before kami mag-shoot—noong nagkasakit ako, kahit outside work na, inaalagaan pa rin niya ako. Tsine-check niya kung okay lang ba ako.

Sa diretsahang tanong, hindi pa ba nagpapalipad-hangin o nanliligaw sa kanya si Derrick?

"Wala pa namang ligaw," sabi niya.

"Pero palagi po kaming magka-usap, kasi ganoon na nga po kami ka-close. Pero wala pa pong anything romantic."

Dusa maging dyosa: Heart tubig, chips lang nilafang sa Paris

Pinakita na ni Heart Evangelista sa YouTube channel niya ang pagrampa sa Paris, kung saan dumalo nga siya sa mga fashion show ng iba't ibang sikat na brand, designer

Kaiinggitan talaga ng mga Pinoy celebrity, fashion enthusiast, ang mga ganap ni Heart sa Paris, kung saan mistulang diva, o world renowned celebrity ang aktres.

VIP ang ginawang trato kay Heart sa mga pinuntahan niyang shop ng mga brand. Hinatagan, pinilian siya ng mga damit na isusuot niya sa mga fashion show at binigyan din siya ng laya na piliin, i-mix and match ang mga napili niyang

damit.

Gi-

height

gown.

mga

na

nawan ng paraan sumakto sa kanyang at body size ang mga Pinadalhan pa siya ng bag, accessory, bilang sasalamat sa pagsuot niya ng kanilang mga item.

Pasabog palagi sa paparazzi ang pagdating ni Heart. Pinakiusapan pa siyang rumampa sa kalye para lang makunan ng larawan.

No wonder kung bakit pumayat nang

husto si Heart, dahil tubig, vitamins, chips lang ang nilaklak niya sa araw-araw na activity sa Paris.

'Yung hawak niyang chocolate chips, pinag-isipan pa nang matagal kung kakainin, na sa huli ay hindi rin nilafang.

Mahihirapan ang mga Pinoy star na mapantayan si Heart sa status niya sa Paris fashion industry. Kailangan munang magpaganda, magpapayat, magpaka-class, media mileage, influence sa mga sikat na brand, bago nila maabot ang naabot ni Heart.

Kulang na lang sambahin si Heart sa mga pinuntahan niyang store dahil sa pasasalamat ng staff na sila ang napili niyang isuot sa mga dadaluhang event.

LM confidential

The Philippines Has One of the Worst Retirement Systems in the World, According to Report

It's not all bad news. however.

Want to retire early? Maybe hold off until you're sure you can really make it on your own because a new report has found that the Philippines has the worst retirement system in the world.

The 2019 Melbourne Mercer Global Pension Index, a report that measures

pension system performance, graded the Philippines an overall index value of 43.7. Other countries in the same value include Korea, China, Japan, India, Mexico, Turkey, Argentina, and Thailand.

The countries in the top 10 are Netherlands, Denmark, Australia, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Singapore, New Zealand, Canada, and Chile.

The report also offers suggestions on

how to bring up the index value:

- increasing the minimum level of support for the poorest aged individuals
- increasing coverage of employees in occupational pension schemes thereby increasing the level of contributions
- •setting aside funds in the public system for the future thereby reducing reliance on the pay-as-you-go system
- introducing non-cash out options

for retirement plan proceeds to be preserved for retirement purposes

It's not all bad news, however. The Philippines scored fairly well in terms of sustainability, which means it provides long-term benefits as opposed to generous short-term benefits.

It's all still alarming, to say the least, since most Filipinos don't even save enough for retirement to begin with.

Markus Paterson is not a fan of LDR

finding love online, knowing fully well that in this day and age, social media and other digital streaming platforms have become part of our daily existence.

The Kapamilya actor admits to not being so familiar with the traditional courtship in the Philippines or winning the heart of a girl through "akyat ng ligaw sa bahay," but he prefers wooing his ladylove in person.

"Yeah, I believe in ligawan. It's a cultural thing, especially here in the Philippines and since I grew up in the UK, it's not really a part of our culture. So, parang nagulat lang ako with the whole process but it's nice to learn because I'm also a Filipino," said Markus, who was born to a Filipina mom and a British dad.

Courting a girl, he added, is not just about making a good impression, but also showing his honesty and pure intentions.

"There can still be a lot of factors but for

Markus Paterson sees nothing wrong about me, it's being true to yourself and making

sure you're showing your true colors because the worse thing is getting into a relationship and suddenly the person changes, parang they're just putting their best foot forward where they think they would like them more because they are being someone else (someone they're not)."

Nevertheless, Markus accepted the challenge of acting out a character, who professes his love online. Based on the trailer, the actor will certainly make audiences think about the pros and cons of surviving the distance in the name of love.

Markus agrees that there is no love without sacrifice. Becoming a dad at 23 years old has taught Markus to determine what is important.

"I put away lahat ng mga bisyo, everything that 23-year-olds do like going out to party, things like that. But it wasn't even a hard thing to do because I embraced (my) being a young father," said Markus,

who is a proud dad to his and Janella Salvador's one-year-old son Jude.

Meanwhile, Markus is grateful for the opportunity to display his acting talent once again in MMK following his impressive performance in Viral Scandal.

Strangers Online, if he is not mistaken, is Markus' fourth MMK project. He hopes to do more in the future.

"I hope in the future, mas marami pa akong opportunities with MMK. Nagpaparinig na ako, hahahaha," he concluded.

Maxene Magalona on how to deal with pain while meditating

Actress and yoga teacher Maxene Magalona cried out when she felt great pain while doing meditation recently.

"I cried pretty hard during my meditation this morning. I was so deep in my practice that I could really feel the pain and heaviness in my chest. The pain was sharp and intense but still bearable. I stayed calm," she recounted via her Instagram page last Friday, Aug. 5, where she showed a photo of herself in tears. "Even when the tears started to come, I gently breathed my way through the process."

Magalona shared that she read a book by Michael A. Singer, "The Untethered Soul" which explains that "when the heart is finally releasing stored pain and it feels as though there is a burning sensation around it, we should just relax and release."

"We should relax our shoulders, soften our chest and release the negative energy by allowing it to pass through the heart. There is a burning sensation because this release is a form of purification that happens when you are ready to face and feel the pain," she said.

Magalona, instead of running away from my pain, sat with it quietly and allowed herself "to feel it no matter how difficult it was." She breathed and prayed, as if she

was "becoming the pain. The kind of pain that stems all the way from childhood."

She made peace with her pain

by allowing herself to feel it then surrender everything to God in "In doing so, I get to validate

and honor my own emotions. I get to cradle my soul lovingly as

I hold space for my humanness and embrace the glorious mess that I am," she said.

She asked people to not "be scared to face your inner struggles because on the other side of pain is pleasure and play. It will only hurt for a while but once you accept and embrace pain, life becomes so much lighter and



Showbiz icon Cherie Gil dies at 59

The entertainment industry mourns the passing of veteran actress Cherie Gil on the night of July 5, Friday. She was 59 and battled cancer for some time.

Her nephew, Sid Lucero, confirmed her passing to GMA News. However, her family hasn't disclosed the cause of death or other details.



Cherie moved to New York in February 2022 to be with her kids. She even shaved her hair to symbolize a new chapter in her life. Based on her Facebook posts, the actress had been receiving treatment at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

Cherie came from a prominent family of actors, the only daughter of Eddie Mesa and Rosemarie Gil, as well as the sibling of the late Mark Gil and Michael de Mesa. Cherie had an early beginning in showbiz through various supporting roles. She later rose to fame after bagging the titular role in Problem Child at 15, starring alongside her mother.

Eventually, she starred in films such as Manila by Night (1980), Oro, Plata, Mata (1982), and Bituing Walang Ninging (1985).

By 1994, Cherie took an 11-year break to focus on family. She returned to the big screen in the drama film Sugatang Puso (2001), which earned her the Best Supporting Actress award at the Metro Manila Film Festival.

In 2018, the veteran actress briefly appeared in Citizen Jake, where her performance landed her first Gawad Urian Award

Francine nagmaldita, nilait mga beki

Hindi kinaya ng Beks Battalion ang pagmamaldita ng teen actress na si Francine Diaz habang nasa iisang dressing room lang sila.

Excited pa naman daw ang grupo nila na maka-collab si Francine dahil kilala nila itong makulit, madaldal at palatawa. Pero

sa una nilang pagkikita, nag-attitude ang aktres, nagsuplada at nagsungit na minaliit ang tatlo.

Pero, humanga ang mga bakla sa galing ni Francine na umarte dahil prank lang niya 'yon sa kanila para sa kanyang vlog! Hahaha! Isa-isang biniktima ng aktres sina Chad Kinis, Lassy, MC Muah dahil hindi sabay-sabay na dumating ang tatlo para sana pag-usapan ang pinaplanong collab nila kay Francine.

Clueless sila na pinagtitripan na sila ng aktres. Ang totoo, sobrang natutuwa rin si





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Life's brighter under the sun



Francine sa kanila at excited ding makatrabaho ang mga ito.

"Nakikita ko mga prank nila eh, sobrang success. Sabi ko paano ko mapa-prank ang mga ito?" say ng aktres.

Sa prank video ni Francine sa kanyang YouTube channel, may mga linya siyang "Ano 'yung Beks Battalion?" "Parang masikip na dito sa dressing room" "Nasaan 'yung bag ko? Pakitabi nga, baka mawala".

May part din na parang ayaw na niyang tapusin ang vlog dahil masisira na ang

kanyang mukha sa tagal mababad sa camera. Hahaha!

Nakipagsabwatan din sa prank si Giselle Sanchez na nagkataong naroon din sa dressing room.

"Kaya reminder sa inyong lahat. Kailangan humble pa rin. Kasi 'di ba ang laki ng epekto nang hindi ka nag-hi? Nakakasira ng araw, ng mood," pagtatapos pa ni Francine.

Mission accomplished at successful nga si Francine bilang prankster.



LM confidential ENTERTAINMENT

for

Regine Velasquez officially replaces Karla Estrada in 'Magandang Buhay'

Kapamilya singer Regine Velasquez has now officially replaced Karla Estrada as one of the hosts on the ABS-CBN morning talk show "Magandang Buhay."

In Monday's episode of the program, Regine thanked Karla hosting the show for six years.

"Gusto rin nating magpasalamat siyempre kay Momshie Karla,

who's been with 'Magandang Buhay' for six years," Regine said.

"She has become part of the show so thank you very much and happy anniversary to you also. Siyempre, bahagi talaga siya ng 'Magandang Buhay,'" she added.

Regine became the guest host the program after Karla filed a leave of absence when she ran as a representative of a partylist in the recent national elections.

"Actually, kinakabahan ako. Hindi ko alam. Pang-ilang beses ko na dito, but for some reason, since I'm officially going to be part of 'Magandang Buhay' today, I'm so nervous. Kabadong-kabado talaga ako," she said.

"Excited ako, siyempre, very excited, but I'm just a little nervous. I don't know why. Pero siguro kasi kasama 'yun ng kapag naging host ka, there's a certain responsibility. But I'm happy. I'm very, very happy to be part of the family of 'Magandang Buhay,'" she added.

The show's other hosts, Jolina Magdangal and Melai Cantiveros, said that having Regine as their official co-host is the best gift "Magandang Buhay" received while celebrating its sixth anniversary this year.

How 'He's Into Her'

"Ang matapang, umiiyak, pero 'di nagpapasindak (A brave person may cry, but he never cowers)," said Belle Mariano as she recalled the mantra that she lived by while portraying Maxpein del Valle, her character in the vouth-oriented series "He's Into Her." As the show's second and final season streamed its last episode on Aug. 3, Belle tried to look back on the struggles that Maxpein went through as a young adult. She said: "This line that Max kept repeating to herself as she went through some of the most difficult times in her teenage life is also what left a mark in me as an individual. I want the audience to remember to be brave, to love truthfully, and to love even though it gives you so much pain," Belle said during the recent "He's Into Her"

As for her onscreen partner, Donny Pangilinan, whose character Deib Enrile showed remarkable transformation in the series, "a person's journey is never finished." Donny explained: "Just look at how much Deib had changed since the first episode. Learning from his experience, we must understand that everyone is going though something—no matter how popular he may be, no matter how much power he may have. We are all fighting silent battles.

Season 2 finale media conference.

Better actor

"Donny admitted to feeling sad about having to say goodbye to Deib. "He has changed me in many ways. I now see life differently. I will keep him close to my heart forever," he declared. "I was able to see the world in Deib's shoes. I got to relate with him. Maybe, as an actor, I've also matured in the way I approached scenes or processed my scripts. My whole perception of this industry has changed, as well as the reason I want to become a better actor. I experienced all these during this 'He's Into Her' journey."

In acting, I've picked up a lot from Direk Chad (Vidanes) and Ms Vanessa (Valdez, show writer). I'm now better prepared to take on new projects," she added.

Supportive, patient

Prior to doing "He's Into Her," Donny said he wasn't used to doing projects with "deep pushed Donny & Belle to their limits

drama," and that the series "really pushed me to my limits." He added:
"I didn't expect that I would be able to pull it off. I owe a lot to Belle and to everyone there—

even the crew—they were so supportive and patient with me. I'm lucky because I was put in an environment where it was so easy to work."

As their way of saying "thank you" to their supporters, the cast will be part of the "HIH All Access: The He's Into Her Grand Finale Concert" on Aug. 27 at Smart Araneta Coliseum.

Both Belle and Donny said they have gotten so much closer after working on the series. In fact, they've already introduced each other to their respective parents. For Belle, what really made Donny special in the eyes of her mom was his strong faith in God. "I now go to the same church as Donny. He actually introduced me to the members of that church, where I met so many others who helped me grow. That's a big deal for my parents."

Andrea Brillantes once joined talent contest to help ailing brother with cash prize

Actress Andrea Brillantes used to join talent contests in hopes that she will be



discovered, and once she did it to help her ailing elder brother.

"Before po kasi, nag-audition ako noong four years old ako. Hindi ako

natanggap kaya parang nawalan na kami ng pag-asa ng mom ko," she recalled during the face-to-face grand mediacon for "Lyric and Beat."

Then came a contest from a well-known shopping mall, a talent contest for kids which had a trip to Hong Kong Disneyland as prize. Still, Brillantes did not win.

Her next competition was the search for Little Miss Confetti. This time, she won first place.

"Nagkaroon pa ng isa pang contest

na sinalihan ko kasi kailangan namin ng pera, ng prize money kasi kailangan naming mapagaling ang kuya ko. Noong nanalo ako ng first place, parang ang sarap sa pakiramdam na 'wow, kaya ko pala. Gusto ko lang naman na tulungan ang kuya ko. Naramdaman ko na kaya ko palang tulungan ang pamilya ko sa gusto ko din talaga na pangarap ko," she said.

Ever since she was a kid, Brillantes wanted to be a singer. But since her siblings joked that she was always out of tune, she resorted to acting.

In "Lyric and Beat," Brillantes plays a bubbly teen who wants to fulfill her dream to become a singer, something that's close to her heart.

15M YT subscriber na: Ivana namigay ng datung, pagkain sa mahihirap

Share the love nga ang peg ng isa sa

pinakasikat na YouTube vlogger sa bansa na si Ivana Alawi nang ma-reach na niya ang 15 million subscriber ng kanyang channel.

Actually, may ilang days na rin nang maabot niya ito, pero hinintay pa niya na makalipat sila sa bagong bahay bago magbigay ng

balato sa kanyang na-achieve. Sa latest vlog ng seksing aktres, ipinakita niya ang paghahanda ng kanilang

team.

Hands on na nag-prepare si Ivana ng mga ipamumudmod sa mga less fortunate. Napili niyang mamigay ng pera (P150 each), delata, bigas, champorado na siya mismo ang nagluto, at beauty

products sa ilang lugar sa Quezon City.

Target niya sana na maka-15K eco bags na puno ng relief goods, pero dahil sa sobrang pagod ay naka-8K lang sila.

Kitang napuno ang isang trak ng mga relief goods para sa mga babalatuan ni Ivana. Partikular na personal siyang namigay sa lugar kung saan nakatirik ang mga barong-barong malapit sa riles ng tren.

Kaytamis ng mga ngiti ng mga residente roon ng maabutan ng tulong ni Ivana,

mapa-bata man o matanda. Masaya ring nakipag-selfie ang aktres sa mga taga-riles.

Sa dami nga raw ng ipinamigay ni Ivana, 3 days silang nagre-repack at dalawang truck ang pinuno nila ng goodies. Ang generous, ha! Utang na loob raw ni Ivana sa kapatid na si Mona Alawi ang kanyang success dahil siya ang nagpilit sa kanyang ate na mag-vlog.

Nalalapit na rin ang debut ni Mona, kaya ngayon pa lang ay todo bakod na si Ivana rito.

Tinapos nila ang naturang vlog sa pagkain ng talong. Kung maaalala, sa pagmu-mukbang sila nag-umpisa as vlogger.

Kung hindi raw dahil sa kanyang pagba-vlog, baka dakilang tambay lang ngayon si Ivana.

Netizens make wild guesses over actor who will play Ninoy Aquino in Darryl Yap's upcoming film

Director Darryl Yap has announced the possibility of a second installment of the movie "Maid In Malacanang" which already grossed more than P100 million



at the box office.

Darryl said he already made an offer to the actor who will play the part of former Senator Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino Jr. in the forthcoming film. He did not identify the actor. Some say the photo resembles former Quezon City Mayor Herbert Bautista while others believe it's Philip Salvador. Netizens share their comments: "Herbert Bautista bilang Ninoy Aquino"

"Ayan na nga pero pls vincentiments, Direk Darryl at Viva.. Plss wag naman si Idol Philip o bistek yung gaganap na Ninoy."

"Looks like Philip. This is exciting!"
"Excited but more CONTROVERSIAL"

"Waiting For The Sequel, Excited"

Senator Aquino is the husband of former President Corazon Aquino. They have five children, including former President Noynoy Aquino III and actress-television host Kris Aquino. The senator was assassinated on the tarmac of the Manila International Airport (now Ninoy Aquino International Airport) on Aug. 21, 1983.



GUARNES LAW OFFICE BARRISTER, SOLICITOR & NOTARY

ALEXANDER GUARNES

1585 MARKHAM ROAD, SUITE 306 TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA M1B 2W1

Direct Line: 416-963-2444 EXT. 221 Tel: 416-963-2444

Fax: 416-963-3444

E-Mail: Alexguarnes@yahoo.com WWW.GUARNESLAWOFFICE.COM



Arci aminadong lasenggera, walwalera

Umaming 'tomador', 'lasenggera', 'walwalera' at 'matakaw' si Arci Munoz nang tangkain nitong magsayaw sa IG post para i-promote ang pinakahuling Korean tour vlog niya, sa kanyang YouTube channel.

Pinagsama-sama ni Arci ang clips ng pagsayaw niya sa may pintuan ng hotel, sa laundry area, sa theme park.

"I'm many things but a dancer...This is for you mother! Cos you like that! (dancing) buti na lang magaling ako sa kainan at inuman! More of our recent Korea adventure on my YouTube channel..." sabi niya.

Hindi naman katakataka ang pag-amin ni Arci sa alak at kain dahil sa mga post niya laging tumutoma ito ng wine, beer at kung anu-anong klase ng alak. Mahilig din syang kumain na lagi nyang ibinalandra sa kanyang socmed post.

Tinalbugan mga superstar: Pokwang ginawang front act si David Pomeranz

Nasa U.S. pa rin ang Kapuso star na si Pokwang kunsaan ay nagkaroon ito ng series of concert kasama ang kanyang bestfriend na si K Brosas.



Pero si K ay nakauwi na ng bansa noon pang August 2, si Pokwang naman, may mga solo shows pa tulad ng show niya noong August 5 sa Bayanihan Theater sa

Tampa, Florida.

May nag-share sa amin na successful ang naging show niya sa intimate venue na may capacity na 500 people. At doon, ang bongga ni Pokwang, ang nakasama lang naman niya ay ang International singer na si David Pomeranz.

Bongga dahil si Pokwang ang main artist habang nag-front act sa kanya ang "Born For You" singer.



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"Festivals promote diversity, they bring neighbors into dialogue, they increase creativity, they offer opportunities for civic pride, they improve our general psychological well-being. In short, they make cities better places to live." DAVID BINDER

Marcelito Pomoy is an Entertainment Package of One

Pomoy entertained and delighted the crowd at Toronto Pavilion. Pomoy, a grand winner of the second season of Pilipinas Got Talent in 2019 and 3rd runner up from America's Got Talent, was an all-around performer. He can sing, in many pitch and switch his voice from man to woman and he can tell jokes, a very important talent to

For 1 hour and 35 minutes, Marcelito have to be able to keep the audience paying attention in between songs. He is a low-key, less-manic version of Martin Nievera, the fun appeal of Ogie Alcasid, mixed with the late Philippine comedian Bert "Tawa" Marcelo who punctuated his funny lines with his own laughter. Thank you to Cecille Araneta and all the people involved with Edcille productions who made this a successful

show a night to remember. Now I know what Edcille means. It's a portmanteau, or loveteam name of husband and wife Edward and Cecille. Congratulations.

RIGHT, AGT's 3rd runner-up Singer Marcelito Pomoy poses with Edcille Productions' Cecille Araneta.



Anyare na kay Paulo? Janine natomboy, umaming na-in love kay Lovi

Ang sarap-sarap tingnan nina Lovi Poe, Janine Gutierrez, na nagtititigan, naglalambingan, na puwede mo ngang isipin na magdyowa sila, kung hindi mo talaga sila kilala (Pero sino ba ang hindi nakakakilala sa kanila sa Pilipinas, di ba?).

Ang tamis-tamis kasi ng tawanan nila. At kaaliw rin panoorin kung paano minsan napapahimas si Janine sa mga hita ni Lovi sa presscon ng 'Sleep with Me' na mapapanood sa iWantTFC.

At si Janine mismo, umamin na na-in love talaga siya kay Janine habang ginagawa nila ang 'Sleep with Me', ha!

"May time talaga, na feeling ko, nai-in love ako kay Lovi.

"Kasi I really wanted to like, get closer to her. I love Lovi. I'm a fan.

"And I want her to know that I'm here for her,"

sabi ni Janine.

Iba nga raw kasi ang sitwasyon kapag masaya sila sa taping, kaya gusto niya na kasundo niva aaad ana kaeksena niva.

"Yeas, Mas masaya kapag magaan ang loob niyo sa isa't isa.

"Ako talaga, gustong-gusto ko na mahalin ako ni Lovi. Noong nag-birthday siva durina the lock in. I ordered a gift na parang friends merch (merchandize), coz I know..." kuwento ni Janine na biglang nahinto, dahil hirit ni Lovi, "Kilig na kilig ako noon!"

"Pero parang natotorpe ako, coz I don't know kung paano ibibigay sa kanya. Shucks, I'm shy! Nahihiya ako!" sabi ni Janine na parang nagbibinata nga na ngayon lang nagkagusto sa babae.

"Kilig na kilig ako. Napatili ako when I open it! Sabi ko, oh my God! Magaling siyang pumili. Pasado siya!" sabi naman ni Lovi.

"Kinikilig talaga ako. At some point, nararamdaman ko na talaga, when I'm becoming Luna (character niya sa 'Sleep with Me'), naku-conscious na ako pag titigan si Janine sa mga mata.

"Parana very confident siya na...Di ba, kapaa may crush ka, parang awkward ka, hindi ka makatingin. So, parang ganun ang naramdaman ko!" chika naman ni Lovi.

So, paano pa ang naging eksena sa matinding halikan nila? Well, kuwento naa ni Direk Samantha Lee. ang lampungan nina Janine at Lovi ang unang kinunan, na hindi pa nga masyadong gamay, kampante ang isa't isa, napasabak na agad sa matinding love scene, ha!

Love scene muna ang na-shoot namin before this (kissing scene)," kuwento ni Direk.

"Every scene, ini-explain ko sa kanila lahat. Pati ilaw, ito ang angle. So alam nila kung ano ang nangyayari," sabi pa ni Direk.

So, hindi sila nagkailangan sa intimate scene, kahit mas nauna yon kunan?

"Nice thing about that, 'yung pagkasulat niya, hindi scandalous love scene. It felt so real. Merong shyness. Merong awkwardness.

"I feel so honored, I was chosen to be part of this project. More than anything naman kasi it's a love story. Natatawa lang ako pag sinasabi na matapang ako.

"I owe it to Lovi, coz she made me feel comfortable. Walang gulatan. You feel safe," sabi na lang ni Janine. Bongga, di ba? Ayaw ni Paulo Avelino ng ganiyan,











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JDL SUMMER RECITAL

- 1. JDL students enrolled in one-on-one lessons pose with their Certificate of Participation.
- 2. Francesca Arioja, 2022 Achiever Awardee poses with JDL founder Josie de Leon.
- Students Shaine Jaramilla and Amber Rinker pose with Josie de Leon and Melissa Ventocilla.





Sarah Geronimo comeback trends after gracing 'ASAP' stage

Pop star Sarah Geronimo makes a trending comeback on Sunday's "ASAP Natin 'To" episode that sent Twitter abuzz.

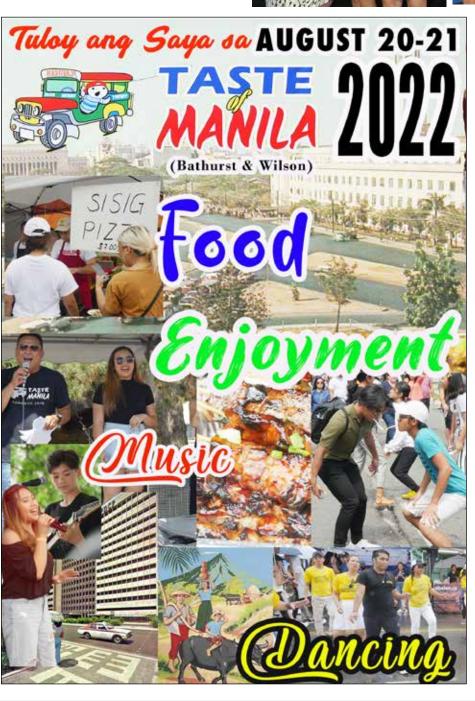
"And now I'm finally back home! Of course, only here on ABS-CBN," Sarah said in a pre-taped message aired on the Sunday musical variety show.

Her appearance comes a day before her birthday, July 25. It also dispelled rumors of her leaving the station that surfaced earlier this month.

"Samahan niyo po akong muli as I once again share my music. Ito ang Sarah G Specials, only here on ASAP Natin 'To," Sarah added. Sarah performed her 2018 hit "Duyan" in a set piece that wowed her fans. She last

performed in the show in November 2020. She had been busy pursuing other endeavors like baking and pastry during the pandemic. Sarah obtained a Certificate of Merit from the Heny Sison Culinary School's Essential Baking and Pastry Series.

The hashtag #ÁSAPSG as well as "SAR-AH G IS BACK" and "POPSTAR ROYALTY" were on Twitter's trending Top 10 along with "Marvel" and "Wakanda Forever" on July 24.



Heaven Peralejo reveals what kind of boyfriend she wants: 'Hindi ka niya iiwan sa ere!'

Aside from being part of the primetime soap Flower of Evil, actress Heaven Peralejo shared how 2022 has been going for her.

"August so far has been so good, full of blessings. Sabi nga nila when it rains, it pours. Ngayon nasa holistic retreat ako just to regain my strength. But I'm really, really happy to promote our MMK directed by direk Raymond (Ocampo) and with Markus (Paterson) who's been my friend for a long time." she shared.

The 22-year-old actress also shared what lessons she has learned while working on her latest episode in the popular ABS-CBN drama anthology.

"What I realized with this MMK, na may ganung klaseng pagmamahal talaga. I'm a hopeless romantic but I've been hurt a lot of times so medyo guarded na ang puso ko. But watching this story and watching their love and seeing kahit pala ibigay sa'yo ni Lord lahat ng sakit and lahat ng problems sa buhay, pero if you're with the right

person, tutulungan ka niyang mahalin kung ano ang nangyayari sa buhay mo ngayon and hindi ka niya iiwan sa ere. So I realized na I deserve a much better love because of MMK and I really wish to find that love," she revealed.

During the MMK mediacon, Heaven revealed that just like her latest onscreen role, she had also experienced what it feels to have a relationship online.

"May times yes siguro nung pandemic. So I met this person once and then nagkaroon ng lockdown and of course wala na kaming magawa kundi magmessage-an lang. Pero nung bumalik na sa reality and everything, dun mo ma-ri-realize na pagdating ba sa reality is it still the same? Yung pagmamahalan niyo ba dun sa online world, kakayanin ba ng reality?" she said.

Even though she believes that virtual relationships can work out in the end, the MMK actress said she would still prefer to be courted the traditional way.

"I still prefer the traditional way. I've been raised like that so ever since na nagsimula ako makipag-date, lahat ng makikipag-date sa akin ay aakyat muna ng ligaw. Ang meaning kasi ng pag-aakyat ng ligaw, it's not just gifts and ganun lang. It's more of your family getting to know the person you're dating. Ang pamilya ko kasi traditional so ang gusto nila nasa tamang kamay lang ako kung lalabas ako with a person na may gusto, yung ganun (laughs)," she admitted.



MARCELITO POMOY CONCERT

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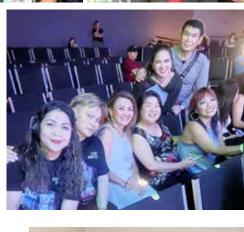














Juday sinopla ng kapwa chef



Nag-iisip si Judy Ann Santos ng alternatibo sa iluluto niyang putahe para sa kanyang cooking online show.

Umaangal na rin kasi ang chef-actress sa taas ng mga bilihin.

Ani Juday: "Ang hirap kasing

mag-isip ng mga episode especially kung ang pagtaas ng presyo ng bilihin ay napakalala."

"Ayaw kong maka-relate 'yung viewers sa kung ano mang lutuin 'yung gagawin ko kasi parang napaka-unfair naman 'di ba?" dagdag pa niya.

Isang dating master chef ang nagbigay ng reaksyon sa hinaing ng aktres.

"Diskarte ghorl....mag-isip ka ng mga puede mong ipalit na ingredients juicemio....palibhasa sa mamahaling culinary school nag-aral eh...." wika ni Chef Pebbles Cunanan.

Dagdag pa niya: "Juday wag lang mag-base sa mga natutuhan sa culinary school. Ang pagtaas ng mga bilihin normal yan ang hindi normal yung CHEF ka tapos hindi mo alam dumiskarte ng mga puede mong gamiting ingredients sa pagluluto.

"Paano kung mumurahing ingredients ang gagamitin mo, mapapasarap mo kaya yung lugaw ni Leni... chozzzz."

Isang netizen din ang nagkomento na, "iyan si Judy Ann Santos hindi muna nag-iisip bago pakawalan ang sasabihin sa ere kumbaga sa pagma-manage mahina siya sa decision making. Dapat balanse, kung may natutunan siyang mga ingredients para sa first class na customer dapat meron din siyang nakahanda para sa middle or lower class standard.

Ayon naman sa isang netizen, wag daw dapat iasa lang ang mga niluluto sa napag-aralang putahe.

Maging reproductive raw dapat. Mag-experiment ng putaheng gustong lutuin. Malalaman daw na mahusay na cook ang isang chef kung marunong dumiskarte ng mga recipe na gustong lutuin na hindi base sa pinagaralan lang.

Sabagay, true naman 'yun.

sa hinaing ng aktres. "Diskarte ghorl....n

SCENES IN THE CITY



MP Rechie Valdez (2ND DROM RIGHT) poses with Kabayan Managine Director Analiza Roberts and miss Kabayan Melissa Saldua Ventocilla.



The Ventocilla family with Alec Ponce poses with R&B singer Jay-R at Niagara Fiesta Extravaganza.

Nadine pinagyabang na donya

Usap-usapan ngayon ang pagsulpot ng video

clip ng naging sagot ni Nadine Lustre sa panayam sa kanya ng King of Talk na si Boy Abunda .

"How rich are you?,"tanong ni Tito Boy.

Sagot naman ni Nadine: "I'm rich because I'm contented. I count my

blessings. It's just understanding that what you have now is all that you need in life."

Marami naman ang humanga sa matalinong sagot ng tinaguriang President Nadine.

Hirit tuloy ng kibitzers, hindi lang maganda ang aktres kundi may laman ang utak.

Dagdag pa nila, kung isasalang daw sa Q and A ang aktres, kakabugin nito ang mga kakontemporaryong sina Liza Soberano at Kathryn Bernardo.

Ito naman ang ilang komento ng netizens sa kanyang naging sagot.

"Tama naman si President Nadine. Hindi pera ang sukatan ng pagiging mayaman."

"Winner ang sagot niya. Ipinagmalaki niya ang pagiging donya."

"Kabog sina Kathryn at Liza. Sabaw lang sila kay Nadine."

"Oo nga naman. Aanhin mo pa ang lechon

kung kuntento ka na sa Mang Tomas."

Piolo malabong iwan ang showbiz

Bagamat hindi pa mahanap ni Piolo Pascual ang tamang babae buhay, itinuring niyang "partner for life," ang Sun Life Financial.

Sa panayam noon kay Papa P sinabi niya na magreretiro siya pagdating ng edad 40.Pero, hindi nangyari 'yun. Nang magkasama nga sila ni direk Cathy Garcia-Molina nabanggit niya ang, "Direk 'wag na

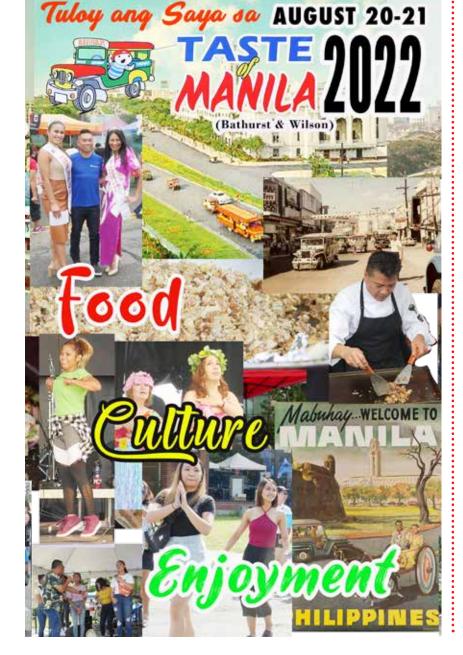
tayo magsabi ng retirement kasi parang hindi naman din natutuloy."

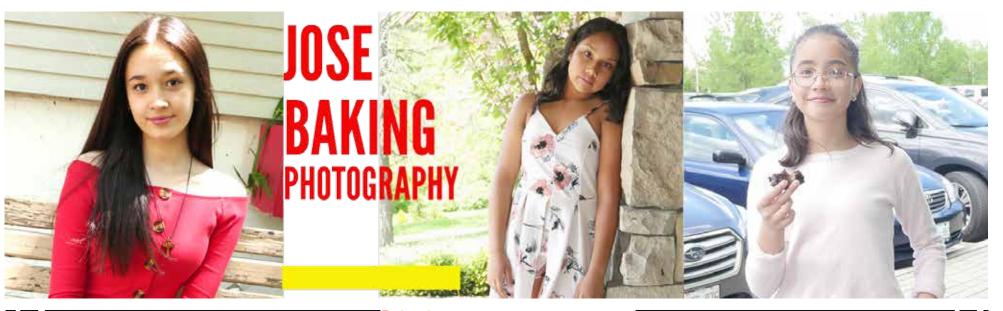
Passion na ng aktor ang pag-arte kaya malabong iwan niya ito.

"At this point in my life, I just wanna keep doing what I'm doing. This is really something that I really appreciate. Being in this business, being in front of you, guys, just sharing my life.

"So, it's just the same thing, it's not on the horizon, retiring and all," sambit niya.

Patuloy siyang gagawa ng pelikula o serye hangga't may maibibigay siya.







Pokwang sinagot ang 'drama' ni Cruz

Konektado ito sa pinangangatawanan pa rin ni Ella Cruzna "History is like a tsismis" na statement niya.

Nagpa-interview ito kay Boy Abunda at umiiyak na sinabing nasaktan daw siya sa tweet ni Pokwang sa kanya. Sey pa ni Ella, "saan ako nagkamali,

Eh, may

ko?"

nakapatay ba

bagong
tweet si Pokwang na tila nga
ipinagpalagay na ng netizens
na baka sagot niya ito sa sinabi
ni Ella na, "Kaya ang gaang
ng buhay mo ngayon, kaya ka
malayang nakakasigaw ngayon kasi may mga naghirap na
noon-noon pa para sayo at sana
wag mo iwaglit yan sa puso at
isip mo."

Pansin naman namin, may mga nagsisimpatiya kay Ella at bina-bash si Pokwang. Pero marami rin ang agree kay Pokwang at bina-bash si Ella. May nagsasabi rin dito na, "Hindi ka nakapatay, pero maraming namatay noong panahon ng Martial Law."

Sheryl, Grace walang pakialaman

Napakarami raw na nami-miss ni Sheryl Cruz sa kanyang namayapang tiyahin, ang Queen of Philippine Movies na si Ms. Susan Roces, pero isa na sa mga ito ang pagiging very supportive sa kanya, maging sa kanyang anak na si Ashley.

Nag-post si Sheryl na nagpunta at dumalaw sa puntod ng kanyang Manang Inday noong 40th days ng death nito.

To clear things, diretsahan namin siyang tinanong kung okay ba ang lahat sa pagitan nila bago ito pumanaw. Iniisip kasi ng karamihan na may tampuhan pa rin sila.

"To set the record straight, ito 'yan, 'wag magbibigay ng panghuhusga o opinyon ang mga tao na hindi lubos na nakakaalam ng buhay namin o communication at relationship namin sa isa't isa.

"So 'yung sa akin, mula pagkabata ko hanggang sa edad kong ito, alam namin ng Tita ko kung gaano ka-espesyal at kamahal namin ang isa't isa. Maraming tao diyan sa paligid na siyempre, nagsususpetsa o umiisip ng sarili nilang kuwento, pero hindi na naman kasi iba 'yun sa ating mga Filipino. Hindi natin maiaalis yun, pero kung ikaw ay naapektuhan kung ano man ang ginawa

> ko, tanungin mo ang sarili mo, bakit ka kaya naaapektuhan? At pagbibigay-diin niya, "Kasi, nagko-communicate naman kami

ng auntie ko at hindi naman namin kailangang ipaalam sa buong mundo if we are communicating with each other.

"And the thing is, porke't ba 'yung mga nakapaligid sa kanya, alam ang ginawa niya, hindi naman ibig sabihin na alam lahat ng ginagawa niya or kung sino ang lahat ng kausap niya. Kasi, even my Nanay, si Nanay Doray na nag-alaga sa auntie ko, sumasama sa kanya sa mga taping, nandito sa akin. That would set speak to volume, yun 'yon," sey na lang niya.

With regards to Senator Grace Poe, sinabi ni Sheryl na they both mind their own things and respetuhan na lang din sa isa't isa.



LAYOFFS from p1

tamang programa para sa kanila for retooling," she added. "'Yung mga magreretire po, meron naman tayong ibibigay na mga retirement benefits po para sa kanila."

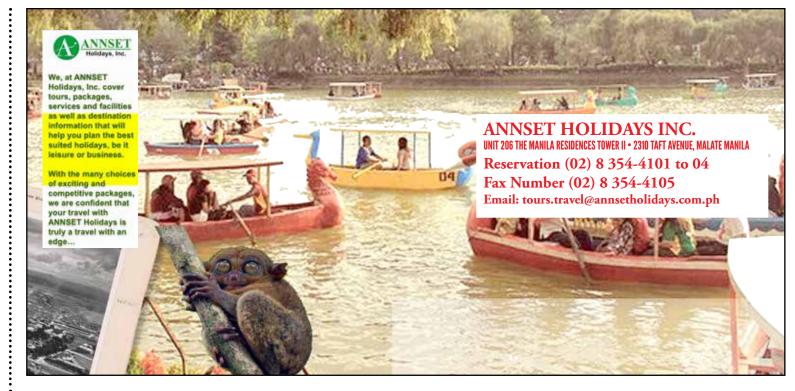
Exempted from mass layoffs are public school teachers and teaching-related positions, medical and allied medical positions, the military, and other uniformed personnel.

Bongbong Marcos opposes gov't job cuts to save funds – Tulfo

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. is cool with a proposal to reduce the size of the government workforce to reduce national spending in the wake of the pandemic, Social Welfare and Development Secretary Erwin Tulfo said.

According to Tulfo, Marcos Jr. stressed during their first Cabinet meeting that it was important to prevent unemployment.

"'We don't want anyone out of job at this point'- Pres. Ferdinand 'Bongbong' Marcos Jr. on his very first meeting with his Cabinet in Malacañang," Tulfo shared in a Facebook post.



"Ito sagot ng Pangulo matapos i-prisinta ang ideya sa kanya na magbawas siguro ng tao para makatipid ang gobyerno sa ilalim ng pandemic recovery," he added.

(This was the response of the President after he was presented with the idea of maybe reducing the government workforce to lower spending amid pandemic recovery.)

Tulfo lauded this move of Marcos Jr. as "pro-people."

Meanwhile, Solicitor General Menardo Guevarra said their first Cabinet meeting was "very productive."

"The President focused on matters of primary importance: controlling inflation, ensuring food security, supporting the transportation sector, and re-opening of face-to-face classes," Guevarra said in a text message.

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"Other areas of concern will be discussed in subsequent meetings of the Cabinet," he added.

Kylie Verzosa and Marco Gumabao enter the world of 'sugar dating'

Make no mistake to easily pair together beauty queen, model-turned-actress Kylie Verzosa and actor Marco Gumabao, even if they have worked together in half-a-dozen projects

Kylie just ended her fouryear relationship with actor Jake Cuenca early this year. Marco, meanwhile, remains carefree and fancy-free. He is not seeing anyone.

"In more than half of the projects that we did together, we played exes," Marco informed.

"Even if we have not started a relationship, we were already exes," he laughed.

Baby Boy, Baby Girl is a love story between two "sugar babies," written and directed by Jason Paul Laxamana. Kylie plays Josie, a very independent yet failed businesswoman, who tries all sorts of jobs to earn money.

"I get attracted to stories na

iba ang ng love,' director admitted. "I encountered documentaries and interviews on YouTube. I researched about it and I found it very

interesting. Sa Pilipinas, may stigma pa ang mga gano'n. But in the US, there is really a social media for sugar dating.'

"I've been observing Kylie's recent works lately," the director offered. "I watched her film with Zanjoe Marudo, Ikaw Lang ang Mamahalin. I was very surprised. I didn't think she was that good.

"She came from a beauty

pageant, so I was thinking baka maganda lang kaya nasa showbiz. But napaka-detailed in the project. ng acting niya. I

cannot wait to

see how she

in Baby Boy,

Marco remem-

Baby Girl."

bered the first time

script of Baby Boy, Baby

Girl, he was still in Sin-

gapore where he was shooting

"As we all know, in today's

happens. It's a real situation. So,

while I was reading the script,

that we can put ourselves into

the shoes of those people, the

sugar babies, how their world

overall, I was very excited."

revolves. I was very shocked but

I found it really interesting

world, sugar dating really

a series.

he got hold of the

will give life to

the role of Josie

in the Viva Summer Conference last April," she recalled. to me, I got excited because I've been a fan of direk JP's work. I accepted the project right away. Without a doubt, yes, 100 percent."

'yan," the actor maintained. "We were not born in this world to judge the lives of

"If that's their way to work, table, we should respect what they do. We should not judge them. As long as wala silang not a problem."

Meanwhile, for Kylie herself, seeing the title of the script alone, Baby Boy, Baby Girl, immediately made her interested

"I think I first saw the title "When the project was pitched

Marco opted not to pass judgement on the lives of sugar babies and how they lead their lives. "Kanya kanyang buhay

earn money or put food on the tinatapakang tao, for me, that's

Why Ritz Azul stayed away from social media: To avoid bad news, to be in the present

Actress Ritz Azul was apologetic when she finally explained to fans the reason for her inactivity in

It is for a good reason. Azul said that since the pandemic started, she has come to realize many

'Madami ring nababasang bad news and negative vibes na halos lahat sa social media at tv makikita. Pag yun ang laging nafifeed sa utak mo, di mo maiiwasang hindi ka mahawa ng negativity. Kaya if mapapansin nyo I try to be positive sa bawat post ko," she said.

Azul also chose not to open her feed on social media and just focused on her "life and present" privately. She observed that in social media, one needs to be presentable, which is not her personality. She also finds it burdensome to be thinking about captions, which for her is time consuming.

"Meron din time na hirap na rin akong maalala yung nangyari kahapon kasi nakafocus ako sa phone, sa social media. Ang naalala ko

yung posts ng iba hindi na yung present na nangyayari sa akin at sa paligid ko,"

By staying away from social media, she had time for her hobbies which include painting, crocheting, playing golf and doing pottery.

Azul feels that she's not the only one who had this feeling, the reason why she is sharing it. She also said she will be able to post on her social media again, since she already knows how to manage her time and what to feed her mind, adding: "I will try to post more, to

Maja Salvador shows off her comic side in new sitcom 'Oh My Korona'

In her first few days of taping for her upcoming TV5 sitcom, "Oh My Korona," Maja Salvador felt like her body could use a little bit of jolting on the set.

"I wanted to give my whole body a good shake because I felt so stiff. I thought to myself, 'Eh paano nga ba mag-comedy?"

After almost two decades in the biz, Maja has made a name for herself as one of the finest dramatic actresses of her generation. The past few years, however, saw her trying her hand at more fun and lighthearted projects, like her recent drama-comedy series, "Niña Niño."

It was quite the departure from the iconic roles she played in the revenge drama "Wildflower" and the horror drama "The Killer Bride." But with practice and proper guidance from her directors, Maja, slowly but surely, found her groove. "Doing 'Niña Niño' was a challenge after doing heavy soaps, where I did nothing but cry, scream and get

> angry. But the fact that it was 'dramedy' also helped me with the transition. And we managed to push through it," related Maja, who considers herself a happy and fun-loving person behind the cameras.

But doing a sitcom, as it turned out, is still a completely different an-

imal. And that's why she couldn't be more grateful to have Joey Marquez — a sitcom veteran — as one of her costars in "Oh My Korona."

Sitcom legend

"I didn't know you could briefly break character in a sitcom...Then, the next day, I did a scene with Tatay Tsong Joey, and I personally saw how smoothly he did it. Ganun pala dapat," she related.

"He's a sitcom legend. Ang galing!" Maja said of Joey, who starred in several comedy shows, including "Palibhasa Lalake," which ran for 11 years.

"It's a huge thing to have him in this show. When you say sitcom, which people come to mind? Of course, 'the' Joey Marquez is one of them."

The show reunites Maja with her "Wildflower" costar RK Bagatsing—this time, in a more lighthearted setting.

"We had chemistry and we had lots of supporters. So when we were looking for a partner in this sitcom, RK's name came up. We didn't end up together in 'Wildflower, so this is a gift to the fans who are still hoping for a reunion with RK," Maja said.

Meanwhile, with Maja doing one show after another on TV5, some show biz observers have started calling her the new queen of the Kapatid network. While she's flattered that people see her that way, titles aren't something Maja obsesses over.

PHILIPPINES

46 percent believe the economy will improve

The Philippines' inflation rate may have gone up by 6.1 percent in June much to President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr.'s disbelief — but 46



percent of Filipinos are optimistic that the economy will improve, according to a Social Weather Stations (SWS) survey.

The SWS quarterly nationwide survey showed that those optimistic about the country's economic rebound said that they believed the economy would be better in

the next 12 months. Meanwhile, 28 percent said the economy would stay the same while 6 percent said it would worsen.

The survey was conducted between April 19 to 27 and polled 1,440

The same survey also found that more Filipinos were bright-eyed about their quality of life in the next 12 months — 44 percent said it would improve, 39 percent said it would stay the same, while 4 percent believe it could worsen, while 13 percent did not answer.

Interestingly, the April survey also found that 43 percent of Filipino families classified themselves as poor, 34 percent as borderline poor, while 23 percent said they were not poor.

According to SWS, the Net Optimism Score, the percent of economic optimists minus the percent of economic pessimists, was at +40, which is classified by the survey firm as "excellent."

The findings come just as some economists have warned that the Philippines should brace for another "second round of inflation effects" that may come with further rising transportation costs and other consumer prices.

Philippines among biggest contributors as world population to reach 8 billion

The Philippines is one of the eight developing countries in the world that will

contribute to the rise of the world's population in the coming decades, a United Nations (UN) forecast said on Monday (July 11). The UN report said that

the world's population will reach eight billion on November 15, with the country, as well as Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Nigeria, Pakistan and Tanzania as the biggest



Mothers nurse their babies, some of them Manila, Philippines.

contributors in the world's population rise.

According to the same report, the world's population rate has slowed down like never seen since 1950, with the forecast saying that the world's population will hit 8.5 billion in 2030 and 9.7 billion in 2050, and then peaking at 10.4 billion in the 2080s before it becomes steady at the same level until 2100.

Meanwhile, India will surpass China as the most populous country in the world by 2023, said the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

According to data from the Philippine Statistics Authority as of May 1, 2020, the Philippines had a total population of 109,035,343, with the annual population growth rate decreasing significantly at 1.3%, the lowest since 1960's 3.3%.

The fertility rate in the Philippines has also gone down significantly, with today's 2.1 children per woman compared to 1969's 6.4 children per woman, according to World Population Review.

UN's Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, said that the rise in the world's population "is a reminder of our shared responsibility to care for our planet and a moment to reflect on where we still fall short of our commitments to one another."

"This is an occasion to celebrate our diversity, recognize our common humanity and marvel at advancements in health that have extended lifespans and dramatically reduced maternal and child mortality rates," Guterres added.

Perhaps Tesla CEO Elon Musk should eat his words for claiming that declining birth rates present "the biggest danger civilization faces by far" as the "underpopulation crisis" may be a couple more of decades away before the world's population starts actually collapsing.

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Alden, pinuri ang asal sa abroad

Ang pinakamagandang promosyon ng kahit sinong personalidad ay ang sinasabi ng mga kababayan nating naeengkuwentro nila. Walang bayad 'yon. Kusang-loob.

Bakit ba ikinakambal sa pangalan ni Alden Richards ang pagiging mabait at mapagkumbaba? Bakit walang kahit sinong namba-bash sa kanya kahit saan siya magpunta?

Napakahambol kasi ng sikat at guwapong aktor, hindi siya nagdadamot ng panahon sa kanyang mga tagahanga, marunong siyang magbalik ng sukli sa suportang ibinibigay sa kanya ng publiko.

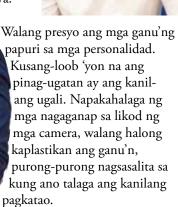
Mismong kaibigan namin ang nagkuwento na nu'ng makita nila si Alden na kumakain sa isang Korean restaurant sa Amerika ay siya pa mismo ang lumapit sa ating mga kababayan.

"At kinausap pa niya kami, he gave us time, unlike nu'ng isang male personality na in-approach ng mga anak ko para magpa-picture, pumayag naman siya, pero parang galit

siyang nagkamot ng ulo!" sabi ng aming kaibigan. Sa Madrid,

Spain ay natiyempuhan din ng magasawang Bryan at Jez, mga dumpster divers, si Sofia Andres. Sa tapat mismo 'yon ng Hermes, nagsi-shopping ang aktres.

Sabi ni Jez, "Napakabait niya, tinanong ko lang siya,
'Can I hug you?'
Siya pa ang lumapit sa akin, napakaganda niya!"



Pagbabalik ng sukli sa puhunan ang masarap na itawag sa ginagawa ng mga artistang mapagpahalaga sa kanilang kapwa.

Isko Salvador, a.k.a. Brod Pete: 'Laos na po ako!'

Nagpasya nang magretiro sa

showbiz ang magaling na writer sa telebisyon at komedyanteng si Isko Salvador a.k.a. Brod Pete. Simple lang ang kanyang dahilan kung bakit tatalikuran na niya ang showbiz—laos na raw kasi siya.

Sa mismong Facebook account ni Isko niya ipinahayag ang kanyang pagreretiro nitong August 3, 2022. Ayon pa sa kannya, tapos na ang maliligayang araw niya sa entertainment industry.

Bagama't hindi na mapapanood bilang komedyante at titigil na rin sa pagsulat ng script ang veteran comedian ay ipagpapatuloy pa rin daw niya ang kanyang "singing career" kasabay ng pagsasagawa ng online comedy writing workshop para sa mga nagnanais maging writer.

Ani Isko, "Yes laos na po ako after 43 years sa showbiz as a writer and comedian. I'm now retired. Nakakasawa din.

"But I am launching my singing career FYI—to pursue my true love—music!

"I've tried politics, mas nakakatawa kesa sa komedi ang politika. Di ako pinalad para konsehal. Siguro dahil sinabe ko na, para mawala ang baha, ipapasemento ko ang Marikina River. You don't know soundbites—anyways—Marikina deserves less."

Kasunod ng pahayag niya ang isa pang announcement:

"Btw, I am conducting an online comedy writing workshop/ playshop! Sept 3, 7 pm, via zoom. 1k petot lang- 43 yrs of comedy



writing in 3 plus hours," sabi pa niya.

Hindi naman naniniwala ang ilang netizens sa mga naging pahayag

ni Isko dahil mukha raw nagbibiro lang ang komedyante at hindi ito seryoso sa kanyang pahayag.

Si Isko ay dating napapanood sa Kapamilya show na I Can See Your Voice bilang isa sa mga singvestigator. Naging bahagi rin siya ng comedy show ni Mang Dolphy, Susan Roces, at Maricel Soriano na John En Shirley.

SHOPPING from page 1

Diokno said over the weekend. Gross domestic product expanded by 8.3 percent in the first quarter of 2022, thanks to the easing of COVID-19 restrictions which allowed for higher consumer spend-

ing.

"The young population, they consume a lot. [Domestic consumption is] actually the major mover or source of growth, plus yung investment," said Secretary Diokno.

More young people joined the

labor force in May based on data from the Philippine Statistics Authority, with youth employment increasing to 87.9 percent, higher than the 87.7 percent in April

Of the estimated 20.14 million Filipinos aged 15 to 24 years old,

some 7.3 million are part of the labor force. This translates to a youth labor force participation rate of 36.2 percent, the finance department said

"Ang biggest source of growth ng Pilipino ay consumption kasi we have a very young population, and they are mostly, they are consumers," Diokno said.

"If you are aging, yung demand mo hindi na masyado. Hindi ka na bumibili ng mga gadgets, hindi ka na nagtatayo ng bahay, hindi ka na bumibili ng bagong damit," he added.

'Going extreme': The different emotions Gold Aceron struggled with in his love scene for 'Scorpio Nights 3'

third remake of the erotic thriller For Gold Aceron, having a romantic relationseries "Scorpio Nights." Gold said he would ship shouldn't be a hindrance to his encourage his girlfriend plan of becoming to watch Law Fajaran accomplished do's "Scorpio Nights 3," which features artist, especially since the young actor has Christine Bermas as recently taken his leading lady. "I the "sexy route" would tell her, 'You by appearing have to be ready to see projects like this in the because this is what I do for a living.' The problem is, I don't have a girl-

friend anymore," he told Inquirer Entertainment during a recent virtual media gathering.

"Just the same, this person who I will eventually choose to become my life partner should understand and fully accept the kind of work that I do. I don't think this should be difficult, especially when we put importance on communication.

Lahat nadaraan sa mabuting usapan," Gold

pointed out.

He admitted that his love scene with Christine—his first since he started acting in 2012—is also something to talk about. "Nasobrahan ako. We really went extreme on this one," he

declared. "I'm just glad that we were able to pull it off. Yes, you can say it was a 'love scene.' I've done others before, but they were basically kissing scenes.

With this one, everything felt real. Christine and I struggled with different emotions—happiness,

nervousness, kilig and even gigil. It was a difficult scene to do, but we gave it our all."

Gold said he took time to really study his character in order to portray him well. "My goal was for the audience to see that Matthew Bravo is a real person and that the situations he goes through in the film also happen in real life. Matt is a college guy who is out to explore. However, the film is careful to point out that everything has its limitations. Matt is about to discover his limits," the actor explained.

LM confidential

Cristy Fermin, napasabi ng "ibang klase" sa bagong tsismis sa hiwalayang TomCar

Cristy Fermin, 65, was absolutely stunned after hearing yet another rumor regarding the controversial break up of Tom Rodriguez and Carla Abellana.

In their 'Showbiz Now Na' vlog, KAMI learned that Cristy, alongside Romel Chika and Morly Alinio, talked about the alleged P24M that Tom lost.

Morly then talked about a rumor he heard about one of the people that Tom lent their money to.

Cristy Fermin, napasabi ng "ibang klase" sa bagong tsismis sa hiwalayang TomCar "Ate Cristy, ang nakakaloka nito, diba pinautang nga ni Tom? Yung pinautang niyang kaibigan, yun pa yung nanunusol kay Carla, ayun daw ang sitwasyon ngayon, Ate Cristy,"

Upon hearing this, Cristy could not help but be stunned,

and said "ibang klase" afterwards. "O, ibang klase, para awayin nang awayin si Tom," Cristy said.

Further continuing, Morly also talked about another rumor, "Ate Cristy, may nakarating kasi saking balita, sorry po ah pero ang dating, Ate Cristy madali raw masulsolan itong si Carla ng kanyang

mga kaibigan."

After hearing the rumors, Cristy expressed her honest thoughts and opinions over the matter.

"Nakakalungkot, ano? Pitong

taon kayo naging magkarelasyon, tapos nagpakasal kayo, after three months, naghiwalay kayo at ito ang issue. Hindi maganda."

Coleen proud na 'Padede Queen'

Naging hot topic si Coleen Garcia sa social media dahil sa mga larawang nag-viral, na kung saan ay binahagi niya ang pagpapadede sa anak nila ni Billy Crawford, si Amari.

Nagsawa ang mga netizen sa dami ng mga padede photo ni Coleen sa Instagram.

Puwede na ngang bansagan si Coleen na "Padede Queen" dahil siya lang sa mga Pinoy star ang proud na proud at may pinakaraming breastfeeding photo sa socmed.

May kinalaman sa World Breastfeeding Week ang posting ng padede ni Coleen, para ipakita sa lahat na hindi dapat ikahiya ang pagpapasuso sa kanilang anak sa harap pa ng maraming tao. "If it seems like I'm always nursing...it's because I am. It's #worldbreastfeedingweek! We celebrate the mothers who has gone to great lengths to do what they believe is best for their children. Don't be mad to feel ashamed or your decisions, and



don't you ever apologize for doing the best you can. Do what you feel is best for your family, and be proud as you do it. If you choose to breastfeed, know that there is a whole community that gets you. Also, we shouldn't have to normalize something that already IS normal and natural," sabi ni Coleen, na pinalakpakan ng mga kababaihan.

Philippines, China continue arguing over West Philippine Sea



Protesters stage a demonstration to commemorate the 6th anniversary of the Hague Ruling that rejected Chinas historical claims to the disputed waterway, in front of the Chinese Cultural Consulate in Manila, Philippines on July 12, 2022.

The Philippines continues to assert its sovereignty over the highly-disputed West Philippine Sea after China once again declared the United Nation-backed arbitral ruling in favor of the Philippines as "illegal, null, and vaid"

In a press briefing (July 13), Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said that "China neither accepts nor recognizes [the ruling] and will never accept any claim or action based on the award."

"By doing so, we are upholding international rule of law," he added, calling the ruling "illegal, null and void"

In response, the Philippines'
Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA)
Secretary Enrique A. Manalo said that
the findings of the arbitration court are
final, conclusive, and indisputable.

"The award is final," Manalo said on the sixth anniversary of the ruling on July 12.

"We firmly reject attempts to undermine it; nay, even erase it from law, history and our collective memories. At the same time, we welcome the support of a growing list of countries for the award," he added.

The Permanent Court of Arbitration based in the Hague has earlier upheld the Philippines' rights to its exclusive economic zone within its territories, rejecting China's claim to most of the sea based on a 1940 nine-dash line map.

Several countries have backed the Philippines' sea claims. The United States, one of its vocal supporters, has since said that they are obligated to defend its treaty ally if its forces come

under attack in the disputed territory.
"The United States reaffirms its July
13, 2020 policy regarding maritime
claims in the South China Sea," US
Secretary of State Anthony Blinken said
in a statement.

"We also reaffirm that an attack on the Philippine armed forces, public vessels, or aircraft in the South China Sea would invoke US mutual defense commitments under Article IV of the 1951 US-Philippines Mutual Defense Treaty," Blinken added.

China, however, insists that they too have "broad understanding and support" from the international community.

The country urged the US to respect its sovereignty, rights, and interests in the South China Sea, and to stop "stirring up trouble" and "sowing discord between regional countries."

Ella Cruz on Pokwang, Agot Isidro, Gretchen Ho

Ella Cruz sat down for an interview with Boy Abunda recently, discussing the comments made by fellow celebrities Pokwang, Agot Isidro, and Gretchen Ho, relating to her much-talked about "History is like tsismis" statement.

The actress admitted to being hurt over Pokwang's comment.

"Di ko po inasahan na masasabi niya yun. Naging nanay ko po kasi siya, even though 10 years ago," she said, referring to them working together on the 2012 TV series "Aryana."

"Okay lang yung isang tweet pero tat-

lo po kasi yung nakita ko. Yung pangalawa OA na, below the belt na. Tas yung isa, yung writer ng 'Aryana' kasugatan niya, naalala ko binibisita ko po sila palagi kapag break time nila even after the show. So masakit. Masakit po na yung mga taong hindi mo inaasahan sila pa yung

makakapagsalita ng ganyan sa iyo. Ni hindi ka man lang nila tinext. Hindi ka man lang nila di-ni-m (direct message), yun man lang kahit sa Instagram."

As for Agot Isidro's message, which Boy described as having a "different tone," Ella agreed.

"Nagulat po ako kasi parang after naman namin magka-work wala naman na kaming connect.

So parang sabi ko 'O bakit may pag-tweet?' Medyo ganun po, kasi una po siyang nag-tweet. Pero nung nakita ko po yung kay Mamang (Pokwang) sabi ko 'Bakit mas mabuti pa yung kay Tita Agot, na parang she's just trying to save me?' Wala siyang sinabing masama. Sinabi lang niya na 'sana nag no comment ka na lang, pero mahal kita.' Kumbaga para bang wag mong maliin to. So wala akong galit, sama ng loob kay Ms. Agot kasi somehow na appreciate ko po na para niya akong pinapayuhan."

How about Gretchen Ho's

"Wala rin naman talaga siyang sinabi na diretsya sa akin... Since nagkakagulo na, siya rin sinabi niya lang kanyang opinion," she . 1

Ella admitted to unfollwing on social media several friends due to the controversy.

"Kasi sabi ko 'I cant believe na isa ka sa mga hindi makakaintindi sa akin o parang tutulong sa akin para ipaintindi yung mga nangyayari," she related. "So marami pong nawala na mga kaibigan."

"Sabi ko nga kahit ganun naman yung ginagawa nila, hindi nila matatanggal yung respeto ko. Hindi mawawala yung respeto ko sa kanila pero kumbaga yung trust, yung parang guarded na ako pag nandyan sila."

If anything, Ella said: "Pwede naman nila ako i-message, pero hindi po nila ginawa. Nakisawasaw lang sila."

Alora Sasam pens sweet message for Jake Ejercito

Alora Sasam said she misses Jake Ejercito's energy on set.

After filming their new series Ex Factor, Alora penned a sweet message to one of her co-actors, Jake Ejercito.

In an Instagram post, the actress-comedian shared the things she will miss the most about working with Jake.

"Mamimiss ko lalo magstalk sa mga dancing videos at pagtawanan ka. Baka doon nga ako nagkamali.... Ang i-dog show ka. Mabait ka naman kasi nung una. Pero the thing is, wala akong pinagsisihan. Masaya akong inisin ka," she quipped.

Even though Alora loved teasing Jake behind the scenes, she admitted that she already misses the bonding moments they shared off-cam. According to her, he made the work easier and much more entertaining as they continued to prank each other on the set.

MARIS RACAL LOOKS GORGEOUS WITH HER UKAY-UKAY OOTD IN NEW YORK CITY

So gorgeous!

Actress Maris Racal proudly displayed with no shame her latest New York outfit of the day which came from Ukay-Ukay - a fashionable corset-styled mini white dress.

She proves that anyone can recreate designer looks using secondhand finds. Her fans and social media followers were so impressed about the outcome.

In a series of pictures she shared on Instagram,



Maris recently showed off her 'Ukay-Ukay' finds. However she doesn't reveal how much she bought her stunning dress.

"My ukay ukay dress made it

wrote on Instagram as captioned to her sidewalk posed in New York City. The actress

to nyc," she

together with some Kapamilya stars are currently in

the U.S for Star Magic Beyond The Star show.

Maris can definitely shine in any ensemble she wears.

"Namiss
ko tumingin
sa palagid to
check kung
binibidyuhan mo ba
ako habang
kumakain.
Namiss ko di

Namiss ko di matulog ng mahimbing sa standbye area dahil ig story ka nanaman," she added.

Both she and Jake share the same birth-

day, March 27, but Alora is a year older than the actor. For Alora, she said she hopes that Ex Factor will not be the last time they will get to work together. Aside from being a good actor, Alora said he is also good to the crew working behind the camera.

The 33-year-old actress also shared how amazed she is at how hands-on Jake is on his daughter, Ellie, and would share stories

about her. Alora revealed that whenever they talked about their daughter, his face lit up.

"Genuine ako sa wish kong more blessings to come #ParaKayEllie dahil hangad kong matupad mo lahat ng pangarap mo for her. But also sana matupad mo dreams mo para sa sarili mo. Yung movie na pinapangarap mo, ibibigay yan ng universe. Tiwala lang," she said.

Aside from Alora and Jake, Ria Atayde and Carlo Aquino will also star in the new series. The series' airing date is yet to be announced by the production team.

Marcos wants national ID cards to be in use by early 2023

The production and distribution of national ID cards is to be fast-tracked so they can be used by Filipinos early next year, as per President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr.'s order.

In a Facebook post on Thursday (July 14), Marcos said he discussed the national ID system during his meeting with Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Arsenio Balisacan, who is also NEDA (National Economic and Development Authority) Director-General, last Wednesday.

According to The Philippine Star, press Secretary Trixie Cruz-Angeles has said the national ID system is necessary for economic recovery, and is essential for banking systems, the setting up of busi-



A policemen checks a motorist's national identity (ID) card at a check point at a popular shopping street in Manila on May 4, 2022, as security is increased ahead of the country's national elections on May 9.

nesses and the credit system.

Philippine Identification System

In 2018, the Philippine Identification System Act, which aims to establish a single national identification system for all citizens and resident aliens of the country, was signed into law. It aims to simplify public and private transactions, access social services, and promote financial inclusion.

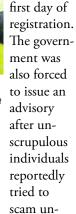
The law also required the Philippine Statistics Authority to gradually establish a single integrated and interconnected identification system. The Authority, which comes under NEDA, is the implementing agency of the Philippine Identification System.

The Philippines began the registration in October 2020 to give national identification cards to millions of Filipinos to boost financial inclusion. But the website



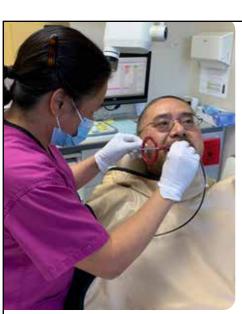
A member of the Philippine National Police checks the identification of a cyclist crossing the border from Rizal Province into Quezon City, Metro Manila, the Philippines, on Friday, Aug. 6, 2021. The Philippines capital region is under a strict lockdown called enhanced community quarantine, most businesses are shut and only essential shops like supermarkets and pharmacies can fully operate.

aware Filipinos.



was marred

with glitches on the









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DEFEND from page 1

ippines Mutual Defense Treaty, Blinken said.

Aside from China and the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Taiwan and Brunei have had overlapping claims in the busy waterway, which is believed to be rich in undersea gas and oil deposits and where an estimated US\$5 trillion-worth of trade and goods are shipped through each year.

The flashpoint region has become a key front of U.S.-China rivalry.

Washington lays no claim to the disputed waters but has deployed its Navy ships and Air Force jets to patrol the waterway for decades and says freedom of navigation and overflight in the disputed region is in the U.S. national interest. That has provoked angry reactions from China, which has accused the U.S. of meddling in a purely Asian dispute and warned it to stay away.

Philippine Foreign Secretary Enrique Manalo said that the arbitration ruling would be a pillar of the new administration's policy and actions in the disputed region and rejected attempts to undermine the "indisputable" decision.

"These findings are no longer within the reach of denial and rebuttal and are conclusive as they are indisputable. The award is final," Manalo said in a statement.

"We firmly reject attempts to undermine it ... even erase it from law, history and our collective memories," said Manalo, who did not name China but clearly alluded to it.

China would likely frown on the policy stance declared by Manalo for the administration of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr., who took office June 30 after a landslide electoral victory.

Marcos Jr.'s predecessor, Rodrigo Duterte, put the arbitration ruling in the backburner for years after he took office in 2016 and nurtured cozy ties with Chinese President Xi Jinping while often criticizing U.S.

security policies.

In 2019, Duterte said he finally asked Xi in a meeting in Beijing to comply with the ruling but was flatly told by the Chinese leader: "We will not budge."

Marcos Jr. has upheld the arbitration ruling and said he would not allow even one "square millimetre" of Philippine waters to be trampled upon.

But in an interview with DZRH radio network in January before he won the presidency, Marcos Jr. said since China has refused to recognize the ruling, it won't help settle disputes with Beijing, "so that option is not available to us."

Marcos Jr. said then that Dute-

rte's policy of diplomatic engagement with China is "really our only option."

He faced calls Tuesday to ask China to comply with the arbitration ruling and reverse Duterte's soft approach that undermined Philippine sovereignty in the disputed sea.

Dozens of left-activists and labourers protested in front of the Chinese Consulate in Manila's Makati financial district Tuesday, asking Beijing to respect the arbitration ruling and for Marcos Jr. to defend the country's territory and sovereign rights in the South China Sea.



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Richard Gomez always means business

Now that he's a congressman, with a Monday-to-Wednesday office schedule, he talked with us to catch up.

"Mas marami na akong oras ngayon!," said Richard Gomez, who switched roles with wife Lucy Torres-Gomez, now Ormoc mayor. Goma held the position from 2016 to 2022. "Maganda talaga at mas maraming nagagawa kapag mag-partner iyong mayor at congressman ng isang lugar because you have the same goals for the town."

Going back to his present work, Goma's first two bills are for the entertainment industry, one of which is House Bill No. 936.

"In layman's term, gusto ko mag put up ng National Arts Archives kasi sayang iyong mga pelikulang nagawa noong unang panahon and I remember doon sa time na pumunta ako ng Quiapo, iyong bumili ako ng torotot for New Year, pagbukas ko nung torotot (anduon) yong mga

negative ng film. Sayang talaga."

"These materials are of historical and of cultural value. "Established studios have their own archive, pero iyong mga maliliit na studio sometimes

kapag wala na sila, tinatabi na lang nila iyong mga stocks at sayang. So I'm hoping na pumasa iyong bill," Goma continued.

Next is the House Bill No. 1428, which hopes to give cash incentives and non-monetary benefits to artists and creatives, who compete in film festivals abroad.

"Unlike sa pagka-mayor, kapag may kailangan ako ayusin, like kunwari tanggalin mo nga iyang poste na iyan, mamayang hapon wala na iyong poste. Ganoon ka bilis! Unlike in Congress, swerte na isang taon!"

It seems like Richard and Lucy's tandem and career in politics have also rubbed off on their only child Juliana. Right now, she is a staff member of Richard in Congress

hands-on with the bills that her dad wants to file. Goma even shared how reliable her daughter is as a runner. "Madali lang. 'Juliana, do this, ha? I-research mo 'to.' Si Juliana, she's a leader by herself, 'no? Kasi, nakikita ko sa group of friends niya, e. Nakikita ko, siya ang nagtitipon sa mga kaibigan niya. She's an achiever. "Sa sports naman,

ayaw niyang natatalo siya. Training siya nang training. Gusto niya, nananalo," said Richard, who always reminds Juliana about possible outcomes of sports training. "Sabi ko, 'It doesn't mean na pag nag-te-training ka, ikaw lagi ang mananalo.' Maraming magaling na kailangan mong pag-aralan."

Meanwhile, Richard had a thing to say about the SONA meme of him with former nemesis and fellow showbiz heartthrob Robin Padilla, who is now a senator. "Siyempre, noong kabataan namin ni Robin, mainit ang mga dugo namin, e!" he recalled. "Alam mo, noong bata kami, 'Hindi, mas pogi ako sa 'yo!' 'Hindi, mas pogi ako sa'yo,' ganun.

"Pero ngayon na mature na kami, and mga public servant kami, then, we talk about what good we can do for the country. And then, sabi ko sa kanya, 'Natutuwa ako na nanalo tayong pareho! So, let's work together,' di ba?"

'Let's refrain from shaming others,' Tom Rodriguez tells fans on split with Carla Abellana

Tom Rodriguez asked a fan to stop "shaming others" and "cultivate positive vibes" as he addressed recent comments about his split with ex-wife Carla Abellana.



One @addicted2gold then left a comment advising Rodriguez to "move on" and "be thankful," apparently pertaining to the actor's split with

"Wag kasi kayo mag-hanap ng babaeng maganda at successful [kasi] nasobrahan sila ng feeling

strong and empowerment. For me, walang lalake na 'di nagkamali [at] wala din babaeng 'di nagkamali sa ibang gawa lang," the netizen stated. "Kaya dapat marunong magpatawad at makalimot unless sobrang daming beses ng ginawa do'n ka na 'wag magpatawad."

"While I appreciate the support, let's refrain na lang po [ma'am] from shaming others [on this] platform. Already so much of that going around in the world," Rodriguez replied. "Let's cultivate some positive

Rodriguez also responded to another netizen, one @st._mykelm, who argued that the other user's statement promoted victim-blaming and stressed that the "machismo of a man" is the one which should be put into blame.

"Naliligaw po ata kayo (I think you are getting lost) with your soapbox, speaking of other people's lives [whose] contexts you know none of... Perhaps you can tend to [clean] your own room instead?" the actor answered.

Lovi Poe unveils own film production company

Lovi Poe is launching her own production company C'est Lovi Productions.

Posting a screengrab of an article about the effort from Deadline, she wrote, "This is it! I'm excited to share the news of finally launching C'est Lovi Productions. It's been a passion of mine to be in the business of making films in front of the



camera for a number of years already, and as I continue to do that I'd like to be behind the camera too and develop projects from the beginning. Importantly, I want to join forces with people who share the same passion and make films that would help the world recognize Filipino talent either behind or in front of the camera."

It is Lovi's hope that the company will be able to continue the legacy of her father, the late Fernando Poe Jr.'s own, FPJ production.

"There was FPJ Productions... and I hope C'est Lovi Productions can continue that legacy, and bring Filipino stories — especially those independent, lesser known but equally good ones — internationally," she

According to the Deadline article, Poe's boyfriend Montgomery Blencowe is also part of the company.

Among projects already underway are "Lady Luck," with UK director Niall Johnson ("White Noise"), and "Alyssa," with Jerrold Tarog as writer

Netizens react to Kathryn Bernardo's acting in '2 Good 2 Be True'

Netizens react to Kathryn Bernardo's actina in '2 Good 2 Be True'

A scene from Kathryn Bernardo and Daniel Padilla's latest series 2 Good 2 Be True trended on social media the past few days.

In the 61st episode of the series, Lolo Hugo portrayed by Ronaldo Valdez - suffered a stroke which Ali(played by Kathryn) spotted.

In the episode, Ali explained the FAST method which would help determine whether Lolo Hugo was having a

Aside from the explanation on what she did, netizens also praised Kathryn for delivering her lines with emotions.

Netizens also commended the people behind 2 Good 2 Be True for doing their research and making the scene appear realistic.

A certain netizen named Olli Luneta shared the clip on Facebook which garnered 58,000 reactions and 30,000 shares as

of writing. "Kudos to ABSCBN for doing this scene. Pinag aralan at hindi basta

basta," the netizen shared.

"Basta gawang ABS-CBN cguradong de kalidad....de calibre....." a netizen named Ganie Peñon Riego commented.

On Twitter, netizens expressed their amazement over Kathryn's acting during the scene.



Twitter user @_wensiee tweeted. "Wala akong masabi bukod sa paano nagawa ni Kathryn 'yong pag-arte niya habang chini-check 'yong pag-atake ng stroke kay Lolo Sir nang alerto at nanginginig habang umiiyak, na parang isang tunay na nurse?! ANG GALING," a netizens named @archtKN tweeted.

The romantic drama series of KathNiel continues to make waves, consistently making it to the Top 10 TV shows in the Philippines list on the streaming app.



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SCENES IN THE FUN FESTIVAL

- Samantha Gavin wins a bear;
- 2.Samantha Gavin & Nicolas Manlapaz sings a duet at Fun festival;
- 3. Mike Cruz of MB Lounge is busy;
- A. Krystal Castillo enjoys the walk with dad Poncho and mom Liezl.
 5. Christine Santos of ABS talks with Gabby Amurao of
- Galeon gives the peace sign. I think it also means everyhting went great;
 10. Samantha Gavin plays with the pet dog of his mom's boss.

Foods packs it in; 9. FV Foods owner Mel

6. Margaret Rodrigo and Melissa Ventocilla enjoy the day with their friends; 7. FV Foods call it a day; 8. Archie Santos of FV









Chie Filomeno to date non-showbiz guys: 'Para meron pa akong ibang matutunan!'

hie Filomeno, star of 'Beach Bros' explains why she prefers to date men outside of the showbiz industry. Compared to her previous roles in showbiz, Chie Filomeno admitted she is very grateful to finally get a lead role in the iWantTFC series Beach Bros. "Very different ito kasi ito yung isa sa pinakaunang biggest role na binigay sa akin. Sobrang ibang iba naman siya

yung isa sa pinakaunang biggest role na binigay sa akin. Sobrang ibang iba naman siya sa Love in 40 Days. Si Nicole lumaki siya sa bahay ampunan and very interesting yung life niya. May mga tao talagang hindi nabibigyan ng choice. Hindi tayo nabibigyan ng choice. Yun yung masakit na part sa kanya.

"Ang gusto ko sa kanya

ang gusto ko sa ka palaban siyang babae at gagawin niya ang lahat para sa taong mahal niya. Yun yung pinaka gusto ko kay Nicole. Yung wala kang choice nung una pero gagawin mo pa rin yung kaya mong gawin para mabigyan ng marangyang buhay ang kapatid mo at ang family mo, mga kaibigan mo," she said. Despite being

unfairly
judged
when she
was still in
school, Chie
shared
why she
did not
let the
bullying
in the past

define her. "I think yung aura ko talaga ever since bata

ko talaga ever since bata ako yun na talaga. Kahit sa school ang akala nila maldita ako, nang-bu-bully ako dahil tahimik ako. So na-apply ko yung dapat mo talagang kilalanin yung tao. So nakakatuwa kasi meron silang ganitong way of thinking sa akin, ganito nila ako nakikita, pero ganito pala siya. So okay rin sa akin yun kasi na-prove ko sa kanila na mali yung iniisip niyo," she recalled.

After her experience as a celebrity housemate in Pinoy Big Brother last year, Chie admitted she will always look back on the whole show with gratefulness.

"Nabago talaga ng PBB yung buhay ko.
Nabigyan ako ng opportunity na thankful
ako and yung feeling na overwhelmed. Yun
talaga yung feeling na nararamdaman ko
kasi binigyan ako ng ganung kalaking trust.
Especially now with Beach Bros. Lahat ng
project ko with Dreamscape.

I'm really grateful for them and thank you for the trust yun yung nag-uumapaw and I'm grateful," she added.

Currently single, the 25-year-old actress also shared why she prefers to date men outside of the industry.

"Sinabi ko na yan dati, non-showbiz ang gusto ko. And first na naging boyfriend ko showbiz tapos sabi ko ayoko na ng showbiz. wala eh, hindi mo talaga matuturuan yung heart mo. As much as possible gusto non-showbiz para meron pa akong ibang matutunan. Kung kanino ako ma-fo-fall in love, feeling ko madami akong matututunan din," she explained.





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PM Trudeau's new haircut means election is coming

Well, not really. But if there is something more distracting than high grocery and gas prices, it's the new hairstyle by the Prime Minister. If that is his intention, it worked.

When PM Justin got elected, he had the clean look. During the pandemic, he played with the unshaven look. After what I would call the "mandate-full" years, he shaved again. Now, he got the "dumb and dumber look" from the Jim Carrey movie. I mean, I cut my own hair but I have never achieved this bad a look." Bad as in awful, not badass. In fact, at worse, mine would look like it was intentionally lopsided. As we Filipinos call it, mine was choppy, with a "stair" here and there.

Identify the hair-cutter so we can avoid it.
I'm pretty sure it's not Edward Scissorhands.

There is a saying that the difference is between a bad haircut and a good haircut is 2 weeks. It means, at the end of 2 weeks, it's not noticeable anymore. His haircut was unveiled around the middle of July. It's now August. PM Trudeau will need a new distraction by now. Or a miracle.

If by some fluke, the covid 19 virus disappears totally from Canada if not the world, gas prices go down below \$1.00 per liter, grocery prices go down to pre-pandemic levels, the Canadian dollar goes up against the US dollar, interest rates go down, Canadian airports are not a disaster area, the passport offices have no line-ups, then PM Trudeau



will call an election.

So far, the 7th wave of covid 19 has peaked. While some hospitals close their emergency rooms sometimes, there doesn't seem to be any panicking about being overwhelmed. Gas prices are going down. It's now around \$1.68. Pearson Airport has seen an improvement with less flights being cancelled. As for the passport offices, the lineups depend on where you are in the country and what time you come. Some are reporting pre-pandemic volume of applications.

Justin might credit it all because of his hairstyle. We can only hope it's that simple.

MAID IS A DISTRACTION

You would think there is are no pressing problems in the Philippines. It seems everyone is going berserk about a movie called "Maid in Malacanang," a pro-Marcos movie about what happened in Malacanang 3 days before the Marcoses were kicked out of the country in 1986. In retaliation, an anti-Marcos movie musical called "Katips" was also made and won awards at Famas, the oldest movie-award giving body in the Philippines.

If MIM is revisionist, why not make a revisionist anti-Marcos movie also. If the anti-Marcos factions really want to make a blockbuster movie, why not do a sexy film like the movies in Vivamax? The problem with anti-Marcos factions is that they cater to the upper class. And the Marcoses are masters at appealing to the masa.

I think the Marcoses assisted and financed MIM to distract the people from the current problems. There's already rumors of Imee Marcos giving away free tickets to watch MIM to students. We cannot confirm if it is true or not.

Katips will only appeal to theatre people. Even Speilberg couldn't make a blockbuster out of West Side Story.

Make a revisionist sexy anti-Marcos movie para panoorin.

PIDC TO CELEBRATE ANNUAL SUMMER FILIPINO FESTIVAL By: Tony A. San Juan, OCT.

True to its established mandate to promote Filipino heritage and culture and to foster unity and harmony as well in the Filipino-Canadian and multicultural communities in Canada's largest province, the prominent Philippine Independence Day Council (PIDC) of Ontario will stage its 20th yearly summer celebration in August 2022. This year's theme is Bangon (Rise), an apt title after the 2 & 1/2-year hiatus from pandemic health restrictions. PIDC is a not-for-profit umbrella organization of several Filipino-Canadian cultural, professional, and business associations in Ontario.

The 2022 Annual Summer Festival is generously supported and sponsored by TD Canada, Heritage Canada, Imperial World, Scotiabank, and Agnes P. Miranda-WFG Senior Executive Vice-Chairman. Led by its President Agnes P. Miranda, PIDC will offer and stage desirable Filipino culture-centered activities starting August 7 up to August 14, 2022. According to its Board of Directors and Executive Committee, the one-week celebration will include 3 major events that are planned and organized, hopefully, to provide cultural understanding and appreciation of all "sights, scents, and sounds" of Filipino heritage and culture in specific dates in selected GTA venues.

Among the main celebration segments are 1) The Miss/Mrs. Philippines-Ambasador 2022 Pageant on August 7, 2022(Sunday) at the Premiere Ballroom and Convention Centre in Richmond Hill, Ontario, 2) The "PIDC Gala Night" on August 11, 2022(Thursday), 6:00 PM, and 3) The "PIDC Mabuhay Philippines Festival" on August 13 & 14(Saturday and Sunday), 10 am to 8:00 pm. at Nathan Phillips Square, City Hall, Toronto.

The "Miss/Mrs. Philippines- Ambassador 2022 Pageant" will include the selection and coronation of the "Filipina Beauty and Talent" competition winners. For a ticket sale at \$60, call Jean Pardo at 416-318-1986 or email jeanpardo28@gmail.com and/or aelafano@ymail.com or maple_ophel@ yahoo.ca. The "Mabuhay Philippines Festival Gala " is to be held at the Premiere Ballroom and Convention Centre and will feature 1) a Philippine-inspired fashion show by popular Couturier Renee Salud and Top International Models, 2) Ms. Chiqui Pineda, 3) performance of Umajam Cultural Ensemble of Loreto Agusan Del Sur, Philippines, & other presentations, and 4) a 10- course lauriat dinner@\$100/150 per guest. Contact Agnes P. Miranda at 416-702-9693 or email agneswfg1008@yahoo.ca, for particulars.

The Mabuhay Philippines Festival, PIDC's flagship event, will be conducted at Nathan Phillips Square, Toronto City Hall, and will feature 6 on-site presentations. The 2- day extravaganza will include two full days of festivities consisting of 1) musical enter-

tainment featuring Fil-Can singer & actress Joey Albert and local talents, performers & Pinoy bands, 2) colourful Parada of Filipino-Canadian community, professional, and cultural organizations, 3) Santacruzan,



Congratulations Ma Sherry Lacson Tan for winning the Mrs. Philippines 2022!

a traditional procession to be participated in by faith-based beauty queens and their escorts, 4) cultural fashion show 5) short sports (basketball & volleyball) demonstration and Palarong Pinoy like sipa, patintero, luksong-lubid, sungka, atbp, and 6) Filipino product displays and vendor booths of "street foods" and culinary delights. For info, contact Norma Carpio at 905-257-1059 / 416-702-9693 or email: imperialworld-inc@amail.com.

Invited and expected to attend and grace the various events are Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, MP & Public Safety Minister Marco Mendicino, MP & Heritage Minister Pablo Rodriquez, Ontario Premier Doug Ford, Toronto Mayor John Tory, Philippine Consul General Orontes Castro, MPs Rechie Valdez, Marcie Ien, Ya'ara Saks, Han Dong, Shaun Chen, Rob Oliphant, Jean Yip, and Gary Anandasangaree, MPP Doly Begum, and Councillors Rowena Santos, Lisa Bower, James Pasternak, and Kristin Wong-Tam.

Spearheaded by PIDC Prexy Agnes P.
Miranda and Mabuhay Philippines Festival
Founder & Chairman Norma Carpio, the
executive members of the 2022 Organizing
Committee are Tom Tan, Ramon Estaris, Ben
& Paulina Corpuz, Danny Orbillo, Minda
Neri, Jean Pardo, Rory & Aris Elefano,
Melinda Manlapaz, Sonia Balinas, Salome
Mader, Al Tupe, Suzy Llanera, Ophelia
Santiago, Rose Cruz, Zena Zagala, Chyrell
Ronquillo, Helen Lao, B. K. Jimenez, Vilma
Tahsin, Roger Tarca, and Bob San Juan. In
charge of event programming are Mon &
Tess Torralba, and Danny Orbillo.

It is highly hoped and earnestly expected that this year's PIDC in-person events will result in considerable attendance, attention, appreciation, and acknowledgment of "Pinoy Pride" within the memorable presentations, the collaborative partnership, and the inclusive participation of diverse stakeholders, and fun & food loving revelers. (By Tony A. San Juan, OCT.)

Arjo Atayde and Maine Mendoza are engaged

MANILA, Philippines — Celebrity couple Arjo Atayde and Maine Mendoza have admitted being engaged, with the two posting on Instagram similar photos of them wearing their engagement rings.

Mendoza was the first to make a post on the said social networking site on Friday evening, showing four photos of her with Atayde, the actor-turned-politician who is currently Quezon City 1st District's Representative.

Mendoza's post has over 220,000 likes as of posting.

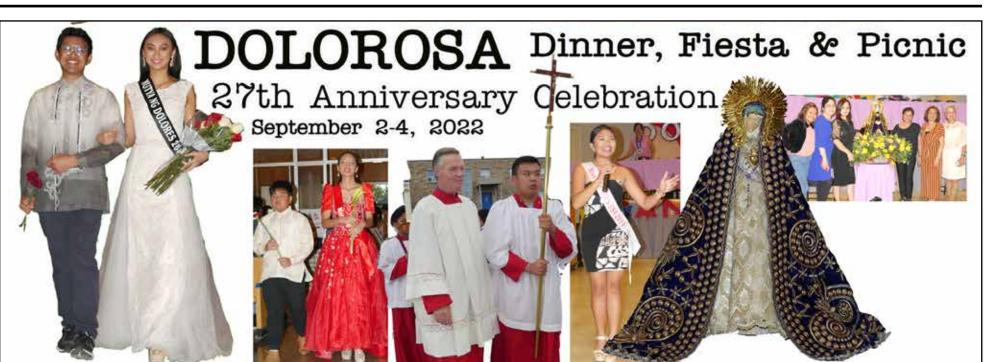
Atayde followed suit, posting photos of them during what appears to be the moment he made his proposal.

The couple have been dating for several years now, celebrating their third anniversary last December 2021. In an October 2021 interview with broadcaster Julius Babao,

Atayde admitted talking about marriage with Mendoza, the

breakout social media star who gained cult following during noontime show Eat Bulaga's Aldub series.









Vice minaliit ang TV5; kahit umulit daw ng damit ok dahil walang nanonood

Sa TV5 na mapapanood ang It's Showtime. Parang bato nang pagulung-gulong ang mga programa ng ABS-CBN.

Sino ba ang mag-aakala na mawawalan pala ng prangkisa ang sinasabing numero unong network sa ating bayan? No one expected

> that the executives, artists and workers of ABS will wake up to find the lights are out at ABS.

Besides showing their shows digitally, they distributed it to other stations like TV5 at A2Z. Hindi pa man

umeere sa TV5 ang It's Showtime ay pinakakain na ng ampalaya si Vice Ganda.

When ABS-CBN was on the air, minamaliit-nilalait ni Vice ang TV5. Remember her interview kay Alex Gonzaga sa GGV where Vice said na okey lang kung ulit-ulitin nito ang pagsusuot ng damit tutal naman ay walang nanonood sa

> Isa lang 'yon. Marami pang ibang binitiwang panglilibak sa TV5 ang mayabang at mapanglait na komedvanteng ito. Fast forward.

Sino ang mag-aakala na ang It's Showtime pala ay makikipamahay ngayon sa TV5, ang netwok na kung maliitin ni Vice Ganda ay parang wala nang bukas, napakara-

mi niyang kakaining mga salita.

Kaya mahirap magsalita nang tapos. Mahirap magyabang. Hindi natin hawak ang bukas. At hindi ipinapangako ang bukas.

Bea Alonzo is Diwata in int'l film

Not everyone agrees with Lolit Solis relating to Bea Alonzo's looks. These include producers of "1521: The Battle of Mactan," a film with a multinational cast to be shot in Palawan.

In there, Bea is Diwata, a character described as a young native princess with goddess-like beauty.

Of course. Why not? American actor Hector David Jr. who plays her love interest in the film, seemingly approves too. The "Power Rangers" star appears to

have been smitten by Bea's charms. Posting a photo of him with Beg on

Instagram page, he wrote, "Pinch me, I think I dreaming. (Bea Alonzo), such a beautiful soul."

Apart from Bea and Hector, seen there are Danny Trejo, Costas Mandylor, Michael Copon and Maricel Laxa.

According to Palawan-based radio station DYPR Palawan's Twitter post "1521: The Battle of Mactan" is slated for release June 12, next year.

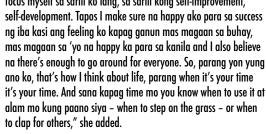
After winning an international beauty title for the Philippines, 2016 Miss International Kylie Versoza entered showbiz and learned her

"Hindi ko kasi kinu-compare yung track ng career ko sa iba. Kasi iba naman yung direction ko sa kanila. At saka ever since, hindi ko talaga kinu-compare yung sarili ko sa iba."Parang yon yung isang... siguro yon ang masasabi ko sa akin hindi ako mahilig mag-compare sa ibang tao. I just try to

focus myself sa sarili ko lang, sa sarili kong self-improvement,

Kylie Verzosa's first lesson learned in showbiz

first lesson: not to compare herself with others.



Moira dela Torre nagluluksa sa pagkawala ng personal driver

MAYNILA - Nagluluksa ang Kapamilya singer na si Moira dela Torre sa pagpanaw ng kaniyang personal driver na itinuturing na rin niyang kaibigan.

Sa kaniyang Instagram account, isang tribute video ang inilabas ni Dela Torre kung saan mapapanood ang ilan sa kulitan nila ni "Kuva Bai."

"Kuya Baj, salamat po sa lahat. Hindi ka lang naging mabuti na driver sa'kin, kundi mabuting kaibigan narin. Lahat ng kaibigan ko at mahal ko sa buhay, mula banda hanggang kamag-anak, minahal mo rin," saad ng singer sa caption.

Hindi pa rin aniya alam paano magpa-

paalam sa kaniyang driver na siyang nagpapatahan kapag magisa ito o hindi kaya'y nagpapatawa sa maraming pagkakataon.

Nagpasalamat din si Dela Torre kay "Kuya Baj" dahil ito ang isa sa mga umintindi at naging karamay niya sa panahong may pinagdadaanan siya.

"Mamimiss ko tawa mo, kuya baj. Pati yung mga advice mo na minsan maka-Diyos, minsan bastos. Pahinga ka na, kuya. Mahal na mahal ka namin. Miss ko na tawa mo. Salamat sa lahat. Love you kuya bai," ani Dela Torre.



Panibagong dagok ito sa buhay ng mang-aawit na kagagaling lamang sa masakit na hiwalayan sa kaniyang asawa na si Jason Hernandez.

Nitong Mayo, kinumpirma ni Hernandez na naghiwalay na sila ni Dela Torre dahil minsan itong nagloko sa kanilang relasyon.

TAXES from page 1

via digital processes.

The main issue, Mr. Balisacan said, would be timing the imposition of new taxes, especially with the country still recovering from a pandemic-induced recession.

The Department of Finance (DoF) last May unveiled a fiscal consolidation plan which aims to raise an average of P284 billion in fresh revenues every year for the next 10 years to repay the P3.2-trillion additional debt incurred during the pandem-

The plan involves new tax measures such as value-added tax (VAT) on digital service providers; excise tax on single-use plastics, motorcycles and luxury goods; and tax on gaming and cryptocurrency.

Mr. Balisacan noted that some sectors are still undertaxed like mining.

Mr. Balisacan said the government should consider pollution tax and more "sin"

"For example, I don't understand why luxury vehicles are taxed so low, even vehicles are taxed so low, compared to our neighbors. And I think that while we're trying to address transport issues, public transport issues, that should be part of the solution rather than just building more skyways," he said.

The Duterte administration has managed to pass the initial packages of its comprehensive tax reform program, which involved lowering personal income tax, tax amnesty for delinquent taxpayers and higher sin taxes on cigarettes, heated tobacco products and alcoholic beverages.

Also approved was the Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises (CREATE) Act, which cut corporate income tax.

However, reforms in real property valuation and passive income taxation failed to hurdle Congress.

"Congress didn't have the appetite for it, for the other components of the reform. Now it's the burden of this new administration to complete these other components. My colleague (Mr. Diokno)

said that we need to study our options... address all these fiscal issues to ensure that

the growth will be sustainable," Mr. Balisacan said.

Candid SPOOF

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



Roy Start talks on his phone as Wendy Arena and others dig in at the chicharon that he brought at the FCT Wednesday painting class.



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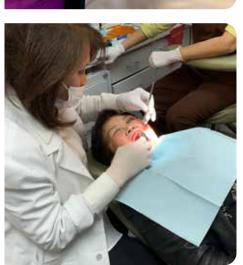
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