On this New Year, I wish that you have a superb January, a romantic February, a Peaceful March, an worry-free April, a sensational May, and joy that keeps going from June to November, and then round off with an upbeat December.

# Electric cars threaten Philippine Forest

A mine that supplies nickel for the batteries that power electric vehicles is on the verge of a major expansion into a pristine rainforest.

PALAWAN – Jeminda Bartolome spends her days at the foot of a lush mountain range tending to her rice paddies. A mother of six, she leads a group of farmers and members of the Indigenous Palawan tribe who believe the crop is endowed with a human soul.

"That," she said on a recent afternoon pointing toward her farmland, "is our source of livelihood."

Bartolome, 56, lives in one of the most biodiverse

places on earth, a stunning island that draws legions of tourists to its crystal blue waters and pristine nature reserves. But these days, her livelihood, and the ancient rainforest system it depends on, are increasingly under threat.

The raw nickel dug out of the ground here ends up in the lithium batteries of plug-in vehicles manufactured by Tesla, Toyota and other automakers.

#### Digging up the earth

The town of Bataraza boomed. One of its main high schools, supermarkets and municipal buildings all carry the name Rio Tuba.

"Bataraza before mining started was a fourth-class municipality, which in the

**ELECTRIC CARS, 15** 

# Welcome the new Calendar Girl 2022 Che Filomero Actress/Model Pres A Pier A Pres A Pier A Pier A Pres A Pier A Pre

# Philippines gambles on E-sabong for revenue

Strangers and friends alike are now hooked on e-sabong, the online version of that age-old national obsession bequeathed to us by the Spaniards.

Men, young and old; happy or depressed; rich or poor are joining the craze – which grew exponentially since the pandemic struck – from the comforts of their homes or through neighborhood off-track betting stations.

Atong Ang, the biggest

e-sabong operator in the country, says there are now five million Filipinos who are into the game, perhaps easily surpassing the traditional version. And the number continues to grow.

There are now seven e-sabong operators as of this writing, says gaming regulator Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor) showed. But the actual number may be higher because there are unregistered operators.

And if you just look at the anecdotal evidence, just about everybody knows

E-SABONG, page 20

# Don't donate dirty underwear, damaged clothes to typhoon victims

Miss World Philippines 2018 Katarina Rodriguez reminded donors sending relief goods for victims of typhoon Odette to be more considerate.

This she reiterated after she learned from Siargao-based entrepreneur Ruan Mac that some have been sending them unusable clothes.

She said: "Don't donate clothes you won't even wear...."

"Hindi naman dahil walang

DONATE, page 16



# Duterte urges couples to limit children to 3

MANILA — Blaming poverty on the country's large population, President Duterte has urged Filipino couples to limit their children to three.

"Once I went to the mountains and saw a child crying, rolling on the ground because there were ants. I said, 'Whose

CHILDREN, page 18

 $\mathsf{Mconfidential}$   $\mathsf{LMconfidential}$   $\mathsf{INDEOSPERAMUS}$   $\mathsf{LMconfidential}$   $\mathsf{LMconfidential}$ 

# AJ Raval will have breast implants removed

exy actress AJ Raval recently revealed ing under the knife.

This, to make her breasts look larger.
She shared this during a recent press conference, relating how she got breast implants only last year.

According to her,

According to her, it was a decision she made after someone suggested that she do so.

"Hindi po ako nag-iisip that time. Na-excite po ako masyado," she said about it.

But now, AJ is planning to have it removed, relating she's now uncomfortable with it.

"Naging happy naman po ako pero ang dami ko pa rin realizations and I'm planning na ipatanggal ko next year. I'm planning po, kasi last year, nagpa-enhance po ako ng boobs. Ayoko pong magsinungaling, natural na po sa akin yun. Pero planning po ako na ipatanggal next year. Gusto ko pong magkaroon ng freedom sa sarili ko," was how she put it.

"Before kasi, hindi naman ako nako-conscious sa boobs ko. Pero ever since na ipinalagay po, dun po ako nag-start na ma-conscious. Planning po ako next year na ipatanggal."

#### She nearly quit but Heaven Peralejo finishes college

Heaven Peralejo has finally finished her bachelor's degree in business management despite her previous plans to no longer finish her studies.

The actress announced that she is now a college graduate by showing her graduation photo on her Instagram page. Peralejo earned her degree from Southville International School Affiliated with Foreign Universities.

"Graduate! I honestly never thought magagawa ko could do it)," she said. "Although I have to admit, finishing school never really crossed my mind anymore since I'm already earning."

Despite these initial thoughts, Peralejo's mother insisted that she finish her studies since a career as an actress can "disappear anytime."

"My mom kept on reminding me (more on to the nagging side na) pasok ang litanya, 'Ang pagaartista pwedeng mawala anytime. Pero kung nakatapos ka, pwede mong magamit ito to change career,'" she recalled. Peralejo thanked her family. She also expressed her gratitude to her teachers and friends for being her inspiration.

"The lessons and insights that this journey has imparted in me have made it much more memorable," she added. "Through it all, and what lies ahead — I am very grateful and blessed. Thank you, Lord. Lahat ng ito (All of this) [is] because of you!"

Peralejo was congratulated by fellow celebrities.

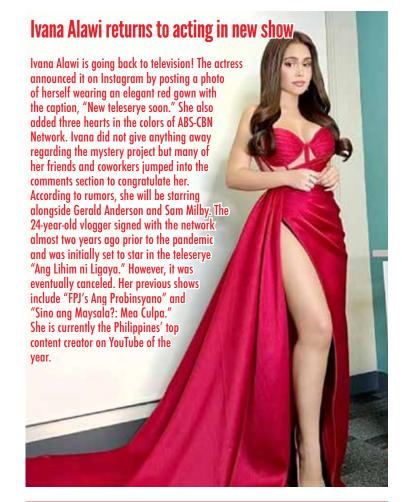
#### Chie pamalit kay Maja

May bagong iginu-groom ang ASAP na pamalit sa

puwestong naiwan ni Maja Salvador. Ito'yung reyna ng dance floor sa nasabing Kapamilya Sunday noontime musical variety show. Mukhang inihah-

anda ang dating PBB housemate at calendar girl ng isang liquor brand na si Chie Filomeno. Sa latest episode kasi ng ASAP, nakipagsabayan si Chie sa paghataw sa pagsayaw kay Kim Chiu na dating ka-tandem ni Maja sa dance floor. Ito ay sa okasyon ng pag-welcome kay Piolo Pascual sa kanyang pagbabalik-Kapamilya.

Abangers naman ang kibitzers kung kelan





Filipino Achievers of Canada and The Filipino Centre, Toronto initiate a relief drive for Typhoon Odette victims in the Philippines. Nitz Rejdik and Trini James poses with some of the donations dropped off at FCT.



# 'Bawal lumabas muna': Kim

# Chiu urges followers, be responsible

Kim Chiu urged her followers to stay inside their homes, especially when there's really no need for them to go out amid the surge of COVID-19 cases nation-

Chiu made the appeal on Instagram also sharing that some of own friends and loved ones are currently infecty the coronavirus.

"For me, some of my friends, loved ones are infected by #omicron. I hope and pray that this will be the beginning of the end. Keep safe everyone #Bawal-

Lumabas bahay muna, pahinga from all the parties and vacation that we had," she said. Chiu also reminded those who have any of the COVID-19 symptoms to quickly isolate in order to prevent the spread of the virus.

"If you have any of the symptoms please isolate na kaagad para 'di mahawa 'yung mga kasama nyo sa bahay. More than anything we really have to be responsible. Kaya natin to."

For Chiu, staying at home this time around could be a good opportunity "to reflect, reset, eat healthy, exercise, drink your vitamins and plan for the rest of the days of 2022."

#### Nakita ko na pareho pala kami ni John Arcilla! - Cindy Miranda

SUPER fan pala ng premyadong aktor na si John Arcilla ang beauty queen-turnedactress na si Cindy Miranda.

Aminado ang dalaga na kinikilig siya sa unang araw palang ng lock-in shoot nila para sa pelikulang "Reroute." "I came



from a shooting before Reroute so hindi ko alam kung ready ako. Tinatanong ko sarili ko kung ready ba akong makipagsabayan kina John Arcilla, Sid Lucero and Nanthalie Hart and wala naman akong choice kasi ang ganda ng script," kuwento

At ang natutunan ni Cindy sa dalawang batikang aktor, "Si sir John Arcilla po at si kuya Sid ay magkaibigang-magkaiba po sila ng personality and how they prepare sa set. Si John Arcilla po pareho kami sa set, seryoso, naka-isolate before the scene.

"Nakita ko na pareho pala kami ni John Arcilla kasi nasasabihan ako na very serious ako sa set kasi I don't really talk

sa set. Hindi ako nakikipag kuwentuhan kasi in character nap o ako at ayaw kong

"With kuya Sid naman sobrang makuwento na eventually magre-relax ka rin.

"But I saw myself kay John Arcilla, very seryoso siyang aktor talagang naka-isolate, prepared siya reading his script and he really wants to know what gonna happen," pagkukumpara ni Cindy sa dalawang

#### Gretchen Ho disgusted by malicious comments about her picture with NBA players

TV5 sports reporter Gretchen Ho is disappointed at some unsavory comments from netizens when posing with NBA

players. Gretchen's latest selfie is with NBA player Stephen Curry.

A netizen comments, "Hey Gretchen, I hope you're doing well. Advice ko lang

sayo is don't ride the C\*CK CAROUSEL okay? It will damage you emotionally and mentally.

Geez. When you take fan photos with NBA players, why do people immediately assume something happened?

I have gotten this so many times.

TV host Cesca Litton can relate.

"I hosted an event with an international celeb guest a while back and someone posted a comment on the pic saying "k\*n\*nt\*t mo yan?".

"Some people really think they get a free pass for saying disgusting things if it's on the internet. Their time will come."

Tugon ni Gretchen: "Grabe diba? I'm sure this happens more often than people notice. Ang lala at ang bastos.

#### Ang Probinsyano to continue

Hindi pa tatapusin ang longest running drama and action series ng ABS-CBN at ang maganda nito ay magaabot sila ng "Darna" series na ipalalabas na sa unang quarter ng 2022.

Nabibitin daw ang viewers sa pasulput-sulpot na eksena ni Sharon Cuneta at looking forward na anng next scene with Julia Montes na nagkita na sila ng tunay niyang ina, pero tinakasan naman nito sa hospital.

Samantala, nabanggit ni Sharon sana ma-extend siya. Sana kasama pa rin ang aktres hanggang sa huling episode ng aksyon serye dahil sabi nga si Julia na ang huling pag-ibig ni Coco, e, di ang ending may kasalang magaganap, dapat parehong naroon pa ang magulang ni Mara na sina



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# Beauty mabenta sa mga bagets

Marami ang nakakapansin na hindi tumatanda si Beauty Gonzalez.

Sa halip ay pabata nang pabata ang kanyang hitsura.

Kaya naman hindi halata ang age gap nila ng leading man niya sa first Kapuso project niya

na si Kelvin Miranda. Nag-click nang husto ang tambalan nina Beauty and Kelvin sa Stories from the Heart: Loving Miss Brigitte na inere noong September.

May tawag na nga sa loveteam nila - KelTy. At ang tawag naman sa fandom nila ay KelTy Community.

Sa sobrang lakas ng KelTy tandem, hayun at may pelikula na ang dalawa. Bibida sila sa "After All" (working title) to be directed by Adolf Alix, Jr.

Kamakailan nga ay ipinost ni Beauty ang teaser photo nila ni Kelvin. Sa caption, she wrote, "Do You Really Want to Live Forever? #AfterAll.'

Nagkagulo agad ang kanilang fans at sobrang kinilig ang mga ito sa sweet photo

"Omg! Kilig much thank you po miss B & kuya kelvin for making us happy and proud more projects and blessings to come po cant wait to meet YNA & JOSEPH #KELTYCOMMUNITY," komento ng isang fan.

"Yieeeee nakakalig sobra#KEL-TYCOMMUNITY," reaksyon naman ng isa pang avid fan.

> "I sooo love the chemistry. It's like taking a break from the typical love team we have in showbiz industry. You both together again for another project feels like an escape. This such a beautiful news

to me," pahayag ng isa pang supporter.

Marami rin ang nagre-request na i-remake nila ang hit Korean drama na Something In the Rain na May-December affair ang tema.

Eight years ang age gap nina Kelvin at Beauty pero dahil nga young-looking ang aktres, hindi ito pansinin at parang magka-edad lang sila.

Rowell Santiago bilang si Presidente Oscar Hidalgo at Sharon as Aurora para happy

ending naman ang kuwento ng buhay ni Cardo.



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# Once elected, they get rich and we stay poor. 🏵 😂 🧐



"There are no permanent enemies, and no permanent friends, only permanent interests"

#### Let's copy Vico Sotto

Vico Sotto said he is not going to endorse anyone this election. Obviously, he is not going to say who he is going to vote for. He said his family have different political

While Filipinos abroad, are also holding candidate campaigns with caravans and gatherings, let us not fight over which politician we are rooting for. Let's not get carried away by cutting friendships because of this. Let's use our common sense. Once they get elected, they will get rich while we here in Toronto will remain poor. People in the Philippines will also remain poor. No change. Let's join the caravans, have fun, see friends, get out, eat, and be happy. It's good for our health

to socialize.

Let's decide which campaign we are going to attend by picking which one will have better food to offer. Ehe sus Guinoo ni Roxanne. Fiesta yata nasa isip ko. 😂

#### Breaking-up, Kris Aquino style

Kris Aquino has given millions of couples around the world on how to break up. It's not either party's fault. You can now say, "I'm worried about my health. I'm giving you your release papers," something to that effect. It's the equivalent of not renewing the contract of an artista. Hindi ba? Of course, Kris did say she initiated it.

#### Don't ask personal questions

Ang mga artista, uutot lang, ilalagay pa sa social media, like instagram, sa facebook, twitter, tiktok at iba pa. Now, Maxene Magalona has an instagram account, Napansin ng followers na tinanggal niya married name niya. Tapos nagsulat ng mga posting na very poetic. Mga artista, nagiging poet para mag-isip ang followers. Tapos kapag tinanong mo, "don't ask personal questions" if you do not know the person personally ang sagot sa mga nag-uusisa. Huwag na nga pansinin. Pa mysterious-mysterious writing pa. Hindi naman makata.

#### TWO OLD GUYS WERE SEATING ON A PARK BENCH.

Two old guys Bob aged 87 and Harry aged 80 were seating on a park bench. Bob had just finished his morning jog and wasn't even short of breath.

Harry was amazed at the guy's stamina and asked him what he did to have so much energy.

Bob said, "Well, I eat rye bread every day. It keeps your energy level high and you'll have great stamina with the ladies."

So, on the way home Harry stopped at the bakery. As he was looking around, the sales assistant asked if he

needed any help.

He said, "Do you have any rye bread?" She said, "Yes, would you like some?" He said, "I want 5 loaves."

She said, "My goodness, 5 loaves! By the time you get to the 3rd loaf, it'll

He replied, "I can't believe everybody knows about this sh#t but me."

# KC Concepcion pens heartwarming birthday message to her "only mama" Sharon Cuneta



Actress KC Concepcion may not be on speaking terms again with megastar Sharon Cuneta as rumors have it but that didn't stop her from greeting her mom on her 56th birthday, Jan. 6.

"January 6th has always been a special day. Happy birthday to the Queen! My first best friend, my first valentine, my only mama. May your day be filled with joy, laughter and love. I love you always, and no matter what," KC wrote on Instagram.

On social media, Sharon celebrates her birthday today with a simple appreciation to her friends and supporters who greeted her and sent her gifts on her special

In June 2021, Sharon hinted about not being in good terms with daughter KC when a netizen asked the megastar about her.

"You have another daughter in LA," a netizen commented.

Sharon replied: "Yes I HEARD! I wonder how she is and what she is doing?"

#### Ina hanep kiliti sa mga barako

Hanep ang ibinalandrang kaseksihan ng Kapuso actress na si Ina

Feleo. Ito ang makikita sa kanyang Instagram account.

Pasabog ang pa-sample niya ng alindog sa nasabing IG post. Animo ipini-flex ni Ina rito kung gaano siya ka-hot.

Pansinin ang kanyang wow na cleavage, yummy legs, at mala-bote ng softdrink na hugis ng

Lalong lumutang ang lakas ng kanyang sex appeal, sa suot na sexy two-piece bikini. Sadyang astig at lodi ang katawan ni Ina.

Ang ganyang porma ng aktres ang type pagpantasyahan ng mga kalalakihan. Kakaiba kasi ang hatid

na kiliti sa mga barako.

Ang mga hottie na tulad niya ay itinuturing ng maraming boylet bilang pangromansa espesyal.

#### Catriona Gray convinces Beatrice Gomez to join pageants again

Miss Universe 2018 Catriona Gray influenced Miss Universe Philippines 2021 Beatrice Luigi Gomez to give pageants another chance.

Gomez, who placed second runner-up in Miss Mandaue in 2015, revealed Gray's Miss Universe crowning moment inspired her to join pageants again. She disclosed

this while showing a throwback photo of herself with Gray on her Instagram Story.

"Нарру birthday Queen! I remember the

day you won Miss Universe 2018, I don't really watch pageants but I watched your performance and I was in tears as people screamed when they announced you as the winner," Gomez recalled. "I had a random thought of wanting to join pageants again."

She then recounted enrolling in a workshop in 2019 and submitting her application for Binibining Cebu that same year.

"[By January] of 2020, I was crowned as the winner and you were there. I never really thought I'd be joining a prestigious national pageant such as [Miss Universe Philippines] and eventually represent the country at [Miss Universe] like you did," she addressed

Gomez was crowned Miss Universe Philippines in September 2021 and representef the country in the global pageant last month. She ended her journey in Miss Universe as part of its top 5.

She had to undergo mandatory quarantine in Pasay City after her Miss Universe 2021 stint, but has since returned to her hometown Cebu City to help in relief efforts for typhoon Odette victims.

# Rodante Marcoleta Advertises in ABS He voted against renewal of ABS-CBN's franchise.

Representative Rodante Marcoleta of Sagip Party-list was criticized after his political ad was shown in Kapamilya Online Live, a YouTube chan-



become the online version of ABS-CBN. Marcoleta was

among the most vocal lawmakers who opposed the franchise renewal of ABS-CBN in 2020.

Marcoleta is running for senator in the 2022 elections.

"Akala ko ba may nilabag na batas ang Kapamilya network kaya ipinasara nina Marcoleta. Ba't may pa-ad siya?" said Jerry Gracio, who is running as a party-list representative.

Marcoleta Defends His Political Ads on ABS-CBN

According to Marcoleta, it was ABS-CBN's choice to run

"The acceptance of the pol ad has nothing to do with its closure. First of all, it can reject our pol ad outright. It was its choice to make to begin with," Marcoleta said in an interview with the Inquirer.

According to Marcoleta, he has no control over where his ads appear.

"I neither control nor supervise the works of our ad agency because they know their job well. I don't decide on which networks to approach for the propagation of our political advocacies," Marcoleta added.

Earlier in November 2021, Marcoleta made headlines after he suggested the Commission on Audit to inspect Meralco's books and called for a review of the company's legislative franchise, even if Meralco's franchise allows it to operate for the next seven years.

Why Kris Aquino lost interest in Robin Padilla

Cristy said that Kris got turned off with Robin when they went to a church in Pangasinan.

"Niyaya kami magsimba ni Kris sa Manaoag. Umuwi kami madaling-araw na. Nagsimba siya. Mayroon daw siyang hihilingin sa Manaoag, sabi ni Kris. Sumama naman si Robin.

"Sabi ni Kris, 'I don't like him na, he has no manners... inside the church he farted." Cristy asked Robin: "Anak naman, ba't sa loob ng simbahan, nadinig pa niya,

Robin, now married to Mariel Rodriguez, said: "E ano gagawin ko, hirap na hirap na ako. Alangan namang pigilin ko 'yung hangin."

umutot ka.'

#### It happened a long time ago, but veteran entertainment broadcaster Cristy Fermin recalled the time when Queen of All Media Kris Aquino and Robin Padilla were playing sweet music together. In her daily radio show

on Radyo Singko on Jan. 5, Cristy tackled the

failed relationship of Kris and

Then Cristy remembered the time when Kris and Robin went

# Kris Aquino vows to help more Filipinos in need



On Christmas Day, Kris Aguino vowed to help more by putting fellow Filipinos in need first.

On Instagram, Kris said that she's carrying a big responsibility these days because she's the last one still carrying the names Cojuangco Aquino.

"Dapat ituloy ang pagbibigay ng tulong na walang hinihinging kapalit... tumatanaw lang po ako ng aming forever na utang na loob dahil sa nagawa ninyo nung nakaraan at tinutuloy pa rin hanggang ngayon: marami pa rin po ang hindi nang iiwan at patuloy nagbibigay tiwala, nawala man ang gitna ng pamilyang Cojuangco Aquino, ngayong 2021," Kris said.

First on her list is Negros Occidental.

"My main reason why I chose Negros Occidental 1st: Bacolod was my last overnight trip with Noy, near the end of the 2016 campaign... by helping the province that gave him an overwhelming victory in 2010, I'm not only honoring his memory BUT in my own way, I'm trying to make up for my shortcomings sa kuya ko, in the way I know he'll best appreciate-by putting our fellow Filipinos in need, first," Kris also said.

Kris is the daughter of former President Corazon "Cory" Cojuangco Aquino who served as the 11th President of the Philippines from 1986 to 1992.

Her brother Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III became the 15th President of the Philippines from 2010 to 2016.

**M** confidential

# Kim Chiu's Pain to blessing Experience

From bashing, it became a blessing," said actress Kim Chiu as she recalls what happened after uploading "Bawal Lumabas" video in 2020, which eventually became viral and made her depressed.

"People said awful things to me. I developed fear of being around people I don't know," said Kim during a Q&A of her latest movie, "Huwag Kang Lalabas."

"Looking back, I realized why this had to happen to me—I needed to fall down first—before I experienced all these blessings.

#### 'Meant to be'

Kim also said she was grateful that the "painful experience" brought her good things, that she actually gained from all the bashing. "I got to record a single, a TV series with 'Bawal Lumabas'

as the title. Now, I'm here, promoting a film project titled 'Huwag Kang Lalabas,'" Kim pointed out. As to how she handled all the negative comments, Kim said: "I don't know

> these bashers, and so that was my edge over them. The mean things they say to me online don't matter to me. My job as a host of 'It's Showtime' helped me a lot, too.

It made me gain confidence. Also, it's a Monday to Friday job, meaning I didn't have time to dwell on the negative things that were happening."

She further said: "I owe a lot to my supporters. They patronized all my TV programs and movies. They readily defended from bashers. As for me, I've learned to separate the negative comments from the good ones."

#### Former Kapamilya

Kim also addressed the recent buzz created by one of her Instagram posts, particularly a video showing an unidentified man taking down a portrait mounted on a wall in a corridor in ABS-CBN. This post has since been deleted. It turned out that it was the photo of former Kapamilya talent Bea Alonzo that was removed.

"T'yang Amy (Perez, 'It's Showtime' cohost) and I just did it for fun.

"Bea and I don't have any issue. I guess Direk Lauren (Dyogi, ABS-CBN head of TV productions) was right when he said, 'Why did they have to remove the portrait in the middle of the day, anyway? When a lot of people could see?' Napahamak tuloy

# Sue 'di na lalayas sa PH

Sue Ramirez is thenakful, even with the pandemic her projects keep coming. After 'Oh My Dad' last year, she's in the tv sseries The Broken Marriage Vow this January.

"I'm very, very blessed. I'm just very, very grateful. May pandemic, peromaraming blessings. So, grateful talaga," ani Sue.

Last year, her mom said' "if she is not successful in her career, she'll make her go home to America.

Sa US kasi nakabase ang kanyang ina at solo living dito sa Pinas si Sue.

Pero, hindi raw siya aalis ng Pinas,

"Hindi na ako aalis dito. Dito lang ako," natatawa niyang sabi. "Ang dami ko pang gustong gawin. Ang dami

ko pang gustong matutunan. And ang dami-dami ko pang roles na gustong i-portray. So I'll be here for quite a while pa. Hindi ako aalis. Ayokong umalis," sey niya.

Sa The Broken Marriage Vow ay kasama ni Sue si Jodi Santamaria na talaga namang labis na ikina-excite ng aktres.

Kaya hindi siya makapaniwala na kasama at kaeksena na niya ang paboritong aktres at sey niya, "it's such an honor to be working with her."

# **Yen Santos returns to Instagram**

Controversial actress Yen Santos has finally ended her social media break.



On Christmas Eve, the 29-year-old sexy star uploaded a photo of her along with a Santa Claus display. "merry christmas

(Santa Claus emoji)," her caption read.

Recall that some months ago, Yen cleared her Instagram feed after her name was dragged as the alleged third party and cause of the split of longtime couple LJ Reyes said Paolo Contis. Though the latter later cleared the allegations.

However, last month, netizens claimed that Yen celebrated her birthday over dinner with Paolo.

# Is Liza Soberano pregnant?

here have been instances where young actresses surprised fans returning to the country with baby in tow following a long vacation abroad. Are we to count Liza Soberano among them

The actress has been in the US for some time now, and speculations about her supposed pregnancy are rife.

The talk was further exacerbated with Liza sharing on social media photos and videos of her with boyfriend

Enrique Gil taken last Christmas.

Not a few netizens were quick to put malice about Liza wearing an oversized coat there, maintaining she was using it to hide her baby bump. So, is she?

Her manager, Ogie Diaz, denied it altogether in a recent vlog.

> He said: "Si Liza hindi po siya buntis pero magkasama po sila ni Quen sa US, kasama si Justin, yung brother ni Liza. Dinalaw nila ang lola nila."

"Someday, dahil sila naman ni Enrique ay talagang mukhang hindi naman na mapaghihiwalay e, darating tayo diyan. But for now, it's a no," he added.

## **Brenda Mage apologizes** for actions, words while inside 'PBB' house

Brenda Mage took to social media recently to apologize to those offended by his actions following his "Pinoy Big Brother (PBB)" stint.

On Facebook, the "It's Showtime's" Miss Q & A InterTALAKtic 2019 3rd runner-up wrote: "Lahat ng salita at aksyon ko ay sumasalamin sa aking pagmumukha at pagkatao.. Kaya kung may nasaktan man ako sa mga nagawa ko i am Sorry... eto talaga ako eh... I am not MARITES but this is BRENDA MAGE ... Lablablab Godbless!"

In another post, he reiterated: "Pasensya na po talaga sa lahat ng nangyari.... Tao lang po ( mukha lang hindi ) nagkakamali.... Salamat po...

Recall that last most, Brenda's co-comedian Juliana Parizcova aired his wish that his friend would end his "PBB" journey and soon.

Then, Brenda was among those receiving huge amount of bashing from fans.

Note that during that time, Brenda's "walang silbi puro ganda lang" statement as directed towards actress-singer Alexa llacad trended on different social media platforms.

Prior to that, Brenda also made headlines for his inappropriate joke directed towards Eian Rances and his privates.



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# Philippines bans Child Marriage

It "Debases, Degrades, And Demeans"

Manila: Child marriage became illegal in the Philippines as a law banning the practice took effect in a country where one in six girls enters wedlock before the age of 18.

The impoverished Southeast Asian country has the 12th highest number of child marriages in the world, according to Britain-based rights group Plan International, with longheld cultural practices and gender inequalities hindering change.

But the new law, signed by President Ro-

drigo Duterte and released to the public on Thursday, lays out prison terms of up to 12 years for marrying or cohabiting with anyone under 18. People arranging or solemnising underage unions also face the same penalty.

"The state... views child marriage as a practice constituting child abuse because it debases, degrades, and demeans the intrinsic worth and dignity of children," the law states.

The government says the law is consistent with international conventions on the rights of women and children.

However, some portions of the legislation have been suspended for one year to allow for a transition period for Muslims and indigenous communities in which child marriage is relatively common.

A report last year by the United Nations Children's Fund said more than half a billion girls and women worldwide were married in childhood, with the highest rates found in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

# Saskatchewan turns to Philippines to solve health-care labour shortage

SASKATOON, SK--Saskatchewan is once again turning to the Philippines to fill a gap in its health-care labour force.

The Saskatchewan Health Authority aims to hire 150 permanent, full-time nursing and laboratory staff from the Philippines this year to bulk up a health-care system hammered and depleted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Health-care unions expressed support for any efforts to fill the gap — but noted foreign workers must be supported.

"We could not be without our Filipino nurses," Saskatchewan Union of Nurses President Tracy Zambory said. "They are a gigantic asset and we could not run without them. We just have to make sure that we are taking lessons from the past."

Saskatchewan sent a delegation to the Phil-

ippines in 2008 as part of a hiring blitz to recruit 800 new registered nurses. University of Calgary assistant professor of sociology Naomi Lightman, who studies migration and care work, said such recruitment drives are not uncommon.

"There's an entire industry built in the Philippines to train and then export (staff) to work in health care in other, typically wealthier countries," Lightman said.

As of 2016, Statistics Canada estimated nearly a quarter of nurse aides, orderlies and similar professionals in Saskatchewan were immigrants — more than twice the share of newcomers working in all other jobs. The same study found nearly 30 per cent of such professionals across Canada were Filipino, the vast majority women.

# Kim Chiu, settle down?

Queries about their relationship surfaced when Xian started doing projects for GMA, while Kim remains a loyal ABS-CBN star.

Kim maintains that her relationship with Xian Lim remains strong.

The actress and television host admitted that she fully understands her boyfriend's decision.

"What matters is where he will find a job," Kim said alluding to Xian's TV project called False Positive opposite Glaiza de Castro.

Kim and Xian have been steadies for a decade already. Many are curious if at this point they have wedding plans.

"I believe it's not right for a girl to talk about marriage especially if the guy hasn't proposed yet. So, I don't know about it. The best person to ask is Xian himself," Kim said.

Asked if she would be ready if Xian popped the question, Kim just smiled and said: "I'll cross the bridge when I get there. But one thing's for sure: we love each other."

# Actors

Where it used to be taboo, pulling off scenes of nudity in local films is now becoming ary, matter of fact.

A number of actors and actresses have come out in public intersaying they're not against it and Vivamax, Viva Entertainment's online streaming app is leading the way, known as an adult-movie, no holds barred, free-from-censorship site.

A cursory look at Vivamax's filmography reveals its highly sexual orientation with titles like Taya, The Housemaid, House Tour, Sisid, Resbak, Siklo, My Husband, My Lover pulling in viewers.

We have met many of them. The goal, of course, is to graduate as dramatic actors, which is ideal and not bad at all.

A case in point is young actor Vince

# say 'yes' to full frontal

Rillon, who is being launched as lead in the sexy action-thriller, Siklo, by Roman Perez,

matched only by the adventurous spirit of his Siklo co-star Christine Bermas, who has no qualms either about nudity and engaging in sexy hot scenes.

Rillon is being groomed by Brillante as an actor of character, versatile in his craft. He will be seen in the first half of 2022 in Bigwas, Iskandalo, L, and one more that's prison-inspired.

#### Young stars deal with bad effects of social media on 'Click, Like, Share' Season 3

When it comes to fake news and fake accounts, showbiz people are perhaps the most vulnerable and have been victimized many times over.

Young Kapamilya stars shared how they deal with the negative effects of social media and being highly visible online during the mediacon of "Click, Like, Share" Season

3 which will premiere on Jan. 12, 8 pm, on the iWantTFC app and website.

Former PBB housemate Jane Oineza noted that "poser"accounts of celebrities like her are always a problem. "Mabuti nga ngayon may verified accounts na. Sana ang mga tao ay marunong mag-fact check

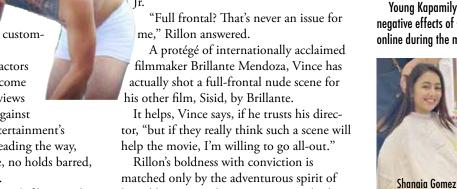
para ma verify talaga kung ginagamit lang ang name namin," she added.

Actor and singer Elmo Magalona agrees. "Di ko na mabilang ang poser accounts, sobrang dami. My only advice is to just be careful of these people."

Meanwhile, another PBB alumnus Vivoree Esclito revealed how her name was used before to scam other people. Vivoree plays the role of the security guard in the CLS segment called QR Code.Because of her bad experience, the 21-year-old Vivoree advises others to be more vigilant and not to disclose personal information. Also, victims should not be afraid to ask for help because "there are things we can't do by ourselves. We must always spread awareness para hindi ito mangyari sa ibang tao," she said. Spreading of fake news about a certain individual or artist is another issue. On this matter, Vivoree has this to say: "You just have to rise to the occasion. Ok lang maging malungkot sa pinagdaanan mo. Talk to someone or open up to a person you trust if it makes you feel better. Most of all, always pray."

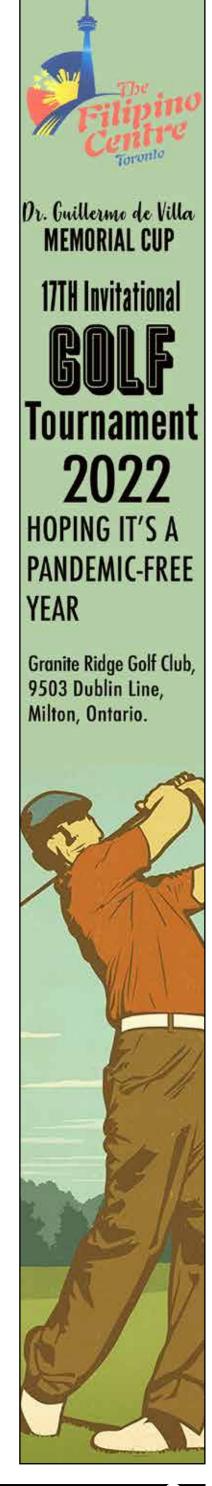
The other episodes of "Click, Like, Share" Season 3 are "Repair" starring JC Alcantara and "Swap" featuring Belle Mariano and Shanaia Gomez.

CLS Season 3 also casts Allan Paule, Nikki Valdez, Mark Rivera, and Bernard Palanca in the supporting roles.



at least seven movies, including Sisid, Pula,







# Shanaia Gomez on her 'PBB' experience: 'So unreal'

"Pinoy Big Brother: Kumunity" celebrity housemate Shanaia Gomez is still in disbelief

world."

Gomez, a Rise artist, was the seventh evictee in the current season of the reality show. She was evicted togeth-

now that she's in the "outside

er with Benedix Ramos.

"It's so unreal. Like it's so crazy until now, I still haven't got used to the idea that I am in the outside world na talaga. Sometimes I forget na wala na akong lapel. Sometimes I feel that there are still

cameras on the walls. It's so crazy but I love being in the outside world. I am so happy, I've been so overwhelmed with this support in a great way," Gomez said In Star Magic's "Inside News." "There are no words that can express how grateful and how happy I am. I really did not expect this at all," she said, adding that reading reactions and comments from her fans and supporters made her cry.

Asked what she learned after she became a housemate, she said: "I've learned how to handle lots of different personalities. I learned to how to be with people. I never lived with anyone that wasn't my family before. I learned a lot about myself as a person. Before entering Kuya's house, I had no idea that the feelings of other people affect me as well," said Gomez. "I started writing for the first time, some music," she added

Prior to "PBB," Gomez tried to enter

showbiz in 2016 through commercial modeling. The following year, she planned to try acting but her difficulty in the Filipino language hindered her at first.

Two years later, Gomez joined "Idol Philippines" where she reached the mid-rounds.

#### Francine Diaz, not ready for romance

Francine Diaz whose 18th birthday is on January 27, is not ready for a relaship, Diaz visited "Magandang Buhay" she said nakapokus siya ngayon ang pagmamahal sa sarili. "Hindi naman sa ayaw ko ng love life, marami po akong crush. Pero alam ko na hindi pa po ako ready.

Kaya for now happy ang beart ko" ani Diaz Diaz wishes for lots of

heart ko," ani Diaz. Diaz wishes for lots of projects this 2022. "More projects, para more money," said Diaz who starred in the series na "Huwag Kang Mangamba."

Samantala, tulad ni Diaz ay ibinahagi rin ni Ella Nympha sa "Magandang Buhay" ang mga nais niyang mangyari ngayong 2022.

Hiling niya na matapos ang kanyang pagaaral sa high school.

Pagdating naman sa usapin ng puso, ani Nympha, 17: "Wala po ako ngayon. Pero gusto ko lang po na maging happy ang heart ko if ever, someday."

Nais din ni Nympha na magkaroon muli ng international project.

"Mayroon na po akong na write na mga song. Write songs and go international po," ani Nympha.

# Jeremiah Lisbo on being second choice in Love At First Stream: "Sino pa bang magiging picky?"

Jeremiah Lisbo considers himself blessed after being cast in his first-ever movie. He stars in Love

When asked what the movie means to him, Jeremiah became a bit emotional. He said, "Napaka-importante sa amin nito, e.

At First Stream.

Kaori Oinuma and Jeremiah Lisbo

Directed by Cathy
Garcia-Molina, Love At First Stream
features two pairs of love teams: Jeremiah and Kaori Oinuma, and Daniela
Stranner and Anthony Jennings. The
four young actors are part of Rise Artists
Studio, ABS-CBN Films' talent arm in
collaboration with Star Magic. Jeremiah
is grateful to the management.

"Grabe, ibinigay kasi sa akin itong opportunity na ito, sobrang grateful ko lang na makakatrabaho ko iyong mga kaibigan ko and sila Direk Cathy, blessing talaga siya and nagpapasalamat ako sa Diyos at sa tiwala ng management...

"Sino pa bang magiging picky, di ba? Ang ganda na ng kuwento, si Direk Cathy pa iyong magdi-direct."

## Darren Espanto pens sweet b-day message for Cassy Legaspi

Singer-actor Darren Espanto expressed gratitude to rumored girlfriend Cassy Legaspi, who recently turned 21.

According to him, the latter has been

with him through his highs and lows despite that "it takes a lot to deal with a Darren Espanto." He wishes Cassy to continue being the "bad\*ss" that she is.

"You're one of the strongest women I've ever met and you never fail to impress us. You're always there for your friends and family but I wish you'd set aside some time for yourself as well, ok? I've always got your back," he said.

Darren also penned a message for Cassy's twin brother, Mavy.

It read: "To my brother Mav-

erick, a.k.a. Derek Zoolander, feels like that dance prod we did as 15 year olds was just yesterday and now you're turning 21. Thank you for being our designated driver,

always...dejk lang.

Thank you for being someone I can always count on. Always here for ya."

The Kapamilya star reiterated how the twin Kapuso artists are the "most genuine" people he has ever met.

"Thank you for always being there, you two," he told Cassy and Mavy.

"I'm happy that the things you guys only dreamt of doing before are all coming true and this is only the beginning! I wish y'all nothing but success and happiness always. Love you both!!!"

On his Instagram story, Darren also surprised Cassy with a cake and an online celebration.



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# Omicron Is not a 'natural vaccine'

MANILA - DOH Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire pointed out that Omicron is a virus and not a vaccine. She stressed that there is no room for complacency at this point even if initial studies suggest that this new coronavirus variant only causes mild symptoms.

"We must not be complacent even if the said variant only manifests mild symptoms. The World Health Organization (WHO) pronounced that the Omicron variant is still a virus and not a 'natural' vaccine,'" she said. She also noted that the "more transmission, the more the virus can mutate and replicate."

Vegeire said that the current COVID-19 vaccines are still considered the "best defense" against the illness as these lower the chances of getting severe or critical symptoms.

Vergeire made the statement in response to the claims of OCTA Research Group fellow and molecular biologist Fr. Nicanor Austri-

In a forum hosted by Go Negosyo Austriaco said that "Omicron actually acts as another booster, a natural vaccine," citing data that was published recently.

Those who survived from Omicron infection will get "antibodies" that can protect them "not only against Omicron but against the Delta, Gamma, Beta, Alpha, and the D614G" coronavirus variants, said Austriaco. "We have to realize that Omicron is the beginning of an end of the pandemic because Omicron is going to provide the kind of population immunity that should stabilize our societies and should allow us to reopen after Omicron has begun," he said.

"This is the hope and prayer, Omicron is actually a blessing, it will be hard for one month but afterwards, it should be a blessing because it should provide the population protection that we need everywhere," he added.

#### COVID-19 continues to surprise the world

One thing is clear right now—the information about the virus that causes COVID-19 continues to evolve, said infectious disease expert Dr. Edsel Salvana, a member of the DOH-Technical Advisory Group (TAG).

"If there is one thing constant about COVID-19 and the SARS CoV-2 virus is that it has surprised us time and again," he said

"Lahat po ng dalubhasa, mahirap ho talagang i-predict— so huwag po tayong magiging complacent at bakuna lang po tayo (All the experts, it's really hard to predict—so let's not be complacent and let's get vaccinated) and continue to use our minimum health standards," he added.

Dr. Anna Lisa Ong-Lim, who is also a DOH-TAG member, also supported the statement of Salvana.

"Siyempre gusto natin na ito na 'yung pinakahuli, na wala nang susunod pang ibang variant. Unfortunately, hindi pa natin masasabi with certainty na ito na nga ang katapusan ng COVID (Of course, we want this to be the last—that no other variants will emerge. Unfortunately, we cannot say with certainty that this is the end of COVID)," she said.

"Mas maganda pa ring maging maingat, huwag sadyaing magpahawa on the assumption na hindi na mahahawaan ulit ng iba pa at ipagpatuloy ang pag-iingat (It's still better to be careful, don't intentionally get infected on the assumption that you will not get infected again. Continue to be careful)," she

# **BRP Sierra Madre Will Stay**

BRP Sierra Madre was intentionally ran aground in 1999 on Ayungin Shoal.



The Philippine government has no plans of removing the BRP Sierra Madre, a dilapidated outpost in Ayungin Shoal, despite China's orders for its removal.

"We are not moving LT-57 or the BRP Sierra Madre, it has been there since 1999. It is a permanent government post manned by our AFP personnel and it is there as a haven for our fishermen who would go to the shoal," Lt. Gen. Andres Centino said.

In 1999, the Philippine Navy intentionally ran aground the Sierra Madre on Ayungin Shoal to protect the Philippines' sovereign rights in the area.

"It is used in monitoring the safety at sea and it is there for us to assert our sovereign rights considering that is within our exclusive economic zone (EEZ)," Centino added.

The Chinese coast guard regularly patrols the area to prevent the resupply missions for Filipino marines stationed on the rusty ship.

In November 2021, Chinese Coast Guard ships harassed and blocked two civilian boats resupplying Philippine marines stationed on Ayungin Shoal.

# AJ Raval & Sean De Guzman's friendship makes them confortable in steamy scenes



ollowing the enormous success of "Taya," Vivamax brings back the team up of director Roman Perez, Jr., hot actor Sean de Guzman and Viva's newest queen of sexy movies, AJ Raval in "Hugas". This romantic crime movie is set to stream on Jan. 14.

AJ Raval plays Liezl, a girl from the province, who is thrust into a crime syndicate led by Boss Dencio (Jay Manalo). Liezl's Uncle Boyong (Soliman Cruz) is the one who introduces her to the gang. Whatever the boss wants her to do, Liezl does well. But when she marries Al, Liezl already wants out of the syndicate.

Sean de Guzman plays Al, a clever hitman. It's the reason why he was taken in by Boss Dencio. The syndicate relies on him when they want people dead. Thanks to the syndicate, Al and Liezl met, but gratitude won't make them stay. Al wants to start a new life with his wife and the only thing to do is for them to run away.

Carrying a big bag of cash, the couple flees from the gang, and thus begins a series of mishaps. Boss Dencio will chase them to the ends of the earth to get the money back.

Aside from the action scenes, erotic moments between Liezl and Al are to be expected from "Hugas". This is the third time that AJ and Sean have worked together. Before "Taya", there was "Nerisa". Both have always been very vocal about how comfortable they are in doing delicate

scenes, so their fans are guaranteed to enjoy another round – or rounds – of steamy love scenes in this movie.

"Hugas" also stars Benj Manalo, Bob Jbeili, Cara Gonzales, and Joko Diaz.

To stream "Hugas", go to web. vivamax.net or download the app and subscribe via Google Play Store, App Store, or Huawei App Gallery.

#### Migo Adecer, Katrina Mercado get married in Hong Kong

Singer-actor Migo Adecer is now officially married.

The 22-year-old Kapuso star exchanged "I dos" with his non-showbiz



girlfriend, Katrina Mercado, via an intimate ceremony in Hong Kong.

As seen in the videos and pictures that he and his wife uploaded on

their respective social media accounts, the event, where the reception happened on a yacht, was attended by their families and loved ones.

Katrina, on the other hand, thanked to everyone who played a part in making their wedding day "extra fun and special."

"And of course to my mama @ jpa\_m who did most of the planning and stressing so Doug and I could just relax and have fun! (heart emoji)," she wrote. "We are so grateful that you all, also our families overseas, celebrated with us. You have made us the happiest newlyweds!"

Early this month, when Migo surprised his fans with the announcement that he asked his girlfriend's hand in marriage on his birthday.

Early this year, the Kapuso cutie bid showbiz goodbye.

The Filipino-Australian actor, singer-songwriter, dancer, and model began his career in 2015 as a contestant in the sixth season of "StarStruck," where he was named the "Ultimate Male Survivor"

# McCoy de Leon pens Elisse Joson short yet sweet birthday message

Actor McCoy de Leon made sure to mark the special day of his partner Elisse Joson, who is celebrating her 26th birthday Thursday.

De Leon took to Instagram to greet Joson a happy birthday with a short but sweet greeting: "I want all the best for you. Happy Birthday My Love!"

The celebrity couple also celebrated the holidays as a small family with the addition of their first child, Felize.

"Though our New Year's Eve was spent differently and we missed our families so much, we're still blessed to



be with each other to welcome the new year," the actress said in an earlier post.

De Leon, 26, and Joson, 25, introduced their firstborn, Felize, in the October 31, 2021 episode of "Pinoy Big Brother," the reality show where they first met and became romantically involved in 2016.

Despite welcoming a baby together, the pair is not in a rush to get married. In an interview with Push, de Leon admitted they have talked about it but they agreed on prioritizing baby Felize first.

"Lagi naming pinag-uusapan ni Elisse 'yan. Pero lagi naming binabanggit sa sarili namin na dapat maging praktikal lang kami. Siyempre, 'di rin biro ang manganak lalo na ngayon pandemya, kailangang mag-ipon," he said.

Fans gush over 'kilikili kiss' of Mc-Coy to Elisse on New Year's Eve

"Siguro soon. Wala namang problema do'n. Darating din naman tayo do'n. Kailangan lang siguro talaga naming paghandaan yon," he added.

For now, de Leon is keen on working harder to be able to provide for his family financially.

# DR. GUILLERMO DE VILLA MEMORIAL CUP 19th Invitational Golf Tournament

The The Filipino Centre

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

2022? Hopefully!





Angeli Khang puts on a daring display in erotic film 'Eva'

resh from the massive success of her first lead role in Mahjong Nights, rising star Angeli Khang daringly gives her audience some sensual visuals as she plays a character named Eva in Vivamax's latest offering.

In the movie, Angeli is a young housemaid who is sexually curious and is willing to try anything to explore and satisfy her libido.

With her curiosity almost controlling her psyche, she finds herself, one night, in a threesome with her boss, Victoria (Sab Aggabao), and Lauro (Marco Gomez), a neighbor's houseboy with whom she often has sexual encounters.

This one careless night leads Eva to have confusion about her feelings and makes her choose between Victoria and Lauro.

Angeli expressed her gratitude for the op- portunities coming her way.

"I feel so flattered. I'm thankful that I'm able to deliver and I'm also thankful that they see the potential in me. I'm just thankful that they also appreciate my efforts," Angeli

Eva is directed by actor, singer Jeffrey Hidalgo who recently had nominations at FAMAS awards and Star Award for movies.

Also joining Angeli in this film is actor Ivan Padilla (Maria, Encounter) who plays the role of Andrew, a model who will have a steamy sexual encounter with Eva's lady boss.

Get to know Eva and her sinful world as it premieres on Vivamax on Dec. 24.

# Diego Loyzaga & Barbie Imperial: Split na?

Netizens noticed that Diego has yet to upload new photos featuring his girlfriend, Barbie Imperial, during the recent holidays.

Last Christmas, Diego shared a photo celebrating the special occasion with the family of celebrity couple Billy Crawford and Coleen Garcia.

On New Year's Day, Diego uploaded a solo picture of him as he greeted his followers.

Meanwhile, Barbie seemingly wrote a cryptic post, igniting the rumors.

Recently, she also uploaded a sexy snap of herself.

"new year new hair," she wrote as caption.

"jk happy new year everyone (heart emoji)."

Among the comments:

"San si bie? Magkagalit ba kayo? Kahit greetings niyo nung Christmas and now new year wala.. my probs po Ba kayo?"

"Bt wala si barbie? Magkagalit ba kayo Diego? Happy New Year"



Diego Loyzaga and Barbie Imperial's respective posts on New Year's Day (Instagram)

"Di naman siguro sila hiwalay ni barbs.. Baka choice nila. To spend Christmas and new year with fama nd friends"

The couple's last post featuring each other was during their first-anniversary celebration a few weeks ago.

Despite the sweet gestures towards each other, some online users pointed out that Barbie "liked" a thegoodquote post on Instagram which read: "Losing attachment to someone who took you for granted hits different."

Netizens started speculating that all is not well between the two stars.

Note that late last year, Barbie and Diego have been embroiled in different controversies.

In fact, online personality Xian Gaza slammed Barbie after she defended Diego from social media attacks.



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Life's brighter under the sun



#### Piolo inokray na walang GF

Sa Instagram post, makikitang ang pa-abs ng actor. Bukod sa pagiging plantito, si Piolo rin ang tumutulong sa landscaping ng kanyang farm.

May caption pa itong: "Aanhin mo ang gwapo, kung wala namang alam na trabaho?" Pakiabot nga nung semento!"

Ito naman ang ilang komento ng mga netizen sa kanyang pa-abs.

"Yan ang gwapo. Lodi ko iyan. Kya wag puro gwapo lng dapat masipag din at marunong sa lahat."

"That's why I love papa p. Ndi lang gwapo marami pa Alam na magtrabaho."

May ilan din naman din namang nang-okray sa actor.

"Aanhin ang gwapo kung wala naman dyowa"

"Kelan ka ba mag-aasawa? Sayang ang pa-abs mo."





"My resolution is to quit my bad habits. But nobody likes a quitter and quitters never win, so I decided to keep my bad habits." JOEY BAKING

# Pandemic & Typhoon

According to some 'virologists', this omicron variant is the begining of the end of this virus. According to them, this omicron variant is infecting more people at a faster rate. Those infected will develop antiodies which will be resistant to new variants of this virus. Therefore, we might reach the herd imunity we are trying to achieve. According to them, this omicron is like a forest fire. Once all the trees have been burned, it will die on it's own because there are no more trees to burn.

This is assuming wala nang variant. I want to believe they are right. Unfortunately, nabasa ko na may bago na namang variant na nakita sa France.

So, please do not try to get infected in your belief na this omicron will give you

Meanwhile, last December, we managed to hold down some gatherings before the provincial government imposed capacity limits indoors and outdoors.

It wasn't easy to stop the gatherings. People are social animals. We crave the sight, if not touch of another human

being, in person.

And halfway around the world in the Philippines, problems always come in droves. Just as cases of covid are rising again, comes a very powerful typhoon Odette which devastated lots of provinces in the Visayas region.

Despite the diffciulty of sending help anyway we can, Filipino Achievers of Canada started a relief drive. Other groups are also doing their relief drive.

Hang in there everyone. This too shall pass. We just don't know when.

# Daniel Padilla's advice to fans

The Solid KathNiel fans club recently posted a picture of their idols Kathryn Bernardo and Daniel Padilla on Instagram.

They wrote as caption: "ANG BUMANGGA, GIBA."

The reel and real couple were tagged in the said post.

> Daniel reacted: "Salamat haha

"Pero wag niyo ng pansinin yun.

"Nonesense. "(winking face emoji)"

Recall that recently, Kathryn and Daniel were the subject of a non-issue as created by a social media

Boy Marites Xian Gaza linked Daniel to Barbie Imperial.

# Cindy Miranda hinding-hindi makikipag-sex sa loob ng kotse: Baka mahuli pa ako, di ba?

NEVER, as in never daw gagawin ng sexy actress at dating beauty queen na si Cindy Miranda ang makipag-sex sa loob ng kotse.

Ito ang mariing sagot ng Viva Entertain-



ment artist nang tanungin tungkol sa isang eksena nila ni Sid Lucero sa bago niyang pelikula under Viva Films, ang "Reroute". Mag-asawa sina

Cindy at Sid sa kuwento ng upcoming

suspense-thriller ng Vivamax.

Sa trailer ng movie, ipinakita ang pagtatalik nina Cindy at Sid sa loob ng sasakyan hanggang sa may taong nakahuli sa kanilang ginagawa.

Natanong si Cindy kung kaya ba niyang gawin ang ginawa ng karakter niya.

Sagot ng dalaga, "May mga kaibigan akong nahuli, ginagawa yun sa car but, you know, I haven't tried it and I don't think I'm gonna try it.

"So far, hindi ko pa siya nata-try, pero sana, hindi ko gawin. Baka mahuli rin ako, di ba?" ang pahayag ni Cindy.

Aniya pa, "Feeling ko talaga bawal, kasi respect yun. Ayaw natin na magulo yung ibang tao kasi siyempre gumagalaw yung

"Nakaka-disturb yun sa ibang tao. Hindi naman lahat ng tao, pare-parehong mag-

"May iba, conservative. May iba, very open to that. Yung iba, walang pakialam. Maybe, we respect na lang people and do it in private," chika pa ng former beauty queen.

"I'm not against naman sa mga taong gumagawa nun. Sometimes, it's just for fun. Sometimes, you just need it," diin pa

#### 'Let It Go': Aiai delas Alas fulfills dream to become Elsa

Kapuso comedienne Aiai de las Alas

turned into "Frozen" character Elsa for her followers.

In her Tiktok account, Aiai posted a video of her wearing Elsa's costume on the snow for her followers to enjoy.

"O natupad din nyeta ang lamig hahahaha pero laban sa larangan ni elsa hahahahaa," AiAi captioned the post.

The comedienne said she really waited for the snow for her to experience it for the

"Actually, noong Christmas ko pa hinihintay ang pag-ulan ng yelo kaya bumili ako ng wig at costume ni Elsa, pero hindi natuloy ang pag-snow. Ang sabi sa weather forecast, sa January 9 pa uulan ng yelo, e, nasa Los Angeles ako sa date na 'yun kaya

nawalan na ako ng pagasa," Aiai said.

"Pero kanina, biglang umulan ng yelo. Hindi ko talaga pinalampas kahit



dahil sobrang excited ako, pero tatlong patong ang suot kong damit," she added.

Aiai also admitted that her dance in the snow was not easy at all.

"Kinakabahan ako kasi baka madulas ako. Baka mabagok ang ulo ko kaya hindi ako masyadong makagalaw, puro kamay lang. Hindi ko naman pinangarap na naging Elsa nga ako pero injured naman,"

"Naglagay rin ako ng alkamporado sa likod dahil baka malamigan ako at magkasakit. Marami nga akong views pero may sakit naman ako? Pagpasok ko ng bahay, basang-basa ang laylayan ng gown ko, as in tubig talaga. Ang galing, naging tanga na naman ako!"

# **Janine Gutierrez, Paulo Avelino** grilled about rumored romance

Nalagay sa hot seat sina Janine Gutierrez, 32, at Paulo Avelino, 33, na napababalitang totohanan na ang pagsinta sa isa't isa.



ang mag-asawa sa Kapamilya primetime series na Marry Me, Marry You, na nagsimulang umere noong September 2021 at magtatapos sa February 2022. Ngayong

Martes, January 4, parehong panay ang ngiti nina Janine

at Paulo nang humarap sila sa presscon ng Marry Me, Marry You.

Nang tanungin tungkol sa estado ng kanilang relasyon ngayon, umiwas si Janine at ibinaling ang topic sa co-stars na sina Cherry Pie Picache at Edu Manzano na naging magkasintahan habang nagkatrabaho

"Hahaha! Gusto ko lang sumagot na lahat kami naiinggit kay Miss Pie at kay Tito Edu pag nakikita namin sila magkasama.

"Walang tatalo sa ka-sweet-an nila kasi. Tsaka talagang tinakasan nila today," saad ni

Absent kasi sa presscon sina Cherry Pie at

Si Janine ay panay pa rin ang ngiti. Nang tanungin na baka may pagpaparamdam na si Paulo pero deadma si Janine, biglang sumang-ayon ang aktor.

"Ganun po," ani Paulo. Tila kontra ni Janine, "Uy!"

Pero kahit anong tanong sa dalawa ay tikom ang bibig nila kung may pagtingin sila sa isa't isa.

#### 'Please stop asking me:' Maxene Magalona pleads amid rumored split from husband

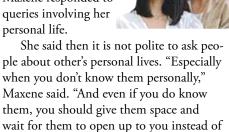
Is Maxene Magalona and her husband Rob Mananquil breaking up? This after netizens noticed that Maxene dropped the surname of her husband on Instagram.

What added to the fire was the fact that

the couple is not followeach other's respective social media accounts.

A few days ago, Maxene responded to queries involving her personal life.

she added.



Maxene and Rob tied the knot in January 2018 via a back-to-back intimate church ceremony and beach wedding.

prying and wanting to invade their privacy,"

Last March, Maxene flew back to Manila alone after living in Bali with her husband for more than a year.

She and her husband were stranded in Bali, Indonesia due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### Kris Aquino reveals she initiated breakup with fiancé because of her health



Kris said she initiated ending engagement Mel Sarmiento health reasons. Naalarma siya sa

pag-deteriorate ng kanyang kalusugan at pagbaba ng kanyang timbang na ngayon ay 88 pounds o 40 kilos.

MEL TO KRIS:

"I ALREADY HAVE BUBBLE FATIGUE" Base pa rin sa text message ni Mel kay

Kris, inamin ng dating DILG secretary na sumasang-ayon siya sa "offer" ni Kris na mag-break sila.

"Given my nature, who loves to go out, I accept the fact that I already have a bubble fatigue and I will not be able to, sad to say, be able to continue living in a bubble.

"On that note, with a heavy heart, I accepted your offer of letting me go. For I cannot in conscience be able to accept that something will happen to you brought about my going out of the bubble.



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LUTH'S BIRTHDAY

Luth Esguerra celebrates her 70 birthday with the whole family at Collingwood's Blue Mountain Resort.









# 'Hello, Love, Goodbye' "Originally LizQuen 'yan e!" - Olivia Lamasan

aikwento ni Olivia Lamasan na orihinal na para sa tamabalang Liza Soberano at Enrique Gil o 'LizQuen' ang pelikulang 'Hello, Love, Goodbye.'

Isa ito sa mga naisiwalat ni Direk Olivia Lamasan sa interview sa kanya ni Toni Gonzaga na kanyang ibinahagi sa kanyang YouTube channel.

Nalaman ng KAMI na dahil sa problema sa schedule, gayung gumaganap pa bilang 'Darna' si Liza, sunod nilang naisip ang real-life couple na KathNiel na binubuo nina Kathryn Bernardo at Daniel Padilla.

"Originally LIzQuen 'yan e. LizQuen then it became Kathryn-DJ, and then Kathryn Alden."

Noong panahon ding iyon, tinipon niya ang kanyang creative team kung saan bigla na lamang din niyang naisip na gumawa ng bagong OFW movie na susunod sa 'Milan' at sa 'Anak' na talagang tuamtak sa puso ng maraming Pilipino.



"Wha't our next Milan? What's our next 'Anak' what's our next OFW story?" hanggang sa tuluyan na nilang nabuo ang konsepto ng patok na pelikula noong 2019.

Marami ang nagulat sa tamabalang Kathryn at Alden sa naturang pelikula ngunit mas marami ang nagulat dahil sa husay ng pagganap ng mga aktor na bagaman hindi talaga isang love team, nabigyan ng hustisya ang pagganap sa isang obra na nakaantig sa puso ng maraming Pilipino.

Si Olivia M. Lamasan ay isang batikang direktor sa

larangan ng pelikula at telebisyon.

Dati siyang head of ABS-CBN's creative department at ngayon siya ang managing director ng ABS-CBN Film Productions, Inc.

# What Janine said on being among world's '100 Most Beautiful Faces'

Actress Janine Gutierrez is flattered to be part of the world's "100 Most Beautiful Faces" in 2021, an international list driven by social media.

During the finale press conference of ABS-CBN series "Marry Me, Marry You," Gutierrez gushed over being named as one of the prettiest women on the planet, ranking 78th in

"I think pinakamaganda naman talaga ang Pilipina and I'm honored, I guess," she said on Tuesday.

The actress tried to downplay the recognition by explaining that having a happy heart makes one beautiful.

"It really has to come from the inside na masaya ka and you also make the people around you happy," Gutierrez quipped.

Also included in the list are Kapamilya actresses Ivana Alawi and Liza Soberano.

#### Sofia Andres reminds public to wear mask, drink vitamins after recovering from COVID-19

Kapamilya actress Sofia Andres reminded the public to observe safety precautions as she recovered from COVID-19.

Andres took to Instagram to announce that she survived the virus after

10 days of quarantine.

"After 10 days ... finally I'm negative. Please wear your mask, be kind, drink your vitamins, eat healthy & love yourself," the actress said in the caption.

"What a way to start 2022. I know it's not easy spending New Year's alone but we have more days & years ahead of us. Be strong," she added.

Last December, Andres and her partner Daniel Miranda took time off from work for a family vacation abroad. As seen in their Instagram updates, Andres and Miranda went to Spain with their daughter Zoe.

The actress was the latest addition to the growing list of celebrities who have contracted the virus. Miss Universe 2015 Pia Wurtzbach and volleyball icon Alyssa Valdez have both revealed that they tested positive for COVID-19.





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# **M** confidential ENTERTAINMENT

# 'I've learned a lot from her'

Shanaia Gomez talks about acting for the first time with Belle Mariano

Former PBB Kumunity housemate Shanaia Gomez makes her acting debut in 'Click, Like, Share.'

hanaia Gomez talks about acting for the first time with Belle Mariano: 'I've learned a lot from After joining Pinoy Big Brother: Kumunity Season 10 last year where she was introduced as "Ang Rising Darling ng Quezon City,"

Shanaia Gomez talked about her first acting project in the latest season of Click, Like, Share where she plays the role of Belle Mariano's sister in the episode.

"I loved working with Belle. She's so great. She's so fun and I feel like I learned a lot from her. Especially because this is my first acting experience and I'm with Belle. She's super talented so siguro one thing that was a memorable moment is just watching her work is already enough for me. Just like watching her do her thing. It was really great," she revealed during the Click, Like, Share presscon.

Coming straight from the popular reality show where she was evicted last month, Shanaia said she made sure to prepare herself mentally for her first project in showbiz.

"Well I think that I really did of course. I was told to always ask for help when I need help. If I need guidance, I know that I have people there

to guide me. Of course I want to do my best. I want to try my best for everything and yun lang, I just asked for help. Kahit sa Tagalog din nahirapan ako (laughs). But of course it's such a great experience especially with Andoy direk (Ranay) and working with different actors. I just feel really grateful blessed. I feel like it really comes with experience so I'm really blessed that this is the project that I got. Working with direk Andoy was a

really, really great experience. I loved

and she admitted.

it so much and sana there are more coming soon," she explained. In their episode, Shanaia and Belle wake up one day having swapped bodies and discover new things about their lives not seen on social media.

"I think it's really relevant ngayon kasi naman everything is online. You see posts of these people online and you think they have a perfect life, ganun. So it's a really great way to understand that things really aren't what they seem. And it talks about valuing your family and why family is so important which I

think is a really great thing to talk about,"

Click, Like, Share streams on iWantTFC starting January 12. With new episodes available every Wednesday, 8 pm. Starring Belle Mariano and Shanaia Gomez. Directed by Andoy Ranay.

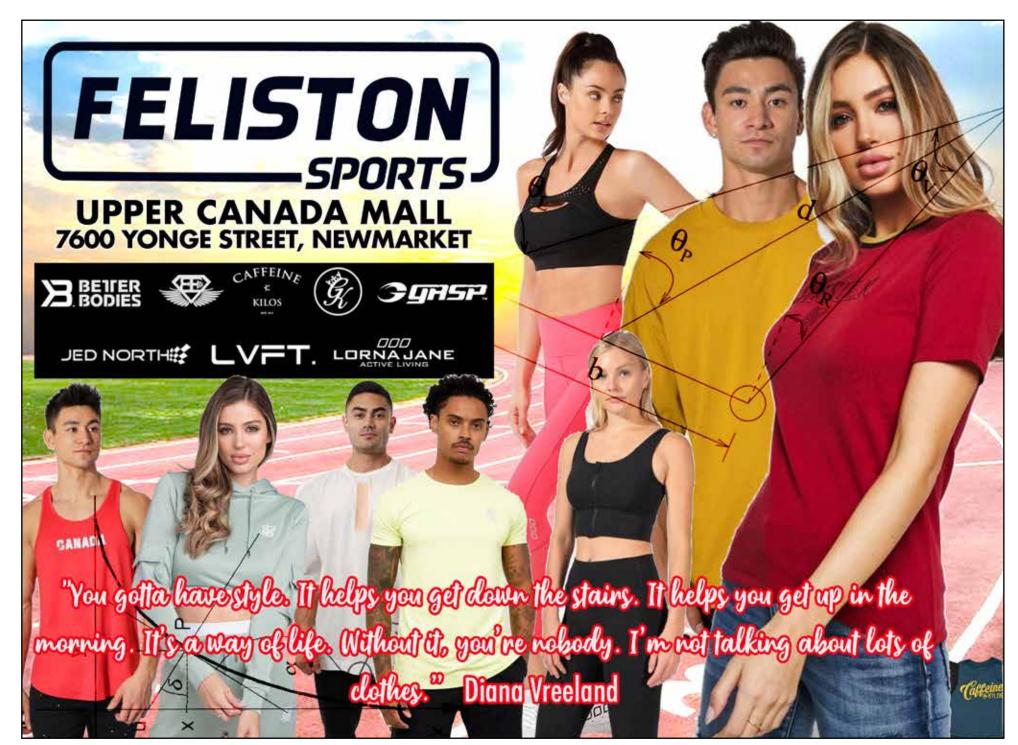








1. Norma Carpio; 2. Precision Honda's Anita Diaz, Norma's sister Agnes Miranda, Norma, FV Foods owner Mel Galeon; 3-4. Volunteers and donors from Filipino Achievers of Canada and Filipino Centre' Toronto sort out the donations for typhoone Odette victims in the Philippines.





# Chie Filomeno is Ginebra's calendar girl 2022

Just after leaving the "Pinoy Big Brother" house, actress Chie Filomeno continued her roll as she was named the 2022 calendar girl of Filipino liquor brand Ginebra San Miguel.

Filomeno, evicted from the reality series 2 week ago, was welcomed on Wednesday virtually by the Ginebra nation as its new face for next year.





# SANIB-SAYA

Oganizers Primo Pagao, Nitz Reidik, Ms. Corie Laraya Coutts gathered to bring cheers to children and seniors. Children and seniors are two of the most vulnerable sectors in the community where need for support and gesture of love are most welcomed. It was held at the Filipino Centre' Toronto.

This followed her inclusion in the upcoming ABS-CBN series "Love In 40 Days", starring Loisa Andalio and Ronnie Alonte.

According to the Kapamilya actress, she was shocked when she learned about getting chosen as the newest ambassadress of the famous alcoholic brand in the country.

"Overwhelming siya. 'Yung moment na na-overwhelm ako at the same time nervous in a good way, and happy. And 'yung feeling na I am one of the girls na napili or women na napili for the calendar, super happy," said Filomeno.

She said that she immediately increased her workout schedules from every other day to every day just to be prepared for the new endorsement.

"It's more than just being sexy. I want to be strong also. Yun talaga 'yung mentality ko. It's not about being sexy. It's being strong and also taking care of your inside," the actress explained.

> Asked about her feistiness, Filomeno said she has to be strong against her bashers, especially on social media.

"Kung ano 'yung nakikita nila sa social media, 'yun na 'yun. We are public figures but we're not public property. For me, I have to be feisty. Hindi nila dapat kami matapakan kasi tao rin kami. I am a strong woman in a good way naman," she said.

With a combined following of more than 6 million on TikTok, Instagram, and Twitter, Filomeno, who is a fan Gin Kings player LA Tenorio, it was important during pandemic to put such social influence to good use. use it in a positive way, to people, because that is

we all need right now.

said

the

media

inspire

what

We should use our influence to inspire and give hope. That has been my goal," Filomeno said.

Meanwhile, GSMI National Sales and Marketing Manager Allan Mercado lauded the personality of the former PBB housemate, characterizing her as a modern Filipina that personifies the brand values.

Chie Filomeno shares message of thanks for PBB's Kuya

"Chie Filomeno is a modern woman who is passionate in her work as a model, vlogger, youth influencer, and actress. Ginebra San Miguel chose her because she embodies the attributes that our products stand for - a modern Filipina who personifies our brand attributes of being 'matapang,' 'ganado,' and having that 'never-say-die' attitude," Mercado said.

Filomeno joined the likes of Anne Curtis, Solenn Huessaff, Marian Rivera, and Pia Wurtzbach in the elite group of women who have graced the calendar pages of Ginebra.



FV Foods owner Mel Galeon celebrates his birthday this month.

\*2018 Honda Civic SE | Cam | Heated Seats | Remote Start FROM \$19,999

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# Marvin Agustin moves on following cochinillo furor

Marvin Agustin welcomed the New Year brimming with positivity following the commotion involving his cochinillo business.

On Instagram, he wrote: "Happy new year

everyone!
We live and
we learn to
fight another
day. We are
roasting now
your COCHI orders.
We have
prepared and

gave our all to make everything good. Enjoy the COCHI we all worked hard for to give you a delicious experience."

"Moving forward, after this holiday. We will go back to our old-style of operations that we won't be able to arrange delivery anymore for our customers, as this is not our core competency."

He noted how the quality of their cochinillo is best enjoyed straight from the oven, and that delivery condition is something beyond their control.

"While other customer's experiences of traveling as far as Bataan and Batangas, having our COCHI reached to their addresses with quality they love and enjoy. That may not be the case for others," he related. "We give instructions what to do but we don't know what happens during the travel time."

"We thank you all for your continued trust and support. God bless all of us! We wish everyone a peaceful, healthy and happy 2022!"

Note that Marvin experienced his "worst Christmas" with customers complaining about his cochinillo not being up to par.

The actor was quick to apologize.

# **BIRTHDAY**

Genelie
Panaligan
 Ampee
Panaligan cuts her cake.
 The whole
family









# Winners all: What Charo learned from young costars Daniel and Rans

Seasoned
actress and
film producer
Charo Santos-Concio
believes that
one can
learn a
thing or
two from
working
with

younger actors. In her case, with Daniel Padilla and Rans Rifol, her costars in Carlo Francisco Manatad's dramatic film "Whether the Weather is Fine" (Kun Maupay it Panahon).

More candor

"These young actors, they're not really so self-conscious. They have more candor compared to the more experienced ones," said Charo, who won best actress for her portrayal of the character Norma in the film. Daniel bagged a Special Jury Prize, while Rans took home the best supporting actress award. The film was declared second best picture winner during the MMFF 2021 Gabi ng

Parangal.

"They are also less afraid.

When asked to describe Daniel some more while they were on the set, Charo said: "He is a very pleasant person. He is easy to work with and is very professional."

Multitasking

She continued: "I found it funny when, once, I saw his reaction to how I delivered my lines in Waray. He said he spent some years in Tacloban when he was young and he would hear his mom and grandmother speak the language, but he would still buckle with his lines." "Acting on this film requires multitasking. You have to be conscious of how to pronounce the words correctly, as well as take note of the intonation and emotion"

When it came to talk about new actress Rans, Charo said: "She's good. She didn't appear intimidated by Daniel and me. Nakasabay siya [sa amin]! She knew what she had to do. She understood her character, Andrea, really well."



# UCIL

 FV Foods owner Mel Galeon gets lots of orders of ham from WFG's Agnes Miranda.
 Oliver gets his birthday cake baked by his mom Gina Baterna

# Joshua Garcia breaks the internet, earns 'TikTok King' moniker

What makes a person TikTok famous? In-demand leading man Joshua Garcia

captured the hearts of 107.3 million viewers, as of writing, in just two videos.

Joshua's career as an actor began in 2015 Pinoy Big Brother: All In. He starred in TV series such as The Greatest Love (2016), Ngayon at Kailanman

JOY"S BIRTHDAY

Joy Villa celebrates her 52nd birthday.





Ginseng Strip 2002
TikTok trend. Although
it was his first video on
the platform, in just a few
hours, he amassed 74.8
million views, 7.1 million
likes, and 162.6 thousand
comments.
In just 11 seconds,
Joshua captured everyone's
attention, especially the

(2018), and The Killer

Bride (2019). and movies

like Unexpectedly Yours

Joshua's first video

showed his take on the

(2018), and Block Z

(2020).

(2017), I Love You, Hater

In just 11 seconds, Joshua captured everyone's attention, especially the girls' who expressed their kilig towards the actor. Some of the comments even complimented Joshua on being a trendsetter.

This 2022, Joshua is

back with other vidthat also ceived posireviews from the

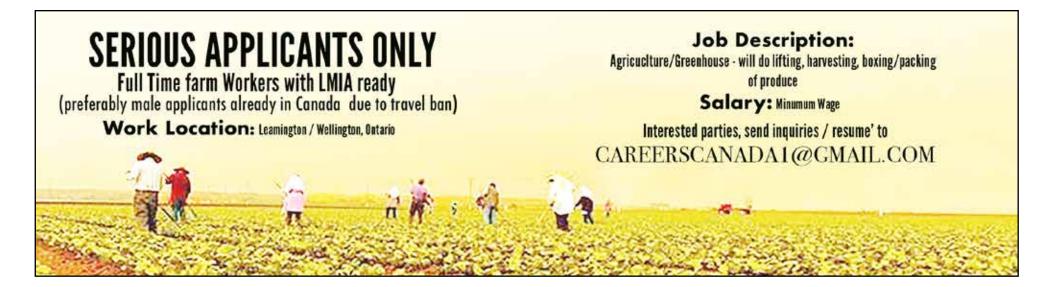
public. Like the first video, Joshua subtly busted out his dance moves to the song "Seeing Triple Edit." The video gained 32.5 million views, 5.1 million likes, and 173.8 thousand comments.

Both videos show that only Joshua's hands and facial expressions are doing most of the work, but it's that simplicity and effortlessness that captured the attention of netizens as the young actor continues to prove why he's an in-demand leading man in

the industry.

Joshua is currently a part of ABS-CBN's ongoing drama series titled
Viral Scandal. He is also Jane de Leon's leading man in the upcoming adaptation of Mars Ravelo's Darna.





# **ABS-CBN** stars fundraise to help victims of Typhoon Odette

Filipinos were hit hard by Super Typhoon Odette just a few days before Christmas.

ABS-CBN spearheaded an online fund-raising campaign concert.

Three of the current
Pinoy Big Brother
(PBB) Kumunity
Season 10
housemates hail
from provinces that
were devastated by the
powerful storm.

Samantha Bernardo, Brenda Mage and Anji Salvacion got emotional and concerned after seeing the reports on how the storm damaged their home province.

Together with their fellow celebrity housemates Alexa Ilacad, Alyssa Valdez, KD Estrada and Madam Inutz, the three sang and dedicated three original compositions.

Bianca Gonzalez, Robi Domingo and Bernadette Sembrano hosted the threehour benefit concert, with performances by Belle Mariano, Alvin Elchico, and others Alvin Elchico and Doris Bigornia, co-anchors of TeleRadyo's primetime show S.R.O., recounted the night they had to preempt their Halalan interview series to cover the news of the typhoon.

Alvin explained, Despite
the constraints by the
shutdown of its
broadcast
operations,
ABS-CBN
continued
to provide news
coverage of the super
typhoon, while ABS-

**CBN** Foundation

conducted relief

efforts.

Belle Mariano

ABS-CBN Foundation is now accepting donations from outside the Philippines that can be made through abschnfoundation.org. Additional information is available on the ABS-CBN Foundation's Facebook and Instagram pages.

# Madam Inutz prepare for show with Piolo Pascual

Matapos lumabas sa Bahay ni Kuya, tuloy-tuloy pa rin ang kanyang mga guestings at appearances sa ilang mga Kapamilya shows.

At ang bago at bonggang hairstyle nga ni Madam Inutz ay bilang paghahanda raw niya sa lock-in taping kung saan makakasama niya si Piolo Pascual.

Dahil dito, mas lalong na-excite ang kanyang mga fans at supporters.

Si Daisy Lopez o mas kilala bilang si Madam Inutz ay nakilala sa kanyang na- kakaaliw na live-selling

kung saan tahasan niyang minumura ang kanyang mga viewers. Dahil dito, nakilala at minahal siya ng publiko lalo na nang malaman nila ang kwento ng pagsisikap ni Madam Inutz.

Kabilang na si Madam Inutz sa

Final 5 ng Pinoy Big Brother Celebrity edition Season 10 kung saan dalawa ang hinirang na Big winners na sina Alyssa Valdez at Anji Salvacion.

Isa sa mga kontrobersiyang hinarap ni Madam Inutz sa loob ng bahay ni Kuya ay ang pahayag niya sa nominasyon kung saan dalawang puntos ang naibigay niya noon kay Chie Filomeno dahil sa wala umano itong ibang ginawa kundi ang magpaganda.

# Moi Bien prefers not to hear acting praise from Piolo

Moi Bien Marcampo readily shared that she prefers not to hear any kind words from Piolo Pascual when it comes to her acting performance.

"Pagka ano (aktingan), hindi ko pinapaalam kay Papa P kasi hindi n'ya ako sasabihan ng maganda," said Moi for the inspirational-comedy series Niña Niño with Maja Salvador and Noel Comia Jr. as title rolers. "Lahat po ng sasabihin n'ya sa akin parang hindi magaganda kaya po ako nakarating dito sa TV5 at kasama sa Niña Niño kasi po yun ang pinaghuhugutan ko," she mused.

The comedienne added

she doesn't want to be complacent with her acting early on in her career. "Kasi pag sinabihan n'ya ko ng maganda, kuntento na ko. So kapag kunwari nagkikita kami lagi n'yang sinasabi sa akin, 'Ano ba yan ang taba mo!' Wala talaga s'yang sinasabing maganda sa akin."

She even recalled requesting to director Thop

Nazareno not to give her many dialogues in her scenes with the dramatic
actor who portrayed the role of Mayor Charles Juarez in the primetime

"Kasi pag nahabaan (ang linya) may drama at may aktingan. Sasabihin n'ya sa akin, 'Ayusin mo, Tol!" enthused Moi who plays the role of Isav.

But before anyone could raise an eyebrow, Moi would like to make clear that those remarks were just like some form of cariño brutal — all out of pure delight and affection.

"At dahil sa mga ganun n'yang cariño brutal kaya ako nakarating dito at malapit na maging partner ni Empoy (Marquez), ha,ha,ha,ha."

She added that by the time she hears Piolo praising her acting, then it would only mean that she has already reached stardom.

Moi worked as a personal assistant of Piolo for 16 years before she joined show business.

#### **ELECTRIC CARS, from page 1**

Philippine classifications is the poorest of the poor," Jose Baylon, a spokesman for Nickel Asia, said. The town is now considered a first-class municipality, he said.

Nickel Asia uses high pressure acid leaching to extract nickel from low-grade laterite ore which is just beneath the surface. Because it's just beneath the surface, miners must clear out a wider swath of land.

Over time, the Rio Tuba mine swallowed up more of the rainforest.

Alarmed by the potential consequences, environmental and Indigenous rights groups marshaled their resources. The expansion of the Rio Tuba mine has been years in the making. The Rio Tuba Nickel Mining Corp. had previously received permission to mine a 990-hectare. In 2019, Rio Tuba was permitted to mine an additional 3,548 hectares of forest.

Many tribal leaders in Bataraza support the expansion. They say the mine has benefited local people in the form of jobs and academic scholarships. "We benefit a lot from that company," Angelo Lagrada, a local chieftain, said in July 2019. But tribal leaders in Rizal oppose the expansion. Under the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act of 1997, mining companies are required to seek the consent of the Indigenous residents living in the lands where they



plan to set up operations. Narlito Silnay, a tribal leader in Rizal, lamented how the project has divided people in the area.

"We ourselves are fighting each other," Silnay said. "Before we didn't go through this. It's sad. It's as if we don't understand each other."

#### Electric cars help the environment ... at a cost

The number of electric vehicles on the world's roads hit a record high last year fueled by soaring Tesla sales. In recent months, General Motors

and Volvo have announced that they intend to stop selling gasoline-powered vehicles within the next 20 years or so.

The situation in Palawan raises a vexing question, experts say: To what extent is reducing carbon emissions through battery technology worth the damage it inflicts on the environment?

"I think it's a really difficult ethical dilemma," said Gillian Galford, a professor at the University of Vermont. "There's no one technology that's going to solve our climate crisis," Galford added.

Bartolome, the rice farmer and mother of six, said she feels invisible in the debate. Standing in the shadow of Mount Bulanjao, she said she doesn't understand why companies that make products used by wealthy people thousands of miles away must source materials from her backyard.

"They can buy more fuel there. They can find a way," she said. "What are we going to do if our livelihood is destroyed? If our mountain is flattened?"

# Chie Filomeno admits Girl Trends 'fiasco' among her hardest challenges

apamilya actress Chie Filomeno has achieved several milestones in her career recently. She just got out of the "Pinoy Big Brother House" and was recently unveiled as the 2022 calendar girl of a popular liquor brand.

However, despite these recent chievements, Chie admitted that

> her path was not as smooth sailing. During the launch of Ginebra San Miguel 2022 calendar, Chie revealed that one of the hardest challenges she experienced recently was the bashing she faced due to the viral dance videos of her former group Girl Trends.

Girl Trends is an all-female dance group of ABS-CBN's noontime program "It's Showtime" which was

criticized in 2019 for their performances of BLACKPINK song "Ddu-Du Ddu-Du", Sam Smith's "How Do You Sleep?", among others.

Some perceived that the members including Chie were not in synced, which drew flak from netizens.

"For me, it's still recent, siguro itong fiasco with the Girl Trends. 'Yung nagkamali mali-tayo diyan," Chie said.

Due to the bashing, Chie stopped dancing on live television.

"Siguro two years din akong hindi sumayaw," the former Girl Trends member said.

"Siyempre 'yung mga bashing minsan you know yourself better than anyone pero 'pag nababasa mo siya every day of your life ever since, maniniwala ka na rin sa sinasabi na 'hindi ka magaling,' 'bakit ganito bakit ka nandiyan?'" Chie said.

"So, for me, syempre naging sad ako, naging depressed ako. Pero I woke up one day na I don't want to give them that power. So, sabi ko 'Okay, I can dance again. I will dance again because that's my

passion," she added.

Chie lamented that getting bashed was a hard experience for her because she questioned

"Passion ko 'yun, tapos I'm trying to veer away from it dahil sa mga taong hindi naman ako kilala at hindi alam ano 'yung effort na binibigay ko sa mga bagay," she

The Kapamilya actress also stressed that "bashing is different from constructive criticisms."

She said that she addresses bashers by putting them in place and being "sarcastic." However, Chie said that she welcomes constructive criticisms.

"I've said this before sa interview, we're public figures, but we're not public property," Chie

Chie recently joined GSM's roster of calendar girls after she was unveiled as the liquor brand's 2022 calendar girl.

ugnayan sa pamilya at tinuturing

naman ang nag-agree sa aktor

na ang pamilya ay wala sa dugo

raw ang di kaanak na nagpakita

kundi nasa puso. Mas mainam pa

Sa comment section ay marami

ang sarili na ulila na.

ng malasakit sa kaniya.

# **PHILIPPINES**

# Hospitals using COVID pill molnupiravir

MANILA, Philippines — Eighty-nine hospitals are using the oral antiviral drug molnupiravir for COVID-19 patients despite lack of emergency use authorization (EUA), the Department of Health (DOH) said. Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said these hospitals are using molnupiravir under compassionate special permit granted by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). "The FDA has yet to grant EUA for the oral COVID pill in our country," she said.

Based on clinical trials, the pill can prevent severe cases by 50 percent.

#### PNP crafting 'No jab, no duty' policy for unvaccinated cops

MANILA, Philippines - Around 900 unvaccinated cops with reasons \_\_deemed to be acceptable will soon be prohibited from being deployed on ground but will still be assigned to low-risk duties, the chief of Philippine National Police said.

Police Gen. Dionardo Carlos said that the police organization is coming up with a memo to spell-out the guidelines in the implementation of the "No Jab No Duty" policy among PNP personnel.

The PNP Administrative Support for COVID-19 Task Force said that 212,024 or 93.9% of the PNP's 225,676 active personnel are fully vaccinated. "Vaccination is not anymore a matter of personal choice, but a matter of public interest for the common good," the PNP chief said.

The Philippines does not have a law requiring vaccination, although President Rodrigo Duterte, who describes the vaccine-hesitant as being "a danger to society," has hinted the government has the power to make vaccination mandatory.

#### More Filipinos employed in November 2021

MANILA, Philippines - More jobs were generated in November 2021, as the able, with many employed Filipinos also seeking side hustles.

"In November 2021, we saw how we can successfully manage COVID-19

Mean hours worked in a week dropped from 39.7 hours to 39.6 hours. Some companies likely shortened work hours and added more shifts. Contrac-

the country's poverty rate jumped to 23.7% in the first half of 2021, equivalent to 26.1 million Filipinos.

PRESIDENT Rodrigo R. Duterte has signed a law that significantly lowers the minimum investment hurdle for foreign retailers, which the government hopes

Under the law, the foreign retailer's country of origin must not prohibit the entry of Filipino retail enterprises. Foreign retailers that have more than one physical store

omist John Paolo R. Rivera said the new law will benefit consumers through

"From the supply side, this will pose competition with local retail companies. This might prompt them to increase their efficiency and enhance their product offering and quality. They can also use this to learn more tools of the trade from foreign retailers," he said.

economy opened up further. But the quality of these jobs remains question-

risks and safely reopen the economy," Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Karl Chua said. Fishing and aquaculture saw the largest increase in employment in November, with 355,000 more jobs, in time for the harvest season. Human health and social work activities posted the largest drop in employment.

tual arrangements have also likely sprung up leading to the holidays.

With the labor market producing low-quality jobs while food prices are high,

# PHL lower minimum investment for foreign retailers

will attract more foreign direct investments into the

should also have a minimum investment per store of at least P10 million. Asian Institute of Management econ-

lower prices and more products.

# Andrea Brillantes, 'TikTok Queen'

Second time's the charm for Andrea Brillantes.

The actress is now certified TikTok Queen, topping the short-form video app's list of most-followed celebrities for 2021. Note that she also topped the list in 2020.

Known for her cute dance covers, Andrea has earned an accumulated 140 million likes from her followers, which has grown from 8.7 million in December 2020 to 15.5 million in 2021.

Landing at second place is GMA-7 hottie Sanya Lopez with 11.8 million.



Mona Alawi, Ivana's sister, comes in at third with 11 million followers. The rest: Dasuri Choi (10.6M

followers); Maymay Entrata (8.6M followers); Vice Ganda (7.9M followers); Yuki Takahashi (7.7M followers); AJ Raval (7.6M); Kyline Alcantara (7.6M); and Sofia Pablo (7.5M).

with Nadine's contract with Viva

alos dalawang taon ding natengga ang career ni Nadine Lustre dahil sa naging problema niya sa Viva. Ngayong settled

**Nothing changes** 

na at balik siya sa dating tahanan magiging tulad pa rin kaya ng dati ang init ng kanyang karera?

May Julia Barretto at AJ Raval na ang

Viva na maraming projects. Reaksyon ng isang netizen, " Wala namang napuntahan career nya dyan sa Careless Music ni Jaime! Mag-inarte siya sa 2029. Remember to bitbit your legal counsel by then!"

Defense ng fan ni Nadine, "Anong walang mapuntahan? Alam mo ba kung gaano kadami naging projects nya? Every month may pasabog, kahit nga life n'ya sa Siargao binabalita pa. Ganun sya ka-relevant ngayun. Kainin mo na lang yang pride na sinasabi mo."

Walang JaDine sa pagbabalik ni Nadine sa Viva. Aabangan na lang natin kung paano siya tatanggaping muli ng publiko.

# Janus lumayas sa bahay ng utol

Si Ogie Diaz na pala ang bagong man-

ager ni Janus del Prado. Marami ring mga netizen ang naiyak sa interview niya sa vlog . Lumayas na pala ito sa bahay ng kanyang kuya kung saan siya nakitira ng mahabang panahon.

" Basta sabi ng kuya ko kapag natapos na ang lahat ay magkanya-kaniya na lang daw kami."

Hindi napigilan ng aktor ikuwento kung paano siya tinrato umano ng sariling pamilya.

" Nagka-covid kasi ako at sinasabi nilang ako ang nanghawa. Apat na araw akong nakakulong sa kuwarto na walang naghahatid ng pagkain. Binigyan naman nila ako ng gamot kasi natatakot silang makahawa pa 'ko sa kapitbahay namin.

Hanggang sa tuluyan ng bumuhos ang luha ni Janus nang sabihin niyang nakatulong din naman siya sa pamilya. Ngayon lang sana na kailangan niya ang tulong ng mga ito ay wala siyang inasahan. Kung hindi lamang nagkapandemya ay

hindi naman sya magkakaproblema Desidido na

rin daw si Janus na pu-

Fans of Angeline Quinto are happy she's pregnant.

Quinto tipong pakakasalan

out of wedlock, it's always blessing to have a child. But some are still disappointed.They claim their

idol deserve a wedding. Some comments that not only is the guy younger than her, he also has a child with another woman.

Pero ito man daw ang naging kapalaran ni Angeline ay tinatanggap nila. Sa vlog nga nito ay nagpasalamat siya sa mga tagahanga at sinabing masaya ang kaniyang puso sa nangyayari sa kaniya. Natutuwa siya na naiintindihan siya ng kaniyang mga tagahanga.

#### **DONATE** from page 1

wala na sila ay deserve nila ang basura ng mga tao..... sorry pero yung ibang nakuha namin na donation sobrang dumi at butas butas na."

In another post, Katarina pleaded they donate "appropriate" clothing.

"Don't donate your dirty panty or dirty underwear...," she urged.

"If it's not wearable (essential)

clothes don't send it."

Typhoon Odette made landfall at least nine times in different parts of Visayas and Mindanao, including Siargao a few days before Christmas,.

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#### **DUTERTE** - Arrest unvaccinated people

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said people who have not taken COVID-19 shots will be arrested if they disobeyed stay-athome orders as infections hit a three-month high.

Duterte was asking community leaders to look for unvaccinated people and make sure they were confined to their homes. Daily coronavirus infections in the Philippines hit the highest since Sept. 26 at 17,220 cases January 6, including those caused by the Omicron variant. The tally brought total cases to over 2.88 million, and deaths to more than 51,700, the second highest COVID-19 infections and casualties in Southeast Asia, next to Indonesia.

"I am responsible for the safety and well being of every Filipino," Duterte said.

At the end of last year, 45% of the country's 110 million people have been vaccinated. Under existing rules unvaccinated people in the capital region of Manila can only step out of their homes for essential trips.

His latest remarks underscored his government's growing concerns over the rising number of COVID-19 cases which health experts warn could overwhelm the country's health systems

The Philippines has so far detected 43 domestic and imported cases of Omicron, prompting the government to tighten curbs this week.

# Miles Ocampo, Elijah Canlas magdyowa na; nagkadebelopan dahil sa tuksuhan

NAUWI na rin pala sa seryosong relasyon ang biru-biruan at madalas na pag-uusap noon ng mga youngstar na sina Elijah Canlas at Miles Ocampo.

Nagsimula ang love story ng dalawang bagets sa lock-in taping ng drama series na "Paano ang Pangako." Yes, si Elijah, na 22 years old ang first boyfriend ni Miles na turning 25 years old sa Mayo at masasabing ang suwerte ng aktor dahil sa dinami-rami ng nanligaw sa aktres ay siya ang napili ng dalaga.

Base sa pagkakatanda namin noong January, 2021 sa mediacon ng "Paano ang Pangako" ay tinutukso na sina Miles at Elijah pero palagi lamang silang nangingiti.

Iamin naman ni Miles noon na boyfriend material si Elijah and they found out they have lots in common, like music.

And Elijah is thoughful. In the middle of chatting, Miles mentioned she is craving Potato corner chips which Elijah also like.

A few minutes later, a delivery of chips arrived fo her. Miles likes Elijah's simple



not surprised they became an item. And their chemistry on screen is obvious.

We asked Miles if it's possible that they may end up in

a romantic relationship but they just smiled and both said they're just friends. Sitsit pa ng aming source, madalas makitang naglalambingan ang dalawa sa set, so, ano pa nga ba ang ibig sabihin no'n?

Parehong nag-aaral sa University of the Philippines ang dalawa, sa Diliman si Miles habang sa Manila naman si Elijah.

Sa kasalukuyan ay nasa Kapuso network na si Miles dahil isinama siya sa sitcom ni John Lloyd Cruz na "Happy ToGETHer."



FCT volunteer Mercedez Pamulaya sorts the donated relief goods for typhoon



Gary Valenciano recounts time a doctor said he'd only live until 44

**'Living on His time'** 

ary Valenciano, 57, looked back at the time when his doctor told him he would only live until 44 years old, and he is beyond grateful to have lived longer than expected.

The singer, known as Mr. Pure Energy, opened up about the time he was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes in his interview with TV host Toni Gonzaga. Valenciano recalled getting his diagnosis at the age of 14 and how the news was delivered to his mother.

"Binanggit ng doktor sa nanay ko, 'Mrs. Valenciano, a type 1 diabetic is given an average life span of 30 years from the day of diagnosis.' I was 14," he

narrated. "So if you do the math, when I got to 44, [dapat] wala na or maybe I got to 48, but may problema na sa mata and nerve endings."

Valenciano then added he is proud for reaching age 57, but he believes he is not living on "borrowed time."

"I'm not ashamed to tell people how old I am," he admitted. "Because I'm not living on borrowed time. I'm living on His time."

Aside from his

diabetes, Valenciano also talked about his early days in show business, becoming a father, reconnecting with God, and how it shaped him as a performer.

"Every time I do 'Take Me Out of the Dark,' it's never a performance. I'm speaking based on experience.

mance. I'm speaking based on experience. I'm singing based on truth that I want to share with others," he told Gonzaga.

Aside from type 1 diabetes, Valenciano also faced various other health problems including tuberculosis, hepatitis, an open heart surgery and kidney cancer. Despite this, he is still grateful for the life he has.

"It's in one word that I should no longer have: life," he said. "It's just that I'm thankful for the life I have today."

# Joey de Leon on Ruby Rodriguez: 'Kilala pa kaya nya tayo?'

Pauleen Luna-Sotto took to social media to greet her best friend former "Eat Bulaga" co-host Ruby Rodriguez who is now based in the US.

"I lived my best single years because of YOU! May it be our adventures abroad or just simply lounging in Mapangakit with dusters on. THANK YOU

"You may be far in distance but will always be in my heart (as in andito ka lang sa Pinas) i love you my bff @rodriguezruby! Happy happy birthday!!!!" wrote Pauleen on lastancem

But it was the comment of another "EB" co-host Joey de Leon tha caught the attention of some netizens.

"Marunong pa kaya si Ruby magtagalog? Kilala pa kaya nya tayo? Well, Maligayang Kaarawan is Happy Birthday in case you know!" commented Joey on the post of Payleen

Other celebrities Iza Calzado, Allan K and RR Enriquez also greeted the former actress-TV host. In May 2021, Ruby Rodriguez confirmed she decided to leave "EB" to stay with her family in the US.

Ruby revealed then that Vic Sotto and Pauleen were the first ones to learn that she's leaving for the US. She also said that she misses her Dabarkads in the longest-running noontime show on Philippine vision.

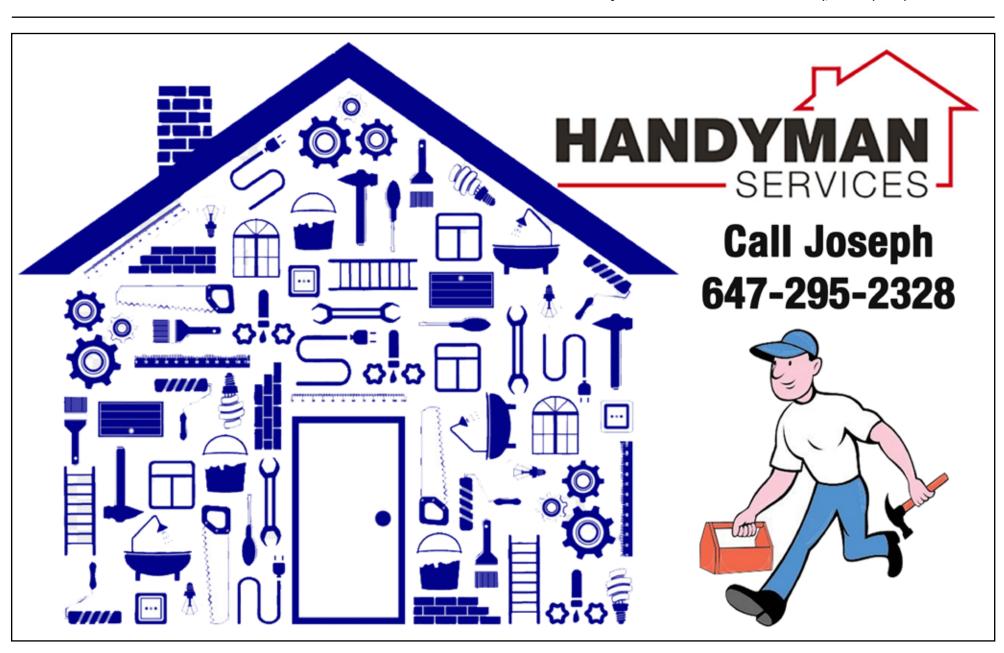
Ruby said she

Ruby said she needed to stay longer in the US because she has to take care of her son AJ who has special needs.

'My husband and kids have been citizens here for over 10 years. Hindi lang po ako nagpe-permanent stay. Hindi ko ito ikinahihiya and I am very proud of it, my son is a special student. Meron pa siyang rare na auto-immune disease na ang tinitira ay ang kidneys. It is very rare. (I haven't decided on the status of my residency here. I am not ashamed that I have a son who is a special student. He has rare auto-immune

"We're trying to avoid that he gets a kidney transplant because he's too young to get that. Family first and it's my son. Kaya ako nagta-trabaho para sa mga anak ko lalung-lalo na sa kanya para kay AJ. (My son needs me here. That's why I work hard for my kids, especially for AJ)," said Ruby in May.

disease which hits the kidney).



# Is Belle Mariano ready to be paired up with different actor?

Breakout star Belle Mariano's career is definitely on the rise with the back-to-back success of her projects with on-screen partner Donny Panailinan in 2021.

But is she willing to be paired with a different actor? She appeared to be firm about sticking with Pangilinan as her only love team partner in showbiz when asked during the presson of her upcoming episode on "Click, Like, Share" sans the actor. "Right now, I can't see myself being paired up with anyone else," Mariano said.

Since the meteoric success of "He's Into Her" and record-breaking movie "Love Is Color Blind," Mariano will be seen, for the first time on screen without Pangilinan as she stars in the episode "Swap" with Shanaia Gomez in "Click, Like, Share." The young actress explained that working in a show without the other is not an issue for them. She

also appreciated working with other actors to help her grow as an artist.

"Nasanay ako since several projects I've done with him. But now, I'm also happy that I get to this project with my co-Rise artists and meet new actors as well. I get to learn as well. Natutuwa ako to be given this opportunity," Mariano further said.

Aside from the series, Mariano is also gearing up for her first-ever solo concert "Daylight" on January 29 via KTX.ph.

Mariano's album and digital concert are among the many career milestones she marked in the past year alone, alongside her first lead roles in a series and a movie with Pangilinan.

The showbiz breakthrough comes after a long wait for Mariano, who has been acting for nearly a decade, dating back to her "Goin' Bulilit" stint in 2012.

#### **CHILDREN**, from page 1

child is this? Where's the guardian?' 'Wala? (Not here?)' There was another kid there and he said, 'That's my sibling.' 'Where's your father?' 'Sir, he's in the cockpit.' 'What about your mother?' Well, she might be busy being a 'Marites' and gossiping with the neighbors. And they have six or seven children. So, I had the father called and I told him, 'P\*\*\*\*\* i\*\*, if you don't stop having children, I'll cut off your penis,'" Duterte said

He urged Filipinos to do family planning so they can give their children a good life. "But seriously, just limit your children to two or three. There are family planning centers here. Just ask for the... You just need to drink it. This isn't for the men, OK? This isn't for erectile dysfunction. It's for women so they don't get pregnant. Don't have too many children," Duterte said.

"I get frustrated over this, when I step down from the presidency, I'll look at the Philippines and tell you not to have too many children. I feel sorry for them. I feel sorry looking at children growing up with a hard life and they find it difficult to pay for their education or to buy food. Just

have enough," he said.

The President then asked the audience who among them have six children, noting how some Filipinos defy advice when it comes to family planning.

"Who among you here has six children? Looks like someone here will have his penis cut off because there's no other solution. If you give them advice, they don't take it. You give them pills, they refuse to drink it. So, let's just chop off that thing instead. But the wives will cry over that," he said.

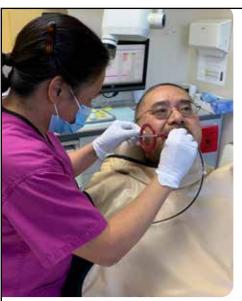
Duterte first proposed the three-child policy in the country in 2016.



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# **Boots Anson-Roa returns**

er sterling, solid acting career, spanning over five decades, has seen Boots
Anson-Roa essay varied roles. The veteran actress is adding another familiar and empowering female image to it, with her participation in the upcoming drama series, Mano Po Legacy: The Family Fortune.

"It's often said that behind the success of every man is a woman," said Boots. "But in the case of this family, behind the success of the business empire is this woman, Consuelo Chan."

As a tycoon matriarch, Consuelo cannot easily be ignored in the entire narrative landscape of Mano Po Legacy.

Perhaps, Consuelo's presence will somehow

# to 'familiar territory' in Mano Po Legacy

push forward the narrative about women in power and women empowerment.

Speaking of career longevity, the actress recalled her father's (Sampaguita actor Oscar Moreno) advice to her when she was new in the mov-

ies. That's to remain good to everyone and be grateful to those people, from all levels of the industry, who, in one way or another, propelled her career.

"'Alam mo, hija,' sabi niya. 'Kapag ikaw ay papaakyat pa lang sa hag-dan, papunta dun sa tinatamasa... na tagumpay, 'wag mong kalilimutan, higit

sa lahat, yung mga maliliit na nag-ta-trabaho sa industriya, of course, yung mga kasama mo, bakit hindi, producers, bakit hindi, kailangan ang mga yan, and most importantly, yung mga maliliit.'

"Kasi kapag nanduon ka na sa tugatog, sa apex, sa zenith... kapag nanduon ka na, wala ka nang iba pang pupuntahan kundi pababa. Ang pinaka-mahirap ay yung mag-maintain. Like what my father said, so 'pag pababa ka na, maka-kasalubong mo din yung same people na nakasalubong mo nuong paakyat ka."

Definitely, Boots has taken it as a valuable guide to initially make a name for herself and, up to this day, remain relevant.

#### MOTORCYLIST TRIES TO PICK UP LITTLE GIRL

A Little 10-year-old girl was walking home, alone, from school one day, when a big man on a black motorcycle pulls up beside her.

He asks her, "Hey there little girl, do you want to go for a ride?"

"NO!" says the little girl as she keeps on walking.

The motorcyclist asks again, "Hey little girl, I will give you \$10 if you hop on the back."

"NO!" says the little girl again as she hurries down the street.

The motorcyclist pulls up beside the little girl again and says, "I'll give you 20 Bucks "and" a Big Bag of Candy if you will just hop on the back of my bike and we will go for a ride."

Finally, the little girl stops and Screams Out... "Look Dad, you bought that Suzuki instead of the Harley ...YOU RIDE IT!!



Marky Hugh (MH) Productions had their Magic Ball last December. It was a glamorous event and awards and prizes were handed out for everyone.



Initiated by Filipino Achievers of Canada, donations poured in for Typhoon Odette victims and one of the drop-off points was the Filipino Centre, Toronto.

# **Alodia Gosiengfiao clears Christine Samson's** name over third-party allegation

Online content creator and gamer-cosplayer Alodia Gosiengfiao was quick to clear the air that fellow gamer Christine Samson's departure from Tier One Entertainment is related to her recent publicized breakup with longtime partner, vlogger Wil Dasovich.

Recall that Christine's name was dragged to the issue as the alleged reason for the couple's split.

On Facebook, Alodia wrote: "Sad to see how people are turning this into something else. Just to clear everything out, Christine has nothing to do with my past

personal relationship. I wish her & Nami (Onuma) all the best in their future endeavors."

Note that Alodia shared Tier One Entertainment's post where the organization bid their farewell to their Esport player.

It read: "We would like to officially announce that Tier One Entertainment shall no longer continue the talent contracts of both Christine Samson and Nami Onuma. This decision was made effective last September 2021, and was deemed the best option for all parties involved."

"We are proud of what both of them have accomplished as part of the Tier One Fam. We are confident that after their years of growth with us, they have all the tools they need to secure bright careers ahead of them," they added. "Thank you, Christine and Nami!"

Tier One Entertainment, a gaming, entertainment, and esports organization, is present in 5 countries across Asia.

#### 'Respect others': Edu Manzano reveals key to longevity in showbiz

For veteran actor Edu Manzano, respect is key to having a long career in showbiz.

In a vlog with his son Luis, the older Manzano

stressed that it is important to respect the people you are working with.

"Kailangan mong respetuhin lahat ng tao kahit saan pa sila – ke-extra sila, ke-supporting actor, ke sabihin natin na utility. Paadatina sa aming industriya ang lahat po ng tao ay

pantay-pantay," he said. Asked by his son what he wanted to be remembered in life, Edu said: "He was a good guy." The Manzanos also got candid when they recalled the father's life as an athlete and when Luis came to his life eventually.

#### E-SABONG from page 1

somebody who is hooked on e-sabong because it is now so much easier to play e-sabong than to go to the physical cockfights.

E-sabong games run 24/7, with as many as 300 games a day from a single operator alone.

#### E-sabong with GCash, PayMaya

It is so easy, indeed, especially now with GCash and PayMaya, now serving as e-sabong e-payments. This means you can watch the games and place your bets through these channels.

The Duterte administration, mandated this to help the government raise funds for pandemic response.

#### Regulatory framework

Pagcor, as the regulator, insists that the framework for e-sabong is tough enough to weed out illegal operators. It also says it is able to generate revenues from the industry. Pagcor says it has already collected

more than a billion pesos in fees. The additional revenue "is a great help to the government to aid in its efforts in the COVID-19 pandemic

response," it claims. It is a P50 billion industry with a job count of 385,000 employees as follows: 200,000 farm workers: 118,000 cockpit personnel; 60,000 poultry store workers; and 6,200 veterinary and feed company em-

#### Social costs

ployees.

The social costs cannot be ignored. Pagcor itself conceded that with quarantine restrictions all over the country, people venture on various activities - like e-sabong to relieve

their stress, boredom, and fatigue.

"It advocates responsible gaming, urging players "to bet with money they can afford to lose, to limit their time of play, to avoid playing when feeling depressed or upset, and to never encourage persons below 21 years of age to participate in gambling." Of course this is easier said than done. An industry source said that in real life, some teenagers are hooked.

Mobile Legends is a popular multiplayer online battle arena developed by Kuala Lumpur-based Shanghai Moonton Technology, reportedly with over 500 million downloads since its launch in 2016.

So while the Duterte administration can count the revenues from e-sabong, there's no way we can count the social costs.

For my money, that will be quite significant. And yes, I'm willing to bet on it – pun intended.

# Alden sumabay sa sasakyan ng crew

Labing-isang taon na ang pagiging artista ni Alden Richards. Mga taon na nagkaroon ng saysay at kabuluhan. Ang kanyang mga dasal ay nagkaroon ng positibong sagot. Isa lang ang ikinalulungkot ng Pambansang Bae. Sana'y buhay pa ang kanyang ina

para magkasama nilang pinagsasaluhan ang tagumpay. Makulay ang buhay-artista ni Alden Richards, puring-puri siya ni Senador Bong Revilla.

Kuwento ni Senador Bong, "Kapag tapos na kami sa shooting, nag-uuwian na ang lahat, pero naiiwan pa si Alden. Hinihintay pa kasi niya ang mga crew. Makikisabay siya sa pag-uwi.

"Napakatagal niyang naghihintay dahil nag-aayos pa ng kable ang crew. Ganu'n siya katiyaga, kaya Alden deserves this

success." kuwento na senador.

Nakikisabay lang siya nu'n sa mga crew, pero ngayon ay meron na siyang magagarang sasakyan na mula sa kanyang pagpapagod at pagsisikap, dininig ng langit ang kanyang mga panalangin.

Ganu'n naman talaga. May mga hiling tayo na may tugon agad. Meron namang napakatagal ng sagot. Pero ang mahalaga ay naririnig ng Diyos ang ating mga bulong.

At matindi ang kapit ni Alden Richards sa Diyos. Wala siyang inaangkin, ang lahat ng meron siya ngayon kahit pa siya naman talaga ang nagpagod at nagsikap kung bakit hawak niya ngayon, ay dahil sa tulong sa kanya ng Diyos.

Totoong-totoo naman.

#### Gerald pinagsigawang daks ng direktor

Paano nga kaya nasigurado ni direk Daryl Yap na daks ang aktor na si Gerald Anderson? At dahil nga sa pambihirang palo-palo nito, super quoted pa ni Yap ang isa sa mga ginintuang aral na diumano ay galing sa seasoned actress Gina Pareno na "DAKS lang ang pwedeng

Huwag niyong sabihin na di niyo alam kung ano ang sinasabing "daks" ni direk Daryl.

Kaya Gerald, ang question of national importance and significance, daks ka ba talaga? Wehhh!! Asan ang pruweba?

#### Sheryn Regis: 'I am a lesbian'

Sheryn Regis has come out to admit to a long-whispered speculation. Ogie Diaz' popular vlog, the singer revealed she is

deed a lesbian as rumored.

She said both her ex-partner Earl Echiverri and daughter Sweety, know

They are still married, with her daughter living with Earl in the US. In the vlog, Sheryn recounted how she came out to her husband

"Sabi ko sa kanya, 'Tito Earl, I am a lesbian. I'm living a lie. Not just to you, not just to the family, a lie sa sarili ko rin. Kasi dine-deny ko eh, di ko siya pinagbigyan, kaya siguro ako nagka depression, nagkasakit ako, sinubok ako ng buhay. Kaya parang feeling ko, 'Bakit hindi ko sabihin?' Baka, bukas, wala na ako, di ko pa rin ma-fulfill yung gusto ko, na sabihin kung ano talaga ako."

Sheryn then related how her daughter reacted: "'Oh well, I knew it mommy, but it doesn't make you less of a person, it doesn't make you less of a mom,' 'Wag mo muna divorce si daddy, I don't want to be a child without a mom and a dad na magkasama." Sheryn is now in a relationship with YouTuber Mel de Guia.



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# Heart Evangelista on finding 'the right man': 'No formula, you just know'

Heart Evangelista gave fans advice on how to deal with heartbreak and find true love, saying a tough breakup only prepares one for the

"right" person.

While breakups may be a tough experience, the actress thinks lost love only leads people to the person they are meant to end up with, she said

on her TikTok page yesterday, Jan. 7. She was answering a fan's question on how to find out if the person they are with is the "right man" for them.

"How do I answer this question when I have my husband beside me?" she joked. "I'm very confident to answer the question."

Turning serious, Evangelista stressed that there is no formula to know if someone is right for you.

"Every time you have a breakup, you just cry for one day because it leads you closer to the person you're really supposed to be with," she said. "No formula! You just know."

Evangelista recently showed her appreciation for Escudero through a "best husband video" tribute before the end of 2021. She also earlier said she would be willing to forgive the governor if ever she learned he was cheating on her.

The couple have been married for over six years. They tied the knot in a private ceremony at Balesin Island Club in February 2015.

# Alexa llacad has this advice on handling 'Marites': 'Don't be enablers'

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great dive sights here. Balicasag in Bohol is one

of the most popular dives in visayas.

Actress Alexa Ilacad did not mince words when she reminded her fellow celebrity housemates not to tolerate gossip-mongers, colloquially dubbed as "Marites."

During the "Pinoy Big Brother" Big Celebrity Reunion on Kumu early this week, Ilacad noted how we perhaps unwittingly encourage "Marites" to gossip.

"If we are all good people and if we have that friend who is a 'Marites,' we should not be enablers na lang. Let's just stop them instead of listening and agreeing. Because even if you're not spreading it, if you're enabling it, it's the same banana," the actress said.

This after Madam Inutz discussed her side amid the criticisms hurled against comedian Brenda Mage, who figured in a number of conflicts with fellow housemates, notably Kumu streamer Eian Rances and Ilacad.

"Siguro 'yung pagtambay-tambay namin sa pagkaumupo ako, nandyai si Brenda, nagkakaroon ng usapan.
Napa-oo na lang ako. Hindi nga
ako 'yung taong pagka sinabi ni
Brenda na ganito ay sasabihin
ko naman kay Alexa," the viral
online seller quipped.

The actress also said she is willing to forgive Brenda but she will not forget what he had done to her while inside the "PBB" house.

"I forgive but that doesn't mean I forget. I'm just a very forgiving person. But I learned my lessons as well and I now know how to guard my heart and make sure that I'm surrounded by good people," she said.

Brenda has previously apologized for his actions that may have hurt others during his stay inside the famous yellow house.

Brenda Mage finished in the Final 5 of the celebrity leg of the "Kumunity" edition of "PBB." He exited the reality show last January 1.

Singer Anji Salvacion and volleyball player Alyssa Valdez were declared the Celebrity Top 2.

# Lyca Gairanod is one of 2021's biggest sensations

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Without trying too hard, Lyca Gairanod easily becomes one of the year's biggest sensations. Let us count the ways.

Early 2021 saw Lyca released her first ever single with Viva Records. And while that single, titled "Akala Ko Ba" didn't exactly become a mainstream hit (yet a fan-favorite for sure), it was the gateway to Lyca's collaboration with fellow Viva Records artist Bandang Lapis. Lyka recorded an acoustic version of Bandang Lapis' breakout hit "Kabilang Buhay" on the latter's acoustic themed EP. And when Lyca did a solo version of "Kabilang Buhay" on the popular roving stage platform Wishbus, the song became a viral hit.

Then there's the more recent, "kelan ang birthday mo? November 21...oh my god! Birthday ko yun!" bit with Karen Davila that just went crazy, TikTok viral. Of course, due credit is given to Ms. Davila for her enthusiasm, but Lyca's reaction was priceless and that made all the difference.

Lyca's feet are planted firmly in the ground, if anything, with all the viral things she did this year, she's just glad she's doing what she loves doing.

And as Lyca has proven time and again, she has a knack for doing the right thing at the right time, and people instantly take notice.

And with assurance, Lyca said, "siguro po mas marami pa (na darating). Abangan po nila."



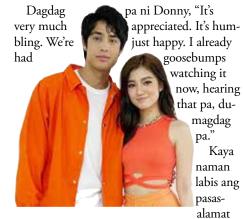
# Belle Mariano & Donny Pangilinan, flattered sa title New Gen Phenomenal Love Team

Hindi makapaniwala sina Donny Pangilinan at Belle Mariano sa titulong ibinigay sa kanilang love team - DonBelle - bilang New Gen Phenomenal Love Team.

Ito ang pagpapakilala sa DonBelle sa trailer ng kanilang launching movie na "Love is Color Blind" under Star Cinema.

Phenomenal naman kasi ang naging kasikatan ng DonBelle matapos ang hit series nilang "He's Into Her."

"Honestly, it's super flattering na matawag ng ganun," sabi ni Belle.



nila sa tinatamasa nilang tagumpay at sunud-sunod na blessings.

"We're very grateful — we'll never get tired of saying that. Sobrang grateful lang kami to be given this trust by everyone," ani Donny.

Marami man silang pinagdaanan, masaya si Donny na si Belle ang kasama niya.

"It's been a journey, a rollercoaster ride, and we went through it together. Marami rin kaming pinagdaanan, good and bad, but at the end of the day, we have a movie, and we're so blessed."

Pinasalamatan din nila ang kanilang fans at supporters. "Hindi po kami mapapagod sabihin 'yun, we're very grateful. Just imagine na kahit online lang lahat ngayon, nararamdaman namin 'yung suporta at pagmamahal nila," sabi ni Belle.

# Kathryn sinungitan si Daniel

Sa kanyang YouTube channel, nagpakatotoo ang Kapamilya actress na si Kathryn Bernardo nang sagutin niya ang ilang impresyon sa kanya ng mga faney.

Sa episode kasi na "Reading Assumptions About Me", isa sa mga in-address niya ay ang public perception na may pagka-masungit siya. "Next is, you are a hot-headed person. Gets mad very easily," pagbabasa niya.

Sandaling nanahimik si Kathryn at tinimbang ang sarili sa nasabing assumption sa

After a while, saka niya sinagot ang nabanggit na impresyon sa kanya.

"Yeah, I think I'm a hot-headed person. Let's be honest here, mainitin ang ulo ko. Actually, I don't like that about me. Very impatient ako, especially tayong mga girls, if it's time of the month. Extra mainitin yung ulo, nai-stress ako. Yung pasensya ko ganito na, liliit pa yan," paglalahad niya.

Gayunpaman, sinabi niya na ang ugaling ito ang isa sa mga kinaiinisan niya sa sarili.

"I don't know bakit ganyan, alam kong hindi siya maganda. Pero may mga days na mabait naman ako pero pag 'yung time of the month na yun, girl wag mo talaga akong pikunin kasi magiging dragon talaga ako," paliwanag niya.

Umani naman ng paghanga ang aktres sa kanyang pagpapakatotoo sa kanyang follow-

May ilan namang nagsabing tiklop si Daniel kapag sinusungitan siya ni Kathryn.

#### Ces Drilon ventures into acting in a BL series

Broadcast journalist Ces Oreña Drilon readily laughed it off when asked if she was

"Stress Drilon" this pandemic. Her name was apparently turned into an adjective by people who are fond of coining new words from names of popular people.

Kaya

After she was retrenched last year from ABS-CBN, following the closure of the network, Ces pursued her other interests.

Recently, Ces also ventured into acting and gave her nod to star in a BL (Boy's Love) series, Love Team, where she plays mom to young actor Ali King. The new series directed by Jade Castro, is a follow-up to last year's Boy's Lockdown, with Alec Kevin and Ali King.

Ces discloses she has no big expectations in her first acting salvo in a BL series. "It's not like I'm going into an acting career. I just want to try new things."

Her close friends readily commented watching the teaser. "Huwag over after ing," Ces was told. act-Thankfully, Ces no longer

the same restrictions as before, when she was

still employed at ABS-CBN. "We cannot appear, we cannot do this and that. We

cannot do product endorsements. When this offer came, I thought why not? It looked like a lot of fun.

Not surprisingly, Ces is always busy now. "I feel so energetic, so inspired and full of ideas, 24 hours in a day that's not enough.

#### Arjo naseksihan na konserbatibo si Maine

Sa isang panayam kay Arjo Atayde, sinabi ng Kapamilya actor na siya raw iyong tipo ng taong clingy pagdating sa pakikipagrelasyon.

Para sa kanya, ang love raw ay isang salita lamang na madaling sabihin pero nasusukat



lamang kapag tinutumbasan na ng gawa.

Naniniwala kasi siya sa kasabihang "Action speaks louder than words."

Aniya, ipinakikita raw niya ang kanyang pagmamahal sa girlfriend na si Maine Mendoza sa pamamagitan ng pag-i-spend ng quality time rito.

Lab daw niya ang company ni Maine at lagi niyang nilo-look forward na makita ito.

Bet din niya ang pagiging conservative ni Maine sa pananamit.

Para kasi sa kanya, conservative is sexy.

# Kim inalala kung bakit naging **Chinita Princess**

Eleven million na ang followers ni Kim Kim Chiu sa kanyang Instagram page.

"This morning woke up to 11M of you here in

Kim recalls how she came to use Chinita Princess as her IG user name.

> remember when I was just setting my first social media account as "artista" which is Instagram, didn't know what my user name will be. Thinking of.... will I go for this? am I ready to share my everyday life on the internet? @xianlimm influenced me to have a social media account then that time I

was with @ilovekaye she was the one who told me to use the CHINITAPRINCESS as my user name coz Kim Chiu was already taken. Thank you kifs!!!!After I made an account I messaged Xi, "may IG na ako!!!!!!??" Actually ginawa ko ata to before kasi gusto sha makausap!haha

"how cool was that till now it is still my username and I am happily sharing my everyday life with all of you. Through Instagram, I can show the world what I can see, as one of my favorite sayings says "Your life is your message to the world, make it inspiring." Thank you for joining me on this journey. Thank you for your levely and not so lovely comments. ?? Thank you for letting me share with all of you my life. This is me, this is who I am. This is my world. Thank you for allowing me to share this journey of mine. Love you all cheers to more ootds, adventures, family, travels, kimadvenchiure, and many more!!!!!

"HAPPY 11M fam!!!"

Recently lang ay naging kontrobersyal ang IG story ni Kim nang i-upload niya ang pagtatanggal ng picture ni Bea Alonzo sa wall ng ABS-CBN building.



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



Frank Cruzet cuts the prime rib as Efren de Villa looks on at the FCT party.











Sabrina Goneau poses





Melissa Ventocilla celebrates her birthday with family and with friends.





**Rayver Cruz on getting** into a new relationship: 'Hinay-hinay

ang muna' Rayver Cruz has finally spoken up about the current status of his love life, months after his split

with actress Janine Gutierrez.

Cruz shared his thoughts on getting into a new relationship after being asked by show host Pokwang in a game segment of "All-Out Sundays," as seen on GMA Network's YouTube channel yesterday, Jan. 3.

"You know what, guys? Hinay-hinay lang muna (Let's take it slow),"

After blurting out his answer, Cruz then changed the topic in a playful manner and exited the game as he lost to his fellow celebrity player, Julie Anne San Jose.

Meanwhile, San Jose was also asked about having a "limitless" love life, to which she answered," We will see. God knows."

Cruz and San Jose cohost GMA's "The Clash" and have worked together in San Jose's digital concert "Limitless Part 2: Heal." Though closeness is being teased by fel-

San

only

low celebrities and fans, Jose asserted that she has a good working lationship with the



# **NEW LOVE TEAM? Albie** Casiño, Shanaia Gomez go on 'sisig' date

Shippers of ShaiBie, composed of former "Pinoy Big Brother" housemates Albie Casiño and Shanaia Gomez, are going gaga!

This after their idols shared on their respective social media accounts a glimpse of their

In a video uploaded by Albie, he could be heard talking to Shanaia, who was seated in front of him and happily posing for the camera, while they were in a restaurant.

"Are you ready to try sisig?" asked Albie. Recall that a few weeks ago when the 28-year-old hunk actor invited the 19-year-old Kapamilya singer on a "sisig" date.

During the "PBB Kumulitan," Albie then asked Shanaia if she's still down to try it. Shanaia gamely accepted Albie's challenge.

"Yeah, of course, but I don't think I'll like it but, yeah, I mean, I will take your word. We'll see, we'll see. I don't like kasi the feeling of the sisig. I don't know why, the texture is kinda weird," she said.

But Albie reiterated that Shanaia just needed to try one good sisig.

"I told you, like, you can't trust the one we made inside the house, bro," he related. Meanwhile, a few days later, Albie admitted

his feelings towards Shanaia via an interview with "Star Magic Inside News."

"Totoo naman, she's a pretty girl. Attracted ako sa kanya," he revealed. "Crush ko naman si Shanaia but sa mga nakikita ko, masyado pa siyang bata, and to be honest, it's kinda weird. I don't want her to feel pressured na she has to like me cause of the fans."

#### Karen Davila slams basher

Seasoned broadcast journalist Karen Davila recently revealed that her family caught

Karen reiterated that she's "extremely grateful" that while taking care of the kids, she was



Instead of commiserating, a netizen thought it best to blame her for their predicament relating how all "she does is travel and go out with her family to boracay..."

Karen immediately responded to the com-

"'all she does'??? Dude, I've been a full time working mother all my life. Don't you dare make mothers feel guilty for wanting a vacation & wanting to spend time with their kids. Get a life man!," she replied.

"Dude, it's 2022," she added.

Karen would go on to re-post "No to COVID shame."

"It's okay if you tested positive, you will get better. Let's protect ourselves and the community," it read.

Karen shared her two cents as well, writing:

it. Share it. Work on it together as a community.'

She reminded her followers of importance of getjabbed.

"GUYS. The

vaccines work! We are living proof. Get your shots. Get your boosters NOW. Do this out of love for yourself & your family this 2022."

#### Vivamax introduces fresh tandem in girl to girl romance 'Lulu'

The series introduces sultry actress Rhen Escaño (Adan, The Other Wife, Paraluman) as Sophie and newcomer Rita Martinez (The Voice Philippines Season 2) as Abi.

Composed of eight episodes Lulu shows how Sophie and Abi handle their relationship as exes come back, old pains resurface, and secrets are revealed

"I conceptualized the story of Lulu a long time ago and I was just waiting for the right time to proceed with scriptwriting and make the story come alive on screen," the director said.

"I wanted Lulu to be light. I want to focus on the individual struggles of the characters, love is secondary. And it will come naturally. Of course, we will tackle 'yong mga issues pero very, very subtle. It's more of an everyday life ng lesbian community."

Through this series, Bernardo wants viewers to know the fun side of lesbian women.

"Masayahin din sila," she reiterated. Lulu streams on Vivamax on Jan. 7, new

episodes will be dropped every Friday.

Marky Hugh (MH) Productions held their glamorous Magic Ball last December. Everybody was dressed in their finest outfits. It is



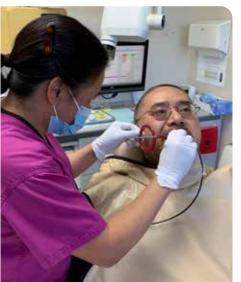


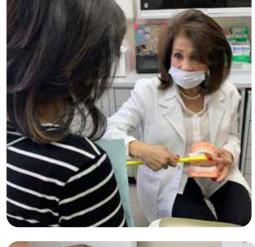


















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