

Phl to allow US in military bases for Taiwan Crisis

Permission is granted if it is crucial for the security of the Philippines.

Philippine ambassador to the United States Jose Manuel Romualdez said the Philippines will allow U.S. forces to access its military bases in the country if China-Taiwan tensions escalate.

In an interview with Nikkei Asia, Romualdez said access to the country's military bases would be given "if it is important for us, for our own security."

"Nobody wants to have any

kind of war or confrontation," he said. "We want to ask both countries to lessen the tension by having more dialogue and then trying to resolve all of these issues, because it's in our part of the world."

A spokesperson for the Pentagon said the U.S. and the Southeast Asian country regularly have discussions on "deepening our enduring security alliance under the auspices of the Mutual Defense Treaty

and multiple other agreements, including the 2014 Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement [EDCA]."

"Looking ahead, we seek to enhance the posture of our al-

US MILITARY page 15



Postcard
España Blvd 1970's

Filipinos Welcomes The Gigantic Return of 2022 Taste of Manila Street Festival in Toronto

TORONTO (August 25, 2022) - The ever-popular "Taste of Manila Street

Festival" returned with a thunderous bang August

TASTE p5

PHL is Asia's pageant powerhouse

MANILA - Obviously owing to its 12-year streak in the Miss Universe Pageant, highlighted by the two wins scored by Pia Wurtzbach in 2015 and Catriona Gray in 2018, the Philippines has clearly established itself as Asia's powerhouse in the world's most prestigious beauty competition. While this new tag earned by the country for itself has been generating some amount of jealousy from pageant fans from neighboring countries, it also comes with a sense of aspiration for them to also do well eventually in the same beauty Olympics. What the world sees as the advantage Filipinas have over their competitors is the kind of training that they're getting from the various pageant camps we have locally, such that



Shandy Montecarlo-Lim

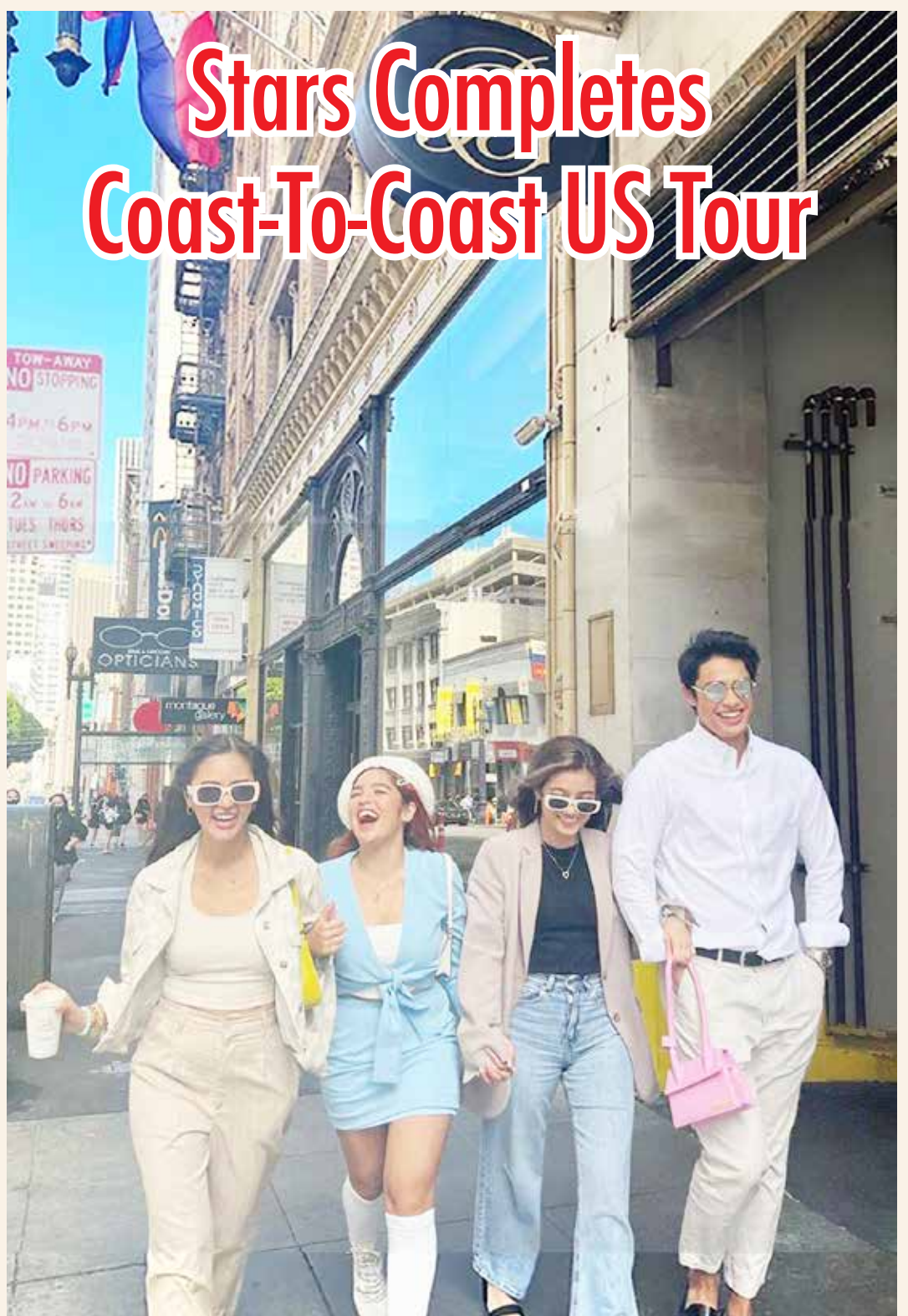
when they're sent to their international competitions, they're fully armed and ready for battle.

Reasons why some countries

have recently been sending their own candidates to the Philippines to prep them for war. They turn to the country to seek the training that they believe will be required to up their chances of winning.

"It all started in 2014. Philippine delegate MJ Lastimosa became besties with Miss Indonesia, Elvira Devinamira. That relationship prompted Elvira to recommend for her organization to let her suc...

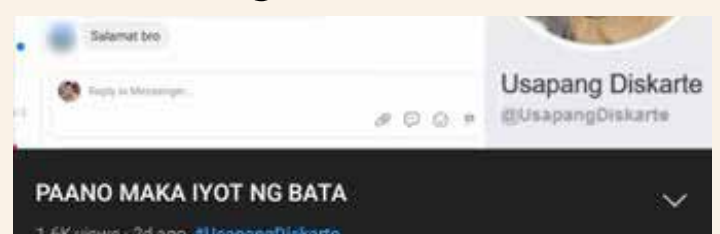
PAGEANT p19



One of the Few Remaining Queens, Kim Chiu with New Gen Superstars Andrea Brillantes, Belle Mariano and Donny Pangilinan walk on Sutter St. in San Francisco outside the Philippine Consulate.

PNP orders Facebook, Youtube to fight child sex abuse

MANILA, Philippines — The Philippine National Police (PNP) filed before the Department of Justice (DOJ) warrants against Facebook and YouTube to compel the social media platforms to disclose data on "Usapang Diskarte," which posted sexual exploitation of children



online. Officials of the PNP Anti-Cy-

bercrime Group (ACG) went **FACEBOOK p17**



ToM founding President Rolly Mangante and his wife Nieves, daughters Yoyo & Roloves, ToM's Joseph Redobledo, Tony San Juan, and IEC organizers headed by President Cecille Araneta, VP Mon Datol, treasurer Edward Que, secretary Ian Santillan, Auditor James Torres with VIPs MPs Marco Mendicino, Ya'ara Saks, PhilConGen Orontes V. Castro, WFG's Agnes Miranda, PCCF Pres. Rosemer Enverga among other guests and supporters.



Ian Santillan, ToM Chief of Security Rick Dumlao, Lovely Luna, MP & Min. of Housing, Inclusion, and Diversity, Hon. Ahmed Hussen, ToM founding president Rolly Mangante & lanezza Muñoz Greeley

Janella Salvador reveals she's a single mom: 'I can rely on myself'

Janella Salvador appears to have confirmed that she and actor Markus Paterson have parted ways as she opened up about being a single mom to their son Jude.

The actress disclosed this during a conversation with broadcaster Bernadette Sembrano, as seen on the latter's YouTube channel yesterday, Sept. 3. Salvador initially spoke about how she can relate to the personality of her character Regina Vanguardia, the alter ego of Valentina in "Mars Ravelo's Darna."

"Relate ako kasi si Regina 'pag meron siyang ipinaglalaman, as long as alam niyang nasa tama siya ilalaman niya talaga. Gano'n ako as a person as long as wala akong natatapan, kasi I like learning. I like challenging myself," she said.

(I can relate to Regina because when she has something to fight for, as long as she



knows she is right, she really fights for it. I also do the same as long as I do not step on someone's toes, because I like learning. I like challenging myself.)

Salvador was then asked by Sembrano what was the most recent endeavor that the actress has been battling with in real life, which led to Salvador talking about her journey as mother to Jude.

"Being a single mom — talagang nilalaman ko 'yon (I am really fighting for that)," Salvador responded.

"At the end of the day, alam kong kaya ko naman siya. As much as I love the people around me who are always there to help me, I always want to know na kaya kong

gawin," she added. "I can rely on myself na hindi ko kailangang humingi ng tulong sa iba."

(At the end of the day, I know I can do it. As much as I love the people around me who are always there to help me, I always want to know that I can do it. I can rely on myself that I do not need to ask for help from others.)

Salvador also gave credit to her mom, singer-actress Jenine Desiderio, who Salvador considers as one of her inspirations in being independent.

"Siguro kasi I saw my mom growing up, kung paano siya — she was able to raise us on her own. So siguro na-embod ko rin kung paano siya — I wanted to be independent as well," Salvador stated.

(Maybe because I saw my mom [while I was] growing up and how it was [for her] — she was able to raise us on her own. So maybe I embodied [her trait] — I wanted to be independent as well.)

Speculations that Salvador and Paterson broke up arose after fans noticed that the two actors have not been posting photos of each other on their respective social media



Gemma Pascual gets an assist from her friend FV Foods owner Mel Galeon with her Renee Salud gown train at the Mabuhay festival.

accounts. Salvador earlier addressed the rumors and stated that she and Paterson are happy "individually," although she neither confirmed nor denied the breakup speculations at the time.

Salvador and Paterson confirmed their relationship in September 2020. A few months after, they revealed that they are already parents as they introduced their son to the public.

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Vilma Santos cheers Jane de Leon as Darna

Vilma Santos has given her stamp of approval to Jane de Leon’s version of the iconic superhero Darna, and cheered on the actress for the upcoming “Mars Ravelo’s Darna: The TV Series.”

The Star for All Seasons has given her blessing to De Leon during the grand media conference of the TV series, as shown on ABS-CBN Entertainment’s YouTube channel yesterday, Aug. 8.

“Si Darna ay isang local heroine na [niklikha] ni Mars Ravelo. Babaeng matapang at handang ipagtanggol ang sinumang nangangailangan. I’m lucky enough na makagawa ng apat na ‘Darna’ [films],” Santos said.

(Darna is a local heroine created by Mars Ravelo. A woman who is brave and ready to defend those who are in need. I am lucky enough to have done four “Darna” films.)

For Santos, Darna is a “relevant” figure who gives inspiration and pushes people to believe that “everybody can be Darna,” as long as they are “willing to help people.”

“Maraming nag-aasam na maging Darna. Icon na ‘yung character. Malaking malaking karangalan ‘yan para sa isang artista na tulad ko na makaganap bilang isang Darna,” she told De Leon. “At ngayon Jane na ikaw ang napiling Darna, bigyan mo sila ng inspirasyon na meron pa ring pagmamahal, meron pa ring tiwala at meron pa ring pag-asa.”

(Many aspire to become Darna. The character is already an icon. It is a great

honor for an actress like me to portray Darna. Now that you have been chosen as Darna, Jane, give [the public] inspiration that there is still love, trust and hope.)

Santos then referenced Darna’s magical stone as she expressed support for De Leon and wished her good luck in playing the character.

“Ang daming humawak ng batong ‘yan. Ngayon, Jane, na sa ‘yo ang bato. Pangalagaan mo iyang mabuti. Maging ehemplo ka ng henerasyon ngayon,” she added. (Many have held that stone. Now, Jane, you have the stone. Take care of it. Be an example to the new generation.)

For her part, De Leon vowed to do her best in portraying Darna and thanked those who have been supportive of her.

The hottest entertainment news straight to your inboxSantos is among the actresses who played Darna prior to De Leon. She took on the role for the films “Lipad, Darna, Lipad,” “Darna and the Giants,” “Darna vs the Planet Women” and “Darna at Ding.”

Now helmed by Chito Roño and Avel Sunpongco, “Mars Ravelo’s Darna: The TV Series” follows the journey of Narda (De Leon) and her reluctance to fulfill her destiny as the superhero Darna.

The show started taping in November 2021 and is set to premiere on Aug. 15.



Wil Dasovich breaks silence over Alodia Gosiengfiao engagement

Wil Dasovich seemed unbothered by recent news that his girlfriend of four years, fellow YouTube sensation Alodia Gosiengfiao, is now engaged to another man only months after dating the new guy.



At the re-launch of Prime Video last night, Wil said that he is happy for his gamer-cosplayer ex-lover.

“Oh yeah, yeah, I think it’s good,” he said as a reaction to Alodia’s engagement.

“At the end of the day, hahaha, at the end of the day, I just want everyone to be happy, you know? And ah, yeah.”

When asked about the current state of his heart, he said: “It’s doing alright, you know? It’s okay. It’s alive and well.”

Although he did not verify if he is indeed dating actress Carla Humphries, he said that he, too, plans of getting engaged, “but not in the next five years, maybe.”

“I don’t know. Not anytime soon. Not anytime soon,” he stressed.

LOOK: Vice Ganda, Ate Gay together again

All is well now it seems with Vice Ganda and Ate Gay.

The two gay comedians are seen together in a photo now circulating in social media

There, Ate Gay could be seen hugging Vice.

“Love love love.. (heart emoji),” he wrote as caption.

The comment section was immediately filled with messages from netizens who are happy to see the two reunite.

Some even cheered their “reconciliation.”

Another added: “So happy to see 2 legends of Philippines Comedy Bars in One Frame.”



Recall that late last year when Ate Gay apologizes to Vice Ganda.

Note that it started after the “It’s Showtime” host admitted feeling “hurt” for the bashing he received after his financial assistance to Ate Gay was made public.

Though Vice didn’t mention names, many are convinced he’s referring to Ate Gay who then-posted the exact amount donated by friends after he was hospital-

1, , Brillantes posted a photo of herself in a pink suit, evidently attending a meeting with other executives from her company, A.B.G. Trading Inc.

“Five years old pa lang ako, alam ko na ang gusto kong gawin sa buhay ko, ang mag-artista. Pero maraming hindi nakakaalam na dream ko talaga ang magka-business for my family,”



Actress Andrea Brillantes is now the youngest celebrity CEO and first-time business owner. Her childhood ambition of becoming the youngest celebrity CEO of a soon-to-be-launched business venture has come true.

On a Facebook post on September



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ized due to a rare skin disease.

Ate Gay explained he did so after being bashed for unfriending people critical of the current government.

Ellen to take leave of absence from showbiz

It looks like actress Ellen Adarna is taking an indefinite leave of absence from showbiz.

Earlier, she revealed the promise she made to herself not to work until her four-year-old son Elias turns 7. But now, Ellen and her husband, Derek Ramsay, have stated that they’re aiming for a baby next year. Being a mother in the near future means that Ellen will push her career further to the backburner.

In a product launch last Aug. 27, Ellen revealed that she and Derek are hoping for a baby that will be born in 2024, the Year of the Dragon. This means that she needs to get pregnant next year. Ellen and Derek were also born in dragon years and according to Chinese superstition, three dragons in the house bring good luck.

“Am open to guesting if it’s just a day or two, but not lock-in taping na one month or one week. To be honest, no one misses going home at 5 a.m.” she quipped.

She disclosed that there are actually lots of offers for her and Derek to work together but she’s not entertaining it. “Ayoko syang kasama. Feeling ko walang mangyayari. Magtatawanan lang kami.”

Ellen said her decision to be away from the cameras was obviously brought by her desire to be with her son and prioritize her

newly-married life. She stated that while she’s not earning from showbiz as before, “I got the things that I need....not want, but need.”

On her planned pregnancy, Ellen said: “Hopefully it will be easy, that’s why I am taking care of my health.”

The actress has just been chosen as the celebrity ambassador of Xmeal, a meal replacement drink distributed by Rana Pharmaceutical. She revealed that she was a paying customer of the product before she was contacted to be its endorser. She said



she likes Xmeal because it’s only 153 calories per serving. Furthermore, she drinks Xmeal as a snack or as a full substitute for a meal.

Teased by mediamen about her glowing

aura, Ellen attributed this to a complete shift in her lifestyle and the fact that she is now mentally at peace. She said that she has said goodbye to her drinking.

A typical day for her starts at 5 a.m. when everyone is still asleep, and she spends the time to meditate. Her day ends at 9 or 10 p.m. when she and Derek go to sleep.

She admitted that she and Derek are opposites on some things, but they get along well together, and that makes for a balanced relationship.

the youth-oriented series Lyric and Beat.

Last July, the two admitted that they are not interested in bringing back their love team “SethDrea” in another series or film at the moment, but they might in the future. The pair are also open to being co-stars in projects as long as they don’t portray a couple.

We're still a festival-loving people 🧠😄🤔

Despite what some of us say, we can never have enough festival. Filipino festivals are left and right starting in April and ends in August with the Taste of Manila, which is held in the street of Bathurst. Now, even the Fiesta extravaganza festival has exported, albeit just within Canada, to Hamilton, Montreal and Alberta. Based on the photos I saw, the crowds love those festivals. I guess the Filipinos in those locations do not have to come to Toronto anymore to enjoy the camaraderie of being with fellow Filipinos.

I am sure there will be some Filipino festivals that will be held after August catering to the Christmas season. We did have one called Paskuhan, before in December but it only lasted 3 years.

Will Jo Koy's movie "Easter Sunday" open doors for Filipinos in Hollywood?

Well, if we base it on most of the reviews, it's probably not the calling card we are hoping for. Even some



Filipinos were lukewarm in their reaction after watching the movie. I guess it's one thing to laugh when you're watching Filipino stand-up comedian Jo Koy on stage make fun of our quirks and mannerisms and different when you watch it translated into action on screen. There are some Filipinos who encourage Filipinos to watch it because it will open doors for us to Hollywood. Unfortunately, just because a lot of Filipinos watch it will not make Hollywood open doors to us or our stories. They need

stories that can be sold to the mainstream audience. Besides, I don't think we can fool those producers into hiring Filipinos or making Filipino stories on screen based on this movie if it is only watched by mostly Filipinos. You cannot fool Hollywood producers.

Jo Koy is funny onstage but transferring that in a movie will take more work.

We look to hearing and seeing more from Jo Koy.

I hope he gets back with a better movie next time.

Or even a TV sitcom.

Catriona Gray on married women with kids joining

With Miss Universe organizers allowing married women and moms to join miss Universe, Miss Universe 2018 Catriona Gray deemed it as "a step towards inclusivity."

"I think it's really timely to allow women in whatever capacity to go after the dream of being a Miss Universe," she said.

"However, I do see that it would be difficult for a young mother with young children to balance the responsibility, the schedule that comes with being a Miss Universe. I've done it for a year, and it's a

grueling schedule," she added, relating: "It pulls you to different corners of the world, and you don't really have a say where your schedule takes you."

"But hopefully, with that opening up of those inclusive measures at Miss Universe, they'd hopefully give either guidelines or things to protect the interests of women and allow her to be there for her family



Miss Universe

and also to her responsibilities as a Miss Universe," she said.

Catriona believes that Miss Universe is a platform to represent something.

"Like, we go out there not as a desirable image, but to have a voice and to be able to amplify that. And why should being married or being a mother limit women from being able to do that, to be a spokesperson."



Fil-Canadian beauty is Miss Bingo Plus Lucky

MANILA - Fil-Canadian Jasmine Paguio finished as runner-up in the recent Miss Philippines Earth beauty-with-a-cause pageant, but for the BingoPlus community of players, game developers, employees, partner brands, institutions and beneficiaries, she is their queen.

The 23-year-old actress and model who grew up in Canada but returned to the Philippines to seek an acting and pageantry career was chosen as Miss BingoPlus Lucky among 36 contestants at the Miss Philippines Earth Finals held Aug. 6 in Coron, Palawan.

It was her brave and game personality coupled with her sincere concern and dedication to the environment that made her stand out to BingoPlus officials as the fitting person to embody the company's own advocacies.

"She has a great personality that reflects both her outer and inner beauty. Her courage to pursue her dreams and passion by leaving the country where she grew up and taking a leap in the Philippines is admirable. Her faith and confidence in herself and her desire to share her advocacy by educating

others about saving our planet is remarkable," said AB Leisure Exponent Inc. president Jasper Vicencio.

"We have been taught to reduce, re-use and recycle since we were young. Although it may appear straightforward, the task of recycling and proper waste management is more intricate than it might seem. If one wrong item is recycled incorrectly, then tons of recyclable items get tossed into landfills daily. That is

why I am advocating for a change in our educational system where we can properly teach the youth the importance of proper waste management and how to correctly recycle," Miss Paguio said.

As Miss BingoPlus Lucky, she will take part in the brand's corporate social responsibility projects conducted under its mother company, Leisure & Resorts World Corporation.



PIDC PROUDLY CELEBRATES MABUHAY PHILIPPINES FESTIVAL 2022

By: Tony A. San Juan, OCT.

The Philippine Independence Day Council-PIDC, a quintessential and non-profit umbrella organization of several Filipino-Canadian organizations in Ontario, has celebrated the 24th edition of the Mabuhay Philippines Festival. Under the leadership of PIDC President Agnes P. Miranda, the 2-day event, aptly themed "Bangon" (Rise), was successfully staged on August 13 and 14, 2022 at Nathan Phillips Square, City Hall Grounds, Toronto. Mabuhay Philippines Festival is the flagship community-based program of the volunteer-run PIDC. The iconic community-based event is founded in June 1998 by Norma Carpio, MPF chair emerita.

Sponsored by TD, Heritage Canada, Imperial World Inc. and World Financial Group-WFG, the 2-day festivities, included live programs and presentations participated in by dignitaries and special guests, fashion models, professional & amateur singers and able performers. Moreover, the event presented several musical performances and entertainment numbers by individual and group talents from the Fil-Can communities in the province. Among the performers are cultural dancers, home-grown singers & talents, music bands, and program hosts.

On the first day, Toronto Mayor John Tory and Philippine Consul General Orontes V. Castro graced the opening ceremonies and delivered their respective addresses. MPF founder Norma Carpio did her welcome greetings and PIDC President Agnes P. Miranda made her closing remarks and officially declared the festival "open and free". Likewise, TD Asst. Vice President Paul Saguil gave some words of encouragement. In the afternoon, Hon. Ahmed Hussen, MP and Minister of Housing, Diversity, and Inclusion, and MP for Scarborough Centre Salma Zahid, also attended and gave also their warm greetings.

Early Saturday evening, the crowd was treated to beautiful songs performed by Fil-Can singing diva, Ms. Joey Albert. The evening's program highlighted the LUZVIMINDA grand fashion show arranged by Philippine fashion ambassador Mama Renee Salud and his entourage of pretty models, charming escorts, and wardrobe assistants. WFG executive Danny Orbillo emceed the program that showcased Filipino culture-centered designs and creations by the Philippine fashion icon. There are also a local designer and several models coming from the community who volunteered and displayed their beautiful Indigenous-designed outfits and Filipiniana ternos, party

gowns, and formal party dresses. After the community parade downtown on Sunday, MP for Mississauga-Streetsville



Consul General Orontes Castro walks the runway at the Renee Salud fashion show.

Rechie Valdez and MP for York Centre Ya'ara Saks graced and joined the closing program with all the parade participants, PIDC beauty contest winners, Santa-cruzan beauties & their escorts, and community organizations. Hon. Marco Mendicino, MP and Minister of Public Safety, joined at the start of the parade. In appreciation, PIDC president Agnes Miranda has recognized the winning organizations who participated in the parade, as well as a number of officers, directors, volunteers, performers, and participants with the

awarding of the MPF Medallions donated by World Financial Group-WFG. The community parade was happily complemented by the participation of 2 GTA-based Chinese and Taiwanese popular marching bands.

The well-admired and well-attended festival was supervised and coordinated by an Organizing Committee composed of hardworking PIDC officers, directors, members, and volunteers. Coordinated by MPF event festival director Suzy Llanera, parade major organizers Ben Corpuz & Rory Elefano , and opening day program chair Melinda Manlapaz, those who "lend their hands and hearts were Leonor Abad, Salome Bader, Sonia Balinas, Ding Cruz, Aris Elefano, Ramon Estaris, B. K. Jmenez, Genoveva Jubilo, Helen Pico Lao, Cesar Manebo, Aimee Maravilla, Minda Neri, Danny Orbillo, Ryan Orlanda, Jesse Pacetes, Jean Pardo, Chyrell Samson-Ronquillo, Joy San Juan, Ophelia Santiago, Roy Start, Vilma Tahsin, Tom Tan, Roger Tarca, Nanding Ticzon, Al Tupe, Jun Villaruz, and a host of great volunteers.

With over 40 food vendors, dry products, service businesses, and non-profit organizations booths, the festival offered on sales typical Filipino dishes, desserts, & snacks traditional clothes & dresses, kinds of specific stuff, and services & promotional materials. The media practitioners who covered the festivities included Tess Cusipag of Balita, Joey Baking of LM Confidential, Bin Kon Loo of Filipiniana, Romy Marquez of Filipino Web Channel, Theresa Redula of Rogers OMNI Filipino TV Edition, and professional photographer Nick Rivera. Many of the PIDC- MPF guests, visitors, attendees, and vendors have delightfully expressed their gratitude and are looking forward to next year's festival. (Tony A. San Juan, OCT).

Filipinos Welcome The Gigantic Return of 2022 Taste of Manila Street Festival in Toronto

TASTE from page 1

20-21 after a 2-year-pandemic break to its original home at Little Manila, Bathurst St., North York, Ontario.

The much-awaited Filipino street festival in Toronto, the biggest in North America, successfully staged its 9th edition before a record 350,000 plus revellers who enjoyed the 2-day festivities organized this year by the International Entertainment Company (IEC) headed by its president Cecille Aranea in a special arrangement with Rolando Mangante, founder and owner of Taste Of Manila, Inc.

With its theme ‘Tuloy Ang Saya’, the public event started its activities from Wilson Avenue and along the stretch of Bathurst Street up to Laurelcrest Avenue and showcased a variety of shows, culinary delights, street foods such as pork and chicken lechon, isaw, kwek-kwek and the world-wide popular balut, music band competitions, street dancing, and quiz & game contests, considered typical of the cultural “scenes, scents, and sights “ of the

Philippines.

Toronto Mayor John Tory, MP & Minister of Public Safety Hon. Marco Mendicino, Philippine Consul General Oron-tes Castro, Members of Parliament Rechie Valdez, Salma Zahid and Ya’ara Saks, Toronto Councillor Mike Colle, PIDC President Agnes Miranda, PCCF President Rosemer Enverga, Megaworld International Exec. Vice President Maria Victoria Acosta, and T.O.M. Founder Rolando Mangante made their respective speeches on Day 1 after a long-well-attended community parade of different community associations that started at 9am at Invermay St..

PhilConGen Orentes Castro also swore in almost 100 new dual citizens on Saturday while Toronto City-York Centre Councillor James Pasternak, MPP-York Centre Michael Kerzner, and MPP-Eglinton Robyn Martin, also attended the event on Day 2, Sunday, where they were also welcomed by another enthusiastic record



crowd which came in throngs after the weather turned bright despite a previous thunderstorm warning from the weather bureau.

The Day 1 colorful parade was participated by various community, professional, and social organizations such as the ABM College, Atomy, Alpha Kappa Rho Soc., Alpha Phi Omega Assoc., AFCA, Association of Filipino Canadian Engineers, BISAC, FCDHS, Filipino Construction Professionals of Ontario, FV Foods, GMA Pinoy TV, Honeylen Events Mgmt., Ifugao Association of Canada, Kababayan Multicultural Centre, Kababaihang Rizalista, Kabayan, Megaworld International, Ontario Filipino Women’s Club, PCCF, PIDC & beauty pageant winners, Pinoy

DJs, RAM Guardians Canada- International & Chapter Associations, Silayan C. C., Smiles Mobile Remittance, and other community-based organizations. The Falon Dafa Marching Band and the Ifugao Association Cultural Troupe delightfully provided the parade’s tempo and rhythm.

Despite the non-presence of popular artists from the Philippines, people flocked the long stretch of Bathurst up to Laurelcrest St. and fully enjoyed the cultural shows presented by IEC that included musical performances and entertainment by local Filipino talents and bands.

The individual singers and dance groups were Josie De Leon, Jenifer Camacho, Maria Panaligan, Ilokano Prince of Songs Vhen Bautista aka Chino Romero, Ryza Quijano, Candace Santos, Shy Garrido, Marky Hugh Talents, JDL school kids, Araceli Salazar and D’ Ageless Dancers. Ron Culianista of Petmalu-Canada TV

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Filipinos take their dual-citizenship oath at the Mabuhay festival.

Herlene Budol on being PH bet in international pageant: ‘Parang isang panaginip’

Herlene Budol is on cloud nine after being named the Philippines’ representative in the upcoming Miss Planet International pageant, admitting that the milestone feels like a dream.

The Binibining Pilipinas 2022 first runner-up opened up on the “tension” she feels about being the country’s candidate to the international pageant via her Facebook page.

“Nararamdaman ko na naman uli ‘yung tension at ‘yung mission na pinangakuan



ko kay Sir Wilbert Tolentino na gagawin ko lahat para sa pamilya ko at ma-inspire ang mga bagong henerasyon,” she said. Tolentino is Budol’s manager and the national director of Miss Planet International Philippines.

OMG! kht andto pa ako sa Coron, Palawan at nag eenjoy ng vacation. nararamdaman ko nanaman uli yung tension at yung...

Budol then expressed gratefulness to Tolentino while looking forward to her preparation for Miss Planet International, as seen in her Facebook post. “Naiiyak at naeexcite ako! Parang isang panaginip nga lang dahil para sa akin, isang malaking karangalan naka-tungtong ako sa national pageant at ngayon naman isasabak na ako sa international level,” she gushed.

“[May] tatlong buwan preparasyon

ang Binibining Pilipinas journey ko at malaking transpor- masyon para sa akin. Ngayon, may tatlong buwan pa rin akong preparasyon para lumaban ako sa Miss Planet In- ternational,” she added. “Gagawin ko ‘tong better version na makakapag-inspire sa mga kabataan because I know for myself that I am uniquely beautiful with a mission.”

OMG!! Naiiyak at na eexcite ako! parang isang panaginip nga lang, dahil para sa akin isang malaking karangalan...Posted by Herlene Hipon Budol on Sunday, August 28, 2022

The Miss Planet International organization confirmed last Monday that Budol is competing in its 2022 edition. Meanwhile, Tolentino noted that Budol will speak in Filipino during her stint in the global pageant, just like she did when she competed in Binibining Pilipinas.

Miss Planet International’s 2022 pageant will be held in Kampala, Uganda, on Nov. 19.



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PBBM vows more local jobs

In his first foreign trip as Chief Executive and first visit to Jakarta, President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. on Sunday vowed to make the Philippines more conducive for tourism and investment and create more jobs at home so Filipinos wouldn't have to chase opportunities abroad.

In Indonesia for three days in his first state visit, Mr. Marcos nevertheless lauded overseas Filipino workers in Jakarta and elsewhere in the Philippines' southern neighbor for becoming "valued members of the local society."

"We made sure to visit on a Sunday on the day-off of the Pinoys here," the President said,

as he looked forward to meeting with Indonesian counterpart Joko Widodo to strengthen their two countries' bilateral relationship and partnership as well as people-to-people ties.

But not losing sight of a campaign promise that helped sweep him to power via landslide in the May 9 elections, Mr. Marcos stressed he brought along his economic managers and House Speaker Martin Romualdez to show OFWs "that the country will rise again."

"Your success here makes us proud back home. We dream that the day will come when Filipinos will only travel abroad to work because it is their choice, not because they don't have any other option. Ito ang aking pangako na tutuparin ko bilang bago niyong Pangulo

Janno Gibbs Anjo Yllana on modern brand of comedy

The style of comedy that was popular back in the '90s is still somewhat relevant today, according to veteran comedians Anjo Yllana and Janno Gibbs.

During the recent virtual media conference of their newest film Hello, Universe for Vivamax, the two who were also joined by Gene Padilla shared how they merged the classic and modern brands of comedy to engage the younger generation of audiences.



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as his "favorite person." "I don't know why. On- and off-(cam), vibes kami even if magkaiba kami ng ugali," and he joked, "Babaero siya, ako hindi (laughs)."

"We are like brothers," Janno interjected. "That's why we call each other 'tol.'"

Hello, Universe is Xian's second movie as a filmmaker after Cinemalaya's Tabon in 2019. He also directed Pasabuy, a WeTV original six-episode series, starring Gino Roque and Heaven Peralejo.

Willie trip tsugihin ang network war

Wala pang specific date, pero tulad ng una nang napabalita ngayong buwan magbukas ang network ng dating senador na si Manny Villar.

Sabi dati ni Wil parang gusto nila mawala ung exclusivity ung free gumawa ang artista ng project sa kahit anong network, baka kaya ALL saka for Unity na rin. haha"

Bongga kung matsugi ni Willie ang network war.

K-Pop idol Chanty becomes emotional as she recalls her days with ABS-CBN

Chanty remarked that she was able to utilize her learnings from ABS-CBN during her K-Pop training in Korea.

Lapillus member Chanty could not help but be emotional after walking down memory lane and seeing a clip of her previous ABS-CBN show during her guest appearance

(this is the promise I will fulfill as your new President)," he said.

"Together, we will make the Philippines more conducive to tourism, for investment, at the same time creating more jobs for the economy. I am fully committed to revitalizing our country's agricultural industry," the President, who is concurrent Agriculture Secretary, said of his delegation.

Mr. Marcos thanked the Filipino community for their love of the country and their sacrifices abroad, assuring them the new Department of Migrant Workers would be fully operational in 2023 under Secretary Susan "Toots" Ople.

in PIE Channel's Piegalingan.

"Na-touch ako, grabe. Super na-touch ako kasi 'yun nga, ang dami kong na-experience dito sa ABS-CBN. Super grateful ako sa lahat nang natutunan ko dito and dahil sa experience ko dito, nadala ko siya sa Korea," a teary-eyed Chanty said.

Chanty relayed that her experiences in the Kapamilya network became her foundation to thrive in her training in Korea as a K-Pop idol.

"Iyon 'yung nagbigay sa akin ng strength and ng motivation to keep going kasi sobrang hirap talaga ang training sa Korea nung time na 'yun especially hindi ko rin alam kung ano 'yung magiging reaction, like how it is going to go after our debut or magde-debut talaga ako so super nag-risk ako



and yeah super grateful ako. Na-touch ako nakita ko 'yung sarili ko," she said.

The K-Pop star was also asked how she feels visiting the Philippines again after two years of training in Korea.

"Hindi ako makapaniwala kasi two years na since bumalik ako dito so parang feeling ko nananaginip ako at ang sarap sa tainga pagdating namin sa airport Tagalog 'yung naririnig ko," she shared.

Chanty also extended her gratitude to their Filipino fans for the warm welcome they received.

"Super grateful ako and humbled kasi paglapag na paglapag namin dito ang aming mga fans ang positive nang pag-welcome sa amin," she stated.

On what she missed most about the Philippines, Chanty confessed that she misses the food.

"Pinakbet, daing, 'yung mga ganun, champorado, langka, 'yung mga ganyan," she said.

It was in June when Chanty made her debut as a K-Pop idol as part of Lapillus.

The music video for their debut single "Hit Ya" premiered on June 20.

"One of the charming points of our group is that we're so diverse, we come from different backgrounds, we speak many languages so if we go to a certain country, we could communicate with our fans there," she said in a virtual interview with the Philippine media back in June.

"Since we just debuted, we're going to focus on our promotions here in Korea, but our company as well as Lapillus, we have this desire to go more global and meet our global fans as well. For now, we only have English lines with the lyrics. Maybe in the long run, it could be possible [to include Filipino lines]. Who knows?" she added.

Lapillus is composed of six members from different backgrounds including Chanty (Filipino-Argentinian), Bessie (Korean), Seowon (Korean), Haeun (Korean), Shana (Japanese), and Yue (Chinese-American).

Miss Universe 2022 postponed to next year

Two pageants are likely to be held in 2023. There will be no Miss Universe pageant this year, with the 2022 winner likely to be crowned in the first half of next year, sources have confirmed to The National. An official announcement is set to be made soon.

While no reason has been given for the postponement, it is probable that two Miss Universe pageants will be held next year, with the 2023 winner being crowned later in the year.



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89k 'students-in-crisis' receive educational aid on 3rd Day of DSWD distribution

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) conducts an educational assistance payout in Victoria, Tarlac on September 3, 2022. (DSWD)

Nearly 90,000 students in crisis situation have received a one-time cash assistance from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) on the third day of the agency's Educational Assistance Payout on Saturday, Sept. 3.

DSWD's consolidated report showed that P225.37 million in educational aid was dis-

tributed to 89,736 student-beneficiaries on Sept. 3. Of the total student-beneficiaries, 27,458 are in elementary (P27.44 million); 19,628 are in junior high school (P39.08 million); 12,454 in senior high school (P38.05 million); and 30,196 in college/vocational school (P120.78 million).

Each beneficiary is given cash assistance amounting to P1,000 for those in elementary, P2,000 in junior high school, P3,000 in senior high school, and P4,000 in college or vocational school.

The educational assistance under the DSWD's Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situations or AICS program is intended to help students in crisis or emergency situations. Considered students-in-crisis are breadwinners, working students, orphans/abandoned and living with relatives, children of a single parent, children whose parents are unemployed, children of an overseas Filipino worker, victims of child abuse, have a parent with human immunodeficiency virus or HIV, and victims of calamity or disaster.

ter. The DSWD will conduct payouts every Saturday until Sept. 24.

“Same guidelines [will be followed]. Only those with text confirmation after their online registration will be processed. No walk-in applicants,” said DSWD spokesperson Assistant Secretary Romel Lopez pointed out.

He said that some DSWD field offices are now processing educational assistance during weekdays to hasten the distribution of cash assistance.

'Parsley into Filipino Adobo?': *Uncle Roger* blasts *Geoffrey Zakarian's* take on *Adobo*

MANILA, Philippines — “What you doing, suit nephew?” Uncle Roger had that to say when he watched American chef Geoffrey Zakarian make his version of Filipino Adobo.

On his YouTube channel, Uncle Roger basically roasted Zakarian's take on the world-famous Filipino viand.

“Geoffrey wearing suit to make Asian food. Haiyaa, Uncle Roger don’t have good feeling about this,” the Malaysian online personality said.

As Zakarian proceeded to cook the Adobo, viewers could see how Uncle Roger commented on how the chef used low sodium instead of regular soy sauce, not putting enough garlic, and using habanero instead of the usual chili variety used in Filipino cooking.

“For Asian cooking, garlic is like money; it’s never enough. Don’t tease us with your five slices of garlic,” Uncle Roger said at one point.

He also pointed out that habaneros do



not grow in the Philippines.

Uncle Roger noted how watery this version of Adobo is but he raised row and even had a kneejerk reaction by putting down his foot from its usual position on his chair when Zakarian topped his Adobo with parsley.

“Parsley into Filipino Adobo? Uncle Roger is so upset, I put my leg down from chair. Parsley don’t belong in Asian food. You’re not making pasta,” he exclaimed.

He also made a dig at Jamie Oliver, by jokingly asking if the American chef has his Adobo at the popular British chef's restaurant.

Many Filipinos agreed with Uncle Roger's comments.

“As a Filipino, seeing Uncle Roger’s knowledge with Filipino food makes me wanna call him ‘Tito Roger,’” user Blah-WasTaken wrote.

Bobakoi26 noted how the chef “Americanized” the dish. “As someone who is Filipino, this is how American chefs try to ‘Americanize’ Asian dishes and they get the cooking instructions all wrong haiyaa.”

Another echoed Uncle Roger's earlier comment that Adobo is a recipe that has many varieties and is not hard to mess with.

“To the non-Filipinos or those who don’t know a lot about Filipino culture in general, I feel obligated to tell you all that it is VERY HARD to mess up Adobo. There are literally almost no rules to this dish and a lot of recipes are different depending on what region you are in and etc., but this guy still somehow managed to mess it up,” netizen Bruh posted. — Video from MrNigelNg YouTube channel



PIDC president Agnes Miranda is interviewed by ABS-CBN correspondent Christine Santos while Ryan Orlanda assists.

Kim Chiu Shares Sweet Reunion W/ Xian Lim After Star Magic Tour

It's Showtime host Kim Chiu reunites with her boyfriend Xian Lim after her Star Magic tour.

Kim Chiu is a well-known actress and tv host in the Philippines. She rose to fame after winning Kapamilya's reality tv show 'Pinoy Big Brother.'

The Chinita Princess is in a relationship with Kapuso actor Xian Lim. From being onscreen partners in several tv series and movies, they became a couple in real life.



They are known together as the KimXi tandem.

Kim Xi's last big-screen project was their 2014 rom-com movie "Past Tense," but have since worked together in the 2020 tv drama series "Love Thy Woman." Other films where they starred together include "Bride for Rent" and "Bakit Hindi ka Crush ng Crush Mo?"

The celebrity couple previously announced that they are set to reunite on a film together after eight (8) years. Xian teased about it on his IG page while Kim reposted her boyfriend's post via her IG stories.

Kim Chiu and Xian Lim have been away from each other for almost a month. The 32-year-old actress was among the several Star Magic artists featured in the

Beyond the Stars concert tour.

It is her first time performing abroad after 2 years of lockdowns due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The tour concluded last Aug. 14 in California after 3 successful stops in San Francisco, New York, and Los Angeles.

In a post on her Instagram account last August 18, Kim posted a reel showing her sweet reunion with Xian.

In the caption of the post, she wrote, "Finally!! complete again after almost a month! huggsss!!!! @ xianlimm"

In the comment section, Xian wrote "Awwwwwww," followed by a string of red hearts and smiling emojis.

[illegible]

Star Magic’s 30th Anniversary Concert ‘Beyond The Stars’ Completes A Coast-To-Coast US Tour With A SoCal Extravaganza



The members of the Star Magic tour perform their final show at the Saban Theater in Beverly Hills.

Star Magic’s 30th Anniversary Concert “Beyond the Stars” culminated their three-city concert tour at the Saban Theater in Beverly Hills on Monday, August 14, marking the return of Star Magicon the live concert stages in the U.S. after two years.

With 20 of Star Magic’s brightest talents from the Philippines, “Beyond the Stars” showcased what Filipino and international audiences always expect from ABS-CBN shows: excellence.

The tour kicked off in New York City, where the young stars performed for its discerning audiences. The next stop was San Francisco for a legacy-laced show at the historical home of the Filipino American diaspora. And the tour’s finale was in the hub of global entertainment Los Angeles. The young stars dazzled thousands across the U.S.—claiming their place as some of the top performers in the world.

“Music is the key to helping us penetrate the Latin American market,” said Jun Del Rosario, Managing Director of ABS-CBN Global. “We have shown the world how amazing our singers and performers are, and I feel our music will bridge our culture with theirs.”

And to further fortify their skills and talents, some of the Star Magic members said they enrolled in performance workshops in Los Angeles; lauded and supported by the network’s leaders and the community.

5 Times Andrea Brillantes Was All of Us When Traveling *Without* an S.O.

She’s been posting the most relatable moments on social media!
Just last month, Star Magic’s biggest Gen Z stars

flew to New York City to kick off its 30th anniversary U.S. tour. Since then, we’ve been ~*blessed*~ with the cutest interactions among our favorite celebs and love teams, such as Donny Pangilinan, Belle Mariano, KD Estrada, Alexa Ilacad, Andrea Brillantes, and more!
We got *kilig* over DonBelle’s matching OOTDs and KDLex’s sweet moments in New York, but what



also caught our attention was Andrea’s funny posts that are typical of those who are traveling without an S.O. The young actress, who’s in a relationship with celebrity basketball player Ricci Rivero (who sadly isn’t part of the trip), had the most *relatable* moments below!



“jowa.” The Gen Z star took it to Twitter to express her ~feels~.
2. When she tagged along KDLex’s date.



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Life’s brighter under the sun



Because her own S.O. was thousands of miles away, Andrea went third-wheeling with her friends Alexa and KD instead.
3. When she wanted to hug a friend because she misses her S.O. so much: “Pa-hug, namimiss ko jowa ko eh.” Thankfully, Maris Racal was there as a willing substitute.

4. When she was shooting a solo TikTok and got photobombed by her “couple” friends.



She’s shooting ~solo~ content while her friends are being sweet on the background. Classic!
5. When she was the only one without a ~partner~ in their group photo. It seemed like everybody paired up and Andrea was the only one left without a partner. LOL!

When we can go out again, it will be on a Honda!

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Alodia Gosiengfiao states in gaming language:
‘Maraming bawal na pala
ang to sleep with other girls’

Alodia Gosiengfiao intrigued fans after she addressed her “past relationship” and dropped a cryptic message using Al Bhed, a language from the video game Final Fantasy X.

The cosplayer-vlogger alluded to her past relationship “since 2018,” seemingly implying that her partner at the time cheated and slept with other women, as per a post on her Facebook page last Saturday, Aug. 13.

“Synsehk pyfym’ eh so bycd namydeuhcreb? Ug, E teth’d ghuf “synsehk pyfym” hy bymy yhk du cmaab fedr udran kenmc cehla 2018 frah oui’na cdemm eh y namydeuhcreb. ‘te py pycel myhk oih? Dpr, E drehg fa yna rybbo fedr uin bnacahd. Sa, E ys. Bmayca cdub icehk uin bycd yc luhdahd,” Gosiengfiao said.

That message translates to:

“‘Maraming bawal’ in my past relationship? OK, I didn’t know ‘maraming bawal’ na pala ang to sleep with other girls since

2018 when you’re still in a relationship. ‘Di ba basic lang ‘yun? [To be honest], I think we are happy with our present. Me, I am. Please stop using our past as content.”

While Gosiengfiao did not name anyone or expound on who said “maraming bawal,” it can be noted that her relationship with ex-boyfriend and fellow vlogger Wil Dasovich was confirmed in 2018. Gosiengfiao then announced their split in November last year, but opted not to disclose the cause of the breakup.



Meanwhile, Gosiengfiao is set to tie the knot with her non-showbiz boyfriend, businessman Christopher Quimbo, while Dasovich recently introduced to his parents his rumored girlfriend, actress-model Carla Humphries.

What makes Elijah Canlas & Miles Ocampo click?

“She doesn’t feel like an artista, but a real human being. I guess you will naturally find a connection if you’re both honest and true,” said actor Elijah Canlas, who claimed to have never really imagined himself dating a fellow actor until he met Miles Ocampo.

In 2020, Elijah and Miles worked on the TV5 teleserye “Paano ang Pangako?” Elijah insisted that he didn’t court Miles while they were working on the show, but afterwards, “because I wanted to stay professional.”

“We hardly talked on the set even though we were romantically paired in the story. We were comfortable with each other pero may kanya-kanya kaming mundo. I didn’t think of her until we shot the whole thing. I swear on this! Just ask the people in my life. I’ve long been saying that I’m not interested in dating artistas, but for some reason, Miles is more than that,” Elijah told Inquirer Entertainment in a recent virtual chat.



there who will trust us and make a story with us, we promise that we won’t let you down,” he declared.

“Since we both studied film, we can also write something on our own and just make it by ourselves, but at this point, we both lack the time to do this.”

“We’re really excited to work together again. We feel that we will be able to bring out the best in each other because even now, while working on different projects, we’re very involved in helping create each of our characters,” he pointed out.

“We discuss work a lot. I changed my hair color for ‘Suntok sa Buwan’ and suggested that she change hers, too. For a while, she had orange hair. I would also get a copy of her script and write my notes and observations for her. She does the same for my script. We’re like that as a couple.”

The recent Zoom chat with Inquirer Entertainment was to promote his latest film project, Ma-an Asuncion-Dagnalan’s “Blue Room,” which is an entry to the 18th Cinemalaya Philippine Independent Film Festival.



kaila na may fuerza at lakas ang batalyong San Jose kaya ilang oras namayagpag ang kanyang pangalan bilang hashtag, In fair Verona sa fans ng Limitless Star, walang limit ang kanilang sipag at tiyaga na paingayin ang panganlan ng kanilang iniidolo.

Kung iyong sisilipin ang trending hasgtag patungkol sa kasintahan ni Rayver Cruz, makikita rito ang maikling video para sa opening number sa “All Out Sundays” sa ka-Siyete,

Puring-puri ang “cute smile” at obviously blooming nitong karikitan. Siempre pa, hindi na natin kailangan sauluhin pa kung bakit mas maganda siya ngayon kesa sa dati. At mas all natural looking ang make up niya. Less is more ang drama ni San Jose kaya litaw na litaw ang kanyang gandang Filipina.

At aliw na aliw siyempre ang mga barakong totoo, sa kanyang pakili-kili reveal na talaga namang makinis at maputi.

Ang pinakamalaking bentahe siyempre ni Julie Anne, eh ang katotohanan na ang dating pwesto ni Asia’s Songbird Regine Velasquez-Alcasid, eh siya na ang humalili at no one can out birit or out shine her kahit pa nga may considerable bilang ng mga biritera sa AOS.

Naway ang pagiging trending topic ni Julie Anne San Jose ay maging palagian para naman mas marami ang hindi lang maging mausisa, kundi maging tagahanga niya rin.

Walang halong kiyeme latik, malaking tulong ang presensya at pagmamahal ni Rayver Cruz sa kanya kaya mas lumakas ang kanyang pang-hatak at karisma sa kasulukuyan. Ikaw na ang babaing higit na pinagpala sa babaing lahat, binibining Julie Anne San Jose.

Jaya then expressed admiration to her husband and three kids, who are coping from the incident by supporting each other despite feeling afraid and helpless. The singer also thanked her friends and loved ones both from the U.S. and Philippines whose “love, kind and inspiring words are so overwhelming.”

“We are tired, fatigued, heartbroken



but not defeated. We still catch ourselves cry in secret, but we are alright,” she said. “We are humbled by this experience. Now we know not to take anything for granted. We now move forward, one day at a time.”

“Thank God we still have work that can help keep our minds busy. We will continue to love, live, laugh, sing, dance, create new memories [and] remain hopeful,” she added.

Old souls

When asked what he thought makes him and Miles click, the 21-year-old replied: “We were discussing this only recently—why we think we are compatible—and we realized that it’s because of a lot of reasons. One is that we’re both old souls. On the negative side, we both tend to overthink. We’re also very passionate about what we do. We find a lot of things funny about each other. For some reason, even if I’m really taking myself seriously, she would laugh really hard at me. I’ve never done comedy in my life, but I feel like I’m a comedian in front of her. Miles is naturally bubbly and funny.”

Elijah also swore that his four-year age gap with Miles, 25, has never become an issue. “I’m turning 22 in a couple of weeks, but you ask her who the real boss is between us,” he said, laughing. “It’s never an issue for us because we’re always on the same wavelength. It’s also weird that we’re not super close with people our age. We hang out with friends who are older than us.”

Elijah said he hoped to work with Miles again soon. “That’s one of our wishes. I hope it happens soon. If there are filmmakers out

Blue Room

According to Ma-an, there is an actual Blue Room in most police precincts, which functions as a holding room for VIP detainees. “For the film, it’s where the band members were detained while negotiating for their release,” the director explained.

Elijah described his character as “probably one of the more serious ones in the group.” He explained: “We all have drama scenes but Troy’s past is going to get dug up. The incident will cause his past to unravel.”

Julie Anne pumalit sa puwesto ni Regine

Palaban si Kapuso Limitless Star Julie Anne San Jose sa pagiging trending topic sa pa-woke universe na Twitter. Of course, kahit hindi siya numero uno, hindi maka-

Jaya overwhelmed by help after house
burned down in US: ‘We’re humbled by this
experience’

Jaya has nothing but gratitude to those who extended support to her family, after their house in the United States got damaged by fire due to electrical issues.

“Thank God, my husband Gary calmly took control and [led] us to safety. Our son Gavin helped big time as well, but lost all of his possessions, but miraculously, his Bible, wallet [and] passport were untouched by fire!” she stated.

Right after the fire, Jaya received help from her neighbors.

Belle Mariano is first Filipina to win at Seoul
International Drama Awards

MANILA, Philippines — “He’s Into Her” star Belle Mariano won the Outstanding Asian Star award at the 17th Seoul International Drama Awards.

Rise Artists Studio, ABS-CBN Films’ talent management confirmed in an Instagram post Belle’s win as the first Filipina to bag the award.

“Congrats Belle for winning the ‘OUTSTANDING ASIAN STAR’ in the Seoul International Drama Awards,” Rise Artists said. “Rise Fam is very proud of you!” Belle’s victory comes after the back-to-back wins of Kapuso stars Alden Richards and Dingdong Dantes in 2019 and 2020, respectively.

Mariano will be joining the other honorees in a formal awarding in Seoul, South Korea, to be broadcast live on KBS 2TV on September 22.

Belle and her “He’s Into Her” co-star Donny Pangilinan were both nominated individually for the Outstanding Asian Star cup.

Also known as “DonBelle,” the pair also co-starred in “Love Is Color Blind” and will release an upcoming film, “An Inconvenient Love,” which will mark Star Cinema’s theatrical comeback this year.





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Alex ‘nabobo’ kay Billy

Nais sanang maki-‘Marites’ ni Alex Gonzaga sa latest ganap sa buhay ni Billy Crawford. Ang problema, may language barrier between them.



Nag-post kasi si Billy ng interview sa kanya para sa nalalapit na pagsali niya sa “Danse avec les Stars” (Dancing With The Stars), sa kanyang Instagram. Hindi siya nag-Tagalog, hindi rin nag-English.

Nag-French si Billy. Na ikinaloka ni Alex. “Daddy Bills ano pinagsasabi mo dito? Talagang wala akong maintindihan! Send help @billycrawford (laughing emojis),” say ni Alex.

Wala rin namang translation sa post ni Billy. Paano na ‘yan Alex? Hahaha!

Pero kasi, ang post na iyon ay para sa mga French fan ni Billy, at hindi para sa mga sawsawerang Pinoy, dahil sa France nga ang naturang palabas.

Kahit sa comment section nga ay mga French din ang mababasa, at tanging si Alex nga ang naiba sa lahat.

Well, meron namang isa na hindi nag-French. Ang asawa ni Billy na si Coleen Garcia.

“Can’t waitttt! You’re gonna kill it, my love @billycrawford (high five/flame/white heart emojis),” sabi ni Coleen.

Nagpaulan naman ng “I love you” ang mister niya.

Nagbalik nga si Billy sa Paris, France kung saan umusbong ang kanyang singing at dancing career nang bongga noon bago pa siya muling yakapin ng mga Pinoy as an artist. Excited na rin ang kanyang mga French fan na makita siyang muli doon sa pagsali niya sa DALS.

Jericho, Piolo hot pa rin sa mga beki

Walang sayang na oras sa pagkakatengga ni Jericho Rosales na acting career, dahil kung anong-anong mga raket ang pinapasukan niya.

Kamakailan ay nasa opening siya ng Landers Superstore sa UP Town Center. Dumalo rin siya sa premiere showing ng “Lord of The Rings” sa Singapore.



Kinilig ang mga netizen sa kaguwapuhan ni Jericho na hindi man lang napingasan sa pag-usad ng panahon. Maihalintulad si Jericho kay Piolo Pascual na mas lalong naging katamtakam sa mga babae at bakla.

Ang pagkakaiba lang, mas malakas ang loob ni Jericho na mag-explore sa fashion; hairstyle, outfit, shoes at iba pa, kaya naman parang palaging nire-re-invent ng aktor ang kanyang look.



3. April with couple Nenita & Harold Guarin pose at the end Taste of Manila (ToM) 2022 festival.

4. ToM’s Jim Torres, Taste of manila founder Rolly Mangante and wife Nieves, and Roadsport Honda’s Harold Guarin pose at the end of recently-concluded, highly successful Taste of Manila 2022 festival.



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“September tries its best to have us forget summer.” BERNARD WILLIAMS

Taste of Manila 2022 really proved Tuloy Ang Saya

After two pandemic years where nothing happened, no one was able to come out anytime, anywhere, Taste of Manila street festival really lived up to their rallying cry “tuloy ang Saya” which literally translates to “continue the enjoyment.”

As the weeks leading to the festival was getting closer, I was watching the daily forecast for the two days the festival. Two weeks before, both August 20 and 21 were forecast to be rain and thunderstorms. Then, the forecast for



Ron Culianista takes a selfie showing the huge appreciative crowd on Day 1 of the “2022 Tuloy Ang Saya Sa Taste of Manila Festival.”

the 20th changed to cloudy. That was

great. Scarily, the forecast for the 21st did not change from 70% rain and thunderstorms to either sunny or at least, cloudy. Thankfully, on the day itself, the rain actually held abck until at 9 in the evening when everything was packed up already.

The festival started well and ended well.



The day 1 parade had a huge turnout of participants with no less than 40 community groups.

Saturday started with a parade.

Surprisingly, there was another parade on Sunday where Councillor Pasternak, Solicitor General MPP Michael S. Kerzner and MPP-Eglinton Robyn Martin attended.

The crowds happily attended both events and they enjoyed all the food, the shows, the games and other offerings by the vendors.

See you at Taste of Manila 2023.

Aiko Melendez’s son Andre on dad Jomari Yllana: ‘Nasanay na ako na wala siya’



Aiko Melendez, Jomari Yllana and their son Andre. Image: Instagram/@aikomelendez, @andreyllana

Andre Yllana, Aiko Melendez’s son with former husband Jomari Yllana, admitted that although he currently shares a good relationship with his father, the young actor is used to Jomari’s absence in his life.

Andre disclosed that while he is happy that he and Jomari are getting along with each other, the longing he has for his father is not the same as before. Andre talked about this during a conversation with Melendez, as seen in a vlog on her YouTube channel yesterday, Aug. 14.

“Minsan kasi may mga bagay na it’s too late na. Siguro ‘yung thirst ko for a father dati, hindi na rin gano’n – kung dati grabe ako maghabol kay dad, siguro nasanay na rin ako na parang wala siya,” Andre said.

(Sometimes, it is already too late for some things. Maybe my thirst for a father now is not the same as before. If before, I used to reach out to him too much,

maybe now I am used to not having him by my side.)

“Kaya pasensya na rin dad kung may mga times na nakakalimutan kita,” he added, addressing Jomari. (So I am also sorry dad if there are times when I forget about you.)

Andre also recalled the instances when he tried to reunite his parents by lying and saying compliments for the both of them, making them believe that the compliments were from each other. Andre then stressed that although his parents did not get back together, he never hated his dad for their setup.

“Kahit ano namang mangyari, I’ll always still be here for you through thick and thin, kaso nga lang like I said, may mga bagay na hindi na kasing init dati,” he told Jomari. “Sana ‘yung mistake mo dati sa akin ‘wag mo nang ulitin sa mga kapatid ko dahil bata pa sila.” (Whatever happens, I will always still be here for you through thick and thin. But just like what I said, there are things that are not like how they were before. I hope you do not repeat the same mistake you had with me to my siblings because they are still young.)

During the conversation, Andre also expressed his hopes of having a complete family and being “the best father” in the future, as he knows how hard it is to long for a father.

Melendez and Jomari got married in 2000 and separated about a year after. Their marriage was annulled in 2003. In 2006, Melendez married model Martin Jickain, with whom she shares her daughter Marthena; their

marriage got annulled in 2010. Melendez is currently in a relationship with Zambales congressman Jay Khonghun.

Vice Ganda dismisses rumors he broke up with Ion Perez: ‘Masaya kami’

Vice Ganda shut down rumors that he and his partner Ion Perez have broken up, stating that they recently spent time apart only to keep the “balance” in their relationship.

The comedian admitted that he cried because he missed Perez who recently came back from a trip to Japan, as seen in an episode of the noontime variety show “It’s Showtime” on its YouTube channel last Aug. 17.

“Magmula kasi nung nag-pandemic, ‘di ba nagsama kami sa bahay, tapos hindi na kami nagkaroon ng time na maghiwalay nang matagal,” he said. “Pero kasama ko ‘yung pamilya ko nung wala siya [para] balance. Nagpunta siya ng Japan kasama niya ‘yung pamilya niya, nagpunta naman akong Bohol kasama pamilya ko – bala-balanse [para may] time with our family.”

(When the pandemic started, we decided to live together and since then, we have not had the time to be

separated from each other for a long period of time. But I was with my family when he left [for Japan] so there could be balance. He went to Japan with his family while I went to Bohol with my family. [We did it] to have balance [in our relationship] and to allot time for our families.)

Vice Ganda and Perez were then cheered by their fans after the couple greeted them and addressed the breakup speculations hounding their relationship.

“Masaya kami. ‘Wag kayong gumagawa ng mga ano, mga chismosa kayo. [Sabi nila] hiwalay na daw kami ni Ion,” Vice Ganda stated while he and his fellow hosts laughed at the issue. (We are happy. Do not make up [stories], you gossipmongers. They are spreading rumors that Ion and I already broke up.)

While the comedian did not elaborate how the rumors came up, it can be noted that entertainment columnist Cristy Fermin earlier speculated that the couple’s relationship may be on the rocks lately. Fermin’s statement, which can be seen in her YouTube vlog last Aug. 12, came after Vice Ganda disclosed that the “past few months have not been easy” for him.

Vice Ganda and Perez confirmed their relationship in 2019, revealing that they have already been dating for a year at the time. The couple then got engaged in 2020, and had a wedding commitment ceremony in Las Vegas last February.



1



2



3

SCENES FROM TASTE OF MANILA 2022

1. The youngest dancer of D’Ageless Dancers joins the fun.
2. Gabby Amurao and wife of sells a lot of their Porkie chicharon.
3. Fv Foods owner Mel Galeon happily packs up after a successful weekend.



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Filipinos Welcome The Gigantic Return of 2022 Taste of Manila Street Festival in Toronto

TASTE from page 5
hosted the “Battle of the Bands” finals, with 6 finalists Broken Stones, JM Band, Dos and Don’ts, Bubble Gam, Noise Gate, and Cross Rock. The 6 bands together with the Manila Flavor band attracted and

engaged most of the enthusiastic crowd with flashes of dancing, singing, and mirthful motions.
Over 100 tents and booths were set up to accommodate different vendors, sponsors, and businesses offering and selling

cooked food, desserts, snacks, dry merchandise and clothes, specialty products, professional & education services, and a host of other stuff under the cooperative weather. Guests, visitors, vendors, and revelers estimated by the Toronto Police

as relayed to TOM officials at more than 350,000 two-day total, are all looking forward to next year’s Taste of Manila Festival 2023 repeat staging. (Photos courtesy of TOM-IEC & LMC with reports from Mon Datol & Tony San Juan).



Liza Soberano is making her Hollywood debut

It's confirmed. We're finally seeing Liza Soberano in a Hollywood film!

Soberano will star in Focus Features' upcoming Hollywood horror-comedy film Lisa Frankenstein, alongside Hollywood stars, Cole Sprouse and Kathryn Newton.

On August 12, the Filipino-American actress confirmed her involvement in the project by posting a screenshot of the article published by Deadline on Instagram.



"Ecstatic to be part of this film," she wrote on her Instagram post.

She took over the top trending list shortly after her announcement. Of course, now that Soberano is confirmed to pursue her international career, her fans couldn't be more proud and excited!

It can be remembered that the Filipino-American actress left her management of 11 years and signed with Careless Music last June. With the hopes of exploring Hollywood, she's now being managed by co-actor James Reid and his team. And it can't be denied that she's off to a great start.



Indeed, aside from having a face "that can launch a thousand ships," the actress also has what it takes when it comes to acting.

She had various local projects which endeared herself to the public with performances in some teleseryes like Forevermore, Dolce Amore, and Bagani and movies Everyday I Love You, My Ex and Whys, and Alone Together. Her last project is the Filipino anime series Trese in which she lent her voice to the titular character, Alexandra Trese.

Liza Soberano may be the Darna we never had, but hey, maybe she's meant for something "greater."

SCENES IN THE CITY



Solicitor General MPP Michael S. Kerzner poses at Aki's Bayong booth with IEC Cecille Araneta. at taste of Manila 2022.



Anne Agustin, Ian Santillan, Rianneh Greeley, Cecille Araneta and lanezza Muñoz Greeley gets photographed in candid moment at Taste of Manila 2022.

'I'm now knowledgable,' Ruffa Gutierrez

Actress-beauty queen Ruffa Gutierrez is already well on her way earning her master's degree.

She just finished college, graduating with a bachelor's degree in communication arts from the Philippine Women's University.

Asked why she's taking it to another level, she related, "You know, kung sakaling gusto kong mag-quit sa pagiging artista ko, I can do other things because I'm now knowledgable."

Finishing college at the of 48, Ruffa couldn't be happier.

"I'm very excited, I'm very proud. Talagang graduate na ako. I'm really a degree holder. I realize that you can graduate at any age," she said.

"For me you know, education is very important. Gusto ko magsilbing inspirasyon sa mga anak ko, for Lorin and Venice. As a single mom, I worked so hard. Nag-stop ako after high school kasi I made the most of my opportunities that were coming my way back then. But it's never too late to go back to school."



ABOVE, Emely Abuno Gavin and daughter Samantha enjoy Mabuhay festival. LEFT, Arielle Abrazaldo joins the Santacruzans at the Mabuhay festival.



Realtor and Pinoy News publisher Joy D'aoust and husband Warren pose with fashion designer Renee Salud.



Emcee L.A. Bonzon, singers Shairah Garrido, Ryza Quijano, Maria Panaligan and emcee Pat Surigao post at Taste of Manila 2022.



Singers Ryza Quijano and Maria Panaligan pose with Cecille Araneta at taste of Manila 2022.



Special Guests (L-R):rs. PIDC Sherry Lacson, GMA Consltant Rosemer Enverga, Consul General Orontes Castro, Mayor John Tory, Councillor Mike Colle MPs Salma Zahid, Rechie Valdez & WFG's Agnes Miranda, TOM founder Rolly Mangante and wife Nieves



Nan-ing Tait & Araceli Salazar (middle) with the D' Ageless Dancers troupe at T.O.M.



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Gary Valenciano on ‘healthy competition’

Gary Valenciano is no stranger to so-called rivalries.

His decades long tenure in showbiz taught him so much about it.

He shared how he had to deal with a certain “competition” that kept him on his toes all these years.

“It was this guy name Martin Nievera,” he said with a smile. “He’s like, my ‘forever competitor.’”

Gary believes competition is important for an artist.

“Otherwise we get lax. We get overconfident – we can sit back and settle with ‘Okay na yun,’” he said.

He feels the same way with his show “ASAP” being pitted against “All Out Sundays.”

“We’re not looking over our shoulders para makita namin kung anong ginagawa nila. And I think they’re also doing the same thing. They just know that ‘Hey, there’s another show at the other side and we just have to be on our toes all the time.’”

Just recently, Gary found himself collaborating with an “All Out Sundays” regular, Asia’s Limitless Star Julie Anne San Jose.

They have recorded a song called “Di Ka Akin” released under Universal Records.

According to Gary, he was impressed with the beauty of the song, more so after learning that Julie Anne herself wrote it.

He was also captivated by her voice.

For the OPM icon, working with a young, versatile artist like Julie Anne is a great opportunity that does not come very often and shouldn’t be missed.

Of course, Gary has collaborated prior



with so many other artists, all of whom have gone to carve illustrious careers on their own.

How does he feel about him being sought by many in the industry as collaborator?

Gary feels honored about it but there’s “pressure.”

“I love it that I could serve people this way. But there’s pressure too, in that, you want to make sure that you are able to impart something that is not just good for the moment but something that would last. Something that they can treasure their whole lives.”

Heart Evangelista opens up on struggles

Sa pinakahuling Youtube vlog na in-upload ni Heart Evangelista nitong Biyernes, ika-5 ng Setyembre, ay inamin ng actress-vlogger na totoong meron siyang pinagdadaanan sa kanyang personal na buhay.

“How’s life? You know I’ve always been such a happy person and I’ve always been somebody who just goes against the tides and just let the waves crash on me,” pagbabahagi ni Heart.

“I’m not gonna lie, I’ve been through a lot of personal stuff in my mind but you know at the end of the day I’m still very grateful and as long as there is life, there’s hope,” pagtatapat pa niya. Matatandaang ilang araw na ring laman ng mga blind item si Heart at ang asawa niyang si Senator Chiz Escudero na diumano’y hiwalay na.

Nagsimula ito nang tanggalin ni Heart ang “Escudero” sa profile name ng kanyang Instagram account. Hindi naman naging specific si Heart kung tungkol nga dito ang kanyang mga emote.

Sabi pa niya: “I’m not gonna deny that I’ve been going through, like, some personal struggles... I feel a lot of pressure in my life. Basically now, I’m really in search of just being happy.” Kilala si Heart sa pagbili ng mga signature at branded na gamit pero aniya, mas natututunan niya ngayong bigyang halaga ang mga simpleng bagay gaya ng pakikipag-bonding sa kanyang mga pets. “It’s about the simplest things in life that are very important and that really make a person happy, and that’s where I’m at now. Just really appreciating all the small moments and Panda, Shutti, all the love that I feel,” aniya.

Nabanggit din ni Heart sa kanyang vlog ang usapin ng pa-



giging independent niya. “It feels good to be empowered and know that you can do things on your own no matter how hard certain situations in your company, in your workplace, or the people around you, or what weighs you down,” sey niya.

“At the end of the day, it’s really your inner strength and you being independent about what you want to do in life, and not rely on anyone that matters,” sambit ni Heart.

Ibinalita rin ng aktres na may magiging mga pagbabago sa kanyang YouTube channel dahil mas ipapakita niya raw ang mga “unfiltered version” ng kanyang buhay.

Aniya: “At the end of the day, I feel like it’s so important to always be authentic and really stay true to yourself whether people agree with you or not. It’s about living your life and if somebody out there relates to you, that’s wonderful!”

Kataka-taka naman na wala man lang pagbanggit si Heart ng pangalan ng kanyang mister.



Vice Ganda calls out fake news: Super yuck!

Vice Ganda reacts to fake news on previous alleged tiff with Marian Rivera.

Unkabogable star Vice Ganda called out the attention of the news program of TV5 for what he said was fake news.

In a now deleted tweet by the news program, Frontline sa Umaga, news anchor Gretchen Ho delivered the story that Vice and actress Marian Rivera made peace recently after an alleged tiff years ago. Upon seeing the tweet, Vice blew up on his Twitter account demanding accountability for the fake news, denying that he had any issue with the actress.

“Ha????????!!!!!! San galing ang balitang to????? Nagkaissue kami? Iringan????!! Pauso! Yuck! Super yuck! Mema????!!!,” he tweeted.

Gretchen was quick to reply to the comedian and assured Vice that an investigation will be made on the report. Vice didn’t respond to Gretchen and posted another tweet about the spreading of fake news. “Super kadiiri yung mga balitang mema! Eeeooooowwwww!!!! Clickbait????!!!! Fake news????!!!! TAE!” Vice shared.

Meanwhile, entertainment reporter MJ Marfori made her presence felt on Twitter as she responded to netizens calling her out as her name was on the teleprompter of the report. MJ shared that the story wasn’t hers at all and she felt the

need to clarify it to everyone. “Also, hindi ko story ito. @vicegandako,” the entertainment reporter tweeted. Vice was visibly irked with the laughing emoji of MJ and replied to her tweet.

“Hindi ko trip ang emoji mo! May nagjoke po ba,” Vice called her out.

MJ apologized and shared that she was only surprised to be tagged in the story. She added that she didn’t mean to offend the actor-comedian. Vice simply replied with laughing emojis to end the conversation with MJ.

Meanwhile, Vice has denied that he and Marian had any issues in the past.

Toni Gonzaga, Paul Soriano sign with AMBS

Toni Gonzaga and her husband, director Paul Soriano, have joined the Advanced Media Broadcasting System (AMBS) as they signed contracts with the network.

Among those who welcomed Gonzaga and Soriano were AMBS President Maribeth Tolentino and Manuel Paolo Villar of parent company Prime Asset Ventures. “We are happy about the partnership with Ms. Toni Gonzaga and Mr. Paul Soriano. Our team is raring to work with them to give our viewers awesome shows to always look forward to,” Tolentino was quoted as saying. Gonzaga hinted during the event that she is gearing up for a “more in-depth, yet interesting” talk show, telling fans that they would be “surprised with what we have in store” for them. The actress-TV host then expressed excitement over joining the network .

“Thank you for the warm welcome AMBS. I’m so happy to be part of your family!” she said “I’m so excited for our partnership and I can’t wait to share with you ALL that we have been working on in the coming days.”

Fellow celebrities who sent congratulatory greetings to the couple include Raymond Gutierrez, Jerald Napoles and Toni’s sister, actress Alex Gonzaga.



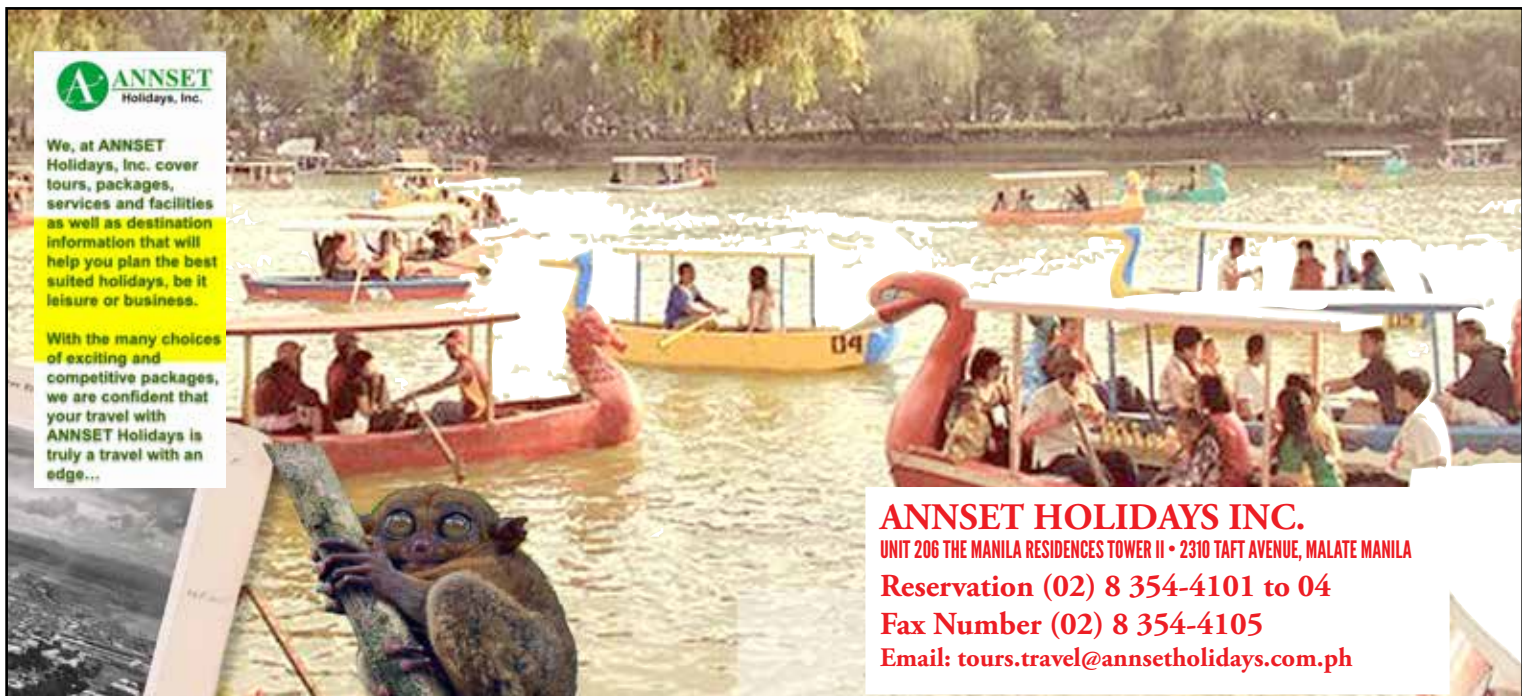
US MILITARY from p1

liance to address new and emerging challenges,” the spokesperson told Nikkei Asia. “We intend to continue to implement infrastructure projects at current EDCA locations and explore additional sites for further development.” Under EDCA, American forces are only allowed to have a rotational, temporary military presence at several bases in the Philippines. The number of visiting U.S. personnel is contingent on “the scale and the frequency of the activities to be approved” by the two countries.

Construction and upgrades to the facilities, which are maintained by U.S. forces with ammunition, fuel and medical supplies, among others, were already planned under the 2014 agreement; however, “limited progress” was observed during the Duterte administration.

Romualdez hopes that the country will witness progress soon, saying, “Hopefully, in the next three years, that we can have all of these areas that we have identified already.”

He also mentioned that Wash-





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ington and Manila are currently in talks to increase the number of military bases in the Philippines that U.S. personnel can use, which could possible include a naval base.

“Our military and the military of the

United States are all looking into what are the possible areas,” Romualdez said.

Tension in the region was ignited after China launched a military drill near Taiwan waters in response to U.S. House Speaker

Nancy Pelosi’s (D-CA) visit to Taiwan in early August. Days after Pelosi’s visit, two delegations from the Democratic Party and the Republican Party also organized separate trips to Taiwan despite rising tension with China.

15

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15

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Queen SawsawerRra RR Enriquez remains positive amid bashing

There's no stopping "Queen SawsawerRra" RR Enriquez from dipping her finger in other people's lives.

This she reiterated in her recent post, writing: "In a world full of hate, judgments, pretensions, and 'fake it till you make it' attitude, let's still be the #SawSawerR-



RaWithAHeart."

She then thanked those who gave her positive comments.

"Although I also received hateful comments... It's ok.

We can't please everyone," she related.

RR also sent a message for those who are trying to lecture her about being "paki alamera sa buhay ng may buhay..."

"G*ga kaya nga ako nasawsaw kasi nga

nakikialam ako. Para saan pa I used the Sawsawera tagline if hindi ako makikialam. CHAROT," she said.

"And for those hypocrite people na feeling hindi sila sawsawera... Uy don't me.. You know minsan sa buhay mo may sinawsawan ka din. The mere fact nasa page kita, ibig sabihin sawsawera ka din. Our only difference is Ipinangalandakan kong Sawsawera ak. At yun ang hindi mo kaya gawin kasi plastic ka," she added.

"Kaya sa mga proud sawsawera..... LABAS ITAAS ANG KAMAY AT IWAGAYWAY AT SABIHIN SAWSAWERA AKO."

It was last year when the former

TV host-dancer decided to become "Queen SawsawerRra."

Then she noted how she wants to be the next Lolit Solis.

Anna Feliciano shares more details on 'Wowowin's' return

Variety game show "Wowowin" is set to return to TV, September.

Willie Revillame's longtime choreographer, Anna Feliciano, revealed the news herself, relating it will first resume online on Sept. 1, followed by its return to TV,



Sept. 30, via AMBS2.

They're still looking for dancers.

A "Message me sa mga interested. Monthly salary is 75k ***should be vaccinated*** workplace: Wil Tower QC / Starmall EDSA-Shaw Mondays-Fridays."

Just last Aug. 28, "Wowowin" went live on YouTube as they graced the Kasadyaan Festival in Coron, Palawan.

Willie signed a contract with Advanced Media Broadcasting System (AMBS) a few months ago.

"Wowowin" aired its last episode on GMA after Willie decided not to renew his contract with the network last February.

FACEBOOK from page 1

to the DOJ Office of Cybercrime head Gerald Vincent Sosa to implement the warrants issued by a Manila court against Facebook and YouTube.

Sosa said they would immediately act on the warrants filed by the PNP.

He expressed belief that Facebook and YouTube will coordinate with the DOJ.

Sosa said law enforcement agencies such as the PNP could not di-

rectly serve the warrant on foreign companies.

"The DOJ processes the serving of cybercrime warrants. It is a central authority in matters relating to cybercrime," he said.

The social media accounts Usapang Diskarte went viral last July for reportedly publishing content promoting sexual abuse of children, and even gave tips on how to lure minors into committing sexual acts.

Authorities are one step closer in unmasking the suspected sex-

ual predator behind the Youtube Channel and Facebook page Usapang Diskarte.

The Manila Regional Trial Court Branch 24 granted the ACG's petition for two warrants to disclose computer data that ordered the social media giants to release subscriber information, chats, images and other content posted on the accounts of Usapang Diskarte.

ACG director Brig. Gen. Joel Doria commended members of the police Women and Children Cybercrime Protection Unit for

securing the warrants, which could lead to the filing of cases against the person behind the controversial social media accounts.

"I encourage people who may have information about Usapang Diskarte and those who felt they were abused by the viral post to come to us," Doria said in a statement.

Lt. Michelle Sabino, spokesperson for the ACG, said they also requested the preservation of the social media accounts.

Usapang Diskarte has over

250,000 subscribers and followers connected to a group of sexual predators who equate "macho" with being abusive, Doria said, citing their initial investigation.

The content shared tips on how to lure minors into having sex with older men.

Minors are also being conditioned into thinking that having sex with older people is normal, Doria said.

The social media accounts of Usapang Diskarte were taken down after generating negative feedback.

Why Jo Koy explains 'balikbayan' box scene, Filipino-American casting

MANILA, Philippines — On screen, the balikbayan box scene was one of the comedic ones highlighted even on the trailer of "Easter Sunday." Lead star Jo Koy, however, said that scene and knowing he had casted mostly Filipino-American actors made him cry.

"When I was a kid, I didn't understand it. Here's my mom filling up this box and I'm like, eight years old and my sister is like 9, and my other sister is like 13 and we're all looking at all these delicious things in the box that we wished we were eating and we didn't understand.

"That's a beautiful thing. Kids don't understand it but when you get older, you get 'Holy Sh*t! That's deep,'" Jo Koy remarked. "Your responsibility here is for everybody. I have a whole bunch of people I'm taking care of that you don't even know about. That's what the scene is for me."

He is also thankful for Steven Spielberg for giving him the free rein in every aspect of his movie. When he pitched the movie, he already knew he had to cast Tia Carrere and Lou Diamond Phillips.

He argued that the two stars went through the trenches for future Filipino-American



Jo Koy (left) at the Manila premiere of his first Hollywood starrer, "Easter Sunday." Tia Carrere and Lydia Gaston (top right) play his auntie and mom, respectively, while Eugene Cordero (bottom right in jersey top) is Jo Koy's "knucklehead" cousin Eugene. Lou Diamond Phillips plays a fictionalized version of himself.

actors and went through "hard Hollywood."

Jo Koy revealed a conversation he had with Carrere where the actress recalled her past experiences.

Jo Koy does not blame anybody because Hollywood is still business.

"It's no one's fault. It's hard. It's a machine, you know," he remarked. He proceeded on calculating the probable number of Filipino-Americans and Filipinos living in the United States.

Based on the 2019 data by the American

think tank Pew Research, Filipinos in the United States are around 4.2 million from 2000 to 2019. The United States' 2020 population registered at 330 million.

"I'm just saying, just imagine those numbers. Just imagine how hard it is to try and sell that. That idea. It's business but things are changing, you know... Things are changing and there are people in there that have keys to these gates that are opening right now and I wanna really hold it open as much as I can," Jo Koy said.

Jasmine Curtis-Smith not in a rush to settle down; done shooting film with John Lloyd Cruz

Ilang taon na rin ang relasyon ni Jasmine Curtis-Smith sa non-showbiz boyfriend na si Jeff Ortega and people ask when is she getting married.

"I think it should never be shied away from, lagi naman yung madadaan sa usapan lalo na kung seryoso na yung relationship, di ba?"

"As much as we can, siyempre madada-

anan yung mga usapan na yun, but nothing too serious yet," saad ni Jasmine.

Diin niya, "Ayaw naman naming pangunahan ang mga mangyayari, we'll never know what will happen, what might change sa timeline naming, di ba?" Masaya niyang ibinahagi na tapos na ang shooting ng pelikulang pagsasamahan nila ni John Lloyd Cruz.

"Very good, actually. Tapos na kami couple of weeks ago, a month ago. Nasa post [production] na siya, editing na sila.

"And I think they are trying to decide kung saan unang ipapalabas lang ngayon—kung festival [abroad] or dito muna siya [sa Pilipinas]," bungad ni Jasmine.

Kylie Verzosa, ready to love again?

Nanatiling tikom ang bibig nina Jake Cuenca at Miss International 2016 Kylie Verzosa sa tuwing mapag-uusapan ang tungkol sa kanilang breakup.

Tanging pagkukumpirma lang sa kanilang Instagram ang naging paraan ng dalawa

nang kumpirmahan nauwi sa hiwalayan ang halos tatlong taon ang relasyon at live-in set-up noong bandang huli.

Inilarawan ni Kylie na nasa proseso pa siya ng pagmo-move on at hiling niya ay magtuluy-tuloy na ito.

"It's doing much better, happy ako. Sana tuluy-tuloy. Di ko masasabi na 100 percent naka-move on, pero getting there, sana," sambit ni Kylie. Siniguro muli ni Kylie na wala siyang sama ng loob sa ex-boyfriend, pero aminado siyang hanggang ngayon ay di pa rin sila nakakapag-usap. Sa ngayon, hindi nagmamadali si Kylie na pumasok sa panibagong relasyon. "Hindi ako ready for a relationship, pero open ako na makipag-meet with other people.

"But so far wala pa naman akong nami-meet. In-allow ko na rin ang sarili ko na siguro puwede na akong makipagkita sa ibang tao." Tinanong din namin si Kylie kung anu-ano ang aral na natutunan niya sa pakikipagrelasyon na nais niya i-apply sa susunod na boyfriend niya.

"Siguro always put yourself first and always leave a bit for yourself," aniya.



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"SUN LIFE HELPS ME GROW MY MONEY."



YouTuber Benedix Ramos finds his way to showbiz “Don’t stop believing.”

As cliché as this might sound, these are Pinoy Big Brother (PBB) housemate Benedix Ramos’ encouraging words for artista wannabes, as he becomes one of the hosts of Bida Star’s new season alongside PBB alums Karina Bautista and Anji Salvacion. Dubbed as Bida Star Versus, the show is set to premiere on Sept. 5 on ABS-CBN Star Hunt’s Kumu and Facebook accounts.

“At my age, I never really thought that I’d still be here in this (entertainment) industry. I really exerted an effort and sacrificed a lot of things just to be here,” revealed Benedix, 22, who was introduced as Ang Streamboy Apo ng Pangasinan when he joined PBB Kumunity Season 10. “It really means so much to me that I’m finally here. I couldn’t believe that I’m talking in front of you promoting a show.”

He continued, “Super enjoy po ako sa hosting talaga kasi isa ito sa mga skills ko na gusto ko pang mahasa as I go further in the industry.”

For those not in the know, Benedix is a content creator,

who has over a hundred thousand subscribers on his YouTube Channel. His being a vlogger, he said, has opened doors of opportunity for him in showbiz.

“I created my own channel kasi pakiramdam ko, doon lang ako makikita sa YouTube. That’s why, I’m grateful for everything that is happening to me now and since I started on the digital platform, parang hindi na rin naging mas mahirap ‘yung transition ko. I realized that I can do more, especially now na ibang klaseng mundo na ‘yung ginagalawan ko,” Benedix added.

Prior to his PBB stint, he joined the Online Bahay ni Kuya campaign on Kumu and ended up as one of the two winners. That’s why, he couldn’t help but reminisce about those days when he was just



Former Pinoy Big Brother alum Benedix will join Karina Bautista and Anji Salvacion as hosts of the fifth season of Bida Star, dubbed as Bida Star Versus, that is set to begin on Sept. 5 on ABS-CBN Star Hunt’s Kumu and Facebook accounts.

dreaming to be part of the entertainment scene.

He said, “Maaalala mo na lang talaga ‘yung mga panahon na gusto mong (pumasok sa showbiz) pero paano. Dito sa Bida Star, I will always tell them (contestants) to keep on pushing.”

In Bida Star Versus, aspirants will compete for their clusters of boys and girls until only one emerges as the winner. There will also be a portion called the Live Callbacks, wherein the first batch of male and female auditionees will perform on Kumu. The top earning male and female contestants will get a guaranteed spot in the Top 40.

“Bida Star Versus allows anyone to be part of the contest even if you are not part of any talent agency or you do not

have any formal training. Bida Star Versus will help you reach your artista dreams,” said Benedix.

He said the contestants will certainly learn to identify their strengths and weaknesses as the competition begins.

“This platform will really help them know themselves better kung ano pa ‘yung mga kaya nilang gawin. Aside from the fact that this is a competition between boys and girls, ang talagang kalaban d’yan ay mga sarili nila. They must know how to start working for their dream and try their best all the time kahit kinakabahan pa sila,” he further said.

Contestants will have an exciting journey with the judges, which include Star Magic workshop head and acting mentor Rahyan Carlos, PBB unit head Marcus Vinuya and a weekly celebrity guest judge.

The Bida Star Versus grand winner will receive P50,000, an ABS-CBN management contract, a Star Magic workshop scholarship, and appearances and performances on ABS-CBN shows and Pie Channel.



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PAGEANT from page 1

train in the Philippines the following year,” says Rodgil Flores, who heads one of the most respected pageant training camps in the Philippines, Kagandahang Flores (KF).

Since then, the country has been the pageant training grounds for candidates from different parts of the globe. Shandy Montecarlo-Lim, one of KF’s coaches reveals: “I have already trained candidates from more than 18 countries: from Cameroon to Great Britain, Japan, Thailand, Canada, Australia, Vietnam, and Cambodia.” Shandy adds: Both Flores and Montecarlo-Lim see nothing wrong with training candidates who will eventually go head-to-head with the

country’s own delegate.

Montecarlo-Lim expounds on why Filipinos should be proud to be the training grounds of choice by other countries: ““The moment na pinili nila yung Philippine team at kinuha ang KF, nakasalalay dito yung pagiging powerhouse natin. Ibigay din namin yung more than 100 percent naming for their girls. Ibig sabihin, if manalo sila, it’s because of us. The moment na pumunta sila dito, winner na tayu.”

Asked if what they have are standard fees and packages, Flores is non-committal, saying that charging is purely on a case-to-case basis and “depends on a lot



of things and considerations, including length of stay.”

Now given this scenario, how should our local bet Celeste Cortesi react and go about her pageant game plan?

The beauty queen expert shares this advice: “Mas lalong dapat siyang ma-challenge at tayo naman, mas galingan ng mga Pinoy dahil alam na nating dito na rin nag-training ang mga kalaban.”

Emmanuelle Atienza Had the Best Response to Netizens Calling Her Out For Posting ‘Revealing’ Photos

Kim Atienza and wife Felicia Hung’s 16-year-old model daughter isn’t fazed by their comments.

Emmanuelle Atienza, the daughter of TV

personality Kim Atienza, is a budding model and content creator. The 16-year-old has also had enough of unsolicited comments on her Instagram posts. Just recently, she shut down netizens who were calling her out for posting “revealing” photos, and we love how she did it. On July 5, Emmanuelle shared screenshots of three comments from her Instagram. The first user tagged her father’s account and wrote, “@kuyakim_atienza as a father how do you allow [your] daughter to post such revealing photos. Shame on you.” Meanwhile, a second set of comments from another netizen contained inappropriate remarks about the young model. “15 years old palang masyado ng nagpapa sexy,” they said.

Unfazed by the negativity, Emmanuelle responded by posting their comments on her



feed together with a bikini photo. “Lol can’t see the haters,” she wrote in the caption. To jumpstart her modeling career, the Fil-Taiwanese beauty has done workshops with modeling agency Farrah Models.

She has also worked with Liz Uy’s Stylized Studio and photographers MEETKESO and Doc Marlon Pecjo for profile shoots.

Last but definitely not the least, Emmanuelle is a mental health advocate and the founder of her own mental health organization, Mentality Manila.

In a post last May 2022, the 16-year-old shared, “Though nobody should go through the things I have, I am proud of the fact that I am able to start healing and that I’ve grown from those experiences. Nobody should be left in the dark about mental health.”



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Mikee and Dave appreciate the value of having new screen partners

Aside from presenting a strong ensemble acting from veteran and emerging talents, through the tutelage of actor's director Laurice Guillen, Apoy Sa Langit has also showcased Mikee Quintos and Dave Bornea as a Kapuso love team.

Through the course of the Kapuso Afternoon Prime drama series' airing, which includes its finale tomorrow at 2:30 p.m., Mikee and Dave have proven that they look good on screen and work well together.

Besides playing diverse and meaty roles across narrative genres, actors can also grow by, as one may put it, doing a rigodon (changing) of love team mates. Mikee and Dave appreciate the value of being paired up with new screen partners.

"It's a good thing because na-i-stretch ka as an actor (your ability to adapt to a new pairing and your acting range are being stretched or tested)," said Mikee in a recent virtual press conference. "Being paired up with different leading men requires different preparations, aside from the ones you have for your character." The challenging part is for actors like Mikee and Dave to build a good rapport and create an onscreen chemistry with partners, who are close to them or will work with them for the first time.

"But as an actor, it's your job to make it work onscreen with these

different leading men and that challenge excites me," shared Mikee and added that "I really think it's a good thing 'coz it only means in each project, meron kang bagong matututunan (you have something new to learn) and work remains exciting."

Dave, who plays game designer and IT employee Anthony, agreed with Mikee, who essays the charming and talented daughter Ning of jewelry designer Gemma, portrayed by Maricel Laxa.

"When you get paired up with the same artist in a different project, parang wala na ding masyadong challenge (it seems you don't get challenged anymore)," said he.

"When it comes to working with a new love team mate, there are (new) collaborations. You'll know (and discover) that she has this new idea and she tackles a scene (this way)," added he. "I've learned a lot from Mikee, who is one of those that I admire (and I like) her work. She is very professional." Among the lessons Dave has furthered learned is "how to make the scenes effective and yung kilig namin. We have our own ideas. With the guidance of our director, mi-ni-mix lang namin (we would consolidate and collaborate)."

From direk Laurice, whose set can be compared to attending a masterclass, as one may put it, Mikee and Dave picked up to be



With their team-up in Apoy Sa Langit, Mikee Quintos and Dave Bornea have proven that they look good on screen and work well together. Doing a rigodon (changing) of love team mates is healthy. 'It's a good thing because na-i-stretch ka as an actor (your ability to adapt to a new pairing and acting range are being tested),' says she. 'It (also) means in each project you have something new to learn. Work remains exciting.' Among the lessons he has furthered learned is 'how to make the scenes effective and yung kilig namin,' adds Dave.

each other's source of inspiration, especially when their energy reaches its low point. They have to be in their characters, even in emotionally draining scenes, and "be present," added Dave.

"Dapat meron isa sa amin ang mag-aangat (there should be one person who will lift the other up). There are times na bumababa (yung energy)," said he. The veteran director was always on the lookout to remind them.

Another takeaway from headlining Apoy Sa Langit is to understand more the sole responsibility of an actor, that is "to take care of my character, to give (it) life at trabaho ko yun na bigyan ng lalim and yung consistency (it's my work to give the character depth and to be consistent) para mas paniwalaan ng viewers na totoo at buhay si Ning (so that viewers will see her real and alive)," said Mikee, who also appreciated her management in asking her thoughts about like being in a new tandem and "Where do you see yourself? Saan mo gusto pumunta (ang) career mo (Where do you see your career going)? Anong mga projects ang gusto mong ma-try, ma-explore (What projects would you like to try and explore)?"

So, what's in the pipeline for Mikee and Dave after Apoy Sa Langit? The young actress said that she and Paul Salas will topbill the Regal Studio Presents episode titled Love, Share and Subscribe, which airs on Sunday. It will be followed by another project.

For his part, the young actor shared, "I'm just waiting for the next one that the management will give me, but there are guestings like (in) MPK (Magpakailanman) and a variety show."

Given their enthusiasm for an acting collaboration, Mikee and Dave will continue to grow by leaps and bounds.

ABS-CBN exec on 'LizQuen' split

I think the timing was never right," explained ABS-CBN Film Production Inc. head Kriz Anthony Gazmen as to why the popular onscreen partnership of Liza Soberano and Enrique Gil ("LizQuen") was no longer seen either on the big or small screen after the pandemic broke during the first quarter of 2020.



LizQuen's last project, the romantic-comedy series "Make It With You," was discontinued during the first pandemic lockdown in March 2020.

Some observers say it was unfortunate that the Kapamilya channel was not able to maximize the love team when the network needed help the most—after it failed in its bid to renew its broadcasting franchise in July that year—much unlike the equally popular tandem of Kathryn Bernardo and Daniel Padilla ("KathNiel"), which has managed to do two TV series since.

"Of course, every time we do projects, we first consider the 'gods'—I feel that KathNiel and LizQuen are already gods in ABS-CBN" recalled Gazmen.

Relocation

In June 2022, Liza signed up to become an artist of Careless Music, founded by fellow actor James Reid. She has relocated to California, USA, since.

"Liza and Enrique will now go their separate ways in terms of their careerst," Gazmen said.

Gazmen, who was appointed head in May, said there would definitely be a change in the direction where ABS-CBN Films is heading, especially under his leadership. "Also, the big change is really in our audiences. What used to work for them is no longer enough today," he observed.

In terms of what would change in Star Cinema, Gazmen said: "It will be bolder as a brand. It's going to be younger. It's going to talk to today's audiences, or those who consume the most content."

The right person

Gazmen, who is also a writer and a filmmaker, succeeded former head Olivia Lamasan, who continues to serve as a consultant for the company's film brands—Star Cinema and Black Sheep Productions.

During this interview in August, Gazmen said he has already managed to adjust and feel comfortable with his new job. "Observing Inang and Tita Malou (Santos, retired COO of Star Creatives), I saw how highly stressful the job is and how much it could consume a person," he began.

"But, of course, this is my passion. If I need to go the extra mile, I would. I would fight for this company that I love so much. I've always believed that 'you are not your job.' I guess this is also why the atmosphere in the office now is very light, even though I am with a team of workaholics. I'm actually the one forcing them to go on work leaves because, as a creative company, we represent life. How can we do that if we're not living our own lives?"



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Janine Gutierrez may have intrigued fans more on the status of her relationship with fellow actor Paulo Avelino, after she evaded a question asking if the actor is already her boyfriend.



The actress took on the “Search With Me” challenge wherein she answered the most searched questions about her on the internet, as seen in a video on IWantTFC’s YouTube channel last Sunday, Aug. 14. Gutierrez started off the segment, the name of which was derived from

her queer series “Sleep With Me,” with a question about her being married.
“No, guys. Hindi pa po tayo kasal. Kinasal tayo sa ‘Marry Me, Marry You’ pero sa totoong buhay, hindi pa tayo kinakasal,” she said, referring to her romantic-comedy

Janine Gutierrez on being asked about Paulo Avelino again: ‘Relationship questions talaga ‘yung mahalaga sa Pilipinas, ano?’

series where she was first paired up with Avelino.
(No, guys. I am not yet married. I only got married in “Marry Me, Marry You” but I am yet to wed in real life.)
Gutierrez then laughed and gave an indirect answer after she read the second question asking if she is single.
“Well, I’m not married so sa mga form, [single] pa rin ‘yung isasagot natin,” she stated. (Well, I am not married so I am still single in legal forms.)
After going through a few queries about her showbiz family, Gutierrez’s relationship status was again brought up at the latter part of the challenge. The actress was asked if she is engaged, to which she clarified that she is not. The queries finally got more specific when she was asked if she is actually in a relationship with Avelino.
“Parang puro relationship questions talaga ‘yung mahalaga dito sa Pilipinas, ano? Uhm, ayon

na nga,” she said without further elaborating, and proceeded to the next question. (It seems that relationship questions are what’s important here in the Philippines, right? Well, there you go.)
Speculations that the pair are getting closer to each other started when they were frequently spotted together even after their first TV series ended. Meanwhile, Gutierrez and Avelino also recently starred in the romance-drama film “Ngayon Kaya” which premiered last June.

Jo Koy learns Tagalog, comedy from watching Dolphy, TVJ, ‘Eat Bulaga!’

MANILA, Philippines — “Easter Sunday” star Jo Koy revealed that he learned Tagalog from watching Dolphy, “Eat Bulaga!” and Tito Vic and Joey.
These Filipino comedy icons were among his inspirations that not only taught him how to speak the language of his Filipina mother but also showed him how comedy can be effective.
“We didn’t have cable TV. So I was

watching Filipino for entertainment. You didn’t have to speak Tagalog because you can just enjoy the slapstick, physical comedy of TVJ or ‘Eat Bulaga,’ Dolphy,” the Filipino-American stand-up comedian recalled.
TVJ stands for Tito Vic and Joey, the trio composed of former actor and Sen. Tito Sotto and “Eat Bulaga!” hosts Vic Sotto and Joey de Leon. In the early years of their careers, TVJ starred in numerous comedies including the shows “Iskul Bukol” and “Student Canteen.”
“I would watch Dolphy all the time. I



would learn Tagalog that way and then I would also just laugh because the physical humor was so good,” he added.
Jo Koy started in stand-up comedy in 1989. He remembers watching the likes of Whoopi Goldberg and Eddie Murphy do stand-up shows.
He also commented his experience meeting Steve Harvey when he, “Easter Sunday” co-star Lydia Gaston and their families guested on the latter’s famous game show, “Family Feud.” Its uncut version currently has 2.5 million views on YouTube.
Jo Koy also watched Steve’s stint at the American variety show “Showtime at the

Apollo,” which was filmed at the famed Apollo Theater in Harlem, New York.
“I dreamt of being at the Apollo as a kid and then eventually I was at the Apollo. And when you get flowers from somebody like that you dreamed of being, it was a beautiful moment,” Jo Koy said, referring to the praises he got from Steve during his guesting.
Jo Koy posted a clip of him on his Twitter performing at the Apollo in 1999.
Their guesting in “Family Feud” was even more memorable because his son has been a follower of Steve’s quotes on Instagram.
“I love the artform. I love the idea of what it takes to get up to people and try to make them laugh. It’s all a story,” Jo Koy explained.

11 FIL-CAN GRADUATES VIE FOR FCT OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARDS 2022 By: Tony A. San Juan, OCT.

It’s academic recognition time again. Yes. The Filipino Centre Toronto(FCT) will select the Outstanding Student Graduates for 2022. Eleven student graduates are competing to be chosen for the coveted yearly honours.
The FCT Rosalinda C. Javier Outstanding Student Awards, a competition among top elementary, high school, and post-secondary school graduates in Ontario, will recognize 2 Grade 8 finishers, six secondary school OSSD holders, and 3 college/university honour graduates. The awardees will be judged based on structured

evaluation rubrics and weighed against 4 main criteria: 50% Academic Average, 15% Extracurricular Activities, 15% Community Involvement, and 20% Personal Interview.
Organized in 2005, the OSA competition has been recognizing and rewarding outstanding Filipino-Canadian graduates. The program is in meeting the FCT’s purpose of challenging and encouraging students of Filipino heritage “to perform well and achieve academic success and to develop their potential to become productive members of society.” Awardees are presented with plaques of recognition, certificates, and cash prizes. A 5 - member Committee, composed of 2 educators, two community organization representatives, and an FCT officer, is tasked to determine the winners.
For the school year 2021-2022, the candidates are graduates from the Dufferin Peel Catholic School District, the Halton Catholic District School Board, the Toronto Catholic School District School Board, Centennial College, University of Toronto, and York University. Final selection and interview are scheduled for September 10, 2022 (Saturday), 10:00

AM. at the FCT. Awarding Day is onn October 22, 2022 (Saturday), 2:00-4:00 PM. at the FCT Social Hall in Scarborough, Toronto. (Tony A. San Juan, OCT)

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



Mila Nabor Cuachon twirls her cape from start to finish of the Santacruz at the Mabuhay festival.

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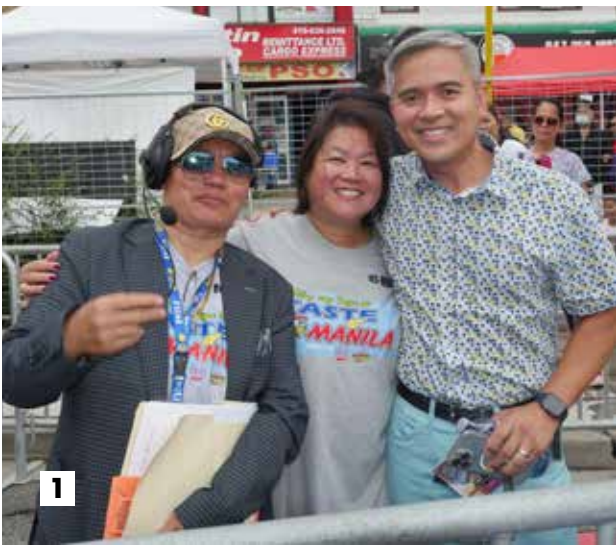


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Sofia Andres ecstatic over inclusion in magazine’s ‘Most Stylish’ list

“I’m crying & out of words. Muchas Gracias!” This is what Sofia Andres wrote on Instagram as she shared a digital copy of Tatler Philippines’ latest magazine cover. It features a photo of her. “Asia’s Most Stylish” the title read. It added, “Sofia Andres headlines our annual search for the most fashionable individuals in the country.” On its official website, the lifestyle magazine said it is celebrating its 21st anniversary with a “fabulous” four-cover edition featuring four of Asia’s Most Stylish honorees. “Starting with statuesque and gorgeous businesswoman Bea Soriano Dee who shares with us how her style philosophy; the fashion-forward sexagenarian Tessie Singson; and the elegant and beautiful actresses and influencers Sofia Andres and Jasmine Curtis-Smith,” they wrote. In another post, Tatler Philippines said that Sofia’s vibrant personality and love for color strike a “perfect” balance with her sultry eyes and beautiful physique. “A natural risk-taker, she admits that dressing up for herself makes her feel confident and free.”



Kare-kare ranks as 52nd best stew in the world

MANILA, Philippines – The traditional Filipino kare-kare has been ranked as the 52nd best stew in the world, according to Taste Atlas. Taste Atlas is an extensive food guide website that compiles and ranks international food dishes. Kare-kare received 4.3 stars out of 5, based on reviews, ranking higher than Moroccan couscous and gumbo from the United States. Taste Atlas described kare-kare as “a traditional Filipino stew consisting of meat such as tripe, pork leg, ox tail, goat or chicken, vegetables, and a thick, savory peanut sauce flavored with annatto seeds.” Kare-kare is not the first Filipino dish to have received international recognition from the famous food website. Taste Atlas recognized two Filipino dishes in the Taste Atlas Awards 2021, ranking sinigang first in the soup category while lumpia ranked second in the side dish category.



Rhen Escano titigil na muna sa paghuhubad: ‘I really want to prove myself as an actress’

Rhen Escano, pinipili na raw talaga niya ngayon kung ano ang projects na kanyang gagawin. Napaiyak ang sexy star at dati ring kasama sa cast ng FPJ’s Ang Probinsyano na si Rhen Escano nang tanungin kung masaya ba siya ngayon sa estado ng kanyang career. Kapansin-pansin kasi na hindi na siya gaanong gumagawa ng mga sexy films sa Vivamax na nado-dominate ngayon ng mga baguhang sexy stars. Ayon kay Rhen sa presscon para sa eight-episode series na Secrets of a Nympho, pinipili na raw talaga niya ngayon kung ano ang projects na kanyang gagawin. “Noong unang beses po na pumayag akong gumawa ng sexy project, para sa akin, tinrato ko siya na meron

akong cards sa kamay ko. Every time na may gagawin ka na ganung proyekto, unti-unti mong tatanggalin yung cards na yon sa mga kamay mo at ayoko po siyang maubos. “Kailangan ko talagang piliin kung kailan ako lalapag. Importante rin sa akin talaga ngayon sa lagay ng career ko na mas makita ako ng mga tao na may iba akong ginagawa, mas challenging. Ayoko rin po na parang nakakahon ako. Parang nakikita lang ako ng mga tao na yon lang ang kaya kong gawin, which is hindi po. “Pinipili ko talaga kasi ang projects na ginagawa ko. Ayoko nang umuulit, doing the same material. I want viewers to see na iba-



iba ang ginagawa ko at hindi yung parang nakakahon lang ako,” katwiran ng dalaga. Sa sumunod niyang pahayag ay hindi na napigilan ni Rhen ang maging emosyonal. Sana raw hangga’t maaari ay ayaw na muna niyang maghubad sa pelikula. “Sana po, mabigyan ng chance. Yon naman po ang lagi kong hinihingi na sana mabigyan ng chance. Na makita nila... sorry guys... sana makita nilang may talent ka or may iba kang makakayang gawin. Sorry po...” sabi pa ng sexy star. “My career is so important for me, so I want to make sure na may positive na mangyari dito. Lahat ng networks, napagdaanan ko na. Umabot nga sa point na ayoko na. Nagiging emotional ako kapag pinanghihi-naan ako ng loob kasi I really want to prove myself as an actress,” hirit pa niya.



1. Ian Santillan, Cecille Araneta and Chino Romero pose at Taste of Manila 2022; 2. Melissa Ventocilla pose with Yam Concepcion at Montreal Fiesta Extravaganza; 3. FV Foods’ Alan Ocampo and Archie Santos pack up at the end of taste of Manila 2022; 4. Mel Galeon dance his heart away with D’Ageless dancers at taste of Manila 2022; 5. Kabayan Remit pos with Yam Concepcion at Montreal Fiesta; 6. Miss Earth Canada 2022 Jessica Cianchino and Peyton Garcia and (7) Bb. Ipen Canada 2022 Alexa Marie Grant join the Santacruzans at Mabuhay.

How Vilma Santos, Edu Manzano learned they’re going to be grandparents

Luis Manzano received warm reception upon informing his parents, Vilma Santos and Edu Manzano, that his wife, Jessie Mendiola, is expecting. On the actress’ recent vlog, the couple shared how they told his parents the good news. According to the Star For All Seasons, she found out about it on Mother’s day. Shown in an outro for a vlog, Luis asked his mom if she’s going to greet Jessie a happy Mother’s Day as well. Confused, Vilma asked: “Soon?... What



do you mean? Mother ka na ba? Serious nga? You’re positive! Oh my God! Congratulations!” Edu, on the other hand, learned about it

on Father’s day month. There, Luis teased the seasoned actor-TV host: “Hi, lolo!” Jessy then showed him their baby’s sonogram. In seeming disbelief Edu, was speechless for a second. His girlfriend, Cherry Pie Picache, immediately understood the good news, telling Edu: “Lolo ka na!” Edu asked: “When did you do that? Can I see again?” Jessy and Luis announced that they’re pregnant last month. They are set to welcome a baby girl.



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Ai-Ai want to be a grandma soon

Ai-Ai Delas Alas says she wants to be a grandma soon and vows to keep wearing tangga’ til she turns 60

Briefly, the Comedy Queen Ms. Ai-Ai Delas Alas came back to Manila earlier this week to sign an endorsement deal with the internationally-affiliated Academy of Pastry and Culinary Arts (APCA) under the tutelage of Chef Niklesh Sharma.

It will be recalled that it was during this time when Ai- Ai’s best ube pandesal was the talk-of-the-town and easily took the country by storm.

Ai-Ai was happy to be back in her alma mater whose professors were singing praises for the actress saying that as a student, she was very hardworking and doesn’t have any qualms about washing dishes just like the rest of classmates.

Chef Sharma says that nothing makes a teacher so proud than seeing his student put her education into practice and being the best in it. He said, “we are



truly very proud of Ai-Ai.”

Characteristically Ai-Ai, she revealed exciting news about her life during the contract-signing with Chef Sharma and Treston owner Ms. Sheryl See.

She disclosed that she temporarily put her baking business in the US on hold to give way to her new job as an activity director for a home for the aged in California. At the same time, she told us that her return to the Philippines was met with the happy surprise news of the renewal of her contract with GMA-7 for the next 2 and ½ years. She said she will be back in December to fulfill some duties involving that contract.

When we asked her about her life in the US, Ai-Ai told us she is very happy there because she can live like a normal individual, even when most of our kababayans there recognize her. “Enjoy naman ako dun, lalo na pagtawid sa kalye kasi humihinto talaga ang mga kotse para patawirin ka,” she laughed.

She said that her children also

make her very happy but she laments the fact that she is unlikely to have a grandchild anytime soon because her children have no plans yet, whatsoever.

“Ewan ko nga ba sa mga kabataan ngayon. Gustung-gusto ko na talaga magka-apo kasi siyempre nakakatuwa yung may baby sa bahay di ba? Kaya lang, iba talaga ang priority nila kesa sa panahon natin,” she said.

Devon Seron relates unpleasant experience in South Korea

Isa raw sa paborito niyang programa ay ang variety program na Running Man, na labindalawang taon nang umeere sa SBS network sa South Korea.

Sa kabilang banda, ibinahagi rin ni Devon ang hindi niya magandang karanasan nang mag-stay siya nang matagal sa South Korea, partikular na sa mga tindahan at restaurant doon. Lahad niya, “Sa isang store, pumasok ako para bumili ng earphones. Nakalimutan ko kasing dalhin yung earphones ko.

“Tapos kumuha ako, at nung babayaran ko na, sa harap ng seller kino-compute ko



sa cellphone ko yung amount na nakuha ko, nagulat ako nung agawin sa akin nung seller na may edad yung earphones.”

Ibinalik daw ng seller ang earphones na bibilhin sana ni Devon at pilot siyang pinalalabas ng tindahan. “Sabi ko sa kanya, ‘No, bibilhin ko at babayaran ko ‘yan.’”

Patuloy ni Devon, “Isa pang experience ko, nung kakain kami sa isang restaurant, nakita namin na kaunti lang ang tao at may mga bakanteng table naman.

“Nagtataka rin kami kung bakit kami pinalalabas nung matandang babae ganung may bakante naman at itinatoboy kami papalabas.”

Base sa mga kuwento ng ibang Pinoy na nakabisita na rin sa South Korea, maraming ganitong kuwento. Karamihan daw kasi sa mga nagtitinda o bantay sa mga establishment ay mga may edad na at hindi di marunong magsalita ng English.

Para hindi na sila mahirapan makipag-communicate dahil sa language barrier ay papaalisin na lang daw ang foreigner na customers kahit hindi sila mabentahan o kumita.

Sabi naman ni Devon, “But in all fairness, yung mga millennials, mababait at matulungin sila. Siguro dahil marunong na rin silang magsalita at nakakaintindi na rin sila ng English.”

Bianca King shares fears, worries about becoming a mom

Actress Bianca King couldn’t help but worry about getting pregnant for the first time.

On Instagram, the 37-year-old star shared about her fears of “miscarriage, chromosomal abnormalities and what could go wrong.”

“Getting sucked into the blackhole of research. Also slowly discovering what I shouldn’t be eating and drinking and getting frustrated by it. No tiramisù!!! But at some point I chose to stop worrying,” she shared.

Bianca deemed her first trimester as a “joyous” time filled with “gratitude” and “hunger.”

According to her, she felt the “classic symptoms.”

“Hungry all the time, heartburn, frequent bathroom trips, nausea all day, sore boobies. I cried over anything. I was brattier & needier than usual,” she related. “Felt like an under-achieving, tired, lazy, emotional, hot mess. Getting up to feed myself was an achievement. But all pregnancies are different! Some feel nothing, some have hyperemesis.”

Bianca added in jest: “Kept thinking of all the women who have to go to work feeling like poop. Warriors! Maybe in the future there will be a paid first trimester leave?? Similar to

maternity leave. I hope so.”

More than anything, she’s thankful that by the 11th to 13th week after her NIPT and early morphology scan, the OB assured them that the baby is “healthy.”

“The 1st trimester is a crucial stage in every pregnancy. It could be very isolating if you’re not ready to tell anyone. I was open with as many people as I could be. I needed the support. Just in case something happened, I



wouldn’t mind sharing the bad news too. I appreciated everyone who checked up on me and were interested in my experience. If you know someone who’s pregnant, call them.”

A few days ago, Bianca announced that she and her husband Ralph Wintle are expecting.

Last year when the two tied the knot in Sydney, Australia.

Cristy Fermin recovers from throat surgery, opens up about cancer scare

For two weeks now, veteran showbiz scribe Cristy Fermin wasn’t able to appear on her online shows and radio programs.

This is after she underwent polyp throat surgery.

Upon her return, Cristy talked about her journey.

“Medyo mababa lang po ang aking boses at medyo hindi kailangan na todo-todo ang pagitan ng mga salita dahil ‘ika nga, e, hindi pa po ganoon katindi ang ayos ng ating sitwasyon. Pero maraming salamat sa Diyos. Sobrang salamat sa Diyos,” she told her fans in the recent episode of “Cristy Ferminute.”

“Alam niyo po, wala pong taong matapang pagdating sa operasyon. Hindi po local anaesthesia ang ginagamit sa ganitong operasyon sa polyp throat operation. General (anaesthesia) po ito,” she shared.

“Wala po tayong kalaban-laban oras po na tayo ay in-injection-an na. Kahit po pinakamatapang na emperor, pinakamapangyarihan, sabi ko nga, ipinanganak po siya na walang damit na tulad natin kaya wala pong matapang



na tao na sasalang sa operating table. Wala! Wala talaga!”

Though her operation was successful, Cristy said she experienced a cancer scare.

“Humiga na po kayo sa operating table, nakuha na po yung polyp sa inyong lalamunan. Ibinalik na po kayo sa kuwerto. Ang pinakamatindi na babagabag sa isip ng isang pasyente, yung biopsy,” she related.

“Napakahalaga po ng biopsy. Dun po malalaman kung ang nakuha sa inyo na polyp ay benign o meron pong kaakibat na cancer cells,” she added. “Kapag meron pong cancer cells na positibo, dun na yung payo na magpapa-PET (Positron Emission Tomography) scan ka. Kapag meron kang kanser sa isang bahagi, natural lamang na marami nang kalat sa buong katawan.”

Thankfully she was cleared.

“Napakamahal po ako ng Diyos. Napakamahal po ako ng Diyos. Answered prayer po ako. Talagang noon ko pa po ipinapanalangin yung biopsy. Answered prayer po ako. Maraming-maraming salamat... God is good all the time...”

Cristy is also grateful to her supporters.

Liza Soberano reveals Hollywood movie role, bonds with Hollywood co-star

MANILA, Philippines — Kapamilya actress



Liza Soberano with co-star Kathryn Newton

Liza Soberano is living her Hollywood dreams as she bonds with co-star Kathryn Newton.

In Kathryn’s Instagram account, the Hollywood actress posted a photo of her with Liza.

“Lisa not Liza aka Kathryn and it’s Liza not Lisa aka Taffy,” Kathryn wrote.

Liza posted the same photo in her Instagram story.

“Lisa & Taffy’s Day off,” she wrote.

Liza and Kathryn will star in the movie “Lisa Frankenstein” together with Cole Sprouse, Carla Gugino, Joe Chrest and Henry Eikenberry.

Liza will portray Taffy, the step-sister of lead star Lisa, to be played by Newton. According to Liza, she auditioned for the movie through a video recording she made while on a trip to South Korea together with her Careless Music family.

Isn’t it ironic? PH imports 93% of salt supply

Despite being surrounded by seawater, the Department of Agriculture (DA) said the Philippines has been importing 93 percent of its salt supply.

“[It is] an unfortunate circumstance to a country with 36,000 kilometers of shoreline,” the agriculture



department said in a statement.

Agriculture Undersecretary Domingo Panganiban recently said the country is experiencing a shortage of salt as he revealed that the department is now working closely with government agencies to enhance the development of the local salt industry and enable the sector to be self-sufficient.

The move includes partnership with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) to boost production and supply the requirements of both commercial and industrial users.

“The DA, thru the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), will lead various research and development activities and provide technical assistance to marginal and artisanal salt makers,” it said.

The agriculture department said it will also work with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

“Under the ASIN law, DENR , along with other appropriate government agencies shall identify areas that are suitable for use as salt farms with the purpose of protecting such areas from environmental risks to ensure the sustainability of iodized salt production.”

It said the law also requires DTI to provide local salt manufacturers and producers with assistance and support to upgrade their production methods to include iodization.

This includes assisting salt farmers in obtaining low-interest loans and financial aid for the purchase of salt iodization machines, packaging technology, and fortifying agents, as well as ensuring the regular distribution of iodized salt in the market, the DA said.

In an earlier interview, Panganiban said the agriculture department will be including P100 million in the 2023 national budget for the improvement of salt production in the country.

What affected PH’s salt production?

According to the DA, several factors have contributed to the decline in salt production, including poor quality control and stalled product improvement for many years.

“Limited development has also been noted, including the lack of innovation and interventions, as well as low enterprise and investment opportunities that resulted in the decrease in the production of the said commodity,” it said.

The agriculture department said the salt sector has failed to adapt to the challenges posed by global climate change, food safety standards, quality requirements, and tariff reduction.

It also failed to meet the mandatory iodization mandated by Republic Act 8172, or the Act for National Salt Iodization, the DA added.

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Billy Crawford comes full circle

Billy Crawford is back to where it all began for him. At GMA.

The 40-year-old singer-dancer-TV host-actor will be hosting the hit international game show “The Wall Philippines,” on the Kapuso Network.

For those not in the know, Billy actually started his career at GMA via the now defunct show of his discoverer-mentor-manager German “Kuya Germs” Moreno, “That’s Entertainment.”

How does it feel being back on GMA? “I feel welcomed and at home,” he told us in a virtual chat, recently. “Setting foot at GMA for the first time in years brought back a lot of memories.” Will it be for good?

“I wouldn’t call it my last stop,” he said. “It’s an opportunity, it’s work and you know, business is business so, at the end of the day, kung saan man ito papunta, I’ll take it from there.”



Note that the opportunity now allows Billy to be seen on two networks, TV5 (where he hosts “Lunch Out Loud”) and, of course, GMA. He feels “grateful and blessed” for it, deeming himself the “Pambansang katrabaho.” “I’m quite happy where I am right now,” he said. “Parang umiikot lang ako. Tapos ngayon, nandu’n lang ako sa gitna. may Kapamilya, may Kapatid, may Kapuso, ako ang ‘Pambansang Katrabaho.’ it’s such a blessing, especially sa panahon ngayon. Honestly? I really think it’s orchestrated by God more

than anything.”

But is there pressure? “It’s natural. It’s something new e,” he said. “If you’re too comfortable and confident in life na parang wala ng pagkakamali na mangyayari sa buhay mo, then you’re perfect. But from my perspective, I’m not. Wala namang taong ginawang perpekto so, may kaba.”

Many believe Billy lucky. Does he feel the same way? “I don’t know. I won’t be able to understand why things happened the way they did. I’m just thankful,” he said. “Obviously, God has plans so, bakit ko ko-question-in yung plano

ng Panginoon sa akin? Kung sinasabing ‘Bahala na si Lord,’ ito na yun – bahala na si Lord.”

So, what can fans expect from him?

“In whatever I do, I always try my best to offer something new,” he said. “It depends on the job, really. I try to find kung ano yung magma-match, kung kailangan ba mataas yung energy, kailangan ba galawgaw, kengkoy ba ako dito or kailangan ba seryoso ako dito. Basta ako, I just want to give my best and entertain people. I want to put a smile on their faces. It’s what we all need right now.”

Celebrities, Entertainment, Entertainment News, Movies, Music

GMA Network warns public over scammers conducting fake casting auditions

GMA has warned the public about scammers who posed as members of Sparkle GMA Artist Center and promised them showbiz careers if they would send sexy or nude pictures.

The Sparkle GMA Artist Center has warned its followers that it does not hold auditions that way.

“Please beware of scammers who are using the name of GMA and Sparkle GMA Artist center for their own intentions.

“Employees of GMA and Sparkle will never ask you to attend casting auditions, whether in person or online, where you will be required to take off your clothes. Nor will you ever be asked to send sexy photos or images where you are unclothed,” the statement read.

The broadcast network reiterated that audition-related matters, for now, are conducted through their website.

6 FILIPINO -CANADIANS SEEK CIVIC ELECTIVE POSTS

By: Tony A. San Juan, OCT.

The upcoming municipal elections on October 24, 2022, in Ontario will present the Filipino communities in the Greater Toronto Area(GTA) particularly with the challenge and opportunity to support and elect six Filipino Canadians who are running for civic seats.

Opo, mga kababayans, this time at least, 6 fully determined and courageous Filipinos have registered their candidacies in 3 cities and a municipality. The “Magnificent 6” are Rowena Santos, Lisa Abarquez Bower, Garry Tanuan, Luz Del Rosario, Grant Gonzales, and Ramon Estaris. The first 4 are running for reelection as Councillors or Trustees, while the next two, G. Gonzales and R. Estaris, are first-timers in city elections.

Rowena Santos is the first Filipino woman City Councillor of Brampton in the York region. Rowena, or “Weng” to her family, was elected in 2018. A proud Bramptonian, Santos was first elected in 2018 to the City Council for Wards 1 & 5 and is one of few women on Brampton Council. Rowena holds an H.B.B.A. degree from the Schulich



School of Business, and a Master’s in Sustainable Development and Environmental Planning from the London School of Economics. Rowena was born to Filipino parents and raised in Brampton. She is working towards her reelection and hopes to win in the October 24, 2022 election.. Rowena said: “She is running to continue serving her constituents and Brampton for a bright future.”

Grant Gonzales, a public affairs professional wanted to become a Councillor of Ward 9-Davenport in the City of Toronto. Canada-born Grant has a Bachelor’s degree from the University of Toronto and a Master’s degree from Carleton University. He is a lifelong resident of Davenport and a member of the 2SLGBTQ+ community. Grant’s civic engagements include being a Co-Founder of the Filipino Canadian Political Association and a former member of the University of Toronto’s Governing



Council. He’s running for Toronto City Council “to ensure all Davenport families can build financially secure, healthy, green, and vibrant lives”. Should he be elected, Grant will become the first Canadian-Filipino Councillor in the City of Toronto.

Ramon Estaris, is the Territory Head-North America of Megaworld International, a real estate conglomerate in the Philippines. A former President of the Philippine Independence Day Council(PIDC), Ramon is seeking the municipal council seat for Ward 2 in the town of Ajax. Ramon, a known leader in the Toronto Filipino community has established a business in Ajax being a real estate professional and a communication technology practitioner. He unsuccessfully ran for MPP in the 2018 provincial election. Ramon plans, if elected, to employ his political experience and interest and years of community volunteer service, as well as promote his platform of taking up issues that concern the residents of Ward 2.



Garry Tanuan is the longest-serving Fil-

ipino- Canadian Trustee at the Toronto Catholic School Board(TCDSB), Canada’s largest Catholic school district. Garry was first elected as Trustee for Ward 8 in the 2012 by-election and has been reelected twice in 2014 and 2018. He has served and serving in various capacities as Chairman, Vice-chair, or Member of the Board’s several

important committees. He helped formed the TCDSB Filipino Advisory Committee, and currently is the Chairman of the Special Board Advisory on Race Relations Committee. Garry Tanuan, an electrical engineer by training and profession, is continuously advocating for effective diversity, inclusion, and equity policies, and practices in the School Board. Ward 8 includes 15 Catholic elementary and two high schools in Scarborough, Toronto.

Luz Del Rosario is running for reelection as Trustee for Wards 6 & 11 in the Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board. Luz was elected Vice Chairman of DPDCSB in 2020, the first Filipino woman to serve as Vice-chair of DPDCSB, one of Canada’s largest Catholic school boards. She is a Certified Human Resource Professional(CHRP) and has completed a Bachelor



in Commerce degree from the Philippines. First elected in 2006, elected again in 2014, and reelected in 2018, Luz Del Rosario is vying for her 4th term as Trustee for Wards 6 & 11 in the City of Mississauga. “We have more work to do to ensure our children receive a high quality of education” Del Rosario pledged.

Lisa Bower is the first woman Councillor of Filipino heritage in the Municipality of Ajax, a suburb of Toronto. Lisa was first elected in

2018 representing Ward 3 in the Town of Ajax. She was born in Ajax and is a single mother of 2. As a member of Ajax Council, Lisa established the Ajax Homelessness Task Force which continues its work today through Community Development Council

Durham. Lisa has also served on the Ajax Heritage Advisory Committee, Ajax Accessibility Advisory Committee, Downtown Ajax BIA, and Ajax Pickering Road Watch Committee”I have thoroughly enjoyed my experiences as Ward 3’s Local Councillor for over 4 years. I could not have done it without your support and I am excited to be running for re-election now! “

Let us give the 6 Filipino-Canadian candidates our unequivocal help and utmost support. Kailangang-kailangan talaga na tulungan at ihatal natin ang bawat isa sa kanila. (TSJ)

Ruru Madrid recounts crying after Phillip Salvador slapped him during audition

Ruru Madrid looked back on how his showbiz career started and revealed that he once cried after veteran actor Phillip Salvador slapped him during one of his auditions.

The actor recalled his audition for GMA’s reality talent competition “Protégé” where Salvador served as one of the mentors, in an exclusive interview with actress-TV host Toni Gonzaga.

“At first, hindi ko alam na makapasok ako [sa ‘Protégé’] kasi nung time na ‘yon nung nag-audition ako, nan-

do’n na si Phillip Salvador. Syempre star-struck ako sa kanya and then may pinabasa sa aking monologue, kabisaduhin ko raw,” Madrid recounted. “Yung monologue was about parang tatay na binubugbog ‘yung anak tapos sumagot siya [Salvador] for the first time, hindi niya nararamdaman.”

Salvador then stood up from his seat and approached Madrid to recite the lines with him. Madrid was only able to utter a few words when Salvador, who was in character, slapped him.

“Pag sabi ko pa lang [ng first line] sinampal na ako — totoong sampal,”

Madrid stated. “Umiyak ako pero tinuloy ko ‘yung eksena and tinapos ko then sabi niya, ‘Good job.’”

(As soon as I uttered the first line, he slapped me — a real slap. I cried but I continued and finished the scene, then he told me, “Good job.”)

Aside from the said audition, Madrid also admitted that there was a time when fame got into his head after he landed a role in the 2016 TV series “Encantadia.” The actor then credited his faith which caused him to have self-awareness and to not be consumed by the highs of his career.

“Nung time ng ‘Encantadia’ parang lahat

ng tao nakatingin sa akin pero after no’n parang wala na,” he said. “So somehow, parang pinaramdam sa akin ni God na, ‘Sumobra ka do’n. Kailangan mong ibaba ulit ‘yung sarili mo.’”

(During “Encantandia,” it was as if everyone had their eyes on me, and when the show ended, I felt like [I] was nothing. So somehow, it was as if God made me feel that, “You had been excessive. You should humble yourself again.”)

Madrid currently stars in the action-fantasy TV series “Lolong” where he portrays the titular character. He is also part of the cast of the reality game show “Running Man Philippines” alongside Glaiza de Castro, Mikael Daez and Kokoy De Santos, among others.