

TRUMP’S TARIFFS ILLEGAL

Canada negotiates tariffs on steel and cars, Philippines to ask tariff exemptions for some products

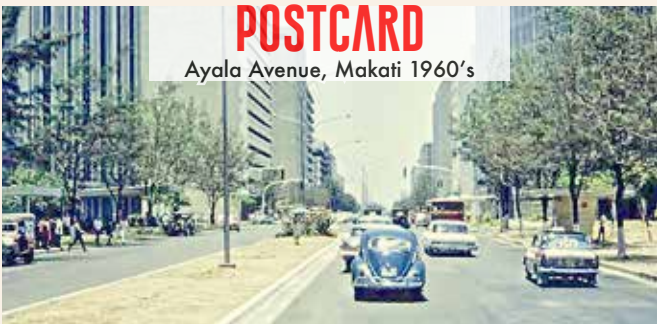
A U.S. appeals court on Friday upheld an earlier ruling that U.S. President Donald Trump’s tariffs on Canada and other countries under national emergency provisions were imposed illegally, but will keep the duties in place for now. **TARIIFS page 6**



PAGEANT WITH A CAUSE: Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation (PCCF) pageant winners of all ages are helping the foundation with their charitable projects.

Leylah Fernandez Dedicates DC Open Victory to Filipino Mother

Canadian tennis sensation Leylah Fernandez made a statement at the 2025 DC Open, securing her first WTA 500 title. In an emotional moment, Fernandez dedicated her victory to her Filipino mother, Irene Exe- **LEYLAH page 8**



‘Living Expenses’: Pinay author on infertility and representation

by Yona M. Harvey of Mabuhay Canada

When Teri Vlassopoulos began writing her novel, “Living Expenses,” she didn’t just want to tell a story about infertility—she also wanted to explore parts of herself that often went unseen. Born and raised in Toronto to a Filipina mother and Greek father, Vlassopoulos drew heavily from her biracial **LIVING EXPENSES page 21**

Toronto fans are losing the love as TIFF tries to please badly-needed sponsors

It’s getting harder for fans to get a selfie with the stars at TIFF as red carpet gets filled with sponsors. When Sandi Leung visited a Toronto International Film Festival red carpet for **TIFF page 17**



Honey Shot

Rose, 17, plays Varsity basketball, Volleyball and badminton. He hobbies are cooking, dabbling in the arts. For relaxation and exercise, she goes biking. She goes to Unionville High school. She is the daughter of Merrylyn Sabiaga and Vance Ham.

Jorlyn Rose Ibabao

Maris Racal on local athletes: 'I hope there's more support for them'

After the successful theatrical run of her film Sunshine, Maris Racal said she was proud of the feedback they received about her film with director Antonette Jadaone.

"The main goal of the film was to spread awareness, to get more people to be passionate about the message of the film. So I think we did it. We did that part. We took active, baby steps and nagawa natin paunti unti. And we're going to get there," she said.

The film, which tells the story of a young gymnast named Sunshine who faces a life-changing decision after she discovers she is pregnant while preparing for the tryouts of the national team, sheds light on issues like having to be faced with the country's restrictive population control laws as well as the struggles that Pinoy athletes go through. Maris also reacted to the buzz that her film should be considered as the country's bet for international film representation.

"Wala akong masabi but thank you to everyone for saying that. It's a big compliment. Honestly, I'm still over the moon. Hindi pa rin ako makapaniwala sa mga nangyayari. Hindi pa rin siya nag-si-sink in.

But nag-si-sink in na yung happiness. I'm just really, really busy right now promoting it. But I'm very thankful sa lahat ng nanuod," she added.

During the launch event of the Maya Black Credit Card, Maris also shared her message for local athletes. "For the athletes, I really support them in a way na I hope there's more support for them. Hindi lang yun papal-akpakan dahil kailangan palakpakan, dahil may na-achieve na. It's really about financial support while training while they're young. Kasi while training for Sunshine, namulat ako na marami pang puwedeng i-improve, including where they live, how they live. So kailangan talaga sinusupportahan natin yung mga athletes natin kasi part din sila ng culture ng Pilipinas," she shared.

Through her latest film, Maris also hoped it helped encourage more people to return to physically watching movies in theaters again, with a more reasonable



A SPLASH OF COLOR: LEFT, Artist Frank Cruzet judges the painting contest at the Bicol Canada Community Association (BCCA) annual summer picnic.



Toronto kapuso Lions club pose after the 1r monthly meeting.

cost.

"I'm very, very happy. Agree ako sa presyo. Parang kailangan abot kaya talaga para mas maraming manauod. Sana bumalik yung dating culture. I know sanay na tayo mag-stay na sa bahay ngayon but iba pa rin pag manauod ng pelikula," she said.

Sexy star Jenn Rosa on winning "Rainbow Rumble" P1 Million jackpot prize: "Hindi ako makapaniwala"

Sexy streaming stars Jenn Rosa, Arah Alonzo, Zsara Laxamana, Apple Dy, and Ayanna Misola brought the heat to the August 30 episode of "Rainbow Rumble," and proved they're not just stunners but certified brainy babes, too.



Even the girls who didn't make it to the final game were all smiles as they celebrated Jenn's victory. The experience also left them with some lessons worth remembering. Apple was reminded of her belief that "kung para sa'yo, para sa'yo." Arah emphasized the need to always read and build stock knowledge, or as Ayanna put it, being updated on the news and current events is just as important. Quick reflexes matter too, especially when it's time to 'swipe' on color tiles.

For Jenn, focus and prayer made all the difference. She was so nervous before the game that she even considered backing out, which is why her win feels so surreal. With her one-million-peso prize, Jenn will use a portion for her schooling, support her nephew's education as his guardian, and set aside a portion for a charity she actively helps.



JDL at Mabuhay festival 2025

Josie de leon (JDL) School of Performing Arts students performed at the Mabuhay festival at Nathan Phillipps Square. PHOTOS BY CARLOS UNAS



KathReid? Kathryn Bernardo says no love team with James Reid



Kathryn Bernardo and James Reid's latest TV offering will not be the start of a love team, as the actress clarified that it would be more of a "professional partnership" with the actor-singer.

Bernardo decided to accept the project because she became attracted to the storyline, aside from the fact that this would be her and Reid's comeback project.

"Out of all the stories that they have presented, parang ito 'yung gusto kong gawin (this is what I wanted to do) kasi it's not just a love story. It's about friendship and family, and it's about women," she said. "It's not a love team, more of partnership talaga because this is his comeback as well."

This marks Reid's teleserye comeback after nine years. His last TV project was the 2016 drama "Till I Met You," which starred his ex-girlfriend and ex-onscreen partner Nadine Lustre.

The Dreamscape-helmed drama is also a comeback for Bernardo after "2 Good 2 Be True" in 2022, with her ex-boyfriend Daniel Padilla as her leading man.

Since Bernardo and Reid come from different love teams, the actress said she and the actor-singer have been adjusting to each other. She added that neither of them expected their partnership either.

"Si James, first time kong makausap for that long and makilala, so nagkakapaan pa kami but definitely, very excited din siya. We'll start taping very, very soon, like next week," she said.

"When we shot for our [promo] video and look test, parang grabe, who would've thought, diba na after ilang years? We're both from different love teams and comeback niya rin. Tapos posible na talaga ngayon. It's exciting, and it excites us," she said.

(It's my first time talking and knowing James for that long, so we're still adjusting to each other. He's definitely very excited. We'll start taping very, very soon, like next week. When we shot for our promo video and look test, we were amazed. Who would've thought after so many years? We're both from different love teams, and it is also his comeback. It's really possible now. It's exciting, and it excites us.)

Details on the drama's title, storyline, cast members, and premiere date are yet to be announced, as of this writing.

Barbie Forteza on her healing journey: 'Mas naniniwala na ako sa sarili ko ngayon'

Kapuso actress Barbie Forteza shared how she has discovered more about herself this year as she started on a "clean slate." In the latest YouTube vlog of award-winning actress Eugene Domingo, the P77 star admitted getting her groove back-- both physically and mentally.

It was earlier this year when Barbie surprised her fans as she revealed her breakup with longtime boyfriend, Jak Roberto. She admitted how it felt scary as she was "back to zero" but she realized how it could be a sign by the universe for her to explore other things.

"Well 'yung simula nung taon na ito, literal na clean slate kumbaga. Akala ko it will be scary na shocks, back to zero ako, saan ako magsisimula kasi talagang blank can-

vas. Siguro it was also the universe telling me na 'try mo naman to'. Hindi na rin siya super blank canvas kasi kahit papaano, at the back of my head, meron na akong mga activities na gusto ko na i-try. May ideas na," she shared.

The Kapuso star turned to other activities such as running, tennis, and pilates to focus on her healing journey. She also travelled to South Korea where she spent Valentine's day alone. She expressed how thankful she is for the various sports she got into as she became physically stronger as well.

"Dahil sa running at pilates, nararam-daman ko 'yung mga bagay na hindi ko mabuhay dati, 'yung mga simpleng malalaking maleta -- kaya kong bitbitin. 'Yung maleta ko sa Korea, wala akong kasama, nabibitbit ko siya mag-isa. 'Yung strength, nandoon," she said.

She then shared how the stars have aligned for her healing journey. During the first quarter of this year, she just had a few projects, giving her more time to experience life outside of work. It was because of this that she found confidence in herself once more.

"Mas naniniwala na ako sa sarili ko ngayon. Doon ako nagsimula: na 'yung thinking na ganoon, wala ako na hindi kaya. May mga bagay lang talaga ako na ayoko gawin. Lahat ng mga feeling ko gusto



kong gawin na hindi ko kaya, inaral kong kayanin," she explained

Bianca Gonzalez slams kids of 'corrupt' officials for flaunting lavish lifestyle

Bianca Gonzalez called out the children of government officials who flaunt their lavish lifestyles on social media without a care for Filipinos who may be having a hard time making ends meet.

On X, Gonzalez spoke out amid the lifestyle check on some government officials and government contractors in the wake of public scrutiny over alleged anomalous multimillion-peso flood control projects.

"My feed is filled with posts on the lavish lifestyles of kids of corrupt officials.... and here we are, mga walang generational wealth o nakaw na yaman, na kumakayod araw-araw, na minsan'y nahihiya pa mag-post ng travel o ng nabili kasi baka 'may-abang' ang dating [shy emoji] paano ba to," she wrote.

(My feed is filled with posts on the lavish lifestyles of kids of corrupt officials.... and here we are, those without generational wealth or stolen wealth, who work hard every day, who are sometimes even ashamed to post about their travel or purchases because they might seem "arrogant," how do we go about this?)

— Bianca Gonzalez Intal (@iamsuperbianca) August 28, 2025

While her post did not directly name specific individuals, Gonzalez's statement came after netizens called out the children



Fil-Canadian Artists Exhibit at the McKay Art Centre, Unionville

Frank Cruzet, Jhun Ciolo Diamante, and Nerissa Pineda, contemporary artists of Filipino ancestry, showcase their recent works at the McKay Art Centre from Sept. 10 to 14, 2025.

Their works feature landscapes, florals, abstracts, and portraits. These are painters in love with creating art, painting in different styles--Matisse, Bonnard, Manet, the Group of Seven, and Fernando Amorsolo come to mind.

Some works are inflected with a Philippine flavour, such as Diamante's "Jeepneys," aromatic depiction of Manila's famous mode of transport. Pineda's "Chickens in the Yard" paints a favourite denizen of Philippine backyards, while her "Lady" features a woman who is perhaps a member of the Philippine elite. Cruzet's paintings reveal his love of the Canadian landscape and the

Group of Seven, earning him the epithet, the Seven's eight member, within the Ontario Fil-Can community.

WARNING: The variety in genres and styles at this Exhibit might give it an art museum vibe.

DATES: Sept 10 to 14, 2025; Sept 10 (Wed.), 12:00 PM to 9:00 PM; Sept 11 and Sept. 12, 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM; Sept 13, 12:00 PM to 9:00 PM; Sept 14, 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM

PLACE: McKay Art Centre, 197 Main Street, Unionville

RECEPTION: Meet the Artists on Saturday, Sept 13, 2025 from 1:00PM to 4:00 PM.

CONTACT: Nerissa Pineda
nerissacynthia.pineda@gmail.com

647-945-8845

"In the Paint: Unionville and Beyond"

McKay Art Centre
197 Main Street, Unionville

Reception: Saturday, Sept. 13, 2025, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM.
Light refreshments will be served.
Exhibit runs from Wednesday, Sept 10 to Sunday, Sept 14, 2025 from 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM.

Hours:
Wed: 12:00 PM to 9:00 PM Saturday: 12:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Thurs: 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM Sunday 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM
Friday: 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM Monday: Closed.

Frank Cruzet, Jhun Ciolo Diamante, and Nerissa Pineda present their latest works - a 40-plus collection of small to large paintings, featuring landscapes, florals, portraits, and abstracts.

A special feature of the Exhibit are scenes from the beautiful village of Unionville.

of some politicians who were allegedly involved in the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) flood control projects, and which are now subject of a government lifestyle check.

One of the names that came up on social media was Claudine Co, daughter of former Ako Bicol Party-list Rep. Christopher Co, whose company Hi-Tone Construction and Development Corporation was among the 15 construction firms flagged by the government as among those that won alleged anomalous multimillion contracts with the DPWH.

Following the backlash, Claudine has deactivated all her social media accounts, and could not be reached for comment.



RIGHT, John Spenese gets to sing a duet with Kyline Alcantara at the Gabi Ng Pasasalamat concert.



Madi-Discaya ka lang

Trump beating us with Repeatism

If there is something Trump is succeeding, it's that he is beating us into submission by changing the rules on a regular basis. If it's not weekly, it's at least every few days. I don't think he has changed the rules on a daily basis yet. One day, he says the tariff is going to be 10%. The next week, it's going to be 50%. Then, three days later, it's going to be 75%.

Trump is employing the same tactic China is doing to us at the West Philippine Sea. They harass us on an irregular basis. One day, they are there. The next day, they are there. Then, they disappear for a few days. The next sighting, it's 50 of their militia boats.

The intention is the same. Trump is boring us into boredom. Admit it, sino ang sawa na sa karirinig ng word na "tariff?"

In fact, we're starting to prepare ourselves na nga na tataas ang mga price ng mga groceries, cars, utilities at lahat na.

As we Filipinos say, "bahala na." Bring it on na lang. 😞

A Scandal to cover a Scandal

In the Philippines, you don't know anymore which scandal to follow. And you don't know which one came first. Ironically, you don't even know if some of these were just made up to cover an issue na hindi napapnsin ng Pinoy. Pero, they create the scandal to make sure na hindi nga mapansin ng Pinoy. Right now, here are the issues and scandals currently going on.

- Trump tariffs sa Pilipinas (No issue? Yes, no, maybe.)
- Nicolas Torre removed as Philippine National Police (PNP) chief after three months. (BIG ISSUE)

- Elections in the Bangsamoro



Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM)

- Flood control with floods (REALLY BIG ISSUE)
- Flood control contractor couple Discaya ang their very expensive 38 cars like Rolls Royce, Bentley, Escalade, Porsche, Maserati, Volvo, Isuzu, Dodge Ram, Chevrolet, Lexus, Ford Bronco, Jaguar, BMW, GMC, Jeep, Mercedes-Benz, Land Rover, and Toyota.

These are the car collections of Rowena "Sarah" Discaya and her husband Pacifico "Curlee" Discaya II.

For Sarah, the cars contribute to their company's branding, as much as it is about indulgence.

"Sa business side, siyempre, your clients come here and nakita nila, they know that we have the capacity to execute a project.

"Parang ito [garage], part of our resume. Kumbaga pag nag-a-apply ng trabaho, kaya mo. May abilidad ka na gumawa ng ano, kasi may mga ganito kang sasakyan."

I think she is what you might say "tone-deaf."

At one point, she points out that they bought the Rolls-Royce because it came with an umbrella holder.

I don't know when the video was done or if it was shown again but as one of the flood control contractors of Department



of Public Works and Highways, it does not look good.

Nakak-discaya basahin itong mga ito. 😞

The recent rains brought floods to almost every town in the Philippines. Ano ba iyan?

PNP Torre was removed as chief after just 85 days. Torre became chief after he arrested former President Rodrigo Duterte that sent the strongman to Hague.

Sino kaya nasagasaan ni Torre? Was he too efficient and honest in his job? Hay naku, kawawa naman ang Pilipinas. 😞

Iyon tariffs ni Trump sa Pilipinas, walang issue diyan. Wala naman talaga tayong magagawa. Iyong ibang bansa nga na malalaki, wala rin magawa. Unless, may nama-maritess kayo na hindi ko alam.

Now, itong election sa Mindanao pala ang may issue. Ilang beses nang na-postpone dahil papalit-palit daw ng mga nakaupo. Pinapakialaman daw

ng Malacañang. Ano kaya issue? Pera sigurado.

So, which of these scandals are created to cover the other scandals? Ganyan sa Pilipinas.

Julia Barretto & Gerald Anderson Cooling Off sa Relationship

Naku ha, may cooling off ba sa relationship? Ang kotse, kapag nag-overheat, may cooling off. Ang relationship, ang cooling off ay another word for break-up. Ibig sabihin, sawa na silang kainin ang isa't isa, titikman po muna nila ang ibang tao. Para maiiba naman ang lasa. Baka may ibang mas masarap. Ganyan lang iyan.

But don't blame me. I am not the third party. Kapag may nagbe-breakup kasi, ako lagi ang suspect na third party.

Ehe este, ano ba itong nasabi ko? Sus Guinoo ni Roxanne na nakatihaya. 😊

The Truth according to Malacañang

There is no truth that Duterte's arrest on March 11 was to distract attention from the March 9 death of Rustan's heir Paolo Tantoco in Los Angeles. According to public coroner's records, his death was ruled accidental, with cocaine use listed as the "primary cause", and heart disease cited as a significant contributing factor. Tantoco died in a Beverly Hills hotel while in the US and is not part of First Lady Liza Araneta Marcos' entourage. The First lady flew to the US for the Manila International Film Festival (MIFF) which was held from March 4 to 7, 2025. Iyan lang po.

India wants to sell us rice

This might be the result of Trump's imposing 50% tariff on India. Dahil siguro mahal na ang mga Indian products sa America, nagta-try na siguro ang India na ibenta sa ibang lugar ang mga products nila. One of these products is rice. Sus Guinoo, dadami na naman ang mga unli-rice na food vendors sa Pilipinas. Dadami siguro ang basmati rice sa atin kapag nagkataan.

Crossover Canada Strikes Gold in Las Vegas, Wins SBP Showcase

Championship in OT Thriller

Las Vegas, NV — In a showcase filled with top-tier talent and fierce competi-

tion, Crossover Canada rose above the rest, capturing the SBP Las Vegas Showcase Championship with a thrilling 89–85 overtime victory over U.S.-based powerhouse Fil-Am Nation Select.

The tournament, held July 28–31,

Canadian squad.

Fil-Am Nation Select, known for bringing together top Filipino-American players from across the United States, came

te, Karl Reynoso, and Joaquin Brooks, who all delivered big moments throughout the final. Coaching staff includes Jeff Sarsadias - HC, Andre Cruz and Glenn Suan - AHC and Rod Garcia as consultant.



tion, Crossover

Canada rose above the rest, capturing the SBP Las Vegas Showcase Championship with a thrilling 89–85 overtime victory over U.S.-based powerhouse Fil-Am Nation Select.

The tournament, held July 28–31,

talent across North America.

The event featured top grassroots programs from the U.S. and Canada, including NABA Inter City, Tumakbo Basketball, PBA Winnipeg, and Familya Washington DC — making the championship all the more meaningful for the

into the title game as heavy favorites. But Crossover Canada, displaying toughness, teamwork, and elite execution, pushed the game into overtime and closed it out with clutch performances across the board.

Key contributors included Liam Bundalian, Ethan Sarsadias, Jaxen Bustaman-

"This wasn't just about winning a game — it was about showing the world what Filipino-Canadian talent is made of," said Michael Cruz, Head of Delegation for Crossover Canada. "Beating a team like Fil-Am Nation in overtime, in the championship, in front of SBP — that's like striking gold in Vegas. These boys earned

PERSPECTIVE AND PERCEPTION

Glimpses On Significant Developments In The Philippines



Tony A. San Juan, OCT.

Disciplining A Child: Abuse Case.

According to the Philippine Supreme Court(SC), “Disciplining children will be considered child abuse if there is a clear intent to harm the child’s dignity.” As reported by a national newspaper, citing a decision written by SC Associate Justice Jhosep Lopez, said that “The Supreme Court reiterated that disciplining children, even if it results in physical injuries, does not automatically amount to child abuse. For such to be considered abuse, there must be a clear intent to harm a child’s dignity.” The High Court added that the parents’ discipline measures for their children “should not be violent, excessive, or disproportionate to their misbehaviour.” It also stressed that if there is no intent to harm the child’s dignity, the offender will not be liable for child abuse but can be charged with other crimes under the Revised Penal Code instead. In this recent case ruling, the SC affirmed a lower court’s decision finding a father guilty of violent and excessive discipline for his 12-year-old daughter and 10-year-old son. The SC found that the father beat his children from 2017- 2018, kicking his daughter, striking her with a wooden rod with a nail, pulling her hair, hitting his children with a dustpan, and cursing at them. The SC noted that “The father appealed to the SC, arguing that he had no intention of harming his children’s dignity.” However, the SC ruled that “his actions went beyond reasonable discipline, showing a clear intent to harm the children’s dignity.” Previously, the Regional Trial Court (RTC) and the Court of Appeals (CA) found the father guilty of violating Republic Act No. 7610



Filipino Literacy Rate.

Basic literacy refers to “the ability to read and write with comprehension a simple message in a language or dialect, and to carry out basic mathematics.” Functional literacy skills, on the other hand, refer to “higher-level skills in addition to reading, writing, and computing, such as drawing inferences from text and integrating information.” According to the 2024 Functional Literacy, Education and Mass Media Survey (FLEMMS) released by the Philippine Statistics Authority on July 2, 2025, it said that 90 per cent of Filipinos aged five and older, around 93.09 million out of the latest population count of 103.46 million have basic literacy skills. This means that seven in 10 Filipinos aged 10 to 64 are functionally literate, while a high nine in 10 can read, write and perform basic mathematics. The FLEMMS indicated fur-

ther that about 60.17 million out of 85 million Filipinos aged 10 to 64 can read, write, compute and comprehend written information, meaning that they have high literacy skills.

Although the literacy rates may seem encouraging, the study also showed that 6.9 % of Filipinos aged five and older remain illiterate, people who cannot read, write or perform basic arithmetic. The PSA noted that “A significant gap between basic and functional literacy, with the gap widest in the 60 to 64 age group. “Ang mataas na rate ng literacy ay hindi maaaring kalimutan o pabayaang ng mga stakeholders para maging kampante. Ang edukasyon sa Pilipinas ay nasa krisis at nangangailangan ng lubos na atensyon at tulong ng mga kina-uukulan, lalo na ang gobierno at ng lipunan, ng mga guro, at mga namumuno sa edukasyon at mga paaralan..”

or the “Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act.” Section 3(b) of the law defines child abuse as “any act by deeds or words which debases, degrades or demeans the intrinsic worth and dig-

nity of a child as a human being.” “Sa panahon ngayon, ang mga magulang ay dapat mag-ingat sa pagdi-disiplina ng kanilang anak, lalo na kung gagamit ng hindi tamang pamamaraan at may parusang marahas, emosyonal o pisikal

na masasaktan ang kanilang anak na hindi angkop at tanggap ng ating batas at lipunan.”

A Bigamy Case.

In the Philippine legal system, bigamy is governed primarily by the Revised Penal Code (RPC) of 1930. Bigamy is explicitly defined and penalized under Article 349 of the Revised Penal Code (Act No. 3815, as amended). The code defines two types of bigamy. The first is simply that “you remarry even though your first marriage has not been dissolved.” The second is “those who contract to marry without having a definitive judgment that the former spouse is truly dead.” Over the years, jurisprudence from the Philippine Supreme Court and lower courts “has refined the application of bigamy laws, addressing nuances such as good faith, foreign divorces, and the interplay with civil family laws.” In a recent case, the High Court upheld the conviction of one Erwin Bonbon, who was found guilty of bigamy after marrying Elizabeth Bonbon in 1999 while still legally married to another woman. Court records show Bonbon first married Gemma Cunada in 1988. He entered into another marriage in 1994, followed by his marriage to Elizabeth in 1999, all without legally ending his preceding marriages. The Supreme Court (SC) has ruled that the 15-year time limit for filing bigamy cases begins not when the bigamous marriage is registered with the government, but when it is discovered. “Ang kasong ito ay kriminal sa pagpasok sa isang polygamous marriage nang hindi tinatapos ang na-unang kasal sa pamamagitan ng legal na kinikilalang paraan. Ito ay isang pampublikong krimen (delito publico), na maaaring usigin ng Estado anuman ang pahintulot o reklamo ng nasaktan, na binibigyang-diin ang epekto nito sa moralidad ng lipunan sa halip na pribadong pinsala lamang.

Shuvee Etrata embraces her practical era

Fresh from her stint on “Pinoy Big Brother: Celebrity Collab Edition,” Shuvee Etrata is stepping into what she proudly calls her “practical era.” With endorsement deals coming her way and a growing fan base behind her, the 24-year-old has found herself juggling fame, finances, and a new home — all while staying true to her grounded personality.

Since leaving the PBB house, Etrata has been tapped by several brands drawn to her authenticity, charm and wit. Most recently, she was announced as the new face Filipino hygiene brand Femme.

“I’m excited to begin my Femme era with a brand that values practicality and encourages women to live confidently every day,” Etrata said during the contract signing.

“Femme’s commitment to quality, comfort, and purposeful living resonates with how I approach my own life and career. I’m proud to represent a brand that supports women in making choices that truly matter,” she added.

For Etrata, however, practicality is not just branding but it’s her way of life. Despite her growing success, she admits she has to be pushed to indulge in luxuries.

“The challenge for my team is to make me splurge because I’m a cheapskate,” the Cebuana from Bantayan Island said with a laugh.

“I know the feeling when you have nothing, when you don’t have anything to pull from your pockets or



wallet, that’s how hard life was for me. So now that I’m given all of these opportunities, I want to be smart about my spendings,” she continued.

Etrata said she has a financial advisor to help her work toward her big goal — buying land and eventually building a house for her family.

“But for my self-needs, I’m don’t really like splurging a lot, I only want to spend on necessities,” she added.

That practicality shows in her day-to-day life, too, as she prepares to move into a larger home with best friend and fellow actress Ashley Ortega.

“We’re supposed to move this month but I haven’t been able to do what I need to do. That house has a bigger space for me and Ashley. We didn’t meet inside PBB, but we live together in one house for a long time outside PBB,” she said.

For Etrata, this practicality goes beyond personal finance. When asked about fame, the grounded actress said she is taking it as a responsibility.

“I want to be a good inspiration to everybody. Now that I know I hold so much responsibility, I take it as a challenge to handle myself with grace under pressure. I know brands trust me and supporters believe in me.

“There are many people depending on me, but I always go back to my core — fame is nothing if you don’t know yourself. I’m happy that during my PBB journey, I

was loved for who I am. I don’t need to pretend or wear a mask every day. They love me for being me, and that makes me happy. With that, I just want to be an inspiration, a good role model, and share my values and advocacy as I continue this journey with them,” Etrata added.

Meanwhile, Etrata’s advice to her fellow Gen Zs aligns with her new partnership’s message: be practical, especially with finances.

“What’s important is to save for the future. You don’t need to earn a lot or buy expensive things — unless it truly makes you happy. But for me, it’s about practicality,” she said.

She added that being practical goes beyond money and applies to life decisions in general.

“Think carefully before making choices, because we live in a world where it’s easy to compare ourselves to others on social media. But there’s no need for comparison — it only steals happiness. Just be content, embrace who you are, and find joy in doing things your own way,” Etrata finally said.

Kim Chiu, sister Lakam stir speculation after unfollowing each other on Instagram

Fans of actress and television host Kim Chiu were quick to speculate about a possible rift with her older sister, Lakam Chiu, after noticing the two no longer follow each other on Instagram.

As of Thursday, a check of their respective accounts showed that both have removed each other from their following lists. The move surprised followers, as the sisters have long been known for their close relationship, often ap-

pearing together in public events and family gatherings.

The unfollowing came days after Kim shared a cryptic Instagram update on Aug. 4. The post featured a video of her spending time with another sister, Twinkle, and brother-in-law Carlo Suarez. In the clip, Kim is seen relaxing in a home setting with family.

Overlaid text on the video read, “Alt+F4ing reality for a sec. It’s been a ride lately, not the fun kind.” The Alt+F4 keyboard command is commonly used to close a program on Windows computers.

In the caption, she wrote, “Didn’t expect it. Didn’t prepare for it. Just needed this moment to breathe.”

The post’s tone prompted comments from fans suggesting the actress might be dealing with personal or family issues. Others expressed hope the sisters would reconcile.

Kim, a mainstay host on ABS-CBN’s “It’s Showtime,” has also been absent from the noontime program for the past week.

Lakam, who manages some of Kim’s franchise businesses, has not issued any statement regarding the matter. The sisters were last seen together publicly on June 16 during Father’s Day celebrations with their father, William Chiu.

In 2023, Kim publicly prayed for Lakam’s recovery following a health scare, describing her as “my right hand, and also my left hand,” and vowing they would “grow old together.”

As of posting, neither Kim nor Lakam has addressed their social media activity or the speculation surrounding it.



PH's Mister Cosmopolitan bet grateful to strangers who defend him online

Mister Pilipinas Worldwide second runner-up Kenneth Marcelino, who is set to represent the country in the 2025 Mister Cosmopolitan contest, has been on the receiving end of vicious comments like most pageant participants.

But the Laguna-based make-up artist and volleyball player finds comfort in knowing that there are people who are willing to protect him, and defend him, with most of them he does not even personally know.

"Most of the comments I receive are good ones, and I'm grateful. Even if I don't know who they are, I could see their love and support for me," Marcelino said in Filipino at his sendoff held at the KMC Armstrong Corporate Centre in Makati City on Thursday afternoon, Aug. 28.

He was joined at the event by his fellow Mister Pilipinas Worldwide winners, whose



competitions are also nearing — Kirk Bondad for Mister International and Jether Palomo for Mister Global.

Marcelino shared that people have been criticizing him for his communication skills, his body, his gender, and even his skin tone. But he said that his fear diminishes knowing how much support he has been getting, not only from his own circle, but more so from strangers.

He won the right to represent the Philippines in this year's

Mister Cosmopolitan contest by emerging as one of the finalists in the recent Mister Pilipinas Worldwide competition, where he faced several other contenders with international experience, including Bondad and Palomo.

Seven national titles were bestowed at the end of the competition, five of which went to seasoned international veterans, while another one went to a former national titleholder. Marcelino was the lone rookie to earn a placement.

Marcelino is set to fly to Bangkok, Thailand, for the third edition of the Mister Cosmopolitan contest on Sept. 2. The final competition is scheduled on Sept. 7.

The Philippines' Ivan Ignacio finished third in the contest's inaugural staging in 2023, while Emerson Gomez landed a Top 10 spot and topped the formal wear competition last year.

Julia Barretto, Gerald Anderson in 'cool off stage'

Veteran showbiz reporter Ogie Diaz claimed that showbiz couple Gerald Anderson and Julia Barretto are currently in the "cool off stage" in their relationship.

In his latest video of his Ogie Diaz Showbiz Update YouTube channel, Ogie's co-host Mama Loi Villarama brought up that both are rarely in each other's Instagram accounts now, something Ogie has noticed as well.

Despite this, Ogie believes that the celebrity couple are in it for the long haul, "Nakikita kong si Gerald at Julia, parang sila 'yung future. Sila pa rin 'yung ending."

However according to one of his sources, Julia and Gerald are currently "cooling off."



Ogie asked his source the reason behind the "cool off" situation and was told there were other people involved.

"Mayroon daw third party. Totoo ba 'yun? May third party daw?" Ogie said, which even caught Mama Loi by surprise.

While not mentioning any names, according to Ogie there may be not just one person caught in between the relationship or he may have misunderstand his source, reiterating that only Gerald and Julia could clarify the situation.

Ogie again repeated that what he knows is Julia really loves Gerald despite any possible rift happening between them.

"Iiwan natin sa kanila 'yan. Hindi po iyan kumpirmado, naibalita lamang iyan sa akin," Ogie ended. "Parang naghihin-tay lang daw ng signs si Julia kasi kapag sila na ulit, kailangan kasalan na."

Trump's Tariffs are Illegal

TARIIFS from page 1

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in Washington, D.C., in a split decision, agreed with a specialized federal trade court that Trump exceeded his authority as president by hitting Canada, Mexico, China and dozens of other trading partners with sweeping tariffs that have upended global trade and economies.

The ruling did not strike down the tariffs immediately, however, but instead keeps them in place until Oct. 14 to allow for the Trump administration to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

"ALL TARIFF ARE STILL IN EFFECT," Trump posted on his Truth Social website after the ruling was released.

"Today a Highly Partisan Appeals Court incorrectly said that our tariffs should be removed, but they know the United States of America will win in the end."

The 7-4 decision upholds a ruling in May by the U.S. Court of International Trade, which found Trump's use of the International



Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) to impose tariffs by declaring national

emergencies was unlawful and violated the U.S. Constitution, which affords tariffing and tax powers to the U.S. Congress.

That court's order to immediately rescind Trump's tariffs was quickly stayed by the appeals court to allow the case to proceed.

Trump used IEEPA for two of his largest trading policies: so-called "reciprocal tariffs" on dozens of countries to combat what Trump claimed was a national emergency of trade deficits; and what the courts have referred to as "trafficking tariffs" on Canada, Mexico and China, which Trump has accused of contributing to a national emergency of fentanyl entering the U.S.

The majority of justices on the appeals court sided with the trade court in noting the IEEPA makes

no mention of tariffs, and that the Trump administration was wrong to argue the president has unlimited tariffing power under that law.

"We are not addressing whether the President's actions should have been taken as a matter of policy. Nor are we deciding whether IEEPA authorizes any tariffs at all," the majority wrote.

"Rather, the only issue we resolve on appeal is whether the Trafficking Tariffs and Reciprocal Tariffs imposed by the Challenged Executive Orders are authorized by IEEPA. We conclude they are not."

The court noted Trump has other powers to impose tariffs without Congress, including Section 232 of the U.S. Trade Expansion Act, which has been used to tariff foreign steel, aluminum and other specific sectors.

White House spokesperson Kush Desai said in a statement to Global News that the administration "look(s) forward to ultimate victory in this matter."

"President Trump lawfully exercised the tariff powers granted to him by Congress to defend our national and economic security from foreign threats," Desai said.

The case was originally brought by several U.S. state attorneys general and a group of private American businesses that have argued the tariffs add

extra costs and uncertainty to international trade, as well as small businesses and consumers who rely on cheaper foreign goods. The lawsuits did not address the Section 232 tariffs.

"The President cannot lawfully impose tariffs on his own, and IEEPA does not give him unlimited unilateral tariff authority," Jeffrey Schwab of the Liberty Justice Center, which brought the lawsuit on behalf of the private business plaintiffs, said in a statement after the ruling.

"This decision protects American businesses and consumers from the uncertainty and harm caused by these unlawful tariffs."

Philippines seeking US tariff exemptions for selected exports

THE PHILIPPINES is asking the US to exempt exports of agricultural products and other goods from the 19% tariff imposed by US President Donald J. Trump, a Trade official said.

Trade Undersecretary Allan B. Gepty said the government is seeking US tariff exemptions for exports of agricultural commodities, electronics, vehicle tires, bags and aircraft parts.

"We submitted a list of products we asked the US to exempt from the imposed tariff rates, because these are key and complementary items. And some of them, in fact, are not even produced or manufactured there (in the US)," he told senators at a Senate briefing on the tariff set by Washington on Philippine exports.

"The immediate need right now is we want to negotiate for an exemption, because we want

to protect our industries whose main export market is the US," he added.

The US began imposing a 19% tariff on Philippine goods starting Aug. 7.

"We already submitted to the US the products that should be exempted from the reciprocal tariffs," he said.

Mr. Gepty said about 23% of the country's total exports to the US are exempted from the 19% tariff.

In June, the United States was the top destination for Philippine-made goods amounting to \$1.22 billion, 35.2% higher from the same month a year ago.

Around 53% of the Philippines' total exports to the US were semiconductors and electronics, Mr. Gepty said.

The US has yet to set new global tariffs for semiconductors and pharmaceuticals. Mr. Trump had earlier said he plans to announce higher tariffs on imports of semiconductors, but companies that plan to build manufacturing facilities in the US would be exempted.

"Ninety-nine percent of our semiconductors as of now are still exempted, there's still no problem" he said. "If the 100% continues, that's a big problem," he added.

Mr. Gepty said most of the semiconductors are made by US companies in the Philippines

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PCCF Donates \$10,000 to

Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation Reaffirms 15-Year Commitment to Helping the Poor

Toronto, ON – In an inspiring display of unity and compassion, the Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation (PCCF) proudly donated \$10,000 to ANCOP Canada during the highly anticipated ANCOP Walk 2025 held last August 16, 2025 at Centennial Park, Toronto. This generous donation marks another milestone in PCCF's ongoing 15-year partnership with ANCOP, an organization dedicated to transforming the lives of the poor through education, housing, and community development.

Despite the extreme 40°C heat, hundreds of supporters came together to participate in the annual 4KM walk, determined to raise awareness and funds to support ANCOP's life-changing programs. The PCCF delegation, led by



PCCF President Rosemer Enverga, Lita & Tony Leano. She was joined by the PCCF Beauties, including Princess Saladino (Miss Philippines Canada 2025), Andrea Penaverde (1st Runner-Up), Krystelle Rivas (Little Miss Philippines Canada 2025), Joyce Lobendino (Miss Philippines Canada Candidate), and Hannah

in the Philippines. Over the years,

PCCF has contributed to numerous ANCOP projects, including the establishment of the PCCF ANCOP Village in Caloocan City, a haven for families impacted by leprosy. During PCCF's most recent humanitarian visit

(Little Miss Philippines Canada Sunshine 2024). They were accompanied by their families who also supported this worthy cause.

PCCF's enduring support for ANCOP reflects a shared mission to uplift the lives of the poor, not just in Canada but especially

to the Philippines, the foundation also funded a scholarship program, enabling promising but underprivileged students to pursue their academic dreams.

"Our commitment to ANCOP is rooted in our belief that every individual deserves a chance at a better life," said President Rosemer Enverga. "Whether it's building a safe home or funding a child's education, we're proud to be part of a mission that brings real, lasting change."

The ANCOP Walk serves not only as a fundraising event but also as a celebration of hope, unity, and the power of giving. PCCF extends its heartfelt thanks to all participants, volunteers, and donors who braved the heat and gave generously to the cause.

Let's build more houses for the poor!

For more information:

- Visit: www.PhilippineCanadianFoundation.com
- Like: fb.com/PhilippineCanadianFoundation
- Email: PhilippineCanadianFoundation@gmail.com

Neil Ryan Sese and Pancho Magno share trade secrets

Pancho Magno is happily co-parenting son Skye with ex Max Collins.

Unlike in Hollywood, where actors have ample time to prepare physically and mentally for their roles, Filipino thespians like Neil Ryan Sese and Pancho Magno face tight shooting schedules that prevent them from having the same luxury of time as their foreign counterparts.

However, both Neil and Pancho consistently approach their roles with depth and sincerity in all their projects, the latest being the GMA drama series "Cruz vs. Cruz," where they portray the male lead characters.

The two actors understand that acting is about performing truthfully within imaginary situations. And doing so requires skill. So, don't be misled into thinking that anyone who can read and speak can automatically become an actor. The ability to fully imagine, analyze a script and develop a voice that fits the role are part of creating a successful performance plan.

Love for the craft is essential for Neil, but his "main secret" is memorizing his lines, "because how will you be able to act if you do not know your lines, and that's the main reason why other actors slip up in pacing."

Pancho, on the other hand, prepares for the role by mentally adopting the character's persona before heading to the set. It also helps him respond appropriately to situations with his co-star by intentionally keeping his distance and avoiding small talk before the shoot.

Working with seasoned actors has also taught Pancho important life lessons and acting techniques. "Well, more on mga tinuturo sa akin, lalo na ng mga veterans, is to always keep a good relationship with your colleagues. It goes a long way with your acting," he said.

"You'll be more comfortable with the scenes if you have a good relationship with the people you work with, as we can openly discuss what works best. And if you show respect toward your co-actors and the staff,



then it will be a very conducive environment," he added.

Aside from acting talent, Neil also believes that building a good rapport with everyone on set is key to getting more projects. "Yung mahusay makisama, 'yun ang unang puhunan dito (showbiz) because there are plenty of talented actors. But if you have talent but are difficult to work with on set, and you're hard to get along with, then nothing will come out well."

Fortunately, Neil and Pancho find everyone on the set of "Cruz vs. Cruz" easy to get along with.

Thus, they get to focus on their roles in the story that mirrors the realities of life.

"The story is based on real life, where issues of pride exist, warring families, cases of infidelity and emotional conflicts within the family,"

described Neil of the drama series.

Pancho said it cannot be denied that some Filipino families are experiencing the same dilemma as the characters in the series.

What makes it more interesting is that the drama series is not just about women but also focuses on children, the Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) and men like Neil's Manuel and Pancho's Joel.

"It's only now that GMA has once again presented a character like Manuel. 'Yung role na Manuel usually pang babae 'yan na siya 'yung inaapi, siya 'yung nagiging victim. Ngayon lalaki siya. That's why I'm grateful that I am given this role, which is very challenging for an actor, as in mabubuhay lahat ng dugo ko bilang artista," said Neil.

In real life, Pancho and Neil are loving and responsible fathers. Pancho has a son named Skye, while Neil has two children, Kahlia and Gabriel.

Julia Barretto is excited to work with Enrique Gil again after 11 years

More than a decade ago, Julia Barretto starred in her first lead role in the fantasy romance drama series Mirabella where she played the titular role. This year, the now 28-year-old actress gets reunited with one of her former leading men, Enrique Gil, from the 2014 ABS-CBN series. The two are



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MARIA PANALIGAN & ELLE LUMBAG
GUEST SINGERS

set to star in a new television series to be directed by Antonette Jadaone.

"Excited ako. Na-pitch ito sa akin, I guess one year ago na rin. And I'm really excited that Enrique is on board because the last time na nagkatrabaho kami ni Quen was in Mirabella. I was 16, 17 years old. So that was in 2014, more than a decade ago. So I'm excited

for this reunion series and I'm really looking forward to working with Quen again," Julia shared during the Maya Black launch event held in Makati City.

Apart from acting, Julia admits she has also been enjoying her stint as a guest host on Eat Bulaga! "I

am so happy and very grateful na napasama ako sa celebration nila na yun. They really are such a strong family. Grabe yung bond nila. So to even be invited sa ginagawa nila araw-araw. Lalo na yung nag-celebrate sila ng 46 years, it really means a lot to me, more than people probably think. So nagpapasalamat ako sa kanila," she said.

Stepping outside of her comfort zone as an actress, Julia explained why people are now seeing a more outgoing side to her on the show. "Because hindi alam, pag natatanong ako, sila lang din kasi ang nagtatanong sa akin kung puwede bang kumanta ako. Eh di okay (laughs). Hindi niyo naman ako tinatanong so hindi ako kakanta (laughs). But it's really been fun. It just pays to be yourself, to be funny, to be weird. It's a space where everything is allowed as long as it's something good and fun and of support sa isa't isa. Grateful alng ako na nakakapag-guest ako at naiisip nila ako na makasama kahit na twice or once a week. I really get excited," she shared.

Klea Pineda is moving forward with her life

Kapuso star Klea Pineda has come a long way since becoming the Ultimate Female Survivor of “StarStruck” in 2015. She has retained the same fire and hunger of a teenage girl who aspired to succeed in a reality talent competition.

Klea still embodies the show’s slogan, “Dream, Believe, Survive,” as she navigates her way in the industry.

We recently had a heartfelt conversation on “Fast Talk with Boy Abunda.” It was her second time on the show, where she discussed in 2023 that she is a proud member of the LGBTQIA+ community.

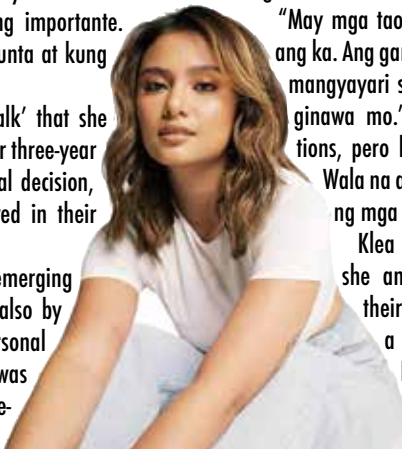
Klea revealed in her latest guest appearance that she has three dreams she wants to pursue. “Meron kasi akong three dreams: piloto, artista, and beauty queen.” She has become an actress, and she will soon start attending a flying school to fulfill her goal of becoming a pilot. “Beauty queen, not soon, wala siya sa priority ko as of now, pero hindi nawawala sa pangarap ko iyon,”

Klea said.

She believes in God’s perfect timing. The actress is patient while waiting in the wings for her big break, knowing her moment will definitely come. “Alam ko kung saan ako pupunta. Iyon ang importante. Alam ko kung saan ko gusto pumunta at kung ano ang gusto kong puntahan.”

Klea has confirmed on ‘Fast Talk’ that she and Katrice Kierulf have ended their three-year relationship. She says it’s a mutual decision, and there’s no third party involved in their breakup.

Klea is a survivor, not only by emerging as a winner in “StarStruck,” but also by continuously overcoming her personal battles. The actress admitted she was scared for her career when she decided to come out two years ago.



“Wala akong idea kung anong mangyayari sa akin after kong aminin sa public iyang sexuality ko. I think doon nanggagaling iyang takot. Iyon ang reason ng kinakatakutan ko.”

Her admission earned mixed reactions from the public. While some people told Klea that she inspired them, others gave unfavorable comments.

“May mga tao pa rin na nagsasabi na, ‘Sayang ka. Ang ganda mo pa naman sana. Walang mangyayari sa career mo dahil ganyan ang ginawa mo.’ Mga ganoong negative reactions, pero hindi na ako natatablan noon.

Wala na akong pakialam sa mga sinasabi ng mga tao,” she shared.

Klea confirmed on “Fast Talk” that she and Katrice Kierulf have ended their three-year relationship. It was a mutual decision, according to Klea.

“May mga kanya-kanya kaming priorities. Umabot na

kami sa point na gusto niyang unahin ang sarili niya. Gusto ko rin naman unahin ang sarili ko this time. Na-realize rin namin na hindi na kami nakakatulong sa isa’t isa. Parang pi-nu-pull down na lang namin iyang isa’t isa.”

She clarified there was no third party involved in their breakup.

“Sobrang proud akong sabihin iyon na, no. Hindi ko kayang gawin iyon kay Kat kasi masyado kong mahal si Kat. Ayoko nang makita siyang nasasaktan pa. Andami na ring napagdaanan ni Katrice at ayokong makadagdag pa doon, so no.”

Klea also denied that Kat cheated on her.

“No din, Tito Boy. Of course not. And knowing Kat, hindi niya kayang gawin iyon kahit kanino, so no.”

Klea also wishes for Kat’s happiness.

“Gusto ko maging masaya si Kat. From the bottom of my heart, gusto ko maging masaya talaga siya. Genuinely happy. Iyon lang ang dinarasal ko araw-araw.”

May Klea find real happiness as she moves forward in life.

‘Aray ko!’: Vice Ganda swipes at corrupt government officials

MANILA, Philippines — Kapamilya star and comedian Vice Ganda took a swipe at the corrupt government officials amid renewed disdain for contractors of various



lood control projects Vice is in London, United Kingdom for the “ASAP in England” concert taking place on August 30 in the BP Pulse Arena.

In an Instagram story, the comedian

shared they and their companions save money in the British capital because of the high prices of restaurant food.

“Super tipid ako dito sa London kasi ang mahal.

Kaya namalengke na lang kami nung first day at naglu-to dito sa Airbnb,” Vice said.

“Pangatlong araw na naming iniinit ‘tong natirang adobo. Tapos bigla kong naalala ‘yung milyon-milyon kong tax na pinaghahati-hatian ng mga garapal na magnanakaw. Aray kooooo!!!!”

Though Vice did not name any corrupt official, the Philippines is currently investigating contractors of different flood control projects across the country.

The comedian recently brought laughter and criticism with their own interpretation of the popular “Jet 2 Holiday” meme during their “Superdivas” concert with Regine Velasquez.

Many online users interpreted Vice’s “Jetski Holiday” skit as a reference to tensions in the West Philippine Sea and former President Rodrigo Duterte’s incarceration at The Hague, Netherlands.

The jet ski reference is believed to stem from Duterte’s 2016 campaign promise that he would raise the Philippine flag on the contested Spratly Islands.

Duterte later said in 2021 that it was a joke, calling those who believed it as “stupid.”

Vina Morales open to workg with Robin Padilla anew, laughs off ‘Senador Kong Hoodlum’ suggestion

Actress Vina Morales is willing to work with Senator Robin Padilla again if there is a chance.



During a Star Magic Spotlight press conference, Vina acknowledged that Robin is busy being senator but she’d agree to a project if he had the time.

Vina and Robin previously starred in films like “Di Puwedeng Hindi Puwede!” and Eto Na Naman Ako.”

“Busy na siya being senator. But if there will be a chance na magkaroon kami ng movie, why not di ba?” Vina said.

“Okay lang sa akin, trabaho yan e. Tsaka mataagal ko na rin siya hindi nakakatrabaho so I will be happy to work with him,” the actress added.

Asked if a potential reunion movie would be titled “Ang Senador Kong Hoodlum” — a likely fol-

low-up to their “Utol Kong Hoodlum” series” — Vina merely laughed it off.

The actress then reflected on the values that allowed her to stay in the industry for decades.

“Of course, you have to be talented, but maraming talented in the industry,” Vina said. “Ang sa akin, you need to have the right attitude kasi yung longevity makukuha ‘yan if you know how to work with people.”

“If you know how to reinvent. If you are stuck there, wala ka na mabibigay. Ako, I never stop learning and give my best sa lahat ng projects na binibigay sa akin,” she continued.

Vina also opened up about her plans and what she envisions doing next, “I play it by ear. I’m just grateful everyday. Ine-enjoy ko lahat ng projects na binibigay sa akin and I always give my best. I am open to any projects, kahit concert abroad okay sa akin.”

She even jokingly said she’d return to Broadway, having debuted on the Great White Way in 2023 for the Imelda Marcos musical “Here Lies Love.”

Leylah Fernandez Dedicates DC Open Victory to Her Filipino Mother

LEYLAH from page 1

vea, acknowledging the support and sacrifices that helped her reach this achievement.

“I want to dedicate this trophy to my mom, my oldest sister, and my fitness trainer. You guys have been fighting all year round and still are fighting. Thank you so much for never giving up on me. Don’t give up on yourselves. This trophy is for you guys. Hopefully we can celebrate all together very very soon,” Fernandez said.

This triumph not only marks a career milestone but also highlights the strong bond between Fernandez and her mother, who has played a pivotal role in her tennis journey.

There’s something about Leylah Fernandez that just hits different. Maybe it’s her grit. Maybe it’s the fact that she still smiles after three-hour matches. Or maybe it’s that she’s been doubted her whole life and keeps proving everyone wrong, quietly, steadily, and now? Loudly.

Over the weekend, the 22-year-old Filipina-Ecuadorian Canadian won the biggest title of her career: the D.C. Open.



Leylah and mom

She beat Anna Kalinskaya in the final like it was light work—6-1, 6-2. But it’s what led up to that moment that makes this win so special.

Leylah didn’t just win a tennis tournament. She reminded the world who she is.

Meanwhile, Filipino sensation Alex Eala ends her run

Meanwhile, 20-year-old Filipino Alexandra Eala’s US Open journey ended in the second round but her impact stretched far beyond the lines of Arthur Ashe Stadium. The 20-year-old

Filipina fell 4-6, 3-6 to Spain’s Cristina Bucsa, yet her presence on one of tennis’s grandest stages was a victory of another kind — one that carried the pride of an entire nation.

This summer has been the most defining stretch of her career. A journey that began with a strong run in Miami earlier this year blossomed into her first WTA Tour final in Birmingham, appearances at both Roland Garros and Wimbledon, and now her breakthrough in New York.

Eala’s first-round triumph over 14th seed Clara Tauson made her the first Filipino player in the Open era to win a Grand Slam singles match, a breakthrough that reverberated across the Philippines and its global diaspora.

Against Bucsa, she fought with heart and fire, briefly going ahead 2-1 in the opening set before the Spaniard’s steadiness turned the tide. Bucsa, ranked 95th, later admitted she had prepared for a tough battle because Eala had already beaten some of the world’s best players this year, a testament to how quickly the Filipina has risen in stature.

A recognition from rival

While the loss was clear, the at-

mosphere inside the stadium told a different story. The Filipino crowd, flags waving and voices rising in unison, roared for every point their rising star contested. Even after defeat, the applause lingered — a recognition that Eala is more than just a promising tennis player. She is a national icon in the making.

“I love that the Philippines loves her so much, and that’s something beautiful and amazing for a sportsman — having a whole country encouraging you,” Bucsa said, acknowledging both her opponent’s fight and the energy in the stands.

For Eala, the US Open was both a test and a confirmation. Despite carrying an injury that forced her to withdraw from Cincinnati, she showed she belongs on this stage. Her Birmingham final, where she stretched Australia’s Maya Joint to three sets, her upset wins against higher-ranked opponents earlier in the year, and now her US Open breakthrough all point to a player steadily carving her place among the sport’s elite.

Beyond the results, she has become a symbol. The first Filipino woman to break into the WTA Top 100, she climbed to a

career-high ranking of No 56 in June after starting the year at No 140, embodying the pride and possibility of a country rarely represented at tennis’s top levels. Her training roots at the Rafa Nadal Academy link her with the game’s greats, while her presence on magazine covers shows her growing cultural reach.

Hungry for more

“I’m so proud of myself and what I’ve accomplished... it’s made me feel hungry to do even more and to work even harder,” she told Vogue Philippines. That hunger, combined with the energy of millions behind her, makes her journey only more compelling.

For now, the scoreboard in New York shows a second-round exit. But for the Philippines, Alex Eala’s run stands as a beginning — the spark of a future where their flag flies higher and louder on the world’s tennis courts.

Embracing Filipino Heritage

Throughout her rise in tennis, Fernandez has always embraced her Filipino roots, proudly representing the Filipino-Canadian community on the world stage.

ALEX EALA page 20

CRISTINE REYES & RACHEL ALEJANDRO STAR at PIDC MABUHAY PHILIPPINES FESTIVAL By Tony A. San Juan, OCT.

TORONTO: True to its proud tradition of seasonally showcasing Philippine arts and culture and “what it’s like to be a Filipino” amidst the Canadian landscape, the Philippine Independence Day Council (PIDC) presented the 27th edition of its flagship summer program, the “Mabuhay Philippines Festival 2025”, with a special spectacle. Moreover, as envisioned, the cultural event was in celebration of the 35th anniversary of the quintessential province-based umbrella association of several community-centred organisations in Ontario.

The 2-day summer event was successfully held at Nathan Phillips Square, City Hall Grounds, Toronto on August 23, and 24, 2025. This year’s theme was “Bayanihan” or community spirit, having demonstrated the renowned Filipino culture of solidarity, resiliency, and hospitality. As such, Filipinos, and Filipino-Canadians, and their families, relatives, friends and guests, have described the outdoor experience as an enjoyable and memorable festive fanfare.



PHOTO BY
Raymond Santos

Purposefully delivered, the festival was pursued with the generous assistance of sponsors and donors such as TD Bank, Heritage Canada, the Province of Ontario, the City of



Toronto, Philippine Airlines, George Brown College, Air Canada, City Centre Dentistry, WFG, Jollibee, EZRemit, RLC Residences, APO Products Ltd., SMDC, Knorr, Megaworld, Imperial World, CRD College of Health Care, Graceful Essence, College of Makeup Art & Design, and other wonderful individuals and organizations.

PIDC President Tom Tan said that the annual celebration was meaningfully carried out with the splendid cooperation, collaboration, dedication and efforts of everyone: the PIDC

- 1. Rachel Alejandro at Mabuhay festival
- 2. Cristine Reyes at Mabuhay festival

officers, directors, guests, program emcees, volunteers, media partners, community leaders, and members of social, professional, business, and educational associations in the province.

The celebration was highlighted with major opening ceremonies, cultural performances, fashion shows, culinary delights, Filipino visual arts and Filipiniana displays. Typical festival tents and booths abound, ubiquitously pro-

moting and selling special Filipino products and services, including popular food-to-go desserts and drinks. Highly applauded was the traditional SantaCruzan and community parade undertaken with the enthusiastic participation of respective leaders and members of Fil-Can social, sports, professional and business organizations.

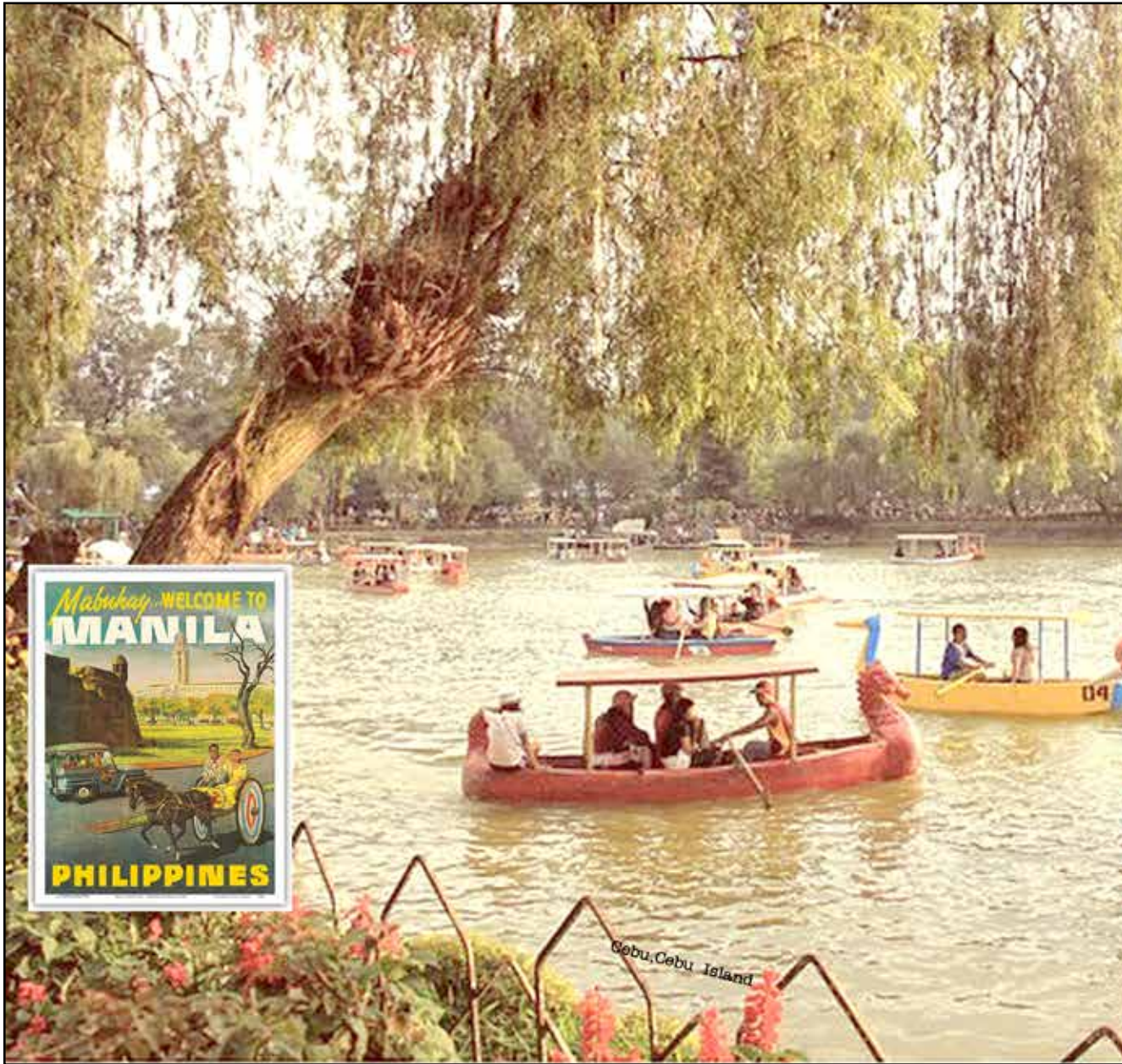
Headlined by Philippine based entertainment celebrities, the evening celebrations featured OPM singer & songwriter Rachel Alejandro and television and movie star Cristine Reyes. Prominent international designer Francis Libiran orchestrated a brilliant show of stylish fashion wear displayed by her beautiful models. Also, the PIDC beauty pageant winners and Kim Mahistrado’s models showed their functional chic clothes. More than 50 individual entertainers and group performers, including Toronto’s Dylan Sinclair, demonstrated their talents and skills in song & dance numbers, and cultural presentations.

Many attendees and participants have considered, unarguably, that the Mabuhay Philippines Festival 2025 as one of “the year’s best and brightest celebrations” ever, a milestone indeed among several Filipino-focused festival events held in the Greater Toronto Area in as many seasons. (By Tony A. San Juan, OCT.)

Congratulations on securing First Runner-Up at the CNE Rising Star Contest AJ!

This outstanding achievement is a testament to your hard work and dedication. You should take immense pride in yourself, and rest assured that we are equally proud of you. Keep believing in yourself and the best is yet to come! Special mention to Joanne and Marian who also participated this year (AJ Manuel is 6th from Right)





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Joey Baking The Sociallist

“There comes a day each September when you wake up and know the summer is over and fall has arrived.”

ANN RINALDI

What a Busy Month of August



BCCA - Bicol Canada Community Association celebrated their annual summer picnic at Earl Bales Park.

It was marked by food, games, a chess and art competition.

Fellow Bicolano from the Philippine Consulate General, Acting ConGen Kerwin O. Tate delivering his message to our fellow Bicolanos. Sabi nya - ang saiyang ‘dugo may guta’ confirming his strong roots as a Bicolano. He is a BCCA Honorary member and always supportive of our activities. Salamat Manoy. Diyos Mabalos!

Their next event is the Penafrancia fluvial procession on September 20 at Bluffers Park.

Then, to close the year, their Silver Gala Night will be held on December 6.

Taste of Manila 2025 was a resounding success. Blessed with

warm weather on both days, the people flocked to sample all the delicious Filipino food. The festival reminds one of home.

“Parang fiesta,” said Nene Panganiban of Harina.

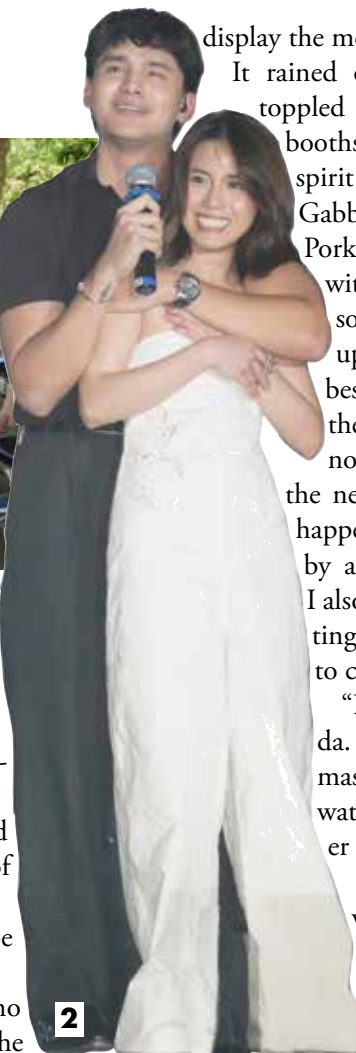
Sometimes, it can be overwhelming.

“Anong bibilhin mo diyan” said Nene on the array of foods displayed.

Vendors, official and unofficial are happy. One unofficial vendor even put a “garage sale” sign. Well, there is nothing illegal with a garage sale. You are allowed to hold it twice a year.

The Lapu-Lapu tragedy in Vancouver is still top of mind with the organizers. So, extra precautions were put in place in this festival.

Then, there is the bayanihan in



display the morning after.

It rained overnight and toppled a couple of booths. And in a spirit of bayanihan, Gabby Amurao of Porkie Chicharon with another person, helped put up the booth beside his while the vendor has not arrived yet the next day. It just happens that Gabby arrived already. I also saw him putting the tarpaulin to cover the front.

“Hindi maganda. naka-expose masyado,” as I watched him cover it up.

Of course, what Filipino festival would be complete without artistas from the

Philippines to close the festival. GMA7 stars Ai Ai delas Alas, Ruru Madrid, Kylene Alcantara and Pepita Curtis entertained the crowd on closing time on both days.

And for those who did not get enough of the artistas, they even had a follow-up concerts within the week. Ruru Madrid, Kylene Alcantara and Pepita Curtis were at the Gabi ng Pa-



1. Bicol picnic starts with a prayer in the morning.
2. Ruru Madrid with audience member
3. Pepita Curtis with audience member
4. Ai Ai closes Taste of Manila on Sunday.
5. New Perimeter protection
6. “Garage sale” during the festival

featured artista and “It” girl of the moment Maris Racal had an appendectomy. Thankfully, they were able to get stars Rachel Alejandro and Christine Reyes to fill in.

Mabuhay adds a touch of glamor with their yearly fashion show which is a mainstay of their festival. This year, the featured fashion designer is Francis Libiran.

sasalamant (GNP) concert at Korean Cultural Centre on a Friday and Ai Ai had a concert the following day on the same venue.

Mabuhay Festival had a last minute cancellation when their

‘All is well’: Maine Mendoza says on Alden Richards after admission sparks controversy

Maine Mendoza said she did not expect her recent admission about falling in love with Alden Richards at the height of their AIDub pairing a decade ago would generate buzz.

The “Eat Bulaga” host and actress shared her honest thoughts on X, formerly Twitter, today about the criticism and negativity toward her and Alden after she bared her feelings in the “Tamang Panahon” podcast uploaded on the show’s YouTube channel.

“From the start, I hoped the clashes between fans on both sides would end, at least, even though the hate train aimed at me was non-stop then and apparently still remains so,” Maine wrote.

As the podcast’s name suggested, the show aims to look back at everything that happened on “Kalyeserye,” the popular segment of the noon time show where she and Alden become the phenomenal love team “AIDub.”

She and her remaining “Eat Bulaga” hosts, Jose Manalo, Wally Bayola, Paolo Bediones and Allan K, discuss anything related to the show – personal experiences, narrativess and sentiments.

“I believe it’s acceptable to reflect and openly discuss them for this podcast, especially now that it’s been a decade and all is well between the individuals involved, particularly me and Alden,” she said.

Alden has stopped appearing on the noon time show after it transferred to its new home, TV5, in 2023. Alden is a talent of Sparkle, the talent agency of GMA-7, where the noontime show was aired for a long time.

Maine said that despite Alden being no longer a part of the show, she sees no reason to exclude him in the podcast since Alden is a vital part of the Kalyeserye. He played the fictionalized version of himself who meets and falls



in love with Maine’s character, YayaDub. “I would have felt strange to leave him

out,” Maine said.

At the podcast, Maine revealed that she had confessed her feelings to Alden. She said that she had always been vocal about it, and if anybody had asked, she would have affirmed it.

Maine said that she just wanted to know if he returned the feelings, but Alden never replied to her. He never courted her. In 2023, Alden shared with Boy Abunda that he “confessed” and also fell in love with Maine.

Maine said that she did not see her sharing that particular anecdote as a bad thing because there was no malice or ill intent when she shared it. She added that there are countless other stories that she chose not to share.

She reflected on why she got criticized for her truth and the truth, and even pitting her and Alden.

“And why is it when we do, some people resort to personal attacks meant to demean and harm? I get that we have supporters who aren’t really fans of the other, but why the hostility? Why pit a woman against a man, as if there’s a competition for who’s more ‘successful’? Success, in this sense, is ridiculously measured and defined by career ‘achievements’ as if our lives revolve solely

around our jobs. In the grand scheme of things, what is really there to prove? All the hatred and comparisons—what for, really?”

“All is well among the Dabarkads. We’ve all moved on, and the past remains there. We can revisit and reflect on the good and the bad with a peaceful heart. Ten years on, we are all living the lives we chose, and I hope we can keep moving forward without nurturing hate—because what’s the point? What do we gain from hostility? Again, in the grand scheme of things, what truly needs proving? Find your own answer. Let’s live for what makes us happy and make life less complicated and chaotic,” she said.

Maine ended by reminding people that life is short to “spew negativity online.”

“Don’t let it be your only contribution in this life. Ang dami pang pwedeng gawin sa buhay bukod sa pagiging tambay sa internet at pagiging hater. There’s another world of better things to do. Leave a better trace,” she ended.

BINI’s Gwen proud to provide for family through music career

BINI member Gwen shared how her career with the Nation’s Girl Group has allowed her to secure her family’s future.

In an interview with Ogie Diaz, Gwen revealed she was able to purchase real estate in Bicol and a house and lot in Metro Manila.

“Nakapag-support po sa family talaga and naka-pag-provide for myself. ‘Yung mga utang po, nabayaran na namin,” she said, recalling how her family struggled



was left under her mother’s care when her father passed away when she was four.



financially before she joined Pinoy Big Brother and later BINI.

Gwen, the eldest of five siblings, also recalled giving her mother her ATM card to help with household expenses. Their family

Bea Alonzo’s BF is not Epal

Unlike most non-showbiz partners who compete for attention, Vincent Co — Bea Alonzo’s beau — proves to be such a classic example.

Sighted entering a restaurant at the Gateway Mall 2 of the Araneta Center prior to the Super Divas concert, the couple was met with shrieking fans all eager to have their photos taken.

A keen-eyed customer instantly noticed Vincent stepping aside allowing Bea to interact with mobbing fans.

Those who had seen it admired Vincent’s hardly self-aggrandizing gesture. In gutter language, he’s not “epal” (overbearing)!

Of course, they’re talking about a respected yet low-key CEO of a business empire.



POV ANNUAL BARBECUE

Pinoy Ontario Vendors had their annual barbecue. 1. Daughters Talia, Selina, mom Kim and PCCF President Rosemer Enverga; 2. POV founder and President Paulo Bucid and OMNI Reporter Theresa Redulla; 3. MP Michelle Cooper talks with Ryan Orlanda and Jackie Cristini (BACK TO CAMERA); 4. Gemma Pascual holds a seminar; 5. OMNI Reporter Theresa Redulla interviews POV mascots Ate Basya and Kuya Popoy.

Shuvee Etrata admits insecurity being Morena, embraces pressure of rising fame

Kapuso actress Shuvee Etrata believes she carries more pressure and responsibilities as a result of her “Pinoy Big Brother” stint. During a presscon introducing Shuvee as the newest endorser for beauty establish-

ment Vivienne Vanity Lounge, the actress disagreed with the notion that she is now “super famous.” Rather, Shuvee is “enjoying every since piece” of the current phase of fame she finds herself in. “I don’t want to say it na popular [ako] but I do believe I hold more



pressure now. I hold more responsibilities now on what I’m going to share with the public kasi lumaki ang community na mayroon ako ngayon,” Shuvee said. “Ayaw ko sabihin talaga na, ‘Grabe naman siya

kasikat.’ Hindi naman talaga.” “Since I was very young, I have been insecure about my skin color and complexion,” shared Shuvee, crediting her home network for embracing her as she was. “The moment they began to believe in me and made me feel loved even though I am not perfect, I began to believe in myself as well. Naniwala na rin ako na maganda rin pala ako,” she added.

Shuvee acknowledged she wasn’t “everybody’s cup of tea” in terms of beauty but reiterated her belief she is beautiful on her own terms. “Hindi lang naman sa labas ‘yun. ‘Yung panglabas, hindi po roon para sa akin ang beauty,” Shuvee ended. “You don’t just believe that you’re beautiful on the outside, but also on the inside.”

Jericho Rosales developing film with girlfriend Janine Gutierrez

Actor Jericho Rosales revealed that he is currently developing a film project with girlfriend Janine Gutierrez. The actor sat down for an interview with broadcast journalist Julius Babao. “We are actually working together now. We are developing a story for film... I can’t announce it muna but you know, we are

working on a story, a film that we are developing together,” he said. Jericho said that he and Janine have the same passion for cinema. “She recently attended a film festival for Lav Diaz’s film, and she’s telling me all the stories that happened there, and kung gaano siya kabuhay in terms of acting. So, we share the same passion when it comes to [film],” he said. Janine attended last year’s Venice Film Festival with the Filipino auteur for the

latter’s out-of-competition entry “Phantomia.” He also said that Janine is producing a documentary film about her grandmother Pilita Corrales. “She’s actually currently working with Baby Ruth (Villarama),” he said. “[It’s] for a documentary about Pilita Corrales. She’s producing that. I am so excited for her, especially Baby Ruth, she’s really a good doc-



umentary director,” he added. Jericho then described his relationship with Janine. “We’re very happy. We’re very supportive of each other... It’s always fun times with Janine. She has a very nice family. Very great set of friends. She’s also an actress so we got to talk a lot about our craft, our dreams for the industry, our dreams for ourselves, the roles we want to play,” he said.

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Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation (PCCF) donates \$10,000 to ANCP during the Ancep Walk.

1. PCCF President Rosemer Enverga addressing the participants;
2. President Enverga with the PCCF beauty pageant winners;
3. Little Miss Philippines Canada 2025 is Krystelle Rivas on the right.



Atlas celebrates his 6th Birthday



Gabi ng
Pasasalamat
(GNP) concert
producers
pose with
GMA7
Sparkle stars
Kylene Alca-
ntara, Ruru
Madrid, and
comedian
Pepita Curtis.
TOP, Joy
D'Aoust and
family.
BELOW,
Rolly &
Nieves Man-
gante

UMAC at POV Annual Barbecue



UMAC Forwarders, a reliable balikbayan box delivery company shows their support for the Pinoy Ontario Vendors Annual Summer Barbecue event at Earl Bales Park. In photo is Mila (on the right) and company.



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PAGEANTS WITH A CAUSE 2025

On August 9, 2025 the Little Miss Philippines Canada, Miss Teen Philippines Canada, and Miss Philippines Canada pageants each showcased a unique celebration of grace, confidence, and purpose. Organized by the Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation, these Pageants with a Cause went beyond beauty and performance, shining a spotlight on the intelligence, talent, and compassion of every contestant. From the youngest participants to emerging young leaders, each individual demonstrated what it means to inspire others, lead with heart, and use their voice to create meaningful change in the community.



ROSEMER ENVERGA
PCCF PRESIDENT



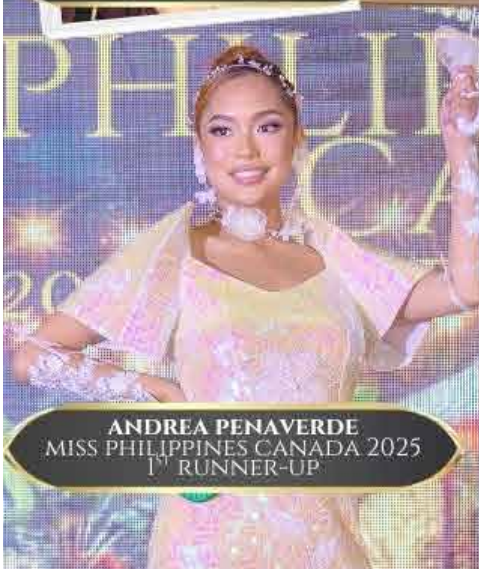
PCCF OFFICERS



Princess Saladino
MISS PHILIPPINES CANADA 2025

Krystelle Rivas
LITTLE MISS
PHILIPPINES CANADA 2025

Charisma Toupin
MISS TEEN
PHILIPPINES CANADA 2025



ANDREA PENAVERDE
MISS PHILIPPINES CANADA 2025
1ST RUNNER-UP



HANNAH LOPEZ
MISS TEEN PHILIPPINES CANADA 2025
1ST RUNNER-UP



REAH MALVICO
MISS PHILIPPINES CANADA 2025
2ND RUNNER-UP



SYRILLE SADARAN
MISS PHILIPPINES CANADA 2025
3RD RUNNER-UP



MAYA STEVENS
MISS TEEN PHILIPPINES CANADA 2025
2ND RUNNER-UP



JOYCE LOBENDINO
MISS TEEN PHILIPPINES CANADA 2025
KALAYAAN



JORELYN ROSE IBABAO
MISS TEEN PHILIPPINES CANADA 2025
3RD RUNNER-UP



CHEYENNE ANDRES
MISS PHILIPPINES CANADA 2025
MINDANAO



JIA BASSALOTE
MISS PHILIPPINES CANADA 2025
LUZON



ATHENA
LITTLE MISS PHILIPPINES CANADA 2025
1ST RUNNER-UP



SCARLETT
LITTLE MISS PHILIPPINES CANADA 2025
2ND RUNNER-UP



CALISSI
LITTLE MISS PHILIPPINES CANADA 2025
3RD RUNNER-UP



VICTORIA
LITTLE MISS PHILIPPINES CANADA 2025
SUNSHINE



CANDICE
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CHARMING



ZYRA
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TOURISM



PENELOPE
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MINDANAO



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SCENES AT THE FILIPINO CENTRE TORONTO: Photographer & Instructor Leo Mascariñas, Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation President Rosemer Enverga, and publisher carlos Unas; Rocel Enverga joins the art class; Happy Birthday Elena Dicion; Happybirthday to art co-students Dan and Barbara.

Dustin Yu – the next-generation leading man

is set to headline at least two new movies including the highly-anticipated 17th installment of “Shake, Rattle, & Roll: Evil Origins.” Yu first made his mark in the “Shake, Rattle, & Roll Extreme,” where his role as Bong earned him the award for New Movie Actor of the Year at the 40th PMPC Star Awards For Movies. He also won praise for his role as Kenneth Sy Chan in the series “Mano Po Legacy: The Fami-

ly Fortune,” and as Zachery in the 2025 drama “Guilty Pleasure.” Yu has shown his versatility as an actor in romance, horror, action, drama, and family stories and doing them equally well. His connection with audiences, especially on social media platforms where he interacts with followers in the most genuine way, makes him endearing to fans. Recently, his popularity skyrocketed as the

housemate known as “Chinito Boss-Sikap ng Quezon City in the historic “Pinoy Big Brother: Celebrity Collab Edition” season. He earned praise for his diligent work ethic while inside the house, giving a glimpse of the resilience, discipline, and quiet ambition that makes him a standout in today’s roster of young stars. A dutiful son, Yu has learned to balance his family, craft, and business while building a thriving showbiz career. He studied Marketing at the University of Santo To-



mas before choosing to focus on his passion for acting. Even at his young age, he has already ventured into entrepreneurship. Along with his partners, he put up Eraya, a modern fusion restaurant in San Juan. His career trajectory suggests more than stardom, shaping what the next generation of Asian talent can look like.

‘Call out the right ones’: Neil Arce defends Gela Alonte amid backlash

Angel Locsin’s husband Neil Arce defended influencer-actress Gela Alonte, who is one of the personalities criticized for her lifestyle posts on social media. On his Instagram story, Neil showed support for Gela, daughter of Angelo Alonte, the incum-



bent mayor of Biñan City. “History would prove that I would be 100% supportive of bashing the corrupt. But not Gela Alonte,” Neil said. “I have seen her work hard for what she has, and I have never seen a glimpse of brattiness or privilege when I work with her. Let’s continue calling people out, but let’s also make sure we call out the right ones,” he added. Gela started as a content

creator focusing on lifestyle. In July, she addressed critics who unearthed her 2024 TikTok live where she addressed a question on political dynasties. “Paano ba iyan, nasa political dynasty iyong pamilya ko?” Gela replied at that time. Her father is the brother of former deputy House speaker and Biñan mayor Marlyn “Len” Alonte-Naguiat. They are the children of Bayani Arthur Alonte, who was the mayor of Biñan from 1988 to 1992. Gela later addressed the resur-

faced video on X, formerly Twitter. “I didn’t laugh out of pride or arrogance ; it was a nervous response to a question I knew would be met with criticism no matter how I answered. That was my mistake, and I take accountability for how I handled that moment,” she wrote on X on July 28. Like many influencers, Gela is now trying acting and is currently part of the cast of the digital series “The Four Bad Boys and Me,” starring Anji Salvacion, Gelo Rivero, Harvey Bautista and River Joseph.

PCCF PAGEANTS LAUNCHES NEW BEAUTY TITLISTS



Congratulations to our newly crowned queens!
Miss Philippines Canada 2025 – Princess Saladino
Miss Teen Philippines Canada 2025 – Charisma Toupin
Little Miss Philippines Canada 2025 – Krystelle Rivas
We’re so proud of your grace, beauty, and talent. Stay tuned for more photos and highlights of the rest of our amazing queens and little queens soon!



Taste of Manila Founder and chairman Rolly Mangante (IN BASEBALL CAP) receives Certificate of Appreciation from MP’s and MPP’s.

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Sharon Cuneta unplugs from social media for a short break

"I need to detox."
Megastar Sharon Cuneta is unplugging from social media for a short while to prioritize rest and self-care.



Sharon has periodically stepped away from social media.

In early 2024 she took a two-month rest to recover from a hip problem, which also prompted her to go offline.

In an Instagram post on August 28, 2025, the 59-year-old actress and singer announced she'll be out of reach for a few days, available only to family, as she takes a social media detox.

She uploaded a selfie with the caption, published as: "Hi, everyone! I will be taking a rest from Social Media and my phone will be off.

"I will only use the one phone I use for my family. No contact with friends and co-workers—family lang talaga. I need to detox. So I will be out of touch for several days.

"My mind and emotions are gonna take a vacation from everything extra! Love you all. See you again soon! God bless you always. [emoji]"

Sharon didn't share further details about her reason for taking a break, but followers rallied behind her in the comments, promising to wait.

"We love you Mama Sha, take care always — pagbalik mo andito parin kaming mga babies mo naghihintay lagi sayo iloveyou so much," wrote one fan.

Others posted: "Hihintayin ka namin hanggang pag balik mo!!" and "We are always here for you. Love you, and God bless you always Mami!"

Another added, "Mamimiss ka namin ma! Pero lagi ka namin hihintayin!"

Sid Lucero counts West Philippine Sea short film 'most important' movie in his career



"Alon ng Kabayanihan" might only run for a brief 4 minutes, but for actor Sid Lucero, it is the "most important" film in his acting career.

Sid, a member of the notable Eigenmann acting clan, leads the cast of the short film that tackles the tensions in the West Philippine Sea.

This reckoning did not immediately strike the actor since for him, the project was initially similar to his past projects.

"I always say yes. Anyone who approaches me, I'm gonna say yes. That's why I need to have a manager. Kailangan talaga e," Sid said. "I'll work for cigarettes, you know what I mean," he quipped, bearing that trademark Eigenmann wit.

"Alon ng Kabayanihan" is directed by Kevin Mayuga and produced by the Center for International Relations and Strategic Studies (CIRIS) in partnership with the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), and Hot and Fresh Creative Productions.

Si came to realize its profound meaning as he started filming it.

"I came into the project thinking of it as the next project, you know, as you would as a professional. And then you get to meet people who actually speak about it... We've heard this before, but you actually talk to people who are actually there and immediately the tone changes. You go to the meeting, I'm going to see my friends. Pagdating mo doon, [you realize], 'Whoa, this is not a joke,'" Sid said.

The gravity of the situation, especially with the ongoing geopolitical tensions in the area, was felt by the actor even for a brief time as he immersed into his role.

Sid shared how he sees films, both as an actor and a watcher.

"There's two types of movies or entertainment: there's entertainment and there's one you watch because someone's trying to say something that's probably why they wrote the film.

"I like to play around with the balance of both, but I try my best to like talk about anything, do films that actually talk about something," he explained, noting how the past years have focused on mental health awareness.

His latest film is similarly trying to zero in a subject that most Filipinos have an opinion in, and Sid is just glad to count it in his film-mography.

"If you look at my entire career, I think this is probably the most important one. So that was a no brainer for me. It was an instant yes," Sid said. Nepo baby?

Denise Laurel not resting on family laurels to make it big

Denise Laurel is aware that being born into the esteemed Laurel clan has its pros and cons. But she wanted to break free from her family background and do things her own way, and that includes not entering politics.

With a clan that established itself in politics and the entertainment industry, Denise is proud of her heritage but at the same time determined to prove that she is no "nepo baby," a term that

refers to the scion of a famous or powerful person who achieves success and fame in a similar field due to their family connections and the opportunities that provides.

That may be hard to do, being the great granddaughter of former president Jose P. Laurel, granddaughter of vice president Salvador "Doy" Laurel and his wife, philanthropist and artist Celia Diaz-Laurel, and former House speaker Jose Bayani "Pepito" Hidalgo Laurel Jr., among other government officials.

She is also the niece of the late theater actor-singer Cocoy Laurel, as well as the cousin of actor Franco Laurel, singer Nicole Laurel Asensio, and fashion designer Rajo Laurel.

But Denise seemed to be fairing quite well in her chosen field, albeit shy whenever the topic of her family crops up.

"I always get shy!" the singer-actress said when asked about her family connections to high places in an interview with broadcast journalist Karen Davila. Despite her family's political background, Denise declared that she won't enter politics at all, reiterating that celebrities planning to become politicians should "educate themselves" first.

"I don't dabble in politics at all. You won't hear anything from me. I just feel that artistas [who] didn't go to school or didn't educate themselves on the government and laws should not be running," she said.

"How are they going to help the country if they don't know even just the basis of the groundwork? The love to help the people will always be there. But if you really, truly love your country and do something good for it, educate yourself she continued.



Emman Atienza denies corruption funds her lavish lifestyle

Influencer Emman Atienza ay mata-tawag na "nepo baby" at isinilang nang maykaya sa buhay.

Ang kanyang ama na si Kim Atienza ay popular Kapuso anchor at host.

Ang kanyang ina namang si Felicia Hung-Atienza ay isang stockbroker, educator, at owner ng Chinese International School Manila.

Alam ng marami na nasa dugo ng pamilyang Atienza ang pagiging poli-

tiko.

Lolo ni Emman si dating Manila Mayor Lito Atienza.

Paglilinaw ni Emman, bagamat kilalang nasa pulitika ang pamilya ng kanyang ama ay hindi raw niya kailanman ito ginamit para sa pribilihehong matustusan ang mga luho niya.

Pahayag niya: "One of the most frustrating pieces of misinformation that was spread about me during the

'Guess the bill' controversy when everyone was hating on me in the Philippines— because trust me, there was so much misinformation that I was genuinely considering getting lawyers involved—was that my lifestyle, my schooling, my house, my travels, my clothes, etc., are funded by politicians, are funded by the government, are funded by cor-



ruption. "Yes, my one grandfather and my aunts and uncles on my dad's side are in politics.

"But I wanna make it so clear that my immediate family — my sister, my brother, me, my mom, my dad — do not get financial support of any means from that side of the family."

Pagmamalaki ni Emman, ang perang ginagastos niya ay galing sa dugo't pawis ng kanyang mga magulang.

Iginiit din niyang hindi umaasa ang kanyang mga magulang sa dating mayor ng Maynila at sa mga kapatid ng kanyang ama na nasa katungkulan.

Ani Emman: "My mom is the breadwinner, meaning she brings home the money and her family is not in any way, shape, or form related to politicians.

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'Pasko Na!' Jose Mari Chan and Mariah Carey's Christmas songs to dominate PH airwaves as 'ber' months set in



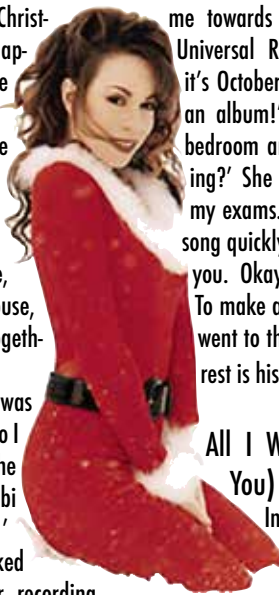
As the calendar turns to September, a delightful transformation sweeps across the Philippines, heralding the enchanting arrival of the "ber" months. The air is filled with anticipation as the beloved holiday anthems of Jose Mari Chan and Mariah Carey start to echo through homes and bustling streets. Though Christmas is still three months away, Filipinos have already embraced the festive spirit, eagerly tuning in to the magical melodies that usher in the season. Joy radiates from every corner as Chan's heartwarming "Christmas In Our Hearts" and Carey's iconic "All I Want For Christmas (Is You)" become the soundtrack of joyful

gatherings, family reunions, and cozy nights. It's a time when the warmth of nostalgia intertwines with the shimmering promise of the holidays, igniting the hearts of many in a joyful celebration of love and togetherness.

'Christmas In Our Hearts'
"I'm neither at home nor at work in my business," said Jose Mari, when asked what keeps him busy before the "ber" months, during an interview on "Fast Talk With Boy Abunda" on GMA Network in 2023.

Chan, 80, is known as "The Father of Philippine Christmas Music" following the release of his blockbuster album, "Christmas In Our Hearts," in 1990. He recalled the origins of "Christmas In Our Hearts."
"The melody itself was composed in 1988 to a poem by my friend Chari Cruz Zarate, "Ang Tubig Ay Buhay," which she used as a high school jubilee song," said Chan.
Chan continued, "So I wrote the melody, and I never thought that two years later, I

would use that melody for a Christmas song. Universal Records approached me and said it's time we make a Christmas album, given the success of "Please Be Careful With My Heart," "Beautiful Girl," and others.
"So I thought of that melody, and I got a friend of mine, Rina Caniza, to come to the house, and I gave her the melody. Together, we worked on the lyrics.
"At that time, Lea Salonga was a hit because of Miss Saigon. So I approached her and asked if she could do a duet with me. Sabi niya, 'Yes, I'll be glad, too!' She heard the song and liked the melody, except that her recording company would not allow her to record for a competing label.
"So my next choice was Monique Wilson, an understudy of Miss Saigon. I like her. She's a nice person with a beautiful voice. Unfortunately, she went to Tagaytay and lost her voice. She called me.
"I think the Holy Spirit was leading



me towards my daughter, Liza. Since Universal Records was rushing, 'Joe, it's October, we need to come up with an album!' I went to my daughter's bedroom and said, 'What are you doing?' She said, 'I was cramming for my exams.' I said, 'Can you learn the song quickly? I want to record this with you. Okay. When? This Wednesday. To make a long story short, she and I went to the recording studio, and the rest is history.'

All I Want for Christmas (Is You)

In September 2024, Carey joined Filipino fans in welcoming the holiday season early. Carey shared a link to her hit song and encouraged her Filipino fans to start playing the Christmas song at the beginning of the "ber" months. Filipinos start to celebrate the holidays in the Philippines as early as September. "Philippines, it's time (only for you!!)," Mariah wrote. "I hope you're all safe and

Jeric Raval scores first acting win, considers wife his real award

Veteran action star Jeric Raval was still overwhelmed the day after he received his Best Supporting Actor statuette from the 73rd FAMAS (Filipino Academy of Movie Arts and Sciences) Awards for "Mamay: A Journey to Greatness."
At 63 and born in February 1961, Jeric received an acting trophy only now and it was only the first time after being in showbiz for more than three decades. He even bragged about his senior card.
"Salamat, naka-tsamba (Thanks, that was great luck)," said Jeric. "I believed there were other actors more deserving than me," he added. "But I'm really so thankful to the FAMAS for recognizing what I did. Imagine, after 35 years, it is only now that I received an acting award."



Veteran action star Jeric Raval (center), Mayor Marcos Mamay (right) and director Neal 'Buboy' Tan show their FAMAS trophies, including the Best Supporting Actor statuette for the lead star of the film 'Mamay: A Journey to Greatness.'

"I was not used to receiving an acting award," Jeric said. "I didn't even think I would be nominated. I was so happy that they noticed my acting in 'Mamay.'"
Jeric bested Ruru Madrid for "Green Bones," Joel Torre for "Under a Piaya Moon," Sid Lucero for "Topakk," Jhong Hi-

lario for "And the Breadwinner Is" and Will Ashley for "Balota."
Even after his rumored 18 children sired with different women, Jeric refused to talk about his love life. He has still been with the same woman (Holiday) since 1990. "At my age, love life pa?" he smilingly insisted. "I'm still married to the same woman. She is really a good partner. She understood all the troubles I got into. All the headaches."
Jeric is still careful in accepting projects up to this day. "If I play a hitman, I will just kill, but I will not rape a woman. Even (in) my movies before, I never agreed to a rape scene. Even if you say that's only in the movies, people will hate you if you're a rapist or a drug addict. They will believe what they



want to believe." During filming, Mayor Mamay closely supervised the scenes. "He was like an assistant director on the set," said Jeric. I learned that holding hands is not allowed between the Muslim sweethearts."
"I was not allowed to hold the hands of Ara Mina nor kiss her on the set. And we had no idea how to pray. So, Mayor Mamay was always on the set to supervise the filming up to Dubai. The places that he visited before in Mecca, we also visited those sites."
Ara Mina plays his the wife and Teejay Marquez as young Marcos Mamay.
As an actor, Jeric is aware that his talent fee should be commensurate with the box-office results of his film. "You can raise

your talent fee if you become successful in the box office," he explained.
Both box-office results and talent fee are both important to him. "But if you decide to increase your talent fee, you should be successful in the box office, as well. If you've proven that, then you can deliver. You can have many projects."
Meanwhile, Mayor Marcos Mamay cannot be thankful enough for the film's success. "This award is not just for me, but for the people who believed in my story and in the power of second chances," said Mayor Mamay.
Mayor Marcos Mamay, presidential awardee and Producer of the Year, dedicated his recognition to the people of Lanao del Norte and for "regional cinema as a whole." He said, "Our stories matter and tonight proves they deserve to be seen and celebrated."

Trump's Tariffs are Illegal

TARIIFS from page 6

and exported to the US. He noted the higher tariffs would pose problems for the US supply chain, particularly for its defense industry.
Meanwhile, the Philippines has not formally granted zero tariffs on US products, as negotiations over a reciprocal trade agreement remain ongoing, he said.
Senator Maria Imelda "Imee" R. Marcos said that any trade deal with the US should undergo a Senate review, citing concerns it could be lopsided and pose risks to domestic industries.
"[Based on] the scant information that we have been provided, it's clearly more onerous upon the Philippines and extremely beneficial to the US," she said. "There is even more reason that this agreement should be submitted for the concurrence of the Senate."
Mr. Trump said in July that the Philippines is "going to open market with the United States, and zero tariffs," following his

meeting with President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. in Washington.
Also, Department of Economy, Planning, and Development Undersecretary Rosemarie G. Edillon said the effects of US tariffs on Philippine exports could lead to modest medium-term gains through trade diversion.
"If we manage the transition well, then we think that... in the medium term, it could have positive effects by virtue of trade diversion," she said. "It's minus 0.013% from the baseline, and this is equivalent to \$70 million in the short term."
The impact of the US tariff was partly mitigated as the Philippines is not a major exporter, she said.
Meanwhile, US tariffs could help ease inflationary pressures in the country, as trade disruptions slow global economic activity and dampen demand, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Deputy Governor Zeno Ronald R. Abenoja said.
"In the near term, because of the moderation of economic

activity both globally and possibly the domestic economy, this could lessen pressures on the inflation rate right now," he said. "We are seeing inflation rate below 2% on average for 2025."

Canada, US resumes talks

Trump has used the tariffs and threats of even steeper levies to strike new trade deals with the European Union, Japan, Britain and other countries.
The tariffs on Canada, which do not cover goods traded under the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement on free trade, were raised to 35 per cent on Aug. 1. The White House at the time cited Canada's reciprocal tariffs — which are now set to be removed starting Sept. 1 — and what it called a lack of cooperation on fighting fentanyl trafficking as reasons for the increase.
Canada has stepped up border security resources and law enforcement operations against domestic fentanyl labs since Trump first threatened his tariffs after his election win in November. Fentanyl seized at the Canada-U.S. border by American authorities accounts for less



than one per cent of all fentanyl encountered at U.S. borders, according to U.S. data.
The sometimes-stalled negotiations on a new trade and security agreement between Canada and the U.S. resumed last month.
In a dissenting opinion, four of the appeals court judges noted Trump's tariffs on Canada, Mexico and China have been used as a "bargaining chip" to secure more cooperation on fighting fentanyl trafficking, and have been adjusted accordingly, arguing the IEEPA allows a president to take whatever measures are necessary to deal with an emergency.
The dissent cited the use of IEEPA during the Iran hostage crisis in 1979, which was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court, though the law's usage at that time only froze Iranian assets and did not impose tariffs on

Iranian goods.
The Trump administration had argued that courts approved former president Richard Nixon's emergency use of tariffs during a 1971 economic crisis under a 1917 law that IEEPA later replaced. The courts have so far rejected that argument, saying it did not apply to this case.
U.S. trade court 'brazenly abused' judicial powers to block Trump tariffs, WH says
If the tariffs are ultimately struck down, the government might have to refund some of the import taxes that it's collected, delivering a financial blow to the U.S. Treasury.
"If these Tariffs ever went away, it would be a total disaster for the Country," Trump wrote on Truth Social on Friday. He has previously warned of another "GREAT DEPRESSION."
Revenue from tariffs totaled a record US\$142 billion by July, more than double what it was at the same point the year before.
The U.S. Justice Department warned in a legal filing this month that revoking the tariffs could mean "financial ruin" for the United States.

Scenes at Makuhay festival 2025

PHOTOS BY Carlos Unas



PHOTO BY Raymond Santos



Toronto fans are losing the love as TIFF tries to please badly-needed sponsors

TIFF from page 1

the first time in 2015, she realized she could walk up to almost any part of the red carpet and — if she spent a few hours waiting — finagle a selfie with the likes of Eddie Redmayne or Kevin Bacon.

Lately, that feat has become increasingly difficult. Each year, Leung notices more of the once-open space surrounding the annual film festival's red carpets is taken up by fan zones and corporate watch areas that are competitive to access or require you to be a customer of sponsor brands.

"It's a lot of obstacles and variables nowadays compared to where it used to be," said Leung, who commutes daily during the festival to the red carpets from Markham, Ont., in hopes of snagging snaps with the stars.

Leung's observations come as TIFF, long considered the people's festival because screenings are open to the public, is preparing to host its 50th edition next week. This year's festival will see the world premieres of buzzy films like Guillermo del Toro's rendition of Frankenstein and the third instalment of the Knives Out series, and welcome stars as prolific as Ryan Reynolds and Dwayne (The Rock) Johnson.

But as regulars know, getting the chance to meet them will take more perseverance and patience. That's because the free-



for-all nature that used to exist around the carpet perimeters has been diluted by TIFF's constantly changing policies and its need to appease sponsors.

"Every year it changes, and every year it's a cluster," said Serena Tung, a Toronto woman who

has met stars from Daniel Craig to Jennifer Lopez at TIFF red carpets over the last 20 years.

Asked about the erosion of free carpet spaces fans have observed, TIFF said it is "committed to creating unique, memorable opportunities for audiences to engage with filmmakers, stars, and fellow film lovers."

"Each year, we work to enhance the experience, particularly at our flagship red carpet at Roy Thomson Hall," vice-president of strategy, communications and stakeholder relations Judy Lung said.

The hall is TIFF's glitziest venue, which is reserved for the biggest premieres.

Almost all of the space stretching from the spot where stars are dropped off in blacked out SUVs to where they enter the hall used to be open to fans to gather as they please. Now, much of the area is covered by corporate booths.

One of the biggest belongs to Rogers, TIFF's presenting sponsor for a second year in a row. Rogers spokesperson Charmaine Khan said the booth is meant to deliver a

"premier entertainment" experience. It has a multi-level viewing space open to Rogers customers but a rush line for the public to join, if space permits.

Last year, Tung said she had to show the company that she was a wireless customer to get access to the booth and then scout a good spot among other entrants.

A similar space from Royal Bank of Canada invites its customers to sign up weeks in advance for free access to no more than two carpets. (Non-customers are able to secure spots later in the process.)

Those who get a slot in the two-level booth are told the experience is "first-come, first served." The prized lower-level spaces, where you're more likely to get your celeb selfies, are prioritized for Avion Rewards Elite members.

"Last year, my friend and I went early, about one-and-a-half hours before they started letting people in. We were probably in the first 10 people and we had to go upstairs," Leung said. "We couldn't sit downstairs next to the carpet area, which was kind of frustrating after waiting so long."

RBC chief brand officer Shannon Cole did not answer questions about the erosion of easily accessible space along the carpet because of booths like her company's but said in an email that the setup allows the bank "to not only give ... access to interact

with stars walking the red carpet, but to build an elevated hospitality experience for them while doing so."

Guests at the booth get swag bags and opportunities to win prizes, the bank said.

Farther down the carpet is often a final booth run by alcohol brand Peroni. In past years, it's let anyone queue outside and — space permitting — grants free entry and a drink.

While it might take more work to get into one of the corporate booths, their emergence helps keep the festival going, said Paul Moore, a sociology professor at Toronto Metropolitan University who studies the history of moviegoing.

"Anyone who's nostalgically complaining about TIFF not being like the old days also needs to recognize, for better or for worse, that the financial situation is not like the olden days either," he said.

Challenges for TIFF in recent years

In the last few years, the festival has dealt with the COVID-19 pandemic and two Hollywood strikes, which limited the number of screenings it could host and stars that visited. TIFF also lost support from major sponsor Bell and faced the arts sector's usual struggles with funding.

These factors have made finding the right balance between satisfying sponsors and fans even



TOP, Noel Perada gets ready to cover the red carpet in last year's TIFF; ABOVE, Noel Perada gets a selfie with actor Daniel Radcliffe.

The end of an era for this batch of young love, sweet love in showbiz

Kathryn Bernardo and Daniel Padilla (left) and Liza Soberano and Enrique Gil.

It's the end of an era for the Kapamilya Network and its fandom in the love team department with the recent confirmation of Enrique Gil and Liza Soberano breakup. Although the amiable uncoupling happened almost three years ago, according to Liza, many followers and fans were still saddened just like in the previous breakups of James Reid and Nadine Lustre, and of Daniel Padilla and Kathryn Bernardo.

Appearing on a podcast-documentary that was uploaded on YouTube on August 14, Soberano also revealed that that she had hoped to marry Gil, whom she described as her "real first boyfriend" and "first love."

"Nothing bad happened. Our breakup was really good. It was just, we weren't a match anymore," Soberano said.

"I carry a lot of guilt for not being the one [who] held on, because that's what my fans wanted to do. But also, I needed to find myself and grow, too," she added.

Soberano and Gil, collectively known as LizQuen, were among

ABS-CBN's most popular tandem until she left the country to pursue her Hollywood dreams. They have headlined hit TV series and movies like "Forevermore," "Alone/Together," "Dolce Amore," "My Ex and Whys," "Everyday I Love You," "Just The Way You Are," "Bagani," and "Make It With You."

New love team breeds

Amid breakups there are also good news in the love department in show business. For one, EA de Guzman and Shaira Diaz finally walked down the aisle after 12 long years together as a couple. Publicly announcing their celibate ways, Shaira's wedding vows which included the line, 'thank you for patiently waiting for me. Magiging masaya ka na mamaya,' has easily become one of the highlights of their wedding ceremony.

Meanwhile, PBB Celebrity Collab alumna Shuvee Etrata's TDH Anthony Constantino, brought more kilig and excitement to their real-life tandem and to their many supporters as he admitted to officially courting Shuvee and patiently waiting for her. The "Island Ate ng Cebu"

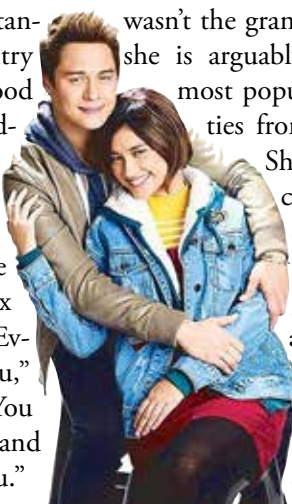
wasn't the grand winner, but she is arguably one of the most popular personalities from her season.

She is currently continuing her showbiz journey through guest appearances, hosting stints, and a strong viral presence on social media. She is also set

to star in an upcoming teleserye titled "Master Cutter" alongside seasoned actor Dingdong Dantes and fellow PBB housemate Charlie Fleming.

Aga Muhlach and Charlene Gonzales' darling daughter Atasha Muhlach is also reported to be playing sweet music with Jacob Ang, the son of business genius Ramon Ang. Jacob is an executive of San Miguel Corporation's car business subsidiaries who has modeled in some famous promotional fashion shows.

Netizens have been posting snaps of the couple together since January this year. He has also been snapped by netizens in the set of Atasha's tapings of the upcoming series Bad Genius. His billionaire father has also confirmed that the two are friends over a TV interview.



Seth Fedelin "sobrang happy" about love team with Francine Diaz

Kadalasan sa mga magka-love team ay umaaming naging sila kapag break na.

Kaya siniguro nina Francine Diaz at Seth Fedelin, a.k.a. FranSeth, na hindi nila itatago sa publiko kung saka-sakaling mauwi na sa totooanang relasyon ang samahan nilang dalawa.

Pahayag ni Seth: "Ako ang sasabihin ko lang, deserve niya na ipagayabang siya. "Yes, sasabihin ko, if the right time comes, bakit naman hindi, di ba?"

Pagsang-ayon ni Francine: "It's a beautiful thing to be loved by someone and love someone. If the right time comes, puwede naman."

SETH FEDELIN ON REAL SCORE WITH FRANCINE DIAZ

Pero ano na nga ba ang estado nila?

Ani Seth, "Sa ngayon, sobrang happy namin. Yung 2024, sobrang saya, sobrang saya namin dahil dumoble ang blessings. "Yung mga tao na nakapaligid sa amin, pinapanatili kaming safe, di kami pinapabayaan.

"Kung tatanungin niyo kami kung ano ang updates sa amin personal, masaya kami ni Francine, yun lang.

"Pinapahalagahan namin kung ano ang mayroon kami. Kung kami, kami."

Ano ang gagawin ni Seth kung saka-sakaling simulan na silang itambal sa ibang artista ng ABS-CBN na kadalasang nangyayari sa ibang mga love teams?

"Ngayon, sasagutin namin na hindi kasi hindi pa tapos ang FranSeth, yun lang ang sasabihin ko," paniniguro ng aktor. Ka-tie ang BarDa o Barbie Forteza at David Licauco love team, ipinagkaloob sa FranSeth ang Power Duo Tan-



dem award. Labis ang pasalamat nila sa karan-

galang natanggap.

"Unang-una, gusto ko lang maging totoo, ang isang love team, di madali," pag-amin sa amin ni Seth. "Ang galaw ng isa, di pupuwedeng kargo ng isa, kargo ng dalawa. "Di madali, magiging totoo na ako, pero nagiging madali siya kapag parehas kayo ng gusto.

"Yun ang pinagpapasalamat ko dahil nagkaroon ako ng isang kasama magtrabaho, kasama mapagod, kasama mapuyat. "Palagi kong kausap sa lahat ng karakter na ginagampanan namin, sa lahat ng aral na tinuro niya sa akin. "Yun, yun ang nararam-daman ko ngayon." Pinasalamatan ng actor ang Philippine Movie Press Club (PMPC). "Kayo, mga pamilyar na mukha, mga nakakasama namin, sobra akong nagpapasalamat dahil nakitaan kami ng hindi lang basta pakilig, para makita ng mga kabataan especially na kapulutan ng magandang aral.

"Gaya ng sinabi ko kanina, truly an honor na ma-recognize ng PMPC for this award.

"Ngayon, sa mga love teams or hindi man, parang bihira yung makitaan ng dedication sa ginagawa mo, yung pagmamahal mo sa trabaho, kaya sa bawat award, sa bawat ganitong event na pinupuntahan namin, di lang kami basta nag-aayos para kumuha ng parangal.

"Lahat ay reminder na pasasalamat din na okay naman pala ang ginagawa namin."

Jollibee, Canadian officials discuss strengthening supply chain

Canada's Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Heath MacDonald met Jollibee Group executives to discuss how they can strengthen the fastfood giant's supply chain network in Canada.

MacDonald and Jollibee officials led by chief executive officer Ernesto Tanmantiong discussed identifying sourcing opportunities for key ingredients, enhancing logistics partnerships, and making use of Canada's high-quality agricultural products to boost the company's growing business in North America.

"Canada remains a valuable and strategic market for the Jollibee Group—not only for expanding our store network, but also as a key partner in strengthening and localizing our supply chain," said Tanmantiong.

Jollibee has 28 stores in Canada—12 in Ontario, 8 in Alberta, and more in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and British Columbia.

Its burger brand Smashburger also has 6 Canadian stores.

The Jollibee Group has wholly owned brands including ChowKing, Greenwich, Red Ribbon, Mang Inasal, Yonghe King and Hong Zhuang Yuan, and fran-



chised brands including Burger King, Panda Express, and Yoshinoya in the Philippines.

JFC has been expanding its portfolio of brands worldwide with recent acquisitions such as Korea's Compose Coffee and Taiwan's Milksha. It also struck deals to bring Common Man Coffee Roasters and Tiong Bahru Bakery to the Philippines.

Recently, it took over the management and ownership of the Michelin-starred Tim Ho Wan restaurant chain.

Jollibee had earlier said it plans to open some 700 to 800 new stores globally this year, across brands and markets.

Change of Venue

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'Sakit': Celebrities slam corruption in flood control projects



Combination photo shows celebrities Nadine Lustre, Anne Curtis and Bianca Gonzalez

Celebrities Anne Curtis, Nadine Lustre and Bianca Gonzalez reacted to the corruption scandal involving flood control projects across the country.

In her X account, Anne shared a quote from veteran broadcaster Jessica Soho. "When Mam @KM_JessicaSoho said 'Hindi na pala baha ang magpapalubog aa ating bayan kungdi kasakiman' Sakit," Anne wrote.

Nadine, in an interview, said she shares the public's frustration over the flood control projects' corruption.

"I'm really sad seeing people struggling, losing their homes, livelihood, pets, because we can't find a solution," she said.

"Nakaka-galit, nakaka-lungkot na 'yung binibigay natin na buwis sa ganon napupunta. Nakakainis talaga. It is sad funds are being used for something else," she added.

Bianca, meanwhile, took a swipe at corrupt officials' kids for posting their lavish lifestyles.

"My feed filled with posts on the lavish lifestyle of kids of corrupt officials.... and here we are, mga walang generational wealth o nakaw na yaman, na kumakayod araw araw, na minsang nahihiya pa magpost ng travel o ng nabili kasi baka 'may-abang' ang dating. Paano ba to," she said.

Gerald Anderson remarks directorial debut 'not an easy job'

Kapamilya star Gerald Anderson never believed in his wildest dreams that he would become a director.

During the media conference for the second season of his series "Sins of the Father," Gerald admitted being surprised the production offered him to be one of the show's directors, in the process marking his debut behind the camera.

"Never, never ko talaga naisip na maging director talaga kasi alam kong ibang craft, something that I did not really aspire to be," Gerald said, though he pointed out never wanting to become an actor when he was younger.

Gerald acknowledged not going to film school like most directors but shared he was very observant, listening to and watching how directors work in his nearly two decades in the entertainment industry.

"Not saying na nandu'n ako sa level nila. I have so much to learn," Gerald added.

Now that he's a director, Gerald said that he has more respect for directors as it isn't as easy as it appears.

"You are the captain of the ship, ikaw 'yung leader, may pressure ka from the production force, kasi we're working with limited time, minsan 'yung location, minsan 'yung artista," the actor said.

"When you put all of that together and the director has to produce something na at least quality sana, it's very hard," Gerald continued. "But I enjoyed my experience. Ang dami ko pong natutunan and I've learned a lot through this whole process, at sobrang



thankful ako."

Asked if acting or directing was more difficult, Gerald answered both had their challenges.

"Sabay kong ginawa 'yun sa tatlong araw na 'yun at mahirap talaga. But isa sa gusto kong mangyari in the future na magdirek na hindi ako 'yung artista," Gerald said.

"Mahirap, magkaiba sila, hindi porke magaling kang umarte ay kaya mo nang magdirek magkaibang-magkaiba," the actor-director ended.



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TIFF fans are losing the love as TIFF tries to please badly-needed sponsors

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more difficult.

One of the ways TIFF has tried to satisfy festival goers is with fan zones at Roy Thomson Hall, Princess of Wales Theatre and the Royal Alexandra Theatre. The barricaded areas in central spots along the routes stars take into theatres were introduced in recent years, turning the red carpet from an almost completely open space to one with mostly designated areas fans must put in more effort to enter.

TIFF originally handed out free wristbands every morning that gave access to

the zones, prompting long lines when teen heartthrobs and It Girls were due to make appearances.

"When people camp out there morning to night and they're at the barricade, you never get up close," Leung said. "You'd have to find another spot or hope somebody leaves."

This year, TIFF has fans jockeying for entry via Ticketmaster, where it will release free passes at noon each day. Fans can sign up for one pass per screening and if they don't snag entry online, can wait in a rush line in hopes that someone who landed admission doesn't show up.

Leung likes that the online model cuts down on fans having to be early risers or miss work or school to secure a fan zone spot but Tung is wary of the system crashing if demand surges or bots or resellers vie for spaces.

If they get passes, that's just one hurdle cleared. Tung estimates some zones can hold 200 people who will all want to be as close to the action as possible.

"For me taking selfies, I want to be on the front row, so I would line up one hour, maybe two hours ahead of time to ensure I get a good spot," she said.

But at least the zones remain free.

"They don't necessarily need to do that," Moore said. "Everything down in that zone could be for festival goers and ticketed customers."

Given all the hurdles, Leung and Tung have sometimes been trying their luck elsewhere; outside restaurants and hotels, where stars are partying, doing press conferences and visiting gifting lounges.

"You've got to kind of leverage those spots more because it's not like you can rely on the red carpets anymore," Leung said.

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For Filipina sensation Alex Eala, this is not the end, but a beginning

LEYLAH from page 8

Her victory and subsequent tribute to her mother highlight the importance of family and heritage in shaping her identity, both as an athlete and as an individual.

“It’s been a long, long couple of years with a lot of ups and downs. Getting this title is great not only for confidence and self-belief, but also for the whole team and family. The past couple of years, we’ve gone through a lot of tough moments. This trophy just indicates how much they have fought.”

This special dedication after her victory underscores the deep connection and respect Fernandez has for her mother’s influence on her career.

“And it shows me if they can fight through their difficulties, I can do it in a little tennis match with a tennis ball coming back at me. That’s the goal and the mentality.”

The Role of Family Support in Canada

Fernandez has frequently credited her success to the unwavering support of her family. Her Filipino mother, Irene Exevea, has been an essential figure in her life, providing constant encour-

agement. In her post-match reflections, Fernandez expressed deep gratitude, calling her mother’s support invaluable.

For those of you wondering, Leylah Fernandez is from Montreal, Quebec—born on September 6, 2002, and she’s a proud Canadian through and through.

Her father, Jorge Fernandez, originally hails from Ecuador, played semi-professional football, and now coaches Leylah and her sister on the tennis tour. Her mother, Irene Exevea, is Filipino Canadian, born in Toronto but raised by Filipino parents, making Leylah proudly Canadian of Ecuadorian-Filipino heritage.

So in short: she’s Canadian-born and raised (Montreal but now training in Florida), but her cultural roots span Ecuador and the Philippines...a blend she treasures and proudly represents on and off the court

Looking Ahead

With her success at the DC

Open, Fernandez has set the stage for even greater achievements. Her dedication to her family, cultural heritage, and resilience on the court continue to inspire tennis fans globally. As she moves forward in her career, this victory is a strong testament to her abilities and the values she holds dear.

Today’s win felt like a reset. After a few tough seasons, Leylah’s not just back... she’s back on her terms. The joy is real. The confidence earned. The game? It’s only getting stronger.

And in true Gen Z fashion, she’s doing it without losing herself. Still showing love to her family. Still shouting out her mom and sister. Still carrying that unicorn.

Fernandez ended her run at the US Open on the third round losing to the world’s No. 1-ranked player Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus but her doubles run with teammate venus Williams reached the third round as of this writing.

Cristine Reyes ‘okay’ with Marco Gumabao despite split, confirms new romance



Cristine Reyes clarified that she and her ex-boyfriend Marco Gumabao are “super okay” with each other while also revealing that she is already in a relationship with a non-showbiz personality.

Reyes briefly addressed her past romance with Gumabao in an interview with MJ Marfori via TikTok when asked about her relationship status.

“We’ll just leave [our breakup] to us na lang, respeto na namin sa isa’t isa... Super okay kami (We’ll just leave our split to us. It’s our way of showing respect to each other. We’re super

okay),” she said.

Reyes and Gumabao were hounded with breakup rumors in April after eagle-eyed netizens noticed that they had unfollowed each other on Instagram. This marks the first time the “The Kingdom” star addressed her relationship status with the actor.

During the brief interview,

Reyes also confirmed that she is in a relationship with a non-showbiz personality

“I am happy,” she said, referring to her newfound romance.

While the actress didn’t reveal the identity of her new boyfriend, she was speculated to be in a relationship with former National Youth Commission (NYC) chairperson Gio Tingson after they were seen hanging out with friends while on vacation in Vietnam.

Meanwhile, Gumabao has kept mum on his relationship status as of this writing.



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'Living Expenses': Pinay author on infertility and representation

by Yona M. Harvey of MabuhayCanada.org

LIVING EXPENSES from page 1

upbringing to infuse authenticity and nuance into her characters.

Vlassopoulos, an only child, said that she came up with the two main characters—two sisters—partly because she was interested in sibling relationships.

"I wanted to explore the relationship between two sisters who are very close in age, but also different."

The book's theme about the struggles of infertility was an experience Vlassopoulos had gone through herself.

"I have one daughter who's now 10 years old and it had been an experience that I've gone through at the time. I found that (infertility) wasn't represented in a lot of a lot of pop culture—not in books or in movies."

Another theme she wanted to explore was her biracial upbringing.

"I definitely wanted the characters to be at least partially Filipino," she shared in an interview. "It's my identity as someone who's half Filipino."

"And again, like infertility, it's not always something that you see represented in books."

The Filipino influence emerges vividly in her writing through relatable scenes centred around karaoke and Filipino cuisine—two beloved staples of

Filipino gatherings.

"There is one karaoke scene in the book that I couldn't resist not talking about," she said, laughing.

"I love karaoke. I feel like it's one of my most Filipino traits."

Another distinct element reflecting her heritage is food, a central motif in the novel. The main character is a food blogger.

"Food is so important," Vlassopoulos emphasizes, underscoring how this element reflects broader themes of identity and belonging.

Yet, the Filipino experience in her work isn't limited to joyful communal moments. The book delves into deeper cultural undertones such as superstition and faith, intricately woven through the Filipino mother's character.

"Sometimes I wonder when I consider things Filipino—is it just my mom, or is it the culture?" Vlassopoulos muses.

This cultural tension of being "half-Filipino, not fully of one race," adds complexity and realism to her characters.

Through her writing, Vlassopoulos aims to create authentic representations that resonate deeply within the Filipino community.

"Filipinos, as well as infertility, aren't



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as represented in a lot of books," she said.

The book has already found a warm embrace among Filipino readers in Canada, including recognition by CBC during Filipino Heritage Month.

"I've been so touched by how it's been received (in the Filipino community)."

Ultimately, for Vlassopoulos, "Living Expenses" is about more than just storytelling—it's about hope, representation, and the joy of seeing one's heritage celebrated openly and proudly.

"I really wanted to write a book that leaves you feeling hopeful," she concluded, capturing the heart of what makes her novel so beautifully human and genuinely Filipino.

Learn more about Vlassopoulos by visiting her website here.

"Living Expenses" is her third book, following "Escape Plans", published in 2015, and "Bats or Swallows" published in 2010.

MABUHAY CANADA is an independent publication launched in March 2022 by Yona Harvey.

GOD'S LITTLE PARADISE

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

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

Sunset @ Sta. Fe Beach

Chocolate Hills

Balicasag Resort & Diving Spot

A tropical havel of beauty, the coastline of province is skimmed by gentle coves and white sand beaches. You can fins some of the country's great dive sights here. Balicasag in Bohol is one of the most popular dives in visayas.

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

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

A black coral forest is among its main attractions but virtually anywhere you drop in is sure to be rewarding. another major attraction, Cabiao is renowned for the hammerhead sharks that shoal around the clear waters. Large pelagics are very common here. And if you are really luck, you can find yourself swimming with a passing school of dolphins.

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Yen Santos and Chavit Singson break silence over alleged love child

Politician Chavit Singson sat down with actress Yen Santos for the latter's vlog where he answered questions most people wanted to know about him, including his past celebrity girlfriend and his rumored love child with the actress.

A month ago, Yen dispelled the rumor about having a child with the Ilocos Sur politician. In her first ever vlog, Yen said that the child often thought as her child with the former Ilocos governor was her younger brother.

Yen again stressed this on her vlog up-



loaded August 27.

The vlog started with Chavit answering and evading some questions thrown at him. He firmly said that he has not had a

relationship with a celebrity, saying "mga marites lang 'yun."

He also playfully answered that he has more than two kids, "dalawang dosena," he quipped. The politician, however, said that he has only been married once to his deceased wife, Evelyn Verzosa, who died in 2016.

At the end of the short vlog, Yen briefly talked about how she and Chavit met.

Yen said that she knows Chavit through her parents. The actress said they are "tro-pa," a family friend for more than a de-

cade. This closeness, Yen said, might be the reason why she and Chavit are being romantically linked.

"Kaya lagi tayong nai-issue. Meron pa nga daw tayong anak, 'di ba? Malaki na daw 'yung anak natin. Anak ba natin 'yon?" Yen said.

Chavit's reply left Yen nervously laugh-ing: "Ewan ko sa'yo."

"Naku po," Yen replied.

"Guys, hindi po namin 'yon anak. Kapatid ko 'yon and ninong (godfather) siya no'n," Yen immediately said, reiterat-ing what she said in her very first vlog on YouTube about Chavit being the godfa-ther of her youngest brother.

Jeric Raval claims AJ Raval, Aljur Abrenica have 2 kids

Action star Jeric Raval has reported-ly said that he has two grandchildren from his daughter AJ Raval with actor Aljur Abrenica.

The '90s action star recently won the best supporting actor award for his role in the biopic "Mamay" at the 73rd FAMAS Awards.

Jeric revealed AJ and Aljur's chil-dren to the press at the "Mamay" vic-tory party.

"Babae (at) lalaki, dalawa na," Jeric said as seen in a video uploaded from the press interview.

Jeric, who said he has 15 grandchil-



dren, said he calls the baby boy as Al Junior. The baby boy is reportedly

one year and two months old, while the girl is now nine months old.

The celebrity cou-ple denied having children in sepa-rate interviews with broadcaster Julius Babao in 2024.

"First of all, hindi po ako taun-taon buntis. Parang year-ly na lang po akong buntis," AJ told Babao.

The actress then said that she was busy with her studies through the Alternative Learning System (ALS), not due to the alleged pregnancy, that made her inactive in showbiz.

Aljur directly denied having chil-dren with AJ in his own interview with Babao.

"Wala po," he said, adding that he saw the videos and photos of him with AJ with a little girl alleged to be their child circulating at that time.

"Sabi ko, 'Bakit natsi-tsismis na may anak kami? Ang bilis namang lumaki ng bata!'" Aljur added.

CROSSOVER from page 4

every second of this."

The SBP Las Vegas Show-case is one of the most im-portant scouting events for identifying emerging talent within the Filipino diaspora. Crossover Canada's win sends a clear message: the north is producing top-level talent ready to shine on any stage.

In a city known for chance and luck, Cross-over Canada didn't roll the dice — they made a statement. And now, they're bringing cham-pionship gold home. Emar Sy



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2010 UNDFTD
2008 CKATT



2009 RISING SUN
2007 NORTH YORK
2006 PROTEGE



2005 VAUGHN VIPERS
2003 BAYAN
OPEN CKATT

Familiar: Carla Abellana comments on Discaya luxury cars

puso actress Carla Abellana reacted to the recent revelation that controversial couple Sarah and Curlee Discaya are in possession of numerous luxury cars.

In her Instagram story, Carla posted a screenshot of the Discayas' interview with journalist Julius Babao which fea-tured the expensive vehicles.

In the screenshot was text that read "Luxury Car Haul with Sarah and Curlee Discaya" over the photo of two Lincoln Navigator which each cost P16 million.

According to Carla, she had previously shot a scene in the building where the vehicles are located.

"Ah, sa kanila pala lahat yun! Nag-tap-ing na kami sa building na yan sa Pa-sig!" she wrote. "And I was like, 'parang



alam ko na kung ano ang 'business' ng may-ari nitong mga to."

Carla was re-cen-tly tagged by

social media users as the "Patron Saint of Concerned Citizens" after calling out companies with her concerns.

The Discayas' two companies, mean-while, were identified as two of the Top 15 flood control contractors in Depart-ment of Public Works and Highways.

Candid CAMERA



Roy Berlin, Bernadette Santos and Rene Calalang looks on as Annie Costiniano immediately grabs the big and long upo for herself.

BINI's Jhoanna Robles on learning from viral food review, 'maarte' tag

BINI leader Jhoanna Robles reacted to the "maarte" tag thrown at her group and revealed the lessons they learned from the recent issues hounding them.

In her interview with Ogie Diaz, Jhoanna said that she is aware of the comments from online users.

The former talent manager and host asked about their guesting on the vlog "People vs. Food," where BINI tried popular Filipino street food.

Jhoanna talked about it, even sharing to Ogie that she liked a particular way of cooking isaw (chicken intestines). Ogie noted how the P-pop group received negative comments.

"Yung iba kase naaartehan sa inyo. Tapos lahat kayo parang Inglesero na," Ogie said, citing the comments left by social media users on BINI's street food review.

"Yung maarte po, totoo naman po. Maarte naman po kami," she replied, providing context in relation to the group's world tour in North America at that time

when they shot the vlog. "Siyempre, nag-i-English po kami kasi nasa ibang bansa po kami. Para sign of respect din po du'n kasi nag-guest po kami.

"Kahit paano naman po, nakakapag-sali-ta naman po kami ng English kahit kaunti lang 'yung baon namin," she explained.

Ogie asked the BINI leader on her thoughts about when the hate comments began.

"Parang natatawa lang din ako sa mga comments ng iba na nakisakay sa hate train, na feeling ko hindi naman pina-nood 'yung buong video," she said.

"Saka iba po 'yung pag-prep sa food. Kumbaga, iba talaga 'yung ditong ga-wang Pinas," she added.

Jhoanna said that she learned a few lessons from the most recent issue thrown at her group.

"Siguro hindi lang kami naging careful kung paano kami nag-react since nasa ibang lugar kami. Ganon ko na lang po siya inisip. Gets ko na 'yung galit nila kasi sana kahit papa-no finilter namin. Gets ko 'yung pagiging authentic namin pero nga dahil nasa ibang lugar po kami, sana kinontrol namin kahit konti. 'Yun naman po 'yung learning namin doon," Jhoanna said.

BINI filed an unjust vexation case against an unnamed individual who posted the spliced video.



Filipino



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SCENES AT TASTE OF MANILA 2025: 1. Reyna Elena; 2. Winterra; 3. Kirstine & Oceana; 4. Mikayla; 5. Angeline & Ryeanna; 6. Pink Ribbons Shaine & Mika; 7. Aky Ortez; 8. Sophia; 9. Ryeanna



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Scenes at Mabuhay festival 2025

1. MH Production talents; 2. Painter Frank Cruzet and wife Theresa Lumanlan, Maripi Leynes, Lally Dividina; 3. Sketching at the Philippine Artists Group booth; 4. Mary Ann Gamboa, Rosary Escaño, Theresa Lumanlan, Dr. Eileen de Villa; 5. line-up at FV Foods

Hunk Shot

Harvey is currently working fast food restaurants and att Shoppers Drug Mart.

He is currently enrolled at Seneca studying hospitality mgmt.

He wants to become a famous performer.

His parents are Anne Marie and Alex.

Harvey Cañedo



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BINI files legal complaint over altered Filipino food review video



P-pop group BINI files cybercrime case against an unnamed individual over an edited food review video that threw online hate at the Hall of Justice in Laguna on August 18, 2025.

P-pop girl group BINI filed a cyber-crime case in conjunction with unjust vexation earlier today, August 18, after their Filipino food review was spliced and generated negative reactions, including “personal attacks and grave insults.”

Film producer and celebrity lawyer Joji Alonso accompanied the eight members of the group to the Hall of Justice in Sta. Rosa, Laguna, to file the complaint.

Alonso said the case against the unnamed individual falls under cybercrime, under Sections 4B and 6 of Republic Act 10175 or the Cybercrime Prevention Act of 2012, in conjunction with unjust vexation under Article 287 of the Revised Penal Code.

“This emanated from the splicing of a 25-minute video of the BINI members, trying and rating Filipino street food. The uploaded spliced version was cut to 2 minutes and only showed only their negative reactions, completely changing the show’s narrative,” Alonso said.

The edited video fueled “online hate and bashing” against BINI. Alonso said that it “escalated to personal attacks, name-calling, and grave insults.”

The lawyer added that the video painted the girls in a bad light that caused “irreparable emotional and mental distress.”

“It must be remembered that freedom to post online is not an absolute right, and must be accompanied by truth, accountability and responsibility. Right to free speech ends when it starts to malign reputations or cause harm and damage upon others,” Alonso said.

Alonso’s post came with the photos of all eight members of BINI: Jhoanna, Colet, Maloi, Stacey, Gwen, Aiah, Sheena, and Mikha.

The lawyer ended her post by saying that the P-pop group is taking a “strong stance” against the “prevalent” digital form of abuse.

iterally anyone may fall victim. In filing

this case, BINI stands as a voice in fighting for all those who remain unheard,” the counsel added.

BINI tried and rated popular Filipino food on the vlog People vs. Food last month.

Martin Nievera shares thoughts on marrying again

Martin Nievera’s songs never get old. From the days of cassette tapes, jukebox, Walkman, compact discs and karaoke to this era of music streaming platforms, Martin’s music lives on.

After four decades (and counting) in the biz, he does a special kind of encore. In 1983, his album Take One was a huge success. Fast forward to 2025, he launches his new album, Take Two. It is a compilation of his top hits (released by Vicor Music and distributed by Viva Records).

Martin’s songs are lovelier the second time around. Hail to the Concert King. No artist can ever dethrone him in the OPM scene and in the hearts of Pinoy music lovers.

Here’s my chat with Mart:
Among all your songs in Take 2, which one hits you in an entirely different way this time around?

“Of the nine OPM classics I recorded in this Take 2 album, there is one song I used to love to listen to back in the ’80s. It’s a song written and recorded by Iwi Laurel entitled, Special Memory, and even though I was still very new in the business, I would feel so sentimental and miss my life as a young boy dreaming to become a singer during my childhood.

“Why does it hit me differently now that I have done a ‘take 2’ version of it? Well, for the simple reason that now that I have been living my dream for the last 43 plus years, I find myself feeling a little like a special memory myself. Time can do that to you.

“With all these great singers and songwriters and hitmakers emerging today, I ask myself: Have I done enough? Did I give enough to an industry that has been so very good to me? Will I be remembered for the good I have done or for the viral bad?”

Since Take 2 won’t be available on streaming platforms, do you prefer vinyl albums?

“Actually, to be honest with you, I am still very new with the whole streaming thing. I thought streaming was a new kind of fishing sport. Although my very first contribution to OPM was on a long-playing vinyl album entitled Take 1, so this concept is comfortable for me. But I look forward to an all-original OPM album to be streamed on all platforms the way we are all used to doing today on the next project.”

If you could do a Take 2 of any moment in your life and change how you handled it, what would it be?

“The list of ‘Take 2s’ I could have for my failed ‘Take 1s’ in life would be endless — some bigger and more life-changing than others. If given the chance to turn a failure into a victory, I’d be a fool not to take it.

“There are some things in life you should not Take 2 on. Maybe God wanted us to learn from that life lesson to become the people we are today. So live and learn and make sure you don’t have to think about another Take 2 in your life again.”

What’s your advice to young artists who are more driven by views and likes when creating music?

“You don’t need to be viewed or liked to be creative enough to make a difference in this world and, more importantly, in this industry. Create and make music that will change lives. Not to make yourself popular or rich, but to inspire a nation of frustrated dreamers and overthinkers. You have the power in your hands, but use your heart too.

“I care very much about OPM and the entire entertainment industry and where it goes from here. So much so that I make sure the new and the young and up-and-coming hear from me as I try and make them believe that I believe in all they stand for. Yesterday, today and tomorrow.”

Are you willing to do a Take 2 and try marriage again or once is enough?

“Wow, somehow I knew you would ask that question. My doors are never closed. If she will have me, why not? But I am a true believer that we don’t need a ring or a contract to know where we are going or how much we can or should love each other. I wanna take 2 and take 3, maybe even take 4 if we have to, on life and all that life throws our way. I want to take this journey with her and see where it brings us. As long as we are together, no matter how many takes. Practice makes perfect. Approach life like it’s your ‘Take 1!’ Don’t stress out, never give up ‘cause there is always a ‘Take 2.’”

‘I Love You Since 1892,’ which premieres on Sept. 6, is helmed by Mac Alejandre. It stars Heaven Peralejo, Jerome Ponce and Joseph Marco. On the wings of love, their characters travel back in time.

‘I Love You Since 1892,’ which premieres on Sept. 6, is helmed by Mac Alejandre. It stars Heaven Peralejo, Jerome Ponce and Joseph Marco. On the wings of love, their characters travel back in time.

From Wattpad to Viva One

What if we could relive the past to ensure that we will love happily ever after? Such is the premise of Viva One’s adaptation of the Wattpad novel “I Love You Since 1892.” Written by Binibining Mia, it has gained over 132 million reads.

The series, which premieres on Sept.

6, is helmed by Mac Alejandre. It stars Heaven Peralejo, Jerome Ponce and Joseph Marco. On the wings of love, their characters travel back in time. What a journey indeed. Keep your heartstrings securely fastened.



‘I Love You Since 1892,’ which premieres on Sept. 6, is helmed by Mac Alejandre. It stars Heaven Peralejo, Jerome Ponce and Joseph Marco. On the wings of love, their characters travel back in time.

Here are quotes from Heaven, Joseph, Jerome and direk Mac:

Heaven: “I did not do this project in order to reactivate my lovelife. Playing a dual role made me go back to my core as an actress. I must give both my characters equal importance.”

Joseph: “This is the first time I won’t be able to adlib because my lines are ‘malalim na Tagalog,’ so I have to stick to the script. I don’t want to disrupt the flow of the scenes.”

Jerome: “At first, I thought I was in the wrong Zoom meeting because I could not believe that I will be paired with Heaven.”

Direk Mac: “Since it’s about time travel, that makes it fiction, so we are not bound by historical accuracy.”

Heaven: “Just like the two characters I play, my loved ones come first and I can also be possessive at times because of love.”

Joseph: “My character, Leandro, and I are both driven when it comes to work and we fight for people we love.”

Jerome: If I could freeze a moment in time, it would be my younger years when I was ‘pasaway.’ I will pay more attention to my dad and heed his advice.”

Direk Mac: “I make sure that the acting is always heartfelt. Even if the script is well-written and the cinematography is perfect, if the actors’ hearts are not in it, it won’t work.”

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Alden Richards, Jodi Sta. Maria, Mika Salamanca join calls for gov't transparency

(From left) Alden Richards, Jodi Sta. Maria, and Mika Salamanca.

More celebrities continue to be open about their disapproval with the ongoing flood control projects controversy, the latest of which are Alden Richards, Jodi Sta. Maria, and Mika Salamanca, who are all calling for government officials to be transparent about where the people's taxes have gone into.

In a now-expired Instagram Story, Richards shared a screen capture of Sarah and Curlee Discaya sharing a glimpse of their luxury vehicles in an interview with Julius Babao.

"Gising na, sobra na (It's time to wake up. This is too much)," Richards said.

The Discayas came under fire after several of their construction companies were linked to the anomalous multibillion-peso contracts with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) to oversee its flood control projects.

Sarah Discaya, who ran for Pasig as mayor but lost to incumbent Vico Sotto, appeared at the Senate investigation on Monday.

Accountability

Meanwhile, on her Instagram Story, Jodi Sta. Maria reminded her followers to hold the government accountable, especially when it comes to demanding where one's taxes go.

"We work hard, give what we can, and pay our taxes trusting they serve the greater good. But when they uplift only a few, it makes me think — true change rests only in our choices, but also in holding accountable those who deliberately break public trust," she said, while sharing photos of roads submerged in the flood.

On the other hand, Mika Salamanca reposted an INQUIRER.net report of Quezon City being submerged in flood waters on her X (formerly Twitter) page saying, "walang pipikit (keep your eyes open)."

In a separate post, Salamanca hoped that the public's fury on the ongoing controversy will remain until the 2028 elections.

"Alam kong madilim na, pero hindi ito oras para matulog. panatiliin nating dilat ang ating mga mata



hanggang 2028. kaya ba," she said.

(I know we're living in dark times. But this is not the time to be blind with what's happening. Let's keep our eyes open until 2028. Can we do it?)

Push back against corruption

Vice Ganda continues to express his frustration over the ongoing controversy on social media. This time, he looked back at the time he wrote his song "Aba Matindi," which is meant to be a push back against corruption.

Meanwhile, G22's AJ and Alfea didn't hold back from voicing out their fury regarding the nation still battered in floodwaters on their respective X pages.

"Nakikita niyo ba ang sitwasyon?! Kaya bakit dapat hayaan at palipasin nalang (Do you see the situation right now? We shouldn't allow this to happen and to simply slip by)???? Don't let this die down. Someone should be held accountable," AJ said while resharing a clip from INQUIRER.net.

AJ added in a separate post that the recent senate hearing made her upset, saying, "Tumataas dugo ko sa senate hearing (that senate hearing made my blood boil)."

On the other hand, Alfea demanded accountability on her X account while reiterating that the country is already battered by floodwaters even if the rain is not as strong yet.

"Hindi pa yun yung pinaka malakas na ulan na nangyayari satin. Saan napunta mga sinabing gagawin (This is not even the strongest rain, but this has been happening to us. Where do our funds go)," she said.

Other celebrities who voiced out their frustrations

regarding the ongoing controversy are Sarah Geronimo, Matteo Guidicelli, Anne Curtis, and Nadine Lustre, to name a few.

Why being a good daughter makes Kiray Celis the perfect future wife

Popular belief has it that an ideal spouse in the future may be gauged by the kind of child he or she is to a parent; while this may spark debate, chances are a good son or daughter will likely make a fiercely good partner.

Particularly on my item today involving Kiray Celis, I'm sure I can never commit any slip-up by saying she perfectly fits the mold any parent would wish to raise.

And because she's a delightful daughter, it follows that her non-showbiz boyfriend Stephan Estopia of five years is marrying the right woman his parents would pretty soon love to consider family.

In contrast to the plethora of grim events in April one after another, the 22nd day was punctuated with unspeakable bliss.

As scorching as the summer heat were sparks that flew everywhere as Stephan—with the tiny box containing the ring — knelt before Kiray with his customary "Will you marry me?" line.

The marriage proposal — as witnessed by families of both parties — took place at an undisclosed beach resort. "The CEO (chief executive officer) of Hot Babe, Hello Bloom and Day-Li is now engaged," was Kiray's caption that accompanied a photo posted on Instagram.

Hot Babe, Hello Bloom and Day-Li are the corporate names of Kiray's online business which she had jump-started through the help of Stephan.

In yet another IG photo, the comedienne was in tears



Comedienne and businesswoman Kiray Celis and her non-showbiz fiancé Stephan Estopia.

as she was trying the engagement ring on.

Earlier, Kiray shared a story about Stephan and her scouring the jewelry shops at a mall.

"When he was looking for a ring to buy, I told him I wouldn't settle for anything less than half a million pesos. Do you think it's pricey? He has means anyway, he just needs to do better in his job!"

Prior to the "beach proposal," Kiray — in her guesting on "Fast Talk with Boy Abunda" — ruled out any immediate wedding plans.

She cited unspecified goals she needs to fulfill before setting her sights on living a conjugal life.

A self-confessed late bloomer, Kiray said it's only at this point now where she's able to get the hang of what life has in store for her — both ventures and adventures.

As far as her filial responsibilities are concerned, however, her parents can't seem to ask for more.

Kiray's elders can't be any prouder of her every time there are birthday fetes at home. With the old Celis couple getting their pockets full of cold cash they cannot fathom themselves, who needs a jackpot prize on a game show on TV that will change his life at an instant?

Things, however, have expectedly taken a 180-degree turn. The latest — there are already preparations for the wedding.

Fact is, Kiray's bridal gown, which equally must have cost an arm and a leg, is on the rack waiting to be worn on the still-unspecified altar date.

Admittedly, little did the bride-to-be realize how taxing getting ready for the most important day in her life could get.

"I thought planning was easy not knowing that we need to pay attention to the littlest detail like who's going to sing, what shoes the guests should wear, the food and wine tasting and all that," she shared.

What makes the prepping up easier though is the financial side of it: "Stephan and I share the expenses although he'd volunteer most of the time. But I refuse as I want it fair and square. One thing with him, he lets me decide and respects my say on it."

Soon to be Mrs. Estopia, this includes not stopping her from still providing her family's minor needs: "Piece of cake!"

Sarah Geronimo, Matteo Guidicelli call out corruption, but his remarks backfired

Sarah Geronimo and husband Matteo Guidicelli are the latest celebrities to express their frustration with alleged corruption in government contracts linked to undelivered flood control projects of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), but actor-entrepreneur's remarks backfired.

In separate instances, Geronimo and Guidicelli aired their sentiments, drawing a myriad reaction from their followers on social media.

Geronimo drew laughs as she was engaging in banter with Drs. Vicki Belo and Hayden Kho about their aesthetic clinic's beauty products, wherein she made a reference to the ongoing flood control projects issue.

"Yung ceramide sini-seal nya yng butas para di lum-alabas yung tubig (Ceramide seals the holes to lock in

moisture," said Kho.

Geronimo interjected, saying, "Pero 'yung kalsada d'un, hindi na-absorb 'yung tubig kasi tinipid. Buti na lang ang [products], hindi tinitipid (But the roads couldn't absorb water because of scrimping. It's a good thing that your products are not made poorly)," the singer-actress said in a clip shared by Belo on Friday, August 29.

Aside from the celebrity doctors who were amused by Geronimo's remarks, Chie Filomeno and Samantha Bernardo sided with the "Umaaligid" singer in the comments.

'Transparency, accountability, and integrity'

On the other hand, Guidicelli gave a more substantial

remark about the issue, as he underscored the importance of "transparency, accountability, and integrity" in pushing for change.

"Real change begins with transparency, accountability, and integrity," he said on X (formerly Twitter).

Guidicelli then explained why these aforementioned values matter in a series of follow-up posts, saying this leads to "corruption [being harder] to hide" and growth of "trust in the government."

Guidicelli's his lengthy posts, however, was met with a negative feedback as netizens pointed out his support for former president Rodrigo Duterte, during whose term transparency and accountability had allegedly



been in question.

Other netizens agreed with the actor's remarks, with one @cliffhoodxx pointing out that Guidicelli seemingly had "a change of heart."

Aside from Geronimo and Guidicelli, other celebrities who used their platforms to speak up about the ongoing issue are Gabbi Garcia, Edu Manzano, Nadine Lustre, Vice Ganda, Anne Curtis, Bianca Gonzalez, and Pokwang, to name a few.

Jenny Miller encourages celebrities to do business

Actress Jenny Miller encouraged her fellow celebrities to do business as a safety net or a venture to fall back on once their popularity wanes.

During the launch of her own beauty and wellness business Recherche, Jenny gave tips to celebrities to start their business.

"Sa mga artistang ulad ko, mag-negosyo tayo. Huwag natin asahan ang show-biz unless nandiyan ka or ikaw ang blockbuster queen ngayon," Jenny said.

"Ako for me ha, hindi naman kasi siya regular na trabaho na may regular income ka tapos per project basis. Ito kasi when you have business tuloy-tuloy lang to basta tutok ka and hands-on ka at alam mo kung paano i-market ang product mo," she added.



Jenny recently launched her very own beauty and wellness brand Recherche.

Known for her ageless beauty and confident aura, Jenny has long been admired by women who look up to her as a symbol of grace and resilience. At 45, she has embraced a deeper responsibility: to empower women to prioritize self-care and redefine beauty beyond the physical.

"The best gift you can offer yourself is self-care. It's not selfish — it's about feeling good inside and out, so you can inspire those around you," Jenny shared during the launch.

"When people see you valuing yourself, they are encouraged to do the same."

The star-studded unveiling took place at Okada Manila, where beauty influencers, VIP guests, and supporters gathered to celebrate the "Parade of Confidence." Guests applauded the brand's empowering tagline: "Where Confidence Comes From The Skin."

"Recherche means 'carefully sought out.' We poured our heart and research into developing products that truly deliver results. This launch isn't just about beauty products — it's about starting my new journey as an entrepreneur and empowering others through confidence."

Jenny's brand offers a curated line of premium skincare essentials, including toner, serum, whitening soap, sunblock, rejuvenating facial set, and face cream. Each product is formulated with ingredients designed to combat aging, acne, dark spots, blemishes, dryness, and dullness.

Miller herself attested that every item was personally tested, producing visible and lasting results.

Looking ahead, Jenny envisions her beauty brand to become a leading force in the beauty and wellness industry, inspiring both women and men to embrace self-care as a lifestyle.

"Our mission is to empower and instill confidence in everyone. True beauty is not just how you look — it's how you feel inside and how that radiates outward," she concluded.



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