

Canada Counter-tariffs Take Effect

U.S., Canada Trade Reps Expected To Speak

TORONTO - "Retaliatory tariffs could stand to help some Canadian industries, but most will be hit harder by higher costs," said Canada's Prime Minister Mark Carney. The retaliatory tariffs, effective September 8, cover about 8% of Canada's imports from the U.S., mostly hitting back at product types targeted by the U.S. Steel, aluminum and furniture manufacturing stand to face the highest tariff rate increases, with printing, paper, pulp, clothing and textile manufacturing following

NO DEAL page 15

Picnics, Pageants, & Festivals Fill The Last Month Of Summer



1. Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation (PCCF) Miss Teen Philippines Canada 2026 2nd Runner-up Shamira Martinez, Miss Teen Philippines Canada 2026 1st runner-up Madison Leonard, Miss Philippines Canada 2026 Sofia Tolentino, Miss Teen Philippines Canada 2026 Shanna Longaphie, Miss Philippines Canada 1st RU Janica Areallo, Miss Philippines Canada 2nd RU Jennifer Goosen.

2. Alfie Rivera and Paul Arena takes care of the barbecue at Rice Lake.

3. Gemma Pascual holds her 2nd Family Field Day filled with good food, games, and prizes.

4. MP Vince Gasparro poses with Gemma Pascual during her Family Field day at Earl Bales Park.

5. MH Productions talents join the Taste of Manila TO festival.



Canadian Books Reaches Philippine Schools

Tinampo Elementary School (193M) in Ligao City Albay is located in a peaceful and quiet central barangay. The terrain of the area is generally flat to rolling. Preliminary school reading assessments in English and Pilipino show unfavorable results for grades 1 and 2 (understandable for the beginning of the school year), and grade 6 (I am assuming because of the covid pandemic). The assortment of books we are sending will be a great addition to the reading corners and will help in the intervention

BOOKS page 15

IF YOU'RE a FILIPINO,
the Christmas season has begun.

🐱

Merry Christmas!

PCCF PAGEANTS



1. Judges Ariana Pantaleon, Daphne, Natalie Ramos
2. Miss Teen Philippine Canada 2025 runner-up Andrea Penaverde performs a dance number.
3. Little Miss Philippines Canada 2026 2nd runner-up Victoria "Sia" Lorenzo, Little Miss Philippines Canada 2026 Rhaelee Gavina, Little Miss Philippines Canada 2026 1st Runner-Up Kriselda Ramos, and Little Miss



Philippines Canada 2026 3rd runner-up Jhayra Soleil



Abadilla.
4. Miss Teen Philippines Canada 2026 Shanna



Longaphie with PCCF President Rosemer Enverga



The Filipino Centre Toronto seniors art class went on a picnic at Paul Arena & Wendy's (NOT IN PHOTO) cottage at Rice Lake. Painter Frank Cruzet painted made a canvas out of a round plastic table.

Relaxing at Rice Lake



Miss Teen Philippines Canada 2026!



Our Miss Teen Philippines Canada 2026 – Shanna Longaphie
It is with great pride that we officially introduce Shanna Longaphie, our newly crowned Miss Teen Philippines Canada 2026!

SHANNA page 23

Our Little Miss Philippines Canada Mutya 2026 – Julianne

It is with great pride that we officially introduce Julianne, our Little Miss Philippines Canada Mutya 2026!

From Brampton, Ontario, with proud Filipino roots in Pasay City, Manila and Cabanatuan, Nueva Ecija, Julianne is a bright and well-rounded young Filipina-Canadian whose journey reflects kindness, creativity, confidence and a love for learning.

With Math, Science and Art among her favourite subjects, Julianne dreams of becoming a kindergarten teacher one day – a wonderful ambition that reflects her caring nature and desire to help young children learn and grow.

At the heart of Julianne's story is her greatest inspiration – her mom. She admires her mother's determination, compassion and selfless love and hopes to grow into someone just as strong, caring and inspiring.

As Little Miss Philippines Canada 2026, Julianne carries a beautifully the and inner beauty of a

JULIANNE page 14

Our Little Miss Philippines Canada 2026 – Rhaelee Mae Gavina



It is with great joy and pride that we officially introduce Rhaelee Mae Barona Gavina, our newly crowned Little Miss Philippines Canada 2026!

From North York, Ontario, with proud Filipino roots in Abra and Pangasinan, Rhaelee is a talented young Filipina-Canadian who shines through her love for music, culture, community and kindness. As Rhaelee begins her year as Little Miss Philippines Canada 2026, we look forward to watching her grow, make wonderful memories, give back to the community and proudly represent the Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation (PCCF) and our Pageant with a Cause.

Congratulations, Rhaelee! May you continue to share your talents, your Filipino pride and, most importantly, your kindness wherever your crown takes you.

LOYALTY Rewards

SEND 9 BALIKBAYAN BOXES AND THE 10TH BOX IS FREE

416-298-8622
WWW.UMACTORONTO.CA

DR. MARISSA LARGO ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE, WARD 7

Dr. Marissa Largo, a university professor, TCDSB teacher of 13 years (Mary Ward CSS), and a mother of two, has announced her candidacy for Trustee for Ward 7 of the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) in the October 26, 2026 municipal elections.

Called to serve in Ward 7, the community where she grew up and taught in, Dr. Largo was raised in Wexford by devout Catholic parents Teresita Garrido and Jacinto Largo (Precious Blood Parish). She is a graduate of St Kevin Catholic School and Senator O'Connor College School, where her faith and dedication to embodying Catholic teachings were honed.

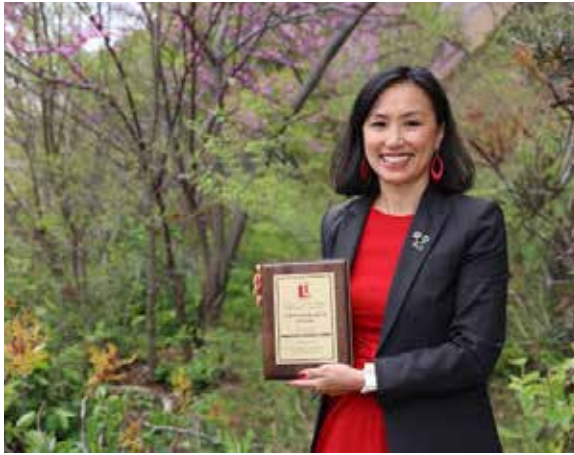
Choosing the vocation of teaching, Dr. Largo obtained a Bachelor of Education degree from York University, then taught at Mary Ward CSS, developing a deep understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing students, families, and teachers in Ontario's education system.

She has served various TCDSB advisory committees, such as the Filipino Community Advisory Committee and the Special Committee for Race Relations. With more than two decades of experience in education, community engagement, and leadership, Dr. Largo is seeking to bring a thoughtful, collaborative, and student-centered voice to the TCDSB Board of Trustees.

She is committed to ensuring that students have access to a high-quality Catholic education that nurtures academic excellence, faith formation, well-being, and a strong sense of belonging.

"Education transforms lives, strengthens families, and builds thriving communities," said Dr. Largo.

"As Trustee, I will be a strong advocate for students, families, educators, and parish communities, ensuring that every decision made at the board table reflects our



shared commitment to educational excellence and Gospel values."

Dr. Largo holds a PhD in Education from the University of Toronto's Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), a Master of Arts in Art Education from Concordia University, and Bachelor of Fine Arts

and Bachelor of Education degrees from York University.

A proud Filipina Canadian and lifelong advocate for inclusive and engaged communities, Dr. Largo's career has focused on building bridges between education, culture, and community. She has worked extensively with

organizations that connect public policy, civic engagement, and educational opportunity, and was recognized by the Toronto Catholic District School Board for advancing student success and culturally relevant and responsive curriculum development.

Her campaign priorities include:

- Building stronger partnerships among families, schools, parishes, and community organizations.
- Putting students and their well-being at the center of decision-making.
- Strengthening academic achievement and mental health supports.
- Promoting transparency, accountability, and responsible stewardship of public resources.
- Advocating for safe, accessible, and well-maintained school facilities.
- Ensuring that our Board re-

mains focused on people by strengthening the uniquely human qualities of creativity, critical thinking, ethical judgment, and personal connection as AI transforms our world.

• Strengthening public education by advocating for equitable funding and the long-term success of publicly funded Catholic schools. "As someone who has dedicated my life to education, I understand the challenges facing students, parents, and educators today," said Dr. Largo. "Our schools must continue to be places where students feel supported, inspired, and empowered to succeed. I am committed to listening to our community and working together to build a stronger future for Catholic education in Ward 7."

Over the coming months, Dr. Largo will engage with residents, parents, educators, and community leaders across Ward 7 to discuss their priorities and vision for the future of Catholic education in Toronto. (Marissa Largo/ TSJ)

Arci Muñoz's 'sana sa next flight may katabi na ako' prayer has fans lining up

Arci Muñoz is perfectly capable of traveling solo.

Then again, she is already tired of doing so.

If there is one thing she would like to upgrade on her next flight, it is the seat beside her.

The actress and singer recently took to social media with a prayer that had less to do with turbulence and more to do with the lack of a willing shoulder.

"Lord Sana sa next flight may katabi na ako na puwedeng sandalan. Hindi naman puro bintana lang," Arci wrote.

And just like that, her followers saw an opening.

The comment section quickly turned into what looked like an unofficial audition for the vacant seat.

"Pramis magli-leave pa ako sa opis," one follower offered.

Another went straight to the terms and conditions: "Basta sagot mo pamasaha..."



Then there was the confident "Anytime idol, kalabitin mo lang ako."

And perhaps the most efficient of them all: "Binata o Bintana?"

Arci's post was clearly meant as a playful take on being single, but her followers were apparently more than willing to turn the joke into a travel arrangement.

At this rate, Arci may no longer have to worry about finding someone to lean on.

She might just have to worry about choosing who gets the seat.

Elijah Canlas confirms breakup with Miles Ocampo: 'I will always have love for her'

Elijah Canlas has confirmed that he and Miles Ocampo have broken up, putting an end to weeks of speculation about their re-

lationship.

During his guest appearance on "Ogie Diaz Inspires," Elijah revealed that he and Miles have been separated for a few months.

"As much as I've been trying to keep it private, syempre we are going through it pero dahil lumalabas na ito lahat, I think it's time for me to say na opo, totoo siya [na break na kami] and out of respect for Miles, I will always have love for her," Elijah said.

He explained that he decided to speak about the breakup after speculation about their relationship began adding to what they were already going through.

"Parang kailangang sabihin na lang rin [dahil] may mga speculations na mas nagpapalala pa sa pinagdaraan ko, sa pinagdaraan namin," he added.

For Elijah, one of the hardest parts of the breakup was that neither of them had a specific problem that led to their separation. They simply realized that they were not truly compatible.

"Yun 'yung masakit na part about it kasi nga we got back together thinking 'this is it' but that's what happens in relationships. Binigay namin lahat, 'yun ang masasabi ko," he said.

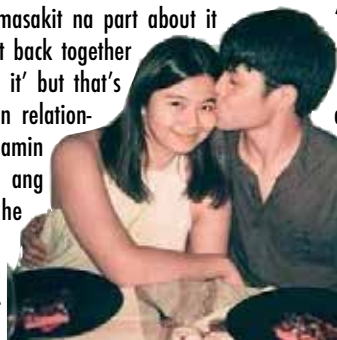
According to the actor, their breakup was mutual and amicable, with no bitterness between them.

"And we broke up mutually and very amicably. And walang hate, at least on my part," he added.

Elijah also asked the public to give both of them space as they deal with the end of their relationship.

"Sana 'yung pag-speculate [ng mga issue], wala naman kaming magagawa, we are public figures. It comes with the job," he said.

"Minsan masakit kasi hindi nila alam



'yung totoo, wala naman silang alam, that's how I like to keep it. 'Yung pinagdaraan namin, amin 'yun. 'Yung pagmamahal namin, amin 'yun."

He added: "So sana po respetuhin ng mga tao 'yun. And sana go easy on Miles, go easy on me, and let us heal."

Elijah also directly addressed speculation that a third party was involved in their breakup.

"There's no third party involved. Walang ganon talaga, ever," he clarified.

The actor was previously linked to actress Thea Astley after the two were seen together, fueling speculation about the status of his relationship with Miles.

Elijah, however, said the rumors were not true.

"Miles would know it's not true. People close to us would know that it's not true," he said.

Ontario Filipino-Canadians Receive "Canada Strong Medals" & Certificates

By: Tony A. San Juan, OCT-Retired

At 2 separate solemn and appropriate ceremonies, seven Filipino-Canadians proudly received honours with the "Canada Strong Medal" and "Certificate of Recognition" for "extraordinary achievements, outstanding and exemplary contributions..... and helping to build Canada strong". The meaningful citation was presented by Shaun Chen, Member of Parliament for Scarborough North-Toronto. The recognition rites were held on June 18, 2026, and August 4, 2026, respectively, at the Grand Cinnamon Convention Centre and the Chinese Cultural Centre in Scarborough, Toronto, Ontario.

The Filipino-Canadians conferred with the



honours were Wendy Arena, Filipino Centre Toronto (FCT) Financial Officer & Board Director; Philip Beloso, PCCT Vice President & FCT Board Director; Norma Carpio, PIDC Mabuhay Philippines Festival Founder and Chairperson Emerita; Frank Cruzet, FCT Board Director & Toronto Police Service Retired Police Officer; Mary Ann S. San Juan, FCT President & CEO; Tony A. San Juan, Filipino Heritage Council of Canada Founding Chair & retired Toronto educator; and Jennifer Sy, Social Entrepreneur and Real Estate Sales Specialist.

2026 Canada Strong Medal & Certificate recipient Tony A. San Juan

The Congratulatory Scroll states: "Recognising the efforts of Canadians in building a stronger, more independent, more resilient country, the "Canada Strong Medal and Certificate" is awarded to individuals who have made outstanding and exemplary contributions to their community. I commend your extraordinary achievements and thank you for helping to build a strong Canada.

In enthusiastic attendance at the award ceremony were other awardees of diverse backgrounds and ethnicities. Also present was the event's guest speaker, Dr. Alvin Curling, the former Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, Member of Provincial

Parliament for Scarborough- Rouge, and Canada's Ambassador to the Dominican Republic. Dr. A. Curling, who served as the first person of colour to hold a cabinet-level position in Ontario, expressed his big congratulations to all the recipients and their families.

MP Shaun Chen, before his presentation, expressed his best wishes and thanks to all the recipients and guests and explained the rationale for the awards. Every honouree has a posterity photo op with the affable and affectionate Member of Parliament in Canada's House of Commons. (Tony A. San Juan, OCT-Retired)



Will Alex Eala reach star status?

Expectations are too High

I cannot open facebook without someone analyzing Alexandra Eala. And with good reason. It's not always that there's someone we can be proud of someone for good reason. Nowadays, if it's not Eala, it's the corruption

in the Philippines. Obviously, Filipinos would rather talk about someone who is achieving something big and that we Filipinos can look up to. Eala crosses political lines. Walang DDS. Walang dilaw. There's people wondering when she'll be number 1. Some when she'll win a grand slam. Me, I'm not sure if Eala will

reach number 1. Even if does, OK. If she doesn't ok din. Expecting here to be number 1 or win a grand slam is putting pressure on her. Famous people from countries with rabid fan base like us exert undue pressure to people like Eala. Iyong dreams natin, we channel it through her. Eala is like us OFW's. We left the country to achieve our dreams of a better life. Eala went to Spain to train at Rafael Nadal Tennis Academy. Then, she goes all over the world in search of fame and fortune in the gruelling world of the tennis tour.

But, we have to accept that sometimes, in the tennis world, there are those who only reach "journeywoman" status. In tennis, a journeywoman is an experienced, highly

competent professional player who competes reliably on the tour but never quite reaches elite superstar status or consistently wins major titles. Another website says a journeywoman plays a lots of tournaments in a year without expectation to actually win them, and have close win/loss ratio. Still is good enough to get into them, earn enough money and points, challenge poor form in other players/juniors rising up and get to a quarterfinals or semifinals from time to time.

Talk of her winning a grand slam has some already saying she's only 21. Well, Martina Hingis won Wimbledon at 16. The commenter then asked "but how long did she last?" I answered 23 years.

In life, we all want to achieve being number 1. And some say that we Filipinos are happy settling for being number 2. It's not that. In life, we want to have a, well, life. Once you get tired of chasing the dream of being top of the world, you get to the point of wanting to live life on a leisurely pace.

With Alex Eala, I hope she wins a grand slam tournament soon or reaches number 1. It just gets harder from now on.

As you rise, other players can now watch your game and study it and they can adjust to play to your weakness.

Good luck to Alex.

'Sexiest doctor alive' opens up on dating Pia Wurtzbach

American doctor Mikhail "Doc Mike" Varshavski opened up about the brief time he dated Miss Universe 2015 Pia Wurtzbach, sharing that he experienced first-hand Filipino culture from their time together, and the "toxic" environment that she was moving in back then.

Varshavski, who was previously named by People magazine the "Sexiest Doctor Alive," was interviewing Filipino-Canadian nurse and top content creator John dela Cruz, popularly known as Nurse John, for his YouTube channel when the topic of Wurtzbach came up as they were discussing the typical Filipino culture of giving support to fellowmen who made it big abroad, as well as the pressure that comes with it.

"It's interesting that unlike what happened in some culture, there might be jealousy when someone succeeds, or hatred. It's the opposite, almost feels like everyone is succeeding when that person [succeeds]," Varshavski said.

Nurse John, agreed, but warned that support is guarded by the same amount of pressure to "not mess



up."

"Absolutely, but there is also pressure that they put on us with being Filipino, which is the pressure of like, 'you better do good.' It's almost like the Asian parent mindset of 'Don't f--k it up.' And that pressure is so high that if we do something wrong, they can also scrutinize us," he replied.

As an example, dela Cruz mentioned that this happened a lot in the field of pageantry, to which Varshavski replied that he's "unfortunately pretty well versed"

with it.

"You probably don't know but I should share some of my history. I dated Pia Wurtzbach at the peak of her career," Varshavski said. This, he said, made him feel he was part-Filipino as he got absorbed into the culture.

The American family doctor-content creator further agreed when Nurse John emphasized that while Wurtzbach was still the reigning queen, people would scrutinize everything she did at every stage of her pageant journey.

"I remember... [it was] very toxic," said Varshavski.

"It's almost to the fact that you are canceling this person who is trying her best to represent our country because she is not doing what you think, or expect her to do. Which to me is crazy," Nurse John further said of Filipino culture as equal parts supportive and full of negativity.

Wurtzbach, in March 2016, and well into her reign as Miss Universe, went on Facebook Live to categorically deny that she was dating someone, adding as she point-

ed to her sash that "this is the priority."

The denial came as she was being linked at the time to Varshavski, whom she met at a small gathering in New York in February of that same year. After their first meeting, photos and clips of the two together circulated online, prompting fans to speculate that they were dating.

Back then, Varshavski already has a million-strong following on Instagram as "Dr. Mike," a graduate of the New York Institute of Technology and also engaged in charity work and health promotion.

A month later, Wurtzbach would confirm in a television interview that she is dating Varshavski.

It was not immediately known if their dating ever blossomed into a full relationship, and what caused their breakup.

The actress-beauty queen is now happily married to another content creator, Scottish-Colombian businessman Jeremy Jauncey, and they are now based on Dubai, UAE.

Jose Mari Chan Starts Christmas 'Ber' months with call to help flood-hit Filipinos

Jose Mari Chan marked the start of the "Ber" months with a call for Filipinos to extend help to those affected by flooding across the country.

Chan appeared on the September 1 episode of GMA's "Unang Hirit," where he performed his Christmas classic "Christmas In Our Hearts" before sitting down with hosts Arnold Clavio, Susan Enriquez, and Ivan Mayrina.

Asked about his message to Filipinos going through difficulties brought by the floods, Chan urged those who have been blessed with enough resources to help those in need.

"God has blessed us with enough property and wealth. We should help those who are in need. There are so many brother and sister Filipinos out there who need help," he said. "We should always reach out and help them."

The veteran singer also reflected on his association with the start of the Christmas season in the Philippines, saying it was a blessing that his music has helped bring the Christmas spirit to Filipinos.



"It's God's gift to me. God's gift of love, family, and music. Because of my songs the Christmas spirit is brought into the country," Chan said.

Despite the challenges surrounding this year's start of the "Ber" months, Chan said he continues to celebrate Christmas primarily as a family occasion.

For his Christmas wish this year, he kept his message simple: "Good health for all of you and most of all happiness in our hearts for the entire country."

Chan's appearance came as several parts of the Philippines continued to grapple with the effects of persistent rains and flooding.

On the Facebook page of Universal Records Philippines, which manages Chan's digital records and streaming catalog, also made a post about the start of the Christmas season, with a short video of the OPM icon, saying "It's time!"

Chan has long been dubbed the "Father of Philippine Christmas music," with his holiday songs becoming a fixture of the country's Christmas season. Among his best-

known songs are "Christmas in Our Hearts" and "A Perfect Christmas."

The 81-year-old singer is also known for other enduring hits, including "Beautiful Girl" and "Please Be Careful With My Heart."

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council earlier reported that the combined ef-

fects of tropical cyclones Luis, Maymay, and Neneng, along with the southwest monsoon or habagat, had affected around 7.5 million people, or about 2.1 million families, across 10 regions.

The flooding has also renewed public attention on investigations into alleged anomalies involving flood-control projects.

David Licaucó sets sights on competitive sports world

Artists can be role models and sources of inspiration, especially work-life balance-wise.

David Licaucó, an ALV Talent Circuit and Sparkle GMA actor, carries on in pursuing his interest in sports and fitness. From 5x5 and 3x3 basketball, he has dabbled in HYROX, described as a hybrid fitness race competition.

David "made an exceptional finish at the HYROX Taiwan" earlier this year as the No. 1 and No. 2 Filipino athlete participant in the men's open division in Asia and in the world overall open men's division, respectively, it said.

As for his showbiz career, David also collaborates with Viva. It's nice to see him act alongside the latter's established and new artists.

At the presscon, David was also asked if he would be taking a solo artist or a new love team path this time around.

He said perhaps as a solo artist, but adding, "Sabi ko nga what works, kung ano yung mag-work, I'll accept it and see."



Even if he is seen doing sports and business, he said that "my life is like 70-percent, 80-percent showbiz."

David simply knows how to compartmentalize and manage activities, as one may put it. He has done a good job in juggling everything.

Aside from tapping and managing talents and creating content, Viva is also into the food business.

Does he see himself also exploring this possible collaboration and partnership?

"Who knows, diba? I feel like in life, hindi mo alam kung parang palagi siyang connected, eh (you don't know if this one may connect to that one). Hindi natin alam na, for example, itong opportunity na ito, pwede siyang magbunga sa ibang opportunity (we can't tell if this opportunity may lead to another opportunity)," said he. "So, I believe in that, kaya, who knows?"

With his effective work system, David will further tap his potential in the entertainment, business, sports and fitness fields.

FCT BAZAAR/GARAGE SALE FUNDRAISER FESTIVAL

Welcoming Vendors for \$25/booth!
Accepting used Clothes or items donations!
Bring the whole family!

EVENING BINGO!

Visit any time on
September 26th 10am to 10pm
Filipino Center Toronto
4395 Sheppard Avenue East, Scarborough, On

CLOTHING | GADGETS | APPLIANCES
Sponsored by | JEWELRY | AND MANY MORE!

For More Information Contact
Jennifer Sy at 647-403-8887

PERSPECTIVE AND PERCEPTION

Filipino-Canadian Glimpses at Significant Developments



Tony A. San Juan, OCT.

FIVE TOP PHILIPPINE UNIVERSITIES SLIP IN RANKING.

Quacquarelli Symonds(QS), a UK London-based rankings firm, reported that “five prominent Philippine universities fell in their standings” in The QS World University Rankings 2027. The drop left the Philippines off the list of 13 most-improved higher education systems this year, according to a press release by QS. It said that “advances elsewhere in higher education may be the cause of the drop”. In the results released on June 18, 2026, the University of the Philippines dropped 40 places to 402nd, and Ateneo de Manila University fell 70 spots to 581st. De La Salle University slid to the 751-760 band from 654th, the University of Santo Tomas moved to the 951-1000 band from 851-900, and Adamson University dropped to the 1201-1400 band from 1001-1200. Three schools from the Philippines achieved gains in individual indicators even as their overall ranks fell. Ateneo climbed 15 places in “Employment Outcomes” to 142nd in the world and improved in “Sustainability”. De La Salle also rose in “Sustainability”. Adamson improved in “International Faculty”. Massachusetts Institute of Technology remains the highest-ranked school in QS’ world rankings for the 15th consecutive year. The National University of Singapore, the only Asian school in the global top 10, is ranked tenth. Globally, of more than 1,500 ranked institutions, 670 (44.66%) slid in their standings, while just over 400 (26.66%) climbed and more than 330(22 %) held steady. QS said this year’s results “suggest



THE NEW CLARK: ASIA-PACIFIC’S NEXT INVESTMENT CENTRE?

Clark, formerly known as Clark Air Base for housing the largest military air base outside the United States, is reported to be becoming an alternative economic centre north of Manila, the Philippine capital. Officially called “Clark Freeport and Special Economic Zone (CFSEZ)”, a 35,300-hectare enclave sited in Pampanga, is about half the size of Metro Manila. The area is positioning itself to capture investment opportunities that have traditionally gravitated toward the capital. According to a business columnist, “It is now rapidly carving out a new identity as one of the country’s most attractive and fast-growing investment hubs.” Foreign and local businesses, including hotels, factories, aviation and logistics facilities, and sporting and leisure venues, are already there. Also entering the infrastructure developments are advanced manufacturing and Artificial intelligence. There are already 1,300 business locators that employ more than 150,000 in CFSEZ. Clark International Airport already hosts facilities operated by global names. The New Clark City is taking shape as a massive new industrial hub built

around the technologies powering the AI age. The Philippine government wants to turn Clark into “Asia-Pacific’s next investment hub.” And as President Marcos said, “the Clark metropolis has what it takes to be a Mecca for tourists, a magnet of investments, and a market of goods and services.” The Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA), the state-run corporation created to turn former military properties into economic growth centres, is credited with much of this transformation. Overseeing the major parts of the Clark estate are the two BCDA subsidiaries, the Clark Development Corp. and Clark International Airport Corporation. “Parehong ang sukat ng kung ano ang nahuhubog na doon at ang mas malalaking plano ay nagpapakita pa rin kung gaano kalaki ang taya at kaya ng gobyerno sa Clark para maging Philippines’ next big thing: isang alternatibong maaaring abutin ng ilang dekada bago masagot kung ganap na matutupad ng Clark ang ambisyong iyon.” Malaki ang maiitulong ng tagumpay ng Clark sa karangalan at kaginhawaan ng bansang Pilipinas.”

that global peers are advancing at a faster pace, be that in research intensity, sustaining international partnerships or ensuring the best graduate out-

comes.” The QS methodology weighs research and discovery at 50%, employability and outcomes at 20%, global engagement at 15%, learning experi-

ence at 10% and sustainability at 5%. “Ang mga kritiko ng pandaigdigang pagraranggo sa unibersidad ay matagal nang nagtatalo na ang mga listahang ito ay hindi isang tiyak na batayan para sa kalidad ng edukasyon, dahil sa karaniwang pamamaraan ng mga kumpanya ng pananaliksik na nagbibigay-diin ang output ng pananaliksik at mga pagsipi sa pagtuturo at epekto sa lipunan. Ganoon pa man, itong resulta ay isang malaking hamon sa mga nasabing mga unibersidad at iba pa.”

WORLD’S TOP BEST STUDENT CITIES.

According to global higher education analysts at QS Quacquarelli Symonds, Manila finished just outside the Top 100 Best Student Cities List at No. 102 — down from No. 88 last year, and behind Brighton, United Kingdom and Sao Paulo, Brazil, which shared the 100th spot. The Korean capital of Seoul once again topped the “Best Student Cities” list. Seoul, with 23 ranked universities, topped the list once more with a perfect score of 100. The Korean capital scored high in Employer Activity and Desirability, fairly well in Student View and Student Mix, but just 52.4 in Affordability. Behind Seoul were Tokyo, Japan and London, United Kingdom, respectively. Tokyo notably scored 100 for Employer Activity, making it the world’s most sought-after recruiting ground for employers hiring new graduates. London, meanwhile, got 99 for Student View and high scores for Student Mix and Employer Activity but scored low in Affordability due to high tuition and living costs. Melbourne, Australia came fourth while Germany’s Berlin and another Austra-

PHILIPPINE page 20

‘Wife should submit to husband’: Archie Alemania speaks up about his marital woes

Archie Alemania said he considered himself as a “good husband and father” as he opened up for the first time about his separation from actress Gee Canlas, saying they clashed over their roles in their marriage.

In an interview with Ogie Diaz published on YouTube over the weekend, Alemania was asked for his reaction to Canlas’ interview last March where she said that she should have left the marriage earlier, adding that she had lost parts of herself in the course of their relationship.

“Dapat ‘yun na nga ang ginawa niya. Dati pa. For the sake ng katahimikan namin kasi hindi naman nabago kung ano ‘yung ginagawa niya,” the actor said of his wife.

Alemania said conflicts had emerged in their marriage because he and Canlas had differing views about their roles in the marriage. “Pareho kaming Christian ni

Gee. Lahat ng pinanghahawakan ko sa pagiging magkarelasyon kapag pareho kayong Kristiyano, ‘yung, ikaw ang hari ng tahanan at siya ‘yung reyna. Wife, submit to your husband. Husband, love your wife,” he explained. “Nangyayari, pareho kaming hari sa isang kaharian, so ‘di puwede ‘yon. Yun yung laging nangyayari for the past how many years.”

The actor claimed he felt he was being provoked during their arguments even as he tried to stay quiet, partly for the sake of their son, Caleb.

Regardless of their marital differences, Alemania said he believes he was a devoted husband.

“I believe, dakila akong asawa. Kasi nu’ng nagpakasal ako, as in wala talaga, walang kalokohan,” Alemania said. “Siya lang talaga. Time and effort para sa pam-



ilya ko.”

“Everything that I have is for them, and everything that I do is for them. I believe, from the bottom of my heart, I am a good father and good

husband,” he added.

While expressed sadness over being unable to see his son, Alemania said he is now living a more peaceful life after his separation from Canlas.

On Rita Daniela case

Meanwhile, Alemania continued to deny the allegations made by singer-actress Rita Daniela that he had tried to make unwanted sexual advances towards her. He insisted that he could not have committed the act despite having been found guilty by a court.

In October 2025, Alemania was found guilty of acts of lasciviousness under Article 336 of the Revised Penal Code in connection with the case filed by Daniela.

Ara Mina breaks silence on past Manny Pacquiao rumor

Actress Ara Mina has finally addressed the rumor that linked her to boxing legend Manny Pacquiao.

In her interview with “Kay Susan Tayo! Vlogs,” Ara said she was only linked to Pacquiao because they worked together on a movie.

“Na-link lang. Because of the movie we made together,” the actress said referring to 2008 movie “Anak ng Kumander.”

Ara recalled that Pacquiao had told her that he already had a crush on her even be-



fore he became a well-known boxer.

“Sabi niya, nu’ng araw daw, ‘di pa siya sikat na boksingero, may poster ako ng Tanduay. Sabi niya, ‘Kailan ko kaya makakasama ‘to?’ Parang gano’n,” she recalled.

She was also asked if the boxer made a move on her.

“Ligaw ba ‘yun? Parang normal na, I don’t think ligaw ‘yung ginawa niya sa’kin,” she said.

Ara made it clear that despite the rumors, she and Pacquiao never had a romantic relationship.

Today, Ara is married to businessman Dave Almarinez, whom she first met at a basketball event in Laguna.

Philippine Secretary Dante Ang II Meets GTA Filipino Canadians

By: Tony A. San Juan, OCT.

The Honourable Dante “Klink” Ang II, Chairperson of the Commission of Filipinos Overseas (CFO), meets with the leaders and senior members of the Filipino Canadian community at a town hall session on August 11, 2026 (Tuesday). The “Filipino Community Meeting with the Secretary” event was held at the Kalayaan Cultural Community Centre (KCCC), Unit 3, 5225 Orbitor Drive, Mississauga, Ontario.

Officiated by Honourable Kerwin Tate, Philippine Deputy Consul General in Toronto, the 2-hour morning forum was attended by over 60 guests and leaders of Fil-Can organisations in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Secretary Ang, introduced by PDCG Tate, warmly appreciated the attendees, tersely reflected on his past stint in Toronto as a former member of the Philippine Consulate, and enthusiastically acknowledged the presence of old friends. He cited the purpose



of his visit to Canada and explained the Commission's overall mandate, programs and projects. During the Q & A session, Ang aptly described and clarified specific experiences and expectations related to pursuing the purposes and operations of CFO.

Under the Office of the Office of the President of the Philippines, the Commission, according to its official portfolio, is “mandated to serve the country's non-resident overseas Filipinos which include immigrant-visa holders, dual citizens, the spouses and partners of foreign nationals,

children overseas of Filipino ancestry, Europe-bound au pairs, and participants of the Exchange Visitor Program.” The CFO, through its programs and initiatives, “fosters a sense of community and belonging among Filipinos worldwide and at the same time, encouraging them to contribute to the nation's growth and development.” Furthermore, it “actively works to strengthen the economic, cultural, and political ties between the Philippine diaspora and the Philippines, facilitating engagement and collaboration”.

Among the various CFO programs considered to be particularly relevant to Filipino Canadians are 1) BaLink-Bayan: Overseas Filipinos One-Stop Online Portal for Diaspora Engagement - assistance in investments, donations, and skills transfer

in community building; 2) Youth Leaders in the Diaspora (YouLeaD)- a cultural immersion initiative; 3) Lingkod sa Kapwa Pilipino (Likapil)- engaging OFs with local institutions to facilitate transfer of assistance; 4) Guidance and Counseling (GCP)- protecting the welfare of Filipino spouses or fiancé(e)s and partners of foreign nationals, former Filipino citizens, or dual citizens who plan to migrate overseas; 5) Virtual Sentro Rizal (VSR)- modernising appreciation of Filipino heritage, language and culture through a digital platform; 6) Presidential Awards for Filipino individuals and Organizations Overseas (PAF100) - a biennial award on overseas Filipinos recognising exceptional achievements, humanitarian and philanthropic to Philippine development; and 7) Expanded Centenarians

Act (ECA)- recognising Filipino octogenarians, nonagenarians and centenarians for longevity with cash gifts from the Philippine President.

The community leaders who attended include Lilac Cana of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce-Toronto, Erlinda Insigne of the Filipino Canadian Association of Vaughan, Marita Ramirez Lee of Atin Ito Philippine News Feature, Sonny Martinez of the United Filipino Professionals of Canada, Delfin Palileo of the Knights of Rizal-Eastern Canada Region, Joseph Redoblado of the University of the Philippines Alumni Association-Toronto, Tony A. San Juan of the Filipino Heritage Council of Canada, Rizza Solis of Kababayan Multicultural Centre, Tom Tan of the Philippine Independence Day Council, and officers & senior members of other organisations such as the Kalayaan Cultural Community Centre (KCCC), Kalayaan Filipino Cultural Organization (KFCO), Integrated Filipino Canadian Nurses Association (IFCNA) as well as Filipino university & college student leaders, and Filipino sectoral discipline professionals. (Tony A. San Juan, OCT-Retired)

KRIS LAWRENCE
THE PHILIPPINE CONCERT PRINCE
LIVE IN TORONTO
OCTOBER 17, 2026
SATURDAY | DOORS: 5:00PM | SHOW: 6:00PM
KOREAN CANADIAN CULTURAL CENTRE
1133 LESLIE ST. #101, NORTH YORK, ON M3C 2K5
VIP: \$125 WITH PHOTO-OP | GEN AD: \$85
For tickets & sponsorships: 647-203-0097, 416-725-9045, 647-278-4374

‘Maybe this separation was good’: Martin Nievera on Pops Fernandez split

Martin Nievera believes his former wife, Pops Fernandez, would not be the woman she is today had they remained together.

As Fernandez prepares to return to the concert stage, Nievera opened up about her career, their decades-long history and the separation he now believes helped shape the “Concert Queen” into the woman she is today. “Sometimes we have private conversations and just lately on the Aster Amoyo show, Pops and I were not prepared for it, but we both revealed something we’ve never said before ever on any TV show and that’s that we both said that maybe this separation was good.”

For Nievera, calling Fernandez’s upcoming concert a “comeback” also misses the point.

“I don’t think she ever left,” he said.

The singer, known as the Concert King, said Fernandez remains unmatched when it comes to commanding an audience. “Of all the performers I’ve worked with and I’ve seen, there’s no one who can hold an audience attention like Pops Fernandez.”

Nievera recalled how Fernandez could transform even a small crowd into a full concert experience. “The way she used to pack an audience, the way she can turn a small audience into a concert performance is magic. No one does it like Pops. That’s why

she’s the queen.”

He said Fernandez has spent recent years building a life beyond performing, becoming more involved in producing shows, business and charity work. “She’s in the point in her life right now where she’s got other priorities and she’s become more of a business woman, business person. Where she produces shows. She does charity work.”

Nievera said Fernandez’s upcoming concert coincides with a milestone birthday, making the event more of a celebration than a comeback.

“So I think that’s why she... It looks like a comeback, but it’s more of a celebration. Celebration of life, celebration of her gratefulness for the industry, but more importantly, her gratefulness for all that the people for the last forty-plus years have given her through the years and called her and earned her the title Concert Queen.”

But it was their personal history that brought Nievera to one of his most candid observations about Fernandez. “When we separated, I told her I’ve never been prouder to see the, the woman that she is today.”

He believes their separation gave Fernandez the space to develop independent

ly. “She would not have turned out to be the woman she is today if she had been taking care of me, if she had been depending on me to make decisions.”

Nievera said he is particularly proud of the woman Fernandez has become. “I’m just so proud of Pops. This is my message. I’m so proud of you.”

He praised her as a producer, businesswoman, mother and grandmother. “The woman that you’ve become, the fierce producer and fierce businesswoman that you’ve become, the great mother, what you’ve provided for your two children, your two boys and now your grandson.”

He also praised Fernandez for being comfortable with her independence.

“How you balance your whole life and are so okay with being who you are, even without a partner. You know, having a life as, as a soloist in life and then on stage, you do it so well.”

Despite their separation, Nievera said he remains ready to support her.

“And even though we’re not together as a couple, she knows, I mean, you know this, Pops, that I’ll always be there for you whenever you need me, whether it’s to sing backup, to sing backup for you or to sing alongside you or to just be your friend, I’ll always be there.”

He ended his message by celebrating Fernandez’s decades in show business.

“So happy birthday, happy anniversary in show business and happy life forever.”

Little Manila Confidential
LMC
Delivering Filipino Stories • SINCE 1999
WWW.LMCONFIDENTIAL.COM
EMAIL: josebaking@gmail.com
PHONE: 416-609-1176
Call to subscribe!
PUBLISHED BY: Match International Group

'Trades as a Preferred Career Path in Canada'



Norma Bernal

new immigrants & the workplace

Our clan's multigenerational (parents', children's, grandchildren's) career paths have always favored 'the professions'. We went into doctoring, lawyering, engineering, accounting, nursing, teaching, computing, writing, administering business, the arts, etc. but rarely into trades.

Perhaps, our familial experience reflects the general bias against trades as career choices among Filipinos. There is the existing misconception that trades require more brawn than brains and that office work is more prestigious than manual work. So, in the Philippines, most blue-collar jobs do not pay as much or even a lot less than white-collared ones which accounts for the fact that tradespersons prefer to go abroad for better opportunities.

Quite the opposite herein Canada where trades are a big-ticket occupation, commanding high salaries. For example, electricians earn a median wage of \$35/ hour or \$71,000 per annum, plumbers \$34/hour or \$70,000 per annum & auto mechanics \$30/hour or \$62,000 per annum.

Skilled trades are also strongly supported by the 3 levels of government.

Canada Prime Minister Mark Carney pointed out the important role that trades play in his government's centrepiece program to strengthen

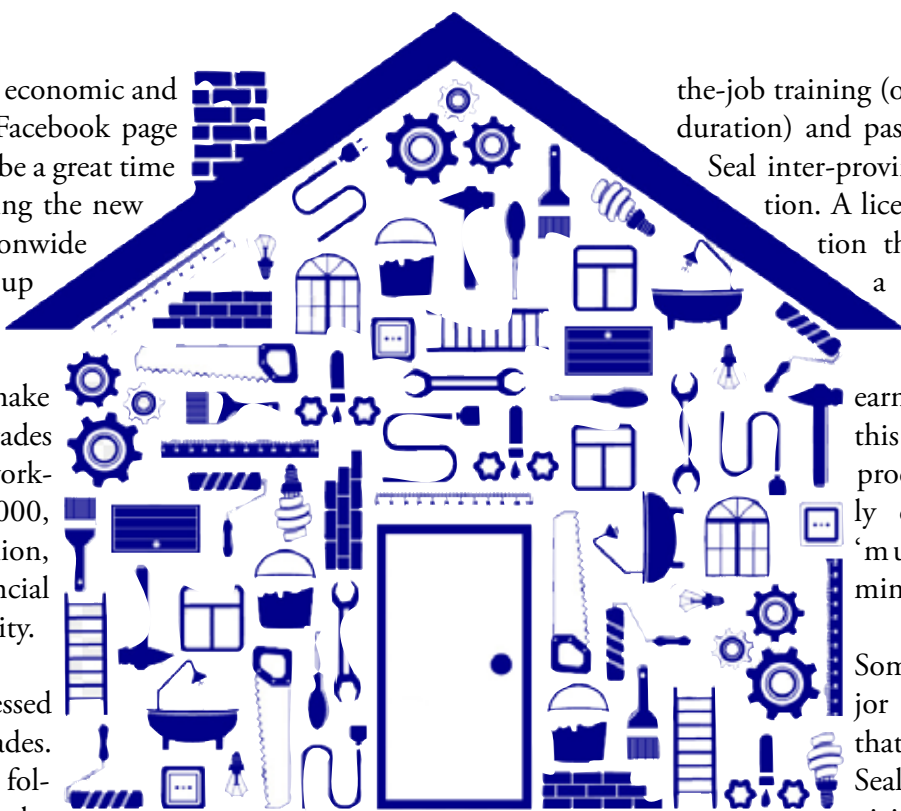
Canada in the face of world trade, economic and geo- political turbulence. In his Facebook page last month, he said: "It is going to be a great time to be in the trades. We're launching the new Team Canada Strong--- a nationwide program to recruit, train and hire up to 100,000 Red Seal workers who will help build the new homes, railways, and ports that will make Canada strong." In the Skilled Trades Plan, support will be given to workers with new grants of up to \$8,000, training funds of up to \$20 million, and the eradication of interprovincial barriers to trade and labour mobility.

Ontario Premier Doug Ford expressed the same positive sentiment for trades. In a February 2026 statement, he followed up his announcement on the restructuring of the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) from non- repayment- heavy to repayment- heavy, with strong endorsement of trades. He said that OSAP students are expected to pursue in -demand jobs that will support the Ontarian economic growth including STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), Health Care and Skilled Trades.

Toronto Mayor Olivia Chow also strongly recognizes the role that trades play in the development of the metropolis. She identified transportation, infrastructure and housing as the key sectors where they are critically needed. Her government is implementing a youth training program to fast-track certification and entry of young people into trades.

Given government priorities, immigration policies thus favor trades. This is a topic by itself as it is a long one which I might tackle in future issues. Suffice it to say that, if you are applying for immigration to Canada and you work in trades, your application has a good fighting chance.

Aside from the government's strong support, trades are also regulated, meaning that you can't work in the sector unless you possess a certificate, especially for those trades where such is mandatory. The Red Seal referred to by the Prime Minister is, as defined by AI as "a nationally recognized certification for skilled trades in Canada. An endorse-



the-job training (of 2 to 4 years duration) and passing the Red Seal inter-province examination. A licensed occupation that mandates a compulsory practice certificate earned through this rigorous process surely debunks the 'muscle-over-mind' myth.

Some of the major tradesmen that need a Red Seal are: 1) electricians, plumbers,

carpenters, ironworkers in construction, 2) millwrights, welders, machinists, instrumentation technicians in the industrial sector, and 3) auto technicians, heavy duty equipment technicians & crane operators in transportation and utilities.

Whether you are a long-time immigrant changing careers, a newly arrived exploring job options, or a prospective immigrant planning your move here, better reset your expectations about trades. They are a premium, high-demand and lucrative pathway to success in Canada.

ment affixed to a provincial or territorial trade certificate, it proves (that the) tradesperson meets the highest national standard of knowledge and skill for their trade." "It allows certified journeypersons to work anywhere in Canada without having to take additional exams or pursue separate qualifications for each province."

Having a Red Seal indicates a high level of professional competence and possessors of such are much sought after by employers, attracting top-tier wages. It requires completion of an apprenticeship consisting of in-class instruction cum on-

Another Fil-Am joins 'The Pitt' for upcoming 3rd season

The Filipino representation on "The Pitt" is expanding with Filipino-American actor JB Tadena joining the cast for the Emmy-winning series' upcoming third season.

Tadena is one of seven new actors announced to be recurring guest stars in Season 3, which drops this January. The rest are Stephen Chang, Barry Clifton, Chris Diamantopoulos, Lawrence Kao, Brent Sexton, and Hannah Ware.

Previously revealed to be joining the upcoming season were Pruitt Taylor Vince, Malachi Beasley, Cheyenne Perez, Jeremy Radin, Charlz Williams, and Rosanny Zayas.

The Filipino-American will play Dr. Reed Thomas, a physician at the fictional Pittsburgh Trauma Medical Center where the series takes place.

He joins the cast of actors of Filipino heritage, namely, Isa Briones, Amielynn Abellera, and Kristin Villanueva, who portray Dr. Trinity Santos and nurses Perlah Alawi and Princess Dela Cruz, respectively.

Season 3 will pick up after the events of the previous season after lead character Dr. Michael "Robby" Robinavitch, played by

Emmy winner Noah Wyle, returns from his sabbatical.

The show will continue its iconic format of an entire season encompassing an entire hospital shift, highlighting in real-time the challenges of frontline healthcare professionals.

The third season will take place on November 12, 2026, a day after Veterans Day in the United States, and a couple of weeks before Americans celebrate Thanksgiving.

Returning cast members include Katherina LaNasa, Sepideh Moafi, Patrick Ball, Isa Briones, Shawn Hatosy, Taylor Dearden, Fiona Dourif, Gerran Howell, and Ayesha Harris.

Prior to "The Pitt," Tadena appeared in the shows "Kung Fu" and "The Cleaning Lady." He will next be seen in Netflix's "The Adventures of Cliff Booth," starring Brad Pitt reprising his Oscar-winning role.



PRESENT

LIVE & LOUD

AERA COVERS & JM BALES

Live in Toronto!

NOVEMBER 20, 2026

TORONTO PAVILLION
 190 Rainside Rd, North York

VIP \$125
 - WITH PHOTO OP
 + RESERVED SEATING

GEN \$85
 FIRST COME
 FIRST SERVE

FOR TICKETS AND SPONSORSHIP:

647-203-0097 |
 416-725-9045 |
 647-278-4374

IN COOPERATION WITH
NORTHERN LIGHTS PRODUCTIONS

Kalayaan Cultural Community Centre (KCCC) Holds Citizenship Oath-Taking

By Rose Cabrera

A New Chapter Begins at Kalayaan Centre: 100 New Canadians Take the Oath of Citizenship

MISSISSAUGA, ON — August 19, 2026 —

History was made at the Kalayaan Cultural Community Centre (KCCC) in Mississauga as the Centre hosted, for the first time, a Canadian citizenship oath-taking ceremony, welcoming 100 new Canadian citizens representing 35 countries from around the world.

The ceremony was organized by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), with KCCC serving as the host venue, with the International Association of Mapua Alumni – Ontario (IAMAo) as co-host.

Presiding over the ceremony was The Honourable Judge Albert Wong, who opened



the proceedings with an inspirational message highlighting the importance of reconciliation with Indigenous First Nations. He encouraged the new Canadians to carry this understanding into their everyday lives as they begin their journey as citizens of Canada.

KCCC President Resty del Rosario delivered the welcome address on behalf of the Centre and its co-host, IAMAo. Both organizations, composed largely of immigrants from the Philippines,

share a strong commitment to community service, multiculturalism and active citizenship.

In welcoming the citizenship candidates, del Rosario encouraged them to remain proud of their heritage while fully embracing the rights, responsibilities and opportunities that come with being Canadian. The ceremony reflected the shared belief of KCCC and IAMAo that diversity and cultural heritage enrich the Canadian experience.



culmination of their journey to Canada, but the beginning of a new chapter—one filled with opportunities to contribute, participate and help shape the communities they now call home.

The ceremony was more than the formal granting of Canadian citizenship, Judge Wong expressed. It was a celebration of belonging, diversity, heritage and the promise of a shared future.

As the new Canadians took their oath, Kalayaan Centre became a place where new beginnings were celebrated—and where different journeys, cultures and dreams came together as one Canadian story.

Kylie Padilla enters ‘collect then select’ era

Kylie Padilla admits she has plenty of suitors these days, joking that she is finally embracing the “collect then select” approach to dating. Kylie Padilla appears to have a problem many single women would probably be happy to have. She has too many suitors.



The two have even joked about their chemistry, with Cheska previously saying she would be game for a Girls’ Love project with Kylie. Kylie’s admission relating suitors comes after she previously talked about being happily single and concentrating on her children. She shares two sons with ex-husband Aljur Abrenica. Now, however, it sounds like she’s allowing herself to look around a little.

And the funny part? She can’t quite believe it herself.

“Alam mo ‘yung saying na ano, ‘collect then select?’ Finally, I’m doing it. At this age, nagulat din ako,” Kylie told GMA News, laughing.

Well, good for Kylie.

After years of presumably having more important things to worry about, the actress now finds herself with enough romantic prospects to apparently require a selection process.

Collect first. Select later.

It’s not exactly the most traditional dating strategy, but Kylie seems to be having fun with it.

The timing is amusing, considering that fans have recently been busy creating their own possible love stories for her.

Her chemistry with Luis Hontiveros in “Taskforce Firewall” has generated plenty of kilig among viewers, while her friendly interactions with her Korean TikTok friends have likewise inspired some fans to start shipping her with them.

Kylie, however, has made it clear that her Korean friends are just that, friends. She has asked fans not to put a romantic spin on their interactions, saying their goal is simply to entertain online followers.

Then there is Cheska Fausto, her “Taskforce Firewall” co-star, with whom fans have also developed a rather enthusiastic pairing.

Chad Gammad, Apple David laugh off breakup rumors amid temporary LDR

Chad Gammad and Apple David dismissed breakup rumors while temporarily dealing with a long-distance setup.

Chad addressed the speculation on Facebook after posts circulated claiming the couple had split.

“Fake news po kung nagtataka kayo,” he wrote.

Apple also responded

on social media and shared screenshots similar to those posted by Chad. She later joked about the rumors while the two were apart. “Mainit-init pa sana bukas preggy na,” Apple wrote.

The couple announced their relationship earlier this year and has since drawn attention online over their age gap, with Chad being more than a decade younger than Apple.

Apple previously denied grooming allegations and said people uncomfortable with their relationship could simply unfollow her.

Chad has also defended Apple against negative comments in the past.

Despite the latest speculation, both maintained that they remain together.

Will on Mika romance rumors: “Super chill po. Super happy.”

Sa sandaling tsikahan namin kina Will Ashley at Mika Salamanca sa premiere night ng pelikulang Saving Cherry, naramdaman naming parang sila na kahit wala pa silang inaamin.

Bukod kay Will, marami pa sa mga taga-Pinoy Big Brother: Celebrity Edition ang para sumukay Mika at iba ay dahil kay AC

Bonifacio na kasali rin sa pelikula.

Namataan sa premiere sina Michael Sager, Ashley Ortega, River Joseph, at Xyriel Manabat.

Ikinuwento ni Will sa amin na excited siyang panoorin ang Saving Cherry dahil ang dami raw ikinuwento ni Mika sa kanya tungkol sa role na ginampanan nito sa movie.

Ani Will: “Nabanggit niya sa akin actually, ilang beses niya nabanggit sa akin na it’s very different kung paano talaga siya as a person dito sa character niya sa Saving Cherry.

“Kaya, I’m very excited to watch it kasi, ewan ko, parang first din ito sa acting career niya, e. So, I’m excited kung ano ang kalalabasan talaga.

“Iba yung character, e. First time talaga ang ganitong character e, kahit maiksi.”

WILL ASHLEY AND MIKA SALAMANCA NOT HIDING ANYTHING?

Masaya lang daw sila ngayon ni Mika at chill lang sila kapag magkasama silang dalawa.

“Yes, super chill po. Super happy,” sambit ni Will.

Wala naman silang itinatagong dalawa?

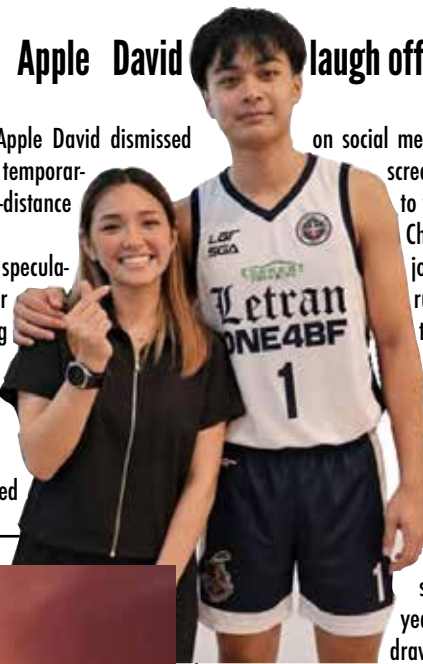
“Oo naman! Wala naman, oo,” napangiti niyang pakli.

Safe ang reaksiyon ni Mika Salamanca sa sinabi ni Will Ashley.

“Opo. Lahat po ng trabaho namin na magkasama. Blessed po kami sa lahat na natatanggap naming trabaho,” sabi ni Mika.

Nagpapasalamat lang daw sa sa suporta ni Will, pati ang iba pang kasamahan nila sa PBB.

“Sobrang grateful po ako na kahit anong achievement ang nakuha ko dito sa labas ng Bahay ni Kuya, suporta po talaga sila,” sabi ni Mika.



FOREVER BEGINS TONIGHT
MUSIC VIDEO LAUNCH

November 21, 2026 • 5PM
Glenmore Record Studios
24 Viceroy Road, Unit 16
Vaughan, Ontario

For Tickets & Sponsorship: Jennifer Sy 647-403-8887; Ron 647-915-6540





Joey Baking The Socialist

"August rain: the best of the summer gone, and the new fall not yet born. The odd uneven time."

SYLVIA PLATH

"If June was the beginning of a hopeful summer, and July the juice middle, August was suddenly feeling like the bitter end."

SARAH DESSEN



1. Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation (PCCF) officers pose at their Pageants with a Cause; 2. The crowds came, the lineups formed at all the vendors to make Taste of Manila TO a smashing success as GMA7 Sparkle artists Paul Salas, John Rex, Rochelle Pangilinan, Miguel Taneflix, Shuvée Entrata, and Beki Belo, entertained everyone to the last minute. Photobomber at the back is Chollo Lagdameo.

Well, the last month of Summer is Gone



August is the last full month of summer in the Northern Hemisphere.

Here's the seasonal definitions.

For meteorological summer, it runs from June 1 through August 31, making August the final month.

For astronomical summer, it's from the summer solstice (around June 21) to the autumnal equinox (around September 21 or 22), meaning September accounts for the final weeks of the official astronomical season.

For cultural definitions, we often treat Labor Day in early September or the return to school in late August as the unofficial end of summer.

Anyway, It feels that all the events of summer were crammed in the month of August. From the family picnic, to the community festival to the glamorous pageant, you name it, it probably happened in August. You know it took years and months of planning but because it happened in one month, it felt like a last minute project to me where everyone got the surprise that the "ber" month is starting.

"Oh my God, it's the last month of summer, we have to hold this party this month."

Taste of Manila TO 2026 gets stronger

The crowd grew to 600,000 plus this year. The lines were longer, the entertainers were top of the line and the weather was blissful. Blessed with warm weather and a slight cool breeze, people came out in droves. The biggest Filipino street festival in North America, it is still the go-to festival for Filipinos from Toronto, Ontario, Canada and the United States. Just as in the tennis tour, if there is a grand slam of festivals in Ontario, I will pick Taste of Manila TO, Pinoy Fiesta, Mabuhay, and the Philippine Festival in Mississauga.

May our festivals grow stronger.

From Canada to Panama

A journey filled with grace, determination, and unforgettable

memories. We are so proud of our four incredible candidates for representing Canada with elegance and heart on the international stage at Miss Teenager Universe. Congratulations on an unforgettable experience.

The four beauties delivered on the Panama stage and the way they honoured your country so proudly.

Francesca Perrone- Miss Pre Teenager Earth 2026
Rosemary Alcayde - Miss Petite Teenager Grand 2026
Arielle-Sapphira Awai - Miss Teenager Best in Talent 2026
Trisha San Mateo- Miss Teenager Earth 2026

They are worthy successors to Miss Pre-Teenager Universe 2025 - Linda Blair.

Last month, they held a homecoming party. It was a beautiful evening of celebration and victory. They gave out certificates of Appreciation to Suzy Tamasy, Demi Theo, Kaitlyn Panganiban, Brenda Cianchino, and Niño Almuete.

Miss & Miss Teen Philippines Canada 2026

At the heart of Miss & Miss Teen Philippines Canada is something far greater than pageant day.

Presented by the Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation (PCCF) as part of its Pageants with a Cause, this pageant brings young Filipino-Canadian women together through charity, culture, community and confidence.

Every one of our candidates is celebrated for what she brings to this journey. While titles may be different, the purpose is shared: to build confidence, celebrate Filipino heritage, create lasting friendships and, most importantly, encourage our young women to use their voices and platforms to give back and help others.

Congratulations to our newly crowned queens:

Sofia Tolentino — Miss Philippines Canada 2026

Shanna Longaphie — Miss Teen Philippines Canada 2026

And congratulations to our runners-up Janica Areallo, Madison Leonard, Shamira Martinez and Jennifer Goosen, as well as every incredible young woman who took part in the Class of 2026: Shamira Martinez, Madison Leonard, Sofia Tolentino, Joanne Visto, Kaye Jagmis, Shanna Longaphie, Jazmin Estacio, Princess Jhalla Araracop, Jennifer Goosen, Janica Areallo, and Marie Jhen Ong.

Each candidate leaves this experience with more than a title or moment on stage. We hope they carry forward a deeper connection to their culture, a heart for their community and the understanding that true beauty is also reflected in how we serve and uplift others.

The evening also celebrated our 2025 queens, Princess

Saladino, Miss Philippines Canada 2025, and Charisma Toupin, Miss Teen Philippines Canada 2025, as they took their farewell walks and closed a memorable chapter of their journeys.

Our 2025 runners-up and pageant mentors, Andrea Penaverde and Hannah Lopez, returned for a special performance, while Dante De Real serenaded the audience and the queens and Tracy Mai Vailoces brought incredible energy to the crowd with a performance during the break.

A special thank you to our choreographer, Chollo Lagdameo, for his hard work, creativity and dedication in bringing our candidates' performances to life, and to Hannah Lopez for lending a helping hand and supporting our girls throughout the journey.

More than glitz and glam. More than titles and competition. Pageants with a Cause is about empowering young women to be proud of who they are, connected to where they come from and inspired to make a positive difference in the lives of others.

Congratulations to our Miss & Miss Teen Philippines Canada Class of 2026!

Little Miss Philippines Canada 2026

Every one of our Little Queens is celebrated and crowned because every girl brings something special to this journey. The titles may be different, but the purpose is shared: encouraging our girls to develop confidence, embrace their Filipino heritage, build meaningful friendships and, most importantly, learn the value of giving back and helping others.

Congratulations to Rhaelee Gavina, Little Miss Philippines Canada 2026, and Kriselda, Little Miss Philippines Canada 2026 1st Runner-Up, as well as our runners-up Jhayra and Sia.

We are incredibly proud of all 10 of our Little Miss Philippines Canada 2026 candidates: Maxine, Julianne, Sia, Eliana, Rhaelee, Jhayra, Arabella, Victoria, Marie Francoise, Kriselda. Each Little Queen leaves this experience with a crown, but we hope what they carry with them goes far beyond it: a bigger heart for their community, pride in their culture and the understanding that their platform can be used to make a difference.

The celebration also featured performances by JDL and our pageant alumni Little Queens Raeschelle, Brianna and Krystelle, showcasing the sisterhood that continues long after pageant day.

We also celebrated Krystelle, Little Miss Philippines Canada 2025, as she took her farewell walk and closed a wonderful chapter of her journey.

Hottest Ticket in Toronto

The hottest ticket in town was the Mabuhay Sama-sama gala at \$300 for everyone and \$500 for VIP's at the Four Seasons.

It was a well-attended gala by Philippine Independence Day Council.

Special guest was Apl de Ap, a founding member of the hip hop group Black Eyed Peas.

"I was honored to join the Sama-Sama Gala Dinner of the Philippine Independence Day Council of Toronto last Monday. The event was very apt-



ly named "Sama-Sama," as it speaks to the very heart of Filipino identity: togetherness, unity in purpose, and our collective spirit or bayanihan. It was an elegant evening that celebrated Filipino excellence and culture with seven celebrated Filipino chefs reflecting the best of our culinary heritage, and contributed to efforts towards empowering our youth through support for the APL.de.Ap Foundation and the George Brown President's Bayanihan Scholarship. I commend the generous hearts of the Filipino diaspora and their unwavering belief in the power of community."- Philippine Ambassador to Canada Jose Victor Chan-Gonzaga

Jewel wins 3rd Place bebot Challenge

Congratulations to our MH Talent, Jewel Hing, for placing 3rd in the Bebot Dance Challenge!

You don't need to fall in line just to take a photo with Apl.de.Ap because your talent speaks for itself! You used your passion and talent to achieve



this amazing accomplishment.

We are so proud of you, Jewel! Keep dancing, keep shining, and keep reaching for your dreams!

Congratulations! MHP Family is always proud of you.



Dong Dreamers Academy talents perform at Taste of Manila TO 2026.



Taste of Manila TO 2026 volunteers, sponsors, and artists pose with GMA7 Sparkle artists Beki Belo, Paul Salas, Miguel Taneffix, Rochelle Pangilinan, Shuvee Entrata and John Rex



Little Miss Philippines Canada 2026 candidate, Maxine, was honoured to participate in the Hamilton Fiesta Extravaganza 2026, joining Event President Mariewen De Guzman Lorenzo



Tinig ng Kultura Next Generation pose at Taste of Manila TO 2026

LizDon, anyone? Donny Pangilinan-Liza Soberano sightings spark fan frenzy

Two consecutive sightings of Liza Soberano and Donny Pangilinan have sparked fan frenzy, with some shipping the pair while others rally behind Donny's popular pairing with Belle Mariano. Liza Soberano and Donny Pangilinan have been getting attention online after being spotted together on consecutive days, prompting fans to wonder if there is more to



their increasingly interesting proximity. Donny was among the celebrities who attended the advance screening of Liza's DreamWorks animated film "Forgotten Island." The following day, Liza was spotted at Analog MNL, Donny's soon-to-open restobar. Liza was with Anne Curtis, Isabelle Daza, Solenn Heussaff, Liz Uy and Georgina Wilson, who were also invited to

check out the new restaurant. Still, try telling that to the internet. Some fans were quick to ship Liza and Donny, while others were already sulking on behalf of Belle Mariano, Donny's popular on-screen partner. There were also those reminding everyone that Liza is reportedly in a relationship and that her visit to Donny's restaurant was simply part of a celebrity gathering. So for now, two sightings remain just

that: two sightings. But apparently, that was more than enough for fans to start asking if LizDon could be the next big screen pairing.

Kung good deal ang hinahanap ninyo, Harold Guarin ang tawagan n'yo...



HAROLD GUARIN
Fleet & Leasing Manager
New & Used Sales
haroldg@roadsport.com

Call Harold for Appointment
416-578-7351

ROADSPORT LTD.
940 Ellesmere Rd. (NE Kennedy) Toronto Ontario M1P 2W8
416-291-9501
www.roadsport.com

Bad Credit? New Credit? Bankruptcy?
Divorced? Credit Counseling?
NO PROBLEM!!!

Come In And See More Choices Of Vehicles



CarProof
VEHICLE HISTORY REPORTS

HONDA Certified
Used Vehicles

HONDA



****2022 Honda HR-V LX**
FROM \$21,990*



****2022 Honda Civic Sedan LX**
FROM \$22,390*



****2024 Honda Civic Sedan EX Sunroof/Carplay/Heated Seats**
FROM \$22,390*



****2019 Honda CR-V LX AWD**
FROM \$22,990*

See Harold for details **All vehicles are plus \$10.00 omvic fee and HST, Licensing and \$40.00 gas extra. WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. PRICES MAY CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.



MP Rechie Valdex, Taste of Manila (TOM) Rose To, MP Salma Zahid, TOM Founder Rolly Mangante, MP Ahmed Hussien, MP Vince Gasparro, TOM's Sani Baluyot and Nieves Mangante.



APL de Ap of Black Eyed Peas with FV owner Mel Galeon at PIDC gala



JDL group OMG performs at Taste of Manila TO.



Philippine movie, Tv actress & model Janine Gutierrez with Tony San Juan at PIDC Social event.

SCENES IN the City



JDL's Catherine & Chloe Tionson performs at Taste of Manila TO.



Cecille Araneta, CRD College's Grace Lanceta attend the Taste of Manila Appreciation dinner.



Taste of Manila TO 2026 officers Rolly Mangante, Joseph & Lorelei Redoblado, FreddyLita Mendigoria, Sani Baluyot, Nieves Mangante, and Rose To pose with GMA7 Sparkle artists Beki Belo, Paul Salas, Miguel Taneflix, Rochelle Pangilinan, Shuvee Entrata and John Rex at the Appreciation dinner.



MH Production talents Rock-in Siblings pose at Taste of Manila TO 2026



Krystelle Rivas of Dong Dreamers Academy perform at Taste of Manila TO 2026



1



2

1. MP Vince Gasparro pose with Joy D'aoust and daughters Skyea and Oceana; 2. Joy D'aoust & FV Foods owner Mel Galeon pose with GMA7 Sparkle artists Beki Belo, Paul Salas, Miguel Taneflix, Rochelle Pangilinan, Shuvee Entrata and John Rex at the Appreciation dinner; 3. FV Foods Mel Galeon was the sole vendor at the PCCF Miss Philippines Canada pageant.



3



FV Foods Mel Galeon poses with Mayor Olivia Chow at PIDC gala.



JDL talents performed at Taste of Manila TO.



JDL's Triple Act performed at Taste of Manila TO.



Mayor Olivia Chow and MH Productions Vicel Yarra pose at taste of Manila TO.



Fil-Am singer Apl. De. Ap. with Tony A. San Juan at PIDC SamaSama Galat on August 24, 2026.



Seniors in Action (SIA) JOIN MP Vijay Thanigasalam's Community Barbecue.



4

1. FK talents pose with Mayor Olivia Chow at Taste of Manila TO; 2. The four beauties came back from Panama and honoured Canada so proudly. Darles Nota of Strut held a homecoming celebration for the beauty titlists. From left, Trisha San Mateo- Miss Teenager Earth 2026, Rosemary Alcayde - Miss Petite Teenager Grand 2026, Francesca Perrone- Miss Pre Teenager Earth 2026, and Arielle-Sapphira Awai - Miss Teenager Best in Talent 2026. At far right is Miss Pre-Teenager Universe 2025 - Linda Blair.



5



Marky Hugh, Lalu de Jesus, Rom Nami, Hailey & Vicel Yarra at the taste of Manila Appreciation dinner

Lotlot approves of Jericho for Janine

Lotlot de Leon is leaving any issues circling her family to the heavens, though she is particularly happy that fellow actor Jericho Rosales is dating her daughter Janine Gutierrez.

"Oh I love him! Yes, [approve ako] very much!" the actress laughed. "He's such a wonderful man, napakabait na tao."

She recalled the dinner they had when Janine first introduced Jericho as her boyfriend, around the time

all three of them were working on the show "Lavender Fields," having no idea that Jericho would be the man winning Janine's heart.

Lotlot pointed out that Janine was of age and did not have to ask for permission, trusting that she had raised her well to make wise decisions.

Boy also asked if she was prepared for a hypo-



thetical scenario where Janine and Jericho would be tying the knot, and Lotlot replied in the affirmative.

"Handa ako, handa na ako matagal na!" she laughed again, joking that her only grandchild to date is Janine's dog Punchy.

Dingdong Dantes fully supports daughter Zia’s love for music, singing

Dingdong Dantes is presenting another season of “The Voice Kids,” and he’s taking on the encouraging, supportive father figure role to the new batch of aspiring singers.

Since his daughter Zia has an interest in music and the knack for singing, will he allow her to audition for and join a reality singing competition like “The Voice”?

“Basta kung ano yung gusto niya, siyempre sumuporta kami (whatever she wants, of course, we’ll

support her),” answered he during the chat, “kasi, it’s like allowing her to audition is one way of showing your support. Encouraging her to study more or to hone her craft, whether it’s singing or another talent, is also another way of showing support. Alinman sa dalawag yun, nandun kami para sa kanya (whether it’s for her studies or talent, we’ll be there for her).”

They haven’t talked yet about joining a singing talent contest. The closest to that was when Zia would perform

before her dad, Dingdong, and mom, Marian Rivera, at home. The parents role-played as the coaches.

If ever Zia expressed her



enthusiasm to record a song and become a singer, Dingdong said, “Again, kung susuportahan namin siya, siyempre may kaakibat din yan lahat na mga kondisyon (if ever we support her, of course, there are also conditions).”

Gemma Pascual Brings Families and Businesses Together at Community Field Day

Gemma Pascual organized the Family Field Day BBQ as a way of giving back to the community that has supported her throughout her journey as a local real estate agent. Her goal was to create a welcoming event where families, friends, neighbours, entrepreneurs and community organizations could come together, enjoy free Filipino food and entertainment, and build meaningful connections.

For Gemma, the event was about much more than recreation. By partnering with the food bank and other community groups, she wanted families to have access to fresh vegetables, helpful resources and local services. The volleyball tournament, live performances and participation of local vendors, entrepreneurs and business owners celebrated the talent, generosity and strong community spirit found within the Filipino-Canadian community.

The event offered something for people of all ages. Guests shared meals, enjoyed live entertainment and cheered on participants during the full-day volleyball tournament. It was a day filled with friendly competition, teamwork, laughter and meaningful connections.

As a Realtor, Gemma understands that finding a home is not simply about buying or selling a property—it is also about belonging to a safe, supportive and connected neighbourhood. Her work allows her to assist families during some of the most important transitions in their lives, and the Family Field Day reflects the same values she brings to her real estate practice: kindness, service, trust and genuine care for people.

“This Family Field Day was my way of saying thank you and giving something meaningful back to the community,” Gemma said. “As a Realtor, I help people find houses, but what truly matters to me is helping families find a place where they feel at home and connected. I hope this event reminded everyone of what we can accomplish when we support one another.”

Gemma expressed her heartfelt appreciation to everyone who attended, volunteered, performed, competed, provided food and resources, or helped organize the celebration. She also thanked the community partners, food bank, local vendors, entrepreneurs and business owners whose generosity helped make the event successful and meaningful.

Through events such as the Family Field Day, Gemma hopes to continue strengthening relationships, supporting local businesses and creating opportunities for families and neighbours to come together. She is already looking forward to welcoming the community to the next celebration.

For your real estate needs—whether you are buying, selling, relocating or investing—contact Gemma Pascual of RE/MAX Crossroads Realty Inc. With 15 years of real estate experience and multiple industry awards, Gemma provides trusted expertise, personalized guidance and dedicated service to help her clients confidently achieve their real estate goals.

Gemma Pascual, Realtor
RE/MAX Crossroads Realty Inc.
Phone: 416-574-4007
Email: homesbygemma@gmail.com
Gemma & Ace Realty team
info.garealtyteam@gmail.com
416-888-7175





Congratulations to Chloe Sabatin for winning Miss Teenage Canada 2026!



DK talent Toni performs at Taste of Manila TO.

Little Miss Philippines Canada Mutya 2026 – Julianne

JULIANNE from page 2

young Filipina. We look forward to watching her continue to grow, share her talents and proudly represent Little Miss Philippines Canada and the Philippine Canadian



Charitable Foundation (PCCF) through cultural, community and charitable initiatives throughout the year.
Congratulations, Julianne! Continue learning, creating, helping others and letting your kindness shine as you carry the heart of our Pageant with a Cause.



1. Cecille Araneta, friend and CRD College director Grace Lanceta pose with GMA7 Sparkle artists Beki Belo, Paul Salas, Miguel Taneflix, Rochelle Pangilinan, Shuvee Entrata and John Rex at the Appreciation dinner; 2. Rom Nami pose with GMA7 Sparkle artists.



MP Vince Gasparro poses with the Bicol Canada Community Association at their picnic at Earl Bales Park.



Gemma Pascual (3rd from left) give out gift baskets at her 2nd Family Field day at Earl Bales Park.



Dong Dreamers Academy with Cheska Lungayan (CENTER) pose before performing at Taste of Manila TO.



Kim Mahistrado models join the SantaCruzan at the Taste of Manila TO.



Tri:On members Anne Park, Hailey Yarra, and Erline Belardo, from MH Productions join the Santacruz at Taste of Manila TO.



Congratulations Bevs Saraza BRAMPTON RISING STARS SEASON 3 – GRAND CHAMPION!



Pinoy Vibes World's Ryan Orlanda poses with the BINI members



MH Productions talents join the Santacruz at Mabuhay Festival.



Four Little Miss titlists at the Pageant are from left, Little Miss Philippines Canada 2024 Brianna Galuno, Little Miss Philippines Canada 2025 Krystelle Rivas, Little Miss Philippines Canada 2026 Rhaelee Gavina, Little Miss Philippines Canada 2023 Raeschelle Gavina.



Congratulations own AJ, as runner up at the BRAMPTON RISING STARS TALENT COMPETITION!

Thea Astley, not involved in Miles Ocampo-Elijah Canlas split

After making headlines being seen together with Elijah Canlas, Thea Astley was accused by fans of causing his break-up with Miles Ocampo. Thea was silent about it until she appeared on "Trggrd." She admitted she was aware of the rumors. "I think it was on our second or third day. We already saw na parang there was a video circulating, but we didn't really think much of it at first until we got back sa Manila. And then, we saw how viral it had gotten and parang lumaki na siya nang lumaki," Thea said. Holding back her tears, Thea explained that the photo and video circulating online was taken out of context. "Pag 'yung screenshots lang talaga 'yung tinignan mo, mapapaisip ka talaga that Jelo (Elijah) was like holding my hand or something like that," she said. The actress went on to clarify



there is nothing remotely romantic with his closeness to Elijah. "Elijah and I are friends. Like we've been friends for years now at this point, and I would never go on a trip like that if, like, alam mo 'yun. I've never cheated on anyone. I've never been the third party in any relationship to my knowledge," she added. Thea added that she understands why fans are quick to blame her for Elijah and Miles' split. "Nakita nila paano nag-blossom 'yung relationship ng dalawa through the years and then to suddenly parang, here I come na parang threat to that bond," she said. "I would never do that to another girl. I know what that's like. I know what that feeling is like. I would never ever willingly come between a relationship. Never. I would never do that," she concluded.

TIONGSON SISTERS ARE CNE CHAMPIONS

CNE Rising Star 2026 Champions! *Youth Division Congrats Catherine & Chloe Tiongson! Congrats to your Proud Parents!!

The sisters, posing with friends.



Canadian Books Reaches Philippine Schools

BOOKS from page 1

tion programs for the struggling and non-readers.

As per Teacher, Ms. Marianne: “Tinampo Elementary School needs additional reading books to provide our learners with more opportunities to read, practice, and develop their reading skills. Learners need more age-appropriate and engaging books that they can use during reading activi-

ties and interventions. Having enough resources will help make reading more enjoyable, encourage learners to read regularly, and support teachers in providing meaningful reading activities.” Thank you to the benefactors. See less



Sharon Cuneta calls Kiko Pangilinan, Robin Padilla Senate clash a ‘non-issue’

Sharon Cuneta sees no issue whatsoever in the heated Senate exchange between Sens. Kiko Pangilinan and Robin Padilla, the actress-singer’s husband and ex-partner respectively. It can be recalled that earlier this year, the two politicians got into a heated vocal altercation on the plenary floor during a discussion regarding their fellow Sen. Bato dela Rosa.

The issue was brought up when Sharon appeared on the Sept. 3, 2026 episode of “Fast Talk with Boy Abunda” to promote her upcoming series “Honor The Mother” with Barbie Forteza, who herself recently appeared on the talk show.

Boy started the episode by discussing the ups and downs of Sharon and Kiko’s 30 years of marriage to date, ultimately guiding the conversation to the Senate exchange.

It can be recalled that Sharon and Robin briefly dated after starring in “Maging Sino Ka Man,” which was released between Sharon’s marriages to Kiko and Gabby Concepcion. They later starred in “Di Na Natuto,” “Pagdating ng Panahon,” and “Unexpectedly Yours.” Sharon admitted seeing some of the posts people made following the interchange between Kiko and Robin, especially clips of “Maging Sino Ka Man.”

“No comment!” Sharon chuckled when Boy asked if the posts made her laugh or angry. “Ganto lang, ‘Uy ex ko, uy husband ko,’ tapos na. I don’t wanna comment because sa akin it was a non-issue.”



Boy also pointed out that heated exchanges, raised voices and misunderstandings naturally do happen on the Senate floor.

Politics? Sharon will run, away Later in the episode, Boy noted that Sharon carried great influence given her decades in the public eye and asked again if the Megastar would consider entering the political arena.

“I would consider running... away from politics. Tatakbo ako, palayo,” Sharon quipped. The actress explained that she enjoys her life now, being able to make thousands happy through the work she does, even calling politics “a horror story.” Sharon is far from a stranger to public office, apart from Kiko’s experiences. Her father Pablo was the mayor of Pasay for several non-consecutive terms between 1951 and 1998, the second-longest-serving mayor in Philippine history, while her uncle is longtime politician Tito Sotto. She even joked that people have been clamoring for her to enter public service since she was around 20 years old, and while politics is normal in her family, she always saw herself as an outsider or outlier. Pressed further by Boy why she thinks that way, Sharon pointed to the messiness of politics, which is different from the messiness of showbiz. “Sa showbiz it’s understandable na iba-iba yung taste ng tao. Yung iba Sharonians, yung iba hindi, [at] okay lang,” she continued. “Pag meron kaming pagkakamali, hindi naapekto ang buong bayan. Pag pulitiko nagkamali, usually daang libo o milyon [apektado] and that’s a big respon-

sibility.”

Sharon ended by nothing while she may have the smarts and heart for public office, she doesn’t have the stomach for it.

Ogie Diaz gifts daughter Erin P1M for remaining single, childfree at 25

Talent manager and host Ogie Diaz made sure his eldest daughter Erin’s 25th birthday came with a life-changing surprise: a P1 million gift for remaining single and child-free.

Ogie fulfilled a promise he had made to his children, handing Erin a check worth P1 million during her birthday celebration, as seen in her vlog. “Pangako ko kasi sa kanila kapag wala pa kayong asawa, wala pa kayong anak, ‘Erin my gift to you,’” Ogie said as he presented his daughter with the check. Although Erin already knew about her father’s birthday gift, she was still overcome with emotion and broke down in tears as Ogie fulfilled his promise. Ogie explained that the agreement was meant to encourage his children to enjoy their youth before taking on the responsibilities that come with marriage and parenthood. “Baka sabihin nagyayabang, 25 na kasi siya (Erin). Sabi ko kasi walang asawa, walang anak at 25 (may isang milyon) kasi gusto ko i-en-

joy nila ‘yung kanilang kabataan kasi mahirap mag-asawa o nakipag-live in na. Tapos magkakaanak, tapos iiwan mo ‘yung anak mo sa amin, tapos gigimik-gimik ka. Kaya i-enjoy mo muna (pagiging single),” he said. For Ogie, however, the P1 million gift is not simply a reward for being single. He also wants Erin to use the money to build something for herself. “Magne-negosyo kasi siya at ‘yan ang gagamitin niya. Magtatayo siya ng coffee shop. Alam niya na pera niya ‘yan at kailangan niyang alagaan at palaguin,” Ogie revealed. Erin, meanwhile, expressed her gratitude and asked for support as she prepares to embark on her business venture.

The birthday celebration also took a playful turn when the guests teased Erin about her birthday wish involving her boyfriend of several years.

When the topic of a birthday kiss came up, Ogie jokingly threatened to take back the check.

“Kung ‘yun ang birthday wish niya, kukunin ko na ito (tseke),” Ogie quipped.

Erin quickly backed down from the idea.

“Ay ‘wag na. Saka na tayo magkiss,” she told her boyfriend.

For Erin, turning 25 came with more than just a memorable birthday celebration. It also marked the beginning of a new chapter — one that comes with her father’s trust, a million-peso investment and a coffee shop dream of her own.



Carney Stands Up to Trump in Trade War Despite the Risks

NO DEAL from page 1

closely behind.

Retaliatory tariffs raise the price of U.S. products imported into Canada but they could help protect some Canadian industries by encouraging buyers to look for Canadian-made alternatives. Steel, aluminum and paper products could see some benefit as a result — but it’s not enough to offset the negative effects of U.S. tariffs because the US is their biggest market. They are also the fastest and cheapest to ship to because of proximity.

There were several informal exchanges between the two over the Labor Day weekend .

“Canadian and American officials have maintained ongoing discussions on a range of issues, although formal trade negotiations are not taking place at this stage,” LeBlanc’s press secretary Gabriel Brunet said.

Ottawa and Washington are talking,



WALKING AWAY: Prime Minister Mark Carney of Canada said his country would retaliate against U.S. tariffs “dollar for dollar.”

but they appear to be quite some distance away from sitting down to hammer out a solution to the trade impasse.

Canada and the United States appeared close to a trade agreement last month. On Aug. 18, U.S. President Donald Trump delayed his new tariffs on Canada by three days and briefly declared on Truth Social that the two countries “have a deal.”

By Aug. 22, Prime Minister Carney had recalled Canada’s negotiators,

saying the U.S. had “asked too much and offered too little.” American trade representative Jamieson Greer disputed Ottawa’s account that the U.S. had introduced last-minute demands, and said Canada had backed away from earlier commitments.

That is the logic behind the negotiation concept as BATNA — the “best alternative to a negotiated agreement.”

Ottawa’s decision to walk away was defensible if the proposed agreement would have left Canada worse off than its alternatives. But walking away is costly, particularly for an economy so dependent on the U.S. market.

What was on the table?

The prospective deal would have cut the U.S. tariffs on Canadian cars and light-duty trucks from 25 to 15 per cent, and on steel and aluminum from 50 to 25 per cent, subject to a steel quota. Canada was prepared to re-

move its remaining counter-tariffs on steel, aluminum and autos, encourage provinces to restore U.S. alcohol sales and adjust dairy import administration without changing supply management, quotas or tariffs.

The apparent breaking points were medium- and heavy-duty trucks and Canadian-content rules. Carney said the lack of comparable tariff relief for trucks would make production at Ford’s Oakville and GM’s Oshawa plants increasingly uneconomic.

Canada also said the U.S. would have constrained future trade agreements with other countries and affected French-language and cultural policies; the U.S. says Canada abandoned agreed terms.

Canada is still highly exposed

Canada entered these negotiations from a position of considerable economic risk. **NO DEAL page 20**

CELL=MASTER

SALES - REPAIR - INSTALL

IN FRONT OF FOOD COURT
1550 S. Gateway Rd.
Mississauga ON
L5W 5J1

647-469-9889
3JS.CELLMASTER@GMAIL.COM

Seven Fil-Cans Compete For Civic Elective Posts In The GTA

By Tony A. San Juan, OCT- Retired

“Pitong magiging at magagaling na ating kababayang Pinoy ay lalaban sa darating na eleksyon!” Ayan ang ating magandang balita! Truly, folks, seven Filipino Canadians are purposefully running for civic positions in the upcoming municipal elections on October 26, 2026, in the Greater Toronto Area(GTA). Three Pinoy would like to become councillors in 2 city wards in Toronto and Mississauga, two Pinoy are working for their reelection in Brampton and Ajax, and two well-admired kababayan would like to serve for a 4th term and another one as Catholic school board trustees.

Gerald Adad and Louroz Mercader are both seeking the same Ward 7 Councillor seat in the City of Mississauga, while in Toronto, Willie Reodica has registered for the City Council position of Ward 21- Scarborough Centre. Two-term Councillors Rowena Santos and Lisa Bower are running for reelection in the Brampton and Ajax councils, respectively. Santos and Bower are the first Filipinos elected municipal councillors in the GTA. Dr. Marissa Largo and reelectionist Garry Tanuan are both candidates for School Trustee of Ward 7 and Ward 8, respectively, of the Toronto Catholic District School Board(TCDSB). The “superb seven” are highly qualified with their own experience, education & training, achievements, and commitment to good public service. Here they are.

GERALD ADAD (for Mississauga Councillor- Ward 7, Cooksville)

A community safety professional, Gerald Adad is running to become a Councillor for Ward 7 in the City of Mississauga. Ward 7 consists primarily of the Fairview and Cooksville neighbourhoods, as well as part of the Erindale and a life-long resident of Mississauga, Adad was a high school student at Father Michael Goetz, and as a “Goetz Ga-tor”, he wanted to be in community and public service, saying that “it was only right for me to dedicate my life to giving back to the city that was so good to me and my family.” Adad completed his Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Criminology & History program at the University of Toronto in 2017. Licensed as an International Crime Prevention Specialist with CPTED-Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design certification, Adad



was trained to design streets and spaces that are safer by default. The Council candidate has chaired the Peel Regional Police’s Countering Hate Committee, leading 35 partners including service providers and advocacy groups in jointly designing and delivering anti-hate programs across Peel Region. Asked why he is running for Councillor, Adad responded that he has frequently heard from many residents in Ward 7 and across Mississauga about “continuing concerns regarding community safety and the future of our city as we continue to grow, study, live and work here.” He said: “Most candidates discover community safety at election time. I’ve done it for a living. It is not a promise, it’s a track record! Crime prevention is my life’s work. Let’s make Ward 7 a safer and happier place - together.”

LOROUZ MERCADER (for Mississauga Councillor- Ward 7, Cooksville)

Louroz Mercader, an experienced business improvement executive, public relations specialist and community leader, is running for City Councillor in Mississauga’s Ward 7. Mercader says he is devoted to civic engagement and seeks the community’s support to continue his work building a better city.

A passionate city builder, Mercader bridges business, community and government. He graduated in Public Relations from Humber Polytechnic in 2018 and has developed expertise in public relations, community engagement, strategic planning, and internal and external communications through both professional and volunteer roles. Since 2024, Mercader has served as Executive Director of Downtown Brampton’s Business Improvement Area (BIA), where he oversees the organisation’s annual operating plan and budget, provides strategic direction and leads programming and staff. “When asked why he put forward his candidacy, Louroz proudly says, ‘Cooksville is a special place and the true heart of Mississauga...a place that changed my family’s life. It is here that growing up provided me with countless opportunities. I’ve spent my career building strong and vibrant neighbourhoods across the Greater Toronto Area. Now it’s time I give something back to my home. That’s why I am standing to become the next City Councillor for Ward 7. Mercader says, “The next chapter of our neighbourhoods shouldn’t be decided for us. It should be shaped by us, and focused on making everyday life better for everyone who calls this community home. “It’s time to get things done for our families, for



our neighbours, for Ward 7!

WILLIE REODICA (for Toronto Councillor-Ward 21, Scarborough Centre)

Willie Reodica, a frequent candidate for a political position over two decades as a Filipino- Canadian, is seeking a city council seat for Ward 21- Scarborough Centre, Toronto. Willie has a Bachelor’s degree in Commerce from the Polytechnic University (PUP) and is President of its alumni association in Ontario. He hails from Luisiana, Laguna and graduated from

Quirino High School in Manila. Reodica is a top-selling real estate representative for RJ/Max All-Stars Real Estate Brokerage. His community involvement includes serving as an officer of the Knights of Rizal-Eastern Canada Region and director of the Filipino Canadian Real Estate Association(FILCREA). An “Outstanding Filipino- Canadian Senior Awardee in 2023” by the Filipino Centre Toronto, Willie also received various commendations from several social and community-centred organisations for his professional engagements and advocacy work. In his campaign sorties, Reodica pledged to serve the public with “Serbisong Taos Puso”(Serving with the Heart) by “listening to our community, taking action that matters, building a better Scarborough, and serving with integrity and heart”. Willie, an amiable and kind-hearted community leader, wants to represent the Scarborough Centre riding where he has resided for many years. “Laban lang ng laban” (try, try, and again try)...that’s Willie’s war cry, a sign of a persistent political persona.

MARISSA LARGO (for TCDSB Trustee-Ward 7, Humber River)

Dr. Marissa Largo, PhD, a university professor, TCDSB teacher of 13 years (Mary Ward CSS), and a mother of two, is a candidate for Trustee for Ward 7 of the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB). Raised by her devout Catholic parents, Teresita Garrido and Jacinto Largo, Marissa graduated from St Kevin Catholic School and Senator O’Connor College School, where her faith and dedication to embodying Catholic teachings were honed. Largo holds a PhD in Education from the University of Toronto’s Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), a Master of Arts in Art Education from Concordia University, and Bachelor of Fine Arts

a Bachelor of Education degrees from York University. She taught Mary Ward CSS and gained a deep understanding of the challenges facing students, families, and teachers in Ontario’s education system. She served in TCDSB advisory committees, like the Filipino Community Advisory Committee and the Special Committee for Race Relations. With over two decades of

experience in education, community engagement, and leadership. She is committed to ensuring that students have access to a high-quality Catholic education that nurtures academic excellence, faith formation, well-being, and a strong sense of belonging. A proud Filipina Canadian and life-long advocate for inclusive communities. Largo’s career has focused on building bridges between education, culture, and community. She was recognised by TCDSB for advancing student success and culturally relevant and responsive curriculum development. “As Trustee, I will be a strong advocate for students, families, educators, and parish communities, ensuring that every decision made at the board table reflects our shared commitment to educational excellence and Gospel values”, Largo pledged.

GARRY TANUAN (for TCDSB Trustee-Ward 8, Scarborough)

One of the longest-serving Catholic school trustees, Garry Tanuan was first elected to the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) in December 2012, then in 2014, 2018, and 2022 has represented Ward 8 -Scarborough. Born in Dumaguete City, Philippines, Garry was raised in a devout Catholic family and educated by the Holy Cross Fathers. A Scarborough resident for 19 years, he is married to Marla Mercado and has four children who all attended TCDSB schools. He served as a representative on the Catholic Parent Involvement Committee and the Toronto Association of Parents in Catholic Education. Garry has been an active member



Why Lovi Poe choose to keep baby out of the spotlight

Lovi Poe is in no rush to put her daughter Sloane’s face on social media.

The actress recently opened up about the decision, saying that she and her husband, Monty Blencowe, are still figuring out how much of their daughter’s life they want to make public.

For Poe, keeping Sloane’s face private is what feels right for their family at the moment.

“This is what works for us at the moment,” she said during her appearance on “Fast Talk with Boy Abunda,” referring to the privacy concerns that come with growing up in the age of the internet.

That does not mean Poe plans to keep her daughter completely away from the public forever.

She revealed that she and Blencowe have already talked about eventually sharing Sloane with their followers.

For now, though, they would rather take their time before making that decision.

“Eventually, it’ll be nice to share this beautiful treasure that we have,” Poe said, leaving open the possibility of a more public introduction in the future.

While she has kept her daughter’s face private, Poe has shared one important detail about her: her name.

The couple chose Sloane, a name Poe said carries the meaning “warrior.”

The actress said that meaning reflects what she wants her daughter to believe about herself as she grows up. She hopes Sloane will see herself as someone strong enough to face difficult situations.

The name came from a list the couple had been considering, but Sloane was the one they both connected with.

Poe also looked back on the moments immediately following Sloane’s birth, including a decision that may seem surprising at first.



She did not immediately hold her daughter.

The actress explained that she had gone through roughly 30 hours of labor and experienced pre-eclampsia, leaving her feeling extremely groggy after giving birth. Rather than force herself into what she felt should be an emotional first meeting, Poe decided to wait until she was more present.

Her husband was initially disappointed when she told him she needed a few hours.

When Poe finally saw Sloane, however, she said something began to change.

The experience was not the instant, movie-style connection she had expected. Instead, her maternal instincts gradually took over. She began thinking about whether her baby had eaten and what she could do to take care of her.

That, Poe said, was when she understood how different a mother’s love could feel.

Days later, she found herself overwhelmed by the emotions surrounding her daughter.

“The certain love that you can’t even explain. Parang this is no joke—now I know exactly what love means,” Poe said.

She compared it with the many things she has loved throughout her life, including music and her career, but said the feeling she has for her daughter is unlike anything else.

Sloane is currently in the United States and is still under a year old. Poe has also acknowledged how difficult it has been to be away from her daughter, particularly because it is the first time she has experienced that kind of separation.

Nadine Lustre collaborates with Apl.de.ap for new song ‘Donuts’

Nadine Lustre has teamed up with Black Eyed Peas member Apl. de.ap for her new single, “Donuts.”

Nadine released the track on Saturday, September 5, and took to social media to share her excitement over the collaboration.

“A little surreal making music with a legend. @apdeap. DONUTS out on all platforms,” she announced on Instagram.

She added: “Another legend in the mix. @francisbrew, thank you for lending us your voice.”

Fans online were quick to react to the collaboration.

“Galing talaga, di pa nga ako naka-move on doon sa kanta mong ‘Personal,’ tapos ito naman,” one fan commented.

“WOW!! A collab I never saw coming! What a bop song!” one fan wrote.

“Donuts” was composed by Kahlil Atienza, Isagani Palabyab, Elijah Wudz B. Bitacura, and Nadine, with lyrics by Ivo Impreso and Nadine.

The track was produced by Isagani Palabyab, who also served as the recording engineer. The song was released under Cool Girl Records.

“Donuts” follows Nadine’s previous



single, “Personal.”

A music video for “Personal” was released in August, offering a visual representation of the pressures that come with living in the public eye.

In the video, Nadine turns public scrutiny and

criticism into a literal fight, using the imagery to convey her determination not to let other people’s opinions get the best of her.

Back in December 2025, Nadine had already expressed her desire to continue making music.

“For sure. I work with a friend of mine who released an album pero featuring lang ako dun. But I still enjoy making music,” she said in an interview with MJ Felipe on The B Side of Cinema One.

The actress-singer also shared that the creative process continues to draw her back to the recording studio.

“I enjoy writing, I enjoy being in the studio and just vibing and kind of coming up with ideas or you know, just making something,” she remarked.

TONY’S TAKE: TRENDS AND TRIVIA THAT MATTER

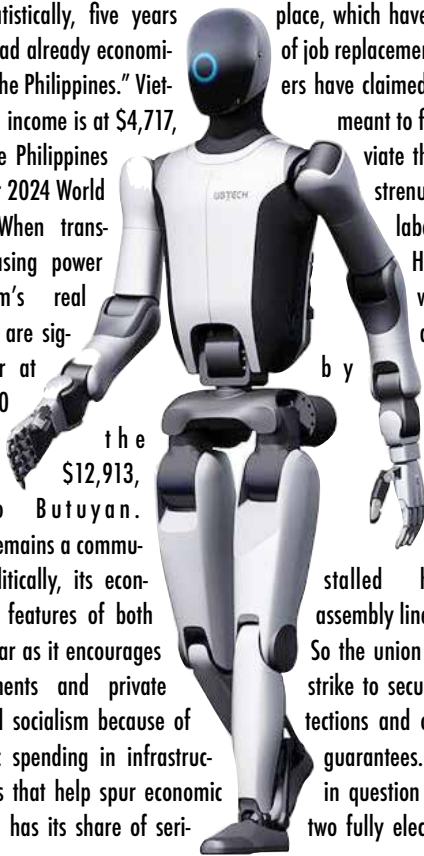
By Tony A. San Juan, OCT.

COMPARING VIETNAM AND THE PHILIPPINES: AN OPINION

In the column “Flea Market of Ideas” by Joel Ruiz Butuyan of the Philippine Daily Inquirer on July 18, 2026, he wrote that in a visit to Vietnam in June 2026, he saw 1) “how the country has impressively leapfrogged to overtake the Philippines economically 2) that the Philippines has “been left behind, as clearly visible on the ground and as shown by statistics; and 3) that Vietnam’s economic pace will leave us even farther behind in the years to come if Philippine politics continues its downward trend.” Butuyan said that “A decade and a half ago, Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon), Vietnam’s centre of commerce, looked like a big version of Binondo, Manila, with its dilapidated and grimy two-story shops. Metro Manila was way more cosmopolitan back then.” Describing further, “Fast forward to the present, and it’s clear that Ho Chi Minh has undergone a tremendous transformation. Modern skyscrapers now dot the city. Private cars occupy more space on the roads compared to motorcycles. Vietnam is now producing its own line of vehicles under the “VinFast” brand name. The Vietnamese people widely patronise their homegrown vehicle brand because so many VinFast car models (sedans, SUVs, vans, and buses) are on the road.” There are also the ubiquitous minibuses, sleek and air-conditioned, whose designated stops have modern waiting sheds equipped with



digital monitor boards that show the arrival time of buses, similar to those in European cities. Tourism is one of the powerful drivers of Vietnam’s economic growth. Vietnam draws in 20 million tourists annually compared to the Philippines’ 6 million. The reason for the huge disparity: “The Vietnamese government is aggressively investing in the infrastructure and aesthetic enhancement of its tourist destinations, unlike in the Philippines, where government support in tourism is mere tokenism.” Statistically, five years ago, “Vietnam had already economically overtaken the Philippines.” Vietnam’s per capita income is at \$4,717, while that of the Philippines is at \$3,985, per 2024 World Bank figures. When translated to purchasing power parity, Vietnam’s real living standards are significantly higher at roughly \$17,480 compared to the Philippines’ \$12,913, according to Butuyan. While Vietnam remains a communist country politically, its economy has heavy features of both capitalism, insofar as it encourages foreign investments and private competition, and socialism because of its heavy public spending in infrastructure and utilities that help spur economic activity. Vietnam has its share of seri-



ous corruption like the Philippines, but it still manages to improve its people’s lives more effectively. Vietnam is one more proof that it’s not the form of government that lies at the heart of our problems. It’s “the breed of political and business leaders who abuse power and monopolise resources that blight the Filipino people’s lives”, Butuyan concluded.

HUMANOID ROBOT WORKERS.

“Humanoid Robots” are now being rolled out, especially in the auto manufacturing industry, which will be one of the sectors most impacted. Many major automakers are reported to have plans for humanoid robots in place, which have naturally stirred fears of job replacement. The car manufacturers have claimed that these “robots are meant to fill labour gaps and alleviate the most dangerous and strenuous work for human labourers.” In South Korea, Hyundai auto production workers are rallying against job replacement robots, and they have made an auto industry first by going on strike over humanoid robots. While the Hyundai company hasn’t yet installed humanoids on the assembly line, it plans to do so soon. So the union has launched a partial strike to secure pre-emptive job protections and other labour and wage guarantees. The looming humanoid in question is “Atlas — a six-foot-two fully electric robo-hunk that can

move autonomously and lift to 110 pounds.” The bot is made by Boston Dynamics, the robot pioneer that Hyundai acquired outright earlier this year. In Canada, in February 2026, Toyota announced it would be the first automaker in Canada to use humanoids at an assembly plant, employing seven Digit bots from Agility Robotics at its Woodstock, Ontario, facility. As of April, three of these bots were hard at work feeding auto parts to the assembly line. Could it be a sign of things to come? But people are still needed to produce, program, operate and maintain the robots. Workplace adjustment, preparation, and training are necessary as workers face these realities.



USA Vs. CHINA: FAVOURABLE VIEW WORLD-WIDE

“China is now viewed more positively than the US in many countries worldwide”, according to a new study by the Pew Research Centre, a US-based think tank. It is the first time the organisation has recorded such results. The findings from the non-partisan organisation indicate that “favourable views of China have reached record highs in many countries, while perceptions of the United States have worsened”. In general, respondents expressed that “while the US was still seen to respect personal freedoms more than China, China was seen to interfere in other countries’ affairs less than the US.” Pew Research polled more than 42,000 people in 36 countries between February and May 2026. Respondents were asked if

they had a very favourable, somewhat favourable, somewhat unfavourable, or very unfavourable opinion of each superpower. It marks the first time the centre, which has been tracking global sentiments towards the superpowers since 2002, has seen such a result in so many countries, according to one of the Pew Centre researchers. The Centre found that in 25 of the 36 countries, more people had favourable views of China than of the US. Among the countries with a more favourable view of China than the US are Pakistan, Malaysia, the West Bank, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Turkey, Spain, Italy, Mexico, Greece, South Africa, Nigeria, Kenya, Chile, Canada, Peru, France, Netherlands, Sweden, Australia, Argentina, and Germany. Only six countries in this year’s survey still favour the US more, most of which are staunch US allies: Poland, the Philippines, South Korea, India, Japan and Israel. The Pew Centre found that the median favourable opinion of the US across 20 countries had dropped steadily in recent years while the median favourable opinion of China had been rising. Researchers also found that favourable views of China had increased in more than a third of the countries surveyed in recent years, based on an expanded dataset including the USA. (Tony A. San Juan, OCT)

Lea Salonga gets a star at Hollywood Walk of Fame

Broadway Icon Lea Salonga is now officially the first Filipina to receive a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Lea received the landmark’s 2,855th star. The ceremony was held on Sept. 4 at 11:30 a.m. (2:30 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 5, in Manila) in front of the historic Pantages Theatre on Hollywood Boulevard. Fellow Disney icons Ming-Na Wen and Brandy, along with Filipino American Broadway star Darren Criss, were present at Friday’s ceremony hosted by Sibley Scoles. In her speech, Lea described the event as a full-circle moment for her. “I have walked down these streets many times; I’ve stepped on a lot of famous people, and now people get to step on me. Which feels strangely appropriate for show business. I love a full-circle moment,” Lea said. She continued by looking back on her career as the seven-year-old Lea who loved to sing and dance, and never really knew if she had a future in the world of theater. “I was a little girl in the Philippines who loved to sing and perform. I started working when I was very young, and I certainly did not have a grand plan for how any of this was supposed to unfold; I just love doing it,” she said. Lea admitted that it was a bumpy road for her from the start, but with the help of the right people who took a chance on her, she was fortunate enough to do the thing she loves the most. “When I began my career, I didn’t see very many people who looked like me doing



the things I dreamed of doing on the world’s biggest stages and screens. There wasn’t an obvious road. Over the years, I have watched that world begin to change. Not enough. Not completely. But it has changed,” she said. Lea expressed happiness seeing more and more Asian and Filipino artists able to make their mark since. “There are so many extraordinary Filipino and Asian artists working today, telling our stories, playing roles we once could have never imagined being offered, and creating new opportunities for future generations. That means an enormous amount to me,” she added. Lea hopes her star will inspire young Filipinos to pursue their dreams. “I hope that someday a young Filipino kid comes to Hollywood, sees my name, and thinks, ‘Oh. Maybe I can get here too,’” Lea said.

Lea gave her biggest thanks to her family, especially her mother, Ligaya Salonga, who’s been there for her through the highs and lows of her career. “My mother ... was there from the beginning, using her hard-earned money to record my first album. She loaded pressed vinyls into our family car and went door-to-door to stores back home selling copies. She was my manager for decades, my champion my whole life.” Lea also recognized her brother, conductor and musical director Gerard Salonga, crediting him as her first duet partner and favorite accompanist while calling him the finest musician she knows. She also gave her biggest thanks to her son Nic Chien, who is now following in her footsteps in the Entertainment scene. “My son, who is back East, having just started his own journey into the world of acting and entertainment. He is an inspiration, the bravest person I’ve ever met, my proudest production to date, and always,” she added. After thanking everyone who made the honor possible, Lea ended her speech with a joke, telling people who visit her star, “feel free to step on me.”

She then thanked everyone in Filipino, saying, “Maraming maraming salamat,” before reflecting on her journey, saying she is “not done yet.”

AN EVENING WITH
JENIFER CAMACHO

Jenifer Forever

SEPTEMBER 19, 2026 | 7:00 PM
CHINESE CULTURAL CENTRE OF GREATER TORONTO
5183 SHEPPARD AVE. SCARBOROUGH

FOR TICKETS, PLS. SCAN THE QR CODE:
WIP \$100 | REGULAR \$50 | GA \$35

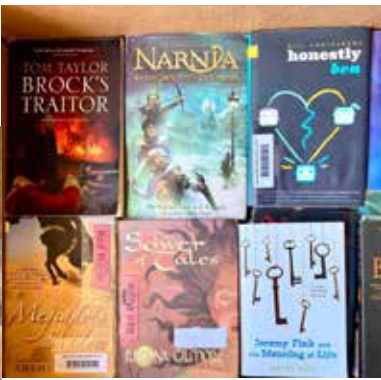
PRESENTED BY
JP JOE PUREWAL
MORTGAGES

EVENT SPONSORS

School in Philippines receive Books Donated from Canada

Lareg-Lareg National High School (189M) is a public high school located in Lareg-Lareg, a rural barangay in the first class municipality of Malasiqui, Pangasinan. A Super Health Center was recently constructed in the area and is now open to serve the surrounding communities. It offers free medical services and medicine, and plans are underway for an expansion to include a laboratory, dental ser-

vices, X-ray, ultrasound, and ECG. The school has a library and reading corners in the classrooms, however all they have are old/obsolete books and printed learning materials. The high percentage of struggling students are



in the ARAL program, which is supposed to

We thank our benefactors for the continuous supply of books. (Malou de Jesus Dizon)

Yeng Constantino says Ryan Bang deserves someone who can match his capacity to love

Singer-songwriter Yeng Constantino has reassured Ryan Bang that he deserves to be loved after the “It’s Showtime” host became emotional while recalling their past romance on the noontime program.

Ryan broke down during the September 2 episode of “It’s Showtime” after talking about watching Yeng’s concert with Vice Ganda.

In an interview with members of the media on the sidelines of “The Voice Kids” media conference, where Yeng serves as one of the coaches, the singer said Ryan should never question his worth because of his relationship status.

“Siyempre naman. Makakahanap at makakahanap si Ryan. Hindi deserve ni Ryan na kwestyunin niya ang kanyang worth,” Yeng said.

Yeng has known Ryan for many years and said she has always seen him as a kind person.



“Siyempre kilala ko po siya at many years naman k a m i n g magkasama. Sa pagkakakilala ko kay Ryan talaga pong napakabait na tao,” she said.

The singer also believes that love will come to Ryan at the right time.

“Katulad po noong sinabi ko, God has perfect timing for everybody. Hindi kwestyon kung deserve niya ba ng pagmamahal. Of course he deserves to be loved, to be seen, he deserves all of that,” Yeng said.

Yeng further hoped that Ryan would find someone capable of giving him the same depth of love that he gives to others.

“Deserve din sana yung kaya niyang ibigay kasi grabe yung capacity ni Ryan to love. Napakalaki ng puso niya. As in, grabe magmahal talaga,” she said.

Yeng also shared that Ryan has people around him who genuinely care about his well-being.

“Ako, I believe, konting katok na lang talaga kay Lord sa langit,” she said.

“Ang dami na pong nagdadasal para sa kanya. Sa Cornerstone, sa mga handlers, talagang we’re praying for him,” she added.

Ryan became emotional during the September 2 episode of “It’s Showtime” while thanking Vice Ganda for bringing him to Yeng’s concert.

“Thank you Mommy, kasi sinama mo ‘ko sa concert ni Yeng. Na-flashback sa akin lahat,” Ryan told Vice.

When Vice asked why he was crying, Ryan opened up about his fears of finding love again.

Darren Espanto and Brent Manalo also

approached Ryan and joined Vice in comforting him with a group hug.

“Hindi kasi, sabi ko, makakahanap pa kaya ako... makakahanap kaya ako ng... siyempre, tulad ni Yeng na noong umpisa ako, wala akong pambayad ng date, wala ‘kong kotse, ‘di ba, wala akong pera, paulit-ulit yung damit ko, pero minahal... may chance pala ako sa kanya. Makakahanap kaya ako ng ganu’n?” Ryan said.

Ryan previously revealed on “It’s Showtime” in 2022 that he had courted Yeng in the past but eventually stopped pursuing her.

Yeng later admitted that she was hurt when Ryan suddenly stopped communicating with her, or “ghosted” her.

Despite what happened between them, Yeng’s latest remarks show that she continues to care for Ryan and wants him to recognize his own worth.

For Yeng, Ryan’s ability to love deeply is one of the qualities that makes him deserving of the same love in return.

Ylona Garcia comes home

Ylona Garcia came to the Philippines as a teenager with a dream of making it in showbiz.

Ten years later, she is coming home with a very different story to tell.

The Filipino-Australian singer has spent the past decade figuring out where she belongs, first in the Philippine entertainment industry and later in Los Angeles, while navigating loss, difficult relationships and the loneliness of starting over in another country.

Looking back, Garcia divides those 10 years into two very different chapters.

The first five, she said, were largely about learning, from understanding her Filipino culture to finding her place in the entertainment industry.

The next five were much harder.

“I lost someone very important to me, went through experiences where I allowed people to take advantage of me emotionally and found myself alone in another country for the second time,” Garcia said, describing

YLONA page 19

Nadine Lustre admits ‘President Nadine’ title comes with pressure

Award-winning actress Nadine Lustre admits that being called “President Nadine” comes with a level of pressure she did not initially expect.

The actress has long been referred to by the moniker online, a title that began as a lighthearted expression of admiration from fans but has since taken on a deeper meaning for her.

In an interview on the “Dogshow Divas” podcast, Nadine described the nickname as a “double-edged sword.”

“I think ‘yung pagtawag sa akin ng mga tao na ‘president’, in some way para siyang ano eh, double-edged sword,” she said.

For Nadine, being called “President” can be flattering because it suggests that people value her opinions and take her words seriously.

“Parang in some way, it’s a good thing kasi it kind of gives me an assurance or at least like parang para siyang praise, ganu’n, na people take what I say seriously or that they look up to me,” she explained.

“Na para sa akin ano naman, at least it flatters me na may weight ‘yung sinasabi ko.”

However, the nickname also comes with expectations that Nadine sometimes finds difficult to carry.

“But at the same time, parang instead of it just being a meme or something na fun that came out of the internet, parang nagkaroon siya ng baggage, ng responsibilities, na parang ‘pag may issues, people actually expect me to say something about any issue,” she added.

Nadine said she did not ask for the

“President Nadine” label, which emerged from the internet, but she has become increasingly aware of the expectations attached to it.

“Parang mas may weight siya kasi parang mas nag-expect ‘yung mga tao from me. Parang nag-inganun siya,” she said.

The nickname started gaining traction among her fans around 2017, when many admired Nadine for being vocal about her views and taking a stand on various issues.

While she initially did not fully understand why people called her “President Nadine,” the actress now sees the term as an expression of affection and respect from her supporters.

“Before, I really didn’t understand it.



Now, honestly it makes me feel loved,” she said.

“Because every time people say that or every time people call me that, it’s a sort of acknowledgement that I’m someone people look up to, or someone that people listen to, that my voice is heard,” she added.

For Nadine, the title may have started as an internet meme, but it has evolved into something more meaningful—one that reminds her of the influence people believe she holds, while also making her mindful of the responsibility that comes with having a voice that many choose to listen to.

Sophia Laforteza skip Katseye’s Europe tour as hiatus continues

Filipina singer Sophia Laforteza will continue her well-being hiatus from Katseye and will miss the global girl group’s European stops of its upcoming “Wildworld” tour.

Katseye’s labels, Hybe and Geffen Records, announced in August that Sophia would be temporarily stepping away from promotional activities to focus on her mental health.

As a result, the group’s Filipina leader missed out on further promoting the newly released extended play “Wild,” as well as performances in Head of the Clouds and Disney Legends, among others.

The agencies released a new statement confirming that Sophia’s hiatus would extend to mid-September and she will

not take part in Katseye’s European tour debut.

“Sophia is focusing on her well-being, and the company remains fully committed to providing her with all the support and resources needed,” Hybe and Geffen said.

The labels asked fans called Eyekons for their warm understanding, reiterating that their “highest priority will always be the health and long-term well-being of” artists, vowing to provide more updates once available.

Katseye’s “Wildworld” European leg runs from September 1 to 17 and the tour will continue



in North America a month later, allowing ample time for management to reassess Sophia’s progress.

The girl group is temporarily down two members after Manon Bannerman also went on hiatus earlier this year citing a similar well-being break. The Swiss-Ghanaian has not participated in group activities since February.

Remaining members Lara Raj, Daniela Avanzini, Jeung Yoon-chae, and Megan Skiendiel — who is recovering from an ankle sprain — will proceed with the “Wildworld” tour.

THE PHILIPPINE PRINCE

KRIS LAWRENCE

LIVE IN TORONTO

OCTOBER 17, 2026

SATURDAY | DOORS: 5:00PM | SHOW: 6:00PM

KOREAN CANADIAN CULTURAL CENTRE

1133 LESLIE ST. #101, NORTH YORK, ON M3C 2K5

VIP: \$125 WITH PHOTO-OP | GEN AD: \$85

For tickets & sponsorships: 647-203-0097, 416-725-9045, 647-278-4374

WITH SPECIAL GUEST

EDDIE

Sarah Geronimo pregnancy buzz on again after Matteo Guidicelli’s friend calls him ‘soon-to-be daddy’

Sarah Geronimo and Matteo Guidicelli are once again at the center of pregnancy speculation, this time after a friend of the actor appeared to let slip that Matteo could soon become a father.

The buzz started with a Facebook post from a man who said he ran into Matteo at a coffee shop in Quezon City.

Alongside a photo of himself with the actor, the man reminisced about their friendship, recalling their previous experiences together, including military-related activities.

He described Matteo as a “solid guy” who is friendly and down-to-earth.

Then came the line that sent fans into overdrive.

“P.S. He is soon to be a dad-

dy. Congratulations, bro!” the friend wrote.

That was enough to get social media talking, with many immediately wondering if Sarah was pregnant with the couple’s first child.

When someone directly asked if Sarah was expecting, the friend appeared to stand by his claim, replying: “Yup! Confirmed from the [horse’s] mouth.”

The post was later deleted, but not before screenshots began circulating online.

Still, neither Sarah nor Matteo has made an announcement confirming that they are expecting.

The latest speculation comes after several other moments involving the couple had already prompted fans to play

detective.

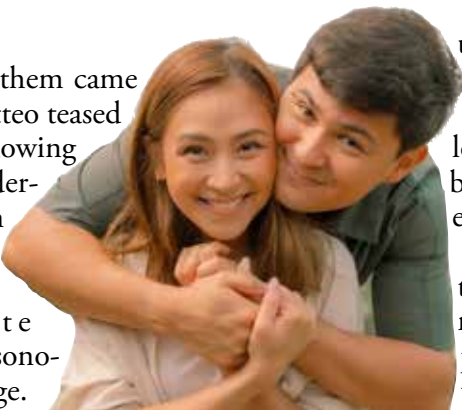
One of them came when Matteo teased a vlog showing him undergoing an ultrasound, complete with a sonogram image.

For a while, some fans wondered if the footage was a pregnancy clue.

The mystery, however, was eventually cleared up when the full vlog showed that Matteo’s ultrasound was part of his executive check-up.

Sarah was not with him during the procedure.

Even Matteo’s birthday greeting for Sarah last July gave fans something to spec-



ulate about.

“Happy birthday my love! This will be the best year ever,” he wrote.

Some interpreted the message as a possible hint that something major was happening in their lives.

Sarah’s withdrawal from the first day of the Aurora Music Festival in May also resurfaced in online discussions.

At the time, she was advised by her physician to take complete rest because of unforeseen health reasons.

But there has been no information connecting that incident to pregnancy.

What is known is that having children has been part of Sarah and Matteo’s plans for some time.

In 2023, Matteo openly shared his hope that they would eventually welcome a baby.

“For 2024 and in the future, sana magka-baby na kami. In God’s time,” he said.

He also emphasized that while he was ready to become a father, he did not want to force the timing.

Sarah expressed the same sentiment in an interview that year.

“Siyempre ’yun po ang goal natin. In God’s time... In God’s perfect time,” she said.

The couple married in a private ceremony in Taguig on February 20, 2020.

Ylona Garcia comes home

YLONA from page 18

them as “some of the hardest years” of her life.

Those experiences ultimately changed how she saw herself and her career.

Garcia said she learned to distinguish between being a singer and being an artist.

That realization has become important as she develops the music she wants to make now, with a clearer sense of her own voice and what she wants to say.

Her career has taken her a long way from the young hopeful who first dreamed of making it in showbiz.

After establishing herself in the Philippine entertainment scene, Garcia eventually moved to Los Angeles and signed with Paradise Rising, the Filipino-focused imprint of 88rising.

She is now revisiting her musical journey with Sony Music Entertainment, reimagining songs from her catalog as part of her



10th-anniversary project.

Garcia described the collaboration as a healing experience, particularly as she learned how to bring her own ideas into a room while remaining open to other people’s perspectives.

“This is my third time working with a music label and collaboration truly means a lot to me,” she said.

The result will include a nine-track live album featuring her interpretations of songs from the past decade.

The project will also lead into her long-awaited second EP, which will reflect the new sounds and influences she has picked up along the way.

For Garcia, then, coming home is not simply a return to where her career began.

It is a chance to return as someone who has changed.

Kim Chiu shares lessons on money and family

Actress Kim Chiu has learned that earning money is only part of the equation. She also believes in knowing how to save, invest and share it with family.

As the official brand ambassador of WorldRemit, a digital global payments and international money transfer service, Chiu said her personal experience as a breadwinner has allowed her to relate closely to overseas Filipino workers.

“I realized that you should know how to save, you should know how to invest, and at the same time, you should know how to budget. You should put your money in the right place because money disappears quickly. Opportunities also disappear quickly,” Chiu said during a WorldRemit press conference.

Chiu is currently promoting “Bahay Mo, Panalo Mo, I-WorldRemit Mo,” WorldRemit’s seasonal raffle promotions.

For Chiu, the campaign hits close to home because she has experienced the significance of having a house of her own.

She recalled winning a house and lot when she joined “Pinoy Big Brother” and said owning a home gave her a greater sense of responsibility and motivation to work harder.

Your own home

“It’s different when you have something you can call your own. It’s inspiring to work hard and become a better person because there’s a different sense of responsibility when you have your own house,” she said.

Chiu also has firsthand experience with sending money to a loved one abroad. Her younger brother studied in Canada, and she used WorldRemit to send him financial support.

“He has already graduated, and he’s going to be a commercial pilot. Now, he’s the one treating me. He’s the one sending money to me,” Chiu said.

The experience also shaped Chiu’s understanding of remittances beyond their monetary value.

“More than padala, this is about connection, love, support and security. When you send money, there’s a story behind it – for tuition, groceries, sometimes for emergencies,” she said.

Chiu said she became a breadwinner with-



out being asked, sharing what she considers an innate Filipino tendency to help family members whenever one has the means to do so.

“I just became a breadwinner without them asking me to be the mother and father in our family. If your glass is full, you won’t be able to give. It will overflow and it will be wasted. It’s better to share what we have,” she said.

At the same time, Chiu cautioned fellow breadwinners not to neglect themselves while supporting their families.

“Don’t forget about yourself because at the end of the day, you have your own life,” she said.

“My family always told me that this job is not forever, so I should really take care of my money. Share and don’t be greedy with money. As long as you can help, we’ll help,” she added.

“Being present is not the only way to show your support. You can also provide for their needs. Even when you’re not there,” Chiu said.

Seven Fil-Cans Compete For Civic Elective Posts In The GTA

FIL-CANS from page 16

of local and international Catholic mission/prayer groups (Couples for Christ, Sword of the Spirit), and is a parishioner and lector at St. Joseph’s Church in Highland Creek. With a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Silliman University and as Instructor of Computer Studies at Seneca @ York University, he has worked for over 20 years as a consultant and project manager in the financial, biotech, clinical research, energy and education industries. He is a member of the Association of Clinical Research Professionals, Certified Project Manager, PMP - Project Management Institute and is President of the Christopher Leadership and Effective Speaking, Lumen Institute of Canada. As a Trustee, he has collaborated with Ward 8 principals, pastors/chaplains, CSACs and Catholic parent organisations. Tanuan professed that “Understanding that Catholic education is an extension of our Church’s teaching mission and a separate school system is essential in addressing the challenges we face today and tomorrow.” Garry believes that “every Catholic child must be educated and immersed in the Catholic faith, and feels that he can make a difference in bringing Faith into our community, anchored in hope, with love for all children”. Once reelected, Tanuan will continue encouraging the TCDSB to “tap into the multitudes of resources available, including the 53 organisations in the Archdiocese of Toronto Lay Association listing, which are all committed to helping Catholic families in enhancing their Faith.”

ROWENA SANTOS(Councillor for Brampton-Wards 1 & 5)
Rowena Santos, first elected in 2018 as
Councillor for Wards 1 & 5, is the first Filipina elected to Council in the

City of Brampton. A proud Bramptonian of Filipino heritage, Rowena is “inspired by community and driven by a passion to change the culture of politics and build a more prosperous, livable and sustainable future.” She holds an Honours BBA degree from the Schulich School of Business in Toronto and a Master’s degree in Sustainable Development & Environmental Planning from the U.K. London School of Economics. Prior to being elected, she worked at the Ontario Legislative Assembly for over a decade and has mentored countless youth to become politically active across the GTA. Before entering politics, Rowena worked at Magna, RBC and General Mills. She was also the Program Manager of Corporate Citizenship with Imagine Canada, and Executive Director of Emagine, working with venture capitalists and entrepreneurs at the Centre for Social Innovation. Councillor Santos, a single parent, is a supporter of Brampton Animal Services and has personally adopted/rescued two as part of her family. She is a strong supporter of the arts and enjoys playing with her local band “Point of Order”.

Let us all support and elect our Filipino Canadian political candidates. Get out the vote, and this time, with a unified aspiration and collective hope, together we will proudly claim that we have chosen our fellow kababayans to represent our community’s “always-cited demographics”, yet still considered an “invisible image”, as well as the “always-quiet voice”, but never “influentially heard” within the political landscape and democratic process. Let’s prove otherwise and definitively deliver! (Tony A. San Juan, OCT- Retired)



THURSDAY

Everyone is welcome to join

Dance for Faith and Fitness

Sponsored by GOD'S LOVE OUTREACH MINISTRY

In collaboration with: GSM Word Toronto (Soul Sisters) L'DLEL (Group Music/Praise)

GSM

Free food distributions @ 7:00 ~ 7:30

4:30-5:30 "Bible Study" 6:00-8:00 Dance Fellowship

at Oriental Center 4438 Sheppard Ave East "Brimley/Sheppard"

Stay active, have fun, and enjoy fellowship through dancing!

United in love, bound by faith, walking as one in Christ...

Everyone is welcome—bring your spouse and friends...

Contact: Rev. Mila Lacerona: +1 (416) 710-3648 Mercy Flores: 416-993-0449

GOD'S VESSEL OF Love Outreach Ministry LOVE • UNITE • SERVE

Barbie Forteza: Adult responsibilities harder than heartbreak

“Saving Cherry” star Barbie Forteza says romantic heartbreak no longer feels like one of life’s biggest challenges now that realities and responsibilities of adulthood have taken over.

The actress, who just turned 29 last month, opined that breakups and cheating almost seem easier to face compared with what she now has to deal with at home, at work and even as a taxpayer.

When asked how she copes with such real-life issues that many women encounter, Barbie said her answer now sounds very much like that of someone nearing 30. “Alam kong pang-trenta yung sagot ko. Nung una, nung bata-bata pa ako, ‘yan ang real-life challenge ko. Ngayon, medyo bumibigat ang mga responsibilidad ko na para bang...”

“Pwede bang, ‘Oo, ma-experience ko na lang ang cheating kesa itong mga responsibilidad ko ngayon bilang adult.’ Ang pinagdadaanan ko, ‘di ba, sa bahay, mga responsibilidad sa mga ka-kontratahan, ganyan, andiyan na ako,” she quipped. She also cited paying taxes as another reality that comes with getting older.

“Kung nakita n’yo nga po, thankfully, ginawaran po ako ng BIR as a good taxpayer, so ‘yun din. Para sa amin po kasi, ‘yun ang real-life challenges.”

At this point in her life, Barbie remarked that matters of the heart have become relatively smaller parts of a much bigger picture. “Kasi yung break-up tsaka yung cheating, parang ano na lang siya sa akin ngayon....” she said, before agreeing that these could be considered more like “spice” in the story of her life.

She clarified though that it doesn’t mean ending a relationship has become an easy decision for her.



She further pointed out that a relationship is something two people once mutually wanted to begin, which makes the choice to end it something that still requires serious thought. But once she has made up her mind about a breakup, Barbie admitted, “There’s really no turning back.” When it comes to cheating, however, the actress said she could

not really give advice nor an opinion based on personal experience because she was never certain if she had actually been cheated on. “Cheating, I can’t really give any advice based from experience because, to be honest, I’m not really sure if I had been cheated on. I never really confirmed it, so I’ll just say no para safe.”

Still, Barbie had one piece of advice for fellow young women, regardless of the circumstances they find themselves in.

“Any situation, bilang babae, piliin mo lagi yung sarili mo kasi walang ibang mas mapapamahal sa ‘yo kundi ang sarili,” she said.

“Will I ever get married? Even mas ganun na ‘yun kasi nga parang ngayon kung kailan ako tumanda, mas nagustuhan ko mag-explore. And so, parang ngayon ko pa lang din nakikilala yung sarili ko na masyado pang malayo yung marriage for me and also dahil mas nag-kakaroon din ako ng better understanding of life.”

“Hindi na rin ako ganun ka-sure if marriage is necessary,” she candidly added.

Even so, she hasn’t totally given up her romantic side. “I like to keep my options open, so,” she added.

And when directly asked by this paper whether she

was ready to fall in love again, Barbie made it clear that she’s not in a rush to enter another romantic relationship.

“Parang masyado ko pang gustong ibuhos lahat ng pagmamahal sa sarili ko. Ayoko pang may kahati, haha!” she said.

“Tsaka na muna ‘yon. Ako muna.”

Patrick Garcia’s daughter Michelle flies to Singapore to chase K-pop dream

At just 13 years old, Michelle Garcia is already taking serious steps toward her dream of pursuing a career in K-pop.

Michelle, daughter of actor Patrick Garcia and former actress Nikka Martinez, is currently part of SM Universe Singapore’s K-pop Professional Training Programme, a program launched by South Korean entertainment giant SM Entertainment in 2025.

Rather than simply dreaming of becoming a K-pop performer, Michelle is immersing herself in professional training, making the trip from the Philippines to Singapore every week to hone her singing and dancing skills.

“Hi, I’m Michelle Garcia. I’m from the Philippines, and I’m 13 years old. Every Friday, I hop on a plane for four hours from the Philippines to Singapore,” she said in an Instagram post by SM Singapore.

For Michelle, the demanding routine has been worth it because of the experience and knowledge she gains from the program.

“I think it’s pretty worth it to join this program because you learn a lot. You meet new people, you meet new coaches, and that teaches you a lot. Especially coaches from Korea help you learn their techniques [which] they have learned throughout the years, and

it’s good to apply it in your singing and your dancing,” she said.

SM Entertainment is behind some of South Korea’s biggest K-pop acts, including EXO, Red Velvet, Super Junior, NCT, and Girls’ Generation.

Michelle’s weekly trips to Singapore have also given her the opportunity to experience a different environment while pursuing her passion.

Looking back on her 10 consecutive weekends in Singapore, Michelle expressed her gratitude for the experience in an emotional social media post.

“Singapore 10/10check! ??? Getting emo as I write this.... what a journey it has been!?? 10 consecutive weekends in such a beautiful, clean, safe country! I have only the best things to say!??? Singapore, thank you.... precious memories have been made... but there will be more to come! The next time we go, we will be complete ??? In the meantime.... extremely excited for what’s next!???” she wrote on Instagram.

Beyond the technical skills she is developing, Michelle also sees the program as an opportunity for personal growth.

For aspiring performers who may be hesitant to pursue their dreams, she has one straightforward piece of advice: take the risk.

“Just do it. Just take a risk, you know? You never know what you might find out about yourself, about your attitude, about your skills. You never know what might come out and this is all for your growth, and this is all for you. I guess I would say just do it for you,” Michelle said.



Filipino-Canadian Glimpses at Significant Developments

PHILIPPINE from page 5

lian city, Sydney, jointly shared the fifth spot. QS ranked 150 cities around the world based on measures that make a city student-friendly. Factors include strength of a given city’s universities, their affordability, and the appeal to employers and students alike. Cities that

made the cut have a population of more than 250,000 people and at least two universities in the latest QS World University Rankings. It is worth noting this excludes renowned university towns like Oxford and Cambridge in the United Kingdom. Third-party data was taken from Numbeo, Transparency International, Loughborough University, The Economist,

Social Progress Imperative, and the World Bank. Of the 150 cities included, 52 are from Asia, including the Philippine capital Manila. Only Europe has more represented cities, with 62. “Batay sa mga pamantayang ginagawang student-friendly ang isang lungsod, kabilang sa mga saliksik ay ang lakas ng mga unibersidad ng isang partikular na lungsod, ang

kanilang pagiging abot-kaya, at ang pagiging kaakit-akit nito sa mga employer at estudyante, sentro ng paglago sa labas ng Metro Manila na may kakayahang saluhin ang susunod na bugso ng pamumuhunan. Kailan pa kaya maituturing na mabuti at mahusay ang kalakhang Maynila sa naturing na listahan?”

Carney Stands Up to Trump in Trade War Despite the Risks

NO DEAL from page 15

conomic dependence.

Bargaining theory explains the leverage: if one side believes the other cannot afford to leave, it can push the offer toward that side’s reservation point — the worst deal it will accept — and capture more of the gains.

Tariffs cover about 5% of Canadian exports to the U.S., while more than 80% remain duty-free. Yet Canada remains highly exposed: It’s export to the United States went down to 72% in 2025 from 87% per cent in 2000. Much of the recent decline in the U.S. share came from gold exports to the United Kingdom and crude oil shipments to Europe and the Asia-Pacific, rather than manufacturing diversification.

Estimates that just over 87,000 direct and indirect Canadian jobs could be at risk if the duties persist.

The immediate risks are increasing. On Aug. 24, Trump threatened to raise tariffs on all Canadian cars, trucks and auto parts to 50 per cent from January 2027.

The importance of durability

The expected value of a trade agreement also depends on whether its terms are likely to endure. This is par-



Mr. Carney, center, with members of the Canadian delegation in Beijing in January.

ticularly relevant when tariffs can be changed through unilateral executive action, and when even CUSMA-compliant goods can face new duties.

Consider the Gordie Howe International Bridge, financed by Canada under a 2012 agreement that gave Canada the tolls until the debt was repaid. Its scheduled June 2026 opening was delayed amid bilateral disputes.

A later agreement-in-principle directs half of net revenues for 15 years to an American-controlled fund and gives the U.S. rights over certain toll changes. This resembles what economists call a hold-up problem: after one party makes an irreversible, relationship-specific investment, the other may seek new terms when the investor’s fallback is weakest.

Trade agreements are also incomplete contracts. No document can

anticipate every future dispute. Consequently, a tariff reduction promised for several years is worth less if firms believe it may be withdrawn sooner. Its value must therefore be discounted by the probability that the deal survives.

A pattern, not an exception

Canada is not unique in facing uncertainty over the durability of U.S. trade commitments.

The U.S. threatened to restore 25 per cent tariffs on selected South Korean imports months after agreeing to 15 per cent, and later threatened 25 per cent tariffs on EU cars and trucks while the so-called Turnberry framework awaited implementation. China provides a contrasting example. Its tariff truce with the U.S. has been repeatedly negotiated and extended since May 2025. Despite a 20 per cent fall in U.S.-bound exports in 2025, growth elsewhere helped produce a record US\$1.2 trillion trade surplus, strengthening China’s fallback.

China’s critical-mineral and market-access leverage make a breakdown costly for the U.S., weakening the American fallback.

The truce therefore reflects both diversification and reciprocal dependence. For other countries, the lesson

is that leverage, rather than goodwill alone, helps sustain a deal.

Retaliation is not enough

Ottawa’s response also illustrates the limits of simply matching U.S. tariffs. From Sept. 8, Canada will impose tariffs of 15, 25 and 50 per cent on \$27.6 billion of U.S. imports, matching the American rates on the affected products. But Canada cannot simultaneously target pivotal states, hit exporters dependent on Canadian buyers and avoid products for which Canadians lack alternatives.

Some targeted goods — including steel, electronics and agricultural equipment — are also inputs for Canadian businesses. As I argued previously, tariff retaliation should create political pressure while limiting harm at home.

Retaliation may therefore affect the bargaining environment, but it does not address the underlying asymmetry between the two economies.

The real test is diversification

Walking away did not strengthen Canada’s BATNA overnight. It may, however, have changed the U.S. belief that Canadian dependence made rejection impossible, revealing a firmer

HERE, THERE and EVERYWHERE

UMAC

FORWARDERS EXPRESS INC.

A Company with a History... And a Track Record!!!

Padalalan ng kahon sa Pilipinas

416-298-8622

☎ 416-298-8622

✉ umactoronto@yahoo.ca

🌐 www.umactoronto.com

515 Milner Avenue, Unit-9
Scarborough, Ontario M1B 2K4

Dylan Menor reaches out to Vehnee Saturno after 'Sa Aking Puso' snub



Singer Dylan Menor is attempting to make amends with Vehnee Saturno after appearing to snub the veteran songwriter and composer following a performance of "Sa Aking Puso."

Menor recently made his own take on the Ariel Rivera classic penned by Saturno and performed it for the first time on TV5's "Vibe+" last August 29, Saturday.

Saturno, however, called out Menor, the network, and Universal Records (UR) Philippines, which produced the new version of "Sa Aking Puso," on Facebook for not crediting him for the track.

"Si Ariel Rivera ang pinasalamatan? Ba't ganon?" the songwriter-producer wrote. "I'm the COMPOSER of the song! Paki linaw po... parang MALI!"

UR and Menor released a statement addressing the issue, the latter expressing gratitude for the opportunity to cover "Sa Aking Puso" as written by Saturno and popularized by Rivera.

"I'm honored to have the chance to breathe my own style into it while respecting the original, and hopefully reintroduce this beautiful song to a younger audience," Menor said.

Related: 'PBB' housemate Carmelle Collado to rep Philippines at Eurovision Asia

The singer added that following Saturno's social media post, he reached out to the songwriter to further indicate his appreciation.

"I have so much respect and gratitude

for Sir Vehnee, not only as the composer of the song but also as the producer for my version," said Menor. "I've already reached out to him personally to thank him for this opportunity. I truly appreciate the trust he gave me."

While Saturno has not confirmed if Menor indeed reached out, he posted a message from a TV5 employee apologizing for the issue.

"Let's finish the issue about 'Sa Aking Puso' of Dylan Menor. Case Closed. Salamat po sa lahat who are willing to help uplift OPM (Original Pilipino Music)," wrote the producer.

Apart from "Sa Aking Puso," Saturno is known for penning hits like Martin Nievera's "Be My Lady," Sharon Cuneta's "Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin," Sarah Geronimo's "Forever's Not Enough," Jaya's "Wala Na Bang Pag-ibig," Jessa Zaragoza's "Bakit Pa," and another Rivera song, "Sana Kahit Minsan."

Menor, on the other hand, now shifts his focus to his upcoming "D-Day" concert taking place on October 13 at San Juan's Music Museum.

'PBB' housemate Carmelle Collado to rep Philippines at Eurovision Asia

Carmelle Collado bested nine other finalists to earn the right to represent the Philippines at the inaugural Eurovision Song Contest Asia.

The former "Pinoy Big Brother Celebrity

Collab Edition 2.0" housemate won with her upbeat track "Sobra-Sobra," composed by Nica del Rosario and Mat Olavides.

The Philippine Selection Night was hosted by Vice Ganda and held at the New Frontier Theater in Quezon City on Sunday, August 30.

The runners-up were "Mapadama," sung by JM dela Cerna and Marielle Montellano, and "Broken Beyond Repair," performed by SAGA.

The winner was determined through a professional jury (40%), the Philippine public vote (40%) and the Rest of the World vote (20%).

Carmelle was the grand champion of "Tawag ng Tanghalan: The School Showdown" in 2025.

She also competed in the 2019 edition

of "The Voice Kids Philippines," where she finished as first runner-up. Her other songs include the catchy single "Morena."

The other Philippine finalists were "Between Bituin" by DNA; "Cheri(e)" by Elha Nympha, Esang de Torres, Lance Reblando and Nar Cabico; "Di Yan (Red Flag)" by Jason Dy and Sassa Dagdag; "Good For You" by Ryssi Avila; "Make It Exist" by AJAA; "Reason to Live" by KHIMO; and "Round N' Round" by VVINK and WRIVE Russu.

The first Eurovision Song Contest Asia will be staged in Bangkok, Thailand, on November 14.

Bea Alonzo's GMA contract set to end after 'Whispers from Heaven' — Shirley Kuan

Shirley Kuan, the former talent manager of Bea Alonzo, said the actress' contract with GMA is set to end after she finishes filming her upcoming political thriller series "Whis-



Bea Alonzo (right) and her former talent manager Shirley Kuan.

pers from Heaven."

Kuan, who resigned as Alonzo's manager last Aug. 11, disclosed this during a press conference on Monday, Aug. 24, where she spoke about the alleged "attacks" that prompted her to end her management ties with the actress.

At the event, Kuan was asked if Alonzo would stay with the Kapuso network, to which the former responded, "This ('Whispers from Heaven') is her last. When she finishes her taping — I think days na lang, mga 10 to 12, I'm not sure — then her contract ends."

Kuan noted that there have been no talks yet for the actress' contract renewal.

"I told them before the start of this new soap, ang sabi ko sa GMA, 'Please, let's do a good show for Bea because this may be her last soap in a very, very long time.' So, obviously, there's no renewal. We're not asking or expecting for that," Kuan said.

"Ang bilin ko lang is to do a good show kasi baka matagal pa bago masundan ito — kung masusundan pa. Because I'm not gonna push her to do this show. I want her

to have a family. I want her to settle down," the talent manager said.

WALANG bahid ng katotohanan na bad trip at hindi boto ang talent manager na si Shirley Kuan sa napangasawa ni Bea Alonzo na si Vincent Co.

Trulili ba, John Lloyd Cruz, Isabel Santos naghiwalay dahil sa

pera?

"MASAYA rin itong mag-isa," ang paglalarawan ng Tarot card reader na si Mamu Gloria Escoto sa aktor na si John Lloyd Cruz.

Alonzo and GMA have yet to publicly speak about Kuan's statements as of this writing.

Inquirer Entertainment also reached out to Chris Cahilig, Alonzo's interim manager, regarding the matter, but he declined to comment.

During the press conference, Kuan dismissed allegations that she was the reason why Alonzo's Spain wedding to businessman Vincent Co was canceled. She also slammed claims that Alonzo was supposedly her "cash cow."

"I find that very insulting. Parang tingin nila sa akin pulubi, na parang pag wala na si Bea sa akin magugutom na ako," Kuan said. "I just want to make this clear. Bea did not make me rich, nor will she make me poor. So stop calling her my cash cow."

Ivana Alawi defends relief operations in flooded area after backlash

Actress-content creator Ivana Alawi is clarifying the situation after drawing flak from her recent relief operation in a flooded area.

Alawi went viral anew last week after posting images of her overseeing relief efforts following heavy flooding around Luzon.

The content creator handed out cash and food to people lining up by a truck, which stopped in an ankle-deep flooded area.

Filipinos online called out Alawi after seeing in other videos and pictures that the truck could have stopped a bit further down where the road was not flooded, labelling the content creator as "performative" for choosing to conduct operations where it was flooded.

Alawi addressed the issue in the com-



ments section of another video she posted on social media, explaining that the truck had already broken down.

"Sa mga nagkakalat ng hate dahil bakit hindi sa tuyong area tumigil, sana alamin niyo din kung bakit nandoon sa gitna ng

baha ang truck natin, nasiraan ito at hindi na maka-andar ng bandang hapon," Alawi said.

While she and her companions were trying to fix the truck in order to move to a different area, the actress said people began lining up by the truck where it halted.

"Bumabalik lang din kami sa area kung

san natigil ang truck namin para makahakot din ng relief goods para madala sa ibang area," Alawi ended. "Sana ay maunawaan din ang buong situasyon bago tayo mang-husga."

AN EVENING WITH

JENIFER CAMACHO

Jenifer Forever

SEPTEMBER 19, 2026 | 7:00 PM
CHINESE CULTURAL CENTRE OF GREATER TORONTO
5183 SHEPPARD AVE. SCARBOROUGH

FOR TICKETS, PLS. SCAN THE QR CODE:

WVIP \$100 | REGULAR \$50 | GA \$35

PRESENTED BY

JP JOE PUREWAL
MORTGAGES

EVENT SPONSORS

‘Sa Gitna’ - Jennylyn Mercado bares the song she wants to teach her children

In an increasingly uncertain world, there is one song that Jennylyn Mercado wants her children – her daughter Dylan, in particular – to hear, it would be a track from her new album, “Jen Deluxe.”

“Sa Gitna” is part of the eight-track expanded album which she recorded under ABS-CBN’s Star Music. The song speaks of hope in moments of uncertainty and doubt, encouraging the listener to slow down and catch their breath when life gets tough.

“Yung message ng song na yon, tungkol sa pangarap ng isang tao na gusto nyang maabot, di sya sumusuko,” she said during the media launch of her album and music video. “Kumbaga, times are tough, times are very hard. Pero pagka hindi mo sinukuan ang buhay, sa dulo, matutupad ang lahat ng gusto mo mangyari sa buhay.”

Mercado said that as much as possible she would want to prepare her children for the future by cautioning them about getting used to the things that they enjoy now.

“Kaya yung mga bata, ngayon pa lang tinuturuan ko na sila na, ‘Hey, hindi pwede lahat ng gusto nyo, nandyan. Kailangan natin silang turuan na mabuhay ng normal na tao. Na matutong ma-experience kung gaano kahirap yung [mabuhay] sa mundo,” she said.

As a mother, she said she found the world to be more worrisome for her kids, especial-

ly her daughter, who might be exposed to violence while outside their home, among others.

“Lalo na nung nagkaroon ako ng girl (Dylan). Talagang yung pagka praning ko nadoble. Parang ang hirap, kase andaming nangyayari sa mundo. Like sa school pa lang e, may nagbabarilan, parang pano ka magkakaran ng peace of mind? Na ihatid mo sa pangalawang bahay (school), tapos ganun yung mangyayari sa eskwelahan. Nagiging cause ng depression, may mga pambully, mga nagbabarilan. So as much as possible, importante kung papano mo pinapalaki yung mga bata, maramdaman nila yung hirap para alam nila kung paano haharapin,” she said.

Aside from four-year-old Dylan, whom she shares with husband Dennis Trillo, she has a son named Alex Jazz who just recently turned 18 years old from a previous relationship.

Rebirth

The album is a sort of rebirth for Mercado as a singer. While acting remains a passion, for the singer-actress, coming back to music was just as normal as breathing.

“Syempre singing talaga. Kumbaga nasa DNA ko sya, di na sya mawawala. Yun ang first love ko, parte ng buhay ko. So very pas-

sionate ako pagdating sa music,” she said when asked to choose where her passion lies between acting and music.

Among the singers she would want to collaborate with are Regine Velasquez, Kyla and the bands of Freestyle and Side A. For this album, she worked with singer-songwriter Nar Cabico and record producer Jonathan Manalo, who is also the creative director for music of ABS-CBN.

Mercado previously released singles with two new and unreleased tracks that are “simply Jen,” denoting a more personal touch as she co-wrote some of the songs and was very hands-on during the production. She could not help but compare this with her past experience where she has little voice in the creative process.

“Nag enjoy ako na kasama ako sa creative process. Kase sa lahat ng mga album na ginawa ko the past few years, hindi gani to yung experience ko. Sinama nila ako sa pagbuo ng album, na napaka importante ng opinyon natin. Natutuwag ako na nabuop namin na solid yung kanta,” she said.

Other titles in the track list are the following: “Paulit Ulit Kang Pipiliin,” “Hihintayin Kita,” “Kung Nandito Ka Pa,” and “Hindi Pa Rin Sapat,” which have all been released.

The two new songs in the album are “Tutuloy Pa Ba?” and “Hindi Man Masabi.”

The album also boasts of different music genres which she said would resonate with every listener., but mostly “hugot” love songs.



‘kilig’ scenes with Elijah Canlas were a struggle - Kakie Pangilinan

While Frankie “Kakie” Pangilinan delivered in her movie debut “EDJOP,” she admitted that taking on the role came with its own challenges.

Although her character Joy Jopson had several heavy and dramatic scenes, Pangilinan revealed that it was the “kilig” or romantic moments with co-star Elijah Canlas that she found the most difficult to film. “Noong nag-workshop kami, unang napansin ni Direk—ako din eh, I never thought doon ako mahirapan. Na parang simpleng hug or ‘Can you boop her nose?’ And when he did, my whole body all of a sudden [cringes],” she recalled. “I did not think that part would be hardest to get over—and ang daming dramatic scenes and emotionally intense.” Pangilinan, however, clarified that she did not “cringe” because of Canlas, but was simply shy and not yet used to that kind of physical intimacy on screen.



“There was something in me na hindi sanay sa gano’n. Nahiya ako. Up until that point [kissing scene], conscious ako, sobra,” she said.

She eventually became more comfortable after developing a closer friendship with Canlas while working on the film. “You are a wonderful first husband on screen and is one of my best friends now. The first kiss we shot was on top of the hill, that was like dawn. After, kinuwento niya buong buhay niya after that and nawala na hiya,” she reasoned.

Also part of “EDJOP” are Jodi Sta Maria, Cedrick Juan, and Menchu Lauchengco-Yulo, among others.

Kaila Estrada cozies up to Daniel Padilla in Japan trip

Kaila Estrada appears to be more open about her relationship with Daniel Padilla, giving fans a glimpse of their recent Japan getaway with friends.

The actress posted on her Instagram a series of photos of them dining at a Japanese restaurant, riding a train, and attending the Summer Sonic Festival with friends.

Kaila and Daniel have not publicly confirmed their relationship, but they have been sharing photos of each other on social media. The two have also been spending time with each other’s families.

In June, Padilla attended the intimate 53rd birthday celebration of Kaila’s father, actor John Estrada.

Kakie Pangilinan on KC Concepcion: ‘Every family naman has conflict’

Kakie Pangilinan acknowledged that there is



Tony A. San Juan, OCT.

FILIPINO CANADIAN COMMUNITY EVENTS IN SEPT-OCT 2026

September 4-6. “37th NABA Tournament: Basketball and Volleyball”, hosted by NABA-Vaughan Bayanihan Athletic Association and Tourism Vaughan, City of Vaughan, Ontario.

September 5. 32nd Annual Dolorosa Fiesta Celebration”, by Dolores Quezon Association of Canada, at Our Lady of Fatima Church, 3170 St. Clair Avenue East, Scarborough, Toronto, starting at 6:00 pm. (Free Admission.)

September 5. “Andrew E” Concert, by Aptitude Entertainment, at Canada Event Centre, 300 Water Street, Whitby, Ontario (Gen. Admission \$88)

September 10. “Canada-Philippines Free Trade Agreement Community Trade Talks”, hosted by the Philippine Consul General in Toronto, together with Filipino-Canadian business organizations at the George Brown Polytechnic- Waterfront Campus, 10/F Limberlost Place, 51 Dockside Drive, Toronto, from 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

September 11-13. “Tuloy Canada Fair-Philfest Mississauga 2026: 15th Year Celebration”, presented by Kalayaan Filipino Cultural Organization, ABS-CBN Global, and Partners at Celebration Square, 300 City Centre Drive, Mississauga. Free Admission.

September 12. “September to Remember Dinner-Dance Party”, by the San Miguellenos Association-First Love Yourself Movement at Royal Canadian Legion, 100 Salome Drive, Scarborough, Toronto.

September 26. “ FCT Bazaar / Garage Sale Fundraiser Festival and Evening Bingo” by the Filipino Centre Toronto (FCT) from 10:00 am to 10 pm, 4395 Sheppard Avenue East, Scarborough, Toronto.

September 30. “Greater Toronto Area PLAs: OLP Leadership Candidates Town Hall in North York”, hosted by 8 Ontario Provincial Liberal Associations at Spring Garden Baptist Church, 53 Kenneth Avenue, North York. Doors Open: 6:00 PM, Begins: 7:00 PM. Early registration required.1-800-268-7250.

October 3. “ Itamu Naman Kapampangan Dinner Dance Party”, by Lugud Kapampangan Canada 2026, at Holy Rosary Parish Hall, 365 St. Clair Avenue West, Toronto, from 5:00 PM to 12:00 AM (\$35 ticket)

a strain in her relationship with half-sister KC Concepcion.

But she made one thing clear: she still loves her. “Every family naman has conflict, you know, and we’re working on it,” Kakie said in an interview with Ogie Diaz.

Kakie was asked about KC amid observations that they have not been in communication for quite some time.

She did not go into the details of what happened, choosing to keep some matters within the family. But she was candid about how she sees KC. “I love her very much. I love my sister very much and I think I can say I miss my sister very much,” Kakie said. She also pushed back against the idea that she treats KC differently because they are only half-sisters.

“Never ko pong naisip na half-sister ko siya,” she said, adding that while they are biologically half-sisters, she has

always considered KC her sister. Kakie also shared that even with the distance between them, KC remains part of the family in her mind. She recalled how she would include KC’s name whenever she ordered birthday cakes for her parents.

The distance, however, is real. Kakie admitted that they have not seen or spoken to each other for a long time.

She also made a distinction between having disagreements and having a full-blown family fight.

“Hindi naman porket disagreements automatic na fight or away na agad,” she said.

Kakie said there are also plenty of things being said about their family online that do not necessarily reflect what actually happened.

It remains to be seen whether KC will respond to Kakie’s first extended public remarks about their relationship.



Carney Stands Up to Trump in Trade War

NO DEAL from page 20

reservation point without making the no-deal alternative less costly.

The longer-term issue is whether Canada can make its alternatives more credible. Geography and integrated supply chains will keep the U.S. as Canada’s most important trading partner. Although Canada’s 15 free-trade agreements with 51 countries help, Canada needs infrastructure and businesses capable of reaching those markets.

There are some signs of progress. The Trans Mountain expansion helped increase the non-U.S. share of Canadian crude exports to 10.9

per cent in 2025, while LNG Canada’s Kitimat terminal now provides direct access to East Asian markets.

These routes cannot replace the U.S. market, but they make diversification — and Canada’s walkaway option — more credible.

That’s ultimately how Canada can turn its willingness to walk away into bargaining power. For Canada and other trade-dependent economies, success depends on preserving a route back to negotiation, limiting current damage and making the next walkaway less costly.

Gaayathri Dineshkumar, a research assistant and undergraduate student at MacEwan University’s Triffo School of Business, contributed to this article.

Candid CAMERA



Filipino Centre Toronto seniors painting club went on a day trip to Wendy & Paul Arena’s cottage at Rice Lake.

SCENES IN the City



1



2



3



Bicol Canada Community Association BCCA holds their annual picnic. 1. John Alix, Marvs Fuentes, BCCA President Earl Dacara; 2. Chess tournament; 3. Painting contest; 4. Jennifer Sy (3RD FROM RIGHT) & the ladies



4



Congratulations to the winners of the Seafood City Supermarket Mississauga Karaoke Idol 2026 Grand Finals!
1st Runner-up – KC Martinez
2nd Runner-up – Chloe Tionsong
3rd Runner-up – JM Mariano
Congratulations to all the finalists for sharing your incredible talent and passion on stage. You all delivered amazing performances and made the competition truly memorable!
A heartfelt thank you to Seafood City Mississauga for inviting me, MC Dong Sabanal, to be one of the judges alongside Sir Melchor Salazar and Councilor Alvin Tedjo. Congratulations to the winners and all the grand finalists, and keep chasing your dreams!

SHANNA from page 2

From Kitchener, Ontario, and proudly representing her Filipino roots in Lambayong, Sultan Kudarat and Pasig City, Shanna is a remarkable young woman whose journey reflects confidence, compassion, determination and purpose.

An incoming Grade 11 student, Shanna dreams of becoming a doctor and hopes to one day bring medical care to underserved communities and developing countries where access to healthcare is limited. At the heart of her ambition is a desire to help others while empowering young people to recognize their worth, embrace who they are and confidently pursue their dreams.

From earning academic awards



and excelling in mathematics to competing in track and field, participating in multiple school sports and serving on student council, Shanna has already demonstrated her dedication both inside and outside the classroom. Her pageant journey also comes full circle – having first competed in Little Miss Philippines Kitchener-Waterloo at just eight years old.

As Shanna begins her reign, we look forward to watching her grow, inspire and proudly represent Miss Teen Philippines Canada and the Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation (PCCF) through cultural, community and charitable initiatives throughout the year.

Congratulations, Shanna!

Your journey as Miss Teen Philippines Canada 2026 begins now. May you continue to use your crown with purpose and embody the heart of our Pageant with a Cause.



Juliet Tarac Cayetano, Fe Paca-Taduran, and Judith Gonzales of Toronto Kapuso Lions Club volunteers at Lions-CNE Peewee Baseball Tournament



Pop icon Debbie Gibson praises Filipino singers performing her song ‘Lost In Your Eyes’

American singer-songwriter Debbie Gibson was thrilled to witness a group of Filipinos enthusiastically singing her hit song “Lost in Your Eyes” during a karaoke session.

Debbie posted her reaction on Facebook, where she also tagged “The Voice Generations” finalist Fedrianne Quilantang Villanueva, one of the singers featured in the viral video.

“OMG my songwriter heart is so happy!

Chef’s Kiss Fedrianne Quilantang Villanueva and friends. Next time I’m in the Philippines. I wanna be invited to the party! But for now ... I’m crashing virtually,” Debbie wrote in her caption.

Fedrianne was thrilled by Debbie’s reac-



tion in the video. “WHHAATTTT!!! DEBBIE GIBSON??? THANK YOU SO MUCH,” Fedrianne wrote.

The heartwarming interaction thrilled Debbie’s fans, with many applauding the Filipinos’ rendition of the timeless hit and the singer’s warm reaction to their performance.

Released in 1989, the single from her best-selling album “Electric Youth” remains one of Debbie’s biggest hits and continues to be a Pinoy favorite.



Congratulations to MH Productions in-house Stage Director, Dhang Chan (FAR RIGHT) , and the proud parents of Hope, nurses Percival Tongson and Yayie Tongson, on receiving this well-deserved award from the IFCNA (Integrated Filipino Canadian Nurses Association)



Miss International 2013 Bea Santiago with Tony San Juan at PIDC Gala at Four Seasons Hotel Toronto on August 24, 2026.



MH Productions group Tresbella of Jewel, Nathalie, and Francesca performs at Taste of Manila TO



DK talent Chloe performs at Taste of Manila TO



Bicol Canada Community Association picnic on August 8, 2026 at Earl Bales Park , Toronto. Photo, L-R, Philippine Deputy Consul General Kerwin Tate, Philippine Park Assoc. President Rick Falco, Tony A San Juan and Bicol Canada President Earl Dacara.



Jewel Hing wins a merch by Kalamansi Collective signed by Apl de Ap. at the Bebot Dance Challenge for making it into the top 3.



Father and son Tony and Bob San Juan pose after receiving the NYCAA Lifetime Achievement Award and Plaque of Recognition, respectively on July 25, 2026



JDL kids Jeremiah and Laila, wins the Bebot Dance Challenge held at Seafood City on August 25. Here, they pose with judge Apl De Ap.



We offer complete dental care
& are accepting new patients.

General Dentistry:

Dr. Victoria Santiago

Dr. Joy Y. Ho

Dr. Amy Fan

Dr. Jennifer Chen

Dr. Damian Yung

Dr. Myra Caballero

Dr. Tamara Chau

Dr. Eric Yunsu Jang



Specialty Dentistry:

Dr. Ali Adibfar

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon

Dr. Abbasali Hassanali

Periodontist

Registered Dental Hygienist:

Raymond Echavez

Gayle Baylon

Call us to book your appointment

416-967-9272

Rosedale Medical Clinic
(Across Sherbourne TTC Station)
600 Sherbourne St. - Suite 307
Toronto
dr.vslu@bellnet.ca



Website now live
thefamilydentistry.ca



Nadine Lustre and Anne Curtis slam gov't after Kara David exposes Subic garbage crisis

Nadine Lustre and Anne Curtis slam government inaction over the shocking Subic forest dumpsite exposed in Kara David's documentary "Ibinasurang Paraiso."

What does it take to wake up the Philippine government? If the visual horror of a pristine forest turned into a mountain of trash isn't enough, you would think the combined social media firestorm of multi-awarded actress Nadine Lustre and multimedia superstar Anne Curtis would do the trick. Instead, we are left staring at a system so stubbornly broken that even the loudest voices in entertainment are shouting into a void.

The outrage began after an “i-Witness” documentary by veteran journalist Kara David titled “Ibinasurang Paraiso,” exposed a catastrophic open dumpsite hidden inside a forest reserve in Sbuic, Zambales, directly en-

What was once a lush ravine has been filled, truck by truck, year after year, with tons of unchecked garbage.

For the community living on the frontlines, the devastation is deeply personal.

“Parang nagagalit po na hindi ko po maintindihan ang sarili ko. Naawa din po ako sa lugar. Bakit ginagano po nila? Masakit po sa damdamin po, Ma’am. Napakasakit po sa puso ko.”

Horried by the footage, A-list celebrities took to social media, translating their shock into sharp, direct rebukes of public officials.

Nadine Lustre, long known for her hands-on environmental advocacy, did not hold back.

In a series of Instagram stories, [Laid Bare](#) laid bare her frustration for the AARP people and the sheer negligence surrounding the site.

"This is just heartbreaking," Lus began. "Such an injustice to the A people, their ancestral land, and environment. Panong di ka magalit?"

She praised the documentary bringing the issue to light, stating



“Props to Ms. Kara David for putting this to light!”

However, Lustre saved her sharpest sarcasm for the administration's systemic failure to manage the country's waste crisis.

“Nakakatawa nalang na 2026 na di pa rin natin alam ano gagawin sa mga basura natin. Mukha namang afford na natin gumawa ng proper disposal plan sa dami ng pera natin! Ay...oo nga pala,” she added, taking a deliberate swipe at national budget allocations and corruption.

Meanwhile, “It’s Showtime” host and global icon Anne Curtis echoed the frustration on X, urging for concrete structural reforms.

“On other news, kudos to mam @karadavid and the @IWitnessGMA team for exposing this. Nakakalungkot,” Curtis posted.

“Hopefully one day the government seeks a way to introduce waste to energy solutions in the country. But also

educate the people on proper waste management.”

This ecological disaster did not manifest overnight.

Do we dare?

For sure the blame sits squarely on negligent officials from the Department of Environment and Natural

Resources and the local government units of Zambales who possess direct oversight.

Why not?
How did fleets of garbage trucks enter a protected forest area for years without being flagged?

This is a textbook failure to enforce “Republic Act 9003,” pointing to either severe administrative incompetence or active collusion. Unscrupulous private waste contractors also treated an indigenous ancestral domain as a cheap shortcut to avoid the fees and regulations of proper sanitary landfills.

This brings us to a deeply frustrating truth: If mainstream media exposure and the combined reach of millions of celebrity followers cannot force public officials to do their basic jobs, what will?

LM confidential • LMc

You can also read LM Confidential (LMC) online!

LMconfidential.com

EMAIL: pleasurelife@email.com

The advertisement features three devices displaying the November 2020 issue of LM Confidential. The laptop screen shows the main headline "L is for Rabbit" by DepEd Online, a feature on Heaven Peralejo titled "Happy to be the lead in...", and a section on the Philippines starting national ID cards. The smartphone and tablet also display the same content, demonstrating the magazine's availability on multiple platforms. The background consists of blurred newspaper clippings.

Yeng Constantino says husband Victor doesn't get jealous of Ryan Bang

Yeng Constantino clarified that her husband, Victor “Yan” Asuncion, does not get jealous of Ryan Bang, whose past with the singer recently resurfaced following an emotional moment at her concert.

Constantino was asked during an ambush interview after the media conference for “The Voice Kids” on Friday, Sept. 4, in Quezon City, whether her husband minds that her and Bang’s courting history recently renewed attention online.

“Sana nga nagseselos eh,” she joked. “Hindi nya kasi personality. Talagang ano sya, very understanding. Kilalang kilala kasi ako ng asawa ko. Alam nya ‘yung pagkanta ko kay Ryan ay nangungulit lamang ako. Actually, mas nakaka-emphatize nga siya kay Ryan kaysa sa akin.”

Constantino said Asuncion and Bang are not close friends, but she hopes that one day, the three of them will get to hang out together.

The story stemmed from Constantino “Bi-yaheng Bente: 20th Anniversary Concert” on Aug. 28, where she serenaded Bang and recalled their “almost” romance from their early



years in show business.

Constantino previously revealed that she had a huge crush on Ryan but felt hurt when he stopped pursuing her.

Bang, for his part, explained that he thought the singer was not interested in him as he admitted that he was also “financially incapable” of dating someone at the time.

After the concert, Bang became emotional during the Sept. 2 episode of “It’s Showtime” while recalling his experience at Constantino’s concert.

He thanked Vice Ganda for bringing him to the show, saying it brought back good memories.

Bang, who has since become single following his split from former fiancée Paola Huyong earlier this year, wondered whether he would ever find someone like Constantino again.

Constantino said she did not expect her playful interaction with Bang at the concert to have such an emotional impact, noting that now she feels slightly regretful about singing to him.

“I was being playful. Hindi ko nga rin po alam ang naging resulta ng aking aksyon. At nag-cost nga na maungkat ang mga sugat. I’m really regretful din in a way. Siyempre nakita mo yung tao na may mga naalala siya. Nakasakit sa kanya. Masakit. Kasi ako, parang nagbibiro ako. Hindi ako nakapag-isip ng maayos to consider his feelings,” she said.

The “Chinito” singer noted that she had already reached out to Bang to apologize.

“Nag-message na po kami sa kanya. Talagang grabe ang sorry ko sa kanya. Ang haba po ng mga nobelang messages namin ni Ryan.

Patawarin nyo po ako. Sorry talaga. Hindi ko alam na ganito. And it was really vulnerable. I really apologized for triggering some memories or moments in life namin. I wasn’t very mindful also,” she said.

When asked about Bang’s remark that he hoped he would someday find someone like Constantino, the singer assured him that he would find love.

“Siyempre naman. Naku, makakahanap at makakahanap si Ryan. Hindi deserve ni Ryan na questionin niya ang kanyang worth,” she said.

“Sa pagkakakilala ko po kay Ryan, talagang napakabait po na tao. What a good man. God has perfect timing for everybody. He deserves to be loved, to be cared for, to be seen. He deserves all of that,” she expressed.

Meanwhile, Constantino is one of the new judges of “The Voice Kids,” alongside Gloc-9 and returning judge Julie Anne San Jose. The new season premieres on GMA on Sept. 13. /apl

Gerald Anderson-led series puts spotlight on Filipinos affected by West PH Sea issue

The lives and livelihoods of Filipinos living and working along the West Philippine Sea are at the center of “Pusong Bayani,” a new four-part online series featuring actor Gerald Anderson and other personalities.

The series takes Anderson, Pauline Amelinckx, Argel Saycon and Gifer Fernandez to coastal communities, where they meet fisherfolk, soldiers, families and other Filipinos whose daily lives are affected by developments in the disputed waters.

The first episode brings the group to Palawan, beginning at the Armed Forces of the Philippines-Western Command headquarters before heading to the Buena Vista coastal community.

Anderson, who is also a Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary captain, said the experience gave the cast



a closer look at how the maritime issue affects people beyond the political and diplomatic headlines.

“Nakita namin yung effect, how their daily lives,



their livelihood was directly affected by what’s happening in the West Philippine Sea,” he told Manila Bulletin.

He said the resilience of the communities they visited also stood out to him.

“Mataas pa rin yung morale nila. They keep fighting and striving every day. With their humor, their warmth, they keep going,” Anderson said.

For Anderson, “Pusong Bayani” is less about the headlines and more about the people living with their consequences. “Nakita namin yung effect, how their daily lives, their livelihood was directly affected by what’s happening in the West Philippine Sea,” he said.

The actor was also struck by the resilience of the fisherfolk and families they met. “Mataas pa rin yung morale nila. They keep fighting and striving every day. With their humor, their warmth, they keep going,” An-

derson said.

Amelinckx, a freediver and marine conservation advocate, focused on the environmental impact of the issue, saying she saw firsthand damage to the ocean floor



while also witnessing efforts by divers and fisherfolk to protect marine resources.

For Fernandez, the people featured in the series illustrate a form of heroism that does not necessarily involve extraordinary acts.

“Heroism is not always about doing something extraordinary,” he said. “It is about ordinary Filipinos who continue to be brave, resilient and hopeful despite the challenges they face every day.”

Anderson said he hopes the series will encourage viewers to regard the West Philippine Sea as a national issue.

“I hope they stop seeing this as someone else’s issue. Issue natin ‘to as a country,” he said.

“Pusong Bayani” is streaming on YouTube.

*Kung good deal ang
hinahanap ninyo,
Harold Guarin
ang tawagan n'yo...*



HAROLD GUARIN
Fleet & Leasing Manager
New & Used Sales
haroldg@roadsport.com

ROADSPORT LTD.
940 Ellesmere Rd. (NE Kennedy) Toronto Ontario M1P 2W8
416-291-9501
www.roadsport.com

Bad Credit? New Credit? Bankruptcy?
Divorced? Credit Counseling?

NO PROBLEM!!!

Come In And See More Choices Of Vehicles



Call Harold for Appointment
416-578-7351

CarProof
VEHICLE HISTORY REPORTS

HONDA
Certified
Used Vehicles



See Harold for details **All vehicles are plus \$10.00 omvic fee and HST, Licensing and \$40.00 gas extra. WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. PRICES MAY CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.



**2022 Honda HR-V LX
FROM \$21,990*



**2022 Honda Civic Sedan LX
FROM \$22,390*



**2024 Honda Civic Sedan EX Sunroof/
Carplay/Heated Seats FROM \$22,390*



**2019 Honda CR-V LX AWD
FROM \$22,990*

'First take, first kiss, first award': Christopher de Leon revisits debut film 'Tinimbang Ka Ngunit Kulang'



The Film Development Council of the Philippines launches Philippine Film Industry Month with the restored version of Lino Brocka's 1974 opus 'Tinimbang Ka Ngunit Kulang.' The film marked the movie debut of then 19-year-old Christopher de Leon, who went on to win the FAMAS Best Actor award for his performance. Among his co-stars was Hilda Koronel (left photo). Photo courtesy of FDCP and Allan Diones

Fifty-two years after "Tinimbang Ka Ngunit Kulang" launched his showbiz career, Christopher de Leon finally saw the film for the second time and revisited a string of acting firsts.

The 1974 Lino Brocka classic was his first movie. His very first scene took around nine takes. It gave him his first onscreen kiss, with actress and future director Laurice Guillen. And by the end of it all, the then 19-year-old newcomer walked away with his first-ever Best Actor award from FAMAS.

Christopher, along with direkt Laurice, graced the special screening of the 4K digitally restored version of "Tinimbang Ka Ngunit Kulang" at the Red Carpet Cinema in Shangri-La Plaza. The restoration was made possible through the joint efforts of the Film Development Council of the Philippines' Philippine Film Archive and L'Imagine Ritrovata, in partnership with Carlotta Films and Janus Films/The Criterion Collection.

Presented as the opening film of the FDCP's Philippine Film Industry Month celebration, "Tinimbang Ka Ngunit Kulang" also kicked off the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Philippine cinema's Second Golden Age led by FDCP chair Jose Javier Reyes.

"This was my first movie. First of all, dito po ako nanalo ng first Best Actor award," he said.

"And in this movie, I had to audition. I had to, you know, take up classes — acting lessons, breaking down

scripts, voice lessons. And during this, while filming, we were doing 'Godspell' (stage production) all at the same time. That's where I got all my knowledge about acting, I mean, being an actor."

Though he had acting pedigree — actor-turned-director Gil de Leon and LVN star Lilia Dizon being his parents — Christopher, nevertheless, regarded "Tinimbang Ka Ngunit Kulang" as the beginning of his own journey in showbiz.

"So, this was the start of my movie career and my entertainment career, and I thank God for that.

"Maraming salamat sa Diyos at ginawa Niya akong — you know, I come from a family of actors. But yun na nga, salamat sa Diyos at ginawa Niya akong isang artista. At hanggang ngayon, patuloy pang gumagawa ng pelikula."

In retrospect, it was quite the initiation for the teenager as he was surrounded by some of Philippine cinema's finest artists.

He could still remember his very first scene, which had him acting opposite acting greats Lolita Rodriguez and Mario O'Hara, who also co-wrote the screenplay with Brocka.

"This is, for me, at that time, mind-blowing. Ang first take ko dito... What? Eight, nine? Ang ka-eksena mo, Lolita Rodriguez, Mario O'Hara. Oh no! Oh no!" he recalled, laughing.

"So I was like, wow! Take nine yata yun. And after that, nagtuluy-tuloy na. They guided us. Lino guided me. Lolita guided me. Mario (also)."

His character Junior is a privileged student gradually confronted by the hypocrisy, cruelty and prejudice beneath the supposedly respectable surface of his small provincial town. Increasingly disillusioned with the people around him, he befriends the community's outcasts, Kula (Rodriguez), a mentally ill woman, and Berto (O'Hara), a man disfigured by leprosy.

According to Christopher, the film exposed a society's hypocrisy.

"Ang pelikulang ito ay makabuluhan. Ang tinatalakay ng pelikulang ito ay tungkol sa sort of a hypocrisy of the society," he said.

He pointed to a church scene, wherein churchgoers skipped the priest's homily to smoke and engage in idle and lewd talk outside.

"Yung mga makikita ninyo sa isang eksena ditong mga nagsisimba. Pero pagka-homilya na, yung mga lalaki nasa labas, nagkukuwentuhan. Yung mga babae, nagtitsismisan."

He also couldn't forget Rodriguez's restrained performance, from her expression to the single tear that fell as her character Kula appeared to have regained her senses and recognized Junior, just before dying.

"Lolita was very good. Very sad dun sa... nung namatay siya," he said.

"And then her expression, all the time, she was maintaining her character — glassy eyes, teary-eyed. And then sa last... parang she became lucid again... sabi niya, 'Junior.'"

He was equally struck by Brocka's staging of the film's final scene, where Junior emerges carrying Kula and Berto's newborn child and walks through the towns-



Christopher (rightmost) receives a commemorative poster of 'Tinimbang Ka Ngunit Kulang' from FDCP chairperson and CEO Jose Javier Reyes (leftmost), alongside Antonia Gabriella Brocka, grandniece of the film's late director and National Artist Lino Brocka; actress Laurice Guillen; and Sonia Roco, widow of the film's executive producer (CineManila), the late Sen. Raul Roco.

people.

"The last scene was like parting of the sea," he said. "It was the director's prerogative, the director's way of doing what he wants to emphasize."

Even the way the townspeople stood almost motionless bore meaning.

"Maski na iyong mga taong hindi gumalaw, yung symbolism, nandun."

Another scene that stood out for him was his first kissing scene with Laurice. The latter played Milagros, a

college girl and the illegitimate daughter of the town's mayor.

"Ang kaeksena ko, ang ka-kissing scene ko... here in this movie, si Madam Laurice Guillen. Sa bowlingan. Sa madilim na bowlingan," he said.

After watching the restored movie, he said he and direkt Laurice laughed over that bowling-alley intimate scene all over again.

"Kanina nagtatawanan kami," he told reporters after the screening.

But his nerves at that time of the shoot, he admitted, were a different story.

"My nerves were shaking then. But natapos namin and ang ganda naman lumabas."

He, likewise, described Laurice as someone who was reserved off-camera but completely focused once a scene began.

"She was very reserved. She was very quiet before, you know. You don't hear her too much behind the camera. She's intense. She's into it, in character. Pag sinabi mong trabaho na, in character na siya. I was, like, intimidated," he recalled.

"Doing a love scene, my first kissing scene with her, my first kissing scene onscreen. Grabe!"

The screening proved to be a rare opportunity for Christopher to see the entire film again.

He said the last time he watched it was "50-plus years ago."

"Second time ko lang napanood," he further stressed, while also noting how many of the people who worked on the film were no longer around.

More than feeling "nostalgic," Christopher felt a renewed appreciation of the film.

"Ganda pala (nito)," he said, sharing also that what he saw in his younger performance was "minimalism."

He further recalled learning on the job by simply watching how Brocka and the actors would "attack their scenes."

Looking back, Christopher could only be grateful for the guidance they gave him as he found footing in the film that started it all for him.

"Nagpapasalamat ako. They were very cooperative and they were teaching me," he said.

Jose Mari Chan reveals the heartwarming story behind “Christmas in Our Hearts”

Just like that, we’ve already arrived in the “Ber” months!

It may not be a big deal elsewhere, but here in the Philippines, September means one thing: Christmas has officially started! Even though Christmas decors are not yet up, we’re already feeling the Christmas spirit as OPM legend and “King of Philippine Christmas Carols” Jose Mari Chan once again makes frequent appearances, while his iconic hit “Christmas in Our Hearts” can be heard everywhere, over and over again, having become an integral part of our annual Yuletide tradition.

But have you ever wondered how the all-time favorite Christmas song among Pinoys came to be? The legendary hitmaker shared

the wonderful story behind it, as well as anecdotes from his personal life and his decades-long entertainment career, during his guesting in the season finale episode of the ABS-CBN Studios online Bisaya talk show “Kuan on One” released on September 1.

Jose Mari, who asked host Melai Cantiveros not to address him as “sir,” but rather as “Toto”—an affectionate Ilonggo nickname for boys or men—or Joe Mari, revealed that it all happened in 1989, three years after he and his family returned to the Philippines in 1986 following an 11-year stay in New York City, USA.

It all began when Universal Records executive Bella Tan—whose father, James Dy, produced his song “Deep In My Heart” in

1969—asked him to come up with a Christmas song to take advantage of the immense popularity of the love songs they’d just released, including “Beautiful Girl” and “Be Careful With My Heart.”

Having never written a Christmas song before, Jose Mari recalled seeking divine guidance to help him come up with one. He recounted to Melai, “So, overnight, I prayed to the Holy Spirit. I said, ‘Please, bless me and inspire me to write a Christmas song.’”

Apparently, Jose Mari must have quite a strong connection with the Lord because, the very next day, it seemed that his prayer had already been answered. Although it happened decades ago, he could still vividly recall that it took place on a Sunday after he and his fami-

ly attended Mass.

As they were leaving, a young girl approached their car and introduced herself as Rina Cañiza, a budding songwriter. Rina confidently expressed her desire to collaborate with him on a song someday and handed him a card containing her address and phone number.

“I went home and remembered I was praying for God to inspire me to write a Christmas song. Baka this was His answer,” he recalled, to which Melai eagerly agreed. “So, I called her and she came to the house and I gave her a melody and together we completed the lyrics to ‘Christmas in Our Hearts.’”

Apart from the classic hit, Jose Mari revealed that he has 21 other Christmas songs,



which he enumerated for Melai. He even promised to send her the albums where those songs are featured so that she and her family could play them every Christmas.

As Melai remarked on how the Christmas songs he had written have grown close to people’s hearts through the years and have continued to make them feel the spirit of Christmas whenever they hear them, the 81-year-old hitmaker, who was born and raised in Iloilo City, couldn’t be more grateful to God.

“Thank God for that. Thank God. It’s a gift that God has given me and I always acknowledge that,” he stated.

With “Christmas in Our Hearts” and his other Yuletide compositions among the songs massively played by Pinoys during the season, the media has crowned him the “King of Philippine Christmas Carols.” However, Jose Mari still finds it difficult to accept the title because he doesn’t want to take away the spotlight or credit from the True Reason for the Season.

“Because the real spirit of Christmas should be on our Lord Jesus Christ. Because He’s the meaning of Christmas. I’m only singing the Christmas carols to celebrate His season. But He is the most important, not me. I’m just a minstrel,” he said. He also reminded everyone that the spirit of Christmas lies in giving and sharing, encouraging people to share their blessings with those in need and mend broken relationships because life is short.

While Pinoys love his works so much, did you know that Jose Mari actually doesn’t like his songs to be played at home while their family celebrates Christmas? Instead, he disclosed that they listen to music by other artists, such as Ray Conniff and Percy Faith. Moreover, he has never dared to ask any of his nine grandchildren about their reactions to his songs, as he feels embarrassed and lacks confidence in his own creations.

Despite this, he still gets to sing Christmas songs with his children since their family loves music. He has even recorded a song with one of his granddaughters.

When asked by Melai what he’s looking forward to this Christmas, he said, “I look forward to reparation of relationships among my friends because there are broken relationships. So, it is my hope that they will mend their relationships.”

Jose Mari further showed his selflessness through his Christmas wish, which he dedicated neither to himself nor to his family, but to his fellow kababayans.

“My Christmas wish for my country is for the upliftment of our people because I’m still bothered when I see that there’s still a lot of poor people around us. So, I’m doing my part, but I wish that everyone will do his part also to uplift the country. I don’t want to see poverty anymore in this country,” he shared, then added, “The best, of course, is education. Each Filipino deserves education in their life to uplift their [own selves].”

Jose Mari also imparted valuable advice to young people and families. He conveyed, “For the family, spend as much time with your parents because, as I said—I don’t want to sound like a broken record—your parents will not be with you forever. Someday, you will look back and regret that you should have spent more time with your parents. Listen to their stories. Even if they repeat the same stories, listen to them. Learn from their stories and ask them for advice. They’ll feel important.”

The season 5 finale episode of “Kuan on One” wrapped up with Melai asking Jose Mari to wish viewers a “Merry Christmas” as early as now. He willingly obliged, expressing, “I want to wish every single Filipino a very blessed Christmas and may the spirit of Christmas be always in your hearts.”



FAMILY DENTISTRY

DR. V. SANTIAGO & ASSOCIATES



We offer complete dental care & are accepting new patients

General Dentistry:

Dr. Victoria Santiago

Dr. Joy Y. Ho

Dr. Amy Fan

Dr. Jennifer Chen

Dr. Damian Yung

Dr. Myra Caballero

Dr. Tamara Chau

Dr. Eric Yunsu Jang

Specialty Dentistry:

Dr. Ali Adibfar

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon

Dr. Abbasali Hassanali

Periodontist

Registered Dental Hygienist:

Raymond Echavez

Gayle Baylon

Call us to book your appointment

416-967-9272

Rosedale Medical Clinic
(Across Sherbourne TTC Station)
600 Sherbourne St. - Suite 307
Toronto
dr.vslu@bellnet.ca

Website now live
thefamilydentistry.ca





