

## Record number of applicants in Quebec election



Coalition Avenir Quebec (CAQ) leader Francois Legault (L), Liberal leader Jean Charest (2nd L), Parti Quebecois leader Pauline Marois (2nd R), and Quebec Solidaire co-leader Francoise David, pose before a Quebec leaders' debate in Montreal August 19, 2012. Quebec voters will go to the polls in a provincial election on September 4.

MONTREAL - There are greens and defenders of the middle class, people running for the right to smoke dope and people urging you to go to the polls for the express purpose of spoiling your ballot.

A record number of candidates are vying for your vote in the Quebec election Sept. 4 — 894 candidates from 19 different political parties.

According to Elections Québec, only 651 candidates ran in the 2008 election.

The political heavyweights — Coalition Avenir Québec, the Liberals and the Parti Québécois — have a full slate of 125 candidates. Québec solidaire has 124 candidates and Option nationale has registered 121.

There are also 67 people ready to represent the ecologically minded Green Party of Quebec.

Some brave individuals, such as Yvan Rodrigue from Parti equitable and Robert Genesee from Québec Révolution démocratique, are running as solo candidates.

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Canada's Ryan Cochrane swims to 1,500m freestyle silver, see page 5



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Paul's Driving School get together party held on August 11, 2012, see page 12

## First Filipino to run for MNA

By W. G. Quiambao

Angely M. Pacis recalled that when she was a young girl, her mother asked her what she would like to be someday. Without hesitation, she replied, "I'd like to be the Prime Minister of Canada."

With her impressive education, experience and determination, her dream might come true. That's why she's running to become a Member of the National Assembly under the political party led by Francois Legault, Coalition Avenir Quebec, the CAQ which translates to "the Coalition for the Future of Quebec," in the electoral riding of Notre-Dame-de-Grace (NDG) on September 4, 2012.

Caroline Desrosiers, principal lawyer at CD Legal law firm, said, "Attorney Pacis is a passionate and devoted person. She has been involved for several years with immigrants of all cultures, helping them on a legal perspective to be able

to say Canada is truly their home. She really represents what the CAQ is all about, reaching out to every citizen of Quebec who wants Quebec to be run properly, and she definitely has the courage to stand up for her convictions. She really wants to make a difference in people's lives and I truly believe she would do the same as an MNA."

Some of the educational qualifications of Pacis, who was born and raised in Ontario, are as follows:

In May 2012, she completed her Juris Doctorae (J.D.) in Common Law and last May 2009 her LL.B in Civil Law, both at the Université de Montréal. This diploma qualifies her to write the Ontario and New York Bar licensing exams. She passed her Quebec Bar Exams administered by the Barreau du Québec, in Montreal

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Attorney Angely M. Pacis

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# Editorial

## Are people well informed about election issues?

Perhaps, it can be agreed that of all provincial elections, this coming one seems to have a great importance to the future of the whole country. Unlike elections in other provinces, it is only the election in Quebec that seems to have this kind of an impact over the economic and political life of a country like Canada.

For more than half a century, the sovereignty issue has always been in people's minds. Although it was relatively out of the limelight since the Liberals took over, the lingering worry over Quebec's status of becoming a separate country produces such an anxiety and instability that it should not be taken lightly. It is evidently important for every voter to know the issues and the repercussions of putting the wrong party in power. It can no longer be said that all politicians are alike - they promise everything but deliver nothing. Cynicism will not secure our future, but being well informed and objective about the real issues will be more rational.

There are apparently three major issues that are being debated: sovereignty, economy, corruption, and a variety of related issues to these major ones. How do these issues affect each and everyone? It is certainly difficult to gauge the extent of harm that an allegation of corruption in the construction industry can have in our everyday life. Although we can easily see that corruption is something we would not want to have in anyway, it may not be as harmful as having political instability that certainly affects the economy. Moreover, corruption has not yet taken deeper roots in government. It can be easily revealed by the vigilance of the press and other measures of control in our democratic institutions. On the other hand, the economy seems to have an overriding effect on people's lives. The political uncertainty that a referendum will bring has a negative effect on our future. Do we want to live in a united Canada, or in a separate country called Quebec? This election will probably decide this choice for us and if we do not think through all the issues more seriously, we may regret our failure to elect those who will represent our interests. Since there are three major parties vying to control the government, we would like to focus on their individual platforms.

Pauline Marois' PQ party plans to ban non-French speakers from running for office at the local and provincial level, if they do not pass a

French proficiency test. Citizens would be prevented from displaying religious symbols, other than the crucifix, which according to her is a cultural, not a religious symbol. Young people from a French-speaking background who have finished high school would not be allowed to attend English-language CEGEPS (community colleges). A charter of secularism would be put into place; and a referendum on separating from Canada would be held if just 15 per cent of the population signed a petition calling for one.

The CAQ leader, François Legault, has been reported to be wary of making strong pronouncements about the sovereignty or separation issue. He promised to guarantee a 10-year moratorium on the question. What happens after 10 years, if the party is still in power, is not known. Legault also wants to lower taxes, take on unions, streamline the government of Montreal, lengthen the school day, abolish school boards and make inmates pay room and board. Some observers pointed out that some of his proposals are not solutions to the problems facing Quebec but they may create other problems. For example, lengthening the school day is not based on a sound educational policy. Streamlining the unions may cause social unrest.

Critics of Jean Charest's Liberals are focusing on the length of his mandate and the corruption discovered to be prevalent in the construction industry. They also mentioned that his proposal to extend the powers of Bill 101 to federally controlled institutions like banks is a sign that he is attacking the English minority in Quebec and courting the favor of Francophones. Charest's party has put forth the "Plan Nord" to use Quebec's natural resources and create 250,000 jobs. He promises to improve the economy of Quebec.

There are only a few days left to study all of the issues. How well the voters understand them will determine how much they believe each leader. We hope that people will have the ability to search for more information before they make up their minds. Social peace and economic prosperity will only be brought about by the right combination of people who will represent us for the next four years. Let us all reflect on the issues and vote wisely on September 4.

Zenaida Ferry Kharroubi

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

July 30, 2012

Dear editor:

RE: Responding constructively to Canadian firefighters

When you dial 911 to get help in an emergency, you fully expect a quick response.

In the vast majority of cases - from traffic accidents to heart attacks, from hazardous spills to burning buildings - the first to the rescue will be firefighters. People's lives depend on them and they put their lives at risk for the rest of us every day.

For several years, Canada's firefighters have been asking three simple things from the Government of Canada. They deserve a decent response. That's why I've introduced Private Member's Motion M-388 in the House of Commons. It comes up for debate and a vote this fall.

On average, 18 firefighters die in the line of duty every year. But there is nothing in place to help provide for their families if they are killed or become permanently disabled while on the job keeping Canadians safe. So Motion M-388 proposes a one-time \$300,000 benefit for firefighters (and for other "public safety officers") who perish or become disabled.

In their work as "first responders" during public health emergencies, like influenza pandemics, firefighters will often come into contact with infected individuals. Like doctors, nurses and other front-line health workers, they need priority access to vaccines and other medications to keep them as safe as possible in the line of duty. Federal guidelines don't

currently provide for this. Motion M-388 corrects that defect.

Finally, while most people get out of burning buildings as fast as possible, a firefighter's job can be the exact opposite. To save lives, they sometimes need to run right into the teeth of a blaze. Certain building materials and techniques can result in fires burning faster and hotter, thus endangering firefighters' lives, especially during search-and-rescue operations. Motion M-388 calls for firefighter safety to become an objective of the National Building Code.

These are three modest proposals. They respond to thoughtful, rational requests coming from Canadian firefighters. Please encourage YOUR Member of Parliament to support Motion M-388 - to help look after the courageous firefighters who look after all of us in times of emergency.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Ralph Goodale, PC, MP

Deputy Leader, Liberal Party of Canada

**Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future**

John F. Kennedy

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# PQ would ban non-French speakers from running for office

**Aboriginal people, anglophones and allophones could be affected**

The Canadian Press  
 Aug 21, 2012 8:28 PM ET Anyone wanting to run for public office in a Quebec led by Pauline Marois will have

The latest language proposal could potentially have its greatest impact in aboriginal communities. Kitty Gordon, a spokeswoman



**Pauline Marois says anglophones, allophones and aboriginal people would be forbidden from seeking municipal or provincial office unless they have an appropriate knowledge of French. (Francis Vachon/Canadian Press)**

to prove they can speak French first, the Parti Quebecois leader said as she announced her latest language-related campaign promise Tuesday.

The PQ leader said anglophones, allophones and aboriginal people will be forbidden from seeking municipal or provincial office unless they have an appropriate knowledge of French.

Marois said the idea is reasonable, given that French is the official language of Quebec.

"We will present this bill but it is not just for new Quebecers — it is for everyone," Marois said during a campaign stop on Tuesday in Montreal. "All Quebec citizens who want to be elected as a mayor or a councillor, as a member of the legislature, must have a knowledge of French."

Without that ability, a person could not be a candidate in elections, participate in the public financing of political parties or petition the legislature to address grievances. 'Common language here is French'

"In the case of anglophones, be it a native or a new arrival, listen, the common language here is French," Marois said. "Is there anyone who can imagine not knowing it?"

Marois has said during the campaign for the Sept. 4 election that she would toughen Quebec's language laws if the PQ takes power, and introduce a Quebec citizenship.

for Makivik Corp., which oversees resource development of Quebec's north, expressed outrage at the PQ plan.

"I think it's kind of ridiculous for anglophones and aboriginals," she said in a telephone interview.

"Are they saying that the Quebecers were here first so that's why we have to speak French? It's like saying the Inuit were here first so you all have to speak Inuktitut."

Few aboriginal leaders speak French. She says few community leaders currently speak French, although there are an increasing number of young people who do so.

"The older generation, the leaders of today, only speak English and Inuktitut but the younger generation like myself, I speak French, I went to school in French up north in Nunavik starting from kindergarten," Gordon said.

"But the students today, whether you're French, white or any other race, if you go to school in Nunavik, you must go to school in Inuktitut for the first three years and then you choose whether to go in English or French."

She says language has never been a barrier to negotiations in the resource-rich area — which is the hub of increasing mining activity in the

See Page 22 PQ would ban



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From Page 1 First Filipino

last May 2010 and completed her articles with one of Quebec's pioneering Aboriginal lawyers, Peter W. Hutchins. Prior to entering into law studies, Pacis graduated with a Diploma in Journalism at Concordia University and was a journalist who covered two United Nations conferences - the UN Word Conference Against Racism in 2002 and the UN Special Session on Children's Rights in 2002. In the summer of 1995, while she was still in high school, Pacis was accepted at Harvard University, Massachusetts, to participate in the Advanced Placement Program. At Harvard, Pacis successfully completed courses in Government (International Studies) and Philosophy.

Pacis' work experience is as vast as her educational background. Some of them are as follows: From 2011 to the present day, she is practicing Immigration and Civil Law with her own office. In particular, she has represented Filipino caregivers and has a strong practice helping immigrants secure temporary and permanent resident status in Canada, family reunification, business and investor stream applications, and immigration border issues. As for her Civil Law practice, it includes Employment Law, Tenant and Landlord Rights and the representation of small businesses.

Pacis has a special advocacy mission to serve Ethno cultural (i.e., les nouveaux arrivants) immigrant and Filipino community in Montreal. Her law office offers qualifying clients a special access to justice advocacy policy to ensure affordable, high-quality legal representation. From January 2008 to January 2011, as a law clerk then later as a lawyer, she worked for Peter W. Hutchins, one of Quebec's pioneering lawyers specializing in Aboriginal & Constitutional Law. Her responsibilities included firm administration, legal research and analysis, legal drafting, support on legal opinions, litigation, dispute resolution and representing the firm at the Specific Claims Tribunal & Practitioner roundtable.

With regards to entering politics, Pacis' husband, Michael Citrome, also a lawyer, had a colleague who was an organizer for the CAQ. He suggested that Pacis run as a candidate to be a Member of the National Assembly at the next provincial election. It didn't take long for her to accept the offer.

"NDG is a natural choice for me because my husband grew up there and lived there for most of his life. Moreover, my mother-in-law has lived in NDG for over 60 years," said Pacis.

The CAQ's five priorities are:

1. Fight corruption and re-establish integrity in Quebec institutions

2. Improve the quality and management of Health Care
3. Re-launch Quebec's economy
4. Heighten the quality and sustainability of secondary and post-secondary education
5. Celebrate and promote language and culture

Pacis confessed that she is running for public office because she is tired of the Liberals' and PQ's use of tactics that divide the Quebec people instead of uniting them. "They keep using the language issue to divide the people and to garner more support and votes from one side or another."

"We should set aside the sovereignty issue and we should move on," Pacis said. "We should make Quebec a prosperous, cohesive province."

Pacis also states, "The reason why I joined the CAQ is that it has a genuine intention to unite the people from various backgrounds and religions. My eyes have seen the efforts of the party. Their intentions are positive and constructive."

"The party isn't separatist and I'm a staunch Federalist. In fact, when I was a young high school student in Ontario, I protested against the separation of Quebec from Canada, because simply, my Canada includes Quebec and now, my Quebec must take its place within a united and strong Canada."

Before entering law, Pacis decided to take journalism and covered stories on immigration, the integration of new Canadians and racism. She studied the problems of immigrants and non-immigrants.

Pacis has a special and concrete connection with the Filipinos of Montreal. She is the advisor to the Board of Directors of the Filipino Nurses Association of Quebec. In addition, one of her present objectives is to introduce herself and participate in projects led by the Philippine Benevolent and Scholarship Society of Quebec.

"I've been making humanitarian and compassionate representations in immigration files, on behalf of the Filipinos," said Pacis. "I've also fought employers' abuse of Filipino domestic workers, whether the employer be Filipino or not, within the community."

Her wish and dream for the Filipinos in Montreal is that she wants the Filipinos to integrate into Canada, in the best way possible, so that they can fulfill their own dreams to be happy and successful.

"My personal goal is to make sure that young Filipinos have a good role model," said Pacis. "I want them to continue in their schooling and get a higher education."

From Page 1 Quebec Elections

Other small parties include the Bloc Pot, staunch defenders of decriminalization of cannabis with two candidates.

The Parti Nul, running 10 candidates, encourages you to voice your disappointment in the system and spoil your ballot, while raising awareness that 1.5 per cent — or approximately 50,000 Quebecers — "reject" their ballots each election.

The Middle Class Party, led by Jean Lavoie, has seven candidates. It bills itself as the party for voters who recognize themselves as "the silent, tax-paying majority."

## Charest attacks Legault's about-face on sovereignty

Allan Woods

Quebec Bureau Chief

MONTREAL—Coalition Avenir Québec leader François Legault has an "expiration date" on his commitment to Canada, says provincial Liberal leader Jean Charest.

Speaking in a face-to-face debate Tuesday night, the incumbent premier said what the province needs is a consistent leader with convictions who will make Quebec's case with the federal government and other provinces within Canada.

"Who do you want? A federalist or a sovereigntist?" Charest asked, referring to Legault's long past within the Parti Québécois as a senior minister who was among those most ardently arguing for independence.

Legault now says he would vote "No" in a third referendum and thinks that the question of independence should be put on hold for a decade.

"Those who want to be the premier of Quebec have to have convictions," Charest said.

The Liberal leader questioned what type of agreements a CAQ government would sign with the federal government, suggesting Legault's about-face on sovereignty puts an "expiration date" on any promises he is making. "It doesn't make sense," Charest said.

The CAQ leader began this election with a third-place party. The introduction of high-profile candidates like anti-corruption investigator Jacques Duchesneau, the former Montreal police chief, gave his party an early burst of attention and support. The CAQ has also made gains with its headline-grabbing populist promises to introduce a sweeping ethics law, force family doctors to take on more patients and drastically cut spending by making

Forty-six candidates are running as independents.

According to Elections Quebec, 23 per cent of the candidates are between 50 and 59 years old, and 21 per cent of the candidates 30 to 39 years old.

The youngest candidates are student-leader-turned-PQ-candidate Léo Bureau-Blouin and Liberal Marc-Antoine Trudel, who are both 20.

Women make up 28.1 per cent of the candidates. Quebec Solidaire is officially the party with the most women in its ranks at 49.2 per cent.

An entire list of candidates and more information for each constituency can be found at [monvote.qc.ca](http://monvote.qc.ca).

services more efficient.

The Coalition has now bypassed the Liberals among francophone voters. The next task on Legault's agenda is to pick up support among English-speaking Quebecers and other federalists who would normally vote for Charest's party.

Legault said he would take better steps to defend Quebec's language, culture and identity, contrary to what he said was the Liberal record.

Charest's government had been "federalist at any price" over the last nine years, the CAQ leader said.

If the CAQ forms the government on Sept. 4, Legault said, "All the decisions will be made in the interest of the Quebec nation."

The idea of a CAQ victory on election date is becoming less of a far-fetched idea as the election campaign moves in to the home stretch.

On Tuesday morning, Legault awoke to an endorsement from the unlikely of camps.

A longtime Liberal party organizer, Jean-Paul Boily, published an open letter in Le Soleil, urging federalist Quebecers to vote for Legault's CAQ in order to prevent the Parti Québécois from taking power.

"Voting Liberal in the next election would, for me, be a wasted vote that will do nothing but divide the federalist vote and help those who want independence," Boily wrote.

"The Quebec Liberal party has no chance of forming the next government, so I would rather give my support to the Coalition Avenir Québec, which espouses many of my political opinions and will bring a new vision and ideas to our society. It's better than having the old quarrels proposed by the PQ."



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## Canada's Ryan Cochrane swims to 1,500m freestyle silver

Victoria swimmer earns second career Olympic medal

By Tony Care, CBC Sports

Posted: Aug 4, 2012 3:10 PM ET

Four years of training paid off for Canada's Ryan Cochrane.

Since winning bronze four years ago in Beijing, Cochrane's main motivation for the London Olympics was to swim his best ever time — and to win a medal, of course.

The Canadian accomplished both those things. The Victoria swimmer captured silver in the men's 1,500-metre final on Saturday in London, finishing in a time of 14 minutes 39.63 seconds. It was his best time since clocking a 14:40.84 during the preliminaries of the 1,500m in Beijing.

China's Sun Yang, the 2011 world champion, broke his own world record after finishing in 14:31.02, lowering his time by more than three seconds. Tunisia Oussama Mellouli, the 2008 Olympic gold medallist, reached the last podium spot in 14:40.31.

Cochrane, along with Sun and Park Tae-hwan of South Korea, was actually under world-record pace during the first portion of the race.

"It's a double-edge sword because I wanted to be vying for that world record," said Cochrane. "I wanted to be five seconds faster. I think I did underestimate how hard the mental side of this meet would be."

Smart move

Cochrane made a wise decision not to try and keep up with the remarkable Sun, who beat the Canadian by more than 10 seconds at the world championships. Instead, he decided to focus solely on the charging Mellouli because he knew Park, who finished a distant fourth, would eventually fade.

The 23-year-old worked well within the framework of his game plan, displaying great endurance throughout the grueling race. As the swimmers headed toward the last 100 metres and the final bell rang — the area of the race which Cochrane calls the "Bell of Angels" — the Canadian was in strong enough form to hold off Mellouli.

"It was a tough fight the last 100 metres," Cochrane said. "I was going to fight, probably to the death, to make sure he didn't get his hand on the wall first."

CBC Sports swimming expert



Ryan Cochrane of Canada shows off his silver medal from the men's 1,500-metre freestyle event on Saturday in London. (Frank Gunn/Canadian Press)

Byron MacDonald explains that Cochrane was better prepared to handle Mellouli than in their first Olympic confrontation at the Beijing Olympics.

"The great ones learn," MacDonald said of Cochrane. "Really it was all about Mellouli and Ryan. Four years ago at the two-thirds mark of the race, Mellouli made a move and Ryan didn't respond. Mellouli went by him and went on to win the gold medal."

"This time at the two-thirds mark, Ryan had a little bit bigger lead and when Mellouli started to move, Ryan didn't let him. In the last 25 metres Mellouli put on a furious charge and tried to close that half of body length [lead] and he only got to a quarter, and Ryan was able to out-touch him. Four years ago, Ryan didn't know how to do that. Now he knows how to do it and that's why he got the

silver medal over Mellouli."

It was the second medal in the pool for Canada — the most since three were earned at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics. Mission, B.C., native Brent Hayden took home a bronze medal in the men's 100m freestyle on Wednesday.

Disaster nearly buried Sun before the event began. With the swimmers on the blocks, the starter directed the competitors to "stand down," causing a confused Sun to dive into the pool.

Some anxious moments ensued as Sun was waiting to see if he would be disqualified. Fortunately, the referee gave the Chinese star a second chance.

"I could not hear the judge because there was noise in the venue," Sun said through an interpreter. "I thought I was going to be disqualified. I have done well because I was in very good shape. I really wanted this gold medal."

Sun also won a gold medal in the men's 400m freestyle on the opening day of the swimming competition. With files from The Associated Press and Canadian Press

There's a few couch potatoes on here today that just don't get it, but 99.9% of us do get it and cheer you on.

## Fil-Can Chess and Social Club gives out trophies

By Budz Sarmiento

As part of the big Philippine Independence Day celebration last June, the Fil-Can Chess and Social Club awarded trophies to the winners of the club's tournament held on the weekends of May 5 and May 13, 2012. Held at the FAMAS Community Center, the tournament was participated in by eight teams with four players in each team. Thirty-two players played in a seven round Swiss system chess tournament.

On hand to give out the trophies were CDN/NDG Mayor Michael Applebaum, and City Councilors Marvin Rotrand and Lionel Perez.

Among the winners were Ron Mangahas on Board 1; Adolfo Nicolas, Board 2; Reymund Lastra, Board 3; and Reuben Carlo Grospe, Board 4. Trophies were donated by the following individuals or entities: Second Cup, Mr. and Mrs. Federico Tan, Zenie Alvarez, Marlo Chu, Eddie Uy and Center for Development and Assistance.

A Swiss-system tournament is a commonly used type of tournament where players or teams need to be paired to face each other for several rounds of competition. This type of tournament was first used in a Zurich (Switzerland) chess tournament in 1895. Thus, the name "Swiss system."



Peter Tan, President of the Filcan Chess and Social Club (extreme right) hands out trophies to the winners during the recent Pista sa Nayon Festival at Mackenzie King Park while Councilor Marvin Rotrand (3rd from the right) looks on.

The Swiss system is used when there are too many players to play a round-robin tournament. It is also preferable to an elimination tournament if all of the

players can play at the same time as in chess, but not in tennis due to a limited number of tennis courts. (Source: Wikipedia)

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**Dear EarthTalk:** Commercial whaling was banned around the world years ago, but some nations continue to hunt whales. Why is this and what's being done about it? -- Jackie O'Neill, Hershey, PA

Sadly for our world and its biodiversity,



**According to Greenpeace, many whale species are down to around one percent of their estimated former abundance before the days of commercial whaling. Pictured: Minke whale on a stick, at the Sea Baron restaurant in Reykjavik Harbour area, Iceland. Credit: Thjurexoell**

whales are still being killed despite an international ban on commercial whaling. Indeed, rampant whaling over the last two centuries has decimated just about every whale population around the globe. According to Greenpeace, many whale species are down to around one percent of their estimated former abundance before the days of commercial whaling.

Fourteen whaling nations came together in 1946 to form the International Whaling Commission (IWC) to manage whale stocks and recommend hunting limits where appropriate. But the continuing decline of populations forced the IWC to call for an outright ban on all commercial whaling in 1986. But Japan, Norway and Iceland continue to defy the ban, each harvesting hundreds if not more whales every year.

"The Japanese invented the concept of 'scientific' whaling in 1987 as a way around the moratorium on commercial whaling," reports Greenpeace. "Their research is not really research. It is an excuse for supplying whale meat on the Japanese market." The research consists, among other things, of analysis of the contents of the digestive tract. The data on what the animals eat is then used to argue that whales eat too much commercially important fish and that the populations should be culled to save the fish, argues Greenpeace, and that the Japanese selectively release data on certain species and ignore data on others.

Norway resumed whaling in 1993 "as an attempt by the political party in power at the time to gain popularity in

northern Norway," says Greenpeace. "In order to justify its hunt, Norwegian scientists calculated a population estimate, which was later found to be much higher than the data supported."

And Iceland increased its whaling dramatically in recent years. "In 2010 alone, Icelandic whalers killed hundreds of whales—including endangered fin whales—and shipped more than 750 tons of whale meat and products to Japan, whose market is already glutted with whale meat from its own 'scientific research whaling' program," reports the non-profit Natural Resources Defense Council

(NRDC).

Several green groups including NRDC recently petitioned the Obama administration to take action against Iceland under the Pelly Amendment to the Fisherman's Protective Act. "The Amendment allows the President to impose trade sanctions against a country that is 'diminishing the effectiveness' of a conservation agreement—in Iceland's case the whaling moratorium and another international treaty that prohibits trade in endangered species," says NRDC. The petition names several Iceland firms—including major seafood companies with ties to Iceland's whaling industry—as potential targets for trade sanctions.

Greenpeace has been pressuring Japan to not only end its own whaling but also its support of whaling by other nations not abiding by the IWC moratorium. "We are working around the world to increase the pressure put on Japan by conservation-minded governments at the IWC to close the political loopholes that allow the reckless hunt to continue," says Greenpeace, "and to highlight the vote-buying that keep these loopholes in existence."

CONTACTS: IWC, [www.iwcoffice.org](http://www.iwcoffice.org); Greenpeace, [www.greenpeace.org](http://www.greenpeace.org); NRDC, [www.nrdc.org](http://www.nrdc.org).

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E - The Environmental Magazine

Dear EarthTalk: I couldn't believe my ears: "genetically engineered mosquitoes?" Why on Earth would they be created? And I understand there are plans to release them into the wild?

Marissa Abingdon, Sumter, SC

Yes it's true, genetically engineered mosquitoes, which were bred in the lab to transmit a gene during the reproductive process that kills their offspring, have already been used on an experimental basis in three countries—the Cayman Islands, Malaysia and Brazil—to counteract the quickly spreading mosquito-borne viral infection dengue fever. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that as many as 100 million cases of humans infected with dengue fever—which causes a severe flu-like illness and can in certain instances be fatal—occur annually in more than 100 tropical and sub-tropical countries.

The British company behind the project, Oxitec, is focusing initially on dengue fever, given that the particular virus which causes it is only carried by one sub-species of mosquito. This makes the illness easier to target than malaria, for instance, which is carried

Dengue fever isn't considered to be a big problem in the U.S. as yet. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that most of the dengue fever cases showing up in the continental U.S. are among those who have travelled to sub-tropical and tropical areas of the world. Still, WHO reports that the incidence of dengue fever in the U.S. has increased some thirty-fold over the last half century.

A proposal by Oxitec to test its transgenic mosquitoes in the Florida Keys has some locals upset. In April 2012, the town of Key West passed an ordinance prohibiting the release of the mosquitoes pending further testing on possible implications for the environment. In the meantime, Oxitec has applied to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for a patent on their mosquito and permission to release them in the U.S.

Some 80,000 people have signed onto a campaign on the Change.org website calling on the FDA to deny Oxitec's application. Mila de Mier, the Key West mother who launched the campaign, is concerned about the potential consequences of releasing an experimental organism on a delicate ecosystem.

"Oxitec's business goal is to sell genetically modified mosquitoes in the United States," said de Mier. "...we've already said we don't want these mosquitoes in our backyards, but



**In a very controversial experiment, genetically engineered mosquitoes, which were bred to transmit a gene during the reproductive process that kills their offspring, have been used in three countries—the Cayman Islands, Malaysia and Brazil—to counteract the quickly spreading mosquito-borne viral infection dengue fever. Credit: USDA**

by many different types of mosquitoes.

Oxitec first released some of the genetically modified mosquitoes in the Cayman Island in the Caribbean in 2009, much to the surprise of the international community and environmental advocates, many of whom are opposed to genetic engineering in any of its forms due to the unknown and unintended side effects that unleashing transgenic organisms into the world could cause.

In Brazil, where the largest experiments have been carried out to date, the government is backing a new facility designed to breed millions of genetically engineered mosquitoes to help keep dengue fever at bay.

Oxitec isn't listening." More definitive scientific study is needed, she says, that looks at the potential long-term impacts.  
CONTACTS: Oxitec, [www.oxitec.com](http://www.oxitec.com); Change.org, [www.change.org](http://www.change.org).

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**Mercy beaucoup!**

That is not a typographical error in the title. It's a play on the phrase "merci beaucoup" which, as we all know, is the French equivalent of "Thank you very much." This columnist's "Mercy beaucoup" refers to Ms. Mercy Umipig Sia who magnanimously took upon herself to call Ms. Au Osdon, the legitimate president of the organization which is officially called Filipino Association of Montreal and Suburbs (FAMAS), to offer her talent, time and energy to the FAMAS Executive Board for the success of the July 17, 2012 version of the annual Pista sa Nayon. Needless to say, the EB was only too delighted to welcome Ms. Umipig-Sia's pleasantly surprising willingness to participate in the event. Hence, the jargoned phrase "Mercy beaucoup."

Ms. Umipig-Sia built two all-female volleyball teams as her contribution to the eventual success of the festival. This writer thinks that it is a commendable gesture of cooperation on the part of Ms. Umipig-Sia to get involved in the yearly festivities notwithstanding the dire memories from the tumultuous political wrangling that followed the August 2011 FAMAS election where she ran under Samahang Makabayan and won as the Director of Sports and Youth Development, but which she had refused to be inducted into despite repeated advice from FAMAS Committee on Elections. At any rate, we hope that many more people similarly situated as Ms. Umipig-Sia will follow her lead, and help achieve peace and unity in the community once and for all.

Other people from the other side of the political fence who enjoyed themselves at the Pista sa Nayon included current FFAQ President Felix Reyes and his wife Ella, former FAMAS President Benny Parial and staunch Samahang Makabayan supporter Frank Villarino, among others.

By the way, FAMAS is no longer called Philippine Association of Montreal and Suburbs, but this spiteful douche bag insists to call it that, presumably due to his preposterous opposition to the new FAMAS Constitution whose legitimacy he still futilely refuses to acknowledge. In my opinion, calling FAMAS by its old and inapt name is like still calling Istanbul "Constantinople."

**DARTH VADER OF THE COMMUNITY STRIKES AGAIN –**

Just when you thought that the elusive peace and unity had finally started to trudge back to our community, here comes the usual inveterate journalistic liar with his all-too-familiar drivels, baloneys and malarkeys on the community leaders who have consistently and adamantly refused to kowtow to him. He is like a damned termite or a human with termitic tendency that persistently gnaws on what those leaders have painstakingly built over the years for the benefit of the community.

Why can't he just go south and leave the community leaders he referred to alone, and let them do their jobs as their respective offices require them to do? Why does he keep on pillorying people whom he can't sway to his way of thinking? Why can't he just do what a person in his position is supposed to do in the first place, that is, help bring peace and unity back to the community through his newspaper rather than tear it asunder with his divisive and oftentimes unfounded accusations?

I think he is simply crying for some attention, and maligning those leaders with his outrageous accusations is his way of getting the attention he always craves. He has been doing that wicked, detestable and cowardly thing for years. Doesn't he get tired doing it? Why is he so blunt about the feelings of others? Is he not bothered by his conscience for

maligning people? Or does he have a conscience to begin with? Obviously, he doesn't have any. How pathetic!

\*\*\*\*\*

**GET PREPARED FOR THE NEXT FAMAS ELECTION** – It will be FAMAS election again in August 2013, and it is closer than many people might think. Those who are considering running for office are better advised to make sure that they meet the qualifications and requirements prescribed in the FAMAS Constitution and Bylaws, and what the FAMAS Rules, Regulations and Procedures call for. We don't want a repeat of last electoral season's mess where some candidates were not able to file their certificates of candidacy because they were found out to be not bona fide members of FAMAS. The COMELEC was unfairly blamed for that fiasco.

Furthermore, prospective candidates must read the FAMAS Constitution and Bylaws, as well as the FAMAS Election Rules, Regulations and Procedures before they make their decisions to run, let alone before they sign the dotted lines on their certificates of candidacy.

In light of what happened after the last election, it is smart for candidates to have a complete understanding of those rules and regulations before they affix their signatures on the electoral forms, particularly their certificates of candidacy (COC). I find it laughable for a candidate to complain that a certain rule is unfair, or even unconstitutional, after he or she had agreed (by signing his or her COC) to comply with that rule, and if he or she is found guilty of violating it.

\*\*\*\*\*

**WHO ARE THE BEST FAMAS PRESIDENTS?** – Someone has broached the idea of FAMAS giving awards to the ten best past presidents of said organization as part of its 50th founding anniversary celebration in 2013. I strongly disagree with that idea because, in my opinion, it's a potentially hugely controversial proposition, not to mention very divisive.

I can't imagine the US government would launch a search for the ten best US presidents in the history of their country although George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, Franklin Delano Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy would most likely appear on the top of the list. And in the case of Canada, the ten best

prime ministers. The names of John Macdonald, Mackenzie King, John Diefenbaker, Pierre Trudeau, and even Brian Mulroney, could be up there.

Anyway, the idea of giving awards to the ten best FAMAS presidents might be acceptable if a different and independent group would launch, sponsor and manage such a tribute. But still, the decision of the would-be panel of judges might not be objective enough for some people to offset their suspicions. No matter how we slice it, there would be vehement opposition to the result. Having said that, why support such a divisive and potentially controversial proposal? It might be good for the self-esteem of the ten selected, but certainly bad for the already tattered unity in our community.

From my point of view, though, Ms. Aurora Osdon and Mr. James de la Paz are by far the two best and most competent people to have ever occupied the FAMAS presidency. Nobody among the rest comes close, not even by a long shot. But who is the worst? It's a fair question, and I have the answer. Nevertheless, I will keep it under wraps lest I would be ruffling the feathers of who I think deserves that dubious distinction if I bring it out into the open.

\*\*\*\*\*

**AU OSDON'S SUPPORTERS LEAVING IN DROVES?**

– The perennially mendacious scoundrel has claimed that supporters of FAMAS President Au Osdon have been disillusioned by her leadership, and leaving her in droves. Nothing else can be further from the truth.

On the contrary, erstwhile detractors and political opponents have been trickling in to give their supports to one of the best presidents that FAMAS has ever had. Among them are members of the Fil-Can Chess and Social Club of Quebec, led by its current president, Peter Tan.

What was unlikely or unattainable under Mr. Tan's predecessor is now a fait accompli. Thanks to Mr. Tan's and Mr. Mel Villanueva's skillful leaderships and conciliatory attitudes, members of said club can now play their games of chess at the FAMAS Community Center whenever possible. It is a far cry from the time of the chess club's previous administration when the intervention of the police was needed because a handful of bellicose chess club officers and members refused to leave the Center in defiance of Ms. Osdon's authority as FAMAS president.

As people always say, "All is well that ends well." Harmony has since displaced discord. Not yet completely, but it is a very good start. Only that ludicrous "newspaperman" always gets in the way. The sensible members of the community have to tell him in the strongest terms possible to butt out. Otherwise, peace and unity in our community will remain an elusive dream just because of one douche bag.

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

### PAMANA's Sayaw Conference Unites Community and Culture

The initiative behind PAMANA's Sayaw Conference (held on July 6, 7 and 8) was to create an open door to the Philippine community and share the hidden jewels behind our culture and its influence on Philippine folk dance. PAMANA is very thankful to have had our

positions as well as learn a couple of Philippine folk dance choreographies.

Whether or not the attendees of the conference had any experience in Philippine folk dance, the common themes from all the topics heartened their connection to our Philippine



presenters share their academic knowledge, experience and expertise with PAMANA and all those who attended the conference. The presenters were: Mr. Edwin C. Duero, proprietor and Artistic Director of the Edwin C. Duero Dance Company and the ECD Dance School; Herbert Alvarez, co-Dance Director of the University of the Philippines Dance Troupe; and Catherine Araneta, a senior company member and dance master of the Edwin C. Duero Dance Company.

Patrick Alcedo, a specialist in Southeast Asian dance and currently a professor in the Dance Department of York University was also invited as a presenter. Unfortunately, he was unable to attend. We met Mr. Alcedo for the first time on June 3 in Montreal while he was attending the Canadian Society for Dance Studies conference. In place of his absence for Sayaw, Mr. Alcedo graciously offered a copy of his latest documentary called "Ati-Atihan Lives" and gave us permission to screen it at the conference. His documentary made its premiere at the Canadian Society for Dance Studies conference and PAMANA was honoured to share it with everyone.

Since this was the first edition of Sayaw, the topics during the morning sessions were introductions to Philippine dance and Philippine dance aesthetics; "Folk Dances as Signpost in Philippine History"; and "Conservation and Promotion of Traditional Arts." In the afternoon, everyone was to participate in workshops learning basic folk dance

positions as well as learn a couple of Philippine folk dance choreographies. Whether or not the attendees of the conference had any experience in Philippine folk dance, the common themes from all the topics heartened their connection to our Philippine

#### What's next for PAMANA

2013 is a big year for PAMANA. As a follow-up to the summer's workshops with Mr. Duero, new dances and costumes will be put on display in PAMANA's fourth stage production in the spring. Then, in July and August, PAMANA will embark on a 3-week festival tour under CIOFF and perform on the international stage in Spain, Portugal and Canary Islands. This will be the organization's second trip to Europe. PAMANA's first Europe tour in 2010 was such a pivotal milestone that, until today, the young dancers still exchange stories of their unforgettable shared experience. The tour allowed us to make new friends from across the globe; visit countries that we never expected to see; proudly exhibit our Philippine culture through music and dance; and most importantly create a much stronger bond between the performers themselves. There is no doubt that we are looking forward to our next tour. PAMANA will continue to generate fundraising efforts to relieve airfare expenses and send 30 performers to represent Quebec, Canada and the Philippines.

### Where the Blood Mixes

Emilee Veluz, an award winning Filipino stage actress who was featured as Personality of the Month this year, will be appearing on the stage play "Where the Blood Mixes." The play is about the legacy left behind after the aboriginal children were taken from the families, abuses and assaults in Residential schools. Christine, one of the survivors from the home at a young age, rediscovers the community she left

behind when she returns.

The Quebec premiere of "Where the Blood Mixes" will be from Sept. 13 to 30, 2012, Wednesdays to Saturdays from 8 p.m., Sunday, matinee, 2 p.m., at Centre Culturel Calixa Lavaille, 3819 Calixa Lavaille, (parc Lafontaine). Admission - \$24, Seniors, \$20, Students, \$12.

For more information, call (514) 848-0238

### FAMAS offers heritage class at the community center

by W. G. Quiambao

Irwin Magajas and Alice Casuga are the proud parents of three children - AJ, 12; Ben, 8; Alia, 5 - who were born in Montreal. They graduated from last season's Heritage class offered by FAMAS at the community centre.

"Incidentally, my sister and I took Heritage class at FAMAS when we were about 12 or 13," said Casuga. "My family was active in the Filipino community. Our interest in the Filipino heritage stemmed from my grandfather who instilled on us early in life the importance of learning our heritage, culture and tradition. They told us that we should be proud of them wherever we are. We were told by our grandfather that it's important for us that we take the best of both cultures - Canadian and Filipino."

"I'm glad that my kids like what they're learning. They even recruited their cousins to join them this coming September."

FAMAS' Filipino Heritage Language Program started in 1989. It was the brainchild of the late Lee Sanga, former president of FAMAS. One of its goals is to teach Filipino as a second language to Filipino-Canadian children. This time, FAMAS is opening the program to all age groups, including adults. Children as early as age four can get into the program, too.

Heritage class students in the last three years were children of intermarriages; others were children of both Filipino parents. They were mostly

born here in Canada with a few exceptions of those who are new immigrants from the Philippines.

As to the program Melle Lugod, a former grade school teacher and assistant vice principal in the Philippines, said, "It's quite a challenge nowadays to get as many children as we would like to have in the program. The turn-out is basically dependent on the parents' commitment and desire to take their children to the center every Sunday afternoon considering the many activities that their children may have. Children nowadays have various other interests and pre-occupations. They have their favorite sports, computer and internet games, television and every other medium of entertainment we can think of. Choices are plenty and the heritage class is last on the list."

Parents who religiously take their children to the program must be motivated by how much they value the importance of their mother tongue. Lugod said they need to tweak the program to keep the children interested. They do reading, storytelling, arts and crafts, and role playing. They also take outdoor trips if possible. Lugod added that FAMAS has a volunteer teacher, Francia Gumboc, who occasionally teaches the children Philippine folk dancing.

Lugod continued, "The best case scenario is for us to be able to teach these children our language, in a

See Page 22 Heritage Class



Heritage Students with their parents and teachers on their graduation day, June 16, 2012

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**Manuel Luis Quezon y Molina (1878 - 1948)**

Si Manuel Quezon ay ipinanganak sa Baler, Quezon (ngayo'y Aurora) noong Agosto 19, 1878.

Ang kanyang mga magulang ay sina G. Lucio Quezon at Gng. Maria Molina.

Si Manuel ay unang nag-aral sa Baler at pagkatapos ay sa San Juan de Letran kung saan siya naging dalubhasa sa Siyensya ng Matematika. Siya ay umanib sa Katipunan nang siya ay labing-walong taong gulang pa lamang. Sa gulang na dalawampung ita ay umanib siya sa hukbo ni Heneral Emilio Aguinaldo. Naging piskal sa edad na 25 at naging gobernador sa edad na 28. Siya rin ay naging Komisyonado Residente nang siya ay 31, pangulo ng Senado nang siya ay 38 at sa edad na 56 ay naging Pangulo ng Pilipinas



Manuel Luis Quezon

Naging halimbawa ang dalawang bayaning ito na kumatawan sa salawikaing "higit na malakas ang panulat kaysa sandata." (the pen is mightier than the sword).

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**Nag-piknik Sina Pichu at Pechay**

Pechay: Aba Kuya anong ang nangyari sa noo mo at namumula?

Pichu: Kasi, nauna akong dumating sa iyo dito kaya nagmano na ako sa kanilang lahat. Biro mo ba, e mahigit tatumpu sila.

Pechay: Oo, alam ko na 'yan! Bless dito at Bless doon. Pero madaling lusutan 'yan.

Pichu: Paano ang ginawa mo?

Pechay: Ano pa, nagtulugtulugan ako sa stroller

Pichu: Ok ang palusot mo pero hindi pa 'yan ang mahirap.

Pechay: Bakit may trabaho pa ba tayo?

Pichu: Oo, bawata't pagmanuhan ay tatandaan natin ang pangalan at kung ano ang relasyon natin. Halimbawa, "Ako si Lola Yvette." Tapos, ipapakilala na ang asawa at anak niya at kung nandiyan din ang biyenang ay kasali sa tatandaan nating mga pangalan.

Pechay: Suko ako diyan, Kuya, doon na lang ako magbabantay sa Jewish ospital. Diyan ka na!

Pichu: Tek! tek! Ano naman ang gagawin mo doon?

Pechay: Aabangan ko na lang ang unang sigaw ni Peras buhat sa birthing room.

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**Unang Sigaw Sa Balintawak**

Maraming historyador natin ang hindi nagkasundu-sundo sa tunay na pangyayari sa mahalagang bahagi ng kasaysayan ng rebolusyon ng Pilinas laban sa kastila. May nag-ulat na ito ay naganap noong Agosto 26, 1896 at may nagsalaysay naman na ang tunay na pinagmulan ng rebolusyon ay noong Agosto 23, 1896 sa Pugad Lawin. Kinikilalang ang makahulugang pangyayari ay ang pag-punit ng cedula. Sagisag ito na tumatanggi na ang mga rebelde sa pagbabayad ng buwis sa mananakop Ang bayaning bantog sa Unang Sigaw Sa Balintawak ay si Andres Bonifacio na pinagkatiwalaan ni Dr. Jose P. Rizal na isalin sa Tagalog ang Huling Paalam.

Join Gilmore College's annual apple picking picnic on September 16, 2012 Call 514-485-7861 to reserve



Nasa kalikuran (kaliwa pakanan) Andrew R., Lu Borzacchini, Jerry Grinnage, Erick Casia, Amado 'Addie' Santos, Jerome LeBaut.

Pangalawang hanay nangakatayo: Alberto "Aldy" Santos, Fred "Jun-Jun" Casia, Julie Dytynshyn, Yana Gorbulsy, Grace "Almin" Santos, Elizabeth Vicente, Yvette Casia, Mark Vicente, Anna Vicente, Frances Vicente, Charlie Alfaro, Xenia "Sin" Santos, Joshua Alfaro. Nangakaupo: Margaret Annys, Ameurina "Amor" Casia (kalong si Ava-Amor Borzacchini), Fred Casia, Minerva Santos, Alberto Baens Santos, Ramon Vicente, Ester Vicente. Harap na hanay: Sean Admhar Santos, Andrew James Alfaro, Christine Tandugon (kalong si Aiden alyas Pichu), Laura Dizon (kalong si Hailey alyas Pechay), Michelle Lehaut (akbay ang mga apo, sina Theo at Milan).

**BUWAN NG WIKANG PAMBANSA' CELEBRATION**

The month of August is "Buwan ng Wikang Pambansa" (National Language Month) focusing on the importance of Filipino as the National Language and to further strengthen its use. The observance is pursuant to Proclamation No. 1041 issued by then President Fidel V. Ramos on January 15, 1997. The celebration coincides with the birth month of former President Manuel Luis Quezon, the "Father of the National Language," who was born on August 19, 1878 in Baler, Tayabas (Now Baler, Aurora).

This year, the country is marking the 75th year of the declaration of Tagalog as the basic language of communication. Commonwealth Act No. 184, approved by the National Assembly in 1936, created a committee which recommended Tagalog as basis for a national language. Executive Order No. 134 in 1937 called for the development of a national language based on Tagalog.

The 1987 Philippine Constitution states that "the National Language of the Philippines is Filipino. As it evolves, it shall be further developed and enriched on the basis of existing Philippine and other languages."

The government has lined up activities for this month. Each week has a theme: August 1-7 highlights the 75th

year of Filipino in education and its use in official communication. August 8-14, 2012, is about Filipino and other dialects in the context of Kindergarten-to-12 and Mother Tongue Based Education. August 15-21, 2012, centers on the national anthem "Lupang Hinirang" and "Panatang Makabayan." August 23-28, 2012, celebrates Filipino as a universal language that promotes a stable society. August 29-31, 2012 caps the celebration with school activities consistent with "tuwid na daan (straight path)."

We join the Filipino nation, headed by President Benigno S. Aquino III and Vice President Jejomar C. Binay; the Department of Education, led by Secretary Armin A. Luistro; the Commission on Higher Education, headed by Chairman Dr. Patricia B. Licuanan; and the Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino, led by Chairman Jose Laderas Santos, on the celebration of "Buwan ng Wikang Pambansa." CONGRATULATIONS AND MABUHAY!

Published on The Manila Bulletin Newspaper Online (<http://www.mb.com.ph>) Home > 'BUWAN NG WIKANG PAMBANSA' CELEBRATION (Sent by Budz Sarmiento)

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# Ask the Video Guy

**Al Abdon**

## Are you computer literate?

Answer these questions with the best of your ability without looking at any notes, books or references and we shall evaluate you with the number of points you attained. Answers to these questions are on page 14.

Questions:

- Which of these are not peripherals: (a) Keyboard (b) Flash Drive (c) Printer (d) Power supply (e) Webcams
- The interface between the computer and the human is known as: (a) Peripheral Interface (b) Keyboard interface (c) Speaker Interface (d) Programmable Interface (e) Users Interface
- Another term for System Unit: (a) Console (b) Mainframe (c) Motherboard (e) CPU (e) Pointing Device
- Which of these site is not considered "Social Media": (a) Facebook (b) Skype (c) eBay (d) MySpace (e) Twitter
- Which is not an internal part of a computer: (a) CPU (b) Memory (c) Power Supply (d) Interface Cards (e) Flash Drives
- The year when the first digital computer started to develop: (a) 1972 (b) 1937(c) 1990 (d) 1980 (e) 1920
- Which of these items are termed "Software": (a) Apple (b) IBM (c) Monitor (d)iDVD (e)DVD player
- 1000000 bytes is equal to: (a) 1 kilobytes (b) 1 megabytes (c) 1 gigabytes (d) 1 Terabytes (e) 1 million kilobytes
- Which of these items are not Anti-Virus: (a) AVG (b) Norton (c)McAfee (d) Trojan Horse (e) Avira

10. The No. 1 "Supercomputer" is located in: (a) USA (b) China (c) Japan (d) Germany (e) UK

The central processing unit (CPU, occasionally called central processor unit) is the hardware within a computer which carries out the instruction of a computer program by performing the basic arithmetical, logical, operations of the system. The term has been in use in the computer industry at least since the early 1960s. The form, design, and implementation of CPUs have changed over the course of their history, but their fundamental operation remains much the same.

On large machines, CPUs require one or more printed circuit boards. On a PC (Personal Computer) the CPU is housed in a silicon chips called a Microprocessor. Modern CPUs are large scale IC (Integrated Circuits) in packages typically less than four centimeters square, with hundreds of connecting pins.

Two typical components of a CPU are the arithmetic logic unit (ALU), which performs arithmetic and logical operations, and the control unit (CU),

which extracts instructions decodes and executes them.

There are three levels of computer skills:

- Basic computer skills
  - Knowing how to power on the computer
  - Being able to use a mouse to interact with elements on the screen
  - Being able to use the computer keyboard
  - Being able to shut down the computer properly after use

- Intermediate skills
  - Functional knowledge of word processing
  - How to use e-mail
  - How to use the Internet
  - Installing software

- Navigating a computer's filesystem and Advanced skills include
- Programming
  - Understanding the problems of data security
  - Use of a computer for scientific research
  - Fixing software conflicts
  - Repairing computer hardware



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## SIX WORST SCAMS BY CONTRACTORS

More extreme storms coming, greater fraud potential

Extreme storms may be America's new norm so homeowners must doubly protect against bogus repair work by shady contractors, warns the Coalition Against Insurance Fraud.

Climate change means more frequent and intense storms may be coming, reveals a new study. The biggest rain and snow storms are getting bigger, jeopardizing more property and lives across the U.S. Most home contractors are honest. But extreme weather will attract more shady operators whose bogus repairs can cost homeowners thousands of dollars, the Coalition warns.

Routine home fixups and remodeling also invite scams.

Homeowners must be alert to costly repair scams, starting now. Rainstorms, hail, tornadoes and wildfires already are causing considerable home damage this year. Some may reflect climate trends, and more disasters are likely before the year ends.

Dishonest drifters often go door-to-door, especially after disasters. Fixing bad repair work can take months of headaches, and the victim's homeowner policy may not cover fraudulent repairs. Roofer inquiries have ranked No. 1 for five straight years by the Better Business Bureau.

Homeowners can better ensure that repairs are done right by knowing how to find an honest and reputable contractor.

### Six Worst Scams

Disappearing downpayment. The contractor demands a large downpayment, then disappears after doing little or no work.

Shoddy work. The work is low quality, using cheap materials. You may have to redo the entire job, often at your own expense.

Phantom damage. A contractor invents storm damage. Nicking sidewall or roof shingles with a screwdriver to mimic hail damage is one come-on.

Worsens damage. Contractors enlarge holes in a roof to increase their billings. Billing for phantom work is another ruse. Pay your deductible. Offering to pay your insurance deductible is a con to lure your business.

Insurer go-between. The contractor elbows in as the go-between with your insurer. You lose control over your valuable claim.

### Six Ways to Fight back

Avoid door-to-door drifters. Stick with reputable contractors based locally or in your region.

Verify license. Contact your state and local licensing agencies to ensure the contractor is licensed.

Contact local Better Business Bureau. See if the contractor has a history of complaints, and a BBB review.

Work with your insurance company & agent. Don't let the contractor do the talking. Work directly with your insurer and agent to ensure the repairs are done right and covered damages are paid.

Insist on a contract. Have a signed contract specifying exactly what work will be done, plus the price and repair schedule.

Watch for red flags. No business cards or referrals...P.O. Box instead of a street address...van looks rundown and has no company name...poor personal appearance...can't show proof of workers compensation insurance or

surety/performance bond.

CONTACT: James Quiggle, director of communications  
2 0 2 - 3 9 3 - 7 3 3 1 ;  
jamesq@InsuranceFraud.org

If you would rather not receive future communications from Coalition Against Insurance Fraud, let us know by clicking here.

Coalition Against Insurance Fraud, 1012 14TH ST NW Suite 200, Washington, DC 20005 Unit

Communiqué de presse — Pour publication immédiate

Festival de la S.O.U.P.E. de Vaudreuil-Soulanges – partie 2

### Soupe en folie et fantaisie

*L'Île-Perrot – 20 août 2012 – Le Festival de la S.O.U.P.E. de Vaudreuil-Soulanges propose un événement pour tous, le 2 septembre prochain, de 10 h à 16 h au Parc historique de la Pointe-du-Moulin. Beau temps, mauvais temps.*

*Une première en Amérique du Nord, le Festival de la S.O.U.P.E. (Symbole d'Ouverture et d'Union des Peuples) est l'occasion idéale de créer des rapprochements interculturels et intergénérationnels dans la communauté. Tout est gratuit : la soupe, les activités, l'entrée au parc, le stationnement. Invitez votre famille, vos amis et vos voisins! Le 10 juin dernier, 1 200 personnes étaient présentes pour la première partie de l'événement; le 2 septembre, l'objectif est de dépasser ce nombre!*

### La Soupe en folie

*La Soupe en folie est un concours amical de cuisiniers amateurs. Vous préparez la meilleure des soupes? Inscrivez-vous. Visitez notre site Internet pour tous les détails. Un jury désignera les gagnants qui remporteront les Louches d'Or, d'Argent et de Bronze. Si vous êtes plutôt du type gourmand, vous serez servis puisque vous pourrez goûter à tous ces chefs-d'œuvre culinaires.*

### Création et jeux d'enfants

*En plus de l'animation d'époque proposée par les comédiens du Parc historique de la Pointe-du-Moulin et d'une panoplie d'activités pour enfants, la Parade des vélos de La Ribouldingue ajoutera une touche de couleurs et de la fierté pour tous ceux qui décoreront leur bicyclette, leur bouquette ou leur poussette pour l'occasion. À la fin du trajet, au pied du moulin, les comédiens du parc raconteront une histoire qui émerveillera petits et grands.*

*Deux autres activités sauront plaire à tous. L'exposition « Où étaient nos ancêtres dans l'île Perrot? » de la Société de généalogie et d'histoire de l'île Perrot permettra aux curieux de découvrir la vie de leur ancêtre. Une scène sera aménagée afin qu'individus ou groupes puissent partager leur culture et leur passion en présentant un court spectacle. Il faut s'inscrire à l'avance, soit sur le site Internet du Festival, www.festivaldelasoupe.ca, soit auprès de Lise au 514 425-1212. Danse, musique, arts martiaux, humour, cirque, toute discipline est acceptée!*

*Tout au long du périple, plusieurs partenaires mettent la main à la soupe. Les principaux sont : Association des gens d'affaires de l'île Perrot, Caisse Desjardins de Vaudreuil-Soulanges, CLD Vaudreuil-Soulanges, Galerie Pierre*

*Séguin, Hebdos du Suroît, IGA extra Rochette Vézina, imprimerie multiplus, Michel Sauvé, artiste, MRC de Vaudreuil-Soulanges, Pharmaprix André & Daniel Kayal, Pacte rural de Vaudreuil-Soulanges, Polymos, Société de développement du Parc Historique de la Pointe-du-Moulin, Traductions Indigo, Ville de L'Île-Perrot, Ville de Notre-Dame-de-l'Île-Perrot, Ville de Pincoirt et Ville de Rigaud.*

*La soupe, plat intemporel et commun à tous les peuples, est un heureux prétexte pour se retrouver et fêter. C'est un rendez-vous au Parc Historique de la Pointe du Moulin: 2500, boul. Don-Quichotte, Notre-Dame-de-l'Île-Perrot. Malheureusement, les animaux ne peuvent pas vous accompagner cette journée-là sur le site enchanteur de la Pointe-du-Moulin.*

### Renseignements

514.453.1802  
info@festivaldelasoupe.ca  
Renseignements :  
Pierre Séguin

Organisateur, Festival de la S.O.U.P.E. de Vaudreuil-Soulanges  
514.453.1802

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Sophie Cusson  
Responsable des communications,  
Festival de la S.O.U.P.E. de Vaudreuil-Soulanges  
514.712.2655

scusson@gmail.com  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 22, 2012

### CONTACT:

Lauryn Drainie, Campaigner, Change.org,  
(202) 684 2552, press@change.org

\*\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\*\*

## 30,000+ Demand Premier's Intervention in Marineland case

Explosive campaign on Change.org calls on Premier McGuinty and the Ontario Government to immediately enact laws protecting Marineland's animals.

TORONTO, ON -- Over 30,000 people have signed a petition on Change.org demanding Premier McGuinty address alleged animal neglect at Marineland by creating laws controlling zoos and aquariums.

The petition was launched on Saturday morning by Phil Demers, the animal trainer who quit his job at Marineland after 12 years, in conjunction with Zoocheck Canada, an organization that has attempted to move the Government on this file for over 20 years.

Following an exposé in the Toronto Star and a 400 person rally in front of Marineland the petition exploded over the weekend. By Monday signatures were climbing by around 300 per hour, and by Tuesday had accelerated to over 1000 per hour.

"Leaving Marineland, and the animals I worked with was one of the hardest decisions I ever made," said Demers. "But after seeing the rallies, and over 30,000 people sign this petition, I know this was the right move." Demers is known internationally for his incredible relationship with a Marineland Walrus named Smooshi, profiled on CNN, CBC, and CTV.

"Ontario has been called the 'wild west' of animal captivity. It's one of the worst jurisdictions for the protection of captive animals. I'm extremely pleased that all of the recent attention on Marineland has generated such widespread concern and support for changing the status quo. These problems should have been dealt with long ago. Hopefully 30,000 people is enough to convince the government to act." said Rob Laidlaw, Executive Director of Zoocheck Canada. "Ontario has no laws controlling zoos or aquariums, so without new laws that include the licensing system and objective, enforceable standards of care this petition is asking for, no one can do very much to stop the neglect."

Demers alleges the animals were being kept in pens with extremely poor water quality, and that there are an inadequate number of trainers to care for the animals. He claims to have seen dolphins skin flaking off in chunks, and six out of seven harbour seals becoming blind or suffering severe eye damage.

The viral petition has spread quickly on Twitter, being retweeted by celebrities like former Montreal Canadian hockey player George Laraque and Canadian hardcore band Silverstein.

Journalists interested in setting up an interview should use the contact details at the top of the page.

Live signature totals from Phil Demers and Zoocheck's campaign: [www.change.org/marineland](http://www.change.org/marineland)

For more information on Change.org, please visit:

<http://www.change.org/about>  
Change.org is the world's fastest-growing platform for social change — growing by nearly two million new members a month, and empowering millions of people to start, join, and win campaigns for social change in their community, city and country.



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Paul Driving School, owned and operated by Paul François, held a get together party on Saturday, August 11, 2012 at Edouard Dance Studio, to thank his students for their support.



L-R Eden Penalosa, Ruby Salcedo, Zeny Kharroubi, Minister Stas Misezhnikov, Lucy & Rev. Orlan Racacho, William & Bing Visitacion. Photo taken during the first visit of the Minister of Tourism to Montreal.



Pastor Orlan Racacho was recognized at the breakfast reception held at the Sofitel Hotel during the recent visit of the Israel Minister of Tourism, for his passion of sending church groups to Israel every year.



Guest at Nathalie's Fund Raising Show at Edouard Dance School, July 28, 2012



L-R: Juvy Solis, Paul François, Precy Billones, Edna Lorenzo, Zenaida Kharroubi, Aug. 11/12.

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Renee Omlas  
Scotia Tagapayo

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## PERSONALITY OF THE MONTH

### From cleaning the streets to helping a cancer victim, Ganas serves the community

by W. G. Quiambao



**Danny Ganas**

If Danny Ganas has the characteristics of a lion, they'll be his decisiveness and determination to achieve his goals..

"I'm not easily discouraged when I do things and I hear people say negative things about them," said Ganas..

Ganas, who came to Canada in 1990, graduated with a degree in Psychology from Gregorio Araneta University (now known as Gregorio Araneta De La Salle) in 1978. While in college, he was an active member and volunteer of the Cultural Guild.

Years after arriving in Montreal, he met a friend, Amado Lozano, who he knew from his college days. He immediately accepted Lozano's offer to form Alliance of Filipino-Canadians in Montreal in 1996. Its goal is to help in the development and beautification of the community in Cote des Neiges.

The members of the associations are mostly Filipino employees of Astral Photo. Ganas and the group cleaned the streets of Plamondon and Bourett with the help of Eco quartier. Together with the members of Alpha Phi Oega (APO), he also helped distribute flowers and plants.

"I remember someone asking me why we're cleaning the streets and distributing flowers," said Ganas. "He said that the city has employees to do those things. Instead of getting discouraged, I was challenged to continue what we're doing. Our goal is to set an example that anybody can serve his community in his own way. He doesn't have to have a title."

But the AFCM became inactive about three years ago. Many of its original members became busy with their families and jobs. Ganas, however, has plans to reactivate the association by having a senior member of the community to run it.

Meanwhile, Ganas was introduced to Lions Club (Montreal Westward) by Lozano. One of the goals of the Lions Club is to take an active interest in the city's cultural, social and moral development of the community.

In her May 18th, 2012 letter to Montreal Westward Lions Club, Genette Morency, development manager of St. Mary's Hospital, wrote, "It is with heartfelt gratitude that I write you today to thank you and all the members of the Montreal Westward Lions Club for your generous donation of \$4,000 to St. Mary's Hospital Community Center Care Program. The

funds will be directed toward the purchase of a numbering system that will improve the registration process for our patients.

"All of us at St. Mary's recognize the incredible amount of time and energy that is required to organize an event like Big Band Dance.. Through such dedication, we felt the essence of your support and genuine care. We call the ``Power of a Hug` a power that gives us inspiration and strength as we lead by example in setting the bar in community healthcare."

Aside from Ganas, there are five other Filipino members of the Lions Club. They are Amado Lozano, Ben Bade, Flor Rillo, Vinnie Villegas and Myrna Maranan.

Ganas explained that the Lions are beginning to help the Filipino community now. When the Lions asked him if he had any project for the Filipino community, he told them that he and the five Filipino members of the Lions would like to send boxes of used clothes to the victims of typhoon Sendong. The Lions did that.

Ganas was also asked if Filipinos had a food bank because the Lions usually receive boxes of food that are given to other communities. like Indian and Tamil.

"I'd rather give the food to the members of my own community who need them," said Ganas."The problem is we don't have any storage space."

One of Ganas immediate projects now is to bring joy to the seniors with the help of various associations in the community.

"Many of them feel isolated and lonely. I've talked to FAMAS about my plan. I want to give the seniors a chance to be at the center where we can hold something like Seniors Day once a

month. Probably, we can give them two to three hours a day, once a month, to have fun at the center. For example, we can form a committee to treat them for lunch or supper. It's pot luck. It's going to be a collective effort. Of course, we all have to help, to maintain the cleanliness of the center. To do this, we need the support of all the associations. |

"It's going to be different from other existing senior associations because every-body is welcomed," continued Ganas. "There will be no politics."

In addition, one of Ganas' immediate plans is to continue helping a Filipina caregiver who has a throat cancer. The Filipina, whose husband and 6-year old daughter are still in the Philippines, has an open permit visa. However, because of her condition, she is unable to work. And because she is not a citizen yet, she is not eligible to apply for the welfare office. Ganas has discussed her problem with the Lions who promised to help her. In fact, the Lions have donated a gift certificate to her. Ganas is also looking for a Filipino volunteer who can pick her up for her hospital appointments and bring her home. .

Ganas is thankful to the people who believe in him and continue to support his projects.

In the last issue of the North American Filipino Star, there was a story about the joy of giving," said Ganas. "I believe that. Giving could be in any form of money or time. This is what I'm doing. I'm giving my time to help others. The people that I help don't owe me any favor. Instead, I owe them a favor. They make me feel good when I do something good for them."

#### From Page 10 - Answer to "Are you Computer Literate?"

1. (d) Power Supply. Although located internally in the computer chassis. A peripheral is generally defined as any auxiliary device such as a mouse, keyboard, hard drives that connect to and works with the computer. Power supply, motherboards and computer case does not work with computer programs, devices and other units.

2. (e) User Interface. To work with a system, users have to be able to control and assess the state of the system. For example, when driving an automobile, the driver uses the steering wheel to control the direction of the vehicle, and the accelerator pedal, brake pedal and gearstick to control the speed of the vehicle. The driver perceives the position of the vehicle by looking through the windshield and exact speed of the vehicle by reading the speedometer. The user interface of the automobile is on the whole composed of the instruments the driver can use to accomplish the tasks of driving and maintaining the automobile.

3.(a) Console. System console is the term use in towers or system unit is some countries. It should not be confused with Game Consoles which

is an interactive game on a computer.

4.(c) eBay. eBay is an American multi-national consumer to consumer corporation that manages eBay.com, an online auction and shopping website in which people and businesses buy and sell a broad variety of goods and services. It is never design to communicate people on a social milieu.

5.(e) Flash Drives. A USB drive is a data storage device that includes flash memories with an integrated universal serial bus (USB) interface.

6. (b) 1937. Short for Atanasoff Berry Computer, the ABC started being developed by Professor John Vincent Atanasoff and graduate student Cliff Berry in 1937 and continued to be developed until 1942 at the Iowa State College (now Iowa State University).

7. (d) iDVD. iDVD is an Apple software design to create consumer grade DVDs with menus. iDVD allows the user to add Quicktime Movies, MP3 music, and digital photos to a DVD that can then be played on a commercial DVD player. It is comparable to its Microsoft Windows alternative Window DVD Maker.

8. (b) 1 mega bytes is 1 million (approximate) bytes. Abbreviation for binary term, a unit of storage capable of holding a single character. On

almost all modern computers a byte is equal to 8 bits. Large amounts of memory are indicated in terms of kilobytes (1,024 bytes), megabytes (1,048,576 bytes), and gigabytes (1,073,741,824 bytes).

9. (d) Trojan Horse. Viruses, worms and Trojan Horses are all malicious programs that can cause damage to your computer, but there are differences among the three. One common mistake that people make when the topic of a computer virus arises is to refer to a worm or Trojan Horse as a virus. While the words Trojan, worm and virus are often used interchangeably, they are not exactly the same thing. Viruses, worms and Trojan Horses are all malicious programs that can cause damage to your computer but there are differences among the three, and knowing those differences can help you better protect your computer from their often damaging effects.

10. (a) USA. For the first time since November 2009, a United States supercomputer sits atop the TOP500 list of the world's top supercomputers. Named Sequoia, the IBM BlueGene/Q system installed at the Department of Energy's Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory achieved an impressive 16.32 petaflop/s on the Linpack

benchmark using 1,572,864 cores. A petaflop is a measure of a computer's processing speed and can be expressed as a thousand trillion floating point operations per second.

FLOPS are floating-point operations per second. Floating-point is considered to be a method of encoding real numbers within the limits of finite precision available on computers.

Scores:

10 Correct answer: You are a computer geek.

9 – 5 Average user.

4 – 3 You need to read computer books more or take a computer course.

2 – 0 You definitely need to take the FAMAS Computer Literacy Course.

Al Abdon  
Instructor

Computer Literacy Course  
FAMAS



# Philippine Cuisine and Favorite Food

Compiled by Zenaida Ferry Kharroubi

## Tilapia in coconut milk



Sinanglay na tilapia is an authentic Filipino dish, where the fish, in this case, the tilapia, is cooked with coconut milk. The dish has originated in the Bicol region. The difference in cooking sinanglay with other "ginataan" dishes (dishes cooked with coconut milk) is that with sinanglay the fish is stuffed with spices and is wrapped with vegetable leaves. Traditionally, it is wrapped with tanglad (lemon grass leaves). For this sinanglay, the fish is usually wrapped with gabi (taro) leaves but since gabi leaves are not available in Montreal, pechay (bok choy) leaves can be used. If mustard leaves are available in your area, you can use that too.

It's a healthy recipe with just less than 300 kcal (estimate only) per serving.

Sinanglay na tilapia is another authentic Filipino dish, where the fish, in this case, the tilapia, is cooked with coconut milk. The dish, I believe, has originated in the Bicol region. The difference in cooking sinanglay with other "ginataan" dishes (dishes cooked with coconut milk) is that, with sinanglay, the fish is stuffed with spices and is wrapped with vegetable leaves. Traditionally, it is wrapped with tanglad (lemon grass leaves). For my sinanglay, I usually wrap the fish with gabi (taro) leaves but since gabi leaves are not available in Singapore, I used pechay (bok choy) leaves for this recipe. If mustard leaves are available in your area, you can use that too.



### Piniyahang Manok (Chicken with Pineapples)

- 2 pouches (115 g each) D E L MONTE Pineapple Tidbits, drained (reserve syrup)
- 2 tbsp (14.8 g) ginger strips
- 6 cloves (30 g) garlic, crushed
- 1 large (70 g) red onion, sliced
- 3/4 kg (750 g) chicken thigh and leg, cut into serving portions (10-12 pc)
- 1-2 tbsp (19 g) patis
- 1/2 tsp (2 g) peppercorn
- 1 pc (50 g) medium red bell pepper, cut into cubes
- 154 ml (162 g) evaporated milk (or coconut cream)

#### Procedures

1. SAUTÉ ginger, garlic and onion in 1 tbsp oil for 2 minutes. Add patis and chicken, sauté for 10 minutes or until the chicken is slightly brown and a bit dry.
2. ADD peppercorn and pineapple syrup. Cover and simmer for 15 minutes.
3. ADD bell pepper, evap milk and DEL MONTE Pineapple Tidbits. Simmer uncovered for 3-5 minutes, while stirring.

### SINANGLAY NA TILAPIA

#### Ingredients:

- Tilapia, whole - 1 medium
- Bok Choi (pechay) - 3 to 5 stems (select the ones with wider leaves)
- Coconut cream (I used Kara) - 200 ml
- Red Onions, diced - 1 medium
- Ginger, minced - 1/2 of an inch
- Garlic, coarsely chopped - 3 large cloves
- Vinegar - 1 tbsp
- Green chilies
- Salt and ground black pepper to taste
- Water 1/4 cup

#### Cooking Procedure:

1. Mix together the ginger, onion, and a dash of salt and pepper. Stuff it inside the cavity of the tilapia.
2. Wrap the tilapia with the pechay leaves and secure it with a clean thread. Set aside any remaining pechay
3. In a wok, mix together the coconut cream, water, vinegar, garlic, green chilies, salt and pepper. Place the wrapped tilapia in the middle of the liquid mixture, drench it with the coconut mixture. Bring to a boil.
4. Add remaining pechay leaf.
5. Turn the tilapia so that the other side will be submerged in the liquid and let it simmer until the tilapia is cooked. Adjust taste by adding salt when necessary



### Salmon & Shrimp Curry

#### Ingredients

- 1 lbs salmon, cubed
- 1 lb medium raw prawns, shelled & devined
- 2-3 bunchs bok choy, chopped
- 2 stalks lemon grass, chopped & smashed
- 1 can coconut milk (14 oz.)
- 1 c stock (fish, chicken, or veg)
- 2 tbsp red curry paste
- 1 tbsp fish sauce (nam pla)
- 1 tsp turmeric
- 1 tsp dry yellow curry lemon

#### Preparation

Whisk coconut milk, curry (red & yellow), and turmeric. Add stock, nam pla, juice from lemon, and lemon grass pieces, simmer for 20-30 minutes. Add salmon, prawns, and bok choy, continue to simmer for 8 more minutes. Serve immediately (good with rice & naan).

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# FILIPINO STAR

## SHOWBIZ GOSSIP

### Celebs reach out to flood victims



Marian Rivera are among stars who braved the rains to reach out to her countrymen

Stars from both ABS-CBN and GMA-7 showed compassion to their countrymen by going out of their way to join separate relief operations as torrential rains and massive flooding continue to inundate major parts of Luzon Wednesday, August 8.

Among ABS-CBN stars who joined the network's Sagip Kapamilya project in San Mateo Rizal were Richard Gomez and Kathryn Bernardo.

Gomez, in an interview with "Bandila," downplayed his effort saying simply, "We're just here to help."

Bernardo on the other hand said, "Simple joy lang [on my part] ang pagbigay tulong sa kanila."

Director Laurente Dyogi who joined the operations together with Kapamilya executive Cory Vidanes lauded citizens for their seeming zest.

"Iba talaga ang espiritu ng Pilipino ang daling buhatin basta lang ramdam nilang may importansiyang binibigay sa kanila," he said.

#### On their own

Some stars organized their own relief efforts.

Marielle Rodriguez publicized via Instagram her joint effort with hubby Robin Padilla's Liwanag ng Kapayapaan Foundation (LKF) to help their neighbors in West Fairview, Quezon City.

According to Rodriguez it was her way of celebrating her upcoming birthday thanking her husband for his support.

"People from west fairview sa LKF lahat humihingi ng tulong. LKF is @robinhoodpadilla 's Liwanag ng Kapayapaan Foundation sana

maraming tulad ng asawa ko," she posted.

She went on to encourage other people to help.

"we bought grocery supplies like 555 tuna, noodles, rice, nutrigo, chicken and more at puregold in commonwealth for operation kapitbahay, kawawa ang mga tiga west fairview. lets do what we can to help," she said.

Doing their own separate effort to help their fellowmen are sweethearts Angel Locsin and Phil Youngusband. A picture of the couple distributing relief goods spread on Twitter, with several netizens lauding their efforts.

Actress Iza Calzado, on the other hand was at the Mt. Carmel Church, personally attending to the distributions of goods to evacuees.

GMA-7 contract star Marian Rivera, also helped in the cause via the Philippine Red Cross, where she is a member.

According to a report on "24 Oras," Rivera braved waist-deep floodwater to join relief operations in the impoverished area of Tatalon in Quezon City. She tried to make secret her efforts but to no avail.

"Nagpunta ako rito hindi bilang artista. Nagpunta ako rito para tumulong sa kanila, magbigay ng pagkain at para maiparamdam sa kanila na anuman ang nanagiyari sa kanila, nandiyan ang Red Cross para sa kanila," said she when cornered by media.

Meanwhile, the GMA Foundation as led by Mel Tiangco were also distributing relief goods in Roxas District in Quezon City on the same day as the Kapuso network organized

the telethon, Operation Bayanihan, taking in calls from people in need need of help.

#### Presidential relief

Kris Aquino was seen with her brother, President Benigno Aquino III, visiting evacuation centers in various cities in Metro Manila on Wednesday.

Aquino said she personally requested the President to let her join and take part in distributing relief goods to those affected by floods.

She revealed using personal money as the goods from the Department of Social Welfare and Development are not enough.

"Nag-volunteer ako talaga kay

Presidente na samahan siya and kanina bago nagpunta dito, nakapag-supermarket din ako para kami din mismo hindi lahat iaasa sa DSWD dahil kukulangin talaga. So mayroon din kaming dala na personal galing sa pamilya namin," she said in a report on absbnnews.com.

Aquino intimated that she plans to continue with the efforts on Thursday.

She called on Filipinos to be more disciplined about waste management to help prevent the repeat of such a calamity in the future.

"Sana naman talaga nagsisimula din yan sa disiplina ng mga tao about waste management and yung tamang pagdinig sa mga warnings na binibigay sa atin," she said. ■

### Zsa Zsa Padilla's surgery successful



Zsa Zsa and daughter Zia send their love and gratitude to friends, supporters

Zsa Zsa Padilla's prayers were answered with the success of the surgery she underwent in the US on Aug. 28 (local time) that removed her kidney cyst.

This was announced by Zsa Zsa's daughter, Zia Quizon, via Twitter on Tuesday afternoon.

"As far as the doctors could tell it (cancer) has not spread anywhere else. Thank you everyone for your prayers and support. <3," she added.

Several minutes later, Zia posted a photo of her with the Divine Diva, which bore the caption: "Much love, guys! Thankful to be loved, to be blessed, and for every second. :)"

The veteran singer-actress underwent laparoscopic surgery (a minimally invasive procedure) at the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, California. Zia, along with her half-sister Karylle, are also in the US to support their mother.

Zsa Zsa's other daughter, Nicole Quizon, related the turnout of Zsa Zsa's surgery during the healing mass tendered for the 48-year-old diva on Tuesday afternoon at the Dolphy Theater of ABS-CBN in Quezon City. Others who attended the mass included Dolphy's children Eric Quizon, Epi Quizon, and Vandolph.

Zsa Zsa was diagnosed with Stage 1 kidney cancer just several

weeks past the death of her life partner, Comedy King Dolphy. In her series of examinations at the Cedars-Sinai hospital, Zsa Zsa learned that she had a malignant tumor almost the size of golf ball—three centimeters.

In her recent interview with the ABS-CBN North America News Bureau, Zsa Zsa said that she will stay in the hospital for two days. After a week, she can fly back to the Philippines then resume work after a month.

Notwithstanding this latest battle, Zsa Zsa continues to embody venerable strength.

"I always need to be very strong and the only time I really cry is when I tell people closest to me [about my condition] and they break down. That's when I feel weak. Kung iisipin mo kasi parang, 'O, namatayan ka ng asawa, may cancer ka ngayon.' Pero naisip ko, it could happen to anyone. So I'm just very lucky and very grateful na naagapan. Stage 1 nalaman na na cancer para matanggal," she related.

She is likewise buoyed by optimism, inspired by the ups and downs she had triumphantly weathered with Dolphy.

"Si Zia naga-assess. Sabi niya, 'Mama, I think it's because we're still in a phase wherein we can take it.' So I can't... not see the brighter side to things. That's how Dolphy and I would survive our relationship.

"We have been through the best and the worst of times, so lahat ng pinagdaanan namin, lalong-lalo na nu'ng umpisang-umpisa pa lang ng relasyon namin, sobra na 'yung test. Na parang 'yung mga susunod pang trials namin totoo namang nakayanan namin lahat..." said Zsa Zsa. ■



## Court of appeals reinstates RPS vs Richard Gutierrez in car mishap



The Court of Appeals has reinstated the charge of reckless imprudence resulting in homicide against actor Richard Gutierrez in connection with the May 2009 car accident in Silang, Cavite province, that resulted in the death of Gutierrez's aide.

In a decision dated July 19, the appellate court's 11th Division, chaired by Justice Magdangal de Leon, set aside the March 1, 2010 and May 28, 2010 resolutions issued by the Department of Justice dismissing the charges filed against Gutierrez by Lorayne Pardo, the widow of the actor's personal assistant, Norman Pardo.

The appellate court granted the petition filed by Lorayne seeking the nullification of the two resolutions that had been issued by former justice secretaries Agnes Devanadera and Alberto Agra, respectively.

It reinstated the Sept. 28, 2008 resolution issued by the provincial prosecutor of Cavite that recommended the filing of charges against the actor.

"The assigned prosecutor on

[the] case is directed to refile the information and to proceed with dispatch in the prosecution of private respondent Richard Rama Gutierrez for reckless imprudence resulting [in] homicide until its final termination," said the decision penned by Justice Stephen Cruz.

De Leon and the other division member, Justice Myra Garcia-Fernandez, concurred in the ruling.

The justices ruled that Lorayne's appeal was "impressed with merit" as it was supported by the traffic accident report issued by the Silang town police.

The police report belied Gutierrez's claim that he was driving prudently when the vehicular accident happened, the appellate court said.

"To the mind of this court, if indeed private respondent was not driving fast, it would have been easy for him to stop his car and thwart any untoward incident," it said.

Gutierrez attributed the accident to the slippery condition of the road. Lorayne, on the other hand, blamed the actor's alleged "utter disregard of traffic rules" for the death of her husband.

The justices noted that that the car Gutierrez was driving, a Nissan GT-R Sedan with plate number ZTU-775, was found resting in a ravine approximately 35 meters away from an electric post that it had hit.

The court also noted that the photographs showing the wrecked car further confirmed that it was running at a very high speed.

However, the court did not give credence to Lorayne's claim that Gutierrez failed to extend on-the-spot assistance to her husband, noting that the actor had also been injured in the accident. ■

## Dingdong Dantes recounts birthday trip to HK with Marian, family



Dingdong Dantes recently got back from a four-day trip to Hong Kong, where he finally got his wish to celebrate a "dry" birthday with his entire family and longtime girlfriend Marian Rivera.

"Tuwing birthday ko kasi umuulan. Walang birthday ako na hindi umuulan. So sabi ko, sana hindi umulan kasi magdi-Disneyland kami.

"Sobrang init naman, ibang klase sa Hong Kong! So nagkatotoo naman 'yung wish ko," Dantes told Bulletin Entertainment and other members of media in an interview.

The Kapuso actor recalled some highlights of their trip, including "lakad-lakad lang" around Hong Kong and

watching a show in nearby Macau.

"Nag-enjoy ako sa isang show na pinanood namin, it's called 'House of Dancing Water'... It's a billion-dollar production na parang times ten ng Cirque de Soleil. Parang ganoon, ibang klase eh.

"I was really amazed, sobrang sulit! Kaming lahat nanood," said he.

Dantes was happy that the trip he had planned for a while pushed through despite his and Rivera's respective busy schedules.

"Sabi ko, 'Kung puwede, itong mga petsang 'to, kung puwede, reserve niyo lang.' I'm sure, busy rin siya. Pero pinagbigyan niya ako, sila ng manager niya," he said, referring to Popoy Caritativo.

Asked what Rivera's birthday gift for him was, Dantes replied, "She treated us ng isang dinner. Pero para sa akin, it's more than enough na kasama siya."

"Wala na, okay na, sapat na 'yun para sa akin," he added when pressed if Rivera has given him anything else.

Meanwhile, Dantes has yet to pick a gift for Rivera who will celebrate her birthday on Aug. 28.

"Honestly, wala pa, wala pa 'kong naisip. Pero ako naman kasi, kadalasan three or four days bago 'yung actual event... doon ako mag naisip na ito 'yung okay, ito yung magugustuhan niya," he said. ■

## Kris on James 'new romance' rumors: 'I'm not interested'

Queen of All Media Kris Aquino said she does not care if her ex-husband, star cager James Yap, has found a new romance.

Aquino made the statement on her morning show, "Kris TV," while discussing the results of a research which showed that nine out of ten women use Facebook to monitor their exes and their new partners.

She said she is part of the smaller percentage of women who do not care what is happening to their former flames.

"Hindi ako nagfa-Facebook, kahit 'yung Instagram account ni James hindi ako nakikialam talaga. So kasama ako doon sa 1% kasi when it's over, it's over. Move on, no angst. So hindi talaga, honestly," she said.

Aside from not checking on Yap through his Facebook and Instagram

pages, Aquino said she has also stopped listening to people who keep on updating her about her ex-husband.

"Hindi rin ako nagtatanong, it's none of my business anymore. Hindi rin ako curious talaga. Masama ba 'yon na hindi ako curious? Kasi ang daldal ko and may talk show ako, hindi ba? Baka kung ano ang masabi ko.

"So [kung may magsasabi] I say, 'I don't want to listen, I'm not interested.' Gumaganoon talaga ako, swear. Ewan ko kung maganda 'yon o masama. Pero sa akin talaga, kapag past, hindi ko binabalik-balikan, parang okay na ako," she explained.

The annulment of Aquino and Yap's five-year marriage was announced last February. ■

**SHOWBIZ GOSSIP continued p.18**

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## Showbiz Gossip *Continued from p.17*

### Freddie Aguilar loses nearly half a million to robbers



Freddie gained worldwide fame via his hit song 'Anak'

Veteran singer-songwriter Freddie Aguilar turned livid upon learning that he was robbed of nearly P500,000 in his own home in North Fairview, Quezon City on Sunday.

The 59-year-old Pinoy music icon said he came to know of the loss only after he decided to retrieve the cash from a vault located inside his bedroom to pay "rent."

"Nagulat na lang ako na wala na pagbukas ko," said he in an interview with [abscbnnews.com](http://abscbnnews.com).

Aguilar believed it was an "inside job" considering that, he said, only "yung mga nasa loob ng bahay ang may alam [tungkol] 'dun."

### Maricel Soriano makes peace with two maids



Maricel Soriano

Maricel Soriano has reportedly made peace with her two maids who last year accused the actress of beating them up.

In his column for the Philippine Star, which was published on Tuesday, entertainment editor Ricky Lo said, "Everything has been settled out of the court."

A statement from the "aggrieved parties" sent to the newspaper through Soriano's manager Shirley Kuan and Viva Entertainment Inc. boss Vic del Rosario said the incident was "a mere misunderstanding caused by emotional outburst."

The singer said he tried to conduct his own investigation prior to getting hold of the police and the media.

"Ang sabi ko umamin na kung sino... pero walang umaamin eh. Sabi ko ipapa-media ko na lang," he related.

Superintendent Virgilio Fabian, chief of the Quezon City Police Department Station 5, divulged in a separate newspaper interview that their preliminary investigations revealed no sign of forcible entry into the singer's house.

Fabian noted that only the money was missing, and that a gun left near the vault had been left untouched. He added that the vault was left without damage and its combination lock and key hole were intact.

Fabian surmised that only someone with access to the vault could have possibly opened it.

Aguilar, who lives with in the house with his children and several helpers, said, "kung isa sa anak ko ang gumawa, magiging pinakamasakit sa akin ito talaga. 'Pag napatunayan ko kung sino 'yan, ipapakulong ko."

Aguilar has been married and divorced thrice. He has five children, the eldest being Cheyenne, a businesswoman followed by Maegan, a known singer-musician; his other kids are the up and coming rapper Jonan, fashion designer Sasha and, his youngest, rock guitarist Jericho. ■

"The two parties have decided to make peace and put what happened behind them," the statement read.

It can be recalled that in June last year, Soriano's two female household workers Camille Acojedo, 18 and May Cachuela, 22, accused the actress of physically and verbally abusing them, with one of them saying that she even threatened to shoot her.

Acojedo and Cachuela then filed charges of physical injuries and grave threats against the veteran actress.

Soriano has denied all the accusations made by her former housemaids.

According to the statement released by Philippine Star, "the two parties were given a chance to explain their sides to each other," with the help of broadcaster Mon Tulfo and ALE Partylist Rep. Catalina Bagasina.

Soriano, Acojedo and Cachuela also thanked Tulfo and Bagasina "for helping sort out the mess," the statement read. ■

## Electrifying performances on 'Party Pilipinas O.A.'



Rachelle Ann Go will embark on a unique vocal challenge on 'Party Pilipinas'

Singer-songwriter Ogie Alcasid will celebrate his birthday and his 45th year in show business on GMA variety show "Party Pilipinas" tomorrow, Aug. 26.

Also celebrating her birthday is Rachelle Ann Go, who will embark on a unique vocal challenge.

Stay tuned to witness a surely outrageous vocal showdown between resident divas and proud gay birteras on this week's edition of "VOX Challenge".

Asia's Songbird Regine Velasquez-Alcasid shines anew as she shares the stage with new singing sensation,

Zendee Rose. Party Pilipinas' roster of music royalties -- Janno Gibbs, Jaya, Kyla, JayR, Jolina Magdangal, Mark Bautista, Gian Magdangal, and Kris Lawrence are also set to deliver another stellar performance on stage.

The show as always, will champion OPM, this time with a performance by music legend, Maestro Ryan Cayabyab. Fellow legends, The APO Hiking Society will give a sneak peek at upcoming movie inspired by their music, "I doo bi doo bi Doo".

This generation's Pinoy Rock icons will also grace the show -- Parokya ni Edgar launches their new album, "Inuman Sessions Volume 2"; while Rico Blanco premieres his newest single, "Amats."

The Sayaw Pilipinas crew and the Sexy Hunks will rock the stage with newest Kapuso star Rafael Rosell.

Prepare for an extra dose of sweetness courtesy of "Dear Mr. and Mrs. A" with a new inspiring love story; "Julie" with power tandem Julie Anne San Jose and Elmo Magalona; and the Keso Boys with a new cheesecake girl.

The show will also take us through the journey of future stars from "Protégé: the Battle for the Big Artista Break". An exciting new soap is also on its way to GMA's top rating Afternoon Prime block, "Sana Ay Ikaw Na Nga" featuring Mikael Daez and Andrea Torres. ■

## Toni says no to politics



Toni on her relationship with longtime boyfriend Paul: 'In God's grace, sana ma-survive namin'

TV host, actress, and singer Toni Gonzaga has no plans of following in the footsteps of his father, Cainta councilor Carlito Gonzaga---at least not in the near future.

"Naku, hindi! Wala iyon sa isip ko ngayon. Ang daddy ko na lang," she told PEP in an interview posted on Aug. 13.

The question apparently came up when Toni talked about their family's feeding program, which they have been doing "for a long time," and their relief operations for victims of the

torrential monsoon rains that affected Metro Manila and nearby provinces last week.

"At saka kahit wala naman ako sa pulitika, nagagawa ko namang tumulong sa simple ko'ng pamamaraan. Kaya okey na kami doon," she was quoted as saying.

Meanwhile, the TV personality also opened up on the reason she was confined at the hospital from Sunday until Thursday last week.

She said at length, "Nagkaroon ng problem yung stomach ko. Naging swollen---nagkaroon ng bacteria. Ang resulta, hindi nagpa-function 'yung intestine ko para mag-digest. Para siyang na-stroke, kumbaga."

Toni added that she's under medication for two months, and that she's prohibited to eat certain types of food, "like yung mga spicy at mga mamantika. Bawal din ang salad."

"Tapos bawal din ako mabusog. Doon ako nalungkot---bawal na akong mabusog. Pakonti-konting kain na lang dahil hindi ako puwedeng mabusog," said she.

The Kapamilya star also took the opportunity to say why her boyfriend of five years, director Paul Soriano, was unable to visit her at the hospital.

"Baha sa lugar nila sa South. Hindi kami nagkita nitong habagat kasi... wala, e. Hindi siya makatawid. Lubog ang lugar nila sa Parañaque. Baha kahit saan siya pumunta," she related.



## Regine Velasquez explains emotional performance on 'Party Pilipinas'



**Regine Velasquez wishes her father's health would improve**

Not a few were surprised when singer Regine Velasquez became emotional when she interpreted a song—one that has a special meaning to her—on "Party Pilipinas" on Aug. 12.

"Kasi, meron kaming bagong segment na 'Mr. & Mrs. A.' Ano 'to, 'yung mga viewers natin magpapadala sila ng love stories nila tapos magre-request sila ng song," she shared on "H.O.T. TV" on the same day.

Unknown to the televiewers, their story for the episode hit quite close to home for Regine. "This week, for the first time ang ginamit naming story...hindi naman talaga namin kinuwento 'yung buong story...'yung sa nanay at tatay ko. And 'You'll Never Know' is their favorite song kaya medyo naging emotional ako."

Sick dad?

Regine also sadly related that her dad, popularly known as Mang Gerry, is not in the pink of health these days.

"Siyempre kasi, medyo nagbabago na ang panahon," she said. "Actually, maraming nagtatanong sa akin [kung] okay daw ba si Papa kasi nagtu-tweet din ako. I just want to let everybody know that he's okay."

Although she did not detail what ails her father, Regine noted, "He can

be better, 'yung parang I wish na mas okay pa siya, bumalik 'yung dati niyang sigla, 'yung gano'n." She added that it pains her to see her dad nowadays.

"Ang hirap makita kapag ang magulang mo...Lalo na ako kasi sanay na sanay ako sa tatay ko na...may ADHD ang tatay ko, eh... 'yung kahit saan, magulo siya, lahat kinakausap. And then suddenly nawala 'yon, eh. Kaming dalawa ng nanay ko 'yung parang medyo masakit sa amin [yon]."

Co-host Roderick Paulate related that someone told him that "may nakakita daw kay Tatay (Mang Gerry)."

He added, "Tapos sabi daw niya nu'ng tinugtog 'yung song na 'yon sabi niya, 'kanta ko 'yun, para sa akin 'yun.'"

Regine admitted, "Gano'n 'yun, eh. Sasabihin niya, 'Para sa akin 'yon. Kanta 'yun ng anak ko para sa akin.' Proud siya."

Daughter's wish

Before the segment closed, Regine verbalized her wish to see her

dad in a better, more improved health.

"Sana ano, Papa, magpalakas ka pa kasi hindi pa naman time. Marami pa tayong panahon na pagsasamahan."

She then advises the youth to make time for their loved ones, their parents in particular.

"Ako ito lang ang masasabi ko sa mga kabataan ngayon. Kasi di ba life is so short na kung meron kayong time na iparamdam sa inyong mga magulang o sa mga mahal n'yo sa buhay gawin n'yo na ngayon kasi hindi natin alam."

She added that one doesn't really have to make a big effort to express his love for his parents.

"Actually, one phone call kilig na kilig na sila diyam, eh. Tatay ko 'pag tinatawagan ko, parang 'wow.'"

## Manila chase scenes in 'Bourne Legacy' earn mixed reviews



**'Bourne Legacy' registered a 53% rating in Rotten Tomatoes (www.rottentomatoes.com)**

Amid all the local fanfare over and mixed reviews of "The Bourne Legacy," the scenes shot in the country also caught the attention of film critics abroad.

Commentaries continue to pour in since the film was released worldwide last week. "Bourne" received an overall rating of 53% in the Tomatometer of Rotten Tomatoes, an online review aggregator, with the consensus being, "It isn't quite as compelling as the earlier trilogy, but 'The Bourne Legacy' proves the

franchise has stories left to tell -- and benefits from Jeremy Renner's magnetic work in the starring role."

Thumbs up

Entertainment Weekly's Lisa Schwarzbaum described the chase sequences in the Philippine capital as a "well-crafted showdown action." Director Tony Gilroy, who penned the screenplay of the "Bourne" saga from author Robert Ludlum's esteemed espionage series, delivers "something more realistic and closer to the ground. The change is refreshing. Jason Bourne's legacy is in good hands," she added.

Lisa Kennedy of the Denver Post called the motorcycle chase in Manila "beautifully absurd" but "boldly choreographed;" Peter Travers of Rolling Stone said it's a "killer" sequence, while Chris Tilly of IGN.com found it "jaw-dropping."

The said scene looked to have brought something more than thrills. A caption for Peter Howell's review for The Star read, "A Manila-set motorcycle chase late in the proceedings nearly saves 'The Bourne Legacy' from inertia."

Associated Press' Christy Lemire deemed that "Bourne" as a "straight-up action flick... does come up a bit short, except for one dizzying

motorcycle chase through the streets of Manila."

"But it feels like Tony Gilroy is trying to do something different here, something more cerebral and potentially less crowd-pleasing," she added.

"When the story zips to Manila, the resulting foot chases, vehicular chases and whatnot take center stage (especially the whatnot)," Chicago Tribune's Michael Phillips wrote, while New York Daily News' Elizabeth Weitzman said that the "high-pressure escape scenes, including one through a maze-like Manila, are all thrillingly true to the series' spirit."

Manila is also listed among the seven reasons people should see "Bourne," according to Ramin Setoodeh of The Daily Beast, the online home of Newsweek Magazine.

"That's where the movie takes our heroes, as they continue to run. I won't tell you why the movie's plot brings them there—the real reason they go is because the high rooftops and narrow streets are such a great backdrop for all the aerial acrobatics about to follow," he noted.

Calling it an "enormous action sequence," Rene Rodriguez of the Miami Herald surmised that "that must have been exceptionally difficult to

shoot and even harder to edit together." However, "it's also hard to sit through, because by that point 'The Bourne Legacy' has repeatedly proven there are no surprises to be had here, no more fresh stories to be mined from this well..."

Thumbs down

Some critics, however, are not fully sold on the action-packed sequences in Manila. Tim Robey (The Telegraph) wrote, "In Manila and on motorbikes, this one does its job as an obligatory action climax, but only just." Todd McCarthy (The Hollywood Reporter) echoed Robey's sentiments, saying, "Manila, a relatively unfamiliar location in big features that is the scene for a long motorcycle chase... unfortunately, features mostly familiar moves."

Roger Ebert found the motorcycle chase "way too long" and "is edited in that frustrating style where you see fragments of action but don't always have the whole picture."

"The Bourne Legacy," stars Jeremy Renner, Rachel Weisz, and Edward Norton, among others, and features cameo appearances by Filipino actors such as John Arcilla and Lou Veloso. ■

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## Showbiz Gossip *Continued from p.19*

### Daniel Padilla reveals getting into a fight because of his mom



**Daniel is the latest in a long line of Padillas that have made a mark in local showbiz**

Daniel Padilla is ready to go to war if it means having to defend the reputation of his mother, the former actress Karla Estrada.

The young actor recalled being involved in a major altercation with a former schoolmate who had uttered a malicious remark that his mother is "malandi."

"Kasi [daw] iba-iba ang tatay naming makakapatid," Padilla told StarStudio in its August 2012 issue.

"Wow, nung sinabi niya 'yun, grabe ang gulo na ginawa ko. After niya sabihin 'yun, parang nagka-World War III noon eh," Padilla added.

The young celebrity recalled hurling an armchair at the boy before pummeling him with punches.

"Hindi ko na napigilan kasi siyempre nanay ko 'yun, ayoko nang ginaganun ang nanay ko. Nagulat siya, parang na-shock siya sa nangyari," he also told the publication.

It was only with the timely intervention of the school principal that Padilla stopped from letting the boy

have it; apparently, none of their fellow students dared come near them.

"Wala, total rage lang ako talaga, parang nag-wild 'yung utak ko.

"Parang naging animal ako bigla nung sinabi niya 'yun," Padilla was quoted to have said.

"Iba na 'pag nanay ko—yari ka talaga sa akin. Gugulphin talaga kita. Bumaliktad nga yata 'yung mukha nung lalaking 'yun eh," he added.

Padilla admitted to even raging against the principal when the latter tried to reason with him.

"Sinabi ko 'yung dahilan. Sabi ng principal, hindi naman daw tama 'yung ginawa ko. Pero kapag ganun, hindi talaga ako kinakabahan sa mga principal talaga. Sinabi ko, 'Anong hindi tama sa ginawa ko? Kapag ginagawa sa nanay mo 'yun, tatalikod ka na lang?'" he also recounted.

The 17-year-old added, "Ginawa kong example 'yun sa kanya [his classmate]. 'Yun siguro 'yung example na walang pwedeng mang-gago sa nanay ko."

The teen heartthrob is Estrada's son with actor Rommel Padilla.

He has three other siblings: his younger brother JC, whose father is his dad's cousin Naldy Padilla of the band Orient Pearl; a younger sister, Margaret Fiona, who is fathered by politician Mike Planas; and another sister, Carmella, his mom's daughter supposedly with an unidentified businessman based abroad.

Padilla first gained notice in 2010, after ABS-CBN cast him on "Gimik." Further success came when he joined the hit series "Growing Up."

Early this year, he released his first CD, which was certified gold in less than two weeks.

Padilla is currently part of the top-rating TV series "Princess and I." ■

### Iza on why she won't date actors



Kapamilya actress Iza Calzado is wary of being in a romantic relationship with fellow actors.

"I've never had, let's say, a serious relationship with an actor. Medyo ilag talaga 'ko," Iza said in an episode of "Kris TV" aired Aug. 2.

She explained, "Nakita ko talaga with my own two eyes how tempting it

can be. I mean, as a guy, mahirap na eh to be a guy. Girls will really throw themselves at you, the temptation is always there – both for men and women naman. Pero parang sa industriya natin, heightened. So ang hirap. Eh medyo selosa talaga 'ko.

"Tapos bukod do'n, wala siguro... timing lang din. Wala akong name-meet na, nagkataong single ako tapos pwedeng single din siya," said Iza.

Prior, the actress revealed that she and actor Victor Neri used to be together, "pero mabilis lang."

Meanwhile, Iza admitted that she once considered leaving show business for a non-showbiz ex-boyfriend.

"He's a very private guy. I just understood na he would not be comfortable. I was gonna walk away maybe from the whole acting thing, ganyan, maybe just do theater, and then maybe hosting," she explained.

It turned out that he was uncomfortable with the work hours that working for the entertainment industry entails, "and a lot of other things..."

"But then it ended. So maybe, you

know, maybe I had to fly or soar higher in my career. Maybe that's also one of the reasons why it had to end. And, 'yun nga. So I'm dating now," said she.

Iza said her relationships "helped me grow as a person, as an individual."

"I've been lucky na marami 'yung

mga serious relationships ko. Kahit sometimes may heartbreaks siya, minahal naman ako ng mga lalaki. Wala namang outright na inalipusta ako or sinaktan ako. So maswerte ako," she shared. ■

### Bangs Garcia shows off other talent



**Bangs Garcia, the painter**

Aside from acting, Bangs Garcia can actually paint – a fact that her friends have initially brushed off.

"Yung mga kaibigan ko hindi sila makapaniwala. When I said that I was painting, they actually thought that, 'Okay, painting-painting-an lang.' But when they saw my artworks, 'Wow, bes na! 'Di mo naman sinabing marunong kang mag-painting,'" Garcia said in a taped interview aired on "Umagang Kay Ganda," Aug. 24.

Bangs is one of the featured artists-slash-beauty queens in the "Art & Beauty II" exhibit, which runs until Sept. 15. An ABS-CBNNews.com report noted that she won the Department of Education-organized Miss Philippines Youth in 2006.

"Art & Beauty II" also mounted works by former beauty titlists such as Evangeline Pascual, Nina Ricci Alagao, and Ma. Isabel Lopez.

Bangs, now on her second exhibit, gushed, "Sobrang natutuwa ako kasi wala pang one year ako nagpipinta, and ito ngayon may second exhibit na 'ko agad."

Recalled that last Feb. 24, Bangs debuted her art works with those by other artists' through the "Timeless Colors" exhibit held in an art gallery at Power Plant Mall.

Meanwhile, Bangs proudly explained the inspiration behind one of her paintings, "La Cienega," which apparently translates to "spring" or "oasis."

"Yung napili ko [ay] desert kasi nag-taping ako sa Doha, Qatar at saka sa Dubai for my teleserye. So I got inspired kasi nakasakay na ko sa camel for the first time," said she, referring to her hit afternoon soap, "Kung Ako'y Iwan Mo." ■

### Sarah Lahbati on working with Richard Gutierrez



**Sarah Lahbati**

Switzerland born Filipina actress Sarah Lahbati (photo) says she had a good time with "Makapiling Kang Muli" leading man Richard Gutierrez when he asked her to join him in Bukidnon for "Pinoy Adventures," now seen on Saturdays at 6 p.m.

"Bale two days and two nights kami roon," she says. "We experienced their Drop Zone, Zipline, Dune Buggy, the Luge and Aniline, a bicycle on a tightrope, but not their White Water Rafting, sayang nga.

We also visited the Dole and Del Monte pineapple plantations. I told him

he's so blessed to host a show that takes him to various places not seen by all."

Is it true she's the reason Chard dumped his non-showbiz girlfriend?

"I don't think so. I don't ask him as it's none of my business. I'm not flattered to be accused na akong dahilan ng breakup ninuman."

What qualities of Chard endear him to her?

"We have many things in common. We're both open minded, adventurous, we both love traveling and exploring. We're both sporty, we do many things together like muay thai, jujitsu, target shooting. We have the same personality and common friends, 'yun ang naglapit sa amin. Pati sa work, we help each other with suggestions para mas mapaganda ang aming show. But we're not yet officially on. We're still getting to know each other better."

So what happens to her as Graciela in "Makapiling Kang Muli"?

"Naku, maraming masasaktan sa mangyayaring mga kaguluhan. World War III among the characters. Mark Anthony Fernandez will get me pregnant. I'll discover that Richard still has feelings for Carla Abellana. Graciela is hard for me to portray kasi malayo siya sa real me. She's loud, cold-hearted, careless and definitely, I'm not like that." ■





**In Praise of Originality and Strangeness** By David White

Last week, nearly 400 wine writers gathered in Portland, Oregon, for the fifth annual Wine Bloggers' Conference.

The event opened with a keynote speech from Randall Grahm, the legendary vintner behind Bonny Doon Vineyard, who urged attendees to "support originality and strangeness, two features that the wine business, especially in the New World, desperately needs."

It'd be hard to ignore the fact that Grahm was urging the audience to embrace more winemakers like himself.

Grahm rose to fame in the 1980s thanks to his originality -- he was among the first American winemakers to embrace Rhone varieties like Syrah and Grenache. And Grahm is proudly strange. For most of his career, he was best known for his flamboyant and irreverent marketing campaigns. Six years ago, he famously decided to cast aside his three biggest wine brands in order to focus on small-production wines made with minimal intervention.

Such originality and strangeness should be applauded. And fortunately, more and more winemakers are following in Grahm's footsteps.

For some, this means introducing Americans to obscure grapes.

Consider Red Tail Ridge Winery on Seneca Lake in New York. Like most producers in the Finger Lakes, Red Tail Ridge makes a number of different Rieslings. But it also produces varieties like Teroldego, a red wine that hails from northeast Italy, and Blaufrankisch, Austria's signature red wine.

Or look at Chateau O'Brien in the Blue Ridge Mountains of northern Virginia. Its flagship wine is a Tannat, a grape that's typically associated with Uruguay. On a recent visit to the winery, I was extremely impressed by its Petit Manseng, even though the variety is historically used in southwest France as an unremarkable blending grape.

Chateau O'Brien and Red Tail Ridge aren't alone. Across the country, countless producers are introducing consumers to unfamiliar grapes.

For other winemakers, originality and strangeness means jettisoning modern winemaking techniques and mimicking the producers of yesteryear.

Just think about the arsenal of tools today's winemakers can employ.

On the vineyard, viticulturists can ensure that their vines receive the perfect amount of water through irrigation. With chemical fertilizers, grape growers can maintain textbook levels of soil nutrients. By using pesticides and herbicides, growers can protect their grapes from fungi and invasive weeds.

In the cellar, winemakers can manipulate their wines in a number of ways. Adding sugar just before fermentation can raise alcohol; using a specialized filtration system can lower it. Winemakers can make a wine seem fresher by adding tartaric acid. Aging wine in oak barrels is expensive; using oak chips saves money and time. Adding a

small amount of grape juice concentrate to a wine can mask vegetal aromas.

These practices aren't necessarily bad -- many are critical in the production of affordable, consistent, commercial wine. But they make it difficult for a wine to express a sense of place. That "sense of place" -- or terroir -- is what makes wine special. It's why two wines made from adjacent vineyards can taste distinctively different from each other.

The pursuit of terroir inspires numerous winemakers to produce wine as if they're living in ancient times. For longtime California producer Steve Edmunds, who, like Randall Grahm, is known for his focus on Rhone varieties, this makes perfect sense.

"Winemaking isn't Rocket Science," he explains on his website. "It's an ancient, relatively straightforward process that should yield, in any wine, a precise expression of the vineyard and the season that produced it."

Even big wineries have started to move in this direction. Since 2007, Sonoma's Benziger Family Winery has pursued "the highest level of natural farming appropriate" for each of its vineyards, not solely because of environmental concerns, but because the Benziger family believes such practices help produce more honest, authentic wine.

As Grahm finished his speech in Portland, he urged the audience to "speak up on behalf . . . of those who are innovating new styles, or preserving something precious." Every year, it seems as if an increasing number of American winemakers are doing just that. It's a development worth celebrating. David White, a wine writer, is the founder and editor of Terroirist.com. His columns are housed at Wines.com, the fastest growing wine portal on the Internet.



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## Philippines: Two Years Under Aquino, Abuses Go Unpunished

No Successful Prosecutions of Security Forces for Killings, 'Disappearances'

(New York, June 28, 2012) –

President Benigno Aquino III of the Philippines has not fulfilled his promises to hold accountable the security forces responsible for serious abuses since taking office two years ago, Human Rights Watch said today. The Aquino government has not successfully prosecuted a single case of extrajudicial killing or enforced disappearance, including those committed during his presidency, Human Rights Watch said.

In his inaugural speech on June 30, 2010, Aquino gave "marching orders" to the Justice Department to "begin the process of providing true and complete justice for all." Five months later, at an event to commemorate human rights, he said that, "The culture of silence, injustice and impunity that once reigned is now a thing of the past." And during his 2011 State of the Nation Address, Aquino reiterated this commitment, saying, "We are aware that the attainment of true justice does not end in the filing of cases, but in the conviction of criminals."

"President Aquino has not lived up to his promises to bring those responsible for serious abuses to justice," said Elaine Pearson, deputy Asia director at Human Rights Watch. "Concrete measures – rather than more promises – are needed now."

Human Rights Watch today released a video, "Philippines: No Justice for Victims of Enforced Disappearances," in which family members of the "disappeared" call on the president to live up to his promises of justice.

Human Rights Watch, in its 2011 report "No Justice Just Adds to the Pain," documented 10 cases of extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances since Aquino took office. No one has been arrested in any of these cases, and the three

"disappeared" people remain missing.

The Aquino administration has not taken the needed steps to bring recent cases of serious abuse to trial, Human Rights Watch said.

In his first State of the Nation Address in July 2010, President Aquino noted the case of Francisco Baldomero, an activist from Aklan province who was killed on July 5, 2010, as among those "on their way to being resolved." An arrest warrant has been issued for Dindo Ancero in the case, but he has not been apprehended and the case was "archived" – put on hold – in January 2011.

An arrest warrant was issued but never served for one of two suspects in the killing of Rene Quirante, a left-wing activist who was beaten and shot by uniformed men on October 1, 2010, in Negros Oriental province. A relative of Quirante's has alleged that the suspect has been seen in the company of soldiers. "Nothing is happening," Quirante's relative told Human Rights Watch in April. "We're growing tired of waiting for justice."

Human Rights Watch has monitored progress on cases of killings and enforced disappearances under the previous administration of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. If progress has been made, it is often because of the perseverance and courage of family members, rather than aggressive action by police and prosecutors, Human Rights Watch said.

For instance, in the 2006 disappearance of two university students, Karen Cadapan and Sherilyn Empeno, family action was crucial in bringing the two soldiers to trial for their kidnapping and illegal detention. The trial for the two soldiers started in May. However, the men are not in civilian custody but are being held in a military camp. Two others implicated in the students' disappearance, including retired Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan, the commander in the area at the time, have evaded arrest. Human Rights Watch has received information that military and

on who they are. They come home from schools and ask, 'Mommy, am I Italian?' 'Daddy, am I Chinese?'

We want to help parents to narrow this culture gap through our Heritage program. We want to teach our children that Filipinos are good people. We love our families, respect the elderly, value hard work, aspire for higher education and we know the meaning of perseverance. We take pride as Filipinos. We want to teach them that as Filipino-Canadians, we appreciate this country that gave their parents and their offsprings their second home, their second chances and ample opportunities to progress and prosper in life. We want to teach them that Canada is a welcoming country and we all belong in the same circle. There's nothing to be shy about being different from all the rest."

For some parents, they think learning two or more languages could be confusing to their children, but Lugod said she thinks that there is no basis for this misconception. Alienating ourselves from our roots, does not help our people who have identity crisis. If other nationalities have schools here like the Chinese, the Greeks, the Italians and a lot more others, why can't we Filipino-Canadians see the importance of the

business interests are protecting General Palparan.

In the past decade, state security forces in the Philippines have been implicated in the torture, enforced disappearance, and killing of hundreds of leftist activists, journalists, and clergy. The communist New People's Army and other insurgent groups have also been responsible for killings and other serious abuses. Under President Macapagal-Arroyo, government security forces conducted a massive campaign targeting groups deemed to be Communist Party fronts and their alleged members and supporters. The number of killings and disappearances implicating the military has gone down under the Aquino administration, but they continue.

The Philippines's human rights record was scrutinized at the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva during its Universal Periodic Review in May. Several countries – including the United States, Australia, Germany, the United Kingdom, Spain, the Netherlands, and the Holy See – raised alarm over the continuing killings, enforced disappearances, and torture. During the sessions, several countries urged the Aquino administration to end impunity for these abuses.

Human Rights Watch has longstanding recommendations to Aquino to initiate the comprehensive reforms necessary to end impunity for serious abuses. He should order the National Bureau of Investigation to investigate police and military personnel, including at the command level, who have been implicated in killings. He should also make clear to the police that they are responsible for vigorously pursuing any crimes committed by government officials and police officers and that if they do not, they will become the target of a criminal investigation. He should order the military to cooperate with civilian authorities investigating military abuses or themselves face sanctions. And he should take immediate steps to ensure that the country's witness protection

heritage class for our children?"

"If a child has a better understanding of himself, if he knows his identity and if he isn't lost on who he is, he becomes more confident as a person. He'll learn better and he becomes an achiever in the long run. Also, parents who communicate in their mother language to their children say that they are closer to their children and they think that their children understand them better because they already know where their reasoning are coming from. If their parents could look at the advantages rather than the difficulties, they'll not sweat over the small stuff, they'll see more of the advantage."

FAMAS Heritage Class starts in September. Enrollment is now open. For more information, please call FAMAS at (514) 341-7477 or call Melle Lugod at (514) 993-5568 or Gina Medina at (514) 737-7449.

From Page 3 PQ would ban

province and the home of the Charest government's Plan Nord.

"No, not really," Gordon said. "If so, we have French-speaking senior employees as well who are able to

program is independent, accessible, and properly funded.

"As President Aquino himself pointed out, the conviction of those implicated in abuses is the true test of his commitment to his promise," Pearson said. "So the government needs to move beyond simply identifying suspects and obtaining warrants to actually apprehending the suspects and putting them on trial."

To watch the video, "Philippines: No Justice for Victims of Enforced Disappearances," please visit: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pNY8QovO7f0&feature=youtu.be>

To read the report "No Justice Just Adds to the Pain," please visit: <http://www.hrw.org/reports/2011/07/18/no-justice-just-adds-pain-0>

To read the news release "Philippines: Military Leadership Should Act on Abuses," please visit:

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To read the news release "Philippines: Arrest Ex-General Accused of 'Disappearances,'" please visit:

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translate but there's never really been an issue like a language barrier between our leaders today and the Quebec government because they all speak English too."

PQ seeks to establish Quebec constitution

The language proficiency idea has its roots in a 2007 project by the PQ which seeks to establish a Quebec constitution and Quebec citizenship.

The idea drew outrage when it was originally raised in 2007 from such groups as the Centre for Research-action on Race Relations and B'nai Brith Canada, which described it as xenophobic and similar to proposals by extreme right-wing parties in Europe.

One newspaper columnist said the PQ idea is probably part of its broader plan to achieve independence.

The party has said it will pick fights with the rest of the country, and use each one to argue its case that Quebec's culture can't survive within Canada.

"This one will go straight to the Supreme Court (and that's probably the goal)," Montreal La Presse political columnist Vincent Marissal wrote on Twitter.

From Page 8 Heritage Class

manner they do understand and enjoy it. At the same time, we would like to integrate in the language lessons our culture and heritage, the tradition and values of our people and the appreciation of what a beautiful country we have. We would like them to be proud of their roots."

Gina Medina, also a grade school teacher in the Philippines and another volunteer teacher said, "Initially, the children were just playing around and laughing. They thought the language was funny. But then when they understood what they were learning and what they were doing, they became serious about them. Now, they even 'google' to check the meaning of some words."

Medina and Lugod both agree that the FAMAS Heritage Program should be further developed and enhanced to meet the needs of the current generation. "The program needs to be stabilized so that whoever would be on the next FAMAS administration, the program continues," Lugod explained.

"We hear parents all the time, saying their children ask them questions





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**Why the Philippines is Asia's bright spot**

One number -- economic growth of 6.4% in the first quarter -- has triggered external groups and media to consider the Philippines as Asia's poster boy.

The latest is the New York Times, which hailed the Philippines as "Asia's bright spot," citing the country's young population as a primary driver of economic growth.

In an August 27 report entitled "A youthful populace helps make the Philippines an economic bright spot in Asia," the New York Times cited international analysts who now say the country has gone from being Asia's "sick man" to the "healthiest" economy in the region.

"A high population growth rate, long considered a hindrance to prosperity, is now often seen as a driving force for economic growth. About 61% of the population in the Philippines is of working age, between 15 and 64. That figure is expected to continue increasing, which is not the case for many of its Asian neighbors, whose populations are aging," New York Times said.

**Other positive signs**

The flurry of positive news also helped boost the image of the

Philippine economy.

Aside from the 6.4% first quarter growth -- which made the Philippines the fastest growing in Southeast Asia -- the New York Times article cited other indicators that could show there are fundamental basis for the optimism about the Philippines.

It cited recent credit upgrades that reduce borrowing costs of the government. The Philippines is now one-notch below investment grade.

The 4-year high record of the peso against the dollar, on the other hand, has been buoyed by remittances, which stayed resilient amid economic woes of host countries.

"The Philippines' growing prosperity has also been driven by the 9.5 million Filipinos -- almost 10% of the population -- who work outside the country and who sent home about \$20 billion in 2011. That is up from \$7.5 billion in 2003," the article added.

**BPOs and growth**

The story also cited data the Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) industry, which employs 683,000 Filipinos as of end-2011. The industry generated \$11 billion this year, a 24%

growth from 2011.

New York Times also shared the government's plans to generate \$25 billion in revenue by 2016 through the local BPO industry.

The report noted how the BPO has given young workers enjoy relatively new economic opportunities, thanks to BPOs that dot business districts in the capital.

"Mika Santos, 18, does not have much to say about the national economy. But she is very happy with her own situation...She earns a comparatively high salary for an entry-level job (handling customer service calls for a United States mobile phone company)...Had she been born a generation earlier, she would most likely have worked as a low-income farmer or gone overseas to find work," the report highlighted.

These stories from the BPO sector represent those who account less than 1% of the working population and usually describe economic boom in the cities, not in the countryside where poverty is rampant.

On August 30, the government will announce how the economy performed in the second quarter, and whether the growth is sustainable or not. ■



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The knowledge and skills I have learned at Gilmore College gave me the edge to work in the health care field where one needs to show the willingness to render service to the sick and the elderly.  
(Ethel Tugna - March 2011 graduate)T



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PAB students in the team building course (standing) from left: Marilou Hechanova, Lourdescita Lubang, Grace Calvo, Mildred Mendoza, Annabelle Allosa, Annie Signey, Joesie Bingayen and Edison Taguba. Seated from left are the PAB instructors: Clarice Mackay, Josefina Toledo, College director Zenaida Kharroubi, PAB instructors Edith Fedalizo, and Amy Manon-og.



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