

COP21: Trudeau Says Climate Change Fight Begins At Home, 'No Time To Waste'

CP | By Bruce Cheadle, The Canadian Press, posted 11/30/2015
 PARIS — Prime Minister Justin Trudeau travelled to Europe to tell the world that the fight against climate change starts at home.

Trudeau wrapped up a week-long run of European summits — his second in less than 30 days since being sworn into office — with an address to the leaders' plenary on the opening day of a UN-sponsored climate conference.

French President Francois Hollande, the host of the 21st climate conference, and other leaders painted the climate battle in existential terms for humankind, explicitly linking security issues and global warming in this terror-scarred city.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau addresses world leaders at the COP21, United Nations Climate

Change Conference, in Le Bourget, France.

Trudeau focused on his own backyard.

"Indigenous peoples have known for thousands of years how to care for our planet," he said. "The rest of us have a lot to learn. And no time to waste."

Trudeau said national governments like his own also have a lot they can learn from cities, and from the provincial premiers who've accompanied him to these talks.

"Indigenous peoples have known for thousands of years how to care for our planet. The rest of us have a lot to learn."

More than 150 countries are represented at the conference, known

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Prime Minister Justin Trudeau addresses world leaders at the COP21, United Nations Climate Change Conference, in Le Bourget, France. (Photo: Michel Euler/AP)

Panday Tinig marks its 30th anniversary and launching of its 3rd CD

The Panday Tinig Choral Ensemble celebrated its 30th anniversary year through a dinner-dance gala on Saturday, November 14, 2015, at the Crowley Arts Center, 5325 Crowley Avenue, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. The event was doubly significant as the Panday Tinig launched its third compact disc (CD) titled 'Hiwaga Ng Pag-ibig/Mystery of Love/Mystère de l'amour'.

The Gala evening's program started at 7:30 p.m. with the singing of the national anthems of the Philippines and Canada, led by the Panday Tinig Choral Ensemble. This was followed by Panday's choral rendition of Rosas Pandan and Plaisir d'amour, two songs from the Ensemble's third CD.

For the invocation, the Panday Tinig singers sang a "Song of Thanks" to the tune of Planting Rice.

There were one-hundred and thirty (130) attendees for Panday Tinig's 30th anniversary gala. As the evening dinner progressed, Edith Fedalizo, the Coordinator for the Ensemble, talked to and interviewed some of the guests, who at one point in Panday's history, had contributed to its 30-year evolution. Fedalizo used the microphone through the course of the interviews so everyone heard the dynamics of the conversations.

In attendance were Ministers and

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Panday Tinig's Music Director, Paul Imperial (left) and Pianist/coordinator Edith Fedalizo (right) with Ministers and Consuls Porfirio Mayo and Florida Ann Camille P. Mayo, Philippine Embassy, Ottawa, Ontario, at the dinner-dance gala marking the 30th anniversary of the Panday Tinig Choral Ensemble, at the Crowley Arts center, Montreal, November 14, 2015.



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Opinion Ed.

An alternative choice in 2016 if...

An alternative choice in 2016, if...
December 14, 2015 | Opinion

ON DISTANT SHORE
By Val G. Abelgas

Presidentiables-2016.2As we are writing this, the Commission on Elections, sitting en banc, had just deferred its decision on the disqualification case against presidential candidate Sen. Grace Poe. The six poll commissioners, including Comelec Chairman Andres Bautista, were expected to deliberate again and make a decision the next day, Tuesday.

We really can't understand why the commissioners had to defer its decision another day when it's obvious that they would simply uphold the earlier decisions by the poll body's First Division (2-1) and Second Division (3-0) to cancel Poe's Certificate of Candidacy for failure to meet the requirements for presidential candidates on citizenship and 10-year residency.

The First Division ruled on a petition by lawyer Estrella Elempario on Poe's alleged lack of residency while the second division ruled on petitions filed by University of the East College of Law Dean Amado Valdez, former Sen. Kit Tatad and De La Salle University professor Antonio Contreras questioning Poe's citizenship.

With the lone dissenter in the first

division, Commissioner Christian Lim, abstaining from the en banc deliberation because of his ties with one of the petitioners, lawyer Estrella Elempario, the pending decision could even be unanimous (6-0) with Bautista siding with the five other commissioners from the two divisions who all voted to disqualify Poe. The five are Commissioners Al Parreno, Arthur Lim and Sheriff Abas from the second division and Luie Guia and Rowena Guanzon from the first division.

It's highly doubtful that the five would suddenly change their minds a few days later, and even if Chairman Bautista bucked the odds and voted in favor of Poe, it would still be a 5-1 decision that would effectively void Poe's COC and remove her name from the official ballot.

They could have just went ahead with the obvious and given Poe time to immediately file her appeal before the Supreme Court on Monday. But that could have given the high tribunal time to issue a temporary restraining order on the submission of the final roster of candidates for the ballot, whose deadline was on Tuesday.

By his action alone of deferring the decision, we could easily ascertain that Bautista would go along with the five commissioners in disqualifying Poe. As they would say, what did you expect, feathers?

In any case, it appears certain Poe would be disqualified unless the Supreme Court decides to overturn the Comelec ruling and upholds Poe's candidacy. With three SC justices having shown their opinion in the 5-4 voting in the Senate Electoral Tribunal in a case seeking to void Poe's election in the 2013 senatorial elections for the

Duterte to run knowing that the mayor poses a threat to a Roxas victory?

I'm not a lawyer but I doubt if the Supreme Court would entertain an appeal by Duterte on a question of technicality, and not on legality. Perhaps, they can base their appeal on abuse of authority by the Comelec, but



Grace Oie, Rodrigo Duterte, Jejomar Binay, and Mar Roxas, 2016 candidates for president.

same reasons – her lack of citizenship and residency – we more or less have an inkling of how the tribunal would decide.

As to the case of Davao city Mayor Rodrigo Duterte, who had filed his COC as substitute for party mate Martin Dino, who for some reason, wrote that he was running for Pasay mayor on a COC form for presidential candidates, the mayor's supporters can only hope that the commissioners would overlook the mistake and allow Duterte to run.

Knowing that all the seven commissioners, including abstainer Arthur Lim, were appointed by President Aquino, who is openly campaigning for Liberal Party candidate Mar Roxas, do we expect any of the six sitting en banc to allow

that is also farfetched.

In any case, the possible disqualification of the two frontrunners in a presidential election is unprecedented in Philippine history.

There are even speculations that the third leading candidate based on the latest surveys, Vice President Jejomar Binay, might even be found guilty of corruption charges and, therefore, disqualified before the official start of the campaign in February or shortly before the elections in May.

If this happens, Aquino's candidate Roxas could win by default. This is even more unprecedented, and even more unacceptable to the people. This can only happen if Aquino is so

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Dr. John Calder

From page 1 Climate change

as COP21, and more than 180 jurisdictions made emissions-cutting pledges in advance of two weeks of final negotiations that formally began Monday.

Hollande, whose national capital was stricken earlier this month by its second deadly terror attack in 2015, portrayed the task of climate negotiators in vividly dire terms.

"I'm not choosing between the fight against terror and the fight against global climate change," he said in his opening address after delegates observed a moment of silence for terrorism victims in France, Lebanon, Iraq, Tunisia and Mali.

"Because we must leave our children more than a planet free of terrorism.... We must leave them a viable planet."

Hollande said climate disruption spawns conflict as clouds bring storms.

"Essentially what is at stake with this climate conference is peace," said the French president.

The conference site, a sprawling airfield outside Paris, was a remarkable scene. More than one hundred country leaders and several thousand official delegates and journalists converged in the City of Lights just three weeks after terrorists killed 130 people in seven coordinated attacks on Nov. 13.

U.S. President Barack Obama called the gathering "an act of defiance."

"What greater rejection of those who would tear down our world than marshalling our best efforts to save it," he told the morning plenary.

Trudeau had been asked last week about the nexus of climate and terror after UN secretary general Ban Ki-Moon raised the link at a news conference in Malta during a

Commonwealth summit.

obama philippines ap ec

U.S. President Barack Obama called the summit "an act of defiance" when addressing the delegates. (Photo: Susan Walsh/AP)

Trudeau said security and climate change have figured in every conversation he's had with other world leaders, whether at the G20 in Turkey, the Asia-Pacific leaders summit in Manila, or last week in Malta — but added, "I don't see a direct link there."

At a news conference Monday on the conference site, Trudeau said the three-month election campaign this fall that propelled his Liberals to power showed him that Canadians are ready to pitch in on fighting climate change.

"But they want to know that what they're doing fits into a bigger picture," said Trudeau. "Because there is no point in bending over backwards if your neighbour or your government is not also doing its part to ensure that we all have the maximum impact together."

Trudeau, who has acknowledged that past governments — including Liberals — have failed to meet emission-cutting targets, said there "can be no laggards."

"Every single one of us can and should be much more conscious of the ways we can act to reduce our carbon footprint."

Before returning to Ottawa on Monday night, and this week's return of a new Parliament, the prime minister met with the premiers of B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario and Quebec in one last display of the group effort Canada intends to make on climate change.

It was the last of Trudeau's frenetic networking, which included sitting down with the presidents of the European Union and European

Commission, Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu — where he accepted an invitation to visit Israel — and a brief address to an event hosted by the World Bank.

Trudeau announced in Malta that Canada will contribute \$2.65 billion over five years to a climate adaptation and mitigation fund, and on Monday he added a pledge of \$300 million to clean technology innovation as part of a 20-country project headlined by Hollande, Obama and Microsoft founder Bill Gates.

Canada also made a \$30-million contribution towards a \$250-million fund to help the world's poorest countries adapt to immediate climate threats..

From Page 1 Panday Tinig

Consuls Florida Ann Camille P. Mayo and Porfirio Mayo, representing the Philippine Embassy, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. They were presented last by Edith Fedalizo during the interviews, leading the way for Paul Imperial, Panday Tinig Music Director, to introduce Minister and Consul Florida Ann Camille P. Mayo, the guest speaker for the evening.

To end the evening's program, Panday Ting loyalty awards were given to longtime members of the Ensemble. Recipients included: (1) Gelyn Gao-ay, 15-year member; (2) Magnolia Camat, 15-year member; (3) Jessie Pascual, 16-year member. Domingo Lorica Jr., 10-year member, could not make it in person for the evening's loyalty awards presentation.

Since the inception of the Panday Tinig in 1985, Edith Fedalizo has served as its Coordinator and pianist. At the November 14th gala, Fedalizo received a medallion, for her dedication, commitment, service, and loyalty to the Panday Tinig Choral Ensemble for thirty years.

Cutting of the 30-year anniversary cake followed, as well as photos opps. As the guests danced for the rest of the night, desserts as well as arrozcaldo were served at the foyer by Vicky Laya. Mary Dufresne was the evening's CD vendor.

Part of the proceeds from Panday's CD sales will be donated to the Gazette Christmas fund to help the needy people of Montreal this coming Holiday Season. If you haven't purchased Panday's CD yet, you may call at 514-262-2478 or email at panday@pandaytinig.com. Salamat. Thank you. Merci.



Awardees: Loyalty Awardees, l to r: Gelyn Gao-ay, 15-year member; Jessie Pascual, 16-year member; Magnolia Camat, 15-year member; Editha Fedalizo, 30-year member; Paul Imperial, Panday Tinig Music Director.

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From page 2 An alternative

desperate to make Roxas win and avoid incarceration for his role in the Disbursement Acceleration Program, which has been declared illegal by the

Supreme Court.

But I don't think even the arrogant Aquino would do such a reckless thing. He'll probably let Binay run and let his party's black ops to just pounce on Binay with more corruption allegations, and if Roxas remains lagging behind in surveys, maybe he can make behind-the-scenes deals with Binay through her Binay-friendly sisters. They had done that against Roxas in the 2010 vice presidential contest, why can't they do it again next year?

But wait, even if the three frontrunners are eliminated, there is still the feisty Miriam Defensor Santiago to reckon with. Surely, they can't disqualify Santiago so they'd probably zero in on the fact that the lady senator is very ill and may not be able to discharge the duties and responsibilities of the president if she is elected.

Here is where the supporters of Poe, Duterte and perhaps Binay can vent their anger on the disqualification of their candidates. They can always vote for Santiago, who is one of the most qualified among the weak pool of presidential candidates in 2016.

They just have to choose intelligently from among the strong pool of vice presidential candidates who can take over the functions of the president in case, heaven forbid, Santiago is incapacitated. There is a wide field of highly qualified candidates for vice president to choose from – Santiago's running mate Sen. Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr., Roxas' running mate Rep. Leni Robredo, Binay's running mate Sen. Gringo Honasan, Duterte's running mate Sen. Alan Cayetano and independent candidate Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV.

It's not really a hopeless situation. Voters need not choose between the devil and deep blue sea, after all. That is, again, assuming that the 2016 presidential elections would be a clean one.

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Jollibee gears for Canada opening

Executives of Jollibee USA called on H.E. Ambassador Petronila P. Garcia in Ottawa in a prelude to the opening of Jollibee stores across Canada.

Maribeth D. dela Cruz, Vice President and General Manager of Jollibee USA, with Mackey Dimaculangan, Operations Director, and Carol Rodriguez, Marketing Head for Jollibee, Red Ribbon, and Chowking, were welcomed by Ambassador Garcia, as well as DCM Norman Garibay, and Consul General Eric Gerardo Tamayo. They discussed Jollibee's efforts to open branches in areas of Canada where there are both high and dense concentrations of Filipino-Canadians, as well as a high patronage of quick service restaurants among Canadians.

The quick-service restaurant (QSR) industry in Canada is sustaining a growth trajectory. According to the Canadian Chain Restaurant Industry Review, an extensive research report commissioned by GE Capital and compiled by fsSTRATEGY and NPD Group Canada, the most frequent users of QSRs are Canadians aged 18 to 34, even as those belonging to the group of 55 years of age, are visiting QSRs more often.

The entry of Jollibee in Canada bodes well for the growing Filipino food movement in North America. This month, Filipino cuisine came into renewed prominence as the Philippine entry to the 2015 Embassy Chef Challenge was given two awards at the 2015 Embassy Chef Challenge in

Ottawa on November 5. Filipino-Canadian chef Jil Aranas entered her version of kinulob na itik, an epicurean delight of the province of Laguna where she was raised before migrating to Canada at the age of 15.

Bolstering the movement further is the recent swing of the SALO project of Yana Gilbuena. In summer, Chef Gilbuena took her roving dinner project across Canada teaching diners the way of eating kamayanstyle feasts (traditional Filipino method of eating with one's hands).

The year also saw the opening of the first and only Filipino food truck in Ottawa. Meryenda Snack Specializes in Filipino flavours with a fresh and unique twist from its founders Mark Coronel and Paul Castanos. With their combined restaurant experience and their shared love of Filipino Food, the two chefs decided that it was time to go into business for themselves and introduce Philippine cuisine to the Ottawa community.

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation itself notes that Jollibee is well-known around the world for its pineapple-topped hamburgers, peach-mango pie and "Chickenjoy" fried chicken. The food chain has 2,833 stores worldwide and Jollibee Foods Corp. is the biggest fast food restaurant operator in The Philippines. Many

Founded in 1978, Jollibee has branches across the globe and with 32 branches in the United States. Its entry into Canada follows the growing Filipino population in the country.


In 2014, the Philippines was the largest source country of new migrants into Canada. Almost 700,000 people of Filipino descent now call Canada their home. Tagalog is the fastest growing language, and Filipinos now comprise the third largest visible minority in the country. END


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Officials of Jollibee USA call on Ambassador Garcia. Mmes. Maribeth D. dela Cruz, Vice President and General Manager of Jollibee USA, Mackey Dimaculangan, Operations Director, and Carol Rodriguez, Marketing Head for Jollibee, Red Ribbon, and Chowking, present Ambassador Garcia and Consul General Eric Tamayo with the iconic mascot. The life-size figure of Jollibee is expected to welcome Canadians at Jollibee stores opening across the country.x

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Je vous souhaite un joyeux Noël et une très bonne année 2016.

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Maribeth D. de la Cruz, Vice-president and General Manager of Jolabee USA poses with Ambassador Petronila Garcia.



Mackey Dimaculangan, Operations Director, presents the Jolabee mascot to to Consul General Eric Tamayo





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Project Headshot Clinic presents its 8th World AIDS Day series



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Bea Rose Santiago



Pia Cayetano



Reniel "Rein" Villareal

The number of HIV and AIDS cases in the Philippines is low, but it's increasing. Between 2001 and 2009, the country is one of only seven countries globally where HIV infections have increased by over 25 per cent. This alarming rise calls for immediate action. Thus, it is vital for us to do everything we can to prevent the spread of this terrible disease.

Since 2007, Project Headshot Clinic has supported advocacy campaigns on HIV awareness using social media and photography. The first Project Headshot Clinic series on HIV started in 2008 when writer Wanggo Gallaga came out to founder Niccolo Cosme about his HIV status. Gallaga had then been recently diagnosed, and Niccolo asked him if he wanted to collaborate and do the first ever Headshot Clinic series on HIV for World AIDS Day 2008. It has since then become a yearly personal project with continued partnership with UNAIDS.

This year, the theme is Transform – highlighting the need for positive change about society's perception on HIV and AIDS through art collaborations and social media awareness. "The geometric shapes are collaboration with art sculptor Royd Santiado and is aimed to look like pixels on the portraits," shares Cosme, the founder of Project Headshot Clinic. "It symbolizes how the pixels that make up a digital photograph can mean nothing if advocacy is small; but small efforts joined together are needed to be appreciated as a bigger picture. We aim to normalize discussions on sexual health, HIV and AIDS with the help of social media and unique online campaigns such as HSC," Cosme adds.

The show aims to highlight the importance of collaboration, and that transformation of a society can be achieved through partnership and commitment. While government action and



Models William Pagayon, Rick Palencia, Rein Villareal and Arcel Yambling during the Project Headshot Clinic Transform Fashion Show - Photo by Joy Arguil.

support are important, the actions of individuals and their communities are essential for behavior change that can make a dent in the HIV epidemic. And social media can bring together individuals, communities, and government leaders in a transformative discussion on addressing the challenge of HIV. Some of the collaborators include Pia Cayetano, Irma Adlawan, Alex Medina, Joey Mead, Marina Benipayo, Pepe Diokno, Bea Santiago, Reniel "Rein" Villareal, to name a few.

Headshot Clinic TRANSFORM has also partnered with top designers Francis Libiran,

Albert Andrada, Nat Manilag, John Herrera and Norman San Diego for a unique Fashion Art Installation to bring the campaign to a whole new level.

For more information visit www.headshotclinic.com. Transform is made possible by 2GO Travel, Maldita, Mac cosmetics, Hooch, Persia Grill, Pineapple Lab and SneakClip.. ■

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CCFAQ inducts new sets of officers

By W. G. Quiambao



About 200 people attended the induction of the new sets of officers of the Council of Canadian-Filipino Associations of Quebec at 6767 des Neiges on November 27

Following is the list of new set of officers:

- Gerry Danzil** - President
- Dario Boco** - Vice President
- Doris Tabo-oy** - Treasurer
- Mary Grace Aggaba** - Secretary

The directors are: James de la Paz, Rose de la Paz, Erlinda Buluag, Clarita Palma, Estella Tablas, Vangie Visario, Felix de Luna, Marilyn de Luna, Remigio Villamor, Cherry Palmos, Lorenza Tolentino Warlie Basbacio, Linda Agcaoli, Salvador Cabugao, Alexandrina Ablog.

In attendance were Anthony

Housefather, newly-elected MP for Mount Royal and Councillor Marvin Rotrand and leaders of the community that included Corazon Aberin, Lily Ramos and Lito Manuel. A surprise Award of Appreciation was presented to Wilfred G. Quiambao by CCFAQ for his personal involvement and support of the goals and aspirations of the association thereby enhancing the

organizations visibility within the community of greater Montreal. Danzil, former Pangasinan president, promised that the CCFAQ will be busier serving the community.

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PROJECTS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Graying baby boomers, who once thought of the future as a distant event, are trying to capture some of the past before it's too late. They're asking family questions. Photo albums are coming out of the closet. Interest in genealogy and family trees is blooming. This is partly the result of the popularity of the Internet, which makes it easy to search records of the past and reach out to far-flung family members.

Our resurgent fascination with the past provides an opportunity for videographers. You can offer a much-needed service by videotaping the personal histories of your friends, family or neighbours. Interviews with a personal perspective are riveting. They can also create important source material for local, national, and world history archives.

Everyday Interview Subjects

Prime subjects of personal video interviews are the people that columnist Bob Greene calls the World War II generation. These people saw the Philippine-Japanese occupation, Vietnam, the advent of television, the rise and fall of communism and even the rise and fall of disco. Their personal experiences are meaningful to future generations and your camcorder can preserve them on videotape.

Family members are a good place to start looking for interview candidates. Some groups might be interested in recording the histories of their prominent members. Families often commission video histories of older relatives. Some individuals even pay for their own interview tapes.

A Personal Style

PBS recently broadcast a program about Harry S. Truman. Photographs and archival film illustrated the documentary. The most special, the most emotional, the most revealing of the sequences were the personal interviews from those who served him.

That's the way it is with personal interviews. Stories come out that were half-forgotten. Those are stories that would have been lost forever if they had not been recorded. Videotaped interviews

provide a legacy of wisdom and information.

Interviews can be any length; those commonly produced for profit generally take about three hours and result in two full hours of recorded videotape. Three hours usually wears people out, so you wouldn't want to go much beyond that in a single sitting, although you can always set up several shooting sessions.

Making It Pay

Personal-history videos offer several money-making opportunities. You can charge a fee for recording the interview and another fee for editing it. Make extra copies of the master tape for additional family members or to give to libraries or historical societies. Funeral homes that make pre-need arrangements for funeral services could offer personal-history videos as part of their package.

Transcribe a videotaped interview for an additional fee. Stenographers can do this for you, but volunteers are cheaper. Transcriptions let the interviewee quickly review the conversation and cut out any comments that might hurt someone or incur legal problems. Transcribed interviews also make nice keepsake books for family members.

Work gradually into personal interviews by adding them to your current video services or offering them to friends. For a fiftieth wedding anniversary party a friend had us transfer 40 family photographs of his parents and siblings to video and add special effects and music. We then attended the anniversary party and projected the video on a large screen for the guests. We also shot footage of the friends and relatives who attended the party.

Several weeks later we interviewed the parents on video. On the master tape, we combined the original photo production, added a montage of party shots and followed that with the edited personal interview. The length of the final version was just under an hour. The family trusted our judgement on the editing and didn't want to see the video until it was completed.

Everyone loved the portion shown at the party. Brothers and

sisters, relatives and friends all came up to us and told us how much they enjoyed the video. The word we received back from the immediate family on the final video was equally glowing. Both parents and children loved the personal stories captured in the interview. And, yes, the children heard stories they had never heard before. Personal interviews can have really happy endings, especially for videographers.

Personal History Interview Questions

What stories did your lolo and lola's tell you?

What was life like for your parents when they were children in the Philippines?

What was your life like as a child? What's the first thing you can recall?

What kind of child were you? Did you

ever get into trouble? What did you wear? What did you look like? What did you like to do? What was your fondest memory? Your saddest?

What shaped or influenced you?

How did you meet your spouse? How old were you? What did you do on dates? How long did you date? When did you know that you were in love? What did you do in the early years of your marriage?

Where have you lived? What was a typical day like in that place?

What did you try to teach your children?

Merry Christmas and a Wonderful New Year 2016!

Al Abdon
Hollywood Junkies Media ■

Why Kris Aquino might never fall in love again



After listening to one of Adele's new songs matched with the cold weather in Baguio City, television host and actress Kris Aquino said Friday that she may never fall in love again.

In a post on her blog, the 44-year-old Aquino reflected on her previous relationships. She wrote: "Many years ago I did experience a good ending, although at that time I thought it was finally our beginning."

"Granted we never saw each other again as 'lovers' although we're the classic ill-fated textbook example, and we never had 'closure' – but I can always look back on the memory and smile. And sometimes shed a happy tear."

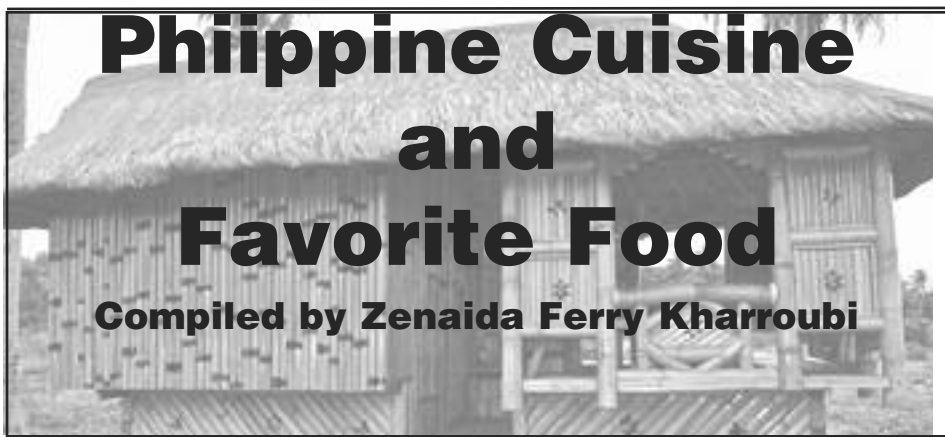
"There was a bracelet with a heart, and a card that said (I'm sorry

paraphrase na lang ito because it was a super long time ago) 'My one wish has always been you, and tonight it finally came true,' she concluded.

Prior to her short-lived relationship with Quezon City Mayor Herbert Bautista this year, Aquino was married to basketball player James Yap. Their marriage was annulled back in 2012.

Yap is the father of Aquino's son James Yap Jr., popularly known as Bimby.

Aquino is one of the stars of the upcoming 2015 Metro Manila Film Festival entry, "All You Need Is Pag-Ibig." Directed by Antoinette Jadaone, the film also stars Jodi Sta. Maria, Ian Veneracion, Kim Chiu, Xian Lim, and Derek Ramsay. ■



Philippine Cuisine and Favorite Food

Compiled by Zenaida Ferry Kharroubi

Christmas Dinner Recipes



Roast Turkey Recipe

Ingredients
INGREDIENTS
 1 orange, halved
 2 pots Knorr® Homestyle Stock

Chicken
 1/4 cup chopped fresh herbs *
 2 Tbsp. olive oil
 1/2 tsp. ground black pepper, divided
 2 sweet onions, quartered

10 -lb. turkey, giblets and neck removed
 1/4 cup port wine
 1/4 cup water
 2 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
 2 Tbsp. heavy cream or whipping cream
DIRECTIONS
 Preheat oven to 400°F (200°C). Squeeze juice from 1/2 of the orange; set aside. Combine 1 pot Knorr® Homestyle Stock - Chicken, herbs, olive oil, orange juice and 1/4 tsp. (1 mL) black pepper in small bowl. Rub mixture under and over turkey skin. Arrange remaining 1/2 orange and onions inside cavity of turkey. Arrange turkey in roasting pan on rack. Roast turkey 45 minutes.

cook covered according to package directions, adding rapini during the last 5 minutes of cook time. Stir in chicken and serve garnished, if desired, with toasted chopped walnuts and grated Parmesan cheese.
 *Rapini, also called broccoli rabe (or raab), is a cruciferous vegetable (related to broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, bok choy and Brussels sprouts). The leaves, buds and stems are all edible. It can have a bitter taste, so, if desired, blanch it before adding to the recipe to remove some of the bitterness. Each serving of this dish is a good source of calcium and iron.

Decrease oven to 375°F (190°C) and roast 1 hour. Baste turkey and turn pan in oven. Continue roasting until meat thermometer inserted in thickest part of thigh reaches 180°F (90°C), about 1 hour. Remove turkey from pan and keep warm. Skim fat from pan drippings, then pour drippings into measuring cup. Add enough water to bring total liquid to 2 cups (500 mL).

To make gravy, add drippings mixture, wine and remaining 1 pot Knorr® Homestyle Stock Chicken to roasting pan and bring to a boil over medium-high heat, scraping up brown bits from bottom of pan. Combine 1/4 cup (60 mL) water with flour in small bowl, then stir into pan. Cook, stirring frequently, until gravy is slightly thickened, about 5 minutes. Strain, if desired. Stir in cream and remaining black pepper. Serve gravy with turkey.
 *Thyme leaves, sage, parsley and/or rosemary

TIP: If desired, supplement pan drippings with a giblet stock in place of water. To make stock, bring giblets, neck and 4 cups (1 L) water to a boil in saucepan. If desired, add carrot, onion and celery. Reduce heat and simmer, covered, 1 hour, then strain and use.

INGREDIENTS
 1 lb. (450 g) boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cut into bite-size pieces
 2 Tbsp. (30 mL) Becel® Oil, divided
 1 clove garlic, chopped
 1 package Knorr Sidekicks® Creamy Bacon Carbonara Pasta Side Dish
 8 ounces rapini*, cut into 1-inch/2.5 cm pieces (about 4 cups/1 L) OR 8 oz. (227 g) broccoli florets (about 4 cups/1 L)
DIRECTIONS
 Season chicken, if desired, with salt and Creamy Bacon Carbonara with Chicken Rapini

Filipino style ham



Ingredients
 1 smoked picnic shoulder, fully cooked, about 5 to 7 pounds
 1 can (15 ounces) pineapple slices in juice
 1/4 cup light brown sugar, packed
 1/4 cup honey
 Maraschino cherries
 whole cloves
 Powered by
 Prep Time: 25 minutes
 Cook Time: 210 minutes
 Total Time: 235 minutes
 Yield: 10 Servings

PREPARATION
 Remove skin from ham; place on a rack in a baking pan, fat side up. Cover loosely with aluminum foil; bake at 325 degrees for about 30 minutes a pound, or to 140 degrees on meat thermometer. Drain pineapple, reserving 1/4 cup of juice. Combine the reserved juice, brown sugar, and honey in a saucepan; cook over low heat until sugar is dissolved, stirring occasionally. Remove foil from ham; score fat in a diamond pattern. Brush ham with pineapple-honey mixture. Arrange pineapple slices and cherries in a pattern over the top of the ham, securing with toothpicks. Stud with cloves, if desired, and brush again with pineapple-honey mixture.

Ads
 1 Tip of a flat belly :
superfatburningfats.com
 Cut down a bit of your belly every day by using this 1 weird old tip.
 Ham
 Christmas Sauce Recipe
 Recipe
 Glazed Ham Recipe
 Ham How To
 Bake, uncovered, for an additional 30 minutes at 325°, basting with pineapple-honey mixture. Serves about 10 to 12.



pepper. Heat 1 tablespoon (15 mL) Oil in large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat and cook chicken, stirring occasionally, until thoroughly cooked, about 5 minutes; remove and set aside. Heat remaining 1 tablespoon (15 mL) Oil in same skillet over medium heat and cook garlic, stirring, until garlic is fragrant, about 30 seconds. Add 1 cup (250 mL) water and 1 cup (250mL) milk and bring to a boil. Stir in Knorr Sidekicks® Creamy Bacon Carbonara Pasta Side Dish and

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Thu. Fri.	8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday	Closed

Pork loin
Approximately 15 lbs

3²⁵ lb

Half or Whole pork
Cut & Wrapped

2¹⁹ lb

Fresh Pork Belly

3⁹⁹ lb

Beef Blade steak

6⁹⁹ lb

Boneless Pork shoulder - \$3.99 lb

Fresh Pork Leg

2³⁵ lb

Ground Beef

5⁴⁹ lb

Over 20 lbs 5.29 lb

Picnic Ham w/bone

2⁵⁰ lb

Home smoked meat

Special 10⁵⁰ lb

Regular smoked bacon

6⁴⁹ lb

Ground Pork
Special 2.79/lb

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The North American FILIPINO STAR PHOTO GALLERY



WARAYNON, a young organization, during their recent get together party, extend their best wishes of the holiday season.



KAMAYAN at Cesar Manuel's new restaurant, Pinoy Pansitan on Victoria Avenue, on the occasion of Mario Rimbao's appreciation party held recently.



Gilmore Faculty in attendance: Zenaïda Kharroubi (center in blue) Director, Gilmore College is flanked by instructors (l-r) Amy Manon-og, Sophie Toledo and Terry White.



Sharing the anniversary cake: Edith Fedalizo is joined in singing Happy Birthday by (front, l-r) Carmela Raquero, Peter Apelo, Minerva Barriga, Erlinda Gascon and at the back, Edison Taguba and Anita Lo, partly shown.



Group picture: The Panday Tinig Choral Ensemble members, past and present.



MMTV CREW visited Pinoy Radio in Toronto, December 12, 2015. Photo shows from left: Zenaïda Kharroubi, MMTV Executive Producer, Michael Davantes and Tenne Rose Dayandante, MMTV anchors, Nestor Von Canton, TV Pinoy Station Manager, and Derwin Collantes, MMTV Business Segment Host. Thank you, Von, for your hospitality.



Education raises the bar but lowers the barriers to a rewarding career.

PROGRAMS

- Nursing Aide (PAB)
- Early Childhood Education Assistant
- Office Systems Technology
 - secretarial
 - Medical
 - Legal
 - Administrative
 - Accounting Technician

WORKSHOP

How to start and manage your own business -30 hours - Days or evenings

COURSES

- Second Languages
 - English, French
 - Filipino (Tagalog)
 - Mandarin, Spanish
- Computer Software
 - Microsoft Office
 - Sage Accounting
 - Keyboarding
- Interest courses
 - Fashion Photography
 - Video Production
 - Practical Writing
- Tutoring (English and French)



PAB-PSW Nursing aide graduates, Batches 8 and 9. Ceremony held at La Cucina on Sherbrooke West, October 7, 2012 Standing (from left) Vilma Lagonilla, Mildre Mendoza, Giselle Arellano, Marilou Hechanova, Edison Taguba and Annie Signey Seated from left: Grace Calvo, Annabelle Allosa, Ethel Tugna, Lourdescita Labang and Joesie Bingzyen. (Photo by: Budz Sarmiento)



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Tagalog Seksyon

Opinyon/Komentaryo ni Willie Quiambao

KULANG SA KOMUNIKASYON ANG OTTAWA AT FAMAS

Tumawag sa akin noong isang buwan si Cora Aberin, presidente ng FAMAS, dahil inilipat ng Ottawa ang consular services sa St. Kevin Church hall. Sabi ko sa kaniya, matagal nang isyu ang paglilipat ng consular services sa ibat' ibang lugar. Panahon pa yata ni Ambassador Leslie Gatan. Ang dahilan naman ngayon ng Ottawa? Maliit ang FAMAS center. Matagal nang ginanagawa ng Ottawa ang consular services sa center pero bakit ngayon lamang nagging isyu ang kaliitan nito? Nagmamagandang loob na ipagamit ng FAMAS ang center dahil ito ang itinuturing na tahanan ng mga Pilipino sa Montreal at karatig na lugar. At malapit din ito metro.

Sa aking palagay, ang malaking dahilan kaya inilipat ang consular services sa St. Kevin hall church ay may nagrereklamong naniningil ng membership fee ang FAMAS. Noon ko pa naririnig ito. At noon ko pa sinabi kay Cora na pagbilinan ang mga volunteer na magi-ingat sa pagsasalita. Magging diplomatiko. Minsan, may nakarinig sa isang volunteer na nagsabi sa isang Pilipinong nagpunta sa FAMAS nang magkaroon ng consular services, "Kailangan mag-member muna kayo." Kahit ako, magtatanong kung kailangan nga muna akong maging member ng FAMAS bago mapaglingkuran ng Ottawa. Sana, liwanagin ng volunteer na hindi sapilitan ang maging member muna ng FAMAS bago ma-avail ang services ng Ottawa.

Ang isa pang isyu ni Cora ay ang ipinadalang sulat ng Ottawa na ililipat sa St. Kevin church hall ang consular services. Ang sulat ay naka-addressed lamang sa FAMAS. Maaaring kung saan mapunta ito at hindi makita ni Cora. Kung hindi alam ng Ottawa ang pangalan ng kasalukuyang presidente ng FAMAS, nagtanong sana. Ang isa pa ring isyu ay hindi nabigyan nang sapat na panahon ang FAMAS na ipaalam sa lahat ng kinaukulan ang paglipat ng consular services sa St. Kevin church hall.

Kamakailan, may mga limang Pilipino pa ang nagpunta sa FAMAS sa pagaakalang doon pa ang consular services. Naroon kami ni Bert Abiera at Elmer Manila nang mangyari iyon. Pagpapatunay ito na naguguluhan lamang ang mga Pilipino sa Montreal at karatig lugar.

Ang isa sa mga dahilan ng

kaguluhan ay ang kakulangan sa komunikasyon ng Ottawa at FAMAS. Matagal ko nang sinabi sa Ottawa na kung may mahahalagang announcement o patalastas, gamitin ang midya. Dahil gustong makapaglingkod ang Ottawa at FAMAS sa mga Pilipino dito, nag-usap sana sila nang mahusay para hindi nagkaroon ng malaki at kontrobersyal na isyu.

At kabilin-bilinan din sa akin ni Cora, linawin ko na hindi siya galit sa Ottawa tulad ng nalathala sa isang diaryo. Upset lamang siya sa nangyari. Iba raw ang upset sa galit.

MAY LAMAT NA ANG SAMAHAN NG MGA KASAPI NG KNIGHTS OF RIZAL

Noong induction ng mga bagong opisyal ng Council of Canadian-Filipino Associations of Quebec, nagulat sila nang mabasa ang pagpapa-interview ni Espie Manaog sa isang diaryo at tawagin si James de la Paz ng kung anu-ano tulad ng diktador, parang diyos kung kumilos at mataas pa sa batas. Karamihan sa mga opisyal ng asosasyon ay opisyal din ng mga Knights of Rizal, isang brotherhood. Dating vice president ng CCFAQ si Rey Balansi (asawa ni Espie) at kasalukuyang area commander naman ng Knights of Rizal. Ang isyu ni Espie ay ang ginawang interim board ni James bago nag-stepped down bilang presidente ng CCFAQ.

Tulad ng ibang asosasyon, malaki at maliit, nagkaroon ng diskusyon sa meeting ang mga opisyal ng CCFAQ noong Nov. 21. Pero natapos nang mahusay ang meeting at nakiusap pa si Rey na sana ay hindi na makaabot sa labas ang napag-usapan sa loob. Maligaya raw siya na nagngng bagong presidente ng CCFAQ si Gerry Danzil na kaibigian niya. Kahit miembro ako ng midya at isa ako sa mga tinawag na dumalo sa meeting, iginalang ko ang pakiusap ni Rey.

Sabalit bukod sa pagpapa-interview na ginawa ni Espie, nag-post pa siya sa facebook tungkol sa nangyari sa meeting. Napilitang sumagot si Gerry. "Respeto lamang,"sabi niya. Dalawang salita pero makahulugan. Malaman. Ang sabi pa ni Gerry sa akin, "Kuya, kahit hindi mataas ang pinag-aralan ko, alam ko ang respeto. Alam ko kung paano respetohin ang tao."

At dahil sa salitang "protocol", nalaman ko kamakailan lamang na may ginawa palang hindi maganda si Rey bago nagging area commander

ng Knights of Rizal. Hindi ito ikinatuwa ni Bert Abiera, James at ibang miembro ng Knights of Rizal. Para sa katahimikan ng samahan, sa kabila ng ginawa ni Rey, wala siyang narinig kay Bert at James at walang nagpunta sa midya at nag-post sa facebook na tulad ng ginawa ni Espie.

At wala si Espie sa meeting kaya saan niya nakuha ang balitang kumampi si Buddy Cabugao kay Rey na nagsasabing hindi tama ang paggawa ni James ng interim board. Ang sabi ni Grace Aggabao, kasalukuyang sekretarya ng CCFAQ, wala iyon sa minutes na naka-taped.

Dahil din sa nangyari, may nagsabi na si Espie rin pala ang dahilan kaya nag-break away ang Kababaihang Rizal na isang sorority naman. Nagkaroon tuloy ng Ladies of Rizal. Ang huling ginawa ni Espie na nagpapatunay kung ano ang ugali niya ay nang pagsabihan ang isang gurong matagal na at respetadong miembro sa komunidad ng, "Ang pagsali mo sa Ladies of Rizal ay one step backward." Ang narinig kong komento ng pinagsabihan niya, "Sino ba si Espie? Papasok pa lamang siya, papauwi na ako."

May nagsabi din na bago pa lamang si Espie sa komunidad, sumalipawpaw na siya (tumaas ang lipad).

Sa halip na payapain ni Espie ang mga miembro ng Knights of Rizal, pinalaki niya pa raw ang sunog. Hindi niya nakuha ang simpatiya ng mga tao. Napintasan pa siya. Siya mismo ang sumira sa pakiusap ng asawa na huwag lumabas ang nangyari sa meeting. Ano ang gusto niyang patunayan?

ANO NA ANG NANGYARI SA FAMAS TURN OVER?

Noong Nov. 29, pinapunta ako ni Cora Aberin, kasalukuyang pangulo ng FAMAS 2015-2017, sa center dahil may turn over na ang Executive Board 2013-2015. Si Nida Quirapas ang pangulo ng FAMAS noon at si Cora ang treasurer. Sinabi ko kay Cora na marami na nga ang nagtatanong kung bakit mahigit tatlong buwan na silang nanunungkulan ay wala pang turn over. May nagbiro pa na baka kapag natapos na ang term nila.

Ipinaliwanag sa akin ni Cora na buwan-buwan ay ibinibigay niya ang kaniyang treasurer's report. Hindi nagawa ni Lily Ramos ang report bilang accountant dahil unuwi siya sa Pilipinas. Pero kumuha na nga ang FAMAS ng propesyonal na tulong upang gumawa ng report kaya nangangahulugang walang problema rito. Noong Nov. 29 na handa na si Lily na magbigay ng kaniyang report, ang Executive Board 2013-2015 naman ang hindi sumipot sa center. Gusto raw munang "ma-crutinize" ang report ni Cora at Lily. Ang gusto naman ni Cora ay magkaharap-harap sila ng Executive Board 2013-15 para kung may katanungan ang isa't isa, madaling masagot.

Samantala, maghihintay na naman ang mga miembro ng FAMAS para makita ang report. Pero hanggang kailan?

ANG AWARD OF APPRECIATION NA IBINIGAY SA AKIN NI JAMES

Noong Nov. 27, sa induction ng mga bagong opisyal ng Council of Canadian-Filipino Associations of Quebec, nagulat ako nang sabihin ni James de la Paz na huwag muna akong aalis dahil dahil may ibibigay siyang Award of Appreciation. Iyon ang talagang suprise.

Naalaala ko nang bigyan ako ni James na Award of Appreciation noong una kaming magkasama sa Federation of Filipino-Canadian Associations of Quebec noong 1998. Presidente siya at PRO ako. Bukod sa pagiging PRO ko, ako rin ang gumaganap na sekretaryo, grant coordinator, liason officer at marami pang posisyon na hindi magampanan ng mga kasama ko. Ginagawa ko iyon dahil sa kaibigan ko si James. Sa una naming event, debutante ball, sabi niya, "Maiiyak ka sa award na ibibigay ko sa iyo."

Sa gabi ng award, halos maiyak nga ako hindi sa tuwa kundi sa pagkabigo. Isinabay ni James ang pagbibigay ng awards sa ilang tao na nakatulong sa kaniya sa ibang pagkakataon. Nawala ang "moment" ko nang gabing iyon. Halos ibato ko ang award.

Pagkatapos nang halos tatlong taon na magkasama kami ni James sa Federation, umalis na rin ako. Abala ako sa ibang bagay. Sa kabila nito, hanggang sa maging presidente siya ng Council of Canadian-Filipino Associations of Quebec, tumutulong pa rin ako sa kaniya kahit hindi niya ako direktor. Ako pa rin ang nagpro-promote ng kaniyang mga asosasyon lalo na kung may mga naninira. Kung Independence Day, April pa lamang, tatawag na siya para tumulong ako sa paghahanda ng programa tulad ng paga-anyaya ng mga performers lalo na ng mga ethnic groups. Minsan, sa araw ng pagdiriwang sa park, naranasan ko ang maligo sa ulan at mainitan sa araw kahit kagagaling sa sakit pero tuloy ang pagtulog.

Pero may mga pagkakataong hindi ko maiwasang mag-isip kung pinahalalagan ni James ang pagtulog ko sa kaniya. May nagsabi sa akin, "Magkaibigan kayo. Kung minsan ay hindi mo siya naririnig magsabi ng "salamat", hindi nangangahulugang hindi niya pinahalalagan ang pagtulog mo. Alam niyang maiintindihan mo siya."

Tama ang nagsabi nito sa akin. Napatunayan ko ito noong Nov. 27. Pagkatapos nga ng nang halos 15 taon, ngayong hindi na presidente ng Federation/CCFAQ si James, ipinakita niya uli sa akin ang pagpapahalaga niya sa tulong na ginagawa ko sa kaniya. Binigyan niya ako ng Appreciation Award na ayon sa kaniya, matagal na sanang ibinigay sa akin.

Mahalaga ang award na ibinigay ni James pero mas mahalaga ang aral ang idinulot niya na naman sa akin - huwag magduda o mag-isip nang masama sa kaibigan.

Salamat, James. ■



Social Tidbits

Fely Rosales Carino



As we go deeper with winter activities, let me close the year 2015 with all the pleasant things that ended my social calendar.

For my first entry as a columnist of this paper, I stated that I belong to the media and I cover social activities given by associations whose executive board invites me. By the way, when I attend these social functions, I pay for my own tickets. I feel that everyone is my friend. I aim to please-not to antagonize – my readers. I shouldn't be asked why I attended or wrote about this and/or that organization.

Let me begin with the recent party given by the Pangasinan Association of Quebec (PAQ). This was held at the Ruby Rouge Restaurant last Nov. 22. It marked the 22nd anniversary of the founding of the organization. Mrs. Estela Tablas, the PAQ president, acknowledged the dedication of her executive board and the commitment of all the members in the attainment of their goals. The party was attended by Snowdon city councillor Marvin Rotrand who gave a very inspiring message, and a short talk by Salvador Cabugao. The evening was graced by the presence of Trinidad Jimenez, Miss PAQ 2014.

Nov. 14, 2015 was a red-letter date for the Panday Tinig Chorale Ensemble. This was held at the Crowley Arts Center in downtown, Montreal. This was the evening that the group launched its CD composed of our beautiful Philippine Tagalog folk songs. Someone in the audience told me that while the group was performing, she closed her eyes and enjoyed the unusual feeling of being-at-the moment in the Philippines. In other words, a feeling of nostalgia overcame her.

Aside from the performance of several choral members, the occasion also gave loyalty awards. The loyalty awards were given to the following: 10 years – Domingo Jorica, 15 years – Magnolia Camat, Galyn Gag-au and Jessie Pascual, 30 years, - Paul Imperial. During the party emceed by Brian Imperial and Patrick Alcaide, Editha Fedalizo (pianist) welcomed the guests, and Mr. Paul Imperial (music director) gave the evening remarks.

In case you share my feelings, I include here their "Song of Grace" tuned "Planting Rice." Try singing it and you'll like it. "1. For our heritage of song, for our talents in the arts, For the love to us bestowed, we give thanks with joyful hearts Singing now

for thirty years, give us strength to carry on, Through our journey for art and song, Be our Guide in paths unknown, We beseech You our dear God, come amongst us here tonight, Make our songs ring with Thy Love, making hearts sing with delight. For this food, we say grace for our joy we give Thee praise, Bless our dear ones, near and far, bless the Panday Tinig choir

Due to my hectic social schedule, I missed the August / September UPS celebrations. Nevertheless, I heard reliable sources that there were 21 celebrants for August and 16 celebrants for September. Linda Agcaoili, the afternoon emcee, gave the audience "briefing for the Comelec. The December monthly social had 29 celebrants. President Warlie Basbacio welcomed her guests and Buddy Cabugao gave his Christmas message. The next UPS monthly social will be on January 24, 2016 at St. Kevin Church hall.

PBBSQ is now searching for candidates for the 2016 scholarship program. For the eligibility, check list or please consult its program/bulletin distributed during the Thanksgiving mass at St. Kevin Church or direct inquiry to Ernie Pelousa at Ernie1@videotrong.ca.

On October 1, we had a poignant goodbye to our dear friend Mrs. Josie Tapia (wife of Pedro Tapia). She passed only a week after celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary that was held at St. Lukes West Park with Rev. Bertrand Montpetit officiating. The bride was wheeled to the altar by Cary and Fely Cristobal. Her wedding dress, a Philippine terno was made in the Philippines and was handcarried by Cora Aberin. Josie kept smiling during trip to the altar and met the groom.

After the ceremony, reception was held at the Casa Greque located at West Island.

December 4, 2015 –The Novo Ecijano Association of Montreal held a "Non-stop Fun and Dance Party at the St. Kevin Hall. The party was also dedicated to Mr. Ireneo Nacino (RIP), the party's president. He passed away on Dec. 2 after a short but courageous battle with cancer. It was his wish that the association continue to achieve its goals. ■

Maine Mendoza 'kebs lang' on bashers, haters



As a star who was discovered via a social media app, Maine Mendoza is aware she has a lot of bashers and haters online. But the 20-year-old star said she is merely shrugging off the hate she is receiving from some netizens, adding that she wants to focus on the "good stuff."

But the 20-year-old star said she is merely shrugging off the hate she is receiving from some netizens, adding that she wants to focus on the "good stuff."

Ngayon po, ang dami nang nangbabash sa amin, sa AIDub, sa akin. Pero ako po, iniisip ko talaga, bakit pag nakakabasa ako ng negative about sa akin, nagtataka ako bakit di ako affected?" Maine said in an interview with Jessica Soho in the GMA-7 news magazine program "Kapuso Mo, Jessica Soho" aired Sunday.

She added: "Iniisip ko, ang weird, dapat affected ako kasi masama 'yung sinasabi nila tungkol sa akin, e. Parang, pangit e. So bakit ako parang kebs lang."

"Pero good thing naman siguro na ganun ang reaksyon ko sa bashing ng tao," she added.

Maine added she doesn't have the time to "wallow" in the "downside ng show business."

"Yung sunud-sunod ang dating ng blessings sa akin, sa AIDub po, at Alden din. So, parang wala po akong time para isipin kung ano yung downside," she said.

The "Eat Bulaga" mainstay was recently linked to a Twitter issue concerning Julie Ann San Jose and her "Kalyeserye" love team Alden Richards, with fans of AIDub bashing the singer online. But Maine reportedly apologized to Julie Ann at the dressing room of GMA-7 show "Sunday PinaSaya" yesterday.

'Found my path'

Maine said she was insecure as a child, contrary to her lively and confident onscreen persona. Her stint on "Eat Bulaga," she said, helped her discover herself and what she can do.

"N'ung bata po ako, mahiyain po ako. Sobrang mahiyain po ako. Sobrang uneventful po n'ung childhood ko. And parang tumatanda ako, parang hindi ko alam kung ano talaga ang gusto kong gawin sa buhay ko. So parang ako, hinahanap ko talaga which path talaga yung para sa akin," she said.

"Happy po ako na, feeling ko, ito na po. Feeling ko nasagot ko na 'yung tanong ko," she said.

Although she admittedly has low self-esteem, Maine said she sees her showbiz stint as an opportunity to step out of her comfort zone.

"Tingin ko kasi ito na yung chance ko, kaya hindi ko na iho-hold back yung sarili ko... "Yun yung nagbibigay sa akin ng lakas ng loob. Pero off cam po talaga, pabebe lang ako," she quipped.

"Sobrang overwhelming po. Honestly, hanggang ngayon, hindi pa rin nagsi-sink in sa akin lahat ng nangyayari," she said of her recent successes in showbiz. "Hindi ko siya iniisip kaya hindi pa siya napro-process ng utak ko, she said."

Apart from being an "Eat Bulaga" mainstay, Maine will star in the 2015 Metro Manila Film Festival entry "My Bebe Love: #KiligPaMore."

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FILIPINO STAR

SHOWBIZ GOSSIP

Miss Philippines Pia Alonzo Wurtzbach is the new Miss Universe



In a stunning grand finale of Miss Universe 2015, held in Las Vegas, Pia Alonzo Wurtzbach from Philippines was crowned as the new Miss Universe 2015. Miss Colombia and Miss USA were first and second runner-ups respectively. The top 3 finalists were Miss USA, Miss Colombia and Miss Philippines.

The winner of Miss Universe 2015 has been announced. Pia Alonzo Wurtzbach from Philippines was crowned the 2015 Miss Universe at the ceremony which was held at Axis at Planet Hollywood on Sunday, December 20.

Pia impressed the panel judges with her answer at the final stage of the beauty pageant in which there were only 3 contestants left including Olivia Jordan (USA) and Ariadna Gutierrez (Colombia). At the final stage, each finalist was asked the same question and had 60 seconds to answer. The question was "Why should you be the next Miss Universe?"

Miss Philippines explained that Miss Universe is an honor with big responsibilities. She said that she would use her voice as

Miss Universe "to influence the youth" and "raise awareness to certain causes like HIV awareness. She added, "I want to show the world... that I'm confidently beautiful with a heart." Pia, who looked gorgeous in a blue dress, was puzzled when she was announced as the new Miss Universe. During the crowning moment, host Steve Harvey made a mistake by announcing that Ariadna from Colombia was the winner while actually she was the first runner-up. Last year's Miss Universe Paulina Vega could be seen trying to calm Ariadna and took the crown from her. Steve apologized for his mistake onstage, "I would take all responsibilities for this. It was my mistake."



Pia Alonzo Wurtzbach sizzles at 2015 Miss Universe glamour, swimwear shots



Pia Alonzo Wurtzbach, Miss Universe Philippines 2015, poses for a photo inside Planet Hollywood on Wednesday December 9th.



Pia Alonzo poses in one her evening gown upon arriving to Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino



Pia Alonzo in yet another gorgeous evening gown

PH beauty queens and the showbiz connection



From left) Ruffa Gutierrez, Megan Young, and Charlene Gonzales-Muhlach

High heels, red lips, bouffant hairdos and tiaras filled Planet Hollywood in Las Vegas early this week as the 81 candidates of this year's Miss Universe tilt made their way to the world's so-called gambling capital.

It was all glitz and glamour with the hopefuls dressed to the nines. Obviously, they wanted to make their presence felt early on in the competition with grand coronation night happening merely two weeks away, on Dec. 20.

According to reports, the

Philippines' bet Pia Wurtzbach got the photographers attention. She was the epitome of confidence as she rubbed shoulders with the other contenders.

It is fair to say that her exposure in local show business as Star Magic talent is serving her well.

Note that at age 4, Pia was already working as actress in ABS-CBN. Among her TV credits are the teen-oriented series "K2BU" and the variety program "ASAP"; and she has also appeared in the films "Kung Ako Na Lang Sana" (2003), "All My Life" (2004) and "All About Love" (2006).

Well, local show business has always been kind to beauty queens. In fact, most of the candidates the Philippines has fielded in past years have dabbled in showbiz and carved careers as movie stars. Do you remember...

MEGAN YOUNG

She was crowned Miss World 2013 in Bali, Indonesia, the first Filipina to achieve the feat. Prior to

joining the tilt, however, Young had made inroads in show business as member of ABS-CBN's roster of talents. In March this year, Young signed an exclusive contract with GMA 7 and later played lead in the series "Marimar."

RUFFA GUTIERREZ

She was already familiar to most Pinoys even before winning third place at the 1993 Miss World pageant in Sun City, South Africa. The daughter of actor Eddie Gutierrez and talent manager Annabelle Rama has been appearing in films since the late '80s. Some of her more notable outings include "Regal Shocker" (1988) and "Last Two Minutes" (1990). She also hosted several talk shows including "Philippines Next Top Model" (2007), "The Buzz" (2007-2010), and "Paparazzi" (2010-2012).

CHARLENE GONZALEZ-MUHLACH

She represented the country at the Miss Universe 1994 pageant in

Manila and ended up in the top six. Like Gutierrez, Gonzales-Muhlach has showbiz pedigree, being the daughter of actor Bernard Bonnin and model Elvira Gonzales.

After her Miss Universe stint, the statuesque beauty carved a career as award-winning talk show host and commercial model. She married Filipino actor Aga Muhlach on May 28, 2001.

PRECIOUS LARA QUIGAMAN

She won the Miss International 2005 title in Tokyo, Japan. Quigaman is the fourth Filipino to do so, after Gemma Cruz in 1964, Aurora Pijuan in 1970, and Melanie Marquez in 1979.

Quigaman has since appeared on numerous TV shows as well as in the films "Umaaraw, Umuulan" (2006), "Buenavista (Ang Kasaysayan ng Lucena)" (2009), and "Enteng Ng Ina Mo" (2011), among others. She is currently seen on the ABS-CBN series "You're My Home."

Showbiz Gossip *Continued from p.15***Jericho on marital bliss and his MMFF movie**

Though married for more than a year now, Jericho Rosales is in no rush to have a bundle of joy.

"Gusto pa naming (with wife Kim Jones) mag-travel together. Mahirap na (yon gawin) kapag may karga-karga ka na, eh," he said when asked on the subject.

The actor pointed out that Kim is still young anyway, and they agree to follow the "plan" they set when it comes to completing their family.

"We're very careful" he said. "Wag muna."

Their relationship remains like that of "boyfriend-girlfriend" except that they now live under one roof.

He didn't deny that they also have their differences but "yun ang nagpapakapal ng relationships."

"Kahit anong klaseng relationship ay may away 'yan pero diyan kayo nag-go-grow," he added.

A special relationship Working with Jennylyn Mercado in the Metro Manila Film Festival movie "Walang Forever" and engaging in a love scene with her is not an issue with Jericho's wife.

"She's a very secure woman and alam niya na my heart belongs to her. Alam niya na this is my job. Ibinibigay ko lagi ang best ko para maging effective ako at ganyan ako sa trabaho. Passion ko 'to, eh. Before she married me ay alam niya 'yon."

A picture of a man smitten by his wife, Jericho elaborated on how their relationship works.

"I see the beauty in what she does. Parang nagma-match ang life niya at saka 'yung personality niya. I support her palagi. Kung gusto niyang mag-travel, go. Kung gusto niya gumawa ng ganito, sige go. I am there to support her, encourage her.

"Pag low times niya, I cheer her up. Sometimes I just shut my mouth and listen, ganyan. And sometimes girls just wanna be hurt. Makikinig lang ako kapag ganoon."

Their marriage, he said, is bereft of competition.

"Wala sa aming ganoon (dahil) magkaiba kami ng industry," he pointed out. "(And) her success is my success. Kapag nakita ko siya na very successful ay nagre-reflect sa akin 'yon, eh. Sinasabi sa amin ng mga nagga-guide sa amin na kapag nakita n'yo ang partner n'yo na nag nagpo-flourish, it also means that you're doing a good job kasi binibigyan mo siya ng encouragement and support at saka nagre-reflect sa 'yo 'yon."

Icebreakers

Meanwhile, Jericho and Jennylyn enjoy each other's company and their working relationship. They said this rapport will be seen onscreen.

"Enjoy lang kami, relax lang kami, wala kaming issues. Lagi kaming nagbibiruan," he recalled of the times they spent on the set of the movie.

They have a love scene in "Walang Forever" which proved awkward at first—"nagkahiyaan kami sa simula," as Jericho put it – but they eventually got over it and delivered on what was required of them.

"Nag-hangout kami," he said. "Pag walang ginagawa sa set, biruan kami, kuwentuhan kami. Nakatulong ng malaki 'yon (para mawala ang hiya sa isa't-isa). Nakatulong (din) nang malaki ang group chat namin kasi doon kami nagtitirahan, nag-iinisan."

Before the actual shoot, he and Jennylyn did a screen test wherein she took the initiative to break the ice between them.

"Nagharap pa lang kami ay nagsisigawan na sila sa monitor, 'yung director, 'yung staff. 'O, sige,' sabi ng director, 'Tanggapin mo ang salamin niya tapos hawakan mo ang tattoo niya sa leeg.' Nu'ng tinanggal ko ang salamin niya, gumano'n siya sa akin, 'Ano, ang ganda ko 'no?' Na-tameme ako sa kanya. Honestly, may mga moments na natatameme ako sa kanya," he said, laughing. ■

She's recovering, he's ailing**Angel Locsin – Jed Madela**

Actress Angel Locsin is currently with her boyfriend Luis Manzano in Las Vegas after successfully undergoing medical treatment in Singapore for her disc bulge in the spine.

Prior to the trip, rumor had it that the couple plan to marry in Las Vegas. Luis denied it, saying they are just there for the holidays.

In October, Angel confirmed she will no longer portray the iconic superhero Darna because of her health concern. But Luis wishes she could still do the job.

"Sana. Siguro not just dahil sa clamor ng tao but kahit ang management ay nakikita na 'Oo nga ano baka naman kaya pa ngang hintayin si Angel.' So sana," he said

in an interview with ABS-CBN News. 'SERIOUS BACK PROBLEM' Like Angel, singer Jed Madela has a back problem that he sustained during a concert some five years ago.

"I was walking down the stairs and then I had a misstep... and I just completely forgot about it. Hindi ko siya pina-doctor and then when it started bothering me, doon ko na pina-check and 'yun may problema," he said on "Tonight With Boy Abunda."

The singer said he has two herniated discs and it's degenerative. "It can't be cured. I'm not sure if it's slipped disc but it's something really serious because it's in the spine," he said.

The 35-year-old admits his condition affects his performances.

"I can't stand up nang matagal, I have to sit down. 'Pag nakaupo naman ako, I can't sit for a long time, I have to stand up again pero may support. It's mind bogging actually, nakaka-praning siya..."

There are times the pain is so bad Jed can hardly walk. He is undergoing rehabilitation.

"And the doctor told me na kailangang mag-lose ng weight, not for anything, but para hindi mahirapan 'yung spine to support my weight. It is something that I should take care of," Jed said. ■

Fil-Am Amy Vachal exits 'The Voice US'**Amy Vachal on the Voice US**

Filipino-American singer Amy Vachal's stint at the United States' "The Voice US" was cut short Wednesday (Manila time) after the elimination for the ninth season's finale.

The top 9 finalists of the competition were slashed down to four contenders, namely Jordan Smith from Team Adam, Emily Ann Roberts and Barrett Baber from Team Blake, and Jeffery Austin from Team Gwen.

Vachal was one of the first three semifinalists sent home from the nine who competed for the top four spots.

Previously, Vachal performed a heartfelt rendition of Bob Dylan's "To Make You Feel My Love," accompanied by an acoustic guitar. The singer even seemed to hold back tears towards the end of the moving performance.

Mentor Adam Levine praised his mentee's songs that are "completely different, refreshingly raw, honest, and beautiful."

Judge Pharell Williams lauded Vachal's voice, describing it as something which "ignites somebody to do the right thing."

Prior to the semifinals, Vachal sang a cover of NSYNC's "Bye Bye Bye", and Taylor Swift's hit song "Blank Space" to fight for her spot in the top 10. ■

Is Pokwang engaged?



Pokwang denied that she's already engaged after joking about it during the press conference of the 2015 Metro Manila Film Festival entry "All You Need is Pag-ibig."

Pokwang denied that she's already engaged to boyfriend Lee O'Brian.

"Joke lang 'yon!" she exclaimed in an interview on Tuesday, when asked to confirm her engagement.

The Kapamilya comedienne joked about being engaged during the press conference of the 2015 Metro Manila Film Festival entry "All You Need is Pag-ibig."

"Yong mga gano'ng happiness sa buhay ko hindi ko dapat pinagdadamot," she added. "Sine-share ko 'yon kasi alam ko marami naman ang nagdasal para magkaro'n ako ng love life. So bakit kailangan ko isekreto 'yon? So kapag dumatig 'yon sasabihin ko sa inyo."

She was single for seven years before she met Lee when they did the film "Edsa Woolworth" in 2014.

For now, Pokwang said they're still getting to know each other before

finally deciding to settle down.

"Kasi ang hirap, e, papakasal tapos mauwi rin pala sa wala," she explained. "Nando'n kami sa stage na masaya and enjoy, kilalanin [ang isa't isa], tayo ba talaga."

She's just happy that she'll get to spend Christmas together with Lee for the first time since they've become a couple.

Pokwang wants him to see how Filipinos celebrate Christmas.

Meanwhile, the Kapamilya comedienne is proud of how their film "All You Need is Pag-ibig" tackled the complicated world of love.

"Bukod sa maraming makakarelata sa bawat kuwentong pag-ibig na 'to, hindi ka lang puro kilig, tawa. May kurot din ito," she said about the film directed by Antoinette Jadaone.

The film also stars Kris Aquino, Kim Chiu, Xian Lim, Jodi Sta. Maria, Ian Veneracion, Nova Villa and Bimby Aquino-Yap. ■

John Lloyd Cruz denies 'breakup' with Angelica



John Lloyd Cruz doesn't want to rush settling down with Angelica Panganiban for it to be "magical" for both of them.

John Lloyd Cruz once again denied swirling rumors that he has broken up with girlfriend Angelica Panganiban.

This was after the two have been reported to be spending less time together. John Lloyd explained that his lessened time with Angelica was only due to their busy "working season."

John Lloyd has been promoting his film "A Second Chance" with Bea Alonzo, while Angelica is busy with the TV series "Pangako Sa'Yo."

The Kapamilya actor also doesn't want to set deadline for when he will settle down with Angelica.

"It's just a matter of discovering for yourself na 'yon na 'yon, 'yon na ang moment na 'yon," he explained in an interview with Mario Dumauel aired in the ABS-CBN news program "TV Patrol" on

Thursday.

"We actually believe in that moment. Kung kalian 'yon, I really don't know. Dapat din hindi mo alam para kapag nangyari 'yon sobrang fresh, sobrang magical," he added.

Meanwhile, he's very happy for the inclusion of his film "Honor Thy Father" in the upcoming 2015 Metro Manila Film Festival.

Their film was at first short-listed in the film festival, but after the Aljur Abrenica-starrer "Hermano Puli" backed out of the film festival, John Lloyd's film was pushed to the lineup.

"All things worked out for the best. Mag-offer din ng ibang putahe para sa ibang movie goers," he said about their film's inclusion in the festival.

As for acting awards, John Lloyd doesn't want to expect anything and will just be thankful if it'll be given to him. ■

What's next for Janella and Marlo



Marlo Mortel and Janella Salvador

After working together as a love team for three years, Janella Salvador and Marlo Mortel are now going their separate ways, at least on TV.

The two first worked together in the hit teleserye "Be

Careful With My Heart." Following the success of the show, Janella and Marlo were paired in the teleserye "Oh My G!"

Now, Janella will be paired in a new TV series with the newest addition to the Kapamilya family, actor Elmo Magalona.

While fans won't be seeing Janella and Marlo together on TV for now, they will still see them together in Regal's Metro Manila Film Festival entry "Haunted Mansion."

"Kung dati nakikita niyo ako na maarte, kikay, ngayon quiet at mahinhin 'yung character ko," Janella said at the press conference of "Haunted Mansion."

When Marlo was told that Janella will be paired with another actor, his initial reaction was, "Syempre malungkot kasi nasanay kami na magkasama. Enjoy ako na kasama siya." But being close

friends and not just co-stars, there's no bitterness on Marlo's part.

"Happy ako kasi may bago siyang teleserye at kasama sa career niya, so bagong experiment sa career niya... Masaya 'ko sa takbo ng career niya," he said.

Marlo knows nothing is permanent in showbiz so he has already prepared himself for when they have to work separately.

"Dati pa lang sinasabihan na akong mag-ready kasi hindi naman lahat permanent dito sa showbiz. Kahit 'yung matitibay na love team nabuwag pa din at some point. Ako ni-re-ready ko na sarili ko nu'ng pagpasok ko pa lang sa showbiz, na hindi lahat ng gusto mo mangyayari. Kunyari may decision na i-partner sa iba, wala naman tayong magagawa doon."

The 22-year-old actor added, "Ang magagawa ko lang ay maging happy for her at maging

best din sa ginagawa ko."

When asked what he will miss about Janella the most, Marlo mentioned the actress' funny and quirky side.

"Makulit kasi siya. Lagi niya ako kinukulit, 'pag tulog ako lagi nya ko pinipicturan," he said.

Janella and Marlo's bond will remain despite the end of their onscreen partnership.

"Totoo naman kasi talaga 'yung friendship naming dalawa. We trust each other. Mami-miss ko 'yung friendship namin. Hindi naman iyon mawawala," he said.

"Haunted House," directed by Jun Lana, also stars Jerome Ponce and Dominic Ochoa. It opens in theaters on Dec. 25. ■

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