

The Montreal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities in Filipino language

MONTREAL, June 13, 2017 /CNW Telbec/ - Montréal mayor, Mr. Denis Coderre, accompanied by Mr. Lionel Perez, member of the Montréal executive committee and responsible in particular for governance and democracy, hosted this evening at city hall, members of the Filipino community of Montréal to hand to them the Montréal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities translated to Tagalog, the main language of the Philippines. The presentation took place in the presence of Her Excellency Petronilla Garcia, ambassador of the Philippines to Canada.

"The translation of the Montréal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities reflects how members of the Filipino community have contributed to the development and strength of Montréal. It also underlines the commitment of the city to continue its efforts to encourage the participation of the Filipino community in democratic life and its involvement in its living environment. In this regard, the Charter is essential for creating harmony and community spirit because it acknowledges that the principle of inclusion is at the heart of the history of the city. I therefore invite the Filipino community to take full ownership of it," said Montréal's mayor.

"The Montréal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities serves as an example in many of the world's major cities concerned with diversity. If



Philippine Ambassador Petronilla Garcia assisted by Mayor Denis Coderre lifts off the veil of the Montreal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities in Tagalog version (Filipino language) while Councilors Marvin Rotrand and Lionel Perez look on. Photo by Budz Sarmiento.

it is so inspirational, it is in part because it was prepared with the help of citizens, recalls Mr. Lionel Perez. It is for this reason that the Montréal Charter is imbued with the richness of this diversity which characterizes so well the population of Montreal. I would like to thank all members of the Filipino community, and Montrealers of all backgrounds, for promoting its values

and its obligations within their community."

Translation of the Montréal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities to the Tagalog language was carried out by Mr. Henrison Hsieh, postdoctoral student in linguistics at McGill University, under the direction of Dr. James Archibald, director of the Translation department at McGill

University.
The Charter is now available in nine languages other than French and English, that is, in Arabic, Chinese (simplified characters and traditional characters), Spanish, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Portuguese, Creole and now in Tagalog. It is also available in Braille, in sound format, in simplified text and in "ortograf altèrnatif" on the city's "AccèsSimple" website.
For more information on the Montréal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities or to consult the versions available in other languages, go to the page, "For citizens" in the "Democratic participation" section of Montréal's website: ville.montreal.qc.ca.

SOURCE Ville de Montréal - Cabinet du maire et du comité exécutif

For further information: Source : Marc-André Gosselin, press attaché, Office of the Mayor and Executive Committee, 514 290-1194; For information: Linda Boutin, public relations officer, Service des communications, 514 873-6013

See mopre photos on Page 3 and Page 10, Photo Gallery.

Quebecers take part in Fete Nationale celebrations

CTVNews.ca Staff Published Saturday, June 24, 2017 1:00PM EDT

Quebecers are taking part in Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day and Fete Nationale du Quebec festivities in the lead up to Canada 150 celebrations. The festivities mark Saturday's national holiday to celebrate the culture and heritage of Canada's francophones and how they have shaped the country.

The province hosted a major concert in Montreal on Friday night with various francophone artists including David Usher, Vincent Vallieres and Ingrid St-Pierre

"Today on la Fête nationale du Quebec, Sophie and I join our fellow Quebecers to proudly celebrate the unique history and identity of Quebec," Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said in a statement. "One Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day, we also join Francophones



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau poses with Melanie Marois, from the left, Julie-Anne Lesprance and Jade Cardinal at Fete nationale celebrations in Saint-Augustin-de-Desmaures Que., Friday, June 23, 2017. (THE CANADIAN PRESS/Jacques Boissinot)

across the country to celebrate our language, heritage and traditions," he continued.

In late May, the Minister of

See Page 4 - Quebecers

Montreal Westward Lions Club
See Page 3 - Lions Recycle for Sight Program

MESSAGE



INDEPENDENCE DAY 2017 MESSAGE OF SECRETARY RAMON LOPEZ

Today, we celebrate the 119th year since we first declared our nation's independence.

In remembrance of our heroes, who sacrificed their lives for the country, we mark the 12th of June every year to treasure the gift they have bequeathed for all Filipinos.

Though it has been 119 years since we first won our independence as a nation, there are struggles that we continue to bear—one for independence from poverty, given that many of our fellow countrymen are trapped at the bottom of the economic pyramid.

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is at the forefront of the attempt to bring shared prosperity for all. Guiding our efforts is President Rodrigo Duterte's 10-point Socio-Economic Agenda and "Dutertenomics," which aims to widen the gains of the Philippines' economic development, to address inequality, and to uplift the quality of life of all Filipinos.

Whether by attracting investment interest from traditional and non-traditional trading partners or through government support programs that help our micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) that serve as the backbone of our economy, DTI's initiatives help create more jobs and income opportunities, while also improving the lives of our countrymen.

The country posted one of the fastest growth rates in Asia in 2016 at 6.8 percent. The growth trajectory is projected to carry on at 6.4 percent this year and 6.6 percent in 2018, as projected by the World Bank. Crucial to sustaining such robust growth is our efforts to improve the business climate in the country through accelerated infrastructure spending, prudent economic management and good governance. Our industry-level reforms and implementing programs also continue to encourage foreign investments.

Increased investor confidence is at a high point, as evidenced by the number of exploratory visits from other countries. Foreign direct investments grew 13 percent to US\$689 million in the first month of 2017 from \$605 million in the same period last year. Meanwhile, exports grew by 21 percent from US\$4.61 billion in March 2016 to US\$5.58 billion in March 2017, while imports grew 24 percent from US\$6.36 billion in March 2016 to US\$7.88 billion in March 2017.

Enabling Business, Empowering Consumers

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

5/F Industry and Investments Building, 385 Senator Gil J. Puyat Avenue, 1200 Makati City, Philippines
Telephone (632) 899.7450 Fax (632) 896.1166 E-mail: Secretary@dti.gov.ph
www.dti.gov.ph

Do you want to have more customers for your business? Advertise in the Star and on-line -
filipinostar.org and mmtv.ca.

We'll be happy to serve your business needs. Just call us at 514-485-7861 or by e-mail at
filipinostar2@gmail.com



7159 ch. de la Cote des Neiges
Montreal, Quebec H3R 2M2

Tel.: 514-485-7861/ 514-506-8753
E-Mail: marketing@filipinostar.org
Published by: Filcan Publications, Inc.

Zenaida F. Kharroubi
Chief Editor & Publisher

W.G. Quiambao
Community News

Al Abdon
Fely Rosales Carino
Michael Davantes
Columnists

Bert Abiera
Founder

Sam Kevin
Show Biz News & Layout Editor

The opinions expressed by the writers and columnists do not necessarily reflect that of the management of the North American Filipino Star nor its editors.

The Board of Investments (BOI) had approved investment pledges worth P154-billion of projects from January to April, up 31 percent year on year. This is equivalent to 46,018 jobs to be generated compared to 16,366 generated last year or a growth of 181 percent.

Furthermore, the Philippines is currently ranked 99th out of 190 economies as measured in the 2016 Doing Business report, a significant gain of 49 spots in the Doing Business report since 2011, which is the largest in ASEAN.

At the domestic front, public service initiatives continue to progress. Of the 488 *Negosyo Centers* operating nationwide, 241 were established since President Duterte assumed office and these centers have assisted a total of 473,969 MSMEs by rendering 645,925 services. These centers along with the other infrastructures of entrepreneurship help existing and aspiring Filipino MSMEs in their unique entrepreneurial journeys. We would also like to mention that our microfinancing program, the *Pondo sa Pagbabago at Pag-asenso* (P3), which provides microenterprises an alternative source of financing, has now been launched nationwide.

Lastly, with the Philippines helping the ASEAN regional meet this year, DTI has managed to push for an inclusive, innovation-led growth by putting our MSMEs at the front and center of our trade agenda with our regional neighbors.

As the Philippines' premier trade agency, DTI remains committed in its goal to promote the local trade and industry to wider world even as it pursues greater business opportunities that would help our Filipino countrymen share in the benefits of country's economic growth.

The Philippines, as an independent nation that is proud to stand on its own, is ready to do business with the world.

Mabuhay!

RAMON M. LOPEZ
Secretary

"Leadership is not about a title or a designation. It's about impact, influence and inspiration. Impact involves getting results, influence is about spreading the passion you have for your work, and you have to inspire team-mates and customers."

— Robin S. Sharma



CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY

FAITH LOVE UNITY

Where Jesus Christ Is Lord



4415-A Van Horne Avenue,
Montreal, QC H3S 1S2
Tel.: 514-344-1689
Fax: 514-344-1846

E-mail: elshaddai_mtlqc@yahoo.ca



INVITATION

WEEKLY FAMILY APPOINTMENT & ACTIVITIES

HOLY MASS – 1st Sunday of Month 3:00 p.m.

GAWAIN / FELLOWSHIP - Every Sunday

1:30 p.m. St. Antonin Church, 5391 rue Snowdon, Montreal, Quebec

Weekly at 7:30 pm at El Shaddai Center, 4415-A Van Horne Avenue, Montreal

- Monday - Aspirant Preachers Training
- Tuesday - Bible Sharing
- Wednesday - Intercessory Prayers + Word of God
- Thursday - Discipleship Enrichment
- Friday - Character Development
- Saturday - Youth Activities / Community Outreach

Contacts: Sis. Marilyn (514-241-5695) Sis. Mercy (514-554-8940)

Come, be Empowered by the Holy Spirit ... Healed by The Word of God

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

This letter is in regard to the City's translation of its Charter of Rights and Responsibilities into Tagalog.

In 2002 our city faced the aftermath of the forced mergers with a great deal of apprehension. To give citizens a voice, Mayor Gerald Tremblay convened the Montreal Summit. Civil society was invited to set the city's new agenda going forward. It was a bold move and it helped to heal many of the ill feelings generated by the divisive mergers.

At that time I had the privilege of being the Administration's person in charge of the Democracy dossier. I take pride in knowing that the policies we elucidated are a vital part of my personal legacy as a City Councillor of long standing.

The Charter we created is a living document intended to guide the city's action for the decades ahead. The collective work of myself, Warren Allmand, Dimitri Roussopoulos and others ultimately lead to the adoption by City Council in 2005 of the Montreal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities.

The Charter is a powerful affirmation of our city's values of tolerance, acceptance and cooperation. It invites citizens to become actively involved in building a better society. It promotes racial harmony and respect. We live in an increasingly multicultural and multiracial city and the Charter is built upon the premise that each of us has an obligation to assure that everyone, regardless of origin, is welcome here and has the opportunity to succeed.

Despite its recognition by UNESCO as an example of what cities can do to promote democratic participation and inclusion, the Charter unfortunately remains relatively unknown among some Montrealers.

In an attempt to remedy that, Montreal each year translates the Charter into a new language with the hope of assuring that it can thus better penetrate minority communities. Aside from its French and English version,

the Charter has already been translated into Chinese, Greek, Haitian Creole, Hebrew, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish.

My colleague Lionel Perez is now the point person on the Democracy dossier. This year the Charter will be translated into Tagalog, thus inviting Montrealers speaking that language to read it in their native tongue. A ceremony was recently held at City Hall to mark the occasion.

You may be aware there has been some controversy that Tagalog was chosen instead of Filipino, the national language. Mr. Perez has assured everyone that there was some good faith confusion between the Philippines Embassy and the municipal services and that to rectify that a Filipino version will be added shortly.

I have always felt that making this important document available in languages other than French and English truly broadens its reach, reassuring immigrant communities and affirming to readers across the world fundamental Montreal values.

I invite you to take note of the new Tagalog version of the Charter which you can consult on the City's web site at http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/portal/page?_pageid=3036,3377687&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL
Ville de Montréal - Charte Montréalaise des droits et ...
ville.montreal.qc.ca
Montréal Charter. The Montréal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities, in force since January 1, 2006, covers the main sectors of municipal activity: democratic ...

As mentioned, a Filipino version should be posted in the coming months. I hope you will find this document inspirational and I urge you to discuss it in your milieu.

Yours truly,

Marvin Rotrand
City Councillor - Snowdon



15 June 2017 OTTAWA — Ambassador Petronila P. Garcia, with His Worship, the Honorable Denis Coderre (Mayor of Montreal), Executive Committee Member M. Lionel Perez, Borough Mayor Russel Copeman (Cote-de-Neiges), Councillor Marvin Rotrand, and Filipino Canadian Citizens of Montreal during the launching of the Tagalog translation of the Montreal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities held at the Hotel de Ville de Montreal on June 13. The translation is a strong, unequivocal signal that Filipinos are part of the very fabric that defines Montreal with the Filipino-Canadian community as the third largest immigrant community and the Philippines as the biggest source of new immigrants into Canada. There are more than 70,000 Filipinos in the province of Quebec. The unveiling coincides with many milestones, the 375th anniversary of Montreal, the 150th Anniversary of the Confederation of Canada, and the 119th Anniversary of Philippine Independence. (Department of Foreign Affairs website)



Montrealers happily posing for souvenir with Ambassador Petronila Garcia are from left: Zenaida Kharroubi, Cristy Hunter, Monica Regacho, Joseph Gonzalez, and Trans Liganor.

LIONS RECYCLE FOR SIGHT PROGRAM

is bringing clear vision to millions, one pair of eyeglasses at a time. Through this program, Lions Club members collect new and gently used eyeglasses in their communities and give them to those most in need.

A 94-year old man in Honduras cried after receiving a pair of Lions recycled glasses. "I can read my bible – the first time in 15 years."

These eyeglasses change people's lives

Those who need recycled eyeglasses, or those who wish to donate, please contact the following Lions Club members:

- Danny – 438-863-5153
- Sophie - 438-930-1417
- Myrna – 514-699-6140
- Ben - 514-605-5009



**Montreal
Westward
Lions Club**



Need Filipino professional driver with class 1 permit to drive a damper truck and truck with trailer, Work is in Montreal Area about 70 km distance, preferably with experience if possible. Asphalt Plant in Montreal-East - Work involves Carrying crush stones from quarries....Long hours with good salaries.
Contact # 514 994 9019 (LEO)

From Page 1 Quebecers

Canadian Heritage, Melanie Joly, announced that Quebec would receive a portion of the \$2.4M in federal funding for activities across the country, for Fete Nationale and Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day celebrations, a first

12 days of Canada 150 from June 21 to July 2. Other celebrations in the lead up to Canada Day include Canadian Multiculturalism Day on June 27.

Trudeau visited several cities across the province on Friday to join in on



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau enjoying the Fête Nationale festivities with his 3-year old son Hadrien and a toy rabbit. (Canadian Press)

The celebrations are also part of the

their celebrations, including Saint-Augustin-de-Desmaures, Trois Rivières and Boischatel.



MEDIA ADVISORY

CANADIAN IMMIGRANT MAGAZINE AND RBC RECOGNIZE THE RBC TOP 25 CANADIAN IMMIGRANTS OF 2017

TORONTO, June 27- The 2017 RBC Top 25 Canadian Immigrant Awards winners will be honoured and their achievements celebrated at a ceremony in Toronto.

Proudly supported by title sponsor RBC Royal Bank, the awards recognize and celebrate the inspirational achievements and untold stories of immigrants across Canada. Winners at the ceremony will include Cargojet CEO Ajay Virmani, famed medical humanitarian Dr. James Orbinski, former Miss Canada Latin Ninela Sanchez, Filipina community dynamo Agnes P Miranda, president of CanHome Group Tony Luk and many more. (Names of winners embargoed until June 27).

Marivel Taruc, the renowned CBC TV personality and journalist will host the ceremony.

One-on-one interviews and photo & video opportunities are available before the ceremony.

WHEN: Tuesday June 27, 2017

WHAT: Media Interviews: 3:45pm – 4:45pm, The Vault
 Ceremony: 5:00pm – 6:00pm, Grand Banking Hall
 Reception: 6:00pm – 7:00pm, Grand Banking Hall

WHERE: One King West Hotel, 1 King St. West, Toronto

RSVP to: Laura Jackman at ljackman@metroland.com or 905-273-8160

For further information contact:

Canadian Immigrant
Sanjay Agnihotri, 416-876-9779
sagnihotri@metroland.com

RBC
Sophie Connor, 647-823-4790,
sophie.connor@rbc.com

Diversity Communications
Sonam Sood, 905-907-6911,
Sonam.sood@diversity.com

- 30 -

Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness.”

— Desmond Tutu

WorldViews

Justin Trudeau took part in Toronto Pride while wearing socks that say ‘Eid Mubarak’

By Adam Taylor (Washington Post)

Canada's Justin Trudeau took part in Toronto's Gay Pride parade, with the prime minister's official photographer Adam Scotti there to mark only the second time that a Canadian leader has marched in the country's largest LGBT event.

One photograph by Scotti — shared widely on social media — shows Trudeau crouching down to high-five a young girl dressed as Wonder Woman and holding a rainbow flag. As many quickly noted, Trudeau had got into

based Halal Socks. Trudeau had previously pointed to them at an event to mark the end of Ramadan. The message was also apt for Toronto Pride, where this year's theme was inclusivity, with indigenous activists and other minorities playing a prominent part in the parade. According to the Toronto Star newspaper, Trudeau wished the crowd a happy “Pride Mubarak,” recognizing the dueling events taking place that weekend.

Today's WorldView
What's most important from where the world meets Washington



Justin Trudeau at Pride wearing rainbow socks high-fiving a little girl dressed as Wonder Woman

the sartorial spirit, too — by wearing a pair of multicolored socks.

Trudeau's unusual choices in foot attire have already been celebrated. (He wore socks adorned with “Star Wars” characters while meeting his



Irish counterpart on May 4). But his Pride socks carried a subtler political message. Text on the socks read “Eid Mubarak,” honoring the religious holiday that marks the end of Ramadan, the Islamic holy month of fasting, which coincides with Gay Pride this year.

Trudeau, a member of the Liberal Party, has pushed themes of tolerance and multiculturalism since becoming prime minister in November 2015, publicly embracing issues such as Syrian refugees while other world leaders shied away from him.

While Trudeau was largely praised for his socks on social media, some on the right criticized him and noted that in many Muslim-majority countries LGBT people can face persecution. Even some liberal-leaning supporters voiced criticism, arguing that it was another social media savvy-stunt from a leader whose policies haven't lived up to the hype.

The Canadian prime minister is now half way through his term and has recently suffered a dip in his approval ratings, though Trudeau's numbers remain relatively high compared to his similar polls other leaders, including President Trump.

The socks are made by the Toronto-

Fun-loving Filipinos celebrate Independence Day with gusto

By W. G. Quiambao



Community leaders and politicians were very well represented on stage from left: Bert Abiera, Borough Mayor Russell Copeman, Fely Rosales Carino, Anthony Housefather, MP of Mount Royal and Grand Marshall, David Birnbaum, MNA of D'Arcy McGee, Councilor Marvin Rotrand, Councilor Peter McQueen, Councilor Magda Popeanu, CCFAQ President Gerry Danzil, Past President and Founder James de la Paz, Dario Boco, and Joseph Gonzales, Emcee. (Photo from Tenne Rose Dayandante facebook page)

Well, the weather forecast proved once more that it is unpredictable. The expected thundershowers that concerned the organizers and performers of the 119th Philippine Independence Day celebrations didn't happen on June 17. Instead, a beautiful weather greeted them in the morning. The festivities that were prepared for many months by the

planned without any problem.

Gerry Danzil, president of the CCFAQ, emphasized that we Filipinos in Montreal and suburbs are fortunate as we celebrate our Independence Day and James de la Paz, founder of the organization, urged all the associations and members of our community to be united.

decorated floats started from St. Kevin (Mackenzie King Park), Van Horne St, Victoria St., Westbery St. Proud Filipinos, many of them wearing their traditional attires, waved at the fascinated onlookers. Among the many associations that joined the parade were FAMAS, UPS, Seafarers, and Quebec Teaches Association of Quebec. After the parade, the participants who were in festive mood, proceeded back to Mackenzie King Park where sumptuous Filipino foods that included lechon, kaldereta and pancit were served to the Filipino and non-Filipino guests. MP Anthony Housefather, borough mayor Russel Copeman and councillor Marvin Rotrand were among the staples of the community who greeted the Filipinos in celebrating their Independence Day. The newly-appointed Consul Jeffrey Salik, represented the Philippine Embassy in Ottawa since it was having its own celebrations on the same day. The sports exhibitions like arnis and Japanese karate and the singing and dancing by the local singers and dancers, entertained the crowd. Aside from the Philippines' PAMANA ni LuzViMinda, various ethnic groups like Japan, Bulgaria, Chile, Panama, Portugal, Grenada, Russia and Egypt performed numbers that wowed the spectators, many of them sitting on the

ground. They watched the unique dances - from the Filipino dances that



The Bicol Association of Quebec pose for souvenir with the three political leaders (center), Councilor Magda Popeanu, NDP Graham Carpenter and Councilor Peter McQueen.

Council of Canadian-Filipino Associations of Quebec were held as The parade of colorful and well-



Anthony Housefather, MP of Mount Royal with Tenne Rose Dayandante MMTV host.

reflected the Filipino culture and modesty of Filipino women with the movements of their hands to Russians' and Egyptians' eye-popping belly dances that showed the fluidity and flexibility of the dancers' hip movements.

Two women, who just gave their first names as Anna and Mona, gushed ``How did you put all these performers together? This an awesome free entertainment. ``

“A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.”

— Winston Churchill

The threat of war is real

June 14, 2017 | Opinion

By Erick San Juan

Gas-HydrateChina has for the first time extracted gas from an ice-like substance under the South China Sea considered key to future global energy supply.

Chinese authorities have described the success as a major breakthrough.

Methane hydrates, also called “flammable ice”, hold vast reserves of natural gas. Many countries including the US and Japan are working on how to tap those reserves, but mining and extracting are extremely difficult.

The element, a kind of natural gas hydrate, was discovered in the area in 2007, but this is the first time the country is able to successfully extract combustible ice from the seabed, in a single, continuous operation on a floating production platform in the Shenhua area of the South China Sea, about 300km southeast of Hong Kong, state-run Xinhua news agency reports.”

Methane hydrate global sources are estimated to exceed the combined energy content of all other fossil fuels.”

Estimates of the South China Sea’s methane hydrate potential now range as high as 150 billion cubic meters of natural gas equivalent, sufficient to satisfy China’s entire equivalent oil consumption for 50 years.

The commercial production of methane hydrate would reduce China’s dependence on energy imports, which accounts for nearly 60% of its crude oil needs, making it the world’s No. 2 importer by volume, after the U.S.

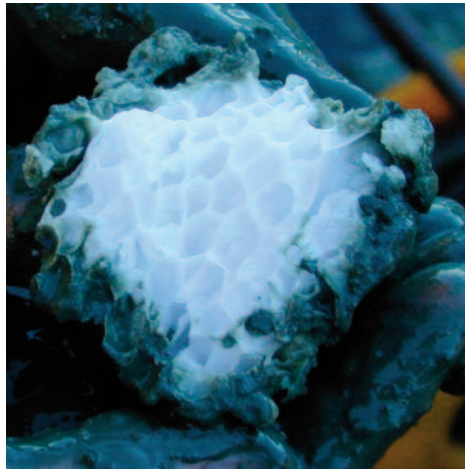
Methane hydrate will also aid China’s efforts to shift to natural gas from coal, which accounts for nearly 70% of its primary-energy consumption, which has caused harmful pollution to China’s cities.

China’s discovery of methane hydrates off the coasts of Vietnam and the Philippines is what has prompted China to aggressively pursue the occupation of Philippine and Vietnamese shoals and their conversion to artificial islands in order to safely conduct its exploration and production of methane hydrate.

This explains China’s placement of an oil rig platform off the coast of Vietnam which triggered international showdowns with Vietnam.

The Recto Bank (Reed Bank) area located only 50 miles west of the Philippine island of Palawan is considered a methane hydrate honey pot. The Philippines estimates that the Sampaguita Field within Recto Bank may also hold large deposits of natural gas equivalents in the form of methane hydrates. (Source: Rodel Rodis, Why China will declare war if PH drills for oil)

Now that the question was answered on the real intention of China in the disputed area in the South China Sea especially on our territories, there is no doubt that what China’s soft power approach now



with our President is part and parcel of China’s ‘looting’ of our mineral resources.

The threat of war is real because China has already succeeded in extracting methane hydrates (flammable ice) in the SCS and if we will conduct our own oil exploration and extraction, we will disrupt their flammable ice operation in the process.

With our domestic problems on terrorism and the war on drugs, China easily extended help with these two problems. We all know that President Duterte has somewhat gave up on our claim in the disputed areas in the SCS by saying that there is no point of going to war if we are establishing friendship with China. In effect we are allowing the extraction of this mineral by China without doing anything. And not even a joint project? Where is the so called bilateral talks towards bilateral agreement to peaceful resolution of the territorial dispute? Are we taken for a ride here with our full consent? Just asking? Pres. Rody Duterte should be very careful with his discreet plan of action ‘coz so many international think tanks are watching and studying his ‘chess game’. One example is the perception that a China inspired revolutionary government was sabotaged by international terrorist organization, ISIS.

According to Solgen Jose Calida, Pres. Duterte knew about the plan of the Maute group to attack Marawi. It jibes with my info of a bigger plan of terrorism which could affect the nation.

Even before Pres. Duterte left for his China trip, I alerted him through Sec. Bong Go, NSA Sec. Jun Esperon and other cabinet secretary friends to make sure that my assessment will reach him. I told all of them to reactivate the ‘Situation Room’ so PRD can preempt any possible threat and mishief.

This plan had been successful during the time of former Pres. Fidel Ramos because of former NSA Joe Almonte’s appreciation of strategic intelligence. Any one who knows me and internet information about me will prove me right. Maybe they thought all the while that I was just scare mongering.

Before Duterte left for Russia, he only secured Davao city by putting additional military contingent there. He even brought his top level officials to Moscow and let Budget Sec. Ben Diokno as his caretaker head.

When the Maute siege started, Pres.

Duterte knew that the Maute’s plan is real and immediately returned to Davao. Despite his statement of giving timetable to finish the Maute’s it all failed due to the support of the ISIS to the Maute group.

Good thing that DND Sec. Delfin Lorenzana sought the assistance of the US forces in fighting the real enemy, the ISIS. Despite the noise of the pro-Beijing left, now is the ripe time that the US can prove them wrong by finishing the ISIS terror group before a spill over can reach Metro Manila which could fully destroy Duterte’s administration.

There are so many Filipino experts who can be of help. We have to swallow our pride once and for all and tap them for our nation’s sake.

This is a matter of sovereignty, we are in a dire strait and we need an immediate solution to this problem. Many soldiers and people died. We have to remind the president that his nationalism is now being tested. We don’t even have to give up our mineral resources to anyone, its for our country’s future generations. There are other ways than going to war to assert our rights to our resources, there is still time to find solutions to such predicaments.

As Filipinos, this is the right time to do action and unite. Let us help our President, our nation. God bless our country. (Source: Global Balita)

Marawi seige: US special forces aiding Philippine Army



Image caption A US P3 Orion surveillance aircraft seen flying over Marawi. (Image copyright Reuters)
June 23, 2017 | Politics & Government

SOURCE: BBC NEWS

US special forces are helping the Philippine military retake the southern city of Marawi from IS-linked militants, the Philippine army says.

The forces are providing technical help and are not fighting, it said.

President Rodrigo Duterte had earlier threatened to throw out US troops amid strained relations since taking office.

Militants have been under siege since rampaging through the southern city on 23 May. The latest fighting has claimed the lives of 13 Philippine marines.

Hundreds of militants, who have been flying the black flag of so-called Islamic State and are led by the self-styled IS

emir of the southern Philippines, Isnilon Hapilon, and the Maute brothers Omar and Abdullah, are still holed up in the city.

The latest casualties bring the number of Philippine troops killed in the fighting to 58.

At least 138 militants and 20 civilians have also been killed, the government says.

The BBC’s Jonathan Head says there are several reports that the Maute brothers, who lead the Maute group, are among the dead, with intercepted communications from jihadist groups suggesting this.

In a press briefing, Lt Col Jo-ar Herrera said the army was checking the reports. He cited “strong indications” but gave no further details.

The brothers’ parents, who are believed to have helped fund their armed group, have been captured.

Marawi is on the southern island of Mindanao, which has a significant Muslim population in the majority Catholic country and has seen a decades-long Muslim separatist insurgency.

Col Herrera confirmed for the first time that US special forces were helping the army.

“They are not fighting. They are just providing technical support,” he said.

Reuters news agency earlier quoted the US embassy in Manila as verifying the presence of US forces. It would not go into operational details but said the US forces were helping at the request of the Philippine government.

The US has had a small logistical military presence in the Philippines, although a programme to advise the Philippine army on fighting the Abu Sayyaf militant group was discontinued in 2015.

Mr Duterte, a strongman who has supported the extrajudicial killing of drug users and other criminals, has been highly critical of the US since taking power last June, straining a long-time alliance.

But he had what the White House described as a “very friendly” phone call with President Donald Trump in April, and has since said his differences with the US were with President Barack Obama’s administration.

Philippine army spokesman Brig Gen Restituto Padilla Jr has vowed that the national flag will be flying once again over all of Marawi by Monday – the Philippine national day.

The army has missed past deadlines to rid the city of militants amid two weeks of air and ground assaults.

Col Herrera said the militants were now restricted to three districts within the city.

“The world of terrorism inside the city is growing smaller by the day,” he said.

Officials say that foreign nationals are among the militants in Marawi, with the list of countries and territories including Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Yemen, India and Chechnya.



ANG SUSI SA MATAGUMPAY NA INTERVIEW

Noong May 25 ay pinarangalan ng Radio Television Digital News Association si Mutsumi Takahashi ng Lifetime Achievement Award sa matagal niyang paglilingkod bilang reporter at anchor ng CTV Montreal. Sinabi niya na ang susi sa matagumpay na interview ay ang katangian ng reporter na makinig nang mahusay sa kaniyang kinakapanayam. Tama siya. May na-interview ako na hindi ko pa siya natatanong nang lubusan ay sinagot na halos lahat ng gusto kong malaman kaya nakinig na lamang ako. Subali’t kung kailangang mahusay makinig ang reporter ay kailangan ding mahusay siyang magtanong. Naalaala ko ang sinabi ni David Letterman na ang isa sa mga mahirap niyang na-interview ay ang aktor na si Warren Beatty. Kung ano ang itinanong niya,iyon lamang ang sasagutin nito. Hindi alam ni Letterman kung paano ang gagawin upang hindi maging kabagut-bagot ang kanilang pag-uusap. May payo si Barbara Walters kapag nalagay sa ganitong situasyon. Sa kaniyang libro, sinabi niya na tanungin mo ang iyong kinakapanayam tungkol sa kaniyang mga anak o apo at tiyak na magsasalita iyon. Sino nga ba namang mapagmahal na ina o lola ang hindi magiging maligaya at magsasalita kapag napag-uusapan ang kanilang mga anak of apo?

Mahalaga ang mga itinatanong ng reporter sa kaniyang ini-interview kaya nag-iingat ako sa pagtatanong ng mga bagay na walang kaugnayan sa aking isinusulat. Nang maging freelance writer ako sa The Montreal Gazette, nai-feaure ko ang isang lalaking may ari ng maliit na restaurant sa Little Burgandy. Tuwing pasko ay nagsusuot siya ng costume ni Santa Clause at nagpapakain ng libre sa mga mahihirap. Nang malathala sa diaryo ang aking isinulat ay may tumawag sa kanila na nagsasabing may criminal record ang lalaki. Child molestation yata o armed robbery. Tinanong ako ng The Montreal Gazette kung inimestigahan ko muna ang lalaking ito. Ipinaliwanag ko na hindi ako investigative reporter at walang dahilan upang itanong ko sa aking ini-interview ang mga bagay na walang kaugnayan sa aking isinusulat. Ang paksa ng aming pag-uusap ng lalaki ay ang kaniyang magagandang ginagawa tuwing sasapit ang pasko. Sino ang mag-aakalang may criminal record siya? Isa pa, kung nakulong man siya, nagbayad na siya ng utang niya sa lipunan.

Akala ko ay iyon na ang simula ng aking katapusan sa pagsusulat sa The Montreal Gazette. Mabuti na lamang at naunawaan nila ako.

35 TAO ANG NAMATAY SA PAMAMARIL SA PILIPINAS

Isang mataas na lalaking may bigote ang ayon sa mga opisyal ng gobyerno ay pumasok sa Resorts World Casino sa Pilipinas noong June 2. May dala itong assault rifle. Kinuha niya sa mesa ang mga chips, inilagay sa bag at nagmamadaling nagtungo sa kaniyang kwarto kung saan sinunog niya ang sarili.

“Terorista, terorista,” sigaw ng mga tao.

Tatlungpu’t limang tao ang namatay sa smoke inhalation at maraming nasaktan sa pagtalon sa ikalawang palapag ng casino.

Pagkatapos ng ilang oras, ang Islamic group ay nagpalabas ng pahayag na may kinalaman sila sa nangyari. Hindi naglaon ay nagpalabas ng balita si Roger de la Rosa, pinuno ng mga pulis, na walang katibayan na ang nangyari ay gawa ng Islamic goup sa Mindanao. “Walang laman ang bag ng lalaki kundi mga chips lamang. Wala naman siya pinagbabaril. Natalo siguro nang malaki at parang nasiraan ng bait.”

Pinatunayan ng mga kamag-anak ng lalaki na nagumon nga ito sa sugal at nagkautang nang malaki. Nakalulungkot isipin na maraming buhay ang nawala at maraming pamilya ang nagdadalamhati ngayon. Nakaaaawa rin ang mga Islamis na walang kinalaman sa nangyari subalit kaagad nahusgahan ng mga tao.

“I CROSS THE LINE” UMIIYAK NA SABI NG KOMEDIANTENG SI GRIFFIN

Katakut-takot na pagtuligsa at pagbabanta sa kaniyang buhay ang natanggap ng komedianteng si Kathy Griffin nang lumabas ang litrato niya na hawak ang maskara ni Donald Trump. Putol at duguan ang ulo ng pangulo. Disturbing, disgusting, sick – sabi ng marami na kinabibilangan ng mga kaibigan din ni Griffin na sina Chelsea Clinton at Anderson Cooper. Dahil sa ginawa ni Griffin, nakansel ang limang show niya at kontrata sa CNN sa pagiging host tuwing bagong taon.

Napilitang humingi ng paumanhin si Kathy Griffin sa mga tao. “I cross the

line,” umiiyak na sabi niya. Ang ginawa ni Griffin ay upang ipahayag na tutol siya sa pamamalakad ni Trump. Pero bakit sa ganoong paraan niya ginawa iyon? Hindi lamang ngayon ang unang pagkakataon na nagkaroon siya ng problema sa pagpapatawa. Na-ban siya sa maraming talk shows dahil sa marumi at mga bulgar niyang pagpapatawa. Ang ilan sa mga ito ay ang The View nang magbiro siya na nag-sex sina Howard Stern at Barbara Walters, sa David Letterman Show nang nagmura siya at gumamit ng “F” word nang maraming beses, sa Today Show nang insultuhin niya ang mga host.

Ang nangyari kamakailan kay Kathy Griffin ay nagpaalaala sa akin sa nangyari kay Mike Ward sa Canada noong isang taon. Ginawa niyang katatawanan sa kaniyang comedy show ang isang teenager na may kapansanan. Nahatulan siyang magbayad sa teenager at sa ina nito. Sabi ni Griffin ay komediante siya at may kalayaan siyang magpatawa. Ang kalayaan ang sinasabi lagi ng mga manunulat at komediante.” Push the envelope”sabi nga nila. Hindi nila alam na ang sinasabi nilang kalayaan ay may limitasyon. Hindi absolute. Ang asawa ni Joan Rivers ay nag-suicide noong 1987. Ano kaya ang kaniyang mararamdaman kung gawin ng ibang komediante na katatawanan ang pagkamatay ng kaniyang asawa noong panahong nagdadalamhati pa siya? Kung may anak si Griffin na biktima ng rape o may sakit na autism, ano ang mararamdaman niya kung gawing katatawanan iyon? Ang mahusay na komediante ay inihiwasan ang mga paksang nakasasakit sa tao, emotionally o physically. Higit sa lahat, ang kalayaan ay ginagamit sa mabuting paraan, hindi sa kasamaan.

SA ISANG SAGLIT AY NASUBUKAN ANG PAGIGING HONEST KO

Tulad ng ibang tao, may mga pagkakamali rin sa buhay na aking nagagawa. Kamakailan, lumabas ako ng bahay upang itapon ang laman ng recyle box sa bin. Pagbalik ko sa bahay, napansin ko ang isang pitaka sa aking nilalakaran. Medyo luma kaya siguro itinaon. “Pupulutin ko ito o hindi?” tanong ko sa aking sarili. Tumingin ako sa paligid kung may nakatingin dahil kahit umaga pa lamang ay marami nang naglalakad sa daan. Nagmamadaling dinampot ko ang pitaka. Mabilis ang pangyayari kaya habang dinadampot ko ito ay maraming katanungan ang naglalaro sa aking isipan. “Kung may pera ito, kukunin ko kaya? Kung hindi ako ang kukuha ng pera, ang ibang tao ang kukuha nito.” Pero nanaig ang katinuan ng isip ko. “Kung may address at telepono, isusuli ko ito dahil kawawa ang may ari.” Naranasan ko rin ang mawalan ng pitaka at mahirap ito. Binuksan ko ang pitaka kung may identification nga. Ang nakita ko kaagad ay \$80.00. Tiningnan ko ang mga nakasingit na card sa gilid ng pitaka. Montreal Bank, Toronto Bank na baka mga expired na. Sumunod ay ang medicare card. “Ang pangit ng litrato”,

sabi ko sa aking sarili. Pero saglit akong natigilan dahil parang kilala ko litrato kaya tiningnan ko uli. Litrato ko iyon. Natawa at nahiya ako sa aking sarili. Paano nahulog ang aking pitaka?. Mababaw ang bulsa ng aking pantalon at bukod sa aking pitaka, may pouch na lalagyan ng mga barya. Siguro, sinusubukan ako ng panginoon. Ang pangyayaring iyon ay muling nagpaalaala sa akin ng aral na huwag matuksong maghangad sa mga bagay na hindi sa akin.

KAHIT MATANDA NA ANG ISANG TAO AY HINDI NANGANGAHULUGANG HINDI NA SIYA MAKAPAGSISILBI SA KOMUNIDAD

Noong nakaraang isyu ng The North American Filipino Star ay pabirong tinanong ko si Bert Abiera kung tatakbo siya sa pagka-presidente ng FAMAS. Pabiro rin siyang sumagot, “Wala namang age limit.” Naalaala ko ang sinabi niyang iyon nang masalubong ko kamakailan sa Plamondon ang isang kasalukuyang presidente ng asosasyon ng mga propesyonal. Buong pagmamalaki niyang ipinakita sa akin ang isang souvenir program kung saan nakalagay lahat ang kaniyang nagawa sa loob lamang ng isang taon. Subalit’ biglang nabahiran ng lungkot ang kaniyang mukha dahil noong una raw ay sinabihan siya na huwag nang tumakbo sa pagka-presidente at ibigay na lamang ang posisyon sa nakababata sa kaniya. Masakit nga iyon. Malakas pa naman siya at malinaw pa ang kaniyang pag-iisip. Kahit matanda na siya, marami pa rin siyang karanasan na pakikinabangan ng komunidad.

ANG SAMAHANG MAKABAYAN AT MALAYA TEAM ANG MAGLALABAN SA FAMAS

Nakausap ko si Dante Tabamo ng Malaya Team at sinabi niya na tatakbo nga siya sa pagka-presidente ng FAMAS sa eleksyon sa August. Silang dalawa ni Cesar Manuel ng Samahang Makabayan ang maglalaban.

Saludo ako sa mga kumakandidato na tapat ang layuning maglingkod sa komunidad na walang bayad. Hindi madaling trabaho ang kanilang papasukan. May mga pagkakataon na mapababayaang nila ang kanilang trabaho at pamilya.

Kung gusto talaga nilang tumakbo, ang maipapayo ko sa kanila, higit sa lahat sa mga kabataan at baguhan sa politika, basahin at intindihiing maigi ang FAMAS Constitution at COMELEC Rules and Regulations. Kung may katanungan sila tungkol sa Rules and Regulations, huwag mag-atubiling magtanong bago mag-eleksyon. Karapatan nila ito at katunayan na seryoso sila sa pagtakbo. Iwasan na maulit ang nangyaring gulo noon.



Ask the Video Guy

Technological Tidbits
by

Al Abdon

Selfies Anyone?

Selfie sticks are becoming popular among the Filipinos in all ages.

Whether pointing the camera at yourself or filming someone else, selfie sticks are a valuable tool for filmmakers. Learn how to get the most out of your selfie stick with these useful tips.

Behind the photo frenzy and selfie phenomenon, you'll find a smart and simple piece of equipment worth adding to your kit. Behold, the mighty selfie stick!

Whether you point the camera at yourself or at your subject, here are a few tips to get the most out of your selfie stick:

Camera Positioning

What's great about selfie mode is that you give your story a point of view. However, achieving an acceptable selfie is not as easy as it looks. There's an art to getting the shot. Discovering a flattering angle, selecting a suitable background and finding your light is only the beginning!

The trick to shooting a classic selfie is to position the camera at eye-level, just like you would position the camera on a tripod for an interview. While holding the camera low might feel heroic, it also might accentuate double chins. Now, change it up, and hold the stick off to your side and get a profile shot. If you're snowboarding, skateboarding or wakeboarding, try holding the selfie stick behind you to get a cool chase shot. Experiment with different camera positions to get a variety of angles. Shoot some while standing still and some in motion.

Are you ready for your

close-up? Unfortunately, photographing yourself at arm's length makes for a lousy portrait. Putting a bit more distance between the lens and your face will ultimately make for more appealing framing. It gives a bit more breathing room around your face and the opportunity to see the background. If you wouldn't let a stranger that close, the camera doesn't belong that close either. Give yourself some extra space with a telescoping selfie stick that expands and contracts as needed — ready to accommodate any size group shot or highlight incredible scenery in the background.

While selfie sticks are a great tool for people who want to film themselves while flying solo, they also offer a world of possibilities for handheld shooting.

Turn the Camera Around

After you shoot your selfie, turn the camera around and show us the world from your point of view. A POV shot can be a nice cutaway while filming yourself. It offers a unique perspective when you're

doing something active, like walking or driving. It really makes your viewers feel like they are there with you.

A POV shot can be a nice cutaway while filming yourself.

While there are a handful of mounts that can attach action cams to your head or chest, the selfie stick offers the most versatility when you're hoping to get a lot of different shots without a lot of setup time.

Think Differently

Now comes the fun part. With a little creativity, you can unlock a whole world of possibilities. Flip the stick upside down to get a cool low angle. Let the camera almost touch the ground and see the soles of your shoes hitting the pavement, watch your snowboard carving through snow or capture your bike tire rolling down the street. Shoot head-on, to the side, and from behind for a couple of different options.



Try using your selfie stick to elevate your shot. Peer over the crowd at a concert or peek over a chef's shoulder while she's making paella. The selfie stick's extra height offers a great vantage point.

Keep it Steady



The selfie stick can also be an additional point of contact for stabilization, making shots more steady than when shooting handheld. Some selfie sticks even offer the ability to act like a monopod; they're long enough to rest the base on the ground for balance and support. For those who are ready for action, experiment with a handheld motorized gimbal — the ultimate selfie stick!

Hand it Off

If you're not the subject of your story, don't be afraid to hand the selfie stick to the talent. Coach them on how to film themselves to add some interesting elements to the mix.

Be Aware of Your Surroundings

Don't cause a scene. A handful of places are banning selfie sticks, as these outstretched poles have been a threat to artwork, walls and other people. Don't give them reason to continue the trend. Always be mindful of where your stick your selfie stick.

Selfie sticks come in a wide range of qualities and price ranges, from mere toys to professional tools. Generally, you get what you pay for. When choosing the right selfie stick, note that some mounts are specific to one type of camera, while others are universal with options to switch between your smartphone, action cam, and point and shoot. Consider the movement options your mount offers as well. Hinged mounts will help you tilt the camera, but a ball head will give you the most flexibility. Pick a stick that's sturdy enough for your adventures; I've seen a handful of these break in half. Consider both the collapsed and extended lengths when choosing what size works best for you.

Now, it's time to take these selfie stick strategies and add some style and personality to your videos. The power is in your hands. ■

- Al Abdon

The North American FILIPINO STAR PHOTO GALLERY



Group souvenir photo with Councilor Magda Popeanu and Anthony Housefather, MP for Mount Royal, in front of the BAQ tent.



From the left: Two Russian dancers, Rose de la Paz, an Egyptian belly dancer, and Willie Quiambao. (Photo by Budz Sarmiento)



After unveiling the Charter, photo shows from left: Marvin Rotrand, Lionel Perez, Mayor Denis Coderre, Ambassador Petronila Garcia and CDN-NDG Borough Mayor Russell Copeman. (Photo: Budz Sarmiento)



L to R: Gerry Danzil, Budz Sarmiento, Mayor Denis Coderre, James de la Paz, and Rose de la Paz.



L to R: Gerry Danzil, Russell Copeman, Mayor Denis Coderre, Norma Vohra, Lionel Perez, James de la Paz, Ed Tupaz and Z. Kharroubi.



Souvenir photo with Mayor Denis Coderre and James de la Paz.



MMTV Hosts Tenne Rose Dayandante and Michael Davantes pose for souvenir of the 119th Philippine Independence celebration 6/17/2017.



Recent Visitors at Gilmore College International- Tess Almanzor Sarmiento and Budz Sarmiento welcomed by Zenaida Kharroubi



3rd Place - Photo by Nancy Karides



2nd Place - Photo by Zenaida Kharroubi



1st Place - Photo by Ciony Nueva

Photo contest on May 26 among students of Basic 1B photography course sponsored by the Quebec Association of Canadian Filipino Teachers of Quebec. Course was taught by Al Abdon for five weeks from April to May 2017.



10 year financing available in pre-arrangement
Personal consultations/group seminars

Reception facilities
Chapel ceremony recording
Live webviewing for family overseas
Repatriation services

Dignity[®]
MEMORIAL
∞ LIFE WELL CELEBRATED[®] ∞

*There are many good reasons
to plan your funeral in advance...
there are no good reasons not to.*



Sandra Wong
Funeral Planning Counselor
514.342.8000 ext: 2258



**CENTRE FUNÉRAIRE
CÔTE-DES-NEIGES**
4525, ch. de la Côte-des-Neiges,
Montréal, Québec H3V 1E7
www.dignitequebec.com

Philippine news editorials

June 23, 2017 | Featured, Opinion, PerryScope

By Perry Diaz

Long before President Rodrigo “Digong” Duterte imposed martial law in Mindanao, he was already toying with the idea of declaring martial law, not just in Mindanao but the entire country. Why? What caused him to consider martial law when his supporters in the House of Representatives have provided him with an ironclad defense from any attempt to impeach him? Or are there other reasons – secret and unpublished – that would satisfy his private agenda?

For one thing, one can say that Duterte was a democratically elected “strongman” like Russian President Vladimir Putin. While Duterte is not a “dictator” in the mold of the late President Ferdinand E. Marcos, he was able to exercise near-absolute power in pushing his legislative agenda. Indeed, senators and congressmen who opposed his wishes were severely dealt with.

In the House of Representatives, except for a few party-list congressmen, nobody dares oppose his legislative agenda that includes restoration of the death penalty, the switch to a federal government, and lowering of the age of criminal liability. The House Speaker, Rep. Pantaleon Alvarez, a protégée of Duterte, is totally supportive of his legislative agenda. And the congressmen – who are balimbings (political turncoats) as a matter of political survival – fear him.

In my column, “Is martial law just a matter of time?” (January 27, 2017), I asked: “Why would Digong [Duterte] want to declare martial law, when his grip to power is strong? Would it be fair to presume that he might have been thinking of the day when his grip weakens and loses control of Congress? And the specter of that happening could give him sleepless nights, insecurity, and paranoia. Could this be the reason why he is not comfortable sleeping in Malacañang Palace protected by the elite Presidential Security Group?”

Narco list



President Rodrigo Duterte announces the “narco list.”

When the Philippine National Police (PNP) submitted an intelligence report



Soldiers patrol Marawi City.

– “Narco list” – to Duterte, several judges’ names were included on the report. Duterte threatened to have them arrested. Supreme Court Chief Justice Ma. Lourdes Sereno strongly opposed it and issued a statement that said, “Law enforcers must first secure warrants of arrest from judges before judges allow themselves to be ‘physically accountable to any police officer’ as she warned of a constitutional crisis.” This did not bode well with Duterte who responded angrily, “I’m giving you a warning. Don’t create a crisis because I will order everybody in the executive department not to honor you,” he said referring to Sereno. He added, “Please, don’t order me. I’m not a fool. If this continues, [that] you’re trying to stop me, I might lose my cool. Or would you rather I declare martial law?” But Duterte relented and the matter with the “narco judges” was dropped.

Battle of Marawi

On May 23, 2017 while Duterte was enroute to Moscow for a five-day visit, the rebel group Maute struck. At about 2:00 PM, the Battle of Marawi began. At least 500 members of Maute attacked a Philippine Army brigade stationed at Camp Ranao in Marawi City. They were seen rampaging through the streets waving ISIS black flags.

While in Moscow, Duterte declared martial law at 10:00 pm that same day. He cut short his visit after meeting Russian President Vladimir Putin for a short time. In an attempt to acquire weapons from Russia, Putin told him to provide a “shopping list” and he’d look at it. Duterte flew back home without the “bacon” he had expected to bring home.

Philippine Marine Commandant Major General Emmanuel Salamat (R) listens to US military representatives during a handover ceremony of weapons from the US military, at the Marine headquarters in Manila on June 5, 2017. Photo by Ted Aljibe/AFP

Philippine Marine Commandant Major General Emmanuel Salamat (R) listens to US military representatives during a handover ceremony of weapons from the US military, at the Marine headquarters in Manila on June 5, 2017.

Last June 5, the U.S. handed over – I

mean, given free — \$150 million worth of brand-new weapons that included 300 M4 assault rifles, 100 grenade launchers, and four M134D Gatling-style machine guns that can fire thousands of rounds a minute. The U.S. Embassy issued a statement, saying: “This equipment will enhance the [Philippine Marines’] counterterrorism capabilities, and help protect [troops] actively engaged in counterterrorism operations in the southern Philippines.”

It’s interesting to note that on June 2 — a few days before the handover — Duterte had complained about the quality of “secondhand” American military hardware. “I will not accept any more military equipment that is secondhand. The ones the Americans are giving, I do not want that anymore,” he said.

Boots on the ground
But weapons were not the only ones Uncle Sam had given free. A Pentagon spokesman, U.S. Navy Cmdr. Gary Ross, confirmed the presence of 50 to 100 special-operations forces that are



Joint Training: US soldiers train a member of the Philippine Coast Guard during one of their joint exercises in Mindanao. (Photo from Joint Special Operations Task Force-Philippines)

helping the Philippine marines in Marawi. He said that the U.S. also maintains a force of 300 to 500 to support regular bilateral training, exercises, and other activities in the country. He said that they’re in Marawi to provide technical assistance to the Philippine troops. However, they’re authorized to fire back if attacked.

In addition, another U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that the support included aerial surveillance and targeting, electronic eavesdropping, communications assistance, and training.

One might question the presence of U.S. troops in the country, which the Philippine Constitution bans. Philippine military spokesman Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla told reporters in Manila, “The presence of armed U.S. troops in Marawi was covered by a 1951 Mutual Defense Treaty, which calls for both parties to aid each other in times of enemy aggression.” He added, “That capacity has been moved to help ground forces in Marawi, and that arrangement should not complicate our military engagement.”

But what is strange is that the day after the handover of U.S. weapons, Duterte

held a press conference and told the reporters that he “never approached America” for help. He said that he was “entirely unaware of their presence until they [the Americans] arrived.” But while he claimed that he didn’t ask for U.S. military help, it begs the question: Did the Philippine military request the aid independently without consulting Duterte? To avoid embarrassment, Duterte told the media that might have been the case. He said that due to years of U.S. training, “our soldiers are pro-American, that I cannot deny.” However, he did not comment on whether the Philippine military asked for U.S. help without his “approval.” And this raises the question:

Who is in charge?

While one may wonder whether Duterte is still in charge, the answer is Yes and No. Yes, because he is still the president of the Philippines. No, because by declaring martial law, he turned over certain government functions to the military. He designated



Martial law chain of command: AFP Chief Gen. Eduardo Año as the chief martial law implementor (L); Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana, a retired major general, as martial law administrator in Mindanao (Center); and President Rodrigo Duterte (R).

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana, a retired major general, as martial law administrator in Mindanao and Armed forces of the Philippines (AFP) Chief Gen. Eduardo Año as the chief martial law implementor. Año will be directly under the deputy martial administrator, who has yet to be named. He will also work with PNP Director General Ronald dela Rosa.

Indeed, little did Duterte realize that he had more power before he declared martial law. With martial law, he has to carefully work with the generals, giving them a lot of latitude. And to make sure that they remain loyal, he has to share power with them. Indeed, they can make or break him. And he knows that

.So, are you for or against martial law? As the Visayans would say it, “Martial law kuno,” while the Tagalogs would say, “Martial law daw.” But the Ilocanos will always say, “Marcos pa rin kami!” And Bongbong Marcos would be so delighted and he would say, “Martial law forever!” But the powerless and poor common tao could only say, “Hay naku, here we go again!” And for Donald Trump, he can only say, “It’s fake news.” And guess what Digong would be saying? “Sons of whores!”

(PerryDiaz@gmail.com)



Social Tidbits

Fely Rosales Cariño



Last May 8, 2017, there were nine happy faces at Gilmore College International. The occasion was the graduation ceremony of Mr. Al Abdon's students in Photography. They completed 1B Basic. Mr. Abdon explained to the audience the challenges each student encountered in the process. He praised the focus,

The Filipino Association of Montreal and Suburbs (FAMAS) didn't leave a page unturned when they celebrated the 119th Philippine Independence Day last June 10, 2017 at the Sheraton Hotel, Montreal Airport. Mrs. Cora Aberin, lovely as usual in a light lavender-sequined gown welcomed the guests. The Invocation was then



Photography Class 1B with their instructor, Al Abdon.

dedication, authenticity, and beauty of their finished products. In return, each student revealed their delight in now knowing the very elementary intricacies of opening a camera, putting the batteries, focusing on the target subject, saving the pictures...etc. There was so much laughter when each explained their funny discoveries in handling a camera. One of them intended to save her pictures but instead mistakenly pushed the 'delete' button, losing one week's worth of photo shooting. Nevertheless, they all expressed the fun they had while taking pictures. This project is sponsored by the Quebec Association of Canadian Filipino Teachers (QACFT) under the leadership of QACFT President Trans Liganor, who handed out their certificates of completion that were expertly designed by past QAFCT President, Mr. Joseph Gonzales. In return, the graduates expressed their thanks to their teacher, Mr. Al Abdon for his professionalism, expertise, and humor. For instance, one complained that she couldn't see anything when she focused her camera; Mr. Abdon told her to open up ter camera FIRST before she can see anything.

The graduates are: Miss Rosalina Tran, Miss Nancy Karides, Miss Mel Lugod, Miss Ciony Nueva, Miss Elma Bulatao, Mrs. Zeny Kharoubbi, Miss Rebecca Aguilar, Miss Eppie Gevera, and Mrs. Nenita Licayo.

delivered by the Director of Membership, Mrs. Lily Vasquez Ramos. With the Emcee, Mr. Freddie Espinosa's baritone voice in the air, the crowd hushed into silence as the program began. Vocal solos were rendered by three Fil Can Idol winners namely: Aldrich Aranas (FilCan Idol 2014, Adult Division, 1st Runner-up), Rochie Banaag (Fil Can Idol 2009, Adult Division, 1st Runner-up), and Divina Nabor (Fil Can Idol 2010, Adult Division, Finalist). Also lending their beautiful voices were Adiva Ross Estinoso (President and Founder of the Pinoy LGBT Community of Montreal), and Mark Alvin Simbulan (LGBT secretary).

In-between the relentless pursuit of the dancing crowd were the inspirational speeches by the following politician friends and supporters of Filipinos of Montreal: Mr. Marvin Rotrand (City Councillor, Snowdon District), Mr. Francisco Fernandez III (Philippine Deputy of Mission), Mr. Lionel Perez (City Councillor, Darlington District), and the Guest Speaker, Mr. Anthony Housefather (Member of Parliament, Mount Royal). Long before FAMAS VP-Internal Mr. Cesar Manuel gave the closing remarks, FAMAS VP-External Svetlana Suarez (in a stunning red gown) announced the Meritorious Award won by Mrs. Josefa Nicolas (in a striking blue gown!). Congratulations, Epang! People recognize your enthusiasm in teaching children and

your church activities, among others. And it seems everyone came in their best Filipino attire befitting the occasion.

Also in attendance were the FAMAS ex-Presidents: Emma Resurreccion, Marlene Birao Schacter, Dick Dahiroc, Alberto Abiera, Julita Parado, and Angelita Ojerio. Seen boogie-ing and line dancing almost every time that DJ Zaldy and DJ Dennis played hot music were KOR Montreal Chapter Commander Felix de Luna and wife Marilyn, SWIS Chairman Roger Ajero and wife Neri, Julie Parado, Letty Bulotano, Vicky Laya, MMTV's Program Manager Al Abdon and wife Cora, SWIS officers Connie Fabro, Lita Advincula, and many others.

The Seniors of West Island and Suburbs (SWIS) started the ball rolling when they celebrated the 119th Philippine Independence Day at the Olympia Hall in Dollard des Ormeaux last June 4. As usual, guests came ready with their dancing shoes. Everyone liked the spacious dance floor and the combo dinner. Dennis of J-Den Sounds encouraged everyone to swing and sway to his music.

The program started with the National Anthems of the Philippines and Canada led by Nita Advincula. Guests were welcomed by Event Chairpersons Lydia Fielding and Lucy Salazar. Almario Bamba graciously accepted to deliver the Invocation. The Pamana ng Luzviminda, always a crowd pleaser, danced two entertainment numbers, after which Connie Fabro introduced the Guest of Honor, Minister and Philippine Consul General Gerardo Tamayo. His speech evoked nostalgic memories of our beloved Philippines. After a lengthy line dancing session came Mrs. Lita Bote who introduced the Guest Speaker, Honourable Frank Baylis, MP Pierrefonds-DDO. Mr. Baylis tickled everyone's ears when he ended his speech in Tagalog. At this juncture, Emy Bayan and Benny Bote were ready with the door prizes. Guests really dressed for the occasion with the ladies in Philippine formals and the gentlemen in Barong Tagalog. And of course, SWIS Chairman Roger Ajero gave his closing remarks, thanking everyone for their presence and thanking the members of the organizing committees for a job well done. Last but not least, a very surprise number - an exercise/zumba which put everyone at ease after a heavy dinner; everyone loved it! The teacher/choreographer? None other than SWIS Chairman's very handsome son, Mark Ajero!

The Quebec Association of Canadian Filipino Teachers (QACFT) celebrated its 21st Anniversary and Recognition Night on May 26, 2017 at the Grand Salon CDN Community Center in 6767 Cotes des Neiges, Montreal. While waiting for people to arrive, everyone's favorite line dancing was enjoyed by all. Then the Emcees Mr. Joseph Gonzales and daughter Jewel, started the program. QACFT President Trans Liganor welcomed the guests and then Mrs. Elsa Montealegre gave the Invocation.

A tear-jerker of a declamation was a recital brilliantly performed by Raissa Mae Rinon, the present Champion in Declamation. Stunned guests couldn't believe the depth and intensity of her performance which moved many, myself included, to be teary-eyed. She would be worthy to bag a Philippine Best Actress Award (even An OSCAR for Best Actress!)!

And more good news on this night... awards were also given to deserving teachers: Mr. Mario Turcote (Special Recognition), Mr. Al Abdon (Teacher Award), and Mrs. Carmen Caro (Community Award).

And Welcome to new teacher, Ms. Jacqueline Londres. Guests were appreciative of the good music, the enjoyable dancing, and the good time they had. Before I leave the teacher's section, let me mention that contestants took part in a Literary Contest in three areas: Declamation, Oration, and Impromptu Speaking. Judging was based on content, poise, and delivery. Considering that the contestants were Canadian-born, their pronunciation showed no trace of a Filipino accent. Here are the winners! In Declamation: Tyrill Jester Collado (2nd runner-up), Angel Celine Fernandez (1st runner-up), Raissa Mae Rinon (champion!). In Oration: Jeal Alfred Estopa (1st runner-up), Edgar Maldo (champion). In Impromptu Speaking: Kim Lemuel Rinon (1st runner-up), Xaviery Van Maldo (champion). We are proud of you! Hope to see you again next year! Congratulations from the QACFT!

Photos of students who took the 1B Photography course were displayed on the wall during the teachers party. Three best photos were announced by Al Abdon as follows: 3rd place - Nancy Karides, 2nd place - Zeny Kharoubi and 1st place - Ciony Nueva. (See page 11 photos)

Coming to town on August 29, 2017 is the Philippines' Mindanao Tapestry Neo Ethnic Fashion of Rene Salud and the Mindanao weavers. Let us all relive our country's pride in fashion, color, design, and artistic showmanship.

The show will be at Plaza Volare, Crown Plaza, Montreal Airport at 6600 Cote-de-Liesse, St. Laurent. Featured will be Filipina International Beauty Queens, Award-Winning cultural performers from Manila and Mindanao, Philippine Percussion group, and local Montreal models. VIP ticket price is \$150 while general admission is \$50. For reservation, please contact Ed Tupaz (514-239-4954), Minda Mazzone (514-886-0092), and Jovy Narvas (514-970-5689).

See you next Issue!

If you wish to understand the Filipino language, take a beginners' course at Gilmore College. Summer session just started and you can still enroll for Thursday evening classes that will last for 15 weeks.
Call 514-485-7861

FILIPINO STAR

SHOWBIZ GOSSIP

Maureen Wroblewitz becomes the first Filipina to win Asia's Next Top Model



Maureen Wroblewitz

In the end, it was a simple narrative of personal growth. Maureen Wroblewitz has gone from this insecure teen who keeps bringing up that she lacks the height to be a top model to standing the tallest in the finale of "Asia's Next Top Model."

Wednesday's episode revealed that Wroblewitz, who stands at 5'6", has become the first Filipina to win the popular modeling search. Also the youngest contestant this year at 18, she turned emotional when judges announced that she had beaten Malaysia's Shikin Gomez and Vietnam's Minh Tu Nguyen.

Hours earlier, all three donned costumes that represented their country for their final shoot. Wroblewitz stunned in a sparkling white mestiza gown she accentuated with pearls.

"That image is exactly what I wanted to see from you at the end of this competition," Cindy Bishop, a professional model who is one of

the judges for this season, told Wroblewitz.

"You delivered that quiet confidence, which showed that you have been soaking up everything we've been telling you, that you've been taking everything in and just completely laid it all out for us. And I am so, so happy to see that," she



Asia's Next Top Model, Star World

added.

The finalists also had to walk the runway for the show one last time, representing "goddesses that had come to life."

With her win, Wroblewitz took home the coveted contract with London-based Storm Model Management. She will also be on the cover of Nylon Singapore's online edition, in addition to being featured in other high-profile fashion campaigns.

Before the announcement, Wroblewitz said during the episode that she dedicated all her efforts in the competition to her mother, who passed away when she was 11. "She would have been so proud," she shared.

Her journey to the title was far from smooth sailing. In one of the earlier episodes, Wroblewitz had to endure what many thought of as a form of bullying when her fellow contestants, led by Indonesia's Clara Tan, labelled her as just a "pretty face with no skills." Wroblewitz then opened up about her insecurities, saying that she tends to overthink every pose. Fueled, however, by her determination to prove her doubters wrong, she went on to capture best photo for that particular shoot.

Addressing her feud with Tan, Wroblewitz wrote on Twitter: "It's hard to hate Clara actually, at least for me! She can be really annoying but you get used to it." ■



RESTAURANT
LA MAISON NEW KUM MON
6565 Côte-des-Neiges Road
(near Corner Appleton)
Montreal, QC

5047 Henri Bourassa Est
Montréal, QC H1G 2S1
Tel.: (514) 322-3133, 322-3130

Bean Curd Seafood Soup 1/2 Crispy Chicken Salt and Pepper Pork Loin Stuffed Bean Curd with Shrimps Sauted Seasonal Vegetables Steamed Rice \$49.95 4 persons	Fish Maw Seafood Soup Baked Lobster with Ginger Seafood with Chinese Broccoli Salt and Pepper Cuttle Fish Fried Sea Bass Fish Steamed Rice \$74.95 4 persons
Bean Curd Soup 1/2 Crispy Chicken Shrimp Cake with Chinese Broccoli Sweet and Sour Pork Seafood with Bean Curd in Hot Pot Salt and Pepper Squid Fried Sea Bass Fish Steamed Rice \$79.95 6 persons	Fish maw seafood soup 2 Baked Lobsters with Ginger Seafood with Eggplant in Hot Pot Stuffed Bean Curd with Shrimp Seafood with Chinese broccoli Fried Sea Bass Fish House Fried Rice Special Fried Noodles \$159.95 10 persons

FREE DELIVERY
Minimum order of \$10
Delivery hours:
11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
5:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

514-733-6029
514-733-1067
For party menu, call Kenny

Be like Sam

Defying notions about her celebrity image, Sam Pinto is the stylish 'It girl' who is at home in Divisoria as she is in BGC



Sam Pinto

Defying notions about her celebrity image, Sam Pinto is the stylish It girl who is at home in Divisoria as she is in BGC

Sam Pinto is one of today's multi-hyphenate trendsetters, dominating not just print and web, but also TV screens and billboards. She is an It girl who possesses a brand of je ne sais quoi that captures everyone's attention.

Despite the seeming glitz and glamour inherent to her image, Sam is not, as she put it, "maarte." In fact, she has no problem shopping in Divisoria for bargains.

"It's really fun there kaya, (at) mura pa," she said.

Some might be surprised to know Sam is used to haggling.

"Personally ako talagang namimili du'n. Nakikipag-tawaran talaga ako 'pag may gusto ako," she shared.

Isn't that out of character for her?

"Of course not. Walang problema sa akin, hindi naman ako maarte."

Cool traveler

Sam is also fond of travelling.

"For me kasi you can't really buy the experience of traveling. It is something that makes me happy and contented with my life," she shared, adding she had been almost everywhere in the country, even Tawi-Tawi.

She is one of those backpackers who can sleep anywhere as long as "may sariling banyo."

"Siyempre as a girl 'di ba? Basta 'yun lang, masaya na ako," she explained.

Sam has also visited many different countries. She immerses in the cultures and examines the architectural plans for each one.

"More on sa design talaga ako. Gustong-gusto kong pinag-aaralan 'yung mga designs ng mga building, houses sa ibang bansa. Parang its nice kasi to browse then maybe I could design my own," said she, who took up Fashion and Interior designing.

The actress-model is also into surfing and she doesn't mind getting bruises and wounds while at it.

"Dami-dami kong pasa, wala naman akong pake," she said, laughing.

Business-minded

Should she leave showbiz, Sam will concentrate on managing her businesses.

The actress-model owns the L' Sirene boutique resort in Baler. She also has a bikini line called Sirena.

"That's taking most of my time now," she said.

"Actually it's like I'm doing all beach now. So if ever, I decided to leave showbiz, du'n na ang focus ko. I also want to practice fashion designing."

Is it hard to juggle show business and business, we asked.

"No naman," she shot back. "My business is really for fun now and my career is okay naman. So wala namang problema, hindi naman ako nahihirapan."

Speaking of her career, Sam revealed she is set to do a movie but refuses to divulge more details.

"Hindi pa naman kami nag-start mag-shooting," she disclosed.

As of this writing, Sam has no contract with any network but she is open to the possibility of signing with ABS-CBN in the future.

Note, she recently appeared on "FPJ's Ang Probinsyano."

"Okay lang naman ako kahit saan. Actually I'm a VIVA artist, so if ever na pag-signin ako with ABS, wala namang problema sa akin. But now I enjoy appearing anywhere," she maintained.

Keeping fit and sexy

As FHM's sexiest Pinay twice in a row, Sam shared her fitness regime.

"I drink veggie juices every day," she said. "Those juices are extracts from ampalaya, tapos I eat

purple rice."

She makes sure to eat everything that is healthy.

"That's the secret talaga. 'Di ba sabi nga 90 percent diet, 10 percent exercise," she maintained. "Kasi for me, wala 'ding sense 'yung pag-gi-gym if you are not eating proper food."

With her 22-inch waistline, it is no wonder Sam is a favorite cover girl.

"I'm just so thankful lang na kinukuha nila ako. Parang I'm so honored and proud of myself at the same time. Kasi 'di ba it's not really madali to keep your body in shape, and ako naman I really worked hard for it, so nakakatuwa lang na my hard work pays off," she explained.

Sam was among the guests at the recent Cosmopolitan 20th anniversary celebration. She graced the magazine's cover way back in 2011.

In love

Sam is in a relationship with Filipino-Persian Azkals member Misagh Bahadoran.

"A year and a half na rin kami," she said.

It seems like the IT girls are into foreigner boyfriend, we teased Sam.

"Half pinoy naman 'yung akin," she said in jest.

Is marriage already on the plan, we asked.

"Not yet, 27 pa lang ako eh. Siguro 'pag 30 ko na," she said. "And siyempre I hope siya (Misagh) na talaga 'yung the one for me but will never know 'di ba? Let's wait for the right time na lang siguro." ■

Is Kris Aquino confirmed as cast in 'Crazy Rich Asians?'



Kris with 'Crazy Rich Asians' director Jon M. Chu

After more than two months of having people guess about it, Kris Aquino seems to suggest she really is part of the upcoming film "Crazy Rich Asians."

On Instagram a few days ago,

the TV host-actress posted a short slideshow of the "Crazy Rich Asians" book cover with her signature on it.

At the very end of the slideshow is a photo of her with "Crazy Rich Asians" director Jon M. Chu,

which she originally posted a few days ago. The actress even included an animated screengrab of a comment left by "Crazy Rich Asians" author Kevin Kwan on the original post.

Accompanying the slideshow is a Bible verse: "Lamentations 3:25 The Lord is good to those whose hope is in Him, to the one who seeks Him; 26 it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord."

She also informed her followers, "... Back to work tomorrow... Life has really taught me that everything good happens in God's perfect time, all we need is FAITH & PATIENCE."

Not long ago, Kris posted a photo of her with Gemma Chan, an actress confirmed to appear in "Crazy Rich Asians." She said in the caption that she's "still not allowed to mention the movie or her role."

It was April this year when Kris revealed she signed a contract with a Los Angeles based agency, amid reports that she was joining the cast of the Warner Bros. movie. Since then,

the actress has been consistently teasing online that she will have an international project which she considers "a gift from God."

While she's known for being more vocal and straightforward than most people, Kris is silent on specifics this time around.

"Let me obey them... Ayokong mawala, please. Baka mamisinterpret nila tapos bawiin... Gift na ito ni God, eh," Kris said in a GMA News article.

Prior, Warner Bros. announced that the movie will be shot "entirely on location in Singapore and Malaysia" with an all-Asian cast that includes Constance Wu, Henry Golding, Michelle Yeoh, Gemma, Sonoya Mizuno, Awkwafina, and Chris Pang. Comedian Nico Santos remains the only Filipino to be formally added to the line up as of this writing.

Kris was last seen on TV via the two-hour travel special "Trip Ni Kris," which aired on GMA Network on April 9. ■

Showbiz Gossip *Continued from p.15*

Something new from Kelly



Kelly Misa-Fernandez

'We're going to look at what's going to trend rather than merely react to what is already trending.'

The 35-year-old beauty announced at a recent press conference that "Trending With Kelly" will soon return on TV for a second season. The lifestyle magazine show tackles all things hip and new.

Kelly noted how Pinoys love being in the know of what's hot from what's not.

"I think it's so apparent particularly on social media today, like, how everyone wants to know what's in. People are so interested with all the stuff that are trending," she explained.

"Trending With Kelly" encompasses beauty, health, fashion, food, travel, science, technology and arts, in an effort to empower viewers with features that will inform, inspire and engage them to live out their own life goals and aspirations.

"We will (also) use our kutob kung ano ang papatok (sa mga tao). We will look at trends as they sprout at hindi pa gasgas sa mga tao. 'Yung tipong pa-trending pa lang," she said. "That way, we can be a step ahead of everyone. We're going to look at what's going to trend rather than merely react to what is already trending."

In the maiden episode, Kelly sets sail as she searches for the best things that life can offer. She takes a sip of the latest trends in wines from Ralph Joseph of Ralph's Wines and Spirits. She also finds the latest style in fashion with trending designer Albert Andrada.

Two in one

Aside from being show host, Kelly is part of the creative team.

"The producer kasi, like before we do anything or we start shooting, she actually asks me first kung okay lang ba sa akin 'yung mga ideas nila," she explained. "Nagbe-brainstorm kami and I feel very fortunate kasi this is the first time that

as a host, I give my inputs."

Kelly is excited that the show allows her to face her limits as she gets into various adventures.

"It's a more experiential show even as the viewers get to see a different side of me," she said.

Are they going to have celebrity guests, we asked.

"We haven't decided on that yet but right now we have a celebrity chef who helps me with the food part of the program," she related, referring to Chef Myke Tatung Sarthou, more popularly known as Chef Tatung, who is an author, celebrity chef and culinary heritage advocate.

Kelly believes having Chef Tatung on board is a must especially with Pinoys now more concerned than ever about what they eat.

"Food security is a big issue right now in the country. Like 'yung issue about fake rice. So, we are also going to discuss it here, like how to identify fake food and what not," she said.

Kelly only has good words for Chef Tatung.

"He is very knowledgeable. He can deliver well on the show, not to mention that he is an award-winning author," she pointed out.

Learnings

As mother and social media influencer, Kelly said she is learning a lot as host of "Trending With Kelly."

"I'm a new mom and the show came on the right time and since then, everything has changed in a way that I see how really important family is," she disclosed.

Kelly is married to Carlos Fernandez, with whom she has a year-old son named Tristan Antonio.

So, how does she juggle work and family life?

"I bring my son to the tapings," she admitted. "And for me naman, it's about the scheduling, it's about giving quality time with your loved ones. From there, we create memories that we will remember forever." ■

Art of soapmaking

by Jojo P. Panaligan



Sunshine Dizon

If you think crafting teleserye is easy as pie, Sunshine Dizon would like to have a word with you

Pinoys may be big on TV dramas but only a few fully understand the hard work put into it.

A recent conversation with actress Sunshine Dizon, among stars of the drama "Ika-6 Na Utos," attests to how a production painstakingly goes about fulfilling its goal of satiating viewers' craving for tears, laughter, excitement.

For Sunshine, the biggest challenge in doing a soap is maintaining balance between reality and fantasy.

This is especially true when shooting confrontation scenes.

"Ang idea is to make it look realistic as possible but without actually laying a hand on your co-star," she shared.

It is easier said than done. Sunshine admitted to have sustained numerous bruises doing such scenes with co-star Ryza Cenon on "Ika-6 Na Utos."

"Madalas kasi nagkatamaan talaga kami," she related, noting she is undergoing therapy at the moment for a muscle tear on her shoulder.

Suffice it to say, they try to do everything in one take if they can.

"It's hard naman kasi if you do it na paulit-ulit kasi ang dami ko ng tama pag ganu'n," the 33-year-old actress maintained.

"But in fairness to Ryza, thankful ako sa kanya kasi she is really good at this kind of thing," Sunshine added. "Siguro nakakatulong na she is a dancer also kaya ang understanding niya sa choreography ng mga confrontation scenes malalim na."

Much like a dance performance, confrontation scenes have numbered sequences they should follow to a T as veering ever slightly could spell disaster.

"We have a separate director

coaching us in our fight scenes," Sunshine explained. "Pinapakita niya sa amin step by step kung paano namin aatakin ang eksena at sinusunod namin 'yun exactly."

Asked how the confrontation scenes on "Ika-6 Na Utos" compare to the fight scenes on the fantaserye "Encantadia," Sunshine said, "Mas mahirap dito sa 'Ika-6 Na Utos,' I think."

"Kasi doon usually we have weapons at 'yun ang usually nagtatamaan sa fight scenes. Dito kamay namin talaga, mukha at katawan pati (ang gamit)."

Then there's the matter of delivering kilometeric lines while at it.

"We have to keep in mind 'yung exact lines namin talaga usually pero thankful naman kami na si Direk Laurice (Guillen) ina-allow kami na mag-apply ng slight changes like certain words pero 'yung nga dapat same thought pa din."

Hearing Sunshine explain all these little heard behind-the-scenes happenings make doing a teleserye sound quite daunting.

Didn't she have second thoughts signing up for it?

"Hindi eh. Going in, alam ko na what it entails, sa tinagal tagal ko naman na sa showbiz," she said.

Indeed, name it and Sunshine has done it.

"Bukod sa mga sampalan, naranasan ko na rin gumulong sa putikan sa ilalim ng malakas na ulan – at 'yun 'yung time na wala pang banyo sa location," she related.

"Sa totoo lang hindi mo naman alam kung ano mga eksena kukuhanan for the day eh. Madalas magugulat ka na sasabihin sa'yo 'Shine, gugulong ka daw sa ganito...' Ikaw naman, 'Ay, may dala ba ako pamalit? Saan ako maliligo? May underwear ba akong spare?' 'Yung mga ganoon."

It's not as if they just go with the whims of the show writers willy nilly.

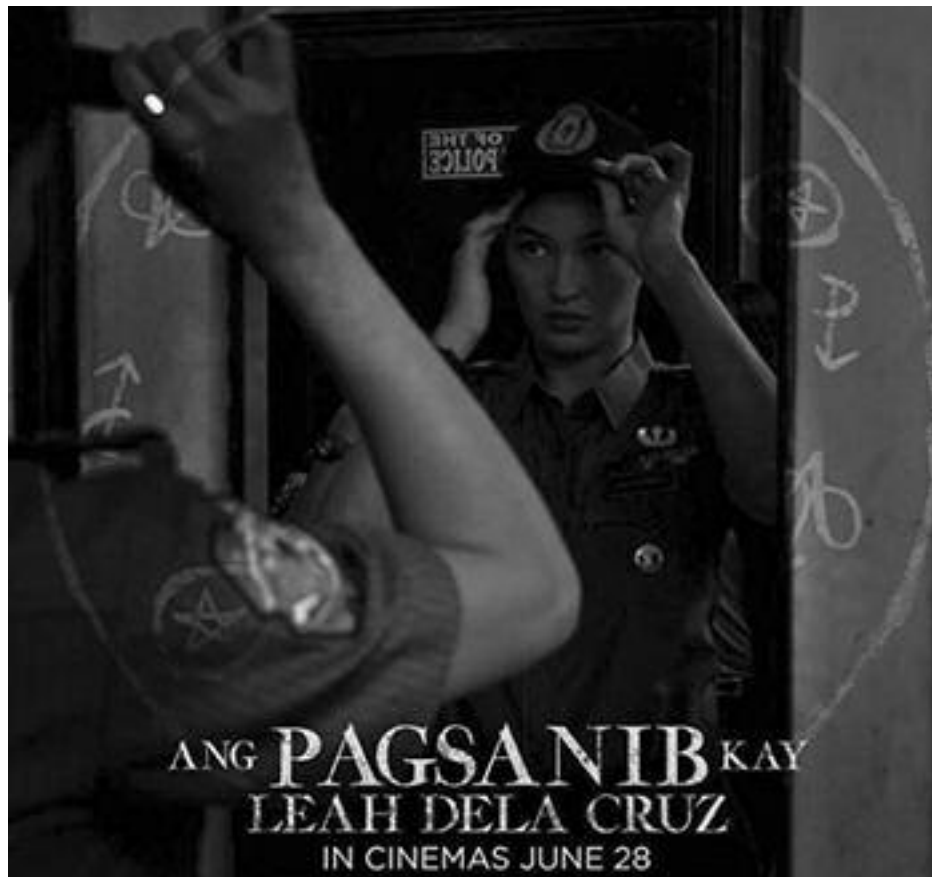
"Necessary ang attention grabbing scenes sa isang teleserye lalo na when it airs on an afternoon na 'yung audience mo eh siesta mode na, you have to make them notice, so it's always about big scenes."

And how has she adjusted since?

"I now have my own portable comfort room and bath that I take with to location shootings," said Sunshine. "Kaya nga the other day when they told me na magbubuhusan kami ng tsokolate at buko pandan ni Ryza I was like 'Okay, sure.' Ganu'n ka-importante ang prepared ka lagi."

And that's the art of soapmaking for you. Coliseum. ■

Sarah Lahbati's status: I have the best life ever



Sa advance screening ng pelikulang pinagbibidahan nila ni Shy Carlos na "Ang Pagsanib Kay Leah dela Cruz," ay suot-suot ni Sarah Lahbati ang promise ring na binigay sa kanya ng live-in partner na si Richard Gutierrez.

"I'm wearing our promise ring tonight, it's our promise ring. That's all I can say. The right time will come (for marriage)," sabi ni Sarah

Matagal na raw binigay sa kanya ni Richard ang promise ring na ngayon niya lang isinuot at ipinakita sa entertainment press.

"Actually, matagal na niya itong ibinigay, when we were in Los Angeles. I think, mga four years ago."

Dahil sa promise ring, mas secured daw ang pakiramdam ni Sarah na kahit hindi pa sila kasal ni Richard, alam niyang ang actor na ang makakasama niya habambuhay.

"Oh, yes, I have the best life ever. I'm so happy and I wish I couldn't wish for anything. Darating din tayo diyan, malapit na."

Ano naman ang pangako nila

sa isa't isa?

"Huwag na, sa amin na lang 'yun. I have shared so many na kaya sa amin na lang 'yun," pag-iwas na sagot ni Sarah.

Isang lady cop ang role ni Sarah sa "Ang Pagsanib Kay Leah dela Cruz," na ayon sa kanya ay na-challenge siya sa kanyang role.

"Ngayon lang ako nag-play ng ganitong role which is very challenging and fun at the same time. Very satisfying din siya because I'm a tough girl, I love working out, doing fight scenes. Salamat naman at nabigyan ako ng ganitong chance."

Welcome din ba sa kanya ang tumanggap ng sexy roles sa pelikula?

"I don't mind. But I'd rather do an acting piece than show off my body. Anything that is good for acting I will accept."

Showing na simula bukas, June 28, ang "Ang Pagsanib Kay Leah dela Cruz." Produced ito ng Erik Matti Production at distributed ng Viva Films at Realtiy Entertainment. Mula ito sa direksyon ni Katsi Flores. ■

Nadine speaks on James' supposed other relationship



James Reid and Nadine Lustre

Nadine Lustre expressed annoyance on Twitter after some netizens started a rumor about her boyfriend and on-screen partner James Reid supposedly having a relationship with her best friend Mika Tan.

When a netizen asked Nadine: "Sinong best friend? Si Mika ba? Charot..." the actress immediately replied, "Yeah, got a problem with that?"

The 23-year-old actress then tweeted, "Your minds belong to the gutter" complete with a GIF showing some kids playing in a flooded gutter.

She even threatened, "I'll shut you all down."

Nadine derided the bashers as "not even fans" given that "they're just there to hate and make issues. Disheartening the real fans."

She ended her tirade with a "Now if ya'll excuse me... I'm late for my date with my PS4."

The issue started when photos of Mika and James hugging each other surfaced online.

Mika already commented on

"The world has so many bigger issues right now, but I guess hugging friends gets a twisted meaning, too. Thinking there's malice in any of that and making things up based on an IG post... delusional."

"If you want to waste your time and troll on me, go ahead. But getting my friends who I treat like family involved... I swear I'll break your face," she added.

Nadine has since explained why she reacted to the issue in an interview with ABS-CBN News.

"Minsan lang kailangan talagang mag-remind na hindi na tama," she said. "Hindi pwedeng iyong hahayaan mo lang kasi naulit na siya eh – paulit-ulit na so parang hindi na fair sa mga taong na-a-ano."



(From left): Lauren Reid, Tricia Ramos, Kiana Valenciano, Nadine, and Mika Tan

The actress cleared she was also present at the party where the picture of Mika and James was taken and she saw nothing wrong with it.

She said James just laughed off the issue. "Hindi naman kasi siya interesado sa mga ganyan. Alam naman natin iyong totoo so bakit pa natin papatulan?"

But she is different from her boyfriend as "kaibigan ko din iyong bina-bash nila so parang hindi iyon tama." ■

The North American Filipino Star Classified Ads

ADVERTISING

Cheapest way to advertise is through the classified ads, 1 Heading & 1 line of body text = \$14, additional line = \$3 per line, must be prepaid in cash, send early by email to determine price and pay in person or by mail
filipinostar2@gmail.com

CLEANERS

Office cleaners for West Island, car needed, work Mon-Fri after 6 pm
Michael call 514-624-3437

DRIVING

DRIVING LESSON
 * Car for EXAM.
 • 1 hr practice \$25.
 • Full course:- 24 hrs theory, 15 hrs practical. only \$650.
KHALIL 514-965-0903.

DRIVING LESSON

DRIVING LESSON
AQTR approved; 22 years' experience. Complete Course \$750 tax included.
1 hour practice \$25. Exam car available.
Toton 514 969 9622

BOOKKEEPING/ACCTG.

Get a job in accounting
4-month training, 6 h weekly
call 514-485-7861

ROOM FOR RENT

CDN area near Metro, hospital, shopping, bus, Need 2 ladies to share a duplex with washer/dryer available August 30
514-485-7861

STORE FOR RENT

Stores for rent on Queen Mary. Boutique & Bakery fully equipped, Great opportunity Owners retiring
call: 514-898-1339

Britney Spears on Manila crowd: Amazing!



Britney during her June 15 Manila concert at the Mall of Asia Arena

In a moment in time worth freezing, hundreds of fans gathered in an accidental afterparty on all three levels of the Mall of Asia Arena lobby, post-Britney Spears concert.

Fans of all ages and gender refused to head out of the venue during Thursday night's Britney Live in Manila and chose to camp out on the hallways of the Arena to sing Britney hits played in full blast by concert sponsor Smart and its #SmartMusicLive, #SmartBritneySpears booths. For 30 minutes or more, Piece of Me's Manila stop was extended with the fans' version of Oops... I Did It Again, Baby One More Time and Sometimes. It definitely did not matter if Britney lip-synced her entire concert, they were all there to do the singing for her (and Filipinos are such good crowd singers!).

dance concert that reminded everyone of how good dancers Britters were. The way she moved was the closest to a female version of Michael Jackson because of two things: She had the dance hits and the choreography fans easily identified with specific scenes from her now-classic music videos. Thanks to that era when a Britney-ruled MTV channel was all we had for entertainment in the late '90s to early 2000s.

The STAR was told that Britney had no sound check and went straight to showgirl time hours after her Manila touchdown. Detractors would say, "She did not need a sound check anyway coz lip-sync blah blah!" But those numbers, those steps and stunts at least needed a run-through. Nope. Britney went straight to Work B**ch

the concert and mute the entire show, it will still look like a great party.



For about 23 to 25 songs, Britney moved non-stop in wardrobe malfunction-baiting (but wardrobe malfunction-defying) thigh-high suits paired with death-defying thigh-high heeled boots. Again, Britney danced with precision that even her hair flips were spot-on choreographic highlights.

Speaking of highlights,

standouts were Piece Of Me, (where crowd went wild shouting the "Philippines!" part of the lyrics) Oops... I Did It Again, Baby One More Time, (where she started performing blindfolded), Toxic, Womanizer, I'm A Slave 4 U, Stronger and Till The World Ends. Each number had its own digitally transforming set. The audience was taken to cities, skies, jungles and circuses in under two hours.

The only downside was that Britney skipped the ballads. Lucky, Sometimes, I'm Not A Girl, Not Yet A Woman, Everytime and From The Bottom Of My Broken Heart were terribly missed.

Security was extra-tight as this was the first big concert post-Manchester bombing during Ariana Grande's concert last month but that did not stop fans from coming in all Britney shapes and sizes, from the schoolgirl Britney to the Flight Attendant Britbrit to the VMAs Britney 2016 version.

This was definitely not the sneaky escape Britney had in mind



Such was the impact of the pop icon's showgirl concert that supporters couldn't get enough of the show that they created their own afterparty. Britney was right to call this Manila crowd "amazing!"

Piece of Me was a celebration of both performer and her hits in an upbeat-all-the-way

mode and had it all under control from start to finish.

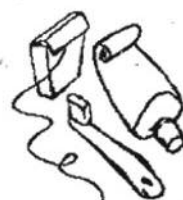
Britney also controlled stunning special effects that reminded Manila audiences why Piece of Me is a Vegas long-running success. The huge stage with LED backdrop took audiences from one place to another that if you record

Dental Clinic



Dr. Rosario Ambayec, D.D.S.
Chirurgien Dentiste / Dental Surgeon

Comprehensive Gentle Dental Care for The Whole Family



- Open Tuesday to Saturday.
- Days & Evenings.
- By appointment, Accept emergencies.
- Free parking for your convenience.

(514) 731-6479

3535 Côte Ste. Catherine, Suite 1, Montreal, Quebec H3T 1C7

Women newsmakers

GM's Mary Barra: What to study if you want a high-paying job in the future



Marguerite Ward | @forwardist
Wednesday, 14 Jun 2017 | 2:42 PM ET

General Motors CEO Mary Barra has been working to overhaul the company, which employs more than 200,000 people, since taking the helm in 2014.

In engineering changes to the company's culture and revamping its approach to technology, she developed some strong opinions on what will power the GM's success in the future. A key takeaway? Software engineering and math skills are only going to become more valuable.

In an interview with Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg, Barra says coding is a skill that will continue to be in-demand to employers.

She calls coding a "core skill," and says that it will be "necessary in every industry."

The CEO encouraged young people to invest in expanding their knowledge of math and science, a suggestion Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates has also made.

Skills like mobile app development, software engineering and Java development, are among the 10 most in-demand skills today, according to a 2017 LinkedIn survey that monitored

recruiting activity on the platform.

"While some skills expire every couple of years, our data strongly suggests that tech skills will still be needed for years to come in every industry," LinkedIn career expert Catherine Fisher writes in the report.

Software and computer-related roles are among the highest-paying jobs in the country, providing salaries that range between \$80,000 to \$100,000, cash bonuses and other perks. By 2020, it's expected there will be 1.4 million jobs available worldwide in computing-related fields, according to research done by the nonprofit Girls Who Code, which encourages young women to explore tech careers. GM recently gave \$250,000 to the organization to expand the courses and programs they offer young women.

Tech jobs "are high impact. You really make a difference in the world," Sandberg says in a recent interview with philanthropist and former software engineer Melinda Gates. "They're often incredibly flexible, and they offer great salaries, great benefits."

"I think it's so important," Barra says, "to have the skills of the future."

Check out 5 high-paying jobs expecting the biggest hiring boom in the next 10 years



Captain Megan Couto

Captain Megan Couto: Canadian becomes first woman to lead Queen's Guard



Captain Megan Couto (Provided by Independent Print Ltd.)

(msn news)

A Canadian soldier has become the first female officer to command troops guarding the Queen at Buckingham Palace.

Captain Megan Couto, 24, spoke of her pride after being made Captain of the Queen's Guard but said she would just focus on doing her job to the best of her ability.

Her Canadian unit The Second Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (2PPCLI) - known as The Patricia's - has been invited to the UK to mark the 150th anniversary of Canada, which is celebrated this year.

Captain Couto said: "I'm just focusing on doing my job as best I can and staying humble."

megancoutob.jpg© Provided by Independent Print Limited
megancoutob.jpg

Captain: Megan Couto is the first female soldier to lead the Queen's Guard

"Any of my peers would be absolutely delighted to be Captain of the Queen's Guard and I'm equally honoured."

Before marching with her troops from Wellington Barracks to nearby Buckingham Palace, the officer said: "I'm not feeling too nervous."

megancouto-0.jpg© Provided by Independent Print Limited
megancouto-0.jpg

Captain Couto: She hails from Canada (PA)

"We've practised enough and all the guys have been through their paces - I've just to focus on saying the right commands."

The role of Mounting the Queen's Guard usually falls to the British Army's Household Division, which is largely made up of male troops.

megancoutoe-0.jpg© Provided by Independent Print Limited
megancoutoe-0.jpg

Captain Megan Couto at Wellington Barracks (PA)

While women in the British Army have served on frontline duties in a variety of roles, until July last year they were banned from ground close combat roles, so no female officer has served as Captain of the Queen's Guard.

The Government is opening up combat roles to women over a phased three-year term.

From November last year, some units of the Royal Armoured Corps have been open to women.

This change will apply to roles in the infantry of which the Queen's Foot Guards are part, which will be open to women by the end of next year.

Defence Secretary Michael Fallon said: "I have always wanted roles in our armed forces to be determined by ability, not gender."

"Women have already given exemplary service in recent conflicts, working in a variety of highly specialised and vital roles."

"By opening all combat roles to women, we will continue to build on these successes and improve the operational capability of our military".

Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, based in Shilo, Manitoba, Canada, was named after Princess Patricia of Connaught, daughter of the then-Governor General of Canada.

Princess Patricia had special links with Buckingham Palace, the place of her birth on March 17 1886. Her father was Prince Arthur, the third son of Queen Victoria.

© Provided by Independent Print Limited

"Perseverance is a great element of success. If you only knock long enough and loud enough at the gate, you are sure to wake up somebody."

----- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



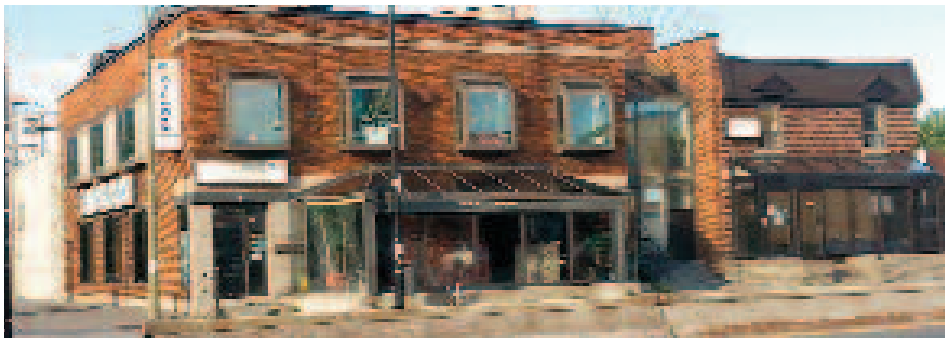
Collège

GILMORE

International

7159, ch. de la Côte des Neiges
Montréal, QC H3R 2M2

Tel.: 514-485-7861 Fax: 514-485-3076



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

**Call 514-485-7861
or 514-506-8753 to register.
Days, Evenings or Weekends
Tuition Fee Tax Credits**

We accept International Students

PROGRAMS

- Personal Support Worker (PSW/PAB)
- Early Childhood Education Assistant
- Office Assistant
 - Secretarial
 - Accounting
- Data Entry Operator
 - Keyboarding
 - Microsoft Office
- French Second Language for International Students

COURSES & WORKSHOPS

English, French, Filipino
Spanish, Mandarin
Microsoft Office-Word, Excel, Access
How to start and manage your own business
Writers Helping Writers
Fashion Photography
Video Production



Souvenir photo of Batch 10 PAB/PSW Nursing aide graduates at the La Cucina Restaurant on Sherbrooke West, October 2011 (Photo: Budz Sarmiento)



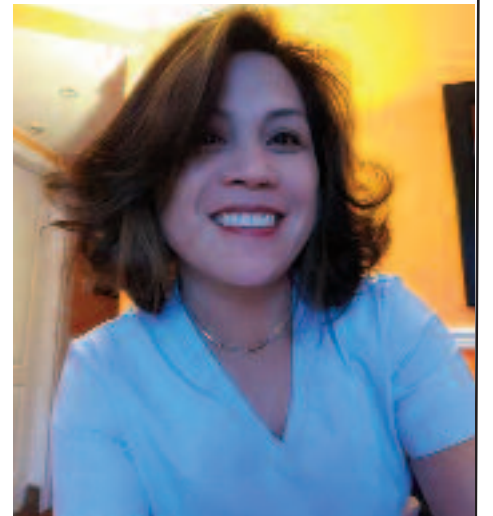
CPR Course by CPR Experts instructor Mitch Zeitlin standing beside Zenaïda Kharroubi, Director-General & Founder, Gilmore College International. Photo taken on April 15, 2017 by Sophie Toledo.



Students in a full time program in French as a second language.



Gilmore College International provides immigrants the tools for a successful career change. The training and the skills that I learned gave me the confidence to work as a nursing aide. Adele Lascano (October 2009 graduate)



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