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SEXBOMB GIRLS ARE READY TO ROCK VANCOUVER! The iconic SexBomb Girls strike a pose with the producers and presenters during yesterday's press conference at Element Hotel, ahead of their much-anticipated Friday July 24, concert at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre. Joining the group are the event producers: Marivic Monteverde – Backstage Ventures Joel Plotado – A TOP Roofing Jen Solis – Kolorete (Co-Presenter) An unforgettable night of music, dancing, and entertainment awaits! Don't miss the chance to see the legendary SexBomb Girls perform live in Vancouver. Buy your tickets now before they sell out! **See you this Friday at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre! Last minute buyers you can call (778) 238-1210. MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 15**



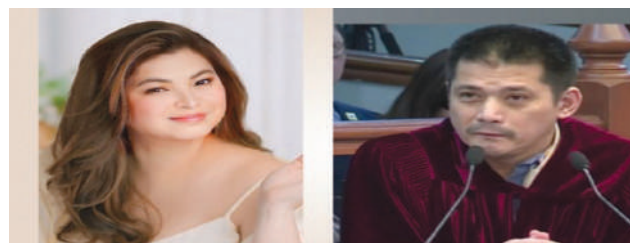
BC NDP

David Eby
Premier of BC

HAPPY BIRTHDAY - JULY 21 (From Reyfort Media)

'Thank you for speaking up': Angel Locsin praised for calling out Robin Padilla's 'communist' remark

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Actress Angel Locsin in this photo posted on her Facebook page on June 18, 2026; Screenshot of Sen. Robin Padilla 2026 (AngelLocsin via Facebook; senateofthephilippines via YouTube)

Staying Cool During Extreme Heat

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Explainer: Who replaces Sara Duterte if she is removed as VP

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Strengthening emergency operations centres in B.C.

Funding will help local governments, First Nations co-ordinate emergency responses

With extreme weather and climate-related events becoming more common, the Province is funding 110 projects throughout B.C. to help local governments and First Nations better respond to emergencies and protect people.

“Emergency operations centres are the backbone of a co-ordinated response when an emergency happens,” said Kelly Greene, Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness. “This funding will help local governments and First Nations with the equipment, training and exercises they need to run their emergency operations centres effectively, so communities throughout B.C. get the support they need as quickly as possible.”

Co-ordinating response when emergencies happen

Through the Community Emergency Preparedness

Fund, the Province is providing approximately \$3.5 million to support local emergency operations centres in 138 communities.

An emergency operations centre (EOC) is where local government and First Nation staff and volunteers direct resources, co-ordinate with other partners and support first responders during an emergency. These centres help ensure that people have access to timely information, emergency support services and other assistance when they need it. This funding will help communities upgrade and strengthen the capacity of local EOCs, improving co-ordination and response during emergencies.

“Continued funding through the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund is critical to helping local governments and First Nations maintain strong emergency preparedness and response capacity,” said Cori Ramsay, president, Union of British Columbia Municipalities.

“These investments contribute to safer, more resilient communities throughout B.C.”

Projects funded in 2026 include:

Kamloops:

running a full-scale EOC exercise and ongoing team training, and purchasing supplies and equipment upgrades to strengthen the EOC program

Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nations:

acquiring a portable EOC kit, including supplies and IT equipment, along with orientation and training for EOC staff

Northern Rockies Regional Municipality:

upgrading its mobile EOC trailer with furniture and equipment

Tsartlip First Nation and

Tseycum First Nation:

Each acquiring and installing a tsunami alert siren on their respective lands to provide early warning of tsunamis and other emergencies for communities at heightened risk due to their coastal locations near the Juan de Fuca subduction zone

About the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund

The Community Emergency Preparedness Fund is a suite of funding programs that helps local governments and First Nations prepare for disasters and reduce risks from natural hazards in a changing climate.

In addition to emergency operations centres equipment and training, it also funds emergency support services equipment and training, public notification and evacuation route planning, and foundations of disaster risk reduction. This fund is administered through the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (news.gov.bc.ca)

Tripling public charging network by 2035

Provincewide expansion will deliver faster, more convenient charging for EV drivers in B.C.

Together with BC Hydro, the Province is expanding British Columbia's public charging network, more than tripling the number of charging ports in the province.

“As conflicts overseas increase pain at the pumps here at home, more British Columbians are switching to electric vehicles,” said Adrian Dix, Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions. “We need to make sure they can count on a charging network that is convenient and reliable. By dramatically expanding access to electric vehicle (EV) charging, we'll help make it easier to choose a car that cuts pollution and saves families money every time they get behind the wheel.”

BC Hydro is deploying 3,500 new public charging ports by 2035 to support the province's growing number of electric vehicles and meet increasing demand for public charging.

Supported by a \$700-million investment, the expansion will

more than triple the size of the network and strengthen BC Hydro's role as B.C.'s leading provider of public charging. Over the next decade, BC Hydro will add new charging hubs in communities throughout the province, along major highway corridors and in high-demand urban centres, helping ensure drivers have access to reliable and convenient charging wherever they live, work and travel.

Meeting the growing demand for EV charging

BC Hydro's public fast-charging network includes 917 charging ports at 190 locations in the province. As demand continues to grow, BC Hydro is accelerating expansion plans, targeting 3,500 ports by 2035.

The expansion will provide more charging capacity in communities throughout B.C., supporting long-distance travel and helping keep pace with growing EV adoption in the province.

Delivering a better charging experience

“British Columbians are adopting electric vehicles at one of the fastest rates in North America,

and we're building the charging network needed to support that growth,” said Charlotte Mitha, president and CEO, BC Hydro. “By expanding to 3,500 charging ports, introducing faster charging technology and creating more reliable, customer-focused charging hubs, we're giving EV drivers confidence they can have dependable charging wherever their journey takes them in B.C.”

Preparing for the next generation of EV charging

The network expansion will include several new features designed to improve performance and customer convenience, such as:

- standardized site designs that improve reliability, accessibility and the overall customer experience
- new signature sites in strategic locations will offer enhanced amenities, such as washrooms
- new showcase sites will offer best-in-class charging experiences, such as canopies and digital signs
- faster, future-ready charging technology, with 200-kilowatt

chargers becoming the network standard, 400-kilowatt ultra-fast chargers introduced at select high-demand locations and continued exploration of innovative charging technologies that keep pace with rising customer expectations and the growing capabilities of EVs entering the market

- enhanced customer features, including plug-and-charge capability and tap-to-pay functionality

More funding for public chargers

In addition to BC Hydro's 3,500 public charging ports, the Province is helping businesses, non-profit organizations, Indigenous communities, local governments, utilities and public-sector organizations expand B.C.'s charging network. Applications are open for the CleanBC Go Electric Public Charger Program, which will invest approximately \$18 million in new public fast chargers, with a focus on Indigenous, rural and northern communities, as well as high-demand areas where drivers face long wait times. (news.gov.bc.ca)



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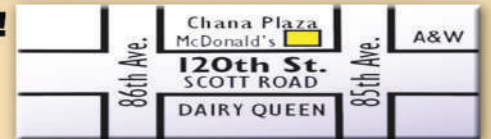
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Staying Cool During Extreme Heat

Keep safe during heat waves with ways to stay cool and find shade.

Learn how to identify and prevent heat-related illnesses to protect yourself and others.

Know the warning levels

There are three formal warning levels aligned with ECCC's colour-coded weather alerts. ECCC may also issue Special Weather Statements for early awareness and planning:

- Special Weather Statement** (ECCC) issued for early awareness and planning (forecasted increased temperatures approaching warning criteria).
- Yellow Warning - Heat** (ECCC issued for unusually high daytime and overnight temperatures are expected to reach forecast-region thresholds for at least 2 days).
- Orange Warning - Heat** (ECCC in partnership with the BC HEAT Committee) issued for very high daytime and overnight temperatures are expected to exceed forecast-region thresholds for at least 3 days.

- Red Warning - Heat** (ECCC in partnership with the BC HEAT Committee) issued for orange level temperatures with a pattern of substantive day-over-day temperature increases expected for 3 or more days.

Surrey's heat triggers are daytime highs of 32-33°C and overnight lows of 15°C. When those conditions are forecasted, ECCC may issue colour-coded heat alerts for Surrey and the broader Metro Vancouver/Fraser Valley area. A Special Weather Statement may also be issued in advance when temperatures are approaching warning criteria.

Avoid heat-related illness

High heat can pose an immediate danger to your health, so do what you can to stay cool:

Drink water

- Stay hydrated with plenty of water and other fluids.
- Drink water before you are thirsty.

- Avoid things like alcohol and caffeine, which can dehydrate you.

Dress for the weather

- Wear lightweight, lightly coloured cotton clothing.
- Wear long sleeves to protect from the sun.
- Wear a wide-brimmed hat and sunglasses.

Be aware of heat-related illness

- Symptoms include thirst, dizziness, confusion, weakness and fainting or collapsing. See a full list of symptoms from Fraser Health.
- Check yourself, family members, and neighbors.
- Seek medical attention if sweating heavily, pale, cramping, fatigued, dizzy or having headaches/nausea.

Never leave children or pets alone in a parked car! Temperatures can rise to 52°C (125°F) within 20 minutes in an enclosed vehicle when the outside temperature is 34°C (93°F). Leaving the car windows slightly open or "cracked" will not keep the inside of the vehicle at a safe temperature.

For medical attention

- Phone 9-1-1 for emergencies
- Phone 8-1-1 for health-related illnesses
- Phone 2-1-1 to connect with other services

More tips

- Wear sunscreen: Remember to reapply as needed.
- Find shade: Parks with tree shade are a good option. Stay out of the sun as much as possible.
- Find shelter: Libraries, shopping malls, and recreation and community centres are cool places to take a break from the heat.
- Plan ahead: Knowing how to prepare for a heat wave ahead of time will help keep you safe during high heat.

Read more about how to prepare for heat season.

(City of Surrey)

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Coco Martin, Dingdong Dantes put rivalry aside for AKTOR



fans, who celebrated seeing two of television's biggest stars standing side by side despite representing rival networks.

Marian Rivera was among the first to share photos from the gathering, posting snapshots of her husband

Dingdong and Coco on Facebook with the caption, "Si Atoy at Si Gabo para sa AKTOR – League of Filipino Actors," referring to their respective characters in their current primetime series.

Dingdong later shared more photos on Instagram featuring Marian, AKTOR president Iza Calzado, Ricci Chan, Joel Saracho and Coco.

"Magkaiba man ang programa, iisa lang ang layunin: pagmamahal at pagpapalakas ng ating industriya," Dingdong wrote.

He revealed that the meeting centered on another project that AKTOR is preparing under Coco's leadership.

"Isang magandang Sunday meeting, may kasamang masayang kwentuhan at makabuluhang palitan ng mga ideya, para pag-usapan ang isa na namang proyektong ilulunsad ng AKTOR sa ilalim ng pamumuno ng ating kapwa AKTOR member na si Coco Martin. Soon.

"Para sa AKTOR. Para sa mga aktor. Para sa industriya."

Coco responded with an equally heartfelt message, thanking Dingdong for his unwavering commitment to fellow artists.

"Sobra ang respeto ko sa taong ito. Maraming salamat, Kuya Dingdong Dantes, sa walang sawang pagmamahal at dedikasyon mo sa ating industriya.

"Isa kang inspirasyon sa maraming tao dahil sa sipag at malasakit. Hindi lang talento ang ipinapakita mo, kundi tunay na puso para sa industriyang mahal nating lahat.

"Nandito lang ako sa likod mo at buong puso ang suporta ko

sa lahat ng iyong ginagawa lalo na para sa AKTOR – League of Filipino Actors."

For Iza, Coco's decision to join the organization is a milestone that has been years in the making.

Speaking about the actor's membership, Iza could not hide her excitement.

"So, talagang finally, sumama siya! Thank you! Kasi siyempre, the more united we are, the more power we have."

She also commended Coco for using his influence to create opportunities for fellow actors through his shows.

"What he is doing with his power and platform is really admirable. Providing jobs. That's really what stands out."

With the entertainment industry continuing to evolve, Iza said unity among actors has never been more important.

"Who else will help each other in this industry that is already struggling? We have to be united in ensuring that actors have jobs, protection, support and great health." (N. Ramos/mb.com.ph)

Despite being locked in one of television's biggest primetime battles, Coco Martin and Dingdong Dantes are proving that when it comes to protecting the entertainment industry, rivalry takes a back seat.

The two award-winning actors, who currently headline competing primetime dramas, "Sigabo" on ABS-CBN and "The Master Cutter" on GMA Network, recently came together for AKTOR - League of Filipino Actors, with Coco officially joining the organization six years after it was established.

The moment was not lost on

'Thank you for speaking up': Angel Locsin praised for calling out Robin Padilla's 'communist' remark

Showbiz personality Angel Locsin was praised for speaking out against actor-turned-senator Robin Padilla, who claimed to be a "communist" while challenging the testimony of National Bureau of Investigation BARMM Regional Director Jeremy Lotoc.

Padilla touched on the so-called "Operation Romanov" mentioned in Vice President Sara Duterte's 2024 press conference, which allegedly involved grave threats and inciting to sedition and is being tackled as Article IV of the impeachment complaint against her.

During the trial on Tuesday, July 14, the senator discussed the historical background of the Romanovs, Russia's last imperial dynasty, who were executed by communist revolutionaries amid public anger over corruption, economic hardship and wars.

Padilla then connected the topic to past Philippine presidents who fought communist movements.

"Kasi po, katabi ko ang isa sa Marcos family," he said, referring to Sen. Imee Marcos.

"Alam naman po natin lahat... si Apo Lakay Ferdinand Marcos Sr. ang number one na lumaban sa komunista dito sa Pilipinas," Padilla added, referring to Imee's father.

Padilla then said that former President Rodrigo Duterte was another president who had fought communists and suggested that the "Romanov" reference should be viewed as a threat to political families leading anti-communist campaigns.

"Komunista po ako, ha," the senator said.

"Hindi ba po dapat isipin natin 'yung Romanov ay tungkol sa

threat na pumapasok sa mga pamilya na mga namumuno dito sa ating bayan na lumalaban sa komunista?" Padilla added.

Lotoc declined to adopt the senator's interpretation, saying that the question of whether there was an "Operation Romanov" could be answered by the NBI director.

Meanwhile, Padilla's declaration that he is a "communist" drew a reaction from Locsin, one of his colleagues in showbiz, who had been red-tagged during the Duterte administration.

She initially praised Padilla for being "honest" and for being his outspoken self, but questioned his absence when she was accused of being a communist sympathizer over her advocacy and humanitarian work.

"The actress also called out Padilla over his views on accused

sex offender Apollo Quiboloy and his stances that favor China amid its activities in the West Philippine Sea.

"Isa sa mga pinakamalaking dahilan kung bakit ka binoto ng maraming Pilipino ay dahil inasahan nilang magiging matapang kang boses para sa mga kapatid nating Muslim. Pero bakit parang mas ipinaglalaman mo pa si Quiboloy? Naniniwala ka ba talaga na siya ang 'appointed son of God'?" Locsin wrote.

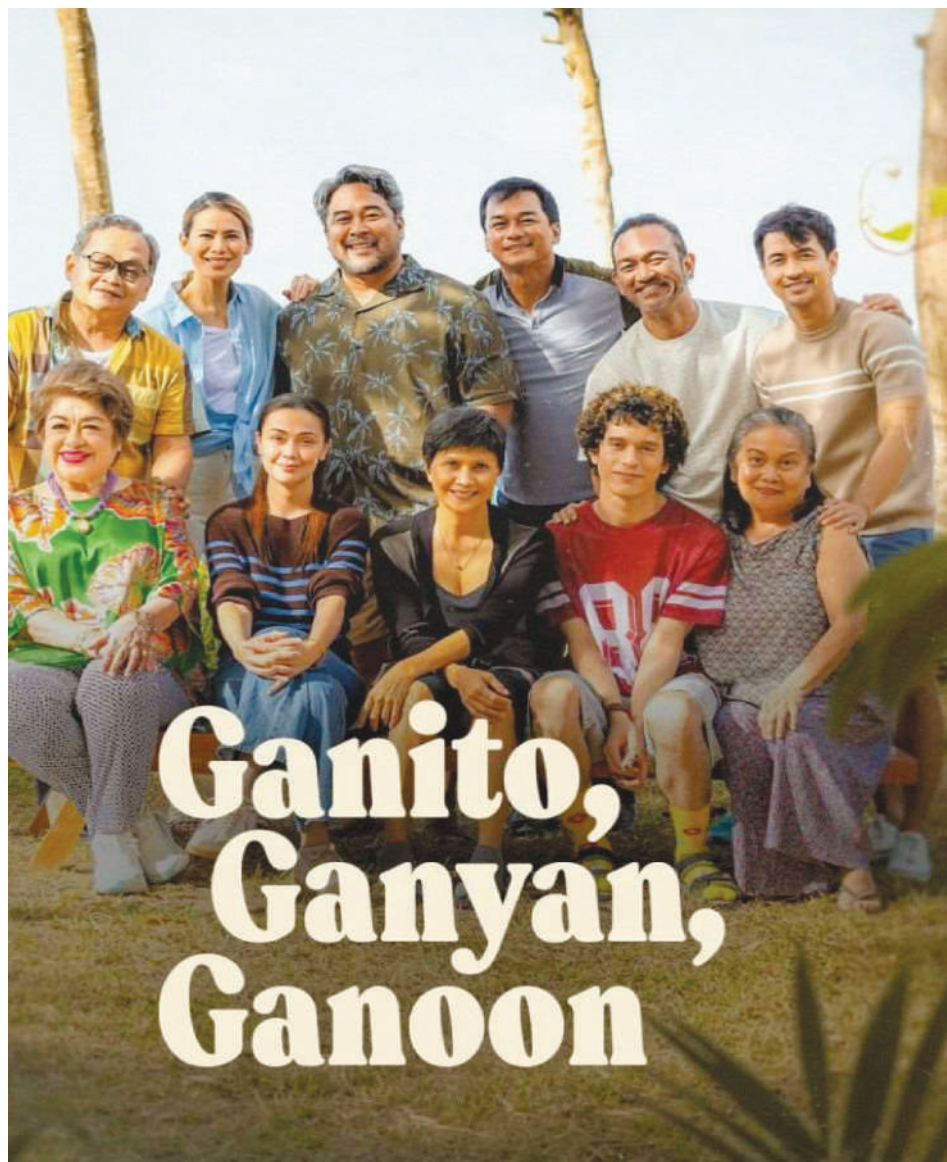
"Isa ka sa pinaka-makabayang taong nakilala. Ikaw si Andres Bonifacio. Kaya nakakalungkot 'pag nakakabasa ako ng stand mo pagdating sa China. Hindi ito ang Robin Padilla na nakilala at hinangaan ko," she added.

The actress then urged Padilla to

SEE PAGE 7 FOR

CONTINUATION

Jodi Sta. Maria, Agot Isidro film to premiere Aug. 13 on Netflix



The drama film “Ganito, Ganyan, Ganoon,” which stars powerhouse actresses Jodi Sta. Maria and Agot Isidro, is set to premiere on Netflix on August 13.

The streaming service unveiled Thursday the film’s premiere date alongside its key art.

Directed by Cholo H. Laurel,



Jodi Sta. Maria (left) and Agot Isidro in ‘Ganito, Ganyan, Ganoon.’ Photos courtesy of Netflix

“Ganito, Ganyan, Ganoon” follows Joanne (Sta. Maria), a TV writer on the verge of a career-defining opportunity, who is thrown off-course by the return of her mother (Isidro), forcing her to confront long-buried wounds from her childhood.

“She’s accomplished, she’s intelligent, she’s very strong, but the question is ‘why’? What motivated this character to be the way she is?” Sta. Maria said of her character in a press statement.

The film leans into “the emotional pull of a typical Filipino family narrative” and

the “distinct ‘dysfunctions’ that make each family’s experience truly unique,” Netflix said.

Apart from Sta. Maria and Isidro, the film also stars Gabriel Lazaro, Gardo Versoza, Ruby Ruiz, RK Bagatsing, Mitch Valdez and Angel Aquino.

“Ganito, Ganyan, Ganoon” is among the titles Netflix unveiled earlier this year as part of its 2026 Philippine slate, which also includes the young adult romance film “18th Rose,” the horror-mystery series “Balaraw,” and Erik Matti’s dystopian action series “BuyBust: The Undesirables,” among others. (J. Bernardo/abs-cbn news)

Smile Cookie Campaign Helps POWER UP the Future Yurkovich Family Pavilion in Richmond

RICHMOND, BC – Looking ahead to a new hospital tower in Richmond, Ajit and Harj Thandi—owners of eight Tim Hortons locations across Vancouver, Delta, Burnaby, and Richmond—have raised over \$11,000 in support of the Richmond Hospital Foundation POWERUP Campaign through this year’s Smile Cookie campaign.

The Smile Cookie campaign is a national, week-long initiative where 100% of proceeds from Smile Cookie sales support local charities. This year, Ajit and Harj Thandi chose Richmond Hospital Foundation as their charitable beneficiary.

“With the new hospital tower on the horizon, supporting Richmond Hospital felt like the right way to help the future of care in this community,” says Harj Thandi. “As community leaders,

it’s about rallying our team and bringing people together around something bigger than ourselves. For us, it was also important to connect our team to the cause, because at some point, all of us rely on health care to support our families through life’s toughest moments. When our team understands the impact they’re helping make, it creates a real sense of shared purpose in giving back. Thank you to everyone who supported this year’s campaign.”

“We’re grateful to Ajit and Harj Thandi, their teams, and everyone who participated in this year’s Smile Cookie campaign,” shares Spencer Gall, Chief Philanthropy Officer at Richmond Hospital Foundation. “More than anything, this campaign is a reflection of a community coming together to stand alongside patients, families and the teams who care for them. Each cookie is a

simple but meaningful way for people to show they care and to be part of something bigger right here in Richmond. That shared commitment is helping shape the future of care in our community, including what will be possible inside the new Yurkovich Family Pavilion.” The Richmond

Hospital Foundation POWER UP Campaign will help equip areas of care such as surgical services and the Emergency Department with technological advancements and innovations, providing the health care teams with the tools they need to deliver exceptional care for better patient experiences and faster recoveries.



Harj Thandi (second from left) and Ajit Thandi (third from left), franchisee owners of Tim Hortons, standing with Atwood Fung (left), Philanthropy Officer, and Jairemiah Inlayo (far right), Annual Giving Manager at Richmond Hospital Foundation, during a cheque presentation supporting health care in Richmond.

Lovi Poe enters new season of life, career

Actress, singer, producer, entrepreneur and Hollywood actress Lovi Poe is now officially a Kapamilya after signing with ABS-CBN's Star Magic.

The move had been rumored for months, but Tuesday's announcement finally made it official, ushering in what many expect to be an exciting new era for one of the country's most versatile and fearless leading ladies.

For someone who has built a career by taking risks, the decision feels like the natural next step.

More than the glamour, however, Lovi says she is entering this chapter with a completely different outlook on life.

"You do things that make you feel good. I think you just have to do things that make you happy and make you feel good and just don't think about the opinion of others because you want to live your life the way that makes you happy," she told reporters.

"That's what I've learned. Sometimes, especially in our industry, we tend to impress others or try to impress a lot of people. At the end of the day, they really won't do anything for you. I think that's one thing that I've learned, to work on myself in the most inward manner."

The words carry extra weight coming from an actress who has spent years under the spotlight.

Once known as one of the industry's boldest, sexiest and most daring stars, Lovi is now balancing multiple roles, not only as an actress but also as a wife, a mother, a producer and an artist steadily carving out a place in Hollywood.

Last October, she welcomed her first child with husband Montgomery

Blencowe. Before taking time off for motherhood in the United States, she appeared in the Hollywood film "Bad Man" and starred in "Guilty Pleasure," where her performance earned Best Actress nominations from both the Gawad Urian Awards and PMPC Star Awards for Movies.

Despite the growing list of responsibilities, Lovi made it clear that her passion for storytelling remains stronger than ever.

"I just want to keep working and doing what I love," she said.

At Star Magic's official welcome, she admitted the moment still feels surreal.

"It's just nice to be with family now. So I think more than anything, I'm just really grateful."

She also paid tribute to her husband, who has supported her career despite the challenges of maintaining a long-distance marriage because of work commitments.

"He's been very supportive. He's been traveling back and forth wherever I am. Talagang grateful ako. He's been helping and still wants me to achieve my goals even if it's been hard for us. It takes a real man to be able to make something like that happen."

Calling the move "a dream come true," Lovi revealed she grew up watching ABS-CBN and Star Magic artists, never imagining she would someday become part of the family.

Star Magic head Laurenti Dyogi described their newest talent as "a true superwoman" who embodies excellence as an actress, singer, performer, producer and storyteller while carrying the legacy of her father, the late Fernando Poe Jr., the legendary King of Philippine Movies.



As for what's next, Lovi isn't slowing down.

She hopes to headline action projects, thrillers, horror films and comedies while working with Kapamilya stars Kathryn Bernardo, Gerald Anderson, Jericho Rosales, Belle Mariano and Maris Racal.

Perhaps her biggest dream, however, is deeply personal.

She hopes to remake one of the iconic films of her

father, Fernando Poe Jr.

"I don't really have to say just one example, but I think an FPJ story would be great. It doesn't matter what it is. I hope that I get to do a project that my dad did."

It's a fitting ambition for an actress entering a new phase of her career, one no longer defined by proving herself to others but by choosing projects that inspire her. (N. Ramos/mb.com.ph)

Did you know? These celebrities were born on the same date

Birthday twins, anyone? These celebrities were born on the exact same date in July... you might be surprised by who's on the list!

Though July is the rainy season in the country, these celebrities love this month because it is when they celebrate their birthdays to share their blessing, spend time, and give back to their family, fans, friends, and to others. Get to know these celebrities who celebrate milestones and make their day more memorable.

July 3 – Celebrating their birthdays on July 3 are Sunshine Dizon and Empoy Marquez.

July 7 – Dingdong Avanzado and Maricar de Mesa both celebrate their birthdays on July 7.

July 15 – K Brosas, Julius Babao, and Edward Barber all celebrate their birthdays on July 15.

July 16 – Celebrating on July 16 are Aljon Mendoza and former Miss International

and fashion model Melanie Marquez.

July 19 – Deither Ocampo and Alessandra De Rossi celebrate their birthdays on July 19.

July 20 – Sue Ramirez, Dominic Roque, Claudine Barretto, Solenn Heussaff, Rayver Cruz, Raymart Santiago, and Agot Isidro all celebrate their birthdays on July 20.

July 22 – Jane Oineza and Kaori Oinuma celebrate their birthdays on July 22.

July 23 – Celebrating their birthdays on July 23 are Zanjoe Marudo and Eugene Domingo.

July 25 – Sarah Geronimo and the late Comedy King Rodolfo Vera Quizon Sr., popularly known as Dolphy, celebrate their birthdays on July 25.

July 28 – Sunshine Cruz, the late Susan Roces, and Alice Dixon all celebrate their birthdays on July 28.

To all July birthday celebrants, happiest birthday! (abs-cbn)

FROM PAGE 4 ..ANGEL LOCSIN

“wake up,” adding that it is not too late for him to change.

“Kahit paano, alam kong halos pareho tayong landas na dinaanan. Galing sa hirap, nagtrababo ng maaga, tinangkilik at nakapagpasaya ng mga tao. Ang utang na loob natin ay sa ating diyos at sa lahat ng Pilipino — hindi lamang sa isang tao. Tama na, Kuya. Gising na. Hindi pa huli ang lahat,” Locsin said.

Her post received 150,000 likes and reactions, 23,000 shares and 13,200 comments from Filipinos, with many praising her for calling out the senator.

“Salamat sa kaisog at katapatan mo, Ms. Angel Locsin! Napakahirap magsalita lalo na kapag kaibigan o dating kasamahan ang sangkot, pero pinili mo pa ring tumayo para sa katotohanan. Respeto pero may matinding paninindigan, isang tunay na ehemplo,” another wrote.

“Very well said, Angel Locsin. Ang ganyang tapang para manindigan sa bayan at sa kung ano ang tama. Saludo ako sayo,” a different Pinoy commented.

“Salute sayo, Ms. Angel, for standing [for] what is right and for our country. In a time when many

choose silence or convenience, your courage to speak and act with integrity deserves recognition. At sana ay gawing ehemplo ng marami. ‘Wag magbulag-bulagan sa totoong nangyayari sa ating bayan. Ms. Angel Locsin, your stand for what is right is a contribution that will always be worthy of respect and admiration,” another said.

“Sana dumami pa ‘yung mga taong kagaya ni Ms. Angel na naninindigan sa tama,” a different Pinoy wrote.

“Thank you for speaking up, Miss Angel! Sabi nga nila, ‘give someone power, and you’ll see their true character,’” another said.

“Thank you, Ms. Angel Locsin, kailangan ang boses ng mga kagaya mo ngayon,” a different said.

Angel was previously red-tagged by some military officials during the Duterte administration, who claimed that her outreach activities and criticism of corruption were indicators that she was a supposed communist or a communist sympathizer.

She and her network, ABS-CBN, denied the accusations, saying that “doing humanitarian activities and speaking one’s mind do not make one a member of a communist group.”

Angel has continued using her platform to speak against corruption and call for good governance. (J. Malasig Interakyon)



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'Tama lang na i-call out': Ivana Alawi's iPhone giveaway draws criticism over link to online gambling platform



Ivana Alawi in this photo posted on her Instagram on July 15, 2026 (ivanaalawi via Instagram)

Discussions criticizing actress and content creator Ivana Alawi's iPhone 17 giveaway, which was linked to an online gambling platform, gained traction on social media.

The influencer announced July 15 that she would be giving away 100 iPhone 17 units, with the condition that participants follow the **Casino Plus** page to qualify.

"Gusto talaga nila na marami ang mabigyan kaya tumulong sila. All you have to do is follow their page, kasi doon tayo kukuha ng random followers na makakapag-uwi ng iPhone 17," Ivana said in a now-deleted video posted on her Facebook.

She also included link to the gambling platform's page in the comments section of her post.

"Follow our CP Fam!" the actress-vlogger wrote, accompanied by a green heart emoji.

Ivana's post did not sit well with some Filipinos, who expressed concerns over her promotion of the gambling platform.

"Ivana Alawi, a lot of people

— NAIVE — people look up to you. This is not out of hate pero nakakadismaya. 5 million worth of iPhones to give, just to be discarded as electronic waste after 20 years, and promoting GAMBLING affects not only the gamblers' life, but also THEIR FAMILIES, for YEARS," a Pinoy commented.

"Walang masama sa magbigay, but it should never come at the expense of the audience's well-being through predatory sponsorships," the Threads user added.

"Alam ko naman na maganda 'yung intention ni Ivana Alawi na tumulong, pero para sa akin, mas nangingibabaw na 'yung personal gain at 'yung possible consequences ng mga ginagawa niya," another Pinoy said.

"Binigyan ko pa siya ng benefit of the doubt dati, kahit may mga nagsasabing poverty porn 'yung content niya. Pero this time, iba na kasi. Pagpo-promote ng sugal? Na-ah. Milyon-milyon ang nanonood sa kanya. Ilan kaya sa kanila ang mahihikayat magsugal dahil sa impluwensya niya?" the online user added.

"Tama lang na i-call out si Ivana at ang iba pang influencers na nagpo-promote ng sugal. Maraming pamilya at buhay ang sinira ng sugal na 'yan. Pero huwag nating kalimutan kung paano naging normal at legal ang pagsusugal noon," Facebook page "Voice of Millennials" said.

"Let's not forget how Pia Cayetano made it legal, at kung paano pinagkakitaan ng Duterte administration ang POGO noon habang maraming buhay ang nasisira dahil sa sugal," it added.

POGO refers to Philippine Offshore Gaming Operators, firms that operate in the Philippines and offer gambling services to markets outside the country. The industry has been linked to human trafficking, kidnapping, money laundering and online scams.

"This is not about taking Ivana Alawi's side or criticizing her. Rather, it is about recognizing the influence that public figures have and the responsibility that comes with it," another page commented.

"Ultimately, the broader issue extends beyond one personality. Influencers should stop normalizing online gambling, which has been linked to addiction, financial hardship, and family problems. We have seen many individuals publicly share how gambling addiction has affected their lives, serving as cautionary reminders of its dangers," it added.

On gambling

Last May, a woman in Cebu City caused traffic after lying down in the middle of a highway in an apparent attempt to take her own life. It was later discovered

that she had incurred a casino debt of P63,000.

The Cybercrime Investigation and Coordinating Center (CICC) said it had received at least 1,890 complaints against illegal gambling sites since the start of the year.

The agency described the figure as "alarming."

"Kaya muli akong nagpapabala — mag-ingat ho tayo sa online. Sa bawat scroll ninyo sa Facebook o TikTok, may influencers na pilit kayong hinihila papunta sa sugal," CICC Undersecretary Renato "Aboy" Paraiso said.

In 2025, it was reported that the Philippines was experiencing a "boom" and "doom" in online gambling.

"Support groups for gambling addicts have surfaced on Facebook and Reddit in recent months. In one Filipino-language Facebook group reviewed by ST, users posted anonymous confessions about hidden debts, broken relationships and even suicide attempts," a report by The Straits Times/Asia News Network said.

"One post came from a student who admitted stealing his mother's credit card information just to keep placing bets," it added.

The chairperson of a rehabilitation center that provides treatment for drug, alcohol, gambling and behavioral addictions said the facility has seen a rise in online gambling addiction cases compared with the period before the COVID-19 pandemic.

(J. Malasig/Interaksyon)

'Someone, Someday': Kathryn, James & Maja impress in riveting, unpredictable series

Riveting.

If there's one word that best describes Dreamscape Entertainment's "Someone, Someday," it's that.

We had the chance to watch the first two episodes ahead of its July 27 premiere across ABS-CBN's platforms, and it's safe to say the series left quite an impression.

It opens with an emotionally charged wedding sequence that immediately puts Kathryn Bernardo front and center. It's a demanding scene, and she rises to the occasion with remarkable control.

There's no question she's come a long way since her teen-star days. More importantly, she continues to grow.

What stands out isn't just the emotional weight she brings, but the restraint.

Kathryn doesn't always need dialogue to communicate what Billy is feeling. A lingering glance, a slight shrug, the smallest shift in expression all reveal a woman carrying years of disappointments while projecting confidence as the successful CEO of the dating app Love List.

Yet beneath that polished exterior is someone driven by something far more personal.

Billy's biggest priority isn't her career but providing a better life for her younger brother Oliver (Migz Casimiro), whom she raised on her own.

Then there's James Reid.

If anyone wondered whether his years away from television would affect his screen presence, "Someone, Someday" quickly answers that question.

Not at all.

James slips into the role of Jordan, Billy's closest friend and confidant, with effortless charm. His chemistry with Kathryn is unmistakable from the start, making even the quieter moments between them feel charged with unspoken



James Reid, Kathryn Bernardo and Maja Salvador (photo from dzrh.ph)

emotion. It never feels forced, which makes the pairing all the more believable.

And then Maja Salvador

deserves equal praise.

Director Chad V. Vidanes and Dolly Dulu, together with the creative team, use light and shadow to mirror

If the remaining episodes maintain the same pace and intrigue, Dreamscape may very well have one of its most compelling dramas in recent years.

Also starring Dimples Romana, Rowell Santiago, Rita Avila, McCoy De Leon, Daniela Stranner, "Someone, Someday," premieres July 27, 8:45 PM on ALLTV2, Kapamilya Channel, Kapamilya Online Live. (N. Ramos/ mb.com.ph/ Netflix photo from radar.ph)

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arrives.

Her entrance as Abby completely changes the series.

Just when you think you're settling into a modern romantic drama, the story takes a sharp turn into something darker and far more unsettling.

Without giving too much away, Abby's presence introduces a psychological edge that makes the narrative far less predictable than expected.

The show's visual storytelling

the story's shifting moods. Scenes transition naturally from warm and inviting to cold and ominous, reinforcing the feeling that danger can surface at any moment. It's a subtle touch, but one that steadily builds suspense.

By the end of the second episode, one thing became clear: "Someone, Someday" knows exactly how to keep viewers hooked.

The cliffhangers are expertly executed, leaving us eager to see where the story goes next.



Bea Alonzo shares photos from civil wedding with Vincent Co



Bea Alonzo has confirmed she has tied the knot with businessman Vincent Co in an intimate civil ceremony!

The actress delighted fans by sharing a glimpse of their special day on social media.

"Home," she simply captioned the carousel post, where she is seen wearing a tailored white blazer paired with a lace-trimmed mini skirt.

One of the photos also featured the newlyweds holding a minimalist white cake with "Just Married" written across it.

Her comment section quickly filled with love and warm wishes from the entertainment and sports worlds, including close friends Dimples Romana, Erik Santos, KC Concepcion, Olympic gold medalist Hidilyn Diaz, and GMA Network Senior Vice President Annette Gozon-Valdes.

On Tuesday evening, Makati Mayor Nancy Binay shared a selfie with Alonzo at the mayor's office on her Facebook page, captioned "Coffee [with] coffeemate (laughing emoji). #onemorechance."

The mayor further confirmed the nuptials, posting a photo of the couple in an embrace with Co's back to the camera.

"Kinasal ko na po sila," Binay wrote in a post. "Congratulations [and] best wishes Vincent [and] Bea."

Alonzo's camp confirmed that the couple got married on Monday, July 13.

Wedding rumors hounded the couple earlier in the year after marriage banns showed their names at a mass at St. Peter the Apostle Parish in Manila on March 8.

Meanwhile, in May, there were speculations that the two broke up, with some eagle-eyed social media users noticing that Alonzo supposedly unfollowed Co on Instagram. Gossip columns also surmised that prenup disagreements affected the couple's plans to wed in Spain.

Bea Alonzo declared that she is now at the happiest moment of her life, just a week after marrying businessman Vincent Co.

On Instagram Stories, the actress gave her fans a closer look at her wedding ring.

"At my happiest moment," she wrote, adding a heart emoji.

In her most recent Instagram update, Alonzo also embraced her new life as a married woman through a series of portraits.

Alonzo and Co, president of the supermarket chain Puregold Price Club Inc., tied the knot in a civil ceremony in Makati last July 13.

The two have kept their relationship largely private.

Alonzo and Co, the eldest son of billionaire couple Lucio and Susan Co of Puregold, sparked romance rumors in June 2025. Co shared on Instagram a photo of himself holding hands with a mystery woman while walking on a beach in Spain—users noticed that the actress's outfit matched the mystery woman's clothes. (C. Santiago/Philstar/R. Deveza/abs-cbn)



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Why Vice said sorry to Kim

A simple omission during an acceptance speech quickly became one of the hottest showbiz topics online.

Vice Ganda and Kim Chiu addressed the controversy after Vice's speech at the inaugural FAMAS Broadcast Arts Awards drew mixed reactions from fans who noticed that Kim's name was not mentioned while the comedian thanked the hosts of "It's Showtime."

Vice received the Best Host for Entertainment award, while "It's Showtime" was recognized as Best Variety Show during the ceremony held on July 20.

During Tuesday's episode of "It's Showtime," Vice publicly apologized to Kim, explaining that he unintentionally forgot to mention her because there were 16 hosts to acknowledge and he had no teleprompter. Kim responded with humor,



VICE GANDA and KIM CHIU (Photo grabbed from ABSCBN Entertainment on YouTube)

saying she was already used to not being mentioned, prompting laughter on the show. Vice assured her that while she may have been left out of the speech, she is always appreciated.

Despite the lighthearted exchange, some fans continued expressing disappointment on social media.

The online discussion intensified after Vice described some critics as "toxic" and "cheap" in posts on X. Kim later shared a thoughtful message, urging everyone not to label supportive fans negatively. She emphasized that supporters are naturally protective of the celebrities they admire and reminded everyone that artists would not be where they are

today without the unwavering love of their fans.

Vice Ganda eventually echoed the call for kindness, reminding his "Little Ponies" not to attack others online in his defense. He stressed that love and support should never justify toxic behavior and encouraged his followers to remain mature and respectful.

To lighten the mood, Vice jokingly posted that even his mother's relatives should not criticize him for forgetting to mention his own mother during the speech.

He also reassured everyone that there was no conflict between him and Kim, revealing that they were actively messaging each other and were on good terms: "Ay 'di po kami magkaaway. Magka-message po kami now." (O. Rekabar/Malaya)

The inaugural FAMAS Broadcast Arts Awards

The inaugural FAMAS Broadcast Arts Awards proved to be a success as it gathered the biggest names in television, digital media, radio and online content last July 20 at The Manila Hotel.

The star-studded ceremony honored outstanding achievements across 28 competitive categories. Among the evening's biggest winners

were Kara David, Ivana Alawi, Vice Ganda, Christian Esguerra, CongTV and Coco Martin, each receiving prestigious recognition for their exceptional contributions to the industry.

One of the night's most memorable moments came when veteran journalist Kara David accepted consecutive awards for her work in public affairs programs. She later

shared the spotlight with content creator and actress Ivana Alawi, as the two were declared co-winners for Best Host for Public Service — the only tie of the night.

Digital media also enjoyed a strong showing during the awards. Christian Esguerra and his Facts First podcast earned top honors as Best Podcast and Best Podcast Host, while

internet sensation CongTV took home Best Comedy Show (Long-Form or Short-Form) and the coveted FAMAS Broadcast Arts Breakthrough Award.

Despite missing the event, Coco Martin dominated the night as "FPJ's Batang Quiapo" swept Best Director, Best Screenplay, and Best Series — with Mon Confiado and Joel Lamangan accepting on his behalf. (O. Rekabar/Malaya)

Actor Joshua Garcia at the center of social media storm

Actor Joshua Garcia found himself at the center of social media storm when he reposted a Tiktok video related to Vice President Sara Duterte's Senate impeachment trial,

The issue gained traction after some social media users claimed that Joshua was a supporter of former President Rodrigo Duterte's camp, prompting a wave of criticism and calls for cancellation from various online communities.

However, Joshua has not publicly confirmed or denied any political affiliation.

As the conversation intensified,

eagle-eyed netizens noticed that the actor's Instagram account no longer followed Vice President Sara Duterte and Senator Alan Peter Cayetano.

Despite the viral discussions, Joshua has remained silent on the matter.

Neither the actor nor his management has issued an official statement explaining the changes to his social media following list.

(O. Rekabar/Malaya)





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Explainer: Who replaces Sara Duterte if she is removed as VP

By Carlito Pablo

The impeachment trial of Philippine Vice President Sara Duterte is in progress.

If convicted by the Senate sitting as an impeachment court, the daughter of former president Rodrigo Duterte faces removal from office.

So who then will replace the vice president?

The rules of succession in the executive department are enshrined in the 1987 Constitution.

These rules ensure continuity in government should the president and other high-ranking officials in the executive branch are unable to discharge their duties.

In Duterte's case, Section 9 of Article VII applies and it states:

"Whenever there is a vacancy in the Office of the Vice-President during the term for which he was elected, the President shall nominate a Vice-President from among the Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives who shall assume office upon confirmation by a majority vote of all the Members of both Houses of the Congress, voting separately."

In short, President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. cannot simply pick anyone he wishes to appoint as successor to Duterte.

As the Constitution provides, the new vice president must come from the ranks of either the Senate or the House of Representatives.

To recall, the position of vice president has been vacated in the past.

Vice President Sara Duterte declared earlier this year that she is running for president in 2028. Image from Duterte's official social media.

In 2001, then President Joseph Estrada stepped down from office in the face of a revolt that was triggered by his aborted impeachment trial before the Senate.

The vice president at the time, Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, assumed the presidency, leaving the vice president's position vacant.

As president, Arroyo nominated Senator Teofisto Guingona, the same senator who called for the impeachment of Estrada.

In a televised speech, Arroyo said she picked Guingona from among six contenders. The five others were Senators Aquilino Pimentel, Franklin Drilon, Raul Roco, Loren Legarda and Ramon Magsaysay Jr.

It was Guingona who de-



livered his famous "I Accuse" privilege speech in the Senate, which triggered an investigation of Estrada on corruption charges.

The vote of 16 of the 24 senators sitting as impeachment judges is required to convict Duterte.

Two senators – Jinggoy Estrada and Rodante Marcoleta – have been arrested on plunder charges. Both are allies of Duterte.

Another senator – Ronald dela Rosa – has gone into hiding. Dela Rosa has been named as one of Rodrigo Duterte's co-conspirators in charges pending before the ICC.

It's not clear if Estrada, Marcoleta, and Dela Rosa are able to vote in Duterte's impeachment trial.

Only one impeachment has been completed in line with the 1987 Constitution. This was in the case of then Supreme Court Chief Justice Renato Corona, who was convicted in 2012 for betrayal of public trust due to the misdeclaration of his wealth.

Duterte has been topping polls among potential successors to Marcos in the 2028 presidential election.

Duterte is seen to emerge stronger if she survives her impeachment trial.

But as political analyst Ronald Llamas wrote in his Philippine Star column on July 12, 2026, this does not mean that Duterte will surely become the next president.

In his piece titled "The two courts of Sara's impeachment trial", Llamas recalled that then president Estrada won a procedural victory

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in his impeachment trial when an envelope supposedly containing critical evidence was not allowed to be opened, a deed that triggered the revolt that led to his ouster in 2001.

Llamas wrote, "The same lesson applies today. Sara's impeachment trial is unfolding in two courtrooms

simultaneously – the Senate and the court of public opinion. Winning both is the ideal, as legal victories need public legitimacy. But neither side can afford to lose in the court of public opinion. The people, rightly or wrongly, have a way of reshaping political realities, even altering the fate of those who believe they have already won."

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BY CHRISTIAN CUNANAN & APPLE PLATA



Filipino Canadian Construction Society Holds Annual Picnic

The Filipino Canadian Construction Society (FCCS) successfully held its Annual Picnic on Saturday, July 18, 2026, at Barnet Marine Park from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The event was a wonderful celebration of friendship, camaraderie, and community spirit.

The gathering was led by President Armand Perez, together with Vice President 1 Neil Onaya, Vice President 2 Ellena Palma, Founder Amado Mercado Jr., Secretary Amy Gutierrez, PRO Wilson Yap See, Business Manager Heidi Ng-Liang and the FCCS officers and directors.

Members, families and community supporters enjoyed a yummy feast featuring the crispy and delicious Cebu Lechon from Edwin Tumamak, kaldereta, palabok, pancit, beef with broccoli, beef pares with fried rice, laing, lumpiang gulay, tempura, siomai, empanada, fish balls, chicken feet, ginataang bilo-bilo, sago at gulaman, assorted bread, cassava cake, and many other delicious dishes.

The FCCS officers and directors extend their heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended and helped make this year's Annual Picnic a memorable success. FCCS looks forward to bringing everyone together again next year.



Bhoy Tam's Birthday, Fundraising, and Noemi Victorino's Campaign

Family, friends, community members, and leaders gathered at the Surrey home of Bhoy and Mara Tambungan on Saturday, July 18, 2026, to celebrate Bhoy's birthday, support a fundraiser for the Sico family, and show their support for Surrey Connect councillor candidate Noemi Victorino.

Guests enjoyed a memorable evening with delicious food, sweet desserts, and live music entertainment featuring Centrelane Vibes and talented guest singers.

The celebration also featured a very energetic and enjoyable Line Dancing with Imee Landicho led guests in a fun-filled dance session. Upstairs, guests also enjoyed an anything goes karaoke singing featuring favorite songs led by the trio of Eman Raguin, Raymon Maliwat, and Christian Cunanan, together with Marlon Parel and Ting Caturla. It was a wonderful night of friendship, music and singing.

Instead of receiving birthday gifts, Bhoy requested donations for Sico family, who were affected by the Lapu-Lapu tragedy. Through the generosity of everyone who attended, \$435 was raised to help the family. The celebration was a

beautiful reminder that kindness, volunteerism, and unity can make a real difference.

Bhoy Tam shared his gratitude to everyone who joined and celebrated his birthday:



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A Moment with a Longtime Friend

It was wonderful catching up with my longtime friend, Nancy Yang, CEO of NY Entourage, during the SexBomb Girls press conference at the Element Hotel. Always a pleasure to reconnect with someone who has made a significant contribution to promoting entertainment and cultural events in our community. Wishing Nancy and the entire NY Entourage team continued success in bringing world-class Filipino artists and unforgettable experiences to audiences in Canada.



Photos from Backstage Ventures Ltd Kolorete Canada Jirah Refuerzo / Dione Lago FB/ Christian Cunanan

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Susan Africa fulfills Php 5,000 reward after a student finds a teleserye scene of her coughing

Susan Africa has rewarded a netizen after she successfully found a teleserye scene showing the veteran actress coughing, ending the viral challenge.

It was on July 17 when Susan became a trending topic after addressing one of the internet's longest-running jokes about her career that she is almost always cast as a sickly character constantly coughing.

Fondly dubbed by netizens as the "**Star for All Ubo**," Susan explained during the finale media conference of **Blood vs Duty** that the joke was largely a case of the Mandela effect. While she acknowledged portraying several ill characters throughout her four-decade career, she insisted she could not recall repeatedly coughing in any of her teleseryes.

She pointed to her role as Susan Davis in the 1992 hit series *Mara Clara*, saying her character suffered a stroke but was not constantly coughing. She also remembered that the only role she clearly recalled being instructed to cough for was in the 2019 comedy film *The Mall, The Merrier*.

Confident in her memory, Susan jokingly challenged viewers to prove her wrong. "Pakitaan niyo ako ng video na umuubo ako sa teleserye and I will give five thousand pesos."

The lighthearted challenge quickly spread online, with thousands of netizens digging through old clips of Susan's television projects in search of a coughing scene. While many agreed the "ubo-ubo acting" reputation might indeed be a Mandela effect because they could not find any evidence, one determined netizen eventually uncovered a scene from the episode 714 of *Mara Clara* showing Susan's character coughing while portraying a sickly mother.

Two days later, on July 19, the actress revealed that she had already contacted the winning netizen, who is a college student, and awarded the Php 5,000 prize.

On Facebook, Susan announced: "Yes, we have a winner! Ms Sheena Rose

Traifalgar, a 3rd year college student in Iloilo was the first to submit a video of a scene from *Mara Clara* where I was coughing."

"Thank you for refreshing my memory of a scene I did many decades ago which I've already forgotten, Sheena."

Susan admitted that after spending more than 40 years in the entertainment industry portraying countless characters, it was impossible for her to remember every single detail from her past projects.

"I must admit I do not remember the scenes which our many contestants submitted. I have been blessed with four decades in this industry playing myriad roles, so I cannot remember all the details. But my sincerest thanks to all who joined this cough challenge. I appreciate your efforts in finding scenes from my past works. I hope you all had fun joining this amusing game," she said.

"As for the Mandela Effect, I concede that although it might not be accurate at this point, I maintain that though I may cough occasionally in a few roles in the past, I do not cough in ALL of my teleseryes. ☐," she added.

The actress also took the opportunity to express gratitude to ABS-CBN for the many roles she has portrayed throughout her career. She also shared her gratitude for the network's executive, Cory Vidanes, for gifting her a "breakthrough role" in *Blood vs Duty* where she played Dra. Teresa Reyes.

Susan likewise shared screenshots of her conversation with the netizen, where she personally thanked the student for her determination in searching for the clip. The college student, in turn, expressed her gratitude for the reward and shared that she plans to use the money to help fund her studies.

Following Susan's post, many netizens praised the veteran actress for honoring her word and applauded her generosity. Others also took the opportunity to celebrate her long-standing career, saying the viral challenge



became another reminder of her memorable performances through the years.

Earlier this year, Susan also made headlines after taking on the role of Dra. Teresa in **Blood vs Duty**, portraying the mother of Richard

Gutierrez's character, Marcus. The casting delighted viewers, with many joking that the actress had finally earned a "career upgrade" after years of being associated with roles as a suffering mother, house helper, or underprivileged woman. (A. De Guzman/ Push team)

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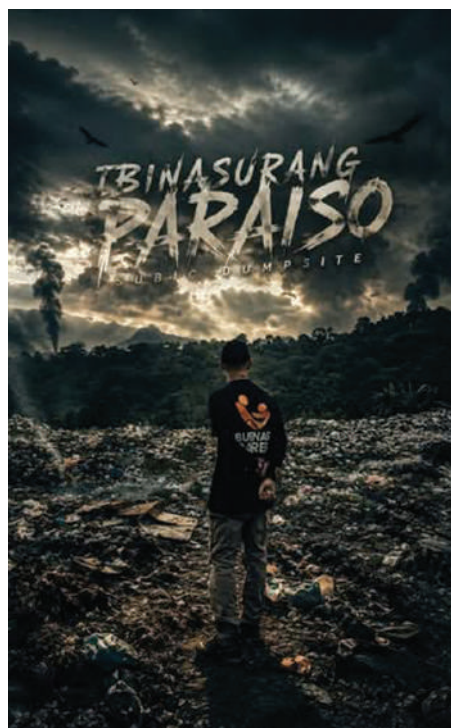
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Boss Toyo apologizes after posts on Kara David's documentary draw backlash

Content creator Boss Toyo has apologized after drawing criticism over social media posts that many netizens viewed as casting doubt on veteran journalist Kara David's "I-Witness" documentary about an illegal dumpsite in an Aeta ancestral domain in Subic, Zambales.



The controversy began after Boss Toyo, whose real name

is Jayson Jay Luzadas, shared observations from what he described as a visit to the dumpsite's "ground zero."

He said he did not notice the foul odor highlighted in the documentary and claimed Aeta residents told him there was no lingering smell or swarm of flies. He also wrote that he had been informed the property was privately owned and that most of the waste had already been segregated.

The issue wasn't that he visited the site. Rather, many online believed his firsthand account appeared to contradict a documentary built on more than a month of reporting.

In "Ibinasurang Paraiso," which aired on July 12, David documented how an illegal dumpsite operated for three years on Aeta ancestral land before authorities shut it down in March 2026. The report included interviews with Aeta residents who said they were forced to leave because of the overpowering stench, while government agencies identified the site as ancestral land, not private property.



Boss Toyo and Kara David. Photos from their official Facebook pages.

Responding online, David said her team interviewed residents, consulted the local government, and verified its findings with the DENR and the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples. She also noted that the mayor's office had acknowledged accountability.

As the debate spread, some netizens suggested Boss Toyo may have visited a different location from the one featured in the documentary.

Shortly afterward, the content creator issued an apology, writing: "Me amoy o wala, me komunidad o wala, me langaw o wala, pasensya po sa lahat." He maintained that he was only sharing what he personally observed and what local officials told him, stressing that he had no intention of arguing with or defending anyone. While his apology addressed the controversy, he did not directly mention David. (I.Ureta/mb.com.ph)

'I died': Jericho Rosales gushes over meeting Matt Damon at 'The Odyssey' premiere in India

Actor Jericho Rosales shared his excitement after meeting Hollywood actor Matt Damon at the red-carpet premiere of Christopher Nolan's "The Odyssey" in Mumbai, India.

The Filipino actor attended the premiere on Saturday July 11, where he interacted with director Christopher Nolan, as well as actors Matt and Tom Holland.

Jericho shared photos and videos from the event, including his moment with Matt, who plays the role of Odysseus in the film.

In his Instagram caption, Rosales expressed his appreciation for Matt, who gave him an autograph.

"I died when he said that," Jericho said, referring to his name.

"I will support this man forever. God bless you, Matt Damon! THANK YOU. You don't know what that means to me," he added.

Jericho also shared his thoughts after watching "The Odyssey," saying that audiences will "feel like you're part of the adventure. You're part of the journey home."

The actor added that he is excited to watch the film again with his friends and family in IMAX.

"The Odyssey" will be the only film shown in IMAX for the first three weeks of its Philippine release that started July 15.



This composite photo show Matt Damon signing a notepad of Jericho Rosales during the red carpet event for the premiere of "The Odyssey" in Mumbai, India. (Jericho Rosales via Instagram)

"The Odyssey" tells the mythical tale of Odysseus' journey home to Ithaca after his successful gambit in

the Trojan War. Back home, his wife Penelope fends off predatory suitors, while their son Telemachus waits for news of Odysseus' return. (Interaksyon)



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New Voices Breaking Barriers: GMA Lifestyle Launches Young Achievers Series Podcast

Curious about the journey toward achieving one's dreams? Wondering how to get heard when surrounded by other voices? Looking to find the balance between life and ambition?

GMA Network, through its website **GMA Lifestyle**, is set to break barriers and create new benchmarks with the launch of the **Young Achievers Series** podcast – a fresh platform dedicated to the ideas, stories, journeys, and so much more of Filipinos in the “now” generation.

The Young Achievers Series is GMA Lifestyle's new and premier digital feature that aims to inspire, empower, and amplify the voices of the youth. Netizens can access engaging interviews and content through the website's In Focus section.

A high-energy, insight-packed space, the Young Achievers Series features remarkable individuals and standout personalities from various lifestyle fields, including the arts, fashion, design, business, sports, and more.

Through authentic conversations and relatable



insights, audiences will get to know the next generation of leaders, creators, and innovators as they share their experiences, challenges, and lessons behind their success.

Streaming beginning July 15, the first episode features social media dance sensation and content creator Niana Guerrero, who reveals the discipline behind content creation and how she lives a life far from the digital, public space.

Upcoming personalities on the Young Achievers Series podcast include two-time Olympic gold

medalist Carlos Yulo, “Lumpia Queen” Abi Marquez, and the multi-talented Missy Elizalde.

Championing the stories of a new generation, GMA Lifestyle's Young Achievers Series podcast aims to empower young

Filipinos to dream bigger, push boundaries, and chart their own paths to success — one conversation at a time.

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Why Spain won the World Cup

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THE world stops when football's World Cup final is on.

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Everything takes the back seat, including the British Open.

Ryan Fox's winning 12-foot birdie became merely an asterisk, on the very day Spain and Argentina were to battle for football's most coveted piece of hardware.

It didn't matter that Fox, the irreverent Kiwi, became only the third man from New Zealand to win the oldest golf tournament on its 154th edition at Royal Birkdale, England.

By one shot, that is, over American Cameron Young.

As in Spain's 1-0 win over Argentina in a stunner that gave Spain only its second World Cup trophy since it beat the Netherlands in the 2010 final.

Thousands packed the MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey, USA, to watch the 104th game of the five-week tournament hosted by the United

States, Mexico and Canada.

Global entertainers graced the game and performers included Madonna, Justin Bieber, BTS and many others even as President Trump braved boos by a sell-out crowd that bought tickets as pricey as \$197,000 each.

Because of its smashing hosting success, organizers will again have three countries for the World Cup in Morocco, Portugal and Spain in 2030 for the greatest sporting show on earth next only to the Olympic Games.

About 1.5 billion more fans watched Spain defeat Argentina on TV in the quadrennial event, many feeling terribly dejected over Lionel Messi's somewhat messy performance for Argentina.

But asphyxiating defense choked the 39-year-old Messi's offense, literally transforming the game's greatest player from a somebody to a nobody.

Palpably spoiled was Messi's supposed spectacular farewell game after becoming the only man to play in three successive World Cup events.

Will Yamal Lamini, the 19-year-old sensation from Spain, surpass Messi's feat?

If it were boxing, Spain was the aggressor, continuously pummeling Argentina right from the opening bell.

Argentina was always on the defensive end, not given even a decent inch to attack as it appeared endlessly cornered against the ropes.

One mistake, grievous to say the least, and Argentina was gone.

Ferran Torres, getting a pass from Nico Williams, thumped an eight-yarder on the 106th minute and Spain was champion again.

One pass.

One goal.

One glory.

The Spanish flag flew proudly as the world was applauding.

The beauty of Spain's victory wasn't merely highlighted by the brutal strangling of Messi but also by stifling Argentina's windpipes.

Spain trusted its system the way a pilot leaned on his plane's cruise-control mode.

And, yes, champions are at their best when under pressure. That was Spain in this singular

moment of truth.

As one sage puts it: To be under pressure is a pleasure.

Discipline defined Spain's triumph as its winning goal summed up the champion's classic courage from start to finish.

Stars, like Messi, lose their sheen over time.

No reign lasts forever.

Still, for Messi, blunted in his dream to make his country a repeat champion since Brazil in 1962, the loss was no reason to "cry for me, Argentina."

For, the truth is, Spain never left the game. Never missed a beat for 106 minutes.

THAT'S IT Happy birthday to the July ladies of this deadline beater: Soly (July 23), Aya (July 9) and Malaya Sol. Greetings, too, New Zealand-based Danny "Sir John" Isla, who brought a bouquet of flowers for Malaya Sol the day she was born at St. Luke's on July 21, also Sir John's natal day. Cheers!

(Article reprinted as authorized by the author)

Alex Eala pens message for Filipino supporters as she leaves PH for next tournament

Alex Eala penned a message of gratitude to her Filipino supporters as she left Manila ahead of her upcoming tennis tournament.

On her Instagram page, Alex wrote: "That's a wrap on Manila. Maraming salamat sa pagtanggap sa akin mga kababayan!"

The Filipina tennis star shared that the stories she heard from the people she met during her visit deeply moved her.

"Each and every one of your stories has touched me on a profound level. I leave with a refreshed memory of what I carry when I'm out there playing tennis. And wow, is it a privilege to be part of something bigger than myself. Never been

prouder to represent home," she remarked.

Earlier in July, Alex made history after stunning world No. 3 Iga Swiatek, becoming the first Filipina in the Open Era to reach the fourth round, and the second week, of a Grand Slam tournament.

Following her landmark victory and qualification for the Round of 16, Alex became emotional as she reflected on what the achievement meant to her and aspiring athletes in the Philippines.

"I'm really emotional. Maybe for someone like Iga, who has won so many slams, or maybe someone like Serena or Venus (Williams), this achievement may seem small, but for someone who grew up in the Philippines... You know I went to train with my brother and my grandfather every day after school

with my ruffled socks and my light-up shoes and chubby cheeks," she said in a courtside interview.

Previously, Alex became the first Filipina to defeat two Top 10 players at the Miami Open in March 2025 and the first Filipina to win a Grand Slam singles main-draw match at the U.S. Open in August 2025.

In a recent interview with Karen Davila, Alex opened up about how she and her family deal with the victories and defeats in her tennis career.

"[After a win], we are all just so excited, especially the big ones, and even when they are not there, I call them. They are the first people I call and it's a really good scene," she said.

Alex also acknowledged that every loss affects her differently, but



each setback ultimately teaches her how to bounce back and move forward.

"Every loss is different. Some hit harder than others, and they make you cry; they make you rethink a lot of things. Sometimes they set you back, but I think tennis is such a humbling sport in a way that you lose so many times that you learn to lose and you learn how to get back from those things. And what's beautiful about tennis is there is always a next time," she remarked. (Toff C. /Push.com)

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Paulo Avelino and fellow dads open family-friendly PlaySpace



Actor Paulo Avelino has ventured into family entertainment with the opening of PlaySpace, a 1,000-square-meter indoor playground designed to encourage children to learn, play and socialize in a safe environment.

PlaySpace officially opened with a blessing and ribbon-cutting ceremony on July 18 at Ayala Malls Veramosa in Imus, Cavite.

Avelino, who has a son, Aki, with actress LJ Reyes, partnered with fellow fathers Adam Vinluan, John Gonzales

and Bugsy Lising to develop the concept over nearly two years. Each founder oversees a different aspect of the business. Vinluan serves as CEO and president, managing overall operations and policies; Gonzales heads business development; Avelino leads marketing; and Lising supervises day-to-day operations.

According to Avelino, the business began during casual online gaming sessions among the longtime friends.

"It's actually the brainchild of Adam. It's a funny story because about two years ago, we were just playing games and talking on Discord when he suddenly brought it up out of nowhere. I said yes, and from there we started working on it," Avelino said.

Vinluan's four-year-old son was diagnosed with Global Developmental Delay (GDD), a condition that could later be associated with autism spectrum disorder. As a first-time father, Vinluan soon realized how difficult it was to find places

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where his son could safely play, interact with other children and continue developing his social and motor skills.

"I'm a first-time dad, and my kid is now four years old. Two years ago, he was diagnosed with GDD, and that could potentially mean he also has autism," Vinluan said.

"As a dad, you worry so much. We were told to bring him to places like playgrounds where he could be exposed to games and interact with other kids because that would really help his development," he added.

"But every time we went to playgrounds, they were always full. Even booking therapy sessions was difficult. That's when I saw the opportunity. Aside from helping my own child have a place to play, I also wanted other kids to enjoy the same experience. If we could build something that helps families while creating a fun place for children, then I thought it would be a good thing to do."

"Usually, we're just casual gamers. We like hanging out and playing games together. I brought up the idea to them,

and that's where everything started. The four of us are all dads, all gamers, and even many of our investors are gamers too," he said.

PlaySpace features slides, obstacle courses, a large ball pit, interactive play stations, dress-up areas, cooking and baking activities, and other attractions designed to stimulate children's creativity, imagination and sensory development. It also has a 150-square-meter event space for birthday parties and other family celebrations.

"We spent a lot of time thinking about what was missing from other play areas. A good function room was one of the things we kept talking about. We wanted families to have a place not just for kids to play but also where parents could celebrate together," Lising said.

Regular rates are P599 for one hour, P799 for three hours and P999 for unlimited play. Additional adult passes cost P150, while the non-slip socks required for entry are available for P100. (I. Iglesias/ Manila Times)

Photo credit philnews.ph



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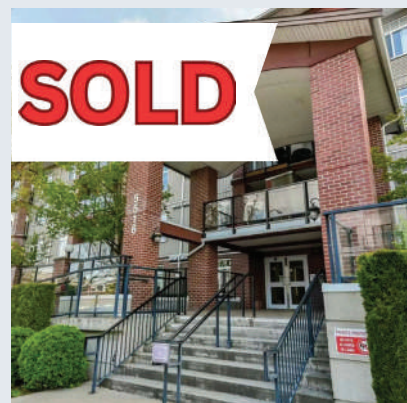
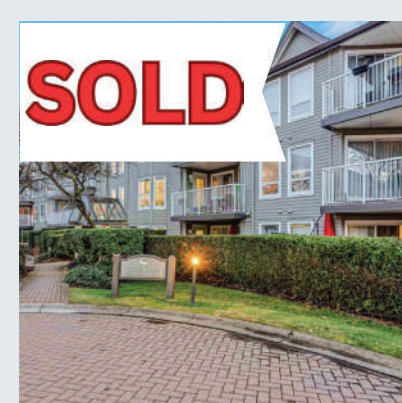
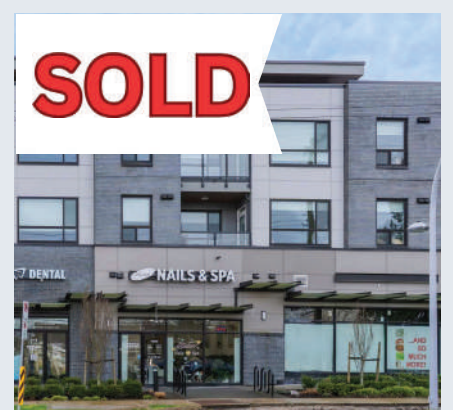
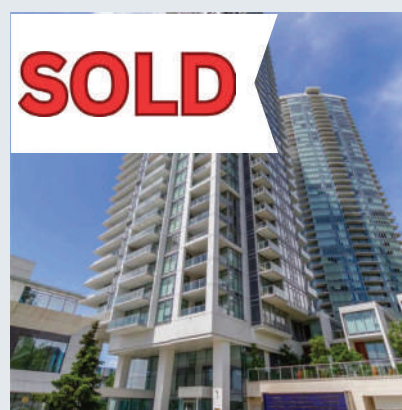
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