

Impact of Trump's election still a subject of speculation and concern



Steven Bannon, chief political adviser, President-elect Donald J. Trump and Reince Priebus, chief of staff.

The November 8, 2016 U.S. election has been hailed as the most controversial, divisive campaign in history. For the first time, a man without any political experience was elected as the 45th president of the United States. Many people could hardly believe that the candidate who used unconventional tactics and tough language would win the election. His opponent, former secretary of State Hillary Clinton was leading the polls and expected to win as she was considered a better choice and highly qualified. But during the last few weeks, she suffered from the never-ending controversy about her e-mails. The FBI director wrote to Congress about a new allegation that her e-mails might be linked to the e-mails of the ex-husband of her assistant. Then two days before the election, she was cleared but it was too late. Damage had been done, and she never recovered from this unfortunate episode. Donald Trump, a reality celebrity, a billionaire with dealings around the world, won by having 306 electoral votes against Hillary Clinton's 232 even though she received more popular votes.

Protests all over the United States erupted almost immediately after the results were announced. "Trump not my president" was mostly on placards of protesters because of fear of mass deportations, racial conflicts, and their disapproval of the hateful rhetoric that Trump employed in his campaign. For almost two weeks, the protests became an everyday subject of the media. moreover, some reliable sources predicted that these protests may continue even during his inauguration on January 20, 2017.

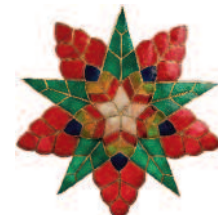
The President-elect was invited to drop in at the White House just two days after the election. President Obama with Vice President Joe Biden at his side, acknowledged the disappointment many are experiencing across the country in the wake of Trump's victory but said it's time for people to come together.

"Everybody is sad when their side loses an election, but the day after, we have to remember that we're actually all on one team. This is an

See Page 4 Trump election



Wishing all our readers Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas and a wonderful, Happy New Year



Happily posing for a souvenir of Gilmore College International's Christmas party and year-end get together are students, alumni, teachers, MMTV crew, with their family and friends. (Photo taken by Al Abdon, Hollywood Junkies), December 3, 2016.

Avec les hommages de David Birnbaum, Député de D'Arcy-McGee
Adjoint parlementaire du ministre de l'Éducation et de la ministre de l'Enseignement supérieur



Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

David Birnbaum, MNA for D'Arcy-McGee and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Education and the Minister of Higher Education

5800, boulevard Cavendish, bur. 403,
 Côte Saint-Luc (Québec) H4W 2T5
Tél : 514 488-7028. Téléc : 514 488-1713. Courriel : david.birnbaum.dmg@assnat.qc.ca



Best wishes for a Happy Holiday season! May 2017 bring you health and happiness.



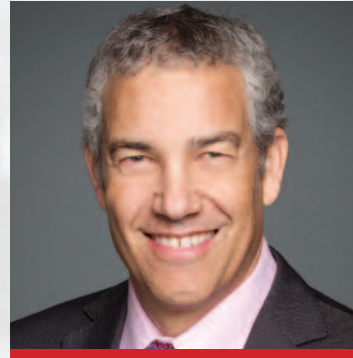
Pierre Arcand
 Député de/ MNA for Mont-Royal

parcand-moro@assnat.qc.ca
 5005, rue Jean-Talon Ouest bureau 310
 Montréal (Québec) H4P 1W7
 Tél. : 514 341-1151
 Téléc. : 514 341-4777

Nous vous souhaitons un
joyeux Noël
 et une
bonne année 2017!



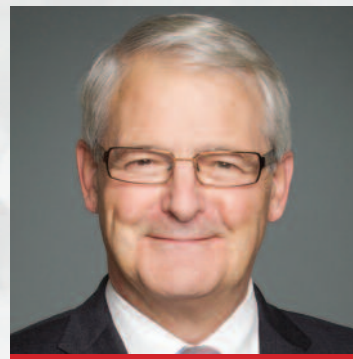
We wish you a
Merry Christmas
 and a
Happy 2017!



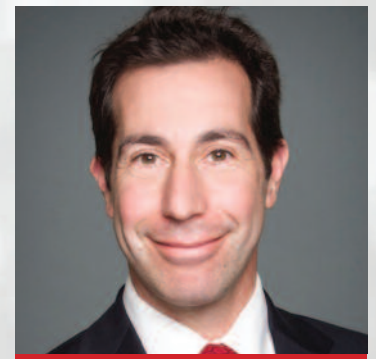
FRANK BAYLIS
 Député / MP
 Pierrefonds–Dollard
 Frank.Baylis@parl.gc.ca
 (514) 624-5725



HON. STÉPHANE DION
 Député / MP
 Saint-Laurent
 Stephane.Dion@parl.gc.ca
 (514) 335-6655



HON. MARC GARNEAU
 Député / MP
 Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount
 Marc.Garneau@parl.gc.ca
 (514) 283-2013



ANTHONY HOUSEFATHER
 Député, Mont-Royal
 MP, Mount Royal
 Anthony.Housefather@parl.gc.ca
 (514) 283-0171



DAVID LAMETTI
 Député / MP
 LaSalle–Émard–Verdun
 David.Lametti@parl.gc.ca
 (514) 363-0954



ALEXANDRA MENDÈS
 Députée / MP
 Brossard–Saint-Lambert
 Alexandra.Mendes@parl.gc.ca
 (450) 466-6872

Viola Desmond chosen as the Bank NOTE-able woman to be featured on new \$10 bank note

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Relations
613-782-8782
Gatineau, Quebec
8 December 2016



Governor Stephen S. Poloz, Minister of Finance Bill Morneau and Minister of Status of Women Patty Hajdu today announced that Viola Desmond will be featured on a new \$10 bank note, expected in late 2018. This will mark the first time that a portrait of a Canadian woman will be featured on a regularly circulating Bank of Canada note.

Desmond, an icon of the human rights and freedoms movement in Canada, was selected from a short list of five iconic Canadian women by Minister Morneau, in accordance with the Bank of Canada Act. A successful Nova Scotia businesswoman, she is known for defiantly refusing to leave a whites-only area of a movie theatre in 1946. She was subsequently jailed, convicted and fined. Her court case was the first known legal challenge against racial segregation brought forth by a Black woman in Canada.

"Today is about recognizing the incalculable contribution that all women have had and continue to have in shaping Canada's story. Viola Desmond's own story reminds all of us that big change can start with moments of dignity and bravery," said Minister Morneau. "She represents courage, strength and determination—qualities we should all aspire to every day."

Joining Governor Poloz and Ministers Morneau and Hajdu at the Canadian Museum of History for the announcement was one of Viola Desmond's sisters, Wanda Robson.

"It's a big day to have a woman on a bank note, but it's an especially big day to have your big sister on a bank note. Our family is extremely proud and honoured," said Robson, who was instrumental in making Desmond's story widely known.

The selection of Viola Desmond is the final step in the #bankNOTEable

campaign to choose an iconic Canadian woman to appear on this new bank note. Last spring, an open call for nominations launched by the Bank yielded more than 26,300 submissions from across Canada, resulting in 461 eligible candidates. An independent Advisory Council composed of eminent Canadian academic, sport, cultural and thought leaders narrowed down the list to five candidates for consideration by the Minister of Finance.

"Canadians were extremely engaged, which made our consultation process very successful," said Governor Poloz. "Through this exciting process, with every mouse click or turn of a book's page, with every kitchen table discussion or classroom debate, Canadians learned more about the iconic women who built Canada."

Minister Hajdu said, "Many extraordinary women could have been on this next bank note, and the search and decision-making process were extremely thorough. The choice of Viola Desmond reminds us that Canada is a diverse country where everyone deserves equality and respect."

Notes to Editors: This new \$10 bank note will reflect the broader themes of social justice and the struggle for rights and freedoms. It will be the first note in the next series. The introduction of the Viola Desmond \$10 note provides an opportune time to break from tradition and feature other prominent Canadians who have made their mark on the history of our country.

To continue to celebrate more iconic Canadians, the next \$5 note will also feature a new Bank NOTE-able Canadian. In due course, the Bank will launch another consultation process to seek input from Canadians on the design of that \$5 note, building on the successes of this most recent process. Since Viola Desmond will be featured on the \$10 note and another iconic Canadian will be featured on the future \$5 note, Canada's first Prime Minister, Sir John A. Macdonald, and our first francophone Prime Minister, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, will be honoured on our higher-value bank notes. This change will take place when the higher-value notes are redesigned for the next series. These changes mean that former prime ministers William Lyon Mackenzie King and Sir Robert Borden will no longer be portrayed on bank notes.

The \$20 denomination will continue to feature the reigning monarch. Additional biographical information about Viola Desmond is available on

the Bank's website. View the Heritage Minute video about Viola Desmond, courtesy of Historica Canada.

Download photos from today's event on the Bank of Canada's Flickr gallery. Find out more about the selection and public consultation process that led to the choice of Viola Desmond and the approach to Canada's next series of bank notes.

Additional biographical information about the Advisory Council members is available on the Bank's website. Find out more about our Principles for Bank Note Design. Consult the Bank of Canada's bank notes web pages. Please note: At the request of the family, media wishing to speak with Viola Desmond's relatives are kindly asked to contact the Bank of Canada Media Relations team. Content Type(s): Press, Press Releases



The current ten-dollar note is dominantly purple in colour. The front features a portrait of Canada's first Prime Minister Sir John A. Macdonald, and a metallic image of the Library of Parliament. The reverse side shows Via Rail's train, the Canadian, with the Canadian Rockies in the background; this is accompanied by a Via Rail route map. Yellow dots representing the EURion constellation can be found on both sides. As well as textured printing, this design includes Braille dots for the blind indicating the denomination as a new tactile feature.

THE NORTH AMERICAN
FILIPINO STAR
Montreal, Quebec, Canada

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

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

Zenaida Ferry Kharroubi
Chief Editor & Publisher

Al Abdon
Fely Rosales Carino
Michael Davantes
Columnists

Sam Kevin
Show Biz News & Layout Editor

W.G. Quiambao
Community News

Bert Abiera
Founder

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.

SUBSCRIPTION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

1 year - \$25 2 years - \$45

Mail your cheque to: The North American Filipino Star
7159, chemin de la Cote des Neiges
Montreal, QC H3R 2M2

From Page 1 Trump election

intramural scrimmage. We're not Democrats first. We're not Republicans first. We are Americans first," he said.

He continued, "This was a long and hard-fought campaign. A lot of our fellow Americans are exultant today. A lot of Americans are less so, but that's the nature of campaigns. That's the nature of democracy. It is hard and sometimes contentious and noisy. It's not always inspiring."

At 11:00 a.m. on November 10, the President and President-elect held a private, 90-minute meeting at the White House, which was followed by a joint media availability in the Oval Office with a press pool composed of journalists from Reuters, Voice of America, Bloomberg, the Associated Press, Agence France-Presse, ABC News, and McClatchey syndicate. During the press conference, Trump thanked Obama for their meeting and said he looked forward to tapping him for future counsel. According to Trump, Obama convinced him, during their discussion, to retain certain aspects of his signature policy Obamacare, including the ban on insurance companies denying new coverage to those with preexisting conditions and the right of parents to keep their adult children on their health insurance policies to the age of 25.

Right from the start, Trump's decision to choose Steven Bannon as his top adviser had upset many people because they see him as America's white nationalist, accused of using misogynistic, anti-Muslim, anti-Semitic, and barely hidden racist language throughout his professional life.

The controversy over Bannon, makes people wonder: Will the Trump administration be a normal presidency — or will it be the kind of far-right, boundary-pushing thing many fear? And if a Trump White House normalizes racially charged rhetoric the way his campaign did, will the Republican establishment eventually decide to push back?

Some surprising details about Trump's appointments to his Cabinet seem to show the difference between Trump the candidate, and Trump the president-elect. For example, "DONALD TRUMP THE CANDIDATE campaigned on protecting the wages of American workers. In announcing his agenda for the first 100 days, he said he would task his Department of Labor to "investigate all abuses of visa programs that undercut the American worker." But his transition team doesn't reflect that perspective when they tried to appoint someone who recruits cheap laborers but changed only when a news report criticized it. Next, the Trump team chose fast food executive Andy Puzder — an outspoken proponent of legalizing undocumented workers so they can provide cheap, low-skilled labor — to be the administration's Labor Secretary.

Now, Trump has brought yet another promoter of cheap foreign labor onto his Labor landing team, announcing on Monday that it has picked Diana Furchtgott-Roth, who is a fellow at the right-wing Manhattan Institute.

Furchtgott-Roth has long advocated in favor of America's temporary worker visa programs, arguing that they fill in gaps in employment. Writing in the New York Sun in 2008, she argued that arrests of

undocumented workers by immigration officials proved that "Congress authorizes too few visas for foreign workers, far fewer than the number employers want and need to hire to keep their businesses running."

Many appointments by the President-elect elicit controversies and concerns particularly in the EPA sector because he has said that "global warming is a hoax."

ENVIRONMENTALISTS HAVE BEEN rightly focused on the fact that climate deniers Scott Pruitt, Trump's pick to run the Environmental Protection Agency, and Cathy McMorris Rodgers, whom he is expected to nominate for the Department of the Interior, could devastate the Clean Power Plan, the Paris Accord and, through them, national and even global progress on climate change. But Trump's picks could "permanently damage the country's waters, too."

A survey of news reports about the President-elect making his choices to complete his cabinet underlines the contrast of his campaign rhetoric against his actual decision making in the transition period.

An interesting advice by a writer on what to do to counteract the Trump agenda gives us an insight into the role of ordinary citizens to protect our rights and freedom. According to John Cassidy of the New Yorker, there are 9 steps to follow:

- 1) Go to change.org and join the 4.9 million people who have signed a petition calling on members of the Electoral College to reject Trump.
- 2) Attend the Women's March on Washington, which will take place on Saturday, January 21st.
- 3) Contribute to organizations that will oppose Trump and the Republican agenda
- 4) Support independent journalism.
- 5) Get engaged on a personal level.
- 6) Contact your congressman and senator and tell them to stand up to Trump.
- 7) Support local initiatives to resist the Trump and Republican agenda.
- 8) Support electoral reform
- 9) Be smart: violence would only help Trump.

Trump reiterated his promises of bringing back jobs to the United States during his thank you tour. The question remains though: How will he do this and will his intentions to back out from trade deals accomplish his objectives of bringing back the jobs lost due to cheap labor abroad?

Changes in the U.S. presidency may reverse some previous ones related to Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The director of Israel's Mossad spy agency, Yossi Cohen, has secretly met with US President-elect Donald Trump's transition team, according to reports.

With Donald Trump's Cabinet nearly filled, it appears many of the nominees are older, white males who are wealthy - much like the president-elect himself.

Trump, who has criticized Washington for being controlled by special interests, has largely eschewed technocrats with extensive government experience, building a team of bosses instead.

After repeatedly calling to www.filipinostar.org



Demonstrators chant slogans as they march up Fifth Avenue in New York during a protest against the election of President-elect Donald Trump, Nov. 12, 2016.

FBI backs CIA view Russia intervened to help Donald Trump win presidential election

Mr Comey's support for CIA's conclusion suggests leaders of the three agencies are in agreement on Russian intentions

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the National Intelligence have backed a CIA assessment that Russia intervened in the presidential election to help Donald Trump win, according to US officials.

Director of the FBI James Comey and director of the National Intelligence James Clapper's support for the CIA's conclusion suggests the leaders of the three agencies are in agreement on Russian intentions, counter to suggestions that the FBI disagreed with the CIA.

CIA Director John Brennan reportedly said in a message to the agency's workforce: "Earlier this week, I met separately with (Director) FBI James Comey and DNI Jim Clapper, and there is strong consensus among us on the scope, nature, and intent of Russian interference in our presidential election.

"The three of us also agree that our organisations, along with others, need to focus on completing the thorough review of this issue that has been directed by President Obama and which is being led by the DNI."

'drain the swamp' of Washington, Trump has chosen titans of business and finance from the likes of Exxon Mobil and Goldman Sachs, rather than the intellectuals, lawyers, and academics sought by some past presidents.

Among the cabinet nominees are also no fewer than three retired generals.

To formally confirm Trump's election, an electoral college voting was held on December 20, 2016. There were some protests and demonstrations similar to the ones after his election was announced last November. However, there were only a few electoral college voters who changed their minds and did not vote for Trump.

Perhaps, the speculations about Trump, the president-elect, may



James Comey, FBI Director

The CIA said on Friday it had evidence that showed a link between the hacking of Hillary Clinton's emails and Russia, while officials from multiple agencies found connections between the Kremlin and Wikileaks.

Mr Trump and his transition team dismissed the findings, while John Bolton, a former US ambassador to the UN, even claimed the hack might have been a false-flag operation.

President Barack Obama said he hopes the President-elect will make sure U.S. doesn't have "potential foreign influence" in elections.

not all be true, once he has been inaugurated but it is really difficult to say if our concerns are unfounded.

There are many reasons for critics to believe that the conflict of interest allegations, and the policies the new administration may pursue are not only going to be controversial but may also be harmful to the environment, immigration reform, and to the general welfare of the working people that voted for him.

**Advertise in the
North American
Filipino Star
www.filipinostar.org
MMTV Global
www.mmtv.ca**

Philippines president Rodrigo Duterte says he personally killed criminals

December 15, 2016 | Politics & Government
Source: The Guardian

Controversial leader – who has endorsed extrajudicial executions of drug offenders – says he killed to show police officers ‘if I can do it, why can’t you?’

Rodrigo Duterte has announced he personally killed suspected criminals when he was mayor of his home city of Davao in the Philippines, cruising the streets on a motorcycle and “looking for trouble.”

The country’s president made the comments in a speech late on Monday night as he discussed his campaign to eradicate illegal drugs, which has seen police and unknown assailants kill around 5,000 people since he became president on 30 June.

“In Davao I used to do it personally. Just to show to the guys [police officers] that if I can do it, why can’t you,” he was quoted as saying by AFP, talking of his two decades as mayor of the southern city of 1.5 million people.

“And I’d go around in Davao with a motorcycle, with a big bike around, and I would just patrol the streets, looking for trouble also.

“I was really looking for a confrontation so I could kill.”

On Wednesday the justice secretary of the Philippines, Vitaliano Aguirre II, said Duterte often exaggerated his rhetoric to get a message across to criminals. “The president always resorts to hyperbole; he always

Adopt an addict

December 15, 2016 | Opinion

GLIMPSES

By Jose Ma. Montelibano

drug-addictionWhen it comes to statements from our President, I tend to take things literally. Later, his subalterns would often be found trying to clarify, to explain further, or to give their own interpretation. When they do, I also try to rearrange my previous understanding. And because this has happened quite frequently, I have evolved my own way of understanding what the President is trying to say.

exaggerates just to put his message across,” Aguirre told reporters.

The former mayor was nicknamed “Duterte Harry”, after the fictional and ruthless police inspector played by Clint Eastwood, for his support for vigilante death squads that killed hundreds of suspected criminals.

Duterte previously has both denied and acknowledged his involvement in the Davao death squads.

Since taking his bloody anti-crime campaign to the nation level, he has been criticised by the United States and United Nations, whose concerns have drawn only angry rebukes.

“If they say that I am afraid to stop because of the human rights and guys including Obama, sorry, I am not about to do that,” Duterte said in English during his speech at the presidential palace this week.

Duterte has a better relationship with US president-elect Donald Trump, who he said had praised his war on drugs during a phone call this month. This was not confirmed by Trump’s team.

As president Duterte has publicly encouraged civilians to kill drug addicts and said he will not prosecute police for extrajudicial executions. But he has also said he and his security forces will not break the law.

In October Duterte compared himself to Adolf Hitler and said he would be “happy to slaughter” three million drug addicts.

For me, it is not first and foremost about liking or disliking Rodrigo R. Duterte. Being partisan and emotional about a person does not allow me even a reasonable level of objectivity. It may be a personal weakness, but I suspect that it is more a human formula that partisanship and emotionalism equal non-objectivity. It does not mean that in the process, especially towards or at the end, judgment and emotion do not seep in. I just try to keep this after, not before, I go through my private assessment.

Rodrigo R. Duterte is not a simple subject of study for me even though I do try to understand what makes him tick. He is my President, the only one



Mayor Duterte biking around Davao City

He later apologised for the Hitler reference but said he was “emphatic” about wanting to kill the millions of addicts.

Since his election, police have reported killing 2,086 people in anti-drug operations. More than 3,000 others have been killed in unexplained circumstances, according to official figures.

Often masked assailants break into homes and kill people who have been tagged as drug traffickers or drug users. Human rights groups have warned of a breakdown in the rule of law with police and hired assassins operating with impunity.

A report by the Guardian in October cited a senior officer in the police force who claimed he led one of 10 special operations teams, each with 16 members, tasked with killing suspected drug users, dealers and

criminals.

The officer claimed the hit squads are composed of active police officers and that the murders are conducted in such a way as to make them appear to be perpetrated by “vigilantes” to deliberately obscure police involvement and preclude investigation.

The report was later denied by the chief of police. Duterte has insisted police are killing only in self-defence while gangsters are murdering the other victims.

But he has also said he will not allow any police officers to go to jail if they are found guilty of murder in prosecuting his war on crime.

Agence France-Presse contributed to this report
Reprinted from Global Balita

President until he is so. I am a Filipino citizen and Rodrigo R. Duterte is the President of all Filipinos. Even though he may have some actuation that seem to contradict this, it is just a simple fact that he is our President, we whom he likes, we whom he does not like, we who like him and we who don’t. He is our President. We are his people. This is the basic horizon I use when I try to understand, when I try relate to President Duterte.

Therefore, when he recently said, “Adopt an addict,” I assume he was being literal. Of course, I also know that he said this in the context of mounting complaints about the unexplained killings of victims suspected of being drug peddlers. And the same news reports say that he meant the statement, or suggestion, of adopting an addict to those who were complaining about the killings. My understanding and interpretation are formed from all these factors. At the end of my assessment, I agree that the spirit of the message of adopting addicts, meant or not, is the very succinct answer to many controversies.

The President has said that approximately one million drug

dependents and small-time drug pushers, overwhelming from the sector of the poor, will have surrendered by the end of this year. He has also said in his more recent talks that there may be four million drug dependents in the country. Until there are more credible figures that can be presented to the citizenry, I am assuming the numbers to be the most accurate. And when I try to understand the micro and macro of the illegal drug situation in the country, these numbers are what loom large in my mind. They are the context from which I proceed to think and create opinions.

Early on, when the number of drug dependents and pushers who surrendered were just in the tens of thousands, even before Rodrigo R. Duterte officially took his oath of office, it was clear that the traditional facilities for drug rehabilitation from both the government and private sector would not be able to accommodate the surrenderees. It was also clear, at least to me, that unexplained killings would not stop as long as the players of the drug industry, from drug lords to drug protectors to drug dependents, believe

See Page 13 Adopt an Addict

DR. EMILIA ESPIRITU

CHIRURGIEN DENTISTE / DENTAL SURGEON

5790 Cote des Neiges Rd Suite A-024
MONTREAL, QUEBEC
H3S 1Y9



PHONE: 514-340-8222 (4077)

“There’s still hope for the Philippines,” says Lavina, Deputy Cabinet Secretary of Duterte

By W G QIAMBABO

Listening to Peter Lavina, deputy cabinet secretary of President Rodrigo Duterte, talk about the big changes in the Philippines was a breath of fresh air. For the past few months, Filipinos globally have been hearing and reading negative news about Duterte and the Philippines.

He discussed various subjects – from the reasons why Duterte ran for president to his plans in the next six years.

“Filipinos were looking for solutions to the problems in the Philippines,” said Lavina. “They were tired of the ‘trapos’ that dominated the country. Changes

abroad where they were unhappy because of different cultures and languages. They were worried about the safety of their children they left behind. Are they safe? Are they involved in drugs?”

“Now that Duterte is in power, he created a new office, called participatory, in his office because he wanted the people to get involved in running the government,” he continued. “If our government is a corporation, we all have rights as stakeholders but unfortunately, the Filipinos don’t exercise those rights. He also wanted to regain the trust of people. Four months ago, people were afraid of the police and soldiers. Slowly, the police and soldiers are regaining the trust of the people. And there’s no more greeting at the



Philippine Ambassador Petronila Garcia poses for souvenir with MMTV Crew and Deputy Secretary Lavina, from left to right: Al Abdon, the Ambassador, Derwin Collantes, Tenne Rose Dayandante, the Deputy Secretary and Edward Ujvary.

were needed. These were the reasons that motivated Duterte to run for president. He received a lot of support from passionate and determined overseas workers who turned up in droves to support him. There were no opportunities in the Philippines. Many Filipinos left their families and worked

custom “Merry Christmas” although it’s not Christmas.”

Furthermore, Lavina pointed out that the Philippines has an elite democracy. “The rich become richer and the poor become poorer. This is the kind of society that our president wants to

CCFAQ Conducts Addiction Seminar

“I had a normal childhood, loving parents,” Shibash voice cracked as he recalled his sad experience. “I was young when I started drinking and smoking weeds. Over the years, I got into heavy drugs. I used cocaine. My life had become a downward spiral. I was spending \$100 a day. To support my vice, I started committing crimes until I was caught by the police. But that was the best thing that happened to me because I realized I had to change.

“It’s not fun to be on drugs. You lose your self-respect. It messes your relationship with your family and friends. What helped me is the support I got from my family and friends. It is important to talk about my addiction with people who will understand me.

For four months, I am sober. I plan to be sober all my life. I am on probation now for two years.

Shibash is a drug addict who volunteered to talk at the seminar of the Council of Canadian Filipino Associations of Quebec on Nov. 6 at 6767 Cote des Neiges.

“Drug addiction is a major problem not only elsewhere but everywhere,” said Gerry Danzil, president of the Council of Canadian-Filipino Associations of Quebec. “We are doing this seminar to help and warn our kababayan of the danger of alcohol and drug addiction.”

Drug addiction is a chronic, often relapsing brain disease that causes impulsive drug seeking and use, despite consequences to the drug



MMTV host Tenne Rose Dayandante interviewing Deputy Secretary Peter Tiu Lavina after his speech to the Filipino community, Nov. 3/16

change. Other countries like Vietnam and Cambodia are developing now but the Philippines is still left behind. Recently, we went to Ottawa and met two senators including Tobias Enverga and about ten members of the Parliament including Anthony Housefather. We were asking for good parliamentary government practices that we can apply in the Philippines.”

Peace-building is another topic that Lavina broached up. “The Philippines can’t progress if there is an internal conflict. To achieve this, our President invited a communist leader to talk about the Mindanao issue and a temporary suspension of warrant of arrest. In the past, ceasefire happened only on Christmas”.

Some of the questions and answers after his speech were the following:

Q. Tell us positive things about Duterte
A. Don’t believe what western and commercial media are writing. The media are supposed to be the Fourth Estate but they abandoned their responsibilities. They were biased. The president was talking with them for two hours but all they wrote were the bad things. The government is looking for partners, instead of rivals. We are reaching to people because for us to

succeed, we need partners. The president won the election, in part, because of the volunteers. What matters in the Philippine election are the people, not the money.”

Q. Is the Philippines cutting ties from the United States?

A. The Philippines is not against America. It is just separation from foreign policy. We just want to make our own decision when it comes to foreign policy. We are a sovereign country. We want to start on our own.” Lavina’s story about the Yolanda typhoon in 2013 elicited laughter when he confessed that the donations of money and goods were not received by the intended recipients. “This is the reason why the President was hesitant to ask for help during the Lawin typhoon.”

His final message hit home with the crowd when he said that we should stop the crab mentality and fighting. “We should think now of our mother country. When it is necessary for us to be united, we should do it. That is the only way we can progress and get respect globally. It has been a long time that we don’t get any respect from other countries.”

By W.G. Quiambao

addicts and those around them. Another volunteer is Martin, 28 years old, who got hooked on drugs at the young age of 13. “Drug addiction is a compulsion. I started drinking, then using marijuana. It’s a disease. I was lying to my parents but they eventually found out about it. What helped me was their surveillance. They were checking on me from time to time. Now, I’m taking medication and seeing a psychiatrist.

Some of the reasons why people use drugs: 1) Suffering from anxiety, bipolar disorder, depression or mental illnesses. 2) People see family members, friends and entertainers as role models and rationalize that they can do too. 3) People use drugs and think they can ease their sufferings.

4) People use drugs to forget painful memories. 5) People get physically injured unintentionally get hooked on prescribed drugs

Some of the symptoms of drug addiction are: paranoia, dilated pupil and changes of behaviors. The Drug and Alcohol and Caregiver Immigration Law seminars were held Nov. 6 at 6767 Cote des Neiges. Financial Investment seminar was conducted also at the same place last Oct. 23. Lecturer was Prime America.

**Want to learn to speak Filipino (Tagalog)?
Beginners class to start soon -
Call 514-485-7861**

Tagalog Seksyon

Opinyon/Komentaryo ni Willie Quiambao

MAY KARAPATAN BA ANG MGA PULIS NA MANIKTIK SA MGA REPORTER?

Kamakailan ay nabunyag ang maling pamamaraan na ginagamit ng mga pulis upang makuha ang source ng impormasyon ng mga reporter sa pagbabalita. Ito ay ang paniniktik o spying.

Ang La Presse columnist na si Patrick Lagace ay tinitiktikan ng Montreal police (SPVM) upang malaman ang kaniyang source sa isinusulat niyang balita tungkol sa mga pulis na gumagamit ng pekeng ebidensiya. May hinala ang mga pulis na kasama nila mismo ang nagbibigay ng impormasyon. Tinitignan ng mga pulis ang iphone ni Lagace kung sino ang tumatawag sa kaniya, sino ang kaniyang tinatawagan at kung saan siya nagpupunta.

At noong September naman, kinuha ng Surete du Quebec ang computer ni Michael Nguyen ng journal de Montreal upang malaman kung saan niya kinuha ang isinulat niyang balita tungkol sa isang judge na ini-imbestigahan. May paniniktik ding ginawa ang mga pulis sa tatlo pang reporter ngayong taong ito.

Ginagawa ng mga pulis ang ganitong paraan ng paniniktik upang hindi lumabas ang mga balitang makasisira sa kanila o mga taong gusto nilang protektahan.

Sa pagsusulat, kailangan sabihin ng isang reporter ang pinagmulan ng kaniyang balita at kung sino ang nagbigay upang maging kapanipaniwala ang kaniyang isinusulat. Subalit may pagkakataon na hindi kailangang sabihin ng reporter ang kaniyang source upang pangalagaan ang kapakanan at kailigtasan nito. Minsan, nangangako ang reporter sa kaniyang source na hindi niya ito ibubunyag. Kapag nasira ang reporter sa kaniyang pangako, sira na ang kredidilidad niya. Paano pa tatawagin ng isang tao ang reporter upang ibalita ang isang bagay na kailangan malaman ng publiko o tinatawag na public interest kung naka-tapped ang telepono ng huli?

Naniniwala ako sa sinabi ni Lagace na hindi dapat tiktikan ng mga pulis ang reporter maliban na lamang kung nasasangkot ang national security o malaking krimen. Dapat alam ng mga pulis ang patakarang ito.

Dahil sa nangyari, ninais ng Montreal police brotherhood na bumaba na sa tungkulin si Montreal chief Philippe Pichet dahil pinabayaang niyang maniktik ang kaniyang mga tauhan. At kailangan din malaman kung sino - hukom, pulitiko o justice of peace - ang nagbigay ng warrant of arrest sa mga pulis na maniktik sa mga reporter. May pananagutan din sila.

PINAYAGAN NG SUPREME COURT NA ILIBING SI MARCOS SA LNMB

Malaking tuwa ang naramdaman ng mga kamag-anak ng dating pangulong Ferdinand Marcos dahil pinayagan ng Supreme Court na ilibing siya sa Libingan ng mga Bayani. Dalawang beses nang ipinagpaliban ang balak na ito. Ang mga nalungkot at nagalit ay ang mga taong laban sa desisyon ng Supreme Court. Sila ang mga kamag-anak at kaibigan ng mga taong pinahirapan, dinukot at pinatay noong pamumuno ng dating pangulong Marcos.

“Hindi pa tapos ang isyung ito,”sabi ni Barry Guitierrez, lider ng mga nag-protesta laban sa desisyon ng Supreme Court. “Pag-aaralan namin ang susunod na hakbang.

Ang biktima ng martial law na si Felix Dalisay ay nagsabi naman, “Sisiguraduhin kong hindi mababalot ng luha ang libingan ni Marcos. Sa halip, mababalot ito ng dura.” Hindi ko sila masisisi. Hindi mapaghihilom kahit nang mahabang panahon ang walang katumbas na paghihirap ng mga nagdusa noong panahon ng martial law. May magsabi na upang magkaroon ng closure, kailangang aminin ng mga Marcoses ang ginawang pagpapahirap ng dating pangulo sa mga tao at pagnanakaw sa kaban ng bayan.

PERA BA ANG NANAIG SA ELEKSYON NG AMERIKA?

Sa pagkapanalo ni Donald Trump sa eleksyon ng pagka-pangulo ng Amerika, marami ang nagulat at hindi makapaniwala. Naalaala ko ang sinabi ni Peter Lavina, deputy cabinet secretary ng Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte, noong magpunta siya rito kamakailan, “Sa eleksyon sa Pilipinas, ang mahalaga ay ang tao, hindi ang pera”. Bilyonayo si Trump kaya nanaig siguro ang pera. Kapwa may kapintasan si Trump at Hilary Clinton. Ang nakasira kay Clinton ay ang email at Clinton Foundation scandals at si Trump naman ay ang pang-iinsulto niya sa mga babae, immigrante, ang

hindi paglalabas ng income tax at marami pang iba. Higit sa lahat, siya lamang ang naging kandidato sa pagkapangulo na walang hinawakan posisyon. Pera kaya ang nagpatakbo sa nakaraang eleksyon o hindi pa handa ang Amerika sa babaeng presidente? Maaari namang sawa na ang mga Amerikano sa democrats at gusto nila ngayon ang republicans.

MAHAHALAGA ANG MGA SEMINARS NA GINAWA NG CCAQ

Noong Oct .23 ay nagbigay ng seminar sa 6767 Cote des Neiges ang Council of Canadian Filipino Associations of Quebec tungkol sa

financial investment. Panauhin nilang tagapagsalita ang kinatawan ng Prime America. Sumunod naman ang seminars tungkol sa Drug Addiction at Immigration Laws noong Nov. 6. Parehong ginawa ang mga ito sa ganoon ding lugar.

Marami na palang mga pagbabago sa Immigration Laws. Halimbawa, puede na palang mag-sponsor ng mga illegitimate na anak. Ipakita lamang ang katunayan, tulad ng DNA test. Magkakaroon muli ng seminar sa malapit na hinaharap ang FCCAQ tungkol dito kaya tiyakin ninyo na dumalo.



Media representatives, OFW organizations in Quebec and Montreal and the Philippine Embassy cooperated in organizing a town hall meeting at 6767 Cote Des Neiges with Deputy Cabinet Secretary Lavina, November 3, 2016.

**182, Rang St. André
St-Philippe, Cté Laprairie
Québec J0L 2K0**
Tel.: 450-659-3630
Tel.: 450-659-7938
Fax: 450-659-6221

Business Hours:
Monday & Tuesday - Closed
Wednesday - 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Thursday - 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Friday - 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Saturday - 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Sunday - 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**JOYEUSES
FÊTES**

Pork 99¢ lb

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS
TO ALL OUR
CUSTOMERS**

**Available: Live Goat, Live Pig
Also, other meats available**



Ask the Video Guy

Technological Tidbits
by

Al Abdon

The rule of thirds - composition

I can never resist giving advice to cameramen and photographers the basic rules of composition. I have been taking pictures for almost four decades and still I have to learn more about the rules of thirds on different scenarios from wedding videography up to being a cameraman at the broadcast studio at MaTV.

This is the way we looked into it.

Your frame is your canvas — fill it with things that are useful to your story and arrange them in a way that is pleasing to the viewer.

Composition is the art of arranging objects in a frame. There are actually shapes and alignments that people find pleasing, but a movie composition also needs to tell a story. The arrangement of your objects and actors in a frame can add to your story telling by emphasizing some and de-emphasizing others. In a big-budget Hollywood film, the director has the expert input of a director of photography. In smaller budget movies, the director often does a double duty.

“Framing and editing determine the eye path of the viewer. It might not be too much to say that what a film director really directs is his audience's attention.” — Alexander Mackendrick “On Filmmaking”

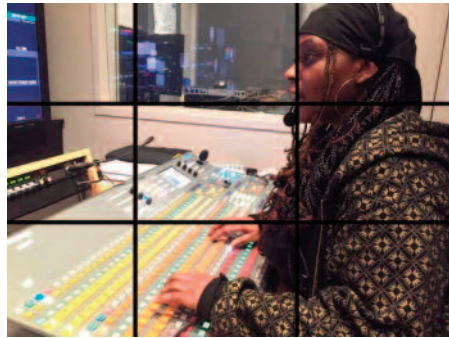
If you're doing everything right, every frame of your movie should be able to be plucked out at random, stuck in a frame and hung on a gallery wall. This is a tall order and few people succeed in it without lots of time, big budgets, great editors and patient investors. Your budget and timeline may keep you from doing this, but there are things you can do from the very beginning to make sure that your movie looks as good as it can.

Video and Photos

The rules of composition are the same for video and photos, but like everything else, it's complicated. Put simply, the aspect ratio — vertical vs. horizontal dimensions — of still camera images is different from the aspect ratio of motion pictures.

The aspect ratio of 35mm film is 3:2, which is why you get a 4x6 inch print. The aspect ratio of most video is 16:9, which is much wider and not as tall. A 16:9 frame means that landscapes look fantastic but putting a single

person in the frame is more challenging. For the most part, people are vertical objects and most of your frame is going to be empty. So what do



you fill the empty space with? That's composition.

In Motion

One other obvious thing that affects the composition of a movie frame is the fact that things are not only moving in it but sometimes through it and often your camera frame itself is moving. This means lots of rehearsals. Actors moving through a frame have to hit their marks at extremely predictable times, and your camera operator needs to accommodate motion through the frame and motion of the frame all the while keeping a pleasing arrangement that drives the story.

The rules — or more exactly, guidelines — of composition hold true for film, painting and still images alike. All this said, can you get a book about



still image composition and use it as the basis of your movie composition? Absolutely. The rules — or more exactly, guidelines — of composition hold true for film, painting and still images alike.

The Rule of Thirds

It's the fundamental rule of composition. Divide the screen into thirds with four lines — like a tic-tac-toe game — your objects of interest should fall at the intersection of two of these lines. Some cinematographers are more rigid about it than others, but it's very possible to find a movie whose every shot does not deviate from this.

We mentioned before that people are vertical and movie screens are horizontal — this means that to get a person in a frame you need to either make them very small, or crop them. Both of these are perfectly acceptable. Unlike in the real world, in cinematic and photographic composition, you can chop the top of someone's head off with impunity. This is not true of people's chins — chins need to stay in the frame unless you crop an equal portion of the top of the head.

The Eyes

We look at people's eyes. We instinctively look at what other people are looking at. We have a deep down belief that the person inside a body is accessible through the eyes — and this is universal. When your cat or your dog wants to communicate with you, they look at your eyes — and they haven't read any psychology books. When framing a shot, if the eyes are in focus, you can get away with a lot of other things not being in focus.

In this shot from “Raiders of the Lost Ark,” Harrison Ford returns, here seen completely in silhouette with the exception of his right eye, looking wary, which, along with his distinctive



hat brings personality to the shot. Also notice the out of focus white areas on the left and right, these serve to help balance the frame. “Balance the frame?” you ask

Balance and Symmetry

Imagine your frame as a shadow box that you're putting items into and that sits on a fulcrum in the center. Balancing the left and right sides normally gives off a feeling of harmony, and an unbalanced frame one of tension. While going counter to the rule of thirds, sometimes completely symmetrical framing with the object of interest in the exact center can be used extremely effectively.

Some directors are slaves to symmetry and when used properly, it can be extremely powerful. One of the most arresting users of symmetry was Stanley Kubrick, who put the rule of thirds in the back seat and replaced it with an obsessive adherence to center framing and symmetry, giving us some incredibly powerful images that depict order so perfect it becomes somewhat menacing.

Balance doesn't have to be symmetrical though; objects on one side of the screen can be balanced with objects on the other side of the screen that aren't their mirror image. In this still from “Pulp Fiction” we have Bruce Willis on the left hand side of the screen, but the frame is balanced by the license plates. You'll notice the

same thing in both the frames from “Blade Runner.”

Leading Lines

We follow lines like roads. Leading lines are usually imaginary lines that go from one object to another to draw our attention from a main object of focus to a secondary one. Going back to Ridley Scott's “Blade Runner,” we have a perfect example of leading lines, and this time they're actually lines. The bannisters lead our attention right to the people on the left side of the screen. Note also the strong use of the rule of thirds and the post in the foreground to provide balance.

Depth of Field

The camera can emphasize what's important and de-emphasize other things by using depth of field (DOF) — the area of a shot that's in focus. Depth of field can either be deep, meaning everything's in focus — like the Kubrick image from “2001” — or it can be shallow, meaning few things are in focus — like both the shots of Harrison Ford from “Blade Runner” and “Raiders of the Lost Ark.” Also notice, in the close-up of Ford from “Blade Runner,” the use of the out of focus building in the background to balance the frame.

Conclusion

There are lots of books on composition, but a really good way to study is to watch good movies. Websites like Film-Grab.com show representative frames from dozens of movies, allowing you to see the themes of composition across entire films at a glance. How are your favorite directors using depth of field? How rigorously do they adhere to the rule of thirds? How do they use centered subjects to create tension or use leading lines to guide your eye? Pay attention to composition while you're watching movies and television adding to the mood of the scene.

HAVE A BLESSED MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A JOYEOUS NEW YEAR.....

ANNOUNCEMENT:

I will be giving a workshop on Digital Photography using your camera/smart phones/tablet or iPad this coming January 2017. The workshop will be 2 hours of practical/theoretical lectures on the use of your device for 5 sessions. At the end of the workshop, each student should present their own work and to be used in their portfolio. This class is sponsored by the Quebec Association of Canadian Filipino Teachers as part of their ongoing project.

The fee is \$30 for the whole workshop or \$5 per session. For info: Call 514-264-8706



Recipes for the Art and Love of Cooking

Compiled by **Zeny Kharroubi**

Favorite Food for the Holidays



Suggested serving presentation

Ingredients

- Turkey
- 1 fresh or frozen turkey, defrosted, 14-16 lbs
- 5 carrots
- 5 celery stalks
- 3 small onions
- 1 fennel bulb
- 12 Yukon Gold Potatoes
- 2 bay leaves
- to taste Herbes de Provence
- to taste kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 recipe Pumpnickel and Sourdough Stuffing,
- Brine (optional)
- 8 L water
- 1 cup coarse salt
- 1 cup white sugar
- Pan Gravy
- reserved roasted turkey pan drippings
- 1/4 cup flour
- 1/4 cup butter
- 5 leaves fresh sage
- 1 cup Madeira or Cognac
- to taste kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

Preparation

For Roast Turkey with Vegetables
Place turkey in brine for 24 hours prior to use, if desired.
Preheat oven to 350°F. Place rack to lower quarter of the oven.
Peel and slice into large bite-size pieces: carrot, celery, onion and fennel. Quarter potato. Combine vegetables, season lightly with salt, pepper and Herbes de Provence.
Remove giblets and neck from the turkey cavity and reserve for pan gravy. Rinse turkey inside and out, drain and pat dry with paper towel. Season turkey inside and out with salt, pepper and herbes de provence.
Place thoroughly cooled stuffing in the neck and chest cavity, pressing firm to fill all gaps. Truss turkey with kitchen string, breast side up, legs tied at the knuckle, tuck the wings under the bird. Place vegetables and potatoes in roasting pan, add giblets and bay leaves. Add 2cups of water to roasting pan. Place turkey on top, tent with foil. Place in oven and roast, estimating 20 minutes per pound. Check liquid level when basting, add water if necessary. Baste turkey hourly until thermometer into the thickest part of the thigh, away from the bone, registers 175°F.
Remove turkey from roasting pan, cover loosely with aluminum foil and rest for at least 20 minutes before carving.
Remove vegetables and potatoes, cover to serve with turkey, remove bay leaves.
Brining Method (optional)
Heat the ingredients to dissolve, cool completely before submerging turkey, cover and refrigerate for 24 hours
Remove turkey from brine, discard brine, pat dry with disposable paper towel
For Pan Gravy
To make roux, add butter to sauce pan, heat until slightly browned, add flour and stir until combined, remove and chill.
(Adapted from Steven & Chris)

Remove turkey dripping, set aside, skim off excess fat.
Bring the roasting pan to medium-high heat. Deglaze pan with Madeira, slightly reduce to remove alcohol.
Add turkey drippings to the roasting pan, heat thoroughly, scraping the bottom.
Strain through fine sieve into saucepan. Add sage and the butter/flour mixture (roux) and whisk until desired consistency.
Reduce to simmer, remove sage, check seasoning.



Paella (Rice with seafood)

INGREDIENTS

- 1 large onion, finely chopped
- 5 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed to a paste or finely chopped
- 2 tomatoes, peeled and chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon sugar
- Salt
- 1 teaspoon pimentón dulce (or sweet paprika)
- A good pinch of saffron threads
- 4 cleaned small squid, bodies sliced into 1/4-inch-wide rings, tentacles left whole
- 2 cups medium-grain Spanish paella rice or risotto rice, such as Arborio or Carnaroli
- 3 cups fish or chicken stock, plus more if needed
- 1 cup dry white wine
- 12 jumbo shrimp in their shells
- 16 mussels, scrubbed and debearded

PREPARATION

Fry the onion in the oil in a 16-inch paella pan until soft, stirring often. Stir in the garlic, and before it begins to color, add the tomatoes. Add the sugar, salt to taste, pimentón (or paprika), and saffron, stir well, and cook until the tomatoes are reduced to a jammy sauce and the oil is sizzling. Add the squid and cook, stirring, for a minute or so. Add the rice and stir well until all the grains are coated. (You can prepare the dish to this point up to an hour in advance.)
Bring the stock and wine to a boil in a saucepan. Pour over the rice, bring to a boil, and add salt to taste (even if the broth tastes a bit salty, it will not be salty when it is absorbed by the rice). Stir well and spread the rice out evenly in the pan (do not stir again). Cook the rice over low heat for 18 to 20 minutes, moving the pan around and rotating it so that the rice cooks evenly. Lay the shrimp on top after 10 minutes and turn them when they have become pink on the first side. Add a little more hot stock toward the end if the rice seems too dry and you hear crackly frying noises before it is done. When the rice is done, turn off the heat and cover the pan with a large piece of foil.
Steam the mussels with a finger of water in a pan with a tight-fitting lid. As soon as they open, they are cooked. Throw away any that have not opened.
(Adapted from Epicurious)



BUSINESS HOURS

Mon. Tue. Wed.	8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Thu. Fri.	8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday	Closed

Pork loin
Approximately 15 lbs

2.⁶⁹ lb

Half or Whole pork
Cut & Wrapped

1.⁸⁹ lb

Fresh Pork Belly

4.¹⁹ lb

FRONT 1/4 Beef
\$4.50 lb

Beef Blade steak

6.⁴⁹ lb

Boneless Pork shoulder
\$4.29 lb

Fresh Pork Leg

2.⁵⁰ lb

Ground Beef

4.⁹⁹ lb

Over 20 lbs 4.79 lb

Pork Shoulder Chops
\$3.85 lb

Picnic Ham w/bone

2.⁶⁹ lb

Home smoked meat

Special 11.⁵⁰ lb

Regular smoked bacon

6.⁹⁹ lb

Ground Pork Special
2.79/lb

Joyeuses Fêtes
Happy Holidays
Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year
to all our customers

- Frozen pork blood
- Fresh liver
- Pork skin

Goat Available on order

83 Covey Hill, Hemmingford QC J0L 1H0
Tel.: (450) 247-2130 or (450) 247-3561

The North American FILIPINO STAR PHOTO GALLERY



Better late than never - Christmas party and get together - Arlene Manalo Dayag, Remayette Danao, Zenaida, Kharroubi, Hernani Cantor and Grace Somera - came from another party on the same night as Gilmore's party, December 3, 2016.



MMTV Crew - Fred Narvas, Amy Manon-og, Al Abdon, Jovy Narvas, Zenaida Kharroubi, Michael Davantes, Fely Rosales Carino, Ella Agustin



Gilmore College International - teachers, students and alumni - during the Christmas party and year-end get together, December 3, 2016.



Mila Taccaban with her children, a souvenir of being named Mrs. Santa Clause at a party held recently.



Just about to hop over to another party the same night, Mila Taccaban (left) poses for souvenir with Zenaida Kharroubi, Fely Rosales Carino, Ma. Asuncion Posada and Tessie Calica, December 3, 2016.



Mutya ng Pilipinas-Montreal 2016 pageant. From left to right: Roxanne Jolie Tenorio, Jeanne Nicole Valencia, Neriza Gail Ladrillono, Carinelle Sundrie Ariz. Not in the picture is Bryahna Gabriella Escrupulo.



Philippine government Deputy Cabinet Secretary Peter Lavina listens intently to CDN/NDG Borough Mayor Russell Copeman who is reading a letter addressed to Manila Mayor Estrada regarding the twin city project to be pursued more actively in the coming year during his visit on November 4, 2016.



Photo shows some community leaders and the Philippine Ambassador Petronila Garcia who accompanied Deputy Cabinet Secretary Lavina during his visit to the CDN/NDG Borough Mayor's Office, November 4, 2016.

Most debt companies work for your creditors. We work for you!

Get your Montreal debt relief specialist in your corner.

- Eliminate up to **80%** of your debt
- Get your creditors to stop calling
- Get your credit rating back up faster
- Consumer Proposals*, credit rebuilding

* 4 Pillars represents the debtor to structure the payment terms of a consumer proposal which is filed by a bankruptcy trustee.

Recent Consumer Proposals Structured by 4 Pillars

Manny married father of 1 child, owed \$44 887.....	settled at \$200 x 60 mth
Mary and Alain family of 4, owed \$49 526.....	settled at \$190 x 60 mth
Danny single, salary being garnished, owed \$37 322.....	settled at \$150 x 60 mth
Anna married family of 4, owed \$110 417.....	settled at \$150 x 60 mth
Kathy and Lucien family of 4, owed \$80 640.....	settled at \$525 x 60 mth
Zilendo single father of 2 children, owed \$67 000.....	settled at \$100 x 60 mth
Robert married, owed \$148 525.....	settled at \$475 x 60 mth
John single, owed \$59 700.....	settled at \$200 x 60 mth

"Ako'y isang ina na may asawa at 2 anak. Problemang masyado ang utang namin, tuwing Linggo, tumatawag ang bangko at naniningil ng bayad, ang sueldo namin ay para ibayad sa utang sa credit cards. Sa wakas, tumawag kami sa 4 Pillars at nang makausap namin sila, guminhawa agad ang aming pakiramdam sapagka't binigyan kami ng solusyon. Nabawasan ang utang namin at ngayon, wala na kaming problema at nag-umpisa kami sa panibagong pagtatayo ng aming credit.

Salamat sa inyo, 4 Pillars, kayo ang talagang nagbigay sa amin na bagong pagkakataon sa aming buhay."



4Pillars[®]
Canada's Debt Relief Specialists



Wishing you all Safe and Happy Holidays

Get your financial life back on track!

Call the 4 Pillars Montreal team today for a free **CONFIDENTIAL** consultation.
1-844-NODETTE (663-3883) | 514-600-0724 | WWW.SANSDETTE.CA

All 4 Pillars[®] offices are independently owned and operated. 4 Pillars[®] and its associated trademarks are used under license.

Dignity[®]

MEMORIAL

LIFE WELL CELEBRATED[®]

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

- 10 year financing available in pre-arrangement
- Personal consultations/group seminars
- Reception facilities
- Chapel ceremony recording
- Live webviewing for family overseas
- Repatriation services



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

VALENCIA BAGS MUTYA NG PILIPINAS-MONTREAL 2016 TITLE

By Caroline Mallari

The Kapampangan Association of Montreal held its Mutya ng Pilipinas-Montreal 2016 pageant last Oct. 22 at College de Brebeuf.

The event commenced with “oohs and aahs” from the audience as curtains opened and greeted them with the amazing stage backdrop of KAM Mutya ng Pilipinas-Montreal 2016.

Following were the winners: Jeanna Nicole Valencia, Mutya ng

Pilipinas-Montreal, Miss Popularity, Best in Theme Wear, Best in Talent, Best in Interview, Best in Evening Gown; Neriza Gail Ladrillono, Miss Luzon, Miss Charity; Roxanne Jolie Tenorio, Mutya ng Visayas, Miss Photogenic, Miss Friendship; Carinelle Sundrei Ariz, Mutya ng Mindanao; Bryahna Gabriella Escrupulo, Mutya ng Maynila.

“The goal of KAM Mutya ng Pilipinas-Montreal is not solely for


entertainment or for building skills and talents of young children, but its focal mission is to reach out to people who are in need”, said Corazon Punzalan, president of KAM.

The proceeds of the events went to the following: ANCOP Canada to school from Third World Countries such as the Philippines, India, Kenya and Nigeria, Concepcion North Central Elementary School Drum and Lyre Corps; Pastora Divina Church and Good Thing Temple of Assembly in Balutu, Concepcion, Tarlac; Mexico

Church of Christ.

Special guests were Greg Marie Marino, 2nd Secretary and Consul of the Philippine Embassy in Ottawa and city councillor Lionel Perez. Armina Villafane-Bouchard, one of the judges, rendered a beautiful song. Thanks to Svetlana Suarez, program director, and Jennifer Camposano, production. (See Photo Gallery on page 10 for the picture of the Mutya candidates).

A MESSAGE FROM CITY COUNCILLOR MARVIN ROTRAND



Dear Friends,

Can you help expand the expressions of friendship adopted by Manila and Montreal in 2004 and 2005 ?

This possibility was recently discussed with a Philippines Cabinet Secretary and the Philippines Ambassador to Canada during their visit to the Cote des Neiges - Notre Dame Grace Borough offices. Please alert me if you support such an initiative and forward your thoughts and suggestions to my office:

Marvin Rotrand - City Councillor - Snowdon
 5160 Decarie Boulevard #710 Montreal, QC H3X 2H9
 mrotrand@ville.montreal.qc.ca



Philippine Ambassador Petronila Garcia, Deputy Cabinet Secretary Peter Lavina, Borough Mayor Copeman, and Councillor Marvin Rotrand held a brief meeting and presentation of a letter addressed to Manila Mayor Estrada with reference to the revival of the Twin City agreement signed in 2004. (November 4, 2016)



Personal delivery - Letter from the City of Montreal in Canada to the City of Manila for sister city ties received at the City Council of Manila by Vice Mayor Honey Lacuna-Pangan. Montreal will host on May 15-17 the Global Public Transport Summit 2017 and would like to assist Manila address its traffic woes.

“Your elected officials wish you a holiday season filled with wonderful moments!”
 « Vos élus vous souhaitent une merveilleuse période des Fêtes ! »



Russell Copeman
 Mayor of the Côte-des-Neiges Notre-Dame-de-Grâce borough
 Maire d'arrondissement de Côte-des-Neiges Notre-Dame-de-Grâce



Peter McQueen
 District Notre-Dame-de-Grâce
 District de Notre-Dame-de-Grâce



Lionel Perez
 District Darlington
 District de Darlington



Magda Popeanu
 District Côte-des-Neiges
 District de Côte-des-Neiges



Marvin Rotrand
 District Snowdon
 District de Snowdon



Jeremy Searle
 District Loyola
 District de Loyola





Social

Fely Rosales Cariño

Winter is upon us! It announced itself tonight with the first snowfall of the season. Some just love the snow but if you're like me, I won't mind prolonging fall a bit longer. Well, let me start with the Phil-Can Lodge #137, which held their fundraising on October 15, 2016 at the Grand Lodge of Quebec Building on Sherbrooke West, Montreal. From the start, the evening had a very different feel to it, boasting a friendly and relaxed atmosphere. Those participating in the program knew their parts even without the usual cue. After dinner, the Right Worshipful Brother (equivalent to a President in other organizations) Marc David welcomed everyone. In his welcome address he elaborated on their benevolent activities. One notable recipient of this organization is The Shriner's Hospital.

During the party, long time friends who had not seen each other enjoyed each other's company. Among those spotted rounding up their friends were Nico and Minda Mazzone, Sophie Toledo, Hildo and Amy Manon-og, and many others. What made this evening very special was the Bingo game that were played between the speeches and musical numbers. The MMTV crew enjoyed the singular hospitality of Mason members Pete Ison and wife Perla and Flor Rillo and wife Rose. Television coverage was done by MMTV. interviewed by yours truly were Right

Worshipful Brother Marc David, Phil-Can Worshipful Master Jojo Valdez and Junior Warden Kenneth Solis, among others. Well, Phil-Can lodge officers and members – thank you for a wonderful social evening!

The Salle Jacques-Maurice of the Jean-de-Brebeuf College at Cote Saint Catherine Street in Montreal was the venue that attracted many people of all ages last October 22, 2016. On this date, the Kapampangan Association of Montreal (KAM) held their Mutya Ng Pilipinas fundraising event. Five beautiful and talented Junior Misses participated.

Their ages range from 10-12 years old, but from their photos in the souvenir program, some thought that they were more mature than they really are – what with the poise and elegance they exuded in their pictures. During the pageant, they walked, twirled, danced, and exhibited their talents before a panel of judges.

You should have seen their beautiful gowns, high-heeled shoes, elaborately coiffed hair, smashing smiles and their well-rehearsed display of individual talents. Glamour was the tall order of the night!

The big winner of the evening was Jeanna Nicole Valencia (daughter of Jasper Valencia and Jannet Sampang) and earned the title Mutya ng Pilipinas 2016-2018. She was crowned

that we, as communities, adopt our own addicts. It matters little if we know how to rehabilitate drug dependents or not; what is primordial is that we want to. Problems with people, especially family members, perennially confront us. We may not have degrees that technically prepare us, yet we naturally try to solve our problems with one another. It is really less about techniques and methodologies and more about believing and wanting to do so.

The truth is, if we do not want people being killed summarily, then our first response should be to care for them, to protect them. We must expand our understanding of family and friends to the community, if not to the whole country. The numbers of drug dependents should make us understand that it is closer to home, if not already in it. I am not saying that we should be quiet and tolerant about the killings, but ranting against them without doing our share in caring for and rehabilitating drug dependents in our own communities does not seem a good substitute. After all, our principles against the killings is grounded on the value of human life and it is simply in integrity that we try our best in saving and restoring lives.

Let President Duterte be prophetic, then, in the noblest of ways, when he said, "Adopt an addict." If we do, we might just surprise him.

by Marie-Isabel Elumbaring Therriault, the outgoing Mutya ng Pilipinas, Montreal 2014-2016. Jeanna also brought home the following awards: Best in Talent, Best in Interview, Best in Gown and Best in Theme Wear. Impressive! And First Runner-up Neriza Gail Ladrillono (daughter of Francisco Ladrillono and Maria Dezza Manalo) was crowned Miss Luzon. In addition, she was also named Miss Charity for her efforts in soliciting advertisements. Second Runner-up Roxanne Jolie Tenorio (daughter of Resty Tenorio and Janet Naval) was crowned Miss Visayas. She also won the Most Photogenic and Miss Friendship Awards.

Third Runner-up Carinelle Sundrei Aariz (daughter of Sunday Ariz and Caribeth Leah Discusin) was crowned Miss Mindanao. Bryahna Gabriella Escrupulo (daughter of Arnel Escrupulo and Lina Ventura) was crowned Mutya ng Manila. Of course, the success of this pageant is largely due to the efforts of those behind the scenes such as helpers, consultants, choreographers and the like. Among them are the following: KAM President Corazon Punzalan, Pageant Chairwoman and Director Svetlana Suarez, Choreographer and singer Thea de la Cruz, and Federation President Epang Nicolas just to mention a few.

The auditorium was filled to capacity. The young ones erupted into cheers as their favorite candidate appeared or made an exit.

This pageant was polished, professional and certainly enjoyable!

The Quebec Association of Canadian Filipino Teachers (QACFT) couldn't be outdone. They put their reading glasses aside and held a "Halloween Disco" last October 28, 2016 at the Grand Hall of the CRC Cotes des Nieges, Montreal. The party

started promptly with QACFT President Trans Liganor's welcome speech. This was followed by a non-stop Zumba dancing led by Richel Llacer and friends. A large segment of the dance floor was also occupied by avid line dancers.

All the while, disco judges Gylaine Thribault, Valent Lloyd Hughes, Richel Llacer and Gigi Bustamante were in search of a Disco King and Queen. After a series of trials, semi finals and dance finals, the judges declared Airyl-John Villanueva as Disco King and Richelle Calimlim as the Disco Queen. Good music provided by DJ Bernie of Ground Seven had the 'young at hearts' dancing until closing time while the happy seniors slowly trickled towards the exit just after dinner time.

And here is the new set of QCAFT officers, Executive Board 2016-2018: Trans Liganor(President), Al Abdon (Vice President, Administrative), Esperanza Manaog (Vice President, Finance), Nenita Licayao (Secretary), Lourdes Fagsao (Assistant Secretary), Elvira Estopa (Treasurer), Eppie Gevero(Auditor), Jocelyn Maldo (Assistant Auditor), John Linden & Arturo Javillonar (Directors for Communication), Gliceria Ducyogen (Director for Membership), Elma Bulatao (Director for Referral and Legal Documentation), Leah Baldelovar (Director for Educational Services), Melanie Somejo & Edward Ujvary (Directors for Youth and Sports), Valentina Datu-Lee & Flora Dela Cruz (Directors without Portfolio), Joseph Gonzales (Ex Officio). And here are the Advisers: Fely Rosales-Carino, Natalie O. Pelausa, Procesa Gladysz, Carmen C. Caro, Nancy Karidis and Elsa Montealegre. See you next issue.

From Page 5 - Adopt an Addict

that the President is determined to root out the problem. By his pronouncements and his record in Davao City, all concerned were afraid that they could very well end up dead. I concluded that the unexplained killings would not just stop, mainly because protectors in the illegal drug industry would naturally try to eliminate evidence against themselves.

The controversy about the killings is understandable to me. After all, so much has been said for or against. My bigger concern, however, has always been what to do with the one million surrenderees and the other three million who have not surrendered but are using and peddling drugs. Consequently, I had written a series of articles about this concern, focusing on community-driven rehabilitation work as the only workable solution to the great numbers of drug dependents. Also, I believe that a community response does not only rehabilitate drug dependents but strengthens the communities themselves against many other threats.

Taking the words of the President literally, "Adopt an addict," and raising the singular to the scale of drug dependents whom he estimated at four million, I can only concur with the intent and propose

ABATTOIR ZAMPINI, INC.

1425 Rang L'Achigan Nord
L'Ephiphanie, QC J5X 3L5

We have all kinds of meat products.

- > Goat
- > Beef
- > Pork
- > Chicken
- > Poultry
- > Veal
- > Lamb
- > Pork by product

Special for October - November - December

- Pork Leg and Shoulder \$1.50 lb (cut & wrap)
- Pork Loin and belly \$2.00/lb

Opening Hours

Monday-Tuesday Closed
Wednesday 9 am to 5 pm
Thurs -Friday 9 am to 6 pm
Saturday 9 am to 4 pm
Sunday 8 am to 12 pm

For more information, go to www.abattoirzampini.com
Contact us at
450-588-3439
514-588-3439

FILIPINO STAR

SHOWBIZ GOSSIP

Miss Philippines Catriona Gray finishes in the top 5 at Miss World 2016



(L-R): Finalists Miss Philippines Catriona Elisa Gray; Miss Dominican Republic Yaritza Miguelina Reyes Ramirez; Miss Indonesia Natasha Mannuela; Miss Puerto Rico Stephanie Del Valle; and Miss Kenya Evelyn Njambi Thungu are pictured on stage during the Grand Final of the Miss World 2016 pageant at the MGM National Harbor December 18, 2016 in Oxon Hill, Maryland.

Miss Philippines Catriona Gray made it to Miss World 2016's top 5 held in Maryland, USA on December 18, Sunday (US time).

Puerto Rico's Stephanie Del Valle was crowned Miss World 2016, followed by Miss Dominican Republic Yaritza Miguelina Reyes Ramirez and Miss Indonesia Natasha Mannuela.

Alongside Gray in the top 5 is Kenya's Evelyn Njambi Thungu, according to ABS-CBN News.

Gray also bagged the multimedia award, placing her in the Top 20.

During the question and answer portion, Miss World 2015 Mireia Lalaguna of Spain asked Gray the qualities a Miss World winner should possess, to which Catriona answered, "I think first of all it takes bravery. To be a Miss World is to carry a burning torch. It is like action carried out by one to illuminate the lives of many. I would dedicate my whole self, my love for the arts and my voice to trying to uplift, empower and educate people. It would be my greatest honor and duty to hold this torch high enough so that all the world could feel and see its light."

The 22 year-old model is part Australian, and was born in Manila.



Catriona Gray

Gray is known as a finalist of modelling competition of Australian magazine "Girlfriend" in 2007.

She moved to Manila after finishing high school to expand her modelling career. At age 18, she was renowned as one of Cosmo magazine's eight sexiest models in the Philippines.

The Philippines has only won the pageant once in 2013. Actress-model Megan Young was crowned in Bali, Indonesia. ■

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 <div style="text-align: right;">\$49.95 4 persons</div>	Fish Maw Seafood Soup Baked Lobster with Ginger Seafood with Chinese Broccoli Salt and Pepper Cuttle Fish Fried Sea Bass Fish Steamed Rice <div style="text-align: right;">\$74.95 4 persons</div>
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 <div style="text-align: right;">\$79.95 6 persons</div>	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 <div style="text-align: right;">\$159.95 10 persons</div>
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	

Enchong counts 2016 one of his best years yet



Enchong Dee

Actor Enchong Dee considers the last 12 months pretty awesome, most especially career-wise.

Aside from opening his restaurant and recording an album, he plays one of the lead characters in the movie "Mano Po 7: Chinoy"

that opens in theaters nationwide today.

"Lagi ko ngang sinasabi 'yung swerte naman nasa sa atin yan eh," he said in a short interview right after the advance screening of the Regal Entertainment offering. "Tayo ang gagawa niyan (swerte) sa

atin, so kapag walang nangyari (sa'yo) wala tayong ibang dapat sisihin kundi sarili natin."

He plans to celebrate the holidays in Manila with his whole family. He also looks forward to some backpacking around Asia with his brother.

And next year? It's off to an auspicious start for Enchong whose TV series, "A Love To Last," is set to air its pilot episode by January.

Moved on

Though saddened at first by the non-inclusion of "Mano Po 7: Chinoy" to this year's Metro Manila Film Festival (MMFF), the feeling is now but a distant memory.

"Tapos na eh. Kumbaga ang pwede na lang naming gawin ay respetuhin ang pagbabago sa MMFF."

All that said, Enchong is still excited for this year's MMFF lineup, sharing that he plans to see some of the entries including "Seklusyon," "Oro," "Kabisera" and "Saving Sally."

He said: "Mahusay 'yung mga nakapasok na films and this time nabigyan din natin ng bagong putahe 'yung mga manunuod natin."

Working with Jessy

Enchong revealed he is now more comfortable working with Jessy Mendiola, his co-star in "Mano Po 7: Chinoy."

They were paired prior in "The Reunion," "Call Center Girl," and "Your Song Presents: Boystown."

On speculations that Jessy's rumored boyfriend, Luis Manzano, must've been slightly affected seeing her love scenes with

Enchong in the film during the advance screening, the latter finds it preposterous.

"Nakakatawa nga, kasi magkasunod 'yung pagtanggap ng damit ni Jessy tapos maririnig mo siya (Luis) 'Magtanggap na rin kaya ako ng damit.'"

He added, "I'm actually proud du'n sa ginawa ko, kasi alam niya (Luis) na may respeto 'yung paghawak ko kay Jessy."

"Mano Po 7: Chinoy" has Enchong portraying a drug addict, something far removed from the usual "boy next door" role. He welcomed the change, deeming it a chance to prove his versatility as an actor.

The handsome guy aims to accept more offbeat roles in the future.

"Siyempre hindi mo naman papabayaan 'yung mga proyekto na darating sayo. Kahit ano pa yan, kahit katiting na role eh ayusin natin," he said.

Loveless

Busy as he is, Enchong has no time for romance. "Pahinga. Wala naman expiration date 'yan, so 'wag natin madaliin," he said.

Enchong called it quits with his non-showbiz girlfriend early this year. They are on good terms, with Enchong sharing that she even sent him a video greeting on his birthday.

Asked for the possibility of them getting back together, he said,

"Meron na siyang panibago kaya bigyan na siya ng katahimikan."

He added, "Mahirap na din magsalita kasi siyempre may iba na rin siyang boyfriend, so hayaan na lang natin." ■

Anne Curtis finally confirms engagement



An emotional Anne Curtis shared the news of her engagement to her "Showtime" family.

It's official! Actress Anne Curtis is now the soon-to-be bride of her longtime boyfriend, food blogger and restaurateur Erwan Heussaff.

An emotional Anne shared the news to her "Showtime" family and the viewers of the noontime show after her colleagues serenaded her.

"It is with grateful and happy heart na I'd like to tell all of you that I am engaged to the love of my life, Erwan Heussaff," Anne said.

"We are both very happy to share to all of you the great news and being someone always in the public eye, I think it's very very important that I'd share it with all of you which I did yesterday," she added.

Anne and fiancé, Erwan, made headlines on Sunday after the two shared a travel video with a clip of their actual engagement in a forest. The celebrity couple did not announce the proposal but only

shared the video with the public who were elated with the news.

The Kapamilya actress thanked the public for their overwhelming love, support and well-wishes. She then sought for her colleagues' and fans' support as she embarks on her new journey as future "Mrs. Heussaff."

"Sobra kaming nagpapasalamat po sa inyo. And I'm just hoping until the end of this whole journey and as I enter the new chapter in my life kasama ko pa rin kayo," Anne told her colleagues and viewers.

"Even when I become misis na [sana] patuloy pa rin ang suporta niyo," she added.

Prior to Anne's official statement, her "Showtime" co-host Amy Perez posted a congratulatory message to her and Erwan with a photo of the actress showing off her engagement ring. ■

Showbiz Gossip *Continued from p.15*

The comedian in Jericho Rosales



Jericho Rosales

Moving people to tears and making girls swoon are things Jericho Rosales does easily. But can he tickle funny bone?

Fans will find out in the Metro Manila Film Festival (MMFF) entry "Ang Babae Sa Septic Tank 2: #ForeverIsNotEnough" where the actor stars opposite the awarded Eugene Domingo.

If you will take director Marlon Rivera's word for it, then, yes, and as always, Jericho delivers the goods.

"Pasok na pasok," he said. "Si Echo noong hiningi 'yung comedy, binigay."

Jericho downplayed the praise, saying he can only be grateful working with both whom he respects and idolizes.

"Si Direk and si Eugene, I think they're game changers," he said. "Yung intellect nilang dalawa is what I enjoyed the most while working on the film."

Jericho considers it a blessing to have been given the chance to showcase his funny side in this film.

"Pangarap ko itong gawin," he said. "Di ba puro drama (ako) so this time around, I got to explore the other side. I think it's nice lalo na it came at a time na madami akong saloobin at nailabas ko 'yun sa trabaho."

The actor didn't have a hard time delivering punchlines at all.

"Yung script kasi maganda talaga. Intellectual pero ang dali mo matatawa kasi swak talaga siya. So, it wasn't hard. I actually had fun," he said.

All about chemistry

Marlon commends the chemistry between Echo and Eugene, jesting, "Gumanda si Uge. I think 'yun din 'yung sikreto ng mga leading man. Si Uge, mukhang poodle doon, pero dahil sa trato ni Echo nagmukha siyang tao."

Marlon is also satisfied with the performance of Kean Cipriano and Joel Torre in "Ang Babae Sa Septic Tank 2." He hopes the MMFF juries will "recognize" this come awards night.

"I can't ask for a better set of actors. Sana mabigyan sila. I think all my actors deserve to be recognized, was how he put it.

While the first movie was a satire on the indie film industry, the sequel parodies the romantic-comedy genre.

To those who might think the film is high brow, writer Chris Martinez insisted, "Hindi po mataas, promise. Matino pero hindi mataas. Try niyo lang kasi nakakatawa talaga."

"Marlon Rivera did a fantastic job. The cast members were all game. Hindi sila nagpapatawa, nakakatawa sila. Uuwi ka ng parang hindi nalugi or nainsulto. Na-challenge ka din ng konti pero hindi naman siya sobrang lalim," he added.

Jericho said, "Hindi duduguin ang ilong mo dito. Pwede mo din dalhin 'yung mga linya sa bahay niyo at sa mga tropa mo."

Marlon, who also directed "Enteng Kabisote 10 And The Abangers," explained how he approached the two films.

"Magka-iba 'yung estilo kasi magka-iba 'yung materyales. Iba 'yung hinihingi ng 'Septic Tank,' iba 'yung hinihingi ng 'Enteng.' So, dahil magkaiba 'yung condition for each, iba din 'yung nangyari," he said.

"Napaka-visual ng pagkagawa nitong 'Septic Tank' eh. May mga hugot, may mga kantahan, may mga punchline. Hindi siya malalim pero matino," the director added.

"Ang Babae Sa Septic Tank 2" also stars Khalil Ramos, Cai Cortez, Agot Isidro, and Ricci Chan. The movie opens in theaters on Dec. 25.. ■

Rhian Ramos is grateful and fulfilled



Rhian Ramos

Rhian Ramos has been in the business for 10 years now, and she considers it a huge blessing to have had the best learning experiences on the job she has come to love – acting.

That is why, the blessing she had been granted lately – a significantly challenging assignment in the movie "Silong" that in turn gifted her with a Best Actress nomination at the FAMAS Awards – makes her immensely grateful.

Rhian says she only has gratitude to the FAMAS board of directors and jurors for her nomination in the best actress category for her offbeat role in "Silong." The duality of the character she played in the movie was challenging. She considers the recognition given by FAMAS as a confirmation of her hard work. It can be said Rhian successfully portrayed this enviable role especially since this is her second Best Actress

nomination for "Silong" after the Star Awards.

"I am truly honored to have been recognized alongside talented thespians in this FAMAS nomination. Big deal nasa akin ito," Rhian said with a big smile. "For 'Silong' to have received so many nominations from the award-giving body makes me really happy. It's also an affirmation of the team's excellent job in this project."

For the Christmas holidays, Rhian is also celebrating the inclusion of her indie 2D animation film "Saving Sally" at the 2016 Metro Manila Film Festival (MMFF).

She said it is a must watch not only for kids but also for adults who have passion for well-crafted movies. Rhian said it pleases her to be able to offer moviegoers a simple love story with a very refreshing treatment onscreen.

"This is so different from the heavy drama projects I have done recently," she said.

Rhian added, "Those people behind the movie started work 10 years ago. I started shooting three years after. I am delighted and truly wonderfully surprised when I heard the news that it was accepted as an entry in the festival. So, expect to see me looking seven years younger in this film." ■

Solenn Heussaff's 'extra special' Christmas



Solenn Heussaff

Solenn Heussaff is excited about the Christmas season.

Aside from being one of her favorite seasons, it is also her first Christmas as a married woman to husband Nico Bolzico.

Since the Kapuso actress is also close to her family, she looks forward to spending the holidays with

them.

"Ang gusto ko sa Philippines, mahilig tayong mag-decorate," she said about what she likes the most about Christmas in the Philippines. "Kahit hindi pa Christmas, three months before Christmas na agad. You really feel the joy and spirit of Christmas."

Although she also enjoys cooking meals, it is his brother Erwan and mother who takes care of the food. Her favorite? Ham.

Solenn revealed that when she doesn't have work, aside from working out, she loves to cook and prefers to prepare everything from scratch.

"Ako talaga ang namimili ng mga groceries, never akong nagpabili sa iba," she stated. "Mas maganda ang preparation kapag ikaw ang personally na pumili ng pagkain mo."

Meanwhile, the Kapuso actress is thankful that her home network GMA continually trusts her. Currently, she has four shows, two airing in GMA, two others airing in News TV Channel 11.

She's also busy preparing for her second art exhibit next year.. ■

Jennylyn Mercado finds leading man for anticipated



Jennylyn Mercado and Filipino-Spanish model Gil Cuerva (Facebook)

Actress Jennylyn Mercado is teaming up with Filipino-Spanish model Gil Cuerva on GMA-7's "My Love From The Star" remake.

The hit Koreanovela is about an alien named Matteo Do, who has been on earth for four centuries before getting involved in the life of model Steffi Cheon.

"Laging may personal touch, laging nagbibigay ako ng a little of myself. Binibigay ko 'yung konting attitude ko, buhay ko para maging effective siya," Jennylyn said of playing Steffi (originally portrayed by Jun Ji-Hyun) during a live interview on "24 Oras."

Her character, she added, is quirky and funny and "papatawanin namin kayo na may konting inis."

Gil admitted having mixed

feelings on bagging the big role as it is his first-ever acting project.

"It's a bit overwhelming but it's also very exciting. It was also very surprising kasi it's all unexpected. I got an email from my management to audition for the role. Nagkataon na I was really going to come back to fix some papers for my school and for my visa. Pupunta din ako dapat sa Thailand, pero sabi ko, 'I might as well audition and malay mo makuha ako,'" he said.

Gil already has a gameplan for his role.

"Ipapakita ko kung paano ako magmahal ng isang babae. I want to show my romantic side and I want to portray kung paano magmahal ang isang Pinoy through the character of Matteo," he said. ■

Denise Laurel considers 2016 a challenging year



This year has been a very challenging time for Denise Laurel. The actress got a cancer scare back in June, then called off her engagement with professional basketball player Sol Mercado in October.

"Health is a constant struggle. Hindi lang kapag nasabi na clear ka, okay ka na. Kailangan baguhin mo ang lifestyle mo," Laurel said when asked about her health. "I am focusing on getting healthy while working at the same time. I have cysts in my breast, my ovary. It's not cancerous but I still have it there."

Laurel, however, refused to go into details about the current state of her relationship with Mercado following their split.

"I already gave my words and I said na just pray for us. He is a wonderful person, that's all I'm going to say," he said.

Is it possible for them to maintain their friendship?

"Definitely. It's also, to be honest, weird. We have been together for such a long time. I'd like to think that we could be friends," she said.

Despite all the bumps she encountered in life this year, Laurel decided to just go with the flow and let God lead her to the right direction.

"Kung saan niya ako dalahin, doon ako. I don't regret anything kasi kung ano ang nangyayari, 'yun ang sinabi ni God," she said. ■

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 filipinostar2@gmail.com

APT FOR RENT

VAUDREUIL 1 Bdrm. furnished asking \$750/mt. avail.immed. elect, wifi, heat inc. or 2 bdrm. 2 bathrm \$900/mt.. same incl. call 514-882-9626

CLEANERS

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

COURSES

English, Filipino, French, Accounting & Bookkeeping
Call 514-485-7861

DRIVING

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

HOUSEKEEPER

Seeking a motivated, experienced, professional housekeeper who is able to maintain a private residence (Westmount) with integrity and attention to detail. Candidate must be self-sufficient and able to work autonomously. Full time position Monday to Friday (8-5) with full benefits. Driver's license necessary. A current resumé and references are required.
Julie.tremblay@future.ca

PAB/PSW

800 hours intensive program (500 hours of theory and 300 hours of practicum) Weekends only
Taught by professional nurses
6 students per group required
Call 514-485-7861 for appointment

TUTORIALS

**Accounting & Bookkeeping
Keyboarding
English, French, Filipino
Toefl preparation
Business Communication
Business Math
Artistic Makeup (Requires 8 students/session)**
Call 514-485-7861

WANTED

Experienced women/men in the cleaning industry needed for corporate, commercial, industrial buildings. Vehicle needed. Call 450-975-2303 or send cv by fax 450-975-1977.

QUO VADIS, LENI?

PerryScope
By Perry Diaz

When Maria Leonor "Leni" Robredo entered politics 2013, little did she know that within four years she'd be propelled to the second highest position in the country – the vice presidency. Some people call it "fast track" ascension; some call it luck; and a few call it destiny. But as the country's vice-president since June 30, 2016 – just a little over five months in office – many people now believe that Leni is destined to assume what the country needs: a servant-leader whose compassion for the poor transcends



Leni and Jess Robredo

policy.

Before entering public life four years ago, Leni led a simple and down-to-earth lifestyle. She graduated from the University of the Philippines with a degree in Economics in 1986. That was the year the People Power Revolution erupted. Inspired by the revolution, Leni deferred her law studies and went to work as a researcher for the Bicol River Basin Development Program, a government agency that was responsible for planning the development in the three provinces of the Bicol region. It was here where she met her future husband, Jesse Robredo, who was then the agency's Program Director. They got married the following year.

A few years later, Leni obtained her Master's Degree in Business Administration at San Beda College. After getting her MBA, she went to law school at the University of Nueva Caceres where she earned her law degree in 1992. She passed the bar exam in 1996 and went to work in the Public Attorney's Office, where she took up the defense for cases pursued by her husband, who was then the Mayor of Naga City.

Fate and destiny

With 26 years of experience in serving the people – mostly poor – in the Bicol region, Leni sharply honed her "people skill," which prepared her for a life of public service. However, she didn't realize that fate – and destiny – would catapult her in a trajectory that would lead her to the vice presidency... a heartbeat away from the presidency.

With the untimely and sudden death of her husband Jesse from a plane crash in 2012, who was then the Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) under the administration of then President Benigno Aquino III, Leni was encouraged by Liberal Party stalwarts

including President Aquino to run for a congressional seat to represent Camarines Sur's third district.

Her first foray into politics was one of the most – if not the most – watched contests during the 2013 mid-term elections. Pitted against Nelly Favis-Villafuerte, a member of the powerful Villafuerte dynasty, conventional wisdom dictated that Leni didn't stand a chance of beating Favis-Villafuerte. The odds were just too great. But she won! She occupied her district's congressional seat in Metro Manila and commuted by bus to and from Naga City once a week. She could have availed of a government-paid chauffeur-driven sedan but she didn't.

Underdog wins

In 2015, Aquino prodded her to run for vice-president when the LP couldn't find a strong candidate to field against



Leni and Bongbong

several seasoned and nationally recognized senators. With no track record of winning in nationwide elections, Leni didn't stand a chance of beating them.

When Leni began her vice-presidential election campaign, she was the underdog with only 1% approval rating in the surveys versus the 44% of Chiz Escudero, who was then the front-runner. By April 2016, just two weeks before the elections, Leni climbed to the top of the leader board at 26% and tied statistically with Bongbong Marcos' 25%. Leni won the vice-presidency by a razor-thin margin over Bongbong, which led Bongbong to file for recount.

But Bongbong wants the recount the precincts in which he got zero votes. However, he doesn't want the recount of Leni's zero-vote precincts, which she claims was four to five times as many as his.

Marcos burial

Newly elected President Rodrigo Duterte who won in a landslide due mainly to his populist appeal to the common people and a promise to end illegal drugs, criminality, and corruption in three to six months, appointed Leni as Chairperson of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC). However, the appointment did not dwell too well with Bongbong whom Duterte is openly supporting in his electoral protest against Leni. The case is now pending before the Presidential Electoral Tribunal (PET), which consists of members of the Supreme Court. Interestingly, the Supreme Court, by a 9-4 vote, recently ruled to allow the burial of Bongbong's father and namesake, the late dictator Ferdinand

E. Marcos to be buried in the Libingan Ng Mga Bayani (Heroes' Cemetery). Does their vote indicate that PET would likely declare Bongbong the winner of the vice-presidential election; thus, replacing Leni as Vice President?

Déjà vu



Past: Prime Minister Cesar Virata and President Ferdinand E. Marcos

With the political currents shifting erratically, speculation is rife that there is an insidious plot for Bongbong to replace Leni. The obvious one is for Bongbong to win the recount, which many believe would be done by hook or by crook. As to how they'd do it hookedly or crookedly, depends on many factors, including an attempt of Duterte to amend the Constitution to convert the government system to a federal system. Or, perhaps, into a parliamentary system where Duterte would remain President as the head of state and Bongbong who would be



Duterte and Bongbong

Prime Minister as head of government?

Future?

This reminds me when the elder Marcos changed the Constitution to a parliamentary system with him as President and Cesar Virata as Prime Minister. With a large majority of congressmen – many of them were LP turncoats – serving as rubber stamp for a Duterte-Marcos alliance, there wouldn't be a need for Bongbong to

run for President in a national ticket. All Duterte has to do is to convince the turncoats to make Bongbong the Prime Minister. And with the LP reduced to about 30 congressmen and a handful of senators, they could hardly function as an opposition party. There won't be any opposition party! Does that remind you of the dark era of the Marcos dictatorship? Yes, it's déjà vu all over again.

The battle begins

Leni Robredo VS. Duterte-Marcos resigned from the Duterte Cabinet after she received a text message from Cabinet Secretary Jun Evasco to "desist" from attending Cabinet meetings. In her letter, Leni said: "I had been warned of a plot to steal the Vice Presidency. I have chosen to ignore this and focus on the job at hand. But the events of recent days indicate that this plot is now being set into motion.

"From the very beginning, the President and I had major differences in principles and values. Since I assumed office, I have been consistent in my opposition to issues such as the burial of former President Ferdinand Marcos in the Libingan ng mga Bayani, extra-judicial killings, reinstating death penalty, lowering the age of criminal liability, and sexual attacks against women."

In a press conference following her resignation, Leni declared her readiness to lead the political opposition to a Duterte-Marcos conspiracy to steal the vice-presidency. "This is not a time for fear. This is a time for conviction and courage." She concluded, saying: "We have fought this battle before and won. We will never let anyone revise our history and twist it to turn evil into good. What is at stake here is our collective future."

And now, the battle begins. Quo vadis, Leni?

(PerryDiaz@gmail.com)

"A moment of anger can destroy a lifetime of work, whereas a moment of love can break barriers that took a lifetime to build."
— Leon Brown

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



Marché Duc Thanh



6430 Victoria Ave. Montreal, QC Tel. 514-733-7816



**Wishing all our customers
Happy Holidays**



**Sale Prices from
Dec. 21, 2016 - Jan. 1, 2017**

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



Diwa coconut & pineapple gel - \$1.69 ea.



Buenas Coconut Strings \$2.49 ea.



Datu Puti Vinegar \$1.00 ea.



Mang Tomas All Purpose Sauce - \$1.79 ea.



Marca Pina Soya Sauce \$1.49 ea.



Super Q Bihon & Palabok \$5.00 ea.



Bulacan Pancit Canton 454 g - \$2.49 ea.



UFC Banana Sauce \$1.29 ea.



WK Spaghetti Sauce 1 kg \$3.49 ea.



Dole Pineapple Juice \$1.99 ea.



Grace Condensed Milk \$1.00 ea.



Aroy-D Coconut Milk \$1.49 ea.



Diwa Bihon 454 g \$2.49 ea.



Oasis Juice 4/\$5.00



Quality Longanisa 2/\$4.00 \$2.99 ea.



Shrimp 31-40 \$13.99/bag 2 lbs



TYJ Spring Roll (M) \$1.39 ea.



Diwa Shredded Young Coconut - \$1.99 ea.



Small Tilapia \$9.00/case 7 lbs



Marinated Milk Fish \$5.49 pack



Sky Flakes 850 g \$5.49 ea



Banana 29¢ lb



Long Bean \$1.99 lb



Shanghai Bok Choy 49¢



Pork Ham (whole - no cut) 99¢ lb



Chicken leg 99¢ lb/ \$35.00/case 18 kg



Chicken Drumstick 99¢ lb



Pork Spare Rib \$1.99 lb



Beef Point Sirloin (whole, no cut) \$3.29 lb



Dunn's Coconut Milk \$1.00 ea.



Collège

GILMORE

International

7159, ch. de la Côte des Neiges

Montréal, QC H3R 2M2

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



Batch 11 PAB students at Chateau Westmount CHSLD on practicum with their teachers - Amy Manon-og, Terry White and Sophie Toledo.

“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



Happy and thankful that 27 years have gone by since I founded Gilmore College and I'm still actively serving the community. I would like to invite you to continue your education and achieve your personal and professional goals at Gilmore. Start this Winter session, Jan. 9, 2017.

PROGRAMS

- Personal Support Worker (PSW/PAB)
- Early Childhood 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



Merry Christmas
Maligayang
Pasko
Joyeux Noel

