Assumption College San Lorenzo inaugurated a new building, the Provincial Community Formation Center (PCFC), this SY 2015-2016.

The PCFC, owned by the Religious of the Assumption and managed by Ms. Emie Malalaluan, is a six-storey center and home of the different offices of the Religious of the Assumption – Province of Southeast Asia (RA-PSEA). This structure is an attempt to make a green building with a garden and furniture that is environmentally friendly. The building has an Assembly hall, Refectory, Information, Bookstore and Solarium in the first floor. The second floor houses the offices of Commission, CLAY (Community of Lay Assumption) and YVM (Youth Vocation Ministry), board room, meeting and session rooms, business room and consultation room. Its third floor consists of an archive, library and the offices of MEI (Marie Eugenie Institute), Liturgy Resource Center, Transformative Education and Justice, Peace and Care for Creation and Solidarity (IPCCS).

On the fourth level is where the bedrooms, prayer room and the Provincial Office are located, while the fifth floor has two dorms, more bedrooms and consultation room. Lastly, the roofdeck features a SEA (Southeast Asian) Garden.

The building was officially finished last August and then was blessed on the 26th of August. The occupancy of the offices followed in September. For SY 2015-2016 three more buildings are expected to rise in the AC campus namely the Denise Building, a seven-storey building with 3 levels allocated for grades 11-12 classroom which includes laboratories and AV rooms and 4 levels designated for parking, the Sy Building, donated by Teresita Sy-Coson and named after her father Henry SY Sr., a five-storey building that will connect with the Milleret building and house the different college departments, executive offices, continuing education and the Center for Women Leaders. The new dorm would be upgraded to three floors with new rooms and facilities for foreign exchange students and faculty, and its construction would officially start on December and will be ready for the incoming SY 2016-2017.
The last batch before the K-12 implementation

By CYRIL MYRRH PASCUAL

The Assumption Student Council organized exciting activities for the Annual Kapatiran, a tradition where the seniors meet their little sisters from the freshmen last September 7 - 11, 2015. The theme for this year’s Kapatiran was inspired from the movie ‘Up’.

The opening of Kapatiran week was called “Your Sister is Out There!” The students were given a chance to meet for the first time and it was evident how the freshmen and seniors were all excited to meet their own pair. The activity on the following day was entitled “Sisterhood Explorers” where the participants were encouraged to get to know their sister even more. On the third day was a “Sisters Time-Out” and this was a chance for the sisters to hang out, whether to go to the mall or to just stay within the campus. “We just ate and bonded along the food stalls, but we had a fun time together,” says April Orongan, a 4th year Advertising and Public Relations student.

The last day of Kapatiran was called “Sisters Forever, Sisterhood Begins”. The seniors together with their little sisters finalized placed the AC pin on each of their little sister’s uniforms. After the ceremony, the big sisters prepared a little get together in order to celebrate and welcome the freshmen. To close the event, a bonfire was held at 5 pm in the Atrium. The activity was well - attended by freshmen and Senior students.

There will be a long wait before the next Kapatiran as the recent K-12 will be implemented. This year’s freshmen and senior batch were given a chance to meet for the last batch before the K-12 implementation.

Wonderland of Books

By ABBY GOMEZ

The 36th Manila International Book Fair (MIBF), the biggest and longest running book fair in the country, happened at the SMX Convention Center last September 16 - 20, 2015. The five day event was a wonderland of books of different genres, different covers and different stories to experience for the visitors who came. MIBF displayed some of the hit books in the Philippines such as Senator Miriam Defensor’s “Stupid is Forever” and “Stupid is Forevermore”, and Ramon Bautista’s "Bakit Hindi Ka Crush ng Crush mo". The latest in fictional books were also showcased as best-selling authors are making a comeback, such books were "The Shepherd’s Crown" by Terry Pratchett, "Undercover" by Daniel Steele, F.H., “The Girl in the Spider’s Web” by David Lagercrantz and many more.

"I personally enjoyed the Manila International Book Fair. It was so big and had wide variety of books, hundreds of booths and publishers, and thousands of books of all genres! I was honestly overwhelmed with how big it was, and as a publisher, I felt proud to be part of the book industry and contributes to a culture of reading. After the book fair, my company was inspired to join the Association of Catholic Communicators Inc., an associations of Catholic Publishers. Next year, I will be an exhibitor in the Manila International Book Fair because of this” said Andrea Gomez from a local publishing house.

The Power of Knowledge:
Information and Media in the Technological Age

By MARIANNE FALCIS

A forum on “Responsible Use Of Social Media In This Era Of The New Evangelization” was organized at Roorzen Hall in St. John Bosco Parish, Makati last September 11, 2015. Organized by the Salesian Community together with the Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines (AMRSP), this forum is mainly for the youth, the lay, the seminarians and the religious from different Catholic schools and communities in order for them to be evangelizers of good news through the social media.

The first session was given by Fr. Fidel Orendain, SDB focusing on the similarities and differences between the two generations and the power of knowledge, information and media in the Technological Age and then connecting it to the topic of social media and its impact in the lives of people.

Fr. Fidel also reminded the participants of the forum about safety and awareness of their online life, the dark side of social media and the dangers of the abuse and excessive use of technology. “The youth is an important development stage in your life. You’re shaping your identity, strengthening your relationships and learning. Define clearly your role in Technology, Technology is for man not vice-versa” he said.

After a Q&A session, Faithbook.com.ph, a Facebook-like social network and help-guide was launched and first presented to the public. This social network encourages Catholics to share about their faith story, reflection or God’s Good News with other Catholics, which was developed by Fr. Manny Marfori of the Diocese of Lipa, Batangas, together with Sr. Julie Micoso, MCSH, Ms. Mildred Malaluan and Reann Dajao.

“The Social Media forum was really informative and eye-opening. It taught me the importance of information and knowledge in our world today and that as a Catholic, I have a responsibility to whatever I post or tweet online.” said Kris Fallarco, a sophomore International Business student who was one of the participants of the forum.
This year’s Blue is Best theme “Dugong Bughaw: Dugong Assumptionista” clearly shouts the pride of being an Assumptionist. The Blue is Best was held at the Mother Rose Auditorium last September 4, 2015. Being an Assumptionist means having to exhibit one’s school pride outside of the campus and in school activities like this. The program started with an inspiring speech from our beloved College Dean Sr. Anna Carmela Pesongco, R.A, then, a welcome remarks from Atty. Javellana, the Dean of Student Affairs, followed. She introduced the Department Dean of Marie Eugenie School for Innovative Learning (MESIL) Dr. Angela Fabiola Regala, and the Department Dean of Millieret School for Business and Management for Women (MSBMW) Mr. Ricardo Cruz, Jr. The three showed a glimpse of their talent, together with other members of the faculty, which caused a stir among the students and staff. They lead the students with the cheer: “Assumption rocks, Assumption yes, Assumption best! Wooh wooh!”, which was chanted by the AC students with their hearts out. The crowd was even more enthusiastic and energetic when the organizations started entering with each of their own escorts. The newly elected presidents along with some of their officers for the academic year 2015 – 2016 paraded onto the stage to introduce themselves and encourage the students to join their organization. With everyone off their seats, the auditorium was filled with cheering, balloon clapping and rejoicing. After the parade, they all performed a dance number for the students choreographed by The Assumption Dance Company (TADC). After the parade of organizations, guest performer, Mark Mabasa, a former X Factor Philippines finalist sang a couple of songs for the audience. The Assumption Student Council (ASC) also performed a series of dance numbers as each of them were introduced to the crowd afterwards. This was a chance for the whole student body to meet the officers behind all the school events.

Photos by April Orongan

New faces of this year’s Student Council, Organizations and Associations
The Assumption College (AC) Vigil is a yearly tradition that the entire school commemorates, which was held last August 14. “Home: Encounter. Renew. Reach Out” is this year’s theme for the AC Vigil. It was also integrated among other activities that aim to reach out to others. It is vital that we renew ourselves each year academically, socially and spiritually.

The Vigil was composed of various activities. First was the Holy Rosary, where the entire AC community came together at the Atrium to pray the rosary in commemoration of our Virgin Mother Mary. Second were the workshops prepared by different organizations and associations, which showcased various topics that pique the interest of the students. AC Times along with CODELEC and ACAO conducted a workshop entitled Zentangle 101: Notebook Designing with a Cause. The notebooks designed during the workshop were donated to the young student leaders residing in Gawad Kalinga, Taguig City. ACES along with AIMMS and AIR conducted a Film viewing session about a movie called Not One Less by Zhang Yimou. A talk about public speaking and a film viewing were prepared by ADL along with DWRA for their workshop called Enlighten Within. TADC along with Voices and AFC’s had a workshop called PraiseFest, where they sung their hearts to the Lord and listened to some words of wisdom from a guest speaker. YCPA and SAGA’s workshop was called Prayer through Art where students where given a paper with a prayer printed on it and after which, the students have the freedom to make it as colorful and creative as possible through the use of art materials. ISA, on the other hand, together with PFA conducted a workshop called Prayer Journey.

There were also Organizations and Associations that held their own workshop. ESA “Skills Inside the Ecobag”, IBSA “A Cookie” Party. Lumina-Photo Exhibit”. Meanwhile, PSA invited two guest speakers namely Marlon Dela Cruz and Sophia Nepomuceno for a talk called “Lend a Hand” which is about the Virlanie Foundation. Studio conducted a workshop entitled Let’s Volt In: One Film. One Community. In this workshop, students got to experience a hand-on shooting and same-day editing for an experimental film in celebration of the AC Vigil.

The event that tied it all together was the Vigil Mass. This was the last activity, which was set during the evening. The interior of the altar was like a setting of an old abandoned place, which added a dramatic effect to the mass and served as enlightenment to the people. The Gospel and Homily were full of encouragement and love. Despite the exhaustion that some people felt during that time, it couldn’t come close to the refreshing words that Father was able to share with the students.

Leading with a purpose: KaTUAng Assumptionista 2015

Student leaders from the different organizations of Assumption College united for one purpose - to experience a joyful detachment. TUA is a barangay at the far end of Cavite City where the student leaders had their immersion last July 19 - 21. The people behind this event were the Dean of Student Affairs and the student council. “We came up with the student leaders immersion to answer the call for solidarity with the poor. This school year’s thrust is ‘Reach Up. Reach Out’. We want our student leaders to be immersed in the lives of our chosen community. As student leaders, the spirit of the Assumption is joyful detachment” said Ms. Marita Adams, Student ActivitiesCoordinator.

Before being relocated to each of their newly found home in the coming days, the student leaders got to feel first the community by visiting the barangay hall and the TUA elementary school. They arrived with the sight of kids playing, however, the toys of these kids weren’t the usual toys that the students see back in Manila; a rusty old wheelbarrow was being pushed by the kids. These kids raced and happiness flared on their faces. The sun was out, yet this did not stop them from playing outside, not to mention the Assumptionists who later on joined them.

After being dropped at their respective houses, all the student leaders spent the day getting to know their families. “My first day with my foster family during the immersion was simple but memorable…” shares Andreicura, fourth year MSBMW representative.

The following day, the student leaders went back to TUA elementary school in order to plan and prepare for their last day in Barangay TUA as Laure Chavez, Mary Duran and Lica Sumahong spearheaded the whole planning and preparation. Before running back to their homes, these students worked together in cooking Turon as their form of Pasalubong.

In order to give back to all these families who opened their doors to the Assumptionists and especially to the people who took part in making this immersion possible, a program held at the court in TUA elementary school was prepared by the students. This involved serving meals, playing fun games and handing out gifts and giveaways. There were tears every so and then as each student gave their final message to the mothers of their respective homes. But as Adamos mentioned during the program, this wouldn’t be the last time that these student leaders will once again visit barangay TUA.
Students leaders of Assumption College, along with other students from different universities, were given the opportunity to attend the Legacies of Women Forum last September 14, 2015. Held at the Asian Institute Management (AIM) Conference Center Manila, this forum gathered multiple students from different universities in order to share the legacy and gift of experiences of women CEOs.

Four highly distinguished Filipina CEOs who are members of the Filipino CEO Circle (FCC) were the panelists of the forum namely, Consuelas "Zondy" Garcia (President and CEO, ING Bank), Maan Hontiveros (President, Air Asia Philippines), Rizalina Mantaring (President and CEO, SunLife Financial) and Martie Zamora (Chair, Convergys Philippines Services Corporation). Irene Natividad, President of the Global Women of Summit, was the moderator of the forum.

During the forum, these women shared the challenges that they face as leaders; Garcia of ING bank notes that, “There are other things that are invisible but important. For example, trust in banks.”

In terms of the best leadership quality one can have, Garcia also mentioned that being passionate and driven is the best quality because it energizes the whole team. On the other hand, Hontiveros of Air Asia points out that she harnesses the skills of her employees, “I want to be able to bring out the best in my people and let them thrive” she says.

Meanwhile, crisis points and how these women handle this situation were also brought up during the discussion. Garcia mentioned that amidst the chaos, sometimes faith allows a person to find peace. During the Asian crisis during her time, all the income that they had was lost in one day. However, Garcia says, “The most money that we made was during the year of the crisis”.

The forum ended with the topic of balancing work and life. “What hinders women is balancing work and life”, says Zamora. But Mantaring shares that it is about getting your priorities straight, whether you will choose to attend a family event or a meeting with an important client. It is all about making a change for the nation so that they will be able to put in position the right people who will lead them to prosperity. With adequate knowledge and the right information, they will be able to use that power wisely in order to elect the next leaders of this country so that they will be able to make a contribution in making a change for the nation that they live in.

In preparation for the 2016 elections, the Simbahang Lingkod ng Bayan (SLB) held a political education training last Monday, October 12, at the Student’s Lounge. The participants included some students and representatives from different partner communities of Assumption.

The Simbahang Bayan Program had several workshops intended to empower citizens by providing venues for discussion, their thoughts of the country’s current position, and their community’s problems.

The program began with the participants posting the disturbances they have observed in the country, as well as their wishes. SLB executive director Fr. Xavier “Jay” Alpasa discussed the nature of politics and relations of power and the aspects of democracy by presenting several video presentations. The SLB emphasized that as voters, we also have to think of the different kinds of powers of a candidate such as physical force, wealth, state action, social norm, ideas and numbers. They also emphasized that the most important power that voters should use wisely is analyzing all aspects of a candidate. Afterwards, the participants were grouped according to the issues they wanted to address in their communities and were asked to report on the causes and effects of their chosen issues.

The citizens have the power and right to vote. In a few months, it is in these hands to put in position the right people who will lead them to prosperity. With adequate knowledge and the right information, they will be able to use that power wisely in order to elect the next leaders of this country so that they will be able to make a contribution in making a change for the nation that they live in.

For the past three years, a group called Live Pure Movement has been going around the country providing seminars that would appeal to the Filipinos, focusing especially on teens and young adults. The said group is a Catholic pro-life youth movement committed to lead teenagers and young professionals to a life of real freedom, total happiness and true love. In line with this, last August 30, another seminar entitled “Live Pure Conference 2015: The Happiness Effect” was facilitated by them was held at the Smart Araneta Coliseum.

A number of students from Assumption College (AC) participated in the event together with other students from other various institutions. About ten thousand teenagers and young professionals filled the coliseum as they sang songs of praise at the top of their lungs and roared when the speakers delivered statements they can relate to, which is also known as hugot. Speakers who graced the event were from Live Pure Movement and personalities from various sectors; one of which is AC’s pride, sister Mary Ignatius, or more fondly known as sister Migs. She shared to the participants her experiences in searching for real freedom, total happiness and true love and how she was able to find it in the grace of the Lord.

"...Minsan, magpalagaw rin huyo sa Diyos", was sister Migs’ last line which inspired the youth to let God enter their lives because He provides total happiness. "Akala ko masaya na ako; akala ko batas ako eh. Tapos dito ko narealize na di pala ako masaya" said one AC student from BS Entrepreneurship. This was what most students felt after the conference and after their experience with God; they were certainly transformed and enlightened.

Most people, especially the youth, ignore these kinds of events. They think that it won’t be any fun because it involves faith, but actually, this event changed the lives of the participants and this is where most of the youth experienced God — and that is priceless.
By CZARLENE BAUTO

It was said by Kurt Cobain that “The duty of the youth is to challenge corruption”. According to Transparency International, the Philippines is the 85th least corrupt nation out of 175 countries.

In 2013, the country’s “Pork Barrel” culture had produced some of the largest popular protests in the country. Up to 100,000 people went to Manila’s Rizal Park to protest. PDAF stands for Priority Development Assistance Fund or most popularly known as “Pork Barrel”. The PDAF allows legislators to identify their priority program, after which the Department of Budget allocates money for them. The PDAF Watch defined pork barrel as funds that are distributed to congressmen and senators to be used to fund projects and activities that would benefit the people. The controversial P10 Billion Pork Barrel Scam reported in 2013 received numerous violent reactions from the people. It was a revelation of the corruption that is truly happening in our country. The budget that was supposed to improve the country by providing projects and promoting social activities was so greedily pocketed by several officials. This controversy has Janet Lim Napoles along with Senators Bam Aquino, “Bong” Revilla Jr., Juan Ponce Enrile, and Jinggoy Estrada. Recently, a new complaint was filed by Atty. Levito Baligad. New names were linked to the controversial Pork Barrel Scam namely Rep. Niel Tupas, Rep. Carol Lope, Rep. Edgar San Luis, Rep. Arturo Robes, Rep. Rodolfo Antonio, Rep. Julio Ledesma IV, Former Sen. Edgardo Angara, Former House Speaker Prospero Nograles, Former Rep. Joseph Santiago, Former Rep. Roberto Cajes, Former Rep. Florencio Miraflors, Former Rep. Renz Lim, Former Rep. Maria Arago, Former Rep. Rachel Arenas, Former Rep. Marina Clarete, Rep. Francis Bichara, TESDA Secretary Joel Villanueva (former KIBAC Partylist representative) and Gov. Alfonso Umali Jr. (former Oriental Mindoro representative). With the said famous political names, people are in doubt about what to believe with regards to the government.

Since elections are fast coming and politicians are starting to campaign around the country, Politicians promise change and development for the people and the country. Politicians constantly try to win over the people’s votes. Yet the problem is that some people ponder upon who is to vote for and if this aspiring politician is worth voting for.

After the revelation of the Pork Barrel Scam, people doubt the true intentions of politicians running for public office. It has given a negative image to the Philippine government. Thus, the goal in the upcoming elections is to contemplate who to vote for and not to be blinded by vote buying.

It is the decision of the Filipino citizens that can make a path towards change through the elections. Be wise in choosing the person you want to vote because this is a step towards the change that Filipinos want. A Filipino’s powerful decision is the vote he/she makes in the elections.


By MA. JESSIECA SORILLA

In theory, it is universally agreed that each individual should have the right to express whatever message he or she wants to convey. However, each individual also has to be accountable for what he or she says. Freedom of speech advocates always stress that the law protects even the smallest person in the land from being silenced. Last August 28, 2015 a thousand members of the Iglesia Ni Cristo (INC) converged along EDSA. Alleged illegal detention case of INC’s religious leaders was the root cause of the protest. According to local news, the issue started with the illegal detention case of INC’s former minister Isaiah Samson against INC’s religious leaders. It was said that the case was being pushed by Secretary Leila de Lima of the Department of Justice. I was able to interview several members of INC. In their perspective, the case was given too much attention by the Secretary given the fact that there are many national issues that need to be resolved. According to them, the government should not intervene in a religious issue.

Charmagne Nicole Gualberto, a First year International Business Major student who is a member of INC shared some thoughts about the rally on EDSA.

“We all have our own ways for fighting for our rights, in my opinion the method that was used to fight for what they believe is not right, there would have been a better way to show what we fight for is right. I support the stand of our church for in my opinion, it must be respected for that is what we were taught. We need to follow of what is in our doctrine for it stands as the primary basis of our faith and we need to be united in our decision.”

The protest was indeed an eye opener. As an Assumptionist, we were taught to share our thoughts and opinions in line with the values of Saint Marie Eugenie of Eugenie of Jesus. “To practice integrity and be able to act in accordance with our own faith and belief in being a woman of faith and action.”

Freedom of speech is perhaps one of most abused concepts in the world. It is often misunderstood due to people’s many and varied interpretations and applications of the law. Nevertheless, everyone is entitled to their own rights and the choices lies in our own hands.

Philippines accepts Syrian refugees

By ALYSSA SANTOS

The Syrian Civil War started 4 years ago on March 15, 2011. To this time, more than 250,000 Syrians have lost their lives in four-and-a-half years of armed conflict. This conflict started between as forces who sided with President Bashar al-Assad and the forces who opposed him. It has acquired sectarian overtones. The country’s Sunni majority against President Shia Alawite, the neighbouring countries and world powers whom joined in and as well as the inclusion jihadist militants from Islamic States has further added dimension to this ongoing war. Iran and Russia has now showed their support for the Alawite-led government of President Assad. Recently, last September 29th, “Bam Aquino” launched a campaign against President Assad’s opponents. According to Moscow, it was only targeting “all terrorists” but the Western-back rebels and civilians were hit by this attack.

Since the start of this war, more than four million people have fled Syria majority of which are women and children. It is now considered as one of the largest refugee exoduses in recent history. Syria’s neighbouring countries, Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey find difficulty to accommodate the flood of new refugees. The world powers whom joined in and as well as the inclusion jihadist militants from Islamic States has further added dimension to this ongoing war. Iran and Russia has now showed their support for the Alawite-led government of President Assad. Recently, last September 29th, “Bam Aquino” launched a campaign against President Assad’s opponents. According to Moscow, it was only targeting “all terrorists” but the Western-back rebels and civilians were hit by this attack.

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Farewell, Pamana
By MARGARITA NICOLE S. PANTALEON

Photo courtesy of gmanetwork.com

Pamana, a rare giant Philippine eagle (Pithecophaga jefferyi), has been found dead two months after being released back into the wild following treatment for another shooting last August 16, 2015. This took place in Mount Hamiguitan, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The remains were found on a forest floor with a gunshot wound on its right breast, three years after she was rescued and treated. Pamana was released into the wild only in June 12, to commemorate Philippine Independence Day. According to Dennis Salvador, Executive Director of the Philippine Eagle Foundation, the spot where she was found was exactly one kilometer from where they had released her.

In the year 2012, she was found in Iligan City with shallow gunshot wounds and minor bruises and was brought to the PEF rehabilitation facility in Davao City where they restored her to health up until her release last June. Scientists at the Philippine Eagle Foundation found her body in an advanced state of decomposition near a creek below thick forests. The bullet that killed Pamana came from an airgun, a weapon commonly used to kill Philippine eagles, says Salvador. A bounty of P200,000 for information on Pamana’s killer has been offered by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and concerned groups and individuals. Persons found guilty of killing critically endangered species will face jail sentences of up to 12 years and fines of up to P1 million as provided in Republic Act 9147 or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act.

400 pairs of Philippine Eagles are now left in the wild and are classified as “critically endangered” or close to extinction by the International Union for Conservation of Nature. Due to deforestation and poaching, the Philippine eagle’s population is threatened by loss of habitat. As citizens of the Philippines, we must learn how to conserve and take care of our national treasures for these are the things that makes our country unique. If we continue illegal acts such as this then there will come a time when we will have nothing to show to our future generations.

With that said, we must all commit to preserve and conserve our natural resources. We should take a step back and reflect on what we have accomplished regarding the environment and what we still need to do. We should learn how to conserve and take pride in what we have, despite the numbing traffic in the white city of Davao.

1. The electorate must choose a leader who has experience, first and foremost. Someone elected on choosing the next President: • Became involved in politics after her father’s death and later adopted by Fernando Poe Jr. and Susan Roces • Served as chairperson of the MTRCB from 2010-2012 • Abandoned by biological mother and later adopted by Fernado Poe Jr. and Susan Roces • Abandoned by biological mother and later adopted by Fernándo Poe Jr. and Susan Roces • Abandoned by biological mother and later adopted by Fernándo Poe Jr. and Susan Roces • Became involved in politics after her father’s death and later adopted by Fernando Poe Jr. and Susan Roces • Became involved in politics after her father’s death and later adopted by Fernando Poe Jr. and Susan Roces • Abandoned by biological mother and later adopted by Fernándo Poe Jr. and Susan Roces

2. Next is intellect. It’s highly important to have an intelligent leader, because that person should have the capability to think of smart solutions to the country’s problems. By being an intellectual leader, that person can show his or her constituents that he or she values education highly, and that learning should always be a priority.

3. Competence. It’s hard having incompetent leaders, because the nation will progress slowly, or worse, not at all. By competent, I mean not competing with others but competing with himself to always do better. After all, you are your own worst enemy.

4. Lastly, the new President must have credibility so that people will be able to trust him or her. Not only must Filipinos be able trust that he or she will not steal public funds, but also trust that he or she will lead the country to the best of his ability. Our country has faced corruption and destruction in varying forms. It is about time that something good happens for a change.
In less than a year, a portion of the outcome of this coming presidential election 2016 is in the hands of a youth voter. “Out of the estimated 54 million voters in 2016, at least 20 million are comprised of the youth,” states Andres Bautista, Commission on Elections (COMELEC) Chairman. However, despite the bulk of votes coming from the youth, the older generations are more likely to participate in the electoral process.

As a generation exposed to a wide array of convenient information through technology, idealistic minds are born. We then often question the competence of our government. Truth be told, we laugh at memes about politicians or even President Ninoy himself and we rant over the statements, actions and changes implemented by politicians; one rant being shared across hundreds or if not thousands of people over the social media. There is no doubt that we make use of our voices and opinions to influence minds. We have the ability to think beyond the box and have the audacity to form ideas that are unique to our own ears. But as we use the power of our words, do we tend to ignore the power of our votes?

According to James Arthur Jimenez, current Commission on Elections (COMELEC) Director of Education and Information Department, “The youth is too many to be ignored”. Given that corruption still exists and electoral fraud may still prevail, wouldn’t our votes be too many to not be ignored? Wouldn’t it have the chance of outweighing all those votes shamelessly bought by corrupt officials?

As Ronald Mendoza, Asian Institute of Management (AIM) Policy Center Executive Director, puts it “The collective votes of the Filipino youth would be more than enough to send a leader to the Senate or Malacañang Palace.”

Today, COMELEC is forging partnerships with malls to put up satellite registration booths. Through this, it will now be easily accessible for us to register in preparation for the upcoming elections. It only takes turning our frustrations towards the government into a mere question on who to vote for as President leads to more questions and confusions.

In fact, every 5 Syrians are now living in poverty. They now consider that four in 18 million Syrians. They have ignored the power of our votes? Wouldn’t it have the chance of outweighing all those votes shamelessly bought by corrupt officials?

“Will Our Vote Count?”

By PATRICIA MELLIZA

"Sinigong ibobot mo?" This question has been circulating for a long time and surely. I have also been asked the same question. But to be honest, I still don’t know what my answer would be. So much has happened since my curiosity on how our government is flawed was awakened. The mere question on who to vote for as President leads to more questions and confusions.

Recently, the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) was faced with a ton of candidates aspiring for a seat in our government. Different people from different backgrounds filed for candidacy be it as President, Vice President, Senator or Mayor, but what caught my attention the most was the pool of presidential candidates. These people are yet to be screened. They hope to be our country’s leaders and I’m not one who is quick to judge but a serious matter is involved here. Our country’s future relies on those who will be elected. A lot is at stake and what the Philippines needs right now is a leader who is passionate, knowledgeable, God-fearing, honest, trustworthy and dedicated.

This decision lies heavily in the hands of every citizen. It is our right and duty to elect a leader who can prove that he or she is worthy to be given the position. Our mission now is to be well-informed on who these candidates are and if they possess the capacity and the heart to lead. I still have hope left for our country that we could rise again from this obstacle and bring back the glory our country once had.

Unraveled Perspective

Margarita Nicole Pantacone

HALA?lan 2016

NEWS | Story continued from Page 6

United Nations has launched an appeal last December 2014 for 8.4bn to provide aid to 18 million Syrians. They have only secured about half of the funding. As reported by the UN in March 2015, they have estimated the total economic loss since the beginning of the conflict adding up to $202bn. They now consider that four in every 5 Syrians are now living in poverty.

With all the chaos happening in Syria, the Philippines would be accepting Syrian refugees in response to the humanitarian crisis in Europe, according to the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA). The Philippines could be a temporary destination for refugees as they await acceptance from different countries for resettlement, but before fully accepting the refugees, the Philippines has to assess its capabilities and resources in order to decide as said by Foreign Affairs spokesman Mr. Charles Jose. Last June 2015, the Philippines has expressed with ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) that they will be taking in Bangladesh and ethnic Rohingya migrants. Mr. Michael Madanly, an immigrant from Aleppo Syria has now resided in the Philippines. He left his country due to the war and in the process of doing so, his brother was kidnapped for 10 days. He now plays for a PBA team, NLEX Road Warriors, and has considered Philippines as a place to start fresh.
In the 19 years I've been living in this country, I surprisingly never anticipated I'd reach this very critical point in my life: actually exercising my right to vote. The only times I ever had to vote were school elections, but even then, I didn't understand the gravity of checking that box and skipping the paper inside the ballot box. I took these elections seriously, but not serious enough to think that school elections were my training ground for the national elections. As a person living with anxiety day-in and day-out, the national elections—are more specifically, presidential elections—are giving me major stress and anxiety over who to vote for. Not only is that making a decision that will affect the whole country extremely nerve-wracking, but it's also getting hard for me to take because of the responsibility. I'm forcing my burdens to vote candidates (you can't even legalize the 4 seasons, much less in a tropical country!)

Admittedly, I was already thinking of taking advantage of not registering to save me from the stress of choosing which candidate to vote for. I was already trying to balance schoolwork, extracurricular activities, spending time with friends and trying to get enough sleep without losing my sanity. So I really want to put every ounce of my weight on my shoulders by giving myself the opportunity to vote? If I register, I wouldn't really have to vote, right? But then again, the stress of deciding whether I should vote or not would just be too much for me. I just wanted to ignore the situation completely like I do with my many, many problems, but one unlikely source of inspiration made me realize how selfish my actions were, and how important my vote was going to be: Saturday Night Live (SNL).

For those who don't watch SNL every show, they have a segment called Weekend Update. It's when two news anchors read fake news stories that have a satirical take on the events happening around the world. Aside from that, they invite special guests to discuss certain topics that are relevant to current events, or are just random at best. In this one particular episode, I was lucky enough to watch SNL's youngest cast member, Pete Davidson, deliver a great stand-up bit that summarized perfectly what I was feeling right now: confused, but determined.

Not only did Pete Davidson encapsulate my feelings in four minutes, he even gave me the answers to my usually unanswerable questions: Don't vote for Donald Trump. Don't vote for someone who isn't even interested in the country, to care about it enough to actually vote for. Not only is the thought of being a part of the选民 is a humbling and enlightening experience. To think that my one drop may lead to a change the state of the nation.
To Josiah even before the school year started. "Even before classes started, it was like she was already my big sister. I'd always ask advice about AC," she said, Josiah also expressed how she deeply admires her big sister who happened to be this year's AIMMS president. "The Trisha is also my idol," she gushed. Well, how could a newbie not be so proud to have a big sister who's a consistent Dean's Lister, an organization president and a scholar? She is someone she can really look up to. She is someone who, besides being a part of the school and her big sister gave her a treat in Starbucks. How lucky you are, Josiah!

While there are freshmen who happened to be blessed during Kapatinan like Josiah, they have also received responses from other freshmen who have not enjoyed the Kapatinan week that much because of a hectic schedule in academics and organization duties of their big sisters.

**AC Vigil**

While waiting for the holy mass inside the chapel, I must admit that I could not help but think howJosiah would take for me to ride a jeep and go home safely at 9:00 in the evening.

Frailly, some of the presidential wannabes bother me, I just find it very disturbing that some Filipinos think that the filing of CoC is a joke, that anyone can file one just because they feel like doing so. For instance, there is this guy who wants to be president in order to legalize the 4 seasons in the Philippines, which we all know is beyond impossible to happen. There's nothing wrong with aspiring to be in the position, regardless of being just an ordinary person, as long as you're serious with your intentions and you yearn for the betterment of the country. For my part, I would choose this ordinary person with no experience but has good intentions, instead of corrupt and selfish government officials.

"With great power comes great responsibility." To be president means you are in jurisdiction of the whole country. This position calls for big obligations and commitment. I hope they realize that the elections is a serious issue for that's where the improvement of our country relies.

This upcoming elections, especially in the age of social media. Vote for someone whose intentions are pure, someone who believes that our country's success is as important as his own desires. Vote for someone who actually cares for us and our social problems. Vote for someone who deserves to be the Philippine President for the next 6 years.

Our country depends on your vote. Your shade on the ballot matters; it can start a change.

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UNCAGED RISKS

Beia Angelli Marie Matti

Your Vote, Our Country's Hope

The 2016 election is drawing near and one important question is still lingering on thin air. Are we ready? We Filipinos prepare anxiously and enthusiastically for a lot of occasions. It's in our nature. But amidst all the expenses and time we allot for many kinds of events, deep inside the recesses of our minds, are we actually ready?

The election is a huge deal. It may appear like a circus of voting paraphernalia but it's one of the events that will determine the course of our lives for the next six years. With the age of fast-rising technology and the rise of millennials, the presidential election is undergoing drastic transformation that can only lead to two things—success or failure.

The youth who constitute today's society, I believe, are the catalysts for the success of the election. Together with their own versions of machines (iphones, ipads and what not) if used wisely can affect every heart and mind. Today's youth are a strong force whose votes can quickly catapult a candidate to his or her desired place. But with issues like teenage pregnancy, bullying and illiteracy, would they still live up to the expectations of the country and the mass of its people?

Today's youth are full of robust and enthusiasm but with the influence of the poisonous part of technology, would they still be able make a change? The older generations would surely be there to participate in the election, but with the possible votes that can make a difference from the youth, are we lacking or gaining or are we ever really ready?

The best thing we can do is to look deep inside ourselves and look at things from a practical perspective. For once, we actually have to think about our country. We have to prepare ourselves mentally and spiritually. And as for the youth like me, we have a choice to either have a say in democracy or let the older generations decide for us. Election is all about deciding what's important for us and for the country. All we need is to choose wisely and ask ourselves "Are we ready?" and the answer to that can somehow predict what the future has for us.

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FEATURES | Story continued from Page 17

See "Culture Shock: AC Events in the Eyes of a Freshman Student" by Jonah Mamaraldo and "Blue is Best" by Janisse R. Valdez.

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GOLDEN WISDOM

Denice Trillana

Are We Ready?

Generation Y: The Hope of Democracy

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FEATURES | Story continued from Page 14

See "Women Can: What It'll mean to have a Female President by Mariella Nacian
If you are to tell me that you are unaware of what AlDub is, I would be certain that you are lying. This word is known all around the globe, especially through television and social media, but just for the sake of those who really do not know what it is, here’s what you need to know: AlDub is a combination of the names of Alden Richards and Yaya Dub (Maine Mendoza), a love team that has been developed on-screen. Viewers are able to witness AlDub through a mini-show called Kalyeserye within the “Juan for All, All for Juan” segment of daytime Philippine show Eat Bulaga! on GMA Network.

I have never invested my time in watching AlDub, but I am aware of the level of success that this love team has achieved and how the mini-show itself generates an audience that keeps coming back for more. That is how powerful this love team is - everyone knows about them, even celebrities around the world. One reason why AlDub has become successful is that we Filipinos are hopeless romantics and love team fanatics. Filipinos are very fond of feeling kilig. There are even fans who would compete on who the best love team in the industry is. Truth be told, most of these tandems are not even genuine. Most of them are just acting to give a good show, and I suppose that’s what sets AlDub apart. They are honest when facing the camera, they are very spontaneous, and most importantly, they promote good values.

AlDub and their supporters have so much power in their hands right now, especially in social media. On September 26, 2015, the Kalyeserye’s official hashtag #ALDubEBforLOVE pulled in a record 26 million tweets - just a couple of million short of the Twitter record of 23 million tweets that the “Butterflies in the stomach” scene of the Korean drama Yumi’s Cellphone got in 2011. With their new-found fame, Alden and Maine are also now endorsers for various brands such as McDonald’s. Again, according to Rappler, McDonalds Philippines Senior Vice-President for Marketing Margot Torres said that the fast-food chain chose Yaya Dub and Alden Richards as their new endorsers because of their popularity and their incredible ability to cut across demographics and social classes. This also opens more doors for people to be exposed to AlDub because advertising and marketing is everywhere.

Aside from media exposure, some people watch AlDub’s story only because they want to feel something. They use the kilig or the laughter to escape the real world in a sense that they forget about their problems for a few minutes. We could also compare our personal experiences with these made-up ones and think, “I want to have that kind of life” or “I want to be treated that way as well.” Some people use AlDub as a form of escapism.

In relation to that, a lot of people believe in AlDub as a love team because of the kilig or the love scenes that they show on-screen. This gives the audience a new perception and new actions from their personal everyday lives. The viewers believe that Alden and Maine may actually have a chance to be a real-life couple because of the strong chemistry they portray on television. This is because media has a tendency to “manipulate” the eyes. That is why no matter how real the spark may seem to be, it is inevitable that people will think all of the scenes are not scripted.

It’s okay to feel kilig because it is part of the Filipino culture. We Filipinos like to think of something new, especially if it’s love-related, in the Philippine showbiz setting anyway. It’s just that we need to forget the show’s purpose - that is, to entertain us viewers. These kinds of things must never be a source of fights or arguments within ourselves and we must never compare our lives with what we see on-screen. We may have developed different expectations for our lives but not everything we see in media is realistic. Just keep in mind, while AlDub is a social phenomenon that will surely leave a mark in the country’s history, we must never live in the ‘escape’ it has to offer. Once the segment is done, we must remember that there are other things out there to care about and to be invested in, like the social issues that are facing our country today. Yes, the issues that plague our country are huge burdens that every Filipino must face, but it is not really better to escape it all, than be part of the solution, even though all we can contribute is a simple tweet?

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Did you know that adventures are made more fun when you have someone with you? It can be anyone like your friend, your family, or some other person entirely! Last September 7 to 11, the Student Council decided to show our Spirit of Adventure with someone you have always been used to seeing everyday but never actually got to know more about them. Confused? Well, the answer is pretty simple: your sister.

The Kapatinan 2015, which was held at the Atrium, was a day for students to spend with their older sisters for the Freshies, and their little sisters for the Seniors. It was a week full of excitement and fun activities for both batches. The program not only blossomed friendships, but also a bond that will continue to prosper for the following years to come. The first day started as a get-to-know-me stage, wherein strings of paper balloons were attached to the pillars of the Atrium. Written on those balloons were a series of phone numbers that the freshmen would later text or call in able to find their mystery Ates. The second day revealed that really made me tear up and I legitimately had to take a minute or two to just absorb whatever information had been revealed. This book honestly earned a very special place in my heart.

Overall, Confess is a very astounding and a remarkable read. Not only did the book talk about romance, but as well as courage, fate, lies, confession and survival. This book really deserves a five out of five. It is not cheesy, shallow, or overdone, it is deep and redolent, and a very good page-turner. Colleen Hoover’s writing continues to be effortless and beautiful and no matter how the situations and feelings may get tangled up, she still manages to get her stories to flow at just the right pace. I highly recommend this if you’re looking for a realistic and an eye-opener kind of contemporary book.

Colleen Hoover did a very great job in writing the story, as well as incorporating real artworks and real confessions sent by anonymous people. The characters and plot developments really kept me reading and I was very eager to find out how everything was going to turn out. There were 12 features from Advertising & PR; Celina Rodriguez from Corporate Business; and Dannah Magpile from the Admissions Office. The collaboration wouldn’t have been possible without the choreography of Colleen Hoover’s writing. This book is truly a collection of stories that will continue to prosper and grow as more people read and learn from the experiences of the characters. Colleen Hoover’s writing continues to be effortless and beautiful and no matter how the situations and feelings may get tangled up, she still manages to get her stories to flow at just the right pace. I highly recommend this if you’re looking for a realistic and an eye-opener kind of contemporary book.

What is a vivid memory you have about your grandparents? Is it their voices that call your name when they visit your house? Is it the extra allowance they hand to you whenever you need something? Are you looking for something planned? The “Plan B” when mom and dad don’t agree with you? Occasionally, we forget about the importance of our dear grandparents, and not just them, but the entirety of the elders in our country. We forget that without them, the teachings of the past generation wouldn’t be alive as it is now. They were not just our teachers but also our friends. They will always be there for us and will always help us in whatever we choose to do. These elders grew old with both age and experience, and we can learn such beautiful perspectives from them once we see and listen to their stories. It might become repetitive or unorganized at times when they narrate their life stories but when you truly listen, that is when you understand the lessons they want to share. Let me ask you now, when was the last time you had a real and sincere conversation with an elderly who isn’t related to you?

With The Assumption Dance Company (TADC), we had continuously pursued our passion to dance even during the summer. Of course, we returned to trainings in both jazz and hip-hop with our respective coaches, but to our surprise, our jazz coach, Ms. Susan Decena, introduced us to a new genre: tap dancing. It was something new, but we were still excited to try it out. As a result, we now have three genres to embrace and to grow in as well. With our wooden boards and metal-soled shoes, we tapped our summers right away.

What’s a workshop without a culminating activity, right? As I mentioned above, the elderly and TADC met halfway as we prepared a short program for the Ilokos and Iloas at the San Lorenzo Ruiz Home for the Elderly, which is operated by the Little Sisters of the Poor in Pasay City. The program consisted of 4 dances, 3 song performances and poetry reading. The girls who actively participated throughout the summer workshop and joined the culminating event that day were Joanna Viegan from Media Arts, Laura Marie Busa from Performing Arts; Melai Cacut from Performing Arts; and Dannah Magpile from the Admissions Office. The collaboration wouldn’t have been possible without the choreography of Colleen Hoover’s writing. This book is truly a collection of stories that will continue to prosper and grow as more people read and learn from the experiences of the characters. Colleen Hoover’s writing continues to be effortless and beautiful and no matter how the situations and feelings may get tangled up, she still manages to get her stories to flow at just the right pace. I highly recommend this if you’re looking for a realistic and an eye-opener kind of contemporary book.

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At the end of the day, we didn’t just succeed as passionate dancers who performed. We also fulfilled our social responsibility to be able to share our God-given talent to the people who need the entertainment the most. They might have not understood some of the songs we played, or even our dances, but the smiles showed enough to prove that our visit has made an impact to them. Maybe we’re too blinded to see that the true-life changing experiences are the ones that touch other people as well. We may not see its essence, but when we mean at hand but once we feel the essence of the things we do, then we realize how much more we have done for others. In the end, these God-given talents that we have are meant for so much more, not just to please an audience, but to spread smiles, especially to those who need it the most.

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Caught, in simplest terms, is the past participle when we seize or take hold of something. When we grab on to something and get so attached to it. Let me ask you, what is one thing you remember in school, something that was attached to you? Is it still your favorite blanket like Baby boy? Is it still your teddy bear like Mr. Bean? Or is it a book that you never get tired of reading? With all these things, majority of us aren’t caught in this thing anymore. There is something that is attaching and vastly changing our lives and we don’t even notice it. This is where I can say that we are all caught in the net.

Youngsters, like us, nowadays tend to be vulnerable. We like following the trend. We like it when other people notice us, or even love it when random people give us compliments. That’s why we are so hooked up to the following terms such like, ‘follow,’ ‘share,’ ‘repost,’ and of course, ‘comment!’ Somehow, they boost one’s self-confidence. It’s good, and even ideal, that we all have that external factor that pushes us to our capabilities and allows us to do more from what we are capable. But what if that push is also pulling us down that we forget that it’s an instrument to communicate and not to alienate? Have you had a recent reality check on how your actions have been caught in this fast emerging technology?

Summer came really long ago for an Assumptionist. I had all the time to get under the sun, catch up with friends and family, and camp out to a new place you haven’t been to before. I was challenged. Going into a seminar-split-reatention isn’t easy but I forced myself to do so. I think it was about time that I get to have that escape and have my own time as well, I then found myself in Bukal Tipan, Maryhill, Taytay, Rizal where I got to spend one week in a sea of unknown people I know who would soon be called friends. The title of the seminar-splitreception was “Caught in the Cyber World.” At first, I thought I’d be meeting people who were my age, Millennials at the age of the Young Adult Spectrum. To my surprise, it was a sea of people ranging from different ages. There were members, leaders, and students, members, professors, teachers, priests, and of course, students. To think that the location is in Mandaue, a wide range of audiences that truly showed how technology could vastly spread news and get people together. It was a 3-day journey with other people, facilitators, God, and myself.

The Internet has been a necessity for everyone—the means by which we can update our social media accounts, the urge to share what we think others should know, and the great advantage to reach others living far apart from us. When we think of the Internet today, there are negative ideas that comes along with it.

First, the Internet is an open book. We can search anything we want, and almost all of the time, there are no age restrictions. Second, everything we do is tracked through our online addresses and cookies. We are never really conscious of the fact that the things we search online can be used against us in the future. Third, not everything we read is accurate and we shouldn’t believe them right away. I could go on and on with a list of how the Internet could be a risk to ourselves, but there is also a positive light to it which makes us think, “Is the Internet really the one pushing the risks or is it just the user’s fault?”

According to the National Filipino Catholic Youth Study done in 2014, “Young people are not only the future, but also the present of the Church.” Maybe that’s why our generation is called as the digital natives because we are born with this technology and we can further develop it. As college students, some of us may already have a lifelong plan of how to pursue the future we want but for many, they are still in the stage of searching for the truth and meaning in their lives. That is what we are all aiming for, but why not be an answer for others while looking for your answers with God? As Rev. Fr. Chito Tagle once said, “Don’t let this day pass by remembering how you were born, how you live, the mercy, the compassion, and the understanding of God.”

With our leadership skills, and the availability of the Internet, we, the youth, are all cyber evangelizers called to the mission of the Church to help spread his good words. We are empowered by the technology that we have now and no matter how negative people can get on the Internet, what we have in our hands is so much greater. We have the power and the will to say what we think, and it updates me to God’s mission. You are a cyber missionary and you have a role to play. We have to keep on posting good words to our friends, our blockmates, and even our acquaintances, because the larger you influence, the more are brought to his glory.

We have creative minds to post typographies and graphic designs that share our love for Him. We have two-thousand minds to share our Christ-filled words with everyone, and we have the love for others that inspires us to reach these people in a way that is true for all of the things we have. Let us stop being caught up with the trends and let us start having that sense of both social and cyber responsibility to release ourselves from these so-called ‘mind traps’ that limit us from sharing the things that truly matter. We, the youth, should be a museum of information and of truth. We are the best shot. We have a brighter future and if we don’t, who will? Don’t you dare do? The real desire to connect is not by being caught in the cyber. The real desire is when we want to connect because we want to share something good with them, something that doesn’t only change minds but hearts as well.

As Robert Penn Warren said, “History cannot give us a program for the future, but it can give us a fuller understanding of ourselves, and of our common humanity, so that we can better face the future.” Utilize your medium, Maximize your capabilities. Evangelize your youth.

From Softcopy to Hardcopy: The Success of Wattpad’s The XL Beauty Written by an Assumptionist

By NICOLE ANNE LOUISE ALMOITE & MA. SEPHRA LOUISSA MONTAJES

Many of you are well versed in the language of books—from hardcopies to PDF files, and now, a buzz in the online writing field, which is becoming a trend as well. One of these online sites is Wattpad. As defined by the website itself, “Wattpad is a place to discover and share stories: a social platform that connects people through words. It is a community that spans borders, interests and languages. With Wattpad, anyone can read or write on any device: phone, tablet, or computer.”

What does this have to do with us? Well, one Assumptionista was able to capture the attention of the Wattpad and Summit Media publishers, which led to the recognition of her work worldwide! Allow us to introduce you to Ma. Kristhine Cronologia, a 19-year-old senior taking up Performing Arts who is the author of the recently published book, “The XL Beauty.” We had a short conversation with her and asked bits and pieces of her very own book.

Kristhine started writing at the age of 11. She showed great interest in Animé at that time and started to write fan fiction about her favorite shows. That’s when she developed her skill as a writer. She began publishing her works on Wattpad upon reaching high school, and she has been a Wattpad writer for the past 5 years.

For those who are not aware, the book revolves around a girl named Tabby who studies in an all-girls school and experiences being bullied because of the size of her body. Eventually, she had enough of the people who made fun of her and teased her, so she turned herself into someone who was strong enough to defend herself. This seemed to be good at first but as time went on, she slowly shifted into being a maladjusted person. She might have stopped people from bullying her but she was not able to get a positive response from them either. As the story progressed, a particular “someone” came into her life and helped her improved herself—this is when the story gets interesting!

Kristhine’s stories usually reached only around 1,000 views, but when the ambassador of Wattpad contacted her to say that The XL Beauty was going to be featured on their site, it immediately reached 1,000,000 views. This gave way to another incredible blessing: Summit Media contacted her and asked if she wanted to publish The XL Beauty to be published if you haven’t heard, this isn’t just any publisher—this is a leading publishing house in the Philippines. Despite the excitement, she questioned that offer and thought that maybe she was only given this chance because of the amount of views that the story earned.

Eventually, she ignored that voice in her head and accepted the offer, more so when her family convinced her that this would be a great opportunity—one she couldn’t afford to waste. As we asked her where she got her inspiration in writing the book, she readily told us that it was a personal execution of what she sometimes felt as a person. She was able to put her thoughts, ideas, and experiences through the character she made in her story. She was able to see how the character, Tabby, was really close to Kristhine’s heart. One example of how the story is very personal to Kristhine is how she decided
Everyone has probably heard of the current news surrounding the Certificate of Candidacy (COC) for 2016 Elections. It is now October, and the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) is currently accepting candidates who would want to run and serve our country. For the past years, we have always had many well-known candidates who served our country for a long time and were recognized for their efficiency in serving our beloved country. However, I cannot help but wonder why this year’s set of candidates is a little bit different.

It surprised everyone when the COMELEC released the list of those who filed to run for presidency. There were 130 aspiring people coming from all walks of life, and each had a unique platform on what they could offer if they would be elected as the 16th President.

The tricky part was most of these people were unknown. They were just normal residents who lived normal lives. Most of them didn’t have any political backgrounds, only their readiness to serve the country.

There is nothing wrong with wanting to serve our country. In addition to this, there is also nothing wrong with wanting to run and make a change. I know there are people willing to do it.

Share if You Care: Syrian Refugees are flooding my Newsfeed!

By MARIELLE MIKAELA HIDALGO

Have you been scrolling down your newsfeed on Facebook, seeing the odd posts by your friends, and then suddenly you see some news links about floating dead bodies beached on shores? You’re not the only one. These news links are everywhere. They get shared by millions of people every day because this is a very alarming issue in the Middle East. These stories get shared in order to make the people of the world more aware of the issue, and how they can help out. But the question is, are the people of the world doing enough to help the refugees?

This issue started out with a simple and peaceful movement for government reforms, and has now spurned out of control into a full-on civil war, causing the worst humanitarian disasters to date. It started out in March 2011, when there were some peaceful pro-democratic protests demanding for President Bashar al-Assad’s resignation. Then by July 2011, the government decided to use force against the opposition, like the Free Syrian Army and Syrian National Council, and they in turn took up arms to fight back. Things started to get more complicated as religious and ethnic sectors divided the country even more. The situation gets even worse from 2012 to today as airstrikes, mass killings, barrel or chemical bombings, public executions and kidnappings are taking place amidst the armed conflict.

It started with an internal civil war in the country and now it is a war between groups like ISIS and Al Qaeda, and countries like Russia and the United States backing those groups who seem to have no idea of who they’re fighting against anymore. This resulted in millions of Syrians fleeing to neighboring countries like Lebanon, Iraq, and Jordan to seek asylum. Some refugees even tried to embark on dangerous journeys across the Mediterranean Sea from Turkey to Greece in order to get to countries in Europe. But some are still stuck within country borders, which does not make them refugees but internally displaced persons. An estimated 250,000 people were killed, and around 12 million are displaced during
FEATURES | Story continued from Page 14  
See “Chaos of CJC Filings” by Katelyn Rei Vasallo

FEATURES

Innovate and Aspire: The Mayad Academy

By BIANCA ISABEL ANGCO

Remember the Dingdong Dantes and Marian Rivera wedding that happened almost a year ago? Of course you do, who could forget? It was even dubbed as the Philippine Royal Wedding. Regardless of what anyone thought about the wedding, there’s no doubt that the star of the whole phenomenon was the love between Marian and Dingdong shared, but the whole country wouldn’t have had a chance to witness that love if it weren’t for the wedding video.

The video, created by Mayad Studios, gave us a glimpse of that special day, perfectly capturing the love shared by the two stars. It sent chills down the spines of fans and videographers alike, proving to everyone that they’re the best in the business. But aside from their international status and overall excellent quality of service, Mayad Studios didn’t feel like it was enough to ‘embrace the life changing moments’ just by being a part of your wedding. As they stated on their website, they aspired to inspire not just themselves, but other videographers as well. And with that aspiration to pass on knowledge and skill to further inspire others, the Mayad Academy was born.

Since 2008, the Mayad Academy has been pursuing its aspiration to inspire videographers, both professional and aspiring, by creating opportunities to learn and to improve their craft. Just this year, Mayad offered a stellar list of workshops and programs any videographer wouldn’t dare pass up. The first of these was the Mayad Academy: PRO-Manila, a 2-day workshop held last March, which was basically an avenue for Mayad to interact and exchange techniques and experiences with other videographers in the industry. Following with their belief that experience is the best teacher, Mayad welcomed students, fresh graduates and amateurs to the Mayad Academy: Rookies, a training program last May that taught the basics and the art of videography, as well as helped each participant foster his or her creativity and make career goals for the future.

With its international status, Mayad was able to take their mission to the next level by offering Mayad Presents The Mayad Academy. Partnering with Sony Singapore, Mayad conducted a three-day seminar last June for Singapore-based videographers eager to learn and improve their videography skills. Lastly, before Mayad returned to passing on their knowledge and experience to their fellow Filipinos, they took a detour in Bali for the Mayad Academy: PRO-Bali last August. With a more advanced curriculum, Mayad opened new opportunities for professional videographers to improve their craft, especially in wedding videography. Aside from videographers, Mayad opened their arms to professional photographers who were interested in dabbling with the art of wedding videography.

If you think Mayad would’ve taken a break after their stint in Bali, think again. Fresh off their seminars and workshops abroad, Mayad Academy now took to the different universities and colleges Mission to inspire with their Mayad Academy School Caravan. Luckily, with the help of Studio and Lumina, the Mayad Academy stopped by Assumption College last September 17, which was graced by the presence of two Media Production alunae: Ms. Ava Marie Cruz (class of 2009) and Ms. Maria Patricia Talas (class of 2010). Joining them was Director of Operations in Mayad Academy, Mr. Jacknere Borja. They shared their success stories of finding their potential and pursuing their passion for the craft of photography and videography. Each speaker brought their own unique experiences and knowledge as they gave their respective talks, providing students with an array of information and insight about the art of videography.

A Sanctuary for Your Secrets: Confess

By CAMYLL JEWEL CASTRO

“I’ll love you forever. Even when I can’t.”

Secrets are things that are very dear to us. We keep them to ourselves for as long as we can. But as time passes by and we feel like they’re all piling up already, we need to tell them out loud. We need to get them off our chest. And what do we do? We tell someone – we share it to someone who we really trust, and we try to feel good about it. But what if we don’t have the courage to confess?

A fresh, compelling and heart-rending read, #1 Bestselling author Colleen Hoover does it again. She delivers an enthralling story with the power to evoke tears and laughs at the same time. Her trademark style emerges—both intense and heart swelling. Confess has a staggering original storyline otherwise flooded New Adult Market that has many similar plotlines.

The story follows a girl named Auburn. Who, at the age of 21, has her life all hanging by a thread. With just a single mistake, her world can come crashing down. One day, as she looks for another part-time job, she comes across a building with windows that are covered with scraps of paper in various shapes and sizes. As she takes a closer look, she then discovers that these are confessions of different people, sent anonymously. And then came Owen, a talented artist who’s very sweet and damaged, expressive yet guarded, flawed and deep.

Auburn certainly wasn’t expecting to find an artist who practically begged her to work for him when she desperately needed a job. What she also didn’t know was that he was holding back secrets from her—secrets that could destroy her and her goals in life with just a blink of an eye.

The book switches perspectives between Auburn and Owen. It’s always nice to read from different characters’ points of view for we get to know both the protagonist and the supporting characters as we feel their pain and experiencing. Owen is a quirky and complex character, while Auburn is a little insecure and has an apprehensive personality. I also love how you can really see and feel the connection between them, and they’re not just characters that are thrown together and go through
Queen Elizabeth II, Angela Merkel, Margaret Thatcher and our very own, the late President Corazon Aquino and now Pampanga Representative Gloria Macapagal Arroyo—these are some of the leaders that inspired more women to take their seats in the government. But aside from their gender, what do these people have in common? Some brought about great achievements; others paved the way for more women to be elected to public office. These leaders are ready to risk their lives and the lives of their people just to protect their rights and the rights of others. I wonder, what if we have a female president and a war is about to break out? What is she going to do? I think in the context of safety and security, women are weak decision makers because women tend to be motherly. No mother wants to see her child suffer and die. Women are pessimists, and often times, the view of the Filipino community

**Traffic Nightmares: Stories from the AC Community**

*By MARIELLA LETUIN*

In our everyday commute or travel to and from school, traffic has been a normal sight. If you pass by EDSA, probably seeing a carless road is unlikely. The same goes with SLEX, with a few number of passing vehicles. Our dense population, numerous transportation vehicles and fewer number of accessible roads probably contributed to this daily traffic congestion. In fact, the Philippines has been ranked 9th worst in the world when it comes to traffic. You’re blessed to see that amount of people in the terminal, I saw a large crowd of people trying to find shelter. We had a 5pm to 6pm class. It was around 6pm when we left school that time, since I was too tired. I had my birthday that day? For presidency, I thought that a woman is capable of. In addition to that, the elected female president has a great sense of consensus-building that they bring to the House and Senate. Women in nature are merciful and compassionate as leaders. I believe that if given the proper background and experience, they can lead the country towards development and at the same time, attend to the needs of her people because women are much more domesticated and are motherly.

When I was tasked to write this article, I watched two different films: Erika and Generel Luna. While watching Heneral Luna, I noticed that male leaders are the ‘foot on the gas pedal’ kind of leaders. These leaders are ready to risk their lives and the lives of their people just to protect their rights and the rights of others. I wonder, what if we have a female president and a war is about to break out? What is she going to do? I think in the context of safety and security, women are weak decision makers because women tend to be motherly. No mother wants to see her child suffer and die. Women are pessimists, and often times, the view of the Filipino community is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

**Women Can: What It’ll Mean To Have A Female Head of State**

*By MARIELLA NACINO*

Defensor Santiago running for presidency, I thought that we have already had 13 female presidents and I’m sure that another man will just be elected as president. Applying what we learned in our Philosophy class, “Most presidents in the Philippines were men. Therefore, probably the next generation will produce a man.” Kidding aside, when I was tasked to write this article about women being presidents, I thought that this is going to be difficult because I’m a feminist. I do not think gender plays a role in some of the candidates’ platforms, but how some candidates appeal to the people.

Unlikely other countries, we have already had two female presidents. Different women that left their legacy on Philippine politics; the late Corazon Aquino restored democracy after a dictatorship, and Representative Gloria Arroyo who was an outstanding legislator, aside from being elected as president after she was accused of corruption. Having read historical books and experiencing former President Gloria Arroyo’s term, I can say that gender does not really matter when it comes to leadership. It is just that we get caught up with the ideology that men inhabit politics.

What does it mean to have a woman as president? If we were to have a female president, can we dream of women empowerment will be further supported in our era. If a woman is to be elected as president, it will prove that women can do the things that a man is capable of. In addition to that, the elected female president and a war is about to break out? What is she going to do? I think in the context of safety and security, women are weak decision makers because women tend to be motherly. No mother wants to see her child suffer and die. Women are pessimists, and often times, the view of the Filipino community is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7
Culture Shock: AC Events in the Eyes of a Freshman Student

By JONAH LOUÉLLA MAMARADLO

“Freshmen Orientation in the eyes of a Freshman Student”

“...and it helped me to become aware of all the things about AC,” Josiah Torres, Marketing Management, added.

Josiah Torres, Marketing Management, added.

Kapitran

I can still vividly remember how I badly waited for Kapitran 2014 when I was in first year. I had even spent almost two weeks observing the International Business seniors and choosing who I would like to be my big sister. Kapitran, together with the AC Pating Ceremony serves as a sort of culminating activity of accepting the title of an “Assumptionista” and way of passing the culture of unity among the AC students from one batch to another.

Josiah also revealed stories on her journey to Kapitran 2015. “I’ve known ate Trisha Sabalvoro, my Kapitran big sister, since elementary. They were also schoolmates in High School with me. After these, I was able to join one of the games conducted by the organizations.”

More than the enjoyment out of artistic execution of the planned theme for the Freshmen orientation, the main goal of the said event was never taken for granted – to give the freshies a glimpse of the AC culture, organizations and rules. “The event was very informative and it helped me to become aware of all the things about AC,” Josiah Torres, Marketing Management, added.

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5 Movies to Watch Out For Before the Year Ends

By EUNICE FLORES, KARRE DE LEON & BIANCA ANGCO

Every year is a year filled with movies we’ve been anticipating for months, a year or two at most. While 2016 is drawing nearer, we’re still waiting for the release of some mega blockbusters and buzz-worthy movies. From the Hunger Games Trilogy comes the last chapter of saga, Mockingjay Part II, and who would dare miss more of Luke Skywalker, Han Solo and Princess Leia in Star Wars: The Force Awakens? Even James Bond is still in the game with their 24th installment, Spectre. We also have some animation in store for us with The Peanuts Movie and The Good Dinosaur rolling into the theaters at the end of the year.

Of course, literature continues to bombard us with even more adaptations of amazing classics such as Macbeth and Victor Frankenstein (which, coincidentally, are both led by beloved X-Men favorites, Michael Fassbender and James McAvoy). These sequels and adaptations of amazing works are worth your every penny, with their 24th installment, Spectre. We also have some sequels and adaptations of amazing works are worth your every penny, with their 24th installment, Spectre.

The Force Awakens? Even James Bond is still in the game with their 24th installment, Spectre. We also have some animation in store for us with The Peanuts Movie and The Good Dinosaur rolling into the theaters at the end of the year. Of course, literature continues to bombard us with even more adaptations of amazing classics such as Macbeth and Victor Frankenstein (which, coincidentally, are both led by beloved X-Men favorites, Michael Fassbender and James McAvoy). These sequels and adaptations of amazing works are worth your every penny, with their 24th installment, Spectre.

By the Sea

When everything is falling apart, the best thing to do is to unwind and escape for a while. Travelling and spending quality time with our loved one surely is a chance to patch things up. After 2005’s Mr. and Mrs. Smith, here comes another Brangelina movie that will capture our hearts again. Set in France during the 1970’s, Mrs. Smith, here comes another Brangelina movie that will capture our hearts again. Set in France during the 1970’s, Vanessa (Angelina Jolie) and her husband, Roland (Brad Pitt), travel together and notice that they seem to be growing apart. But when they dawdle in one quiet town By the Sea, everything seems to fall back into place like they used to. Written and directed by Jolie herself, this will certainly be a romantic yet tragic story that will require multiple boxes of tissues. – Karre De Leon

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Crossword Time!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Across</th>
<th>Down</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Social networking website</td>
<td>1. Decorated artificial tree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Plutonium’s source of minor use</td>
<td>4. TV Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Flap of a whale’s body</td>
<td>5. Head of a goat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Nation or territory</td>
<td>6. Sit down</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Recyclable</td>
<td>7. Small mammal with claws</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Opaque white fluid rich in fat</td>
<td>8. Increase in rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Pear-shaped fruit with rough leathery skin</td>
<td>9. Situation that reveals someone’s strength or quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Invisible gaseous substance</td>
<td>10. Female sheep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Having the power to make laws</td>
<td>11. Cause or allow to flow over the edge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Desire to travel</td>
<td>12. Monkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Printed publication</td>
<td>13. Crossword puzzle! Below are the &quot;clues&quot; to what the missing words are. Happy solving</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bored or just looking for something to do before your next class? Try and solve the crossword puzzle! Below are the "clues" to what the missing words are. Happy solving!
A Foodie’s Guide to Sweets: 6 Dessert Places Near AC

By SEPHRA MONTAJES & DAPHNE CANDOLITA

We know that the malls surrounding our school isn’t enough to satisfy your sweet tooth. Not only are we looking for that perfect dessert, but we also need the perfect place to unwind and destress because of the workload in school. For all you stressed out sweet tooths out there, you’re in luck, because here is a list of restaurants around Makati, Taguig and Parañaque that could possibly spark your interest. Happy food tripping!

1. FARMACY ICE CREAM AND SODA FOUNTAIN

It's okay to have a cheat day once in a while, especially if it involves ice cream! In Farmacy, you can customize your ice cream combinations. For coffee and sundae enthusiasts, I recommend Pick Me Up (Php 280), which is something I’m sure you won’t regret having. You may also want to try their very thick shakes (Php 260) which is made up of three scoops of ice cream and the milk of your choice. Farmacy’s products are a bit overpriced, but they have really generous servings. I think it’s worth your money.

26th Street corner 4th Ave., Bonifacio Global City, Taguig
Open from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. (Mondays to Wednesdays), 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. (Thursdays and Fridays) and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. (Sundays)
– Sephra Montajes

2. OUTRE

In Outré Manila, you will be greeted with smoke because the gelato is made out of liquid nitrogen! I ordered their bestseller, Milo Dinosaur (Php 150), which is composed of Milo gelato topped off with Milo powder and a chocolate syringe. It is really creamy and chocolatey inside and out. Also try out Bye Felicia (Php 160), which is made up of pink velvet, cream cheese and desiccated coconut. Outré has a welcoming vibe for students, and it’s gelato you wouldn’t want to miss!

Unit B JAC Building, 169 Aguirre Avenue, BF Homes, Parañaque City
Open from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. (Mondays to Thursdays and Sundays) and 1 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. (Fridays and Saturdays)
– Daphne Candolita

Visit Outré for your next barkada or even family bonding!

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20
FEATURES | Story continued from Page 19
by Sephra Montajes & Daphne Candolita

3. FRANK & DEAN
Burgos Park at Forbes Town Center, Forbes Town Road
corner 26th St. Bonifacio Global City, Taguig

Open from 7 a.m. to 12 a.m. (Mondays to Thursdays and
Sundays) and 7 a.m. to 2 a.m. (Fridays and Saturdays)
Frank & Dean is definitely a café for Assumptionists who are
into unique food and Instagram-worthy interiors. One can even
do school work here because it is situated in a quiet part of
Burgos Circle. When you’re there, don’t forget to try either
the FES/Frank’s Espresso Shake (Php 190) or Cappuccino
(Php 140). For those who are looking for something out of
the ordinary, give the Southern Fried Chicken with two Glazed
Donuts (Php 260) a try!
– Sephra Montajes

4. HONEY CRÈME
4/F SM Aura Premier, Bonifacio Global City

Open daily from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Honey Crème is a surprisingly tiny but cute space
with a tower of multicolored wafer cones in their display and
a giant mirror. I recommend that you try their bestsellers,
which are Rock Salt Dark Chocolate (Php 165) and
Caramel Popcorn (Php 165). It is made up of their milky soft-
served ice cream, slathered with scrumiddlyumptious dark
chocolate at the top, another kind of dark chocolate for the
base and a pinch of Italian pink rock salt. The caramel popcorn
was made up of their caramel soft served ice cream drizzled with
caramel and for their version of icing on the cake, the caramel
coated, crunchy sweet ‘n salty popcorn on top!
– Daphne Candolita

5. STAPLE AND PERK BAKER
Ground Floor, Ecoplaza Building, 2305 Chino Roces
Avenue, Makati City

Open 24 hours
Staple and Perk has a distinctive, welcoming
ambiance which accommodates customers 24/7. They have a
pretty chill playlist which you would typically hear in coffee
shops. What’s nice about the store is that as you wait for
your order, they would hand you a stuffed giraffe! Staple and
Perk serves affordable pastries, pizzas, sandwiches and drinks.
My friend and I ordered “Just Chocolate” (Php 110/slice) and
a bowl of potato chips (Php 80), which both exploded in our
mouths. It was so indescribably good.
– Sephra Montajes

6. MILKCOW
2/F, Power Plant Mall, Rockwell, Makati City

Opens daily from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Milkcow has a minimalist and sophisticated ambiance,
and the service is very quick. I ordered their bestseller, Milky
Cube (Php 170), and it has real honeycomb! Yes, honeycomb –
the one that you see in beehives! It was really goozy,
delicious and extremely sweet. The honey was sweeter than
the ice cream, that’s why they were a match made in heaven.
I also ordered Milky Pop (Php 150) which is the perfect movie
snack for me. The caramel was really syrupy and the popcorn
was just as perfect and so soft.
– Daphne Candolita
In this society that we dwell in, there is no doubt that looking good and being presentable is an important aspect to consider, especially when expressing ourselves. Most of the time, women (and, let’s be real, men too) spend hours rummaging through their closets trying to pick the best outfit to wear for the day—and sometimes, it takes them several outfit changes before they settle on the perfect one. But of course, as with any other environment, there are certain rules to follow and regulations to apply when dressing up for a Wednesday or Saturday class in the Assumption College school grounds.

There is no denying that there are instances when picking out an ensemble tends to be a frustrating thing to do, even more so when there barely is anything else to wear in our closets. So, to help Assumptionistas with this dilemma, we’ve laid out some tips and also tapped some of the fashion-forward students in Assumption College to share with us their experiences, insights and advice when figuring out what to wear for wash days.

**TIP 1: Figure out your personal style.** Once you’ve found your own flair in fashion and clothing, it gets easier for you to pick out what to wear for the day.

Janica Felizardo: I think my style is more on [the] androgynous-chic-preppy kind. It actually took me awhile to figure out what actually works for me, because I was always pressured to wear something that a lady should wear, like all those dresses and skirts. Back in high school, everyone thought that I was a tomboy because I dressed up differently. But then one of my teachers approached me and told me that I’m the only person she knows who could pull off a boyish look and at the same time still look like a fashionable lady. That’s when I realized that I was fashion-forward and that being different is a good thing.

Patricia Melliza: I would probably describe my personal style as laidback, yet very feminine. It took me until when I was about 17 years old to find what works for me, like for example, the certain colors that look best on my morena skin.

Mikee Cordora: My personal style is all about being versatile. I’m the kind of person who switches from one style to another style but without having to sacrifice comfort. [...] Of course, I also consider if the style looks good on me or not, but definitely, I will always know if an outfit works for me when I’m comfortable wearing it.

**TIP 2: Forget about the rules of fashion and don’t follow it to a T—but don’t just wear anything. You still have to make sure that your ensemble looks good and that it follows the Assumption College dress code.**

J: To be honest, I don’t know any rules in fashion, I really just go for what I feel like wearing. Also, I make it a point that I feel comfortable with what I’m going to wear, that’s why I always consider the weather. It’s one of the most important things that I take into consideration when choosing what outfit to wear for the day. Another thing that I’m really critical about is color. I always have to make sure that the colors of the clothes that I’m wearing make sense and look good together.

P: I don’t really follow any rule because sometimes, mixing odd pieces work. When coming up with an outfit, I make sure that it, first and foremost, fits the school’s dress code. Second is that I’m comfortable wearing it and, lastly, is that I look good in it.

M: There are two main things that I consider when coming up with an outfit: First, it has to look good on me. Second, I make sure it’s 100% comfortable.

**TIP 3: Get inspiration from your fashion icons.** This is one of the sure-fire ways to come up with the perfect outfit—and your outfits don’t only look good, they are also fashionista-approved!

J: I only have one fashion icon—she’s Eva Chen (who is the former Editor in Chief of Lucky Magazine and is currently Instagram’s Head of Fashion Partnerships) because she is the epitome of androgynous-chic.

P: I usually get inspirations from fashion bloggers that I follow on Instagram, like Tricia Gosingtian and Vern Encisco.

M: There are a lot of young fashion icons whom I look up to, depending on their own personal style. To name some from Hollywood, they would be Leighton Meester, Kendall Jenner, and Taylor Swift. In our country, it would definitely be Julia Barretto. But of course, I also consider getting inspirations from social media sites like Pinterest & Instagram. To be honest, in times of rush, these two social media platforms help me come up with the most stylish and comfortable outfit.

**TIP 4: See the Assumption dress code as a challenge; you work your brain when you work around it.**

J: As I’ve mentioned earlier, weather is really important for me in dealing with outfits and so it really is a challenge because I always have to be in something that’s conservative, which does not always suit the weather. And as we all know, the weather here is really bad. It’s always hot and humid outside. So what I do is just dress up as simple and as comfortable as possible (example: shirt and ankle-length folded pants), and just let my shoes and bag do the magic to keep that fashionable look.

P: Choosing what to wear during wash days is really difficult, especially since most of my clothes before college were sleeveless. So what I do now is that everytime I go shopping, I would opt for clothes that I can wear in school. Or if ever I feel like wearing a sleeveless top or dress, I would match it with a denim jacket or blazer, just to be on the safe side.

M: Considering the fact that there’s a strict dress code in Assumption College, and that I always commute going to school, the safest outfit would always be a simple top, jeans, and sneakers.

**TIP 5: You can choose to follow trends, but there’s also nothing wrong in opting not to.**

J: Right now, my favorite is the culottes trend. It looks like a long A-line skirt, but it’s actually not a skirt but a kind of trousers. I like it because it’s really comfortable to wear and it’s fashionable at the same time. I think Assumptionistas can pull that off with a plain shirt and a pair of sneakers or flats.

P: I currently love long skirts and dresses, or maxis! It’s the trend today that I’m most thankful for. Why? You can look good in them without breaking the school’s dress code.

M: [One of the current trends] I like is the laid-back style: top, black pants & a pair of sneakers.

Lastly, we have very important advice from the girls we have interviewed.

J: Just wear what you feel like wearing and be yourself. You’ll soon figure it out. You’ll eventually get there.

P: Prepare your outfit the night before. It does not only save you a lot of time during the morning, but it helps you put together an outfit that looks good, rather than something that you just put on because you were in a rush.

M: My only advice is that girls should instill in their minds that they dress up because they want to express who they are as a person, and not because they are just trying to fit in. Trying to step out of your comfort zones would never hurt, so explore your own personality, find what style suits you the most, and apply it when dressing up.

Those are just some of the tips that Assumptionistas can suggest to when dressing up for a Wednesday or Saturday class in Assumption College! It is important to always make sure that your outfits follow the rules and regulations of the school’s dress code (which can be seen at the Gate 2 entrance of the campus, as well as in the Student Handbook) but do not forget to show your uniqueness through your outfits! Our outfits are some of the very few ways we can make our personalities tangible and visible.
Sports

UAAP Cheerdance 2015
By KRISTINE BENDITH MONTENEGRO

The University Athletic Association of the Philippines, commonly known as UAAP, held its annual cheerdance competition at the Mall of Asia Arena last October 3, 2015. The event was officially opened at two-o-clock in the afternoon by eight-time champion, University of the Philippines. The performances of participating schools, De La Salle University, Ateneo de Manila University, National University, University of the East, Adamson University, Far Eastern University and University of Santo Tomas were witnessed.

Competition was tight for the top three teams. University of the Philippines rendered third place with a score of 610.50, followed by University of Sto. Tomas, placing second with a score of 651.50, and the champions for the 2015 UAAP Cheerdance competition who are also now recorded as three-peat winners, National University with a score of 668.00. The talents and hard work of all the athletes are definitely phenomenal and highly looked-forward to by everybody.

The Newly Elected Student-Athlete Leaders!
By CELINE ANGELA MANLAPAZ

Positions and titles come and go. As we say, “good luck in the real world” to our freshly graduates of the 2014 - 2015 ACAO officers, we say “congratulations” to our newly elected officers who will definitely push our athletes to give more pride and glory to the whole Assumption community.

All athletes know how hard it is to become both a student and an athlete. You must have the strength to train three times a week, and at the same time give your heart to every competition. Our ACAO officers should be given credit for serving their fellow athletes.

To be in the position requires great responsibility and a big heart to serve the organization and its members. It is a challenge for a student to keep up with her academics and at the same time, be an athlete who is also an admired leader. Congratulations to the newly elected ACAO officers of Academic Year 2015 – 2016!

National Poomsae Championships 2015
By BEIA ANGELLI MATTI

The Assumption College Taekwondo Team once again participated in the annual National Poomsae Championship last July 19, 2015 at the Rizal Memorial Stadium. With around 2000 participants coming from different regions and PTA chapters all over the country, the huge number of opponents did not hinder the team from bringing home a number of silver and bronze medals.

The medalists this year were Bei Montenegro, Alice Endo, Pamela Halog, Katrina Bantog, Elaine Alfonso, Sam Jaboli, Victoria Andor, Beia Matti, Alex Ebrada, and Aby Bungay. For individual and team events, the team bagged 5 silvers and 11 bronzes.

Although nobody won the gold, it was evident how The Assumption College Taekwondo Team did their very best to make the Assumption community proud.

MAPATA Championships 2015: AC Taekwondo’s Dry Run for WCSA
Season 14
By BEIA ANGELLI MATTI

In preparation for the 14th Season of WCSA, the Assumption College Taekwondo Team joined the annual Makati-Pasay-Taguig Interschool Championships last October 4, 2015 at Don Bosco Makati.

The said tournament served as a dry-run for the players to know their readiness to compete in this year’s WCSA on November 22 at Miriam College. It is also for their coaches, Sir John Paul Ampongan and Ma’am Raquel Arcilla, to see the movements – blocks, kicks, punches and stances – that they have to improve on before fighting for the name of the school.

The gold medalists were Celine Manlapaz, Mik Dazon, Aby Bungay, Katrina Bantog, Cheska Soriano, Alex Ebrada, and Aleksa Litan. The silver medalists were Bea Guevarra, Pam Halog, Rebecca Macaraeg, Bei Montenegro, Beia Matti, and Jeane Natividad. Lastly, the bronze medalists were Dannie Agacer, Elaine Alfonso, Victoria Andor, Sam Jaboli, and Anna Mae Relos. No Assumption player went home empty-handed. It was an honor to see that the performance of our rookies exceeded our expectations.

Being the overall champions last season, the team is very determined and passionate to defend their title. They have been training very hard in order to win the biggest trophy to give pride and glory to Assumption College.

Now the question is, will the AC Taekwondo finish strong for the second time in WCSA?

SPOTS | Story continued from Page 23
See “AC Futsal Wins 3rd Place” by Angelica Sumabong

to defend their home, their goal. An ordinary Sunday also became a special day that they always look forward to.

They always give love and respect in each other’s differences which made us one team, it created a great chemistry and a sisterhood. Truly, the AC Futsal Team will continue to inspire others with our sport. They may not be where others are but they will always be better than the persons we were yesterday.
Let The Games Begin!
By HELENEA MARIE SO

The 14th Women’s College Sports Association (WCOSA) Opening hosted by Miriam College commenced last October 4 at the Rizal Memorial Stadium. The venue was packed with family and friends gathered to show their school pride. Ready to exhibit what they’re made of, the AC Pep Squad showcased their skills as they are loaded with the passion and the dedication in cheerleading.

AC Futsal Wins 3rd Place
By ANGELICA SUMABONG

Despite landing on the 4th spot this season, the squad graced sportsmanship which truly is a rearing of an Assumptionista. Headed by Coach Jerome Hernandez, he knew his girls did their best.

Of course, the women athletes coming from different colleges such as St. Scholastica’s College, Miriam College, Enderun Colleges, and Philippine Women’s University were there to represent their schools with dignity and honor.

Determination, passion and hard work brought the Assumption College Futsal Team to win 3rd place at the 46th WNCAA. Every game is like an emotional roller coaster:

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

Strong Women, Strong Nation
By MARY BLESSARY ABARRA

The 46th season of the Women’s National Collegiate Athletic Association’s (WNCAA) was hosted by the Philippine Women’s University. The theme was “Strong Women, Strong Nation” and it was held at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum last August 21.

The athletes of the Assumption College Athletic Organization (ACAO) gathered at the opening parade along with other competing schools such as St. Scholastica’s College Manila, Centro Escolar University, San Beda College, University of Asia and the Pacific, Rizal Technical University and Philippines Women’s University.

As the flags were raised, our very own athletes marched with pride along with their titan spirit. These athletes are now ready to compete and give their best in the games as their season starts, not forgetting the value of camaraderie, respect, and sportsmanship.

To give pride and glory, that’s the Titan’s story!

Titans Igniting the Fire
By PATRICIA DIRECTO

This school year started excellent for the Assumption College Athletic Organization. During the Freshmen Orientation, the athletes exhibited their talent in dancing, and showed the student body a glimpse of our trainings and games. Now as the competition season begins, we will all witness the hard work our athletes have exerted to bring honor to Assumption College.

Last August 20, 2015, the athletes have gathered the students at the Atrium through a noise barrage headed by Kat Bantog, Lica Sumabong, Kitchy Sotoya and the AC pep squad as the athletes cheered with their chant. They cheered their way to the Atrium as they carried their placards showing their respective teams with pride to represent the school in the upcoming WNCAA and WCOSA.

The parade was then followed by an opening prayer led by Leanne and Nina Mamonong. Our dearst moderator Ms. Dody Granada delivered the opening remarks, thanking the athletes for their hard work during their trainings. She also showed her fullest support in the games. Carmela Aseo led an intermission number followed by the dance number of our very own athletes. The athletes also took their Oath of Sportsmanship, which was led by ACAO President Trish Directo. The program ended with the sincerest closing remarks by Atty. Armee Javeliana and a closing prayer by Lica Sumabong.

The Pep Rally served as a heads up for the school as our athletes begin their games with courage and confidence, hoping this event would serve as a great start in lifting the school spirit not just by the athletes but also the whole student body; giving pride and glory to Assumption and to God.
GENERAL EDUCATION WEEK 2015
Photos by MIKAELA FLORES, SOFIA ROMERAL, FRANCHESCA DEL ROSARIO, ALECXIS CAPUNO AND CLAUDINE PABILANI