Pinay wins Honda Civic from **Galpin Motors** raffle

by JOSEPH PIMENTEL
AJPress

LOS ANGELES —She'll tell you that she didn't want to buy the raffle tickets.

She didn't believe she was the lucky type, and it was only because of her aunt's prodding to buy the raffle tickets for the church's benefit why she bought them in the first place.

Rowena Rabisanto-Mulvey turned a $10-set of raffle tickets, purchased from her Aunt Lily Aquino, to a car worth $21,000.

Rabisanto-Mulvey, a mother of two boys, received a call last Oct. 12 saying that she was the owner of a brand new vehicle from Galpin Motors.

"I couldn't believe it," she said to the *Asian Journal*. "It was like a meltdown. After I hung up, I woke up my mom [Lica Rabisanto] and my husband [Brian Mulvey]. They were so happy and stunned. I was numb."

One week after she won the car, the 39-year-old Rabisanto-Mulvey, originally from San Pablo City, Laguna, Philippines, and now residing in North Hills, still can't believe she won.

"I don't believe [that] I'm lucky," she said.

Brad Boeckmann of Galpin Motors said they've been giving away cars to lucky raffle winners at Our Lady of Peace Church in North Hills for the past 15 years.

"We're just glad to help the church," said Boeckmann. "Many of our customers are parishioners at the church. They are very supportive of us."

"It's exciting," added Boeckmann about meeting the winners. "When I talked to [Rowena] on the phone, it's just like having fun with an old friend. She's excited. I'm excited. It's a very positive emotion. It lasts with you for a few days."

For Rabisanto-Mulvey, winning the car was just a continual blessing from her Aunt Lily.

Since arriving to the US in 1992, Rabisanto-Mulvey's Aunt Lily and her family have provided guidance and assistance. It was her Aunt Lily who helped her adjust to life in the US and who supported her every step of the way.

It was also her Aunt Lily that insisted she buy the raffle tickets.

"She told me I was going to win," said Rabisanto-Mulvey. "I didn't believe her. I bought the tickets because I know she's devoted to the church."

Winning the raffle meant she had a choice of two cars—a Ford Focus or Honda Civic. She chose the Honda.

"Of course, the Honda. It's the best," she said.

It also means that she has to give up one of her other cars, also both Honda vehicles.

"I'm giving one of my other cars to my aunt," she said. "She's helped me so much."

"I'm just happy," she added. "I never thought I would be able to own a car with a moon roof."

Rowena Rabisanto-Mulvey won a new 2008 Honda Civic at the Fiesta for Our Lady of Peace Church's Annual Parish Fiesta. Rowena's husband, Brian (standing behind her) is joined by (L-R) Galpin Honda General Manager Ed Hartoonian, Continuous Improvement Administrator Teena Boeckmann, and Sales Manager Jaime Godina. For information on any new or pre-owned Honda vehicle, please call: 1-866-6613187 or go online to: www.galpin.com.

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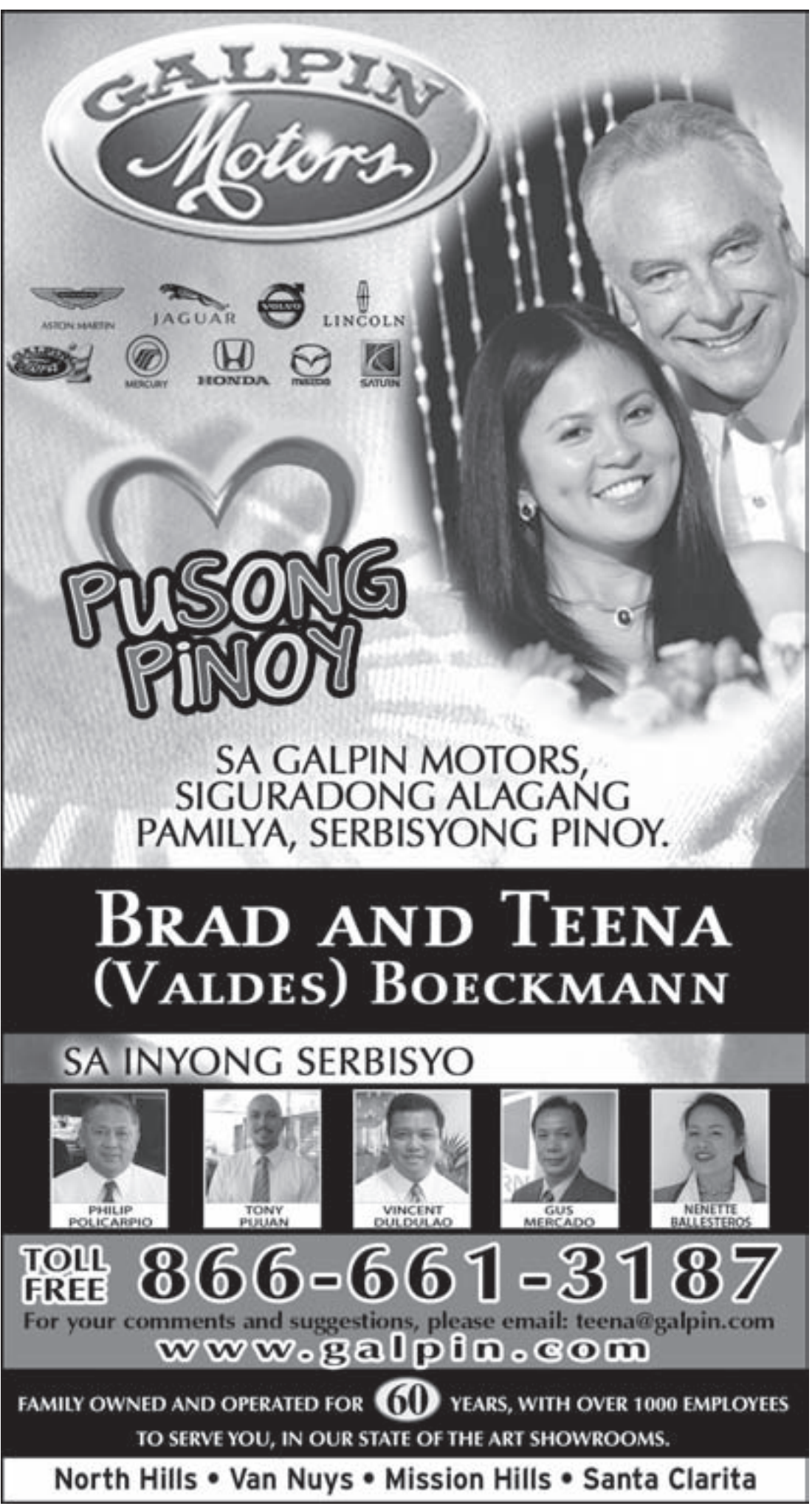
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