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Setyembre 6-12, 2021

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KAWIT PNP PRECINCT TO IMPROVE AFTER SURRENDER OF ESCAPEE

By Ruel Francisco

TRECE MARTIRES, Cavite (PIA) – The surrender of Kawit PNP Precinct escapee, Junjun Esquillo Cortezano-Portez of Barangay Toclong paved the way for several improvements that would be undertaken for the precinct security.

After signifying his intention to surrender to Kawit Mayor Angelo Aguinaldo thru his cousin Michelle Lacaba, Portez was given time to speak with Mayor Aguinaldo. He talked about their escape, and gave information on some of their grievances inside the municipal jail in which the local chief executive took immediate action of.

Mayor Aguinaldo also met with the new Kawit PNP Chief PMAJ John Conrad Villanueva to discuss the safety of the community, as well as the Persons Deprived with Liberty (PDLs) who are housed in the jail facility.

"I do not believe that our jails are only for punish-

ment. It is a place of rehabilitation to correct their mistake and make these people learn for violating the law," Aguinaldo said.

The meeting focused on the changes and improvements of the detention facilities, fortification of the prison mechanism and upgrading of security, and improvement in safeguarding the welfare and rights of the PDLs.

Portez, 22, along with Tristan Antonio, 19, and Rhino Reyes 27 were the three detainees that escape from Kawit precinct August 23. The incident resulted to the transfer of then Kawit PNP Chief PMAJ Joel Celestino Palmares, and precinct staff PSSgt Ryan Pascua De Guzman.

Mayor Aguinaldo and Kawit PNP Chief PMAJ Villanueva agreed on the measures discussed for improving the precinct to prevent such incidents from happening again with priority on the safety, and peace and order in Kawit town.

DILG lauds suspension of village execs in Cavite mass gathering

MANILA – The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) welcomed the 30-day preventive suspension imposed on the barangay officials involved in the "karakol" and mass gathering event in Barangay Santiago in Gen. Trias, Cavite last month, and commended the local government unit's (LGU) immediate action and investigation after the incident.

"Kudos to the city mayor and the Sangguniang Panlungsod (SP or city council) of Gen. Trias, Cavite for acting quickly on the 'karakol' incident. May other LGUs take a cue from this incident, putting into the forefront the stringent implementation of health protocols, even down to the barangay level," DILG spokesperson, Undersecretary Jonathan Malaya, said in a news release on Tuesday night.

Malaya said after Interior Secretary Eduardo M. Año's order to conduct a

fact-finding investigation, Gen. Trias Mayor Antonio Ferrer approved the SP's recommendation to issue a 30-day preventive suspension to Barangay Santiago Punong Barangay Rolando Pagkaliwangan and barangay kagawads Joey Loyola, Francisco Solis, and Ferdinand Perdito.

In Sangguniang Panlungsod Resolution 03-2021-176, the local legislative body of the City of General Trias recommended the issuance of a preventive suspension for 30 days against the concerned barangay officials under Section 63 of the Local Government Code to further investigate the incident and provide an opportunity for the involved parties to be heard.

"Sa bahagi ng DILG, kami ay patuloy na umaasa na sa panahong ito [30-day suspension] ay makumpleto na ang imbestigasyon upang malaman kung tunay ngang nagkaroon ng pagpapabaya ang mga barangay officials at kung dapat silang sampahan ng kasong administratibo (On the part of the DILG, we are hoping that during this 30-day suspension period, the investigation would be completed to determine whether there was negligence on the part of the

barangay officials and if they should face administrative charges)," he said. "Pinakamahalaga pa rin na ang mga LGU hanggang sa mga barangay ay matuto at mas maging mahigpit para hindi na maulit ang ganitong insidente lalo na ngayon na may community transmission na ang Delta variant (The most important is for LGUs, down to the barangays, to learn and be stricter to prevent a repeat of this incident, especially now that there is a community transmission of the Delta variant)."

Malaya said he hopes the incident serves as a warning to all barangay officials that the DILG does not tolerate any violation of minimum public health standards during the pandemic.

In a viral video posted on social media, hundreds of residents of Barangay Santiago participated in a "karakol" procession and mass gathering along Araldo Highway, deliberately violating the minimum public health standards, such as wearing of face mask and face shield, and physical distancing, while the LGU was under the general community quarantine with heightened restrictions classification.

Before the imposition of

DOLE-Rizal, PCUP namahagi ng tulong pangkabuhayan sa Montalban

LUNGSOD NG ANTI-POLO, Rizal (PIA)-- Magkatuwang na inihandog ng Department of Labor and Employment - Rizal at Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor ang tulong pangkabuhayan sa ilang mga mamayan ng Montalban (Rodriguez) nitong Agosto 31.

Nakinabang sa halos P 200,000 na halagang livelihood assistance ang Southville 8-C Urban Poor Organization ayon sa opisyal na Facebook Page ng DOLE-Rizal.

Bahagi ng convergence program ng DOLE at PCUP ang nasabing pa-

mamahagi ng bigasan at general merchandise livelihood assistance

Pinangunahan nila DOLE-Rizal Director Marivic Martinez, DOLE Integrated Livelihood Program (DILP) focal Janine Rivera, PCUP Social Enterprise Development Unit Head Rosemarie B. Makimkim at iba pang kawani ang pagbibigay ng tulong.

Ang nasabing mga benepisaryo ay inendorso ng PCUP sa DOLE-Rizal upang mabigyan ng tulong. (GG/PIA-Rizal/may ulat mula sa DOLE-Rizal Provincial Office

the preventive suspension, the city mayor issued a show cause order against the concerned barangay officials after learning of the "karakol" procession participated in by several barangay residents, which is a violation of local issuances and Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) Resolution 2021-50.

In his letter to the city mayor, Pagkaliwangan apologized and shared that he only required 30 percent of the barangay employees to join the "karakol" and assist while following the safety health protocols.

He also said some residents who were seen not wearing face masks did so "when things got out of hand after a heavy rain, overwhelming the people to flock and join the parade."

Malaya likewise reminded the public, vaccinated or not, to refrain from participating in mass gatherings, especially because the country is currently in a bout with the more transmissible variant of the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19).

"Hindi pa po ito panahon para tayo ay mag-relax at gawin ang mga nakagawian na nating gawin. Hindi pa po nawawala ang banta ng virus kaya tuloy pa rin ang pag-iingat (This is not the time for us to relax and do the things that we have been accustomed to. The threat of the virus still lingers so we must continue to take precautions)," he said.

Through the same fact-finding investigation, it was also clarified that the Philippine National Police was quick to respond to the incident to conduct the necessary investigation and apprehend the violators but the people have already dispersed because of the rain and the activity had already ended when they arrived. (PR)

Globe boosts services to customers in Cavite and Laguna

Globe's efforts to bring better call, SMS and data browsing services in more parts of the country have resulted in the completion of its network modernization in key locations in Cavite and Laguna.

Globe has completed 265 site upgrades in 11 towns and cities in Cavite and three areas in Laguna from 3G to the new standard of mobile data, 4G LTE.

These include sites in General Trias City, Dasmariñas City, Bacoor City, Naic, Cavite City, Trece Martires City, Carmona, Gen. Mariano Alvarez, Tanza and Rosario. Efforts are also underway to modernize other sites in Alfonso, Amadeo, Gen. E. Aguinaldo, Indang, Magallanes, Maragondon, Mendez, Tagaytay City, Silang, Talisay and Ternate.

"These modernization efforts were intended to better serve our customers in upper Cavite and Laguna. The site upgrades will bring better connectivity and ex-

perience to our customers especially now that classes have started for private schools, colleges and universities in these provinces," said Joel Agustin, Globe SVP for Program Delivery, Network Technical Group.

In Laguna, Globe has also modernized sites in Binan, San Pedro and Sta. Rosa, Laguna to include one 5G tower.

"We reiterate our calls to customers who are still using 3G SIM cards to update to 5G-ready 4G LTE SIM cards now. Please avail of the SIM upgrade to experience the benefits and make the most of the opportunities brought by our modernization efforts. Updating a SIM card is FREE and customers will get to keep their old numbers. 4G LTE capable devices are also available at Globe Stores. Customers can check through online these affordable mobile phones for the meantime due to

existing quarantine protocols," added Agustin.

Globe's relentless efforts to improve the country's state of connectivity has led to it being the most consistent mobile network for two consecutive quarters in 2021, as verified by Ookla®.

The digital solutions company remained the leader in nationwide mobile consistency with a Consistency Score of 70.43 in Q1 2021 and 75.98 in Q2 2021[1].

Globe strongly supports the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly UN SDG No. 4 on the provision of quality education and UN SDG No. 9, highlighting the roles of infrastructure and innovation as crucial drivers of economic growth and development. The company also champions the UN Global Compact principles and contributes to 10 of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals.

To know more about Globe, visit www.globe.com.ph.

CAVITE SOLON CONFERRED AS NEWLY COMMISSIONED AFP OFFICER

Trece Martires, Cavite (PIA) – Sixth District Representative Luis ‘Jonjon’ A. Ferrer IV was appointed as Lieutenant Colonel of the Army Reserve Command of the Armed Forces of the Philippines on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 during the formal rites held at Ricarte Hall, Philippine Army Officers Club House, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.

During the ceremony, Commanding General of the Philippine Army Major General Andres Centino donned and pinned the rank on Congressman Ferrer’s uniform.

“With the addition of another peace advocate and a dedicated public servant who serves with selfless intentions, the Philippine Army will surely be more confident together with the Army Reserve Component to continue thriving with the challenges towards accomplishing his mission and achieving his share aspirations to the nation mostly

to the Province of Cavite,” said Major General Centino.

“It is an honor to serve the people with you. Long live the Philippine Army!” Ferrer said in appreciation for the privilege and trust accorded him.

Congressman Ferrer’s wife witnessed the formal rites along with the generals and officials of the Philippine Army, enlisted personnel, and civilian human resource.

In a related news, Congressman Ferrer as concurrent Chair of the Commission on Appointments, Committee of the National Defense led the committee hearing for the approval for the promotion of MGen. Andres C. Centino, Colonel Raul P. Villanueva and Captain Ruben B. Fajardo Jr. to the ranks of Lieutenant General, Brigadier General, and Commodore respectively. **(Ruel Francisco/Senate of the Philippines/Dennis Abrina)**

Barangay kagawad, sumuko sa awtoridad

SUMUKO sa awtoridad ang isang barangay kagawad dahil sa pagkamatay ng dati nitong kaalitan nang nabaril matapos magpambuno sa Gen Trias City, Cavite.

Ang dalawa ay dati ng may alitan kung saan nag-ugat nang atakihin ng biktima ang suspek habang armado ng baril. Sinasabing ang biktima rin ay suspek sa pananaksak sa isang Marina Domingo dakong alas-5:45 ng hapon noong August 28.

Ang suspek din ang humingi ng tulong sa mga tanod ng Brgy Buenavista 3 upang dalhin ang biktima sa ospital saka ito sumuko sa awtoridad. **GENE ADSUARA**

insidente sa Brgy Buenavista 2, kung saan nagpambuno ang dalawa at sa pag-aagawan nila ay nabaril ay tinamaan ang biktima.

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USAP LANG

JUNE BILLONES
0968-7122927

HINDI MAUUTO NG PULITIKO

MINSAN nakakatamad na ang magbasa, makinig o manood ng balita.

Batay ito sa pagkaka-banggit ng ilang tropa nating lansangan dahil anila ay hindi na alam kung ano ang tama o mali sa mga nababalita.

Nalilito na sila sa mga nasasagap na balita kung ano nga ba ang paniniwalaan.

Aware naman ang tropang kalye natin sa mga news o kaganapan sa kapaligiran.

Usap lang sila at isa sa umikot na kanilang paksa ay ang tungkol sa mga kandidato para sa eleksiyon sa susunod na taon.

Halimbawa sa pinupulsohan nila ay ang magamang Duterte sa katauhan ni Davao City Mayor Inday at Pangulong Rodrigo.

Kasama na rin sa kanilang napapag-usapan ay ang iba pang nagbabalak kumandidato.

Usap lang naman sila at hindi inilalagay sa utak ang mga nababalitaan.

Sampol, si Pangulong Digong sa kanyang balakin na tatakbo sa next election bilang vice president.

Sa takbo ng usap ng ating tropang lansangan ay hindi sila kaagad napapaniwala sa plano o hakbang na ito ni PRRD.

Para sa kanila ay maaaring isa itong kakaibang ‘laro’ o bahagi ng istrategiya.

Basta ang alam nila sa larangan ng pulitika ay walang permanenteng kaaway o kaibigan.

Alam ng tropa na tanging permanenteng interes ang hangarin ng isang pulitiko.

Mukhang may punto sila sa kanilang pag-uusap-usap.

Talagang hindi natin matatawaran ang karkayahan ng bawat tao.

Sila na mga namumuhay sa lansangan ay nagtatalagay din ng karunungan.

Ibig sabihin ay hindi basta mauuto ng pulitiko ang taong-lansangan.

23 mangingisda, dinakma

INARESTO ang dalawampu’t tatlong lalaki dahil sa illegal na pang-ingisda sa ipinagbabawal na lugar at paggamit ng ‘di awtorisadong fishing gears sa Ternate, Cavite.

Hawak ng Ternate Police Station ang dalawampu’t tatlong mangingisda at naharap sa kasong paglabag sa Municipal Ordinance Series of 2011 Section 51 Fishing without License and Permit, Section 52 Commercial Fishing in the Municipal Water and Section 57 Use of Active Fishing Gears.

Kabilang sa mga inaresto ay ang kapitan ng bang-

kang F/B CA Dianesiam-S na si Marcelo Fernando at labinlima nitong tauhan; at Aurelio Samoy, Boat Captain ng F/B CA Nalie at ang walo nitong tauhan.

Sa ulat ni PMSgt Alfred Guevarra Jr, dakong alas-7:40 Linggo ng umaga habang nagpapatrulya ang mga kagawad ng Philippine Coast Guard (PCG)-Sub-Station sa karagatan na sakop ng Ternate ay namataan ang dalawang banca na illegal na nangingisda sa lugar at wala rin umanong lisensiya para mangingisda. **GENE ADSUARA**

EDITORIAL

‘Tali man sa leeg’

NASA 48,000 ang populasyon ng mga persons deprived of liberty ng Bureau of Corrections.

Sinusulat ito ay daan pa lamang o wala pa sa isang libong PDLs mula sa naturang kabuuang bilang ang nakakatanggap ng COVID-19 vaccine.

Hindi dahil nasa piitan ay kakalimutan o ipagwawalang bahala ang karapatan ng bawat inmate.

Tali man sa leeg ang kanilang kalayaan subalit ang lahat ng karapatan ay dapat natatamo.

Kabilang sa karapatan ay ang kanilang kalusugan na dapat ay binibigyang pansin ng pamahalaan.

Nananatili parintayosapandemiya kaya kasama sa kanilang karapatan ang mabakunahan bilang proteksiyon.

Kaya naman mahigpit ang panawagan sa gobyerno ng Commission on Human Rights hinggil dito.

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MAS MAHIGPIT NA PROTOCOLS, IPATUTUPAD SA INDANG

LUNGSOD NG TRECE MARTIRES, Cavite (PIA) --Mas mahigpit na community quarantine protocols ang paiiralin sa bayan ng Indang matapos ideklara bilang Covid-19 hotspot ang buong bayan, sang-ayon na rin sa rekomendasyon ng local Inter-Agency Task Force nito.

Ito ay kasunod ng pagtaas ng kaso ng Covid-19 sa naturang bayan kung saan umabot na sa 302 batay sa pinakahuling ulat ng Rural Health Unit nito.

Nitong Huwebes, Agosto 26, ay idineklara ni Mayor Perfecto Fidel bilang Covid-19 hotspot areas ang lahat ng 36 na barangay sa Indang.

Sa kanyang Executive Or-

der no. 29, ipinag-utos ni Mayor Perfecto Fidel ang pagpapatupad na mas mahigpit na mga alituntunin at parusa sa mga lalabag dito.

Mahigpit na pagbabawal sa nasabing kautusan ang pagsasagawa ng handaan o anumang pagtitipon, pati na ang mga outdoor exercises. Limitado ang araw ng pagbuburo ng mga namatay na hindi dulot ng sakit na CoVID-19.

Mahigpit ring ipapatupad ang pagsusuot ng face mask at face shields sa mga pampublikong lugar, at ng curfew hours alinsunod sa mga alituntunin ng Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ). **(RF, PIA Cavite at ulat mula sa Municipality of Indang)**

Bakuna kontra COVID-19 sinigurong epektibo ng DOH CALABARZON

LUNGSODNGCALAMBA, Laguna (PIA) - Muling pinaalalahan ng Department of Health Calabarzon ang publiko na maging mapanuri sa mga impormasyong kanilang nababasa online patungkol sa mga bakuna kontra COVID-19 na ginagamit ng pamahalaan.

Ito ay matapos iulat ng kagawaran na mayroong isang grupong nagpapakalat ng mga kahina-hinalang impormasyon tungkol sa epektibo ng mga bakunang ginagamit sa COVID-19 vaccination program.

Ayon sa DOH-CALABARZON, nagpakalat ng mga polyeto ang grupong Gising Maharlika -- na nagpakilala bilang isang 'independent new and alternative media source' -- sa bayan ng Liliw noong Agosto 23.

Batay sa ulat, nakasulat sa mga polyeto na hindi mabisa ang mga face mask at swab testing ng pamahalaan dahil hindi raw nakamamatay ang COVID-19.

Dahil dito, binigyang diin ng Regional Health Office na ligtas at epektibo ang mga bakunang ipinamamahagi ng pamahalaan dahil dumaan sa masusing pag-aaral ang mga ito.

"Patunay po dito ang patuloy na pagbaba ng mga nadadala sa ospital at namamatay sa mga taong nabakunahan na nito. Ang isang tao na me kumpletong bakuna ay madaling gumaling at hindi nagkakaroon ng malalang sakit o komplikasyong dulot ng Covid virus," giit ni Region-

al Director, Dr. Eduardo C. Janairo.

Dagdag pa ni Janairo, hindi bababa sa 99.77 posyento ng mga nabakunahan ang nagsabing wala silang naranasang malubhang side effect mula sa pagbabakuna.

Sa katunayan, nasa 23 porsyento lamang ang nakaranas ng mga mild symptoms mula sa bakuna tulad ng lagnat, panghihina, pagkahilo o pananakit sa bahagi ng katawan ng nabakunahan, na kusang nawawala.

"Tangkilikin po natin ang mga bakuna laban sa Covid virus, anuman pong tatak, dahil ito po ay ligtas at makapagbibigay ng karagdagang proteksiyon sa atin ngayong panahon ng pandemya," ani Janairo.

Batay sa datos ng DOH CALABARZON, umabot na sa 1,681,899 katao ang nakatanggap na ng kumpletong dose ng bakuna kontra COVID-19 sa buong rehiyon.

Ayon sa Department of Health, ligtas at epektibo ang mga bakunang ipinamamahagi ng pamahalaan dahil mayroong Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) mula sa Food and Drug Administration (FDA) ang mga ito.

Nagsisilbing katibayan ang naturang sertipikasyon na dumaan sa pagsusuri ang mga bakuna, alinsunod sa mga pag-aaral. **(PB/DOH CALABARZON)**

Women's association in San Luis receives DOST-FNRI's Pancit Canton with Squash Technology

LOS BAÑOS, Laguna --PHP Noodle Haus, an association of marginalized women in Brgy. Taliba, San Luis, Batangas, received the Department of Science and Technology – Food and Nutrition Research Institute's (DOST-FNRI) Pancit Canton with Squash Technology through a technology transfer training conducted via Zoom platform, Aug. 18.

More than unfolding the maximum potentials of PHP Noodle Haus as a community enterprise, DOST Provincial Science and Technology Center (PSTC) - Batangas strives to make the association abreast with the latest technologies which can help improve their product line. Being known as a local producer of pancit canton and shing-a-ling for eleven years already, PHP Noodle Haus continuously spins off applications to enhance their product through in-house product development. In 2020, they were granted with their second DOST Community-Based project entitled "Technology Upgrade and Process Improvement of PHP Noodle Haus in Brgy. Taliba, San Luis, Batangas" which comprises the transfer of DOST-FNRI's pancit canton with squash technology aimed at enhancing their current formulation and process, and the provision of appropriate equipment to address their production problems.

To formalize the technology transfer, a technology licensing agreement was executed between DOST-FNRI and PHP Noodle Haus with DOST CALABARZON PSTC Batangas as witness. The undertaking was done as a pre-requisite to the actual technology transfer. Other requirements which include Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) Gap Analysis, Technology Needs Assessment (TNA), permits, and certifications among others were likewise complied to push through with the technology transfer.

Mr. Jaypy S. De Juan, Senior Science Research Specialist at the Business Development Unit under the Technology Transfer and Commercialization Section of DOST-FNRI, facilitated the technology transfer training. Given the constraints on conducting a face-to-face training due to COVID-19 pandemic, the technology transfer modality has been aided by a virtual platform. PSTC

Batangas Staff, Mr. Mhark Ellgine A. Libao (Science Research Specialist II) and Mr. John Maico Hernandez (Science Research Specialist I), were present on-site to guide the women's association on the step-by-step procedures of producing the pancit canton with squash using the DOST-FNRI technology.

PSTC Batangas Provincial Director, Ms. Felina C. Malaban, was also present online via Zoom platform. On her message, she expressed her appreciation to DOST-FNRI's support in strengthening the capacity of PHP Noodle Haus. She also recognized the commitment of the women's association in sustaining their enterprise and hoped for the maximum utilization of the new technology for their enterprise's advantage. In response, Ms. Aurea B. Addun, President of PHP Noodle Haus, thanked DOST-FNRI and PSTC Batangas for the interventions they received. "Maraming maraming salamat po sa FNRI at DOST Batangas sa ipinagkaloob n'yo po sa aming bagong kaalaman. Malaking tulong po ito sa aming negosyo dahil mas gumanda po ang kalidad ng aming produkto," she said.

According to DOST-FNRI, noodle products are well-accepted by all classes of consumers since children and adults take noodle products not only for their snacks but also for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. As to their research, canton noodles are consumed daily by 7 out of every 100 households and weekly by 36 out of every 100 households. While Vitamin A deficiency remains a public health problem in the Philippines as it affects more than 1.7 million children under the age of five and 500,000 pregnant and nursing women, the partial substitution of veggies like squash in place of wheat flour in noodles commonly consumed by children and adults is found effective in addressing this deficiency. Pancit Canton with Squash is a nutritious noodle prepared from a blend of wheat flour, squash puree, salt, egg, and noodle improver. A 50g serving will provide 16%, 20% and 24% of the RDA for energy, protein and vitamin A respectively of 4-6 year-old children. **(John Maico M. Hernandez, DOST-CALABARZON)**

Magsasaka ng palay at gulay sa Calamba, makakapagtanim na ng mais sa pamamagitan ng FFS ng DA-4A

LUNGSOD NG LIPA, Batangas --Susubok na makapagtanim ng puting mais sa kauna-unahang pagkakat-aon ang 28 magsasaka ng palay at gulay mula sa lungsod ng Calamba, Laguna sa tulong ng Farmers' Field School (FFS) na isinasagawa ng Department of Agriculture IV-CALABARZON (DA-4A) sa ilalim ng Corn Program.

Mga magsasaka mula sa mga baranggay ng Rizal, Banlic, Mayapa, Parian, San Jose, San Cristobal, San Juan, La Mesa, Halang, Uwisan, at Look ang dumalo at nakilahok sa nasabing aktibidad.

Layunin ng FFS na matulungan at maturan ang mga magsasaka na makapagtanim ng puting mais upang mapakinabangan pa rin nila ang kanilang lupang sakahan sa panahong nakapahinga ito sa pagtatanim ng palay at gulay.

Mahalaga para sa kalusugan ng lupang sakahan ang crop rotation o ang pagpapalit ng mga pananim bawat pagtaos ng panahon ng pag-aani

dahil napapalitan nito ang mga nawalang sustansya ng lupa at naiwasan ang pananatili at pagdami ng mga peste sa sakahan.

Bahagi ng FFS ang mga pagsasanay tungkol sa pagsaanalisa ng lupang sakahan, pamamahala at pagkontrol sa mga peste sa taniman gaya ng fall armyworm, mga yugto ng pagtatanim ng mais, at ang tamang pagtatala o record keeping.

Matatapos ang serye ng mga pagsasanay sa Setyembre na siyang simula naman ng panahon ng pagtatanim ng puting mais. Dito ay susubukin ng mga magsasaka ang kanilang natutunan mula sa dinaluhang FFS.

"Nagpapasalamat kami sa FFS na ito ng DA dahil malaking tulong na may bagong natututunan kahit kaming mga experienced na magsasaka. Siguradong dagdag-kita kapag natutunan naming maitanim nang maayos 'yong mais," ani Niilo I. Baron, maggugulay. **(Reina Beatriz P. Peralta / DA-RFO IVA, RAFIS)**

DOST opens applications for 2021 JLSS

ILOCOS SUR (PIA) - The Department of Science and Technology-Science Education Institute (DOST-SEI) is opening the applications for its 2021 Junior Level Science Scholarship (JLSS) Program. Science Research Specialist II and DOST Technical Scholarship Coordinator Adelisa Florendo said the JLSS program is intended for incoming regular third year college students in Academic Year 2021-2022 who are enrolled in priority science and technology courses.

It also seeks to fast track the production of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) professionals in the country.

"Under the JLSS are three component programs: Republic Act (RA) 7687 program, which provides for talented students who are under a certain socioeconomic status; Merit program, which gives chance to students with high aptitude in STEM; and RA 10612, which aims to accelerate the production of STEM teachers in secondary schools." Florendo said during the Serbisyo Publiko Media Forum of PIA-Ilocos Sur. Graduates of the JLSS-RA 7687 and JLSS- Merit programs are required to render service obligation by working along their fields in the country after graduation.

Meanwhile, graduates of JLSS-RA 10612 will be given priority for job placement in high schools in the country - by the Department of Education (DepEd) - as a Special Science Teacher I.

They shall also be allowed to teach STEM subjects even without Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET) eligi-

bility but have to pass the LET within five years from date of hiring if they opt to continue their employment with DepEd. She said interested applicants must meet the following conditions: must have a general weighted average of at least 83 percent or its equivalent and with no conditional or failing mark in the first two years in college including in the mid-year terms, if enrolled; must be natural-born Filipino citizen; must be of good moral character and in good health; and may have taken the DOST-SEI Scholarship Examination before but did not pass or have qualified for the DOST-SEI Undergraduate Scholarship but did not avail the scholarship award.

"Among the scholarship privileges are a monthly stipend at P7,000; tuition fee subsidy up to P40,000 per academic year for those enrolled in private higher education institutions; P10,000 book allowance per academic year; P1,000 graduation allowance; one economy-class roundtrip fare per year for those studying outside of their home province; P10,000 thesis allowance; and group accident insurance," she added.

For the full application details, applicants may check this link: <https://jlss.science-scholarships.ph/>.

The last day of online application and uploading of requirements is set on October 29, 2021.

Aside from the JLSS, DOST-SEI also offers undergraduate scholarship programs for incoming first year college students, and local and foreign graduate scholarships for MS and PhD students. **(JCR/AMB/PIA Ilocos Sur)**

SC REINSTATES WORKER DISMISSED WHILE RECOVERING FROM STROKE

MANILA – The Supreme Court (SC) has dismissed a petition filed by utility subcontractor Meralco Industrial Engineering and Services Corporation (Miescor) questioning the Court of Appeals' (CA) decision on a labor case involving a worker who was dismissed while recovering from a stroke. In a resolution recently made available online, the SC's Second Division affirmed the CA and the National Labor Relations Commission (NLRC) in ruling that Miescor could no longer question the status of Rizaldy L. Pangilinan as a regular employee since Miescor failed to appeal the labor arbiter's decision.

"It is well-settled that a decision becomes final as against a party who does not appeal the same. Thus, petitioner's failure to appeal the labor arbiter's decision renders the issue on respondent's status as a regular employee final and executory," the court said.

The court had awarded PHP341,395 representing full back wages and attorney's fees as well as ordered that Pangilinan be reinstated to his former position.

"The employer had the burden of proving that the employee's dismissal was for a just or authorized cause. Undoubtedly, this burden lies with the employer, and failure to discharge said burden leads to the inevitable conclusion that the dismissal was illegal," the SC said. Pangilinan was first hired by Miescor in 1996 as a worker in clearing right-of-way projects.

In 2001, he was transferred to Meralco maintenance and later assigned to different projects, the last of which was with PLDT.

On Sept. 6, 2015, he suffered a stroke and was hospitalized. On January

5, 2016, Miescor terminated his employment citing the expiration of Miescor's contract with PLDT. Pangilinan then filed a labor case claiming he was denied due process before being dismissed and was fired without valid grounds.

Miescor, for its part, said the latter was a project employee, who signed project employment contracts with the company, and his employment was only extended when projects were not yet completed.

The labor arbiter ruled Pangilinan was a regular employee of Miescor but he had not been illegally dismissed from employment since he failed to report for work for a long time which "can be construed as a clear intent to abandon his job or sever his employer-employee relationship".

The worker appealed the arbiter's ruling which was later modified by the National Labor Relations Commission (NLRC) to the effect that the employee was indeed illegally dismissed.

The NLRC also ordered his reinstatement and payment of full back wages to the employee.

In its ruling, the NLRC found that since Miescor did not appeal the decision of the labor arbiter, it became final and executory.

"It is presumed that a party who did not interpose an appeal is satisfied with the judgment rendered by the lower court," the NLRC said. "Even granting that respondent was dismissed due to AWOL or neglect of duties, petitioner is mandated to afford respondent due process."

The CA noted that when the worker was dismissed from employment, he had not yet fully recovered from the stroke as shown in a certification by an attending physician. **(PNA)**

DENR CALABARZON to Immediately Control Entry of Water Lilies from Laguna Lake to Manila Bay

In view of the directive of Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu to prevent water hyacinths from entering and crowding the Manila Bay, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) CALABARZON led by Regional Executive Director Nilo B. Tadoria and the Manila Bay Site Coordinating and Management Office (MBSCMO)-4 crafted an action plan for the immediate removal and control of water hyacinth in Laguna and Rizal provinces.

Tadoria said the Secretary initially ordered the DENR National Capital Region (NCR) to prepare an action plan to address the issue of water hyacinths proliferating in Marikina River, as the same may eventually flow to Manila Bay. However, based on the assessment made by the said office, it was found out that the said water plants actually originated from Laguna Lake, he stated.

He shared that during a meeting on August 11, 2021 organized by DENR NCR and attended by DENR CALABARZON and other government offices with direct link to the issue such as the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA), Pasig River Coordinating and Management Office (PRCMO) and Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA), it was agreed that the regional department will also prepare the corresponding action plan within its jurisdiction as input to the overall action plan to be prepared by the created special task force headed by DENR NCR Regional Executive Director Jacqueline A. Caanacan.

Considering its natural features, the water hyacinths found along Marikina and Pasig Rivers are highly likely from Laguna Lake brought to the said rivers by wind through the Napindan Channel, Tadoria admitted.

"Our action plan should involve the immediate control and management of the water hyacinths within Laguna Lake so that it will not float towards Pasig River and Manila Bay. Our first line of defense is the river mouths in CALABARZON. 'Yung makakawala ay dapat ma-control sa Napindan Channel which is also within our jurisdiction," he declared.

He specially directed MBSCMO Rizal to look into the backflow of water lilies along Manggahan Floodway in Taytay and Cainta, Rizal, and to consider the possibility of propagating Kangkong or water spinach which, like water hyacinth, absorbs heavy metals however, the former does not float from one place to another unlike the latter.

MBSCMO-Laguna Site Coordinator, Melvin C. Lalican said water hyacinths are observed along the rivers of Pagsanjan, Sta. Cruz, San Juan, San Cristobal, Binan, Cabuyao, and Sta. Rosa. On the other hand, MBSCMO-Rizal staff, Jenesis P. Erana said water hyacinths are seen along the river systems in Cainta, Taytay, Angono, Binangonan, Cardona, and Baras.

The duly prepared detailed regional action plan was presented before Secretary Cimatu, Undersecretary for Environment and International Environment Affairs Jonas R. Leones, and the special task force on August 20, 2021 for deliberation.

At present, MBSCMO-4 and its counterpart offices in Laguna and Rizal continue to mobilize the hired river rangers to manually remove the water hyacinths along the tributaries of Laguna Lake. Moreover, they are coordinating with the local government units (LGUs) concerned regarding the possible dumping site for the collected water hyacinths.

By September 2021, the

DENR CALABARZON plans to hold a series of coordination meetings with the barangay LGUs for the clearing of water hyacinths within its respective jurisdictions. Furthermore, the regional department will start to hire additional laborers to undertake the manual removal of water lilies, coordinate with the Department of Public Works and Highways for the use of trash skimmers for the mechanical removal of the said water plants, and coordinate with the municipal and barangay LGUs for the hauling and disposal of the same. LLDA, PRCMO,

DENR NCR, MMDA, and Manila Bay Coordinating Office (MBCO) also plan to install trash traps and trash booms at strategic places from the mouths of Laguna Lake to Napindan Channel, Pasig River, and Manila Bay.

MBCO will prepare a comprehensive plan based on the action plans crafted by DENR CALABARZON and other agencies concerned. DENR targets to accomplish the project of clearing the water hyacinths in Manila Bay and its tributaries by October 2021 in compliance with Cimatu's directive. **PR**

Kelot, timbog sa nakaw

ARESTADO ang 29-anyos na hinihinalang miembro ng Akyat Bahay sa aktong ibinebenta ang tinangay na mga Century Tuna matapos pasukin ang isang Day Care Center sa Dasmariñas City, Cavite.

Kinilala ang suspek na si Regie Cubacha na inireklamo ni Jennelyn Ibanez, namamahala ng Day Care Center of Paliparan 3 sa Phase 1 Brgy Paliparan 3, Dasmariñas City.

Sa ulat ni PSSgt Richard Domingo, ng Dasmariñas City Police Station, ayon sa nakasaksi ay nakita ang suspek dakong alas-6:00 Martes ng hapon na nagtungo ito sa Day Care

Center.

Umakyat sa bubong at sinira saka pumasok sa loob at tinangay ang nakitang laman nito.

Ayon kay Ibanez, siyam na piraso ng Century Tuna at P500 cash ang tinangay ng suspek.

Nagsagawa naman ng follow up operation ang mga barangay tanod na sina Salvador Buenabajo at Rommel Gomez kung saan naaktuhan ang suspek habang ibinebenta ang nasabing mga Century Tuna.

Kinilala naman ng nasabing saksi ang suspek na siyang umakyat ng bubong. **GENE ADSUARA**

3 lalaki, huli sa mga baril

PAWANG sugatan ang tatlong lalaki na nabaril ng awtoridad matapos nikipagpalitan ng putok nang pinasibad ang kanilang sasakyan sa isinasagawang Oplan Sita ng kapulisan sa Dasmariñas City, Cavite.

Ginamot sa Pagamutan ng Dasmariñas ang mga suspek na sina Jose Pepito Rusco, 36; Abdul Samie, 33; at Domingo Macunay, nasa wastong edad; at pawang residente ng Moonwalk IV Las Pinas City, dahil sa tinamong mga sugat sa katawan.

Sa ulat ni Pat Roderik Bajado, ng Dasmariñas City Police Station, dakong alas-12:30 Miyerkules ng

madaling araw naganap ang insidente kung saan nagsasagawa ng Oplan Sita ang mga operatiba ng PCP 4 Salawag ng Dasmariñas CPS.

Nang parahin ang isang kulay puti na taxi na walang plaka, imbes na tumigil ay pinaharurot ng driver papalayo sa lugar habang pinaputukan ang mga awtoridad.

Sinundan ang mga ito at gumanti ng putok na nagresulta sa kanilang mga sugat at pagkaaresto.

Nang inspeksiyunin ang nasabing sasakyan, narokober ang iba't ibang uri ng kalbire ng baril. **GENE ADSUARA**

AMAZING DEALS AT SM DEALS

We all love a deal, especially during difficult times! And the good news is that SM Deals has amazing bargains, discounts, and offers you can avail of at just one click. SM DEALS is your one-stop source for all shopping and dining discounts, promos and coupons that you can enjoy only at SM.

And it's pouring deals! There are exciting fashion and beauty discounts on major brands, as well as treats from your favorite restaurants. Techies will love HALO's Buy One, Take One offer on laptop bags and sleeves, as well as Huawei's special of up to 50% on spare parts when you get your gadget repaired. Riders will hit the road in style with P1,000 worth of accessories for every purchase of Moto's shifter helmet.

Some deals are even unexpected, but nevertheless delightful. Use your China Bank credit card for a minimum single receipt installment of P25,000 and get a free shopping code of P1,000 which you can redeem at The SM Store, Power Mac, S & R, and the Bistro Group. Learning how to drive? You can get 5 hours of driving lessons for free when you enroll in select Smart Driving courses.

Even completing a product presentation of Cocolife gives you a chance to win up to P20,000, care packages and Share Treats rewards.

COMELEC VOTER REGISTRATION AT SM SUPERMALLS



The Commission on Elections and SM Supermalls recently launched 76 satellite COMELEC Voter Registration centers at the SM Supermalls to provide voters with more registration venues. This will run in SM Supermalls nationwide until Sept 30. This gives the public a safer, more convenient option amidst the prevailing COVID health crisis. Shown during the launch at the SM Mall of Asia are COMELEC Commissioner Aimee Ferolino (center) joined by (from left to right) COMELEC Director IV for Election and Barangay Affairs Department Atty. Divine E. Blas-Perez, COMELEC Director IV for Education and Information James Jimenez, SM Supermalls President Steven Tan and SM Supermalls SVP for Operations Bien Mateo. SM Supermalls is providing free space and waived charges to essential conveniences so they can efficiently operate the registration centers.

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You'll love the awesome deals in fashion, beauty, tech, food, and more at smdeals.com! #ItsADealAtSM

Buy One, Take One on laptop bags and sleeves from HALO. Discount vouchers are also available at smdeals.com. Promo is available while supplies last.

Get up to 70% discount at Aldo on selected styles until September 11, 2021.

Avail of Smart Driving's Theoretical Driving course or Practical Driving course for motorcycles and for four-wheeled vehicles and get free 5 hours of driving lessons as a bonus. Promo runs until December 31, 2021.

Free P1000.00 worth of accessories of your choice for every purchase of shifter helmet at Moto. Promo is available at all SM branches Nationwide. Valid until September 30, 2021.

Have a chance to win up to 20,000.00, as well as care packages and ShareTreats rewards when you complete a product presentation of Cocolife until October 31, 2021. Simply visit any participating Cocolife branch in SM nationwide.

Plains and Print at SM Deals. Present your valid and original Covid-19 vaccination card to get P200 Off on every 2500 minimum purchase at selected Plains and Print stores. Promo runs until September 30, 2021.

Get a 12" Classic New York-Style Original Crust Hawaiian or Pepperoni Pizza and Large Charlie Chan or Chicken Alfredo when your order for takeout from Yellow Cab at smdeals.com. Promo runs until October 3, 2021.

Use your China Bank credit card on a minimum single receipt installment transaction of P25,000 and get a free shopping e-code worth P1000 which you can redeem at The Bistro Group restaurants, Bonchon, Power Mac Center, The SM Store and S&R. Promo runs until September 30, 2021.

Get your gadgets fixed at Huawei and enjoy up to 50% off on spare parts. This promo is applicable to out-of-warranty repairs on Huawei devices only. Score other deals like free clean-up services and a reduced price on battery replacement in this limited-time offer. Promo runs until September 12, 2021.

Get a Giordano Privilege card and enjoy the following loyalty perks: 10% off on all regular items, 15% off on your birthday month and 20% off on your birthday for a minimum cumulative purchase of P10,000 per year! Valid until December 31, 2021

Buy 2 for 799 on Men's Tops at Bench. Promo runs until April 20, 2022.

SM Deals offer a wide array of options when availing of the discounts. At the website (www.smdeals.com), customers may present the vouchers when they visit the participating store at their selected SM Mall. Selected stores also offer curbside pick-up, where they can directly order from viber and drive-thru the designated area in SM Supermalls to pick-up their orders.

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mall and you can now begin shopping exciting deals and enjoy more savings. Like and Follow our social media page to be updated on all our upcoming deals. Please follow Facebook at www.facebook.com/SMDealsOfficial, Instagram at www.instagram.com/smdealsofficial/, and Twitter at www.twitter.com/SMDealsOfficial. SM Deals is one of the many exciting shopping promos at SM. Shop, save, and be thrilled — #ItsADealAtSM!



2 PINOYS TULOY ANG AKSYON SA TOKYO PARALYMPICS

Asahan ang isang napa-hinga at may lakas na si Gary Bejino habang siya ay lumalangoy sa men's 400-meter freestyle-S6 event ng Tokyo Paralympic Games kompetisyon sa Tokyo Aquatic Center.

"Sa palagay ko ay mas malakas si Gary ngayon matapos makuha ang kanyang personal na pinakamahasay na oras sa 50-meter butterfly event noong nakaraang. Inaasahan din niya na makakapagpasok din siya sa 400-meter freestyle," sabi ng para-swimming coach na si Tony Ong.

Ang manlalangoy ay nagtala ng 36.14 segundo sa kaganapan, nawawala ang finals na putol sa paglalagay ng ika-15 pangkalahatang mula sa 16 na mga entry, sa kanyang pasinali sa Paralympic na suportado ng Philippine Sports Commission.

Ang 2018 Asian Para Games pilak na medalist, na ang kanang braso at kaliwang paa ay kailangang putulin matapos siyang malubhang nakuryente sa edad na pitong, ay lumangoy sa linya No. 7 sa una sa dalawang pag-init sa alas-9 ng umaga (8 am sa Maynila), kasama ang nangungunang walong kwalipikasyon na papasok sa finals sa hapon.

Sa kabilang banda, inayos nang maayos ng wheelchair racer na si Jerrold Mangliwan ang kanyang diskarte sa pagsisimula bilang paghahanda sa men's 100-meter-T52 na karera, ang kanyang panghuling kaganapan, ayon kay para-atletikong coach Joel Deriada mula sa Maynila.

"Ang pagsasanay ni Jerrold sa huling dalawang araw ay nakatuon sa kanyang mga pagsisimula. Iyon ang kanyang kahinaan. Ang pagsisimula ay mahalaga sa kaganapan ng sprint. Ang kanyang isang oras na pagsasanay ay nakatuon sa karamihan dito." Sinabi ni Deriada.

Ilinagdag pa ng coach na ipinaalam sa kanya ng atle-



ta na may siyam lamang na mga entry sa karera kaya hindi siya makikipagkumpitensya hanggang sa pangwakas na karera sa Japan National Stadium track oval.

"Mayroong siyam na mga linya kaya kung siyam lamang na mga atleta ang pumasok, diretso sa finals na si Jerrold," aniya.

Natuwa din si Deriada sa pang-anim na puwesto ni Mangliwan sa men's 1,500-meter finals

"Ang kanyang (Mangliwan's) oras ng 3: 58.24 ay 11 segundo na mas mahusay kaysa sa kanyang nakaraang personal na pinakamahasay na 4: 09.95 kaya't iyon ay isang kapansin-pansin na pagpapabuti ng anumang pamantayan," pagbabahagi ni Deriada.



Si Deputy Speaker Eric Martinez ng 2nd district ng Valenzuela City. Ay nagbigay ng mga malinaw na pahayag sa online PSA Forum kaugnay sa pagtatakda ng Philippine Olympian Memorial Act sa hinaharap upang siyang magiging alaala ng mga Atletang Pilipino na nagbigay karangalan sa bansa. (RGN)

PHILIPPINE OLYMPIAN MEMORIAL ACT TINALAKAY SA ONLINE PSA FORUM

Ang New Clark City Sports Complex sa Tarlac ay may sinyales upang mailagay ang Philippine Olympian Memorial na nagsisilbing angkop at permanenteng paggunita ng mga sakripisyo na ibinigay ng mga atletang Pilipino upang kumatawan sa bansa sa Olympiad.

Ang komisyon ng sports hub na ginamit bilang pangunahing venue ng 2019 Southeast Asian Games hosting ay nakatanim sa House Bill 10096 o kilala bilang Philippine Olympian Memorial Act na isinampa sa Kongreso ni Deputy Speaker Eric Martinez ng 2nd district ng Valenzuela City.

Ang panukalang batas ay hindi maaaring dumating sa mas mahusay na oras, ayon kay Martinez, sa kalagayan ng tagumpay na nakuha ng kontingente ng Pilipinas sa nagdaang Tokyo Olympics kung saan nagwagi ang bansa ng kauna-unahang gintong medalya sa pamamagitan ng weightlifter na si Hidi-lyn Diaz upang makuha ang pinaka-produktibo nito kampanya kailanman sa quadrennial showcase.

Sinabi ng batang solon na ang alaala ay hindi lamang sasakupin ang 12 Pilipinong responsable sa pagwawagi ng medalya para sa bansa sa olimpyad, ngunit lahat ng mga atleta na kinatawan ng bansa sa Palarong Olimpiko mula noong 1924 nang ang nag-iisang kinatawan na si David Nepomuceno ay nakikipagkumpitensya sa Paris Games.

"Naisip ko itong Olympian Memorial Act na ito upang mai-immortalize at memorialize hindi lamang ang Fab 12 na medalist natin sa

Olympics. Ngunit bibigyan natin ng parangal ang lahat ng mga Olympian mula pa noong 1924 sa oras ni David Nepomuceno hanggang sa batch ng Tokyo Olympics ng 2020," sabi ni Martinez sa edisyon ng webcast ng Philippine Sports-writers Association (PSA) Forum.

"Hindi natin dapat kalimutan si Lydia De Vega. Hindi natin dapat kalimutan si Caloy Loyzaga. Kumusta naman si Mona Sulaiman, at ang iba pang hindi gaanong tanyag na mga pangalan ngunit nag-ambag sa pagdadala ng karangalan at luwalhati sa bansang ito."

At ang pangunahing aspeto ng panukalang batas ay ang pagtatayo ng museo ay ang pagtatago sa mga memorabilia, pagsulat sa pahayagan, at sana, maging ang mga video clipping ng lahat ng mga Pilipinong Olympian na nakikipagkumpitensya sa pulong.

Ang museo ay maaaring magsilbing isang kanlungan ng turista at kasabay nito, bigyang inspirasyon ang mga kabataan at hinaharap na mga atleta sa pamamagitan ng kaalaman sa kasaysayan ng palakasan sa Pilipinas.

"Hindi lamang tungkol sa mga larawan nila ang nandoon, ngunit nandun yung kwento, ang pag-susumikap at pagtitiyaga ng mga Filipino (atleta) na magbibigay inspirasyon sa ating mga anak at mga susunod na henerasyon," dagdag ni Martinez sa sesyon na ipinakita ng San Miguel Corporation (SMC), MLO@ Philippines, Amelie Hotel Manila, Braska Restaurant, at ang Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR).

TNT WAGI SA BLACKWATER SA PAGBABALIK NG PBA

Ang TNT ay nagtaguyod ng walang talo na pagsisimula sa kampanya nito sa PBA Philippine Cup sa pamamagitan ng 96-76 na gawain ng Blackwater sa unang laro ng liga mula sa isang buwan na pagpapaliban sa Don Honorio Ventura State University Gym sa Bacolor, Pampanga.

Ang Tropang Giga ay humihip ng isang matatag na pagsisimula ngunit nagawa pa ring lumayo mula sa Bossing sa isang mainit na pangatlong quarter na patungo sa 4-0 sa season-opening turno.

Ang TNT ay sumugod huli sa unang kwarter upang humantong sa 28-18 na bentahe sa pagtatapos ng panahon para lamang sa Blackwater na makapunta sa 25-9 segundong quarter pagsabog upang umakyat, 43-37, sa halftime.

Ang Tropang Giga ay humugot ng mabuti sa third quarter matapos na itug-

ma ang kanilang unang kalahating output habang hawak ang Bossing sa 17 lamang.

Ginampanan ni Mikey Williams ang kanyang pinakamahasay na laro sa kanyang rookie campaign para sa TNT na may 16 puntos, tatlong rebound, dalawang assist, at dalawang steal sa bench.

Nagdagdag si RR Pogoy ng 13 puntos, tatlong rebound, apat na assist, at dalawang steal.

Naglalaro sa nasabing arena sa kauna-unahang pagkakataon mula noong kanyang high school, natapos ang alumni ng DHVSU na si Jayson Castro na may 11 marker, dalawang rebound, dalawang dime, at isang steal sa bench.

Si Simon Enciso ay mayroong 14 marker, isang board, at dalawang dimes para sa Bossing, na nahulog sa 0-5.

MANGLIWAN MAY BAGONG PERSONAL NA RECORD SA 1500-METER

Si Jerrold Mangliwan ay naglagay ng isang pinakamahasay na pagganap nang masira nito ang apat na minutong hadlang sa Tokyo Paralympics 1500-meter wheelchair race sa Tokyo Olympic Stadium.

Sa kabila ng pagkabigo na makagawa ng plataporma sa kanyang pangalawang medalya ng panahon ng Olimpiko, mayroon pa ring ipinagmamalaki si Mangliwan matapos na magtapos sa tatlong minuto at 58.24, na mas mahusay kaysa sa kanyang dating career-fast na 4: 09.95.

Natapos niya ang pang-anim sa pitong mga karera.

Kahit na ang mga natapos nang una kay Mangliwan ay nagtakda ng kanilang pinakamabilis na oras para sa 2021.

Ang nagwagi ng gintong medalya na si Tomoki Sato ng Japan ay sumira ng record ng Paralympic matapos ang oras

na 3: 29.13, sa pagkakalas ng 2016 champ na si Raymond Martin ng Estados Unidos sa loob lamang ng 0.59 segundo.

Si Martin, na nagtakda ng nakaraang tala ng Paralympic ng 3: 40.63 sa Rio De Janeiro noong 2016, ay nakakuha pa rin ng isang record ng lugar sa kanyang 3: 29.72 pagganap, na mabuti para sa pilak.

Ang Hirokazu Ueyonabaru ay nagtapos ng isa pang 1-3 tapusin para sa Japan gamit ang isang personal na pinakamahasay na 3: 44.17.

Itinakda ng ika-apat na placer na si Thomas Geierspichler ng Austria ang kanyang bagong season-best sa 3: 54.77, 0.05 segundo lamang nang una sa ikalimang placer na si Leonardo Perez ng Mexico, na mayroon ding season-best.

Si Isaiiah Rigo ng Estados Unidos ang may pinakamabagal na paglalagay ngunit nasa iba-ba pa rin ito ng apat na minuto sa 3: 59.42.



TOPS USAPANG SPORTS

MAKABULUHANG pagpapahayag sa ginanap na lingguhang T.O.P.S. Usapang Sports via online nila IPCA World Champion Sander Severino, Sydney Paralympics Bronze Medalist Adeline Dumapong Ancheta at National Council on Disability Affairs Board Member James Infesto kung saan ay patuloy nilang ginagampanan ang ano man ang kanilang sports na kinaanihan. Bagamat patuloy pa rin ang pandemic na hinaharap. Kasama sa larawan si Ed Andaya pangulo ng TOPS. (RGN)



76k Filipinos applied for TESDA scholarship programs

TAGUIG CITY -- The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) have received over 76,000 scholarship applications online during its three-day National TVET Enrollment Day (NTED) held last August 25-27.

Initial data showed that 76,355 Filipinos nationwide submitted their online application for TESDA's scholarship programs. NTED is a nationwide event held simultaneously for Filipinos who want to get free tech-voc training through TESDA scholarships. They only need to follow the steps for application. Once submitted, the nearest TESDA district or provincial office will contact the applicants and will be assisted for enrollment at the appropriate training center.

TESDA Secretary Isidro Lapeña said that the event was successful and encour-

aged Filipinos who want to acquire skills to avail its scholarship programs.

The scholarship programs, he said, are open to high school graduates 15 years old and above.

"Even if the NTED is done, we are still offering scholarship programs. They just need to visit our website and Facebook page for more information. This is free," Lapeña reminded.

The event was done mostly via online. Some regional and provincial offices had a face-to-face setup, as allowed by respective quarantine classification.

Last August 25, TESDA celebrated both its 27th founding anniversary and the National Tech-Voc Day. NTED was one of the highlights of TESDA's week-long anniversary celebration. The theme for this year's anniversary was "TESDA@27: Pagbangon, Pag-Asa at Pag-abante sa Bente Syete". (TESDA)

PNCC abrogation of midyear bonus in 2013 legal: SC

MANILA – The Supreme Court (SC) has granted a petition filed by the Philippine National Construction Corporation (PNCC) which had questioned a ruling by the Court of Appeals (CA) ordering it to reinstate the grant of midyear bonus to its employees, which had been abrogated by the PNCC management in 2013.

In its decision promulgated on June 23 and made public recently, the High Court's Second Division granted PNCC's petition for review, saying "the labor arbiter, the NLR (National Labor Relations Commission), and the CA each gravely erred when they peremptorily compelled PNCC to release the questioned midyear bonus to the employees."

The CA and the labor arbiter said the decision to remove the midyear bonus violated the rule which prohibits employers from "diminishing" benefits regularly received by employees.

The SC said "PNCC did not violate the non-diminution rule when it desisted from granting midyear bonus to its employees starting 2013" even as between 1992 and 2011, the PNCC

regularly granted this benefit to its employees and never before revoked the said bonus.

"With the subsequent enactment of RA (Republic Act) 10149 in 2011, PNCC may no longer grant this benefit without first securing the requisite authority from the President. PNCC failed to obtain this authority in view of the position taken by the Governance Commission on GOCCs (GCGs) not to forward the request to the President citing the infirmity of the grant and extraneous application of the non-diminution rule thereto," the SC said.

The SC also said although governed by the Labor Code, the PNCC, as a government-owned and controlled corporation (GOCC), is not exempt from the coverage of the National Position Classification and Compensation Plan approved by the President.

The PNCC was originally formed as the Construction and Development Corporation of the Philippines (CDCP) in 1966 and was granted a 30-year franchise to construct, operate and maintain toll facilities. In the course of its opera-

3 kolehiyo sa Mimaropa, pinahintulutan ang face-to-face classes

LUNGSOD NG CALAPAN, Oriental Mindoro (PIA) – "Matapos dumaan sa inspeksiyon, amin ng pinahintulutan na magsagawa ang tatlong paaralan sa Mimaropa ng limitadong klase na face-to-face." Ito ang ipinahayag ni Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Chairperson, Dr. J. Prospero E. De Vera III sa isinagawang press conference kasama si Atty. Joselito C. Alisuag, direktor ng CHED Mimaropa na ginanap sa Mindoro State University (MinSU) Calapan Campus kamakailan. Ang tatlong kolehiyo ay ang Institute of Business, Science and Medical Arts, Inc. (IBSMA) sa Pinamulan sa Luna Goco Colleges, Inc. (LGC) sa lungsod na ito na matatagpuan sa Oriental Mindoro at Occidental Mindoro State College sa bayan ng San Jose

na ayon kay Atty. Alisuag ay pawang nasa isla ng Mindoro at kauna-unahan sa rehiyon na pinayagang mag face-to-face classes.

Ang mga nabanggit na paaralan ay kabilang sa 118 mula sa 400 institusyon sa buong bansa na pumasa sa mga masusing inspeksiyon ng CHED, Dept. of Health (DOH) at Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) sa loob ng apat na buwan na kung saan tumugon sa mga panuntunan ng IATF. Ilan sa mga nakasaad dito ay ang paglalagay ng mga alcohol sa bawat daanan patungo sa mga silid aralan, mga signages kung saan dapat dumaan, bukas ang mga bintana ng silid upang maayos ang daloy ng hangin, na siyang nakapaloob sa 24 na pahinang panuntunan.

Dagdag pa dito, wala din aniyang aktuwal na bilang ng mga estudyante ang maaari sa isang silid aralan kundi, depende ito sa laki, pagpapanatili ng distansiya ng mga mag-aaral at pagpapatupad ng iba pang health protocols.

Sinabi pa ni De Vera, "ang mga kursong pinahihintulutan ng face-to-face ay Maritime Engineering, Medical/Medicine at Hotel and Restaurant Management (HRM) dahil kailangan ng mga ito ng hands-on at aktuwal na pagsasanay."

Samantala, ang bilang ng mga mag-aaral na makikinabang sa naturang klase sa buong bansa para sa taong 2021-2022 ay 9,700 na kung saan 0.3 porsiyento o 41 dito ay nagpositibo sa COVID19, habang ang bilang ng mga guro ay 1,000 at napagalaman din na 1.4 porsiyento dito o 15 ay positibo sa COVID19.

Matapos ang nasabing presscon ay pinasinayaan ng dalawang opisyal ng edukasyon ang pagpapalit ng pangalan ng Mindoro State College of Agriculture and Technology (MinSCAT) sa Mindoro State University (MinSU) at pagtatalaga sa unang pangulo ng MinSU na si Dr. Levy B. Arago, Jr. (DN/PIA-OrMin)

Ospital ng Cabuyao, nilinaw ang mga fake news tungkol sa libreng swab testing, Covid-19 vaccine

CABUYAO CITY, Laguna (PIA) — Nilinaw ng Ospital ng Cabuyao na walang katotohanan ang mga kumakalat na impormasyon hinggil sa isang libreng swab test at 100,000 doses ng Johnson & Johnson vaccines na natanggap umano ng pamahalaang lungsod.

Sa paglilinaw na ibinahagi nito sa Cabuyao City Information Office Facebook page, sinabi ni Dr. Gregorio Fabios, chief of hospital, na 'fake news' ang mga impormasyong ito.

"Ang mga anunsiyong kalakip ng post na ito sa kasamaang palad ay mga FAKE NEWS at walang katotohanan. Huwag po sana tayong agad maniwala,"

pahayag nito.

"Makaaasa kayo na magkakaroon ng sapat na hakbang na legal ang pamahalaang lungsod upang ituwid ang malaking kamaliang ito," ayon pa sa opisyal na paglilinaw ni Fabregas.

Ang Facebook page kung saan nakalathala ang kumakalat na maling impormasyon ay hindi lehitimo, ayon sa Cabuyao City Information Office.

Ayon kay Cabuyao City Vice Mayor Leif Opiña, gumagawa na ng kaukulang hakbang ang pamahalaang lungsod upang mapanagot ang mga nagpapakalat ng 'fake news' na nagdudulot ng kalituhan sa mga residente nito. — FC, PIA 4A

New Dasma CoVax process implemented

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite PIA – The city government of Dasmariñas recently implemented the new CoViD-19 vaccination (CoVax) process to ensure the validity and orderly process of setting up vaccination schedules.

According to Joanne Mata, Executive Assistant V, Office of the Mayor, reconstruction of the procedures was due to the confusion that resulted from text messages for confirmation of vaccination schedules using different legit numbers from the Office of the Mayor.

There were also reports of vaccinees who were not city residents, nor working or studying in the city.

The new CoVax process requires the registration and follow-up will be done directly with the barangay, thru the barangay secretaries who will be responsible for the submission of the lists to the Office of the Mayor.

The Office of the Mayor in collaboration with the City Tourism Office will then arrange the schedules in the city vaccination sites of those in the registration lists, and check for double entries as well.

The arranged schedule will be forwarded to the Das-

mariñas City Information Technology Office for text blasting to concerned residents.

Meanwhile, those who had previously registered online just need to print the form from the dasmacito website which will be submitted to the Barangay to be included in the lists.

Non-residents who are employed and working in the city, as well as students of universities and colleges in the city may register at the Office of the Mayor.

City Tourism Officer Red Alano said that risks will always be present in any situation in the midst of the CoViD-19 pandemic in answer to the criticisms regarding the new process being not safe to the residents.

"We don't really know when and where it is safe," Alano said.

He clarified that senior citizens who are vulnerable will always be prioritized, and will be given consideration once in the vaccination site even without prior schedule.

The city's vaccination program continuously conduct vaccination of the members of the A1 – A4 priority groups and will soon start with the A5 category.

Construction of Retarding Basins to Solve Cavite Flooding Woes

The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) is optimistic that the construction of retarding basins will make flood hazard area in Cavite more resilient during rainy season and swift changes of global weather.

DPWH Secretary Mark A. Villar expressed confidence that the Flood Risk Management Project for Imus River is the most viable solution to mitigate damage on areas vulnerable to flooding in Imus and Bacoor, Cavite. We have high hopes that this project will reduce flood risk to local homes and businesses, said Secretary Villar.

According to DPWH Undersecretary for Unified Project Management Office (UPMO) Operations Emil K. Sadain, the construction of two (2) reservoir projects namely Imus and Bacoor Retarding Basins located in Brgy. Anabu and Brgy. Buhay na Tubig, Imus City, Cavite will reduce the flood peak discharges to low-lying part of Imus and Bacoor Rivers by temporarily managing flood run-off or stormwater in the off-site retarding basins.

The construction of Imus Retarding Basin has a detention pond area of about 35 hectares while Bacoor Retarding Basin has two (2) temporary storage pond or basin connected by sluiceway for a total area of 9 hectares to contain floodwaters during a storm event and reduce the peak volume of flood flow at Imus River and Bacoor River, added Undersecretary Sadain. Retarding basins are being constructed to temporarily store most, if not all, of the rainwater run-off during very high rainfall, to absorb and contain flooding in periods of high rain and later release at regulated flow rate.

The project is based on a flood management master plan for Imus River prepared by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

The ongoing structural measure is also being funded by JICA under its Official Development Assistance (ODA) facility and

implemented by DPWH-UPMO Flood Control Management Cluster (FCMC) headed by Project Director Ramon A. Ariola III.

Undersecretary Sadain together with UPMO FCMC Project Managers Aurelio C. Mendoza and Rogelio O. Ang checked on Friday, August 27, 2021 the progress of work for the putting up of pre-cast concrete blocks revetment wall at surrounding dike, overflow dike, drainage sluice, maintenance road, slope protection, and other project components.

To date, the P2.2 Billion project has a physical accomplishment of about 85 percent, and is slated to be completed by this fourth quarter of 2021.

P175-M allotted for better diagnosis, treatment of disease

MANILA – About PHP175 million has been allocated for the establishment of a research facility that may be used for better diagnosis or management of diseases which is set to be inaugurated this September, Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD) executive director Jaime Montoya said Friday. The Protein, Proteomics and Metabolomics facility (PPMF) is located at the 2nd floor of the Philippine Genome Center main building within the National Science Complex of the University of the Philippines - Diliman.

"The PPMF will provide Filipino researchers the capability to investigate proteomes and metabolomes. These are the collections of proteins and metabolites within an organism that provide their actual characteristics. While the genomes provide a glimpse of the potential traits, the proteomes and metabolomes show the actual picture of the state of an organism or target sample," Montoya said in response to questions from the Philippine News Agency. He cited that proteomics analysis may be used to identify "biomarkers" of a disease like cancer. "Relating these biomarkers to the state of the disease may reveal important proteins

that may be used for better diagnosis or management of the disease. Detecting these biomarkers in successive patients may then be used for better 'personalized treatment' of these patients," Montoya explained. The facility would allow researchers to do more direct analysis on the causes of certain diseases, or of special traits that may be found in unique resources found in the Philippines, he continued. The Department of Science and Technology, he said, has allocated some PHP175 million for this. Montoya clarified that the new facility will expand the country's capacity to utilize multi-omics technology. "Combined with (PGC's) DNA Sequencing Core Facility which studies the DNA (Deoxyribonucleic acid) and RNA (Ribonucleic acid), the PPMF expands the available infrastructure to allow analysis of the protein and metabolite products in target organisms. These capabilities are (intended for all) Filipino researchers," he remarked. The executive also pointed out that the PGC's mission is not just to conduct world-class research within the institution, but to facilitate the use of available resources for the empowerment of other researchers. (PNA)

PCIEERD, beauty titlist to promote science and technology

MANILA – The Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (PCIEERD) is eyeing to explore further partnerships with Binibining Pilipinas International 2021 Hannah Arnold in advocating science and technology (S&T), its chief said Friday.

"Beyond STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics), we want her to speak on S&T and innovations as essential tools not only for solving crimes but also pressing national issues," PCIEERD executive director Enrico Paringit told the Philippine News Agency.

Arnold is a Forensic Science graduate and was guest speaker in a virtual event organized by PCIEERD on Thursday. There, she mentioned that she is looking forward to more collaborations with PCIEERD and the Department of Science and Tech-

nology.

Paringit said it was Arnold who volunteered to collaborate when she learned of the agency's post about SIBOL (Science and Innovation Budding Opportunities for Leverage). Through PCIEERD's Facebook page, it introduces various research and development initiatives or projects that commenced in 2021. SIBOL is PCIEERD's program to create awareness about these projects.

"We recognize that, given her stature, she could be a good role model for promoting STEM as a career and the cause of R&D (research and development)," Paringit said.

He added that they are expecting Arnold's consistent advocacies to translate to positive influence to those considering careers in S&T, and for appreciation of science and the scientific community.

During her talk, Arnold noted that STEM will continue to play a vital role even after the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) pandemic.

"Science will help us improve our critical thinking. Technology will prepare us to be in a high-tech, innovative environment. Engineering will allow us to improve our problem-solving skills and apply this to new projects in the community. Mathematics will enable us to analyze information and make conscious decisions when creating solutions for all," she remarked.

Arnold said she considers those in the field of STEM as modern-day heroes, and that the youth, and the S&T will help the country to be "out of the darkness". According to her, STEM education will bring valuable contributions to society and will prepare it to transform areas of concern with innovation and sustainable solutions.

The beauty titleholder also told the attendees that failure is part of the process. She admitted that she had failed and had to retake her Genetics unit.

"It made me realize that failure, new and uncomfortable environment are an essential part, so we can observe more; come up with new hypothesis; learn new lessons and contribute something beneficial for others," she remarked.

While she became a model and a pageant candidate, Arnold said her love for the lab coat, goggles, will never disappear.

She wanted to become a doctor until in high school when experiments and combining formulas made her more interested in the field of S&T. "It was in Grade 12 when there was a lesson about fingerprinting. I realized I could further my studies in this field," she continued.

Arnold said that she is cur-

rently using her platform to advocate education. She is urging students to be observers of the community.

As for Paringit, he said they would reach out to Arnold to explore ways forward. (PNA)

Resolve power shortage in Mindoro by end-Sept: Cusi

MANILA – Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary Alfonso Cusi went to Mindoro and met with energy stakeholders to resolve the power crisis in the area.

Mindoro Island has been experiencing rotational brown-outs due to power shortage.

"The NPC (National Power Corp.) needs to provide the 25 (megawatts), and they have to find ways to provide this 25 MW as a temporary measure," he said during his meeting with energy stakeholders on Friday.

Cusi met with officials of the NPC, National Electrification Administration (NEA), and National Transmission Corp. (Transco) to address the power supply in the franchise areas of the Oriental Mindoro Electric Cooperative

(Ormeco), Occidental Mindoro Electric Cooperative (Omeco), and Lubang Electric Cooperative (Lubeco).

The energy chief has directed energy stakeholders to deliver the needed power supply by the end of September.

"Mindoro can expect an improved power service by September 30," he said.

Cusi said the NPC would help provide power supply to the province while Ormeco is conducting its own process of contracting with the help of NEA.

"We are ensuring that household electrification is expedited. That's why we are visiting provinces in off-grid areas. We are making sure the commitment of this administration is met when our term ends in June (2022)," he added. (PNA)

U.S. Florida judge rules school districts may issue mask mandates

WASHINGTON – A judge in the U.S. state of Florida ruled Friday that school districts in the state may issue mask mandates for students, dealing a blow to the effort by Governor Ron DeSantis and other officials to block such orders.

Judge John Cooper of the Sunshine State's Second Judicial Circuit said that Florida's school districts may impose strict mask mandates on students to curb the spread of Covid-19 handing a defeat to DeSantis, whose administration has insisted on leaving decisions over whether to let children wear masks to their parents and had threatened to withhold funding for the first two school districts defying the governor's executive order banning mask mandates.

Cooper in his ruling sided with parents in six Florida counties who sued the DeSantis administration, arguing that the governor's order infringes on classroom safety guaranteed by the state's constitution.

The judge announced his ruling in a lengthy live stream video that lasted for nearly two hours, as the state was struggling to cope with its worst moment in the pandemic.

He said DeSantis' order "is without legal authority," adding that although the state law cited by the governor in opposing the mask mandate does give parents the ultimate right to make health-related decisions for their kids, it meanwhile exempts government actions that are needed to protect public health, and that a school district's decision to require students to wear masks during a pandemic is within that exemption.

"I'm a parent - parents' rights are very important," Cooper said. "But they're not without

some reasonable limitation, depending upon safety, reasonableness, and a compelling state need."

DeSantis struck a defiant tone in his response to the ruling, saying the judge's decision was against parents' rights and their ability to make the best educational and medical decisions for their families. He said his administration will continue to defend the law and parents' rights in Florida, and will immediately appeal the ruling.

In a statement, Florida's Department of Education, which along with the state's Department of Health was directed by DeSantis to implement the ban on mask mandates, said it would appeal.

"We are immensely disappointed that the ruling issued today by the Second Judicial Circuit discards the rule of law," said Jared Ochs, a spokesman for the education department. "This decision conflicts with basic and established rights of parents to make private health care and education decisions for children."

A brutal summer surge of the pandemic fueled by the spread of the Delta variant has left more Floridians testing positive for, hospitalized with, and dying from Covid-19 than at any point during the pandemic before.

The reopening of schools over the past few weeks has coincided with the worsening virus conditions, prompting 10 of the state's 67 countywide school districts, covering a majority of the state's 2.8 million public school students, to defy DeSantis' anti-mask executive order and require students to mask up in class unless they are excused for medical reasons. (Xinhua)

HOUSING CZAR FORMS TWGS TO REVIEW SECTOR POLICIES

QUEZON CITY -- Beefing up efforts towards proactive and responsive policies and regulations, the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD) created seven sub-technical working groups (STWGs) to revisit laws and previous issuances and recommend up-to-date measures for the country's housing sector.

DHSUD Secretary Eduardo Del Rosario issued Special Order No. 2021-076, series of 2021, on August 10 to supplement Special Order No. 2021-025, which in turn called for the creation of a Technical Working

Group that would review the technical standards of Batas Pambansa Bilang (BP) 220 and the prevailing housing price and loan ceilings in the country.

BP 220 is the Act authorizing the defunct Ministry of Human Settlements to establish and promulgate different levels of standards and technical requirements for economic and socialized housing projects in urban and rural areas as provided for under Presidential Decrees 957, 1216, 1096 and 1185.

The newly created STWGs are comprised of officials, who are all practicing lawyers, from the DHSUD's Housing and Real Estate

Development Regulation Bureau (HREDRB), Legal Service and various regional offices as chairpersons and members.

The STWGs are given a minimum of one month from the issuance of the order to develop and submit the final drafts of the policies and guidelines to be led by their respective chairpersons, namely:

- Housing Classification or Categorization and its Price Loan Ceilings (Atty. Angelito Aguila)

- Issuance of Temporary License to Sell (Atty. Roberto Mauro Palma Gil)

- Repeat of the Annotation Policy (Atty. Michael Victor Tezon)

- Extension to Complete Housing Projects (Atty. Lyndon Juntilla)

- Housing One-Stop Processing Center (Atty. Jann Roby Otero)

- Guidelines on How and Where compliance to balanced housing program is Utilized/Implemented and the Basis for the Amount Determination (Atty. Richard Manila)

- Public Rental Housing Policy (Atty. Angelito Aguila)

According to the order, the chairpersons may also tap other DHSUD officials and technical experts as resource persons as may be necessary in the performance of their functions

DOH-CALABARZON strongly cautions residents not to patronize false information discrediting COVID vaccine efficacy

QUEZON CITY --The Department of Health (DOH)-CALABARZON (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon) strongly cautioned residents August 26 not to believe anti-Covid-19 vaccine rumors and other misinformation circulating online and distributed by individuals through pamphlets and flyers discrediting the efficacy of the Covid vaccines.

"I strongly advise residents to stick to the facts, review and understand information based on scientific evidence on the safety and efficacy of Covid vaccines and not to rely on unverified online information or groups of individuals who will try to manipulate you and provide you misleading reports and false claims about the vaccines," Regional Director Eduardo C. Janairo stated.

A certain group of individuals, identified as members of the "Gising Maharlika," a so-called local independent news and media alternative source, reportedly distributed pamphlets to residents in Liliw, Laguna on August 23, 2021, informing them that masks and swab tests do not work, and that no person could die of COVID-19.

"For those who have received such information or has read in their social media platform about this online anti-Covid vaccine movement, I advise you not to share and influence other people so as not to amplify these rumors which are not based on scientific evidence," Janairo strongly urged.

"Safe po at effective ang

mga ginagamit ng ating gobyerno na anti-Covid vaccines. Patunay po dito ang patuloy na pagbaba ng mga nadadala sa ospital at namamatay sa mga taong nabakunahan na nito. Ang isang tao na me kumpleto ng bakuna ay madaling gumaling at hindi nagkakaroon ng malalang sakit o kumplikasyong dulot ng Covid virus."

"People often share concerns, mistrust and rumors about vaccines on social media which causes vaccine hesitancy among those who already received their first dose and those who are yet to take their scheduled vaccination. About 99.77% vaccine recipients have not reported any severe adverse reaction and only 23% have experienced mild symptoms which resolved naturally."

The government has already administered 27,806,881 vaccine doses in the country, as of August 26, 2021. In CALABARZON, 1,681,899 individuals were already fully vaccinated. A total of 2,582,878 has received their first dose.

"Sa mga residente po na nakakasaksi ng mga ganitong propaganda ay maari po ninyo itong ireport agad sa inyong lokal na pamahalaan upang mabigyan ng agarang aksyon."

"Tangkilikin po natin ang mga bakuna laban sa Covid virus, anuman pong tatak, dahil ito po ay ligtas at makapagbibigay ng karagdagan proteksiyon sa atin ngayong panahon ng pandemya," Janairo emphasized.

Hontiveros to DBM: Stop accepting proposals from medical supplier linked to financial fraud scandal

SENATOR Risa Hontiveros on Monday called on the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) to stop accepting proposals from Pharmally Pharmaceutical Corporation because of its close links to Pharmally International Holdings Corporation, a Taiwanese company charged with financial fraud. Pharmally Pharmaceutical is the biggest supplier of medical goods for our COVID-19 response.

"Pera ng taumbayan ang ginagamit para bayaran ang bilyon-bilyong halaga ng kontrata para sa ating COVID-19 response. Hindi pwedeng ang kaban ng bayan ay napupunta pala sa mga kumpanyang hindi pala mapagkakatiwalaan. This dubious supplier must go," Hontiveros said.

According to Taipei Times, Huang Wen-lai, the chairman of Pharmally International, was issued an arrest warrant for allegedly transferring \$NT700 million into his personal account. The report also said that Huang was accused of colluding with Chinese businessmen to "falsify accounts and financial statements in one of the largest securities fraud cases in the past few years involving a Taiwan Stock Exchange (TWSE)-listed firm."

Hontiveros's office retrieved a disclosure statement from an annual shareholder report of a different holdings corporation showing that Huang Tzu Yen, one of the owners of Pharmally Pharmaceutical, is the son of Huang Wen-lai. According to Bloomberg, Huang Tzu Yen is also a board member of Pharmally International.

"It is unacceptable that DBM continues to award Pharmally with contracts. Is the DBM simply failing to do its due diligence or is it in cahoots with this questionable local firm? Either way, it is deplorable all the same. We should not hesitate to end contracts with companies that may be involved with illegal activities, whether here or abroad," Hontiveros said.

In September last year, Hontiveros had shared that, from April to May 2020, Pharmally sold two million units of PPEs for P1,910 each, amounting to a P3.8-billion contract. Senator Frank Drilon had also flagged a P480-million contract awarded to Pharmally for the procurement of test kits, which he said was overpriced by P208 million. Despite this, Pharmally still recently won another P744-million contract for the procurement of 17,000 RT-PCR test kits for P45,550 each, signed on June 2021.

"Isang taon na ang lumipas, tapos hindi man lang nag-abala ang DBM na suriin ang kumpanyang bilyon-bilyon na ang kita? Nakakalungkot isipin na sa panahong gipit na gipit ang mga Pilipino, may mga tao pang gustong mangupit," Hontiveros said.

"Sa imbestigasyon namin sa Senado, paulit-ulit nang lumilitaw ang pangalan nitong Pharmally. Ilang warning pa dapat ang kailangan bago mabahala ang DBM at huminto na ang pagbibigay ng kontrata sa kanila? Kahit ilang red flags pa ang nagwawagayway, nagbulag-bulagan parin ang mga korap," Hontiveros concluded. **PR**

under the STWGs.

"This review is part of our pro-active measures to keep the housing sector vibrant and to ensure that all existing policies remain relevant and adaptive to the changing times," Secretary Del Rosario said.

"We need to update previously issued policies to sustain the gains in the housing and urban development sector," the housing czar added.

All these reviews are expected to be completed within the year. **(DHSUD)**



2 DOWN, 1 TO GO, PARA KAY NUCLEAR BOMB!

Muling nagpasabog ng galing ang kabayong si Nuclear Bomb na ginabayan ng hineteng si Pablito Cabalejo matapos sungkitin ang ikalawang korona sa ginanap na 2021 Philracom "2nd Leg Triple Crown Stakes Race" na inilarga sa karerahan ng Metro Manila Turf Club Inc. sa Malvar-Tanauan City, Batangas. Sa largahan ay nakauna sa lundagan ang kabayong si Ambisioso ni JG Serrano, pangalawa si Gusto Mucho na sinakyan ni Patty Dilema, pangatlo si Charm Bell ni Unoh Hernandez, pang-apat si War Cannon na nirendahan ni Kelvin Aboob, panglima si O Sole Mio ni John Alvin Guce, kasunod si Parapurong Bukid na dinala ni CS Pare Jr., Pang pito si La Vie D' Or ni Dan Camanero, nasa ika- walong posisyon ang paboritong si Nuclear Bomb, kasunod si Hook On D Run na pinatungan ni MM Gonzales, pang sampu si Sound Barrier ni OP Cortez, kasunod si Kaparkan Falls na ginabayan ni Mark Alvarez, habang ang kabayong si Kevlar ang nasa huling puwesto. Pagdating sa far turn ay nasa unahan na si War Cannon, habang nagsisimula ng magpa-init sina Nuclear Bomb, Kaparkan Falls at Kevlar. Sa huling diretsuhan ay nasa harapan pa rin sina War Cannon at Gusto Mucho at bumubulusok naman sa gawing labas ang winning horse na si Nuclear Bomb kasabay sa bandang gitna si Kaparkan Falls. Kapansin pansin ang naging diskarte ng hineteng si Pabs Cabalejo matapos na iikot palabas si Nuclear Bomb upang hindi masaraduhan kina War Cannon, ngunit sa huling 100 meters ay sumisiksik naman paloob kay Kaparkan Falls si Nuclear Bomb kaya pinalo sa kaliwa ni Pabs si Nuclear Bomb at nagesponde naman si kabayo at tumawid sa meta ng may kalahating kabayong agwat laban sa nasegundo na si Kaparkan Falls, pangatlo si Kevlar at pang-apat si Gusto Mucho. Nasungkit ni Nuclear Bomb ang premyong P2.1M bilang 1st prize, P700,000 naman ang nakubra ni Kaparkan Falls bilang 2nd place, P350,000 ang nahamig ni Kevlar bilang 3rd place at P175,000 ang napunta kay Gusto Mucho bilang 4th place. Nakapag- uwi din sila War Cannon at Hook On D Run ng P105,000 at P70,000 bilang 5th at 6th place. Nakapagrehistro si Nuclear Bomb ng tiyempong 1:51 (13-22'-23'-24'-27') para sa distansiyang 1,800 meters. Matatandaan na si Nuclear Bomb din ang nagwagi sa 1st Leg ng Triple Crown na ginanap noong Hulyo 25 sa San Lázaro Leisure Park. Masaya naman ang may- ari ni Nuclear Bomb na si Ginoong Gabriel Gaerlan dahil may tiyansa na ito na mawalis ang Triple Crown Series at namumuro na rin na mai-ukit ang pangalan ni Nuclear Bomb sa history ng karera. Sa kasaysayan ay may 12 kabayo pa lang ang nakakagawang magwalis ng Triple Crown. Ang kauna unahan ay si Fair & Square noong 1981 at ang pinakahuli ay si Heneral Kalentong noong 2020.

DENR CALABARZON RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING BARANGAY ECOLOGICAL GARDENS IN TANAUAN CITY, BATANGAS

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) IV-A through its Manila Bay Site Coordinating Management Office 4 (MB-SCMO4) recognized the initiative of ten (10) barangays in Tanauan City in establishing sustainable ecological gardens in support of the Manila Bay Rehabilitation Program.

Barangays Balele, Ulango, Poblacion I, Poblacion III, Poblacion V, Santor, Darasa, Pantay Bata, Trapiche, and Janopol Oriental were awarded with incentives from the DENR IV-A represented by Assistant Regional Director for Management Services, For. Nelson Gorospe; City Government of Tanauan represented by Hon. Mayor Mary Angeline Halili; Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals (BCBP) -Tanauan Chapter thru Mission Director, Efren Macalindong; and Rotary Club of Metro Tanauan and Sto. Tomas (RC METRO TAS) through its Amazing President Lilibeth Quiambao, last July 28, 2021 at Theater Room, New City Hall, Brgy. Natatas, Tanauan City, Batangas.

The first prize of the Search for Best Ecological Garden and Solid Waste Management Practices in Urban and Semi-Urban Barangays was awarded to Brgy. Balele while the second and third prizes were given to Brgys. Ulango and Poblacion III, respectively. Special awards were also awarded to Brgy. Janopol Oriental (Most Impressive Eco-Garden), Brgy. Pantay Bata (Most Resourceful Eco-Garden), Brgy. Poblacion I (Most Transformed Eco-Garden), and Brgy. Poblacion V (Most Innovative Garden).

Halili said the barangay ecological gardens served a great purpose in lessening the amount of wastes ending up in the waterways and sanitary landfills. "Tunay nga namang naging

maganda at kapaki-pakinabang ang resulta ng pagtatayo ninyo ng ecological garden. Kaya aming hinihikayat ang iba pang mga barangay dito sa bayan ng Tanauan na magtayo rin ng kanilang sariling ecogarden upang maranasan nila ang mga benepisyong katulad ng nakamit ninyo at patuloy na tinatamasa ng inyong mga residente hanggang ngayon," Gorospe added.

DENR-MBSCMO4 is set to conduct regular monitoring of the established ecological gardens and launch the same contest in other cities and municipalities across the region to encourage citizens to participate in the Battle for Manila Bay. **PR**

'Gawad na Selyo sa Kahusayan' mula KWF, nasungkit ng OPPAP

LUNGSOD CALOOCAN, (PIA) -- Sa kauna-unahang pagkakataon ay nasungkit ng Tanggapan ng Pampanguluhang Tagapayo sa Prosesong Pangkapayapaan (OPAPP) ngayong taon ang Gawad na Selyo sa Kahusayan sa Serbisyo Publiko (Antas 1) mula sa Komisyon ng Wikang Filipino (KWF).

Ang nasabing parangal ay iginawad sa OPAPP sa Araw ng Gawad nitong Martes, ika-31 ng Agosto sa taong kasalukuyan, kasabay ng pagtatapos ng Buwan ng Wikang Pambansa.

Lubos namang ikinatuwa ng Pampanguluhang Tagapayong Pangkapayapaan ang pagkilala na natanggap nito mula sa Komisyon.

Ani Kalihim Carlito G. Galvez, Jr., malaking karangalan ito para sa tanggapan bilang pagkilala sa kalidad ng serbisyong inihahatid nito sa taumbayan.

"Kasabay ng ating selibrasyon sa Buwan ng Wika ngayong Agosto, ay patuloy nating isinusulong ang tunay at pangmatalagalang kapayapaan at

WCO & BOC launch INTEGRITY DIAGNOSTIC MISSION

The World Customs Organization and the Philippine Bureau of Customs jointly launched the month-long "Integrity Diagnostic Mission" last August 26, 2021, as a step towards further preventing corruption and increasing the level of integrity in customs.

This program, conducted virtually by WCO, involves self-assessment on the part of the bureau to determine its current integrity situation and identify areas and opportunities for further improvement.

Commissioner Rey Leonardo B. Guerrero and WCO Deputy Secretary-General, Ricardo Treviño led the event, which was also attended by WCO integrity experts and other key BOC officials including the BOC Integrity Core Team, that will facilitate the conduct of the Diagnostic Mission.

The Integrity Core Team is headed by Atty. Noemi Alcala-Garcia, Chief of the Planning and Policy Re-

search Department with Atty. Marietta D. Zamoranos, Head of the External Affairs Office as the Assistant lead. Also in attendance were BOC officials who were tapped to participate as Integrity Contributors, in view of their expertise in areas or activities that have direct or indirect impact on the fight against corruption and promotion of integrity.

"This Integrity Diagnostic Mission provides for a holistic and comprehensive approach to the Integrity and Anti-corruption Program of the Bureau. The Integrity Program is enshrined in the Vision and Mission and the 2021 10-Point Priority Program of the Philippine Customs and is envisioned to be consistent with the WCO Arusha Declaration, the WCO Integrity Development Guide, and the United Nations Convention Against Corruption," the Commissioner has stated. **PR**

BSP eyes August inflation between 4.1% to 4.9%

MANILA – The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) forecasts higher liquified petroleum gas (LPG) prices to push domestic inflation to between 4.1 percent to 4.9 percent this month.

In a Viber message to journalists on Tuesday, BSP Governor Benjamin Diokno said other upside risks to inflation for this month are

Lupon sa Wikang Filipino (LWF); nasa Filipino ang ulong sulat o letterhead;

- Naisalin sa Filipino o nasa Filipino ang misyon at bisyon ng inyong institusyon;

- Nasa Filipino ang ilang proseso at karatula na gagabay sa mga kliyente, online man o limbag;

- May mga pormularyo para sa mga kliyente na nakasulat sa Filipino;

- May mga korespondensiya, katulad ng liham, memorandum, at iba pa na nasa Filipino;

- Ginagamit ang Filipino sa mga social media account ng institusyon;

- at nasa Filipino ang mga pabatid, poster, brochure, at mga katulad na materyales, online man o limbag.

(**OPPAP/PIA-NCR**)

Cabanatuan folks appeal to DAR to include their Crisostomo Estate lots under Urban land Reform

CABANATUAN CITY -- Resident-occupants of the Fr. Crisostomo Estate in this city have appealed to, and urge the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) to include under Urban Land Reform the lots they occupy.

The Crisostomo Estate in Cabanatuan City consists of 55 hectares of then muddy lands in seven barangays of the city which are now housing communities. In his 1918 Last Will and Testament, the late Fr. Gregorio Crisostomo, a Filipino priest who joined the Katipunan revolt against the Spanish colonial rulers, had entrusted his assets to the government for it to manage to serve the public welfare, particularly the poor.

The occupants recently received Summons and

Notice of Preliminary Conference from the DAR Adjudication Board (DARAB), relative to the Petition by the DAR Task Force on Crisostomo Estate, seeking to raise the monthly rental rates for residential lots from the original ₱0.07 per square meter (sqm) to ₱10.00/sqm (14,850% increase), and for commercial lots from ₱1.00 to ₱25/sqm (2,500% hike), retroactive to 2006.

Under the rental hike sought, families occupying 300-sqm home lots need to pay ₱3,000 monthly or ₱36,000 per year, and commercial lots of the same size to pay ₱7,500 monthly or ₱90,000 annually. The DARAB Summons has caused the occupants undue apprehension because many of them have neglected to pay rentals, even as the neglect resulted largely from the failure of DAR to communicate with them for decades. This even led some of them to think that the real estate taxes they pay to the city government already include the rental component.

In response to their fear, the Estate's lot occupants in Barangay Mabini Extension in Cabanatuan, led by Teofilo dR. Juatco, banded together and organized their Samahan ng Nagkakaisang mga Residente at Kapit-bahayan ng Crisostomo Estate, Mabini Extension, Cabanatuan City, to pursue and promote peaceful collaboration with DAR and other sectors.

Juatco said they have written DAR Secretary John R. Castriciones to appeal that the Fr. Crisostomo Estate in Cabanatuan City be included under Urban Land Reform and adopt the "Rent-to-Own" scheme for them under which the rentals paid will be credited as installment payments for the lots, the titles for which must eventually be awarded to them once full payment is completed.

Under the option, he added, DAR may raise the rental rate to a reasonable and affordable level to expedite the legitimate disposition of the lots.

(**PNA**)

Random Acts of Kindness ng MPD-SWAT...

MAGSILBING 'ASIN' AT 'LAMPARA'

By Christian Heramis)

"MGSILBI tayong 'asin' sa mga taong nawawalan ng panlasa at 'lampara' sa mga matang mapanglaw. Kung saan pinakikita natin dito na sa maliliit na bagay ay nagiging biyaya ang ating presensya sa iba." Sa maliliit na bagay na ito ay hangad na ipakita na ang SWAT (beyond their black uniform at full battle gears) ng Manila Police District ay tulad din ng tatay, nanay at kuya na naghahanda ng pagkain para sa mahal nilang pamilya. Hindi dapat katakutan tulad ng malimit gawin ng karamihan na gawing panakot

sa mga bata ang kapulisan. Sa pamamagitan ng pagpapakita kung paano mismong mga SWAT personnel ang nagluluto at naghahanda ng isang payak na merienda/meal simula sa kusina hanggang umabot sa kalye. Walang target areas ito habang nagpa-patrol lang sa mga langganan ay mamimigay ng mga pagkain sa mga makikita sa langganan kabilang ang mga street sweepers, children, dwellers, construction workers, traffic enforcers at iba pa.



CONVERGENCE OF LUZON ICT CHAMPIONS CONFERENCES AND EXHIBITIONS (CLICCONEX 2021) | September 23-24, 2021

A convergence of Luzon's ICT Champions with the aim of developing ICT in the Public, Private, Government and Academe sectors of their locales, sharing innovation and collaborating on cracking the code to the creation and running of a #DigitalPH. A collaboration with the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) and the National ICT Confederation of the Philippines (NICP), CLICCONEX 2021 will bring together industry, academe and government agencies together and talk about the northern island of the Philippines thrust towards the 4th Industrial Revolution, with the theme "ICT RevoLUZON for Economic Transformation". This year host is the Cavite ICT Council.

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Basahin Mo Ito!

KALIBRE

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'Di ubra pagkapulis

TAUN-taon ay hindi ko pinapalya ang pag-renew sa rehistro ng single motorcycle na aking nagagamit sa publication. Iba na siyempre na ang minamaneho na motorsiklo ay kumpleto sa dokumento at nasa wasto ang rehistro. Lalo pa na ang single motorcycle ay tila paborito sa mga police checkpoint o oplan sita. Kaya naman dapat ay hindi palso ang rehistro at pati na rin ang driver's license na dapat ay nasa tamang restriction code. Kung nagmamaneho ng single motorcycle dapat ay one (1) ang code sa lisensiya. Bukod sa tama ang lisensiya at rehistro kinakailangan din ang pagsuot ng wastong helmet. Tama rin dapat ang kasuotan sa paa at pang-ibaba na pantalon at hindi short pants o ano mang shorts. Kaya naman pagtatakahan mo kung bakit mayroong nagagawang magmotor kahit nakapambahay lamang. Meaning, naka-shorts lang at t-shirt na minsan ay nakasando pa nga at nakatsinelas. Ang malupit ay wala pang suot na helmet na kung minsan ay may kaangkas pa. Iyong angkas ay wala rin helmet at mayroon na pati bata ay kasama sa motorsiklo. Anyway, bahala sila sa sarili nila kasi buhay nila iyon kung masisita o mahuhuli man. Pero teka muna, medyo napapalayo sa paksa ang pagtipa ko. Sa pag-renew ngayong taon ng rehistro ng motorsiklo ay wala pa ring sticker. Kagaya last year nang mai-renew ang rehistro ay wala ring 2020 sticker. Ibig sabihin ay 2019 pa rin ang nakadikit na sticker sa plaka ng motorsiklo sa

kabila na nakapag-renew para sa 2020 at 2021. Sabi ko nga, ang mga single motorcycle ay paborito sa mga oplan sita o checkpoint. Hinahanap ng pulis ang lisensiya ng rider at mga papeles ng motorsiklo. Naibigay mo na ang driver's license at ang OR/CR ng motor sa pulis. Itong si pulis sa halip na tingnan o basahin ang lisensiya at mga dokumento ng motor ay doon sa plaka nakatuon ang atensiyon. Napansin ang sticker sa plaka na 2019 pa, sukot ba namang sabihan kaagad ang rider na palso na ang rehistro. Samantalang nasa pulis na ang lisensiya at mga dokumento na dapat ay tingnan, sinuri o binasa muna. Kaso lakas ng loob na magsalita at ipamukha ng parak sa rider na ang rehistro ay palso. Ang pinagbatayan lamang ay ang nakitang 2019 sticker na nakadikit sa plaka. Nangyari tuloy ay pahiya ang pulis dahil pinagsalitaan o pinagsabihan siya ng rider. Hindi naman magagamit at uubra pagkapulis niya dahil kumpleto ang rider plus nasa proper outfit pa. Walang puwedeng masisilip na ano mang 'butas' ang pulis dahil lang nasopla siya ng rider. Lesson, hindi lahat ng nababasa o nakikita ay totoo at kaagad na pahuhuli man. Nakita at nabasa ng pulis ang 2019 sticker, since 2021 ay una kaagad pumasok sa utak na palso ang rehistro at tila maangas pa sa pagsasabing palso. Ipa na nga pala, dapat ang bawat nakatalagang pulis sa oplan sita o checkpoint ay magalang at hindi maangas at abusado.