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## DAHIL SA ELEKSIYON, GWARDIYA NILIKIDA?

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First Rizal DOH regional hospital to rise in Rodriguez (p.5)



BOC Files Smuggling Raps vs. Importers, Customs Brokers of General Merchandise, Chemicals (p.11)

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## DAHIL SA ELEKSIYON, GWARDIYA NILIKIDA?

**HINIHINALANG dahil sa nakaraang election ng homeowners ng subdivision kaya pinagbabaril hanggang sa napatay ang isang security guard sa Dasmariñas City, Cavite.**

Ininugod pa sa ospital ang biktimgang si Rodolfo Jacobo Jr., nasa wastong edad, subalit idineklarang dead on arrival. Ininguso ang isa sa suspek na si Ronaldo Pamindalan habang inaalam pa ang pagkakakilanlan sa dalawa pang salarin na tumakas matapos ang insidente. Sa ulat ng Dasmariñas City Police, dakong alas-12:10 ng madaling araw naganap ang insidente sa gate ng Golden Ville 2 Subdivision sa Brgy Sabang. Naka-duty ang biktima nang pumasok ang suspek na si Pamindalan sakay ng kanyang sasakyan.

## Nagmotor na nakatoma, kinalawit ni kamatayan

**NAMATAY** noon din habang nakasampa pa sa kanyang motorsiklo ang 55-anyos na rider habang kritikal naman ang back ride nang mabangga sa cargo truck sa isang palikong bahagi ng kalsada sa Trece Martirez City, Cavite. Kinilala ang biktima na si Florante Rogacion, ng Mendez Crossing West, Tagaytay City habang isinugod sa General Emilio Aguinaldo Hospital ang kanyang back ride na si Rafael Cruzen, nasa wastong edad, ng Pangil, Amadeo. Kinilala ang driver ng cargo truck na si Edmund Neri, 30, ng Creekside, Brgy Julugan 8, Tanza. Sa ulat ni PSMSgt Richard Chavez, ng Trece Martires City Police, dakong alas-3:40 ng hapon naganap ang insidente kung saan minamaneho ng biktima ang kanyang motorsiklong Yamaha Mio at angkas nito si Cruzen. Binabagtas ang kahabaan ng Purok 6, Brgy Conchu at pagsapit sa isang palikong bahagi ng kalsada nang tinangka nitong sakupin ang kabilang bahagi ng daan subalit sumalpok sa kaliwang bahagi ng cargo truck na minamaneho ni

ilang minuto lang ay lumitaw ang dalawa pa umanong suspek na armado ng 'di nabatid na kalibre ng baril at pinagbabaril ang biktima. Nabatid na ang asawa ng biktima na si Nafelia Dejito Jacobe ay nasa loob ng guardhouse at nasaksihan ang pamamaril.

Sa inisyal na imbestigasyon, ilang buwan ang nakakalipas ay nagkaroon ng election ng Board of Directors ang homeowners kung saan naging private security ang biktima ng in-appoint na presidente. Naniniwala ang ginang na nag-ugat ang galit ng isa sa suspek sa biktima noong nakaraang eleksiyon at sa hindi rin pagkakapili bilang presidente. Patuoy ang isinasagawang imbestigasyon ng pulisyasa kaso. **GENE ADSUARA**

Neri. Dahil sa insidente, lumagapak ang motorsiklo ng ilang metro sa semento at doon na nalagutan ng hininga sa ibabaw ng kanyang motorisklo ang rider habang ang back ride ay tumilapon ng ilang metro. Ayon sa imbestigador, positibo sa alak ang biktima habang nagmamaneho ng kanyang motorsiklo. **GENE ADSUARA**

## 2 Sunog sa Cavite

**TINATAYANG** mahigit sa 500 pamilya ang nawalan ng tahanan habang tatlo katao ang naiulat na nasugatan sa dalawang sunog na naganap sa magkahiwalay na lugar sa Cavite. Sa ulat ni Corporal Christian Jovita, ng Dasmariñas City Police, dakong alas-1:15 ng hapon nagsimula ang sunog sa isang bahay sa Sitio Tibag, Brgy Panapaan 3, Dasmariñas City at dahil gawa lamang sa light materials ang mga bahay kaya mabilis na kumalat ang apoy sa iba pang katabi na umabot sa isang daan kabahayan. Umabot sa tatlong alarma na idineklara dakong alas-1:25 ng hapon at idineklarang fire under control

## Lahat ng pamilya sa Cabuyao City, mabibigyan ng ayuda - Mayor Gecolea

**CABUYAO CITY, Laguna (PIA)** -- Tiniyak ng pamahalaang lungsod ng Cabuyao na mabibigyan ng cash assistance ang humigit-kumulang 91,000 pamilyang Cabueño na apektado ng enhanced community quarantine. Ito ay matapos aprubahan ng pamahalaang lungsod ang karagdagan P68-milyon upang mapunan ang P297,809,000 pondong pang-ayuda mula sa pamahalaang nasyunal. "Dahil sa naaprubahang dagdag na budget para sa ayuda, hindi lamang po ang mga nasa list of priority ng nasyonal ang mabibigyan kundi lahat na po ng ating mga kababayan" pahayag ni Mayor Mel Gecolea sa kanyang official Facebook page. Ayon sa pamahalaang lungsod ng Cabuyao, bawat pamilya na may dalawang miyembro o higit pa ay makakatanggap ng P4,000. Makakatanggap din anila ng kaparehas na halaga ang mga mag-asawa o pamilyang nangungupahan; solo parents, senior citizens, at persons

with disability na nag-iisa sa bahay; at, live-in partners na may anak. Ang mga naunang nabigyan ng ayuda ngunit kulang sa P4,000 ay dadagdagan din upang mabuo ang itinakdang halaga. Ayon pa sa pamahalaang lungsod, makakatanggap naman ng P1,000 ang mga indibidwal na nag-iisa sa bahay, mga boarder/bed-spacer; live-in partners na walang anak; at, mga senior citizens at PWD na may kasamang pamilya. Nitong Martes, Abril 13, ay sinimulan na ang house-to-house distribution ng cash assistance para sa mga residente ng lungsod. Sa pahayag ng pamahalaang lungsod ng Cabuyao, ginawa nilang house-to-house ang distribusyon ng ayuda upang matiyak ang kaligtasan ng mga residente nito sa gitna ng tumataas na kaso ng COVID-19. Minarapat din anilang magbahay-bahay upang makita ang katayuan ng mga nasasakapan nitong pagkalooban ng cash assistance.

Dalawang grupo na binubuo ng mga kawani ng lokal na pamahalaan, barangay, at mga volunteers, ang magbabahay-bahay kada barangay upang mapabilis ang pamamahagi ng ayuda. Magkakaroon naman ng encoding at validation upang matiyak na walang madodoblang pangalan o mauulit na tatanggap ng ayuda. Paalala ng pamahalaang lungsod, na manatili sa mga tahanan at hintayin ang

GO Ayuda Team at ihanda ang valid ID na ipapakita sa mga validators para sa verification at identification. Kung wala naman sa bahay ang head of the family, ay maaaring mag-iwan ng kopya ng kanyang ID sa mga maiiwan sa bahay. Sakali naman anilang may hinaing o katanungan ukol sa pagbibigay ng ayuda ay maaaring ipag-bigay alam sa Grievance Committee na kanilang binuo. **(FSC/PIA4A-SMT)**

## Maayos na waste management sa kasagsagan ng COVID-19 pandemic, isinulong

**LUNGSOD CALOOCAN (PIA)** -- Muling isinusulong ni Senator Win Gatchalian ang panukalang pagtatayo ng mga waste-to-energy (WTE) facilities sa bansa bilang paraan ng waste management sa dumaraming basura dulot ng patuoy na pagpapatupad ng quarantine restrictions sa mga apektadong komunidad. Kasama na rito ang medical wastes na batay sa kautusan ng Department of Health (DOH) ay kinakailangan munang dumaan sa waste treatment bago ito kolektahin at dalhin sa kaulalang imbakan ng mga basura. "Salungat sa pananaw ng iba na ang operasyon ng planta ng WTE ay magiging mapanganib sa kalusugan ng publiko at kapaligiran, ang ganitong pasilidad ay mayroon pa ngang air pollution control systems upang masiguro na ang anumang usok na lumabas ay hindi lalabag sa pamanatayang nakasaad sa Philippine Clean Air Act. Ang panukalang pagtataguyod ng WTE facilities ay itinitiyak na masunod ito," ani Gatchalian. Ang tinutukoy ng senador ay ang probisyon sa Section 5 ng Senate Bill 1789 o ang panukalang WTE Act, na siyang punong may-akda, na nagsasabing ang dapat lamang na ipatayong planta ng WTE ay 'yung mayroong waste treatment technologies na magsisiguro na hindi ito magbubuga ng mga nakalalasang usok at tumutugon sa mga kasalukuyang mga panuntunan, regulasyon at batas. Ang hindi pagtugon sa mga nasabing kondisyon ay may karampatang parusa bukod pa sa agarang pagpapasara ng kalihim ng Department of Environment at Natural Resources (DENR). Nakasaad din sa panukalang batas ang mga environmental at health safeguards na ipatutapad ng DENR at DOH, ang mga punong ahensyang namamahala sa regulasyon ng mga nasabing pasilidad. Ang WTE ay tumutukoy sa

proseso ng paggawa ng enerhiya mula sa mga basura na dumaan sa treatment. Sa kanyang ginawang pagsasaliksik, sinabi ng Senate Energy Committee Chairperson na sa nakalipas na dalawang dekada, ang mga industriya ng WTE sa Europa, North America at Asya ay nakabuo na ng mga teknolohiya sa paggawa ng enerhiya at kabilang sa mga pinakamalinis na pinagkukunan ng thermoelectric energy, ang proseso ng pagko-convert ng init sa kuryente. Bukod ryan, ang mga planta ng WTE sa Italy, Spain, Japan at Germany na tumutugon sa mahigpit na regulasyon ay nagpapatunay na mabisa ang WTE. "Ang mga WTE facilities ay maaaring maging kaakibat sa pagtugon sa planong pagbaba ng greenhouse gas emissions dahil mababawasan ang paggamit ng petrolyo at tataas ang produksyon ng enerhiyang nagmumula sa mga renewable sources," ani Gatchalian. Sinisiguro rin ng mambabatas na hindi magiging magastos ang pagtatayo ng WTE facilities at hindi ito magiging sagabal sa pagbangan mula sa pandemya dulot ng COVID-19 dahil nakasaad sa panukalang batas na hindi aakuin ng mga local government unit (LGUs) ang pagpapatayo nito. Bagkus, ito'y sasaluhin ng project proponent mula sa private sector. Tanging ang processing fee ang babayaran ng LGU tuwing gagamit ito ng pasilidad at ito'y batay sa patas at makatarungang mga pamantayan. Hindi rin aniya maaaring makalusot ang pinanggambabahan ng iba na magdudulot lamang ito ng pag-angkat ng basura mula sa ibang bansa dahil nakasaad sa Section 14 ng panukalang batas na ipinagbabawal ang mga pasilidad ng WTE na gumamit ng mga imported na municipal solid waste bilang feedstock. **(PIA NCR)**

## 12 Mananabong, 8 'tulak' dinampot

**WALONG** hinihinalang tulak habang labindalawang sabungero ang dinampot ng awtoridad sa magkahiwalay na operasyon sa Cavite. Sa ulat ng Cavite Police Provincial Office (PPO), dakong alas-2:30 ng hapon hanggang alas-12:45 ng madaling araw nagasagawa ng buy bust operation sa magkakahiwalay na lugar sa tatlong lungsod. Sa Gen Trias City, limang hinihinalang tulak ang dinampot sa buy bust operation sa Pasing Kawayan 2 at Brgy Buenavista 2 habang dalawa sa Brgy Niyog 1 sa Bacoor City at Brgy Buhay na Tubig, sa Imus City. Labindalawa namang sabungero ang inaresto nang nagsagawa ng anti gambling operation sa Brgy Lantic, Carmona kung saan tatlo ang dinampot habang apat ang inaresto naman sa tupada sa Green Breeze Subd., Brgy Langkaan 2, Dasmariñas City, at limang katao naman ang binitbit sa Brgy San Francisco, sa Gen Trias City. Umabot sa P5,100 na pusita, anim na panabong at limang tari ang nasasam sa nasabing operasyon. **GENE ADSUARA**

Bisita na umabot sa unang alarma at idineklarang fire-out dakong alas-9:17 ng gabi. Wala naming naiulat na nasaktan o nasugatan sa nasabing sunog at nagsagawa ng imbestigasyon ang Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP). **GENE ADSUARA**

## LGU Naic approves 40M supplemental budget to augment cash aid for 49K households

**TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite (PIA) --Naic Mayor Junio C. Dulan ordered for a supplemental budget to augment the national government's allocation of P115,822,000 to aid residents affected by the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ).**

While the fund allocation was based on the 2010 census with about 29,000 households, current statistics show the town's population of more or less 49,000 households.

Thus, the local chief executive together with the members of the municipal council agreed to approve a supplemental budget of P40M from the savings of the municipal government to augment the SAP budget that will benefit a lot more people in need.

The distribution of the SAP is pursuant to the guidelines set forth in the Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1 S. 2021 of the DSWD, DILG,

and DND with the amount of P1,000 per affected individual to a maximum of P4,000 per household of four or more members.

It was also agreed upon that the distribution will be on a first come first serve basis with the first barangay to complete validation and submit master list for their locality will be scheduled first for the distribution of the cash aid.

Accordingly, the qualified beneficiaries from Barangay Balsahan received their Cash Ayuda on April 8, being the first barangay to submit their validated master list to the MWSD office on April 7, 2021.

Based on the DILG directive, LGUs are expected to complete the distribution of the financial assistance 15 days after the actual receipt of the funds. **(Ruel Francisco, PIA-Cavite with reports from the Municipality of Naic FB page)**

## 15 college graduates from Calabarzon qualify for BFAR internship program

**Trece Martires, Cavite (PIA) --** Fifteen college graduates from four (4) provinces in CALABARZON qualified for the Mentoring and Attracting Youth in Agribusiness (MAYA) internship program of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) IV-A in support of the Department of Agriculture (DA) -Bureau of Agricultural Research headed by DA Secretary William Dar.

The program aims to cultivate the capacity of the next generation in the development of our country's agricultural and fisheries industry. It also supports to intensify the promotion of the campaign for food security needed to stabilize the country's economy.

The 15 interns comprised of six (6) graduates from Laguna, six (6) from Cavite province, two (2) from the province of Quezon, and one (1) from Batangas started their internship on March 29, 2021 under the tutelage of BFAR-4A Regional Director Sammy A. Malvas.

This is a six (6) month internship program where they will be trained and taught to become experts in the field of agriculture and fisheries and become agribusiness entrepreneurs in the future.

Aside from the educational know-how, the interns will also receive a P20,000 monthly allowance from the Department of Agriculture (DA).

MAYA program is open to 20-30 year old graduates from agricultural and other related courses. **(Ruel Francisco, PIA-Cavite with reports from BFAR-Cavite FB page)**

## Mga may comorbidities sa Taytay, Rizal, sinimulan na ring bakunahan kontra COVID-19

**TAYTAY, Rizal (PIA) --** Sinimulan na ng lokal na pamahalaan ng Taytay ang pagbabakuna para sa mga nasasakupan nitong kabilang ay sa A3 priority group o mga indibidwal na may comorbidity, nitong Biyernes, Abril 9.

Kasama sa A3 priority group ang mga nasa edad 18 hanggang 59 na mayroong comorbidities o sakit tulad ng chronic respiratory, kidney o liver disease, hypertension; cardiovascular disease; diabetes; at tuberculosis.

Pinangasiwaan ng Taytay Municipal Health Office ang pagtuturok ng Sinovac

**USAP LANG**  
JUNE BILLONES  
0968-7122927

## Kaaway mo ako, kaaway kita

**SADYANG** walang perpekto rito sa ibabaw ng mundo sa ayaw man o sa gusto.

Gusto mo ng simple at tahimik na uri ng pamuhay na walang kagalit o kalaban.

Pero hindi namamayani ito dahil lilitaw at darating ang iyong kaaway.

Ayaw mo subalit nangyayari o mangyayari na hindi mo naman kagustuhan at inaasahan.

Kaaway mo ako at kaaway kita na wala sa ating dalawa ang mag-sasabi sa kung sino ba ang may sala.

Ikaw ba ang pinag-ugatan o sa akin ba nagsimula ang pag-aaway?

Ititigas ng magkabilang panig ang kanilang paninindigan na kapwa wala sa kanila ang dahilan ng susot.

Ika nga ay parehong matigas at sukdulang magkamatayan ay walang magpapababa.

May mga nasa paligid naman na lubhang batid ang katotohanan at kahit hindi na siya o sila mag-salita para magpatotoo ay mayroong 'tunay na mga mata' na hindi mapapaghihiman.

Ang pinupunto natin dito ay sa ayaw man o sa gusto ay nagkakaroon ng

kaaway ang bawat isa.

Tumatagal at humahaba ang awayan dahil walang nagpapatalo lalo na ang sa sarili niya o nila ay alam ang pagkakamali at pagkakasala.

Paano nga pala ang isinasaad sa Banal na Kasulatan na nagsasabing mahal natin ang ating kaaway?

Sabi pa nga, bukod sa mahal natin ay isama rin umano sa panalangin ang sino mang kaaway.

Usap lang, ano nga ba ang ginagawa mo sa iyong kaaway?

Minamahal mo pa ba ang iyong kaaway at ipinagdadadal para sa kanyang kabutihan?

Kung mayroon man na gumagawa pa ng ganito ay bihirang-bihira na.

Masasabing kakaiba ka kung ikaw ay ganito, mahal at ipinagdadadal mo pa rin ang iyong kaaway.

Hindi naman mawawala o maiaalis na may ilan na nag-iisip ng hindi maganda laban sa kaaway.

Pero mas nakararami ang pinipili na lamang manahimik at ang ginagawa ay ang pag-iwas.

Sabagay ay mas mainam na ito kumpara sa mag-iisip pa ng hindi maganda o ang paghihiganti.

## EDITORIAL

### Problema ng DepEd

ISA sa mga suliranin ng Department of Education habang nananatiling nasa pandemiya ang bansa ay ang kakulangan sa bilang ng mga guidance counselors sa mga public school.

Puspusan naman ang gobyerno sa oportunidad para sa paghimok sa mga professional guidance counselor.

Ang katanungan nga lamang ay bakit bihira o iilan lamang ang bilang ng aplikasyon para sa naturang posisyon?

Hirap ang kagawaran sa panghihimok bunsod ng

ilang minimum health requirement kabilang ang masters' degree.

Higit salahat ay dahil samaliit o mababang kabayaran para sa professional guidance counselors.

Narapat ang kaukulang solusyon batay sa diyalogo ng DepEd sa Department of Budget and Management at Civil Service Commission na may kinalaman sa compensation.

May apela nga ang mambabatas sa Kongreso hinggil sa pagtataas sa suweldo ng mga entry-level guidance counselors na mula sa P23,877 ay iakyat sa P36,628.

### ADVERTISING RATES

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## Mga benepisyaryo ng CAMP, AKAP na 'di pa nakukuha ang cash assistance, inabisuhan ng DOLE 4A

**LUNGSOD NG CALAMBA (PIA) -- Nagbigay na ng deadline ang Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) Region 4A sa ilang benepisyaryo ng COVID-19 Adjustment Program at Abot Kamay ang Pagtulong Program na hanggang sa ngayon ay hindi pa nakukuha ang kanilang cash assistance.**

Sa listahan na inalabas ng DOLE Region 4A, may kabuuang 2,313 na benepisyaryo ng CAMP sa rehiyon ng Calabarzon ang hindi pa nakukuha ang kanilang one-time financial assistance na P5,000 sa ilalim ng programa. Katumbas ito ng kabuuang halaga na P11,565,000.

Ayon sa DOLE 4A, may 60 araw lamang ang mga benepisyaryo upang makuha ang tulong pinansiyal mula sa petsa na naipadala ito sa remittance center.

[Listahan ng mga benepisyaryo na hindi pa nakukuha ang CAMP financial assistance: <http://bit.ly/DOLE4A-CAMP>]

Kaugnay nito, aabot rin sa 1,604 na overseas Filipino workers sa rehiyon ang may pending claims pa sa ilalim ng DOLE-AKAP. Sa abiso ng DOLE 4A, pinaalalahanan nito ang mga benepisyaryo ng programa na makipag-ugnayan sa kanilang tanggapan para sa detalye kung paano makukuha ang P10,000 financial assistance.

[Listahan ng mga OFWs na hindi pa nakukuha ang AKAP financial assistance: <http://bit.ly/DOLE4A-AKAP>]

Batay sa listahan na inalabas ng ahensiya, aabot sa P16,040,000 ang kabuuang halaga ng tulong-pinansiyal na hindi pa nakukuha ng mga benepisyaryo sa ilalim ng DOLE-AKAP.

Sa isang panayam, ipinaliwanag ni Franz Raymond Aquino, information officer ng DOLE 4A, na ilan sa mga dahilan kung bakit hindi pa nakukuha ng mga benepisyaryo ang kanilang cash assistance ay dahil sa maling mobile numbers, maling spelling ng pan-

galan, at travel restrictions sa ilang lugar.

Ayon kay Aquino, maaaring hindi natanggap ng mga benepisyaryo ang abiso na naipadala na sa remittance center ang kanilang cash assistance dahil sa sa pagpapalit o maling mobile numbers na nailagay ng kanilang employers.

Sakaling hindi aniya makuha ang cash assistance ay maaari itong ma-forfeit at ibigay sa ibang indibidwal na nag-apply sa nasabing programa.

Para sa AKAP, maaaring makipag-ugnayan ang mga benepisyaryo sa mga numerong 0968-643-3609 o 0966-530-2922 habang ang mga benepisyaryo ng CAMP ay maaari namang tumawag sa mga numerong 0943-077-7716, 0977-635-6700, o (049)-0294.

Ang CAMP at AKAP ay ilan lamang sa mga programang ipinatupad ng DOLE noong nakaraang taon bilang tugon sa pangangailangan ng mga manggagawang apektado ng COVID-19 pandemic. **(FSC)**

## GMA artist Rocco Nacino joins #EndTB campaign on World TB Day

During the recent observance of World Tuberculosis (TB) Day, versatile film and TV male lead Rocco Nacino joined the #EndTB campaign as USAID's newest #EndTB Ambassador. In his message during the Philippines' first ever virtual World TB Day commemoration, Nacino expressed his admiration to all the healthcare workers who continue to serve as frontliners for both TB and COVID-19 response.

Nacino acknowledged that healthcare workers for TB, especially those trained by USAID who have been called to serve the COVID-19 response. He commended all public and private agencies who pursued

## New #EndTB ambassador join World TB Day celebration

**Trece Martires, Cavite (PIA) --** The recent Philippine World TB Day, the first ever virtual World TB Day celebration was graced by GMA artist Rocco Nacino, the newest #EndTB Ambassador.

Nacino, joined the roster of celebrities who use social media platforms to help USAID's TB Platforms in disseminating information about TB.

In his message, Nacino acknowledged the healthcare workers and frontliners who continue to risk life and health to help treat TB amid the ongoing health crisis and highlighted the significance of his new role for the #EndTB campaign.

"I believe we are all gathered here today to commemorate World TB Day and to join other nations that have expressed their commitment to eradicate tuberculosis in communities amid the COVID-19 pandemic," said Rocco.

"Sa aking pagsali sa inyong kampanya, ako po ay magbabahagi ng mga mahalagang impormasyon tungkol sa TB using my social media platforms and of course, with the support of GMA Network," he added.

the integration of efforts to combat two killer diseases amidst the pandemic.

"I am an actor and I am also a licensed nurse so I fully empathize

The Philippine World TB Day virtual event was spearheaded by World Health Organization, USAID Philippines and Department of Health. The event was hosted by Miss Earth 2017 and COVID-19 survivor Karen Ibasco. USAID Mission Director Lawrence Hardy, who was present during the event, expressed continuous support to #EndTB in the country through technical assistance to find and treat Filipinos with TB amid COVID-19.

Nacino, who is also a licensed nurse, empathized with the plight of the healthcare workers as they face the challenges to address treatment of two killer diseases, Tuberculosis and CoViD-19 pandemic.

"Saludo po ako sa lahat ng mga community healthcare workers sa pamahalaan at sa pribadong sektor na patuloy na nagsakrispisyo para sa ating mga kababayang may sakit na tuberculosis at COVID-19 two killer diseases in these most challenging times," Rocco stated.

The virtual event was spearheaded by the World Health Organization, USAID Philippines and the Department of Health and hosted by Miss Earth 2017 and COVID-19 survivor Karen Ibasco.

USAID Mission Director Lawrence Hardy, who was present during the event, expressed continuous support to #EndTB in the country through technical assistance to find and treat Filipinos with TB amid COVID-19.

Nacino will be promoting USAID's TB Platforms' social behavior change and communication strategies which include "Ayos Ka Lungs?" and "Tibay ng Dibdib" among many others to promote positive health-seeking behaviour for TB amid the COVID-19 pandemic. **(Ruel Francisco, PIA-Cavite with reports from Ms. Diwata Paredes of USAID TB Platforms Project)**

USAID, through its TB Platforms Project, has been working with GMA Network along with its celebrities who use social media platforms to help USAID's TB Platforms in disseminating information about TB. Nacino will be promoting USAID's TB Platforms' social behavior change and communication strategies which include "Ayos Ka Lungs?" and "Tibay ng Dibdib" among many others to promote positive health-seeking behavior for TB amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Lagunense Agri graduate qualifies for DA internship program

**CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) --**Joanel M. Alvarez, a graduate of BS Agricultural Engineering from Sta. Maria, Laguna qualified for the MAYA (Mentoring and Attracting Youth in Agriculture) internship program of the Department of Agriculture (DA).

MAYA is implemented through the DA-Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) Regional Training Center - CALABARZON in coordination with the DA-Bureau of Agricultural Research.

The six-month internship program aims to develop young cadres of youth agribusiness leaders who are market-ready, possess the necessary skill sets capabilities and commitment to excellence with the right attitude to ensure success that will ultimately benefit the stakeholders, especially the farmers, fishers, and the consuming public.

For the first two months, Alvarez will be immersed in ATI CALABARZON to experience the government work culture and

management and learn about values formation and work ethics.

He is also set to complete a 10-day training on Farm Business School and briefing from selected staff of the RTC about the mandate and programs of the DA and agricultural technologies.

The next four months will be devoted to experience-based exposure on agricultural management in selected accredited Learning Sites for Agriculture (LSA) and Extension Service Providers (ESPs) of ATI, namely: Uma Verde Eco Farm in Candelaria, Quezon; MoCA Family Farm, Padre Garcia, Batangas; Terra Verde Nature Farm, Maragondon, Cavite; and Farm Share Prime, Cavinti, Laguna.

Alvarez is expected to complete the internship program in September this year. **(PIA-Laguna with report from Roy Roger Victoria II, Media Production Specialist II, DA-ATI CALABARZON)**

## DOH-CALABARZON reports 644 new COVID-19 cases

**QUEZON CITY --**Department of Health (DOH) - CALABARZON (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, Quezon) reported (April 12) a total of 644 new cases of Covid-19 recorded in the region.

There is now a total of 106,750 cases with 18,952 active cases and 84,961 recoveries. Recorded deaths are at 2,837.

The province of Cavite has the highest recorded case with 30,901 followed by the province of Laguna with 25,021, Rizal province with 23,911, Batangas province with 18,369 and Lucena city with 1,720 Covid-19 cases.

Regional Director Eduardo C. Janairo disclosed that a total of 2,186 beds have been occupied by Covid patients and there are 842 remaining vacant beds available in various health facilities in the region.

"The province of Batangas have 397 occupied beds and 132 available vacant beds, Cavite with 475 occupied beds and 196 vacant beds, Laguna with 566 occupied beds and 251

vacant beds, Quezon with 305 occupied beds and 143 vacant beds and Rizal with 443 occupied beds and 120 vacant beds," he enumerated.

Janairo added that the modular tents in San Juan District Hospital and Laguna Medical Center are now complete and ready for occupancy.

He strongly emphasized to residents of the region the need to follow health protocols and to stay at home as possible to avoid getting infected by the Covid virus/ "Huwag po tayong maging kampante dahil matagal pa ang mass vaccination na gagawin. Kailangan munang mabakunahan natin ang mga frontliners, senior citizens na nasa priority list upang mapangalagaan ang kanilang kalusugan at maiwasan pa ang pagkalat ng Covid sa bansa."

"We all have to make sacrifices in these challenging times and the best things to do is to follow the health regulations imposed by our government in order to stay safe," he concluded.

## First Rizal DOH regional hospital to rise in Rodriguez

**CALAMBA CITY (PIA) - Residents of Rizal province will soon have access to improved healthcare services from the government when construction of the Northern Tagalog Regional Hospital in Rodriguez town finishes.**

Last April 12, Department of Health Region IV-A (DOH 4-A) Director Eduardo Janairo and Second District Rep. Juan Fidel Nograles led the site inspections of the first DOH hospital in the province, located in Barangay San Jose ahead of its groundbreaking ceremony on April 23.

The proposed level 2, two-storey facility to be built on a one-hectare lot purchased by the Municipal government will have a 200-bed capacity--including an operational emergency room and out-patient department-- and will initially operate this year to augment the health services needed in the province.

"It will also include a di-

etary, morgue, motorpool, laboratory, x-ray, central supply storage, operating room, delivery room, wards and intensive care units once the hospital is completely refurbished. Two floors of basements will be constructed, one for parking and one will serve as staff quarters," Janairo added.

The regional health office said the P839,637,000 project that was initiated by Nograles will be funded by the government through the Health Facility Enhancement Program in order to meet the health care needs of the community, especially during the pandemic.

Once construction finishes, improved health services will be enjoyed by residents in Montalban, as well as nearby towns and cities such as San Mateo, Quezon City and San Jose Del Monte in Bulacan province. **(PB/DOH 4-A)**

## Bong Go assists hundreds of fire victims in Dasmariñas City, Cavite

**PASAY CITY --** An outreach team of Senator Christopher "Bong" Go arrived in Dasmariñas City, Cavite on Monday, April 12, where they met with victims of a fire incident which injured one individual and caused damage to numerous houses last April 7.

"Magandang araw po sa inyong lahat, mga kababayan ko. Kumusta po kayo? Sana nasa mabuti po kayong kalagayan. Alam ko pong mahirap ang panahon ngayon, nasa pandemya pa po tayo dahil sa COVID-19 at tinamaan din po kayo ng sunog," Go said in a video message.

"Magtulongan lang po tayo. Sino ba naman ang magtutulongan kung hindi tayo lang po kapwa natin Pilipino para malampasan natin itong krisis na ating kinakaharap sa ngayon," he reminded them.

To comply with the government's health and safety protocols, the Senator's team conducted the distribution activity in batches at the Dasmariñas East Integrated High School Covered Court. Proper health standards were also in place to avoid the further spread of COVID-19 and other diseases.

A total of 400 residents belonging to 140 families

were provided with meals, food packs and financial assistance. They also received vitamins, masks and face shields so they can protect themselves from COVID-19.

Selected beneficiaries were provided new pairs of shoes while some were given bicycles for their commuting needs. Others received computer tablets to help their children continue to access educational materials and stay connected with their teachers under the blended learning set-up.

Additionally, personnel from the Department of Social Welfare and Development distributed separate financial assistance while the Department of Health gave away medicine packs and additional vitamins during the activities.

Meanwhile, the Department of Trade and Industry conducted an assessment of individuals and households who are eligible for their various programs.

Go also offered help to residents who were injured during the incident or may be in need of medical care. He advised them to visit the Malasakit Center at the General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital in Trece Martires City where they

## SC extends physical closure of courts in MECQ areas

**MANILA --** Supreme Court (SC) Chief Justice Alexander Gesmundo on Wednesday announced the extended physical closure of courts in areas under modified enhanced community quarantine (MECQ).

In Administrative Circular No. 22-2021, the top magistrate also extended for a week the deadline for the submission of court papers by litigants and parties in these courts.

"The time for filing and service of pleadings and motions during this period is suspended and shall resume seven calendar days

counted from the first day of physical reopening of the relevant court," the circular read.

It also reiterated that essential judicial offices shall maintain the necessary skeleton staff to attend to all urgent matters.

The SC also said courts in other areas under localized MECQ will also remain physically closed.

Metro Manila, the provinces of Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna, Rizal, Abra and Quirino and Santiago City, Isabela are under MECQ until April 30. **(PNA)**

## No acceptance of new patients for a week – Remulla decides

**Trece Martires, Cavite (PIA) --** Cavite Governor Jonvic Remulla stated that eight (8) provincial and city hospitals in the province will not accept new patients

for a week.

This was declared in the wake of the Covid-19 infection among several health care workers in said medical facilities.

"One week kami nag-decide hindi muna [atanggap ng pasyente] hangga't malaman namin ang sitwasyon," said Remulla.

(One week we decided not to [accept patients] until we know the situation.)

About thirty eight (38) medical staff of the hospitals located in the cities of Bacoor, Dasmariñas, and Trece Martires and in the municipalities of Kawit, Maragondon, and General Mariano Alvarez (GMA) tested positive of the CoViD-19 disease.

Thus, these medical facilities are now understaffed and remaining health care workers will be overwhelmed with the influx of patients if the hospital continue to accept new patients.

Moreover, private hospitals in the province are also at a critical level, with the occupancy rate reaching 95 percent according to the governor.

Meanwhile, the CoViD-19 Case Tracker for the province as of 2pm April 15, 2021 recorded 568 new cases for a total confirmed cases almost reaching the 33k mark. Out of the total, 7,649 are Active cases, 24,551 have recovered while 796 have perished. **(Ruel Francisco, with reports from Go Cavite FB page)**

## TIMPALAK JACINTO SA SANAYSAY 2021, Bukás na

Sumali na sa TIMPALAK JACINTO SA SANAYSAY, timpalak sa pagsulat ng sanaysay para sa mga kabataang nasa baitang 7 hanggang 11. Ipinanangan ang timpalak kay Emilio D. Jacinto (1875-1899), kabataang manunulat at dakilang anak ng bayan.

*Mga Tuntunin:*

1. Ang Timpalak Jacinto sa Sanaysay ay isang timpalak sa pagsulat ng sanaysay para sa mga kabataang nasa baitang 7 hanggang 11.

2. Bilang pakikiisa sa tema ng Buwan ng Wika 2021 sa inyong sanaysay, ibahagi ang kasaysayan ng inyong lugar/probinsiya.

3. Kailangang nasusulat sa Filipino ang lahoc, orihinal, hindi pa nailalathala, at hindi rin salin mula sa ibang wika.

4. Kailangang sumusunod ang paraan ng pagsulat nitò sa mga tuntuning nakasaad sa KWF Ortograpiyang Pambansa at Manwal sa Masinop na Pagsulat.

5. Pára sa onlayn na paglahok, ihanda ang sumusunod magtungo sa link na ito: <https://forms.gle/noMq9X4ayUkBKare7>

• Kopya ng kompiyuterisadong lahoc (.doc format). Gagamitin ang font na Arial 12 pt, word count na 1,000 salita, dobleng espasyo, sa A4 size (bond paper) na may palugit na isang (1) pulgada sa itaas, ibabâ, at gilid. Kung makinilyado ang lahoc, i-scan at isumite na naka-pdf format.

• Kinakailangang magtataglay lámang ng sagisagpanulat (pen name) ang ipinadalang entri at waláng kahit anong pahiwatig ng tunay na pangalan ng kalahok.

• Kasáma ng lahoc, isumite ang sumusunod na naka-pdf format: (1) entri form; (2) photocopy ng kasalukuyang school ID o Certificate of Enrollment; (3) sertipikasyon mula sa punò ng barangay pára sa out-of-school-youth; (4) Pormularyo ng Pahintulot ng Magulang; at (5) 2x2 retrato ng kalahok (.jpeg format)

6. Pára sa pagsusumite ng lahoc sa pamamagitan ng koreo, sa isang long brown envelop, ilagay ang sumusunod:

• apat (4) na kopyang makinilyado o kompiyuterisado ng lahoc (Font 12, Arial),

word count na 1,000 salita, may dobleng espasyo, at may isang pulgadang palugit sa bawat gilid na nakaimprenta sa bond paper na may súkat na A4.

• Softcopy ng lahoc na nasa CD o USB.

• Kinakailangang magtataglay lámang ng sagisagpanulat (pen name) ang ipinadaláng entri at waláng kahit anong pahiwatig ng tunay na pangalan ng kalahok. Softcopy ng lahoc na nasa CD o USB)

• entri form

• 2x2 retrato ng kalahok (puting background)

• photocopy ng kasalukuyang school ID o Certificate of Enrollment

• Sertipikasyon mula sa punò ng barangay pára sa out-of-school-youth

• Pormularyo ng Pahintulot ng Magulang ipadalá ang lahoc sa koreo sa:

Lupon sa Timpalak Jacinto sa Sanaysay 2021

Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino 2/P Gusali Watson, 1610 Kalye J.P. Laurel San Miguel, Maynila

7. Ang huling araw ng pagsusumite ng lahoc ay sa 25 HUNYO 2021, 5nh. Hindi na mauurong ang araw ng pagsusumite.

8. Pára sa mga lahoc na ipinadalá sa koreo, magpapadalá ang KWF ng mensahe (text) kung natanggap na ang lahoc. Kalakip din nitò ang gagamiting entri code at link ng online form para sa registry ng mga kalahok.

9. Ang mga gantimpala ay ang sumusunod: Unang gantimpala, PHP20,000.00, medalya, at plake;

Ikalawang gantimpala, PHP15,000.00 at sertipiko; Ikatlong gantimpala, PHP10,000.00 at sertipiko.

Bibigyan din ng Sertipiko ng Pagkilála ang Tagapayo ng estudyanteng magwawagi.

10. Ang pasiya ng Lupon ng Inampalan ay pinalat hindi na mababago.

11. Hindi patatawarin ang sinumang mahuhúling nagplahiyo. Kakanselahin ng KWF ang ipinagwaging lahoc at hindi na muling makasali pa sa alinmang timpalak ng KWF.

12. Pára sa karagdagang detalye, magt-text o tumawag sa 0928-844-1349, o mag-email sa timpalak.gawad@kwf.gov.ph.

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## SM CITY BACCOOR SECURITY GUARD RETURNS LOST ITEM TO SHOPPER

### SM CITY BACCOOR, CAVITE

Remember the honest security guard who returned a lost bag to a shopper just a month ago? SG Jhonrod I. San Jose of Combined Blue Dragon Security Agency Inc., who despite of being a breadwinner after his father got sick, never for once, thought about keeping what he found lost around the mall. Recently, he recovered a bag full of valuables at one of the entrances of SM City Bacoor and chose to report to be able to help the owner of the bag. This time, he returned a lost phone to a senior citizen upon finding it unattended on an ATM Machine.

Knowing how hard it is to make ends meet especially during the pandemic, SG San Jose was glad that the owners of the items he found could get to have their valuables back. "Sa panahon ng pandemya, 'SG San Jose said, 'ramdam ko ang hirap ng buhay naming ngunit hindi ito hadlang para tumulong sa aking kapwa.'" SG San Jose did not just stayed true to his sworn duty, but also made an act his family be proud of. Truly, his deed is reflective of SM's Corporate value of honesty and integrity and bespeaks well of the attribute of a good member of SM Security force, worthy of praise and emulation.



## MMFF Execom foregoes Summer Filmfest due to temporary closure of cinemas



**QUEZON CITY (PIA)** -- The summer edition of the Metro Manila Film Festival (MMFF) won't push through this year, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority told the PIA-NCR. This was announced today by the MMDA, the agency overseeing the cinema extravaganza event.

The 2021 Metro Manila Film Festival Executive Committee (Execom) constituted by MMDA Chairman Benhur Abalos met yesterday and have decided on foregoing with the Summer MMFF until partner-cinemas are once again open to the public. The MMFF Execom is instead focusing on the

yearend holiday festival and has set the deadlines this early so that interested producers and filmmakers may be guided accordingly, while observing proper health protocols.

Deadline of Submission of Letter of Intent is scheduled at 5 p.m., June 30, 2021 (Wednesday)

Deadline of Submission of Finished Film Entries and Other Required Documents Including Official Trailer/Clippings/Behind The Scenes is set at 5 p.m., September 3, 2021 (Friday) for Early Birds; and September 30, 2021 for regular submission.

Announcement of the 8 Official Finished Film-Entries

will be held on October 15, 2021 (Friday).

With this, it is the MMFF EXECOM's vision to encourage the submission of excellent films that would inspire, uplift and connect to a broader Filipino audience for this year's Metro Manila Film Festival even as we navigate creatively through this present pandemic. **(PIA NCR)**

## Pagudpud beach listed among world's 'most beautiful'

**MANILA** – Saud Beach in Pagudpud, Ilocos Norte was listed among the 25 Most Beautiful Beaches in the World by New York-based travel magazine Travel+Leisure.

In a statement on Wednesday, the Department of Tourism (DOT) hailed the beach's inclusion, which is the only destination in the Philippines to make it to the list.

"The DOT salutes the sole Philippine entry to the list, joining the ranks of other globally-recognized beaches such as the Copacabana in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Hanelei Bay in Kauai, Hawaii; Cape Le Grand National Park in Western Australia and others," it said.

The inclusion of Saud Beach in the international travel site's A-list is a first for the coastal area of Pagudpud, also dubbed as the "Boracay of the North". The T+L boasted of "its white sand pitches gradually into the clear-as-glass water, like a real-world example of a zero-entry swimming pool." **(PNA)**

## Israel set to open borders to vaccinated foreign tourists

**MANILA** – Israel is opening up its borders to foreign tourists who have been vaccinated against coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) starting next month.

The Israel Ministry of Tourism said the initiative will begin on May 23, starting with a limited number of groups that will be increased based on the health situation and progress of the program.

Individual travelers will be allowed into Israel in its "second stage", with health considerations determining the timeline.

"All visitors will be required to undergo a PCR test before boarding the flight to Israel, and a serological test to prove their vaccination, upon arrival at Ben Gurion Airport," it said.

In the meantime, discussions will continue with

various countries to reach agreements for vaccine-certificate validation, so as to cancel the need for the serological test.

Israel's vaccination program has been successful, outpacing much of the world in inoculating its population.

"After opening the economy, it is time to allow tourism in a careful and calculated manner. Opening the tourism is important for one of the fields most hurt during the COVID year. We will continue to look at easing regulations in accordance with the health situation," said Yuli Edelstein, Israel's Minister of Health.

Philippine passport holders may enjoy visa-free access to Israel for up to 90 days. **(PNA)**

# PSC NAG TAKDA NG 10 - DAYS LOCKDOWN MATAPOS MAG POSITIBO SA COVID 19 ANG MAY 60 PERSONNEL

Ang Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) ay magsasara sa lockdown sa loob ng 10 araw. Napagpasyahan matapos ang positibo para sa covid 19 ng 60 tauhan nito sa Rizal Memorial Sports Complex sa Maynila at Philippine Sports Complex sa Pasig. Noong nakaraang buwan, 18 na kawani ng PSC din ang nagpositibo sa covid 19 na virus at 91 ng mga tauhan nito ang dapat na kuwarentenal matapos makilala bilang mga taong sinisiyasat (PUI) sa pamamagitan ng pagsubaybay sa contact. Tulad ng oras ng pag-broadcast, patuloy pa rin ang contact tracing upang makilala kung ilan pa ang kawani ng PSC na dapat na ihiwalay dahil sa malapit na pakikipag-ugnay sa 60 nahawa - empleyado. Sa ngayon, ang PSC ay

may isa lamang na naiulat na namatay dahil sa covid 19. Ang director ng PSC Executive na si Guillermo Iroy ay nagtitipon na ngayon ng isang tauhan ng skeleton ng 15 tauhan upang hawakan ang araw na ito sa pagpapatakbo at pagpapantili ng mga pasilidad ng PSC sa RMSC sa Maynila at Philsports Complex sa Pasig. Ang mga empleyado ng PSC ay magpapatuloy na gampanan ang kanilang mga tungkulin sa bahay sa loob ng 10 araw na lockdown upang maiwasan ang pagkagambala ng operasyon nito at maiwasan ang pagkaantala lalo na sa buwanang sweldo at allowances ng higit sa 300 mga empleyado at halos 1,500 pambansang mga atleta at coach sa pambansang pool.

## Ang bubble ng ACQ ng PH ay muling itinakda sa Hunyo 16-20

Gaganapin ng Pilipinas ang kanyang FIBA Asia Cup Qualifiers (ACQ) pangatlong window bubble simula sa kalagitnaan ng Hunyo. Sa isang pahayag, sinabi ng FIBA na lahat ng mga laro ng bubble ng Pilipinas ay mangyayari sa Hunyo 16-20. Sa paunang naka-iskedyul para sa Marso, ang Pilipinas ay nabigyan ng mga karapatang mag-host ng mga laban para sa Group A, kung saan kabilang ang Gilas Pilipinas, at Group C. Gayunpaman, dahil sa mga paghihigpit sa paglalakbay na itinakda para sa South Korea, bahagi din ng Group A, at Australia, na bahagi ng Group C, dahil sa paglitaw ng mga bagong pagkakaiba-iba ng coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19), ang Samahang Basketbol ng Pilipinas (SBP) kailangang bitawan

ang mga karapatan sa pagho-host, kasama ang Qatar Basketball Federation (QBF) na papasok. Gayunpaman, nakiusap ang QBF na mag-host din, dahil sa isang Covid-19 na pag-akyat sa Doha, at ang SBP ay nagkaroon ng pagkakataon na bawiin ang hosting matapos na bawiin ng gobyerno ng Pilipinas ang travel ban sa South Korea at Australia. Ngunit sa bisa, ang mga laro ay dapat na ipagpaliban. Tulad ng pangalawang bintana noong Nobyembre, ang mga laro ay gaganapin sa isang bubble format dahil sa pandemya, kasama ang Angeles University Foundation Sports and Cultural Center bilang arena at ang Quest Hotel sa kalapit na lungsod ng Mabalacat bilang opisyal na tirahan.

## Sinusuri ng SEAG chef de mission ang sitwasyon ng Covid-19

Sinabi ng Hanoi Southeast Asian (SEA) Games chef de mission (CDM) na si Ramon Fernandez na naghahintay na ang pambansang koponan kung kailan maaari na nitong masimulan ang pagsasanay para sa biennial meet matapos ang mahigpit na hakbang na inilagay na muli sa National Capital Region (NCR) Plus area kasunod ng Covid-19 na mga kaso na pag-akyat. Bagaman ang quarantine classification sa Metro Manila at apat na kalapit na lalawigan ay na-downgrade sa mas nakakareleks na binagong pinahusay na quarantine ng komunidad para sa natitirang Abril, mananatiling ipinagbabawal ang pisikal na pagsasanay, na inilagay ang maagang pag-buildup ng Nationals para sa Nobyembre 21-Dis. 2 kaganapan. "We really really depend kung paano tayo aatakehin nitong pandemic na ito (on how the pandemic will attack us). We can only really speculate on when we can start and all of that," sinabi ni Fernandez sa Philippine Sportswriters Association Forum. Ang mga miyembro ng pambansang koponan sa lugar ng NCR Plus ay dapat na magsimula ng kanilang pagsasanay sa SEA Games ngayong buwan. Ang isa pang iba pang kadahilanan na maaaring makapasok, gayunpaman,

ay ang sitwasyon sa Hanoi. "Ang POC (Philippine Olympic Committee) ay walang natanggap na komunikasyon mula sa mga tagapag-ayos sa Vietnam ayon kay Ms. Karen Caballero," sabi ni Fernandez. Ang tanging nalalaman niya ngayon ay ang Vietnamese Olympic Committee na ipinagpaliban ang ilang mga deadline na nauugnay sa SEA Games, bagaman wala siyang ideya kung ano ang mga deadline na iyon. "Nakakuha ako ng mensahe mula kay Karen na itinulak ng Vietnam ang mga deadline. Hindi ko alam kung ano ang ibig sabihin ng mga deadline. Wala pa kaming pagpupulong sa CDM, kaya't naghahintay talaga kami mula sa Vietnam," sabi ni Fernandez. Sinabi niya na ang isang PHP200-milyong badyet ay naaprubahan para sa SEA Games, PHP100 milyon kung saan inilaan para sa pagsasanay, habang ang kalahati ay para sa paglalakbay sa Hanoi. Si Fernandez, na komisyoner din ng Philippine Sports Commission, ay nagsabi na ang PSC ay nagbayad ng PHP21 milyon sa Inspire Sports Academy sa Calamba para sa bubble training ng mga karatekas, boksingero, at taekwondo jins na naghahanda para sa mga kwalipikadong Olimpiko.



## Sinira ng Shiga ang kahanga-hangang laro ni Thirdy Ravena, pinalo ang San-En

Ipinadala ni Shiga ang pinakamagandang laro ni Thirdy Ravena mula nang makarecover mula sa isang injury sa kamay at maibagsak ang San-En, 94-87, sa kanilang laban sa B.Lague sa Ukaru-chan Arena sa Otsu, Japan. Ang dating beterano ng NBA na si Jordan Hamilton ay nagpatumba ng apat na malalaking triple sa huling yugto habang ang Lakestars ay nagtagumpay sa huling bahagi ng third quarter run na nakatulong mapuksa ang maagang pagsabog ng NeoPhoenix sa third quarter na tinitakan ng limang puntos na indayog mula sa Pilipinong si Ravena. Nagtapos si Hamilton ng 34 puntos sa 12-of-17 pag-pukol kasama ang 5-of-8 mula sa kabila ng arko, anim na rebound, 11 as-

sist, dalawang steal, at isang bloke para sa Shiga, na umakyat sa 18-32. Nagdagdag si Angus Brandt ng 19 puntos sa 7-of-10 pagbuslo, pitong rebound, at tatlong assist. Gumawa si Kyle Hunt ng 26 marker, pitong board, two dimes, tatlong steal, at isang bloke para sa San-En, na natalo sa ikapitong sunod na oras at bumagsak sa 11-41. Nagdagdag si Stevan Jelovac ng 16 marker, anim na carom, at dalawang assist. Nagtapos si Ravena ng 14 na puntos, tatlong rebound, isang assist, dalawang steal, at isang block. Gayunpaman, iniwan niya ang laro sa pagsasara ng mga segundo matapos ma-hit ng isang hindi sinasadyang siko mula sa Hamilton



Pag antabay sa magiging pagpapatuloy sa pagsasanay ng mga pambansang koponan para sa bennial meet nakaraang muli inilagay ang NCR sa mas pinahigpit ng IATF bunsod sa pag lala ng Covid-19 Ilan lamang ito sa naging tampok ni SEAG Chef de mission at PSC Commissioner Ramon Fernandez sa lingguhang PSA Forum via online (RGN)



**IPINALIWANAG sa TOPS Usapang Sports week 15 via online zoom**  
Si Kurash Sports Federation President Roland Llamas sa kanyang mga pahayag sa TOPS Usapang Sports week 15 via online zoom kaugnay ng kanilang sports Federation kung saan kahit na ito ay bago pa lamang ito naman ay may naging magandang resulta sa nakaraang sea games ng maging host ang bansa. (RGN)



## ECQ Cash Ayuda distributed to affected residents of Cavite

**Trece Martires, Cavite (PIA) -- The ECQ 'Cash Ayuda' from the national government with fund allocation of P3B for the province were distributed in several cities and municipalities in the province.**

The said funds were downloaded to the respective LGUs' accounts as early as April 5, 2021 with the inclusion of the master list of beneficiaries from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

The municipality of Naic with fund allocation of P115,822,000 was the first LGU to hold the payout activity to qualified beneficiaries of Barangay Balsahan on April 8, 2021 being the first barangay to submit their validated master list to the MSWDO pursuant to the first come first served basis of the LGU.

Consequently, LGU Naic ordered for a P40M supplemental budget from its savings to augment the allocated funds to be able to help more families in the municipality.

The city of Tagaytay and the municipality of Indang held their payout on April 9 while the cities of Bacoor and Cavite City and the municipalities of Mendez-Nuñez and Carmona had conducted the distribution of the financial assistance over the weekend despite the challenges brought by employees undergoing quarantine and the work-from-home arrangement.

However, according to the Department of Interior and Local Government's (DILG) Financial Accomplishment Report that as of April 11, the province had only distributed 1% of the target 3,444,448 individuals to be given the financial assistance.

Early this week, the cities of Dasmariñas, General Trias, and Trece Martires and the municipalities of Tanza and Noveleta held the payout of the financial assistance to their qualified beneficiary residents.

Meanwhile, the City Government of Imus launched the online registration for the ECQ cash aid and the augmentation program Lingap Imuseño, that will

expedite processing and validation of the financial assistance to be distributed to the beneficiaries thru accredited electronic payment partners or online banking. Imus City is the first LGU to opt for cashless payout which started yesterday.

To keep the residents safe, the local government of Alfonso held house-to-house cash payouts to qualified beneficiaries in respective barangays thru the efforts of the employees of the local government, barangay officials, Barangay Health Workers, and Daycare Workers scheduled on April 14-18, 2021.

Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo-Bailen beneficiaries came out to claim their cash aid today while Mayor Jasmin Maligaya-Bautista released the schedule and list of beneficiaries yesterday after completion of validation to include excess from ECQ funds of P19,205,000.

Remaining municipalities of Amadeo, Maragondon, Ternate, Gen. Mariano Alvarez, Silang and Kawit are still in the process of completing the validation of the beneficiaries to ensure that all residents will receive the financial aid in this time quarantine status. **(Ruel Francisco with reports from the respective LGUs' FB page)**

## Trust of Grab PH, My Taxi toward NCRPO highlights virtual deal signing event

**CALOOCAN CITY (PIA) --** Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the trust and confidence of online private companies toward the National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) shined during a recent virtual agreement signing between the Metro Manila police and businesses.

"We are very lucky to be trusted by the Asia's leading ride-hailing platform." NCRPO Chief, PMGen Vicente D Danao Jr. said during his message after the Virtual Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between NCRPO and My Taxi (PHP) Inc., commonly known as GRAB, represented by Ms Sherielysse R. Bonifacio, Head of Public Affairs, Grab Philippines on Wednesday at the NCRPO Conference Room, Camp Bagong Diwa, Bicutan, Taguig City.

The MOU was signed via Zoom teleconference in the

**MANILA --** Did you know that April 15 is replete with many significant events in Philippine history, particularly during the Spanish, American and Japanese occupations, or even after the country gained complete independence in 1946?

For instance, a glance at the April 15 entries in the 1998 Centennial Edition of the Philippine Almanac published in September 1998 by Filway Marketing Inc. of Hector O. Tagaysay and the Children's Communication Center, then headed by now National Artist for Literature Virgilio S. Almario, would show that on this date in 1948, President Manuel A. Roxas, the fifth president of the Philippines (1946-1948), died of a heart attack while speaking during a visit to the then Clark Air Base in Pampanga.

It was in honor of Roxas that the then capital town of Capiz province was renamed Roxas City under Republic Act No. 603 on April 11, 1951. Roxas, who was born in Capiz on Jan. 1, 1892, took his oath as president on July 4, 1946.

On April 15, 1947, the Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC) (now Philippine Red Cross) was established through R.A. No.

95. Named as its first head was Mrs. Aurora Aragon Quezon, widow of the first Philippine Commonwealth President Manuel L. Quezon. Before World II, PNRC was just a branch of the United States Red Cross, an international organization that helps people worldwide during disasters and calamities.

On the same date (April 15) in 1962, then Manila City Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson died of a heart attack. He was honored by the city government with the renaming after him of Plaza Goiti in Sta. Cruz district, the Lacson Underpass in Quiapo, and the former Gov. Forbes St. in Sampaloc as A. H. Lacson Ave.

On April 15, 1975, the Kabataang Barangay (KB), a nationwide youth organization was created by the administration of then President Ferdinand E. Marcos. All Filipinos aged 15 to 21 years were automatic members of this body. Its top officials were also ex-officio members of the city and municipal councils. The KB was abolished after Marcos was deposed in February 1986.

Much earlier, during the Spanish occupation of the Philippines, the first vaccine against smallpox was brought to the Philippines by a Spanish expedition led by Dr. Francisco Xavier Balmis.

He started a smallpox vaccination program which made the vaccines available throughout the country by 1808 and helped reduce the mortality rate during subsequent epidemics. **(PNA)**

administrative assistance to NCRPO as the need arises. "This signing of Memorandum of Understanding is a manifestation that My Taxi (PH) Inc./ Grab Phils and the NCRPO are united to seal a commitment in providing all kinds of services we could offer to our personnel and the people of our community while we commit to keep ourselves safe and protected at all times. Kami po ay lubos na nagpapasalamat sa inyong pagtitiwala. Magkaisa tayo sa paglilingkod ng TAMA: Tapat, may tapang at MAlasakit sa ating mamamayan," Danao added. **(PIA NCR)**

agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) and the National Task Force on Covid-19.

Among the LGUs now using this app are Caloocan, Muntinlupa and other local governments in Metro Manila. It is also being used now by top companies like SM Supermalls, McDonalds, Jollibee Foods Corporation, Alliance Global which includes Megaworld Corporation, Union Bank, Yuchengco Group of Companies including RCBC Bank, Filinvest, JG Summit which handles Robinsons Malls, Metrobank, Resto.ph, and Angkas.

In April 2020, the National Task Force on Covid-19 signed a memorandum of agreement with Multisys Technologies Corporation adopting StaySafe.Ph app as the country's official contact tracing, health condition reporting, and social distancing system.

Meanwhile, Florece said the hiring of an additional 4,754 contact tracers will help boost Metro Manila's current pool of 10,097 contact tracers. He, however, said this is still short of the ideal number of contact tracers which is 17,000, following the ideal ratio of one contact tracer for every 800 population.

Florece said the government is accepting new applicants for contact tracers to boost the country's contact tracing efforts.

Under the new set-up, the DILG official noted that from the previous college graduate or at least second-year college-level requirement, even high school graduates can now apply as contact tracers with the informal sector workers in Manila being targeted as beneficiaries. "But of course, we prefer (applicants) with relevant experience. Yung marunong man lang mag-interview at naging ahente (those who know how to conduct interviews and were sales personnel (in previous jobs)," he added. The DILG official disclosed that contact tracing applicants should submit their letter of applications (letter of intent), personal data sheet (PDS) and barangay resident certificate. Contact tracer applicants must be residents in the areas where they filed their applications. The contact tracers will be hired through the Department of Labor and Employment's Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers (TUPAD) program. **(PNA)**

## Nationwide rollout of StaySafe.ph set in May: DILG

**MANILA --** The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) on Thursday said it is set to roll out the StaySafe.ph digital contact tracing application nationwide in May.

"By next month, iro-rollout na natin ito sa buong Pilipinas. Umpisahan muna natin sa mga kawani ng gobyerno at kami dito sa DILG ay sinubukan na namin yung mag register sa StaySafe. Yung PNP (Philippine National Police) rin ay nag-rollout na rin sila kahapon (By next month, we will roll out this in the entire country. We will start with government employees and we in the DILG already tried to register to StaySafe. The PNP has started its rollout among personnel yesterday (Wednesday)," DILG Officer in Charge, Undersecretary Bernardo Florece said in a virtual Palace briefing.

Florece said the app is an effective tool for contact tracing nationwide to ensure consistent and unified contact tracing reporting. He said utilizing the StaySafe.Ph app will make it easier for government authorities and medical experts to keep track of the cases all over the country and carry out decisive actions to stem the rapid transmission of coronavirus.

"The importance of this is for you to be notified, for instance, when you are close to somebody who tested positive for Covid-19 upon entering a restaurant. Once the QR (quick response) code is scanned and you are registered, you will be notified because StaySafe is linked to the Covid-19 repository system of the DOH and it contains information on Covid-19 cases, as well as those who have symptoms or asymptomatic," he explained.

The DILG aims to reach at least 50 million users and connect all 1,634 local government units (LGUs) across the country.

It also assured the public that the StaySafe app will not be used for surveillance because it does not use global positioning system.

Instead, it uses bluetooth technology through the Google Apple Exposure Notification System (GAENS).

Designed to aid in the management of Covid-19 cases by reminding people to maintain physical distance, as well as recording and monitoring Covid-19 symptoms, StaySafe.PH was developed by Multisys Technologies Corporation in collaboration with PLDT-Smart Group and PLDT Enterprise and the Inter-



## DSWD: Gamitin ang natanggap na ayuda sa pinakakailangan

**PLARIDEL, Bulacan (PIA) -- Binilinan ni Social Welfare and Development Secretary Rolando Bautista ang may 2.9 milyong Bulakenyong benepisyaryo na gastusin lamang sa pinakakailangan ang natanggap na financial assistance.**

Sa ginawang inspeksyon ng kalihim sa ginagawang pay-out sa mga bayan ng Plaridel at Santa Maria, binigyang diin niya na hindi naging madali na makahanap nang pondo upang magkaroon ng maibibigay sa mga pamilyang pinakanaapektuhan ng muling pinairal na Enhanced Community Quarantine.

Sinadya ni Bautista ang liblib na barangay ng Lalangan sa bayan ng Plaridel kung saan may 444 na mga pamilya o 1,541 na indibidwal na benepisyaryo. Bahagi sila ng may 89,595 mga taga-Plaridel na benepisyaryo ng ayuda na nilaanan ng 89.5 milyong psio ng Department of Budget and Management o DBM.

Pinapurihan naman ng kalihim ang maayos, sistematiko at mabilis na pamamahagi ng ayuda sa barangay Lalangan.

Ang sistema, ginanap sa gymnasium ng isang paaralan ang verification at isinagawa ang releasing ng pera sa may limang silid-aralan. Layunin nitong maipatupad ang minimum health protocols habang nagkakaloob ng tulong. Sinadya rin ni Bautista

ang barangay Lalakan sa bayan ng Santa Maria na may 417 pamilya o 1,361 benepisyaryo.

Bahagi sila ng 236,966 na mga benepisyaryo sa nasabing bayan na pangalawang pinakamarami sa buong Bulacan. May halagang 236.9 milyong piso ang inilabas ng DBM sa pamahalaang bayan ng Santa Maria.

Iisa sa mga benepisyaryo si Angelita Ramirez na 74 taong gulang, isang biyuda na tanging ang isang apo ang kasama sa pamamahay. Ipambibili aniya ng pagkain ang natanggap na dalawang libong piso dahil matagal nang hindi nakakapaghanapbuhay.

Ipambibili naman ni Diane Sulit, 30 taong gulang, ng gatas para sa sanggol na anak ang natanggap na apat na libong piso. Mayroon siyang tatlong anak at ang asawa ay nagkukumpuni ng mga motorsiklo.

Kaugnay nito, nasa kasagsagan na rin ng pamamahagi ng ayuda sa Guiguinto para sa may 85,789 na mga benepisyaryo gamit ang 85.7 milyong pisong ipinagkaloob ng DBM sa pamahalaang bayan.

Nilinaw ni Bautista na prayoridad ng ahensya sa pagkaloob ng ayuda ang mga nasa tinatawag na informal sector gaya ng solo parents, persons with disability, senior citizens, indigenous peoples at iba pang kaugnay nito. **(CLJD/SFV-PIA 3)**

## Plant biz reopens, expands despite pandemic

**MANGATAREM, Pangasinan** – What started as a hobby has become the bread and butter of the family of Angelita Escaño, 58, for more than a decade.

Before the words “plantita/plantito” went trending during the pandemic, Angelita said she has already been into ornamental plant gardening and has been giving away plants to her friends.

“But some friends suggested that I sell some of my plants since I already have a lot so I could monetize it,” she told the Philippine News Agency (PNA) in Filipino.

Since she began selling about 20 plants at the sidewalk around the Mangatarem public market in 2009, Angelita now has two branches – one at the public market and the other at the Barangay Quetegan community market along Romulo Highway.

She recalled that the family had a junk shop before starting the garden business.

“We went around several municipalities every day to look for recyclables to buy and later on sell to bigger junk shop owners. I and my husband were out the whole day so the small kids were left to the care of the older ones,” Angelita said.

The need to have more time to look after their kids made her and her husband decide to shift to another business.

“We were out the whole day and sometimes, we don’t earn anything so we have to look for another source of income,” she said.

With a capital of PHP1,000, Angelita said they bought small ornamentals plants, which they now sell at the public market using their tricycle. A plant costs PHP20 to PHP30 apiece and their daily earnings range from PHP200 to PHP400.

“Part of this (amount) is used

as additional capital so that we could buy more varieties to sell,” she added.

The business has grown since and Angelita said they were able to send some of their children to college.

To date, three of her children are married, one is in college, and one is in senior high school.

She said business was generally good until the pandemic struck last year.

Following the declaration of the enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) in Luzon starting March 17, 2020, most businesses were prevented from opening.

And because Angelita’s business is not considered essential, she had no choice but to close their store.

“We were not allowed to go out. We were not even warned about the movement restrictions before it was implemented. That’s why we were not able to get any of our plants home,” she said.

Angelita said they were only allowed to visit their store two weeks after the quarantine started and by then, most of the plants were dying.

“I got so depressed and was not able to sleep properly for days because those are the only source of income. We lost a lot because of the quarantine,” she added.

Although her family benefited from the cash aid from the government, Angelita said the value was not enough to compensate for their losses.

Despite what happened, she said their family needed to get the business back on its feet.

Borrowing to survive To augment their capital, Angelita borrowed money from a lending company that collects payments daily.

“We needed to borrow otherwise we won’t be able to get back to our old system,” she said.

Angelita said the lending company charges 3 percent for a loan payable in three months.

“But I make sure to pay before the due date so as not to pay any penalty,” she said.

Asked if she tried to borrow from relatives before deciding to tap the lending company, Angelita said no.

“I’d rather take a loan from a lending company than borrow from relatives because it’s hard to be indebted to your relatives,” she added.

Angelita and her husband opened a branch along the national highway using the revolving loan.

Aside from selling plants and garden supplies on a retail basis, she said they also supply these items to other garden shop owners.

With people having more time at home since the start of the pandemic, several hobbies became a trend, among them taking care of plants.

Angelita said they have benefited greatly from this trend, especially in 2020.

“We’re slowly recovering from the impact of the temporary business closure and I hope this continues,” she added. **(PNA)**

## DOLE scholar now college instructor in Cebu City

**CEBU CITY** – For Achilles Cabaron Jr., studying is one thing. Sustaining it and hurdling the cost of education until graduation is another.

Achilles always knew that the menace posed by financial constraints was a threat to his education. He trudged through his college years and somehow found a way.

But apart from effort, he’d like to credit a big portion of his victory to the assistance he got being a beneficiary of the Special Program for the Employment of Students (SPES) of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE).

Now a college instructor at the Cebu Technological University (CTU)-Main Campus in this city, Achilles could only recall how meaningful finishing college was for him knowing at that time that he was not alone.

“I was surrounded by people who were willing to help me. More importantly, there was the SPES program that gave me the green light to go on and get my diploma in college,” the young professor said in a DOLE statement released on Monday.

Achilles used to be a working student at the state-run university, where he is now teaching at, doing errands here and there while making sure he did not miss any assignments and projects and that he was present in all classes.

Huge blessing He said the SPES program was a blessing.

“While attending to my tasks being a working student, I fortunately was considered for the SPES program. For three times, I was able to avail it and that in itself was a huge blessing since it did not only finance my studies but also helped me get by with my daily needs such as food and other things that I needed in school,” he humbly said.

Achilles became a SPES beneficiary starting 2017 and reapplied for the program the following year until 2019, which was his last year in college. On that same year, he successfully obtained his diploma for finishing BS in Industrial Technology Major in Electronics.

For having availed the SPES for two years, his name has now been added to the latest pool of DOLE’s SPES babies or the SPES

beneficiaries, who have been recipients of the program for more than one year.

Giving back “Availing the program provided me an opportunity to develop my character not just as a student but also as a responsible employee. I saw to it that I was able to compensate the assistance I got with effort and good work ethics. I was fortunate so it was but proper for me to give back by way of doing my best all the time,” he said.

He said his desire to teach and to also give back to his Alma Mater pushed him to continue his professional advancement. “I took Diploma in Professional Education and I finished it successfully. This feat would not have been made possible without the diploma I earned in college. And if I wanted to go on, earning a diploma in college would not have been made possible if not for the SPES program that I was very fortunate to avail of when I needed help the most,” he continued.

Achilles is now pursuing his Master’s Degree while teaching Fundamentals of Electricity and Electronics and Digital Electronics at the CTU-Main Campus.

“To the Department of Labor and Employment, I thank you for the opportunity that was given to me so I could achieve my dreams. May you continue to implement programs that will help not only those seeking for jobs but also those who want to finish their studies but could not afford it,” he said.

Achilles is one of the 12,082 SPES beneficiaries produced by DOLE-7 in 2019 with the department shelling out over PHP53 million for their salaries, accident insurance coverage and service charge.

SPES was suspended in 2020 due to the pandemic but has been revived for implementation this year.

It is the DOLE’s youth employment-bridging program which aims to provide temporary employment to poor but deserving students, out-of-school youth and dependents of displaced or would-be displaced workers during summer and/or Christmas vacation or any time of the year to augment the family’s income and help ensure that beneficiaries are able to pursue their education. **(PNA)**

## Teleconsultation first line of defense vs. Covid-19 mild cases

**MANILA** – The Department of Health (DOH) on Monday urged Filipinos with mild to moderate symptoms of coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) staying at home to make use of teleconsultations to prevent worsening of their conditions.

Every sickness starts mildly and doctors, even over the phone or online, can guide patients on what to do, advised DOH Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said during a digital media forum.

“Covid-19 starts with cough and fever. As soon as you experience the symptoms, of course, you isolate, make use of the telemedicine providers, so that doc-

tors can guide you on what you’re supposed to do,” she said.

Vergeire also sympathized with patients who began with mild to moderate Covid-19 indications but died in their homes.

“Mahirap talaga ang situasyon natin ngayon (Our situation is really difficult), challenged tayo (we’re challenged) that we cannot easily go to the hospital and have our assessment because our hospitals are very busy right now,” she said.

The DOH has partnered with six telemedicine providers for free services. The contact details are posted on the DOH website and social media accounts.

The public is also advised to contact Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams.

“It is also handy na mayroon po tayong pulse oximeter sa bahay natin. Ito po ay isang maliit na instrument na kinakabit sa ating daliri, at name-measure po ang oxygen level sa ating katawan (for us to have a pulse oximeter at home. It is a small instrument attached to the forefinger to determine the body’s oxygen level),” Vergeire said.

“Kapag ang oxygen level ay (If the oxygen level is) below 90 already, you need to seek consultation from a higher-level facility like a hospital,” she added. **(PNA)**

## COLLAPSIBLE TENT, HANDOG NG DOH-CALABARZON PARA SA COVID PATIENTS

**IPINAGKALOOB** ng Department of Health (DOH) – CALABARZON (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, Quezon) ng kabuuang labing-anim na collapsible tent sa ilang prayoridad na health facilities sa rehiyon upang magsibling emergency intensive care unit (ICU) at ward para sa pasyenteng may Covid. Sinabi ni DOH-Regional Director Eduardo Janairo na kinakailangang maghanap ng paraan na makatulong at hindi puwedeng sabihin puno na ang mga ospital kaya hindi sila tatanggapin (pasyente). Kinakailanagn aniya na bigyan sila ng karampatang serbisyong medikal na kailangan nila. "We have to augment and expand the capacity of our health facilities to accommodate the increasing number of Covid patients in the region. Hindi natin puwedeng sabihin puno na ang mga hospitals natin at hindi sila tanggapin. We have to find ways to help them. Buhay ng tao ang nakasalalay dito and we have to accept them. Naghihirap na nga sila, huwag na nating pahirapan pa. We must provide them the health access and service they need. Every health facility must be able to take care of patients seeking treatment," ayon

kay Janairo. Ang modular tent na may 5 metro ang lapad at 12 metro ang haba kapasidad na 44 na highaan ay nagkakahalaga ito ng P294,850. Sinusulat ito ay kabilang sa mga ospital na bibigyan ng collapsible tent ay ang Carisigma District Hospital sa GMA, General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital sa Trece Martires City, Ospital ng Imus sa Imus City and Southern Tagalog Regional Hospital sa Bacoor City, pawang sa probinsiya ng Cavite; General Cailles Memorial District Hospital sa Pakil, Laguna Medical Center sa Sta. Cruz, San Pablo City General Hospital sa San Pablo City, at San Pablo City District Hospital sa San Pablo City pawang sa Laguna; Bondoc Peninsula District Hospital sa Catanauan, Claro M. Recto Memorial District Hospital sa Infanta, Gumaca District Hospital sa Gumaca, Magsaysay Memorial District Hospital sa Lopez, Quezon Medical Center sa Lucena City at RAKK Prophet Medical Center Inc. sa Gumaca pawang sa probinsiya ng Quezon; San Juan District Hospital sa San Juan at Mabini Community Hospital sa Mabini, pawang sa probinsiya ng Batangas. **GENE ADSUARA**

## BOC clears 500K doses of Sinovac

**THE** Bureau of Customs, through Port of NAIA, cleared 500,000 doses of Sinovac vaccines consigned to the Department of Health, which arrived via Flight No. PR 361 from Beijing, China, at around 5:00 PM on April 11, 2021. On April 9, 2021, the vaccines underwent pre-arrival clearance process through NAIA One-Stop-Shop and were cleared for release within 15 minutes. The Bureau of Customs (BOC) has so far cleared and released over 3.02 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines imported by the Department of Health. Upon arrival, the shipment was immediately transferred to the Metropac facility to ensure the integrity and security of the vaccines prior to distribution across the nation. Bureau of Customs under

Commissioner Rey Leonardo B. Guerrero remains committed in supporting the Covid-19 vaccination program of the national government by assuring the immediate processing of vaccines while protecting the border against fraudulent attempts to import unregistered vaccines and related medical goods. NAIA District Collector Carmelita M. Talusan stressed that amidst continuing threats of COVID-19, active coordination and cooperation with concerned government agencies are continuously undertaken to further streamline and improve clearance processes of vaccines and related medical goods as Bureau's intangible contribution to the nation's quest to combat the dreaded virus. **PR**

## DFA walk-in office to remain closed until April 30

**MANILA** – The walk-in office for referrals of assistance-to-nationals (ATN) cases of the Department Foreign Affairs (DFA) Office of the Undersecretary for Migrant Workers' Affairs (DFA OUMWA) shall remain closed until April 30, the DFA said on Monday. In an advisory, the DFA said the temporary suspension of operations comes after the implementation of the modified enhanced community quarantine (MECQ) in the National Capital Region and in the provinces of Bulacan, Cavite, Rizal, and Laguna. "This is to allow our Covid-19-positive personnel to simultaneously isolate and work-from-home, and for DFA to avoid another wave of COVID-19 infections involving its staff," the DFA said. The walk-in office for refer-

als of ATN cases of the DFA OUMWA is located in Roberts Street, DFA Main Building in Pasay City. While the office is closed, it said the ATN concerns will remain to be served through its hotline at 0999 980 2515 and through its Facebook page "OFW Help"—both available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The ATN office of the DFA OUMWA seeks to help Filipino nationals in distress all over the world. These include helping prepare temporary travel documents, provision of assistance in social welfare and medical-related cases, criminal cases, immigration-related cases, locating whereabouts of missing Filipino nationals, assistance to Filipinos facing court cases, among others. **(PNA)**

## Pag-IBIG Fund in NCR Plus, other MECQ area to operate in skeleton workforce

**PASIG CITY (PIA)** -- The Home Development Mutual Fund or Pag-IBIG Fund is advising its customers that its branches in areas placed under MECQ are currently operating with a skeletal workforce. "In view of the implementation of a Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) in NCR Plus (Metro Manila, Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna and Rizal), and the City of Santiago, Isabela, from April 12 to 30, 2021, Pag-IBIG Fund branches in these areas shall be operating with a skeleton workforce," it said in an advisory. Also on its official Facebook Page, Pag-IBIG said during this period, only the following services shall be available in branches in these areas, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Mondays to Fridays:

- Releasing of checks
- Payments
- Loyalty Card Plus Availability

Members are encouraged to visit the Virtual Pag-IBIG [www.pagibigfundservices.com/virtualpagibig](http://www.pagibigfundservices.com/virtualpagibig); call 8PagIBIG or (02)87244244; chat via [www.pagibigfund.gov.ph](http://www.pagibigfund.gov.ph); email at [contactus@pagibigfund.gov.ph](mailto:contactus@pagibigfund.gov.ph), or through Pag-IBIG's official Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/PagIBIG-FundOfficialPage>.

Likewise, drop boxes outside these branches shall remain available for members for other transactions. The Civil Service Commission defined skeletal workforce as a work arrangement where a minimum number of employees is required to man the office to render service when full staffing is not possible. During ECQ skeletal workforce may be allowed unless a different operational capacity is provided in agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, border control, and other critical services as identified in the IATF Omnibus Guidelines on Community Quarantine. Employees designated as skeletal workforce shall be entitled to Hazard Pay



## 2021 PHILRACOM 1ST LEG 3YO MAIDEN STAKES RACE

Maraming karerista ang umaasa na muli ng papayagan ang pagbubukas ng karerahan sa darating na April 25, 2021 kung kailan nakatakdang paglabanan ang 1st Leg 3YO Maiden Stakes Race. Sapagkat ang lugar ng Batangas ay hindi naman sakop ng Enhanced Community Quarantine. Ito ay ayon mismo sa tanggapan Philippine Racing Commission. Ito ay inaasahan na gaganapin sa pista ng Metro Manila Turf Club sa Malvar- Tanauan, Batangas. At kahit wala pang abiso ang Inter- Agency Task Force (IATF) kung kailan ang pagbabalik- aksyon sa karerahan ay naglabas na ng imbitasyon ang PHILRACOM para sa 2021 3YO 1st Leg Maiden Stakes Race. Ito ay paglalaban sa distansiyang 1,400 meters. Narito ang listahan ng mga imbitadong kalahok sa nasabing pakarera pati na rin ang kanilang naging pruwera sa naganap nilang official trial race sa pista ng Metro Manila Turf Club Malvar- Tanauan, Batangas noong Marso 14, 2021. (1) Roll Da Dice na sinakyan ni Patty R. Dilema, pang-pito at nakapagtala ng tiyempong 1:29.2 para sa distansiyang 1,400 meters. (2) Kain Touch Me sinakyan ni John Alvin Guce pang-lima at nakapagtala ng tiyempong 1:29 para sa 1,400 meters. Couple runner (2a) War Cannon sinakyan ni Kelvin Abobo pangatlo at nakapagtala ng tiyempong 1:28 para sa 1,400 meters. (4) Gold Rush sinakyan ni Jessie Basilio Guce ang nakapagtala ng panalo at nakapagrehistro ng tiyempong 1:27.6 para sa 1,400 meters. (5) Alamat Ni Manda sinakyan ni Jonathan Basco Hernandez ngunit ayaw tumakbo ng kabayo at naiwan sa aparato. (6) Moment Of Truth sinakyan ni John Paul Guce pang-anim at nakapagtala ng tiyempong 1:29.2 para sa 1,400 meters (7) Impressive Victory sinakyan ni CP Henson pang-walo at nakapagtala ng tiyempong 1:30 para sa 1,400 meters (8) Club Havana sinakyan ni Daniel Camanero ang sumegundo kay Gold Rush at nakapagtala ng tiyempong 1:27.8 para sa 1,400 meters at (9) Bomod OK Falls sinakyan ni Mark Angelo Alvarez pang-apat at nakapagtala ng tiyempong 1:29 para sa distansiyang 1,400 meters. Ang mga nakalista ay mga imbitadong kalahok pa lamang at hindi pa opisyal na kasali sa naturang pakarera. Ang karera ay mayroong guaranteed prize na 1 milyong piso mula sa tanggapan ng PHILRACOM. Makatatanggap ang mananalong kabayo ng 600,000. 225,000 naman para sa 2nd place. 125,000 para sa 3rd place at 50,000 para sa 4th place. Makatatanggap din dito ang breeder ng kabayong mananalong ng 50,000.

on top of the Compensatory Time Off or Overtime Pay granted for authorized services rendered outside of the employee's regular work hours, **(PIA NCR)**

## Katapangan ni Isidoro Torres, inilalarawan ng bagong monumento

**LUNGSOD NG MALOLOS (PIA)** -- Naintindig na sa harapan ng city hall ng Malolos ang bagong lilok na monumento ni Heneral Isidoro Torres bilang handog sa kanyang Ika-155 Taong Anibersaryo. Ito na ang sentro ngayon sa People's Republika Park na kamakailan ay pinasinayaan din bilang bagong mukha ng lungsod ng Malolos. Sinabi ni Isagani Giron, Pangulo ng Salinlahi Inc. na taong 2016 nang aprubahan ng Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Malo-

los at ng National Historical Commission of the Philippines ang maquette o scale model ng noo'y magiging disenyo ng monumento ni Torres sa harap ng bagong city hall ng lungsod. Ang aprubadong maquette ay isang legal na batayan ng Intellectual Property Right upang siyang maging opisyal na basehan sa iniiilok na monumento. Dagdag pa ni Giron na isang matapang, magiting at may paninindigan na heneral ang

konsepto ng monumento. Kaya't nakasuot ng yunipormeng pang militar ang imahe ni Torres dahil nakapaloob din sa konsepto ang panahong nabuhay siya noong Rebolusyon ng 1896 at Philippine-American War ng 1899-1901. Pinabagsik din ang imahe ng mukha at may posturang palaban ito sa monumento dahil naaayon sa mga batayang pangkasaysayan, na basta't may manlulupig ay handang pumatay at mamatay si Torres. **(CLJD/SFV-PIA 3)**

## BOC Files Smuggling Raps vs. Importers, Customs Brokers of General Merchandise, Chemicals

**THE Bureau of Customs (BOC), through its Bureau's Action Team Against Smugglers (BATAS), filed on April 8, 2021, before the Department of Justice smuggling cases against the three importers and its customs brokers for the alleged violation of various Customs laws, rules, and regulations.**

A criminal case was filed against JOBADEC INTERNATIONAL TRADING and its customs broker for the alleged importation of various infringing and counterfeit merchandise last November 1, 2020, at the Manila International Container Port (MICP). The total value of the said goods amounts to P729,730.14. Another criminal case was filed against CWON-PAMPANGA MOTORS TRADING INC. and its customs broker for alleged misdeclaration of a 40-footer container of various general merchandise with a total value of P2,756,271.65.

## Gesmundo addresses SC concerns in virtual meeting

**MANILA** – Chief Justice Alexander G. Gesmundo on Tuesday presided over a virtual town hall meeting for court officials and employees and assured the Supreme Court's (SC) support amid pandemic-related concerns. Gesmundo was at the SC Division Hearing Room with the rest participating online via videoconference using the Philippine Judiciary 365 platform. It was the first time the SC magistrates met with all 2,000 judges and some court personnel collegially and online using the said platform. "We assure you that the Court en banc will study the issues that you raised," Gesmundo said, adding the SC "will pass and approve appropriate issuances in due time". Senior Associate Justice Estela Perlas-Bernabe af-

The said violation was committed on November 26, 2020, in MICP. A separate criminal case was also filed against AGILITY SOLUTIONS INC. and its customs broker due to alleged unlawful importation of regulated chemicals amounting to P8,870,127.56 on October 22, 2020, in MICP. The Customs Brokers involved in the alleged illegal importation will also face administrative cases before the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC). The case filing was made possible through the stronger coordination and collaboration of BATAS and the Manila International Container Port. From January 1 to April 8, 2021, the BOC has filed 24 criminal cases against various importers and customs brokers. The BOC will remain steadfast in protecting the national borders against the entry of illicit goods and unscrupulous traders. **PR**

firmed the SC's request for inclusion in the vaccination priority group A4 has been granted by the National Task Force Against Covid-19 (NTF). The Court, on April 5, 2021, wrote the NTF for the inclusion of judiciary employees under A4. Bernabe said that according to the NTF, vaccination for category A4 will start in May. Judiciary employees were advised to register with their local government units. Among those who participated in the town hall meeting were officers and members of the Philippine Judges Association, Philippine Trial Judges League, Inc., Philippine Women Judges Association, Metropolitan and City Judges Association of the Philippines, and the Philippine Association of Court Employees. Meanwhile, SC spokesper-

## PH to get first 194K doses of Moderna vaccine in May

**MANILA** – National Task Force Against Covid-19 chief implementer Secretary Carlito Galvez Jr. on Tuesday said some 194,000 doses of Moderna vaccine will be delivered in the Philippines in May. Galvez, also the country's vaccine czar, said this will be the first batch of the 13 million doses of Moderna Covid-19 vaccine procured by the government through a bilateral agreement. "And then Moderna, napirmahan na rin po natin ang supply agreement at darating po ang first doses this coming May, 194,000. (we have already signed the supply agreement and the first doses – 194,000 will arrive this coming May)," Galvez said in a virtual Palace presser. Apart from government-procured jabs, Moderna company will be sending an additional 7 million doses of Covid-19 vaccine purchased by the private sector. Galvez added that bulk of the Moderna's deliveries will arrive in the third and fourth quarters this year. He likewise said the Maryland-based biotechnology company Novavax will be sending Covid-19 jabs within the third and fourth quarters this year. "Iyong Novavax po mayroon po tayong 13 million, na sealed na po iyong ating supply agreement, mayroon na lang po tayong inaayos sa financing (We have sealed a supply agreement to secure 13 million doses from Novavax, we are just finalizing the financing)," he said. Galvez, meanwhile, said the AstraZeneca firm will resume its deliveries in June. son Brian Keith Hosaka will retain his post as public information chief. Gesmundo was the third chief justice after Lucas Bersamin and Diosdado Peralta to keep Hosaka, also a lawyer. Hosaka's post was previously held by lawyers Ismael Khan under Hilario Davide Jr., now Court Administrator Jose Midas Marquez, and Theodore Te. **(PNA)**

"Tuluy-tuloy na po iyon hanggang maka-deliver po sila hanggang first quarter po ng 2022 (It will be continuous until they can deliver in the first quarter of 2022)," he added. The Philippines has initially received 525,600 doses of AstraZeneca through the COVAX Facility. **(PNA)**

## 'No brownouts' dapat mapanatili sa gitna ng krisis sa COVID-19 –Gatchalian

**LUNGSOD CALOOCAN (PIA)** -- Hinimok ngayong araw ni Senator Win Gatchalian ang mga nasa sektor ng enerhiya na siguruhin ang pagkakaroon ng sapat na suplay ng kuryente habang patuloy na umiiral ang mahigpit na community quarantine status sa kabuuan ng bansa at umaarangkada ang COVID-19 vaccination program ng gobyerno. Kadalasang mataas ang konsumo ng kuryente sa panahon ng summer at dahil dito ay lumiliit ang reserba kaya kadalasan ay hindi sumasapat sa pangangailangan ng mga konsyumer. Sakasalukuyangsitwasyon kung saan kinakailangang mapanatili ang pagkakaimbak sa malamig na storage facilities ng mga bakuna laban sa COVID-19, iginiit ni Gatchalian na hindi dapat maranasan ang pagkakaroon ng brownout dahil maaaring makompromiso ang bisa ng bakuna. Ang panawagan ni Gatchalian ay kasunod ng nakarating sa kanyang kaalaman kung saan nagkaroon ng forced power outages o biglaang pagsasara ng ilang planta sa Luzon. Sa datos ng Department of Energy (DOE), lumalabas na sa billing period mula Pebrero 26 hanggang March 25 ay nagkaroon ng 15 na unplanned outages na sumabay pa sa pitong naka iskedul o planned outages noong mga panahong iyon. Dahil dito, iminungkahi ng Senate Energy Committee Chairperson sa mga generation companies na ipagpaliban muna ang iba pang nakaplano ng maintenance shutdown sa mga

## Karagdagang P350-M pang-ayuda, inilaan ng Santa Rosa City LGU

**SANTA ROSA CITY, Laguna (PIA)** -- Mahigit 172,807 pamilya sa lungsod ng Santa Rosa ang inaasahang makakatanggap ng ayuda ngayong modified enhanced community quarantine. Ito ay matapos inanunsiyo ni Mayor Arlene Arcillas na naglaan ang pamahalaang lungsod ng P350-milyon bilang karagdagang pondo

pang-ayuda sa mga nasa-sakupan nitong apekatdo ng mahigpit na community quarantine na ipinatupad noong una at ikalawang linggo ng Abril. Ayon kay Mayor Arcillas, ang dagdag na pondo ay upang masiguro na mabigyan ng financial assistance ang lahat ng mga pamilya sa lungsod. Paliwanag ng alkalde, aabutin lamang sa 85,307 households ang mabibigyan ng ayuda mula sa P341,229,000 na pondong inilaan ng pamahalaang nasyunal kung saan tanging mga low-income individuals at informal workers lamang ang maaaring makatanggap batay sa Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1 S. 2021 na inilabas ng Department of the Interior and Local Government, Department of Social Welfare and Development, at Department of National Defense. Sa pamamagitan aniya ng karagdagang pondo na inilaan ng pamahalaang lungsod ay aabot na sa tinatayang 172,807 households ang mabibigyan ng ayuda. Sa ngayon, patuloy ang pamamahagi ng ayuda sa mga residente sa lungsod kung saan ginawang house-to-house ang distribusyon nito upang matiyak ang kaligtasan ng bawat isa sa gitna ng tumataas na kaso ng COVID-19. Paalala ng alkalde, manatili lamang sa tahanan at hintayin ang Ayuda Distribution Team at ihandang mga kinakailangang dokumento gaya ng ID. **(CO/PIA4A-SMT)**

19 survivor, previously assured they are doing their "best to address this pandemic". Safeguards are also in place to avoid a repeat of prison riots, like in October last year when nine died and in November when three were killed and more than 60 were wounded. "The explanation was something more or less expected. A long-standing rivalry ignited by a rather flimsy encounter. Since then, the BuCor (Bureau of Corrections) has taken several measures, like frequent searches for improvised weapons," Guevarra said. **(PNA)**

## DOJ proposes inmates' inoculation

**MANILA** – The Department of Justice (DOJ) has explored the possibility of inoculating persons deprived of liberty (PDL) as curbing Covid-19 infections in cramped cells poses a challenge. DOJ Secretary Menardo Guevarra said on Tuesday "efforts are now heavily focused on containing the spread of Covid-19". "The DOJ will also work on the vaccination of PDLs," he said. "As of now, the vaccination population priority list does not include PDLs. The DOJ will argue on the basis of greater Covid risk due to overcrowding." BuCor director Gerald Bantag, himself a Covid-

# PNP REMITS P6.1-B INCOME TAX FOR 2020

**MANILA –** The Philippine National Police (PNP) has remitted a total of PHP6,108,152,968 to the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) for the income tax of its personnel for the fiscal year 2020.

PNP chief, Gen. Debold Sinas said Thursday this represents the individual income taxes of 224,189 uniformed and non-uniformed personnel.

"All PNP personnel religiously fulfill our annual tax obligations to fund government expenditure for healthcare services, public education, infrastructure development, food secu-

rity, social services, and defense," he added.

Sinas said the PNP is "consistently among the top taxpayers in the BIR Revenue District Office 040."

Individual income taxes are automatically deducted from the monthly payroll accounts of PNP personnel in the form of taxes withheld.

These withheld taxes are remitted by PNP to BIR as agency obligations.

Each PNP taxpayer paid an average of PHP27,245 in income taxes for the fiscal year 2020. **(with Priam Nepomuceno/PNA)**



17-sachet at isang nakalagay sa plastic ng yelo na hinihinalang shabu ang narekober ng mga tauhan ng Station Drug Enforcement Unit ng MPD Police Station-14, mula sa mga suspek na sina Sarah Manonog (kaliwa) at Marissa Manansala sa isinagawang buy-bust operation sa Interior 44, Laong Nasa, Tondo Maynila. Tinatayang aabot sa timbang na 160-gramo ng shabu na nagkakahalaga ng humigit kumulang P1,088,000.00 **(JEROME AMOROSO)**



**ISINAGAWA** ang paglilinis kamakailan sa bangketa ng Jones Bridge, na nag-uugnay sa Intramuros at China Town sa Manila, bilang bahagi ng regular disinfection activities ng pamahalaang lungsod kontra COVID-19. **(Christian Heramis)**



**SA** isinagawang Oplan GALUGAD ng mga tauhan ng PCP 2 sa pamunuan ni P/Major Jolly C. Soriano ay dinakip ang suspek na si Roel Salac y Yumul na nahulihan ng isang pirasong maliit na sachet ng umano'y shabu at isang pirasong maliit na sachet ng hinihinalang marijuana sa Puyat Compound, Brgy. Tambo, lungsod ng P'que. **(JIMMY HAO)**




**HINDI** ligtas ang suspek na si Arnaldo Guccimnal Fernandez, Jr. sa isinagawang Oplan GALUGAD ng mga tauhan ng SDEU at nakumpiska sa kanya ang 5 pirasong plastic sachet ng hinihinalang shabu sa Brgy. Sun Valley, lungsod ng P'que. Nagiging seizing officer si Pat Marvin Ragaza. **(JIMMY HAO)**

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## KALIBRE



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### 'Hari-hari'

**MAYROONG** mahigpit na paalala si Chief Presidential Legal Counsel Salvador Panelo sa mga opisyal ng barangay o mga local officials. Ito ay para roon sa mga opisyal na kung akala mo ay kung sino makaasta sa pagpapatupad ng mga health protocols laban sa COVID-19.

Hindi nga naman dahas o karahasan ang dapat na katugunan sa pagtuturo ng leksiyon laban sa mga quarantine violators.

Tama ang pahayag ni Panelo na mayroong ilang opisyal o kawani na kapag nabibigyan ng kapangyarihan ay nagiging abusado at malupit na wala naman sa tamang lugar o pamamaraan.

Ilagay sa ayos ang mahigpit na pagpapatupad ng curfew at ng mga quarantine rules na hindi magsasadlak sa kapahamakan ng publiko.

Kaya ang mungkahi ng opisyal sa mga local officials ay magtalaga at

magpakalat ng mga sound vehicles na mayroong loudspeakers. Gawin ito at hindi dapat pagsawaan bilang patuloy na pagpapaalala sa publiko para sa health protocols.

May isa pang suhestiyon si Panelo na pwede namang magtatag ang mga mayor na isang grupo.

Ang grupong ito ang magroronda o mag-iikot sa buong komunidad na ang misyon ay para sa pagbabantay.

lyon nga lamang, paano kung ang grupong ito ay mag-aastang 'hari-hari' sa pagpapatupad ng kanilang misyon?

Saka kung hindi tayo nagkakamali ay may task force na ang bawat lokal na pamahalaan ng lungsod o munisipalidad hinggil dito.

Ibig bang sabihin ay bukod ang kasalukuyang task force sa mungkahing panibagong grupong bubuuin?



**Mr. Nelson Santos,**  
National President of Publishers Association of the Philippines Inc. (PAPI) April 15.  
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