

HAPPY NEW YEAR...

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HANEP
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(Larawan mula sa CPIO)

PGC EMPOWERS FARMERS AND FISHERFOLKS THROUGH HITO FINGERLINGS DISTRIBUTION *pahina 2*



(Larawan mula sa CPIO)

Women's Welfare Program in the municipalities of Ternate and Tagaytay City- story p.5



(Larawan mula sa PIA)

DENR rolls out 'Services on Wheels' program to reach far-flung communities- story p.5



NCCA Executive Director Eric Zerrudo talks about their priority plans for 2025, which aims to harness culture and arts as tools for resilience and sustainability in the face of modern challenges during the Bagong Pilipinas Town Hall Meeting in Mabalacat City. (Aldrin Joshua P. Mallari/PIA 3)- story p.9



(Larawan mula sa PIA)

TESDA offers farming, urban gardening training for seniors- story p.4



(Larawan mula sa PIA)

CCC lauds CAR LGUs for climate resilience through Gawad KALASAG Awards- story p.9



(Larawan mula sa PIA)

NCCA honors exceptional Pangasinense advocating for empowerment for persons with disabilities- story p.8

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PGC EMPOWERS FARMERS AND FISHERFOLKS THROUGH HITO FINGERLINGS DISTRIBUTION

In a continued effort to uplift the livelihoods of farmers and fisherfolks, the Provincial Government of Cavite, through the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist Fisheries Extension Services Section, distributed 20,000 Hito (catfish) fingerlings to 18 Cavite farmers and fisherfolks on December 18, 2024. The event, held at the OPA Administrative Lobby aimed to reinforce the government's commitment to agricultural and fisheries development. The program opened with a brief yet insightful lecture on Hito culture led by Aquaculturist II Sheryl P. Luna, joined by Ms. Leni Pinsan, owner of the MLEP Catfish Hatchery. The discussion provided

practical guidance on raising Hito, ensuring beneficiaries are equipped with the knowledge to maximize their yields. Aquaculturist II Edrich H. Caparas, together with OPA Administrative Officer V, Lourdes N. Janohan, facilitated the fingerling distribution. Beneficiaries expressed their gratitude, recognizing the initiative as a step toward improving their income and livelihood opportunities. The distribution program, born from the growing demand for Hito fingerlings, underscores the Provincial Government's dedication to providing sustainable solutions and resources for local farmers and fisherfolks. — R. Tanael (*Mula sa CPIO*)

Ticket bought in Cavite wins P15.8-M Super Lotto pot

MANILA – A bettor from Cavite hit the Super Lotto 6/49 jackpot prize of PHP15,840,000.00 drawn on Sunday night. The ticket bearing the winning combination of 21-10-13-31-07-18 was bought from an outlet in Molino 4, Bacoor City, according to the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) on Monday. As specified in Republic Act 1169 or the law on PCSO lotteries, winners have one year from the date of the draw to claim the prize. All jackpot prizes must be claimed at the PCSO main office in Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City. Lotto winnings of more than PHP10,000 are subject to a 20 percent tax under the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion law. Meanwhile, 52 others won PHP50,000 each for guessing five of the six winning digits; 2,136 will get PHP1,200 each for four correct digits; and 29,193 will settle for PHP50 each for three correct digits. The Super Lotto 6/49 is drawn every Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday. PCSO General Manager Melquiades Robles urged the public to support the agency's gaming products

to raise additional revenue for health initiatives, medical services and other national charities. Through its mandatory contributions, the PCSO not only helps people in need of medical assistance but also provides funds to government institutions. (*PNA*)

27K court employees to convene in Cebu for 2025 nat'l event

CEBU CITY – Around 27,000 court employees from across the Philippines are set to converge in Cebu City in October 2025 for a national convention and sports fest, an official confirmed Friday. Mayor Raymond Alvin Garcia announced that the Philippine Association of Court Employees (PACE) would host the event, bringing together representatives from first and second-level courts, including Shari'ah courts, nationwide. During a meeting with PACE Cebu chapter officials, Garcia expressed the city government's full support for the gathering, which is expected to showcase camaraderie and athleticism among court employees. PACE national president and Regional Trial Court Branch 279 Clerk of Court Rayson Mayor said Cebu City emerged as unanimous choice during a recent national board meeting. "Cebu City is the center, is the heart of the Philippines. Imagine, from Luzon, Visayas,

CPD calls for open communication on reproductive health among parents, children

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) – The Commission on Population and Development (CPD) in CALABARZON emphasized the critical role of parents in addressing the growing concern of early pregnancies among teenagers. The call for open communication aims to foster understanding, provide guidance, and equip young people with the necessary knowledge to make informed and responsible decisions. CPD CALABARZON Regional Director Marilyn Ogaya stressed that creating a safe space for dialogue between parents and children is vital in addressing the challenges posed by unplanned pregnancies. "We encourage parents to engage their children in meaningful conversations about reproductive health, relationships, and life goals. This approach can help prevent misconceptions and promote a healthier perspective on their future," Ogaya stated. As of April 25, 2024, the city of Calamba, Laguna records the highest

teenage pregnancy rate with 7,275 cases, followed by the municipality of Tanza in Cavite with 6,902 cases and the city of Biñan, Laguna with 6,646 cases. CPD Calabarzon is rolling out programs aimed at equipping both parents and teenagers with accurate and science-based information about reproductive health, importance of responsible decision-making and delaying parenthood until adulthood. The director said: "We have a module for parents that we can teach them to communicate with their children on this. Also, CPD has a training program to parents where we teach them how to properly communicate with their kin in a way that the children will not be ashamed." In addition to engaging with parents, CPD Calabarzon is strengthening its partnerships with various government agencies, academe and other stakeholders to amplify the advocacy and to deliver comprehensive programs addressing the multifaceted challenges of teenage pregnancy, from education and healthcare

PBBM's Christmas wishes: Love, peace, happiness for Filipinos

MANILA – President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. on Wednesday expressed optimism that love and peace will prevail, as Filipinos reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. In his message, Marcos said Christmas is a crucial part of the core beliefs of the Filipino faithful, as the occasion allows them to experience God's presence "in its nearest and most intimate form, evoking gratitude, kindness, and happiness to one and all." He said the celebration and significance of the birth of Jesus Christ transcend the constraints of religion, extending its invitation of joy and thanksgiving to everyone "no matter their background". "As Filipinos, take this highly anticipated chance to come home, reconnect with loved ones, and relish the blessings of the past year, I call on everyone to reflect on what is truly important: Living a life of meaning and purpose," Marcos said.

"By doing so, may the bustle and spirit of Christmas make love and to socio-economic development. "Combating early pregnancy is a collective responsibility. Through open communication within families and strong partnerships across government agencies, we can protect the future of our youth and empower them to achieve their full potential," Ogaya declares. The population commission adds that it is committed in promoting reproductive health and empowering young people in the region to create a safer and more supportive environment for its youth. (*AM/PIA 4A*)

Midas Marquez confirmed that the long-awaited Manila City Hall of Justice will start construction by the first quarter of 2025. The multi-story edifice will house more than 80 regional trial courts and up to 30 metropolitan trial courts that are currently spread out in Manila City Hall, the old Ombudsman building, and the former Masagana Complex along Kalaw Street, also in Manila. (*PNA*)

peace abound in every household and instill in us a deeper appreciation of the strength that comes from our relationship with Christ and each other," he added.

Marcos enjoined everyone to help him realize his vision for a "Bagong Pilipinas" (New Philippines) by "emulate[ing] the light that led the wise men to meet the infant in the manger so others may see and experience the hope that the Lord Almighty freely offers to us all."

Find time to travel In another video message, Marcos, First Lady Liza Araneta-Marcos and their sons, Senior House Deputy Majority Leader and Ilocos Norte 1st District Rep. Sandro, Joseph Simon and William Vincent, encouraged the public to visit tourist destinations in the country during the holiday season.

Rep. Marcos called on Filipinos to spend the holidays in places with festive Christmas decorations, while Simon urged them to visit the beautiful churches in the country.

Vincent, on the other hand, stressed the importance of spending Christmas with family and friends.

"Ang Paskong Pilipino ang pinakamasayang Pasko sa buong mundo. Kaya naman, sa kabila ng anumang pagsubok o pinagdadaanan, hindi ma-i-aalis sa atin ang magdiwang, simple man ang pamamaraan (Filipino Christmas is the happiest Christmas in the world. That's why, despite any trials or experiences, we can't stop celebrating, even if our way of celebrating is simple)," Marcos said.

"Hindi naman kailangang magarbo, dahil nasaan mang sulok ng bansa, anuman ang ating kalagayan, ang Pasko sa Pilipino ay pagmamahalan at pagbibigayan. Ang Pasko sa Pilipino ay pamilya (It doesn't have to be fancy, because no matter where in the country we are, regardless of our circumstances, Christmas in the Philippines is about love and giving. Christmas in the Philippines is about family)," he added. (*PNA*)

SC gets property for future judicial complex in Bulacan

MANILA – The Supreme Court (SC) has received 25 hectares of land from the Department of Transportation (DOTr) in Bambang, Bulacan that will serve as the new site of the judicial complex. In a media interview on Friday, Justice Jose Midas Marquez said the Bulacan property is bigger than an area in Taguig City where the SC initially planned to build the complex. The SC is hoping to start the construction by 2025. The property is part of the concession agreement between the government through the DOTr and

San Miguel Aerocity, Inc. (SMAI), where the latter will donate 100 hectares to the government to comprise the Government Center Land Area in Bulacan. The high court entered into a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the DOTr and SMAI on Sep. 19. Under the MOA, the DOTr shall transfer the property allocated to the Supreme Court. The state-of-the-art judicial complex will house the SC, Court of Appeals, Sandiganbayan and Court of Tax Appeals. Meanwhile, Justice Jose

BASAG KOTSE, MULING UMATAKE SA CAVITE

ISA na namang kaso ng insidente ng basag-kotse ang naitala makaraang muli itong umatake at binasag ang kanang salamin na bintana ng Ford Ranger Wild Truck at tinangay ang isang bag sa Gen Trias, Cavite.

Sa reklamo ng biktima na si Mariano Comia Alano, 59, ng Brgy Panngyan Mendez, ipinarada niya ang Ford Ranger Wild Truck sa parking area sa Catch and Bucket Restaurant sa Arnaldo Highway, Brgy San Francisco, Gen Trias City, bandang alas-7:00 ng gabi at kumain sila ng kanyang kasama.

Subalit pagbalik ay nakitang basag na ang kanang salamin ng bintana ng kanyang sasakyan at nawawala rin ang bag ng kasama nito.

Hindi naman binanggit sa ulat kung ano ang laman ng bag ng kasama nito.

Sa datos, ito na ang pangsiyam na insidente sa lalawigan, dalawa ang kaso sa Gen Trias City, tatlo sa Dasmarias City at tig-dalawa sa Imus City at Silang.

Patuloy ang isinagawang backtracking sa Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) para sa pagkakakilanlan sa suspek. **(Gene Adsuara)**

TESDA, nanawagan sa mga industriya na makiisa sa kanilang programa

LUNGSOD NG BATANGAS (PIA) — Nanawagan ang Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Calabarzon sa mga industriya sa bansa na suportahan at makiisa sa kanilang programa.

Sa isinagawang Kapihan sa Bagong Pilipinas, binigyang-diin ni Batangas Provincial Director Dorie Gutierrez na dinodoble nila ang pakikipagtuwang sa mga industriya upang mas mabigyan ng oportunidad ang mga TESDA scholars at graduates na magkaroon ng maayos na trabaho batay sa kanilang kakayahan.

“Sa pagtutulungan ng lahat ng empleyado ng TESDA, nasa 6,000 industriya at stakeholders ang naging katuwang ng aming ahensya kung saan sa ilalim ng Supervised Industry Learning ay ina-absorb na ang mga TESDA scholars. Ginagawa din naming ang lahat ng paraan upang mabigyan sila ng maayos na trabaho dito sa bansa”, ani Gutierrez.

Sinabi naman ni Rizal Provincial Director Marie Roque na isa sa hamon hindi lamang sa TESDA maging sa mga industriya na dapat mas mapalakas ang pagkilala sa mga TESDA graduates.

“We are recalling our industries na magkaroon ng mas ibayong pagsuporta

at pagtataas sa ating mga graduates sapagkat kung kinikilala ang galing nila sa ibang bansa, mas lalong higit dito sa mga local industries natin na mas makilala sila at mabigyan pa ng capacity”, ani Roque.

Samantala, inilahad din ang Technical Vocational Education Training Profile ng rehiyon kabilang ang estado ng TVET Infrastructure, TVET Institution at TVET Assessors.

Sa kasalukuyan, nasa 82.9 porsyento o 90,987 ang nakapagtapos sa ilalim ng training programs ng ahensya. **(BMPDC-PIA Batangas)**

Bahay ng missionary pastor, nilooban

TINATAYANG P152K cash at mga gadget ang natangay ng hinihinalang akyat-bahay sa missionary pastor sa loob ng kanyang bahay sa Tagaytay City, Cavite.

Kinilala ang biktima na si Mario Abelda y Tan, may-asawa, ng Orchard Drive Extension, Brgy Kaybagal North, Tagaytay City.

Inilarawan ang suspek na nakasuot ng itim na sweat shirt na may hood, itim na maong short at itim na relo sa kanyang kaliwang kamay.

Sa ulat, bandang alas-7:00 ng umaga ay natuklasan ng biktima ang nawawala nitong gamit kabilang ang isang 11’ Mac Air color Silver laptop (P20,000),

P55K, natangay ng akyat bahay

HINIHINALANG akyat-bahay ang tumangay ng tinatayang P55K halaga ng gadget at mga mamahaling sapatos sa Tagaytay City Linggo ng madaling araw.

Base sa Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) footage, bandang alas-1:00 ng madaling araw ay pinasok ng hindi nakilalang kawalan ang bahay ng biktima na si alyas David sa Purok 62 Brgy Kaybagal Central, Tagaytay City.

Tinangay ang isang HP laptop na nagkakahalaga ng P20,000.00, Samsung

tablet na P15,000.00, Adidas na sapatos na P4,000.00, Nike/Jordan na sapatos na P6,000.00 at MK na relo na P10,000.00 o kabuuan na P55,000.00.

Matapos nakuha ang mga ito ng suspek ay tumakas sa hindi nabatid na lugar.

Bandang alas-4:00 na ng madaling araw natuklasan ng biktima ang insidente na agad namang ipinagbigay alam sa pulisya.

Patuloy ang isinagawang backtracking ng pulisya sa Closed-Circuit Television sa pagkakakilanlan at pag-aresto sa suspek. **(Gene Adsuara)**

2 lalaki, huli sa paputok

ARESTADO ang dalawang lalaki makaraang nahulihan ng mga paputok sa isinagawang buy bust operation sa Gen Trias City, Cavite Linggo ng madaling araw.

Nasa kustodiya ng Gen. Trias City Police ang mga suspek na sina alyas Gerson at Christian na naharap sa kasong paglabag sa RA 7183 o law that regulates the sale, manufacture, distribution and use of firecrackers ang other pyrotechnic devices in the Philippines.

Sa ulat bandang alas-3:00 ng madaling araw ay nagsagawa ng buy bust operation ang mga operatiba ng RID Special

Team 4A (Lead Unit) kasama ang General Trias City Police Station na nagpanggap na mga buyer sa Bella Vista, Brgy Santiago, Gen Trias City, at nagresulta sa pagkakaaresto nina Gerson at Christian.

Narekober sa kanila ang 19 na bundle na regular Kwitis, apat na kahon ng bombshell Kwitis, tatlong pakete ng whistle bomb, isang box na piccolo, isang box na Higad, isang box na Magi diamond fountains, isang iPhone 13 Pro max na cellphone, kulay puti na Honda sedan na may plakang ZTA 246 at buy bust money. **(Gene Adsuara)**

Sunog na katawan ng bangkay na babae

BAHAGYANG sunog ang katawan ng bangkay ng

babae na natagpuan sa Bacoar City, Cavite.

Inaalam ang pagkakakilanlan sa biktima na sunog ang ilang bahagi ng katawan nito.

Sa ulat, bandang alas-7:15 ng umaga nadiskubre ang bangkay ng security guard sa Masterpiece Property, Villar City, Brgy Molino 4, Bacoar City.

Sa inisyal na imbestigasyon ng pulisya, hinihinalang itinaon ang bangkay sa lugar.

Patuloy ang isinagawang backtracking sa Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) at pagkalap ng mga saksi sa posibleng dinaanan at pagkakakilanlan sa umano’y nagtapon sa bangkay. **(Gene Adsuara)**

Circuit Television (CCTV) sa dinaanan at posibleng pagkakakilanlan sa suspek. **(Gene Adsuara)**

Editorial

Kumpleto ang mga daliri sa mga kamay

ILANG araw pa lamang bago ang mismong araw ng Pasko ay may-roong naitala na firework-related injuries ang Department of Health.

Tapos na ang Pasko at nasa panahon na ng pagsasalubong sa panibagong taon.

Hindi naman lingid sa kaalaman na marami pa ring gumagamit ng ilegal na paputok tuwing bisperas ng Bagong Taon.

Nakakalungkot lamang na higit na nakararaming biktima ng disgrasya sa paputok ay mga menor de edad at kalamitan ay kalalakihang kabataan.

Silang mga bata na animo’y walang ramdam na takot sa paggamit ng mga ilegal na paputok.

Ito ay sa kabila ng paulit-ulit na babala ng mga kinauukulan sa kanilang kahihinatnan sa paggamit ng mga ito.

Napakalaki ng partisipasyon ng bawat magulang o guardian para sa kaligtasan ng mga bata o kabataan na marami pang Pasko at Bagong Taon na daraan na dapat ay kumpleto ang mga daliri sa mga kamay.

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ROMEO S. SANTOS
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TESDA offers farming, urban gardening training for seniors

QUEZON CITY, (PIA) — The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority National Capital Region (TESDA-NCR) is offering a new initiative to provide farming and urban gardening training specifically tailored for senior citizens.

TESDA-NCR Assistant Regional Director Cariza Dacuma made this announcement during the weekly “Kapihan sa Bagong Pilipinas” media forum on Tuesday, December 17, presented by the Presidential Communications Office and the Philippine Information Agency NCR. Director Dacuma emphasized the importance of these programs, stating, “We have urban gardening and Organic Agriculture Production (OAP) courses available in the Pasay-Makati district.” Dacuma reassured attendees that assistance is available for all interested

seniors, saying, “Everyone can be helped as long as they are capable; these are the courses we will provide.”

During the forum, a representative from the Philippines News Agency inquired about opportunities for senior citizens to participate in these training sessions. Dacuma confirmed, “Yes, everyone can be assisted as long as they are able. That is what these courses are for.”

The initiative aims to empower senior citizens by equipping them with practical skills in agriculture, promoting not only personal growth but also community development through sustainable practices.

TESDA continues to expand its programs to cater to the needs of various demographics, ensuring inclusivity and accessibility for all Filipinos across the Philippines. **(JCO/PIA-NCR)**

Rizal province spotlights best tourism attractions, activities with ‘Pasyal sa Rizal’ program

More than just a weekend getaway, the province of Rizal has a lot to offer from breathtaking landscapes, historical and culture-rich municipalities, artistic museums, scrumptious gastronomy to hospitable people.

During the ‘Pasyal sa Rizal’ tour program launched by the Department of Tourism (DOT) Region IV-A, various municipalities gave provincial and local tourism officers, tour operators, media and content creators a glimpse of what they could offer.

On the first day of the tour, participants visited the municipality of Montalban, where they discovered some of the unique natural and cultural treasures of the place, including the contributions of the Dumagat Remontado tribe, who showcased their traditional dances, music, and products.

Meanwhile, the municipality of San Mateo welcomed guests in the Diocesan Shrine of Our Lady of Aranzazu, where the history of the church was shared, and

participants were given the opportunity to pray to the miraculous Virgin Mary.

Every September, the town also celebrates the Kakanin Festival, so they treated the visitors to a variety of famous rice delicacies such as kutsinta, sapin-sapin, biko, and more.

As the Garments Capital of the Philippines, Taytay highlighted its iconic Tiangge, which now also features a night market to accommodate the high demand from tourists and shoppers.

On the other hand, in Antipolo City, participants of the tour were immersed in one of the city’s well-known attractions, the Hinulugang Taktak, a protected landscape managed by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Provincial Government. Additionally, participants toured the renowned Antipolo Cathedral, an International Shrine, which reflects Antipolo City’s pride in being the Pilgrimage Capital of the Philippines.

‘Governance scorecard not confined to pollings alone’— Bersamin

MANILA — President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. remains focused on uplifting lives, driving economic growth and securing the country’s future amid the result of the recent Pulse Asia survey on the approval and trust ratings of the Chief Executive.

“Governance scorecard should not be confined to pollings alone,” according to Executive Secretary Lucas P. Bersamin.

He said executive decision is motivated by public interest, not by the desire to score high in opinion polls.

“High popularity ratings are the bonus and not the bedrock of effective public service,” Bersamin said.

Bersamin said he respects

the statement that surveys are reliable indicators of public opinion. But surveys are not the sole instrument to measure governance, he said.

“To consider surveys as the sole indicator is to take our focus away from the more important metrics, like employment, that reliably measure our progress as a nation,” Bersamin said.

He also underscored that true leadership has the responsibility to pursue what is right though it may not be widely supported or unpopular.

“As the President’s actions show, we have remained focused on our critical mission of uplifting lives, growing the economy, and securing our future,” Bersamin said. **(PND)**

Marcos administration focuses on nat’l dev’t despite declining public ratings

MANILA, (PIA) — Executive Secretary Lucas

Bersamin emphasized that true leadership is not measured by high approval ratings but by actions taken for the public good.

His remarks follow a recent Pulse Asia survey indicating a decline in the approval and trust ratings of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr., conducted from November 26 to December 3.

“Public interest is the sole driver behind every executive decision, not the pursuit of high ratings in the next opinion polls. High popularity ratings are

tour operators, media and content creators, capped off the Pasyal sa Rizal experience with the breathtaking views and landscapes of Tanay, Rizal. From there, the municipalities of Cardona, Pililla, Morong, and Jalajala showcased their local products, highlighting the importance of Rizal province’s history, culture, and nature.

Overall, the Pasyal sa Rizal was a success, with the of strengthening the tourism sector by introducing the unique destinations, products, and traditions of each town. **(CO/PIA4A)**

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“The Virtual Pag-IBIG provides members, employers, and developers a 24/7 online access and several other features that makes transacting with Pag-IBIG a lot easier,” Gallano said.

Member app features Through the Virtual Pag-IBIG platform, members can:

- Register as new members;
- Apply for cash and housing loans;

a bonus, not the foundation of effective public service,” Bersamin said.

Despite the slight drop in ratings, the administration remains focused on improving the livelihoods of Filipinos and strengthening the national economy.

The Department of Finance reported a 5.8% economic growth in the first three quarters of the year, indicating ongoing progress despite global economic challenges.

Additionally, President Marcos Jr. has signed several laws aimed at reducing corporate income tax rates and providing additional incentives for qualified companies, encouraging foreign investment in the country. **(JCO/PIA-NCR)**

- Check loan status and balances;
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- Employee Loan Management

“Human resource officers or coordinators can now enroll employees online, entering their personal, employment, and salary details, to eliminate manual data entry and reduce errors,” Gallano noted.

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- Checking loan eligibility;
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- Advanced processing of loan application;
- Generating payment instruction number (PIN)
- Tracking loan application status;
- Online issuance of Notice of Approval.

“Developers can already pre-evaluate loan applications using the uploaded documents so borrowers can be immediately advised to provide the missing document or requirement,” Gallano added.

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Embrace change, explore the Virtual Pag-IBIG platform, and experience the ease of having Pag-IBIG services right in the palm of your hand. **(CCMT/CGCC, PIA Region 1)**

Women's Welfare Program
in the municipalities
of Ternate and Tagaytay City

The provincial government of Cavite under the leadership of Governor Athena Bryana D. Tolentino spearheaded the Women's Welfare Program in the municipalities of Ternate and Tagaytay City on December 20, 2024, as part of her administration's continued efforts to uplift and empower women in the province of Cavite. Held at Poblacion I, Ternate and Tagaytay International Convention Center, the program distributed ₱2,000 cash assistance to 2,000 women in each location, showcasing a strong commitment to fostering economic resilience and promoting women's welfare. The event was graced by Governor Athena Bryana D. Tolentino in Ternate, while Tagaytay Mayor Bambol Tolentino and Vice Mayor Agnes Tolentino led the event in Tagaytay

City. They emphasized the importance of empowering women as a way to build stronger, more inclusive communities and invest in the future of society. Governor Tolentino highlighted that the initiative is part of her administration's broader mission to ensure that Caviteños have access to resources and opportunities to improve their quality of life. The Women's Welfare Program reflects the provincial government's dedication to inclusive and sustainable development, ensuring that women's voices are heard and their contributions recognized. Governor Tolentino's initiative has inspired many to take active steps toward personal and collective empowerment, fostering a brighter future for all Caviteños. — *OPIO*

DENR rolls out 'Services
on Wheels' program to
reach far-flung communities

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in CALABARZON has rolled out the Services on Wheels program, aiming to make its services and initiatives more accessible to the public, particularly in remote and far-flung areas. During the Kapihan sa DENR CALABARZON organized by the Philippine Information Agency, DENR Calabarzon Regional Executive Director Nilo Tamera highlighted the importance of reaching rural and marginalized communities to address environmental concerns, promote inclusivity in instituting environment programs, and provide immediate solutions. "With Services on Wheels, we aim to ensure that no community is left behind in our collective efforts to protect the environment. This initiative allows us to address the unique needs of each area while empowering local residents to take action for a sustainable future,"

Tamera explained that the program is in accordance with the presidential directive to educate the local government units and employ a 'one stop shop' for DENR services in certain areas which include processing of various environment related permits and tree-cutting permits, deeds of registration, wildlife registration, insurance for residential and agricultural lands, and distribution of seedlings through a Community PlanTREE. "The program complies with the presidential directives to educate the local government units and the benefits of one stop shop that they are respective area and secure full support for this initiative" Tamera stated. As of the December 12, 2024, the Services on Wheels initiative has reached nearly 1,661 clients across the Calabarzon region, providing essential services and support to communities that previously lacked access

PGC's Medical Mission Delivers
Free Healthcare to 452 Residents

On Dec. 18, 2024, Brgy. Ramon Cruz's covered court became the center of a vital healthcare mission, where 452 residents received free medical check-ups, medicines, and vitamins. This event was a collective effort aimed at improving public health and wellness, warmly supported by local leaders and the community. 5th District Board Member Aidel Belamide graced the program, expressing unwavering support for the initiative and highlighting the importance of accessible healthcare. The medical mission was made possible through the collaboration of the medical team from General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital (GEAMH) and Carsigma District Hospital, and the team from the

Office of the Provincial Governor. Together with the assistance of Barangay Health Workers (BHW), they worked tirelessly to meet the healthcare needs of the community. Patients were provided with medical check-ups conducted by a dedicated team of doctors, nurses, and healthcare volunteers. The distribution of free medicines and vitamins aimed to address immediate health needs and promote preventive care within the barangay. This medical mission exemplifies the strong collaboration between local officials, healthcare teams, and the provincial government under the leadership of Governor Athena Bryana D. Tolentino. — *R. Dones (Mula sa CPIO)*

PRC to open more testing
centers in CALABARZON by 2025

LUCENA CITY (PIA) – The Professional Regulatory Commission (PRC) in CALABARZON is set to open additional testing centers in 2025 to accommodate the growing number of Filipinos taking board and licensure exams. Reynaldo Cristobal, PRC IV-A Regional Director, stated that the city government of Lipa, Batangas expressed interest in hosting licensure examinations to support the commission's efforts to bring their services closer to the Southern Tagalog area. "We are targeting to open additional testing centers in 2025. In fact, the city government of Lipa requested to be considered [as a site]. I have met with

the Mayor [Eric Africa] of Lipa City and he signified the intention to host the examination in their city." Once operational, the Lipa City satellite office will serve as a venue for licensure examinations for criminologists, nurses, and professional teachers. Currently, PRC IV-A conducts licensure exams in Lucena City, Quezon, to accommodate examinees from CALABARZON and neighboring regions. In addition, the PRC IV-A has established service centers in Dasmariñas City, Cavite and Santa Rosa City, Laguna. (*PB/PIA4A*)

City of Dasmariñas, second
round of the WWP

On December 19, 2024, Governor Athena Tolentino visited the City of Dasmariñas for the second round of the Women's Welfare Program and provided PHP 2,000 in financial assistance to another 2,000 women. The event highlighted the crucial role of women as the foundation of the community, underscoring the collective commitment to recognizing, supporting, and standing by them. Mayor Jenny Barzaga attended the occasion and expressed her wholehearted support for

WWP in Bacoor
City and Kawit

On December 18, 2024, Governor Athena Tolentino led the Women's Welfare Program aimed at advancing women's welfare in the City of Bacoor and the municipality of Kawit. The program reflecting the governor's steadfast dedication to women's empowerment, provided PHP 2,000 in cash assistance to 2,000 women in each municipality. WWP not only served as a financial lifeline but also symbolized the province's broader mission to uplift and empower women. The event in Bacoor saw the presence of Vice Mayor Rowena Bautista Mendiola and members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod, reflecting strong local

government support. In Kawit, Senator Francis "Tol" Tolentino lent his backing to the initiative, further emphasizing the collaborative effort of provincial and national leaders in promoting women's rights and welfare. Governor Tolentino's leadership exemplifies the power of collective action and the importance of investing in women as catalysts for societal progress. By prioritizing women's economic empowerment, this initiative seeks to create opportunities for growth, self-reliance, and community engagement. — *A. Sarte (Mula sa CPIO)*

LTO, Carmona LGU sign
data-sharing accord
to boost road safety

MANILA – The Land Transportation Office (LTO) and the City of Carmona in Cavite signed an interconnectivity agreement on Monday to help enforce traffic laws by providing local traffic enforcers with necessary data. In a statement on Monday, LTO chief Assistant Secretary Vigor Mendoza II said the data-sharing agreement would help compel motorists to follow traffic laws by ensuring that local traffic enforcers can hold them liable. "We in the LTO cannot enforce road safety laws

alone, especially outside Metro Manila. We need the LGUs (local government units) and like the city government of Carmona, it has been doing very well in assisting the national government in its goal of making the roads safe for everybody," Mendoza said. Erring motorists who escape traffic enforcers, he said, could later be identified if their license plate is obtained. "The LGU of Carmona City could send us the information and in return, the LTO could issue a show cause order to the registered owners of vehicles that violated traffic rules and regulations," he said. The agreement, he added, is part of the advocacy of Transportation Secretary Jaime Bautista for road users' safety and the LTO's newly-launched "Stop Road Crash" program. The memorandum of agreement and data sharing agreement for the LTO-LGU Interconnectivity Project was signed by Mendoza, Carmona City Mayor Dahlia Loyola, LTO-LGU Interconnectivity Project chairperson Noreen Bernadette San Luis-Lutey, and LTO Region IV-A Regional Director Elmer Decena in Carmona City. (*PNA*)

The Grand Magical Christmas Parade Continues to Spread Magic at SM City Tanza for All!

The Christmas Parade at SM City Tanza is spreading holiday cheer and creating unforgettable memories for all shoppers this season! With colorful performers filling the air with joy, the parade has been a highlight for families, senior citizens, unique friends, and people of all ages. Everyone is invited to experience the magic as the parade brings a heartwarming atmosphere to the mall, making it the perfect way to celebrate the holidays. Don't miss out on this grand and joyful experience at SM City Tanza!



House's light undimmed amid political storms

MANILA — The House of Representatives closed 2024 with its light undimmed, navigating political turbulence while delivering on its legislative and oversight duties. Speaker Martin Romualdez, in a year-end address before the congressional recess, underscored the chamber's resilience and focus on improving the lives of Filipinos amid the political noise.

"Despite efforts to dim the light of this dignified institution, we held our ground. We refused to be defeated by false accusations and malicious maneuvers driven by self-interest, selfishness, and greed," Romualdez said.

"Despite the pressures, obstacles, and overbearing weight of our tasks, we never backed down in our commitment to improve the lives of the Filipino people and our respective constituents."

Legislative milestones
For this year, the House's legislative agenda focused on economic recovery and growth, with 27 out of 28 priority bills identified by the Legislative-Executive Development Advisory Council (LEDAC) approved way ahead of its target —by the end of the 19th Congress or by June 2025.

"By passing measures that promote job creation, support small and medium enterprises, and attract foreign investments, we have laid the foundation for a more robust and inclusive economy," Romualdez said.

Congress enacted 51 national and 53 local laws in 2024, including landmark legislation such as the Enterprise-Based Education and Training Framework Act, the Philippine Maritime Zones

Act, Value-Added Tax on Digital Services Act, Archipelagic Sea Lanes Act, and the amendments to the Agricultural Tariffication Act. The PHP6.352-trillion national budget for 2025, ratified on Dec. 11, was described by Romualdez as a "blueprint for hope," prioritizing economic recovery, job creation, and social welfare.

"This budget mirrors the true needs of our people —not just for daily survival but for building a stronger foundation for a brighter future," he said.

Oversight and accountability: Quad Committee uncovers Pandora's box of abuses
The House Quad Committee — comprising panels on Dangerous Drugs, Public Order and Safety, Human Rights, and Public Accounts—made headlines with its full-blown investigation into alleged extrajudicial killings (EJKs) linked to the previous administration's drug war, illegal drug trade, and Philippine offshore gaming operators (POGOs).

The mega-panel, in a 43-page report adopted by the House, recommended crimes against humanity charges against former President Rodrigo Duterte, Senators Christopher "Bong" Go, Ronaldo "Bato" Dela Rosa, two former Philippine National Police (PNP) chiefs, and other ranking police officers. Quad Committee overall chair and Surigao del Norte Rep. Robert Ace Barbers said the investigation unraveled a broader and deeply entrenched network of abuses and systemic failures.

"What began as a separate investigation by individual committees soon uncovered a web of interconnections —a Pandora's

box of crimes and abuses that tested the very foundations of our institutions," Barbers said.

He said the House investigation particularly revealed the "most chilling revelations" with Duterte's admission of key elements of his administration's drug war, including the existence of the so-called Davao Death Squad and the Davao template of reward system for police officers involved in EJKs. Duterte even assumed "full legal responsibility" for the bloody war against illegal drugs.

"These investigations brought to light a harrowing narrative of abuse of power and institutional impunity during the Duterte administration," Barbers said.

The committee also exposed POGO links to drug smuggling, money laundering, and other illicit activities, implicating Duterte's former economic adviser Michael Yang.

The Quad Committee has, so far, proposed four bills addressing EJKs, illegal drugs, and related crimes, which include classifying EJKs as a heinous crime; prohibiting all forms of POGOs; enabling civil forfeiture of unlawfully acquired properties by foreign nationals; and allowing administrative cancellation of fraudulent birth certificates.

Confidential funds controversy
Meanwhile, the House Committee on Good Government and Public Accountability illuminated irregularities in the use of PHP612.5 million in confidential and intelligence funds (CIF) under Vice President Sara Duterte's Office of the Vice President (OVP) and Department of Education (DepEd) during her tenure as secretary.

Special disbursing officers (SDOs) testified that vast sums were handed over to "security officers" with little to no documentation of how the money was utilized.

The misuse extended to fabricating acknowledgment receipts, with some purportedly signed by fictitious individuals such as "Mary Grace Piattos" and other recipients proven to have no civil registry records.

"The extent of the fund's misuse and the clear absence of accountability shown through fabricated documents, falsified liquidation reports, and spurious acknowledgment receipts reveal how some shameless individuals blatantly disregard the rule of law and betray public trust," Romualdez said.

The revelations spurred legislative reforms and historic impeachment complaints in a bid to uphold transparency and accountability.

Proposed reforms include restricting CIF allocations to national security agencies and imposing stricter oversight mechanism and imposing stricter qualifications and accountability for SDOs handling public funds.

Three impeachment complaints were filed against the younger Duterte, based on multiple grounds, including culpable violation of the Constitution, betrayal of public trust, graft and corruption, bribery, and other high crimes.

Although the impeachment proceedings are not part of the chamber's agenda, the House leadership said they have the constitutional duty to act on "properly filed" impeachment complaints.

The Vice President, for her

part, welcomed the filing of the impeachment complaints, saying that while it may be an inconvenience, it would be a way to answer the accusations against her.

Looking ahead to 2025

In 2025, the House plans to further investigate PhilHealth's fund management, with Romualdez announcing a possible one-year suspension of premium contributions if surplus funds are available.

"If funds remain stable and in surplus, we will recommend a one-year suspension of premium payments for all paying members," he said.

Social safety nets will remain a legislative priority amid inflation, global conflicts, and natural disasters.

"Ayuda is not charity; it is justice. It is our duty to ensure that no Filipino falls through the cracks, especially in times of crisis," Romualdez said. As the House looks forward, Romualdez underscored the need to ensure that policies translate into tangible improvements for every Filipino family.

"As we move forward, this House will continue to champion policies that address these concerns — policies that provide opportunities, alleviate burdens, and inspire hope," he said. **(PNA)**



WRAPPING UP THE YEAR. House members led by Speaker Martin Romualdez pose for a group photo at the plenary hall following the closing session of Congress for the Christmas break on Dec. 18, 2024. In a year-end address before the congressional recess, Romualdez underscored the chamber's resilience and focus on improving the lives of Filipinos amid the political noise. **(Photo courtesy of House Press and Public Affairs Bureau)**



Thompson, Bumida sa buzzer beater para sa tagumpay ng Ginebra kontra Magnolia sa PBA Christmas game

Matagumpay na kinilala ang playmaking skills, na ipinakita ni Scottie Thompson na kanyang ginampanan ang di inaasahang mag score ng clutch shots. Nakahulagpos para sa pag marka



GINEBRA - SCOTTIE THOMPSON VS JEROM LASTIMOSO - MAGNOLIA
KAMPANTI lamang si Ginebra San Miguel point guard Scottie Thompson sa kanyang pag dribble habang todo naman sa mahigpit na depensa si Jerom Lastimoso ng Magnolia Chicken Timplados Hotshots habang nasa kasagsagan ng kanilang tagpo sa PBA Christmas game 2024-25 (49th Season) PBA Commissioner's cup (2nd Conference) sa Araneta Coliseum. **(REY NILLAMA)**

si Thompson ng winning moment nito upang maging daan ng Ginebra mula sa 22 points down para talunin ang Magnolia, 95 92, sa pagpapatuloy ng 2024-2025 PBA season sa Christmas night sa Smart Araneta Coliseum. Sa 12,198 fans na ginugol ang kanilang holiday sa panood ng pinakabagong kabanata sa bigtime rivalry sa pagitan ng mga sister teams, si Thompson, na mas maaga ay pinangalanang pinakabagong miyembro ng 2,000 Assists Club ng PBA, ay tumama sa isang kaliwang sulok na tatlong kanan sa huling buzzer off sa katauhan ni RJ Abarrientos feed na sinira ang isang 92 all tie upang makumpleto ang pagbabalik ng Gin Kings. Ang triple ni Thompson ang sumira sa kabayanihan ni Rome Dela Rosa, na naisip na maaaring pinilit lang niya ang overtime para sa Hotshots na may open layup na may 22.9 segundo upang maglaro. Gayun paman, matapos bilugan ang bola sa paligid nina Abarrientos at Justin Brownlee, natagpuan ni Abarrientos si Thompson na nakabukas mula sa parehong lugar kung saan tinamaan niya ang isang nakaraang game winner laban sa San Miguel upang i shoot ang deciding basket. Kapwa nabuhay sina Brownlee at Abarrientos sa second half at nagtapos ng 28 at 20 puntos, ayon sa pagkakasunod, para sa Gin Kings, na nag capped ng matigas na yearend stretch na anim na laro sa loob ng 15 gabi sa 4 2 record para simulan ang PBA Commissioner's Cup.

Senator Tolentino sinusugan ang Naturalization ng Russian skater, PH para sa sports

Nakatanggap ng malaking boost ang paghahangad ng Pilipinas para sa kauna unahang medalya nito sa Winter Olympics kasunod ng pagsasabatas ng batas na nagbibigay ng citizenship kay Russian figure skater Aleksandr Sergeyevich Korovin. Ang Batas Republika Bilang 12115, na nilagdaan ni Pangulong Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. noong nakaraang Dis. 20, ay nagbigay sa Korovin ng pagkamamamayan ng Pilipinas na may lahat ng karapatan, pribilehiyo, prerogatives, tungkulin at obligasyon na nakalakip dito sa ilalim ng Saligang Batas at mga umiiral na batas. Sa isang balita, inilarawan ni Senate Majority Leader Francis Tolentino ang paglagda ng batas bilang makasaysayang hakbang para sa palakasan ng Pilipinas at sumasalamin sa determinasyon ng bansa na mag excel lampas sa tropikal na pagkakailanlan nito. "Ang pagiging tropikal na bansa ay hindi dapat hadlang sa Pilipinas na mangarap ng tagumpay sa Winter Olympics," Tolentino said. "Tulad ng ating mga atleta na nagdala ng karangalan sa bansa sa Summer Olympics, layunin nating gumawa ng mga strides sa mga sports sa taglamig," dagdag niya. Si Korovin, na katuwang ang Filipina figure skater na si Isabella Gamez, ay kumakatawan sa Pilipinas sa mga internasyonal na kompetisyon mula noong 2022 sa ilalim ng Philippine Skating Union. Gumawa ng kasaysayan bilang unang Southeast Asian pair na nakakuha ng medalya sa isang

International Skating Union competition isang pilak sa France noong 2022 at upang maging kwalipikado sa World Figure Skating Championships sa 2023 at 2024. Dahil sa kanilang mga nagawa ay nakuha rin sila sa 2024 ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating, lalo pang pinatibay ang kanilang lugar sa kasaysayan ng palakasan sa Pilipinas. Itinatakda ngayon ng pares ang kanilang mga tanawin sa Asian Winter Games sa China sa Pebrero at kwalipikasyon para sa 2026 Winter Olympics sa Italya. Sa deliberasyon ng Senado, nagpasalamat at nangako si Korovin na magbigay inspirasyon sa mga batang Filipino skaters, at sinabing itinuturing na niya ngayong tahanan ang Pilipinas.



SENATOR FRANCIS TOLENTINO

(PHOTO BY: REY NILLAMA)

Taguig Stallions unang kampeon sa Sharks Billiards Association

Nagtapos ang Sharks Billiards Association (SBA) Season 1 Finals sa isang kamangha-manghang paraan, kung saan ang Taguig Stallions ay nagwagi at nasungkit ang lubos na hinahangad na Chino Trinidad Championship Trophy. Ang napakalaking tagumpay na ito ay nagsisiguro sa kanilang lugar sa kasaysayan ng SBA bilang mga kampeon nitong inaugural, na salamin ng kanilang dedikasyon, katatagan, at pambihirang kasanayan. Sa panghuling showdown sa pagitan ng Taguig Stallions at ng Manila MSW Mavericks ay bumihag sa mga tagahanga, na naghatid ng isang mataas na stakes na labanan na puno ng katumpakan, diskarte, sa mga sandali. Ipinakita ng Stallions ang kanilang dominasyon sa pamamagitan ng mga standout performances mula

kay Bryant "Bryant Urdaneta" Saguiped at Marc Ejay "Emong" Cunanan, na ang mga kahanga-hangang kontribusyon ay mahalaga sa buong serye. Sa simula pa lang, ipinakita na ng Stallions ang kanilang kakayahan sa pagganap sa ilalim ng pressure, pagpapanatili ng focus at determinasyon laban sa isang mapaghamong kalaban. Kabilang sa mga mahahalagang sandali sa serye ang dominanteng paglalaro ni Saguiped sa King of the Hill ng Game 2 laban kung saan siya nagtala ng 8 sunod-sunod na racks laban sa Mavericks, pati na rin ang Stallions' Naging kapanapanabik ang kaganapan ng laro sa Sharks Doubles ng Game 4 na may kasamang burol-burol na kagat ng kuko, na nagtulak sa serye sa ikalima at huling laro. Lumiwanag ang kalmado at



TAGUIG STALLIONS CHAMPION CHINO TRINIDAD
CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY SHARK BILLIARD ASSOCIATION

PYD at Xavier School, Namahagi ng pamasko sa mga Batang basketbolista

Labis ang kasiyahan at ngiti ng mga batang basketbolista na tinaguriang future ng Pinoy basketball scene sa mga pamaskong handog na inihanda ng Philippine Youth Dreamers Organization kasama ang Xavier School San Juan High School Basketball Team. Ang isang araw na Christmas outreach program ng dalawang organizations ay ginanap sa basketball court sa ilalim ng C5 Flyover na matatagpuan sa Salongga Street, Brgy. Bagong Ilog, Pasig City. Bukod sa mga basketball clinics at lessons na ibinigay mula sa coaches ng PYD at players ng Xavier School, namahagi ng regalang noche buena packages, tumblers, fried chicken at juice ang mga nanguna sa outreach para sa mga batang taga-Bagong Ilog. "Unang-una nagpasalamat po ako sa mga parents ng players at trainers ng Xavier School Basketball Team na nagkaroon ng collaboration ng PYD Cares para sa outreach program. Nagbigay ng konting kasiyahan at turo, may fun games at free throw shooting kung saan nabigyan ng awards and we make sure na magkaroon sila ng free meals para maiuwi sila masaya at magkaroon ng engagement na maging players

someday", pahayag ni PYD Founder Coach Beaujing Acot. Sa panig naman ng Barangay Bagong Ilog SK Chairperson Jessie Padit, ikinatuwa nito ang presensya ng PYD at Xavier School para ibahagi ang kaalaman nito sa basketball at magbigay ng konting saya sa mga bata. "Salamat po sa PYD at Xavier, parang Christmas bonus sa kanila to kasi buong taon, yung mga bata na nageensayo sa court namin para maibawi nila ang kanilang hard work at inspiration nila para mahalin nila ang larong basketball na nagbunga na.", sinabi ni Padit. Nais rin niya na magkaroon ng long-lasting impact ang nasabing clinic at outreach program sa mga batang basketbolista maging sa kabuuan ng grassroots initiatives ng barangay kung saan nakafocus din ito sa volleyball at esports maging sa Muaythai kung saan nakapaguwi ng mga medalya ang mga batang atleta sa Batang Pinoy sa Palawan at sa MAP National Muaythai Championships sa kaparehong lungsod. Sa huli, nais ni Coach Beaujing na bumalik muli sa nasabing court para naman sa planong pagkakaroon ng libreng paliga at major improvements sa court sa tulong ng PYD at ang mga sponsors at benefactors nito.

Adriane kampeon sa 7th Nova Onas Rapid Chess Tournament

Ang batikang chess player at National Master (NM) Keith Adriane Ilar ay itinanghal na kampeon sa 7th Nova Onas Rapid Chess Tournament Open Category, sa Robinsons Place Valencia City, Bukidnon. Si Ilar, na ipinagmamalaki ng El Salvador, Misamis Oriental, ay nakuwini ng premiyong P4,000 at trofeo matapos niyang pangunahan ang torneo na nilahukan ng mahigit 70 chess players. Nagpakitang-gilas si Ilar sa torneo at nagtala ng perpektong 7.0 puntos sa pitong round ng Swiss system competition. Tinalo niya ang mga kalaban na sina Harry King Operio, Kassandra Day Tadeo, Jayson Jhon Paquera, Cassey Miguel Tabamo, Ronnel Rempohito, Nazario Ubanan, at Jerief Manlimbana. Ang 14 na taong gulang na si Ilar, isang Grade 9 student mula sa St. Joseph Academy ng El Salvador, ay nanalo rin sa High School division ng 1st Mayor Rolando "Klaxex" Uy at Kap. Ranier Joaquin

"Kapikik" Uy Christmas Chess Tournament noong Disyembre 14-15, 2024, sa Bulua City Mall, Gagayan de Oro City. Samantala, pumwesto sa ikalawa at ikatlo sina Nazario Ubanan at Cassey Miguel Tabamo na may tig-6.0 puntos. Si Ubanan ay nakuwini ng P2,000 at medalya, habang si Tabamo naman ay nakatanggap ng P1,000 at medalya. "Napakasaya ko na manalo sa mahigpit na Open Rapid Chess Tournament na ito. Gusto kong pasalamatang si Mam Nova Onas sa suporta niya sa Philippine chess," ani Ilar. Ang ika-apat hanggang ika-sampung puwesto ay napunta kina: Joselito Mortel (5.5 puntos), Juan Ryu Baconoc (5.5 puntos) Jeffrey Pascual (5.0 puntos) Jerief Manlimbana (5.0 puntos) Randolph Christopher Dalauta (5.0 puntos) Ronie Pujas (5.0 puntos) Kurt Jobem Okit (5.0 puntos) Sa nasabing torneo, ay ginamit ang 10 minutes plus 3 seconds rapid time control format, sa pag organisar nina Nolly Cabilas at John Ian Barroso, sa suporta ni Nova Onas. Si Onas, isang Filipino-Australian actor na ipinanganak at lumaki sa Pilipinas, ay naninirahan na sa Sydney, Australia mula 2018. Simula 2019, sinimulan niyang tahakin ang larangan ng pag-arte, pagmomodelo, at fashion photography at videography. "Maraming salamat sa lahat ng dumalo at sumuporta sa 7th Nova Onas Rapid Chess Tournament. Isang karangalan na masaksihan ang galing at dedikasyon ng ating mga chess players. Congratulations sa lahat ng nanalo at sumali inaabangan namin ang inyong muling paglahok sa mga susunod na torneo," pahayag ni Nova Onas, dating varsity chess player noong kanyang kolehiyo. **(Marlon Bernardino)**

NCDCA honors exceptional Pangasinense advocating for empowerment for persons with disabilities

"My journey in public service is more than just a career. It is a testament to the power of inclusivity, resilience, and the shared dream of a society where everyone thrives, regardless of their abilities." These words were shared by Jennifer Garcia, a 47-year-old resident of Brgy. Tambac in Malasiqui, Pangasinan, who was recently recognized by the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDCA) as one of the 2024 Extraordinary Filipinos with Disabilities during the celebration of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs). Garcia, the youngest among seven children of Faustino and Anita Viray, exemplifies strength and determination. Her life is a testament to how resilience and dedication can turn challenges into opportunities. Garcia's Journey as Person with Disability At just one and a half years old, she fell off a table, resulting in an accident that changed her life forever. Diagnosed with polio, she now relies on a crutch on the left side of her body. Garcia's childhood was marked by bullying and discrimination. She recalls being taunted with the rhyme "Viray, Pilay," mocking her disability. "As a human being, nasasaktan ako, araw-araw umiyak. Maraming bata ang nanunukso sa akin na pilay. Walang palya 'yan tuwing school days. Pagdating sa bahay, umiyak na lang ako palagi. Sinasabi ng nanay ko na tumigil na ako sa pag-aaral. Pero kinabukasan, pumapasok pa rin ako," she shared. (As a person, I get hurt and cry every day. Kids at school always tease me because I have a disability. It's really tough. When I get home, I can't help but cry. My mom wants me to quit school, but I go anyway.) Despite the ridicule, Garcia's mother instilled in her the values of bravery, patience, and perseverance. These principles became the foundation of Jennifer's inspiring journey. Raised by a single mother, Garcia said her mother's unwavering support and guidance for shaping her resolve to succeed. "My mother encouraged me to focus on education as my weapon for success," Jennifer said. She added, "She always told me to be brave, patient, and hardworking because education would be my key to a brighter future." Although financial hardships

initially delayed her college education, a vocational school for PWDs run by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in Dagupan City became her stepping stone. There, Garcia gained confidence, skills, and self-esteem. "After graduating from the DSWD program, I had this dream of going back someday to serve my fellow PWDs," she said. She completed the vocational program in just six months and pursued higher education, earning a Bachelor of Science in Social Work from Urdaneta City University. Her dedication earned her accolades such as Best in Research and Best in Community Field Instruction. She later became a registered social worker and is now pursuing a Master's degree in Social Work at the University of Northern Philippines. A Life of Purpose and Advocacy Garcia, now serving as head of the Persons with Disability Affairs Office (PDAO) in the provincial government of Pangasinan, believes that leadership is about empowering the marginalized. "Leadership is not about authority but about standing beside the marginalized, amplifying their voices, and ensuring they are empowered to lead," she said. Her advocacy spans numerous initiatives promoting education, accessibility, and inclusivity for PWDs. She has collaborated with institutions like the DSWD, NCDCA, and the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), as well as international organizations like the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Disability Forum. She also serves as a volunteer social worker in her barangay. A Legacy of Empowerment Throughout her journey, Garcia has faced countless challenges but has overcome them with unwavering determination. To her, disability is not a limitation but a blessing that has given her purpose and strength. "I dedicate this recognition to my fellow persons with disabilities, whose strength inspires me to keep fighting for a more inclusive world," she said. Garcias's work continues

to inspire communities to break barriers and promote inclusivity. She reminds us that leadership rooted in empathy can transform lives. "The meaning of life is to find your gifts. The purpose of your life is to share your gifts in ways that inspire, empower, and transform the lives of others," Jennifer reflected. Her life's work embodies this philosophy, making her not only an extraordinary leader but also a symbol of hope, progress, and possibility. Last year, Jennifer was named one of the top three honorees in the prestigious Extraordinary Filipinos with Disabilities recognition. This year, she was honored again as an outstanding government employee with a disability by the NCDCA during a ceremony on December 10. Honoring Extraordinary Filipinos The Awards and Recognition Program, spearheaded by the NCDCA, was first launched in 2022 in celebration of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. By 2023, it was aptly renamed "Extraordinary Filipinos with Disabilities: Transcending Disabilities." The program honors individuals who embody courage, leadership, and advocacy across various categories, including youth, women, athletes, employees, and PWD leaders. Along with Garcia, this year's honorees included Carmen R. Zubiaga, an inspiring woman with a disability; Ernie A. Gawilan, a champion athlete; Ma. Bless S. Adriano, an exceptional youth advocate; John Darnell C. Castro, a trailblazing PWD leader; and Christian O. Apolinario, a dedicated private sector employee with a disability. These remarkable individuals received plaques and cash prizes in recognition of their invaluable contributions to society. The recognition emphasized a shared vision: a society where no one is left behind and where everyone, regardless of ability, has the opportunity to thrive. Indeed, Garcia's journey of resilience and inclusivity embodies the spirit of the NCDCA's extraordinary Filipinos with disabilities program. Her story highlights the transformative power of empathy and advocacy, proving that a society where everyone thrives—regardless of ability—is

Quezon villagers unite to build evacuation center

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna – In the coastal community of Barangay Santa Rosa in Mulanay, Quezon, incoming weather disturbances trigger alarm among residents. "Dito po sa lugar namin ay kadalasang binabaha. Kapag nagsalubong po ang tubig galing sa bundok at ito pong sa dagat, bumabaha po talaga (Our area here is usually flooded. When the water from the mountain meets the seawater, it really floods)," shared Lerna Hito, a village health worker and beneficiary of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) who resides near the coastline. Lerna said since most houses are made of light materials, residents evacuate early to ensure their safety. "Ang ginagawa po namin dati, 'dun po kami sa mga may bahay na bato o sementado pumupunta para mag-evacuate (What we used to do, we would go to concrete houses to evacuate)," she said. Others sought shelter in nearby school buildings, which served as the village's designated evacuation center. However, with over 400 families evacuating during typhoons, the available space was insufficient. When the barangay received funding in 2023 under the Department of Social Welfare and Development's (DSWD) Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan – Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (Kalahi-CIDSS) program, the community proposed constructing a one-story evacuation center. Volunteering for the common good Upon the project's approval, the villagers buckled down to work, some as volunteers, while others under the cash-for-work program. Wenceslao Subia, now a village councilor, served as chairperson of the Barangay Development Council technical working group for the evacuation center project. "Kaming mga volunteer ay wala talagang sinisweldo pero tulong talaga sa barangay ang ginawa namin (We, volunteers, don't get paid, but what we did was genuinely to help the village)," he said. His motivation came from witnessing the villagers' struggles during evacuations. Despite numerous challenges, Wenceslao described the experience as

fulfilling, particularly as the project provided temporary income to some residents. Lerna was among those who earned daily wages through her work on the project. "Sama-sama kami na nagsaligsig ng buhangin, naghukay ng mga lupa, at nagbuhat ng mga hollow blocks (Together, we shook sand, dug earth and carried hollow blocks)," she recalled. Beyond earning income, Lerna said the experience taught her valuable lessons. "Natutunan ko na kaya din po pala naming gampanan ang mga trabaho ng mga lalaki. Hindi lang pala pambahay ang mga babae. Kaya rin pala naming tumulong sa aming mga pamilya pagdating sa pinansyal (I learned that we women could also do men's work. Women aren't just for the home; we can also help our families financially)," she shared. Several months after completing the one-story center in September 2022, the community undertook Phase II of the project, which was completed in September 2023. The community now has a two-story evacuation center that accommodates up to 200 individuals during calamities. Proud of their project During Severe Tropical Storm Kristine in October and Super Typhoon Pepito in November, the center proved invaluable for displaced families and barangay officials. "Kumpleto na ang mga gamit dito sa evacuation center namin. May toilet, tubig, breastfeeding area, upuan, lamesa, higaan, at meron ding lutuan. Mas maginhawa na ang mga pamilya kapag lumilikas dito (The center is already fully equipped with toilets, water, a breastfeeding area, chairs, tables, beds, and a kitchen. Families are now more comfortable evacuating here)," Wenceslao said. Cooking food for rations is also done at the center, simplifying food distribution.

However, some families still take shelter in nearby schools as the center cannot accommodate everyone. Despite this, barangay officials are grateful that residents no longer need to crowd classrooms. "Mas madali na rin po kaming mag-monitor ng evacuees (It is now easier for us to monitor evacuees)," Lerna said, adding that the improved facility has given residents peace of mind during calamities. Multi-purpose facility Outside of calamities, the center serves other community needs. "Pinapagamit po namin ito ng libre sa school, sa mga kababaihan, at sa iba pang organisasyon para sa kanilang mga klase o meeting kapag wala namang kalamidad (We let schools, women's groups, and other organizations use it for free for classes or meetings when there's no disaster)," Wenceslao said. Looking at the center's impact, both Wenceslao and Lerna expressed pride in their contributions. "Masaya, hindi lang ako, kundi kaming lahat. Ipinagmamalaki namin na isa kami sa naghirap para mabuo ang project at alam naming matagal itong mapapakinabangan (We're happy, not just me, but all of us. We're proud to have worked hard to build the project, and we know it will be useful for a long time)," Wenceslao shared. Joseph Arceo, public information officer of DSWD-Calabarzon, said in a phone interview Friday that the Kalahi CIDSS fund for Phase I of the evacuation center amounted to PHP1.433 million of the total amount of PHP1.741 million, while Phase II for the second floor amounted to PHP716,000 out of the total PHP1.023 million. The difference is the local community counterpart. (PNA)

AFFIDAVIT OF SELF-ADJUDICATION

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late **PEDRITO PADERON BAGALAY** who died without any last will and testament on April 6, 2024 in the City/Province of Cavite left a real property specifically described as **TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. T-12481510** containing an area of **FIFTY FIVE (55) SQUARE METERS** as the subject of the sole heir, affixed the seal by **PAOLA BELLE D. EBORA**, Vice Consul of the Republic of the Philippines at Philippine Consulate General, Dubai, United Arab Emirates last December 9, 2024 with Service No: 47044; Doc. No: 6281; Book No: 1: Fee Paid: 100 AED: O.R. No: 98447583.

Publication: HANEP Dec. 23, 30, 2024 & Jan. 6, 2025

within reach. (AMB/EMSA/
CBC/PIA Pangasinan)

CCC lauds CAR LGUs for climate resilience through Gawad KALASAG Awards

BAGUIO — The Climate Change Commission (CCC) has commended the local government units (LGUs) and private sector organizations in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) for their outstanding contributions to climate resilience. These efforts were recognized through the prestigious 24th Gawad KALASAG (Kalamidad at Sakuna Labanan, Sariling Galing ang Kaligtasan) Seal and Special Awards.

The Gawad KALASAG Awards, organized by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), are the country's premier recognition for excellence in disaster preparedness and resilience. This year, 74 Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (LDRRM) councils and 13 special awardees were honored for their achievements in advancing disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.

The CCC underscores the significance of these achievements, noting that 95.18% of LGUs in CAR have submitted their Local Climate Change Action Plans (LCCAP), a vital requirement for the Gawad KALASAG Seal.

"This reflects the effectiveness of your local policies on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction (CCAM-DRR). This also serves as the backbone for your risk-informed actions, from tech innovations in disaster response to the deep community engagement that truly saves lives," said Secretary Robert E.A. Borje, Vice Chairperson and Executive Director of CCC.

He further encouraged stakeholders to sustain their efforts in the fight against climate change. "Resilience is not built overnight—it requires continuous effort, collaboration, and innovation. Let's aim for a Cordillera where every LGU, every community, and every citizen is prepared for the uncertainties ahead,"

Borje added. Regional Director Albert A. Mogol, Chairperson, Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (RDRRMC) Office of the Civil Defense (OCD) — Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR), underscores the importance of unified response in a global crisis. "In this situation, a unified response is crucial to confront these challenges, particularly as multi-stakeholder efforts pave the way for effective disaster management," Mogol stated. He underscored that the collaboration and active involvement of various stakeholders are vital to enhance readiness and ensure swift action. Awardees include LGUs from Abra, Apayao, Benguet, Ifugao, Kalinga, and Mountain Province for their exemplary leadership and initiatives in disaster risk reduction management.

Special awards were also presented to Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center, SN Aboitiz the private sector category, recognizing their efforts in implementing Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) and climate change action plans across the four thematic areas of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP). The University of the Cordilleras also received an award for their innovative approaches and resilience in overcoming challenges.

The CCC remains committed to support LGUs to translate climate plans into actionable strategies and encourages greater participation in resilience-building programs. The CCC urges local governments to continue enhancing their LCCAPs and integrating them with broader national efforts to ensure long-term sustainability and preparedness.

For more information on the CCC's climate mainstreaming activities, visit www.climate.gov.ph and www.facebook.com/CCCPhl. (CCC)

ERC penalizes NGCP P15.8M for 34 unjustified delays in projects

MANILA — The Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) has imposed a PHP15.8-million penalty on the National Grid Corp. of the Philippines (NGCP) for delays in the completion of 34 power transmission projects. During the hearing of the House Committee on Legislative Franchises on Monday, ERC Chair Monalisa Dimalanta said out of the 37 capital expenditure (capex) projects investigated, 34 were found to have unjustified delays.

"We investigated 37 delayed projects. As required by due process, we required the NGCP to submit their explanation. Out of the 37 projects, we found that there were unjustified delays for 34 projects," Dimalanta said. "So it was a fine of total PHP15.8 million for 34 projects with unjustified delays."

Dimalanta explained that penalties ranged from PHP100,000 for the first two violations to PHP500,000 for subsequent ones, as dictated by regulatory caps.

She acknowledged that the fines are capped and may not fully reflect the impact of the delays.

"Since we realized that the costs of these penalties couldn't really be compared to the cost of the delays, we are bound by the schedule of fines and penalties," she said.

According to Dimalanta, NGCP has paid the penalties but did so "under protest," noting that the corporation is exploring legal remedies. NGCP spokesperson Cynthia Alabanza, meanwhile, cited timeline misalignments as a reason to explore the grid operator's legal options.

"There are several projects that are subject of the ERC's latest penalty order. The reason we are exploring our options is because we have seen also that there are some really misalignment on timelines," Alabanza said.

The ERC is set to release its final determination for the fourth regulatory period (2016 to 2022) in January 2025.

"We have completed all the evaluations. As per our rules, we are required to publish the draft final determination for the reset for 2016 to 2022, and we have done so. Comments were submitted by the stakeholders, including NGCP, and we expect to issue the final determination by January 2025," Dimalanta said.

She hinted at a possible increase in the final determination due to changes in regulatory approaches. Passing costs of unfinished projects to Filipino consumers. Meanwhile, Santa Rosa City Rep. Dan Fernandez

lambasted the NGCP's practice of passing on costs for incomplete and non-operational capex projects to the public, calling it "highly immoral."

"Parang yung project na ginagawa po ng NGCP ay hindi pa po nagagamit, hindi pa siya useful, hindi pa siya commissioned, hindi pa makikita na siya ay efficient dahil hindi pa siya tapos, sinisingil na natin sa taumbayan (It seems NGCP projects that are not yet operational, not yet useful, not yet commissioned, and not yet proven efficient are already being charged to the public). And this is wrong in the ERC's decision," Fernandez said.

Fernandez was criticizing NGCP's ability to recover costs under an "as spent" approach, even for incomplete projects.

The ERC's majority decision allows NGCP to recover capex expenses once incurred, regardless of whether the projects are commissioned or operational.

Dimalanta revealed that the ERC's minority position only allowed completed and commissioned projects to be included in the Regulatory Asset Base (RAB).

"The decision, Mr. Chair, of the majority is to allow NGCP to recognize the capex of the value as spent, as opposed to the commissioned and completed approach,"

Dimalanta said.

"As far as the minority is concerned, only the CAPEX amounts that resulted in actual assets. Hindi mo po kasi siya mabo-book as actual assets unless buo na po yung project (You can't book them as actual assets unless the projects are completed)," she added.

Fernandez strongly opposed this framework, describing it as "absurd."

"Hindi po pupwedeng nagastusan na ng NGCP yung proyekto na hindi naman natin nagagamit... kinakarga na ng taumbayan (NGCP cannot charge the public for projects that were paid for but are not yet being used)," he said.

The lawmaker emphasized the importance of the least-cost approach mandated by the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (EPIRA).

"The utmost priority is the least-cost manner in accordance with the EPIRA law," Fernandez said.

Discrepancies in capex valuations Dimalanta also detailed the discrepancies in capex valuations submitted by NGCP and the findings of independent consultants.

She said independent consultants initially recommended a capex of

NCCA bares priority plans for 2025

MABALACAT CITY (PIA) — The National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) has announced its priority plans for 2025, which aims to harness culture and arts as tools for resilience and sustainability in the face of modern challenges.

During the Bagong Pilipinas Town Hall Meeting held in Mabalacat City, NCCA Executive Director Eric Zerrudo cited that the commission's plans align with the Philippine Development Plan for Culture and the Arts (PDPCA) 2024-2029.

PDPCA, which serves as a blueprint for advancing Filipino cultural identity and resilience, is anchored on three main pillars including celebrating Filipino ingenuity; utilizing culture, arts, history, and heritage across various sectors and agencies; and strengthening internationalization programs.

"We want to highlight the relevance of culture and arts in addressing issues like climate change, technological advancements such as artificial intelligence, globalization, migration, tourism, and other development pressures. By positioning culture and arts as tools for innovation and survival, the NCCA aims to ensure the resilience of Filipino identity amidst these challenges," he said.

Zerrudo also cited the need to

PHP24.9 billion.

However, the ERC's draft final determination allowed a significantly higher PHP179.3 billion for 2016 to 2022.

Dimalanta, representing the minority opinion in the ERC, argued for a stricter approach — only allowing completed and commissioned projects to be included in the Regulatory Asset Base (RAB).

"As far as the minority is concerned, only the capex amounts that resulted in actual assets... hindi pa po kasi siya mabobook talaga as assets unless buo na po yung project (As far as the minority is concerned, only the capex amounts that resulted in actual assets can be booked as assets unless the project is completed)," she said.

Dimalanta further revealed that NGCP had actually applied to include P214.6 billion worth of capex in its RAB.

Alabanza defended the NGCP's practices, stating that the ERC has historically allowed the "as spent" method. "Historically po, the ERC has allowed us on an as-spent basis. Unlike on ordinary small-value goods that you pay before you use, these are large infrastructure capital expenditure projects po," she said. (PNA)

protect and empower artists by providing opportunities to create, innovate, and practice their crafts.

"The NCCA is also prioritizing collaborative projects that integrate culture and arts into education, tourism, infrastructure, and conservation efforts. It's about synergy—connecting with other sectors to maximize the impact of our cultural programs," he added.

Projects will include curriculum development, values formation, tourism product development, and support for cultural industries and infrastructure conservation.

The commission also plans to strengthen its internationalization efforts by expanding the reach of Sentro Rizal cultural centers that promote Filipino heritage abroad.

The director added that one of the foundational programs of NCCA is cultural mapping, which identifies unique cultural, historical, and artistic elements in every municipality. "Cultural mapping is vital because it provides the data and ingredients needed to promote local culture and arts effectively," Zerrudo said.

He added that NCCA is streamlining this process to ensure more local government units (LGUs) can produce actionable outputs.

These mappings, according to Zerrudo, will guide the development of tourism products, lesson plans for educators, and awareness campaigns across sectors.

Meanwhile, the NCCA called on the public and various sectors to support its initiatives, as it stressed that collective action is essential to preserving and promoting Filipino culture and ensuring that it remains a cornerstone of national identity and a driving force for sustainable development.

"From LGUs to educators, media, and the general public, everyone plays a role in preserving and promoting our cultural identity. Together, we can ensure that the arts and culture remain a cornerstone of the Filipino spirit," he said.

With this, Zerrudo highlighted the critical role of LGUs in promoting culture and arts. "When local chief executives actively support cultural initiatives, it becomes easier to raise public consciousness," he noted.

Zerrudo likewise stressed the importance of media, both traditional and digital, in raising public awareness, amplifying advocacies, and building support for cultural programs. (CLJD/MJSC-PIA Region 3, Pampanga)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
CITY OF IMUS, CAVITE

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND
(otherwise known as PAG-IBIG Fund),
Mortgagee,

-versus-

EXTRA-JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF
REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER
ACT 3135 AS AMENDED BY ACT 4118
FC Case No. 19264-24

ERICSON B. ALMERO married to
CHERRY M. ALMERO,
Mortgagors.

X ----- X

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135 as amended by Act 4118 filed by **HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (otherwise known as PAG-IBIG FUND)**, mortgagee, with principal office at The Petron Mega Plaza Building, No. 358 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City, against **ERICSON B. ALMERO married to CHERRY M. ALMERO**, mortgagors, with residence and postal address at Blk. 1 Lot 3 Goodwood Subd., Carsadang Bago II, Imus, Cavite and/or Lot 18 Block 9 Pallazo Bello Subd., Barangay Calsadang Bago, Imus, Cavite, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of September 10, 2024 amounts to **FIVE HUNDRED TWENTY EIGHT THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED EIGHTY SEVEN PESOS and 27/100 (Php 528,587.27)**, Philippine Currency, including interest and penalty charges but excluding attorney's fees, sheriff's fees, and all other charges incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff IV will sell at public auction on **January 28, 2025** at 10:00 a.m. or soon thereafter at the main entrance of the Office of the Clerk of Court, RTC-Imus, Bulwagan Ng Katarungan, Aguinaldo Highway, Imus City, Cavite to the highest bidder, for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following properties with all the improvements therein, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 057-2013029036

"A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 18, BLOCK. 9 OF THE SUBD. PLAN PSD-04-188612, BEING A PORTION OF PCN-04-002067, L.R.C. REC. NO. 8843), SITUATED IN BARANGAY OF CALSADANG BAGO, MUN. OF IMUS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON. BOUNDED ON THE S., ALONG LINE 1-2 BY LOT 19; ON THE W., ALONG LINE 2-3 BY LOT 5; ON THE N., ALONG LINE 3-4 BY LOT 17, ALL OF BLOCK 9, OF THE SUBD. PLAN; AND ON THE E., ALONG LINE 4-1 BY ROAD LOT 9 (8.00 M. WIDE), PSD-167296.. xxx CONTAINING AN AREA OF FORTY (40) SQUARE METERS. xxx"

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above stated time and date.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on **February 4, 2025** at 10:00 a.m. without prior notice.

Prospective bidders/buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the titles to the said properties and encumbrances thereon if any there be.

Imus City, Cavite, Philippines, December 9, 2024.

MARIA CHONA D. TANGUANCO
Sheriff IV

APPROVED:

ARMIE A. FRANCISCO
Clerk of Court VI

COPY FURNISHED:
HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND
(otherwise known as PAG-IBIG FUND)
The Petron Mega Plaza Building,
No. 358 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City

ATTY. SIMEON P. MADRID
Attorney-in-Fact, S.P. MADRID & ASSOCIATES
5th Floor Bedrock Building, Kayumanggi Center,
Commonwealth Ave., Matandang Balara, Quezon City

ERICSON B. ALMERO and CHERRY M. ALMERO
Blk. 1 Lot 3 Goodwood Subd., Carsadang Bago II, Imus, Cavite and/or Lot 18 Block 9 Pallazo Bello Subd., Barangay Calsadang Bago, Imus, Cavite

Publication: HANEP Dec. 23, 30, 2024 & Jan. 6, 2025

TESDA at pagsusumikap, susi
sa pag-abot sa pangarap

BAGUIO CITY (PIA) — Patuloy ang pagtulong ng Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) sa mga nagnanais maabot ang kanilang pangarap. Isa si Omar Orbillo sa mga natulungan ng scholarship programs ng TESDA-Cordillera. Sa kanya na ring pagpursigang pagsumikap, naabot niya ang kanyang pangarap na makatapos ng pag-aaral.

Kwento ni Omar, dahil sa kakapusan, hindi siya nakapag-enroll sa kolehiyo. Ngunit sa kagustuhang may marating pa rin sa buhay, sinubukan niyang pumunta sa TESDA Regional Training Center sa Loakan, Baguio City, kung saan siya nagtanong ukol sa scholarship programs ng ahensiya. Nag-fill up ito ng forms at pagkaraan ng ilang araw ay pina-report siya para sa programa.

Taong 2015 nang kumuha si Omar ng electrician short course training at nakakuha ng National Certificate (NC) II. Ipinagpatuloy niya ang paghasa sa kanyang kaalaman hanggang ma-upgrade ang kanyang certificate sa NC III noong 2018.

Dahil sa patuloy na pag-aalok ng TESDA ng scholarship programs, ipinagpatuloy din ni Omar ang kanyang pag-aaral. Taong 2019 nang mag-apply ito para sa tatlong taon na Diploma on Electrical Engineering.

"Napakalaking opportunity ang ibinigay ng TESDA para ma-pursue ko 'yung tertiary education since hindi ko po afford before na talagang pumunta sa college, and ito po 'yung naging way para makapag-pursue po ako ng tertiary education ko," kwento ni Omar.

Habang nag-aaral si Omar ay nagtrabaho pa rin ito bilang electrician sa kanyang mga libreng oras. Mahirap man ay nagpursigang pag-aaral at sumama ito sa kanyang mga barkada.

"Nakikita ko po kasi 'yung mga magulang ko na nag-aaway, ganito ganyan. Ako po ay nalulungkot kaya mas naisip ko na lang na sumama muna sa barkada para makakita ng saya," kwento ni Pat. Gayunman, ang mga barkadang pinili niya, hindi niya akalaing maglulugmok sa kanya sa kasamaan. Dahil sa barkada, natuto siya ng mga bagay na labag sa batas at masama. "Nagkaroon po kami ng problema hanggang nagkatablahan na po. Nalaman ko na rin po na may warrant of arrest po ako

na sa pagkuha ng kanyang mga kliyente.

"Sa kita, masasabi po natin na mas lumaki po 'yung kita since 'yung natapos ko sa TESDA is nagamit ko to take the licensure exam or the master electrician. Hindi lang po ako licensed electrician, naging registered electrician pa po ako, mas marami ang kumukuha na client," pagbabahagi ni Omar.

Binigyang-diin naman ni Omar na ang tech-voc o diploma program ay kaya ring makipagsabayan sa mga degree courses.

"Ang paningin ng iba, ang technical vocational education and training ay parang 'lang' po siya dahil they are after more on degree pero hindi lang po siya 'lang' especially sa ngayon kasi companies locally and abroad is talagang nire-recognize po 'yung national certificate po natin sa TESDA."

Hinikayat nito ang mga kabataan lalo na ang mga hindi kayang pumasok sa kolehiyo na mag-avail na sila ng mga scholarship programs ng TESDA. Aniya, maraming programa ang ahensiya na maaaring i-avail ng sinumang may pangarap na gustong maabot.

Si Omar ang isa sa mga nagpatunay na sa "TESDA, kayang-kaya." (**DEG-PIA CAR**)

Pagbabago: Pag-usbong ng bagong pag-asa

BAGUIO CITY (PIA) — "Hindi pa huli ang lahat para magbago." Ito ang mga katagang pinatunayan ni "Pat"(hindi niya tunay na pangalan), na isa sa mga residente ng Bahay Pag-asa sa Baguio City.

Sa murang edad ay namulat na si Pat sa hindi maayos na tahanan at dumanan ng masakit na paraan ng pandidisiplina. Hindi rin nagtagal ay nawasak ang pamilyang kanyang pinanghahawakan.

Ang kanyang pangarap, naglaho sa isang iglap. Sa kagustuhang matakasan ang buhay na kanyang kinagisnan, itinigil niya ang kanyang pag-aaral at sumama ito sa kanyang mga barkada.

"Nakikita ko po kasi 'yung mga magulang ko na nag-aaway, ganito ganyan. Ako po ay nalulungkot kaya mas naisip ko na lang na sumama muna sa barkada para makakita ng saya," kwento ni Pat.

Gayunman, ang mga barkadang pinili niya, hindi niya akalaing maglulugmok sa kanya sa kasamaan. Dahil sa barkada, natuto siya ng mga bagay na labag sa batas at masama.

"Nagkaroon po kami ng problema hanggang nagkatablahan na po. Nalaman ko na rin po na may warrant of arrest po ako



PCSO 3 YEAR OLD
CHAMPIONSHIP CUP

Itinanghal na kampeon ang paboritong kabayo na si King James nang manalo sa katatapos na PCSO 3 Year Old Championship Cup na inilarga sa pista ng Metro Manila Turf Club Inc. (MMTCI) sa Malvar Tanauan City, Batangas. Ganado ang hineteng si Cesar B. Ardoña sa ibabaw ng kanyang sakay na si King James na dumiskarte mula simula hanggang meta. Sa umpisa ay humataw kaagad si Mommy's Love upang mahawakan ang bandera, nakaalalay naman sa pangalawang puwesto ang kanyang kakuwadra na si King James sa gawing labas, pangatlo sa tabing balya si Every Sweat Counts habang nasa likuran ang magkakampi na sina Gameir Winner at Authentikation. Sa kalagitnaan ng karera ay inagaw na ni King James ang bandera kay Mommy's Love habang nagpupumilit na makalapit sa unahan si Every Sweat Counts.

Pagsapit ng far turn ay patuloy ang pag-arangkada ng ating bida na si King James sa harapan habang nagkukumahog pa rin sa paghabol si Every Sweat Counts at rumeremate naman ng malakas si Authentikation. Pagpasok ng home stretch ay tangan ni King James ang tatlong kabayong bentahang patuloy ang pagbulusok ni Authentikation na untunting dumidikit sa unahan, ngunit hindi nagpatinag ang winning horse at tinawid nito ang meta ng may kalahating kabayong kalamangan. Sumegundo kay King James ang nabitin na si Authentikation at si Every Sweat Counts naman ang tumersero. Naorasan si King James ng tiyempong 1:43 (25-24-24'-29") para sa 1,600 meter race sapat upang maibulsa ng winning horse owner na si James Anthony Rabano ang premyong ₱300,000 mula sa PCSO.

Honoring Jose Rizal as an expert surveyor

Jose Rizal wore many hats and has taken on various roles in his lifetime. He was a writer, physician, farmer, anthropologist, archaeologist, linguist, and most importantly, a hero. However, little did we know, Rizal was a perito agrimensur, too—an expert surveyor. An important aspect of his life and works in contribution to Philippine history and culture.

In hopes that the Filipino nation will also develop an appreciation for Rizal as an expert surveyor, the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) held a commemorative ceremony to honor the 143rd anniversary since he obtained his license as an expert surveyor and assessor on November 25, 1881.

Expert surveyor, a modern Geodetic Engineer

An expert surveyor has a specialized knowledge in conducting field surveys to collect data relevant to the implementation of engineering and construction projects.

A surveyor also carries out land demarcation to define the boundaries of a certain property and settles boundary disputes by

providing expert testimony in legal proceedings.

At present, the profession of being an expert surveyor is now referred to as a Geodetic Engineer but with a more expansive role in the collection and measurement of spatial data.

One of the significant contributions of Rizal as an expert surveyor was innovation in public works, marking the street layout of Dapitan.

Rizal's innovations, the benefit of today's nation The Geodetic Engineers of the Philippines, Inc. (GEP) strongly recognized the contributions of Rizal in the modern-day practice of geodetic engineering.

Eufemio Agbayani III, an NHCP researcher and historian, shed light on how Rizal used his license as an expert surveyor to improve the lives of fellow Filipinos and how his innovations continue to benefit modern communities to this day. Jose Rizal is celebrated for his contributions that paved the way for Philippine independence, yet, it would be best if he is also remembered for his innovations which led the way for nation-building.

(JMP/PIA-NCR)

Gov't sets higher BIR, BOC revenue collection target for 2025

MANILA – Revenue goals of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) and the Bureau of Customs (BOC) will be hiked by double-digit in 2025, eyed to be achieved through increased collection efficiency and passage of several tax measures.

"Double digit [increase in revenue target] both next year. BIR and BOC [targets] will be challenging kasi (because) the growth rate, average (revenue) growth of the BOC is about 5 to 6 percent," Finance Secretary Ralph Recto told reporters in a recent press chat.

Under the Department of Budget and Management's Budget of Expenditures and Sources of Financing, the BIR is tasked to

collect PHP2.85 trillion this year while BOC's revenue collection target is PHP939.6 billion.

For next year, BIR has been tasked to collect PHP3.2 trillion, while it is PHP1.06 trillion for BOC. Among the DOF priority measures are the Imposition of Excise Tax on Single-use Plastics (SUPs), Package 4 of the Comprehensive Tax Reform Program (CTRP), the Rationalization of the Mining Fiscal Regime, and the Reform on the Motor Vehicle Users' Charge (MVUC).

"Hopefully, we get those new tax measures," Recto said.

In an earlier statement, the DOF said total revenue collection for this year

DOT to continue building sustainable PH tourism

MANILA – The Department of Tourism (DOT) is committed to promoting a Philippine tourism industry that is sustainable and inclusive in the years ahead, Tourism Secretary Christina Frasco said Wednesday.

In her Christmas Day message, Frasco said the DOT would work toward creating more jobs and enhancing travel experience for tourists.

"Together, we continue to build a tourism industry that is sustainable, inclusive, and reflective of the heart and soul of our nation," she said.

"Looking ahead, we remain committed to creating more opportunities for

Filipinos, enhancing the visitor experience, and ensuring that our tourism industry becomes a true pillar of national pride and prosperity."

Meanwhile, she encouraged the public to keep the bayanihan spirit (sense of community) and the country's unique traditions alive.

"These have not only brought us through the challenges of the past year but have also fueled our aspirations for a brighter future," she said.

"May this season inspire us all to Love the Philippines, as we share the beauty of our nation with the world."

(PNA)

GSIS property in QC to become strategic transport hub by 2026

MANILA – An intermodal transport facility is expected to rise on a three-hectare property of the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) located at the corner of the Elliptical Road and Commonwealth Avenue in Quezon City by 2026.

GSIS President and General Manager Arnulfo Veloso said the initiative, known as Project HUB, is a directive from President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., who has prioritized innovative infrastructure solutions to address Metro Manila's worsening traffic condition and improve connectivity.

"Guided by President Marcos' directive, we have a unique opportunity to transform the GSIS Quezon City property into a strategic transportation hub that will improve daily commutes, addressing mobility issues

is expected to increase to PHP4.42 trillion, surpassing the full-year target of PHP4.27 trillion.

In the first 10 months of the year, DOF has already collected PHP3.77 trillion in total revenues, 16.8 percent increase over the same period last year.

Tax collections rose by 11.4 percent to PHP3.23 trillion from January to October 2024, while non-tax revenues surged by 64.9 percent to PHP 539.40 billion. **(PNA)**

with innovative, inclusive and sustainable solutions," Veloso said Monday in a news release.

He reported that just recently, the GSIS hosted a quadripartite meeting with officials from the Department of Transportation (DOTr), Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA), and the Quezon City local government to discuss milestones reached towards the realization of Project HUB, including the next steps for 2025.

Representatives from the Presidential Management Staff (PMS) were also in attendance during the Dec. 18 meeting to oversee the President's instruction, he said.

"The meeting highlighted the collaborative efforts of four government entities to ease traffic concerns, enhance mobility, and support economic development in Quezon City and nearby areas," Veloso added.

He said the agenda included updates on the Project HUB's Terms of Reference from the DOTr and exchanges among stakeholders to refine the project's details to include the immediate operation of a temporary transport facility by next year while the more detailed study and plan for the permanent transportation hub is being

Comelec to start printing BPE ballots on Jan. 6

MANILA – The Commission on Elections (Comelec) on Monday announced the printing of the ballots for the first-ever parliament polls in the region will start early next month despite a pending proposal to postpone the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) Parliamentary Elections (BPE) for a year. In his opening statement during the live test of the Trusted Build for the 2025 National and Local Elections (NLE) held at the Chairman's Hall, Palacio del Gobernador Bldg., Intramuros, Manila, Comelec Chairman said they will begin the printing of the ballots for BPE on Jan. 6.

"For your information, as far as the Comelec is concerned we will proceed, likewise with the printing of the ballots in the BARMM, ballots for the BARMM we will do that also beginning January 6 of 2025," he said.

The poll body chief added that the printing of the BARMM ballots will coincide with the printing of the official ballots for the 2024 NLE at the National Printing Office (NPO) in Quezon City.

"We also have standby machines courtesy of the

done.

"Collaboration is the foundation for this very important project. Together, we are not just building a transport hub –we are laying the groundwork for progress and drive our nation forward," Veloso said.

He said the meeting concluded with all parties reaffirming their commitment to advancing the project as it aligns with the administration's vision of sustainable and innovative infrastructure solutions sooner rather than later.

Aside from Veloso, also present during the meeting were MMDA chairman Romando Artes, DOTr Assistant Secretary Leonel Cray De Velez, PMS Director Joanna Micah Eufemio, and representatives from the Quezon City government. **(PNA)**

NPO, in case we need reinforcements," he added. Earlier, the poll body said they would be printing some 73 million ballots.

Last week, the House of Representatives approved on final reading House Bill 11444, seeking to postpone the BPE.

Under the proposed law, the Bangsamoro elections will be moved a year later or from May 12, 2025 to May 11, 2026.

Meanwhile, the Comelec conducted a "trusted build" of the programs for the automated election system (AES) to be used in the forthcoming polls.

The Comelec said the activity tested the management system, source code, consolidating and transmission systems and internet voting.

The "trusted build" is the process of assembling the overall program that will govern the entire AES using the reviewed components. **(PNA)**

8.5% in November

MANILA, (PIA) — Automotive vehicle sales in the Philippines rose by 8.5% year-on-year in November 2024, totaling 40,898 units compared to 37,683 units in November 2023, according to the Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers, Inc. (CAMPI) and the Truck Manufacturers Association.

The increase was primarily driven by commercial vehicle sales, which surged 10.5% to 31,062 units from 28,114 units in the same period last year. Passenger car sales also saw a modest rise of 2.8%, totaling 9,836 units compared to 9,569 units in November 2023.

On a month-to-month basis, vehicle sales grew by 2.2% from the 40,003 units recorded in October 2024.

CAMPI President Rommel Gutierrez highlighted that November's strong performance brought total sales for the first 11 months of 2024 to 425,208 units, marking an 8.8% increase from 390,654 units sold during the same period in 2023.

Commercial vehicles accounted for 74% of total sales from January to November, while passenger cars represented 26%.

The top-performing brands during this period included Toyota, Mitsubishi, Ford, Nissan, and Suzuki. **(JCO/PIA-NCR)**



PAMASKONG HANDOG MULA SA SARABA

Kamakailan ay nagsagawa ng Gift Giving ang Scouts Royale Brotherhood SARABA sa Kamias Street Barangay Manggahan Napico, Pasig.

Sila ay namigay ng mga pagkain tulad ng spaghetti package, libreng taho at Jollibee meal sa 150 na mga bata sa lugar.

Ang naturang Gift Giving ay inorganisa ng BTFAA Beta Tau Family Alumni Association na binubuo nina Bro. Edison (Overall Adviser), Bro. Cire Chua (Chairman), Bro. Jhom Nacario (Vice Chairman), Bro. Michael Bagus (Sgt. At Arms), Bro. Smack, Bro. Geneta, Bro. Carlito Botin, Bro. Jheck2, Bro. Marlon

Francisco, Bro. Wilfredo Israel, Bro. Nelson (Jawo), Bro. Manny Miel at Bro. Robert Alocilja.

Nais din nilang magpaabot ng pasasalamat sa mga sponsor na sina Bro. Valen Bony (Adviser U.S.A), Bro. Gerald Reyes (Adviser U.K), Bro. Ivan Comon (U.S.A), Bro. Tubal (U.S.A), Bro. Mark Santiago (G.C. San Beda College'91), Bro. Glenn Villaceran, Caissey Delfonso boss Senator Allan Cayetano (Jollibee foods), Maricel Verdida Delfonso (Smack wife), Ms. Camille Joy Delfonso at sa SaRaBa-TV.

SALUDO SA SARABA BETA TAU CHAPTER

2 indibidwal, timbog sa ilegal na pagbebenta

DALAWA katao ang naaresto dahil sa umano'y ilegal na pagbebenta ng mga produktong pang-agrikultura sa isinagawang entrapment operation ng mga awtoridad sa Taguig City kamakailan.

Ang dalawang suspek ay naaresto sa ikinasang operasyon ng mga tauhan ng Criminal Investigation and Detection Group-Regional Field Unit National Capital Region. Nabatid na umakto umanong kukuha o bibili ng mga imported na sibuyas ang mga awtoridad sa Lucky Farmers Fruits and Grocery Store sa Veterans Road, Brgy. Western Bicutan, Taguig City nitong Lunes ng gabi.

Sa nasabing operasyon ay katuwang ng CIDG ang Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry o BPI, at Taguig City Veterinary Office gayundin ang Southern Police District.

Kaya naman sa ginawang beripikasyon ng the BPI ay natuklasan na hindi otorisado sa pag-aangkat at pagbebenta ng mga

nasabing agricultural products ang mga suspek. Naharap ang dalawang suspek sa kasong paglabag sa Republic Act 7394 of The Consumer Act of the Philippines. **RUBEN LACSA**

4 katao, tiklo sa pang-aabuso

TIKLO ang apat katao na sinasabing sangkot sa pangmomolestiya sa dalagita sa Oslob, Cebu kamakailan. Sa inilabas na ulat ni Brig. Gen. Nicolas Torre III, acting chief ng Criminal Investigation and Detection Group, ang apat na suspek ay nadakip sa Barangay Casay, Dalaguete, Cebu nitong Linggo ng gabi. Nabatid na ang umano'y pangahalay sa 15-anyos na biktima ay naganap noong Disyembre 9.

Ang krimen ay naiulat lamang ng ina ng biktima nitong Disyembre 12. Kaugnay nito ay kaagad na kumilos ang mga awtoridad at sa pamamagitan ng CCTV footage at mga nakalap na impormasyon sa ilang saksi ay nalaman na ang mga suspek ay

HANEP

Basahin Mo Ito!



Jose Rizal surveying with a Jesuit priest. (Contributed photo from the National Historical Commission of the Philippines)- story p.11

Marinduque, second class province na

BOAC, Marinduque (PIA) — Simula 2025 ay tatanghalin ng second class province ang Marinduque base sa inilabas na bagong Schedule of Income Classification ng Department of Finance (DOF) para sa mga lalawigan, lungsod at bayan sa ilalim ng First General Income Reclassification, kung saan itinaas ang income classification ng ilang bayan sa lalawigan.

Ngayong taon ay nasa fourth class pa ang klasipikasyon ng Marinduque at ang nasabing pag-angat ng antas nito ay batay sa Republic Act No. 11964 na nagtatakda ng mga saklaw ng kita para sa income reclassification ng mga lalawigan, lungsod, at bayan sa buong bansa.

Ayon sa nasabing batas, binabase ang pag-angat,

mula sa Dalaguete, Cebu na dumalo lamang sa nasabing piyesta.

Batay sa report, nilapitan ng grupo ng kalalakihan ang biktima noong Disyembre 9 sa Cuartel Heritage Park habang idinaraos ang Oslob Grand Fiesta.

Kasalukuyang nakaupo sa nasabing parke ang biktima at sa paglapit ng grupo ay niyayaya siyang mag-inom ng alak.

Lumilitaw na 13 ang lalaki na umano'y nagsagawa ng pang-aabuso sa biktima. Napag-alaman na ilang araw pagkalipas ng insidente ay binawian ng buhay ang biktima.

Ang apat na suspek ay kasalukuyang nasa pangangasiwa ng CIDG Regional Field Unit-7. **RUBEN LACSA**

pananatili o pagbaba ng kita sa pamamagitan ng taunang regular na kita tulad ng real property tax (general fund), permits and licenses, service income, National Tax Allotment (NTA) at iba pa, gayundin ang kabuuang regular na kita sa loob ng tatlong taon (fiscal years).

Nangangahulugan ito na sa taong 2021-2024 ay nakapagtala ang probinsiya ng Marinduque ng mahigit P900,000,000 at hindi bababa sa P1,500,000,000 para tanghalin na second class ang lalawigan mula fourth class na kung saan ay kumikita lamang ito ng mahigit P500,000,000 at hindi bababa sa P700,000,000.

Sa panayam ng isang lokal na programa sa cable network kay Governor Presbitero Velasco, Jr., sinabi nya na "posibleng tumaas ang suweldo ng mga kawani ng pamahalaan dahil sa pagtaas ng klasipikasyon ng lalawigan, ngunit ang sa pribadong sektor ay hindi dahil sakop ito ng Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board at magkaiba ang sahod ng pribado at sa gobyerno."

Samantala, nananatiling first class municipality ang mga bayan ng Boac at Santa Cruz, mula third class ay umangat sa second class ang mga bayan ng Gasan, Mogpog at Torrijos habang nasa fourth class pa rin ang bayan ng Buenavista.

Ang bagong klasipikasyon ay bunga ng pinagsamang pagsisikap ng lokal na pamahalaan, mga negosyo, at ng komunidad at inaasahang magdudulot ng mas maraming oportunidad para sa probinsiya, dahil magkakaroon ito ng mas malaking bahagi ng pondo mula sa pamahalaan. Ang mga karagdagang yaman na ito ay magagamit para sa pagpapalakas ng imprastruktura, edukasyon, at



Malugod na pagbati Cong. Jolo Revilla

MALUGOD na pagbati sa lahat ng isang Manigong Bagong Taon. Nawa'y ang panibagong taon o ang 2025 ay mayroong kaakibat na panibagong pag-asa para sa ating lahat. Dahil bago ang taon ay nararapat ang pagbabago para sa atin tungo sa mapayapa at maayos na pamumuhay.

Mga dating maling gawain at asal ay iwaksi upang makamtan ang tunay na pagbabago.

Nabanggit natin ang pagbati kaya ating ipinaaabot ang malugod na pagbati kay Congressman Jolo Revilla ng unang distrito ng Cavite. Top 1 Congressman lang naman si Cong. Jolo sa Region IV-A.

Take note po, numenro uno hindi lamang sa lalawigan ng Cavite bagkus ay sa buong rehiyon ng CALABARZON o Cavite-Laguna-Batangas-Rizal-Quezon.

Nasungkit ni Cong. Jolo ang 92.5% performance rating sa Voice of the People survey na isinagawa ng RP-Mission and Development Foundation Inc.

Paggapatunay ito na si Cong. Jolo ay epektibo bilang kinatawan ng unang distrito ng Cavite.

Hindi naman maikakaila na maraming estudyante sa unang distrito ng lalawigan ang natutulungan o natulungan ng scholarship program ni Cong. Jolo. Muli, isang malugod na pagbati Cong. Jolo Revilla.

pangangalaga sa kalusugan. Sa kaugnay na balita, nananatili sa first class province ang Oriental Mindoro at Palawan, habang ang Occidental Mindoro ay nasa

first class mula sa second class, at ang Romblon ngayon ay nasa second class mula sa third class province. **(DNIPIA MIMAROPA-Marinduque)**



The Geodetic Engineers of the Philippines, Inc. (GEP), National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP), and the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) jointly commemorate the 143rd anniversary of Jose Rizal's license as an expert surveyor. (Photo Courtesy of NHCP)



TESDA, nanawagan sa mga industriya na makiisa sa kanilang programa- story p.3