

TOWN in FOCUS

PHLPost releases family-themed Christmas stamp

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Urban vertical gardening to boost TMC's food security

By Ruel Francisco

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite – The City Government here concluded the three-day training seminar for the Urban Vertical Gardening Project on November 20, 2020.

The project is one of the sustainable projects of the LGU in partnership with the City Agriculture Office and the Local Housing Office under the Resettlement Government Assistance Fund (RGAF) that

is expected to boost the food security of the city.

Vertical gardening is one of the types of urban gardening that the city government is encouraging its residents to learn, with limited space for planting, it would help address the threat to food production and ensure proper nutrition of the community during health crisis.

Residents of Sunshine Ville, Southville 2 Phase 3, and Golden Horizon participated in the

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Photo from saad.da.gov.ph

DILG, DENR join forces to stop illegal logging, quarrying

By Jerome Carlo R. Paunan

CALOOCAN CITY-- The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Department of the Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) are joining forces to implement the crackdown on illegal logging and illegal quarrying earlier ordered by the President in the wake of massive flooding in Cagayan and Isabela.

DILG Undersecretary and Spokesperson Jonathan Malaya said the National Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force created under Executive Order No. 23 will be called to a meeting by the DENR to implement new strategies to protect our remaining forest cover and protect threatened habitats across the country. The Task Force counts the DILG, PNP, and the Armed Forces of the Philippines as members.

He said both Secretary Eduardo M. Año and DENR

Secretary Roy Cimatu have agreed to mobilize all resources to stop the further destruction of our remaining forest resources.

Malaya said that the DILG also committed to support the National Greening Program (NGP) of the DENR which aims to rehabilitate some 1.2 million hectares of denuded forest lands by 2022.

"The DILG commits to mobilize the LGUs, the PNP, BFP and BJMP to meet the goal of the NGP to rehabilitate the unproductive, denuded, and degraded forest lands of the country by engaging local communities in the DENR's reforestation program. We will also work with Civil Society Organizations to plant more seedlings for our forests to grow again," he said.

He said that there is no better time than now to protect our remaining forest cover and do serious reforestation. "I know we are still in a pandemic

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Gov't lays out strategy for COVID-19 mass immunization

QUEZON CITY --The government will prioritize inoculating areas with high caseloads of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) as the country gears towards mass immunization against the fast-spreading virus, a government official said on Monday.

In his report to President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, National Task Force Against COVID-19 chief implementer Carlito Galvez Jr. said they adhere to the President's directive to prioritize the poor and government frontliners in conducting mass vaccination.

"At ang gagawin nga po nating strategy, dalawa pong strategy po ang gagawin po

natin para po maka-recover tayo at ma-contain kaagad natin ang ating pandemic, gagawin po natin geographical," Galvez told President Duterte during a meeting of the Inter-Agency Task Force on the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) in Davao City.

The first strategy is deploying the vaccine in the epicenter of COVID-19 such as National Capital Region (NCR), Davao City, Cebu, and Bacolod.

"And then from geographical magiging sectoral. Meaning, kung sino 'yung priority natin 'no, for example sa Manila, 'yung urban poor unahin po natin 'yon; 'yung mga vulnerable unahin po natin doon; 'yung mga sundalong naka-assign sa NCR unahin po natin at saka po

'yung mga essential workers," Galvez said.

"Iyon po mayroon pong impact 'yon kaagad sa ating economy at may impact kaagad na ma-contain po kaagad. So ang strategy po natin, Mr. President, po is geographical, priority ang NCR, priority ang Davao dahil ang Davao po ngayon umaakyat din, priority 'yung Cebu, priority po 'yung mga Bacolod, 'yung mga tinamaan po ng mabibigat ng COVID," he added.

Immunizing areas with high number of COVID-19 infections will help the government in its assessment

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Isang Panibagong tourist spot sa Cavite Binuksan

MASAYANG ipinabatid ni Mayor Corie Poblete ang opisyal na pagbubukas ng Shambala Silang sa kanilang bayan.

Ang Shambala o Shambala Silang Tawid Gallery: Indigenous Art Show ay ang pinaka unang off-site exhibit ng Manila Art 2020 na ginanap sa Brgy. Pulong.

Ipinapamalas ng naturang exhibit ang mga natatanging kagamitan at

mayabong na kultura ng mga Indigenous People (IP) sa ating bansa.

Kasama sa mga dumalo sa naturang pagbubukas ay si NCAA SubCommission Member and Head of National Committee on Art Gallery, Mr. Danny Rayos Del Sol.

Umaasa si Poblete na magiging isang panibagong atraksyon ang naturang lugar para sa mga mamamayan at turista.



Cavite Picad file photo.



TINGNAN: Namahagi ang Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Imus ng medical assistance sa mga indigent Imuseños sa pakikipagtulungan ng City Social Welfare and Development Office at City Treasurer's Office.

DOH, DTI set price range for RT-PCR testing

By Joedie Mae D. Boliver

CALOOCAN CITY-- After conducting a market survey, the Department of Health (DOH) and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) have released the price range of the COVID-19 real-time reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) testing at ₱3,800 for public laboratories and between ₱4,500 to ₱5,000 for private laboratories.

Health Secretary Francisco Duque III disclosed that the range is evidence-based and is in accordance with the recommendation of experts. It covers testing inputs, swab, universal transport medium, extraction kits, and machine and overhead cost.

“Ang dahilan nga ay napakalawak ng pagkakaiba ng mga singilan for RT-PCR ng mga iba’t ibang laboratoryo,

ospital, mga iba pang kakayahang magsagawa ng RT-PCR testing,” Duque said.

The official explained that the imposed pricing will prevent market abuse after some private laboratories raised concern on the matter.

The Joint Administrative Order was signed on Nov. 24 and will be effective 15 days after its publication. There will be a monitoring and evaluation unit to check the compliance of laboratories. Violators of the newly established pricing may face suspension and revocation of their licenses as COVID-19 testing laboratories.

Meanwhile, the DOH announced that the British pharmaceutical firm AstraZeneca has officially applied to conduct its third phase of clinical trials in the Philippines. (PIA NCR)

Senate...

of gross income earned (GIE), which they may continue to avail of for a period of 10 years, or they may avail of enhanced deductions. On the other hand, domestic industries can avail of enhanced deductions for a period of 10 years.

“The total incentive duration for both exporters and domestic industries is 17 years. That is coming from the 4-7 years of income tax holiday, and then the 10 years for the availment of the special corporate income tax rate or the enhanced deduction,” she noted.

Another important reform in the bill, Cayetano said, is the expansion of the functions of the present Fiscal Incentives

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Review Board (FIRB) to better ensure that the existing and future tax perks and other incentives to be granted by government will be “performance-based, time-bound, targeted and transparent.”

Cayetano said that the new FIRB, under the bill, will now be chaired by the Department of Finance and co-chaired by the Department of Trade and Industry, with representatives from the Office of the President, the Department of Budget and Management and the National Economic Development Authority.

This body, Cayetano explained, will provide oversight over investment promotion agencies (IPAs), and will be

empowered to approve or disapprove incentives for investments beyond P1 billion.

“Let me assure all officials and employees from IPAs that the bill will not be abolishing your agencies or cutting down your jobs. IPAs will continue to perform their function of promoting investments in the Philippines, receive and process applications, and recommend to the FIRB worthy incentives for FIRB approval,” she said.

“This is the essence of the CREATE bill, so that we have checks and balances in relation to tax perks offered by government, which are meant ultimately to create jobs, spur investments and help improve the lives of Filipinos,” Cayetano said. (PIA NCR)

Duterte's....

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“The Virtual Presser,” launched by the Office of the Global Media and Public Affairs (OGMPA) in April 2019, is PCOO's interactive online video platform to engage with the international and local media, including foreign audiences.

OGMPA is tasked to connect government policymakers with the media and promote the Philippine government's priority policy messages through engagements with foreign and domestic audiences. (PIA NCR)

RCEP.....

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free trade deal as it covers almost 30% of the population, 30% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and 28% of the global trade. It is also a modern, comprehensive, and mutually beneficial free trade agreement (FTA), which will provide a timely boost for the economic development of the Philippines, especially now that the country is in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“With an open, fair, and rules-based trading system, RCEP will help restore business confidence and encourage more economic activities, particularly for MSMEs, investors, service providers, and professionals,” he said.

“For the Philippines, the RCEP will complement ongoing trade and investment reforms and initiatives for the resurgence of the country's manufacturing sector, enhancement of our investment regime, strengthening of agriculture sector, and integration of its MSMEs into the Global Value Chain through market access provided in goods and services,” he added.

Gepty also summarized the Philippines' benefits for participating in the RCEP, these include:

The manufacturers in the

country can get cheaper imported goods, raw materials, and other products from other member countries of the RCEP;

It will be convenient to do business as the RCEP simplified the rules for businesses and investors, and there will be a clear mechanism on transparency and consultation related to issues in trade and trading partners;

In the RCEP region, participating countries will have uniform rules for protecting the intellectual property rights; and

The RCEP will complement the ongoing reforms and existing programs and initiatives of the government, especially on the resurgence of the manufacturing sector in the country.

“The Virtual Presser,” launched by the Office of the Global Media and Public Affairs (OGMPA) in April 2019, is PCOO's interactive online video platform to engage with the international and local media, including foreign audiences.

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Panukala na pagbabawal sa expiration ng prepaid cellphone at internet load, talakayin muli

By Lucia F. Bronio

LUNGSOD CALOOCAN-- Nanawagan si Senator Win Gatchalian sa mga kapwa senador na talakayin na ang nakabinbing panukala na nagbabawal sa paglalagay ng validity period sa mga prepaid load credits ng mga cellphone at internet services.

“Sa ganitong panahon na may coronavirus pandemic, ang masakit na katotohanan ay nakaasa tayo sa information and communication technologies (ICT) sa araw-araw nating pamumuhay. At para sa mga hindi nakakaluwag sa buhay, mahalaga ang bawat piso sa kanilang gastusin,” ani Gatchalian.

“Ang mawalan ng mga natitirang load sa kanilang prepaid credits dahil inabutan na ng expiration ay hindi katanggap-tanggap sa kasalukuyang sitwasyon,” dagdag pa ni Gatchalian.

Ang ganitong sistema aniya ay hindi dapat pinapayagan sapagkat bayad na nang buo ang mga load credits at serbisyong iniaalok sa mga subscribers, samakatuwid ay may karapatan silang makunsumo ito.

“Ang pagbawalan silang makunsumo nang buo ang load dahil sa expiration period ay hindi

makatuwiran at anti-consumer. Hindi ito tulad ng ibang mga bilihan na kinakain natin o may bisa katulad ng mga gamot. Ang ganitong bilihan ay nakadepende sa dalas ng paggamit ng mga subscribers at nararapat lamang na nasa kanila ang desisyon kung susulitin nila ang kanilang mga load credits,” paliwanag ng senador.

Ayon sa Vice Chairman ng Senate Committee on Economic Affairs, napapanahon na para repasuhin ang ganitong pamamalakad ng mga public telecommunications entities (PTEs) at ICT providers.

Sa kanyang inihaing Senate Bill No. 365 o ang Prepaid Load Forever Act, pinagbabawalan ang lahat ng PTEs at ICT providers na maglagay ng expiration date sa mga prepaid load credits anuman ang halaga nito.

Sakop ng panukalang batas ang prepaid cards at electronic loads sa mga serbisyong may short messaging system (SMS) o text messaging, mobile data, value added services (VAS) at mga gadgets kung saan maaring magamit ang internet katulad ng mga tablets, Wi-Fi dongles or mobile hotspots.

“Sa panahon ngayon na

iginagapang ng karamihan ang arawang gastusin at ginagawa na ang lahat ng paraan ng pagtitipid, nararapat lamang na tulungan natin silang mapagaan ang kanilang mga pasanin,” sabi ni Gatchalian.

Sa ilalim ng panukalang batas ng senador, sinuman ang lumabag dito ay may karampatang parusang multa mula P100,000 hanggang P2 milyon at pagkakakulong na dalawa hanggang anim na taon, bukod pa sa agarang pagbawi ng business license.

Sa kasalukuyan, ang prepaid load credit na may halagang P300 ay may one-year validity habang ang mga may mas mataas na halaga ay mas mahaba ang palugit.

“Sa panahong napakahalaga ng social distancing sa ilalim ng new normal, nakadepende tayo sa mga telecommunication at ICT services. Kaya para sa mga ordinaryong tao, malaking kawalan ang mapagkaitan ng load credits lalo na kung pinaghirapan nila ang pinambili dito. Nararapat lamang na masulit nila ang pinambayad nila sa mga ganitong serbisyo,” ani Gatchalian. (PIA NCR)

How beautiful it is
to find someone
who asks for
nothing but your
company.

PNP clarifies temporary suspension of reassignment under localization program

By Nonette N. Castillo

CALOOCAN CITY-- Philippine National Police (PNP) Spokesperson BGen. Ilderandi Usana said during Friday's #LagingHandaPh public briefing that "there was no significant effect on their operations" in their call to temporarily suspend the reassignment of personnel under the recent PNP localization program.

"We have policies and process on our personnel for their transfer and reassignments. And in two months' time we have transferred close to 5,000 PNP personnel to their local place," Usana said.

"But it has an effect on placements and adjustments of local police. We need to strike the delegate balance between the need of a particular unit na nangangailangan ng mga kapulisan lalo na dito sa NCR," he added.

Usana explained that they have also considered the threat of the pandemic, saying

they "don't want to anticipate that the transfer of their PNP personnel to a local place or [their] home [town] will affect and have repercussions later in their communities."

"Also, there are PNP personnel who have on going cases and court hearings that they will be required to be present too," he said.

"Kami po sa PNP ay handing mag serbisyo para sa lahat ng mamamayan natin na nangagailangan ng tulong at assistance. And we hope to build better relationships with the community. Kailangan po nating sundin ang mga panuntunan para sa ating kapakanan." Usana added.

To recall, the PNP earlier implemented a mass movement of personnel that initially covered inter-regional reassignment of troops to their hometowns and places of permanent residence to give them a strong sense of ownership of their locality and in the process, induce better performance. (PIA NCR)

DILG....

but this program cannot wait otherwise we are sowing the seeds of our own destruction as a planet. Climate change is here and we have to face it," he said. The DILG Spokesperson said that from January to October 2020, the Philippine National Police has conducted 6,710 anti-illegal logging operations and has arrested some 3,336 illegal loggers across the country.

"The 6,710 PNP operations have led to the recovery of 3,663,173 board feet of lumber illegally cut from

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our remaining forest cover. We have filed 1,145 cases in court against the suspects. There are still many violators of our environmental laws," he said.

He said that the PNP may effect the arrest even without warrant of any person who has committed or is committing in his presence the offense of illegal logging under P.D. 705.

The PNP has been directed to set up more checkpoints in all forest areas in cooperation with the PENRO and CENRO of the DENR. (PIA NCR)

Urban....

training. During the last day of the training, Mayor Gemma Lubigan led the distribution of garden tools and free seedlings which would help them start their own vegetable garden in their homes.

"I encourage all of you to use the information and additional skills imparted to you during the training, and with these tools and seedlings you would be able to grow your own garden and

from page 1

benefit from it especially during calamities and pandemic," the Mayor said.

Meanwhile, RGAF is DILG's financial assistance extended to cities with resettlement plans for informal settler families (ISFs), especially those with in-city relocation sites. The fund provides support to LGUs in providing facilities and livelihood opportunities to help relocatees adjust in their new environs. (Ruel Francisco, PIA-Cavite)

DOH....

on the efficacy of the vaccines, according to Galvez.

So far, several vaccine developers are set to conduct clinical trials in the Philippines. These include Sinovac, Hansen, Johnson & Johnson, Gamaleya, AstraZeneca, and CanSino.

After the President's approval, Galvez said the government can now proceed with Advance Market Commitment and start negotiating with big pharmaceutical companies such as China's Sinovac, AstraZeneca, and Pfizer.

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Galvez also told President Duterte that the government can secure advance commitment with Astra Zeneca for 20 million doses this month.

The government is looking at multilateral financing institutions such as the World Bank (WB) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to finance vaccine procurements.

Local banks such as Land Bank of the Philippines and Development Bank of the Philippines are also possible fund sources for the government.



Philippine National Police (PNP) Spokesperson BGen. Ilderandi Usana

ASEAN nations join hands to fight emerging cybercrime amidst the pandemic

By Jerome Carlo R. Paunan

CALOOCAN CITY-- In a joint statement adopted during the 14th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) held on Thursday, Nov. 25, the Ministers/High-Level Representatives from the ASEAN member countries expressed their strong commitment and dedication in the fight against transnational crime amidst the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The ASEAN Ministers convened virtually vowing to work for a cohesive response to new and emerging crime trends concerning improved cyberspace capability, the event hosted by the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

DILG Secretary and AMMTC-Philippines head Eduardo M. Año said the law enforcement units in the ASEAN region must improve its capabilities against cybercrimes because of the alarming increase of pandemic induced cyber threats, including 59 percent increase in phishing, scam, fraud, 36 percent malware, ransomware, 22 percent malicious domains, and 14 percent increase in fake news.

"We join hands in solidarity, and to maintain close coordination to overcome these

difficulties and pledge to do our utmost to contribute toward the expeditious return to normalcy in the post-COVID-19 world," reads the said joint statement. Año who represented the country in the meeting, stressed the importance to revamp regional programs, strategies, mechanisms, and capacity-building initiatives to facilitate regional cooperation on the global pandemic.

"The ASEAN community must continue to unite its actions in addressing new forms of transnational crimes and the COVID-19 pandemic. In this unprecedented situation, let us remain committed to weathering all storms, and together, we will heal as one," he said.

Año also stressed the need to empower the youth and other vulnerable sectors and continue the exchange of intelligence and best practices.

Considering the limited personal interactions during this global health crisis, Año encouraged the ASEAN ministers to explore innovative ways to conduct trainings and programs.

Meanwhile, DILG Undersecretary and Chair of the Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime Bernardo C. Florece Jr. said he is pleased that the ASEAN ministers are still

able to adapt to the new normal through digital platforms despite the challenges this year.

Florece reported the ASEAN declaration on illicit trafficking of wildlife and timber on top of their existing areas of regional cooperation on terrorism, trafficking in persons, cybercrime, arms smuggling, money laundering, international economic crime, sea piracy, and sea robbery.

"Even amidst the pandemic, the SOMTC works were continued, albeit via online sessions with various ASEAN and non-ASEAN partners through dialogues, workshops, trainings, webinars, and successful operations on some areas of transnational crimes," Florece said.

Hosted by the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, the 14th AMMTC meeting was attended by ASEAN Ministers/High-Level Representatives from Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. (PIA NCR)



DILG Secretary and AMMTC-Philippines head Eduardo M. Año joins Ministers/High-Level Representatives from the ASEAN member countries during the 14th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC), Nov. 25 hosted by the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

BSP warns public against the spread of fake money during holidays

By Jimmley E. Guzman

PASIG CITY -- The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) is warning the public against the spread of fake money during the holiday season. This, after several vendors in Gerona, Tarlac have received fake P1000 and P500 bills, a report by PTV News said.

The BSP advised the public to check the markings of the bills

to see if it is embossed such as the "Republika ng Pilipinas," signature of the President and Governor of the BSP.

It added that the water mark, asymmetrical serial number, and the color blue and red of the security fiber must be clear.

Other security features of the money can also be observed such as its concealed value, security thread, and optically variable ink by tilting the bill. (PIA NCR)

As of November 23, 2020, the country recorded a total of 420,614 COVID-19 infections with 1,799 new cases coming from NCR (465), Region IV-A (443), Region III (224), Region VI (105) and the remaining regions (562). PND

Ang
CAVITENO

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PAPI

EDITORIAL

Hold your horses, hypocrites

It was his response to the COVID-19 emergency that many believe cost Trump an extended term, since it is always the incumbent who has the upperhand in the US elections.

Along with their well wishes, the ecstatic demonizers' immediate response to former Vice President Joe Biden's victory was that it also spells doom for President Rodrigo Duterte.

Their equation is that, since defeated US President Donald Trump is customarily associated with Mr. Duterte as two peas in the global pod, the same fate awaits the Philippine leader.

Both Mr. Duterte and Trump assumed office in 2016, which had in most ways triggered the comparison.

Yet, it was in leadership style that the two diverged. President Duterte showed determination in maintaining a clean hand as against Trump's caving in to strong interests who were believed to have influenced his administration's policies.

The approach to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic is a good reference.

Where Trump gave more weight to the clamor of big business to keep the economy open against the scientific community's warnings, Mr. Duterte deferred to doctors and experts whenever confronted with the dilemma involving the unprecedented blight.

Moreover, while the Americans are split in the middle regarding Trump's response to the virus, which greatly helped Biden clinch the presidency, 91 percent of the population, a figure which only leaders of other nations can dream of, are behind President Duterte based on recent surveys.

Responsible delegation of powers is a Duterte hallmark, wherein he provided the guidance through his incendiary speeches, while his alter egos flesh out the policies to attain goals that the President set.

It was his response to the COVID-19 emergency that many believe cost Trump an extended term, since it is always the incumbent who has the upperhand in the US elections that is held every four years.

Neither would a Biden administration be a detriment to the remaining years of President Duterte, since the view toward an open market would likely be taken by Biden, which is also the economic path the Duterte administration had taken.

What is foreseen with certainty is the normalization of global trade and diplomatic relations, which is direly needed to counter uncertainties in the world.

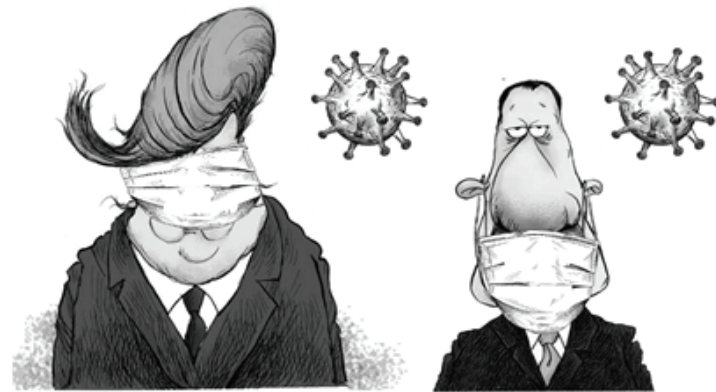
A likely point of friction, however, would be the issue of meddling in domestic affairs that Democrat administrations have a predilection for. The foreign policies of Biden would likely be an extension of that of former President Barack Obama, where human rights issues dominate, and for which Mr. Duterte has accused the former US president of intrusion amid Obama's criticism of the war on drugs.

Through the years, however, it has been proven that the vicious noises created by the political opponents of the President were nothing but political posturing, and that all the steps taken under the Duterte administration are guided by the rule of law.

With Asia being looked upon as the main engine of global recovery, the United States under Biden may review intrusive policies and allow popularly elected leaders to determine the best way to achieve the aspirations of their citizens.

The common good is the principle that guides most leaders in the world, and different circumstances in each country require unique approaches that most of the time are not necessarily molded in American or western ways.

The usual detractors should also be reminded that Filipinos elect the President and not their foreign and local principals who assume they have the divine task of anointing who leads the country.



KAPIRASONG Kritika

Ni Teo S. Marasigan

Bonifacio Unang Pangulo

SA pagpapaliwanag niya sa konsepto ng "ideolohiya," minsang tinuntungan ng pilosopong Slovenian

na si Slavoj Zizek ang antropologong Pranses na si Claude Levi-Strauss. Mayroon daw pinag-aralan ang huli na isang tribo na nahahati sa dalawang grupo. Nang ipina-drawing niya sa dalawang grupo ang tanaw sa kanilang lugar mula sa itaas, dalawang larawan din ang lumabas: ang isa, bilog na may bilog pa sa loob habang ang ikalawa, bilog na may linyang humahati sa gitna. Itinuturo nito, ayon kay Zizek, ang "kung anong antagonismong panlipunan na bumabaluktot (distorts) sa tanaw ng mga miyembro ng tribo sa aktwal na pagkakahayanay-hanay ng mga bahay sa kanilang lugar."

Hindi kaya lantad din ang antagonismong panlipunan sa bansa ng iba't ibang pagtingin kay Andres Bonifacio? Ayon sa balita, noong Agosto 23, naghain ng petisyon si Michael Xiao Chua, propesor ng kasaysayan, at ang Philippine Historian Association kay Pang. Noynoy Aquino at sa Kongreso na kilalanin si Bonifacio na unang pangulo ng Pilipinas. Simula raw Agosto 24, 1896, hindi na isang rebolusyonaryong kilusan lang kundi isang gobyerno na ang Katipunan, ang organisasyong itinatag ni Bonifacio. Ani Chua, na umaasa sa social media para itulak ang kahilingan, baka magsilbing "oomph" na tulak

o inspirasyon sa bansa ang pagkilala. Hiling din nila ang state funeral para sa bayani.

Maaaring may kurot sa puso ang panawagang "unang pangulo," samadaling tingin ay pagpaparalang ito kay Bonifacio. O kaya ay "pagtinging muli sa mga tala ng kasaysayan at pagsulat nang patas sa pamamagitan ng paglalarawan sa kanya nang batay sa katotohanan," na pinakamataas na pagpaparalang kay Bonifacio ayon sa isa sa kanyang mga inapo. Pero kaduda-duda: Sa unang balita hinggil dito, prominente ang Alliance of Progressive Labor (APL) – alyado ng Akbayan at malapit sa gobyernong Aquino. Kasama si Daniel Edralin, tagapangulo ng APL, sa mga lider ng Social Security System na nagbalsa ng P10 milyong bonus para sa 2012 mula sa pondo ng mga manggagawa.

Parangal ba kay Bonifacio ang ituring siyang unang pangulo? Hindi niya ikakaangat ang maihanay sa mga pangulo mula kina Aguinaldo at Quezon hanggang kina Arroyo at Aquino. Hindi karapat-dapat ang mga naging pangulo na maituring na kasunod ni Bonifacio; isa ring ilusyon ang isiping huhusay ang mga susunod na pangulo dahil sa ganyang pagkilala kay Bonifacio. Hahalaw lang sila ng makabayan at makamasang sinag kay Bonifacio kahit naglilingkod sa dayuhang kapangyarihan at kumakatawan sa iilang

naghahari sa lipunan. Hindi parangal kay Bonifacio ang gusto nila, kundi pagbango ng sarili at sistemang naghahari, at paglabnaw sa imaheng rebelde-radikal ng bayani.

Sa kabilang banda, matagal nang dinadakila ng Kaliwa si Bonifacio. Inuugat nito sa kanya ang sariling proyekto: Para rito, ipinaglaban ni Bonifacio ang pambansang kalayaan at demokrasya sa pamamagitan ng armadong rebolusyonaryong pakikibaka, na kailangang ipagpatuloy at paunlarin ngayon. Ginawa nitong huwaran si Bonifacio, na mula sa uring anakpawis, para ipanawagan sa masang anakpawis ang paglahok sa pambansa-demokratikong pakikibaka at pagkabayani. Hindi ang pagkilala kay Bonifacio na unang pangulo ang iginiit nito, kundi bilang anakpawis na rebolusyonaryo. At pagkilala hindi ng namamayaning gobyerno, kundi ng masang anakpawis mismo.

Sa pagitan ng muling pagsulat ng kasaysayan at ng paglikha nito, ng pagpanawagan sa gobyerno at pagmumulat at pag-oorganisa sa karaniwang tao, malinaw kung alin ang pinakamataas na pagpaparalang ng sambayanang Pilipino kay Andres Bonifacio.

13 Oktubre 2013

TOWN in FOCUS

TOWN in FOCUS TOWN in FOCUS TOWN in FOCUS TOWN in FOCUS TOWN in FOCUS TOWN in FOCUS TOWN in FOCUS TOWN in FOCUS TOWN in FOCUS TOWN in FOCUS

PHLPost releases family-themed Christmas stamp

By Jimmyley E. Guzman

PASIG CITY - In celebration of the National Stamp Collecting Month (NSCM), the Philippine Postal Corporation (PHLPost) released new stamps featuring "Pasko (Christmas) 2020," a loving tribute to all families celebrating together this Yuletide season.

Amid the pandemic and natural calamities and disasters occurred this year, Christmas time is still being celebrated by Filipinos and Filipino families no matter where they are in the world.

"At the end of this

extraordinary difficult year, the Christmas stamp will remind us that spending time together with the family will bring much needed respite from the worries and adversity, and looking forward for better days to come," according to PHLPost.

The "Pasko 2020" stamp features an image of the contemporary Filipino family - gathered around for support and encouragement and maintaining a positive outlook with the traditional Parol (Christmas lantern) on the background to complement the postage stamp.

PHLPost has printed 10,000 copies of the stamps

designed by in-house artist Artist Eunice Beatrix U. Dabu. The Christmas-themed stamp is sold at Php12.00 each.

The special stamp and official first day cover of "Pasko 2020" are available at the Philatelic Counter, Manila Central Post Office, in all Mega Manila Post Offices, Area 1, Tuguegarao, Area 2, San Fernando, La Union, Postal Area 4, San Pablo, Postal Area 5, Mandaue, Postal Area 6, Iloilo, Postal Area 7, Davao, Postal Area 8, Cagayan de Oro, and Postal Area 9, Zamboanga. (PHLPOST/PIA-NCR)

"Pasko 2020," stamp is a loving tribute to all families celebrating together this Yuletide season. (Phot credit: PHLPost)



CAVITEVIEW

Opportunity 2.0: 'Ang second chance ninyo sa edukasyon'

By Alehia Therese V. Abuan

TARGET mabigyan ng programa ng USAID ng isa pang pagkakataong makapag-aral at makapagtrabaho ang tinatayang 180,000 out-of-school youth sa bansa. Ito ay sa pamamagitan ng P1.9-bilyon project na Opportunity 2.0 na tutulong na lalong mapahusay ang Alternative Learning System (ALS) ng Department of Education (DepEd), at mga skills training program ng Technical Education Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

Ang mga programang ito ng pamahalaan na para sa edukasyon at pagsasanay naman ang tutulong at magbibigay ng kaalaman at kasanayan sa mga kabataan upang magamit nila sa kanilang buhay, kahit sa gitna pa ng kasalukuyang pandemya, at modular, at distance learning.

Upang higit na mapaliwanag ang Opportunity 2.0:

Second-Chance Opportunities for Out-of School Youth project, minabuting kapanayamin ng PIA-NCR "e-tanong" si Ms. Angeli- que Roux ng Education Development Center ng USAID.

PIA-NCR: Sino ba ang beneficiary o para kanino ang Opportunity 2.0 program?

Ms. Angeli- que: So "opportunity," maririnig ninyo from the term pa lang, "Opportunity 2.0," it is geared towards helping our vulnerable out-of-school youth, and the main goal is actually, for them to have better education, employment, and livelihood outcomes.

PIA-NCR: Why focus

on our out-of-school youth?

Ms. Angeli- que: We have different numbers in terms of reports of out-of-school youths. In 2016, I think it was nine percent of Filipinos from six years old to 24 years old who are not in school, so that's almost one out of 10, medyo alarming 'yun! Mga 3.6 million out-of-school children.

Ms. Angeli- que: But I think there's a newer report, which was released in 2019, that was pre-pandemic, 1.2 million out-of-school youths. But now, because of the pandemic nga, the numbers have bloated, but we don't know the exact numbers right now because the schools have just opened last October.

Ms. Angeli- que: Of course natako na ang mga magulang, hindi na nag-enroll, nag-home schooling, etc. so for sure, our out-of-school youth numbers have bloated because of the pandemic.

PIA-NCR: How do you find beneficiary out-of-school youths?

Ms. Angeli- que: Opportunity 2.0 is a systems-strengthening project. Ang tinutulungan namin ay ang DepEd ALS [Alternative Learning System] at ang TESDA. So that they would have better curriculum, better teacher professional development programs, better monitoring and evaluation, kung baga, partners namin sila.

Ms. Angeli- que: We're helping strengthen their systems, so the youths that enroll in DepEd ALS and TESDA are the youths we are trying to help. If

you think about it again, DepEd ALS and TESDA ay ang ating "Second-Chance Education" and "Second-Chance Training" institutions in the country.

PIA-NCR: Bakit nga ba kailangan ng mga out-of-school youth ang "Opportunity" sa education o training?

Ms. Angeli- que: In the first place, it's important to note

that DepEd ALS and TESDA programs are free. So eto 'yung nakapagtataka na madaming bata na imbes na nag-aaral o nag-i-i-skills training ay nasa kalye, nakatambay or doing other things. It's important to have at least "foundational education" so that they are equipped with the knowledge to survive in this world, [with] skills. Ms. Angeli- que: Not everyone is made for higher education and, I hope that I don't get shut down for this, but totoo, there are some na pag-graduate ng high school, aba! Napakagaling magbenta! Madaling magbake, for example, and they progress this way. So TESDA has programs for food trade. For example may baking, and that's an option for our out-of-school youth to take. Ang iba naman,

siguro, ang gusto nila is talagang mag-higher education o mag-college, so definitely, they need to undergo, at least, until senior high school to be able to go to higher education.

Ms. Angeli- que: So that is an avenue youth to take kung mag-aral sila at makatapos ng senior high. There are some naman after senior high school, aba'y gusto nang magtrabaho! Again we cannot judge them. So they would be equipped if they join the Opportunity 2.0 Program to be able to go to higher education, to self-employment, or to wage employment.

Para sa kabuuan ng interview kay Ms. Angeli- que, panoorin sa link na ito: <https://www.facebook.com/PIAMetroManila/videos/400998081098876> (PIA NCR)

e-tanong

ANG SECOND CHANCE NINYO SA EDUKASYON



INTERVIEW WITH MS. ANGELIQUE ROUX

ANGELIQUE ROUX
Private Sector Advisor of EDC-Opportunity 2.0

www.pia.gov.ph PIA-NCR Metro Manila PIAMetroManila PIA_NCR

Caption

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
TRECE MARTIRES CITY

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND,
Mortgagee,

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-385-17

-versus-

SPOUSES WINSTON C. TUPAZ
AND CATHERINE E. TUPAZ
Mortgagors

X-----X

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND, with business address at 12th Floor, JELP Business Solution Center, No. 409 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City, against the Mortgagors, SPOUSES WINSTON C. TUPAZ AND CATHERINE E. TUPAZ, with residence and postal address at LOT 15, BLOCK 25, CHESA ST., FILIPINO, PASAYCITY AND LOT 36, BLOCK 23, PHASE 2 SUNRISE PLACE SUBDIVISION TRES CRUSES, TANZA, CAVITE, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of 29 March 2017 amounts to THREE HUNDRED TWENTY ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED FORTY SEVEN PESOS AND 64/100 (P321,547.64), Philippine Currency, including interest, penalties and other charges as of said date but exclusive of all other expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will set at public auction on FEBRUARY 04, 2021 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning at the main entrance of the Government Center Building located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 057-2013017436

A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 36, BLOCK 23 OF THE CONSOLIDATION SUBDIVISION PLAN PCS-04-024575, BEING A PORTION OF LOTS 2677, (FLS-325), & 2679 (RS-04-002668) ALL OF STA. CRUZ DE MALABON ESTATE AND BLOCK 31, PCS-04-023349, L.R.C. RECORD NO. 6832), SITUATED IN BARANGAY TRES CRUSES, MUNICIPALITY OF TANZA, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON, BOUNDED ON THE NE., ALONG LINE 1-2 BY LOT 37, BLOCK 23; ON THE SE., ALONG LINE 2-3 BY LOT 34, BLOCK 23; ON THE SW., ALONG LINE 3-4 BY ROAD LOT 1 (10.00 M. WIDE R.O.W) AND ON THE NW., ALONG LINE 4-1 BY LOT 38 BLOCK 23, ALL OF THE CONSOLIDATION SUBDIVISION PLAN. BEGINNING AT A POINT MARKED "1" ON PLAN xxx CONTAINING AN AREA OF THIRTY FIVE (35) 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 and time, it shall be held on FEBRUARY 11, 2021 without further notice.

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

Trece Martires City, NOVEMBER 17, 2020

LUCIO C. ALEJO III
Sheriff IV

Copy Furnished:

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND
12th Floor, JELP Business Solution Center,
No. 409 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City

SPOUSES WINSTON C. TUPAZ
AND CATHERINE E. TUPAZ
Lot 15, Block 25, Chesa St., Filipino, Pasay City
Lot 36 Block 23 Phase 2 Sunrise Place Subdivision
Tres Cruses, Tanza, Cavite

WARNING: It is absolutely prohibited to remove, deface or destroy this Notice of Extra Judicial Sale on or before the date of sale

Publication: Ang Caviteo Newsweekly
Dates: November 23, 30 & December 07, 2020

AFFIDAVIT OF SELF-ADJUDICATION

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late MAXIMO DE OCAMPO CLAMOSIA who died on May 4, 2020 at 237 Brgy. Santol, Tanza, Cavite, Philippines leaving a savings account with Rizal Commercial Banking Corporation-Tanza Branch in the amount of ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED SEVENTY SIX PESOS AND 21/100 DOLLARS (\$1,576.21) with Savings Account No. 0000009014667275 has been extrajudicially settled by his heirs as per Doc No. 475; Page No.96 Series of 2020, Notary Public Atty. Joel Golez Tinitigan.

Ang Caviteo
November 30, 2020

Practice sustainable gardening of ornamental plants – Legarda

By Jerome Carlo R. Paunan

CALOOCAN CITY-- Plant experts gathered virtually to underscore the importance of responsible gardening brought by the rising trend of collecting ornamental plants. During the 27th episode of "Stories for a Better Normal: Pandemic and Climate Change Pathways" with the topic, "Plant Wise: Responsible Gardening," experts also discussed the possible environmental consequences and dangers of inaccurate wild plant harvesting to Philippine forests and biodiversity.

The online conversation, hosted by Deputy Speaker Loren Legarda, featured Dr. Theresa Mundita Lim, Executive Director of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity; Dr. Ireneo Lit Jr., entomologist, and curator of the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) Museum of Natural History; and Dr. Gideon Lasco, a medical anthropologist from the University of the Philippines Diliman and a research fellow at the Ateneo de Manila Development Studies Program;

Lasco, for his part, shared the intricate relationship of humans with plants, highlighting that people have allowed plants to take deeper root, occupying a big part of their daily routines and living spaces.

"Plants also serve as links to the past: plants are 'portable trees' that humans can carry along with them in their life journeys, from house to house, from generation to generation. At a time when our very vitality seems imperiled by a deadly pandemic, plants offer an alternate vision of life: one of growth and germination. However, it remains to be seen if this will translate to environmental awareness and action," said Lasco.

Lim, for her part, discussed the value of planting and growing endemic and native species and the dangers of a thriving plant economy, and showed different over-collected endemic native plant species.

"Dahil sa pagtaas ng mga presyo ng halaman, dumadami ang pumupunta sa mga bundok para manguha ng mga halaman sa ating mga kagubatan. Ang hindi nakikita ng mga tao ay yung ating mga forests ay hindi lang isang klase, 10 types 'yan. Tumaas ang poaching, sa

iba't ibang mga forests ay binubunot ang mga halaman tapos ay ibinibenta. Ang Pilipinas, mataas ang endemicity o yung sinasabing mga halaman na nakikita lang dito sa Pilipinas," said Lim.

Lit, moreover, introduced the different invasive non-native species of plants, their negative effects on other plants and the environment, and the proper ways to handle and take care of them.

"Ang pag-aalaga ng halaman ay katulad ng pag-aalaga ng 'pets' o alagang aso o pusa. Dapat responsible tayo. Yung aso, hindi inaalpasan kapag nagsawa ka na o hindi mo na kayang alagaan. Ganun din ang mga halaman, babantayan natin," Lit said.

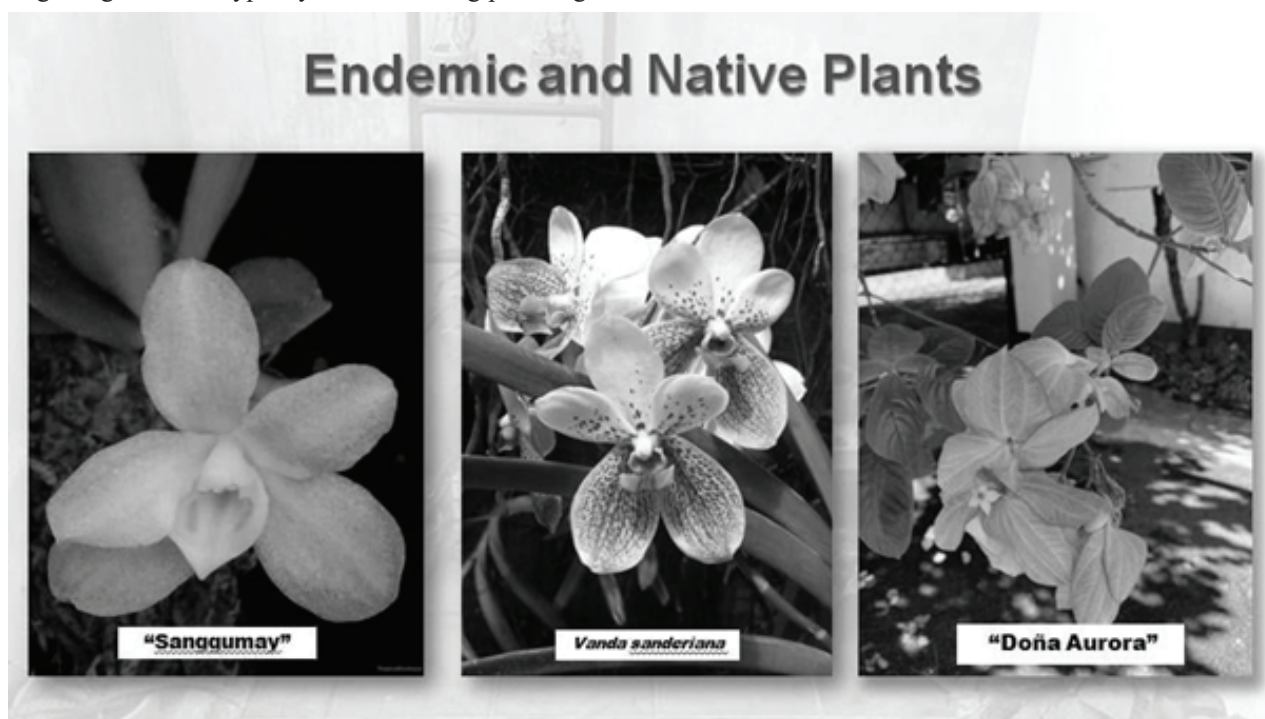
Legarda, meanwhile, said that due to the community quarantine, many Filipinos have turned to ornamental plant gardening as a way to cope with stress and uncertainty. However, the global and local circulation of plants comes with a significant ecological footprint, and so do all the materials used to tend to them like plastic pots, pesticides, packages used for transport, among others.

"While ornamental plant gardening makes coping with the pandemic a little easier for many people, it is also important to be aware of the threats it poses to the environment, including plant poaching, wildlife trading, and unbridled profiteering," she said.

"Gardening ornamental plants come with the responsibility of practicing sustainable ways of tending them and making sure that the habitats where they are sourced remain unharmed, so as to not disturb ecosystems that are unique to the Philippines," Legarda added.

As an online discussion to promote health, environmental consciousness, and climate-adaptive practices, "Stories for a Better Normal" aims to change the mindset of individuals, families, and communities by demonstrating ways in which a 'better normal' can be realized within our communities.

This online discussion is organized in partnership between the Office of Deputy Speaker Legarda and the Climate Change Commission, with support from the Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities, The Climate Reality Project-Philippines and Mother Earth Foundation. (PIA NCR)



Gov't to spend P73.2-billion loan for COVID-19 vaccine procurement

QUEZON CITY --The government will use P73.2 billion financing coming from different sources to fund the procurement of COVID-19 vaccine as the government targets to inoculate 60 million Filipinos.

During a meeting with President Rodrigo Roa Duterte on Monday, Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III said the government has three sources of funding that include multilateral agencies as well as domestic and bilateral sources.

The government estimates the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the World Bank (WB) could provide around P40 billion low-cost and long-term loans, Dominguez said.

Domestic sources of financing such as Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP), Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP), and government-controlled corporations can provide P20 billion, according to the Finance chief.

The Duterte government will also negotiate with bilateral sources to secure a P13.2 billion loan, Dominguez said, adding it depends on the source of vaccine, possibly

Britain or US.

"It's almost fixed. Most of it is already fixed, 13.2 billion hindi pa completely negotiated. So 73.2 billion pesos," he told President Duterte.

Based on their estimate, Dominguez said the average cost of the COVID-19 vaccine will be around \$25 per dose, per person.

It will be around P1,200 more or less with some vaccine prices are lower, and some are higher, Dominguez added.

"But let's say 25 dollars or 1,200, 72 --- 73.2 billion pesos is good for 60 million people to be vaccinated, around 60 million people. So that is more or less what we have in line."

To attain herd immunity, Health Secretary Francisco Duque III said the country has to immunize 60 to 70 percent of the population, citing guidelines from the World Health Organization (WHO).

"So if we're able to reach that, we're going to pretty much arrest the spread of this and mawawala 'yung COVID-19 sa atin pong lipunan." (PND)

Word Search Puzzle

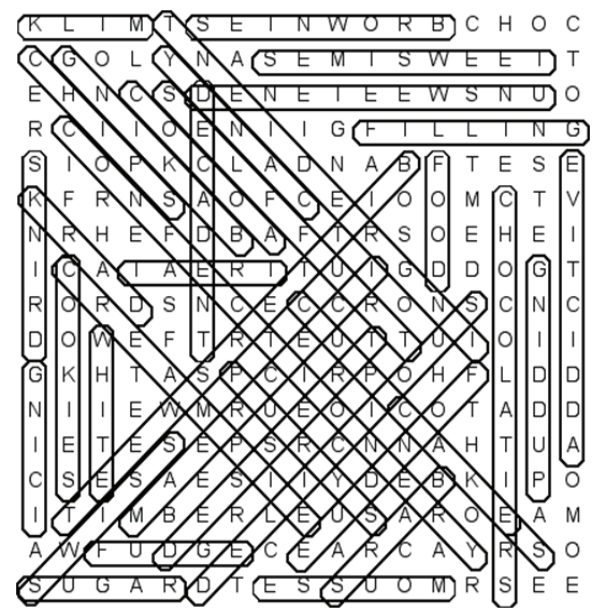
Songs From the Year 2003

Find and circle all of the songs from 2003 that are hidden in the grid. The remaining 22 letters spell an additional song title from 2003.

L U F I T U A E B U L C A D N I U F
 H P I C T U R E R Y O B Y B A B O I
 Y G N I T N O R F A S E Y Y A S Y G
 S N I N T O Y O U M I S S Y O U T H
 U O P U D N A T S H U N W E L L N T
 B R A T I R O N E S T O O S W E A E
 T T Y S U P E R M A N T O N N O W R
 E S K L O F P I S S O G H O M M I A
 G D U I L I G Y O N O S T G E E G N
 A A E M I S N A A N R S U S I U C N
 E E V W K O S T E W A E M N S R O W
 L H A I E M K T U E A E V A R I L O
 B A H T G E C C K I R T G O T I I L
 U N I H L D O I U I T U F I E C S T
 O G L Y U A L I Z T S I N I A M K E
 R E L O E Y C E E T S G O N R H O G
 T L A U L A N D S L I D E N A D T C

- ALL I HAVE
- ANGEL
- BABY BOY
- BEAUTIFUL
- CLOCKS
- COME OVER
- DRIFT AWAY
- FIGHTER
- FRONTIN'
- GET BUSY
- GET LOW
- GOSSIP FOLKS
- HEADSTRONG
- I CAN
- I WANT YOU
- I'M WITH YOU
- IGNITION
- IN DA CLUB
- INTO YOU
- INTUITION
- LANDSLIDE
- LIKE A STONE
- LIKE GLUE
- MESMERIZE
- MISS YOU
- PICTURE
- RAIN ON ME
- RIGHT THURR
- SAY YES
- SENIORITA
- SO GONE
- SOMEDAY
- STAND UP
- STUCK
- SUGA SUGA
- SUNRISE
- SUPERMAN
- TROUBLE
- UNWELL

Sagot sa nakaraan



Sudoku

8								
7		9	5			4	8	
	2		7				5	
				1	6			
2								9
			4	5				
	3				7		2	
	1	6			9	3		5
								6

7	5	9	4	2	1	8	6	3
6	2	8	3	5	7	9	4	1
1	3	4	6	8	9	2	7	5
2	9	1	5	7	4	3	8	6
8	6	5	9	1	3	4	2	7
4	7	3	8	6	2	1	5	9
9	1	2	7	4	5	6	3	8
5	4	6	1	3	8	7	9	2
3	8	7	2	9	6	5	1	4

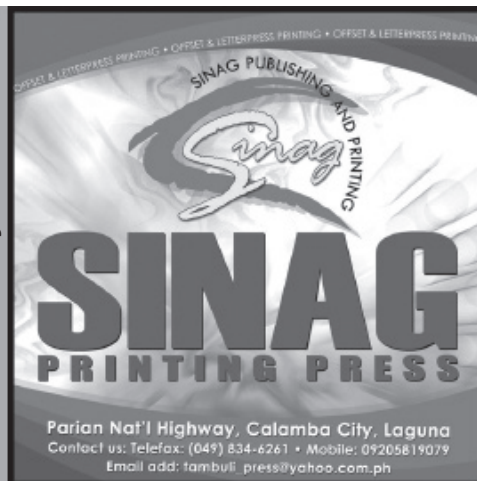
Sudoku hint

	34	35	47	48	49	50	36	51
	1			52	37			38
17		24		39	25	26		18
14	40	53	8			54	15	41
	42	55	27	6	28	56	29	
4	43	57			30	44	19	45
13		10	46	31		20		21
2			32	33			3	
12	9	5	22	23	7	11	16	

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 block contain all of the digits 1 thru 9. If you use logic you can solve the puzzle without guesswork. Need a little help? The hints page shows a logical order to solve the puzzle. Use it to identify the next square you should solve. Or use the answers pag if you really get stuck.

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Duterte's participation in APEC leaders' meeting would help PH secure COVID-19 vaccines

By Jerome Carlo R. Paunan

CALOOCAN CITY-- The recent participation of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte in the 27th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting "will strengthen the Philippines' relationship with other countries and help the country acquire the much-needed COVID-19 vaccines," an official said Friday.

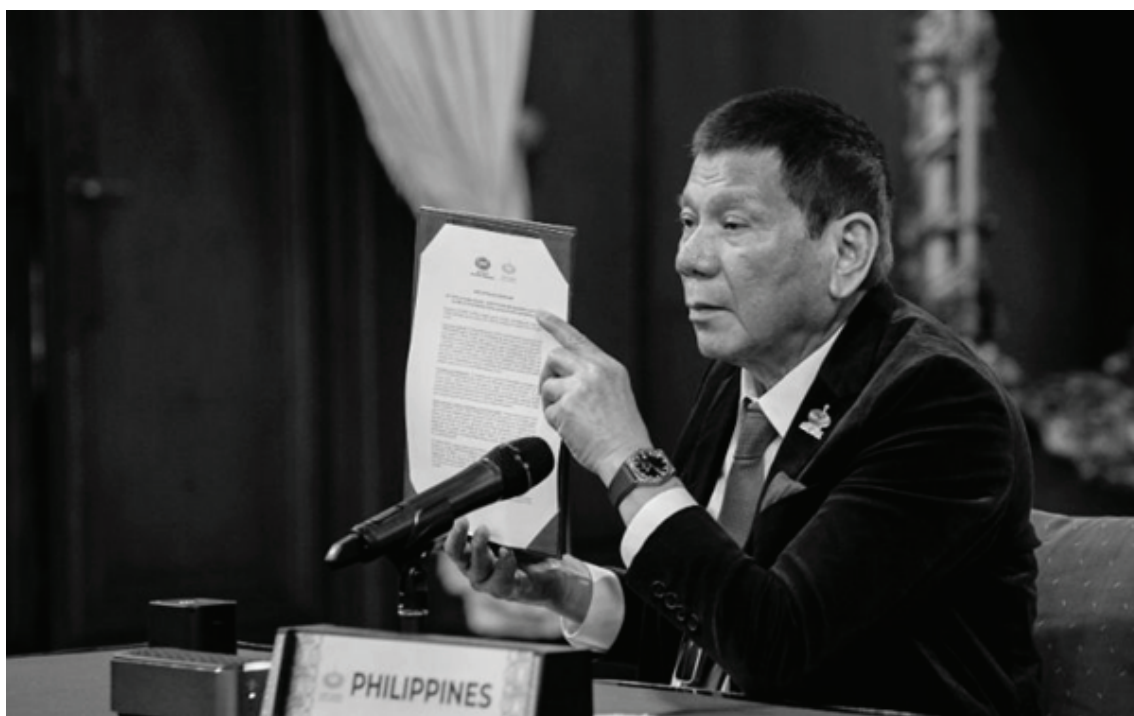
Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Assistant Secretary for Industry Development and Trade Policy Group Atty. Allan B. Gepty said the President's involvement in APEC would also boost the Philippines' support for a free and rules-based multilateral trading system. This, during "The Virtual Presser" (TVP) with host Presidential Communications

Operations Office (PCOO) Assistant Secretary JV Arcena.

"In 2019, the Philippines' exports to APEC economies amounted to US\$59.88 billion, which is 84.4 percent of the country's total exports. In the same year, the country's imports amounted to US\$93.88 billion, which is 84.1 percent of the total imports. In terms of investments, the Philippines received 90.7 percent of approved investments from the 21 member economies of APEC," Gepty said.

"On this note, the Philippines will continue to be active in all economic fora and will continuously work to provide opportunities for our people, and create and maintain a conducive economic environment in the country," he added.

continue to page 2



President Rodrigo Roa Duterte shows the APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040 document, an aspiration for the present and the future economic growth in next 20 years, as he commits to support it during the virtual 27th APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting at the Malacañang Palace on Nov. 20, 2020. (Presidential photo)

Senate approves landmark CREATE bill to spur biz growth, rationalize tax perks

By Lucia F. Bronio

CALOOCAN CITY -- The Senate on Thursday approved on third and final reading the landmark Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises (CREATE) Bill, which seeks to spur growth of the business sector and drive up investments, as well as rationalize and reform the tax incentives being offered by government.

With 20 affirmative votes, one negative vote and no abstention, the Senate passed Senate Bill No.1357, capping months of debates over the landmark tax measure.

According to Senator Pia Cayetano, sponsor of the said bill and chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, the version of the CREATE Bill ultimately approved by the Senate is drastically different from the version proposed by the Department of Finance (DOF) after senators proposed amendments to the bill.

"The Senate version of the CREATE bill provides a balance to achieve two goals - provide an environment to keep businesses thriving despite the pandemic by lowering the corporate income tax rate, and by rationalizing and modernizing the tax incentive system, making

it more fair, efficient, and accountable," Cayetano said.

A major change introduced by the bill, Cayetano said, is the lowering of the corporate income tax from 30 percent to 25 percent and eventually to 20 percent by 2027. However, for businesses with an annual income below P5 million, the corporate income tax is immediately reduced to only 20 percent.

Cayetano explained that the move is meant to assist medium, small and micro enterprises recover and help drive the nation's economy forward: "The MSMEs sector usually receive no fiscal incentives, so this reduction of the CIT to 25 percent will be of great help to them. Hopefully, this will enable more Filipinos--especially the youth--to set up MSMEs, whether it's a store, a garage repair shop, or a home-based business."

She also said, following inputs from Senate President Pro Tempore Ralph Recto, exporters and domestic industries are treated differently under CREATE due to the particular differences in their subject markets, as well as their needs and their ability to profit.

Under the bill, exporters may avail of special corporate income tax rate of 5 percent

continue to page 2

RCEP beneficial to PH quick economic recovery from COVID-19 - DTI

By Jimmyley E. Guzman

PASIG CITY -- The Philippines' historic participation in the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) will help in the quick recovery of the economy from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, officials agreed on Friday.

Both Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Assistant Secretary for Industry Development and Trade Policy Group Atty. Allan B. Gepty agreed that the RCEP will be

beneficial to the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), and various sectors such as manufacturing and agriculture.

"The signing of the RCEP Agreement is a welcome development because it is a strong demonstration of the region's commitment in ensuring a stable and predictable regional economic architecture amidst uncertainties and the growing trend in protectionism worldwide," said Gepty during "The Virtual Presser" (TVP) on Friday, November 27,

2020, with host Presidential Communications Operations Office Assistant Secretary JV Arcena.

"It is in effect an affirmation to a rules-based system for international trade. It is also viewed as a confidence building milestone in this time of pandemic, especially as we work towards recovery from the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic," he added.

According to Gepty, the RCEP is considered as the largest

continue to page 2



DTI Assistant Secretary Allan Gepty (Screenshot of PCOO Global Media and Public Affairs virtual presser)