

TOWN in FOCUS

N 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

Green-Gray Climate Solutions: An innovation that leverages nature to protect vulnerable communities from climate change
Impacts
p.5



VOLUME XXXVIII No. 14 Oktubre 11-17, 2021 P6.00

What's Inside?

- DOH Calabarzon distributes 2,500 maternity kits.... p 2
- Tanza inoculates 45% of target population with ample vaccine supply...p 3
- Kapisang kritika p 4

Noveleta medical facility improved with add'l rooms, ambulances



Photo courtesy of PIA Cavite

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite — Noveleta town Mayor Dino Reyes-Chua and Municipal Health Officer Dr. Maria Hilda Bucu lead the turnover of two new ambulances and the inauguration of the additional medical rooms of the Noveleta MedCare Hospital in Barangay San Jose 1 on September 28.

The two new L300 FB type ambulances are dedicated for the 'Doc to Doors' program of the Municipal Health Office while

six (6) new hospital rooms for an additional 12 bed capacity for the medical facility, equipped with air conditioner, LCD TV, comfort rooms, oxygen tanks, and nurses' station gave the medical hospital an upgrade.

Mayor Chua said that the new ambulances and the additional rooms will augment the present medical capacity of the hospital to help more indigents infected with COVID-19.

continue to page 3

COC filing for 2022 polls ends with several unopposed candidates in Cavite

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite — The last day of filing for Certificate of Candidacy (CoC) in the province saw several unopposed candidates for the congressional seats, provincial board members, and other city officials.

Based on the records of the Provincial Election Office headed by Provincial Election Supervisor Attorney Margaret Joyce Reyes-Cortez, three (3) congressional candidates: Imus City Councilor Adrian Jay Advincula running for Congressman of the lone District of Imus; re-electionist Congressman Crispin Jesus 'Boying' Remulla of the 7th District and; General Trias City Mayor Antonio Ferrer, Congressional candidate of the lone district of General Trias,

have no challengers.

Candidates for Board Members without challengers are re-electionist Bacoor Board Member Edwin Malvar; Bryan Revilla, eldest son of Senator Bong Revilla and Bacoor City Mayor Lani Revilla; re-electionist Board Member Kerby Salazar and; General Trias Vice Mayor Maurito Sison.

General Trias City Mayoral candidate and incumbent Congressman Luis Ferrer IV along with running mate for Vice Mayor Jonas Labuguen and candidate Council members are also unopposed.

Tagaytay City mayoral candidate Abraham 'Bambol' Tolentino, with re-electionist

continue to page 3

Carmona's 1st Tourism Summit awards local businesses

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite — The Municipal Government of Carmona through its Municipal Information, Tourism, Culture and Arts Office (MITCAO) held the 1st Tourism Summit on Monday, September 27, 2021 in celebration of World Tourism Day.

The summit themed "Tourism for Inclusive Growth" recognized two local business establishments among 432 participants from tourism enterprises, government agencies, universities and, other organizations.

The recipients of the 1st Outstanding Tourism Enterprise Award are Wing Crib Chicken Corner, and the Manila Jockey Club, Inc., which both shown concern for employees' welfare and the community during the pandemic.

Wing Crib Chicken Corner proprietor-owner Mr. Edward Joseph Silva said that it has been a very challenging year for him and his business established in 2020 during the height of the pandemic.

Silva said that formation of manpower schedule was the

first major challenge due to the quarantine restrictions that gave limit to the movement of the people.

Skeleton manpower had to be followed to keep the personnel and the clientele safe, and for operations to continue despite the erratic conditions brought by the protocols implemented.

The staff were given hazard pay to somehow incentivize their efforts. They also took part in the distribution of relief goods to 100 residents in the barangay as a way of giving back to the community.

Silva said, "Let's be strong, let's not give up... whether rich or poor, everyone is

continue to page 3

100 percent capacity sa ilang establisimiyento sa mga mall, pinayagan na sa Cavite

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite — Pinayagan ng pamahalaang panlalawigan ng Cavite na muling maging fully operational ang piling mga establisimiyento sa mga mall sa gitna ng umiiral na modified enhanced community quarantine sa buong lalawigan.

Sa kanyang Executive Order No. 52 series 2021, ipinagutos ni Gobernador Jonvic Remulla na payagan ang mga mall-based establishment tulad ng mga supermarket, grocery store, at ang mga botika, na maging fully oprational.

Maari na ring magbukas

ng hanggang 100 percent capacity nito ang mga bangko, pawnshop, logistics service providers, mga klinika, business process outsourcing (BPO), telecommunications companies, printing establishments na mayroong permit mula sa Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), at mga repair service.

Samantala, nananatiling limitado ang operasyon ng mga restaurant, non-leisure retail, mga salon, at mga kaparehong establisimiyento nito. — PB, PIA4A (may ulat mula sa PICAD Cavite)

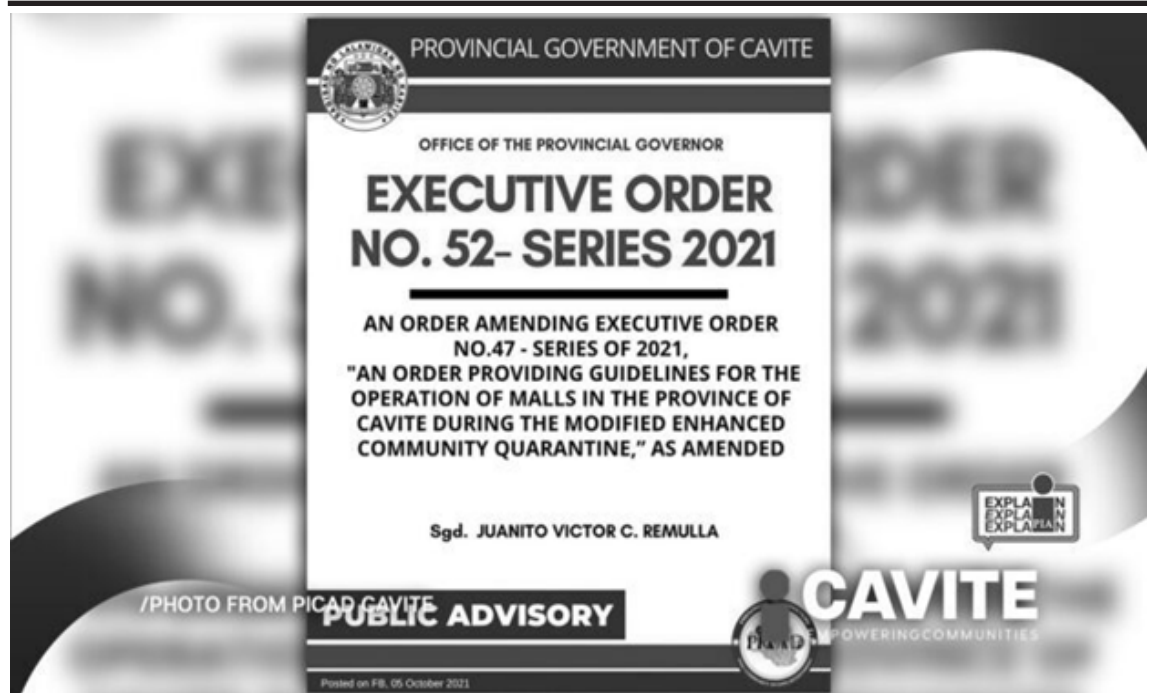




Photo from DOH Calabarzon

DOH Calabarzon distributes 2,500 maternity kits

QUEZON CITY — The Department of Health (DOH) – CALABARZON (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, Quezon) started delivering maternity kits or ‘mama kits’ to various provincial health offices in the region.

A total of 2,500 kits will be given with each province having an allotment of 500 kits.

“The kit contains the necessary supplies to help provide a clean and safe delivery whether in a hospital or clinic. This is to protect the mother and the baby from neonatal infections that may occur,” Regional Director Eduardo C. Janairo stated.

“Napakaimportante ang clean delivery – including clean hands, clean delivery surface, clean cord cutting and tying, proper cord care, and bathing – this is a key intervention for reducing infections in newborns,” he emphasized.

Each mama kit contains cotton cloth (baby wrapper), nail cutter, bar soap, face towel,

toothpaste and toothbrush, cotton balls, isopropyl alcohol, maternity pads, bathroom tissue, disposable umbilical cord clamp, sterile surgical gloves, sterile surgical blade for cord cutting, disposable underpants and pail with cover.

“They are still newborns and mothers who dies from infections soon after birth, that is why skilled attendant and adequate hygiene in our birthing facilities are necessary to address this.”

“Kasama na dito ang efficient and effective referral systems para magkaroon ng access sa emergency obstetric and newborn care. That is why we have been providing adequate trainings for health care workers and improving health services at the primary care level to safeguard their health and welfare.”

The maternity kits will be given to pregnant and expecting mothers in the communities through the barangay health units. — DOH4A

Bong....

country can continue on its path to recovery.

“Lahat naman tayo. Kung sino po ‘yung may trabaho pa, ‘yung mga elected diyan na hindi naman considered resigned, magtrabaho muna tayo. ‘Yung iba naman po kahit na resigned kayo, kung gusto niyo makatulong, magtrabaho muna tayo dahil baka wala tayong pulitikang pag-uusapan kung hindi natin malalampasan ito,” Go pointed out.

Go emphasized that the priority of the whole country should be in overcoming the pandemic first before engaging in the campaign, saying “pagkatapos ng filing, kalimutan muna natin ang pulitika, may panahon diyan sa Pebrero.”

“Eh kung tataas na naman po ang kaso sa susunod na taon, sino po ang maghihirap? ‘Yung mga kababayan natin. Magsasara na naman ang ekonomiya, marami pong mawawalan ng trabaho. Unahin muna natin ‘yung kapakanan ng ating mga kababayan,” he appealed.

“Ulitin ko sa mga kapwa ko kandidato, kung mahal niyo po ang inyong kapwa Pilipino, kung mahal po natin ang ating kapwa Pilipino, unahin muna natin ‘yung kapakanan nila,” he added. As Chair of the Senate Committee on Health, Go continues to encourage Filipinos to get vaccinated against COVID-19 as he commended the executive branch for successfully implementing the country’s vaccination program.

“Concern ko po ito – ang kalusugan po ng bawat Pilipino. Tingnan na na-encourage ba ‘yung mga Pilipino na magpabakuna, tingnan po ang ating Executive na talaga pong nai-implement nang maayos ‘yung pagbabakuna, walang masayang na bakuna, walang masayang ni isang piso

from page 8

po na pera ng gobyerno dito sa implementasyon ng ating COVID response,” said Go.

Go then wished good luck to everyone running for office in 2022, reaffirming his call for them to put the welfare of Filipinos first.

“Good luck po sa lahat ng mga kandidato, good luck. At ang message ko lang sa kanya ay sabi ko nga, unahin po natin ‘yung kapakanan ng ating kapwa Pilipino,” said Go.

“Sa mga kapwa ko kandidato, kapakanan ng Pilipino ang unahin natin lalung-lalo na ngayon naghihirap tayo. Malampasan muna natin itong krisis na ito. ‘Pag nalampasan natin sa susunod na taon, kumbati na tayo,” he added.

Asked what guidance or advice Duterte gave now that he is running for vice president, Go replied that while the President does not interfere with his work, he always reminds him that prioritizing their well-being and loving his fellow Filipinos will never fail him.

“Halos araw-araw naman po siyang... Sa pag-uusap po namin ay kinukunsidera ko na pong payo, ‘yung mga natutunan ko sa kanya sa pagtatrabaho. Isa lang naman po ang paalala niya. Alam mo hindi nakikialam si Pangulo paano mo dalahin ang opisina, paano mo patakuhin ‘yung opisina, paano ka magtrabaho,” said Go.

“Isa lang po ang pinapaalala nya sa akin – unahin mo lang ang interes ng Pilipino, unahin mo lang ang kapakanan ng Pilipino, at mahal in mo ang kapwa mo Pilipino, hindang-hindi ka magkakamali. ‘Yun lang,” he ended.

Meanwhile, Go said that he can work with any President that will be elected by the Filipino people. He shared that his party Partido Demokratiko Pilipino-

Lakas ng Bayan will support a Presidential candidate who can pursue the continuity that the people want.

“Ang aming pinuno, Chairman namin, si Pangulong Duterte, at siguro naman po’y pinoproseso pa ng partido ang lahat,” said Go.

“Ako naman po, makakatrabaho naman po ako kahit kanino, kahit sino pa ‘yan,” he added.

The Senator emphasized that it is important for the presidential candidate the party may support to be willing to continue the progress and positive change that the Duterte Administration has initiated.

“Importante po sa akin kung sino po ‘yung pinakamalapit, pinakamalapit sa continuity,” he said.

“Ibig kong sabihin ‘yung mga magagandang programa po ni Pangulong Duterte na nagawa para sa ating mga kababayan ay ipagpatuloy po – ‘yung kampanya laban sa iligal na droga, kampanya laban sa kriminalidad, kampanya laban sa korapsyon sa gobyerno, mga Build Build Build projects, ito pong mga libreng edukasyon, libreng pagpapagamot. ‘Yung mga magagandang programa, ipagpatuloy po natin,” he added. If elected, Go assured Filipinos that he will continue to be of service to them through his hard work and compassion, using the lessons he gained working as aide of President Rodrigo Duterte and as a senator.

“Kung sino po ang papalarin, tutulong po ako, kung ano po ‘yung nalaman ko kay Pangulong Duterte – experience ko sa trabaho, sa Executive, as legislator po,” Go said.

“Ito lang po ang puwede ko pong ipagmalaki. ‘Yung sipag ko lang po at pagmamalasakit at pagmamahal at pagseserbisyo sa kapwa Pilipino. ‘Yun lang po ang puwede kong maitulong po kung sinuman ‘yung papalarin,” he added. (OSBG)

from page 8

face classes, Briones said that it will start with key stage 1 learners because of lesser risk of transmission, lesser burden of disease, higher need for face-to-face learning, and higher chance of success in pilot implementation. There are 59 schools nationwide that have been initially endorsed by the DOH for the pilot implementation, said

Briones. The DepEd will assess weekly if there is risk reduction in other areas to be able to increase the number of schools to complete the 120 schools for the pilot.

On the Philippines’ ranking in the Nikkei Asia’s latest COVID-19 Recovery Index, DOH Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said that the survey used snapshots or a period of time in basing their comparison

Pediatric....

emphasized that the pilot face-to-face classes implementation will be a shared responsibility among the DepEd, the Department of Health (DOH), the local government units and the community, and the parents of the learners.

For the pilot face-to-

Vaccine.....

from page 8

local governments with more COVID-19 jabs.

For instance, almost a million doses of vaccines donated by the US through the COVAX facility arrived in Davao and Cebu, fast tracking the vaccination rollout in those areas, he said.

“Nakausap ko kanina po si Secretary Dino at nagpapasalamat po siya, Mr. President, na nadinig po ‘yung kanilang hiling na magkaroon po sila ng magandang bakunahan dahil kasi ngayon po mag-oopen na po sila talaga ng ano ng kanilang business doon sa Cebu,” Galvez said.

“Ganoon din po sa ano sa Davao, tuwang-tuwa rin po dahil kasi ‘yung parte ng Cotabato City at saka GenSan ‘yung Region XII at saka ‘yung Region XI, iyong ano ‘yung Cagayan de Oro and also ‘yung part ng ano ng Davao de Oro, Davao Occidental, Davao Oriental ay mabibigyan din po natin ng mga bakuna.”

The NTF COVID-19 chief implementer also said the Certificate of Analysis for the 7 million doses of Sinovac Biotech’s CoronaVac vaccine has arrived in the country, and will be simultaneously deployed together with the 2 million doses that arrived last weekend.

The government is still waiting for an additional 930,000 doses of CoronaVac and 800,000 of Pfizer vaccine under government procurement.

of countries.

Usec. Vergeire said that in interpreting such data, it should be considered that the rise in cases due to the Delta variant did not happen in one specific time period, and the survey use the time period when the Philippines is in the peak of cases due to Delta, while the other countries in the survey were already past their peak in cases.

Usec. Vergeire emphasized that vaccination has been intensified, case numbers have been declining, and that

The arrival of more vaccines has breathed life into the government mass immunization drive as evidenced by increased vaccination rate, the vaccine czar said.

He reported that as of Wednesday, the government observed another record rate of 628,099 administered jabs.

“So dati po, nakaka-394 lang tayo; ngayon, tumaas po tayo ng 628,099. At nagpapasalamat po tayo kay Sec. Vince at saka po sa ating NVOC kay Usec. Myrna at saka po sa ating mga LGU dahil nakapag — tumalon po tayo nang malakas,” he told the President.

So far, the government has administered a total of 47.7 million vaccine doses, with 25.3 million individuals receiving the first dose and 22.4 million having the full dose.

“So kung makikita po natin, Sir Mayor, malapit na po tayong mag-30 percent doon sa 70 percent ng population na targeted po natin, at 20 percent na po tayo doon sa total population po natin,” Galvez noted.

Donations from the World Health Organization-led COVAX facility have also increased from 19 million doses to more than 21 million doses, he said, adding vaccines bought by the government are also upped by more or less 800,000 doses.

This week, another 3 million doses from Moderna will arrive in the country in addition to 2 million doses of CoronaVac. (PND)

the country has been managing deaths due to COVID-19 well, which she said is still below the global average.

On another matter, Sec. Roque was in Valenzuela earlier in the day together with Senator Christopher Lawrence “Bong” Go, National Task Force (NTF) Chief Implementer Secretary Carlito Galvez Jr., Valenzuela Mayor Rex Gatchalian, and other officials to witness the opening of the Wellness Entertainment Sports Arena Mega Vaccination Hub in Valenzuela City. (OPS)

Tanza inoculates 45% of target population with ample vaccine supply

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite — The Rural Health Unit of Tanza continues its vaccination rollout for eligible A1 – A5 priority groups, as it records about 45% inoculated of its target population of 185,000.

According to Municipal Health Officer Dr. Ruth Punzalan, the vaccination program of the LGU has administered about 85K CoViD-19 doses since its initial rollout.

A total of 32,846 or 17% are fully vaccinated while about 52,194 or 28% of the target population received their first dose of the vaccine.

The municipality was included in the list of special areas of concern by the Department of Health due to the great number of recorded CoViD-19 cases which ensures the regular provision of CoViD-19 vaccines.

Dr. Punzalan said that their vaccination team averages between 1,600 to 2,000 doses administered a day, and targets to increase this to 3,000 daily

with hopes to reach the target 70% of the population by the end of November or December if the arrival of vaccine supply continues.

She also shared that the LGU had hired vaccinators while others qualified volunteer for the task.

Dr. Punzalan calls on the residents of Tanza to pre-register for the vaccination to get the protection against CoViD-19.

“Though this does not eliminate the chance of infection but the vaccine gives a lesser chance of severity of the disease brought by the coronavirus, without the need for hospital admission due to complications,” said Dr. Punzalan.

The RHU is also preparing for the inoculation of children aged 12 – 17 years which is soon to happen but the vaccination will prioritize children with comorbidities, according to Dr. Punzalan. — Ruel Francisco, PIA Cavite (with reports from RHU Tanza)



(Photo courtesy of PIA Cavite)

DBM Launches Action Document Releasing System

MANILA — The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) officially launched the pilot implementation of the Action Document Releasing System (ADRS) on October 1, 2021, consistent with the provisions of DBM Circular Letter (CL) No. 2021-8 dated August 18, 2021 entitled “Online Release of Advice of Notice of Cash Allocation Issued (ANCAI)”.

The ADRS is a web-based application which facilitates the release of approved DBM action documents in digital format directly to the authorized users of recipient agencies.

The fourteen (14) pilot Departments/Agencies who have completed their online training on the use of ADRS can now download their Special Allotment Release Orders (SAROs) and ANCAIs, and the corresponding schedules and attachments, through the system. The pilot Departments/Agencies for the ADRS are as follows:

- DBM;

- Commission on Audit;
- Department of Environment and Natural Resources;
- Department of Education;
- Department of Finance;
- Department of Health;
- Department of Information and Communications Technology;
- Department of the Interior and Local Government;
- Department of National Defense;
- Department of Public Works and Highways;
- Department of Science and Technology;
- Department of Social Welfare and Development;
- National Commission for Culture and the Arts; and
- Presidential Communications Operations Office

The transition to digital release of DBM action documents through the ADRS is expected to eliminate the unnecessary steps of printing, physical signing and forwarding of documents within the Department, and releasing of printed action documents to

authorized Department/Agency liaison officers.

Moreover, this digital initiative is being undertaken by the DBM to ensure the safety of its employees and external clients, given the health risks brought by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The DBM aims to fully implement the adoption of ADRS by 1st Quarter of FY 2022, in line with the President’s Directive during his FY 2020 State of the Nation Address to streamline government processes and undertake transactions online for ease of doing business.

Amidst the pandemic, the DBM remains committed to its mandate to promote the sound, efficient and effective management and utilization of government resources (i.e., technological, manpower, physical and financial) as instruments in the achievement of national socioeconomic and political development goals. (DBM)

DOH

Mayor Chua said during the event that there are plans to open a Dialysis center on the third floor of the building to expand the medical services of the facility. He also thanked the management of PNB and Asia Brewery for providing 600 doses of AstraZeneca vaccines which will be used for the LGU’s vaccination program.

Mayor Chua announced that registration for the

from page 1

inoculation of children aged 12 to 17 years in the locality is now open in preparation for the go-signal for their vaccination.

Currently, the vaccination efforts of the LGU has fully vaccinated 48% of the 70% target population belonging to the A1, A1.8, A1.9, A2, A3, A4, and A5 while 72% have received the 1st dose of the COViD-19 vaccine. —Ruel Francisco, PIA Cavite (with reports from Bagong Noveleta/Dennis Abrina)

Carmona.....

from page 1

affected by this pandemic. If we try to engage in business, let’s take a risk, let’s not think about what others say. And above all, let us trust in the Lord.”

The Manila Jockey Club, Inc. (MJCI) is the most beautiful race track in Asia which was founded in 1867, and started as a social club in Manila.

San Lazaro Leisure Park Head, Dr. Ron Laymera says the racetrack has since moved from one place to another, until it settled on its current location in April 2003.

Through the years the property diversified. Aside from the racetrack, a subdivision was developed along with a football field among others, shared MJCI Food & Beverage head Cecille Villanueva.

Villanueva said that they came up with sharing with about 150 families from

the staff and employees of the company greatly affected with the temporary closing of business due to lockdowns and quarantine restrictions.

Horse owners and other business partners donated to help the families and they regularly gave rice, groceries and other relief packs during the pandemic.

The company also has a Health & Safety Committee which helps minimize the CoViD cases among the employees and their families.

“Tourism is a connective network, once tourists and visitors come in, businesses will thrive. Lahat po ay magtulongan upang makaakit ng mga bisita dito sa Carmona upang yumabong ang mga negosyo at turismo na mayroon dito sa atin,” said Laymera. — Ruel Francisco, PIA Cavite (with reports from the Municipality of Carmona)

COC...

from page 1

running mate Vice Mayor Raymund Ambion and ten councilors are also uncontested, as well as re-electionist Tanza Mayor Yuri Pacumio and running-mate ABC Simon Matro.

“Candidates who filed their

respective CoCs here in Cavite province have until November 8, 2021 to correct the errors on their CoCs, while the switching of candidates is until November 15, 2021,” said PES Reyes-Cortez. (Ruel Francisco/Dennis Abrina)

More TESDA training centers to rise nationwide

TAGUIG CITY — More training centers are set to be built nationwide as the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) forged partnerships with local stakeholders in the provinces.

TESDA Secretary Isidro Lapeña personally led the groundbreaking ceremony of the Provincial Training Center (PTC) – Kidapawan in Cotabato province and PTC-Roxas in Palawan last September 30 and October 8 respectively.

Lapeña signed a Deed of Usufruct with Cotabato Governor Nancy Catamco that allots 5,000 square meters of land for the said PTC which is located at Capitol Compound in Barangay Amas. This is the second PTC in the Cotabato province.

It can be recalled that last December 2020, Lapeña led the groundbreaking ceremony of TESDA PTC in the Municipality of Pigawayan and fulfilled the directive of President Rodrigo Duterte to establish a training center there.

Lapeña expressed

his gratitude to the provincial government and assured that enough budget will be allocated to the PTC which is being established under a training-cum-production scheme.

“This agreement also affirms the strong commitment of the Provincial Government of Cotabato and TESDA to expand quality TVET programs and projects in the province,” Lapeña said during his speech.

Catamco likewise thanked TESDA for its support that despite the current pandemic, it continues to provide interventions to indigenous people (IPs) and former rebels.

Also present during the ceremony were TESDA Deputy Director General Lina Sarmiento, TESDA XII Regional Director Rafael Abrogar II, TESDA North Cotabato Provincial Director Norayah Acas, and 3rd District Representative Jose Tejada.

Meanwhile, Palawan is also set to have its own PTC after Lapeña led the groundbreaking ceremony of the said PTC on October 8. The PTC is located at Barangay Magara in the Municipality of Roxas.

Local leaders led by Gov. Jose Chavez Alvarez, Roxas Mayor Dennis Sabando, and Board Member Ma. Angela Sabando joined Lapeña during the event.

The TESDA Chief said that the training center will bring the agency’s development programs to more Filipinos, particularly, the former rebels and those belonging to the indigenous communities and the marginalized sector.

“Rest assured that TESDA and PRLEC will continuously serve our kababayans through livelihood and training programs to help them improve their lives,” Lapeña said.

TESDA chairs the Poverty Reduction, Livelihood and Employment Cluster (PRLEC), of the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC) that aims to develop self-reliant, productive, resilient and sustainable communities through harmonized and culturally responsive development programs. (TESDA)

Ang
CAVITENO

LINGGUHANG PAHAYAGAN NG LALAWIGAN NG CAVITE NA INILALATHALA TUWING LUNES / PRINTING PLANT: SINAG PUBLISHING & PRINTING SERVICES, NATIONAL HIGHWAY, BRGY. PARIAN, CALAMBA CITY, LAGUNA. TEL NOS. (049) 834-6261 & (049) 5763112 / OFFICE ADDRESS: BLK. 25, LOT 4 PH-1 GREENSBOROUGH SUBD., SABANG, DASMARIÑAS, CAVITE/ SUBSCRIPTION FEE: ONE YEAR P360.00 SIX MONTHS: P180.00 / COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING RATE: P200 PER COLUMN CM AND LEGAL NOTICES P160 PER COLUMN CM / MEMBER: PUBLISHER'S ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES, INC. (PAPI) / RAIA JENNIFER E. DELA PEÑA MANAGING EDITOR / P.L. VILLA, RC ASA CONTRIBUTING EDITORS / JACQUILOU LIRIO, NATALIE FLORENCE DELA PEÑA, STAFF WRITERS / RUEL LANDICHO LAYOUT ARTIST/. EMAIL ADD: tambuli_press@yahoo.com & sinagprinting@gmail.com

ISSN: 0115-9038

papi

EDITORIAL

Battle royale

BECAUSE he (Bongbong Marcos) has no running mate as yet, again the tongues are wagging over whether this would be Senator Bong Go

So, we have come to the point that had been speculated on for so long, it started to sound impossible. Even that attempt at levity (or was it?) with the reports pitting a “Marcos” and an “Aquino” seemed anticlimactic on the third day of the filing of Certificates of Candidacy (CoC).

But on Wednesday, the sixth of October, former Senator Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos Jr., son and namesake of the country’s ousted leader, filed his CoC.

A Marcos — not Tiburcio, the independent who filed his CoC for the presidency on the same day Luz “Lala Ganda” Aquino filed hers for senator — had begun the journey to their family’s full circle.

If fortune shines on Bongbong and his Partido Federal ng Pilipinas, then this “circle” will indeed become complete for them, though perhaps not for many other Filipinos.

Because he has no running mate as yet, again the tongues are wagging over whether this would be Senator Bong Go, which sparked the Filipino humor and love for puns and making fun.

Then again it could be Davao Mayor Sara Duterte-Carpio, for all we know — she, who filed her CoC to run for reelection in her hometown and pleaded with her friends and supporters to understand her decision to give her this chance to run the city for a third and final time before seeking other positions in the future.

It took Bongbong quite a while to get to this point, too. Hounded by the past, he has had to wait for the right time to make his mark in the world of politics — and then to make these accomplishments matter to the populace.

Through issues of historical revisionism and that ever-present doubt among Martial Law critics, victims and opposers, the former solon has stood his ground.

His struggle has not only been to face the “crowd” for his late father, but to be recognized for his pursuits. Be that as it may, blood, they say, is thicker than water — and a Marcos is a Marcos, many would add.

This may be why Bongbong, on the day he filed his CoC, refused to answer questions about his mother Imelda Marcos, and other cases attached to his family’s wealth.

A very telling statement — “If you have something new to ask me, mahirap [it’s hard] if we will be having the same conversations I’ve been having for 35 years,” he is quoted in a CNN report — reveals the kind of challenge he has had to face through all these decades.

One may assume he needed to constantly answer those sensitive questions through his stints as congressman, governor and vice governor of Ilocos Norte.

He went through the same when he ran against his main contender in the 2016 elections, Vice President Leni Robredo, fighting through an election protest that the Supreme Court eventually ruled in favor of Robredo.

And on this coming elections, Bongbong once again faces off with Leni Robredo, who has announced her intention to run for the presidency. By today, the nation would have the complete list of candidates we would study and choose from come May next year.

There are, of course, Senate veterans Panfilo “Ping” Lacson and Vicente “Tito” Sotto III who are running under different political parties because, Sotto said, “We’ve always said we don’t want to identify ourselves on a side of a fence. We’d rather be on the side of the Filipino people.”

Then there is Senator Manny Pacquiao who, in the run-up to the filing of CoC, may have jumped fences to pursue his ambitions.

We have Manila Mayor Isko Moreno, who many believe can give a Duterte administration bet strong competition.

It’s funny how Filipinos have zeroed in on the “next-gen” aspect of the 2022 derby. It’s a battle among “mga anak (children)” — of Marcos (Bongbong), Aling Dionisia (Pacquiao) and even Kuya Germs (Isko). They are but few of the wannabe Presidents of this land. The handful of names we all recognize, however, is definitely going for a battle royale.



KAPIRASONG

Kritika

Ni Teo S. Marasigan

Thank You for the Pop Music

PART 1

MATAGAL na akong walang entri tungkol sa kulturang popular. Isa na naman ba itong palatandaan ng pagtanda? Bihira na akong manood ng telebisyon, maliban sa balita, at radyo na lang ang napagdidiskitahan ko. Kaya noong nakita ko ang isang survey na sinagutan ni Prop. Sarah Raymundo — na pinagkakaitan pa rin ng tenure ngayon! — naisip kong sagutin. Maganda ang mga tanong, masarap pag-isipan.

Kapag sinasabing mahilig ang mga Pinoy sa musika, kahit tulot ako sa mga esensyalismo at istiryutipo, madali kong maintindihan. Lumaki ako sa angkang mahilig sa musika, musikang pop sa partikular.

Naabutan ko pang gumagana ang turtable ng mga tito ko, at ayos pa ang katakut-takot na plakang binili nila. Sentral na gamit sa bahay ang radyo, na lagi naming pinag-aawayan noon ng mga kapatid ko. Noong bata ako, pag-uwi ko galing eskwela, lagi kong maabutan ang tatay kong nanonood ng palabas sa tanghali na nagpapakita lang ng mga music video. At napakahalagang bahagi ng paglaki ko ang panonood ng MTV, simula noong makuha namin ito sa telebisyon noong 1992.

Sa angkang namin, kailangan alam mo kung ano ang lyrics ng kanta at, madalas, pati kung sino ang kumanta. Noong una kong napanood ang video ng “We are the World” tuwang-tuwa ang tatay ko sa pagpapangalan sa mga kumanta. Tinatandaan ng mga kamag-anak ang maling lyrics, at paulit-ulit na pinagtatawanan — kahit pa bata ang kumanta: “Siguyas, kanatis” ang ambag ko, mula sa “Bahay Kubo” habang “mamang surgitiro” ang isa pang paborito, na ambag ng pinsan ko.

Ang bawat tito at ang nag-iisang tita ko, makikilala mo batay sa paborito nila. Ang tita kong naging singer sa Japan, Kuh Ledesma. Ang tito kong OFW sa Saudi Arabia, sina Nonoy Zuniga at Rey Valera — na parehong may kantang “Kumusta Ka?” Ang tito kong aktibo noon sa choir at lumipad sa US, Basil Valdez at James Ingram. At ang tatay

ko, sari-sari, pero Beatlemania siya at paborito niya si Lionel Richie. Todo-emasyon siya lagi sa pagkanta: “Hello. Is it me you’re looking for?”

Ang tatay ko, napakahilig kumanta. Kahit ano ang gawin niya sa bahay, laging bukas ang radyo — na sa isang punto ay pinakabitang niya ng speaker sa bawat kanto ng sala namin. Kapag intro pa lang, gawain na niyang kantahin ang unang linya. Minsan, kapag bago ang kanta, haharap pa iyan sa akin pagkatapos, magyayabang: “Bakit alam ko ang kantang iyan, ha? Bakit?” Pero hindi na masyado ngayon, at hindi ko pa naman narinig na kinanta niya ang “Closer” ni Ne-yo, halimbawa.

Pakiramdam ko lang, may mga taong gumagamit sa musika sa isang porma ng elitismo. Para bang sinasabihan kang “Puro musikang pop ang alam mo, hindi mo alam ito.” Ngayon, naiisip ko, siguro may mga ganyan, pero talaga rin namang napapayagan na ng teknolohiya ang mga tao na magkaroon at magpaunlad ng partikular kung hindi man eksentrikong panlasa sa musika. Pero syempre, hindi elitismo ang bagsak kapag nagyabang ang isang kabataan mula sa komunidad ng maralitang lungsod na Pinoy hardcore rap ang gusto niya. Magandang paglalarawan ang mga istasyon sa radyo ngayon. Sa gitna ng dagat ng mga “Kailangan pa ba’ng i-memorize ‘yan?” mayroong mga istasyong partikular na musika lang ang tinutugtog — Crossover, rock, o R&B lang. May mga i-pod at kung anu-ano pa ang iba.

Sabihin pa, hindi ako naniniwalang ang relasyon ng musikang pop sa progresibong pulitika ay simpleng antagonismo. Tiwala akong nagkakaroon ng talab sa musikang pop ang ligalig ng lipunan. Pero pakiramdam ko, sa paglakas ng progresibong kilusan, at sa mga panahong malakas ito, nahahawi sa sekundarya ang musikang pop kumpara sa musikang mas kumakatawan sa pulso ng panahon — hindi bilang resulta ng ganitong kagustuhan, kundi ng paglanap at pagpatok ng ibang klase ng musika.

Heto na ang survey:

Sinong artista ang gusto mong maging singer?

Alessandra de Rossi. Parang may pang-singer siyang dating, pero hindi boses. Hehe.

Sinong singer ang gusto mo nang bawalang kumanta?

Toni Gonzaga. Hanggang hindi niya nailuluwa ang bola ng Rexona na nasa lalamunan niya.

Kung magiging singer na negro o negra ka, sino ka?

Maurice White, lead singer ng Earth, Wind and Fire. O James Ingram, syempre. Ang tindi! Eh kung puti?

Ang hirap naman. Michael Jackson? Hehe. Hindi ko gusto ang mga kanta, pero magaling ang boses: Michael Bolton. Eddie Vedder ng Pearl Jam.

Katang gusto mong kantahin sa Grammy’s?

Naks, parang malapit na at may choice ako. Hehe. Overjoyed ni Stevie Wonder. One Hundred Ways ni James Ingram. O Spend the Night ng Earth, Wind and Fire.

Paboritong mainstream na socially-relevant song?

What’s Going On ni Marvin Gaye, kahit parang bukas pa sa rekonsilyasyon ng mga uri. Hehe. In the Name of Love ng U2, para kay Martin Luther King, Jr — na naging radikal pala sa dulong bahagi ng buhay niya.

Sinong singer ang gusto mong maka-duet?

Si Alicia Keys. Tingin ko, karapat-dapat siya. Hehe. Tsaka progresibo raw.

Aling kanta ang tunay na naiintindihan lang ng mga tunay na nagmahal?

Ayan na, pinaka-cheezy na. Without You ni Charlie Wilson. The Day You Went Away ni Wendy Matthews (hindi ng M2M!). What Might Have Been ni Lou Pardini. Just Take my Heart ng Mr. Big. Sa OPM, kahit isinagot na ng iba diyen, totoo iyun: Sa Kanya ni Ogie Alcasid.

Itutuloy

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

Green-Gray Climate Solutions: An innovation that leverages nature to protect vulnerable communities from climate change Impacts

QUEZON CITY — The Philippines is the third most at-risk nation to the effects of climate change, according to the United Nations. This extreme vulnerability was demonstrated by the scale of the devastation caused by Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan) in 2013, when more than 6,000 lives and 900,000 homes were lost. Extreme calamities continue to devastate various parts of the country in the past years. Toward the end of 2020 alone, three typhoons battered the Philippines coastline over the course of three weeks, killing over 100 people and causing USD \$518.8 million in damage.

As a nation of lands and seas, there are 50% [or

more] of the 1,500 cities and municipalities in the Philippines that are situated in the coast. According to Enrique Nuñez, Executive Country Director of Conservation International Philippines and one of the proponents of Green-Gray Climate Solutions, “62% of our country’s population live in coastal zones and there is a critical need to find preemptive, innovative, and sustainable solutions to protect these communities against natural disasters.”

As an innovation that aims to help local communities adapt to climate change, the Green-Gray Climate Solutions was conceptualized by

Conservation International and key partners from various sectors in the Philippines. It combines conservation and restoration of “green” critical ecosystems like mangroves and corals with selective use of traditional “gray” engineering approaches to provide climate change resilience and adaptation. The gray infrastructure provides storm protection to communities while mangroves grow, and when mangroves are restored, they will eventually support local food security and livelihood, in addition to climate change mitigation.

The program also encouraged sustainable fisheries and introduced

other livelihood options — so there is less pressure on fish stocks. This is helpful in building community resilience against climate impacts while restoring coral and marine biodiversity. Disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness trainings and systems were also implemented to enable the community to better respond toward future natural calamities.

In partnership with the Department of Environment and Natural Resource-Biodiversity Management Bureau and the Concepcion Municipal Government, the Green-Gray Infrastructure pilot project was implemented in four (4) sites in Iloilo Province: Bagongon, Tambaliza, Loong, and Bacjawan. These communities were affected by Typhoon Yolanda in 2013 and are currently working to enhance the green-gray infrastructures in the area.

Through the pilot project, the communities were able to restore and protect 50 hectares of mangrove areas. 3 marine protected areas were also established and protected. Gray infrastructures like breakwaters, sediment traps and wave attenuation fences were also built. Covered by a conservation agreement, the project also included incentives for the community which included sustainable livelihood programs.

“If we have our way, we would like to extend our partnership for a lifetime. We learned a lot about climate change adaptation, conservation, restoration and sustainable green-gray solutions from this partnership and collaboration; and we commit to sustain our gains by providing sustainability plans and fun,” shares Mayor Raul Baniyas of Concepcion in a Facebook post. (MCG/PIA-IDPD/Green-Gray Climate Solutions)

CAVITEVIEW

FDCP’s Film Philippines Announces New Grantees of Production Incentives

MANILA, PHILIPPINES— The Film Philippines Office (FPO) of the Film Development Council of the Philippines (FDCP) has selected seven projects as grantees of 2021’s Cycle 2 of the Film Philippines Incentives Program.

A total of PHP 26 million will be awarded to International Co-production Fund (ICOF) and ASEAN Co-production Fund (ACOF) recipients. At the same time, Film Location Incentive Program (FLIP) grantees will receive a 20% cash rebate capped at PHP 10 million on their eligible expenses in the Philippines.

The ICOF grantees “Dancing the Tides” by Xeph Suarez produced by Daluyong Studios and Volos Films (Taiwan) was awarded PHP 8 million, “Hold My Gaze” by Carlo Enciso Catu produced by Epicmedia Productions, Inc. and Harakiri Films LLC (Japan) will receive PHP 4 million, while “Kodokushi” by Janus Victoria produced by Project 8 Projects, IS-Field (Japan) and Paperheart Limited (Malaysia) will

receive PHP 6 million.

“Cu Li Never Cries” by Pham Ngoc Lan was granted PHP 3 million, and “Ella Arcangel: Awit ng Pangil at Kuko” by Mervin Malonzo received PHP 5 million from the ACOF, a selective fund that can provide a minimum of USD 50,000 up to USD 150,000 (approximately PHP 7.2 million) to a full feature that involves at least one company from an Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) country minority or majority co-producing with the Philippines. The director of an ACOF awardee should be of ASEAN nationality.

“Cu Li Never Cries” is a dark comedy produced by Epicmedia Productions, Inc., An Nam Productions (Vietnam), Purple Tree Pictures (Singapore), Acrobates Films (France), and Ape & Bjorn (Norway). The Filipino animated film “Ella Arcangel: Awit ng Pangil at Kuko” is produced by Ludritz Ventures, Inc. (Twenty Manila) and Cum Creative PTE Ltd. (Singapore).

Lastly, the FLIP

grantees, reality TV series “Survivor” under Philippine Film Studios, Inc. and Survivor Central Productions, and “Taffy Season 2” by Pierre Sissmann animation services catered by Morph Animation, Inc. and produced by Cyber Group Studios (France) were approved to receive a 20% cash rebate capped at PHP 10 million on their eligible expenses in the Philippines. The cash rebate will be given to the Filipino line producers involved in the approved

foreign productions.

“We are pleased to see the growing number of applications every cycle. This manifests the growing support and trust of international and local production companies put in the FDCP’s Film Philippines Incentives Program. The new generation of Filipino filmmakers aspires to create films in a more collaborative approach with a very specific vision and distinct voice. We are excited to work together with this refreshing batch of filmmakers,” said FDCP Chairperson and CEO Liza Diño.

The Cycle 2 grantees for ICOF, ACOF, and FLIP are all automatically entitled to avail of the Film Location Engagement Desk (FLEX), a special incentive program that assists local and foreign audiovisual productions in all necessary government transactions and connects

international productions to Filipino producers and production companies under the FDCP’s National Registry. ICOF grantees will receive a maximum of PHP 10 million selective fund for full-feature-length films with at least PHP 5 million of production expenses in the Philippines.

Cycle 3 of 2021 of the Film Philippines Incentives Program will open soon. All the incentive applicants need to be Filipino companies registered with the FDCP National Registry.

For more upcoming information and updates, follow the official Facebook page at www.facebook.com/filmphilippinesnow. For inquiries and consultation requests on applying for the FLIP, ICOF, and ACOF, visit www.filmphilippines.com or contact Ms. Mil Alcain at filmphilippines@fdcp.ph. (FDCP)



photo courtesy of PIA NCR

Why are oil prices rising, and what we can we do about it?

Overpriced gasoline and diesel, for instance, gave oil firms an estimated P38.47 billion (US\$757.13 million) in additional income, of which P4.62 billion (\$90.93 million) went to the government as value-added tax (VAT).

By ARNOLD PADILLA

MANILA – Since the start of the year, local pump prices have increased significantly. The government, as always, explains this as the operation of global market forces. Remember that the government deregulated the oil industry, and the country imports almost all its petroleum needs. As such, local price adjustments merely reflect the movement of international oil prices and fluctuations in the peso-dollar exchange rates. At least, that is what government and the oil firms want us to believe.

P4-5 overpricing at the pump this year

But this explanation is not as straightforward as it appears to be. Pump price adjustments do not reflect global price movements. As of the first week of October, the price of gasoline in the Mean of Platts Singapore (MOPS) has gone up by about P11.49 (\$0.23) per liter. Meanwhile, the pump price of gasoline as of Oct. 5 has jumped by P16.55 (\$0.33) per liter – P5.06 (\$0.10) higher than MOPS. The same thing is true with diesel. MOPS diesel increased by around P10.86 per liter while the pump price of diesel surged by P15.00 (\$0.30) – a difference of P4.14 (\$0.087) per liter.

MOPS is the benchmark that the country uses for local petroleum products, according to the Department of Energy (DOE). It is “the daily average of all trading transactions of diesel and gasoline as assessed and summarized by Standard and Poor’s Platts, a Singapore-based market wire service.”

The difference between the adjustments in MOPS and actual price changes at the pump is a form of overpricing that has thrived under the Oil Deregulation Law. This 25-year-old law allows oil companies to implement automatic price adjustments based on global price movements.

By implementing higher price hikes or lower rollbacks than international price adjustments, oil firms and the government can collect billions of pesos in extra profits and taxes. Overpriced gasoline and diesel, for instance, gave them an estimated P38.47 billion (US\$757.13 million) in additional income, of which P4.62 billion (\$90.93 million) went to the government as value-added tax (VAT). This exploitation of the consumers by the oil companies and government becomes even more reprehensible amid the pandemic that has massively wiped away jobs and incomes.

In other words, regardless of whether oil prices are up or down, deregulation allows oil companies to earn additional profits. But the situation for the consumers becomes doubly burdensome when oil prices are rising. There have been 32 rounds of oil price hikes for gasoline and 31 for diesel already this year, including the past seven straight weeks. Diesel, at one point, saw its pump price go up for 14 consecutive weeks between April and July.

The direct cause and effect relationship between higher oil prices and faster inflation means more significant distress for most people battered by COVID-19 and the economic crisis. This year, the prices of essential goods and services are moving nearly twice as fast compared to the first year of the pandemic. The inflation rate from January to August averaged 4.4 percent; during the same period last year, it was at 2.5 percent.

Rising global prices amid speculation

Global oil prices are much higher this year than in 2020, which most analysts credit to the rebound in demand amid tight supply. Economies are recovering from the impacts of pandemic lockdowns, and they need more oil for increased production, estimated at an extra 450,000 barrels per day (BPD) through the rest of the year. There were calls to boost global output by as high as 800,000 BPD amid pressure from the world’s largest oil consumers like the US, accounting for more than 20 percent of global

oil consumption.

But members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and their partners (collectively, the OPEC+) are only increasing output by 400,000 BPD. OPEC+, led by Saudi Arabia and Russia, earlier tightened oil supply when global prices collapsed due to the pandemic last year.

Looking at commodity prices compiled by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the July price index of the world’s three major spot prices for crude oil (i.e., Brent, West Texas Intermediate or WTI, and Dubai) was its highest monthly average since November 2018. From January to August this year, the average spot prices (\$65.14 per barrel) for crude oil are 61 percent higher than during the same period last year (\$40.47 per barrel). More updated weekly data quoted in news reports say that Brent spot prices reached a three-year high of \$83.47, and WTI reached a seven-year high of \$79.35.

However, as usual in neoliberalism, much of the price increases in the global oil markets are driven by speculation and not by the actual supply and demand. This speculation is being fueled this time by how the global health crisis could further develop. OPEC+ members are reluctant to supply the market with more oil out of fear that demand and prices could weaken again all of a sudden due to another wave of COVID-19 infections. The opposite side of this is the bullish outlook that global economic recovery from the pandemic will remain faster than expected, with speculators from Goldman Sachs and the Bank of America projecting oil prices to climb further up to \$90 to \$100 per barrel. The last time global spot prices averaged more than a hundred dollars was August 2014. Meanwhile, traders, especially those in the futures markets, also speculate that demand could further increase due to the colder than anticipated winter season amid the climate crisis.

The Philippines is especially vulnerable to global supply and demand speculation because the country is a heavy consumer and big importer of petroleum. Out of 214 countries worldwide, the Philippines ranks top 36 in terms of oil consumption. In the first half of 2021, the country imported 10.03 billion liters of finished petroleum products and 1.21 billion liters of crude oil to meet the domestic demand of 67.70 million liters per day. The oil import bill went up by 55.9 percent, from \$3.07 billion in the first half of 2020 to \$4.79 billion in the same period

this year due to higher import volume and rising global prices.

Ending oil deregulation is a must

Deregulation fully exposed the country to the price impacts of speculative activities by oil producers, traders, investment firms, and other financial institutions that exploit the uncertainties in the world market. As mentioned, oil companies can automatically implement price adjustments based on international price fluctuations under a deregulated regime.

The continued domination of monopoly corporations in the oil industry, which can dictate how much local pump prices would move, further exacerbated such vulnerability. Only four companies (Petron, Shell, Phoenix, and Chevron) control 47.2% of the domestic oil market, and just one (Petron) retain 100 percent of the country’s crude oil refining capacity. These companies are tied to the transnational corporations in oil and finance through investments, long-term supply contracts, and other strategic partnerships.

With deregulation, the government abandoned its mandate to guarantee oil supply security and protect the economy and people from excessive petroleum prices. Policy tools to regulate prices and safeguard supply are always necessary but are even more crucial today as the country tries to get back on its feet from the impacts of the pandemic.

Reminding oil companies to ensure the country’s oil supply which is the only “intervention” that the DOE has done amid surging prices, is extremely not enough. The government itself must play the leading role in stockpiling fuel supply through, for instance, a system of centralized procurement of imported oil. Under this system, oil companies will have to buy from the state-owned Philippine National Oil Co. (PNOC). Oil firms thus will have to sell it at a price based on PNOC’s cost of importation, which is cheaper than commercial deals as the government can explore various ways to get discounted prices or even waive taxes. In addition, the government can quickly determine if the oil firms are profiteering or selling at a price that is outrageously higher than the cost of buying from the PNOC.

There are numerous policy options and possibilities, but it must start at ending the oil deregulation regime. (RVO)



Bulatlat file photo

NEDA joins World Environmental Health Day, launches masterplan for water sanitation

QUEZON CITY (PIA)— The National Economic Development Authority joined the celebration of World Environmental Health Day with the launch of the Philippine Water Supply and Sanitation Master Plan (PWSSMP).

With the theme, “Kalikasan at Kalusugan sa Kapaligiran: Bida sa Pagbangon ng Lipunan,” the country celebrates WEHD every September 26 to underscore the influence of environmental risks and

issues on people’s health.

The PWSSMP serves as the national action plan to achieve universal access to safe, sufficient, affordable, and sustainable water supply, hygiene, and sanitation by 2030.

NEDA Assistant Secretary Roderick M. Planta said according to the 2015 Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), an average of 87.7% of Filipinos have access to a safe water supply.

Meanwhile, 12.3% or 10.4M Filipinos do not have access to safe water and suffer from water-related diseases like typhoid, cholera, and dysentery.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the Philippine fatality rate of water-related illnesses was one child per week, Plata said.

To know more about the water supply and sanitation master plan, visit <https://neda.gov.ph/pwss/>. (MBP/PIA-IDPD/Information from NEDA)

Word Search Puzzle

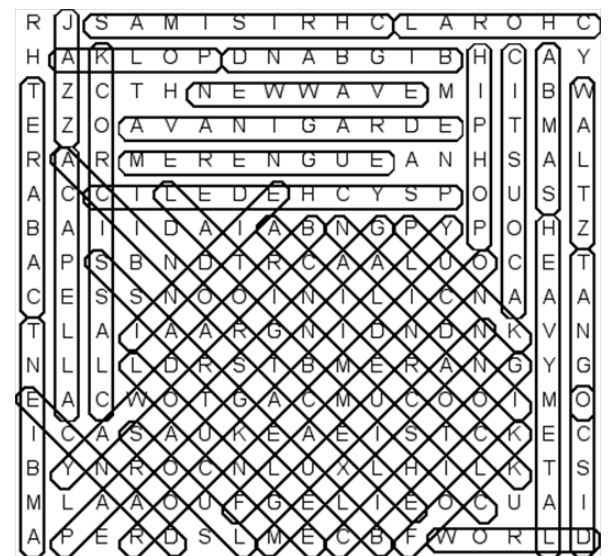
Songs From the Year 2003

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
- 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

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

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

Sudoku hint

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

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.

For your printing requirements

For quotation request, please contact us at (049) 834-6261 or email us at sinagprinting@gmail.com



Vaccine czar: Gov't experts crafting updated vaccination plan

MANILA — The government is already crafting an Updated National Vaccination Program that will be approved by the secretary of health and top pandemic advisers aimed at linking it with the overall vaccine security plan, the country's vaccine czar said on Wednesday.

In his report to President Rodrigo Duterte, Secretary Carlito Galvez Jr. said the Updated National Vaccination Program, which will be approved by Secretary Francisco Duque III and the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID), will be anchored on the Vaccine Security Roadmap at least until 2022 and 2023.

"Kasi napakaimportante

po nang gagawin po natin na 'yun kasi that's our continuity plan and exit strategy towards the pandemic," said Galvez, who is also the chief implementer of the National Task Force Against COVID-19.

The government established the National Vaccination Operation Center and it has been organizing the Vaccination Operations for the fourth quarter of this year, according to Galvez.

The country's top vaccine coordinator also said that with the increased volume of vaccine deliveries, the government has also ramped up its inoculation drive especially in the provinces by supplying

continue to page 2



PHOTO COURTESY OF PIA NCR

Pediatric vaccination initial rollout to begin in select NCR hospitals

MANILA — The vaccination of children ages 12-17 years old will be pilot tested in selected hospitals in the National Capital Region (NCR) starting on October 15, 2021, said Presidential Spokesperson Secretary Harry Roque Jr.

"Habang dumarami po ang supplies, uumpisahan na rin natin ang pediatric vaccination," said Secretary Roque in a press briefing on October 7, 2021. Sec Roque added that the rollout in hospitals will be done by age group, which is 15 to 17 years old and 12 to 14 years old.

The eight hospitals where the pediatric vaccination pilot will be done are the following: National Children's Hospital, Philippine Heart Center, Fe Del Mundo Medical Center, and Philippine Children's Medical Center in Quezon City; Pasig City Children's Hospital in Pasig; Philippine General Hospital in Manila, Makati Medical Center in Makati; and Saint Luke's Medical Center in Taguig.

Chair of the National Adverse Effects Following Immunization Committee Dr. Lulu Bravo affirmed in the same press briefing that children, ages 15 to 17 years old, with comorbidities will be the first

ones to be given vaccines against COVID-19.

This decision to have the adolescent group with comorbidities as first recipients of COVID-19 vaccines among the pediatric population is based on research and studies by experts, said Dr Bravo. She assured that there will be experts who will look into the possible effects of vaccines among children, and if the pilot becomes successful, she said that pediatric vaccination will continue to make face-to-face classes and reopening of schools safe.

Dr. Bravo added that for face-to-face classes, vaccinated children should still adhere to the minimum public health standards. She stressed also that it would be good for children who will participate in face-to-face classes to have all adult members of the household to be also vaccinated.

Meanwhile, Department of Education (DepEd) Secretary Leonor Briones announced in the same press briefing that the reopening of face-to-face classes will be done in three phases, with the pilot face-to-face classes as the first phase. Secretary Briones said that pilot will be done for two months, which will be gradually expanded until the country moves to the new normal.

Secretary Briones *continue to page 2*

Bong Go appeals to fellow candidates to prioritize public service over politics; urges everyone to work together to help Filipinos in need amid the pandemic

PASAY CITY — Senator and vice presidential aspirant Christopher "Bong" Go vowed that his focus now is to continue serving those in need in fulfillment of his duties as a senator and public servant despite being a candidate for the upcoming national elections. He urged fellow candidates and other officials seeking office in 2022 to do the same.

"Ako naman po

magtatrabaho pa rin ako dahil senador po ako, hindi naman ako considered resigned, hindi naman po ako appointed or nasa appointive position, ako po'y halal," said Go during an ambush interview after attending the inauguration of the Wellness Entertainment Sports or WES Arena in Barangay Punturin, Valenzuela City on Thursday, October 7.

"So ako po'y magtatrabaho pa rin po bilang Committee Chair on Sports and Committee Chair on Health. Magtatrabaho pa rin ho ako," he added.

He also urged government officials to continue promoting Filipinos' interests and well-being, particularly during the pandemic, so that the *continue to page 2*



Photo courtesy of (OSBG)