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Livelihood Assistance grant, ipinamahagi sa mga residente ng Indang



Photo courtesy PIA CALABARZON

SA pangunguna ng Lokal na Pamahalaan ng Indang na pinamumunuan ni Mayor Perfecto Fidel katuwang ang DSWD Region 4A at MSWDO, matagumpay na naipamahagi ang Livelihood Assistance Grant sa mga benepisyaryo nito sa Indang, Cavite.

Pangunahing layunin ng naturang programa ng gobyerno

ay ang matulungan ang mga maliliit na negosyo na labis na naapektuhan ng pandemya tulad na lamang ng mga residenteng kabilang sa 4Ps, Solo Parent, PWD at ilang mga senior citizens.

Nasa 183 naman ang kabuuang bilang ng benepisyaryon ng Livelihood Assistance Grant ng DSWD at isasailalim sa livelihood moniroting upang matiyak na ang nakatulong nang lubos sa kanilang pamumuhay ang

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Cavite healthcare facilities reach full capacity

TRECE MARTIRES CITY — The Provincial Health Office has alerted the public after healthcare facilities in Cavite continue to reach their full capacity amid the rising number of critical COVID-19 cases here.

In a recent interview with the Philippine Information Agency Calabarzon's Sulong Calabarzon online program, Dr. Nonie John Dalisay, provincial health officer, expressed his alarm after confirming that healthcare facilities dedicated for COVID-19 cases are almost full.

According to Dalisay, hospital isolation beds dedicated for COVID-19 cases in the province have already reached up to 63.9 percent occupancy rate, while dedicated beds in Intensive Care Units are already at 92.7 percent.

Like its neighboring areas, Cavite province has reported around 69 cases of

the highly transmissible delta variant.

Among the areas that reported cases of the delta variant include Imus City (18 cases), Dasmariñas City (8), Silang (8) and Bacoor City (5).

"With the advent of the delta variant, medyo mabilis ang pagtaas ang number of COVID-19 cases sa probinsya ng Cavite,"

Local hospitals, such as the General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital continue to strictly follow the Prevent-Detect-Isolate-Treat-Reintegration strategy recommended by the Department of Health in controlling infections.

Depending on the severity of symptoms, asymptomatic cases are brought to TTMFs, mild cases to moderate cases are referred to Oplan Kalinga facilities, while severe cases are brought to

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2 drug peddlers killed, P1.5-B shabu seized in Cavite

MANILA – Two drug suspects were killed while two others were arrested in separate operations in Cavite on Thursday night that yielded around PHP1.5 billion worth of shabu.

In a report on Friday, Brig. Gen. Remus Medina, chief of the Philippine National Police Drug Enforcement Group (PNP-DEG), said suspects Basher Bangon and Danilo Untavar, were killed during the buy-bust in Springville Executive 1, Barangay Molino 3, Bacoor City

at around 9:30 p.m.

Seized from the operation were 181 kilograms of shabu worth PHP1.25 billion.

Bangon, who is a top-level drug personality, had direct contact with a Chinese drug syndicate and is mainly operating in areas in the Visayas and Mindanao.

Meanwhile, suspects Lani Micoleta and Aldwin Micoleta were arrested in a separate operation in Barangay Magdalo, Bahayang Pag-Asa, Imus, City at 9:15 p.m.

The suspects yielded

more or less 48 kilos of shabu valued at PHP331.2 million. They are among cohorts of Bangon and are known distributors of illegal drugs in Metro Manila and Calabarzon.

The suspects will be charged with violation of Republic Act 9165 or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002.

The buy-bust operation was made possible through the coordination among PNP, PDEA, BOC-Customs Intelligence and Investigation Service of the Intelligence Group (CIIS-IG), Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), and local police officers.

In a statement, PNP *continue to page 3*

'Jolina' infra damage reaches nearly P60-M: DPWH

By Ferdinand Patinio

MANILA – Damage to infrastructure caused by Typhoon Jolina has reached almost PHP60 million, the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) reported on Friday.

In an update, DPWH Secretary Mark Villar said the typhoon has so far damaged an estimated PHP59.5 million of roads and flood control structures.

He reported that three national road sections are currently impassable to all types of vehicles while two roads have limited access due to Typhoon Jolina.

As of Friday noon, road closures were reported along Nueva Ecija - Aurora Road,

Diteki River Detour Road in Aurora due to flooding.

Also closed is the Nueva Ecija - Aurora Road in Barangay Labi, Bongabon due to landslide, and Ternate Nasugbu Road, Barangay Sapang II, Ternate, Cavite due to landslides.

Two roads which are passable only to light vehicles are: Batangas-Tabangao-Lobo Road Sta. in Batangas due to damaged seawall and road, and Jaro-Dagami-Burauen- Lapaz Road at Marabong Bridge in Barangay Moring, Burauen, Leyte due to scoured slope protection bridge abutment.

The DPWH also has cleared and reopened a total of 10 roads that were affected by the typhoon. (PNA)



(Photo courtesy of DPWH Calabarzon)



NABBED. Police officers arrest eight persons involved in gunrunning and illegal sale of motor vehicles in separate operations on Sept. 3 and 4, 2021. PNP chief, Gen. Guillermo Eleazar on Thursday (Sept. 9, 2021) has ordered the immediate dismissal of Staff Sgt. Michael Salinas, one of the suspects. (Photo courtesy of NCRPO)

Duterte....

million.

Duterte expressed dismay that despite his repeated warnings against drug personalities, billions of pesos worth of shabu have been recovered in separate buy-busts.

"Bilyones na kasi ngayon eh (Nowadays, the seized illegal drugs are worth billions). You would notice that it is seldom mentioned that the drugs are worth about so many millions. Billions na ngayon ang pinag-usapan (We are now talking about billions of pesos)," he said.

The President said he would have wanted to spare the lives of drug offenders but noted that they were killed because they were armed and resisting arrest.

"I would have wanted to spare your (life), especially in front of your family, 'yung mga nangamatay pero (those who have died, but) I have to do it to impress upon everybody the severity of the consequence kung magsalubong tayo (if there's resistance)," he said.

NR.....

in the dismantling of the illegal fishing structures in Manila Bay area."

The fisherfolk themselves fear that they will lose their livelihood. Why is DENR invalidating this concern? Reclaiming the coasts of Cavite to make way for big business will involve not only the demolition of illegal structures but even those owned by licensed owners. Eventually, the fisherfolk will be at the disadvantage.

2. "Kapag equal na ang access sa dagat, magbe-benefit talaga sila doon."

The statement is silent on the reclamation project in the affected areas. It shows how tone deaf DENR is to the plight of fisherfolk on the ground. The ones who will have access to the seas will be the developers of Cavite's reclamation projects. Either DENR is so myopic or it's deliberately hiding the government's ulterior motive behind the clearing operation. This "benefit" will be short-term because ultimately fishing and aquaculture structures will be removed to pave way to reclamation projects.

3. Most of the illegal fishing structures installed in the said areas are owned by big industries. "There are spaces in between fish cages and pens, however, the chances for our small fisherfolk to catch fishes within those

from page 8

Duterte said he would do his best to stop Filipino drug addicts from going "crazy permanently" and turning into "inutile citizens of the country."

He warned that any drug offender who would resist arrest might face death.

"I would like to reassure again those who are into it that (do) not destroy my country because I will kill you. It's no joke coming from me since I was mayor. Hindi talaga ako papayag kailanman (I will not really allow that)," he added.

Duterte's "unfinished business" in stamping out drug proliferation in the country has prompted him to accept his nomination as the vice presidential candidate of the ruling party, the Partido Demokratiko Pilipino - Lakas ng Bayan, for the 2022 national elections.

Gaining ground
Meanwhile, the Philippine National Police (PNP) said these operations prove that the country is gaining ground in its campaign

from page 8

areas are little as most fishes are already trapped in the said fishing structures."

It appears that DENR is confusing fish pens with traps. Pens and traps are totally different. Fish pens and cages are structures used in aquaculture, while traps, such as fish corral (baklad), are fishing gears employed in the capture fisheries sector. Since fish pens are for aquaculture purposes, it is obvious that fisherfolk don't fish there. DENR can't claim that fish are "trapped" inside cages and pens, because they are being cultured there in the first place.

Does DENR even understand the difference between capture fisheries and aquaculture? Besides, also included in fishing structures that will be demolished are fish corrals and stationary lift nets (saprahan) that are definitely owned by small fisherfolk. How can DENR explain this loss of livelihood among fisherfolk?

4. "The only places where small fisherfolk could have a good catch are in farther areas where big fishing structures are no longer present. It would cost them some gasoline going back and forth."

Again, these "big fishing structures" also include fish corral and stationary lift nets. The construction of stationary fishing gears, such as baklad and saprahan, is to efficiently catch fish along the coast without venturing farther into the sea. If

against illegal drugs.

"Even in the time of the pandemic, these illegal drug traffickers are continuously operating. That is why we also have to step up, and our strong points in these operations are the good coordination and interoperability of five law enforcement agencies led by PDEA (Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency) under our whole-of-government approach against illegal drugs," PNP chief, Gen. Guillermo Eleazar, said in a statement.

Aside from the PNP and the PDEA, the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency, and the Bureau of Customs also took part in these operations.

Eleazar added that successful anti-illegal drug operations in the past five years have already resulted in an unprecedented 64-percent reduction in crime in the country.

He vowed to further step up the campaign against illegal drugs through strong coordination and a good working relationship with other government agencies. (PNA)

DENR has conducted fishery surveys, they'd know that fisherfolk could earn as much as 1,000 pesos per night during peak season using these fishing gears.

DENR seemingly lacks understanding on the basic concepts in fishing technology. Additionally, as mentioned above, coastal reclamation in many towns in Cavite will eventually demolish all fishing structures, even those with permits. It will also inevitably displace fishing communities. Once these communities are displaced from the coast due to reclamation, how sure is DENR that fisherfolk will still have access to the coast and their traditional fishing grounds? 5. "Fixed lang ang sweldo nila. Mas malaki sana ang kikitain nila kung sarili nila ang business ng pangangisda."

DENR is only mentioning the impacts of demolition on fish workers who work in aquaculture pens and cages. Is DENR even aware of the existence of small fisherfolk who own fish corrals and lift nets?

6. [DENR CALABARZON MBSCMO-4 Deputy Regional Coordinator] Rozaldo stressed that one of the objectives of their action plan for the dismantling of all illegal aquaculture structures within the waters of Cavite City, Kawit and Noveleta is to increase the fish catch of marginalized fisherfolk.

Wrong. DENR's

Eleazar orders dismissal of cop for gunrunning

By Christopher Lloyd Caliwan

MANILA – Philippine National Police (PNP) chief Gen. Guillermo Eleazar on Thursday ordered the Internal Affairs Service (IAS) to expedite summary dismissal proceedings against a policeman who was arrested for gunrunning and illegal sale of motor vehicles.

In a statement, Eleazar identified the erring cop as Staff Sgt. Michael Salinas, assigned at the Manila Police District, who was among the eight people arrested in separate operations on Sept. 3 and 4.

"I have already directed the Internal Affairs Service to initiate summary dismissal proceedings against him," Eleazar said.

National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) director Maj. Gen. Vicente Danao Jr. earlier said Salinas could be the leader of the group.

On Sept. 3, authorities

recovered a Mitsubishi Expander without a plate number and fake documents from suspects Arman Estanol and Jon Marvin Toledo in an operation in Bacoor City, Cavite at around 5 p.m.

A few hours later, Salinas and suspects Edwin Justo, Bern Bryan Pingol, and Arnold Aron Miranda were arrested in an operation at a gasoline station in Parañaque City. Recovered from them were various firearms such as a sub machinegun, a Glock 19 9-mm pistol, a Glock 17 9-mm pistol, and various ammunition.

A follow-up operation on Sept. 4 resulted in the arrest of two other suspects--Enrique de Guzman and Fernando de Guzman. They yielded two vehicles without a plate number and other falsified documents.

Since July 2016, more than 5,000 policemen were already dismissed from the service for various grave offenses that include involvement in illegal drugs and other criminal activities. (PNA)

Dominguez....

from page 8

history as it lowers the corporate income tax (CIT) rates of MSMEs from 30 percent to 20 percent, while the rest of the corporations pay only 25 percent, he said.

"We vigorously pushed for the approval of CREATE even if it meant foregoing billions of pesos in revenues because we need a strong private sector to sustain our economic recovery," Dominguez said.

Dominguez noted that publicly listed companies have always cited how CREATE, which gives out almost P100 billion worth of tax relief annually to businesses, have helped them maintain or even increase their profitability and their ability to cope with the pandemic.

Another reform initiated by the Duterte administration was the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion Act (TRAIN), which reduced the personal income taxes (PIT) for 99 percent of taxpayers, resulting to P100 billion in tax savings every year for Filipino workers.

"Clearly, this administration is pro-business when it comes to fixing our tax system by reducing the tax rates of our workers and corporations. These reforms will bring better business conditions in the near term," he said.

Dominguez said the Duterte administration also fixed the flawed regulatory framework for the Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) to enable this financial instrument to flourish in the country after 11 years of deadlock, Dominguez said.

As a result, three property giants were able to successfully list their REITs amidst the pandemic.

objective is to dismantle all structures, both aquaculture and fisheries. For what purpose? So that it would be easy for the Cavite provincial government and the Bacoor city government to reclaim the coasts of Cavite. DENR's rehabilitation program is a farce. How can DENR possibly claim to "rehabilitate" our coasts when the ultimate goal of the local government is to dump soil on it, thereby preventing recolonization/re-establishment by marine organisms?

He was referring to the separate REIT offerings of Ayala Land Inc. (ALI), DoubleDragon Properties Corp. (DDPC) and Filinvest Land Inc.

He said the REITs will not only propel the growth of the property sector beyond the pandemic, but will also broaden financial inclusion by offering dependable investment opportunities for the average Filipino family.

"In the remaining period of the President's term, we will rapidly modernize governance; accelerate the rollout of the infrastructure program; and continue with the market-friendly reforms attractive to investments," Dominguez said.

As for the private sector, Dominguez stressed that for businesses to flourish, they must continue to innovate, reinvent their old business models, and adopt "green" and new digital technologies to maximize the impact of the Duterte administration's pro-business initiatives.

"Do this not only to cope with the challenges of the pandemic. Do this to prepare your businesses for the new economy that is to come," Dominguez said.

"I encourage you to adopt new digital technologies and reinvent old business models. Shift to the circular economy. Use more renewables. Reduce waste. Improve sustainability. Be green," he added.

Dominguez further said that government banks are ready to provide financing for "green" and environment-friendly projects to encourage businesses to be climate-resilient. (DOF)

This is not just an issue on the "legality" of these fishing structures, but also on how this issue is connected to various reclamation projects in Manila Bay. DENR is time and again exposing itself as an anti-people, anti-poor, anti-fisherfolk, anti-environment and pro-big business government agency that conspires with large corporations in destroying our coasts not just in Cavite but also in Metro Manila, Bulacan and the rest of Manila Bay.

“DUGO MO, BUHAY KO!” BLOODLETTING ACTIVITY, INILUNSA SA IMUS

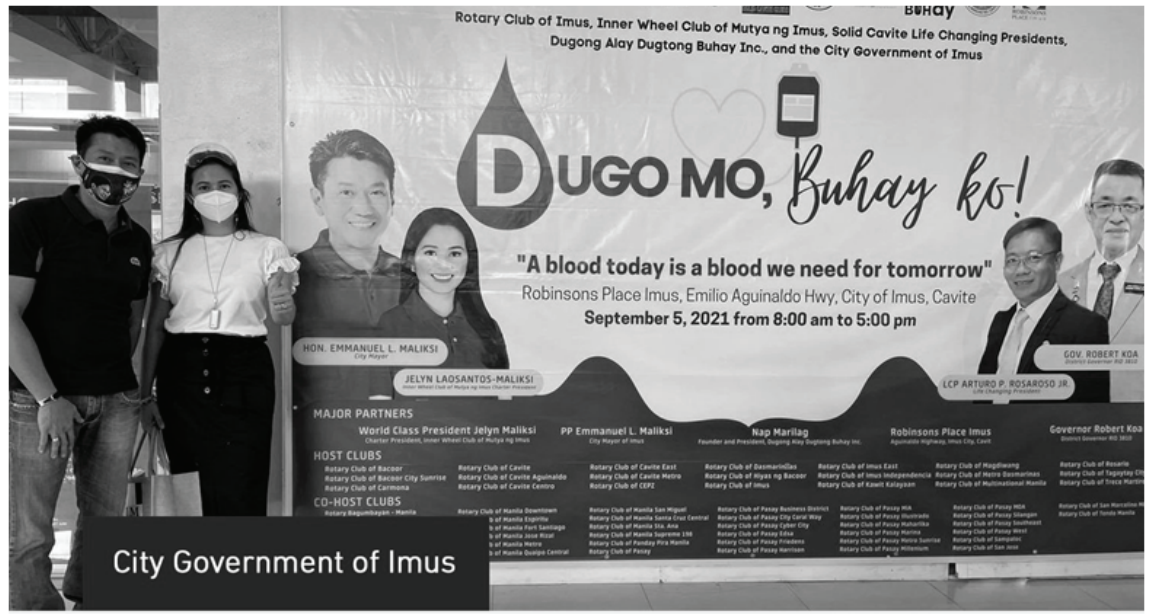
SA pakikipagtulungan ng Rotary Club of Imus, Inner Wheel Club of Mutya ng Imus, Rotary Club Solid Cavite LCP, at Dugong Alay, Dugtong Buhay Inc., matagumpay na isinagawa sa lungsod ang “Dugo Mo, Buhay ko!” bloodletting activity nitong araw ng Linggo.

Layunin ng programa na bigyang pansin at matugunan ang kakulangan ng suplay ng dugo para sa medical emergencies at sa mga kababayang nangangailangan nito.

Pinasalamatan naman

ni Mayor Emmanuel Maliksi ang lahat ng nakibahagi at nakilahok upang maihatid ang inisyatibo sa mga Imuseño.

“Ikinatutuwa po nating makita na marami pa rin ang tumatangkilik at handang magpakita ng suporta para sa mga programang katulad nito. Sa malaking hamon na kinakaharap natin ngayon, lalo na sa sektor ng kalusugan, ang anumang paraan ng kawanggawa ay malaking tulong at malayo ang naaabot,” ani Mayor Maliksi sa kanyang Facebook page.



Cavite...

hospitals.

“Dahil kaunti lang ang ospital sa buong probinsya ng Cavite, hindi lahat ay pwedeng i-accomodate. We have limited beds for the whole province, so ang pwede lang tanggapin ay cases with moderate, severe and critical infections,” Dalisay said.

With the spread of the highly contagious delta variant in the province, around 78 employees at the General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital tested positive from the disease while a total of 215 employees are currently under quarantine.

Facilities at the GEAMH such as the Emergency Room, Intensive Care Unit, TB DOTS and Newborn Screening areas have been closed as staff underwent quarantine which affected hospital operations.

Livelihood....

natanggap nilang ayuda.

Dumalo sa nasabing distribusyon ang ilan sa mga representante mula Livelihood

from page 1

Although COVID facilities are reaching their limits, the GEAMH continues to accept COVID patients.

With its accessibility even to residents coming from Metro Manila, the GEAMH also receives calls from patients from Manila and Mandaluyong. However, they can no longer accommodate more patients.

To augment its capacity to handle patients, GEAMH converted three of its wards to accommodate COVID-19 patients.

With the rising number of COVID-19 cases in the province, Dalisay advised the public residents to tested positive from the disease to remain indoors and wait for the Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams for their assessment. — Patricia Bermudez, PIA4A

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Unit ng DSWD Region-4A, kawani ng MSWDO, Pantawid Parent Leaders at Indang Federation of Person’s with Disability.

Cavite Police reports 8,000 quarantine, anti-criminality drive violators

CALAMBA CITY — Authorities in the province of Cavite once again assured the public that their anti-criminality efforts continue amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

In a press release, the Cavite Provincial Police said they have accosted around 8,047 quarantine protocol violators as part of their daily anti-criminality drive in the province.

Most violations committed include non-wearing of face shields, where around 3,264 individuals were cited by the local police.

Other reported violations to public safety protocols include non-wearing of face masks (835 violators), improper wearing of face masks (1,224), improper wearing of face shields (2,066 violators), physical distancing violations (211), curfew violations (422), and mass gatherings (5).

Among these violators, the Cavite Police gave 7,954

warnings, while 89 were fined for their offense. Meanwhile, four were charged for violating quarantine protocols.

Aside from the strict implementation of quarantine protocols, Cavite police also continued its anti illegal drugs campaign where they conducted three buy bust operations in Cavite City, as well as Indang and Alfonso towns.

Four individuals were placed under police custody, after fivepieces of small heat-sealed transparent plastic sachets that contain substance suspected as crystal meth, or shabu, and five pieces of suspected marijuana, drug money and paraphernalia were recovered.

Violations for crimes such as illegal gambling, theft, mauling, and malicious mischief were also reported in the towns of Kawit and Carmona, as well as the cities of Imus and Bacoor. —PB, PIA4A with reports from Cavite PIO

2 drug.....

from page 1

chief, Gen. Guillermo Eleazar said the two police operations were part of the follow-up operations in Zambales and Bataan on Tuesday, which resulted in the confiscation of close to PHP4 billion worth of shabu.

The operations resulted in the death of four Chinese drug

suspects and the arrest of three others.

In a statement, PDEA Director General Wilkins Villanueva said these operations are still part of Case Operational Plan “Whisperer” which is supervised by Deputy Director General for Operations Gregorio

Pimentel and the agency’s Intelligence and Investigation Service.

“We will be relentless in our efforts to suppress the supply of illegal drugs while also sustaining the gains that we have achieved through the Barangay Drug Clearing Program,” Villanueva said. (with Ferdinand Patinio/PNA)

Barangay officials in Cavite karakol suspended

PAULA ANTOLIN

THE Karakol is a religious dance procession held on the eve of the feast day of the patron saint of a particular town

The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) on Tuesday welcomed the suspension of barangay officials in Barangay Santiago, General Trias who were involved in the in the karakol and mass gathering event last month.

DILG Undersecretary and spokesperson Jonathan Malaya said that the agency has lauded the swift action of the local government unit (LGU) in General Trias, Cavite in investigating the incident.

“Kudos to the city mayor and the Sangguniang Panlungsod of General Trias, Cavite for acting quickly on the karakol incident,” Malaya said, adding that all LGU should strictly follow the stringent health protocols even down to the barangay level.

Karakol is a religious dance procession held on the eve of the feast day of the patron saint of a particular town.

The DILG official disclosed that following the incident, General Trias Mayor Antonio Ferrer approved the recommendation of the Sangguniang Panlungsod to issue a 30-day preventive suspension to Barangay Santiago chair Rolando Pagkaliwangan and kagawads Joey Loyola, Francisco Solis and Ferdinand Perdito.

Malaya revealed that the local legislative body of General Trias recommended the issuance of preventive suspension for a period of 30 days against the concerned barangay officials pursuant to Section 63 of the Local Government Code to further investigate the incident and to provide an opportunity for the involved parties to be heard.

“On the part of the DILG, we continue to hope that during this period, the investigation will be completed to find out if the barangay officials really had negligence and if they should be charged with administrative charges,” Malaya said.

Malaya added that he hopes the incident serves as a warning to all barangay officials

that the DILG will not tolerate any violation of minimum public health standards during the pandemic.

To recall, the video of the incident went viral in social media, where hundreds of residents of Barangay Santiago participated in a karakol procession and mass gathering along Arnaldo Highway, deliberately violating MPHS such as wearing of mask and face shield and physical distancing during the time when the LGU was under the General Community Quarantine with Heightened Restrictions classification.

Prior to the imposition of the preventive suspension, the city mayor issued a show cause order against the concerned barangay officials after learning of the karakol procession participated in by several barangay residents which is a violation of local issuances and Inter-agency Task Force on the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases Resolution 2021-50.

Malaya also reminded the public — vaccinated or not — to refrain from participating in mass gatherings.



The karakol — a dance procession held on the eve of a feast day of patron saints — is a tradition that is greatly affected by the ongoing virus pandemic. / photograph courtesy of cavite.gov.ph

Ang
CAVITENO

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EDITORIAL

Roll the dice

“VOTERS will surely have a fun time watching this game of thrones, but let’s hope in the end, the nation and its people end up the winners anyway.

It remains to be seen how the national elections will pan out given the Covid-19 pandemic’s stranglehold on the people’s attention.

As one prominent businessman said recently, the Delta variant “changed the game” anew in the battle against Covid-19.

This, of course, also applies to politics — plans geared toward the 2022 national elections also had to be quarantined, likely much to the frustration of many political hopefuls who had been gunning for higher positions even before the pandemic.

Yet some things in life just cannot be stemmed, shelved, shackled, shoved under some rug — no matter how hard one tries.

There’s that stubborn coronavirus to contend with, yes, and there’s also that ambition and, for some, a natural progression toward an ultimate goal.

After all, economic advisers have been urging government to move forward, to encourage people to walk with the virus. We cannot stay locked down forever, they say. Eventually, coffers will run dry, people will suffer, and no amount of politicking can change that course.

So, in the realm of the elections, things have continued to roll.

The ruling party versus opposition versus independents — it’s a game that can rival any “quaran-hobby” you can think of to distract from the pandemic blues.

Yet is it all about PDP Laban’s ongoing skirmish on which faction is legitimate or not? The opposition bets and their patchwork tandem feelers? How about those solo voices out in the country’s major locales belting out their own tune?

These are emerging plays, and players, requiring our attention. With October’s filing of certificates of candidacy approaching, we brace ourselves for another election derby, one that either stays the same or changes with the times.

Like a sad refrain, “change” is the rallying call of aspirants, and Senators Ping Lacson and Tito Sotto are no different.

On Wednesday, the lucky 8th of September, the veteran politicians threw their hats into the ring, promoting a combined 80 years-plus of “honest, dedicated and competent public service” that they say makes them most able to lead the country — but which somehow takes a dig at the administration bets.

Included in the tandem’s platform of government yet to be disclosed are “discipline in spending public funds” and “greater accountability,” according to Senator Lacson.

These, one may deduce, stem from recent issues raised in the Senate on allegedly dubious government spending during the pandemic.

One wonders if tactics like this will work as much as other aspects in the process of choosing a candidate to vote for.

Experience-wise, Lacson had previously run for President in 2004 and finished third. His track record holding various leadership positions in the Philippine National Police and as a senator on his third term do make him a force to reckon with as a public servant.

Like most candidates, the senator will surely be prepared for any muckraking, his past revived and dissected by rabid critics who want their own candidates to win.

Can Lacson handle such heat with the same finesse as Gloria Arroyo or the mass appeal of Rodrigo Duterte?

The decades-long mayor from Davao City “changed the game” in the national elections by succeeding to get elected “despite his relatively unknown stature compared to other candidates,” a report on The Diplomat goes.

His success opened the doors for other local officials to vie for the top position, proof of which is the current crop of presidential hopefuls, including the increasingly outspoken Manila Mayor Isko Moreno.

At this point, we have names coming in left and right, from the Bong Go to Sara Duterte, Bongbong Marcos to Manny Pacquiao, and of course there is Leni Robredo, in various combinations.

Voters will surely have a fun time watching this game of thrones, but let’s hope in the end, the nation and its people end up the winners anyway.



KAPIRASONG Kritika

Ni Teo S. Marasigan

Panayam sa Sarili hinggil sa ‘Sakada’ ni Behn Cervantes

LAST PART

Sa puntong ito makikita ang mainam sa mga sinabi nina Arevalo/Marquez at Rosal bilang mga tauhan — bilang lider-unionista at bilang asawa’t ina — at sa Sakada bilang pelikula o likhang-sining. Mapagbuong kamalayan o totalizing consciousness ang ipinakita rito kapwa nina Arevalo/Marquez at Rosal, gayundin ng pelikula. Hinggil sa produksiyon at lipunan ang sinabi ni Arevalo/Marquez, kung paanong ang ibang aspekto ng lipunan na tinitingnang hindi bahagi ng pang-aalipin, o na masarap na kapalit ng pagpapahirap, ay mahalagang bahagi ng pagsasamantala — na pinapakinabangan ng iilan. Hinggil sa pamilya at mga mahal sa buhay ang sinabi ni Rosal, kung paanong ang mga paghihirap ng kalooban na dinaranas nila ay nag-uugat sa kahirapan ng buhay, kung paanong ang kahirapan ay may epektong tumatarak sa laman at tumatagos sa puso. Kaiba ang ahitasyong ibinigay ni Rosal, ngunit kasing-halaga. Paglalantad o demistipikasyon (demystification) ang pamamaraan ni Arevalo/Marquez, na humalaw sa praktikal na kaalaman at nagdulot ng pagbaligtad ng unawa. Pagsasama-sama ng mga imahen (montage) ang pamamaraan ni Rosal, na

nagdulot ng pagkakabuo ng loob.

Hindi ba palasuko ang katapusan ng pelikula? Matapos ang madugong pag-aalsa, pumila na lang si Roco sa hanay ng bagong mga sakadang papasok sa asyenda?

Hindi naman. Tala ng tatlong yugto ng isang nagpapatuloy na pag-aalsa ang ipinakita ng pelikula. Rurok-katapusan ng una ang pagpatay kay Marquez. Paghahanda para sa ikalawang rurok-katapusan ang kalakhan ng pelikula. Nagtapos ito sa simula ng panibagong yugto, kung saan pumila si Roco sa paglakad ng bagong mga sakada. Agad masasabing palasuko ang katapusan ng pelikula kung hindi ito titingnan sa konteksto ng buong naratibo. Hindi agad maunawaan ng manonood kung paano pinatay si Marquez dahil walang kaparis ang eksena sa anumang protestang nakatatak sa utak ng marami: Nasa gitna sila ng natabas na damuhan, nagbubugbugan. Naipakita kung gayon kung paanong umunlad ang ikalawang yugto mula sa nauna: nagtayo ng unyon, nagbuo ng mga panawagan, nagpaunlad ng mga taktika, at lumahok ang kababaihan. Hindi dapat maliiting si Roco ang pumila sa paglakad ng bagong mga sakadang papasok sa trabaho sa katapusan ng pelikula at

simula ng ikatlo o bagong yugto. Alalahaning naging estudyanteng aktibista siya, beterano ng welga sa Maynila, at ng ikalawang yugto ng pag-aalsa sa asyenda. Tiyak iyon: mas mataas na ang antas ng susunod na pakikibaka!

M a h a l a g a n g pansining ipinakita ng pelikula maging ang pag-unlad ng mga taktika ng naghaharing mga uri sa pagsamantala at pagbuwag sa paglaban ng mga sakada at manggagawang bukid: pagpapapasok ng mga tauhan sa hanay ng mga nag-aalsa, paggahasa sa asawa ng mga unionista, ibayong pandarahas at terorismo, simpleng pagpapalit ng bago sa lumang mga sakada. Kung anuman, nakakaakit sipiin ang sinabi ni Salud Algabre, isang lider ng pag-aalsang Sakdal noong dekada ’30: “Walang pag-aalsang nabibigo. Lahat ay hakbang patungo sa tamang direksiyon.” Hindi lamang ito ang ipinakita ng pelikula, gayunman. Ipinakita ng Sakada kung paanong ang bawat pag-aalsa ay “hakbang patungo sa tamang direksiyon” — dahil natututo ang mga pinagsasamantalahan, at sa bawat taktikal na pagkatalo ay lalong namumulat, lalong tumatayang ang diwa at kamalayan para ipagtagumpay ang estratehikong digma.

03 Oktubre 2007

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

NLP bares 31st Library and Information Month activities

QUEZON CITY—National Library of the Philippines (NLP) bared its activities for the 31st Library and Information Services Month in a virtual launch and press conference on Monday, September 6.

With the theme, “Libraries Building ROADS: Readers, Opportunities, Advocacies, Development, and Sustainability,” librarians nationwide are urged to share their initiatives in promoting literacy and providing access to information.

“Libraries have adhered to the needs of our readers. [They have] boosted opportunities to promote literacy; [and] furthered sustainability to win the challenges of times,” said Prof. Salvacion M. Arlante, head of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts-National Council for Library and

Information System (NCCA-NCLIS).

Alarte invited librarians, information professionals, and the public to join the following activities in the upcoming 31st LIS Month celebration in November 2021:

1. Digital Poster Making Contest

The digital poster-making Contest will serve as a venue for amateur artists, senior high school or college students to showcase their artistic prowess to a broader audience by getting a chance to have their work chosen as the official poster of the celebration.

Prizes:
 1st Prize: Php15,000 plus Certificate of Recognition
 2nd Prize: Php10,000 plus Certificate of Recognition
 3rd Prize: Php5,000 plus Certificate of Recognition

2. Best Online Activities by LIS Associations

The Best Online Activities Contest aims to showcase the Library and Information Science Associations/Organizations’ activities as part of the LIS Month Celebration and emphasize the diversity of different types of libraries.

Prizes:
 1st Prize: Php50,000 plus Certificate of Recognition
 2nd Prize: Php30,000 plus Certificate of Recognition
 3rd Prize: Php20,000 plus Certificate of Recognition

3. Book Spine Poetry Contest

The Contest aims to showcase the Filipinos’ creativity by arranging book titles in making a poem. The event aims to foster the love for reading and promote print collections.

Prizes:
 1st Prize: Php15,000 plus Certificate of Recognition

2nd Prize: Php10,000 plus Certificate of Recognition

3rd Prize: Php5,000 plus Certificate of Recognition

4. MakiVlog Na, May Papremyo Pa!

The Vlog Contest aims to create a powerful story around the 31st LIS Month celebration theme. The winning entry will serve as a promotional video for libraries.

Prizes:
 1st Prize: Php15,000 plus Certificate of Recognition
 2nd Prize: Php10,000 plus Certificate of Recognition
 3rd Prize: Php5,000 plus Certificate of Recognition

5. Share-A-Book: Book-Based Interactive Storytelling

The Share-A-Book Contest aims to provide an opportunity for children to develop a love for books and reading, thereby enhancing their presentation and communication skills through storytelling.

Prizes:
 1st Prize: Php15,000 plus Certificate of Recognition
 2nd Prize: Php10,000 plus Certificate of Recognition
 3rd Prize: Php5,000 plus Certificate of Recognition

6. Mini-Contest (Social Media) Book Face

The Contest aims to showcase the Filipinos’ creativity through books as artistic objects, foster a love

for reading, and promote the Philippine print collections.

Cutest Photo
 The Contest aims to showcase readers’ memorable moments in a library through photos and promote libraries in the Philippines.

Prizes:
 1st Prize: Php3,000 plus Certificate of Recognition
 2nd Prize: Php1,500 plus Certificate of Recognition
 3rd Prize: Php1,000 plus Certificate of Recognition

7. Webinars

The webinar series will provide tips and techniques on how to develop good communication skills through public speaking. They will also aim to train librarians on personal development as it affects professional growth.

8. Impact Stories

The National Library of the Philippines (NLP) will launch a publication titled “Impact Stories of Libraries in the Philippines Book III,” which captures the initiatives of libraries in the Philippines to adhere to the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

For contest mechanics and other details, you may visit the official website of the 31st LIS Month at <http://web.nlp.gov.ph/lis/>. (MCDS/PIA-IDPD with information from NLP)

CAVITEVIEW

Magnitude 8 tremor, tsunami in Mindanao 45 years ago recalled

By Ben Cal

MANILA – The powerful magnitude 7.2 earthquake that struck Haiti and killed over 1,400 people on Sunday immediately sent vivid recollection of the devastating magnitude 8 tremor, followed by an equally destructive tsunami that hit Mindanao on Aug. 17, 1976, killing some 8,000 people and over 10,000 injured.

This reporter was among a group of journalists from Manila that boarded a Fokker 27 plane of the Philippine Air Force (PAF) that ferried us to various places in the southern Philippines that were hit by the earthquake and tsunami.

The plane was piloted by Brig. Gen. Antonio G. Villanueva, a veteran PAF pilot.

Earlier that day, I called up the Philippine News Agency (PNA) news desk manned by Angel Sambo, the morning editor, at 7 a.m. to inquire about my assignment and was told to proceed immediately to Villamor Air Base (VAB) in Pasay City where a PAF plane was waiting for members of media to go to Mindanao where thousands were killed by a powerful earthquake and tsunami early dawn that day.

With only PHP20 in my

pocket, I proceeded immediately to VAB.

We were told that our first stop would be Cotabato City which was the most devastated in terms of casualties and infrastructure.

But flying over Awang Airport in Cotabato, the plane could not land because the airstrip was partly damaged.

We proceeded to Dipolog City but as soon as the Fokker aircraft was about to touch down, the airport tower told Gen. Villanueva to abort the landing because of aftershocks.

Immediately, Gen. Villanueva pulled the throttle as the plane made a steep climb in a perpendicular position, the aircraft being dragged down due to gravity that many of the passengers who did not tighten their seat belts were thrown back. Fortunately, no one was hurt.

TV cameramen were crammed near the comfort room of the aircraft but still managed to laugh off the experience while holding their cameras on their chests.

We finally landed in Pagadian City. After disembarking from the plane, Gen. Villanueva said: “We are lucky that God saved us from

a fatal accident because of the awkward perpendicular position of the Fokker plane over Dipolog Airport, the aircraft would have crashed.”

We breathed a sigh of relief, thanking our Lord Jesus Christ for giving us a new lease in life. Before boarding the plane at VAB, I also repeatedly prayed Psalm 23, “The Lord is my Shepherd.”

Had we crashed, we would have not covered the devastating earthquake-tsunami, the strongest to hit Mindanao and

the whole Philippines to date.

In Pagadian City at that time, we saw over 2,000 fatalities, many of the victims already had bloated bodies after being recovered from the seashores.

Hundreds of victims that were carried away by the big waves were found inland and rescuers used tire air pumps to inject the victims with formalin.

The victims were buried in mass graves.

We proceeded to Cotabato City where thousands also died. Many were pinned down underneath buildings that rescuers had to use cranes and bulldozers to recover the bodies. They too were buried in mass graves.

After taking off from Cotabato City for the return flight to Manila, Gen. Villanueva flew over the Moro Gulf where we again saw hundreds of floating bodies.

We could not dispatch stories because communications were all down and there were no mobile phones at that time.

It was back in Manila when I was able to write my story at the PNA editorial office on the 3rd floor of the National Press Club building in Intramuros. The August 17, 1976 earthquake-tsunami hogged the headlines not only in the country but all over the world, one of the biggest coverages a journalist will never forget. (PNA)



The aftermath of the magnitude 8 earthquake that hit Mindanao on Aug. 1976. (Photo courtesy of phivolcs.dost.gov.ph)

Teachers assail lack of support in 2022 proposed budget

By MARK LAVARRO

Bulatlat.com

MANILA — “Bunot bursa talaga. Kahit butas na ang bursa, binubunot pa rin.”

(We shoulder the expenses from our own pockets. Even if our pockets have been emptied, we have no choice.)

This was the lament of Ma. Venia Del Castro, a public school teacher for 33 years, as she recalled her experience on the government’s support for public school teachers during the pandemic.

She related that in order to ensure that her students would still be able to get a semblance of quality education, she had to scour for whatever remaining money she had for her to buy a decent laptop to use for the classes.

Del Castro handles six classes and for her to be able to properly perform her teaching duties, she needed a reliable laptop to prepare her lessons and for the time-intensive online classes.

Without the proper devices, she would run the risk of being interrupted when her device would die out on her in the middle of a discussion, or the students might miss important points because of choppy lines, delayed audio, garbled sounds, and other connectivity issues.

Despite these proven problems since the government shifted to blended distance learning because of the COVID-19 pandemic, public school teachers still have not received substantial support from the government. Del Castro is one of them.

ACT Teachers Partylist said that the 2022 proposed national budget still lacks support for the education sector, with public school teachers still set to receive a measly P5,000 (\$100) cash allowance for the entire year. The amount will be further divided into three: P3,500 (\$70) for the teaching supplies allowance, P500 (\$10) for the medical check-up allowance, and P1,000 (\$20) for the internet allowance.

This is in line with last year’s joint circular of the Department of Education and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) which granted teachers a \$100 cash allowance intended for the purchase of teaching supplies and materials, tangible or intangible; for the conduct of various modes of learning, internet, and other communication expenses; and for their annual medical

examination expense.

Teachers who will assume duty within the first 30 days will receive their cash allowance in whole. However, this will be reduced based on their assumption of duty from the day that classes resumed.

ACT Teachers Rep. France Castro asserts that this cash allowance is a far cry from their demands, which included P5,000 teaching (\$100) supplies allowance and P1,500 (\$30) monthly internet allowance.

Reduced budget

Instead of addressing the concerns of the teachers, ACT Teachers Partylist said that the 2022 proposed budget either removed or reduced the budget of the education sector, particularly those intended for the welfare of the teachers.

Among the issues raised by the teachers’ group is the removal of the special provision for the payment of compensation for teaching overload because at the moment, despite the long hours of work, teachers are not justly compensated.

A survey conducted by the Alliance of Concerned Teachers revealed that at least 70 percent of their colleagues deemed that the workload brought by distance learning has negative impacts on their physical and mental health, while 10 percent admitted that they fell ill due to the problems it brought them.

ACT Teachers Partylist also lamented how the Inclusive Education Program (IEP) of the education department, which caters to many students especially in this time of a pandemic, was reduced by P1.539 billion (\$30.7 million). In the 2021 General Appropriations Act, this budget was at 17.47 billion (\$348 million) but in the 2022 proposed budget, it was pegged at P15.9 billion (\$317 million).

Under the Inclusive Education Program, the budget for the Indigenous People’s Education Program, Flexible Learning Options, and Special Education Program will be reduced by P107 million (\$2.13 million), P1.4 billion (\$27.9 million), and P32 million (\$638,330), respectively.

Meanwhile, Rep. Castro noted that the Duterte administration is seeking a P28.1 billion allocation for the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict, the government’s botched counterinsurgency

program behind the rampant red-tagging of activists and human rights defenders, and proven false and baseless accusations against celebrities, media workers, and other personalities.

“We are in a health, economic and educational crisis that is worsening every day because the Duterte administration chooses to prioritize budgeting programs that do not help the Filipino people and only helps himself to remain in power,” Castro added.

Heed teachers’ demands

Meanwhile, Verna Celones, a public school teacher for more than a decade, said that due support, particularly for gadgets needed for the school, is a “weapon” that they need in order to survive in teaching in the time of a pandemic.

Internet allowance, too, she added, should be provided regularly, adding that they cannot release funds for this whenever they feel like doing so, “because we do not teach just when we feel like it.”

Meanwhile, the 900,000 public school teachers are set to receive the P1,000 (\$20) incentive on World Teacher’s Day, Oct. 5, in recognition of their vital role in educating Filipino students, especially during the pandemic. But apart from the salary and benefits that they have long been pushing, teachers also reiterated the much-needed rest they need before classes resume on Sept. 13 through another year of blended distance learning.

Teachers are also calling for a five-point safe working environment as classes are set to resume. As it stands, the Philippines is one of the only two countries in the world whose schools are under indefinite lockdown.

These include rolling out a clear plan for the immediate safe conduct of limited and voluntary classroom learning in zero-case and low-risk areas, and a roadmap to the eventual safe reopening of schools across the country.

“The government should not abandon the people’s right to education. We will fight for safe, quality, and accessible education amid a pandemic,” said Jandiel Roperas, president of the National Union of Students of the Philippines.

Meanwhile, teachers also reiterated the need for due support for teachers, from proper devices for online teaching to the release of their much-awaited benefits.

“The government should pay attention to our demands. Ranking officials must see for themselves what is happening on the ground. They might be fed with ‘good news’ but on the ground, we are suffering – sleepless, without ample rest, and digging our own pocket just to be able to teach,” said Del Castro. (JJE, RTS, RVO)



(Photo courtesy of Alliance of Concerned Teachers Facebook page)

PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS CASH ALLOWANCE FOR S.Y. 2021-2022	
Within the first 30 days	P5,000.00/US\$99.31 (100%)
After the first 30 days but not more than 90 days	P4,000.00/US\$79.45 (80%)
After 90 days but not more than 150 days	P2,500.00/US\$49.65 (50%)
After 150 days until the end of the school year	P1,000.00 /US\$19.86 (20%)

Source: Department of Education

(Graphics by Alex Suarez / Bulatlat)

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE OF PRIMO ERNI WITH PORTION SALE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late PRIMO ERNI who died on December 14, 1996 at Brgy. Anuling, Lejos 2, Mendez, Cavite leaving a parcel of land covered by Original Certificate of Title No. 0-603 at Barangay Guinhawa Tagaytay has been extrajudicially settled by his heirs as per Doc. No. 341; Page No. 70; Book No. 156; Series of 2021 Notary Public Att. Ruben T.M. Ramirez.

Ang Cavitenos
September 06, 13 & 20, 2021

DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late LOUISA S. MAGLANTAY who died on August 11, 2021 at the Ospital ng Imus leaving a Bank Account maintained with Savings/Time deposit branch of BDO SM BACOOR in the Amount of PHP 551,752.89 and USD 9,000.00 has been extrajudicially settled by her heirs as per Doc No. 406; Page No. 82; Book No. XXX Series of 2021, Notary Public Atty. John Edward Trinidad Ang.

Ang Cavitenos
September 06, 13 & 20, 2021

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- High competence in project and stakeholder management.
- Excellent interpersonal, written and oral communication skills.
- Experience with digital marketing forms such as social media marketing and content marketing.
- Competency in Microsoft applications including Word, Excel, and Outlook.

For interested applicant, please send your resume at hr@nibertechology.com

Word Search Puzzle

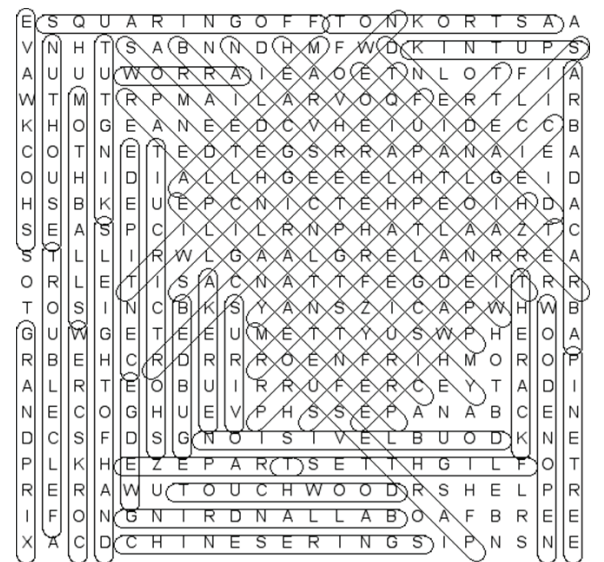
Radiohead Songs

Find and circle all of the Radiohead songs that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell an additional song by Radiohead.

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

- AIRBAG
- ALL I NEED
- BLACK STAR
- BLOW OUT
- BODYSNATCHERS
- BONES
- CREEP
- ELECTIONEERING
- FAUST ARP
- FITTER HAPPIER
- HIGH AND DRY
- HUNTING BEARS
- IN LIMBO
- JUST
- KARMA POLICE
- KID A
- KNIVES OUT
- LET DOWN
- LUCKY
- LURGEE
- MORNING BELL
- MY IRON LUNG
- NICE DREAM
- NO SURPRISES
- NUDE
- OPTIMISTIC
- PARANOID ANDROID
- PLANET TELEX
- PROVE YOURSELF
- PYRAMID SONG
- RECKONER
- RIPCORD
- SULK
- THE BENDS
- THE TOURIST
- TREEFINGERS
- VEGETABLE
- VIDEOTAPE

Sagot sa nakaraan



Sudoku

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

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.

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

Sudoku hint

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

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NR is tone deaf to the plight of fisherfolk in Cavite

By JERWIN G. BAURE

DENR CALABARZON released a statement on Tuesday claiming that the dismantling of “illegal” fish cages and pens in Cavite is beneficial to fisherfolk [1]. DENR recently announced plans on clearing several of these fishing structures after some of them were not able to renew their licenses due to their opposition to reclamation projects. As a response, fisherfolk conducted protests last Monday, September 6, in front of the DENR National Office in Quezon City, and on September 7, in Bacoor City, Cavite to express their opposition. The series of protests resulted in the postponement of the demolition.

Pamalakaya, a national federation of small-scale

fisherfolk organizations, claims that DENR’s demolition project is a prelude to various reclamation projects in many cities and municipalities in Cavite, which includes the Bacoor City, Cavite City, Noveleta, Rosario and Kawit. Indeed, there are several reclamation projects in the province of Cavite, which includes Lani Mercado-Revilla’s reclamation project in Bacoor and the Cavite province’s 5-island reclamation project in coastal towns of Cavite. In fact, the public hearing for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Islands A, C, D and E were conducted last August [2]. Here are my comments to their Statement.

1. “Small and marginalized fisherfolk will benefit the most

continue to page 2



Photo courtesy of Bulatlat.com

Dominguez sees bright PHL economic prospects amid Gov’t pandemic recovery support for businesses

MANILA — Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III believes there is much to be optimistic about the country’s economic outlook despite the pandemic as the Duterte administration has been “doing its utmost” to help businesses, especially micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), recover from this protracted global health and economic crises.

“There is much to be optimistic about the outlook of our economy even as we continue to grapple with the pandemic,” Dominguez said Friday at the close of the two-day 29th Metro Manila Business Conference (MMBC).

Our country is “well on its way to a solid rebound,” he told the MMBC participants at the virtual conference. “I am confident that our partnership will be even stronger as the Philippines blazes the path to sustainable and inclusive economic recovery.”

Dominguez pointed out that the government, for one, has infused additional capital into state financial institutions to enable them to provide low-interest loans to MSMEs, and fine-tuned fiscal and monetary policies to encourage banks to lend to pandemic-hit enterprises.

These institutions include the Land Bank of the Philippines (LandBank) and the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP), which have substantially expanded their lending to small businesses; and the Philippine Guarantee Corp. (PhilGuarantee), which opened a loan guarantee program for MSMEs

last December.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), for its part, has allowed the grant of loans to MSMEs as part of the compliance of banks with their reserve requirements to encourage them to extend financing support to these enterprises, he said.

It has also implemented measures to ensure adequate domestic liquidity and sustain the flow of credit, he added.

Dominguez said the Department of Finance (DOF) quickly negotiated financing for the procurement of COVID-19 vaccines and started securing enough doses to be able to meet its goal of inoculating 100 percent of the adult population by yearend to speed up the reopening of the economy.

Moreover, he said, the government is also continuously building up the public health care system and improving on tracking, tracing, and treatment methods to withstand any possible surge in infections, and eventually remove the pandemic as a determinant of how the economy performs.

Dominguez pointed out that even with the ongoing pandemic, the Duterte administration managed to stick to its goal of reforming the tax system to make it simpler, fairer and more efficient as exemplified by the passage of the Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises (CREATE) Act.

This law is the largest economic stimulus program for businesses in the country’s recent

continue to page 2

Duterte cites need to ‘double’ efforts vs. illegal drugs

By Ruth Abbey Gita-Carlos and Christopher Lloyd Calivan

MANILA — President Rodrigo Duterte has emphasized the need to “double” the government’s efforts to stop the proliferation of illegal drugs in the country.

In his pre-recorded Talk to the People delivered Friday night but aired Saturday morning, Duterte renewed his commitment to continue his relentless campaign against rampant narcotics trade.

“Hindi ako nagbibiro kung sinasabi ko na natatakot ako sa anong

mangyari ng bayan ko pagka hindi maghinto talaga itong pasok ng droga (I am not joking when I say I’m afraid of what might happen to the country if the illegal drug trade continues). It would require more than just double of what we are doing now to (cope with) the widespread importation or the presence of whatever drugs in the country,” he said.

Duterte issued the statement as he lamented that multibillion-peso worth of suspected shabu had been seized in buy-bust operations in Cavite on Thursday night.

Two drug suspects were killed while two others were arrested

in separate anti-drug operations in the cities of Imus and Bacoor.

Killed during the anti-drug operation at Springville Executive 1 in Molino village in Bacoor City were Basher Bangon and Danilo Untavar. About 181 kg. of suspected shabu with an estimated street value of PHP1.25 billion were seized during the raid.

On the other hand, Lani Micoleta and Aldwin Micoleta were arrested in a buy-bust operation in Magdalo village in Imus City.

Confiscated from them were 48 kg. of suspected shabu with an estimated street value of PHP331.2

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ANOTHER BIG HAUL. The PHP1.5 billion worth of suspected shabu seized by authorities in separate buy-bust operations in the cities of Imus and Bacoor in Cavite on Sept. 9, 2021. The operations came just three days after the confiscation of PHP4 billion worth of suspected shabu in Zambales and Bataan. (Photo courtesy of Cavite PPO)