Enchanted Kingdom and Cafe Mary Grace launches magical partnership in bringing the Goodness of Home

Enchanted Kingdom (EK), the first and only world-class theme park in the Philippines, partners with another iconic Filipino brand, Cafe Mary Grace in bringing more magical experiences to all during the latters' soft opening at the EK Portico, City of Santa Rosa.

Located beside the entrance of the park, the EK Portico is part of the theme park's 28th anniversary promise of an enhanced retail and dining experience even during the days that the park is closed.

"As a proud Filipino company, Enchanted Kingdom has always been committed to partnering with fellow local brands. This partnership with Cafe Mary Grace is a testament of this, as we are also steadfast in providing wholesome family leisure and magical experiences to all of our guests," said Anna Mamon-Aban, EK Head of Business Development and Digital Transformation.

From its roots as a home-based baking business when it was first established in 1983, Cafe Mary Grace has grown into becoming a well-loved bakeshop and cafe in the country. More than its signature homemade baked goods and homegrown dishes, it also offers the goodness and warmth of home in each of their physical branches for families and customers to enjoy.

"Cafe Mary Grace offers a welcoming space where families can unwind and savor comforting pastries and delicious meals. Through this partnership, we aim to extend the Warmth of Home not just to park visitors but also to local communities. It's truly gratifying to join forces with another esteemed Filipino company that values the importance of family," shared by Jessa Arellano, Brand Marketing Officer.

As an opening treat, Cafe Mary Grace is introducing the Welcome Home Treat, offering guests a complimentary glass of Sangria for every purchase of any All-day breakfast or any Flavorful Pasta from August 16 to September 16, 2024. Additionally, guests can enjoy a park-exclusive Merienda Pairing which features a selection of the cafe's baked goods paired with Mary Grace Hot Chocolate or coffee (americano or latte) for a special price. This Merienda Pairing is also available from August 16 to September 16, 2024.

For the month of August, Cafe Mary Grace at EK will be open every Monday to Tuesday (11am to 8pm), Wednesday to Thursday (10am to 8pm), and Friday to Sunday (8am to 10pm).

For more information and updates regarding this and EK's other upcoming events and offers, visit EK's official Facebook page @enchantedkingdom.ph.

Courtesy Call at Pagbibigay ng Incentives sa mga Medalistang Atleta ng Calamba

Ngayong araw, kinilala natin ang mga Calambeñong atleta na nag-uwi ng medalya mula sa Palarong Pambansa sa pamamagitan ng isang Courtesy Call at pagbibigay ng incentives sa bisa ng City Ordinance No. 813, Series of 2024.

Narito ang mga kampeon na nagdala ng karangalan sa ating lungsod:

-Mark Jacob Villamar - Gymnastics (4 Gold Medals, 1 Silver Medal)
Coach: Marilou Culla
- Denz Gabriel Erasga - Gymnastics (3 Silver Medals)
Coach: Earl Noel Caraan
-Carmela Arizala - Gymnastics (1 Bronze Medal)
Coach: Marichu Regente
- Shenead Fuaso - Gymnastics (1 Bronze Medal)
-Kayle Mayce Norte - Athletics SNED (1 Bronze Medal)
Coach: Francis Dan Boringot

Ang kanilang tagumpay ay isang inspirasyon para sa buong lungsod, at ang Ramdam na Reporma ay patuloy na magbibigay ng suporta sa mga ganitong programa para sa kapakanan ng ating mga atleta at kabataan. Sama-sama nating itaguyod ang kalusugan at kasiglahan ng Calamba. (Nelson Dimapilis/COG)

DERETSAHAN
WEEKLY PUBLISHING
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DBM Approves Additional PHP 3.681 Billion to Bolster Nationwide Free Wi-Fi Program, Supporting Over 13,000 Sites

Government Allocates P49.8 Billion for Senior Citizens in 2025

Panalo ang Ramdam na Reporma sa DTI's Philippine Creative Cities and Municipalities Congress!

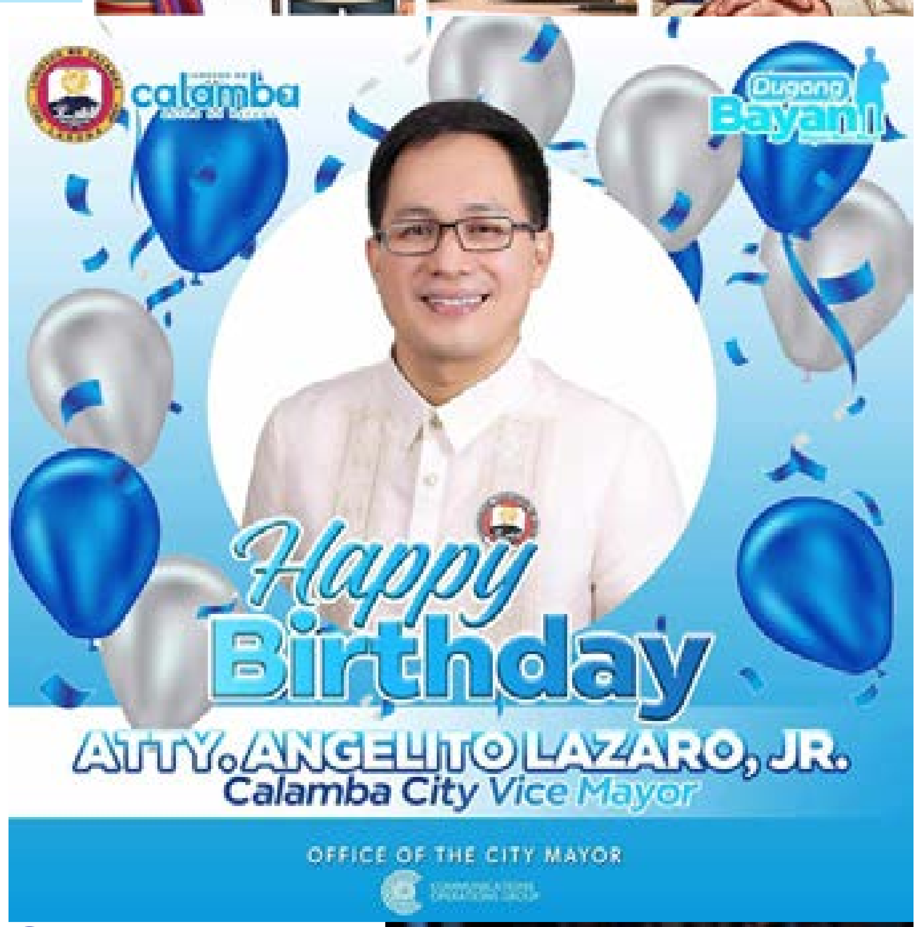
Calambeños, pang 6 tayo sa buong bansa, number 1 tayo sa Laguna!

Ngayong gabi, sa ginanap na Creative Cities and Municipalities Congress na pinangungunahan ng DTI, kinilala ang ating lungsod bilang isa sa mga pinakamaunlad at pinakainobatibong mga lungsod sa buong bansa. Tumanggap tayo ng mga parangal, kabilang ang pagiging Top 2 sa Innovation, Top 4 sa Economic Dynamism, Top 9 sa Infrastructure Pillar, at higit sa lahat, Top 6 OVERALL MOST COMPETITIVE COMPONENT CITY.

Ang mga pagkilalang ito ay patunay na ang Ramdam na Reporma ay hindi lamang isang panawagan—ito ay isang konkretong aksyon na tunay na nagdadala ng pagbabago at kaunlaran para sa ating bayan.

Mula sa inobasyon hanggang sa pagpapatibay ng ekonomiya at imprastruktura, patuloy nating isinusulong ang mga proyektong magbibigay ng mas maliwanag na kinabukasan para sa lahat ng Calambeño.

Sama-sama tayong aabante, walang atrasan, dahil sa Ramdam na Reporma, (NELSON DIMAPILIS/COG)



CPOC & CADAC JOINT MEETING: Dumalo si Papa P sa Joint Meeting ng City Peace and Order Council at City Anti-Drug Abuse Council na ginanap sa Jose Rizal Coliseum. Tinalakay dito ang mas pagpapaigting ng Peace and Order at pagsugpo sa ipinagbabawal na gamot. Kasama ni Papa P si Vice Mayor Angelito "Totie" Lazaro Jr., Konsehal Arvin Manguiat, at DILG City Director Jennifer Quirante. (Nelson Dimapilis)

Cayetano renews call for grassroots sports support, echoes Tolentino's funding priorities

Editoryal

KALIDAD NG EDUKASYON NATIN, KULELAT NGA BA?

Sa resulta ng 2022 Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), ang mga Pilipino students ay nakakuha lamang ng 355 points sa math, 356 sa science at 347 sa reading. Para makapasa, kailangang ang score ay: 472 sa math; 485 sa science at 476 sa reading. Masyadong mababa ang nakuha ng mga Pilipinong estudyante kumpara sa mga estudyante ng Singapore, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Macao, Ireland, Estonia, at Chinese Taipei na mataas ang nakuhang puntos.

Bagsak din ang mga Pinoy students sa creative thinking assessment na isinagawa rin ng PISA noong 2022. Ikalawa sa kulelat ang mga estudyanteng Pinoy sa 64 na bansang sumailalim sa assessment.

HINDI naman dating nangungulelat ang mga Pilipinong estudyante sa larangan ng Math, Science at Reading. Katunayan, nangunguna noon ang mga Pilipinong high school students sa pakikipagkumpetensiya sa mga estudyante sa karatig bansa sa Asia sa larangan ng Science. Nag-uuwi sila ng mga medalya at nagbibigay ng karangalan sa bansa. Kahit ang mga estudyanteng Pinoy sa elementarya ay nakikipagpaligsahan din at nangunguna sila.

Pero nabaliktad ang mga pangyayari sapagkat napag-iiwanan ang mga Pilipinong estudyante sa high school. Nakadidismaya na maraming junior high school students ang walang nalalaman o bagsak sa mga asignatura at hindi nakaabot sa hinihingi o required na proficiency levels. Kalahati sa junior high school students ay bagsak. Ayon din sa report, kalahati ng grade 6, 10 at 12 students ay bumabagsak.

Nagpaplano si DepEd Secretary Sonny Angara na magdebelop ang mga eskuwelahan ng mga examinations na katulad ng PISA para masubukan ang kaalaman ng mga estudyante sa problem solving at reading comprehension. Ayon kay Angara sa pamamagitan ng examinations ay mahahasa ang talino ng mga bata at maaari itong iaplay sa totoong sitwasyon ng buhay.

Maganda at makabuluhan ang balak ni Angara para mahasa ang talino at creativity ng mga Pilipinong estudyante sa pamamagitan ng examinations na kagaya ng PISA. Dapat isagawa ito upang marekober ang nawawalang kalidad ng edukasyon.

Kasabay sa isasagawang eksaminasyon, isakatuparan din naman ni Angara ang pagha-hire sa mga mahuhusay na guro para magabayan ang mga estudyante. Lutasin din ang problema sa nagsisiksikang mga estudyante sa classroom. Dahil sa sobrang dami (umaabot sa 50 students sa classroom), hindi na makapag-concentrate ang mga estudyante. Malaking bagay kung matutugunan ni Secretary Angara ang mga problemang nabanggit upang marekober ang nawalang kalidad ng edukasyon.

Cayetano...

FROM PAGE 1

Senator Alan Peter Cayetano on Monday renewed his call for more support for grassroots sports, expressing what Philippine Olympic Committee (POC) President and Tagaytay City Mayor Abraham “Bambol” N. Tolentino would have said on the Senate floor.

“If Bambol Tolentino will be allowed to speak right now, he will ask na sana yung nasa batas na pondo na galing PAGCOR ay mapunta na sa PSC at POC,” Cayetano said on Monday, August 19, 2024.

Cayetano’s remarks followed the filing of Senate Resolution no, 1156 which he co-authored with Senator Francis Tolentino commending the POC for its successful campaign at the 2024 Paris Olympics under Mayor Tolentino’s leadership.

Cayetano said instead of being given accolades, Mayor Tolentino would want to prioritize the channeling of funds to the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) and the POC.

In his sponsorship speech, Cayetano also expressed his gratitude to Tolentino and the Filipino athletes for bringing to the country.

“We thank the medalists; sila ang symbol of success ng ating [mga] atletang Pilipino,” he said.

“We’d also like to salute you and say from the bottom of our hearts, Bambol Tolentino, maraming salamat sa’yo,” he added.

Concurrent with the filing of SRN 1156, Senators Alan Peter and Pia Cayetano also filed SRN 1161 commending Mayor Tolentino for his leadership of the POC, particularly during a period of historic achievements for Filipino athletes in international competitions, including the Olympics.

The sibling senators emphasized that Tolentino's guidance has been instrumental in the success of Filipino athletes on the global stage.

“POC President Bambol Tolentino should be commended for his strong leadership, helping steer our athletes to greatness,” they said in the resolution

The senators also praised Tolentino’s service as POC President since July 28, 2019, noting that under his leadership, the committee successfully represented the Philippines in major international competitions.

The resolution highlights the historic milestones achieved during Tolentino’s tenure, including the country's first-ever Olympic gold medal won by weightlifter Hidilyn Diaz at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, as well as the medal haul at the Paris 2024 Olympics where gymnast Carlos Yulo secured two gold medals and boxers Nesthy Petecio and Aira Villegas each earned a bronze.

It was also under Tolentino’s watch that the Philippines reached its highest Olympic finish at the Paris Games, ranking 35th overall.

Additionally, the resolution recognizes the country’s athletic prowess at the 19th Asian Games in China in October 2023, where the Philippines brought home 18 medals, and at the 31st Southeast Asian Games in Vietnam in 2022 where the Philippine team earned 260 medals – 58 gold, 85 silver, and 117 bronze.

“The excellent showing of Team Philippines in recent international competitions, especially in the recently-concluded Olympics, would not have been possible without POC President Bambol Tolentino’s leadership and guidance,” it wrote. PR

SENIOR CITIZENS...

FROM PAGE 1

Calamba City, Calabarzon, Philippines – The Philippine government has announced a significant increase in funding for its Social Pension for Indigent Senior Citizens (SPISC) program in the 2025 National Expenditure Program (NEP). The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) has allocated P49.8 billion for the program, ensuring that over four million indigent senior citizens will continue to receive a monthly allowance of P1,000.

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. emphasized the importance of caring for the elderly in his Budget Message, stating that the Social Pension is a reflection of the nation's values and commitment to an inclusive society. The increased funding will allow the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to expand the program's reach and provide greater support to senior citizens in need.

DBM Secretary Amenah "Mina" F. Pangandaman highlighted the administration's commitment to the welfare of senior citizens, stating that the P49.8 billion allocation will ensure that the program has sufficient funds to provide timely benefits to its beneficiaries.

Expanded Benefits for Centenarians

In addition to the increased funding for the SPISC program, the government has also allocated P3 billion for the implementation of the Expanded Centenarians Act. This law provides for a cash gift of P100,000 to Filipinos who reach the age of 100, as well as P10,000 cash benefits for all Filipinos aged 80, 85, 90, and 95.

The Expanded Centenarians Act was signed into law by President Marcos in February 2024, expanding the scope of benefits and support for older Filipinos. DBM Secretary Pangandaman said that the allocation of P3 billion will ensure that the government can provide these benefits to all eligible recipients.

A Commitment to Senior Citizen Welfare

The government's allocation of P49.8 billion for senior citizens in 2025 demonstrates its commitment to providing a social safety net for the elderly population. By increasing funding for the SPISC program and implementing the Expanded Centenarians Act, the government is taking steps to ensure that senior citizens have the resources they need to live with dignity and independence. (EDJUN MARIPOSQUE)

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SOLONS: YOU LOSE A DEGREE OF PRIVACY UPON ENTRY INTO PUBLIC SERVICE

MANILA – Lawmakers from the House of Representatives on Wednesday said serving in the public sector entails surrendering a certain degree of privacy.

This was the lawmakers' reaction to Vice President Sara Duterte's claim that her security was compromised after a photo of her was taken at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) Terminal 3 when she left for Germany at the height of Typhoon Carina.

Lanao del Sur Rep. Zia Alonto Adiong said while he supports any proposal to tighten security in public places, you may lose some degree of privacy once an individual enters into government service.

“Once you enter into public service, you somehow surrender a certain degree of privacy, unfortunately. And that's been the problem not only of one individual public official but it is actually shared by all of us,” Adiong said in a press conference.

Adiong said there is a "very thin line" separating a public official's personal and public lives.

“Once you do enter into this kind of service, you automatically – deliberately or not – share your life to the public and the public will also enjoy a certain, I don't know if it's imaginative, a certain power over you, that whatever you do, either publicly or privately, they tend to feel that they have a right to know everything that you do,” he said.

Deputy Majority Leader Janette Garin noted that the airport is a public place and Duterte is a public official.

Garin said having the Vice President’s photo taken at the airport is but a natural consequence of her entry to public service.

“If we need to beef up security, it’s because if there are threats or we need to secure the area because we have more tourist coming into the Philippines and not because a certain individual got a photo,” Garin said.

“These are part and parcel of the risk we face as government employees and government officials. I myself, with due courtesy to the vice president, wouldn't blame the setup of the airport because it's a public place,” she added.

1-Rider Rep. Rodge Gutierrez said even private persons cannot expect much about privacy in a public place such as an airport.

“It's a public place, we can't really expect much privacy. We can't expect privacy as private persons, paano pa kaya (what more) as public officials?” Gutierrez said.

Not for impeachment

Garin, meanwhile, cautioned against premature speculation that the findings of the Commission on Audit (COA) regarding the Vice President's confidential and intelligence funds (CIF) might be used as a ground for impeachment.

Garin said the intention behind the House appropriations committee's move to subpoena COA’s findings was primarily to ensure proper safeguards for the allocation of confidential funds.

“Let's cross the bridge when it comes. Sa pananaw ko, ang intention ay hindi na maulit kung saka-sakali meron talagang misuse ng confidential fund (In my opinion, the intention is to not repeat the misuse of confidential funds if ever such thing occurred)” Garin said.

Adiong also stressed that there is no indication so far that these COA findings would lead to an impeachment process, noting that House panel's move to subpoena these findings is part of the regular budgeting process.

He said focusing on the impeachment process without clear grounds would undermine the significant legislative work being done in Congress.

“Impeachment is not only divisive but also counterproductive,” Adiong said. "It counters the things that we do here in the House of Representatives. We are aiming to really push for the progress of our country, economically, socially, and in terms of peace and order." (PNA)

CARD MBA EXPANDS REACH WITH OPENING OF 93RD PO IN LUCBAN, QUEZON

CARD MBA CEO Jocelyn Dequito, CARD MBA President Reazhyle Francisco, and Board of Trustee members Deneglen Peñaflorida and Virginia Garcia (from left to right) take the lead in the successful ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly opened Provincial Office.

The CARD Mutual Benefit Association, Inc. (CARD MBA), the insurance arm of CARD Mutually Reinforcing Institutions (CARD MRI), inaugurated its 93rd Provincial Office (PO) in Lucban, Quezon on May 6, 2024.

Established in 1999, CARD MBA is dedicated to providing benefits to its members in times of uncertainty, including death, through various microinsurance products tailored to offer protection and support.

"Our continued expansion in different regions in the country underscores our dedication to serving our members in need. We ensure the most vulnerable segments in our society have access to our services particularly during challenging times," said CARD MBA CEO Jocelyn Dequito.

Dequito emphasized that these achievements reflect not only the success of CARD MBA but also the broader success of CARD MRI in line with its mission to provide support to communities and spread positive impact.

CARD MBA offers a wide range of financial products tailored to the needs of its members, including Basic Life Insurance, Retirement Fund, Loan Redemption Fund Plus, Golden Life Insurance, Family Security Plan, Acci Plan, and Remitter Protek Plan, each with varying payment options and maximum benefits, helping families to be financially prepared in times of uncertainty.

In addition, CARD MBA actively engages in community development initiatives organized by CARD MRI, such as the Kaunlaran Caravan, facilitating events like mass weddings and the CARD MRI Disaster Relief Assistance Program.

The newly opened Quezon 5 PO, located at A. Bonifacio St., Corner J. Rizal Avenue, Barangay Poblacion 2, Lucban, Quezon will serve a total of 73,569 members from CARD, Inc. (A Microfinance NGO) and CARD Bank, Inc.

This inauguration emphasizes CARD MBA's steadfast commitment to broadening its outreach and ensuring financial security for Filipinos nationwide. This expansion enhances access to vital insurance services and strengthens the organization's ability to promote resilience and prosperity within communities across the Philippines.

To learn more about CARD MBA, please visit ***https://cardmba.com/***

GATCHALIAN ASKS ERC TO EXPLAIN OCTOBER RATE HIKE

Senator Win Gatchalian called on the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) to explain its approval of an increase in electricity rate beginning October this year in a bid to ensure that the hike is justified.

"We need to ensure that any pass-through charges are justified so that any increase in electricity prices does not unduly burden consumers," Gatchalian said. The ERC had earlier granted the Manila Electric Company's (Meralco) application for the power distribution company to adjust the rates of power it generates from natural gas-fired power plants.

Based on the ERC resolution, Meralco is authorized to reflect the adjusted rates from the gas-fired power plants of First Gas Power Corp. and FGP Corp. starting in October. The rate hike is expected to amount to 32 to 33 centavos per kilowatt-hour (kWh) monthly for 12 months.

As the vice-chairperson of the Senate Committee on Energy, Gatchalian said that the ERC should investigate the price of LNG contracted by the gas plants, which led to the increase.

"Importante na masiguro natin na lahat ng pinapasang bayarin sa mga consumers ay nasa katwiran at hindi pwedeng pasa lang nang pasa ang ERC," he emphasized.

CONDEMNATION RALLY LABAN SA MGA CPP-NPA, ISINAGAWA SA BARANGAY BAYA, BAGAY, CAMARINES SUR

Dahil sa brutal at walang awang pamamaslang ng CPP-NPA kay Mr Rudy Buenaobra kamakailan lamang sa Zone 5 ng Barangay Baya, Ragay na nagdulot ng matinding troma at takot sa mga lokal na mamamayan ng nasabing Barangay, nagsagawa ng peace rally ang mga residente, lokal na pamahalaan ng Ragay, kasundaluhan ng 81IB at kapulisan ng Ragay MPS noong ika-14 ng Agosto taong 2024. Ayon sa kanila, panahon na para labanan ang ganitong karahasan sa kanilang lugar sa pamamagitan ng pagkakaisa at pagkondena dahil kabilang lamang si Rudy Bonaobra na ordinaryong mamayan sa marami ng pinaslang ng NPA sa kanilang Barangay.

Sinimulan ang naturang aktibidad sa pagsasagawa ng information awareness drive mula sa mga kasundaluhan ng 81IB at mga kapulisan ng Ragay MPS tungkol sa nangyaring karahasan sa nasabing barangay na naglalantad ng malubhang paglabag sa karapatang pantao at mga pamantayan ng International Humanitarian Law (IHL).

Kasunod nito ay ang pagpapahayag at pagpapakita ng pagkondena ng mga residente at maging mga opisyales ng barangay, mga kasundaluhan, kapulisan, local na pamahalaan at DILG ng Ragay sa hindi makatarungan at makataong pamamaslang ng mga berdugong NPA sa Barangay Baya.

Tanda ng pagwaksi at hindi pagtanggap sa mga teroristang NPA sa Brgy Baya, pinangunahan ni Punong Brgy Dominador Miranda ang pagsunog ng mga imahe ng mga teroristang NPA at bandila ng mga ito.

Ang mga kasundaluhan ng 81IB ay patuloy na magmamasid sa sitwasyon at magsusulong ng mga hakbang upang matiyak ang katarungan para sa mga biktima at manatiling igalang ang karapatang pantao sa lahat ng pagkakataon. (PR)

Matagumpay na isinagawa ang Sangguniang Kabataan Youth Leadership Summit 2024 na may temang "United for Progress: Leadership in the Face of Challenges" noong ika-15 hanggang ika-16 ng Agosto 2024 sa Cotte De Azur Resort, Brgy. Abiawin, Infanta, Quezon.

Pinangunahan ng Local Government Unit ng Gen. Nakar, Quezon, sa ilalim ng pangangasiwa ng Municipal Social Welfare Development Office (MSWDO), ang makabuluhang summit na ito na naglalayong paglinang ng mga kabataang may takot sa Diyos, mataas na moralidad, at disiplina mga kabataang handang tumulong sa pag-unlad ng kanilang komunidad at protektado laban sa mga ilegal na organisasyon na naglalayong sirain ang demokrasya at pamahalaan

Sa tulong at pakikipagtulungan ng 1st Infantry Battalion ng Philippine Army sa pamumuno ni LTC NOEL B WAMIL INF (GSC) PA, naging matagumpay ang summit. Ang Executive Assistant na si Mr. Glen Jared Ruzol ay naging kinatawan ni Hon. Eliseo R. Ruzol sa kaganapang ito.

Binigyang-diin ni LTC WAMIL ang kahalagahan ng pakikilahok ng kabataan sa mga aktibidad ng kanilang komunidad upang maiwasan ang impluwensya ng mga teroristang grupo. Binigyang-diin din niya na ang kabataan ang pag-asa ng bayan at ang tamang gabay at edukasyon ang magiging sandigan ng kanilang magandang kinabukasan. Nelson Dimapilis/DPAO)

SERBISYONG AMANTE UMABANTE SA BAYAN NG RIZAL

LAGUNA- Muling umabante ang Serbisyong Amante sa bayan ng Rizal Laguna makaraang magsagawa ng Medical and Dental Mission Caravan si Congressman Loreto"Amben" Amante.

Umabot ng humigit kumulang na 1,500 ang nabiyayaan ng libreng medical check up, bunot ng ngipin at Iba pa. At habang naghibintay ang mga residente ay may nakalaan naman libreng Popcorn at tubig si Kapitana Madette Amante.

Sa panayam kay Cong. Amante na labis na ikinatuwa ng lahat ng dumalo sa programa. Ibinabatid nito na sa lahat na sinoman ang sumasa-ilalim sa maintenance ay sagot ni Congressman Amante ang tatlong buwang gamutan at pangangailan at sa mga gastusin.

Pinuri din nito si House Speaker Martin Romualdez dahil sa patuloy at walang patid nitong suporta at tulong sa lahat ng proyekto at programa sa kanyang nasasakupan
.

Nagpa-abot din ng labis na pasasalamat si Mrs..Nenita Evasco Principal II ng Cristobal S. Conducto Memorial Integrated National School Brgy.Paule 2 Rizal Laguna. Dahil sa sinagot din ng Serbisyong Amante ang maitanance para sa kanyang anak.

Kasama naman si Mayor Vener Muñoz na nag-ikot sa mga silid aralan kung saan Dito isinasagawa ang mga ibat-ibang bahagi ng check-up at pagbibigay ng lunas sa mga mamamayan.

Samantalang nakatakda naman isagawa ang susunod na Medical and Dental Mission Caravan sa bahagi naman ng bayan ng Alaminos sa lalawigan ng Laguna. Kevin Pamatmat

God is with you wherever you go

The paper that stand for real values and gives you real value for money

Pointer
Pau Dela Cruz

ANO NGA BA ANG VOG O SMOG?

Ang vog o smog ay isang uri ng polusyon sa hangin na sanhi ng mga bulkan. Binubuo ito ng mga pinong patak na naglalaman ng volcanic gas tulad ng Sulfur Dioxide(SO2) na acidic at nakakairita ng mata, lalamunan at respiratory tract depende sa konsentrasyon o tagal ng pagkalanghap nito.

Ang mga taong sadyang mas maselan sa masamang epekto ng vog ay ang mga may karamdaman gaya ng hika, sakit sa baga at sakit sa puso, mga matatanda, mga buntis, at mga bata

Ano ang epekto nito?

Maaring magdulot ito ng iritasyon sa mga mata, lalamunan at respiratory tract na maaaring maging malubha depende sa kosentrasyon o tagal ng pagkalanghap nito.

Ano ang dapat natin gawin sa panahon ng ganitong disaster?

Limitahan natin ang pagkakalantad o exposure sa vog. Iwasan ang mga aktibidad sa labas o manatili na lamang sa loob ng bahay at isara ang mga bintana at pintuan upang maiwasang makapasok ang vog sa loob ng bahay.

Protektahan ang ating mga sarili. Gumamit ng nararapat na N95 face masks o gas mask. Uminom ng maraming tubig upang maibsan ang iritasyon o paninikip ng daluyan ng paghinga. Kung kabilang sa mga sensitibong grupo, siguraduhing subaybayan ang inyong kalagayan at magpatingin agad sa doktor o sa barangay health unit kung kinakailangan. Sa oras navmakakaranas ng matinding epekto, magpatingin agad sa doktor o sa barangay health unit.

STREET-LEVEL DRUG SUSPECT NABBED; SHABU AND FIREARM SEIZED IN SAN PABLO CITY BUY-BUST OPERATION

In a decisive operation aimed at curbing illegal drug activities, a street-level drug suspect, known by the alias "Brando," was arrested during a buy-bust operation conducted by the San Pablo City Police on the evening of August 19, 2024. The operation, led by the San Pablo Police, took place in Brgy. San Juan, San Pablo City, Laguna, at around 7:40 PM.

Laguna Provincial Director, PCOL Gauvin Mel Y Unos, identified the suspect, who was caught red-handed selling suspected shabu to an undercover police officer posing as a buyer. The suspect was apprehended in possession of three small heat-sealed transparent plastic sachets containing approximately one gram of suspected shabu, with a street value of Php 6,900.00.

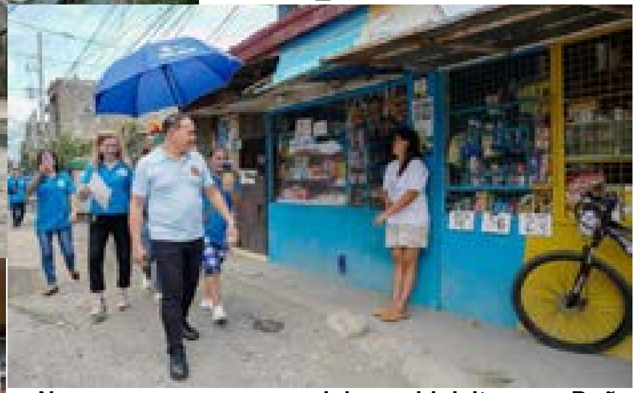
Additionally, the authorities recovered marked money, a Caliber 38 revolver with four live bullets, a Samsung cellphone, and a sling bag. The operation was spearheaded by PLTCOL Wilhelmino S. Saldivar Jr., Chief of the San Pablo City Police Station.

The arrested suspect is currently detained at the San Pablo Component City Police Station and faces charges for violating RA 9165 (Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002) and RA 10591 (Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulation Act).

PCOL Unos emphasized the importance of community-police collaboration in maintaining peace and order, stating, "The successful apprehension of this suspect highlights the strong partnership between the community and the police, which is crucial in our ongoing efforts to combat the threat of criminality caused by illegal drugs in Laguna."

This operation marks another step towards ensuring safety and security in the province. #Edjun Mariposque

Pagbisita at Pag-inspeksyon sa Doña Regina Homes, Sampiruhan



Ngayong araw, personal kong binisita ang Doña Regina Homes kasama ang City Engineering Office upang makita ang problema sa kanilang kalsada. Alam namin ang inyong hinaing, ngunit dahil sa isyu sa Deed of Donation, hindi ito maipagawa ng LGU sa ngayon. Gayunpaman, patuloy kaming naghahanap ng tamang solusyon para maisaayos ito nang hindi lumalabag sa mga regulasyon. Kasama ninyo ang Ramdam na Reporma sa paghahanap ng paraan para sa inyong kapakanan. (Nelson Dimapilis/COG)

DBM..

FROM PAGE 1

In a significant move to strengthen digital connectivity across the Philippines, Department of Budget and Management (DBM) Secretary Amenah "Mina" F. Pangandaman has greenlit the release of an additional PHP 3.681 billion to the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT). The fund aims to sustain and expand the Free Public Internet Access Program (FPIAP), a key government initiative that provides free Wi-Fi services in public areas nationwide.

"The continuation of our free Wi-Fi program is assured. By approving this additional budget within our calibrated fiscal program, we reaffirm our commitment to prioritizing inclusive and accessible internet for all," Secretary Pangandaman declared, underscoring the administration's dedication to digital inclusion.

***Impact on Digital Transformation**

The newly approved funding will be instrumental in expanding the reach of the FPIAP, benefiting a total of 13,462 Access Point (AP) sites in various locations throughout the country. These sites include public schools, libraries, parks, and transportation hubs, where the public relies on free and reliable internet services for education, work, and everyday activities.

This move aligns with President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s vision of bridging the digital divide and ensuring that every Filipino, regardless of location, has access to vital online resources. "As mandated by President Marcos, we will ensure that every citizen, saan mang sulok ng Pilipinas, makikinabang sa ating digital transformation initiatives," Secretary Pangandaman added.

***Strategic Allocation of Funds**

The additional PHP 3.681 billion will be sourced from the Special Account in the General Fund - Free Public Internet Access Fund (SAGF-FPIAF) for the fiscal year 2024. This allocation is in addition to the PHP 2.5 billion already designated for the FPIAF this year, which has been fully obligated as of this month. With these funds, the DICT is expected to accelerate the implementation of the program, ensuring that all targeted areas will have operational and efficient internet access.

***Infrastructure Development and Connectivity**

As part of the FPIAP, the funds will be used not only to expand the number of access points but also to develop and maintain critical ICT infrastructure. This includes the construction of telecommunications towers, data centers, and other essential facilities required to provide stable internet connectivity. The government's long-term goal is to establish a seamless digital network that reaches even the most remote areas of the Philippines, enabling more Filipinos to engage in the digital economy.

***Secretary Pangandaman's Call for Swift Action**

With the budget now released, Secretary Pangandaman emphasized the urgency of swift fund disbursement and the rapid implementation of the program. "We understand the critical need for this program. With the budget released, we are hopeful that the DICT can proceed swiftly with the fund disbursement and expedite the program's implementation," she stated. This call to action reflects the government's recognition of internet connectivity as a fundamental need, especially in the context of the post-pandemic era where digital access plays a crucial role in education, business, and governance.

***Towards a Digitally Inclusive Future**

The expansion of the Free Public Internet Access Program is a key component of the administration's broader digital transformation strategy. By investing in ICT infrastructure and expanding internet access to underserved areas, the government is taking significant steps towards a more connected and inclusive society. The successful implementation of this program is expected to have far-reaching impacts, from improving educational outcomes to supporting small businesses and enhancing public services through digital means.

As the DICT moves forward with the implementation, the government remains committed to ensuring that no Filipino is left behind in the digital age. The continued expansion of the free Wi-Fi program underscores the administration's commitment to creating a digitally empowered nation, where every citizen has the opportunity to thrive in an increasingly connected world. Edjun Mariposque

MPT South conducts Photowalk tour showcasing Laguna Heritage

Metro Pacific Tollways South (MPT South), in collaboration with the Department of Interior and Local Government – Laguna (DILG Laguna), Laguna Tourism Culture Arts and Trade Office (LTCATO), Biñan City Culture, History, Arts, and Tourism Office (BCHATO), and Sta. Rosa Tourism Office (SRTO) successfully culminated its first Biyaheng South's "Discover Laguna: A Heritage Photo Walk Tour" in Biñan and Santa Rosa.

'Biyaheng South' invited photo enthusiasts and selected media partners to take part in the Photo Walk Tour. It started in Biñan, with a quick tour of the Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAX) from Mamplasan to Silang-Aguinaldo exit to highlight its features as a green expressway which makes the segment self-sustaining. Afterward, participants, media partners, and colleagues from different government agencies enjoyed a heartwarming breakfast and the cozy vibe of one of Biñan's hidden gems, Kamp Lilim, just a few kilometers away from CALAX. Shortly, they headed to Biñan Esplanade, the coastal area of Biñan, where they got the chance to see the Hispanic-inspired coastal architecture and breathtaking scenery of Laguna Lake, the country's largest freshwater basin.

Heading to the city's población, they got the chance to explore and capture one of Biñan's historical landmarks, the Alberto Mansion, Teodora Alonzo's ancestral abode, the mother of the country's national hero, Dr. Jose Rizal. They also seized the moment, learning the footprints of Dr. Rizal's maternal and paternal lineage sketched around the city center.

As they head to the city of Sta. Rosa, the participants were also pleased with the homey Filipino food served for lunch at 'PansEAT,' one of Sta. Rosa's oldest restaurant. After the luncheon, they were briefed by the local tourism officers with the amazing historical evidence found in the city's museum, and city's century-old church, the Sta. Rosa de Lima Parish Church, which was built in 1792; the impressive Spanish and American ancestral houses along Zavalla Street adds to the historical significance of the city; and the infamous landmark and identity of Sta. Rosa, the Sta. Rosa Arch.

Participants captured different heritage sites and historical landmarks in the middle of the bustling metropolis of Biñan and Sta. Rosa; enjoyed the local delicacies such as Puto Biñan and fried okoy, or shrimp fritters; and got to learn its historical significance which displays the tapestry of cultures, arts, and heritage it embodies.

The photo enthusiasts who took part in the event shared their most exquisite captures of the day during their photo walk to the two cities, which was judged by MPT South and other partners in government. After their careful deliberation, the judges concluded that the winning photograph was from participant Sarah Lou Berdinardino, who garnered the highest score for her photos captured in Biñan and Sta. Rosa.

"The heritage photo walk tour signifies MPT South's dedication to foster awareness in the preservation of our cultural heritage and appreciate the significance of the past in today's everyday endeavor," said Arlette V. Capistrano, Vice President for Communication and Stakeholder Management of MPT South. "MPT South will continue to be an avenue in conserving our historical significance and encouraging people to take part in this cause," added Capistrano.

About Biyaheng South

Biyaheng South is MPT South's award-winning tourism advocacy program with a strong presence on TikTok, Facebook, and Instagram. It is dedicated to promoting the rich cultural heritage, diverse tourist destinations, and unique local experiences in Region IV-A and NCR, specifically areas reached by its expressways.

About MPT South

MPT South is a subsidiary of Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC), the toll road development arm of Metro Pacific Investments Corporation (MPIC). It is the biggest toll road builder and operator in the country. Aside from the CAVITEX and CALAX, MPTC's domestic portfolio includes the concessions for the North Luzon Expressway (NLEX), the NLEX Connector Road, the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEX), and the Cebu-Cordova Link Expressway (CCLEX) in Cebu.

PAGSASANAY PARA SA KABUHAYAN NG BHRAO

MAJAYJAY, LAGUNA- Nagsagawa ang Majayjay Livelihood Association (MLA) ng isang pagsasanay para sa mga Barangay Human Rights Action Officers (BHRAO) mula sa 40 barangay upang maturuan sila kung paano gumawa ng Powder Detergent, Toilet Cleaner at Fabric Softener. Dumalo sa pagsasanay si Mayor Romy P. Amorado bilang panauhing pangdangal sa pagtitipon ito. At bilang suporta sa mga miyenbro ng BHROA. Luyunin ng pagsasanay na ito na mabigyan sila ng kaalaman sa paggawa ng sariling mga produkto .Na maaari nilang magamit sa pang araw-araw at makatipid sa gastusin sa bahay. Samantalang maaari naman nila itong magamit sa pagsisimula ng kanilang negosyo na makakatulong sa pag-angat ng antas ng kanilang mga pamumuhay. (Kevin Pamatmat)

MS ROTC 2024 MATAGUMPAY NA GINANAP SA TAGAYTAY CITY

Labing pitong natatanging babaeng kadete mula sa iba't ibang kolehiyo at unibersidad sa buong bansa ang naglaban para sa prestihiyosong Miss ROTC 2024 ngayong araw August 17, 2024 sa Tagaytay City. Ayon kay Senate Majority Leader Senator Francis "Tol" Tolentino, "Sana ay maging ehemplo sa iba pang mga kabataan ang mga kadeteng kalahok sa Ms ROTC." Wika ni Tolentino.

Pinasalamatan din niya ang lahat ng dumalo, kabilang ang mga miyembro ng Sandatahang Lakas ng Pilipinas mula sa hanay ng Philippine Army, Philippine Navy at Philippine Air Force at mga lokal na opisyal ng Tagaytay City. Bagong tampok ngayong taon sa national finals ang People's Choice Award, kung saan maaaring bumoto ang mga netizen, pati na rin ang mga pamilya, kaibigan, kaklase, at mga kababayan ng mga kandidata sa pamamagitan ng social media.

Sa ikalawang taon nito, tampok sa Miss ROTC national finals ang mga kadete mula sa tatlong major services—Army, Navy, at Air Force. Ang mga kalahok ay mga nagwagi mula sa regional qualifiers na ginanap sa Bacolod City (Visayas), Zamboanga City (Mindanao), at Cavite (Luzon). (Joel Cabactulan/Nelson Dimapilis)

SERBISYONG BAYANIHAN CARAVAN PARA SA KAPULISAN AT KAPAMILYA NG LAGUNA PPO

KAMPO HEN. PACIANO RIZAL- Bahagi ang "Serbisyong BAYANIHAN Caravan para sa Kapulisan at Kapamilya ng Laguna PPO" ay isa mga programa ni Chief, PNP Rommel Francisco D Marvil kaugnay sa programang "Damayang may Malasakit sa Kapulisan".

Inilunsad ng Laguna Police Provincial Office sa pangunguna ni PCOL GAUVIN MEL Y UNOS, Acting Provincial Director ang nasabing aktibidad ngayong Agosto 22, 2024 na isinagawa sa Camp BGen Paciano Rizal, Brgy. Bagumbayan, Sta. Cruz Laguna katuwang ang iba't-ibang ahensya ng gobyerno at ang ilan sa pribado.

Kabilang sa mga serbisyong inihandog ng Laguna Police Privincial Office ay ang mga sumusunod na aktibidad.

Application for National ID;

PSA Copies of Registry Documents;

National Police Clearance;

COMELEC Registration Anywhere Program (RAP);

Orientation Seminar on Rules and Traffic Signs;

Orientation on Smal Business Entrepreneurship;

Job Fair (STP-SRP);

DOLE TUPAD Orientation;

Livelihood Training on Empanada and Dishwashing Liquid Making;

Free Medical and Dental Services;

Distribution of Dental Kits;

Counseling to PNP Personnel;

Sport Clinic to PNP Dependents;

Distribution of IEC Materials; and

DOH Distribution of Vitamins.

Ang nabangit na programa ay dinaluhan ni Mrs. Mary June T Lucas, Adviser OLC PRO Calabarzon na syang naging panauhing pandangal at tagapagsalita. Kabilang na rin sa naging programa ay ang pamamahagi ng tulong pinansyal para sa mga Kapulisan ng Laguna PPO(Kevin Pamatmat)

BAYAN NANG STA TERESITA, BATANGAS NAIDEKLARA BILANG STABLE INTERNAL PEACE AND SECURITY

Sta Teresita, Batangas. Ika-15 ng Agusto taong kasalukuyan sa ganap na ika-9 ng umaga ay matagumpay na naideklara ang bayan ng Sta Teresita sa lalawigan ng Batangas bilang Stable Internal Peace and Security (SIPS).

Pinangunahan ang deklarasyun ni HON NORBERTO A SEGUNIAL JR, Municipal Mayor ng Sta Teresita, Batangas kasama ang buong konseho ng Sangguniang Bayan, mga Punong Barangay, Sangguniang Kabataan at iba't ibang mga lingkod bayan na galing sa lokal na pamahalaan ng Sta. Teresita at pribadong sector.

Kaalinsabay dito ang paglagda sa Memorandum of Understanding bilang bahagi ng Commitment of Support sa deklarasyon ng Stable Internal Peace and security (SIPS) sa pagitan ng lokal na pamahalaan ng Sta Teresita at Municipal Task Force to End Local Government Communist Armed-Conflict (MTF-ELCAC), ang Provincial DILG, Batangas Police Provincial Office, PRO4A at ang 59th Infantry Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division at Philippine Army.

Nagbigay ng mensahe ang butihing Mayor SEGUNIAL JR at kanyang pinaliwanag na "Lahat tayo ay my responsibilidad, na itong idineklara nating ito, ay hindi lamang natin isapuso sa araw at oras na ito, ito ay lagi din nating isasabuhay, magiging way of life natin, na tayo ay hindi pwedeng mag away-away sapagkat tayo ay iisang Pilipino na di pwedeng magpatayan. Lahat po ng problema, maliit man ay bibigyan natin ng pansin sapagkat ito ay maaring tatawid at aapak, mauulit na naman ang ating pagkakawatak watak. Binabati ko ang AFP, ang PNP at ang pamahalaan sa kanilang pagdamay at pagkalinga sa kapakanan ng Pilipino, at naramdaman namin at ng ating mga kababayan ang presensya at kalinga ng ating pamahalaan. Ang mamamayan po ay walang dapat ikatakot sapagkat narito po ang mga kapitan, mga konsehal, mga sangguniang bayan, mga kapulisan at AFP, sila po ang ating mga tagapagtanggol at maswerte po tayong lahat at naidaos at nawitness nating naideklara ang ating bayan na mayroong Stable Internal Peace and Security, na isang napakahalagang milestone sa ating bayan. (Nelson Dimapilis/DPAO)