

Dar cites Delta for 'outstanding' leadership

ARAYAT, Pampanga Department of Agriculture Secretary William Dar recently lauded Governor Dennis "Delta" Pineda's leadership in the implementation of programs and projects for the benefit of the farmers amidst the booming agricultural industry of the province.

This was gleaned

during the secretary's visit and inspection on Saturday, Nov 30, together with Governor Pineda and Arayat Mayor Emmanuel "Bon" Alejandrino at Quiambao Tabuan Rice (QTR) Corporation, a rice production facility located in Arayat town.

According to Dar, he sees a lot of potential for Pampanga as the next

Metro Manila in the next coming years.

"Having these kinds of rice centers here are good indication that the farmers and investors in agriculture are starting to realize that they will have future in the emerging industrial economy like Pampanga," Dar said.

Dar mentioned that this kind of development

is the result of the effective leadership delivered by the officials of the province.

"Pampanga is plummeting in the agricultural industry. The leaders here support agri-industrialization in so many ways," Dar explained.

"I applaud Governor Dennis Pineda for his

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INSPECTION. Agriculture Sec. William Dar inspects with Gov. Dennis "Delta" Pineda rice grains at Quiambao Tabuan Rice Corp. during his recent visit in the province. **PHOTO COURTESY OF LUISSE RUTAO/PAMPANGA PIO**

PNP ALLAYS FEAR

Reports on abductions for internal organs fake

BY DING CERVANTES

ANGELES CITY -- Reports of groups abducting youths for their internal organs have again surfaced, this time more malignantly because of social media. Mug shots of the alleged culprits as well as their vehicle plate numbers have been shared, and videos of alleged abductions have shocked and caused panic, especially among parents.

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'Tisoy' fails to fill up dams to normal level

CLARK FREEPORT -- Typhoon Tisoy has left Luzon dams, including crucial ones supplying potable water for Metro Manila and irrigation to thousands of ricelands in Central Luzon, still below their normal level.

In a report, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) noted that as of Dec. 5, Angat Dam reservoir water level (RWL) was at 1'94.52 meters, still below its normal high water level (NHWL) of 212 meters.

Tisoy, initially forecast to be the strongest typhoon to hit the country this year, also failed to satisfactorily fill up seven other dams in Luzon.

These dams provide both potable water for large populations as well as irrigation to thousands of hectares of ricelands.

The exception was Ipo Dam whose RWL was at 101.09 meters, a little above its NHWL of 101 meters.

La Mesa Dam's NWL was noted at 77.61 meters, below its 80.15 NHWL, while Ambuk-
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UNDERSTANDING. Lubao Mayor Esmeralda G. Pineda and Yeosu City Mayor Hang Jin Lee shake hands to seal the memorandum of understanding intended to send farm workers to South Korea, among other cooperations. The signing was held in South Korea on December 3. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

Lubao inks pact to send farm workers to SK

SEOUL, South Korea—Farm workers from Lubao, Pampanga will soon have the chance to land jobs in South Korea.

This, after the local government unit of Lubao, led by Mayor Esmeralda G. Pineda signed a memorandum of understand-

ing with the city of Yeosu in South Korea for the hiring of farmers in the Korean peninsula.

Yeosu, located about 60 kilometers southeast of Seoul, sits along the Han River, the longest river in South Korea. It is one of the highly-agricultural areas of

Gyeonggi province and top producers of rice, sweet potatoes and yellow melons.

Jongpil Choi, ambassador for international projects of Lubao and the Provincial Government of Pampanga, brokered

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SSS pensioners to receive 13th month pension on Dec. 6

THE STATE-RUN Social Security System (SSS) on Wednesday said more than 2.83 million pensioners will receive their 13th pension starting 6 December 2019.

SSS President and Chief Executive Officer Aurora C. Ignacio said the pension fund has released more than P12.71 billion for the 13th month pension, both thru-banks, and thru-checks.

"We have already requested our partner banks to credit the 13th month pension to the respective savings accounts

of our pensioners on or before December 6 so that they could enjoy the money in time for the holiday season," Ignacio said.

The amount of 13th month pension released this year was 7.6 percent higher than the P11.81 billion released for 2018 following the increase in the number of pensioners from 2.64 million on the said period.

Of the total number of pensioners who will receive their 13th month pension, majority or about 2.82 million will receive it through their as-

signed bank accounts while the remaining 14,000 will still receive it through check payments.

"The checks were released and mailed as early as November 26 so that our pensioners will receive it on time for the Christmas season. We are hoping that we will eventually shift 100 percent of our pensioners to through-the-bank system for faster, convenient and more secure way of receiving their benefits from the SSS," Ignacio said.

SSS also reminded the

pensioners that the basis of the 13th month pension is the basic monthly pension of a

pensioner excluding the dependent's pension if any.

—Press release

Pelco 2 sets 9-hour power outage

BY ASHLEY MANABAT

MABALACAT CITY — Another scheduled power interruption lasting nine hours has been announced by the Pampanga Electric Cooperative II (Pelco 2) on Thursday.

In a Facebook post, Pelco II said the power interruption will be implemented on December 10 (Tuesday) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Pelco II said this is due to the "construction of 69 kilovolt (KV) line from Barangay Mabiga to Barangay Sta. Maria Substation and operations and maintenance works and right of way clearing of lines."

The Facebook post did not sit well with Mabalacat residents.

As of press time, the Pelco II's Facebook post garnered 248 comments and 726 shares. The Facebook post also got 317 reactions mostly angry and sad emojis.

The following is Pelco II's Facebook post.

"PAUNAWA. Ano?: PELCO II Scheduled Power Interruption. Kailan? Disyembre 10, 2019 (Martes)

Oras: Sa pagitan ng 8:00 ng umaga hanggang 5:00 ng hapon (between 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.)

Mga Apektadong Lugar:

ILANG BAHAGI NG MABALACAT

Brgy. Agus, Brgy. Atlu Bola, Brgy. Bundagul, (from Ravena Homes to SMDC Cheerful Homes), Brgy. Cacutud, Brgy. Dolores, Brgy. Mamatitang, Brgy. Mangalit, Brgy. Poblacion, Brgy. San Francisco, Brgy. San Joaquin, Brgy. Santa Ines, Brgy. Santa Maria, Brgy. Santo Rosario and Brgy. Tabun and Some Portion of Brgy. Mabiga, (Mabiga Island Resort, Pineda Subdivision and establishments, (7/11, Federal, South Drug), J4 Construction Supply, Casmor Phase 1&2, Green Meadows Phase 1 & 2, Airmens Village, Rivera Compound and Golden Land Subdivision)

Para sa kaalaman ng lahat."

Mayor Crisostomo Garbo has not commented on the issue.

DAANG DOKYU

A festival of Philippine documentaries launched

WITH 100 years on its back, Philippine cinema celebrations have mainly focused on narrative films. A group of filmmakers now feel it is high time that films with real-world impact and purpose are celebrated.

Documentary filmmakers Jewel Maranan, Baby Ruth Villarama, Kara Mag-sanoc-Alikpala and Monster Jimenez have decided to initiate a move towards this and pioneer a documentary festival about the Philippines.

What started as a casual conversation two years ago among the four women gradually evolved into a full-scale documentary-driven event. "We want people to fall in love with documentaries. Like any good movie, it can be compelling, emotional, life changing, life-saving and transformative", shares broadcast journalist Kara Alikpala.

Daang Dokyu is a festival of Philippine documentaries slated from February 15 to 20, 2020 at Cine Adarna at the University of the Philippines.

The six-day festival will exhibit films curated and presented with Q&As with filmmakers. It will hold a supplemental exhibition presenting the expanse of Philippine documentaries; launch a book on Philippine documentaries; and will culminate with the first ever Philippine Documentary

Forum, which will be the largest gathering of documentary filmmakers in the country.

Researchers of the Daang Dokyu Festival have already found 200 remarkable documentaries, and the festival is looking forward to discovering more.

"We are at a point when there has never been as many documentary practitioners in our cinema history not only continuing the practice of documentary filmmaking but also actively pushing the limits of acceptable form, stories and ways of seeing. For this, Daang Dokyu is an occasion for the inspiration and encouragement of the documentary community," says documentarist Maranan, who is also the founder of Cinema Is Incomplete, an alternative arts and film distribution center.

Daang Dokyu is still open to look into films that resonate with Pinoys, provoke convention, or question existing taboos. They are also hoping to discover hidden films emerge from different regions.

The search is ongoing for nonfiction or documentary work of any type and running length. Updates on the Daang Dokyu Festival are available at daangdokyu.ph and on its various social media platforms. For direct inquiries on film submissions, email info@daangdokyu.ph. —Press release



BDO's Walter Wassmer (2nd from left), senior executive vice president and head of institutional banking group, receives the award from The Asian Banker's (from left to right) Foo Boon Ping, managing director; Faith Masekesa, senior research; and Wilson Chia, international resource director on recently at the Shangri-La at the Fort, Taguig City. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

BDO is Phl's Strongest Bank for 2nd straight year

BDO Unibank, Inc. keeps its #1 position in the local banking industry after The Asian Banker named it 2019's Strongest Bank by Balance Sheet in the Philippines for the second straight year.

The Asian Banker Strongest Banks by Balance Sheet is "the most comprehensive annual evaluation that captures the quality and sustainability of the balance sheets of the banks in the Asia Pacific, Middle East, and Africa regions." Banks are rated on a scale of 0-5 and ranked based on the following performance indicators: scale, balance sheet growth, risk profile, profitability, asset quality, and liquidity.

The Asian Banker underscored BDO's healthy bal-

ance sheet and profit as well as its low non-performing loan (NPL) ratio and high loan loss reserves to gross NPLs ratio.

BDO recently reported growth in third quarter earnings at P32.1 billion from the previous level of P21.5 billion in the same period last year. The bank attributes its net income to the expansion of its recurring core revenues, complemented by the sustained increase in fee incomes and life insurance premiums. It translates to a Return on Common Equity (ROCE) of 12.5%, compared to 9.5% in 9M18.

While its nine-month net income brings it closer to its full-year earnings guidance of P38.5 billion, the bank remains steadfast in capitalizing on the country's solid econom-

ic pace and growth opportunities in underserved and emerging markets, leveraging its focused growth strategy, strong business franchise, solid balance sheet, and extensive geographic reach.

The Asian Banker evaluates strength "based on a belief that a strong bank demonstrates long-term profitability from its core businesses." Through its yearly Strongest Banks by Balance Sheet, the Singapore-based publication provides financial intelligence by assessing banks and financial holding companies in emerging and mature markets with a substantial amount of activity in commercial banking.

—Press release

Elma Muros lauds Clark as suitable venue for SEAG

CLARK FREEPORT – Renowned Filipino athlete Elma Muros today lauded this Freeport, citing it to be a suitable venue for the various competitions in the on-going 30th edition of the Southeast Asian (SEA) Games.

Lending support to Filipino athletes competing here, Muros who is known as “The Long Jump Queen” expressed elation about the facilities and atmosphere in this Freeport. She also cited the preparation made here to ensure the readiness of every location in hosting the games. She marked her first visit today in Clark cheering for Filipino athletes competing in archery and rugby 7’s which are taking place at the Parade Grounds here.

“Unang – una ang ganda ng facilities, tahimik, organized. Perfect ito para sa akin at mga atleta ang galing,” Muros added as she describes her experience in the Freeport.

Clark is the official venue for the various competitions during the SEA games. These include Rugby 7’s and Archery at the Parade Grounds, Softball and Baseball at The Villages – Sports Complex, Dancesport at Royce Hotel, Petanque along M.A. Roxas Highway in Clark, Lawn Bowl at Friendship Gate area, Athletics and Aquatics at the New Clark City (NCC).

Recalling her own experience during her SEA Games stints, she said that athletes today are blessed by having all the facilities for their training and competition proper.

Meanwhile, Muros also conveyed her appreciation for the unity shown by the Filipinos that guaranteed the successful hosting of the country for the

biennial games.

“Masaya na ako at nagtulong tuong ang sambayanang Pilipino kaya nairaos ito. From our President hanggang sa mga atleta at sambayanang Pilipino nagsamasama tayong lahat kaya nagyari ito. Pasalamat natin lahat at sa Panginoong Diyos na nakaraos agad tayo,” she said.


Muros, who is one of the most decorated athletes in the sport of Track and Field likewise encouraged the competing athletes to give their best for the country.

“Gawin lang nila kung ano yung insensayo nila ng 1 year, 2 years o ilang years at ito nayon. This is it. Gawin nyo ng 100 percent para sa bayan at kung ano man yung nakuha nyo pasalamat nyo atleast ginawa nyo ang 100 percent para sa ating bayang Pilipinas. Goodluck to everybody,” Muros said.

Relatedly, Karla Cabrera, one of the officials of the World Archery Philippines also cited the Parade Grounds for being a very ideal location for the sport.

Cabrera said: “I am just happy to say that this is a really excellent facility that was prepared. It’s world-class actually. And our field of play, it’s a very good field for international competitions. We can fit in all the targets that we need to and in fact, we can even put more because I understand it (Parade grounds) is a 22 hectares area. In the world championship, we had about 64 targets now we already have 56 in the field so just a little more and we could possibly hold world championships here.” –**CDC CommDep**

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ELMA MUROS VISITS CLARK. Renowned Filipino athlete Elma Muros visits Clark Parade Grounds which is the official venue of Archery and Rugby 7s for the Southeast Asian (SEA) Games 2019. Joining her during her visit are CDC - Communications manager Noel Tulabut and archery venue manager Myriam Punsalan. **CDC-CD PHOTO**



SBMA chair and administrator Wilma T. Eisma congratulates Philippines' silver medalist Joey delos Reyes at the conclusion of the men's duathlon event at the Subic Bay Freeport. **PHOTO BY JOHNNY R. REBLANDO**

THAILAND WINS GOLD

Phl settles for bronze in duathlon mixed relay

BY JOHNNY REBLANDO

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT – The Philippines got a bronze as Thailand bagged the gold in the 2019 Southeast Asian Games duathlon mixed relay held at the Boardwalk area here.

Duathlon SEA Games queen Monica Torres led the

Filipino contingent but was overpowered by their Thai rivals along with the Singaporean team.

Thailand's Parreya Sonsem, Nattawut Srinate, Siriwan Kuncharin, and Arthit Soda showed strong performance at the start but Singapore's Emma Ada Middleditch, Ah-

mad Arif Ibrahim, Herlene Natasha Yu, and Nicholas Rachmadi kept close to the leader.

It was only during the final run sequence that Soda left Rachmadi, claiming the gold medal for Thailand. Thailand clocked in at 1:28:48 while Singapore timed at 1:30:16, and Philippines at 1:31:35.

STATEMENT

BCDA: No forcible demolition at NCC

1. THERE IS no forcible demolition in New Clark City. The seven-day notice issued by the Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) is a standard follow-up letter sent to all claimants who rejected the financial assistance offered by government.
2. There are no targeted Aeta communities. The notice was given to all claimants to inform of the need to start the construction of the New Clark City to Clark International Airport access road in that particular area.
3. As part of the process, BCDA has always been in consultation with, and seeks the clearance of the Capas local government on these matters.
4. The New Clark City, located within the Clark Special Economic Zone, is government land owned by BCDA as stipulated in R.A. 7227.
5. There are NO declared ANCESTRAL DOMAINS or Certificates of Ancestral Domain Titles (CADT) in the area. Therefore, Aeta communities are not displaced.
6. A financial assistance package amounting to Php300,000 per hectare (or Php30.00/sqm) has been made available by BCDA to all project-affected people, including indigenous peoples (IPs) and farmers even at the start of the development. Relocation sites have also been provided by BCDA WITHIN New Clark City for those whose residential structures were affected.
7. New Clark City continues to provide opportunities for everyone especially for the IPs/farmers who may be affected in the development of roads and other infrastructure.
8. There are 500 aetas employed in the New Clark City project.
9. Credible institutions such as the Asian Development Bank worked with BCDA in ensuring sustainability and inclusivity of New Clark City.

No postponing diaper change

“THE REASON propounded for moving the election date was to give village and youth council officials more time to implement their projects. While the reason has some validity, incumbent elected officials have to submit themselves to the people’s mandate through periodic elections.”

So contended Eric Jude Alvia, secretary-general of the National Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel), against the postponement of the barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections (BSKE) to December 2022 which has been signed into law by President Duterte.

“If constituents are satisfied with their performance, (the officials) need not worry about their terms being cut and they can continue on implementing their respective programs or projects with a fresh and stronger mandate,” argues Alvia.

The election watchdog had long opposed any postponement to the BSKE primarily on three grounds: 1) it will contravene the principle of regularity in the conduct of an election; 2) it will extend the terms of elected officials without being elected anew; and 3) it will deprive the electorate of seeking accountability from elected officials through the ballot.

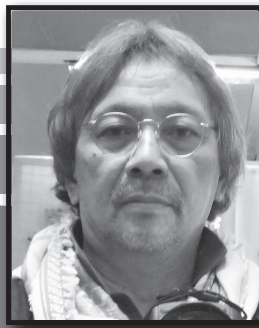
On top of these, Namfrel noted that election dates set by law can be justified only by the presence of certain conditions enumerated in the Philippine Omnibus Election Code, such as violence, terrorism, loss or destruction of election paraphernalia or records, and force majeure. And that it is the Commission on Elections that is mandated to make such determination through public hearings.

As none of the conditions specified in the Code existed, and public consultations were ever conducted, the postponement of the BSKE is not warranted.

Punto! Central Luzon fully agrees with Namfrel’s opposition. Firm as we are in our belief in the democratic essentials of free, honest, peaceful, and regular elections.

Even firmer in our subscription to that truism often (mis)attributed to Mark Twain:

Politicians are like diapers, they need to be changed often, and for the same reasons.



acaesar.blogspot.com

Zona Libre

Bong Z. Lacson

Unreading, unthinking

LAST AND lowest is the Philippines of 79 countries covered in a study on reading comprehension of the 2018 Programme for International Student Assessment.

PISA is reputed to be a worldwide study by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development that examines students’ knowledge in reading, mathematics, and science. On the other two, the Philippines is at rock bottom too.

In the PISA report, reading was the main subject assessed among 15-year old students where the Philippines posted an average reading score of 340 – a whopping 215 below China’s top-ranking 555 – and more than 100 points less than the OECD average of 487. “Reading proficiency is essential for a wide variety of human activities - from following instructions in a manual; to finding out the who, what, when, where, and why of an event; to communicating with others for a specific purpose or transaction.” So reads the summary of the PISA 2018 results.

So, we weep. We have not become simply a nation of non-readers, as surely as we have become a nation of talk-and-texters. And, not necessarily consequential to it, intellectually-challenged.

As much to the convenience of the electronic pad do we damn this retardation, as to the incapacitation of our educational system, long-ago deconstructing the very foundation of literacy, aye, of intellectual capacitation – the three Rs of Reading, ‘Riting, and ‘Rithmetic.

The first two essentially peas in one pod. As LitWord founder Pam Allyn perfectly puts it: “Reading is like breathing in, and writing is like breathing out.”

And, as naturally, after the words, the numbers.

Related to the issue at hand is this we dug up from our *Zona* archives:

FOR ONE inured in classical studies – thanks to my formative years in the seminary – it is not at all effete snobbery to feel some disdain, at the same time some remorse, over the opportunities – to learn, to know, to be enriched – lost to a mind deprived of reading.

Aye, to character formation itself, where reading is elemental. As Francis Bacon monumentalized in his *Of Studies*:

“Reading maketh a full man; conference a ready man; and writing an exact man. And, therefore, if a man writes little, he had needed have a great memory; if he confers little, he had need of a ready wit; and if he read little, he had need of much cunning to seem to know that he knoweth not”

For one in the writing profession, reading is a requirement: even a sine qua non, as a matter of course. Reading for a writer covers not only newspapers, magazines and periodicals, but moroso, books – of all kinds, in all subjects. If only to broaden his horizon, if only to expand his mind, if only to increase his vocabulary.

Again, Bacon: *“Read not to contradict and confute; nor to believe and take for granted; nor to find talk and discourse; but to weigh and consider. Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested; that is, some books are to be read only in parts; others to be read, but not curiously; and some few to be read wholly, and with diligence and attention.”*

Yes, light reading – novels, literary anthologies – for the senses; high-brow reading – philosophies, histories, sciences – for the intellect.

Aye, in this age of Kindle, Nook eReader, Cybook and Pepper Pad, I still go for the old hard- and soft-covers. There’s nothing more intellectually stimulating to me than the smell of pulp only a book has. It makes understanding of what I am reading deeper, retention in memory more permanent, the imagination more expansive.

E-books or good old books-in-ink-and-paper though, reading is on sheer joy. There is life in books. There is life to books. Inhering in human life itself.

Read John Milton in *Areopagitica*: *“Books are not absolutely dead things, but do contain a potency of life in them to be as active as that soul was whose progeny they are; nay they do preserve as in a vial the purest efficacy and extraction of that living intellect that bred them.”*

Unless wariness be used, as good almost kill a man as kill a good book; who kills a man kills a reasonable creature, God’s image; but he who destroys a good book, kills reason itself, kills the image of God, as it were in the eye.

A good book is the precious lifeblood of a master spirit, embalmed and treasured up on purpose to a life beyond life.”

Read. It is food for the intellect, nutrient for the soul.

AYE, the ‘tards so predominant in this generation are an indubitable affirmation of the PISA Report, and undeniable manifestation of the malnutrition of the Filipino intellect, if not the undernourishment of his very soul.

Ing kasalesayan ning Kapampangan (The history of Pampanga)

BY FR. EDILBERTO SANTOS
PART 11

KABANATA 3a

Salesayan Tamu Ing Milabas
Salesayan tamu ing bie dang delanan ding Kapampangan kabang lalakad ing makabang panaun, balang takbang tutukian ning metung pang takbang, ibat ketang kamumulan angga napun nakaduana. Salesayan tamu nung makananung ing balang metung a milyari karela at depatan da meging sangkan ne ning metung pang milyari karela at depatan da, a balamu makabang tanikala, king kekaba ning panaun.

Salesayan tamu itang karelang pilubluban a meging gaua, ing karelang gaua a meging asal, ing karelang asal a meging sangkap na ning karelang pamibiebie o kultura.

Salesayan tamu Itang karelang pilubluban a meging isip, itang karelang isip a meging amanu, itang karelang amanung linto bilang siuala o bilang sulat o bilang kimut, itang karelang amanung meging sangkap na ning karelang kultura o pamibiebie, itang karelang amanung gamitan ta naman ban salesayan ing karelang kultura o pamibiebie.

Salesayan tamu nung makananung ding Kapampangan (people) geua re ing Kapampangan (place), at ing Kapampangan (language); nung makananung ing Kapampangan (place) geua no ding Kapampangan (people) at ing Kapampangan (language); nung makananung ing Kapampangan (language) gagauan na (a) ing kasalesayan da ding Kapampangan (people), at (b) ing kasalesayan na ning Kapampangan (place), at (c) ing kasalesayan na ning Kapampangan (language) itself.

Inyang itamu mu ring makasaut keting pakasautan tang iti, akakit tayang malino at akikilala tayang masalese ing kekatang sarili, nung makananung ing metung a tau akakit neng malino at akikilala neng masalese ing keyang sarili king arap ning salamin. Dapat iniang luban danakatamu ding Kastila ampon ding Amerikanu ampon ding Hapon, at mepilit tang makiutus karela, misamutanang ya ing kekatang kamalayan at pilublubang Kapampangan. Akalinguan tamu nung ninu itamu. Gilu dang

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Halo-halo
Ding Cervantes

Opinion

Various mystics on the Warning

IN THE apparitions of the Blessed Mother in Garabandal, Spain in the 1960s, she prophesied three events that many in the world would probably live long enough to witness: the Warning, the Miracle and the Chastisement (capitalization mine).

I am in my senior years, yet I feel a bit of confidence that, with God's grace, I could live to experience at least the Warning.

It's a prophesy that's not exclusive to Garabandal. It was also conveyed by the Blessed Mother, and even Jesus Himself, to other credible mystics in our modern times.

So here, let me cite anew the messages on the Warning, first, as conveyed in Garabandal.

Garabandal seer Conchita Gonzalez said the Warning "will be like two heavenly bodies or stars colliding that make a lot of noise and a lot of light, but they don't fall. We are going to see it. It will horrify us because at that very moment we will see our souls and the harm we have done. In that moment we are going to see our conscience, everything wrong that we are doing, and the good that we are not doing."

In Betania, Venezuela, mystic Maria Esperanza Bianchini quoted the Blessed Mother as saying: "Little children, today, healthful for your souls you must contribute to helping me build my house in this place. A refuge of a Mother with the title, 'Mary, Reconciler of People and Nations: Pray, meditate, and nourish yourselves with the bread of the Eucharist which gives you supernatural life...."

"I want to be known, I repeat to you, under the name of Virgin and Mother, Reconciler for the People because man needs to find himself. He needs to see in each human being his or her own brother or sister...."

"Little children, I am your Mother, and I come to seek you so that you may prepare yourselves to be able to bring my message of reconciliation. There is coming the great moment of a great day of light. The consciences of this beloved people must be violently shaken so that they may 'put their house in order' and offer to Jesus the just reparation for the daily infidelities that are committed on the part of sinners...."

From Poland, Saint Faustina Kowalska of the Divine Mercy quoted Jesus Christ Himself as follows: "Before I come as the just Judge, I am coming first as the King of Mercy. Before the day of justice arrives, there will be given to people a sign in the heavens of this sort:

"All light in the heavens will be extinguished, and there will be great darkness over the whole earth. Then the sign of the cross will be seen in the sky, and from the openings where the hands and the feet of the Savior were nailed will come forth great lights which will light up the earth for a period of time. This will take place shortly before the last day."

In Dozule, France in 1974, another visionary known as Madeleine also quoted Jesus referring to the Warning thus: "The Glorious Cross, or the Sign of the Son of Man, is the announcement of the imminent Return in Glory of Jesus, risen from the dead."

The following year, Jesus added: "But, fear nothing, I tell you, it is by this Cross set over the world that nations will be saved."

Also to Fr. Estafano Gobbi of the Marian Movement of Priests, the Warning was described as a bright cross in the sky, extending from east to west.

On April 1, 1994, the Blessed Mother told Father Gobbi: "The bloodied Cross, which you contemplate today in tears, will be the cause of your greatest happiness, because it will be transformed into a great bright Cross."

"The bright Cross, which will extend from east to west and will appear in the heavens, will be the sign of the return of Jesus in glory."

"The bright Cross will be transformed from a gibbet to a throne of his triumph, because Jesus will come upon it to establish His glorious reign in the world."

"The bright Cross, which will appear in the heavens at the end of the purification and the great tribulation, will be the door which opens the long dark sepulcher in which humanity is lying, to lead it into the new reign of life which Jesus will bring with His glorious return."

Alleged visionary Paola Albertini of Italy said the Blessed Mother also told her about the Warning and that "there will appear a great cross in the sky. All will see it. Some will be converted. Some will be so frightened that they will die. And others will be indifferent to it. There will be a test, and then there will come this sign... Jesus and Mary will help us. Let us not be afraid."

Another alleged mystic named Sadie Jaramillo claimed to have received a message from Jesus about the Warning and quoted Him as saying: "Soon you will behold the greatest prodigy in the heavens. You will behold this with your eyes and feel it in your soul. You will see Me on the Cross in the heavens and the weight of your sins will be revealed in your soul. By a means of your consecration to My Most Sacred Heart, I have truly placed you there in My Heart."

"You will behold this great manifestation of Mercy from within My Heart, and the flames of My purifying Love will raise and will consume all that is left, that keeps you from totally loving Me."

Ing kasalesayan ning Kapampangan

FROM PAGE 4

mataktak ing kekatamung bie at pamibiebie o kultura. Ing giludang ita, kailangan tang salesan o salesayan.

Kailangan tang ibalik itang sadia tamung kamalayang Kapampangan at pilublubang Kapampangan. Kailangan tang balikdang miamasamas at pakakalale itang panaun a itamu mung Kapampangan ding manuknangan keti Kapampangan. Ing giludang Kastila

among Amerikanu among Hapon, salesan tamu, salesayan tamu, salesayan tamung miamasamas amon pakakalale.

Salesayan tamu mu naman nung makananu tang mekiutus karela, at nung makananu lang mekiutus kekatamu, at nung nanu ing milyari kekatamu at karela uli na nita.

Isulat taya, tandanan taya, amon pakamalan, ing Kasalesayan ning Kapampangan.

(Abatan ya ing kasuglung)



Napag-uusapan Lang
Felix M. Garcia

Ing Mapanako

KASEBYAN, ing kanung mapanako ngara
Mua ya karing mapanako kalupa na,
Antimurin ken ing babaero, mua ya
King anti yang mapad king e na asawa.

Uli nyan dakal ken ding babaeru
A e bisang maki-kaluguran guapu,
Pasari ning magkang e ya inodoru
Ing puntukan na neng king bale alayu.

At i misis ya ing pane nang darasan
Neng ining tutoring nang kakaluguran
Mamasyal ya'yti karelang santungan,
A nu' e ne wari niti papanikan?

At kabang den ilang adua kilub bale,
Natural mung iti pakipagkwentuan ne;
Kyan na ne umpisan king pakakalale
Kuanan a mayna keng simpling pasakalye.

Keng patampa-tampa at pakalbit-kalbit,
Yang babai agyang e magalo buldit,
Akwa nang matuksu niti keng alimit
Ning lalaking ngara pin sobrang kabilis.

Patye ing babai kasi ing memuri
E malaut misalatan ka palipi,
Uling agyang sangkan nang simba saguli
Akwa na'na niting milabas a pali.

Anti kasi keni diskarte nung misan
Ding mamyalung api, ngana ning kasebyan.
Myaliwa na ken ing gagawan dang tangnan
King ba'lang mibastag king aus ning laman.

Madalas, agyang ding mikumpare't sabla
Mipaglimid la keng daing a mabasa,
Inya makanyan yang mamigaganaka
Ing babaeru neng king bale yang ala.

At uling iti yang pamirapat-dapat
Ning sobra tako keng pindang a e malat,
Akayagnan dya mung keng dalam maglakad
Ing keya, aliwa ne pulayi utak.

At pablasang iti ing pyalung ning loku
Pigaganakan nang ating makisulu;
Nung nu' natural mu, yan ing mamiligru
A ngaring makatwa – ing mitwag a kwelyu.

At uling menasa, ing sabo na ngara
Ning kasiping bale manyaman tagana,
Nanu't kabud iti atakman mu lasa,
E mu limiran o panakawan keta?

At uling mas kanung manyaman ing bawal,
Makanyan dang lalung kapad ding keraklan;
A mas buri ra ing makisalikutan,
At kang kumpare ra makisulung pinggan!

Disyembre 29, 2005

No Hidden Agenda!

WE TELL IT AS IT IS. WE GIVE YOU NEWS THAT'S

STRAIGHT TO THE POINT

Reports on abductions for internal organs fake

FROM PAGE 1

But the Philippine National Police (PNP) has looked into such reports and found them wanting. No evidence of such abductions has so far been found, despite social media attestations.

Two of the more convincing videos now circulating in social media have been found to have been staged by a group of young pranksters, the police have said.

One video posted last Nov. 29 was from the CCTV camera showing a student on a sidewalk being whisked suddenly into a van by a man who had emerged from the vehicle which then drove off fast. This video earned almost a million views as of yesterday.

Another similar video, from a CCTV camera in Sta. Ana, Manila, also went viral on Facebook and its Messenger arm.

The Manila Police

District said, however, that a comparison of the two videos showed the same student being abducted, as it cited one of the culprits as admitting the videos were staged as pranks in areas with CCTV cameras.

The police, however, did not provide more details on the culprits, except to say that one of them admitted the videos were pranks. No report on whether they were minors, where they were from, what punitive measures were undertaken to prevent them from such jokes that has again triggered panic among parents nationwide.

In Pampanga, reports of abductions of youths purportedly for their internal organs have continued to spread. One version identified the location as Barangays Camachile and Lakanula in Mabalacat City, but a check with the po-

lice in the city revealed they were mere rumors.

In other parts of the country, including Metro Manila, the police have also dismissed reports of such abductions as baseless despite reports that in Pasay City, nine people aged 18 to 23 allegedly went missing on November 20 and November 22.

The police's Anti-Kidnapping Group (PNP-AKG) said it has not found any conclusive evidence pointing to the alleged abductions of youths for their internal organs, as well as the existence of vans supposedly used to snatch victims.

The AKG has appealed to social media users to refrain from irresponsible postings and forwarding of messages which may cause the public to panic.

In February this year, however, the police urged parents to be ex-

tra vigilant following the arrest of a man who tried to kidnap five children in Quezon City.

PNP spokesman Brig. Gen. Bernard Banac issued this appeal after suspect Norly Rafael, 53, was arrested in Barangay Commonwealth after an attempt to abduct four children. The suspect said he had sold children for P5,000 each, but the police did not provide further information on the fate of the children sold.

In 2013, reports of such abductions swept the country and also triggered panic among parents. But are abductions for internal organ harvests totally without basis?

Wikipedia

Wikipedia.org says that "the murder of human beings for their body parts is a crime in all countries. Such practices have been con-

firmed or suspected to occur within a handful of contexts."

"Medicine murder (not to be confused with 'medical murder' due to medical negligence) means the killing of a human being in order to excise body parts to use as medicine or for magical purposes in witchcraft. Medicine murder is not viewed as a form of human sacrifice in a religious sense, because the motivation is not the death of a human or the effecting of magical changes through the death of a human being, but the obtaining of an item or items from their corpse to be used in traditional medicine," says the website.

It has observed that "the illegal organ trade has at times led to murder for body parts, because of a worldwide demand of organs for transplant and organ donors. At times, criminal organizations have engaged in kidnapping people, especially children and teens, with the victims

being killed and their organs harvested for the illegal organ trade. The extent is unknown, and non-fatal organ theft and removal is more widely reported than murder."

Now here's another information from Wikipedia that should interest Filipinos. Wikipedia has reported that "in 2006, China was reported to be using its extensive pool of Falun Gong political prisoners as a supply for body parts to be used in transplants. The allegations and supporting testimony were raised in several countries and seen as deeply disturbing."

In its report, Orion Support Inc. has reported that "thousands of people go missing worldwide every year and the Philippines is no exception. It is estimated that around 35,000 persons are reported missing each year in the Philippines. This equates to one person disappearing every 15 minutes or a rate of 1.7 people per 1,000 Filipinos."

'Tisoy' fails to fill up dams to normal level

FROM PAGE 1

lao's 742.84 meters of RWL also was lower than its 752 NHWL.

At Binga Dam, the RWL was at 569.88 meters, below its 575 meters of NHWL.

San Roque Dam's RWL was at 278.25, also below its 280 NHWL.

At Pantabangan, Pagasa recorded 211.96 RWL, still short of its 221-meter NHWL, while Magat Dam's 191.61 RWL was still under 193 NHWL.

Metro Manila derives its water supply from the

Angat, Ipo, and La Mesa dams. The water from these dams are then processed by the La Mesa and Balara treatment plants, which converts it from a raw state to clean and potable water.

The water from the Angat Dam, the major supply source for the metropolis, is funneled directly to Ipo Dam. It then flows a distance of 6.4 kilometers to Bicti, after which it passes through five aqueducts — each about 16 kilometers long — to the La Mesa Dam and the La Mesa Portal. From the La Mesa Por-

tal, 60 percent of the flow goes to the nearby La Mesa Treatment Plant, out of which another 40 percent again travels a distance of 6.8 kilometers to the Balara Treatment Plant. The La Mesa Water Treatment Plant, with very minimal electromechanical equipment, relies mostly on water's hydraulic properties to backwash its filter and gravity to convey raw water from the source into the plant and out into the distribution system.

It can only process 2,400 MLD (million liters

per day) of raw water, while the Balara treatment plant, which has a full production capacity of 1,600 MLD, can supply more than 6 million people throughout the metropolis.

When both Balara and La Mesa treatment plants are in operation, the total processing capacity will be 4,000 MLD. The La Mesa water treatment plant serves the western half of Metro Manila, while the existing Balara water treatment plant supplies the eastern half.

—Ding Cervantes

Dar cites Delta for 'outstanding' leadership

FROM PAGE 1

outstanding leadership. He's open to new ideas. These are the kind of leaders we need in every province so that the farmers in the provinces would realize that they have someone to lean on in terms of what they can further contribute to the economy," Dar elab-

orated.

For his part, Pineda said his administration will stay committed to implementing programs and projects that will help uplift the lives of Kapampangan farmers.

"Our farmers have contributed a lot, especially in the agricultural sector. That's why they deserve to get every bit

of help and subsidy from the government," he stressed.

Mayor Alejandrino meanwhile also pledged to support the programs and projects of the Governor for the farmers to maintain steadfast progress to his town's main livelihood.

When asked about his message for the

younger generation, Dar has nothing but enticement for them to switch to farming.

"I'm encouraging our youth to support and invest in agricultural enterprises. If they are wary about income, I can assure them there is wealth in agriculture," Dar stressed. — **Luisse Ru-tao/Pampanga PIO**

Lubao inks pact to send farm workers...

FROM PAGE 1

the agreement until the signing of the understanding on December 3 between Mayor Pineda and Mayor Hang Jin Lee in Yeju city.

Mayor Pineda said that since 2005, the Philippines has been

deploying thousands of workers to industrial companies South Korea.

"But we have other workers who belong to other industries like food services and agriculture. We hope to send them, too, to South Korea," the lady mayor said.

"South Korea and the

Philippines have been in good working relation for a long time and our visit only intends to strengthen the ties between our people," she told Yeju officials prior to the signing ceremonies.

Under the agreement, both local governments commit to draft

a framework of cooperation such as employment, educational and cultural exchanges, among others.

The Yeju leaders are also interested in Lubao's local products and in exploring investment opportunities in the Philippines. — **Press release**

Sta. Monica Pawnshop, Inc. Notice of Public Auction

Date: December 26, 2019

Time: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

Address: B. Mendoza St. Sto. Rosario, CSFP, 2000

Contact no: (045) 961-3540

Branches Covered:

Main : B. Mendoza St. Sto. Rosario, CSFP

Branch 1: Unit H, Essel Commercial Bldg, Essel Park, Telebastagan, CSFP

Branch 2: Emerald Business Center, MAH Dolores, CSFP

Branch 3: Stall#118 Jumbo Jenra Mall MAH, Sindalan, CSFP

Branch 4: No.1 Maligaya St, Sindalan, CSFP

Branch 5: Stall No.2, Santiago, San Vicente, Apalit, Pampanga

Branch 6: Stall B2 Bldg. Bulaon Public Market Bulaon CSFP

(ALL UNREDEEMED LOANS GRANTED FROM SEPTEMBER 1-31, 2019 ARE ALREADY SUBJECT FOR AUCTION.) Lahat ng mga nasangla magmula **September 1 - 31, 2019** na hindi pa natutubos ay kasama na sa subasta sa **December 26, 2019**. Maaari niyo pa pong tubusin ang mga ito ng may karamatang interest at penalty hanggang sa **December 24, 2019**.

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of Spouses **TEODORO S. DAVID** and **FLORENCIA MANALASTAS** who died intestate on January 12, 1987 and February 7, 1987, respectively, both in Porac, Pampanga executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement with Waiver and Renunciation of Rights on their estate, more particularly described as a parcel of land (Lot No. 1210 of the Cadastral Survey of Porac), with improvements thereon, situated in the Municipality of Porac, Province of Pampanga, before Notary Public Romeo L. Yusi Jr. as per Doc No. 777, Page No. 79, Book No. 40, Series of 2019.

Punto! Central Luzon: November 21, 28 & December 5, 2019

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **MARCIAL BUNGQUE** who died intestate on March 20, 2012 in Porac, Pampanga executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement with Waiver of Rights on his estate, more particularly described as a parcel of land (Lot 16, Psd-03-036074 (OLT), being a portion of Lot 1350-c, Psd-19525), with improvements thereon, situated in Brgy. Calsadang Bayu, Municipality of Porac, Province of Pampanga and covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. 15391, Emancipation Patent No. 491690 issued by the Registry of Deeds for the Province of Pampanga, before Notary Public Paul C. Muyrong as per Doc No. 452, Page No. 72, Book No. VII, Series of 2019.

Punto! Central Luzon: November 28, December 5 & 12, 2019

NOTICE OF SELF-ADJUDICATION

Notice is hereby given that **TERESITA TOLENTINO PARAS**, resident of Purok 2, Baliti, City of San Fernando, Pampanga and the sole heir of **EPIFANIO LORENZO PARAS** who died intestate on April 4, 2019 executed an Affidavit of Self-Adjudication with Deed of Absolute Sale on his estate, more particularly described as follows:

TCT No. 569418-R

A parcel of land (Lot 4271-C-1 of the subd. plan Psd-03-035552, being a portion of Lot 4271-C, Psd-39023 LRC Rec. No.) situated in the Bo. of Balite, Mun. of San Fernando, Prov. of Pampanga;

TCT No. 294011-R

A parcel of land (Lot 4271-C-2 of the subd. plan Psd-03-035552, being a portion of Lot 4271-C, Psd-39023 LRC Rec. No.) situated in the Bo. of Balite, Mun. of San Fernando, Prov. of Pampanga;

before Notary Public Kristine Keith N. Colle as per Doc No. 383, Page No. 78, Book No. I, Series of 2019.

Punto! Central Luzon: December 5, 12 & 19, 2019



NOTICE OF SELF-ADJUDICATION

Notice is hereby given that **MELENCIANA CARLOS VDA. DE PEÑA**, resident of Barangay Sta. Cruz (Pambilog), San Luis, Pampanga and the sole heir of **BENJAMIN PEÑA y PREDO** who died intestate on October 4, 2003 executed an Affidavit of Self-Adjudication with Sale on his estate, more particularly described as a parcel of land (Lot 3505, of the subdivision plan Psd-74814, being a portion of Lot 3505 of the cadastral survey of San Luis, L.R.C. Rec. No.) situated in the Bo. of San Juan, San Luis, Pampanga and covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. 2001, Emancipation Patent No. 27247, before Notary Public Paterno S. Guevarra as per Doc No. 138, Page No. 27, Book No. 82, Series of 2019.

Punto! Central Luzon: November 28, December 5 & 12, 2019

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **FELICIANO C. AGBUIS JR.** who died intestate on June 20, 2019 in Quezon City executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement on his estate, more particularly described as follows:

1. TCT No. 040-2013023926 of the Registry of Deeds of the Province of Bulacan, Meycauayan City, consisting of 298 square meters, more or less;
2. TCT No. T-393981 of the Registry of Deeds of the Province of Isabela, consisting of 700 square meters, more or less;
3. Money in the amount of P24,707.31, more or less, deposited at the Land Bank of the Philippines, EDSA NIA Road Branch, under Account No. 3830567;
4. Money in the amount of P23,065.00, more or less, deposited at the Land Bank of the Philippines, EDSA NIA Road Branch, under Account No. 1872003092; and
5. GSIS pension deposited at the Land Bank of the Philippines;

before Notary Public Kristine Keith N. Colle as per Doc No. 389, Page No. 79, Book No. I, Series of 2019.

Punto! Central Luzon: December 5, 12 & 19, 2019

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **ANA MARIE NACION BONDOC** (a.k.a. **ANA MARIE B. TING**) who died intestate on June 4, 2019 in the City of San Fernando, Pampanga executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement on her estate, more particularly described as follows:

- Money deposited in banks, to wit:

Name of Bank : China Banking Corporation
Account Name : Andra's Breads O' Cakes, which is a business wholly owned by Ana Marie Bondoc Ting

Account Number : 463-002201-4

Amount as of June 4, 2019 : Php20,819.85

Name of Bank : Bank of the Philippine Islands

Account Name : Ana Marie B. Ting

Account Number : 8733 0380 99

Amount as of June 4, 2019 : Php641,994.60

- Transfer Certificate of Title No. 504518-R of the Registry of Deeds for the Province of Pampanga, with a house built thereon, registered in the name of Ana Marie N. Bondoc

- Transfer Certificate of Title No. 504519-R of the Registry of Deeds for the Province of Pampanga registered in the name of Ana Marie N. Bondoc

- Vehicle described as follows:

MV FILE NO. : 0301-00000465945

Make : Suzuki

Series : Jimny J1X-AT

Year Model : 2017

Registered Owner : Ana Marie B. Ting

before Notary Public Peter Paul S. Maglalang as per Doc No. 240, Page No. 49, Book No. XIV, Series of 2019.

Punto! Central Luzon: November 28, December 5 & 12, 2019

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES REGIONAL TRIAL COURT THIRD JUDICIAL REGION BRANCH 52 GUAGUA, PAMPANGA

IN RE: PETITION FOR CANCELLATION
OF THE CERTIFICATE OF LIVE BIRTH OF
RONALD NALUZ SUSI UNDER REGISTRY
NO. 94-322 BEFORE THE CIVIL REGISTRY

GLAWDINE N. SUSI-OPOLENTO,
Petitioner,

-versus-

SP PROC. No. G-19-2745

THE LOCAL CIVIL REGISTRY OF LUBAO,
PAMPANGA AND THE CIVIL REGISTRAR
GENERAL (PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY),
MANILA, AND RONALD NALUZ SUSI ALSO
KNOWN AS MC. RONALD SANTOS NALUZ,
Respondents.

X-----X
ORDER

Petitioner filed a petition dated October 24, 2019, praying that public respondents Local Civil Registrar of Lubao, Pampanga and the Philippine Statistics Authority be ordered to cancel his certificate of birth bearing Registry No. 94-322.

Finding the petition to be sufficient in form and substance, this court hereby (a) sets this case for hearing on **January 15, 2020, at 9:00** in the morning; (b) orders petitioner (1) to cause the publication of this order in a newspaper of general circulation in the province of Pampanga at least once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks; (2) to serve within twenty-four (24) hours from receipt of this order copies of the petition in this case to the Office of the Solicitor General of the Philippines, the Office of the Provincial Prosecutor, City of San Fernando, Pampanga, the Municipal Civil Registrar of Lubao, Pampanga, and the Civil Registrar General; (3) to show proof of said service to this court; and (4) to serve to this court, the Solicitor General and Public Prosecutor Marlyds L. Estardo-Teodoro fifteen (15) days from receipt of this order the judicial affidavits of all her witnesses in this case, which affidavits will serve as the witnesses' testimonies on direct examination, subject to cross, re-direct and re-cross examinations; (c) orders all persons interested in this petition (1) to appear on said date and time before this court - the Regional Trial Court of Guagua, Pampanga, Branch 52, at the Hall of Justice, San Matias, Guagua, Pampanga; and (2) to show cause, if any, why the petition should not be granted; (d) orders the Solicitor General to enter his appearance in this case for the State within twenty-four (24) hours from receipt of this order; and (e) orders the Branch Clerk of Court to furnish copies of this order to the petitioner, her counsel, the Solicitor General, the Provincial Prosecutor of Pampanga, the Municipal Civil Registrar of Lubao, Pampanga, and the Civil Registrar General.

SO ORDERED.

Guagua, Pampanga, November 19, 2019.

JONEL S. MERCADO
Judge

Punto! Central Luzon: November 28, December 5 & 12, 2019



Spotlight Arci Pineda

Khalil Ramos and Sue Ramirez on Netflix's 'Dead Kids'

KELVIN MIRANDA, Vance Larena, Khalil Ramos, and Sue Ramirez top-bill the coming-of-age film *Dead Kids*. Netflix's first Filipino original movie is directed by Mikhail Red.

The first Philippine-made Netflix original film has been available for streaming to 158 subscribers in 190 countries since December 1, 2019.

This is the third Mikhail Red movie to be streamed, after the socio-political thriller *Birdshot* and the horror flick *Eerie*. This is also the way of Direk Mik, who turns 27 years old on December 11, in tackling what he called during the movie premiere the "complexities of my generation."

Dead Kids is loosely based on true events that happened in 2018 about how a group of university students pulled a kidnap-for-ransom scheme against one of their classmates.

In the movie, the students attend a private high school where poor but bright kid Mark Sta. Maria (played by Kelvin Miranda) struggles to fit in.

It doesn't help that the object of his affection, Janina (Sue Ramirez), is also special to the school's biggest bully, Chuck (Markus Paterson), who flaunts his father's riches and connections.

Mark is a favorite among the many boys whom Chuck bullies in school, thus he's lured by his classmates Blanco (Vance Larena), Paolo (Khalil Ramos), and Go (Jan Silverio) to take revenge.

The trio likewise can't stand their bratty and bully classmate, with Blanco resenting the fact that his policeman-father acts as a protector of Chuck's drug lord-father. They recruit Mark in their plan of kidnapping the bully Chuck in exchange for P30 million. Mark eventually agrees to let them use his rented apartment as their hideout.

While preparing their grand plan, they are forced to include Paolo's girlfriend Yssa (Gabby Padilla) in their operations, and everything goes downhill.

Being young themselves, the director and screenwriter—Mikhail and Nikolas Red, who happen to be brothers—have a firm grasp of the contemporary high school milieu. They are able to capture it and, with the help of the actors, show it onscreen.

The actors themselves look like they're still in high school, although Vance Larena's Blanco character would've looked more believable if he's written as an older student who always gets into trouble that's why he can't graduate in time. The thespian Vance lends an air of gravitas to his angst-filled character who is the mastermind behind the kidnapping scheme.

The movie succeeds as both a coming-of-age and a thriller if not for some missing links in the storytelling. The young cast do their best in playing their characters, including newbie Kelvin Miranda as the main protagonist. Kelvin is a revelation in this film as he effectively conveys the moral dilemma being faced by his character.

Having more TV and movie experience among the young cast, Khalil and Sue know how to make the most of their screen time.

Khalil is amusing as the "gago" prankster in the group and endearing as a loyal boyfriend, while Sue manages to make her character memorable, though she's not part of the main action.

This fast-paced story will take viewers on a wild ride as the kids attempt to pull off the perfect crime in the age of social media.

Keep your eyes peeled for not-so-subtle digs against the war on drugs (wait until you meet Uncle Rody, the drug lord!).

One of the most applauded punchlines of *Dead Kids* involves a policy affecting smokers everywhere that could very well trigger debates and heated discussions.

Overall, *Dead Kids* is a worthy addition to your "My List" in Netflix.

□ □ □

DANIEL PADILLA reveals *Hello, Love, Goodbye* was supposed to be his film with Kathryn Bernardo. The lead role eventually went to Alden Richards.

However, Daniel and Kathryn both decided to not work together in any project this year, which is why Daniel was not able to do the movie.

Instead, *Hello, Love, Goodbye* became an opportunity to bring rival networks ABS-CBN and GMA-7 together.

Star Cinema, the producer of the film, tapped Kapuso prime actor Alden Richards to play Kathryn's leading man.

This was discussed during Daniel's interview aired on *Tonight with Boy Abunda*. Boy Abunda asked Daniel, "If that movie, *Hello, Love, Goodbye*, were offered to you, *tatanggapin mo?*"

Daniel answered, "In-offer naman sa akin yun, Tito Boy, e. Sa amin naman talaga originally yun. Originally, *dapat yun, para sa amin.*"

Why did he reject the film?

Daniel explained, "I just think it was time, *napag-usapan namin* after *The Hows of Us* na *magpapahinga muna kaming dalawa.*"

The *Hows of Us* was the last movie of KathNiel that was shown in 2018.

Daniel narrated how he and Kathryn came up with the decision of not working together this 2019.

"Hindi siya mabilis na *proseso na 'Okay, gawin mo na, gawin mo na.'* Hindi ganun kadali. Isa siyang mahabang *proseso.*

"It's something new sa amin and parang out of nowhere, e.

"Si Kathryn, *nagtatanong siya kung okay ba ito, ready na ba siya.* And mahaba siyang usapan



Sue Ramirez

hanggang...yeah."

Boy then asked Daniel how he felt when Alden was chosen as Kathryn's leading man.

The 24-year-old actor responded, "Siyempre, noong binanggit, isip, ano mangyayari, paano *tatanggapin ito?*"

"Gusto nating protektahan si Kathryn din and kailangan mo rin ibigay yung tiwala mo, yung tiwala sa nakaisip ng pagsasama na yun."

Kathryn and Alden's movie earned P880 million worldwide, according to Star Cinema. *Hello, Love, Goodbye* is now considered the highest grossing Filipino film of all time.

The movie is nominated in the 9th Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts Awards for Best Asian Film.

This 2020, Kathryn and Daniel are set to work together again in a teleserye, which will be produced by Dreamscape Entertainment.

It will be KathNiel's first teleserye under Dreamscape Entertainment after eight years. Their first team-up, the weekly series *Growing Up*, was under this unit.

After *Growing Up*, KathNiel's projects were produced by Star Creatives.

When asked about the Kapamilya teleserye, Daniel said, "Wala pa kasing na-pitch sa amin, wala pang na-pitch pero next year, *magisimula na kami magshoot ni Kathryn* for a serye.

"I'm just very excited kasi ang tagal na, ang tagal na ng huli naming serye, ang tagal na naming hindi nagsasama ulit and you know, ibang timpla na naman ito, yung takot sine-set aside."

Kathryn and Daniel will shoot a movie in 2020.



BDO

Pamaskong HANDOG 2019

A Christmas treat for
BDO Kabayan Savings account holders



December 21 show
2PM | The Event Center

Featuring:



Xian LIM



Kim CHIU



Ogie ALCASID



Ate Gay



Leah PATRICIO



MC & Lassy

Hosted by:

Show your:



BDO Kabayan ATM card & passbook

No account yet?
Visit BDO booth on the event date.

Visit www.bdo.com.ph/promos/pamaskong-handog-2019

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[f/SMSupermalls](https://www.facebook.com/SMSupermalls)

Samang-samang tayo sa sayang with:



WorldRemit



MoneyGram
money transfer



Western Union



small world
Money Transfer



S.M. CITY
TELABASTAGAN