

Gov. Dennis Pineda with awards.

PHOTO: PAMPANGA PIO



Pampanga Top 2 in PH in local source revenues

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO – Two national awards in local finance were bestowed upon the Pampanga provincial government recognizing the excellence of Gov. Dennis “Delta” Pineda in revenue generation and management.

The Department of Finance’s Bureau of Local Government Finance (BLGF) ranked Pampanga second among Top

10 provinces in Local Source Revenues (LSR) in nominal terms in 2023 for generating a total of ₱2.345 billion. The province

inched up in ranking from No. 3 in 2022.

According to BLGF Memorandum Circular No. 017-2024, LSR in

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TRB okays updated toll rates for NLEX Connector

MANILA -- The Toll Regulatory Board has authorized the collection of the updated toll rates for the NLEX Connector effective Oct. 15, 2024.

The toll adjustment is part of the program to collect the opening toll

for the NLEX Connector on a staggered basis to cushion the impact to expressway users.

The initial rates were implemented last 2023, four months after the opening of the Calocan to España Section in March. With the open-

ing of Section 2 from España to Magsaysay Boulevard in October 2023, NLEX Connector retained the original discounted rate, letting motorists use the longer stretch for almost a year with no

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NLEX Connector. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Hann Reserve at NCC. ARTIST'S RENDER

BCDA TRACK RECORD CITED

Private partners support RA 7227 amendments

CLARK FREEPORT -- Real estate developers and locators in various economic zones under the Bases Conversion and Development Authority have expressed support for the proposed bills amending Republic Act 7227, stressing that such measure would allow the state-

run firm to continue ushering sustainable economic growth, drive investments, and generate jobs for Filipinos.

Filinvest Land Inc. (FLI), Ayala Corp., Megaworld Corp., and Hann Development Corp. (HDC), delivered their respective letters of support for House Bill

8505 and Senate Bill 2647, citing BCDA’s track record as a key player in economic development and nation building.

As the developer of the 288-hectare mixed-use development Filinvest New Clark City in Tarlac and the 201-hectare leisure estate Filinvest Mimosa+

in Pampanga, FLI described BCDA as a “key progress catalyst” in Central Luzon, and a “steadfast partner” in establishing townships, business hubs, and industrial zones.

Hence, Filinvest believes that the continued existence and expansion of BCDA

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3 Korean firms tapped to make NCC Asia’s choice investment, tourism hub

CLARK FREEPORT -- The Bases Conversion and Development Authority signed three new memoranda of understanding with Korean business experts to help in transforming New Clark City into Asia’s

preferred investment and tourism destination.

On the sidelines of Philippines-Korea Business Forum at Manila Hotel last Oct. 7, BCDA and RMS Platform signed an MOU to explore partnership opportunities on

smart city infrastructure development, including a proof of concept on an eGovernment digital platform for NCC, eyed as a one-stop shop for citizens and locators, providing them access to city information, various

web-based services, and online transactions.

BCDA also signed an MOU with Korea Overseas Infrastructure and Urban Development Corporation (KIND) for studies on the devel-

PAGE 9 PLEASE

BCDA and Korea-based RMS Platform sign MOU to explore partnerships on smart city infrastructure development. **BCDA PHOTO**



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Bataan IP's Bahay Wika earns ATOP Pearl Award

BY ERNIE ESCONDE

ABUCAY, BATAAN -- The Bahay Wika initiative that focuses in the preservation of the indigenous Ayta Magbukun language in an upland village here won the "Best Institutionalized Culture and Arts Program" at the provincial level.

The prestigious recognition was given by the Association of Tourism Officers of the Philippines (ATOP) Pearl Awards 2024 held in Koronadal City, South Cotabato last Oct. 10.

Danica Lolita Tigas, OIC provincial tourism officer, and other tourism officers of Bataan, accepted the award.

Located in Barangay Bangkal adjacent to the slope of Mount Natib, Bahay Wika is considered as the only language center of its kind in the Philippines that is dedicated to safeguarding and promoting what used to be a dying language.

The Bahay Wika was opened on Sept. 27, 2018 in ceremonies led by Komisyon ng Wikang Ilipino.

Melody Parrera, 32,

one of two teachers in the Bahay Wika, led Aeta children in prayers, identified colors and parts of human body and sang in the Magbukun language. She said she has been teaching the Magbukun language for four years.

Classes begin at 8 until 11 in the morning from Monday to Friday. Admitted in the Magbukun language school are Aeta children aged 2 to 4 years. Children will only be admitted to daycare after passing 10 months of language training at the Bahay Wika.

"Maraming salamat sa Komisyon ng Wikang Pilipino na bumuo ng Bahay Wika, provincial government office, Abucay municipal government, tourism, cultural heritage foundation at sa iba pang tumutulong sa amin," Parrera said in Filipino and then translated it in Magbukun language.

The Bahay Wika program has the full support from the provincial government headed by Gov. Jose Enrique Garcia 3rd and the municipality of Abucay under Mayor Robin Tagle.



Teacher Melody Parrera engaging children in the Magbukun language. PHOTO: ERNIE ESCONDE



First-ever IPMR at the city council Carlos Salvador (3rd from right) on his call at the city hall with (L-R) Mayor Lazatin's chief adviser IC Calaguas, two IP companions, councilor Pogs Suller, executive assistant Reina Manuel, and city disaster risk reduction and management office chief Rudy Simeon.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Lazatin sets IP seat in AC council

ANGELES CITY – For the first time, the city council will have a seat for an indigenous peoples mandatory representative.

This, after Mayor Carmelo "Pogi" Lazatin Jr. initiated the creation of one plantilla position for Sanggunian member in Supplemental Budget No. 4 that was approved by the city council headed by Vice Mayor Vicky Vega-Cabigting on Sept. 17.

Lazatin said the move is a recognition of the unique biodiversity of the Aeta community in Barangay Sapangbato that relies on the knowledge, innovations, and practices of indigenous and local communities who live in direct contact with nature.

In relation to this, the mayor also initiated the selection of another position for barangay

councilman in Barangay Sapangbato to represent indigenous people.

"Isang magandang balita po ito para sa ating mga kapatid na Aeta dahil kabilang na po sila sa boses sa ating konseho na maglalayong mas mapangalagaan ang kanilang mga karapatan, kultura, at adhikain," Lazatin said.

Carlos Salvador, who was elected by the city's Aeta clan in Barangay Sapangbato, will take the position of IPMR in the city council while Jun Jun Tolentino was elected as kagawad of the Barangay Sapangbato council pursuant to RA 8371 (Indigenous People's Rights Act of 1997).

RA 8371 mandates the representation of IPs in all policy making bodies and other local legislative

councils, and to enjoy the same privileges as the regular members of the legislative bodies.

The city council will welcome the IPMR as its 13th member, and the Department of Budget and Management approved the city council's appropriation ordinance for classification of newly-created position for Salvador's new office and staff.

According to the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples, IPMRs are tasked with creating a legislative agenda in partnership with the community they represent.

Further, IP consultative bodies advance grassroots representation by providing a platform for IP elders and leaders.

It can be recalled

that Lazatin initiated the selection of IPMR in the city council in 2023 to strengthen the indigenous peoples' capacity to advocate for their rights.

Lazatin ordered councilor Atty. Arvin "Pogs" Suller to help the Aeta community in Barangay Sapangbato then in creating an IPMR in the city council.

During the general assembly in 2023, the elders and leaders of the Aeta communities in Sitio Target, Sitio Babo, and Sitio Bliss started to craft and present the local guidelines for the IPMR.

Meanwhile, the NCIP aided them to validate and document the selection process with the assistance of the Department of the Interior and Local Government.

Angeles CIO

Pasudeco, HOPE gift new building to Porac school

PORAC, PAMPANGA – A bright new day for education dawned on Planas High School here on Oct. 10. with the inauguration of its new school building coming from the united efforts at charity by Pasudeco and HOPE organization.

The new facility, which will benefit both students and teachers, was officially handed over in a ceremony led by Pasudeco president Andrew Escaler and HOPE program associate Strength Licuanan with Roderico Cayanan, rep-

resentative from the Department of Education, the school's principal, and local barangay officials in full attendance.

"We are excited because our students no longer need to worry about the lack of transportation early in the morning or late in the evening. They can also save on transportation costs. The teachers will also benefit from this change as they can head home earlier," enthused Elizabeth Del Fin, Planas High School principal, in expressing gratitude to "their benefactors."

With the new school building, the school can now transition from a double-shift schedule to a more convenient single-shift system. Previously, students and teachers faced transportation challenges, with no available transport at 6 a.m. and at 6 p.m. With the new class schedule from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., commuting is now easier and more affordable.

The newly built classrooms will provide a more comfortable learning environment, particularly for Grade 10 students transitioning to senior high school. Each classroom is equipped with its own restroom, providing students with better facilities during school hours.

Licuanan highlighted that this project

is part of a broader initiative by HOPE to support local communities through education.

"This new school building will benefit students by giving them a larger, more modern space to learn in. We hope it will allow teachers to focus more on their instruction and less on the disruptions caused by overcrowded classrooms," said Licuanan.

Escaler emphasized Pasudeco's commitment to giving back to the community that has supported the company over the years. "We believe that education is key to improving people's lives, and we are proud to invest in the future of Planas' children. We wouldn't be where we are today without the help of this community, and this school building is our way of saying thank you."

The construction of the school building began after a groundbreaking ceremony on April 29, 2024, and will serve more than 500 students. Currently, the local barangay, headed by cahirman Alfer Nacu, with support from the municipal government, is also constructing a foot-bridge over a small creek to improve access to the new facility.

Punto News Team/PR



Digital Transformation in Action: Tarlac Celebrates Launch of eGOV App and eLGU System

ON AUGUST 28, 2024, Tarlac made significant strides toward digital governance with the successful launch of the Electronic Local Government Unit (eLGU) System at the Kaisa Convention Hall in Tarlac City, Tarlac. This landmark initiative, spearheaded by the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), aims to streamline public service access and enhance citizen engagement across the province.

The said launching was followed by the eLGU CIO Conference on August 29, 2024 in La Majarica Hotel, Tarlac City, Tarlac which was attended by Chief Information Officers and representatives from LGUs in Tarlac.

At the heart of this initiative is the eGov PH mobile application, designed to simplify and digitize interactions between citizens and local government units (LGUs). With the eGOV App, residents of Tarlac can access vital public services from their smartphones—be it renewing business permits, applying for work permits, or processing various certificates—anytime and anywhere. This user-friendly platform is a significant step forward in reducing bureaucratic inefficiencies and economic costs for citizens.

The launch garnered strong support from local leadership, with attendance from officials representing the Governor's Office, various city mayors and vice mayors, and regional directors from the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA). Key figures such as Assistant Secretary for Management Information Systems Edwin S. Ligot and DICT's Government Digital Transformation Bureau Director June Vincent Manuel S. Gaudan emphasized the importance of this initiative for the province and the country as a whole.

The successful rollout of the eLGU system aligns with President Marcos's vision for modernizing government operations and ensuring the effective local implementation of digital services. As part of the President's Bagong Pilipinas Movement, the eGOV App and eLGU System seek to position the Philippines on par with its Asian counterparts in terms of public service digitalization.

Looking ahead, the upcoming eGOV App Launching and eLGU Kickoff Event in Tarlac will continue this momentum toward national digital transformation. This initiative reflects the collaborative efforts of DICT, DILG, and ARTA, paving the way for a more efficient, accessible, and responsive government.



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To the Point

Long dead, now suspended

“WHEREFORE, the Prayer for Preventive Suspension insofar as the following incumbent officials of the Municipal Government of Porac, Pampanga, are concerned, namely, respondents:

JAIME V. CAPIL, Mayor
FRANCIS LAURENCE V. TAMAYO, Vice Mayor;
EMERALD VITAL, Licensing Assistant/then OIC Business Permit and Licensing Office;
Sanggunian Bayan Members
Rohner Buan;
Rafael Canlapan;
Adrian Carreon;
Regin Clarete;
Essel Joy David;
Hilario Dimalanta;
Michelle Santos; and
John Nuevy Venzon
is hereby GRANTED...”

THUS, the Ombudsman ordered on Oct. 7, 2024 the wholesale suspension of the elected local officials of Porac for gross neglect of duty vis-a-vis the illegal operation of a Philippine offshore gaming operator (POGO) hub in Barangay Sta. Cruz that came to light only with the raid of its premises by the Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Commission last June.

Suspension orders from the Ombudsman have been so routinary that they hardly draw any attention but that of their subjects. So, why has this particular one become divertingly discomfiting, to the point of being bannered in some digital publications?

One for the books, Guinness’ included mayhaps, is the Ombudsman’s inclusion in its suspension order of councilor Regin Clarete who died in May 2023, and succeeded to his post in September of that same year by his sister, Myla Clarete, who, as the lone councilor untouched by the suspension, assumed office as acting mayor on Oct. 11.

Pray, tell, how does the Ombudsman expect the dead councilor to serve his suspension? While this apparent inadvertence by the Ombudsman makes the joke of the day, it has not escaped the more astute to see it as a joke on the Porac populace itself.

For one, the suspension order was signed on Oct. 7, the penultimate day of the filing of the certificate of candidacy. Running for six months, the suspension ends in April, a month before the elections. The reelectionist mayor, et al clearly put to a disadvantage there, deprived of availment of the LGU’s resources.

More telling, acting Mayor Clarete, while not a candidate for any position in next year’s polls, is the sister-in-law of Mike Tapang, who is all-out to wrest the mayoralty from Capil in 2025.

So, who’s laughing?



Shepherd’s Call

Bishop Pablo Virgilio S. David

Opinion

Of titles and designations

HOW DOES one address a cardinal?

Well, it depends. If you are still living in the medieval times when the Pope was regarded as a monarch and his advisers as princes, you addressed him as “Your Eminence.” You would also have to address bishops as “Your Excellency” or “Your Grace,” if he heads a Metropolitan province.

But we are not living in those times anymore, are we? These titles are a thing of the past. And those who cling to them continue to live in the past.

If we go further back to the real past on which the Church is founded—on Jesus and the apostles—you would know how inconsistent these titles are with Jesus of Nazareth. He told his disciples not to imitate the Pharisees who “wear their phylacteries and lengthen their tassels...love places of honor at banquets, seats of honor...greetings...and titles...” (Mt 23:6-7)

He immediately admonished the two young disciples who were aspiring for titles of honor. He said to them in Mk 10:43-45, “It shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant...”

Apparently, that’s why the cardinals are made to wear red—the color of martyrdom. Those bloody red vestments (pardon the double meaning) are supposed to be a statement that may sound ridiculous to some or even fanatical to others: “I’m a dead man walking. I no longer live for myself. I live only for Christ. These robes are washed by the blood of Christ.”

“How would you like to be addressed?” This was asked by the facilitator of our work group at the Synod. Nobody gave a title; just a first name. So, I said, call me Ambo, like the “ambo” of the Church, the stand from which the Word of God is proclaimed. That’s what my ministry as Bishop is essentially about.

But I also know that in the Asian culture, people would feel awkward to address an elderly person by first name. By adding a relational designation to the person we’re addressing we can actually call them by name. Like Ate Viring, Kuya Mike, Tito Maning, Tita Mila, Nanay Linda, Tatay Mar, Lolo Ponsing, Lola Iska. They are not titles for us; they’re an expression of how we relate with them and who they are in our lives.

That’s why “Father” is not really a title for us; “Reverend” is. To call a priest “Father Edgar” is an endearing gesture. “Bishop” is not regarded as a title; “Most Reverend” is. To call your bishop “Bishop Rene” is an endearing gesture. “Cardinal” is not a title, “Eminence” is. To call Cardinal Tagle “Cardinal Chito” is an endearing gesture. Pope is not a title; “Your Holiness” is. You see, even the Supreme Pontiff of the Catholic Church is simply called “Papa,” to stress his role in the Church as a father. So, we endearingly call him

Pope Francis, or Holy Father, not “His Holiness, the Supreme Pontiff.” He himself simply refers to himself as “Bishop of Rome” and signs his name simply as Franciscus or Francis. He never forgot how Filipinos called him “Lolo Kiko.”

The retired Cardinal Gaudencio Rosales was fondly called “Lolo Dency,” meaning Grandfather Dency. I wouldn’t mind being called that, but maybe in my native Kapampangan: “Apung Ambo.” If you want me to frown at you, call me “Eminence.” If you want me to smile at you, just call me “Apung Ambo.”

If you want to be a bit formal, call me by my ministry—Bishop Ambo. That is the ministry which I was ordained for. (There is no ordination for a bishop if he becomes a cardinal. He remains a bishop.) Even the Pope is basically just a bishop, like all other bishops. It’s just that his being bishop of Rome and successor of Peter gives him the responsibility of “presiding over his brother bishops in charity.” We bishops are all just that—servants of God. And the pope, who is called a Supreme Pontiff, is the servant of the servants of God, and is expected to be “the supreme bridge-builder.” That is what Supreme Pontiff means—keeper of the communion of the universal Church.

When the Pope names a brother bishop a “Cardinal,” it means he’s asking him to help in carrying out his “bridge-building task.” That can only be done with a lot of KENOSIS—self-emptying, that attitude that Jesus expects of his friends when they are given a share in his mission. (Philippians 2:1-11) this is the attitude that says “there has to be less of me for there to be more of him. It’s Jesus at work, and he’s only asking us to participate in his life and mission.”

Our motto should be that of St. John the Baptist, who calls himself the Friend of the Bridegroom — “He must increase; I must decrease.” (Jn 3:30)

From here on I will take seriously the little advice Pope Francis gave me when I met him the other day and had the gall to complain and say to him “You should have at least given me an advanced notice!” He said, “Tomátelo con un granito de humor divino.” Take it with a little grain of divine humor.

I will also keep in mind what he said in his letter to our batch of 21 whom he’s calling to a Consistory on December 7: “...I assure you of my prayers that the title of ‘servant’ will increasingly eclipse that of ‘eminence’.”

Contrapunto

(Public space for your most valued views on community issues)

Beeping at LTO

From what I observe, their actions seem selective because violations are happening right in front of them – like tricycles driving on national roads, motorcycle riders without helmets or proper gear, and vehicles that, knowing they are in violation, simply park on the roadside and wait for the LTO personnel to leave before continuing their journey.

My question is, isn’t there a better system that the LTO can implement to perform their duties more effectively? Isn’t taxpayers’ money being wasted on fuel for LTO vehicles and salaries for their personnel?

Moreover, doesn’t this erode the public’s trust in the LTO, especially when people see these personnel and immediately think, “Here come the extortionists again”? This is the real situation on the ground. I hope the LTO management will carefully reflect on these issues. Hopefully, a time will come when the trust of the public is restored, and the LTO is

once again respected for fulfilling its duties properly.

Is it true that automotive dealers are paying an additional P500 to P1,000 per car registration? This practice has reportedly been going on at the LTO for quite some time. Shouldn’t this be eliminated so that only the legitimate fees are paid?

This added cost could be contributing to the rising prices of vehicles today. If this practice is true, it creates an unnecessary burden on both the dealers and the consumers, as these hidden fees are likely passed on to buyers, further increasing vehicle costs.

The LTO should address this issue to ensure transparency in the registration process, and to prevent unfair price hikes that affect the market. This would help create a fairer, more honest system, benefiting not just the automotive industry but also the public.

Rene Romero, business and civic leader



LLL Trimedia Coordinators, Inc.
Publisher

General Manager **Atty. Gener C. Endona**
Editor **Caesar “Bong” Lacson**
Marketing Manager **Joanna Niña V. Cordero**
Admin **Irma C. Tullao**

Business & Editorial office at Unit B Essel Commercial Center,
McArthur Highway, Telabastagan, City of San Fernando
Tel. No. (45) 625-0244 Cel. No. 0917-481-1416
puntoitnangluzon@yahoo.com or marketing@punto.com.ph
http://www.punto.com.ph



Ad Lib
Rey Yumang

Opinion

The power of one vote

COME TO think of it. The first time we all exercised our right to vote and chose the people who would lead us did not happen when we turned 18 as contained in Art. V, Sec. 1 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution. It happened several years earlier, right inside that small classroom of the elementary school where we were enrolled when the election of class officers took place.

Remember those times when we had to elect the student leaders in our section for the school year on the second or third week after classes have officially started? There were no election promises that proved to be too good to be true, no campaign soirees that featured mudslinging of the other candidates or vote-buying that was a direct insult to the dignity of the voter, as well as the integrity of the entire election process.

The selection of class officers in elementary that went on yearly until fourth year high school was democracy in action. We each guarded our one vote knowing fully well that the future of the class for the rest of the school year was at stake. Sure, we were friends or even relatives with some of the members of the class. But that was immaterial because we wanted only the best, the brightest, the exemplary, the dependable, the hardworking and the highly trusted in the class to be our leaders and role models who would represent our section in all school activities. Because we valued the reputation of our section, we wanted a set of officers who would carry the name of our class with so much honor and dignity.

We always chose the most responsible classmate to be the class president, someone whose orders we did not mind following when the teacher was not around. In selecting the vice president, we gave our support to another classmate who would complement and complete the work of the president because we wanted someone who could exemplify shared leadership. As for the secretary, our vote always went to the classmate with the most legible penmanship, who would not complain at all when instructed by the teachers to write the important notes and lecture on the board and whose records management skills was flawless.

When it comes to the treasurer, we would raise our hands in approval of the classmate who could be trusted with the class funds, who even at a young age already valued accountability and transparency. Of course, we would always

agree that the class mathematician was the most qualified to be the auditor. That classmate was not only good in numbers; he was also highly admired for his incomparable integrity. This made him the best bet to provide check and balance in the management of the class funds.

Even the position of the public relations officer was taken seriously. This always went to that classmate who aside from keeping everyone informed was the best link we had to the rest of the school and even to the external stakeholders. For the sergeant-at-arms we would entrust the task of ensuring peace and order in class to the "big boys" whose mere stance and forceful command were enough for our unruly classmates to stop and behave.

What about the muse and her escort? Funny that even these so-called "positions" were selected by the majority and not merely appointed by the class adviser. Back then, we would not only vote for the most good-looking classmates. We wanted our class to be represented by the classmates who were also smart and kind.

I just find it really odd that back in grade school and even until fourth year high school, we considered our vote truly sacred. To think that at that age, we did not even have a profound knowledge of the intricacies of an election. We only knew the importance of having the most competent and the most deserving classmates to lead us and represent the school.

So, what happened between then and the many times that we exercised our right to suffrage? Have we become so jaded that we have stopped believing in the power of one vote? Have we become so frustrated of the process and of the results that we no longer take our vote seriously? I hope we have not totally given up. Sure, the change we all long for is still nowhere in sight. But if everyone values his or her one vote as if the future of the entire country depends on it, change will definitely come. It all begins with one vote.



Napag-uusapan Lang
Marvel V. Garcia

Political dynasty sa bansa natin, panahon na upang ito ay buwagin

Pumoporma na ang mga kandidato nagpapakilala na sa mga tao pati ang ilan sa mga pulitiko na nasangkot na sa mga eskandalo umaasa pa rin silang iboboto ng mga botante nilang maloloko

Ang mga ARTISTA na sumikat noon ACTION STAR man yan o MATINEE IDOL ay lumahok na rin para sa eleksiyon na gaganapin sa susunod na taon di lang kongresista ang ina-AMBISYON kung di maging isa sa mga SENADOR

Ang mga PARTY LIST dumami ring bigla na parang KABUTE sa mga tumana katulad na lamang nitong si DIWATA sa pulitika ay biglang pumagitna ang hangariin daw niyang nais isagawa bigyan ng proteksiyon ang VENDOR sa bansa

Kaya't marami ng mga gumigimik na kumakatawan sa mga party list sila raw ang mga natatanging tinig lalaban para sa mga maliliit ganyan ang katagang laging sinasambit tulad ng HONEY BEE na ubod ng tamis

Mga pulitiko'y magaling mangusap upang sa botante'y makapanghikayat sino ba naman ang hindi magaganyak sa mga pangakong dalisay at wagas lalo na kung ito'y hinggil sa pag-unlad na siyang inaasam-asam nating lahat

Alamin lahat ng mga kandidato na mayroong mga nakabinbing kaso partikular na ang mga pulitiko na ayaw bumaba sa kanilang pwesto mga KAPIT TUKO at naniniguro na palaging sila ang nasa gobyerno

Sila ay hindi na dapat tangkilikin na makapaglingkod pa sa bayan natin sila yaong mga pulitikong sakim sa panunungkulan ayaw ng bumitiw itong POLITICAL DYNASTY sa atin panahon na upang ito ay buwagin



BCDA wins 2 Gold Stevie Awards

CLARK FREEPORT – The Bases Conversion and Development Authority took center stage at the 2024 International Business Awards (IBA) with two prestigious Gold Stevie Awards in the gala event held at the InterContinental Hotel Istanbul, Turkey on Oct. 11.

Of the 3,600 nominations from 62 nations, as determined by 300 jurors worldwide, the "We Build As One: BCDA 2021 Annual Report" (Best Annual Report - Government Agencies)

and external BCDA newsletter called "COLLECTIVE" (Other Publication - Government category) are among the entries that earned top honors for their excellence in communication, creativity, and transparency.

"The awards underscore BCDA's commitment to elevating its public engagement and showcasing its pivotal role in national development," noted BCDA president and CEO Engr. Joshua Bingcang. "These accolades affirm BCDA's position

as a leader in transparent governance and effective communication."

With Bingcang in receiving the two Gold Stevie Awards were project owners BCDA vice president for public affairs Leilani Barlongay-Macasaet and public relations officer Denver A. Moreno, together with BCDA senior vice president for corporate services Atty. Elvira V. Estanislao, and BCDA vice president for investment pro-

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SM Foundation welcomes new batch of scholars in Pampanga

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO -- The SM Foundation Scholarship program officially welcomed its new batch of college scholars from Pampanga and Clark for School Year 2024-2025 on Oct. 7 at The SM Store of SM City Pampanga.

The 30 scholars were accompanied by their proud parents during the orientation, awarding, and contract signing at the mall's training room.

The SM Foundation Scholarship program not only provides financial assistance to deserving students but also offers access to opportunities that foster academic excellence and personal development. With the guidance and support of the foundation, these scholars are set to make a lasting impact in their chosen fields, embodying the values of hard work, perseverance, and community service that the SM Foundation promotes.

Building on this vision, scholarship program senior



Under the gaze of SM's beloved "Tatang," the new batch of scholars whoop it up with SM regional PR head for North Luzon Rain Cervantes, The SM Store HR manager Melanie Angeles, AVP for operations Lei Alice Gonzales, and scholarship program senior AVP Eleanor Lansang.

AVP Eleanor Lansang detailed the foundation's support offered to scholars, noting that beyond covering full-tuition fees, the program ensures a comprehensive approach to student development.

Scholars will also benefit

from enrichment activities, part-time job opportunities, and internships within the SM Group, all designed to foster both personal and professional growth, creating a clear pathway from education to fulfilling careers. **SM-PR**



SM SUPER SPELLING BEE CHAMP

Rayne Gabrielle S. Banal from Holy Family Academy-Anges City emerged as the elimination winner of the SM Super Spelling Bee held at SM City Clark on Oct. 11. She will represent the mall in the grand finals of the spelling bee at the Mall of Asia on Oct. 22. **SM-PR**

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REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL REGION
CITY OF SAN FERNANDO (P)

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
& EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND,
Petitioner-Mortgagee,

EJF No. 211-24
Punto Central Luzon

Versus

MARY GRACE L. CAÑETE,
Respondent-Mortgagor.

x-----x

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135, as amended, filed by **HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND**, Mortgagee, with its office address at The Petron Mega Plaza Building, No. 358 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City against **MARY GRACE L. CAÑETE**, Mortgagor, with residence and postal address at Block 77, Lot 1, Northville 14, Calulut, City of San Fernando, Pampanga, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of August 30, 2024 amounts to **FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED TWENTY NINE & 81/100 (Php. 452,529.81) PESOS** excluding penalties, charges, attorney's fees and expenses of foreclosure, the undersigned Ex-Officio Sheriff and/or his duly authorized Sheriff IV will sell at public auction on **NOVEMBER 28, 2024**, at 10:00am or soon thereafter (from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.), at the main entrance of the RTC Bldg., City of San Fernando, Pampanga, to the highest bidder for CASH/or Manager's Check and in Philippine Currency, the following property/ies with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 042-2020005183

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that certain land situated in BARANGAY OF CALULUT, CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA, ISLAND OF LUZON, bounded and described as follows:

LOT NO. 47 BLOCK NO: 7 PLAN NO. Pcs-03-021716

PORTION OF: The cons./subd. of Lots 23 & 24, Psd-03-0101424 (AR)

LOCATION: Barangay of Calulut, City of San Fernando, Province of Pampanga, Island of Luzon.

AREA: Thirty Six Square Meters (36), more or less.

"All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above stated time and date."

"In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on **December 5, 2024** without further notice."

Prospective buyers may investigate for themselves the title herein above described and encumbrances thereon, if any there be.

City of San Fernando, Pampanga, October 4, 2024

REMIGIO L. DICHOSO
Sheriff IV

Cc:

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND
The Petron Mega Plaza Bldg., No. 358 Sen. Oil Puyat Avenue, Makati City

MARY GRACE L. CAÑETE
Blk. 77, Lot 1, Northville 14, Calulut, City of San Fernando, Pampanga; and

Lot 47, Blk. 7 Empresa Homes, Calulut, City of San Fernando, Pampanga

ENGR. DANILO P. CATOLOS
R. 202, Suburbia Commercial Center, Ma-Arthur Highway,
Maimpis, City of San Fernando, Pampanga

ATIY, JEFFREY A. RAMIENTAS
Greatsource Corporation,
2546 A. Bonifacio St., Bangkal, Makati City

PUNTO CENTRAL LUZON

Punto! Central Luzon: October 7,14 & 21, 2024

www.punto.com.ph

NOTICE OF SELF-ADJUDICATION

Notice is hereby given that **MYRNA SANTOS DEL MANDO** of legal age, Filipino with residence and postal address at B11 Lot 11 Fatima St. Maryland Resettlement Sapang Biabas, Mabalacat City, Pampanga and heirs of **RAYMUNDO BALLESTEROS SANTOS** who died on July 01, 2011 in Mabalacat Pampanga and **ISABEL GAGATE SANTOS** who died on August 02, 2001 in Mabalacat Pampanga; executed an Affidavit of Self-Adjudication with Absolute Sale on his/her estate, and more particularly described as a parcel of land (Lot 13 Block 5 of the consolidation and Subd., plan Pcs-03-000308, being a portion of the consolidated lots of block 1 to block 7, Psd-26164, L.R.C. Rec. No.) situated in the Bo. of Iba Municipality of Mabalacat, Province of Pampanga; Containing an area of Two Hundred Forty (240) Square Meters and covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. 250056-R; before Notary Public Ignacio Manapil, as per Doc No. 204, Page No. 185, Book No. XXXV, Series of 2024.

Punto! Central Luzon: October 7, 14 & 21, 2024

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL ALTERNATIVE CHILD CARE OFFICE
Field Office III

5th Floor, Primus Medicus, San Isidro, City of San Fernando, Pampanga
Email address: racco3@nacc.gov.ph
Contact Nos: (045) 961-2143

IN RE: PETITION FOR ADOPTION OF MINOR DAVID BALUYOT TO BE KNOWN THEREAFTER AS MARK TIMOTHY LOREN METAL

DOMESTIC ADMIN. ADOPTION
NO: RACCOIII-DAA-2024-0043-REG-004

SPOUSES: IAN FEL D. METAL ANA LEA L. METAL
Petitioners

DATE: September 02, 2024

x-----x

ORDER

A verified petition for the adoption of **DAVID BALUYOT** filed by the petitioners through the Regional Alternative Child Care Office III (RACCO III) praying that after due notice, publication and appearances, a judgement be rendered to the effect that the minor **DAVID BALUYOT** be declared for all legal intents and purposes the legitimate child of the petitioners and that the name of the child be change particularly to appear as **MARK TIMOTHY LOREN METAL**.

Finding the said Petition to be sufficient in form and substance, let the same be set for Mandatory Appearance on October 29, 2024, 10:00 am to be held at **RACCO 5th Floor Primus Medicus Brgy San Isidro City of San Fernando Pampanga a 2000**. Any interested party may appear and may file an opposite/complaint supported by evidence to the National Authority for Child Care (NACC), through the RACCO where the Petition was filed. The complaint will be subjected for verification and further investigation.

Let a copy of this Order be published at the expense of the Petitioners once a week for three (3) successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation pursuant to Section 31 of R.A. No. 11642 or the Domestic Administrative Adoption and Alternative Child Care Act.

SHEILA R. SICAT
Officer-in-Charge, RACCO III

Copy furnished:
National Authority for Child Care
2 Chicago St. corner, Ermin Garcia St.,
Brgy, Pinagkalsahan, Cubao, Quezon City

MS. ROSE ANGELYNNE C. TRINIDAD, RSW
Adoption Social Worker
RACCO III

MS. VINA P. SAN GABRIEL
Local Civil Registrar - Dasmadilas, Cavite

Petitioners: Sps. Metal
Mabalacat City

Publication Company:
Data of Publication:

Punto! Central Luzon: October 7, 14 & 21, 2024

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
Third Judicial Region
Office of the Clerk of Court & Ex-Officio Sheriff
Guagua, Pampanga
rtc1ggaocc@judiciary.gov.ph/09423625271

GOVERNMENT SERVICE
INSURANCE SYSTEM,
Mortgagee,

- versus -

FREM Case No. G-24-2526

MARIFE S. TORRES, married to EDWIN M. TORRES,
Mortgagors.

X-----x

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

WHEREAS, upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135 as amended by Act 4118 filed by Government Service Insurance System, mortgagee, with principal office address GSIS Headquarters, Financial Center, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City, against mortgagor, **MARIFE S. TORRES** married to **EDWIN M. TORRES** with postal address at San Agustin Betis, Guagua, Pampanga, and/or San Nicolas Betis, Guagua, Pampanga, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness mentioned which as of August 31, 2024, amounts to **TEN MILLION FIVE HUNDRED SIXTY ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED THIRTY SEVEN PESOS & SIXTY ONE CENTAVOS (P10,561,937.61)** Philippine currency, inclusive of interest, penalties and other charges, the Clerk of Court & Ex-Officio Sheriff of the Regional Trial Court, Guagua, Pampanga thru Sheriff LEO D. DACION will sell at public auction on **November 21, 2024** at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter at the entrance of the Municipal Trial Court of Lubao, Pampanga, to the highest bidder in cash or manager's check and in Philippine currency the here-in-below described real property with all existing improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 522063-R

A parcel of land (Lot 3 of the cons-subd. Pcs-03-010486, being a portion of cons. of lots 3 & 5 Block 6 Psd-035408-052748, LRC Rec. No.), situated in the Bo. of Baruya, Mun. of Lubao, Prov. of Pamp. Bounded on the SW, along line 1-2 by lot 6, Blk. 6, Psd-035408-052748; on the NW, along line 2-3 by lot 2 of the cons-subd. plan; on the NE, along line 3-4 by Rd. lot 3 (8.00 m.wide) Psd-035408-052748; on the SE, along line 4-1 by lot 7, Blk. 6. Psd-035408-052748. x x x x x x x x Containing an area of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY (120) Square Meters.

The Notice of Extra-Judicial Sale will be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Province of Pampanga and Angeles City once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks and will be posted in three (3) conspicuous public places prior to the date of sale for the information of the public in general and of the interested parties in particular.

Prospective bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title of the above-described property and the encumbrances existing thereon if any there be. All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above-stated time and date.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on **November 28, 2024**, also at 10:00 o'clock in the morning and at the same place mentioned above without further notice.
Guagua, Pampanga, October 4, 2024.

LEO D. DACION
Sheriff IV

Copy furnished:
GSIS LEGAL SERVICES GROUP
GSIS Building, Financial Center Area
Roxas Boulevard, 1308 Pasay City

SPS. **MARIFE S. TORRES** and
EDWIN M. TORRES
San Agustin Betis, Guagua, Pampanga

SPS. **MARIFE S. TORRES** and
EDWIN M. TORRES
San Nicolas Betis, Guagua, Pampanga
Publisher:

Punto! Central Luzon: October 7,14 & 21, 2024

Donggwang Clark Corporation company is looking for a competent, self-motivated candidate to fill the following position;

(Address: CM Recto Highway, Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga)

Submit / E-mail resume to at donggwangdev21@gmail.com

Tel No. (045) 499-1166

Position: 1. Senior Marketing Manager (Casino Marketing Department)

2. Assistant Manager (Marketing Department)

Required Qualifications and Experiences:

- Must know how to speak in English and Korean language; Must be 35-50 years old.
- At least five (5) years of experienced working in Marketing and Casino related works / company.
- Has knowledge, expertise and experienced in Casino Marketing management and has good communication skills.
- Salary Range: Php 55,000.00 to Php 60,000.00



Trener Industries (Philippines), Inc.

Bldg. 1 Lot B Berthaphil I Industrial Park,
Jose Abad Santos Avenue, Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga
Tel. Nos. (045) 499 6526

We are a bag manufacturer and exporter.

We are looking for a competent candidate for the position of:

GENERAL MANAGER (1)

Qualifications:

- Preferably Chinese or Hongkong national.
- Years of experience as General Manager.
- 5 years' experience in bag manufacturing industry.
- With strong leadership qualities, technical and management skills.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Good interpersonal skills.

Interested applicants may e-mail their resume at
alma@trener-ph.com

Place of assignment will be in Clark
(Complete address, as stated above)



Charter Link Clark

Panday Pira Ave. Ext. IE, Phase II
CFZ, Clark, Pampanga, Philippines
(045) 499-0508/ 499-0515

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• To be successful as a quality assurance control manager, you should have excellent communication and listening skills, with strong observational, analytical, and problem-solving skills. You should understand regulatory compliance and be skilled in understanding scientific and technical data.

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- Setting the requirements for raw materials from suppliers and monitoring their compliance.
- Supervising inspectors, technicians, and other staff members and providing guidance.
- Ensuring legal obligations are followed and ensuring compliance with regulatory bodies and with health and safety guidelines.
- Overseeing product development procedures to identify any deviations from quality standards.
- Inspecting the final output, comparing it to the requirements, and approving or rejecting the final products.
- Keeping accurate documentation and performing statistical analysis.
- Gaining feedback from the clients, attending meetings, submitting reports, and assisting external auditors and inspectors.

Job Requirements:

- 10 Years Experienced Employee
- Extensive knowledge and application of all kinds of Garments Manufacture

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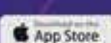
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Pampanga Top 2...

FROM PAGE 1

nominal terms consists of real property tax, business tax, regulatory fees, service/user charges, receipts from economic enterprise and others.

As in 2022, Pampanga ranked second anew for 2023 in terms of ratio of LSR to total current operating income (TCOI) at 39.65%.

TCOI consists of locally sourced income and external sources like national

tax allotment and others, the BGLF said.

Pampanga has remained in BGLF's top rankings of all Philippine provinces since 2019, records showed.

"Ang mga pagkilala pong ito ay patunay ng mabuti at maayos nating pamamahala. Mga Kapampangan po ang nakikinabang sa kita na ginagamit para sa mga serbisyo," Pineda said. **Pampanga PIO**

3 Korean firms...

FROM PAGE 1

opment of affordable residential communities in NCC. BCDA and KIND will explore innovative solutions for developing housing projects that are both cost-effective and sustainable, ensuring that these communities provide quality living environments for Filipino families.

These signing events coincided with Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol's first state visit to the country aimed to enhance the bilateral relations between South Korea and the Philippines in different fields of cooperation including infrastructure development, trade and investments.

On Oct. 8, BCDA and Korea-based Fine TME signed another MOU for the development of a collaborative framework to conduct studies on the efficient operations and maintenance of NCC sports facilities. Through the introduction of latest technologies, this partnership aims to promote NCC as a premier hub for national and international sports events in Asia.

"The willingness of our Korean partners to share their expertise in building smart, inclusive cities will help us set global standards on urban development in the country through New Clark City. We are confident that with their expertise and technical know-how, we can further transform New Clark City into the Philippines' model of urban development catalyzed by smart city and sustainable technologies," said BCDA president and CEO Engr. Joshua Bingcang.

Transforming the whole of Clark into Asia's next investment and tourism destination is the BCDA Group's contribution to the economic agenda of the administration of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s Build Better More program. This is also consistent with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 9, helping to build resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and fostering innovation.

BCDA Public Affairs

BCDA wins...

FROM PAGE 5

motions and marketing Kenneth R. Peralta.

Known as "the International Stevies," The International Business Awards® are recognized as "the world's premier business awards program, and the only completely-international program honoring achievement in the workplace." It is open to all organizations worldwide – large and small, public and private, for-

profit and non-profit.

Participating in international awards like the IBA brings substantial benefits to organizations. Recognition on a global platform boosts credibility, strengthens stakeholder confidence, and opens opportunities for networking and collaboration. It also inspires teams to maintain high standards of performance, fostering a culture of innovation and excellence.

BCDA Public Affairs



PRIMAC TOPPING-OFF CEREMONY

ANGELES CITY – Soon-to-be the Philippines' first-ever Leeds-registered healthcare facility, a topping-off ceremony for the new PRI Medical Arts Complex (PRIMAC) was led by the Lim family represented by Dr. Pio Lim with Elizabeth Timbol of GR Bank, Atty. Ryan Tan and Michelle Carlo Tan of The Hausland Group, Peter Nepomuceno of Angeles Electric Corp., Raffy Cordero of Savers Group, among the special guests in the Oct. 17 event. **PUNTO LIFESTYLE TEAM**

Private partners...

FROM PAGE 1

will strengthen its ability to drive economic growth and develop key areas in the country.

"The renewal of BCDA's corporate existence and expanded role under [the bill] will inspire trust and confidence from both local and foreign investors and boost the country's economy. The extension of BCDA's corporate existence not only ensures continued progress of the areas within its jurisdiction, but also allows the expansion of its industrial and economic footprint, attracting investors and fostering local economy," noted FLI president and CEO Tristaneil D. Las Marias.

Ayala also said its partnership with the BCDA for the development of the Bonifacio Global City in Taguig, and its subsidiary, John Hay Management Corp., for the Ayala Land Technohub in Baguio

City, has helped stimulate economic growth in these areas and create more jobs for Filipinos.

"Thus, we support the proposal to extend the corporate term of BCDA for another 50 years from 2042," Ayala Corp. president and CEO Cesar P. Consing said.

The company also supported the measure to convert a portion of BCDA's economic zones to alienable and disposable lands as this will enable BCDA to "create more economic and social impact" through the sound conversion of former military bases into productive developments.

Megaworld, meanwhile, said its partnership with the BCDA resulted in the development of McKinley Hill, Uptown Bonifacio, and Newport City, which it described as "prime centers of economic development key areas for employment generation."

"We thus welcome the proposal to extend the corporate term of the BCDA and we are confident that the additional term provided to the BCDA would translate to even greater benefits to the country and the Filipino people," said Kevin Andrew L. Tan, CEO of Alliance Global Group Inc., the parent company of Megaworld.

In addition, Tan said the conversion of a portion of BCDA ecozones from leasehold to freehold would make more dynamic and sustainable township developments. He said a freehold residential component would make these ecozones more attractive and competitive as investment destinations.

Hann chairman and CEO Dae Sik Han said extending BCDA's term is vital for project continuity, ensuring the successful execution and completion of long-term initiatives.

"This stability is crucial

for sustained economic growth and development, providing confidence to partners like Hann Development," he said.

HDC is the developer of Clark's first fully integrated development, Hann Casino Resort, and the 450-hectare luxury estate development called Hann Reserve in New Clark City.

Senate Bill 2647 seeks to declare a certain percentage of the land area of each BCDA ecozone as alienable and disposable, authorizing its sale for residential use, mixed use, industrial, and institutional purposes. The bill also seeks to extend the BCDA's corporate term by another 50 years from its current remaining corporate life of 18

Its counterpart bill in the House of Representatives, House Bill 8505, was approved on third and final reading in August last year.

BCDA Public Affairs

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Punto Central Luzon: September 30, October 7 & 14, 2024

TRB okays...

FROM PAGE 1

toll adjustment. Full rates will be implemented once the NLEX Connector Project is completed.

Under the approved toll matrix of the TRB, motorists using Class 1 vehicles (regular cars and SUVs) will be charged ₱119, Class 2 (buses and small trucks) and Class 3 vehicles (large trucks) will have to pay ₱299 and ₱418 flat rates, respectively.

The NLEX Connector has significantly improved the travel experience of motorists heading to Manila from the north and vice versa by reducing travel between C3 in Caloocan and Magsaysay Boulevard in Manila to just seven min-

utes.

Providing an alternative route for all vehicle classes, this all-elevated expressway bolstered job and business opportunities in the areas it traverses by improving accessibility to and from the north.

One of the major industries that has benefited from the NLEX Connector is the trucking and logistics sector. The road provides them with a reliable alternative route that is accessible 24/7, without truck bans, thus increasing travel convenience, and improving movement of goods and cargo.

It has also become more possible for people residing in the North to commute to

study in Metro Manila as this expressway provides faster and easier access to the University Belt and its surrounding areas.

NLEX Connector is the first expressway in the Philippines to implement a barrierless system and uses 100% RFID, allowing faster transactions at toll plazas.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Nos.: 0917-515-7112 | 0969-459-0413
Email: northphilexpo@gmail.com