

MARCOS JR. AT 69

P118.8-M ‘Handog ng Pangulo’ benefits 2,343 Kapampangans



CITY OF SAN FERNANDO — Government assistance and services worth P118.829 million reached 2,343 beneficiaries in Pampanga during the simultaneous nationwide “Handog ng Pangulo” activity held at the Bren Z. Guiao Convention Center on Sept. 13, in celebration of the 69th birthday of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. **PAGE 11 PLEASE**

Aeta scholars are among the beneficiaries during the Handog ng Pangulo event.
PHOTO: DANIEL OMBINA

50 US firms eye investment in LEC

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT — Some 50 American companies have expressed strong interest in investing in the Luzon Economic Corridor (LEC), a key economic zone recognized for its strategic role in the logistics sector. Representatives of the companies were part of a delegation led by Thomas Hardy, deputy director and chief operating officer of the US Trade

and Development Agency (USTDA), during the LEC Investment Forum held at the Best Western Hotel here on Sept. 11. Development partners and major financial institutions also joined the delegation, which met with Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority officials, port operators and investors during business-to-business sessions and a tour of

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DPWH Secretary Vince Dizon and Vice Gov. Dennis “Delta” Pineda check start of river dredging and tail dike repair works in Minalin. **PHOTOS: DPWH**

Gugu River dredging, tail dike repair start

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO — “Itong tail dike sa Minalin isa sa mga priority na napag-usapan namin kasi bumigay na itong parts ng tail dike. Magsisimula na ang trabaho ngayon and at the same time magdredge na tayo dito para mabawasan yung tubig at lahar na mag-threaten dito.” So, declared Department of Public Works and Highways Secretary Vince Dizon at the start of the repair work on damaged sections of the Bacolor-Sto. Tomas-Minalin tail dike on

Sept. 14, along with the dredging of the adjacent Gugu River. “Delikado talaga ito kasi pagka umulan ulit at nasira ito ng tuluyan, lahat ng tubig at lahar doon pupunta sa poblacion ng Minalin. We cannot let that happen,” underscored Dizon of the critical nature of the work at hand. On his inspection, the secretary and Vice Gov. Dennis “Delta” Pineda had to ride a tricycle to get to some segments of the tail dike that have

been so eroded that even a light vehicle could cause complete collapse. “Bawal ang mga mabibigat na sasakyan sa Sto. Tomas at Minalin portions ng tail dike. Nailibot po namin siya ni (Minalin) Mayor Philip nang maayos para sa inspection ng mga damages,” Pineda noted. He said Dizon approved the emergency works to reduce the risk of floodwater and remobilized lahar reaching communities downstream, particularly in Minalin.

Long-arm and amphibious backhoes have been deployed by the provincial government and San Miguel Corp. for desilting and excavation along the heavily silted Gugu River, said Pineda, adding that he has also requested a new dredging machine for regular maintenance of the river channels. The Minalin LGU said the Gugu River had not been deepened in the last 15 years making it easy to

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AC, katuwang sa Handog ng Pangulo 2026: Serbisyong Tapat Para sa Lahat

LUNGSOD NG ANGELES – Katuwang ang pamahalaang lungsod sa pangunguna ni Mayor Mayor Carmelo “Jon” B. Lazatin II, inihatid ng iba’t ibang national government agencies ngayong Setyembre 14, ika-69 araw ng kapanganakan ng Pangulong Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., ang Handog ng Pangulo 2026: Serbisyong Sapat Para sa Lahat ba ginanap sa Infinity Complex.

Kabilang sa mga tampok na serbisyo ang medical at health services, kabilang ang non-communicable diseases risk assessment, blood pressure at blood sugar screening, chest X-ray, basic oral healthcare, blood typing, mental health services, deworming at vitamin supplementation, at iba pang health interventions.

Para naman sa mga alagang hayop, ang libreng anti-rabies vaccination, deworming para sa aso at pusa, veterinary

consultation, at pet adoption.

Naging bahagi rin ang Handog ng Pangulo: Sagip-Ani at Agapay sa Angeleñong Magsasaka, isang agricultural assistance initiative na naglalayong makatulong sa agarang pagbangon ng ating mga magsasaka, maibalik ang kanilang produksyon, maprotektahan ang kabuhatan, at mapalakas ang kanilang kakayahang makabangon mula sa mga agricultural shocks.

Sa pamamagitan ng pagtutulungan ng Department of Agriculture at pamahalaang lungsod, 200 magsasaka ang nabigyan ng iba’t ibang agricultural interventions sa ilalim ng Rice, Corn and Cassava, High Value Crops, Organic, at Livestock Programs.

Kabilang sa mga ipinamahaging interventions ang fertilizers, seeds, biofertilizers, soil ameliorants, knapsack sprayers, foliar

fertilizers, at iba pang production inputs para sa rice, corn, cassava, high-value crops, organic farming, at integrated pest management.

Para naman sa mga livestock farmers, kabilang sa suporta ang mga input para sa animal health at disease prevention, na makatutulong upang mapangalagaan ang mga alagang hayop at mabawasan ang posibleng production losses.

Kasama rin sa agricultural assistance ang mga seed varieties para sa lettuce, pechay, okra, kamatis, talong, sili, siling panigang, kalabasa, at iba pang high-value crops, na makatutulong sa muling pagtatayo ng vegetable production at pagpapalakas ng food security sa komunidad.

Bukod sa production inputs, tampok din ang Agricultural Rehabilitation, Emergency Credit, and

Operational Viability for Economic Restoration (Agri-RECOVER) Program ng Agricultural Credit Policy Council, na ilulunsad bilang pilot program sa Angeles City upang magbigay ng credit assistance sa mga kwalipikadong magsasaka para sa kanilang agricultural recovery.

Sa ilalim ng Agri-RECOVER, makikinabang ang mga kwalipikadong magsasaka sa 0% interest at hanggang tatlong taong repayment period, upang magkaroon sila ng mas sapat na panahon at puhunan para makabangon, makapagsimulang muli, at maipagpatuloy ang kanilang kabuhatan.

Samantala, tampok din ang Kadiwa ng Pangulo – Benteng Bigas, Meron Na! sa Angeles City Hall Grounds, na nagbibigay ng mas abot-kayang bigas sa mga kwalipikadong benepisyaryo, kasama

ang mga lokal na produkto ng Angeleño farmers at producers tulad ng kamote, saging, empanada, at iba pa.

Mayroon ding libreng legal consultation at notarial services, gayundin ang mga serbisyo at assistance mula sa Philippine National Police, at Bureau of Fire Protection, kabilang ang police clearance, Women and Children Protection Help Desk, Highway Patrol Group Help Desk, at impormasyon ukol sa Fire Safety Evaluation Clearance at Fire Safety Inspection Certificate.

Para sa mga nangangailangan ng tulong panlipunan, narito rin ang City Social Welfare and Development Office assistance para sa hospital bills, CT scan, gamot, chemotherapy, dialysis, laboratory services, occupational therapy, operasyon, burial assistance, at wheelchair requests, na

nakabatay sa assessment at kaukulang requirements.

Kasama rin sa Serbisyo Caravan ang iba pang programa para sa kabuhatan, public safety, at employment, upang mas maraming Angeleño ang magkaroon ng access sa serbisyong kailangan nila.

Mula sa agriculture, health, social welfare, legal assistance, veterinary care, livelihood, at iba pang government services, ang Handog ng Pangulo 2026 ay patunay ng patuloy na pagtutulungan ng national at local government upang mailapit ang serbisyo at suporta sa komunidad.

Sa pangunguna ni Mayor Jon, patuloy na sinusuportahan ng Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Angeles ang mga programang nagbibigay ng tulong, oportunidad, at mas matibay na suporta sa kabuhatan ng bawat Angeleño. **Angeles CIO**



Cong Pogi endorses Bahay Pag-asa-made Christmas decors

ANGELES CITY -- As the ‘Ber Months start rolling in, Pampanga 1st District Rep. Carmelo “Pogi” Lazatin, Jr. is preparing early for the holiday season through the purchase of locally-made Christmas wreaths made by the young wards of the Angeles City Social Welfare and Development Office Home for the Girls, or Bahay Pag-asa.

“Kilala ang Pilipinas sa pagkakaroon ng ‘longest

Christmas celebration’ sa mundo, at pinaghahandaan natin ito sa pamamagitan ng pagsuporta sa local Christmas crafts,” Lazatin said.

The Christmas wreaths, which were made by hand, are part of the livelihood activities for the Bahay Pag-asa wards.

It can be recalled that last holiday season, Lazatin also purchased the mini Christmas Trees made by

the wards of Bahay Pag-asa.

During his time as city mayor, Lazatin led the rehabilitation of the Bahay Pag-asa, which received its accreditation also during Lazatin’s time.

The Bahay Pag-asa Christmas wreaths are being sold at P350 each and may be purchased from the CSWDO through their Facebook page.

Team Lazatin Media

Candaba Swamp canal project to curb flooding

BY PUNTO NEWS TEAM

MANILA – The Department of Agriculture has commissioned a P150-million study with a Vietnamese university and engineering contractors to assess the feasibility of transforming Candaba Swamp in Pampanga into large-scale canal systems to mitigate flooding in the area.

“This is not the small canals,” Agriculture

Secretary Francisco P. Tiu Laurel Jr. noted, describing waterways wide and deep enough to accommodate vessels and connected to tributaries patterned after those in Vietnam’s Mekong Delta.

Tiu Laurel said a canal network covering the roughly 6,000-hectare Candaba Swamp could serve as a massive holding area for excess water during heavy rains. As water is redirected

into the canals, portions of the swamp could dry out and potentially become available for cultivation.

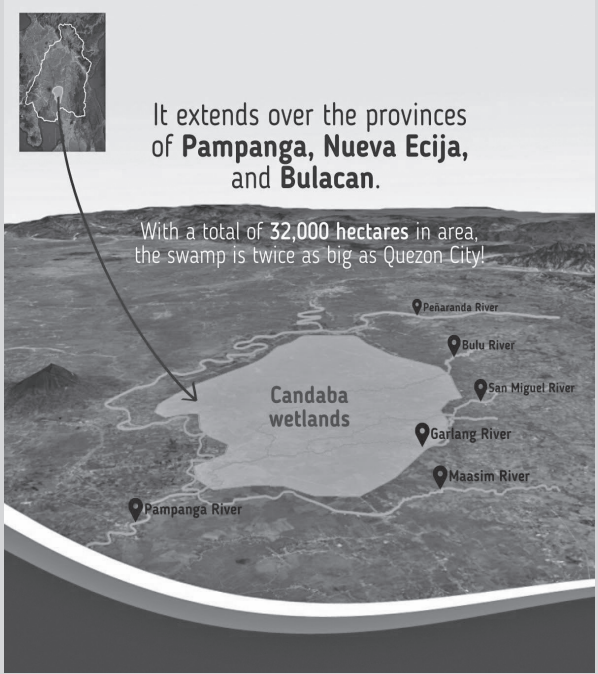
The proposed waterways could also create an alternative logistics network for agricultural producers. Instead of moving harvests entirely by road, farmers could use the canals to transport crops and other agricultural products.

The DA said the proposal is an opportunity to address the costly problems of recurring flooding and the limited use of large areas for productive agriculture.

The scale of the proposal points to an infrastructure undertaking that could require substantial public investment, although the government has yet to determine the project’s final design, cost, or funding structure.

The ongoing study is expected to be completed by the end of the year and will include a funding roadmap, Tiu Laurel said.

The concept is part of a broader DA effort to examine how flood-prone landscapes can be





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To the Point



LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS VS PAMPANGA FLOODING WILL TAKE '20 YEARS YEARS TO COMPLETE'

Public Works Sec. Vince Dizon

IF THE government says it may take 20 years to complete the long-term flood-control solutions for Bulacan and Pampanga, then there is one question we should be asking immediately: Why wait 20 years to address a problem that we can still stop making worse today?

We do not need to wait 20 years to act on the New Manila International Airport (NMIA) reclamation.

We have one year to stop it.

One year to demand an independent scientific assessment.

One year to investigate the waterways that have reportedly been closed, filled or obstructed by the reclamation.

One year to determine whether the river mouths and creeks of the interconnected Central Luzon delta can and should be reopened.

One year to restore natural drainage pathways wherever scientifically and legally warranted.

20 years for the mega projects. One year to stop the damage

The government is proposing a 60-km floodway, a 12,000-hectare ring dike, sabo dams, detention basins, pumping systems and other massive infrastructure. These may take decades.

But stopping further reclamation does not have to take 20 years.

Investigating blocked waterways does not have to take 20 years.

Protecting remaining wetlands does not have to take 20 years.

And determining whether closed river mouths and creeks are contributing to worsening drainage does not have to wait for a 20-year flood-control program.

Stop NMIA. Open the closed waterways. Restore the delta.

We cannot spend the next 20 years building increasingly expensive structures to manage flooding while potentially continuing to alter the very delta that naturally carries water toward Manila Bay.

Fix the natural drainage system first. Then build only the infrastructure that the science shows is actually necessary.

We have 20 years to build. But we have only one year to make the right decision.

Because once more reclamation is completed, more waterways are permanently altered, and more natural wetlands are lost, the damage may become far harder—and far more expensive—to reverse.

One year to stop. One year to investigate. One year to restore what can still be restored.

Do not wait 20 years to discover that we should have acted now. - **Archie San Miguel**



Shepherd's Call

Pablo Virgilio Cardinal David

Floods and the dreaded leptospirosis

I CANNOT think of leptospirosis merely as a statistic. Whenever I hear about another case, I remember Dion Angelo De la Rosa, one of our altar servers, and the painful story of how a disease acquired from contaminated floodwater can suddenly turn into a life-threatening illness.

Yesterday, Fr. Rommel Brebaño, our diocesan BEC coordinator, updated me about what they have been seeing on the ground. He was alarmed by the rate at which people in flooded communities are contracting leptospirosis—and by the deaths being reported. What makes the situation even more disturbing is hearing from residents who go to their barangay health centers after exposure to floodwater, only to be told: “Ubos na po ang gamot.”

I decided to check whether what they are observing locally is reflected in the official figures. Unfortunately, it is.

As of early September, Central Luzon had already recorded 435 leptospirosis cases since August, with health authorities saying that most of the patients had been exposed to floodwaters during the weeks of prolonged flooding. At Jose B. Lingad Memorial General Hospital here in Pampanga, more than 60 leptospirosis patients from different parts of Central Luzon were confined at the same time just a few days ago.

Nationally, the DOH has recorded 6,253 cases so far this year. Even more alarming is the sudden rise following the floods: in just the two-week period from Aug. 2 to 15, 824 cases were recorded—a 77% increase from the preceding period. Central Luzon is now among the regions under intensified monitoring.

And this morning comes another grim figure. San Lazaro Hospital has recorded 22 deaths from leptospirosis as of Sept. 7. Almost three-fourths of these deaths were associated with pulmonary hemorrhage—bleeding in the lungs, one of the most dreaded complications of severe leptospirosis.

Leptospirosis is caused by *Leptospira* bacteria, commonly spread through water or soil contaminated by the urine of infected animals, especially rats. Floodwater provides an almost perfect vehicle for transmission. The bacteria can enter the body through wounds and abrasions, including tiny breaks in the skin that we may not even notice.

At first, the disease can deceptively resemble an ordinary flu: fever, headache, chills, muscle pains—often severe pain in the calves—vomiting, abdominal pain and redness of the eyes. Symptoms may develop days or even weeks after exposure. But untreated infection can progress rapidly and damage the kidneys, liver and lungs, producing jaundice, kidney failure, hemorrhage and respiratory failure.

This is why early consultation and treatment are so important. The DOH itself advises people exposed to floodwater—even those without obvious wounds—to seek assessment at a health center or YAKAP clinic to determine whether post-exposure prophylaxis with doxycycline is indicated.

Here is what I find difficult to understand.

The DOH says there is no national shortage of medicine. It reported having distributed some 1.2 million doxycycline capsules to affected areas, with another 2.6 million available in regional health offices. Even earlier, DOH-Central Luzon reported distributing more than 200,000 doxycycline capsules in our region. The health secretary himself has assured the public that there is an adequate buffer supply.

And yet, on the ground, we are hearing: “Wala na pong gamot.”

If the medicine exists in government warehouses but is unavailable when a flood victim presents himself at a barangay health center, then the problem is no longer simply one of supply. It is a problem of access, distribution and public-health delivery.

And when the consequence of that failure can be kidney failure, pulmonary hemorrhage, dialysis—or death—then we cannot treat it as a minor logistical problem.

There is something scandalous about this.

Centuries have passed since the Black Death swept through Europe and wiped out entire communities at a time when people knew almost nothing about bacteria, antibiotics, epidemiology or modern public health. We live in a very different age. We know what causes leptospirosis. We know how it is transmitted. We know how to reduce the risk after exposure. We know how to treat it when detected early. We have antibiotics. We have laboratories. We have hospitals. We have an entire government health system.

People should not be dying simply because the medicine did not reach them in time.

I therefore appeal urgently to the Department of Health, especially DOH-Central Luzon: please look beyond the figures in the warehouses and verify the situation at the barangay level, particularly in communities that have remained flooded for days or weeks.

Please make sure that medicines actually reach the health centers where they are needed. Establish easily accessible leptospirosis consultation and prophylaxis points in heavily flooded communities. Make the public know where medicines are available. And where barangay stocks have run out, replenish them immediately.

Flooding is already a calamity. It should not be allowed to become a preventable epidemic.

The poor have already had to wade through filthy floodwaters because they often have no other choice. They should not have to wade through another flood afterward—a flood of bureaucracy, unavailable medicines and inaccessible health care—just to stay alive.

COMMENTARY

Opinion

By Koalisyong Makabayan

Our minerals. Our future. Our say.

THE US-PHILIPPINES Critical Minerals MOU puts our resources and our future on the table. So why did the public have to find out months after it was signed?

On February 4, 2026, the Philippines and the United States signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on cooperation to diversify global critical minerals supply chains. It sounds like a mutually beneficial partnership. But behind the technical language are decisions that could shape what happens to Philippine mineral resources, who gets to invest in them, how they are processed, and where their products end up. The MOU calls for increased investment in mining and processing, geological mapping, technology transfer, and measures to accelerate, streamline, or deregulate permitting for critical mineral projects. It also says both countries should work to secure supplies needed for their respective industrial, developmental, and security needs.

So we have to ask: Is this really a reciprocal partnership, or does the agreement hide an unequal relationship between a country with the mineral resources and a global superpower looking to secure its supply chains?

The MOU provides for each country to have a “first opportunity to invest” in certain critical-mineral assets that may be sold in the Philippines or by Philippine-based companies. That matters. Because critical minerals are not just rocks in the ground. They are inputs for technologies and industries that will shape the economy of the future. Who is really in a position to take advantage of and benefit from these resources? The US and the Philippines are not equals

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LLL Trimedia Coordinators, Inc.
Publisher

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Editor **Caesar “Bong” Lacson**
Marketing Manager **Joanna Niña V. Cordero**
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Opinion

The Public Space

Jun Sula

Your move, Chiz

Filipino lawyer Lorna Kapunan, the feisty, veteran litigator is not known to be a chess expert , in or out of the country, Until recently. In comparison, the American Bobby Fischer is a well-known chess genius . worldwide . He was known to think of his chess moves several times ahead of his opponent.

Kapunan, however, is probably a genius all her own, a sui generis like the impeachment proceeding where she plays as a private prosecutor, pro bono or for free. She thinks she has to do his job ,like one with her unlikely balls, to call a spade a spade.

She has likened the current impeachment versus Vice President Sara Duterte, the first public official to be impeached twice, to a chess game. No doubt , it's a game of intense difficulty that summons great strategy and political savvy, not to mention patience and an analytical mind to win. Make no mistake about it, that's her goal at the end of the game.

Better if truth is served in the process.

In the realm of chess, Kapunan has beaten everyone regardless of their wins or rank in the world of chess. It may have also shocked lawyers or politicians , even justices, about his latest move. She has announced to the whole world that she has decided on her/ team's final move on the chessboard or impeachment court.

Her final move? Call the vice president as the witness in her own case. It is next to impossible for two reasons,at least: she is not inclined to do so and the law prohibits the same. Kapunan and the prosecution team believe a subpoena issued for her to appear may make that impossible possible. The impeachment court will issue it upon the request of the prosecution.

Kapunan revealed that they will execute the final move after all the hearings of the four impeachment complaints shall have been completed. Two of them involving great threats and alleged misuse of the confidential and intelligence funds are through. Two cases on unexplained wealth and_bribery of education official are next in line,

In other words, Presiding Officer Chiz Escudero, who was widely commended for handling the impeachment proceedings well after almost derailing with his flip -lopping mind on "forthwith", will issue the subpoena, notwithstanding the prohibition to compel the vice president to take the witness stand.

But the vice president can do it voluntarily, a precedent set by former Supreme Court justice Renato Corona who was eventually convicted of violating the provisions on the statement of liabilities and networth (SALN)

It seems a strategic plan. One spinmeister DUBBED IT as a gambit, or queen's gambit. In

chess parlance, it is baiting the opponent

To take one piece as a free capture and apparently a plus for the opponent. Kapunan thinks that's the way to corner a queen, the most important piece in the board., literally and metaphorically.

The vice president or his team of 16 topnotch lawyers can't be taken for a ride. It's a toxic move and threatens the defense plan of getting the vice president off the hook. So the gambit is declined. Kapunan knew it before hand. She may think rightly or wrongly that the prosecution is ahead. But the vice president will not be delivered with her head on the platter like Salome wanted John the Baptist's. No way Juana and the Constitution, and Saraa's choice, stand in the way.

The defense are looking forward to the vice president acquittal which explains why they were many and so good at what they do.The pro-Duterte senators whose number may be enough to achieve the purpose seem to confirm that, one way or the other.

That advantage is slowly being eroded. Two senator judges are in jail ,one is seeking medical help abroad, another is staring at a potentially damaging case over reclamation, one is summoned over the escape of another senator who is now considered a fugitive.

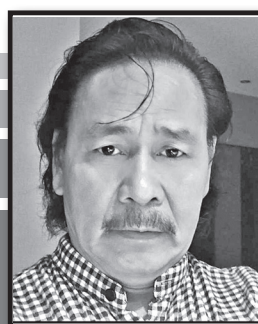
The Constitution states that the impeachment needs two thirds of its members to convict an impeached official. The magic number is said to be 16. Others say it's not an absolute . Given what's happening among the pro-Duterte senators, it stands to reason or logic that the number is a moveable feast.

The foremost legal experts, this time three former chief SC justices and an associate justice, have been invited as amicus curiae to the impeachment court;Hopefully, this will weigh down on the senator-judges' votes. Except perhaps for the choir.

Even this would have been factored in in the final vote as envisaged by Kapunan and company. In the end, there's no substitute for the vice president appearing in the Senate and tell why she should not be convicted. Kapunan and former Senate president Tito Sotto has the simplest explanation: a kitchen sink will not harm the innocent.

That's a 64 dollar question. Kapunan wants that all the complaints against be heard first. Presumably,

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Napag-uusapan Lang

Marvel V. Garcia

Kung ang halalan ay gaganapin tuwing tag-ulan

1.

Kung ang eleksiyon kaya ay nagaganap tuwing tag-ulan at lubog sa tubig baha ang maraming kabahayan di kaya mamumulat ang ating mga kababayan? na piliin kung sino ang dapat nilang suportahan mga bagong kandidato kaya o mga baguhan? ang kanilang iluluklok upang pagkatiwalaan

2.

Tila nakalalamang ang mga bagong kandidato kaysa mga datihan na lagi nilang binoboto lalo sa nasalanta ng mga ulan at pagbagyo na dumanas ng hirap at di matingkalang kalbaryo dahil nakikita nilang tila walang pagbabago panahon na anila na magpalit ng liderato

3.

Kung may mga kandidato man silang di ilalaglag ay ang subok sa serbisyo't kinagiliwan ng lahat mga taong mahuhusay na sa tungkulin ay tapat at laging maaasahan sa kahit na anong oras subalit ang mga ganid mga pulitikong korap kapag nagkataon baka lahat sila ay malaglag

4.

Lalo sa hanay ng nasa matataas ang tungkulin kung tag-ulan ang halalan baka di na tangkilikin lalo't baha marami ang nagpupuyos ang damdamin na di agad humuhupa kahit sila ay suyuin baka bagong kandidato ang kanilang pipiliin kung ang galit sa kanilang puso ang paiiralin

5.

Kung ganyan ang mangyayari'y maaring mapalitan yaong mga pulitikong naupo na ng matagal dahil sila na lang lagi ang mga nagpapalitan sa mga pwesto na tila ayaw na nilang bitawan lahat sila ay maaring sa pwesto ay masingitan basta di lang magkaroon ng malawakang dayaan

6.

Kung tag-ulan ang halalan at sobrang lalim ng baha mga dating kandidato ay mananalo pa kaya? ang mga taong sa pwesto nila ay nagpakasasa sa panahong inilagi nila na napakahaba baka makarinig lang ng matatamis na salita ang mga tao ay muling manumbalik ang tiwala

7.

Kahit na ang halalan ay sa panahon ng tag-ulan yaong mga nakapwesto pa rin ang nakalalamang lalo na kung mas marami ang mga botanteng mangmang na mga walang prinsipyo, utu-uto at bayaran kaya't kahit sa tag-ulan pa maganap ang halalan wala pa ring pagbabago sa mga nakagawian



Opinion

Ad Lib

Rey Yumang

While we wait

THE FLOODWATERS are slowly receding.

Life in Macabebe is slowly returning to normal. Roads are opening. Businesses are trying to recover. Children are preparing to return to school.

On Sept. 9, Department of Public Works and Highways Secretary Vince Dizon met with Pampanga officials to discuss immediate, medium-term and long-term flood-control measures. The plan includes work on the Arnedo Diike in Macabebe, dredging, pumping, detention basins and larger flood-control projects. But some of these projects may take years.

One could take as long as 20 years.

So, the question is simple: What do we do while we wait?

We have just gone through almost two months of flooding. We have seen what works. We have also seen what does not.

For starters, it may be time to rethink how we raise roads.

Road elevation may protect an important road. But what

happens to the houses beside it? Some are now left much lower than the road, and practically unliveable. For many families, raising their homes is simply beyond their means.

Before spending more millions, government should ask whether the project protects the whole community, or simply raise the road.

The same practical thinking

should apply to disaster response.

Why not invest in proper high-clearance vehicles that can be used for rescue and "Libreng Sakay" during floods? Residents should not have to ride in dump trucks or garbage trucks simply because these are the vehicles available.

Relief operations also need a rethink.

Why should flooded residents line up for hours and wait for officials before receiving food? Relief should reach people where they are. Barangay officials already know where vulnerable families live. Why not bring the relief directly to their homes?

Relief should also be decent.

Families who have lost income and property should not have to worry about poor-quality, near-expiry or overpriced goods. Can the LGU negotiate with major manufacturers and retailers for better prices and better products?

A relief pack should provide food, not another reason for people to feel that they are

receiving whatever is left over.

Now that the water is going down, the clean-up must begin.

Why not tap TUPAD workers to clear roads, esteros and waterways, remove flood debris and segregate waste? These are already recognized TUPAD activities. It's about time they prove their worth in their respective communities.

The flood also exposed the garbage problem. Plastics and other non-biodegradable waste accumulated in waterways. Every household must take waste segregation seriously. Communities must enforce it.

We cannot demand clear waterways while continuing to fill them with garbage.

The long-term projects are important.

But Macabebe cannot simply wait for them.

While government builds the future, the LGU and the people must prepare for the next flood.

Because the next flood will not wait 20 years.

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **IAIN MCKAY** who died on April 13, 2024 at Thames Hospice Windsor Road, Maidenhead, United Kingdom; executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement with Deed of Absolute Sale on his/her estate; and more particularly described as follows;

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 143555

"A parcel of land (Lot 5, Block 38 of the cons.,-subd., plan Pcs-035401-003862, An undivided portion of a parcel of land, without improvements, equivalent to Fifty Percent (50%) or one-half (1/2) undivided share, measuring Sixty (60) Square Meters and being a portion of consolidated lots 1 & 6 (LRC) Psd-289688, L.R.C. Rec. No.), situated in the Barrio of Sto. Cristo, Angeles City; Containing an area of One Hundred Twenty (120) Square Meters."

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 143561

"A parcel of land (Lot 3, Block 38 of the cons.,-subd., plan Pcs-035401-003862, An undivided portion of a parcel of land, without improvements, equivalent to Fifty Percent (50%) or one-half (1/2) undivided share, measuring Sixty (60) Square Meters and being a portion of consolidated lots 1 & 6 (LRC) Psd-289688, L.R.C. Rec. No.), situated in the Barrio of Sto. Cristo, Angeles City; Containing an area of One Hundred Twenty (120) Square Meters."

before Notary Public Atty. Rochelle V. Lorenzo, as per Doc. No. 1944, Page No. 17, Book No. XXVII, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: September 6, 13 & 20, 2026

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **JOSE DIZON VILLANUEVA** who died on August 24, 2019 in Angeles University Foundation Medical Center, Angeles City Pampanga; executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement with Deed of Absolute Sale on his estate; and more particularly described as follows;

"TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 042-2014003377"

LOT NO: LOT 1-H-1 PLAN NO: PSD-03-205383
PORTION OF: LOT 1-H, PCS-03-202164, LRA CAD. REC. NO.
LOCATION: BO. OF CALZADANG BAYU, MUN. OF PORAC, PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA
AREA: ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED (1,500) SQUARE METERS.

before Notary Public Atty. Salvador P. Salcedo, as per Doc. No. 886, Page No. 199, Book No. XLII, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: September 6 & 13, 2026

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **NIKOLA NIKOLOVSKI** who died on December 20, 2024 at St. George Public Hospital, Kogarah after his crematory his Urn was carry to the Philippines; executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement among heirs on his/her estate; and that the said decedent, at the time of his death he left a parcel of condominium with CONDOMINIUM CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 045-2012000440, containing an area of 63 sq.m more or less; before Notary Public Atty. Michael C. Yabut, as per Doc. No. 320, Page No. 60, Book No. XXX, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: September 6, 13 & 20, 2026

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **EDUARDO REY** who died on November 3, 2024 during his lifetime a resident of 4144 Francis Street, Nepo Subd., Brgy. Cutcut, Angeles City; executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement with Waiver of Rights on his estate; and more particularly described as a parcel of land (Lot 31, Block 13 of the consolidation-subdivision plan Pcs-4457, being a portion of the consolidation of Lots 6-A-1, Psd-49213 and Lot 246, Angeles Cad. Rec. No. 124), situated in the Barrio of Cutcut, and Pampang, Municipality of Angeles, Province of Pampanga; Containing an area of Three Hundred Fifty Two (352) Square Meters and covered by Transfer Certificate of Title Number 68656; before Notary Public Atty. Arnold M. Pamintuan, as per Doc. No. 468, Page No. 95, Book No. I, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: September 6, 13 & 20, 2026

NOTICE OF LOSS STOCK CERTIFICATE

Notice is given to the public that Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club, Inc. Stock Certificate No. 1572 in favor of **Mr. EMILIANO B.TABLANTE** has been declared lost. If no claim is presented to Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club at Barangay Dagatan, Lipa City,Batangas (membership@malarayat.com/ **Membership Department 043-706 9809**) after one (1) year from the date of last publication of this notice, the right to contest the lost certificate shall be barred and entry thereof in the books of Club Malarayat shall be canceled and, in lieu thereof, a new stock certificate shall be issue.

Punto! Central Luzon: September 6, 13 & 20, 2026

NOTICE OF LOSS STOCK CERTIFICATE

Notice is given to the public that Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club, Inc. Stock Certificate No. 1572 in favor of **Mr. EMILIANO B.TABLANTE** has been declared lost. If no claim is presented to Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club at Barangay Dagatan, Lipa City,Batangas (membership@malarayat.com/ **Membership Department 043-706 9809**) after one (1) year from the date of last publication of this notice, the right to contest the lost certificate shall be barred and entry thereof in the books of Club Malarayat shall be canceled and, in lieu thereof, a new stock certificate shall be issue.

Punto! Central Luzon: September 6, 13 & 20, 2026

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **NAZARIO N. REYES JR.**, who died on January 21, 2025 in City of San Fernando, Pampanga; executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement with Waiver of Rights/Donation on his estate; and more particularly described as follows;

I. TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 272242-R
(Registry of Deeds for the Province of Pampanga)

"A parcel of land (Lot 5, Block 8 of the consolidation and subd., plan (LRC) Pcs-16511, being a portion of the consolidation of lots 2630, 2631, and 2632, Arayat Cad. LRC Cad. Rec. No. 1277), situated in the Bo. of Bitas, Mun. of Arayat, Province of Pampanga, Island of Luzon; containing an area of Two hundred Forty (240) Square Meters, more or less. xxx"

II. TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 272243-R
(Registry of Deeds for the Province of Pampanga)

"A parcel of land (Lot 2, Block 8 of the consolidation and subd., plan (LRC) Pcs-16511, being a portion of the consolidation of lots 2630, 2631, and 2632, Arayat Cad. LRC Cad. Rec. No. 127, Case No. 26), situated in the Bo. of Bitas, Mun. of Arayat, Province of Pampanga, Island of Luzon; containing an area of One hundred Ninety Eight (198) Square Meters, more or less. xxx"

III. TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 438554-R
(Registry of Deeds for the Province of Pampanga)

"A parcel of land (Lot 1390-A of the subd., plan (LRC) Psd-68878, being a portion of Lot 1390 of the Cad. Survey of Arayat, LRC Cad. Rec. No. 1275), situated in the Mun. of Arayat, Province of Pampanga, Island of Luzon; containing an area of Thirteen Thousand Six hundred Fourteen (13,614) Square Meters, more or less. xxx"

IV.Cash deposit in CBS China Bank Savings under Reyes Jr., Nazario, Nicolas, with Account No. PHP 5880047194, Arayat, Pampanga, Branch, approximately in the total amount of Two Hundred Sixty-Six Thousand Five Hundred Seventy and 17/100 Pesos (P266,570.17).

V.Cash deposit in CBS China Bank Savings under Reyes Jr., Nazario, Nicolas, with Account No. PHP 5880100293, Arayat, Pampanga, Branch, approximately in the total amount of Sixty-Two Thousand Six Hundred Forty-Nine and 98/100 Pesos (P62,649.98).

before Notary Public Atty. Rowena S. Cunanan Mundo, as per Doc. No. 204, Page No. 43, Book No. 4, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: August 30, September 6 & 13, 2026

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **MERLITA R. ZAMORA** who died on July 24, 2022 at Angeles University Foundation, Angeles City; executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement on her estate; and leaving the hereinafter described property to wit; One Hundred Fifty-One Thousand Nine Hundred One Pesos and 71/100 (PHP151,901.71) with account No. 000003734018-6 and Five Hundred Dollars Only (USD500.00) with account No. 000004156232-3 deposited at Security Bank, Sto. Rosario St., Angeles City; before Notary Public Atty. Regina C. Gopez Agustin, as per Doc. No. 116, Page No. 09, Book No. XXVIII, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: August 30, September 6 & 13, 2026

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **OSCAR SUAREZ CASTAÑEDA, JR.**, who died on April 13, 2026; executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement on his estate; and more particularly described as follows;

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 042-2018004899
Registry of Deeds for the Province of Pampanga

LOT NO: 18 BLOCK NO: 16 PLAN NO: PSD-03-210814
PORTION OF: LOT 1-K-2-B-1-B-5, PSD-03-206291;
LOCATION: BARANGAY OF DOLORES AND BANABA, MUNICIPALITY OF PORAC, PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA, ISLAND OF LUZON xxx CONTAINING AN AREA OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THREE (153) SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS. xxx

before Notary Public Atty. Mycarol Bondoc, as per Doc. No. 7057, Page No. 93, Book No. 93, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: August 30, September 6 & 13, 2026

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **ROSITA NARCISO MALLARI** who died on April 15, 2021, at Mabalacat Diustrict Hospital and both remains interred at Leal Heaven of Rest Memorial Park, Bamban, Tarlac; executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement with Donation on her estate; and that at the time of her death, the said decedent left a certain parcel of land without improvement which are more particularly described under Original Certificate of Title No. 2017000130 Residential Free Patent Department of Environment and Natural Resources Region III, Residential Free Patent No. RFP-036902-14-410 Technical Description Lot No. 21, Ccs-03-001888; situated in Lourdes, Bamban, Tarlac; Containing an area of Five Hundred (500) Square Meters; before Notary Public Atty. Ethil Joi Mendoza as per Doc. No. 438, Page No. 89, Book No. III, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: August 30, September 6 & 13, 2026

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **THELMA REYES VALENZUELA** who died on January 20, 2013 in Angeles City and **AURELIO A. VALENZUELA** who died on August 01, 2026 in Balanga City, Bataan, executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement on his/her estate; and more particularly described as a parcel of land, with improvement thereon, located in Brgy. Lourdes Sur East, Angeles City, Pampanga, containing an area of One Hundred Fifty (150) square meters, and covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. 73850; before Notary Public Atty. Marcelino A. Pineda Jr., as per Doc. No. 936, Page No. 19, Book No. XXXIII, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: August 30, September 6 & 13, 2026

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **CATALINA MANLAPAZ** who died on January 05, 2009 at Porac, Pampanga and **FEDERICO DEPONA** who died on January 03, 2014 at Porac Pampanga; executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement with Authority to Sell in Favor of Elmer Manlapaz Depona on his/her estate; and more particularly described as a parcel of land (Lot C of the subdivision plan, Psd-03-162949 (AR) being a portion of lot 1441-G-5, Psd-12966, L.R.C. Rec. No.), situated in the Barrio of Mabical, Municipality of Porac, Province of Pampanga, containing an area of Seventeen Thousand Two Hundred Forty Six (17,246) Square Meters and covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. CARP2017000569; before Notary Public Atty. Kristine Keith N. Colle, as per Doc. No. 1122, Page No. 96, Book No. X, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: August 30, September 6 & 13, 2026

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **ARISTIDES R. GAMBOA** who died on October 18, 2022 in Angeles City, Philippines; executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement on his estate; and more particularly described as follows;

a. TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 161637

"A parcel of land (Lot 17, Block 23 of the subdivision plan Psd-03-127739, being a portion of Lot 144-A (LRA) Psd-361971, LRC Rec. No. ____), situated in the Barrio of Mauaque, Municipality of Mabalacat, Province of Pampanga; containing an area of Sixty (60) Square Meters."

b. TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 161638

"A parcel of land (Lot 18, Block 23 of the subdivision plan Psd-03-127739, being a portion of Lot 144-A (LRA) Psd-361971, LRC Rec. No. ____), situated in the Barrio of Mauaque, Municipality of Mabalacat, Province of Pampanga; containing an area of Sixty (60) Square Meters."

c. TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 161639

"A parcel of land (Lot 19, Block 23 of the subdivision plan Psd-03-127739, being a portion of Lot 144-A (LRA) Psd-361971, LRC Rec. No. ____), situated in the Barrio of Mauaque, Municipality of Mabalacat, Province of Pampanga; containing an area of Sixty (60) Square Meters."

d. TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 161640

"A parcel of land (Lot 20, Block 23 of the subdivision plan Psd-03-127739, being a portion of Lot 144-A (LRA) Psd-361971, LRC Rec. No. ____), situated in the Barrio of Mauaque, Municipality of Mabalacat, Province of Pampanga; containing an area of Sixty (60) Square Meters."

e. TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 49987

"A parcel of land (Lot 20, Block 11 of the subdivision plan Psd-50346, being a portion of Lot 99-C described on plan SWO-7750, L.R.C. Records No. 124), situated in the Barrio of Balibago, Municipality of Angeles, Province of Pampanga; containing an area of Three Hundred (300) Square Meters."

before Notary Public Atty. Archie Paul C. Muyrong, as per Doc. No. 33, Page No. 08, Book No. XXVII, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: August 30, September 6 & 13, 2026

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **JOAQUIN GOZUN JR.** who died on July 15, 2012, executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement with Donation on his estate; and more particularly described as a parcel of land (Lot no. 48 of the subd. plan, Psd 035406-055932 (AR) being a portion of lot 30, blk. 3, pcs-03-003002, LRC Rec. No.), situated in the Bo of San Jose, Mun. of Fiblanca, Prov. of Pamp., containing an area of Nine Thousand Six Hundred Thirty Three (9,633) Square Meters and covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. 697123-R; before Notary Public Atty. Cecil L. Andin, as per Doc. No. 504, Page No. 102, Book No. XCVI, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: August 30, September 6 & 13, 2026

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **WILLY ARCEO ESCOTO** who died on November 12, 2019 in Bulaon Resettlement, City, Pampanga; executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement with Waiver of Rights on his/her estate; Whereas, the decedents have left his rights and interest over a certain housing allocation (house and lot) from the Mt. Pinatubo Commission-Housing Urban Development Coordination Council (MPC-HUDCC), now National Housing Authority (NHA) which is particularly identified as Block 162, Lot 22, Phase I, Bulaon Resettlement Project, City of San Fernando, Pampanga; before Notary Public Atty. Arvin L. Dantis, as per Doc. No. 101, Page No. 2, Book No. CX XVIII, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: September 6, 13 & 20, 2026

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL REGION
BRANCH 55
MACABEBE, PAMPANGA
e-mail address: rtc1mbb055@judiciary.gov.ph
cellphone no: 09605352911

IN THE MATTER OF PETITION FOR CANCELLATION OF THE SECOND CERTIFICATE OF LIVE BIRTH OF BERNADETTE PANGLINAN FRANCO-MAMANGUN WITH REGISTRY NO. 1991-4178 AND CORRECTION OF ENTRIES IN HER FIRST CERTIFICATE OF LIVE BIRTH WITH REGISTRY NO. 193-76,

BERNADETTE PANGLINAN FRANCO-MAMANGUN,
Petitioner,

- versus -

THE LOCAL CIVIL REGISTRAR OF APALIT, PAMPANGA; THE LOCAL CIVIL REGISTRAR OF QUEZON CITY; THE CIVIL REGISTRAR GENERAL OF THE PHILIPPINES; ERIBERTO D. FRANCO, ROBERT L. MAMANGUN, BENEDICT P. FRANCO, BERNARD P. FRANCO, BABY LYN F. ANICIETE, ERIBERTO P. FRANCO, JR., BRAYAN P. FRANCO, ENRICO P. FRANCO, GERWIN P. FRANCO, ARON PAUL F. MAMANGUN, AND ROBERT F. MAMANGUN, JR., Respondents.

X ----- X

ORDER

On July 28, 2026, petitioner Bernadette Panglinan Franco-Mamangun filed the verified "Petition" dated July 3, 2026 praying for the following:

(a) Cancellation of her second Certificate of Live Birth with Local Civil Registry No. 1991-4178 on file with the Office of the Local Civil Registrar of Apalit, Pampanga, and the Civil Registrar General, Philippine Statistics Authority, Quezon City; and

(b) Correction of the following entries in her Certificate of Live Birth with Local Civil Registrar No. 193-76 on file with the City Civil Registrar of Quezon City, and the Civil Registrar General, Philippine Statistics Authority, Quezon City, viz:

(i) Entry No. 3 under "Name of Child" from "Franco Panglinan Bernadette" to "Bernadette Panglinan Franco;,"

(ii) Entry No. 7 under "Name of Father" from "Franco Duay Eriberto" to "Eriberto Duay Franco;," and

(iii) Entry No. 12 under "Mother's Maiden Name" from "Panglinan Yamzon Elizabeth" to "Elizabeth Yamzon Panglinan."

This Court finds the petition to be sufficient in form and substance.

WHEREFORE, this Court hereby:

(a) SETS this case for hearing on the petition on October 7, 2026 at 9:30 in the morning at the Session Hall of the Regional Trial Court, Branch 55, Macabebe, Pampanga;

(b) ORDERS the petitioner to -
(i) Cause the publication of this Order once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks in an accredited newspaper of general circulation in the province of Pampanga at her own expense;

(ii) Serve within twenty-four (24) hours from receipt of this Order, copies of the petition and its annexes to the Office of the Solicitor General of the Philippines, the Office of the Provincial Prosecutor of Pampanga, the Local Civil Registrar of Apalit, Pampanga, the City Civil Registrar of Quezon City, the Civil Registrar General of the Philippines, and private respondents Eriberto D. Franco, Robert L. Mamangun, Benedict P. Franco, Bernard P. Franco, Baby Lyn F. Aniciete, Eriberto P. Franco, Jr., Brayan P. Franco, Enrico P. Franco, Gerwin P. Franco, Aron Paul F. Mamangun and Robert F. Mamangun, Jr.; and

(iii) Show proof of said service to this Court on the said date and time of hearing;

(c) ORDERS said private respondents to file their comment on the petition within ten (10) days from receipt hereof;

(d) ORDERS all persons interested in the petition to appear before this Court on the said date and time of hearing and to show cause, if any, why the petition should not be granted;

(e) ORDERS this Court's Officer-in-Charge to furnish copies of this Order to the petitioner, her counsel, the Office of the Solicitor General, the Office of the Provincial Prosecutor of Pampanga, the Local Civil Registrar of Apalit, Pampanga, the City Civil Registrar of Quezon City, the Civil Registrar General of the Philippines, said private respondents, and the Office of the Clerk of Court, Regional Trial Court, Macabebe, Pampanga; and

(f) AWAITS the entry of appearance of the Office of the Solicitor General in this case.

SO ORDERED.

Macabebe, Pampanga, July 30, 2026.

ANDREW C. JAUCULAN
Presiding Judge

Punto! Central Luzon: August 30, September 6 & 13, 2026

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Punto! Central Luzon: September 13 & 20, 2026

Punto! Central Luzon: August 30, September 6 & 13, 2026

Punto! Central Luzon: September 6 & 13, 2026



Police operatives open one of 15 trailer trucks loaded ith illicit cigarettes. **PHOTO: PRO-3**

CL police intercept P960-M ‘illicit’ cigarettes

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO – Fifteen trailer trucks loaded with P960-million worth of suspected smuggled or illicit cigarettes were intercepted by the Police Regional Office 3 in Bataan and Pampanga on Sept. 7.

The operation was a follow-up to the earlier interception of an Isuzu wing van loaded with 759 master cases of suspected smuggled cigarettes worth P48.9 million along MacArthur Highway, Barangay Cacutud, Mabalacat City, at about 12:30 a.m. on the same day, PRO-3 said.

Subsequent police investigation indicated that the shipment may have originated from a private seaport in Mariveles, Bataan, prompting intelligence operatives of the Regional Special Operations Group–Regional

Intelligence Division 3 to proceed to the area and conduct surveillance.

During the surveillance, several trailer trucks carrying 40-foot container vans were monitored and at about 8:30 p.m. were observed leaving one after another, prompting operating units to position along identified routes in Bataan and Pampanga.

Police intercepted seven trailer trucks in Abucay, two in Limay, and one in Orion, all in Bataan, while five other trucks were intercepted in Lubao, Pampanga. The vehicles were found carrying substantial quantities of suspected smuggled or illicit cigarette products with an estimated aggregate value of P960 million, subject to final inventory and verification by the appropriate authorities, said PRO-3.

Led by RSOG-RID3, the

operations was undertaken with with personnel from RDEU3, RMFB3, Bataan PIU, Bataan PMFC, Abucay MPS, Limay MPS, Orion MPS, Bataan PPO, Lubao MPS, Pampanga PPO, and CIDG RFU 3.

“The earlier interception in Mabalacat City provided our personnel with information that we immediately pursued. This follow-up operation prevented another substantial volume of suspected illicit cigarettes from reaching the market. More importantly, we are pursuing the source and the people behind their movement and distribution because illegal trade affects government revenues, legitimate businesses, and ultimately our communities,” enthused PRO-3 director BGen. Jess B. Mendez. **Punto News Team/PRO-3**

Candaba Swamp...

FROM PAGE 2

converted into productive agricultural assets. Tiu Laurel said the agency is also looking at similar possibilities in other major marshes and river basins,

including the Agusan and Lingasnan marshes and the Lagayan River Basin.

The DA has already presented the concept to President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., who is also

considering other proposals that permanently address the perennial problem of flooding that affects economic activity in Central Luzon. **DA/Grafix: Project e-SMART**

COMPANY: DONGGWANG CLARK CORPORATION

ADDRESS: Jose Abad Santos Avenue, Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga

NATURE OF BUSINESS: Developer

POSITION: Supervisor (Construction Department)

JOB DESCRIPTION:

- 1.Responsible for supporting the project manager in overseeing all aspects of construction project including planning, site supervision.
- 2.Coordinates with sub-contractors, ensuring projects are completed on time, within budget and to require quality standards.
- 3.Assisting in managing project financials, risk management and project development.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 1.Speak, read and write fluently in at least two languages (Korean and English Language).
- 2.Confident and has a capacity to make logical decisions.
- 3.Ability to work under pressure in fast-paced environment.

PLACE OF DEPLOYMENT: SunValley Projects (Jose Abad Santos Avenue, CFZ, Pamp.)

SALARY RANGE: Php 50,000.00 to Php 65,000.00

NAME OF FOREIGN NATIONAL: KIM, DOHYUN (South Korean)
ODE County Bldg. C.M. Recto Highway,
Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga
Intended period of employment: one (1) year

Application may be sent to: canlas.jhoanne@gmail.com (Jhoanne C. Torres – Assistant Manager, Business Operations Department) Tel. No. 045-499-1166

Donggwang Clark Corporation hereby declares that the above-named foreign national is able, willing, and qualified to perform the services and job description for Supervisor (Construction Department). The company has the intention to employ the said foreign national and apply Alien Employment Permit with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE)– Region III located at Matalino cor. Mahusay St., DMGC, Maimpis, City of San Fernando, Pampanga. (If there are any objections or inquiries, please contact the concerned DOLE Regional Office)

Any Filipino jobseeker is competent, able and willing to perform the services for which the foreign national is intended to be hired for, may file an objection at DOLE – Region III located at Matalino cor. Mahusay St., DMGC, Maimpis, City of San Fernando, Pampanga after this publication. Please inform DOLE– Region III, if you have any information on criminal offenses committed by the foreign national.

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **BERNARDINO I. DABU SR.**, who died on August 5, 2007 in Pabanlag, Floridablanca, Pampanga; executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement with Waiver of Rights on his estate; Whereas, the deceased, at the time of his death, left a house and lot with an area of Ninety-Four (94) Square Meters, more or less, located at Block 18, Lot 39, Floridablanca, Resettlement Project, Floridablanca, Pampanga, copy of the NHA Certification with Control No. FB2021-000010; before Notary Public Atty. Jun Jun E. Santiago, as per Doc. No. 474, Page No. 96, Book No. IV, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: September 13, 20 & 27, 2026

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **ERIC RUSSEL C. CARLOS** who died on February 28, 2026 at Mt. Balingkilat, Sitio-Martin, Cawag Subic Zambales; executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement on his estate; and more particularly described as a parcel of land (Lot 29-B-10-C, of the subdivision plan, Psd-03-262061, being a portion of Lot 29-B-10, Cad-156, Porac Cadastre, (LRA) Psd-E2021013211, situated in Barangay of Calsadang Bayu, Municipality of Porac, Province of Pampanga, containing an area of Two Hundred (200) Square Meters and covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. 042-2025003569; before Notary Public Atty. Bryan Matthew C. Nepomuceno, as per Doc. No. 162, Page No. 94, Book No. LVIII, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: September 13, 20 & 27, 2026

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **PLACIDO P. SADIE** and **FLORENTINA E. GALANG** who both died on June 1, 1988 and January 2, 2016; executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement with Waiver of Rights With Subdivision, Right of Way Allocation, Provision for Shared Use Area, and Transfer of Share on his/her estate; and who left a parcel of land situated in Pasig, Candaba, Pampanga, with a total area of 26,434 Square Meters, more particularly described in and covered by TCT No. 5113, Lot 7, Bsd-03-001273 (OLT) and referred to herein as the **ANCESTRAL LAND**; before Notary Public Atty. Mark Andrew M. Santiago, as per Doc. No. 2440, Page No. 78, Book No. L, Series of 2025.

Punto! Central Luzon: September 13, 20 & 27, 2026

COMPANY NAME: DONGGWANG CLARK CORPORATION

ADDRESS: Jose Abad Santos Avenue, Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga

NATURE OF BUSINESS: Developer

POSITION: Site Golf Course Maintenance Manager

JOB DESCRIPTION:

- 1.Responsible for assisting with all operational tasks. Coordinates with landscape design project, grounds and maintenance.
- 2.Oversees all aspects of golf course, staff management, equipment maintenance, while adhering to safety regulations and industry best practices.
- 3.Oversee and supervise personnel, handle problems and promote good customer service.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 1.Speak fluently in at least two languages (Korean and English Language).
- 2.Confident and has a capacity to make logical decisions.
- 3.Ability to work under pressure in fast-paced environment.

PLACE OF DEPLOYMENT: SunValley Projects (Jose Abad Santos Avenue, CFZ, Pamp.)

SALARY RANGE: Php 60,000.00 to Php 75,000.00

NAME OF FOREIGN NATIONAL: JANG, DEUKJIN (South Korean)
ODE County Bldg. C.M. Recto Highway,
Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga
Intended period of employment: one (1) year

Application may be sent to: jhoanne.c.torres@gmail.com (Jhoanne C. Torres – Assistant Manager, Business Operations Department) Tel. No. 045-499-1166

Donggwang Clark Corporation hereby declares that the above-named foreign national is able, willing, and qualified to perform the services and job description for Site Golf Course Maintenance Manager. The company has the intention to employ the said foreign national and apply Alien Employment Permit with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) – Region III located at Matalino cor. Mahusay St., DMGC, Maimpis, City of San Fernando, Pampanga. (If there are any objections or inquiries, please contact the concerned DOLE Regional Office.

Any Filipino jobseeker is competent, able and willing to perform the services for which the foreign national is intended to be hired for, may file an objection at DOLE – Region III located at Matalino cor. Mahusay St., DMGC, Maimpis, City of San Fernando, Pampanga after this publication. Please inform DOLE – Region III, if you have any information on criminal offenses committed by the foreign national.

COMPANY NAME: DONGGWANG CLARK CORPORATION

ADDRESS: Jose Abad Santos Avenue, Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga

NATURE OF BUSINESS: Developer

POSITION: Accounting Manager / Treasurer

JOB DESCRIPTION:

- 1.Directing accounting approach for the project; in charge of company’s finance and audit and financial statement reports.
- 2.Supervision and administration of the daily updates, operations and transactions of accounting department.
- 3.Analyzing financial statements to ensure accuracy and compliance with generally accepted accounting practices.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 1.Speak fluently in at least two languages (Korean and English Language).
- 2.Confident and has a capacity to make logical decisions.
- 3.Ability to work under pressure in fast-paced environment.

PLACE OF DEPLOYMENT: SunValley Projects (Jose Abad Santos Avenue, CFZ, Pamp.)

SALARY RANGE: Php 60,000.00 to Php 90,000.00

NAME OF FOREIGN NATIONAL: LEE, SUNGGYUN (South Korean)
ODE County Bldg. C.M. Recto Highway,
Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga
Intended period of employment: one (1) year

Application may be sent to: jhoanne.c.torres@gmail.com (Jhoanne C. Torres – Assistant Manager, Business Operations Department) Tel. No. 045-499-1166

Donggwang Clark Corporation hereby declares that the above-named foreign national is able, willing, and qualified to perform the services and job description for Accounting Manager / Treasurer. The company has the intention to employ the said foreign national and apply Alien Employment Permit with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) – Region III located at Matalino cor. Mahusay St., DMGC, Maimpis, City of San Fernando, Pampanga. (If there are any objections or inquiries, please contact the concerned DOLE Regional Office.

Any Filipino jobseeker is competent, able and willing to perform the services for which the foreign national is intended to be hired for, may file an objection at DOLE – Region III located at Matalino cor. Mahusay St., DMGC, Maimpis, City of San Fernando, Pampanga after this publication. Please inform DOLE – Region III, if you have any information on criminal offenses committed by the foreign national.

COMPANY NAME: DONGGWANG CLARK CORPORATION

ADDRESS: Jose Abad Santos Avenue, Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga

NATURE OF BUSINESS: Developer

POSITION: Casino Marketing Supervisor

JOB DESCRIPTION:

- 1.Responsible for developing, implementing and executing strategic marketing plans for an entire organization in order to attract potential customers and retain existing ones.
- 2.Coordinate daily customer service operations (specially with Korean clients); will supervise and motivate staff to perform their best.
- 3.Responsible for the company’s casino marketing and communications strategies, as well as overall branding and image.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 1.Speak fluently in at least two languages (Korean and English Language).
- 2.Confident and has a capacity to make logical decisions.
- 3.Ability to work under pressure in fast-paced environment.

PLACE OF DEPLOYMENT: SunValley Projects (Jose Abad Santos Avenue, CFZ, Pamp.)

SALARY RANGE: Php 60, 000.00 to Php 70,000.00

NAME OF FOREIGN NATIONAL: HAN, SANG WON (South Korean)
ODE County Bldg. C.M. Recto Highway,
Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga
Intended period of employment: one (1) year

Application may be sent to: canlas.jhoanne@gmail.com (Jhoanne C. Torres – Assistant Manager, Business Operations Department) Tel. No. 045-499-1166

Donggwang Clark Corporation hereby declares that the above-named foreign national is able, willing, and qualified to perform the services and job description for Casino Marketing Supervisor. The company has the intention to employ the said foreign national and apply Alien Employment Permit with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) – Region III located at Matalino cor. Mahusay St., DMGC, Maimpis, City of San Fernando, Pampanga. (If there are any objections or inquiries, please contact the concerned DOLE Regional Office.

Any Filipino jobseeker is competent, able and willing to perform the services for which the foreign national is intended to be hired for, may file an objection at DOLE – Region III located at Matalino cor. Mahusay St., DMGC, Maimpis, City of San Fernando, Pampanga after this publication. Please inform DOLE – Region III, if you have any information on criminal offenses committed by the foreign national.

COMPANY NAME: DONGGWANG CLARK CORPORATION

ADDRESS: Jose Abad Santos Avenue, Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga

NATURE OF BUSINESS: Developer

POSITION: ADMIN Manager

JOB DESCRIPTION:

- 1.Overseeing daily administrative operations, supervising staff, and ensuring smooth office functioning.
- 2.Supports the ADMIN Director in contributing to the overall management and upkeep of the administrative and general affairs department.
- 3.Handle internal and external communications (Filipino and Korean employees), including writing memos, emails, and reports, as well as managing email correspondence and phone calls.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 1.Speak fluently in at least two languages (Korean and English Language).
- 2.Confident and has a capacity to make logical decisions.
- 3.Ability to work under pressure in fast-paced environment.

PLACE OF DEPLOYMENT: SunValley Projects (Jose Abad Santos Avenue, CFZ, Pamp.)

SALARY RANGE: Php 70,000.00 to Php 80,000.00

NAME OF FOREIGN NATIONAL: LEE, SEONGJIN (South Korean)
ODE County Bldg. C.M. Recto Highway,
Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga
Intended period of employment: one (1) year

Application may be sent to: jhoanne.c.torres@gmail.com (Jhoanne C. Torres – Assistant Manager, Business Operations Department) Tel. No. 045-499-1166

Donggwang Clark Corporation hereby declares that the above-named foreign national is able, willing, and qualified to perform the services and job description for ADMIN Manager. The company has the intention to employ the said foreign national and apply Alien Employment Permit with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) – Region III located at Matalino cor. Mahusay St., DMGC, Maimpis, City of San Fernando, Pampanga. (If there are any objections or inquiries, please contact the concerned DOLE Regional Office.

Any Filipino jobseeker is competent, able and willing to perform the services for which the foreign national is intended to be hired for, may file an objection at DOLE – Region III located at Matalino cor. Mahusay St., DMGC, Maimpis, City of San Fernando, Pampanga after this publication. Please inform DOLE – Region III, if you have any information on criminal offenses committed by the foreign national.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
SUPREME COURT
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL REGION
City of San Fernando, Pampanga

Office of the Clerk of Court & Ex-Officio Sheriff

BDO UNIBANK, INC., REPRESENTED
BY LEINE A. DE CASTRO,
Petitioner-Mortgagee,

~ versus ~

MARIA MALIT SORIANO,
Represented by DIANA SORIANO DE
JESUS, Attorney-in-Fact,
Respondents-Mortgagors,

x ----- x

E.J.F. No. 90-26
Real Estate Mortgage Under
Act 3135 as Amended by Act 4118

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135/1508 filed by BDO UNIBANK, INC., represented by Leine A. De Castro, mortgagee, with its postal address at 33rd Floor, BDO Corporate Center Ortigas, No. 12 ADB Avenue, Wack-Wack, Mandaluyong City, against MARIA MALIT SORIANO, represented by DIANA SORIANO DE JESUS, Attorney-in-Fact, respondents/mortgagors, with postal address at: (1) 31 22nd Place West Bajac-bajac, Olongapo City, Zambales; and (2) Unit 504 5th Floor Building 2 Bali, The Resort Residences at Azure North, North Luzon Expressway, corner Jose Abad Santos Avenue, Barangay San Jose, City of San Fernando, Pampanga.To satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of June 20, 2026 amounts to THREE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED EIGHT THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY FIVE PESOS & 21/100 (PhP3,508,785.21) excluding penalties, attorney’s fees and expenses of foreclosure, the undersigned duly authorized deputy sheriff will sell at public auction on November 18, 2026 at 10:00 A.M. or soon thereafter at the main entrance of the Regional Trial Court, Capitol Compound, City of San Fernando, Pampanga, to the highest bidder for CASH or MANAGER’S CHECK and in Philippine Currency, the following property with all improvements, to wit:

CONDOMINIUM CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 042-2025000591
(Repulic Act No. 4726)

“IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the unit identified and described as :

AZURE NORTH
BUILDING TWO- BALI

LOCATION: FIFTH FLOOR
UNIT NO. ROOM 504
FLOOR AREA: 27.22 SQUARE METERS

In the diagrammatic floor plan appended to the enabling or master deed of the condominium project annotated on Transfer Certificate Of Title 2018009773 which embraces and describes the land located at SAN JOSE, CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA with an area of Three Thousand Six Hundred Seventy-Eight (3678) Square Meter, is registered in the name of:

OWNER: MARIA MALIT SORIANO, single, Filipino Citizen
Address: 31 22nd Place West Bajac Bajac, Olongapo City, Zambales, Central Luzon

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 25, 2026, without further notice.

City of San Fernando, Pampanga, September 10, 2026.

ANGELITO B. DOMINGO
Sheriff IV, RTC-Branch 47, CSF(P)

CC:

1. BDO UNIBANK, INC.
- 33rd Floor, BDO Corporate Center, Ortigas, No. 12 ADB Avenue, Wack-Wack, Mandaluyong City

2. MARIA MALIT SORIANO
- (a) 31 22nd Place West Bajac Bajac, Olongapo City, Zambales
- (b) Unit 504 5th Floor Building 2 Bali, The Resort Residences at Azure North, North Luzon Expressway, corner Jose Abad Santos Avenue, Barangay San Jose, City of San Fernando, Pampanga

3. DIANA SORIANO DE JESUS
- (a) 31 22nd Place West Bajac Bajac, Olongapo City, Zambales, Central Luzon
- (b) Unit 504 5th Floor Building 2 Bali, The Resort Residences at Azure North, North Luzon Expressway, corner Jose Abad Santos Avenue, Barangay San Jose, City of San Fernando, Pampanga

4. Punto Central Luzon

Punto! Central Luzon: September 13, 20 & 27, 2026

50 US firms...

FROM PAGE 1

the free port.

“As the host of the Subic leg of the LEC Investment Forum, this delegation has a unique opportunity to participate in meaningful B2B discussions, tour Subic Freeport, and explore avenues for deepening economic integration across the Luzon Economic Corridor. Participants are highly encouraged to explore investment opportunities, pathways to collaborate, and how they can positively impact the success of the LEC initiative,” said SBMA chairman and administrator Eduardo Jose L. Aliño in his welcome to the delegation.

Sponsored by the USTDA, Aliño emphasized that this visit highlights Subic Bay Freeport’s vital role in the LEC’s foundational tripartite partnership among the Philippines, the United States, and Japan.

He further noted that the LEC project has since expanded to include partners from Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Italy, South Korea, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

“This is excellent news for Subic Bay as a critical western maritime gateway and strategic logistics hub, connecting major centers such as Clark, Manila, and Batangas. It underscores our commitment to advancing infrastructure, enhancing supply chain

resilience, and attracting technology investments within the corridor,” Aliño added.

In line with these developments, the USTDA reaffirmed its support for secure, robust, and resilient supply chains by facilitating the expansion of port infrastructure at Subic Bay.

USTDA’s partnership with Subic Drydock Corp. will fund a feasibility study to enhance the Philippines’ capacity as a regional hub for ship repair and maintenance, thereby reinforcing Subic Bay’s strategic importance within the LEC through reliable, U.S.-aligned infrastructure solutions.

USTDA also announced a new initiative to strengthen the U.S.-Philippines alliance by piloting AI-enhanced, U.S.-manufactured Wi-Fi access points at strategically selected locations nationwide. In partnership with Philippine telecommunications company ComClark Network and Technology Corp., the project includes funding a feasibility study to deploy a nationwide network of paid public Wi-Fi access points.

The initiative will introduce new markets for American AI technologies while providing reliable and trusted internet connectivity to over 600,000 Filipinos, including residents along the LEC. **SBMA-PR**

NOTICE OF SELF-ADJUDICATION

Notice is hereby given that **RICARDO D. REYES**, of legal age, Filipino, married to **CONSTANCIA C. REYES**, with resident and postal address at Brgy. San Antonio, Arayat, Pampanga; and heirs of **FELIPE REYES** who died on March 13, 1975 at Arayat, Pampanga and **CONSALACION D. REYES** who died on December 14, 1993 at Arayat, Pampanga; executed an Affidavit of Self-Adjudication with Absolute sale on his/her estate, and more particularly described as a parcel of land (Lot 2855-B-2 of the subdivision plan (LRC) Psd-218294, being apportion of Lot 2855-B (LRC) Psd-15013. LRC Cad. Rec. No. 1277) situated in the Bo. of Arenas, Mun. of Arayat. Prov. of Pampanga, Island of Luzon, containing an area of Seventeen Thousand One Hundred Fifty-Five (17,155) Square Meters; before Notary Public Atty. Jerome R. Asperin, as per Doc. No. 3035, Page No. 85, Book No. XIII, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: September 13, 20 & 27, 2026

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **GAVINO E. MANUSIG, JR.** who died on December 6, 2016 at Angeles University Foundation Medical Center, Angeles City,, Pampanga; executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement with Waiver of Rights on his/her estate; and more particularly as a parcel of land (Lot 1131-B-2 3 of the subd plan PSD-03-003898, being a portion of Lot 1131-B, PSD-38263, LRC Rec. No.), situated in the Bo. of Manibaug, Mun. of Porac, Prov. of Pamp. Bounded on the NE, along lines 1-2 by Lot 1131-C, Psd-38263; along line 2-3 by Lot 1131-B-1; on the SW and NW., along lines 3-4-1 by Lot 1131-B-3, both of the subd. plan. containing an area of ONE HUNDRED FORTY SIX (146) SQUARE METERS. covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. 171778-R; before Notary Public Atty. Mark Philip B. Lumboy, as per Doc. No. 087, Page No. 83, Book No. XI, Series of 2024.

Punto! Central Luzon: September 13, 20 & 27, 2026

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **NESTOR C. DE TORRES** who died on August 18, 2026 in Concepcion, Tarlac; executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement on his estate; and more particularly described as follows;

T.C.T NO. 045-2017004333

LOT NO: 11, block 10-2 of the subdivision plan Psd-03-191646
PORTION OF: Lot 787-a-5 Psd-03-167023
LOCATION: Barangay Sto. Domingo
AREA: Eighty (80) Square Meters More or Less

before Notary Public Atty. Rodolfo T. Tobias, as per Doc. No. 246, Page No. 25, Book No. XLIV, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: September 13, 20 & 27, 2026

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **MARINA C. LAXA** who died on November 25, 2025 at 685 Magalang Road, Brgy. Pandan, Angeles City; executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement on her estate; and more particularly described as a parcel of land (Lot 11, Block 8 of the subdivision plan (LRC) psd-16666, being a portion of lot 83 of the Cadastral survey, of Angeles LRC (GLRO) cad. Rec. no. 124), situated in the Barrio of Pandan, Municipality of Angeles, Province of Pampanga, containing an area of Six Hundred Eighty-Eight (688) Square Meters, and covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. 64090; before Notary Public Atty. Arnel S. Santos, as per Doc. No. 102, Page No. 22, Book No. XLVII, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: September 13, 20 & 27, 2026

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of **NATALIA VDA ALONZO** who died on May 1, 2023 at Barangay Mapaniqui, Candaba, Pampanga, Philippines; executed an Affidavit of Extrajudicial Settlement on her estate; and more particularly described as a parcel of agricultural land situated in Barangay Mapaniqui, Municipality of Candaba, Province of Pampanga, identified as Lot No. 10, Psd-03-020066 (OLT), covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. 4190 of the Registry of Deeds for the Province of Pampanga, containing an area of Fifty-One Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty-One (51,961) Square Meters; before Notary Public Atty. Cedric F. Vanguardia, as per Doc. No. 384, Page No. 79, Book No. 04, Series of 2026.

Punto! Central Luzon: September 13, 20 & 27, 2026



SM Super Spelling Bee Unfolds a Bigger World of Words for Students 2026 edition introduces an exciting new format

MANILA — The country’s well-loved spelling competition returns for its third year as SM Supermalls continues its commitment to developing the vocabulary and language skills of young learners across the Philippines. The SM Super Spelling Bee 2026 is grander and more exciting than ever, featuring an expanded competition format, more participating malls, and exciting prizes in store!

For the first time, the competition will include the Regional Semi-Finals stage, which will be held across six of your most-loved SM Supermalls nationwide. Meanwhile, the Eliminations will be held in 49 malls — an increase from the 40 participating malls in the past two years.

SM Supermalls is extending the opportunity to more students to showcase their spelling prowess and mastery of words in a battle of wit, confidence, and linguistic skill.

“The SM Super Spelling Bee is more than just a competition but a space for kids to explore the wonderful world of words and the power of language. SM Supermalls wants to be part of their learning journey by providing an engaging activity that hones their focus, perseverance, and critical thinking skills,” said SM Supermalls Senior Assistant Vice President for Marketing & Leasing, Hanna Carinna T. Sy.

Last year, over 5,700 students from public and private schools competed, but in the end, Jamver Mallari, who represented SM City Legazpi, emerged as Grand Winner. This 2026, over ₱5 million worth of exciting prizes are up for grabs across the

Eliminations, Regional Semi-Finals, and the Grand Finals stages of the competition. These include cash prizes, SM gift certificates, college scholarships from National University, National Book Store Gift Cards, MacBooks and iPads from Power Mac Center, and Bahay Turo vouchers. The schools of the grand winner, first runner-up, and second runner-up will also receive special prizes at the Grand Finals. Knowledge Channel Foundation Inc. will provide media support by airing promotional materials on DepEd TV Powered by Knowledge Channel.

The competition is open to talented young spellers aged 9 to 11 years old who are currently enrolled in schools across the Philippines for academic year 2026-2027.

The competition is open to talented young spellers aged 9 to 11 years old who are currently enrolled in schools across the Philippines for academic year 2026-2027.

The eliminations will take place on September 12, 19, and 26, and October 3 and 10, across participating SM Supermalls nationwide. Meanwhile, the Regional Semi-Finals will unfold on October 17, 18, 24, and 25 in North Luzon, South Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao, and Metro Manila. The much-anticipated Grand Finals will take place on November 14, 2026, at the SM Mall of Asia Music Hall.

“SM Supermalls is excited to see the latest batch of young learners show the effort and hard work they’ve put in. At the SM Super Spelling Bee 2026, the spotlight is on them, and it’s their chance to shine,” said Sy.

KOBŌ

Where craft meets purpose, dine with intention, give with heart

BY NING CORDERO



CLARK FREEPORT — An evening where culinary craft becomes a language of memory, movement, and meaning becomes September 11 here, with ESTOS Clark launching KOBŌ — an intimate tasting experience of a five-course meal that brings together the quiet discipline of Japanese tradition and the exacting finesse of French technique.

At its center is Chef Al Fernando, whose evolving culinary journey finds new expression through a menu built on precision, restraint, and reverence for the craft.

Half of the proceeds from KOBŌ will be dedicated to supporting families affected by the recent flooding in Guagua — a community deeply woven into the story of ESTOS, and one that has been part of its journey since the very beginning.

For Chef Al Fernando, this is a return to his roots in more ways than one. It is a reminder that the most meaningful food is never only about what is placed on a plate. It is about the people behind it, the places that shaped it, and the communities that give it purpose.

This September to November, the table becomes a point of connection — between cultures, techniques, people and purpose.

Open daily, lunch and dinner at Estos Clark Central Park Square, Clark, Philippines, 0998-5750708.



LOOK: Quest Plus Clark and Mimosa Plus Golf Course bring home back-to-back wins at the 2026 Central Luzon Star Awards for Sustainable Tourism. Every commitment to sustainability, every outreach, and every effort to serve our communities led us here. These recognitions belong to every team member who shows up with heart, every partner who walks this journey with us, and every community we’ve had the privilege to serve. This is not the finish line — it’s fuel to keep going. Quest Plus Clark and Conference Center — Green Stay Excellence Award (Champion), Recado — SALT of Sustainability Award (2nd Runner-Up), Mimosa Plus Golf Course — Path to Purpose Award (Champion), Thank you for believing in sustainable, purpose-driven hospitality with us.



ANOTHER MILESTONE TAKES SHAPE AT THE INFINITY.

We are delighted to announce the opening of BDO Unibank at The Infinity, Angeles City on September 14 - bringing a trusted name in banking closer to the community and marking the beginning of an exciting new chapter. Here’s to a banking experience that goes beyond the expected—and possibilities that are truly infinite.



Gov. Lilia “Nanay” Pineda turns over check of P75.6-M tertiary education subsidy. PHOTO: DANIEL OMBINA

P118.8-M ‘Handog ng Pangulo’...

FROM PAGE 1

“Ngayong kanyang kaarawan, ang regalo ng pangulo sa atin ay trabaho, tulong at patuloy na malasakit para sa ating mga Kapampangan,” said the president’s representative to the event, kabalen Public Works Secretary Vince Dizon, noting how Marcos Jr. has remained steadfast in implementing programs designed to improve the lives of Filipino families, particularly those belonging to vulnerable sectors, farmers, students, workers, indigenous peoples, and communities in need of government support.

Together with Gov. Lilia “Nanay” Pineda, Vice Gov. Dennis “Delta” Pineda and Nanay Party-list Rep. Florabel Yatco, Dizon led the ceremonial distribution of 25-kilogram sacks of rice to 135 Aeta beneficiaries under the rice assistance program of the Marcos administration.

The Provincial Government of Pampanga also extended cash assistance of more than P5,000 each to 135 Aeta scholars, providing additional support for their educational needs.

One of the largest components of the assistance came from the Commission on Higher Education which distributed P75.6 million in Tertiary Education Subsidies through school heads, scholarship focal persons, and authorized representatives. The Department of Migrant Workers released P15.6 million under its Agarang Kalinga at Saklolo para sa mga OFW na Nangangailangan Fund to

267 beneficiaries, providing immediate assistance to overseas Filipino workers their families.

Through the Department of Social Welfare and Development’s Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation Program, 1,214 beneficiaries received P2,000 each, while 46 beneficiaries received more than P909,000 in Sustainable Livelihood Program grants to help them establish or strengthen sources of income.

The Department of Trade and Industry also turned over P14.8 million worth of Shared Service Facility assistance to the Pampanga Furniture Industries Foundation Inc. Three additional beneficiaries benefited from approximately P1.1 million in loan releases facilitated through DTI programs.

For the agricultural sector, the National Irrigation Administration awarded 10 Certificates of Condonation, easing the financial obligations of qualified beneficiaries.

Livelihood support was also extended to four families, while the Municipality of Guagua received assistance under the Department of Labor and Employment Integrated Livelihood Program.

The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority distributed welding tool kits to 30 beneficiaries and provided approximately P3.3 million worth of scholarship vouchers, including support for Early Childhood Care and Development-related services.

Farmers also received substantial support from the Department of Agriculture, which mounted a Kadiwa initiative and distributed agricultural machinery and production inputs. These included two combine harvesters, eight pump-and-engine sets, and two cultivators, as well as hybrid white corn seeds, livestock vitamins, dewormers, dextrose powder, disinfectants, foliar fertilizers, soil ameliorants, biofertilizers, and knapsack sprayers. In addition, 60 farmers insured under the Philippine Crop Insurance Corp. received indemnity checks amounting to a combined P360,000.

The Department of Agrarian Reform strengthened land tenure security among farmers through the distribution of 16 electronic titles covering 28 hectares to 15 Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries, as well as Certificates of Land Ownership Award covering four hectares to five additional ARBs.

The Department of Health provided free pneumococcal vaccination for senior citizens, X-ray and electrocardiogram services, as well as health risk assessments and other medical services benefiting around 160 patients.

“Maraming-maraming salamat po, Pangulong Bongbong, sa patuloy ninyong malasakit at suporta sa aming mga Kapampangan. Napakalaking tulong po ng mga serbisyong inyong inilapit sa ating mga kababayan mula sa edukasyon, kabuhayan,

agrikultura at kalusugan hanggang sa iba’t ibang uri ng tulong para sa mga pamilyang nangangailangan. Ang inyong Handog sa Pampanga ay tunay na ramdam ng ating mga kababayan,” said Gov Pineda.

Beyond financial and livelihood assistance, beneficiaries were able to access a range of frontline government services in one venue. These included free legal consultation from the Integrated Bar of the Philippines-Pampanga and the Land Registration Authority, National ID registration through the Philippine Statistics Authority, police clearance services from the Philippine National Police, and free National Bureau of Investigation clearance for the first 200 applicants.

The simultaneous delivery of financial aid, livelihood opportunities, agricultural support, scholarships, health services, land titles, and government frontline services highlighted the Marcos administration’s whole-of-government approach in ensuring that assistance reaches Filipinos directly in their communities.

The Pampanga leg of Handog ng Pangulo also demonstrated the collaboration among national government agencies, the provincial government, local government units, and other partner institutions in expanding access to programs aimed at improving the welfare and economic opportunities of Kapampangans.

Pampanga PIO

Commentary

FROM PAGE 4

as one wields capital and industries while the other is an underdeveloped economy that supplies the critical mineral resources.

For Filipinos, this is about more than mining. It is about the kind of economy we will inherit. Will our resources create Filipino industries, decent jobs, technology and long-term national development? Or will the Philippines remain primarily a supplier of resources for industries and supply chains controlled elsewhere? Why was this agreement kept from public scrutiny?

The government did not proactively release the signed MOU to the public. The copy obtained by the House was furnished by the Department of Foreign Affairs only after Rep. Renee Louise M. Co insisted on obtaining a copy of it. The MOU was signed in February. Only months later was congress able to secure the copy. An agreement concerning our country’s strategic mineral resources should not have to be chased down by lawmakers before the public can even read it. The people deserve to know what commitments our government is making in our name.

The timing raises even more questions. In August 2026, President Marcos issued Executive Order No. 122, establishing a national policy framework for the development of the country’s mining and critical-minerals industry. The EO that states that we’ll have a Mindanao-sized mining frontier. The MOU came first. EO 122 followed.

Many of the priorities in the MOU, including investment, domestic processing, permitting, and geological mapping, are also reflected in the government’s new mining framework.

Our resources should serve Filipino development. But that requires more than promising investment and local processing.

It requires asking: Who owns the projects? Who controls the supply chains?

Who gets the profit? How much value actually stays in the Philippines?

What happens to the communities living where these minerals are extracted?

What environmental safeguards are we making?

And who gets to decide?

These questions matter especially to Filipinos because we will live with the consequences of these decisions long after today’s officials are gone. The minerals being mapped today, the mining projects approved today, and the industrial policies adopted today will shape our economy, our communities, and our environment for decades. We are not opposed to using Philippine mineral resources for genuine national industrialization. But national industrialization must mean more than making the Philippines a better supplier for someone else’s supply chain.

Our minerals. Our future. Our say.

Critical minerals demand critical questions. And the Filipino people deserve answers.

The Public Space

FROM PAGE 4

the future hearings should bare more evidence of wrong doing. That’s the job of the prosecution not to make Sara look good. An impeachment is supposed to be a weeding out of an undesirable from public office, especially before 2028.

Apart from impeachment, there is now a criminal case for grave threats against Sara . She has used the case as her platform to call for the President to resign for various reasons. Like his vintage father, the late dictator, President Bongbong Marcos has a funny if not a

ridiculous retort: he said he could not force someone to love him. He is a Machia vellian in mind and he’s not the least perturbed by some woman’s public wrath.

With all that, including PBBM’s self-deprecating egotistical male chauvinism, all that’s been said and done, and will be said and done in the rest of the impeachment hearings, Kapunan has made it clear that the ball will fall in Chiz’ hands ultimately. Will he call Sara to the witness stand?

It is as forthright as it is fraught.

Gugu River dredging...

FROM PAGE 1

overflow during heavy rains and flood the surrounding communities.

Dizon said dredging would help increase the water containment capacity of the river and reduce the threat of flooding and lahar in the town. He added that measures will also be undertaken to seek to redirect water toward Sapang Labuan to keep it from threatening the town center.

The dredging is part of DPWH response to Pampanga’s recurring

flooding, alongside plans to build detention basins as a medium-term flood-control measure that were discussed during a Sept. 9 meeting at the Capitol among Dizon, Gov. Lilia “Nanay” Pineda and the mayors of the eight municipalities in southern Pampanga comprising the perennially flooded 4th District.

“Yung planong na-approved na ng Pampanga, LGUs, so in motion na kami ngayon in the next few days pag bumaba na yung tubig, tse-checkin na namin yung mga

area para gagawan na natin ng mga detention basins,” Dizon said. PUNTO News



Sec and Vice Gov ride trike to heavy equipment pool at the tail dike. PHOTOS: PAMPANGA PIO, DPWH

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