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TACLOBAN RIZAL AVENUE

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P15.00 IN TACLOBAN

From its P7.9B original budget

Tide embankment project to balloon

JOEY A. GABIETA

GOVERNMENT CENTER, PALO, Leyte-The cost of work of the Leyte tide embankment project is expected to balloon from its original cost of P7.9 billion.

This was disclosed by Engr. Serafin Lago, Jr., road heightening on tide embankment project manager, who said that the increase of the project cost is intended to pay lot owners who refuses to provide temporary access road leading to the construction sites.

According to Lago, the refusal of these owners to give them access road may pose a problem for the completion of the project by 2020.

"Because of the demand of the lot owners in

providing us access road, we will now include it in our budget which will result to the increase of the project cost," Lago said.

He, however, could not say how much the projected increase would be.

The tide embankment project involves more than 50 barangays from the towns of Palo and Tanauan and Tacloban City.

And since the project started January of last year, they have about 23 to 25 percent accomplishment, Lago said.

see Tide /page 3 ...



SPIKE OF PROJECT COST. The cost of construction of the Leyte tide embankment project will increase from its original cost of P7.9 billion with the additional cost to be paid to lot owners who refuse to provide access road leading to the construction sites. The massive project is originally to be completed by 2020 but could be delayed due to this problem. (JOEY A. GABIETA)

Close to 5,000 Leyte folks dance their way of kuratsa in an attempt to make it to Guinness record

CARIGARA, Leyte-Nearly 5, 000 dancers clad in colorful 'kimona' and 'camisa de chino' filled the streets of this town on July 14 as they attempted

to make into the Guinness World Records for the "Largest Numbers of Philippine Folk Dancers (kuratsa dance)."

The event, which was

part of the town's 423rd fiesta celebration on July 16, brought pride and excitement to the locals, saying it

see Close to 5,000 / page 8 ...



Teachers Myda Ibañez and Leandro Presbitero of Carigara, Leyte are just two of the nearly 5,000 dancers who participated in a folk dance show on Saturday, July 14, as their town attempted to make it to the Guinness World Records for the "Largest Numbers of Philippine Folk Dancers (Kuratsa Dance)." (Photo courtesy of Myda Ibañez)

Blast fishing kills baby dolphin in Ormoc City

TACLOBAN CITY-The stranded baby dolphin injured by blast fishing died early Wednesday morning while being treated by local fishery officials in Ormoc City, said the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR).

BFAR Regional Director Juan Albaladejo said the dolphin calf died two days after it was rescued.

"The male dolphin had abrasions on his body. The stranding was due to acoustic trauma caused by blast fishing since the inner ear drum was damaged," Albaladejo said in a mobile phone interview.

Acoustic trauma is an injury to the inner ear that's often caused by exposure to a very loud noise such as ex-



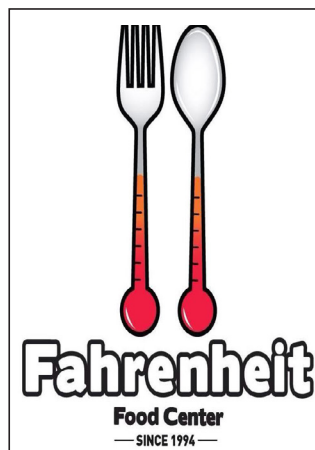
The stranded dolphin rescued by a fisherman in Ormoc City on Monday died early Wednesday morning (July 18, 2018). (Photo courtesy of BFAR)

plosives.

"Since its rescue last Monday, there has been a clear manifestation that the baby dolphin is unstable and not due for release anytime soon," the BFAR official said.

A fishermen rescued the 131-centimeter baby dolphin on the shallow part of

see Blast /page 8 ...



Arrest of a top NPA leader a big blow to the movement in N. Samar, says Army official

TACLOBAN CITY—The recent arrest of an alleged top leader of the communist' armed group operating in Northern Samar was considered as a big blow by the government forces to the rebel movement in the province.

On July 13, Marieta Bartolo, 46, identified to be the front secretary of Metro 1, SRC Emporium, said to be a unit of the New People's Army operating in the towns of Pambujan, San Roque, Silvino Lubos, Las Navas, Mondragon, and Catarman, the provincial capital of Northern Samar by combined elements of the 803rd Infantry Brigade and the provincial police personnel.

The arrest of Bartolo came at a time that the peace negotiations between the national government and the Communist Party of the Philippines- National Democratic Front (CPP-NDF) have bogged down.

Northern Samar remains to have strong presence of NPA members.

Captain Ryann Velez, civil-military operations officer of the 803rd IB based in Catarman, said that the arrest of Bartolo was a big blow to the armed movement considering that she is considered to be a high-ranking official.

"Her arrest is a victory to us. But at the same time, we are not taking the sole credit of her eventual arrest as we received help from the police and the people in the community that led to her and her companions' arrests," Velez, in a phone interview, said.

Velez said that Bartolo was arrested on board a vehicle owned by Ruth Figueroa, former ABC (association of barangay chairmen) president of Catarman in Barangay Bankerojan of said town at about 4:30 pm.

Figueroa, who is the incumbent chairwoman of UEP Zone 3, was also identified by government forces as the provincial



The alleged high-ranking official of the New People's Army operating in various towns of Northern Samar being taken her mug shots before the provincial headquarters of the PNP. Marieta Bartolo is facing several counts of murder, double murder and frustrated murder. (PNP-Northern Samar)

leader of Bayan-Muna, tagged by Armed Forces as a front of the communist group.

Also arrested were Danny Basilyo, 36, and a resident of UEP Zone 3; Emboy Loberiano, 21, a resident of Brgy. Caligang, Catarman; and Gil Mijares, 45 of Brgy. Ipil-Ipil, Catarman and said to be the driver of the vehicle.

"They were from the house of Figueroa and were on their way to the Catarman proper when they were arrested," Velez said.

"We cannot say yet what their relationship to each other as they refused to answer questions during their interrogation by the police. But considering that Bartolo is a high-ranking leader of the movement, we can just guess that they knew each other and probably belong to the same movement," he added.

Seized from the suspects were six units of different firearms and cash worth P330,000, among others.

A complaint of illegal possession of firearms were filed against all four

suspects before the Provincial Prosecutors' Office hours after they were arrested.

A complaint of obstruction of justice was also filed against Figueroa and their three male companions.

At the time of the incident, the government forces were tailing the vehicle where the suspects were on board to serve warrants for murder, double murder, and frustrated murder, among others, against the alleged NPA leader. An informant provided a tip that Bartolo was on board of the said vehicle.

However, instead of stopping the vehicle, the suspects continued to sped off which resulted for the authorities to hit the tires of the vehicle which led to the arrest of the suspects.

Except for Figueroa who is now confined at the Northern Samar Provincial Hospital after suffering a mild stroke while undergoing mug shots, Bartolo and the three male companions are detained at the lock-up facility of the Northern Samar Provincial headquarters. **(JOEY A. GABIETA)**



The city government of Tacloban under Mayor Cristina Romualdez initiated a mass hands-only CPR campaign on July 16 held at the Tacloban convention center. (MICHAEL ESPINA/CIO)

Hands-only CPR awareness campaign, demo held in Tacloban City

TACLOBAN CITY – Some 1,616 participants took part in the Nationwide Hands-only CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) Awareness Campaign at the Tacloban City Convention on July 16, organized by the city government of Tacloban through Mayor Cristina G. Romualdez and the Philippine Heart Association, Inc. (PHA) composed of cardiologists in the region.

City government workers and barangay residents attended the half-day event which imparted life-saving techniques.

Present during the activity to impart their expertise were the staff of the Office of Civil Defense, Tacloban City Rescue Unit (TACRU) and other volunteer medical groups.

PHA Eastern Visayas chapter president Dr. Ma. Belen Balagapo said the event is part of the advocacy to teach basic life support

skills to lay people.

"CPR is no longer limited to medical practitioners...because 70% of cardiac arrests happen at home and usually, the first responders are relatives or bystander," said Balagapo.

A quick lecture and demo on "hands-only" CPR and the use of Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) for heart attack victims highlighted the awareness campaign.

Hands-only or modified CPR do not involve mouth to mouth breathing but requires doing proper and effective cardiac compression—basic skills needed to save a life.

PHA is also advocating the use in public places and business establishments of AEDs - an electronic device which can diagnose irregular heartbeat.

AED is an essential part of the CPR Chain and can increase survival of heart attack victims

The local government of Tacloban has also already made AEDs available at the Tacloban City Rescue Unit and the Tacloban City Hall. It is currently in the process of securing additional units for other areas in the city.

Meantime, the mass CPR campaign is rooted in Republic Act 10781 or "The Basic Life Support Training in Schools Act" which mandates the teaching of CPR in schools and the grassroots level.

Special projects for health head, Dr. Gloria Fabrigas said that free mass CPR training is done yearly in Tacloban in partnership with PHA to reach as many Taclobanons as possible and help save lives.

In a similar activity last year the PHA in partnership with the City Government trained 1,270 in Tacloban.

(HENRY JAMES ROCA/CIO)

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

NOTICE is hereby given that Catalina A. Manjeron and Wilma Manjeron-Lancanan, heirs of the late Wenceslao J. Manjeron was a Human Rights Victims Claims Board (HRVCB) beneficiary and such was given a monetary reparation, extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a check issued through the Landbank Quezon City Circle Branch, PCA Bldg. Commonwealth Avenue, Diliman, Quezon city, as Check No. 0001611800 dated May 11, 2018 in the amount of P176,779.00; per Doc. No. 410, Page No. 70, Book No. II, Series of 2018 of Notary Public Atty. Filotea M. Estorninos.

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Mayor Romualdez issues order for City Hall employees to observe waste segregation, recycling at their work stations



Mayor Cristina G. Romualdez

TACLOBAN CITY-To advance the city government's waste management initiatives, Mayor Cristina G. Romualdez has instructed the different city government offices to practice waste segregation and recycling.

In a memorandum dated July 4, 2018, the chief executive mandated the effective use of garbage bins assigned to each office and those placed in strategic locations inside the City Hall building and its premises.

The mayor likewise, enjoined the offices to support the Clean Green and Resilient City Program and the "Basura Mo, Pakabuhi Ko" livelihood initiative which benefits the inmates at the Tacloban City Jail by collecting residual waste (e.g. junkfood/cof-

fee wrappers, newspapers, magazines, etc.) and recyclable materials (e.g. plastic bottles, plastic utensils, used bond paper, etc.).

On June 11, administrative officers from the different city government offices attended an orientation on waste management and recycling organized by the City Environment and Natural Resources Offices (CENRO).

Specialized carton boxes that will be utilized to collect useful segregated materials were also distributed during the orientation. The collected ma-

terials are made into saleable handicrafts by the jail inmates.

Ordinance No. 2017-13-37 or "An Ordinance providing for an Integrated Ecological Solid Waste Management for Tacloban City" provides for the segregation of garbage at source as one of the effective solid waste management initiatives. **(CITY INFORMATION OFFICE)**

DepEd mourns teacher who killed self

TACLOBAN CITY-The Department of Education (DepEd) Leyte division has extended its "deep sympathies" to the bereaved family of a 21-year-old grade school teacher who killed herself on July 12.

"The schools division of Leyte personally extended condolences and deep sympathies to the bereaved family of teacher Emylou Malate. We are saddened and in pain over this incident," it said in a statement.

Malate, single, started her teaching job in a multi-grade class at Bagacay West Primary School, an upland school in La Paz town, just last June 21 of this year.

Senior Inspector Ernie Rocha, officer-in-charge of La Paz Police Station, said that Malate committed suicide by hanging herself as relayed by Malate's father, Rodulfo.

Based on the police interview conducted with the victim's father, it was revealed that Malate committed suicide due to depression.

Three suicide notes addressed to her mother and alleged boyfriend were recovered at the scene.

In her suicide letters, Malate mentioned the word "weak" three times.

Malate's parents also

provinces had sustained their PPP from last month.

Leyte recorded the strongest PPP at P0.84. Southern Leyte ranked second at P0.83, followed by Biliran at P0.82 and Eastern Samar at P0.79. Northern Samar and Samar, meanwhile, posted the weakest PPP at P0.76. **(PR)**



LEYTE. Shock and grief poured over the death of 21-year-old grade school teacher Emylou Malate of La Paz, Leyte on July 12, 2018. Malate's parents cited "depression" as the reason why their daughter killed herself. (Photo grabbed from Emylou Malate's Facebook account)

ize that in our everyday engagement with teachers we will consider the fact that each one has different emotional stability," Edgar Tenasas, the assistant schools division superintendent, said.

Tenasas and other division officials personally visited the family of Malate to convey their condolences and inquire about the incident.

Amid the death of Malate, Tenasas also urged school administrators to consider in their yearly crafting of annual improvement plan (AIP) the regular conduct of team building and other activities that will lead to the personal development of teachers.

Meanwhile, DepEd Regional Director Ramir Uytico said that it's "still too early to judge" that Malate's work as a teacher was the reason why she committed suicide.

"Ang teacher talaga has to do his or her

part. Pag mag-apply ka sa DepEd, alam mo na ang mga challenges ng DepEd," Uytico said over a radio interview.

(RONALD O. REYES)

Eastern Visayas inflation rate hits record high in June at 6.3%

TACLOBAN CITY-The annual Inflation Rate (IR) of Eastern Visayas rose to a record high of 6.3 percent in June, posting the highest since January 2018. This IR was 0.5 percentage point higher compared with the 5.8 percent IR a month ago, and 3.0 percentage points higher than the recorded 3.3 percent IR in the same period last year. The regional inflation rate was 1.1 percentage points higher than the 5.2 percent national average in June.

All provinces in the region registered higher inflation rates in June compared with their figures in the previous month, except for Biliran, the only province that has registered a decrease of 1.1 percentage points, from 6.0 percent in May to 4.9 percent in June.

Northern Samar posted the highest increase of 2.3 percentage points, from 5.5 percent in May to 7.8 percent in June. The rest of the provinces recorded increases ranging from 0.2 percentage point to 0.9 percentage point.

Northern Samar had the highest IR at 7.8 percent, while Southern Leyte posted the lowest at 1.4 percent.

By major commodity groups, Transport record-

ed the highest increase of a hefty 6.0 percentage points, from 2.0 percent in May to 8.0 percent in June. Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages followed at 0.6 percentage point.

Annual price changes in Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco decreased by 2.1 percentage points, but still recorded a double digit inflation rate of 22.0 percent, the highest among all commodities. Clothing and Footwear and Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels likewise shed off by 0.4 percentage point and 0.2 percentage point, settling at 0.9 percent and 5.6 percent, respectively.

Communication recorded zero inflation rate

during the month in review, while Recreation and Culture, Education, and Restaurants and Miscellaneous Goods and Services retained their previous month's rates of 0.9 percent, 3.5 percent, and 1.6 percent, respectively.

The Purchasing Power of Peso (PPP) of the region remained at P 0.81 in June 2018. This PPP implies that goods and services worth 100 pesos in June 2018 only costs 81 pesos in 2012.

Eastern Samar, Northern Samar and Southern Leyte registered a 0.01 centavo decrease in the PPP compared with their figures in May. Whereas, Biliran recorded a 0.01 centavo increase in PPP, while the rest of the

Man nabbed in possession of shabu worth P170,000

TACLOBAN CITY-Anti-drug elements of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA 8)-Tacloban City Office, TCPO PS2 and CIB arrested another newly-identified drug personality during the conduct of a buy-bust operation in Barangay 86, San Jose, this city, on July 13, 2018 at around 4:30 pm.

In a report submitted to PDEA Director General Aaron N. Aquino, elements of PDEA RO8-Tacloban

City Office under Director Edgar T. Jubay, TCPO PS2 and CIB identified the suspect as Renato Lavinia, alias "Jun", 43, married, driver, and a resident of Brgy. 86 San Jose, this city.

Purchased and confiscated during the said operation were seven pieces of heat-sealed transparent plastic sachet containing white crystalline substance suspected to be shabu weighing more or less 25.0 grams with an estimated

market value of P170,000 and various drug paraphernalia.

Lavinia will be facing charges for violations of Section 5 (Sale of Dangerous Drugs), Section 11 (Possession of Dangerous Drugs) and Section 12 (Possession of Drug Paraphernalia), Article II of RA 9165.

The suspect is now temporarily detained at Tacloban Police station 2 lock-up facility. **(PR)**

Tide..

...from Page 1

Lago also said that the project, considered as among the infrastructure projects under the Build Build program of the administration of President Rodrigo Duterte, is projected to be completed by 2020.

But with the demand of several lot owners, the completion may be pushed back.

The project aims to protect the covered areas from possible occurrence of storm surge as what happened when super typhoon 'Yolanda' pummeled Leyte and the rest of the region on November 8, 2013.



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Okey, change topic!!

For the past weeks loud discussions, albeit only done by those in the higher echelon of our society and government establishment, on Charter Change towards Federalism may soon be side-lined if not totally abandoned like what happened during the Gloria Macapagal Arroyo presidency.

In the Pulse Asia survey, people-respondents expressed their open unacceptance and disapproval of Charter Change to be done according to the administration's time table.

Social media, local and national press and a good number of opinion makers nation-wide have expressly revealed same disapproval of the project.

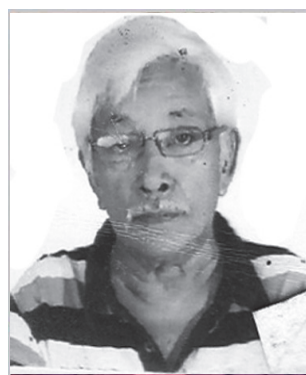
This got worse when Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez proposed cancellation of the 2019 mid-term elections. It is self-serving to him and some of his fellow elected public officials, especially

in the House of Representatives or the aptly named – the Lower House.

It is by any standard unpopular to the people. Now the majority of our Senators thumbed down Charter Change. They will also fight people's initiatives as the move of Alvarez to cancel the 2019 mid-term elections.

The government therefore should abandon this plan of Charter Change now. It is creating serious divisiveness among our people-even officials in government. There never was a clamour from our people anyway to change our style of governance.

The administration should just focus on the good projects it is undertaking especially the Build-Build-Build program. It should continue to feed the hungry, go on its successes in providing jobs and the commendable education policies. So, change the topic Speaker Alvarez. Concentrate in law making.



Observer

ALVIN GZ. ARPON

Speaker loves to hear his own voice only!!!

Pulse Asia's latest survey, on the acceptability of our people on the issue of Charter Change from our present system of government to federalism revealed, that they are against Cha-Cha backed up with 64% of respondents, and only 18% in-favour, with 14%

undecided.

Even with this authenticated survey findings, Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez is still upbeat in his desired dream to work for Charter Change. So strong in his conviction that we should become a federal state. To this purpose he proposes that there will be no elec-

tions in 2019 to give lawmakers enough time to finalize Charter Change. When told that "no-el" is a violation of the Constitution, he gave a ready albeit stupid proposal – a people's initiative. How he will do it; we know but it is not acceptable.

It seems that Speaker Alvarez is so self-centered; unbelievably unknowing or is he just trying to fake unawareness of people's opinions and beliefs in the issue? He only listens to himself. In that survey of Pulse Asia the Filipino people gave their stand about Charter Change. It's a NO!!

Who then are the people he is going to tap for his people's initiative, to come up with no

2019 election scenario? C'mon Panta'-Leon!!!

Once more I express my doubts, my fears, my hopelessness for a better Philippines under President Duterte. It appears that the administration is so keen at changing our Constitution to pave the way to Federalism. Why are they in a hurry?

What should be done first is for Alvarez and his gang should conduct a massive information-educational drive on what Federalism is. And they should intelligently, truthfully and convincingly justify that our present set-up of governance is already passe'(?), so Federal- see Speaker/page 5 ...



Crafting Flames

DOMS PAGLIAWAN

Stupid moves

If we will try to trace the normal causes of accidents, we will notice that they usually result from false moves and stupid acts done oftentimes at the height of our emotions. These tragedies could be in any form—car accidents, falls from high altitudes, clashes with ferocious beasts, and many more. Seldom do we hear of such scenarios from calculated, smart moves.

All of us are prone to making such mistakes, no matter how brilliant we may be. Said errors are aggravated when events are

happening very fast and we have no choice but to rely on our instincts to do things. Even if we have all the time in the world to reflect on our actions, we still make false moves that result in catastrophes.

Just last Monday afternoon, I fell into this trap of acting foolishly that resulted in tragedy. I drove safely home late in the afternoon from the downtown area. Before I could park at the side of the road fronting our house, two male neighbourhood dogs were again fighting each other fiercely in front of my car. I could not

run them over, of course, as both of them are my friends.

Thinking that I would just be honking the horn to no avail—they are bitter rivals and had been fighting each other repeatedly, almost to the death, and would not part from each other though they are splashed with water, like I did the last time they fought real hard—I decided to get out of the car to drive them away. And so I did failing, however, to put the car on a “park” or neutral gear, overwhelmed as I was with anger and bad emotions since I just want them to be friends, not bitter enemies.

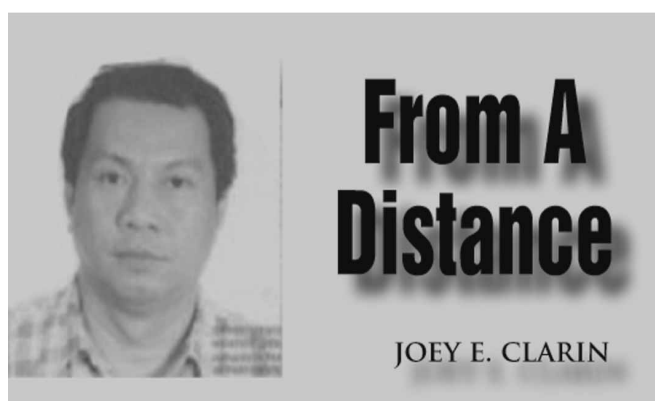
Having gone out quickly, I unknowingly released the brake while the car was yet on drive 1. At my furious presence, the fighting dogs went away at last. I even chased them a little bit. My one daughter who also got off the car, however, shouted out warnings behind me. The car, she said, was running. True enough, when I looked back, the car was already running to my direction. *see Stupid /page 7 ...*

with our daily effort to be faithful to our identity and ministry. This can never be overemphasized. And everything should be done so that at least its approximation can be gained.

As guide of souls, we should learn how to deal with all kinds of souls with their respective consciences. There are those with a certain and delicate conscience, those with erroneous, doubtful, lax or scrupulous conscience, etc. Of course, these consciences bring with their own lifestyle. We have to learn how to deal with each one as he is and help him in the way that is proper to him.

Nowadays, we have to deal with people who, on the one hand, are over-pious as to be self-righteous, and those, on the other, who are hostile to God and religion, those in irregular marital and family situations, those affected by all sorts of addictions and ideologies. The priest as guide of souls has to be prepared to handle each case.

Indeed, the priest should strive with God's grace and his effort to be all things to all men, as St. Paul once said, in order to save all. This will require of him to forget himself and just try his best to have the very mind and heart of Christ whose love for us is universal and for always. He really *see Guiding /page 7 ...*



From A Distance

JOEY E. CLARIN

Pacquiao has to retire

Sen. Manny Pacquiao is on top of the world again. He cruised to his 60th victory of his checkered boxing career via a 7th round technical knockout of Argentinian Lucas Matthyse last Sunday in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

He is now the new WBA World Welterweight Champion. Many witnessed a vintage Pacquiao displaying his usual skills that would force his opponents into submission. He has already etched a name in the world of boxing. In fact, he is now a member of the elite “Hall of Fame” in boxing world in the

cast of Muhammad Ali, Sugar Ray Leonard, Joe Louis and Roberto Duran.

However, at 39, the greatest Asian boxer is no longer the same old fighter who used to knockout opponents. His desire to fight against elite young fighters like Crawford and Lomechenko could be a very dangerous decision. He still has the skills but for how long? He will be 40 on December 17, how long can he sustain his competitive form? It's better to stop while you are at the top than to stop a losing fighter. He has nothing more to prove. He has fought

the best fighters of his time like Mayweather, De la Hoya, Marquez, Morales and Barrera. There will be no more Pacquiao again. There is only one Manny Pacquiao in our lifetime.

President Duterte and some fellow Senators were right in calling for Pacquiao to retire. Pacquiao has nothing more to prove in his colorful career. He is already a boxing legend, a self-made man who became a billionaire and politician whose boxing skills captivated millions around the world.

His former Coach Freddie Roach was right when he told Manny “You should choose only one, a boxer or a politician you cannot have both”. Indeed, he has everything. Time to hang up his gloves. You are already enshrined as the greatest Filipino boxer with 8 world titles no boxer has ever achieved.

Remember Muhammad Ali. He never learned to retire at the right time.



Commentary

By Fr. Roy Cimagala

Guiding souls

THIS is quite a tough job. To guide souls is indeed a very delicate job. It requires nothing less than entering into the inner life of a person with the intention of helping and of eventually leading that person to God. But how can this be?

Priests are supposed to be sacramentally configured to Christ as head of the Church and therefore as the ultimate guide of souls, the redeemer of mankind. They are supposed to have the very mind and sentiments of Christ. And if they are truly vitally identified with Christ, they will also share in the power of Christ.

But is this possible at all? If we have faith, the answer is yes. The sacrament of Holy Orders configures one to Christ with an effectivity that is called in Latin as “ex opere operato.”

It means that by the mere reception of the sac-

rament and as long as there is no formal impediment to such reception, that sacramental configuration is achieved, not so much by the qualities and dispositions of the recipient as by the power of Christ himself.

Would we think that the apostles had the qualities and dispositions of becoming the first bishops in the Church? If we are to go by our human standards, we would have serious doubts about that. But Christ made them our first bishops, and bishops they were.

The priestly ideal of being another Christ as head of the Church will certainly demand everything from them. But given that priests are men, with their own share of weaknesses and all that, that ideal will be pursued in stages at best, with its own ups and downs, its twists and turns, its drama.

We, priests, should do our part of resembling more and more like Christ

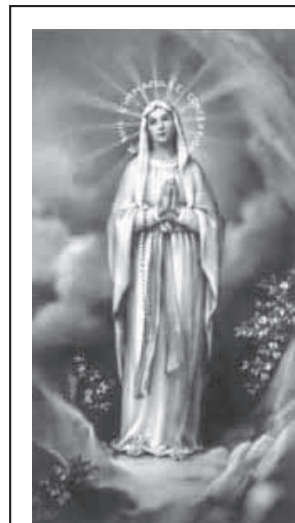
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Speaker...

...from Page 4
ism should take its place. This will take quite a long time, but the May 2019 election MUST push through.

-oOo-

A no election scenario will become a source of frustration to our Filipino voters, especially to those incumbent elected officials who is being targeted by electorates to be booted out of power because of poor performance or of their unabated corruption.



Pray the Holy Rosary daily for world peace and conversion of sinners (The family that prays together stays together)

Prayer for the Nation and for Those who Serve in Public Office

God, our Father, you guide everything in wisdom and love. Accept the prayers we offer for our nation, by the wisdom of our leaders and integrity of our citizens, may harmony and justice be secured and may there be lasting prosperity and peace.

Almighty and eternal God, You know the longings of our hearts and You protect our rights in your goodness, watch over those in authority, so that people everywhere may enjoy freedom, security and peace.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever, Amen. (Courtesy of Daughters of St. Paul)

DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT AND PARTITION

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late Liza Pacaldo Eloja extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over 8 parcels of land, described as: 1) A Residential Land, covered by Tax Dec. No. 17-0016-02002 R13, located at Brgy. Matlang, Isabel, Leyte, Survey No. 2363-P, with a total area of 210 square meters, more or less; 2) A Concrete Residential House, covered by Tax Dec. No. 17-0016-02259 R13, with market value of P501,230.00, located at Brgy. Matlang, Isabel, Leyte, standing on a parcel of land covered by Tax Dec. No. 17-0016-02002 R13, known as Survey No. 2363-P; 3) Residential Land, covered by Tax Dec. No. 17-0007-01164 R13 and Transfer Certificate of Title No. 115-2013000068, located at Brgy. Bilwang, Isabel, Leyte known as Survey No. 3042, with a total area of 188 square meters, more or less, parcel is referred to as Lot 5, Block 6, Psd-08-002499; 4) Concrete Residential House, having a floor area of 48 square meters, more or less, with a Market Value of P145,920.00, covered by Tax Dec. No. 17-0007-01165 R13, located at Brgy. Bilwang, Isabel, Leyte, covered by Tax Dec. No. 17-0007-01164 R13 and Transfer Certificate of Title No. 115-2013000068, known as Survey No. 3042; 5) Residential Land, covered by Tax Dec. No. 08-30-0005-00140/Original Certificate of Title No. P-38325, located at St. Michael, Palo, Leyte, designated as Cad. Lot No. 922, with a total area of 158 square meters, more or less; 6) Agricultural land covered by Tax Dec. No. 08-30-0020-00213, located at Castilla, Palo, Leyte, designated as Cad. Lot No. 6243, with a total area 18,799 square meters, more or less; 7) An Agricultural Land covered by Tax Dec. No. 08-30-0020-00214, located at Castilla, Palo, Leyte, designated as Cad. Lot No. 6238, with a total area of 5,120 square meters, more or less; 8) A parcel of Agricultural Land covered by Tax Dec. no. 08-32008-0070/Katibayan ng Orihinal na Titulo Blg. P-54038, located at Cabaohan, Pastrana, Leyte, designated as Cad. Lot No. 2072, with a total area of 16,981 square meters, more or less; per Doc. No. 80, Page No. 16, Book No. 114, Series of 2016 of Notary Public Atty. Melinda C. Domacl-Quimbao. LSDE: July 14, 21 & 28, 2018

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT AND ADJUDICATION

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late Reynaldo S. Borja extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over 5 real properties described as: 1) A parcel of land (Lot No. 213 of the Cadastral Survey of Catbalogan, with the improvements thereon, situated in the Poblacion, Municipality of Catbalogan, containing an area of 667 square meters, more or less and covered by TCT No. T-14935; 2) A parcel of land (Lot No. 132 of the Cadastral Survey of Catbalogan), with the improvements thereon, situated in the Poblacion, Municipality of Catbalogan, containing an area of 236 square meters, more or less, covered by T.C.T. No. T-14764; 3) A parcel of land (Lot No. 500 of the Cadastral Survey of Catbalogan), with the improvements thereon, situated in the Barrio of Mercedes, Municipality of Catbalogan, containing an area of 2,981 square meters, more or less and covered by T.C.T. No. T-14488; 4) Lot No. 207, CAD-444-D, Case-1, containing an area of 6,704 square meters, more or less and covered by T.C.T. No. T-14938; 5) A Residential Building, TD/ARP No. 01-0005-00079, PIN 229-01-0005-02-014-1001, with an area of 95.40 square meters, located at Lot 132, Cad. 255, Brgy. 05, Pob. Catbalogan City, market value of P421,286.40, assessed value of P84,260.00; per Doc. No. 136, Page No. 037, Book No. 376, Series of 2017 of Notary Public Atty. Medino L. Acuba. LSDE: July 14, 21 & 28, 2018

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late Gilda Elenita Romero Aragon extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over 5 parcels of land situated in Villaba, Leyte, described as: 1) A parcel of land, covered by O.C.T. No. P-93361, containing an area of 1,995 square meters, more or less, covered by Tax Dec. No. 08-41019-00010 R13 assessed at P2,270.00; 2) A parcel of land, Lot No. 4125, Case 5, under O.C.T. No. P-99348, containing an area of 176 square meters, more or less, covered by Tax Dec. no. 08-41019-00997 R13, assessed at P7,300.00; 3) Lot 2970, Case 8, covered by O.C.T. No. P-58076, Tabango Cadastre, containing an area of 3,314 square meters, more or less, under Tax Dec. No. 00221 R13, assessed value of P1,820.00; 4) Lot 2988, Case 8, covered by OCT No. P-64411, Tabango Cadastre, containing an area of 6,981 square meters, more or less, under Tax Dec. No. 00220 R13, assessed value of P3,710.00; 5) Lot No. 3031, Case 8, covered by O.C.T. No. T-59468, containing an area of 6,724 square meters, more or less, covered by O.C.T. No. P-59468, under Tax Dec. no. 00222 R13 assessed value of P3,680.00; per Doc. No. 161, Page No. 33, Book No. V, Series of 2017 of Notary Public Atty. Chelissa Mae N. Rojas, CPA. LSDE: July 14, 21 & 28, 2018

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Northern Samar
MUNICIPALITY OF MAPANAS
OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL CIVIL REGISTRAR

Publication Notice
R.A. 9048/10172

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

June 18, 2018

CCE-0004-2018-RA 10172

In compliance with the publication requirement and pursuant to OCRG Memorandum Circular No. 2013-1, Guidelines in the Implementing Rules and Regulations of Administrative Order No. 1 series of 2012 (IRR on R.A. 10172), Notice is hereby served to the public that APRIL JAY LAODENIO TEJANO has filed with this Office a Petition for Correction of Entry in the spelling of his First Name from "APRIL GAY" to "APRIL JAY" and to include the entry of his Sex/Gender from "FEMALE" to "MALE" in the Petitioner's Certificate of Live Birth (COLB) bearing Registry Number 65 (85) registered on 29 July 1985 in the Municipality of Mapanas, Northern Samar.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file their written opposition with this Office not later than July 25, 2018.

(Sgd.) ADRIANO L. ORIO
Municipal Civil Registrar

LSDE: July 14 & 21, 2018

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Northern Samar
OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL CIVIL REGISTRAR

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC
PETITION FOR CORRECTION OF CLERICAL ERROR
ON SEX IN THE CERTIFICATE OF LIVE BIRTH

In compliance with the publication requirement and in compliance and Pursuant to OCRG Memorandum Circular No. 2013-01 "Guidelines on the Implementation of the Administrative Order No. 1 Series of 2012 (IRR on R.A. No. 10172). Notice is hereby served to the public that CHRISTIAN CAPALES TABIO has filed with this Office for correction of clerical error from: "FEMALE" to "MALE" of CHRISTIAN CAPALES TABIO born on JULY 1, 1985 at Brgy. Magsaysay, Lope de Vega, Northern Samar and whose parents are CHRISTOPHER PELO TABIO and CONSTANCIA CAPALES TABIO.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his/her written opposition with this Office not later than Ten (10) Days after its publication.

(Sgd.) THELMA D. GAMAY
Municipal Civil Registrar

LSDE: July 14 & 21, 2018

AFFIDAVIT OF ADJUDICATION
NOTICE is hereby given that Philindi D. Tamayo heir of the late Victoria D. Tamayo, executed an affidavit of Self-Adjudication over a Sum of Money, a bank deposit with Metro Bank Palo, Palo, Leyte with Account No. 756-3-73336227-9; per Doc. No. 376, Page No. 76, Book No. 326, Series of 2018 of Notary Public Atty. Edwin Y. Chua. LSDE: July 7, 14 & 21, 2018

AFFIDAVIT OF LOSS
NOTICE is hereby given that Antonia S. Corcilles Secretary of Rosemarie Marie T. Ang, the vendee of two parcels of land situated in Brgy. Sabang, Palompon, Leyte and Brgy. Guiwan I, Palompon, Leyte, covered by Katibayan ng Orihinal na Titulo Blg. P-46255 and O.C.T. No. P-01066, executed an affidavit of Loss of owner's duplicate copies of Katibayan ng Orihinal na Titulo Blg. P-46255 and OCT No. P-01066 in the name of Maxima B. Ibarra. That owner's duplicate copies of Title were lost in my possession and were never be found and therefore considered lost; per Doc. No. 499, Page No. 103, Book No. IX, Series of 2017 of Notary Public Atty. Mario Lydinno R. Opeña. LSDE: July 7, 14 & 21, 2018

SPECIAL POWER OF ATTORNEY
NOTICE is hereby given that Ana Rose O. Simbajon do hereby NAME, AP-POINT and CONSTITUTE my husband EUFROCINO R. SIMBAJON of Brgy. Bangkal, Villaba, Leyte to be true and lawful Attorney-in-Fact for me and in my name, place and stead to do and perform; To Sell, Transfer and convey absolutely and unconditionally undivided share of a parcel of land, situated at Brgy. Bangkal, Villaba, Leyte and to RECEIVED the proceeds hereof under Tax Dec. No. 08-41005-00170 R13; Survey No.: 8091 Case-21, CAD. 964-D, area of .0341 hectare; Hereby Giving and Granting unto said Attorney-in-Fact full power and authority to do and perform all and every act necessary to carry into full force and effect the foregoing authority; per Doc. No. 323, Page No. 62, Book No. 19, Series of 2018 of Notary Public Atty. Nowyn Hope A. Jangad, CPA. LSDE: July 14, 21 & 28, 2018

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH ABSOLUTE SALE
NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late Pelagio O. Tecson extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of residential land situated at Brgy. Sto. Niño, Tanauan, Leyte, containing an area of 245 square meters, under Tax Dec. No. 00539-R9, covered by T.C.T. No. T-8301, Cad. Lot No. 1439-J, with market value of P40,425.00. AD eed of Sale was executed in faovr of Sps. Gloria A. Magno and Aristoteles C. Magno as vendee for the above-described property; per Doc. No. 1445, Page No. 121, Book No. IV, Series of 2000. LSDE: July 7, 14 & 21, 2018

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT
NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late Simeon P. Simbajon extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a Parcel 1) parcel of agricultural land situated at Brgy. Bangkal, Villaba, Leyte, known and identified as Lot No. 8059, Case 21, Cad. 964-D, containing an area of 1,444 square meters, covered by Katibayan Ng Orihinal na Titulo (O.C.T.) Blg. P-99898, under Tax Dec. No. 08-41005-00101 R13; Parcel 11) A parcel of Agricultural land situated at Brgy. Bangkal, Villaba, Leyte, known and identified as Lot No. 8041, Case No. 21, Cad. 964-D, containing an area of 18,850 square meters; per Doc. No. 373, Page No. 76, Book No. 54, Series of 2018 of Notary Public Atty. Elroy Raymond S. Bertulfo. LSDE: July 14, 21 & 28, 2018

DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH ADJUDICATION AND ABSOLUTE SALE (A PORTION)
NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late Sps. Esperidion Esquibel Costelo and Juanita Visto and other siblings Oscar V. Costelo extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land Lot No. 1060, Cad. 667, Tunga Cadastre, situated at Brgy. San Pedro, Tunga, Leyte, containing an area of 2,680 square meters, more or less and covered by O.C.T. OC-11801. A Deed of Sale was executed a portion of 1,408 from the above-described property in favor of Emilio B. Laus, Jr. married to Beatriz Oyzon as vendee; per Doc. No. 164, Page No. 33, Book No. XIX, Series of 2017 of Notary Public Atty. Ulpiano U. Arpon, Jr. LSDE: July 14, 21 & 28, 2018

Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE CITY CIVIL REGISTRAR
Tacloban City

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

In compliance to Section 5, of R.A. 9048, a notice is hereby served to the public that

APOLINARIO CUSTODIO CORREGIDOR JR. has filed with (Complete name of petitioner) this office a petition for change of first name from IRENEO to APOLINARIO JR. in the Birth Certificate (First name to be adopted) (First name to be adopted)

of IRENEO CORREGIDOR who was born on MAY 23, 1963 at Tacloban City and whose parents are BEATRIZ CUSTODIO and APOLINARIO CORREGIDOR.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this Office not later than July 25, 2018

(Sgd.) IMELDA A. ROA
City Civil Registrar

LSDE: July 14 & 21, 2018

DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH ABSOLUTE SALE
NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late Hilario Villarmino Nayra extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of agricultural land, located at Brgy. Marvel, Isabel, Leyte, designated as Survey No. 881-P, with total area of 9,527 square meters, more or less. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of Sps. Saturnino Saraoga Delicana and Emedgia Helen Ayensa Delicana as vendees for a portion of 200 square meters from the above-described property; per Doc. No. 447, Page No. 70, Book No. 151, Series of 2018 of Notary Public Atty. Melinda C. Domacl-Quimbao. LSDE: July 14, 21 & 28, 2018

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH ABSOLUTE SALE
NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late Isabel Bondoc extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land situated at Brgy. Dolho, Bato, Leyte under Tax Dec. No. 06001500018 with Cad Lot No. 1260, containing an area of .903 has. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of LANI S. GULA as vendee for the above-described property; per Doc. No. 109, Page No. 22, Book No. 40, Series of 2017 of Notary Public Atty. Rico E. Aureo. LSDE: July 14, 21 & 28, 2018

DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH ABSOLUTE SALE
NOTICE is hereby given that Rosalia C. Bisanar and Cecilia C. Lopez are heirs of the late Gregorio Callera, extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of agricultural land situated at Brgy. Taon-taon, Inopacan, Leyte under Tax Dec. No. 08160100105 with Cad. Lot No. 61 GSS, containing an area of 2,1180 has.; A Deed of Sale was executed a portion of 1,000 square meters from the above-described property in favor of Sps. Sanders C. Lumarda and Lorelie S. Lumarda as vendees; per Doc. No. 419, Page No. 84, Book No. 36, Series of 2016 of Notary Public Atty. Rico E. Aureo. LSDE: July 14, 21 & 28, 2018

DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH ABSOLUTE SALE
NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late Fernina Tablo extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land situated at Brgy. Alejos, Bato, Leyte under Tax Dec. No. 060000700438 with Cad Lot No. 2117 containing an area of 356 square meters. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of Sps. Arjay Daan Concepcion and Bernadette Gomez Concepcion as vendee for a portion of 206 square meters from the above-described property; per Doc. No. 353, Page No. 77, Book No. 39, Series of 2017 of Notary Public Atty. Rico E. Aureo. LSDE: July 14, 21 & 28, 2018

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT
NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late Candida Gesultura extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of agricultural land, situated at Brgy. Tinago, Bato, Leyte under Tax Dec. No. 06000500210, with Cad. Lot No. 1156-A1, containing an area of 4,336 square meters; and hereby adjudicated and settled portions of the aforesaid land containing an area of 836 square meters in favor of OSCAR RUALES, married to Emerita Ruales and a portion containing an area of 836 square meters in favor of Maxima G. Villareal married to Jerry Villareal; per Doc. No. 678, Page No. 136, Book No. 29, Series of 2014 of Notary Public Atty. Rico E. Aureo. LSDE: July 14, 21 & 28, 2018

DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH ABSOLUTE SALE
NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late Sps. Bienvenido Peñero and Fortunata V. Peñero extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over 4 parcels of land, describe as: 1) A parcel of land (Lot 2284 Case 10 Cad. 495-D) situated in Brgy. San Roque, Sta. Fe, Leyte, with an area of 19,274 square meters, with Tax Dec. No. 08-35-0018-00655, Original Certificate of Title P-70216; 2) A parcel of land (Lot 1360 Case 10 Cad 495-D) situated in Brgy. San Roque, Sta. Fe, Leyte with an area of 3,853 square meters, with Tax Dec. No. 08-35-0018-00653, Original Certificate of Title P-70219; 3) A parcel of land (Lot 1328 Case 10 Cad 495-D) situated in Brgy. San Roque, Sta. Fe, Leyte with an area of 5,460 square meters with Tax Dec. No. 08-35-0018-00656, Original Certificate of Title P-70220; A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of Victoriano C. Gaut Jr. as vendee for the above-described properties; per Doc. No. 893, Page No. 179, Book No. VII, Series of 2018 of Notary Public Atty. Rene Allan G. Jervoso. LSDE: July 14, 21 & 28, 2018

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR
Municipality of Biri

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL CIVIL REGISTRAR
PETITION FOR CHANGE OF FIRSTNAME
(R.A. 9048)
(MIGRANT PETITION)

In compliance with the publication requirement and in compliance with Section 5 of R.A. 9048, pursuant to OCRG Memorandum circular No. 2013-1 "Guidelines on the Implementation of the Administrative Order No. 1, Series of 2001 Notice is hereby served to the public that DAISY LUSTICO TAGAPUEN has filed with this Office for CHANGE OF FIRST NAME from LEONOR to DAISY born on November 10, 1958 at Sitio Palhugan, Biri (formerly a barrio of Bobon) Bobon, Northern Samar and whose parents are MATILDE DELOS REYES and FERMIN TUBELLEZA LUSTICO.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his/her written opposition with this OFFICE not later than Ten (10) Days after its publication.

MA. RODESA S. SERVANO
Local Civil Registrar

LSDE: July 14 & 21, 2018

R.A. Form No. 10.1 (LCRO)
Republic of the Philippines
Local Civil Registry Office
Province of Leyte
Municipality of Babatngon

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

In compliance with section of R.A. No. 9048, a notice is hereby served to the public that LIBERATO JR. C. ALTEJAR has filed with this Office a petition for change of first name from "LEVIRATO" to "LIBERATO JR." in the birth certificate of LEVIRATO CABARDO ALTEJAR who was born on DECEMBER 8, 1975 at BABATNGON, LEYTE and whose parents are LEVIRATO BALBOA ALTEJAR and AMERENCIANA ROMANO CABARDO.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his/her written opposition with this Office not later than JULY 26, 2018.

(Sgd.) NILO C. CAÑETE, JR.
Municipal Civil Registrar

LSDE: July 14 & 21, 2018

RA Form No. 10.1 (LCRO)
Republic of the Philippines
Local Civil Registry Office
Province of Leyte
Municipality of Dulag

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

In compliance with Section 5 of R.A. 10172, a notice is hereby served to the public that ROWENA PABRO DIMAS (Complete name of petitioner) has filed with this office a petition for Correction of date of birth from 4 January 1996 to 14 January 1996 in (Date of birth to be changed) (New date of birth to be adopted) the birth of certificate of KARLA VIRNADETH D. VACAL (complete name of document owner) who was born on 4 January 1996 at Dulag, Leyte and whose parents are Virgileo Vacal and Rowena P. Dimas. (name of father) (name of mother)

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this Office not later than 23 July 2018.

(Sgd.) JESUSA R. DE PAZ
Municipal Civil Registrar

LSDE: July 14 & 21, 2018

Amid suicide of teachers due to depression

DepEd official encourages support system among teachers

GOVERNMENT CENTER, PALO, Leyte- An education official here in Leyte has encouraged teachers to have a support

came in the wake of a reported suicide of a teacher in La Paz town.

On July 12, Emylou Malate, a teacher of Bagacay West Primary

School, reportedly committed suicide due to depression inside their house.

The 21-year old victim just started her teaching job this school year.

Last March 4 of this year, a teacher of the Leyte

be suffering from depression too.

Tenasas said that support system among teachers is important for them to unload themselves due to heavy paper works that comes with teaching job.

“We will assure the public that this incident will reach to the division executive meeting so we can deliberate on how to eliminate the burdensome work of the teachers. This is worth to be elevated to the national. Whether they listen or not, we will be pushing it to the top. This is a national concern,” he said.

Tenasas appealed to the school principals and administrators “to be extra considerate to our teachers.”

“They report to the school with different emotional ability. There is a need for us to be more caring, understanding, and tolerant,” he said.

Tenasas also encourages teachers to air complaints if they feel they are aggrieved. (RONALD O. REYES)

National High School, this city, Romela Segador, 23, also committed suicide by hanging herself outside her classroom. She was said to



Edgar Tenasas, assistant schools division superintendent in Leyte, answers media inquiries over the death of Emylou Malate, a newly-hired teacher in the upland village school in La Paz, Leyte. Malate killed herself on July 12 allegedly due to depression.

(Ronald O. Reyes)

system among themselves.

This call of Edgar Tenasas, assistant schools division superintendent in Leyte,

16 schools in S. Leyte get rainwater collectors

MAASIN CITY – The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) field office here has started installing a new batch of rainwater collection systems in 16 schools in Southern Leyte aimed at curbing water shortage and promoting water conservation in the province.

Recipients of the project are national high schools (NHS) in Libhu, San Rafael, Asuncion, Ibarra, Guadalupe, Dongon, and Maasin City National High School in Maasin City; Ichon and Villa Jacinta in Macrohon town; Lungsodaan in Hinundayan town; Hinunangan in Hinunangan town, Liloan in Liloan town, Himbangan in St. Bernard Elementary school

(ES) recipients are in Padre Burgos town and Asuncion Integrated School in Maasin City.

The P3.4 million project is part of the climate change adaptation of the administration to curb water shortage by maximizing the use of rainwater.

“With this kind of innovative initiative, we hope that in the future, the growing concern of diminishing water supply for sanitation in particular places will be fully addressed,” said DPWH Southern Leyte chief Ma. Margarita Junia.

Rainwater collector system harvests, collects, and stores rainwater from the roof, groundwater catchment or multipurpose pavement to store it in tanks with capacity of 4,000 liters.

Accumulated rainwater is distributed to toilets, wash rooms, and other utilities through pipes or faucets attached to the system. In 2016, the DPWH installed 15 rainwater collection systems in Southern Leyte province.

The project aims to answer the perennial concern in water shortage in Southern Leyte due to over extraction of groundwater, water pollution, illegal connections, water pipe leakages, faulty water meters, and climate change. (PR)



Leyte’s second engineering district to implement farm-to-market road projects worth P39.4 million funded by Pamana

CARIGARA, Leyte- The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) - Leyte Second District Engineering Office will implement a total amount of P39.4 million road rehabilitation projects funded under Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan (Pamana) Program.

According to District Engineer Carlos G. Veloso, the Pamana program is being implemented by the government to reduce vulnerabilities, improve governance, and empower fragile communities.

“This involves socio-economic interventions to isolated and conflict-affected areas not only to foster sustainable development but also to avoid recurrence of sources of conflict,” added Veloso.

Among the three Pamana projects, two were already bid out, the rehabilitation of a farm-to-market road in Barangay Lanawan in MacArthur, Leyte in the amount of P19.7 million and the rehabilitation of the same project in Barangay Patag, Burauen, also in Leyte, worth P9.85 million.

Stupid...

...from Page 5
tion, with my youngest daughter still sleeping inside it.

Fortunately, I was able to avoid the car’s path. When it passed by, I ran alongside, and opened the driver’s door so I could get inside. But as I was entering the car, the open, swinging door hit an electric post and ejected me off, violently hitting my left head, including my chest and left shoulder. The car proceeded ahead and stopped at the side of a neighbour’s concrete fence, its engine still working.

No one ever saw what happened to me exactly. Luckily, I was able to manage in to maneuver the car to its parking spot. There, while yet inside, I started to feel the terrible pain on my head, chest, left shoulder, and back. I could not lift my left arm anymore, my head feeling dizzy. When my neighbors came to the scene, I could not even tell them exactly what happened as I was catching my breath, my face grimaced in pain.

What a stupid mistake on my part. And what an accident. Good thing a neighbour with a car brought me to the hospital. I needed to have some x-rays, besides a necessary confinement, to determine if I had fractures on the skull and ribs. Thank God I only got bruises, muscle sprain, and torn ligaments. What a lesson to learn from.

Brgy.Lanawan is an upland community with it’s mostly farmer residents are growing corn, coconut and root crops (cassava, gabi, camote) and banana.

The farmers of the village formed into a group who bought two hectares of land and developed it into an organic farm supplying high value vegetables in Tacloban City.

An organic piggery of 75 heads, a corn mill and a farm to market road was accessed by the association.

The rehabilitation of the farm-to-market will greatly help the farmers bringing their farm produce to the main city.

Meantime, the rehabilitation of Conzoilo farm-to-market road in Jaro, Leyte worth P9.85 million is awaiting for modification.

Villa Conzoilo is an upland village seven kilometers from the poblacion of Jaro, is a budding farm-tourism destination in Leyte that has attracted both foreign and local visitors since it opened in May last year.

Guiding...

...from Page 5
should be humble so that he can always be open to new possibilities rather than put limits because of his subjective standards.

Obviously, he has to study and go deep into the sciences that deal with the care of souls. Hopefully, he can see even the subtle distinctions between what is true holiness and the many

Villa Conzoilo, the farthest village of Jaro at the foot of Mount Aman-daweng, was once a hotbed of insurgency like all its neighboring communities.

Pamana programs envisions to improve governance through partnerships with national and local institutions, building capacities or governance, and enhancement of transparency and accountability mechanisms.

It also into reducing poverty and vulnerability in conflict-affected areas through sustainable rural development, community infrastructure and focused delivery of social services.

As well as empowering communities and strengthen their capacity to address issues of conflict and peace through activities that promote social cohesion.

Veloso said that the road rehabilitation will not help reduce conflict in the area but help uplift the poor living conditions of the families.

(LIZBETH ANN A. ABELLA)

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late Carlos Bron extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of rice land situated in Brgy. Rawis, Calbayog City, containing an area of 1,434 square meters (rice land) and residential land containing an area of 1,284 square meters, with assessed value of P95,000.00, under ARP No. 99 01005-00011. A Deed of Sale was executed a portion of 200 square meters, designated as Lot No. 3530-P-3 Subdivision Plan, from the above-described property in favor of Pastor G. Borja as vendee; per Doc. No. 325, Page No. 67, Book No. XIX, Series of 2016 of Notary Public Atty. Alex Geler. LSDE: July 21, 28 & Aug. 4, 2018

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late Sps. Cresenciana B. Botin and Gabriel Botin, Sr. extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over 3 parcels of land, all situated at Brgy. Bunga, Abuyog, Leyte, described as: 1) A parcel of land designated as Lot No. 2066, under Tax Dec. No. 08-01-0022-00334, covered by Tax Dec. No. 08-01-0022-00334, containing an area of 315 square meters, assessed value of P9,960.00; 2) Lot No. 2067, Pls 645, Case 2, under Tax Dec. No. 08-01-0022-00337, containing an area of 767 square meters, assessed value of P19,910.00; 3) Lot No. 1754, Pls 645, Case 2, under Tax Dec. No. 08-01-0022-00332 and Tax Dec. No. 08-01-0022-00386, containing an area of 490 square meters, assessed value of P19,240.00 and parties have agreed and caused the above property to be consolidated and subdivided and designated into Lot No. 1, Lot No. 2 and Lot No. 3. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor Sps. Ma. Luz M. Merilo and Eduardo A. Merilo as vendee for a parcel of land, designated as Lot 1, by Gabriel B. Botin, Jr. as vendor; per Doc. No. 462, Page No. 93, Book No. XVII, Series of 2016 of Notary Public Atty. Joy Estolano-Cerro CPA. LSDE: July 21, 28 & Aug. 4, 2018

EXTRAJUDICIAL PARTITION WITH SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late Felimon Escala extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land, Lot No. 12460, situated at Brgy. Plaridel, Baybay, Leyte, under Tax Dec. No. 07-0080-01987, containing an area of 312 square meters. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of Paterna Escala as vendee for two portions Lot 12460-A with an area of 74 square meters, more or less and Lot 12460-C, with an area of 169 square meters, more or less; per Doc. No. 105, Page No. 94, Book No. XXVI, Series of 2018 of Notary Public Atty. Hugo B. Kudara. LSDE: July 21, 28 & Aug. 4, 2018

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late Froilan C. Millanar extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated a conjugal property over a parcels of land, Lot 4-A, Psd-08-001174, situated at the Brgy. San Jose, Tacloban City, Leyte, containing an area of 356 square meters, more or less and covered by T.C.T. No. T-19090. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of Don Carlos L. Matriano, John James N. Matriano, Ramon Paul N. Matriano and Carlos Raul N. Matriano as vendee, the above-described conjugal parcel of land; per Doc. No. 64, Page No. 14, Book No. LXI, Series of 2017 of Notary Public Atty. Cesar E. Lee. LSDE: July 21, 28 & Aug. 4, 2018



Leyte Governor Leopoldo Dominico Petilla, joined by Tanauan Mayor Pelagio Tecson, Jr. and his vice mayor Ronald Flores with other vice mayors of Leyte during their provincial summit held on July 6 in Tanauan. The vice mayors league in Leyte is headed by Vice Mayor Georgina Arevalo of Palompon. (GINA P. GEREZ)

Eastern Visayas has a new minimum wage order

TACLOBAN CITY – The Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board (RTWPB) in Region 8 has released a new wage order for Eastern Visayas effective June 25, 2018.

Wage Order No. RB VIII-20 entitled “Prescribing a New Minimum Wage Rates for Eastern Visayas” specified reclassification of the industries and sectors as well as increases in basic wage and the integration of the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) to the new basic wage.

Under Section 2 of the new wage order, there shall be an increase in the basic wage, as follows: P20 per day for non-agriculture; P30 per day for retail/service employing 11 up to 30 workers (now merged to non-agriculture); P22 per day for cottage/handicraft; P30 per day for retail/service employing 10 workers and below; P24 per day for

non-sugar farm agriculture (now collapsed under agriculture); and P30 per day for sugar farm agriculture (now collapsed under agriculture).

With above increases made, new minimum wage rates are as follows: P305 for non-agriculture including retail/service employing 11 up to 30 workers; P275 for cottage/handicraft; P275 for retail/service employing 10 workers and below; and P275 for agriculture.

Section 3 of the new wage order emphasized that the said wage increase prescribed shall be for the normal working hours, which shall not exceed eight (8) hours a day.

RTWPB VIII Board Secretary Reynaldo Soliveres said that the issuance of the new wage order was a result of different sectoral wage consultations conducted by the Board in Catarman, Northern Samar on March

14, 2018; Catbalogan, Samar on March 15, 2018; Borongan, Eastern Samar on March 16, 2018; Ormoc City on March 21, 2018 and Maasin City on March 22, 2018.

“The series of consultations and public hearing conducted in the region revealed that there is really a need to increase our minimum wage. Of course, we also took into consideration the viability of businesses in the region”, said Board Secretary Soliveres.

Wage Order No. RB VIII-20 was approved last May 7, 2018 by Orlando C. Uy (employers’ representative), Miguel T. Tezon and Efren M. Gabriola (workers’ representatives), NEDA Regional Director Bonifacio G. Uy (vice chair), DTI Regional Director Cynthia R. Nierras (vice chair) and DOLE Regional Director Cyril L. Ticao (chairman). (PR)

6 men, one of them an SK chairman, arrested in a by-bust operation in Baybay City, shabu worth P24,400 seized from the suspects

TACLOBAN CITY- Anti-Drug elements of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA-8)-Leyte Provincial Office and Baybay City police station arrested drug personalities during the conduct of a buy-bust operation at Barangay Guadalupe, Baybay City on July 18, 2018 at around 10:15 pm.

In a report submitted to PDEA Director General Aaron N. Aquino,

elements of PDEA RO8-Leyte Provincial Office under Director Edgar T. Jubay, and Baybay City PS identified the suspects as Jomar Jose Polo, 22, single, fisherman, resident of Brgy. Himoaw, Hilongos Leyte; John Paul Navales, 24, single, businessman, resident of Brgy. Santa Cruz, Hilongos; Jester James Lora, 22, single, jobless, resident of Brgy. Campina, Hilongos; Epheren Son Flores, 30, sin-

gle, waiter, resident of Brgy. Santa Cruz, Baybay City; Edison Flores, 31, single, singer, resident of Brgy. Santa Cruz, Baybay City; Doni Francis Pascua, Sangguniang Kabataan chairman, 21, single, resident of Poblacion Inopacan, Leyte.

One John Zarate managed to elude the arrest.

Purchased and confiscated during the said operation were five pieces heat-sealed transparent plastic sachet containing white crystalline substance suspected to be shabu weighing more or less 3 grams with an estimated market value of P24,400 and various drug paraphernalia.

Polo will be facing charges for violations of Section 5 (Sale of Dangerous Drugs), Section 11 (Possession of Dangerous Drugs) and Section 12 (Possession of Drug Paraphernalia), Article II of RA 9165, while the rest will be facing charges for violations of Section 7 (Employees/Visitors of Drug Den) and Section 12.

The suspects are now temporarily detained at PDEA RO8 detention facility. (PR)

Blast...

...from Page 1

the sea Monday afternoon in Macabug village.

Experts administered antibiotics and use plastic containers as floating device to help the dolphin regain its buoyancy.

Albaladejo said they expected more sightings of marine mammals, especially in Leyte Gulf and Sogod Bay in Southern Leyte due to climate change. The mammals are sighted in Eastern Visayas region, which faces the Pacific Ocean.

A stranded marine mammal refers to one that has beached or run aground and is helpless or has lost the capability to return to its natural habitat.

(SARWELL Q. MENIANO/PNA)

Close to 5,000...

...from Page 1

helped boost their tourism and economic activities.

“We practiced for two hours since June 27. We, the teachers handling Music, Arts, Physical Education and Health (MAPEH) subject, were tapped to train students and residents in the barangays,” said Myda Ibañez, a teacher.

“This is the first in the history of Carigara. All agencies participated,” Veronica Loreño, also a teacher, said.

“Even husbands of teachers participated in the dance. We shortened our classes for our daily practice,” she added, following an order from their local government unit. Since her husband was

Republic of the Philippines
MUNICIPALITY OF CATARMAN
Province of Northern Samar
-ooOoo-

BIDS & AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO BID

The Local Government of Catarman, Northern Samar invites interested parties/contractors to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid for the hereunder contract/projects to wit:

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Solicitation Number | : 2018-33 |
| Project Name | : Supply and Delivery of Medicines for MHO |
| ABC | : P3,349,880.47 |
| Location | : Catarman, N. Samar |
| Source of Fund | : LGU SPA |
| Delivery Period | : 30 CD |
| | |
| Solicitation Number | : 2018-34 |
| Project Name | : Supply and Delivery of Black Rice Seeds for Production Purposes |
| ABC | : P150,000.00 |
| Location | : MAO, Catarman, N. Samar |
| Source of Fund | : SPA |
| Delivery Period | : 30 days |

ACTIVITIES

SCHEDULE

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Start of submission of LOI and Issuance of Eligibility/Pre-qualification Forms/Bidding Documents | July 20, 2018 |
| • Pre-bid Conference | July 30, 2018, 2:00p.m, Office of the Mayor Conference Hall1 |
| • Dropping of Bid Closing Date & Time of Opening of Bids | Aug. 10, 2018, 2:00p.m, Office of the Mayor Conference Hall1 |

Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at bid opening. Bids should be in Philippine PESO Currency. The description of an eligible bidder is contained in the Bidding, Documents, particularly in Section II. Instruction to Bidders.

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary “pass/fail” criterion as specified in the implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 9184, otherwise known as the “Government Procurement Reform Act.”

Eligibility/Pre-qualification Forms and Bid Documents maybe purchased by interested bidders at the Municipal Engineering Office, 2nd Floor, Catarman Municipal Hall on the dates shown above and upon payment of non-refundable amount of P 5,000.00 & P 500.00 respectively.

The Local Government of Catarman, Northern Samar, reserves the right to reject any bids, waive any minor defect therein, and accept the offer most advantageous to the Local Government Unit.

The Local Government of Catarman, Northern Samar assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

For further information, please refer to:

ATTY. HAROLD M. HORCASITAS
Municipal Administrator/BAC Chairman
Telefax: (055) 500-9215

ENGR. CARLITO O. DANQUE
Municipal Engineer/BAC Vice-Chairman
Tel. No. (055) 500-9255
2nd Floor, Catarman Municipal Hall
Catarman, N. Samar

ATTY. HAROLD M. HORCASITAS
Municipal Administrator/ BAC Chairman

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF CAPOOCAN
OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL CIVIL REGISTRAR

Publication Notice
R.A. No. 10172

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

July 17, 2018

In compliance with the publication requirement and pursuant to OCRG Memorandum Circular No. 2013-1 Guidelines in the Implementation of the Administrative Order No. 1 Series of 2012 (IRR on R.A. No. 10172) Notice is hereby served to the public that **CRISTINA COLASITO QUILAY** has filed with this Office, a petition for Correction of Entry in Sex from “MALE” to “FEMALE” in the certificate of live birth of **CRISTINA COLASITO QUILAY** who was born on **22 MARCH 1955** at **Capoocan, Leyte** and whose parents are **PEDRO QUILAY** and **CONSTANCIA COLASITO**

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this office not later than August 3, 2018.

(Sgd.) JESALIE I. LOTEYRO
Municipal Civil Registrar

Farmers with physical disabilities thrive in Leyte

STA.FE, Leyte- Born with a physical disability, Violeta Milar of Sitio Pulak of Barangay San Isidro, this town, did not lose any hope in life.

Her condition did not stop her from sup-

porting her family. She worked as a canteen crew despite her condition.

After super typhoon 'Yolanda' struck the province on November 8, 2013, her family was one of the very first families to be relocated in Barangay San Isidro where she became the president of the These Abled Person Teirra Esperanza Farmers' Association (TAPTEFA).



Despite her physical disability, Violeta Milar manages to deal with the hardships beyond the limits of her abilities.

TAPTEFA is an association composed of farmers who have physical disabilities.

As the president, Milar knew she had to do something for the association. So together with the other members of TAPTEFA, they went

to Governor Leopoldo Dominico Petilla and asked for a livelihood assistance.

Immediately, their association underwent a four-month season-long training for high value

vegetables and fruit crops. Despite the members' physical disabilities, they were able to grow quality agricultural products. On February 22, 2018, they started their egg-

laying project given by the governor. Through their hard work and determination, the project became successful in just a span of time. The few number of chickens that they had before grew and has now reached around 1,400 heads.

These chickens produce 45 to 45 to fifty trays of eggs every day and provide the association with enough income for each of its members.

They sell the eggs for P150 to P170 per tray depending on the size. Often times, they encounter shortage of the egg supply because of the increasing demand of orders from the customers.

According to Milar, cooperation has led to their success. Their so-called 'rotation of duties' where some members are assigned to clean the chicken cage, some to segregate the eggs in sizes, and others to feed the chickens hasten their work.

They feed the chickens three times a day and a total of 45 jags of water. They also use organic vitamins and apply natural methods in treating their chickens.

The joy that this egg-laying program has brought to all the members of TAPTEFA is more than enough for Milar to thank everyone who gave their trust and support to them.

"As a person with disability and president of TAPTEFA, I am very happy that we (PWDs) are not being left behind in our society because Governor Petilla cares for us and helps us improve our lives," she said.

"We may not all have the same situations and there may be differences among us in other aspects of life, every one still has a role to play and nothing in this world can hinder us. As an association, TAPTEFA has endeavored the challenges that's why today, their story has proven that not even physical impairment can disable them from doing the best out of their abilities," Milar added.

(KATHLEEN MAE VALENCIA, Visayas State University Intern)

Leyte upland teachers remain positive amid struggles

By: LIEZEL RECAMADAS

BURAUEN, Leyte – Public school teachers serving in upland communities here shared stories on how they stayed strong despite financial, family and work-related struggles.

Airen Modina, 39, admitted that she tries to be emotionally numb every time she notices that some of her pupils go to school barefoot, with empty stomach and only one notebook for eight subjects.

"Although I am mindful of their plight, I have my own burden to bear. My husband has been suffering kidney failure for three years now and the only way for him to survive is through dialysis, which is very costly," said the mother of two, who has been in the teaching profession for more than a decade.

Modina is a Grade 6 teacher of Catagbacan Elementary School, a small campus in a farming community nine kilometers upland from the town center.

The teacher and some family members chip in P23,400 every month for her husband's monthly dialysis. She only gets P6,900 monthly net salary, with P18,000 cut due to loan deductions.

Since she's considered as better off than other siblings, she is obliged to provide financial support to her parent and nieces.

"Yes, life is more burdensome with so many work-related problems such as paper works, class-

room maintenance, poor performing pupils, but I have to be strong to see my children live a better life in the future. I have been very prayerful and positive that the best is yet to come," Modina shared.

Shirly Esquiedo, 33, a teacher for more than two years currently assigned at Anonang Elementary School in Barangay Anonang said occasionally hanging out with friends helped her a lot to cope up life's countless stress.

For two years, she has been left alone to support her three young children after her separation from her husband due to unsettled differences.

Esquiedo also recalled heart-breaking stories among her students from indigent families in Anonang, an upland barangay, 18 kilometers away from the town's commercial hub.

"Some children just eat a little rice with boiled frogs as side dish for lunch while some just drink water to beat hunger pangs. Deep within, I want to help them all, but I am incapable," she said.

Accumulated debts reduced the young teacher's monthly pay from over P20,000 to only P6,500. The meagre pay supports her three school-aged children and jobless mother.

"Personal problems and paper works are inevitable, but staying optimistic of what the future holds is the best choice to manage depression," she added.

Every day, a teacher is required to prepare a 10-

page lesson plan and some instructional materials. On a regular basis, they have make oral reading reports of children, individual cards, and document all school-related activities as attachments to the bi-annual Individual Performance Commitment and Review Form for Teachers.

Department of Education Leyte assistant schools division superintendent Edgar Tensas praised teachers for their determination to face personal and work-related challenges.

"I salute these teachers who are relentless in their effort to educate our children even in remote communities despite all these problems. I believe that it all depends on emotional stability of a person," Tensas added.

The education department reiterated its call for teachers to manage depression after reports circulated on social media that piles of paper work had prompted Emylou Malate, 21, a multi-grade teacher in La Paz, Leyte, to commit suicide inside their house in Limba village last July 14.

Malate, single, was assigned to a multi-grade class at the Bagacay West Primary School, an upland school some 5 kms. from the town center. Her first day of work was last June 25.

(Note: The author is the school head of the Anonang Elementary School in Barangay Anonang, Burauen, Leyte)

New high school campus revives hope in upland Leyte communities

MARY ANN MARTEJA

BURAUEN, Leyte – The local government here has established a high school in an upland farming community in a bid to encourage more elementary graduates to proceed with secondary education.

School head Adolfo Raga said they have to start classes in makeshift classrooms at the Buraburon National High School this school year as 90 students have signified their interest to study in the new campus closer to their homes.

"Since we don't have



maintenance budget yet, we have to ask donations from our friends for learning materials and gather extra furniture from other schools," Raga shared.

Town Mayor Juanito Renomeron has pushed for the opening of a new school in Barangay Tagadtaran to serve 15 upland barangays, noting that

many children stopped going to school after Grade 6. The campus is projecting about 200 enrollees every year.

The local government had set aside P3.2 million for the site development and construction of a three-classroom building in Brgy. Tagadtaran, some 13 kilometers upland from the town center. Completion of the new building is set early next month.

"The new high school will bring hope to hundreds of elementary graduates who have been discouraged by distance to continue learning," Raga said. One of the student is

a 21-year-old father who graduated elementary nine years ago, according to the school official.

"Many of our enrollees have been out of school for years. We're planning to come up with a way to help them catch up with classroom learning," Raga added.

The farthest barangay covered by the new campus is Villa Corazon where children have to spend P120 daily for transportation to study in the nearest campus in town.

Christian Caca, 14, a Grade student from Tagadtaran said his family saved a lot after he trans-

ferred to the new campus.

"Last year, I spent P60 daily for fare alone, but now P12 is just enough daily for my refreshment," the aspiring professional basketball player said.

The Department of Education regional office in Palo, Leyte approved the school opening through a memorandum issued on May 17, 2018, but have not yet provided maintenance funds pending some documentary requirements. (Note: The author is the school head of the Tagadtaran Elementary School in Barangay Tagadtaran, Burauen, Leyte)

Due to high number of dengue fever cases

Baybay City under state of health emergency

TACLOBAN CITY- Due to rising number of dengue cases, the city government of Baybay City is now under a state of health emergency, hastening the procurement of needed medicines and a fogging machine.

Dr. Norberto Oja, city health officer, said that as of Thursday (July 19), there were 193 confirmed dengue cases in Baybay covering from the start of the year.

Last year, there were more than 200 dengue fever cases in Baybay with no death recorded.

But for this year, the mosquito-causing ailment has already killed one child each from the villages of Hipusngo, Zones 5 and 6.

Oja said that dengue fever cases were monitored

to have detected in almost all of the city's 92 barangays with the villages of Hipusngo, Guadalupe, San Isidro, and Zone 5 having the highest number of cases.

"We are addressing the problem with the help from the regional office of the Department of Health (DOH) as well as from the provincial health office," Oja, in a phone interview, said.

According to Oja, Mayor Carmen Cari, upon the recommendation of the City Health Office, declared a state of health emergency in the city on July 10.

The declaration would mean that the city government could now fast track in the procurement of needed medicines and equipment like a fogging machine to address the rising number of dengue fever cases.

Oja, however, could not say how much the city government would allocate for this purpose.

The city government is to buy a fogging machine as of its two current fogging machines, one has bogged down. A fogging machine cost around P50,000, the health officer said.

It was learned from Oja, that they are now conducting massive 'search and destroy' operations on breeding places of dengue-causing mosquitos as well as fogging operations.

Based on the monitoring of dengue fever cases in the region by the DOH-8, as of this week, 16 people have died and about 1,179 others were afflicted due to dengue fever.

(JOEY A. GABIETA)



Students from the Eastern Samar State University in Borongan City pose for posterity with Leyte Samar Daily Express publisher Dalmacio 'Massey' Grafial and wife Alma, the paper's business manager. The students just finished their internship with the paper.

DSWD start releasing pay out for UCT beneficiaries in the region

TACLOBAN CITY- The regional office of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) is targeting to complete the pay out of social pensioners under the its uncondi-

tional cash transfer (UCT) program by the end of this month.

The distribution of UCT to social pension beneficiaries is a government intervention after implementing the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion or TRAIN Law that affects fuel prices triggering for the increase of prices of basic commodities.

Each social pensioners will be receiving additional P200 cash grant every month.

DSWD Regional Director Restituto Macuto said that the simultaneous pay-out started last Friday (July 20) and will end on July 31.

However, this target may be extended considering the large number of beneficiaries that are expected to receive the cash grant.

The request of local chief executives to bring the pay-out in their respective localities is also a problem considering that Landbank of the Philippines has only 15 branches in the region covering its seven cities and 136 municipalities.

Macuto said that lack of Land Bank outlets was the reason why they were

not able to meet the original deadline, which is this month, in the distribution of the UCT.

He added that bank personnel could not also handle the influx of beneficiaries going to their bank during banking hours.

Here in the city, a total of 4,902 social pensioners are to receive the cash grant from the DSWD which will be divided into two batches, half of the total beneficiaries will receive the cash grant that is to be distributed at Balyuan Park in the morning while the remaining half receive their share in the afternoon.

Macuto said they consider the conditions of the social pensioners who have delicate conditions and may not be able to withstand severe weather and standing for hours reason why they have to do it at the Balyuan Park.

Macuto added that aside from the UCT for social pensioners, beneficiaries of the Pantawid Familyang Pilipino Program will also receive additional P200 a month.

(ROEL T. AMAZONA)

From the current P8

Tacloban council to approve P9 as MCH fare

TACLOBAN CITY- The committee on transportation and terminal administration of the Sangguniang Panlungsod here has endorsed a P9 fare hike for motorcycle-for-hire (MCH) during a public hearing conducted on Thursday (July 19).

The P9 fare agreed by the committee, which is chaired by Councilor Edward Frederick Chua, however, is lower by P1 compare to the demand of the Tacloban Federation of MCH Drivers and Operators, Inc. (TAFEMADO).

The group, headed by

its president Joseph Tangel, had earlier passed their position paper demanding that the current P8 MCH fare be increased to P10 covering within the city's main streets.

The group cited the rising cost of gasoline, the implementation of a rerouting scheme by the city government which is taking longer routes, and the enforcement of the TRAIN (Tax Reformation and Acceleration and Inclusion) Law as reasons why they were demanding for a fare increase.

"Due to these circumstances, we appeal to the

honorable Sangguniang Panlungsod (members) and the honorable Mayor Cristina Romualdez for fare increase to MCH from the current P7 for the two kilometers to P10 for the first one kilometer and additional P1 for succeeding kilometer," the group on their May 7 petition submitted to the city council said.

They also asked for a fare for a 'special trip' which means routes outside the main streets of the city.

The group, cited as an example, that a ride from downtown area to Abuca bus terminal would have a fare of P48.

They used the current fare of public utility jeeps at P8 multiplied by 3(seating capacity) and multiply again by 2(round trip).

But during Thursday's public hearing held at the Legislative Building, the Chua committee agreed with a proposal made by a commuter to just put the fare hike at P9, Councilor Jerry Uy, member of the committee, said.

Councilor Uy said that a P9 MCH fare within the city streets is 'reasonable' reason why the committee would endorse it to the entire city council for approval.

(LIZBETH ANN A. ABELLA)

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