



Leyte-Samar

DAILY EXPRESS

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TACLOBAN
RIZAL AVENUE

Power and communication lines still down in some areas

Bising displaces 4,600 families across EV



JOEY A. GABIETA/ROEL T. AMAZONA

TACLOBAN CITY- Typhoon 'Bising' has barreled its way in Eastern Visayas on Sunday (April 18) which resulted to the displacement of more than 4,600 families consisting of over 19,000 individuals and cut power and communication lines across the region.

Based on the data from the various provincial risk reduction management offices and the regional office of the Philippine National Police (PNP), Bising, the first typhoon to hit the country for this year packing winds of 195 kph per hour near the center and gusts of up to 240 kph, has forced 4,677 families involving 19,030 persons.

In Northern Samar, provincial risk reduction

management officer Rei Josiah Echano said that 3,323 families involving 14,269 persons were affected by Bising.

The affected families were from the province's 16 towns, to include its capital Catarman.

As of press time, power and communications lines remain unavailable in most part of the province.

see Bising/page 6 ...



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fahrenheittacloban

WE DELIVER!

Typhoon 'Bising', the first typhoon to hit Eastern Visayas, has displaced 4,600 families comprising more than 19,000 persons due to flooding incidents. Bising, which pummeled the region Sunday(April 18) also knock down its power and communication lines.

Towns in Eastern and Northern Samar opens community pantries



Amid the threat of typhoon 'Bising', Tacloban City Mayor Alfred Romualdez, joined by his son Raymund, visited the public market at the city's northern part as he appealed to the vendors to return home.



Community pantries have now appears in different parts of the region. Among the first to open were in Biri, Northern Samar, and Oras in Eastern Samar. The organizers of these community pantries want to provide assistance to families affected during this time of pandemic.

TACLOBAN CITY- The concept of community pantry has reached Eastern Visayas and this found its way in the remote towns of Biri in Northern Samar and Oras in Eastern Samar.

In Biri, the community pantry was organized by two women who works in the government sector: Mary Joy Sabangan, an elementary school teacher and Maria Vandervis, who

works at the local government unit of Biri.

The two organizers spent around P8,000 from their own pockets and solicited some with their *see Towns/page 7 ...*

2nd Eastern Samar PMFC's Mobile Barbershop on its maiden run in Hernani

2nd Eastern Samar PMFC's PCAS Team led by PLt. Angelyn Glou A. Cortado, admin/op-eration PCO upon in-struction and with the guidance of PLt.Col. Joy G. Leanza, force com-mander, ushered an Out-reach Endeavor through its Mobile Barbershop, Libre nga Arot, Kan FC Sagot".

Two personnel of this unit exhibited their hair-styling skills while a civil-ian barber was contract-ed to provide free haircut.

Around 45 kids and three adults availed of the said program.

Mobile Barbershop along with Mobile Can-teen was first introduced in the villages of Oquendo and Tinambacan District in Calbayog City when PLt.Col. Leanza was then the Force Commander of 1st Samar PMFC.



Personnel of the 2nd Eastern Samar Provincial Police Mobile Force Company initiated its mobile barbershop in Hernani town.

Said concept came up during the spate of COVID-19 when travel restrictions were strictly imposed. Children and senior citizens especially in far-flung barangays were not allowed to go to down-

town to visit a barbershop. PLt.Col. Leanza innovated an idea that would bring the barbershop even to the remote barangays - for free! Hence, the Mo-bile Barbershop was made known to our vocabulary. (PR)

4th quarter 2020 number of constructions in Eastern Visayas declines by 7.5%

The region's total number of constructions declined by 7.5 percent, from 965 constructions recorded in the 4th quarter of 2019 to 893 constructions in the same quarter in 2020.

The combined number of additions/alterations and repairs of existing structures, dropped by 50.0 percent, from 174 constructions in the 4th quarter of 2019 to 87 constructions in the same

period of 2020. Residen-tial buildings decreased by 4.7 percent, posting 552 constructions in the 4th quarter of 2020 from 579 constructions in the 4th quarter of 2019.

On the other hand, an increase of 19.8 percent was noted in the number of non-residential buildings, from 212 constructions in the 4th quarter of 2019 to 254 constructions during the quarter in review.

Residential buildings

comprised 61.8 percent of the total constructions in the region, while non-residential buildings and additions/alterations and repairs accounted for 28.4 percent and 9.7 percent, respectively.

The total value of con-structions in the region during the 4th quarter of 2020 was estimated at P3.1 billion. This figure is 77.1 percent higher than the P 1.8 billion total value of constructions in the same quarter of 2019.

The total value of con-struction of non-residen-tial buildings increased drastically by almost three-folds (162.7 percent), from P 809.8 million in the 4th quarter of 2019 to P 2.1 bil-lion during the quarter in review.

A significant increase by 52.2 percent was also recorded in the aggregate value of additions/alterations and repair of exist-ing structures. Its value grew to P 279.3 million see 4th quarter /page 8 ...



Reelected board of director of the Leyte II Electric Cooperative, representing the 4th district, Dalmacio 'Massey' Grafil(right), took his oath after he was reelected to the same post. The election for the district's representative to the Leyeco II board of directors was held Sunday (April 18). (Leyeco II)

Leyeco II successfully conducts District IV BOD election despite Typhoon 'Bising'

TACLOBAN CITY- De-spite the inclement weather caused by Typhoon 'Bising', our electric cooperative successfully conducted the District IV Board of Di-rector (BOD) Election on Sunday, April 18, 2021 at Tigbao-Diit Central School, Brgy. 94 Tigbao, Tacloban City.

In like manner with the District V BOD Election which was conducted last Sunday, April 11, 2021, min-imum COVID-19 health protocols were followed during the entire course of the activity wherein em-ployees, member-consum-er-owners (MCOs), and Precinct Election Com-mittee (PECOM) and Dis-trict Election Committee (DECOM) members were strictly advised to wear masks and practice social/

physical distancing.

Barriers were also in-stalled in each precinct to prevent direct contact be-tween the voting MCOs and PECOM members. UV lights were installed inside each ballot boxes to disin-fect the ballots prior to han-dling by the PECOM and DECOM members.

Further, the voting MCOs were required to have their temperatures checked and QR codes scanned prior to entry and were given a new surgical mask to wear and pen to use upon voting.

Voting was officially opened at 8:00 AM and

closed at 3:00 PM wherein counting of votes immedi-ately followed afterwards. Three hundred eighty-six (386) MCOs from the 41 barangays comprising the said district exercised their rights and casted their votes with lone candidate and incumbent BOD Dir. Dalmacio C. Grafil de-clared as the winner.

Meanwhile, three more BOD Elections will be held for Districts III (Tacloban City-Area 3 & 4), I (Palo), and II (Tacloban City-Ar-ea 1 & 2) on April 25, 2021 (Sunday), May 2 (Sunday), and May 9 (Sunday) re-spectively. (PR)

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Fire prevention pushed in Leyte Sab-a peatland forest

TACLOBAN CITY – Concerned with incidents of peat fires, a non-government organization on Friday pushed for stronger fire prevention, management, and post-fire restoration in the Leyte Sab-a peatland forest.

Juvilyn Salazar, project officer of the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR) Leyte Sab-a Peatland Forest Restoration Initiative, said the peatland has been experiencing a yearly incidence of fire since their project began in 2018.

The IIRR is a non-profit organization that helps empower rural communities by making them self-sufficient.

“Fires are an annual occurrence and a majority of the cause originates from unsustainable practices on peatlands. We have invited experts in an online capacity-building to share their recommendations based on the best management practices on fire preven-



PEAT FIRE. A portion of the Leyte Sab-a peatland forest burns in this April 2019 photo. Concerned with incidents of peat fires, a non-government organization on Friday (April 16, 2021) pushed for stronger fire prevention, management, and post-fire restoration in the peatland forest. (Photo courtesy of Leyte Sab-a Peatland Forest Restoration Initiative)

tion and management in the Philippines and Indonesia,” Salazar told the Philippine News Agency (PNA).

More than 200 participants from various local government units, national government agencies, students, and faculty members of various Southeast Asian universities and state colleges, and non-government organizations attended the virtual event on April 8.

The construction of a drainage system since the 1970s has triggered fire incidents in the Leyte Sab-a peatland forest.

From 2018 to 2020, the IIRR has documented four fire incidents.

“The peat soil should be wet all the time. Once the water is drained, the peatland might trigger peat fire.

see Fire /page 7 ...

PNP, Calbayognons unite to aid blood supply scarcity

CALBAYOG CITY- People’s Outreach Program, in partnership with Calbayog City Police Station and other units of the Philippine National Police, and the city government of Calbayog through its Calbayog Blood bank Team of Calbayog City Health Office, collected some 32 blood units in a mass blood donation (MBD) held last April 17, 2021 at Joggers Covered Court in Barangay East Awang, this city.

The MBD themed, “Promoting unity and peace: safe blood, safe lives”, was initiated due to scarcity of blood supply in the city.

Different units of PNP including the Calbayog City Police Station with most number of blood donors, 12th Special Action Battalion of Special Action Force, 3rd Platoon of 803rd Maneuver Company, First Samar Provincial Mobile Force Company, and some Calbayognons united to participate in the activity yielding to the said number of collected blood units.



A police officer was among the donors during a blood letting activity held last April 17 in Calbayog City. At least 32 blood units were collected during the said blood letting activity. (Calbayog PNP)

“We thank the relentless participation of our men in uniform from the PNP, People’s Outreach Program, and our fellow Calbayognons. We highly

encourage our locals to support the advocacy of the city government to establish a sustainable blood bank”, Mayor Diego P. Rivera stated. (PR)

Private hospital joins community pantry campaign

TACLOBAN CITY- The idea of having a community pantry has now reached this city with personnel of the Divine Word Hospital making the initiatives.

Ruben Acidre, who identified himself as a secretary of the hospital, said that their community pantry was first opened on April 17.

Garlics, onions, canned goods, milk, coffee, fruits, vegetables, root crops, and medicines are few products displayed in the pantry found inside the compound of the hospital.

The organizers made a gentle reminder to those who want to avail the items at the community pantry to just get what they just need.

They also ask for any donation as a way to sustain their campaign inspired by the Maginhawa community pantry in



The Divine Word Hospital in Tacloban City also put up its own community pantry. While they are giving food items for free, the organizers are also knocking kind-hearted people to donate. (Photo Courtesy)

Quezon City.

Acidre admitted that

their version of the community pantry will only

end on Tuesday (April 20). (LIZBETH ANN A.ABELLA)

713 beneficiaries from Hernani (E. Samar) receive their free housing units from NHA

BORONGAN CITY- Some 713 beneficiaries from Hernani town in Eastern Samar will receive their free housing units from the National Housing Authority (NHA).

Cabinet Secretary Karlo Nograles, chairman of Task Force Yolanda led the national and local officials in the virtual turnover held on April 14, 2021 in Hernani town.

CabSec Nograles thanked the NHA for their cooperation and in ensuring the completion of the project despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

“This is a big help to the constituents of Hernani who were affected by the Super Typhoon Yolanda,” Nograles said.

For his part, Mayor Amado L. Candido thanked President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, CabSec Nograles, and the NHA

officials for “making the dreams of decent housing for our constituents, a reality.”

He requested the NHA for additional housing units of 276 because there is still a vacant lot inside the housing project called “Hernani Town Ville.”

He requested the National Electrification Administration (NEA) for the electrification and the Local Water Utilities Administration (LWUA) for the water facility of the said town ville.

The mayor added that he also requested for a health center, day care center, schools, market and playground.

“As of now, I am re-validating the beneficiaries who badly need the permanent houses,” the mayor further said.

see 713 beneficiaries/ page 7 ...

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Greater risks

Our

Pacific Ocean where most typhoons originate. As these typhoons travel westward, we are usually the first ones to be hit, hence our too much familiarity with them.

But to be accustomed to the average typhoons is one thing—that's what we have been used to facing. It's a different story when these storms assume the super typhoon category. This is what scares us the most. It's where the trauma comes into the hearts of many, knowing that it's not an ordinary typhoon. A classic example of this is the unforgettable Yolanda.

We have just experienced, in the last couple of days, another super typhoon named Bis-ing. It may not have been as strong as Yolanda

was, but it was so wide that even if its eye didn't hit us, we were still lambasted by its enormous strength. We could have suffered so much, agriculturally, for instance, had it hit us directly. But thank God it spared us, its destruction brought to us rather limited.

Loss of lives was also not a problem in the onslaught of this recent typhoon, although there has been considerable destruction of properties among households whose houses are made of light materials. Those living in low-lying areas were also affected by incessant rains, not to mention the destruction of fishing materials by our fisher folks.

We have had lessons learned in dealing with typhoons, but these lessons to learn could be endless. We have yet to learn many other things, especially if we are dealing with super typhoons whose devastation is more intense, and the risks overwhelming. May we not ignore the precautionary measures given us when storms like these hit us.

anyone, or to frighten anybody, but based on Bible prophecy, we are headed to the worst of times. It is called the great tribulation (Matt. 24:21; Rev. 7:14). It's just going to be short-lived, lasting for only seven years, but the sufferings that people will have to endure during this time are so great no such things had ever been witnessed since the beginning of the world.

While we may say that things nowadays are improving, which is doubtless true given our modern tools, sophisticated transport system, hi-tech living, amazing gadgets and all—we are at the same time

bordering on the cliff of the end-times. Any moment from now, the world as we see it could be catapulted into a chaotic situation.

The signs of the last days were actually enumerated by Christ himself in the New Testament. Many of those, if not all, have been fulfilled in our day and age. Devastating disasters, strong earthquakes in various places, wars and rumors of war, too much wickedness among people, famines, pestilences, and many more. All these have been fulfilled and we have seen them happening before our very own eyes.

see Great /page 5 ...



Things To Mind

DOMS PAGLIAWAN

Great tribulation

People nowadays easily dismiss someone as a doomsayer when the latter shares rather gloomy, futuristic events. Well, I for one am fond of sharing similar issues. But don't mistake

me for a doomsayer; I am a student of Bible prophecy. I am not, therefore, just given to predictions of impending catastrophes without a basis.

This is not to discourage



What's New Mr. Q?

TENTE U. QUINTERO

SMC's RSA: Did He or Didn't He Endorse Pacman ? - Did'ja Know -

THAT the one-on-one interview of San Miguel Corporation's top honcho Ramon S. Ang (RSA) by Columnist Tony Lopez of the Manila Standard & Business News Asia started the nationwide interest among Filipinos already affected by the "Electionitis virus"?

THAT after RSA explained to Columnist Lopez his big dreams and infra-structural projects -- many of which had already been completed; and several still undergoing construction, the visibly impressed Tony Lopez popped the question - "Sir, are you in any way interested in running for President of the Philippines?"

- MR. RAMON S. ANG JUST ANSWERED -

THAT after Davao City Mayor Sara Duterte announced that 'she is not interested in running for president in 2022, because she wants to devote more time with her family and her young kids?

THAT she's more interested in the year 2034 -- if given the chance, (2) presidential elections after 2022?

THAT with Mayor Sara's declaration, RSA made a "fearless forecast" saying "if elections are held now, (or words to that effect), Senator Manny Pacquiao will be the next president of the Philippines.

THAT with Pacquiao as presidential candidate, RSA hopes Pacman recruits Albay's "brainy congressman" Joey Salceda to be his Vice-President, or failing that, get the Philippines' top analyst as Finance Secretary.

THAT RSA further announced that Pacquiao is the No. 2 in

the pre-poll surveys for president with 12%, after Mayor Sara Duterte emerged as front-runner with last 22% of the May 2022 elections; based on the independent survey conducted by OCTA Research last January 26 to February 1st?

THAT after Mayor Sara Duterte is Senator Grace Poe with 13%, Senator Manny Pacquiao and former Senator Bongbong Marcos with 12% each and Manila's Isco Moreno Dumagoso with 11% and Vice-President Leni Robredo lagging behind with only 5%?

THAT RSA believes that Sen. Manny Pacquiao will eventually overtake Grace Poe, as president of the PDP-Laban, he will run and eventually become our next president.

- THE NATIONAL NEWS - ABS-CBN News, 09 April 2021

Senator Manny Pacquiao on Friday (09 April 2021) thanked San Miguel Corporation president Ramon Ang for saying that the Mindanaoan lawmaker "will be the next president of the Philippines.

In an interview with Manila Standard, Ang claimed Pacquiao "will be the next president of the Philippines," and added that he hopes the boxing icon could recruit Albay Rep. Joey Salceda either as his running mate or finance secretary.

"I would like to thank Mr. Ramon Ang of San Miguel Corporation for his trust & confidence in me," Pacquiao said in a tweet. "Someday soon, I hope we can sit down & discuss ideas on how to make our country a better place to live in for every Filipino," Manny Pacquiao said.

CNN Philippines, 10 April 2021

Bilyunario, Ramon S. Ang has clarified public perception that he has endorsed the 2022 presidential bid of Senator Manny Pacquiao.

In a report by CNN Philippines, Ang said "Pacquiao has a 'good chance' of winning the presidential race, "just like other strong contenders with their own following & track records, they would also have a good chance."

Ang said he was merely responding to "hypothetical scenarios" on who among the declared presidential bets would win, based on current trends.

In conclusion, SMC's top honcho said - "In all my public life, I have never been involved with nor publicly endorsed any political candidate, even those I considered personal friends.

So there, Were there any misquotations? This Columnist does not think so, especially since there were several TV footages & videos that can rented or hired to support the above statements and/or utterances.

So dear listeners, make your own conclusion/s; and *Abangan ang Susunod na kabanata!*

(NOTE: this Columnist hereby acknowledges with gratitude, that the main sources of the above information, as well as his Columns on 13 April 2021 & 17 April 2021 were from Columnist Tony Lopez's interview of SMC boss Ramon S. Ang.)

Great...

...from Page 4

But this is not yet the great tribulation proper; these are events prior to this period, or signs of the times from the biblical perspective. When the fig tree starts to bloom, according to the Lord Jesus Christ, then know for sure that his second coming has gotten nearer. He was referring here to Israel. In 1948, Israel was reborn as a nation after centuries of having been non-existent. After its rebirth, Israel as this fig tree has tremendously bloomed. Its dry deserts had turned green, yielding abundant agricultural harvests. The country's economy had flourished, and its



Commentary

FR. ROY CIMAGALA

The art of coping

WITH many of us continually subjected to increasing pressures from all kinds of sources—challenges, trials, temptations, consequences of sin, etc.—we really need to know the art of coping if only to survive, at least. The idea is how to keep calm amid all these unavoidable conditions so that we can better handle these situations. Losing our cool would only worsen things.

Perhaps the first thing that we have to do is to truly rev up our faith and trust in God, in his loving and wise providence that actually takes care of everything, especially those things that we cannot handle properly anymore. With a strong and working faith, we can think better and would easily know which aspects of our life need to be addressed.

It could be that we have to have a tighter grip and control over our emotions and passions, especially our anger and fear that can go ballistic and can lead us to over-react to things.

armed forces became superior in the Middle East.

With this blooming of Israel fulfilled, the second coming of Christ had gotten nearer, then. But no one knows when it is going to be. Anyway, it's a two-fold coming. The first part of which will not allow the world to see him, but will be marked only by a sudden, global disappearance of all Bible-believing, born-again Christians who will be raptured together to meet the Lord in the "air". The dead in Christ shall rise first, marking the first resurrection, then they who are alive will be caught up together with them in the clouds.

Back on earth, the entire world will experience chaos with this disappear-

Or, more than our passing emotions and passions, it is to do some tweaking on our temperament itself to make it more open to the healthy inputs of our Christian faith.

When we are guided by our faith, we know that while we have to try our best to solve whatever problem and difficulty we have, there will always be things that are beyond our control. In spite of our best efforts, we can still commit mistakes and suffer failures in our tasks and other endeavors.

We should then just be game with the idea of having to suffer whatever there is to suffer, not anymore making a big issue about why we have to suffer. Whether we like it or not, suffering and eventually death are always an integral part of our life here on earth.

But Christ precisely has warned us about this. And he also has reassured us that everything is taken care of. "In this world you will have trouble," he said. "But take

ance of millions, including babies. But someone powerful, brilliant, and influential will rise up to unite the world into one. He is the Antichrist, or Satan in the flesh. He will rule the world ruthlessly

heart! I have overcome the world." (Jn 16,33)

In another instance, Christ recommended us to live a healthy spirit of abandonment in the ways of God. "Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor gather into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?" (Mt 6,26-27)

The idea is simply to follow the example of Christ, if not to assume his very mind and his own spirit. In that way, whatever there is for us to suffer, we can manage, we can cope. We would find all these negative things that would hound us in this life possessing a certain beautiful meaning and purpose. With Christ, we would see them as a means for our salvation.

In a certain sense, we should just be accepting of how things are even as we try our best, as we already said before, to be on top of them. We should not worry too much. If ever we have to worry, it should be only for a while. We should not allow it to last long.

By always asking for the grace of God and doing our part, we can make the healthy inputs of our faith animate our emotions, passions and even our temperament itself, so we would know how to cope with any problem in our life.

as the most tyrant dictator of all time. It's in his seven-year rule that God will pour out his vials of wrath into the rebellious, unbelieving world—this is the great tribulation period.

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)



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

CONFIRMATION OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that a Confirmation of extrajudicial settlement with sale executed by Candelaria G. Añano and Ronaldo G. Añano as confirnants for the sale of a land covered by Tax Dec. No. No. 11-090010-00227, PIN 037-09-0019-008-06, in the name of heirs of the late Domingo Abut which covers Lot No. 10406, Lot No. 10444, Lot No. 10443, Lot No. 10446, Lot No. 10448 and Lot No. 10445. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of SUSANA Q. ABUL as vendee for a portion of 523 square meters, more or less, please see Doc. No. 289, Page No. 58, Book No. II, Series of 2021 of Notary Public Atty. Vincent A. Cablao, CPA. *LSDE: April 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late CARLITO FRANCIS DENAYA AND MA. VENISA M. DENAYA extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over 2 parcels of land described as; **1)** A parcel of land designated as Lot 17 of the consolidation-subdivision plan (LRC) Psd 12660 being a portion of the consolidation of Lots 997, 1091 Tacloban Cadastre & 3-K (LRC) Psd 92060 LRC Cad Record No. 1060 situated at Barrio Marasbaras, Tacloban City, Leyte containing an area of 271sq.m., more or less covered by TCT No. T-53527; **2)** A parcel of land designated as Lot 934, Case 11, Cad 821-D situated at Brgy. Lanauan, Pastrana, Leyte containing an area of 21,054sq.m., covered by OCT No. P-49202. Per Doc No. 347, Page No. 71, Book No. I, Series of 2021. Notary Public Crispin Simoun P. Cercado. *LSDE: April 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

AFFIDAVIT OF RELEASE AND QUITCLAIM WITH INDEMNITY UNDERTAKING

NOTICE is hereby given that SHIELA LOMO NIVERA, heir of the late LISBON TAÑOLA NIVERA executed an Affidavit of Release and Quitclaim over Bank Deposits described as: BDO Unibank, Inc. Savemore, Tacloban City, under Savings account number 006050179106, and 006050132312 with a total of Php108,178.27; per Doc. No. 50, Page No. 11, Book No. 93, Series of 2021. of Notary Public Atty. Jaress Amores Neri. *LSDE: April 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

AFFIDAVIT OF SELF-ADJUDICATION OF THE ESTATE OF DECEASED PERSON

NOTICE is hereby given that GRETA DALMACEDA ESCALA heir of the late AU-REA B. ESCALA executed an Affidavit of Self-Adjudication over a parcel of land situated at Barrio Caibaan, Tacloban City, Leyte containing an area of 240sq.m., Per Doc No. 370, Page No. 73, Book No. XXX, Series of 2021. Notary Public Antonio C. Salinas. *LSDE: April 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH ABSOLUTE SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late TEODORO H. VELASCO extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land located at Geragaan, Calbayog District, Calbayog City labeled as Lot No. 10085, with an area of 8,550sq.m., more or less covered by TD No. 99-010478-0037. A Deed of Absolute Sale was executed in favor of PACIFICO G. MAGHACOT, JR. MARRIED TO CATHERINE S. MAGHACOT. Per Doc No. 3910, Page No. 82, Book No. 379, Series of 2021. Notary Public Ma. Rowena L. Urot. *LSDE: April 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

AFFIDAVIT OF SELF-ADJUDICATION OF THE ESTATE OF A DECEASED PERSON

NOTICE is hereby given that LUZ BALITBIT VDA. DE DESALES, widow of the late SOCRATES G. DESALES, the only surviving daughter of FORTUNATA DULAY BALITBIT who died intestate in Brgy. Baybay, Laoang, N. Samar, executed an Affidavit of Self-Adjudication over 6 parcels of land particularly described as; **1)** An agricultural land (coconut land) situated at Brgy. Aroganga, Laoang, N. Samar known as Lot No. 6593 containing an area of 9-50-36 hectares under TD No. 00114, assessed at Php31,870.00; **2)** An agricultural land (coconut land) situated at Brgy. Aroganga, Laoang, N. Samar known as Lot No. 6592 containing an area of 6-90-75 hectares under TD No. 00119 covered by OCT No. T-3150, assessed at Php20,070.00; **3)** Residential land situated at Brgy. San Miguel Heights (SMH), Laoang, N. Samar known as Lot No. 8303 containing an area of 177sq.m., under TD No. 00780, assessed at Php3,540.00 together with house thereon TD No. 41503; **4)** Residential land situated at Brgy. San Miguel Heights (SMH), Laoang, N. Samar known as Lot No. 8305 containing an area of 263sq.m., under TD No. 00717, assessed at Php3,540.00 together.; **5)** An agricultural land (rice land) situated at Brgy. Oleras, Laoang, N. Samar known as Lot No. 37 containing an area of 1-38-00 hectares under TD No. 05-00147 covered by OCT No. T-(6745) 5082, assessed at Php3,860.00; **6)** An agricultural land (rice land) situated at Brgy. Oleras, Laoang, N. Samar known as Lot No. 14, Pls 481 containing an area of 1-53-88 hectares under TD No. 0500162 covered by OCT No. T-9546, assessed at Php4,310.00; Per Doc No. 116, Page No. 025, Book No. 01, Series of 2008. Notary Public Felipe R. Espiña. *LSDE: April 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

DEED OF ABSOLUTE SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that Hermogenes B. Dasulvo, 80 years old, Filipino, widower and a resident of Brgy. Tingib, Basey, Samar, hereinafter referred to as the VENDOR and BYREN C. ALA, of legal age, Filipino, single and resident of Brgy. 92 Apitong, Tacloban City, Leyte, hereinafter referred to as the VENDEE. That the vendor is the absolute and registered owner with Katibayan Ng Original Na Titulo Blg. 23072, which parcel of land is particularly described as follows: Katibayan ng Original na Titulo Blg. 23072, Lot No. 334, Cad 973-D (Module 1) with an area of Ten Thousand Four Hundred Seventy One (10,471) sq.m. Whereas, Vendor desire to sell and the vendee agrees to buy the aforementioned parcel of land Lot No. 334, Cad 973-D (Module 1) with Katibayan ng Orihinal na Titulo Blg. 23072 with an area of Ten Thousand Four Hundred Seventy One (10,471) square meters; per Doc. No. 458, Page No. 93, Book No. 25, Series of 2018 of Notary Public Atty. Joseph N. Escalona. *LSDE: April 6, 13 & 20, 2021*

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE

NOTICE is hereby given that ALFONSO SENO ANTIVO SR. died in Tacloban City on August 15, 2011 extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over the following properties more particularly described as follows: **1)** Lot No. 4004-TCT No. T-0059, DAR CLOA No. 00279705, One-half (1/2) share, pro-indiviso of a parcel of agricultural land (Lot No. 4004 of the Cadastral Survey of Tacloban) with the improvements thereon situated in Brgy. Salvacion (formerly Tigbao) Municipality of Tacloban, containing an area of 16,885 square meters, more or less; **2)** Lot No. 2-D TCT No. T-19152 one-half (1/2) share, pro-indiviso of a parcel of land (Lot No. 2-D of the subdivision Plan Psd-08-00123342202, being a portion of Lot 2, LRC PC-9229, LRC Cad Record No. 1060) situated in Barangay Caibaan, City of Tacloban, containing an area of 492 square meters, more or less; per Doc. No. 85, Page No. 18, Book No. V, Series of 2021 of Notary Public Atty. Earl Caesar Rosario. *LSDE: April 6, 13 & 20, 2021*

DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the deceased OSCAR P. FLORES who died intestate on April 26, 2014 in Tacloban City, Philippines, extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land situated at Barangay Pagsulhugon, Babatngon, Leyte covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-6096, which was thereafter covered by the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) of the government. That by reason of the said CARP coverage, the said parcel of land was acquired by the government through the Land Bank of the Philippines and deceased left an amount of Six Hundred Fifty-Four Thousand, Five Hundred Seventeen Pesos and Eighty-Six Centavos (Php 654,517.86) representing as just compensation of the above-mentioned parcel of land under claim number VIII-VO-91-364; per Doc. No. 17, Page No. 5, Book No. LVIII, Series of 2020 of Notary Public Atty. Mark Gil M. Tadena. *LSDE: April 6, 13 & 20, 2021*

DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH SALE AND WAIVER

NOTICE is hereby given that Heirs of Jovena C. Verona extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a certain parcel of land located at Brgy. Atipolo, Tanauan, Leyte which is more particularly described as follows: A parcel of land designated as Lot 4349, located at Brgy. Atipolo, Tanauan, Leyte, covered by Original Certificate of Title No. P-59147, containing an area of Sixteen Thousand Four Hundred and Eight (16,408) square meters. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of Spouses John Ryan Pirache and Melissa Guatno, both of legal age, Filipinos, married and residents of Punta, Sta. Ana, Manila and hereinafter called the VENDEES do hereby SELL, TRANSFER and CONVEY absolutely and unconditionally unto the said vendees equivalent to 1/4 portion of Lot 4349 containing an area of 4,102 square meters; per Doc. No. 112, Page No. 24, Book No. IV, Series of 2020 of Notary Public Atty. Granny R. Varona. *LSDE: April 6, 13 & 20, 2021*

Bising...

...from Page 1

Echano said that they have not monitored any person hurt or killed due to the typhoon.

He also said that about 941 passengers from the ports of Dapdap, Santa Clara, and Balwharteco, all in Allen town, were stranded.

In Eastern Samar, 774 families comprising of 2,701 individuals also

fled their homes due to the rise of water levels spawned by Bising.

Among the most affected was the town of Jipapad, a low-lying area, where 68 families or 248 individuals were evacuated to safer grounds.

Power supply were restored since Monday in several parts of the province though there are still areas in the province where electricity has yet to be restored.

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT AND PARTITION OF THE ESTATE

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late TEODORA ASOMBRADO extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land designated as Lot No. 914 located at Sitio Tab-ang, Brgy. Dist. III, Babatngon, Leyte per subdivision plan of land fro Lot 914 covered by Katibayan ng Orihinal na Titulo Blg. P-82781 with an area of 18,930sq.m., more or less. Per Doc No. 247, Page No. 51, Book No. 12, Series of 2021. Notary Public Vicente B. Cañas. *LSDE: April 20, 27 & May 4, 2021*

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH WAIVER

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late PABLO M. MABINI extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over 3 parcels of land described as; **1)** A parcel of residential land located at Poblacion, Borongan City, Eastern Samar covered by TCT No. T-516 designated as Lot No. 399-C, Case 1, Cad 434-D containing an area of 586sq.m.; **2)** A parcel of residential land located at Poblacion, Borongan City, Eastern Samar covered by OCT No. RP-1007(9060) designated as Lot No. 326, Case 1, Cad 434-D containing an area of 180sq.m.; **3)** A parcel of residential land located at Poblacion, Borongan City, Eastern Samar covered by OCT No. RT-206(T-1289) designated as Lot No. 325, Case 1, Cad 434-D containing an area of 214sq.m.; and heir, BERNARDITA B. MABINI hereby WAIVED her rights, interest and participation of the above parcels of real properties in favor of JOHN GLENN B. MABINI, MYLA M. BONDOD, MYRA M. BONDOD, AIMEE M. BULA AND KATRINA M. CAPITO.; AND JOHN GLENN B. MABINI do hereby WAIVED his rights, interest and participation of PARCELS NO. 2 AND 3 in favor of AIMEE M. BULA AND KATRINA M. CAPITO. Per Doc No. 173, Page No. 36, Book No. IV, Series of 2018. Notary Public Charles B. Culo, CPA. *LSDE: April 20, 27 & May 4, 2021*

DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF THE ESTATE of HERMILO A. CALBITAZA

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late HERMILO A. CALBITAZA extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land with Katibayan ng Orihinal na Titulo Blg. P-80463, Patent Blg. 083741-26238, Lot No. 3124, Case 23, Cad 821-D situated at Brgy. Bahay, Pastrana, Leyte with an area of 25,923sq.m., Per Doc No. 117, Page No. 25, Book No. VI, Series of 2021. Notary Public Kerby A. Enabore. *LSDE: April 20, 27 & May 4, 2021*

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT AMONG HEIRS OF TERESITA BASACA WITH ABSOLUTE SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the Late TERESITA BASACA, who died intestate, extrajudicially settled partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land more particularly described and bounded to wit: An Agricultural Land situated at Brgy. Ponong, Bato, Leyte under TD No. 08-06002600398 with Cad. Lot. No. 2345 containing an area of .189107 has. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of DIOSCORA NOTARTE, of legal age, Filipino, Single and resident of Brgy. Ponong, Bato, Leyte. Per Doc. No. 27, Page No. 6, Book No. 65, Series of 2021 of Notary Public Atty. Rico E. Aureo *LSDE: April 6, 13 & 20, 2021*

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH SIMULTANEOUS SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late Gil Llamas, the sole heirs of Fabiana Llamas who died intestate extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a certain parcel of land located at Brgy. Abango, Barugo, Leyte and described as follows: A parcel of Coconut Land situated at Brgy. Abango, Barugo, Leyte designated as Cad Lot No. 9076, Survey No. PLS 1061-D with Tax Dec. No. 08-05-0006-00192 with a whole area of 2,968 sq.m. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of ROWENA P. GOZON of legal age, Filipino, single, and a resident of Brgy. Guindapunan West, Carigara, Leyte we hereby SELL, CEDE, TRANSFER and CONVEY by way of Absolute Sale for a portion of 2,000 sq.m. of the above-described property; per Doc. No. 163, Page No. 32, Book No. 29, Series of 2021 of Notary Public Atty. Edgar J. Tonolete. *LSDE: April 6, 13 & 20, 2021*

DEED OF SELF-ADJUDICATION OF ESTATE WITH DEED OF SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that JENELYN L. BOROL, sole heir of the late MARCELO BOROL executed a Deed of Self-Adjudication over an agricultural land designated as Lot No. 1535, Case 8, Cad 880-D/Assessor Lot No. 58 situated at Brgy. Virginia, Culaba, Biliran under OCT No. P. P-33447 containing an area of 2,600sq.m., under TD No. 0010. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of DAVIN U. CONDE as vendee of the above-described property free from liens and encumbrances. Per Doc No. 122, Page No. 56, Book I, Series of 2020. Notary Public Robie Charles D. Pascual. *LSDE: April 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

DEED OF SELF-ADJUDICATION WITH ABSOLUTE SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that ALICIA C. YABAO, heir of the late BERNARDINO YABAO AND BEATRIZ C. YABAO executed a Deed of Self-Adjudication over an agricultural land designated as Lot No. 693 situated at Brgy. Cabicahan, Oquendo District, Calbayog City covered by TD No. 99-02024-00177 containing an area of 6,450.00sq.m., with assessed value of Php5,090.00. A Deed of Absolute Sale was executed in favor of RACQUEL YABAO GARCIA as vendee of the above-described property. Per Doc No. 7272, Page No. 1455, Book No. XV, Series of 2020. Notary Public Hernando M. Hernandez, Jr. *LSDE: April 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT AMONG HEIRS OF ROBERTO INOCENTE WITH ABSOLUTE SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late Roberto Inocente, who died intestate extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land more particularly described as follows to wit: An Agricultural Land situated at Brgy. Linao, Inopacan, Leyte under TD No. 08-16013-00165 declared in the name of Roberto Inocente with Cad. Lot No. 2133 containing an area of 1.6720 has. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of Sps. Sanders and Lorelie Lumarda, both of legal age, Filipinos, and residents of Inopacan, Leyte for a portion of 1,131 sq.m. located on the western part of the entire land designated as Lot 2133-D-3, per Doc. No. 63, Page No. 13, Book No. 63, Series of 2021 of Notary Public Atty. Rico E. Aureo. *LSDE: April 6, 13 & 20, 2021*

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH WAIVER

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late SALVADOR T. CULAS extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a motor vehicle including franchise described as; MAKE: HONDA; PLATE NO: HX1384; ENGINE NO. KRZ00036-00390E; CHASSIS NO: KRZ00-036-003390; MV FILE NO: 0808-12470; POLICE NO: MCH2020-1939; FRANCHISE CASE NO: MCH2006-9-773 and heir, VIRGILIA O. CULAS hereby WAIVED all rights and ownership unto VANESSA O. CULAS over the above-described property. Per Doc No. 86, Page No. 19, Book No. VIII, Series of 2021. Notary Public Jerome Cordero Avila. *LSDE: April 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

In Samar province, 272 families involving 1,045 individuals were also affected by the typhoon.

In Catbalogan City, a vessel was beached at the city’s seawall though no one was hurt but its disaster risk reduction management personnel are monitoring the situation.

In Leyte, 101 families involving 276 individuals from the six towns of Leyte were also evacuated.

In Tacloban, 45 families involving 274 persons were also taken into evacuation centers by the

city government. Several local government units also suspended their work and classes due to Bising.

The suspension took effect in the entire province of Eastern Samar, most parts of Northern Samar, and some parts in Biliran and Leyte, to include Tacloban City.

Meantime, crew and equipment from the Department of Public Works and Highways were also deployed to conduct clearing operations in major highways and roads which were littered with fallen trees and other debris.

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH DEED OF ABSOLUTE SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late MANUEL B. CABAUG extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over 2 parcels of land covered by OCT 238 described as; **1)** A parcel of land designated as Lot 1304, Pls-54 situated at Brgy. Jubasan, Allen, Northern Samar containing an area of 5,485sq.m.; **2)** A parcel of land designated as Lot 1308, Pls 54 situated at Brgy. Jubasan, Allen, Northern Samar containing an area of 3,499sq.m., A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of LIEZEL R. SIM as vendee of the above-described properties free from liens and encumbrances. Per Doc No. 191, Page No. 70, Book No. 26, Series of 2021. Notary Public Ranulfo R. Lafuente. *LSDE: April 20, 27 & May 4, 2021*

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH ABSOLUTE SALE OF A PORTION OF REAL PROPERTY

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late CESARIA SABATE CAPITO AND MODESTO SABATE extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land situated at Brgy. Locso-on, Borongan City, Eastern Samar covered by OCT No. 17441 containing an area of 16,230sq.m., more or less designated as Cad Lot No. 7936, Case 8, Cad 434-D. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of ENGR. JAIME J. VOCES married to MA. LUISA A. VOCES as vendees of a portion of the above-described land including the improvements thereon consisting of 2,350sq.m., designated as Lot 7936-A. Per Doc No. 44, Page No. 10, Book No. XXXVI, Series of 2021. Notary Public Charles B. Culo, CPA. *LSDE: April 20, 27 & May 4, 2021*

Republic of the Philippines Department of Transportation and Communication LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING AND REGULATORY BOARD Regional Office No. VIII Palo, Leyte	Case No. VIII-2020-0026-A
Application for Consolidation with Extension of Validity of Cases of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a UV EXPRESS Service with the Issuance of Provisional Authority	
LEYTE TRANSPORT COOPERATIVE (LETRANSCO), Applicant/s x-----x	
NOTICE OF HEARING Applicant request authority for the Consolidation of a Certificate of Public Convenience operate a UV EXPRESS service for the transportation of passengers and freights along the line: ORMOC CITY-TACLOBAN CITY & VICE	

VERSA.
In the present application, applicant request authority for the Extension of Validity of the CPC under **Case No. 2014-3582** in the petition previously filed. Re: *Application for the Consolidation with Extension of Validity Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a UV EXPRESS Service.*
NOTICE is hereby given that this application will be heard by this Board on **MAY 4, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.** at its office of the above address.
At least **TEN (10)** days prior to the above date, applicant/s shall cause the publication of this Notice of Hearing once in a newspaper of local circulation.
This application will be acted upon by this Board on the basis of its records and documentary evidence submitted by the parties, unless the Board deems it necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.
WITNESS the Honorable **GUALBERTO N. GUALBERTO**, Regional Director, this **16th day of APRIL, 2021.**

(Sgd.) **ATTY. GIL D. MENGULLO**
Attorney IV

AFFIDAVIT OF SELF-ADJUDICATION OF THE ESTATE OF DAVID A. GENOTIVA

NOTICE is hereby given that Dinah Genotiva Fijji of legal age, the only surviving and sole heir of DAVID A. GENOTIVA who died intestate on March 11, 2021 at Tacloban City executed an affidavit of Self-Adjudication over a certain parcels of land with improvements thereon and more particularly described as follows: **Parcel 1**, A registered parcel of land with improvements thereon designated as Lot 32, Block 19, of the consolidation subdivision plan, (LRC) Pcs-13819, being a portion of the consolidation of Lots 2870, 2871, 2872, 2873, 2874, 2884, 2886, 2887, 2903, 2904, 2905, 2920, 2921, 2922, 2923, 2924, 2925, 2927, and 3381, Tacloban Cadastre, LRC (GLRO) Record No. 1040) covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-38302; **Parcel 2**, A registered parcel of land with improvements thereon designated as Lot 34, Block 19, of the consolidation subdivision plan, (LRC) Pcs-13819, being a portion of the consolidation of Lots 2870, 2871, 2872, 2873, 2874, 2884, 2886, 2887, 2903, 2904, 2908, 2920, 2921, 2922, 2923, 2924, 2925, 2927, and 3381, Tacloban Cadastre, LRC (GLRO) Record No. 1040), covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-38201, containing an area of ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY (180) SQUARE METERS, more or less, and located at Barangay Caibaan, Tacloban City; per Doc. No. 461, Page No. 94, Book No. IV, Series of 2021 of Notary Public Atty. Amabelle J. Salino-Darantinao, R.N. *LSDE: April 6, 13 & 20, 2021*

SELF ADJUDICATION WITH ABSOLUTE SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that heir of the late LEONCIO SALABAO, who died intestate executed an Affidavit of Self Adjudication with Absolute Sale over a parcel of land more particularly described as follow to wit: a residential Land situated in Brgy. Daanlung-sod, Bato, Leyte under TD No.08-06-0013-00302 declared in the name of Leoncio Salabao with Cad Lot No. 1736 containing an area of 1,011 sq. m. covered by Original Certificate of Title No. P-26751. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of SPS. LEONCIO AND HERMINIGILDA LUDEVISE both of legal age, Filipinos, resident of Brgy. Daanlungsood, Bato, Leyte. Per Doc. No. 17, Page No. 17, Book No. 63, Series of 2021 of Notary Public Atty. Rico E. Aureo. *LSDE: April 6, 13 & 20, 2021*

DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT AMONG HEIRS OF GASPAR AGUILAR WITH ABSOLUTE SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that heir of the late Gaspar Aguilar, who died without executing a will, extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land more particularly described as follows to wit: An Agricultural Land situated at Brgy. Ponong, Matalom, Leyte under TD No. 08-27020-00233, Cad Lot No. 2749 containing an area of .1824.32. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of Sps. Dionesimo and Junadette Jasmin, both of legal ages, Filipinos, and residents of Poblacion Bato, Leyte, containing an area of 100 sq.m. and 275 sq. m. or a total portion of 375 sq.m., per Doc. No. 521, Page No. 5, Book No. 30, Series of 2015 of Notary Public Atty. Rico E. Aureo. *LSDE: April 6, 13 & 20, 2021*

Fire...

...from Page 3

In order to prevent and reduce peat fires, it is recommended to follow the concept of rewetting through canal blocking or drainage blocking," he said in a phone interview.

When peatlands are drained, they become highly vulnerable to a peat fire.

A simply discarded cigarette butt or a match can cause huge devastation, degradation of the resource base, accelerated carbon emission, and a host of health issues for local communities, according to a briefer posted online by the University of Leicester in England.

The Leyte Sab-a peatland forest in the towns of Alangalang, Sta. Fe, and San Miguel in central Leyte is one of two major peatlands in the Philippines that play an important role in long-term climate change mitigation,

given their role in moderating atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations.

"The forest has carbon storage. It plays an important role to counter global warming and climate change, promote diverse vegetation, and ensure a stable water supply," Salazar said.

About 1,160 hectares of the peatland have been categorized as alienable and disposable land, with 660 hectares distributed to farmers under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program.

Some 15 percent of the area has been cultivated, he added.

The IIRR and Forest Foundation have been implementing the four-year Leyte Sab-a Peatland Forest Restoration Initiative since January 2018.

The P20 million project aims to produce legal and scientific studies, come up with a comprehensive map of the forest, and raise community and

local leaders' awareness of the importance of peatland forest.

Leyte's Sab-a Basin exhibits diverse vegetation characterized by the presence of wetland forest, boggy areas, sedge and grasslands, and diversity of endemic flora and fauna, with the presence of threatened animals and freshwater fish species, which are found mostly in the wetland forest ecotype.

The basin absorbs and holds water during the rainy season and releases it slowly to maintain base flows in the outflow rivers, according to Forest Foundation.

The Leyte Sab-a Basin peatland is a large catchment basin measuring 3,088 hectares, more than half of which has been reclaimed for agriculture.

The remaining 1,740 hectares in the eastern half of the basin consist of small remnant areas of swamp forest and grass peat swamp. (PNA)



Leyte Governor Leopoldo Dominico 'Mic' L. Petilla received plaque of recognition during his visit to the 802nd Infantry Brigade in Ormoc City where he acted as guest honor and speaker during its 33rd founding anniversary last April 16. The 802nd IB, which is under the command of B/Gen. Zosimo Oliveros, commended the governor for his support on the various campaign of the Philippine Army like the implementation of the E-CLIP and in ensuring peace and development across Leyte province. (GINA P. GERES)

Towns...

...from Page 1

friends to buy the food items consisting of rice, canned goods, noodles, eggs, vegetables, sachet of coffee, and even bar and laundry soaps and shampoos.

They opened their community pantry last April 18 and put them on display in Barangay poblacion which is located just in front of the town auditorium.

And as expected, people made a line to take the items on display.

"But we asked them to take three to four items which they think they need most for that day. This way, more people can avail from our own community pantry. That we can be able to help one person or his family to have a meal even only for a day," Vanderis, 42, said.

Sabangan, 33, said that they were 'overwhelmed' with the response that they received from the people who mostly were poor that they could barely afford to buy their foods for the day.

"We never thought that we could help our people who are in need during this time (of pandemic) and at the same time, received donations from other people," she said.

Among those who helped them is Sabangan's friend, Jovi Domingo, 42

and also a school teacher assigned at the Biri National High School.

"This is an endeavor worth helping. And I am willing to help and share whatever I have as I know this will help our people who are now affected by the pandemic," Domingo said.

Their community pantry is opened starting at 1 pm until 5 pm daily.

In Oras, their version of community pantry was initiated by Franklin Robedizo and his brother-in-law, Jessiejun Columbres, which opened just this Tuesday (April 20) using their own money of P7,000.

According to Robedizo, who works as the secretary of the provincial board based in Borongan City, they put their items just outside of his bakeshop located in Barangay San Eduardo, about three kms away from the town proper.

Robedizo said that they have packed the items into a kilo of rice, two noodles and one sardine to ensure that any 'get-all-you-want' attitude could be avoided.

He said that when they opened their community pantry at around 5:30 am, the items that they put into display were gone in less than two hours.

Brgy. San Eduardo is said to be the biggest village in Oras with more than 4,000 people.

Both organizers of these

two community pantries admitted that they decided to come up with their own versions after they were inspired by the Maginhawa community pantry in Quezon City.

And the organizers have made it known that they just want to help their communities during this time of pandemic caused by coronavirus disease and not to make them 'dependent' on this kind of set-up.

"We try to inform them that this community pantry is like a bayanihan kind of thing. We want to help those who are in need (during this time). This is our way of saying that we should not depend on our government all the time," Robedizo said.

The organizers admitted that due to their lack of own resources, they hope that those who could afford would help them for them to sustain their own community pantries.

"Giving is caring," says Vandervis.

The towns of Biri and Oras are among the poorest areas in Eastern Visayas.

Based on the 2015 poverty incidence data of the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), Oras, which has a population of 36,540, has a poverty incidence of 45.6 percent while Biri (population: 11,767) has a poverty incidence of 49 percent. (JOEY A. GABIETA/ROEL T. AMAZONA)

Lake Danao now open to visitors

A year after it was closed due to COVID-19, the Lake Danao Natural Park (LDNP) in Ormoc City reopens to tourists and visitors.

Protected Area Superintendent (PASu) Merlyn Barte said starting March 31, 2021 the LDNP will accept up to 75 visitors a day, or 50% of the protected area's carrying capacity of 150 visitors daily.

The LDNP is offering amenities for overnight stay, small meetings and functions, photo shoots, nature appreciation, and activities such as kayaking and boating. A floating cottage which can accommodate up to 40 persons is also available to visitors.

The LDNP collects P50 as entrance fee. PASu Barte said visitors coming in to the park are required to present their Ormoc City QR codes and follow minimum health protocols.

The community and the people's organizations within the PA celebrated the reopening of the ecotourism site hoping that they will be able to re-

vive the livelihood activities they once depended upon to support their daily needs.

"Many have lost their source of income when LDNP was closed due to COVID-19. We are very happy that we will be able to earn income and restart our livelihood, even partially and under strict health protocols," Barangay Danao Chairman Richard Impas says.

Reynaldo Franco, chairman of LDNP Protected Area Management Board Technical Working Group (PAMB-TWG), said after months of restrictions amid the pandemic, the LDNP reopens with new developments. More plans,

programs, and projects are to be implemented in partnership with the community and the local government unit before it fully reopens.

Meanwhile, the Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer (CENRO) of Ormoc Alejandro Bautista invites tourists to visit the LDNP, known for its 148 hectares guitar-shaped lake, cool atmosphere, rich wildlife, and lush mountain ranges.

The LDNP is one of Eastern Visayas' seven protected areas legislated under the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (ENIPAS) Act of 2018. (PR)

713 beneficiaries... from Page 2

For Eastern Samar, there are 2,319 housing units that were already turned-over. In Guiuan – 610, Mercedes – 139, General Mac-Arthur – 234, Quinapondan – 623 and Hernani – 713.

The turn-over was the 29th virtual turn-over under the Yolanda Permanent Housing Projects.

Hernani, a coastal town of Eastern Samar facing the Pacific Ocean, heavily suffered the brunt of "Super Typhoon Yolanda" on November 8, 2013.

(nbq/SDC/PIA-E. Samar)

LGU Maasin City earmarks P8.5-M for massive abaca rehab program

MAASIN CITY-The city government here has set aside the amount of P8.5 million from its own coffers to jumpstart the revival of the once thriving abaca, an industry that dominated the grassroots economy here more than two decades ago before being crippled by disease.

For the year 2020, P6 million was set aside for the purpose and another P2.5 million was allotted for this year, Virgilia Barrientos, OIC city agriculturist, reported.

Since 2004, bunchy top, a disease affecting abaca plants, ravaged almost all of the areas planted to this kind of fiber in upland barangays of the city.

But over the years some patches have survived, in which the surviving growth will now be replanted and cared under the comprehensive abaca rehabilitation program, a pet project of City Mayor Nacional Mercado, Barrientos said at the Kapihan sa PIA Wednesday.

Farmers in 20 out of 34 abaca-producing barangays, at 17 farmers per

barangay, already received the cash assistance under the 2020 budget of P6 million, where every farmer planted 100 healthy suckers coming from his own stock.

After having been checked the individual output for 20 days, the abaca farmer was paid P300 for his daily labor for a total of P6,000 per farmer, and Mayor Mercado was personally present during days when payment was done in all the barangays, further boosting the morale of the farmers, Barrientos shared.

That was Phase 1, and Phase 2 is for this year, for the abaca farmers in the remaining 14 barangays, she added.

Maasin city boosts as having the best kind of abaca fibers most traders liked, such as the inosa, laylay, and putian varieties, and right now the current market price ranged P80 per kilo and above.

In two to three years' time it is estimated that the newly planted generation of abaca plants will be due for harvesting, Barrientos further said.

(Idl/mmp/PIA8-Southern Leyte)

Hanging bridge improves access to E. Samar town

TACLOBAN CITY – Reaching the town center of Jipapad, Eastern Samar from the main highway is now more convenient following the completion of a hanging bridge crossing the town's major river earlier this April.

The P18.6-million, 80-meter hanging bridge with a mix of concrete and steel structure connects the town center to the other side of the town leading to the national road.

Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Eastern Samar district engineering office chief Ma. Margarita Junia said in a phone interview on Friday the hanging bridge is also designed for the passage of motorcycles bringing farm products to the town's commercial area.

The hanging bridge was built to withstand and be serviceable to the public anytime especially during emergencies, according to Junia.

The construction started in mid-2020.

The bridge is already being used though there is still no formal turn-over from the DPWH to the local government.

"Jipapad is known as a flood-prone area because of its topographical location, the maximum flood level was considered in the design of the hanging bridge so that this will be accessible even during the occurrence of floods, during rainy seasons, and calamities," Junia added.

In the past, residents used temporary wooden bridges easily washed away



HANGING BRIDGE. The newly-completed hanging bridge in Jipapad, Eastern Samar in this undated photo. Reaching the town center of Jipapad from the main highway is now very convenient following the completion of the bridge crossing the town's major river. (Photo courtesy of Department of Public Works and Highways)

by strong water current during rainy days.

Residents also ride small boats to cross the Jipapad river, adding inconvenience and transport costs.

Jipapad, a 5th class town in Eastern Samar and home to 7,885 people, is located 117 kilometers north of Tacloban City, the regional capital. (PNA)

4th quarter... ...from Page 2

in the 4th quarter of 2020 from P 183.6 million in the same period of 2019. Total value of residential buildings, on the other hand, went down by 6.0 percent, from P779.9 million in the 4th quarter of 2019 to P 733.1 million in the 4th quarter of 2020.

Non-residential buildings' value of construction comprised almost two-thirds or 67.8 percent of the total value of constructions

in the region. The value of construction of residential buildings contributed 23.3 percent. Meanwhile, additions/ alterations and repairs accounted for only 8.9 percent of the region's total value of constructions during the 4th quarter of 2020.

Average cost per square meter was estimated at P9,449 for residential buildings and P8,650 for non – residential buildings.

Data were based on the preliminary results of construction statistics from

approved building permits.

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