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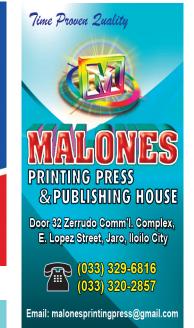


**News Express Iloilo, Philippines** 



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**DECEMBER 11 - 17, 2023** P10.00



TRAGIU Ceres bus tragedy in Hamtic, Antique claims 17 lives, injures 11

By Vincent P. Grecia

**NOT** only a tragic accident but a tragic disaster. This was how Antique Governor RhodoraCadiao described the dreadful vehicular accident at Brgy. Igbucagay, Hamtic, Antique last December 5, 2023 which killed 17 individuals and injured 11 others.

The incident involved a Ceres bus owned by Vallacar Transit Inc. (VTI) with body number 6289.

Antique Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (PDRRMO) head Broderick Train said the accident happened around 4:30 p.m. while the Ceres bus was on its way to Culasi, Antique from Iloilo City.

The bus went out of control while traversing the curving and downhill road thus overshooting the concrete road barrier and fell off a steep ravine about 70 to 80 feet high.

Cadiao said the tragic disaster is very untimely because the holiday season is coming and the Province of Antique

TRAGIC / page 2



RESCUE OPERATION. Rescuers from Antique and Iloilo City rush to the site where Ceres bus with body number 6289 fell to rescue survivors and retrieve the bodies of the casualties. The rescue and retrieval operations lasted until the wee hours in the morning of December 6, 2023. (ICDRRMO/USAR photo)

### Passi City launches 18th National Scout Jamboree official portal



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THE Boys Scout of the Philippines now has a digital approach to address questions about its biggest event as City Mayor and 18th National Scout Jamboree Camp Chief Atty. Stephen A. Palmares formally unveiled the official Jamboree Portal.

The Jamboree Portal is an allin-one application, supported by the Department of Information and Communication Technology (DICT) Committee.

The newly launched app can be accessed three ways:t through a QR Code, its website (http://dhwy.ph/ jamboree), or with the application that can be downloaded from the website.

It contains the basic answers to the needs of the participants and guests for the December 11–17, 2023 event.

From the routes to the City of Passi, to the Access to Travel, Passi and DigiHwy, through the initiative City LGU Emergency Hotlines, or on of the 18th NSJ Information Center the 18th NSJ Program Outlines and

PASSI CITY/ page 2

SAD DAY. Antique Governor Rhodora Cadiao stayed at the Angel Salazar Memorial General Hospital for hours on the night of December 5 to console the families of fatalities and assure help to the survivors who need medical attention. Cadiao was saddened by the Ceres bus accident considering that the holiday season is coming and

#### MORE Power's underground cabling on JM Basa Street nears completion

In a groundbreaking achievement for urban infrastructure development, MORE Power's Underground Distribution Services (UDS) project along JM Basa Street is advancing rapidly, with an anticipated completion date set for June 2024.

The civil works, constituting 35% of the project and encompassing dredging and drilling activities, are well underway. Engr. ArmilLogarta, Head of Project Development and Management at MORE Power, affirms that the project, launched on October 10, 2023, is progressing seamlessly according to schedule, with no reported delays to date.

Projected for completion in June 2024, with an additional 2 months allocated for the removal of existing facilities, the UDS initiative spans from the corner of Arroyo St., Aldeguer St., Guanco St., Mapa

St., Ortiz St., until Rizal/Zamora St. (Burgos St.) and Libertad Plaza.

This encompasses a onekilometer stretch of Iloilo City's historic business district, including the heritage zone known as Calle Real.

Engr. Logarta elaborated on the UDS project's three pivotal phases: Phase 1 involves intricate civil works, Phase 2 centers on electrical works, covering cable laying and termination, and Phase 3 culminates with the removal of existing overhead lines and structures, unlocking the full potential of the UDS project.

The phase 2 or the actual undergrounding of cables is expected to commence in January 2024 and run until June 2024. Utilizing Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD), a cutting-edge method for installing underground utilities and plumbing, the UDS project stands apart from

traditional methods by eliminating the need for open trenches.

the province is celebrating Binirayan

This approach ensures minimal disruptions to the downtown area, with construction activities strategically conducted from 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM, contributing to a smoother traffic flow during daytime.

During the May 30, 2023 groundbreaking ceremony, Engr. Bernard Bailey Del Castillo, Vice President for Network Operations, highlighted that the UDS project will eliminate the risks of geckos, birds, and rats approaching overhead lines, ensuring a safer and more reliable electrical infrastructure.

This includes resolving the menace of power outages caused by animal intrusion and addressing the annual concern of balloons slipping

MORE/ page 2

### **Bacolod City boosts** healthcare delivery through hospital partnerships

BACOLOD CITY -This city's flagship health program, the Bacolod City Comprehensive Health Program (BacCHP), boosts healthcare delivery for indigent residents through partnerships with major hospitals here.

As of Tuesday, more than 900 patients have already availed of free or subsidized admission since May 1.

Private hospital partners include the Bacolod Adventist Medical Center, South Bacolod General Hospital and Medical Center, Bacolod Queen of Mercy Hospital, and Dr. Pablo O. Torre Memorial Hospital (Riverside Medical Center Inc.).

The city government has enrolled in the program, of

a similar partnership with the Department of Healthretained Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Hospital.

BacCHP officer Mae Cuaycong, in an interview, said that two more private hospitals will be partnering with the city government

"Upon admission, the patient has to declare that he or she is a BacCHP patient so that the hospital will not ask for a downpayment anymore," she added.

Liaisons deployed by the city government man the help desks for indigent patients seeking hospital admissions under the BacCHP.

About 80,000 families

which 28,000 have already received their family health membership cards.

Under the BacCHP Ordinance, the city government guarantees the amount of PHP15,000 for each family health card holder and their dependents' hospital bills.

ВасСНР The implementation for 2023 has a budget share of PHP50 million.

Mayor Alfredo Abelardo Benitez said he would ask the City Council to amend the ordinance to allow "more flexibility" for the health program to address concerns related to hospital payments.

At present, the city government cannot assist beyond PHP15,000. (PNA)



**HEALTH CARD.** A resident of Barangay Bata, with village chief Remus Abaring (right), receives her Bacolod City Comprehensive Health Program family membership health card on Monday (Dec. 4, 2023). The city's flagship health program has enrolled about 80,000 families, of which 28,000 have already received their family health membership cards. (Photo courtesy BacCHP Facebook page)

### INTRAMUROS EVENINGS PRESENTS **CCP OUT-OF-THE-BOX SERIES: ANG KASAL NI FIGARO**

THE Tagalized production of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "The Marriage of Figaro," originally produced as part of the CCP Out-Of-The-Box Series, returns to the stage through Intramuros Evenings on December 9, 6pm, at the Baluarte de San Diego inside the Intramuros, Manila.

"After its successful comeback with Isang Gabi ng Sarsuwela, Intramuros Evenings continues to delight with another CCP production, 'Ang Kasal ni Figaro.' We are grateful for this partnership with CCP as we relaunched our program. You can look forward to good programming that showcases the best of the Philippine arts and culture while promoting historical landmarks inside the Walled City," said Intramuros Administration head Atty. Joan M. Padilla.

Intramuros Evenings, which was first held in 1996, used to feature performances from CCP resident companies such as the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra (PPO), Ballet Philippines, and Tanghalang Pilipino. Its recent revival paved the way for the CCP to once again feature the best of Philippine

artists and performing groups through their long standing partnership.

"Ang Kasal ni Figaro" follows the resourceful servant Figaro as he and his betrothed Suzanne prepare for their wedding. In a comedic journey to happyever-after, the couple faces several attempts of Count Almaviva to prevent the marriage. Amid various hurdles, suspicions, and intrigues, will the couple finally find their happy ending?

The libretto of "The Marriage of Figaro" was written by Lorenzo da Ponte, based on The Figaro Trilogy by French playwright Pierre Beaumarchais.

"Ang Kasal ni Figaro" features stellar performances by Bianca Camille Aguila, Roxy Aldiosa, Diego Aranda, Angeli Benipayo, Ruzzel Clemeno, Nerissa de Juan, Roby Malubay, Nomher Nival, Noel Rayos, Jonathan Tadioan, and Floyd Tena, with stage direction by Jaime del Mundo.

Farley Asuncion takes charge of the music direction, with Ohm David for set design, Raqs Regalado for costumes, Rards Corpus for sound, Rommel Serrano for hair

#### is celebrating the Binirayan

TRAGIC ... (from page 1)

Festival which officially opened on December 1, and Jessie Javellana.

"Many Antiqueños will come home to celebrate the Christmas season in their hometown and also many visitors and tourists are expected to visit our province to experience and enjoy our Binirayan Festival. This is very sad not only for all the families of those involved in the accident but also for all of us," Cadiao

The driver identified as Ricky Serios along with his bus conductor Wilmar Felipe Marcelino, and bus inspectors Jose Glenn Fandagani and JevyBurdago were among the fatalities in the accident.

who were killed on the Juan Miguel Tejares of spot due to severe injuries were: Tom Elizaga, Jomarie Alcala, Wilber Dellaba, Jim Andrei Secondes, Francis John Vuelga, Nelson Espina, Antique PDRRMO and Zairon Alcala (1-2 y.o.), Iloilo City DRRMO FritzieJavellana, Ramon Enrique Salvani V, Patrick

Federica Singh (Indian national), JevyBurdago,

Meanwhile, 11 other passengers miraculously survived the accident and currently being treated at hospitals in Antique and Iloilo. They were: Mica Marie Servano of Tobias Fornier, Antique, Mary Beth Santerva of Hamtic, Antique, Lorna Obeja of San Jose, Antique, Christopher Simolava of San Joaquin, Timothy Jones Quiatchon of Lauaan (transferred to Iloilo), Kirby Dominic Jucaban of Mandurriao, transferred to Iloilo, Nicolas Esisi (Kenyan national) transferred to Iloilo, Ismael Amparado – transferred to Iloilo, Arianne Mejia The 13 other passengers - transferred to Iloilo, San Joaquin, transferred to Iloilo and Kim Zyrin Ramos of Tobias Fornier, transferred to Iloilo.

Rescue groups from along with Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) rescue Mosoni, Jeanine Marquez, personnel and the local

residents joined forces in rescuing the survivors and retrieving the bodies of the fatalities.

Personnel from the Antique Police Provincial Office also provided security to the area and also provided assistance to the rescuers.

The rescue and retrieval operations lasted until around 2:00 a.m. the following day, December 6.

VTI is a statement expressed "most heartfelt apologies for those who were involved in the incident and expressed sincerest condolences to the bereaved families."

"VTI's Branch, Admin, and Maintenance Managers, Operations Personnel, Liaison Officers, and nurses from both the West and East branches were immediately dispatched to the location of the incident to assist the victims," it added.

VTI also vowed to cooperate with any investigations that the authorities will be conducting.

In addition, VTI decided to voluntarily suspend all operations of the 12 remaining units under the franchise involving Case No. 11-VI-021-AK pending investigation.

"VTI will be providing financial assistance to the passengers and their families, as well as shouldering the medical and burial expenses.

The management has assigned personnel to be on stand-by at the hospital for further updates and assistance.

Rest assured that we are doing everything that we can to make sure that this is being handled properly and carefully.

**INTRAMUROS/** page 3

guarantees the riding public VTI is given 72 hours to that we are taking all the appropriate steps to ensure that our buses are roadworthy and well-maintained," the VTI statement added.

Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) Region 6 issued a show-cause order to VTI relative to the tragic

accident on December 6.

LTFRB-6 legal counsel Atty. Jun Altura said under The management the said show-cause order, explain why they (VTI) will not be penalized in accordance with LTFRB regulations.

Aside from the show-In a related development, cause order, LTFRB 6 also ordered the preventive suspension for one month of the 12 units under the fleet, where the ill-fated Ceres bus belongs.

#### PASSI CITY ... (from page 1)

Schedules - the Jamboree Portal has it all.

Each tab has an attached image which is easy to click and expandable. And the best feature of the Jamboree Portal is that - it can be accessed offline.

"The basic purpose of the app is to provide convenience to its users who have no access to the internet in their area, or on travel, off-site activities, or within the vicinity of the

Pintados de Passi Camp," said one of its creators. "It also contains personalized schedules favorable to the members of each subcamp."

With the launching, the City of Passi has just created an alternative way to direct participants and guests to the roads leading to the home of the 18th National Scout Jamboree, and made it easier to monitor all its activities.

#### MORE ... (from page 1)

away during the Dinagyang festival. Additionally, this will also eradicate the need for periodic tree trimming, allowing the trees to grow unhindered.

MORE Power's President and CEO, Roel Castro, expressed that the UDS project reflects the company's steadfast commitment to supporting local government initiatives, particularly in preserving the cultural and heritage aspects of the community.

Castro remarked, "I believe there

are very few cities in the Philippines that can genuinely boast of having a rich heritage and culture, evident in the edifices and monuments scattered around the city. These structures serve as testaments to the city's exceptionally rich cultural and historical legacy."

Iloilo City Mayor Jerry Treñas emphasized that the removal of above-ground power lines will notably diminish the risk of accidents stemming from adverse weather conditions, fallen trees, and unforeseen circumstances. This initiative aims to provide uninterrupted power to residences, businesses, hospitals, and schools.

He expressed, "This enhanced reliability will stimulate economic growth, entice new investments, and cultivate a favorable environment for businesses to flourish." The Underground Distribution System (UDS) stands as one of the diverse investments that MORE Power has introduced to the City of Love since commencing its operations in 2020.

### Iloilo readies over 1K ASF-hit farmers for sentineling program



BIOSECURITY. Farmers affected by African swine fever attend a seminar on biosecurity measures that ended on Nov. 24, 2023. Provincial veterinarian Dr. Darel Tabuada, in an interview on Tuesday (Dec. 5), said those who joined the seminar will be prioritized once the Department of Agriculture starts implementing the sentineling program. (Photo from the FB page of the Iloilo Provincial Veterinarian's Office)

### **ILOILO PROVINCE EXTENDS P1M SUBSIDY** TO KASADYAHAN TRIBES

THE provincial government of Iloilo has allotted P9 million in financial assistance for the tribes that will participate in the Kasadyahan sa Kabanwahan Festival 2024.

Each tribe will receive P1 million which will be downloaded to the municipalities, according to Bombette Marin, chief of the Provincial Culture, Arts, History and Tourism Office.

"This financial assistance is from the province of Iloilo given by Gov. Arthur Defensor Jr. to our tribes," Marin said.

"The amount will be used for their full festival performance – from the meals, costumes and props to professional fees, among others," he added.

and Press Conference on December 13 at SM City Activity Center.

The Kasadyahan sa Kabanwahan Festival will be hosted for the first time by the provincial government on January 27, 2024 and will serve as a platform to celebrate and elevate Iloilo's distinct cultural identity.

Nine competing tribes representing festivals from various municipalities will showcase the cultural richness of Iloilo, with their performance reflecting the province's new tourism slogan, "Fun, Foodie, Friendly Iloilo."

These tribes are from Oton representing Katagman Festival, Leganes for Saad Festival, Zarraga for Pantat Festival, New Lucena for Marin said they target Cry of Jelicuon Festival, to distribute the assistance Leon for Kaing Festival,

during the Media Launch Maasin with Tultugan Festival, Calinog for Hirinugyaw-Suguidanonay Festival, Anilao for Banaag Festival, and Banate for Kasag Festival.

The Kasadyahan sa Kabanwahanan offers an inclusive and engaging performance that will focus on three fundamental pillars: Fun - joyous memories and new traditions for local and visiting families; Foodie -Iloilo's cuisine, local flavors and cooking traditions; and Friendly – Ilonggos renowned hospitality and warmth.

The festival also aligns with the "MoRProGRes Iloilo" development agenda of Governor Defensor which seeks to position Iloilo The Iloilo Provincial Veterinarian's Office will prioritize 1,350 backyard farmers in the sentineling program once it is made available by the Department of Agriculture to proceed

with the recovery and

repopulation measures

ILOILO CITY -

against African swine fever (ASF). The sentineling program will determine the readiness of an area

toward recovery.

"They are our prospects because number one, they are the previously affected farmers, and they are willing to engage again in hog raising. So they are the first priority," provincial veterinarian Dr. DarelTabuada said in an interview on Tuesday.

Tabuada said they have already completed the training on biosecurity guidelines and Tapak (Step), Hugas (Wash) kagMatinlongaPagpakaon (clean feeding), or TaHuM campaign against ASF for the farmers from 27 municipalities that have recorded cases of the hog disease.

"We selected 50 farmers willing to go into swine raising from each municipality," he said.

The participants came from Oton, San Miguel, Santa Barbara, Alimodian, Maasin, Leganes, Zarraga, Barotac Nuevo, Dumangas, Janiuay, Mina, Lambunao, Badiangan, San Enrique, Dueñas, Pototan, Dingle, Banate, Barotac Viejo, Estancia, Batad, Balasan, Carles, Concepcion, Ajuy, San Dionisio and New Lucena.

The topics discussed include ASF recovery updates, biosecurity guidelines, and the TaHuM campaign.

"These are minimum biosecurity measures that we teach our farmers once they resume their hog raising. We will change the practice of swine raising from conventional to integrating biosecurity component,' Tabuada added.

The biosecurity component includes the provision of a perimeter fence with one entry and one exit, a foot bath and washing area and disinfection procedures.

After the training, Tabuada said they would assess the farms to determine if they implemented biosecurity measures.

He said the Department of Agriculture is validating the list submitted by the province for possible inclusion in the sentineling program. (PNA)

as a robust, progressive, and globally competitive province.

Moreover, there will be a Grand Opening Salvo on January 5 which will feature a festive parade and short performances from participating tribes. (Capitol news)

### Negros Occidental records over 258% increase in flu-like illnesses

**BACOLOD CITY** – and body aches.

Cases of influenza-like illness in Negros Occidental increased by 258.93 percent from Jan. 1 to Dec. 2 this year compared to the same period in 2022, a surveillance report released by the Provincial Health Office (PHO) on Tuesday

Some 2,211 cases have been reported since the start of 2023, higher by 1,595 from the previous year's 616 cases in the province's 31 cities and municipalities. excluding this highly urbanized city.

Dr. Ma. Girlie Pinongan, provincial health officer, said changes in weather conditions usually cause influenza-like illness. characterized by fever, fatigue, cough, sore throat,

"With the increase in cases, we should be cautious, although there are no reports of severe condition or outbreak. Avoid close contact with those with symptoms, and wear a mask, especially in closed spaces," Pinonga told reporters.

Local government units with the top 10 highest number of cases include Isabela with 1,680; San Carlos City, 129; Murcia, 80; Bago City, 57; Talisay City, 50: Hinigaran, 20: Cadiz City, 19; Don Salvador Benedicto, Silay City and Victorias City, 16 each.

In an earlier statement, the Department of Health (DOH) said that based on the historical data since 2009, influenza-like illness

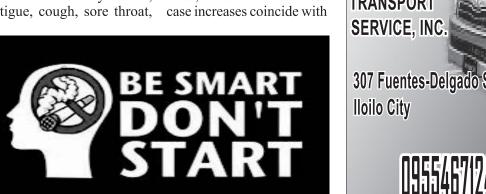
the onset of rainy and colder months.

"Hence, we are implementing strict monitoring of cases as we anticipate a rise in cases in the coming months," it added.

The DOH also said the higher cases this year are observed most in diseases under surveillance, attributed to the strengthened surveillance

efforts for the other diseases as the country shifts its focus from the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19).

Pinongan said that government hospitals in Negros Occidental have no admissions for Covid-19 patients. While there are positive cases, they are not severe or admitted in private hospitals as of last week. (PNA)





#### & make-up styling, and D Cortezano for lighting. CCP Vice President/Artistic Director Dennis N. Marasigan did the translation for this production, aiming to make opera more accessible to Filipino audiences.

INTRAMUROS ... (from page 2)

"True to the concept of the CCP Out-Of-The-Box Series, which aims to present performances that audiences normally wouldn't see in conventional programming, this re-staging of Ang Kasal ni Figaro would give a unique twist to what the opera we know. With its minimal set design and technical requirement, we are able to produce opera to create new

awareness and further appreciation to this art form," said Marasigan.

With a shared goal to promote the Philippine brand and strengthen national identity while helping in national development, the CCP and IA continue to collaborate to preserve what is inherently Filipino and celebrate the best of the best in performing arts through Intramuros Evenings.

Catch the second installment of Intramuros Evenings, featuring the CCP Out-Of-The-Box Series: "Ang Kasal ni Figaro," on December 9, 2023, 6pm, at Baluarte de San Diego, Intramuros. The show is free to the public. Entrance fee to Baluarte de San Diego is priced at Php 75, with discounted price of Php 50 for students, senior citizens, and PWDs.

### **RDC-6** identifies proposed major projects in W. Visayas

BACOLOD CITY – The (Region 6) tackled the Regional Development proposed major projects for Council-Western Visayas the region during the first

> Republic of the Philippines Sixth Judicial Region REGIONAL TRIAL COURT Iloilo City

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT & EX OFFICIO **SHERIFF** 

> **FORECLOSURE FILE** NO. F-10896-23

**BDO UNIBANK, INC.,** Mortgagee,

-versus-

LUISA MANONAG-SINGH, rep. by Attorney-In-Fact., Sheryl D. Banga, Debtor/Mortgagor.,

#### **NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE**

Upon verified Application for Extra-Judicial Foreclosure of Mortgage [Under Act 3135 As Amended], filed by BDO UNIBANK, INC., Mortgagee, a universal banking corporation with office address at 11F BDO Towers Valero (formerly Citibank Tower), 8741 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City, against Luisa Manonag Singh (Debtor/Mortgagor), Filipino, and with postal address/es at (1) Blk. 3 Lot 10 Ruby St., Remonville Subd., Tabuc Suba, Jaro, Iloilo City; and (2) Blk. 4 Lot 4, Orchard B Savannah Subd., Abilay Norte, Oton, Iloilo, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of October 27, 2023, amounts to P6,564,594.55, the undersigned Ex Officio Sheriff of Iloilo and/or ANY of his duly authorized deputy sheriff will sell at public auction on January 31, 2024 at 10:00 AM at the Office of the Clerk of Court and Ex Officio Sheriff, Regional Trial Court, Hall of Justice Building, Iloilo City, to the highest bidder, for cash or manager's check and in Philippine Currency, the mortgaged property under **Transfer Certificate of Title No. 090-2015005650** ("Owner: LUISA MANONAG-SINGH, OF LEGAL AGE, FILIPINO, MARRIED TO AMAR SINGH, CHINESE; Address: BLK 3 LOT 10 RUBY ST., REMONVILLE SUBDIVISION, TABUC SUBA, JARO, ILOILO CITY WESTERN VISAYAS), bounded and described, including all the improvements thereon, to wit:

"LOT NO: 4; BLOCK NO. 4 PLAN NO: PCS-06-006217 PORTION OF: LOT 89,: LOT 4-E AND 4-H. BSD-06-000032 (OLT); LOT 1 (EXCLUDED AREA), BLOCK 21, PCS-06-005142; LOT 4-A, PSD-06-001533,; LOCATION: BARANGAY OF ABILAY NORTE, MUNICIPALITY OF OTON, PROVINCE OF ILOILO, ISLAND OF PANAY

#### **BOUNDARIES:**

| LINE | DIRECTION | ADJOINING LOT/S                           |
|------|-----------|---|
| 1-2  | SE        | LOT 5, BLOCK 4, PCS-06-006217             |
| 2-3  | SW        | ROAD LOT 7 (10.00 M. WIDE), PCS-06-006217 |
| 3-4  | NW        | LOT 3, BLOCK 4, PCS-06-006217             |
| 4-5  | NE        | LOT 21, BLOCK 4, PCS-06-006217            |
| 5-1  | NE        | LOT 20, BLOCK 4, PCS-06-006217            |

AREA: ONE HUNDRED TEN SQUARE METERS (110), **MORE OR LESS"** 

All SEALED bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above mentioned date and time.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it will be held instead on FEBRUARY 29, 2024 at the same time and venue without further notice and re-publication.

Iloilo City, Philippines, October 30, 2023.

(SGD.) ATTY GERRY D. SUMACULUB Clerk of Court and Ex Officio Sheriff

Prepared By:

(SGD.) RAMIL G. FACURIB **Deputy Sheriff** 

full council meeting hosted by this city's Mayor Alfredo Abelardo Benitez, the council chairperson, in Macau, China, on Wednesday.

"We delved into the initiatives and plans aimed at propelling our region forward -- highlighting the spirit of shared responsibility and fostering a vision for a more inclusive and proactive Western Visayas," Benitez said in a statement on Thursday.

The top 10 projects pushed by the RDC-6 for implementation include the Aklan cruise port hub; modernization of Guimaras parola ports; heart, lung and kidney center; shared service facilities for solid waste management; farm schools; smart agriculture system; regional warehouses for disaster response and management; Panay River Basin Integrated Development Project; Iloilo-Capiz-Aklan Expressway; and Bacolod Coastal Road, Iloilo Circumferential Roads and other vital/strategic road networks.

Benitez led officials of regional line agencies, representatives from the private sector, and local chief executives in a fourday council meeting and learning visits in China's special administrative region until Friday (Dec. 8).

"With Macau's various smart city initiatives, it is the perfect backdrop and venue for our fourth quarter council meeting," he added.

During the meeting at The Venetian Macao on Wednesday, the RDC-6 discussed the implementation of regional development priorities as Benitez underscored the need for the council to be "more relevant to nation-building."

"It is not just in policymaking, but also in investment programming, project implementation, and monitoring and evaluation," he added.

As the RDC-6 chairperson, Benitez has to submit to President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., through the National Economic and Development Authority Board regional plans, the regional investment programs, annual development reports, and other documents on the region as approved by the council. (PNA)



RDC-6 IN MACAU. Bacolod City Mayor Alfredo Abelardo Benitez (center), chairperson of the Regional Development Council-Western Visayas, with Iloilo Governor Arthur Defensor Jr. (left) and private sector representative Jobert Peñaflorida, presides the fourth quarter full council meeting at The Venetian Macao in Macau, China on Wednesday (Dec. 6, 2023). Benitez leads officials of regional line agencies, representatives from the private sector, and local chief executives in a four-day council meeting and learning visits in Macau until Friday (Dec. 8). (Photo courtesy of RDC-Western Visayas)

> Republic of the Philippines Sixth Judicial Region REGIONAL TRIAL COURT Iloilo City

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT & EX OFFICIO SHERIFF

FORECLOSURE FILE NO. F-10850-23

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (POPULARLY KNOWN AS PAG-IBIG FUND). Mortgagee,

-versus-

MELANIE E. SAY married to REMTON C. SAY, Debtor/s-Mortgagor/s

#### **NOTICE OF EXTRA JUDICIAL SALE**

Upon extra judicial petition for sale under Act 3135 as amended by Act 4118, filed by HOME **DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND**, a government financial institution duly existing under and by virtue of Republic Act No. 9679, with principal office at Petron Megaplaza Building, 358 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue, Makati City, Philippines, duly represented by WILMER B. LIRAZAN, Department Manager III, against MELANIE E. SAY married to REMTON C. SAY, both of legal age, Filipinos, and with residence address at Zone 11, Calaparan, Arevalo, Iloilo City, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of August 31, 2023 amounted to NINE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED NINETY-TWO PESOS & 02/100 (Php 935,592.02), Philippine Currency, the undersigned, and/or his duly authorized deputy will sell public auction on 03 January 2024 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning at the abovementioned Office of the Clerk of Court & Ex Officio Sheriff, CJRQA Hall of Justice Building, Iloilo City, to the highest bidder, for cash or manager's check and in Philippine Currency, the mortgaged property together with all the other buildings and other permanent improvements thereon, all covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. 090-2018010670 (Owner: MELANIE E. SAY, OF LEGAL AGE, FILIPINO, MARRIED TO REMTON C. SAY; Address: ZONE 11, CALAPARAN, AREVALO, ILOILO CITY, WESTERN VISAYAS), to wit:

"LOT NO: 56 BLOCK NO: 5 PLAN NO: PCS-06-006227 PORTION OF: LOT 1756 AND 1759 OF THE CADASTRAL SURVEY OF JARO; LOT 1757-A AND 1757-B, PSD-06-13549; LOT 1772-E-3, PSD-06-078723; LOT 25, 26, 27, ALL OF BLOCK 12, PCS-06-005366

#### TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

LOCATION: BARANGAY OF PANDAC, MUNICIPALITY OF PAVIA, PROVINCE OF ILOILO, ISLAND OF PANAY

#### **BOUNDARIES:**

| LINEDIRECTION |    | ADJOINING LOT/S                |
|---------------|----|--------------------------------|
| 1-2           | NE | LOT 57, BLOCK 5, PCS-06-006227 |
| 2-3           | SE | LOT 17, BLOCK 5, PCS-06-006227 |
| 3-4           | SW | LOT 55, BLOCK 5, PCS-06-006227 |
| 4-1           | NW | ROAD LOT 3, PCS-06-006227      |
| XXXX          |    |                                |

AREA: FORTY EIGHT (48) SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS"

All SEALED bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the abovementioned date and time. In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it will be held instead on 31 January 2024 at the same time and venue without further notice and re-publication.

Iloilo City, Philippines, 30 October 2023

(SGD.) ATTY. GERRY D. SUMACULUB Clerk of Court & Ex Officio Sheriff

Prepared by:

(SGD.) RAMIL G. FACURIB **Authorized Deputy** 

NE/December 4, 11 & 18, 2023



Owner

FOR YOUR ADVERTISING NEEDS



#### REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES **REGIONAL TRIAL COURT**

6<sup>™</sup> JUDICIAL REGION OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL SHERIFF OF ILOILO CJ Ramon Q. Avanceña Hall of Justice Bonifacio Drive, Iloilo City -000-

#### FORECLOSURE NO. F-10860-23

FOR: EXTRA-JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER ACT NO. 3135, AS AMENDED BY ACT NO. 4118

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (otherwise known as Pag-IBIG Fund) Mortgagee,

VS

**ROSS ANTHONY D. TUPAS,** Debtor/Mortgagor.

#### **NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE**

Upon extra-judicial petition for foreclosure and sale under Act No. 3135, as amended filed by the mortgagee, HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (otherwise known as Pag-IBIG Fund), a government financial institution duly organized and existing under and by virtue of Republic Act No. 9679, with principal office at The Petron Mega Plaza Building, No. 358 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City, Philippines, against debtor/mortgagor, ROSS ANTHONY D. TUPAS, single, of legal age, Filipino, and with postal address at #3 Rizal St., Lapaz, Lapuz Sur, Iloilo City, Philippines, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of July 20, 2023, amounts to SEVEN **HUNDRED FORTY TWO THOUSAND FORTY** FOUR and 51/100 Pesos (₱742,044.51), Philippine Currency, including of interest, and other charges, plus attorney's fees, publication cost, sheriff's legal expenses and other incidental expenses of foreclosure and auction sale, the Ex-Officio Sheriff of Iloilo or any of his lawful deputies will sell at public auction on January 9, 2024 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter at the Office of the Clerk of Court, Regional Trial Court, Ground Floor, Chief Justice Ramon Q. Avanceña Hall of Justice, Bonifacio Drive, Iloilo City, to the HIGHEST BIDDER for CASH or MANAGERS CHECK and in Philippine Currency, the following real property including buildings and all the improvements found hereon, to wit;

#### TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 090-2014007712

A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 11, BLK 21, PCS-06-005366, BEING A CONS-SUBD. OF LOT 1584 AND 1586, ALL OF AGONOA CAD. 8) SITUATED IN THE BARANGAY OF PANDAC, MUN. OF PAVIA, PROVINCE OF ILOILO, ISLAND OF PANAY . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . CONTAINING AN AREA OF FORTY EIGHT (48) SQUARE METERS MORE OR **LESS** 

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the abovementioned date and time.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on January 23, 2024, at the same time and place without further notice.

Prospective buyers and/or bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title of the above-described property and encumbrances existing thereon, if any there be. Let this Notice of Sale be published and posted in accordance with the provisions of law.

Iloilo City, Philippines, October 17, 2023.

(SGD.) ATTY. GERRY D. SUMACULUB Clerk of Court VII and Ex-Officio Sheriff of Iloilo

(SGD.) ROBERTO D. GARILVA Sheriff-in-Charge

#### **WARNING:**

NE/Dec. 4, 11 & 18, 2023

It is absolutely prohibited to remove, deface or destroy this Notice of Sale on or before the date of Sale, under penalty of Law: (Rule 39, Sec. 15)

W. VISAYAS/ page 12

### Swine nucleus farms set up in Negros Occidental

BACOLOD CITY -The Provincial Veterinary Office (PVO) in Negros Occidental has established pig nucleus breeding farms in preparation for herd repopulation after losing thousands of hogs to various diseases since early this year.

Swine breeders have already produced at least 17 piglets as of Dec. 1, data on Tuesday showed.

A nucleus farm is a facility where elite breeders are maintained and will be the source of reputable parent and breeder stocks to sustain multiplier farms and other eligible and capable farms.

In a statement to animal raisers, Provincia 1 Administrator Rayfrando Diaz II said the PVO is working to ensure that all the piglets raised in the province will only come from Negros Occidental and not sourced from other areas.

"The number of our piglets is now increasing. We are



(PNA file photo courtesy of PIO Negros Occidental)

hoping to sustain this value was more than since we will use this to repopulate swine in We will disperse this at the proper time for you to start raising hogs again for your livelihood," he added.

From April to August this year, almost 18,000 pigs in 20 local government units (LGUs) died mainly due to transboundary animal diseases such as African swine fever (ASF) and hog cholera.

The estimated loss

PHP199 million.

In the meantime, the your respective areas. provincial government turned over feeder cattle to affected hog raisers in 12 LGUs last week to provide them with alternative livelihood or source of additional family income.

"This is the livelihood assistance of the Capitol to animal raisers whose hogs were affected by diseases. This is one of the steps taken by the provincial government to alleviate the crisis they

went through," he added.

Under the Provincial Government's Cattle Fattening Program, feeder cattle sourced from the Negros First Ranch and Provincial Livestock Breeding Center and Dairy Farm were turned over to qualified recipients.

Once the cattle are fattened to the desired weight of at least 100 kilograms and sold on a live-weight basis, the recipients are entitled to receive a share of the proceeds. (PNA)

### W. Visayas schools plant over 20K seedlings

ILOILO CITY-Western Visayas public schools have contributed an estimated 20,285 native trees to the Project DepEd 236,000 Trees - A Christmas Gift for Children tree-planting activity held simultaneously nationwide on Wednesday.

Hernani Escullar Jr. information officer of the Department of Education (DepEd) in Western Visayas, said each of the 4,057 public schools in the region planted at least five seedlings within their school or any suitable

These schools used only local, native, or fruit-bearing trees in coordination with the offices of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Five schools from five schools division were chosen to join the tree planting live streaming, including the E.B. Magalona National High School in Negros Occidental, San Jose Elementary School in San Miguel from Iloilo province, Barangay E. Lopez National High

### obijuary

### **REYNALDO CASTILLO** "Daddy Khaks"

December 2, 1959 – November 29, 2023

"A loving father, very patient husband, and a strong runner.

"LORD. GIVE ME A LOVER"

His remains lie at Brgy. Sagua, Anini-y, Antique

Interment will be on December 16, 2023, after 2:00 p.m. Mass at St. John Nepomuceno Parish Church, Anini-y, Antique.





REMEGIO G. CASTOR
Publisher

LINNY P. GAURANA
Secretary / Account Officer

CARL SARDUA

Photographer / Lay-out Artist

**JASON LAZATIN** 

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San Jose, Antique

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### Revival of peace talks

**Editorial** 

Earlier this year, the Armed Forces of the Philippines reported the current strength of the Maoist New People's Army had gone down to 2,000 regular fighters from its peak of 25,000 in the 1980s.

Of late, the AFP spokesman said the figure had gone down even further to just 1,500 fighters spread out in a few guerrilla zones.

Hence, the government had reached strategic victory over the NPA, but not total victory which would come when the NPA itself would wither on the vine because of more casualties in the battlefield and widespread demoralization.

With the vastly reduced NPA armed strength and presumably its mass base due to battlefield losses and surrenders, the government could have opted to go for the jugular, so to speak, and run after the remaining active rebels with hammer and tongs.

But it appears the Marcos Jr. administration has decided not to further unleash the dogs of war against the rebels, but to convince them instead to sit down across the negotiating table to discuss ways to achieve lasting peace

The recent agreement in Oslo for the resumption of peace talks between the Philippine government and the National Democratic Front is a welcome development as it offers the prospect of an end to 55 years of the armed insurgency that has cost no less than an estimated 40,000 losses on both sides and resources that could have been spent for economic development and anti-poverty programs.

The peace process leading to a comprehensive agreement could take time and hit many snags along the way due to differences in position on key issues.

One possible obstacle to successful political negotiations would be the lack of a bilateral ceasefire while the talks are ongoing.

If the fighting in the countryside continues while the negotiators argue across the table in a foreign venue, that could certainly raise accusations of bad faith and lack of

sincerity by either side.

The Communist Party of the Philippines has demanded that for the peace talks to resume, the government should release from jail all NDF consultants and 800 political prisoners, dismantle the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict, and repeal the designation of the CPP-NPA-NDF as 'terrorist' organizations.

Will the government side accede to these immediate demands?

And how would the CPP-NPA-NDF react if the government asks them to stop the so-called "revolutionary taxation" in areas where the rebels operate, which the government claims is extortion?

We really don't know at this point.

At any rate, we hope the agreement to resume peace negotiations will proceed in the coming weeks with both sides acting in good faith and sincerity in attaining peace by putting in place confidence-building measures that would bring the talks to a successful conclusion as soon as possible. (manilastandard.net)

### Philippine Bar exams musings reduxt

"Out of the hottest fire comes the strongest steel." – Chinese proverb

On Dec. 5, the results for the 2023 Philippine Bar Examinations came out. As usual, newsfeeds were filled with photos of Bar takers crying tears of joy or sadness upon learning of the results. Like many lawyers, I often remember my own struggles in law school and taking the Bar exams when the results come out every year. As such, I often find myself indulging in random and oblique musings during this time of the year.

Out of a total of 10,387 law graduates who took the exam, 3,812 or 36.77 percent passed this year's edition of the Bar exams. A University of Santo Tomas (UST) graduate topped the Bar but Ateneo De Manila graduates had the highest percentage of Bar passers with 94.08 percent of their takers passing the exams. It is often said that the Philippine Bar Exam is one of the hardest Bar exams in the world to pass with an average passing rate of 20 to 30 percent. For comparison, other developed countries have higher bar exam passing rate of up to 60 percent.

Bar exam results get attention because of the stories of the people who take it. Bar takers undergo four years of stress as law students, months to study for the Bar and then three weeks of hell during the Bar month. At the end of it all, each Bar taker will have suffered much to achieve his or her dream, including many illnesses caused by stress. The eve and morning of the results day are often filled with tension for them. In my day, we often had to wait in front of the Supreme Court for the results to come out. Today, even with instant information given by social media platforms, the stress-filled wait is still the same.

As always, I look for familiar names of relatives who took the Bar. I am delighted that I have a niece who passed. I am also extremely proud that a good number of my former students from the Ateneo School of Management are now my fellow lawyers. I was deeply touched by a former student who thanked me through a message.

I also always notice the human interest stories of certain Bar passers. Among the Bar passers is one who is

### OBLIQUE OBSERVATIONS

By ATTY. GILBERT LAUENGCO, J.D.

detained in Cebu City. He learned that he passed the Bar while behind bars. There is also the story of a medical doctor and registered nurse who also passed the Bar. With the recent issue of a doctor who was sued by a lawyer, this new breed of doctor lawyer might come in handy for some beleaguered doctors. Then there is this 62-year-old Bar passer from North Eastern College in Isabela who will serve as an inspiration to many senior citizens that it is never too late to pursue your dreams.

The 2023 Bar Examinations, according to many, were also special as efforts were made to make it more inclusive and accessible to all examinees. The Bar Exams were regionalized and digitalized. Having 14 testing centers nationwide gave greater access to Bar takers from the province who otherwise would have had difficulties

PHILIPPINES pag€9

#### Nurturing tomorrow's leaders for a sustainable future

November is designated as the National Children's Month in the Philippines, thanks to Republic Act 10661 of 2015. Also known as the "Buwan ng mga Bata," it is annually celebrated every November to commemorate the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) on Nov. 20, 1989.

With the yearly celebration of the Buwan ng mga Bata, the Philippines seeks to instill in every Filipino the promotion and protection of children's rights. The Philippines subscribes to the definition of the UNCRC, which recognizes a person below the age of 18 or a person over 18 years old who is unable to fully take care of or protect himself or herself because of a physical or mental disability or condition.

In Quezon City, I participated in the Children's Month Celebration together with the children and leaders. The theme adopted by Quezon City was "Ngayon, Para Bukas! A Call for Collective Climate Action." This brings into perspective the climate change concern of children amid environmental disasters worldwide.

The Quezon City celebration puts into children's perspective their concerns ahead of the Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change), or COP28. The children presented to the COP28 delegation the results of the children's dialogues and surveys from the Local Conference of Youth 2023, U-Report, and the Quezon City Children's Climate Change Agenda. It was so captivating to witness the children present the results to the COP28 Philippine delegation. Vice President and Education Secretary Sara Duterte graced the celebration as a guest speaker to express her support for the children and the event.

Across the country, the theme "Healthy, nourished, sheltered: Ensuring the right to life for all" puts into focus a healthy environment, good education, and health care as the primordial considerations for their development. Various local government units (LGUs) participated in the month-long activity.

Children's Month is a time dedicated to celebrating the innocence, potential, and rights of children worldwide. This year, the annual celebration continued to honor the unique contributions and needs of children, aiming to create a nurturing environment where they can thrive. With a focus on education, health, and overall well-being, this year's celebration brought together communities, organizations, and governments to empower and support the younger generation.

Throughout Children's Month, numerous educational initiatives were organized to promote learning and development. Schools, nongovernment organizations, and government agencies collaborated to host workshops, seminars, and interactive sessions. These aimed to enhance educational access, quality, and inclusivity for children from all backgrounds.

Every Nov. 8 is also National STEAM Day, which is integrated into the Children's Month celebration. STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics programs, encouraging creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills among the youth.

Health remained a paramount concern, particularly in the Philippines. The leading causes of child mortality, which are preventable, include pneumonia and diarrhea. Initiatives during Children's Month focus on promoting healthy lifestyles, access to healthcare, and mental well-being. Vaccination drives, health camps, and awareness campaigns addressed essential issues like immunization, nutrition, and mental health support for children and their families.

Cultural celebrations and artistic endeavors play a significant role in engaging children and fostering creativity. Art exhibitions, music festivals, and theater performances provide platforms for children to express themselves, showcasing their talents and cultural diversity. These activities aim to instill confidence and a sense of pride in their heritage while encouraging mutual respect and understanding among different communities.

Children's rights awareness and advocacy campaigns are central to the month-long celebration. Workshops and discussions educate children about their rights while empowering them to voice their

### FRESH VIEWPOINTS: A NEW PERSPECTIVE

By Brian James Lu

opinions and concerns. Additionally, forums involving policymakers and stakeholders highlight the importance of safeguarding children's rights and implementing policies that protect their wellbeing.

The Philippines is one of a few countries that have legislated various laws for the protection of children. Foremost is the Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation, and Discrimination Act, or Republic Act 7610. The law provides for special protection for children from all forms of abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation, discrimination, and other conditions prejudicial to their development. In the age of cybertechnology, the Philippines enacted Republic Act 11930, which punishes online sexual abuse or exploitation of children. The United Nations has also hailed the Philippines as a pioneer in children's participation, which is defined as "engaging with opportunities to form and express their views and to influence matters that concern them directly and indirectly. The Sangguniang Kabataan is one form of the youth's participation where they participate in community initiatives.

Inclusivity remained a core principle in all activities and events during Children's Month. Efforts were made to ensure participation opportunities for children with disabilities, marginalized communities, and those facing socio-economic challenges. Accessible venues, sign language interpreters, and tailored activities were integrated to ensure everyone could actively engage and enjoy the celebrations.

The success of Children's Month is largely due to the widespread involvement of communities, volunteers, and local leaders. Collaborative efforts between government agencies, NGOs, businesses, and individuals fostered a supportive environment for children. Fundraising events and donation drives aim to provide resources and support to underprivileged children, emphasizing the

NATURING/ page 9

### Contextualizing power rates in PH

Are power rates in the Philippines really expensive? Over time, the cost of electricity in our country has been criticized to be excessive in comparison to our neighbors in Asia sans any context on the predominantly influencing factors and prevailing circumstances.

A 2022 study by the Australia-based International Energy Consultants (IEC) covering 46 energy markets—including two states of the United States—dissected the costs and tariffs that influence the prevailing electricity rates among different countries and came up with interesting findings that provide a more accurate and comprehensive comparison of power rates across countries.

The study debunked several myths about power costs in the Philippines with data and research that allowed for a better appreciation of the energy industry landscape at the international level. For the study, the IEC used Meralco's rates and data to represent the Philippines given that it is the largest distribution utility in the country.

Contrary to the often-rehashed criticisms that Meralco's rates are too high, the study found that Meralco's generation charge, which comprises the largest share in customers' electricity bills, is significantly lower at USD0.1342 per kilowatt-hour (c/kWh) when compared to IEC's USD0.16 c/kWh estimated cost of producing reliable wholesale electricity in Luzon. The IEC attributed these savings to Meralco's efforts to

source power at the lowest possible cost through its power supply agreements.

Meralco's distribution charge, on the other hand, which comprises around 14% of customers' electricity bills, was found to be 33 percent less than the average rate of energy markets surveyed for the study which means that the charge is definitely fair and reasonable.

On the discussion of dues or taxes, the IEC study found that the average tariff customers pay to Meralco is actually 3 percent lower than the global average despite the lack of subsidies and fundamentally high costs. This means, according to the IEC, that Meralco's customers are paying a fair and reasonable price for electricity.

In terms of comparison with other countries, the study also provided context on the rate structure in the Philippines and why it is incorrect to compare our power rates with our neighbors based on costs alone.

This is because many of our neighbors, especially in Southeast Asia, are deemed to have cheaper electricity costs since tariffs in these areas are subsidized by more than half or 50 percent — a mechanism that is currently not available in the Philippines. Countries that benefit from these subsidies include Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, and Taiwan. Should a 50 percent subsidy be applied to the Philippines, IEC estimated that it would require around PHP241 billion in taxpayers' money.

#### **ESPRESSO MORNINGS**

By Joe Zaldarriaga

When it comes to comparisons on the power supply mix, it is interesting to note that countries included in the study that were found to have the lowest electricity costs utilize nuclear energy or are rich in hydro power.

The IEC offered recommendations specific to the Philippines to remain competitive in the energy industry. This includes driving investment in new power generation to meet the growing demand and ramping up development of renewable energy (RE) sources—areas wherein the administration of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. has made great strides.

In the case of Meralco, the company is working not only to increase its RE supply but is also active on the power generation front—developing greener capacities and exploring alternative and cleaner energy sources such as nuclear power.

In summary, we Filipinos pay for the true cost of electricity and it would be a disservice to the truth to simply compare our power rates to other countries without any context. The energy industry landscape is different for each country and should be viewed more comprehensively to avoid misconceptions and come up with accurate conclusions.

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Iloilo
Municipality of San Dionisio

#### OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

Email: <a href="mailto:sbsandionisio@gmail.com">sbsandionisio@gmail.com</a>
Cell No. 0917 127 5840

AN ORDINANCE ENACTED DURING THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF SAN DIONISIO, ILOILO HELD AT THE SESSION HALL OF THE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING ON OCTOBER 24, 2023 AT 2:00 P.M.

#### PRESENT:

Hon. Erma A. Perez Municipal Vice Mayor and Presiding Officer Hon. Kim Richard T. Hechanova SB Member Hon. Rufino B. Alkonga SB Member Hon. Herjhun A. Albania SB Member Hon. Tessie P. Villanueva SB Member Hon. Joseph Rhoel P. Bajada SB Member Hon. Christian Paul A. Lopez SB Member Hon. Jeff D. Albania SB Member Liga President/Ex-Officio Member Hon. Ian N. Guillermo

ABSENT:

Hon. Andre Eugenio S. Lopez

Hon. Cherry Lyn T. Jacomina SB Member

#### **MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 2023-13**

SK President/Ex-Officio Member

### AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING LITTERING/DUMPING/THROWING OF GARBAGE TRASH, RUBBISH, REFUSE AND OTHER WASTE MATERIALS AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF."

Lead Author:
Hon. Joseph Rhoel P. Bajada, Chair - Committee on Health & Sanitation
Co-Authors:
Hon. Jeff D. Albania
Hon. Kim Richard T. Hechanova
Hon. Rufino B. Alkonga
Hon. Andre Eugenio S. Lopez

**WHEREAS**, Article II, Section 16 of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

**WHEREAS**, Section 16 of RA7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 provides that every local government unit shall exercise the power expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as power necessary appropriate, or incidental for its effective and efficient governance and those which are essential to the promotion of the general welfare.

**WHEREAS**, the municipality of San Dionisio is empowered to adopt measure to ensure cleanliness and sanitation and to instill sense of discipline, social responsibility and awareness of the community.

**WHEREAS,** in order to prevent repetition of the effects of typhoon and other nature's wrath or calamities and to effectively safeguard the basic constitutional right of the people to a healthy ecology, it is important to have an environmental legislation in place.

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Bayan that:

**SECTION 1. TITLE** – An Ordinance Prohibiting Littering/Dumping/Throwing of Garbage, Thrash, Rubbish, Refuse and Other Waste Materials and Prescribing Penalties for Violation Thereof.

**SECTION 2. COVERAGE** – This ordinance shall apply to all open and covered public places and private places, such as, but not limited to public market, alleys, roads, parks, sidewalks, watercourses, building, offices, immediate surroundings, establishment, resorts, rivers, canals or esteros, drainage and other water outlets in the Municipality of San Dionisio.

#### **SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS:**

- a. Littering the throwing, dumping and / or the scattering of plastics, papers, residues, waste materials, garbage, thrash, rubbish and / or refuse and cigarette butts
- Refuse includes any other waste materials apart from plastics and papers.
- c. Rubbish any useless waste or rejected matter.
- d. Public Places includes the beaches, path roads, pathways, vegetation areas, streets, sidewalks, highways, parks, playground, school, government offices and any other edifices publicly used.
- e. Waterways includes canals, drainage, servers, creeks, streams, rivers, swamps and the like.
- f. Immediate surroundings refers to the frontage or vicinity including up to the mid-spam of the road, street, alley or avenue from the edge of the street gutter; sidewalks of residential house, hotels, resorts, business/ commercial establishments or offices whether public or private.
- g. Covered public and private places includes schools, college, universities, museums, clinic health centers, dispensaries, laboratories, government or private offices, auditoriums/ stadium/ gymnasium / session halls, churches, convention centers, theaters/ movie house, studies, bar restaurants/cocktail lounges, canteens, kiosk, and other enclose public eating place, dance halls/ disco house, days and night clubs, beer/ pub houses hotels, motels, department stores, markets, groceries, factories, places and other covered

- places where people stay or gather for political, social, education, religious, sports or entertainment purposes.
- h. Rivers, Canals, drainage and other water outlets refers to all waterways and water outlets the jurisdictional boundaries of the municipality of San Dionisio.
- Street and sidewalks obstructions mean any form of waste which is immovable and bulky in nature because of its size and weight which obstruct or impede the free flow of traffic and pedestrian.
- j. Trash includes any junk, disposed household items and appliances, used clothing and apparels, plastic and glass bottles and cigarette butts
- k. Waste Materials includes but not limited to any product of chemical debris of metals and glasses.
- I. Entities includes non-governmental organizations (NGOs) religious sectarian organization, non- profit organizations and all other institutions excluding hotels, restaurants, resorts, business establishments and residences.
- m. School it shall include both public and private school and senior high school, college, vocational school and other allied education entitles and institutions.
- n. Junk vehicles and appliances are these abandoned vehicles and metal products such as refrigerators, air conditions, television etc.
- o. Industrial wastes are organic and in organic residue, hazardous and toxic materials and chemical, metals and woods.
- Special waste are bulky wastes, sewage residues, street sweepings, pollution control residues, pathological/ hospital waste construction and demolitions debris.
- q. Domestic waste are food residues, food preparation wastes and spoilages, paper and other paper products, metals plastic and rubber, rugs and clothes process residues, yard trimming and woods.

#### **SECTION 4. PROHIBITIONS**

- **4.1.** It shall be unlawful for any person or entity to litter, throw, dump, place, scatter waste, refuse or garbage such as paper, trash, plastic bags of any kind, cigarette butts, empty cigarette packs, candy and bread wrappers, empty boxes, packages, matchsticks, barbeque sticks, plastic cups, food packages, dispensable diapers, masticated chewing gums and domestic, industrial and special waste in any public places and immediate surroundings, including vacant lots, rivers, canals, drainage and other water ways not otherwise designated as garbage dumping areas trash cans and receptacles.
- **4.2.** No person or entity shall bring out garbage on the property line of residential and commercial establishment or any part of the road. The garbage shall be brought outside only upon arrival of the municipal garbage truck in their respective localities.
- **4.3.** It shall be unlawful for any person or entity to place, store, dump, construction waste or debris, junked or under repair vehicles, dilapidated appliances and other immovable objects in any part of the road, streets or sidewalks which may obstruct the vehicular and pedestrian traffic.
- **4.4.** It shall be unlawful for any person to urinate, spit and defecated in public places, waterways and recreational areas.
- **4.5.** No person, private and public corporations, advertising and promotions companies shall inscribe, post, hang of billboards of commercial purposes on government buildings, sidewalks, fences, tree and similar places except in designated areas and with prior permit form the local government unit of San Dionisio, Iloilo.
- **4.6.** No person while as owner, driver or passenger in any commercial and transportation facilities or public utility vehicle plying within the municipality of San Dionisio shall throw, spill, scatter or deposit litter on any part of the road, street, waterways or other public places within the municipality or upon private property on their way to their destinations.
- **4.7.** No person owning or occupying a place of business shall sweep into or deposit in any gutter, street or any public place within the municipality the accumulation of litter from any building, driveway and waterways.
- **4.8.** It shall be unlawful for any person or entity to collect trash and garbage for a fee without Mayor's Permit and for any beneficial consideration and there upon dump or dispose the collected trash or garbage.

### Section 5. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF RESIDENTS, ENTITIES AND BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT

- **5.1** Entities, hotels, restaurants, resorts, business, establishments and residences are obliged to sweep, clean and maintain the cleanliness of their respective surroundings and beachfront. They shall be held responsible for plastics, papers and any other refuse littered within their premises.
- **5.2** Entities, hotels, restaurants, resorts, president, manager, owner, operator and administrator of any organization or association, business establishments and residences shall observe proper waste segregation, storage and disposal of solid waste materials.
- **5.3** The owners, operators and drivers of public utility vehicles including pump boats plying route within the municipality are always required to maintain cleanliness in their respective vehicle/pump boat and provide trash receptacles inside the vehicle.
- **5.4** The owners, residents, lessees or occupants of residential houses, dwelling units, vacant lots, administrators of dormitories, commercial buildings and offices, public and private institutions like schools and churches are obliged to sweep, clean and to maintain the cleanliness of their respective surroundings including sidewalks and street gutters.
- **5.5** All establishment including schools and public utility vehicle terminals shall provide and place garbage cans, bins or any garbage receptacle or container to keep the trash and garbage of their customers, clients, and passengers.
- **5.6** It shall be the duty of the respective associations or organizations of motorized tricycles and public utility vehicles to keep their terminals clean and free from any trash, garbage or waste materials.

#### **Section 6. FINES AND PENALTIES**

1. Any person found violating Section 4 of this Ordinance shall suffer the following

fines and penalties:

First Offense: Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) or imprisonment of not less than one (1) day but not more than three (3) days or both at the discretion of the court.

Second Offense: One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00) or imprisonment of not less than five (5) days nor more than ten (10) days or both at the discretion of the court.

Third And Subsequent Offenses: One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P1,500.00) or imprisonment of not less than ten (10) days nor more than fifteen (15) days or both at the discretion of the court.

2. Any owner/operator, President, Manager, Administrator of any organization association or proprietor of business establishments including hotels, resorts, restaurants and residences found violating paragraph 5.2 of Section 5 of this ordinance shall be meted the following fines and penalties:

FIRST Offense: One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00) or imprisonment of not less than five (5) days nor more than ten (10) days or both, at the discretion of the court.

**SECOND Offense:** One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P1,500.00) or imprisonment of not less than ten (10) days nor more than fifteen (15) days or both at the discretion of the court.

THIRD and Subsequent Offenses: Two Thousand Five Hundred (P2,500.00) or imprisonment of not less than fifteen (15) days nor more than thirty (30) days or both, at the discretion of the court and the Municipal Mayor may order the revocation of business permit or cancellation of accreditation.

#### **Section 7. ENFORCEMENT**

The implementation and enforcement of this Ordinance shall be spearheaded by the Local Chief Executive in cooperation with Solid Waste Management Board.

The apprehending officer, such as, Philippine National Police (PNP), Barangay Officials, LGU designated auxiliary police shall issue tickets/receipts/ citation to violators of this Ordinance and remit the collection to the Municipal Treasurer's Office.

#### **Section 8. ALLOCATION OF REVENUE**

All fines collected under this Ordinance shall be divided between the municipal government of San Dionisio, Philippine National Police and barangay officials in the proportion of 70% to the municipal government and 30% to the apprehending officer.

#### **Section 9. PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION**

The Local Chief Executive, Solid Waste Management Board, Philippine National Police (PNP) and Barangay Officials shall in coordination with Department of Education (DepEd), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) conduct a continuing education information campaign on waste disposal and effects of indiscriminate dumping of waste material.

#### Section 10. MONITORING/INSPECTION/IMPLEMENTATION

The strict implementation and monitoring of this Ordinance shall be the Local Chief Executive with assistance of the Philippine National Police (PNP) and Barangay Officials of twenty-nine (29) barangays.

Section 11. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE - If for any reason or reasons, any part or provision of this Ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provision thereof not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 12. REPEALING CLAUSE - All ordinances, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Section 13. EFFECTIVITY - This ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its approval, posting in three (3) conspicuous places and publication in local newspaper of general circulation.

#### ENACTED on October 24, 2023.

I HEREBY CERTIFY TO THE CORRECTNESS OF THE ABOVE-QUOTED ORDINANCE.

> (SGD.) ROSELA E. LUMAUAG Secretary to the Sanggunian

CERTIFIED AND ATTESTED TO BE DULY ADOPTED:

(SGD.) ERMA A. PEREZ Municipal Vice Mayor

and Presiding Officer

(SGD.) DARWIN E. BAJADA Municipal Mayor

APPROVED:

NE/Dec. 4 & 11, 2023

#### **EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE**

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late TOMAS A. MORALES consisting of two parcels of land, namely, Lot No. 8616 of the Cadastral Survey of Sibalom, with the improvements thereon, situated in Brgy. San Juan, Sibalom, Antique covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-22625 with an area of THIRTY SEVEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FORTY-SIX (37,846) SQUARE METERS, more or less and Lot No. 7985 of the Cadastral Survey of Sibalom, with the improvements thereon, situated in Brgy. San Juan, Sibalom, Antique covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-22607 with an area of EIGHT THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTY FIVE (8,355) SQUARE METERS, more or less is adjudicated to heirs Leticia J. Morales, Shirley M. Reyes, Melocena J. Morales, Jimmy J. Morales, Pedro J. Morales, Nida Gladdys J. Morales, Liezl M. Encarnacion, Yvonnie M. Serapion, Tommy J. Morales, and Jean M. Orate, as entered in the notarial registry of Attv. Alexis C. Salvani per Doc. No. 285, Page No. 57, Book No. 366, Series of 2023.

NE/December 4, 11 & 18, 2023

Republic of the Philippines **Local Civil Registry Office Province: Guimaras Municipality of Jordan** 

#### **NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION**

In Compliance with Section 5 of R.A. Act No. 9048, a notice is hereby served to the public that **JEOFFREY S. SANTIAGO** has filed with this Office a petition for change of first name from "RONNIE" to "JEOFFREY" in the Birth Certificate of **Jeoffrey S. Santiago** who was born on June 25, 1975 at Jordan, Guimaras, Philippines whose parents are Rodolfo L. Santiago and Nida G. Selorico.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this Office.

> (SGD.) JESUSA M. MILLONDAGA Municipal Civil Registrar

NE/Dec. 4, 2023 & Dec. 11, 2023

#### PHILIPPINES ... (from page 6)

if the tests were done in Manila alone. Efforts were also made to allow those with certain disabilities to take the Bar exams. A visually impaired Bar taker was allowed to take the exam using a court-issued laptop equipped with a non-visual desktop access technology.

Even with these changes in the way the Bar Exams were administered, the nature of the Bar Exams is still the same. It is a weaning process fraught with difficulties and hardships for all Bar takers rich or poor. This is why the tales of Bar passers overcoming odds still make good stories. Perhaps, this mode of making exams very difficult with provisions for disabilities and financial disadvantages can be applied in general to our education system. Fire is still a good way to forge good steel.

This is my oblique observation.

#### AFFIDAVIT OF SELF ADJUDICATION

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ANASTACIO B. GONZALES known a bank deposits at Eastwest Banking Corporation under Time Deposit Account No. 200040408699 and Savings Account No. 200010581736 are adjudicated to heir FLORA GONZALES Patrick Lloyd Gellada per Doc. No. 362, Page No. 76, Book No. III, Series of 2023.

NE/December 4, 11 & 18, 2023

#### **DEED OF ADJUDICATION WITH SALE**

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late GLYNGENH Y. WHITFIELD consisting of a parcel of land identified as Lot 3, Block 15, PLAN NO. PCS-06-005457 situated in Brgy. Balabag, Pavia, Iloilo covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. 090-2019007882 with an area of One Hundred Thirty (130) square meters, more or less is adjudicated to heir Sharon L. Whitfield. That, Sharon L. Whitfield hereby SELL, CEDE, CONVEY and TRANSFER the said parcel of land by way of Deed of Sale unto spouses Mel H. Mangaser and Jonnah M. Mangaser, as entered in the notarial registry of Atty. Ma. Sonnette V. Seville Daquita per Doc. No. 322, Page No. 84, Book No. XV, Series of 2022.

NE/December 4, 11 & 18, 2023

#### $\pmb{NURTURING}\ \dots\ (\textit{from page 7})$

importance of collective responsibility in nurturing the younger generation.

Children's Month 2023 is another step further in the promotion of the rights and welfare of children. The month-long celebration serves as a platform to reaffirm the commitment to children's well-being, education, and rights. By fostering a nurturing environment and promoting inclusivity and empowerment, the yearly celebration can lay the groundwork for a brighter and more equitable future.

#### AFFIDAVIT OF ADJUDICATION

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late SOLEDAD P. LOREDO known as a Savings Deposit with Land Bank of the Philippines under Savings Account Number 2321-0202-51 is adjudicated to sole heir EVELYN LOREDO-GALVE, as entered in the notarial registry of MANTIQUILLA, as entered in the notarial registry of Atty. Atty. Mandelvin B. Dadivas per Doc. No. 328, Page No. 67, Book No. IV, Series of 2023.

NE/December 11, 18 & 25, 2023

#### **DEED OF ADJUDICATION & PARTITION**

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late **LILIA** PALANCA VDA. DE MOSQUEDA consisting of a parcel of land Lot 9. Pcs-06-002382, being a cons-subd of Lots 19-K & 19-N, Psd-063024-028135 situated in Brgy. Alaguisoc, Jordan, Guimaras covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-161,095 with an area of SIXTY ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED THIRTY FIVE (61,835) SQUARE METERS, more or less is adjudicated to heirs Guardalino P. Mosqueda, Jr., Jocelyn Mosqueda Causing, Roman P. Mosqueda, Erlinda Mosqueda Porquez, and Remia Mosqueda Lim, as entered in the notarial registry of Atty. Maricar P. Villanueva per Doc. No.

409, Page No. 83, Book No. I, Series of 2001.

NE/December 4, 11 & 18, 2023

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
6th Judicial Region
BRANCH 33 – Iloilo City
(033) 335-3503/(0917)178-3133
rtc1ilo033@judiciary.gov.ph

SPL. PROC. No. 19-14262

FOR:

**Declaration of Heirship** 

Felix P. Panerio, et al., Petitioners,

-versus-

Hortencia P. Panes, et al., Respondents.

#### ORDER

For resolution before this Court is the issue of whether or not service of summons by publication to the additional respondents is necessary in order for the Court to acquire jurisdiction over them.

Record shows that an Amended Petition was filed by the petitioners in order to implead indispensable parties as additional respondents, namely: Annabel P. Corbet, Louvelle P. Musibba, Mary Ann P. Santos, Helen Joy Nielo, Gil Discoro Panes, and Marilyn Panes Lao.

No summons has as yet been issued to the additional respondents. Considering that based on the allegations in the amended petition, the additional respondents are all residing abroad, the Court required the petitioners to serve summons by publication.

The petitioners allege that the publication of the Order of the Court dated February 3, 2022 (Original Record, Spec. Proc. Case No. 19-14262, pp. 1574-1575) is considered sufficient notice to the whole world, including additional respondents, which thereby vests jurisdiction on the Court over the persons of the additional respondents. The Order dated February 23, 2022 was published once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the City and Province of Iloilo for the information of all persons interested therein to come out and appear in order to show cause, if any, why the petition should not be granted. The purpose of the publication under Rule 108, Section 4, is to bind the whole world. It is the publication of such notice that brings in the whole world as a party in the case and vests the court with jurisdiction to hear and decide it. The petition for declaration of heirship is a special proceeding in rem which does not require personal service of summons on the respondents in order to the Court to acquire jurisdiction over them. Petitioners assert that considering that the court has acquired jurisdiction over the persons of all the respondents through the publication of the notice of hearing to all parties concerned, there is no need for a republication of the notice.

Petitioners invoke the following cases in support of their claim:

- Republic vs. Kho (G.R. No. 170340, June 29, 2007) involving a petition for correction of entries;
- Barco vs. Court of Appeals (G.R. No. 120587, January 20, 2004) which involves a petition for correction of entries;
- 3) Alba vs. Court of Appeals (G.R. No. 164041, July 29, 2005) which is a petition for cancellation of entries in the birth certificate wherein the Supreme Court held that a petition concerning the status of a person, like a petition for adoption, annulment of marriage, or correction of entries in the birth certificate are considered actions in rem, where jurisdiction over the person of the defendant is not a prerequisite to confer jurisdiction on the court, provided that the court has jurisdiction over the res. The court therein held that notice by publication is sufficient, and personal service of the order on the defendant is not required to confer jurisdiction on the court.
- Republic vs. Abellanosa (G.R. No. 205817, October 6, 2021) concerns a petition for reconstitution of title which is an action in rem.
- 5) Bollozos vs. Heirs of Aguilar (G.R. No. 194310, March 29, 2022) is a petition for allowance of the will, where the Supreme Court that such is an action in rem and that publication of the notice of hearing is sufficient to confer jurisdiction on the Court.

Petitioners contend that the case of *Racca vs. Echague* (G.R. No. 237133, January 20, 2021) and *Pascual vs. Robles* (G.R. No. 182645, December 15, 2010) cited by the answering respondents, which held that personal notice to the respondents is necessary in the instant proceedings, are not applicable to the case at bar.

2. There are serious flaws on the heavy reliance on both cases. First, both Racca and Rodriguez are petitions for settlement of intestate estates of the decedents concerned. It is not the same here which is a mere petition for declaration of heirship as a precursor to an action to question an unauthorized sale of property belonging to the estate; and, second, in both cases, it were the respondents or supposed respondents who were not summoned or notified of the proceedings who came forward and questioned the court's jurisdiction over their persons. That is not true in this case. Here, it is the respondents Hortencia P. Panes and Spouses Herwynn and May Grace Depositar, whose persons are within the jurisdiction of the court, who are assailing the lack of jurisdiction over the other respondents. These reasons render the rulings both in Racca and Rodriguez as inapposite;

#### Xxx xxx

5. Illumined by the judicial policy as enunciated in Treyes, it becomes insignificant whether summons or notices are sent to the other respondents as this case is not geared towards settling an estate but only recovering property unlawfully disposed of so that the same <u>will be returned to the estate</u>. To be sure, it would only be upon the effective recovery of the said property and its restoration to being property of communal interest to all heirs, can a proper settlement and/distribution thereof to the rightful heirs be made; xxx

On the other hand, answering respondents claim that a petition for Declaration of Heirship is an action *in personam* which requires service of summons upon the persons of the additional respondents in order for the court to acquire jurisdiction over them, citing *Racca vs. Echague* (G.R. No.237133, January 20, 2021). Invoking the case of *Alaban vs. Court of Appeals* (507 Phil. 682), answering respondents contend that under Section 4, Rule 76, individual notice upon heirs is necessary when they are known or when their places of residence are known. The exception to the rule stating that "[i]n other instances, such notice is necessary and the court can acquire jurisdiction simply upon publication of the notice in a newspaper in general circulation", does not apply to the additional respondents. Considering that the additional respondents are all residing abroad, extraterritorial service of summons by publication is required for the court to acquire jurisdiction over their persons.

It is further alleged that the cases cited by the petitioners are not applicable in the instant case as they pertain to cases for correction of entries in the birth certificate under Section 4, Rule 108; petition for adoption; and annulment of marriage, which are not of the same nature as a petition for declaration of heirship. On the contrary, it is claimed that Rule 76, Section 4, which requires personal notice to the heirs whose places or residence are known is mandatory. Petitioners cannot ignore this mandate under Rule 76, Section

4 by indiscriminately applying the rule on publication of the notice of hearing. The case of *Racca vs. Echague*, which is for settlement of intestate estate is more in line with the present case as against the jurisprudence invoked by the petitioners.

It is likewise contented that the counsels for the answering defendants cannot represent the additional respondents on the ground of conflict of interest. Moreover, petitioners wrongly cite Section 13, Rule 14 which applies only to counsels of record who are required to serve the summons to their clients, considering that the counsels have never entered their appearance for and in behalf of the additional respondents.

#### **RULING OF THE COURT**

At the onset, it bears to emphasize that even in their Amended Petition, the petitioners have categorically stated that considering that the newly impleaded respondents are presently abroad, in the event that personal or substituted service will not be feasible, extraterritorial service (or by publication) may be availed pursuant to Section 17, Rule 14 of the 2019 Revised Rules on Civil Procedure.

A careful scrutiny of the cases invoked by the petitioners in support of their claim will readily disclose that these do not find application to the case at bar which is a petition for declaration of heirship.

Petitioners initially claim that a petition for declaration of heirship is an action *in rem* but conveniently failed to cite any rule, law or jurisprudence in support thereof

Summons is a writ by which the defendant is notified of the action brought against him. Service of such writ is the means by which the court may acquire jurisdiction over his person. Any judgment without such service in the absence of a valid waiver is null and void. It is crucial to determine first whether the action is *in personam, in rem, or quasi in rem* because the rules on service of summons under Rule 14 of the Revised Rules of Court apply according to the nature of the action.<sup>1</sup>

The manner in which the jurisdiction of the court is acquired and the means of service of summons to be availed of depends on the nature of the action filed, such as whether it is *in personam*, *in rem*, *or quasi in rem*.

#### Thus Aurora De Pedro vs. Romasan Devt. Corp.<sup>2</sup> held that:

Jurisdiction over the thing or res is the power of the court over an object or thing being litigated. The court may acquire jurisdiction over the thing by actually or constructively seizing or placing it under the court's custody.

Jurisdiction over the parties refers to the power of the court to make decisions that are binding on persons. The courts acquire jurisdiction over complainants or petitioners as soon as they file their complaints or petitions. Over the persons of defendants or respondents, courts acquire jurisdiction by a valid service of summons or through their voluntary submission. Generally, a person voluntarily submits to the court's jurisdiction when he or she participates in the trial despite improper service of summons.

Courts and litigants must be aware of the limits and the requirements for the acquisition of court jurisdiction. Decisions or orders issued by courts outside their jurisdiction are void. Complaints or petitions filed before the wrong court or without acquiring jurisdiction over the parties may be dismissed.

#### Xx xxx

Jurisdiction over the parties is required regardless of the type of action – whether the action is in *personam*, *in rem*, *or quasi in rem*.

In actions in personam, the judgment is for or against a person directly. Jurisdiction over the parties is required in actions in personam because they seek to impose personal responsibility or liability upon a person.

Courts need not acquire jurisdiction over parties on this basis in in rem and quasi in rem actions. Actions in rem or quasi in rem are not directed against the person based on his or her personal liability.

Actions in rem are actions against the thing itself. They are binding upon the whole world. Quasi in rem actions are actions involving the status on a property over which a party has interest. Quasi in rem actions are not binding upon the whole world. They affect only the interests on the particular parties.

<sup>1</sup>. Robert San Pedro vs. Willy Ong, et al., G.R. No. 177598, October 17, 2008 <sup>2</sup> G.R. No. 194751, November 26, 2014.

However, to satisfy the requirements of due process, jurisdiction over the parties in in rem and quasi in rem actions is required.

The phrase, "against the thing," to describe in rem actions is a metaphor. It is not the "thing" that is the party to an in rem action; only legal or natural persons may be parties even in in rem actions. "Against the thing" means that resolution of the case affects interests of others whether direct or indirect. It is also assumes that the interests – in the form of rights or duties – attach to the thing which is the subject matter or litigation. It action in rem, our procedure assumes an active vinculum over those with interests to the thing subject of litigation.

Due process requires that those with interest to the thing in litigation be notified and given an opportunity to defend those interests. Courts, as guardians of constitutional rights, cannot be expected to deny persons their due process rights while at the same time be considered as acting within their jurisdiction.

Violation of due process rights is a jurisdictional defect. This Court recognized this principle in Aducayen v. Flores. In the same case, this court further ruled that this jurisdictional defect is remedied by a petition for certiorari. Similarly in Vda. de Cuaycong v. Vda. de Sengbengco, this court held that a decision that was issued in violation of a person's due process rights suffers a fatal infirmity.

The relation of due process to jurisdiction is recognized even in administrative cases wherein the standard of evidence is relatively lower. Thus, in Montoya v. Varilla;

The cardinal precept is that where there is a violation of basic constitutional rights, courts are ousted from their jurisdiction. The violation of a party's right to due process raises a serious jurisdictional issue which cannot be glossed over or disregarded at will. Where the denial of the fundamental right of due process is apparent, a decision rendered is disregard of that rights void for lack of jurisdiction.

xxx xxx

Hence, regardless of the nature of the action, proper service of summons is imperative. A decision rendered without proper service of summons suffers a defect in jurisdiction. Respondent's institution of a proceeding for annulment of petitioner's certificate of title is sufficient to vest the court with jurisdiction over the res, but it is not sufficient for the court to proceed with the case with authority and competence.

Personal service of summons is the preferred mode of service of summons. Thus, as a rule, summons must be served personally upon the defendant or respondent wherever he or she may be found. If the defendant or respondent refuses to receive the summons, it shall be tendered to him or her.

If the defendant or respondent a domestic juridical person, personal service of summons shall be effected upon its president, managing partner, general manager, corporate secretary, treasurer, or in-house counsel wherever he or

she may be found.

Other modes of serving summons may be done when justified. Service of summons through other modes will not be effective without showing serious attempts to serve summons through personal service. Thus, the rules allow summons to be served by substituted service only for justifiable causes and if the defendant or respondent cannot be served within reasonable time. Substituted service is effected "(a) by leaving copies of the summons at the defendant's residence with some person of suitable age and discretion then residing therein, or (b) by leaving the copies at defendant's office or regular place of business with some competent person in charge thereof."

Service of summons by publication in a newspaper of general circulation is allowed when the defendant or respondent is designated as an unknown owner or if his or her whereabouts are "unknown and cannot be ascertained by diligent inquiry." It may only be effected after unsuccessful attempts to serve the summons personally, and after diligent inquiry as to the defendant's or respondent's whereabouts.

Service of summons by extra territorial service is allowed after leave of court when the defendant or respondent does not reside or is not found in the country or is temporarily out of the country.

If a defendant or respondent voluntarily appears in trial or participates in the proceedings, it is generally construed as sufficient service of summons. (emphasis supplied)

On the bases of the foregoing jurisprudential disquisition, considering that the issue herein raised directly concerns the very jurisdiction of the Court, and in order to avoid any situation wherein the proceedings in this case will subsequently be declared null and void for lack of jurisdiction, the Court finds it more prudent under the circumstances to require the service of summons to the additional respondents thru personal service at their last known address in the Philippines and thru extraterritorial service by publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Moreover, the Court is of the considered opinion that, as correctly observed by the answering respondents, the ruling in *Racca vs. Echague* is more applicable to the case at bar. The Court there explained that the additional requirement of personal service on the heirs under Section 4, Rule 77 which cannot be disregarded despite publication in Section 3, is intended to safeguard the right to due process if unsuspecting heirs, legatees or devisees who, without their knowledge, were being excluded from participating in a proceeding which may affect their right to succeed in the estate. It was further ruled that in rules of procedure, an act which is jurisdictional, or of the essence of the proceedings, or is prescribed for the protection or benefit of the party affected is mandatory.

On a final note. A void judgment is defined as one that, from its inception, is a complete nullity and without legal effect. It cannot affect, impair, or create rights, nor can any rights be based on it. All proceedings founded on the void judgment are themselves regarded as invalid and ineffective for any purpose. As void judgments produce no legal and binding effect, they are deemed inexistent. They may result from lack of jurisdiction over the subject matter or a lack of jurisdiction over the person of either of the parties. In court proceedings, there is no right more cherished than the right of every litigant to be given an opportunity to be heard. This right begins at the very moment that summons is served on the defendant. The Rules place utmost importance in ensuring that the defendant personally grasp the weight of responsibility that will befall him.<sup>3</sup>

WHEREFORE, the Court resolves as follows:

- Let summons be issued to additional respondents Annabel P. Corbet, Louvelle P. Mussiba, Mary Ann P. Santos, Helen Joy Nielo, Gil Dioscoro Panes, and Marilyn Panes Lao;
- The Court Sheriff of this Court, Sidney Solas, is directed to personally serve summons on the additional respondents at their last known local address at 269 E. Lopez St., Jaro, Iloilo City; and
- Petitioners are directed to cause the service of summons to the additional respondents, by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the City and Province of Iloilo, and submit proof of compliance herein within thirty (30) days from receipt of this order.

³. Titan Dragon Properties Corp. vs. Marlina Galenzoga, G.R. No. 246088, April 28, 2021.

SO ORDERED.

City of Iloilo, October 4, 2023.

#### (SGD.) MA. THERESA N. ENRIQUEZ-GASPAR Presiding Judge

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
6th Judicial Region
BRANCH 33 – Iloilo City
(033) 335-3503/0917-178-3133
rtc1ilo033@judiciary.gov.ph

SPL. PROC. No. 19-14262

FOR:

Declaration of Heirship

Felix P. Panerio, et al...

Petitioners,

-versus-

Hortencia P. Panes, et al., Respondents. X------X

SUMMONS

TO:

Annabel P. Corbet Louvelle P. Musibba Mary Ann P. Santos Helen Joy Nielo Gil Dioscoro Panes Marilyn Panes Lao

GREETINGS:

you are hereby required, within *sixty (60) days* after publication, exclusive of the day of service, to file with this Court, and Serve on the plaintiff/s your **ANSWER** to the Complaint and its annexes, copy of which is hereto attached. You are reminded of the provision in the IBP-OCA Memorandum of Policy Guidelines dated March 12, 2002, to observe restraint in filing motion to dismiss and instead alleged grounds thereof as defenses in the Answer. If you fail to answer within the time fixed, the plaintiff will take judgment by default against you and this Court may grant the relief applied for in the complaint.

WITNESS MY HAND under the seal of this Court, this 14th day of November, 2023.

(SGD.) ATTY. ZAREMELLE D. ADAME-GUMBAN Clerk of Court V

News Express

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES REGIONAL TRIAL COURT 6th Judicial Region Branch 33 **Iloilo City** 

FELIX P. PANERIO, HERNANITA P. HANDINERO and GILDA P. PENFOLD rep. by their Attorney-In-Fact Francis V. Legaspi, Petitioners

> SPL. PROC. NO. 19-14262 For: Declaration of Heirship -versus-

HORTENCIA P. PANES AND SPOUSES HERWYNN DEPOSITAR AND MAY GRACE PANES-DEPOSITAR, ANNABEL P. CORBET, LOUVELLE P. MUSIBBA, MARY ANN P. SANTOS, HELEN JOY NIELO, GIL DIOSCORO PANES and MARILYN PANES LAO,

Respondents.

#### **AMENDED PETITION**

PETITIONERS represented by their attorney-in-fact Francis V. Legaspi by the undersigned counsels to this Honorable Court most respectfully state that:

- 1. Petitioner Felix P. Panerio, is of legal age, widower, Canadian citizen, resident of 1110 Provencher, Brossard, Quebec, Canada andis represented in this case by his attorney-in-fact Francis V. Legaspi as per Special Power of Attorney dated 30 January 2019 copy of which is hereto attached as Annex "A".
- 2. Petitioner Hernanita P. Handinero is of legal age, married, Canadian citizen and resident of 1640 Surrey Ave., Dorval, Que. Canada, H9P IW4 and is represented in this case by her attorney-in-fact Francis V. Legaspi as per Special Power of Attorney dated 30 March 2019 copy of which is hereto attached as Annex "B".
- 3. Petitioner Gilda P. Penfold is of legal age, married, Canadian citizen and resident of 1006-1088, Quebec St., Vancouver, B.C. Canada, V6A-4H2 and is represented in this case by her attorney-in-fact Francis V. Legaspi as per Special Power of Attorney dated March 15, 2019 copy of which is hereto attached as Annex "C".
- 4. Respondent Hortencia P. Panes is of legal age, single and resident of 269-E Lopez Jaena St., Jaro, Iloilo City while Respondents Spouses Herwynn Depositar and May Grace Panes-Depositar are likewise of legal ages and likewise residents of 269-E Lopez Jaena St., Jaro, Iloilo City where they may be served summons and copies of the petition as well as notices, orders and processes of this Court.
- 4.1. It is evident that the parties are residents of different municipalities and cities for as a matter of fact the petitioners are residing outside of the country thereby removing them from any requirement of prior referral to the Lupon pursuant to Sec. 408, Republic Act No. 7160' and the Supreme Court's ruling in Dante M. Pascual etc. v. Marilou M. Pascual<sup>2</sup>.
- <u>4.1.1.</u> Additionally, the following respondents are likewise being impleaded, viz:
  - 4.1.1.1 Annabel P. Corbet, of legal age, married, Filipino citizen; 4.1.1.2. Louvelle P. Musibba, of legal age, married, Filipino citizen;
- 4.1.1.3 Mary Ann P. Santos, of legal age, married to Federico Santos, Filipino citizen:
- 4.1.1.4. Helen Joy Nielo married to Iken Nielo, of legal age and Filipino
- 4.1.1.5 Gil Dioscoro Panes married to Etchel Panes, of legal age, Filipino; and,
  - 4.1.1.6 Marilyn Panes Lao, of legal age, married and Filipino citizen
- All the foregoing respondents whose names and personal circumstances are described on paras. 4.1.1.1 to 4.1.1.6, inclusive, save for Gil Dioscoro Panes, are presently abroad but their local address is at 269 E. Lopez Street, Jaro, Iloilo City, where they may be served with summons and other court processes that may emanate from the foregoing proceedings.
  - $^1$  X x x "(f) Disputes involving parties who actually reside in barangays of different cities or municipalities, except where such barangay units adjoin each other and the parties thereto agree to submit their differences to amicable settlement by an appropriate lupon".

    2 G.R. No. 157830, November 17, 2005. "In fine, since the plaintiff herein petitioner, the real party-in-interest,
  - is not an actual resident of the barangay where the defendant-herein resides, the local lupon has no jurisdiction over their dispute, hence prior referral to it for conciliation is not a pre-condition to its filing in court".

And while the additional respondents' (other than Gil Dioscoro Panes) may have had already embraced foreign citizenship; still pursuant to recent jurisprudence<sup>3</sup>, they still may be served with summons by substituted service for so long as they maintain a residence in the Philippines, thus:

"While service of summons should generally be effected on the defendant herself, case law allows resort to substituted service for defendants who are residents but are temporarily out of the country. Despite Barber's allegation that she is now an American citizen, the Court agrees with the CA that she is likewise a Philippine resident who is temporarily out of the country. Jurisprudence has defined a dwelling, house, or residence as the place where the person named in the summons is living at the time when the service is made, even though he may be temporarily out of the country at the time. Indeed, it remains undisputed that Barber se adjacent to respondent's property returns to the Philippines. Under Section 7, Rule 14 of the Rules of Court, service of summons may properly be made to a person of suitable age and discretion found at defendant's residence. In the case of Pavlow v. Mendenilla, this Court also upheld the resort to substituted service of summons upon an American citizen who maintained a residence in Makati but was out of the country at the time of service. Guided by the foregoing, the service of summons to Barber's aunt Norma Balmastro should be deemed sufficient to clothe the RTC jurisdiction over Barber's

In the event that personal or substituted service will not be feasible as the aforesaid respondents are presently out of the country, extraterritorial service (or by publication) may be availed pursuant to Section 17, Rule 14 of A.M. No. 19-10-20-SC or the 2019 Revised Rules on Civil Procedure in tandem with Administrative Order No. 254-2020 entitled "Guidelines on the Implementation in the Philippines of the Hague Service Convention on the Service Abroad of Judicial Documents in Civil and Commercial Matters.

Assuredly, despite the absence of these respondents in the Philippines, given that the petitioners' main prayer in this case involves their status, ie., that they be declared heirs of Josefa P. Panes, the instant case is a proceeding in rem which would allow for extraterritorial service of summons. This is because jurisprudence holds that a person's status is in rem and thus res judicata cannot apply4. "Hence, petitions directed against the "thing" itself or the res, which concerns the status of a person, like a petition for adoption, annulment of marriage, or correction of entries in the birth certificate, as in the instant case, are actions in rem.<sup>5</sup>". "In this jurisdiction our Rules of Court clearly provide that with respect to actions in personam, as distinguished from actions in rem, a foreign judgment merely constitutes prima facie evidence of the justness of the claim of a party and, as such, is subject to proof to the contrary<sup>6</sup>.

- <sup>3</sup> Diana Barber, Rex Jimeno, Jacquelyn Beado, and Rochelle Tan v. Rolando Chua, G.R. No. 205630.
- 5. Josefa P. Panes was in her lifetime the owner of a piece of residential land and the house standing thereon known as Lot 16, Block 2, Pcs-06-000907 located at 269-E Lopez St., Jaro, Iloilo City which parcel of land was then covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-77164 copy of which title is hereto attached as Annex "D" and as part hereof.
- 6. The afore-said lot has an assessed value of P 171,000.00 as per Property Index No. (Lot) 139-03-023-01-009 copy of which is hereto attached as Annex "E" and as part hereof.

- 7. The building standing on afore-said lot per certification of the Office of the City Assessor of Iloilo City copy of which is hereto attached as Annex "F" is assessed at P 47,140.00. Both building and lot have an estimated value of Three Million Pesos (P 3.000.000.00).
- 8. In spite of repeated and extraordinary efforts petitioners could not secure from the office of the City Assessor of Iloilo City a most recent tax declaration of the lot and building subject of this petition as their request was refused by that office for the reason that they are not the declared owners of the properties
- 9. Petitioners however undertake that should there be a deficiency later on the amount of docketing fees to be paid if it turns out that the value of the building and lot subject of this case is more than the estimated value of Three Million Pesos (P 3,000,000.00) petitioners will pay the difference.
  - $^4$  Edna S. Kondo, represented by Attorney-in-fact, Luzviminda S. Pineda v. Civil Registrar General, G.R. No. 223628. March 4, 2020  $^5$  Alba v. Court of AppealsG.R. No. 164041. July 29, 2005

  - <sup>6</sup> Roehr v. Rodriguez, G.R. No. 142820, June 20, 2003
- 10. Josefa P. Panes died in Iloilo City on December 18, 2006 as per Certificate of Death copy of which is hereto attached as Annex "G".
- 11. Josefa P. Panes had five (5) children namely Helen P. Panerio, now deceased, Hernanita P. Handinero, Gilda P. Penfold, Hortencia P. Panes and Cesar Panes (now deceased). Helen P. Panerio was succeeded by herein petitioner Felix P. Panerio. They were not blest with any children or heirs.
  - 11.1. While Cesar Panes left as his heirs the additional respondents mentioned in paras. 4.1.1.1 to 4.1.1.6, inclusive, who, together with the originally impleaded respondent May Grace Panes-Depositar, are his children. As far as petitioners know, Cesar Panes died ahead of his wife Gilda Panes who also died later.
- 12. Thru a falsified Deed of Adjudication and Waiver of Rights dated December 27, 2011 copy of which is hereto attached as Annex "H" respondents Hortencia P. Panes, Gilda Panes (now deceased) and May Grace Panes-Depositar (the latter two as heirs of Cesar Panes) adjudicated unto themselves the lot under Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-77164 and the building standing thereon and thereafter waived the same in favor of respondent May Grace Panes-Depositar married to the other respondent Herwynn P. Depositar.
- 13. The respondent Hortencia P. Panes, the respondents Spouses May Grace Panes-Depositar and Herwynn P. Depositar and the late Gilda Panes connived with each other in the execution of the falsified Deed of Adjudication and Waiver of Rights dated December 27, 2011 and in the subsequent transfer of the building and lot under Transfer Certificate of Title No. T - 77164 from the name of Josefa P. Panes to the names of respondents spouses May Grace Panes-Depositar and Herwynn Depositar.
- 14. The document Deed of Adjudication and Waiver of Rights dated December 27, 2011 is a falsified document because it is not true that the heirs of Josefa Panes were only the respondents Hortencia Panes and Gilda Panes and May Grace Panes-Depositar(as heirs of Cesar Panes) for she had other heirs namely Helen Panes Panerio (deceased wife of petitioner Felix Panerio), Hernanita P. Handinero and Gilda P. Penfold.
- 15. As a result of the Deed of Adjudication and Waiver of Rights dated December 27, 2011 a new title was later issued in the name of May Grace Panes-Depositar married to Herwynn P. Depositar under Transfer Certificate of Title No. T – 095-2012000142 copy of which is hereto attached as **Annex "I"**.
- 16. After Transfer Certificate of Title No. T 095-2012000142 thru deceit and misrepresentation of respondents was issued in the name of respondent May Grace Panes-Depositar married to defendant Herwynn Depositar the afore-said spouses respondents May Grace Panes-Depositar and Herwynn Depositar mortgaged it first on March 01, 2012 with RBG Imperial Bank, Inc., (A Rural Bank), for Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Pesos (P 750,000.00) as shown in Entry No. 2012001119 in said title; then with the same RBG Imperial Bank, Inc. (A Rural Bank) on March 29, 2012 for Four Hundred Fifty Thousand Pesos (P 450,000.00) under Entry No. 2012001803; and, finally with Queen City Development Bank on June 27, 2012 for One Million Two Hundred Thousand Pesos (P 1,200,000.00) as shown in Entry No. 2012003343 to the damage and prejudice of the excluded heirs of Josefa P. Panes namely Helen Panes Panerio, Hernanita P. Handinero and Gilda P. Penfold.
- 17. Hereto attached as Annexes "J", "K" and "L", respectively, are copies of the documents of mortgage pertaining to RBG Imperial Bank for P 750,000.00, with the same bank for P 450,000.00 and with Queen City Development Bank for P 1,200,000.00.
- 18. From the time Transfer Certificate of Title No. T 095-2012000142 was issued on January 24, 2012 in the name of respondents Spouses May Grace Panes-Depositar and Herwynn Depositar by reason of the Deed of Adjudication and Waiver of Rights dated December 27, 2011 respondents rented out the house standing thereon for boarders and bed spacers getting all the rentals thereon to the damage and prejudice of petitioners for which reason afore-said respondents should be ordered to make an accounting as the income from such boarders and bed spacers belong not to them alone but to petitioners as well.
- 19. Representations were made by petitioners to respondents for them not only to rectify the wrong they have done to petitioners for the falsified Deed of Adjudication and Waiver of Rights they executed and to restore the title of the lot and building in the name of Josefa Panes but also to account and deliver to petitioners their share the income respondents derived from the rentals of the building on the property but respondents adamantly refused.
- 20. Helen Panes Panerio (deceased wife of petitioner Felix Panerio), Hernanita P. Handinero and Gilda P. Penfold should therefore be declared as the other heirs of Josefa P. Panes and that thereafter Lot 16, Block 2, Pcs-06-000907 located at 169-E Lopez St., Jaro, Iloilo City then under Transfer Certificate of Title No. T - 77164 and the building standing thereon be partitioned among the heirs of Josefa P. Panes. Hereto attached and marked as Annexes "M", "N" and "O", respectively, are the certificate of baptism and Certificates of Live Birth of Helen P. Panerio, Hernanita P. Handinero and Gilda P. Penfold.

#### COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 6, RULE 7, 2019 REVISED RULES ON CIVIL PROCEDURE, A.M. NO. 19-10-20-SC 3

The Petitioners intend to present the following witnesses to prove their claim and the allegations contained in this complaint, and whose Judicial Affidavit are hereto attached:

a) Francis V. Legaspi

**Purpose of Testimony:** The witness will be presented for the purpose of proving that the petitioners are the lawful heirs of the late Josefa P. Panes, and succeeded to her property subject matter of this petition together with the Respondents. He will also prove that the property of the late Josefa P. Panes was fraudently adjudicated by the Respondents and subsequently transferred the ownership to the Spouses Depositar without the knowledge nor any conformity of the Petitioners. Further, he will also be presented to prove that the petitioners, despite repeated demands, were not given any share of income coming from the use of the property subject of this case.

- 7 Section 6. Contents. Every pleading stating a party's claims or defenses shall, in addition to those mandated by Section 2, Rule 7, state the following:
  - Names of witnesses who will be presented to prove a party's claim or defense;
  - (b) Summary of the witnesses' intended testimonies, provided that the judicial affidavits of said witnesses shall be attached to the pleading and form an integral part thereof. Only witnesses whose judicial affidavits are attached to the pleading shall be presented by the parties during trial. Except if a party presents meritorious reasons as basis for the admission of additional witnesses, no other witness or affidavit shall be heard or admitted by the court; and
  - (c) Documentary and object evidence in support of the allegations contained in the pleading. (n)

The following are the reserved witnesses of the Petitioners with their purposes

of testimony, whose testimonies shall be presented during the Petitioners presentation of their evidence-in-chief. At this point, their testimony are being reserved on the ground of their unavailability for the taking of their

Felix P. Panerio (Reserved witness pursuant to Section 2, Rule 18 of A.M. No. 19-10-20-SC or the 2019 Revised Rules on Civil Procedure).

Purpose of Testimony: The Petitioner will be presented for the purpose of proving that his late wife Helen P. Panerio is one of the lawful heirs of the late Josefa P. Panes, and succeeded to her property subject matter of this petition together with the other Petitioners and the Respondents. He will also prove that the property of the late Josefa P. Panes was fraudently adjudicated by the Respondents and subsequently transferred the ownership to the Spouses Depositar without the knowledge nor any conformity of the Petitioners. Further, he will also be presented to prove that the petitioners, despite repeated demands, were not given any share of income coming from the use of the property subject of this case.

Hernanita P. Handinero (Reserved witness pursuant to Section 2, Rule 18 of A.M. No. 19-10-20-SC or the 2019 Revised Rules on Civil Procedure).

Purpose of Testimony: The Petitioner will be presented for the purpose of proving that she is one of the lawful heirs of the late Josefa P. Panes. and succeeded to her property subject matter of this petition together with the other Petitioners and the Respondents. She will also prove that the property of the late Josefa P. Panes was fraudulently adjudicated by the Respondents and subsequently transferred the ownership to the Spouses Depositar without the knowledge nor any conformity of the Petitioners. Further, she will also be presented to prove that the petitioners, despite repeated demands, were not given any share of income coming from the use of the property subject

Gilda P. Penfold (Reserved witness pursuant to Section 2, Rule 18 of A.M. No. 19-10-20-SC or the 2019 Revised Rules on Civil Procedure).

**Purpose of Testimony:** The Petitioner will be presented for the purpose of proving that she is one of the lawful heirs of the late Josefa P. Panes, and succeeded to her property subject matter of this petition together with the other Petitioners and the Respondents. She will also prove that the property of the late Josefa P. Panes was fraudulently adjudicated by the Respondents and subsequently transferred the ownership to the Spouses Depositar without the knowledge nor any conformity of the Petitioners. Further, she will also be presented to prove that the petitioners, despite repeated demands, were not given any share of income coming from the use of the property subject

Registrar of Deeds of Iloilo City (Reserved witness pursuant to Section 2, Rule 18 of A.M. No. 19-10-20-SC or the 2019 Revised Rules on Civil

Purpose of Testimony: The witness will be presented for the purpose of proving that the falsified Deed of Adjudication dated 27 December 2011 was used as the deed of conveyance which allowed for the cancellation of the Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-77164 covering Lot 16, Block 2, Pcs-06-000907 located at 269-E Lopez St., Jaro, Iloilo City and issued under the name of the late Josefa P. Panes and the issuance of a new Transfer Certificate of Title No. T – 095-2012000142 issued under the name of Mary Grace Panes-Depositar married to Herwynn Depositar;

Bank Representative of RBG Imperial Bank, Inc. (A Rural Bank) - (Reserved witness pursuant to Section 2, Rule 18 of A.M. No. 19-10-20-SC or the 2019 Revised Rules on Civil Procedure).

Purpose of Testimony: The witness will be presented for the purpose of proving that on March 01, 2012, the Respondents Depositario mortgaged the subject property with RBG Imperial Bank, Inc., (A Rural Bank), for Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Pesos (P 750,000.00) as shown in Entry No. 2012001119 in said title; then with the same RBG Imperial Bank, Inc. (A Rural Bank) on March 29, 2012 for Four Hundred Fifty Thousand Pesos (P 450,000.00) under Entry No. 2012001803;

Bank Representative of Queen City Development Bank (Reserved witness pursuant to Section 2, Rule 18 of A.M. No. 19-10-20-SC or the 2019 Revised Rules on Civil Procedure).

Purpose of Testimony: The witness will be presented for the purpose of proving that on June 27, 2012 the Respondent Spouses Depositar mortgaged the subject property to the said bank for One Million Two Hundred Thousand Pesos (P 1,200,000.00) as shown in Entry No. 2012003343;

Two (2) Reserved Witnesses

Purpose of Testimony: The reserved witness will be presented for the purpose of corroborating the testimonies of the witnesses, most specifically the Petitioners in this case:

The following documentary and object evidence marked as ANNEX~A to **ANNEX O**, and hereafter requested to be marked as exhibits for the petitioner, are hereto attached in support of the allegations contained in this petition:

ANNEX A - Special Power of Attorney dated 30 January 2019 executed by the petitioner Felix P. Panerio in favor of Francis V. Legaspi:

ANNEX B - Special Power of Attorney dated 30 March 2019 executed by the petitioner Hernanita P. Handinero in favor of Francis V. Legaspi;

ANNEX C - Special Power of Attorney dated March 15, 2019 executed by the petitioner Gilda P. Penfold in favor of Francis V. Legaspi;

ANNEX D - Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-77164 covering Lot 16, Block 2, Pcs-06-000907 located at 269-E Lopez St., Jaro, Iloilo City and issued under the name of the late Josefa P. Panes:

ANNEX E - copy of the Property Index No. (Lot) 139-03-023-01-009 referring to Lot 6, Block 2, Pcs-06-000907 located at 269-E Lopez St., Jaro, Iloilo City;

ANNEX F-copy of the certification of the Office of the City Assessor of Iloilo City

assessing the subject lot at P 47,140.00;

ANNEXG -Certificate of Death of the late Josefa P. Panes;

ANNEX H-copy falsified Deed of Adjudication and Waiver of Rights dated December

ANNEX I-Transfer Certificate of Title No. T - 095-2012000142 issued under the name of Mary Grace Panes-Depositar married to Herwynn Depositar;

ANNEXES J, K, L - copies of the documents of mortgage pertaining to RBG Imperial Bank for P 750,000.00, with the same bank for P 450,000.00 and with Queen City Development Bank for P 1,200,000.00.

ANNEXES M. N. and O -certificate of baptism and Certificates of Live Birth of Helen P. Panerio, Hernanita P. Handinero and Gilda P. Penfold:

#### PRAYER

WHEREFORE, in view of all the foregoing, it is prayed that:

- Should there be a deficiency later in the amount of docketing fees to be paid if it turns out that the value of the building and lot subject of this case is more than the estimated value of Three Million Pesos (P 3.000.000.00) that petitioners be allowed to pay the difference.
- 2. Helen Panes Panerio (deceased wife of Felix Panerio), Hernanita P. Handinero and Gilda P. Penfold be declared as the other heirs of Josefa P. Panes who are entitled to demand a partition of Lot 16, Block 2, Pcs-06-000907 located at  $269\,E.\,Lopez\,St.,\,Jaro,\,Iloilo\,City\,then\,under\,Transfer\,Certificate\,of\,Title\,No.\,T-77164$ and the building standing thereon among the heirs of Josefa P. Panes.

Other reliefs just and proper are also prayed.

Iloilo City, Philippines, 19 July 2021.

#### **REYES AND REYES LAW OFFICE**

Counsel for petitioners G/F Carmelita Building Quezon, Rizal Sts. Iloilo City Tel. No. (033) 338-2869 E-mail ad: admin@etriiilaw.com

By:

(SGD.) EDUARDO N. REYES, JR.

PTR No. 7256705/Iloilo City/January 4, 2021 IBP No. 140607/Iloilo City/February 15, 2021 MCLE Compliance No. VI-0010081 Dated July 04, 2018 SC Roll No. 23772

EDUARDO T. REYES, III

P.T.R. NO.7255409 / Iloilo City / 04 January 2021 IBP No. 140751 / Iloilo City / 15 February 2021 Attorney's Roll No. 44832 MCLE Certificate of Compliance No. VI- 0000576 26 September 2016 Valid Until April 14, 2022

#### **NESTOR JEREMY B. MORENO**

P.T.R. NO. 7255413 / Iloilo City / 04 January 2021 IBP Acknowledgment No. 01024/ Iloilo City / 04 January 2021 Attorney's Roll No. 72355 MCLE Certificate of Compliance No. On Process

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES) CITY AND PROVINCE OF ILOILO)s.s.

#### VERIFICATION/CERTIFICATION

I, FRANCIS V. LEGASPI, of legal age, married and resident of No. 14, Brgy. San Juan, Molo, Iloilo City after being duly sworn to in accordance with law, depose and say: that I am the attorney-in-fact of the petitioners Felix P. Panerio. Hernanita P. Handinero and Gilda P. Penfold as per Special Powers of Attorney copies of which are hereto attached in this Petition; that as the attorney-in-fact of the petitioner in the above-entitled case I caused the preparation and filing of the foregoing amended petition; that I have read the allegations contained therein and that the same are true and correct of my own personal knowledge or based on authentic records; that I have not commenced any other action or proceeding involving the same issues with the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, or different Divisions thereof, or any other tribunal or agency; to the best of my knowledge and belief no such other action or proceeding involving the same issues is pending in the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals; or different Divisions thereof or any other tribunal or agency except NPS Docket No. VI-10-INV-198-00104 entitled "Felix Panerio, et. al. vs. Hortencia P. Panes, et. al." before National Prosecution Service, Office of the City Prosecutor, Iloilo City for Estafa thru Falsification of Public Documents as well as the civil action for partition, annulment of title and documents with accounting and damages which had been severed as causes of action and is yet to be docketed; and if I should learn that a similar action or proceeding has been filed or is pending before the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, or different Divisions thereof, or any other tribunal or agency, I shall notify the Court within five (5) days from knowledge thereof.

Still further, I certify that:

- The foregoing cases are not filed to harass, cause unnecessary delay, or needlessly increase the cost of litigation;
- The factual allegations therein have evidentiary support or, if specifically so identified, will likewise have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for discovery;
- That my signature below further serves as a certification of the truthfulness of the allegations in this pleading;
- I have executed this verification/ certification to attest to the truth of the foregoing facts and to comply with the provisions of Adm. Circular No. 04-09 of the Honorable Supreme Court in tandem with Section 4, Rule 7 of A.M. No. 19-10-20-SC (2019 Revised Rules on Civil Procedure)

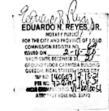
(SGD.) FRANCIS V. LEGASPI

As attorney-in-fact of plaintiffs FELIX PANERIO HERNANITA P. HANDINERO GILDA P. PENFOLD as per Special Powers of Attorney hereto attached in the complaint

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this \_\_\_\_ day of 21 July 2021 at Iloilo City, Philippines, affiant Francis V. Legaspi exhibited to me his Driver's License No. FO3-93-076159 who is personally known to me or identified by me through competent evidence of identity as defined by the Rules on Notarial Practice pursuant to Supreme Court EN BANC A.M. No. 02-8-13 SC Resolution. That the herein pearson represented to me that the signature on the instrument or document was voluntarily affixed by him as his free and voluntary act and deed and he avowed under penalty of the law to the whole truth of the contents of the foregoing.

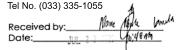
WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL on the date and place first above-written.





Copy furnished by personal service:

ATTY. ALOYSIUS P. C. DELA CRUZ II ATTY. LAWUEL T. LERONA ATTY. LOUIE MARIE S. LONDRES-LERONA ATTY. SHERYL MAY S. LEDESMA-ALABANZA 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Golden Commercial Center, Iznart Street, Iloilo City



Explanation Ad Cautelam

(This Explanation seems no longer required under the 2019 Revised Rules on Civil Procedure [A.M. No. 19-10-20- SC] which took effect on 01 May 2020 but is only filed just the same out of extreme caution.)

The service of this Amended Petition was effected by registered given that they are not yet represented by counsel and in view of the health protocols still being imposed by the SC and local authorities particularly Administrative Circular No. 45-2020 dated 18 August 2020 par. 8 of which ALLOWS electronic filing of pleadings primarily to avoid personal interaction and thus under the present circumstances makes personal filing rather impracticable. Besides, pursuant to Section 15, Rule 13 of the 2019 Revised Rules on Civil Procedure, electronic filing is now allowed.

(SGD.) EDUARDO N. REYES, JR.

Republic of the Philippines

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Region VI

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Kimberly P. Guzman, Regional Operations Manager of Sta. Lucia Realty & Development Inc. (Developer), has filed with this office a sworn registration statement for the sale of residential subdivision lots at GREEN MEADOWS PHASE 2 (Residential Lots) project located at Brgy. Tacas, Jaro, Iloilo City and more particularly described as portion of Lot(s) Blk. 86, Pcs-06-004869; Blk. 87, Pcs-06-004869; Blk. 88, Pcs-06-004869; Road Lots 78 & 79, Pcs-06-004869; Lot 4495-B-2, Psd-06-057717; Lot 4121 Cad. 7, Sta. Barbara Cadastre; Lot 4312-A, Psd-57098, containing an area of 475,316 **sq.m.** and covered by **TCT No(s)**. **095-2016004429**; 095-2016004430; 095-2016004431; 095-2016004509; 095-2016004510; 095-2018001757; 095-2022004769; 095-2012001742.

The foregoing project is utilizing Lago Vista Residences as its compliance pursuant to Section 18 of Republic Act No. 7279 as amended by RA 10884 under Department Order No. 2021-003 Series of 2021 (Deferment of Submission of Proof of Compliance to the Balanced Housing Development Program).

All papers relative thereto shall, upon request and payment of processing fee, are available for inspection during business hours by any person having legal interest thereon.

Absent any legal impediment, the above-cited project is deemed registered and certificate, in evidence thereof, shall forthwith be issued after five (5) days from the last day of publication.

### DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT,

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Gaisano Capital - ICC Mall, Benigno S. Aquino, Jr. Avenue, Diversion Road

Mandurriao, Iloilo City, Telephone Nos. (033) 321-

Iloilo City, Philippines, December 04, 2023.

(SGD.) EnP EVA MARIA P. MARFIL Regional Director

NE/Dec. 11 & 18, 2023

Republic of the Philippines

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Region VI

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that **Kimberly P. Guzman**, Regional Operations Manager of **Sta. Lucia Land Inc. (Developer)**, has filed with this office a sworn registration statement for the sale of Commercial lots in **ALDEA (Commercial)** project located at Brgy. Pacquiad, Oton, Iloio and more particularly described as portion lot(s) **2576**, **2902**, **2885**, **3056**, **3856**, **3858-A**, **3860-A-1**; **3860-B**; **3906-A**; **3907-B**; **3908-A** containing an area of **66**,145.00 **sq. m.** and covered by **TCT No. 090-2014001103**; **090-2014002382**; **090-2014003766**; **090-2014002381**; **090-2014001531**; **090-201400337**; **090-2014003765**; **090-2014000660**; **090-2014002383**; **090-2017000659** respectively.

All papers relative thereto shall, upon request and payment of processing fee, are available for inspection during business hours by any person having legal interest thereon.

Absent any legal impediment, the above-cited project is deemed registered and certificate, in evidence thereof, shall forthwith be issued after five (5) days from the last day of publication.

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT Western Visayas Region Field Office VI**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Flr., Gaisano Capital ICC-Mall, B.S. Aquino, Jr., Avenue, Diversion Road, Mandurriao, Iloilo City Tel. Nos. (033) 321-6177.

Iloilo City, Philippines, October 18, 2023

(SGD.) EnP EVA MARIA P. MARFIL
Regional Director

Regional Di

NE/Dec. 4 & Dec. 11, 2023

W. VISAYAS ... (from page 5)

School in Silay City, Esteban R. Abada Memorial School-East in Kabankalan City, and Tacas Elementary School in Iloilo City.

Escullar said the activity aimed to provide a unique opportunity for students to actively participate in tree-planting activities, foster a deeper understanding of environmental issues, and promote conservation efforts.

"It's a hands-on learning and practical application of environmental concepts for our children, and we look forward for them to develop a strong sense of responsibility toward the environment," he said.

The school heads have to ensure the survival of the trees planted within the school premises, while those outside schools will be coordinated with concerned barangay officials. (PNA)

Republic of the Philippines
Sixth Judicial Region
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
Iloilo City
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
& EX OFFICIO SHERIFF

FORECLOSURE FILE NO. F-10875-23

BDO UNIBANK, INC., Mortgagee,

-versus-

FIGURADO B. LINDO, JR., Debtor/Mortgagor.

#### **NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE**

Upon verified Application for Extra-Judicial Foreclosure of Mortgage [Under Act 3135 as Amended], filed by BDO UNIBANK, INC., Mortgagee, a universal banking corporation with office at 11th Floor, BDO Towers Valero, (formerly Citibank Tower), 8741 Paseo De Roxas, Makati City, against Figurado B. Lindo, Jr., Debtor/Mortgagor, of legal age, Filipino, and with postal address/es at (1) Door 7 Thorncliffe Apartment, Block 17, NHA, Mandurriao, Iloilo City; and (2) Lot 40 Blk. 4 Parc Regency Residences B, Balabag, Pavia, Iloilo, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of September 28, 2023, amounts to PHP 1,925,099.18, the undersigned Ex Officio Sheriff of Iloilo and/or ANY of his duly authorized deputy sheriff will sell at public auction on **03 January 2024** at **10:00** A.M at the Office of the Clerk of Court and Ex Officio Sheriff, Regional Trial Court, Hall of Justice Building, lloilo City, to the highest bidder, for cash or manager's check and in Philippine Currency, the mortgaged property under Transfer Certificate of Title No. 090-2015006404 ("Owner: FIGURADO B. LINDO, JR., OF LEGAL AGE, FILIPINO, SINGLE; Address: DOOR 7 THORNCLIFFE APARTMENT BLK 17 BRGY. NHA, MANDURRIAO, ILOILO CITY WESTERN VISAYAS) including all the improvements thereon, to wit:

"A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 40, BLOCK 4 OF THE SUBDIVISION PLAN PSD-06- 068992, BEING A PORTION OF LOT 20, BLOCK 13, PCS-PCS-06-004861) SITUATED IN BARANGAY OF BALABAG, MUNICIPALITY OF PAVIA, PROVINCE OF ILOILO, ISLAND OF PANAY. BOUNDED ON THE SW., ALONG LINES 1-2 BY ROAD LOT 6; ON THE NW., ALONG LINE 2-3 BY LOT 38, BLK 4; ON THE NE., ALONG LINE 3-4 BY LOT 44, BLK 4 AND ON THE SE., ALONG LINE 4-1 BY LOT 42, BLK 4 ALL OF THE SUBDIVISION PLAN. XXXX CONTAINING AN AREA OF ONE HUNDRED (100) SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS. XXXX"

All SEALED bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the abovementioned date and time.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it will be held instead on <u>January 31, 2024</u> at the same time and venue without further notice and re-publication.

Iloilo City, Philippines, October 30, 2023.

(SGD.) ATTY. GERRY D. SUMACULUB
Clerk of Court and Ex Officio Sheriff

Prepared by:

(SGD.) RAMIL G. FACURIB
Authorized Deputy Sheriff

NE/Nov. 27, Dec. 4 & 11, 2023



(from left) Mr. Glenn Amane representing Mayor Ronnie T. Dadivas, DTICapiz PD Ken Queenie Cuñada, DTI 6 IDD Chief Mary Jade Gonzales, CAPC Chairperson Victoria Banzon and Mr. Dale Bernas from the Philippine SME Development Council (PMSMEDC)

### Capiz Unveils 7th OTOP Hub in Region 6

Roxas City, Capiz— History was made on December 05, 2023, as the province of Capiz proudly launched its very first One Town, One Product (OTOP) Hub. Situated at the Sitio Uno Township Building, Pueblo de Panay, Lawaan, Roxas City, this initiative, in collaboration with the Department of Trade and Industry Region VI, the Capiz Aquaculture Producers Cooperative (CAPC) and the Roxas City LGU, aims to provide a platform for the

homegrown entrepreneurs.

Capiz now stands as the proud home to the 7th OTOP Hub in Western Visayas, which highlights the province's commitment to economic growth and sustainable development. Gracing the launching ceremony are Ms. Mary Jade Gonzales representing DTI Region VI OIC-RD Rachel Nufable, DTI Capiz Provincial Director Ken Queenie Cuñada, Mr. Glenn Amane representing Mayor Ronnie

promotion of products crafted by T. Dadivas, Ms. Victoria "Harriet" O. Banzon, CAPC Chairperson, and Mr. Dale Bernas from the Philippine SME Development Council (PMSMEDC).

> The highlight of the event was the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) by the project partners, sealing their commitment to this groundbreaking initiative. The MOA outlines the roles and responsibilities of each party, solidifying their dedication to the success of the Capiz OTOP Hub.

### Iloilo City PWDs urged to have their IDs installed with security label

ILOILO CITY – The local government here through the Persons with Disability Affairs Office (PDAO) is calling all its persons with disability (PWD) who are holders of city-issued identification cards to have them installed with security labels and not wait for the February 2024 deadline.

"For now, only a few visit our office. I am worried about the possible influx towards the end," PDAO head Eleanor Gregorio said on Wednesday.

PDAO has to install a security label for around 15,000 to 16,000 PWD IDs, according to the statement.

Last month, Mayor Jerry Treñas issued Executive Order 157 directing the installation of a security label following reports and actual apprehensions of counterfeit PWD ID cards.

"To abate the production

these counterfeit PWD identification cards, there is a need to install a security feature on the same," part of the EO said.

The installation of the security feature to all valid

and proliferation of months after the release of

Gregorio said after the deadline, the office would announce that all PWD IDs with no security label shall be considered invalid and establishments.

A valid PWD ID entitles the bearer to at least a 20 percent discount when purchasing or availing of selected products and services.

The city-issued PWD would not be honored in ID is valid for five years.



SECURITY LABEL. The Persons with Disability Affairs Office (PDAO) calls on all PWD residents who are holders of city-issued identification cards to have them installed with a security label and not wait for the deadline. PDAO head Eleanor Gregorio, in a statement, said on Wednesday (Dec. 6, 2023), it would be better if they come early to avoid the possible influx when the deadline set on Feb. 2024 is already near. (PNA photo by PGLena)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES **REGIONAL TRIAL COURT** 6th JUDICIAL REGION OFFICE OF THE EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF CHIEF JUSTICE RAMON Q. AVANCEÑA HALL OF JUSTICE **ILOILO CITY** -000-

> FORECLOSURE NO. F-10878-23 (Branch 35, RTC, Iloilo City)

**EXTRA-JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE** OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE **UNDER ACT NO. 3135, AS AMENDED** 

> **BDO UNIBANK, INC.,** Mortgagee,

> > -versus-

MAYBEL B. OTON, as represented herein by her attorney-in-fact, MARIE BETH O. CASTAÑARES,

Debtors/Mortgagors.

#### SHERIFF'S NOTICE OF SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135 filed by the mortgagee, BDO UNIBANK, INC., with office address at 11th Floor, BDO Towers Valero, 8741 Paseo De Roxas, Makati City, Metro Manila, represented in this Act by its Authorized Representative, BERNARDITA A. CADUNGOG against the debtor/mortgagor, MAYBEL **B. OTON**, of legal age, single, Filipino and with postal addresses at Lot 2, Block 15, Happy Homes, Mandurriao, Iloilo City, and/or at 121 West Habog-Habog, Molo, Iloilo City, Philippines, as represented herein by her attorneyin-fact, MARIE BETH O. CASTAÑARES, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of September 15, 2023, amounted to FIVE MILLION THREE HUNDRED TWENTY SEVEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHT PESOS & 74/100 (Php5,327,808.74), Philippine Currency, plus interests, penalties, other charges, publication cost, attorney's fees, sheriff's legal expenses and other incidental expenses of foreclosure and auction sale, the Ex-Officio Sheriff of Iloilo or his lawful deputy will sell at public auction on JANUARY 16, 2024 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning at Ground Floor, Office of the Clerk of Court, Regional Trial Court, Chief Justice Ramon Q. Avanceña Hall of Justice, Bonifacio Drive, Iloilo City, to the HIGHEST BIDDER, for CASH or MANAGER'S CHECK and in Philippine Currency, the following real property with the buildings and all the improvements found thereon, to wit:

#### TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 095-2020000500

That certain land situated in BRGY. ONATE DE LEON, DISTRICT OF MANDURRIAO, CITY OF ILOILO, ISLAND OF PANAY, bounded and described as follows:

LOT NO: 2 BLOCK NO: 15 HAPPY HOMES PLAN NO: PCS-06-006148

LOCATION: BRGY. OÑATE DE LEON, DISTRICT OF MANDURRIAO, CITY OF ILOILO, ISLAND OF PANAY

AREA: ONE HUNDRED TWENTY SEVEN SQUARE **METERS (127), MORE OR LESS** 

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the aforementioned date and time.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on FEBRUARY 6, 2024 at the same time and place aforementioned without further

Iloilo City, Philippines, November 10, 2023.

(SGD.) ATTY. GERRY D. SUMACULUB **Ex-Officio Sheriff of Iloilo** and Clerk of Court VII

(SGD.) RICARDO F. PALABRICA, JR. Sheriff IV/Sheriff-in-Charge

NE/Nov. 27, Dec.4 & 11, 2023

### Rates of employment highest, unemployment **lowest since April 2005**

MANILA - The country's unemployment rate in October this year fell to its lowest, while employment rose to its highest since April 2005.

Results of the Philippine Statistics Authority's (PSA) latest Labor Force Survey showed that the 4.2-percent unemployment rate during the month was down from the 4.5 percent recorded in the same month last year.

In a briefing on Thursday, National Statistician Dennis Mapa said the number of unemployed went down to 2.09 million from 2.24 million in October last

The Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR), meanwhile, was at 63.9 percent or about 49.89 million Filipinos aged 15 years and above who were either employed or unemployed.

The LFPR during the month was lower than the 64.1 percent recorded in October last year.

The country's employment rate was estimated at 95.8 percent, also the highest recorded since April 2005.

The number of employed Filipinos went up to 47.80

Trends Report showed.

catalyst Moira Dorsey said.

shopping experience.

it," Qualtrics said.

employees. (PNA)

experience on social media.

bank tellers, and restaurant crews.

compared to non-frontline employees.

Filipinos favor

excellent customer

service over low prices

customer service as a bigger factor to purchase goods and

services, than cheaper prices, the 2024 Qualtrics Consumer

percent of the surveyed respondents) and customer service

support (50 percent) are the top purchase drivers among

Filipinos, above price (37 percent), easy digital experience (26

organizations they engage with. Brands need to find ways to

capture valuable customer feedback in all the places where

it's being shared, such as through surveys, social media, call

transcripts, chat logs, and review sites and combine it with

operational data, such as average spend and visit frequency, to gain insight into what consumers are doing and better understand

how to serve them better," Qualtrics XM Institute principal XM

providing feedback in less direct ways after having a bad

directly to companies they buy from following a very bad experience has fallen by 11 percentage points, meaning

organizations need to be smart about gathering feedback

where customers are giving it and taking action to address

experience in shopping, 48 percent of them will tell the company, 44 percent will tell friends and family, 30 percent

will leave online reviews, and 19 percent will share their

overcome a critical barrier to improve customer experience by

boosting the morale of frontline employees, including cashiers,

less satisfied with their pay and development to do their job,

they prioritize training customer service agents and frontline

Moreover, Qualtrics added that organizations need to

A separate Qualtrics research noted that this group is

Also, only 38 percent of customer experience leaders said

According to the report, when customers had a bad

However, the same report showed that customers are

"Since 2021, the share of consumers providing feedback

"Consumers in the Philippines expect more than ever from

percent), and doing good things for society (15 percent).

MANILA - More Filipinos are considering excellent

Qualtrics reported that quality products and service (70

million from last year's 47.06 million.

Mapa said major industries with the largest increase in employment are accommodation and food service activities (+291,000), administrative and support service activities (+224,000), transportation and storage (+149,000), public administration and defense (+98,000) and human health and social work activities (+86,000).

Underemployed persons or those who expressed the desire to have additional hours of work in their current job or to have an additional job or to have a new job with longer hours of work was recorded at 5.60 million.

This translates to an underemployment rate of 11.7 percent, which was lower than the reported 14.2 percent underemployment rate in October 2022.

In a separate statement, the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) cited the importance of expanding opportunities for individuals to reskill or upskill while sustaining efforts to create an environment promoting high-quality jobs.



LOWER UNEMPLOYMENT RATE. Jobseekers attend a mega job fair at the Manila Science High School Manila's new building on Dec. 1, 2023. Philippine Statistics Authority data showed that the unemployment rate went down to 4.2 percent in October this year. (PNA photo by Yancy Lim)

NEDA Secretary Arsenio Balisacan said Philippine labor market conditions will continue to improve given the thrust of the Marcos Administration to encourage trade and investment and reinvigorate job generation.

"We can make the labor market more inclusive with the entry of more investments, especially those that bring in new

and better technology. At the same time, we need to expand and enhance learning opportunities to ensure that we equip Filipinos for future jobs," Balisacan said.

Balisacan said the positive trend observed in the country's labor market will continue after President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. signed Republic Act 11966, also known as the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Code.

He said the legislation strengthens the country's investment ecosystem by creating a more stable and predictable policy environment for collaboration in high-impact infrastructure projects.

"The passage of the PPP Code is just one of infrastructure, many recent reforms that Balisacan noted. have made the Philippines

more attractive to foreign investors," he added.

"It provides the government with a more solid ecosystem for investments, which, in turn, generates employment opportunities for Filipino workers in several critical growth areas, including (PNA)

#### Subdued November inflation expected, but Christmas uptick possible

MANILA – The subdued 4.1 percent inflation figure in November did not come as a shock to economists and retailers alike, who noted the easing of price pressures in

In an interview on Tuesday, Carlos Manapat, economics department chair at the University of Santo Tomas, said inflation was flat in November partly due to subdued volatility in world crude prices that in turn, kept local pump prices relatively stable.

Last month's inflation numbers fell within the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas' (BSP) forecast range of 4.0 to 4.8

The latest inflation outturn is consistent with expectations



NO SIGNIFICANT ADJUSTMENTS. A worker arranges canned goods on the shelves in a grocery store in Quezon City in this undated photo. The Philippine Amalgamated Supermarkets Association on Tuesday (Dec. 5, 2023) said suppliers of basic commodities have not made significant adjustments to the prices of their goods. (PNA photo by Ben

Republic of the Philippines **Province of Guimaras Municipality of Jordan** OFFICE OF THE LOCAL CIVIL REGISTRAR

#### NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

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. 10172), Notice is hereby served to the public that KIM NICOLE M. HERRERA has filed with this Office, a petition for correction of Sex from "MALE" to "FEMALE" in the Certificate of Live Birth of KIM NICOLE M. HERRERA, born at Jordan, Guimaras and whose parents are WILFREDO G. HERRERA and REBECCA G. MAGABILIN.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this Office.

> (SGD.) JESUSA M. MILLONDAGA Municipal Civil Registrar

NE/Dec . 4, 2023 & Dec. 11, 2023

that price pressures "will moderate over the near term due to easing supply-side price pressures and negative base effects," the monetary regulator said in a statement Tuesday.

Manapat, however, pointed out that inflationary pressures are likely to pick up in December as money in circulation grows and Christmas spending reaches its peak.

He explained that the comparatively steady prices in October and November are likely to give way to upward pressures this month, but this supposedly imminent uptick is cyclical and is not worrisome.

"We will see a combination of cost-push and demandpull inflation this month as 13th-month pay is released and consumers begin Christmas shopping. There is real momentum for an increase in December," he told the Philippine News Agency.

Meanwhile, Steven Cua, president of the Philippine Amalgamated Supermarkets Association (PAGASA), confirmed that suppliers of basic commodities made no significant adjustment to the prices of their goods since the beginning of the 4th quarter, which moderated inflationary forces.

He said the supply of Christmas items that would make it to retailers' shelves in the coming days would dictate whether or not the pressure to raise prices would make a comeback this month.

"It's really a supply and demand thing. If the quantity of highly sought-after goods is low this year, then of course, prices will spike. I can probably give you better insights 10 days before Christmas... by then we will know," he

PAGASA's nationwide membership is composed mostly of small- and medium-sized supermarkets. (PNA)

> Republic of the Philippines Province of Iloilo **Municipality of Barotac Nuevo**

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL CIVIL REGISTRAR

#### **NOTICE OF PUBLICATION**

In Compliance with R.A. 9048, a notice is hereby served to the public that **HELEN BLANCO BOGLOSA** has filed with this Office a Petition for Change of First Name from "MA. HELEN GRACE" to "HELEN" in the Birth Certificate of MA. HELEN **GRACE PESCADERIA BLANCO** who was born on August 13, 1955 at Tinori-an, Barotac Nuevo, <u>lloilo</u>.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file a written opposition with this office.

> (SGD.) ATTY. REYNOLD A. PEREZ Municipal Civil Registrar

NE/Dec. 11, 2023 & Dec. 18, 2023

DECEMBER 11 - 17, 2023

News Express

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Iloilo
Municipality of San Dionisio
OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL CIVIL REGISTRAR

#### NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

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. 10172), Notice is hereby served to the public that <u>PEL JODEN PACIENTE PIEDAD</u> has filed with this Office, a petition for correction of sex from "FEMALE" to "MALE" in the certificate of Live Birth of <u>PEL JODEN PACIENTE PIEDAD</u> at San Dionisio, Iloilo and whose parents are Jefrey B. Piedad and Marife L. Paciente.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this Office.

(SGD.) MARY JEAN G. DEMONTEVERDE

Municipal Civil Registrar

NE/Dec. 11, 2023 & Dec. 18, 2023

### DEED OF ADJUDICATION WITH WAIVER OF RIGHTS

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late **Spouses** IGMEDIO PELOBELLO and PILAR RENTOY known as A PARCEL OF LAND LOT NO. 1839 OF THE CADASTRAL SURVEY OF POTOTAN, WITH BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS, EXCEPT THOSE HEREIN EXPRESSLY NOTED AS BELONGING TO OTHER PERSONS, situated in the Municipality of Pototan, Iloilo covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-15741 with an area of FIVE **HUNDRED NINETY FIVE (595) SQUARE METERS, MORE** OR LESS is adjudicated to heirs Agnes R. Pelobello, Rex Agustin R. Pelobello, Edwin R. Pelobello and Igmedio R. Pelobello, Jr. That, heirs Agnes R. Pelobello, Edwin R. Pelobello and Igmedio R. Pelobello, Jr. agreed to waive, renounce, relinquish and quitclaim all their rights, interests over the said lot including improvements thereon, in favor of Rex Agustin R. Pelobello as entered in the notarial registry of Atty. Nelsien B. Tumala per Doc. No. 465, Page No. 94, Book No. I, Series of 2023 and Atty. Jeorge H. Gregori per Doc. No. 487, Page No. 99, Book No. XXVIII, Series of 2023.

NE/Nov. 27, Dec. 4 & 11, 2023

#### **AFFIDAVIT OF LOSS**

Notice is hereby given that the Two (2) Shares of Stock Certificates of Iloilo Golf and Country Club, Inc. owned by Joy Vic Onglatco known as Stock Certificate No. 1119 issued July 26, 1995 and Stock Certificate No. 2067 issued November 17, 1997 were lost and efforts to find it turned futile as entered in the notarial registry of Atty. Igmedio S. Prado, Jr. per Doc. No. 383, Page No. 78, Book No. XXVI, Series of 2023.

NE/Nov. 27, Dec. 4 & 11, 2023

#### **AFFIDAVIT OF LOSS**

Notice is hereby given that the **Iloilo Golf and Country Club, Inc.**, One (1) Share of Stock Certificate **No. 1964** issued on **February 27, 1997** in name of the late **Alfonso J. Locsin** was lost and efforts to find it turned futile. This affidavit was executed by his widow **Ma. Elena M. Locsin**, as entered in the notarial registry of **Atty. Igmedio S. Prado**, **Jr.** per Doc. No. 264, Page No. 54, Book No. CCXI, Series of 2023.

NE/Nov. 27, Dec. 4 & 11, 2023

NE/December 11, 18 & 25, 2023

#### **AFFIDAVIT OF SELF-ADJUDICATION**

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ANASTACIO B. GONZALES known as a Dollar Savings Deposit at Philippine National Bank (PNB), Plaza Libertad, Iloilo City under Savings Account No. 3115-6004-1407 is adjudicated to sole heir FLORA G. MANTIQUILLA, as entered in the notarial registry of Atty. Patrick Lloyd D. Gellada per Doc. No. 331, Page No. 68, Book No. III, Series of 2023.

Republic of the Philippines Local Civil Registry Office Province of Iloilo Municipality of Calinog

#### **NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION**

In compliance with Section 5 of R.A. Act No. 9048, a notice is hereby served to the public that MA. FLOR ROSALES DEANG has filed with this Office (complete name of petitioner) a petition for Change of First Name from MARIA JOY (first name to be changed) to MA. FLOR in the birth certificate of MARIA JOY (new first name to be adopted)

CAPUCAO ROSALES (complete name of document owner) 8. 1966 at CALINOG, ILOILO and whose parents (place of birth) are ERNESTO CAPUCAO ROSALES (name of father)

CARISMA CALVO.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file her written opposition with this Office.

(SGD.) MA. AILYN C. CAMPOS Municipal Civil Registrar

NE/Dec. 11, 2023 & Dec. 18, 2023

#### **Gemmary Pawnshop & Jewellery**

#### **AUCTION SALE**

This is to inform the public that we will be conducting an AUCTION SALE on <u>DECEMBER 21, 2023</u> at 9:00 a.m. for all overdue pledges pawned on <u>JULY 2023</u> and prior dates in the following branches. Patrons are enjoined to verify their receipts.

- MAPA: C.K. Bldg. Mapa St., Brgy. Ortiz Iloilo City Tel # (033) 509-8188
- LAPAZ: Cor.Dicen Luna St., Lapaz Iloilo City -Tel. # (033) 508-6283
- JARO 1: Sommerset Bldg. Lopez Jaena St., Jaro Iloilo City
- Tel. # (033) 508-1582

#### THE MANAGEMENT

#### AFFIDAVIT OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given that the Two (2) Shares of Stock Certificates of Iloilo Golf and Country Club, Inc. owned by Francis Onglatco known as Stock Certificate No. 1118 issued July 26, 1995 and Stock Certificate No. 2068 issued November 17, 1997 were lost and efforts to find it turned futile as entered in the notarial registry of Atty. Igmedio S. Prado, Jr. per Doc. No. 384, Page No. 78, Book No. XXVI, Series of 2023.

NE/Nov. 27, Dec. 4 & 11, 2023

#### DEED OF ADJUDICATION WITH DONATION

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late WILFREDO E. GUARTE known as a parcel of land Lot 2910-F-3-L, PSD-063004-025370, being a portion Lot 2910-F-3, (LRC) PSD-205932, situated in the Poblacion, Municipality of Badiangan, Iloilo covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. 090-2011005240 with an area of FIVE HUNDRED NINETY-ONE (591) SQUARE METERS, more or less, is adjudicated to heirs Monica H. Guarte and Merle Guarte Malanyaon. That, Monical H. Guarte voluntarily and willingly GIVE, TRANSFER and CONVEY by way of DONATION the said lot in favor of Merle Guarte Malanyaon married to Rodel A. Malanyaon, as entered in the notarial registry of Atty. Kristine A. Cutanda-Larios per Doc. No. 149, Page No. 31, Book No. XVII, Series of 2022.

NE/Nov. 27, Dec. 4 & 11, 2023

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Iloilo
Municipality of Janiuay

### OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL CIVIL REGISTRAR -00O00-

#### NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

In compliance with Section 5 of Republic Act

Number 9048, a notice is hereby served to the public
that Ma. Helen A. Recabar (complete name of petitioner)
a petition for Change of First Name from MARIA (first name to be changed)
HELEN to MA. HELEN in the birth certificate of (new first name to be adopted)

MARIA HELEN ACANTO (complete name of document owner)

(complete date of birth)
13, 1965 at JANIUAY, ILOILO and whose parents are

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this office.

Teodoro Acanto and Leda Espada.

(SGD.) ANA LISA M. CORNELIO OIC, Municipal Civil Registrar

NE/Dec. 4, 2023 & Dec. 11, 2023

### DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late VICTORIA VILLAPRUDENTE TAY and CHONG PIN TAY known as the following:

- a) Lot No. 20-B-3-A situated in Mission Extension, Jaro, Iloilo City with an area of 200 square meters, more or less covered by TCT No. T-32228 registered under the name Victoria C. Villaprudente;
- b) Lot 3853-C situated in Lanit, Jaro, Iloilo City with an area of 380 square meters, more or less covered by TCT No. T-58760 registered under the name Victoria Villaprudente;
- c) Lot 3856 situated in Lanit, Jaro, Iloilo City with an area of 11,661 square meters, more or less covered by TCT No. T-50985 registered under the name Victoria Villaprudente married to Chong Tay;
- d) Lot 2417-F situated in Balabago, Jaro, Iloilo City with an area of 300 square meters, more or less covered by TCT No. T-37423 registered under the name Victoria Villaprudente married to Chong Pin Tay;
- e) Lot 2417-G situated in Balabago, Jaro, Iloilo City with an area of 433 square meters, more or less covered by TCT No. T-37424 registered under the name Victoria Villaprudente married to Chong Pin Tav
- f) Lot 2417-K situated in Balabago, Jaro, Iloilo City with an area of 8,194 square meters, more or less covered by TCT No. T-162194 registered under the name Victoria Villaprudente,

Are adjudicated to heirs **PETER C. TAY and NANCY V. FISCHER** as subscribed and sworned before **David Lever**, Notary Public, State of New York, United States of America on October 16, 2023 as certified by New York City County Clerk **Milton Adair Tingling**.

NE/Nov. 27, Dec. 4 & 11, 2023

#### **EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE**

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Marcela Lopez Kabayao, Francesca Albina Kabayao-Fernandez, Jovenal Reyes Fernandez, and Nita Kabayao-Mapua known as a parcel of land Lot 1151, of the Cadastral Survey of Iloilo, Plan IPD-14 AMD, with improvements thereon, located at I. De La Rama St., Monica, City Proper, Iloilo City covered by TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. (T-38927) 095-2018002276 with an area of TWO THOUSAND FORTY-TWO (2,042) SQUARE METERS, more or less, is adjudicated to surviving heirs Gilopez Kabayao, Dorothea Juvenita Marcela Kabayao Fernandez, Marcelita Kabayao Mortensen, Victoria K. Mapua and Angela Kabayao-Mapua-Abenir, as entered in the notarial registry of Atty. Ian Thomas M. Besana per Doc. No. 38, Page No. 9, Book No. II, Series of 2023.

NE/Nov. 27, Dec. 4 & 11, 2023

# Time Proven Up



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