

PROMISE ... (from page 1)

maintenance organization (HMO)-type benefits.

"Matagal ko na pong pangarap ito para sa ating mga kababayan. Pagpasok po ng 2025, maaari na po silang makatanggap ng medical allowance para makatulong sa pagkuha nila ng HMO para sa kanilang health-related expenses o gastusin (This has been my dream for a long time for our fellow public servant. By 2025, they can receive a medical allowance to help them get an HMO for their health-related expenses," Pangandaman said.

The DBM circular covers all civilian government personnel in the national government agencies, including state universities and colleges and government-owned and controlled corporations not covered by Republic Act 10149 and EO 150, s. 2021.

All government workers, regardless of appointment status, whether regular, casual, or contractual; appointive or elective; and on a full-time or part-time basis, are eligible for the medical grant.

Employees in the local government units and local water districts are also covered.

The allowance may be granted in the form of HMO-type product coverage, which could be availed by either government agencies concerned or their respective employees' organizations/groups.

It can also be in cash form for those who will avail their own or pay/renew their existing HMO-type benefit.

The Budget chief thanked the President for putting premium on state workers' health.

"This medical allowance is not just a benefit, it's a vital investment in safeguarding a healthy workforce and ensuring that they perform at their best," Pangandaman said. (PNA)

ILOILO CITY ... (from page 1)

Vice Mayor Jeffrey Ganzon on behalf of Mayor Jerry Treñas and Iloilo City Government. It was also attended by Police Regional Office VI (PRO6) Regional Director PBGen. Jack Wanky who served as guest of honor on Rizal's commemoration.

The event which featured a wreath-laying ceremony and a morning program was also attended by the local officials from the city government, police personnel, civic society organizations, among others.

In his speech, Ganzon reminded everyone that they have the power to create positive change and it is their responsibility to honor Rizal's sacrifice.

He also urged public servants to follow the principles upheld by the national hero.

"May his sacrifice ignite our passion for nation-building. Let us ask ourselves how we, in our own capacities, can serve with dedication," Ganzon said.

On the other hand, Wanky also delivered his speech, stressing the importance of youth in building the nation as well as the duty of public servants in creating safe spaces to protect them.

Rizal was known for his notable works including Noli Me Tangere and El Filibusterismo which exposed the corruption of the Spanish friars who used the church and government as a tool for their abusive practices and injustice.

His works sparked consciousness and resistance to his fellowmen which urged them to fight for freedom against the oppression of the Spanish colonial rule.

At the age of 35, Rizal was executed on December 30, 1896, in Bagumbayan which is now called as Rizal Park in honor of his bravery and contribution to the Philippine independence.

SUSIE STAR TOURS CAR/VAN RENTAL AVAILABLE 12/7 SERVICE TO ANY POINT OF PANAY ISLAND

Five-0

TRANSPORT SERVICE, INC.

307 Fuentes-Delgado Sts., Iloilo City

09554671248 / 09173263457



7,000 Ilonggos receive DOLE-TUPAD payout

By MARY JOY CAVAÑAS

About 7,000 Ilonggos from different districts in Iloilo City have received their payout through codes from the TUPAD (Temporary Unemployment Program for Assistance and Development) which is a cash-for-work program under the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) at Iloilo Sports Complex in La Paz district on December 29, 2024.

The beneficiaries received Php5,130 each after ten days of work in their designated areas which involved cleaning their surroundings wherein they were able to encash their codes at DOLE's partner remittance center such Palawan Pawnshop and Palawan Express Pera Padala which ensures

the smooth disbursement of stipends and salaries to the TUPAD beneficiaries.

Some of the beneficiaries also expressed their gratitude as the said payout will be able to buy their necessities and will at least help lessen their household expenses.

The DOLE-TUPAD program aims to provide support to underemployed, self-employed, and displaced marginalized workers.

The said payout was graced by Former City Councilor Lady Julie Grace "Love Love" Baronda on behalf of Lone District Representative Congresswoman Julienne "Jam-Jam" Baronda, along with Former Mayor Jed Patrick Mabilog, DOLE personnel, and the councilorables from Team Gugma.



President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos, Jr. signs the 2025 General Appropriations Act (GAA) of the national budget in amount of Php6.326 trillion at the Malacañang Palace on December 30, 2024. (PCO photo)

Marcos okays Php6.326-T 2025 national budget

By MARY JOY CAVAÑAS

President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. has finally signed the 2025 national budget into law at the Malacañang Palace on December 30, 2024.

The national budget was reduced to Php6.326 trillion from an initial amount set at Php6.352 trillion after Marcos vetoed or removed Php194 billion in items that were inconsistent with the priorities of the administration.

The vetoed budget includes Php26.065 billion for Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) projects and Php168.240 billion under "Unprogrammed Appropriations".

The approved budget will be utilized in strengthening the sectors of social services, education, agriculture, public infrastructure, and health in the country. This also aims to ensure the future of Filipinos, promote growth, and sustainability in the Philippine economy.

The following are the sectors that were prioritized from the said budget:

- * Department of Education (DepEd) - Php1.05 trillion
- * Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) - Php1.007 trillion
- * Department of National Defense (DND) - Php315.1 billion
- * Department of the Interior and Local Government

(DILG) - Php279.1 billion

* Department of Health (DOH) - Php267.8 billion

* Department of Agriculture (DA) - Php237.4 billion

* Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) - Php217.5 billion

* Department of Transportation (DOTr) - Php123.7 billion

* Judiciary - Php64.0 billion

* Department of Justice (DOJ) - Php 42.2 billion

In his speech, President Marcos promised to use every centavo of the national budget to improve lives, strengthen communities, and support the country's growth.

"With the passing of the Fiscal Year 2025 General Appropriations Act, the responsibility of ensuring that every centavo is spent wisely, transparently, and purposely begins," Marcos said.

Marcos said they will ensure funds are used properly and for specific purposes through Conditional Implementation of certain items.

He also assured that the said budget will help improve and expand government services in line with the Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028.

Through the 2025 national budget, Marcos highlighted that the government will also focus on green investments, disaster preparedness, innovation, trade, and job creation to boost productivity in the country.

Western Visayas agri sector rises up to challenges

ILOILO CITY – The agriculture sector in Western Visayas continued to deliver and remained among the top five performing regions amid challenges in 2024, including El Niño, Mt. Kanlaon eruption, and the African swine fever (ASF).

Department of Agriculture (DA) Regional Executive Director Dennis Arpia said the El Niño phenomenon impacted production per hectare but across all commodities, the production was positive.

Losses and damage due to El Niño reached around PHP1.7 billion in Western Visayas, affecting mostly farmers and fisherfolk.

Two of the most affected provinces, Iloilo and Antique, declared a state of calamity.

Production output

Data from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) showed palay (unhusked rice) production in Western Visayas during the third quarter of 2024 was estimated at 341,844 metric tons (MT).

Negros Occidental led in total output with 126,545 MT, followed by Iloilo with 98,289 MT; Antique, 52,448 MT; Capiz, 46,490 MT; Guimaras, 11,336 MT; and Aklan, 6,788 MT.

Based on PSA data, irrigated palay produced 211,120 MT, while rainfed palay has 130,724 MT.

For corn, Western Visayas produced 77.272 MT for the third quarter.

Iloilo contributed 38.5 percent or 7,990 hectares (ha) to the total corn area harvested, followed by Negros Occidental with 6,519 ha and Capiz with 5,940 ha.

Aklan, Antique, and Guimaras contributed 94 ha, 11 ha and 110 ha, respectively.

For livestock and poultry, the PSA reported that carabao production reached 4,281 MT; cattle, 4,206 MT; hog, 24,743 MT, and goat, 1,310 MT.

Negros Occidental contributed half of the region's livestock inventory.

For poultry, the inventory of chicken was at 19.4 million, with Iloilo and Negros Occidental as top contributors.

Interventions

Arpia said they are working on increasing hybrid rice, especially since more farmers are interested and identifying more viable areas for corn plantation.

"In Western Visayas, we have sustained the interest of our farmers to continue fighting because they saw the impact if they embrace new technology," he said, citing the high-level participation of local government units.

In March this year, the provincial government of Iloilo met and tackled priority programs and interventions to advance the sector, including Governor Arthur Defensor Jr.'s plan to establish agricultural management units to help improve farming practices and make operations more efficient.

The DA-Western Visayas allocated PHP16 million to boot palay production; PHP9 million for developing hybrid clusters; and PHP7 million for inbred rice clusters.

Iloilo allocated PHP451,662.49 for hybrid rice and PHP101,684.73 for inbred rice propagation.

In Antique, the timely release of the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund seed support enabled the province to immediately replant and cushion the impact of calamities

on rice production.

Dr. Gina Jordan, acting chief of the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist (OPA), said Antique received 66,710 bags of rice seeds, benefitting 22,228 farmer-beneficiaries.

As of November 2024, Antique farmers harvested 210,878.94 MT from 61,061.93 ha of rice land.

The OPA is optimistic it can attain or even surpass the 254,370.10 MT production in 2023.

The Farm and Fisheries Cluster and Consolidation Program was also implemented, where the focus is on clustering farmers for more holistic interventions.

The DA had validated 138 clusters for rice, corn, high-value crops, livestock, and organic farmers in the region.

It also provided various trainings on agro-enterprise clustering approaches for inclusive value chains to 12 clusters.

Jalaur Dam

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. inaugurated on July 16 the Jalaur River Multi-Purpose Project Stage II (JRMP II) in Calinog, Iloilo, which the National Irrigation Administration (NIA) tagged as the largest water reservoir project outside Luzon.

The JRMP II will expand NIA's irrigation service by 9,500 ha, benefitting 7,000 farmers across 17 towns in the province. It will also increase water supply to five existing national irrigation systems, covering 22,340 ha and supporting 18,000 farmers.

"This should boost further the development in the agricultural sector as well as the local economy of the entire region. In fact, it is estimated to help increase annual rice production in Region 6 by 160,000 metric tons, which is almost 20 percent of the region's annual rice requirement," Marcos said then.

Arpia said they are preparing plans and programs that will commence once the irrigation canals are operational. He said while they are looking for bigger production in terms of rice, they can also look for windows for other high-value crops.

"We were given a PHP100 million budget for the Palayamanan Program. It's a rice-based integrated farming system, and we are to identify beneficiaries that will work on a much-improved way of rice production," he said.

Recovering from ASF

Farmers' confidence is gradually returning and while it is not 100 percent back to normal, Arpia said more areas in the region have shifted to pink (buffer zone) from red (infected with ASF) and from pink to yellow (high-risk).

Arpia said it means there are no longer positive cases

or incidences of mortality in the areas.

On Oct. 4, DA kicked off its sentinelling program in the region in Oton, Iloilo, where the first ASF cases were detected in 2022.

The Bureau of Animal Industry, in its Dec. 16 report, said that of the 76 local government units affected by ASF in Western Visayas, 49 upgraded to the pink zone while two have progressed to yellow.

"The Western Visayas hog universe is mainly backyard, which has a very challenging biosecurity not only for ASF but also other illnesses," said Arpia.

He added that they are looking at a higher confidence level and assured production once the field testing for ASF vaccination is completed.

He said swine farmers, mostly from Negros Occidental, signified intent to avail of vaccination.

In a report, DA livestock coordinator Glenn Mariano said they hoped to counter the impact of ASF in the region through the Integrated National Swine Production Initiative for Recovery and Expansion program.

Other than the sentinelling, DA has 30 sow-level multiplier farm projects for producing quality breeder piglets and 30 sow-level production farms as pork sources for the local market.

The Agriculture Training Institute likewise established artificial insemination centers.

The PSA report showed the hog inventory in Western Visayas for the third quarter was 598,257, with Negros Occidental producing more than half at 356,234 heads and Antique with 75,551 heads.

Focused intervention

The separation of Negros Occidental from Western Visayas may have lessened the region's area of responsibility, but somehow it will be favorable to the farming sector, needing more support to improve the agriculture sector.

Arpia said Western Visayas will continue to assist Negros Occidental, which is now part of the newly-created Negros Island Region, while it is still in its transition phase. (PNA)



JALOUR DAM. The Jalaur River Multi-Purpose Project Stage II in Calinog, Iloilo, tagged as the largest water reservoir project of the National Irrigation Administration outside Luzon. It is expected to expand NIA's irrigation service by 9,500 hectares, benefitting 7,000 farmers across 17 towns in Iloilo. (PNA file photo)



Local mushroom growers, processors open new mushroom house

ILOILO CITY (PIA) – A new mushroom house expansion project was recently launched in Dumangas town in Iloilo, in partnership with the Department of Agriculture -Western Visayas, Department of Labor and Employment 6, and Municipal Social Welfare and Development.

All the agencies have partnered to advance sustainable farming practices and enhance the community's standard of living.

As beneficiary, the Dumangas Mushroom Growers and Processors SLP Association

held a blessing and launching ceremony for the new facility.

A blessing and launching ceremony were recently held for the new mushroom house expansion

'Rocky Mountain' homes

Approximately 800 of the country's richest and most influential business owners are facing the possibility of finding their "home sweet home" in Camp John Hay turn into Rocky Mountain homes if they are forced to renegotiate the lease or cost of ownership of their luxury cottages.

The BCDA already announced last week that the Supreme Court has stood by its decision for the John Hay Development Corp. (DEVCO) to return the property to the BCDA and for the BCDA to return the money of JH-DEVCO because both parties were in violation of contract.

The problem is that the SC decision, which has not been readily available to the public, was allegedly not as detailed in terms of how things are supposed to be done.

For instance, DEVCO had sold about 800 luxury cottages when they started the project and the 800 owners who represent the top corporations, CEOs-bosses and families were all buyers in good faith. JH-DEVCO was likewise a seller in good faith. So how do you tell the country's richest and powerful groups that they may be evicted or will now have to renegotiate with the BCDA?

Does the Supreme Court expect JH-DEVCO to return the investments of those homeowners, minus the years of use or ownership?

The BCDA has actually come out with newspaper ads advising the owners to contact the BCDA, obviously to be informed that there is now a new landlord and that the rent or lease or terms will have to change, and they better bring their fat check books or be ready to arrange bank transfers.

The second complication involves compensation for JH-DEVCO. Will the BCDA give back only the bid payment of JH-DEVCO or are they also bound by the SC decision to pay back all the expenses made by the corporation as they developed properties and hotels, etc? Will that include the refund to homeowners if JH-DEVCO has to return payment?

Third, where will BCDA get the money to give back JH-DEVCO, given that the BCDA is not exactly rolling in cash and receivables? Will the BCDA be required to make payment on the court's timetable or will it be a case of "pay when able?"

While all these headaches are swirling around, what the public has not heard are credible claims that certain people in government, particularly Malacañang, had a hand in the matter. Someone from Padre Faura confirmed what a friend from Baguio called as an unusual interest for the government to get back John Hay.

Exactly who in Malacañang has a special interest, and why, is now the subject of silent whispers. Is it simply a case of the government wanting to get a better deal or getting more? Will the renegotiation of 800 homes turn into a "networking opportunity" to win favor from the private sector? Or is there a group with a particular interest in the properties?

After the decision was handed down with finality, my sources claim that the BCDA was advised-instructed "by Malacañang" to issue eviction notices to the current owners of the luxury cottages. The idea, I presume, was to establish the government's claim as well as shake up the current owners to make them more amenable to the renegotiation.

Fortunately, the BCDA officials opted to follow proper protocol by issuing public notices before sending out eviction notices, which remains a touchy matter given the social status and legal standing of the 800 homeowners. The question now is, why was someone in Malacañang so hands on during the hearings at the Supreme Court and the post judgment actions of the BCDA?

Meanwhile, the decision of the Supreme Court and the can of worms the issue has opened leaves a serious tale of caution to would-be investors or buyers in government projects. In the Philippines, a simple change of government midway of your project can run you out of town or triple your cost or a 10-year court

CTALK

Cito Beltran



battle to dislodge you.

You can be a seller or buyer in good faith but that is no legal guarantee of ownership. Contracts may stipulate the government's obligation, but all the delay and consequential cost of money or lost opportunities will force you to undertake the government's obligation. You could be well on your way when suddenly some mayor says stop because his campaign contributor asked him to realign a road, a highway or MRT nearer to his project.

Sadly, you cannot rely on the justice system either.

While studying the matter, I came to realize that unless you are the only game and player in town, working with government is as risky as playing in the casino or fighting in the cockpit.

While we all grew up believing that justice is done with eyes blindfolded, it is not necessarily inviolable for those in robes. They too are human, dependent or subject to a process designed by politicians and jurors and buttered by utang na loob or political pressure.

Starting from becoming a fiscal, an RTC judge, the Court of Appeals, a justice in the Supreme Court, all the way to Chief Justice, the procession to the halls and pillars require soliciting favor to get a seat, have a sala, endorsements, political backing, being part of a church, a cult or a fraternity to get the votes and ultimately the presidential signature.

Yes, they are men and women of merit, men and women of laws, but in the face of human reality, they too are subject to pressure. Their budgets are dependent on members of Congress, and in a nation fueled by "pakikisama," sometimes holding up the scales of justice becomes a burden and the balance tilts for those in power.

Breakup year

The year 2024 will be remembered in our country for three things in politics in government. The first is the breakup of the UniTeam – unexpected only because it happened so soon.

The collapse of the 2022 winning coalition led to the second significant event – remarkable mainly because it would have been unthinkable in the previous administration: the Dutertes' loss of invincibility.

Scrutiny of fund utilization by the Dutertes led to the third noteworthy development of the year: heightened public awareness of the budgeting process and priorities of the Marcos administration and its allies.

BBM refused to return the budget bill to a reconvened bicameral conference, probably believing it would be an exercise in futility, with the "pork"-hungry epal lawmakers digging in their heels in an election year.

As the year ended, the fourth quarter survey of reputable pollster Social Weather Stations Inc. showed both President Marcos and Vice President Sara Duterte continuing to suffer declines in their trust ratings.

The question for the new year is what people are going to do about such developments.

* * *

With the UniTeam breakup, will a third force emerge as a viable alternative, putting an end to the kakistoracy that has been inflicted on our land? The online description of a kakistoracy is a government "run by the worst, least qualified or most unscrupulous citizens."

Such an alternative may not emerge in time for the 2025 midterm polls, but it can be possible in 2028. Black swans are common in our leadership changes.

Testimonies at the quad comm could lead to the indictment of former president Rodrigo Duterte and his minions for crimes against humanity committed in his take-no-prisoners crackdown on illegal drugs.

The Department of Justice (DOJ) itself is finally looking into possible indictments not just for individual extrajudicial killings in the drug war, but interlinking EJKs and an alleged quota and reward system for drug kills.

This could lead to prosecution not just for multiple murder, but for violation of Republic Act 9851, the law against genocide and other crimes against humanitarian law. RA 9851 was enacted way back in 2009, but as far as I know, it has been applied only once, in a case in

Mindanao.

One complication is that the DOJ probe could be used by the Duterte camp in invoking complementarity to suspend the probe by the International Criminal Court, now in its final stages before arrest warrants are issued. Considering the malleability of Philippine justice, it's uncertain if Duterte and his minions would ever face punishment in our country for a crackdown that they say they would do again, if given the chance.

The quad comm probe also led to the demise of another Duterte pet project, the Philippine offshore gaming operations. Beginning today, all POGOs and their local copycat, the internet gaming licensee, can no longer operate.

Meanwhile, 2024 looked like annus horribilis for VP Sara, but 2025 could prove worse. That is if she is impeached, although this seems uncertain at this point, given the tight window before the midterm elections in May, and the House reportedly waiting for a fourth complaint before consolidating the charges and voting on them.

* * *

As for the 2025 budget for pork and patronage (not progress), BBM made some token line item vetoes, but retained the funding priorities of his congressional allies. Meaning, lower appropriations for health, education, agriculture, social welfare, the conditional cash transfer and the Armed Forces modernization program, among others.

The P288.6 billion added by the bicam to the Department of Public Works and Highways' P825.11 billion budget in the National Expenditure Program (NEP) was slashed by BBM by a measly P26 billion – just enough to lower the total P1.1 trillion DPWH funding to a level slightly below the allocation for the entire education sector. This is the part that fulfills the Palace promise of making the 2025 compliant with the Constitution.

Officials said implementation of the projects under that additional P288.6 billion would be "conditional" – whatever that means.

The massive increase in the new pork barrel, the unprogrammed operations, also had a token cut. The conditional cash transfer funding was slashed by P50 billion by the bicam, while the unconditional cash transfer called AKAP, wherein politicians take personal credit for

giving away our tax money, was retained.

Sketches

Ana Marie Pamintuan



Officials announced that

disbursement of the Ayuda para sa Kapos ang Kita would have a layer of oversight, by the Department of Labor and Employment and the National Economic and Development Authority. Good luck to DOLE chief Bienvenido Laguesma and NEDA head Arsenio Balisacan in trying to get politicians' snouts off the AKAP trough.

After the budget enactment at Malacañang, the designated explainer, chief justice-turned-Executive Secretary Lucas Bersamin, expressed confidence that the measure would stand up to any challenge that might be brought before the Supreme Court.

Administration officials had said Congress exercised its power of the purse, and BBM had limited power to moderate the congressional greed.

* * *

There is in fact something that the executive can do, to show who is the ultimate holder of the power of the purse: Malacañang can delay until after the elections the release of AKAP payouts, funding for unprogrammed pork appropriations and the DPWH projects that are not in the NEP submitted by the executive branch.

Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, during her presidency, wielded this executive power of the purse extensively, to bend Congress to her will.

If BBM allows the release ASAP of these questionable funds, in time for the election campaign, all the Palace sound and fury over the mangling of the 2025 national budget would signify nothing. BBM will just be another actor in the zarzuela of plunder that was foisted upon the Filipino people, complicit in the impounding of public funds for personal and partisan purposes.

On Rizal Day, BBM urged Filipinos to be catalysts for change. He should lead by example.

There are actions that can help correct the ills and make our country a better place. We can all play a role in this, building on the significant developments in the year just past.

May 2025 be a year of meaningful change for all!

Kanlaon evacuees remain in stable health – DOH-NIR

BACOLOD CITY – Three weeks after Mt. Kanlaon’s eruption, evacuees in Negros Island are in a stable state of health with medical concerns being addressed through ongoing consultations, the Department of Health in the Negros Island Region (DOH-NIR) said on Tuesday.

“So far, they are stable at the primary care level. We were already able to reintroduce some of the programs,” DOH-NIR Director Razel Nikka Hao said during a press conference.

Mt. Kanlaon erupted on Dec. 9, prompting the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology to raise its alert level to 3, indicating “magmatic eruption has begun and may progress to further explosive eruptions.”

According to the DOH-NIR, 13,920 individuals, or 4,325 families, are sheltering in 34 evacuation centers. These include 24 centers in Bago, La Carlota, and San Carlos cities, as well as La Castellana town in Negros Occidental, and 10 centers in Canlaon City, Negros Oriental. La Castellana has the highest number, with 11 evacuation centers.

From Dec. 9 to 31, the DOH-NIR conducted 3,821 consultations and treatments, with the most common cases being fever, acute respiratory infections, and food- and water-borne diseases.

“Many of these cases are being managed at the evacuation sites by primary healthcare providers. Some have been referred to hospitals, but most were treated and returned to the centers,” Hao said.

Dr. Lyle Ladera, head of the DOH-NIR public health cluster, said each evacuation center has a DOH desk providing consultations and monitoring health data.

“We tally the numbers daily. If a threshold is reached, we conduct investigations to address and prevent outbreaks in evacuation centers,” Ladera added.

Currently, the DOH-NIR has deployed six physicians, 43 nurses, 77 medical staff, and 14 technical staff across evacuation centers. Their efforts are bolstered by medical missions from partner hospitals, including Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Hospital in Bacolod City.

To further assist evacuees, the DOH-NIR has distributed supplies such as face masks, N95 masks, nebulizer kits, first aid kits, hygiene kits, nasal cannulas, water purification tablets, alcohol, and various medicines. (PNA)

Remnant of dismantled rebel group killed in Capiz encounter

ILOILO CITY – A still unidentified remnant of the communist terrorist group (CTG) was killed following an encounter with government troops in Sitio Naatip, Barangay, Lahug, Tapaz, Capiz over the weekend.

A report by the 3rd Division Public Affairs Office of the 3rd Infantry Division (3ID) on Monday said the slain rebel was a member of the Regional Sentro De Gravidad (RSDG) and Central Front (CF) Dismantled (D) Komiteng Rehiyon - Panay.

“The encounter happened while the troops were responding to the reports of the local populace on the presence of armed rebels in the said area. This quick action

of the troops resulted in a 30-minute firefight at around 12:47 in the afternoon,” said the statement.

The Philippine Army’s 12th Infantry Battalion also seized from the encounter site one rifle and five backpacks.

Major Gen. Marion Sison, commander of the 3ID, said the recent encounter will serve as a reminder of the Army’s unceasing commitment to safeguarding the freedom and security of the people of Western and Central Visayas.

Sison likewise urged the local populace to remain vigilant and cooperate with the authorities by reporting the enemy’s suspicious activities threatening their safety, especially during this holiday season. (PNA)



SLAIN REBEL. The body of a communist rebel killed in an encounter with government troops in Tapaz, Capiz on Dec. 28, 2024 is carried by government soldiers. The Philippine Army’s 12th Infantry Battalion also seized from the encounter site one rifle and five backpacks, a 3rd Division Public Affairs Office (3DPAO) report said on Monday (Dec. 30, 2024). (Photo courtesy of 3DPAO)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
 6TH JUDICIAL REGION
Branch 76
 Janiuay, Iloilo
 Contact Nos. (033) 503 5371/320 5409
 Email: rtc2jvi076@judiciary.gov.ph

SPL. PROC. NO. 22-0101

IN THE MATTER OF
 PETITION FOR JUDICIAL
 APPROVAL OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT
 OF PATERNITY OF ARON
 SEDENY BUCALA AND TO
 USE SURNAME OF FATHER.

ARON SEDENY BUCALA
ALSO KNOWN AS
ALAN SEDENY B. AURELIO,
Petitioner,

-versus-

ALLAN MAESTRECAMPO AURELIO,
FATHER OF PETITIONER
ARON SEDENY BUCALA, THE MUNICIPAL
CIVIL REGISTRAR OF JANIUAY, ILOILO,
AND THE CIVIL REGISTRAR GENERAL
PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY,
Respondents.

X-----X

ORDER

Before this court is a verified AMENDED PETITION filed by petitioner, through counsel, praying that “*after due hearing, judgment be rendered:*”

1. *Ordering the Office of the Local Civil Registrar of Janiuay, Iloilo, to record the entries of the Affidavit of Acknowledgment/Admission of Paternity and Affidavit to Use the Surname of the Father, in the records of birth of Aron Sedeny Bucala under Registry No. 2003-992;*

2. *Ordering the Office of the Local Civil Registrar of Janiuay, Iloilo, to cause the annotation of the acknowledgment of paternity and entry of the name Allan Maestrecampo Aurelio as the Father in the Certificate of Live Birth of Aron Sedeny Bucala;*

3. *Ordering the Local Civil Registrar of Janiuay, Iloilo, to cause the change and/or annotation of the surname of petitioner in his Certificate of Live Birth from Bucala to Aurelio, in order that his complete name shall be Aron Sedeny as his first name, Bucala as his middle name, and Aurelio as surname;*

4. *Ordering the Local Civil Registrar of Janiuay, Iloilo to upload to the Office of the Civil Registrar General/*

Philippine Statistics Authority the Certificate of Live Birth of Aron Sedeny Bucala under Registry No. 2003-992, with the annotations prayed for;

5. *Ordering the Office of the Civil Registrar General Philippine Statistics Authority to issue a Certificate of Live Birth of Aron Sedeny Bucala reflecting the annotations of the acknowledgment of paternity by the father Allan Maestrecampo Aurelio and the change of surname from Bucala to Aurelio.*

Petitioner avers that he was born on August 16, 2003 in Janiuay, Iloilo, Philippines. He was born out of wedlock, and his birth certificate lists his mother as the sole parent.

He further states that his biological father, Allan Maestrecampo Aurelio, has acknowledged and/or admitted paternity of Alan Sedeny Bucala through a notarized Acknowledgment/Admission of Paternity before a notary public. In the same document, Allan Maestrecampo Aurelio has likewise given his permission for the petitioner to use his surname Aurelio in the latter’s Certificate of Live Birth.

Petitioner who is now of legal age wishes and for to use the surname of his father the admission of paternity to be annotated in his Certificate of Live Birth.

Lastly, petitioner alleges that he has been using the surname Aurelio with the consent of both of his parents. He claims that his school records show his full name as “Aurelio, Aron Sedeny Bucala”.

Finding the said amended petition to be sufficient in form and substance, the same is set for hearing on **March 21, 2025**, at 8:30 in the morning before this Court. Notice is hereby given that any person who has objection to this petition may file his/her opposition thereto within 15 days from service or last day of publication of this Order, stating the grounds or reasons therefor.

The petitioner shall cause this Order to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City and Province of Iloilo, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks, such that the last publication should be at least fifteen (15) days before the date of hearing.

Furnish parties a copy each of this Order Atty. Fatima Mae A. Muyuela, the Office of the Solicitor General, the Municipal Civil Registrar of Janiuay, Iloilo, the Philippine Statistics Authority, Aron Sedeny Bucala and Allan Maestrecampo Aurelio.

SO ORDERED.

November 15, 2024, Janiuay, Iloilo, Philippines,

(SGD.) REDENTOR E. ESPERANZA
Assisting Judge

NE/January 6, 13 & 20, 2025

LOCAL . . . (from page 3)

project in Dumangas, Iloilo. (DA-WV photo)

Eden Panisales, in-charge of the mushroom production station of DA-WV, emphasized that this expansion is a direct response to the soaring regional market demand for mushrooms not only in the region but also reaching places as far as Dumaguete City.

The new mushroom house is equipped with a laboratory room, an isolation room, and a fruiting room, allowing them to accommodate up to 12,000 fruiting and spawning bags.

He highlighted the important role of the DA in the association’s ongoing success.

Meanwhile, Rizalyn Loloy, Vice President of the Dumangas Mushroom Growers and Processors SLP Association, expressed gratitude to all the agencies that have contributed to their growth. She assured everyone that the association is committed to significantly improve their productivity and product quality, with the ambition to align with the national level. (AAL/AGP/PIA 6 with reports from DA-Western Visayas)





REMIGIO G. CASTOR
Publisher

MARY JOY ANGELA CAVANAS
Reporter

CARL SARDUA
Photographer / Lay-out Artist

LINNY P. GAURANA
Secretary / Account Officer

JASON LAZATIN
Circulation

RURAL PRESS COMMUNICATORS REPRESENTATIVE, INC.

3055 Tolentino Street, corner Balabac Streets, Pinagkaisahan, Makati City, Metro Manila
Tel. Nos. 882-3978 / 882-4639 / 882-3205 Telefax No. 882-3223
E-mail Address: ruralpress@yahoo.com

EVA R. ABAJENCIA
Antique Bureau Chief
San Jose, Antique
Cel. Nos. 0995-2107119

MEMBERS: PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE (PPI)
PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES, INC. (PAPI)
PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS OF THE PHILIPPINES (PPP)

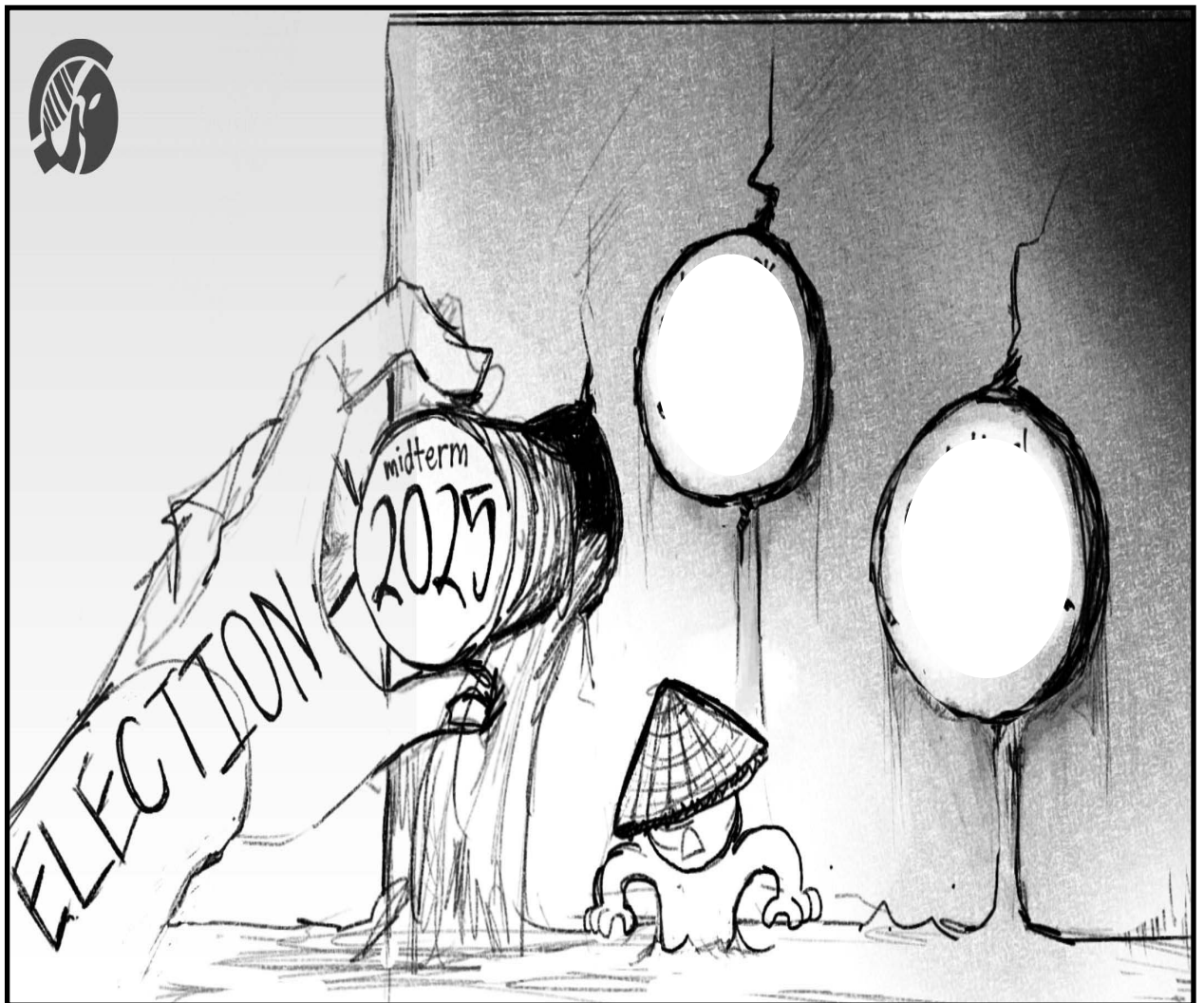
Door 35, ZERRUDO COMMERCIAL COMPLEX, E. LOPEZ ST. JARO, ILOILO CITY, PHILIPPINES

TEL. NOS. (033) 320-1509/508-8725

E-MAIL ADDRESS: newsexpress_iloilo@yahoo.com
newsexpressiloilo88@gmail.com

WEBSITE: www.newsexpress.com.ph

Entered as second class mail matter at the Iloilo City Post Office on October 5, 1988
with General Circulation in the Philippines



Back to basics

Editorial

We begin 2025 with a plea from the World Health Organization for China to share information on how exactly COVID-19 began five years ago. Experts and policy makers need to understand the pandemic's origins so the world could confront the next pandemic more effectively.

COVID killed and sickened millions, while some patients continue to suffer the effects of a long-term affliction. It caused health systems to collapse and economies to slow down or contract. Different countries' responses were varied, and some coped better than others.

Five years on, the world has recovered, and now many people remember those days of COVID as they would remember

a war — a significant, life-changing event that left bad memories and numerous lessons. That, or a nightmare.

Travel has resumed, business has picked up, schools have reopened, and people have gone back to their usual ways.

Health and economic lessons notwithstanding, it is good to recall the days of the pandemic as we mark the beginning of a new year today. Those days were marked by darkness, uncertainty, and impermanence — the very same things that led people to look inward and ask themselves what was truly important to them.

Often, wherever in the world, the answers tended to be the same: Being in the company of loved ones, virtually or otherwise. Staying healthy and starting/ maintaining good habits. Doing something of meaning.

Everything else was secondary.

COVID is still around but no longer at an alarming rate. Still, let us not lose touch with our realizations during those terrible years. May we begin this new year with a courageous look at the past to arm ourselves for the future, a clear vision of where we want to go, and a renewed commitment to cherish what is truly important. (*manilastandard.net*)

Gut issues and the party-list system

With just a few more months before the 2025 midterm elections, the party-list system in our country is once again in the spotlight given the emergence of new groups that claim to advocate for various sectors of our society.

An avenue originally designed to give marginalized sectors a voice in the legislative process, the party-list system over the years has been questioned if indeed it provides representation for the marginalized sector.

We have seen how in the past, the system has been used by groups that do not seem to represent any sector at all as they claim to advocate for.

Instead of representing marginalized Filipinos such as persons with disability (PWDs) and senior citizens including underserved sectors, some party-lists have become vehicles for political patronage or personal gain. This defeats the very purpose of the party-list system, which was meant to give voice to the voiceless and power to the sectors that need it most.

But as we approach the 2025 polls, there's an urgent need to rethink how the system is serving the real, pressing needs of Filipinos — specifically, the truly marginalized and underserved sectors of our society.

The latest Social Weather Stations (SWS) survey results, which showed a high preference for party-list groups advocating for representation for the seniors, poor, and jobless, reveal the social priorities of Filipinos.

Considering this, the upcoming elections serve as a timely opportunity to elect party-list groups that can and will act beyond the level of common issues and become true voices of the "gut issues" of the country's ordinary Filipinos.

This includes giving voice to sectors that have long been overlooked but can continue to become active and productive members of our society like our senior citizens. After all, the Philippines has one of the fastest-aging populations in Southeast Asia.

More than 10 percent of the population is already over 60, and the number is expected to rise, based on recent data from the Philippine Statistics Authority.

Yet, despite the growing population of this sector, the elderly remain one of our most vulnerable sectors, often lacking adequate support in terms of healthcare, social security, and basic welfare. It is here that the party-list system can make a difference.

In many ways, ensuring representation for senior citizens is a gut issue, something that resonates with every Filipino who has an aging parent, grandparent, or relative.

The party-list system, which is supposed to give voice to the voiceless, has the unique potential to give these sectors and concerns a dedicated voice in Congress.

The party-list system must evolve. We cannot let it be another political tool for the powers that be.

It is up to us, voters, to ensure that party-list

ESPRESSO MORNINGS

By JOE ZALDARRIAGA

groups that will get congressional seats will fulfill their promises and represent fully the advocacies of the marginalized sector that they claim to be.

It is everyone's responsibility to scrutinize these party-list groups' advocacies, nominees, track record and stand on issues.

Party-list groups need to concentrate on issues of everyday life that have a real connection to ordinary Filipinos' experiences. The system must focus on real policies that address poverty, neglect, and injustice at the roots — more than mere tokenism.

If we elect the right party-list groups, the system can contribute to the improvement of the lives of sectors that are normally underrepresented.

Now is the chance for a party-list system capable and designed to give adequate voice to the marginalized rather than an afterthought for politicians to patronize.

As we move into the 2025 elections, let us not forget that the true measure of a party-list group's worth is not how much it can raise awareness or rally voters, but how well it can serve the real, urgent needs of Filipinos. Being a senior citizen, I stand with my fellow elderly in ensuring we will be ably represented in Congress.

Moving forward

For some, 2024 may have been a very difficult year. Financial problems, broken dreams, relationship failures, accidents, health issues, and personal tragedies such as a death in the family may have marked this year as one of their worst years. For me, the loss of a parent definitely made our new year celebration less joyful. Memories of New Year celebrations past seem to remind us of happier times. Personally, I miss the chaotic New Year festivities of past that were replete with savage ground explosions of traditional “paputoks” (firecrackers) that used to shake our streets. Aerial fireworks, horns, bells, and low grade pyrotechnics just seem too tame for me. It all feels different and changed.

Lately, I have spoken to friends and colleagues (mostly fellow Generation X) who seem to share this melancholic feeling. One of them pointed out that it is not that things have changed but it is we who have changed. We yearn for things that

are long gone and can never be again.

The Japanese have a concept of accepting change. “Mono no aware” roughly means beauty in impermanence and transience. It encourages the acceptance of the bittersweet feeling of appreciation for the fleeting nature of life. We are reminded that life is about impermanence and that joy, sorrow, beauty and all other things are transient.

Because of this impermanence, we must learn to cherish the present moment. Instead of clinging to the past that can never be the present again, we must appreciate the things gone and let them go. It is 2025, we must learn to move on and move forward. We must learn to accept life’s impermanence.

The New Year also seems to fill many with a sense of trepidation. There are many who feel like they are on a precipice of the unknown and fear what is to come. For this, the Japanese

OBLIQUE OBSERVATIONS

By Atty. Gilberto Lauengco, J.D.

also have a saying. “Shikata ga nai” roughly translates to “it cannot be helped”. It is the concept of controlling what you can control and avoiding being stressed over things one cannot control.

The concept teaches us to acknowledge that some things are outside our control and that we must find a way to move forward.

There is a quote used by Charles Schulz the creator of Peanuts. “It is a good year as long as I’m in it.” Essentially, as long as we are alive and healthy then it was a good year and it will be a good year.

This is my oblique observation.

Strengthening the fight vs. agricultural smuggling

There is hope on the horizon. The Marcos Jr. administration has taken significant steps to combat agricultural smuggling by enacting the Anti-Agricultural Economic Sabotage Act, or Republic Act (RA) 12022, in October 2024. This groundbreaking legislation repeals the Anti-Agricultural Smuggling Act of 2016 (RA 10845) and introduces more comprehensive measures to tackle the ongoing issue of smuggling, which has long undermined the Philippine agricultural sector.

RA 12022 aims to strengthen the government’s anti-smuggling drive by ensuring stricter enforcement and improved implementation measures. The new law broadens the scope of punishable acts, enhances penalties, and provides clear guidelines for inter-agency coordination to tackle illegal trade activities effectively. These advancements address the gaps in the previous legislation, thereby enabling a more robust response to the pervasive problem of agricultural smuggling.

Despite the rampant smuggling of goods in the Philippines, including agricultural products, luxury items, and even illegal drugs, the enforcement of anti-smuggling laws remains inconsistent. Only a handful of individuals, despite numerous arrests for their involvement in smuggling operations, have successfully faced prosecution and jail time. This disparity underscores the challenges in the legal and judicial systems, including issues such as corruption or inefficiency in case handling. Strengthening enforcement mechanisms and ensuring accountability are crucial to breaking this cycle and demonstrating that smuggling will not go unpunished.

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., who once served as concurrent secretary of Agriculture, has emphasized the critical importance of implementing RA 12022. He has directed the Department of Agriculture (DA) to intensify efforts in combating smuggling and protecting the livelihoods of Filipino farmers. The directive aligns with the administration’s broader goal of fostering a self-reliant and sustainable agricultural sector.

In a recent demonstration of the administration’s commitment to tackling illegal trade, the Department of Agriculture (DA), through its Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI), has blacklisted 10 companies over the past six months for engaging in smuggling and other unlawful agricultural trade practices. DA Secretary Francisco P. Tiu Laurel Jr. stated: “We have blacklisted more companies in the past six months than in the past six years combined.”

This significant action reflects the government’s determination to ensure compliance with the law and hold violators accountable.

Smuggling poses a serious threat to the Philippine economy, particularly to local farmers who suffer from depressed prices of their agricultural products due to the influx of illegally imported goods. We expect the Marcos administration’s intensified anti-smuggling efforts under RA 12022 to mitigate these adverse effects, safeguarding the interests of Filipino farmers and promoting fair trade within the agricultural sector.

Smuggled goods in the Philippines encompass a wide range of items beyond agricultural products. These include watches, fuel, liquor, steel, luxury cars, medicines, clothing, toys, and even illegal drugs. Such items continue to flood retail outlets and flea markets across the country, posing significant challenges to law enforcement and economic stability.

In June 2004, then senator Sergio Osmeña III filed a bill identifying two types of smuggling: technical and outright smuggling. Technical smuggling involves importing goods into the Philippines using fraudulent, falsified, or erroneous declarations to evade the payment of duties, taxes, and compliance with existing regulations. On the other hand, outright smuggling refers to the importation of goods without the necessary documents, permits, or licenses required by law. Osmeña’s proposed bill recognized smuggling as a form of “economic sabotage” due to its detrimental impact on national interests, economic growth, and development. It is commendable that today’s legislators have recognized the critical importance of this issue and have enacted the proposed measures into law.

The enactment of RA 12022 underscores the administration’s resolve to combat agricultural economic sabotage and establish a fair and competitive market environment. By prioritizing the welfare of farmers and strengthening enforcement mechanisms, the Marcos administration aims to foster a thriving agricultural industry that can sustain the nation’s food security and economic stability.

I believe what is crucial in addressing the issue of smuggling is the seriousness and political will of various government agencies to enforce the law effectively—particularly in curbing the unchecked entry of smuggled goods into the country.

The Committee on Agriculture conducted a Senate hearing where farmers from Benguet

FRESH VIEWPOINTS: A NEW PERSPECTIVE

By BRIAN JAMES LU

expressed their frustration over the unregulated sale of smuggled agricultural products in their province. Despite carrots being one of the region’s primary agricultural products grown on its vegetable terraces and the country’s prohibition on fresh carrot imports, they reported that smuggled carrots continue to flood markets in Baguio and other municipalities in Benguet. The farmers urged the committee to act decisively, pointing out that identifying warehouses storing smuggled carrots requires only minimal investigation and should promptly lead to raids.

I also urge the Department of Agriculture (DA) to take decisive action against price manipulation and collusion involving basic commodities such as rice and other agricultural products. Despite large-scale rice importation, prices remain persistently high. The government must prevent a recurrence of the 2022 onion price crisis, when prices skyrocketed to an unprecedented PHP700 per kilogram. Similarly, the volatile price of garlic continues to impact daily meals, forcing consumers to use less and even prompting restaurants to reduce portions due to high costs.

It is encouraging that the DA recently blacklisted three companies involved in anti-competitive practices such as price manipulation and collusion. These companies, which held licenses as importers, significantly harmed the Filipino people through their unethical actions. This is a positive step, but sustained vigilance and stronger enforcement measures are essential to protect consumers and ensure fair market practices.

The fight against smuggling and unfair trade practices in the Philippines requires a unified and sustained effort from the government, private sector, and the public. While the enactment of RA 12022 is a significant milestone, its success hinges on the unwavering political will, accountability, and commitment of enforcement agencies to implement the law effectively.

(Part 2)

By safeguarding the livelihoods of farmers, ensuring fair pricing of essential commodities, and holding violators accountable, the government can foster a more equitable and self-reliant agricultural sector. With collective resolve and action, the nation can move closer to achieving economic stability and food security, ensuring a better future for all Filipinos.



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Antique
Municipality of Caluya
-o0o-



OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 51ST REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF CALUYA, PROVINCE OF ANTIQUE HELD AT CALUYA LIAISON OFFICE, SAN JOSE, ANTIQUE ON DECEMBER 20, 2023

PRESENT:

Hon. Belfe S. Duran	Municipal Vice Mayor/ Presiding Officer
Hon. Ricky M. Lavega	SB Member
Hon. Nobel N. Balestramon	SB Member
Hon. Angelo B. Magtoto	SB Member
Hon. Sarah Jane Z. Janairo	SB Member
Hon. Rea C. Domingo	SB Member
Hon. William D. Pultino	SB Member
Hon. Brenda M. Jocson	SB Member
Hon. Catherine L. Tatum	Liga ng mga Barangay President/Ex-Officio Member

ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS:

Hon. Efren S. Contreras, Jr.	SB Member
Hon. Lemuel B. Biloza	SK Municipal Federation President/Ex-Officio Member

ABSENT: None

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 04
Series of 2023

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE MUNICIPAL ECONOMIC ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF CALUYA, PROVINCE OF ANTIQUE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF THREE MILLION, FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE (P3, 439, 425.00) PESOS COVERING THE VARIOUS EXPENDITURES FOR THE OPERATION OF THE MUNICIPAL ECONOMIC ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 AND APPROPRIATING THE NECESSARY FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE

Sponsored by: Committee on Finance, Budget and Appropriation

Chairman:	Hon. Belfe S. Duran
Vice-Chairman:	Hon. Nobel N. Balestramon
Members:	Hon. Efren S. Contreras Jr. Hon. Angelo B. Magtoto Hon. Catherine L. Tatum

WHEREAS, presented before the Body is the budget of the Local Economic Enterprise of the Municipality of Caluya for CY 2024 for approval;

WHEREAS, it is required by the Reviewing Committee in the Province to approve the budget of MEEDO separately;

WHEREAS, upon thorough deliberation and discussion, the Body approves the Annual Budget for 2024 of the Municipal Economic Enterprise Development Office of the Municipality of Caluya;

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget of the Municipal Economic Enterprise Development Office for 2024 in the amount of **THREE MILLION, FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE (P3, 439, 425.00)** was submitted for Legislative Authorization as mandated in R.A. 7160, Section 319-Legislative Authorization of the Budget;

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Bayan of the Municipality of Caluya, Antique, that:

Section 1 – The Annual Budget of the Municipal Economic Enterprise Development Office, Caluya, Antique for Fiscal Year 2024 in the total amount of **THREE MILLION, FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE (P3, 439, 425.00)** covering the various expenditures for the operation of the Local Government Unit for the Year 2024 is hereby approved;

The budget documents consisting of the following are included herein and made integral part of this ordinance:

Functional Statements, Objectives and Expected Results
Statement of Receipts and Expenditures

Section 2. Sources of Funds – LEP (Aid to MEEDO)

Section 3. Disbursement of Funds – Disbursement of funds shall be made subject to the usual government budgeting, accounting, and auditing rules and regulations.

Section 4 – Use of Savings and Augmentation – In accordance with Section 336 of Republic Act No. 7160, the Local Government Code of 1991, the Mayor and the Presiding Officer of the Sanggunian are authorized to augment any item in the approved annual budget for their respective offices from savings in other

items within the same expense class of their respective appropriations.

For this purpose, "Savings" refer to portions or balances of any programmed appropriation free from any obligation or encumbrance, still available after the satisfactory completion or the unavoidable discontinuance or abandonment of the work, activity or purpose for which the appropriation is authorized, or arising from unpaid compensation and related costs pertaining to vacant positions and leaves of absence without pay.

"Augmentation" implies the existence in the budget of an item, project, activity or purpose with an appropriation which, upon implementation or subsequent evaluation of needed resources, is determined to be deficient.

Section 5. Priority in the use of Personal Services Savings – Priority shall be given to the personnel benefits of local employees in the use of Personal Services Savings.

Section 6. Separability Clause – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Appropriation Ordinance is disallowed in Budget Review or declared invalid by proper authorities, other sections or provisions hereof that are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 7. Effectivity – The provisions of this Appropriation Ordinance shall take effect on January 01, 2024.

ADOPTED: DECEMBER 20, 2023

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing appropriation ordinance which was duly adopted by the Sangguniang Bayan during its Regular Session held on December 20, 2023.

(SGD.) LORETO J. PON-AN, III
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:

(SGD.) BELFE S. DURAN
Municipal Vice-Mayor/Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

(SGD.) RIGIL KENT G. LIM
Municipal Mayor



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Antique
Municipality of Caluya
-o0o-



OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 9TH REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF CALUYA, PROVINCE OF ANTIQUE HELD AT SB SESSION HALL, POBLACION, CALUYA, ANTIQUE ON MARCH 1, 2023

PRESENT:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Hon. William D. Pultino | SB Member/Temporary Presiding Officer |
| Hon. Nobel N. Balestramon | SB Member |
| Hon. Angelo B. Magtoto | SB Member |
| Hon. Efren S. Contreras, Jr. | SB Member |
| Hon. Sarah Jane Z. Janairo | SB Member |
| Hon. Rea C. Domingo | SB Member |
| Hon. Brenda M. Jocson | SB Member |
| Hon. Catherine L. Tatum | Liga ng mga Barangay President/ Ex-Officio Member |
| Hon. Mark Liann D. Eulogio | SK Municipal Federation President/Ex-Officio Member |

ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Hon. Belfe S. Duran | Municipal Vice-Mayor |
| Hon. Ricky M. Lavega | SB Member |

ABSENT: None

**MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 224
SERIES OF 2023**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING BY ADDENDUM THE MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 163, SERIES OF 2019, AN ORDINANCE UPDATING THE MUNICIPAL REVENUE CODE OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF CALUYA, PROVINCE OF ANTIQUE

Sponsored By: Committee on Ordinances and Legal Matters

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Chairman: | Hon. Nobel N. Balestramon |
| Vice-Chairman: | Hon. Efren S. Contreras Jr. |
| Members: | Hon. Ricky M. Lavega |
| | Hon. Angelo B. Magtoto |
| | Hon. Catherine L. Tatum |

WHEREAS, the Municipal Revenue Code was approved last December 19, 2019;

WHEREAS the Office of the Municipal Treasurer, the Office of the Municipal Assessor and the Office of the Municipal Health Officer requested to add some provisions to the Municipal Revenue Code, as the intended or proposed fees to collected by the LGU are neither included or deleted in the said Code;

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Bayan of Caluya, Antique in session assembled, that

SECTION 1. TITLE- This ordinance shall be known as "An Ordinance Amending by Addendum the Municipal Ordinance No. 163, series of 2019, An Ordinance Updating the Municipal Revenue Code of the Municipality of Caluya, Province of Antique.

SECTION 2. For purpose of this Ordinance, the Municipal Ordinance No. 163, series of 2019 is hereby amended by addendum by adding some provisions below, and the amendment shall be read as follows:

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE SERVICE FEES		AMOUNT
SERVICES		
a.	Certified Photo/True/Machine Copies of Tax Declarations and other Assessment Records, per page	P75.00
b.	Certification of With/No Real Property, Landholdings and other Certifications	P65.00
c.	Verification Fee, per Real Property Unit	P100.00
d.	Inspection Fee per visit or request for reclassification/Reassessment/Ocular inspection	
	Within:	
	CALUYA ISLAND	P500.00
	SEMIRARA ISLAND	P1,000.00
	SIBAY ISLAND	P750.00
	PANAGATAN ISLANDS	P750.00
	SIBATO ISLAND	P500.00
	SIBOLO ISLAND	P750.00
	LIWAGAO ISLAND	P750.00
	NAGUBAT ISLAND	P1,000.00
e.	Ocular Inspection Report Fee	P100.00
f.	Annotation Fee	P65.00
g.	Other not mentioned above	P65.00

PARTICULARS	OLD RATE (PER HEAD/SACK)	NEW PROPOSED RATE
1. COPRA	6/SACKS	8/SACKS
2. FRESH COCONUT/YOUNG BUKO	6/SACKS	8/SACKS
3. CORN, PALAY	6/SACKS	8/SACKS

4. VEGETABLES, FRUITS	6/SACKS	8/SACKS
5. NON JUMBO SCRAP	6/SACKS	8/SACKS
6. JUMBO SCRAP	10/SACKS	12/SACKS
7. BAKAL	10/SACKS	12/SACKS
8. EMPTY BOTTLES	6/SACKS	8/SACKS
9. PLASTICS	6/SACKS	8/SACKS
10. COW/CARABAO	50/HEADS	60/HEADS
11. GOAT, DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS	20/HEADS	25/HEADS
12. HOGS/PIGS	25/HEADS	30/HEADS
13. FOWLS A) FIRST TWENTY (20) HEADS B) FROM 21 TO 50 HEADS C) FROM 51 OR MORE HEADS	15/PERMIT 25/PERMIT 50/PERMIT	20/PERMIT 30/PERMIT 60/PERMIT
14. RJL SEAPORT MECHANICAL RAMP	NEW	NEW

MUNICIPAL HEALTH OFFICE SERVICE FEES

LABORATORY	
SERVICES	PRICE
1. HERMATOLOGY	
a. Complete Blood Count with Platelet Count	200
b. Hemoglobin/Hematocrit	75
c. Clotting time/ Bleeding	75
d. Platelet Count	75
e. Blood Typing	100
2. BLOOD CHEMISTRY	
a. Fasting Blood Sugar	100
b. Blood Uric Acid	100
c. Creatinine	100
d. Cholestrol	150
e. Blood Urea Nitrogen (BUN)	150
f. Lipid Profile: Total Cholesterol, Triglycerides, HDL-choI, LDL-choI	200
g. SGPT/SGOT	200
3. CLINICAL MICROSCOPY	
a. Pregnancy Test	100
b. Urinalysis	75
c. Fecalalysis	75
d. Micral test	200
e. Fecal Occult Blood Test	300
4. SEROLOGY	
a. HBsAg	250
b. HBsAb	250
c. Salmonella Test	250
d. Dengue Test	250
e. HIV Screening Test	300
f. Syphilis Test	300
g. COVID-19 Rapid Test	500
MICROBIOLOGY	
a. Direct Sputum Smear Examination	75
IMAGING/RADIOLOGY/ANCILLARY SERVICES	
1. X-RAY	400
2. ULTRASOUND	750
3. Electrocardiogram	350
4. Nebulization	50
CERTIFICATION FEES	
1. Birth Certificate	75
2. Death Certificate	75
3. Medical Certificate	75
4. Medico-Legal Certificate	100
5. Transfer of Cadaver	100
AMBULANCE FEES (Excluding Fuel and Oil)	
Within Caluya	FREE
Outside Caluya	250
Outside Antique	500

SECTION 3. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE- If for any reason or reasons, any section or provisions of this ordinance is declared illegal or unconstitutional, other sections or provisions hereof which are not affected, shall remain in full force or effect.

SECTION 4. REPEALING CLAUSE- All previous issuances, ordinances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVITY- This ordinance shall take effect upon its approval, review by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan and Publication in a local or regional newspaper of general circulation and in two or more conspicuous public places in the Municipality of Caluya.

Approved.

ADOPTED: MARCH 1, 2023

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance which was duly adopted by the Sangguniang Bayan during its Regular Session held on March 1, 2023.

(SGD.) JUNBY D. DOMINGO
Acting Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:

APPROVED:

AYES – 8
NAYS – 0

(SGD.) WILLIAM D. PULTINO
SB Member/Temporary Presiding Officer

(SGD.) RIGIL KENT G. LIM
Municipal Mayor



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
CITY OF ILOILO
OFFICE OF THE CITY TREASURER
 Ground Floor Iloilo City Hall
 Plaza Libertad, Iloilo City 5000
 Tel. No. (033) 333-1111

NOTICE OF DELINQUENCY IN THE PAYMENT OF REAL PROPERTY TAX IN THE CITY OF ILOILO

In compliance with Section 254 of Republic Act 7160, otherwise known as Local Government Code of 1991, notice is hereby served to all owners of real properties in the City of Iloilo whose real property tax for the year 2024 and/or prior years, or any installment thereof, had remained unpaid as of date, that said real properties have become delinquent and that undersigned City Treasurer, who under the law is charged to enforce collection of said delinquent taxes will for that purpose, resort to any of the following remedies to satisfy taxes, penalties and costs:

- a) Seizure through distraint of personal property of the taxpayer and the sale thereof at public auction; and/or
- b) File civil suit with the proper court; and/or
- c) Levy on real property and sell the entire delinquent property at public auction.

At any time, however, before any of the above-mentioned remedies is instituted, payment maybe made with penalty at the rate of Two Percent (2%) per month on the amount of delinquency or fraction thereof but not exceeding thirty six (36) months until the delinquent tax shall have been fully paid; and further, that unless the delinquent tax and penalties be paid or the tax shall have been judicially set aside, the entire delinquent real property will be sold at public auction to satisfy taxes, penalties and costs, and the title to the property will be vested in the purchaser, subject however to the right of the delinquent owner of the property or person acting in his behalf or any person having legal interest over the property to redeem the said property within one year from the date of sale.

Iloilo City, December 23, 2024

(SGD.) ENGR. JINNY C. HERMANO
 City Treasurer

NE/January 6 & 13, 2025



Department of Transportation
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY
 Regional Office VI
 MROVI Building, De La Rama Street
 Iloilo City Philippines 5000



MICHELLE G. MARAHAY CASE NO. MRO VI 24-058

NOTICE OF HEARING

Applicant requested for Approval of Sale and Transfer of Ownership of the vessel named **MBca "RB TRANS 2"** owned by **BAYANI & RUBY ANN TALABAN (VENDOR)** to **MICHELLE G. MARAHAY (VENDEE)**.

This application will be heard by this Authority on **10 January 2025, 10:00 AM** at Maritime Regional Office VI Bldg., De La Rama St., Iloilo City, at which herein applicant shall present its/his/her/their evidence. Before the start of the actual hearing, a pre-hearing shall be conducted in accordance with Rule 7 of the Interim Rules of Practice and Procedure.

At least seven (7) days prior to the date of Hearing, applicant shall publish this notice of hearing once in one daily newspaper of local circulation in the region and served by registered mail or personal delivery copies of the application and of this notice of hearing to all affected parties as appearing in the attached list.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written oppositions on or before the date of hearing, furnish a copy of the same to the applicant and appear at the hearing, with such evidence as maybe proper in the premises. Failure on the part of any person to file his opposition on time and to appear at the hearing will be construed as a waiver of his right to be heard and this Authority will proceed to hear and decide the application on its merits.

WITNESS, the MARINA Administrator, **Honorable Sonia B. Malaluan, this 10th day of December 2024.**

BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADMINISTRATOR:

(SGD.) JEFFREY A. BANGSA
 Regional Director

nia/mma
 Vendor: Bayani & Ruby Ann Talaban
 Address: San Lorenzo, Guimaras
 Vendee: Michelle G. Marahay
 Address: Poblacion, Jordan, Guimaras
 Office of the Solicitor General 134 Amorsolo St., Makati
 FS, Manila
 File

No firecracker-related fires in Antique during holidays



NO FIRECALL. Personnel of the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) and the Sibalom Police Station inspect a firecracker stall in Sibaom, Antique on Dec. 27, 2024. BFP recorded no fire incidents caused by firecrackers or fireworks over the holidays. (Photo courtesy of Nutriskwela Radyo Kaabayanan)

GENERAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby served to the Public that **VAMDA FISHING CORPORATION, with business address at Cadiz City, Neg. Occ. has filed with MARINA – Regional Office VI for change of ownership from NANCY FISHING CORPORATION to VAMDA FISHING CORPORATION of the vessel named FB "JULIUS – I". As per Deed of Absolute Sale dated 02 December 2024, Notarized by MARCELO P. BRIONES, a Notary Public, docketed as Doc. No. 44, Page No. 09, Book No. 114, Series of 2024. Any person or entity adversely affected by said claim may file their written opposition with Maritime Industry Authority Regional Office VI, MARINA Bldg., De La Rama St., Iloilo City within ten (10) days from date of publication.**

SAN JOSE DE BUENAVISTA, Antique – The Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) in Antique reported no fire incidents caused by firecrackers or fireworks during Christmas and New Year celebrations.

Senior Fire Officer 1 Jefferson Cordero, head of the Fire Safety Inspection Enforcement Section, credited their "Oplan Paalala Iwas Papatok" campaign, which began on Dec. 1, for the success.

Local governments in seven towns banned firecracker sales, while others strictly regulated vendors to designated zones.

Provincial Fire Marshal Supt. Patricio Collado and regional officials conducted station visits to ensure readiness, highlighting the effectiveness of intensified safety inspections and community support. (PNA)

WORD SEARCH
 HEART ATTACKS

A I M H T Y H R R A N I G N A
 E N Z Y M E S R A C S T E N T
 S U G R A F T A F W O L G I R
 U M D I Z Z I N E S S I W A I
 A B T S E R R A T R O A E P U
 N N E T E S E B O P J U G U M
 G E S S K L R K L B N C A L U
 I S I E C D I A C L U I K S I
 O S C H A L S E N O R C C E D
 G E R C B T K W Y O S L O S O
 R R E B Y P A S S D E O L T S
 A T X A R O H T E I D G B E W
 M S E E V L A V E I N S R R O
 H D L O R E T S E L O H C U L
 S E I R E T R A G N I K O M S

- | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|------------|---------|
| ANGINA | BYPASS | ICU | RISK |
| ANGIOGRAM | CHEST | JAW | SCARS |
| ANGIOPLASTY | CHOLESTEROL | LDL | SMOKING |
| AORTA | CLOGS | LOW FAT | STENT |
| ARREST | CLOT | LOW SODIUM | STERUM |
| ARRHYTHMIA | DIET | NAUSEA | STRESS |
| ARTERIES | DIZZINESS | NUMBNESS | SURGEON |
| ATRIUM | ENZYMES | NURSE | THORAX |
| BACK | EXERCISE | OBESSE | VALVE |
| BLOCKAGE | GRAFT | PAIN | VEINS |
| BLOOD | HDL | PULSE | WEAK |

over the HEDGE

BY T. LEWIS & MICHAEL FRAY



HOROSCOPE

ARIES March 21 - April 19
 Sudden changes in your romantic situation could occur today, Aries. If you're currently committed to someone, expect some surprising propositions from your partner. If you're involved but not committed, a marriage proposal might be in the picture. If you aren't currently involved, you could meet someone new and exciting under unusual circumstances. Make sure you look your best today, even if you're only running down to the supermarket!

TAURUS April 20 - May 20
 As the world economy continues to boom, Taurus, don't be surprised if you're surrounded by new work possibilities. More than one chance to increase your income could come your way today. The problem will be wading through all these opportunities and trying to decide which is the most appealing and workable for you. List your options and outline the pros and cons of each. Writing things down can sometimes make them clearer.

GEMINI May 21 - June 21
 You should be feeling especially creative at this time. Social events could put you in touch with some exciting new people. Gemini. Contact with those in interesting professions could open up new personal and intellectual avenues to explore today. New friends could come your way, and your romantic situation should intensify. Expect some exciting discussions and the opportunity to learn more about the professions and personalities of the people around you.

CANCER June 22 - July 22
 One or more exciting new people could come into your life today, perhaps through friends or group activities of some kind. They might actually visit you in your home. Expect to be inspired and motivated by your contact with these people and others, Cancer, and to have a lot of new possibilities for your future running through your head. You might also begin to contemplate a move. Enjoy your day.

LEO July 23 - August 22
 Today is likely to prove very busy, Leo, and full of interesting, unusual developments. You might find yourself having to run a lot of errands in your neighborhood, perhaps also making a few short visits. A lot of letters and phone calls, some with intriguing news, could also be on your agenda at this time. It could take some time for you to process all the information and make sense of it.

VIRGO Aug. 23 - Sept. 22
 Opportunities to increase your income by working out of your home could well present themselves today. There might be more than one, and you could be tempted to take them all on. Think about this carefully before you commit, Virgo. You're feeling energetic today, but that could flag on future days. Consider the situation honestly and objectively before making any firm decisions. You don't want to regret it later.

LIBRA Sept. 23 - Oct. 22
 Paperwork regarding financial matters may need to be executed at some point today, Libra. You're in the mood for some adventure, perhaps physical or romantic. You might be tempted to participate in challenging sports, such as river rafting or downhill skiing, or you might decide to attend a group meeting and see what opportunities for contacts - not to mention romantic partners! - come your way. Take care! Have fun, but move ahead with caution.

SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
 Today, Scorpio, a subject that particularly interests you could cause you to delve into obscure sources to shed more light on it. Your intuition should help, but today you're more inclined to search for solid evidence. You might find what you seek in an unusual place and in an unconventional way. You might want to carry a notebook and pen with you today, even if it's just to the corner store!

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21
 Today should find you continuing to work toward cherished career and other goals. Love matters may come to the forefront, Sagittarius. If you're currently involved, unexpected events could bring you that much closer to your partner. If you aren't involved, you could meet someone exciting, perhaps through some kind of group activities. Also, a longtime friend could suddenly appear to you in a new light. Whichever it is, expect some interesting developments.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19
 A lot of effort, energy, and enthusiasm that you've put into various business or personal projects in the past could finally pay off today. Don't be surprised if you receive some unexpected praise or acknowledgement for your work. Friends and your special someone are likely to be very proud of you for this, Capricorn, so don't be surprised if you receive a lot of compliments and congratulations. Go out and celebrate tonight!

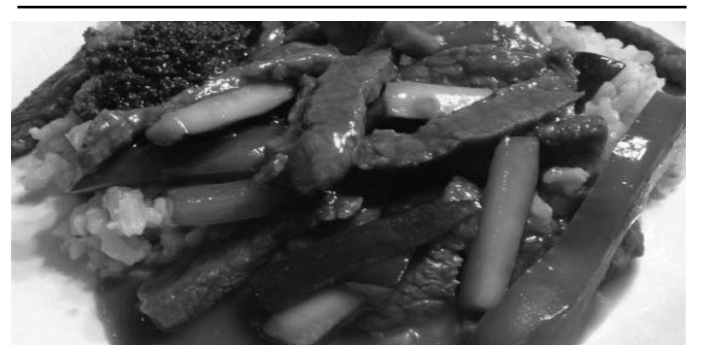
AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18
 Unexpected communications from people far away could open up new opportunities regarding career, education, travel, or other broadening experiences. As a result, Aquarius, new friendships could develop, as well as new ideas and possibly exciting new goals. Modern technology could play a major role in this development. A trip by air could be on the horizon, probably to a place you've never been before. Don't be too overwhelmed by it all!

PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20
 Career and business continue to play a powerful role in your life now, as new ideas, new people, and considerations as mundane as modern equipment open up new doors for you, Pisces. In addition, romantic involvements could intensify. If you're currently committed to someone, expect to grow closer. If you're involved but not exclusive, a proposal could be on the horizon. If you aren't involved, don't be surprised if you meet

SAVORY BEEF STIR-FRY

INGREDIENTS:
 1 BEEF BOUILLON CUBE 1/3 CUP BOILING WATER 5 TABLESPOONS LOW-SODIUM SOY SAUCE 2 TABLESPOONS CORNSTARCH 1 TABLESPOON TERIYAKI SAUCE 2 TEASPOONS WHITE SUGAR 1 POUND BEEF ROUND STEAK, CUT INTO THIN STRIPS 1 TABLESPOON OLIVE OIL 1 (16 OUNCE) PACKAGE FROZEN STIR-FRY VEGETABLES 1 (4 OUNCE) CAN SLICED WATER CHESTNUTS, UNDRAINED

Directions:
 Dissolve beef bouillon cube in boiling water in a large bowl. Stir soy sauce, cornstarch, teriyaki sauce, and sugar into the water. Lay beef strips into the soy sauce mixture; stir to coat beef entirely.
 Heat oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Cook and stir vegetables in hot oil briefly, about 1 minute. Stir water chestnuts into the vegetable mixture, place a cover over the skillet, and cook at a simmer until the vegetables are hot, about 5 minutes. Remove vegetable mixture with a slotted spoon to a large bowl, reserving juices in the skillet.
 Pour beef with soy sauce marinade into the hot skillet; cook and stir until browned completely, about 5 minutes. Return vegetable mixture to the skillet; bring to a simmer. Cook and stir until completely hot, about 2 minutes.



sudoku

Puzzles by Pappocom©
 Sudoku is an addictive brain teasing puzzle that can be solved by lateral thinking alone and has been taking the world by storm.

The rules of the game are simple: You simply fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, column and each of the 3x3 squares contains all the digits from 1 to 9 without repeats or omissions.

Billed as the next crossword, Sudoku's simplicity is its beauty. Although it is a number game, Sudoku requires no mathematical skills - just a keen grasp of logic and plenty of patience.

			2		7		9	
				4	5	7		
						1	6	5
		8	6	1				
3								7
					8	9	2	
6	9	3						
		1	5	9				
	4		3		1			

HARD

Pretty Sick Man

After looking for love in all the wrong places, a man returns from the Middle East and is feeling very ill. He goes to see his doctor, and is immediately rushed to the Hospital to undergo tests.
 The man wakes up after the tests in a private room at the hospital. No one is around but the phone by his bed. and it rings.
 "This is your doctor. We've had the results back from your tests and we've

found you have an extremely contagious and nasty STD called 'G.A.S.H.' It's a combination of Gonorrhoea, AIDS, Syphilis, and Herpes!"
 "Oh, my gosh," cried the man, "What are you going to do, doctor?"
 "Well, we're going to put you on a diet of pizzas, pancakes, and pita bread."
 "Will that cure me???" asked the man.
 The doctor replied, "Well no, but.... they're the only foods we can get under the door."

Over 63K Ilonggos get anti-flu jabs

ILOILO CITY – The Iloilo City Health Office has vaccinated 63,672 residents with influenza vaccines to date.

“This marks a significant increase from the 47,000 vaccinations reported last Dec. 15. In just 11 days, we have reached over 16,000 more individuals, showcasing the cooperation and commitment of our fellow Ilonggos to safeguard our health,” Mayor Jerry Treñas said in a statement Thursday.

Treñas thanked President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. and the Department of Health for their support in allocating the vaccines that made the achievement possible.

“Without their assistance, our flu vaccination program would not have reached this level of success,” he said.

The mayor also encouraged those who have not availed of the vaccines to visit their nearest health center or the flu vaccination site at the City Health Office on the 2nd floor of the Iloilo City Hall.

“I strongly urge companies, schools, and government offices to continue collaborating with our City Health Office for mass vaccination drives. Our seniors and individuals aged 10 years and above are especially encouraged to get vaccinated. Prevention is our most powerful tool in ensuring a healthy and resilient city,” he added.

The City Health Office said the vaccine is especially recommended for senior citizens, pregnant women already five months and above, people living with human immunodeficiency virus, healthcare and

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 **CONNY GRACE G. TANALEON** has filed with this Office, a petition for correction of **Child's Sex** from “**MALE**” to “**FEMALE**” in the Certificate of Live Birth of **CONNY GRACE T. GABAYERON** at **Jordan, Guimaras** and whose parents are **LEONY GABAYERON** and **CORONACION TACDORO**.

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

(SGD.) JESUSA M. MILLONDAGA
Municipal Civil Registrar

NE/Dec. 30, 2024 & Jan. 6, 2025

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

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

In Compliance with Section 5 of R.A. 9048, a notice is hereby served to the public that **LARRY P. JOLIPAS** has filed with this Office a petition for Change of First Name from “**LAURO**” to “**LARRY**” in the Certificate of Live Birth of **LARRY P. JOLIPAS** who was born on **July 16, 1962** at **Leganes, Iloilo** and whose parents are **LORENZO JOLIPAS** and **SOLIDAD PALMAIRA**.

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

(SGD.) JAY-R G. MATUTINA
Municipal Civil Registrar

NE/Dec. 30, 2024 & Jan. 6, 2025

AFFIDAVIT OF SOLE ADJUDICATION

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late **JOVANNIE PAOLO Z. GORRICETA** known as a bank deposit with **Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI) Jaro Iloilo Branch** under **Savings Account No. 1333342916** is adjudicated to heir **WILLAH DE LA LLANA GORRICETA** representing her minor children **SANTI PAOLO D. GORRICETA** and **JUAN JACOBO D. GORRICETA** as entered in the notarial registry of **ATTY. IGMEDIO S. PRADO, JR.** per Doc. No. 305, Page No. 62, Book No. CCXXXV, Series of 2023.

NE/Dec. 30, 2024, Jan. 6 & 13, 2025

frontline workers, chronic kidney disease, It is also open for chronic lung disease, heart individuals with diabetes, failure, and cancer. (PNA)



FREE FLU VACCINES. Free influenza vaccines are available at Iloilo City's Jaro district health center. The city government, as of Thursday (Dec. 26, 2024), has vaccinated more than 63,000 Ilonggos through various district health centers and at the flu vaccination site at the city hall. (Photo courtesy of Jaro 1 District Health Center)

M L HUILIER
Tulay ng PaMLyang Pilipino
A Financial Services Company
PANAY CENTRAL REGION

M L HUILIER PAWNSHOPS AND JEWELRY
NOTICE OF AUCTION SALE

CAPIZ AREA

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Roxas Avenue, Roxas City Tel. No.: (036) 522-2375; 6219-037 2. Salgado Bldg., Legaspi St., Roxas City Tel. No.: (036) 6219-243 3. Dale Bernas Bldg., Burgos St., Brgy Inzo Arnaldo Village, Roxas City Tel. No.: (036) 522-2355; 621-4563 4. Brgy VIII, San Roque Extension, Roxas City Tel. No.: (036) 522-8300; 6219-242 5. LG40 Gaisano Roxas, Arnaldo Blvd., Roxas City Tel. No.: (036) 6217-353 6. Poblacion Ilaya, Panay, Capiz Tel. No.: (036) 6217-626 7. Poblacion Ilawod, Panitan, Capiz Tel. No.: (036) 6340-836 8. Isagani St., Pontevedra, Capiz Tel. No.: (036) 621-7697 9. Poblacion Swa, Pres. Roxas, Capiz Tel. No.: (036) 658-0180 10. Poblacion Norte, Sigma, Capiz Tel. No.: 09479991027 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Roxas Street, Poblacion, Jamindan, Capiz Tel. No.: (036) 651-8186 12. Taft St., Poblacion, Dumalag, Capiz Tel. No.: (036) 658-0263 13. San Geronimo St., Poblacion, Tapaz, Capiz Tel. No.: 09479991813 14. Poblacion Sur., Ivisan, Capiz Tel. No.: (036) 6202-237 15. Poblacion Tabuc, Mambusao, Capiz Tel. No.: (036) 647-0419 16. Pob. Tacas, Cuartero, Capiz Tel. No.: (036) 658-0327 17. Poblacion Ilaya, Dumarao, Capiz Tel. No.: (036) 651-0795 18. Masagana Street Poblacion, Sapián, Capiz Tel. No.: (036) 651-5142 19. Dao Public Market Brgy. Balucuan Dao, Capiz Tel. No.: 09479999763 20. Poblacion Tabuc, Maayon, Capiz Tel. No.: 09479999253 21. Ground level Unit 1015 SM City Roxas, Arnaldo Blvd., Brgy. Baybay, Roxas City Tel. No. 09479999493
--	---

ILOILO AREA

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Roxas St., Pob. Centro, Calinog, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 330-0639 2. Magsaysay St. Poblacion Centro, Calinog, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 330-0478 3. Calle Canal Brgy. Capuling, Duenas, Iloilo Tel. No.: 09479992029 4. Aquino Nobleza St. Janiuay, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 531-9960; 531-7015 5. Ladrado Street Poblacion Ilaya, Lambunao, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 533-8104 6. Pob. Ilawod, Lambunao, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 533-7200 7. Dorillo St., Passi City, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 311-5366 8. Simeon Passi Aguilar St., Passi City, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 311-6182 9. Cor. Real Arbelada Arones St., Pob. Ajuy, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 323-1754 10. Del Rosario St., Pob. Norte, Balasan, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 551-5004 11. Real St. Pob. Banate, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 362-0251 12. Zamora St. Pob. Ilawod, Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 528-8113 13. Tupas St. Poblacion, Barotac Viejo, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 331-2247 14. Market Stall Municipal Gym, Pob. Carles, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 552-1012 15. D.B. Oñate St. Pob. Concepcion, Iloilo Tel. No.: 09479990675 16. Buenafior St., Dumangas, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 361-2065 17. M.H. Del Pilar St. Dumangas, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 390-0154 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18. E. Reyes Avenue Pob Zone II, Estancia, Iloilo Tel. No.: 09479990719 19. Recto St., Pob. Ilaud, Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 528-8113 20. C. Castor St. Sara, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 392-0165 21. R.Y Ladrado St., Pototan, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 529-9373 22. Sorianosos St. Poblacion, Dingle, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 323-0200 23. Brgy. Cabalaguan, Mina, Iloilo Tel. No.: (033) 530-9847 24. Garrido St., Poblacion Ilaya, San Enrique, Iloilo Tel. No.: 09479999869 25. Poblacion Batad, Iloilo Tel. No.: 09479999867 26. Poblacion Southeast Zone, Lemery, Iloilo Tel. No.: 09479999873 27. Cataluña Street, Bingawan, Iloilo Tel. No.: 09479999113 28. Roxas Blvd Street, Poblacion, San Rafael, Iloilo Tel. No.: 09479999628 29. Crossing Pantalan, Brgy Poblacion, Anilao, Iloilo Tel. No.: 09479999709 30. F. Parcon Street, Pototan, Iloilo Tel. No.: 09479999644 31. Rizal Street, Brgy Poblacion, San Dionisio, Iloilo Tel. No.: 09479999518 32. Don Victorino Salcedo St. Poblacion Market, Sara, Iloilo Tel. No.: 09479999806 33. Crispin Salazar St., Janiuay, Iloilo Tel No. 09992204460
--	---

NOTICE OF AUCTION SALE

Wish to announce their monthly Auction Sale to be held on January 15, 2025 at 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon at the office address stated above.

Nagapahibalo sang ila bulanan nga subasta nga Pagahiwaton sa Enero 15, 2025 alas 9:00 sa aga (9:00 AM) asta alas 12:00 sa ugto (12:00 Noon) sa nahinambitan nga mga opisina.

THE MANAGEMENT ANG TAGADUMALAHAN

Gemmary Pawnshop & Jewellery, Inc.

AUCTION SALE

This is to inform the public that we will be conducting an AUCTION SALE on **JAN. 16, 2025** at 9:00 a.m. for all overdue pledges pawned on **AUGUST 2024** 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

AGENCIA CENTRAL

168 Aldeguer Street, Iloilo City

NOTICE

The public is informed that on **JANUARY 15, 2025**, an Auction Sale will be held at 9:00 – 10:00 AM for all unredeemed jewelries and articles the conditions of which have expired.

The Management

PAHIBALO

Ginapahibalo ang tanan nga sa **ENERO 15, 2025** pagahiwaton ang baligyaanay mga alas 9:00 – 10:00 sa aga para sa tanan nga mga alahas kag pagkabutang nga wala magawad nga sa diin ang mga plasos nga ginkasugtan natapos na.

Ang Tagdumalahan

ILOILO METRO PAWNSHOP, INC.

Simon Ledesma, St. Jaro, Iloilo City

NOTICE

This is to inform the public that on **JAN. 10, 2025**, an AUCTION SALE will be held at **9:00 A.M.** for all unredeemed jewelries & articles, the conditions of which have expired.

THE MANAGEMENT

PAHIBALO

Ginapahibalo ang tanan nga sa **ENERO 10, 2025** alas 9:00 sa aga pagahiwaton ang baligyaanay sang mga alahas kag pagkabutang nga wala magawad nga sa diin ang mga plasos nga ginkasugtan natapos na.

ANG TAGDUMALAHAN

Iloilo City gov't urges development of idle lands

ILOILO CITY – The local government here is encouraging property owners to develop their idle lands in this city to accommodate the growing demand of business process outsourcing (BPO) firms and other companies needing spaces for their operations.

“According to Leechiu, a reputable property consultant, the demand for office and BPO spaces in Iloilo City has now outpaced the supply. This is excellent news for our city, signifying the influx of investments and the creation of more job opportunities for Ilonggos in 2025,” Mayor Jerry Treñas said in a statement on Wednesday.

Treñas said buildings that cater to BPO operations in the city are enjoying “significant incentives, including all tax-free operations and exemptions from real property tax (RPT),” while BPO companies have no business taxes.

He said the city government is always ready to have their properties declared as Philippine Economic Zone Authority zones to “provide even greater incentives for investors and developers.”

“This development opens up countless possibilities for 2025, as the need for more office spaces signals the influx of new companies that will bring with them thousands of job opportunities for Ilonggos. Such progress not only boosts our local economy but also enhances the quality of life for our residents by creating stable and high-paying employment options,” he added.

Lawyer Fydah Marie Sabando, department head of the Iloilo City Data Assessment and System Management Office (DASMO), said around 107 BPO companies are operating in the city, employing at least 45,000 workers.

Iloilo City, she said in a past interview, houses the biggest information technology park in Western Visayas. (PNA)

NOTICE OF AUCTION SALE ON REMATADOS OF M. LHUILLIER PAWNSHOPS

Iloilo and Guimaras Branches at

Molo, Avancena, Villa, Guanco, Rizal, Mandurriao 1, De Leon, Mandurriao 2, Guzman, Ledesma, San Agustin, SM Jewellers, Ilonga, Iznart, Lapaz 1, Lapaz 2, Bo. Obrero, Jaro 1, Jaro 2, Jaro 3, Jaro 4, Jaro 5, Jaro 6, Tagbak, Ungka, Burgos Lapaz, Rotunda, JM Basa.

Commencing **January 15, 2025** at 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon those above mentioned pawnshops will sell on Public Auction Sale on all overdue pledges left in the same up to July 1-31, 2024. Patrons are enjoined to verify their receipts.

MANAGEMENT

Sa **Enero 15, 2025** alas 9:00 sa aga asta 12:00 sa ucto ang takna nga iga subasta sa publiko ang tanan nga na remati sa nahinambitan nga opisina sa ibabaw. Ang tanan nga butang nga gin prenda nga wala ma gawad asta sa Hulyo 1-31, 2024, madala sa subasta . Gina pahibalo ang tanan nga suki nga pagatan awon ang ila tagsa ka resibo.

TAGDUMALAHAN

Mohon, Oton, San Jose San Miguel, Tigbauan, Guimbal, Tubungan, Igaras, Miag ao, San Joaquin, Alimodian, Leon, San Miguel, Jibao an, Pavia, Sta Barbara, New Lucena, Cabatuan, Ayaman, Maasin, Arroyo, Leganes, Zarraga, Jalaud, Bolong Oeste.

Commencing **January 16, 2025** at 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon those above mentioned pawnshops will sell on Public Auction Sale on all overdue pledges left in the same up to July 1-31, 2024. Patrons are enjoined to verify their receipts.

MANAGEMENT

Sa **Enero 16, 2025** alas 9:00 sa aga asta 12:00 sa ucto ang takna nga iga subasta sa publiko ang tanan nga na remati sa nahinambitan nga opisina sa ibabaw. Ang tanan nga butang nga gin prenda nga wala ma gawad asta sa Hulyo 1-31, 2024, madala sa subasta . Gina pahibalo ang tanan nga suki nga pagatan awon ang ila tagsa ka resibo.

TAGDUMALAHAN

Jordan, Jordan Pier, Calingao, Guimaras, Nueva Valencia, San Lorenzo, Sibunag, Cabalagnan, San Miguel Jordan.

Commencing **January 17, 2025** at 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon those above mentioned pawnshops will sell on Public Auction Sale on all overdue pledges left in the same up to July 1-31, 2024. Patrons are enjoined to verify their receipts.

MANAGEMENT

Sa **Enero 17, 2025** alas 9:00 sa aga asta 12:00 sa ucto ang takna nga iga subasta sa publiko ang tanan nga na remati sa nahinambitan nga opisina sa ibabaw. Ang tanan nga butang nga gin prenda nga wala ma gawad asta sa Hulyo 1-31, 2024, madala sa subasta . Gina pahibalo ang tanan nga suki nga pagatan awon ang ila tagsa ka resibo.

TAGDUMALAHAN

Family falls in anti-drug ops, yields over P1-M worth of shabu

ILOILO CITY – Four members of a family residing in Barangay Calumpang in this city’s Molo district yielded to authorities around 150 grams shabu with an estimated value of PHP1.02 million, following a successful operation in the village Wednesday evening.

The suspects were identified as alias "Rommel," 56; his wife, alias "Cecel," 56, both jobless; and their two children, alias "Caloy," 21, and alias "Nene," 20.

They yielded 10 heat-sealed and two knot-tied transparent sachets containing shabu, buy-bust money and other non-drug items.

"It's their family business. Despite the caution of the barangay (officials) (village officials) and residents, they continue with their transaction because they claim it is their source of living," Iloilo City Police Station 4 (ICPS4) officer-in-charge Captain Ryan Christ Inot said in an interview Thursday.

Inot said two other children are already in jail - one at the National Bilibid Prison in Muntinlupa and another at the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology in Ungka, Jaro, who was arrested for possession of over PHP2 million worth of drugs this year.

He said the father once faced a robbery case.

He said that in the family’s illegal drugs business, the parents do the repacking and the children deliver the items to their clients.

Through their contacts, their son, who is detained in Bilibid, sent the items via the roll-on roll-off and dropped at the transport terminal.

"They could not call them drug lord, but they can be classified as stockman and distributor. Their markets are usually in Molo, Arevalo, and City Proper districts," Inot said. (PNA)

'Boga' causes most of 13 'cracker'-linked injuries in Antique

SAN JOSE DE BUENAVISTA, Antique – The use of the prohibited "boga", an improvised cannon made from large PVC pipes and fueled by denatured alcohol, along with "kamara," accounted for 11 out of 13 firecracker-related injuries in Antique during the Christmas and New Year celebrations.

Antique Integrated Provincial Health Office (IPHO) Information Officer Irene Duldoco said in an interview on Wednesday that the injuries, monitored from Dec. 24, 2024 to Jan. 1, predominantly involved males who either lit the firecrackers themselves or were accidentally injured.

"We have recorded 13 cases under our Code White Alert surveillance, most of which were caused by prohibited firecrackers," Duldoco said.

Seven individuals sustained eye and forearm injuries from "boga", while four were injured by "kamara".

Two others were hurt by whistle bombs, also banned, and one by kwitis (skyrocket), a regulated firecracker.

Among the victims, a 14-year-old boy from Lauaan, injured by "kamara" on Christmas Day, is still in the hospital recuperating.

The rest, including a 16-year-old from San Jose de Buenavista injured by "boga" on Dec. 24, were treated and discharged.

Duldoco urged parents to warn children against picking up unexploded firecrackers and reminded the public to remain vigilant, as IPHO will continue surveillance until Jan. 5.

Last year, 19 firecracker-related injuries were recorded. (PNA)

FOR YOUR ADVERTISING NEEDS
Please contact
TEL. NO. 320-1509 / 508-8725

Republic of the Philippines
National Authority for Child Care
Regional Alternative Child Care Office
Region VI- Western Visayas
TIN 200-137-390-000

DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATIVE ADOPTION
CASE NO: RACCO VI-DAA-2024-0103-IP-042

DATE: **December 17, 2024**

IN RE: PETITION FOR ADOPTION OF
ANGELINA EDZEL SOLINA IGNACIO
TO BE KNOWN THEREAFTER AS
ANGELINA EDZEL ARMADA ESTANTE

MS. NANETTE ARMADA ESTANTE
Petitioners

x-----x

ORDER

A verified petition for the adoption of Angelina Edzel Solinap Ignacio filed by the petitioners through the Regional Alternative Child Care Office (RACCO) praying that after due notice, publication, and appearances, a judgment be rendered to the effect that the adoptee **Angelina Edzel Solinap Ignacio** be declared for all legal intents and purposes the legitimate child of the petitioners and that the name of the adoptee be changed particularly to appear as **Angelina Edzel Armada Estante**.

Finding the said Petition to be sufficient in form and substance, let the same be set for Mandatory Appearance on **January 10, 2025**, to be held at **RACCO VI at 3F Ana Ros Building, Simon Ledesma Street, Jaro, Iloilo City, Iloilo**. Any interested party may appear and may file an opposition/complaint supported by evidence to the National Authority for Child Care (NACC), through the RACCO where the Petition was filed. The complaint will be subjected to verification and further investigation.

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

(SGD.) JANICE J. BRASILEÑO, RSW
Officer-In-Charge

NE/Dec. 23, 20, 2024 & Jan. 6, 2025

DEED OF ADJUDICATION WITH ABSOLUTE SALE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late **Spouses PEDRO JUARIO and TEODORA GOPITEO** known as a parcel of land (Lot No. 3271 of the Cadastral survey of Santa Barbara, Iloilo) covered by **TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. T-23272** with the **improvements thereon**, situated in Santa Barbara, Iloilo containing an area of **Thirteen Thousand Nine Hundred and Eleven Square Meters (13,911), more or less** is adjudicated to surviving heir **FELICITAS GOPITEO CELESTRE**. Further, **Felicitas Gopiteo Celestre** SELL, TRANSFER, CONVEY and DELIVER by way of ABSOLUTE SALE unto **MYRNA OLID** the property above described with all the improvements existing thereon as entered in the notarial registry of **ATTY. ANNELEI F. PRADO-SINGIAN** per Doc. No. 517, Page No. 33, Book No. I, Series of 2022.

NE/January 6, 13 & 20, 2025

DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL ADJUDICATION

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late **ERLINDA G. HOJILLA** consisting of a parcel of land **Lot No. 18, Block No. 2** of the subdivision plan Psd-16662 with an area of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY SQUARE METERS (150) more or less** and **Lot No. 43, Block No. 2** of the subdivision plan Psd-15662 with an area of **TWENTY TWO SQUARE METERS AND FIFTY TWO DECIMETERS (22.50) more or less** both situated in **Malate, City of Manila** covered by **TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 221071** is adjudicated to the only surviving compulsory heir **EDWARD LAYSON** as entered in the notarial registry of **ATTY. MA. THERESA MALONES-SANCHEZ** per Doc. No. 309, Page No. 80. Book No. III, Series of 2024.

NE/January 6, 13 & 20, 2025

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
6th JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
& EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF
CJ Ramon Q. Avanceña Hall of Justice
Bonifacio Drive, Iloilo City
(033) 3353190/rtc1iloocc@judiciary.gov.ph

EJF NO. F-11018-24

For:

EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF
REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER
ACT 3135 as AMENDED

FIRST STANDARD FINANCE CORPORATION,
Mortgagee

-versus-

WILMARE G. EDANG, married to
FRANCES JOYCE G. EDANG,
Mortgagors

x-----x

RE-NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Foreclosure of Real Estate Mortgage under Act 3135, as amended, filed by **FIRST STANDARD FINANCE CORPORATION**, a corporation duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the Philippines, with principal place of business at ACCE Bldg., Ledesma - Mabini Sts., Iloilo City, Philippines, hereinafter referred to as the **MORTGAGEE**, against **WILMARE G. EDANG, married to FRANCES JOYCE G. EDANG**, both of legal age, Filipinos and residents of Brgy. Napandong, Nueva Valencia, Guimaras, Philippines, hereinafter referred to as the **MORTGAGORS**, for the satisfaction of the mortgage indebtedness which as of November 25, 2024 amounted to **FIVE HUNDRED SIXTY FOUR THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY SIX PESOS AND TWENTY CENTAVOS (Php564,176.20)**, Philippine Currency, inclusive of interests, the Ex-Officio Sheriff of Iloilo and/or his duly authorized deputy Sheriff will SELL at Public Auction on **JANUARY 28, 2025** at 10 o'clock in the morning at the Office of the Clerk of Court, Regional Trial Court, Hall of Justice Building Iloilo City, to the **HIGHEST BIDDER for CASH or MANAGER'S CHECK** and in Philippine Currency, the real property with all the improvements found thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 095-2021001120

"A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 48-A-2 PSD-06-009566, BEING A PORTION OF LOT 48-APSD-40254), SITUATED IN THE DISTRICT OF JARO, CITY OF ILOILO PROVINCE OF ILOILO ISLAND OF PANAY BOUNDED XXXXX CONTAINING AN AREA OF FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY FOUR (454) SQUARE METERS, 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 25, 2025** without further notice.

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

Iloilo City, Philippines, December 04, 2024.

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

(SGD.) MARK EMMANUEL D. DELMO
Sheriff IV

NE/January 6, 13 & 20, 2025

