

# THE VOICE NEWSWEEKLY

FOUNDED 1955



**PAL RESUMES CLARK-BASCO ROUTE** **SEE BACK PAGE**

# Pogi declaration a big political event



**M**AGALANG, PAMPANGA – Angeles City Mayor Carmelo “Pogi” Lazatin, Jr.’s declaration of candidacy for the Congressional seat of the First District of Pampanga at the Magalang Plaza on June 28, 2024 is, to date, the biggest political event in the history of the Pampanga district in terms of logistics and preparation.

“Ini ing first-ever major event a meganap kening Plaza Magalang from preparation, logistics, and manpower,” Magalang Mayor Malu Lacson said, adding that the preparations started four days before the event. A total of 623 personal working staff of Lazatin were deployed during the event. “We began planning **SEE PAGE 4** **POGI DECLARATION**”

## Swissôtel Clark nominated at World Travel Awards

Swissotel Clark, a beacon of Swiss vitality in the heart of Clark Freeport Zone, is nominated for Philippines’ Leading Lifestyle Hotel 2024 and Philippines’ Leading City Hotel 2024 at the World Travel Awards! Known for its world-class amenities and personalized service, Swissôtel Clark ensures an unparalleled guest experience that epitomizes luxury and relaxation. Your vote helps solidify Clark as a premier MICE destination in the country. Cast your vote at <http://www.worldtravelawards.com/vote> before July 28th!

## Converge AI-powered green data centers

Leading Philippine fiber broadband and technology company Converge ICT Solutions Inc. (PSE: CNVRG) has inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with US-based total IT solutions provider for artificial intelligence (AI), Cloud, Storage, and 5G/Edge Super Micro Computer Inc. (NASDAQ: SMCI) to jointly establish AI-powered, green data centers in the country.

“We are thrilled to be in close collaboration with Supermicro in establishing the first cutting-edge, AI-ready data centers in the country. Aside from being energy saving with its liquid cooling technology, Supermicro’s servers provide exceptional AI computing capabilities and intensive deep learning tasks that will allow us to support a n d deploy many A I applications,” said Converge CEO and Co-Founder Dennis Anthony Uy.

Supermicro intends to develop Total IT Rack-scale liquid-cooled solutions, leveraging advanced NVIDIA Graphic Processing Units (GPUs), for the upcoming data centers of Converge.

Uy announced earlier that the company plans to start constructing this year three data centers, namely in Pampanga, Laguna, and Caloocan. Through the collaboration with Super Micro, all three data centers will be constructed according to Supermicro’s future-ready design and input. The same MOU governs the deployment of AI-driven servers in these data centers to support generative AI applications.

Furthermore, Converge and Supermicro have identified the AI applications they may develop which includes National Large Language Model (LLM), and Smart Manufacturing for Industry 4.0, Deep Learning/ Machine Learning, Video Generator, to name a few. **SEE PAGE 4 CONVERGE**

Dennis Anthony Uy, Converge CEO and Co-Founder, seals the partnership with a handshake with Mr. Wally Liaw, Co-Founder and Senior Vice President of Supermicro in Taiwan.

**VOTE FOR CLARK**  
IN THE 2024 WORLD TRAVEL AWARDS!

**SWISSOTEL CLARK**  
NOMINATED AS  
PH'S LEADING LIFESTYLE HOTEL FOR 2024  
PH'S LEADING CITY HOTEL FOR 2024

CLARK clark MICE CONVERGE

FOLLOW OUR SOCIALS VISIT CLARK

**LUID YA ING PRIMERANG DISTRITU!**

**Misanmetung keng pamanyulung keng Primera Distrito ning Pampanga!**

## 1K Angeles kids circumcised

**ANGELES CITY** — At least 1,011 Angeleño boys underwent free circumcision from the program of Mayor Carmelo “Pogi” Lazatin, Jr.

Dubbed “Magpatuli para Pogi”, the city’s operation tuli was conducted in the six Rural Health Units (RHUs) starting June 18, 2024, supervised by Lazatin’s Chief Adviser IC Calaguas and Executive Assistant IV Reina Manuel with City Health Officer Dr. Verona Guevarra and Gender and Development Officer Mina Cabilas.

“Inaanyayahan ko po ang mga magulang na ipatuli na ang kanilang mga anak. Ito po ay libre at mga professional doctors, at nurses po ang magtutuli,” Lazatin said.

The free circumcision activity will run until July 18, 2024.

Of the 1,011 kids, 105 had free circumcision in Rhu 1; 197 in Rhu 2; 136 in Rhu 3; 183 in Rhu 4; 199 in Rhu 5; and, 190 in Rhu 6.

Manuel said the kids who had undergone free circumcision received home care kits which include Vitamin C supplements and medicine for the wound.

Thirty midwives, nurses, and doctors from the CHO led the operation ‘tuli’, where 50 kids were scheduled to be circumcised per day in each Rhu.

Earlier, 2,705 kids benefitted from the free circumcision program in 2023 and 3,228 in 2022.

The free circumcision program was launched in Angeles City during the stint of Mayor Carmelo “Tarzan” Lazatin from 2002 to 2007. **(ANGELES CIO)**

## PBBM assures support for a more credible AirForce

**FLORIDABLANCA, Pampanga** — President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. has assured the consistent support and effort of his administration for the achievement of an agile, stronger and more capable Philippine Air Force (PAF).

In his speech during the PAF 77th Founding Anniversary at Basa Air Base here, Marcos highlighted that asset acquisition is key to boosting the capability of the PAF to protect the nation and people, and to face challenges with advanced speed, precision and force.

“Consistent efforts are being undertaken such as acquiring additional air assets; enhancing cyber warfare communication systems; and pursuing base development programs. We have acquired additional aircraft as well as advanced radar systems which transformed our operational readiness and our operational reach,” the President said.

The Commander-in-Chief cited the PAF’s feats to ensure the security and sovereignty of the country, including regular maritime patrol missions, support for international security operations, and humanitarian and disaster response operations.

The President also mentioned the initiative to participate in global peace and security.

“We have also heightened our international defense and security engagements by sustaining talks with our foreign military counterparts and participating in bilateral and multilateral military exercises,” he said.

Marcos also recognized the outstanding units and personnel for their exceptional and meritorious service and dedication to the Filipino people and the country.

“As we celebrate another year of service, I extend my sincerest congratulations to this year’s awardees for your outstanding performance. As your Commander-in-Chief, I assure you of this administration’s support in prioritizing your welfare, ensuring you are well attended to in terms of overall health and wellness so you may perform your duties effectively and safely.”

President stressed.

Meanwhile, PAF Commander Lt. Gen. Stephen Parreño cited the milestones of the branch the past 77 years, such as enhanced public value, improved accountability, good governance, and a culture of safety within the organization.

“Much has changed in more than seven decades since the Philippine Air Force was established. Every day, we continue to muster strength, boost our capabilities, and

SEE PAGE 4

PBBM ASSURES



**ASSURED SUPPORT.** President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. assured the consistent support and effort of his administration for an agile, stronger and more capable Philippine Air Force. **(PCO)**



**OPERATION CIRCUMCISION.** Angeles City Mayor Carmelo “Pogi” Lazatin, Jr. welcome boys to the “Magpatuli para Pogi” Program of the city government. More than 1,000 boys were circumcised in the six Rural Health Units (RHUs) in the starting June 18, 2024.

## SM Prime, BFP launch search for 10 best firefighters

SM Prime Holdings, Inc. (SM Prime) and the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) reaffirmed their commitment to fire safety and protection through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signing ceremony held on June 27, 2024, at the SM Prime Headquarters.

The MOA highlights SM Prime’s recognition on the critical role of the BFP in maintaining public safety, economic stability, and peace and order through the launch of the yearly search for the Ten Outstanding Firefighters of the Philippines.

SM Prime President Jeffrey Lim expressed his pride in the commitment to honoring outstanding firefighters. “The Awards aim to celebrate the heroism and bravery of BFP members who have made fire service their vocation, contributing

to Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in the Philippines,” stated Mr. Lim. “This is the first award we in SM Prime have launched, signifying the importance of your heroic role in DRR for the whole of Philippine society.”

Nominations for the awards will begin in July 2024, with the awarding ceremony scheduled for December 2024.

The top 10 awardees will receive a plaque of recognition and a cash prize of PHP 250,000 each while ten finalists will each be awarded PHP 20,000.

The MOA signing paves the way towards a safer future for Filipino communities. The combined efforts of SM Prime and the BFP will undoubtedly contribute to strengthening fire resilience in the Philippines.



**MOA signed to honor Bureau of Fire’s role in public safety**



**SM Prime executives and the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) members join forces to promote fire safety and disaster preparedness in communities**

## FedEx expands PH Gateway in Clark

Federal Express Corporation, one of the world’s largest express transportation companies, has signed an agreement with Luzon International Premier Airport Development (LIPAD) Corporation, operator and manager of Clark International Airport, to expand and upgrade the company’s gateway in Clark, Pampanga.

The new facility is set to offer enhanced capabilities that will benefit local businesses looking to amplify their presence in international markets and support the growing demand for e-commerce, freight, and cold-chain shipments across the Asia Pacific region.

To demonstrate their support for the expansion, Joshua Bingcang, President and Chief Executive Officer, Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA), Arrey Perez,

President, Clark International Airport Corporation (CIAC), and Noelle Meneses, Vice President for Business Development and

Business Enhancement, Clark Development Corporation (CDC) attended the signing ceremony at the FedEx Gateway.



**GATEWAY EXPANSION.** Federal Express Corp. recently signed an agreement with the Luzon International Premier Airport Development Corp. for the expansion of its gateway facility in the Clark Civil Aviation Complex. Witnessing the signing are officers of the Clark International Airport Corp. (CIAC), BCDA and CDC.

## Capitol, DSWD give aid to pregnant women

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), in collaboration with the Provincial Government of Pampanga, provided P3,000 cash and food assistance to 138 pregnant women from the City of San Fernando on Wednesday, July 3.

The event, held as part of the First 1,000 Days Program, was led by former board member and now Executive Assistant IV, Mylyn Pineda-Cayabyab, representing Governor Dennis “Delta” Pineda.

It featured lectures on maternal and child health care, which covered topics such as regular check-ups, vaccinations, and proper nutrition before, during, and after pregnancy. The importance of breastfeeding was

also highlighted, emphasizing its vital role in a child’s health and development.

In addition to the cash and food assistance, the provincial government, through the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO),

distributed goods, hygiene kits, and vitamins to the beneficiaries.

The First 1,000 Days Program aims to address the health and nutrition needs of mothers and children during the critical first 1,000 days of life, from zero to two years old.



**ASSISTING PREGNANT WOMEN.** Former Board Member Mylyn Pineda-Cayabyab, now Executive Assistant to Governor Dennis “Delta” Pineda, leads the distribution of aid to pregnant women in Pampanga with the DSWD and the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO)



# KUWENTONG PEYUPS

ATTY. DENNIS GORECHO

## The colors of Aliwan Fiesta

**FESTIVALS** are prime manifestations of the Filipino's fervent devotion and faith characterized by history, artistry, creativity, and passion.

Fiestas serve as the Filipino's profound way of remembering the blessings of the past years, commemorating historical milestones, and expressing pious devotion to religious images.

As locals then worshipped many gods and had their own set of cultures and traditions, the Spaniards introduced fiestas to the Filipinos as part of their strategy to colonize the Philippines through Christianity.

Processions and street-parades are organized, showcasing themed floats, dancing groups wearing colorful costumes, marching bands, and people sporting face and body paints which attract millions of devotees and tourists.

An essential element of festivals is the elaborate and vibrant costumes that feature bright and radiant colors, sequins, feathers, and intricate beadwork. There are various accessories, including a large headdress, a cape, and handheld items such as shields, weapons, or a scepter. Both the costume and props reflect the rich historical and cultural significance of the festival.

Since 2003, the Aliwan Fiesta is a three-day grand fiesta that brings together in Metro Manila contingents from different regions, provinces, cities, and towns with the best cultural street dances, floats, and Reyna search.

Dubbed as the "Mother of All

Fiestas", Aliwan comes from the word "aliw", which means entertainment.

The CCP Complex was filled last June 27 to 29, 2024 with loud music and performances that showcased the richness and diversity of Philippine festivals.

This year's Aliwan featured fourteen street dance groups, eight floats, and twenty candidates for "Reyna ng Aliwan" from festivals of various regions.

Two Ilonggo festivals dominated the street dance competition of this year's Aliwan Fiesta led by Dinagyang (champion) and Tultugan (2nd).

Dinagyang Festival ranked first in the street dancing category followed by Tultugan Festival (2nd place), Meguyaya Festival from Upi, Maguindanao del Norte (3rd place), Niyogyugan Festival from Quezon Province (4th place), and Sinulog Festival of Cebu (5th place).

The same top three group won in the Tugtug ng Aliwan contest in the same order.

Dinagyang also won Best Costume while Tinultugan received the Best Musical Accompaniment Award.

Guinakit Festival from Cotabato City, Maguindanao del Norte won Best in Float as well as in 2003 and 2007.

Other participants in the street dancing category include Lakbayaw Festival of the City of Manila; Panagbenga Flower Festival from Baguio City; Bodong Festival from Rizal, Kalanga; Halamanan Festival from Guiguinto, Bulacan;

Dinamulag Mango Festival from Iba, Zambales; Panagkakaduan Festival from San Felipe, Zambales; Maytime Festival from Antipolo City; Hamaka Festival from Taytay, Rizal; Kaogma Festival from Baao, Camarines Sur; and, Cagsawa Festival from Daraga, Albay

Sinulog and Dinagyang have been pitted against each other as to which is better and the best festival in the Philippines.

Dinagyang has had the most wins in the cultural dance category with eight wins (2004, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2017, 2023, 2024) while Sinulog has four wins (2006, 2007, 2008, 2014). Manaragat of Catbalogan, Samar (2015, 2016) and Halad of Midsayap, Cotabato (2003) had two wins each. Buyugan of Abuyog, Leyte (2009) and Pintados de Pasi of Iloilo (2005) have one win each.

In Iloilo, the word Dinagyang came from a Hiligaynon word "dagyang" meaning "merrymaking" traced to the pact between the Datus and the locals after the arrival of Malay settlers and the legendary barter of Panay Island from the natives called Ati.

The Ati tribe competition consists of a number of "warrior" dancers (who hold a shield in one hand and a spear in another) in a tribe (locally called "tribu") dancing in choreographed formation and patterns as well as chanting to the sound of loud drum beats and improvised percussion instruments innovated by the respective tribes.

The Tultugan Festival showcases the various usage of bamboo in the community.

Tultugan came from the word "tultug", which means the act of making sound by tapping or striking the bamboo instrument. The performers creatively utilize bamboo materials as part of the performance, incorporating them into their props, costumes, and instruments.

Cebu remained the holder of the most wins in the Reyna ng Aliwan pageant with the recent crowning of Mia Loureen Tamayo as Aliwan Reyna for 2024.

Tamayo of Pasigabro sa Sugbo Festival is the successor of another Cebuana, Kiara Liane

Wellington of Sinulog Festival who was Reyna ng Aliwan 2023.

Cebu has 12 Reyna winners, followed by Baguio with 4 (2005, 2006, 2019 and 2022) and one each for Leyte (2003), Laoag (2004), Bulacan (2007), Midsayap (2015), Tacloban (2018) and Cabadbaran (2020).

(Peyups is the moniker of University of the Philippines. Atty. Dennis R. Gorecho heads the Seafarers' Division of the Sapalo Velez Bundang Bulilan Law Offices. For comments, e-mail info@sapalovelez.com, or call 09175025808 or 09088665786.)



## 'Sabayang Patak' kicks off nutrition month in AC

**ANGELES CITY** — Mayor Carmelo "Pogi" Lazatin Jr. kicked off the "Sabayang Patak Vitamin A" campaign on July 2 as the city celebrates Nutrition Month which will benefit 990 kids.

Lazatin



personally led the administration of Vitamin A supplement to 30 kids in Barangay Lourdes Northwest and another 30 kids in Barangay Sta. Trinidad on Tuesday.

On July 3, the mayor will visit kids in Barangays Sapalibutad and Pulung Cacutud to administer the Vitamin A supplement.

Members of the City Health Office led by Dr. Verona Guevarra and City Nutrition Office personnel headed by Francis De Guzman assisted in the administration of Vitamin A supplements all over the city. Only children aged 6 to 59 months will receive the supplement.

Lazatin has been implementing the Sabayang Patak Vitamin A Program since he took office in 2019 and is among his priority missions for Angeleño kids to end the fight against nutritional deficiencies and promote an immunized community.

On July 24, the Angeles City Nutrition Office will conclude Nutrition Month with various competitions at

the Infinity with 250 children enrolled in Day Care Centers participating in the Healthiest Child Contest, Poster-Making Contest, and Cooking Contest.

There are currently 3,500 children enrolled in the city's day care centers.

The Healthiest Child Contest "encourages daycare children to adopt and maintain healthy eating habits. Participating in the contest motivates children to make nutritious food choices and develop a positive relationship with food". It also aims to promote physical activity and an active lifestyle among children.

The Poster-Making Contest aims to "deepen parents' understanding of nutrition". It aims to encourage parents to explore their creativity and artistic skills through the creation of posters, parents can express their understanding of nutrition in a visual and imaginative way.

A cooking contest for parents is also expected to encourage parents to engage in healthy cooking practices at home,

enhancing their culinary skills.

Prizes at stake in the three competitions include: for the Healthiest Child Contest, Php5,000 for the first prize; Php3,000 for 2nd prize; Php2,000 for 3rd prize; and, consolation prizes of Php1,000 each for the seven other participants

For the Poster-Making Contest, the first prize is Php5,000; 2nd Prize – Php3,000; 3rd Prize – Php2,000; and, a consolation prize of Php1,000 each for other seven participants.

For the Cooking Contest, the 1st prize is Php10,000; 2nd prize – Php7,000; 3rd prize – Php5,000, and consolation prizes of Php2,000 each for the 30 other participants.

Presidential Decree 491 issued in 1974 declared that Nutrition Month shall be held every July to create greater awareness on the importance of nutrition among Filipinos. (ANGELES CIO)

## Full service station in New Clark City

Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) President and Chief Executive Officer Joshua M. Bingcang on Monday, June 24, signed a contract with Double 11 Properties Corp. President Romeo Siccione for the long-term lease of a one-hectare property in New Clark City, intended to be developed into a full-service station.

The modern super station complete with charging terminals for electric vehicles (EVs) and a retail center will soon rise in New Clark City, promising to bring additional revenues for the government, provide future employment opportunities for the local community, and boost foot traffic in the rising metropolis.

This marks the first partnership in New Clark City for a development of this kind.

"The BCDA welcomes

Double 11 to New Clark City and offers its full support for the project. With this engagement, we expect economic benefits, such as additional revenues for the government; employment opportunities for the local residents and communities, and most importantly increased foot traffic in New Clark City," BCDA Vice President for Business Development Mark P. Torres said during the signing ceremony.

With the contract now finalized, Double 11 commits to invest at least Php100 million for the development of the facility, which will include charging terminals for EVs, a mixed-use commercial complex, and retail support businesses. The company has also expressed interest to

implement a Phase 2 expansion covering another hectare, with an additional investment of Php100 million, totaling their investment commitment to Php200 million.

The super station is expected to house over 20 retail stores and offices, serving an estimated 200,000 motorists annually, and creating about 500 jobs for the residents of Tarlac and nearby communities. It is also estimated

to generate Php100 million in revenues for the government.

"With BCDA, we are bringing our international brand partners here to provide an excellent service to motorists. Using our experience and expertise, we will not only be developing a super station, but also a lifestyle

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FULL SERVICE



BCDA President and Chief Executive Officer Joshua M. Bingcang and Double 11 Properties Corp. President Romeo Siccione sign a lease agreement for the development of a one-hectare full-service station in New Clark City. BCDA Vice President for Business Development Mark P. Torres, BCDA Officer-in-Charge, Senior Vice President for Conversion and Development Richard Brian M. Cepe, Double 11 Marketing Manager Raven Siccione, and Double 11 Business Development Manager Ren Siccione serve as witnesses. BCDA photo

THE VOICE NEWSWEEKLY

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THE VOICE NEWSWEEKLY

## Tarlaqueños complete DICT technical training

**TARLAC CITY, Tarlac** — fifteen individuals here recently completed the Strengthening of the Philippine Workforce through Adaptive and Responsive Digital Knowledge (SPARK) Technical Training of the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT).

Formerly known as the Rural Impact Sourcing Technical Training and Digital Jobs PH, SPARK aims to provide employment opportunities for out-of-school youth, persons with disabilities (PWDs), and indigenous peoples, among others.

Central Luzon DICT Regional Director Antonio Edward Padre said the training will enable the sustainable growth of ICT industries.

“SPARK specializes in training individuals to venture into freelancing employment and create their own companies as it provides a framework for the development of the digital workforce to ensure Filipinos are equipped with digital and 21st century skills. Actually, many companies have been built as a product of the previous training we facilitated,” Padre explained.

Digital Transformation Centers allow beginning freelancers who experience challenges with internet connectivity access free connection through the computer labs established by the DICT.

“With the training package, participants may create their online profile and presence, enhance their capabilities in computer applications, maximize their talents through specialized services such as digital arts, and directly connect with potential clients,” he furthered.

Individuals interested in the training may visit the official Facebook page DICT Region 3 for more details.

In Central Luzon, the DICT aims to complete two, two-week training sessions per semester with 25 participants per course.

“We have exceeded our target of two training sessions for the first semester of 2024, conducting a total of four sessions with the support of our partnerships with local government units that provided assistance such as food for our participants,” Padre shared.

Currently, about 2,000 beneficiaries in the region has completed the training session with 60 percent having long-term contracts with their clients and the remaining 40 percent having project-based clients.

Courses offered include Mobile App Development, General Transcription, Logo Design and Branding, Social Media Management, Mastering English as a Second Language Teaching, and Mastering Job Preparedness for Online Work.

Also offered are Contact Center Services National Certification Level II (NC II), Creative Web Design NC II, Events Management Services NC II, Java Programming NC II, and Computer Systems Servicing NC II.

One of the beneficiaries, Esperanza Duro, expressed gratitude to DICT for the skills she acquired through the training, particularly on graphic design, social media management, and digital marketing.

“I am grateful for this program because it is really helpful, especially for those who have zero knowledge in freelancing. I appreciate the full support of the organizers and resource persons throughout the training,” Duro said.

The latest batch of SPARK training completers received their certificates during the culminating activity of the National ICT Month celebration in Central Luzon held in this city.

Highlights of the activity also include the signing of the Pledge of Commitment of government institutions for partnership and support towards DICT programs and projects, and a training on Digital Innovation for Women Advancement.

This year’s National ICT Month celebration bears the theme “Bayang Digital ang Bagong Pilipinas”. (PIA REGION 3-TARLAC)



**TECH TRAINEES.** Trainees graduate after completing the Strengthening of the Philippine Workforce through Adaptive and Responsive Digital Knowledge (SPARK) Technical Training of the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) which aims to provide employment for out-of-school youth, persons with disabilities, and indigenous peoples, among others, underscoring DICT’s role in ensuring every Filipino has access to vital ICT infrastructure and services. (PIA-3)

### POGI DECLARATION... FROM PAGE 1

and preparation 60 days prior to the event. Four days before the event, our staff were already in Magalang Plaza to set up tables and chairs, platforms, tents, and other equipment,” Lazatin’s Chief Adviser IC Calaguas said.

Provincial and district political leaders attended the event, including Governor Dennis “Delta” Pineda, First District Rep. Carmelo “Jon” Lazatin II, Mabalacat City Mayor Crisostomo Garbo, and Magalang Mayor Lacson.

Lazatin also enjoys the support of 85 of the 87 barangays in the First District as well as various sectors of society in the same district.

During the event, Lazatin unveiled

his legislative agenda for the First District, which centers on a single principle -- ‘no one will be left behind’ -- focusing on delivering public services to all sectors from all walks of life.

“Isa lang po ang sinisiguro natin: sa ating panunungkulan, wala pong maiwan. No one will be left behind. Ito po ang aking bitbitawang pangako -- ang lahat ng sektor ng ating lipunan ay mararamdaman ang ating sinserong paninilbihan,” Lazatin stressed.

Lazatin’s legislative agenda will focus on seven main areas: Health; the Economy and Livelihood; the Vulnerable and Marginalized Sectors (Children, Youth, Women,

Senior Citizens, Persons with Disability (PWDs), Solo Parents, and LGBTQ); Environment; Education; Transportation; and Barangays.

Lazatin vowed to exhibit the same fervor and commitment he has shown as mayor of Angeles City and implement his same brand of accessible, ‘door-to-door’ public service in the whole First District of Pampanga.

“Ginawa ko po yan ng anim na taon sa Siyudad ng Angeles at ako po ay excited na excited na palawakin po ito at abutin kayo sa bayan ng Mabalacat at Magalang,” Lazatin said. (TEAM LAZATIN)

### CONVERGE... FROM PAGE 1

Converge, in a bid to infuse cutting edge technology into its data centers, plans to adapt Supermicro’s liquid cooling solutions in its servers that will significantly reduce power consumption, resulting in lower overall data center cost and less impact on the environment.

“These high-performing servers can handle immense AI and Machine Learning workloads but with the more efficient liquid cooling solution provided

by Super Micro, the heat by-product will be controlled, reducing power consumption. We want to maintain our data center’s energy efficiency, so this is geared towards that,” Uy added.

Data center servers that deploy liquid-cooling technology can significantly lower the overall power consumption of a power facility by up to 40%, according to Supermicro.

Supermicro reduces electricity demands at both the server and rack

levels, enhancing performance and reducing costs.

Supermicro is a global technology leader that delivers first-to-market innovation for Enterprise, Cloud, AI, Metaverse, and 5G Telco/Edge IT Infrastructure. It is a Rack-Scale Total IT Solutions provider that designs and builds an environmentally-friendly and energy-saving portfolio of servers, storage systems, switches, software, along with global support services.

### PBBM ASSURES... FROM PAGE 2

training,” Parreño said.

The official disclosed that the PAF formulated a Maintenance Management System Audit Manual as their standard for a robust maintenance system, and guidance for ensuring the consistent implementation of effective maintenance practices.

At the same time, Parreño guaranteed the readiness of PAF to answer the call of duty amid the

evolving security situation.

“When aggressors deny us our right to our own territory, threaten our ships, and harm our soldiers, we are ready to respond swiftly with courage and firm results in defense of our sovereignty in honor of our flag,” the PAF chief stressed.

A highlight of the anniversary was a demonstration which showcased PAF’s strategic capability and operational

excellence through scenario air operation concepts.

This year’s anniversary, with the theme “Accelerating Above and Beyond: 77 Years of Tough Excellence in Protecting the Nation and Securing the Skies”, reflects the enduring commitment of Filipino airmen and airwomen to serve the nation. (PIA REGION 3-PAMPANGA)

### FULL SERVICE... FROM PAGE 3

development where people can park, dine, shop, and work,” said Ren Siccion, Double 11’s Business Development Manager.

“This partnership signals another milestone in the development of New Clark City as a smart and green metropolis, one that is ready for a future filled with electric vehicles and eco-friendly cars. This is also a step towards our ‘15-minute city’ vision for New Clark City, where basic amenities

and facilities are easily accessible within a walking or cycling distance,” BCDA President and Chief Executive Officer Joshua M. Bingcang said.

Double 11 is a Filipino-owned corporation in the business of establishing, operating, and maintaining a zoo and attraction theme park, industrial parks, and super stations, with partners such as international food franchise chains, branded retail outlets, business

process outsourcing companies, offices, residential development and fuel distribution.

Its projects include Northwalk Clark along M.A. Roxas Highway, Pampanga, Caltex Station located at Km 64 of North Luzon Expressway (NLEX) Southbound, Shell of Asia at Km 36 of NLEX Southbound, Northwalk 1 and 2 in San Fernando, Pampanga, and the PTT Station along the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway.

### NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH WAIVER OF RIGHTS

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of the late **CAROLYN MARIE PEREYRA**, who died intestate on January 23, 2016, executed a deed of extra-judicial settlement over her estate with waiver of rights covered by **Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-038-2015002021 and Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-004-2015007319** before Notary Public Atty. Roman V. Raya, as per Doc. No. 65; Page No. 14; Book No. V; Series of 2024 and an Apostille signed by Kimberly M. Jordan, a Notary Public for the State of Florida, United States of America; and an Apostille signed by Capri Tiffany Bland, a Notary Public for the Commonwealth of Virginia, United States of America.

THE VOICE NEWSWEEKLY JULY 7, 14, 21, 2024

### Republic of the Philippines REGIONAL TRIAL COURT BRANCH 62 ANGELES CITY

Court’s Cellphone Number: 0977-278-6274  
Court’s Email Address: rtc\_lang062@judiciary.gov.ph

**RE: PETITION FOR RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN DIVORCE,**

**R-ANG-24-00364-SP  
For: Recognition of Foreign Decree of Divorce and Cancellation or Correction of Entries in the Civil Registrar**

**HAVARD CHRISTENSEN**  
Petitioner,

- versus -  
**ALMA GATON CHRISTENSEN and the Civil Registrar General, Represented by the Local Civil Registrar of the Angeles City,**

Respondents.  
X-----X  
ORDER

Raffled to this Court is a Petition filed by Havard Christensen, through counsel, praying that the validity and enforceability of the Divorce Order issued by the Country Governor of Oslo and Akershus of Olo, Norway be recognized and an order be issued directing the Local Civil Registrar of Angeles City to change the status of the petitioner from “married” to “single”.

Perusal of the Petition and its annexes, the Court finds the same to be sufficient in form and substance.

The Court hereby sets the hearing of this case on **September 11, 2024 at 9:00 in the morning** at the Session Hall of this Court, Hall of Justice Building, Regional Trial Court, Angeles City, when and where all persons who may have interest in the said Petition may appear and show cause, if any, why the same should not be granted.

The petitioner is ordered to serve, within five (5) days from receipt of this Order, copies of the Petition and its annexes to:

1. the private respondent Alma Gatton Christensen at her address in Norway;
2. the Office of the Solicitor General at 134 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City;
3. the Civil Registrar of Angeles City, Pampanga at City Hall Compound, Pulung Maragul, Angeles City; and
4. the Civil Registrar General, Philippine Statistics Authority, PSA Complex, East Ave. Diliman, Quezon City, and to show proof of said service to this Court.

Let the petitioner at his expense, publish this Order once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the Province of Pampanga in accordance with Section 4, Rule 108 of the Rules of Court before the date of hearing and submit proof of compliance thereof.

Furnish the petitioner, her counsel, the Office of the Solicitor General, Makati City; the Civil Registrar General, Philippine Statistics Authority, Quezon City; the Civil Registrar of Angeles City; and the Office of the Clerk of Court, Regional Trial Court, Angeles City, with copies of this Order.

SO ORDERED.  
June 5, 2024, Angeles City.

**JOCELYN P. GAMBOA-DELOS SANTOS**  
Presiding Judge

JPGDS/lal (IO-SpecPro)  
Copy furnished:  
(7 copies)

**Office of the Solicitor General**  
134 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City 1229

**Local Civil Registry Angeles City**  
City Hall Compound, Pulung Maragul, Angeles City

**Philippine Statistics Authority**  
PSA Complex, East Ave. Diliman, Quezon City 1101

**Havard Christensen**  
Nirvana Beach Resort, Balabag Main Road Station 2, Boracay Island Malay, Aklan

**Atty. Fhrea Mylie N. Yabut**  
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**Atty. Daryl R. Yanga**  
Clerk of Court Office of the Clerk of Court  
Regional Trial Court  
Angeles City

THE VOICE NEWSWEEKLY June 30, July 7, 14, 2024

## 'Bokashi Balls' released to help restore Manila Bay

**BALANGA CITY, Bataan** — The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has released 8,000 bokashi balls into the Ibayo River in Balanga City which aims to restore the pristine waters of Manila Bay.

DENR Regional Executive Director Ralph Pablo explained that the bokashi balls, locally known as 'Mabuhay balls', act as probiotics for the river which will help in its restoration.

"These mud balls contain active microorganisms that break down toxins in the water, increase the amount of dissolved oxygen, and reduce fecal coliform bacteria," Pablo explained.

This activity was conducted with the participation of state workers and personnel from SM City Bataan.

At the same time, DENR Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office-Bataan chief Raul Mamac reported that participants also conducted a coastal cleanup in Barangay Puerto Rivas, collecting 110 kilograms of residual waste.

Pablo noted that the cleanup activity demonstrates the agency's commitment to rapid environmental restoration.

"As custodians of our environment, we also act

as architects of a sustainable future. It is up to us to embrace innovative solutions and to educate and empower our communities to take action," he added.

The initiatives were in accordance with the observance of Philippine Environment Month in June, as mandated by Presidential Proclamation No. 237 signed in 1988 by former President Corazon C. Aquino to celebrate World Environment Day every June 5. **(PIA REGION 3-BATAAN)**



## Flexibility in Action: Modifying Instruction under DepEd MATATAG

by VIRGINIA S. REANDO

In the dynamic landscape of Philippine education, the Department of Education (DepEd) under the Matatag (Matalino, Maunlad, at Tapat) leadership framework has embarked on a transformative journey to enhance the quality and relevance of education. Central to this initiative is the emphasis on flexibility in modifying instructional practices to produce competent, job-ready citizens who are active and responsible in their communities.

Under the DepEd Matatag framework, the curriculum is being reshaped to align closely with the evolving demands of the global economy and the local job market. The aim is to equip Filipino learners not just with academic knowledge but also with practical skills that are essential for success in various industries. This shift towards competency-based education ensures that graduates are not only proficient in theoretical concepts but also capable of applying their knowledge in real-world scenarios. By integrating practical skills training and industry-relevant projects into the curriculum, DepEd aims to bridge the gap between education and employment, thereby fostering a more productive and competitive workforce.

Moreover, DepEd Matatag

is taking proactive steps to accelerate the delivery of basic education facilities and services across the country. Recognizing the disparities in educational resources between urban centers and remote areas, efforts are being made to ensure equitable access to quality education for all Filipino learners. This includes improving infrastructure such as classrooms, libraries, and laboratories, as well as enhancing connectivity and digital literacy to facilitate blended learning approaches.

In tandem with these efforts, DepEd Matatag places a strong emphasis on learner well-being, inclusive education, and creating a positive learning environment. By promoting a holistic approach to education, which addresses the social, emotional, and psychological needs of learners, DepEd aims to foster an inclusive and supportive educational environment where every student can thrive. Initiatives such as anti-bullying campaigns, mental health awareness programs, and support services for learners with special needs are integral components of this holistic approach.

Furthermore, recognizing the pivotal role of teachers in shaping the future of education, DepEd Matatag is committed to providing extensive support and professional

development opportunities for educators. This includes training programs, workshops, and mentorship initiatives designed to enhance teaching competencies, instructional strategies, and classroom management skills. By empowering teachers with the necessary tools and resources, DepEd aims to cultivate a cadre of competent and motivated educators who are capable of delivering high-quality instruction and nurturing the potential of every learner.

DepEd Matatag's commitment to flexibility in modifying instructional practices is pivotal in realizing its vision of producing competent, job-ready, active, and responsible citizens. By aligning the curriculum with industry demands, accelerating the delivery of educational facilities and services, promoting learner well-being and inclusivity, and supporting teachers' professional growth, DepEd Matatag is laying the groundwork for a more responsive and equitable education system that meets the needs of learners in the 21st century and beyond.

**The author is Master Teacher 1 at Sta. Quiteria Elementary School, Tanque District, Schools Division of Caloocan, National Capital Region**

## Charting Futures: Assessing DepEd's New Secretary and Learning Gaps

by RODESSA BASA SALVADOR

In the landscape of Philippine education, the appointment of a new Secretary of Education within the Department of Education (DepEd) marks a critical juncture in charting the future of learning outcomes for Filipino students. This pivotal decision holds immense potential to reshape policies and initiatives aimed at addressing pervasive learning gaps across the country.

At the heart of this transition lies the opportunity for visionary leadership to steer DepEd towards innovative solutions in reducing learning gaps. A new Secretary brings fresh perspectives and the potential for transformative change, setting the stage for strategic interventions that prioritize educational equity and quality. By leveraging evidence-based strategies and international best practices, the new leadership can effectively tailor educational policies to meet the diverse needs of Filipino learners.

However, amidst the prospects for positive change, there exist inherent challenges that must be navigated. One such challenge is the continuity of policies and programs initiated

by predecessors. The seamless integration of ongoing initiatives with new strategies is crucial to sustain momentum in narrowing learning gaps. Moreover, the alignment of stakeholders—educators, policymakers, parents, and communities—is essential for the successful implementation of reforms that foster inclusive and equitable education.

The impact of a new Secretary on learning gaps among Filipino learners hinges on their ability to foster a supportive environment that promotes student achievement and well-being. This includes enhancing access to quality education facilities, promoting digital literacy, and expanding educational resources in underserved areas. By prioritizing the holistic development of learners and addressing socio-economic disparities, the new leadership can pave the way for a more equitable education system.

Furthermore, effective leadership entails accountability and transparency in resource allocation and policy implementation. By setting clear goals, monitoring progress, and engaging stakeholders in

decision-making processes, the new Secretary can build trust and collaboration within the education sector. This collaborative approach is instrumental in driving sustainable change and ensuring that educational reforms translate into tangible improvements in learning outcomes for all Filipino students.

The appointment of a new DepEd Secretary presents a pivotal moment in charting the future of Philippine education and addressing learning gaps. Through visionary leadership, strategic reforms, and collaborative efforts, the new Secretary has the opportunity to foster an inclusive, equitable, and responsive education system that prepares Filipino learners for success in a globalized world. As we embark on this journey of transformation, the collective commitment to educational excellence and equity will be instrumental in shaping a brighter future for generations to come.

**The author is Teacher III at Balibago Primero Integrated School, Tarlac North A District, Tarlac City, Region III – Central Luzon**

## DAR vows continued support to agrarian reform beneficiaries

**CITY OF SAN FERNANDO** — At least 1,011 Angeleño boys underwent free circumcision from the program of Mayor Carmelo "Pogi" Lazatin, Jr.

The Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) vows to continue aiding agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) in Central Luzon to ensure they have a better future.

During the Kapihan sa Bagong Pilipinas of the Philippine Information Agency (PIA), DAR Regional Director James Arsenio Ponce announced that with the support of its partners, the agency will persistently offer opportunities and programs to help ARBs in the region.

"We received a total of 34 awards in Land Tenure Security, Support to Parcelization of Land for Individual Titling, Program Beneficiaries Development, and Support to Operations during the 2023 National Formative Assessment. We aim to serve more ARBs and achieve similar success in 2024," Ponce said.

At the same time, he urged everyone to sustain their efforts for the region's farmers.

"We are committed to delivering justice and equity to our farmers. The distribution of land titles demonstrates our dedication to agrarian reform," he stated, stressing that land ownership is a fundamental right the government is determined to uphold.

The DAR official explained that the agency's distribution process involves rigorous assessment to identify qualified beneficiaries.

"Farmers undergo verification to ensure they meet the criteria set forth by the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program. Once verified, DAR processes the land titles, including surveying land parcels, resolving conflicts, and coordinating with local government units," Ponce

explained.

The agency's initiative also includes support services to help farmers maximize the use of their newly-acquired lands. These services include access to credit, training in sustainable farming, and infrastructure development such as irrigation systems and farm-to-market roads.

Meanwhile, Assistant Regional Director Odgie Cayabyab attributed the accomplishments of DAR-Central Luzon to their provincial offices.

"To sum it all up, we are happy with the region's achievements in 2023, and we hope to replicate this success in 2024," he added.

Meanwhile, farmers expressed gratitude and optimism about the future.

Romulo Rejano, an ARB and manager of the Bagong Sigla, Bagong Pag-asa ARB Cooperative in Aurora, shared his excitement.

"Thank you for the land given by DAR in Barangay Suguit, Maria Aurora. We value this land to help improve our family's standard of living," Rejano said.

Maria Christina Samaniego, an ARB from San Rafael, Bulacan, also expressed gratitude to President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. for awarding her and her family titles under the Support to Parcelization of Lands for Individual Titling project for the land they inherited from their father.

The sentiments echo the broader commitment of the government to agrarian reform which PBBM has highlighted is a cornerstone for national development.

The administration's dedication to uplifting agricultural communities across the country is evident through these ongoing efforts and successes. **(PIA REGION 3-PAMPANGA)**



**TITLES DISTRIBUTION.** The Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) recently distributed electronic titles to 29 farmers in Botolan, Zambales covering over 69 hectares of land in Barangay Poonbato. The DAR has pledged to continue aiding agrarian reform beneficiaries in Central Luzon to ensure they have a better future. **(DAR-ZAMBALES FILE PHOTO)**

## Tarlac Capitol marker unveiled

National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) Executive Director Carminda R. Arevalo and Tarlac Governor Susan Yap led recently the unveiling of the Tarlac Capitol

marker.

The unveiling was witnessed by Tarlac Vice Governor Atty. Carlito S. David, former NHCP Director Dr. Lino Dizon, and other officials of Tarlac province.





# PAL resumes Clark-Basco route

Philippine Airlines has resumed its Clark-Basco route. In ceremonies held at Clark International Airport (CRK) the flag carrier officially re-launched its Clark-Basco service, which will have a frequency of 4 times a week.

PAL Express President Rabbi Vincent Ang expressed joy in the return of the Clark-Basco service, which, he said is a “most sought after domestic route.”

“It gives us great pride to meet the demand for flights out of Central Luzon, a strategic gateway to Northern, Central and Southern Philippines. Today, we celebrate the return of our Clark – Basco service, which allows Basco residents to access opportunities for leisure travel and discover other beautiful attractions across the country. This returning service also allows Central Luzon residents, business and leisure travelers to fly to picturesque Basco,” Ang said.

PAL flies the Clark-Basco route on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays via PR 2688, which leaves CRK at 11am, and arrives in Basco at 12:35 PM. Meanwhile, the Basco-Clark route via PR2689 flies on the same days, departing Basco at 1 PM, and arriving in Clark at 2:35 PM.

The direct service to picturesque Basco complements PAL’s daily Manila–Basco service.



PHOTO BY JAN DARREN

“From Clark, we also operate daily flights to Cebu, thrice weekly flights to Caticlan (Boracay), and four times weekly flights to Busuanga (Coron). We are optimizing our operations out of Manila and Cebu and we will progressively work on more flights out of Clark,” Ang explained.



## READY... SET... SKATE! at Retro Seoul Roller Skate

Retro Seoul Roller Skate, the Philippines’ largest skating rink, invites everyone to “Roll back in time, Embrace nostalgia on wheels and Groove to the rhythm of Seoul’s vibrant retro scene.”

Retro Seoul Roller Skate, which officially opened its doors on June 28, has something for everyone in the family to enjoy. Aside from the exciting skating fun, you may also pose for cute snaps on the photo booth, belt out karaoke hits, and play fun arcade games.

Visit the new ultimate entertainment destination, Retro Seoul Roller Skate, located at the 3rd Floor Kim’s Mall, Poinsettia Avenue, Brgy. Pampang, Angeles City.

