



CHEF CLAUDE TAYAG serves stories and flavors in "ING KWENTUNG ADOBO-AROBU"

Pampanga mayors stand united against corruption



Gov. Lilia Pineda leads the Pampanga Business and Investment Forum 2025, where she underscored the administration's commitment to supporting legitimate businesses and called on the private sector to stand united against corruption. Mayors from all 19 towns of Pampanga signed a covenant pledging to fight corruption and uphold the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and integrity in governance.

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO — Mayors from all 19 towns of Pampanga came together to sign a covenant pledging to fight corruption and uphold the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and integrity in governance.

As local leaders, they committed to maintaining public trust and ensuring that government funds are properly used for the benefit of every Kapampangan.

Pampanga Mayors League President Mayor Jun Tetangco said all chief executives from the province's municipalities signed the document, showcasing a united front in promoting ethical leadership and good governance in Pampanga.

During the first-ever Pampanga Business and Investment Forum 2025 held at the Kingsborough International Convention Center, Governor Lilia Pineda underscored the administration's commitment to supporting

SEE PAGE 4

PAMPANGA MAYORS

Capitol, BCDA sign pact for access road to Clark Provincial Hospital

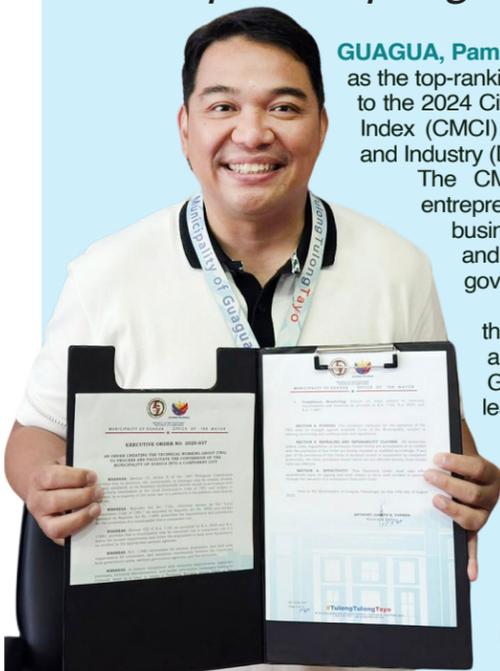
CLARK — Recognizing the public's need for accessible healthcare services, the Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) and the Provincial Government of Pampanga have signed a memorandum of agreement for the construction of an access road leading to the Pampanga Provincial Hospital-Clark. The access road will provide a vital link to the recently completed hospital, bringing workers in Clark, as well as residents in nearby

communities closer to affordable healthcare. The BCDA will fund the P50-million road, while the Pampanga LGU will lead the construction. "Maraming salamat sa BCDA sa itinulong niyo sa Pampanga Provincial Hospital. Hindi lang 1,000, hindi lang 20,000 ang makikinabang dito—lahat ng workers dito sa Clark. At ang sinasabi ko sa kanila, 'zero-balance billing kayo'," Pampanga Governor Lilia "Nanay" Pineda said.



Pampanga Governor Lilia "Nanay" Pineda and BCDA President and CEO Engr. Jake Bingcang sign a MOA for the construction of an access road leading to the Pampanga Provincial Hospital-Clark.

Guagua bats for cityhood Tops Pampanga towns in CMCI



GUAGUA, Pampanga— Guagua has been recognized as the top-ranking municipality in Pampanga according to the 2024 Cities and Municipalities Competitiveness Index (CMCI) released by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

The CMCI serves as a key reference for entrepreneurs in choosing where to establish their businesses, reflecting the competitiveness and business-friendly environment of local government units.

Mayor Anthony Joseph Torres shared the news during the Pampanga Business and Investment Forum, highlighting Guagua's achievement to local business leaders and investors.

In this light, Torres has issued Executive Order No. 2025-037 creating a Technical Working Group (TWG) to study, process, and facilitate the municipality's conversion into a component city.

The move is anchored on provisions of the 1987 Philippine

SEE PAGE 4
GUAGUA



SPECIAL STOP. Before hitting the stage at the SM Mall of Asia Arena on August 27, Apl. de Ap made a special stop in his hometown of Angeles City to enjoy his mom's home-cooked favorites. The Kapampangan rapper, singer, and songwriter shared on Instagram his delight over adobo and sinigang prepared by his mother in Sapangbato, giving fans a glimpse of the flavors that shaped his roots. (Black Eyed Peas IG)

Mayor Jon boosts support for IP farmers, coffee growers

ANGELES CITY — Mayor Carmelo “Jon” Lazatin II personally visited the City Agriculture Office here to meet with Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and coffee growers from

Sapangbato, and turned over a shallow tube well to the Barangay Sapalibutad Farmers Association’s com

SEE PAGE 4
MAYOR JON



Mayor Carmelo “Jon” Lazatin II meets with Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and coffee growers from Sapangbato, and turned over a shallow tube well for corn growers.

Clark eyes Thailand market as model for Nat’l Food Hub

CLARK — As part of its Thailand visit, the Clark International Airport Corporation (CIAC) delegation toured Simummuang Market, Asia’s largest fresh food hub, to draw insights for the upcoming Clark National Food Hub.

Welcomed by Simummuang’s Chief Marketing Officer Supara Pongjindathip, the delegation learned how the 55-hectare market moves over 8,000 tons of produce daily, generates more than \$9 million in trade each day, and operates 24/7 with 4,500

vendors across 23 product zones.

Simummuang has also set benchmarks in sustainability through solar energy use, water recycling, and the development of a digital marketplace.

By learning from this model, CIAC is pushing forward its vision of making Clark the Philippines’ premier food logistics hub—linking farmers to markets, strengthening food security, and boosting regional trade.



CIAC President and CEO Jojit Alcazar is briefed by Simummuang’s Chief Marketing Officer Supara Pongjindathip during the CIAC delegation’s Thailand visit. www.ciac.gov.ph

Patindayag: Kulitan Exhibit launched in Newpoint Angeles

ANGELES CITY — Newpoint Angeles hosted the “Patindayag” Kalalangan Kulitan Exhibit, titled Leguan Ning Amanung Sisuan, in celebration of Buwan ng Wika.

Featuring works of Kapampangan artists from AGKAS (Aguman Kalalangan Sulat Kapampangan), the exhibit honored the indigenous script Kulitan as a symbol of cultural pride and identity.

Beyond showcasing artistry, the event invited the community

to engage with their heritage through free Kulitan Workshops on August 29 and 30, where participants can learn the basics of the Kapampangan writing system. Adding to the celebration is Dalit Kapampangan, a concert highlighting the beauty of the Kapampangan language through music.

The exhibit was both a tribute to Amanung Sisuan and a call to keep the spirit of Kapampangan language and culture alive.



Newpoint Angeles hosts the “Patindayag” Kalalangan Kulitan Exhibit, titled Leguan Ning Amanung Sisuan, in celebration of Buwan ng Wika, featuring works of Kapampangan artists.

Uniqlo to open 1st Roadside Store in Angeles City

ANGELES CITY — Uniqlo is set to bring its popular Roadside Store concept closer to Kapampangan shoppers with the opening of its first Central Luzon Roadside Store in Angeles City on September 5.

Located within The Infinity, the new store offers a convenient one-stop destination for all LifeWear essentials. True to the concept of Roadside Stores, UNIQLO Angeles features dedicated parking, PWD-friendly access, and seamless Click & Collect services through the UNIQLO App—designed to make everyday shopping faster and easier.

Beyond accessibility, Roadside Stores also aim to engage with local communities while advancing UNIQLO’s sustainability efforts nationwide.

To celebrate its grand opening, shoppers at UNIQLO Angeles can enjoy Exclusive Limited Offers from September 5–11, with discounts on favorites such as the Mini T-Shirt, AIRism Cotton Polo and Crew Neck T-Shirts, Wide Trouser Jeans,

and EZY Jeans.

Customers can also experience Japan’s iconic Gachapon capsule machine, where a P500 purchase earns a chance to win P300 dining vouchers at Angeles food spots Pineapple Coast and Islas, or exclusive UNIQLO items. Shoppers with a minimum P3,000 single-receipt purchase can also take home a free UNIQLO Thermal Mug from September 5–11.

Special perks continue beyond the opening week: UNIQLO App members who shop at the Angeles Roadside Store from September 12–21 can win a private dining experience at Bale Dutung, the culinary home of Chef Claude Tayag.

With this new location, UNIQLO brings its LifeWear philosophy—simple, high-quality, and essential clothing—to the heart of Pampanga, making world-class style and comfort even more accessible to Central Luzon.



DOST chief: Virology, Vaccine Institute important

NEW CLARK CITY — Science and Technology Secretary Renato U. Solidum Jr. emphasizes the importance of establishing the Virology and Vaccine Institute of the Philippines (VIP) in New Clark City, which is currently in its second phase of construction.

The VIP, considered one of the

administration’s legacy projects, is a partnership between the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and the Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) aimed at strengthening the

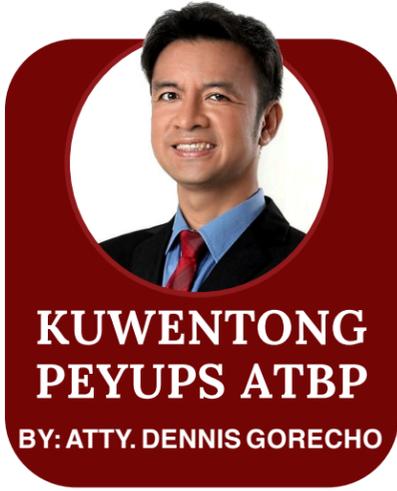
SEE PAGE 4
DOST CHIEF



Science and Technology Secretary Renato U. Solidum Jr. (left), together with officials from the Department of Science and Technology, Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA), and Department of Public Works and Highways, visits the site of the Virology and Vaccine Institute of the Philippines in New Clark City, Capan, Tarlac. They are welcomed by BCDA President and CEO Joshua Bingcang (right), who provides updates on the construction status of the project. (BCDA)



UPDATE ON NLEX FLOOD MITIGATION PROJECTS. Department of Transportation Secretary Vince Dizon, Valenzuela Mayor Wes Gatchalian, and Meycauayan Mayor Henry Villarica, together with NLEX Corp. OIC & MPTC CFO Luis Reñon and MPTC CRO Arrey Perez, conducted a progress inspection on identified blocked waterways as part of ongoing flood mitigation efforts.



KUWENTONG PEYUPS ATBP

BY: ATTY. DENNIS GORECHO

'Alipato at Muog' film on desaparecidos won 73rd FAMAS Best Picture and Best Director

"Alipato at Muog is memory and resistance: it insists that enforced disappearances, impunity, and state violence are not footnotes but urgent, unfinished stories," CAP said. "We congratulate JL Burgos and the team for lighting the way, so we can keep telling and retelling until justice is found."

The film seeks to "uncover the hard truths" surrounding the enforced disappearance of Jonas Burgos and other desaparecidos.

Peasant activist Jonas Burgos was abducted noontime of April 28, 2007 in a crowded mall in Quezon City. He was never seen again and the military has repeatedly denied any role in his disappearance.

As his family launched their search, a car plate brought them face to face with powerful forces.

Despite insurmountable barriers, anonymous informants have dropped leads and even provided the last known photo of Jonas in captivity. Edita, the 80-year-old mother, and her filmmaker son lead the long and arduous fight for justice.

Presented through testimonials of their lawyer, a reporter, a former Justice Secretary and Human Rights Commission Chair, and witnesses who agreed to appear on condition of anonymity, combined with animation and never-before-seen footage of the family's relentless search, the documentary film weaves the stories together to uncover the truths, however painful, about the brother's disappearance.

"But how can justice prevail when the crime is committed by the very institution that is mandated to protect its people? Where does one even turn for answers? Telling Jonas's story is telling the story of more than a thousand victims of enforced disappearance," JL Burgos said.

On February 2, 2014, the Supreme Court upheld the 2013 findings of the Court of Appeals which ruled that the military and the government are responsible for the disappearance of Burgos.

The film received the Special Jury Award during last year's Cinemalaya Independent film festival "for its effective use of the resources of documentary cinema to shed light on an actual case of enforced disappearance and reveal dark truths about human rights in the Philippines."

The FAMAS awards came almost a

week before "International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances" or "Desaparecidos Day" that is observed every August 30 annually since 2011.

The United Nations (UN) Commission on Human Rights defined desaparecidos with three elements: (a) deprivation of liberty against the will of a person; (b) involvement of government officials, at least by acquiescence; and (c) refusal to acknowledge the deprivation of liberty or concealment of the fate or whereabouts of the disappeared person.

Data from the human rights group Karapatan and FIND indicated that there are between 950 to 1,000 desaparecidos during the late dictator's term, 821 during Cory Aquino's presidency, 39 under Ramos' term, 26 under Estrada administration, 206

during Arroyo's term, 29 during Noynoy Aquino's administration, and 20 under Duterte term.

Jonas Burgos is one of the 206 desaparecidos under the Arroyo administration.

"We shall continue to search for justice, spurred not by revenge, but love for others. That they may not endure the same suffering we are undergoing. If we do not speak out, there will be more victims, and those in power will stay in power," Edith Burgos said in an interview.

(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 0917-502580)

EXACTLY a year after being given an X-rating, "Alipato at Muog" film on desaparecidos was recognized as Best Picture by the Filipino Academy of Movie Arts and Sciences (FAMAS) Awards.

"We don't have any speeches prepared. We don't have lists of people to thank. We were there to be the voice of the voiceless. We were there because we have a story to tell. We were there for the desaparecidos. So, when we were given the recognition, we just spoke from the heart," says film director JL Burgos.

On August 22, 2024, the 96-minute film "Alipato" was given the X rating classification by the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB).

On August 22, 2025, Burgos won Best Director along with the FAMAS' best picture award which was also nominated in the categories of Best Screenplay, Best Editing, Best Sound, and Best Visual Effects.

The first MTRCB reviewers disapproved the film from public exhibition "because it tends to undermine the faith and confidence of the people in their government and/or duly-constituted authorities." The film was then given an R-16 rating after artists' groups and human rights defenders decried the ban.

"They branded the documentary too graphic, too subversive, too left, among other things," Alipato at Muog team said in a Facebook post. "FAMAS chose our documentary as their Best Picture. We embrace this recognition. Thank you FAMAS for standing with all of us."

The Concerned Artists of the Philippines (CAP) said in a statement that the reversal is a rebuke to state censorship and a reminder that truth-telling endures.



SECOND OPINION

BY ARVIN FERDINAND M. CABALU

Yap bares 3-year agenda during ELA

The governor's five pillars of governance include Pagkain Muna, Kalusugan Muna, Edukasyon Muna, Trabaho Muna and Kalikasan Muna.

DILG Tarlac Provincial Director Martin Porres Moral said that the, "ELA will also become the basis for the Local Development Investment Plan (LDIP)".

The LDIP will contain the list of projects and programs by the executive and the legislative for funding from all sources.

Yap also urged the executive and legislative departments to work together for the betterment of Tarlac province.

"Dahil sa tapat na serbisyong maYap, tao ang laging una—at gabay natin dito ang limang haligi ng pamamahala: edukasyon, trabaho, kalusugan, pagkain at kalikasan. Sa pagkakaisa ng ehekutibo at lehislatibo, ating pagtibayin ang probinsya ng Tarlac at masisiguro nating maisakatuparan ang mga programang magdadala ng mas maliwanag na kinabukasan para sa lahat," Yap said.

"Kaagapay para sa mas maunlad na Probinsya ng Tarlac! Nagsama ang ating mga pinuno sa Executive-Legislative Agenda (ELA) 2025-2028 upang pagtibayin ang mga programang tunay na nakabatay sa pangangailangan ng bawat Tarlaqueño," he added.

For her part, Aquino assured the full support of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan to the executive and legislative agenda of Yap's administration.

Speakers during the three-day seminar were Philippine National Bank Senior Assistant Vice President for Human Resources Vincent Benedicto;

Brian Sese; Ivan John Viray; Ateneo Assistant Vice President for Social and Environmental Engagement for Development and Sustainability Leland Joseph Dela Cruz; Ateneo School of Medicine and Public Health Cenon Alfonso; Ateneo School of Government Dean Jennifer Oreta; Academic Head Ateneo School of Government Javier Jimenez; Hub for Primary Health Care Lead, Ateneo School of Medicine and Public Health Alberto Teodoro Malvar; Program Sales & Marketing Head-Center for Continuing Education and Ateneo Graduate School of Business Eveth Ella-Balce; Program Director and Ateneo Graduate School of Business Dr AD Domingo and Dr Jonathan David Flavier.

The primary purpose of the ELA is to foster collaboration between the executive and legislative branches of a local government unit to create a unified plan for implementing a shared vision over their term of office. It acts as a roadmap, prioritizing programs, projects, and policies to address community needs and align with long-term development goals, ensuring both branches work harmoniously towards collective progress and a brighter future for the locality.

"This government will be a government of the people---transparent, inclusive, and accountable. Let us listen, let us serve and we will lead---not from behind closed doors, but from the heart of every community," Yap concluded.

TARLAC Governor Christian Tell Yap unveiled his administration's agenda and gave emphasis on the five pillars of governance that will direct his three-year governorship in the recently concluded Executive-Legislative Agenda (ELA) of the provincial government of Tarlac at the Discovery Suites in Ortigas, Manila from August 18 to 20.

The ELA, attended by Vice Governor Estelita Aquino, the members of Sangguniang Panlalawigan, department and assistant department heads and the officials of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Tarlac.

The key priority areas presented by Yap are food security, quality education, health services, environmental protection, jobs creation, poverty alleviation; infrastructure development; human resource development; agriculture; disaster risk reduction and mitigation, tourism and good governance.

THE VOICE NEWSWEEKLY

ISSN 0115-6845

EDITORIAL TEAM

Founder: † Armando P. Baluyut
 Editor-Publisher: Lincoln M. Baluyut
 Business Manager: Ruby Soccorro I. Baluyut
 Lifestyle and Online Editor: Arlyn E. Lukban
 Chief Photographer: Bert H. Basa
 Layout Artist: Charmane N. Cayanan

Main Office:
 Unit F, St. Catherine Townhouses,
 St. Catherine Street, Villa Angelina Subd.,
 Brgy. San Jose, 2009 Angeles City

Clark Sub-Office:
 Bale Balita Clark Media Center
 Bldg. 2090 Rufino Cardinal Santos St.
 Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga, Philippines

Email: thevoicenewsweekly@gmail.com
 thevoice.mktg@gmail.com
 lincoln.baluyut@gmail.com

Mobile Numbers: (0919) 065 3608
 (0919) 002 5868

Legal Rate: PHP 160 per column centimeter
 Commercial Rate: PHP 200 per column centimeter
 Subscription Rate: 1 year - P2,000 / 6 months - P1,000

THEVOICENEWSWEEKLY



TREE-PLANTING IN NEW CLARK CITY. Over 200 volunteer employees from the Bases Conversion and Development Authority's Conversion and Development Group, led by OIC Engr. Mark P. Torres, planted 500 native trees at Mt. Dalin along One Clark Boulevard as part of its greening initiative in New Clark City. With this activity, The BCDA Group has surpassed its annual goal of planting 1,000 native trees, further advancing its commitment to building a smart, sustainable, and climate-resilient metropolis.

PAMPANGA MAYORS... FROM PAGE 1

legitimate businesses and called on the private sector to stand united against corruption.

"We want the business community to know that there is a government they can rely on. If you are a legitimate business owner, do not be afraid—do not tolerate corruption in our LGUs," she said.

The forum aimed to position Pampanga as a prime investment destination and a champion transparent governance.

Spearheaded by Governor Pineda and Vice Governor Dennis "Delta" Pineda, the forum was held in partnership with the Pampanga Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc. (PamCham), and brought together top investors, entrepreneurs, local leaders, and national government agencies

including ARTA, DILG, DTI, and DENR.

The forum served as a platform to present Pampanga's growing economic potential, with discussions focusing on the Ease of Doing Business Act (RA 11032), investor-friendly reforms, environmental sustainability, and best practices among local government units (LGUs).

In 2024, Pampanga recorded 29,165 business name registrations, marking a 6.7% increase from 2023, according to the Department of Trade and Industry, an indicator of growing investor confidence in the province.

PamCham President and business leaders lauded the province's efforts to foster a climate of trust and transparency,

reaffirming Pampanga's image as a business-friendly and reform-driven region.

To institutionalize reforms, Governor Pineda announced the creation of two new bodies: the Pampanga Provincial Business and Industry Development Council (PPBIDC) and the Provincial Ease of Doing Business Task Force (PEODB-TF). Both aim to streamline permitting systems and simplify bureaucratic processes for entrepreneurs across all LGUs.

The Pampanga Business and Investment Forum 2025 marked a bold step forward in building a progressive, people-centered, and investor-ready Pampanga, where transparency, opportunity, and inclusive growth go hand in hand.

GUAGUA... FROM PAGE 1

Constitution, the Local Government Code of 1991 (RA 7160) as amended by RA 9009 and RA 11683, which prescribe the requirements for cityhood including income, population, or land area.

The TWG is tasked to

coordinate all activities related to the cityhood bid, ensure compliance with statutory requirements, conduct technical documentation, and spearhead public information campaigns. It will also handle the preparatory work prior to the establishment

of a Transition Council once cityhood is granted.

Mayor Torres emphasized the need for coordination among local government units, national government agencies, and the electorate in pursuit of Guagua's cityhood.

MAYOR JON... FROM PAGE 2

growers under the Corn and Cassava Banner Program.

Mayor Jon was joined by Councilor Ron Pineda, Chairperson of the Committee on Agriculture, and City Agriculture Officer Rea Dizon.

During the meeting, the City Agriculture Office, led by Dizon, facilitated the enrollment of IPs and coffee farmers in the Organic Agriculture Registry Systems under the CARISUCOS Angeles City Farmers Association—an initiative to formalize organic

farming practices, improve traceability, and promote fair market access.

Mayor Jon likewise inspected the agriculture compound, checking ongoing programs such as the plant nursery, black soldier fly production, greenhouse, hydroponics, and the goat multiplier project.

He also joined the Highly-Urbanized City Agricultural and Fisheries Council activity, which centered on strengthening agricultural and fisheries

programs.

The agenda included the approval of one agricultural scholarship per agricultural barangay—Cuayan, Cutud, Sapalibutad, and Sapangbato to support students pursuing BS Agriculture in institutions like PSAU; the submission of compliance requirements to DA Region III for the accreditation of the CARISUCOS Angeles City Farmers Association; and the presentation of the revolving funds for the Enhanced KADIWA Bangus Program.

FIRST KING SEJONG... FROM PAGE 5

Ravelina Velasco, Science City of Muñoz Mayor Baby Armi Alvarez, SCNU President Lee Byungwoon, Seo Kangseok of the SCNU International Affairs Office, Kim Hoy Taek of the SCNU Industry-University Cooperation Foundation, Korean Embassy in the Philippines Minister and Consul Sang Seungman, and Consul Kwon Minhyuck.

The official lecturer, Kim Suhyeon, was also introduced to the CLSU community.

"As the University aspires to become a hub of excellence and innovation, the KSI-Muñoz reflects our commitment to holistic education—where science and technology meet culture and

humanity," Abella stated.

He also emphasized that this partnership brings the university closer to its vision of producing globally competitive and culturally grounded graduates, in alignment with its mission.

Meanwhile, Sang expressed his support for the initiative, stating, "This is a historic day not just for both universities, but for both countries—the Philippines and South Korea. I am truly delighted that Hangeul and Korean culture are now brought closer to North and Central Luzon, as we continue to build meaningful bridges together."

As a partner institution, Lee expressed deep gratitude for the

warm welcome.

"SCNU and CLSU have continued to build trust and cooperation, and I hope our areas of collaboration will further thrive. Being both an institution that gives importance to agriculture, I look forward to working together in the field of animal science and agricultural technology," he underscored.

The establishment of KSI-Muñoz highlights the commitment of both CLSU and SCNU to fostering international relations and providing valuable educational opportunities for the local community. (CLJD/MAECR, PIA Region 3-Nueva Ecija)

SurfSaya Moments: How Converge's prepaid fiber brings joy to Naga

When Daisy "Tita Dais" Deviña discovered Converge ICT's prepaid fiber product, Surf2Sawa (S2S), she knew it could change lives. At just ₱700 a month—less than half the cost of a regular postpaid plan—families long deprived of reliable internet could finally get connected.

Seizing the opportunity, she built her own distributorship, Tita Dais FiberX Enterprise Solutions, handling everything from sales and installations to load top-ups and customer support. Her trademark same-day connections quickly won the trust of Naga households.

What started in 2021 with 40 installs a month has grown into a thriving business connecting over 1,200 new households monthly and serving nearly 30,000 active subscribers. Locals even gave S2S a new nickname—SurfSaya—because of the joy it brings to their homes.

For Tita Dais, honesty and customer care set her apart. "Ang sikreto sa sales ay pagbenta nang tama. Kung ano ang produkto, 'yun ang ibenta mo," she said. This straightforward approach has built loyalty and fueled word-of-mouth referrals.

Beyond internet access, her success also opened doors for others. In just two years, she helped 22 of her agents to become subcontractors, providing them with vehicles, tools, and financial support so they could start their own teams and businesses.

"Yun po talaga ang dream ko—makatulong para maranasan din ng iba 'yung ginhawa," she shared.

Rooted in gratitude, Tita Dais continues to spread opportunities in Bicol, connecting lives and creating SurfSaya moments one household at a time.



From handling sales, installations, repairs, to load top-ups, and customer service, Daisy built her enterprise into a one-stop shop for subscribers.

DOST CHIEF... FROM PAGE 2

country's preparedness against viral threats.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has shown the world the urgent need to study viruses that can originate from animals, plants, and humans, affecting vast regions and even the global population. We also need to study viruses that threaten our food security, such as the African Swine Fever, which is a more immediate concern. I am hopeful that, with our continued efforts, we can operationalize this new facility in New Clark City very soon," Solidum said.

Recently, the secretary was

joined by officials from DOST, BCDA, and the Department of Public Works and Highways in visiting the site to check on the progress of works.

They were welcomed by BCDA President and CEO Joshua Bingcang, who provided updates on the project's construction status.

The institute marks a strategic move in boosting the country's capabilities in scientific research and public health, ensuring national resilience against present and future viral challenges. (CLJD/MAECR, PIA Region 3-Tarlac)

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH SALE

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of the late **DONATO N. DIZON**, who died intestate on October 19, 2023 executed a **DEED OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH SALE** over his estate covered by **TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 102600** of the Registry of Deeds of Angeles City containing an area of **ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE (175) Square Meters** before Notary Public Atty. Arvin M. Suller, as per Doc No. 4437; Page No. 73; Book No. 127; Series of 2024.

THE VOICE NEWSWEEKLY August 24, 31, September 7, 2025

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of the late **MARIO CASTRO MUÑOZ**, who died intestate on December 1, 2016 executed a **DEED OF EXTRA JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT** over his estate particularly described as: **TOYOTA FORTUNER 4X2 2 with Certificate of Registration No. 13088346-5** before Notary Public Atty. Rhofel T. Lopez, as per Doc. No. 652; Page No. 27; Book No. II; Series of 2025.

THE VOICE NEWSWEEKLY August 31, September 7, 14, 2025

PhilHealth YAKAP caravan brings services to over 1k students in NE

CABANATUAN CITY — Over 1,000 students of the Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology (NEUST) benefitted from the Yaman ng Kalusugan Program (YAKAP) Caravan of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth).

The PhilHealth YAKAP is an expanded PhilHealth Konsulta that provides members with free medical consultations, health screenings, laboratory tests, cancer screening tests, and access to 75 essential medicines.

PhilHealth Regional Office III Acting Vice President Henry Almanon underscored the importance of preventive healthcare and maintaining good health.

“Primary care is a health system designed to keep Filipinos away from sickness, which is why we have PhilHealth YAKAP,” he said.

Almanon also expressed gratitude to NEUST’s leadership and community for supporting the program and allowing the advocacy to reach students and staff.

“By partnering with universities, we ensure that preventive healthcare is available to everyone. Funds are allocated for consultations,

basic laboratories, medicines, and eight cancer screenings, particularly for women,” Almanon added.

The caravan featured an orientation on PhilHealth services, on-site registration, issuance of PhilHealth IDs, Member Data Records, and the delivery of YAKAP health services to students.

Meanwhile, NEUST President Rhodora Jugo encouraged students to register as PhilHealth members, stressing that good health is the foundation of success.

“I believe that health is the key to progress. When we stay healthy, more opportunities open for us, we become more productive, and we are better equipped to achieve our dreams,” she said.

NEUST Vice President for Administration, Business & Finance, and Legal Officer Bembol Castillo also highlighted the importance of the program and PhilHealth membership, noting that through YAKAP, members can access free healthcare services.

PhilHealth assured that YAKAP services will continue at the university to provide students with check-ups, screenings, and other essential healthcare needs.

DPWH inspects Camiling flood control project

TARLAC — Officials from the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)–Tarlac 1st District Engineering Office inspected a flood control structure along the Camiling River, covering Barangay Pindangan 1st to Barangay Pindangan 2nd.

District Engineer Neil Farala said the inspection team assessed the project to ensure its long-term safety and reliability for residents.

Corrective works were carried out, including sealing thermal cracks and replacing damaged berm sections to maintain structural integrity.

Farala added that the district office will continue monitoring all flood control facilities within its jurisdiction and remain ready to implement measures against flooding, particularly during heavy rains.

Barangay officials of Pindangan 1st and 2nd thanked DPWH for its swift response to minor damages, citing its importance in ensuring community safety.

The inspection was joined by Construction Section Chief Jose Zamora Jr., Quality Assurance Section Chief Victor Ong Jr., and other DPWH personnel.



Officials from the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)–Tarlac 1st District Engineering Office inspect a flood control structure along the Camiling River, covering Barangay Pindangan 1st to Barangay Pindangan 2nd

Dipaculao residents benefit from P34.64-M sports center in Aurora

BALER, Aurora — Aligned with the administration’s push for community-centered infrastructure, the P34.64-million rehabilitation of the Dipaculao Sports Center in Barangay North Poblacion has given residents a modern and inclusive venue for sports and gatherings in Aurora.

Department of Public Works and Highways Aurora District Engineer Roderick Andal said the project, funded under the 2024 national budget, transformed the town’s old covered court into a modern multi-purpose facility designed to benefit not only the local community but also the entire municipality.

The renovated sports center now features hard maple wood flooring, concrete bleachers with dedicated locker rooms and toilets for men, women, and persons with disabilities.

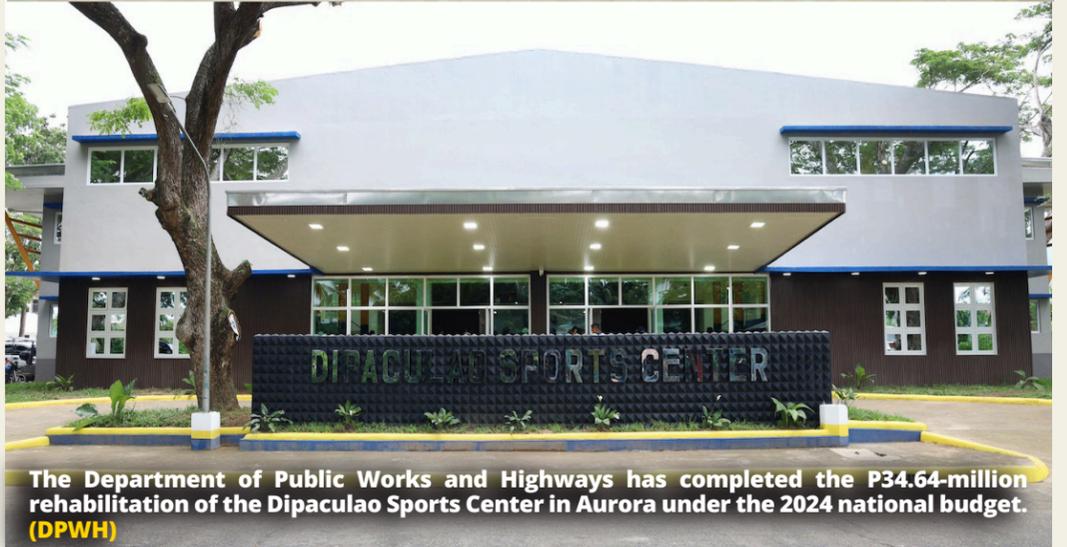
It also includes a view deck with stage and

backstage area, along with additional functional spaces such as an office, staff room, and dressing room.

“Accessibility and design were also key priorities in the rehabilitation, with the installation of an entrance canopy, access ramp, perimeter pathways, and aesthetic enhancements such as decorative stone finishes and fluted panels on both interior and exterior walls,” Andal said.

He emphasized that the improved facility provides a safer and more welcoming venue for sports and community events, serving as a symbol of progress and unity for the people of Dipaculao.

The completion of the project reflects the government’s continuing effort to deliver people-centered infrastructure that fosters development and strengthens social cohesion in local communities, in line with President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.’s vision of inclusive growth.



The Department of Public Works and Highways has completed the P34.64-million rehabilitation of the Dipaculao Sports Center in Aurora under the 2024 national budget. (DPWH)



Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology students actively participate in free health screenings and on-site Philippine Health Insurance Corporation registration during the Yaman ng Kalusugan Program Caravan at the university’s main campus in Cabanatuan City. (PhilHealth)

First King Sejong Institute to offer Korean language, culture classes

SCIENCE CITY OF MUÑOZ — The first and newly inaugurated King Sejong Institute (KSI)-Muñoz in Nueva Ecija is set to offer Korean language and culture classes to the community of Science City of Muñoz and surrounding areas.

This institute was established by the Central Luzon State University (CLSU) in partnership with the Suncheon National University (SCNU) of South Korea, after a year of collaborative planning.

The program is designed for Filipinos interested in learning Korean for cultural understanding, academic purposes, or employment opportunities in South Korea, and is offered at

introductory and intermediate levels.

Korean language classes are scheduled from Monday to Thursday, from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

On Fridays, the focus will shift to Korean culture lectures, which will take place from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

The inaugural ceremony was graced by key officials and dignitaries, including CLSU President Evaristo Abella, CLSU Vice President for Academic Affairs

SEE PAGE 4

FIRST KING SEJONG



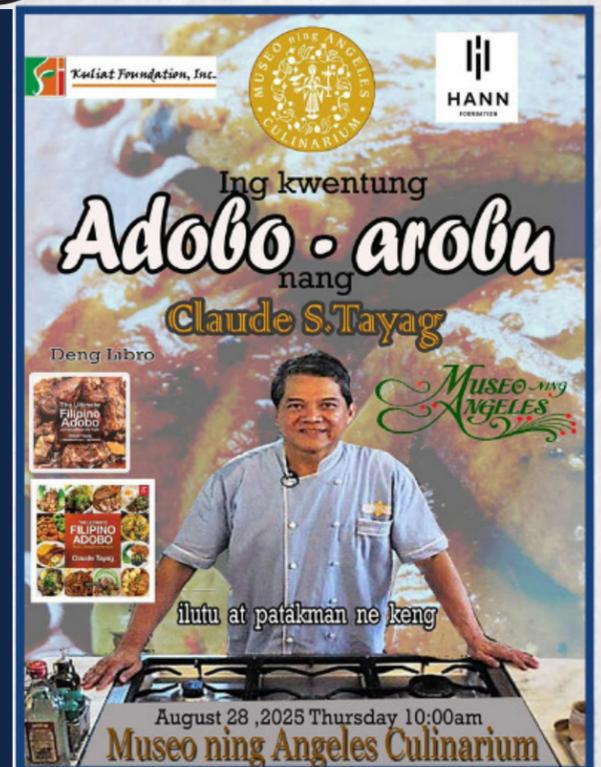
The Central Luzon State University, in partnership with the Suncheon National University of South Korea, inaugurates the first King Sejong Institute-Muñoz in Nueva Ecija, which will offer Korean language and culture classes to the community of Science City of Muñoz and surrounding areas. (CLSU)



Arlyn E. Lukban

LIFESTYLE EDITOR/ONLINE EDITOR

CHEF CLAUDE TAYAG serves stories and flavors in “ING KWENTUNG ADOBO-AROBU”



Multi-talented Kapampangan writer, artist, and chef Claude Tayag took centerstage at “Ing Kwentung Adobo-Arobu” on August 28 at the Museo Ning Angeles Culinarium, where he delighted guests with both stories and flavors of the quintessential Filipino dish—adobo.

Chef Claude opened the session by defining adobo not as a single recipe but as a “cooking method rooted in vinegar as the main liquid.” He explained its four essential elements: vinegar, protein (meat or seafood), aromatics (such as onion, turmeric, pepper, oregano), and flavor enhancers (salt, soy sauce, patis, or bagoong).

Widely regarded as the country’s unofficial national dish, adobo is loved in every Filipino household and has captured the taste buds of foreigners. Tayag also revisited the debate over attempts to “standardize” adobo, a move rejected by culinary circles, as every region in the Philippines boasts its own distinct version.

Joining him as “instant sous chef” was fellow Kapampangan culinary icon Sau del Rosario. Together, they prepared and served dishes culled from Chef Claude’s book “The Ultimate Filipino Adobo: Stories, Recipes from the Heart.” Guests enjoyed specialties such as kilayin, humba, adobo sa atsuete, and arroz caldo topped with adobo flakes and quail egg, presented bento-style.

More than just a food tasting, the gathering was a celebration of culture, memory, and flavor. Attendees left with a deeper appreciation for adobo—not only as a dish but as a story of Filipino identity—along with happy, satisfied tummies.

Photos by Arlyn Lukban and Sonnie Canlas