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THE VOICE NEWSWEEKLY
FOUNDED 1955



A Paris Christmas in Clark P6



Rainwater Park in CSF eyed as model for PH public parks

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO — The Megaworld Capital Town Rainwater Park is now being eyed as a model for public parks nationwide, combining recreational areas with rainwater storage to help mitigate flooding and secure water supply during dry spells.

The facility can store up to 20,000 cubic meters of rainwater, providing additional public space while helping manage excess rainwater and conserve water for future use.

The initiative follows President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.'s directive to work with the private sector in exploring innovative solutions to address flooding in low-lying and flood-prone areas.

Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Secretary Vince Dizon recently inspected the rainwater park along with other DPWH officials.

The President also called for the improved utilization of detention basins and similar facilities nationwide to ensure that floodwater can be captured and repurposed for other uses.

Capitol eyes other water sources vs El Niño threat

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO — The provincial government of Pampanga is exploring alternative water sources and sustainable water management measures to ensure a reliable supply amid the El Niño phenomenon.

As part of the province's preparations, Governor Lilia Pineda and Vice Governor Dennis Pineda led a meeting with Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Secretary Vince Dizon, Local Water Utilities Administration (LWUA) Administrator Atty. Jose Moises Salonga, local water districts, and other concerned agencies to discuss strategies for addressing potential water shortages.

During the meeting, Dizon emphasized the need to maximize the province's river systems as alternative sources of water, citing the challenge of experiencing both flooding and water scarcity.

"Nakakalungkot na ang Pampanga, Bulacan at ibang lugar sa Pilipinas binabaha dahil sa mga ilog natin, pero at the same time, kulang din ang tubig. Lalung-lalo na ngayon, papasok na 'yung Super El Nino, kumakaunti na ang pag-ulan

SEE PAGE 4

CAPITOL


Governor Lilia Pineda and Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Secretary Vince Dizon meet with local water districts and other concerned agencies to discuss strategies for addressing potential water shortages as part of the province's El Niño preparations. (Pampanga PIO)

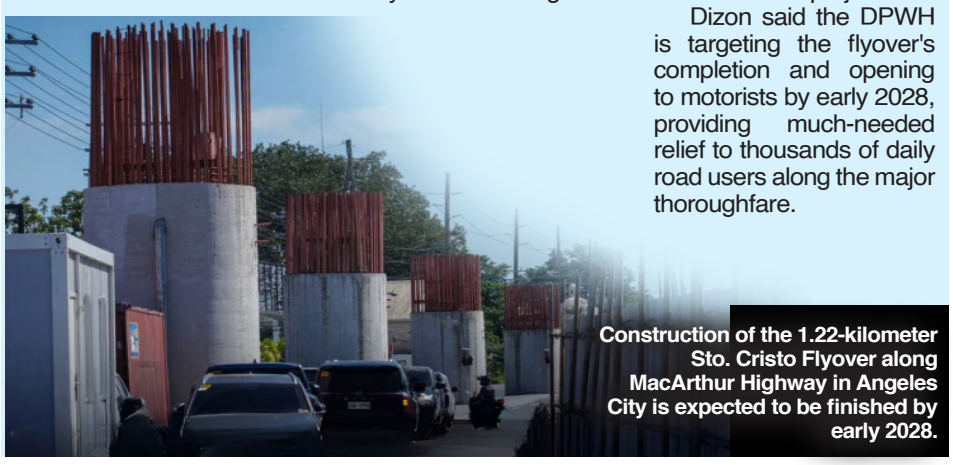
DPWH speeds up AC flyover completion

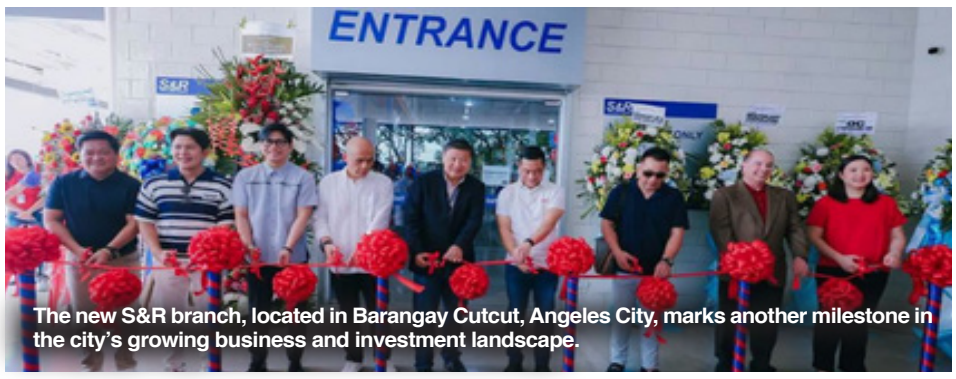
ANGELES CITY — President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. has ordered the expedited construction of the 1.22-kilometer Sto. Cristo Flyover along MacArthur Highway in Angeles City to ease the severe traffic congestion that has burdened motorists and commuters for the past three years.

The President's directive came after it was revealed that the project had been funded on a piecemeal basis, contributing to prolonged construction delays and heavy traffic along the busy highway.

Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Secretary Vince Dizon assured that the agency would closely monitor construction progress and secure sufficient funding to accelerate the project.

Dizon said the DPWH is targeting the flyover's completion and opening to motorists by early 2028, providing much-needed relief to thousands of daily road users along the major thoroughfare.


Construction of the 1.22-kilometer Sto. Cristo Flyover along MacArthur Highway in Angeles City is expected to be finished by early 2028.



The new S&R branch, located in Barangay Cutcut, Angeles City, marks another milestone in the city's growing business and investment landscape.

S&R opens 1st Angeles branch

ANGELES CITY — S&R Membership Shopping's first branch in the city opened on October 22, marking another milestone in the city's growing business and investment landscape.

Angeles City Mayor Carmelo "Jon" Lazatin II led the ribbon-cutting ceremony signaling the opening of the branch, located in Barangay Cutcut. The new store is S&R's 35th branch nationwide and third in Pampanga.

Lazatin joined the grand opening activities and store tour, celebrating the arrival of another major retail establishment in the city.

Beyond providing Angeleños with another shopping destination, the new branch is expected to generate employment opportunities, stimulate business activity, and contribute to the local economy.

The city government continues to welcome investments that create jobs, support local enterprises, and drive sustainable economic growth.

Through initiatives that encourage business expansion and attract new investors, the Lazatin administration aims to ensure that the city's progress translates into tangible benefits for its residents.

With S&R's arrival, Angeles City further strengthens its position as a growing business hub in Central Luzon, creating more opportunities for Angeleños.

Uy: Transparent governance to unlock digital progress

ANGELES CITY — Dennis Anthony Uy, co-founder and CEO of Converge ICT Solutions Inc., is calling for greater transparency and accountability in governance to help the Philippines maximize opportunities in digital transformation and emerging technologies.

Speaking before the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), the country's largest business organization, Uy highlighted the importance of sustaining the government's efforts to create an enabling environment for artificial intelligence (AI) and other emerging technologies, emphasizing that good governance is essential to translating these opportunities into meaningful economic progress.

"Today, global investors and foreign partners are knocking on our door, eager to do business with the Philippines. They see our location, our workforce, and our potential. The opportunity is right in front of us. But let us be honest: our old habits are getting in the way. Corruption holds back our progress. Red tape chokes our small businesses," said Uy during the 52nd Philippine Business Conference

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UY



Converge CEO Dennis Anthony Uy has called for greater transparency and accountability in governance, saying this will help the Philippines maximize opportunities in digital transformation and emerging technologies.

NLEX steps up pavement works for safer journeys

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO — NLEX Corporation continues pavement repair and maintenance along the NLEX and SCTEX to preserve road quality and provide motorists with safer, smoother journeys.

Recent pavement repairs have been completed in Marilao, Sta. Rita, Balintawak, and Tabang, while work continues in Bocaue. Similar maintenance activities are undertaken in other sections of the expressway network.

The works include mill-and-pave activities, which involve removing portions of the existing pavement and replacing them with new asphalt to restore the road surface.

The maintenance works are being managed to minimize disruption to motorists.

"Regular pavement maintenance is an important part of preserving the quality and durability of our expressways. By addressing pavement wear and tear and carrying out the necessary repairs, we help maintain reliable road conditions and support safer travel for our motorists," said NLEX President

SEE PAGE 4

NLEX



DSWD extends ₱13.1-M aid to 2K jeepney, trike drivers

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO — A total 2,435 members of the Tricycle Operators and Drivers Associations (TODA) and Jeepney Operators and Drivers Associations (JODA) in Lubao each received ₱5,400 in emergency cash assistance from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

The aid, under the agency's Unified Package for Livelihoods, Industry, Food and Transport-Emergency Cash Transfer (ECT) program, seeks to ease the financial burden of rising fuel prices and other daily expenses.

The assistance was distributed through two payout activities in Lubao, The first served 1,378 beneficiaries from 18 barangays at the Sta. Cruz Gym, while the second covered 1,057 beneficiaries from 24 barangays at the Lubao Gymnasium.

Through the program, the DSWD and the Provincial Government of Pampanga continue to provide assistance to Kapampangans, particularly members of the TODA and JODA sectors, who are affected by rising fuel prices and the increasing cost of living.



A total of 2,435 members of the Tricycle Operators and Drivers Associations and Jeepney Operators and Drivers Associations in Lubao, Pampanga each receive ₱5,400 in Emergency Cash Transfer assistance from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to help ease the financial burden of rising fuel prices and the increasing cost of living. (Pampanga PIO)

Capitol vows to keep Korean community safe

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO — Gov. Lilia "Nanay" Pineda and Vice Gov. Dennis "Delta" Pineda assured the province's Korean community of coordination with law enforcement agencies, municipal mayors and the Clark Development Corporation (CDC) to ensure their safety and security.

The assurance came during a courtesy visit by Korean Consul General Lee Han Il, who met the two officials to discuss the safety of Koreans in the province and possible areas of cooperation. The governor and vice governor welcomed the growing Korean community in Pampanga.

The talks also covered jobs and investments in the province.

Also at the meeting were Jong Pil Chio and other officials of the Korean Community Association in Central Luzon, Board Member Dr. Kaye Naguit of the 4th District, PESO head Luningning Vergara, Provincial Tourism Officer Mike Castañeda and CDC Director Atty. Nicolette Henson.



Gov. Lilia "Nanay" Pineda and Korean Consul General Lee Han Il shake hands after a meeting at the Capitol, where the Governor ensured the safety and security of the Korean community.



Volunteers from the Balibago Waterworks Systems, Inc. (BWSI) planted 1,000 seedlings at Sitio Bliss, Barangay Sapangbato, Angeles City, marking BWSI's fifth tree-planting activity at the 10-hectare adopted site.

1K seedlings planted in AC for greener future

ANGELES CITY — In a continuing effort to protect vital water resources, Balibago Waterworks Systems, Inc. (BWSI) planted 1,000 seedlings at Sitio Bliss, Barangay Sapangbato, Angeles City in celebration of National Indigenous Peoples Month.

The initiative, conducted with ARAW-Aci and the Kapatirang Aytas ng Angeles-Porac para sa Kalikasan at Agrikultura (KAAPKA), marked BWSI's fifth tree-planting activity at its 10-hectare adopted site in the Sapangbato Watershed.

The activity forms part of Project 10,000, BWSI's flagship corporate social responsibility program targeting the planting of 10,000 trees to help safeguard Clark's water resources.

"Environmental stewardship is a shared responsibility. We want a future that sustains life where no one is left behind," said BWSI President Criselle Alejandro, emphasizing that environmental protection also means safeguarding the lives, culture, and rights of Indigenous peoples.

The activity was also attended by ARAW-ACI President Rene "Abe" Tayag, Vice President Sonny Dobles Jr., KAAPKA President Henry Pan, Soliman E.C., the Nagkakaisang Guardians, and the Angeles City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO).



KUWENTONG PEYUPS

BY: ATTY. DENNIS GORECHO

Kidlat Tahimik on 'Kapwa' as a Cultural Brake (Preno)



NATIONAL ARTIST KIDLAT TAHIMIK is a known advocate of "kapwa" (shared identity and relationality) concept as a cultural brake (preno) against Western consumerism and colonial values.

More than 250 young campus journalists in the recent 30th Word Cup in Baguio City had the privilege to meet personally Kidlat Tahimik as he explains the indigenous Filipino philosophy of "kapwa."

Kidlat Tahimik is widely celebrated as the "Father of Philippine Independent Cinema" and was awarded National Artist for Film and Broadcast Arts in 2018.

Born Eric Oteyza de Guia, Kidlat Tahimik (meaning "Silent Lightning") emphatically shared with the young crowd during the closing ceremonies the "kapwa" concept popularized by his late wife, German-born ethnographer and author Dr. Katrin de Guia.

Katrin's book "Kapwa: The Self in the Other. Worldviews and Lifestyles of Filipino Cultural Bearers" (2005) is a compendium of academic theory, artistic commentary, journal entries, and deeply personal reflections collected from Katrin's combined years of studying Sikolohiyang Pilipino under Dr. Virgilio Enriquez at the University of the Philippines.

Katrin defined "kapwa" as the Filipino core value of shared identity and interconnectedness, not merely as an abstract concept, but as a living philosophy that could heal both individuals and nations.

"Kapwa" teaches that the self is inherently intertwined with others and the natural world.

The book discussed "kapwa" in the lives and works of Baguio artists Santi Bose, Roberto Villanueva, Rene Aquitania, and Kidlat, as well as New York-based documentarian Angel Shaw, Boracay artist Perry Argel, and film director Kanakan Balintagos.

Kidlat uses his landmark postcolonial films – such as Perfumed Nightmare (1977) and Turumba (1983) – to critique Western imperialism and elevate local, indigenous worldviews over corporate globalization.

Kidlat considers culture as more than heritage. It is a source of identity, creativity, kapwa, and knowledge that can shape how we understand development and our place in the world

"Kapwa is an embracing culture – one where we include others in our sense of self, help one another and move toward a shared destination."

The young writers witnessed how Kidlat Tahimik has been transforming traditional academic speeches into live, unconventional art performances.

Rather than delivering standard lectures, he uses installation art, native costuming, and theatrical narratives to convey his message of "indogenius" (indigenous creative genius) and anti-colonialism.

Dressed in a graduation toga, traditional Cordillera-inspired jacket and loincloth (bahag), Kidlat acted as a graduate of the fictional "University of Hollywood".

During the performance, he narrated the journey of a Cordilleran filmmaker who returns to the rice terraces to reject formulas of sex and violence in favor of local truths.

He juxtaposed the Ifugao wind goddess Inabyan with the Western icon Marilyn Monroe to contrast local storytelling with the "Hollywood wind goddess."

He critiqued the colonial educational system — which he argued reduces education to a basic "3 Rs" (Reading, wRiting, aRithmetic) corporate pipeline.

"I call it a cultural preno. Culture is an engine of a people, a collective engine to move in one direction. But our culture also has a preno system to balance your forward thrust. It's like a sports car engine. Even if your engine is really good, but if you don't have a good preno system, you will never get to your goal," Kidlat said in an interview.

Kidlat graced the closing ceremonies days before the first death anniversary of Katrin, who died on October 12, 2025 at the age of 75.

The Word Cup Philippines is the country's longest-running, practitioner-led national campus journalism conference, workshop, and contest program.

The annual event, which draws participation from student publications across Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao, continues to serve as a vibrant platform for young journalists to hone their craft.

Since its inception in 1994, Word Cup Philippines has promoted responsible journalism and nurtured future media practitioners.

The event featured talks and workshops and sessions that tackled essential topics in writing (news, editorial, feature, sports), editorial cartooning, mobile journalism, broadcasting, photojournalism, media ethics, and current issues affecting various sectors of society.

It aimed to provide authentic, hands-on journalism training rather than abstract lectures or pre-packaged fact sheets. Participants learn by covering live press briefings, community events, and real-time simulations.

The participants include students from elementary, junior high, senior high school, tertiary and college levels along with school paper advisers, language and communication arts teachers.

***

(Peyups is the moniker of the 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 0908-8665786.)



THE GLOBAL BEAT

BY GERALD LACUARTA

Rights at Sea Should Not Require Permission

A medical evacuation should be a straightforward humanitarian operation. On October 8, getting a sick Filipino sailor out of Ayungin Shoal became another confrontation over who gets to exercise authority in the West Philippine Sea.

According to the Philippine Coast Guard, a Chinese coast guard vessel activated its water cannon while approaching BRP Cabra, which had been deployed to evacuate a Navy serviceman stationed aboard BRP Sierra Madre. Cabra was not hit. But the Coast Guard reported that obstruction, shadowing, and dangerous maneuvers prolonged an operation that ordinarily would have taken only a few hours to nearly ten.

The sailor was eventually transferred and received medical attention. The larger question remained: how does the Philippines prevent interference with its operations from becoming an accepted condition of its presence at sea?

Calling Manila's predicament a "balancing act" captures the difficulty but leaves the purpose unclear. Balance is a method. The objective must be to protect Philippine rights while reducing the vulnerabilities that make exercising them more costly.

Substantial pressure

The Armed Forces of the Philippines reported monitoring 101 Chinese naval and coast guard vessels across four key West Philippine Sea areas in September, compared with 56 in August. These are monthly monitoring totals, not a claim that all those ships assembled at once. Even with that qualification, the increase deserves attention.

So does the language accompanying the ships. Chinese Ambassador Jing Quan's remark that China "may easily win" if it used force prompted the Department of Foreign Affairs to summon him on October 19. He also said Beijing would refrain from force because it wanted peace. Manila nevertheless objected to what it considered a threat.

A declaration of peaceful intent is difficult to separate from a reminder of superior force when smaller vessels are already encountering pressure at sea.

Yet outrage alone offers little protection. The Philippines needs sustained patrols, reliable logistics, capable vessels, and partnerships that improve its ability to operate. Publicizing incidents helps establish a record and mobilize support. Its practical value increases when exposure produces assistance, diplomatic consequences, or safer operations.

The legal foundation must remain clear. The 2016 arbitral award rejected China's claims to historic rights beyond the limits permitted by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. It also recognized traditional fishing rights at Scarborough Shoal for Filipino and Chinese fishermen. It did not decide sovereignty over the shoal.

Sovereignty over land features and sovereign rights over resources are different legal questions. Describing everything as a territorial disagreement obscures rights that have already been clarified.

For fishing communities in Zambales, the issue is measured in access to fishing grounds and the ability to return with a worthwhile catch. A legal victory has limited everyday meaning if a fisherman remains unable to work safely where his rights are recognized.

That makes protecting livelihoods a test of maritime policy. Government should assess whether its actions improve access and safety, alongside counting patrols, protests, and diplomatic statements.

Economic constraints

Preliminary Philippine Statistics Authority figures show that mainland China supplied 22.7 percent of Philippine goods imports in August. It also received 11.5 percent of Philippine goods exports, while Hong Kong accounted for another 17.3 percent. Those export destinations should remain separately identified, but the figures show the scale of the commercial relationship.

Abruptly severing those links would impose costs on Philippine businesses and consumers. Accepting that reality, however, does not require treating present dependence as permanent.

The useful response is targeted diversification. Government and industry should identify essential goods with few alternative suppliers, help firms develop other sources, and expand export markets. Such work is slower and less visible than a diplomatic confrontation. It can also give future Philippine governments more room to act.

Diplomacy and communication

There is a similar need for discipline in diplomacy. A South China Sea Code of Conduct would be valuable if it establishes meaningful rules and reduces dangerous encounters. Completing a document by a summit deadline is a poor substitute for securing an effective agreement.

Joint oil and gas exploration also deserves careful examination. Calling a proposal "commercial" cannot by itself resolve questions about Philippine law, control, and resource rights. Cooperation must rest on terms the country can defend publicly.

Communication should remain available for preventing accidents and resolving emergencies. A channel for dialogue need not become a system for seeking permission to conduct lawful Philippine operations. Those are different functions, and Manila should insist on keeping them distinct.

The country cannot quickly erase the imbalance in ships or economic power. It can strengthen its capacity, protect vulnerable communities, and steadily reduce avoidable dependence.

That is the standard by which this balancing act should be judged: whether sailors can be supplied and evacuated safely, fishermen can reach their grounds, and Philippine decisions become less vulnerable to outside pressure.

The Philippines should keep trading and talking with China. It should also build the strength to ensure that a Filipino sailor's medical evacuation never becomes a negotiation over permission.

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THEVOICENEWSWEEKLY

GCash parent Mynt makes historic PSE debut

ANGELES CITY — Philippine digital finance reached a major milestone as Mynt Inc., the parent company of GCash, officially debuted on the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE) recently, marking its transition into a publicly listed company.

Trading under the ticker symbol GCASH, Mynt opened at ₱6.60 per share, valuing the company at approximately ₱442 billion.

The initial public offering (IPO) raised approximately ₱53 billion from 8.03 billion shares, with the potential to reach ₱60.9 billion if the overallotment option is fully exercised, making it the largest IPO in Philippine history.

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. joined Ayala Corporation Chairman Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala, Ayala President and CEO Cezar Consing, Mynt Chairman Ernest Cu, Mynt President and CEO Martha Sazon, and PSE President and CEO Ramon Monzon for the ceremonial opening bell.

Sazon described the listing as a defining moment for the company, which has transformed GCash into one of the country's leading digital financial platforms.

"Today marks a defining milestone for Mynt and the beginning of our next chapter as a public company," Sazon said, emphasizing the company's commitment to innovation, financial inclusion, and sustainable growth.

The IPO drew overwhelming interest from local and international investors, with its institutional offering multiple times oversubscribed and attracting 20 foreign and domestic cornerstone investors.

Mynt Chairman Ernest Cu highlighted GCash's remarkable evolution from a simple SMS money transfer service 22 years ago into a major player in Philippine digital finance.

The landmark listing also brought stock market investing closer to ordinary Filipinos through GStocks PH, the stock trading platform accessible within the GCash app.

More than 140,000 GStocks PH users participated in the offering, generating nearly ₱1.1 billion in orders. Retail investors were able to participate for as little as ₱660, equivalent to 100 shares.

The offering also turned 80 percent of Mynt's workforce into company shareholders, strengthening employee participation in its future growth.

Mynt plans to channel its IPO proceeds primarily into expanding its digital financial services, particularly its credit and investment offerings.

Beyond its record-breaking market debut, the listing underscores the growing influence of Filipino financial technology and opens new opportunities for everyday Filipinos to participate in the country's capital markets



Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos, Jr. (Center) leads the bell-ringing ceremony of Mynt, Inc., the parent company of GCash. From left to right joining the ceremony are: Ayala Corporation Director Fernando Zobel de Ayala, Mynt Chief Financial Officer Evelyn Ng, Ayala Corporation President and CEO Bong Consing, Ayala Corporation Chairman Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala, Mynt Chairman Ernest Cu, Mynt President and CEO Martha Sazon, Philippine Stock Exchange, Inc. Chairman Jose Pardo, PSE Director Ma. Vivian Yuchengco, PSE President and CEO Ramon Monzon, Monetary Board Member Romeo Bernardo, Finance Secretary Frederick Go, Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman Francis Ed Lim, PSE COO Atty. Roel A. Refran, and PSE Issuer Regulation Division Head Atty. Marigel M. Baniqued-Garcia.

CAPITOL... FROM PAGE 1

at baka maubusan tayo ng tubig. So 'yan ang kailangan i-address natin na dalawang problema," Dizon said.

Among the proposals discussed was the development of a bulk water facility by Manila Water Philippine Ventures Inc., through its Manila Water operations, which would source water from the Pampanga River and other river systems for treatment and distribution.

The proposed facility aims to reduce dependence on groundwater extraction while expanding the province's options for meeting domestic water demand.

Dizon also highlighted the potential of detention basins to support water conservation alongside flood control, consistent with the national government's direction to maximize available water resources for other beneficial uses.

"Ang direktiba ng Pangulo natin ay hindi lang para bumawas ng baha ang mga detention basin, kundi yung naiipong tubig ay magagamit din for either irrigation or even household domestic water," he said.

The proposed measures are particularly important as El Niño may bring reduced rainfall and prolonged dry conditions, potentially affecting water availability for households, agriculture, and other essential activities.

With the El Niño's impact, officials said strengthening alternative water sources and improving water storage could help the province better manage fluctuations in supply.

The provincial government is also studying measures to manage groundwater extraction to help protect underground water reserves and promote sustainable use.

These efforts are intended to address increasing demand while reducing pressure on groundwater resources.

Dizon likewise stressed the importance of accountability and cooperation among water service providers, raising concerns over PrimeWater's absence from the meeting despite being invited by the provincial government and LWUA to discuss water service issues.

He underscored the need for water utilities to work with government agencies in addressing consumers' concerns, particularly as the province prepares for potential water shortages.

Representatives from 12 local water districts, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Region 3, DENR-PENRO Pampanga, the Mines and Geosciences Bureau, Manila Water Philippine Ventures Inc., and Clark Water Corporation also attended the meeting.

Through stronger inter-agency coordination, proposed investments in alternative water sources, and more sustainable groundwater management, the provincial government aims to improve Pampanga's resilience to El Niño and help secure a more reliable water supply for its communities.

NLEX... FROM PAGE 2

President and General Manager Luis S. Reñon.

Motorists are reminded to observe traffic signs, follow speed limits, and exercise caution when passing through work zones.

NLEX Corporation will continue to provide regular advisories through its official social media channels to keep motorists informed of ongoing works and help guide their travel.

UY... FROM PAGE 2

and Expo (PBC&E), held on Wednesday, October 14.

Uy's message underscores the importance of ensuring that the country's growing digital ambitions are supported by transparent processes, accountable institutions, and an environment where businesses can innovate, invest, and contribute to national development.

He also recognized policy initiatives such as Executive Order No. 119, s. 2026, establishing a Data Residency Framework, and the creation of a Center for AI Research as important steps toward strengthening the country's digital ecosystem and positioning the Philippines to participate more actively in the global technology landscape.

Converge has been an active partner of PCCI in advancing the country's digital agenda. In 2025, the company and the business organization placed digital and ICT solutions at the forefront of the PBC&E, bringing together more than 85 local and international technology brands to showcase innovations and connect them with Philippine businesses.

Uy was joined onstage by PCCI President Perry Ferrer, 52nd PBC&E Chairman Butch Guerrero, PCCI Chairman Jude Aguilar, and other PCCI executives.

The importance of addressing governance concerns is also reflected in public sentiment. On Thursday, October 15, Pulse Asia Research reported that corruption and inflation were the top two issues concerning Filipinos in its latest Ulat ng Bayan survey.

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATES WITH PARTITION

Notice is hereby given that the late **VICTOR GANIA BULANADI**, who died on January 11, 2011, and CARMENCITA NARCISO BULANADI, who died on February 25, 2026, left no last will and testament with no debts or obligations.

Notice is further given that the heirs, namely: ALLAN NARCISO BULANADI, JESUS EDEN NARCISO BULANADI and TERESITA ELLA BULANADI GARCIA executed a DEED OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATES WITH PARTITION over seven (7) parcels of land, covered by (1) TCT no. 109465-R, Area: 300 sqm in the Bo. of Dau, Mun. of Mabalacat, Prov. Of Pamp; (2) TCT No. 276329-R, Area: 300 sqm in the Bo. of Dau, Mun. of Mabalacat, Prov. Of Pamp; (3) TCT No. 283519-R, Area: 318 sqm in the Bo. of Dau, Mun. of Mabalacat, Prov. Of Pamp; (4) TCT No. 296029-R, Area: 150 sqm in the Bo. of Dau, Mun. of Mabalacat, Prov. Of Pamp; (5) OCT No. 14317, Area: 3,148 sqm in San Matias, Sta. Rita Pamp; (6) OCT No. 13159, Area: 3,148 sqm in San Matias, Sta. Rita Pamp and (7) OCT No. 11355, Area: 4,238 sqm in San Matias, Sta. Rita Pamp, all under the Registry of Deeds for the Prov. of Pamp, executed on September 24, 2026, before Notary Public Jan Rez D. Pineda, as per Doc. No. 2238; Page No. 104; Book No. XII; Series of 2026 of his notarial registry.

Notice is further given that ALEXANDER NARCISO BULANADI executed a separate WAIVER OF RIGHTS fully renouncing his inheritance and participation over the said estates, executed on April 16, 2026, before Notary Public Joanne D. Vitug-Evangelista, as per Doc. No. 135; Page No. 14; Book No. IX; Series of 2026.

THE VOICE NEWSWEEKLY OCTOBER 25, NOVEMBER 1, 8, 2026

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL REGION
ANGELES CITY
Email: rtc1angocc@judiciary.gov.ph
Hotline: 09319382192
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT

BDO UNIBANK, INC., REPRESENTED BY LEINE A. DE CASTRO,
Mortgagee,

-versus-

SPOUSES AMALIA A. LOMBARDO AND JAMES J. LOMBARDO,
Debtors/Mortgagors.

FC NO. 2026-0093
For: Application for Extrajudicial Foreclosure of Real Estate Mortgage (Under Act No. 3135, As Amended)

x----------x

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Application for Sale under Act 3135, as amended, filed by the Mortgagee, **BDO UNIBANK, INC.**, represented by Leine A. De Castro, with principal business office address at 33rd Floor, BDO Corporate Center Ortigas, No.12 ADB Avenue, Wack-Wack, Mandaluyong City, against the debtors/mortgagors, **SPOUSES AMALIA A. LOMBARDO AND JAMES J. LOMBARDO,** with postal address/es at (1) 259 J. Garcia Street. Canidha Subdivision, Dau, Mabalacat, Pampanga; (2) #0985 Lalic Street, Canidha Subdivision, Camachiles, Mabalacat, Pampanga; and (3) Lot 2 Block 5 Herencia De Julieta Villas 2, Mabiga, Mabalacat, Pampanga, in order to satisfy the outstanding obligation therein which as of September 21, 2026 in the total amount of **SEVEN MILLION NINE HUNDRED SIXTY-FOUR THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FOURTEEN PESOS AND FORTY-EIGHT CENTAVOS (Php7,964,314.48)** Philippine Currency, inclusive of interest, penalties and other charges and other incidental expenses incurred in connection with the foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff IV hereby gives notice and announces that on **November 26, 2026 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning at the Municipal Trial Court in Cities, Mabalacat City, Pampanga, located at Bldg. 2, Unit 33, Great Mall of Central Luzon, (formerly Xevera Commercial Complex) Barangay Tabun, Mabalacat City, Pampanga,** will **SELL** at public auction to the highest bidder for CASH or MANAGER'S CHECK, and in Philippines Currency, the following parcel of land/real property with all existing and future improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 045-2019006580

"A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 2, BLOCK 5 OF THE CONS.-SUBD., PLAN PCS-03-016705 BEING A PORTION OF CONSOLIDATED OF LOT 15 & 17, BLK. 4, LOTS 1 TO 8, BLK. 5. LOTS 1 TO 21, BLK. 6, LOTS 1 TO 4 BLK. 7, OPEN SPACE & ROAD LOT 6 ALL OF PCS-03-015346, LOTS 1-C-13 TO 18, PSD-03-085365, LOT 42-8-4-8-2-A, PSD-03-157788 & LOT 623-G, PSD-03-000670 LR.C. REC. NO.), SITUATED IN THE BO. OF MABIGA, MUN. OF MABT., PROV. OF PAMP. BOUNDED ON THE SW., ALONG LINE 1-2 BY LOT 4, BLK. 5 OF THE CONS-SUBD., PLAN, ON THE NW., ALONG LINE 2-3 BY ROAD LOT 1 ON THE NE., ALONG LINE 3-4 BY LOT 16, BLK. 4, BOTH OF PCS-03-015346; ON THE SE., ALONG LINE 3-4 BY LOT 16, BLK. 4, BOTH OF PCS-03-015346; ON THE SE., ALONG LINE 4-1 BY LOT 3, BLK. 5, BOTH OF THE CONS.-SUBD, PLAN. BEGINNING X X X CONTAINING AN AREA OF ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY FOUR (184) SQUARE METERS. MORE OR LESS. XXX"

Prospective buyers/bidders may investigate for themselves the above-mentioned parcel of land for their information and protection.

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above-stated date and time.
In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on **December 18, 2026,** at the same time and place without further notice.

Angeles City, October 6, 2026.

(SGD) NOEL C. SERRANO
Sheriff IV

Copy furnished:
LEINE A. DE CASTRO
BDO UNIBANK, INC.
CONSUMER REMEDIAL MANAGEMENT UNIT
33rd Floor, BDO Corporate Center Ortigas, No.12, ADB Avenue, Wack-Wack, Mandaluyong City.

DANIEL M. CONCEPCION
DMC MANAGEMENT CORPORATION
Unit 208 2nd Floor Ablaza Building, E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Barangay Tatalon, Quezon City.

SPOUSES AMALIA A. LOMBARDO AND JAMES J. LOMBARDO
(1) 259 J. Garcia Street, Canidha Subdivision, Dau, Mabalacat, Pampanga:
(2) #0985 Lalic Street, Canidha Subdivision, Camachiles, Mabalacat, Pampanga; and (3) Lot 2 Block 5 Herencia De Julieta Villas 2, Mabiga, Mabalacat, Pampanga
s Avenue, Brgy. San Jose, City of San Fernando, Pampanga

THE VOICE NEWSWEEKLY OCTOBER 25, NOVEMBER 1, 8, 2026

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
Third Judicial Region
BRANCH 45
City of San Fernando, Pampanga
rtc1sfp045@judiciary.gov.ph
(045) 404-6749

IN RE: PETITION FOR CHANGE OF ENTRY IN THE RECORD OF BIRTH OF NOEL IGNACIO DOMINGO UNDER RULE 108 O THE RULES OF COURT, AS AMENDED,

NOEL IGNACIO DOMINGO,
Petitioner,
-versus-

MUNICIPAL CIVIL REGISTRAR OF MEXICO, PAMPANGA, CIVIL REGISTRAR GENERAL/PHILIPPINES STATISTICS AUTHORITY, MARIO IGNACIO DOMINGO, ELVIRA IGNACIO DOMINGO, MATILDE DOMINGO ARING AND LUCY IGNACIO DOMINGO,
Respondents.

FC SP. PROC. NO. 6457

x----------x

ORDER

Petitioner prays that an order be issued directing the Municipal Civil Registrar of Mexico, Pampanga to correct his Certificate of Live Birth with Civil Registry No. 93-1279, as follows:

a) Petitioner's full name from "Noel Noel Miclat Ignacio" to "Noel Ignacio Domingo";

b) Petitioner's mother's maiden name from "Belen G. Miclat" to "Belen Miclat Ignacio"; and

c) Petitioner's father's full name from "Vicente M. Ignacio" to "Rogelio Morales Domingo";

and, if the court finds it necessary, to cancel his Certificate of Live Birth with Civil Registry No. 2022-1132.

The court finds the petition to be sufficient in form and substance.

WHEREFORE, set the petition for hearing on **November 27, 2026 at 8:30 in the morning.**

Petitioner is hereby ordered to cause the publication of this order once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the Province of Pampanga, at his expense.

Petitioner is likewise directed to serve copies of the petition and its annexes on the following respondents, and to submit proof of compliance within five (5) days from receipt hereof, to wit:

(1) Mario Ignacio Domingo, Elvira Ignacio Domingo, Matilde Domingo Aring, and Lucy Ignacio Domingo;

(2) Office of the Local Civil Registrar, Mexico, Pampanga;

(3) Office of the Civil Registrar General, Philippine Statistics Authority; and

(4) Office of the Solicitor General.

The above-mentioned respondents may, within fifteen (15) days from notice of the petition, or from the last date of publication of such notice, file their opposition thereto.

Furnish the petitioner, his counsel, the Office of the Clerk of Court, and the above-mentioned respondents with a copy of this order.

SO ORDERED.

City of San Fernando, Pampanga, October 12, 2026.

(SGD) ROBERT ALEXANDER B. MALIG
Presiding Judge

Copy furnished:

Pros. Lenie T. Garcia-Tepace
Email: leniegarciatepace@gmail.com

Atty. Ma. Luisa C. Muñoz
Email: acbenozalaw@gmail.com

Office of the Solicitor General
Email: efile@osg.gov.ph

Office of the City Civil Registrar
City of San Fernando, Pampanga

Office of the Local Civil Registrar
Mexico, Pampanga

Office of the Clerk of Court
Regional Trial Court
CSFP

Civil Registrar General
23rd Floor, PSA Complex, East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, 110

Noel I. Domingo
72 Sitio Visitas, Sta. Maria, Mexico, Pampanga

Mario Ignacio Domingo, Elvira Ignacio Domingo, Matilde Domingo Aring, and Lucy Ignacio Domingo
Sta. Maria, Mexico, Pampanga
RAM/msaq

THE VOICE NEWSWEEKLY October 25, NOVEMBER 01, 08, 2026

Aurora's forests shelter endangered fruit bat species

BALER, AURORA — Aurora's forests play a vital role in sustaining threatened wildlife, as shown by the presence of more than 8,000 endangered golden-crowned flying foxes at Aurora Memorial National Park.

These fruit bats (Acerodon jubatus) were documented at a roosting site in the protected area during monitoring activity of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), marking the second recorded observation at that site since last year.

DENR Regional Executive Director Ralph Pablo stressed that the large number of flying foxes recorded at the site highlights the need to protect Aurora's remaining forests to preserve wildlife habitats and maintain ecological balance.

He said regular wildlife monitoring and science-based conservation measures are essential for protecting endangered species and preserving biodiversity.

"The intensified and regular monitoring activities of the DENR underscore the importance of preserving natural ecosystems to ensure the survival of native wildlife and maintain ecological balance for the betterment of our region's biodiversity," Pablo said.

The official also urged government agencies, volunteer groups, and local communities to take part in biodiversity conservation and help safeguard the region's natural habitats.

"We continuously encourage all government agencies, volunteer groups, and communities to join us in our biodiversity conservation efforts. Let us work together to protect the rich biodiversity and natural habitats of Central Luzon through collective action and shared responsibility, ensuring the preservation of our natural heritage for future generations," he said.

Meanwhile, DENR Maria Aurora Community Head Marivic Santos highlighted the fruit bats' role in maintaining healthy forests through seed dispersal and natural regeneration.

She said protecting the bats' roosting sites and feeding habitats sustains forest growth and preserves biodiversity across Central Luzon.



Aurora Memorial National Park provides habitat for more than 8,000 endangered golden-crowned flying foxes, underscoring the importance of protecting Aurora's forests to sustain threatened wildlife and preserve biodiversity. (DENR Central Luzon)



COSMIC CHRISTMAS LIGHTS UP SUBIC. Subic Bay Yacht Club (SBYC) held its annual Christmas Lighting Program recently, led by SBMA Chairman Eduardo Jose L. Aliño and SBYC Commodore Santiago G. Araneta. Themed "Cosmic Christmas: Holiday Beyond Earth," the festive attraction is expected to draw thousands of visitors throughout the holiday season.

NOTICE OF REVOCATION AND CANCELLATION OF AFFIDAVIT OF RENUNCIATION AND SELF ADJUDICATION

Notice is hereby given that **LOUIS STOSKOPF** executed a **DEED OF REVOCATION AND CANCELLATION OF AFFIDAVIT OF RENUNCIATION AND SELF ADJUDICATION,** regarding an Affidavit of Renunciation and Affidavit of Self Adjudication, which was published in The Voice Newsweekly dated July 19, 26 and August 2, 2026, he himself executed before Notary Public Jonathan V. Javate, covering the estate left behind by **EDEN RUELO STOSKOPF,** before Notary Public Jonathan V. Javate, as per Doc. No. 1998; Page No. 33; Book No. XII; Series of 2026.

THE VOICE NEWSWEEKLY October 18, 25, November 1, 2026

Bataan residents to benefit from free electric shuttle service

BALANGA CITY — Residents from Bataan's 11 municipalities will soon have access to free electric shuttle rides to the provincial capitol, offering a more affordable way to reach government offices as the province begins dry-run operations of its Point-to-Point Libreng Sakay Program.

Part of Bataan's eMobility program, the service will operate on weekdays from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m., transporting passengers from their respective municipal halls to The Bunker in Balanga City, the seat of the provincial government.

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. inspected the electric vehicles and charging stations at the Balanga Green Mobility Hub in Barangay Cabog-Cabog, Balanga City, on October 15.

He was accompanied by Public Works and Highways Secretary Vince Dizon, Bataan Governor Jose Enrique Garcia III, and other government officials, and met with program operators and drivers.

The fleet consists of 11 electric vehicles, including six Foton buses with 33 seats each and five Landking EV320 units with 25 seats each.

Passengers can board the vehicles at designated pick-up points at the municipal halls of Morong, Bagac, Dinalupihan, Hermosa, Orani, Samal, Abucay, Pilar, Orion, Limay, and Mariveles.

The units will travel directly to The Bunker, using the Roman Highway as the main corridor. Vehicles serving Bagac and Morong will connect to the provincial capitol through Governor J.J. Linao Road.

Detailed schedules for each route will be announced soon.

Garcia said the initiative is part of the province's efforts to modernize transportation while making it cleaner and more accessible to residents.



Bataan's Point-to-Point Libreng Sakay Program aims to promote cleaner transportation and provide residents with free rides to the provincial capitol. (PCO)

DA links Bulacan, Tarlac farmers to markets, loans

BULACAN — The Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office III (DA-RFO 3) strengthened market access and financing opportunities for organized farmers and fisherfolk from Bulacan and Tarlac through a two-day Agri-Credit and Market Linkage Forum held recently.

Organized under the Farm and Fisheries Clustering and Consolidation (F2C2) Program, the forum brought together selected agricultural clusters, local government representatives, institutional buyers, and financial institutions to help farmers expand their businesses and secure sustainable markets.

F2C2 Program Focal Person Dr. Maricel L. Dullas emphasized the forum's role in connecting production-ready clusters with potential buyers and financing partners to accelerate agricultural commercialization.

The first day focused on market opportunities, with government and private institutional buyers presenting procurement requirements, quality standards, supply volumes, and accreditation procedures.

Participants were also oriented on the Sagip Saka Act (Republic Act No. 11321), which allows qualified farmers' and fisherfolk enterprises to directly supply government agencies without undergoing the usual public bidding process.

The DA's Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Division (AMAD) likewise presented programs supporting product promotion and market development.

A supplier-buyer matching session provided opportunities for direct negotiations involving rice, corn, onions, vegetables, and pork, including potential trial orders and contract-growing arrangements.

The second day highlighted financial assistance, agricultural insurance, and credit facilities offered by the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC), Agricultural Credit Policy Council (ACPC), and Land Bank of the Philippines.

Through a Credit Consultation Clinic, participating clusters received guidance on suitable loan packages, eligibility requirements, and financing options for working capital, production expansion, post-harvest facilities, and logistics.

The forum concluded with an Action Planning Workshop, where participating clusters identified their next steps, timelines, and documentary requirements to pursue market partnerships and financing opportunities.

The initiative forms part of DA Central Luzon's continuing efforts to strengthen farmer and fisherfolk enterprises by connecting agricultural production with reliable markets and accessible financing.



The Voice Newsweekly
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PEOPLE • PLACES • CULTURE • STYLE • FOOD • TRAVEL

OCTOBER 25 — 31, 2026










A Paris Christmas in Clark

Bonjour, Christmas! The romance of Paris, the sparkle of the Eiffel Tower, and the magic of the holiday season have found a new home at SM City Clark.

Bringing the enchanting City of Lights closer to Kapampangans, SM City Clark has unveiled Noel Ville Lumiere: City of Lights Christmas 2026, a spectacular Paris-inspired holiday wonderland that captures the elegance, charm, and festive spirit of the French capital.

At the heart of this dazzling Christmas destination stands a magnificent 45-foot Christmas tree crowned with a golden Eiffel Tower, setting the scene for a magical holiday escape without leaving Clark.

SM City Clark also adds a meaningful touch to the festivities through SM Besties of Joy 2026. For P380, shoppers can purchase a pair of adorable Besties of Joy plushies and take part in spreading Christmas cheer to communities in need.

The campaign runs until December 25, 2026, giving shoppers an opportunity to share the season's blessings while enjoying the holiday attractions.

PHOTOS BY Ric Gonzales








Junior PGA Championships PH at Hann Reserve

Hann Reserve, the exclusive facility partner of the PGA of America in the Philippines, will host the Junior PGA Championships Philippines from December 7-9, 2026, giving eligible junior golfers an opportunity to compete for places in the 2027 Junior PGA Championships at NCR Country Club in Ohio, United States.

The tournament brings together local and international junior players for three days of practice and competition. The event provides the nation's premier young athletes with an unprecedented, direct pathway to elite competitive opportunities worldwide.

Pre-registration is officially open through October 28, 2026. To review full eligibility criteria or secure a place in the field, please visit hannreserve.com or direct inquiries to pilipinasgolftournamentsinc@gmail.com.



MNA Candidates 2026 Unveiled



The journey toward the crown officially begins as the candidates of Mutya Ning Angeles 2026 take the spotlight during a recent Sashing Ceremony.

The event formally introduces this year's official candidates, marking an important milestone in a pageant that celebrates beauty, confidence, and the pride of representing Angeles City.

Beyond the competition, Mutya Ning Angeles provides a platform to showcase the character, aspirations, and potential of Angeleñas while highlighting the city's vibrant culture and identity.

With the support of the Angeles City Tourism Office and the administration of Mayor Carmelo "Jon" B. Lazatin II, the city continues to promote programs and events that celebrate local talent, cultural heritage, and tourism.

As the candidates begin their pageant journey, Angeleños are invited to show their support and witness the stories, talents, and aspirations each candidate brings to the stage.

