

# PGC's Botika-on-Wheels rolls out to Noveleta town

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite (PIA) - Botika-on-Wheels (BoW), the Provincial Government's initiative rolled out in the municipality of Noveleta on September 7 - 10, 2020 giving out maintenance medicines to senior citizens and vitamins to children.

About 1,563 Senior Citizens benefited from the activity while 1,817 children in the municipality received vitamins to help boost their immune system.

BoW is the brain project of the Office of the Governor that aimed primarily to help the vulnerable group of Senior Citizens who

are not allowed to leave their houses as well as caring for the children's health during the pandemic, as it brings the health services closer to the people in the barangays.

Since its initial roll out June 5, 2020 the program benefitted about 11,684 Senior Citizens and 2,987 children in 180 barangays in the differ-

ent areas in the province.

BoW had visited the municipalities of Maragondon, Naic, Kawit, and Noveleta and Cavite City as it continues to serve the people in the province during the pandemic. (Ruel Francisco/ PICAD)

## DTI's Livelihood and Entrepreneurship project aids Bacoor fire victims

BACOR CITY, Cavite (PIA) -- About 29 individuals from families affected by the recent fire that razed houses in Barangay Talaba 7 received livelihood assistance from the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

The DTI thru the Pangkabuhayan sa Pagbangon at Ginhawa (PPG) Livelihood and Entrepreneurship Program distributed "Negosyo Kits" that include packages for sari-sari store, rice trading, food stall, carinderia, fish vending, RTW business package, computer shop, and other businesses to the fire victims.

Under the program, DTI provides livelihood assistance to qualified beneficiaries who are victims of fire, typhoons, and other calamities nationwide.

Bacoor Mayor Lani

Mercado-Revilla and Vice-Mayor Karen Evaristo expressed gratitude to the DTI for the assistance extended to the fire victims.

DTI ROG Asec Dominic Tolentino, Deputy COS Antonio Vicente

Ocampo, DTIIV-A Regional Director Marilou Q. Toledo, and DTI-Cavite OIC-PD Revelyn Cortez attended the activity.

"True to our objective, DTI will always extend our support to the people thru our various livelihood projects and training programs, and with these 'Negosyo Kits' these families would be able to restart their livelihood amid the ongoing pandemic," Ms. Revelyn Cortez said. (Ruel Francisco/ DTI Information Office)

## ATI Calabarzon holds online training in Urban Agriculture for Cavite PWDs

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite Sep 28 (PIA) -- The Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) CALABARZON held an online training seminar on urban gardening titled, "Training on Urban Agriculture: Affordable, Available and Safe Food for Persons with Disabilities" September 14-18, 2020.

The activity was organized in collaboration with the

Provincial Social and Welfare Development Office of Cavite and the Provincial Persons with Disability Affairs in support to the Plant, Plant, Plant Program or Ahon Lahat, Pagkaing Sapat (ALPAS) Laban sa COVID-19 of the Department of Agriculture (DA).

About 30 members of the PWD from federations and associations in the province were able to complete the training seminar with PWD Focal Person, Arlene V. Clemente describing the activity as 'holistic with a strong impact to the participants.'

Aside from the additional skills and knowledge from the seminar, the PWD participants will be receiving urban gardening kits of seedling trays, vegetable seeds, soil media (garden soil, carbonized rice hull, and vermicompost), and garden tools which would help them start their own backyard gardens.

Sarah Cuento, a parent of a child with autism shared, "I joined the training to increase my knowledge on gardening and apply the information gathered from the online training on tending my small garden." (Ruel Francisco/ATI Communications Office)

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# SIGA KA BA?

Ni: BRENT MENDOZA



## ARTIFICIAL WHITE SAND SA MANILA BAYWALK, MALAKAS MAKAPANG-AKIT NG MGA TURISTA

Naging malaking usapin ng mga kritiko ng ating mahal na Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ang paglalagay ng artificial white sand sa Manila Bay. Hindi sumasang-ayon ang mga dilawan na lagyan ng white sand ang gilid ng Baywalk. Ayon sa mga dilawan, may dalang lason daw at hindi maganda sa ating mga kalusugan ang dala ng crushed dolomite boulders. Lahat ng paninira ay ginagawa ng mga dilawan at numero uno na rito si Vice President Leni Robredo at Sen. Kiko Pangilinan. Nagtataka naman ang mga tao kung bakit ganoon ang mga pinapakitang asal ng mga dilawan. Noong panahon ni Ex-President Noynoy Aquino ay puro basura ang Manila Bay at wala silang masabi, pero ngayong super linis na ito saka naman sila todo-kontra sa paglalagay ng white sand. Ayaw ba nilang maging maganda ang Manila Bay? Mula nang magkaroon ng white sand ang Manila Bay, halos araw-araw nang dinaragsa ng mga tao ang lugar. Kapansin-pansin din ang mga turistang tuwang-tuwa at talagang super pa-selfie silang lahat. Malakas talagang makapang-akit ang white sand dito. Kung pwede nga lang magtampisaw sa dagat nito ay napakaraming gustong maligo. Kung titignan mo ang Manila Bay ngayon ay parang nasa isang malaking beach resort tulad ng nasa ibang bansa.

Sa totoo lang naman po ay tunay na maganda ngayon ang Manila Bay. Sa matagal na panahon ay ngayon lang nangyari na ang Manila Bay ay pwede palang pagandahin, na ito ay hindi naman ginawa ng mga nakaraang mga administrasyon. Halos lahat ng mga tao ay nais marating ang Manila Bay upang masilayan ang magandang lugar ngayon ng Manila Bay. Karamihan ay galing pa sa malalayong mga lugar. Kay sarap nga namang magpahangin ngayon dito lalo

na at wala nang basura ang dagat dito. Sana nga kahit may pandemiya ay tuluy-tuloy na ito. Ang sinumang humadlang na pulitiko, sigurado, walang pagmamahal iyan sa ating bansa. Marami nga ang nagsabing ang mga pulitikong ayaw sa white sand sa Manila Bay. Sila raw ay huwag umasang mananalo pa sa halalan.

Kung tutuusin lang naman po talaga, sa panahon ngayong ang pangulo ng ating bansa na si Pangulong Duterte ay napakaraming proyektong t a l a g a n g napakikinabangan na ng taumbayan. Sa buong Pilipinas, napakaraming tulay at kalsada ang natapos at ginagamit na ng maraming mga tao. Kaya naman maraming Pinoy ang nagsasabing ang pangulo lang ang nakagagawa nito. Kaya sa Halalang 2022 sigurado, kung kaninong kamay ang itaas ni Pangulong Duterte, sigurado na ang panalo.

## BRIC-A-BRAC FOR LIFE CORNER

By: Arturo E. Piao



A Bric-a-Brac excerpt series for knowledge enhancement to Better, Inner-being, Social-interaction and Healthful Living

-o-

Studies prove that we enjoy almost any activities more when we're with other people; thereby, sociability in nature and an extrovert in character abound in us, as to induce a healthful living and a happy social-interaction. Now you know, so be confident in mixing-in.

-o-

Laugh heartily when somebody tells a joke; assuring your susceptibility to humor invoking your jolly, happy companionship, of which in effect, side - swiping the word "boring" in a gathering you will be in.

-o-

It is not motivation that we need; it is change that we need in order to be properly motivated from the present position as to move to a new direction.

(For any questions, comments, and suggestions, just text to 09076254070 or 09057415008)

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## EDITORIAL


## Liberalized Rice Imports

The Rice Tariffication Law (RTL) removed the quantitative restrictions and most government controls on rice imports, making the Philippines the "world's largest importer of the grams". Farmers comprise the bulk of the population, now totaling more than 100-million and they are force to reckon with during national and local elections, which are held every three years. But one of the cruelest ironies of our time is that the country's farmers remain poor because they are always at the mercy of unscrupulous middlemen who buy their product at low, low prices. Since they have to pay their debts to loan sharks, the poor farmers have no choice but to sell their products even at insultingly low prices, leaving them noting to spend for the next planting season. Aware of this, Sen. Imee Marcos, Chair of the Senate Committee in Economic Affairs, has urged the government to 'put off' rice importation until after the peak of the wet season harvest in October. Senator Marcos warned that farm gate prices of *palay* may again plunge to 7 to 8 pesos per kilo as what happened last year, when rice imports caused an oversupply of the grains and dragged down prices.

"Scheduling importation is one way of helping our local rice farmers while the Rice Tarrification Law remains in place," according to Senator Imee Marcos. In liberating rice imports, the government said the RTL would ensure food security and bigger revenue collections as the law, placed a minimum 35% tariff on imported rice. Of course, we share the view of Senator Marcos that our food security should not depend on rice imports since local farmers are capable of providing 93% of the national supply. What's needed, in the view of Senator Marcos that our food security should not depend on rice imports since local farmers are capable of providing them with drying machines and storage facilities and bringing down the prices of farm inputs.

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**GUHIT NG KAPALARAN**

**LIBRA:** (Set. 24-Okt. 23) Tahimik na paraan ang meditation para effortless ang manifestation ng desire. Magiging masaya sa kalooban at feel mo na mangyayari ang iyong wish. Iwasang magdala ng mahala-gang gamit sa mataong lugar. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 51, 25, 33, 11, 41 at ruby red.

**SCORPIO:** (Okt. 24-Nob. 22) Ang pagmumura ay aakit ng bad event sa buhay. Ugaliing magsalita ng good words para makitin ang good things in life. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 33, 11, 22, 55, 41 at ultra violet.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (Nob. 23-Dic. 21) Ang tagumpay sa business ay nagpaparamdam na. Huwag susuko, panatilihin ang katapatan sa kapwa. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 31, 22, 11, 45, 55 at turquoise blue.

**CAPRICORN:** (Dic. 22-Ene. 19) Huwag maliitin ang kapwa. Magpakatotoo ka. Stay humble dahil ang oportunidad ay nagla-landas. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 52, 23, 33, 41, 11 at emerald green.

**AQUARIUS:** (Ene. 20-Peb. 18) Babalik ang glorious life kapag pinasalamatan ang lahat nang kumupkop sa iyo sa panahon na down ka. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 22, 33, 13, 45, 56 at citrine yellow.

**PISCES:** (Peb. 19-Mar. 20) Matutupad ang iyong wish. Tanggapin ang situwasyon at huwag magreklamo, sa halip magsikap. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 13, 26, 46, 33, 55 at kidlat red.

**ARIES:** (Mar. 21-Abr. 19) Lahat ng sobra ay magbibigay ng sakit. Sikapin na moderate lamangmaging ang pagkain, balansihin ang diet. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 35, 53, 23, 41, 11 at cobalt blue.

**TAURUS:** (Abr. 20-May. 20) Simulan ang fitness program. Samahan ang mental diet ng positive appreciation sa paligid. Smile lang lagi. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 11, 33, 55, 26, 42 at lavender.

**GEMINI:** (May. 21-Hun. 21) Sikapin na magkaroon ng energy of happiness. Ito ang magi-stimulate ng good vibes sa iyong buhay. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 28, 13, 31, 45, 55 at cotton white.

**CANCER:** (Hun. 22-Hul. 22) Ang surprise visitor ang magdadala ng good news. Merong bagong business opportunity na magpapayaman sa'yo. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 15, 33, 25, 47, 51 at tulip pink.

**LEO:** (Hul. 23-Ago. 22) Pakinggan ang hinaing ng kasama, ito ay para sa improvement ng productivity. Iwasan na maging emotional. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 35, 55, 42, 11, 26 at mocha brown.

**VIRGO:** (Ago. 23-Set.23) Meron dagdag na social connection mula sa social events. Mage-evolve ang social connection sa business. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 12, 21, 31, 45, 56 at dollar green.

**PCOO kicks off 1st access to info fest in PH**

By Joyce Ann L. Rocamora

MANILA-- The Philippine government on Friday joined the rest of the world in celebrating the International Day for Access to Information (IDUAI) by organizing the first access to information festival in Manila.

"The Presidential Communications Operations Office, being the lead agency tasked for the implementation of the freedom of information program has come to realize the urgent need to initiate the local celebration of the IDUAI," Communications Secretary Martin Andanar said in his speech at the awarding ceremony for IDUAI winners at the Philippine Cinematheque in Manila.

"The IDUAI Festival primarily aims to unleash the creativity of every Filipino in advocating the right to access to information through various art forms. Access to information is one basic right enshrined by our Constitution," he added.

The festival featured creative works from the youth who underscored the importance of such right in the form of spoken word poetry, photography, and essay writing.

The champions were Angelika Garcia for spoken word poetry, Michael Diosim for Essay Writing, and Hissah Macaraya for photography.

IDUAI, which is celebrated every September 28 upon the adoption of a UNESCO resolution in 2016, has the 2019 theme "Leaving No One Behind".

According to PCOO, the poor, particularly communities from the far-flung areas suffer the most due to "great lack" of access to information.

PCOO Assistant Secretary and Freedom of Information (FOI) program director Kris Ablan said he saw its impact when he went on an immersion in Lantapan, Bukidnon where he spent a week with the Talaandig Tribal Community.

"I learned that there is a great lack of information for the poor and the vulnerable," he said.

"Government can come up with as many beautiful programs to uplift their lives but if they do not know about it then it is useless," he said.

In 2016, President Rodrigo Duterte signed Executive Order No. 2 or the enabling order for the FOI program in the Philippines to foster enhanced government transparency and citizen participation.

With the FOI closing in on its third anniversary since implementation in 2016, Ablan said the government will further increase efforts to raise awareness on the program's existence. (PNA)

**DOST-funded 'mathplus' apps now ready for download**

By Ma. Cristina Arayata

MANILA -- "Mathplus", the web-based applications designed for Grades 1 to 11, can now be downloaded by anyone, an official of the Department of Science and Technology-Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD) said Wednesday.

DOST-PCIEERD executive director Enrico Paringit said the PCIEERD funded the Ateneo de Manila University (ADMU) project for PHP4.9 million.

"The app can be downloaded for free. It can be used by teachers, administrators, students, parents, and anyone interested," he told the Philippine News Agency.

The app was launched virtually last Friday, according to PCIEERD.

"The primary goal of every app is the development of problem-solving and critical thinking, which are the twin goals of mathematics

education. It focuses on developing the following skills and processes depending on the grade level: knowing and understanding, estimating, computing or solving; conjecturing, proving; visualizing and modeling, connecting," Paringit said.

He said the app was developed for statistical learning.

"There are teaching guides depending on the grade level, as to how the app is used. (For instance, in the website, there is the) Quick Images, which can be used for Grades 1 to 6. The version is arranged per grade level on the website," he added.

The project was developed by ADMU mathematicians, mathematics educators, and hired software developers.

For more details about the "mathplus" and how to download the apps, one may visit the website, <https://mathplusresources.wordpress.com>. (PNA)



## BONG GO URGES QUICK PROVISION OF ONE-TIME 'BAYANIHAN' FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO LGUS; SAYS FUND WILL BOOST LOCAL MEASURES TO FIGHT COVID-19

After recommending earlier to the Executive Department the grant of one-time 'Bayanihan' financial assistance to cities and municipalities, Senator Christopher Lawrence "Bong" Go reiterated its importance to help them respond to the needs of their constituents while the country is addressing the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) health emergency and the socioeconomic impact that comes with it.

"Ang gobyernong lokal ang humaharap mismo sa araw-araw na problema ng kanilang mga nasasakupan. Sila ang unang nilalapitan ng mga tao. Tulungan natin silang mabigyan ng dagdag na kapasidad para rumesponde sa pangangailangan ng kanilang komunidad lalo na po sa malalayong lugar na kailangan ng tulong at hindi agad nabibigyan ng pansin ng national government," Go explained.

Citing his experience working in Davao City as President Rodrigo Duterte's aide when the latter was still the city mayor, Go stressed the important role of local government units to protect the welfare of their communities.

"Dati po akong nagtrabaho sa city hall ng Davao City kaya alam ko kung gaano po kahirap ang kanilang trabaho lalo na sa panahon ng krisis. Mahalaga ang ginagampanan nilang trabaho para masiguro ang kooperasyon ng mga Pilipino sa panahong ito," Go said.

"Kaya naman dapat lamang nating tulungan ang mga local government units na maalagaan ang mga komunidad nila. Malaking tulong kung mabigyan sila ng dagdag na pondo para mapunan ang lumalaking pangangailangan ng mga tao ngayon," he explained.

Go recommended that a one-time grant from the national government, equivalent to one month of their respective internal revenue allotments (IRA), will go a long way in enhancing the capabilities of LGUs in responding to the crisis.

"Sa laki ng problemang kinakaharap natin, baka kukulangin ang

kasalukuyang pondo ng ating mga LGU. Hindi naman po lahat ng LGUs ay pantay-pantay pagdating sa pondo," Go explained.

He explained that the one-time Bayanihan financial assistance for cities and municipalities can be taken from available funds or savings of the national government.

Go added that if this proposal is granted, the funds should be used exclusively for projects, programs and activities concerning the COVID-19 situation, such as procurement of personal protective equipment for front-line service providers; medicines and vitamins; hospital equipment and supplies; disinfectants and related equipment; relief goods for low-income and vulnerable households; and tents for temporary shelter of the homeless, among others.

He also clarified that the grant should be on top of other assistance that national government agencies are already providing to LGUs. Go explained that having forced their constituents to stay at home, LGUs are compelled to distribute relief goods and maintain peace and order while waiting for additional government interventions from the national government agencies.

"Magagamit ito para hindi magutom at magkagulo ang mga tao. Kung walang nagugutom, mas magiging cooperative ang mga Pilipino sa gobyerno. Malaking tulong po ito upang masiguro ang kapayapaan at kaaayusan," he said.

Go also explained that while the national government is taking charge in this time of crisis, LGUs must take responsibility as well in addressing the immediate needs of their constituents.

"Now, more than ever,

we, as elected officials, must do everything we can to be of service to the people," he said.

Go also reminded LGUs to make sure that the assistance reaches those who need aid the most, particularly the poorest of the poor, vulnerable sectors and displaced workers. He added that politics should not be a factor in providing such assistance.

"Pakiusap ko lang, huwag na pong haluan ng pulitika ang pagtulong. Hindi po iyan nakakatulong sa sitwasyon natin ngayon. Huwag na natin pahirapan pa ang mga tao, tumulong nalang tayo na pabilisin ang pagbigay ng tulong sa kanila," Go said.

As Chair of the Senate Committee on Health and as a member of the Joint Oversight Committee that oversees the implementation of the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act, Go has emphasized that the law has already given the government the necessary authority and flexibility to act immediately to address the present crisis.

He reminded government officials to make sure that available funds are used properly and are maximized to provide immediate help to Filipinos who need government attention the most.

"Mahirap maging mahirap lalo na sa panahon ngayon na walang trabaho dahil sa enhanced community quarantine, kaya dapat nating bilisan ang ating aksyon para maibigay na sa taumbayan, lalo na sa mahihirap, ang kaukulang tulong para sa kanila," Go said.

## Noveleta LGU turns over 3,000 computer tablets to DepEd

NOVELETA, Cavite (PIA)--The municipal government recently turned-over 3,000 tablets to the Department of Education (DepEd) Noveleta for the use in online classes of students enrolled for SY 2020-2021.

In a simple turn-over ceremony held at the Noveleta National High School in Barangay San Rafael, Mayor Dino Reyes-Chua handed over the tablets to DepEd Noveleta District Supervisor Dr. Arnel Zapanta together with Assistant Schools Division Superintendents Randy Punzalan and Dr. Diana Topacio

"Ang mga tablet po na ito ay para po sa mga mag-aaral at mga guro at may mga laptop pa po ito for each public school. Sa modules po kase, may printing of modules, the distribution by teacher in every barangay, may contact, at masalimuot, every week you need to deliver modules. Since may tablet na sila, maaari na po tayong hindi mag-aksaya ng papel," Mayor Dino said.

(These tablets are for the students and the teachers and including a laptop for each public school. In the modules, there is printing of modules in every barangay, there is contact and complicated, every week you need to deliver the modules. Since they have tablets, we can already save on paper.)

The provision of computer tablets is part of the local government's program in support of education in the New Normal with the use of blended learning modality, online classes supported with learning modules.

In partnership with Smart PLDT, the free tablets include free Smart Sim cards

with LTE or Free Data that can be used to access the internet.

Also, the municipal government ensured access to the internet with the installation of Free WiFi Hotspots in all 16 Barangay Centers, 7 Public Elementary Schools, 1 Junior High School, 1 Senior High School, in some covered courts, and at the municipal plaza.

"We thank the LGU, Mayor Dino Chua for the initiatives to help us face the challenges of education in the New Normal, as you have always supported us and the students of Noveleta," Asst. Schools Division Supt. Randy Punzalan expressed in their appreciation for the LGU's support. (Ruel Francisco, PIA Cavite/Dennis Abrina)