

The first silent wind turbine is the end of solar panels: 1500 kWh from your garden and free electricity

Self-consumption has traditionally been linked to solar panels, with power output skyrocketing across the country. However, a team of engineers has just turned this trend on its head and shown that there are even more viable options. Not enough hours of sunshine in your city? Not enough space in your backyard? Don't worry, this is the first silent wind turbine that will revolutionize the way you produce clean, free electricity with skyrocketing efficiency.

Have you thought about installing solar panels? Now, you have a better option at home

Liam F1 wind turbine, that was recently unveiled into the market by the Dutch Archimedes company, is a new generation wind energy innovation developed by a startup



company. And this type of turbine is intended to be nearly noiseless, highly efficient and compatible with the cityscapes.

Taking its cue from the nautilus shell with its fronds resembling the golden ratio in shape, the Liam F1 represents a fresh design concept for wind turbines that addresses the challenges of the traditional systems. The type of wind turbine adopted in the Liam F1 is the spiral rotor design, which is similar to the nautilus shell.

This design enables the tender to capture wind from various directions, while conventional ones need the wind to blow from certain directions. Moreover, the turbine has been designed in a conical manner that positions itself in the right wind direction without the use of other hardware or software, as do weather vanes.

It's silent, modern and suitable for your garden: The Liam F1 wind turbine, in detail

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6 new ecozones with initial P5-B project cost await proclamation



MANILA – The Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) said six new economic zones with initial project costs of over PHP5 billion are awaiting presidential proclamations.

The ecozones are two in Cavite province and one each in the provinces of Pampanga, Tarlac, Ilocos Sur, and Cebu, PEZA said in a statement Sunday.

The planned economic zones include an Information Technology Park, three manufacturing zones, and two expansion of existing manufacturing zones.

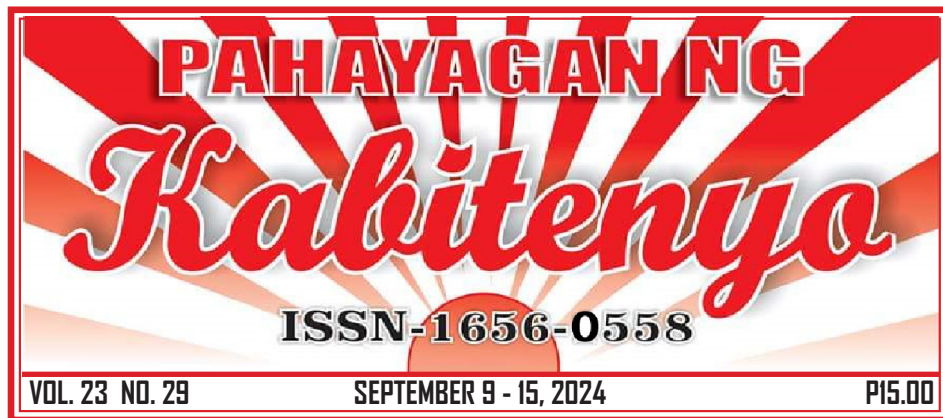
Data from PEZA showed that the Marcos administration has already proclaimed 22 ecozones, which injected initial investments totaling over PHP5 billion.

This year alone, 11 ecozones, including new and for expansion, were proclaimed by President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. with over PHP2 billion worth of initial investments.

As of June 2024, PEZA manages a total of 427 economic zones nationwide that are home to 4,382 locator companies.

According to Republic Act 7916 or the Special Economic Zone Act of 1995, special economic zones are selected areas with highly developed or have the potential to be developed into agro-industrial, industrial tourist/recreational, commercial, banking, investment and financial centers.

Areas may be established as ecozones in a proclamation to be issued by the President and subject to the evaluation and recommendation of the PEZA based on a detailed feasibility and engineering study. (PNA)



SRA: Sugar prices to remain stable amid sufficient supply until 2025



MANILA – The prices of local sugar is expected to remain stable as the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) on Wednesday assured a sufficient domestic supply until the second quarter of 2025.

"Since sapat and stable yung supply po (there's sufficient and stable supply), the prices have shown that it's been relatively stable iyong re-

tail price natin at mabapo (our retail prices and it's low)," SRA chief Pablo Luis Azcona said in a phone interview.

As of Wednesday, the prices of refined sugar in Metro Manila range from PHP74 per kilogram to PHP95/kg; PHP68/kg to PHP90/kg for washed sugar; and PHP65/kg to PHP90/kg for brown sugar. "So far, based

on our crop estimates and, actual stock on hand and iyong imports natin na arriving, sapat po yung supply natin siguro hanggang (and the imports arriving, our supply is sufficient maybe until the) end of milling in May or June 2025," Azcona said.

"Iyong supply po natin sa (Our supply of) sugar, it's been stable the whole 2023-2024 crop year and ready na din po tayo (and we are also ready) for 2024-2025."

For the sugar importation, the SRA earlier said around 240,000 MT of refined sugar is expected to arrive to maintain stable buffer stock and retail prices.

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Dads block Villar LRT-1 line hijack

Tycoon Manny Villar's attempt to take over the construction of the Light Rail Transit Line 1's (LRT1) Cavite Extension Project has Las Piñas City councilors up in arms. The local officials said that Villar's plan is meant to benefit his company and its projects. In a press conference in August last year, Villar voiced his intention to take over the last three stations and add seven more stops to extend the line to Dasmariñas, Cavite, via Molino. The billionaire businessman also proposed to take over the construction as well as the operations of the LRT1 Cavite leg. Las Piñas Councilor Mark

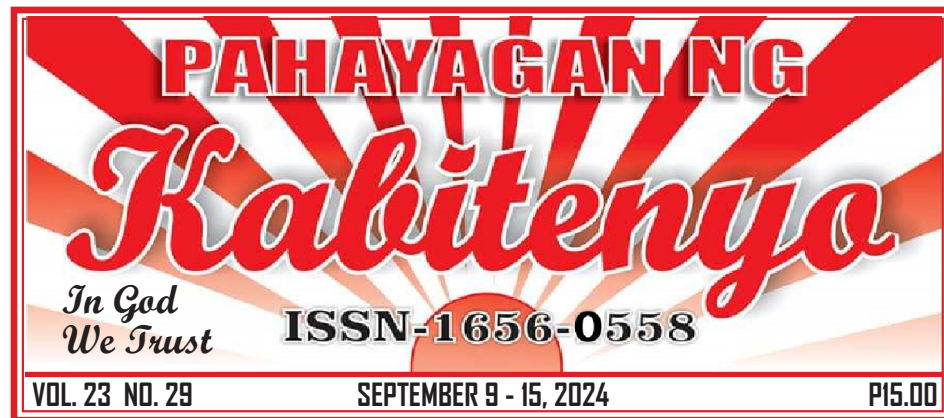


Anthony Santos opposed the Villar proposal to build stations in Cavite instead of the Light Rail Manila Corporation (LRMC). Daily Tribune tried to get LRMC's side but it declined to comment. "Who will benefit from the LRT1 rerouting? The Villars," Santos said.

The national government and LRMC have

spent billions of pesos for the remaining three stations going to Cavite. According to the councilor, Villar had disclosed that his main goal is to link Metro Manila with his budding 3,500-hectare metropolis eponymously called Villar City. Aside from Villar City, most of the Villar proper-

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Groundbreaking Ceremony of De La Salle Medical and Health Sciences Institute Academic Complex



The groundbreaking ceremony for the De La Salle Medical and Health Sciences Institute Academic Complex was a momentous occasion that marked the beginning of a new era in healthcare education and

innovation. The ceremony, attended by distinguished guests, faculty members, students, and community representatives, celebrated the start of construction for this state-of-the-art facility.

The Academic

Complex will provide a world-class learning environment for future healthcare professionals, equipped with modern classrooms, laboratories, and research facilities. It

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Chavez wants digital hotline for early class, work suspensions

MANILA – Newly-appointed Presidential Communications Office (PCO) Secretary Cesar Chavez on Thursday said he wants to set up a digital hotline to ensure early announcements of class and work suspensions are declared before 4 a.m.

"Ang task nito, bago mag-4 ng umaga dapat may announcement na kung kinakailangan magbigay ng announcement ang Office of the President (The task of this hotline is to ensure that before 4 in the morning,

there must be a declaration already if ever the Office of the President needs to make an announcement)," Chavez told Palace reporters in his first-ever media interview after taking his oath as PCO chief.

"Mayroong focal person from the Office of the Executive Secretary, talangang dapat gumising ng 3 ng umaga para yung decisions ay dapat gawin (We have focal persons from the Office of the Executive Secretary, from PCO, etc. They have to wake up at 3



in the morning so that decisions must be made)," he added.

Chavez added that the PCO would also make an announcement the night before whether the national

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Cayetano: Balansehin ang pabahay program sa kapasidad ng gobyerno para maiwasan ang malaking utang



Hinimok ni Senador Alan Peter Cayetano nitong Miyerkules ang administrasyon na magtakda ng makatotohanang target na bilang ng ipapatayong pabahay sa ilalim ng national housing program.

Aniya, kaakibat ito dapat ng sapat na pagpapalano para hindi magkaroon ng napakalaking utang.

Inihayag ito ni Cayetano kasunod ng isinagawang Senate briefing nitong September 3, 2024 hinggil sa panukalang 2025 budget ng Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DH-SUD), na siyang nagpapatupad ng Pambansang Pabahay Para sa Pilipino (4PH) program.

Punto niya, dahil nakaasa sa sovereign guarantee ang programa, kailangan siguraduhin ng DH-SUD na hindi ito nagtatayo ng higit sa makakaya.

Sa ilalim ng sovereign guarantee, ang gobyerno ang sasalo sa utangin ng National Housing Authority (NHA) at ng Social Housing Financing

Corporation (SHFC) para sa programa sakaling hindi ito mabayaran.

"We want every Filipino family to have a roof over their heads. Pero kung magkakautang naman ang gobyerno nang sobra-sobra, babalik lang din sa kababayan natin — sa taxpayers — ang burden," aniya.

Nitong Hulyo, umabot na sa P15.689 trilion ang utang ng bansa, ayon sa Bureau of Treasury (BTr).

Bilang alternatibo, hinimok ni Cayetano ang DHSUD na magtakda ng bilang ng housing unit na kaya lang talagang saluhin ng gobyerno.

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S&R BACOR NOW OPEN



Pinangunahan ni AGIMAT Party-List Cong. Bryan Revilla ang pagbubukas ng S&R Bacor kasama sina Councilor Alde Pagulayan, Councilor Rey Palabrica, Mrs. Susan Co, Mr. Anthony Sy, Mr. Darren Eugene Bates, at Ms. Pamela Co. Ang pagbubukas ng S&R Bacor ay isang yugto para sa mga Bacoreño na magdadala ng pag-unlad at oportunidad sa ating komunidad.

Suportado ng AGIMAT Party-List ang mga establisimiyentong tulad ng S&R Bacor na nagdadala ng mga de-kalidad na produkto at trabaho sa ating komunidad.

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Mga posibleng dahilan ng irregular menstruation

Payo ni Doc Ong

May mga babae na irregular ang menstruation. Minsan mahina ang regla, at minsan masyadong malakas at tumatagal ng lampas pitong araw. Minsan naman ay mahaba ang pagitan sa pagdating ng menses (lampas 35 araw).

Narito ang mga posibleng dahilan:

1. Pagbubuntis – Kung may problema sa pagbubuntis tulad ng ectopic pregnancy (sa labas ng matris nabuo ang fetus), magiging irregular ang regla.
2. May bukol sa matris – Posibleng may kondisyon sa matris tulad ng myoma, ovarian cyst, polyp at iba pang bukol. Magpasuri sa doktor.
3. Pag-inom ng gamot – Ang pag-inom ng aspirin at warfarin ay nakalalabnaw ng dugo. Dahil dito, posibleng lumakas ang pagdurugo. Ang pag-inom ng gamot sa depression at utak ay puwede din magpahinto ng regla.
4. Stress – Bukod sa stress, ang pag-trabaho sa gabi o night-shift workers ay posibleng magdulot ng irregular menses. Nagugulo ang tamang oras ng katawan.
5. Paninigarilyo – Ang sigarilyo ay posibleng magdulot ng irregular menses.
6. Sobra sa pag-ehersisyo – Kapag matindi ang ehersisyo, aakalain ng katawan na ikaw ay may “stress”. Dahil dito ay pansamantalang titigil ang regla.
7. Kulang sa nutrisyon – Kung kulang ang sustansya ng iyong kinakain, magkukulang ka sa dugo at magiging maputla ang regla.
8. Menopause – Ang pagkaraniwang edad ng menopause ay mula 48 hanggang 55. Nagiging irregular ang regla, humihina at tuluyang titigil na.
9. Mga sakit sa thyroid tulad ng hyperthyroidism at hypothyroidism. Ang PCOS (polycystic ovary syndrome) ay nagdadulot ng hormonal imbalance at paglolo ng regla. Kumonsulta sa doktor.

Magpasuri sa Obstetrician-Gynecologist (OB):

Ang iyong OB ay magsasagawa ng eksaminasyon sa puwerta (pelvic examination). Magpapakuha din ng CBC para malaman kung kulang sa dugo (anemia).

Ang Ultrasound ng Matris (Ultrasound of the Abdomen and Pelvis) ay makatutulong para malaman kung may bukol sa matris, obaryo at iba pang parte.

Depende sa makikitang sakit, magbibigay ang doktor ng tamang gamutan. Minsan ay nagbibigay ng “pills” ang doktor para maging regular ang regla.

Mga sakit ng kababaahan at solusyon:

1. Bukol sa suso – Lahat ng babae edad 20 pataas ay kailangang matuto kumapa ng kanilang suso. Gawin ito buwan-buwan bago at pagkatapos magka-regla. Humarap sa salamin at tingnan ang suso. May pagkakaiba ba ang kanan at kaliwang suso? Habang nakatayo, salatin ang suso mula sa utong (nipple). Gamitin ang dulo ng dalawang daliri at kapain ng paikut-ikot ang suso. Mag-umpisa sa nipple at hanggang sa papalabas. Pagkatapos ay humiga naman sa kama at ulitin ang pagkapa ng suso. Bago matapos, kapain din ang kilikili para maghanap ng kulani (lymph nodes). Kung may bukol kayong nasasalat, magpatingin sa inyong surgeon o OB-gynecologist.
2. Ulcer o pangangasim ng sikmura – Huwag magpapagutom. Kumain ng mada-las sa isang araw pero kaunti lang. Small, frequent meals. Mag-almusal, meryenda, tanghalian, meryenda at hapunan. Ang pag-inom ng tubig ng pakonti-konti sa buong araw ay makababawas sa asido ng sikmura. Magbaon din ng saging o tinapay para hindi sumakit ang tiyan. Umiwas sa pagkaing nakaka-ulcer tulad ng sili, orange, pineapple, calamansi, lemon, suka, mga sitsirya at gatas.
3. Nerbiyos o hyperventilation syndrome – Maraming babae ang inaatake ng nerbiyos. Sila’y nakararamdam ng hirap sa paghinga, pamamanhid ng kamay, paa at labi. Minsan ay nahihilo sila, at lumalakas ang pintig ng puso. Kung kayo ay nakararanas nito, huwag matakot dahil nerbiyos lang iyan. Ang problema rito ay ang pagbaba ng carbon dioxide sa katawan dahil sa sobrang bilis ng paghinga. Ang solusyon diyang ay ang paggamit ng “brown bag technique.” Kumuha ng isang maliit na bag na gawa sa papel. (Huwag ang plastic bag.) Itakip sa bibig at ilong at dito huminga ng dahan-dahan. Gawin ito ng 15-30 minutes. Ang gusto natin mangyari ay malanghap mo ulit ang hangin (carbon dioxide) na iyong inilalabas. Sa ganitong paraan, mawawala ang iyong nararamdaman.
4. Masakit ang puson o menstrual cramps – Ang solusyon sa menstrual cramps ay ang pagpapahinga. Itulog mo ang sakit. Umiwas muna sa mga stress, trabaho at meetings. Maligo ng maligangam na tubig para ma-relax ang iyong puson. Patungan ng medyo mainit na bote ang iyong puson. Sabi ng iba, ang sex daw ay nakatutulong din sa menstrual cramps.



LEE SLAMS DOH OVER SLOW, MEAGER INCREASE IN PHILHEALTH BENEFITS; WARNS TO DEFER BUDGET IF REMAIN UNADDRESSED

“Napakatagal na nga, tingi-tingi pa ang benepisyong sinasagot ng PhilHealth. Manhid na ba tayo?”

This was the statement of Cong. Wilbert “Manoy” T. Lee as he questioned the Department of Health (DOH) over the slow implementation of more increases in health benefits covered by the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth).

Lee pointed out that with the DOH at the helm of Benefits Committee (BenCom), the sub-committee responsible for the policy directions and benefits development of PhilHealth, it is questionable that its services and benefits remain unresponsive to the needs of members and beneficiaries.

“Para saan pa na Chairperson ang DOH sa Benefits Committee na ang layunin ay suriin at magmungkahi ng pagpapalawak sa mga benepisyong PhilHealth, kung di naman mapanatag ang mga Pilipino na may sasalo sa kanila kapag may nagkasakit sa pamilya?” he asked during the House budget briefing of DOH earlier today.

Upon Lee’s questioning during the said briefing, PhilHealth shared that as of June 2024, the agency has P504 billion worth of investments.

“Napakalaki ng pera ng PhilHealth. Baka dapat PhilBank o Philinvest na lang ang tawag sa inyo,” Lee pointed out.

The Bicolano lawmaker then reiterated his call to increase the PhilHealth benefits using the enormous funds of the agency that he first revealed during the DOH budget briefing last September 2023.

“Eksaktong isang taon na ang lumipas nang maisiwalat natin ang sobra-sobrang pondo ng PhilHealth, at

manawagan tayo na palawakin ang mga benepisyong nito. Maghihintay na naman ba tayo ng isang taon para pag-usapan ito? Bakit hindi pa ibigay ang dapat ibigay at kung may sobra pa, gamitin sa pagpapalawak ng contribution?” he asked.

“Hindi dapat pina-tatagal ito. Hindi ko ito tatanan hanggang maipatupad. I will be left with no choice but to move to defer the budget allocation of the DOH for the year 2025 at the proper time during our plenary deliberations if this remains unaddressed.”

“Baka huling budget hearing ko na ito sa Kongreso, pero ‘pag ako ay sinuwerte, babantayan at itutuloy ko ang laban na ito sa Senado,” he added.

A staunch health advocate, Lee persistently pushed for the 30% increase in PhilHealth benefits which was implemented last February 14.

Last August 8, the solon from Bicol also filed House Resolution No. 1900 to call for another 30% increase in PhilHealth benefits.

“Isipin po ninyo, bawat araw na lumilipas, may mga pasyenteng huli na nila nalalaman na nasa malalang stage na pala ang kanilang cancer, dahil hindi nila kayang bayaran ang diagnostic tests and scans na kailangan nila; may mga nauulilang pamilya

dahil may magulang na hindi nakapagpa-opera sa puso; may mga namamatay nang di man lang nakakakita ng doktor dahil piniling maratay sa bahay dahil takot na mabaon sa utang ‘pag nagpa-ospital,” he said.

“Nakikiusap ako, maawa po tayo sa mga kapwa natin Pilipino. Habang nag-usap tayo at nade-delay ang pagbibigay ng mga nararapat na benepisyong pangkalusugan, may mga namamatay tayong kababayan dahil wala silang pambili ng gamot at pampa-ospital,” he added.

Responding to Lee, Health Secretary Ted Herbosa expressed commitment to review the benefits and include new procedures in the PhilHealth benefits.

Meanwhile, PhilHealth President and CEO Emmanuel Ledesma Jr. stated: “We are in the process of studying another round of 30% [increase] almost across-the-board. I can commit to this Committee that this will happen before Christmas Day.”

Lee further concluded: “Wala tayong karapatan na magpatuloy sa gobyerno kung wala tayong gagawin para maibsan ang pangamba at mapagpatuloy ang pansin ng taumbayan. Ano pa bang hinihintay natin? Patas at mapagmalasakit na serbisyong pangkalusugan, gawin na natin!”



An English-Filipino newsweekly published every Monday by Pahayagan ng Kabitenyo with Editorial and Business Office at Unit-D 147 Panapaan IV, P.F. Espiritu IV, Bacoor, Cavite 4102.

Email: pahayaganngkabitenyo@yahoo.com

Email: pahayagancavite@gmail.com

Entered as Second Class Mail at Postal Manila under Permit

NO 200305 on May 27, 2003



ERNA BALAGTAS ANCHETA

Publisher

DIOSDADO ARIEL F. ALTO, JR.

Editor-In-Chief

DIOSAN MARUAL

KCEE NACION

Marketing & Circulation Manager

ATTY. EVELYN R. DOMINGUEZ

Legal Counsel

SUBSCRIPTION RATE : P1,000.00/year

Advertising Rate : P200.00/col. cm.

Legal Rate : P160.00/col. cm.

Cayetano: Balansehin... from page 1

“A clear, achievable plan will not only help manage the budget more effectively but also ensure that we make real progress towards meeting our housing needs,” wika ni Cayetano.

Dagdag niya, ang pagbago-bagong housing target ng departamento ay senyales na masyadong mataas para sa kapasidad ng gobyerno ang ambisyon ng programa, na nagsimula sa 6 million housing units noong 2022 bago naging 1.2 - 3.2 million nitong Agosto.

Sa pagdinig, sinabi ni DHSUD Secretary Jose Rizalino Acuzar na ang pinakabagong target ay “realistic” na. Gayunpaman, kinumpirma niyang 162,000 units lamang ang matatapos sa katapusan ng 2025.

“That leaves us with more than 3 million units unfinished. Meaning, to deliver on the program’s promise, we have to con-

struct more than 1 million units yearly,” wika ni Cayetano.

“Let’s just be truly realistic and honest with ourselves about the number of housing units so that we can work on an appropriate budget. None of us want to give our kababayan false hope,” dagdag niya.

Nauna na ring binigyang-diin ni Cayetano kay Acuzar ang kahalagahan ng masusing pagdidisenyo ng plano ng 4PH para epektibong matupad ng departamento ang layunin nitong mabigyan ng tahanan ang mga minimum wage earner.

“If that (housing for all minimum wage earners) is true, I love that. But economics has to work for everyone,” pahayag niya noong August 14 sa briefing ng Senate Committee on Finance hinggil sa Proposed 2025 National Expenditure Program.###

SRA: Sugar prices... from page 8

es, and cover the gap before the milling season in October.

Sugar production for the crop year 2024-2025 from Sept. 1 to Aug. 31, 2025, estimated at 1.78 million metric tons (MT), meanwhile, will be allocated for domestic use according to Sugar Order No. 1.

The said estimated output, however, poses a slight contraction from the

1.92 million MT production during the crop year 2023-2024.

“Iyong effort ng SRA sa ngayon (The efforts of SRA now), which is the mandate of our DA (Department of Agriculture) Secretary and our administration, is to currently improve on the supply so we will be less dependent on imported sugar,” Azcona said. (PNA)

Groundbreaking... from page 1

will foster a culture of excellence, innovation, and compassion, preparing students to become skilled and dedicated practitioners.

The project is a testament to the commitment of De La Salle Medical and Health Sciences Institute to advancing healthcare education and

improving the health and well-being of the community. As construction progresses, the institute looks forward to welcoming the next generation of healthcare leaders to its campus and contributing to the advancement of healthcare in the Philippines.

The first silent... from page 8

The turbine is available in two sizes: a bigger version of the same with a 1.5-meter rotor diameter and a smaller version with a 0.75-meter rotor diameter. The larger one has a net rated power of 550 W, and the smaller one only has 100 W. These two models are not harmful to birds and bats since they operate at a frequency of below 45 dB.

Unlike old styles of wind turbines, the Liam F1 combines lift forces with drag forces, hence increasing its wind power capture. Standalone turbines are rather restrictive when it comes to orientation, whereas the Liam F1 has the capability to generate electricity from wind blowing from any direction, making it more efficient. As for noise, Liam F1 generates sound at about 45 dB during operation and, as such, is much quieter than typical turbines that are noisy and disruptive in residential environments. This makes the Liam F1 particularly suitable in urban areas, since they are areas where noise levels are often a worry.

There’s much more beyond the Liam F1 wind turbine: Archimedes

has new plans for the future. In the future, Archimedes is also dedicated to making new innovations regarding wind energy. After the Liam F1 was released, the company came up with an innovative and successful crowdfunding campaign to design and sell marine wind turbines that are mini-suitable for sailing ships.

This silent wind turbine demonstrates many things, starting with an idea that we are constantly thinking about: it’s not all about solar panels, even now that we are about to cross a critical point, according to the experts. Forecasts for this fall and winter will complicate PV efficiency, making it more important than ever to look for new options to keep self-consumption afloat across America, as experts have been warning for several months now.

Chavez wants... from page 1

government would decide on the suspension or would let the local government units decide on their respective jurisdictions.

Much of Luzon and areas in the Visayas have been experiencing

heavy downpours and torrential rains for days due to Tropical Storm Enteng and the southwest monsoon or “habagat”, triggering class and work suspension across several regions including Metro Manila. (PNA)



GUHIT NG KAPALARAN

VIRGO: (Ago. 23-Set.23) – Ang nasa isip mo ay aakit ng salapi sa kapwa at sa sarili, magkakaroon ng prosperous life. Maging matalino sa pamamalakad ng finances para hindi ma-bankrupt. Huwag balewalain ang nararamdaman, magpa-check up. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 28, 31, 48, 52, 12 at cinnamon brown.

LIBRA: (Set. 24-Okt. 23) – Money magnet ka, lahat ng tao na nakakasalamuha ay magiging daan sa pagdaloy ng salapi. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 22, 43, 38, 55, 13 at crimson red.

SCORPIO: (Okt. 24-Nob. 22) – Sa iyong pag-iikapu dobleng kita ang maaakit. Iwasan lang ang biglaang gastos. Planuhin ang bawat expenses. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 22, 45, 52, 38, 16 at tangerine.

SAGITTARIUS: (Nob. 23-Dis. 21) – Increasing ang income ng negosyo. Kasali ka sa aakit ng prosperous opportunities para sa pamilya. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 12, 25, 47, 53, 32, at bamboo green.

CAPRICORN: (Dis. 22-Ene. 19) – Huwag magmura at magalit maging inspiring ang bawat salita na lalabas sa bibig dahil marami ang nakatingin sa’yo. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 22, 31, 12, 45, 53 at cloud white.

AQUARIUS: (Ene. 20-Peb. 18) – Ang anak na hindi napapansin ang may malaking potensiyal na magdala ng grasya sa pamilya. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 15, 48, 22, 35, 58 at citrine.

PISCES: (Peb. 19-Mar. 20) – Maaakit ang opportunity kung mangingibabaw ang pagkamatulungan sa iyong kapwa na walang hinihintay na kapalit. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 21, 15, 52, 33, 45 at scarlet red.

ARIES: (Mar. 21-Abr. 19) – More than enough ang salapi na dadaloy sa iyo ngayon. Maoobserbahan ang harmony sa iyong paligid. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 27, 48, 33, 26, 53 at lavender.

TAURUS: (Abr. 20-May. 20) – Malaya ang daloy ng salapi sa iyo. Marami kang matutulungan. Patuloy na ingatan ang health. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 25, 46, 38, 11, 56 at dollar green

GEMINI: (May. 21-Hun. 21) – A Available sa iyo ang lahat ng resources para simulan ang project. Kailangan lang ang determinasyon. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 45, 42, 22, 16, 56 at electric blue.

CANCER: (Hun. 22-Hul. 22) – Ang iyong ideas ay magpapayaman sa iyo. Marami ang tutulong at sa huli ay magtatagumpay ka. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 16, 28, 33, 52, 48, at cyan blue.

LEO: (Hul. 23-Ago. 22) – Patuloy ang daloy ng salapi. Lahat ng nasa isip mo ay maghahatid ng increasing prosperity sa sarili at kapwa. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 12, 22, 31, 48, 53 at cobalt blue.

Enchanted Kingdom celebrates Filipino talent and modern-day heroism at the 2024 Agilakas Gumalaw Dance Competition

Enchanted Kingdom, the first and only world-class theme park in the Philippines, paid a magical tribute to our modern-day heroes through the 2024 Agilakas Gumalaw Dance Competition at the Spaceport Grounds on August 24.

The Agilakas Gumalaw Dance Competition is an annual event in EK that gathers talented dance performers in the country to show off world-class Filipino talent. This year, ten (10) spectacular dance groups took their synchronized moves to the stage to show the world that "Pinoy, Magaling Ka!"

The NU Dance Company from Sampaloc, Manila highlighted the rich, dynamic Filipino culture through their winning performance. The group clinched the grand winner title and bagged Php 20,000, twenty (20) return passes to EK, and a chance to perform in one of EK's



upcoming events.

NEW BREEDZ from Muntinlupa City and League of Monsters-Brothass from Calamba City, Laguna also took home cash prizes and tickets along with the runner-up titles.

Rising P-Pop boy group sensation BILIB spiced up the night with a mesmerizing performance of their newest music along with their rendition of popular P-Pop hits.

The show also featured its judges, G-Force member Myka Espina Gonzaga and internet personality Xai Smith, as they turned up the heat by showing off their amazing dance moves on the EK stage.

DSWD: Enough resources for 'Enteng' and other relief ops

MANILA – The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) has adequate supply of family food packs (FFPs) and other relief items for augmentation to local government units (LGUs) affected by Severe Tropical Storm Enteng and future weather disturbances, a senior DSWD official assured on Thursday.

"Sufficient ang resources ng DSWD. 'Yung national stockpile (FFPs) natin ay nasa mahigit 1.7 million pa po na (Our national stockpile of FFPs is at more than 1.7 million that are) strategically located or distributed across the country," Assistant Secretary for Disaster Response Management Group (DMRG) Irene Dumlao told reporters during the Thursday Media Forum at the DSWD Central Office in Quezon City.

Dumlao said the

DSWD is also producing boxes of FFPs daily in the agency's main hubs, including the National Resource Operations Center (NROC) in Pasay City, to ensure the sufficient supply of FFPs in preparation for future weather disturbances and other disaster.

"Even during our Carina response, habang tayo ay nagre-respond, tayo rin po ay nagre-repack para naman sa ating stockpile (while we are responding, we are also repacking for our stockpile)," she said.

Dumlao said the agency is constantly checking on its current stockpiles through its warehouse inventory tool in preparation for the several tropical cyclones that could develop within the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) in the next two weeks as reported by the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services

This magical celebration was made even more magical with the following sponsors: Surf, Dove Deo, Minute Maid, Pretzels Stick Snacks, Australia's Own, Hello! Chocolate, Nips, Krrrrunch, C2 Cool and Clean, White Flower, and Selecta.

BAYANI: LAG-ING HANDA

Taking part in the celebration of Buwan ng Wika this August, EK brings back BAYANI, its original musical production featuring OPM songs with their very own Cast Members performing. This year's installment of the musical follows the story of Joana Makabayan in her

Administration (PAGASA).

Through the warehouse inventory tool, she said they are updated on the existing capacity of the DSWD's "spokes and last miles."

"So, we are informed if we need to replenish," the DSWD spokesperson said.

As part of their preparations, Dumlao said the agency is in close coordination with other government agencies, particularly PAGASA, to know the possible areas that may be affected by incoming weather disturbances.

She said the DSWD has also requested for the replenishment of its Quick Response Funds (QRF) from the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) following the onslaught of Typhoon Carina and Enteng.

"Clearly provided

journey of self-discovery as she joins the Girl Scouts of the Philippines.

The musical show will run until September 15 from Fridays to Sundays, 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. at the Eldar's Theater.

MIDWAY MIRROR MAZE

Create more magical memories with your loved ones with EK's newly launched attraction, the Midway Mirror Maze. Drop by the Midway Boardwalk, and help Eldar the Wizard and Princess Madeline in finding Princess Victoria by threading your way towards the center of this thrilling labyrinth.

For only Php 150, guests will be able to have special access to this EKciting and immersive adventure filled with captivating lights and visuals waiting at every turn. Special ticket rate is also available for students at Php 120, and senior citizens and PWDs at Php 107.14 only.

po sa mga umiiral nating polisiya na once the QRF of the agency has already reached the 50 percent threshold, maari na po tayong mag-request for replenishment. Batay po sa ating pakikipag-ugnayan with DBM, which we are very grateful to them dahil agad nilang inaksyunan ang ating request na PHP875 million (It's clearly provided under existing policy that once the QRF of an agency has already reached the 50 percent threshold, we can already request for replenishment from the DBM. Based on our coordination with the DBM, which we are very grateful to them, they have immediately acted on our request for PHP 875 million)," Dumlao said.

Based on the DRMG's current inventory, the DSWD has more than PHP134 million available standby funds. (PNA)

Dads block Villar...

from page 8

ties like subdivisions and condominiums are located near the stations where the proposed extended Cavite leg will pass.

"It seems that this is a self-serving and greedy project," Santos said. Santos earlier revealed that Villar's Mella Hotel, located at Villar Sipag, C5 Extension Road, Las Piñas, has not paid a single centavo of real property tax to the city government since the hotel was opened to the public five years ago. The construction of the LRT-1 Cavite Extension Phase 1 is progressing as scheduled at a 98.2 percent completion rate, as it remains on track for its target commercial opening in the fourth quarter of 2024.

The first phase will extend the existing Line 1 by 6.2 kilometers. The Cavite extension will connect to the Baclaran station and continue to run southward. It will traverse the cities of Parañaque and Las Piñas and end at Barangay Niog in Bacoor. The five new stations under the first portion of the project are currently at various stages of completion with the Redemptorist Station registering at 97.4 percent; Manila International Airport Station at 97.2 percent; Asia World

Station at 90.4 percent; Ninoy Aquino Station at 93.5 percent and Dr. Santos Station at 97.7 percent. Las Piñas Councilor Jess Bustamante said the timely completion of the LRT-1 project would greatly benefit the residents of Las Piñas, as well as Metro Manila and the province of Cavite. However, this is just the first of the remaining stations in the Cavite leg that are yet to be operational in 2031, namely Las Piñas, Zapote and Niog. LRMC general manager Enrico Benipayo confirmed the second and third phases of the LRT-1 Cavite Extension are expected to be completed by 2031. Earlier, LRMC said the project would be completed by 2027 but noted that this would depend on right-of-way (RoW) acquisitions. With a project cost of P64.915 billion, the LRT-1 Cavite Extension is being financed through a hybrid model consisting of P17.8 billion in official development assistance from the Japan International Cooperation Agency. It turns out the RoW problems are caused by the Villar group, thus the offer to take over the portions of the project near the assets of the property firm.

House pushes for improved socialized housing programs

MANILA – A measure seeking to improve the delivery of socialized housing programs has hurdled second reading at the House of Representatives.

During the plenary session on Wednesday, the chamber passed through voice voting House Bill 10772, which seeks to amend Sections 10, 18 and 20 of Republic Act 7279 or the Urban Development and Housing Act.

Quezon City Representative Ma. Victoria Co-Pilar said the objective of the bill is to provide decent and affordable housing to underprivileged and homeless citizens in urban centers and resettlement areas.

"Housing is an essential component of human well-being, a necessity that provides not only physical shelter but also a sense of security, stability, and community. Access to adequate and affordable housing is a fundamental human right and is considered an important indicator of a country's social and economic development as one of the factors that dictate the quality of life of a citizen," Co-Pilar said.

The housing backlog problem, Co-Pilar noted, partly reflects the inadequacy of land allocation for residential projects, config-



ured monitoring body, and the level of private sector involvement.

The bill proposes to include direct purchase and unsolicited proposals under the Public-Private Partnership Law as modes of land acquisition for socialized housing.

The proposed law shall also institutionalize incentivized compliance to the balanced housing program.

According to the bill's authors, the idea behind the balanced housing policy of government is a "counterpoint to gentrification" so that as housing development increases in a specific LGU, the lower demographics and those who have lower income are not eased out of affordable homes in the same area where real estate development is happening.

The bill seeks to hasten the delivery of housing units to its intended beneficiaries through the simplification of require-

ments of local government units (LGUs).

Co-Pilar said the bill ensures that LGUs would benefit from housing development in their localities, and that LGUs ideally could leverage the private sector's balanced housing compliance to build socialized housing for low-income constituents

Subdivision and condominium developers who opt to pay the equivalent project cost in compliance to the Balanced Housing Development Program shall be authorized to give to the LGU the amount equivalent to 5 to 15 percent of the total project cost to be used exclusively for socialized housing programs.

In case the LGU does not have a lot for such programs, developers shall be authorized to offer and provide the equivalent amount to other LGUs which do have lots which may be used for socialized housing. (PNA)

Bote Palit Bigas Program



Muli po tayong nagsagawa ng Ugnayan sa Barangay Bote Palit Bigas Program sa Southville 2, Barangay Aguado. Napapanahon ang ating programa kung saan ang kalinisan ng ating paligid ay higit na mahalaga dahil sa patuloy na pag-ulan at upang maiwasan ang mga sakit na maari nating makuha tulad ng dengue at iba pa. Sa simpleng habkang na ito, hindi lamang natin napapanatili ang kalinisan ng ating kapaligiran, kundi nakakatulong din tayo sa ating mga kababayan.

Kasabay ng programang ito, isang espesyal na handog ang ipinagkaloob sa atin ni Vice Mayor Bobby Montehermoso kasabay ng pagdiriwang niya ng kanyang kaarawan ngayong araw, kung saan siya ay nagpaabot ng karagdang tulong para sa piling residente ng Barangay Aguado.

Sa kabila ng maulan na panahon, ang inyong pakikiisa sa ating adbokasiya para sa kalinisan ay patunay din ng inyong malasakit at pagmamahal para sa inyong barangay. Nawa'y patuloy nating panatilihin ang ating kapaligiran na malinis at ligtas para sa lahat. Maraming salamat sa inyong pakikilahok at patuloy nating pagyamanin ang ating bayan tungo sa isang mas organisado, at mas maunlad na Lungsod ng Trece Martires!

HOPE PROJECT AND BACOOOR CITY JOIN FORCES TO PROVIDE RELIEF FOR FISHERFOLK AFFECTED BY OIL SPILL

Isang relief distribution ang naganap kahapon sa BGC Lobby ng City Hall para magbigay ng tulong sa mga mang-ingisda na naapektuhan ng kamakailang oil spill.



Ang event ay inorganisa ng Strike As One Hope Project, na pinamumunuan ni Doc Maria Cristina Alberto, at ang sponsors ay ang Chinese Filipino Business Club Inc. at Filipino Tsino, Magkabitang Foundation. Katuwang din ang Office of the City Agricultural Services - Bacoor sa pangunguna ni Mr. Allan Chua.

Nagpahayag ng mga mangingisdang Bacoreño. "Kami ay nakatuon sa pagtulong sa aming mga

kababayang bumangon," sabi niya. "Ang relief distribution na ito ay isa lamang sa mga paraan na ipinapakita namin ang aming pakikiisa at suporta."

Ang event ay dinaluhan nila Mr. Jefferson Lau, Evp. Gerald Chan, Vc. Linda Lao, Vc. Ramon Uy, Vc. Stella Lim, Plenary Mem. Ronald Uy, Mex Bausa, Fed. PTA Pres. Cherry Torres, at isang dedikadong grupo ng Hope Volunteers. Ang mga relief packages ay nagbigay ng mga suporta upang matulungan ang mga mang-ingisda at ang kanilang mga pamilya na harapin ang pagkawala ng kita. Ang pinagsamang pagsisikap ng pamahalaan ng lungsod, mga sponsors, donors at mga volunteers ay nagpapakita ng pangako na suportahan ang mga nangangailangan at tulungan silang muling bumangon sa kanilang buhay.

FamilyMart

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
CITY OF BACOOOR
BRANCH 89 (116)

Official Contact Number: (0917) 182-4546
Email address: rtc1bcr116@judiciary.gov.ph

IN THE MATTER OF THE ISSUANCE OF
OWNER'S DUPLICATE COPY OF
CONDOMINIUM CERTIFICATE OF
TITLE NO. 167-2021000338 OF THE REGISTRY
OF DEEDS OF CAVITE, BACOOOR BRANCH

MARISSA PAJUELAS ESTABAYA,
as represented by her Attorney-in-fact
ATTY. WENDELL LIM GO
Petitioner,

LRC Case No. 8843-2024-101
X-----X

ORDER

Raffled before this Court is a Petition, dated February 7, 2024, by the petitioner Marissa Pajuelas Estabaya represented by her Attorney-in-fact, Atty. Wendell Lim Go assisted by her counsel Go and Lim Law Offices and Atty. Mark Anthony P. Lim, praying for the reissuance of owner's duplicate copy of Condominium Certificate of Title No. 167-2021000338 of the Registry of Deeds of Cavite, Bacoor City Branch registered in the name of Marissa Pajueias Estabaya.

Finding the petition to be sufficient in form and substance and compliant with A.M. No. 19-10-20-SC, let the same be set for initial hearing on **October 3, 2024 at 1:30 in the afternoon.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to any person claiming an interest to file an opposition stating why this petition should not be granted on or before the above scheduled hearing. Further all those interested are cited to appear and show cause why the same should not be granted.

Let this Order be published once a week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the Province of Cavite.

The Process Server of this Court is ordered to post copies of this Order in three conspicuous places in the City of Bacoor where the subject property is situated.

Let copy of this Order be furnished to the Office of the Registry of Deeds for the Province of Cavite, Office of the Registry of Deeds for the City of Bacoor, The Land Management Bureau and all the adjacent owner/s and person/s named in the petition who appear to have an interest in the petition.

The petitioner and counsel are directed to furnish copy of the petition to the Office of the Registry of Deeds for the Province of Cavite, Office of the Registry of Deeds for the City of Bacoor, the Land Management Bureau and all the adjacent owner/s and person/s named in the petition who appear to have an interest in the petition and to submit compliance within ten (10) days from receipt of this order.

Furnish copy of this Order/Notice to the Office of the Clerk of Courts, Regional Trial Courts, City of Bacoor, Cavite for raffle.

SO ORDERED

GIVEN IN CHAMBERS, this 15th day of August 2024 in the City of Bacoor.

PERSEPHONE MEIR B. BELENA
Assisting Judge

Copy furnished:

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MARISSA PAJUELAS ESTABAYA
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Buhay na Tubig, Imus City, Cavite

REGISTRY OF DEEDS
Bacoor City, Cavite

REGISTRY OF DEEDS
Trece Martires City, Cavite

Land Management Bureau
880 F.R. Estuar Building Quezon Ave.,
Brgy. Paligsahan, Quezon City.

PAHAYAGAN NG KABITENYO
SEPTEMBER 2, 9 & 16, 2024

Romualdez: House also working on Magna Carta for Barangays

MANILA – House of Representatives Speaker Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez on Saturday assured the country's barangay officials that apart from the initiative to provide them with Social Security System (SSS) benefits and fix their term to six years, the House is also working on the passage of a Magna Carta for Barangays.

This followed a statement made by Romualdez before the Liga ng mga Barangay (LNB) sa Pilipinas on Aug. 13, regarding his advocacy to have them covered by the SSS at no cost to them, and the proposal in the House to give them a fixed term of office of six years to insulate them from electoral concerns and allow them to focus on their respon-

sibilities to their constituents. "Nais ko ring ipahayag na kahit abala tayo sa mga hakbangin na ito, hindi pa rin natin pinapabayaan ang pangarap nating magkaroon ng Magna Carta for Barangays (I would also like to state that while we are busy with other initiatives, we are not abandoning our aspiration to have a Magna Carta for Barangays)," he told another batch of village officials attending the LNB 2024 National Congress at the World Trade Center. The proposed measure aims to provide a comprehensive set of benefits and support for barangay officials, he said, urging them to contribute their input on the measure and other measures that would benefit them. "Umaasa ako na

magiging katuwang namin kayo sa pagbubuo ng batas na ito. Hinihikayat ko kayong lahat na magpasa ng mga position papers at ipagpatuloy ang ating ugnayan upang masigurong maisama ang inyong mga kahilingan sa panukalang ito (We expect you to be our partners in crafting this measure. I urge you all to submit position papers and continue our coordination to ensure that your requests become part of this measure)" he said. Romualdez said village officials play an important role in linking their communities to the national government and delivering public services. He assured them that all members of the House are fully aware of their concerns for their welfare and that

of their families while they are serving their communities. Earlier, Romualdez told barangay officials that the House is considering the passage of a bill mandating local government units (LGUs) to earmark funds for the monthly SSS premium contribution of barangay officers. He had urged barangay officials to immediately register with the SSS to enable them to enjoy the benefits provided by the pension system. According to SSS President Rolando Macasaet, aside from the SSS insurance coverage and pension benefits, Romualdez also sought the condonation of penalties for unpaid loans of village officials who are already SSS members. (PNA)

SSS vows enhanced social security access for OFWs

MANILA – The Department of Migrant Workers (DMW) has partnered with the Social Security System (SSS) to enhance social protection for overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) and their families.

In a news release on Wednesday, Migrant Workers Secretary Hans Leo Cacdac said that many OFWs in various parts of the world remain clueless about the many security programs that they can avail of as SSS members.

He said that the partnership with SSS would help OFWs and their families become better informed about social securities that would be helpful in their eventual reintegration.

"Alam po natin na ang mga OFWs at ang kanilang pamilya ay uhaw sa impormasyon (We know that OFWs and their families longs for more information) on how to make wise decisions for enhanced social protection and financial freedom," Cacdac said.

Through the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the DMW and the SSS on August 27, the two agencies would embark on a massive information drive on social security programs and membership benefits for OFWs and their

families. Cacdac said that the partnership with SSS is an integral part of DMW-led whole-of-government approach for the full-cycle reintegration program for OFWs and their families.

"Through this partnership, OFWs and their families will have enhanced access to social safety nets for retirement, unemployment, and other contingencies," he said.

Moreover, he added that together with the SSS, and other stakeholders, the DMW will explore the possible development of savings and provident fund programs tailored to the specific needs of OFWs.

SSS President and CEO Rolando Macasaet, meanwhile, reiterated its commitment to helping OFWs and their families through its convenient and reliable social security programs.

He also said that SSS is looking forward to welcoming more OFWs as members through its partnership with the DMW.

"Before, the OFW membership in SSS was only 1 million, but now there are 4 to 5 million OFW members, which was made possible through our massive membership campaigns," Macasaet said.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
CITY OF IMUS, CAVITE

SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM (SSS)
Mortgagee,
-versus-
RICARDO L. RIVERA for himself and as
Atty.-in-Fact of his wife CAROLINA C. RIVERA,
Mortgagors,
F.C CASE NO. 18680-23
EXTRA-JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF
REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER
ACT 3135 AS AMENDED BY ACT 4118
X-----X

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135 as amended by Act 4118 filed by SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM (SSS), mortgagee, with principal place of business at Cor. M. Paulino St., & Balagtas Blvd., San Pablo City against RICARDO L. RIVERA for himself and as Atty.-in-Fact of his wife CAROLINA C. RIVERA, mortgagors, with residential and postal address at #28 Hizon St., Lot 2 Blk. 5 Ph. 7, Bahayang Pag-Asa Subd., Brgy. Bagong Silang (Formerly Buhay Na Tubig), Imus, Cavite and/or 1447 Makata St., Sta. Cruz, Manila, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of September 1, 2023 amounts to FIVE MILLION NINE HUNDRED FOURTEEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED TWELVE PESOS & 78/100 (P5,914,412.78), Philippine Currency, including interest and penalties, but excluding attorney's fees, sheriff's fees and all other charges incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned will sell at public auction on **OCTOBER 29, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.** or soon thereafter at the main entrance of the Office of the Clerk of Court, RTC-Imus Hall of Justice, Aguinaldo Highway, Imus, Cavite, to the highest bidder, for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following property with all improvements therein, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. T-220214-

"A parcel of land (Lot 2, Blk. 5 of the subd. plan, Psd-04-007972, being a portion of Lot 5501, Imus Estate, LRC Rec. No.), situated in the Bo. of Buhay Na Tubig, Mun. of Imus, Prov. of Cavite. Bounded on the NE., along line 1-2 by Lot 4; on the SE., along line 2-3-4 by Road Lot 5; on the SW., along line 4-5 by Road Lot 1; on the NW., along line 5-1 by Lot 1; all of the subd. plan. x x x containing an area of ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY SEVEN (187) SQUARE METERS. xxx"

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above stated time and date.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on **NOVEMBER 5, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.** without further notice.

Prospective bidders/buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title to the said property and encumbrance therein if any there be.

Imus, Cavite, August 27, 2024.

WILMAR M DE VILLA
Sheriff IV

APPROVED:
ARMIE A. FRANCISCO
Clerk of Court VI

COPY FURNISHED:
SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM (SSS)
Cor. M. Paulino St., & Balagtas Blvd., San Pablo City, Laguna
SPS. RICARDO L. RIVERA AND CAROLINA C. RIVERA
#28 Hizon St., Lot 2 Blk. 5 Ph. 7, Bahayang Pag-Asa Subd., Brgy. Bagong Silang (Formerly Buhay Na Tubig), Imus, Cavite and/or 1447 Makata St., Sta. Cruz, Manila

PAHAYAGAN NG KABITENYO
SEPTEMBER 2, 9 & 16, 2024

Angara lauds teachers' service, brings good news on Teachers' Month

MANILA – Education Chief Sonny Angara on Thursday lauded the efforts and services of all teachers as the Department of Education (DepEd) led the kick-off celebration of Teachers' Month.

"They are the foundation of our nation and no progress is possible without our teachers. So, thank you for all your service and commitment," he said in a pre-recorded video posted at the DepEd's Facebook page.

Angara also brought more "good news" to improve the welfare of all teachers in adherence to the directives of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.

"Marami tayong magandang balita sa mga (We have many good news for our) teachers. First of all, we are releasing the salary differential under the Salary Standardization Law which our President has announced," Angara said.

The DepEd earlier disclosed its target release of PHP26.9 billion worth for salary differential of all eligible teaching and non-teaching staff in public schools nationwide within the month.

Besides the salary differential, Angara also cited the increase in teaching allowance to

PHP10,000 from the previous PHP5,000, a PHP7,000 medical allowance, and the implementation of expanded career progression for additional positions, including the teaching track with Teachers IV, Teacher V, and Teacher VI, as well as streamlining of administrative items including School Principal I, II, III, and IV, among others.

"Ire-release na rin po iyong (We will also release the) performance-based bonus for 2023-2024. And we are also preparing flexibility for the implementation of (the) MATATAG schedule for our teachers, depending on the conditions in their schools. So, ire-relax po ito para makapahinga po ang ating teachers (we will be relaxing this so that our teachers can rest)," Angara said. The education chief also assured that they will act on other challenges to realize a better teaching and learning situation in the sector.

"Nakikinig po kami sa inyo at nakakarating po sa amin ang mga hinaing ninyo (We are listening to you and your complaints are reaching us). And in the coming days, months, and years, we will be addressing some of these problems," he said.

DA hopeful to hit single-digit inflation for rice prices in PH

MANILA – The Department of Agriculture (DA) on Thursday expressed hopes to hit single-digit inflation on rice prices in the country.

"We're hoping na bababa (that it will go down). Of course, single digit, maganda yan. Makita natin noong panahon ng after RTL, after a year, ang laki ng naging stability ng (that's) good. We can see during the time of the Rice Tariffication Law, after a year, there's a huge stability in (the) inflation because of rice nasa mga (it's only around) 2 to 4 percent inflation," DA Assistant Secretary Arnel de Mesa said in an interview.

"So, hopefully, we can reach that level ulit (again) in the near future."

De Mesa's remarks came after the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) reported the drop in rice inflation to 14.7 percent in August from 20.9 percent in July, contributing to the eased food inflation of 4.2 percent from July's 6.7 percent.

"That's a very significant reduction and we're expecting pa sa susunod na mga buwan, lalo pang bababa yung itong inflation na dulot ng bigas (that in the coming months, the inflation will further slow due to lower rice prices)," De Mesa said, citing 25 percent contribution of rice in the overall food inflation.

Earlier, DA Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. said the public may feel

lower retail prices of rice in October as imported rice, whose tariff was lowered from 35 to 15 percent under Executive Order No. 62, starts to reach the local markets.

As of Aug. 29, the DA recorded the arrival of more than 2.8 million metric tons (MT) of rice imports since January, which includes the 296,350 MT that arrived in August.

De Mesa said that they have started to monitor prices as low as PHP42 per kilogram of well-milled rice in some markets in the country, with PHP45/kg. level being the "commonly-monitored" price.

"Ngayon kasi, meron na tayong nakikita na PHP45/kg. sa palengke (For now, we are seeing PHP45/kg. in markets) for both the regular and well-milled rice. We're already seeing these numbers. May nakita pa nga kami (We have even seen) PHP42/kg," he said.

As of Thursday, the price range of imported well-milled rice in Metro Manila ranges from PHP47/kg. to PHP55/kg.;

while the imported regular-milled rice ranges from PHP47/kg. to PHP50/kg, according to the DA-Bantay Presyo.

The local well-milled rice, likewise, is pegged at the same price range as the imported, while the local regular-milled rice ranges from PHP43/kg to PHP50/kg. (PNA)