

Traslacion photo courtesy of Mr. Allan Borebor

BLACK NAZARENE TO VISIT DIFFERENT AREAS FOR JAN. 2021 FEAST

The Feast of the Black Nazarene will be "celebrated differently" in January next year to discourage the public, particularly the devotees, from trooping to Manila to celebrate the usually overcrowded event.

Newly formed Cavite Press Corps officers take oath



© Provided by The Manila Times

Cavite Police Provincial Director Lt. Col. Marlon Santos administered the oath of office of newly formed Cavite Press Corps led by President Rossel Calderon of GMA 7 News, Vice President Gene Adsuara of Abante/Abante Tonite, Secretary Margie Bautista of Remate, Treasurer Janice Baricuatro of

>> P3

No need to impose stricter lockdown amid new virus strain

By Christopher Lloyd Caliwan



DILG Secretary Eduardo Año. (File photo)

There is no need to impose a stricter lockdown as long as there is no proof that the new strain of the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) from the United Kingdom

>> P3

"There is no procession but the celebration will push through but there will be big and many changes in commemorating the feast of the Black Nazarene," Fr. Douglas Badong, parochial vicar of the Minor Basilica of the Black Nazarene told the PIANCR. Badong said that the plan to localize the celebration bring the Black Nazarene

>> P2

Therma Visayas, host communities plan for 2021



BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE. Therma Visayas, Inc. (TVI) Reputation and Stakeholder Management Specialist Marigold Lebumfacil facilitates the Planning Session for the representatives of Barangay Bato.

AboitizPower subsidiary Therma Visayas, Inc. (TVI) and representatives of Barangay Bato in Toledo City, Cebu recently convened for its first Barangay Planning Session, yielding sustainable solutions to local problems and helping push the community toward fur-

>> P2

Hontiveros: Gov't must answer unauthorized vaccination of top officials, soldiers

Government-sanctioned black market 'intolerable', senator says

Senator Risa Hontiveros on Tuesday said government must answer all questions regarding the unauthorized vaccination of top officials and soldiers, saying a black market for COVID-19 vaccines 'should not be tolerated in any way'.

The statement comes after top Malacanang officials and members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) were reportedly vaccinated by Chinese pharmaceutical company SinoPharmaceu-

>> P3

Cavite mayor vows free vaccination to jeepney, trike drivers

GENERAL TRIAS CITY, Cavite—The local government unit here has vowed to include jeepney and tricycle drivers in its free Covid-19 vaccination program.

"The city government plans to buy the vaccine kung hindi kayo i-consider as frontliners. We, the local government unit will provide to around 4,000 members of jeepney and tricycle drivers for them to continue transporting passengers." Mayor Antonio Ferrer assured

during a meeting with 30 leaders of Jeepney Operators and Drivers Association and Tricycle Operators and Drivers Association of the locality held at Jollibee GenTri Bayan function room at Barangay Bagumbayan on Monday, December 28, 2020.

"Para makalabas agad, para makapasada agad, hindi po kayo kayang sustentuhan ng pamahalaang lokal. Ang priority po natin ay kumita ang bawat isa para mabu-

>> P3



Director Lionel Dalope, (fourth from right), Cavite Interior and Local government head, awards two plaques to General Trias City Mayor Antonio Ferrer (second from left) as Best LGU in the conduct of contact tracing in the province, as a proof of diligence in work and commendable performance in protection it citizenry to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

Pacquiao to fight for a cause

By Al S. Mendoza

MANNY Pacquiao is to fight for a cause when he faces Conor McGregor next year.

"I think I can help a lot of Filipinos if I'll do the fight with McGregor," our esteemed sportswriter Josef Ramos quoted Pacquiao as saying. "I will donate a huge part of my earnings to the people. That is my goal—to help the Filipinos."

Hasn't he been doing that for the longest time?

He's just done it, again, distributing goodies to his constituents in his native GenSan City when he celebrated his 42nd birthday on December 17.

It has been a much-awaited ritual since he became a world champion on December 4, 1998, after knocking out Thailand's Chatchai Sasakul to capture the World Boxing Council (WBC) flyweight title.

It's been 22 years since and Pacquiao, now a senator, has remained world champion in the World Boxing Association (WBA) welterweight division.

And through all those 22 years, Pacquiao has established himself as the only eight-division world champion in boxing history.

If Muhammad Ali is the greatest of them all, then Pacquiao is arguably the winningest of them all, title-wise.

Will Pacquiao's feat ever be surpassed, let alone equaled? I doubt.

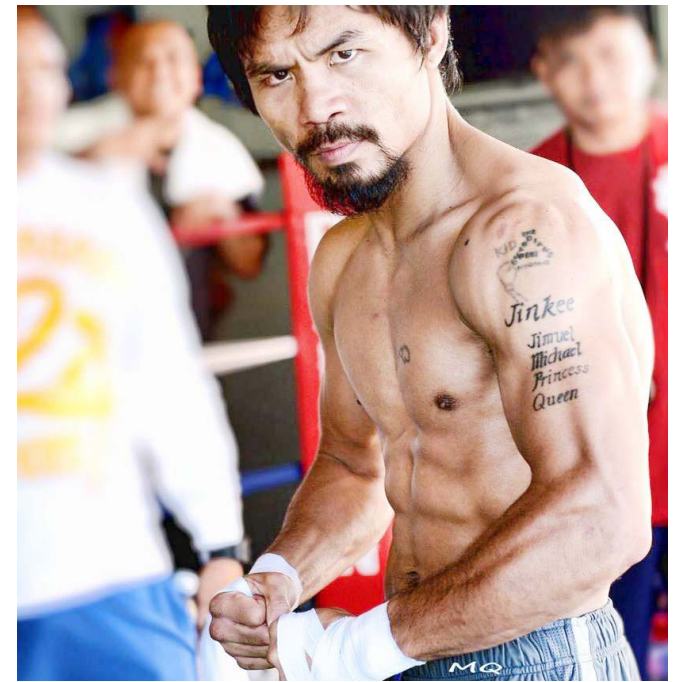
Floyd Mayweather retired unbeaten in 50 fights, but still, Pacquiao's eight-world title plateau makes him practically unreachable.

Mayweather may boast that he beat Pacquiao in 2015 in the richest (\$600 million) fight of all time.

But that was a fluke of a win since Pacman fought only with one healthy arm from the opening bell—the injury revealed after Pacquiao's loss on points.

Anyway, back to McGregor. Who is this bloke again?

He is the undiminished Ultimate Fighting Champion-



ship star, who lost to Mayweather by a 10th-round technical knockout in Nevada in August 2017. Although it was a farce to forget, the bout made Mayweather richer by \$280 million and McGregor \$130 million.

It is obviously for this similar promise of money that a Pacquiao-McGregor encounter may be palatable.

"I really want to experience fighting a UFC fighter," Pacquiao told Josef, adding, "I work out every day as I never forget to take care of my body."

McGregor is due to meet Dustin Poirier on January 23 in Abu Dhabi.

Let's pray for a McGregor win—convincingly.

Otherwise, a loss could jeopardize the planned Pacquiao-McGregor fight in 2021. Happy New Year!

THAT'S IT With LeBron James winning his fourth AP Male Athlete of The Year award, he has surpassed the "three-peat" feat of Michael Jordan. James has equaled the record four wins each achieved by cyclist Lance Armstrong and golfer Tiger Woods.... Condolences to the family of Teddyvic Melendres, the former Inquirer sports editor, who succumbed to Lou Gehrig's disease (ALS) on December 25. He was a quiet man, always at peace with the world.

Garbage collector with 13 children in Carmona, Cavite wins sari-sari store package

by Carla Bauto Deña

CARMONA, Cavite – A garbage collector with 13 children was chosen as the major winner of a virtual Christmas thanksgiving and gift-giving program held by the municipal government on Wednesday (December 23).

Carlito Mendoza, a 54-year-old garbage collector from Barangay Maduya, received groceries worth over P15,000, which he and his family could use to start a sari-sari store business.

Cavite 5th District

Representative Dahlia Loyola and Carmona Mayor Roy Loyola awarded the prize to Mendoza and to 20 other indigent residents who received Holiday cash gifts of P5,000 each.

The program seeks to provide assistance to Carmona residents who remained strong, humble, and honest amid recent trials, including the coronavirus disease

(COVID-19) pandemic. The local government unit chose the awardees based on data from enumerators as verified by barangay officials.

Winners of the Barangay Christmas Palamuti Contest and the Bahay Mo, Gayak Pamasko Contest were also awarded during the virtual event through livestreaming on Facebook.



Photo courtesy of Municipality of Carmona/ MANILA BULLETIN

Therma Visayas, host communities << P1

ther development. During the planning session held last Oct. 24, TVI introduced to community leaders a needs- and risk-based approach to project identification and prioritization.

Rather than starting with the output in mind, TVI encouraged community leaders to examine the root issues of their problems to draw out more comprehensive plans and programs. Brgy. Bato leaders identified the loss of livelihood opportunities due to COVID-19 as the priority issue to be addressed in 2021.

"I see the relationship

between TVI and Barangay Bato similar to a married couple. There will be agreements and disagreements, but good communication makes the relationship stronger and long-lasting. We hope that the results of this session will be realized so we can follow through our plans with action," said Bato Brgy. Councilor Marlon Birao.

Apart from guiding the barangay in their annual work plan for 2021, the proposed projects and initiatives for the identified community issues will also help TVI map out possible corporate social

responsibility interventions to support community development. "Barangay planning sessions add value to the community as they distill concerns of the residents into actionable and realistic programs. Being part of their community, TVI plans to actively collaborate with Barangay Bato to help create long term and sustainable solutions to their needs," TVI Reputation and Stakeholder Management Supervisor Lou Jason Deligencia said. AboitizPower subsidiary Therma Visayas, Inc. is the operator of the 340-megawatt

Toledo baseload Power Plant located in Brgy. Bato, Toledo City, Cebu. TVI is certified in three ISO standards, namely Quality Management (ISO 9001:2015), Environmental Management (ISO 14001:2015), Occupational Health and Safety Management (OHSMS 45001:2018). The facility is an 80-20 joint venture between Aboitiz Power Corporation and Vivant, Corp. respectively. Together with Therma Luzon, Inc. and Therma South, Inc., the three primarily comprise the Coal Business Unit of AboitizPower.

Black Nazarene to visit different << P1

to different places, to discourage the public, usually in the hundreds of thousands, queuing to see the icon.

"We will localize the celebration of Traslacion... we also urged parishes to celebrate the feast so that the people will celebrate in their areas," he said.

The initial schedule of the Black Nazarene visits to different areas particularly in Manila and nearby cities will start on December 31, Hospicio de San Jose; San Lazaro hospital, January 1, 2021; Manila Cathedral, January 2; Greenbelt Chapel in Makati

City, January 3; Manila City Hall, January 4; Bureau of Fire Prevention NHQ, Quezon City, January 5; Manila Police District, January 6 and Barangay 394, January 7 and January 8, NCS-BEC's Community, Sto. Domingo Shrine, Quezon City.

It will also visit churches in Southern Luzon: Dec. 30-31 Antipolo Cathedral, Antipolo, Rizal; Jan. 2, Shrine of Padre Pio, Sto. Tomas, Batangas; Jan. 3, San Vicente Ferrer Parish, Binan, Laguna; Jan. 4, San Roque Parish/Porta Vaga, Cavite City; Jan. 5, San Isidro Parish Las Piñas

City; Sto. Nino Parish, Signal Village, Taguig City and Jan. 7, Baclaran Church. On the other hand, Badong added that only 30 percent of the seating capacity of the church will be allowed during Masses on the Black Nazarene's feast day on January 9, which will start as early as 4 a.m.

"After every mass, there will be an interval of several minutes, to let those who have attended the Mass to leave before we will let the new batch to come inside. There will be an ample to let people come in and come out of the church," the Quiapo

church official added.

The nearby Sta. Cruz Church and San Sebastian Church will also be celebrating masses on January 9, to encourage people to attend masses there instead of Quiapo church.

Also, they will be putting 14 prayer stations within the vicinity of the minor basilica, where people can also pray.

To recall, last January's 'Traslacion' was attended by an estimated 4 million devotees and its procession was among the fastest in recent history lasting for only 16 hours. (PIA NCR)

The Southern Tagalog email: herald_group@yahoo.com

HERALD
CAVITE

www.facebook.com/stagalog.herald

Inilalathala tuwing araw ng Linggo at may sirkulasyon sa Lalawigan ng Cavite.
Editorial office: Block 1, Lot 1, Phase 1A, Cithomes Subdivision, Molino 4, Bacoor City, Cavite
CP# 09266990769 / 09178983982
Email: herald_group@yahoo.com

EDITORIAL BOARD

NENA ESTRELLADO-MALLARI
Publisher

ANDREW S. AMORES
Editor

ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO
Columnist

ATTY. ZENaida GALVEZ **ATTY. FERNANDO PERITO**
Editorial Consultant *Legal Counsel*

JENNILYN JIMENEZ YUPIO
Circulation-in-charge

JEFREY T. JURADO
Layout Artist

Marketing Representative:

RURAL PRESS COMMUNICATORS REP. INC.
3055 Tolentino St., cor. Balabac St., Pinagkaisahan, Makati City
Telephone Numbers: (02) 882 39 78 / (02) 882 32 05
Fax No. (02) 882 32 23

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

Six Months P750.00
One Year P1,500.00

ADVERTISING RATES:

Commercial P200.00 / col.cm.
Extra-Judicial P160.00 / col.cm.



MEMBER:
Prime Alliance of
Publishers, Editors
and Reporters
of the Philippines
(PAPER.Ph) Inc.

The views and opinions expressed in this newspaper are those of the authors/writers/contributors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the owner and the management.

Hontiveros: Gov't must answer << P1

ticals (Sinopharm) despite the lack of authority from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). "This was unsafe and illegal. These vaccines were clearly smuggled through a black market, and even worse, seem to be sanctioned by the government. Ang taumbayan ba ang nagbayad para sa ilegal na vaccination na ito? This is another whiff of corruption," Hontiveros said.

"Ano ang kwento sa likod ng 'secret vaccination' na ito? Sino ang pasimuno at sino ang supplier? Kung hindi si Presidente Duterte ang nagutos sa mga miyembro ng AFP na magpaturok ng unauthorized at hindi sigurado na bakuna mula China, sino sa Malacanang ang promotor ng ilegal at irresponsableng aksyong ito?," Hontiveros said. "This is a major risk to the public's health. Not only is it possible that the vaccine is unsafe, but it also might not even be effective in the

first place. They might become confident, freely walking COVID superspreaders. Nilagay din sa panganib ang mga sundalo natin."

Hontiveros asked the National Taskforce against COVID-19 (NTF) to provide a transparency report which she said is 'crucial' for preventing a waste of funds or even corruption. She added that it would also give peace of mind to the public whose fear of using vaccines remains high. The transparency report should "reflect the decisions of the NTF every step of the way", she said.

"The vaccination plan clearly says that the first step is to locally approve the vaccines, which with Sinopharm we didn't. On top of this, we promised that we would vaccinate our healthcare workers, who put their lives on the line everyday, first, which we also didn't. Ano na ba ang nangyayari sa plano natin?," she asked. Hontiveros

reminded government that safety should be first priority in procurement of the vaccine. She added that the report would be a major declaration of accountability to the public. "If the vaccine is unsafe, who will be held accountable? There are major life-threatening consequences in any lapse in this mass vaccination program. Kung may magkulang o gumawa ng kalokohan, dapat managot," she said.

The senator had earlier revealed that The Procurement Service of the Department of Budget and Management (PS-DBM) had procured overpriced personal protective equipment

(PPEs) by at least P 1 billion. "Wag natin sanayin na may kumikita o may nagsasayang ng pera sa pandemyang ito kung saan maraming Pilipino ang nagdudurusa. Dahil milyong bakuna ang bibilhin, ang isang dolyar na patong ay katumbas ng bilyong pisong pera ng bayan," she said,

"Ang daming tanong ang taumbayan. Paano magtitiwala ang publiko sa pamahalaan kung ang mga high ranking officials mismo ay hindi sumusunod sa mga protocol? At lalo na kung hindi malinaw sa paggamit natin ng bilyon-bilyon nilang pera. Ang gobyerno ang laging dapat maging ehemplo," she concluded.

Cavite Mayor vows free vaccination << P1

hay at para umusad ang ekonomiya," Ferrer added. Ferrer stressed that those 15 years old below and 65 years old and above should not be allowed to board public- utility vehicles to prevent the spread of the virus in the city and that passengers must be required to wear face masks and shields upon boarding.

Rep. Luis Ferrer IV of the Lone District of General Trias said he is ready to cooperate in opening new ac-

cess roads or streets to ease of traffic flow in the area and install decent jeepney and tricycle terminals in the city.

Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Cavite provincial director Lionel Dalope, was also guest in the said meeting and presented some explanations of the Covid situation in the country.

"Based on the study, there is new variant of Covid-19. 'Wag po tay

pakampante or relaxed sa panahon ngayon. Ugaliin po natin sumunod sa guidelines, hindi po solusyon ang puro reklamo," Dalope said.

"Huwag po natin abuhin ang luwag ng quarantine, as President Rodrigo Roa Duterte announced that Cavite will remain under modified general community quarantine [MGCQ] mode until January 31, 2020," he added. The DILG also bestowed to Gen. Trias City the

Best LGU Award "in the conduct of contact tracing in the province as proof of diligence in work and commendable performance in the protection of the citizenry to prevent the spread of coronavirus and exemplary action to control the transmission of the virus, provide financial and material support to his local folks, a performance worthy of emulation and enviable adherence to the high standard of public service."

No need to impose stricter lockdown << P1

has entered the country, Interior Secretary Eduardo Año said on Monday. "From all indicators of what is happening in other countries, we may just retain the old (quarantine) classification particularly in NCR (National Capital Region). We do not know yet, we will still have a discussion with the President (Rodrigo Duterte) but our proposition is to come up with measures on how to prevent the entry of the new Covid-19 variant here. For me, no need to have stricter lockdown because there is still no evidence that it [the new Covid-19 variant] has entered the country," he said in Filipino in a radio interview.

Aside from Metro Manila, the provinces of Davao del Norte, Batangas, and Lanao del Sur, and cities of Iloilo, Tacloban, Iligan, and Davao will remain under

general community quarantine (GCQ) until Dec. 31.

All other places in the country are under modified GCQ, the least stringent of all quarantine classifications.

"For now, our guidelines say all those coming from countries that reported a case of the new Covid-19 variant would undergo 14 days mandatory quarantine. How many are those passengers? We may run out of quarantine facilities. Our countrymen who need to be quarantined might suffer. The facilities might be overwhelmed," he explained.

Currently, only Filipino citizens, foreigners joining their Filipino spouses and dependents; and foreign diplomats are allowed to enter the country under existing protocols.

Upon arrival, passengers must undergo swab testing. While waiting for results,

passengers must stay either in a government-designated quarantine facility or quarantine hotel.

Payment for the accommodation of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) will be shouldered by the government while other travelers who are non-OFWs will pay for their own accommodation costs.

Travelers whose test positive will be transferred to designated hospitals for treatment, while those with negative results will be allowed to move out and undergo a 14-day quarantine at home or at an appropriate local monitoring facility.

Reports showed that the new coronavirus variant first identified in the UK spreads 70 percent faster.

However, experts believe that existing vaccines will still be effective in fighting off infection from this new

virus variant. UK researchers discovered the variant after collecting samples from infected people in southeastern England.

Since then, Australia, Denmark, and the Netherlands have identified cases of the variant in their countries.

The government is now focusing on the effects of the holiday season on the Covid-19 cases in the country, as some people still hold gatherings, Año pointed out.

Año, meanwhile, bared that some testing laboratories were closed during the holidays, resulting in few reported confirmed Covid-19 cases. "There were some laboratories that closed during the holidays so we saw a smaller number. Some of them still have yet to submit results. When their operations go full blast, we would know the situation," he noted. (PNA)

Death rather than Sin

St. Dominic Savio

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
TRECE MARTIRES CITY

BDO UNIBANK, INC.
Mortgagee,

-versus- FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-280-19

JHON HAROLD B. PONCIANO
As represented by his
ATTORNEY-IN-FACT, APARICION
BUTIAL PONCIANO
Mortgagors.

x-----x

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, **BDO UNIBANK, INC.**, with business address at BDO Corporate Center, 7899 Makati Avenue, Makati City against the Mortgagors, **JHON HAROLD B. PONCIANO** a represented by his ATTORNEY-IN-FACT, **APARICION BUTIAL PONCIANO**, with residence and postal address at # 52 VILLA NICASIA STREET, BAYAN LUMA 5, IMUS, CAVITE AND BLOCK 5 LOT 15, KENSINGTON 27, BRGY. NAVARRO, GEN. TRIAS, CAVITE, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of 01 August 2019 amounts to NINE HUNDRED EIGHTY FOUR THOUSAND FORTY PESOS & 24/100 (P984,040.24), Philippine Currency, including interest, penalties and other charges as of said date but exclusive of all other expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will set at public auction on **FEBRUARY 25, 2021** at 10:00 o'clock in the morning at the main entrance of the Government Center Building located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 057-2018008287

Lot No. 15 Block No. 5
Plan No. PCS-04-030003
Portion of: LOT 84, BLOCK 6, PSD-04-225691, LOT 1727, RS-04-003042 & LOT 1740, FRS-04-005330, SFDM ESTATE, DECREED NO. 4270, LRC REC. NO.5964
Location: BARANGAY OF NAVARRO, MUNICIPALITY OF GENERAL TRIAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE
Boundaries:
LINE DIRECTION ADJOINING LOT(S)
1-2 NW LOT 13, BLOCK 5, PCS-04-030003
2-3 NE ROAD LOT 8, PCS-04-030003
3-4 SE LOT 17, BLOCK 5, PCS-04-030003
4-1 SW LOT 16, BLOCK 5, PCS-04-030003
Area: FIFTY SQUARE METERS (50), MORE OR LESS

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 and time, it shall be held on MARCH 4, 2021, without further notice.

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

Trece Martires City, DECEMBER 15, 2020

LUCIO C. ALEJO III
Sheriff IV

Copy Furnished:

BDO UNIBANK, INC.
RISK MANAGEMENT GROUP-REMEDIAL
MANAGEMENT UNIT
11th Floor, BDO South Tower, BDO Corporate
Center 7899 Makati Avenue, Makati City

Jhon Harold B. Ponciano and Aparicion Butial Ponciano
52 Villa Nicasia Street, Bayan Luma 5, Imus, Cavite
Block 5 Lot 15, Kensington 27, Brgy. Navarro, Gen.
Trias, Cavite

WARNING: It is absolutely prohibited to remove, deface or destroy this Notice of Extra-Judicial Sale on or before the date of sale.

The Southern Tagalog Herald Cavite
December 20 & 27, 2020 and January 3, 2021

Newly formed Cavite press Corps << P1

Bulgar, Auditor Boy Josue of The Manila Times as well as members of the Board of Directors Tina Timbang of Pilipino Star Ngayon,

Dindo Capili of Pilipino Mirror, Benedict Samson of UNTV, Mario Basco of Pilipino Mirror, Irene Gascon of Police Files, Roger

Limpin, Frank Estrada, Dennis Abrina of Peoples Journal and Sid Samaniego of Pilipino Mirror.

The oath taking ceremony was held at Gselle Event Place in Green Breeze 1, Barangay Langkaan 1, Dasmariñas City on December 15.

emony was held at Gselle Event Place in Green Breeze 1, Barangay Langkaan 1, Dasmariñas City on December 15.



Caliraya Ecoville and Farm resort: Where nature meets adventure



We had the luxury to experience a one-of-a-kind adventure in Caliraya Ecoville Farm and Resort last November 20-21, 2020. In line with its goal to bring people together and enhance relationship building, Caliraya Ecoville offers amenities that are physical and nature-based: Swimming Pool with cottage, lounge chairs, hammocks with pillow, kawayan fishing platforms for amateur and professional anglers, Kayaks and stand-up paddle boards, multi-purpose court for basketball, volleyball, and badminton, fish spa, 3-kilometer trail (running, hiking, biking) Bike for Rent, team building facilities (low ropes-12 courses, spider's web, electric fence, big wall, king's finger, victory traverse, log-a-line) barbecue area, bonfire area pit, billiards and air hockey indoor, tables, air-conditioned function room equipped with a 65-inch flat screen TV, white board, and xenon PA system, good for 50 persons and a restaurant good for 100 persons.



Caliraya Ecoville Recreation and Farm Resort in this time of pandemic also assures their guests of the safety precautions needed to make sure that their stay will be safe amidst the pandemic. Ecoville Caliraya is looking forward to be a premier agri-tourism center in Laguna wherein it promotes organic and aquaphonic farming, farm-to-table lifestyle, integrated with amenities and activities that support relationship building and quality time with families and friends. Originally designed to be a haven for anglers up on the hill of Brgy Caliraya, Laguna, the Caliraya Ecoville Recreation and Farm Resort is more than just a fishing destination but also a place for the family, young couples or friends to chill, relax and enjoy nature. This 7 hectare facility boasts of a 2 hectare fish pond, camp sites, nature trails, and various accommodations like: tents, lakeside cottages, dormitory rooms, a 20-room hotel, a function room and dining and indoor game area.

Caliraya Ecoville Recreation and Farm is a perfect place to escape from the hustle and bustle of city life to get back to nature. One can bask in the cool and windy weather of Caliraya while enjoying Filipino comfort foods that are cooked using naturally cultivated ingredients. Caliraya Ecoville Recreation and Farm Resort is about 2 and half to 3 hour drive from Makati. The most popular route is via SLEX, exiting Calamba thru the Bucal By-pass road of Greenfields development, and exiting to Los Banos. From Los Banos, continue to drive thru Sta Cruz and finally Pagsanjan, before going up the hill of Caliraya.

An alternate route is via the Manila East road. The best way to access this would be from Ortigas Avenue, then Ortigas Avenue Extension, E. Rodriguez, eventually leading to the National Road and Manila East Road. If you take this route, you will be passing by Cainta, Antipolo, Teresa and several towns of Laguna, including, Tanay, Pililia, Siniloan, Pakil, Paete and Lumban. Traversing this road will lead you along the perimeter of Laguna de Bay.

Regarding the safety of their visitors, temperature checking, mandatory wearing of face masks and face shields, social distancing, guests shall fill out a health declaration form before checking in and no guests below 15 years old and beyond 65 years old are allowed as per IATF guidelines. For reservations or inquiries, you may contact 0947-234-8168, 0906-470-3916 or 0921-584-5645.



SOME CABINET MEMBERS, TROOPS VACCINATED AHEAD OF FDA APPROVAL

Despite the absence of an authorized vaccine and the assurance of prioritizing the medical frontlines, government officials confirmed that some Cabinet members and soldiers have already been immunized with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccines.

GOPHILIPPINES
WWW.GOPHILIPPINES.COM



Despite the absence of an authorized vaccine and the assurance of prioritizing the medical frontlines, government officials confirmed that some Cabinet members and soldiers have already been immunized with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccines. The confirmation was initiated by President Rodrigo Duterte's remarks last Saturday, saying that several people had already given vaccines from Chinese government-run Sinopharm.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) also confirmed the soldiers who were immunized first belonged to the Presidential Security Group (PSG). This statement came after Maj. Gen. Edgard Arevalo, the spokesperson of AFP, initially noted during the briefing that there is no vaccination happening in the military. When asked if the AFP would be willing to present an inquiry by the FDA, Arevalo replied: "That's a hypothetical question. Let's find out what happened first."

It was noted that the Malacañang earlier said that 1.76 million healthcare workers are on the top list of priority beneficiaries for COVID-19 vaccination. Meanwhile, the uniformed personnel like the military are fifth in the priority of the government to vaccinate 24.7 million Filipinos against COVID-19. (Source: The Philippine Star, Photo by Ace Morandante / Presidential Photo)

Metro Manila, 9 other areas remain under GCQ

by Genalyn Kabiling

Ten areas, including Metro Manila, will stay under general community quarantine (GCQ) for the whole month of January 2021, President Duterte announced Monday amid fresh appeals to stay at home as much as possible to avoid coronavirus infection.

Also placed under GCQ are Isabela, Santiago City, Batangas, Iloilo City, Tacloban City, Lanao del Sur, Iligan City, Davao City and Davao del Norte from January 1 to 31, 2021 to help curb the spread of the coronavirus, according to the President.

The rest of the country will remain under modified general community quarantine (MGCQ), the most re-



President Rodrigo Roa Duterte (RICHARD MADELO/ PRESIDENTIAL PHOTO)

laxed of the four lockdown levels implemented by the government to stem the outbreak.

The President said the latest quarantine classification of these places would take effect next month subject to the appeal of concerned local government units. "Stay home if it is real-

ly possible. It's for your own good and then the washing of the hands," the President reminded the public during a televised address Monday night.

As of December 28, the country has recorded 470,650 coronavirus cases with 9,124 deaths.

The government has

gradually relaxed the quarantine restrictions since June to revitalize the economy but it appealed to the public to continue observing health protocols to avoid a post-holiday surge of infections. The public has been required to wear masks and face shields whenever leaving their houses to avoid getting the virus.

Recently, the government decided to extend the travel ban for flights coming from the United Kingdom for another two weeks or until January 14 to prevent the entry of the more contagious second COVID-19 strain in the country. The President has also raised the possibility of reimposing a stricter lockdown depending on the severity of the COVID cases.