



WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE OUITTING THINK ABOUT WHY YOU STARTED

MAY 23-29, 2021

P 15.00

VOL. XXVI NO. 43

Rep. Remulla hits publicizing pantry initiatives; Brosas defends organizers

EndTB campaign continues with 3,171 Cavite City households reached

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite, May 18 (PIA) -- The #EndTB campaign of the USAID's TB Platforms Projects in partnership with the Cavite Positive Action Group (CPAG) had reached 3,171 households since the



>> P2

DA-4A turns over P3.9M agri & marketing interventions to GenTri farmers



The Department of Agriculture IV-CALABARZON turned over a total of P3.9-M worth of agricultural and marketing interventions to the farmers of General Trias, Cavite on May 10.

DA-4A OIC-Regional Executive Director Vilma M. Dimaculangan led the distribution of the interventions as part of the celebration of the Farmers and Fisherfolk Month with the theme "May

Pandemya man o wala, Masasaka't Mangingisda, Maaasahan ng Bansa."

Dimaculangan handed over about P2,107,970 worth of interventions to the Samahan ng Nagkakaisang Maggugulay ng Lungsod ng General Trias with funding from the Bayanihan II Act and High Value Crops Development Banner Program

>> P2

Cavite donates speedboat, iet skis to PCG

The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) on Wednesday received a speedboat and personal watercraft, commonly called 'jet skis,' from the provincial government of Cavite

In a Facebook post, the PCG said the donations include a twin-engine 150-horsepower speedboat and four Yamaha VX-C WaveRunner personal watercraft. It said the maritime assets will be used in enforcing maritime laws and in search and rescue operations in vicinity waters off Cavite to "ultimately ensure the safety of lives and properties at sea".

The PCG said Commodore Leovigildo Panopio, commander of the PCG District National Capital

>> P3



PERSONAL WATERCRAFT. The four jet skis donated by the provincial government of Cavite to the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG). The PCG on Wednesday (May 19, 2021) said the donated maritime assets will be used to help uphold maritime laws and in search and rescue operations. (Photo courtesy of PCG)

Perpetual Help Cavite campus declared an economic zone for science and technology



THE Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) has declared a Cavite-based university a special economic zone for science and technology.

PEZA Director General Charito B. Plaza signed an agreement with the University of Perpetual Help System (UPHS) in Molino, Cavite officially recognizing the campus as a Knowledge, Innovation, Science and Technology (KIST) special economic zone insti-

>> P3

For Cavite Representative Jesus Crispin "Boying" Remulla, initiatives to help those in need, including setting up community pantries, should not be publicized on social media as some have polit-

>> P2

SSS reports Q1 2021 online funeral claim transactions up by 13.6%

The Social Security System (SSS) recorded 11,088 online transactions for funeral benefit claims in the first quarter of 2021, up by 13.6% from 9,762 transactions recorded in the second semester of last year.

SSS President and Chief Executive Officer Aurora C. Ignacio attributed the significant increase to the implementation of mandatory online transactions and checkless disbursements in 2020.

"In line with our campaign ExpreSSS—fast, simple, and easy transactions with SSS—we commit-

>> P3

Silang section of CALAX to open Q3 of 2021



Motorists coming from Laguna will soon be able to travel to Silang, Cavite via the Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAX) in Q3 this year. This was confirmed by Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Secretary, Mark Villar.

During a recent inspection of CALAX's Subsection 5 (aka Silang segment), Villar said that the construction of the 7.2-kilometer section is on track. Once complete, it will link the current Tagaytay-Sta. Rosa Road to the Silang exit in Cavite near Aguinaldo Highway. The DPWH estimates that the new segment could open anytime between July and September 2021

"I am very pleased that despite the mobility challeng-

es brought about by the pandemic, construction for CA-LAX Subsection 5 remains on track and could soon be made available to motorists in the third quarter of 2021. It is a vital portion of CALAX that could help accelerate the economic progress of Region IV-A, as it links the two provinces of Cavite and Laguna," said Villar.

Bobby Bontia, president and general manager of Metro Pacific Tollways South (MPTS), said that work on CALAX's Subsection 5 is 94% complete. At the moment, they are completing miscellaneous works, including the construction of the drainage system, installation of road and safety features,

>> P3

Cavite, Manila stun Pasig, Laguna in Wesley So Cup

Upsets highlight the first day of the Wesley So Cup pro chess tournament

Unheralded Voltaire Marc Paraguya held Grandmaster Darwin Laylo to a draw on board 5 as the Cavite Spartans shocked the highly touted Pasig Kings Pirates, 11-10, in the Professional Chess Association of the Philippines (PCAP) Wesley So Cup opener on Saturday, May 15.

The Manila Indios Bravos followed suit by besting the All-Filipino champion Laguna Heroes, 2-1, in the Armageddon tiebreak.

Manila and Laguna ended up tied, 10.5-10.5, after regular

The Camarines Soaring Eagles, the South Conference champions, routed the Zamboanga Sultans, 16.5-4.5, to serve notice of their bid to avenge their national finals defeat to the

Paraguya, an Arena Grandmaster, and Laylo split the point after 30 moves of Queen's Pawn Opening, Mikenas Defense in their rapid encounter.

The winners for the Spartans were Melizah Ruth Carreon, International Master Petronio Roca, Jayson San Jose Visca, and Renie Malupa.

Carreon bested Woman Fide Master Sherily Cua on board 3, Roca trounced National Master Master Rudy Ibanez on board 4, Visca crushed Carl Espallardo on board 6, while Malupa outplayed Jaymarc Gutierrez on board 7.

It was a big come-from-behind victory for the GM-less Spartans as the Kings Pirates have Laylo, Filipino GM Roland Salvador, and Singaporean GM Kevin Goh Wei Ming in their

Salvador beat Singaporean Wagish Kumar Rai on board 1, while Goh Wei Ming edged Lourecel Hernandez Ecot on

Pasig stormed ahead, 5-2, in blitz play, but Cavite, being mentored by Ederwin Estavillo, countered with a 9-5 victo-





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

EDITORIAL BOARD

NENA ESTRELLADO-MALLARI Publisher

ANDREW S. AMORES

ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO Columnist

ATTY. ZENAIDA GALVEZ Editorial Consultant

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



ry in the rapid portion. The Pasig blitz portion winners were International Master Eric Labog Jr., Goh Wei Ming, Cua, Ibanez, and Laylo over Rai, Ecot, Carreon, Roca, and Paraguya, in that order.

Cavite's Visca and Malupa prevailed over Cromwell Sabado and Gutierrez, respectively.

Other first-round results saw Isabela Knight Raiders waylay Olongapo Rainbow Team 7, 11-7, Caloocan trounces Rizal, 12.5-8.5, Cagayan tames Quezon, 12-9, Isabela clips Olongapo, 11-7, Toledo dumps Cebu, 15.5-5.5, Cordova crushes Surigao, 17-4, Iloilo dumps all-female Palawan, 18-3, Negros whips Iriga, 17-4, and Lapu-Lapu subdues Mindoro,

The Spartans will tangle with the Indios Bravos and the Knight Raiders on Wednesday, May 19. - Rappler.com



DA-4A turns over P3.9M << P1

Quick Response Fund. The interventions include: mushroom house, mushroom bags, bagging machine, improvised autoclave, heavy dust cast aluminum pressure cooker, multipurpose portable spin drying dehydrator, air fryer, continuous vertical band sealer, assorted vegetable seeds, budded calamansi, garden tools, plastic drum, mulon, knapsack sprayer, seeding trays, organic fertilizer, multitiller, grasscutter, greenhouse with hydrophonics, and plant growth enhancer. Aside from the abovementioned interventions, the farmer-beneficiaries also received P600K worth of bags of muriate of potash fertilizer with funding source from the Taal volcano eruption quick response fund of DA-4A.

On the other hand, the General Trias Dairy Raisers Multi-Purpose Coop (GT-DRMC) received a P1.2-M financial grant through the Enhanced KADIWA Program. The first tranche worth P1M was used by the cooperative for the purchase of a hauling van while the remaining P200K will be utilized for the procurement of an automatic sealing ma-

"Sa ngalan po ng aming kooperatiba, kami po ay nagpapasalamat sa pamunuan ng DA, lalo na kay Ma'am Vilma, dahil napakalaking tulong po nitong financial grant na naipagkaloob sa amin. Malaki po ang aming

kakulangan, pero sa tulong ng DA ay matutugunan po ang lahat ng aming pangangailangan. Tunay nga pong sila'y laging nakaalalay sa mga magsasaka," GTDRMC Chairman Alonzo Papaun Reyes said. In her message, Director Dimaculangan thanked the farmers for their continued drive in producing food and recognized them as true heroes especially in these trying times. (CPG, PIA 4A with report from DA-RFO IVA, RAFIS)

EndTB campaign continuous << P1

start of the campaign in January 2021. CPAG and US-AID's TB Platforms continue to conduct community TB education in six barangays in Cavite City. The city is one of the highly burdened of TB cases in CALABARZON region, according to the Department of Health.

In collaboration with CPAG's barangay champions, households were provided information regarding TB symptoms and the high-risk groups for the disease with regular house-to-house visits and community outreach activities. They encouraged stakeholders such as the high risk groups and those experiencing TB symptoms for immediate TB screening in the nearest health facilities.

Likewise, city government officials and barangay leaders fully supported the public awareness campaign as Mayor Bernardo Paredes joined their community outreach while daughter Apple Paredes participated in media interviews promoting awareness for TB down to the barangay level.

CPAG Executive Director JC Honra said, " We are grateful that our City Mayor Bernardo Paredes and her daughter, ABC President, Apple Paredes are with us to help raise public awareness that TB is a killer disease but it is treatable and preventable. Our health office and barangay leaders are also collaborating with us to promote health-seeking behaviour for TB amid the CoViD-19 pandemic."

CPAG not only educates people about TB but also helps address stigma related to TB and HIV (people with HIV are at higher risk of TB infection) in selected barangays of Cavite City. They will further advocate for increased funding and TB response efforts in the city. (Ruel Francisco with reports from Dhee Paredes of TB Platforms Projects/CPAG

Rep. Remulla hits publicizing << P1

ing of the House Committee on Human Rights regarding community pantries, Remulla said helping other people is not something that should be bragged about.

"Ang pagtulong sa kapwa ay dapat bukal sa kalooban at hindi ito ginagawa upang ipaalam sa ibang tao. Ang pag-publicize sa pagtulong sa tao ay hindi magandang gawain kasi nagkakaroon na ng agenda na kakaiba sa totoong spirit ng Bayanihan," Remulla said.

(Helping those in need should be done wholeheartedly without the urge to let other people know. Publicizing it defeats the purpose of Bayanihan.)

"Kapag nagkaroon ng political agenda ang pagtu-

icized the matter. At a brief- long sa tao, kapag nagkaroon lang natin kung ano pa ang community pantries should ng pasikat, kailangan ipinapaalam sa lahat na tayo po'y gumagawa ng kabutihan, ay parang di na tayo gumawa ng kabutihan."

> (A good deed is no longer a good need when it already has a political agenda, when it is already about boasting.)

> Remulla also said he believes that those who are speaking about these community pantries are using the initiatives to criticize the government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

> Remulla pointed out that the national government had limitations when it comes to battling the crisis such as budgetary constraints. "Tigilan na lang natin ang pagsisi sa gobyerno, sabihin na

kinakailangang gawin [Let us stop blaming the government, let's just ask what needs to be done]," he said. Community pantries have sprouted across the country after the first one, which was initiated by Ana Patricia Non and set up on Maginhawa Street in Quezon City, drew people in need of basic goods amid the pandemic.

A number of groups and individuals have supported this initiative as it shows the spirit of Bayanihan among Filipinos. Critics of the government said this also highlighted the insufficient aid coming from the national government. Gabriela party-list Representative Arlene Brosas, meanwhile, strongly opposed Remulla, saying be publicized so that the public will easily know where to get assistance.

For Brosas, posting about these pantries in various social media platforms should instead be encouraged. "'Yung usapin ng pag-publicize na huwag i-publicize ng mga organizers 'yung kanilang effort... in my opinion, insulto po sa mga organizers 'yun eh kasi 'yung mga organizers, gusto nila na makatulong at mapalawak 'yung nalalaman ng ating mamamayan kung saan sila pupunta," she said.

(Asking organizers not to publicize their efforts is, I think, an insult to them especially since they want to help and spread awareness.) --KBK, GMA News

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.

NTF-ELCAC OPENS OPPORTUNITY



In this time of the pandemic, many people have lost their source of livelihood. As employment became one of the biggest problems in the world, especially in underdeveloped and developing countries. Establishing a livelihood business is one of the hardest things to manage, greatly affecting the overall economic status and living of the Filipinos

According to Philippine Statistics Authority, as the COVID-19 pandemic and quarantine restrictions fell over again this 2021 four (4) million Filipinos were left jobless. Most remote areas became a difficult place for establishing livelihood due to COVID-19 health protocols that need to be obliged. As the Pandemic continues to spill over the nation, the government and its agencies have exerted double effort in providing different kinds of service and help to the Filipinos anywhere in the country to eradicate poverty and hunger.

efforts of the administration, the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC) became one of the active agents of hope to the Filipino people. Under the NTF-ELCAC's effort is the institution of Poverty Reduction, Livelihood, and Employment Cluster (PRLEC) led by Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) that carries Barangay Development Programs. The said programs consist of various projects; that support and assist the populace in far-flung areas in establishing a livelihood business that can help an individual to generate an income that can suffice basic and financial needs.

Recently, the NTF-ELCAC also established "Kapwa Ko, Sagot Ko." which benefited 2.7 million Filipino citizens through basic needs provision and literacy in proper agriculture. The beneficiaries of the said project have sustained their daily needs by the vegetables they harvest In connection to the said and fill their financial need from the income they got from selling agricultural products.

On the other hand, the PRLEC anchored with TESDA implemented hundreds of skills trainings, livelihood projects, and financial support in conflict-affected barangays and Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas (GIDAS) despite the COVID-19 Pandem-

Among the said projects is the institution of organic farms, production sites, and trading centers for agricultural products, community poultry, vegetable production, and processing centers that gave a huge opportunity to the rural citizens to make a more efficient source of living and income. All of these have given them the proper training in entrepreneurship and skills in operating a business effectively.

The said organizations also installed Tubig Kalikasan para sa Barangay or the TUKABA Project and IPEACE for the indigenous communities that help the populace sustain their essential need and agricultural products to grow and increase.

Moreover, the Photovoltaic Systems NC II Installation Project TESDA Alay ay Liwanag at Asenso (TALA), wherein a total of 8,507 barangay constituents were enrolled in this project. Project TALA aims to provide solar energy to remote areas of the country where regular elec-



tricity distribution lines have not yet reach. To reach the said mission, TESDA trained locals in photovoltaic installation and maintenance. As a result, many Filipinos in the rural areas received the chance to undergo technical training and gain skills in photovoltaic installation; they can even use this in applying for

These programs have been a way for the Filipino people to escape unemployment; this has taught many people to be independent and resilient self-employed individuals.

Through the years, the NTF-ELCAC partnership with other government agencies has opened an opportunity to the Filipinos and developed a more productive and sustainable community through their Barangay Development Programs. And for many years to come, for sure that, NTF-ELCAC will continue to strive for progress and open opportunities for everyone.

Sports Garage: Providing quality, customized sports apparel



Sports, whether team games like basketball, volleyball, or football, or recreation sports like biking and hiking, has been one of the most important facets of daily living today since this not only cater for pleasurable entertainment but also of physical well-being and healthy body as well. In all kinds of sports and in all walks of life, it is good to know that there is a sports apparel that is ready to cater for the needs of athletes or adventure-seekers in terms of quality and design fit for their respective sports. Sports Garage, the name to look forward to in the world of sports apparel, is here to dominate the scene. If you want to have the best product and value for your money when it comes to sportswear and uniforms, Sports Garage is the name you can trust.

Sports Garage is a manufacturer of sports clothing for basketball, badminton, shooting, and others. Made out of best dry-fit material through their creative designers. It was on October 29, 2016 that a vision to provide quality sports apparel was launched.

The founders of Sports Garage (SG) believe that people with active lifestyle should be provided with a variety of apparel that not only fits their needs but also their individual personalities. Hence, SG specializes in customized sports apparel. It is a process by which SG stands out among the rest is their full sublimation printing. Unceasingly supported by various athletes from different fields, also with a growing patronage by sports enthusiasts, SG continues to be trailblazing in the world of manufacturing of full sublimation customized apparel since 2016.

Sports Garage is located at #29 B. Acero St., Tugatog, Malabon City. For more inquiries regarding their product and services, you may call or text 09213202095 or email sales.sportsgarage@gmail. com or in their facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/sportsgarageof-

Silang section of CALAX << P1

and making the final touches on the toll structures of the upcoming Silang East Interchange. Currently, the operational segments of CALAX run from Mamplasan in Binan to Sta. Rosa, Laguna and serves about 10,000 vehicles daily. Once the entirety of CALAX is complete, the expressway will benefit around 45,000 vehicles. It will also

reduce travel time between Cavite and Laguna from two hours to just an hour. The expressway will span a total of 45-kilometers and have 8 interchanges at the following locations: Kawit, Governor's Drive, Open Canal, Silang (Aguinaldo) Highway, Silang East, Santa Rosa-Tagaytay, Laguna Boulevard, and Laguna Technopark.

Perpetual help cavite campus << P1

tute. The university is the first private higher education institution to be recognized as a KIST ecozone, PEZA said in a statement Wednesday. KIST parks and institutes provide training that address industry workforce require-

UPHS is building an AltaHub innovation institute, business, and technology programs. "AltaHub shall become the bridge between the educational institution and the needs of various industries in the country as they will serve as a research and development facility not only for the University but also for the neighboring towns and areas," PEZA said.

The investment promotion agency plans to build business including startup training centers in public enablers," Bacoor City Mayor

every region.

"The Philippine Economic Zone Authority made the best choice in tapping UPHS as its partner for the promotion and creation of Philippine startup ecozones that support organizations aiming to develop an innovative product, process or

ecozones or KIST parks in Lani M. Revilla said. PEZA said last year that it plans to develop a skills training and research institute at its first university special economic zone park at Batangas State University.

> As a KIST Park, the university plans to partner with foreign schools to offer

SSS reports Q1 2021 online << P1

services with the inclusion of funeral benefit applications last July 2020, as part of the available e-services under the My.SSS portal. Member-claimants now receive their benefits through checkless disbursements through the Unified Multipurpose Identification (UMID) card enrolled as ATM.

If without UMID card enrolled as ATM, the funeral benefit may be credited to Philippine Electronic Fund Transfer & System Operations Network (PESONet) participating banks, E-wallets such as the PayMaya Upgraded Account, or remittance transfer companies/

ted to expanding our online cash payout outlets (RTCs/ CPOs) such as M Lhuiller," Ignacio said.

SSS grants funeral benefits to whoever paid for the burial expenses of the deceased member. The deceased employee, self-employed, voluntary, or an Overseas Filipino Worker (OFW) member must have at least one contribution payment to qualify.

An employee subject to compulsory coverage but was not reported by his/her employer is also qualified to the grant of the funeral benefit.

To submit funeral claim applications online, SSS member-claimants should be registered on the SSS website and must have a registered account enrolled in the Disbursement Account Enrollment Module (DAEM), accessible at www.sss.gov.ph.

They must upload supporting documents such as proof of SSS membership of the deceased, death certificate of deceased member issued by the Philippine Statistics Authority or certified true copy duly registered with Local Civil Registry (LCR), and proof of payment of funeral expenses.

Non-SSS member claimants may submit at any SSS branch the funeral claim application and documentary requirements, together with the proof of disbursement account—such as passbook, ATM card with the name of member-claimant and account number, validated initial deposit slip or bank certificate/statement issued within the last three months before the filing of the claim. For disbursements through e-wallet/RTC/CPO, member-claimant must provide his/her mobile number.

For the complete stepby-step procedure on how to file a funeral benefit application online, click on this link https://bit.ly/3tyhm98.

For more information, follow the SSS on Facebook and YouTube at "Philippine Social Security System," Instagram at "mysssph," and Twitter at "PHLSSS," or join its Viber Community at "MYSSSPH Updates."

Cavite donates << P1

Region (PCG)-Central Luzon, thanked Cavite Governor Jonvic Remulla for the donation in a courtesy visit. Panopio said the new water assets will "greatly help"

in intensifying the presence of the PCG in the province and to better serve the locals through upholding maritime security, safety, and environmental protection. (PNA)



MAY 23-29, 2021 P 15.00 VOL. XXVI NO. 43



Sangley airport attracts 3 possible bidders

The Sangley Point International Airport (SPIA) project in Cavite has attracted one more interested party, bringing the number of potential bidders to three.

Jesse Grepo, legal officer of the Cavite government's public-private partnership selection committee, told The STAR that three companies have bought the bid documents for the airport project.

Due to requests and mobility restrictions in National Capital Region and the provinces of Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna and Rizal or NCR Plus, the selection committee had decided to extend the deadline for the purchase of the project's bid documents to May 14 from the original March 30 deadline.

Two companies had bought the bid documents for the airport project as of March 30.

Grepo declined to disclose the names of the three prospective bidders, saying there might be requests from other companies to extend the deadline again. The provincial government of Cavite had made some fine-tuning on the project's legal qualification requirement to address national security

The Cavite government now requires that its joint venture partner should be Philippine majority-owned and controlled, whether it be a single entity or a consortium.

If a consortium, the Philippine corporation should at least own and control 51 percent of the equity or voting interest. The requirement was not applied to the airport project's previous bidding, wherein the consortium of Lucio Tan's MacroAsia Corp. and China Communications Construction Co. Ltd. (CCCC) won.

CCCC had a 60 percent stake in the consortium, while MacroAsia held the minority 40 percent.

The airport deal awarded to the MacroAsia-CCCC con-



sortium was terminated last January due to the various deficiencies of the submission of requirements to conclude the joint venture agreement, prompting the provincial government of Cavite to start anew with its search for a partner.

Dalawang katao ang naaresto dahil sa pag-iingat ng halos 2 toneladang gamit na surgical gloves sa isang apartment sa Tanza, Cavite.

Ayon sa pulisya ng Cavite, ang mga naaresto ay ang negosyanteng si Ernest Latuan, 31, at ang kanyang helper na si Marlon Cenizal, 21.

Matagumpay na nadakip ng Tanza Police at ng Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office ang dalawang lalaki bandang alas-3:30 ng hapon nitong Martes, sa kanilang apartment sa Wellington Residences Subdivision.

Batay kay SSgt. Si Jonathan Lagario, imbestigador ng lokal na pulisya, napag-alaman nila ang tungkol sa mga gamit na guwantes na nakaimbak sa lugar batay sa isang pang residente.

Sa naging pagsusuri, natagpuan ng pulisya at mga miyembro ng MENRO ang apat na apartment unit sna puno ng guwantes.

"Mabaho na parang kemikal ang amoy doon, amoy [bleach], pero pagpasok mo makikita mo yung ibang gloves na may dugo-dugo pa," saad ni Lagario sa iterbyu ng Daily Tribune.



2 TONELADANG GAMIT NA SURGICAL **GLOVES, NATAGPUAN SA ISANG APARTMENT SA CAVITE**

Dalawang katao ang naaresto dahil sa pag-iingat ng halos 2 toneladang gamit na surgical gloves sa isang apartment sa Tanza, Cavite.

GOCAVITE

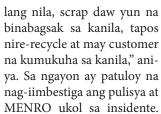
dito, baka ito ay sa COVID [patients] or kung saan pa nagamit, napaka-delikado nito sa community at sa kapaligiran, so hindi na rin kami kumuha," dagdag pa niya at sinabing nag-utos na

"Ang inaalaala namin ang MENRO ng tamang pag- lang nila, scrap daw yun tatapon sa mga naturang guwantes. Hindi pa tukoy kung saan nakuha at dadalhin ng

> mga suspek ang mga ito. "Wala pa silang definite na sinasabi kundi galing lang daw sa mga relatives



Source: Daily Tribune



PH vaccination program exceeds 3 million

Philippines has breached the three-million mark in its Covid-19 vaccination pro-

At the Palace press briefing on Tuesday, National Task Force (NTF) Against Covid-19 Chief Implementer Secretary Carlito Galvez Jr. said that 3,114,847 doses have been administered nationwide since March 1.

On May 15, the Philippines recorded the highest one-day utilization of 120,529 doses.

Another 500,000 doses of Sinovac jabs are also arriving on Thursday. The government's stockpile will reach 7,753,450

doses this month and 10,050,000 next month.

"So far, we are holding grand preparation to achieve herd immunity through the focus and expand strategy at the centers of gravity," Galvez said

The government is focusing on the immunization of residents of the National Capital Region, Bulacan, Laguna, Cavite, Rizal, Pampanga, and Batangas, as well as from Metro Cebu and Metro Davao.

The inoculation of priority groups under categories A4 (government and other front-

lines) and A5 (indigent) may begin in June once a steady supply is available.

"We will announce next week, just in case we will start vaccinating A4 and A5," he said.

Vaccines from the COVAX facility will be used for the A1 (healthcare workers), A2 (elderly), A3 (persons with comorbidities), and A5 groups.

NTF Deputy Chief Implementer and testing czar Secretary Vince Dizon also appealed to the public to continue adhering to minimum health standards while the nationwide vaccination program is ongoing.

Dizon said the Department of Health will issue guidelines for the A4 and A5 vaccination in the coming days.

Everyone who wishes to avail of Covid-19 jabs are urged to register for the Covid-19 vaccination program.

"We will make it (registration) easier and more simplified so we can fast-track the vaccination program," said Dizon.

Further, Galvez noted that while the production of various vaccine makers is increasing, the delivery of Covid-19 jabs in the country is getting stable.

"So far, the delivery of CO-

Astra condominium brand launched in Laguna, Cavite



BRIA HOMES recently launched its mid-rise condominium developments in Calamba, Laguna and General Trias, Cavite.

In a statement, Bria Homes President Rizalito J. Rosales said the company sees an expanding market for its condominium brand Astra Vertical Villages in the two areas.

'Our vertical villages in Calamba and General Trias will fulfill the growing need for safe, secure communities that offer all the comforts of modern, urban living without breaking the bank," he said.

Astra Vertical Villages are described as contemporary mid-rise condominium developments that offer affordability and accessibility for young professionals and small families.

The developments in Calamba and General Trias will offer 880 units in 11 buildings, with options for 237 parking lots.

A typical 24-square meter unit will have a bedroom, dining and kitchen area, living room, and toilet and bath.

Astra will have a communal clubhouse with a swimming pool and gym and function halls. It will also have green spaces and playgrounds. There will also be provisions for a school, a wet and dry market, and a food park within the Astra premises.

VAX facility is currently stable and our other procured vaccines are coming in," he said, noting that the delivery volume of Covid-19 vaccines will increase next month.

"Between March and April, the vaccines came in trickles but now the vaccines are being delivered in millions," he said.

The COVAX facility will deliver 2.2 million of Pfizer-BioNTech and two million doses of AstraZeneca vaccines between May and June, according to Galvez. "We are glad that we are seeing a quite stable delivery of vaccines," he said.

Galvez also noted that there is a significant increase in the vaccination capacity of local government units.

"So far, we have recorded more than 120,000 jabs a day. It is very promising," he added.

The NTF is divided into three mandates operating through response cluster, vaccine cluster, and recovery clus-