

122 deaths due to 'Usman' still being validated: NDRRMC **P5**

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HOUSE RESCINDED APPROVAL OF ROAD BOARD ABOLITION BILL: In a press briefing on Wednesday, House Majority Leader Rolando Andaya, Jr. stressed that the House of Representatives is determined to abandon or scrap House Bill 7436 which seeks to abolish the Road Board. He said the House unanimously decided in plenary to

rescind the third reading approval of the bill. Prior to the withdrawal, Andaya said they talked to President Duterte who bared that he rejected the resignation of Road Board Executive Director

Luisito "Chito" Clavano. The Chief Executive expressed confidence in Clavano's ability to clean up the Road Board according to Andaya. | Rowena Bundang/ Gilbert Engay

DILG CONFERS 1ST NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG ABUSE PERFORMANCE AWARD TO 241 **P.3** OUTSTANDING LGUS



OTOP Hub CALABARZON launched in Cavite. The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) – Cavite held the soft launching of the One Town, One Product (OTOP) Hub CALABARZON on December 28, 2018 located at D' Banquet Bakeshop and Restaurant in Tagaytay City. The hub will showcase OTO offerings of different cities and municipalities not just in Cavite but from other provinces of CALABARZON as well primarily those that were assisted by the DTI in various aspects of product development and marketing. Gracing the event were DTI Region IV-A Director Marilou Q. Toledo, Likhang Caviteño Foundation, Inc. President Rodrigo Camia, Cavite Small and Medium Enterprises Development Council (CaSMEDC) Chairperson Teresita Leabres with some members of the council, DTI – Consumer Protection and Advocacy Bureau Director Domingo 'Dominic' Tolentino, DTI-Rizal Provincial Director Mercedes Parreño, DTI-Cavite family headed by Provincial Director Noly Guevarra, other DTI officials, Amira's Buko Tarts and D' Banquet owner Ms. Virgie Malipol with her daughter. (Eve M. Reyes)



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REDUCE. REUSE. RECYCLE

TRASH to CASH
RECYCLING MARKET

EDITORIAL:

Trash talk

Rain experienced during the New Year holidays helped bring down, and dramatically, the number of injuries as Filipinos ushered in 2019.

According to Health Secretary Francisco Duque, firecracker-related injuries dropped 68 percent to 139 cases this year from 428 last year.

Duque added that an order from Malacañang, which limited the use of firecrackers to community displays, also helped keep the number of injuries down.

This was good progress and we look forward to succeeding years when Filipinos completely do away with reckless practices for the sake of misguided superstition or thoughtless habits—even without rain to dampen their zeal.

What the rain was not able to quell, however, was revelers' despicable habit of leaving their trash after the celebrations. The truckloads of garbage collected at Rizal Park insulted the hero the place was named after—and betrayed Filipinos' incorrigible habit of expecting other people to clean up after them.

This was, of course, not the first time. Christmas celebrations also highlighted the same tendencies. At last 12 trucks of garbage was collected from the area on Dec. 25 and 26, according to officials of Task Force Manila Cleanup.

The National Parks Development Committee tried to put a spin on the exercise, saying the several days of work "is worth all the joy and happiness that our countrymen experienced with their loved ones and friends at the park."

But nothing stops us from feeling joy and happiness with our loved ones and friends anywhere—certainly not a sense of responsibility and mindfulness to pick up after ourselves.

It's not a difficult thing to do—perhaps what is difficult is shifting mindsets from one of dependence on others to one of self-reliance. In this case, Manila officials, and local executives in other places, have failed spectacularly to make people responsible for their garbage as it didn't come naturally to them.

This failure to take responsibility for our own spheres can be extended and interpreted many ways beginning from the literal. It could be blamed for our inability to progress, or for our sorry tendency to fall back into the same patterns politically.

The New Year brings with it hope and a determination to do better. If we're looking to start at the small, mundane details before we dare effect changes in big things, then cleaning up our own mess would be a good way to begin.

LOLO, BINUNDOL NG MOTORSIKLO, PATAY

PATAY ang isang 74-anyos na lolo nang masagasaan ng isang motorsiklo habang papatawid sa kalsada sa General Trias City, Cavite.

Namatay habang ginagamot sa DLSU Hospital sa Dasmarias City ang biktimgang si Romeo Dela Cruz, ng Block 19 Lot 102, Bry Delas Alas GMA Cavite habang naaresto naman ang driver ng motorsiklo na si Jason Padua, 18, binata ng Brgy Lumbras GMA Cavite.

Sa ulat ni PO2 Bobbie Balazo ng GMA Municipal Police Station, minamaneho ng suspek ang kanyang motorsiklong Honda TMX habang binabagtas ang kahabaan ng Congressional Road, Brgy Maderan dakong alas-

7:00 kamakalawa ng gabi nang pagsapit sa Governors Drive ay biglang itong tumigil ang kasunod nitong tricycle dahil tumigil din ang kasunod nitong pampasaherong jeepney.

Si Padua na nakabuntot sa tricycle ay biglang inapakan ang preno ng kanyang motorsiklo subalit hindi umano ito umubra dahil upang ipaling nito ng pakanang direksiyon na noon ay patawid naman ang biktima dahil upang mabangga nito.

Ang biktima ay isinugod sa CARSIGMA Hospital sa GMA subalit dahil sa maseklan niyang lagay ay inilipat sa DLSU Hospital kung saan siya nalagutan ng hininga.

Ang driver ng motorsiklo ay sasampahan ng kasong paglabag sa reckless imprudence resulting in homicide. **MARGIE BAUTISTA**

Over 50 motorcycle riders apprehended for noisy mufflers in Muntinlupa City

MUNTINLUPA CITY, Philippines – Several young motorcycle riders were apprehended hours before the new year.

The Muntinlupa Traffic Management Bureau said aside from illegal firecrackers, authorities also do not allow excessive motorcycle exhaust noise or noisy mufflers.

"Marami kasing nagrereklamo dito sa Muntinlupa sobrang ingay daw. Pwede naman pong hindi na magingay pede naman magcelebrate na tahimik lang," Assistant Supervisor Danilo Manera of the Muntinlupa Traffic Management Bureau.

"Ang corny kuya syempre sira na motor ko hinuli pa rin ako nagbobomba daw kami ng motor," said Joshua Ilyane, an apprehended motorcycle rider.

A total of 50 motorcycles were impounded by authorities due to various violations such as driving without helmet and driving without license.

"Ang trabaho namin manghuli ng open muffler



bale P2,500 multa. Another violation ay ang no helmet P500 pesos tapos yung driving without license P1,000 pesos. Kapag minor, impounded yung motor nila driving without license," Manera explained. Manera added that they did not lack in reminding the public of the ordinances imposed in the city. – Marje Pelayo (with reports from Sherwin Culubong)

Fireworks-related injuries rise to 286: DOH

MANILA -- The number of fireworks-related injuries (FWRIs) has risen to 286 after the Department of Health (DOH) on Wednesday reported 52 more cases recorded in various regions of the country from 6 a.m. of January 2 until 5:59 a.m. of January 3.

Based on reports sent by 60 sentinel hospitals, 27 cases were recorded in the National Capital Region; five each in the Western Visayas, Central Visayas and Central Luzon; three each in the Ilocos region, Soccsksargen (South Cotabato, Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Sarangani and General Santos City), and Calabarzon (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon); and one in the Davao region.

The victims of FWRI cases mostly involved males aged between two and 76 years.

Since it began its surveillance on December 21, the DOH has also recorded two cases of firecracker ingestion.

Of the total figure, some 152 occurred on the streets; 124 took place at home; nine in other places; and three in fireworks designated areas.

A total of 220 persons

suffered from blasts or burns, while 10 suffered from blasts that resulted in amputation. The remaining 76 persons suffered from eye injuries.

The DOH said the current FWRI statistics is 43 percent less than the same period last year and 66 percent lower than the five-year average.

The fireworks that caused the most injuries were the Kwitis with 65 cases; Luces with 29; Piccolo with 20; Boga with 18 cases; Five Star with 16 cases; and Triangle with seven cases.

Executive Order No.

28, issued by President Rodrigo Duterte, has confined the use of firecrackers to community fireworks display areas to minimize the risk of injuries and casualties.

The DOH has also warned the public against illegal fireworks, such as Watusi, Piccolo, Atomic Triangle, large Judas Belt, large Bawang, Pillbox, Boga, Goodbye Philippines, Bin Laden, Mother Rockets, Lolo Thunder, Coke-in-can, Kwitom, Atomic Bomb, Five Star, Pla-pla, giant Whistle Bomb, Kabasi, and other unlabeled and imported firecrackers. (PNA)

H E I S M Y

Healer

EXODUS 15:26

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KAPANALIG

NI Nelson Dimapilis

Gatchalian sponsors bill protecting the integrity, reliability of power lines

uninterrupted.”

Citing data from the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP), Gatchalian pointed out that the country has already experienced 168 instances or a total of 1,426.11 hours of power outages this year, due to right of way issues with the NGCP lines.

The power outage hours experienced in 2018 is already thrice the duration of brownouts seen in 2017, when the country only registered 236 instances or 565.71 hours of power outages nationwide. In 2016, the NGCP reported a total of 205 brownouts or a total of just 396.11 hours.

There are also many instances that obstructions, such as plants, are the primary culprit behind the power outages in the country, according to Gatchalian, citing the power outage that crippled the Zamboanga peninsula in September 2016.

He recalled that intentionally and maliciously planted banana trees within the power line corridor caused a line-to-ground fault that tripped high voltage lines and led to a blackout across the entire Zamboanga peninsula, including areas served by distribution utilities Zamsureco I, Zamsureco II, Zaneco, Zamcelco, Moelci I, Moelci II, and parts of Laneco.

If passed, Gatchalian said the measure will prohibit the planting of tall growing plants, the construction of hazardous improvements, and the conduct of any hazardous activities within the power line corridor.

SBN 2098 also outlines the duties and responsibilities of power line owners and operators in the prevention and removal of any disturbances or obstructions to the power lines, whether these be located on public or private property.

he bill also authorizes power line owners and operators to seek the assistance of local government officials, the Philippine National Police, and the Armed Forces of the Philippines in the discharge of their duties. It seeks as well to penalize any person found guilty of committing any of the prohibited acts specified under SBN 2098.

“As the adage goes, prevention is always better than cure. And with the approval of this measure, we shall put in place a mechanism that will allow for the [responsive] maintenance and rehabilitation of transmission, sub-transmission, and distribution lines,” he said.

To ensure the uninterrupted conveyance of electricity from power plants to consumers, Senator Win Gatchalian is pushing for a mechanism that will allow for the responsive maintenance and rehabilitation of transmission, sub-transmission, and distribution lines.

Gatchalian, who chairs the Senate Committee on Energy, sponsored on Wednesday Senate Bill No. 2098 (SBN 2098), otherwise known as the “Anti-Obstruction of Power Lines Act of 2018.”

The bill ensures that the power line corridor – including the land beneath, the air spaces surrounding, and the area traversed by power lines, including its horizontal, vertical, and similar clearance requirements – shall, at all times, be kept clear and free from any obstructions, dangerous structures, hazardous activities, or any similar circumstances that impede the continuous flow of electricity, according to the lawmaker.

Recognizing “the continuous conveyance of electricity as a matter of national security and as central to economic development, Gatchalian said the measure “will ensure that the conveyance of electricity from the power generating plants all the way to the end users – the consumers, business, and the aforementioned vital installations in the country – will be

DILG CONFERS...

FROM PAGE 1

The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) confers the 1st National Anti-Drug Abuse Council (ADAC) Performance Awards to 241 outstanding local government units (LGUs) with exemplary efforts, through their ADACs, in complementing the national government’s measures to eradicate the country’s illegal drugs problem.

DILG Secretary Eduardo M. Año says that the war against drugs can only be won when everyone “chips in” their contribution and to have a good number of LGUs as recipients of the award is a clear manifestation that the country’s illegal drugs efforts are leading to the right direction.

“Congratulations to the winners! As we award today’s recipients, we are guaranteed that we can definitely rely on the LGUs to be our reliable partners in the war against illegal drugs,” Año says.

Local ADACs play a critical role in coordination and proper monitoring of drug-related incidents within the jurisdiction of the LGU, especially the barangays.

According to the DILG Chief, 21 LGUs out of the 241 total awardees garnered the perfect score of 100 based on the functionality indicators that were used to score and measure the functionality of provincial, city and municipal ADACs.

The 21 LGUs with perfect functionality points score are: Province of Davao Oriental; Pasig City; Quezon City; City of San Juan; City

of Valenzuela; City of Alaminos, Pangasinan; City of Tacurong, Sultan Kudarat; Balaoan, Agoo, and San Gabriel, all in La Union; Bayambang, Pangasinan; Orani, Bagac, and Pilar, all in Bataan; Carmona, Cavite; Torrijos, Marinduque; Nunungan, Lanao del Norte; Pantukan, Compostela Valley; Surallah, South Cotabato; Columbio and Esperanze, Sultan Kudarat.

On the other hand, 220 other LGUs garnered high functionality points between 85-99. Of this number, 21 are provinces, 17 are highly-urbanized cities and independent component cities, 15 are component cities, and 167 municipalities.

The 21 LGUs will each receive P250,000 as incentive, while all of the 241 awardees will each get a plaque of recognition.

The National ADAC Performance Award is given to LGUs that achieved an adjectival rating of Ideal (high functionality) based on the 2017 ADAC Performance Audit.

Through DILG Memorandum Circular 2018-159, the DILG announced the implementation of the 2017 ADAC Performance Audit to ensure the continued performance of the ADACs using audit criteria such as organized local ADAC; implementation of ADAC Plans and Programs; fund allocation; support to ADACs in component LGUs; and conduct of quarterly meetings.

PRRD endorses 3 admin bets

DUTERTE ENDORSES ADMIN BET. President Rodrigo R. Duterte raises the hand of former Presidential Adviser on Political Affairs Francis Tolentino during the latter’s birthday celebration at the Tagaytay International Convention Center in Tagaytay City on January 3, 2019. (Valerie Escalera/Presidential Photo)

MANILA -- President Rodrigo R. Duterte on Thursday night endorsed three administration candidates anew

after a survey for the senatorial race showed that they failed to make it to the top 12 list.

The recent Social Weather Stations (SWS) survey showed that Duterte’s former Presidential Political Affairs Adviser Francis Tolentino ranked 17th on the survey.

Former Special Assistant to the President Christopher “Bong” Go ranked 14th to 15th, tying with former Bureau of Corrections (BuCor) and Philippine



Francis Tolentino Ronald Dela Rosa Bong Go

National Police (PNP) chief Ronald “Bato” dela Rosa.

Speaking before guests present at Tolentino’s birthday celebration in Tagaytay City, the President said he attended the event because he believed his former adviser possessed the qualities that make him a good senator.

“Francis, birthday niya,

pumunta ako dito. Bakit? Gusto ko siyang ma-senador (Francis, it’s his birthday. I came here. Why? I want him to be senator),” Duterte said in his speech.

Duterte said he felt that people who were surveyed have made a “mistake” by not including him in the top 12 in the senatorial aspirants.

cont. on Page 4...



Dasmariñas City, Cavite - In view of the campaign of the City Government of Dasmariñas against firecrackers and improvised cannon in accordance to the implementation of Presidential Executive Order No. 28-s-2017 and City Ordinance No. 07-s-2018 in cooperation with the Philippine National Police - Dasmariñas and the Barangay Officials, the destruction of confiscated firecrackers was held on January 3, 2018 at Barangay Fatima I Covered Court. The success of the enforcement of the

mentioned executive order and city ordinance is due to the combined efforts of the public servants and the cooperation of the Dasmariñeños that also led to the decline in the incidence of firecracker-related injuries. Therefore, the relatively peaceful New Year’s celebration in our City which can be considered a great beginning for 2019.

SM San Pablo Hosts Seniors Got Talent



Winning Tango Moves of 84 Year old Lolo Sendong Dela Peña in the recently held Seniors Got talent in SM City San Pablo

11 Seniors performed in the biggest talent search competition organized by SM cares for their elderly program held last December 27 2018 in SM City San Pablo , mall atrium. SM Cares Senior Citizen Program celebrates the amazing talents of the elderly people in our community. Mall Manager Eve Verzola said that “our seniors are indeed older, wiser and better in every way and to better showcase that is through Seniors Got Talent”

SM City San Pablo is also proud to host several projects for our Lolos and Lolas such as “Oldies but techies” , Casual Employment for Senior Citizens “, “Grand parents day “ and the “Seniors Got talent” . These programmes are specifically developed by SM Supermalls to cater to the well being of our seniors mall patrons.

SM wanted to make sure that our seniors are more active, productive, engaged, and social. Aside from providing

them with services for leisure and ease, SM also gives them opportunities to have memorable moments with their family and friends.

Aside from the contestants, senior citizen affairs also performed several cultural and modern dances as intermission numbers. 84 year old Tango dancer Tatay Sendong Dela Peña emerged as the winner. Public Relations Manager Nina Wong said that SM will always support the active adult community.

People who reside along the train station tracks are constantly at risk – their houses, their livelihood, and their lives. Everyday they make their way to their temporary jobs as sewers, carpenters, welders, or whatever opportunity comes along just to make ends meet. Some are housewives, students, construction workers, or yayas coming from different provinces. Despite their individual struggles, life went on for the residents along Philippine National Railways’ Muntinlupa track. Until the day that they had to move out and resettle to give way to development plans and for their own safety.

Eleven years ago, in 2007, these residents were relocated to the National Housing Authority’s resettlement area in Southville 3, Barangay Poblacion, Muntinlupa City. Each family was given a unit, which in most cases was far better than what they used to have. After their resettlement, some residents started small businesses, such as tricycle driving and selling goods. However, the residents missed their old lives – their friends and their livelihood. Their new community at that time just did not feel like home. Further, income opportunities and access to transportation to get to their place of work were still be limited. These circumstances led some resettled families to decide on whether to sell or rent out their units for additional income and go back to where they used to live.

To address this problem and to augment the financial needs of the residents, the NHA livelihood program head approached the Department of Science and Technology – National Capital Region (DOST-NCR) in 2012 to seek assistance to enhance their livelihood programs for the relocatees. Under the Community Empowerment thru Science and Technology (CEST)

program of the DOST-NCR, a series of trainings on technology, livelihood, and entrepreneurship were conducted. Those who completed the training series were organized to form a homeowner’s association to facilitate the implementation and formalization of the livelihood activities. This group eventually became the Southville Home - Based Producer Association, Inc. (SHBPAL), a producers’ group duly registered with the SEC in 2013.

Forty-five members of the SHBPAL initially produced personal and home care products such as shampoo, lotion, detergent, candles, and dishwashing liquid, as well as food products like polvoron, peanut butter, and calamansi juice. Fabric and water lily-based products were also part of their product lines. The 2012 survey of DOST-NCR and NHA showed that most of the residents were capable of doing carpentry, welding and sewing since most of the women worked in a garments company before moving to Southville. Upon learning this, the two agencies partnered with the LGU of Muntinlupa to acquire additional sewing machines for the common service facilities which expanded membership of the SHBPAL to include the sewer’s subgroup.

In 2016, the SHBPAL sewers subgroup started their contract with Sunriva Merchandising Trading Corporation as a sub-contractor. Their partnership started when DOST-NCR presented its umbrella programs, the Small Enterprise Technology Upgrading Program (SETUP) and Community Empowerment thru Science and Technology (CEST), to the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industries Muntinlupa Chapter (PCCI-Muntinlupa) where Sunriva Merchandising Trading Corporation is a member. Today,

the SHBPAL sewers subgroup are also distributing their products to Samsung Philippines, Gentix Enterprise, Rotary Club of Paranaque Central, and other semiconductor companies.

Before their partnership with Sunriva, the group was only composed of 15 occasional seamstresses, producing only a few number of rugs with a very limited market. To date, SHBPAL already has 65 seamstresses coming in regularly to the common service facilities to produce bags which are being sold in one of the biggest department stores in Metro Manila. They also produce bed sheets, linen, pouches, and rugs.

Apart from sewing and producing home and body care products, there were also trainings in welding and other technical courses conducted in partnership with Muntinlupa City Technical Institute (MCTI). The MCTI was also provided with welding machines to expand the technical courses offered by MCTI. The number of MCTI welding graduates greatly increased by 2018. MCTI’s welding program has so far graduated 340 trainees, 191 of whom have been employed locally and abroad.

The residents saw a gradual stability in their income because of the continuous support of government agencies like DOST-NCR and their LGU. They thought that

this is, perhaps, the better life that they were waiting for. The area has also been developed to become a more liveable place for the homeowners – with a school built for the residents’ children and the community accessible to public transportation.

“Salamat sa tulong ng DOST, dahil kami ay natutulungang mas maging maayos ang aming buhay. Mas marami pa kaming natutulungang ibaring mga kasama, lalo mga kababaihan. Masayang masaya kami na mas maganda na rin ang aming kinikita na nakakatulong rin sa amin sa buhay,” says Aurea Piedra, one of the members of SHBPAL. The residents of the community are now more motivated to acquire extra income to support their families without having to leave their homes. Members of the association are now able to settle their monthly amortizations because of the regular income that they receive from the enterprises established.

Because of the joint interventions of DOST-NCR, NHA, and the LGU of Muntinlupa City, and the expanded partnership with the private sector, more families benefited from the profits derived from the organization. The residents feel a spark of hope that there is a bright future ahead of them if they will be consistent and persistent in their craft, more importantly if these will be founded on science and technological principles.

PRRD endorses...

FROM PAGE 3

“Nagkamali lang ‘yung tao pero (People have made a mistake) I do not have to, you know, derogate others. Iyong nangunguna sa survey (But those leading in the survey). Susmaryosep,” he said.

The President praised Tolentino for being dedicated, knowledgeable, and diligently followed orders, citing how the former adviser who served as Mayon crisis manager during the volcano’s eruption in early 2018.

He stressed that he did not endorse

Tolentino because he was a friend but given his “proven integrity”.

Aside from the birthday celebrator, Duterte also endorsed dela Rosa and Go, calling them “fundamentally honest” and “extraordinarily honest”, respectively.

“Si Bato, ganun lang ‘yan (he’s only like that) but he is really fundamentally honest. (He) became my chief of police. Maniwala kayo (Believe me),” he said.

The Chief Executive said Go was a person he trusted enough to have allowed him to

work for him as his top aide for almost 20 years.

At present, the SWS showed that Senators Cynthia Villar and Grace Poe have topped the senatorial race obtaining a voter preference of 62 percent and 60 percent, respectively.

Taguig Rep. Pia Cayetano, reelectionist Senators Juan Edgardo “Sonny” Angara and Nancy Binay shared the third to fifth places, obtaining 40 percent of the votes. (PNA)

FOR WITH
GOD
ALL THINGS
ARE
POSSIBLE

DBP inks partnership with Gen Trias in Cavite

State-run Development Bank of the Philippines recently forged a partnership with the local government of General Trias, Cavite to undertake several projects that will boost efficiency and productivity in the city.

In a statement, DBP president and chief executive officer Cecilia Borromeo said the bank would assist the local government in automating its human resource and payroll processing.

She said DBP would also help boost tax collections in the city through its point-of-sale (POS) and internet payment gateway (IPG) facilities.

"With the POS facility, residents and business owners in

General Trias City can now pay their real property taxes using debt, credit and prepaid cards, while the IPG would facilitate online acceptance of payments of the taxpayers' real property and business dues," Borromeo said.

Borromeo said DBP would also install two additional ATMs in the city to serve the local government's employees and its residents.

"With the POS facility, residents and business owners in General Trias City can now pay their real property taxes using debt, credit and prepaid cards, while the IPG would facilitate online acceptance of payments of the taxpayers' real property and business

dues," Borromeo said. Borromeo said DBP would also install two additional ATMs in the city to serve the local government's employees and its residents.

The partnership will also allow the city government to broaden tax payment options for its residents, while increasing collection efficiency and generating savings through streamlined payment collection, and reduced operational expenses.

General Trias City Mayor Antonio Ferrer, for his part, said the joint initiative with DBP would help the city government increase its tax collections, while enhancing service delivery to its constituents. (Mary Grace Padin)

Salceda: Nuclear Regulation Act to promote technology, industrial growth

Filipinos will likely upgrade their outlook on nuclear concerns shortly. Before its Christmas break, the House of Representatives approved on second reading HB 8733, also known as the "Comprehensive Nuclear Regulation Act," which seeks to establish a comprehensive nuclear regulatory framework and create the Philippine Nuclear Regulatory Commission (PNRC).

Albay Rep. Joey Sarte Salceda, the bill's principal author, said PNRC will be a single, independent nuclear regulatory body focused on the control of peaceful uses and application of nuclear energy, as the country embarks on a renewed effort to strengthen science and technology and boost industrial growth. House Speaker Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo is among the bill's proponents.

To be attached to the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), PNRC will be tasked to harmonize the country's nuclear regulatory structure with other countries, especially in the Asia-Pacific region, such as China, South Korea, Japan, Australia, and Singapore, among others.

Salceda said the measure aims to harness the peaceful and beneficial uses of nuclear energy in agriculture, health and medicine, energy

production, scientific research, industry, and education; recognize the potentially harmful effects of ionizing radiation; protect society and the environment; establish a legal and regulatory framework for the regulation and control of the peaceful uses of nuclear resources; manage radioactive waste; and establish a legal and regulatory framework to prevent, detect, and respond to unauthorized activities involving nuclear materials.

PNRC, as an autonomous regulatory body, shall exercise authority over all aspects of safety, security, and safeguards involving nuclear and other radioactive materials, facilities, and radiation generating equipment. Most importantly, Salceda stressed, PNRC will "ensure consistency with the nation's obligations under relevant international instruments and modernize the nuclear civil liability and compensation regime in line with internationally-accepted standards."

HB 8733, he added, also aims to establish and maintain a regulatory system for "the formulation and adoption of rules and guidelines on the use of ionizing radiation that shall specify the principles, requirements, and associated criteria for safety and security upon which the

regulatory judgments, decisions, and actions shall be based."

Among PNRC's other functions are to: (a) formulate and issue regulations and policies necessary for the Act's implementation, (b) issue regulations on financial capability of operators to cover liability for nuclear damage; (c) inspect, assess, and monitor activities to ensure compliance; (d) coordinate with other agencies on health and safety, environmental protection, security, and transportation of nuclear and related dangerous goods; and (e) act as the national authority on nuclear safety, security, and regulatory matters relative to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

PNRC shall be headed by a Commissioner, appointed by the President and shall be assisted by four Deputy Commissioners and an Executive Director who will assist them in the discharge of executive, administrative and planning functions of the body. As mandated, it will charge and collect reasonable fees for its regulatory functions which shall be deposited with the Bureau of Treasury as income of the general fund. It will also establish a Nuclear Waste Management Fund and set aside a portion of the payment for the electricity

generated from the nuclear energy use which shall only be utilized for the safe disposal of nuclear waste, to include site research, transport, and final geological disposal.

PNRC shall likewise have an Advisory Board chaired by the DOST Secretary, with the Secretary of the Department of Health as vice chair, and the Secretaries of the Departments of Energy, Environment and Natural Resources, National Defense, Trade and Industry, and Agriculture as members, as well as some five members from the academe or non-government organizations.

Violators of the Act shall be penalized with imprisonment of at most five years, and/or a fine ranging from P1 million to P5 million. All powers, duties, records, files, and assets pertaining to nuclear and radioactive materials and facilities of the Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI) shall be transferred to PNRC.

In addition, the measure also transfers the regulatory powers of PNRI's Nuclear Regulatory Division, as well as the Radiation Regulatory Divisions of the Center for Device Regulation, Radiation, Health and Research of the Department of Health to PNRC. END

122 deaths...

FROM PAGE 1

MANILA -- The number of deaths being validated and attributed to Tropical Depression Usman has now climbed to 122, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) said in its update on Thursday noon.

This is significantly higher than the 85 reported on Wednesday.

This was disclosed by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) in the update signed and released by Executive Director Ricardo Jalad.

In the same update,

the agency said the death toll is still being validated by its Management of the Dead and the Missing Cluster.

The fatalities are reported in Mimaropa (Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon and Palawan), Bicol and Eastern Visayas regions.

Also still being validated are reports of 28 missing persons and 60 injured, all in the Mimaropa, Bicol and Eastern Visayas.

"Usman"-affected families are now pegged at 75,326, which is equivalent to 308,451 individuals residing in 624 barangays in Calabarzon (Cavite,

Laguna, Batangas and Quezon), Mimaropa, Bicol and Eastern Visayas.

Of the said figure, 6,217 families or 30,960 persons are still being aided in 210 evacuation centers while 10,844 families, which is equivalent to 55,274 individuals, are being aided outside.

Agricultural damage for Bicol and Eastern Visayas is placed at PHP528,509,569.

Meanwhile, 2,896 houses have been damaged—698 totally damaged and 2,198 partially damaged—in Calabarzon, Mimaropa and Eastern Visayas. (PNA)

GORDON COMMENDS PNP FOR SWIFT RESOLUTION OF BATOCABE SLAY CASE

Senator Richard J. Gordon, chairman of the Committee on Justice and Human Rights, today commended the Philippine National Police (PNP) for the swift resolution of the assassination of Ako Bicol Partylist Representative Rodel Batocabe.

"I wish to congratulate the Philippine National

Police in its swift and effective identification of the mastermind and suspects involved in the assassination of Ako Bicol Partylist Congressman Rodel Batocabe including the prompt filing of charges before the provincial prosecutor of Albay and the recommendation for the immediate issuance of an HDO against Daraga City

Mayor Carl Wynn Baldo," he said in a statement.

Noting that it is a good start to the year, Gordon also expressed hope that the PNP will continue to work towards swift justice and that the people could always aid and trust the PNP as they did in the Batocabe case.

"Let us all wish that the community can

always aid and trust the PNP as they did in this case. Let us continue towards swift justice all throughout 2019 and onwards!" he said.

The PNP has tagged Daraga, Albay Mayor Carlwyn Baldo as the mastermind in the killing last December 22 of the partylist congressman and his bodyguard, Senior Police Officer

1 Orlando Diaz.

PNP Chief Director General Oscar Albayalde said complaints for double murder and six counts of frustrated murder have already been filed against Baldo and six of his employees before the Albay Provincial Prosecutor's Office on Thursday morning.

Batocabe and his bodyguard were shot

dead at 3 p.m. on December 22, 2018 after a gift-giving event at a covered court in

Barangay Burgos. He was running for mayor in Daraga in the May elections.

THE JOY OF THE LORD IS MY
strength

More than just a lechón

Every celebration in the Philippines calls for a feast. While native delicacies are always present on the buffet table, *lechón* is the dish that should not be missed. *Lechón* is a Spanish word for roasted suckling pig. It is cooked over charcoal for several hours making the pork skin crispy.

Lechón is popular in the Philippines and in other Spanish-speaking nations in Latin America and Spain. In fact, *lechón* is the national dish of Cuba. In the Philippines, the *lechón* of Cebu is the most famous in terms of the quality of pig as recognized by the late American chef Anthony Bourdain.

But what really makes a perfect *lechón*?

The birth of a change agent

In Candalaria, Quezon, there's this man named Ruel Mariano Marquez who is fondly called by his neighbors as "Boss". He is not, however, the typical boss you'll see holding meetings in a conference room or someone who is in suit roaming around the

metro. Ruel is the boss of the masses. People in their community give high respect to this man because of his dedication in supporting local farmers by letting them venture into hog raising business.

Ruel grew up in a family whose source of living comes from pig farming and outsourcing. This kind of business venture is profitable considering the short span of time needed to grow a pig for *lechón*. Ruel's family, composed of seven siblings with him being the second eldest, has been supplying pigs to *lechón* producers. At a young age, Ruel stood up and took responsibility of their family business due to his father and eldest sibling's illnesses. In effect, Ruel chose not to pursue his high school education.

When Ruel met Pambansang Lenchon (Elarz) in 2015, he and his wife decided to let their neighbors take charge in raising the pigs to at least share with them the chance of starting a business. Ruel also expanded

his farm's pigpen to accommodate the number of pigs they can outsource everyday.

"I have seen and experienced the spite of poverty. I know it is hard that is why I am doing this to at least help my neighbors earn additional income," said Ruel.

Ruel provides every household the piglets and their needed feeds and organic foods. The only requirement is that every household should have their own pigpen. Some of the potential hog raisers have no budget for its construction. Luckily, like Ruel, these households are also clients of CARD Bank, a microfinance-oriented rural bank, which provided them loans to start their desired business venture.

According to Ruel, the income of this kind of business venture is derived after the cost of piglet and its food are subtracted from the gross sales. The minimum number of pigs every household can accommodate is at least 30, which could generate more

than P15,000 in just two months.

Providing access

As the demand for supply increases, the need for additional capitalization is sought by Ruel. In 2017, Ruel was introduced by Elarz to CARD-Business Development Service Foundation Inc. (CARD-BDSFI) through the foundation's chief executive Julius Adrian Alip. The foundation through CARD Leasing and Finance Corporation (CLFC) helped Ruel in acquiring the huge lot he needs for his pigpen.

The CARD-BDSFI is a dynamic, flexible, and innovative foundation that provides marketing, business development, and linkage and networking of CARD clients and different communities to the mainstream market. Likewise, CLFC finances social enterprise and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) that are potential in creating value proposition for microentrepreneurs. These two companies

are member institutions of CARD Mutually Reinforcing Institutions (CARD MRI), a group of 21 development-oriented institutions that aims to eradicate poverty in the country.

This investment let Ruel open doors in Oriental Mindoro. "This is a dream realized because my only hope is to make every household have the opportunity to earn money and save for their family," he added.

Together with CARD-BDSFI, Ruel organized series of community meetings in the areas of Oriental Mindoro and introduced his advocacy. It was never hard for Ruel to look for hog raisers because majority of them are clients of CARD financial institutions like him.

"Our scheme in Mindoro is different because majority of the households have the capacity already to buy and raise pigs. What they are just afraid of are sure buyers. So, I assured them by constructing a pigpen where they could stock their

ready-to-*lechón* pigs," shared Ruel.

From two pigs, every household tapped by Ruel and CARD-BDSFI in Mindoro is now raising up to seven pigs. CARD-BDSFI and Ruel also organized series of trainings especially on how to naturally raise pigs. "This opportunity allowed our microfinance clients in Mindoro to gain knowledge on how to raise pigs naturally. It also taught them to plant the usual crops these pigs can consume," said Alip.

For now, the pigs that Ruel and his farmers are raising are semi-organic where commercial feeds and root crops are mixed together. But Ruel hopes to convert few of his farms to become fully organic.

To date, Ruel has 12 hog raisers in Quezon Province and more than 600 families in 12 areas in Oriental Mindoro that supply him with pigs. In Quezon Province, they harvest at least 800 pigs every two months. In Mindoro, they at least harvest 350 pigs per week.

Ruel also hopes to increase the number of household-suppliers of pigs next year covering the occidental part of Mindoro.

Asset ownership

Vilma and Edelberto de Chavez, hog raisers for more than three years, said that the opportunity allowed them to provide food on their table everyday. "Every week, we sold at least 10 pigs to Ruel. Then another set of piglets are given to us to raise for few months. This flow of business is keeping our family needs intact," added Vilma.

At first, it was actually quite hard because you are only raising piglets that would be sold within two to four months. In between those months, struggles not on what to feed the pigs but on what these caretakers will feed themselves arise.

"I know that it is not easy at first. That is why, every husband of our hog raisers in Quezon becomes my

buy and sell agent," said Ruel adding that they're able to buy at least 40 pigs everyday.

"Becoming one of Ruel's agents helped me in providing food on our table and paying our bills," shared Edelberto.

According to Ruel, you just have to be mindful in managing your cash flow in this kind of business. "Financial management is very important here. That is why, after initial harvest, I remind them to save and invest for something that they could benefit on a short or long term basis," explained Ruel.

After the first harvest in de Chavez's farm, he allotted a budget for an additional pigpen. Then eventually, the couple was able to buy motorcycle, renovate their house, sustained the education of their children, and pays their electricity and water bills monthly.

Integrating advanced technologies

As the demand of naturally grown hogs becomes the preferred taste of the masses, Ruel also needs to strategically map and monitor its growing hog raisers.

"The supply chain should flow smoothly and this is where advanced technologies come in. In the coming months, we will be working with Ruel and Elarz on investing a cloud-based system where the growth of every pig is monitored to pin the exact time for harvesting," emphasized Alip.

"Monitoring is significant here considering the huge volume of caretakers of Ruel. To harmonize the harvesting process, a system should be implemented," added Alip.

More than just monitoring, the proposed system will also allow potential

buyers to search for or buy naturally grown pigs within their area.

"This is a huge decision we will all journey but as we are planning to replicate this initiative in Visayas and Mindanao, Ruel, BDSFI, and Elarz should be two steps ahead already," said Manuel Enrique Zalamea, owner of Elarz.

Moreover, it is also the goal of Elarz, as emphasized by Manuel, to teach Filipino farmers three things - first is the "First World Philippines" where Filipino farmers can earn substantially for making the best breed of *lechón*. According to Manuel, the Philippines has 30 million hectares of land and 47% of it is for agriculture. "So if we can develop that 47% agricultural land we can make the farmer earn substantially and eventually create a first world Philippines," he added.

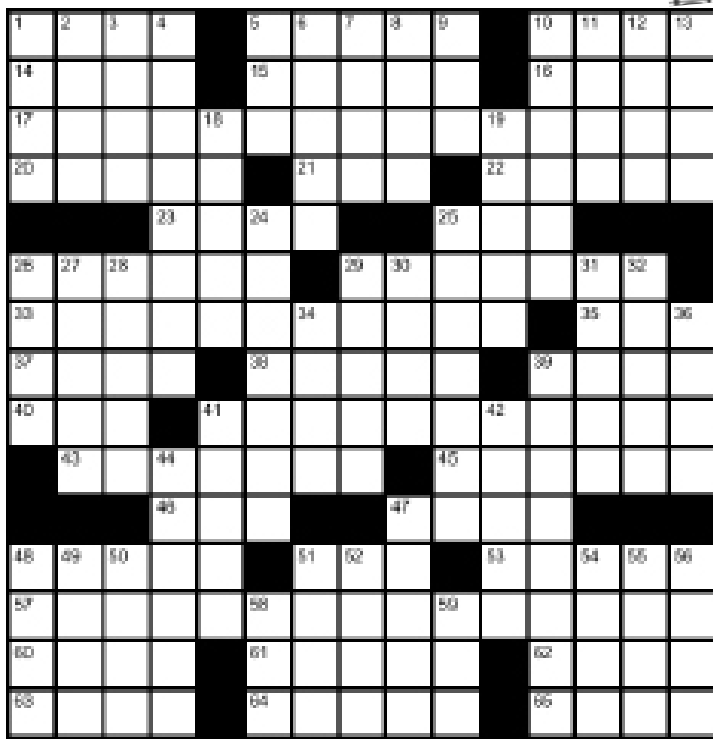
The second thing Manuel would like to teach is to "Save the Planet" where Elarz and BDSFI will teach farmers the incorporation of biogas that fits small scale backyard farmers. Lastly is for Filipinos to have "Celebrations made Healthy" where the *lechón* prepared during celebrations are grown naturally or organic.

"In organic and natural farming, 50% of the cost will potentially be reduced that will allow our farmers to earn more. Beyond that, it is providing Filipinos the best quality and organic pig for *lechón* that matter most," added Manuel.

This is what makes a perfect *lechón* - more than just being naturally grown, you are also helping local agri-farmers to grow. The next time you order a *lechón*, make sure you slice the right one!



CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1. Tibia
- 5. Respond by changing
- 10. Mold
- 14. Yield
- 15. The original "101"
- 16. Beach banquet
- 17. Result
- 20. Pickle portion
- 21. Treacherous curve
- 22. Gives the boot to
- 23. Hardy heroine
- 25. Give a single star, perhaps.

- 26. Miss Vanners' metier
- 29. Twitchy
- 33. Water quality evaluation?
- 35. Fidel's friends
- 37. Type of Tennis or bowling
- 38. She Played Gia on Full House
- 39. James of Rollerball
- 40. Suffix with lex- or-morph-
- 41. Succinet Sahara summary?
- 43. Former Senator D'Amano
- 45. Edmonton

- 46. Gore and Sharpton
- 47. Eso Beso balladeer
- 48. When Macbeth kills Duncan
- 51. American Uncle
- 53. Mutual of ___
- 57. Midmorning fruit disg?
- 60. Rapids rider
- 61. Like some verbs, abbrev.
- 62. Kind of Garden
- 63. T-men,

- 64. Mercantile establishment
- 65. Squid sprays.

DOWN

- 1. Sec 30 down
- 2. Give a hand
- 3. Like some hands
- 4. Denial
- 5. Member of the colonial army?
- 6. Saharan fruits
- 7. Fruity refreshments
- 8. Bowler's targets
- 9. Children's chase game
- 10. Show off and show often
- 11. Avignon eyes
- 12. Rave's partner
- 13. Rumble
- 18. Last name in Vacuums
- 19. Treatments for a cow or a celeb
- 24. Sunday speeches
- 25. Ideal example
- 26. Fit
- 27. Golden Globe category
- 28. Wheel of fortune buy
- 29. Buying binge
- 30. With I down govt.

HALAMANG GAMOT

GULASIMAN



Scientific name: *Portulaca oleracea* (Linn.)
 Common name: *Gulasiman, Ulasiman* (Tagalog); *Common purslane, Little hogweed* (Ingles)

PAANO GINAGAMIT ANG MGA ITO?

Ang buong halaman ng gulasiman ay ginagamit na panggamot. Karaniwang dinidikdik ito at ipinagtatapat sa apektadong bahagi ng katawan.

Ang ugat ay maaaring patuyuin sa araw at gamitin sa panggamot.

Ang dahon ay karaniwang dinidikdik at kinakatasan upang maipampahid sa apektadong bahagi ng katawan.

ANO ANG MGA SAKIT NA MAAARING MAGAMOT NG GULASIMAN?

1. **Pasa at pamamaga sa balat.** Mabisa bilang gamot ang pagpapahid ng dinidikdik na dahon at sanga ng gulasiman.

2. **Sakit sa balat.** Ginagamit sa iba't ibang sakit sa balat ang pinaglagaan ng dahon ng gulasiman. Ipinaghuhugas lamang ito sa apektadong balat.

3. **Dysmenorrhea.** Pinapainom din ng katas ng halaman ang mga taong dumadanas ng pananakit sa puson o dysmerria.

4. **Sugat.** Ang pagsusugat sa balat ay maaaring maibsan ng pagtatapat ng dinidikdik na dahon ng gulasiman.

5. **Pagtatae.** Ang buto ay ginagamit na panglunas sa pagtatae, gayun din ang katas mismo ng halaman. Maaari din inumin ang pinaglagaan ng buong halaman ng gulasiman.

6. **Hirap sa pag-ih.** Mahusay na gamot para sa mga hirap makaihi ang pag-inom sa katas ng gulasiman. Maaari ding gamitin

Ang gulasiman ay isang karaniwang halaman na tumutubo sa kahit na anong lugar sa bansa. Ito'y itinuturing na damong ligaw. Ang halaman ay maliit lamang at namumulaklak ng kulay dilaw. Sa ibang lugar, ito ay ginagamit bilang pampalasa at pansahog sa salad.

ANO ANG MGA SUSTANSYA AT KEMIKAL NA MAAARING MAKUHA SA GULASIMAN?

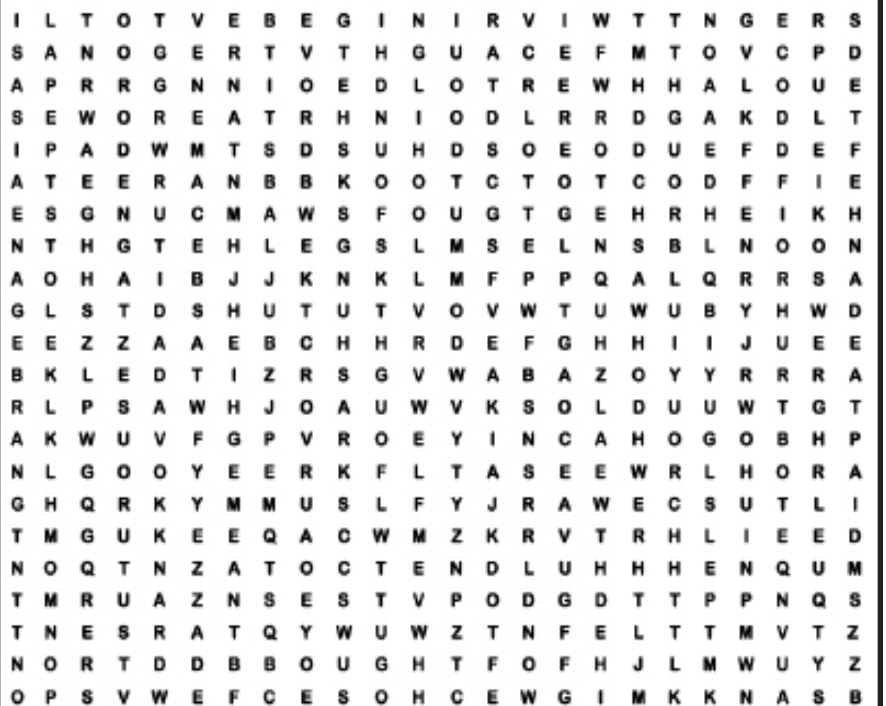
Mayroong tannins, steroids, flavonoids, saponins, at alkaloids ang halamang gulasiman. May mataas din itong lebel ng l-norepinephrine.

May taglay iong sustansya gaya ng vitamins A, B, B2, C, niacinamide, nicotinic acid, a-tocopherol, at B-carotene. May mga mineral din ito gaya ng calcium at iron. Mayroon pang fatty acids lalo na ang omega-3. Bukod pa dito, makukuhanan pa ito ng glutathione, glutamic acid, aspartic acid, flavonoids, alkaloids, saponins at urea.

ANONG BAHAGI NG HALAMAN ANG GINAGAMIT BILANG GAMOT, AT

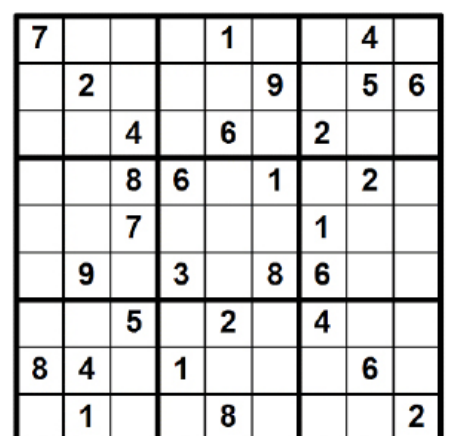
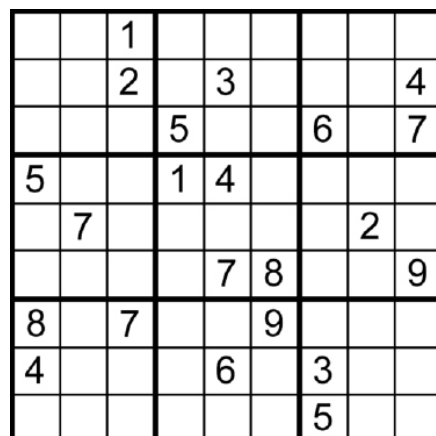
- 31 Meeting maestro
- 34 Eyeglass Holders?
- 36 You'd like to make them meet
- 39 Squid snack
- 41 Kind of acid
- 42 Big name in cameras
- 44 Swoons
- 47 Decorative resin
- 48 Incantation
- 49 Alpine porch
- 50 Clump of curls
- 51 Reorder
- 52 Retro do
- 54 Very
- 55 Wield a machere
- 56 Says "who"?
- 58 Towel label
- 59 Iron or bronze, e.g.

WORDHUNT



- SING
- SINK
- SIT
- STAND
- STEAL
- BECOME
- BEGIN
- BREAK
- BRING
- BUY
- CATCH
- CHOOSE
- COME
- COST
- CUT
- TAKE
- TEACH
- TEAR
- SWEEP
- SWIM
- DO
- DRAW
- DRINK
- DRIVE
- EAT
- FALL
- FEED
- FEEL
- FIGHT
- FIND
- SLEEP
- SPEAK
- SPEND
- FLY
- FORGET
- FORGIVE
- FREEZE
- GET
- GIVE
- GO
- GROW
- HANG
- HAVE
- WIN
- WRITE
- TELL
- THINK
- THROW
- WAKE
- WEAR
- MEET
- PAY
- READ
- RIDE
- RING
- RUN
- SEE
- SELL
- SEND
- SHUT

SUDOKU



- 7. **Kagat ng ahas.** Ipinangtatapat sa sugat na dulot ng kagat ng ahas ang dinidikdik na halaman ng gulasiman na hinaluan ng asin.
- 8. **Eczema.** Ang dinidikdik na halaman ng gulasiman ay mabisa para sa apektadong balat.
- 9. **Tuberculosis.** Iniinom ang pinaglagaan ng pinatuyong dahon ng gulasiman para maibsan ang mga sintomas ng TB.
- 10. **Bungang araw.** Ipinangpapahid din ang katas ng gulasiman sa balat na apektado ng bungang araw.

Partylist Target ang Matibay na Pangontra ng mga Barangay Laban sa Sunog

ISINUSULONG ngayon ng One Philippines (OnePh) Partylist ang isang programa na magpapatibay sa pananggalang ng bawat barangay laban sa sunog na sa unang dalawang araw pa lamang ng taong 2019 ay tumupok na ng 74 bahay, isang tindahan ng prutas, isang bodega, isang paaralan, at isang gusali, at kumitil din sa buhay ng isang tao habang nag-iwan naman ng limang sugatan.

Iginiit ni One Philippines Partylist nominee Aries "Gabo" Ignacio na mas maiwasan ang pagkalagas ng mga buhay at pagkasira ng mga ari-arian kung hindi basta-basta natitinag ng mga sakuna o "disaster-resilient" ang isang komunidad.

"Alam naman natin na it takes time bago makaresponde ang ating mga bumbero sa mga insidente ng sunog considering yung communication at travel time nila mula sa mga istasyon papunta sa pinangyayarihan ng

sunog, kaya madalas pagdating nila sa pinangyayarihan ng insidente masyado nang malaki ang apoy kaya mahirap na itong maapula," paliwanag ni Ignacio.

Aniya, panahon na upang bigyan nang kakayahan ang mga mamamayan na iligtas ang kanilang mga sarili lalo na sa mga insidente ng sunog at iba pang trahedyang maaaring mangyari sa kanilang komunidad sa pamamagitan ng pagre-require sa mga barangay, gayundin sa iba't ibang establisimiyento katulad ng mga paaralan, palengke, tanggapan ng gobyerno at iba pang may mga gusali, na magkaroon ng Fire Truck Aide (FTA) System na magtitiyak na may kakayahan ang bawat isang komunidad na pigilan ang paglawak ng sunog habang hinihintay ang pagdating ng fire trucks at mga bumbero.

Ang FTA System ay isang set ng mga fire extinguishers na halos katumbas din ng isang fire truck

ang kakayahang makaapula o makapigil sa pagkalat ng sunog sa isang lugar. Mainam umano itong gamit bilang pansamantalang pananggalang sa sunog habang hinihintay ang responde ng mga bumbero.

Makakatulong din umano ang FTA System sa mga bumbero para maabot nito ang mga lugar na nasusunog na hindi kayang pasukin ng kanilang fire trucks tulad ng mga makikitid na iskinita.

Gayundin kapag ang sunog ay nangyari pagkatapos ng lindol o tsunami o bagyo kung saan maraming debris ang nakahambalang sa daan at mahirap makadaan ang mga fire trucks.

Ngunit, ayon kay Ignacio, hindi lang basta-basta set ng fire extinguishers ang kailangan mailagay sa mga barangay at mga gusali kundi mga uri ng fire extinguishers na makakalikasan upang maiwasan ang anumang pinsala sa hangin man o sa kalusugan ng mga

taong nasa paligid natin.

"Kailangan maging mapanuri rin tayo sa pagkuha ng FTA System sapagkat ang ibang fire extinguishers ay nagtataglay ng mga kemikal na may masamang epekto sa ating kalikasan at kalusugan kung kaya ang ating pamahalaan dapat maging alerto at siyasinat maigi ang mga suppliers ng ganitong uri ng mga produkto upang matiyak na nakakasunod ito sa pamantayan ng ating kalikasan," dagdag pa ni Ignacio.

Sa kasalukuyan, nasa mahigit-kumulang 200 barangay sa Metro Manila ang mayroon nang FTA System. Nais ni Ignacio na magkaroon nito ang lahat ng barangay sa buong bansa.

Nangako naman si Ignacio na pagtutuunan ng pansin ang pagpapasa ng mga batas na magbibigay ng kahandaan sa bawat lokal na pamahalaan, lalo na ang mga barangay, sa anumang uri ng sakuna.



BLESSED MUNTINLUPA- Sinimulan ni Mayor Jaime R. Fresnedi ang taong 2019 ng isang Misa ng Pasasalamat kasama ang mga City Officials, Department Heads at mga kawani. Bukod niyang kinausap ni Mayor Fresnedi ang mga pinuno ng mga tanggapan upang pasalamat sa naging masiglang 2018, hiniling ni Mayor Fresnedi sa mga pinuno ng mga tanggapan na ipagpatuloy ang pagkakaloob ng mga serbisyo mandato ng kanilang mga tanggapan.

Bumati rin si Congressman Ruffy Biazon, hangad niyang magpatuloy ang blessings para sa Muntinlupa, "lets keep the momentum going", sa mga mabuting gawain ng lungsod kasama na ang mga pagkilala.

"Tiwala"- ito ang susi ng tagumpay ng Muntinlupa, ayon kay Mayor Fresnedi, pinasalamatan niya ang mga pinuno't kawani sa kanilang mga gawain, sa mga na-disorient ng kanilang tungkulin, hinihimok niya na tupdin ang kanilang mga "mandato" sa bawat tanggapan, at tiyakin na mabigyan ng sapat na serbisyo ang taong bayan.

Sinundan ng "Araw ng Pagpapasalamat sa mga business Partners at renewal ng business permits", na ginanap naman sa Muntinlupa Sports Complex. Bilang pasasalamat sa mga negosyante ng lungsod, nagpakita ng exhibit para sa mga "New Locators", kinilala ang sampung "Early Birds" (10 negosyante), pinangunahan nila : Mayor Fresnedi, Congressman Biazon, City Administrator Engr. Allan Cachuela, LEIPO Gary Llamas, PCCI President Ms. Elvie Quiazon Sanchez, at City Officials : Councilors Allan Camilon, Louie Arciaga, at Patricio Boncayao.

Simula na rin ang "ONE STOP SHOP" para sa renewal ng mga business permits ngayong Enero 3- hanggang 31, 2019.
God Bless Muntinlupa !