



01 May 2021



reguig

Nagbigay si dating Speaker Alan Peter Cayetano at kanyang mga kaalyado mula sa kilusang Balik sa Tamang Serbisyo (BTS) sa Kongreso ng P10,000 na cash na tulong bawat isa sa halos 200 na mga benepisyaryo mula sa buong Pilipinas noong Sabado, Mayo 1, bilang bahagi ng kanilang kampanya para sa agarang pagpasa ng panukalang 10K Ayuda Bill at sa pagdiriwang ng Araw ng Manggagawa.

Sa layuning maabot ang pinakamahirap at pinaka-vulnerable na sektor na matinding naapektuhan ng pandemya, nagsagawa si dating Speaker Cayetano at ang kilusang BTS ng isang live virtual event na tinawag na "Sampung Libong Pagasa" kung saan nagbigay sila ng tulong na salapi sa halos 200 na mga benepisyaryo mula sa 13 lugar sa Pilipinas.

Ang mga lugar na ito ay Batangas, Bulacan, Cavite, Camarines Sur, Caloocan City, Marikina City, Quezon City, Taguig City, Mandaluyong City, Pateros, Sta. Rosa City

Cont. on Page 3



Experience exciting new flavors with Sponge Bar Series at Jim's Recipe SM City Dasmariñas!The first two flavors to hit the market are the Pork Floss Sponge Bar & Oreo Sponge Bar! Massive promo on launch day as well so stay tuned!



In a bid to inoculate more Bacooreños with the arrival of the next batch of CoViD-19 vaccine supply from the Department of Health (DOH), the city government here recently opened an additional vaccination hub at the Niog Elementary School.

A total of 328 residents under the A2 and A3 priority groups were vaccinated during the said launching activity. Cont. on Page 8



Grab your favorite tasty mirienda at Turks SM Marketmall!

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Some local officials are remiss in their jobs."

It is high time that local government units were made accountable for the spike in COVID-19 cases in their area of responsibility.

LGUs from governors and mayors to the barangay captains are supposed to monitor the pandemic situation and institute corrective health measures to stem the virus infection. An outbreak in a barangay simply means that persons of authority, whose salaries are paid from state coffers, failed to impose basic health protocols, or enforce the law and the local ordinance relevant to containing the pan-

President Rodrigo Duterte the other night

19 accountability

ordered mayors and barangay captains to take the lead in enforcing regulations on social distancing and health protocols after expressing frustration over the high number of recorded daily COVID-19 cases.

Mr. Duterte directed Interior Secretary Eduardo Año "to hold the mayors responsible for these kind of [spreader] events happening in their places." The President's order is overdue. Some barangay captains have turned a blind eye to large crowds in nearby wet markets, for instance, or some cozy bars frequented by several patrons despite the clear ban on such establishments.

The barangay captains know the ins and outs of their small community. They cannot feign ignorance on a potential spreader event, be it a birthday party or a reunion.

The failure of local government units to curb the virus infection has taken its toll on workers and the overall economy. Workers who have been religiously complying with basic health protocols are the first to suffer from lockdowns and strict quarantine rules. Many of them have lost their jobs because of the harsh rules and extended curfew hours that restricted their mobility.

Quarantine restrictions and the drop in consumer consumption, according to the National Economic and Development Authority, translated into a total household income loss of around P1.04 trillion in 2020, or an average of P2.8 billion a day.

Many jobs and significant incomes are being lost because some local government officials failed to contain COVID-19. They are remiss in their jobs.

DP&ND& RIDERS: HEROES WHO WEAR PIN



This Labor Day, foodpanda proudly honors its riders as heroes in the delivering frontlines food and other essentials to their customers'

doorsteps so the rest of us can stay safe at home. They are true heroes to their community, to their customers, and to their families.

foodpanda shares these stories of riders who bravely face the everyday challenge of working through the pandemic, motivated by different reasons towards their mission to deliver quality service.

Hero for the community

25-year-old John Kevin Cuneta has been a foodpanda rider since October 2020 and aside from the fact that he likes the uniform that he dons



Jahm Camsa

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Space : Single space for the job, he has formed friendships with many other foodpanda riders in his

They have a Facebook chat group, he says, and because of his experience with outreach programs in places where a calamity has occurred he has mobilized the other riders to do charity work in their community. A fire broke out recently in Pasay, where they are based, and the riders chipped in to help their co-riders, along with other families who lost their homes. "Monthly na iyang program namin. Kung walang mga pangyayari tulad sunog, nagbibigay kami ng pagkain sa mga homeless. Ang mga asawa namin ang taga-luto. Makikita mo talaga ang saya ng mga tao kapag nag-aabot kami ng maliit naming tulong," he smiles.

Being on the road as a delivery rider since 2016, he has encountered the challenges that many other delivery drivers face and he felt the urge to document what they do, to show the public what goes on behind an efficient delivery. He

went around on his shifts with his DSLR camera, and started taking photos of the other riders at work. "Minsan kasi nakakalimutan ng mga tao na kaming mga delivery riders ay frontliners din. Kami ay talagang gumagawa ng paraan para ma-satisfy ang aming mga customers. Halimbawa niyan, kapag may natapon na soft drinks, bumibili kami sa tindahan para mapalitan ito, kasi ayaw namin na hindi masaya ang custom-

Known in his circles as "Mr. Pitik" and with his camera work gaining notice on his Facebook page, his photography hobby has now grown into a side hustle, where he has been commissioned to shoot intimate gatherings and events.

Hero for the customers

Jhan Camsa has been a foodpanda rider in Davao City since March 2020, and his service definitely went above and beyond customer expectations. He recounts the time he received a booking from a customer during a flood. The 31-year-old says he risked his personal safety just to make sure that the order went through. "Hanggang tuhod na ang baha, paikot ikot ako, naghahanap ng paraan, pero hindi na kaya ng motorsiklo ko na dumaan," he described

He could have cancelled the order, but he chose to power through the rain. "Nag park ako ng motor ko, at naglakad. Hindi ko na naisip ang sarili kong kapakanan kasi ang iniintindi ko ay dahil hindi makakalabas ng bahay yung customer, baka wala na silang makain."

His

customer was so surprised, he says, "Akala nila ika-cancel ko. Pero tumawag ako sa kanila na papunta ako habang nilalakad ko na yung mga 500 meters papunta sa kanila." The appreciative customer gave him a tip, he says, and they worried about his safety. He says, though, that it is all part of the job, and mentions that his wife was filled with pride when she heard what he did. "Ginawa ko lang po yung trabaho ko as a foodpanda rider, para din po

makita ng mga customer, na kahit ulan, init, baha, nag-dedeliver talaga ang mga foodpanda riders. At tsaka po para din sa pamilya ko. Kasi marami akong pangarap sa buhay." Jhan says he hopes that with his earnings as a foodpanda rider, he will be able to save enough to start his own business someday.them "Iniisip ko, bawal pa ako mapagod kasi hindi pa ako mayaman," he jokes. "Para sa pamilya talaga ito." His hopes and dreams are focused on his daughter. "Gusto ko makapagtapos siya ng pag-aaral at pag laki niya magkaroon ng maayos na pamilya."

The stories of John, Jaime, and John are only three from among the foodpanda riders who demonstrate determination and compassion. They are frontliners who show courage despite the challenges of the pandemic situation in order to help others, and in order to achieve their dreams. foodpanda invites its customers to show their appreciation the next time they receive a delivery from these heroes in pink.



With nationwide academic break, poor learners will be left behind

Senator Win Gatchalian bats for the allocation of up to 6% of gross domestic product (GDP) for the overall budget of the education sector next year, the recommendation by the United Nations (UN) under the Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4), to help spur the sector's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic

The education sector has been allotted a budget of P759 billion for this year or 4% of GDP to help address the challenges of the pandemic. A big chunk of the budget goes to basic education which is 3.2% of GDP.

Aside from meeting the UN spending targets, Gatchalian also proposed the following steps in financing education: ensuring efficient funding at the local level to improve learner outcomes, ensuring coverage for vulnerable groups, and adjusting the national budget to adapt to the 'New Normal.'

"We want to make sure that the budget for the education sector is responsive to the new normal by re-channeling some of the programs to distance learning — increase the use of the internet and protect the health of our teachers and our school officials," he emphasized.

The senator said that channeling resources to education is such an important ingredient to the success of our learners. He cited an analysis of the 2018 Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) which showed that the Philippines spends a cumulative expenditure of an estimated P8,474 per student aged 6-15 over the theoretical duration of their studies, way lower than the expenses of other Southeast Asian countries per student. Singapore, for instance, spends an estimated P109,060 per student. Their learners scored 549 in Reading ending second from among 79 countries that participated in the said global assessment in 2018 while Filipino learners scored the lowest or 340 in Reading.

To help allocate more resources at the local level, Gatchalian proposed the expanded use of the Special Education Fund (SEF) in Senate Bill No. 1579 or the 21st Century School Boards Act.

Under the proposed measure, the expanded use of the SEF will cover salaries of public elementary and high school teachers, non-teaching, utility, and security personnel. Salaries of preschool teachers, capital outlay for pre-schools, operation and maintenance of Alternative Learning System (ALS) programs, distance education classes and training programs are also included in the proposed expansion of the SEF coverage. These are all contributory to the improvement of the quality of education in the country, according to Gatchalian.

EXTRA-JUDICIAL

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Cayetano...

sa Laguna, Antipolo City sa Rizal, at Ormoc City sa Leyte.

"Mga tunay na tao ito na tunay ang problema, na bago magkaroon ng pandemya ay hirap na at ngayon ay hirap na hirap. Ilan lang ang [nabigyan] today, at bagama't maraming nai-inspire na gusto ring tumulong, kailangan pa rin talaga natin itong batas na ito para lahat mabigyan," sabi ni Cayetano.

"Hopefully, itong gagawin natin today, in the spirit of bayanihan through private sponsors and donors, ma-encourage ang Congress pag-open ng May 17 na 'yung 10K Ayuda Bill at Bayanihan 3 ay itulak naman at ipasa na," dagdag niya.

Sinamahan si Cayetano nina Taguig 2nd District Maria Laarni "Lani" Cayetano; Batangas 2nd District Rep. Raneo Abu; Caloocan City 2nd District Rep. Edgar Erice; Marikina ABC President at NCR Liga ng mga Barangay President Ziff Ancheta ng Tumana, Marikina City: Bulacan 1st District Rep. Jose Antonio Sy-Alvarado; Mandaluyong City Lone District Rep. Neptali Gonzales II; Cavite Reps. Francis Gerald Abaya, Luis Ferrer IV, Elpidio Barzaga, Jr., at Abraham Tolentino; Laguna 1st District Rep. Dan Fernandez; Antipolo City 1st District Rep. Roberto Puno; ANAKALUSUGAN Rep. Michael Defensor; Camarines Sur 2nd District Luis Raymund Villafuerte, Jr.; at Leyte 4th District Rep. Lucy Torres-Gomez, kasama ni Ormoc Mayor Richard Gomez.

"Sa hirap ng buhay ngayon, dapat lahat tayo 'wag mawalan ng pag-asa [at] dapat maging inspirasyon sa ating mga kababayan," sabi ni Rep. Villafuerte na siyang co-host ng programa.

"Kami naman sa Kongreso, kasama si Congressman Alan Peter, kasama naman na tumutulak na sana maging totoo ito sa lalong madaling panahon itong P10,000 tinutulak namin," dagdag niya.

"Napakalaking tulong na po ng natang-

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gap kong P10,000. Hindi na po ako mangungutang ng puhunan para makapagtinda," sabi ni Merly Agot Nolan, isa sa mga benepisyaryo ng programa.

"Wala na pong mas masarap sa paki-ramdam kapag nakikita ko pong natutulungan po tayong mga Pilipino, at sobra-sobra po akong natutuwa sa nakikita kong pagtutulungan ng bawat Pilipino," dagdag niya.

Para kay Lorna Javierto, ang P10,000 cash na tulong mula kay Cayetano at kanyang grupo ay magbibigay-daan sa kanya upang maibigay ang mga pangangailangan at edukasyon ng kanyang mga anak.

"Malaking tulong po sa akin ito dahil ako lang po ang naghahanapbuhay. Masusustentuhan ko na po ang pamilya ko at ang mga anak ko sa kanilang pagaaral," ayon kay Javierto.

Ang Sampung Libong Pag-asa ay batay sa panukalang 10K Ayuda Bill ni Cayetano, na naglalayong mabigyan ang bawat pamilyang Pilipino ng P10,000 o P1,500 bawat miyembro ng pamilya, alinman ang mas mataas.

Sa isa sa kanyang mga naunang panayam, sinabi ni Cayetano na sinimulan nila ang pamamahagi ng P10,000 cash tulong simula pa noong Pebrero habang hinihintay ang pagpasa ng ipinanukalang 10K Ayuda Bill sapagkat ang buhay ng mga tao ay hindi makapaghihintay.

Sa kabuuan, 38 na ang nakinabang at nakatanggap ng P10,000 mula kay Cayetano at mga kapwa mambabatas mula Pebrero hanggang Abril ng taong ito.###

CONCEPCION...

Presidential Adviser for Entrepreneurship and Go Negosyo Founder Joey Concepcion said he is prepared to throw his support behind the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) as it issued on May 1 an advisory promoting the vaccination against COVID-19 of private sector employees.

"It's a big boost to the economy, and Secretary Bello has my full support on this," said Concepcion, who earlier called on the DOLE to take a stronger stance and enjoin the employed sector to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

In an advisory issued on May 01, 2021, Secretary Silvestre Bello III officially promoted COVID-19 vaccination, stating, "All employees in the private sector, except those who are ineligible or disqualified for health reasons, are highly encouraged to get inoculated with COVID-19 vaccine."

"Employees in the private sector must understand their crucial part in the whole country getting back to normal, why their getting vaccinated will make a huge impact in accelerating the recovery of the Philippine economy," said Concepcion. "With this endorsement from the DOLE, we are one step closer to our return to normalcy."

The advisory applies to all establishments and employees in the private sector. Employers can also seek appropriate assistance from concerned government agencies in the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine.

"Vaccinating employees is the only solution that will allow us to return to work and open the economy," Concepcion said. "We can't afford more lockdowns. We have

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to get back on our feet as soon as possible, and this endorsement from the DOLE makes a big difference."

Vaccinating the employed sector is seen as having a significant multiplier effect as it would help jumpstart the economy by making it possible for people to return to work and for businesses to reopen.

"Vaccination is the only way we can get through this pandemic," Concepcion said, "and vaccinating the employed sector will expedite the country's return to economic recovery."

Vaccines have faced slow rollout due to global shortages of supply and vaccine hesitancy among Filipinos. A survey conducted from February to March this year by Pulse Asia found that more than half – or 61 percent – of Filipinos would refuse to be inoculated against COVID-19.

In addition to actively calling for an active push from the labor department for the vaccination of the employed sector, Concepcion also embarked on an information and education campaign to combat vaccine hesitancy and misinformation among Filipinos.

The Let's GO Bakuna Campaign promises to be a platform for Filipinos to discuss issues and answer questions on the COVID-19 vaccine. The campaign also aims to increase vaccine confidence among Filipinos through a series of vaccine education forums, webinars and townhall meetings, and multi-platform information materials based on expert advice and testimonials.

The campaign is supported by more than 1,000 private sector companies. **(PR)**

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Hijos Tours launches e-Pilgrimage for the Holy Week



Father Earl Allyson Valdez led the prayer and reflection during Hijos Tours' first e-pilgrimage attended by 99 pilgrims from the different provinces of Luzon.

Hijos Tours, the tourism arm of CARD MRI, launched its first virtual pilgrimage with 99 participants via Zoom on April 1, 2021, Maundy Thursday.

April 1, 2021, Maundy Thursday.

The "e-Pilgrimage", facilitated by the tour company, talked about the history behind four churches in Laguna which are St. Paul the First Hermit Cathedral in San Pablo City, St. John the Baptist Church in Liliw, St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church in Nagcarlan, and St. Augustine Parish Church in Bay.

Hijos Tours captured a 360° view of the different churches that featured the facade, interior, and other amenities found within the area. The tour also comes with a kit that includes a prayer book, a pen, and a notebook for taking down notes, as well as snacks during breaks.

Every discussion, Father Earl Allyson Valdez would lead a prayer and share his thoughts and reflections based on the history of the churches; relating what lessons from the past could be adapted to the present. The idea for the online pilgrimage came from last years' start of the pandemic. The tour company surveyed its Facebook followers on where they would like to go after the pandemic, which resulted to "visiting churches to offer their thanksgiving" emerging as the top answer. As a tour company that aims to give meaningful tours, Hijos Tours came up with the online pilgrimage.

Part of the reflection was the history and life of Franciscan friars. The religious order followed the be-

Bacoor LGU...

Likewise, simultaneous vaccination activities conducted at the Bacoor Coliseum and at the Alima Elementary School vaccination hubs gave out 350 and 329 vaccine jabs respectively for a total of 1,007 senior citizens and those with comorbidity residents vaccinated on May 1, 2021.

The turnout of residents for the vaccination is due to the intensified information campaign for the CoViD-19 vaccination program by the city government which changed the general perception of the residents particularly the senior citizens in the city from hesitation to trust.

"Nandito kami ngayon para magpabakuna laban sa CoViD-19. Taliwas sa mga unang napapabalita tungkol sa vaccine tungkol sa mga namamatay, mas minabuti nang maging protektado laban sa CoViD-19," a female senior citizen resident proudly said.

(We are here today to get vaccinated against CoViD-19. Contrary to initial reports about the deaths from the vaccine, it is better to be protected against CoViD-19.)

As of May 1, 2021, records show a total of 8,074 Bacooreños inoculated with the 1st dose of the CoViD-19 vaccines. (**PIA**)

liefs of St. Francis of Asisi, the patron saint for ecology. Their lives served as examples of community building, helping the poor, and taking care of the environment which are advocacies of Hijos Tours for the country's development.

Gerard Batarlo, one of the participants, enjoyed the tour and reflected on what the experience has been and the things he learned. "Just like what the history behind the churches are, I would keep on strengthening my faith and be of help to others," he said.

Participants' general reflections mirrored the goal of the tour as they point to a stronger faith and a greater sense of community as aids in going through adversity, such as the current pandemic.

Hijos Tours President Marilyn M. Manila speaks on the pilgrimage's purpose and importance in time of the Holy Week. "What we would like to impart to our pilgrims is that for us to build a better community, listening to those in need is a must. Caring for our common home, which is the environment, and others is very important, especially during these hard times," she explained.

To show commitment to their purpose, Hijos Tours also plans to host a tree-planting activity of fruit-bearing trees for the pilgrims who attended the tour. Proceeds of the harvest will go to CARD MRI's mission of providing quality education. The location of the said activity will be in an organic farm in Bae, Laguna.

Hijos Tours plans to expand the scope of their tours and include notable locations with rich history and meaningful lessons. In the future, the tour company also hopes to offer a physical pilgrimage tour.

The next sessions of the e-Pilgrimage are scheduled on May 29 and June 26. For more information, visit Hijos Tours' official Facebook page. (PR)



Church offers use of school to augment shortage in isolation facilities

In the wake of the full use of the isolation facilities in Tanza town, the Catholic Church leaders here offered the St. Augustine High School as additional temporary treament and monitoring facility for senior citizens and those who have comorbidities.

This initiative of the parish leaders is a welcome measure to help with the current CoViD-19 emergency situation in the municipality.

"It is okay to use the school building since classes are still online," the parish priest said.

It is also unfortunate that the isolation facilities that cater to mild and asymptomatic cases now had to treat patients with pneumonia.

Department of Health (DOH) 4-A Isolation Physician, Dr. Lani Patacsil reported, "Ang dami daming cases ng may pneumonia para nang hospital ang setting ngayon, wala na kaming choice. Dyan na nagaganap ang gamutan."

(There are numerous cases with pneumonia that it is like a hospital setting now, we don't have a choice. Treatment is being done there.)

Moreover, hospitals could not immediately accommodate admissions with patients' waiting list reaching up to a hundred because of the rate of infection of the disease.

According to Rural Health Officer Dr. Ruth Punzalan, a sad and unfortunate reality is that patients with moderate, severe or critical symptoms who needed to be admitted in the hospital succumb to the disease at home before they could even be hospitalized.

Punzalan calls on the public to help with the project thru donations of hospital beds, oxygen tanks, wheelchairs, and other useful medical equipment.

The project for the conversion of the school building into isolation facility is a partnership between LGU Tanza, the DOH, and other civic organizations which is targeted to be opened this month of May.



Kailangan mong makuha ang parehong dose ng bakuna kontra COVID-19 para makuha ang pinakamataas na lebel ng proteksyon mula sa COVID-19! RUMESBAKUNA na!

Ang mga bakunang Sinovac CoronaVac at Oxford-AstraZeneca ay ibinibigay ng dalawang (2) doses. Kailangan mong makuha ang parehong dose para makuha ang pinakamataas na lebel ng proteksyon mula sa COVID-19!

Bilang ng dose na kailangan at pagitan:

□ Oxford AstraZeneca: 2 doses, 4-12 na linggo ang pagitan

☐ Šinovac CoronaVac: 2 doses, 28 days (4 na linggo) ang pagitan

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