

DOST AND PHILHEALTH AIM TO MAKE HEALTH BENEFIT PACK-AGES AND SERVICES MORE ACCESSIBLE TO PINOYS



Aiming to extend access to a full range of quality health services to more Filipinos, the Department of Science and Technology – Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (DOST-PCHRD) along with the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth), showcased three studies during the Talakayang HearT Beat press conference on 29 May 2024 in Quezon City.

“In advancing health science initiatives, we invest in building stronger and healthier Filipino communities. We at the DOST remain dedicated in supporting the research needs of PhilHealth to sustain the implementation of healthcare policies that are inclusive and attuned to the needs of our people,” said DOST Secretary Renato U. Solidum, Jr.

The study from the University of the Philippines Manila led by Dr. Corazon Ngelangel, entitled, “Protecting Against Financial Catastrophe: Evaluation of the Z Benefits in Providing Financial Risk Protection and Improving Clinical Outcomes,” recommended the expansion of the Z Benefit Package to cover more diseases and improve coverage during critical periods of the illness, include quality of life measures in monitoring surveys of patients, and intensify information dissemination to patients and healthcare providers.

To streamline reimbursement for inpatient care by setting fixed payment rates, PhilHealth introduced the All Case Rates (ACR), a policy initiated in 2013 as a product of the project entitled “All Case Rates Review and Assessment,” led by Dr. Fernando Garcia of UP Manila. Findings of the study revealed that the number of PhilHealth beneficiaries among the indigent members declined and claims from the informal economy and sponsored beneficiaries continued to rise, hence the implementation of ACR. The project team cited that the decline in membership enrollment, especially among the indigent population, poses a significant obstacle to achieving universal coverage objectives. Furthermore, issues with verifying membership statuses raise additional concerns about the integrity of the system.

Meanwhile, the project entitled “Development of a Diagnosis Related Group-System Based Global Budget Payment Mechanism” led by Dr. Karlo Paredes of Alliance for Improving Health Outcomes, Inc. (AIHO) highlighted the need to shift the provider payment for inpatient care to a case-based payment system that categorizes patient cases by

clinical variables, called Diagnosis Related Group (DRG)-system based Global Budget Payment (GBP), as PhilHealth’s current ACR reimbursement system has several shortcomings.

These three (3) projects are products of the ongoing partnership between DOST-PCHRD and PhilHealth since 2015, called the PhilHealth STUDIES (Supporting the Thrust for UHC through Data, Information, and Knowledge-Exchange Systems) Program, which provides funding for research and development projects and other related activities aligned with the PhilHealth Research Agenda.

On behalf of Dr. Edwin M. Oriña, Ms. Wanda Villar of the PhilHealth Corporation expressed his appreciation of the collaborative projects between DOST-PCHRD and PhilHealth saying “Nais ko pong pasalamatan ang DOST-PCHRD, sa kanilang pakikipagtulungan para maibigay ang benepisong pangkalusugang sapat at de-kalidad para sa lahat” during his message. /PR

DOST LEADS IN ADVANCING PH-US COLLABORATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



n a significant stride towards advancing bilateral relations in science and technology, the Philippines and the United States convened the 1st PH-US Joint Committee Meeting (JCM) on Science and Technology on April 30, 2024, in Washington, D.C., USA.

The meeting, led by Undersecretary Leah J. Buendia from the Philippines’ Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and Deputy Assistant Secretary Rahima Kandahari from the US State Department, served as a platform to identify priority areas for collaboration in key areas such as OneHealth, biotechnology, biosecurity, artificial intelligence, energy, environment, and scientific enhancement.

Undersecretary Buendia highlighted the pivotal role of the meeting in providing a clear and focused direction for the next two years. The commitment to collaborate was evident in the constructive dialogue and shared vision for fostering innovation and knowledge exchange between the two nations.

This meeting marked the first bilateral gathering since the signing and renewal of the PH-US Science and Technology Agreement in 2019. It symbolizes the enduring partnership between the Philippines and the United States, signifying a renewed commitment to deepening cooperation in science, technology, and innovation.

In attendance were the Executive Directors of the Councils of the DOST - Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD), the Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD), the Philippine Council for Industry, Energy, and Emerging Technology Research and Development (PCIEERD), and the National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCF). Also present were the Agriculture Counsellor and the head of the Economic Section of the Philippine Embassy in Washington, D.C.

Looking ahead, the outcomes of the first PH-US JCM

will lay the groundwork for a resilient partnership characterized by mutual respect and shared goals. /PR

PHILIPPINES JOINS ASEAN-INDIA WOMEN SCIENTISTS CONCLAVE IN SINGAPORE



Singapore - The Philippines made a strong representation at the ASEAN-India Women Scientists Conclave held in Singapore from April 24-26, 2024. The three-day event, organized by the ASEAN Committee on Science, Technology, and Innovation (COSTI), A*STAR, and the Government of India, brought together women scientists and researchers from ASEAN Member States and India to promote women-to-women connectivity, and engage more women in science, technology, and innovation (STI).

The Philippine delegation, led by DOST Undersecretary Maridon O. Sahagun, the current Chair of the COSTI Sub-Committee on S&T Infrastructure and Resources Development (SCIRD), included Dr. Ruby Anne N. King of the DOST-Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD), Dr. Meryl Algodon of the DOST-Advanced Science and Technology Institute (ASTI), Dr. Felicidad Christina R. Penafiel of the University of Sto. Tomas (UST), and Ms. Charlene Basig, the current COSTI National Secretariat-Philippines. They joined their counterparts from the ASEAN region and India in engaging in discussions, knowledge exchange, and the exploration of collaborative opportunities particularly in thematic areas namely, (i) Artificial Intelligence, (ii) Healthcare, and Sustainability (Energy Solutions).

The Philippine delegation presented the output of their research works and actively participated in the conclave’s plenary and breakout sessions, sharing insights on the current status and challenges faced by women in STEM fields in the ASEAN region. The event also featured panel discussions and an innovation competition, which fostered collaborative scientific and innovative activities among the ASEAN-India women scientists.

“This conclave is a testament to the growing role of women in shaping the future of science and technology, not just in the Philippines, but across the ASEAN region and India ... We are grateful for the opportunity to be part of this important initiative and look forward to continued collaboration and exchange” said DOST Undersecretary Sahagun.

The three-day conclave aimed at strengthening cooperation in science, technology, and innovation, and creating a networking platform for women scientists to thrive and contribute to the development of their respective countries and the region as a whole. The event was graced by distinguished guests, including COSTI Chair-Singapore Prof. Andy Hor, Head of Climate Energy and Sustainable Technology Division at the Department of Science and Technology in India, Dr. Anita Gupta, key speakers from Singapore, and the ASEAN Secretariat.

The ASEAN-India Women Scientists Conclave is an initiative under the COSTI with funding support from the ASEAN-India Science & Technology Development Fund (AISTDF) and the respective ASEAN Member States. /PR



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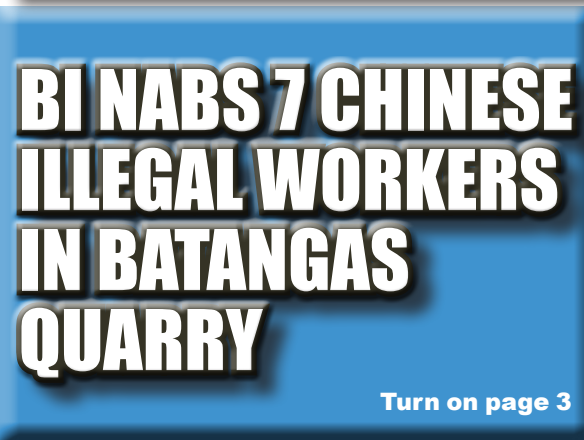


TEODORO TACKLES MUTUAL INTERESTS WITH KOREA, SINGAPORE, EU OFFICIALS

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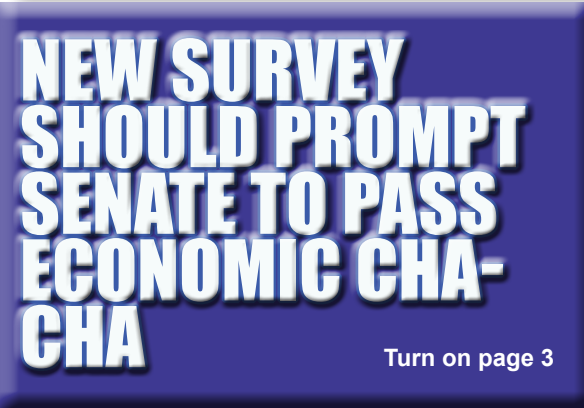
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MANILA – President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. said Friday the Philippines will embrace its role as a trusted partner, credible pathfinder, and committed peacemaker, as he made a pitch for the country’s candidacy to the United Nations (UN) Security Council for the 2027-2028 term.

In his speech during the 21st International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, Marcos underscored the country’s strong potentials, given its “inevitable rise” in global standing.

“Just as we have done in the past, we will embrace our role in this region and around the world with a sense of purpose,” he said. “We will bring our experience as a trusted partner, credible pathfinder, and committed peacemaker when elected to the (United) Nations Security Council for the term of 2027-2028.”

The Chief Executive also shared the country’s determination on all major global aspects and resiliencies to withstand all daunting challenges and vulnerabilities towards achieving its common aspirations.

“We are determined to be a force for the good, a force for peace, a champion of regional and global unity, (and) a staunch defender of the rules-based international order,” he said.

“Despite daunting challenges and our increasing vulnerabilities, we remain on track to achieve our goal of a high-income economy and a prosperous country by the year

The Rising Tide of Road Rage in the Philippines: A Call for Comprehensive Solutions

Road rage incidents in the Philippines have become an increasingly alarming issue, reflecting deeper societal and systemic problems. In the bustling cities and even in quieter rural areas, the frequent clashes among motorists are symptomatic of the broader challenges that need urgent attention. The Symptoms of a Larger Problem

Road rage in the Philippines is not merely about the aggressive behaviors displayed on the roads. It is a manifestation of the daily frustrations faced by the populace. Traffic congestion, inadequate infrastructure, and a perceived lack of law enforcement contribute significantly to the rising tensions among drivers. The country's rapid urbanization has outpaced the development of its road networks, leading to daily gridlocks that test the patience of even the most composed individuals.

Infrastructure and Urban Planning Deficiencies

One of the primary culprits behind road rage is the inadequate and often poorly maintained road infrastructure. Metro Manila, the nation's capital, consistently ranks among the worst cities globally for traffic congestion. The lack of efficient public transportation systems exacerbates the problem, forcing more people to rely on private vehicles and creating a vicious cycle of increasing traffic woes and growing frustration.

Enforcement and Legal Framework

The enforcement of traffic laws is another critical area needing reform. There is a

pervasive perception that traffic rules are either inconsistently applied or easily circumvented through bribery. This lack of stringent enforcement not only emboldens aggressive drivers but also diminishes respect for the law, creating an environment where road rage can thrive unchecked.

The Human Cost

The consequences of road rage are severe, leading to physical altercations, psychological stress, and, in the worst cases, fatalities. High-profile incidents frequently make headlines, showcasing the extreme violence that can erupt from seemingly minor provocations. These incidents often result in legal battles and long-term trauma for those involved, illustrating the dire need for immediate action.

Comprehensive Solutions: A Multi-Pronged Approach

Addressing road rage requires a multifaceted strategy that includes improving infrastructure, enhancing law enforcement, and promoting behavioral change among motorists.

Infrastructure Development: The government must prioritize the expansion and maintenance of road networks and invest in modern public transportation systems. Projects like additional MRT lines, efficient bus systems, and well-designed roadways can significantly reduce congestion and the stress it causes.

Strict Law Enforcement: Strengthening traffic law enforcement is crucial. This involves not only increasing the presence of traffic officers but also ensuring they operate with integrity. Implementing technolo-

gy-driven solutions like traffic cameras and automated ticketing systems can help in maintaining law and order on the roads. Public Awareness Campaigns: There needs to be a concerted effort to educate the public about the dangers of road rage and the importance of road etiquette. Campaigns can focus on promoting patience, empathy, and understanding among drivers, which are essential for reducing aggressive behaviors.

Psychological Support and Interventions: Offering psychological support for drivers, especially those who have been involved in road rage incidents, can help address the underlying stress and anger issues. Providing avenues for anger management and stress relief can mitigate the triggers of road rage.

Conclusion

The rising tide of road rage in the Philippines is a pressing issue that demands comprehensive solutions. By addressing the root causes—ranging from inadequate infrastructure and poor law enforcement to societal stressors—there is hope for creating a safer and more harmonious driving environment. It is a collective responsibility that involves the government, law enforcement, and the public to work together towards a common goal: the roads of the Philippines should be a place of safety and civility, not a battleground of frustration and aggression.

-ANG KABITENYA

PH ...

2040, a place where Filipinos live strongly-rooted, comfortable, and secure lives.”

Recognizing the Indo-Pacific’s promising capacities of becoming the fastest-growing economic hub and largest contributor to global growth, Marcos said he would make such capacities alive and attainable.

“The Indo-Pacific holds

much promise as the fastest-growing economic hub and the largest contributor to global growth. That (promise) must be kept alive. Furthermore, that promise must be fulfilled,” he said.

He urged leaders in the region not to be distracted by the geopolitical situation in performing their duty as civil servants, public intellectuals, and

statesmen towards stability, security, and peace.

“Geopolitics must not distract us from our fundamental duty as civil servants, as public intellectuals, as statesmen: To deliver for our peoples, and to safeguard the future for the coming generations. This is the reason why we strive for stability, for security, and for peace,” he said. (PNA)

NEW...

MANILA – Leaders of the House of Representatives on Thursday said the new nationwide survey indicating majority support for amending the 1987 Constitution should prompt the Senate to pass the proposed amendments to its restrictive economic provisions.

Senior Deputy Speaker and Pampanga Rep. Aurelio Gonzales Jr. said the new Senate leadership should “listen to the people’s voice”, citing a recent poll conducted by big data research firm Tangere from May 21 to 25, which found that 57 percent of Filipinos supported the proposed amendments to the 1987 Constitution’s economic provisions.

“New Senate President Francis Escudero should do what his predecessor failed to do, and they should do it as soon as possible,” Gonzales said. The House of Representatives passed Resolution of Both Houses (RBH) No. 7, its version of economic Charter change, in March this year.

Meanwhile, its counterpart version, RBH No. 6, is still pending in the Senate.

Gonzales said RBH No. 6 “is now in limbo” in the wake of the recent leadership shakeup in the upper chamber.

Gonzales noted that the public consultations conducted by the

Senate special committee on constitutional amendments have been disrupted by the resignation of committee chairman Senator Juan Edgardo Angara, who belongs to the bloc of former Senate President Juan Miguel Zubiri.

“We don’t know what will happen to RBH No. 6, since that resolution is authored by Senators Zubiri, Angara, and Loren Legarda, who has also resigned (from) her Senate post,” he said.

Majority Leader Manuel Jose Dalipe said the Senate could pass RBH No. 6 shortly after the convening of the third and last regular session of the 19th Congress in July.

Dalipe, however, pointed out that the “window of opportunity” for the Senate to approve the economic Charter reforms is “fast closing”, considering that lawmakers and the public would be in campaign-election mode once candidates file their certificates of candidacy in October for the May 2025 elections.

“We won’t be able to accomplish much after that. That’s the reality of this situation,” Dalipe added.

For his part, Deputy Speaker David Suarez said the Escudero leadership “should pick up the pieces from the recent Senate ruckus” and work on the passage of

RBH 6 “as early as possible.”

“So far, new Senate President Escudero has spoken on a lot of things, except the proposed economic constitutional amendments,” he said.

The Tangere survey found that six to seven in 10 respondents believed in the advantages of the amendment proposals, including the creation of more jobs (72 percent), higher economic growth (68 percent), increase in salaries and work benefits (67 percent), and decrease in the prices of goods and services (63 percent).

The survey had 1,500 mobile-based respondents.

Tangere, owned by Acquisitions Apps, Inc. is a full-service market research firm that started as an opinion poll survey before the Covid-19 pandemic, according to its website. It leverages mobile application technology, social media engagement, and big data analytics. (PNA)

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PGC Remains constant in ensuring healthy Caviteños



The medical and dental mission that continually promotes health and wellness was once again brought by the Provincial Government of Cavite, in Brgy. Asis I, Mendez, Cavite on May 28, 2024.

Volunteer medical professionals from the Office of the Provincial Health Officer interacted with 355 patients for much needed medical consultations, while 52 patients sought dental check-up with free tooth extraction. Aside from these, X-ray and ECG examinations were offered, to which 44 residents benefitted – 20 in X-ray and 24 in ECG.

Likewise, the Office of the Provincial Governor provided free medicines, vitamins and insect repellent lotions to ease the financial burden of the people, particularly the underprivileged.

The health outreach program remains constant in ensuring healthy Caviteños and sustaining healthy status of the province. /CPIO

Month of the Ocean 2024 Coastal Clean-UP



In celebration of the Month of the Ocean 2024, a coastal clean-up was organized on May 23, 2024, at Bilaran San Rafael IV, Noveleta, Cavite. The Cavite provincial government, through the initiative of the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist (OPA) and supported by volunteers from municipalities across Cavite, aimed to preserve our coastal areas. The event began with volunteer registration, ensuring each participant received gloves and tools necessary for effective waste collection. To sustain their energy throughout the day, volunteers were also provided with food and drinks.

The opening ceremony was graced by Assistant Pro-

Orientation on New Assessment Tool for Child Development Centers



Child development workers and teachers from across the province gathered at the Ceremonial Hall of the Provincial Capitol in Trece Martires City for an orientation on the new assessment tool for registration and granting permits to public and private child development centers and learning centers spearheaded by the Office of the Provincial Social Welfare Development Officer on May 23-24, 2024.

The two-day event aimed to equip participants with essential knowledge and skills to enhance the quality of early childhood education in the province. The program commenced with a warm welcome and opening remarks, setting the stage for an engaging and informative session.

Ms. Melody Ronquillo, Regional ACDEV Secretary, kicked off the first day with a comprehensive discussion on the Competency Standards for Child Development Workers and Child Development Teachers. She emphasized the importance of adhering to these standards to ensure the delivery of high-quality education and care for young children.

Following Ms. Ronquillo's session, Ms. Perla Reyes, National CDW President took the floor to delve into Developmentally Appropriate Practice. Her presentation focused on the principles and practices that support the optimal development and learning of young children, stressing the need for educators to be attuned to the developmental stages and individual needs of their students.

The second day of the orientation continued with an insightful session led by Ms. Precyl Ramos, OIC-OPSW-DO. She provided an Overview on the National Early Learning Curriculum and the National Early Learning Framework, highlighting the curriculum's goals, structure, and implementation strategies. Her session aimed to align the educators' teaching practices with national standards and expectations.

In the latter part of the day, Mr. Aries Panganiban, PEC-CD Focal Person, presented the New Standards and Guidelines, along with the Guidelines on the Registration and Granting of Permit and Recognition to Public and Private Child Development Centers and Learning Centers. His detailed discussion outlined the procedures, requirements, and criteria for registration and recognition, ensuring that all attendees were well-informed and prepared to comply with the new regulations.

The orientation concluded with an open forum where participants had the opportunity to ask questions and seek clarifications from the speakers. The interactive session allowed for the exchange of ideas and best practices, fostering a collaborative spirit among the child development workers and teachers.

The activity marks a significant step forward in the province's commitment to providing high-quality early childhood education. By equipping educators with the necessary tools and knowledge, the Provincial Government of Cavite ensures that its youngest citizens receive the best possible start in life.

vincial Agriculturist, Ms. Ana Pamela Nova, who welcomed and thanked everyone who participated in the event. In addition, Agricultural Technologist, Ms. Ma. Nora Costelo, led the opening prayer, reminding everyone to take care while participating in the event and acknowledging the presence of each government official and volunteer.

Also present at the event were Hon. Emelito S. Lontoc, Hon. Leah Olidan-Balen, and other government officials from municipalities across Cavite. Their participation highlighted the local government's support for environmental initiatives and encouraged everyone to work together to care for our natural resources.

Ms. Nova expressed gratitude to Governor Jonvic Remulla and OIC-Provincial Agriculturist, Rodel Vincent Bae. She conveyed sincere appreciation on behalf of the Provincial Agriculturists to all participants of the coastal clean-up activity. She also extended thanks to the municipality of Noveleta for accepting the event. /CPIO

PGC continues to serve the people of Tanza



On May 23, 2024, another health outreach program was rendered through the joint efforts of the Office of the Provincial Governor and Office of the Provincial Health Officer in Brgy. Amaya, Tanza, Cavite, catering a total of 368 beneficiaries in medical services and 50 in dental checkups with tooth extraction. Subsequently, free medicines, vitamin supplements and insect repellent lotions were provided to complement the basic medical needs of the people.

This initiative of the provincial government continues to connect with the Caviteños, particularly those in the marginalized sector.



2024 GLOBAL YOUTH SUMMIT IN SM MALLS NATIONWIDE HIGHLIGHTING THE 17 UN SDGS

2024 Global Youth Summit in SM malls nationwide highlighting the 17 UN SDGs



The Global Youth Summit, held annually by SM Cares and Global Peace Foundation (GPF) to inspire the youth to become catalysts for change, is set to return this year with its biggest iteration yet, as it will be hosted in 17 different locations across the country with its kick-off event to be held in SM City Iloilo Southpoint in Iloilo City on May 25, 2024.

Elevating the excitement of this inaugural event, the GYS will feature a captivating performance by P-POP boy group Alamat, promising to set the stage for an unforgettable start to the summit's proceedings.



The GYS is an annual event that provides the youth with an avenue where they can share their ideas and work together to create long-term and sustainable solutions to the most pressing problems and challenges affecting them today.



This year, SM Cares and GPF will be holding the GYS in 17 key locations nationwide, with each location representing each of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.



Every year, thousands of students and youth leaders from all over the country and even from overseas join the GYS to be part of numerous activities, seminars, and workshops designed to educate and empower them, explores a wide range of topics including technology, sustainable development, health, education, economic growth, and public policy.



To ensure that each event offers the best experience for the attendees, GYS invites experts and key opinion leaders from the private and public sectors and the academe, sharing their knowledge to inspire the youth into action.

The GYS is one of SM Cares' numerous Programs on Children and Youth, supporting all 17 UN SDGs. Others include The Book Nook, a free library and community hub where parents and children can bond over books, workshops and activities; and supporting UNICEF's Programs for Education of Children.

Aside from its Programs on Children and Youth, SM Cares also has programs on the environment, women and breastfeeding mothers, senior citizens, and persons with disabilities.

SM FOUNDATION WINS GOLD, BRONZE AT ASIA-PACIFIC STEVIE AWARDS



Championing development communications and social good. SM Foundation Executive Director Debbie Sy (center), Trustee Engr. Ramon Gil Macapagal (left), Senior Assistant Vice President Victor Chan (right) and the rest of the SMFI Communications team, with the 2024 Gold and Bronze Stevie Awards.

The SM Foundation, the social good arm of the SM Group, was honored with two prestigious awards at the 11th annual Asia-Pacific Stevie Awards.

The foundation received the Gold Stevie Award for Innovation in Corporate Social Responsibility Videos and the Bronze Stevie Award for Innovation in Community Relations/Public Service Communications.

"Winning these prestigious Stevie Awards holds immense significance for us. It stands as a testament to the hard work and dedication of our team and the profound impact of our initiatives," SM Foundation trustee Engr. Ramon Gil Macapagal said.

"These accolades validate our efforts in fostering resilience, hope, and sustainable development within our communities, reinforcing our commitment to spreading social good. They inspire us to continue driving positive change with even greater passion and dedication," Macapagal added.

The Asia-Pacific Stevie Awards are widely regarded as the premier business awards competition in the region, honoring innovation in every aspect of work life, from corporate communications to public relations, human resources, management, and technology. The 2024 competition received more than 1,000 nominations from organizations across 25 nations and territories.



Engr. Macapagal (right) delivers an acceptance speech at the 11th annual Asia-Pacific Stevie Awards with Chan (left).

For over four decades, the SM Foundation has supported over 5,500 college scholars and constructed 108 school buildings. Through its health and medical programs, the foundation has rehabilitated 2,004 health centers and served over 1.2 million patients in its medical missions. It has also trained over 30,300 farmers through its farmer's training program. The foundation has also distributed over 800,000 kalinga packs to disaster-hit communities in the country.



11th annual Asia-Pacific Stevie Awards bestow to SM Foundation the prestigious Gold Stevie Award for Innovation in Corporate Social Responsibility Videos and the Bronze Stevie Award for Innovation in Community Relations/Public Service Communications.

SG...

MANILA – Singapore President Tharman Shanmugaratnam is expecting "warmer" diplomatic relations between Singapore and the Philippines under the administration of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. Shanmugaratnam made the remark during his bilateral meeting with President Marcos on Friday at The Istana in Singapore. "We're seeing opportunity to take forward our relationship... but it's a warm relationship that's getting warmer under your leadership," the Singapore President said. He also cited the strengthened economic relationship between the two countries, including efforts to attract investors in various sectors. Shanmugaratnam said he is looking forward to entering into various agreements with the Philippines and other related concerns. President Marcos, for his part, extended his gratitude to the Singapore government for their warm welcome to the Philippine delegation. Marcos stressed the importance of maintaining a vibrant relationship between the two countries. "I'm glad that we had an opportunity to call on you... it is really important that we continue... as you say, (the) warmer relationship between our countries... and the call of the time is for us to be strengthened relationship," Marcos said. Marcos noted the significant exchanges between the Philippines and Singapore particularly on people-to-people, as well as efforts to address climate change, and the government's bid to the Loss and Damage Fund Board. "I am very happy to continue that relationship," President Marcos added. President Shanmugaratnam expressed his intention to visit the Philippines this year. Adapting to changing world

President Marcos also met with the city-state's new Prime Minister Lawrence Wong, as the two leaders agreed to explore new partnerships to adapt to the changing world. Although the two countries already collaborate in many areas, Marcos said he looks forward to continuing such strong ties with the Southeast Asian neighbor. "I look forward to continuing [the relationship]. I'm confident... although there's already a [great deal] that we're doing in many areas," President Marcos told Wong. "We have really laid down for the last [five] years [the] formal and official relationship but as in all other ASEAN member — for Asian countries in general and I think that is why [it's] easy for us to work together to make partnership," Marcos added. Marcos recognized Singapore as one of the top sources of foreign direct

investments (FDI) in the Philippines. He was glad that the Singapore leader mentioned that New Clark City, which is a part of the Luzon corridor, is gaining recognition among investors, noting that the Philippine government intends to develop the area as an industrial center with all the different facilities such as manufacturing, semiconductor assembly, businesses, and green minerals processing, in which Singaporean investors could participate. President Marcos pointed out that there is great potential in the two countries' tourism industries, which could further be boosted by much-improved infrastructure and enhanced air linkages. For his part, Wong said there is a "strong positive momentum" in the relationship between the two countries. "So, many different projects are taking place, including in New Clark

City and others, and I'm sure there are interests amongst investors and businesses to invest in your country," Wong said. Wong also mentioned the good people-to-people exchanges, with over 200,000 Filipinos working and staying in Singapore. Wong made a commitment to protect and ensure the health and well-being of the Filipino workers, recognizing their contributions to the Singapore economy. Wong, 51, assumed office last May 15, marking the third handover of leadership in the country's 59-year history. He replaced Lee Hsien Loong, who led the country for 20 years. President Marcos will make a historic address on Friday night at the opening of the 21st edition of the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) Shangri-La Dialogue, Asia's premier defense forum. Diplomatic relations between the Philippines and Singapore span 55 years after the two nations formally established ties on May 16, 1969. According to the Presidential Communications Office (PCO), Singapore was the Philippines' 8th largest trading partner, 6th export market (out of 205), and 7th import supplier (out of 221) in 2023. In the same period, exports and imports were valued at USD3.53 billion and USD7.09 billion, respectively. The Philippines recorded a trade deficit of USD3.57 billion. On the other hand, Singapore was the country's largest source of approved investments, posting USD1.628 billion in 2021, and USD2.398 billion in 2022. Based on preliminary figures in 2023, Singapore ranked as the fourth source of approved investments amounting to USD674.40 million. (PNA)

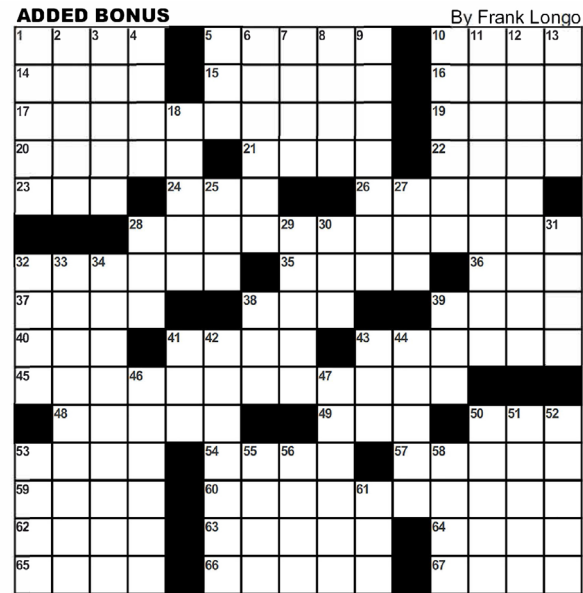
SUSPECT...

MANILA – Authorities have arrested the suspect in the shooting of an elderly family driver in a road rage incident along the Epifanio de los Santos Avenue (EDSA) in Makati City. Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Secretary Benjamin Abalos Jr. identified the suspect as Gerrard Raymond Yu, who was arrested in Pasig City at about 7 a.m. Wednesday. "The arrested suspect was positively identified by the eye witness to the actual shooting incident. A follow-up investigation led to the suspect's residence in Riverside Village, Pasig City. Intelligence operatives immediately proceeded to the location of the suspect and effected his arrest," Abalos said in a press briefing in Camp Crame, Quezon City on Wednesday. He said a black Mercedes

Benz with Plate No. DAD 9670 was also found in the suspect's residence. Found inside the vehicle was Plate No. BCS 77, the plate number used by the suspect when the shooting incident occurred, along with two Taurus .40-caliber pistols. Abalos said the seized firearms were brought to the Philippine National Police (PNP) Forensic Group for ballistic examination while the suspect's paraffin test yielded a positive result for gunpowder nitrate. He added that one of the seized firearms matched the recovered fired cartridge case from the crime scene based on the result of the ballistic examination. Based on the police report, a Toyota Innova with Plate No. NCV 542 driven by the victim, 65-year-old Aniceto Mateo, was traveling along EDSA's southbound lane on Tuesday afternoon

TEODORO...

SINGAPORE – Department of National Defense (DND) Secretary Gilberto Teodoro Jr. met separately with Shin Won-sik, Minister of South Korea's National Defense; Josep Borrell Fontelles, High Representative of the European Union (EU) for Foreign Affairs; and Singapore Defense Minister Dr. Ng Eng Hen on the sidelines of the International Institute for Strategic Studies' 21st Shangri-La Dialogue here on Saturday. Teodoro told his South Korean counterpart that the DND "values the 75 years of defense and security cooperation" between Seoul and Manila, according to a news release on Sunday. "We look forward to the future of South Korea-Philippine relations," Teodoro said, adding that he's grateful for South Korea's support to the Philippines on the West Philippine Sea (WPS) issue. Shin said South Korea wants to foster stronger



- freedailycrosswords.com
- ACROSS
- Petty quarrel
 - Throw, as mud
 - Tooth point
 - Korea's continent
 - Tea sweetener
 - Sui of fashion
 - Muslim palace area open only during the third month?
 - Stick around
 - Pale-looking
 - It often follows a noun
 - Irritates
 - Take steps
 - "Lenore" poet
 - Golfer Palmer, to pals
 - Musical group doing parody songs?
 - Stymie
 - Apollo org.
 - Prefix with "life" or "wife"
 - Jockey's handful
 - High peak
 - Fancy party
 - Busts and such
 - Barnyard bundle
 - Comments in parentheses
 - Pine relative
 - One of Greyhound's fleet
 - Guide for a walking tour
 - "Honest" U.S. prez
 - Croats' neighbors
 - Part of BLT
 - Expand, as a business
 - Madrid museum
 - Typo, for one
 - Name on a tractor
 - Shankar song, often
 - Flabbergast
 - Aroma
 - Regarding
 - Comic strip segment
 - Apt word spelled by the added letters of 17-, 28-, 45- and 60-Across
- DOWN
- Outback Bowl city
 - Sci-fi's Asimov
 - Winning position
 - Almanac tidbit
 - "Zip your lip!"
 - Bakery units
 - Regarding
 - At no time, to poets
 - Duffels carried to workouts, say
 - Place for high rollers
 - In need of clipping, as hedges
 - Rattler hazard
 - Ponies up
 - Really keyed up
 - Stable morsel
 - HDTV brand
 - Bronze-hued
 - Coastal arm
 - Catch a few Zs
 - Uplifting poems
 - Fairway hazard
 - Legacies
 - Unjustified persecution
 - Bristol brew
 - Pine relative
 - One of Greyhound's fleet
 - Guide for a walking tour
 - "Honest" U.S. prez
 - Croats' neighbors
 - Part of BLT
 - Expand, as a business
 - Madrid museum
 - Typo, for one
 - Name on a tractor
 - Shankar song, often
 - Flabbergast
 - Aroma
 - Regarding
 - Comic strip segment
 - Apt word spelled by the added letters of 17-, 28-, 45- and 60-Across

CITY OF BACOR NEWS

A TOKEN OF GRATITUDE: CHARCOAL PORTRAIT GIFT FOR MAYOR STRIKE



Bacoar City, June 3, 2024 - In a heartwarming gesture of appreciation and recognition, Queen of Peace Ville Urban Association presented a Charcoal Painting of Mayor Strike B. Revilla created by their President, Pres. Joel Nato. The Mayor graciously received the gift during a special visit at the Office of the Mayor. Alongside Mayor Strike B. Revilla, the participants in this special event included Pres. Joel Nato and Treasurer Regie Lachica from Queen of Peace Vill, Ms. Ligaya Cas from HUDRD staff, and Sonny Garduque, a former Barangay Captain of Barangay Salinas 1. The purpose of this touching gesture was to personally deliver the gift from Queen Of Peace Ville Urban Association, a Charcoal Painting depicting the likeness of Mayor Strike B. Revilla crafted by Pres. Joel Nato. This act of kindness and support serves as a symbol of gratitude and admiration towards Mayor Strike B. Revilla's leadership and service to the community. [facebook.com/CityGovtBacoar](https://www.facebook.com/CityGovtBacoar)

2,500 NA RESIDENTE NG BACOR, NAKATANGGAP NG TULONG PINANSYAL BILANG BAHAGI NG KADIWA NG PANGULO PROGRAM



Ngayon araw, May 27, 2024 pinangunahan nila Mayor Strike B. Revilla, Vice Mayor Rowena B. Mendiola, Sangguniang Panlungsod Members ang Turnover ng 35 Rifles-Long Fire Arm sa Bacoar Philippines National Police (PNP). Naisip ni Mayor Strike B. Revilla na mas palakasin pa hanay ng mga ka-Pulisan sa Lungsod ng Bacoar para sa mas ligtas at mapayapang Lungsod. Naging saksi naman ang bagong talagang Chief Philippine National Police na si PGEN. Rommel Francisco Marbil, kasama sila PBGEN. Paul Kenneth T. Lucas - Regional Director of Police Regional Office (PRO) Region IV-A, PLTCOL. John Paulo Carracedo - Bacoar Pnp Chief. Nagpasalamat naman ang buong hanay ng Philippine

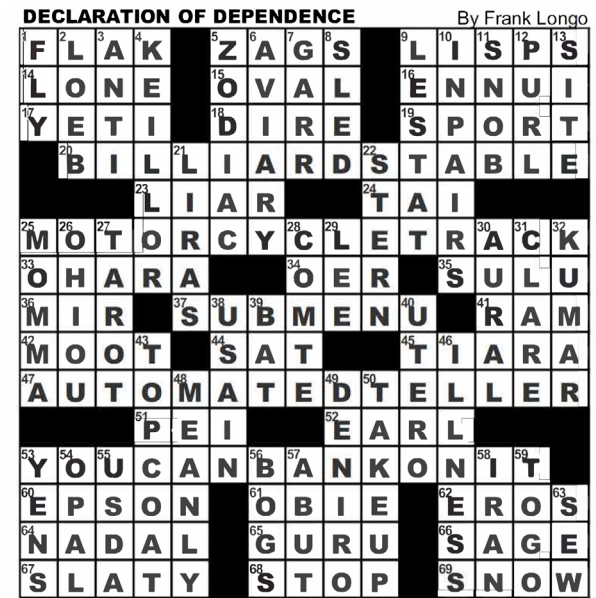
National Police (PNP) sa pangunguna ni PGEN. Rommel F. Marbil sa suportang ibinibigay ng Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Bacoar sa Bacoar Philippine National Police (PNP).

AWARDING AT TURNOVER NG AMBULANSYA PARA SA BJMP FEMALE DORM AT BARANGAY SALINAS 1, PINASINAYAAN NA



Sa huling araw ng Mayo, pinangunahan ni Mayor Strike B. Revilla ang Awarding at Turnover ng mga Ambulance para sa BJMP Female Dorm at sa Barangay Salinas 1. Nakasama ni Mayor Strike B. Revilla sina Vice Mayor Rowena B. Mendiola, Councilor Alde Pagulayan, Councilor Alex Gutierrez, LNB Vice Pres. Kap. Randy Francisco, Jeng Pagdanganan - GSO Head, Richard Quion - BDRMO Head, at si Pastor Sam Baldon na siyang nanguna para ipahayag ang mga salita ng Diyos. Ang proyektong ito ay patuloy na ginagawa ng Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Bacoar, sa pangunguna ni Mayor Strike B. Revilla, para mas maging malawak ang serbisyong ibinibigay ng bawat ahensya sa lokal na pamahalaan, maging sa Pamahalaang Barangay sa Lungsod ng Bacoar. Buong puso naman na tinanggap ni Kap. Nicanor Espiritu kasama ang kanyang mga kagawad gayundin ng pamunuan ng BJMP Female Dorm sa pangunguna ni JCINSP. Joy Anne C. Pascual ang mga ito.

Last week's solution:



fence Bill Blair on Friday, froaimed at deepening and broadening defense and security cooperation. President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. delivered the keynote message at the opening of Asia's premier defense forum on Friday, the first Philippine presi-

dent to do so. Marcos reiterated that the Philippines is committed to address the maritime dispute in the WPS through dialogue and diplomacy amid China's continued aggression. (PR/PNA)

SINGAPORE - Department of National Defense (DND) Secretary Gilberto Teodoro Jr. met separately with Shin Won-sik, Minister of South Korea's National Defense; Josep Borrell Fontelles, High Representative of the European Union (EU) for Foreign Affairs; and Singapore Defense Minister Dr. Ng Eng Hen on the sidelines of the International Institute for Strategic Studies' 21st Shangri-La Dialogue here on Saturday. Teodoro told his South Korean counterpart that the DND "values the 75 years of defense and security cooperation" between Seoul and Manila, according to a news release on Sunday. "We look forward to the future of South Korea-Philippine relations," Teodoro said, adding that he's grateful for South Korea's support to the Philippines on the West Philippine Sea (WPS) issue. Shin said South Korea wants to foster stronger and forward-looking defense and security relations with the Philippines. Likewise, Teodoro and Ng vowed further strengthening of mutual interests such as regional security. "We value your voice in regional and multilateral

forums," Ng told Teodoro. Meanwhile, Teodoro told Fontelles that the Philippines needs the EU's support in multilateral forums. In response, Fontelles said the EU is willing to extend assistance to the Philippines in areas such as maritime security and cybersecurity. "We have to do more in this part of the world. Let us do more than courtesy visits," Fontelles said. Teodoro also met with Lithuania Minister of National Defence Laurynas Kasčiūnas, New Zealand Minister of Defense Judith Anne Collins and Canada Minister of National Defence Bill Blair on Friday, aimed at deepening and broadening defense and security cooperation. President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. delivered the keynote message at the opening of Asia's premier defense forum on Friday, the first Philippine president to do so. Marcos reiterated that the Philippines is committed to address the maritime dispute in the WPS through dialogue and diplomacy amid China's continued aggression. (PR/PNA)



TUMMY AVE. BY KHT-ANO

OPERATING SCHEDULE

We are open for dine-in, pick-up and deliveries every

Friday, Saturday & Sunday

from 4:00PM - 10:00 PM

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LOVE AND SUPPORT!

MANILA - Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has thanked President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. for the Philippines' support and recognition of Ukraine's sovereignty as Kyiv continues to deal with the Russian invasion. Zelenskyy conveyed his gratitude to Marcos during their meeting at the Malacañan Palace in Manila on Monday morning, particularly for the Philippines' role in the United Nations (UN) resolution condemning Russia's invasion of Ukraine. "We are very thankful to be in your country which supports Ukraine (and) our territorial integrity and sovereignty," Zelenskyy told Marcos. "Thank you so much of your big word, and clear position about us, about this Russian occupation of our territories, and thank you on your support on the, in (the United) Nations, with your resolutions," he added. Ever since the war between Moscow and Kyiv broke out over two years ago, Manila has voted in favor of the six resolutions of the UN General Assembly Emergency Special Session on Ukraine and has consistently supported Kyiv's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity. The two leaders' meeting follows their participation in the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, Asia's premier defense summit. For his part, Marcos welcomed Zelenskyy, who is visiting Manila for the first time since being elected in 2019. "I'm happy and we are very honored that you found the time to pass by the Philippines. I know that the crisis in your country has occupied all of your attention and all of your time. It is a great

pleasure to meet with you to discuss some of the issues that are common to our two countries and hopefully find ways for both of us together," Marcos said. "Once again, I wish it were under better circumstances, but I'm happy that you are able to come and visit with us, Mr. President," he added. Marcos said the Philippines would continue to help Ukraine through multilateral channels such as the UN and the European Union. "And so, we'll continue to do all that we can to promote peace, and to bring an end to the fighting," he said. Peace Summit in Switzerland Zelenskyy also thanked Marcos for the Philippines' commitment to the June 15-16 peace summit in Switzerland. "Thank you for your participation in the summit, it sends a strong signal," the Ukrainian leader told Marcos. However, it is unclear whether Marcos has committed to personally attend the summit. Ukraine Embassy in PH Meanwhile, Zelenskyy also bared that Ukraine was eyeing to establish an embassy in the Philippines. "I'm also very happy that this year we're opening (our) embassy (here) in Manila," he said after his opening message to Marcos. Bilateral relations between the two countries began in 1992. Neither country has a resident ambassador, with Ukraine being represented in the Philippines by its non-resident ambassador in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, while Manila is represented by its embassy in Warsaw, Poland. (PNA)

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE OF EMELINDA RAMOS CAJULIS

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late **EMELINDA RAMOS CAJULIS**, That the decedent died intestate, without leaving any Last Will or Testament. The decedent left a parcel of land at Brgy. Salitran, Dasmarias City, Cavite City with title No. T-379022, Block 6, Lot 7 with an area of One Thousand Seventy Three (1,073) Square Meters more or less-only half of it is her share as co-owner of **HONESTO B. RAMOS JR.**, Has been Extra-judicial Settled with adjudicate by their legal heirs and notarized on **May 11, 2024** at California Los Angeles Country before Notary Public, Atty. CATHERINE WYNN , Commission #2354329 My Comm. Expires April 19, 2025.

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Office of Councilor Atty. Wency Lara

Mayor Alex DVINCULA WENCY LARA

ABOGADO NG IMUSEÑO

Coun. Atty. Wency Lara

Serbisyo para sa Imuseño

- Libreng Notaryo
- Libreng Legal Advice
- Libreng Late Birth Registration

June 06, 2024 | 08:00 AM

UCC Unida School Gymnasium, Anabu I-F

- Anabu 1-A
- Anabu 1-B
- Anabu 1-C
- Anabu 1-D
- Anabu 1-E
- Anabu 1-F
- Anabu 1-G

City Government of Imus

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CAVITE

Province of Cavite