

SUNDAY TRIBUNE

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2022 Cavite BNS General Assembly



Around one thousand barangay nutrition scholars and nutrition stakeholders joined the 2022 Barangay Nutrition Scholars General Assembly facilitated by the Provincial Health Office through the Cavite Nutrition Program Cluster at the Sigtuna Hall, Tagaytay International Convention Center, Tagaytay City. The assembly aims to provide nutrition updates and foster camaraderie among the BNS.

The event's highlights were the search for Ms. BNS 2022, presentation of Yell and BNS Got Talent wherein participants were able to showcase their talents and creativity.

Ms. Airene D. Gatchalian from Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo was

hailed as Ms. BNS 2022 and Ms. Photogenic. First runner-up and second runner-up spots were given to representatives from the City of Dasmariñas and Trece Martires City, respectively.

On the other hand, Tagaytay City representative bagged the first place and Popularity Award in BNS Got Talent. Municipality of Tanza got the second place as well as Best Video award while Municipality of Magallanes ranked third. Naic rep was awarded as Most Entertaining.

Meanwhile, presentation of yell was dominated by Trece Martires City followed by City of Bacoor, and Gen. Trias City ranked third.

Also part of the program was the oath-taking of the Federation of

Barangay Nutrition Scholars-Cavite Chapter officers led by Ms. Carina Z. Santiago, Regional Nutrition Program Coordinator – National Nutrition Council, CALABARZON.

Present during the assembly were Engr. Emilma U. Pello, Tagaytay City Nutrition Action Officer, Board Member Rainier Ambion, Chair-Committee on Health, Engr. Patricio Pello, Chief of Staff of Vice Governor Athena Bryana Tolentino, and Tagaytay City Councilor Jovit Desingano.

In closing, Ms. Angeles Peñalba, Provincial Nutrition Action Officer thanked guests and participants as well as provincial government offices and agencies that have been part of the success of the event. (PICAD)

DSWD sends more food aid to 5 most affected regions



QUEZON CITY (PIA) -- The Department of Social Welfare and Development has started deploying additional food packs in five regions on Sunday in response to President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.'s directive to send immediate aid to affected residents.

DSWD Secretary Erwin Tulfo met with his Regional Directors on Sunday morning and planned the dispatch of at least 17 ten-wheeler trucks bearing some 29,400 family food packs (FFPs) in the regions of Cagayan, Central Luzon, CALABARZON, Bicol and the Cordillera Administrative Region.

The Secretary said the immediate dispatch of FFPs is in line with President Marcos Jr.'s instructions that food assistance must be given to affected residents within 24 hours.

"Yan ang kabilin-bilinan pa kahapon ni Presidente Marcos na today, in 24 hours, dapat nabababaan na at napapakain na ang mga tao (This was the directive of President Marcos that today, in 24 hours, the people affected should have food)," Secretary Tulfo said.

The food aid consists of the following: 1,000 FFPs to Kawit, Cavite; 1,600 FFPs going to Noveleta, Cavite; 15,000 FFPs to FO II; 5,000 FFPs to FO V; 3,400 FFPs to FO III; and, 3,400 FFPs to FO CAR.

Meanwhile, the DSWD-NCR provided hot meals to 157 stranded passengers at the Manila North Port.

The DSWD, through Social Welfare and Development (SWAD) in Apayao, delivered 750 FFPs to Tanglagan, Calanasan, Apayao. **► DSWD • 3**



Botika on Wheels visited municipality of Naic. On October 28, 2022, the provincial government's Botika on Wheels once again rolled in Brgy. Calubcob, Naic, Cavite serving a total of 339 beneficiaries comprised of 123 adults and 216 children. BOW team was accompanied by barangay health workers and nutrition scholars in dispensing the medicines and vitamins. Safety health protocols were observed during the distribution. (PICAD)

EDITORIAL

The logic of organic

Abandon Normal Instruments – there are times when we must change the way we do things when they do not help us achieve our goals.

If these supposed tried and tested methods harm us as well, this change must be done immediately...

In life we must sometimes discover the recipes we use and change them to produce better results...

One of our government’s key program for boosting agricultural programs this year is its farm input subsidy.

Farmers will be given the means to purchase farm inputs like fertilizers to help them increase food production.

Predictably, the usual sellers of fertilizers containing inorganic or chemical elements have again approached the farmers peddling their goods and enticing the farmers with promises of bountiful harvests and magical results.

These fertilizers containing inorganic or chemical ingredients such as anhydrous ammonia, urea, urea-ammonium nitrate solutions, triple superphosphate, ammonium phosphates, and muriate of potash (potassium chloride) have been used by our farmers for decades.

Unfortunately, there have been several studies which show that inorganic fertilizers have caused soil, air, and water pollutions through nutrient leaching, destruction of soil physical characteristics, accumulation of toxic chemicals in water bodies, and so on.

These inorganic fertilizers harm the very soil needed for sustainable farming.

They put harmful chemicals which harm the helpful microbes present in our soils. They reduce soil fertility.

They change the nature of soil, making it either too acidic or too alkaline. Land degradation has reduced the productivity of 23 percent of the global land surface.

They help release greenhouse gases to the atmosphere which in turn contribute to



environmental consequences. The recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report showed that our food systems are estimated to cause up to 29 percent of global anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions.

Inorganic fertilizers are also impractical. It gets washed away by water easily. It only provides short term benefits.

Plus, it is now expensive because of the highly priced imported ingredients needed to make them.

Most important of all, think of all those chemicals seeping into the food we grow.

There are many studies which indicate that the food we eat right now may have long term health risks because of chemicals.

The challenge I always give to inorganic fertilizer advocates when I meet them is, "can they eat their fertilizers?"

If they cannot eat these chemicals, why do they insist we put them in the soil where our food is grown?

Clearly, the use of inorganic fertilizers with these chemicals, not only affect our agriculture and environment but our health as well. It is evident that we must now make radical changes in our normal farming systems.

In the Philippines, two key pieces of legislature were enacted to promote organic farming.

Republic Act 10068 declares that the policy of the State shall be to promote, propagate, develop further and implement the practice of organic agriculture in the Philippines in order to enrich the fertility of the soil, increase farm productivity, reduce pollution and destruction of the environment and prevent the depletion of natural resources.

RA 11511 amends the first law by giving more teeth to government support for organic farming and inputs.

Despite the clear need for organic farming, there are several challenges which face the efforts to promote this shift.

Small landowner farmers often lack the financial

and technical capacity to make the shift.

Inorganic fertilizer is still big business and sometimes they even claim that their products are organic with creative labelling.

Organic fertilizer producers need financial and capital assistance to compete with the established inorganic fertilizer producers.

Inorganic fertilizers also have the advantage of having relatively faster results than organic fertilizers.

There is a need for the organic fertilizer industry to organize themselves to achieve common goals.

The market and demand are large enough to accommodate many players in the organic farming industry.

The producers also have to ensure quality and standards to compete. Lastly, they have to interact more with farmers and farmer cooperatives to inform them of the dangers of inorganic farming.

By organizing themselves, the organic farming industry can coordinate properly with government agencies and avail of the programs and benefits (tax and otherwise) created to support the organic farming industry.

Lastly, we the consumers, must take heed of the need to support organic farming.

We must make efforts to seek out organic products and shun products that are produced by inorganic farming.

Businessmen must find cooperative ventures with both local and national government agencies and invest in organic farming endeavors.

If there is one advantage we have over our ASEAN neighbors, it is the ability of many sectors of our society to mobilize for cooperative efforts.

Perhaps, this time, we can take the lead in a multi- sectoral effort to promote organic farming and help our farmers make the shift from the normal inorganic modes of farming.

This is my oblique observation.

(By Atty. Gilberto Lauengco, J.D.)

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SM Cares celebrates World Cerebral Palsy Day at SM City Rosario

In celebration of World Cerebral Palsy Day, SM Cares, together with SM City Rosario and the Cerebral Palsy Epilepsy Family Awareness Support Group.PH Inc (CPEFAS PH), raised awareness for the need for Accessible and Alternative Assistive Technology for children with Cerebral Palsy in a medical mission and forum held last October 29, 2022.

Despite the weather, 140 beneficiaries and their families attended the event to receive free assessments and casting for assistive devices through volunteers from the Philippine Association of Prosthesis and Orthosis and the Physicians for Peace.

Attendees also learned tips on the right nutrition, food preparation and available financial support from PhilHealth, while bonding over parent inspirational talks and sharing of talents.

The event was supported by Jollibee, Clyde's, Tom's World, Quantum and Schneider Electric, while SM employees also donated Bears of Joy, snacks, gift items, prizes and entertainment.

"This is our third time organizing World Cerebral Palsy Day in

the Philippines, and our first time partnering with SM.

We are really thankful to SM Cares and SM City Rosario for accommodating us because it is really important for families like ours to reach others in the same community and help make government support for kids' rehabilitation more accessible," shares Ms. Jessa Marmol, President and Founder of CPEFAS PH.

Ms. Cassandra Chan, Ms. World Charity 2022 and Ms. Chinatown 2020, joined the event, continuing a yearly commitment to inspire parents in their love and dedication for their children.

Also in attendance were Dr. Penny Bundoc of the Physicians for Peace, Ms. Angelie Fajardo, Physical Therapist lead of PALMS Children Center, Mr. Rizalino Jose, Head of the Persons with Disability Affairs Office of Olongapo City and Mr. Rojan Abento, Hub Performance Manager at Schneider Electric.

Advocating #HealthForAll, Dr. Penny Bundoc, herself a 2020 PRC Outstanding Professional of the Year, emphasized that, "The disability that ensues after a child has Cerebral Palsy has a progressive impact on the family as casts are



customized to the needs of each child every year. Rehabilitation therapy sessions are also needed to restore optimum functionality.

This event helps parents worry less by knowing about the many programs available, while calling on LGUs to also provide greater accessibility and reach.

There is much that can still be done for these children in the hopes they can enter school and become productive, employed adults in the future."

As for SM Supermalls, PWD-friendly programs support the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals, particularly "SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being", and "SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities.

Engr. Bien C. Mateo, SM Supermalls Senior Vice President and SM Cares Director for

Programs for PWDs shares, "SM Cares is all about 'Supporting Communities' and our programs for persons with disabilities align with raising awareness on Accessible and Alternative Assistive Technology for those in need. In the spirit of social inclusion, we find ways to make our malls accessible and our frontliners assistive with care through our sensitivity trainings too. We strive to be a 'Mall for All', where nobody gets left behind."

Ms. Minabelle Llanes, South 2 Regional Operations Manager at SM Supermalls, further adds:

"Today, we are reminded of the significance of families and friends as support systems, just as we strive to offer the same level of care and

consideration.

We hope that through initiatives such as these, our malls are able to help bring the feeling of home to our partner communities as a place where you are safe, secure, and are wholeheartedly accepted."

SM Cares is the corporate social responsibility arm of SM Supermalls, responsible for initiatives focused on

sustainability and community development. Its programs include those on Women and Breastfeeding Mothers, Environment, Persons with Disabilities, Senior Citizens, and Children and Youth, as well as the Bike-Friendly SM initiative.

To learn more about these programs, visit www.smsupermalls.com/smcare.



Children with Cerebral Palsy received free assessments and casting through volunteer doctors.

PBBM leads...

prevention as the country is prone to disaster and calamities.

Aside from the inspection the President also want to personally know if all the affected residents in evacuation centers are properly given services and assistance. He led the ceremonial distribution of the Department of Social Welfare and Development's (DSWD) assistance to families and individuals affected

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by 'Paeng' at Barangay San Jose II.

In Cavite alone, around 18,000 families have been evacuated. In addition to the DSWD assistance, at least PhP50 million worth of relief goods are being distributed to the victims of the natural calamity.

'Paeng' made a series of landfall across different regions in the country. The Municipality of

Noveleta, along with Kawit, is one of the hardest-hit areas in Cavite. As of 11:00 AM, according to PAGASA "Paeng" re-intensifies into a severe tropical storm while moving over the West Philippine with a maximum sustained wind of 95 km/h near the center and gustiness of up to 115 kph. 'Paeng' is forecast to exit the Philippine Area of Responsibility this afternoon or evening. (MVMV/PIA- PIA CPSD)

DSWD...

In Southern Tagalog Region, the DSWD-CALABARZON delivered 1,500 FFPs to the LGU of Gen. Luna, Quezon, and provided hygiene kits and FFPs to 1,973 families and hygiene kits to stranded passengers who are staying at the BPI EC in Malainin, Ibaan, Batangas.

On October 29, the Department's FO VII, provided meals to 250 stranded passengers and 54 stranded truck drivers and helpers. The FO also delivered 69 FFPs to Dumanjug, Cebu and 30

from page 1
modulat tents to Talisay City, Cebu.

In Zamboanga City, the DSWD-IX provided 47 hot pack meals to the stranded passengers at Zamboanga City wharf and transported 385 FFPs and 385 sleeping kits for distribution to the affected families.

As of October 30, a total of P23,356,611.81-worth of assistance was provided to the affected families, of which, P22,307,535.81 was from the DSWD. In addition, the Department has over P1.49 billion worth of

standby and stockpile funds ready for its disaster response operations.

The Secretary also assured the public that it will continue to coordinate with affected local government units (LGUs) and preposition food and non-food items in strategic locations across the country.

The DSWD urged affected citizens to continue to coordinate with their respective local executives to ensure their safety at all times. (PIA-PMD with DSWD Social Marketing Service)

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DOST-SETUP BENEFICIARIES VISITED



THE beneficiaries of the Dept. of Science and Technology-Small Enterprise Technology Upgrading Program (DOST-SETUP) were recently visited by DOST Region 10 official and the Publishers Association of the Philippines Inc. (PAPI).

Led by Virgilio Fuertes of DOST X in cooperation with PAPI headed by president Nelson Santos, the duo visited the small and

medium enterprises (SMEs) operators, the backbone of local economy thru SETUP.

The DOST implementation of SETUP in Region X has continued to make waves as a nationwide strategy poised at encouraging and assisting SMEs to espouse on technological innovations to upgrade or improve their operations.

In this way, they enhance their productivity, competitiveness and drive to flourish and thrive in a dynamic enterprise business.

The DOST-SETUP is a nationwide strategy encouraging and assisting SMEs to adopt technology innovations to improve their operations and thus boost their productivity and competitiveness.

PBBM leads the distribution of assistance in Noveleta, Cavite



LAGUNA (PIA) -- "Palaging ipinipilit at ipinapaalala sa lahat ng NDRRMC natin na ang pinakaimportante na kapag may parating na bagyo ay meron tayong evacuation na preemptive, na inuunahan natin ang bagyo, na ilikas yung mga tao para kung sakali man na dumaan doon sa lugar na 'yon ay hindi na sila mabiktima."

[I always remind the NDRRMC the importance of preemptive evacuation. Pre-emptively evacuate the people in preparation for the

upcoming typhoon. So, when the typhoon hits the areas everyone will be safe.]

This is just one of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.'s sentiments after he conducted an aerial inspection around the Municipality of Noveleta in Cavite on October 31, Monday after the town was greatly hit by Tropical Storm 'Paeng'.

"Yun ang dapat nating tignan, magkakaroon tayo ng plano na long-term para kahit na lumakas ang tubig ng husto ay hindi na guguho 'yung lupa at

hindi na tayo aabutan ng mga landslide."

[We have to look into that. We must have a long-term plan to prepare for flood and landslide.]

Together with DSWD Secretary Erwin Tulfo, who flew from Maguindanao after inspecting the damages of 'Paeng' around the province, the President laid his observations on the causes of the heavy flooding and great damage. Marcos Jr. also mentioned the need for the government to think long-term and

► PBBM LEADS • 3



LOOK: SM City Bacoor employees handing over SM Kalinga Packs to 475 residents of Habay 2, Bacoor City, Cavite. This community is one of the most affected areas when Typhoon Paeng hit the country earlier this week. The distribution was headed by SM City Bacoor's Mall Manager Josephine Arvesu and HR Manager Leahriz Bathan. Operation Tulong Express is a project of SM Foundation in response to the urgent need to attend to the plight of victims of calamity and disasters. Included in the Kalinga packs are canned goods, noodles, bottled water and rice.