

The Leader in Online News Reporting in Calbayog City.

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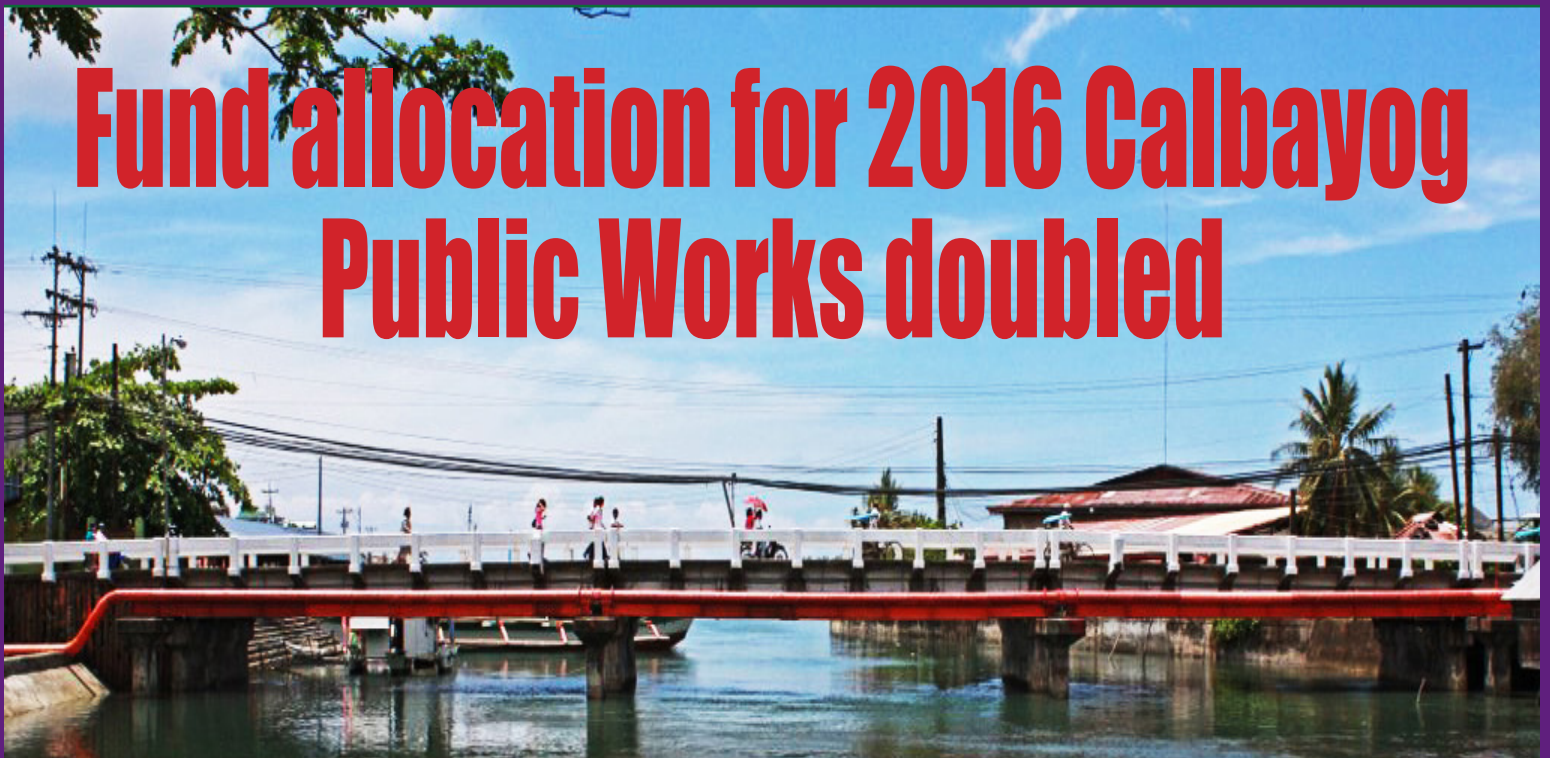
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## **Fund allocation for 2016 Calbayog Public Works doubled**



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# EDITOR'S NOTE



It is disconcerting to hear Calbayog being called "killbayog" not only by strangers but even by the natives themselves who have taken up residence elsewhere.

The label describes in a single word what the once peaceful and quiet community has become since the startling and dramatic assassination of reputable lawyer Diosdado Casurao in Barangay Balud in the seventies which remains unsolved up to this day.

Thenceforth the city's serenity is shattered every now and then by gunshots and the wailing of the victims' kin.

Outsiders say the word in an undertone that bespeaks mockery particularly those acquainted with the religiosity of the population and the achievements of the city's past and present political and religious leaders many of whom have trodden the corridors of power in this country and the hallways of the apostolic palace in Rome.

The natives utter the word which they actually regard as a misnomer with a feeling of displeasure caused by the failure of concerned government authorities to bring to justice many of the perpetrators of the murders which consequently inspires more premeditated slayings.

The magnitude of the problem and the brutality of habitual criminals moving in and out of the passive community incognito make law enforcement a difficult and daunting task. That explains why the activities of the outlaws have survived this long. People who may have information about the identities and whereabouts of trigger men tend not to share the facts because of fear of reprisal and the uncertainties that await those who intentionally disclose secret information.

But if the community remains passive for reasons just mentioned, the problem will not just persist but would grow to an extent that later on will require much greater sacrifices in order to be fixed.

What is more, allowing the problem to last longer will validate the label attached to Calbayog and its peace-loving people.

The Editor-in-Chief



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### The leader in On-line news reporting in Calbayog City

The CALBAYOG JOURNAL News is a multi-lingual print version of the On-line news publication The Calbayog Journal issued once a month in the eastern visayas region, Philippines with Editorial and Business offices at 2nd Floor, Sevilla Bldg., JPR Subdivision, Barangay Obrero, Calbayog City.

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# Dredging Of Gandara River Stopped, Gold Mining Intent Exposed

By: Ethan Vander

GANDARA, SAMAR- The dredging of the Gandara River in Gandara, Samar is facing derailment after the town's Sanggunian Bayan revoked its earlier resolution granting a certain Don Angelo C. Cobarrubias the permission to carry out the removal of silt from the said flow.

The permission to "rehabilitate" Gandara River by means of dredging soil deposited at the bottom of the large stream was reportedly granted by the Gandara government under the administration of Mayor Eufemio Oliva in 2014.

However, it was discovered recently that the dredging of the river bed is actually intended to explore the presence of gold and silver in a section of the river along Barangay Gerali.

That disclosure bred protests from civil society and the residents of affected villages accusing local officials of conniving with Cobarrubias in exchange for some rewards - a charge which Mayor Oliva denied during a public hearing on the issue held at the Gandara Cultural Center on February 11, 2016 attended by some residents of 41 out of the 69 barangays of Gandara as well as representatives of various sectors of the community.

The mayor explained that the sanggunian passed the resolution granting Cobarrubias the permission to dredge the river in good faith after the latter's application for exploration was approved by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) - the agency that is actually authorized to issue such permit.

The MPSA or Mineral Production Sharing Agreement application of Cobarrubias was reportedly filed by him on April 2015 covering 808 hectares of land located within the jurisdiction of the towns of Gandara and San Jorge, Samar.

The intention of the applicant was, according to reports, announced to the public via a public notice posted for 30 days in the said municipalities for the information of the people in the area.

The announcement, however, appears to have been ignored or overlooked by the residents as no opposition was raised against Cobarrubias' proposal within the prescribed period which allowed the processing of his application to proceed smoothly.

In January 2015 the applicant whose given address is at Wack-Wack Twin Towers, Mandaluyong City, finally got the go-signal from the DENR.



## Fund allocation for Calbayog Public Works in 2016 Doubled

CALBAYOG CITY- The construction and rehabilitation of public works in Calbayog City and the rest of the western Samar first engineering district will continue this year with more structures included and with higher budget allocation compared to that of 2015.

Reports reaching the Calbayog Journal from the Samar First District Engineering Office indicate that this year's fund allocation for the DPWH infrastructure program for the area is higher than that of 2015 by over 50 percent

This year's appropriation reach Php 2,793,785,000.00. Last year only Php 1,338,715,000.00 was set aside for the same program. 75 infrastructure projects were carried out in 2015 of which 62 were reportedly completed in mid-September. This year the DPWH has scheduled work on 83 more infrastructure projects

The projects include the construction and maintenance of six more bridges along national road, access roads leading to airports, seaports, and tourist destinations, flood and drainage structures as well as local multi-purpose and school facilities

Meanwhile, the SFDEO is providing the tools that its technical personnel need in the documentation and implementation of government-funded construction projects. For one whole day in February 10, 2016 engineers and the technical personnel of the SFDEO gathered at the agency's conference hall in Barangay San Policarpo for a course study on " General Overview of Project Documentation, Field Documentation and Monitoring Logbooks and Important Documents in Contract Management"

The move was taken in recognition of the importance of the discipline of documentation in public works.

# Calbayog Gov't. acts on Depleting Samar Sea Resources

CALBAYOG CITY- The Calbayog City government has taken steps to address the problem of deteriorating Samar Sea condition and dynamite fishing is its main target in eliminating anything man-made that caused the depletion of aquatic resources in that once marine-rich waters.

The government as a measure will be prohibiting large-scale commercial fishing in the area in the coming months and to cushion its impact on small fishermen it launched a program that is expected to boost their confidence, improve their means of securing the necessities of life, and encourage them to shun dynamite fishing and focus instead on the more considerate way of catching fish.



Lately, the city government distributed fishing equipment to select fishermen which included gillnets, fishing lines and "improved" fish aggregating devices.

Over a hundred fishermen from 10 coastal barangays of Calbayog were supplied with the said facilities.

In December last year the city government in partnership with the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) gave away pump boat to 15 fishermen from the district of Tinambacan under a national program called BoatR under which all fishing vessels 3 Tons and below are required to be registered.

The said program is intended to stop unreported and unregulated fishing in the country's territorial waters.

The information gathered in the registration is used as basis for providing livelihood and technical assistance to fishermen and in the implementation of ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management.

All the activities are apparently part of the preparation for the government's planned imposition in April, this year, of a 4-month fishing ban in and around Samar sea.

The government chose the period from April to July, each year, as the time to forbid large-scale commercial fishing in the area for it is the spawning season for some species of fish.

Only small-scale fishing will reportedly be allowed during the said months.

Reports have it that dynamite fishing, overfishing, and other destructive methods of fishing caused the significant degradation of marine resources in the Samar sea.

In just over two decades 40 of the 50 commercial fish species in the said waters have reportedly disappeared.

Meanwhile, Calbayog City Mayor Ronald P. Aquino urged fishermen to help the government in protecting the bounty of the sea saying that the four-month large-scale commercial fishing ban in the Samar Sea in April is solely intended to enable it to recover from deterioration. He also exhorted them to report anyone or any group violating fishery laws.

# Police Action Vs Prohibited Drugs Nets 14 Suspects

CALBAYOG CITY- The series of police action against the illicit trade of prohibited drugs in Calbayog City in the last two months have netted fourteen suspects one of them a teenage girl.

All fourteen suspects were nabbed by police operatives in drug buy bust operations in different parts of the city under a police anti-crime strategy called Oplan-Lambat Sibat.

First to be collared by police in the series of arrests that start in January 29, 2016 was a 40 year-old carpenter named Christopher Y. Sumbise of Barangay Rawis and his 33 year-old companion Emilio S. Aplacador who is said to be a pharmacist from Masbate. The two were apprehended inside a lodging house room where the drug deal took place.

Based on police reports, the other suspects that were allegedly caught in the act of selling the prohibited drug were identified as 40 year-old motorcab driver Rolando Baldomaro; construction workers Reynaldo Caballero, Allan Palloc, and Edgardo Tarrayo; Arvin Dagohoy; Carlo Dolenzo; pedicab driver Norman Moises, a widower named Arnel Paulino, Aldwin Lentejas and his self-confessed teenage girlfriend whose name is being withheld for her being a minor offender; and 34 year-old muslim Mino Gumama who reportedly gave the police a hard time before they succeeded in taking him into custody. It took the police two hours to corner the said suspect.

The string of buy bust operation in Calbayog indicates the seriousness of the police to stop the proliferation of prohibited drugs in the community, said Police Chief Inspector Elmer Tabeza Vergara, the newly-appointed OIC-Chief of Police of Calbayog City.

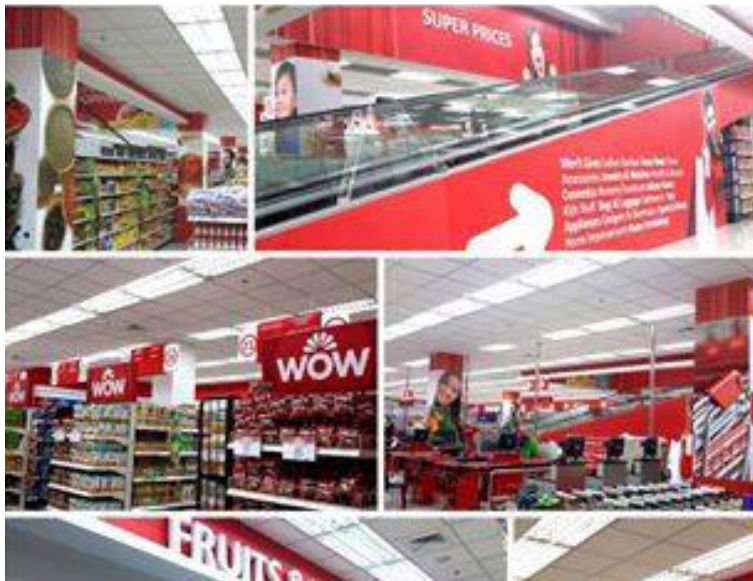


# Super Metro-Calbayog is now open for business

Super Metro, the hypermarket format of the Metro Retail Stores Group in Calbayog City is now open for business.

It is the 15th hypermarket store of the Metro Retail Stores Group since it started in 2013. It will cater to the market with the same brand of quality service and competitive prices of the Metro stores. The Metro group introduced the Super Metro chain of hypermarkets to allow shoppers a faster pace in buying the goods that they need with all the convenience and necessary ambiance for ease and comfort.

A hypermarket like Super Metro is a retail concept that has a mix of 60% of grocery products and 40% in general merchandise. Most of the items are what customers would very likely need to grab right away. The success of the over thirty Metro stores, namely Metro @ Market! Market! in Fort Bonifacio Global City; Metro @ Marquee Mall in Angeles Pampanga; Metro Alabang



in the Alabang Town Center, Muntinlupa City; Plaza 66 Bldg in Newport City, Pasay; Metro Legazpi in Bicol, Metro Colon, Metro Mandaue, Metro Ayala Center in Cebu City, Super Metro Stores in Anonas Quezon; The District Talisay City, Negros Occidental; Lapu-lapu City, Cebu; Boggo City, Cebu; Toledo City, Cebu; Colon Cebu; Basak, San Nicolas, Cebu; Naga City; Calamba, Laguna and a lot more has gained the store steady growth.

Owned and operated by the Metro Retail Stores Group, Inc., Metro's vision is "to become a world-class retail store" with the mission "to provide quality environment, quality service, and to be responsive to customers' needs anchored on its philosophy of customer centeredness." Metro stores are known for its comfortable and friendly outlets that offer a wide assortment of fresh and quality products at reasonable prices. Their retail activities typically range from supermarket operations, department store operations, appliances, fine jewelry, and pharmacy.

The Super Metro Calbayog is a two-floor hypermarket store. The store offers a wide range of fresh meat and seafood, fruits and vegetables, American products sourced globally, a great variety of Chinese and Asian products as well as local brand of supermarket goods among others. The Metro brings to Calbayog, quality and wide variety of merchandise, friendly service and affordable prices that the Metro brand is known for.



## Red Cross Builds Health facility for Leyte Inmates

TACLOBAN CITY - The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is reportedly constructing a new health care facility at the Leyte Regional Prison in Abuyog, Leyte, after the poor health living condition of the prison's over a thousand inmates caught the humanitarian organization's attention after the place was damaged by fire last year.

The infirmary is expected to help improve the prisoners' access to quality medical care inside their very place of confinement which was established shortly after martial law was declared in 1972.

While waiting for the project's completion the ICRC, through its office in Tacloban City, reportedly installed movable temporary shelters to prevent congestion at the minimum security compound where most inmates were placed after the maximum security compound was burned to the ground.

Over 20 comfort rooms were reportedly built as part of the sanitary measures employed by ICRC for the health protection of everyone in jail. ICRC officials are saying that the inmates are now enjoying access to potable water and that their overall condition has improved.

Last year's fire at the maximum security compound of the Abuyog, Leyte prison facility killed 10 inmates and injured several others.



**Best wishes from:**

**HON. ALANA A. DIOMANGAY**

**Board Member  
Samar Sangguniang Panlalawigan**



Lt Gen Eduardo M Año AFP, Commanding General, Philippine Army pinning the Gold Cross Medal to Cpt. Nilfe D. Quioco, Cpl. Kith Richard R. Tan and Pvt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Grengo O. Decena for the successful recovery of high powered firearms, ammunition, claymore mines, flat screen television, satellite cable, generator set, chainsaw, first aid kit, foodstuff and seizure of enemy encampment during encounter of 87IB with NPA rebels at Barangay Antol, Calbiga, Samar on December 11, 2015.

## Heroism of Soldiers in Pinabacdao NPA Encounter Acknowledged by Army Chief

CATBALOGAN CITY - The heroism of army captain Nilfe D. Quioco and two of his men- Corporal Kith Richard R. Tan and Private First Class Grengo O. Decena- in the battle with NPA rebels in Pinabacdao, Samar, in December 11, 2015 was given official recognition by the commanding general of the Philippine Army himself, Lt. Gen. Eduardo M. Año.

The three army personnel belonging to the Bravo company of the 87th Infantry Battalion were each given a Gold Cross medal in recognition of their gallantry in battle which resulted to the seizure of the NPA encampment at Barangay Antol in Pinabacdao.

The army troopers reportedly recovered high powered firearms, ammunition, claymore mines, TV set, satellite cable, electric generator, first aid kit, and high value subversive documents.

The army chief praised the "stormtroopers" for the latter's enthusiasm in serving the people and for their dedication to duty and professionalism.

The awarding of the medals was done during the visit of Lt. Gen. Año to the headquarters of the 8th Infantry Division at Camp Vicente Lukban in Catbalogan City early this month. The army chief was given full military honor upon his arrival at the Openiano field.

## Army Modernization in Full Swing

CATBALOGAN CITY- The modernization of the Philippine Army has started, said army commander Lt. Gen. Eduardo M. Año.

The army chief made the disclosure during his recent visit to the headquarters of the army's 8th Infantry Division at Camp Lukban in Catbalogan City.

Lt. Gen. Año explained that the re-fitting of the country's army requires the acquisition of new and modern combat equipment.

Recently the army acquired new armed personnel carriers with modern fire control and thermal imaging equipment for greater mobility and fire fighting capabilities, field ambulances, and amphibious assault vehicles.

The army also brought in more than 56,000 new highly accurate combat rifles called R4 Carbines to replace the troops' aging M16 and M14 assault rifles.

The army is also awaiting the delivery of US-made Airtronic RPG-7 to replace old and heavy M18 and M67 recoilless rifles.

The Calbayog Journal learned that up to 400 of this light rocket launcher will be delivered to the Philippines by its foreign



maker before the end of the year.

Reports also have it that the Philippine Army now has in its arsenal the German-designed Armbrust, a disposable aim-and-shoot rocket launcher used in special operations which the country acquired from Singapore.

It appears that the on-going modernization in all of the service components of the armed forces of the Philippines pays particular attention to external threats like China's incursions into the country's exclusive economic zone in the west Philippine sea rather than to the nation's domestic security concerns.

Last year, the country acquired new battleships and state-of-the-art fighter jets to enhance its defense capabilities.

## Small Business in E.V. Gets A Lift

TACLOBAN CITY - Small entrepreneurs in calamity-affected areas in eastern visayas are being revitalized by government in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The entrepreneurs operating on a limited scale are considered by both government and USAID as important players in recharging the economy of Samar and Leyte.

They are supplied with technical assistance, market promotion, and equipment to help them pump up emerging opportunities for business in activities geared towards reconditioning the local economy.

The Calbayog Journal learned that micro entrepreneurs such as sari-sari store owners are also getting assistance from the USAID in getting back the livelihood taken away by natural disasters.

The USAID reported that a Thousand sari-sari stores were reconstructed and furnished new stocks with the help of big private companies such as consumer goods manufacturer Procter and Gamble and soft drinks maker Co-ca-Cola.





## A threat looming in the horizon!

There is bad news for the environment and for fishermen. And all of us had better participate in meeting a hazard that in fact exempts no one. It might sound inconsequential but it is not. It is a monster whose lethal growth will soon overwhelm the unprepared. I speak specifically of the plastic in our garbage.

Has anybody from among the Calbayog City authorities, from among our more prominent civic organizations and supposedly concerned community leaders ever heard of the dire warning from the World Economic Forum that there will be more plastic garbage than fish floating in our seas within the foreseeable future? This is not to be taken lightly.

Because of the uncontrolled use and improper disposal of plastics (bags and packaging materials, mostly) it is estimated that by the year 2050, there will be more plastic flotsam and jetsam in our seas than there will be fish, not to mention in our waste dumpsites and in neglected nooks. The truth is that the very life at sea is today already aggravated by the menace of plastic.

Are our brethren who live by the beneficence of the seas aware of this? Fishermen's source of livelihood is under attack. They cannot remain ignorant and idle in regard to their environment. A cursory look in the spaces about us (the side walks, the canals, the rivers and the beaches) will confirm the abundance of the ever present bits and pieces of discarded plastic materials, improperly thrown, mishandled and uncollected. They lie there and everywhere. But will never die!

The use of plastic for wrapping, packaging and for many other domestic purposes has increased by at least 20 times during last fifty years and threaten to double in another generation. This is a worldwide forecast which means, it could be worse in the Philippines because we are notorious for our utter carelessness in matters of sanitation and garbage disposal. This has to be corrected and a mindset developed from childhood when every child's mind is still in the formative stage. This means, now!

This foreseeable disaster is a formidable danger not only to the environment but to the fishermen's livelihood itself. Each individual citizen can participate simply by being conscious of what we dispose of as garbage. Plastic materials are the most notorious because these do not rot, do not decompose and remain in its unaltered condition for over a hundred years. And these just keep on growing. It is estimated that at least 8 million tons of plastic garbage end up in the seas to join the 165 millions of tons that have already degraded the quality of sealife!

On the governance level, if it has not yet been mulled over and discussed, it is time for the subject to be prominent in the City Council's Agenda. Environmental awareness, specifically targeting plastic, must be inculcated upon young minds in the classroom. And as well, upon the general public on the street level of every barangay. This is a government responsibility.

One example comes to mind. For starters, a very simple decision and action would be worth the trying: the incremental banning of the use of plastic bags by retail stores, combined with promoting re-usable, multi-utility shopping bags (bayo-ong) made of natural fibers, cloth and/or recyclable bio-degradable material, for sale at every store. Or given away as promotional materials. This could even spawn a new source of income generating cottage level livelihood. (Many LGUs the world over even have ordinances

prohibiting the use of plastic bags by retail stores.) The bags may even have promotional prints of products or services of sponsoring entities. Resistance to change is always a hassle but only in the beginning, until shunning the use of plastic bags becomes second nature to us all.

In support of and/or promoting citizen action, priestly exhortations and reminders during sacramental services will definitely prove to be effective considering the natural piety predominant among parishioners. Besides, if indeed "cleanliness is next to Godliness," who else are best positioned to be the vanguards of healthful environment and sanitation in our communities?

Clean City Hall premises and clean Churchyards can jumpstart community sanitation! Let us be done with plastic!



### A Sublime Purpose for the Christmas Crib

Francis had conceived the idea of building the Christmas Crib long before he went to Greccio. He had visited Bethlehem in December 1220 where he had felt deeply moved by the way Christmas was celebrated, with the manger as the center piece. He had wished the people of Greccio could also experience Christmas in Bethlehem. But the Palestine region was unsafe for travel. The Fifth Crusade to the Holy Land had just ended, and there were serious talks about a Sixth Crusade. So he conceived of an idea. If the people of Greccio cannot go to the Holy Land to see the manger, why not bring the manger to Greccio? For him this was the best way to bring the nativity of Christ closer to the people.

Francis was in Rome for the official approval of the Franciscan Order, now known as the Order of Friars Minor, by Pope Honorius III in November 29, 1223. Seizing the opportunity he sought the permission of the Pope to build the Christmas Crib. Actually, there was no need to ask for the Pope's blessing, but he ask for it anyway, according to Thomas of Celano, "so the idea would not appear to be his own innovation." It was his original idea, but Francis was too humble to a fault. From Rome he passed through Greccio, and that was the time he met with John, his friend, fifteen days before Christmas.

Francis did not build the first Christmas Crib because the church in Bethlehem had been displaying the manger with figurines at Christmas for centuries. As early as the fifth century the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome had a crypt called Chapel of the Nativity with an oratory built like the cave of Bethlehem. The pope's first Mass of Christmas was offered there. In fact, before the Greccio event many Christian churches staged the annual live re-enactment of the nativity on Christmas Day, complete with figurines and warm bodies dressed up to resemble the characters of the nativity. The Christmas Crib was already in existence, although the devotion to it was not yet popular. So what was so novel about Francis' Christmas Crib?

According to Fr. Foley Francis did not want just a pleasant tableau of the nativity. "He wanted to show the hardships Jesus suffered even as an infant... Francis wanted to realize and help people realize exactly what God had done for his people, and how poor he chose to be for our sakes. He saw a truly human Jesus, not a divine being hiding behind a physical facade." For Francis the Christmas Crib was not simply an ornate arrangement of lifeless figurines but a graphic representation of all the values that he had practiced after his conversion: humility, care for the poor and the sick, love of nature and animals, and total detachment from earthly possessions and honor.

### Christmas Eve 1223

A few days before Christmas Francis inspected the cave at Greccio and liked what he saw. He imagined the image of Jesus resting on hay in a manger surrounded by animals, a fitting re-enactment of the memory of the birth of the poor and humble Savior. The Christmas Crib was ready for the great celebration. The enthusiasm among the townsfolk was building up because Greccio, their beloved town, was sanctified for having been chosen as the site for the Christmas celebration.

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## What happened to Samar?

On June 19, 1965, RA 4221 was passed by Congress dividing Samar Island into three (3) provinces: Northern Samar with Catarman as capital, Eastern Samar with Borongan as capital, and Western Samar with Catbalogan as capital. A subsequent legislation passed on June 21, 1969 (RA 5650) changed the title "Western Samar" to simply Samar.

It is already 50 years since Western Samar also known as Samar was declared as province but until now many of the people here are in dire poverty. Ironically, Samar has produced thousands of professionals and intellectuals and many of them are now working in high offices of the government and others are working abroad but looking at the situation in this 50 year old province, it is reported that the province of Samar is included in the highest poverty incidence. I don't exactly know the main reason for this problem.

National media have exposed corruption by the provincial government which according to the reports could be one of the reasons why poverty is so high in the province. The political dynasty that has controlled the local government's resources and the economy of the province continued to flourish.

What happen to the intellectuals?

Most of the graduates would look for jobs in Metro Manila because they do not see any opportunity in the province except if you are an education graduate who can apply as teacher and is willing to wait for your ranking which sometimes take 2 to 3 years or you are being recommended to work in the municipal office as job order 93 to 6 month). Those high school graduates will go directly to Manila to work as factory workers, house help and try their luck as janitors and GROs (a risky job). For those lucky college graduates were able malls as sales assistants, factory workers in manufacturing companies and call center in BPOs.

What is sad about this situation is that the rich families in this province is getting richer while the poor is getting poorer especially the farmers and fisherfolks. The disaster has also contributed to the vulnerability of the children, persons with disability and the senior citizens. The employees like the teachers and government workers are trapped by loans because they have no other means to support their children to school.

The kind of politics we have in Samar has not really helped this province grow in fact it made the ordinary citizens doubt if there is still hope for a real change. Change not just in terms of leadership but in terms of opportunities for work, business and a peaceful and secured environment. Corruption is still obvious despite the campaign Kung walang Kurap, walang Mahirap, killings in Calbayog and in other part of Samar is a kind of normal, unemployment due to lack of industry, insurgency and even drugs is destroying the future of the youth in local and national situation. Is there a solution to all of these? I think so. But I am not fan of a quick fix solution because there are hundreds of reasons why poverty and injustice is everywhere in my country. The culture of padrino that we acquired from the Spaniards, the profit oriented system that the Western have instilled in our system, the religious celebrations such as fiesta that obliged us to save money to be spent for one day and some people would start the next day paying for the loan just to have something to show.

There are three things that my fellow Samaritan should keep in mind if we want to change the situation here in Samar but first, people must understand that real change requires sacrifice. These are simple reminders that if we will seriously consider might change the political landscape of Samar. Remember that involving ourselves in vote buying will have a lasting impact to our children. The school buildings and books that our children are using will not be of good quality because the budget intended for these goes to the pocket of some politicians. Once our votes are sold to the highest bidder there is no way for us to stop corruption in any way. By simply allowing ourselves to be controlled by politician's money means we are giving them the consent to corrupt and use their power to destroy

the system of the government and values that our parents and religion has taught us.

Second, it is important that we invest for our children's education in order to break the cycle of poverty by providing them the necessary knowledge and skills to have better job opportunities and business skills so that we are able attract opportunities.

Third, let us be responsible citizens. Most of the time we are tempted to blame the government for the many problems we face such as no jobs opportunities, no income from our harvest in the farm but when we try to evaluate our efforts we only realize that we have not done much in looking for other alternatives and we are actually overcome by laziness.

Again, our participation during 2016 election must change the culture of vote buying to a purpose driven engagement. Education must be our priority if want to break the cycle of poverty and lastly, let us do our share in the development of our society. If we start doing these thing there is still hope for a real change in Samar because Samar is never owned by any political dynasty but by its people who considered this as only their home.



## HOME

Today, March 8, we join in the national observation/celebration of Women's Day throughout the whole Philippines with the theme: "Juana, Desisyon Mo ay Mahalaga sa Kinabukasan ng Bawat Isa. Ikaw na!" in consonance with the international theme: "Equality for Women is Progress for All."

Equality has been my personal battle cry for more than thirty (30) decades already in this playing field of tears, war, and injustice. "Life is (indeed) difficult." (M. Scott Peck), especially when you grow up being raised in an environment of persistent pain caused by battering. Unknowingly you develop an unconscious medical dysfunction called battered person syndrome (Lenore E. Walker), in effect of your so called homing instinct.

"Love is what we are born with. Fear is what we learn." (Marianne Williamson)

The younger generations and the feeling-young generations are the easy target of war-driven organizations, the likes of ISIS and of any what-have-you's in the local scene, taking advantage of their weak state of being due to immature thinking and understanding of what really life holds true for us, humans.

There is so much power in mind conditioning, not only in the animal kingdom, but also in the supposed higher rationality found in the human specie. It is very sad to know that many of us have degraded ourselves into the lower level of understanding. *Sayang na sayang ang pagiging tao natin. At patuloy na palubha nang palubha nating sinasayang!*

The freedom I earned during that fateful night of October 10, 2003, has and will always be very precious to me. I called that day my Independence Day! I was to know later that October 10 is International Mental Health Day. "There are no accidents nor coincidences in life." (St. Rita of Avila) I sweetly surrendered and vowed to never retreat to what lies ahead, no matter what lies beneath.

"The single most reason for a low self esteem is the absence of unconditional love." Every person, especially women, has a unique story to tell. But tell me, are there enough willing souls to listen? The ratio of loving souls to that of the number of cynics is very, very tilted. Is it any wonder then why the most agonizing women prefer and choose to keep their quiet and suffer in silence instead?

The Filipino culture of paternity adds more insult to injury for us women. It is this culture that nails us more to our cross because its effect is "silent brotherhood" effecting in women more "just tiis" instead of getting justice. It is mostly for this reason then, that us - the awakened women of our society - must form a strong and defiant bond (and band - of purple!) of sisterhood to neutralize somehow the skewed reality between men and women.

Let us help one another to further educate our young and not-so-young (regardless of gender) that we are all the same in one big family

to page 12

# Elegant Residential Subdivision Rising in Calbayog City

A new upscale residential subdivision is being built in Calbayog for people longing for a decent home and a good living environment within the city.

The subdivision, named Altura Villas and Mahogany Homes, is rising on a four hectare lot in Barangay Matobato equipped with a clubhouse, a swimming pool, and a park or a green area for recreation.

That area of real estate, a property of the Nicolas Chan family, is being developed by a company called Triumvirate Construction Corporation (TCC) in partnership with the PAG-IBG Home Mutual Development Fund.

The said construction firm is owned by a group of Calbayognons interested in real estate development in Calbayog City driven by a desire to bring superior quality homes to their own hometown.

The developers said that although the houses at Altura Villas and Mahogany Homes are of good quality, they are offered to the public at affordable price and in an easy installment term via the PAG-IBIG Fund housing loan scheme.

PAG-IBIG fund Housing Relations Officer Cesar Francisco said that the agency is now in fact accepting housing loan applications for Altura Villas after a memorandum of agreement was signed by the agency and Triumvirate Construction Corporation.

The Triumvirate housing project was hailed by Calbayog City mayor Ronald P. Aquino as a significant component of Calbayog's progress for it is the first that a residential subdivision with "class" is introduced into the city.

Interested applicants may visit the Triumvirate Office located at Nijaga Street, Calbayog City.



## DPWH: Calbayog Infra Projects Under GAA Over 90 Percent Complete

CALBAYOG CITY- The Samar First District Engineering Office of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) has announced the completion of almost all of the infrastructure projects undertaken in Calbayog City which were funded under the General Appropriations Act to the tune of over 1.4 Billion pesos.

The said projects include the construction, rehabilitation, and upgrading of damaged concrete roads, construction of diversion roads, bridges and local infrastructures, roads widening, improvement and construction of flood mitigation structures and drainage systems.

This year, 7 bridges are slated for strengthening or rehabilitation under the GAA. Two of the bridges- Sapinit and Payahan will be replaced while the Hinagbungan Bridge will undergo major repair. The Lambigue, Lawayon, and Solsogon bridges will all be widened to two lanes on both sides. The Sapinit viaduct is also slated for widening in the coming months. These projects have a total allocation of Php 228 Million.

The DPWH said that 65 of the finished projects are related to flood control and drainage. The river control structures that were built and improved are located along kinawan river in Brgy. San Joaquin, Bulongto river in Brgy. Malopalo, Malajog river in Brgy. Malajog, and Jibatang river in Brgy. Lonoy. The flood control projects are in barangays Bantian, Malaga, Peña, and San Joaquin.

Meanwhile, projects funded under the convergence program of the DPWH are reportedly now over Fifty percent complete. These are the construction of access roads leading to the Calbayog City Airport, construction of new school classrooms, and the repair as well as the maintenance of state-owned buildings. Over Php 624 Million was earmarked for the said projects.

With the speed by which the DPWH is now actualizing the infrastructure projects in Calbayog, expectations are high that if the momentum continues the city will become increasingly attractive to both transitory and long-term investors.



# An Tawo Nga Nag Decidir Pag Pas-an San Ungara San Mga Samareño

An hingyap ni Emilio “Emil” Zosa nga makag-serbe sa publiko in makikita dida san iya pinamili nga mga dalan sa kinabuhi. Sadton panahon san iya pagka-bata karuyag na ni Emil nga sumulod sa pagka-padi pero tungod san kon anano nga rason nahingadto siya san dalan di-in kinahanglan niya depensahan an kalibrihan san katawhan ngan protihiran an teritoryo san san nasud imbes nga depensahan an pag tu-o sa Diyos ngan protihiran an simabahan. Pero bisan hain san duha nga dalan an iya mahingadto-an, magpapabilin la gihapon nga siya in magserbe san ngatanan.

Sadto nga katuigan san 1990 kahunan san iya military training didto sa kanan Philippine Army Officers’ Candidates School, sumulod si Emil sa serbisyo sa Armado Nga Fuerza San Pilipinas ngan dida san sumunod nga 25 años nag serbe siya pag protihir san nasud kontra sadton mga nagi-us pag bungkag san republika.

Nag pakita si Emil sin dire ordinaryo nga ka-isog dire la sa pakig-away kontra san armado nga mga rebelde ngan mga bandido kundi pati san tinatawag nga “political corruption”. Sadto nga tuig 2004 nagin matunog an ngaran ni Emil tungod san iya pag testigo kontra kan anay presidente Gloria Macapagal Arroyo nga gin akusar sin pan limbong sa eleksyon tungod san iya pakig-hampang sa telepono sa usa nga election commissioner nga gin bunyagan “Hello Garci Scandal.”

May tigaman san iya kina-ya pag oponer san mga opisyaes san gobyerno nga gin gagamit an ira poder para maka-pamintaha ngan maka-ganansya, nanawagan si Emil ngadto sa mga Samareño nga bumulig sa iya pag utod san pira na ka tuig nga pag-hadi hadi san pa-



**Emillio “Emil” Zosa**

milya Tan sa Samar nga kilala sa pa-atras nga pama-agi dida san pag palakat san gobyerno san probinsya.

Pag retiro ni Emil sa serbisyo sa army sadto nga naglabay nga tuig nag pasamwak siya san iya panuyo pag pas-an san inop ngan ungara san mga Samareño nga maka-tilaw na sin ma-uro-upay nga kahimtang sa kinabuhi ngan pangabuhin ngan nag pasaka san iya kandidatora sa COMELEC pagka-gobernador san Samar.

Sadto nga Oktubre 29, 2015 egin pagawas ni Emil an iya tinatawag nga “ 9-Point People’s Agenda” para san bag-o nga Samar di-in iya egin plastar an mga pitad nga iya bubohaton para an probinsya in tumabas sin dalan tipakadto sa tinu-od nga nga kauswagan kon diin dire la adton mga a-ada sa politika ngan pipira nga mga tawo an mag pupolos kundi an kabug-usan nga mulopyo san probinsya.

Si Emil Zosa in taga bungto san Sta. Margarita sa Western Samar.

# From My Mango . . . *from page 9*

Finally Christmas Eve came. It was a moonless night. The skies were dark and cloudy, forest mist abounds in the air, but it did not rain. To provide illumination the Franciscan friars and the people from Greccio and the neighboring towns flocked to the forest bringing torches and candles. Soon the place was flooded with, in the words of St. Bonaventure, another Franciscan biographer, "a multitude of bright lights." When Francis arrived he was ecstatic at seeing that everything was picture-perfect. The figurine of the Baby Jesus rested on a bed of hay laid on the manger, with an ox standing on one side and a donkey on the other side. By Thomas of Celano's account, Francis looked around him and saw that "Simplicity was honored, Poverty exalted, Humility commended; Greccio was made as if it were a new Bethlehem."

The friars sang praises to the Lord and the echoes of the woodland and rocks seemed to blend with the singing. "All that night resounded with jubilation. The Saint of God stood before the manger, full of sighs, overcome with tenderness and filled with wondrous joy." A solemn mass celebrated by a priest, Francis, being an ordained deacon, sang the gospel and preached about the birth of Christ in the little town of Bethlehem. When he mentioned the name Child of Bethlehem or Jesus "his tongue licked his lips, relishing and savoring with pleased palate the sweetness of the words." St. Bonaventure had a similar account: "Blessed Francis...sang the gospel and preached to the people on the Nativity of Christ our King, and whenever he pronounced his name with infinite tenderness he called Him the little 'Babe of Bethlehem'."

The final blessing at the mass signalled the end of the solemnities. Thomas of Celano wrote about it poignantly: "At length the solemn vigil was ended, and each one returned with joy to his own place."

## A Popular Tradition is born

On that eventful Christmas Eve in 1223, in a small town called Greccio, a little-known Christian practice started to be a popular tradition. The Christians were attracted to the simple yet fervent reminder of the humble birth of Christ. In the ensuing years the Christmas Crib was prevalent mostly in churches, but by the 17th century the home crib became very popular. Crib-making developed into a folk art in Europe, and migrants and colonists brought the tradition to the New World and to the Orient.

Today the Christmas Crib is found in homes, churches, classrooms, offices, public squares, malls and commercial establishments during the entire Christmas season. Even in countries where public displays of Christian devotion are prohibited, Christians have been known to set up the Christmas Crib in secret places like caves, catacombs, closets, attics, and basements to commemorate the birth of the Savior.

However, as the world modernized with technology advancement, secularism slowly eroded the spiritual value of Christmas. The Christmas season was used to promote new products in the market, including Christmas lights and decors bereft of any spiritual meaning. Even the crib became a commodity for sale rather than a community project of the faithful. In 2005 Pope Benedict XVI lamented the commercialization of Christmas. In his traditional Advent Angelus message, the Pope strongly advocated to maintain the tradition of the Christmas Crib as a weapon in the fight against the commercial pollution that threatens to change the authentic spirit of Christmas. While the crib's revival is often characterised by nostalgia and sentimentalism, the Pope said that it nevertheless helps "to understand the secret of the true Christmas, because it speaks of the humility and of the merciful goodness of Christ, who although he was rich, became poor for us."

On the Christmas Eve Mass in 2013 Pope Francis demonstrated meekness when he personally placed a figurine of the baby Jesus in a replica of a manger in the crib, a task usually done by an aid. Pope Francis encouraged his flock to emulate humility when he prayed: "We bless you, Lord God most high, who lowered yourself for our sake. You are immense, and you made yourself small; you are rich and you made yourself poor; you are all-powerful and you made yourself vulnerable."

## The Death and Canonization of the Holy Man

Three years after the Greccio Christmas Crib was built Francis had a vision of an angel bearing the image of the Crucified Christ. From this vision he received the stigmata, the wounds inflicted upon Christ at his crucifixion. The stigmata caused him much physical suffering, but he willingly endured the pain as Christ endured them. He was brought to several cities to alleviate his suffering, but to no avail. When it became obvious that his days were numbered he was brought to Porziuncola in Assisi where he spent the last days of his life. He died on the evening of October 3, 1226 at the age of 44.

The man born of nobility, who voluntarily moved from riches to rags, served the poor, tended to the sick, preached peace and repentance, and founded a religious order was canonized a Saint in 1228, barely two years after his death. He is now officially called St. Francis of Assisi, – a fitting tribute to the man who popularized the Christmas Crib to give life to the gospel message: "And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying

in a manger." (Luke 2:12). Years later, because of this love for animals and nature, St. Francis was named Patron Saint of the Ecologists.

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# Otherwise . . .

*from page 9*

of God; that we have been given the same sets of gifts inside regardless our differences outside; that our differences of gender, and others, are but tests/trials for us to hurdle and handle; and that in the end our ultimate mission is actually only Love!

It must be about time that the band of purple is to be taken seriously, since purple is the color of good judgment. It is the color of purple seeking spiritual fulfillment - where there is peace of mind. It is the combination of red (which is focusing, dynamic and active energy) and blue (which is cooling, calming, and expansive energy), both the warmest and coolest colors respectively, and it is this combination that is believed to be the ideal color. Ideal because it (purple or violet) brings a new dynamic to the expansion of blue and the activity of red.

Violet (purple) is the color of purpose. It is associated with the Crown Chakra (or the 7th Energy Center which is found on top of our head) which links the individual and the Universe. Red brings practicality to the undirected expansiveness of the blue, and allows more energy to emerge. It is for this reason that violet or purple is associated with imagination and inspiration. Rise up then, women of purpose, and be acknowledged!

The world is supposed to be a colorful world. It is not dead, therefore, not merely black and white, but more. The legal world is in black and white, and thus, deadly. Our redemption as living dead is our Divinity because there is founded our honest security. But the description of true divinity is hardly understood by the mediocrity of most humans because many have turned their backs to it by succumbing to the materialism of this cruel world. With this, therefore, as our HOME, is there anything more to ask?

Allow me to leave you these words once again as a penny for your thought, my brothers and sisters, as I bid you goodbye and rest my case by going back to my peace bringing with me my ever elusive "utopian dream" (St. Thomas More): "Life is a choice; LOVE IS A DECISION." Sisters, take care of yourself. It's your own home: your thoughts; your body. Love begins in you and with you. Your and the whole of our future depends on you.

I love you, everyone! And I pray for all of us real hard!

# Banawag

Nemesio Baldesco

Sa may sidlangan, sa may Bisayas pupro,  
Isla, ikatulo nga pinakadako,  
Uno punto tres, ka milyon nga iktarya,  
Ug guinlakipan, san mga digyo nga isla.

Yaon molopyo, dos milyones harani,  
Nagbatag-batag, san wada ngan bahandi,  
Nga sadto iya manggad, daw guinpalabi,  
Abunda pa, kanan Samar mga hiagui.

Saysinta'y kwatro porsyento, an kahuyan,  
Tres syentos trenta'y tres mil, tres syentos, ruwang,  
Ka ektarya, lado nga guinprotehiran,  
May sobra gatos pa nga sona, tagsagang.

Samar Leyte, guinkumponer san mga Waray,  
Pan-unom, kultural linggwestiko nga banay,  
Urog san molopyo, pinilungan Waray,  
Guinbatag-batag an nasalin, daw tulay.

Kay inin Samar-Leyte, daw temporaryo,  
Nga hurunan, nanbakwet nga Sebhano,  
Lakip sadton isla, san mga Boholano,  
Guindul-ong san bilus, sa rehiyon otso.

Yaon kumanap an banay, sa mga huron,  
Kay an Bisaya, sa pag-uma naayon,  
An pangisda an budlay, sa may baybayon,  
Habagat guinrunggiya, kun maisugon.

Panahon sadton Katsila, nahitapnas,  
Hugpo san Kabitenyo, sira nanlayas,  
Sa pahimuan barko, hingyap matalwas,  
Gahum san mananakop, labing kamantas.

Guinsurapo, karat-an san nabigasyon,  
Sakay, sakayan de layag, paabuyon,  
San habagat, tubtub ha Samar baybayon,  
Guindagsa, ngan permanenti nga humuron.

San ira pagdunggo, baybay sinin Samar,  
Dayon pasalamat, sa Diyos Tagsalbar,  
Senyor San Rapael, guinlibot may tukar,  
Kabitenyo kultura, asay guinplastar.

Tubtub yana, asay guihap guinbubuhat,  
San mga Tagalog, kultura nga guinmamat,  
Guinpakanap, kanan mga Samarnon natad,  
Karakol an agnay, baysay waray sugad.

Ngan sa Weste san Samar, nagpamatuod,  
Dinhi nga dapit, mga Tagalog guin-anod,  
Pulong nga Tagalog, Samarnon, nagtig-ub,  
Nadum-itan san Bisaya, kay sumakub.

Samarenyo Norte, adton pinulungan,  
An eksistensya, durho sinin Samar,  
An pader, San Bernardino nga kalawdan,  
Sa Luzon tuna, Bikolano nga lugar.

Sanglit nadum-itan, Samarnon nga pulong,  
Yakan nga Bikolano, daw nahiburong,  
Sugad paggamit han sa, han Calbayog,  
Ngan sa Catbalogan, ha an guin-uurog.

Nalati pinulungan, nga Capulenyon,  
Abaknon an tawag, kaparte san hugpo,  
Sama Bahaw nga pulong, Malay quintudo,

Rekwerdo nira, banay san Samarenyo.

Capul tubig abunda sanglit dungguan,  
San biyahedor, San Bernardino sakuban,  
Ngan san Samar, pag-abusar nakaplagnan,  
Kay an manggad, san langyaw guin-entirisan.

Apesar bahandi, daw waray bunaot,  
Paglugos san langyaw pero nakasangpot,  
Kay banawag san isla, waray ighalot,  
San Taglarang, uswag kanunay guindurot.

Sadton pagrabong, kanan Samar mga guba,  
Bumuswak mga pan-as, maindig mga mata,  
San makalantaw kay anyag waray sama,  
Lakip sadton mga salog, nga daw naggiya.

May duha nga dalanas, ha San Isidro,  
Adton Pongkol Falls, tubig labi ka presko,  
Bukana Falls, tulo ka hut-ong nga bato,  
Tubig nahulugan, kabaysay hin duro.

Yaun Pinipisakan Falls, ha Las Navas,  
Daw kawada san ganggang, tubig naawas,  
Ma. Teresa, ha Catubig nga daganas,  
Halawhaw, tubig nahulog, nahaganas.

Calbayog ka swerte, dekada nobenta,  
Guin-agnayan, syudad san pan-as, daw tukma,  
Kay inin Samar, nagdudulum an guba,  
Sanglit bumisgui, pan-as, anyag namwestra.

Bangon Bugtong Falls, san syudad pinalabi,  
Marabelyosa nga baysay, totalmente,  
Yaun pa Tarangban Falls, di' maiwakli,  
Sa pensar san makalantaw, o naagui.

May sayo pa nga daganas, nga tumurok,  
Larik Falls, usa nga baranggay natirok,  
Baryo Tinaplacan, Syudad san Calbayog,  
Ha guba umusbong, sadang igpanhambog.

Tun-ok Falls, ada ha Sigo nga Baranggay,  
Durot sa syudad, kuryente aludayday,  
Sa Caglanipao Sur, yaun Pan-as Busay,  
Kun sa tubig maghurum, tanggal kabudlay.

Tabukno Falls, guinbugna Baryo Cagbayang,  
Maparigo, tanggal san adlaw dagaang,  
Baranggay San Joaquin, yaun Lologayan,  
Pan-as daw buhok nalugay, sinudlayan.

Yaun pariguan, bungto san Paranas,  
Paranas Falls, taghum anyag nga dalanas,  
Bungto San Jorge, yaun baysay nga pan-as,  
Blanca Aurora Falls, tubig nahaganas.

Samtang guba san Samar, waray magbungkag,  
Iya mga daganas, di' mahihimurag,  
Kay padayon an burabud, ug pagsabwag,  
Hadi nga adlaw, sa gahum san banawag.  
Kun may Yolanda pa magsari pagsulod,  
Padayon may lauman mananalipod,  
Ngan kun uran bumubo nga daw burabod,  
Buklos san baha tuna dire maupod.

# EDGAR MARY S. SARMIENTO, DE KALIDAD NGA LIDER

May ada gud abilidad pag santop bisan sadton gudti na kaupay nga mga detalye si Edgar Mery S. Sarmiento basi sadton iya mga nakab-ot dida sa industriya san panhimo ngan pangayad mga edipisyo, kalsada, ngan mga tulay kon diin panalagsa adton nag i-iba dida sine nga klase sin pakabuhi nga putos in mg aka delikadohan.

Si Edgae nga yana ma-o an president ngan chief executive officer san kompaniya nga Oscar Sarmiento Construction, Inc. nga naka-basi didto sa Metro Manila in nahi-usbong dida san tinatawag sa ingles nga construction business sa temprano pa san iya kinabuhi tungod kay iton nga klase sin pangabuhi ma-o an siyahan nga egin kabuhi san iya mga kag-anak.

Ma-o ada ine an rason kay kon anano nga nag aram siya ka enhinyero didto sa Cebu Institute of Technology sadton tuig 1976 kahuman gud niya mag graduar sa high school sa University of San Carlos sa Cebu City. Pakahaman niya sa kolehiyo sadton tuig 1981 bitbit an diploma san Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, egin pahilarom pa ni Edgar an iya pag aram siton nga linya pina-agi san pag enroll sa UP Engineering Construction Management of the Philippines kon diin iya egin andam an kalugaringon dida san pangatubang tawo ngan mag bug-at nga mga kahimtang para mahibaro siya pag mani-obra san lakat sa negosyo san kanan iya kalugaringon nga familia kompaniya nga sadto siton nga takna sumolod na pangontrata mga proyekto sa magkalain-lain nga dapit sa Pilipinas.

An iya temprano kaupay nga pag sulod sa industriya nga nag kikinahanglan sin tawo nga desidido, may isog,



**Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento**

ngan may rig-on adton pan huna-huna in nakahatag kan Edgar sin higayon nga maka-atubang adton magkuri nga mga situwasyon nga nakinahanglan sin malaksi nga desisyon- kalidad nga ma-o an tigaman san tawo nga may kapas pag kapot san liderato sa kadam-an nga mga buruhaton san katawhan.

Si Edgar in natawo sa Ciudad san Calbayog sadto nga tuig 1957 ngan umeskwela sa elementarya sa Christ the King College san tuig 1996. Nag asawa siya kan Helen W. Sarmiento kanay may ada siya tulu nga anak.



## Samar Citizens form 2016 Polls Watchdog

CATBALOGAN CITY- The apprehension of citizens over the possibility of flagrant vote-buying occurring again in the province of Samar during the May 2016 elections has spawned the formation of a citizens anti-fraud body called "Samar Vote 4Change."

The group which is composed of people from the so-called society's third sector - the church, the academe, the youth, and the media - is calling for an end to vote-buying and other forms of cheating that subvert the people's will.

Vote-buying was reportedly rampant in many areas of the province in past elections and there is fear of it happening again in this year's electoral exercise in the municipalities of Marabut, San Jose de Buan, Basey, Pinabacdao, Calbiga, Motiong, Tarangan, and in the island towns of Daram, Almagro and Tagapul-an.

Fr. Melvin Ojeda, a catholic priest and a member of the Samar Vote 4Change said that the group believes that some local politicians will again resort to vote-buying. The possibility of vote-buying is not far-fetched for the practice is actually a perennial problem in Samar which is considered as one of the poorest among the country's administrative divisions.

## Greetings from:



# NAKAPOT SAN MONOBELA SAN CIUDAD, USA NGA PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

Kadam-an sadton sobra 170 Mil nga mga mulupyo san Calbayog an dire ma-aram nga an ira mayor usa nga “Certified Public Accountant” ngan ma-aram kaupay dida san panhimo mga palisiya san gobyerno san ciudad sa mga butang nga may kalabutan sa pangapital ngan pag hurma mga regulasyones para sa mga nag u-ungara nga mag pundar ngan magpalakat negosyo sa ciudad.

Si Mayor Ronaldo P. Aquino in nagin bihasa dida san pag enterpretar san tinatawag sa ingles nga “language of business” kay ma-ine an iya gin ianaraman san na-eskuwela pa siya Accountancy didto sa University of the East sa Manila- klase sin kinaadman nga kinahanglanon yana san bungto para niya makab-ot an ungara nga magin sentro san ekonomiya dire la san probensya kundi san kabug-usan nga isla san Samar. Kinaadman nga iya gud gin tuyo pag kadto sa Manila kahuman niya pag graduar sa high school sa Christ the King College sa Calbayog City.

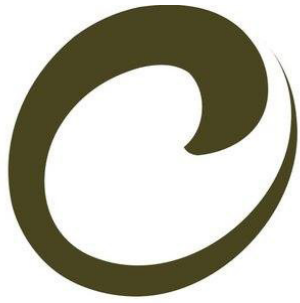
Sa sulod san pira katuig antes siya umentra sa politika komo konsehal sa ciudad sadton 1992, Si Aquino in nagtirok anay sin dugang pa nga kina-adman sa negosyo pina-agi



**RONALD P. AQUINO**  
Calbayog City Mayor

san pag kapot responsibilidad pag palakat san kanan iya kag-anak kalugaringonnga kompaniya- an MBA Trading- nga sadto siton nga panahon namamalit ngan namamaligya magkalain lain nga mga produkto ngan kopras.

Tikanf siya umentra sa serbisyo publikosan tuig 1992 hasta ngada yana wgin halad ni Aquino an iya bug-os nga panahon dida san pamiling mga pama-agi para dire ma diskarel an lakat san ciudad tipakadto sa kauswagan nga gin hingyap dire la niya kundi pati sadton nanhi-una sa iya pag serbe san Calbayog labi na an pag kab-ot san ungara nga an ciudad san Calbayog magin “economic center” san bug-os nga isla san Samar- inop nga hinay-hinay nga nakikita sadton mga tag obserbar san lakat san ciudad.



# CIRIACO HOTEL & RESORT

REGION 8'S PREMIER BOTIQUE HOTEL  
Maupay nga adlaw!

Samar Island is the 3rd largest island of the Philippines and one of the 200 eco-regions in the world vital in preserving the Earth's bio-diversity; one of the biggest limestone formation in the country; one of the 9 endemic bird areas in the Philippines with 197 species of birds (34% of all Philippine bird species); 39 species of mammals (23% of total in the country); 25 species of reptiles and 12 amphibians; a historical landmark of the famed Balangiga encounter on September 28, 1901.

Calbayog City - situated in the western part of the island of Samar, facing Samar Sea, is a haven of natural attractions: towering and cascading waterfalls, reason why it is dubbed as the 'City of Waterfalls'; caves and rock formation in Biri Island (Philippine version of the Grand Canyon); beaches and a hot spring named 'Mapaso Hot Spring' with the consistency 100 degrees boiling water and with healing value; a marble park forest ideal for mountaineering, trekking, housing caves underneath preserved for over a hundred years. Cathedral of Sts. Peter and Paul is the biggest churches of the province of Samar - has lots of Spanish blended with modern touches in architecture - 5 minutes away from Ciriaco Hotel; festivals - Sarakiki/Hadag festival is a grand street dance performance and exhibition depicting different rituals of participants from Calbayog City and the rest of Samar, dancing to Kuratsal

Calbayog City Zooms to progress - Ciriaco Hotel and Resort serves as a catalyst in transforming lives and lifestyle in Calbayog and pride of the whole Samar Island! It is the only deluxe hotel in the entire Region 8.

**FEATURES:**

Business Center  
Swimming Pool  
Gym & Spa (Soon)

**Others:**

Safety deposit boxes     Fire safety system in the guest room & public area  
Laundry service  
Transportation



**Eggs Travagant Pool Party**

PLUNGE IN TO AN EASTERIFFIC AFTERNOON  
THIS **MARCH 27, 2016 1 3PM**

HOP OVER FOR OUR EASTER KIDS ACTIVITY FOR A FUN EASTER EGG DECORATING AND EGG HUNTING IN THE POOL.

**₱399** per person

**INCLUSIONS:** Afternoon snacks, pool use, easter activity for kids

FOR MORE INQUIRIES:  
(055) 2094-298; (+63)917 7101 899;  
(+63)917 7100 787

FIND US:

**Bon Appetit**

**LIVE PASTA STATION AND BRICK OVEN PIZZA**  
AN ITALIAN FOOD LOVER'S DREAM COME TRUE  
SAVOUR THE FLAVOR ON THIS DELICIOUS PARADE OF FRESHLY COOKED PASTA OF YOUR CHOICE AND BRICK OVEN BAKED PIZZA.

FOR ONLY  
**PHP 250.00** per serving

CREATE YOUR OWN PASTA  
Choose from our wide selection of pasta and favorite sauce

AVAILABLE THURSDAYS THRU SUNDAYS  
FROM 6:00PM ON.

FOR MORE INQUIRIES:  
(055) 2094-298; (+63)917 7101 899;  
(+63)917 7100 787

FIND US:

**Martini NIGHT**

SHAKEN, STIRRED, CHILLED OR ON ICE,  
DRY SWEET OR WITH A TWIST

Choose from Classic Martini speared with  
an Olive to Blue Mango, Apple,  
Melon or Coffee  
All Specially Priced

AVAILABLE AT  
**Php99.00**  
on Happy Hour  
3pm to 6pm

FOR MORE INQUIRIES:  
(055) 2094-298;  
(+63)917 7101 899;  
(+63)917 7100 787

*Martin's Bar*



**Rooms are classified into:**

Room	Size	Bed Set-up
Deluxe (Highway View)	24 sqm	One (1) Queen Bed
Deluxe (Sea View)	24 sqm	One (1) Queen Bed
Superior Deluxe (Highway View)	37 sqm	Two (2) Queen Bed
Superior Deluxe (Highway View)	37 sqm	Two (2) Queen Bed
Executive Suite	74 sqm	One (1) King Bed

**ENTERTAINMENT**

37" LCD TV with cable connection

**BED FEATURES** Duvets, 350-Thread Count Linen

**BATHROOM**

Ultra Plush Bath Linens, Rainforest Shower, Ciriaco Bath Amenities - shampoo, body soap, body lotion, toothbrush, razor, comb, vanity, sewing kit, hot & cold water

**DINING**

Mini Bar, Coffee Maker (Upon Request); 7am to 11pm In-Room Dining

**ROOM FEATURES**

Luggage Rack, Oversized Work Desk, In-Room Safe with Charger, In-Room electronic safe port

**ROOM AMENITIES & SERVICES**

Laundry and Pressing Services  
Personalized Wake-up Service

**INTERNET ACCESS**

WiFi Internet Access in Guest Rooms

Check in: 2:00 PM Check out: 12:00 NN

