

The Leader in Online News Reporting in Calbayog City.

# CJ THE CALBAYOG JOURNAL

[www.calbayogjournal.com](http://www.calbayogjournal.com)

[editor@calbayogjournal.com](mailto:editor@calbayogjournal.com)

FOLLOW US:

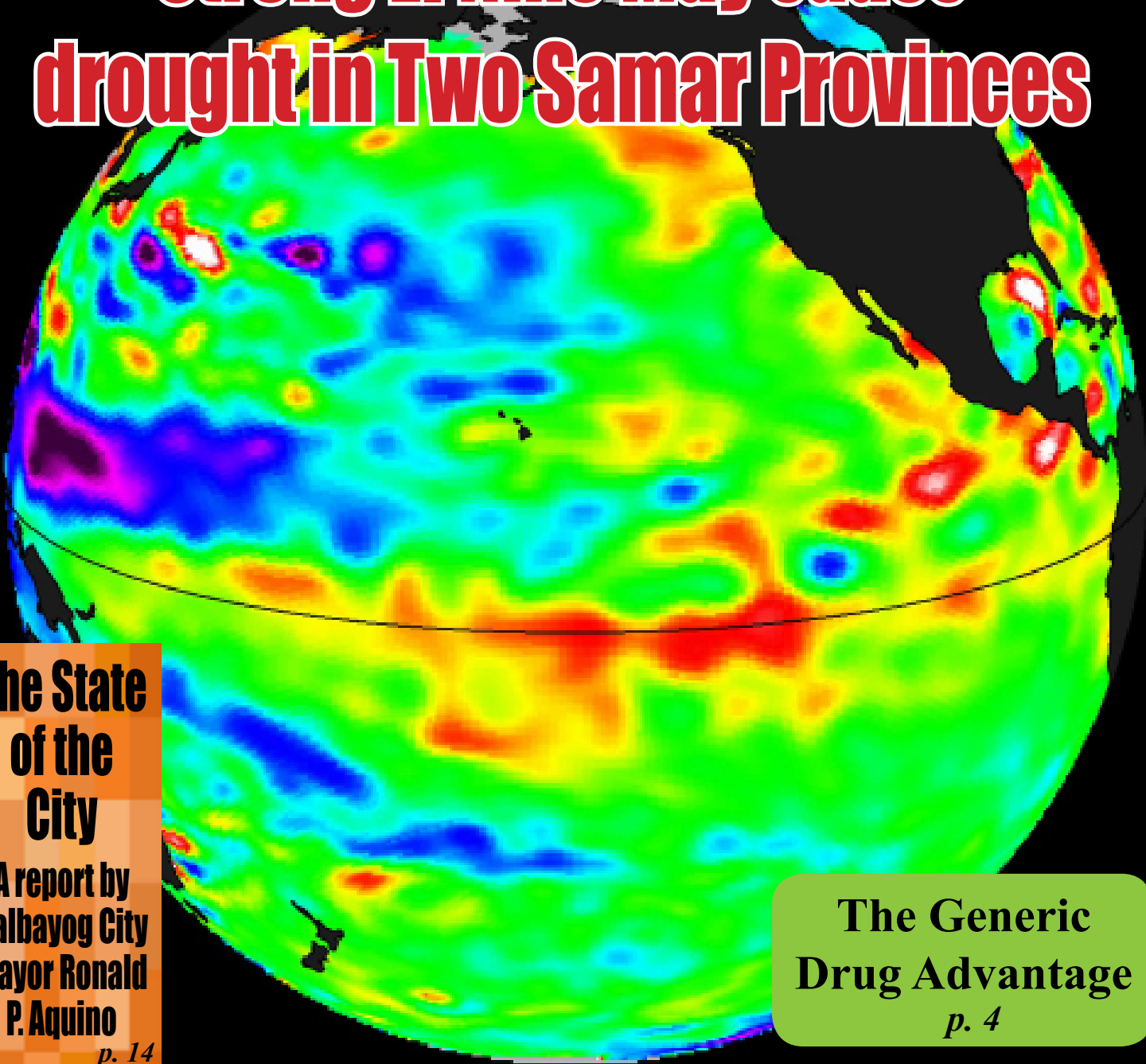
[www.twitter.com/calbayogjournal](http://www.twitter.com/calbayogjournal)

[www.instagram.com/calbayogjournal](http://www.instagram.com/calbayogjournal)

[www.youtube.com/user/thecalbayogjournal](http://www.youtube.com/user/thecalbayogjournal)

[www.facebook.com/calbayogjournal](http://www.facebook.com/calbayogjournal)

## Strong El Niño May cause drought in Two Samar Provinces



**The State of the City**

A report by Calbayog City Mayor Ronald P. Aquino

*p. 14*

**The Generic Drug Advantage**

*p. 4*



**CIRIACO**  
HOTEL & RESORT

Here's to 5 years of enchanting experience!  
We are turning 5 so we are slashing 50% on everything

*Anniversary Special*

**50% OFF**

- 50% off on room accommodations
- 50% off on pool entrance
- 50% off on cakes and pastries
- 5 + 1 on happy hour

- 50% room discount from published rates. Available for Deluxe City view and Superior Deluxe Sea view
- Pay Php 50 only for the pool use and Php 150 for the consumable
- 50% discount on selected cakes and pastries from 10am-6pm
- Get 1 free beer for a bucket of 5 beers from 3pm-6pm

*Note: avail our limited edition Ciriaco Hotel and Resort giveaways for a minimum of Php 2,000 worth of orders from Cafe Ego and Martin's Bar*

Promo is valid from November 23-25, 2015

**CIRIACO HOTEL AND RESORT**

Km 745, Marikina Highway, Brgy. Bigacay,  
Calbayog City, Samar 6700 Philippines

T: (055) 209.6521; (02) 710.4208 | E: sales@ciriacohotel.com



REGION 8'S PREMIER BOUTIQUE HOTEL

*Pioneering Adventure Gateways in Samar*

[www.ciriacohotel.com](http://www.ciriacohotel.com)

Find us on    

**Mang**  
**INASAL**<sup>®</sup>  
CALBAYOG CITY

|   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <b>BODY MASSAGE</b><br> | <b>FOOT RELAX</b><br> | <b>FACIAL SCRUB</b><br> | <b>FOOT SPA</b><br> |
|---|--|--|--|

**BODY AND Sole**  
Body Massage and Foot Spa  
FOR MEN & WOMEN

# EDITOR'S NOTE



**TODAY** the Calbayog Journal has reached another milestone in its intention to serve Calbayognons as well as the people of Eastern Visayas by way of communicating knowledge or giving information concerning events in and around Calbayog.

The Calbayog Journal started as an on-line news provider and although it now has over 17,000 followers on facebook and over 84,000 followers on its web site we saw the need to come up with something we can use as a vehicle to reach people and places that do not have regular access to the internet.

For this reason, we decided to put out a monthly news magazine which will reproduce in print the news and informations we disseminated via the electronic media platform.

We know that this won't be an easy task but we decided to proceed for we perceived the need for our people to be well informed. Besides we are not driven by a desire for profit but by our sincere intention to serve the community that we dearly love.

The Editor-in-Chief

## CARTOONS

By ERWIN MIANO



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|  |    |
|--|----|
| The Generic Drug Advantage .....                                 | 4  |
| The Mentally Ill in Calbayog .....                               | 5  |
| Strong El Niño may cause drought in two Samar Provinces .....    | 6  |
| A Calbayogueña is CHR Commissioner .....                         | 6  |
| Who owns Isla Pawikan? .....                                     | 7  |
| Anti-PAGS group launched in Calbayog .....                       | 7  |
| Tan-Aquino Truce Promises Peace .....                            | 8  |
| Hundreds of unused banca for Yolanda victims deteriorating ..... | 8  |
| Gandara gets 'Seal of Good Local Governance' .....               | 8  |
| SP allows Gov. Tan to borrow Php 800 Million from LBP .....      | 9  |
| Roxas turns over DILG reins to Sarmiento .....                   | 9  |
| Reflections .....  | 10 |
| Lamrag .....   | 11 |
| Travel Light .....   | 12 |
| Otherwise .....  | 12 |
| From My Mango Orchard .....                                      | 13 |
| State of the City .....  | 14 |
| Zosa present 9-point Agenda .....                                | 17 |
| Florence Cinco: At the Crossroad of Art and Spirituality .....   | 20 |
| Siday: Pobre Nga Mangirisdá.....                                 | 22 |



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

The **CALBAYOG JOURNAL** News Magazine 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.

**RAFAEL DEAN BROWN**  
Publisher

**JOSEPHINE M. MENDOZA**  
Editor-in-Chief

**LUCIANO T. CAJURAO**  
Editor

**TOMAS 'Buddy' GOMEZ III**  
**PAX MAGHACOT**  
Columnists/Consultants

**MARLEX L. LADAG**  
CEO, Rootplus  
Web Administrator

**EUNICE JI**  
**PEDRO RICO J. CAJIPE**  
Columnists/Contributors

**ALEXANDRA S. BERNALDO**  
**KRISTIAN MARK D. UY**  
**JOHN MARK M. MANCOL**  
**WARREN SEPEDA**  
Multi-media Reporters/writers

**JOVEN GUINTE**  
**ETHAN VANDER**  
**LIEZL O. BAUTISTA**  
Correspondents

All rights reserved. No part of the Calbayog Journal news magazine (print version) may be produced or distributed in any form or by any means without prior written permission from the Publisher.

**DISCLAIMER:** Views expressed in the Opinion and Columns sections do not necessarily reflect the editorial stance of the Calbayog Journal.

The Editors reserve the right to edit all materials for publication in the magazine.



# The Generic Drug Advantage

By Nestor A. Cailo, MD

“A branded drug is no more superior to its counterpart generic drug that has passed the stringent criteria of the FDA . . .”

**W**ith the rising cost of medications in the Philippines, a lot of generic drugs have emerged in the market as a cheaper option to their branded counterpart. Despite of its immense popularity, a generic drug still conveys much confusion to an ordinary consumer or patient in terms of its therapeutic worthiness.

Every type of drug has its generic name. There is only generic name for a particular type of drug but there could be many brand names under the same generic classification. For example, Ponstan which is a commonly used analgesic (pain reliever) has a generic name of Mefenamic acid, which is the active component of the analgesic drug. Dolfenal, Gardan, among others are other brands of Mefenamic acid. In a prescription, the brand name is written in parenthesis below the generic name. To illustrate the above example:

Mefenamic acid 500 mg capsule (Ponstan) or Mefenamic acid 500 mg capsule (Dolfenal) or Mefenamic acid 500 mg capsule (Gardan)

There are consumers who have reservation about the efficacy of the generic drug in comparison to the branded drugs. Quality-wise, a generic drug ideally is equally as effective as its branded counterpart. That is, a 500 mg of Mefenamic acid will have the same effects as to its indication (that is to reduce inflammation or pain), safety or risk or even the side/adverse effect as 500 mg of Ponstan, Dolfenal or Gardan in the same form or preparation (e.g. 500 mg capsule).

What sets apart the generic drug from its branded counterpart obviously is its lower cost. The cost of a generic drug is usually priced 60% to 80% lower than the branded ones. For example, a leading brand of Amoxicillin (an antibiotic) cost P20.00 per 500 mg capsule while a generic Amoxicillin drug of the same dosage and preparation costs only about P6.00, a 70% price difference. Indeed, this low-cost advantage of generic drugs is come-on for its increasing patronage among patients.

However, critics of generic drugs (or brand-prefering consumers) look at this low-cost advantage as a drawback in generics drugs consumerism. Low-cost drugs are usually equated to low quality and less efficacy, which, as I pointed earlier is a misconception.



A branded drug is no more superior to its counterpart generic drug that has passed the stringent criteria of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in terms of its intended purpose, efficacy, safety and risk features.

Why then the generic drugs can be marketed at a much lower cost than the branded drugs? Pharmaceutical companies of branded drugs usually resort to extensive research and marketing strategies and spend so much to bring their product to the consciousness of the consumers. Thus, tri-media advertisements take much of their financial resources which obviously are reflected to the much higher cost of their branded products. Whereas, pharmaceuticals involved in generic drug manufacturing do not have to exhaust much of their financial resources in terms of research and marketing as they already have a ride-on advantage over these companies carrying branded labels who must always label or market their products with its corresponding generic name.

There are also generic drugs that are labeled branded generics. These are the generics drugs that carry the pharmaceutical's name in their labels regardless of the type of drugs. Examples are Ritemed and Pharex. Likewise, they offer similar cost-effective options as other generic drugs.

While many physicians may have preference for branded drugs, it is the patient who can always tell the real advantage of a drug, whether generic or branded. Indeed, medical therapy must not be viewed only from a single parameter such as its cost. The bottom line is, a patient should get the same therapeutic advantage regardless if it is branded or generic. Cost is just an option.

# THE MENTALLY ILL IN CALBAYOG:

## At the intersection of growth, Business, Apathy and lack of government funding

By Rafael Dean Brown

**C**albayog City – Most Calbayognons are all too familiar with the mentally ill men and women who roam our streets. For most of us Calbayognons, we know most of them by their nicknames, but mostly we avoid or ignore their true plight and suffering. When we see them on the streets, we too often turn a blind eye, looking the other way as if their presence does not affect our lives.

In fact, that the mentally ill remain untreated and left to suffer is a significant measure of how far we Calbayognons and we as Filipinos have yet to go to declare that progress, economic or otherwise, has been achieved. Of course, there are far too many social issues to tackle faced with what is often cited as a problem with limited government resources. Mental illness stands out, however, because the issue involves people who, by virtue of their mental disorder, cannot help themselves. Their plight is the essence of injustice when left unaddressed by the government and its people.

The issue of mental health is not only limited to Calbayog; it is of a national concern that for far too many years has not been given due priority by the national government. Yet, when one thinks that the government currently faces the Herculean

challenges of corruption, national disasters, and poor infrastructure, the limited government resources argument does begin to sound reasonable. It would be impossible to address all our social failures at once, and reasonable action demands that we have to make priorities. Unfortunately, mental illness is one of those issues that currently stands at the bottom of the national government's priority list, and the lack of attention is not only due to lack of resources but also that most people simply do not care or have become apathetic. The Philippines to date still lacks a comprehensive mental health law and efforts by the National Program for Mental Health has been met with limited monetary support.

It is an issue that, despite the talks of economic progress, remains a cancer in our integrity and sincerity as a community. At the bottom line, the main reason that the problem of mental illness in Calbayog and elsewhere has not been addressed can be largely attributed to lack of government funding and lack of national attention. Yet, compounding the problem is also the lack of compassion and the "it is not my problem" attitude that inflicts the majority of us. To be fair, there are some Calbayognons who do care, taking it upon themselves to take the heroic responsibility of caring for some of the mentally ill. These heroic efforts often go unnoticed and unrecognized.

This is also not to say that the City has not tried to take action because they have equally attempted to alleviate the problem according to their mandate. One mentally ill patient, whose name will not be disclosed to protect his identity, at one point had been taken to a mental facility in Manila. The City of Calbayog shouldered the expenses for transportation of the patient and a police officer escort. Within a few months, however, the same patient had returned to Calbayog. One can only speculate how the mentally ill patient had found his way back to Calbayog from Manila.

According to the PNP, they can take into custody a mentally ill person who has been reported to have made a public disturbance, especially when violence is involved. The PNP procedure is to place the mentally ill person in a holding cell, and then report the person to the City Drug Abuse Prevention and Rehabilitation Office (CDAPRO) for drug treatment and

to the City Health Office for processing. Unfortunately, once the person returns to "reasonable conduct" the person is released without further treatment, unless the City Health Office takes further action to treat the mentally ill person.

Dra. Silvia de Guzman, Director of the City Health Office, stated that the City Health Office does not currently have a budget to treat the mentally ill, though she currently has a funding request to the Department of Health (DOH) for personnel training. The lack of budget at the

**"Their plight is the essence of injustice when left unaddressed by the government and its people."**

local level is largely due to the national policy on mental illness. The national government mandates an LGU to send a diagnosed mentally ill person to the nearest designated regional mental health facility. Samar, however, has no mental health facility. The closest DOH approved regional mental health facility is located in Palo, Leyte at the Schistosomiasis Control and Research Hospital (SCRH). In order to admit a patient into the facility, SCRH requires that the patient's family pay for the medication and the caregiver or "bantay." A mentally ill patient who does not have the financial support of family members would have a hard time being admitted into the SCRH due to lack of funding. The City of Calbayog, likewise, does not have funding for such services.

The Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center (EVRMC) in Tacloban City has sought for a P67 million funding from the government to convert an abandoned building in Barangay Cabalawan, Tacloban City into the first regional mental hospital that would accommodate 50 beds. Such proposal remains pending.

According to City officials, some of those who are mentally ill in Calbayog may have been put on a bus by another city and dropped off in Calbayog. It is clear, however, that some of the mentally ill persons are Calbayognons. Those with family support can be accommodated through the SCRH

to page 21



# STRONG EL NIÑO MAY CAUSE DROUGHT IN TWO SAMAR PROVINCES

The provinces of Northern and Western Samar along with five other provinces in Luzon and Mindanao may experience the impact of the advancing peculiar warming of the sea surface in the Pacific Ocean in weeks to come.

The El Niño-induced dry spell felt in the island's northern section in October, this year, is forecasted to increase in range and affect the western province as well.

The situation is being monitored closely by the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) as there are indications that the on-going warming of the ocean water in equatorial Pacific could last until the middle of 2016 and its intensity may surpass that of the 1997 El Niño which was regarded as one of the most powerful ever recorded./

The 1997 El Niño caused widespread drought in many places, flooding and other natural disasters.

PAGASA said that the present El Niño event may last until June 2016. Already three provinces in Luzon - Camarines Norte, Isabela, Quezon - have experienced drought. These areas reportedly encountered below normal rainfall in the last five months. In October, Davao Oriental was added to the list.

Tarlac, Cavite, Antique, and Sarangani are likewise expected to experience the dry spell beginning this month together with Northern Samar.



PAGASA also predicted that the surface temperature in most part of the archipelago may become slightly warmer than normal in the coming weeks.

In the Visayas, the temperature is expected to reach 22.5 degrees centigrade to 36.0 degrees centigrade.

## A Calbayogueña is CHR Commissioner

Many Calbayognons may not be aware of it but one of Calbayog's daughters is at the forefront in efforts to make every Filipino in this country enjoy fundamental freedoms and human rights.

The Calbayogueña - Karen S. Gomez Dumpit - is one of the five commissioners in the Commission on Human Rights (CHR). She was appointed commissioner by President Benigno Aquino III in June, this year, and will serve until 2022.

Karen is the daughter of Calbayognon Tomas "Buddy"

Gomez III, former press secretary in the Corason C. Aquino government in the 80s.

Prior to her appointment as CHR Commissioner, Karen, a career executive service officer, was the chief of GovLink or Government Linkages Office which monitors government conformity with its duty to respect, protect, and put human rights into effect in the Philippines.

Earlier Karen was, for nine years, the director of the Child Rights Center of the CHR central office where her active espousal for human rights prevented the execution of some child-prisoners in Philippine jails.

For that Karen was given the Gawad Paglilingkod Award by the Episcopal Commission For Prison Pastoral Care of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (UCCP). Karen finished AB Communication Arts at the De La Salle University in Manila in 1989 and earned a post graduate degree in Master in Public Management at the Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP) with honors. Karen is married to Tito Augusto C. Dumpit.

Although her mother- Teresita Samson Gomez- is from Nueva Ecija, Karen was brought to Calbayog by his father when she was barely a year old.

Karen regards herself as a Calbayogueña.





## Who owns Isla Pawikan?

**CALBAYOG CITY** - Isla pawikan, the islet that rests conspicuously in the water just off the coast of Brgy. Binaliw in Calbayog's Tinambacan district which the city government is apparently promoting as a tourist attraction is purportedly owned not by the state but by a long-deceased private citizen.

Retired lawyer Deogracias T. Ortega claims that the uninhabited islet located just less than a hundred meters from the nearest shoreline of Barangay Binaliw is actually owned by a certain Lazaro Tancinco who was once a resident of Barangay San Joaquin.

Ortega, a former City Fiscal in Calbayog, asserted that the late Lazaro Tancinco has a tax declaration to the said property, and that the old residents of Binaliw are aware of this circumstance.

He said that the approximately ten thousand square-meter islet was purchased by Tancinco sometime in the 1900s not for investment purposes as it is consisting of rocks but for its beauty. He added that Tancinco bought the islet for 50 pesos, a substantial sum at that time.

The former as well as the current city assessor, however, were reportedly unable to find documents that will show private ownership of Isla Pawikan. Accordingly, no tax declaration to the said islet in the name of Lazaro Tancinco exists.

Ortega himself could not tell who the seller of the property to Tancinco was as well as the whereabouts of documents that will establish the latter's ownership of that turtle-shaped small tract of land jutting into the sky.

## Anti-PAGS group launched in Calbayog

**CALBAYOG CITY** - The Philippine Army and the Philippine National Police have set in operation a bunch of soldiers and policemen to go after individuals and armed groups disrupting the peace or fomenting armed hostilities in the province of Samar prior to, during, and after the 2016 presidential election.

The team, named Regional Special Operations Task Group 8 (RSOTG8), was launched following the formal signing by Samar provincial, city, and municipal chief executives of an agreement not to resort to violent means in the pursuit of political ends as well as to refrain from giving financial support to private armed groups (PAGs) operating in the area.

The immediate job of the RSTOG8, headed by Police Supt. Isiah Tonog, is to locate and take into custody the suspects in various shooting incidents in Calbayog City.

The RSTOG8 launching was held in October 8, 2015 at the Calbayog City Police Station where the army and police-sponsored peace agreement was signed by incumbent chief executives - an offshoot of the army-brokered peace dialogue at the headquarters of the army's 8th Infantry Division in Catbalogan City last month.

Present in the signing ceremony were the signatories to the agreement - Samar governor Sharee Ann Tan Delos Santos, Calbayog City Mayor Ronald P. Aquino and several of the Samar municipal mayors.

The event was also attended by 8ID commander Maj. Gen. Jet B. Velarmino, Police Regional Director PSupt. Asher A. Dolina, DILG Regional Director Pedro A. Noval, COMELEC Regional Director Jose Nick A. Mendros, Archbishop Isabelo C. Abarquez of the Diocese of Calbayog, the mayors of the different municipalities in the province, and representatives of various media organizations in the region.



# Tan-Aquino Truce Promises Peace

**CATBALOGAN CITY** - The warring camps of Samar Governor Sharee Ann Tan and Calbayog City Mayor Ronald P. Aquino is deemed to have reached a truce when they met at the Army-brokered peace talks in Catbalogan City in September 19, 2015.

The talks gave rise to expectations that the coming electoral campaigns as well as the May 9, 2016 polls will be free of serious disturbances.

Both Governor Tan and Mayor Aquino reportedly expressed willingness to cooperate with the military and the police in ensuring that the electoral activities in the province will not breed violent incidents.

Tension between the rival camps increased anew after the killing of city hall watchman Sonny Regulacion and four other members of his family in Brgy. Victory in Calbayog City in September 15, 2015 which Mayor Aquino feels is politically-motivated.

That incident prompted the command of the 8 Infantry Division of the Philippine Army in Catbalogan to arrange a dialogue between the Samar Governor and the Calbayog City Mayor being the protagonist in the struggle for political power in the province.

The talks which was held at the army headquarters in Catbalogan City was also attended by officials of the provincial headquarters of the Philippine National Police, the Municipal Mayors of Gandara, San Jorge, Sta. Margarita and Matuguinao - places where election related violent incidents were also reported in the recent past. Some of the Samar Provincial Board Members and Calbayog City Vice Mayor Diego Rivera were also present during the talks

Governor Tan reportedly vowed not to resort to violence just to win in the elections- a promise appreciated by Matuguinao Mayor Melisa dela Cruz whose father and some relatives were allegedly assassinated by armed groups.

The Governor also announced during the talks that the provincial government is putting up reward money amounting to Php 100,000 for



Photo is from the facebook pages of DPAO Stormtroopers & LGU Calbayog Bulletin

anyone who could lead the police to the perpetrators of the recent and past killings.

The move is apparently intended to dispel doubts about the governor's sincerity in supporting police efforts to bring to justice the people responsible for the crime as well as the suspicion that her family has a clandestine link with one of several private armed groups operating in the province.

The existence and freedom of movement of armed men in Samar is being attributed by observers of the political affairs in the province to the alleged support of unscrupulous politicians.

This observation is shared by a retiring military officer from Samar- Lt. Col. Emilio Zosa. He said that private armed groups are able to get by because of the support of people engaged in politics.

Zosa who is a member of the Liberal Party is reportedly aiming for the capitol which is currently occupied by the Tan siblings. He is retiring from military service within the next few weeks.

Meanwhile the military is again preparing to gather political aspirants in Calbayog City on October 1, 2015 for the formal signing of a peace agreement to ensure a free and peaceful elections next year.



## Hundreds of unused banca for Yolanda victims deteriorating

**TACLOBAN CITY** - Hundreds of unused small outrigger boats earmarked as a gift to typhoon Yolanda victims who lost their livelihood to the November 8, 2013 catastrophe remain untouched and are deteriorating at the roadside in Brgy. Candajug in Palo, Leyte over three months after they were fabricated.

The wooden boats all painted green were reportedly donated by a private logging firm in Mindanao as its support to efforts geared towards helping fishermen whose boats were destroyed by the typhoon reclaim their source of sustenance.

The vessels, 500 of them, are being kept in safety at the yard of the provincial office of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in the town of Palo adjacent to the MacArthur Leyte Landing Memorial Park.

Arturo N. Salazar, the Assistant Regional Director for Management Service of the DENR in the region told the Calbayog Journal that the environment agency did not spend a centavo in the fabrication of the boats. The agency's role, he explained, is merely custodial in nature.

As of press time there are no indications that the boats will be distributed to the intended recipients soon as the sea worthiness of the vessels are being questioned by some players in the fishing industry.

## Gandara Gets 'Seal of Good Local Governance'

**GANDARA, SAMAR** - In September 20, 2015, the town of Gandara became the first urban political unit in Western Samar to be conferred with the "Seal of Good Local Governance" by the Department of the Interior and Local Government.

The seal which symbolizes integrity and good performance of a local government was given to the said municipality of over 33,000 inhabitants after meeting the minimum SGLG criteria set by the interior and local government agency.

Gandara Mayor Eufemio Delos Santos Oliva received the award from DILG Regional Director Pedro A. Noval, Jr., assisted by DILG Provincial Director Judy L. Batulan and LGOO VI & DILG Samar Cluster Head Joy Frances Monsanto, in behalf of the municipal government in the presence of Vice Mayor Jonathan Isanan, the members of the Sanggunian Bayan, the heads of all local government departments as well as the residents of Gandara and the municipality's Local Government Operations Officer Guillermo D. Cajurao with the MLGOO's of the Samar Cluster who attended the ceremony at the municipal auditorium at 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

A local government unit reportedly becomes eligible for the Seal of Good Local Governance once it successfully goes through an evaluation in the areas of good financial management, social protection, and disaster preparedness.

The DILG launched the SGLG in January 15, 2015 to "challenge local government to continue good governance practices while providing better public service."

Meanwhile, Mayor Oliva delivered his third and last State of the Municipality Address for the current term after unveiling a marker that will remind present and future residents of Gandara of the honor the national government bestowed upon the town for the achievement of its government and its people.

In Olivas' SOMA he attributed the improvements of the community to the partnership between the government and the private sectors which he hoped will continue in the years to come.

Mayor Oliva is the first municipal executive to deliver three consecutive SOMAs in the province.

# SP allows Gov. Tan to borrow Php 800 Million from LBP

**CATBALOGAN CITY** - The Sangguniang Panlalawigan has approved the ordinance which authorizes the Samar provincial government to borrow Php 800 Million from the Land Bank of the Philippines in spite of the opposition of one of its members due, reportedly, to flaws and deficiencies in its passage.

The so-called "borrowing ordinance" or the "loan ordinance" was approved by majority of its members, namely Lee M. Zosa, Alan A. Diomangay, Salvador T. Cruz, Erdie L. Delos Santos, Lolita M. Daguman, Luzviminda L. Nacario and Carlo R. Latorre, during the provincial boards regular session presided by Vice Governor Stephen James Tan in October 29, 2015 after the amendments specifically in Section 10 (a) (ii) proposed by Board Member Alan Diomangay was carried out during the consideration of the legislative issuance.

Board Member Alma Uy-Lampasa opposed the ordinance's approval while Alvin V. Abejuela abstained saying his incomplete knowledge about the project made him decide to refrain from participating in the voting.

Board Member Lampasa on the other hand explained that a similar proposal to borrow money for the project already exists and that although it is intended for the Development Bank of the Philippines it is imperative that it be withdrawn or nullified first before another legislative action is made on another proposal to borrow money for the same purpose from Landbank of the Philippines, aside from the fact that the subject "loan ordinance" was introduced by Board Member Alan Diomangay under Other Matters only during the previous session of October 22, 2015.

Lampasa also opposed the assignment of the province's entire Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) as well as its own revenue collections as loan collateral saying that only a fraction of the IRA should be offered as security for the loan.

Meanwhile, Board Member Lee M. Zosa, chairman of the Committee

Committee on Laws told The Calbayog Journal that he pushed for the approval of the ordinance because the provincial government needs to raise funds. He said



## Roxas turns over DILG reins to Sarmiento

**CALBAYOG CITY** - Outgoing DILG Secretary Mar Roxas yesterday formally handed his controlling and guiding power over the Department of the Interior and Local government to the new DILG chief, Western Samar Representative Mel Senen Sarmiento.

The turn-over ceremony was held at the headquarters of the DILG in Quezon City on September 11, 2015.

Roxas likened DILG Secretary Sarmiento to the late Jesse Robredo, the former's predecessor in the agency who became popular for his simplicity, sincerity, and seriousness in pursuing the goals of the interior and local government department.

The former DILG head said that Sarmiento also received the awards and praises that Robredo got in his years of service to the public.

Roxas, the Liberal Party bet for President in next year's presidential election assured the new DILG chief of his unwavering support.

---

that the province needs Php 100 million to be used as its counterpart in the provincial road network project grant of World Bank worth Php 1 Billion. The World Bank will finance the 80 percent of the project's total cost while the national government will provide the remaining 10 percent.

Zosa also said that part of the loan proceeds or Php 200 million will be used for the construction of a new Samar provincial hospital that will be equipped with the latest medical facilities and equipments thereby adding that one of the major reasons for transferring the application from DBP to Land Bank is the fact that the latter charges lesser interest rate of 5% per annum compared to the former's 5.5%.

The Calbayog Journal also learned from LBP's Loan Department Manager for Samar, Buenaventura V. Leyva (who was present during the session as resource person) that the loan amount applied for is only one-third of the provincial government's borrowing capacity which is Php2.4B.





# A Wannabe Economist's Analysis of TOURISM's Economic Effects in Calbayog:

**P103.2 M in estimated total sales effect by 2015**

Calbayog City – You read it right: P103.2 million. But before you rejoice, allow me to explain how I arrived at the number and allow me to state some very important caveats. First, it should be noted that I am neither an economist nor do I have a sufficient background in economics. Second, I based all but one of the figures I discuss in this article from very rough estimates, though conservatively given. Third, I used the Money Generation Model (“MGM”) for determining the economic effects of tourism, the same model used by Mammoth Caves Park in Kentucky.

A question you might ask is whether there is any use in such rough estimates to determine the economic effects of tourism in Calbayog. To be clear, the aim of this article is not to give a definite and precise answer to the questions raised. Instead, I want to get a peripheral look at the economic effects of tourism based on a proven economic model. My purpose in writing this article is to try to get a rough handle on a basic question everyone ought to be asking.

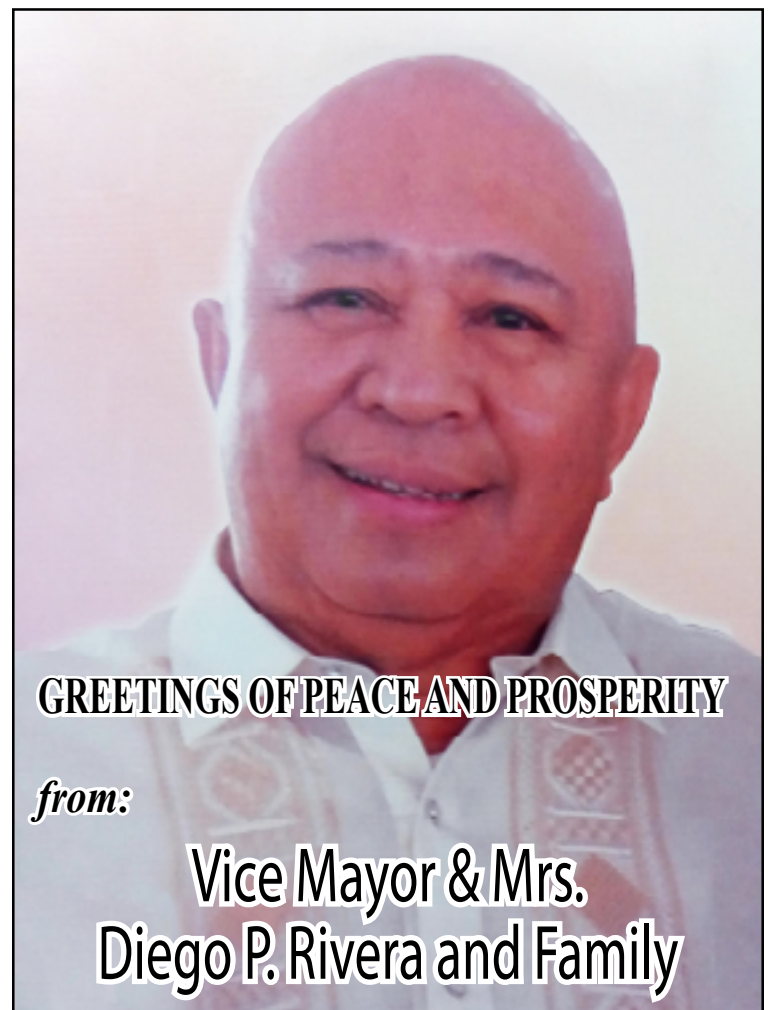
With the current fervor in Calbayog for developing Calbayog's tourism industry, I could not help but ask exactly how much money our City would generate from tourism. The way I see it, deciding to enter into the tourism business would require an analysis akin to starting any business. This means asking at least one of the bottom line questions: how much sales would it generate. There are, of course, other important questions like infrastructure, expenses, employment, market analysis, product and service development, and issues like environmental and social effects that are beyond the scope of this article.

While the MGM does not give a detailed look at the economic effects of tourism as other models like the Input/Output or I/O Model, it nevertheless serves a worthwhile purpose. The purpose is to gain a quick glance at the economic effects of tourism in a specific area or region. To arrive at the estimated P103.2 million in total sales effect, the simplified version of the Money Generation Model requires the multiplication of three basic numbers: (1) the number of tourist arrivals, (2) the rough

estimate on average expenditures per tourist, and (3) the sales multiplier. For details on the data and equation, see related article.

The application of the MGM, even to roughly estimated data, reveals that the economic effects of tourism in Calbayog raise some interesting points that affect strategic decisions about whether and how to pursue tourism as an industry.

These are merely banter by a wannabe economist. But in my bantering, it is my hope that economists will chime in, and those who are not economists like me, may start thinking about tourism in Calbayog in more constructive ways than mere criticism for criticism's sake.



**GREETINGS OF PEACE AND PROSPERITY**

*from:*

**Vice Mayor & Mrs.  
Diego P. Rivera and Family**

The proponents and staff of The Calbayog Journal deserve congratulations, commendation and encouraging support for launching its monthly newsmagazine. There is no doubt that they have dedicated this endeavor to further augment the sources of information with which a vibrant community like ours seeks to constantly improve itself. I view the Calbayog Journal as an instrument for rallying the citizenry towards civic awareness and a genuine concern for betterment.

The existence of a newspaper is not only a community service but also a shared responsibility between its editorial/reportorial staff and the community it seeks to serve. Thus, the general readership of a newspaper must likewise monitor the professional behavior of those who report and deliver information. The Calbayog community can best perform its end of this civic arrangement by being aware of the basic tenet of journalism: That Truth is the newspaper's first obligation and its first Loyalty is to the citizenry.

While it is true that journalism serves best when it maintains its neutrality and its independence from individuals and institutions that they cover, a concerned and responsible community can contribute to that objective by being vigilant in making certain that their community newspaper adheres to the tenets we speak of. A community newspaper ought not to seek power but instead be an



effective monitor of the powerful.

For an improved and progressive community, best wishes for the success of The Calbayog Journal.

---

**Tomas 'Buddy' Gomez III.....** takes great pride of his Calbayog roots and heritage. A 25-year career business executive with the Ayala Group after which he served in government from 1986 to 1992. First as Consul General to Hawaii during the Marcos exile, followed by a stint in Malacanang as Press Secretary to President Cory Aquino. Kindergarten/1939, La Milagrosa. High School/1952, Colegio de San Vicente de Paul. Collegiate education in San Beda and University of Hawaii. Worked with the Chronicle Broadcasting Corporation (CBN) and the Manila Times Radio / DZMT in the 1950s as newscaster, dj and broadcast journalist. Calbayog's 'first baby' in 1935 when father (Tomasing) was "Presidente Municipal" (Mayor). Mother (Helen) was public school teacher.





## Dream to explore life

Our life on earth is short. We may want to spend our whole life traveling just to see the wonders of the world, but the truth of the matter is we won't have enough time to execute that. Besides, travel is expensive. Failing to find joy in our journey in this life would bring regrets hereafter. Regrets from not being able to see its wonder while we are here. When I was a kid I was told that when we see a shooting star all we need is to silently say our wish; and we are promised that it will come to pass.

One evening after dinner, I saw a shooting star. It was so fast that it disappeared in seconds; luckily, I was able to say the magic words before it was gone. "I wish I could travel around the world", came out from my mouth. After that, I always think about my dream to travel around the world, and then doubts would sometimes overcome me, but I made a decision to follow this saying which says "destiny is not a matter of chance but a matter of choice."

My experience in traveling around the Philippines has been full of excitements and thrills, especially during my travel to the highest peak of the mountains such as in Baguio and Sagada in the mountain province. Exploring rice terraces is simply worth all the efforts. I had the chance to visit one of the most remote villages in Mindanao, particularly, in Barangay Rogongon in Iligan, and discover the struggle of the natives due to disaster and conflict. I have experienced an island trip to San Vicente in Northern Samar crossing the giant waves with the purpose of helping the civil society organizations demand their rights to the government.

I have spent my life traveling with a purpose. I traveled not because I have all the money to spend in those travels; in fact, I am just an ordinary development worker who wanted to share my life to the poor. My dream is not about to gain the riches of this world but to appreciate the beauty of nature and the beauty of serving my fellowmen as well.

There are three things to consider if you desire to give every travel a whole new meaning. First, dream to share your life. Second, discover and focus on your passion in life. Third, dedicate yourself to your advocacy, and fulfill your mission.

What we truly want in life should be our guide towards achieving our goals. When we know exactly what our dreams are and try to discover and develop our potential, then we set goals and make sure that our goals are leading towards our dreams. That our vehicle towards our primary aim in life will make the journey worthwhile. Life is complex. There are challenges to face. But, we need to enjoy the complexity of life by facing those challenges with a cheerful and courageous heart; by so doing, every journey will be worth sharing and remembering.

Dream to explore life and enjoy every step of the journey.

"Some of the biggest challenges in relationships come from the fact that most people enter a relationship in order to get something. They are trying to find who is going to make them feel good. In reality, the only way a relationship will last is if you see your relationship as a place that you go to give and not a place that you go to get." – Anthony Robbins

The month of February is always a good month for me to start a writing career (dreaming on!), not only because I love this God-given gift but most importantly because I strongly believe with conviction that we are made, and are therefore, here for Love.

Anthony Robbins is a psychologist life coach, whose program I once was following in the Lifestyle Channel, which aimed at targeting to overcome his clients' fears. People are very naturally fearful and guarded as a result of their previous life experiences. It is because of this that paranoia, in place of trust, has been established in their personality. In effect, they find it hard to sustain happiness in case they find it. Breakups, of relationships, normally occur in the passage of time, romantic or otherwise.

Dr. Barbara Fredrickson, psychologist and expert on positive emotions, who is based on the University of North Carolina, published that though both hedonic and eudaimonic behavior bring pleasure, it the latter sort also brings health.

She and Steven Cole, of the UCLA, found this through their genomic/genetic research. Here is a short detail of their findings: "Hedonic well beings have 20% inflammation causing genes and 20% less active genes associated with the production of antibodies. Eudaimonics, however, have 10% only for inflammation-causing genes, and 30% for antibodies formation, respectively."



## A Friend for You

This is proof enough to support the old adage: "it is better to give than to receive." In any form of relationship, it is always supposed to be the giver who must be the winner. But this has not always been the case, simply because people are also always governed by malice intent for their personal motives. This reminds me of our then Bishop Jose S. Palma's (now Archbishop of Cebu) advise I read on a local paper where he said: always check your motives.

It is almost always a person's malicious intent that drives him/her to "use people instead of things." Givers become losers because their giving is not out of love but because of a personal motive to be loved. When the abusive taker's taking becomes too much to handle, the givers' seemingly limitless patience breaks lose, and things begin to falter. This is the beginning of the end.

In the early civilization, which is said to have begun in Greece, where the Greek philosophers were in search of what a good life really is, Socrates argued that "an unvirtuous person could not be happy, and that a virtuous person could never fail to be happy." This line is more or less the same with that of St. Thomas Aquinas' "only a virtuous man is a happy man."

To love does not come easy, for most of us anyways. Thus, I feel the urgency to include and emphasize the four (4) old forsaken cardinal virtues: prudence, integrity, justice, and courage, because it is in holding these dear that leads to the right path of love and loving.

If there is one thing then that I would like to quote to end this, it is from Socrates again. He said: "the selfless and the selfish pleasure-seekers alike will receive their rewards and punishments here on Earth, without the need for the threat or promise of an afterlife."

So, guys, quit thinking to manipulate and control life. Let your, and others', life be. After all, "whether it will take a year or a day, what is meant to be will always find a way." Love! Only that is real. ;) - See more at: <http://www.calbayogjournal.com/#sthash.uQqyORzJ.dpuf>



# Calbayog Sanitary Landfill Meets Standard

By Josephine M. Mendoza

There is a little-known mango orchard in Barangay Dagum with three hundred fruit-bearing trees. It is located on a hilltop just along the new national diversion highway. My family is its proud owner. When I stand on top of the hill the orchard seems to be the highest point in Calbayog. To the west is the Calbayog Bay that connects with the Maqueda Bay rich in marine life. To the east is the mountain range where most of the barangays have their settlements. The city proper is visible all day long, and I am always fascinated at the changing of the atmospheric hues as the sun traverses from east to west.

When I look down at the city I do not only see its physical state today. I see with my rear eye a rich and dynamic history that unfolded during seventy years of my earthly life. When I was in grade school there was no electricity. We studied using the wick lamp and we were home early most nights to avoid the dangers that lurk in the dark. Most communication was done by talking to each other because there were no telephones. The only mass communication device was a transistor radio, the sole link between the city and the rest of the world. There were no concrete roads, thus walking barefoot to school was common because it was a painless effort. I myself often went to school barefoot.

Today I see how the terrain and physique of Calbayog has changed. The telltale signs of progress are evident: concrete paved roads, electricity, cable TV, landline and mobile phones, department stores, schools, restaurants and hotels. But there are some things that remain constant. The neighbors are still helpful and friendly with each other. People are still hospitable to strangers. Playing the guitar and taking a swim at the beach are still the prevailing choices of leisure. And respect for the elderly is still in vogue.

In this column allow me to be your friend who will share reminiscences of Calbayog Past, opinions of Calbayog Present, and wishful projections of Calbayog Future.

And to the Editors and Staff of the Calbayog Journal, congratulations on your maiden printed edition.

(For comments please email me at [pax@maghacot.com](mailto:pax@maghacot.com).)

## About the writer:

Pax Maghacot is a home-grown Calbayognon. After completing his high school in CKC, he continued his studies at the Our Lady of the Angels (Franciscan) Seminary in Quezon City, Ateneo de Manila University, University of North Carolina, USA, and presently is completing a post-baccalaureate course in Writing at the University of California at Berkeley. He is a retired civil servant. His highest assignment was as Undersecretary of the DOTC. Presently is a director of the Philippine Red Cross, Quezon City, and the VicePresident of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Quezon City.

CALBAYOG CITY- The city's waste disposal facility at Barangay Dinagan in the district of Oquendo is compliant to the operational requirements of the law on solid waste management, said Engr. Reynaldo L. Gonzaga, the chief of the City Solid Waste Management Office (CSWMO).

Gonzaga said that the waste disposal facility has what he calls "Liners", a layer of clay that prevents contaminants from reaching groundwater; a system of collecting and treating contaminated liquid produced by decomposing waste materials; a groundwater monitoring well system, and gas control and recovery system.

The said procedure is required in establishing and operating sanitary landfills in the Philippines under Republic Act 9003 otherwise known as the Ecological Solid Management Act of 2000.

Gonzaga asserted that the city's waste disposal facility is one of the best in the region and that, he said, makes the task of directing and controlling the operation of the sanitary landfill a "gargantuan assignment."

The management and operation of the facility was assigned to Gonzaga by city mayor Ronald P. Aquino in August 2014.

The operation of the sanitary landfill in Oquendo involves among others the receiving and spotting of collected waste for disposal; the recovery of recyclable waste; and water quality monitoring in and around the facility.





# AN KASAYURAN 2015

## STATE *of the* CITY ADDRESS

OCTOBER 12, 2015, Calbayog City Sport Center

Mayor RONALDO P. AQUINO, CPA



The State of the City Address delivered by Calbayog City Mayor Ronald P. Aquino in October 12, 2015 before an assembly of listeners coming from various sectors of the community pictures Calbayog as a place that is now well suited for competition, possessing the capacity to be as good as or even better than other towns and cities not only in the island of Samar but in the whole eastern visayas region as well.

In Mayor Aquino's view Calbayog is a place that has come a long way and he attributes the considerable progress or improvement that the city achieved not only to the style of leadership he and his predecessors chose but also to the cooperation of the vice mayor and the members of the city council in pursuing the aspirations of the people in the community especially under his watch.

He acknowledged the fact that the infrastructures of development were put in place by his predecessors such as the late mayor Roberto Rosales who worked for the classification of Calbayog as a First Class city. He also mentioned the late Mayor Inning Uy who, he said, built roads to the city's hinterland villages, and recognized the contributions of DILG Secretary Mel Senen Sarmiento who he described as a visionary. It was during Sarmiento's term as Calbayog mayor that the Calbayog Sports Center, the Public Transport Terminal and Market Complex as well as the Calbayog Convention Center were built.

Aquino revealed that the city's economy is in good shape with private sector investment reaching Php 1.5 Billion. He said that since the beginning of his term investment reached nearly Php 300 Million per year while the gross revenue of the business sector reaching Php 3 Billion annually.

The mayor expects the total gross receipt to increase further in the coming year when the two Gaisano malls and other new enterprises open for business.

He said that the city government is making it easy for entrepreneurs to operate their business in Calbayog by significantly cutting short the processing time of permits and licenses, and by providing investors with incentives. These moves, he explained, will draw in more investments in Calbayog.

The mayor also made known the steps taken by his administration in various fields. In the area of education he said his administration expanded its scholarship program. This year the city has 1,575 college scholars.

Because of his persistence in asking the Department of Education to create more high schools, the city now has Nine new high schools in various barangays.

He proudly announced the breaking of the ground for the construction of the structures that will house the Calbayog City Regional Senior High School for Arts and Design which will be provided with a dormitory for students from other parts of the region who will enroll in the Art and Design tract.

The area that his administration is giving utmost importance is Health and Social Services which reflects the mayor's thinking on the matter. He recognizes health and social services as a basic human right.

Mayor Aquino believes that the city government is on the right track for early this year the Department of the Interior and Local Government has attested that Calbayog is compliant with the requirements of "Good Financial Housekeeping."

***GREETINGS OF PEACE AND PROSPERITY***

**from:**



**HON. RONALD P. AQUINO**

City Mayor  
Calbayog City



# CONGRATULATION

## LGU- STO. NIÑO

### CONSISTENT AWARDEE OF THE SEAL OF GOOD FINANCIAL HOUSEKEEPING FOR THE YEAR 2012, 2013 AND 2014

**FROM: DILG**

"STO. NIÑO is one of the few island municipalities of the province of Samar. It can be reached thru a 90-minute motorboat ride from the ports of Calbayog City. Under the administration of MAYOR LILIA COÑEJOS, the local government unit has been consistently conferred the SEAL OF GOOD FINANCIAL HOUSEKEEPING for disbursement performance and management for the years 2012, 2013 and 2014.

It is also during the administration of MAYOR LILIA A. COÑEJOS that the local government was given a Plaque of Recognition for being one of the 100 municipalities in the country to have fully registered with complete documentation its fishermen.

The most recent recognition received by the local government unit was from the Department of Social Welfare and Development for having adequately implemented the Senior Citizen's programs.

Other accomplishments of the Municipal Government Under the administration of Mayor Coñejos are road construction projects, acquisition of health service facilities, police equipment, etc thru grants and other source of outside funding."



**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Municipality of Sto. Niño, Samar  
Now declared as...  
**Insurgency Free Municipality...**

# ZOSA PRESENTS 9-POINT AGENDA FOR A NEW SAMAR

The Liberal Party's bet for governor in Western Samar, retired army lieutenant colonel Emil Zosa has released a list of things to be done once he gets to the provincial capitol next year.

Dubbed The 9-Point People's Agenda for a New Samar, the list enumerates the areas that will be given serious attention once Zosa gets elected into office come May 9, 2016- an indication that the retired army officer is not only aware of the Samarenos' needs and problems but also has the solutions to those sources of perplexity and vexation.



The said agenda was discussed by Zosa during the conveners assembly of the organization called "Bag-o Nga Samar Movement" in October 29, 2015 in Calbayog City.

In that gathering Zosa who comes from Sta. Margarita, urged everyone to take steps that will insure for the next generation a truly progressive province where peace and a sincere government that is truly concerned about the plight of its people exist. He said that it is about time that Samarenos put an end to what he describes as regressive style of governance by the Tan Family.

The 9-Point agenda covers the areas of Environment and Coastal Resources Management; Medical and Health Services; Infrastructure for the People; Livelihood and Job Creation; Justice and Peace; Zeal of Good Governance; Openness and Transparency; Social Services; and Agricultural Development.

Zosa explained that in the "new Samar" upland communities will be made to participate in the agro-forestry program that is envisioned to create an additional source of income for upland families while those living within the 10 kilometer range of coastal areas will become beneficiaries of government support not only in the form of cash assistance but also in marketing and appropriate technology.

In the new Samar, he said, the capability and the facilities of government hospitals in the entire province shall be improved including the salaries of health workers.

Zosa also plans to establish modern seaports and lure both domestic and overseas investors to set up businesses in Samar so jobs would be created.

He said that justice and peace can only be achieved under a new administration in the province.

# Miss Anyag 2015



Miss Anyag 2015, **MININA PIA M. BOCO**, is the pageant's 27th crown winner and title holder until her successor is chosen in September 2016. The Search for Miss Anyag, Calbayog's most prestigious beauty contest is managed by the Rotary Club, Int'l – Calbayog Chapter.



# Miss Hadang 2015



Chairman of the Board of Judges, Msgr. Francisco "Jun" Cinco crowns Miss Hadang (Ritual Queen) 2015, assisted by Lady Judge Nelin L. Acoba.

The Search for Miss Hadang (Ritual Queen) 2015, the first of its kind of beauty pageant hosted by the city government of Calbayog thru the City Arts and Culture Office where the candidates were judged according to ritual performance (20 points), intelligence (15 points), poise & elegance ( 50%) and beauty of the face (15%)



The winners with the Board of Judges (from left to right): Lady Judges Ms. Nelin L. Acoba & Ms. Marianna Joy Lacaba; Ms. Hadang 2015 winners First Runner-Up, Miss Hadang 2015 (Ritual Queen) & Second Runner-Up; the Gentlemen of the Board of Judges, Chairman Msgr. Francisco "Jun" Cinco, Calbayog City Chief of Police Salvador Tagle and Mr. Nestor Rosalado.

was participated in by nine candidates each representing the nine "Hadang" Ritual groups.

Miss **JANINA J. GARCISO**, 15 years old, representing Calbayog City National High School, was crowned as the first Miss Hadang (Ritual Queen), with First Runner-Up Ms. **MARIA MELACHIE A. JACALA**, 19, of Barangay Central and Second Runner-Up Ms. **DARYL ANN C. ASUNTO**, 15, of Gadgaran Integrated School.

# Mutya han Samar 2015



Ms. Cassey Anne A. Austria, representing the Municipality of Talalora and one of the seventeen contenders, is the reigning Mutya han Samar 2015. She bagged the crown in a pageant held at the Capitol Covered Court in Catbalogan City on August 09, 2015 when the pageant was one of the highlights of the Samar Day Celebration.

The rest of the Mutya han Samar 2015 Royal Court were:

- 4th Runner Up – Ms. Eddlyn G. Fabia,  
Mutya Han San Jose De Buan,
- 3rd Runner Up – Ms. Keena Mary Anne Sumido,  
Mutya Han Motiong,
- 2nd Runner Up – Ms. Joanna Rose Tolledo,  
Mutya Han Tarangnan,
- 1st Runner Up – Ms. Chelsea C. Fernandez,  
Mutya Han Daram,



***Greetings from:***



# EMILIO ZOSA

## **- THE MAN WHO IS TAKING UP THE CUDGELS FOR SAMAREÑOS**

Emilio "Emil" Zosa's penchant for public service is revealed in his choice of careers to pursue. In his youth Emil wanted to be a priest but for one reason or another he ended up defending freedom and protecting the land rather than defending the faith and protecting the church. Whichever road he takes, however, Emil would still be serving the population.

In the 90s after completing his military training at the Philippine Army's Officers candidates School(OCS), Emil joined the Armed Forces of the Philippines and for 25 years worked to protect the country from forces seeking its destruction and dismemberment.

Emil exhibited his bravery not only in fighting insurgents and bandits but in the battle against political corruption as well. In 2004 Emil figured prominently in the controversial "Hello Garci" incident being one of those who witnessed against former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo over the latter's phone conversation with an election commissioner in the electoral exercise that year.

With characteristic strong inclination to oppose government officials who use their powers for private gain, Emil called on Samareños lately to rally behind him in putting an end to the political domination of the Tan family in Samar known for its regressive style of governance.

When Emil retired from the army in September 30, this year, he made known his desire to take up the cudgels for Samareños and filed his certificate of candidacy for governor of Western Samar.

In October 29, 2015 Emil who hails from Sta. Margarita town in Western Samar released his 9-point People's Agenda for a New Samar which incorporates the moves he will take in order to redirect the province towards a truly prosperous future where the population, not just the few, will feel the impact of economic growth.



## FLORENCE CINCO: At the Crossroad of Art and Spirituality

By Diseree Guades and Esteban Sabar

Contributing Writers: Rafael Dean Brown, Jonard Uy and Aiza Abing

Calbayog City – When one first sees Florence Cinco's art, one immediately recognizes the presence of originality, creativity, and an artistic process motivated by a search for depth and meaning. Then the feeling that art speaks about something bigger than itself follows.

Mr. Cinco, who traces his roots to Tinambacan Sur in Calbayog, is a proud Samarnon. His exhibit, "DINGKIT," held on September 7, 2011 at S.O. Café, Nijaga Street, Calbayog City, attracted a national audience of art fans and artists. Art exhibit titles like "TIUNAY," a vernacular word for "roots", reveal that his art is deeply rooted in Waray culture. He has been recognized as an Outstanding Awardee for Exemplary Achievement and Contribution to Samar Culture and received the Most Outstanding Samarnon Award for Visual Arts at the Samar Day Celebration in Catbalogan.

After studying Bachelor of Science in Fine Arts at the University of San Carlos Technological Center, Cebu City, Mr. Cinco's artistic journey took him to cities like Tacloban, Cebu, Ilo-Ilo, Davao and Bacolod. It was a difficult journey filled with struggle and self searching. "Being an artist, much more to be a successful one was hard", he said. It was for him, an odyssey "to be able to feel the challenge of how to be a struggling artist." But, despite hardships,

he looked back at his humble beginnings when he painted graves, t-shirts, streamers, and souvenirs. The hurdles helped shape him as the artist he is today. As he affirmed, "I wanted to practice humility as I find answers to my desires." In the end, it was the revelation of Microvita Science that brought him closer to spiritual and cultural awareness.

Mr. Cinco's first Grand Prize came in 2004 when he won the Metrobank Art and Design Excellence National Competition, Sculpture Category with his entry, "Human," a simple sculpture made from recycled materials. Winning the Metrobank award brought with it national recognition and respect. Since then, Mr. Cinco has become one of the most well known artists in the Philippines and in Asia, winning numerous prestigious national and international arts awards.

He has won, among others, the Grand Prize of the 58th Art Association of the Philippines (AAP) Annual National Art Competition, Mixed Media Category in 2005; the Jury Award at the Embassy of India, Laos PDR in 2006; the Juror's Choice at the GSIS National Painting Competition, Abstract Category in 2009; Sculpture Category Juror's Choice in the Open Fine Print National Competition in 2004; Honorable Mention at the 58th (AAP) Annual National Arts Com-

---

---

*"Do not forget the Supreme Being, and love humanity. Never give up. Master your craft."*

---

---

petition, Sculpture Category in 2005; and the 2011 Juror's Choice, Metro Manila, Philippine Arts Awards (Philip Morris), National Museum, Manila. He has had 13 solo exhibits and 45 group shows in various parts of the country and abroad, in countries like Singapore, Thailand, Korea, U.S., Vietnam, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia and Laos.

Mr. Cinco, now based in Manila, is driven by an epic vision about Maharlikan culture, mythology and spirituality. He has made cultural awareness, environmental conservation and service to humanity as his mission. In this journey, he gained himself the title of "missionary artist." His approach to art, as summarized in his ethos "Art for Service and Blessedness," often speaks of the role of the artist as an advocate, educator and inspiration for people to reconnect with their spirituality.

In an interview, Mr. Cinco admitted that "as a missionary artist, I have come to be an advocate to help people regain their spirituality, be health conscious, to trace back our roots culture, to conserve the environment and to render service to humanity." For him, an artist not only creates beautiful masterpieces, but can also be a catalyst for social and spiritual change.

He has embraced his artistic mission, not only in the artwork that he produces but also in his creative process and his choice of lifestyle. He meditates before creating an artwork, refuses to drink alcohol, and practices healthy living. What makes Mr. Cinco an admirable artist is his sincerity: he lives and breathes his art and he practices what he preaches, thus gaining credibility among fellow artists and followers worldwide.

Mr. Cinco credits his father, who mentored him in art since he was three years old, for enhancing his talent. He has also been inspired by artists like Leonardo da Vinci and Antoni Gaudi. Most of all, he credits "the Supreme Being, the Infinite" for motivating him to create and to produce art. His advice to aspiring artists: "Do not forget the Supreme Being, and love humanity. Never give up. Master your craft."

**Greetings from:**

## **RAYMUND CASIÑO UY- A PT WHO CHOSE TO SERVE CALBAYOG**



Calbayog City Sangguniang Panglungsod member Raymund Casiño Uy is a licensed physical therapist who opted in 2007 to devote his time and effort to not just in the practice of physiotherapy but also to the service of his fellow Calbayogons.

Raymund started working barely a year after finishing his Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy(PT) course at the Fatima Medical School Foundation in 2000 as a political assistant in the city government of Quezon City. The job introduced Raymund to the workings of local government units and the experience must have given him the notion of how fulfilling public service could be.

After passing the Physical Therapy board examination given by the Professional Regulations Commission(PRC) in Manila in 2003 Edmund must have started to entertain the idea of entering politics in his own hometown because four years later he returned to Calbayog and ran for membership in the city's Sangguniang Panglungsod, a job he holds up to this day.

Raymund who was born in Oquendo in November 11,1977 is married to Ageline Llever Uy. He is at the moment the Vice President of the provincial chapter of the Philippine Councilors League.

## **The Mentally ill . . .** *from page 5*

in Palo, but those without family support are left on their own without much alternative but to wander the streets.


There have been numerous reports that some of these mentally ill persons have damaged business property, including the glass windows of businesses like Mercury Drugstore and South Star Drugstore, and some have gotten violent towards pedestrians and traffic. Such occurrences have a detrimental effect on the success of businesses in Calbayog, especially when a business owner will have to pay for damage to the business property. The presence of mentally ill persons can also detract customers from visiting a business establishment. The main concern for business owners, however, is the potential liability of the owner for injuries to a patron or employee of their business caused by the act of such mentally ill person.

A grave concern mentally ill women face in Calbayog is sexual assault or rape. It is common knowledge, for example, among passenger motorcycle drivers in Calbayog that a mentally ill woman had been deceived by some unidentified men to engage in sexual intercourse at the back of the now demolished Old Market. Sexual intercourse with a mentally ill person constitutes statutory rape, as the mentally ill person cannot legally give consent to engage in sexual intercourse. Aside from the women, mentally ill men have also faced physical assault and battery from an uninformed public, especially when such mentally ill person exhibits a violent or destructive trait that is symptomatic of their mental disorder. Such occurrences of assault and rape raise questions about our failure as a community to act, and the choice we continue to make to remain apathetically blind. Silence at the face of injustice constitutes endorsement of such injustice.

**root<sup>+</sup>**  
[www.rootplustech.com](http://www.rootplustech.com)

### **ROOTPLUS TECHNICAL SERVICES**

WEB DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT  
SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT  
BRANDING

 JPR Subdivision, Zone 4, Brgy. Obrero, 06710  
Calbayog, Philippines

 [info@rootplustech.com](mailto:info@rootplustech.com)  
 (055) 533 9682

“Siday” - all the varieties of Waray poetry

THE SIDAY OF NEMESIO “TOTOY” BALDESCO

## Pobre Nga Mangirisda

Siyahan nga panoktogaok san mga manok, oras san maagahan,  
Piret mabuhat, babayaan, taklap pangontra hagkot nga panahon  
Horopoy san hangin amihan, lawas natupo, daw kaarantuson,  
Malusad sa balay, tungod san yamog, bis dagaw makuri lantawon.

Mangarapkap sa dulom, an ak tiil, daw ruhaduha ipiktaw,  
Labis na kon usa nga bituon, sa langit waray nalutaw,  
Rorombohon baluto nga daan, sa abaga piret itutumbaw,  
Agod di marubat, sa bato ngan botelya, sa baybay nagkalutaw.

Kan-on ngan bahaw, tubig, suka ngan asin, an permanente nga balon,  
Hinay pagdadad-on, mahal nga asawa, bangin makarag, kanogon,  
Pagkaon importante, kay waray na natirok, kon pagtutukibon,  
Benta sinen isda, iton nadadakop, magkulop pag-inantuson.

Altupiliirupan, artis umabante, distino ngadto tipalawod,  
Layag buboklaron, kon hangin daw medyo, nagpakahawod hawod,  
Mabugsay paluyo luyo, kon adton hangin, labis nga naawod,  
Sa balhas nagpaparigo, pag-abot sa pwesto, bisan waray balud.

Permanente nga nag-iilob, tinamay mangirisda nga pobre,  
Dakmol na, kibal sa mga palad, kay bugsay an katin permi,  
San-o pa daw la lalamragan, adton paningkamot sa pangabuhi,  
Dagat nga ginkakabuhian, kamutangan, daw nagtitikagrab.

Kawil ighuhulog tingale gad la, siton isda pagsisibaron,  
Usa, duha, tulo ka oras na, dire pa daw ada susuwertihon,  
Sa katapusan, bumug-at gihapon, pero san akon kukubrahon,  
Gutiay na la madismayo, basura iton kawil daw puputson.

Bong, putok didto sa banda habagatan, may nagpilak dinamita,  
Tubig nantapsik, isda nanlutaw, may nagliyong liyong, may patay na,

Isda, dagko ngan gudti waray pinili, damo adton nadisgrasya,  
Gudti ginpabay-an, dagko la adton ginsibot, pagtalinguha.

Brom, kanan makina tunog, nga nagkukuri, pagdanas sadton pukot,  
Sarakyan nakamang, dinadanas kabug-at, daw ginbibinognot,  
Rinurubat, inaarado, ilarom sinen dagat, tuang nararadot,  
Mga monbon ginbubungag, makadakop la sin kadak-an daw kalamot.

Sa parte siton sirangan, kon hain gintitikangan sadton sulog,  
Mga isda nagkalutaw, palibot libot an paglinangoy, daw hubog,  
Alimyon san hangin kabaho, makuri pagginhawa, daw nabokog,  
Dagat ginhihiloan, apektado bisan gudti nga mga sibubog.

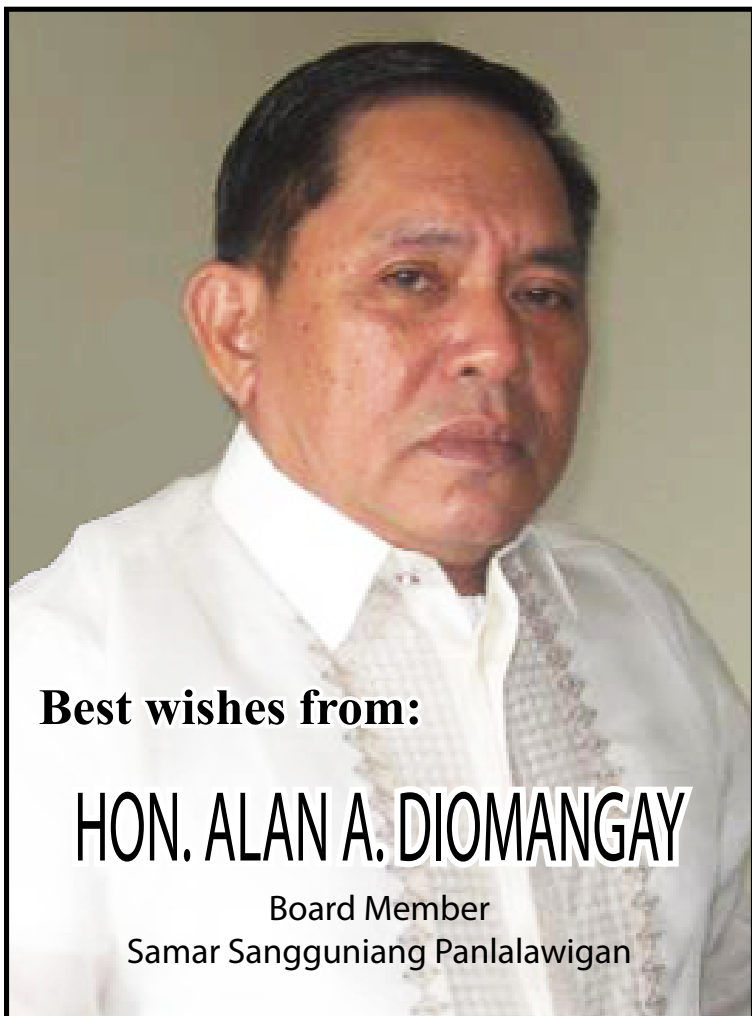
Magkulop nga nag-aantos, sadton sirak, san madugaang nga adlaw,  
Panit maitom na, baga baga na kami, sadton mga negrong hayaw,  
Tungod kay adi la sa tagliligid, san dagat mga mantas daw kagaw,  
Dakop, apenas na makasura, dire na makapalit panlugaw.

Maluya an pagkabhig, san bugsay, asay an kaupod tipauli,  
Mabug-at iton lawas, tugob san kabiduan, adton binabati,  
Mga mata yaon nalantaw, kapula, alagid agid san aligi,  
San akon haranion, “red tide” ngay-an, sa dagat dako nga peste.

Ine ba an kalibungan, maipamamat ta sa mga kabataan?  
An dagat nga tugob na san hugaw, daw usa nga kapakyasan,  
Sa mga tagdumara san sosyedad, tungod san hingyap magmanggagan,  
Igin bale waray na la, an kabubuwason sadton kalibungan.

(November 4, 2005)

Nemesio Baldesco. Photo courtesy of Nemesio Baldesco



Best wishes from:

**HON. ALAN A. DIOMANGAY**

Board Member  
Samar Sangguniang Panlalawigan

## AKO AN BISAYA (AAB) PARTY LIST



**ATTY. RODOLFO T. TUAZON**

President / 1<sup>st</sup> Nominee

3-Term Congressman 1<sup>st</sup> District of Samar

### Political Platforms:

- Nationalist Social Democracy

### Ideological Philosophy or Principles:

- Those who have less in life must have more assistance and benefits from the government

**“The Nation and the People before anything else”**

### LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM:

- Partial Free Scholarship
- Free Medicines
- Partial Free Hospitalization
- Free Legal Assistance to Indigents
- Equal Opportunities And Protection Before the Law
- Livelihood Opportunities For The Poor And Destitute Thru Financial Assistance to Cooperatives and Skills Training Program
- Development Toward A Welfare State
- Decentralization of Certain Powers of the Central Government
- Abolition of Contractualization of Necessary Employees and Workers
- Promoting The Unity Of The Various Cultural, Ethnic And Religious Sectors Of Our Nation
- More Equitable Treatment of All Marginalized Visayans Throughout the Country Including Their Descendants
- Poverty Alleviation Through Skills Training and Development
- Protection and Sustainable Development of the Environment

Ako An Bisaya



**Greetings from:**



**SUNSHINE D. IGNACIO**

Entrepreneur  
Calbayog City



**FIVE STAR SUPERSTORE**

## EDGAR MARY S. SARMIENTO HAS THE QUALITIES OF A GOOD LEADER

Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento must have a keen eye for minute details as his accomplishments in the construction industry tend to show for one who does not possess that ability cannot thrive in such a high hazard business.

Edgar who is presently the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Manila-based Oscar Sarmiento Construction Inc. was introduced to the construction business early in life as the building of infrastructure is his family's main occupation.

This is perhaps the reason why after finishing his secondary education at the University of San Carlos-Boys High in Cebu City in 1976 Edgar enrolled in Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering at the Cebu Institute of Technology. When he completed the course in 1981 Edgar went through a management training at the UP Engineering Construction Management of the Philippines to prepare himself for the job of dealing with situations and people, coordinating their efforts to accomplish the goals of the family-owned firm which was then regularly engaged in multi-million construction projects in different parts of the country.

His early exposure in the industry that is characterized by toughness, courage, and strength of mind enabled Edgar to face challenges head-on - a quality that makes for a good leader in various other fields of human activity.

Edgar was born in Calbayog City in 1957 and attended primary school at Christ the King College in 1996. He is married to Helen W. Sarmiento and has three children.





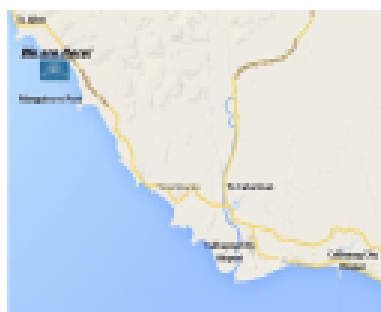
+639052735397

Facebook: The Coral Reef beach resort

thecoralreefPH@yahoo.com

Opening Date: October 27, 2015

Trail of our opening promo of 20% discount on room rates until the 31st of December 2015!



30-45minutes Drive From Calbayog City Proper  
&  
1-1.5hours From Mangrove Port

# THE CORAL REEF Beach Resort

Brgy. Baay, Tinambacan District  
Calbayog City, Calbayog, Philippines

## AMENITIES

- Cabana/Casero (non-house guests) **Php 1,000.00/day**
- Table & Chairs w/ Pool Umbrella (non-house guests) **Php 500/day**
- Badminton Court: Day-time **Php 250.00/hr**  
Night-time **Php 300.00/hr**
- Badminton racket **Php 300.00/session rental**
- Shuttlecock **FOR SALE \***
- Convenience Store
- Mini-Restaurant/Coffee Shop
- Pump Boat **Php 300.00/hr w/ license for 1 per**
- Paddled Boat **Php 150.00/hr w/ license for 2 per**
- Kayak **Php 250.00/hr**
- Fitnesses Floor **Php 150.00/hr**
- Snorkeling Guide **Php 300.00/session**
- Fishing Paraphernalia **FOR SALE \***
- Snorkeling Paraphernalia **FOR SALE \***

Event Center (100pax capacity):  
- with sound system/tables & chairs/projector

### Daytime

(w/o alcohol)

**Php 5,500.00/Meal (add'l Php 300.00/hr extension)**

(with alcohol)

**Php 10,000.00/Meal (add'l Php 1,000.00/hr extension)**

### Nighttime

(w/o alcohol)

**Php 8,500.00/Meal (add'l Php 750.00/hr extension)**

(with alcohol)

**Php 12,000.00/Meal (add'l Php 1,500.00/hr extension)**

- Massage/Therapist **Php 300.00/hr**
- SUV (Family) and AUV (Bikes) - For Rent w/ Driver

\* Available at the convenience store.

## ENTRANCE FEE/SWIMMING POOL RATES (Non-House Guests)

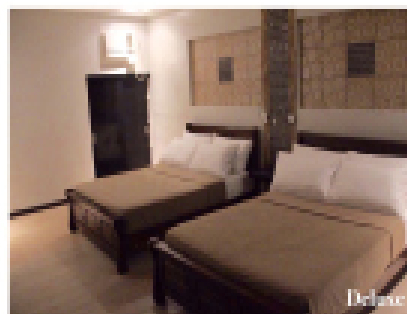
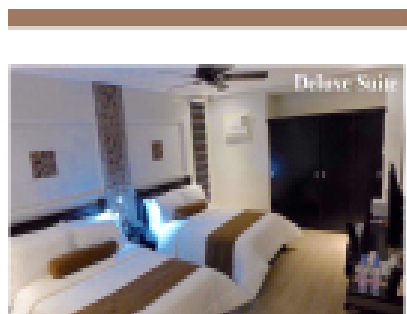
- Adult **Php 250.00 (Php 100 consumable)**
- Child (10 & below) **Php 150.00 (Php 50 consumable)**

## NOTES

- Check-in time - 2:00PM
- Check-out time - 12:00 Noon
- Charges on succeeding hours apply (check-out time).
- Adult rates apply to children 12 & up.
- Rates are *inclusive* of government taxes.
- Rates are subject to change without prior notice.
- *Key deposit of Php 500* - refundable upon check-out.
- Advance booking is accepted.
- *Proper invoicing active* is requested.
- Bringing of food and drinks is *subject to corkage*.

## INCLUSIONS

- Complimentary breakfast for 2 persons ONLY.
- Complimentary 3-in-1 coffee/tea, replenished daily.
- Complimentary 2 bottled water, replenished daily.
- Sea/sunset view, air conditioned rooms, cable-TV, intercom, mini bar, mini ref, private balcony, hot/cold shower & bathroom amenities.
- FREE access to the resort's amenities: sea water swimming pool for kids, enclosed sea water pool for adults (5-feet deep during high tide), cabana/cottage (1 day advanced notice) & more.
- Shuttle service from-to and/or to-from Calbayog Airport (FREE for in-house guests only).



## ROOM RATES

- Deluxe **Php 4,000.00 (Good for 2-4 pax)**
- Deluxe Suite - A **Php 4,500.00 (Good for 2-4 pax)**
- Deluxe Suite - B **Php 5,000.00 (Good for 2-4pax)**
- Deluxe Suite A and B **Php 9,000.00 (Package)**
- Extra Person/Bed **Php 700.00**