

PGLU GANTIMPALA AGAD AWARDEES, RETIREES



MEDIUM-TERM STRATEGY ON TOURISM DEVELOPED



Volume IV No. 04



participated in by various agencies, Filipino alternative rock band "Join the or festival of lights. organizations and entities.

a project of Poro Point Management Point Lighthouse as a beacon of hope. Medical Center followed by National as Corporation (PPMC), a subsidiary of Bases Conversion and Development Authority, in were Children's Show; concert by the City Government of San Fernando, La partnership with the Government of La much-awaited summer festival in the province drew more than a hundred emitting costumes. thousand visitors in its various events and activities this year.

the launching of the La Union-Batanes Tour Filipino rock band "Sponge Cola." Packages at the City of San Fernando Airport. Other activities set in the who came all the way from Europe, Establishment Category was awarded

Club." The lights used in main events

Provincial Filipino alternative rock Union. This "Mayonnaise;" and a Street Dancing respectively. The grand winner for the promote development beyond the Competition where contestants wore light Street Dancing Competition was

Air Show; Cosplay; Lights Parade and second runners-up were given to Saint The first day of the festival started with Pyromusical Show; and a concert of the Louis College and La Union National

Manifesting its zeal to promote afternoon were Sillag Delights Trade and North America and South America just tourism in the North, the 8th Sillag Poro Food Fair; Car Display; Bonsai and Suiseki to witness the event. Some foreign Progress Association followed by Villa Point Festival of Lights was held on April 5 Exhibit; a Fun Run dubbed "Sunset Run tourists compared Sillag (which was Navarro Beach Resort and Restaurant as to 7, 2019 at the Poro Point Freeport Zone, for Hope;" the Ceremonial Lighting of derived from Ilocano word "sellag" City of San Fernando, La Union. It was the Sillag Village; and a concert of the meaning moonlight) to the Hindus' Diwali

Launched in 2012, the Sillag Festival is underscored the symbolism of the Poro Parade Competition was given to Lorma by Happy Lemonade and Lemon Hub Lined up activities on the second day Grid Corporation of the Philippines and band Union as first and second runners-up, awarded to the Northern Naguilian On the last day, activities include an National High School while first and High School, respectively. The Best has high hopes that they can double the Many of the visitors were foreigners Decorated Booth Champion for the Big

to the La Union Entrepreneurs for first runner-up and Monterey/Aquarex Marketing as second runner-up. For the Small/Medium Establishment Category, The grand prize for the Lights the champion was Lemon Infuse followed first and second runners-up, respectively.

> Sillag Festival is a staging point to accomplish a much bigger objective to confines of the Poro Point Freeport Zone. It aims to attract domestic and foreign tourists to encourage business and commerce in the City of San Fernando and the rest of the Province of La Union. PPMC activities and further publicize the festival next year.



LU VETS TAKE STEP TO FIGHT POULTRY DISEASES



PGLU GATHERS TOURISM STAKEHOLDERS IN 1ST TOURISM CONFERENCE

### PGLU GANTIMPA ANTIMPALA AGAD AWARDEI RETIREES RECOGNIZED

Camille Bumatay, OPG-MPIU

The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) headed by Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III conferred to nine PGLU employees the Gantimpala Agad Award and recognized seven retirees during the First Monday Flag Raising Ceremony on April 1, 2019 at the Provincial Capitol Grounds, City of San Fernando, La Union.

Maria Ana P. Navarro of the Office of the Provincial Assessor was given the Gantimpala Agad Award for her commendable display of integrity and commitment to public interest for surrendering a lost personal belonging to

Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office rescuers Errol Tomoyuki L. Kurigeno, Edmund A. Pulido, Joey F. Tiqui, Aaron Michael P. Lee, and Brian Keith F. Salamanca were also given the same award for promptly responding to an emergency situation earning the appreciation and gratitude of a constituent and observer.

Fernando L. Dacanay and Guillermo William B. Balcita, Jr. of the Office of the Provincial Engineer were likewise given the award for their excellent athletic performance during the 2019 Philippine



GANTIMPALA AGAD AWARD. Chosen employees of the Provincial Government of La Union receive recognition for their prompt and efficient delivery of public service through the Gantimpala Agad Award during the First Monday Flag Raising Ceremony on April 1, 2019 at the Provincial Capitol Grounds, City of San Fernando, La Union. Awardees were (L-R) Fernando L. Dacanay and Guillermo William B. Balcita, Jr. of the Office of the Provincial Engineer; Errol Tomoyuki L. Kurigeno and Edmund A. Pulido of the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (PDRRMO); Maria Ana P. Navarro of the Provincial Assessors Office; Joey F. Tiqui, Aaron Michael P. Lee, and Brian Keith F. Salamanca of the PDRRMO.

Athletics Championships held on March B. Marron for his commendable display of Union.

Same award was also given to William properties.

6-8, 2019 at Ilagan City, Isabela, thus, integrity and commitment to public bringing honor to the Province of La interest as manifested in his honest discharge of duty as safe keeper of public

The Gantimpala Agad Award is part of PGLU Program on Awards and Incentives for Service Excellence (PRAISE) and is awarded to employees who have displayed highly commendable behavior or performed superior acts of service. The Department Head or Chief of Hospital, immediate supervisor, coworker or client may nominate an employee for the Gantimpala Agad Award. Certificates of Recognition were given to awardees.

On the other hand, plaques and tokens of appreciation were awarded to PGLU retirees which included three department heads namely Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator Mauro A. Libatique, Jr.; Provincial Engineer Elizabeth P. Sias; and Provincial General Services Officer Emelda P. Pascual. Other retirees were Nancy F. Samonte of Provincial Assessor's Office; Esther M. Bermejo of the PGSO; Marilyn Buccat and Mr. Prudencio S. Carrera of the Rosario District Hospital.

Through these awards, the PGLU showed its appreciation to the commitment and dedication of its employees to public service and in achieving the Agri-Tourism vision of the province.

#### FIRST PHASE OF ( URAL MAPPING

Darlene Joy Acosta, GPC-PIO

The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) in partnership with the National Commission on Culture and the Arts (NCCA) initiated the first phase of Cultural Mapping, the Scoping and Negotiation, on April 15, 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

Participants were Tourism Officers, Planning Coordinators, Budget Officers, Sangguniang Bayan Members, and representatives from the academe and religious sectors from the Municipalities of Agoo, Bacnotan, Bangar, Bauang, Luna, Naguilian, San Gabriel, San Juan, Sudipen and City of San Fernando, La Union. Representatives from National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), Department of Natural Resources (DENR), Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), and Indigenous Peoples Cultural Society of La Union, Inc. (IPCSLUI) also attended the orientation to give their inputs.

According to Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III, the PGLU recognizes the vital role of culture in the optimal development of people and the community. It is the way to express one's self as it shapes our vorldview and perception of the things

around us. This message was relayed by Mr. Justo Orros III, Executive Assistant IV of the Office of the Provincial Governor.

Ms. Gladys Mae Argonza, NCCA Cultural Mapping Project Coordinator, spearheaded the orientation

initialization of Cultural Mapping. Its objective is to understand the basic frameworks on culture and heritage in the context of Republic Act of 2009 and other laws and mandates, and to appreciate the value of the various cultural resources of



The importance of culture and arts in the province to achieve optimal growth and development for the people in the community is emphasized in the speech of Gov. Pacoy delivered by Executive Assistant IV Justo "Tito" Orros III during the Orientation on Initialization of Cultural Mapping on April 15, 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando,

the community.

Mr. Adamor L. Dagang, Provincial Information Officer, expressed his gratitude to all the participants and to the NCCA for partnering with PGLU to help its component municipalities and city to have their own Local Cultural Inventory.

Cultural Mapping Project is one of the technical assistance offered by the NCCA in assisting communities in identifying, documenting and raising awareness on their cultural properties and resources. The PGLU in coordination with the NCCA will help the Local Government Units (LGUs) identify, record and use cultural resources and activities as well as build communities. Cultural Mapping is one of the activities for the Dap-ayan project which aims to develop a year-long local culture and arts program that considers the important cultural assets of the community.

Culture and Heritage is one of the major initiatives in province's road map for year 2019-2022 as PGLU focuses on Tourism. The Cultural Mapping Project will contribute to the development and promotions of Culture and Heritage to achieve the vision of making La Union the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon

#### ATES WORL

Marlon C. Runas, GPC-CDH



BRINGING YOUR BODY BACK INTO BALANCE. Caba District Hospital (CDH), in collaboration with ABONO Partylist Scholars, spearheads a free therapeutic massage to patients and staff during the celebration of World Health Day on April 5, 2019 at CDH Pedia Ward, Caba, La Union. A total of 35 patients and staff benefited in the said activity.

District Hospital (CDH) celebrated World Health Day with array of activities which included Information Education Campaign (IEC), distribution of Smoking Cessation Stickers and free therapeutic massage on April 5, 2019 at CDH, Caba, La Union.

Nurse Kristian C. Ducusin and Geraldine T. Posadas, Supervising Chief Nurse and Program Coordinator intensified CDH's campaign immunization. With the increasing number of measles cases, Ms. Ducusin emphasized that immunization is free and safe. She encouraged the participants to get their children immunized.

CDH's Chief Gretchen F. Aromin and staff distributed 30 Smoking cessation stickers with the tag line of "Bawal Magsigarilyo sa Loob ng Pampublikong Sasakyan" to public utility vehicles along the National Highway of Poblacion Sur, Caba, La Union. According to Dr. Aromin, this activity aims to stop smoking not just in public areas but also in public vehicles.

A free therapeutic massage by the ABONO Partylist Scholars was also conducted benefiting a total of 35 patients and CDH staff.

World Health Day is observed every 7th day of April to mark the founding of the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1948. The activity aims to raise global awareness on important health issues worldwide.

# LA UNION BEEFS UP AGRI-TOURISM DEVELOPMENT WITH PROPOSED MEDIUM-TERM STRATEGY

Loren Obillo, GPC-OPS



In support of the Agri-Tourism Vision of La Union, Provincial Government of La Union Department Heads and Unit Heads listen intently to the Office of the Provincial Strategy's presentation of the proposed Medium-Term Strategy on April 1, 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) beefed up its bid to become which indicated the specific targets and the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern measures to serve as a guide to gauge Luzon by 2025 through the development of their its proposed Medium-Term Strategy. The proposed strategy was presented to the PGLU Department and Unit Heads on April 1, 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial identified the lead and supporting offices

PGLU identified Tourism as its main developmental focus for the year 2019-2022. The Office for Provincial Strategy (OPS), which oversees the whole execution of the Agri-Tourism vision, led presentation of the proposed medium-term strategy map which identified the specific developmental areas under Tourism. Some are expected to address vital issues such as the expected to engage into further meetings establishment of a tourism brand, preservation of culture and traditions, and stakeholders mobilization.

The proposed Enterprise Scorecard, performance throughout the execution of the strategy were presented. This was followed by the presentation of the proposed Scorecard Initiatives which Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. in charge of managing their respective performance indicators.

> In order to ensure a proper implementation of the Scorecard Initiatives, the same participants underwent a Risk Assessment and Management Workshop the following day, April 2, at the Hotel Ariana in Bauang, La

> All departments and units of PGLU are and discussions as they go forth towards the implementation of the proposed medium-term strategy.

#### LA UNION POLICE, EMERGENCY PERSONNEL SPM ORROS AUTHORS ORDINANCE **GEAR UP FOR HOLY WEEK 2019**

Justin Paul D. Marbella, OPG-MPIU

personnel in La Union were geared up in year, which commenced on Palm Sunday, April 14, and ended on Black Saturday, April 20.

The La Union Police Provincial Office the Holy Week. (LUPPO) and the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office (PDRRMO) provincial, city and municipal DRMMOs were on full alert for the influx of tourists have identified swimming zones along the and pilgrims to the province.

Police Major Silverio Ordinado, LUPPO Information Officer, said the police office has prepared its implementing plan to ensure public safety and security.

LUPPO has implemented its Ligtas SUMVAC (Summer Vacation) 2019, where it shall execute aggressive police operations and deploy maximum number of police personnel in convergence areas in the province.

These areas are churches, shopping malls, bus terminals, beach sites, and other areas heavily visited by the public penalized," Cruz added. during the holidays.

The LUPPO has also mobilized police forces in the barangay, along with the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team, to ensure public safety even in the remote

For motorists plying the province's highways, the LUPPO has also put up its other attractions during this holiday.

Police authorities and emergency Highway Public Assistance Desks (HIPADs) in key points across the province. view of observance of the Holy Week this The HIPADs are manned by two police officers and operate 24 hours.

> The PDRRMO, meanwhile were on red alert status from April 14 until the end of

> Mr. Alvin Cruz, PDRRMO III, said the province's shores. "Tourists and locals should only swim within these zones as not all beach areas of the province are safe for swimming," Cruz said.

The DRRMOs have also placed buoys Since March 15 until June 2019, the in the swimming zones to serve as guide for swimmers. "They should not go beyond these safety lines to avoid drowning," Cruz said. Swimming is also allowed only until 6pm.

The public were also reminded to avoid swimming when under the influence of alcohol. "Tourists and locals should also follow local ordinances to avoid being

"They should heed the authorities for their own safety and security," Ordinado added. "Peace and order, after all, is a shared responsibility," he said.

La Union is known to be a popular barangays where some tourist attractions Holy Week destination for its historic churches and pilgrimage sites. Tourists also flock in the province's beaches and

### **FOR SP SECRETARIAT UPGRADE**

Jane T. Flores, GPC-SP



Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) Member Jonathan Justo A. Chairperson of the SP Committee on Computer and Information Technology principally authored SP Ordinance No. 163-2019 which upgrades the services of Session and Legislative Tracking System and created the Legislative Tracking and Monitoring Unit of the SP Secretariat. unit.

Although the SP Secretariat has already been practicing the paperless session since 2010 with its introduction by the League of the Vice Governors of the Philippines, the aim of the ordinance is to level up legislative secretariat services to include enhanced LAN connections of all offices in the SP, data storage of all electronic files of legislative documents, tracking of referrals as well as status of implementation of enacted and installation ordinances Closed-Circuit Television camera all around the legislative building.

Through the said ordinance, the current Legislative Information System, which was originally developed by On-The-Job Trainees from Lorma Colleges, shall also be upgraded to include various features and easier access to enacted resolutions and ordinances online so the public would be more informed of the policies in the province.

Members of the SP will be trained to use their own devices to acquaint themselves of the new features of the system so they could access data wherever they are and could use it as inputs in aid of legislation.

The Office of the SP Secretariat is the SP Secretariat to include the geared to purchase all necessary institutionalization of the SP Paperless equipment for the implementation of the said ordinance as well as the hiring of employees who will administer the said

#### PGLU WORKFORCE STRENGTHENED

Jo Emmanuel Verzola, GPC-HRMU



Gov. Pacoy administers the oath of newly appointed and promoted employees of the Provincial Government of La Union during the Mass Job Orientation Program on April 11-12, 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol Building, City of San Fernando, La Union. Said activity was spearheaded by the Human Resource Management Unit (HRMU) under the Office of the Provincial Administrator (OPA).

Unit (HRMU) under the Office of congratulated the employees in their the Provincial Administrator (OPA) new positions and reminded them conducted a Mass Job Orientation of Program on April 11-12, 2019 at the governance. Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

Attended by more than 100 participants, program was the conducted to orient new and promoted institution.

In his message, Gov. Francisco they will be serving.

The Human Resource Management Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III importance the

> Representatives from different offices of PGLU were also invited to impart the primary procedures of their respective offices.

The two-day program also served employees of the Rules and Regulations as a mini team building activity to of the Provincial Government of La boost camaraderie among employees Union as well as to equip them with of the different PGLU offices to the basic knowledge on their rights create and imbibe in them a positive and benefits as employees of the work attitude not only directed to themselves but also to the people



Gov. Pacoy encourages the members of his cabinet to do all necessary preparations for the 2019 Seal of Good Local Governance during the 3rd Regular Cabinet Meeting at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union on April 4, 2019.



Provincial Government of La Union Tourism Office Staff assists students from the University of the Philippines, Diliman Campus - Department of Geography in their La Union Capitol Tour on April 6, 2019. Said tour was organized by the Geographic Society of UP, a student organization of geography majors and enthusiasts of said university.



82 Provincial Government of La Union security and hospital guards undergo Familiarization, Identification and Handling of Dangerous Drugs Training on April 25-26, 2019 at the La Union Technology and Livelihood Development Training Center, City of San Fernando, La Union. Said training was conducted by the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency Regional Office 1 (PDEA RO1) headed by Atty. Patricia Rimando stressing their important role in keeping a drug-free work environment.



EMPOWERED SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE. OPG-Media and Public Information Unit Chief Joanna C. Guerrero offers assistance to the members of the Information Officers of La Union Guild (IOLUG) in the establishment of their Local Government Unit's Social Media pages as measure for faster and easier information dissemination to the public during the IOLUG meeting held on April 30, 2019 at the La Union Agri-Tourism Center, City of San Fernando, La Union.



AWARENESS FOR JOBS. Labor and Employment Officer II Rowell B. Timoteo of the Public Employment Service Office (PESO) – La Union shares information about the PESO Programs and Services during the Career Guidance and Employment Coaching Seminar on April 11, 2019 held at Oikoumene Chapel, Union Christian College, Barangay II, City of San Fernando, La Union.



Over 500 participants attend the La Union Child Development Workers & Service Providers' 5th Provincial Convention on April 3-5, 2019 at Hotel Supreme Convention Plaza, Baguio City. Sangguniang Bayan Members, Punong Barangays, Barangay Kagawads, Local Social Welfare & Development Officers, Child Development Workers, Barangay Secretaries, and Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office staff joined the activity. The event aims to strengthen the commitment of Barangay Councils for the Protection of Children (BCPC). The activity updated the BCPC members of the new laws and programs of the government especially on the rights of children on survival, protection, development and participation.



As a way of giving back to the community, JCI Naguilian Basi and JCI San Fernando Saluyot, two of Provincial Government of La Union's Basi Awardees during the Pammadayaw 2019 give recognition to more than 30 students for their Youth Leadership Excellence at the Balikbayan Hall, Naguilian, La Union on April 13, 2019. Awardees from JCI Naguilian Basi, JCI San Fernando Saluyot, and JCI Bauang Fruit Basket Chapters received a medal and a Certificate of Recognition.



As a Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) Awardee for three consecutive years, the Provincial Government of La Union gears up for the SGLG 2019 by being updated with the Department of the Interior and Local Government's new "all-in" assessment criteria of SGLG 2019 during the SGLG Roll out conducted on April 12, 2019 at the Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. This is expected to demonstrate positive results from PGLU for even better local governance.



Governor's Press Corps (GPC) of the Provincial Government of La Union convenes to discuss the first quarter of 2019 performance report that serves as the basis in the assessment of their training needs for the second quarter of 2019 during the First Quarter GPC Meeting on April 16, 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, City of San Fernando, La Union.



Vice Gov. Aureo Augusto Q. Nisce presides the Joint Meeting of the Provincial Peace and Order Council (PPOC) and La Union Anti-Drug Abuse Council (LUADAC) on April 10, 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. One of the main agenda of the meeting was the preparation and security briefing for the upcoming 2019 Elections.



DEDICATION TO PUBLIC SERVICE. Provincial Public Employment Service Office (PESO) Manager Charito C. Dator, Labor and Employment Officer II Rowell B. Timoteo, and PESO Managers of Bauang, La Union, City of San Fernando, La Union and Bacnotan, La Union receive the Certificate of Recognition from the Department of Labor and Employment - La Union Field Office headed by Ms. Veronica A. Corsino for their complete attendance to the monthly PESO Meetings for CY 2018 and for their timely and complete submission of monthly PESO Accomplishment Report for CY 2018 during the La Union PESO Federation Meeting on April 12, 2019 held at 5th Floor, LUPAC Bldg., Quezon Ave., City of San Fernando, La Union.



CAREER GUIDANCE TO STUDENTS. Public Employment Service Office (PESO) representative attends to the queries of grade 12 students of Union Christian College about the in-demand courses that would fit in job demands today during the City of San Fernando's 3rd People Jobs Fair held on April 4, 2019 at UCC College, Barangay II, City of San Fernando, La Union.



PROTECTED TOGETHER, #VACCINESWORK. In celebration of World Health Day, Caba District Hospital's (CDH) Nurse Kristian C. Ducusin and Supervising Chief Nurse and Program Coordinator Geraldine T. Posadas intensify the campaign on immunization during the Information Education Drive held at the CDH Out-Patient Department (OPD) Waiting Area, Caba, La Union on April 5, 2019.



NO SMOKING IN PUBLIC VEHICLES. Health Education and Promotion Officer and Nurse Chenee Rose Manangan leads the distribution of stickers with the tag line of "Bawal Magsigarilyo sa Loob ng Pampublikong Sasakyan" to public utility vehicles along the National Highway of Poblacion Sur, Caba, La Union on April 5, 2019. A total of 30 public vehicles were given stickers. The said activity was part of the Smoking Cessation Program and celebration of World Health day.



In observance of World Health Day, Health Education and Promotion Officer (HEPO) Nurse Claire Ramirez conducts an education and awareness lecture about heat stroke at the ward of Balaoan District Hospital (BLDH) on April 8, 2019. Since it is summer season, heat stroke is prevalent especially in the elderly and children. To protect themselves, they must know the causes, symptoms, preventive measures and emergency treatment of heatstroke. BLDH aims to educate and promote health to patients and watchers whenever possible that is why during ward rounds, nurses take time to discuss health tips that are helpful to patients.



SUGARCANE GROWERS CAPABILITY TRAINING. Experts from the Sugar Regulatory Administration discuss the technology on sugarcane production during the two-day Capability Enhancement Training for Sugarcane Farmers in the Province of La Union on April 4-5, 2019 at the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist, City of San Fernando, La Union. The training was spearheaded by the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist.

## LA UNION MARKETS TOUR PACKAGES IN TRAVEL SALE FAIR 2019

Omme Atiyah Gonting, GPC-PIO

For the first time, the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU), through the Provincial Information Office-Tourism Operations Section, took part in the Travel Sale Fair 2019 at SM Megamall, Metro Manila on April 26-28, 2019 offering La Union travel and tour packages to potential domestic and international tourists. This marketing initiative aims to maximize efforts in promoting the province as the "Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025."

Over a thousand guests visited the PGLU booth which offered La Union Day Tour, La Union Pilgrims Tour, San Fernando Day Tour, Bauang Day Tour, and San Juan, La Union Tour.

The event presented over 100 exhibitors from different travel industries such as airlines, travel agencies, tour operators, hotel and resorts, theme parks and travel accessories. Being a mid-year event, visitors who are planning to catch up in the remaining days of summer, or



LA UNION PARTAKES IN TRAVEL SALE FAIR 2019. The Provincial Government of La Union Tourism Operations Staff markets La Union tour packages to visitors who attended the Annual Travel Sale Fair 2019 at SM Megamall, Metro Manila on April 26-28, 2019.

the next set of holidays due to promo flights came to avail tour packages and other travel offers. Resorts and leisure companies also offered discounted group packages for barkada getaways and company outings.

Due to the booming tourism industry of La Union, the province will be expecting more tourists coming in the province as it is a perfect venue to promote destination, products and services, thus expanding trade and tourism opportunities and continuous exposure to foreign buyers that will open new markets particularly to our Agri-Tourism destinations, products and services.

The Travel Sale Fair is an annual travel and tour expo organized by AFTPH Corp. which is hosting two shows for this year. They have a solid track record of bringing in thousands of corporate buyers and customers in a single venue for travel and tourism.

# PGLU SUPPORTS HOLISTIC EMPLOYEE GROWTH AFTER RETIREMENT

Jo Emmanuel P. Verzola, GPC-HRMU



Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) employees who will soon be retiring from public service observe the demonstration of growing mushrooms during their immersion at Mushroom Farm, Gana, Caba, La Union on April 23, 2019 as a part of their Pre-Retirement Program.

employees of the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) who will soon be retiring from their years of public service, not prolong their physical as well as their the Office of the Provincial Administrator -Human Resource and Management Unit conducted a Pre-Retirement Program on the Mushroom Farm in Gana, Caba, La April 22 to 23, 2019 participated in by 25 employees.

Learning Service Providers from Public and Private Institutions were invited to discuss topics such as Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) Retirement Option Plans and Financial Planning and Management at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol Building, City of San Fernando, La Union during the first day. This aims to equip soon-to-be retirees with ways on how they could preserve and enrich every single peso earned through their years of service.

A resident Psychologist from Lorma Medical Center discussed how to maintain a happy disposition after retirement because retirees often find it hard to adjust

As a way of giving back to the to a new pattern of lifestyle. This was also partnered with the introduction of practices that would help them maintain if spiritual vitality.

> Participants went for an immersion at Union on the second day where business partners Kristoffer U. Oribello and Remedio Domingo P. Mañago showed how a capital of P200.00 can turn to P2,000.00 in just 10 days.

> They were introduced to ways of growing and processing edible fungi that thrive in the Province of La Union. The mushroom growing industry shows the potential of a good investment for the retirees and bolsters the attainment of the province's vision to be the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025.

> Through this intervention, the retirees' lifestyle will not end when they leave the PGLU as they have the option to be in a new one, do more, and still be part of the bigger picture.

#### IES AWARENESS II

Renerose Beninsig, GPC-PHO



In observance of Rabies Awareness Month, the Provincial Health Office (PHO) in coordination with the Rural Health Unit of Naguilian conducts an awareness lecture with the theme "Barangay Kaagapay, Laban sa Rabies Tagumpay" held at Brgy. Cabaritan Sur, Naguilian, La Union on April 8, 2019. This activity aims to strengthen awareness on the prevention, control and management of rabies.

In observance of Rabies Awareness Month, the Provincial Health Office (PHO) in coordination with the Department of Health Regional Office I (DOH) and Rural Health Unit (RHU) of Naguilian organized a barangay assembly in line with the theme "Barangay Kaagapay, Laban sa Rabies Tagumpay" held at Cabaritan Sur Barangay Hall, Naguilian, La Union on April 8, 2019. This theme aims to highlight collaboration within the community as one of the key strategies in the fight against rabies.

"Mabalin tayo nga maliklikan dayta babaen iti panagbakuna dagiti as-aso," Dr. Hector Beñas emphasized during the

Aiming to make La Union rabies-free, a lecture focusing on prevention and control to increase public awareness on the danger of the disease and to encourage pet owners to register and have their dogs and cats vaccinated against rabies was delivered by Ms. Karen Carmi Malig, Rabies Control Coordinator of the province.

The advocacy was attended by participants from Barangay Cabaritan Norte, Cabaritan Sur and Dalipaoen, Naguilian, La Union.

Rabies is a viral disease caused by a Lyssavirus which is transmitted to human beings through the saliva following a bite or scratch by rabid animals. An infected person may develop the symptoms a few days after the bite or it can take six years before the symptoms appear. It is fatal but at the same time it is preventable.

**APRIL 2019** BARO A TIMEK ITI KAPITOLIO

# U VETS TAKE STEP TO FIGHT POULTRY DISEASES

Ferdinand P. Buccat and Romuelda C. Mañgaser, GPC-OPVet



Dr. Santa Fe L. Palpal and Dr. Raquel P. Difuntorum of the Office of the Provincial Veterinarian join other La Union Veterinarians in a photo opportunity during the Regional Retooling of Local Government Units (LGUs) Field Staff on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Surveillance for the Respiratory Bacterial Pathogens of Swine and Poultry conducted by the Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office I on April 11-12, 2019 at Marand Resort and Spa, Bauang, La

and safe for human consumption in La LGU Agoo. Union, Dr. Santa Fe L. Palpal and Dr. Raquel P. Difuntorum of the Office of the Provincial veterinarians an overview on the disease veterinarians in the Regional Retooling of Local Government Units (LGUs) Field Staff public. on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Surveillance for the Respiratory Bacterial Pathogens of Swine and Poultry conducted by the Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office I on April 11-12, 2019 at

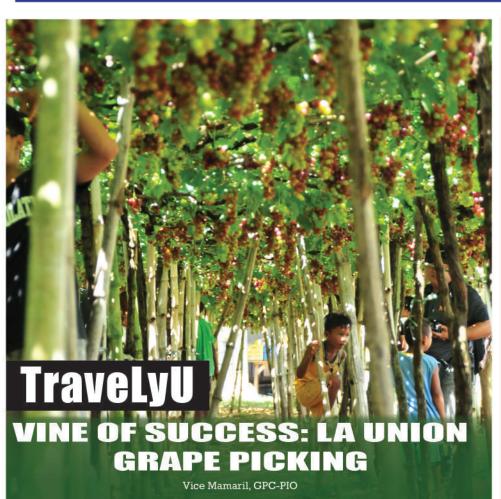
Also in the event were other animals. veterinarian participants including Dr. Aljames Israel G. Rulloda of LGU San Juan; Dr. Ernestine T. Estillore of City of San Fernando Veterinary Office; Dr. Faye G. Baniqued of LGU Rosario; Dr. Marlina Rita M. Aquino of LGU Bacnotan; Dr. Rodolito M. Estrada of LGU Sto. Tomas; Dr. Laser Carol B. Pizarro of LGU Luna; Dr. Modesto Laroya when it is needed.

To ensure that food animals are clean of LGU Tubao; and Dr. Virgilio E. Milana of

The training aimed to give the Veterinarian joined other La Union of poultry and swine which are the usual animal commodity consumed by the

Sample collection, handling, storage and transport of laboratory specimen for disease diagnosis were also taught. Detection and prevention of AMR in animals will help in preventing it in Marand Resort and Spa, Bauang, La Union. humans who usually consume these food

> AMR is a phenomenon where microbes become resistant antimicrobials thus reducing the options for treating diseases. After the training, it is expected that all participants will help in preventing the spread of AMR in La Union by prescribing antibiotics to animals only



Aside from surfing, there are other the grape king of the Philippines, the late activities that one can enjoy in La Union. Have you ever tried grape picking? Who would have thought that grapes are actually grown here in the Philippines? Indeed! If you're travelling or visiting the

North, you can't miss the grape picking areas in the Municipality of Bauang, La

of fruits they offer. On top of this is the very famous grapes. After a 4-5 hour town. The grape farms can be easily spotted as they are just along the road. There are guides sitting just outside the entrance ready to assist guests going inside the farm.

How do these grape farms survive in such a tropical climate like the Philippines? All things were made possible from research and hard work of

Mr. Avelino A. Lomboy. He shared his knowledge in viticulture to other families in the locality and eventually, family-owned grape farms in La Union.

Inside the farms, grape vineyards in attractive green will greet the tourists. As charming and sweet as it may seem, the highlights are found in its fruit - the Bauang is not just notably known for sun-drenched, tasty and luscious grapes. its beaches but also as the Fruit Basket Grapes season happens during the Capital of the North with the wide variety months of March to May. For Lomboy Farm, you may pick and take home one kilo of grapes for only 350 pesos. drive from Manila, one will reach the Entrance is for free! They also offer exclusive grape and guyabano wine all produced in the area.

> The grape picking industry of Bauang put La Union in the map as another tourist destination to see. It also helps in attaining the provinces' vision to make La Union as the Heart of Agri-tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025.

#### **SPM FLORES PUSHES FOR WATER CONSERVATION, MANAGEMENT**

Rhea Matilde A. Ballesteros, GPC - SP

With the pressing problem on the scarcity of water our country and our province is facing today, Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member (SPM) Bellarmin A. Flores II delivered a three-part privilege speech during the Regular Session of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan on March 28, 2019, April 4 and 11, 2019 relative to water conservation and management.

According to him, the water crisis was brought about by lack of long-term and effective water contingency and security plan. There were numerous plans, projects and programs designed to develop water sources and secure water supply but were never implemented.

To address the issue on water shortage, he proposed in his speeches several measures that the province could adopt to mitigate the problem on water shortage including requesting the Senate and the Congress to pass a legislative measure creating a Department of Water Management and Conservation that will implement laws, policies and programs in the management and conservation of water sources and the same was duly adopted by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan through Resolution No. 133-2019.

Likewise, he encouraged the planting of more trees and taking care of the same in the communities, along the banks of rivers, streams and creeks.

Strict implementation of the Philippine Green Building Code which mandates the collection of rainwater from roofs and hardscape of buildings which can be reused for other purposes was also proposed.

Farmers will also be required to install water tanks to be used to store rainwater collected or harvested during rainfall.

"Conserving water is really a big thing, every small steps or actions we do matters," SPM Flores said. He encouraged everyone to conserve water by taking shorter showers, checking water connections in faucets and pipes for leaks, collecting used water to flush toilet or water plants, urge food establishments not to serve water unless it is asked, and the like. In agriculture, farmers and vegetable growers are encouraged to practice drip- irrigation in plants, hydroponic and aquaponic system.

Further, SPM Flores proposed to revisit the Provincial Environmental Management and Protection Code specifically on the provisions on the use of our water resources. Likewise, for the province to venture on water treatment facilities through Private-Public Partnership.

SPM Flores believes that conserving water even in our small little way will have a tremendous impact in the promotion of a sustainable and inclusive water management and conservation in our province.

All his speeches were referred jointly to the Committee on Environment and Energy, Committee on Agriculture and Aquatic Resources, and Committee on Public Works and Utilities and Committee on Laws, Rules and Privileges for their review and consideration/ recommendation.



#### EDITORIAL BOARD

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE PROVINCE OF LA UNION BAROA

SECRETARIAT LA UNION MEDIA AND PUBLIC INFORMATION UNIT
CAPITOL BUILDING, AGUILA RD., SAN FERNANDO CITY, LA UNION
(072) 882–979 | (072)242–5550 LOC. 269–272
INFO@LAUNION.GOV.PH | WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LGUlaunion GOV. FRANCISCO EMMANUEL "PACOY" R. ORTEGA III CHAIRMAN

VICE GOV. AUREO AUGUSTO Q. NISCE VICE-CHAIRMAN

MEMBERS:
HON. FRANCISCO C. ORTEGA, JR.
HON. JONATHAN JUSTO A. ORROS
HON. CART N. PINZON
HON. REYNALDO M. MOSUELA
HON. CARLO CASTOR U. CONCEPCION HON. MA. ANNABELLE S. DE GUZMAN HON. CHRISTIAN I. RIVERA HON, RUPERTO A. RILLERA, IR HON. NANCY CORAZON M. BACURNAY HON. BELLARMIN A. FLORES II HON.FRANCISCO PAOLO P. ORTEGA V HON. GERALDINE R. ORTEGA HON. ALYSSA KRISTINE B. SIBUMA

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF JOANNA C. GUERRERO

EDITORS:
CAMILLE R. BUMATAY | JUSTIN PAUL MARBELLA | MARCELINO A. FLORENTINO

WRITERS: GOVERNOR'S PRESS CORPS

LAYOUT AND DESIGN: MIDAR D. LABARRETE | MARK ANTHONY F. ARTIENDA | IEROME F. MARZAN

PHOTOGRAPHY: WENDELL B. TANGALIN | RIZALDE A. BUENAVENTURA JEFFERSON V. LORENZO

CIRCULATION: EARL RYAN THOMAS P. SAGUYAN | JOJI BUBAN | CHRISTIAN REBULTAN EDITORIAL/TECHNICAL ADVISERS JENNIFER JOAN O. MANGUIAT | ADAMOR L. DAGANG

**APRIL 2019 BARO A TIMEK ITI KAPITOLIO** 

# PGLU GATHERS TOURISM STAKEHOLDERS IN 1ST TOURISM CONFERENCE

Joy Ann L. Gurtiza, GPC-PIO

To update the various tourism stakeholders of the province with the current policies on accreditation and Provincial statistics reporting, the Government of La Union (PGLU) in collaboration with the Department of Tourism - Region 1 (DOT-RO1), conducted the first Tourism Stakeholders Conference on April 3-4, 2019 at the Events Hall of Awesome Hotel, San Juan, La Union.

With all the programs that the province aims to bring forward in the next three years, the event was conducted to strengthen the Tourism Support Service Standards in the province. This requires monitoring of primary and secondary tourism establishments' delivery of quality tourism services to the public set by the national government. The event was participated in by more than 100 tourism industry leaders such as owners and managers of Tourism Enterprises, Municipal/City Tourism Officers, Business Permit and Licensing Officers, Committee Chairpersons on Tourism and other key players.

Throughout the activity, participants underwent workshops on recommended recording templates for accommodation establishments, which were conducted after the discussion on measuring the



Provincial Information Officer Mr. Adamor L. Dagang presents the newly signed SP Ordinance 158-2018 Regulating the Operation of Tourism Entities in the Province of La Union and Mandating them to submit Regular Monthly Reports on Tourists Statistics Data to the City, Municipal and Provincial Governments of La Union during the first day of the two-day Tourism Stakeholders Conference for Department of Tourism's Accreditation and Statistics Reporting at Awesome Hotel, San Juan, La Union on April 3-4, 2019. Initial results of visitor attraction survey and the updated tourists' arrivals were also discussed in said event.

three schemes - basic, regular and the

The conference also featured mobile 15 accommodation establishments, eight manual accreditation for the stakeholders restaurants, two travel and tour agencies, to be guided and be updated about the two Agri-Tourism sites and one spa that the tourism planning endeavors to meet progressive accreditation system that has applied for accreditation during the event. the needs of tourists and general public.

Trends in the tourism industry were

discussed by speakers from DOT-RO1, such as "Regional and Local Trends" by Senior Tourism Operations Officer Loryna C. Fonacier; "Tourist Attraction Visitor Survey 2018 Result" by Tourism Officer Edilberto D. Littaua, Ir.: "DOT Accreditation Requirements and Application" by Accreditation Officer Michael C. Putulan; and "Tourism Statistics Reporting" by Tourism Officer Kristane Caducio.

In his message, Provincial Information Officer Adamor L. Dagang emphasized the crucial role and responsibility of tourism stakeholders in sustainable tourism development in the province. He also encouraged the stakeholders on the strict compliance of the recently approved Ordinance No. 158-2018 regulating the operation of tourism entities in the Province of La Union and mandating them to submit regular reports on tourist statistics data to the City, Municipal and Provincial Governments of La Union.

The conference is a testament to the success of local tourism establishments. premium-star-rated systems. There were commitment of the provincial government to reinforce its efforts in making tourism statistics accessible, reliable and useful in

# SPM BACURNAY REMINDS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LIFE GUARD ORDINANCE

Jane T. Flores, GPC-SP



In her privilege speech rendered on April 4, 2019, Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member (SPM) Nancy Bacurnay gave a strong remark on reminding the implementation of SP Ordinance 108-2017 or the Lifequard or Pool/Resort Ordinance in the Province of La Union.

This ordinance mandates that pools, beach resorts, water parks, spa or wading pool that are open for public must have a certified trained lifeguard and must have complete safety and security facilities within its premises including sufficient signage at the strategic areas to warn customers/tourists of the hazards and dangers posed.

She emphasized that this policy is directly supportive to the attainment of the vision of the province of making La Union the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025 as the strict implementation

of this ordinance guarantees the safety of legislative feedback survey by the SP our tourists in various recreation facilities in the province specially this summer

Her privilege speech stemmed from a data which she researched from the La Union Provincial Police Office (LUPPO) which revealed that there are 41 drowning incidents recorded from January 2018 to 1st quarter of this year. Most number of cases happened in the towns of San Juan and Bauang and happened during the summer months starting from March to June in the 1st semester and October to December in the second semester.

From the cases she mentioned, causes as per LUPPO data were: 46.34% unknown; 39.02 percent strong current; 12.20 percent intoxication and 2.44 percent unattended.

She likewise mentioned that as per

Secretariat, there is low non-implementation of the said ordinance, the need for massive info dissemination campaign to all pool/resort owners/managers.

SPM Gary N. Pinzon was agreeable to the result of the survey and requested that said policy needs also to be revisited as there are resorts that could not afford to employ a trained lifeguard ordinance, which is the main component of the said policy.

While awaiting for further research pertaining to the said ordinance, SPM Bacurnay emphasized that this ordinance should be disseminated to all concerned and that violators should be meted with appropriate sanctions.

### PESO SUPPORTS PWDs TRAINING

Rowell Timoteo, GPC-PESO



Public Employment Service Office (PESO) La Union Manager Ms. Charito C. Dator poses with participants of the Appropriate Paper-Based (APT) - Paper Crafting for Business on April 22-25, 2019 at Area Vocational Rehabilitation Center I, Dagupan City, Pangasinan. Also seen in the photo are their display items made of crafted paper.

To capacitate representatives of the Person with Disability Affairs Office (PDAO), Public Employment Service Office (PESO) La Union provided institutional support to a training on Appropriate Paper-Based (APT) - Paper Crafting for Business held on April 22 - 25, 2019 at Area Vocational Rehabilitation Center I, Dagupan City, Pangasinan.

The training was organized by the National Council for Disability Affairs (NCDA) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

Waste paper crafting can be replicated in the locality to provide

employment and livelihood opportunities to Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and their families. The participants were also provided knowledge on the concepts of financial literacy and fundamental marketing strategies to ensure viability of the project that will be implemented.

The PWD participants from La Union were Ms. Mariquetta Palaroan, orthopedically handicapped; Mr. Allan Cabanban and Ms. Maezie Palabay, both deaf and mute; Ms. Yoly Locaberte, interpreter; and La Union PESO Manager, Ms. Charito C. Dator.