

BARO A

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE PROVINCE OF LA UNION

LA UNION

ITIKAPITOLIO



LA UNION STOKED FOR SEA GAMES 2019

Justin Paul D. Marbella, OPG-MPIU

The Province of La Union is hyped up to host the surfing competitions of the Southeast Asian (SEA) Games 2019, as waves of surfer-athletes, game officials and spectators are expected to flock at the Urbiztondo beach, San Juan on November 30 – December 8, 2019.

Gov. Francisco Emmanuel “Pacoy” R. Ortega III and other Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) officials has met with the Philippine SEA Games Organizing Committee (PHISGOC) during the overall status briefing on October 31, 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

Gov. Pacoy assures the PHISGOC of PGLU’s full support to the SEA Games 2019. “This international event validates La Union as premier

surfing destination in the world,” Gov. Pacoy said.

The province’s hosting is said to be historic, as this is the first time in the 30-year history of the SEA Games that surfing was included as sports. Six countries namely Thailand, Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Myanmar will contend in the surfing competition.

In the briefing, the PGLU and partner agencies discussed their preparations for the international event.

Department of Tourism Region 1 Dir. Martin Valera and Provincial Information Officer Adamor Dagang anticipate a volume of tourists for the SEA Games. Hotels, resorts, restaurants and other tourism establishments were advised to be ready for the influx. Tour guides will

be mobilized to assist the athletes, supporters, and game organizers who might want to visit tourist sites in the province during off-games.

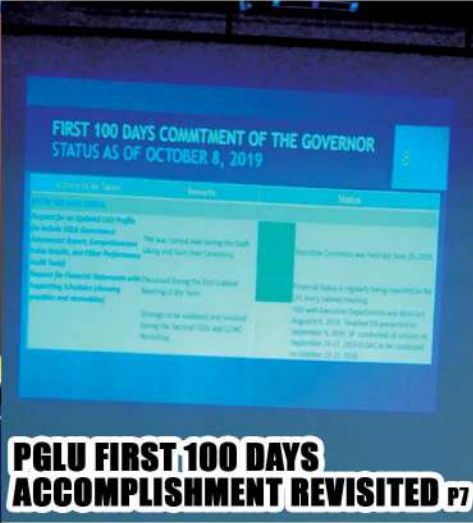
To provide security services, La Union Police Provincial Office personnel will render 24/7 police assistance in key locations in San Juan.

The Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office, Bureau of Fire Protection and the Philippine Coast Guard are on red alert, as they have activated their operations for water rescue, fire prevention, and other emergency situations that may arise during the competitions. The Provincial Health Office will set up first aid stations to provide medical assistance. Over 100 emergency personnel will be deployed.

Prior to the game proper on December 2-8, the surfer-athletes will train at the Urbiztondo beach on November 30 to December 1. Three surfers from La Union are part of the Philippine surfing team.

The PHISGOC said La Union has been chosen as venue for the SEA Games’ first-ever surfing competitions due to its excellent wave conditions. Compared to other known surf sites in the country, La Union’s waves are the best during December, the PHISGOC shared.

Gov. Pacoy is keen in welcoming the athletes and PHISGOC officials upon their arrival. He said the Games’ theme, “We win as one,” is apt for La Union. “We are the province of union, after all,” Gov. Pacoy said.



EDITORIAL

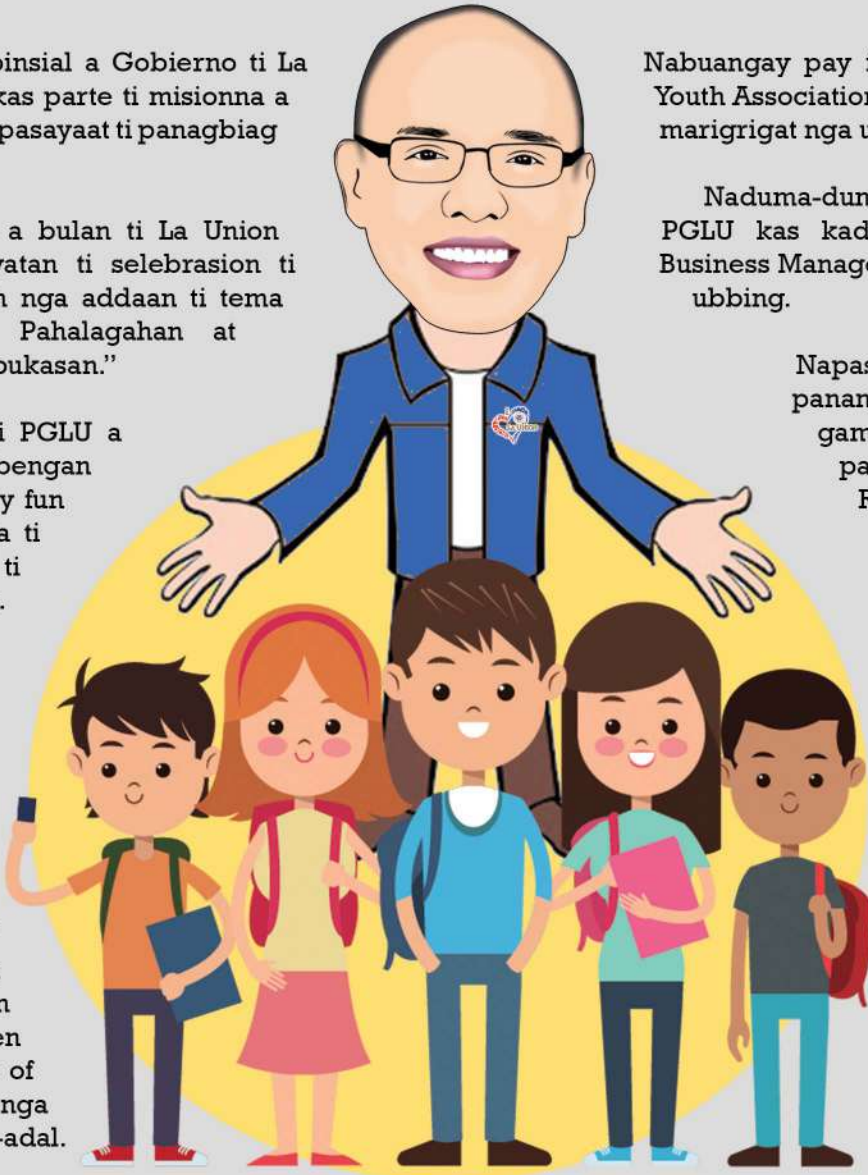
LA UNION: NATALGED A PAGTALINAEDAN TI AGTUTUBO

Agtutuloy ti panangipateg ti Probinsial a Gobierno ti La Union (PGLU) iti sektor ti agtutubo a kas parte ti misionna a mangirugi ken mangitultuloy ti panangpasayaat ti panagbiag ti kaaduan.

Kas pammaneknek, naaramid ita a bulan ti La Union Children and Youth Congress kabayatan ti selebrasion ti maika-27 a National Children's Month nga addaan ti tema "Karapatang Pambata: Patuloy na Pahalagahan at Gampanan Tungo sa Magandang Kinabukasan."

Kas parte iti selebrasion, kayat ti PGLU a maipakaammo iti naduma-duma a karbengan ti ubbing isu a napasamak iti advocacy fun walk a mangipalagip iti amin a sekta ti importansia ti panagpadakkel ti nasasayaat ken natatalged nga ubbing. Naigannuat met ti Salisal Dagiti Ubbing a sinalian dagiti agadadal nga ubbing iti Day Care Centers iti probinsia. Nagpakita dagiti ubbing ti laingda ti vocal solo, cheer dance ken draw and tell.

Malaksid iti La Union Children and Youth Congress, idadaulan pay ni Gob. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III iti naduma-duma a programa para ti agtutubo ti La Union kas iti Skills Development Training ken Capital Assistance para kadagiti Out of School Youth tapno matulunganda nga agurnong tapno makasublida ti panag-adal.



Nabuangay pay iti Federation of the La Union Pag-asa Youth Association para kadakuada ken ti dadduma pay a marigrigat nga ubbing.

Naduma-duma a panagsanay iti isaysayangkat pay ti PGLU kas kadagiti Leadership Training ken Basic Business Management Service Training a mangpabael ti ubbing.

Napasnek a tumultulong ti PGLU iti panangsustenir ken panangaramat iti gamgamit para iti Bahay Pagasa ken iti panagbayad ti bingayna para iti Regional Rehabilitation Center for Youth. Dagitoy ket pasilidad a paggianan dagiti ubbing nga agkasapulan ti panagbalbaliw wenno dagiti Children-in-Conflict with the Law ken Children-at-Risk.

Ipaay ni Gov. Pacoy ken iti Sangguniang Panlalawigan ti La Union iti napalaus a suporta kadagiti iskolar ken kadagiti aktibidades kas iti isports ken Adolescent Health and Development Programs tapno masigurado iti panagdur-as iti agtutubo ditoy La Union. Pasingkeda dagitoy a programa nga iti probinsia ket natalinaay nga umok para kadagiti ubbing.

PGLU SECURES PGS SILVER TRAILBLAZER AWARD

Camille R. Bumatay, OPG-MPIU

The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) passed the Proficiency Stage of the Performance Governance System (PGS) and garnered the Silver Trailblazer Award during the PGS Revalida on November 28, 2019 at the Bayanihan Center, UNILAB Compound, Pasig City.

Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III presented the transformation journey of the Province of La Union to the panelists from the Institute for Solidarity in Asia (ISA). Included in his presentation were the governance elements that were embedded in the PGLU strategy.

There were 11 strategic initiatives executed by PGLU. Under economy are Pro-TourISM (Provincial Tourism Site Management), Invest to Progress, Unlad Sa Agrikultura, and L.O.V.E. La Union; under social are elyUNITE, Yamang Kultura, Local Employment



Advancement Program (L.E.A.P.), and La Union Visitor Safety (L.U.V.S.) Program; and for environment are Kalinga sa Kalikasan, SoLUsyon sa PoLUsyon, and Build La Union.

"From Initiation to Compliance and now Proficiency, our PGS journey has been daunting and challenging, yes, but also enlightening, promising, and engaging. It is love for La Union that has powered us through but this same love needed to be translated so that it is felt, appreciated, and celebrated by our people," said Gov. Pacoy.

PGLU formally adopted the PGS through Memorandum of Agreement with ISA on August 17, 2016. It reached the initiation stage on October 18, 2016 and the Compliance Stage on June 21, 2017. The PGLU continues to work to achieve its vision to position La Union as the Heart of Agri-Tourism I Northern Luzon by 2025.

EDITORIAL BOARD

BARO A THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE PROVINCE OF LA UNION

TIMEK

ITI KAPITOLIO

LA UNION

SECRETARIAT
OPG-MEDIA AND PUBLIC INFORMATION UNIT
CAPITOL BUILDING, AGUILA RD., SAN FERNANDO CITY, LA UNION
(072) 888-2797 | (072)242-5550 LOC. 269-272
INFO@LAUNION.GOV.PH | WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LGULAUNION

GOV. FRANCISCO EMMANUEL "PACYO" R. ORTEGA III
CHAIRMAN

VICE GOV. MARIO EDUARDO C. ORTEGA
VICE-CHAIRMAN

MEMBERS:
HON. FRANCISCO PAOLO P. ORTEGA V
HON. JONATHAN JUSTO A. ORROS
HON. GARY N. PINZON
HON. JENNIFER C. MOSUELA
HON. GERARD G. OSTREA
HON. NANCY CORAZON M. BACURNAY
HON. MA. ANNABELLE S. DE GUZMAN
HON. CHRISTIAN I. RIVERA
HON. FRANK O. SIBUMA
HON. ABRAHAM P. RIMANDO
HON. MARIA ROSARIO EUFROSINA P. NISCE
HON. GERALDINE R. ORTEGA
HON. ALYSSA KRISTINE B. SIBUMA

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:
JOANNA C. GUERRERO

EDITORS:
CAMILLE R. BUMATAY | JUSTIN PAUL MARBELLA

WRITERS:
GOVERNOR'S PRESS CORPS

LAYOUT AND DESIGN:
MIDARD D. LABARRETE | MARK ANTHONY F. ARTIENDA | JEROME F. MARZAN

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

CIRCULATION:
EARL RYAN THOMAS P. SAGUYAN | JOJO M. BUBAN | CHRISTIAN G. REBULTAN

EDITORIAL/TECHNICAL ADVISER:
JENNIFER JOAN O. MANGUAT | ADAMOR L. DAGANG

PEACE PROCESSES TO BE LOCALIZED

Camille R. Bumatay, OPG-MPIU

Localizing peace processes was highlighted during the Executive Committee Meeting of the Regional Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (RTF ELCAC) Region 1 at the Diego Silang Hall, City of San Fernando, La Union on November 7, 2019.

RTF ELCAC aims to reinforce the plans on creating provincial, city and municipal task forces to end local communist armed conflict. Said local task forces will be headed by the governors and mayors. Operation centers will also be established.

In an interview, National Security Adviser and Director General Hon. Hermogenes C. Esperon, Jr. of the National Security Council highlighted the Comprehensive Local Enhancement Program of RTF ELCAC to help more surrenderees.

Cluster Lead Agencies of the RTF ELCAC are Department of the Interior and Local Government; Department of Foreign Affairs;



National Security Adviser and Director General Hon. Hermogenes C. Esperon, Jr. of the National Security Council calls to order the Regional Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict Region 1 Executive Committee Meeting at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union on November 7, 2019. As the presiding officer of the said meeting, Hon. Esperon commended the love of Gov. Pacoy to the Province of La Union and his efforts to help the region as the Regional Peace and Order Council Chairman.

Department of Justice - Regional Prosecutor's Office; Philippine Information Agency; Technical Education and Skills Development Authority; Armed Forces of the Philippines; Department of Public Works and Highway; Department of Environment and Natural Resources; National Intelligence Coordinating Agency; Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process; and Commission on Higher Education. These agencies have their line-up of activities to support the vision of RTF ELCAC.

Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III said, "...they [civilians] then would have a chance to get out of their vulnerable situation and be safe-guarded from recruitment efforts of the armed rebel groups," as he gave his commitment to support the plans of RTF ELCAC in his speech delivered by Provincial Information Officer Adamor L. Dagang.

NEW BATCH OF LU GUIDES TRAINED

Joy Ann L. Gurtiza, GPC-PIO

Aiming to provide basic knowledge, skills and techniques needed in tour guiding to ensure the quality of service to local and international tourists, the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) through the Provincial Information Office - Tourism Operations Unit in collaboration with the Department of Tourism - Region 1 (DOT-RO1) held another Seminar-Workshop on Community Guiding on November 11 - 17, 2019 at the Marand Resort and Spa, Bauang, La Union.

With 29 participants from various local government units of North La Union which include Tourism Officers, Tourism Attractions/Enterprises' Owners/Managers, and other members of the community with major tourist attractions, the week-long workshop served as the Eight batch of tour guides' training in the province.

DOT-RO1 Director Martin S. Valera graced the activity. "We are enjoined to be committed in promoting tourism in our country," said Valera in his message, explaining further the importance of the activity for the tourism frontliners of the province in providing excellent tour guiding services to tourists.

On behalf of Provincial Information Officer Adamor L. Dagang, Administrative Officer Julius A. Manabat, presented the La Union Tourism Destinations, Attractions, and Activities and spoke on the 'L.O.V.E. La Union Brand,' saying, "This training becomes a part of the



Department of Tourism-accredited Senior Lecturer Dr. Reynaldo A. Jorda gives pointers and explains additional tips to the participants of the week-long Community Guiding Seminar during their Commentaries and Mock Tour Sessions on November 16, 2019 at the Shrine of Our Lady of Namacpacan, Luna, La Union. The said activities gauged the knowledge of the participants after the training discussions.



The newly-trained La Union tour guides pose for a photo opportunity during the closing program of the week-long Community Guiding Seminar on November 16, 2019 at the Allysha Hall, Marand Resort and Spa, Bauang, La Union. 29 participants from various municipalities of North La Union joined the seminar-workshop and once they satisfactorily meet accreditation requirements will become Community Guides in their respective localities.

collaborative efforts of PGLU and DOT to not only strengthen the brand of La Union, but also to inspire and challenge us to communicate it properly to our stakeholders."

On the other hand, Trainor and DOT-accredited Senior Lecturer Dr. Reynaldo A. Jorda, started the Workshop for Guides with a presentation on Learning Outcomes from Tour Scripts.

Topics discussed included an Overview of Tour Guiding Course and Tourism Industry; Child Safe Tourism; Gender and Development, Personality Development and Communication Skills; Tourist Safety and Protection; Environmental Awareness; Sustainable Tourism and Ecotourism; Basic Life Support and First Aid; Developing Tour Guides Knowledge, Skills and Attitude; Tour Guide Commentaries; DOT Accreditation; Protocol and Social Graces; and other important things a tour guide must know. Familiarization tours, fieldwork, and researches were also part of the module. There were likewise written and oral exams for the duration of the course and assessment.

After the seminar, the tour guides will get an accreditation ID from DOT-RO1 once they satisfactorily meet the accreditation requirements as PGLU will now have strict monitoring for all tour guides in the province to have the accreditation by the department before performing their tasks. With this, PGLU expects the numbers to increase as compared to 2018.



Provincial Administrator Jennifer Joan O. Manguiat leads the ceremonial turnover of a dump truck to the Barangay Council of Canaoay headed by Punong Barangay Geraldine "Denny" R. Ortega on November 6, 2019 at the Provincial Capitol Lobby, City of San Fernando, La Union.



The Provincial Government of La Union, in partnership with Department of Agriculture – Philippine Rural Development Project and World Bank, inaugurates the Balebec – Basca Farm to Market Road and Balebec Bridge on November 15, 2019 in the Municipalities of Naguilian and Aringay, La Union. In Gov. Pacoy's speech read by Executive Assistant IV Justo Orros III, he said that the construction of the Balebec-Basca Farm-to-Market Road further reinforced the crucial role of La Union as an administrative, economic and commercial center in North Luzon.



In preparation for the grand opening of the Pasko sa Kapitolyo 2019 on November 29, the Provincial Government of La Union hosts a Press Conference on November 22, 2019 at Jorisan Waterfront Resort, Bauang, La Union. Provincial Administrator Jennifer Joan O. Manguiat, Provincial Information Officer Mr. Adamor L. Dagang, Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officer Aureliano F. Rulloda III and Security Services Unit OIC Rimas Calixto served as speakers during the said event.



Provincial Health Office (PHO) and Rural Health Unit staff attend the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation Electronic Claims System Retooling, Hands-on encoding and uploading of e-claims training at Ariana Hotel, Paringao, Bauang, La Union on November 6, 2019. PHO- La Union is the first province in Region 1 to conduct the PHIC E-Claims retooling in partnership with Department of Health – Regional Office 1 and Philhealth – Regional Office 1. This activity aimed to improve the operational efficiency in the processing and payment of claims.



Local Economic Enterprise and Investment Promotions Unit (LEEIPU) Staff headed by Supervising Administrative Officer Abigail Sibayan presents the guidelines and usage of the "I Love La Union" logo and Sangguniang Panlalawigan Resolution 671-2019 on Labelling and Branding of Selected Products in the Province of La Union to the Micro Small and Medium Enterprises at the La Union Agri-Tourism Center, City of San Fernando, La Union on November 7, 2019.



Provincial Administrator Jennifer Joan O. Manguiat presents the transformation journey of the Province of La Union to the panelists from the Institute for Solidarity in Asia during the Pre-Revalida Session on November 12, 2019 in Pasig City. The presentation is in preparation for the province's bid for the Proficiency Stage Revalida of the Performance Governance System on November 28, 2019.



Information Officers and their alternates in component Local Government Units of La Union learn on social media management during a three-day training on November 20-22, 2019 at the Jorisan Waterfront Resort, Bauang, La Union. The training aimed to equip the Information Officers with vital knowledge on harnessing social media as an innovative platform for public information.



The Provincial Government of La Union commemorates the 129th Quirino Day as Board Member Nancy Corazon M. Bacurnay and Executive Assistant IV Justo Orros III lead the floral offering ceremony for the late President Elpidio Quirino on November 17, 2019 at the Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.



In celebration of the Indigenous Peoples (IP) Month in the Province of La Union, San Juan Municipal Mayor Arturo P. Valdrez joins the IPs dance during the La Union Indigenous Peoples Development Caravan 2019 on November 12, 2019 held at Dasay Elementary School, San Juan, La Union.



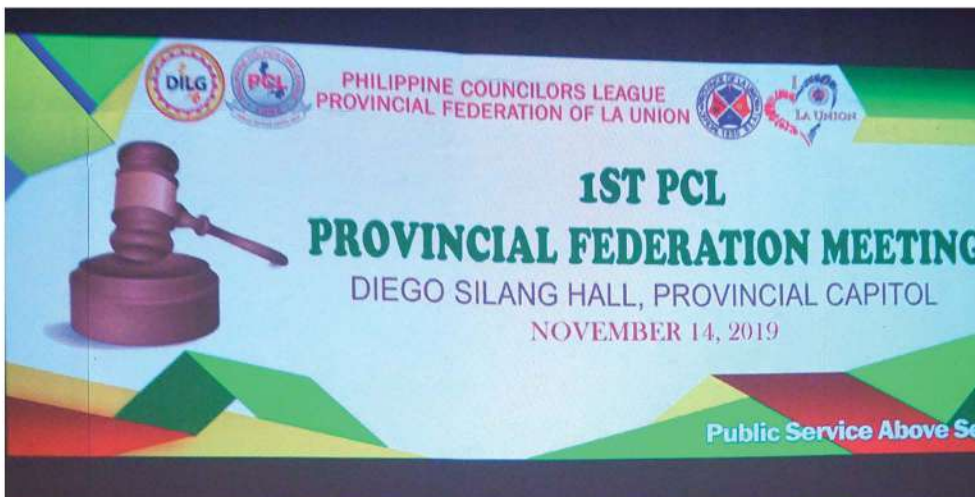
In observance of the National Consciousness Week Against Counterfeit Medicine, Ms. Elizabeth Maganis, Pharmacist I conducts a lecture at the outpatient department of Balaoan District Hospital, Balaoan, La Union on November 18, 2019 to educate and inform patients and watchers on how to distinguish counterfeit medicines in order to protect themselves from fake medicines.



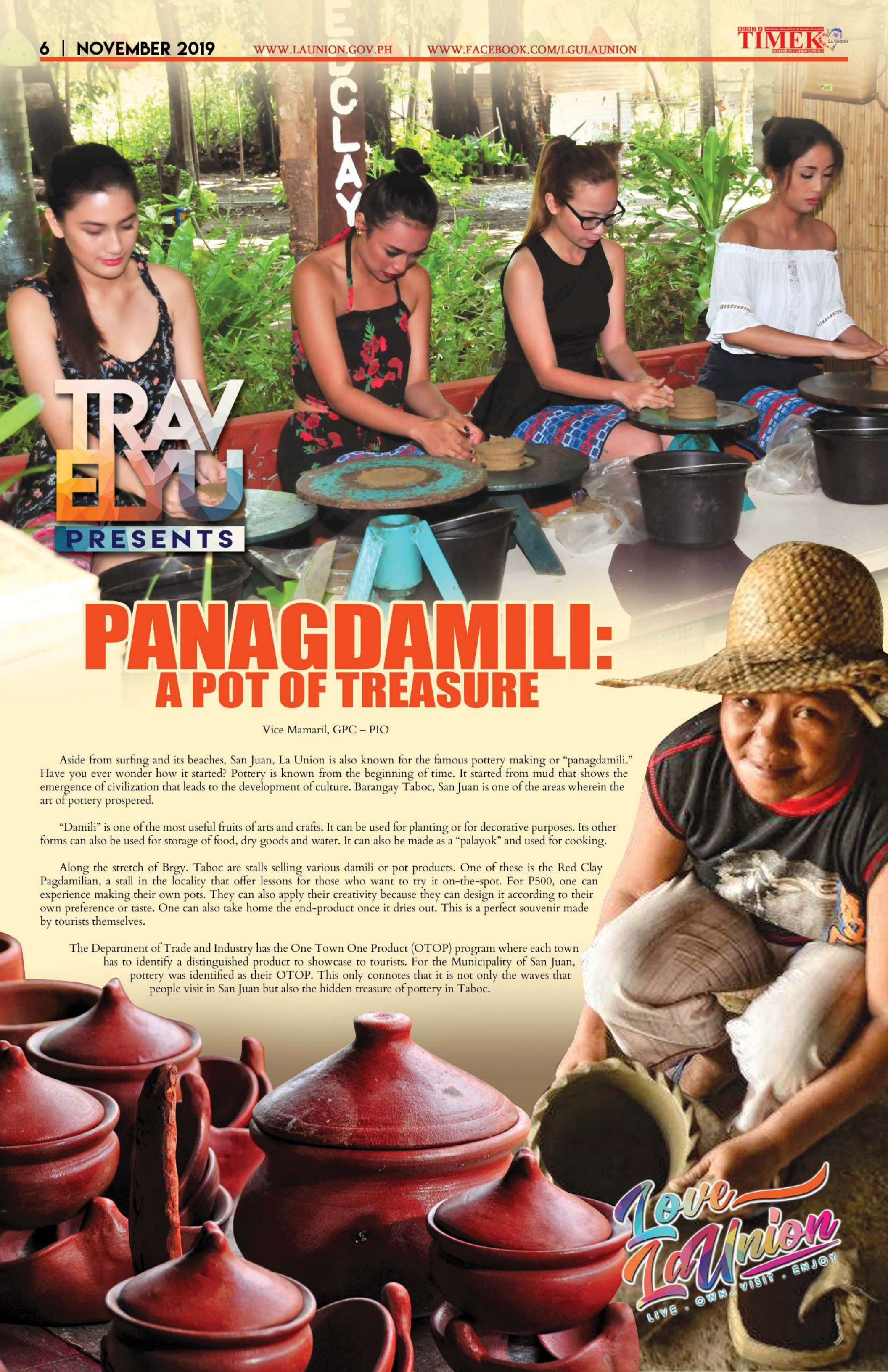
Board Member Christian I. Rivera, Chairman for Committee on Tourism, delivers Gov. Pacoy's message during the Community Guiding Training Course at Marand Resort and Spa, Bauang on November 11, 2019. Also present to welcome the participants was Department of Tourism Region 1 Director Martin S. Valera.



On behalf of Gov. Pacoy, Board Member Gary N. Pinzon - Chairperson of Committee on Health attends the first meeting of the Provincial Task Force - La Union for Iron-Fortified Rice Ordinance on November 19, 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.



Sangguniang Panglungsod Member Maria Rosario Eufrosina "Chary" P. Nisce presides the First Philippine Councilors League Provincial Federation Meeting on November 14, 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.



TRAVEL
ELU
PRESENTS

PANAGDAMILI: A POT OF TREASURE

Vice Mamaril, GPC – PIO

Aside from surfing and its beaches, San Juan, La Union is also known for the famous pottery making or “panagdami.” Have you ever wonder how it started? Pottery is known from the beginning of time. It started from mud that shows the emergence of civilization that leads to the development of culture. Barangay Taboc, San Juan is one of the areas wherein the art of pottery prospered.

“Damili” is one of the most useful fruits of arts and crafts. It can be used for planting or for decorative purposes. Its other forms can also be used for storage of food, dry goods and water. It can also be made as a “palayok” and used for cooking.

Along the stretch of Brgy. Taboc are stalls selling various damili or pot products. One of these is the Red Clay Pagdamilian, a stall in the locality that offer lessons for those who want to try it on-the-spot. For P500, one can experience making their own pots. They can also apply their creativity because they can design it according to their own preference or taste. One can also take home the end-product once it dries out. This is a perfect souvenir made by tourists themselves.

The Department of Trade and Industry has the One Town One Product (OTOP) program where each town has to identify a distinguished product to showcase to tourists. For the Municipality of San Juan, pottery was identified as their OTOP. This only connotes that it is not only the waves that people visit in San Juan but also the hidden treasure of pottery in Taboc.

Love
La Union
LIVE · OWN · VISIT · ENJOY

PGLU'S FIRST 100 DAYS ACCOMPLISHMENTS REVISITED

Camille R. Bumatay, OPG-MPIU

Updates on the first 100 Days Commitment of the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) were highlighted in the 9th Regular Governor's Cabinet Meeting at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union on November 4, 2019.

Provincial Planning and Development Officer Michaela Louise T. Delfinado reported to the Governor's Cabinet the updates on the commitments of all the departments and units of the PGLU wherein 234 out of 363 commitments or 64.46% were already met, 103 are still ongoing and 26 are unaccomplished. Most ongoing commitments are to be accomplished within the month of November.

To update the body of the status of PGLU's payables, the Financial Accomplishments as of October 2019 were presented by Provincial Accountant Atty. Albert Padilla. 48.58% of the accounts payable were



already paid, 41.82% are for payment, 8.62% are for reversion and 0.98% was cancelled. Provincial Budget Officer Catherine Franco also gave an update in the formulation of PGLU's 2020 Local Expenditure Program which is currently being reviewed by the Local Finance Committee.

In terms of PGLU's strategy, the status of the Wildly Important Goals of the different offices were also reported. In the report, it shows that eight indicators are on target; 12 indicators are on track; two indicators are below target; and 11 indicators has no data available. The timeline of activities for the Performance Governance System Revalida was also discussed.

Other matters discussed were the report on the Citizen Feedback and upcoming events including Pasko sa Kapitolyo 2019 and PGLU Annual Recognition and Christmas Party.

BDH FIGHTS MICRONUTRIENT DEFICIENCIES

Melanie Holt, GPC-BDH



FORTIFY YOUR FOOD. In observance of National Food Fortification Day on November 7, 2019, Bacnotan District Hospital (BDH) nutritionist-dietitian Maria Emilia Eleanor Pimentel reminds patient mothers at the outpatient department about essential nutrients like vitamin A, iron and iodine especially needed by children during their growth and development. She also discussed about the Go, Grow, and Glow food groups.

"We should eat variety of foods which supply the necessary nutrients needed by our body for its healthy functioning," said Bacnotan District Hospital (BDH) nutritionist-dietitian Maria Emilia Eleanor Pimentel during her lecture at the hospital's out-patient department on November 7, 2019 in observance of National Food Fortification Day.

Pimentel discussed about the three food groups Go, Grow, and Glow which should be eaten for a balanced diet to keep a healthy body. She elaborated that Go foods like rice, fats and sugars supply energy; Grow foods such as meat, milk and legumes give protein; and Glow foods like fruits and vegetables

provide vitamins and minerals.

She also reminded mothers that some nutrients are decreased or are lost during food preparation or processing, causing micronutrient deficiency. Moreover, she said that the government mandated the addition of one or more essential micronutrients into staple foods through the Food Fortification Law or Republic Act 8976.

As mandated by this law, staple food items should be added with essential nutrients like vitamin A, iron and iodine which are especially needed by children with the purpose of preventing or correcting nutrient deficiency.



During the 20th Regular Session of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) of La Union on November 12, 2019, Vice Gov. Mario Eduardo C. Ortega, together with the Sangguniang Panlalawigan Members, presents SP Resolution No. 810-2019, congratulating Mr. Geo Lovan Estepa Flores as 2nd Placer and Mr. Prince Charlo Negrillo Baga as 9th Placer, both of Saint Louis College, in the 2019 Psychometrician Licensure Examination on October 2019. Each of them will receive appropriate cash incentive pursuant to SP Ordinance No. 103-2015.



SP Committee Chair on Social Services, Board Member Kristine Alyssa Sibuma talks about how the youth can be the hope of the fatherland during the La Union Children and Youth Congress on November 21, 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

PGLU RAISES ICT BAR OF EXCELLENCE

Ma. Ashley A. Ebreo, GPC – ICTU

The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) succeeded in raising its standard in Information and Communications Technology (ICT) competence as the two entries of the Office of the Provincial Governor – Information and Communications Technology Unit (OPG-ICTU) bested other provinces in the recently concluded Digital Governance Awards Night – Provincial Level on November 26, 2019 at the Philippine International Convention Center, Pasay City.

The National ICT Confederation of the Philippines, Department of Information and Communication Technology, and the Department of the Interior and Local Government collaborated in conducting the Digital Governance Awards – Best Practices for Local Government Units to create solid digital foundations, to promote a digital first mindset, to allow the beneficiaries to fully utilize the technology to attain their plans



The Provincial Government of La Union succeeds in raising its standard in Information and Communications Technology competence as the two entries of the Office of the Provincial Governor – Information and Communications Technology Unit bested other provinces in the recently concluded Digital Governance Awards Night – Provincial level on November 26, 2019 at the Philippine International Convention Center, Pasay City.

and initiatives and to increase the capacity building and resource sharing among the people and the nation.

The PGLU Careers Information System won the Second Place in the Best in eGOV Customer Empowerment Award – an ICT solution in education and engagement of the public with the use of electronic facilities and channels towards providing improved, timely and relevant delivery of public services.

The Detainees Information System also won Second Place in the Best in eGOV Data-Driven Governance Award – a good governance through ICT goes hand in hand with the fair and responsible processing of data.

With these awards, the OPG – ICTU continues to aim for more innovative, efficient, effective and excellent quality of public service for the Province of La Union.

LA UNION CREATES PROVINCIAL TASK FORCE TO END LOCAL COMMUNIST ARMED CONFLICT

Camille R. Bumatay, OPG-MPIU

The La Union Provincial Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (PTF-ELCAC) and its clusters were created during the joint meeting of the Provincial Development Council (PDC), Provincial Peace and Order Council (PPOC), and La Union Anti-Drug Abuse Council (LUADAC) on November 26, 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

Approved during the meeting was the PDC-PPOC-LUADAC Joint Resolution Number 1 Series of 2019 ratifying the creation of the PTF-ELCAC of La Union. Consequently, Joint Resolution Number 2 Series of 2019 creating the clusters or line of effort of the PTF-ELCAC was also approved.

The clusters of the PTF-ELCAC will include Situational Awareness and Knowledge Management; Local Government Empowerment; Legal Cooperation; Strategic Communication; Sectoral Unification, Capacity Building and Empowerment; Basic Services; Poverty Reduction, Livelihood and Empowerment; Infrastructure Resource Management and Employment; Localized Peace Engagement; Peace, Law Enforcement and Development Support; E-CLIP and Amnesty Program; and International Engagement.

In his message, Gov. Francisco



As the Regional Development Council Chairman, Gov. Pacoy presides the joint meeting of the Provincial Development Council (PDC), Provincial Peace and Order Council (PPOC), and La Union Anti-Drug Abuse Council (LUADAC) on November 26, 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. In the meeting, La Union Provincial Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict and its clusters were approved through PDC-PPOC-LUADAC joint resolution numbers 1 and 2 series of 2019.

Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III urged all Local Chief Executives of the component Local Government Units (LGUs) to take the lead in establishing their own City and Municipal Task Forces to End Local Communist Armed Conflict. "We seek to fully leverage the purpose of a province, and that is to provide dynamic mechanisms for development processes and effective governance to happen for all the LGUs within its territorial jurisdiction," he added.

The 2020-2022 Executive-Legislative Agenda of the Provincial Government of La Union and the amendments to the 2020 Annual Investment Plan were also presented and duly adopted during the meeting.

To ensure that the province's peace and order initiatives and processes are updated, the Internal Rules and Regulations of the PPOC; 2020-2022 Peace and Order and Public Safety Plan; and Project Proposal on Case Operational Plan were presented and approved. Best practices of Local Anti-Drug Abuse Councils were also presented in the meeting.

Gracing the meeting was National Security Council (NSC) Deputy Director-General Vicente M. Agdamag. He emphasized that he will include the results of the meeting in his report to President Rodrigo Roa Duterte.