

ASEAN recognizes Davao City as clean land

Davao City has been recognized once again as one of the cleanest cities in South East Asia as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) recently acknowledged the city for its unceasing commitment in maintaining the cleanliness of its environment.

The ASEAN Environment Ministers conferred Davao City with a Certificate of Recognition and a trophy for its accomplishments towards the promotion of environmentally sustainable practices in the category of Clean Land for Big Cities.

The recognition was conferred during the 15th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment and 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution at Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic in October. City Administrator Atty. J. Melchor Quitain and City Environment and Natural Resources (CENRO) Chief Engr. Elisa Madrazo received the recognition.

"The Ministers presented, for the third time, the ASEAN Environmentally Sustainable Cities (ESC) Award and, for the second time, the ASEAN Certificates of Recognition for Clean Air, Clean Water, and Clean Land, to selected cities in ASEAN Member States as a way of recognizing exemplary initiatives to keep ASEAN cities clean, green, and livable even as they continue to grow as centers of economic activities," the ASEAN website said.



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911 gets additional rescue equipment



The City Government of Davao has further enhanced the capability of its Central Communications and Emergency Response Center, commonly known as the Central 911, equipping the latter with additional Urban Search and Rescue equipment.

Early November, Mayor Rodrigo Duterte turned over P150 million worth of state-of-the-art USAR apparatus to the Central 911. The equipment, which came from the suppliers of the 911 of the United States of America, include USAR equipment vehicle, ambulances, fire trucks, FERMS motorcycles, hyperspike acoustic hailing device, medical gadgets, protective gears, and others that are used in the search and rescue operation.

Duterte said he saw the need to boost the resources of the Central 911 to deliver swift rescue services, most especially in areas outside downtown like Calinan, Toril, Sasa, Lasang and others.

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Vice Mayor urges village chiefs to invest in sports

Davao City Vice Mayor Paolo “Pulong” Duterte urged barangay captains in the city to also invest in sports programs for children and youth in their respective communities.

The Vice Mayor has many times in the past stressed the importance of sports to young people.

Duterte, the former Liga ng mga Barangay President, said the objective of holding and organizing sports activities are not always directed to diverting the attention of the younger generation from vices. He explained that it could be a start for them to engage in healthy activities and programs.

“Ang bisyo dili na mawala. Basta naay gabaligya, naay mupalit,” he said. “Ang importante na silay exercise para sa ilang health,” he added.

Duterte said if the barangay captains have extra funds, they should allocate part of it to the sports program of their barangay, most especially in support of the sports programs of schools in their jurisdiction.

In Barangay Catalunan Grande, Vice Mayor Duterte has allocated funds for the development of a soccer field and for a track and field oval.

The Vice Mayor also said it is about time for the city to have its own sports complex. (JFD)



Davao City PESO bags Hall of Fame

The Department of Labor and Employment once again awarded the Public Employment Services Office (PESO) of the Davao City government with the National Best PESO in the highly urbanized city category for 2013.

The city won the same award in 2011 and 2012.

Lawyer Joffrey Suyao, DOLE XI Regional Director, said the PESO of Davao has elevated itself to the Hall of Fame after getting its third award for three consecutive years adding that the Davao City PESO has exemplary performed in facilitating activities that provide employment opportunities to the public.

PESO Davao topped other five industrialized cities, including cities like Cebu and Quezon City.

Based on record, the accomplishments of PESO Davao that contributed to winning the

said award are its active and fully functional eight district offices and its seven school-based offices.

Factors also considered were the implementation of DOLE programs such as employment facilitation, wherein the PESO Davao solicited 30,214 job vacancies, referred 18,964 job seekers to various establishments and placed 12,365 jobseekers for regular employment; the implementation of career and employment coaching in the 38 national high schools in the city that were participated by 15,204 students, including parents; all year round implementation of the Special Program for Employment of Students that helped 256 SPES grantees; and the assisting of 18,250 jobseekers via its skills registry system.

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Duterte orders more law enforcers for Davao-Bukidnon Highway

Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte has ordered the augmentation of traffic enforcers along the Davao-Bukidnon Highway, saying that he wants a stricter implementation of traffic laws in the said area.

This, according to the Mayor, should address the worsening traffic condition along the national highway as the number of traffic accidents in the area has significantly increased in the recent weeks.

“I want additional policemen to be deputized as traffic enforcers because the road along Marilog to Bukidnon has a high number of traffic accidents and casualties,” the Mayor said.

The City Mayor has already met with the head of Traffic Management Center, Land Transportation Office and Traffic Group of the Davao City Police Office to discuss the matter.

Duterte said that the policemen should be deployed along the highway as soon as possible, stressing public safety and security. “Kailangan ko ng law enforcer to police the area para we can save lives. That’s my job,” he said. (JFD)

Pasko Fiesta bigger this year



Davaoños and those who will be visiting Davao City this December will surely experience and enjoy a bigger Pasko Fiesta celebration, this according to no less than Mayor Rodrigo Duterte.

Last year, the City Government of Davao toned down its local version of celebrating Christmas as the city government sympathized with the victims of super typhoon Yolanda. Davao City donated financial aid and provided necessary social services to the victims of the biggest and strongest typhoon in Philippine history.

According to Councilor Al Ryan Alejandre, official spokesperson of this year’s Pasko Fiesta, the executive committee of the festival is currently putting things in place to ensure the success of the festival.

Pasko Fiesta 2014 will feature events grouped into categories: Pasko Fiesta sa Kahayag, Pasko Fiesta sa Kasadya, Pasko Fiesta sa Kadasig, Pasko Fiesta sa Hudya, Pasko Fiesta sa Himaya and Pasko Fiesta sa Empleyado.

Highlights of the festival would include Dan-ag Dabaw (Lighting/Opening Ceremony), barangay level competitions under Pasko sa Kasadya, and new events such as the Battle of the Bands, Yugyugan sa Pasko, Pasko Fiesta sa Empleyado, and Pahalipay ni Mayor and Vice Mayor.

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City to establish City Archives and Records Center

The City Government of Davao will soon have a fully operational Archives and Records Center.

City Administrator Atty. J. Melchor Quitain recently issued a memorandum designating Ann Victoria G. Silvosa to oversee the immediate and full operationalization of the City Archives and Records Center (CARC).

The CARC is a response to the long-standing clamor of many city department heads for the disposition of an overwhelming volume of documents in their offices.

The creation of the CARC is also decreed by Republic Act 9470 (the National Archives of the Philippines Act) mandating the

establishment of an archival and records system in all government offices.

The archive and records center will ensure the proper maintenance, safety and protection and preservation of all current public records, such as birth/marriage/death certificates, financial statements, procurement transactions, tax declarations, legislative resolutions and ordinances and those which are of historical nature or those documenting the City’s years of development.

CITY TO ESTABLISH CITY ARCHIVES, page 6

Davao LGU organizes free workout for city workers

The Davao City local government has organized a weekly physical exercise regimen for government personnel. The activity aims to promote physical fitness and healthy lifestyle for City Hall employees.

The program dubbed as “Agency-Wide Great Filipino Workout” is open to all plantilla and non-plantilla employees. It started last October 22 and is scheduled every Wednesday at 4:00 to 5:00 pm in front of the City Hall of Davao.

Bobit Nacilla of the Human Resource Management Office said that the program is in accordance with Memorandum Circular No. 8, Series of 2011, of the Civil Service Commissions, which reiterates the implementation of health and fitness management program for government employees. The program is also in line with the Physical Fitness and Sports Development program of the City.

According to the MC No. 8, the AWGFW is intended to “develop a healthy and alert workforce”.

The City already hired Zumba instructors/experts to lead the routine.

A memorandum was signed by Assistant City Administrator Atty. Tristan Dwight Domingo urging the participation of the city workers.

The City Government has assured the public of the continuous operation of the local government offices despite the one-hour workout schedule.

“As such, a skeletal workforce shall be retained in every department/office in order to ensure the regular mandated operation,” Domingo said in the memorandum. (JFD)



EDITORIAL

According to the World Health Organization, the 25th known outbreak of the Ebola virus infection is unlike any of the previous epidemics, as it has already killed more than all previous epidemics combined and that it has affected virtually the entire territory of three countries. This would include rural areas, major urban centers, and capital cities. Above all, the epidemic seems out of control and has evolved into a major humanitarian crisis that has finally mobilized the world.

A total of 4,960 people have died from Ebola this year according to statistics released by the World Health Organization on November 4. But this cumulative figure, which is widely reported, can only go one way - up. It gives no meaningful insight into how the outbreak has developed.

Yet despite the vast scale of the current outbreak, the clinical manifestations of Ebola virus disease, the duration of illness, the case fatality rate, and the degree of transmissibility are similar to those in earlier epidemics. It is therefore unlikely that the particularly devastating course of this epidemic can be attributed to biological characteristics of the virus. It is more likely to be a result of the combination of dysfunctional health systems, international indifference, high population mobility, local customs, densely populated capitals, and lack of trust in authorities after years of armed conflict. Perhaps most important, Ebola has reached the point where it could establish itself as an endemic infection because of a highly inadequate and late global response. Not only did it take more than 3 months to diagnose Ebola as the cause of the epidemic, but it was not until 5 months and 1,000 deaths later that a public health emergency was declared, and it was nearly another 2 months before a humanitarian response began to be put in place. This epidemic, in other words, was an avoidable crisis, and a prompt response to an emerging outbreak is critical in order to contain it before it becomes too vast in terms of both numbers of cases and geographic reach.

Because of the data, facts and figures shown almost everyday in national and international news, Davao City Mayor Rodrigo R. Duterte decided to call for a consultative meeting that would discuss and tackle what actions and plans the city government would do and carry out if and when, God forbid, the dreaded Ebola would ever reach the shores of our beloved city.

Mayor Rody's objective was very clear: make the people understand what Ebola is and make the people know what the local government is doing as he saw that the onset of the virus could not just be a real health danger, it could also cause a complete breakdown in civic society, with desperate communities understandably losing faith in the established systems.

Out of the consultative meeting, Task Groups were formed, namely: the Information Team, the Rapid Action Team, the Security and Transportation Team and; the Surveillance Team. These Teams, along with other agencies and offices of both the national and local government, will comprise Task Force Ebola.

It was also during that initial meeting with the different agencies that Mayor Rody has ordered for the purchase of equipment that would protect the residents of Davao City from the virus. This would include a scanner to be placed at the Davao International Airport, customized ambulances that would transport any person suspected to have been infected with the virus and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). The Mayor has also ordered for a massive information campaign. And the City Information Office, the information arm of City Hall, has initially come out with information collaterals that would, hopefully, make the public more aware about Ebola, its signs and symptoms, how it is transmitted, its treatment, its prognosis and its prevention.

We are putting much emphasis on prevention. Ebola may be highly contagious and often fatal, but it can be prevented.

All these would cost the city government millions but Mayor Rody is adamant in the war he has waged against Ebola. Just like the strong stand he has taken against issues and matters that would cause his city and its people more harm than good.

(In this issue of KASAYURAN, we have included a full page infographic about Ebola. You can cut it, post it or use it any way you can and want. Let us all do our part in informing the people of Davao City about Ebola. Thank you!) (JLPG)



Watch **GIKAN SA MASA PARA SA MASA** with Mayor Rodrigo Duterte, every Sunday, 8:30am-9:00am at ABS-CBN Davao, DXAB 1296khz SkyCable Channels 61 & 62 (with replays at 10:00am & 10:00pm)

City commends retirees

The City Government of Davao, in coordination with its Program for Awards and Incentives for Service Excellence (PRAISE) Committee, held a program for this year's batch of retiring local government officials and employees, recognizing the service and contributions they have rendered and given to the government service.

74 plantilla employees and soon to be retirees, including the deceased, were awarded in a program dubbed as "Pasasalamat" last September.

"One of the awards consistently conferred by the PRAISE Committee to City Government employees is the Service Award, an award which is conferred to qualified retiring and resigning employees in recognition of the time and the life that they have dedicated to serve the public as a City Government employee," City Administrator Atty. J. Melchor Quitain, co-chairman of PRAISE, stated in PRAISE Resolution No. 119, a resolution to grant awards and the conduct of recognition ceremony to employees of the local government.

The retiring public servants were given plaques of recognition plus cash incentives, depending on the length of service rendered.

P20,000 each were given to the retirees whose length of services reached 40 years and above, while P15,000 to retirees who served for 30 years but not above 40 years. Moreover, P10,000 each were awarded to those who worked for 20 years but not above 30 years, and P5,000 each were given to those who served for 10 years but not above 20 years.

"However, in case of death of a City Government employee who met the qualifications abovementioned, the cash award due him/her shall be given to his/her lawful heirs upon presentation of complete documentation to prove the same," the PRAISE Resolution reads.

The retirement date of the abovementioned falls on or before December 31 of this year. (JFD)



Rody signs EO to strengthen Rainwater Ordinance implementation

Mayor Rodrigo Duterte recently signed an Executive Order requiring the installation of Rainwater Harvesting Systems in all residential, commercial, institutional, agricultural and industrial establishments in Davao City, including those which are yet to be built and constructed.

A Rainwater Harvesting System ranges in size and complexity and must have basic components consisting of a catchment area which may be a roof, a platform, the ground or any surface identified; a conveyance like gutters and pipes; and a cistern for storage which could be a tank.

Executive Order No. 45, which provides for the Implementing Rules and Regulation of the Davao City Rainwater Ordinance of 2009, also states that a Rainwater Catchment System (RCS) be integrated in existing government buildings especially public schools and public markets. It also encourages owners of other existing buildings to set up their own RCS upon the effectivity of

the IRR.

The harvested rain water will primarily be used for non-potable purposes such as flushing the toilet, general cleaning, gardening, washing of clothes, fire fighting and landscape irrigation and other non-health purposes. Potability of stored rainwater, however, can be determined through water quality tests by the City Health Office (CHO), the Department of Health (DOH) or their accredited laboratories.

The EO also indicated that the Watershed Management Council (WMC) will be the implementing body of the IRR and Davao City Rainwater Ordinance itself. The WMC, together with the City Engineer's Office, will formulate a simplified Technical Manual on planning and development, construction, operation and maintenance of the RCS, water quality testing and treatment, water balance, system sizing, rain harvesting guidelines and cost estimation. (GDF)

City concludes Children's Month Celebration

The City Government of Davao thru the City Social Services and Development Office recently concluded the celebration of the 22nd Children's Month.

With the theme; "Bata Kasali Ka, Ikaw ay Mahalaga", the theme aimed to promote children's participation in nation building.

Children's participation is one of the rights of children specified in Article 12 of the Convention on the Rights of the Children or CRC. It stated that children have the right to participate in decision-making processes that may be relevant in their lives and to influence decisions taken in their regard within the family, the school or the community.

The CSSDO conducted a Talent Competition showcasing the acts of children in the category of ethnic dance and creative story telling. Participants are children enrolled in public daycare centers in the city managed by the CSSDO.

The culmination program was held at NCCC Mall of Davao last Oct 29, 2014. Winners received cash prizes and tokens.

Presidential Proclamation 267 declares the month of October of every year as the National Children's Month to emphasize the importance of the role of the child within the Filipino family and in nation building. (MLD)



Watch **PULONG-PULONG NI PULONG** with Vice Mayor Paolo Duterte, every Tuesday, 9:00am-10:00am at SkyCable Channel 62 (with replays at 9:00am & 9:00pm)

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Other recipients of certificates were: Tangerang City, Indonesia (Clean Air for Big Cities); Da Lat City, Vietnam (Clean Air for Small Cities); Phnom Penh, Cambodia (Clean Water for Big Cities); Nakhon Sawan, Thailand (Clean Water for Small Cities); and Roi-et, Thailand (Clean Land for Small Cities).

On the other hand, the recipients of the ESC award were: Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam; Battambang Municipality, Cambodia; Balikpapan, Indonesia; Luang Prabang, Lao PDR; Melaka, Malaysia; Yangon, Myanmar; San Carlos, Philippines; North West District, Singapore; Chiang Rai City, Thailand; Hue City, Vietnam.

According to Madrazo,

the award program serves as an incentive for ASEAN cities to promote environmentally sustainable practices that monitors and evaluates progress towards environmental sustainability among ASEAN cities like Davao in its best practices in the environment programs.”

In relation to this new recognition, she also called for the participation of the public in sustaining the environment.

“I would like to solicit your cooperation to maintain this award. Please help us, especially in our garbage disposal,” she said.

Quitain said behind every award are the people and the department that worked hard to achieve it. Hence, he lauded CENRO on its commitment in keeping Davao City clean, green and livable. (JFD)

911, from page 1

He also said he will assign some of the Central 911 teams to police stations outside downtown, which will serve as satellite stations.

“Davao is a big city, hence we need lot of (rescue) equipment,” he said, stressing that this will shorten the

response time of the Central 911.

Duterte also ordered the Central 911 to take care of the new acquired assets and ensure that all the equipment are always in good condition.

He said that inventory of the equipment should also be conducted “every now and then”. (JFD)

CITY TO ESTABLISH CITY ARCHIVES, from page 3

The centralized records management, according to Silvosa, will surely be of significant benefit to the operations of the LGU especially in the preservation of public interest documents and speedy access to it.

Silvosa added the CARC

will eventually be housed in a City Archives building which is expected to be constructed and completed in 2015.

City Administrator J. Melchor V. Quitain will chair the City Records Management Improvement Committee (CRMIC), an advisory body which will steer the CARC during its infancy. (GDF)

PASKO FIESTA, from page 3

This year will also see the return of Lamdag Parada, which will feature Lighted Floats and Costumes, and SMART Telecom’s 2nd Torotot Festival, which this time will be in partnership with the City Government of Davao.

The festivity, which will open on the 5th of December, will run up to the 1st of January.

“Mayor Rody wants the people of Davao to really have fun during Pasko Fiesta,” Alejandro said, adding the Mayor wants the celebration to be filled with numerous events with big prizes. Davao City in 2002 has banned fireworks and firecrackers and has since celebrated the Yuletide differently. It has set up soup kitchens and food centers in the past for the less fortunate as the Mayor has many times in the past said he would try to provide a decent meal for Davaoños on Christmas Eve.

Pasko Fiesta is an annual festivity which aims to showcase local Christmas traditions and spread the spirit of thanksgiving, peace and unity among members of the society while promoting the talents of the Davaoños. (JFD)

DAVAO CITY PESO, from page 2

PESO also conducted Pre-Employment Seminar for Local Applicants, which were attended by 7,483 participants; conducted 23 Friday Job Fairs at the rooftop of City Hall and assisted 11 Job Fairs that were conducted in the city; assisted DOLE in its livelihood assistance program, which garnered 460 beneficiaries; registered 5,341 and deployed 1,705 through its Special Recruitment Authority; and has solicited and registered 69,820 job vacancies to Phil-Jobnet.


DOLE bestowed the award to the city in the recently concluded 14th National PESO Congress Held in General Santos City.


PESO is an employment service facility under the Human Resource Management Office of the city government. Its establishment is in pursuant to Republic Act No. 8759 or the PESO Act of 1999. It provides employment opportunities to the public, and is working together with schools and universities, non-governmental organizations, as well as the private sector. (JFD)


EBOLA


(EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE OR EVD)
A SEVERE, VERY CONTAGIOUS, AND OFTEN FATAL
YET PREVENTABLE INFECTION


SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS



FEVER



HEADACHE



BODY WEAKNESS



JOINT & MUSCLE PAINS


VOMITING


DIARRHEA


STOMACH PAIN


RASH


INTERNAL & EXTERNAL BLEEDING

TRANSMISSION

DIRECT CONTACT

- WITH BODY FLUIDS AND ORGANS OF INFECTED HUMANS (PERSON-TO-PERSON) AND ANIMALS, DEAD AND ALIVE
- WITH CONTAMINATED THINGS LIKE UTENSILS, LINEN, NEEDLES, ETC

TREATMENT


- ONLY SUPPORTIVE CARE FOR SYMPTOMATIC RELIEF IS PROVIDED

PROGNOSIS


- RECOVERY IS SLOW; FATALITY RATE IS BETWEEN 25 TO 90%

IF YOU JUST CAME FROM AN EVD-INFECTED AREA OR HAD DIRECT CONTACT WITH A PERSON HAVING THE SYMPTOMS OF EVD; AND YOU ARE NOW HAVING FEVER, CALL 911


PREVENTION





AVOID DIRECT CONTACT WITH EVD-INFECTED PERSONS AND CONTAMINATED THINGS



DO REGULAR AND THOROUGH HAND WASHING AND PERSONAL HYGIENE



AVOID TOUCHING ONE'S OWN EYES, MOUTH, AND NOSE PRIOR TO HAND WASHING

HULAGWAY

Photos by: 



DABAWENYO SWIMMER ERNIE GAWILAN, BRONZE MEDALIST AT THE 2014 ASIAN PARA GAMES



PULONG-PULONG NI PULONG WITH VICE-MAYOR PAOLO DUTERTE



CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE ON EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE



KASALAN NG BAYAN AT MATINA PANGIL



MDG-FACES WORKSHOP



MUTYA NG SENIOR CITIZENS 2014





ZUMBA AT CITY HALL



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