



## GETTING HIRED

### Grade 12 students affirm SHS employment exit

By RUEL C. FERNANDEZ

**CONFUSED AND UNCERTAIN**, they just found themselves tracking the early implementation of Senior High School (SHS) in 2015, but now they feel confident that the choice they made two years ago offers more than they expected.

In an interview with Grade 12 Food and Beverages (FBS) and Accountancy and Business Management (ABM) students of Catanduanes National High School (CNHS) at Rakdell Inn, the said trainees expressed their enlightenment on how K to 12 cleared their doubts on the program's employment exit.

"At first, medyo nangangamba talaga kami na pumasok sa Senior High kasi nga hindi pa masyado handa ang program, pero ngayon na nag-o-OJT na kami, nakampante na kami," ABM student Judy Ann Tabios said.

She added that she wasn't wrong at all in choosing to enroll as Grade 11 student instead of pursuing her colle-

giate studies. "Kahit na wala kami ng classroom, sa ilalim lang ng puno nagkklase at nakiki-squat sa kung saan-saang place sa school, sulit pa rin naman lahat ng napag-aralan kasi na-a'ap-



Shielded and Metal Arc Welding

Electrical Installation and Maintenance

Automotive Servicing

Food and Beverage

#### Job Opportunities

- Welder
- Cutter
- Solderer
- Brazer Job
- Fabricator
- Billboard Installer
- Structural Iron Worker
- Pipe Welder
- Welding Technician

#### Job Opportunities

- Hotel Food Server
- Service Crew
- Front Desk Clerk
- Store Manager
- Barista
- Hot Kitchen Chef
- Pastry Chef/Baker
- Shift Adviser/Cashier

#### Job Opportunities

- Lineman
- Maintenance Supervisor
- Industrial Electrician
- Heavy Equipment Electrician
- Mechanical Foreman
- Electrical Specialist
- Control Technician
- Electronics Supervisor

#### Job Opportunities

- Automotive-Mechanic
- Automotive Painter
- Body Shop Estimator
- Automotive Service Advisor
- Equipment Denter
- Maintenance Technician

What are the **Top 4 TVL Strands** taken up by GRADE 12 pioneers?

## Nina's damages to SDO-Cat'nes chalked at P211M

Funds for rehab still on process; hazards from 'sub-standard' buildings bared

By RUEL C. FERNANDEZ

AN ESTIMATE OF P211, 005, 311 million has been recorded as the total damages incurred to DepEd-Catanduanes after Typhoon Nina hit the province on December 25, 2016, a joint report of Disaster Risk Reduction Management (DRRM) Chiefs from Albay, Camarines Sur and Catanduanes revealed.

The said report contained the damages to infrastructure (classrooms, water and sanitation); and non-infrastructure (school furni-

ture, learning resources, and computerization program packages or DCP).

Damages to classrooms reached P198, 900,000.00

while cost for water and sanitation was estimated at P 256, 000.00.



## Reading Recovery Program projected to zero out nonreaders

By GERMAN T. TEJADA JR.

A FLAGSHIP PROJECT to zero out nonreaders in the education grass-roots will be fully implemented in all elementary schools of the Division of

Catanduanes in 2018.

The Reading Recovery (RR) Program will be in full operation province-wide following the completion of the training of the first 39 RR Teachers this school year from

the 20 districts. Pilot implementation will follow in their respective schools next school year.



4

# Teachers' choir trophy stays in Catanduanes



**PLAYBACK.** For the Division of Catanduanes Chorale, nothing is sweeter than playing the same music of victory after hurdling the pressure of retaining the title as the region's best choir. MALDEA

BY DAVE TOLENTINO

CATANDUANES WILL KEEP possession of the Teacher's Choir trophy, at least for another school year, as the island's Division Chorale bedazzled the entire Bicolandia upon recording another first place finish during the 5<sup>th</sup> staging of the Regional Choral Competition held in Baao, Camarines Sur, December 14-16, 2016.

Outclassing contenders from other 12 divisions, the choir banked on discipline and diligence to clinch a back-to-back victory in the said contest, said Myrna A. Aldea, teacher-conductor of Division Chorale.

"The pressure was so intense since we are expected to defend our title. But it is good to note that our members were so disciplined during practice sessions, and everybody was really working hard to improve," Aldea said.

The Division Chorale was hailed regional champion and national finalist in 2014 when the

Teachers' Category was previously opened.

Because of its recent win, the singing group earned another chance to represent DepED-Region V for the second time in the national level of the competition at the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) in April 2017.

Apart from this, the Division Chorale, composed of 24 teaching and non-teaching staff from different schools in the province, were also awarded medals, trophy and a cash prize of P30 thousand.

On the other hand, Division of Al-

bay garnered second place while Division of Camarines Sur ranked third.

"I did not expect to win since I believe that lightning doesn't strike the same place twice. Yet our efforts paid off in making our fellow Catandunganons proud," Aldea said.

## THOROUGH AND TEDIOUS

Asked what kind of training the choral group underwent to prepare for the competition, the teacher-conductor bared that it had been a "thorough and tedious" one.

Aldea, who is also the group's official trainer, said that she per-

sonally requested from the schools division superintendent to give the choral members ample training time which began right after the third quarterly exam until the day of the competition.

"The Division Office granted our request and it inspired us even more. That's the time that the group realized that a feat has to be made," she added.

During the training period, the chorale sought to perfect the repertoire of songs required by the contest committee which included Cong. Salvio Fortuno's Rinconadang Namotoman (contest piece), Give Us Hope (community song), S. Ramos's Paskong Madla (Christmas song of free choice) and Macario Arcilla's Catanduanes Beloved (local song).

Stressing that other competitors had also levelled up this year, Aldea said that the chorale's technical proficiency and musicality, which were "almost perfect," made them astound the crowd of spectators.

"In particular, we paid attention to the dynamics and interpretation of the musical pieces we rendered. We dazzled the adjudicators and successfully stood out in the competition," she said.

With the choir's accomplishment, Aldea said she remains persistent in encouraging other music teachers in the division to put up chorale groups in their respective schools, claiming that it could be a good start in developing the learners' interest in music.

"Our victory only proves that we excel not only in academics but also in creative expression, in our case, in the field of music. This extraordinary passion that Catanduanes music teachers are having right now is an important legacy that the younger generation should inherit," she enthused.

## 1 Getting hired

ply na namin during OJT," she furthured.

"At least ngayon nagagamit na namin 'yung pinag-aralan namin sa loob ng dalawang taon. Meron na kaming sense of fulfillment sa buhay knowing na may bago kaming work experiences na magagamit sa paghahanap-buhay," another trainee Jonie Llana Aldave said.

Tabios and Aldave are just two of the 10 students from CNHS who underwent on-the-job training at the said hotel and were asked to do part-time jobs after they completed the 80-hour OJT requirement.

"Naka-proud ta pigkua pa kami na mag-part time after our OJT. Mal-

iban sa kinikita, way ito para mas lalong madagdagan 'yung experience namin sa field of work," Tabios shared.

As per record from the four pilot school implementers of SHS in the Schools Division of Catanduanes, a total of 112 students are expected to complete the course requirements in their respective tracks and specializations.

Pandan School of Arts and Trades (PSAT) has the highest expected completers with 37: Automotive Servicing (10), EIM (7), SMAW (9), Cookery (8), and Cosmetology (3).

Bato Rural Development High School (BRDHS) has 27: Horticulture (16), and Dressmaking/Tailoring (11):

while San Andres Vocational School (SAVS) expects 25 completers: SMAW (23), and Dressmaking (2).

CNHS which has the lowest percentage of retention at 62% has 23 candidates for completion: FBS (8), EIM (13), and ABM (2), accounting to the 14 drop-outs from the original 37 entrants since Grade 11.

PSAT recorded the highest percentage of retention at 77%, while BRDHS ended at 75% followed by SAVS at 63%.

In an interview with SAVS SHS coordinator Mr. Allan M. Benoyo, he emphasized low regard to studies and family burdens as reasons for dropping out.

"Since graduate na sila ng high school, iniisip nila na hindi na sila required mag-study ng Senior High. Kulang na ang ang interes. Isa pa,

most of them are breadwinners, so they find studying a burden to their work," Benoyo said.

A Science teacher from BRDHS said that some of his students dropped from their classes due to high academic demands in the subjects and employment.

"Yung mga na-recruit namin mostly out of the school youth kaya walang masyadong inclination sa pag-aaral. Nahihirapan mag-adapt sa lessons, lalo na sa Research. Ang iba, nag-work na lang," he said.

However, the 32 implementing schools in the division have no problem with enrollees as the official onset of Senior High School started SY 2016-2017, mandating all Junior HS completers to undergo the said educational program by virtue of RA 10533.

# Neophyte mentors told: If you're a teacher, act like one

By FRANCIS JOHN B. TEMPLONUEVO

**IF YOU DECIDED to be a teacher, then act like one.**

This was the contention of Schools Division Superintendent Socorro V. Dela Rosa during the Division Live-In Training and Induction Program (TIP) for new Elementary and Junior High School Teachers on February 24 – 26, 2017 at Amenia Beach Resort, Palawig, San Andres.

She said it sums up as the ultimate reminder for every neophyte teachers in the learning field to be able to embody the noblest profession of all which is teaching.

During the orientation, Ms. Aroline T. Borja, the Senior Education Program Specialist of Human Resource Development under School Governance and Operations Division highlighted that the program is an avenue for sharing of effective pedagogical practices and innovations



through professional learning, the promotion of professionalism and welfare of teachers, and enhancement of their competence as new teachers.

“Teacher Induction Program is a vital component of the Teacher Education and Development Program. It aims to enhance their competence and strengthen their values, commitment and dedi-

cation as public school teachers in accordance with the National Competency Based Teacher Standards (NCBTS) that is geared towards the realization of DepEd Vision, Mission and Core Values,” Mr. Miguel C. Ogalinola, Chief Education Supervisor of SGOD, said in his message.

The event which lasted for three days garnered motivation and inspiration to the new teachers.

“Amazing!” was the description that Kim Japhet Agito uttered when asked about his TIP experience. Agito is a new Junior High School Mathematics teacher assigned in San Miguel Rural Development High School (SMRDHS).

“Sobrang magayon so program. Dakol kang mamamatidan na dai mo basta makukuha sa loob nin school. Dapat talaga itao sya sa mga bagong teachers para equipped ka talaga sa field. Aside from your professional growth and awareness, saro man syang protection mo bilang sarong teacher,” he added.

“Saro sa dai ko malingawan talaga duman ay yung pagpa-fill out ng mga forms, laws and legal basis tapos yung pagkasabot ko sa gayon buda benefits nin Phil-Health. Mas nalinawan ako dun. Tapos isabay mo pa so Pag-Ibig at SSS. Lalo na so mga tips para dai mabaon sa utang buda loan kaming mga bagong teachers. Swak na swak talaga,” shared by Mark Joyces M. Tapel, another new Junior High School MAPEH teacher from SMRDHS.

Two hundred thirty-six (236) teachers attended the said event with 127 coming from the elementary level and 109 from the junior high school. Also included are the teachers with three years below teaching experience without TIP program.

For other new teachers who were not able to attend the program, the Division Office will announce soon the next TIP schedule for Batch 2, according to Ms. Borja.

## Custodio: Kindergarten classes must be taught separately

By NAPOLEON I. ARCILLA

**DURING THE THREE-DAY Division Live-in Training-Workshop for Kindergarten Teachers last November 24 to 26 and 28 to 30, Gina L. Custodio, Education Program Supervisor for Kindergarten, stressed that kindergarten classes must be taught separately.**

This is in response to reports that many Kindergarten classes are combined with other classes mostly Grade One.

“Kindergarten level has a rather different curriculum than the other grades in the elementary stage,” Custodio explained.

Kindergarten Curriculum focuses on seven developmental domains or learning areas which are Language, Literacy and Communication; Socio-Emotional Development; Values Development; Physical and Motor Development; Physical Health and Motor Development; Aesthetic/Creative Development; Mathematics; and Understanding of the Physical and Natural Environment.

“The blocks of time used by the teachers in this level have big disparity with the usual class programs which Grades One to Six Advisers prepare and follow,” Custodio said.

The different learning areas are divided among the various blocks which include Arrival Time, Meeting Time, Quiet Time, Story/Poem/Song Time and Working Periods. Supervised Recess is properly observed as the pupils are taught or oriented with the proper behavior and etiquette before, during and after eating.

Custodio also added that the conduct of School Readiness Year-end Assessment (SReYA) tool will no longer be administered as a year-end summative assessment for Kindergarten based from DepEd Order No. 46 s. 2016. Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) Checklist will replace the SReYA tool previously used in evaluating the Kindergarten pupils. The ECCD Assessment will be conducted twice- pre and post.

“Kindergarten School Progress Report Card, a material which gives feedback to parents about how their children perform in school, will be given starting this school year to show what learning areas the children need enrichment,” Custodio discussed.

The Kindergarten School progress report card will apply the Adjectival Rating System and it will cover all the developmental dimensions of Kindergarten Curriculum.

“The seminar-workshop is the first phase of trainings for Kindergarten teachers. It was basically meant for the preparation of book designs for contextualized short stories, poems, games and songs,” Custodio concluded.

## SDO-Catanduanes fires up ‘contextualization, localization, indigenization of curriculum’

By NAPOLEON I. ARCILLA

**WITH THE GOAL of developing a culture-sensitive, contextualized and flexible curriculum for learners, a Division Training-Workshop on Curriculum Contextualization, Localization and Indigenization was held on July 1-2 (Zone 1), and July 12-13 (Zone 2), 2016 at Amenia Beach Resort, Palawig, San Andres, Catanduanes.**

The training-workshop aimed to acquaint the school heads and teachers with the basic concepts and principles of contextualization, localization and indigenization.

Dr. Jesslyn T. Taway, Education Program Supervisor for LRMDS said the event would further enhance the teachers’ skills and competencies needed in making the curriculum responsive to the needs of the learners.

“It was conducted to advocate the contextualization, localization and indigenization of the curriculum which is to be adopted by all learning areas in all grade levels,” she said.

During the sessions, teacher participants formulated a work plan for division initiatives in contextualization and localization of curriculum and learning resources.

The event anchored on Republic Act 10533 or Enhanced

Basic Education Act of 2003 which states that the curriculum shall be flexible enough to enable and allow schools to localize, indigenize and enhance (the curriculum) based on their respective educational and social contexts.

“Curriculum contextualization focuses on what the children and the learning community have,” Taway explained.

She added: “With this, teachers will be able to channel the competencies using the locally available materials, beliefs, stories and the like.”

The said training-workshop was attended by School Heads, School LRMDS Coordinators, District LRMDS Coordinators, District Kindergarten Coordinators and Alternative Learning System Coordinators who cascaded their learnings to their respective schools/districts.

# 2-time Nat'l Brigada Eskwela best implementer bares secret

By RICKY V. TID

**TRANSPARENCY, HONESTY AND systematic documentation.**

These are the secrets that Juan M. Alberto Memorial Elementary School (JMAMES) revealed why it was awarded as National Brigada Eskwela Best Implementer for two consecutive years.

## Stakeholders Matter

School Principal Ruth Sorrrera told HAGUBUHOB that their stakeholders are always willing to give donations every year because they see where their donations go.

"We are transparent. Kapag may nagbibigay (ng pera), ipinapagawa namin kaagad para nakikita nila (stakeholders) na may napupuntahan yung ibinibigay nila," said Sorrrera.

She also added that they use social media to reach their alumni residing in the different parts of the country or even in the world.

"We have regular campaign and consultation with our stakeholders. Kahit malayo pa ang Brigada Eskwela nire-reach out na namin sila. Kaya pagdating ng Brigada, kumpleto kami ng representative from different agencies like PNP, LGU, Army, DAR, lahat," added Sorrrera.

She also said that they maintain the good relationship between the internal and external stakeholders and donors through giving recognition.

"We recognize them. Para ma-feel naman nila na importante sila," she said.

## Organized documentation

Sorrrera also shared that proper documentation is also an important factor to win the BE best implementer award.

"As early as possible, bumubuo na kami ng TWG (Technical Working Group). It's a long preparation. We have organized and systematic filing of documents," she said.

Sorrrera added that each teacher in JMAMES has his own actual and honest record of donation. They document every donation from parents and even from the pupils.

"May kanya-kanya silang listahan. Kahit yung nagastos sa pinapakain sa mga bata pag may birthday, pwedeng pumasok sa feeding yun. We can also consider that as donation from parents," Sorrrera said.

This year, JMAMES accumulated P899,916.50 for donations and P1,243,000.00 cost of volunteer services rendered.

## Team Effort

Sorrrera considers this endeavor as team effort. There is a division of labor and she sees to it that everybody is working.

She motivates her teachers by giving them recognition. She values the efforts of every teacher who has a big responsibility in team building.

She said that harmonious relationship is also a big factor. Equal treatment to her teachers has something to do to achieve goals, she said.

"I practice servant leadership – to serve, not to be served," she said.

## Vying for Hall of Fame

JMAMES is looking forward to clinch the Hall of Fame award this coming school year. This award is given to the schools that won BE best implementer award for three consecutive years.

Sorrrera told HAGUBUHOB that they are hoping to win this award.

"We are starting now. Sa ngayon marami na kaming pinapagawa. We have new constructions ngayon na wala last year kaya confident kaming makukuha namin yung award na yun," she said.

They started documenting donations and volunteer services since January in preparation for this year's Brigada Eskwela.

## Reading Recovery Program 1

"Hopefully, this project is geared to curb the 3Ls (the last, the least & the lost) pupils in our schools," Dr. Gina Pantino, RR Program Coordinator, said.

She further said that the program is designed for Grade 3 pupils who after a diagnostic test are found to qualify as a "child at risk", who are either experiencing difficulty in reading or cannot read at all.

As representatives of Catanduanes in the regional training conducted in 2014 to 2016 for RR Tutors from all divisions in Region V, Michelle Anne B. Ogalinola of Virac Pilot Elementary School (VPES) and Rona S. Rodriguez of Juan M. Alberto Elementary School are the early RR implementers in the province.

Furthermore, they also served as trainers of the 39 Grade 2 teachers in the pilot implementation of the RR program this school year.

The program follows a structured lesson scheme that primarily utilizes leveled books (1-16) corresponding to the reading level of the RR tutees.

A Daily Lesson Record (DLR) is used by a teacher for every 30-minute session with a pupil. Ogalinola and Rodriguez, who are now full-time RR teachers in VPES claimed the project has already seen a success in their early implementation, citing that one of their RR tutees who started from 0-level (nonreader) has already advanced to Level 15 and is recently awarded "With Honors" in the 3rd Quarter Grading.

At the onset of the program implementation, Ogalinola admitted that their RR trainees were challenged since the project entailed additional workload, but she made them appreciate its significance over time.

On the other hand, a team of regional evaluators will assess the pilot implementation of the program this third week of March. The 39 trainees will also have their completion rites on March 28, 2017.

The RR program is a benchmarked project from New Zealand which was introduced and initiated by Dolor Mapusan in the Bicol region. Upon her retirement, the program was continued by Catalina Garcia, the EPS-II of the region who then served as the regional coordinator.

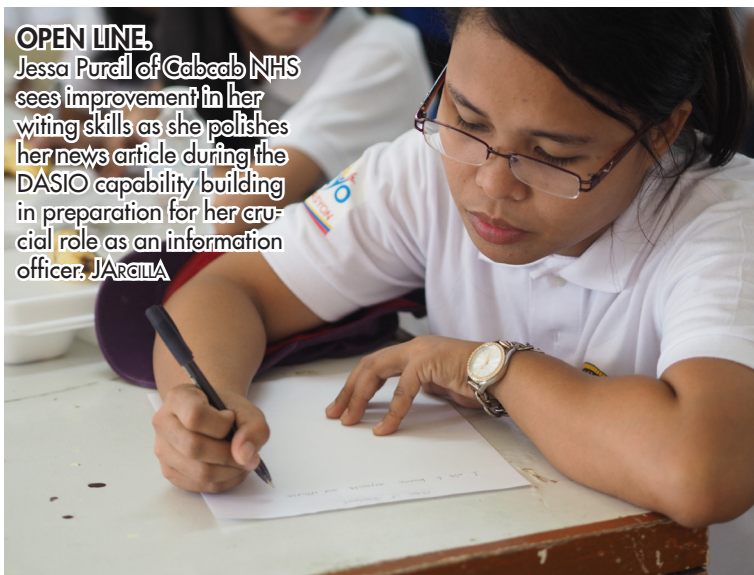


**BACK-TO-BACK FEAT.** For being a National Brigada Best Implementer of her school for the second time, Juan M. Alberto Memorial School (JMAMES) Principal Ruth Sorrrera receives a trophy from Education Secretary Leonor Briones during the awarding ceremony on November 24, 2016 in Dumaguete City. [DEFED.GOV.PH](http://DEFED.GOV.PH)

# Information officers dared to post works online

## OPEN LINE

Jessa Purcil of Cabacab NHS sees improvement in her writing skills as she polishes her news article during the DASIO capability building in preparation for her crucial role as an information officer. **JARILLA**



By DAVE TOLENTINO

STAKEHOLDERS OF PUBLIC education in the province could expect waves of school-related stories rippling in cyberspace as newly-pledged District and School Information Officers (DASIOs) took on the challenge to publish their news articles and photos on-line, during their capability building seminar at Schools Division Office, August 11-13, 2016.

Trainer-facilitators of the gathering stressed that teachers designated as information officers should take full advantage of the internet for a faster and wider dissemination of information.

In his session for on-line journalism, award winning school paper adviser Ricky Tid said writing on-line is very essential in delivering real time information nowadays because more people have been getting their news from the web than from newspapers since 2010.

“Online writers also allow the public to directly contribute to the story for they can develop a better article from the readers’ threads of comments and conversation,” added Tid who was once a correspondent of social news network Rappler.com during its Palarong Pambansa 2016 special coverage.

Division newsletter Editor-in-chief Dave S. Tolentino claimed during the photojournalism session that a powerful photograph posted on-line could mobilize educational stakeholders in a massive scale.

“We have to make every photo ‘share-able’ and we should instigate a broader citizen engagement on important issues concerning the school,” added Tolentino.

On the other hand, writing coach Jefferson Arcilla introduced social media to the participants. He pointed out that platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and Youtube enhance educational ex-

periences and effectively strengthen school-community relationship.

However, Arcilla reminded teacher-participants to observe caution in opening and sharing untrusted web links that may lead to disinformation among the audience.

In other sessions, journalistic skills of teacher participants were honed to help them perform their duties and responsibilities as frontliners of SDO-Catanduanes on its reinforced information-dissemination campaign.

EPS in English and present Division Information Officer Dr. Gina B. Pantino discussed the steps in conducting press conferences.

DASSPA President Ruel Fernandez presented the latest trends in writing in-depth news articles and press releases.

Division newsletter Devcom Editor Marian Claire Tulod shared tips on how to tailor news stories for radio broadcast.

Tolentino in his second talk explained the importance of writing incident reports upon the occurrence of accidents and calamities.

Dr. Pantino said teacher-participants during the said event are advised to conduct echo seminars in their respective districts or municipalities and impart what they learned to other newly-designated school information officers, particularly in the elementary level.

## News Briefs

### 39 from Catanduanes join school head's training

THIRTY-NINE school heads from the Division of Catanduanes participated in the School Heads Development Program Foundation Course (SHDPFC) in two separate batches.

Six of them joined the first batch on November 6, 2016-January 10, 2017 while the other 33 school heads joined the second batch on January 12, 2017-March 1, 2017 held at Charisma Function Hall, San Rafael, Guinobatan, Albay.

Anchoring on the National Competency-Based Standards for School Heads (NCBSSH), the SHDPFC aims to improve the capacity of the school heads to manage their schools and prepare aspirants in handling the responsibilities of a school head.

Specifically, the training covered three modules that delved on the Mandate & Outcomes: DepEd’s Curricular Response to the Changing Environment; The Role of the Principal in Improving the School; and Embracing the Leadership Role.

Moreover, the participants identified three priority improvement areas of their respective schools and accomplished a project implementation paper at the end of the modules.

**Juan S. Geromo, Principal II, Agban Central Elementary School**

### SDO relives barrio fiesta on Family Day

COLORFUL BUNTINGS WERE hung everywhere. Native foods were served and displayed in a booth made of bamboo and nipa hut. People wearing baro’t saya and barong tagalog.

The Schools Division Office of Catanduanes turned into a barrio setting as administration and employees had a break from their usual office works to gather in a Pista sa Nayon and Family Day celebration last September 2, 2016.

Mrs. Socorro V. dela Rosa, Schools Division office said that this event has a significant impact to the performance of employees in their work.

“Of course, they will get motivated kapag may mga ganitong event. This is also one way of showing the talents, and of course the harmonious relationships among SDO employees,” she said.

This one-day activity was a culmination of Civil Service Commission Month and Buwan ng Wika celebration which include mass, games, literary and cultural contests.

Team Curriculum Implementation Division (CID) dominated the contests.

The results of various games and contests are: Laro ng Lahi-SGOD; Choral competition-SGOD Vocal Duet-Romel Petajen and Belen Tapas (CID); Vocal Solo (Male)-Joselito Ruiz (CID); Vocal Solo Female-Bernie Despabiladero (OSDS); Essay writing-Jesslyn Taway (CID); Tanaga sa Laragway-Edgar Rima (CID); Laragway sa Tanaga-Joselito Ruiz (CID). **Ricky Tid**

### McDonald steers reading program to 20 schools

THE RONALD McDONALD Foundation rolled out its series of activities for Beginning Reading Program to 20 selected elementary schools in the province this February 2017.

Included in the package were Adarna books and ready-made lesson plans for remedial reading activities distributed to the recipient schools.

In addition, Ronald McDonald Foundation administered a pretest to the pupil-recipients and a random post-test.

It also sponsored a three-day training to prepare the recipients for the activity. **German T. Tejada Jr.**

### Cat’nes places 3rd in Filipino Reg’l Patiribayan

DIVISION OF CATANDUANES placed third in Interpretatibong Pagbasa during the Regional Patiribayan Festival in Filipino represented by San Andres Vocational School on December 11, 2017 at Regional Education Learning Center (RELC), Rawis, Legaspi City.

The contestants were Mckinley Tabor, Josephine Solero, Adrien Norbert Suan, Cyril Cantalejo and Anthony Sales. Together with the contestants were their coach, Mrs. Pamela Jane V. Masagca and Mrs. Ma. Gina M. Templonuevo, the Education Program Supervisor in Filipino. **Lorraine Taule**

# REVIVING UP THE CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE

In the recent years, the use of computers and related technology in education has been proven beneficial to teachers and students. The Department of Education is geared towards the transformation of education by providing public schools with appropriate technologies that would enhance the teaching-learning process and meet the challenges of the 21st century.

The use of technology in education has significantly aided students in performing their school-related tasks.

Sarina Villamor, 12, Grade 7-Humility student recognized the benefits of using laptops and projectors (technology) in day to day lessons.

"I remember my first day in school as a Grade 7 student, I feel amazed! It hooks my attention when our teachers use projectors. It was common for our teachers then in elementary to place a textbook, manila papers in front of us but here...

teachers always carry with them their laptops and uses projectors in every lessons we have," Sarina recalled. "It increases my motivation to learn," she added.

Clegg and Bailey (2008) asserts that with the utilization of mobile devices such as laptops and tablet computer, the learning process for the students become more fun and conducive due to the user-interactivity and appealing visuals present in these learning tools.

Younger teachers use technology in their classrooms with more confidence than teachers aged 55 and older, according to a recent study by the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project.

But a big big NO for Maam Evelyn Romero 59, TLE teacher, laughingly recalled "At first, I



## THE POWER OF TECHNOLOGY.

Mrs. Evelyn P. Romero, TLE Teacher, delivers her lesson in *Nail Care* adapting the use of multimedia in the teaching-learning process.

GVALLEDOR

was hesitant to use technology in teaching because I have been using the traditional way of teaching. When technology was introduced, even if I am about to retire, I tried my best to learn in my own way on how to use it, of course, with the help of my children and my peers, that is why I am very thankful to them for their support."

"Gone are the

days when I need to write out the topics on the chalkboard, prepare a Manila paper to display a text. Now, presenting topics to students is as easy as a click on the keyboard, as the text or illustration immediately unfolds onscreen in a slideshow presentation."

"This not only makes preparing visual aids or class more efficient and less time-consuming, but it also helps the flow of discussion inside the classroom more interesting and more engaging to the students," she observed.

"It is never too late for us, the young once, to use technology," As the saying goes, "Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow," she concluded.

Maam Evelyn and Sarina are among the teachers and students of PNHS-CC who benefited on the use of technology inside the classroom courtesy of the "One Classroom, One Projector Project" spearheaded by the Faculty and Parents last June of 2013.

Panganiban National High School-CAIC Compound has been consistently awarded as the Best Brigada Eskwela Implementer under Small School Secondary Category in the Division for three (3) consecutive years from 2014 up to the present.

This project was formulated in response to the challenges of former DepEd Secretary Armin Luistro who said that "it's not enough that we merely continue building classrooms

and toilets. The real

revolution in education which has long-term effects can only be done through information technology."

Outsourcing was the game played in order to generate funds. Their first attempt to implement the project was through carolling. They organized schola cantorum and were able to purchase one (1) unit of projector by January 2014,

**"DEVELOP A PASSION FOR LEARNING. IF YOU DO, YOU WILL NEVER CEASE TO GROW."**

MOTIVATED TO LEARN. Sarina Villamor, Grade 7-Humility, jots down notes as their lesson progresses with Maam Evelyn.





**IMPROVING TRADITIONAL TEACHING.** Mr. Arnold M. Valledor, Principal II, handing over the purchased projector to Mr. Melvin M. Publico, one of the classroom advisers recipient of the ONE CLASSROOM, ONE PROJECTOR Project. GVALLEDOR

Money contest through Search for Mr. and Ms. Valentines earned four (4) units by February 2014.

The school personnel never lose their hope on their pursuit of such ambitious project. They solicited from potential stakeholders through Facebook (social media). And on September 2015, the parents together with the faculty members sponsored another money contest through Mr. & Ms. Valentines. And with the undying support from Benefactors in realizing the upgrading of classrooms, the school was able to purchase 10 units of projectors and 12 UPS by February 2016. It costs P370, 700.00 in completing the “One Classroom, One Projector Project”.

Now, the school has 17 units of projectors adding the two (2) units from the DCP (DepEd Computerization Program) being utilized by 17 classrooms of the Junior and Senior High School.

Arnold M. Valledor, Principal II of the said school reiter-

ates, “We can never attain such project without the collaborative efforts of teachers, parents, students, private sector, community, and other government agencies.”

And this is precisely what we need nowadays that we are now in the full implementation of the K to 12 Program as Gen Z or the millennials learn wide array of information using technologies, teachers by themselves must be adept in using technologies to augment the teaching-learning process in the academic setting.

True indeed the pioneering initiative of PNHS-CC is a big leap towards the realization of their endeavour. And it is never too late for other public schools to follow the lead.



The purchased UPS and projectors are ready for distribution.

Gone are the days when I need to write out the topics on the chalkboard, and prepare Manila paper to display a text. - Ma’am Evelyn

### 21st Century Teacher’s Kit

Want a techy classroom? Here are the gadgets that you must have to make your lesson interactive and interesting!



A **laptop** combines the components, inputs, outputs, and capabilities of a desktop computer, including the display screen, small speakers, a keyboard, pointing devices (such as a touchpad or trackpad), a processor, and memory into a single unit.



A **projector** or image projector is an optical device that projects an image (or moving images) onto a surface, commonly a projection screen. Most projectors create an image by shining a light through a small transparent lens, but some newer types of projectors can project the image directly, by using lasers.



A **lavalier microphone** or lavalier (also known as a lav, lapel mic, clip mic, body mic, collar mic, neck mic or personal mic) is a small microphone used for television, theatre, and public speaking applications in order to allow for hands-free operation.



**Tablet**  
Document viewer, user-friendly PDF reader that reads Adobe PDF documents, and supports text reflow, document outlines, personal bookmarks, and links.



**Wireless Bluetooth Speaker**  
The best thing about the wireless speaker is the lack of hassle and commotion when you turn it on and how you use it.

## EDITORIAL

Change for  
a change

## Hagubuhob

The Official Newsletter of Schools  
Division Office of Catanduanes  
SY 2016-2017

**DAVE S. TOLENTINO**

Editor in Chief

**RUEL C. FERNANDEZ**

Associate Editor

**RICKY V. TID**

Managing Editor

**LORRAINE D. TAULE**

News Editor

**NAPOLEON I. ARCILLA III**

Features Editor

**JEFFERSON S. ARCILLA**

Sports Editor

**GLENN O. VALLEDOR**

Photography Editor

**MARIAN CLAIRE V. TULOD**

Special Reports Editor

**CHRISTINE MAY P. PETAJEN**

DevCom Editor

**ALVIN T. VARGAS**

Art Editor

**GERMAN T. TEJADA JR.**

Copy Editor

**FRANCIS JOHN B. TEMPLONUEVO**

Senior Desk Editor

**ANJO G. TUGAY**

Research Director

**Dr. GINA B. PANTINO**

Consultant/EPS in English

**BERNIE C. DESPABILADERO**

Asst. Schools Division Superintendent

**SOCORRO V. DELA ROSA, CESO VI**

Schools Division Superintendent

In our province, staunch supporters and critics alike of K to 12 were thrilled by the outset of School Year 2016-2017 as it marked the full implementation of Senior High School (SHS) Program.

This radical change, as expected, turned out to be very difficult for some to embrace. Yet, the most awaited graduation of the first batch of K to 12, honed by four early SHS implementers in the division, sends a proverbial presage. It brandishes the thought that such change is worthy of Catandunganons' faith.

With over a hundred senior-high schoolers expected to march and receive their diplomas this April, we anticipate an epiphany that will consequently change the views of those inimical to this educational reform. Dropout rates, they say, are projected to soar because of the expenses that will come with two more years of high school. By this statement, we could conclude that one's hesitation to support the program stems from poverty-related incidents we normally witness. But let us try to look at things in a brighter perspective.

Undeniably, students who were encouraged to enrol in the SHS pilot implementation is a conglomerate of fresh high school graduates who were uncertain to pursue tertiary education due to financial difficulty, and indigent out-of-school individuals whose passion for learning and achievement reengage them to formal schooling several years after they graduated from high school.

While some are vehemently displaying resistance and casting doubts over K to 12, the opportunities offered by the program to SHS enrollees is but a palpable remedy to address the evident poverty scourging the province, particularly the outskirts. It could uncage us from this bleak predicament that slowly dims the hope of the local populace, majority of whom belonging to families of fishermen, abaca farmers, contractual workers and other sectors who could hardly send their children to universities or colleges, and have long been clamouring for economic relief.

For two years since 2015, these students have been taking up Technical-Vocational and Livelihood (TVL) courses. With the proper attitude, the skills they acquired will help them earn easy passage to employment once they look for jobs or put up businesses to independently sustain themselves and help their families. Other graduates, on the other hand will accentuate the virtue of self-reliance as they decide to work first and use their earnings to save up for higher education, thus developing a deep sense of responsibility for their own future.

Meanwhile, it's good to note that partner business institutions where SHS students previously had their on the job trainings (OJTs) are now voicing interest to absorb the trainees who exhibited sterling performance and unflinching commitment toward work during their immersion. The only way to guarantee the success of SHS graduates is to bring the entire community to the table and encourage stakeholders to create better job opportunities. To that end, this offer from OJT sites could be a small but real advance.

Indeed, it is high time to give this change a chance to prove its significance. It is already there. The government spent and will be spending millions to improve K to 12, but it is not enough. The program seriously needs a collective and solid support from the people to serve its purpose.

We must join hands in making the most controversial paradigm shift in the country's educational system work, so it could offer the most promising future to the new breed of Filipino citizens, including the SHS graduating class of 2017 here in Catanduanes.



**Chalk Dust**  
Marian Claire V. Tulod

## On Child and Teacher Protection Policy

SINCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DepEd Order No.40 s. 2012 better known as Child Protection Policy, teachers have meticulously watched their actions in imposing discipline among students. While this policy widens and protects students' rights and privileges, it obviously narrows down teacher's jurisdiction among them and puts teachers at risk of threats and coercion.

The disturbing case of the Cagayan de Oro high school teacher who was stabbed to death by her own student on September 13 is a glaring sign that teachers should also be protected by the state.

It has been reiterated to us that full understanding and awareness of child protection policy, in lined with RA 7610 or the Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act and RA 9262 or the Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children Act of 2004, serves as our weapon against any criminal cases that may arise. However, it is undeniable that despite trainings we attended, control over students nowadays requires a great deal of patience and restraint.

It is somehow unfair that while children are told by the state that adults cannot do certain things to them because it violates their rights, children are not given restrictions on how they should behave towards adults. The state asks us to create a child-friendly environment yet fails to address our needs like professional development regarding classroom management and student discipline, support personnel in terms of guidance counselors meeting the required one for every 200 students ratio, improved working conditions, and legal assistance and representations in disciplinary proceedings.

We uphold the principle of in loco parentis, treating our students as our own, giving priority on their welfare, there is no doubt about that. But the clamor of my fellow teachers on protection should also be recognized.



## A School Paper Adviser's Journey

**1** **JOJI G. ORDONA I** | MASTER TEACHER I | VIRAC PILOT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

I AM NOT a good writer but I can somehow write. I am not a good coach but a better coach. Or maybe the best.

I have been a coach and an adviser since 2004 and handled the school paper for quite some time. It is true that we don't have a choice and we are really after Presscon. But as the years go by, I slowly enjoy it and look forward to what our school paper will be every year.

### Opportunities

There was a time I had a chance to go to Ormoc City because of our school paper. There was a time also when our paper won sixth place in the Best in Science Page in Subic. Last year, our paper was also qualified in Best in Sports Page. And it was also last school year that my pupil was a Sportwriting contestant in Koronadal City.

This year we represented Bicol Region in Collaborative Publishing English. All these opportunities a school paper adviser like experienced. Journey

What an irony I don't love sports that much, yet I was drawn into it. When I was transferred to Virac Pilot, I was immediately assigned to coach sportswriting and luckily my pupil knew something about it. That started my "career" in sports. I was a step away to NSPC back in 2008 when two pupils got fourth place respectively in English and Filipino. That same year, two other pupils also won in newswriting. So for the first time I received an award for garnering third highest pointer as coach.

I was very thankful to my talented pupils who were the instrument in that achievement. Another accomplishment was when I won second runner-up in the regional search for

outstanding school paper adviser two years ago.

### Turning point

Even with those achievements of being a school paper adviser, I still felt empty because deep inside, I know I have not proven to myself that I can write.

Until April last year when the winning coaches in the RSPC were called to cover Palarong Pambansa. I was in a dilemma. What will I write? How will I cover? I had Rappler.com to be grateful at because of the one-day sports journalism seminar given to us.

But my fear heightened after knowing we were required to submit 2-3 articles per day and wait for the approval of DepED Central Office and Rappler.com whether our articles will be published.

It was waiting in agony during

those few days after I submitted my articles. What I got were only "Thank yous" from Central Office, until Rappler.com e-mailed for some clarifications.

My hopes went up and can't wait for that fulfilment when I finally saw my article posted! I cannot explain the intoxicated feeling when another article was posted again in the following day.

Now I realized that somehow I can write. Or maybe I can write. I cannot just be a coach but should also be a writer. I should write so that my pupils will be encouraged to write, too. I should continue reading so I can inspire my pupils to do the same.

And yes, it is true that writers are made, not born. And as a school paper adviser I guess it's really a must to know how to write.

## Servant Leadership: The Way of Discipleship

**2** **RANIL R. VELASCO I** | PRINCIPAL I | SAN JOSE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

ACCORDING TO SHERI L. Dew, "True leaders understand that leadership is not about them, but those they serve. It is not about exalting themselves but about lifting others up."

If there is a Servant Leader, there is a Service to be done. If you are doing it just because no one else will, it is a job; if you are doing it to serve your God, it is a ministry. If you quit because somebody criticized you, it is a job; if you keep on serving, it is a ministry. If you will do it as long as it does not interfere with your activities, it is a job; if you are committed to staying with it even if it means letting go of other things, it is a ministry.

Like a soldier, a servant must always be standing by for duty. Being a servant means giving up the right to control your schedule and allowing God to interrupt it whenever He needs to.

Servants are always on the lookout for ways to serve others. While great opportunities to serve never last long, always take advantage of the moment especially when you are given the chance to do it. We should never let the opportunity slip away for sometimes it only knocks once. Begin by looking for small tasks that no one else wants to do. Do these little things as if they were great things, because

God is watching you!

Real servants are contented by quietly serving in the shadows. The most significant essence of service is that it is not seen.

Real servants don't need to cover their walls with plaques and awards to validate their work. God determines your greatness not by how many people serve you but by how many people you serve.

Albert Schweitzer (1953 Nobel Peace Prize Winner) once said: "I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I do know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and

fought how to serve."

Doing good and being kind is contagious, so is with serving others.

Our best teacher to Servanthood is Jesus himself. Just so, the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many. Moreover, He did not just teach the gospel, he exemplified it.

As a teacher, we are not just called to teach, but more importantly to lead, and lead by example.

Be a Servant Leader to effectively manage your life!

## Counselling Children at Home and School

**3** **JOSE ANGELO D. AQUINO I** | TEACHER III | VIRAC PILOT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

"THE YOUTH IS the hope of our fatherland." – This was said by our national hero Dr. Jose P. Rizal, [an ophthalmologist by profession, and became a writer and a key member of the Filipino Propaganda Movement which advocated political reforms for the colony under Spain]

Being the hope of our nation, the youth should be trained first at home. At home, they are nourished and taken cared by their family. Nourished by the good Filipino values like praying, respect for the elderly, answering "po" and "opo", helping in the various works at home and many more positive attitudes.

Caring for the youth means putting an extra effort to maintain a good rapport with them by actively engaging during their playtime, lis-

tening to whatever they want to tell especially their dreams and ambitions, achievements and happiness, pains and agonies.

Socialization of the youth starts at home, and as he experiences the love and care of his family he also tends to extend it with his community. As the youth grows, the family tends to entrust him to the school to develop him into a well-rounded individual who is maka-Diyos, makatao, makakalikasan and makabansa.

From time to time, a child can commit mistakes that he is his simple mind is correct. But with the guidance of the adults, this wrongdoing is not tolerated. Say for instance, a child sees his classmate's physical deformity and tries to make fun of him. Or while inside the classroom keeps on play-

ing with his smartphone and other gadgets. These behavioral problems are just some of the many problems besetting our school children. What can be the best positive approach in disciplining that child?

Take a look at our school child protection policy – is there any formula that can help the child think that some of his actions can result to a problem? Yes, indeed. And that, it should clearly put into the system on how we can prevent or intervene once the problem arise. And the persons involved in prevention and intervention? – Of course the parents or guardians, the children, and the school personnel.

Here we could see now the BIG ROLE of Parents and Teachers Association (PTA) in molding our youth.

This role lies at home and school plus the active support of the community. Counselling can be done at home, or in school.

We should have the time to listen, and that is now counselling and the session goes on. Until the child set up his goal on preventing untoward behavior to happen. After which, a follow-up on what transpired (a solution, a course of action) should be taken into consideration.

From then on, the cycle goes on. As we want the best for our youth – there is far greater need for counselling to happen in our home and in our school in making a well-rounded individual – the youth as the hope of our nation. And the next time we see them, they are now more responsible.

BY CHRISTINE MAY PETAJEN

Reading is a basic skill which should be prioritized in a humane society. However, nowadays, more and more people refrain from reading and concentrate more on social media. Because of this, the Barangay Council of Cavinitan, Virac, Catanduanes established a community library in order to promote reading habit among children.



The library was originally an octagon beside the barangay hall where people used to spend their free time. However, according to Dr. Salve San Juan, the barangay captain, they cannot maximize the use of the said structure since it was open and not secured. Because of this, they decided to renovate it to make it more useful.

At present, it houses books and reading materials in various subjects, most of which are donated by the barangay captain who is a former Education Program Supervisor in Science. There

are also books which are donated by private individuals and different non-government organizations. The tables and chairs used in the library were also donated by Catanduanes Colleges' President Toy Gianan.

Aside from this, the library is also a wifi zone so library goers also have an access to the internet. The library is open from 8 am until midnight to allow students avail books and internet after their classes.

"Naumok ako ta nasanay na ang mga aki uya na after classes, maparibod

tapos mabarik dindi," the barangay captain expressed.

She also added that the library is not only open to the citizens of Cavinitan. They also welcome students coming from neighboring barangays who wish to borrow reading materials.

The barangay council also allows borrowers to take home books from the library so that they can continue reading even after the closing time of the library.

In addition it also serves as a multi-purpose building since the barangay holds their feeding program as well as



## Nourishing a Community of Book-lovers

meetings in the library. "Pig desire ko talagang magkaigwa kaini kasi salo an sa mga basic services na dapat igwa ang barangay," Dr. San Juan added.

Since its establishment in 2015, the library has already been of great impact to the people of the barangay. According to Dr. San Juan, a lot of people, especially the students would go to the library.

Moreover, through the library, children are taught of the importance of reading at an early age. "Magayon ang impact kang library lalo na sa mga aki ta na feel na ninda ang importasya ning pagbasa," she furthered.

The barangay also reiterates the importance of reading to people. "Ang mga aki should love to read because there is no substitute for reading," the barangay captain said.

The library is also a big help to the pupils of Cavinitan Elementary School especially because they do not have their own hub in the school due to lack of building. Every afternoon, pupils would come to the library to research their assignment.

In the future, the council plans to expand its operation. "Kung igwa sana ning budget, ipa second floor mi an," Dr. San Juan said. She also disclosed that they are still expecting 6 boxes of books coming from Canada.

We cannot afford to raise a community of non-readers so reading instruction should be a top priority. Aside from this, we should cultivate reading habits among people and this should start at grass-roots level.

“

Ang mga aki should love to read because there is no substitute for reading.

# Chasing Dreams Behind Bars

## A Confession of a Detained ALS Graduate

By LORAIN D. TAULE

**F**rustrations. Bad influences. Family problems. Early marriage. Drugs. Downfall of dreams. End of hope. Escape of cowards. Darkness. Will there ever be a chance to change?

This is the story of Mawell Reyes, 30 years old from Malate, Manila who had already spent almost two years in Virac District Jail for illegal possession of prohibited drugs, marijuana.

### The Bittersweet Love Story

At a young age, he fell in love with a Bicolana girl from Virac, Catanduanes who was four years younger than him until they decided to live in one roof. They lived for six years in Manila then, they decided to live in Catanduanes. Because he is not accepted by his partner's family, they rented a house at Moonwalk, Virac. In their twelve years of being together, they were blessed with three children. The eldest is eight years old, next is six and the youngest is three. But life was never good to them.

### The Fall

July 27, 2015 – when he and his life partner were caught in an anti-drug operation of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) and the Philippine National Police (PNP) for possessing ¼ kgs. of marijuana in their rented house. It pained him to see his partner get involved and be put in jail but he couldn't do anything.

In September 2016, his life partner was acquitted from the case. After that day, he was still able to see her and his three sons for three times but since their last visit last year, he was not able to see them again.

### A New Hope

The Alternative Learning System (ALS) conducted a campaign at the district jail last 2015, encouraging detainees to enroll in the DepEd's program. He was second year high school dropout in Manila. He even recalled that he spent five years in high school but just reached second year because of truancy due to barkadas. Nuns were helping him to study at that time but was not able to value the chance to education because of vices.

Due to the encouragement of ALS teachers, he decided to enroll. In 2016, an elimina-

tion for the slogan making contest was held among the ALS students in the prison and luckily, he got first place. He then competed with other ALS students in Catanduanes and he won once again.

He represented Catanduanes to the 11th Regional ALS OSY/OSA Summer Encampment on May 22-27, 2016 in Masbate City with his coach, Mr. Jeddy Tanael.

Winning as first placer in the contest brought him a hope to continue life; to finish his education. And he did. He finished his secondary education through ALS.

**“Basta may pinag-aralan ka, may laban ka. Hindi ka mahihiya sa tao.”**

### How ALS Changed Him

“Natulungan ako ng ALS na maging positive sa buhay. Nakita ko yung kamalian (ko). Basta may pinag-aralan ka, may laban ka. Hindi ka mahihiya sa tao.”

He even said that if given the chance to take a vocational course inside the prison, he would grab the opportunity so that when he had served his sentence for 12-14 years, he could get a decent job in order to support his children.

**NEW BEGINNING.** It is a big turning point for Mawell's life when he enrolls in Alternative Learning System (ALS). RFERNANDEZ

### Regrets

“Lahat ng nangyari at ginawa ko ay pinagsisisihan ko. Dapat pala sa buhay, lumaban ng parehas. Maging handa sa future”, he said.

When asked about his life partner who does not visit him anymore, he said, “May hinanakit ako sa asawa ko. Pero hindi ko naman siya masisisi. Nakasama siya sa raid. Gusto ko na nga lang umamin para madala na ako sa Muntinlupa. At least doon, may bibisita sa aking kamag-anak.”

### Message to ALS Students

“Tibay, sipag at tiyaga lang. Lahat naman nakakaya. Ipagpatuloy ang pangarap. Huwag sumuko sa buhay. Magkaroon ng takot sa Diyos.”

Education. A right and a gift we all deserve. Everybody is given the chance to enjoy it. But not everybody is given the chance to experience it inside a formal school. The same thing that not everybody grabs the opportunity to enjoy it while there is a chance.

This is his story. A story of love, heart-break, sins, moving on and hope.

# ELLN program coursed through K-Grade 3 teachers

By GERMAN T. TEJADA JR.

IN LINE WITH the provisions of the Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013 and the implementation of the Learning Action Cell (LAC), the Division of Catanduanes coursed in two separate batches of training the Early Language Literacy and Numeracy (ELLN) program.

A take-all training participated by Kindergarten to Grade 3 teachers of the entire province convened on December 8-13, 2016 and on January 18-27, 2017 for the first and second batches respectively.

"We know how important the roles of teachers especially in the foundation years of learners, so we are very thankful that our department underscored basic teaching strategies in the early language literacy and numeracy program," Education Program Supervisor I-English Dr. Gina B. Pantino and



Dr. Pantino

ELLN program lead said.

ELLN program complements the objectives of Reading Recov-

ery Program and the McDonald's Beginning Reading Program addressing immediate learning issues in schools which have been also implemented this year.

It primarily keyed on improving the teaching-learning process that will lead to the learning among students; nurturing successful teachers; enabling teachers to support each other to continuously improve their content and pedagogical knowledge, practice, skills, and attitudes; and fostering a professional collaborative spir-

it among school heads, teachers, and the community as a whole.

The discussions were fastened on the theoretical framework, implementation process, roles and responsibilities of various DepEd offices, and the scheme of progress monitoring and evaluation.

Among its vital component is the introduction of the curriculum contextualization, localization, and indigenization which put forth the relevance of the learning experiences to the student immediate environment.

## Shaping up, DepED adopts Australia's Continuous Improvement Program

Catanduanes CI teams seek to enhance reading, problem-solving skills

By RUEL C. FERNANDEZ

GET INTO THE process to improve the entire system.

This has been the guiding mantra for the Department Education as it anchored its goal of progress to Australia's CI or Continuous Improvement program.

The CI methodology seeks to continually assess, analyze and act on the performance improvement of key processes focusing on both customer needs and the desired performance. It seeks to address problems along any process such as teaching reading and mathematics, getting step increments, and others.

In the Philippines, the CI program was launched in 2013 to five implementing regions, nine divisions, and 34 schools. The five regions which the program was pilot tested were Regions III, IV-A, VII, VIII, and NCR.

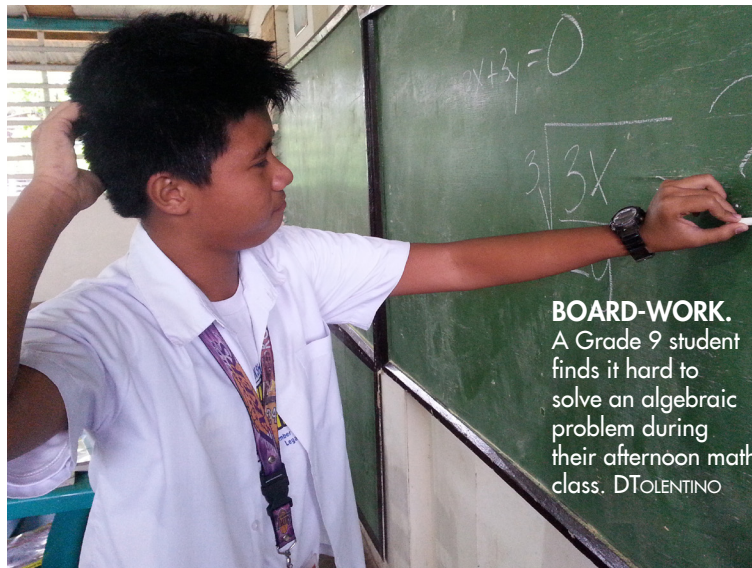
It was only on September 5-9, 2016 that the Schools Division of Catanduanes started its pilot implementation through a Basic Training on CI to three elementary and three secondary schools.

The six implementing schools are Cabcab Central Elementary School, Cabugao Integrated School, and Virac Pilot Elementary School; and Bato Rural Development High School, Catanduanes National High School, and Panganiban National High School.

### Making them Read and Compute

In Catanduanes NHS, the CI team is seeking to look into the teaching-learning process of teachers handling the remedial reading classes in Grade 7.

"We believe that teaching affects learning, so it is where we should start our assessment to address the problem,"



### BOARD-WORK.

A Grade 9 student finds it hard to solve an algebraic problem during their afternoon math class. DTOLENTINO

Team Leader Angelee R. Sarmiento said.

Following the 3A's namely Assess, Analyze, and Act, the CI team of CNHS already conducted interviews to teachers and students involved in the said project. This was followed by series of observations to their classes focusing on the way of teaching.

The same end goal is also being looked into by the CI teams of Cabugao IS and Panganiban NHS-CAIC. The teams would want to know why some pupils/students have still difficulty in word recognition and comprehension.

The teams found out that the use of varied visual materials are necessary in improving their reading ability. Moreover, the support of parents in monitoring their children who practice truancy was considered effective in making them engaged in classroom activities that demand reading.

Bato RDHS, however, is focusing on problem solving in Mathematics. The team anchored the study on the low

NAT results of their school in the said learning area. They hypothesized that the problem exists within the teaching process where the teacher fails to organize the skills in correct scaffoldings.

The only study that is not in line with teaching-learning process is being done by VPES team. This is focusing on the late submission of quarterly grades.

The six teams are expected to present their outputs to the Regional Evaluation Team on April.

In an interview with Division CI Team Leader Romel G. Petajen, he stressed the problems met by the members of the teams.

"Because of trainings, seminars and major school activities, attendance becomes irregular. It affects the hundred percent engagement of CI members to every activity," Petajen said.

He said that he is expecting for improvements in the school processes applying the CI principles and steps for the 2nd wave of its implementation where another 12 schools are involved.

## Regional speakers train local school paper advisers

By ALVIN T. VARGAS

AIMING HIGH IN this school year's regional and national press conferences, the Schools Division Office (SDO) invited regional speakers to train Catanduanes school paper advisers (SPA).

In the three-day Division Enhancement Training Workshop for school paper advisers held at Amenia Beach Resort, Palawig, San Andres, Catanduanes on August 31 to September 2, 2016, the following resource speakers shared their expertise: Bobby Labalan of Bicol News (News and Opinion Writing), veteran journalist Cet Dematera (Sci-Tech and Sports Writing), Bicol University Professor Ping Peralta (Photojournalism & Editorial Cartooning), and Region V Education Program Supervisor in English Joan Lagata (Feature Writing and Copyreading).

They also shared their tips and winning formula to dominate what they call "the olympics of campus journalists" which is being held annually.

"Magayun yung Training-Workshop, very informative. Talagang dakor akong nanud-an sa mga resource speakers (The Training-Workshop was great, very informative. I learned a lot from the resource speakers)," said Pinky Talion, a teacher-participant and school paper adviser of Tubli National High School.

Schools Division Superintendent Socorro V. Dela Rosa, CESO VI, Asst. Schools Division Superintendent Bernie C. Despabiladero, and EPS-1 in English, Dr. Gina B. Pantino graced the opening program participated by school paper advisers from 20 districts and 42 secondary schools.

Back in Inang Catandungan's Arms

SERVING HER  
**HOMELAND**  
with a  
**Heart**

BY RUEL C. FERNANDEZ



**A**t 57 years old, she says she's not retiring in nearly three years' time. She laughs at the idea of keeping herself in the service until the edge when one would think she is supposed to be chasing the day to enjoy.

"Although, I don't say that I don't feel the minor, and the major pains, sabi ko, uya huba sa buhay ko ang pag-serbi," without any inkling of hesitation, she reveals.

Being in the forefront of the Schools Division of Catanduanes, she loves the idea of having to travel back home, and steer the wheel toward a foretold fortune.

"To think that you are going to serve your own people - my own people - it feels good to be back here."

\*\*\*\*\*

One may have travelled to several destinations; yet the journey is not defined by distances, but by each step one has to take in going back to where he started.

Madam Socorro V. Dela Rosa. From a classroom teacher to an administrator. From a Principal to a Schools Division Superintendent. From Sicmil to Cabcab to Gigmoto. From Catanduanes to Sorsogon... and back. Her career has stretched a long way. It has given her the best and the worst in life. But her feet remain tireless, heart resolute.

People know her as the 'kalog' Coray who is restless in cool waters, yet cool in hot ones. Maintaining a perfect tune amidst boredom, turbulence, and anxiety is her good game.

"I believe it's inborn, it's a talent," she chuckles. "Even an embarrassing situation...I can turn that into a very enjoying one," she says.

Anybody who has listened

to her talk must have held his or her tummy tightly in an attempt to avoid an impetuous pee. Thunderous laughter will always bring the house down. Coray just holds her audience in awe, anticipation, and utter enjoyment.

**Kung Ano An Maninigo**

Nearly at the dawn of her career, Madam Dela Rosa says she is highly principled. Her topline is always held straight, not tugging her around to loss senses.

"Even before teaching, ang panuntunan ko talaga sa buhay mag-serbisyo nin totoo, nin tama. Mag-serbisyo na kung anu an maninigo na i-deliver, iyo ito ang itatao," she says.

"I always say that I serve from the heart," she says smiling like a beauty queen.

In the circle she is in, it is inevitable to clash with other people's principles. The warring conflicts she had with others don't dislevel her firm stance.

"It doesn't matter kung ano ang mangyari sa saimu. Ang pinaka-importante you live up to your principle - pinaninindugan mo ang saimung pagtubod, pigagibo mo ang tama maski makabangga mo pa ang hayaglangkaw na tawu."

**Speak the Truth**

Madam Dela Rosa is a round character in any modern story. She also rouses when provoked. More

tawu bobo...It's one thing I don't say about a person. Ang piga-isip ko, maserbisyuhan gabos na kaakian," she emphasizes.

To motivate teachers to do this, she says the belief that every child is especially brilliant must come from within themselves.

"Magka-igwa kita ning hararom na pagtubod, very positive, that every Catandunganon learner has the ability to excel."

**Embrace Change**

Dela Rosa's administration is faced with different issues lately. The issuance of the new DLL format has held teachers in resistance saying it is an additional burden to work. The implementation of Senior High to its initial blast has put some schools into turmoil as classrooms and instructional materials become in dire need.

"My challenge is for them to try. Gatubod ako na ang kamatidan ning sarung tawu dae sana nahuhuna sa kwadrado ning saiyang isip. He needs to go out and find ways to make things work," she advises.

She admits the Schools Division of Catanduanes is having difficulty with the first implementation of Senior High in 32 secondary schools in the province. She says it is part of the transition period and we cannot expect everything to be all set when we start.

"Let's face it, nagka-problema

*"To think that you are going to serve your own people - my own people - it feels good to be back here."*

than speaking for what she believes is right, she thinks saving relationship is essential.

"Syempre kan enot, agresibo ka. I can hold my temper, I can maintain my cool...pero pag nasaring kong sala, nasakitan ako kaan na mag-contain na dae ako makaluwas kan sa-kong namati," she shares.

She admits she has learned the lesson already. "But after that incident, na dakul na naapektaran, well sabi ko pwede ka man paran magmantinir nin marinas na relasyon maski magkaiba ang saindong pagtubod."

"Basta magtaram ka kung anong totoo mong namati. In the open..."

**Every Catandunganon Child Excels**

The Dela Rosa administration launched its 11-point agenda tracing its initials from no less than our very own home, CATANDUANES. It suggests that targeting every goal of DepEd will directly benefit the entirety of the province. It revolves around the guiding mantra "Every Catandunganon Child Excels".

"Di ako gatubod na ang sarung

kita sa hiring. Other school buildings came late. And then sa equipment, facilities..."

**Rekindling**

Life after a day's work somehow burns the oil out of us. To ensure the light blazes anew, Dela Rosa sees family and friends as her sun.

She lulls the strain out of her through singing, dancing and gardening. Above all, positive disposition brings the best out of her.

"I don't get angry that easy. I have a very looong patience..."

In the nth time, she wants to serve her people. "I want the Division of Catanduanes to remember me as one person who has reached the students, who helped make a difference in my own little way as a teacher, administrator and stakeholder."

Retirement may seem a short mile away, but her will to serve knows no limit at all.

The witty and devoted Schools Division Superintendent of the Schools Division of Catanduanes, Socorro V. Dela Rosa, says, "I believe my life is on call."

# SDO, Grade 6 mentors all set for K to 12 MTOT

By JEFFERSON S. ARCILLA

**TO ENSURE PROGRESSIVE implementation of the K to 12 Basic Education Program (BEP) next school year, Grade 6 teachers are set to participate in the Mass Training of Teachers (MTOT) on May 17-31, 2017.**

Participants in the said training are regular teachers handling Grade 6 in all 204 public elementary schools.

A total of 465 participants composed of two batches are expected in the training. First batch is on May 17-24, 2017 and second batch is scheduled on May 25-31, 2017.

First batch includes the districts of Virac North, Virac South, Bagamanoc North, Bagamanoc South, Bato East, Bato West, Pangniban, and San Andres West.

Districts of Viga West, Viga East, San Miguel North, San Miguel South, Pandan East, Pandan West, Baras North, Baras South, San Andres East, Gigmoto, Caramoran North, Caramoran South, including Alternative Learning System are in second batch of

trainees.

The teacher-trainers and supervisors who will be leading the MTOT participated in the National Training of Teachers (NTOT) last March 5-11, 2017 where sessions were done to provide teachers with concrete understanding of the curriculum framework, learning standards and competencies, pedagogy, teaching plans, and assessment.

The list of teacher-trainers and supervisors in the Schools Division of Catanduanes are Gina B. Pantino, Myla C. Cordial (English); Rommel G. Petajen, Cynthia Rojas, Jayson Vargas (Mathematics); Jezhrael Omadto, Judy Marie T. Barro (Science); Ma. Gina M. Templonuevo (Filipino); Cynthia T. Soneja (Araling Panlipunan); Amelia B. Cabrera,



ASDS Despabiladero

Amalia Aguilar, Mildred Ferrer (EPP); Jad Angelo Aquino (ESP); and Nelson Sicio, Ma. Odessa V. Sy (MAPEH).

Assistant Schools Division Superintendent Bernie C. Despabiladero said that careful planning and various preparations were done to ensure the success of the

training.

“As we prepare for the Mass Training for Grade 6 Teachers as the last leg of the K to 12 Basic Education Program in the elementary years, we will see to it that every session will be delivered as expected in the National Training of Trainers,” Despabiladero said.

Moreover, a Division Staff Orientation Workshop (DSOW) headed by Despabiladero is scheduled on May 9, 2017.

It aims to review session guides and powerpoint presentations which will be used in this year's MTOT.

“We shall tap the Public Schools District Supervisors as process observers as it was highlighted last year as one of the best practices,” Despabiladero added.

# Students react to DOH's condom distribution plan



HEALTH SECRETARY Paulyn Ubial encourages the use of condom to stop the spread of HIV during a press briefing in Paranaque City. PDI PHOTO / RICHARD A. REYES

<http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/849926/doh-to-start-giving-out-condoms-in-schools-next-year#ixzz4beW1ZDra>

By RICKY V. TID

**STUDENTS IN CATANDUANES expressed their thoughts on the proposal of Department of Health to distribute condoms among high school students.**

Ralph Lawrence Perez, former editor-in-chief of ‘The Synchronizer’, the school publication of Catanduanes National High School said that proper education should be given to the target beneficiaries.

“Proper Sex Ed during health class, yes. Combined with class counseling. Poper sex education should discuss safe sex and health risks. Pero gaya sa ibang countries, school clinics should have ready stock of condoms

if a student asks to have some,” Perez disclosed.

Crisa Mae Cepeda, 17, also said that the distribution could just trigger the youth to practice pre-marital sex.

“Mae-encourage lang yung ibang kabataan na magparactice ng pre-marital sex kasi iisipin nila na safe na sila,” said Cepeda.

But for Ma. Louise Federio, 17, this proposal has also its advantage.

“Okay lang po yun kasi mai-

wasan natin yung diseases na maaaring makuha ng mga kabataan sa pakikipag-sex,” she said.

Meanwhile, CNHS guidance counselor Vernie Robles said that despite the growing number of teenage pregnancy cases in their school, this proposal is not a wise idea.

“Out of curiosity, ita-try an kan mga aki. Kaya bako siguro ining magayon na plano. An magayon na alternatibo siguro para dyan ay ang

pag-integrate ning sex education sa curriculum ning Deped,” Robles stated.

He also reiterated that parents have the crucial role in educating their children about sex.

“Mapoon man syempre sa responsible parenting an. Na ang mga magulang ang inot na mapaliwanag sa mga aki kaan na mapoon maski elementary pa lang,” added Robles.

Provincial Health Officer II Dr. Hazel A. Palmes also conveyed her stand on the issue.

“I think our province is not yet open para sa pamimigay ng condoms. That’s why we have to balance the information. We are conducting programs not only for the students but also for the out-of-school-youth. We explain to them what are the pros and cons of teenage pregnancy like titigil sila sa pag-aaral or hindi pa ready ang katawan nila para sa pagkakaroon ng baby,” said Palmes.

Palmes revealed that last year, out of 5, 812 pregnant women in Catanduanes, 497 or 8.5% of them were in 10-19 years old bracket over 738 cases last year.

To lessen the number of teenage pregnancy in the province, DOH Catanduanes in partnership with Population Commission taps, secondary schools in the island through Adolescent Health and Youth Development Program (AHYD).

AHYD Program conducts information dissemination and symposia to reduce the incidence of teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS among young people.

# Library Hub offers tour



SDO Catanduanes Learning Resource Management and Development Center

By NAPOLEON ARCILLA III

**AND IT GIVES AN offer every reader could not refuse.**

The Library Hub opened its doors for book lovers of all ages as it started to have Library Tours for schools in the province in 2016.

Peachy Roshelle Chavez, Librarian, said: "The Library Hub has started to have tours to develop the love for reading among pupils."

Catanduanes National High School students and Virac Pilot Elementary School pupils pioneered the library tours wherein the manipulative toys, big books and classics are open for reading.

"The books have multiplied this past year because of donations from Cristy Arcilla-Noble, a US-based retired teacher, encyclopedias given by Dr. Ferdinand Somido, a native of Manambrag, San Andres and solicited books from Asia Foundation," Chavez added.

"Apart from the tour, we also have Book Mobile Services which will be on the roll again this forthcoming school year," Chavez shared.

The Library Hub Mobile Services had visited various elementary and high schools in 2015 and plan to visit schools far from the outskirts of Virac this 2017.

# 'ICON' in Science promoted

By LORRAINE D. TAULE

**TO CAPACITATE SECONDARY science teachers in developing inquiry based science lessons that are linked to day-to-day experiences in the context of other disciplines, a three-day Division Training-Workshop on Interdisciplinary Contextualization (Icon) for Science Education was conducted on February 24-26, 2017 at the SDO Conference Hall A on February 24-26, 2017.**

One of the topics discussed in the training was Curriculum Contextualization: Catanduanes Setting which was discussed by Mrs. Mari-Ann Manguerra of Catanduanes National High School. She introduced the policy basis and guidelines of the program.

She also differentiated localization, indigenization and contextualization. The workshop focused on the prepared powerpoint presentation of the participants regarding the unique tourist spots, products, cultural heritage and other local materials of their respective municipalities.

Interdisciplinary Contextualization was discussed by Mr. John Dewey B. Chavez of Bato Rural Development High School.

He emphasized the interconnectivity of ideas in the different disciplines without compromising the learning competencies embedded in the curriculum guide.

Meanwhile, Mr. Joshua Gordon of Baras Rural Development High School introduced the framework of building a community of professionals through lesson study.

The discussion underpinned the essential aspect of lesson study across disciplines.

Ms. Cesmenda Llesol on the other hand, emphasized how lesson study can be carried out in every participant's respective school, considerations and rule of thumb in conducting the process.

In order to sustain the purpose of the lesson study, each school was asked to submit a project proposal which must be actualized in the next school year.

Demonstration teaching and DLL preparation using the interdisciplinary contextualization were also done during the training.

The training was pursuant to Regional Memorandum No. 134 s. 2016, which is the Regional Training-Workshop on Interdisciplinary Contextualization (Icon) for STEM Education. It was participated by 123 secondary science teachers, 4 school heads, and the Education Program Supervisor in Science.

*\*With reports from EPS, Science Jezhrael Omadto and John Dewey Chavez of Bato RDHS.*

# Soc-sci mentors gear up to implement Catanduanes Culture-Based Lesson Exemplar

By FRANCIS JOHN B. TEMPLONUEVO

**AFTER THE LAUNCHING of the Division Writeshop on Local Lesson Exemplars in Araling Panlipunan (Social Science) and Contextualization Content Standards on October 2016, followed by its finalization on December 2016, teachers of the learning area will conduct a workshop on evaluation and validation process of their culture-based lesson exemplar for its utilization and implementation readiness on March 20-22, 2017 at Raddell Inn, San Jose, Virac, Catanduanes.**

"We are now already in our third phase following our launching as the first phase, and finalization of the materials as the second phase.

We need to conduct this evaluation and validation process of the finalized learning materials and local exemplars because this is a requirement of DepEd through the Learning Resource Management and Development System before our materials can be used and reproduced for maximum utilization," Cynthia T. Soneja, the Education Program Supervisor for Araling Panlipunan, said.

"Malaking tulong sa mga teachers kapag ma-approve ang mga materials natin. Maari na natin itong magamit at yan ang dahilan kung bakit sinimulan natin ang writeshop na ito.

"Ito ay pagtugon sa demand ng 21st century learning na magkaroon ng contextualized educational materials lalong lalo na sa Araling Panlipunan na talagang kailangan.

"This can only happen through localization and indigenization. Kaya isa sa mga ginawa natin sa unang phase ay ang magkaroon tayo ng cultural mapping para mahanap ang necessary materials na ating magagamit," she continued.

EPS Soneja, who is also the team leader of the group, stated that by means of this quest, the promotion and preservation of Catanduanes cultural treasures/assets will be achieved.

"Promoting our cultural heritage is along the 11-point agenda of our division," she also added.

As regard to the production of the approved materials, EPS Soneja said that there is an allotted fund from the Special Education Funds (SEF) for instructional materials.

Forty (40) elementary and junior high school teachers comprise the AP team: 24 belong to the Quality Assurance Team and 16 serve as Local Lesson Plan Writers.

Among the QA Team, 8 are assigned as Instructional Materials Evaluators, 8 writers, 4 technical experts and 4 illustrators. On the other hand, the LLP Writers are composed of 8 secondary teachers and 8 elementary teachers.

Joining EPS Soneja as the team leader are four (4) facilitators and technical staff: Marisol Lim, SP II of Buyo IS; Felicitas Mendez, SP I of Codon; Rosalinda Burce, SP I of Codon NHS, and Salve Sena, HT - Supang Datag.

# SDO lists 27 private schools in province

By NAPOLEON I. ARCILLA III

**PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN Catanduanes rise to twenty-seven in the School Year 2016-2017.**

"The private schools increased in number because of the government's effort to track (private) schools which do not have legit licenses," Gina L. Custodio, Education Program Supervisor in Private Schools, said.

The schools in the province with no permit to operate were given six months to comply with the guidelines set by the government.

"Among the new schools with government permit to operate is Rock School of Achievers which was formerly known as Tutor's House, a tutorial center," Custodio added.

"The (private) schools are divided between the registered and those with government permit to operate," Custodio stated.

Registered private schools are the institutions which no longer have to seek for renewal of registration while permit to operate is renewed yearly.

One elementary school and 2 secondary schools are registered and 24 pre-schools were given government permit to operate.



Custodio

## Summer training for MG teachers set

**SCHOOLS DIVISION OF Catanduanes will conduct a live-in training for Multigrade (MG) teachers and school heads in the province on April 24-28 and May 3-5, 2017.**

More than 228 MG teachers from 65 MG schools are expected to participate in the said event.

"The participants include all the teachers who are from purely MG and Monograde schools," Gina L. Custodio, Education Program Supervisor in Multigrade specified. N.Arcilla

# 'Synchro' staff crowned online publishing champs

Local scribes bag 2017 National Schools Press Conference awards in Zambo

BY DS TOLENTINO

**THEY EMERGED VICTORIOUS** once more, but this time not in the battlefield they had planned to dominate.

Representing Bicol Region, staff from The Synchronizer, the official student publication of Catanduanes National High School (CNHS), reigned supreme in Online Publishing Contest during the 2017 National Schools Press Conference (NSPC) held in Pagadian City, Zamboanga del Sur on Jan. 22-25.

The seven-member team of Jona Mae Camacho, Danielle Ann Abundo, Nathaniel Hannycel Nuyda, Christian Kenneth Tejada, Anjhelica Magbanua, Zaccharine Vargas and Erwin James Gianan outshined their counterparts from 17 other regions all over the country to clinch a first place win in the English category of the competition.

Also competing for Region V, two other campus writers from the division's elementary level garnered awards in their respective individual events.

John Carlo Oclares of Tinago Elementary school won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Editorial Writing (Filipino) while Valeree Marie G. Estrella of Virac Pilot Elementary School placed 7<sup>th</sup> in News Writing (Filipino). Mr. Ricky Tid and Mrs. Thielen Go are their coaches, respectively.

The Catanduanes delegation composed of 21 campus journalists, five teacher-advisers and two Education Program Supervisors (EPS) was headed by Dr. Gina B. Pantino, EPS in English and Campus Journalism Coordinator of DepEd - Catanduanes.

"I would like to personally thank the remarkable support ex-

tended to journalism by our SDS Ma'am Socorro V. dela Rosa, ASDS Ma'am Bernie Despabiladero, district supervisors, school heads and parents," Dr. Pantino said.

The supervisor also expressed gratitude for the financial aid given by provincial leaders Gov. Joseph Cua and Vice Gov. Shirley Abundo.

## THE ORIGINAL PLAN

Mr. Dave Tolentino, the CNHS publishing team's official coach, said they were originally vying to win the Collaborative Desktop Publishing (CDP) contest since they were adjudged third place in said group event during NSPC 2016 in Koronadal City.

"We tried to beat our last year's NSPC standing in CDP but we lost. We didn't even make it to the top seven," he said.

In CDP contest, competing teams are required to cover a mini press conference and an actual sports game as sources of stories in producing an A4-size, 4-page, full-colored newsletter, simulating the workplace of an editorial department in a publishing house.

Tolentino said winning Online Publishing contest was unexpected for his team who devoted much of their time and energy in daily CDP trainings scheduled after class hours.

"We trained for Online Publishing barely two weeks before the competition and the kids successfully nailed it. Their efforts in taking Catanduanes to the limelight of the biggest nationwide contest in campus journalism are worth



## EUPHORIC.

The Catanduanes CDP Team flaunts their championship trophy and certificate after ruling the first ever Online Publishing contest during NSPC 2017 in Pagadian City. GPANTINO

commending," he added.

## SAME OLD SKILLS

Writing for netizens might obligate teams to be cyberspace-savvies but apart from this, the basic skills required in publishing stories in print and online are just the same, said Danielle Anne Abundo, news writer of CNHS publishing team.

"Teamwork and journalistic writing prowess were same keys we used to cop this new group event. We have just applied what we learned in CDP but in a different platform," said Abundo who was a CDP contender in last year's NSPC.

But she added: "[Online Publishing] contest was quite challenging for we did not really know what to expect from representatives of Rappler as facilitators of the competition."

For the first time, the Department of Education (DepEd) partnered with social news network

Rappler and its civic engagement arm MovePH for the conduct of Online Publishing tilt as this year's demonstration contest. Teams who vied in CDP contest were the same teams who competed in Online Publishing.

During the competition, contestants were tasked to create their online news blog so they could experience how to work in a cyber-news network, delivering stories to a wider audience.

"It's amazing how our team pulled off this victory since we came from an island province recording slow internet connectivity," added Abundo who is also the present editor in chief of The Synchronizer.

The Synchronizer is one of the few high school publications in the province which pioneer the use of social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter as an alternative medium of publication.

## 22 Jr. NBA shoots for skills development

ed School, Cabugao Integrated School, Juan M. Alberto Memorial Elementary School, Virac Pilot Elementary School, Gogon Central Elementary School, and Virac Central Elementary School.

Ten accredited coaches facilitated the two-day basketball clinic

program led by Deputized Coach John Winston Dianela.

Dianela said that this year's staging is bigger and better as the program aims to encourage more participants, both boys and girls, from different schools in Catanduanes.

"We want pupils and students from our island to experience this rare opportunity offered by NBA. They will not only learn basketball skills but also the right attitude," the designated Bicol area coach said.

Meanwhile, Division of Catanduanes Sports Coordinator and EPS in MAPEH Nelson Sicio said that the program is beneficial not only to schools but also to the entire province.

"It's a very nice program.

It will help our coaches to train young athletes who could possibly be representing our province in Palara basketball events in future," Sicio furthered.

The international youth development program by the National Basketball Association (NBA) is open to all players aged 10 to 14 years old who will undergo series of training skills, group drills, and selection for Regional Selection Camp.



# Funds for rehab still on process; 1 hazards from 'sub-standard' buildings bared

An estimate of P 3, 631, 660.00 was the damage incurred on furniture; P 1, 196, 536.65 for learning resources; and P 7, 021, 115.25 for DCP.

The said amount is based on the validated RADAR or rapid assessment of damages report of schools in the entire division.

## The Pain of Healing

The extent of Nina's damages to Catanduanes caused suspension of classes in three schools while the rest resumed on Jan. 9 to give way to clean-up activities.

The said report bared that attendance however of students was irregular because they helped their families in repairing/recovering their houses and properties.

While some classrooms were partially or totally damaged, schools used temporary learning spaces and other non-instructional facilities like stage, covered court, and Multi-Purpose Hall as makeshift classrooms.

Bote Integrated School (BIS) in Bato, being one of the most severely damaged schools in the province, had sheltered their learners in the library, Science Laboratory, and faculty room. The said school had reported seven totally damaged and two partially damaged classrooms.

In Catanduanes National High School (CNHS), the four classes that occupy the 2nd floor of the main building had to crowd at the Multi-Purpose Hall together with the Grade 11 students who at that moment have no classrooms yet.

## First Aid

The one week suspension and irregularity of classes had every employee busy for the cleaning up and restoration activities.

According to a BIS teacher, his principal immediately purchased repair materials, but on credit basis, which will be charged to school MOOE.

"Kaipuhan na pan'u kaya nangurutang na," he said.

However, an alumnus from BIS extended his help to repair one classroom through the International PICE-Qatar where he is affiliated. He pledged additional amount for the reconstruction of other damaged buildings.

Other teachers from CNHS bought plywood, and GI sheets at their own expense just to repair their classroom.

"The admin appealed for our help. Sana raw pagbalik ng mga bata after a week of suspension, meron na silang maayos na classroom," one teacher said.

"Hindi na natin kailangang maghintay. In our own little way,

we can help restore the damages of Nina," he added.

The Division DRRM reported that personnel of each school donated any amount or in kind for the rehabilitation.

## The Long-term Medication

In the Post Disaster Needs Assessment report, an amount of P 15,000.00 for clean-up and minor repair, and P 60, 000.00 for construction of temporary learning spaces shall be given to each school.

This is to ensure safety and learning continuity through immediate infrastructural and non-infrastructural interventions.

In addition, a proposal to allocate P 170, 070, 000.00 shall be considered as part of the priority recovery and reconstruction needs in the Basic Education. Funds are expected to be obtained from NDRRM and DepEd Central Office.

According to the Schools Division Superintendent Socorro V. Dela Rosa, all reports have been submitted already.

"We're done with the validation, we're done with the inspection, we're waiting for the funds," Dela Rosa said.

"We have also 'partners' that offered help, and we are expecting na 'yung pig-promisa nindang rehabilitation nin school buildings mangyari ngonian na bakasyon," she added.

## Another Wound

An incident was reported that four female students from San Andres Vocational School (SAVS) were hit by a falling debris from the Multi-Purpose Hall damaged by Nina.

The two girls were reported to have been hit in the head, causing wounds and minor concussion. The two others got minor blow in their shoulders.

"Yung dalawang babae, pina-CT scan na. 'Yung duwa, ok mana. Medyo nabugbog lang 'yung shoulders. The teachers and students gave voluntary amount for the said physical examination," a teacher-correspondent from SAVS shared.

In a phone interview with School DRRM Coordinator Jayson Gianan, he said that students were already shunned from getting near the area of the incident to avoid same mishap from happening.

"Pinagpaplanuhan nang i-repair para hindi na maka-aksidente, lalo na ng mga bata," Gianan said.

On the other hand, in an interview with selected teachers from CNHS, they unanimously commented on the 'sub-standard' quality of construction of the new Senior High School Building which can pose dangers to students.

"Kabago-bago ng building pero ganun na lang kadali masira. What is more worrisome is the possible accidents that students may meet from the building itself," one teacher said.

The said building had broken windows, torn metal sheets, and wrecked ceilings. Other rooms had incurred minor cracks on walls during the 6.3 magnitude earthquake last Feb. 2.

Asked about this issue, Dela Rosa agreed on the assumption of teachers that the said building is 'sub-standard'.

"Totoo, totoo an. You see, di kita nakahari duman sa sistema...di ta maiwasan ang paglaog ning mga

intervening factors, na bako na arug kaito ang galuwas na produkto," she revealed.

"But it's never the fault of DepEd. We had been telling them na ganito ang gibo, di man ning nangyayari," she added.

"Biktima na naman ang DepEd," she said.

Catanduanes is hopeful that sustainable physical facilities will be built for our schools as DepEd and DPWH agreed to design new buildings this year based on the latest National Structural Code of the Philippines (NSCP) and on the Minimum Performance Standard Specifications (MPSS) to make the structures resilient.

Asked about this issue, Dela Rosa agreed on the assumption of teachers that the said building is 'sub-standard'.



**DANGER ZONE.** Senior high school students from Catanduanes National High School fear that damaged ceilings and roof brought by Typhoon Nina's wrath might trigger serious dangers – this time, jeopardizing lives. **GVALLEDOR**

# Delving into the Realm of LRMDs

By NAPOLEON I. ARCILLA III

**D**og-eared textbooks. Blurred pages. Drenched materials. Moth-eaten visuals.

These are the recurrent predicaments which breathe fire at every teacher's face after a torrent of inclement weather conditions or at the start of a hyperventilating school year.

With the purpose of making every learning material perpetually and instantly available, Learning Resources Management and Development System (LRMDS) emerged to existence.

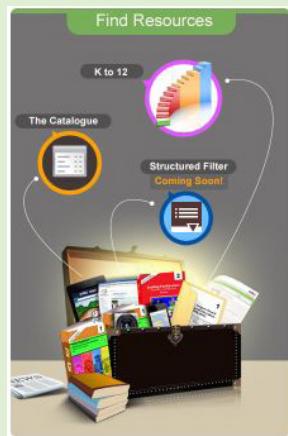
According to the Basic Findings of the Strive Baseline Research of 2007 and 2008, the desired 1:1 textbook-pupil ratio is far from achievable in most schools- much more in remote, disaster-stricken communities.

With this, the Department of Education, through DepEd Order No. 76 series of 2011, in pursuant to the implementing rules and regulations of Republic Act No. 9155 and to support the organization of Key Reform Thrust (KRT) 3 of the Basic Education Sector Reform Agenda (BESRA), mandates the National Adoption and Implementation of the LRMDs.

## Repository of Learning Resources

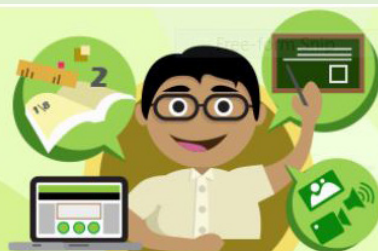
"LRMDS is a program which enables individuals to create, develop and share learning materials which can be used by teachers and learners," said Dr. Jesslyn Taway, Education Program Supervisor for LRMDs.

LRMDS is the best option for people who look for quality learn-



## WELCOME TO Learning Resources Portal

Search, download and use quality learning, teaching and professional development resources on this site.



10-12 Teacher's Guides for Grades 1 to 4 and 7 to 10 are available on the Digital One. Please log on with your Digital One account to access these files. If you don't have a Digital One account, you may get it from: The Digital One account is only available to all employees of the Department of Education.



Create your own resources using any of the over 5000 photos, illustrations, video and audio files in the Media Gallery.



Access Open Education Resources and online learning programs including professional development and alternative delivery mode programs.



Ideas on learning and teaching resources and provide feedback.

ing and teaching resource materials for students and instructional support materials for teachers. The resources are classified into Learning Resources, Teaching Resources and Professional Development Materials. The resources may be in digital or non-digital, print or in the form of posters, visuals and manipulatives. Images, videos or combination of these can also be sourced out through LRMDs.

"LRMDS provides teachers with wide array of learner resources they can choose from or may accept resource materials once approved and passed through the processes," Taway explained.

## Road to Resources

Before being made available in the LRMDs, materials need to undergo certain processes.

"Teachers first need to submit their materials online through the Learner Resources Portal where it will be assessed and quality assured," Taway clarified.

The system has designated material evaluators which use partic-

ular assessment tools to appraise the quality of the uploaded materials.

After passing the standards and specifications set by the LRMDs, the learning resource will be officially published and ready for download through the LR Portal.

## Access Restriction

"The LR Portal can only be fully used by DepEd employees as a DepEd account is a requisite in accessing the portal," Taway stated.

This is to keep the resources confidential and exclusive to the Department of Education. Individuals who are not DepEd employees or have no DepEd accounts have limited use of the portal.

## Catandungan Pride

"Among the resources which pass the quality assurance and other criteria is, 'Si Maris, Ang Aking Bungisngis.'" Taway said, "a resource material written by Ozita Llano and illustrated by Marichu Tabuzo of the Schools Division of Catanduanes."

"Si Maris, Ang Aking Bungisngis" is a big book which tells

the story of a girl who has a positive outlook in life. It is the first Bicol learning resource material to be ever approved and passed the quality assurance assessment and is already published in the LR Portal.

"It is a big honor for us to be recognized as the very first contextualized learning resource material in Bicolano dialect to pass the quality assurance board and be viewed and downloaded from a web-based portal accessible to a long line of internet users," said Taway.

The other resources which were also qualified and are officially published in the portal are "Bagong Kalo ni Inday" and "Ang Manok ni Tang Sito".

"To date, there are 137 materials for review, 36 submitted and are being evaluated by quality assurance," Taway added.

The increasing number of materials submitted for assessment signify the desire of teachers in Catanduanes to impart their craft in developing learning resources.

# SDS Dela Rosa represents Cat'nes in GSP Reg'l Meeting

By FRANCIS JOHN B. TEMPLONUEVO

AS THE COMMISSIONER on Administration of the Girl Scout of the Philippines Catanduanes Council, Schools Division Superintendent Socorro V. Dela Rosa represented the Division of Catanduanes in the 3rd Regional Committee Meeting for the Triennium 2015 – 2018 of the Girl Scouts of the Philippines.

GSP National President, Susan R. Locsin graced the said event that was held at ARDCI Corpportae Inn, Virac, Catanduanes on August 10 – 13, 2016.

"We were lucky to host this year's RCM especially with the presence of the GSP National President herself and the other directors.

RCM is our venue for reporting our accomplishments and events in our respective areas. Then we talked and planned for our next activities. It's all work and fun at the same time," according to Dr. Aida A. Dianela, GSP President of Catanduanes Council.

"In our council here in the province, DepEd is always one of

our strengths in support and number. I am honored to have their full support with the headship of SDS Dela Rosa," she added.

Also present in the event were the GSP National Executive Director, Ma. Dolores T. Santiago; Regional Chairman, Dinah Mindo; Regional Executive Director, Rebecca T. Banares; Asst. Regional Executive Director, Ms. Vicky Uy; and the 22 GSP Presidents and 22 GSP Executives from the Regions of Bicol, MIMAROPA and CALABARZON area.

The Division of Catanduanes also awarded tokens to the participants before the end of the activity. These tokens were made of unique products from the

different school districts.

## OUTDOOR TRAINING

Meanwhile, eighty teacher-troop leaders from the elementary, junior high, and senior high school teachers of the DepEd Division of Catanduanes were selected and invited by the GSP Catanduanes Council to attend the Outdoor Training Course for Star, Junior, and Senior Levels on April 20-23, 2017 at the GSP Training Hall, San Roque, Virac, Catanduanes.

According to Ms. Valeriana D. Arcilla, GSP Council Executive of Catanduanes, Madam Socorro V. Dela Rosa has already approved the said invitation for the troop leaders.

The selected troop leaders are those who attended the Basic and Specialization Training Course. They are requested to bring their Girl Scouts Official Uniforms, GSP T-Shirt, working clothes, personal belongings, bed roll, blanket, sit upon, and cooking utensils.

"Some of the highlights for this upcoming training are the Practice Application of 7 Basic Skills, Planning a Camp including Standards, Policies and Procedures, Government in Camp, and more. Exciting and magiging event na 'to. Ma enjoy sila for sure," Ms. Arcilla added.

The three-day camping will commence at 8:00 AM on the first day and will end at 1:30 PM on the last day.

His heart races as a masked man wearing black cap and hooded jacket stealthily approaches him. He doesn't know him. A friend just asked him to meet the man and get the package for him. He just agreed out of curiosity but did not expect that the feeling would be that bothersome.

Andrew (not his real name), 15, scampered as soon as the man handed him the small bag. Fearing it would cause him harm, he ran as quickly as he could, left the man in the dark, and forgot about the bag. Later he learned that his mother was waiting for him all night, worrying if he has already eaten. He smiled, kissed his mother's hand and told her he just had a stroll. What his mother did not know is, that night, he could have done something he would regret all his life.

Andrew is just one of the millions of young Filipinos at risk of being trapped by the dangers that illegal drugs bring. An out of school youth, he joins the many other youths deprived of the basic right of education, unable to avail the learning that could have armed him.

With more than 7,000 killings happening in our country for the past eight months, most of which are drug related, indeed, President Rodrigo Duterte's war on drugs should never be taken for granted and an intensive Anti-Drug Campaign spearheaded by the education sector is definitely indispensable.



While Catanduanes, being frequently featured in different television magazine shows, silently emerges as one of the most promising tourist spots in the Philippines, last November 26, our beloved island's name has suddenly been dragged (pun intended) into disgrace when a clandestine shabu laboratory was discovered in Palta Small, Virac.

Equally disheartening, but should never be overlooked, is the fact that for the time being, some of our colleagues in the teaching force and other personnel were allegedly involved in or falsely linked to separate drug related cases. Worse than this, of course, is the great possibility that our young children are the ones to suffer a lot from the menace that illegal drugs bring.

Adamant to protecting school children from the harm of dangerous drugs and in support to President Rodrigo Duterte's campaign, the Department of Education released on November 23 Deped Memorandum No. 200 s. 2016 or Strengthening the National Drug Education Program (NDEP) in Schools.

NDEP, an educational program that provides for a holistic approach to the problem of drug abuse, was designed to enable all sectors to work collaboratively, with the school system as the core, thereby unifying all sectoral endeavors.

Establishing Barkada Kontra Droga chapters in schools, one of its forefront programs, has already been started.

"Knowing that there is a group

of students who knows your sentiments, who can serve as a buddy to lean on, who shall help you get through problems that confront you, who shall help you realize that there are plenty of activities you can focus on instead of getting involved to illegal drugs, means a lot. As officers, we should therefore maximize the chance and trust given to us to make a change." Cristine Rose Clopino, President of Barkada Kontra Droga in Panaganiban National High School, said.

In the same memorandum, Secretary Leonor Briones directs all schools to intensify anti-drug abuse information campaigns, involve Parent-Teacher-Community Associations and pupil/student organizations in drug prevention activities, and mobilize all scout leaders to integrate drug abuse prevention training of scouts utilizing the Drug Abuse Prevention Integrated in Scouting Kit (DISK).

The NDEP is further enriched by allocating funds for the replication of existing modules and teaching aides, and/or by developing other supplementary instructional materials.

With House Bill 002, lowering the age of criminal liability from the age of 15 to nine, filed by House Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez, more children in conflict with the law will be deprived of chances to rebuild their lives and improve their character. More than this, the odds of criminals deterring their young minds to com-

It is indeed our fundamental duty to ensure that our children's future is secured.

mit crimes, to serve as drug couriers for example, has higher chances.

That is why strengthening important institutions like schools, in the long run, would be a more effective way to reduce the menace of illegal drugs. By all means, teachers as purveyors of wisdom should fortify its lead into eradicating the adverse effects brought by drugs. Intensive integration in the school curricula, extension of services beyond school premises, involvement of parents and community are absolutely necessary.

Whether we are pro or against the ways of the current administration, we cannot deny the fact that it is indeed our fundamental duty to ensure that our children's future is secured. Rather than criticizing, it is imperative to support our agency's healthier approach regarding this issue.

Whether it is you or someone you knew, what matters most is what you do to campaign for a better life ahead of your students. There are still many Andrews out there, threatened, misinformed, misguided, waiting for someone like us who could shed some light. Let us grab the chance.

After all, it is much easier to build strong children than to repair broken adults.



# DepEd's Antidote:

## Braving The Dragging Menace of Drugs

By MARIAN CLAIRE V. TULOD



## 2nd NSDD listed most number of dewormed students



### WORM-AND-WORRY-FREE.

Jacky Andre Teope, Grade 7 student of Bote Integrated School shows no hesitation in taking Albendazole tablet for the second time, believing that annual deworming will bring him good health and eventually, good life.

JARCILLA

By ANJO G. TUGAY

SINCE THE CONCEPTUALIZATION of National School Deworming Day (NSDD) in 2015, the Division of Catanduanes recorded the highest percentage of dewormed public elementary and secondary students during its second round on January 24, 2017.

Integrated Helminth Control Program (IHCP) Coordinator and Division Point Person Ms. Maribel B. Samonte disclosed that out of the 71, 426 total population enrolled in the 42 secondary schools and 20 districts in the division, 68, 258 were dewormed or 95.56% of the population.

In July 2015, when the Division of Catanduanes got the highest percentage of dewormed students in the entire Bicol region and therefore awarded an amount of 200 K as incentive, only 85% of the targeted student populace was dewormed.

This school year, the Health and Nutrition Section (HNS), which is under the School Governance and Operations Division (SGOD) reported the dewormed 93.03% of the student population in the public schools during the first round of the NSDD and 95.56% during the second round.

The first round of NSDD targeted 72, 667 public elementary and secondary students and successfully dewormed 67, 607. About 95.48% of kinder and elementary pupils were dewormed way ahead of the 89.22% in the secondary schools. However, in the second round of NSDD, a relative increase of 2.72% was recorded. Dewormed Kinder to Grade 6 pupils were 97.95%; Grades 7 to 12, 91.78%.

Dr. Amylou B. Celso, head of HNS said that the high percentage in number of students given with Albendazole 400 mg. chewable tablet was due to the concerted effort of health personnel, mass drug administrators, and cooperation of teachers and parents.

“We have a target to accomplish so we made sure that health personnel and teacher advisers as well as the parents would cooperate by means of proper orientation and guidance,” Dr. Celso said.

It can be noted that prior to the conduct of this year’s NSDD, the HNS conducted an orientation-seminar for teacher advisers and school heads in each district and zone to orient the teachers on how to properly implement the program.

NSDD, which by time will be institutionalized in DepEd as one of the partners of the Department of Health (DOH), is a simultaneous activity that targets to deworm school youth and children in the entire country.

DOH maintains that deworming children in schools is one good strategy to reduce the prevalence of soil-transmitted helminthiasis (STH) infections which can cause poor physical growth, poor intellectual development and impaired cognitive functions among children.

Meanwhile, a UNICEF-funded program called WinS-Wash in Schools (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) will be implemented by NHS next school year to augment the school-based NSDD.

## 22 Run for Bicolano athletes

for three purposes.

“This activity includes color fun run, zumba and tree planting. This is to provide an avenue for the promotion of sports, regular exercise to improve health and wellness and to support the greening program,” she said.

The run started from Catanduanes State University en route to Catanduanes Sports Complex. Before the running proper, the participants were warmed up through exercises. Along the way, boys scouts, who stationed in front of Camp Camacho, along Virac Public Market and Imelda Boulevard wet them with colored water for fun.

After reaching the finish line, participants joined in fitness dance or Zumba led by Catanduanes National High School (CNHS) Special Program for the Arts (SPA) students and teachers. While dancing, firemen from Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) Virac Station soaked them with water from the fire truck.

Afterwards, a tree planting activity around the complex was held. It was participated by schools head, supervisors and some teachers.

Participants conveyed their feelings about the event.

Jamella Gay Toledana from Baras told Hagubuhob that she had a wonderful experience from this event.

“Enjoy kasi masarap sumayaw habang binabasa,” she shouted. For PO1 Rizalyn Conche,

from Virac PNP, this fun run would not just for fun but also to make their body fit and healthy.

“Maganda ‘to sa puso para hindi tayo ma-high blood,” said Conche.

### Top Finisher

Japhet Caranza, an LGU employee and a former Palarong Bicol runner hailed as first finisher of the fun run.

According to him, he joined several activities like this but this fun run is different from others. He was a former sprinter and he joined the fun run to show his support for his fellow athletes.

“Nabasa ko lang sa Facebook na may fun run sa DepEd. Habo ko na ngani tana magbali ta nawala ngani su tiket ko. Pero dinagos ko na sana ta baging donation ko nalang sa mga athlete,” Caranza said.

The other top finishers are: Van Elcid Ibayan (2nd); Jei Lopez (3rd); Kirk Aldrin dela Rosa (4th); Wilson Talion (5th); Andrew Azul (6th); Ialyza Jena Isidoro (7th); Aldrin Prila (8th); Armando Bonifacio (9th) and Reymund Vera (10th).

Special awards were also given. They are the following: oldest finisher-Teresa Taller (63 years old) and Leo Tuplano (61 years old); youngest finisher-Atasha Bitome (6 years old) and Edison III Mijares (5 years old)

Winners and special awardees received certificates of appreciation.

## 80 Grade 5 teachers join Lesson Plan Writeshop

By NAPOLEON I. ARCILLA III

EIGHTY CURRICULUM TEACHER-WRITERS participated in the Lesson Plan Writeshop for Grade 5 Subjects in the First Quarter in the K to 12 Basic Education Program (BEP) at Department of Education- Schools Division Office on June 10-11, 2016.

“Selected key teachers from various schools were identified for every learning area and tapped for their expertise in Lesson Plan writing,” said Josefa V. Zape, Chief- Curriculum Implementation Division.

Ten teacher-writers per learning area wrote lesson exemplars using subject templates which are contextualized and localized. They also targeted Key Competencies with the aid of the Grade Five Curriculum Guides which were provided by DepEd.

“The writeshop was undertaken as an initiative of the Schools Division Office to address the unavailability of Teaching Guides and Learner’s Manuals for Grade Five in the first quarter,” Zape added.

The lesson plans were distributed among the grade schools in the Schools Division of Catanduanes and were made available in hard and soft copies.

“The activity was undertaken for the Grade Five teachers to start the year right and be prepared to face the challenges the situation has to offer,” Zape ended.



# Young Cue Artist's Magic Touch

BY JEFFERSON ARCILLA

Pocketing Marizen P. Samar's Love for the Game and Her Consistent Feat on Big Stage

**W**hile our fellow Catanduanons were still on the peak of excitement brought by Miss Universe, a young female athlete from our province was making a resounding accomplishment at Palarong Bicol 2017. A female cue player in the making who is ready to make her own case in the world of sports. Take a look at Catanduanes' best in stroking cue stick, pocketing ball, and clutch control.

## ONTO THE FIRST RACK

For Marizen P. Samar, playing billiards is already a blueprint predestined by fate. She came from a family of billiards enthusiasts from her parents to her four siblings. Their billiard table in Barangay Gogon, Virac was a testament of how she got herself into the world of billiards.

Marizen's curiosity about the game started during her childhood years. Seeing cue players in their small billiard hall was the onset of her interest since billiards is their family business along with a sari-sari store.

As an inquisitive kid, Marizen learned the details of pocketing billiard balls through different cushions. Without any formal billiards lessons, she mastered the fundamentals and later on practiced advanced skills.

"Sa una mahirap matutunan ang billiards pero dapat tiyaga lang," the 17 year-old athlete shared.

From a simple hobby, billiards became Marizen's serious pursuit.

## RIGHT ON CUE

Marizen is a consistent Palarong Bicol and Palarong Pambansa contender. Since joining Catanduanes' billiards team in 2014, she has never missed any competition on big stage.

To her, experience is a huge factor in a game. One proof of this is when she displayed poise during this year's Palarong Bicol. She came back from a two-rack deficit match in 9-ball event. Down by two racks, she coped to win the gold by just a one-rack margin.

"Pig-enjoy ko na sana su kawat. Focus lang

talaga buda tiwala sa sadili kaya nakaya ko," Marizen gladly shared.

But this kind of scenario is not new to her. Marizen has tasted setbacks but managed to come back stronger.

For three consecutive years of representing Catanduanes at Palarong Bicol, Marizen only notched bronze medals. Not settling to mediocrity, she pressed on and finally captured the gold this year. She also failed at Palarong Pambansa many times despite being a consistent representative of Bicol Region but her spirit remained to be strong in chasing one of her ultimate dreams.

## COMPOSURE OVER MISCUES

Different circumstances have almost took the wind out of Marizen's sails this year. After the devastation of Typhoon Nina on Christmas Day, their scheduled practice was not followed that resulted to limited time of preparation.

Catanduanes' billiards team had measly two weeks of training; far from the extensive preparation they had in the previous years. The adversarial effects of typhoon in the province had given the team time constraint.

Despite the hurdles, Marizen remained motivated for she knows the amount of support by the people around her. She said she could have not been as strong as she is today if it were not for the support of her family.

The support coming from Marizen's parents is as firm as her drive to compete. In fact, Marizen's father, Edgar T. Samar, has no question about her perseverance and work ethics for she can balance her academics, daughter duties and commitment to the game.

"Masinunod man na aki maski piriming busy sa eskwelahan buda sa billiards," Mr. Samar added.

She can maintain her good grades regardless of the requirements she has to submit as Grade 11 senior high school student.

Behind her game face during competitions is a young woman with a happy disposition in life. Her friends from billiard hall to school have the same positive impressions about her — a compassionate

person.

As Lovely Joy Arcilla, Marizen's friend, puts it, "Siya yung tipo ng barkada na sobrang kalog pero isa siya sa mga pinakamabait kong kaibigan."

Marizen also follows active lifestyle that keeps her fit. Apart from billiards, she also plays badminton, volleyball, futsal, and basketball. She is also a member of a dance group called "One Fam". When she's not playing billiards, she's probably dancing or joining dance contests.

## CLEARING THE TABLE

Seeing a female billiard player is an unusual sight for many, but for Marizen it is a great opportunity to show to everybody what a person is capable of.

Marizen admitted that she still has lots to improve but with frequent practice, discipline, confidence, and faith in God, no one can question her capabilities.

Her advice to young athletes like her, "Sige lang, basta go lang ng go, magtiwala sa kaya mo buda pray lang kay God."

Billiards will always be part of her life. She is proud representing the island where her dreams were built and will continue to hold on to her aspirations for her family.

She said that in life, one has to learn the right grip, control and execute the strategy to pocket what you aim for.

"Parang billiards lang yan," she smiled.

**Focus lang talaga buda tiwala sa sadili kaya nakaya ko**



MARIZEN P. SAMAR

# Jr. NBA shoots for skills dev't of young ballers in province

By JEFFERSON S. ARCILLA

To PROMOTE SPORTSMANSHIP and active lifestyle among children in Catanduanes, Jr. NBA Philippines selected Division of Catanduanes as one of the grantees of its free basketball clinic program.

The Jr. NBA Free Basketball Community Clinics tipped off on February 4 at Virac Plaza Covered Courts where nearly 600 young hoop enthusiasts from different schools in the Division of Catanduanes participated.

The list of schools included: Catanduanes National High School, Bato Rural Development High School, San Miguel Rural Development High School, Bote Integrat-



## Hagubuhob Sports

Lighting the Way; Leaving a Mark

# SPED players reap gold, light up Team Cat'nes at Palarong Bicol 2017

By JEFFERSON S. ARCILLA

SPECIAL EDUCATION (SPED) athletes from team Catanduanes sustained their winning tradition as they bagged ten medals at Palarong Bicol 2017 held at Legazpi City, Albay on February 5-10.

The seven-team contingents under Special Events Category notched three gold, three silver, and four bronze medals in athletics and goal ball events.

Team Catanduanes earned gold medal finish in standing long jump and

100-meter run (Visually Impaired Category) and long jump (Intellectually Disabled Category).

The gold medalists include Jayson Villaron (Cabugao Integrated School), Lenneth May Tomagan (Viga Central Elementary School), and Erika Joy I. Robles (Bato Rural Development High School).

With the official medal tally, the golden-yellow and blue delegation

placed 5th overall in Special Events Category which paraded 12 delegates with seven athletes and five trainers and coaches.

Coach Dianne Fritz Zafe, Special Education Teacher, said that the feat was a glorious one given that Catanduanes had the least number of delegates this year.

"We had limited time of preparation and least number of delegates pero marami pa rin ang

nakuha nating medals sa special events category," Zafe added.

Meanwhile, the winning athletes will be representing Bicol Region at Palarong Pambansa in Antique Province on April 23-29.

This year's Palarong Bicol theme is "Harmonizing Life Skills, Celebrating Resiliency through Sports."

### GAME FACE ON.

An aspiring basketball star exhibits agility, control, and concentration as he strives to improve his ball handling skills during the second staging of Jr. NBA in the province on February 4, 2017. JARCILLA



## Catandunganons run for Bicolano athletes

By RICKY V. TID

THIS ENDEAVOR IS not only colorful in nature but also noble in purpose.

Thus said Schools Division Superintendent Socorro V. dela Rosa, as she expressed her delight to the success of synchro-

### GROOVING TO THE BEAT.

Special Program in the Arts (SPA) Dance Specialist Lito Zafe and his students lead Color Fun Run participants in a Zumba dance craze at Virac Sports Complex after finishing a 2 km. course. JARCILLA

nized Color Fun Run held last March 4, 2017.

"Mas nakakatuwa pa rito, maraming taga ibang ahensya ang sumali. This means maraming sumusuporta sa ating mga atleta," she added.

She also uttered her appreciation to the sponsors of the activity who donated food for the participants and prizes for the top finishers.

The Schools Division of Catanduanes joined the entire Bicolanos in raising fund to support Bicolano athletes in Palarong Pambansa 2017.

This undertaking is through

the initiative of Bicol Schools Division Superintendents Association to give incentives to the winning athletes in Palarong Pambansa, according to dela Rosa.

It was participated in by teaching and non-teaching personnel from different districts in the division, policemen, firemen and other private individuals.

This year's fun run theme is, Takbo para sa Atletang Bikolano.

### THREE-IN-ONE EVENT

Schools Division Superintendent Socorro V. dela Rosa said that this program focuses not only for one but