



COUSINS. Mayor Nicholas Yulo with his second cousin DENR Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo Loyzaga on the sidelines of the 2023 DENR Multistakeholder Forum at the Grand Xing Imperial Hotel, Iloilo City on January 18.

Mayor Yulo was invited to present and share the best environment practices of Bago City. He was the lone local chief executive in Negros Occidental to be invited as a panel speaker along with Governor Arthur Defensor, Jr. Iloilo, Governor Sharee Ann Tan of Samar, and Mayor Lucy Torres- Gomez of Ormoc City.

About the Cover

The cover shows a candid photo of Mayor Nicholas Yulo in his usual calm and composed self despite a glitch with his presidential prompter right before he delivered his inaugural speech on June 24 last year.

Further, the cover means that we are back after 3 years of no publication. Read on.



CITYBRIDGE Bridging Bago to the rest. Fst. 2005

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As we celebrate the 57th Charter Anniversary of our beloved Bago City, we gratefully raise our minds to God, our Maker, who hears the prayers of our nation and has mercifully granted us respite from the viciousness of COVID 19. For the last seven months we feel the easing of the strict protocols imposed in fighting the pandemic, and as a people, we can say that we are grateful for having overcome the evil that stalked our nation and claimed many lives including those of our loved ones.

Despite the restrictive policies we had to conform with, the past six months saw our city receiving accolades and awards from different government and non-government agencies acknowledging our consistent efforts at different areas and garnering awards both for the years 2020 and 2021. Some of these awards were given by the Department of Interior and Local Governance (DILG), and among these are awards as Champion in Administrative Governance, Champion in Economic Governance and First Runner Up in Environmental Governance among others. These awards are salient proof that our Local Government Unit LGU has been performing excellently even during the years of the pandemic.

We, therefore, endorse our theme for this year - "Bago at 57: Celebrating Sustainable Leaps towards Recovery and Progress." Let us together pool our best efforts and strongly work some more for the recovery and progress of our City, and to continuously make sure that they trickle down to the grassroots and are felt in the daily lives of our fellow Bagonhon.

With this in mind, we look forward to our happy celebration of the 57th Charter Anniversary of our City.

Mabuhay tayong lahat!

NICHOLAS M. YULO City Mayor





From 1966 to 2023 is 57 years. In fact, 57 years have passed since Bago was proclaimed a City. In such a long period so many things have happened, mostly good and positive experiences for most. Some difficult things also occurred in more than half a century of our Cityhood. Of these the hardest is the two years of the pandemic caused by COVID 19.

Thanks to God, the Bagonhons, just like other Filipinos are made of sterner stuff and strongly resilient. By cooperating with the well-known protocols in the fight against the COVID 19, we mostly overcame the paralyzing fear of the virus and the challenges posed by the restrictions. We realized the values of listening to enlightened voices and in strongly adhering to policies pronounced for the good of all. Hopefully, we even came out stronger and wiser.

The test made us realize many things. We realized the importance of family and friends as we missed seeing them as often or not at all. We missed celebrating many significant moments with families and groups; so with the larger communities of which we were members. We missed the activities that gathered us together and which reminded us that we were a people bound together by our proximity and history. We missed being reminded that we have to stand and work together in order to achieve something we aspire for.

As we start to tread on this new road before us, we have to unite and work together. We have to be ready to take on this period of recovery with confidence and a strong faith in our capabilities as Bagonhons. May we work together for our common agenda which is the progress of our City and our people. May we continue the trip to a better life always trusting on God who makes all things possible.

To all Bagonhons, Happy 57th Charter Day Celebration!

AMOND. TORRES City Vice Mayor

Bago City 2022 SGLG national passer

Bago City is among the seven local government units (LGUs) in Negros Occidental that have received the 2022 Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) by the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG).

Mayor Nicholas Yulo received the award from the agency led by Secretary Benhur Abalos in rites held at the Manila Hotel, Manila on December 15, 2022.

Also present at the awarding ceremony were DILG - Bago City Local Government Operations Officer Mia Asuncion Gatilogo, SGLG focal person Riza Segovia, and Mayor's Office staff Joe Jumabong and Allan Señeres.

Bago is one of the 60 component cities in the country to be given the seal and P7 million in incentive fund to finance its local development initiatives in support of national goals and strategic thrusts.



Bago City Mayor Nicholas Yulo (center) with DILG - Bago City Local Government Operations Officer Mia Asuncion Gatilogo (second from left) on the sidelines of the 2022 Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) awarding ceremony held at the Manila Hotel, Manila on December 15, 2022. Also in photo, SGLG focal person Riza Segovia (second from right), and Mayor's Office staff Joe Jumabong (right) and Allan Señeres (left).

In Negros Occidental alone, other national passer-LGUs included the cities of Sagay, Talisay, Silay, Himamaylan and San Carlos, and the town of Hinoba-an.

"We laud your efforts in embodying good governance and raising the bar Bago, >>>Page 36

Info office, officer win Hall of Fame awards for DevCom works



Bago Information Officer 1 Ace Balboa (second from right) presents the awards given by the Philippine Information Agency in Western Visayas to Mayor Nicholas Yulo (center) at his office on January 4, 2023. Bago City Information Office and its information officer received the Hall of Fame awards for Best Performing Office and Best Performing Officer in the region, respectively, during the Regional Year-End Conference of Information Officers held in Iloilo City on December 28, 2022. Also in photo, (from left) staff Relyn Magallanes, John Vincent Tupas and Alvin Faustino.

The Bago City Information Office and its information officer received the Hall of Fame awards from the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) in Western Visayas for their exemplary contributions in the field of development communication

(DevCom) during the Regional Year-End Conference of Information Officers held in Iloilo City on Wednesday, December 28.

Both were hailed as hall of famers for winning in their respective category

for three consecutive years and for their remarkable performance in the dissemination of timely, relevant and accurate information.

The Bago City Information Office bagged the Best Performing Information Office in the region award.

Bago Information Officer I Ace Balboa, who is a master of Development Communication degree holder from the University of the Philippines Open University and has completed the academic requirements in his doctorate degree in Development Studies from the University of St. La Salle - Bacolod, first won as Best Performing Information Officer in the region in 2020.

He again topped the search among all information officers both for local government units (LGUs) and national government agencies (NGAs) in 2021 and 2022.

In his response on behalf of the awardees, Balboa underscored that in this day and age, the importance of Info, >>>Page 35

Treasurer's office tops tax, fees collection efficiency in WV



Bago City Treasurer Caruso Villaflor Jr. (right) presents to Mayor Nicholas Yulo the trophies given to the city government during the Bureau of Local Government Finance and Regional Association of Treasurers and Assessors in Region VI Inc. recognition rites held in Murcia, Negros Occidental on December 7, 2022. The city bagged the top one in business tax and other tax collection efficiency, fees and charges collection efficiency, and highest locally sourced revenue on fees and charges in the region awards.

Bago City Mayor Nicholas Yulo has lauded the men and women behind the City Treasurer's Office for their exemplary work as the local government topped the tax and other fees collection efficiency in Western Visayas.

The Negros Occidental locality bagged three awards during the Bureau of Local Government Finance and Regional Association of Treasurers and Assessors in Region VI Inc. (Regata VI) recognition ceremony held at Mambukal Resort and Wildlife Sanctuary in Murcia town on December 7, 2022.

It emerged as the top one among 16 cities in the region in terms of business tax and other tax collection efficiency, at 579.57 percent, as well as in fees and charges collection efficiency, at 533. 56 percent.

Among all component cities in Western Visayas, Bago has the highest locally sourced revenue on fees and charges.

Based on its 2021 collection, the city generated about P84.89 million.

Mayor Yulo stressed that taxes are the lifeblood of the government and the city cannot operate without it.

"The coronavirus disease (Covid-19) situation added to our dilemma," he said, adding that "but with efficient collection and with the cooperation of our taxpayers, we were able to get the awards."

On December 9, 2022, City Treasurer Caruso Villaflor Jr. presented the trophies to the mayor.

"Surely, these will continue to inspire us to work harder and be better in our government service," Yulo added. /

City gets Gawad Kalasag award anew

Bago City and nine other local government units (LGUs) in Negros Occidental were among the awardees for the 22nd Gawad Kalasag Seal for Excellence in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) and Humanitarian Assistance for the Local DRRM Councils and Offices category.

Bago, along with the cities of Bacolod and Sipalay, was given "beyond compliant" award by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC).

Bago City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officer Dr. Merijene Ortizo received the award during the national awarding held in Iloilo City on November 18, 2022.

The southern Negros Occidental locality has been a recipient of the Gawad Kalasag award since 2012. The Bago City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council ranked first in



Bago City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officer Dr. Merijene Ortizo (center) accepts the Gawad Kalasag award for Bago City as "beyond compliant" from the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council during the national awarding held in Iloilo City on November 18, 2022.

Western Visayas in 2013 to 2019 and in 2021 to 2022.

Negros Occidental is among the "fully compliant" provinces while Silay City, San Carlos city, La Carlota City, Talisay City, Himamaylan City, Isabela and E.B. Magalona are "fully

compliant" cities and municipalities in the country.

The NDRRMC, through the National Gawad Kalasag Committee, said there are 135 "beyond compliant" and 436 "fully compliant" LGU-awardees this year./

LGU wins big at Excell Awards 2022



Bago City represented by Councilors Ma. Josefa Matti (fifth from left), Carlos Mondia (second from right), Ma. Femmy Alvarez-Martir (right) and Joseph Colmenares (center) together with City Local Government Operations Officer Mia Asuncion Gatilogo (fifth from right) receives the Excellence in Local Governance awards from Department of the Interior and Local Government in Western Visayas officials led by Regional Director Juan Jovian Ingeniero (fourth from left) during the Pagdayaw 2022 held at Diversion 21 Hotel in Iloilo City on December 5, 2022.

Adding to its long list of awards and distinctions, the City Government of Bago has emerged as champion in two categories of this year's Search for Excellence in Local Governance (Excell Awards) of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) in Western Visayas.

The city bagged the top award for Excellence in Administrative Governance for its Bago Rewards Plus Program and Excellence in Economic Governance for its Food Staple Sufficiency Program.

In four other categories, Bago City placed first runner-up in Excellence

in Environmental Governance, and second runner-up in Excellence in Public Safety, Peace and Order, Excellence in Local Legislation and Excellence in Social Governance.

Overall, the city was adjudged first runner-up Best Performing City in the region.

In fact, it is the lone city in Negros Occidental to be shortlisted in the prestigious award along with the cities of Iloilo and Passi.

Councilors Ma. Josefa Matti, Carlos Mondia, Ma. Femmy Alvarez-Martir and Joseph Colmenares together with City Local Government Operations Officer Mia Asuncion Gatilogo received the awards from DILG-Western Visayas officials led by Regional Director Juan Jovian Ingeniero during the Pagdayaw 2022 held at Diversion 21 Hotel in Iloilo City on December 5, 2022.

Gatilogo said that having these awards shows that the city government is not just compliant to local and national laws. It excels because of the LGU, >>>Page 36

Watershed revival program gaining grounds

Known as the "Home of Historical and Natural Treasures" in the Philippines and Rice Granary of Negros Occidental, Bago City in Negros Occidental has been prioritizing the "Revival of the Majestic Diversity of Bago Watershed" for years now.

In fact, the initiative is now gaining momentum.

With the foresight and political will of its leaders, Mayor Nicholas Yulo and Vice Mayor Ramon Torres, and the innovative sustainable environmental programs of the local government led by its City Environment Management Office (Cemo) supported by various agencies, the destination was able to establish concrete actions that are proactively answering and giving solutions to challenges in environment and climate.

This is the good practice story that placed Bago City in the Green Destinations 2022 Top 100 Stories list.

Bago Watershed plays a vital role



Bago City Council's Committee on Tourism Chair Councilor Ma. Josefa Matti (second from right) and City Tourism Officer Mae Ann Furtos (right) receive the 2022 Green Destinations Top 100 Stories list award at the Kypseli Municipal Market Fokionos Negri 42 in Athens, Greece on September 27, 2022.

in steering the wheel of the economy of the city in particular and the entire province of Negros Occidental.

It provides water for about 19,000 hectares of agricultural areas to include

irrigated rice lands and sugarcane plantation and other agricultural farms in the city and serves as the recharge area of underground aquifers which is also tapped to support more than Watershed, >>>Page 37

NATION BUILDERS AND MOSLIV AWARDS FOR BAGO CITY:

A testament of hard work for every Bagonhon



Bago City Mayor Nicholas Yulo receives the Honorary Local Chief Executive Award (Blue Category) for Mayor Nicholas Yulo and the Certified Most Sustainable and Liveable City Award (Yellow Category) for the city during the Nation Builders and Mosliv Awards 2022 at the Grand Ballroom of Okada Manila in Parañaque City on November 25, 2022.

The City Government of Bago continues to reap the rewards of what it has planted for its people, the Bagonhons. It continues to harvest awards and recognitions in various fields, a validation of its commitment to uphold genuine public service.

The latest of these feats are the Honorary Local Chief Executive Award (Blue Category) for Mayor Nicholas Yulo and the Certified Most Sustainable and Liveable City Award (Yellow Category) for the city given during the Nation Builders and Mosliv Awards 2022 at the Grand Ballroom of Okada Manila in Parañaque City on November 25, 2022.

Organized by Sustainable Standards Inc. (SSI), the Nation Builders and Mosliv Awards celebrates and honors the changemakers and leaders in sustainability across the Philippines.

The nation builders excellence award is given to accomplished professionals, individuals and government leaders in appreciation of the roles they played towards nation-building, while the most sustainable and liveable recognition conferred accomplished to institutions, organizations, companies, provinces, districts, party-lists, cities, municipalities, barangays and communities.

In his acceptance speech, Yulo said that on behalf of the officials and constituency of Bago, he is elated and humbled to accept the award and recognition bestowed on him and the city.

For the mayor, these awards serve as a testament to their hard work and best efforts in providing the needs of the Bagonhons at the same time ensuring that Bago City remains liveable and sustainable for generations to come.

"May we never falter in our commitment towards a transparent responsive and inclusive governance whatever the situation may be so that our vision of making Bago City a haven of every Bagonhons' dreams becomes a reality," he added.

As he thanked the award-giving body and congratulated his fellow winners, Yulo underscored that "amid the challenges confronting our nation, Bagonhons will continue to be proud of our roots and will never lose the vigor and courage to exclaim, Go Bago!"

Moreover, Mosliv, which stands for Most Sustainable and Liveable, serves as a guide to achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for a global climate-neutral society by 2050.

The organizer, in a statement, said the event was able to gather some 800 community candidates from the government and non-government organizations (NGOs) who uphold key criteria of sustainability across governance, social and environmental factors.



Mayor Yulo gracing the red carpet in a traditional barong.

Bagonhon sports heroes' honored

Recognizing their latest feat at the Southeast Asian (SEA) Games 2021 that has brought another pride not only to Bago City but to the entire country as well, the local government honored two outstanding local boxers whom they considered "sports heroes."

Rogen Ladon and James Palicte, who bagged the gold and bronze medals, respectively, at the 31st SEA Games held in Vietnam in May 2022, were warmly greeted by their fellow Bagonhons through a hero's welcome and recognition ceremony staged by the city government led by Mayor Nicholas Yulo.

Ladon, 28, of Barangay Lag-Asan, snatched the country's first gold medal in boxing after winning in the men's 48kg - 52kg class. Palicte, also 28, of Barangay Sampinit, placed third in the



Bagonhon boxers Rogen Ladon (center) and James Palicte (fourth from right) receive cash incentives from the city officials led by Mayor Nicholas Yulo (third from right) during the Hero's Welcome and Recognition Ceremony at the Bantayan Park in Bago City on May 30, 2022.

men's 57kg - 63kg class.

They were treated to a motorcade in the city's major streets going to the Bantayan Park where a recognition rites was held on May 30, 2022.

"We are very grateful for this warm welcome," an elated Ladon said, adding that what characterize Bagonhon boxers are their strength, courage and determination.

This is the second SEA Games gold medal for Ladon. He took home his first gold in 2019, following his silver feat in a previous competition in Singapore.

Inspired by his brother who was also part of the Philippine boxing team, Ladon started training back in 2007 at the Manuel Y. Torres Memorial Sports Bagonhon, >>> Page 37

City grants P100-K incentive to Girls Junior League Softball team



The City Government of Bago honors the student-athletes of Ramon Torres National High School, who won third place in the 2022 Junior League Softball World Series in Kirkland, Washington, United States. The Asia-Pacific Region representatives received a cash incentive of P100,000 from the city government in rites held at the city's Community Center on August 22, 2022.

Recognizing their hard work, dedication and perseverance to bring honor to the city, the local government has granted P100,000 in cash incentives to members of the Bago City Girls Junior League Softball team.

The group, representing Asia-

Pacific against 10 other teams, won third place in the 2022 Junior League Softball World Series held in Kirkland, Washington, USA in August last year.

Fresh from their homecoming last week, the City Government of Bago initiated a motorcade and recognition ceremony on August 22, 2022 for the delegation composed of 13 players and three coaches.

Some members of the City Council presented a copy of the resolution congratulating another "pride of the city," as well as the symbolic check for the incentives granted by the local government.

The resolution stated that "the outstanding performance by our athletes deserved to be commended for the honor and recognition they have brought not only to our city in particular but also to our country in general."

"These achievements have brought honor and pride to the City of Bago which should be accordingly recognized and rewarded," it added.

Earlier, Mayor Nicholas Yulo, in a statement, said the city is beaming with pride as the Team Asia-Pacific represented by the Bago City Girls Junior League Softball won third place

City, >>>Page 38

Govt workers get Christmas gift packs, cash incentives



City employees pick up their Christmas gift package given to them by the city government.

As it recognizes the contribution of its employees in the delivery of services to the public, the City Government of Bago led by Mayor Nicholas Yulo and Vice Mayor Ramon Torres has given them Noche Buena packages in time for Christmas last year.

Some 780 regular employees and 2,750 casuals received Christmas gift packages that include rice, ham and grocery items.

The distribution was conducted

at the Manuel Y. Torres Memorial Coliseum and Cultural Center on December 22, 2022.

Over 2,750 job order casuals, contract of service and project-based employees also received a gratuity pay of P3,000 each.

Some 774 regular employees, meanwhile, received P65,000 in Excellent Performance Incentive (EPI) on top of the P5,000 in Performance Enhancement Incentive (PEI).

BAGO MAYOR GETS CDA AWARD

Mayor Nicholas Yulo was awarded by the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) for "his unwavering support for cooperatives by creating conditions for effective partnership and providing financial support for cooperative development programs and initiatives," during their Gawad Parangal 2022 held at Manila Hotel on October 28.

The mayor was the lone local chief executive in Western Visayas to be recognized by the CDA this year.

The awarding ceremony capped off the observance of the National Cooperative Month this October by virtue of Republic Act 11502.

Homegrown boxing champ feted



Bago City Mayor Nicholas Yulo (second from right) with City Treasurer Caruso Villaflor Jr. (left) and Sports Coordinator Ignacio Denila (right) awards the new World Boxing Association Asia South Bantamweight Champion "King" Arthur Villanueva a P50,000 cash incentive and the Sangguniang Panlungsod Resolution No. 22-147 congratulating him for his astonishing feat of bringing home pride and glory to the city on June 16, 2022. Also in photo, Villanueva's wife, Jinny Mae.

Recognizing his latest feat as the new Asia South Bantamweight champion of the World Boxing Association (WBA), the City Government of Bago honored one of its homegrown talents, Arthur Villanueva.

The 33-year-old boxer dubbed the "King" hails from Don Jorge L. Araneta in

the southern Negros Occidental locality.

He defeated Thailand's Jakpan Sangtong during the WBA Asia triple header held in Gilit City, Pakistan on June 11, 2022.

Joined by his wife, Jinny Mae, Villanueva was warmly welcomed by his fellow Bagonhons in a motorcade initiated by the city government on June 16, 2022.

"I am very overwhelmed by the support our kasimanwas have shown to me," he said, adding that "this could be my toughest fight so far."

Villanueva shared that aside from lack of sleep and rest due to long-distance travel, he was suffering from diarrhea during his latest fight.

Following the motorcade along the city's major streets, the Bagoeño fighter was then welcomed by Mayor Nicholas Yulo at his office for a simple recognition rites.

The mayor presented to Villanueva the copy of the Sangguniang Panlungsod resolution congratulating him for making the city and country proud after winning the WBA Asia South Bantamweight title.

"By winning this fight, Arthur Villanueva has shown to the world the spirit of Bagonhon competitiveness and excellence," the city council

Homegrown, >>>Page 38

P87-M Ma-ao Public Market seen to spur economic development

The newly constructed Ma-ao Public Market in Bago City worth P87 million is seen to spur economic growth in the southern Negros Occidental locality.

Governor Eugenio Jose Lacson, Vice Governor Jeffrey Ferrer, Mayor Nicholas Yulo and other local officials led the inauguration rites on February 15, 2022.

The provincial government, in a statement, said the project will open doors to more economic development and activities in the locality and its neighboring towns and cities.

The public market has an admin office, 30 outer stalls, 36 inner stalls, 25 stalls at the fish section, 25 stalls in the meat section, and male and female comfort rooms.

On top of the P87-million fund from the provincial government, the City Government of Bago also allocated P23.619 million for the construction of



Governor Eugenio Jose Lacson, Vice Governor Jeffrey Ferrer, Bago City Mayor Nicholas Yulo and other local officials lead the inauguration rites of the P87-million newly constructed Ma-ao Public Market in Barangay Ma-ao, which is seen to spur developments in the area.

additional market blocks, rehabilitation of the market, concreting, and installation of perimeter lighting and fire protection alarm.

Yulo, for his part, thanked the provincial government for its support to the market development of the barangay

Also present during the activity were city councilors, Ma-ao Barangay Captain Jovito Gahaton and Provincial Engineer Ernie Mapa, among other guests./With Capitol & SSB reports

Fire substation in Bago City village activated



Bago City officials headed by Mayor Nicholas Yulo (fourth from right) and BFP - Western Visayas Regional Director Chief Supt. Jerry Candido lead the inauguration and activation of Ma-ao Fire Substation on September 30, 2022.

The Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) in Bago City has inaugurated and activated its Ma-ao Fire Substation on September 30, 2022.

Funded by the local government unit (LGU), the substation is located

beside the Ma-ao Volunteers Rescue Unit (MAVRU) and is equipped with an office, firefighter's quarter, and a fire truck with three firefighters assigned under its station commander Senior Fire Officer 2 Sandro Manangkil.

With this recent development, residents of Barangay Ma-ao and nearby barangays of Mailum, Bacong, Binubuhan, Ilijan, Don Jorge Araneta, Atipuluan and Abuanan can expect a faster response in cases of fire and other emergencies.

The activity was graced by Bago City Mayor Nicholas Yulo, BFP - Western Visayas Regional Director Chief Supt. Jerry Candido, BFP Provincial Director Supt. Kim Celisio, and City Fire Marshall Senior Inspector Sidgie Gerardo.

Also present were Sangguniang Panlungsod members Jake Patrick Torres, Victor Michael Javellana, and Ma. Femmy Martir, DILG Officer Mia Asuncion Gatilogo, Bago City Police Station chief Joem Malong, Bago District Jail warden Kevin Bonilla, MAVRU head Mark Joszef Dexter Somcio, punong barangays

Fire, >>>Page 36

Bago City hosts MKNP Festival 2022



Mayors Nicholas Yulo of Bago City (left) and Rhumyla Nicor-Mangilimutan (right) of La Castellana town with Protected Area Superintendent of Mount Kanlaon Natural Park Dennis Pinosa lead the "symbolic patik" to mark the opening of the three-day Mount Kanlaon Natural Park Festival 2022 at the Bantayan Park in Bago City on August 9, 2022.

The City Government of Bago hosted the three-day Mount Kanlaon Natural Park (MKNP) Festival 2022 from August 9 to 11.

Dubbed "Halad kay Kang-laon (An offer to Kanlaon)," the fourth edition of the festivity is themed "Pagbangon sang Kumunidad, Nasandig sa Pagamlig sang Dunang Manggad (The community's recovery lies on the conservation of natural resources)."

Aside from Bago City, the event was also participated by five other local government units (LGUs) including La Carlota City, La Castellana, San Carlos City and Murcia in Negros Occidental, and Canlaon City in Negros Oriental which are part of the MKNP.

Mayor Nicholas Yulo, who spoke at the opening rites at the Bantayan Park, described the festival as a call to to renew the people's commitment for the environment.

Mayor Yulo underscored that the annual celebration is also a reminder to the people of their duties and responsibilities in the world, earth and planet that they live in.

"There's is no other planet that we know where we can transfer. Scientists may be looking for that planet but for now this is our home, earth is our home so it is only right that we should treat it correctly so that we, too, will see more generations of human beings living and thriving on earth," he added.

Mayor Yulo was joined by La Castellana Mayor Rhummyla Nicor-Mangilumutan at the opening rites, along with tourism officers and representatives of the participating localities as well as other stakeholders and partners.

Aside from the "symbolic patik" to mark the opening of the festival, they also opened the Trade Fair Agri-Booth that showcases a wide variety of products, mostly agricultural, of the six participating cities and municipalities.

Other activities included the Search for Diwata kag Suta sang Kanlaon 2022, Earth Concert and Fellowship Night, Mountain Bike (MTB) Challenge, tree growing, super-sized canvas painting and body painting contest, creative dance contest, farm tour activity, street dance and festival dance presentation.

The annual activity in collaboration with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and Protected Area Management Board, among other stakeholders, is aimed at promoting ecotourism at the natural park.

Mayor Yulo attends 2-day ICT summit in Manila

Bago City Mayor Nicholas Yulo has attended the two-day National Information and Communications Technology Summit at the Manila Hotel on October 26 to 27, 2022.

Themed "Toward a Citizen-Centric, Inclusive and Sustainable eGovernance Ecosystem #BuildBetterMore," the event focuses on the government's digital transformation efforts.

This is in pursuance of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.'s vision of an inclusive and vibrant digital economy and a digitally empowered government and citizenry.

Earlier, Marcos graced the first day of the activity attended by ICT industry partners and members, among others.

Joining Mayor Yulo were Ireneo Mugar Jr. and Louwie David, both personnel of the city's ICT Office.

Bago City Mayor Nicholas Yulo (right) at the two day ICT Summit in Manila from October 26 to 27, 2022. Also in photo, Department of Information and Communications Technology Secretary Ivan John Uy.



Bago City marks 124th Al Cinco de Noviembre

After two years of hiatus due to the prevailing coronavirus disease (Covid-19) pandemic, the physical celebration of the Al Cinco de Noviembre in Bago City made a comeback last year with various activities highlighted on November 5.

Al Cinco de Noviembre, also known as Negros Day, is celebrated every November 5 to commemorate the Negrenses' revolt against the Spanish colonizers in 1898.

It was declared as a non-working holiday in the province by virtue of Republic Act 6709. This year marks the 124th year celebration of the Al Cinco de Noviembre.

Mae Ann Furtos, senior tourism operations officer of Bago City, said Al Cinco de Noviembre, especially the "Sigabong sang mga Kanyon" was physically back in 2022 which the city had celebrated virtually in the last two years.

Furtos said that despite the challenges brought by the pandemic, the city government continues to



Local officials lead the wreath-laying ceremony at General Juan Araneta Monument as part of the 124th Al Cinco de Noviembre celebration in Bago City on November 5, 2022.

preserve its heritage through the Al Cinco de Noviembre commemoration.

"Its [Al Cinco de Noviembre] very essence is the ingenuity and bravery of the valiant hero, General Juan Araneta, and his Bagonhon troops together with the forces from the north led by General Aniceto Lacson," she said, adding that this is also called as a historical bluff as Bagonhon troops used nipa (coconut fronds) as

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6 barangays win 'Sigabong' competition



Cluster 5 composed of Barangays Pacol, Sagasa and Bagroy bag the championship award in the "Sigabong sang mga Kanyon" Cannon Competition while Cluster 6 composed of Barangays Poblacion, Lag-asan and Tabunan was also judged as champion for the Dance Drama Competition themed "Amakan kag Nipa sa Kasaysayan sang Negros" during the highlights of the 124th Al Cinco de Noviembre celebration in Bago City on November 5, 2022./ANDREW ALTAREJOS PHOTO

Six barangays emerged as top winners in two "Sigabong sang mga Kanyon" competitions during the highlights of the 124th Al Cinco de Noviembre celebration in Bago City on November 5, 2022.

Barangays Pacol, Sagasa and Bagroy composing the Cluster 5 bagged the championship award in the "Sigabong sang mga Kanyon" Cannon Competition.

Cluster 7 composed of Barangays Taloc, Calumangan and Sampinit won first runner-up followed by Cluster 4 (Barangays Dulao, Abuanan and Atipuluan) - second runner-up; and Cluster 6 (Barangays Poblacion, Lagasan and Tabunan) - third runner-up.

The "Sigabong sang mga Kanyon" Cannon Competition was held during the Civic Military Parade in major city streets going to the Bantayan Park.

For the Dance Drama Competition themed "Amakan kag Nipa sa Kasaysayan sang Negros," Cluster 6 composed of Barangays Poblacion, Lag-asan and Tabunan was adjuged as champion. The group also won the Best in Storyline award.

First runner-up was Cluster 1 (Barangays Ilijan, Don Jorge and Bacong) followed by Cluster 5

6 barangays, >>>Page 39

Natural wonders of Bago in photographs



Members of the Bago City Council with City Environment and Natural Resources Officer Rosievel Dimatulac (left), City Environment Management Officer Vicente Mesias (second from right), City Information Officer Ace Balboa (right) lead the opening of the three-day Natural Wonders of Bago Photo Exhibit featuring the works of acclaimed Negrense photographer Engineer John Kimwell Laluma (third from right) at the Bantayan Park on November 3, 2022.

Known as the "Home of Natural and Historical Treasures." Bago City is blessed with wide-variety of attractions that are yet to be seen and experienced by the Negrenses, even the Bagonhons themselves. These

natural wonders, for the first time, were captured and shown to the public in a one-of-a-kind photo exhibition.

Dubbed "Natural Wonders of Bago Photo Exhibit," the City Government of Bago, through its

City Environment Management Office and City Information Office, presented the three-day Natural Wonders of Bago Photo Exhibit from November 3 to 5, 2022.

Fifteen photographs of acclaimed Negrense photographer, Engineer John Kimwell Laluma, became an added unique attraction at the city's prime tourist destination, the Bantayan Park, on the sidelines of the just-concluded 124th Al Cinco de Noviembre celebration.

Laluma, a landscape photographer for 10 years now, through his lenses powered by his passion and aspiration to convey a strong message through images, immortalized some of the breath-taking attractions in the city which are reflections of its rich biodiversity.

The 35-year-old photographer, in his speech, said that he is always in pursuit of discovering new locales and showing their beauty based on his perception.

Natural, >>>Page 40

Bago promotes culture, heritage through 'Sigabong sang mga Kanyon' photo exhibit



Bago City Mayor Nicholas Yulo (second from left) with wife, Jeanne Louise (third from left), leads the opening of the Sigabong sang mga Kanyon Photo Exhibit at the Main Atrium of SM City Bacolod on Wednesday, November 9. Also in photo, Councilors Jake Patrick Torres (left) and Ma. Josefa Matti (second from right), Senior Tourism Operations Officer Mae Ann Furtos (right) and SM City Bacolod Mall Manager George Jardiolin.

In a bid to promote the province's rich culture and heritage especially among the younger generation, the City Government of Bago has

opened an eight-day photo exhibit featuring the images of the Al Cinco de Noviembre celebration in the southern Negros Occidental locality.

Mayor Nicholas Yulo and wife, Jeanne Louise "Jarie," with other local officials led the opening of the Sigabong sang mga Kanyon Photo Exhibit at the Main Atrium of SM City Bacolod on November 9, 2022.

Ace Balboa, city information officer, said the exhibit showcases 45 photographs of 23 Negrense photographers, mostly from Bago City, who joined the photo contest in line with the Al Cinco de Noviembre celebration last November 5.

Balboa said they opened the competition to all amateur and professional photographers as well as photo hobbyists in the province who submitted their photo entries featuring the Sigabong sang mga Kanyon Street Cannon and Dance Drama Competitions.

Bago, >>>Page 41

Presidential sister leads financial aid distribution in Bago

Senator Imee Marcos led the distribution of financial assistance worth about P3 million under the Aid for Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) at the Manuel Y. Torres Memorial Coliseum and Cultural Center in Bago City on November 29, 2022.

The presidential sister said each of the 1,000 recipients from the different parts of the Fourth District of Negros Occidental received P3,000.

Marcos, who was accompanied by Vice Governor Jeffrey Ferrer and Bago City Mayor Nicholas Yulo, also led the distribution of nutribuns to Bagonhon children.

The nutribuns came from the proceeds of the movie "Maid in Malacañang" which is about the life story of the Marcoses during the Martial Law years and Edsa Revolution.



Presidential sister Senator Imee Marcos with Negros Occidental Vice Governor Jeffrey Ferrer and Bago City Mayor Nicholas Yulo leads the distribution of financial assistance to 1,000 beneficiaries and nutribuns to Bagonhon children at the Manuel Y. Torres Memorial Coliseum and Cultural Center in Bago City on November 29, 2022.

In her speech, she acknowledged that his brother, President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. garnered the highest votes in the Fourth District in the last presidential elections.

Marcos said her presence in the district that day is her way of giving thanks to the people there./

260 couples tie knot in Bago

The first mass wedding held in Bago since the pandemic, 260 couples from the 24 barangays of the city exchanged their "I do's" at the Manuel Y. Torres Memorial Coliseum and Cultural Center on December 19, 2022.

Mayor Nicholas Yulo officiated the ceremony attended by city officials, families and relatives of the couples.

Local Civil Registrar Meriam Huerva said the mass wedding aims to legalize the union of couples who have lived together for years but could not afford to get married.

She added that the couple just need to pay P550 for their documentary requirements. The rest were shouldered by the city government including food during the reception.

Mayor Yulo reminded the newlyweds to remain faithful to one another and be a role model to their children.

He also urged them to get married in their respective churches in the future.



Bago Mayor Nicholas Yulo officiates the mass wedding participated by 260 couples in the city at the Manuel Y. Torres Memorial Coliseum and Cultural Center on December 19, 2022.

The Office of the Local Civil Registrar recorded three oldest couples. Of them, two are from Barangay Calumangan and one from Barangay Dulao.

Also present at the event were Vice

Mayor Ramon Torres, and Councilors Marina Javellana-Yao, Ma. Josefa Matti, Jake Patrick Torres, Victor Michael Javellana, Carlos Mondia, Ma. Femmy Alvarez-Martir, and Joseph Colmenares./AAB

Over 24,000 Bago pupils get school supplies



Bago Mayor Nicholas Yulo and Vice Mayor Ramon Torres with city councilors and DepEd officials led by Dr. Neri Anne Alibuyog lead the ceremonial turnover of school supplies at the Bago City Elementary School on January 16, 2022. These form part of the school supplies given to about 24,300 public school children in the city.

The City Government of Bago has distributed school supplies worth P5.54 million to about 24,300 public school children, from Kinder to Grade 6, in the city.

Mayor Nicholas Yulo and Vice Mayor Ramon Torres along with other local officials led the ceremonial turnover of customized school supplies to the students of 38 elementary schools.

On January 10 this year, they distributed school supplies to 10 schools under Districts I-A and I-B while another ceremonial turnover was conducted for Districts II-A and II-B composed of eight schools on January 16.

For Districts III-A and III-B that comprise eight elementary schools and Districts IV-A and IV-B composed of 12 elementary schools, the distribution was conducted on January 23 and 30, respectively.

The school supply essentials include bags, notebooks, pencils, pens, and pad papers that are customized depending on their grade levels.

The school supplies distribution is a program of the city government in partnership with the Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) Federation.

Mayor Yulo, in his message in one of the ceremonies, pledged to continue the initiative next year and pushed for the early distribution of school supplies



Mayor Yulo

so it can help the parents in the educational needs of their children.

"We hope that these school supplies could really help our students who are the future leaders not only of the city but of the nation," he added.

Vice Mayor Torres, for his part, said they hoped that the parents and students could appreciate the efforts of the local government to help and assist the latter in their educational needs.

Pointing out that the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) pandemic is not yet over and with the resumption of full face-to-face classes, he called on teachers to take good care of their health as well as the well-being of the students.

Other officials present at the ceremonial turnover were Fourth District Board Member Andrew Martin



Vice Mayor Torres

Torres, Councilors Maria Josefa Matti, Jake Patrick Torres, Victor Michael Javellana, Carlos Mondia, Maria Femmy Alvarez-Martir and Joseph Colmenares, SK Federation President Carl Benedict Baylon, and City Coordinator for Education and Information Officer 1 Ace Balboa

They were joined by some officials of the Department of Education Division of Bago, and principals of the recipient-schools, among others.

In response, District IA Public Schools District Supervisor Dr. Elmer Cabiles thanked the city government for extending these school supplies to the pupils.

"To the students, take good care of the school supplies given by the city government and continue to study hard," he added./

Mayor Yulo reelected at LCP assembly, took oath as Negros ACE VP

Mayor Nicholas Yulo is still the Deputy Secretary- General for Visayas of the League of Cities of the Philippines [LCP].

The mayor was re-elected during the 69th General Assembly of the LCP held at Crowne Plaza Manila Galleria in Quezon City, July 21, 2022.

DILG Secretary Benjamin Abalos, Jr. swore in the new set of officers led by its new national president Mayor Michael Rama of Cebu City and national chair Bacolod City Mayor Albee Benitez.

The League of Cities is composed of 146 cities in the country and its creation is mandated by Section 499 of the Republic Act 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, as amended.

Moreover, Mayor Yulo was also elected as Vice President of the Negros Association of Chief Executives [ACE] and took his oath together with other officers of the said group at the Provincial Capitol Social Hall last July 27, 2022.



Mayor Yulo delivers a message before his colleagues.

Governor Bong Lacson administered the oaths of office of the following: Victorias City Mayor Javier Miguel Benitez, president; Bago City Mayor Nicholas Yulo, vice president; Cadiz City Mayor Salvador Escalante Jr., secretary general; San Enrique Mayor Jilson Tubillara, treasurer; Himamaylan City Mayor Raymund Tongson, auditor;

Don Salvador Benedicto Mayor Lawrence Marxlen Dela Cruz, PIO; and Board of Directors, Bacolod City Mayor Alfredo Abelardo Benitez;

Escalante City Mayor Melecio Yap (1st District), Manapla Mayor Manuel Escalente III (2nd District), Murcia Mayor Victor Gerardo Rojas (3rd District), Valladolid Mayor Enrique Miravalles (4th District), Binalbagan Mayor Alejandro Mirasol (5th District); and Sipalay City Mayor Maria Gina Lizares (6th District).

The Bago mayor delivered the welcome message during the event witnessed by Vice Gov. Jeffrey Ferrer together with other provincial officials.

Negros ACE is an established association of mayors in Negros Occidental that aims to foster unity, exchange technical ideas, provide a forum to discuss concerns and assist its members, and support in the implementation and information dissemination of projects in the province.

Council members elected officers of NMYL-Negros Occidental

Bago City Councilors Victor Michael Javellana and Jake Patrick Torres were both elected as officers of the National Movement of Young Legislators (NMYL) Negros Occidental Chapter, on October 5, 2022.

Councilor Vicoy Javellana was voted as the assistant secretary-general and Councilor Patrick Torres was elected as one of the board of directors.

Meanwhile, Victorias City Councilor Derek Palanca was elected chairman of the NMYL during its election of officers at Acacia Hotel in Bacolod.

The NMYL is a group of elected local lawmakers in the Philippines aged 40 and below who hold elective



Councilor Victor Michael Javellana

positions in the legislative branch such as municipal/city councilor, municipal/ city vice mayor, provincial board member, and provincial vice governor.



Councilor Jake Patrick Torres

It aims to unite young legislators to develop committed, strong, and principled leaders among the youth in the legislative.

Schools receive flags, health kits from AFI

The Ayala Foundation, Inc. [AFI] thru its Maging Magiting campaign distributes Philippine flags and turnover Generika health kits for schools as part of their contribution to Brigada Eskwela 2022 in Bago City.

The activity took place at the Bago City Community Center, September 20, 2022.

It was attended by attended by City Administrator- Designate Tricia Matti who represented Mayor Nicholas Yulo, Bago City PNP Chief Joem Malong, Bago City Fire Station represented by SFO2 Sandro Manangkil, DepEd officials led by Assistant Schools Division Superintendent Dr. Ermi Miranda and selected pupils.

On the part of the AFI, present were Senior Director for Arts and Culture Mariles Gustilo, Senior Manager Visayas Lead Dino Rey Abellanosa,



Bagonhon teachers and learners receive the gifts from Ayala Foundation, Inc.

head of Ayala Land Estates Negros Therese Borromeo and Associate Manager for DRRM Mark Alcantara.

Since 2018, Ayala Foundation has been partnering with government, media, and other institutions to run

the Maging Magiting Campaign - a campaign to

rekindle love of country, anchored on the distribution of 10,000 Philippine flags for public elementary schools nationwide./

PopCom commemorates Salas' birthday



Councilors Mayette Javellana- Yao and Jake Patrick Torres with PopCom officials award Vanessa Dayne Navisaga of Ramon Torres Louisiana National High School as first place winner in the oratorical contest.

The City Government of Bago thru Director Harold Alfred Regional its City Population and Development Marshall, Assistant Population Office [PopCom] commemorated Development Officer of Region VI the 94th birth anniversary of former Dr. Jonathan Dioteles, Population United Nations Fund for Population Program Officer of the Province Activities Executive Director Rafael M. of Negros Occidental Dr. Edmund Salas with the first ever Inter- School Calaor, members of the Sangguniang Oratorical Competition wifh the Panlungsod, representatives from the Schools Division of Bago City, theme, "The Life and Times of Rafael Salas," at the Community Center, Department Heads among others.

attended by

Vanessa Dayne Navisaga of Ramon Torres Louisiana National High School



Rafael Montinola Salas

was adjudged as the first place winner followed by Jesicha Raine Yungue of Ramon Torres Malingin National High School and Erick Denmark Garalda of Ramon Torres National High School as the 2nd and 3rd place winners respectively.

Mayor Nicholas Yulo congratulated all the participating schools and the PopCom office for the success of the activity. The City PopCom Office is led by Mrs. Anne Marie Torres./

The event was

August 7.

Environment office receives accolades

The Bago City Environment Management Office (CEMO), led by Vicente Mesias, and his staff recently presented to Mayor Nicholas Yulo the recognitions they received from the provincial government and other agencies.

include the MassKara These Panaad 2022 Solid Waste Management Program plaque from the Capitol; certificate of recognition to Bago City as Best Performing LGU in Outstanding Practices and Innovations in the implementation of the Solid Waste Management Program, in compliance with Republic Act 9003, or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Program of 2000; certificate of recognition to John Joseph Banaja, waste management and pollution control technician, recognition of partners and ENROs;

The 2022 Negros Occidental Governor's Conservation Achievement Award and Abanse Negrense Good Environmental Governance Award; sustainability award with cash prize of P25,000; topnotcher award with highest points at 95 percent



Mayor Nicholas Yulo with personnel of the City Environment Management Office led by Vicente Mesias, and the awards received.

on the Abanse Negrense Good Environmental Governance Award with cash prize of P5,000; 2022 Best Localized Environmental Thematic Events Celebration;

Environment and Natural Resources Office-Bago City and Central Negros Council for Coastal Resources Development recognized for their commitment and performance in spearheading the implementation of the various environmental programs and thematic events; recognition for complete Local Climate Change Action Plan (LCCAP) from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Environment Management Bureau in Western Visayas and plaque of recognition for the formulation and creation of LCCAP.

City of Bago has the highest grade in DOE, DOST energy audit



Focal person for electricity Engr. Dione Trojillo, Engr. Raymund Anaud representing focal person for fuel Engr. Leo Pahilanga, Engr. Del Pozo, Energy Conservation Officer Engr. Makilan, City Engr. Joenil Lavadia, Dr. Parreño, Engr. Ceruma, Gelly Ann Zamora, Gladys Reyes, and Chammer Jake Plaza.

The joint team from the Department of Energy and Department of Science and Technology Central Offices rated the Bago City Hall compound an overall score of 99, rating of 5 stars and Grade of "A" in their Spot Check

Energy Audit on July 7, 2022.

The audit team was led by Dr. Ronaldo Parreño, Jr., with Engr. Federico Del Pozo, Jr., Engr. Divine Rhea Ceruma, Gelly Ann Zamora, Chammer Jake Plaza and Gladys

Reyes as members.

The LGU was able to successfully garnered perfect scores in the 19 out of 20 item criteria set by the DOE and DOST. According to the audit team, the rating they gave to the City of Bago is the highest rating so far in Visayas.

The energy audit is part of the implementation of RA 11285 or the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act of the national government.

Mayor Nicholas Yulo was elated with the performance of the city government in this audit report. He noted that the campaign of the LGU on energy conservation in all its departments and offices was a success. The mayor further congratulated the Office of the City Engineer for their efforts in electricity conservation and the General Services Office on fuel conservation.

Bago LGU procures, turns over P28M in vehicles, equipment for FY 2022



The manlift truck and double cab vehicle are two of the many vehicles turn over by the city government to its different offices for Fiscal Year 2022.

In a bid to further boost the delivery of services to the public, the City Government of Bago has purchased and distributed vehicles and equipment totaling to about P28.2 million in 2022.

The city government purchased a brand new six-wheeler manlift truck and one brand new flat nose double cab 4x4 truck worth P5.9 million for the use of the City Engineer's Office.

Mayor Nicholas Yulo and General

Services Office (GSO) head Engineer Leo Pahilanga turned over the vehicles to City Engineer Joenil Lavadia on March 15, 2022.

On March 30, the city government held another wave of motor vehicles and equipment distribution in an effort to boost the capacity of its barangays and various offices.

The rescue vehicles acquired by the local government are for the remaining eight barangays in the

city. These are Barangays Poblacion, Tabunan, Alianza, Caridad, Lag-asan, Taloc, Bacong and Sampinit.

The 16 other barangays have already received their respective vehicles in September 2020 and June 2021.

The P13 million fund used by the city to acquire the vehicles also included a service vehicle given to its Joint Inspection Team (JIT).

The Office for Veterinary Services, meanwhile, obtained a mini backhoe and a mini dump truck worth P995,000 and P998,000, respectively.

On April 29, local officials also turned over brand new vehicles amounting to P1.349 million each to the City Tourism Affairs Office and City Treasurer's Office.

On November 14, Mayor Yulo also led the turnover of one unit refrigerated van to the Office for Veterinary Services, one unit customized audiovideo van to the City Social Welfare and Development Office, and one unit double cab police patrol vehicle to Bago City Police Station.

The said vehicles cost P6 million./

City honors elderly residents

The City of Bago joined in the celebration of the Elderly Filipino Week 2022 by giving out Longevity Award to include cash incentives to qualified Bagonhons last October 7.

A total of 397 elderly received the cash incentives- 310 awardees ages 80-88 years old received P5,000; 85 with age ranging 90 to 99 years old got P10,000 each; and 2 centenarians were given P25,000.

Physically- able and vaccinated awardees were present to personally receive their award from the city government at the Manuel Y. Torres Memorial Coliseum and Cultural Center.

Mayor Nicholas Yulo approved the appropriation of P2.410 million for the cash award and was represented by Councilor Ma. Femmy A. Martir,



SP chair on Social Services Coun. Ma. Femmy Martir with CSWDO Leah Canayon and Social Worker Jona Emilia turn over P25,000 check to one of the centenarians.

chairperson on Social Services during the program and the distribution of the awards.

The activity which recognizes and give honor to Bagonhon elderlies was organized by the City Social Welfare

and Development Office led by Leah Pilipina Canayon.

The Elderly Filipino Week is celebrated annually from October 1-7. This year's theme is, "Older Persons: Resilience in Nation Building."/

SaBAYANg 4.5.6' campaign to nip dengue spread in Bago



The participants of the anti- dengue campaign led by Dr. Ferdinand Ramon Mayoga of CHO and SP Chair on Health Coun. Jake Patrick Torres.

The City Government of Bago through the City Health Office (CHO) recently conducted the "SaBAYANg 4.5.6 sa 24 ka barangays" campaign in the city's effort to address the surging cases of dengue.

"SaBAYANg 4.5.6", an initiative conceptualized by the Department of Health Region 6 (DOH-6), aims to address the issue of rising dengue cases in Western Visayas using a community-level approach.

The numbers "4", "5", and "6" stand for the 4S strategy against dengue that must be practiced, the 5 teams that are essential in the dengue response, and the "6" for "sabayan," or collective efforts of the provinces in region 6.

In Bago City, "24" refers to the 24 barangays that must work hand-in-hand in the fight against dengue.

Various activities transpired during the "SaBAYANg 4.5.6 sa 24 ka barangays" drive that included a launching program and the conduct of the City-Wide dengue caravan.

An Information, Education, and Communication campaign against dengue also took place in Barangays Ma-ao and Taloc.

The monitoring team from the Provincial Health Office (PHO), led by Ms. Josephine Nonato, also provided technical assistance in the said barangays.

SP Chairperson on Health Jake

Patrick Y. Torres, highlighted in his message during the launching program "the fight to prevent dengue should start within our homes" and called for everyone to practice the 4-S strategy against dengue and to add the 5th "S," which refers to "sustain" hydration.

The city also received larvicides from the PHO and each barangay was provided with Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS) Kits to be utilized by their respective barangay health stations.

The City-Wide Dengue Caravan under the leadership of City Health Officer Dr. Ferdinand Ramon Mayoga was joined in by the 24 barangays headed by their respective Punong Barangays, PNP, BFP, PHO, DILG, CDRRMO, CIO, CEMO, GSO, CSWDO, CMO-TMO, and CHO personnel.

It intends to intensify awareness against the disease and encourage residents to take unified action to prevent dengue.

As of January 1-14, 2023 the city has 9 reported dengue cases. This is 350% higher compared to the same period last year with only 2 cases. Majority of the cases in 2023 were from the following barangays: Mailum and Poblacion with 2 each (22%), followed by Bagroy, Balingasag, Lag-asan, Ma-ao and Malingin with 1 case each (11%)./ CHO

CHO launches PinasLakas booster jab campaign

The City Health Office (CHO) launched the Booster PinasLakas, a rebranding of Resbakuna with the theme, "Sabay Tayong Babangon, Magpa-Booster Ngayon!" at the Community Center on August 16.

This was pursuant to the Presidential directive pertaining to imementing COVID-19 strategies for the first 100 days to achieve 90% primary series coverage among Priority Group A2:Senior Citizens and 50% first booster coverage among the general population.

Present at the event were

Councilors Jake Patrick Torres and Victor Michael Javellana, different Barangay Captains, City Health Officer Dr. Ferdinand Ramon Mayoga, and CHO personnel and staff.

As of January 13, 2023, there were 103,048 or 81.52% fully vaccinated Bagonhons; 107,605 or 85.13% with at least one dose; 10,875 or 8.60% with booster shot, and 1,596 or 1.21% with 2nd booster.

The CHO recorded 18, 798 (14.87%) Bagonhons who are still unvaccinated.

The total population of Bago as of 2023 is projected at 180,575.



A health staff administers Covid-19 vaccine in Bago City.

City Health office, personnel reap awards

The Provincial Government of Negros Occidental has recognized Bago City Health Office (CHO) for placing first among the top 10 performing health facilities based on the 2021 Health Scorecard Result.

It received the award in rites held at the Nature's Village Resort in Talisay City on December 28, 2022.

Prior to this, the Bago CHO also received various awards during National Tuberculosis Program - Negros Occidental Data Validation and Awards Night also held at the Nature's Village Resort on December 7 and 8, 2022.

It received certificate of appreciation, certificate of achievement as top in treatment success rate, certificate of excellence for its Rapid Tuberculosis Diagnostic Laboratory, and certificate of achievement as best performing iDots facility in La Carlota CHO PMDT Catchment Site.

The city was also a recipient of the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition - 2021 Green Banner Seal of Compliance given during the Regional Nutrition Awarding Ceremony held at



City Health Office staff and Nutrition Office personal all led by Dr. Ferdinand Ramon Mayoga present to Mayor Yulo their awards.

the Diversion 21 Hotel in Iloilo City on November 23, 2022.

Merlyn Dagooc, of Barangay Malingin, also received a certificate of recognition for being the 2021 City Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar.

Adding to its long list of awards, Nurse Supervisor Obando was also recognized by the Provincial Health Office for her untiring contribution and efforts to have zero maternal deaths in the city for 2021.

Her outstanding performance and contribution as one of the coordinators for the Safe Motherhood Program in the province was also cited.

The Bago CHO under Dr. Ferdinand Mayoga assured that it will continue to implement programs and projects geared towards ensuring the health of the Bagonhons./

POC earns 102% rating in performance audit from DILG



The Bago Peace and Order Council (POC) garnered a perfect and highest rating in the recently concluded 2021 POC Performance Audit of the Department of Interior and Local Government.

According to the performance audit report signed by DILG Provincial Director Roselyn Quintana and the post by DILG Region VI last August 23, 2022, the POC Assessment Team award the city of Bago a rating of 102% in recognition of its programs in ensuring peace and order in the community.

Bago City got a perfect score in the five pillars of the said audit: Organization, Meetings, Policies, Plan and Budget, Reports, and General Supervision. Also, Bago received an additional points for the presence of an innovation related to peace and order and public safety.

"We would like to thank the Department of Interior and Local Government and the Provincial Peace and Order Audit Team for the perfect and high performance rating given to us," Bago Mayor Nicholas Yulo said.

"This will continuously serve as our inspiration to sustain our excellent performance in the pursuit of a peaceful, orderly, and safe community to live and do business for the people of Bago," he added.

The provincial assessment team complimented the creation of various special committees and the timely submission of reports of the city.

addition, they also gave recognition to the best practice of Bago which is the strengthening of the implementation of Barangay Clearing Program through incentivization and rewards.

Also issued was the result of the 2019 Performance Audit where the city was given a high functional rating of 97% by the Provincial Assessment Team./

Bagonhons celebrate 'Ang Paskwa sa Bago'



Mayor Nicholas Yulo and First Lady Jarie Yulo together with Vice Mayor Ramon Torres and wife Mrs. Menchie Torres, Board Member Andrew Martin Torres, and wife Kristel with children Ysabella and Ramon led the ceremonial switching- on of lights.

Bago Mayor Nicholas Yulo and Vice Mayor Ramon Torres led the ceremonial switch-on of lights at the Bantayan Park to signal the start of the holiday season in the city on December 9, 2022.

Dubbed "Ang Paskwa sa Bago," this was the first physical switch-

on ceremony after two years due to ongoing coronavirus disease (Covid-19) pandemic.

For 2022, the city government bannered its "Adopt A Tree Christmas Program" held back to back with the Parade of Lights of Bago City College dubbed "Sanaaw." "This a celebration of faith, hope and diversity. Also, a call to action in response to climate change," the City Tourism Affairs Office said.

The participating students were carrying parols lighted by solar lamps.

The activity was a joint project of the City Government of Bago, Bago City College and Tourism Affairs Office.

"[These are] baby steps for climate action through collaboration and regeneration," it added.

The mayor was joined by his wife, First Lady Jeanne Louise "Jarie" Yulo.

Also present during the switch-on ceremony were Menchie Torres, wife of Vice Mayor Torres, and son, Fourth District Board Member Andrew Martin Torres with wife Kristel and children, Ramon and Ysabella.

It was also witnessed by hundreds of locals who visited the Bantayan Park.

Bago hosts Negros Trade Fair pre-event

Bago City hosted one of the preevent activities of the Negros Trade Fair at the Bantayan Park on September 6, 2022.

The city government led by Mayor Nicholas Yulo welcomed the guests composed of national media and social media influencers who were invited by the Association of Negros Producers (ANP) to visit the province.

They were treated to a Bagonhon brand of hospitality like the showcase of culinary heritage featuring criollo tablea making by Chris Fadriga and "panara" making by Lourdes Villason.

They also experienced highlands' coffee and tea with fresh herbs, a dessert bar of Bagonhon sweets and delights, and a fare of fresh catch and native "sud-an" for their dinner by the Bantayan Riverfront.

The venue and the tablescaping showcased world-class Bagonhon and Negrense crafts with Bago City First Lady Jeanne Louise "Jarie" Yulo at the helm.

On display were products from



Bago City First Lady Jarie Yulo gives a message during the event with ANP Vice President for Advocacy Mary Ann Colmenares.

Tumandok Crafts Industries, Artisana, Whimsy by Silay Export and Hacienda Crafts Company.

"This is to promote and support Negrense communities and women who thrive through these micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs)," the City Tourism Affairs Office said.

The ANP also brought "sumsuman" bars by Chef Don Colmenares, Chef Nico de Asis Millanes and Entings of

Sagay whose cocktail food menu was perfect to pair with the drink mixes of Don Papa Rum.

The San Carlos City Orchestra also endeared the guests and audience with their symphony.

For ANP Vice President for Advocacy Mary Ann Colmenares, the event was a convergence as it featured the best of Negros Occidental./
Tourism Affairs Office



DIWATA SANG BAGO CANDIDATES. Bago Vice Mayor Ramon Torres (center) and (from left) Councilors Joebert Tagobader, Robert Javellana, Imelda Precion, Ma. Josefa Matti, Ma. Femmy Martir, Carlos Mondia, (back, from left) Jake Patrick Torres, Victor Michael Javellana and Joseph Colmenares with SK Federation President Carl Benedict Baylon (back, second from right) welcome the 2023 Diwata sang Bago candidates (from left) Elver Krystelle Redula, Macy Alaine Albarico, Angeline Lorenz Villarosa, Aliah Abayon, Jhamaica Espiñe, Sophia Yzabelle Gico, Aninah Romo, Sheree Elarmo, Geralyn Joy Basto, Jada Biaxyl Celeste, Krystel Elaine Alvarez, Sillyn Ysabelle Valente and Stephanie Kyle Salimbot during their courtesy call at the Sangguniang Panlungsod Session Hall on February 1. The pre-pageant will be on February 10 ahead of the coronation night with Kapuso heartthrob Derrick Monasterio at the city's Manuel Y. Torres Memorial Colisuem and Cultural Center on February 14.

At least 1,242 businesses apply, renew permits

At least 1, 242 enterprises in Bago City have applied for business registration and renewal through the local government's Business One-Stop Shop (BOSS).

Kitchie Alvarado, who is the city's Business Permit and Licensing Officer (BPLO) designate, said the figure covers those who have obtained their business registration as of January 20, 2023.

Most of these businesses are for renewal following the expiration of their registration on December 31 last year, she said, adding that these enterprises include retail, wholesale, manufacturing, food establishments and grocery stores, among others.

Compared to January 20, 2022, the city only registered 692 businesses which formed part of the total 3,046 registered businesses in the city last

For this year, the BPLO has yet to release the total number of registered businesses as the application is still ongoing as of this writing.

BOSS, which opened last January 3, is an integrated location where entrepreneurs and business owners can process their business registration and renew their business licenses.



BOSS. Clients applying for renewal of business permits avail of the Business One Stop Shop in Bago.

Mayor Nicholas Yulo earlier said the BOSS is aimed at ensuring the efficient processing of documents for all types of business.

All of the requirements including zoning, building, occupational, fire and sanitary permits as well as environment clearance can be processed at the BOSS Office located at the public plaza within the Manuel Y. Torres Memorial Coliseum and Cultural Center.

mayor had encouraged business owners to take advantage of this annual program so they may experience ease in doing business here in the city.

"Taxes are the lifeblood of our governance. We can provide more and better services to the people of Bago through efficient collection of taxes," he stressed.

The first 1,000 registrants received umbrellas as tokens from the city government.

Meanwhile, those who failed to register their businesses will incur penalties including surcharge equivalent to 25 percent of the total amount due and interest of two percent per month, but not exceeding 36 months, based on the amount due./



THIRD TERM. Mayor Nicholas "Nikko" Yulo takes his oath before Executive Judge Jennifer Protasio- Arches as city mayor of Bago at the Community Center on June 24, 2022. With him are his wife Jarie, and sister Joan and her family- husband Oscar, and children Gillian and Gabby.

The Bago City Community Center was screaming symbolism everywhere as it took a makeover for the inauguration and oath-taking ceremonies of the newly-elected officials of the city on June 24, 2022.

Flaunting a modern Philippine colonial design, the entrance as well as the ceremonial stage backdrop were adorned with capiz wall panels, and fresh decorative leaves. The seating tables also featured modern, cross-back chairs, dragon tail leaves, and capiz candle holders, but it was the beauty of the Alstroemeria aurea also known as Peruvian Lilies as centerpieces that completed the look -- all symbolizing friendship, strength and devotion.

Invited guests started to arrive in the venue an hour before the program, all dressed in their sophisticated modern barong and filipiniana attire. The ambience became even more elegant as The Prelude, a band of musicians, played familiar melodies in the background.

The ceremonies commenced

with the singing of the Philippine National Anthem led by the Bago City Employees Chorale. The Ecumenical Prayer was led by Rev. Fr. Alfredo Gamarcha of St. John the Baptist Parish, Pastor Renie Fegar of Bago Main Evangelical Church, and Right Rev. Virgilio Amihan Jr. of Iglesia Filipina Independiente. A musical number was then given by The Prelude featuring the music of our National Artist Maestro Ryan Cayabyab.

The most important part of the event followed, the oath-taking. The oath is an important ceremonial gesture signifying the official start to one's term in office. Significantly, it's a means for the elected officials to make public commitment to the duties, responsibilities and obligations associated with holding public office.

The Sangguniang Panlungsod members – elect: Marina Javellana - Yao, Maria Josefa Matti, Imelda Precion, Ma. Femmy Alvarez-Martir, Victor Michael Javellana, Jake Patrick Torres, Carlos Mondia, Joseph Colmenares, Jobert Tagobader and Robert Javellana were called on stage for the administration of the oaths of office by Bago City Regional Trial Court Executive Judge Mary Jennifer Protasio - Arches.

Mayor Nicholas Yulo then took oath along with his family led by his wife, Jeanne Louise "Jarie" Jalandoni-Yulo, who was holding the bible on which the mayor-elect



SPEECH. Mayor Yulo delivers his inaugural speech which centers on his dream of a progressive city.

swore. Judge Protasio-Arches also administered his oath of office.

The mayor, in his inaugural speech, first thanked his "kasimanwas," the Bagonhons, for the humbling trust and confidence they bestowed upon him for the third time that he was elected into the position.

"I promised my kasimanwas that I will double and intensify my efforts, provide them with what they truly deserve," he recalled, adding that "in so doing, I sealed with them an unwritten covenant that still binds us together in continuously dreaming and working for a much progressive Bago City."

Among the kev areas of local governance Yulo's Mayor administration had given focus during his second term in office included health, education, infrastructure, agriculture, tourism, environment, fiscal management, peace and order, disaster management, trade and industry and vulnerable sectors. For him, "these are big dreams but with the continued and undivided support and contribution of each and every Bagonhon under the binding covenant we have, I was optimistic that these dreams will come to fruition and will move the city further into greater heights."

And as he humbly stood once again before the people of Bago, repeating the same oath he pledged in 2016 and in 2019, he was even more grateful for another term as a local chief executive. He also proudly reported that despite the pandemic, the city was able to achieve what he promised in his inauguration three years ago.

In the education sector, improvements were made to Bago City College which now has an improved school library, a renovated Criminology Department laboratory, and a newly constructed common canteen. In the field of agriculture, farm technology and mechanization greatly modernized improved the local farming sector making Bago a hall of fame awardee for being a top rice-producing city in Western Visayas by the Department of Agriculture.



HONOR GUARD. A member of the PNP serving as a lone honor guard holds the city flag behind Mayor Yulo during his inauguration.



SIGNING. The Mayor signs his oath office with Judge Protasio- Arches and his family witnessing the ceremonial event.



CHORALE. The Bago City Employees Chorale led the singing of the Philippine National Anthem.



FIRST COUPLE. Mayor Nikko Yulo and First Lady Jarie Jalandoni- Yulo during the traditional photo opportunity after the ceremony.

For health, the proud mayor said that the city's best practices against Covid-19 have been recognized and replicated by other localities all across the country. The champion in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in Health award given to him and six other local chief executives by the Department of Health is a testament that the city's common purpose is not put in vain.

"Hence, it is just fitting that I mention the men and women who were our warriors in our battle against Covid," the mayor said, highlighting the contribution of his fellow officials, barangay captains and frontliners, among others.

"You will always be remembered as our Covid warriors -- our heroes and sheroes. Thank you for your great services and ultimate sacrifices," he exclaimed.

Mayor Yulo also emphasized that as the father of the city, he will make sure that his administration remains





YULO SANG BAGO. Members of the Yulo clan in a family portrait. Seated (L-R): Gabby Y. Rojas, the Mayor, First Lady Jarie, Gillian Y. Rojas. Standing (L-R): Albert S. Montelibano, Adine M. Alonso, Cristy L. Montelibano, Felice Y. Teodoro, Joan Y. Rojas, Oscar B. Rojas, Jr., J.P. C. Yulo, Dr. Pamela A. Marchadesch, Dr. Mario Y. Marchadesch.

responsive, transparent and inclusive, reaffirming his commitment to God and the people of Bago City. So, he called on the members of the city council to remember the oath they all have sworn. For the department heads and employees, he advised them to continuously render their selfless dedication to the service of the people of Bago to whom they pledged to serve.

"As the father of the city, I implore my fellow Bagonhons to rally behind your elected city officials, participate in public discourse, and always be a part of the solution," he said, stressing that this is the best formula to improve the community and the lives of their fellow Bagonhons.

The mayor also acknowledged his wife and family for their support and encouragement.

Also present in the event were the outgoing officials, barangay captains of the 24 barangays, family members of the newly-elected officials, and



guests. Reelected Vice Mayor Ramon Torres, meanwhile, was represented by his family and relatives.

Thousands of Bagonhons all over the world were also able to witness the formalities through the The Citybridge Facebook Page's live stream and simulcast on Radyo Bago 101.7 FM.

Concluding his inaugural address, Mayor Yulo quoted the words of Saint Paul, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith," as he continues to envision Bago City to remain as a place of peace and harmony, of happiness and stability, of sustainable development and progress, and most especially, a haven of every Bagonhon's dreams.

Parallel to symbols of friendship, strength, and devotion that the whole setting portrayed, the solemn rites itself, conveyed the message of a welcoming, strong and committed administration fulfilling its promise to serve each and every Bagonhon for the next three years. /CGE



Vice mayor, city councilors take oath



Re-elected Bago City Vice Mayor Ramon "Monet" Torres takes his oath of office before Municipal Trial Court in Cities Presiding Judge Aireen Bonghanoy at the city hall on May 24, 2022.

Reelected Bago City Vice Mayor Ramon "Monet" Torres took his oath of office before Hon. Aireen Bonghanoy, presiding judge of the Municipal Trial Court in Cities, at the city hall on May 24, 2022.

Though he ran unopposed in the May 9, 2022 elections, the three-termer vice mayor obtained an overwhelming 52,030 votes.

He was accompanied by his Dayding; son, former sister. councilor now Fourth District Board Member Andrew Martin Torres with wife, Kristel, and kids Ysabella and Ramon; other children, Katrina and Monching; nephew, Jet; and cousin, Manolet Torres.

Mayor Nicholas Yulo was also present during the occasion.

members Other the Sangguniang Panlungsod also took their oath during the inauguration and oath-taking ceremonies held at the Bago City Community Center on June 24, 2022.

The newly-elected councilors are Marina Javellana-Yao, Maria Josefa Matti, Imelda Precion, Jake Patrick Torres, Victor Michael Javellana, Carlos Mondia, Maria Femmy Alvarez-Martir, Joseph Colmenares, Jobert Tagobader and Robert Javellana.



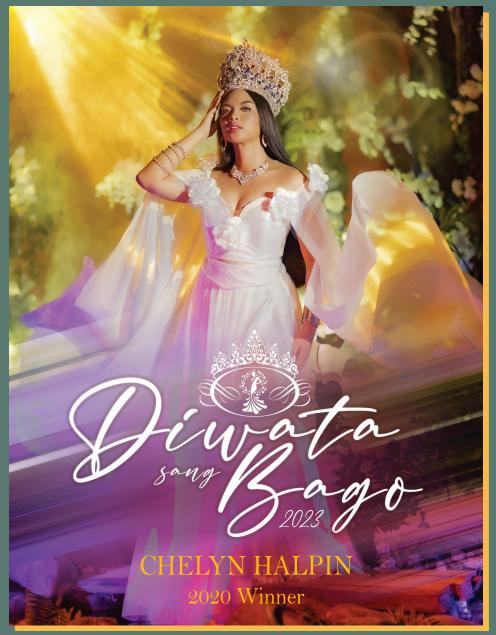
Bago City Mayor Nicholas Yulo (seated center) with the newly-elected councilors during the Inauguration and Oath-Taking Ceremonies held at the Bago City Community Center on June 24,



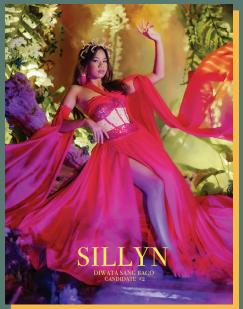
Newly-elected Councilors take their oath before Bago City Regional Trial Court Executive Judge Mary Jennifer Protasio - Arches in rites held at the Bago City Community Center on June 24, 2022.

They were sworn in by Bago City Regional Trial Court Executive Judge Mary Jennifer Protasio - Arches, who also administered the oath of office of Mayor Yulo on the same day.

The solemn rites was also witnessed by the department heads, barangay captains, and families of the newly-elected officials, among other quests./





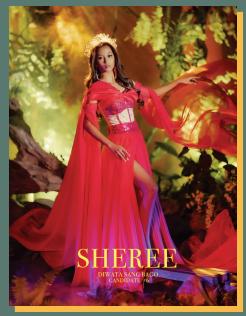


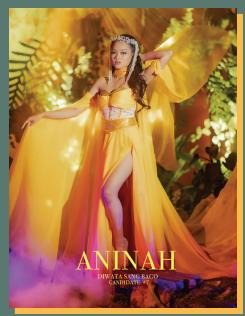


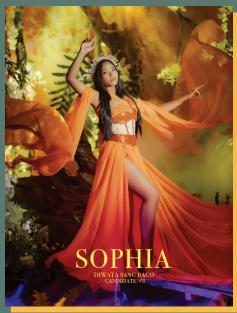




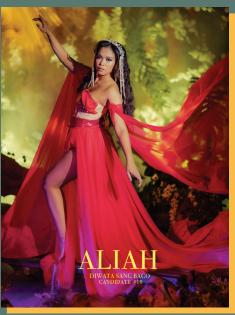




















Mayor Nicholas Yulo with (I-r) USec. MGen Augusto Dela Peña, Iloilo Governor Arthur Defensor, Jr., Ormoc Mayor Lucy Torres- Gomez, and representative of Samar Governor Sharee Ann Tan during the DENR Multistakeholder Forum held in Iloilo City, on January 18, 2023.



Dr. Deborah Natalia Singson with Mayor Nicholas Yulo during her Investiture and Installation Rites as the 3rd College Administrator and the 1st Bago City College President on October 7, 2022.



Bago City Hospital personnel led by Dr. Jesus Rey Pacilan present to Mayor Yulo their Sandugo Award and Best Performing Disease Reporting Unit award given by the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental on January 4.



Mayor Nicholas Yulo turnover the books donated by Mr. Quintin Pastrana of WEnergy Power Philippines, Inc. for the City Public Library to City Librarian Maria Lea Cortez and the library staff on July 19, 2022.



Engr. Leo Pahilanga took his oath before Mayor Nicholas Yulo as the newly appointed General Services Officer of the City Government of Bago on October 10, 2022.



City Health Office led by Dr. Ferdinand Ramon Mayoga show to Mayor Nicholas Yulo their trophies as Regional Sandugo Awardee for Year 2019 and 2020 on April 29, 2022.



LANDBANK Bago Agri-Hub represented by branch head Clarissa Tiempo turned over a P100,000 check to Mayor Nicholas Yulo and City Treasurer Caruso Villaflor, Jr., last January 17, 2023 as their assistance for the victims of Typhoon Paeng in the city.



Bago City hosted the Negros Occidental Coastal Wetlands Area Management Alliance (NOCWAMA) Day and Negros Occidental Coastal Wetlands Conservation Area (NOCWCA) 7th RAMSAR Site anniversary at the Bago City Community Center on October 20, 2022.



'Paskwa sang Pag-asa' is an annual Christmas gift-giving project of Mayor Nicholas M. Yulo, Vice Mayor Ramon D. Torres, SP members, department heads and the employees of the city government of Bago.

It was conceptualized way back 2006 in order to reach lives, create smiles, touch hearts and give hope to the underprivileged Bagonhons during the Christmas Season. This is a collective effort of the city employees and its officials and is being done every December.

It has several components to include adopt- a-child program for less fortunate but deserving school children, gift packs distribution to underprivileged Bagonhons, Christmas lunch with Persons Deprived of Liberty, and gift- sharing to elderly and war veterans.

The fund for this activity comes from the amount shared by the city employees and its officials collected from their year-end bonuses.



Josiah Mariella T. Flores

9 years old · April 13, 2013 Grade IV · Abuanan Elementary School Brgy. Abuanan, Bago City

Josiah Mariella received toys, shoes, groceries, clothes, a sack of rice, school supplies and a bag from the Offices of Local Registrar and Traffic Management.





Robert Ecleto

II years old · March II, 2011 Grade I · Alianza Elementary School Brgy. Alianza, Bago City

The Offices of LEDIPO, Cooperative and City Agriculturist gave Robert Ecleto a bicycle, a sack of rice, gifts for his family, groceries, biscuits and shoes from them





Joven D. Tamises

12 years old • December 27, 2009 Grade IV • Atipuluan Elementary School Brgy. Atipuluan, Bago City

The General Services Office gave a sack of rice, groceries, bicycle, cash gift, materials for house repair and gifts for the members of the family of Joven.







Maricel D. Soriano

June 1, 2010 Grade VI Tabucol Najaba Extension Elem. School Brgy. Bacong, Bago City

Maricel was able to receive a sack of rice, roofing materials, groceries, pillows, trapal, bag, sets of uniform, biscuits, rechargeable fan, things for school use, and mega box from the City Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office.





Christal Jean Chavez

ll years old · April 12, 2011 Grade VI Dr. P. F. Elizalde Elementary School Brgy. Bacong, Bago City

The General Services Office gave Christal Jean a cash gift, groceries, toys, sack of rice, baskets, plastic wares, lumber, Plywood, roofing materials, cake, and solar lights.





Analisa Varona

6 years old · December 10, 2015 Grade 1 - Bagroy Elementary School Brgy. Bagroy, Bago City

Analisa got toys, school supplies, umbrella, sack of rice, big lantern, shoes, clothes, bags, sleeping mat, cash ajft, and groceries from Bago City College.







Christian Lobaton Padernal

November 27, 2011 Grade V Gen. Juan A. Araneta Elementary School Brgy. Balingasag, Bago City

The Offices of the City Assessor and Nutrition gave Christian a mini drawer, biscuits, a sack of rice, groceries, kitchenware, and school supplies.





Christian Jay Borbor

13 years old · December 2, 2008 Grade VI - Louisiana Elementary School Brgy. Binubuhan, Bago City

Christian Jay was able to receive a sack of rice, roofing materials, groceries, clothes, biscuits, a carabao and a farming tool from the Office of the Veternary Services.





Carl Vincent S. Coruña

10 years old · September 27, 2012 Grade IV ML Araneta Elementary School Brgy. Busay, Bago City

Car Vincent, the beneficiary of City Health Office, received a sack of rice, sleeping mat, bicycle, kitchenware, clothes, plastic wares, biscuits and ancerties groceries.









Julie Ann L. Casilad

8 years old - July 7, 2014 Grade II T. Morada Elementary School Brgy. Calumangan, Bago City

The Office of the Tourism Affairs and City Library shared a big lighted Christmas lantern a sack of rice, 24" groceries to Julie Ann and her family.





Samboy Rey Sudayon

10 years old . August 14, 2012
Grade V
Caridad Elementary School
Brgy. Caridad, Bago City

Samboy Rey received groceries, kitchenwares, clay stove, sleeping mat, shoes, sack of rice, mosquito net, shoes, sack of rice, mosquito net, clothes, bags, and cash gift from the city Budget Office.





Danibel Angelico

12 years old · May 12, 2010 Grade VI Ma-ao Sugar Central Elementary School Brgy. DJLA, Bago City

Bago City Hospital was able to share biscuits, groceries, plastic table and chairs, umbrella, clothes, a sack of rice, and school supplies to Danibel.









Charity D. Onapan 9 years old October 25, 2013 Ma-ao Sugar Central Elementary School Brgy. DJLA, Bago City

Charity was the beneficiary of City Engineer's Office. She was able to mat, bed sheets, kitchenwares, groceries, clothes, biscuits, a sack of rice, and cash gift.





Ela Lachica

9 years old · July 31, 2013 Grade N Vidal Cauntoy Elementary School Brgy. Dulao, Bago City

Paskwa sang Pag-asa beneficiary, Ela Lachica received plastic chairs and tables, bicycle, clothes, solar lights, aroceries, sack of rice, and egss from free Office of City Human Resource Management Officer.





Jenelyn Semilla Asuncion

9 years old · December 3, 2012 Grade IV Vidal Cauntoy Elementary School Brgy. Dulao, Bago City

Jenelyn was also one of the beneficiaries of Bago City Hospital. She received clothes, shoes, groceries, a sack of rice, and materials for improvement of their house.





Mhel Evan Ponce

11 Years Old · November 18, 2011 Grade V R&S Abindan Elementary School Brgy. Ilijan, Bago City

The Office of Buenos Aires Mountain Resort gave Mhel a big lantern, sack of rice, milk, canned goods, and biscuits as their Christmas gifts during Paskwa sang Pag-asa 2023.





Akina Violeta Tenefrancia

8 years old . January 16, 2014 Grade III Lag-asan Elementary School Brgy. Lag-asan, Bago City

Pantawid Office gave Akina sets of school uniform kitchenwares, ot scnool unitorm, kitchenwares, biscuits, school supplies, bicycle, hygiene kits, groceries, sack of rice, and clothes





Angel Genaboga

II years old · July 28, 2011 Grade V Ma-ao Elementary School Brgy. Ma-ao, Bago City

The City Mayor's Office-Admin.
Section was able to give Angel
groceries, sack of rice, shoes,
cellphone, plastic wares, biscuits,
clothes, and things like diapers for
her sick mother her sick mother







Sofronio "Thirdy" R. Clamor, III

6 years old · August 31, 2016 Grade 1 Ma-ao Elementary School Brgy. Ma-ao, Bago City

Sofronio received groceries, sack of rice, clothes, toys, kitchenwares, shoes, a bucket of Jollibee chicken joy, plastic wares, cash gift, and school supplies from the Office of City Planning and Development Officer Officer.





Christine Joy Bausen

10 years old · August 7, 2012 Grade VI Ma-ao Elementary School Brgy. Ma-ao, Bago City

Christine Joy, the beneficiary of Office of the Sangguniary Panlungsod received plastic chairs and stable groceries, bag plastic wares, sack of rice, clay stove, cash gift, shoes, sleeping mat, and fruits





Angela Y. Mahinay

6 years old · August 29, 2016 Gradé I R.M. Araneta Elementary School Brgy. Mailum, Bago City

The Office of the City Engineer gave school supplies, sack of rice, kitchenwares, biscuits, clothes, groceries, cash gift, and bag to Angela.





Zyril V. Francisco

10 years old - May 25, 2012 Grade V Cristeta A Dormido Elementary School Brgy. Mailum, Bago City

Zyril was also a beneficiary of Bago City College. She received a cash gift, clothes, bags, big lantern, sleeping mat, toys, school supplies, a sack of rice, and groceries.





Samantha Nicole A. Concepcion

7 years old · December 18, 2015 Grade I Jalsis Elementary School Brgy, Malingin, Bago City

Samantha Nicole was assigned to be the beneficiary of City Social Welfare and Development Office and was able to received shoes, anceries school supplies biscuits una was ane to received snoes, aroceries, school supplies, biscuits, bicycle, clothes, 24" TV, umbrella, water bottles, and bed sheets.





Jared Rain Zamora

8 years old · November 2, 2014 Grade II

Dr. A. Sian Elementary School

Brgy. Napoles, Bago City

The Office of City Environment Management Officer gave their beneficiary, Jared a LED TV, plastic wares, towels, groceries, slippers, clothes, rice, and spaghetti pack









Joden C. Matti

10 years old • May 1, 2012 Grade V R.M. Salas Elementary School Brgy. Pacol, Bago City

Joden received a sack of rice, ooden received a sack of rice, clothes, plastic wares, groceries, basket, shoes, and polo shirt from the City Legal Office.





Jasmine Bentic

8 years old · September 22 2012 Gen. Juan A. Araneta Elementary School Brgy. Poblacion, Bago City

The City Employees Coop gave Jasmine bags, shoes, groceries, megabox, beddings, a sack of rice, biscuits, and schools supplies.



Keven D. Jumaway 9 years old . January 10, 2013

yeans ola . January 10, 2015 Grade III Sagasa Elementary School Brgy. Sagasa, Bago City

Keven, a beneficiary of Sangguniang Parlungsod Office received a sack of rice, bag, umbrella, groceries, clay stove, cash gift, fruits, clothes, and plasticwares.









Rainiel A. Peñaflorida

10 years old · September 7, 2012 Grade IV Leonor Dela Rama Elementary School Brgy. Sampinit Bago City

The Offices of PopCom, OSCA, and BAC gave Rainiel an electric fan, bicycle, a sack of rice, groceries, beddings, shoes, school supplies, bag, and clothes.



Jeffrey Ortiz, Jr,

6 years old · May 24, 2016 Grade I' I. Makilan Elementary School Tabunan, Bago City

Jeffrey received a Christmas gifts such as shoes, bags, plastic wares, fruits, water jag, groceries, school supplies, clothes, kitchenwares, and materials for house repair from the Office of the City Treasurer.





Rexie Boy N. Magbanua

7 years old . January 8, 2015 r years old - January 8, 2015 Grade 1 Newton Jison Elementary School Brgy. Taloc, Bago City

Rexie Boy received a bicycle, groceries, a sack of rice, clothes, school supplies, biscuits, shoes, beddings, kitchenwares, a bucket of Jollibee chicken joy, and roofing materials from the Office of City Accountant. Accountant.







Rainjal C. Aguirre

7 years old · July 14, 2015 Grade III JI Araneta Elementary School Brgy. Taloc, Bago City

The Office of City Human Resource Management Officer gave Rainjal bicycle, groceries, plastic chairs and table, sack of rice, water jag, clothes, school supplies, and solar lights.



Info office, officer win...

From page 2



Bago Information Officer I Ace Balboa (second from right) with his Hall of Fame award from the Philippine Information Agency with PIA Negros Occidental Information Center Manager Lorenzo Lambatin Jr., Region 6 Officer-In-Charge Jemin Guillermo and Director-General Undersecretary Ramon Lee Cualoping III (I-r) at the awarding rites.

having an information officer and an information office cannot be denied.

Balboa recalled that the past three years of the pandemic had tested their mettle as government workers assigned at the information office.

"We were also working 24/7 just like other coronavirus disease (Covid-19) frontliners," he said, adding that "just like other frontliners, we also exposed ourselves to possible infection as we also need to be in our office physically and give real-time situationer and updates on Covid-19 within our respective localities."

Thus, for him, winning in 2020, 2021 and 2022 which are called the eras of the Covid-19 pandemic "means really so much to me because it shows that our little contribution to the whole-ofnation approach against Covid-19 is also being recognized."

"American poet Robin Morgan posited that like knowledge, information is power. In fact, the pandemic has given us this invaluable lesson," the multi-awarded information officer said, stressing that LGUs with established information offices and officers were able to connect with their constituencies quickly thereby creating a well-informed and safe community free from any misinformation and disinformation.

Meanwhile, The Citybridge, the official Facebook Page of Bago City, also bagged the third Best Facebook Page award in Western Visayas.

It is the sole LGU in Negros Occidental to make it to the top three.

The first and second places went to Iloilo City and Antique Province, respectively.

In her letter to Bago City Mayor Nicholas Yulo, PIA - Western Visayas Officer-In-Charge Regional Head Jemin Guillermo congratulated the mayor and expressed her appreciation to the local chief executive for his robust partnership with the agency in making development communication a vital part of the government's thrust.

In fact, Balboa also underscored in his speech that information offices and officers are the powerful mouthpiece of their respective LGUs.

"Without us functioning our roles, our kasimanwas might be blind to what is happening especially in their locality during crucial times like Covid-19," he pointed out.

He added that "true to our mandate, we remain consistent to our thrust in serving our public with timely, accurate, and relevant information so that they will become well- informed, educated, and empowered Filipinos."

As he thanked PIA-Western Visayas for the honor it has bestowed on him, Balboa said he is honored to accept the award not only on behalf of his fellow awardees but of all the hardworking government information officers, most especially the information officers of each city and municipality in the region.

"I am celebrating you all with this award," Balboa said as he also acknowledged the support of the mayor, PIA-Negros Occidental personnel, and his Negros Occidental Association of Government Information Officers and Liasons (Nagiol) family.

He also mentioned the hardwork and dedication of his staff.

"For anybody who has a dream, this is what a dream looks like. I'm so blessed to be here and I am humbled by these awards," Balboa noted.

Moreover, Bago City was the lone LGU in Negros Occidental that won the top prizes in this year's regional search.

annual awards conceptualized by PIA-6 in the hope that information officers in the LGUs and NGAs shall continue to be innovative, inspiring and committed to deliver excellent public service particularly in providing timely, relevant and accurate information on government programs, policies and services.

For his part, PIA Director-General Undersecretary Ramon Lee Cualoping III, who was also present at the activity, underscored the vital role of information officers in communicating and explaining government policies and programs.

"Stick to our DNA as government communicators," he told information officers in the region, adding that "it is easy to look at because we have the tools, we have the equipment, we have the easy way of doing it. But, the most difficult part is how to communicate."/



HOSPITAL AMBULANCE DONATION

Mayor Nicholas Yulo and Vice Mayor Ramon Torres led the turnover of ambulance donated by Department of Health Western Visayas to Bago City Hospital last December 21, 2022.

The said type 1 land ambulance was donated by DOH Region 6 as part of their Health Facilities Enhancement Program [HFEP].

In attendance at the event were Councilors Joseph Colmenares, Ma. Josefa Matti, Ma. Femmy Martir, Victor Michael Javellana, Carlos Mondia, Carl Benedict Baylon, Board Member Andrew Torres, GSO head Engr. Leo Pahilanga and Bago City Hospital chief Dr. Jesus Rey Pacilan and Admin chief Mayelena Pacilan.

Bago City 2022 SGLG...

From page 2

of excellence in public service," the DILG-Western Visayas said as it noted that for this year's SGLG, Region 6 is the top region in the Visayas and Mindanao with the highest number of LGU passers.

"On a nationwide scale, we rank first with the highest number of city passers and second in terms of provincial passers," it added.

The SGLG is a now-institutionalized award, incentive, honor, and recognition-based program aimed at boosting the LGUs' drive to constantly progress and/or sustain their notable performance across various governance areas, the DILG said in Memorandum Circular 2022-026.

The of validation areas financial sustainability include and administration. disaster preparedness, social protection and sensitivity, health compliance responsiveness, sustainable and

education, business friendliness and competitiveness, safety, peace and order, environmental management, tourism heritage development, culture and arts, and youth development.

The SGLG, being a progressive assessment system that aives distinction to remarkable local government performance across several areas, puts primacy on integrity and good performance to institutionalize local governance reforms in the continuing pursuit for meaningful local autonomy and development, the DILG MC added.

The seven Negros Occidental national passers are among the 11 LGUs, including the highly-urbanized Bacolod City, as well as Victorias City, Cadiz City, and Manapla town, shortlisted and assessed in September 2022 by 15 national validators, all from the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao./With reports from NND

LGU wins...

From page 4

innovations and strategies it initiates to ensure effective and efficient implementation of programs and services.

Themed "Charting our Future with Inspired Excellence" this year, the Excell Awards aims to advocate for transparency and accountability in governance, positively reinforce good performers, popularize replicable best practices and identify possible interventions to improve the LGU performance.

As he thanked the DILG-Western Visayas for the awards, Mayor Nicholas Yulo said they are truly humbled and grateful that the city's best practices have been recognized in the whole region.

Yulo earlier said that the best practices submitted by the city for evaluation were all implemented in the name of public service and these were able to touch the lives of the people of Bago.

"This is a manifestation of how hardworking and dedicated to public service the employees of Bago City Hall are. To them we dedicate these distinctions," the mayor added.

Fire...

From page 8

of the upland villages, fire marshalls from the Fourth District, Barangay Ma-ao officials and its Community Fire Auxiliary Group (CFAG) and stakeholders.

Yulo said that the creation of the Ma-ao substation was a product of a strong collaborative work of the community in partnership with various government agencies to benefit the people.

He further pledged for more improvements of the facility in the future.

For his part, Candido lauded the city government and Barangay Maao officials led by Punong Barangay Jovito Gahaton for the realization of the said substation and their support to the BFP./AAB

Watershed revival...

From page 4

10,000 households for domestic and industrial water usage.

Besides from its institutionalized environment and ecotourism programs, Bago City was further primed to the global standards of sustainability in destination management through Madame Susan Santos de Cardenas, the President and CEO of the Society of Sustainable Tourism, Southeast Asia Partner and Representative of Green Destinations and the Co-founder and Vice Chair of Asian Ecotourism Network.

She has been working with the Sustainability Team of the LGU since 2018, to push forth more efforts for Ecotourism and Sustainable Destination Management and Tourism Development.

The city's team was admitted to a Waiver Free Training Program of the Green Destinations with Madame de Cardenas' nomination.

The 2022 Green Destinations Top 100 Stories List recognition for Bago City was given during the Green Destinations and Future of Tourism Summit held in Athens, Greece on September 27, 2022.

The city was able to clinch the award for its efforts towards responsible tourism and distinctive appeal in its "Reviving the Majestic Diversity of the Bago Watershed" project.

It was given by Green Destinations [GD], a non-profit organization based in The Netherlands after a month-long evaluation.

The unveiling ceremony which was attended by 250 delegates from 43 countries took place at the Kypseli Municipal Market Fokionos Negri 42, Athens.

City Councilor Ma. Josefa Matti, chair of the Tourism Committee, and Senior Tourism Operations Officer Mae Ann Furtos received the award from Green Destination President Albert Salman and Board Member Hugo de Jong.

Mayor Nicholas Yulo, in a statement, said that the recognition given to Bago will continue to motivate the city to do



WELCOME. Bago Mayor Nicholas M. Yulo welcomes H.E. Michèle BOCCOZ, Ambassador of the French Republic to the Philippines and Non-Resident Ambassador-Designate to Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands and company to Bago City last August 6, 2022.

Bagonhon sports...

From page 6

Center in Bago City.

received P50,000 and P30,000 cash incentives from the city government, respectively. Their coaches also received P10,000 each.

The city council, in a resolution presented during the ceremony, said by winning the national and international tournament, athletes have made the country proud and shown to the world the spirit of Filipino competitiveness and excellence.

For his part, Mayor Yulo said it's also an honor for the city that two of his residents have brought glory to the country through sports.

The mayor pointed out that the government is really giving importance to sports programs as this helps in the development not only of the skills of the youth but also their values which they can use in their daily lives.

It is really good that there's a grassroot sports program in order to produce champions like Ladon and Palicte, Mayor Yulo said, recognizing the late mayor Manuel Torres who started the boxing program in the city.

Meanwhile, the city government also honored the teams who won in the Little League Philippines National Finals Softball Tournament which it hosted also in May 2022.

It granted P50,000 cash incentives to the Bago City Juniors Softball League team as champion, P30,000 to Bago City Majors Softball League as first runner-up, and P20,000 to Bago City Senior Softball League for bagging the second runner-up title. Their coaches also each received P5,000 cash incentives.

Also present during the activity were some city councilors, department heads and employees, and family of the athletes./SSB

more in sustaining the preservation and conservation of the Bago Watershed.

For the mayor, he considered this international recognition as inspiring as he paid tribute to the strong collaboration among various stakeholders.

Green **Destinations** supports sustainable their destinations,

businesses and their communities.

Its core programs, the Awards and Certification Program for destinations, the Good Travel Program for businesses, and the Top 100 Sustainability Stories are the main pillars of a countrywide stewardship approach that they have developed and piloted in Slovenia, Estonia, Australia, Brazil and Guyana./

City grants...

From page 6

in this year's Junior League World Series.

"I personally would like to congratulate our softball girls and their coaches," he said, adding that "worthy of note are their parents for encouraging their children and the Filipino community in the United States of America for taking good care of our athletes thereby boosting their morale and fighting spirit to hit a home run."

The team's head coach Josie Sebunga, on the sidelines of the recognition rites at the Bago City Community Center, underscored the support of the local government and Filipino community in the USA all throughout the competition.

It was the team's first time to join a world tournament, Sebunga said, stressing that Bago City softball girls were smaller than their foreign opponents.

Sebunga said all the teams they defeated, including three from the US, en route to the semi-finals were not able to score against them.

On the other hand, the Philippines was able to score against all the teams who defeated them, Sebunga said.

"But we really did our best, the girls really worked hard, they fought to bring home something for the city," she said, adding that they will use the experience they got from this year's world series to better the areas that they need to improve for a stronger comeback in the next competition.

It was a memorable experience for the girls, Sebunga said.

Pitcher and team captain For Layle Baladhay, of the city's Barangay Sampinit, also thanked all those who helped the team "as well as our parents for your support and understanding."

Like her team members, Baladhay is also a student of Ramon Torres National High School.**/PNA** & SSB



AWARD. City Cooperative Officer- Designate and LEDIPO Judee Lynn Lirazan and her staff present to Mayor Nicholas Yulo on November 21 the certificate and the trophy of the City of Bago for being named as Most Competitive in Government Efficiency- Rank 3 during the 6th Regional Cities and Municipalities Competitiveness Index (CMCI) Awards for Competitive LGUs held at Park Inn Hotel, Iloilo City, November 18.

Homegrown boxing...

From page 7

said in the resolution, adding that "this outstanding performance by our Bagonhon boxer deserves to be commended for the honor and recognition he has brought to our city."

Villanueva also received P50,000 in cash incentives "for his outstanding feat, hard work and dedication worthy of emulation" from the city government.

"It's a great honor to be given recognition by the city government," Villanueva said, adding that this will further inspire him to continue improving his craft in order to bring more pride to the city.

For his part, Mayor Yulo said the city congratulates yet another son of Bago who has brought honor to the city, province and country.

"We continue to hope that this will inspire our young ones to emulate our athletes not only in boxing but also in other fields of sports," he said.

The mayor believes that sports is one of the best programs for the youth as this helps them develop self-confidence, discipline and positive outlook in life.

"After more than two years of isolation and other quarantine restrictions amid the Covid-19 pandemic, Bagonhons have maintained resilience. Our athletes, for instance, continue to hone their skills and eventually succeed in their respective fields," Mayor Yulo added.

Villanueva, who was a former Asia-Pacific bantamweight champion of the World Boxing Organization and also an international super flyweight titlist of the World Boxing Council, is just one of the recent boxing champions who have brought honors to Bago City.

On May 30, the city government also honored homegrown 31st Southeast Asian Games boxing medalists Rogen Ladon and James Palicte during a heroes' welcome event.

Ladon, a 2016 Rio Olympics campaigner, won the gold in the flyweight division while Palicte took the bronze in the lightweight class.

Bago City is home to some of the country's top boxers such as Mansueto "Onyok" Velasco, a silver medalist in the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, and brother Roel Velasco, who bagged a bronze medal in the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.



SUPPORT. Mayor Nicholas Yulo is joined by Bagonhon and Asia's Best Female Chef Margarita Araneta Forés at the Bago City booth during the opening of the 36th Negros Trade Fair in Glorietta Activity Center, Makati.

The theme "Hidlaw" encapsulated the yearning and craving for Negros products after a 2 year pause due to the pandemic. The trade fair opened September 20 and ran until September 25,

Bago City marks124th Al Cinco...

From page 10

"rifles" and amakan (rolled bamboo mats) as "cannon" that seemed to be believable from a far that led to the surrender of the Spaniards.

Furtos stressed that "it was a bloodless revolt, and through which, Negrenses were freed from the 300year Spanish tyranny."

The city started the event with the Philippine Navy Reservists Unity Walk at 4 a.m. from Sum-ag and Crossing La Carlota going to Bago City.

Local officials led the wreath-laying ceremony at General Juan Araneta Monument at 7:30 a.m. followed by the Civic Military Parade at the city streets at 8 a.m. participated by the 24 barangays clustered into eight groups.

The Sigabong sang mga Kanyon Photo Competition will also open at 8 a.m. at the city streets and Manuel Y. Torres Memorial Coliseum and Cultural Center (MYTMCCC).

The Sigabong sang mga Kanyon Arena Competition dubbed "Amakan kag Nipa sa Kasaysayan sang

Negros" was staged at MYTCCC in the afternoon.

In the evening, at 7 p.m., there was a free film screening of "The Buybust Queen" with its main actor, Jeric Raval, as the celebrity quest, also at the MYTMCCC.

From 7 p.m. to 12 midnight, Bagonhons and other revelers were treated to a fun "Party at the Park" at the Bantayan Park, one of the city's prime tourist destinations.

Other activities on that day included free massage, manicure, pedicure, haircut and snacks at the Sparadise also in Bantayan Park from 9 a.m. onwards.

Other activities were Zumba Dance with Zumba Goers Group and special guest zin and "Party at the Park" at the Bantayan Park at 7 p.m. to 12 midnight.

A week-long Sigabong sang mga Kanyon Photo Exhibit was also staged at SM City Bacolod, from November 9 to 16.

On November 6, the 1st Kagawad Basketball League Tournament opened at the Marhil Covered Court

6 barangays win...

From page 10

(Barangays Pacol, Sagasa and Bagroy) as second runner-up and Cluster 8 (Barangays Ma-ao, Mailum and Binubuhan) as third runner-up.

The competitions were participated by all 24 barangays of the city clustered into eight groups and witnessed by thousands of Bagonhons and other revelers.

These were just among the many activities held for the comeback of the physical Al Cinco de Noviembre celebration this year after two years due to the prevailing coronavirus disease (Covid-19) pandemic.

Al Cinco de Noviembre, also known as Negros Day, is celebrated every November 5 to commemorate the Negrenses' revolt against the Spanish colonizers in 1898.

It was declared as a non-working holiday in the province by virtue of Republic Act 6709./With reports from SSB

at 2 p.m. while the Kustura Bagonhon: Local Fabric Fashion Show was held at the MYTCCC at 7 p.m.

On November 12, a screening for the Diwata sang Bago 2023 at the Bago City Community Center was conducted.

Earlier, the city government had already hosted various activities as part of the 124th Al Cinco de Noviembre celebration.

A jobs fair was conducted at the MYTCCC on October 26; City Cooperative Day at MYTMCCC on October 30; Inauguration of Learning Hub CDRRMO at the back of Gender Sensitive Evacuation Center on November 2; and thanksgiving mass at the John the Baptist and Party at the Park at the Bantayan Park on November 2.

On November 3 to 5, Biodiversity Month Photo Exhibit at the Bantayan Park; Balay Daku Javellana Ancestral Home Art and Food Exhibit; and Party at the Park at the Bantayan Park were also held./

Natural wonders...

From page 11

"So when this opportunity came, my response was instantaneous. Initially, my excitement stemmed from the fact that I would be able to see wonders that are not easily accessible due to them being hidden in the highlands of Bago City. But after several expeditions, I soon realized that this privilege also comes with a responsibility," he shared.

Laluma underscored that with climate change being felt more than ever, he feels the need to tell the story behind these photographs.

Behind the enchanting trees and the majestic waterfalls of Bago City, he said, lies a fragile ecosystem. An ecosystem, which without any serious mitigating action, might lead to them being appreciated only in photographs.

Also a teacher and web developer, Laluma said that with this journey, he started out as a photographer and now he is a witness as to how delicate the environment is and how it directly impacts every person.

"Hence, with this exhibit, I am hoping that our conversations will go beyond the beauty that we see in these photographs and we take real sustainable actions in preserving these natural wonders," he added.

Laluma's natural wonders photographs showcased during the exhibit included Kabit-Kabit Falls, Tabidiao Falls, Busay Oro, Busay Merin, Bungaran Falls, Asaw-Asaw Falls, Sulfuric River, Kipot Twin Falls, Tabukan ni Peroy, Guintubdan Twin Falls, Tacuzzi Falls, Bagacay Falls, Buslugan Falls, Bago River, and Hardin sang Ballo which gave him the most unforgettable experience in terms of preparation during their entire photoshoot journey that started in March this year.

"We have to consider the weather, the terrain, and our safety. For Hardin sang Ballo, we need to hurdle a six-hour trek," he said, adding that everything has to be perfectly timed.

The featured photographer thanked



ZOD. City Health Officer Doc Ferdinand Ramon Mayoga together with nurse supervisor Nona Obando and Sanitary Inspector Charlie Tambanillo award Barangay Balingasag thru Barangay Captain Elmer Pondales a plaque of recognition as certified Zero Open Defecation (ZOD) Barangay in Bago.

Balingasag is second to Barangay Bagroy to be verified and certified as ZOD Barangay in the city. Dr. Mayoga is expecting more barangays to follow suit to avoid diseases such as diarrhoea and worm infections that may be caused by open defecations in fields and water ways.

city government officials led by Mayor Nicholas Yulo and Vice Mayor Ramon Torres for having programs like this that raises environmental protection and conservation awareness.

He also underscored the role of the members of the Kanlaon Green Brigade, "for without them, there won't be any photos in exhibit. They are the frontliners in the battle of preserving the natural wonders of Bago City."

"I am still overwhelmed with today's event but my heart is full of gratitude. It truly is a different feeling to see your photos take shape," Laluma added.

Bago City Environment Management Officer Vicente Mesias, who also spoke at the opening rites, said that November, the environmental calendar, celebrates the Biodiversity Month to highlight the importance of a diverse natural habitat to a healthful, abundant and ecologically-balanced human existence.

Mesias said it highlights the specific month of the year "where we, as the vanguards of the environment, shall focus our efforts in advocacy and stakeholder mobilization toward ensuring a sustainably managed ecosystem." "As Bagonhons, we take pride and honor that in our generation, we celebrate the nostalgia of a colorful history and the abundance of varied ecosystems services provided by the conserved and protected Mount Kanlaon Natural Park and watershed within our territorial jurisdiction," he stressed.

For his part, Councilor Jake Patrick Torres, chair of the city council's committee on environment, said the city really has a lot to offer when it comes to natural wonders but needs to be protected and preserved amid the challenges confronting the environment including climate change.

"All of us should help each other to help our environment which is not only for us, we have the responsibility to pass it to the next generation," the official said, as he commended the efforts of all those who helped in realizing such a successful photo exhibit.

Also present during the activity were other members of the city council, department heads, and Kanlaon Green Brigade members, among other guests and attendees.

Bago promotes...

From page 11

"From Bago City, we brought these photographs in Bacolod City so that more Negrenses, especially the younger ones, can experience Al Cinco de Noviembre and further appreciate the value of our history including the bravery of our ancestors who fought for our freedom 124 years ago," he said.

Balboa added that the youth nowadays seemed to be engrossed with other things, including social media that lessened their interest on other important issues confronting the society.

"So, this exhibit is for the younger generation to appreciate our rich culture and heritage. We should redirect them towards better understanding and appreciation of our history, especially what happened in 1898," he stressed.

The exhibit which will run until November 16 is open to the public during mall hours.

For his part, Yulo said the photo exhibit tends to perpetrate the heroism that General Juan Araneta and his troops showed for the people of Negros to stand up against the tyranny of foreign colonizers who ruled the Philippines for over 300 years.

"This is our tribute to the young generation so that they, too, may remember the history that transpired centuries ago," the mayor said, underscoring that the lesson of the Al Cinco de Noviembre should still be learned today and apply to our modern world.

Meanwhile, the entries will be judged according to visual impact (relevance to the theme) - 30 percent; technical aspect (exposure, focus and image quality) - 30 percent; and artistic aspect (creativity and composition) - 40 percent.

The judges, who are experts in the field of photography, included Ronnie Baldonado, Gary Lake Liza, Billy Lopue, Dr. Erwin Lim and Engineer John Kimwell Laluma.

The winners will be announced at the end of the exhibit.

Five runners-up will each receive P2,000 in cash prize. The third, second and first place winners will get P5,000, P10,000 and P15,000 each, respectively.

The city will also be giving a special award for the Most Popular Photo on Facebook via The Citybridge Facebook Page. Three winners will each receive P1,000 in cash.

SM City Bacolod Mall Manager George Jardiolin, who also spoke at the activity, thanked the City Government of Bago for this tourism and cultural partnership.

The mall, Jardiolin said, has always been aggressive in advocating for the cultural gems of the province including Bago City.

"We hope for more of this partnership to preserve and share our rich history and culture," he added.

Also present during the opening rites were Bago City Councilors Marina Javellana-Yao, Ma. Josefa Matti, Jake Patrick Torres, Robert Javellana and Imelda Precion, and Senior Tourism Operations Officer Mae Ann Furtos./

City receives SGLG incentive fund



Bago City officials receive the SGLG Incentive Fund check from Gov. Eugenio Jose Lacson and DILG Regional Director Juan Jovian Ingeniero in a ceremony at the Capitol, January 17.

The City Government of Bago represented by Councilors Ma. Josefa Matti, Ma. Femmy Alvarez-Martir and Joseph Colmenares, City Treasurer Caruso Villaflor, Jr. and Cash Division chief Lida Oquiana receives P7 million in incentive fund from the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) during the Turnover of the FY 2022 Seal of Good Local Governance Incentive Fund and Regional Rollout to Eligible LGUs of Negros Occidental held at the Provincial Capitol's Social Hall in Bacolod City on January 17, 2023.

Bago City is one of the seven recipient-local government units in Negros Occidental. Others are the

cities of Talisay, Silay, Sagay, San Carlos and Himamaylan, and Hinobaan town.

The incentive fund shall be used for local priority projects and reforms that will help enhance transparency accountability in all local government transactions, intensify the preparedness of LGUs against disasters, ensure the delivery of quality health services, and boost economic development, among others.

Present at the turnover rites were DILG-Western Visayas Regional Director Juan Jovian Ingeniero, DILG-Negros Occidental Director Teodora Sumagaysay, Governor Eugenio Jose Lacson and Provincial Administrator Atty. Rayfrando Diaz II, among other officials.

Bago City Local Government Operations Officer Mia Asuncion Gatilogo and staff also attended the activity.



REPORT ON UTILIZATION OF DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT FUND

4th QUARTER, CY 2022 Province, City or Municipality: BAGO

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Book! colour	LDRI	RMF	AIDDDA F J	From	From			
Particulars	Quick Response Mitigation Fund Fund (QRF) 30% 70%		NDRRM Fund	Other LGUs	Other Sources	Total		
A. Sources of Funds								
Current Appropriations	P 24,070,734.60	P 36,420,732.21				P 60,491,466.8		
Continuing Appropriations (CO)		P 1,985,007.67				P 1,985,007.6		
Total General Fund	P 24,070,734.60	P 38,405,739.88				P 62,476,474.4		
Prize Gawad Kalasag Award			P 425,000.00			P 425,000.0		
Previous Years' Appropriations Transferred to the Special Trust Fund								
(Year 1) 2021		P 11,889,718.49				P 11,889,718.4		
(Year 2) 2020		P 11,997,217.94				P 11,997,217.9		
(Year 3) 2019		P 5,265,083.04				P 5,265,083.0		
(Year 4) 2018		P 8,604,772.76				P 8,604,772.7		
(Year 5) 2017		P 2,694,741.33				P 2,694,741.3		
Transfer/Grants (unspent 2016 STF)		-						
Total Special Trust Fund		P 40,451,533.56				P 40,451,533.5		
Total Funds Available	P 24,070,734.60	P 78,857,273.44	P 425,000.00	-		P 103,353,008.0		
B. Utilization								
Medicines and Medical Supplies Expenses	-	P 7,754,838.00				P 7,754,838.0		
Food Supplies/ Welfare Goods Expense		-						
Repair of Evacuation Center		-						
Travelling Expenses		-						
Other Maintenance and Operating Expenses	-	P 11,044,938.49				P 11,044,938.4		
Trainings		P 1,508,629.00	-			P 1,508,629.0		
Financial Assistance to Cavite		-						
Construction of Evacuation Center								
Construction in Progress - Other Public Infrastructures		P 5,528,115.00				P 5,528,115.0		
Motor Vehicles		-						
Equipment / Computer Software/ Other PPE	-	P 4,201,610.00				P 4,201,610.0		
Transfers to General Fund (unspent 2016 STF)		-						
Total Utilization	-	P 30,038,130.49	-	-	-	P 30,038,130.49		
Unutilized Balance	P 24,070,734.60	P 48,819,142.95	P 425,000.00	-		P 73,314,877.5		

We hereby certify that we have reviewed the contents and hereby attest to the veracity and correctness of tha data or information contained in this document.





STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

4th Quarter, CY 2022 Province, City or Municipality: BAGO

Cash Flows from Operating Activities

Cach	Inflows:

Cash Inflows:	
Collection from Taxpayers	P 61,230,980.44
Share from Internal Revenue Collections	353,620,653.00
Receipts from Sale of Goods and Services	9,863,304.31
Interest Income	966,761.10
Dividend Income	-
Other Receipts	72,930,775.66
Total Cash Inflows	P 498,612,474.51
Cash Outflows:	
Payments:	-
To Suppliers/Creditors	P 140,869,820.98
To Employees	228,691,794.92
Interest Expense	-
Other Expenses	108,385,224.37
Total Cash Outflow	P 477,946,840.27
Net Cash from Operating Activities	P 20,665,634.24
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:	
Cash Inflows:	

From Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment From Sale of Debt Securities of Other Entities

From Collection of Principal on Loans to Other Entities

Total Cash Inflows

Cash Outflows:

To Purchase Property, Plant and Equipment P 65,932,110.97 To Purchase Debt Securities of Other Entities/ Cash 2,586,626.78

Payment for Intangible Assets To Grant/Make Loans to Other Entities

Total Cash Outflows P 68,518,737.75

Net Cash Investing Activities P (68,518,737.75)

Cash Flows from Financing Activities

Cash Inflows:

From Issuance of Debt Securities From Acquisition of Loan

Total Cash Inflows

Cash Outflows:

Retirement/Redemption of Debt Securities

Payment of Loan Amortization 6,232,652.18

Total Cash Outflows 6,232,652.18

Net Cash Financing Activities P (6,232,652.18)

Net Increase in Cash P (54,085,755.69)

Cash at Beginning of the Period, October 1, 2022 641,165,050.13

Cash at the End of the Period, December 31, 2022 P 587,079,294.44

We hereby certify that we have reviewed the contents and hereby attest to the veracity and correctness of the data or information contained in this document.



NICHOLAS M. YULO Local Chief Executive

SPECIAL EDUCATION FUND UTILIZATION

4th Quarter, CY 2022

1000	Province, City or Municipality: BAGO	
Recei	pt from SEF	P 17,655,935.24
Less:	DISBURSEMENTS (broken down by expense class and by object of expenditures)	
	Personal Services	
	Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses	
	Training Expenses	P 96,500.00
	Office Supplies Expenses	-
	Textbook and Instructional Materials Expenses	980,325.00
	Other Supplies and Materials Expenses	-
	Water Expenses	P 26,770.65
	Electricity Expenses	P 3,278,931.96
	Research, Exploration and Development Expenses	P 20,000.00
	Other Professional Services	-
	Other General Services	P 2,346,500.00
	Other Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses	P 126,950.00
	Repair and Maintenance -Infrastructure Assets	-
	Repair and Maintenance - Building and Other Structures	P 1,697,728.00
	Depreciation Expenses	P 481,196.01
	Amortization - Intangible Assets	-
	Back Charges	
	Sub-total	P 9,054,901.62
	Capital Outlay	
	Construction in Progress - Infrastructure Assets	-
	Office Equipment / Information& Communication Technology Equipment	-
	Books	-
Sub-To	otal	-
Total		P 9,054,901.62

P 8,601,033.62 We hereby certify that we have reviewed the contents and hereby attest to the

veracity and correctness of the data or Information contained in this document.

RUBY V. ABELLAR Local Accountant

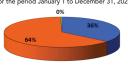
NICHOLAS M. YULO Local Chief Executive



Republic of the Philippines City of Bago

OFFICE OF THE CITY ACCOUNTANT

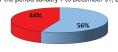
EXPENDITURES BY EXPENSE CLASS For the period January 1 to December 31, 2022



INCOME VS. EXPENDITURES
the period January 1 to December 31, 2022

■ MOOE

■ PS



INCOME BY SOURCE

For the period January 1 to December 31, 2022 OLT OS ORPT OB OGO OFP OH OM ORA OSNW OPF

Expenditure Classification	Amount		
Personal Services (PS)	450,235,063.02		
Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE)	799,678,652.70		
Financial Expenses	5,881,619.96		
TOTAL	1,255,795,335.68		

Classification	Amount
Income	1,611,341,429.73
Expenditures	1,255,795,335.68

Income Classification	Amount
Local Taxes (LT)	40,878,208.20
Service Income (SI)	9,302,354.61
Real Property Tax (RPT)	34,882,122.23
Business Income (BI)	47,622,823.34
Income from Grants and Donations (IGD)	42,151,982.50
Other Fines and Penalties (OFP)	2,469,664.41
Interest Income (II)	3,889,475.73
Miscellaneous Income (MI)	6,072,857.04
Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA)	1,414,482.630.00
Share from National Wealth (SNW)	612,375.84
Permit Fees	8,976,935.83
TOTAL	1,611,341,429.73



CONSOLIDATED QUARTERLY REPORT ON GOVERNMENT PROJECTS, PROGRAMS or ACTIVITIES

4th QUARTER, CY 2022 Province, City or Municipality: BAGO

Program or Project	Location	Total Cost	Date Started	Target Completion Date	Project Status		No. of	
					% of Completion	Total Cost Incurred to Date	Extensions, if any	Remarks
LGSF - BANTAYAN PARK REDEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT, PHASE 3	BAGO CITY	21,344,802.00	5/20/21		0%			15% Mobilization claimed 12/21/22

We hereby certify that we have reviewed the contents and hereby attest to the veracity and correctness of the data or information contained in this document.

MONICA OFELIA M. NARAZO Local Budget Officer - Designate

RUBY V. ABELLAR
Local Accountant

NICHOLAS M. YULO Local Chief Executive



HUMAN RESOURCE COMPLEMENT

Republic of the Philippines Budget Year 2022 4th Quarter Province, City or Municipality: BAGO

National of American and an Employment	Number	Compensation a	Total	
Nature of Appointment or Employment		Salaries and Wages	Other Monetary Benefits	lotal
I. Permanent / Co-Term / Elective /Temporary	710/2/14/4	54,260,732.07	105,480,889.23	159,741,621.30
II. Contractual	-	-	-	-
III. Job Order/Contract of Service	2443/286	47,468,169.47	7,483,800.00	54,951,969.47
IV. Casual	45	1,706,196.50	3,994,387.49	5,700,583.99
Grand Total		103,435,098.04	116,959,076.72	220,394,174.76

We hereby certify that we have reviewed the contents and hereby attest to the veracity and correctness of the data or information contained in this document.

TRICIA Y MATTI, MGS
Human Resource Management Officer

RUBY V./ABELLAR, CPA

NICHOLAS M. YULO Local Chief Executive

Notes:

- 1. Contractual personnel are those whose employment in the government is in accordance with a special contract to undertake a specific work or job, requiring special or technical skills not available in the employing agency, to be accomplished within a specific period, which in no case shall exceed one year, and performs or accomplishes the specific work or job, under his own responsibility with a minimum of direction and supervision from the hiring agency. (Source: Presidential Decress No. 807 October 6, 1975)
- 2. Contract of Services/Job Orders are employees whose services rendered are not considered government services and do not enjoy the benefits enjoyed by government employees. The job order covers piece work or intermittent job of short duration not exceeding six months on a daily basis. (Source: Omnibus Rules Implementing Book V of E.O. No. 292 and Other Pertinent Civil Service Laws)



SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD MEMBERS

(2022-2025)



HON. MARINA JAVELLANA-YAO

- Commerce, Trade and Industry
- Culture and Heritage
- Women and Family



HON. MA. FEMMY A. MARTIR

- Education and Cultural Affairs
- Social Services



HON. MA. JOSEFA Y. MATTI

- Housing
- Landed Estates and Land Use
- Tourism and Its Development



HON. JOSEPH J. COLMENARES

- Human Resource Development and Welfare
- Ways and Means



HON. IMELDA M. PRECION

Government Assets



HON. JOBERT D. TAGOBADER

• Human Rights



HON. JAKE PATRICK Y. TORRES

- Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
- Environmental Protection and Natural Resources
- Health



HON. ROBERT J. JAVELLANA

• Labor and Public Service



HON. VICTOR MICHAEL A. JAVELLANA

- Agriculture
- Appropriations and Finance
- Cooperatives and Livelihood



HON. SERGIO T. PIANSAY ABC President

- Barangay Affairs
- Peace and Order, Fire and Public Safety
- Transportation and Energy



HON. CARLOS E. MONDIA

- Laws, Rules and Procedures and Good Government
- Markets and Slaughterhouses
- Engineering and Public Works



HON. CARL BENEDICT Y. BAYLON SK Federation President

Youth and Sports Development



FEBRUARY 4 · SATURDAY

FARMERS WEEKEND MARKET WHOLE DAY • BANTAYAN PARK

FEBRUARY 6 · MONDAY

FLAG RAISING CEREMONY

KURIT BAYLAN ARTS FESTIVAL 9:30 AM • BANTAYAN PARK

NATIONAL ARTS MONTH OPENING CEREMONY 4:00 PM • BANTAYAN PARK

FEBRUARY8.WEDNESDAY

RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP PROGRAM (SPAY & NEUTER) 8:00 AM - BANTAYAN PARK

FEBRUARY 9 · THURSDAY

JOBS FAIR 2023

FEBRUARY 10 · FRIDAY

DIWATA SANG BAGO PRE- PAGEANT

FEBRUARY 11 · SATURDAY

LIVELIHOOD SKILLS OLYMPICS

SK CULTURAL SHOW & NIGHT

FEBRUARY 12 · SUNDAY

MAYOR NIKKO YULO MTB CHALLENGE

LIVELIHOOD SKILLS OLYMPICS

UNITY ZUMBA PARTY

WITH WOWIE DE GU 3:00 PM • BANTAYAN PARK



SCHEDUI

OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY 14 · TUESDAY

AGRO- INDUSTRIAL CULTURAL EDUCATIONAL TRADE FAIR OPENING CEREMONY 4.00 PM · BANTAYAN PARK

PARTY AT THE PARK

DIWATA SANG BAGO PAGEANT NIGHT

FEBRUARY 15 · WEDNESDAY

FARMERS AND FISHERFOLKS DAY

DEPED PROMENADE 2023
"HARVEST OF EXCELLENCE"
8:00 AM • MYTMCCC

FANTASIA SANG BAGO 2023 7:00 PM • MYTMCCC

PARTY AT THE PARK
7:00 PM • BANTAYAN PARK (STAGE 1 & 2)

FEBRUARY 16 · THURSDAY

EMPLOYEES DAY AWARDING & RECOGNITION CEREMONY

PARTY AT THE PARK
7:00 PM • BANTAYAN PARK (STAGE 1 & 2)

FEBRUARY 17 • FRIDAY

EMPLOYEES DAY 2023 WITH BEKS BATTA WHOLE DAY • MYTMCCC

JAZZ NIGHT 2023

PARTY AT THE PARK
7:00 PM • BANTAYAN PARK (STAGE 1 & 2)

COMEDY NIGHT AT THE PARK 9:00 PM • BANTAYAN PARK (STAGE 2)

FEBRUARY 18 · SATURDAY

RTNHS HIGH SCHOOL DAY

GAWAD BAGONHON 2023

BEST PRODUCT SEARCH

PARTY AT THE PARK
7:00 PM • BANTAYAN PARK (STAGE 1 & 2)

FEBRUARY 19 · SUNDAY

THANKSGIVING MASS

57TH CHARTER DAY CIVIC MILITARY PARADE

BABAYLAN STREET DANCE

BABAYLAN STAGE COMPETITION SUGILANON SANG MGA BARANGAY CLEAN AND GREEN AWARDING AGRO TRADE FAIR AWARDING BEST PRODUCT SEARCH AWARDING 130 PM - WYTMCCC

CHARTER ANNIVERSARY CONCERT WITH BEN&BEN AND CHOCOLATE FACTOR'S 9:00 PM • SPORTS CENTER

FEBRUARY 22 · WEDNESDAY

OFW FAMILY DAY

FEBRUARY 23-25 · THUR - SAT

BAZAAR N D' PARK 9:00 AM • BANTAYAN PARK





