

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER THAT'S NATIONAL IN SCOPE

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## FDA cautions public vs. use of unauthorized Covid-19 vaccines

MANILA – The disease 2019 (Covid-Food and Drug 19).

Administration (FDA) on Monday reminded the public to take Eric extreme caution on the purchase and use of vaccines claiming to be safe and effective against the coronavirus

In a statement, FDA Director General Domingo reiterated the reminder following reports that certain individuals have received Covid-19 vaccine shots.

"As of date, the FDA has not issued any Emergency Use Authorization to any vaccine for Covid-19. Without the proper authorization, there is no guarantee on the safety, quality and (Turn to p. 2)

# Metro Manila, 9 others areas remain under GCQ until Jan. 31

MANILA President Rodrigo Duterte on Monday night announced that Metro Manila and nine other areas in the country will remain under general community quarantine (GCQ) status until January 31, 2021.

In a taped public address, Duterte said the provinces of Batangas, Isabela, Lanao del Sur, Davao del Norte, and cities of Santiago, Iloilo, Tacloban, Iligan, and Davao will also remain under GCQ until the end of January.

The rest of the country will also remain under the least restrictive modified general community quarantine (MGCQ), he added.

Duterte, however, said these community quarantine classifications are subject to appeal from their respective local



QUARANTINE CLASSIFICATION. President Rodrigo Duterte announces quarantine classifications in Metro Manila and other areas after meeting with Cabinet members and health officials and experts at the Heroes Hall in Malacañan Palace on Dec. 28, 2020. Aside from Metro Manila, Duterte said provinces of Batangas, Isabela, Lanao del Sur, Davao del Norte, and cities of Santiago, Iloilo, Tacloban, Iligan, and Davao will remain under general community quarantine from Jan. 1 to 31 next year. (Presidential photo by King Rodriguez)

units government (LGUs).

Duterte also reminded the public not to leave their homes unless absolutely necessary.

"Stay home if it's really possible. It's for your own good," he said.

public to skip Christmas festivities, especially large gatherings to avoid catching or spreading the disease.

As of Monday, health authorities logged a total of 470,650 confirmed Covid-19 cases, of He earlier urged the which 22,746 or 4.8

percent are active cases. A total of 104 patients recovered from the illness, raising the recoveries to 438,780 brought the country's death toll up to 9,124.

The Inter-Agency Management of (Turn to p. 2)

## 2020: Containing Covid-19, mitigating impacts

response to a fastspreading novel coronavirus early this year, the government has ramped up efforts to mitigate the impact of the public health crisis.

The Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) and the National Task Force against Covid-19 (NTF) have adopted a "carrier-centric" approach to contain the spread of Covid-19.

The government implemented has complementary strategies that include detecting, isolating, and while 15 new fatalities treating confirmed Covid-19 cases.

Individuals who were already affected Task Force for the by the dreaded virus and those potential Covid-19 carriers were

MANILA - In isolated away from their community.

The government conducted massive testing of persons under monitoring (PUMs) and patients under investigation (PUIs) for Covid-19.

Various of establishments in Metro Manila and other parts of the country were converted into quarantine facilities to isolate individuals showing Covid-19 symptoms. NAP Phase 1

> Sec. Carlito Galvez Jr., National Policy against Covid-19 chief implementer, introduced the National Action Plan and other efforts to mitigate the spread of the Covid-19.

According to Galvez, NAP's overall goal is to eliminate the

#### 2020: CONTAINING. . . Fr. p 1

threat of the Covid-19 in order to protect people from the risks of infections as well as to mitigate the social, economic, and security impacts of the health crisis.

The government has applied the Prevent, Detect, Isolate, Treat, Reintegrate (PDITR) strategy in a bid to "adapt to the new normal."

The PDITR strategy was implemented through the operational concept of the end-toend 'treat-trace-treat' (T3) management system.

The T3 program also targets to ramp up testing capacity to 30,000 tests per day by putting up more swabbing centers and laboratory testing centers in strategic parts of the country.

The government has intensified its national c o m m u n i c a t i o n campaign to combat the pandemic which includes regular handwashing, keeping physical distancing as well as wearing of face masks and face shields.

The government has imposed localized lockdowns to further prevent the transmission of the dreaded disease within local communities while trying to balance economic activities and health objectives of the country.

It has also strengthened contact tracing and testing capacity, in order to immediately detect more confirmed cases and provide them the treatment that they needed.

#### NAP Phase 2

In June, the g o v e r n m e n t implemented the second phase of the national action plan (NAP) that focused on "saving lives and mitigating Covid-19 impact toward economic and social recovery."

"For the national action plan, we will still follow our national strategy on preventing, detect, isolate, treat and reintegrate," Galvez earlier said in a virtual press briefing.

"The strategy design of the second phase concentrates on the five strategic objectives wherein to contain and manage the emerging new cases, sustain the gains that we had, and learn from the best practices and continue to [capacitating] and building resiliency to our hospitals," he added.

The task force has also adopted a national-governmentenabled, LGU-led, and people-centered response to the Covid-19 health crisis.

Galvez cited the importance of prevention and selfawareness against Covid-19.

"Also we have to rebalance the health and economic objectives using the (hammer and dance) theory, localizing our response by leaving our LGUs (local government units) to the (front-line) with people's support and vigilance," he said.

The second phase of the NAP was implemented through localized lockdowns, massive information dissemination, stricter enforcement of the quarantine protocols, and minimum health standards.

#### NAP Phase 3

The third phase of the national action plan (NAP) against Covid-

#### METRO MANILA... Fr. p 1

Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) is presently discussing efforts to prevent the entry of a new strain of coronavirus that emerged in the United Kingdom (UK).

19 was implemented through balancing health and economic recovery, according to Galvez.

He said there will be no more trade-offs during the implementation of the NAP Phase 3.

"The NAP Phase 3 will be our transition plan to the new normal from the last quarter of this year rolling down the road towards the first quarter of 2021," he said.

Galvez said NAP phase 3 is anchored on effective health risk management wherein gradual easing of restrictions could be imposed.

"We should learn to live with the virus until the vaccine is available," he said.

There is a need to further strengthen the key areas of prevention and containment approach including the government's Prevent-Detect-Isolate-Treat-Reintegrate (PDITR) strategy, Galvez added.

The government continues to expand its Oplan Kalinga program, a "no home quarantine policy" that restricts infected individuals to undergo home quarantine for treatment.

"The NAP Phase 3 will help us transition to the new normal. This will provide us the necessary strategic systems and mechanisms that will enable us to jumpstart our economy, and at the Last Saturday, Duterte pitched for the creation of a new task force to focus on the new coronavirus strain that is reportedly more infectious. (PNA)

same time, to continue to lower active cases until the vaccine is available," said Galvez.

The government has intensified the whole-of-government strategy and the wholeof-nation approach to further contain the Covid-19 pandemic in the country.

Fighting the surge

Authorities have already warned of a surge of Covid-19 cases after the holiday season.

Sec. Vince Dizon, NTF Covid-19 deputy chief implementer, assured that the country has enough isolation centers and quarantine facilities for Covid-19 patients if ever the spike of cases may happen after holidays.

Dizon, also the country's testing czar, said the government along with its private partners, is non-stop in building more quarantine facilities to isolate more Covid-19 patients.

Dizon said the government's Prevent-Detect-Isolate-Treat-Reintegrate (PDITR) strategy provided a significant drop in the number of Covid-19 cases in the middle of July and August.

The government urged the public to continue adhering to the minimum health standards including wearing of face mask and face shield, regular hand washing, as well as observing physical distancing. (PNA)

#### FDA ... Fr. p 1

efficacy of said vaccine as the same has not undergone the required technical evaluation by the FDA," Domingo said.

The agency also stressed that manufacture, importation, sale, for offering sale. distribution, transfer, non-consumer use. promotion, advertisement, or sponsorship of any unauthorized vaccine is prohibited.

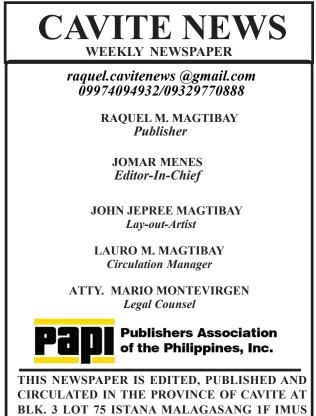
In coordination with other agencies, the FDA will take appropriate regulatory action involving any unauthorized vaccines and concentrate on ensuring that only vaccines which passed the standards will be made available to the public.

"Rest assured the FDA is observing utmost diligence in the regulation of vaccines. Vaccines will only be approved if there is reasonable scientific evidence to show that benefit outweighs risk," Domingo said. (PNA)



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Foreclosure Case No. F-021-20

**BDO UNIBANK, INC.,** Mortgagee,

-versus-

x

JOJITA BARCIAL ACQUIAT, Debtor/Mortgagor, **REMEDIOS VILLEGAS MIGANO** (Co-Debtor),

## **NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE**

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, BDO UNIBANK, INC., with business address at BDO Corporate Center, 7899 Makati Avenue, Makati City against the Mortgagors, REMEDIOS VILLEGAS MIGANO ("CO-DEBTOR"), for herself and as Attorney-In-Fact of JOJITA BARCIAL ACQUIAT ("DEBTOR-MORTGAGOR"), with postal address at: 1)#38 Governor's Drive, Trece Marites City, Cavite and 2). Blk. 12 Lot 22, Camella Trece, Brgy. Quintana, Trece Martires City, Cavite to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness as of 13 January 2020 amounts to NINE HUNDRED NINETY **ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY FOUR** PESOS & 59/100 (P991,854.59), Philippine Currency, including interest, penalties, and other charges as of said date but exclusive of all the other expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on February 25, 2021 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning at the main entrance of the Government Center Bldg., located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder of CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

#### TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE No. 077-2018001977

Lot No.22 Block: 12 Plan No. PCS-04-029126

PORTION OF: THE CONSOLIDATION OF LOT NOS. 1-16, BLK. 2; 1-28, BLK. 3, 1-23 BLK. 4, 1-8, BLK. 5; 1-13, BLK. 6; 3-32, BLK. 7; 1-28, BLK. 8; 1-8, BLK. 9, 1-25, BLK. 10; 1-5, 7 & 9, BLK. 34; 1-3, 5-11, BLK. 35, 18-22, BLK. 36; 27-31, BLK. 37; ROAD LOT 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 23, & 34; (LRC) PSD-45360; BLOCK 34, PCS-04-011061

LOCATION: BARANGAY OF QUINTANA, CITY OF TRECE MARTIRES, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON.

#### **BOUNDARIES:**

LINE	DIRECTION	ADJOINING LOT(S)
1-2	NE	ROAD LOT 3, PCS4-029126
2-3	SE	LOT 23, BLK. 12, PCS-04-029126
3-4	SW	LOT 12, BLK. 12, PCS-04-029126
4-5		LOT 13, BLK. 12, PCS-04-029126
5-1	NW	LOT 21, BLK. 12, PCS-04-029126

#### AREA: THIRTY SIX SQUARE METERS (36), MORE **OR LESS**

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned to the unddersigned on the above-stated time and date.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on MARCH 4, **<u>2021</u>** without further notice.

Prospective bidders/buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title to the said property and

## Fitch Solutions revises '20, '21 average PH peso forecasts

MANILA – Fitch Solutions revised its average 2020-2021 Philippine peso forecasts as the unit continues to outperform in the region but a possible weakening is projected in the longterm partly on current account improvement reversal.

In a report dated Dec. 23, the unit of Fitch Group's new 2020 peso forecast is PHP49.60 while it is PHP47.50 for 2021.

For 2022, the projection is an average of 50.00 to a greenback.

Previously, the 2020 forecast was PHP49.75 while the 2021 forecast was PHP50.1.

"We believe the tailwinds that have driven the unit through 2020 will continue into 2021 and rising foreign interest would bolster further the unit," the report said.

It said the local currency has improved by around 5.3 percent to a US dollar to date, higher than the 3.6 percent for the Asian dollar index.

It traced this performance to the weak domestic import demand, the strong external fundamentals upside from inflows from overseas Filipino workers (OFWs), and the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas' (BSP) policies to address volatility of the currency.

"We believe these factors will broadly continue over the near term and will be aided by further dollar depreciation," the report said.

Another plus for the local unit is the "higher risk appetite amongst investors focusing on low external financing and fiscal risks," it added.

The peso's low volatility, along with strong external financing fundamentals, are also seen as advantages for the local unit compared to other emerging market currencies.

These are deemed among the results of the central bank's foreign exchange interventions, rising issuances, and projected easier policy stance, with the key policy rates expected to remain at its current level until late next year.

"Indeed, part of expectation for the BSP to keep its key policy rate

encumbrances thereon, if any there be. Trece Martires City December 15, 2020.

> **ANDRES B. ESPINA** Sheriff IV

#### **Copy Furnished:**

#### BDO UNIBANK, INC., RISK MANAGEMENT GROUP-REMEDIAL MANAGEMENT UNIT

11th Floor, BDO South Tower, BDO Corporate Tower 7899 Makati, Avenue, Makati City 0726

#### **REMEDIOS VILLEGAS MIGANO ("CO-DEBTOR)** JOJITA BARCIAL ACQUIAT ("DEBTOR-MORTGAGOR)

#38 Governor's Drive, Trece Martires City, Cavite Blk. 12 Lot 22, Camella Trece, Brgy. Quintana, Trece Martires City

Published at: Cavite News Dates: December 17, 24, & 31, 2020

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on hold until late 2021 is the attractiveness of the that it will seek to maintain a negative real rate to dissuade appreciatory pressures on the peso," it added.

Fitch However, Solutions forecasts a 25 basis points hike in the central bank's key rates in the last quarter of next year in line with projections that inflation rate will average at 3 percent next year.

"As such, the real policy rate will weaken

MANILA -

Philippine National

Police (PNP) announced

that it will be deploying

so-called "red teams" in

malls and other business

establishments to ensure

compliance with the

coronavirus disease 2019

Teams are) to validate

'yung situations in their

respective area of operations. Vina-validate

nila 'yung deployment ng

mga tao, at tinitignan din

nila kung saan sila pwede

tumulong at i-advise 'yung

ating mga (They validate

the deployment of police

officers, they check on

where they can provide

assistance and give advice

to our) chiefs of police at

commanders as to where

they should deploy their

respective resources,"

said PNP Directorate for

Operations chief, Major

Gen. Alfred Corpuz, in a

teams" should check the

availability of foot baths,

hand sanitizers, and body

temperature scanners in

all entry points; entrance

and exits should be separated, and signages to

remind the public of

mandatory wearing of

face mask and face shield

should be posted in

should also be no free Wi-

Fi and aircon temperature

should be at 26 degrees

Celsius in malls to

discourage people from

will also utilize local

He added that they

Corpus said there

conspicuous areas.

loitering.

He added that "red

briefing Monday.

different

"The purpose of (Red

health

unit

(Covid-19)

protocols.

unit," it said.

Similarly, continued accumulation of the US dollar is expected to limit the peso's appreciation but the report said the country's strong external financing fundamentals "mean that a sharp depreciation of the unit remains unlikely."

"As such, we forecast the unit to depreciate to an average of PHP50/USD through 2022," it added. (PNA)

## **PNP 'red teams' to check** compliance with health protocols

government units in - The augmenting their efforts. This came as the

government appealed to people to observe safety and health protocols to curb a spike in Covid-19 cases during the holiday season.

Meanwhile, PNP deputy chief for administration, Lt. Gen. Guillermo Eleazar, on Tuesday said they are eyeing to conduct coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) testing for all police personnel assigned in Metro Manila.

He added that Metro Manila will be prioritized as it is the epicenter of the pandemic and most of the molecular laboratories are located here.

At present, around 65 percent of all police officers in PNP headquarters were tested for Covid-19.

The PNP is now conducting aggressive testing, said Eleazar, who is also the concurrent commander of the Administrative Support for Covid-19 Task Force (ASCOTF).

Around 38,000 tests have been conducted for cops in the region, he added.

The molecular laboratory in Camp Crame has also increased its daily testing capacity to 300, from only 100.

Meanwhile, Covid-19 tests conducted for personnel in National Support Units (NSUs) are at 66 percent and while tests in Police Regional Offices (PROs) are at 27.9 percent. (PNA)

## New virus variant: Japan bans entry of foreigners

ANKARA – Japan on Monday suspended new entries of nonresident foreign nationals from "most of the world" as a precaution against a new variant of the coronavirus.

The country has already reported eight cases of the new strain of the virus which was first reported in the UK.

Ban on entry into the country by non-resident foreign nationals will continue until the end of January, NHK News reported.

Scientific analysis has shown the new strain of the infection spreads 70 percent faster than the earlier one.

Prime Minister Suga Yoshihide said the new measure on travel of foreigners was "a proactive measure to protect the people of Japan."

Urging people to spend a quiet New Year's holiday, Suga asked people "to be sure to do such things as wash their hands and wear masks." new

Under

conditions, Japanese citizens and foreigners with Japanese resident permits returning from the countries where the new variant has been detected are asked to submit a negative virus test result within 72 hours of departure and also undergo a test upon arrival as of Wednesday through the end of January.

At least 20 countries have reported the new virus strain.

However, Japanese authorities said the new rules do not apply to those ten Asian nations with which Tokyo has agreed to a special scheme to ease travel restrictions. China, South Korea are among those nations.

Japan is witnessing record spike in new infections with 3,881 more coronavirus cases reported on Saturday.

The country has so far reported a total of 223,000 cases, including 3,213 deaths due to the Covid-19. (Anadolu)

## **Only Pfizer's Covid-19 vaccine** has applied for EUA: FDA

MANILA – Food Drug and Administration (FDA) Director General Eric Domingo said Tuesday the only application for Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) it has received so far was for the Pfizer's vaccine for the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19).

"This (application) was submitted to us late in the afternoon of December 23. This was submitted online to the FDA and we have downloaded their submissions yesterday, and have distributed them to the reviewers and regulators," Domingo said in an online media briefing.

He said the evaluation, which he hopes to be completed within two weeks, would focus on both the regulatory side for the quality of the vaccine and the clinical trial for its efficacy and safety.

"Of course, that doesn't include the possibility that we'll still be requesting documents for their application. But as far as I can see, almost all our requirements are included in their submission. We just have to go through it," Domingo said, adding that other vaccine manufacturers could be ready for their EUA application by January 2021.

He said the FDA

Brazil (7,365,517), Russia (2,992,706), France (2,484,875), the UK (2,188,591), Italy (2,009,317), Spain (1,854,951), Germany

has already received three applications for the vaccine clinical trials to be held in the country. "Yesterday, we

already approved one and this is the clinical trial of Janssen (of Johnson & Johnson). This has been given the go signal by FDA and maybe, they will already start with the clinical after the New Year," Domingo said.

He said the application of China's C l o v e r Biopharmaceuticals is still pending as the FDA is "waiting for some documentation from the proponent for the completion of requirements."

China's Sinovac, he said, has requested some changes in their protocol or research design so it was returned to the reviewers for final clearance.

On Monday, Domingo ordered the FDA Regulatory Enforcement Unit to look into reports that certain individuals in the country have received shots of vaccines against Covid-19.

"We want to know the status of the vaccination and which vaccines were used. But of course, that will probably take a few days, so we can't give you updates yet," he said. (PNA)

(1,612,648), Argentina (1,563,865), Colombia (1,544,826),and Mexico (1,350,079). (Anadolu)

## World still not fully prepared to tackle outbreaks: WHO

GENEVA – A year after the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) became known worldwide, the World Health Organization (WHO) warned on Monday that the world could face an even bigger pandemic in the future and that it is not "fully" prepared to deal with the existing outbreak, let alone the next one.

Dr. Mike Ryan, executive director of WHO Health Emergencies, said the world is in a better place on behavioral science, vaccines, science, diagnostic science, and other areas.

Ryan However, warned the WHO's last press conference of the year, "we need to get ready for something that may even be more severe in the future."

He said the pandemic has been severe, spreading rapidly all over the world.

"This is not necessarily the big one. prepared." (Anadolu)

## Number of fireworks-related injuries drop by 71%: DOH

MANILA – The number of fireworksrelated injuries has significantly dropped this year, with only 14 recorded over nine days, as of Tuesday.

From 6 a.m. on December 21 to 5:59 a.m. on December 29. the Department of Health (DOH) recorded 14 fireworks-related injuries, 71 percent lower than in the same period last year.

"This is 35 cases or 71 percent lower compared to 2019, and 85 cases or 86 percent lower versus the fiveyear average from 2015 to 2019, same time period," it said in its latest report.

The cases were recorded by 61 sentinel

This virus is very transmissible, and kills people, and deprives so many people of loved ones," Ryan said. "But its current case fatality is reasonably low in comparison to other emerging diseases. This is a wake-up call."

He spoke as countries began shutting their borders to the United Kingdom due to anxieties stemming from a new Covid-19 variant said to be more contagious.

Dr. Bruce Aylward, a senior WHO adviser, said, "This virus is telling us we are not prepared. We're now into second and third waves of this virus, and we're still not prepared to deal with and manage those."

"We're prepared for flu better than we were in the past. We're now better prepared for coronaviruses. But are we better prepared for the next pandemic?" Aylward said. "It would be folly to say that we're fully

hospitals. Thirteen or 93 percent were injured due to fireworks and one or 7 percent was a stray bullet injury.

The injuries were recorded in Central Luzon, Bicol, Western and Central Visayas, Davao region, Soccsksargen, the Capital National Region, and Calabarzon.

Among the banned fireworks, the five-star caused the highest number of injuries with four cases, followed by boga, two; baby rocket, one; bong-bong, one; fountain, one; kwitis, one; piccolo, one; rebentador, one; and whistle bomb, one. (PNA)

bulletin on Friday. Based on WHO the updates, coronavirus-related deaths increased by over 11,500 to exceed 1.73 million.

18:54 As of Moscow time on December 25, as many 78,194,947 as coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) cases 1,736,752 and coronavirus-related deaths were registered

across the globe. The number of confirmed cases grew by 655,041 in the past 24 hours and the number of fatalities

More than 655K new cases of

Covid-19 worldwide: WHO

increased by 11,564. The WHO statistics were based only on officially confirmed data provided by countries.

South and North America account for more than 49 percent of new Covid-19 cases submitted to the WHO in the past 24 hours (323,507). Europe was second (245,610)cases), followed by South East Asia (33,084).

Most Covid-19 cases were recorded in the United States (18,311,405), followed by India (10,146,845),

## CELEBRATE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AT MINISO



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These penguin plush toys are wonderfully wintry



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Cuddly sitting moose plush toy from Miniso.



This cute and lovable Panda from We Bare Bears sports his reindeer look. Available at Miniso.

It is the blessing of Jehovah that makes one rich,And He adds no pain with it. Proverbs 10:22



A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER THAT'S NATIONAL IN SCOPE

## VOL. XXI NO. 37 DEC. 31, 2020-JANUARY 6, 2021 P 10.00 GAME XTREME, NOW OPEN AT SM CITY BACOOR!



**SM CITY BACOOR, CAVITE -** Good news, gamers! GameXtreme is NOW OPEN at SM City Bacoor! Visit us today at the 4th floor Cyberzone, and shop for your ultimate gaming essentials and gadgets from GameXtreme! See you there!

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### SM CITY BACOOR CRS AND SECURITY FORCE BROUGHT JOY THIS SEASON



CRS Manager Elidan Figarola turning over their gifts to Barangay Habay 1, Bacoor, City.

**SM CITY BACOOR, CAVITE** – This season, giving is quite hard in the midst of pandemic since most are victims of layoffs and lack of job opportunities. More and more families are in need of help and assistance. This include the families of our brave front liners who, though fearing the viral contagion, are still doing efforts to assist those in need.

That is why SM City Bacoor's CRS Department chose the brave frontliners of Barangay Habay 1, Bacoor, Cavite as the prime beneficiaries of their Gift Giving last December 23, 2020. The CRS and Security Force turned over their gifts to Brgy. Capt. Roberto Castillo and his council. These simple gifts brought joy to the barangay security personnel and their families this season.







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