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THE NATIONAL AUTO CLUB



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AAP Launches Drive In The Moment Project

Have you ever been tempted to look at your phone while driving? Most of us will definitely answer "Yes." We all have done this in one way or another, but here's the good news: You can train your brain to respond differently!

As part of its intensified efforts to promote road safety all over the country, the Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) has partnered with the Australian Automobile Association (AAA) and the Federation Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) to introduce a platform that, using proven methods from behavioral science, help you to avoid phone distractions while behind the wheel.

The campaign, called "Drive In The Moment," was launched in the Philippines last July 1. Drive In The Moment (DITM) is an evidence-based, nationwide campaign on how to say "No"



Staff members from the AAP Main branch wearing smiles and their DITM shirts.

to mobile phone distraction while driving.

During the launch, the AAP Advocacies team led the whole organization, including all AAP branches and their staff members, in wearing the DITM shirt

and in creating a video campaign as a show of support for the road safety initiative. On that same day, the AAP staff were also encouraged to visit the Drive In The Moment website to take the quiz.

Walk-in members and guests at the AAP Tower, AAP's main branch located at 683 Aurora Blvd., Quezon City, are also up for a fun and educational time when they visit. To further promote the campaign



AAP Asst. Vice President for Advocacies Cynthia Reyes (left) and Advocacies Department Consultant Marte Perez led participation in the Drive In The Moment campaign.

to club members and AAP Tower visitors, the AAP Advocacies team set up a kiosk with a mobile tablet that they can use to access the DITM website: <https://driveinthemoment.org/ph/quiz/>.

The kiosk is located at the Johnny Angeles Members' Lounge. Those who take the quiz to support the campaign will receive a DITM shirt and some freebies as AAP's way of saying thank you for advocating road safety.

"I'm excited about the campaign because it's not only engaging

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"I'm excited about the campaign because it's not only engaging

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I had the occasion to fly to Tuguegarao in the past. As I looked out the window of the plane, the sight of the Central Luzon floodplain came into view.

The area was flat as a tabletop and stretched for miles. On the eastern edge of the floodplain, the Sierra Madre mountains and the Cordilleras act as natural barriers to the ravages of the perennial typhoons.

As water is accumulated in the Sierras, eventually it runs off into the floodplain, causing extensive damage to life and property.

Naturally, with the torrential rains, the North Luzon Expressway came to a standstill with floodwaters stranding vehicles on the road.

Flooding is not something new. It has been that way since I was a kid. One can only scratch his head in

wonder why through all these years, no one can find an adequate solution to the problem.

Addressing the flooding issue on the North Luzon Expressway (NLEX) in the Philippines requires a comprehensive approach that combines engineering solutions, infrastructure improvements, and proper maintenance strategies. Here are some possible solutions to consider:

1. Improved Drainage Systems: Enhance the existing drainage systems along the NLEX to efficiently channel rainwater away from the expressway. This may involve expanding and maintaining drainage networks, clearing blockages, and ensuring proper gradient for water flow.

2. Elevated Roadways and Embankments: Construct elevated portions of the expressway or embankments in flood-prone areas to raise the



EYES ON THE ROAD

JOE FERRERIA
AAP President

road above potential flood levels. This can help prevent direct inundation of the road and ensure uninterrupted traffic flow.

3. Retaining Walls and Flood Barriers: Install retaining walls and flood barriers along vulnerable sections of the expressway to contain floodwaters and prevent them from spilling onto the road. These structures

can provide an additional layer of protection during heavy rainfall.

4. Improved Pumping Stations: Upgrade and maintain pumping stations to effectively remove excess water from the expressway during flooding events. Regular maintenance and monitoring of pumps are essential to ensure their proper functioning.

5. Regular Maintenance: Establish a robust maintenance schedule to regularly inspect and clear drainage systems, remove debris, and ensure that all infrastructure components are in optimal condition. Preventive maintenance can significantly reduce the risk of flooding.

6. Real-Time Monitoring and Alerts: Implement advanced weather forecasting and flood monitoring systems that provide real-time data on rainfall, water levels, and flood risks. This information can help authorities take

proactive measures to mitigate flooding impacts.

7. Green Infrastructure: Integrate green infrastructure solutions, such as permeable pavements, rain gardens, and retention ponds, to manage stormwater runoff and reduce flooding. These natural systems can help absorb and manage excess water.

8. Emergency Response Plans: Develop comprehensive emergency response plans that outline procedures for managing flooding events on the NLEX. This includes coordinated efforts between relevant government agencies, law enforcement, and rescue teams to ensure the safety of motorists and efficient traffic management.

9. Public Awareness and Education: Raise public awareness about proper waste disposal and the importance of not blocking drainage systems. Education campaigns can encour-

age responsible behavior and reduce the likelihood of clogged drains.

10. Long-Term Planning and Design: Incorporate flood resilience into the long-term planning and design of infrastructure projects. This includes considering future climate change impacts, such as increased rainfall and sea level rise, to ensure the expressway remains resilient over time.

It's important to note that the effectiveness of these solutions may vary based on factors such as local geography, climate conditions, and available resources. A multidisciplinary approach involving engineers, urban planners, environmental experts, and policymakers is crucial to develop and implement a successful flood mitigation strategy for the North Luzon Expressway.

AAP ASSISTS IN PNZBC'S THE AMAZING JEEPNEY RACE 6

On July 29, 2023, the Philippines-New Zealand Business Council (PNZBC) successfully hosted the Amazing Jeepney Race 6 in collaboration with the Laguna Tourism, Culture, Arts and Trade Office.

This heart-racing competition gathered nine teams with 10 members each that represented different companies. The teams made their way through the participating municipalities of Laguna starting at Bae and ending at San Pablo. In each of the five legs of the race, teams needed to complete a set of challenges or overcome obstacles that highlighted the culture in each Laguna municipality.

The Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) provided the lead and sweep cars to make sure that the teams kept on track and no one got lost along the race. AAP also provided video and photo coverage and documentation of the event.

At the Bae Municipal Town Hall, the starting point of the competition, participants decorated their race jeepneys and showed their team spirit, as well as hyped up the crowd, during the cheer presentations.

Bae Municipal Mayor Jose O. Padrid gave his opening message, thanking everyone who contributed to make the event possible.

The first leg of the race was carried out at Fajardo Gardens in Bae where the participants had to put together puzzle pieces of plant images and then match them with the actual plant found in the garden.

In the next challenge, at Itlog in Kuya in the Municipality



The Philippines-New Zealand Business Council (PNZBC) successfully hosted the Amazing Jeepney Race 6 on July 29 where the Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) provided lead and sweep cars as well as photo and video documentation in support of the event.



Since Calauan is known for the Pineapple Festival, the participants had to harvest the fruit in a pineapple farm as part of the challenge.

of Victoria, participants had to complete two obstacles namely the Mukbang Challenge and the Egg Protection Game.

Proceeding to the third leg in Calauan, the challengers needed to accomplish Pineapple Harvesting, Pineapple Peeling and Slicing, and the Pineapple Relay.

Teams then raced to the fourth leg at Saint Paul the First Hermit Cathedral, San Pablo. They had to answer a trivia question before getting their clue to the next challenge destination.

Racing through the roads of San Pablo, the final leg of



At Batis Crisostomo, one of the challenges was to peel, grate and juice a coconut.



The overall champion, PAIRCARGO, decorating their race jeepney before the start of the competition.

the Amazing Jeepney Race led them to Batis Crisostomo where teams had to accomplish a series of challenges including Kadkarin at Pigain ang Niyog, Punuin ang Pitsel ng Buko Juice, Coconut FIFA, and Flaglet Relay Race.

The closing ceremony was held at Casa San Pablo where the PAIRCARGO Team was announced as the overall champion, followed by RACO Team in first place, and the New Zealand Team in second place.

"Originally, this was an e-jeepney race to promote a



During the Mukbang Challenge, teams had to eat balut, penoy and a small peking duck.



PAIRCARGO, the overall champion, posed for a group photo.

greener alternative. Despite this, I still considered this event a major success since the goal was bringing people together and promoting what the province has to offer," said New Zealand Ambassador Peter Kell. "Through the Amazing Jeepney Race, we wish to strengthen human connections and to fuel the sense of camaraderie within the community."

Established in 1994, the Phil-

ippines-New Zealand Business Council is comprised of Filipinos with business interests in New Zealand and New Zealanders who work in the Philippines and/or are doing business in the Philippines.

To know more about PNZBC, you can visit their website at www.pnzbc.com or check out their official Facebook page @pnzbc to see more of the Amazing Jeepney Race 6.

FORD EVEREST CLUB PHILIPPINES RENEWS PARTNERSHIP WITH AAP



On July 20, 2023, Ford Everest Club Philippines (FECF) founder and president Jay Anthony Cruz (at right) and AAP Membership Services Manager Sheng Deguangco signed the agreement to renew FECF's AAP Corporate Membership. It marks FECF's fifth year as a corporate member of AAP.

According to FECF's official Facebook page, the Ford Everest Club Philippines (FECF) is a growing community of Ford Everest

(Generation 1 to Generation 5) owners and enthusiasts, created through Facebook.

FECF is a non-profit organization and car club dedicated and committed to providing the latest news, expert opinions, troubleshooting assistance and pieces of advice regarding the Ford Everest line among its members. FECF promotes the values of a responsible motorist and advocates innovative and advanced motoring.

Additionally, FECF's philosophy goes beyond the members' interest in Ford vehicles. As a car club, the members value volunteerism and camaraderie, allowing them to come and work together with a shared purpose and vision, especially in doing projects to help the community in times of need.

As the National Auto Club, AAP is happy to have different car clubs with great advocacies under our organization. Contact the AAP Membership Services Department at 8705 3333 if you want your car club members to be part of AAP too.

AAP SOLIDIFIES PARTNERSHIP WITH WESTSTAR AUTO SALES & SERVICE CENTRE



On July 11, 2023, AAP Pampanga and Weststar Auto Sales & Service Center solidified their partnership by signing a Memorandum of Agreement at the Weststar headquarters in Guagua, Pampanga.

The MOA signing was attended by AAP Pampanga Branch Manager Kristine Pagcu (left, seated), Weststar Vice President Erwin Magat (right, seated), Weststar Archival Pacson (right, standing), and AAP Pampanga Marketing Staff Jheruin Fabian. Through this partnership,

Weststar continues to be AAP's lifestyle partner and is now an authorized AAP reseller.

Weststar is your one-stop shop for your car needs. Like AAP, Weststar is a team passionate about cars and that passion guarantees the best ride you can have.

For more inquiries, call 045-626-5370 or send a message via their official FB page @WestStar-Pampanga. You may also visit their shop at Jose Abad Santos Avenue, San Matias, Pampanga (near McDonald's and Funnside Ningnangan Guagua).

AAP PAMPANGA PARTNERS WITH DRIVING MASTERS



On June 14, 2023, AAP Pampanga Branch Manager Kristine Pagcu (center) and Driving Masters Manager Eugene Paul Ponio (right) signed the Memorandum of Agreement confirming Driving Masters as an authorized reseller of AAP Membership and Philippine International Driving Permit (PIDP). AAP Pampanga Sales and Marketing Staff Rachael Reyes (left) witnessed the signing.

Driving Masters is an LTO-accredited driving school in San Fernando, Pampanga providing the Kapampangans with quality driver education since 1986.

For inquiries, you may visit them at Villa Corazon, San Agustin, CSFP, call +63 920 971 8031 or send a message via their official Facebook page Driving Masters - Main.

AAP LAUNCHES DRIVE IN THE MOMENT PROJECT

FROM B3-1 but equally meaningful. Mobile phones are really a major distraction for drivers. It's about time we address this concern and educate motorists to be safe on the road by saying 'No' to their phones. The Drive In The Moment campaign could play an impactful role in this," said AAP Assistant Vice President for Advocacies Cynthia Reyes.

Reyes added, "It's going to be a year-long campaign so watch out for more initiatives and activities we'll launch to make sure driving in the moment becomes the discipline for motorists here in the Philippines."

Join the campaign now! The Drive In The Moment website provides you with a three-phased journey:

1. Learning more about distracted driving.
2. Taking the quiz.
3. Making a plan to reduce the use of mobile phone when driving.

You can check out more interesting DITM facts on the official AAP Road Safety Facebook page, @aaproadsafety or visit <https://driveinthemoment.org/ph/quiz/> and be a Drive In The Moment Champion today!



A walk-in guest takes the DITM quiz using the mobile tablet provided at the DITM kiosk in the AAP Tower.



The DITM kiosk located at the Johnny Angeles Members' Lounge, 2F AAP Tower.



DITM champions after taking the quiz and receiving their freebies.



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Tow truck drivers and mechanics from the AAP SOMCO office also showed support for the DITM campaign.

AAP TRAVEL OFFERS STAYCATION DISCOUNTS AT BELMONT & SAVOY

For local residents craving relaxation and comfort during these rainy days, hotels are top-tier staycation spots to consider.

AAP Travel has partnered with Belmont Hotel and Savoy Hotel Manila with the best deals for a staycation. Through AAP Travel, guests, especially AAP members, can enjoy up to a 75 percent discount on room rates.

Aside from offering discounts, AAP Travel provides the easiest way to book a hotel room when you are too busy to do it yourself. As a full-service travel agency that offers unique, premium, and experiential tours, AAP Travel provides a road-map for AAP members not only for fun traveling but also for hassle-free reservations.

Enjoy a 75 percent discount at Belmont Hotel and Savoy Hotel Manila by booking through AAP Travel.



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The Belmont Hotel is a four-star hotel located in Newport City, within the internationally-renowned entertainment complex of Newport Resorts World.

Belmont Hotel provides the finest experience with the comfortable rooms, excellent service, gourmet experience, and world-class facilities that travelers can enjoy during their stay. Enjoy the al fresco luxury bar and the signature Belmont Café that offers a selection of international and local comfort dishes. AAP Travel discounted rates start at PhP 3,700.00 per night.

SAVOY HOTEL MANILA

Another four-star hotel located inside Newport City, the Savoy Hotel Manila, is just 350 meters away from Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3.

Apart from complimentary breakfast and in-room wi-fi access, guests can enjoy Savoy Hotel's

premium amenities including gym, sauna and steam room, pool, and rejuvenating spa services. The Savoy Hotel's Connect Lounge is an ideal venue for any event.

For inquiries, contact AAP Travel at 8705-3333 loc. 203 & 231 or visit its social media page: AAP Travel (Facebook).

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AAP Expands to Malls, Opens Kiosks



AAP Fairview Terraces: Located at the Upper Ground Floor of Ayala Malls Fairview Terraces, near the San-Yang Home Store.



AAP Feliz: Located at Level 2 of Ayala Malls Feliz, near the Activity Center.



AAP Market Market: Located at Level 3 of Ayala Malls Market Market, in front of Metro Supermarket.

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