

DOST TURNS OVER P17M SMART CITY PROJECT TO BAGUIO CITY



From left to right: Dr. Nancy Bantog, DOST-CAR Regional Director; Dr. Marissa Liponhay, AIM Project Chief Technical Specialist; Academician Christopher Monterola, MINERVA Project Leader; Hon. Benjamin Magalong, Baguio City Mayor; Ms. Ida Tiongson, Opal Portfolio Investments Inc. President; Dr. Renato U. Solidum Jr., DOST Secretary; Dr. Enrico Paringit, DOST-PCIEERD Executive Director; Engr. Ramon N. Santos, DOST-PCIEERD Governing Council Private Sector Representative

Baguio, City- The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) officially handed over a P17 million smart city project to Baguio City to help address environmental concerns tourist spots encounter on April 15, 2024.

In a ceremony, DOST Secretary Dr. Renato U. Solidum, Jr., DOST Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD) Executive Director Dr. Enrico C. Paringit, and Monitoring of Indicators for Efficient Redevelopment and Value Assessment (MINERVA) project leader Academician Christopher Monterola handed over the outputs of the project to Baguio City Mayor Benjamin Magalong.

Project MINERVA aims to help the Baguio City Local Government’s smart city and urban rehabilitation projects by utilizing data science and artificial intelligence.

With MINERVA, tourism influx and flow and traffic can be modeled. Air quality and water supply and quality can be monitored and forecast models be provided to city planners and administrators.

Using the decision support tools, Baguio will be in a better position to create targeted, data-driven programs and policies in key areas that will enhance the standard of living, means of sustenance, social cohesion, and health of its residents.

Secretary Solidum stressed the difficulties that the nation’s metropolitan centers like Baguio City face can be solved through science and technology and boost its potential for growth and development. “In the heart of a smart and sustainable community are science, technology, and innovation. In recent years, Philippine cities, through the Local Government Units, with the active support of academia, national government agencies, non-government organizations, and industries, have made strides towards technological advancements, sustainability efforts, and overall livability. Project MINERVA represents a significant step forward in enhancing our country’s readiness. The project is also a testament to forging partnerships and collaboration between local government units and national agencies like Baguio City and DOST,” he stated.

Executive Director Paringit reaffirmed DOST’s commitment to “smartifying” our communities during his presentation of the Smart Cities Roadmap. “DOST

plans to provide support through the establishment of command data service centers, human resource investments aimed at increasing digital literacy skills, and the creation of embedded or ladderized programs for future cities through 2026,” he said. “This is intended to establish a digitally equipped city utilizing smart technology, with the aid of the smart city roadmap, he added.

Academician Monterola presented the project’s outcomes including aggregating all sensor and tourism data down to the barangay level. “A prediction model for monthly tourism demand using hotel data, a model that incorporates pedestrian data, and a prediction model for air quality and casualty analysis of air pollution dispersal by meteorological factors have all been established as a result of Project MINERVA,” He emphasized. “Part of the project outputs are the deployment of 500 GPS trackers, 80 Atmotube Pro or Air Quality Sensors (AQS), and six (6) mobile Water Quality Sensors (WQS). These devices have all been game changers as essential conduits for data collection required for the project, he explained.

Mayor Magalong expressed enthusiasm in receiving Project MINERVA’s outputs which supports the city’s objectives for a smart, sustainable, green, and livable city that can handle current and upcoming urban problems and take advantage of digital opportunities to improve urban quality of life. (By DOST-PCIEERD)

DOSTIPS PARA SA HEALTHY-PINASAYANG EXPERIENCE SA TAG-ARAW



Ano-anong bagay ba ang gusto mong gawin sa ‘summer’? Siguro planado na ang swimming at rides kasama ang mga kaibigan. Nakapamili ka na siguro ng mga preskong damit o kaya ay nagpa-planong kumaiin ng halo-halo o homemade ice cream habang ka-bonding ang pamilya o special someone. Talaga nga namang it feels like summer sa islang pantropiko! Kasing taas ng sikat ng araw ang ngiti sa mga masasayang aktibidad na maari nating gawin sa tag-araw. Ano man ang trip nating gawin sa mainit na panahon, mahal-agang pagtuunan pa rin ng atensyon ang ating kalusugan. Kaya naman, narito ang mga tips at kaalaman mula sa Department of Science and Technology na magbibigay sa atin ng gabay! Summer na... totoo kaya? Alam ba ninyo na hindi talaga nakararanas ng summer ang Pilipinas? Ayon sa DOST- Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), ang four seasons ay nararanasan lamang ng mga bansang may kainaman ang panahon gaya ng mga bansa sa hilagang asya (Northern Asia), Europa, Amerika, at Australia. Bagkus, ang Pilipinas ay mayroon lamang dry season o tag-araw at wet season naman o tag-ulan. Sa pag-alis ng hanging amihan (northeast monsoon) ay siya namang pag-uumpisa ng tag-araw na karaniwang nag-uumpisa sa buwan ng Marso at inaasahang magtatapos sa buwan ng Mayo. Ngunit huwag kang mag-aalala! Wala rin namang problema kung gagamitin ang summer upang tukuyin ang pakiramdam at karanasan na namumuo sa isipan tuwing kapanahunan. Anim na ‘summer’ diseases, paano iwasan?

Mayroong anim (6) na karaniwang sakit ang maaring maranasan sa tag-araw, ayon sa ulat ng Department of Health (DOH) na siyang nangunguna sa pagbibigay ng payong pangkalusugan sa mamamayan. Una na ryan ang sore eyes o pamamaga ng mata. Ayon sa experto, isagawa ang tamang paghuhugas ng kamay at konsulta-syong pangmedikal bago bumili ng eye drops o kahit anong gamot upang hindi ito mauwi sa pagkabulag. Sunod naman ay ang sunburn. Maaari itong maiwasan sa pamamagitan ng pag-iwas sa outdoor activities mula alas diyes ng umaga hanggang alas-dos ng hapon. Sa ganitong oras ay mas mainam na sumilong muna sa malilim na lugar. Ugaliin ring gumamit ng sunscreen na may sun protection factor (SPF) na hindi bababa sa 30. Upang protektahan din ang ating balat mula sa pagkasunog, karagdagang payo ang pag-iwas sa paglangoy sa maduduming katubigan na makapagbibigay ng sakit sa balat. Huwag ring kalimutan ang maligo at magsabon bago lumusong at pagkatapos lumangoy sa pampublikong swimming pool. Pangatlo ay ang ubo at sipon na maaring maiwasan sa pamamagitan ng malinis at maayos na pangangalaga ng ating katawan. Makatutulong ang pagsasama sa diyeta ng gulay at prutas upang maging malakas ang ating resistensya. Nakatutulong rin ang pag-inom ng bitaminang may ascorbic acid o multivitamins at pag-inom ng walong basong tubig o higit pa kung kinakailangan sa isang araw. Inaanayahan rin ang patuloy na paggamit ng face mask at hand sanitizer sa tuwing nasa pampublikong lugar at sa tuwing nakikisalamuha sa maraming tao. Pang-apat sa listahan ay ang pag-susuka dulot ng heat exhaustion. Nangyayari ang pag-susuka buhat ng pagtaas ng temperatura ng ating katawan. Nararapat na iwasan ang pananalagi sa maiinit o maalinsangang lugar. Makatutulong ang pagsusuot ng manipis na damit o iyong maiksi ang mangas at pag-inom ng maraming tubig upang ma-relax ang pangangatawan. Panglima ay ang diarrhea o pagtatae. Nagiging aktibo ang mga mikroorganismo sa tuwing mainit ang panahon na siyang dahilan upang mapadali ang pagkasira ng mga pagkain. Bunsod ito ng hindi malinis na pagkakagawa, pagkakaluto, at pagkakasalansan ng pagkain. May nakaambang panganib rin sa pagkain ng shellfish dahil talamak ang red tide tuwing tag-init. Maaaring magtae at malason ang makakain ng mga pagkaing ito. Para sa mga anunsyo ng insidente ng red tide, bisitahin lamang ang mga social media account ng DOST-PAGASA. Upang maiwasan naman ang hindi kanais-nais na pangyayari, siguraduhin na malinis ang ating mga kamay at kagamitan sa pagluluto upang hindi makontamina ang pagkain. Maaaring iwasan muna ang paglalagay ng mga sangkap na madaling masira gaya ng kamatis at krema. Kung wala namang refrigerator, maring lagyan ng suka ang mga lututuin upang humaba nang kaunti ang shelf life nito. Ang panghuli sa listahan ay ang rabies. Sa mainit na panahon, lumalaganap ang panganib sa rabies. Kaya naman pinapayuhan ng mga eksperto ang agarang pagpapagamot sa mga nakagat ng alagang hayop at ang pagpapaturuk ng ng anti-rabies vaccination sa mga alagang hayop tulad ng aso at pusa. Samantala, maaaring maging basehan ang mga datos sa rabies transmission at control measures sa Davao City sa pamamagitan ng Rabcast forecasting tool na proyekto ng University of the Philippines- Mindanao at suportado ng DOST-PCHRD. Kalma, kalma, mag-prutas ka! Kung ang ibig mo ay malamig na softdrinks, ice scramble, o buko-pandan, dapat mo lang kalmahan! Baka kasi sa diyabetis naman mauwi iyan. Maraming mga dayuhan ang pumaparito sa Pilipinas hindi lamang para sa magagandang dagat at tanawin. Kasama na sa kanilang listahan ang kumain ng pinoy delicacies at ng ating mga prutas gaya nalang ng manga, papaya, chico, pinya, melon, at pakwan at marami pang iba. Ayon sa DOST-FNRI, mahalaga ang pagkain ng prutas dahil nakapagbibigay ito ng vitamins at minerals na nagsisilbing enerhiya at nakapagpapalakas ng ating resistensya laban sa mga sakit. Nagtataglay rin ng dietary fiber ang mga prutas na nakatutulong sa regular na pagdumi at pagbabawas ng timbang. Bukod dito, bumababa rin ang presyo ng mga prutas tuwing tag-araw. Depende sa iyong gusto, may iba’t-ibang paraan kung paano ihanda ang prutas. Maaari itong hiwain at ipalamig bago kainin. Maaari rin naman itong gawing fruit salad o fruit popsicles. Imbes na tsitsirya, pupwede mong i-vacuum dry ang pinya at mangga para maimbak at gawing miryenda sa hapon. Maari rin itong i-blender at gawing natural fruit shake na pamatid-uhaw sa mainit na panahon.



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BATANGAS FISHERFOLK ADOPTS TECHNOLOGY ON MALIPUTO CAGE CULTURE

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'CHILD-FRIENDLY' LGUS RECOGNIZED FOR EFFECTIVE CHILD WELFARE, PROTECTION INITIATIVES

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MANILA, (PIA) -- Senator Win Gatchalian proposed anew to decentralize governance in the basic education sector by strengthening the involvement of local government units in improving the quality of basic education. “The local school board is already a good vehicle to implement some form of devolution at the local level because the mayor and the superintendent are part of it. But we propose to add powers to the local school board and make sure there is accountability. My proposal is an attempt to devolve education at the local level using existing mechanisms,” said Gatchalian, Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Basic Education. The senator’s proposal is outlined in the 21st Century School Boards Act (Senate Bill No. 155), which seeks to make the local school boards responsible for formulating policies on improving the delivery and quality of basic education. Success indicators of these policies shall include, among others, the participation rate of students, the number of dropouts and out-of-school youth, and the achievement scores measured by national tests or assessment tools. The proposed measure also aims to expand the local school board to involve other education stakeholders and relevant actors in the community. Following the Second Congressional Commission on Education’s visit to Vietnam, Gatchalian cited the Southeast Asian coun-

Understanding El Niño's Impact on the Philippines: A Call for Resilience

As the Philippines braces itself for another bout of El Niño, it's crucial to understand the intricate ways in which this climatic phenomenon impacts the archipelago. El Niño, characterized by warmer-than-average sea surface temperatures in the Pacific Ocean, has been known to disrupt weather patterns worldwide. For the Philippines, a country heavily reliant on agriculture and susceptible to natural disasters, the effects can be particularly pronounced and far-reaching.

One of the most immediate impacts of El Niño is drought. With reduced rainfall and higher temperatures, water sources dry up, crops wither, and farmers struggle to sustain their livelihoods. This not only affects agricultural output but also exacerbates food insecurity, as prices soar and access to nutritious food becomes increasingly limited, particularly for rural communities.

Moreover, El Niño often heightens the risk of wildfires, further threatening both rural and urban areas. Forests, which are vital for biodiversity and carbon sequestration, become tinderboxes, releasing vast amounts of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and contrib-

uting to climate change. Meanwhile, urban areas face increased air pollution and respiratory problems due to smoke and haze.

The fishing industry, another cornerstone of the Philippine economy, also takes a hit during El Niño events. Warmer ocean temperatures disrupt marine ecosystems, causing fish populations to decline and forcing fisherfolk to venture farther out to sea in search of dwindling catches. This not only strains livelihoods but also jeopardizes food security for coastal communities reliant on seafood as a primary protein source.

Beyond immediate economic and environmental concerns, El Niño can also amplify existing social inequalities. Vulnerable populations, such as smallholder farmers, indigenous communities, and those living in informal settlements, are often hit the hardest by the repercussions of drought and food scarcity. As resources become scarce, competition for water and arable land can exacerbate tensions and lead to conflicts, further undermining community cohesion and stability.

In the face of these challenges, proactive measures are imperative to build resilience and

mitigate the impact of El Niño. Investments in water conservation and irrigation systems can help buffer against drought, while diversified and climate-resilient agriculture practices can enhance food security and livelihoods. Early warning systems and disaster preparedness initiatives are also crucial for minimizing risks and ensuring swift responses to emerging crises.

Furthermore, addressing the root causes of climate change, such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting sustainable development, is essential for mitigating the frequency and intensity of El Niño events in the long term. This requires collective action on both a local and global scale, as the impacts of climate change transcend borders and affect us all.

As we navigate the challenges posed by El Niño, it's imperative that we prioritize resilience, equity, and sustainability in our response efforts. By working together and embracing innovative solutions, we can weather the storm and build a more resilient future for all Filipinos, even in the face of unpredictable climatic shifts.

Gatchalian.....

try's decentralized education governance. While the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) decides policies at the national level, the People's Committee at the provincial level implements education programs, ensures quality, and is accountable for outcomes.

Gatchalian's bill also proposed to broaden the use of the Special Education Fund (SEF), which is sourced from the addi-

tional one percent tax on real property.

While the Local Government Code of 1991 (Republic Act No. 7160) allots the SEF to the local school board to operate and maintain public schools and construct and repair school buildings, Gatchalian proposes that the expanded use of the SEF cover the salaries of teachers and non-teaching personnel, salaries of preschool teachers, and

teachers' and non-teaching personnel's honoraria and allowances for additional services rendered outside of regular school hours.

The proposed expanded use of the SEF will also cover capital outlay for pre-schools, and the operation and maintenance of Alternative Learning System (ALS) programs, among others. (PIA-NCR)

ARMY...

TANAY, RIZAL (PIA) – The 2nd Infantry “Jungle Fighter” Division of the Philippine Army marked its 48th founding anniversary by recognizing stakeholders who showed unwavering support and significant contributions for the division's peace and development efforts. In a ceremony held at Camp Capinpin, Tanay, Rizal, on April 12 that was attended by Lt. Gen. Roy M. Galido, commanding general of the Philippine Army and top officials of the 2ID and Armed Forces of the Philippines Southern Luzon Command paid tribute to government and private sector partners, as well as brave soldiers of the division. Among the distinguished

personalities honored were: Agustiniana C. Avelino, chairperson of the 2ID Multi-Sectoral Advisory Board; Rikki Escudero-Catibog, executive vice president of GMA Kapuso Foundation; Jonathan A. Irinco, president of Sun Logistics Workers Union; and Jason Santos representing the A Brown Company Inc. In addition to recognizing external partners, the ceremony also celebrated the exemplary performance and service to the nation by Army personnel. Notable awardees were: 1Lt Harris B. Jumawid from the 74th Infantry “Unbeatable” Battalion, honored as the Best Officer; Staff Sgt. Jalbert S. Acabo from the 16th In-

fantry “Maghilingkod” Battalion, hailed as the Best Enlisted Personnel and Ma. Corazon S. Alseco, recognized as the Best Civil Human Resources. Furthermore, several officers were conferred with Gold Cross Medals, the third highest military award of the country, for showing gallantry in action. In his address, Galido commended the valor, dedication, and commitment demonstrated by the awardees, underscoring their vital role in upholding peace and security in the regions of CALABARZON and MIMAROPA. “Each [one] of you are brave warriors. I have full confidence in your ability and dedication to our

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nationwide. In collaborating with the DENR, we will be able to build greater synergies to fulfill our shared responsibility to nurture the health of the planet which we call our home,” said Nestle' Philippines Inc. Corporate Affairs Head Senior Vice President Joey Uy. On April 22, student scouts from the BSP and GSP from various schools will bring the plastic items they collected including plastic bottles and plastic bags for a weigh-in at SM Mall of Asia. The class with the highest volume of plastic items will win a prize. Students may bring the plastics they have collected to designated SM Supermalls collection facilities in the cities of Pasay, Marikina, Pasig, Manila, and in Quezon City for the National Capital Region, and in Bulacan, Pampanga, Cavite, Cebu, and Davao. This project aligns with SM Supermalls' existing plastic waste collection initiatives.

Points will be assigned according to the type of plastic collected. Every month, prizes will be awarded to the class with the highest points, and at the end of the year, to the school with the highest-pointer classes.

The project is in line with this year's Earth Day celebration theme, Planet vs Plastic which “calls to advocate for widespread awareness on the health risk of plastics, rapidly phase out all single use plastics, urgently push for a strong UN Treaty on Plastic Pollution, and demand an end to fast fashion, and build a plastic-free planet for generations to come.” /PR

Local Government Leads Successful Medical and Dental Mission in Biwas, Tanza Cavite



On April 17, 2024, the provincial government of Cavite organized a highly successful medical mission at Brgy. Biwas, Tanza, Cavite. The health outreach program brought essential services to 565 residents of Tanza, benefiting from the dedicated efforts of the provincial government medical mission team.

Led by Drs. Rhemielene De Leon and Millicent Fojas, alongside the GEAMH staff, the medical mission team demonstrated unwavering commitment and service to the community. Collaborating with the local government, led by Councilor Aicel Del Rosario-Morales, staff and health professionals, the mission achieved its goals. In addition to medicine distribution and the provision of anti-mosquito repellent lotion, the mission also included free eye check-ups, ensuring comprehensive healthcare support for the constituents. The success of the mission highlights the effective partnership between government agencies and healthcare professionals in addressing the healthcare needs of the community.

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The Aktibong Abogado! Run for a Cause is set on May 19, 2024 and will be held in Imus Boulevard, Malagasang 1-G, Imus, Cavite.

This year, the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (Cavite Chapter) in collaboration with our beloved Imus City organized this event not only to influence the physical health of the lawyers but also to promote the tourism in Imus City. Whatever profits will be obtained will be shared to the athletes of the city to support them in their education and training.

REGISTRATION FEES

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Cavite Career Caravan opens doors to employment opportunities in Indang

The Office of the Provincial Public Employment Service Manager (OPPESM) headed by Ms. Rizalie P. Enero in collaboration with the Sanggunian Kabataan Provincial Federation under the leadership of Board Member Chelsea Sarno spearheaded the Cavite Career Caravan at Indang Municipal Hall on April 16, 2024 wherein Caviteño job seekers had the opportunity to connect with prospective employers.

A total of 32 companies participated in the career caravan, offering a diverse range of job opportunities across various industries. The event catered to a wide spectrum of skill sets and career aspirations.

The turnout was impressive, with 90 enthusiastic applicants seizing the chance to engage with potential employers. Eleven (11) applicants were hired on the spot, underscoring the event's effectiveness in facilitating immediate employment opportunities.

The atmosphere at the Indang Municipal Hall was bustling with energy as job seekers eagerly interacted with company representatives, submitted their resumes, and engaged in interviews. Employers, on the other hand, had the chance to scout for top talent and fill critical positions within their organizations.

Mayor Perfecto Fidel together with some local officials were also present at the event and expressed their appreciation to the provincial government for the opportunity given to Indangenos.

In conclusion, the legacy of the Cavite Career Caravan lives on, inspiring hope and paving the way for a brighter future filled with opportunities for career advancement and per-

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FORWARD THINKING FARMERS: HOW TWO FARMERS EMBRACED MODERN TECHNIQUES



Jayson and Juanito proudly showcase a selection of produce at the SM City Clark's Weekend Market.

While modern agricultural techniques boost yields for some, there remains a number of Filipino farmers who struggle to keep pace. These experienced hands find themselves falling behind in a market demanding higher production, clinging to familiar yet often inefficient methods passed down through generations.

One farmer from Pampanga, Jayson Garcia, sought to disrupt this prevailing narrative in his family. He knew that he had to chart a new course forward for his farm and innovate to remain competitive within the rapidly evolving landscape of modern agriculture.

"Noon, mahirap ang magtanim," he recalled their life before joining SM Foundation's Kabalikata sa Kabuhayan. "Ang kinagisnan ko noon ay sinaunang pagtatanim—bas-ta pag itinanin mo 'yan, hintayin mo na lang mamunga."

"Para bang tsambahan lang din noon; minsan pag maganda ang ani, may kita. Minsan, halos wala. Hindi ko rin alam dati ang mga bagay patungkol sa pagpili ng buto, paghahanda at timing sa pagtatanim, o tamang panahon ng paglalagay ng pataba. Mas mahirap pa lalo kapag nagkaroon kalamidad," he said.

When Garcia learned that the SM Foundation was conducting a training program focused on high-value crop cultivation, he knew this was the breakthrough he needed to revitalize his farming techniques.



Jayson attends the SM City Clark's Weekend Market to observe best practices and gain insights into new agricultural techniques.

During the training, Garcia learned a range of farming techniques. These included selecting the best seeds and caring for them, as well as strategic planting schedules. He was also introduced to innovative methods for utilizing the space in his rice fields, allowing him to cultivate a diverse range of vegetables and fruits.

Aside from farming strategies, the Pampanga-based farmer also said that he gained invaluable lessons in

business and marketing from his time at KSK. He highlighted that he has since discovered alternative sales channels that have enabled him to enhance his earning potential while extending fair prices to his customers. "Bago ako sumali sa KSK, kinukuha lang sa bahay ng mga traders at ng ibang mamimili ang mga produkto namin. Pero natuto na ako na pwede palang ako mismo ang magtinda at magdistribute. Nagagawa ko na rin ang pagtitinda online," he proudly shared. Equipped with knowledge, he shared that he had more confidence to expand his farm after the KSK training. He also increased his monthly income to more than 25,000 pesos.

"Ang main crop namin noon ay palay. Hindi ko lubos maisip na pwede rin palang magdagdag ng mapagkakakitaan na pananim na prutas at gulay," he smiled.

Aside from directly selling his harvests, he is now planting a variety of vegetables on his farm, including lemon-grass, malunggay, and madre de cacao, which he sells online to small businesses that processes the produce into other products.

As a leader in a farmer's group in their city, KSK has further opened his interest in attending other seminars that will introduce him to more good agricultural practices, which he actively shares with his fellow farmers in Pampanga.

Embracing new techniques



Juanito, alongside his wife, actively participates in the SM City Clark Weekend Market. They credit the market with contributing to their increased profitability.

Sharing the same story of hope is another KSK farmer from Pampanga, Juanito Dela Cruz. Despite his age, he actively pursued and adopted modern farming techniques.

Building on his current success, he shared the importance of adaptability for farmers, calling for others to try and explore new practices.

From a modest monthly income of 10,000 pesos, Juanito experienced an upsurge in his earnings, notably through participation in the Weekend Market at SM City Clark, yielding around 30,000 pesos weekly.

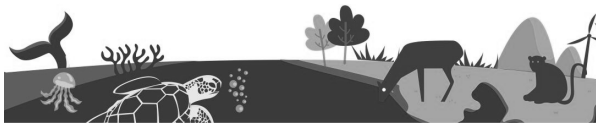
"Kung ano ang naipasa sa akin na paraan ng pagsasaka, 'yun lang ang ginagawa ko noon. Pero alam kong hindi 'yun sapat, lalo na sa panahon ngayon. Kailangan maging bukas tayo sa makabagong pamamaraan ng pagsasaka para makahabol tayo sa demands ng panahon ngayon—itong ang itin-u sa akin ng KSK," he said.

SM Foundation's KSK program has changed the lives of roughly 30,000 Filipino farmers, including Jayson and Juanito. Through its initiatives, farmers who once lost hope have been able to embrace modern farming techniques, leading to adaptability in the face of the evolving agricultural landscape.



DENR TO LAUNCH EARTH DAY EVERY DAY PROJECT TO FORTIFY FIGHT VS PLASTIC

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is launching on April 22 the Earth Day Every Day Project to mobilize the youth in curbing plastic pollution and to strengthen the fight against the use of plastic.



Earth Day Every Day Project is a plastics collection competition among students nationwide. It aims to engage the youth on the importance of recycling plastics and to foster a culture of environmental responsibilities in line with the values of scouting.

DENR Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo Loyzaga will be joined by SM Supermalls' President Steven Tan, SM Prime Holdings, Inc. Assistant Vice President Jessica Bianca Sy, Nestle Philippines Inc. Corporate Affairs Head Senior Vice President Joey Uy, Boy Scouts of the Philippines (BSP) Secretary General Kim Robert de Leon, and Girl Scouts of the Philippines (GSP) National President Cristina Lim-Yuson in signing the Pledge of Commitment for the project to be held in Pasay City.

"The Earth Day Every Day Project advocates the promotion of feasible methods to reduce waste and foster a culture of sustainability among the youth and communities, and motivates participation through incentives. For this, we thank SM Supermalls, Nestle, and the Boy and Girl Scouts of the Philippines for their invaluable support and collaboration. Their robust presence and proactive engagement will serve as a multiplier effect in our advocacy efforts," said Loyzaga.

To combat plastic pollution in the country, the DENR advocates for a circular economy where all plastic applications are reused, recycled, and responsibly managed during and after use while enabling a lower greenhouse gas emissions plastic economy.

"Regenerating our planet has long been our advocacy at SM – through our many initiatives in recycling water and repurposing solid waste as well as the use of renewable energy. Through this program, we aim to motivate students to collect plastics within their communities and bring them to our collection facilities at the nearest SM mall. Active participation and a friendly competition among the students will make this activity not only relevant but fun," said SM Prime Holdings, Inc. Assistant Vice-President Jessica Bianca Sy.

"At Nestlé Philippines, we recognize that partnerships are essential in urgently and effectively tackling the plastic waste crisis. And so, we work closely with our partners in implementing environmental sustainability initiatives. These include solid waste management education for 11 million public school students and capacity building for over two thousand community leaders

ARMY...

role and mission... Your division plays a crucial role in eliminating insurgency and terrorism while strengthening the bonds in your area of responsibility," the Army general said. The 2ID, under the leadership of Major General

Roberto Capulong, has achieved several gains in upholding peace and order in Southern Tagalog, which is a key region in fostering development for various industries and sectors in the country. (MBL/PIA-Rizal)

NEW MEGA...

CAVITE CITY (PIA) – A new 100-bed 3-storey mega health center in Cavite that will cater to the needs of a growing population in Cavite's 1st district aims to ease overcrowding in hospitals.

The Cavite City Medicare Mega Health Center, located in Barangay 28, Sea Breeze, Cavite City will provide free, accessible, and quality public health care services to Caviteños through its medical surgical, outpatient, diagnostic, birth-

ing, emergency, and pharmacy services. Health Secretary Dr. Teodoro Herbosa together with DOH Assistant Secretary Dr. Ariel Valencia, led the turnover ceremony, which was graced by Cavite City 1st District Rep. Ramon Jolo B. Revilla III, Cavite City mayor Denver Reyes-Chua, Cavite board member Ram Revilla-Bautista, and other city officials.

Cavite's 1st district is composed of Cavite City and the towns of Noveleta, Kawit, and Rosario. Sec. Herbosa assured the public that the DOH will continue its commitment to improving the quality of health services in the country, and will support the efforts of local government units and its leaders to alleviate poverty through the 8-point action agenda of the department. "The establishment of mega health centers

like this is a way for us to finally achieve and strengthen universal health care. [We believe] that every life is valuable in Bagong Pilipinas," Herbosa said in his keynote message.

Herbosa also pledged to work on the immediate provision of additional health equipment to ensure the efficiency of the new facility.

Meanwhile, Revilla said that the health facility is a priority project of him and his father, Senator Ramon Bong Revilla Jr., and has committed to the continuous development of the health center.

"The opening to the public of this Mega Health Center fulfills our promise during the campaign period to establish a new public hospital in our district that will enhance the quality of public service and address the medical needs of our fellow citizens. What used to be just a dream for us is now a reality. We will further improve and enhance the services of this facility for every Caviteño," he stated.

Chua expressed gratitude to the DOH and the Revillas for their commitment to making the project a reality, which he expects will provide further urgent care to his constituents and fellow Caviteños.

The mega health center is expected to be fully operational this April. (RF/PIA-Cavite)

CHILD...

CARMONA CITY, Cavite (PIA) – Local government units should remain vigilant in ensuring the safety of children and creating a community that will protect them from all kinds of abuse, a town mayor stressed during a recognition ceremony for the Seal of Child-Friendly Local Governance (SCFLG).

The Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC), along with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) IV-A and the Department of Social Welfare and Employment (DSWD) IV-A, recognized 63 LGUs in Calabarzon during the 2022 SCFLG awarding ceremony on April 4, for their exemplary performance in enacting programs and policies aimed at protecting children from abuse. The 2022 SCFLG assessed all 142 local

government units in the Calabarzon region through the following indicators categorized under the four categories of children's rights: survival, development, protection and participation, and governance. In a message of support, Agoncillo, Batangas Mayor Cinderella Valenton Reyes said local government units must protect the rights of children and not make compromises on cases of child abuse.

"The law dictates that we cannot make compromises in cases of child abuse. We, as elected officials, have to take a stand. We cannot make compromises on cases like these," Reyes said. The local chief executive believes that local leaders have a moral obligation to be an instrument for the welfare and development of children. "We are all tasked by our Lord and the law to be vigilant and protect

our youth. When the time comes, it is very difficult for a victim to find their voice and ultimately speak out against the abuse inflicted upon them," Reyes added.

Agoncillo is one of the 11 cities and municipalities in Batangas Province that received the 2022 SCFLG. They are joined by 13 LGUs in Laguna, 10 in Rizal Province, and 15 in Quezon Province.

Meanwhile, Carmona stands with the 14 LGUs in Cavite province to receive the award, having achieved a perfect score of 100 points in the 2022 audit.

Cavite 5th District Representative and former Carmona Mayor Roy Loyola commits to advance child causes in his constituency.

Over the years, we have worked tirelessly to create an environment where children can go and realize their poten-

tial. We have strived to enable young people to take charge of their own lives, make informed decisions, and be engaged in the processes that affect them," the lawmaker declared.

Mylah Gatchalian, assistant regional director for operations of DSWD IV-A, emphasized that towns and cities that are considered "child-friendly" always include children in their programs, legislation, and services.

"Great leaders who tirelessly create vibrant spaces emphasizing inclusivity and ensuring children of all abilities can participate. Leaders who are champions of child-friendly local governance, giving priority to children in planning, budgeting, legislation, and delivery of services to assure that the rights of a child are realized," Gatchalian said. (PB/PIA-4A)

BATANGAS...

CALAMBA CITY (PIA) – A group of fish farmers in Batangas has adopted the maliputo cage culture technology developed by the DA-National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (DA-NFRDI), with the aim of improving their livelihood through fisheries.

The DA-NFRDI, through the Freshwater Fisheries Research and Development Center (FFRDC), serves as a central breeding facility for freshwater ornamental fish and a prime research center for maliputo, a delectable and most popular indigenous fish in the province as part of the Health, Education, Livelihood, and Protection of Life, Environment, and Properties (HELP) Program of the provincial government.

"We, in our office, are pleased with the initial success of this project. You can expect that we will further strengthen the agriculture sector in

digenous fish.

The maliputo fingerlings recorded an 83 percent survival rate and have an average body weight of 357 grams, according to the data gathered by the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist (OPAg) of Batangas during a harvest conducted in March 2024 with the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) IV-A, and the municipal government of Lemery.

Dr. Rodrigo M. Bautista Jr., Batangas provincial agriculturist, assured that the government will keep on strengthening the fisheries sector in the province as part of the Health, Education, Livelihood, and Protection of Life, Environment, and Properties (HELP) Program of the provincial government.

"We, in our organization, are grateful for the projects you have provided us, which have been helpful for us. Rest assured, we will continue to sustain and expand this project," he said.

the province of Batangas, especially the fisheries sector. Assistance for our fisherfolk will not stop here, and will further continue for the progress of each individual through collaborative efforts with other agencies," he said.

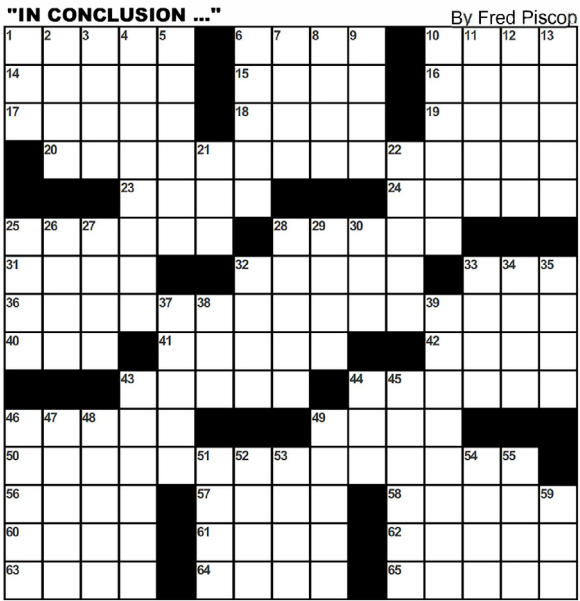
Bautista added that they will continue to integrate their plans and programs for strong and sustainable partnerships among LGUs, national government agencies, the private sector, and fisherfolks to ensure food security and provide additional livelihood to Batangueños.

Bryenne Mamaug, a fisherfolk and one of the program beneficiaries, was grateful for the opportunity. "We, in our organization, are grateful for the projects you have provided us, which have been helpful for us. Rest assured, we will continue to sustain and expand this project," he said.

DA-NFRDI said they will continue supporting the maliputo cage culture and further expanding the projects to more cages and ponds.

"We at the NFRDI are delighted because the technology on the 'grow-out culture' of maliputo has advanced further. We initiated the study on maliputo breeding, and our goal is to further increase its population to supply cages and ponds. Since this can provide a good livelihood for our fisherfolk, NFRDI is here to serve as a venue for training and other livelihood projects," Dr. Maria Theresa Mutia of the DA-NFRDI said.

Training activities and technical assistance from the DA-NFRDI are also set to be organized for fisherfolk, agri-technicians, LGUs, and other stakeholders on aquaculture technology and management of fishery resources. (CH/PIA-4A;



freedailycrosswords.com
ACROSS

- 1) Mariner's "Halt!"
- 6) Swipe, slangily
- 10) Big blowout
- 14) Match starter
- 15) "King of the road"
- 16) Certain vocal range
- 17) Duvall's "The Godfather" role
- 18) Fermi's study
- 19) Nasty remark
- 20) Where Cockney is spoken
- 23) Rowlands of "Gloria"
- 24) All wired up
- 25) Ides of March word
- 28) House of Henry VIII
- 3 I) Like Lucifer
- 32) Trouble for Pauline
- 33) Tampa griddier, for short
- 36) House paint option
- 40) Kitchen amt.
- 41) Dreads sporter
- 42) Klensch of fashion
- 43) Boxcars, in dice
- 44) Seltzer, tonic, etc.
- 46) Making all stops
- 49) Let off steam
- 50) Kind of consonant sound
- 56) Lot unit
- 57) Merino's coat
- 58) Word before "wave" or "basin"
- 60) Paparazzo's wares, for short
- 61) Descartes quote word
- 62) Overdo it
- 63) Proofer's mark
- 64) Rating unit
- 65) Shimon of Israel

- DOWN
- 1) Flooring wood
 - 2) Osso buco meat
 - 3) Jason's craft
 - 4) Hypnotist of fiction
 - 5) Easy to slice
 - 6) Accra's land
 - 7) Zillions
 - 8) Reed section member
 - 9) NYC gallery
 - 10) Thanksgiving kitchen gadget
 - 11) Tim of "Home Improvement"
 - 12) Uses a Taser on
 - 13) Vast crowd
 - 21) Like-minded
 - 22) Vodka brand, for short
 - 25) Oscar superlative
 - 26) Times to revel
 - 27) Spineless sort
 - 28) Lab jobs
 - 29) Minor (Little Bear)
 - 30) "What's the _?" ("Who cares?")
 - 32) Put forward
 - 33) Liver secretion
 - 34) Map initials until 1991
 - 35) Cartoonist Addams, familiarly
 - 37) Cookout need
 - 38) Not strict at all
 - 39) "Not today, sorry"
 - 43) Most like Solomon
 - 44) Tillis of country
 - 45) Marching perfectly
 - 46) Axel and lutz
 - 47) Footnote abbr.
 - 48) "The Odyssey" temptress
 - 49) Reason for a decoration
 - 51) Is short
 - 52) Basis for a suit
 - 53) Forum garb
 - 54) Sign of decay
 - 55) Hors d'oeuvres spread
 - 59) Gibson_ Paul guitar

CITY OF BACOR NEWS

Bacoor Hope Children's Chorus, Nakiisa sa 2nd National Peace Convention



Noong Abril 21, 2024, buong pusong tinanggap ng Bacoor Hope Children's Chorus ang isang espesyal na imbitasyon upang makiisa sa ika-2nd National Peace Convention na ginanap sa Philippine International Convention Center (PICC). Sa pangunguna ni Dra. Tina Alberto, ipinamalas ng Bacoor Hope Children's Chorus ang kanilang husay at mensahe ng pag-asa sa pamamagitan ng isang kahan-ga-hangang pagtatanghal sa nasabing convention. Ang kanilang pagsali sa napakahalagang okasyong ito ay nagpapakita ng kanilang malalim na pagtitiwala sa kapangyarihan ng musika at sining bilang kasangkapan sa pagpapalaganap ng kapayapaan at pagkakaisa. /ba-coor.gov.ph

4-Day Compressed Work-week Implementation

In our continuous efforts to adapt to the challenges posed by climate change and to maximize the well-being of our local government employees, we are implement-ing a Compressed Workweek for select departments within the City Government. Starting April 22, 2024, through Executive Order No. 92-2024, certain departments will shift to an adjusted work schedule from Monday to Thursday, 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM. This initiative is designed to reduce our city's electricity and water consumption during the peak of the summer season and to improve overall productivity. Please note that essential services such as the Bacoor Traffic Management Department, Bacoor Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office, Office of the City Health Services, and City Social Welfare and Development Of-fice will maintain their regular work schedule to ensure uninterrupted service delivery. For more details regarding the departments affected, and the specifics of the new schedule, please refer to the full text of the Executive Order available on our website. We appreciate your understanding and support as we take this proactive step towards sustainability and im-proved service efficiency./bacoor.gov.ph

Isang libo't tatlong mga benepesyaryo, Tumanggap ng tulong mula sa DOLE TUPAD Pay-Out

Strike Gymnasium, April 11, 2024 – Sa kabila ng mga hamon na kinakaharap natin, isang mabuting balita ang dala ng DOLE, LGU ng Bacoor, at opisina ni Cong. Lani Mercado Revilla para sa ating mga kababayan na nan-gangailangan ng tulong panghanapbuhay. Kasama ang suporta nina Mayor Strike B. Revilla at Vice Mayor Ro-wena Bautista-Mendiola, at ang presensya nina BM Ram Revilla, Coun. Alde Pagulayan, Coun. Obet Advincula, at Coun. Mike Solis, malaking hakbang ito para sa ika-bubuti ng mga manggagawang nangangailangan. Mayroong 1003 na mga beneficiaries mula sa iba't ibang barangay na tumanggap ng tulong mula sa DOLE TUPAD Pay-Out. Ito ay malaking tulong, lalo na sa panahon ng pandemya, para sa mga nawalan ng trabaho o kita dahil sa iba't ibang dahilan. Bilang bahagi ng pagdiriwang ng kaarawan ni Congress-woman Lani Mercado Revilla, tinanggap ng mga bene-ficiaries ang kanilang sweldo mula sa programa. Ito ay patunay na ang serbisyo at malasakit ni Cong. Lani Mer-cado Revilla ay hindi lamang limitado sa kanyang opi-sina, kundi umaabot sa mga nangangailangan sa ating komunidad. Nagbahagi rin si Congresswoman Revilla ng mga ma-hahalagang anunsyo tulad ng Revilla Law, Centenari-an Law, pagpapatupad ng liquor ban at curfew, at mga update tungkol sa Pertussis Outbreak, Fire Safety, at El Niño. Sa kabila ng mga hamon na ating kinakaharap, patuloy tayong umaasa at nagtutulungan upang malampasan ang mga ito. Sa tulong ng mga programa tulad ng DOLE-TUPAD, kasama ang ating mga pinuno, tiyak na maka-kamit natin ang ating mga pangarap at magtatagumpay sa mga hamon ng buhay./bacoor.gov.ph



Last week's solution:



Medical and dental mission in Barangay Medina in Magallanes



On April 19, 2024, Barangay Medina in Magallanes was the site of a successful health outreach event that brought essential medical services to around 300 beneficiaries. Organized by the Office of the Provin-cial Governor's medical and dental mission team in partnership with the Office of the Provincial Health Officer (PHO), the initiative aimed to improve the well-being of the community by providing accessible healthcare services. The mission offered a range of services, including thorough medical and dental check-ups, tooth ex-tractions, electrocardiogram (ECG), and the provi-sion of prescribed medicines. These services were crucial in addressing various health concerns and promoting preventive care among residents. Magallanes Mayor Jasmin Maligaya-Bautista, to-gether with other local officials, played a pivotal role in ensuring the mission's success. Their presen-ce and support reflected a shared commitment to im-proving healthcare accessibility for all constituents. During the event, Mayor Maligaya-Bautista and the officials expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the provincial government and the medical and dental team for their dedication in providing services for their constituents.--- /CPIO

Medical and dental mission in Barangay Bucal III, Maragondon benefits over 300 residents

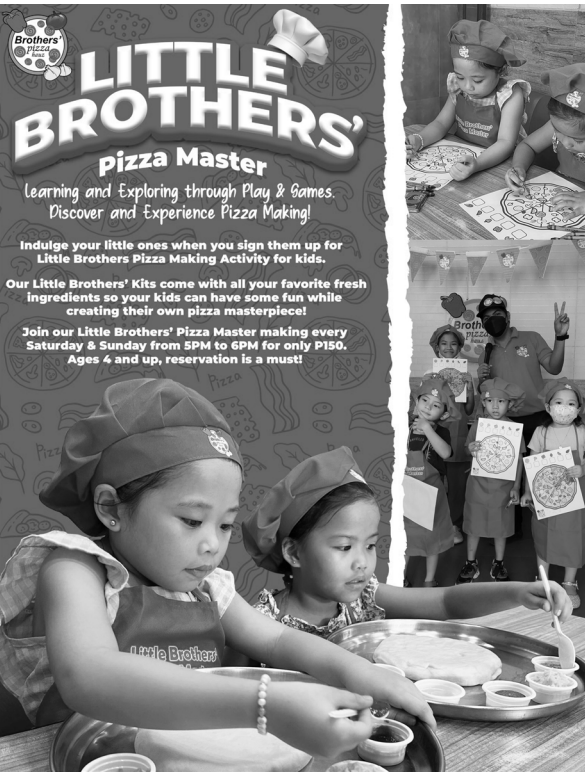


The Office of the Provincial Governor's Medical and Dental Mission team spearheaded the suc-cessful outreach activity in Barangay Bucal III, Maragondon on April 18, 2024 to provide essential healthcare services to the residents. The mission, which saw participation from doctors, dentists, nurses, and support staff from the Office of the Provincial Health Officer, aimed to address the healthcare needs of the barangay's population. It was a collaborative effort that highlighted the im-portance of accessible healthcare services in under-served communities. Over 300 beneficiaries, comprising men, women, and children, received much-needed medical at-tention during the event. Services provided includ-ed general check-ups, dental consultations, and the distribution of medicines and insect repellent

LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEADS SUC-CESSFUL MEDICAL AND DENTAL MISSION IN BACOR CITY



The provincial government of Cavite, under the leader-ship of Governor Jonvic Remulla, conducted a remark-able medical and dental mission in Talaba II, Bacoor City on April 16, 2024, bringing hope and healing to the constituents. The initiative helped 417 residents of Baco-or, who received essential healthcare services. A total of 365 individuals availed of medical services while 52 benefitted from dental care. Additionally, 15 people underwent X-ray examinations, and 10 received ECG tests, ensuring comprehensive healthcare coverage. The success of the program was a testament to the col-laborative efforts of various institutions, including the local government, PGC health professionals, and the Scouts Royale Brotherhood, led by Cavite Provincial Council President Alan Correl, alongside the Sangguni-ang Kabataan, BHWs and BNS. In addition to the provision of medicine and anti-mos-quito repellent lotion, the program included free eye checks, further enhancing its impact and significance to the community./CPIO



lotion. Board Member Rainier Ambion expressed his grat-itude to everyone involved in making the mission a success. He emphasized the importance of such initiatives in improving the overall well-being of the community and pledged continued support for future healthcare outreach programs. The local officials and residents of Barangay Bucal III echoed their appreciation for the medical and dental mission, citing the valuable assistance it pro-vided to their families./CPIO

BIZ I-Create's Graduation Cer-emony at Philippine Christian University in Dasmariñas, Cavite



On April 17, 2023 marked the culmination of a 4-day training program to equip participants with the skills and mindset needed for entrepreneur-ial success. The event achieved remarkable success, thanks to the Office of the Provincial Cooperative Development Officer, led by its officer-in-charge, Atty. Khervy B. Reyes, CPA, JD, and Ms. Liza C. Gabatan, Entrepreneurial Division Head. Their un-wavering commitment provided participants with the encouragement and guidance essential for their entrepreneurial journey. Dr. Aldrin Antivola, the distinguished resource speaker, empowered business owners, with his men-torship and profound insights, igniting their passion and determination to succeed in their ventures. At the heart of the ceremony were fourteen (14) Cavite entrepreneurs who were recognized for completing the intensive training program. They showcased their acquired knowledge and skills by presenting their business plans to their coaches, reflecting the depth of their understanding. Expressing gratitude, participants acknowledged Dr. Aldrin Antivola and OPCDO for their invalu-able support, which fueled their determination to excel in their entrepreneurial pursuits. Armed with newfound knowledge and skills, they are now better equipped to pursue their business goals and contrib-ute to the economic prosperity of Cavite../CPIO

