

## DENR, UN WOMEN PARTNER FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN PARTICIPATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE



DENR Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo Loyzaga (right) and Ma. Rosalyn Mesina, Country Programme Coordinator of UN Women Philippines signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the Women for Climate Resilient Societies Program Phase II during the Earth Day celebration in Pasay City on April 22.

Strengthened gender equality and increased women participation in environmental protection and climate resilience discussions will be the main agenda of the partnership between the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the UN Women for the “EmPower: Women for Climate-Resilient Societies Programme Phase II”. DENR Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo Loyzaga and UN Women Philippines Country Programme Coordinator Ma. Rosalyn Mesina, on behalf of Maria Holtsberg, Deputy Regional Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, signed a Memorandum of Understanding during the 2024 Earth Day celebration in Pasay City on April 22.

Secretary Loyzaga has said, “We do need to invest both in the transdisciplinary understanding of vulnerability, particularly gender-based vulnerability, and the multiple roles that women play in order for us to understand how risk may cascade through those roles and address the vulnerability once and for all.”

The Secretary has also stated that it is crucial to safeguard the rights of women in crafting environmental policies, social development and in decision-making through their inclusion in national and local level discourse on mining, climate, human security, and the environment.

The EmPower: Women for Climate-Resilient Societies Programme Phase II seeks to increase the role of women and other marginalized groups on gender responsive climate change adaptation and mitigation, ensure that women and other marginalized groups are represented as key environmental actors in climate and disaster risk reduction (DRR) decision making, and that they are engaged in climate resilient livelihood.

The program, which shall also be implemented in Indonesia, shall give people greater gender equality and full enjoyment of their rights, including equal access to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, reducing their vulnerability to the impacts of climate change

Under the MOU, the DENR and UN Women aim to promote gender-responsive and human rights-

based climate action that is inclusive in accordance with the central pledge of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to “leave no one behind,” and that accelerates progress on the achievement of Sustainable Development (SDG) Goal 5 on Gender Equality, SDG 7 on Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 13 on Climate Action, and SDG 17 on Partnerships for the Goals.

Both parties have agreed to support the Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028 in its goal to create jobs and reduce poverty through higher economic growth. This shall result to economic and social transformation for a prosperous, inclusive and resilient society, in line with the 8-Point Socioeconomic Agenda of President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. and the achievement of AmBisyon Natin 2040, the country’s long-term vision.

The parties will also contribute to the targets of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for 2024-2028, signed between the UN and the Philippines, across the three outcome areas: Outcome 1, Human capital development, inclusion and resilience building; Outcome 2, Sustainable economic development, decent work, and innovation; and Outcome 3, Climate action, environmental sustainability and disaster-resilience.

The DENR and UN Women will also contribute to the delivery of UN Women’s country programme priorities across the thematic areas of women’s participation, representation and leadership in decision-making, gender-responsive humanitarian, DRR and climate action, women’s economic empowerment, and ending violence against women. The EmPower: Women for Climate-Resilient Societies Programme Phase II will be funded by the Governments of Sweden and New Zealand and will run until 2027. /PR

## DENR URGES CITIZENS TO HELP MAP, PROTECT THE COUNTRY’S MANGROVES

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has urged the public to take an active role in the rehabilitation and conservation of the country’s mangrove forests by helping validate on the ground the mangrove map created through satellite data.

The National Mangrove Map 2023, the satellite-derived map developed by the DENR and the Philippine Space Agency (PhilSA), will serve as the basis for making informed decisions and developing policies aimed at restoring and protecting Philippine mangroves.

Mangroves are productive salt-tolerant ecosystems that play a critical role in coastal protection, carbon sequestration, biodiversity conservation, poverty alleviation, and food security. They face a decline and are continually threatened due to human activities and natural disturbances.

Citing the need “to measure what we treasure” through the power of citizen science, DENR Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo Loyzaga called for a collaborative effort and urged everyone to take an active role in the mangrove initiative and the safeguarding of the country’s ecosystems.

“Amid the climate emergency and destruction of mangroves, everyone has the ability to make a difference by tracking and protecting our natural resources,” she said.

The initiative calls for the private and public sectors, including private individuals and organizations, to visit coastal barangays and verify the presence or

absence of mangroves with the easy-to-use ODK Collect app available in the Google Play Store, or they can submit drone images of local mangroves using the same app.

To get started, one can download the ODK Collect app, then scan the QR code from the e-manual (<https://bit.ly/Mangrove2023Validation>) for the step-by-step instructions.

The ODK Collect app provides easy-to-follow guidelines to collect data that will validate the presence or absence of mangroves in several spots within the same barangay, keeping a distance of 10 meters from the previous validation point.

Participants with drone equipment can opt for drone surveying and mapping over the ODK Collect app following the flight plan specified in the e-manual.

With over 600 sites and 30,000 validation points across the country as targets, the DENR aims to finalize the field validation of the mangrove map by June 2024. So far, the project has received less than five percent of the targeted submissions, underscoring the need for urgent action and increased participation by the public.

Validating the National Mangrove Map is vital to quantifying and determining the true value of the country’s natural resources contributing to climate and disaster risk resilience and sustainable development.

The initiative complies with Secretary Loyzaga’s directives to “measure what we treasure” to implement science-based and sustainable measures for managing the country’s natural resources. The DENR said the protection of the country’s critical ecosystems starts by establishing a national natural resource geospatial database as the physical basis for natural capital accounting system and development planning. /PR



The National Mangrove Map 2023 (above) is the satellite-derived map developed by the DENR and the Philippine Space Agency subject for ground validation through the DENR’s citizen science initiative. The activity aims to effectively quantify and improve the map’s accuracy for making informed decisions and developing policies for restoring and protecting Philippine mangroves.



For we walk by faith, not by sight

2 Corinthians 5:7

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## CALABARZON REMAINS LONE INDUSTRIAL-BASED ECONOMY IN PH – REPORT



## PBBM INAUGURATES EXPANDED BATANGAS PORT PASSENGER BUILDING

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CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) -- The Calabarzon region remains the only predominantly industrial regional economy in the Philippines, a phenomenon attributed to various government construction projects and location of vital manufacturing sectors in the region.

According to the 2023 Regional Accounts of CALABARZON produced by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), the region recorded a 49.6 percent share for Industry, valued at P1.53 trillion, driven by the vast number of industrial zones and manufacturing facilities located in the five provinces of the Calabarzon region, as well as priority government construction projects in different sectors.

Other major industries such as Services had a 46 percent share totaling

P1.42 trillion in value, while Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing recorded a 4.5 percent share or a total value of P0.14 trillion.

National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) IV-A Regional Director Agnes Tolentino attributed the significant share to the region’s proximity to Metro Manila and its accessibility through new roads, highways, expressways, and seaports, which foster productivity and facilitate ease for investors.

“With this performance, there is a need to continue promoting growth in the industry sector by putting in more investments in construction, manufacturing, mining and quarrying, electricity, gas and water to further strengthen the economy and create a multiplier effect on the economy. This will allow



## The El Niño Phenomenon: A Tempest in the Classroom

The Philippines, a nation intertwined with the caprices of nature, faces yet another challenge: the recurring visitation of El Niño. As the scorching heat waves ripple across the archipelago, its impact transcends beyond agricultural lands and water reservoirs, seeping into the very fabric of the nation's education system.

El Niño, characterized by the anomalous warming of sea surface temperatures in the Pacific Ocean, heralds a cascade of consequences that disrupt the delicate balance of daily life. While its implications on agriculture and water resources are well-documented, its ramifications on education are often overlooked but nonetheless profound.

One of the most immediate effects of El Niño on education is the disruption of schooling routines. With temperatures soaring to unbearable heights, schools grapple with the challenge of ensuring a conducive learning environment. In many instances, the scorching heat becomes a deterrent to attendance, as students and teachers alike struggle to cope with the oppressive weather conditions. The discomfort and health risks posed by prolonged exposure to extreme heat often lead to increased absenteeism, thereby impeding the continuity of learning.

Moreover, the agricultural repercussions of El Niño trickle down to the socio-economic landscape, exacerbating poverty and

inequality. As families grapple with dwindling resources and livelihoods, the ability to prioritize education diminishes. Children are often forced to forego schooling in order to assist their families in coping with the economic strain induced by crop failures and food shortages. Thus, El Niño perpetuates a vicious cycle of poverty and educational disenfranchisement, further deepening the fault lines of inequality.

Furthermore, the specter of natural disasters looms large in the Philippine context, particularly during El Niño years. The heightened risk of wildfires, droughts, and typhoons not only disrupts schooling activities but also poses a threat to the safety and well-being of students and educators. School infrastructure, already vulnerable due to inadequate resources and poor maintenance, becomes susceptible to damage, rendering educational institutions inoperable and unsafe.

In the face of such adversities, it is imperative for the government and relevant stakeholders to adopt a proactive stance towards mitigating the impact of El Niño on education. Investments in climate-resilient infrastructure, such as well-ventilated classrooms and disaster-resilient school buildings, are crucial in ensuring the continuity of learning amidst environmental upheavals. Additionally, targeted interventions aimed at alleviating the socio-economic burdens imposed by El Niño, such as providing financial assistance to affected

families and implementing alternative livelihood programs, can help mitigate the adverse effects on education.

Furthermore, education should be leveraged as a tool for building climate resilience and fostering sustainable development. Integrating climate change education into the curriculum equips students with the knowledge and skills necessary to understand, adapt to, and mitigate the impacts of El Niño and other climate-related phenomena. By instilling a sense of environmental stewardship and resilience among the youth, education becomes a catalyst for positive change, empowering communities to confront the challenges posed by a changing climate.

In conclusion, the effect of El Niño on the Philippines' education system underscores the intricate interplay between environmental dynamics and socio-economic realities. As the nation grapples with the recurrent onslaught of this climatic phenomenon, concerted efforts must be made to safeguard the right to education for all. By addressing the multifaceted challenges posed by El Niño through a holistic and inclusive approach, the Philippines can build a more resilient and sustainable education system that withstands the tempests of nature.

**-ANG KABITENYA**

## CALABARZON...

the region to continue being the lone industrial region in the country," Tolentino explained.

Tolentino stressed that Calabarzon reaps the benefits of significant construction projects in housing through the implementation of the Pam-bansang Pabahay Para sa Pilipino (4PH) program by the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), transportation and flood control projects including the LRT Line 1 Cavite Extension, North-South Commuter Railway, Cavite-Laguna Expressway, South Luzon Expressway TR4, Taal Lake Circumferential Road, Cavite Industrial Area Flood Risk Management Project.

Despite recording a single-digit share in the regional economy, Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing

remain important in the daily lives of Filipinos as they drive household consumption and industrial usage and could still be developed for exports.

NEDA recommends that the sector become more modernized and promote agriculture as a viable career path for students. "To further enhance the sector's competitiveness, we must invest in research and development, adopt cutting-edge technology, upgrade post-production facilities, and make value-adding investments, among other measures," Tolentino adds: "Several state universities considered centers of excellence in agriculture and other-related fields located in the region, we must vigorously promote enrollment in agriculture-related programs to develop a new generation of farmers, agriculturists, scientists, and

agri-entrepreneurs."

PSA Regional Director Charito Armonia reports the 2023 Regional Accounts of CALABARZON. (JNP/PIA-4A)

In the same report, PSA states that CALABARZON achieved a 5.2 percent growth rate in regional domestic product in 2023. This was slower than the 7.8 percent growth recorded in 2022. In terms of levels, the size of CALABARZON'S economy continued to increase to 3.10 trillion pesos in 2023. Moreover, PSA said that CALABARZON contributed 0.8 percentage points to the 5.5 percent growth in the Philippines' GDP in 2023, the second highest next to the National Capital Region among the 17 regions, accounting for 14.7 percent of the total GDP. (CH/PIA-Laguna)

## PBBM...

CITY OF BATANGAS (PIA) -- President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. led the inauguration of the improved and modern Batangas Passenger Terminal (PTB) at the Batangas Port in Batangas City on April 26.

President Marcos Jr. mentioned that it is a great honor and joy to be part of the inauguration of the new terminal building, which he expects will play a vital role in improving tourism connectivity, ushering investments, improving channels for agriculture, and bolstering national and regional economies.

"This significant change at Batangas Port is crucial because it is not just a gateway to other regions or an easier access point to island tourism paradises and serves as a conduit for commerce and trade that benefits the country, but also a possible solution to decongest the Manila Port."

The chief executive added that the new government projects are a testament to the importance of infrastructure in dispersing economic activities to other areas of the country.

"Hindi lang ito halimbawa ng Build Better More na programa ng inyong pamahalaan sa inyong rehiyon. Ito ay patunay sa pagmamalasakit

natin sa mga gawaing imprastruktura para sa buong bansa," the President added. Dubbed the "biggest, busiest, and the most modern" inter-island terminal under the Philippine Ports Authority, Jay Santiago, the general manager of PPA, said that the agency is committed to modernizing other ports in the country through its 'Bagong Pantalan sa Bagong Pilipinas' program.

"First of all, we thank President Bongbong Marcos for attending this very important day, where an inter-island terminal will be a significant help not only for local tourists, foreign tourists, and port users within and outside Luzon. It is also a major gateway for commerce across the country," GM Santiago said. The terminal has new facilities including free water refilling stations, free breastfeeding stations, all-gender restrooms, free charging stations, prayer rooms, and food kiosks.

The building is also equipped with security equipment to ensure the safe and orderly voyage of tourists and visitors alike with 52 CCTV cameras, six X-ray machines, and ten walk-through metal detectors installed in key locations. For the frequent passengers of Batangas Port, the new build-

ing and improved facilities bring significant upgrades from what the port used to be before the renovations.

Lisa Rinio, a traveler from the province of Romblon, said that the new building is a far cry from its previous state and lauds the government for making Batangas Port more accessible and more convenient for traveling.

"The difference is enormous compared to before. In my frequent trips back and forth from our town in Romblon, I can say that the PTB brings great relief. Unlike before, when even ticketing was difficult for passengers, now it's easier because you can do it online. If you walk-in, you no longer have to queue in long lines and hot areas because everything is centralized here. It's also easier because if we get hungry, there are many stores to buy drinks or food. Many thanks to President BBM for this initiative," said Rinio.

From a capacity of 2,500 passengers, the expansion project now accommodates 8,000, and can now hold 12.8 million passengers annually, almost triple the original four million travelers it could accommodate. Carport facilities at PTB can now hold up to 13,000 vehi-

## PGC joins in the conduct of NSED



The provincial government of Cavite through the initiative of the Office of the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Officer (OPDRMO) joined in the conduct of the 1st quarter National Simultaneous Earthquake Drill on March 25, 2024. The drill took place at the Provincial Capitol Grounds and Cavite Provincial Jail which aimed to enhance preparedness and response capabilities in the face of potential seismic events, emphasizing the importance of coordinated efforts in disaster management.

At the Provincial Capitol, OPDRMO staff led the way in guiding employees and visitors through evacuation routes to designated assembly areas on the grounds. The drill showcased the effectiveness of pre-established emergency plans and the importance of regular training in ensuring a coordinated and efficient response during crisis.

Meanwhile, at the Cavite Provincial Jail, staff and inmates participated in the drill, highlighting the significance of including correctional facilities in disaster preparedness initiatives. Despite the challenges unique to correctional settings, such as ensuring the safety of detainees, the drill demonstrated the importance of quick decision-making and effective communication in safeguarding lives during emergencies.

Throughout the drill, emergency response teams showcased their expertise in providing immediate assistance to simulated casualties, emphasizing the crucial role of first responders in mitigating the impact of disasters.

**SOURCE Office of Provincial Information Officer**

## FREE SNACKS AND MOVIE PARA SA MGA SENIOR CITIZENS NG CAVITE CITY



: May handog na free snacks at movie marathon ang isang pamahalaang barangay sa Cavite City para sa mga senior citizens.

Idinadaos ang nasabing programa sa isang airconditioned room sa barangay upang mas lalong ma-enjoy ng mga senior citizens ang panonood ng mga libreng pelikula.

Layunin umano ng programa na maibsan ang init na nararamdaman ng mga lolo't lola sa Brgy. 58M-Patola ngayong tag-init.

Ayon sa ulat, 4 na senior citizens na sa barangay ang binawian ng buhay dahil sa matinding init. Kamakailan lamang ay naitala sa lungsod ang pinakamainit na temperatura kung saan pumalo ito sa 47 degrees celsius.

## Health outreach program benefits hundreds of Kawiteños.



The Provincial Government of Cavite (PGC), through the initiative of the Office of the Provincial Governor in partnership with the Office of the Provincial Health Officer (OPHO), brought medical and dental services in Brgy. Magdalo Potosol, Kawit, on April 23, 2024.

A total of 239 patients benefitted from the outreach program, 193 received medical services, 46 underwent dental extractions, and 3 took the X-ray examinations. Led by Barangay Chairperson Francis Fernandez, supported by barangay health workers, barangay nutrition scholars, and local council members, the event received community-wide support. Maintenance medicines and mosquito repellent lotions were distributed, to enhance the community's health and well-being. The medical and dental professionals from General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital ensured thorough examinations and comprehensive care for all patients.

The collaborative effort emphasized a commitment to improving healthcare accessibility and quality, leaving no community member behind in receiving essential medical and dental services./PR

## OMB suspends Silang Mayor Kevin Anarna



The Office of the Ombudsman has ordered the six month preventive suspension without pay of Silang Mayor Kevin Anarna and Bids and Awards Committee Chairperson Nathaniel Anarna Jr. over alleged anomalies in transactions relating to the town's fiesta celebration. They are accused of grave misconduct, serious dishonesty, and conduct prejudicial to the best Interest of the service.

In issuing the directive, the Office of the Ombudsman said there was strong evidence showing their guilt, and their continued stay in office may prejudice the investigation of the case filed against them.

It said there is a need to preserve the documents and evidence pertaining to these cases, which are under the control of the two Silang officials, and to avert the commission of further malfeasance and misfeasance in office.

The suspension order, dated April 12, 2024, was forwarded to Interior Secretary Benjamin Abalos Jr. for implementation.

The suspension was based on the request of Edgardo Arenco Bayan, who had filed a complaint against the

## The Provincial Government of Cavite welcomed the delegation from the Municipality of Labo, Camarines Norte



The Provincial Government of Cavite welcomed the delegation from the Municipality of Labo, Camarines Norte on a benchmarking activity held at the Sangguniang Panlalawigan Session Hall, Legislative Building, Trece Martires City on April 17, 2024. Their endeavor to enhance governance practices and explore innovative approaches aims to foster collaboration, knowledge sharing, and inspiration among local government units.

The event commenced with a warm welcome from Vice Governor Athena Bryana D. Tolentino, who extended heartfelt greetings to the esteemed guests. Vice Governor Tolentino emphasized the importance of the benchmarking initiative and assured the attendees of a fruitful and enlightening visit to the Province of Cavite.

The Municipality of Labo delegation was led by Mayor Severino H. Francisco Jr. and Vice Mayor Alvin G. Bardon, accompanied by members of the Sangguniang Bayan. Their presence underscored Labo's commitment to continuous improvement and learning from the best practices of other LGUs.

Joining the program were distinguished Cavite board members, including BM Maurito Sison, BM Kerby J. Salazar, BM Rainier Ambion, BM Irene Bencito, and BM Fulgencio dela Cuesta Jr., who added depth and perspective to the discussions.

The benchmarking activities commenced with a captivating audiovisual presentation (AVP) showcasing the diverse facets of Cavite and the operational processes of the Provincial Government. The immersive presentation provided valuable insights into Cavite's governance framework, serving as a foundation for the benchmarking exercise.

Following the AVP, each board member present at the program delivered a succinct speech, extending warm greetings and expressing gratitude to the guests from the Municipality of Labo. Their words of welcome reflected a spirit of camaraderie and collaboration, setting a positive tone for the benchmarking sessions that followed.

The benchmarking activity in Cavite provided Labo's local leaders with information on innovations which can contribute to their journey towards excellence in governance. By leveraging the experiences and best practices of the province, Labo aims to strengthen its governance structures, improve service delivery, and ultimately enhance the well-being of its constituents.



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# BUILDING A GREENER FUTURE: SM SUPERMALLS, DENR, AND PARTNERS LAUNCH “EARTH DAY EVERY DAY PROJECT”

Building a greener future: SM Supermalls, DENR, and partners launch “Earth Day Every Day Project”

In celebration of Earth Day, SM Supermalls has joined hands with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Boy Scouts of the Philippines, the Girl Scouts of the Philippines, and Nestle Philippines to launch the Earth Day Every Day Project on April 22, 2024, at the SM Mall of Asia.



SM Supermalls' Vice President for Corporate Compliance Liza Silerio (right), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo Loyzaga (center), and Nestle Philippines' Senior Vice President and Head of Corporate Affairs Jose Uy III (left) during the Earth Day Every Day project partners' signing ceremony.



In the photo: SM Supermalls' Vice President for Corporate Compliance Liza Silerio (seventh from right), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo Loyzaga (center), Nestle Philippines' Senior Vice President and Head of Corporate Affairs Jose Uy III (seventh from left), SM Supermalls' Senior Vice President for Marketing Joaquin San Agustin (right), DENR Undersecretary for Strategic Communications Marilou Erni (third from right), Boy Scouts of the Philippines Secretary General Kim Robert De Leon (right, back), Girl Scouts of the Philippines National President Dr. Cristina Yuzon (sixth from left), and UN Women Philippines Country Programme Coordinator Rosalyn Mesina (third from left).



The Earth Day Every Day Project partners with student participants from its nationwide plastics drive competition.

The Earth Day Every Day Project is a groundbreaking initiative aimed at engaging youth in environmental conservation efforts. It seeks to educate and empower youth on the importance of recycling as students are encouraged to collect plastics within

their communities and bring them to designated collection facilities at the nearest SM mall. SM Supermalls will play a crucial role in tallying and reporting the units of plastics turned in by students every month. Additionally, as a token of appreciation for their dedication, organizing partners will reward the class that accumulates the highest points each month. At the end of the school year, the school with the highest cumulative points will be recognized and rewarded for their exceptional commitment to environmental conservation.



SM Supermalls' Vice President for Corporate Compliance Liza Silerio



Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Undersecretary for Policy, Planning, and International Affairs Atty. Jonas Leones



(L-R): Girl Scouts of the Philippines National President Dr. Cristina Yuzon, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo Loyzaga, and Boy Scouts of the Philippines Secretary General Kim Robert De Leon during the project launch.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo Loyzaga



Passay City North High School, the first-place winner of the plastics collection competition held last Earth Day.

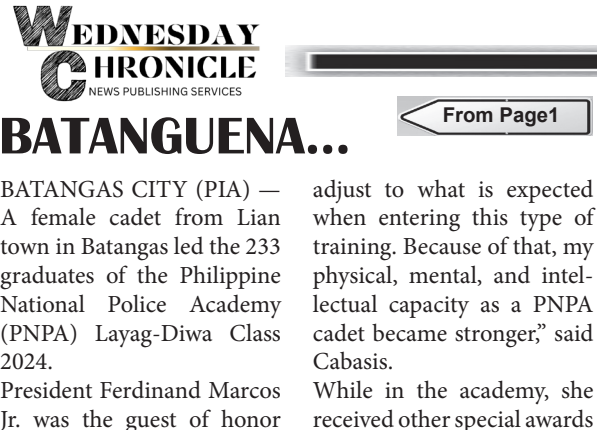
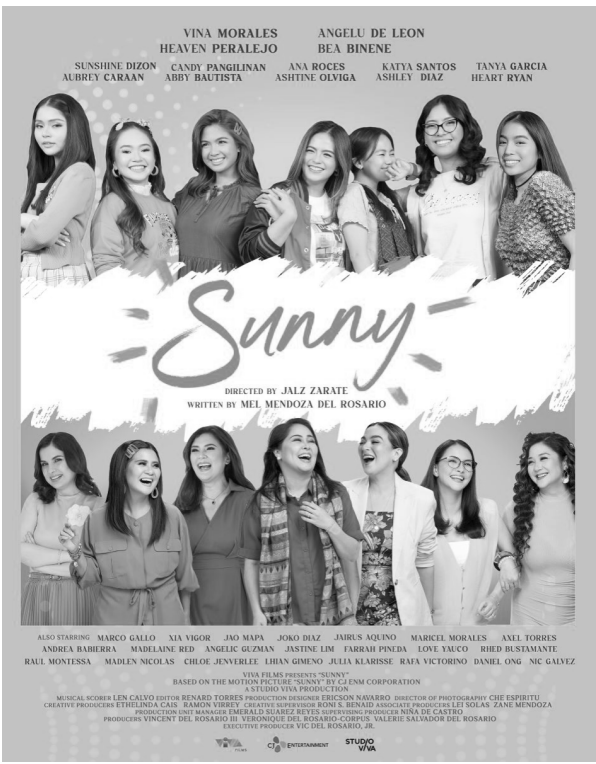


Paranaque National High School, the second-place winner of the plastics collection competition held last Earth Day.

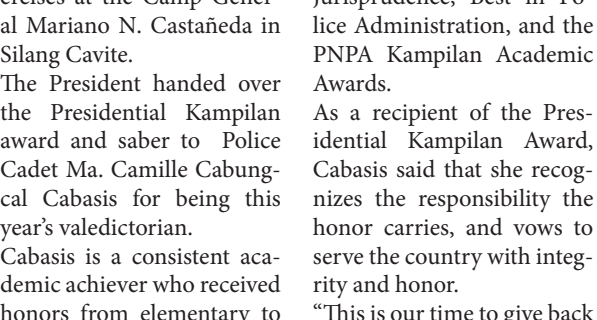


Passay City South High School, the third-place winner of the plastics collection competition held last Earth Day.

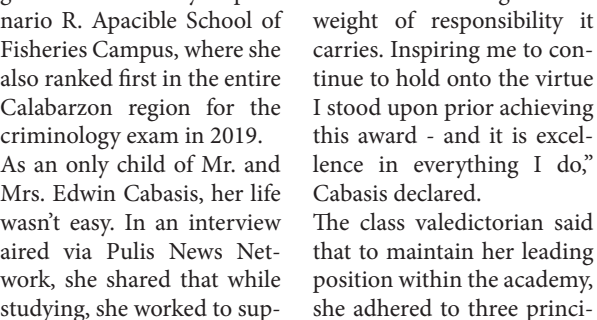
The Earth Day Every Day Project represents a collaborative effort to create meaningful change and instill a sense of environmental stewardship among the next generation. /PR



Passay City North High School, the first-place winner of the plastics collection competition held last Earth Day.



Paranaque National High School, the second-place winner of the plastics collection competition held last Earth Day.



Passay City South High School, the third-place winner of the plastics collection competition held last Earth Day.

The Earth Day Every Day Project represents a collaborative effort to create meaningful change and instill a sense of environmental stewardship among the next generation. /PR



Passay City South High School, the third-place winner of the plastics collection competition held last Earth Day.

## BATANGUENA...

The city government of Calamba receives its commendation from the Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA) for its successful implementation of the Electronic Business One Stop Shop (eBOSS) to promote bureaucratic efficiency. ARTA Secretary Ernest Perez, with ARTA key officials, awarded the certificate of commendation to Calamba City Mayor Roseller “Ross” H. Rizal, Business Permits and Tri-cycle Franchising Office Head Bernadette Opulencia, Vice Mayor Angelito Lazaro Jr, members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod, and to other department heads on April 26 during the Testimonial Dinner for Businesses held at the Crimson Hotel, Muntinlupa City. Calamba City launched its eBOSS platform named, ‘CalambaGO’ early this year to provide taxpayers with unparalleled convenience in processing and

ment Specialist, NEDA IV-A, further explained that the RDP is a six-year investment programming document which contains priority programs and projects for the region. It also serves as an instrument to monitor targets and commitments, and a reference document to channel resources. For the provincial level, Cavite has its Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan (PDPFP). These plans assessed the socio-economic performance of key sectors in the economy as well as the development challenges, and identified the targets, strategies and legislative agenda to attain economic and social transformation towards prosperous, inclusive and resilient region and province. Governor Jonvic Remulla noted Cavite as one the fast-developing provinces in the country with its vibrant economy and strategic location. Nevertheless, the governor pointed out that geography alone does not spell the province's success adding that its strength lies in its people. He describes the integration of people coming in from the different parts of the country as high breed vigor which pro-

## DA...

LUCENA CITY (PIA) -- The Department of Agriculture (DA) announced that it will provide more assistance to the agriculture sector as part of the national government's support to local farmers and fishermen. During a visit to the Sentrong Pamilihan ng mga Produktong Agrikultural in Sariaya, Quezon, Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel, Jr. expressed that the government has a responsibility to extend support to farmers, starting from production up to marketing, and in enhancing the capability and accessibility of the country's several trading posts. The Sentrong Pamilihan in Sariaya, established in 2007, serves as a main trading area for vegetables and other agricultural products in the province, where local farmers can converge and sell their harvests. According to Tiu Laurel, the DA is preparing a national logistics plan that will connect vegetable farms and other food-growing areas in the countryside to food hubs like the Food Terminal, Inc. in Taguig City. “We will link vegetable farmers with the Taguig mega cold storage and continue to provide support and assistance in terms of transport so they can sell their produce at the right price,” the secretary said.



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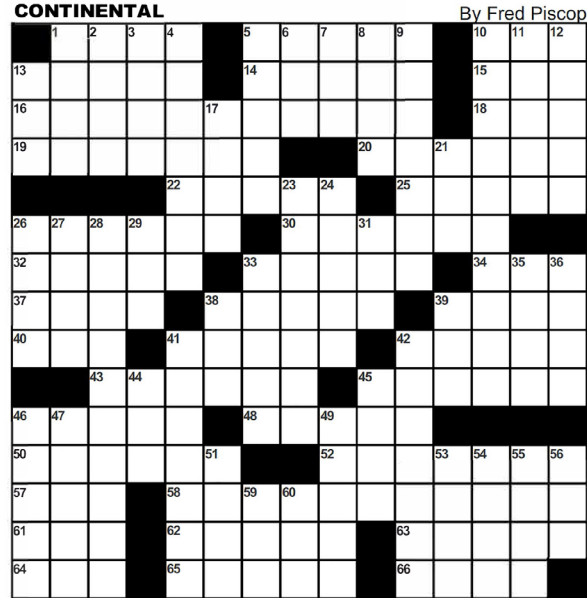
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- 1) France's Cote d' \_
  - 5) " \_ to bury Caesar
  - ... 10) Ltr. add-ons
  - 13) Striker's cry
  - 14) "Fat chance!"
  - 15) Soccer fan's cry
  - 16) Basketball strategy
  - 18) Bit of frat jewelry
  - 19) Give a pep talk to
  - 20) Added zip to
  - 22) Shown on TV
  - 25) Olfactory offenses
  - 26) Verbally abuse
  - 30) Accepted, as a job
  - 32) Thruway signs
  - 33) "Alfie" star Michael
  - 34) Bay State fish
  - 37) Bratty talk
  - 38) Goes belly up
  - 39) Silver State city
  - 40) Texter's "didn't need to know that"
  - 41) Fastener for dry-wall
  - 42) Marx Brothers specialty
  - 43) Camden Yards player
  - 45) Like hoppy ale
  - 46) Added wing
  - 48) Firebug's offense
  - 50) Makers of Barbie
  - 52) Cried 15-Across
  - 57) "The Gold-Bug" author
  - 58) Place for bargains
  - 61) Rescue squad letters
  - 62) Not so congenial
  - 63) Rocket segment
  - 64) Morse tap
  - 65) Quitter's comment
  - 66) Word that can precede the first parts of this puzzle's theme answers
- DOWN
- 1) In a short time
  - 2) Some California wines, for short
  - 3) Lone Star state sch.
  - 4) Calls again
  - 5) Derive by reasoning
  - 6) Cedar Rapids college
  - 7) Hold title to
  - 8) Church event
  - 9) Assault from Moe
  - 10) Selena Gomez show, e.g.
  - 11) Harder to outwit
  - 12) FedExes, say
  - 13) Action movie gun
  - 17) "HOMES" part
  - 21) Altar affirmation
  - 23) Amazon.com, notably
  - 24) Embroidered ornament
  - 26) Veg out
  - 27) Event with proc-tors
  - 28) Driver's license prerequisite
  - 29) " alive!"
  - 31) Come\_ (lures)
  - 33) Showy lily
  - 35) Story opener
  - 36) Take-charge sort
  - 38) Rock's \_ Fighters
  - 39) Maze scurrier
  - 41) Added to the recipe
  - 42) Deft touch
  - 44) AARP part (Abbr.)
  - 45) Physicist Niels
  - 46) Excited, with "up"
  - 47) "Diana" star Watts
  - 49) Near-miss, perhaps
  - 51) Off one's rocker
  - 53) Caesarean rebuke
  - 54) Leonine outburst
  - 55) Logician's "therefore"
  - 56) Balmoral Castle river
  - 59) Lucy of "Elementary"
  - 60) " \_ Girls" (Kelly)

CITY OF BACOR NEWS

## LRA-Bacoor LGU Data Inter-connectivity MOA Signing



Noong April 29, 2024, nilagdaan nila Mayor Strike B. Revilla at ni Atty. Gerardo Sirios – LRA Administrator ang Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) na ginawa ng Sangguniang Panlungsod ng Bacoor. Ang Seksyon 205 Republic Act 7160 na nag-uutos na ang Local Government Units (LGU) ay magkakaroon ng assessment at magpapanatili ng mga records sa REAL PROPERTY, taxable man o exempt basta nasa loob ng territorial jurisdiction nito. Sa madaling salita ang Memorandum of Agreement na ito sa pagitan ng LGU-BACOR at LRA-Bacoor ay nagbuo ng isang INTERCONNECTIVITY system na magpapadali sa mas maayos na mga transaksyon at upang mapahusay ang pangkalahatang paghahatid ng serbisyo sa lupain. Hanggad ng Pamahalaang Lungsod sa pangunguna ni Mayor Strike B. Revilla na mas bigyan ng pansin ang DATA Base ng mga lupain sa ating Lungsod. Nagpapasalamat naman ang Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Bacoor sa Land Registration Authority (LRA) sa pakikipag tulongan para higit na makatulong sa mamamayang Lungsod ng Bacoor./PR

## Pamamahagi ang Team Revilla ng libreng bigas sa Barangay Aniban 1

GINANAP sa Brgy. Aniban 1 Covered Court noong ika-23 ng Abril 2024 ang pamamahagi ng bigas. Ito ay isang malaking tagumpay na nagpapakita ng malasakit at suporta ng Team Revilla sa mga mamamayan ng Bacoor. Inorganisa ng CSWD ang paminigay ng bigas

para sa mga residente ng Barangay Aniban 1 na may 974 na residente sa tulong ni Kap. Jose "Densing" Agcopra. Nagbahagi rin ng disaster preparedness and response training ang BDRMO personnel at fire safety training naman galing sa mga personnel ng BFP. Nagpabatid din ng kanilang mga mensahe sa pamamagitan ng video message sina Mayor Strike Revilla, Vice Mayor Rowena Bautista Mediola, Congw. Lani Mercado Revilla, at ang ating mahal na Sen. Bong Revilla Jr, para sa mga residente ng Brgy. Aniban 1. /PR



Last week's solution:



## Provincial Solo Parent Day Celebration: A Triumph of Support and Solidarity



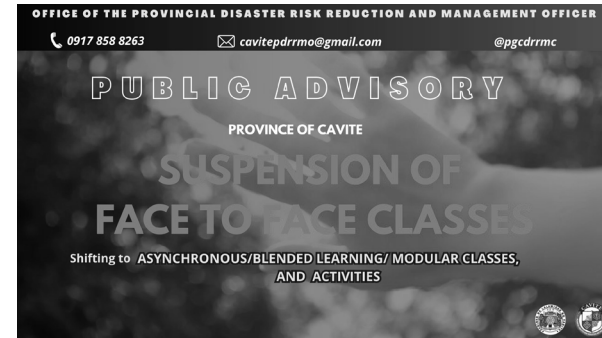
The Provincial Government of Cavite through the Office of the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer (OPSWDO), led the Provincial Solo Parent Day Celebration on April 20, 2024, at the Municipal Covered Court in Naic, Cavite. Solo parent employees of the PGC and presidents of Solo Parent associations from various cities and municipalities converged to partake in this enriching event. Themed "Solo Parent na Rehistrado sa Gobyerno Tiyak na Protektado", this year's celebration underscored the importance of recognizing and safeguarding the rights of solo parents within the community. A caravan of services, ranging from free haircuts to legal consultations, vocational training opportunities, job placement assistance, agricultural support, and Wellness and Health services, including free pills and iron with folic acid, was generously offered to all solo parent members and participants. Esteemed guests, including 8th district Board Member Irene Bencito and the President of PGC's United Solo Parents Association (USPA), Ms. Analie Rodil, shared their heartfelt testimonies and struggles as solo parents, inspiring and empowering all in attendance.

The warm welcome was extended by Ms. Catherine Ilagan of the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) Naic, and Provincial Federation President Ms. Karen Bagtas, fostering a sense of camaraderie and support among participants. Inspirational messages were delivered by Ms. Precyl T. Ramos, Officer-in-Charge of OPSWDO, while representatives such as Ms. Beverly Alvaran for 6th District Board Member Maurito Sison, and Ms. Maribeth Bautista for Board Member Rommel Enriquez, reaffirmed their commitment to the cause. Raffle winners from different local government units were delighted as they received their prizes, adding an element of excitement to the festivities. The event also showcased the diverse talents of solo parent members from various LGUs through intermission dances and songs.

Closing the event with heartfelt remarks, Ms. Ekeiko Paola Haidah Sadang, Division Head of Promotive Services, reiterated the importance of continuous support and assistance for solo parents. The Provincial Solo Parent Day Celebration in

Naic, Cavite, stands as a testament to the unwavering commitment of the Provincial Government of Cavite to empower and uplift solo parents, providing them with the necessary resources and support for a brighter future./PR

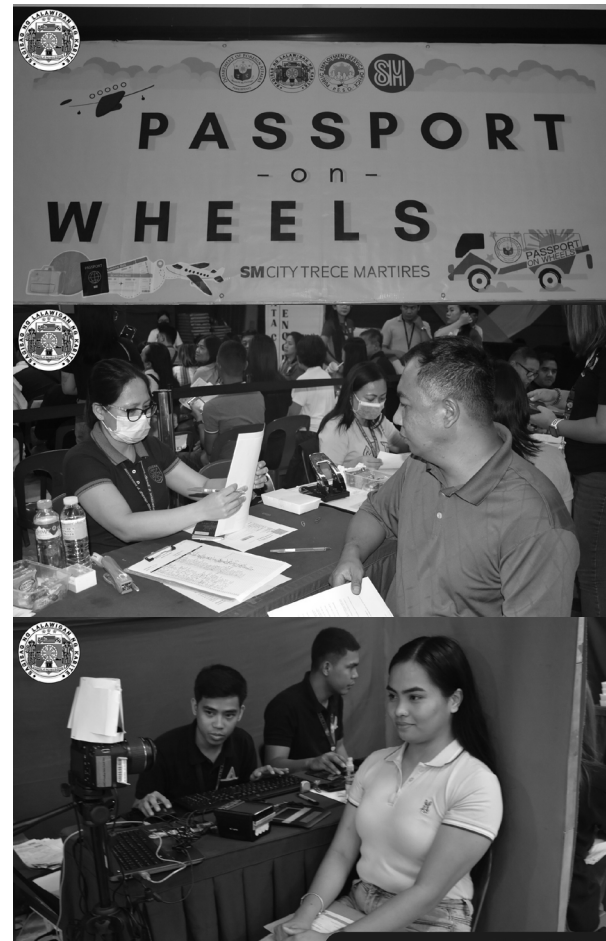
## Suspension of classes in Cavite due to increase in Heat Index



**Bacoor City** - ALL LEVELS, both public and private, including all face-to-face activities, 29 April - May 04, 2024  
**Imus City**- ALL LEVELS, both public and private, April 29-30 2024  
**Dasmariñas City** - ALL LEVELS, both public and private, April 29-30 2024  
**Trece Martires City** - Day Care to Senior High School, both public and private, April 29-30 2024  
**Naic** - ALL LEVELS, both public and private April 29-30 2024  
**Magallanes** - ALL LEVELS, both public and private April 29-30 2024  
**Mendez** - ALL LEVELS, both public and private April 29 - May 03, 2024  
**Indang** - Pre-school to Senior High School, Public, April 26 - May 10, 2024  
**Ternate** - Elementary and Secondary Levels, Public, April 08 - May 03 2024 (Blended Learning/ Modular System)  
**General Emilio Aguinaldo** - Elementary and Secondary Levels, both public and private, April 08 - May 03 2024 ( Blended Learning Modality)  
**Cavite City** - ALL LEVELS, Public, April 29-30 2024/PR



## Passport on Wheels: Bringing Convenience to Caviteños



In a move to make passport application more accessible and convenient for Caviteños, the Office of the Provincial Public Employment Service Manager (OPPESM), in collaboration with the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), launched the Passport on Wheels event on April 26, 2024, at SM City Trece Martires. The initiative aimed to streamline the passport application process and cater to the needs of over 400 eager applicants. The event provided a one-stop-shop for individuals seeking to obtain or renew their passports. It eliminated the need for residents to travel long distances to DFA offices, saving them time and effort in the application process. The Passport on Wheels brought the services directly to the community, ensuring that more people could avail themselves of this essential document without inconvenience. Applicants were able to complete the necessary requirements on-site, including document verification, data encoding, and biometric capturing. The presence of DFA personnel and OPPESM staff facilitated a smooth and efficient processing experience. The partnership between OPPESM and DFA exemplifies a collaborative effort to improve public service delivery. By bringing government services closer to the people, initiatives like Passport on Wheels contribute significantly to enhancing accessibility and convenience. The approach aligns with the government's goal of promoting efficiency and responsiveness in serving the needs of the people. /PR

