Blyaheng South Experiential Tour 2024: Discovering the History and Gulture of Gavite

ways South (MPT South), in partnership the Department riential Tour was proudly of Tourism (DOT) Region co-presented by Taal Vis-IV-A (CALABARZON) and ta Hotel and DongFeng Provincial Government of Motors PH, with generous Cavite, held a successful sponsorship from World

This year's Expe-Bi-yaheng South Experien- Balance, Sky Ranch PhilipRestaurant

heros—compromising a diverse group of influencers and media partners-went on exciting adventure to explore and experience the



Day 1: Exploring the Rich History of Silang ang Tagaytay



The tour started with a visit to the MPT South Hub, the sustainable headquarter of CAVITEX and CALAX that is awarded Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design provinces of Cavite: Laing Vista Hotel. More than just (LEED) Gold Certification. As part of its green initiatives, its architecture features a solar panel field that contributes to 97% of the hub's energy requirement, a biophilic design that integrates natural elements, and charging station for electric vehicles.

The day continued with a cultural immersion at Shambala Silang, where the main attraction is their Tawid Gallery, where guests got to see the indigenous arts and crafts of the hotel enriched their exthe region, offering them a perience with a captivating they experienced the thrills

hidden treasures of South Moderno Filipino, known for Dinamita, Sisiglaw Salad, its modern takes on traditional Filipino dishes. They served the guests a meal they called "Lakbay Lokal Platter"; this special meal contains different local

Himagsikan wings (a local version of Buffalo wings),

In the afternoon guests were treated with the scenic beauty of Tagaytay dishes with a twist from the with a stay at the iconic Taal



Day 2: Delving Deep into the Culture of Maragondon

offering a luxurious retreat, the hotel itself. history walk tour, shedding of Sky Ranch Tagaytay belight on the rich heritage of fore enjoying a delightful This was followed Tagaytay, the Taal Volcano, dinner at Suteki, a restauby a hearty lunch at Siglo and the storied legacy of rant that features contem-

To end the day,

Our



adding a vibrant contrast to the day's Filipino-themed

The adventure continued the second day where they took the influencers to the charming town of Maragondon, Cavite, starting with a peaceful lunch at the don Balsa River Cruise.

After they went on visited one of the fathe city, the Bonifacio Trial Andres Bonifacio stood trial, giving them a deeper role in Philippine history.

To further enrich their experience, the participants joined a handson session at the Likhang Maragondon Bamboo Weaving Workshop, where they learned weaving techniques from local artisans using bamboo as a material. Every one of the guests got to create their own placemats out of bamboo.

Weaving is part of Maragondon's history and culture. As part of the community's way of preserving

down to younger artisans. The day conclud-

ed with snacks at Lolo Cla- ism; their partnership and ro's Restaurant, providing a shared vision have been perfect relaxing ending to instrumental in making this the two-day adventure. Why We Do This

Biyaheng South Experiential Tour holds great significance in show-"Alegria del Rio" Maragon- casing the vibrant culture, history, and hidden gems of South Luzon However we are not only promoting mous tourist spots around the scenic spots of South Luzon but also supporting House, where national hero the local economies of the

"This initiative is understanding of the area's a testament of economic innovation and sustainable tourism development, enhancing tourism through accessibility and convenience for travelers. The goal is to create an environment where convenience complements the beauty and uniqueness of the destination, resulting in enjoyable, memorable and convenient experiences for alyst for regional economic all." Department of Tourism Region IV-A Director Ms Marites Castro said.

"In honor of National Tourism Month, the this tradition, this workshop Biyaheng South Experiential Tour shows our dedgenerations, ensuring that ication to drive tourism the rich heritage of Mara- and economic growth in gondon's indigenous weav- the South. We are grateful



porary Japanese cuisine, ing techniques is passed for the continued support of Department of Tourism (DOT) and Cavite Tourprogram a success. Together, let's look forward to fostering sustainable tourism, contributing to the livelihood of local communities, and showcasing the treasures that lie just beyond our toll roads." stated Arlette Capistrano, MPT South's Vice President for Communication and Stakeholder Management.

> Biyaheng South is MPT South's tourism advocacy program that has made a significant impact by promoting its toll road networks, particularly CAVITEX, its C5 Link segment, and CALAX, as gateways to the tourist destinations of Southern Luzon. The program demonstrates how infrastructure not only can improve connectivity but also can serve as a catgrowth through tourism pro-MPT South is a

> subsidiary of Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC), the infrastructure arm of Metro Pacific Investments Corporation (MPIC). Aside from the CALAX and CAVITEX networks of toll roads. MPTC's domestic portfolio includes concessions for the North Luzon Expressway (NLEX), the NLEX Connector Road, the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEX), and the Cebu-Cordova Link Expressway (CCLEX) in

For inquiries about this press release please email us at: corpcomm@mptsouth.com



content creators and trav-Assistance for Tanza fisher

The Office of the ince who embarked on an Provincial Tourism Officer exciting and unforgettable facilitated a two-day Bya- road trip to explore the ia Imelda Rozelle Sanheng Cavite Familiariza- gems and treasures of the tion Tour participated by province, on September 12 and 13, 2024.

Byaheng Cavite Familiarization Tour:

Exploring Arts, Leisure, and

Heritage of the province

commenced with a warm welcome from Ms. Elin Tourism Officer, at the Pro-



In a bid to preserve the environment and promote cleanliness, spearheaded the Kalinga sa Kalikasan program in Barangay Talipusngo, Maragondon on September 20, 2024. The initiative drew thousands of volunteers from across the town, who enthusiastically participated in a large-scale clean-up drive to conserve the local envibeauty of their community.

The event was Maragondon whose pres- ture. - A. Sarte

ence uplifted the spirit of the volunteers. Governor Remulla actively engaged with the people, highlighting the significance of collective action in protecting

Kalikasan program underscores Cavite's commitment to environmental conservation and community participation. The volunteers' dedication serves ronment and enhance the as an inspiring example of how communities can work together to foster a graced by key officials of cleaner and greener fu-

Gatchalian urges DepEd: Make learning recovery programs cohesive



Marking another significant milestone is the closing ceremony of the Gabay Kabuhayan Livelihood Program, a collaborative effort between CDO Odyssey Foundation Inc., DOST-Batangas, and the Local Government Unit of Balete, Batangas, through the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office, held at the Municipal Covered Court of Balete, Batangas, on July 19,

folks and their families

The program has positively impacted the lives of 10 marginalized street food vendors and their families by providing them with individual food cart livelihood assistance and seminars on Basic the outstanding achieve- Ms. Bernadeth Matalog, Food Hygiene (BFH) and ments of beneficiaries, top Program Officer of Od- lete.

Food Safety Hazards (FSH). Testimonials from the beneficiaries highlight how the program not only equipped them with essential livelihood skills but also fostered a sense of empowerment and financial independence.

In recognition of

sellers were rewarded with incentives such as packages of CDO products, which they could sell from their food carts.

Present during the ceremony were Ms. Ella J. Vergara, Associate Program Manager of Odyssey Foundation, Inc.;

Mr. Mhark Ellgine A. Libao, Supervising Science Research Specialist of DOST-Batangas; Mr. John Maico M. Hernandez. Se nior Science Research Specialist of DOST-Batan gas: Mr. Edmark Solomon Secretary to the Mayor o I GU-Balete: and Ms Gina Japone. Secretary to the Vice Mayor of LGU-Ba-

PMA invites young individuals to take

THE MENTAL HEALTH BENEFITS OF DIGITAL **DETOX: RE-CLAIMING YOUR TIME**

4. Fostering Real-Life Connections

While digital platforms offer convenience and connectivity, they often lack the depth of face-to-face interactions. Spending excessive time on screens can sometimes lead to feelings of isolation and a diminished sense of connection with others.

A digital detox encourages you to engage more meaningfully with people in your immediate environment. Whether it's having a heart-to-heart conversation with a friend or participating in a community event, real-life interactions can strengthen relationships and provide a deeper sense of belonging. The quality of your connections can greatly impact your mental health and overall happiness.

5. Enhancing Self-Awareness and Mindfulness

In a world dominated by digital distractions, finding moments of stillness and self-reflection can be challenging. A digital detox provides an opportunity to slow down and tune into your inner thoughts and feelings. By disconnecting from the external noise, you create space for self-awareness and mindfulness

Engaging in activities like journaling, meditation, or simply enjoying nature can help you reconnect with yourself and gain valuable insights into your mental and emotional state. This enhanced self-awareness can lead to a greater understanding of your needs and priorities, ultimately contributing to improved mental health.

Practical Tips for a Successful Digital

· Set Clear Goals: Define what you want to achieve with your digital detox — whether it's reducing screen time, improving sleep, or enhancing real-life interactions

- · Create Boundaries: Designate specific times or zones in your day where digital devices are : off-limits. For example, establish a tech-free zone in •
- Engage in Offline Activities: Find enjoyable activities that don't involve screens, such as : reading, cooking, exercising, or spending time with
- · Communicate Your Intentions: Let: friends, family, and colleagues know about your digital detox plans, so they understand your availability: and support your efforts.
- · Reflect and Adjust: Regularly assess the : impact of your digital detox and make adjustments as : needed. Flexibility and self-compassion are key.

Conclusion:

Detox:

A digital detox offers a refreshing break from \$ the constant demands of technology, providing numerous mental health benefits. By reducing stress, enhancing focus, improving sleep, fostering real-life 🕻 connections, and promoting self-awareness, you can : reclaim your time and well-being. As we navigate an : increasingly digital world, taking time to unplug and reconnect with ourselves and others can be a powerful step towards a healthier, more balanced life. So. why not give it a try? Your mind — and your life might just thank you for it.

Byaheng...

Trece Martires City. Then, the tour headed to its first destination, the Geronimo Berenguer De Los Reyes (GBR) Museum in the City of General Trias where collections of various aviation models and historical illustrations are stored A breakfast feast was served for the wanderers to have

a taste of the city's cuisine. Paraiso de June Quixote in the Municipality of Maragondon was the next drop, where participants tried the Skywalk Hanging Bridge that connects the Maragondon and Naic, and where tourists could see the statue of Lolong down the river trail. They also got to join a raft trip cruising along Maragondon River, through Alegria del Rio Balsa Cruises, with a splendid lunch that complimented the view of nature and a serenade to complete the enjoyable voyage. Last leg in the municipality was the first-hand experience on traditional weaving of Maragondon artisans and their Habing Maragondon crafts and goods.

The tour wouldn't be complete without a visit to the most iconic historical place in the province - Museo ni Emilio Aquinaldo, the shrine that preserves the legacy of the first Philippine Republic President and the country's independence.

The first day concluded with a visit to the elegance of Brittany Hotel Villar City, in the City of Bacoor.

As the Byaheros continued their tour the following day, they assembled at MPT South Hub in the City of Imus, then headed to DEAFinitely Happy Store and Reciclar de Carmona – shops From Page 1

Afterward, they

operated by persons with disabilities that feature recycled products in the City of Carmona. These ventures were established to give stable income to the PWDs and their families

travelled to Amadeo making a stop at Artisano Coffee Farm, witnessing the bean-to-cup process, while enjoying a sip of the farm's freshly brewed coffee, a definite perk for the coffee lovers. Another destination in town was visited - the Alitantan Artists Community, a village of artists from various genre, where participants were given an opportunity to immerse themselves and explore the deep meaning of every stroke and work. They also took part in a Sabayang Pahid that allowed them to showcase their creative and artistic sides. On top of that, the Byaheros and the Cavite Tourism office, with Ms. Sangalang, enjoyed a hearty meal in a boodle

A hotel tour was also conducted at Taal Vista Hotel and Hotel Casiana in Tagaytay City. Subsequently, the group was welcomed to SVD Farm, touring them around their garden of fresh fruits and vegetables for the table dining which the participants got to enjoy afterwards, with other signature dishes.

As the Byaheng **Cavite Familiarization Tour** came to an end, the Bvaheros made a stop at One Town. One Product Philippines (OTOP.Ph) Hub at D' Banquet Bakeshop and Restaurant, which sells various goods and products, for pasalubong shopping. - J. Reves



STRAIGHT NEWS

Punto de Vista

KUNG HINDI LUBOG SA UTANG LUBOG NAMAN SA BAHA

Sa Patuloy na pagbuhos ng ulan dala ng mga bagyong habagat, ay sya naman sanhi ng malaliman pagbaha, kailan ba tayo matuto sa ganitong sistema?

Kilala ang bansa na laging lubog sa baha tuwing may malakas na bagyo, bagamat madaming sektor sa Pilipinas na laging binabaha at mabilis bahain.

Matagal ng isyu sa Pilipinas ang pagbaha dahil marami na rin dumaan mga malalakas na bagyo at naapektuhan dahil sa matinding sanhi nito. Samakatuwid, maraming beses ng nalubog ang bansa at hindi na ito

Kada taon na nating kinakaharap ang matinding buhos ng ulan at malakas na hangin dala ng mga matinding bagyo tulad ng bagyong Ondoy, Yolanda, Ulysses, at Odette.

Ngayong taon, patuloy tayong nakakaranas ng pagbaha katulad na lamang ng ating maranasa ang bagsik ng Bagyong Carina na nagdulot ng matinding pagbaha sa iba't ibang bahagi ng Pilipinas.

Munit bakit ba tayo laging binabaha? Hindi man natin aminin, muni't may ginagampanan din tayong parte sa patuloy na paglubog ng pilipinas. Katulad ng pagbabago ng lupang sakahan sa urbanisadong lugar, pagkalbo ng ating mga kagubatan, pagkawala ng lupa dahil sa pagmimina, maling pamamahala ng sistema laban sa baha, at hindi tamang pagtatapon ng basura.

Kung nais natin bigyang pansin ang kalusugan ng ating kalikasan, mahalaga na tayo'y kumilos at pangalagaan ang ating kapaligiran, upang tayo'y protektahan tulad na lamang ng pagprotekta ng Sierra Madre sa ating kapwa.

KEVIN GOROSPE

Presidential..

From Page 1

Cavite provincial government continued the distribution of financial aid from the Presidential Assistance to Fisherfolk and Families program. to the locals affected by the Bataan Oil Spill in the municipality of Tanza, on September 18, 2024.

Governor Jonvic Remulla led the distribution, assuring the fisher folk that there were no broken promises as they would be able to receive the promised financial assistance amounting to Php. 6.500.00 each.

Likewise, Vice Governor Athena Bryana Tolentino, and 7th Disveyed their empathy to - J. Reyes

sized that the provincial government of Cavite will always be ready to serve the Caviteños in whatever circumstances

the affected and empha-

program highlights the dedication and commitment of President Ferdinand R. marcos, Jr. and Governor Remulla in ensuring the necessary support for the affected fisher folk and families, leading to their fast recovery.

Vice Mayor SM Matro, and other Sangguniang Bayan members of Tanza expressed their utmost gratitude and appreciation for the assistance trict Representative Diego extended to their constit-Crispin Remulla, con- uents during the program.

October 02-08, 2024

CARD MBA Rejoins World's 500 Largest Mutual and Cooperative Insurers

For two consecutive years. CARD Mutual al 500 list of the world's Benefit Association (CARD MBA), Inc. has earned a erative insurers comprises spot among the world's 83% (225) companies from 500 largest mutual and America and (190) from Eucooperative insurers, as recognized by the International Cooperative and Mu- organizations from emergtual Insurance Federation's (ICMIF) Global 500 report. This ranking is determined based on premium income al Cooperative and Mutual using the 2022 year-end

CARD MBA Chief Executive Officer Jocelyn A. Dequito shared that this achievement underscores the Association's efforts to provide insurance to Filipino families, particularly those in vulnerable segments of society. "Our mission is to offer a safety net and additional protection to ensure they can look forward to a secured future," Dequito stated

As of April 2024, CARD MBA serves more than 7 million clients and extends insurance coverage to over 24 million individuals nationwide. Microinsurance products are crucial in helping the marginalized become resilient in times of uncertainty.

The Association's position improved to 478th, marking a seven-spot rise from the previous 2021 Global 500 Report by IC-MIF. In 2022, CARD MBA reported a premium income of USD 105,907. Notably, only two insurance companies from the Philippines were included in this list.

"This recognition is an honor for CARD MBA. We are committed to enhancing our services to better support the low-income sector, ensuring they have protection against unforeseen events," Dequito added.

She also mentioned that the Association will continue to continue its other community development services, including disaster relief assistance. mass weddings, scholarship programs, and working with other organized groups to provide microinsurance protection to their members

The 2022 Globlargest mutual and cooprope, 65 companies from Asia and Oceania, and 20 ing markets in Latin Amer-

The Internation-Insurance Federation is the only international association dedicated to strengthening cooperative and mutual insurance by supporting its organizational

ica (13) and Africa (7).

Meanwhile. CARD MBA is a microinsurance Mutual Benefit Association in the Philippines that is 100% owned and managed by its members.

10,367,095 halaga ng interbensvon and naipadkaloob ng Department of Agricul-IV-CALABARZON (DA-4A) sa Bagong Pilipinas Serbisvo Fair (BPSF) ni Pangulong Ferdinand Marcos, Jr.

kasama ang iba pang ahensya ng pamahalaan simula noong ika-24 hanggang ika-25 ng Agosto sa Aboitiz Pitch, Lipa City, Batangas. Sa pangunguna ni OIC-Regional Director Fi-

del Libao, isang booth ang itinavo na DA-4A tampok ang pagkakaloob ng mga interbensyon gaya ng punla ng calamansi, mga binhing gulay, pataba, pestisidyo, at

Tumanggap ng 5 unit ng combine harvester na nagkakahalaga ng 10 milyong piso ang mga

ginanap na ceremonial dis- halaga.

Nagkaroon din ng KADIWA la ang mga programa at ng Pangulo kung saan ilan serbisyo ng Kagawaran, sa mga Farmers Coopera- ipinamahagi ang mga batives and Associations sa basahin tungkol sa pagtatanim, paghahayupan, at yaryo mula sa Batangas sa produkto sa mas murang interesado sa sektor ng saka.

Upang

P10-M halaga ng interbensyon,

ipinamahagi ng DA-4A sa Bagong Pilipinas

agrikultura.

Serbisvo Fair sa Batangas

Pasahol, isang residente mula sa Brgy, Bugtong, ang natanggap na punla ng calamansi lalo pa at kinahiligan niya na rin magtanim pagbenta sa mga mamim- mga programa ng ahensya dahil sa impluwensya ng magpapalay na benepis- ili sa komunidad ng mga para sa magsasaka at mga magulang na magsa-

Cebu Pacific Conferred Golden Arrow Award for Good Corporate Governance

rehiyon ay direktang naka-

tribution ng BPSF.



Gokongwei Group executives receive Golden Arrow awards for corporate governance on behalf of their companies during the ICG event.

Pacific (PSE: CEB), the Philippines' leading carrier, has been honored anew for leadership. the Institute of Corporate

emplary compliance with government regulations.

porate Governance Score- highest standards of cor-

Governance parency. Scorecard (CGS), which assess companies across ment of Three Golden shareholder protection.

with their travel, this award reflects our commitment to Golden Arrow award is ble and affordable flights. based on the ASFAN Cor- but also maintaining the standards.

card (ACGS) and the porate integrity and trans-CEB's achieve-

its corporate governance key governance pillars Arrows is a notable upreceiving including board respon- grade from last year's Two Three Golden Arrows from sibility, transparency, and Golden Arrows. According to the ICD, the airline "We are deeply performed exceptionally This marks the honored by this recogni- well compared to other third time CEB has been tion," said Atty. Anne Ro- transport sector organizarecognized along among madine Tieng, CEB Gen- tions across several key top publicly listed Philip- eral Counsel. "For millions governance areas, such pine companies for ex- of Filipinos who trust us as shareholder rights protection, stakeholder engagement, transparency, The prestigious not only offering accessi- board responsibilities, and adherence to governance

As CEB contin-



ues to grow, the airline its operations, ensuring

remains committed to sustainable growth while

Cebu Pacific, represented by General Counsel Atty. Anne Romadine Tieng, receives Three Golden Arrows award at the ICG ceremony.



Bacoor City, Phil ippines - September 24. 2024 - The Local Economic Development and Investment Promotions Office (LEDIPO) of Bacoor City hosted a financial literacy session today, equipping stakeholders with essential skills for brand building and online

The event, held lizing new technology like at the Revilla Hall, saw the participation of various groups, including SK officials and staff, representatives from CSOs and NGOs, and students from insights and practical tips Cavite State University on leveraging digital tools (CavSU) Bacoor.

Mayor Strike B. Revilla, along with Khei Sanchez | EDIPO Head Christian Gawaran, BPLD Head, and Attv. Kim Nyca ness Permit and Licens-Lofranco, City Legal Head, ing Department (BPLD), graced the occasion.



by GCash, focused on uti-Canva to create impactful branding materials for maximum recall. Mr. Arnel Reazon, a speaker from GCash, shared valuable for effective brand build-

The event was a collaborative effort between LEDIPO, the Busi-F-Governance & Man-The session, sponsored agement Information Sys- growth and development.

tem, and GCash. It aimed to empower participants with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate the digital landscape and enhance their brand pres-

This initiative underscores Bacoor City's commitment to fostering financial literacy and digital empowerment among its residents and stakeholders. By equipping them with the necessary tools and knowledge, the city aims to promote economic

Over 700 coco farmers to graduate from ATI CALABARZON'S School-on-the-Air program on good agricultural practices

week airing of lecture chairman of the House matter specialists from discussions, 729 coconut Committee on Agriculture farmers across the region and Food; ATI Dir. Remewill graduate from the "School-on-the-Air (SOA) BARZON Regional Execon Good Agricultural Prac- utive Dir. Fidel Libao; as tices (GAP) for Coconut" well as governors of five of the Department of Agriprovinces in the region. culture - Agricultural Training Institute (DA-ATI) CAL-ABARZON

The said completion rites will happen on October 4, 2024, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, at San Pablo City Multipurpose and Convention Center, San Pablo City, Laguna.

Dubbed as "Masaganang Coco-buhayan: Radvo Eskwela sa Pagniniyugan," the program aims to strengthen the coconut industry in CAL- Planting and Replanting ABARZON by highlighting its potential as a sustainable livelihood and innova-sification, and Harvesting tive enterprise for farmers.

Invited guests for the graduation ceremony National Standard (PNS) include Sen. Cynthia A. Code of GAP for coconut. Villar, chairperson of the The 20 episodes were de-Senate Committee on Ag- livered by radio teachers riculture and Food; Rep. from a pool of coconut da.gov.ph.

After the 10- Wilfrido Mark Enverga, lyn R. Recoter; DA CALA-

> The SOA program aired 20 episodes from June 19 - August 23, 2024, on partner radio stations 106.3 Radyo Natin Laguna, 92.7 Spirit FM Infanta, 102.5 Radyo Natin BonPen, and via YouTube channel and Facebook

BARZON Some topics covered were Site Selection and Management. Field Layout and Planting, of Damaged Palms, Farm Maintenance, Farm Diverand Postharvest Handling, based on the Philippine

page of DA-ATI CALA-

specialists and subject various attached agencies and bureaus under DA. particularly the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) Region IV-A.

In the course of the program, ATI CALA-BARZON administered various quizzes and tests to assess the knowledge and understanding of the participants.

Still under the Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan (CFIDP) and in collaboration with the PCA Region IV-A, this is the second time the ATI CALABAR-ZON implemented the SOA program dedicated to the coconut industry after its pilot implementation

last vear. Should you have additional inquiries on this matter, you may contact one of our staff from the Information Services Section, Mr. Archie Linsasagin at 0994 692 4533 or via email us at iss rtc4a@ati.

Governor Jonvic over ceremony, Gener-Remulla led the distribual Trias City Mayor Luis "Jonjon" Ferrer and City of tion of new multicabs from Cavite Provincial Govern-Imus Mayor Alex "AA" Advincula thanked the Cavite ment to the Cities of General Trias and Imus at the Governor, affirming that

General Trias Convention

Center on September 18,

benefit of Caviteños 2024. The initiative is part of the continuing efforts Governor Jonvic to enhance public service Remulla then remarked delivery in the communithat the units were distribty through transportation uted primarily to enhance support to the LGUs. the mobility and quicken In a simple turn- the response to the con-

cerns of the people. He also mentioned the construction of new Cavite Command Center and the development of 911 application that targets a prompt action and patrolling in the community. particularly during emergency situations. The turnover

of the symbolic key was participated by Governor Remulla, Vice Governor Athena Bryana Tolentino. Mayor Jonion Ferrer. Mayor AA Advincula, 3rd District Board Members Shernan Jaro and Arnel Cantimbuhan, 6th District Board Member Maurito Sison, and the Sangguniang Panlungsod members of both cities. -J. Reves



even without asking, he

gives and provides for the

Agriculture yaryo mula sa Batangas ipinamahagi ang mga ba-IV-CALABARZON 4A) sa Bagong Pilipinas Serbisyo Fair (BPSF) ni Pangulong Ferdinand Marcos, Jr. kasama ang iba pang ahensya ng pamahalaan simula noong ika-24 hanggang ika-25 ng Agosto sa Aboitiz Pitch. ipa City, Batangas.

Sa pangunguna ni OIC-Regional Director ang itinayo ng DA-4A tampok ang pagkakaloob ng mga interbensyon gaya ng punla ng calamansi, mga binhing gulay, pataba, pestisidyo, at iba pa.

Tumanggap ng 5 unit ng combine harvester na nagkakahalaga ng 10 milyong piso ang mga magpapalay na benepis-

sa ginanap na ceremonial basahin tungkol sa pagdistribution ng BPSF. tatanim paghahayupan at mga programa ng ahen-Nagkaroon din ng KADsya para sa magsasaka at IWA ng Pangulo kung saan ilan sa mga Farmers Cooperatives and Associations sa rehiyon ay direktang nakapagbenta sa mga mamimili sa komuni-

mas murang halaga. Upang ipakila-Fidel Libao, isang booth la ang mga programa at serbisyo ng Kagawaran,

dad ng mga produkto sa

mga interesado sa sektor ng agrikultura. Ikinatuwa ni Daisy Pasahol, isang residente mula sa Brgy. Bugtong, and natanggap na punla ng calamansi lalo pa at kinahiligan niya na rin magtanim dahil sa implu-

wensya ng mga magulang

EDITORYAL: Bombshell after

The woman with the interesting, if obscure, back story makes for a good starting point. For months, this town mayor's Senate appearances were the source of entertainment, almost distracting the public from the gravity of the bigger issue of allowing Philippine Offshore Gaming Operators to proliferate in certain locations, along with the related dark activities linked to them.

And then she disappeared, in a way that could only be executed with the facilitation of powerful individuals. Officials who arrested her were charmed: they made small talk with her and took selfies before bringing her back in a private plane. Back in Manila, and finally in jail, the former mayor promises even juicier revelations.

There is the religious leader who claims he is the son of god. Facing a myriad of charges ranging from sexual abuse to trafficking to money laundering, in courts here and in the United States, this so-called holy man enjoys the backing of a powerful family down south. He cowered in his compound for 16 days before he finally saw the light and "surrendered" – overcome with grief, his lawyer said, at the sight of his defenders in a standoff with the police.

In the budget hearings, a key official of this administration has consistently refused to disclose how exactly the people's money was spent and how it will be spent, and has demanded access to confidential funds. Despite the demands of her job, she found the time to write a children's book about a friendly owl, which was meant to be distributed to students all over the country all on the taxpavers' dime. When asked to explain her office's handling of finances, she styles herself as a victim of political persecution. She even refused to take an oath, splitting hairs between being a "witness" and a "resource person." This week, this same official was linked to envelopes of cash, sent as gifts to her subordinates with cash in an attempt to make them do her bidding.

When something is out of the ordinary, it causes outrage among the people which translates into political capital for those in a position to address the issue. The natural reaction thus is to talk about them as hot copy for the day.

One hombshell after another however desensitizes the people to the excesses that public officials commit in the pursuit of their own interest.

It is safe to say we have not heard the last fantastic tale. There will be more especially given the approach of the election season. What are we going to do about it besides express our shock and : exasperation? As spectators we must demand that such processes are seen through until their rightful end. File cases. Advocate for swift delivery of justice. Prevent them from winning people's hearts and minds and votes.

Anything less than these, and our outrage becomes a dud. And then politics and governance become a trivial matter subject to whim and to winds that change with the seasons. •••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••

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Buhay Na Tubig, Imus, Cavite



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STRAIGHT NEWS

in the third quarter of this

school year. The Science

program aims to improve

Science scores and the

proficiency levels of those

in the program's numeracy

and literacy components.

to prepare learners for the

2025 Programme for Inter-

ment (PISA), which will

raised that the department

is already implementing

the National Learning Re-

covery Program (NLRP),

ty-issued birth certificate.

a photocopy of the senior

high school form 138 or

137 with at least 85%

with a white background,

must have no administra-

the entrance examination

who is qualified to enter

math, English, abstract

reasoning, and current

medical examinations.

Mendoza said

The exam covers

Mendoza added

tive or criminal case

Gatchalian also

focus on science.

Gatchalian...

While the De- numeracy components for partment of Education Grades 7 to 10 will begin (DepEd) plans to implement an eight-week literacv and numeracv program to improve learners' Senator performance. Win Gatchalian urged the agency to ensure that The initiative also seeks learning recovery programs are cohesive.

The DepEd eyes suspending the regular national Student Assessacademic program to give way to the implementation of the eight-week literacy and numeracy program. The program covers learners in Grades 1 to 3 and will be implemented in the (SY) 2025-2026

A Science pro-

for massive reforms in the

The Second Congressional Commission on Education (ED-COM II) and the Senate Committee on Basic Education previously found that because of the voluntary nature of the DepEd's learning camps, only 10% of learners needing intervention attended the program. The FDCOM II and the Senate basic education panel also found that only 50% of learners needing intervention participated in assessments

of the NLRP. "Moving forward, I suggest that we look at all these different profirst quarter of School Year which includes the nation- grams, put them together, al learning camp as one and make them cohesive. of its sub-programs. The I am in full support of ingram with literacy and senator, however, called tensifying programs for

From Page 1

literacy and numeracy, as well as our preparations ant for us is to look at al the programs cohesively and how they will improve cially on foundational skills such as literacy and numeracy" said Gatchalian Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Basic Edu-The Eight-Week

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Literacy and Numeracy Program adopts the model of the DepEd's Advancing Basic Education in the Philippines' (ABC+) eightweek learning Learning Recovery Curriculum for grades 1 to 3, which was implemented in Regions V (Bicol) and VI (Western Visayas).

From Page 1

PMA invites...

— The Philippine their duly accomplished Military Academy (PMA) is urging young individuals who have the desire and passion to serve the nation to apply for the PMA Entrance Examination (PMAEE) 2024. "Sa mga kabata- GPA/GWA, two pieces of

ang gustong magsilbi at the latest 2×2 ID photo magbalik sa ating bayan, inaanyayahan namin kayo and a valid identification na mag-take ng PMA en- card. trance examination, i-challenge po ninyo ang sarili ninyo, i-challenge ninyo na mapabuti pa kung ano ang kaya ninyo. Take the Philippine Military entrance exam. Be a PMA cadet. be a servant leader," PMA Fxam Proctor Major Viktor Immanuel Mendoza said.

The entrance examination for Central and of 85 percent, must have Northern Luzon Regions is on September 21-22,

Entrance exam be single and never been in Mindanao regions, Vi- married or never borne or sayas, and Region 5 was sired a child, must be of already conducted in Au- good moral character, and gust while for the National Capital Region and Regions 4A and 4B was on September 7 and 8, 2024. The online and is just a step in choosing

mail applications for the PMAEE 2024 have al- the academy. ready closed, but interested applicants who were not able to apply may still take the entrance exam- events. The passers will ination as walk-in appli- then undergo physical and cants, subject to availability of slots.

that being a cadet is phys-

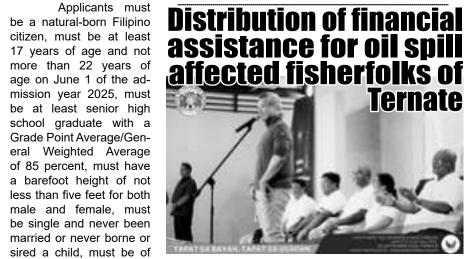
BAGUIO CITY cants must bring with them ically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually demandcadet application form, the ing, so those who will photocopy of their Philenter the cadetship must ippine Statistics Authoribe medically fit.

He advised the examinees to not just settle on passing but aim for higher scores because they will have to compete for the slot.

Once they become cadets, they be-

scholars and will have the opportunity to become foreign exchange students in the US. Japan, and Australia, among others.

Those who will qualify for cadetship will undergo character, physical, academic, and military development to ensure that they are worthy to be future leaders of the Armed Forces of the Philcome full government ippines, Mendoza added



Remulla joined the distribution of financial assistance to oil spill-affected fisher folk and families in Ternate, on September 20. 2024.

Ternate municipal officials, led by Mayor Lamberto Bambao, welcomed the Cavite Governor and conveyed their sincere thanks for the effort exerted by the local Reyes

Governor Jonvic and national government in relieving the sufferings of their constituents from the impact of Bataan Oi Spill incident

> program demonstrates the prompt action of the President and the Provincial Government of Cavite in responding to Caviteños in need of support and assistance. - J.



The celebration Molino to SM City Bacoor!

continues from SM City birthday this weekend at the beloved Disney charac-Join the grand celebra- Center Fans of all ages are giant photo spot until Sep-





Hurry and add up these items on your Disney collectibles. Grab these merch at the Event Center of SM City Bacoor after you snap your IG photo with Donuld Duck.

HANS T. SY RECEIVES PHILIPPINE RETAILERS ASSOCIATION (PRA) OUTSTANDING FILIPINO RETAILERS



(L-R): PRA Director and Director of SM Retail Jorge T Mendiola, PRA Vice President and President and COO of Golden, ABC, Inc. (The Penshoppe Group) Alice T. Liu, SM Prime Holdings Chairman of the Executive Committee Hans T. Sy, PRA President and Chairman of Quorum International, Inc. (Toby's Sports) Roberto S. Claudio, and PRA Director and President of Sportshouse Int'l. Leisure, Inc. and proponent of PRA OFR President's Award Mars C. Chua



These squad enjoying Donuld Ducks' giant figure at SM City Molino

SM City Bacoor's Event ter by taking snaps at this out on Donald Duck and collection. Bring your family stone in style! See you at other collectibles, perfect and friends to share in the SM City Bacoor this weektion of Donald Duck's 90th invited to commemorate tember 22 only. Don't miss for adding to your Disney joy and celebrate this mile-

shareholders, recognizing

the role of stakeholders,

promoting disclosure and

transparency, and uphold-

ing the responsibilities of

the country's fourth larg-

est private universal bank

For its beyond compliance

approach, Chinabank was

named by ACMF in 2022 as

one of the Top 20 in ASE-

AN and one of the Top 3

in the Philippines in corpo-

rate governance and as an

ASEAN Asset Class. The

bank also made it in TIME

World's Best Companies

firms across the globe that

excel in employee satis-

faction, revenue growth,

Chinabank

the board.

<u>Chinabank wins top governance award a third time</u>



From left: ICD Chairman Pedro Maniego Jr., Philippine Stock Exchange Chief Operating Officer Roel Refran, Chinabank Chief Finance Officer Patrick Cheng and Independent Director Genaro Lapez, Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman & Chief Operating Officer Emilio Aquino, and ICD Vice Chairperson Ida Ceniza-Tiongson and Treasurer Ma. Victoria Españo.

best-governed publicly listed companies in the Philipyear in a row the highest recognition for governance excellence, the Five-Gold- awarded 111 out of 276 en Arrow Award of the Institute of Corporate Directors and 25 out of 115 insurance

Only five companies received ICD's plum award this year, of which four are members of the SM Group: Chinabank, BDO, SM Investments, and SM Prime Holdings. Chinabank is the only bank of 80 points received a to win Five Golden Arrows a third time, a testament to its unwavering commitment to upholding the highest gov- of 120 to 130 points. ernance standards, accord-Patrick Cheng. "We are very proud of the progress the corporate governance we have made, but CBC climate in the ASEAN reremains focused on con-

tinues to be among the evolving regulatory landscape," he said.

> tember 19, 2024 at the corporate governance prin-social, governance) perfor-Manila Marriott Hotel, ICD publicly listed companies companies in the country based on the results of the 2023 ASEAN Corporate Governance Scorecard (ACGS) and the Corporate Governance Scorecard, respectively. Companies that scored a minimum One-Golden Arrow award. The Five-Golden Arrow awardees achieved a score

ICD is the domesing to Chief Finance Officer tic rating board of the ACGS which aims to ensure that gion remains competitive tinuously raising the bar, and conducive to business

Chinabank con- trends, and adapting to the ASEAN Capital Markets 2024, a list of the top 1,000 Forum (ACMF) and the Asian Development Bank. At the Golden Ar- the ACGS evaluates a compines, winning for the third row Recognition on Sep- pany's adherence to key and ESG (environmental

ciples: ensuring the rights mance.

DTI-Laguna... From Page 1

DTI Department Administrative Order No. 2, Series of 1993, which implements RA 7394, sales promotion is defined as a strategy "to increase the sales, patronage, and/or goodwill of a product." Such promotions typically involve consumer participation and offer "promises of gain" (e.g.,

7394 mandates that establishments planning to con- dti.gov.ph. staying ahead of emerging growth. Developed by the duct sales promotion activ- DTI-Laquna)

prizes) as incentives for

purchasing a product or

According to the ities must obtain a permit from the DTI before initiating their promotions. Commonly applied schemes include discounts, premiums, raffles, and contests.

For sales promo-

tion activities to be implemented within the province of Laguna, the sales promo permit may be directly applied at the DTI-Laguna located in Victoria, Laguna. For more inquiries, Furthermore, RA the DTI-Laguna may be emailed at r04a.laguna@ (ALSLinga,

October 02-08, 2024



One sip of this Cafe Dalgona from Cafe Janggeum can immediately transport you to the streets of Seoul!

South Luzon is a treasure trove of mouthwatering dishes, irresistible desserts, and unique delicacies. Keep savoring the flavors of the Philippines and beyond—with this guide to the best dining spots at SM Supermalls in South Luzon

South Luzon is a treasure trove of mouthwatering dishes, irresistible desserts, and unique delicacies. Embark on a culinary adventure and discover a world of flavors, from authentic Korean treats to hearty Filipino staples. Keep savoring the flavors of the Philippines—and beyond—with this guide to the best dining spots at SM Supermalls in South Luzon.

South Luzon: A Flavorful Adventure Awaits

If you're heading on a road trip to South Luzon, make sure to fuel up with a caffeine fix from Cafe Janggeum at SM City Tanza. This place is known for their authentic Korean desserts and also good coffee. Whether it's an americano or a dalgona latte, their quality drinks will keep you energized for the scenic drive. They also have bunggeopang-that fish-shaped pastry filled with red bean, chocolate, to custard that we always see in K-Dramas.



Fresh seafood and flavors of Southeast Asia converge right here at Crustasia.

For a full meal, Crustasia Asian Seafood Market is a must-try. They serve the freshest seafood, prepared in delicious wavs with recipes from Thailand, Malavsia, Indonesia, and Singapore. It's a true Southeast Asian feast that will satisfy any seafood lover—and will definitely power you up for the trip ahead.



Juddies' bulalo is definitely pure comfort in a bowl. (Image sourced from Juddies Bulalohan on Facebook)

Cruising through Batangas? Don't miss the chance to devour some local legends! Head to Juddies Bulalohan at SM City Sto. Tomas for some of the richest, most flavorful bulalo broth you'll ever slurp. The tender, juicy beef is a perfect match, and trust us, one cup of rice won't even cut it. Get ready for a broth-soaked, meaty fiesta!

STRAIGHT NEWS



This Spicy Winter Halo-Halo from Ben's is surely gonna make you feel hot and cold at the same time

(Image sourced from Ben's Halo-Halo Ice Cream on Facebook)

When you're in Sta. Rosa, Laguna, swing by SM City Sta. Rosa for a refreshing treat at Ben's Halo-Halo. Their best-seller is the classic Original Halo-Halo, loaded with bananas, macapuno, white beans, ube, leche flan, and langka.



Paper Moon's signature mille crepe is best paired with a hot cup of coffee. (Images sourced from Paper Moon on FB)

Another must-try dessert in SM City Sta. Rosa is Paper Moon, a Tokyo-born dessert house famous for its signature Mille Crepe. This delicate treat features layer upon layer of handmade crepes filled with light pastry cream and topped with a caramelized crust. One bite will have you over the moon, living up to its claim as the home of the world's best Mille Crepe!



Creamy and spicy is what the Bicol region is known for—and 1st Colonial takes it up a notch with their Pinangat and Sili Ice Cream. (Images sourced from 1st Colonial on Facebook)

And if you're craving something creamy and spicy, Bicol's Pinangat is a must-try-a flavorful mix of shrimp and pork wrapped in taro leaves, simmered in coconut milk with a chili kick. For an authentic taste, head to 1st Colonial available in SM City Naga, where their perfectly balanced Pinangat is a rice magnet. Don't forget to try their famous Sili Ice Cream with spice levels ranging from mild to adventurous!



Grab all flavors of J Emmanuel's pili nuts because they are super worth it!

When in Naga, you cannot leave without trying the famous pili nuts! J. Emmanuel Pastries is THE house of Plli and certainly a place you should visit when in the area. Stock up on their must-try pili tarts, hopia de pili, and a variety of flavored pili nuts—roasted, garlic, honey, barbecue, Himalayan salt, chili, and sea salt. It's a delicious souvenir you'll want to take home!

Join us for the ultimate culinary adventure at the SM Supermalls Foodie Festival! Discover a world of flavors, from street food to gourmet. Don't miss out on this limited-time event. Mark your calendars now and get ready to tantalize your taste buds!

Don't miss out on the hottest new food spots at SM Supermalls! Follow us on Facebook, TikTok, Instagram, and X for the latest updates and mouthwatering pics. Want to know the latest entry guidelines and mall hours? Check them out here. Get ready to tantalize your taste buds! #FoodieFestivalAtSM #SMSupermalls

DTI-Laguna Monitors Firms to Safeguard Consumers from Fraudulent Sales Promo Practices



GUNA - The Department of Trade and Industry -Laguna Provincial Office (DTI-Laguna), through its Consumer Protection Division, conducted supervision and oversight of seven (7) sales promotion activities from August 1 to 17, 2024. These activities included competitions, contests, raffle draws, and sales promotions featuring price reductions and free giveaways. The monitored

events took place in major

VICTORIA, LA- trading centers within Laguna, specifically Biñan, Santa Rosa, Calamba, and Santa Cruz.

This monitoring effort aligns with the Department's commitment in safeguarding consumers against misleading advertisements and fraudulent sales practices in accordance with the Republic Act No. 7394 (RA 7394). otherwise known as the Consumer Act of the Philip-

cont. on Page 4