

Enchanted Kingdom's COO takes oath as president of Laguna Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc

Now in its 30th year, Enchanted Kingdom — the first and only world-class theme park in the Philippines — continues to be one of the lead advocates for local industry development, following the recent induction of its Chief Operating Officer, Mrs. Cynthia R. Mamon, Ph.D., as the president of the PCCI-Laguna Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc. (LCCI).

The induction ceremony of newly elected LCCI officers was held on February 16 at Enchanted Kingdom in Santa Rosa, Laguna led by Area Vice President Hoover Picar and Regional Governor Mary Ann Katigbak.

In acceptance of this role, Mrs. Mamon said, "We are committed to focus on Livelihood and labor concerns, Corporate sustainability, Community empowerment, and Innovation with integrity. These four principles support Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) South Luzon's guiding principles as presented by AVP Hoover Picar, namely Volunteerism, Excellence, Service, and Integrity (VESI). Through these, we look forward to transforming the lives of the people working for our companies and the communities we serve."

Celebrating its 50th anniversary, LCCI is a non-stock, non-profit, non-government organization, comprised of Laguna-based small, medium, and large enterprises, dedicated to foster a stronger, sustainable local economy, and promote growth, resilience and competitiveness of the business community in the province.

Present during the induction ceremony were Department of Labor and Employment – National Conciliation and Mediation Board IV-A Director Cynthia Foncardas, Laguna Economic Development and Investment Promotions Office (LEPIDO) Laguna Head Fatima



Induction of Officers of Laguna Tourism Council



Induction of Officers of the Laguna Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Villaseñor, PCCI Los Baños President Grace Bondad Nicolas, PCCI Quezon City President Anne Marie Francisco, and PCCI Lipa City President Marites Jumarang. They were joined by past presidents of LCCI namely Atty. Rose Lynn Zara-Coloma, Marvin Adolfo, Virgilio Lorenzo, Richard Albert Osmond, and EK's President and Chairman Mr. Cesar Mario O. Mamon.

An economic briefing by Prof. Ronilo Balbieran, economist at the University of Asia and the Pacific followed after the induction ceremony.

Even prior to this, EK has been a longstanding active member of LCCI, as Mr. Mamon also served as its president from 2006 to 2007.

Championing Touris

Mrs. Mamon was also reelected as the president of the Laguna Tourism Council (LTC), officially assuming the new term together with the other newly elected LTC officers during the oath taking ceremony administered by Governor Sol Aragonés last January 22 in Santa Cruz, Laguna.

LTC is a provincial multi-sectoral body composed of representatives from various government and private organizations, serving as one of the main drivers in devel-



EK COO Mrs. Cynthia Mamon, PhD inducted as president of LCCI

oping Laguna into a premier tourism destination in the Philippines. Under Dr. Mamon's leadership ever since she stepped into the role in 2023, LTC has been working closely with the provincial government of Laguna, along with other local offices and non-government organizations across the country in promoting tourism, culture, heritage, and the arts to both domestic and foreign audiences.

Aside from this, they also support Laguna-based micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) by providing platforms to showcase their world-class products and crafts through LTC's various events and collaborations happening inside and outside the province.

For more information and updates regarding these and EK's initiatives towards industry growth, sustainability, and tourism, visit <https://www.enchantedkingdom.ph> and EK's official social media accounts @enchantedkingdom.ph for Facebook and TikTok, and @ek_philippines for Instagram.

BACCOOR LAUNCHES AND BLESSES 4PH SALINAS RESIDENTIAL SHOWROOM

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EARIST, nakikiisa sa mas pinalakas na adhikain ng KWF para sa wikang Filipino



Bumisita at nakipagpulong ang Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino (KWF) sa Eulogio 'Amang' Rodriguez Institute of Science and Technology (EARIST) noong 18 Pebrero 2026 upang ihain ang mithiin at panukalang magtatag ng Sentro ng Wika at Kultura (SWK) sa pamantasan at pang higit pang pagtibayin ang ugnayan ng KWF at EARIST sa pagtataguyod ng wikang pambansa at

kulturang Pilipino. Pinangunahan ni KWF Tagapangulo Atty. Marites A. Barrios-Taran, kasama si Komisyoner Benjamin M. Mendillo Jr, ang opisyal na pagbisita at pakikipagpulong kay EARIST Pangulo Rogelio T. Mamaraldo. Personal ding nilibot nina Barrios-Taran at Mendillo ang mga silid-aralan upang makahalubilo ang mga mag-aaral

na nagpapakadalubhasa sa Filipino. Ipinakilala ng dalawa ang mga programa ng komisyon na naglalayong mas mapalapit ang wikang pambansa sa mga kabataan. Layunin ng pagtatayo ng SWK na maging magkatuwag ang KWF at EARIST sa pagpapatupad ng mga programang pangwika, pananaliksik, at proyekto na magpapayaman sa kultura at identidad ng bansa.

A freshly baked start



Juliet Bascoguin, a baker and entrepreneur from Iloilo, stands proudly beside their bakery, a symbol of livelihood built from passion and patience.

Iloilo is widely known as the home of the famous Filipino Biscocho, a well-loved delicacy, popular for its crispy texture and buttery flavor. Over the years, it has become a symbol of the Ilonggos' dedication to quality and taste.

Juliet Bascoguin, a 65-year-old native of Iloilo, spent more than a decade working for a company before choosing to step away from employment to focus on raising her three children. While

cont. on page 4

San Miguel opens museum at oldest brewery to honor 135 years of enduring legacy

Leading the ribbon cutting rites of the Polo Brewery Museum are (from left) Bukidnon 1st District Rep. Jose Manuel Alba, SMC President and COO John Paul L. Ang, Polo Brewery Plant Manager Danny Pajarillo, former SMC CFO and now SMC consultant Ferdinand K. Constantino, and San Miguel Brewery Inc. President and COO Carlos Antonio M. Berba.

A museum dedicated to one of the Philippines' most iconic and enduring brands, highlighting over 135 years of history and brewing tradition, and

paying tribute to generations of employees, has opened at the country's oldest surviving brewery in Polo, Valenzuela City.

San Miguel Corporation (SMC) President and COO John Paul L. Ang and San Miguel Brewery Inc. (SMBI) President and COO Carlos Antonio M. Berba recently led the opening of the company's Polo Brewery Museum — marking the completion of a decades-long effort to gather and preserve archival records, historical objects and artifacts, and oral histories tracing San Miguel's history as a beer

brewer founded in 1890 — before it became a diversified conglomerate operating in multiple industries, today.

The museum, housed in the original building of the Polo brewery, features a wide collection of displays, including once-state-of-the-art brewing equipment, facsimiles of historical documents, classic labels and advertisements, workers tools, among others — all tracing the company's evolution across generations.

Also featured



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POINT OF VIEW

Inflation is under control

From Last week issued

how many pages of the Bible I read each day. All God cared about was me. He wanted to know me, and in order to do that I had to talk to him and tell him what I was feeling and what I needed. It was that simple. Armed with this revelation, I returned to church with a shift in perspective: I was no longer there to fulfill some obligatory duty put forth by Catholic leadership, but to be with God and feel his presence in a peaceful place. In this way, I was now in it for God, not some religious label.

My mistake? I misconstrued religion for faith. I thought religion alone was enough and ignored a relationship with God as a result. Religion is meant to be a supplement to your faith; it is not meant to be a replacement. Religion, by definition, brings together groups of people who share a set of beliefs in some higher power. Consequently, religion is inherently a collective experience you share with such a group. Faith, on the other hand, is an individualized experience, an exploration of a personal relationship with said higher power. Religion is thus incapable of giving you the intimacy required by faith. Instead, you must establish a personal relationship with your God — on your own.

I find going to church and prayer to be ways in which I can strengthen my faith and relationship with God. Maybe you're conventional too. Or maybe you go on hikes to appreciate nature or lock yourself in a pitch-black room to bask in the peace of silence and stillness. Whatever your modus operandi is, do it. The stipulations of a religion are not worth following if doing so harms your relationship with your God. Give yourself the freedom to pursue your relationship, your way. When you do, I promise you will be filled with a deeper sense of faith and belief that goes beyond the teachings of any religion.

San Miguel..

are other priceless pieces used in the brewing process, including a mash filter used in separating liquid wort from solid grain, in preparation for beer brewing; a washing machine used for the filter cloth for the mash filter; an all-copper centerpiece mash tun, where the brewing process begins; and mash kettle where the liquid wort is boiled.

The items represent the company's "last remaining connection" to its long and remarkable history.

"This tribute to San Miguel's beginnings and milestones could not have been better placed. Polo Brewery is our oldest operating facility and it serves not just as a sentimental link to our past, but as a source of strength. It should remind us of our tradition of excellence and hard work through generations of employees.

That same tradition powers our company today," said Ang.

Following the destruction of World War II, San Miguel had to rebuild from the ruins of the City of Manila where it was originally founded in the San Miguel district in 1890 to its then acquired Balintawak Beer Brewery in Polo, when the area was still part of Bulacan in 1947.

It is in this building that the museum now showcases its displays, foremost of which is the Royal Patent issued by the government of Spain in 1890 that granted founder Don Enrique Maria Barretto de Ycaza the 20-year exclusive rights to brew beer at his La Fabrica de Cerveza de San Miguel in Manila.

Also on display are old promotional materials and advertising from the 1950s through the 1990s, as well as the various packaging and bottles developed over the decades.

Berba said preserving San Miguel's his-

Gov't eyes lower CAVITEX toll rates once fully state-owned

MANILA – The government is eyeing lower toll rates at the Manila-Cavite Expressway (CAVITEX) once the tollway becomes fully owned by the state through the PEA Tollway Corporation (PEATC), officials said Thursday.

PEATC President and Chief Executive Officer Delfin Torrecampo Jr. said the tollway operator may reduce toll rates once government ownership reaches 100 percent.

"PEATC is the sole or the only government corporation operating a tollway in the Philippines. So 'yung tanong po natin kanina, PEATC, through the national government, can subsidize the toll revenues because as of now, hindi muna namang pwedeng ipababa ang toll revenue because it is not yet a hundred percent owned by the government, meron pang joint venture partner (So to answer the question earlier, PEATC, through the national gov-

ernment, can subsidize toll revenues, but for now we cannot lower toll rates because the tollway is not yet 100 percent owned by the government as there is still a joint venture partner)," Torrecampo said.

"But once 100 percent owned na ito ng gobyerno, ng PEATC, for sure one of the target po ng aming chairman of the Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA) is to lower the rate of the CAVITEX compared to other tollways para 'yung 100 pesos and toll rate per TRB, it can be lowered to let's say 80 pesos kung tayo na, ang gobyerno na ang may-ari nitong tollway (But once the government fully owns the tollway through PEATC, one of the targets of our chairman is to lower CAVITEX toll rates compared with other tollways—for example, a PHP100 toll rate approved by the Toll Regulatory Board could be reduced to around PHP80 if the government fully owns

the tollway)," he added. Torrecampo said PEATC is earning around PHP3.6 billion annually from its existing tollway operations, equivalent to roughly PHP10 million in daily revenue from about 200,000 vehicles using the tollway daily.

He added that the opening of the CAVITEX C5 Link Expressway Segment 3B is projected to generate about PHP300 million in additional annual revenue from an estimated 11,500 vehicles daily, raising the tollway's total projected yearly revenue to around PHP4 billion.

Of the projected revenue, about PHP1 billion is expected to be remitted to the national government through value-added tax and corporate income tax.

CAVITEX is operated under a public-private partnership arrangement involving the PRA, through its subsidiary PEATC, representing the government's interest in the tollway, while Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC), through Cavite Infrastructure Corp. (CIC), serves as the private concessionaire responsible for financing, construction, and development of the expressway.

Under this joint venture framework, the government and its private partner coordinate on tollway operations, expansion projects, and toll rate policies subject to the approval of the Toll Regulatory Board (TRB).

Meanwhile, officials said discussions are also ongoing with tollway partners and regulators on possible interventions and considerations that could

benefit motorists, especially with fuel prices being expected to rise amid Middle East tensions.

Anthony Peter Crisologo, chairperson of PEATC and director of the PRA, said the possibility of a toll holiday similar to the one implemented when Segment 2 opened in July 2024 is under study.

"Because this is a joint venture, we have to discuss with our joint venture partners... So we're not sure yet but I think it's being discussed by TRB, PEA Tollway, and MPTC as well," Crisologo said.

PRA Assistant General Manager Joselito Gonzales said the government continues to work with regulators and private partners to ensure toll policies remain responsive to economic conditions.

"Kami po sa gobyerno ay kaisa ng Pangulo sa paghanap ng mga magiging solusyon para ma-address po itong mga pupuwedeng mangyari as a result nitong nangyayaring kaguluhan sa ibang bansa (The government is working with the President in finding solutions to address possible impacts arising from conflicts abroad)," Gonzales said.

He said the PRA, PEATC and private concessionaire Metro Pacific Tollways Corp. regularly hold project committee meetings with the TRB to discuss toll rate petitions and ensure decisions remain sensitive to prevailing economic conditions.

Gonzales added that the presence of a government entity in tollway operations helps temper possible toll rate increases and ensure that the interests of motorists are considered. (PNA)

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Abotiz ..

Jason Deligencia, AVP for Corporate Services.

"Ang mga aktibidad na gaya nito ay nagbibigay-daan sa amin na makipagtulungan sa mga lokal na pinuno at residente sa pag-aalaga sa kapaligirang ating inaasahan."

Ipinahayag ng TLI ang intensyon nitong

patuloy na suportahan ang mga susunod na mga programa ng LGU para sa kalikasan at sustainability, bilang pagpapatibay ng kanilang pangako na makikipagtulungan sa lokal na pamahalaan at mga stakeholder ng komunidad para sa pangangalaga ng kapaligiran ng buong Pagbilao. PR

March 11-17, 2026 BACOOR...

Bacoor Government Center Front Lobby, March 6, 2026 — The City Government of Bacoor, led by Mayor Strike B. Revilla, marked another milestone in its housing initiatives with the blessing and launch of the 4PH Program — Salinas Residential Showroom at the Bacoor Government Center.

The ceremony, organized through the Housing and Urban Development Regional Department (HUDRD) under Atty. Aimee Neri, highlights Bacoor's continued commitment to providing affordable and accessible housing opportunities for its residents.

Among those present during the event were Vice Mayor Rowena Bautista Mendiola, Councilors Noly Galvez, Rey Palabrica, Horacio Brillantes, and Rey Fabian, along with representatives from partner government agencies and private sector developers.

Key industry partners also attended, including Edgar Saavedra, Chairman and CEO of Megawide Construction Corporation, Ms. Ma. Gilda "Gigi" Alcantara,

President of PH1 World Developers, and Mr. Jim Feliciano, Megawide's Chief Business Development Officer. Representatives from the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD) and the Home Development Mutual Fund (Pag-IBIG Fund) also joined the event in support of the housing project.

The 4PH Salinas Project will consist of four residential towers, each with 500 units, benefiting a total of 2,000 families. Each unit will measure 27 square meters, designed to provide safe, comfortable, and affordable living spaces for residents.

Mayor Revilla expressed his gratitude to all stakeholders involved and reaffirmed the city's dedication to inclusive housing programs that uplift communities and improve the quality of life for Bacooreños.

The blessing of the showroom marks the beginning of a transformative housing initiative in Bacoor — made possible through strong collaboration between government agencies, private sector partners, and the local community.

From Page 1

Gov't eyes state-owned

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Repatriation efforts for OFWs continue amid Mideast conflict

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) — The Department of Migrant Workers (DMW) is fast-tracking repatriation and other assistance for overseas Filipinos as tensions in the Middle East continue to escalate.

Lawyer April Casabuena, Regional Director for DMW IV-A, in a statement on March 3, confirmed that there have been no official reports yet on the number of Filipinos from CALABARZON directly affected by the airstrikes.

"At present, there is no official report yet on the number of Filipinos from CALABARZON who have been directly affected."

Citing Secretary Hans Leo Cacdac, Casabuena noted that the Philippine government is continuously processing repatriation requests.

BIR...

Valuable Taxpayer during the program.

"This award is not just a personal achievement. It's reminder of our shared responsibility as a citizen of this country. I believe paying the right taxes is more than just a legal obligation — it is a commitment to nation building," said Richards.

Similar cluster kickoffs will continue in the Visayas and North Luzon this March as part of the nationwide rollout of the BIR's 2026 Tax Campaign



From Page 3

SM MALLS IN LAGUNA GOES ALL OUT FOR FIRE PREVENTION MONTH



SM malls in Laguna joined the Fifth Nationwide Fire Drill conducted by SM and Bureau of Fire Protection. The activity brought together mall employees, tenants, security personnel, and janitorial staff in a unified effort to max out preparedness and strengthen emergency response capabilities across all departments.



No One Left Behind: PHILHEALTH REGIONAL OFFICE IV-A and BJNP CALABARZON partner for Inclusive PDL Healthcare



A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was officially entered into by PhilHealth Regional Office IV-A (PRO IV-A), under the leadership of Acting Regional Vice President Edwin M. Oriña, MD and the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) Regional Office CALABARZON, headed by JCSUPT ISABELO V CARTIN JR, DSC, MBA, Regional Director of the Jail Bureau, to ensure the efficient reimbursement of the TB-DOTS benefit for the Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs) in the re-

gion. The signing ceremony highlighted a shared commitment between PRO IV-A and BJMP CALABARZON to improve access to quality healthcare services within jail facilities, particularly for tuberculosis prevention and treatment. During the event, Dr. Oriña also presented an overview of key PhilHealth programs, including the PhilHealth Yaman ng Kalusugan Program (YAKAP), which aims to further enhance the health and well-being of

PDLs across Region IV-A through expanded benefits, streamlined processes, and improved service delivery. This partnership represents a concrete step toward the full realization of Universal Health Care. By reinforcing coordinated efforts between PhilHealth and BJMP CALABARZON, the agreement ensures that even the most vulnerable sectors—including PDLs—are provided with equitable access to essential health services, affirming the principle that no one is left behind.

Php9 milyong pasilidad at interbensyon, ipinagkaloob ng DA-4A HVCDP sa mga samahan sa Dolores at Sariaya

Halos siyam na milyong piso ang kabuuang halaga ng mga pasilidad at interbensyong ipinamahagi sa mga samahan ng maggugulay sa mga bayan ng Dolores at Sariaya noong ika-20 ng Pebrero.

Kabilang sa mga ipinagkaloob ang dalawang Packaging House Facility with Cold Storage at dalawang Solar-Powered Irrigation System (SPIS). Layunin ng mga proyektong ito na mapanatili ang kalidad at mapaha-



ba ang shelf-life ng mga ani, gayundin ang magbigay ng mura, episyente, at makakalikasang sistema ng irigasyon na makatutulong upang mapataas ang produksyon ng mga magsasaka. Ayon kay HVC-DP Focal Person Gng. Janice Fajardo, hangarin ng programa na makita ang aktibong paggamit ng mga tulong ng gobyerno at hikayatin ang mga samahan na aktibong palakasin ang kanilang kakayahang para mapangalagaan at mapaulnad ang mga

nasabing interbensyon para sa pangmatagalang benepisyo mula rito. Para naman sa mga samahang tulad ng SIPAG Bucal, malaking tulong ang mga interbensyon. Ayon kay Carlyn Mendoza, isa sa mga miyembro ng samahan, makatutulong ang SPIS upang mapadali ang pagdidiilig at pangangalaga sa kanilang mga tanim na kalamansi at iba pang gulay, na inaasahang magresulta sa kanilang mas masaganang produksyon at kita. PR

S&T partnership for sustainable agriculture: DOST-CALABARZON and DA RFO IV-A ink TLA for concrete biogas digester



LIPA CITY, Batangas — Advancing the region's livestock industry through green technology, the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) CALABARZON formally inked a Technology Licensing Agreement (TLA) with the Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office (DA RFO) IV-A for its Livestock Banner Program today, February

20. The ceremony, held at the R&D Conference Room in Lipa City, began with a warm welcome from Dr. Wilmer S. Faylon, OIC-Chief of the Research Division and Regional Livestock Program Coordinator. Dr. Faylon highlighted that while Batangas boasts an abundance of backyard swine raisers,

waste management remains a primary challenge for the sector. On behalf of OIC-Regional Executive Director Engr. Redelliza A. Gruezo, OIC-RTD for Operations and Extension Engr. Romelo F. Reyes reaffirmed the institution's commitment to ongoing programs under the National Livestock Program. *cont. on page 4*

Volunteer groups scrub vandalized Cavite City historical markers clean

CAVITE CITY, Cavite (PIA) – Known for their pride in Cavite's role in history, Caviteños are wrapping up the National Arts Month with a series of restoration efforts of historical markers within the City of Cavite. Last February 27, volunteers from the Cavite Historical Society, Cavite State University, Kabataang Kabitenyo and Temple Street Primera Familia led the city-wide cleaning and restoration of historical markers within Samonte Park.

Led by the City Tourism Office and volunteers from the Manileños for Heritage Group, a non-government organization dedicated to restoring historical markers and monuments in Manila City, the cleaning and restoration activity included key historical items such as the 1872 Cavite Mutiny marker, Capital Marker, and the Ermita de Porta Vaga Façade and Marker. In a statement, the city government noted that the project will prioritize the restoration of

the Ermita de Porta Vaga replica monument and its marker. "Recognizing our city's historical value as a cradle of revolutionary heroes and martyrs, they vowed to help the City Government in restoring these markers and monuments to their former glory." The Ermita de Porta Vaga has been repeatedly defaced and vandalized over the past year, which captured the attention of civil society organizations.



EDITORIAL: The True Wealth of a Nation

The age-old proverb "Health is Wealth" is often dismissed as a cliché until a crisis—personal or national—proves it true. In the Philippines, we are currently navigating a "dual-track" health crisis: the rising costs of medical care for households and the structural fragmentation of our public healthcare delivery. While the Universal Health Care Act promised a safety net for every Filipino, recent data from the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) reveals that out-of-pocket spending rose by nearly 12% in the last year

alone. This means that despite increased government spending, a single major illness can still push a middle-class family into poverty. Beyond the wallet, the "decay" of local health centers and the shortage of healthcare workers—who often seek better opportunities abroad—remain the silent killers of our system. A building without a nurse is just a shell; a law without funding is just lip service. As we move forward, the focus must shift from simply "building more" to "retaining more"—valuing the health workers who are the true backbone of our national survival.

A freshly...

staying at home, she put her Technical-Vocational (TechVoc) training in baking to good use by starting a small bakery, turning her skills into a source of both purpose and livelihood. **From flour beginnings** In 1998, 9J's Bakery was established, a labor of love built by nine siblings who worked side by side. With Juliet's expertise in baking, she took the lead in overseeing the bakery's daily operation. Every profit earned was carefully reinvested in quality equipment, ensuring that each loaf and pastry met the bakery's standard for taste and quality. Any leftover bread was turned into pudding, turning

potential waste into another delicious treat. Among the many breads they produced was biscocho, one of Iloilo's famous delicacies. At first, money was among their best-selling breads. However, as Iloilo became more recognized for its biscocho, demand for their own version grew as well, particularly among tourists seeking the city's signature treat. As their business thrived, challenges were inevitable, including the rising cost of raw ingredients. At times, this led to misunderstandings with customers, but over time, they came to understand and adapt to the necessary

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price changes. "Go lang ng gaganon naman talaga ang business may ups and down, wag bibitiw at tuloy lang palagi ang laban (Just keep going, that's really how business is, there are ups and downs but don't give up and always keep fighting)," she stated. In 2014, Juliet became a client of CARD Bank, Inc., a microfinance-oriented rural bank under CARD Mutually Reinforcing Institutions (CARD MRI), initially to secure a loan for her child's education. Over time, the bank became more than just a source of school funds, it also provided the additional capital needed to sustain their bakery business.

Through dedication, hard work, and the success of the business, Juliet was able to ensure that all three of her children completed their education. Two are now working in Qatar, while the other became a certified public accountant. Juliet's story is a reminder that success often comes with struggles. There were highs and lows but she chose to keep going. And by refusing to give up, she proves that perseverance remains the heart of a successful business.

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21K working-class individuals to benefit from Cavite 4PH projects

MANILA — At least 21,000 working-class individuals are expected to benefit from two housing projects under the Expanded Pambansang Pabahay para sa Pilipino (4PH) Program, the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD) said Thursday. In a news release, DHSUD reported that Secretary Jose Ramon Aliling and Pag-IBIG Fund Chief Executive Officer Marilene Acosta joined Edgar Saavedra, chief executive officer of Megawide Construction Corporation, during the groundbreaking rites for

strengthened participation in the government's flagship housing initiative. Ailing described Megawide's involvement as a strong vote of confidence in the Expanded 4PH and the reforms being implemented by the DHSUD. He noted that Megawide, a Quadruple A-rated construction firm, is among reputable private developers supporting the program aimed at addressing the country's housing backlog. Once completed, the Cavite projects are

expected to provide decent, safe and affordable homes to thousands of working-class families. The Pag-IBIG Fund is supporting both developments, which will feature amenities such as open parks, playgrounds, entrance and exit gates, parking areas and a clubhouse. Also present during the ceremony were DHSUD Senior Undersecretary Eduardo Robles Jr. and other key officials from DHSUD and Pag-IBIG Fund. (PNA)

GCash, Careem Pay partnership enables faster remittances for Filipinos in UAE

GCash partners with Careem Pay The Philippines' leading finance superapp GCash has partnered with Careem Pay, a digital payments service available within the Careem app, to enable faster and more reliable money transfers for overseas Filipinos living in the UAE. Following the official signing between GCash and Careem Pay at Careem's head office in Dubai, users can now send money directly to GCash wallets in the Philippines, making transfers to family and friends faster and more convenient. Through this direct integration, users in the UAE can now avoid the delays often associated with traditional bank transfers and the inconvenience of visiting physical remittance centers. Transfers settle within minutes, with funds credited straight to the recipient's GCash app for immediate access. Designed for Filipino expats who regularly support loved ones back home, the partnership focuses on making remittances simpler, more dependable, and easier to complete. By enabling direct wallet-to-wallet transfers, Careem Pay and GCash help ensure that funds reach recipients quickly and without unnecessary steps. To send money from the UAE to the Philippines, users simply need to download the latest version of the Careem app, select Pay on the home screen, and follow the steps under the Send Abroad tab. First transfers made easier for first-time users To mark the launch of the partnership, Careem Pay is offering a special promotion for transfers to the Philippines. Users can receive AED 20 cashback and enjoy zero fees on their first transfer by entering the code GCASH20, while Careem Plus members can benefit from exclusive rates on Careem Pay. Arjun Varma,

General Manager for GCash International said, "Sending money home is one of the most meaningful things our customers do with Careem Pay. For many Filipino expats, it's about supporting loved ones, covering school fees, or helping parents with everyday expenses." "By integrating directly with GCash and adding cash pickup across nearly 15,000 locations, we've made the process simpler, faster, and more reliable, with most transfers now reaching their families in the Philippines within minutes," said Mohammad El Saadi, Vice President of Careem Pay.

BIR launches National Tax Campaign in South Luzon, awards 2025 Most Valuable Taxpayers

The Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) kicked off on Friday, February 27, the South Luzon leg of its 2026 Regional Tax Campaign at the Jose Rizal Coliseum in Calamba City, Laguna. It gathered more than 3,200 attendees composed of BIR officials

and personnel, stakeholders, and partners from various sectors. Commissioner Charlie Mendoza said the campaign and the regional kick off is a part of the BIR's commitment to the South Luzon cluster. "Here in the South Luzon Cluster, a

dynamic and expanding business sector, paired with sound and credible tax administration, strengthens the foundations of economic growth," he said. The BIR also named actor Alden Richards as the 2025 Most *cont. on page 7*

Aboitiz Power, CENRO Tayabas Isinagawa Ang 2026 Annual Waterbird Census



Pagbilao, Quezon — Ang Therma Luzon, Inc. (TLI), subsidiary ng AboitizPower, ay kamakailan nagdaos ng 2026 Annual Asian Waterbird Census (AWC) kasama ang mga katuwang nito mula sa Tayabas City Environment & Natural Resources Office (CENRO). Sakop ng magkasamang monitoring expedition ang Pagbilao Mangrove Experimental Forest at mga lugar sa loob ng Pagbilao Power Station.

Naitala ng survey team ang kahanga-hangang bilang ng mga ibon, kabilang dito ang mahigit 80 garganey at halos 200 Philippine Duck, na lokal na kilala bilang Papan. Sa isinigawang bilang, nado-kumento rin ng mga kalahok ang isang rare leucistic white Papan — isang Philippine duck na may kakaibang maputlang balahibo na kapansin-pansin sa gitna ng kawan.

"Ang AWC ay isang regular na aktibidad ng DENR CENRO Tayabas kasama ang TLI at iba pang mga stakeholders na may layuning itaas ang kamalayan sa kahalagahan ng wildlife conservation," ani Ramil Gutierrez, pinunahing opisyal ng DENR CENRO Tayabas. "Nakatuon ang inisyatibong ito sa iba't ibang uri ng ibon sa loob ng aming area of responsibility, lalo

na ang mga migratory bird."

Ang pagkakaroon ng mga garganey at pato, kabilang ang "vulnerable" na Philippine Duck sa mga lagoon ng Pagbilao Power Station ay nagpapahiwatig na nananatiling angkop ang lugar para maging tirahan ng wildlife.

Sa pamamagitan ng pagsasama ng mga ganitong survey na ito sa corporate environmental, social, and governance (ESG) frameworks, tinitiyak ng inisyatiba na ang operasyon ng TLI ay nananatiling balanse sa nakapalibot na ecosystem.

Ayon sa mga datos na nakalap sa aktibidades ay ibabahagi sa internasyonal na database ng AWC na nagbabantay sa kalusugan ng mga wetland sa buong Asya. Ipinapakita ng pagsisikap na ito ang patuloy na pagtutulungan ng publikong sektor at pribadong sektor gaya ng AboitizPower sa pagsuporta at pagprotektang sa mga migratory path at lokal na ecosystem.

"Naniniwala kami na ang pagiging katuwang sa enerhiya ay nangangahulugan din ng pagiging katuwang sa mga komunidad kung saan kami nagpapatakbo," wika ni Lou

cont. on page 2

Ride-All-You-Can for SM By the Bay Amusement Park has got you covered!



For only P350, families can create unforgettable memories with ride-all-you-can access at Skyranch and SM By The Bay Amusement Park.

Families looking to turn an ordinary day into something truly unforgettable can now do so without stretching their budget. With SM Family Entertainment Center Inc. (FECI) 's Skyranch and SM By the Bay Amusement Park offering P350 ride-all-you-can passes year-round, everyday moments are transformed into maxed-out experiences filled with laughter, thrills, and lasting memories.

Through SM Malls Online, families can go all out in creating unforgettable memories and experiences without breaking the bank. For only P350 per person,



Feel the thrill of every twist and turn on our roller-coaster rides at Skyranch Pampanga.

guests can enjoy rides at Skyranch Tagaytay, Skyranch Baguio, Skyranch Pampanga, and SM By The Bay Amusement Park.

"Shared experiences bring families closer together. With the ride-all-you-can pass, we continue to deliver immersive, maxed-out fun for every generation in their most-loved SM attractions, all for you, through accessible, affordable channels," said SM Supermalls Executive Vice President for Marketing Joaquin L. San Agustin.

Across the three Skyranch branches, towering rides and family-friendly attractions create the perfect mix of heart-pounding adventure and carefree fun.

Enter a new world aboard the iconic Sky Eye in Skyranch Tagaytay and take in the majestic view of Taal Volcano, experience the heart-pumping Loop Coaster in Skyranch Pampanga, and feel the cool mountain breeze while riding the Super Viking in Skyranch Baguio. With these rides and more, Skyranch delivers a world of wonder where families can bond and create cherished memories together.

At SM By The Bay Amusement Park, the seaside setting provides a breath-



Brave the cool breeze and feel the thrill aboard the Super Vikings ride at Skyranch Baguio.



Pump up the adrenaline with a breathtaking view of the majestic Manila Bay sunset at SM By The Bay Amusement Park.



Want to create unforgettable moments without leaving the mall? Bring your kids at SM Storyland's newest-deployed attraction, the SM Storyland Triple Decker Carousel at SM North Edsa.

taking backdrop to every ride.

As the sun sets and vibrant lights come alive, families, friends, and loved ones can enjoy unforgettable views from above and joyful thrills below, turning a simple afternoon into a magical evening by the bay.

For those who prefer indoor rides, the fun continues at SM Storyland, conveniently located inside SM malls. Here, families can enjoy the same level of excitement and adventure in a comfortable, air-conditioned environment, perfect for playtime regardless of the weather.

"Through SM FECI's attractions, Filipinos can find that extraordinary experiences don't have to be reserved for special occasions because at SM, every day is a celebration," said San Agustin.

The P350 ride-all-you-can pass is available through SM Malls Online, making it even more convenient for families to plan their next day of fun.

Visit SM Malls Online today to purchase your ride-all-you-can pass and start creating unforgettable memories with your loved ones.

For more information, visit the official Facebook pages of Skyranch Tagaytay, Skyranch Pampanga, Skyranch Baguio, SM By The Bay Amusement Park, and SM Storyland.

About SM Family Entertainment Center SM Family Entertainment Center (FECI) champions the belief that Every day is a Celebration.

Because joy should be part of everyday life, SM FECI brings Filipino families closer together by transforming ordinary days into shared experiences filled with laughter, connection, and play at Skyranch, SM By The Bay Amusement Park, and SM Storyland.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT AND EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF DASMARIÑAS CITY, CAVITE

BDO UNIBANK, INC.,
Petitioner/Mortgagee,

File No. FC-DC-2048-26
EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE
OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE
UNDER ACT 3135, AS AMENDED
BY ACT 4118

-versus-

SPS. GINALYN S. DANCEL and
ALEXANDER EUGENE DANCEL,
Debtors/Mortgagor.

x-----x

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118 filed by the petitioner/mortgagee, BDO UNIBANK, INC., a universal banking corporation with postal address at 33rd Floor, BDO Corporate Center Ortigas, No. 12 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City, against the debtors/mortgagors, SPS. GINALYN S. DANCEL and ALEXANDER EUGENE DANCEL with postal address at No. 18 Ramos St., ST. Martin Village, Brgy. Talipapa, Novaliches, Quezon City; Blk. 4, Lot 2, Chester Place, Brgy. Buroil Main, Dasmariñas City, Cavite and for the satisfaction of the mortgaged debt which as of 6 February 2026 amounts to ONE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY SIX THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED TWENTY TWO PESOS and 08/100 (Php 1,456,822.08), exclusive of all legal fees and expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned sheriff will sell at public auction on April 17, 2026 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter in the Ground Floor Lobby of Dasmariñas Community Affairs (DASCA) Building, Congressional Road, Buroil II, Dasmariñas City, Province of Cavite to the highest bidder and for CASH or CERTIFIED CHECK, in Philippine Currency, the following described real property together with all the buildings and other improvements existing thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 057-2016020364

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that certain land situated in Barrio of Brgy. Buroil, Municipality of Dasmariñas, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON, bounded and described as follows:

A parcel of land (Lot 2 of the consolidation-subdivision plan of Lots 9 & 10 , Blk. 4 PCS-04-017530, L.R.C. (CLR) Record No. 8834), situated in the Barrio of Barangay Buroil, Municipality of Dasmariñas, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON. Bounded on the NE., points 2 to 3 by Lot Road lot 6; on the SE., POINTS 3 TO 4 BY Lot 11, Blk. 4; on the SW., POINTS 4 TO 5 BY Lot 12, Blk. 4, all PCS-

04-017530; POINTS 5 TO 7 AND 7 TO 1 BY Lot 1, of the consolidation – subdivision plan; on the NW., POINTS 1 TO 2 BY lot 7, Blk. 4, PCS-04-017530. Beginning at point marked "1" on plan being N. 43 Deg. 33'E., 322.18 m. from MON. No. 137, Imus Estate;

Thence N. 67 Deg. 59'E., 10.00 m. to point 2;
Thence S. 22 Deg. 01'E., 10.00 m. to point 3;
Thence N. 67 Deg. 59'W., 10.00 m. to point 4;
Thence N. 22 Deg. 02'W., 1.61 m. to point 5;
Thence N. 64 Deg. 36'E., 0.20 m. to point 6;
Thence N. 22 Deg. 57'W., 6.22 m. to point 7;
Thence N. 24 Deg. 38'W., 2.16 m. to point of beginning; containing an area of NINETY NINE (99) SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS.

All points referred to are indicated on the plan and are marked on the ground by P.S., CYL. CONC. MONS. 15x60 cm; Bearings true; Date of ORIGINAL SURVEY July 21, 1906 to June 11, 1906 to June 11, 1908 and that of the subd. survey; executed by Jerry Samuel Mari V. Segador Geodetic Engineer, on November 15, 2011.

Prospective buyers and/ or bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title of the said real property and the encumbrance thereon, if there be any.

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

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on May 8, 2026, at the same time and place without further notice.

City of Dasmariñas, Province of Cavite, March 9, 2026.

(SGD) GERALD A. FARGAS
Sheriff IV

(SGD) ATTY. MARCELA L. BAY-

BAY

Clerk of Court VI & Ex-Officio Sheriff

Copy Furnished:

BDO UNIBANK, INC.,
33rd Floor, BDO Corporate Center Ortigas
No. 12 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City

SPS. GINALYN S. DANCEL and
ALEXANDER EUGENE DANCEL
No. 18 Ramos St., ST. Martin Village
Brgy. Talipapa, Novaliches, Quezon City
Blk. 4, Lot 2, Chester Place
Brgy. Buroil Main, Dasmariñas City, Cavite

Notice Posted at:
1.The Bulletin Board of Regional Trial Court
Dasmariñas City, Cavite
2.The Bulletin Board of Dasmariñas City Hall
3.The Bulletin Board of Dasmariñas City Post Office
4.The Bulletin Board of Dasmariñas City Public Market

Straight News Publishing:
March 11, 18 & 25, 2026

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S&T..

In her message, Dir. Emelita P. Bagsit, Regional Director of DOST CALABARZON, emphasized that this agreement signifies the start of a long-term partnership. She noted that further improvements to biogas technology are expected to optimize methane production, stressing that continuous exchanges of ideas between institutions

and farmers are essential to enhancing the technology's capacity to support local livelihoods.

Mr. Fernando E. Ablaza, the technology developer and former Provincial Director of DOST Rizal, shared the history and evolution of the concrete biogas system.

He underscored that technology adopters require consistent mainte-

nance support to ensure the long-term sustainability of these systems.

Setting the stage for the signing, Ms. Marjorie L. Sepina, OIC-Chief of the Quezon Agricultural Research and Experiment Station (QARES), discussed the project's rationale.

Her presentation highlighted that establishing the concrete biogas di-

gester at DA-QARES aims to produce renewable energy while creating a more sustainable livestock program for the community.

The event concluded with a commemorative photo session between officials from DOST CALABARZON and DA RFO IV-A, marking the official launch of this collaborative project.