

NLEX recognized by DENR for promoting public access to real-time air quality data

NLEX Corporation was recognized by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) Region III during the Environmental Summit 2026 on August 19 for its partnership with the agency in providing the public free access to real-time Air Quality Index (AQI) data through an outdoor LED billboard along NLEX in the City of San Fernando, Pampanga.

The recognition, presented during the summit held in Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga, acknowledges NLEX's contribution to the public dissemination of real-time AQI data from four Regional Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations through its LED billboard.

Through the partnership, the digital billboard displays real-time air quality data from monitoring stations in San Fernando, Meycauayan, Clark, and Zambales, making environmental information more visible and accessible to motorists and the public.

"We thank the DENR for this opportunity. Accountability starts with awareness, and by utilizing the LED billboard, we are making vital environmental data highly visible and accessible to everyone," said NLEX President and General Manager Luis S. Reñon.

The initiative forms part of NLEX Corporation's continuing commitment to environmental sustainability and public awareness. Among its other efforts are the "Road to Less Waste" initiative, which promotes proper waste disposal and recycling, and tree-planting activities that have resulted in more than 200,000 trees planted across the NLEX corridor. NLEX also continues to work with government agencies and local government units on various environmental initiatives.

NLEX Corporation is a subsidiary of Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC), the toll road arm of Metro Pacific Investments Corporation (MPIC). PR



From L-R: Atty. Linel Manayang, Officer-in-Charge, Environmental Monitoring and Enforcement Division; Atty. Norlito Eneran, Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs, Enforcement, Human Resources and Field Operations – Luzon; Toti Palileo, MPTC Assistant Vice President for Road Access and Mobility Services; Luis S. Reñon, NLEX President and General Manager; Kiko Dagohoy, NLEX Stakeholder Engagement Senior Manager; Allan Jeffrey Ang, NLEX Assistant Vice President, QESH; Ralph Pablo, Regional Executive Director; and Martin Jose Despi, Regional Director, Environmental Management Bureau Region 3.

Homemade Success

In the City of Golden Friendship, Cagayan de Oro, Jaime and Candelaria Bedro built more than just a source of livelihood, but a life rooted in hard work, perseverance, and strong family values.

Originally from Cebu, Jaime grew up experiencing financial hardships at an early age. Because of the family's limited income, he was unable to finish his studies. Despite this, he remained determined to help his family earn a living.

Where the story begins

As one of his siblings worked in a business that makes longganisa, a Filipino-style sausage, Jaime started as a helper and, over time, learned the production process firsthand. As they became more confident in their skills, they eventually expanded their knowledge to include other food products, such as pork chicharon, a deep-fried pork belly or rinds.

In search of better opportunities and a fresh start, Jaime and his family moved to Cagayan de Oro in 1982. As they settled into their new home, they began using their skills to make homemade pork longganisa, which they sold within



Inside their neighborhood convenience store, Jaime and Candelaria from Macabalan, Piaping Puti, Cagayan de Oro City, proudly showcased their homemade longganisa, which reflects their simple yet meaningful journey in life.

baboy. Masusi naming tinitignan kung local at fresh ba ang karne dahil hindi maganda ang kalidad ng longganisa kapag imported pork ang ginagamit," Jaime shared.

Meanwhile, managing their chicharon business was never easy.

Their production was usually done twice a week and involved a long and careful process. From preparing and drying the pork skin to frying it properly, every step required patience and consistency. Aside from the increasing cost of raw materials, unpredictable

weather has also become one of their biggest challenges. During rainy days, the pork skin took longer to dry, causing delays in production and affecting their usual schedule.

"Sa chicharon business naman, nakadepende sa quality ng pork



business, together, skin or rinds ang daming magiging finished products mo, kaya hindi pare-pareho ang benta at kita," he explained.

Despite all the difficulties, they never wavered and continued working hard to sustain their livelihood.

A new door opens

As their business grew, so did the needs of their family. In need of additional capital, a neighbor introduced Candelaria to CARD SME Bank, Inc., a thrift bank under CARD MRI, in 2012. After learning about the institution's loan and insurance services, she decided to become a client.

She started with an initial loan of PHP 5,000, which gradually increased over the years to as much as PHP 100,000. The additional capital helped them strengthen their business and support their household expenses.

Seeing the positive impact on their livelihood, her husband also decided to become a client in 2020.

Together, the couple managed their loans responsibly and used them wisely to grow their business. Through discipline, hard work, and perseverance, they were able to gradually improve

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PGC Brings Free Health Services to Residents of Tanzang Luma V

CHIZ SAYS FREE HOUSING THROUGH USUFRUCT TO BENEFIT MILLIONS OF LOW-INCOME FILIPINOS

SMC-cleaned rivers help mitigate flooding amid heavy rains; garbage remains a challenge



Before SMC cleanup teams reported no major incidents of river overflow in most areas covered by the program, except along portions of the San Juan River on August 17, when exceptionally heavy rainfall pushed water levels beyond critical levels.

SMC Chairman



After

Major rivers cleaned and maintained by San Miguel Corporation (SMC) continued to carry large volumes of stormwater during sustained rains over the past two weeks, helping mitigate flooding in surrounding areas.

CEO Ramon S. Ang said rivers under the company's long-running Better Rivers PH initiative, now aligned with the government's Oplan Kontra Baha program, were better able to handle higher volumes of rainwater because of increased carrying capacity and improved flow.

Since 2020, SMC has removed accumulated silt, waste and other obstructions from major waterways, deepened and widened critical sections, and carried out regular maintenance cleanups, at no cost to government.

Ang said the recent rains also highlighted the difference between

PhilHealth at NAPC, Pinalalakas ang Partnership para sa Implementasyon ng PhilHealth YAKAP





The “NO” Syndrome *Lathala ni Vida Rose Branson*

Nakauatal man, nakakailang, pakiram-dam ay magkakasala kung hindi ayon, ngunit dapat nating isaisip na hindi sa lahat ng pagka-kataon ay tatango na lamang tayo sa kung anong inihain sa atin—umiling din minsan, matuto din tayong magsabi ng ‘hindi’.

Panigurado, marami sa atin ang lagay na sa sitwasyong hindi tayo maka-hindi sa taong nakahaharap natin. Sa tahanan pa lamang, may-roong pagkakataon na kahit makakaya namang gawin ng ibang kasapi ng pamilya, sa atin iaasa ang gawain. Kahit may kailangan kang unahing asikasuhin, dahil hindi tayo maka-hindi, gagawin pa rin natin ang utos sa atin.

Tuwing magyayakag ang mga kaibigan, hindi rin makatanggi dahil agad naisip ang maaari nilang reaksiyon at sasabihin—may magtatampo, mamimilit, ika-nga nila’y sasabihan pang ‘kill joy’, at panira ng ‘mood’. Kahit nais na sanang makapagpahinga o hindi kaya’y may ilang gawaing kailangang tapusin ay hindi magawa, dahil hindi makatanggi.

Sa paaralan at trabaho ay makakatagpo rin ng mga pagkakataong patong-patong na ang mga gawain at takdang-aralin pero dahil inaasahan ang estratehiya, ambag, at kaalaman lalo na’t kung mahusay sa pamumuno, wala nang tyansa sa pagpili mula sa oo at hindi. Kung baga ‘muscle memory’ anila, awtomatikong napipili ng tadhana. At maski sa relasyon, ang salitang hindi ay deklara ng digmaan lalo na sa mga relasyong nagsisimula pa lamang o iyong relasyon ng mga kabataan. Para sa iba, hindi nito gustong makasama ang kabiyaq, puro na lamang dahilan. Kung kaya’t para hindi na lumala, ang salitang oo ang magbibigay ng kapayapaan.

Nakakatawa lamang dahil lahat tayo ay nakaranas ng ganito, na parang itong epidemiyang lahat tayo ay nadadapuan. Mapasa kahit anong sitwasyon, responsibilidad man o sa mahal natin sa buhay, hindi natin mabalalas ang salitang ‘hindi’ sa kanila. Lagi nating iniisip na ang pagtanggi ay makasasakit sa kanila at mga ilang negatibong isipin tungkol sayo, ang iba’y manghuhusga pa dahil nasanay silang umoo ka nang umoo sa kahit saan, sa kahit ano. At dahil nasa sistema na rin natin, hindi na rin natin napapansin, nasasagad na pala tayo.

Hindi naiintindihan ng iba na ang pagsabi ng ‘hindi’ ay hindi naman dahil sa kagustuhang umiwas sa kanila, hindi dahil wala na tayong kakayahan para magampanan ang gawain. Hindi din naman kasi dahil tayo ang nakikitang maaaring kumilos ay sa atin na lahat iaaasa, tao lamang tayo at nauubos at napapagod tayo. Hindi rin dapat na hinahayaan nating inaabuso tayo ng mga tao sa paligid natin. Hindi dapat maramdaman na ang pagtanggi ay isang kinamumuhiang desisyon kung para naman ito sa ikabubuti at magbibigay ng kapanatagan at pahinga sa isipan natin.

Nakauatal man, nakakailang, pakiram-dam ay magkakasala kung hindi ayon, ngunit dapat nating isaisip na hindi sa lahat ng pagkakataon ay tatango na lamang tayo sa kung anong inihain sa atin—umiling din minsan, matuto din tayong magsabi ng ‘hindi’.



President Marcos Cites DOST-Funded M/B Dalaray In SONA, Backs Local Innovations For Sustained Growth

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. highlighted the Department of Science and Technology’s (DOST) support for homegrown electric mobility solutions during his 2026 State of the Nation Address (SONA), citing the DOST-funded M/B Dalaray as a model for the country’s transport modernization efforts.

In his speech on Monday, the President underscored the importance of locally developed technologies in building a cleaner and more sustainable public transportation system.

"Ang M/B Dalaray naman, na pinasinayaan natin kamakailan lamang, ay isa ring EV, na nabuo sa pagtutulungan ng UP at saka ng DOST. Sa darating na panahon, ang ganitong electric ferry boat ang gagamitin sa Pasig River Ferry Service, mula Pinagbuhatan sa Pasig hanggang Escolta sa Maynila."

The M/B Dalaray is an electric catamaran ferry developed through the collaboration of the

University of the Philippines (UP) and the DOST. The vessel was designed as a locally developed, environment-friendly alternative for inland water transport and is expected to support the modernization of the Pasig River Ferry Service.

The President’s recognition of the project underscores the government’s continuing investment in science, technology, and innovation (STI) to develop practical solutions that address national priorities, including sustainable mobility and cleaner transportation systems.

DOST Secretary Renato U. Solidum Jr. welcomed the President’s recognition, saying it reflects the growing impact of Filipino research and innovation on improving public services.

"The President’s recognition of the M/B Dalaray affirms the value of investing in Filipino science, technology, and innovation. It demonstrates how government support

for research can be translated into practical technologies that benefit the public while advancing sustainable development," Solidum said.

Aside from the M/B Dalaray, the President also cited several DOST initiatives in his Primer report that have strengthened the country’s research and innovation ecosystem.

The President’s Report to the People 2022–2026 noted that the Balik Scientist Program assisted 856 technologies and projects from July 2022 to June 2026, enabling overseas Filipino scientists to share their expertise and accelerate research and technology development in the country.

The report likewise highlighted the establishment of the National Artificial Intelligence Center for Research and Innovation (NAICRI), launched in Quezon City in February 2026 as the country’s central hub for AI research, advanced computing, in-

novation, and talent development.

Meanwhile, the DOST Grants-in-Aid Program provided P12.64 billion in funding assistance to 824 research and development projects between July 2022 and June 15, 2026, supporting innovations in priority sectors such as health, agriculture, industry, disaster resilience, and digital transformation.

The DOST said the President’s recognition of these initiatives reflects the government’s continued confidence in science, technology, and innovation as key drivers of economic growth, environmental sustainability, and improved quality of life for Filipinos.

The agency reaffirmed its commitment to supporting research and development that produces homegrown technologies capable of addressing national challenges and contributing to a more resilient and innovation-driven Philippines. (DOST)

Mt. Kamhantik Archaeological-ecological Tourism Site sa Mulanay, inilunsad katuwang ang DA-4A



Formal nang inilunsad ang Mt. Kamhantik Archaeological-ecological Tourism Site Convergence Area Development Plan (CADP) sa bayan ng Mulanay, lalawigan ng Quezon katuwang ang Department of Agriculture IV-CALABARZON (DA-4A) noong ika-11 ng Agos-

tarya na nagtataglay ng likas na yaman at pinagkukuhanan ng kabuhayan lalo na sa larangan ng agrikultura.

Sa tulong ng CADP ay inaasahan ang pagkakaroon ng mas progresibong mga estratehiya, programa, aktibidad, at mga proyektong magpaunlad sa lugar habang isinusulong ang respons-



to. Ayon kay Punong Bayan ng Mulanay, Hon. Jay Castilleja, ang Mt. Kamhantik ay itinuturing na lokal na yamang-kultura ng mga mamamayan at siya ring pinakamataas na bundok sa ikatlong distrito ng Quezon. May laki itong humigit-kumulang 300 ek-

ecological Tourism Site sa Mulanay,

ableng paglinang o paggamit ng likas na yaman sa Mt. Kamhantik.

Ipatatupad ito sa pagkakaisa ng DA, Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), at Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), katuwang ang lokal na pamahalaan ng Mulanay at lalawigan ng Quezon.



Bilang tanda ng opisyal na paglulunsad ay nagkaroon ng ribbon cutting, presentasyon ng CADP, mensahe ng mga opisyal, at pagpirma sa commitment wall kasama ang mga lider at representante ng mga kabilang na ahensya.

Si Brgy. Captain Felix Aguirre mula sa Bue-

navista ay ikinatuwa ang proyekto bilang isa ang barangay nila sa mga makikinabang sa pagpaunlad ng convergence area. Aniya, marami sa kanila ang mga magsasaka na umaasa rito ng araw-araw na ikinabubuhay kaya malaking tulong ito sa kanilang komunidad. (Danica T. Daluz, DA-4A RAFIS)

PGC ...

The Provincial Government of Cavite (PGC) brought free medical and dental services closer to residents of Tangang Luma V in Imus City through a medical and dental mission held on August 15, 2026, benefitting a total of 942 individuals.

The outreach activity provided residents with access to essential healthcare services, including medical consultations and dental services, helping address their immediate health concerns and promoting greater awareness of preventive healthcare.

Through the medical mission, beneficiaries were given the opportunity to consult with healthcare professionals and receive appropriate medical advice and assis-

stance. Dental services were likewise extended to residents as part of the provincial government’s continuing efforts to make basic healthcare services more accessible to communities.

The activity underscores the commitment of the Provincial Government of Cavite to bringing responsive and community-centered health services directly to residents, particularly those who may face challenges in accessing healthcare facilities.

Through initiatives such as this, the PGC continues to strengthen its healthcare programs and advance its goal of ensuring that Caviteños receive accessible, timely and quality health services. — OPIO



PGC Employees Month celebration kicks off with general assembly, ISO certification awarding, and new branding launch

The Provincial Government of Cavite (PGC) officially kicked off its celebration of Provincial Employees Month, bringing together provincial government employees in a series of activities aimed at recognizing their valuable contributions, promoting employee well-being, and strengthening camaraderie in public service.

The highlight of the opening celebration was the PGC Employees General Assembly, which served as a venue for employees to come together, reflect on their shared commitment to public service, and celebrate important milestones of the provincial government.

One of the major highlights of the program was the launching of the new PGC branding, symbolizing the provincial government’s continuing efforts to strengthen its identity and present a unified image across its various offices, programs, and services. The new branding reinforces the PGC’s vision of a progressive, service-oriented, and people-centered provincial government while fostering a stronger sense of unity among its employ-

ees. The activity also featured the ceremonial awarding of the ISO 9001:2015 Certification, marking another significant milestone in the PGC’s continuing pursuit of quality, efficiency, and excellence in government service. The certification reflects the provincial government’s commitment to maintaining effective systems and processes that promote consistent, responsive, and quality public service for the people of Cavite.

Beyond the formal program, the celebration placed equal importance on the health, wellness, and overall well-being of provincial employees. A stress management seminar was conducted to provide employees with practical ways to manage workplace

pressures, maintain a healthy mindset, and achieve better balance in their professional and personal lives. The activity underscored the importance of taking care of employees who, in turn, play a vital role in delivering efficient and responsive services to the public. Employees were likewise encouraged to stay active and healthy



through a lively Zumba activity, providing an enjoyable opportunity for physical exercise, relaxation, and interaction with colleagues. The energetic session brought employees together in a fun and engaging atmosphere, promoting both physical wellness and workplace camaraderie.

As part of the celebration’s Personnel Care activities, employees were also treated to various personal wellness services, including haircuts, massage, and manicure and pedicure services. These activities provided employees with an opportunity to relax, recharge, and enjoy a well-deserved break from their daily work responsibilities.

Adding excitement to the celebration were various games and recreational activities designed to encourage teamwork, friendly competition, and stronger rela-

tionships among employees. The games provided a venue for employees from different offices and departments to interact outside their usual work environment, strengthening cooperation and camaraderie within the provincial government workforce.

The kick-off activity was attended by Governor Francisco Gabriel “Abeng” Remulla, Vice Governor Ram Revilla Bautista, and members of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, who joined provincial employees in celebrating their important role in advancing the programs and services of the provincial government.

The Provincial Government of Cavite continues to recognize its employees as essential partners in advancing the province’s development and in delivering programs and services that respond to the needs of the Caviteño community. — OPIO



FROM PAGE 8

Homemade ...

their living conditions while continuing to support the education and daily needs of their children.

"Bukod sa aming negosyo at suporta ng aming pamilya, malaki rin ang pasasalamat namin sa CARD SME Bank dahil nabigyan kami ng oportunidad na magkaroon ng mapagkukunan ng dagdag na puhunan para sa aming negosyo. Sa 14 years ko bilang client, na-paayos namin ang aming bahay at nasuportahan ang pangangailangan ng aming apat na anak. Isa pa sa aming ipinagpapas-alamat ay ang pagiging CARD scholar ng aming bunsong anak," Candelaria shared.

Through years of hard work, the couple was able to acquire a house and lot, expand their sari-sari store, and sustain their business despite the many challenges they faced along the way.

Looking ahead, Jaime and Candelaria remain committed to further growing their livelihood. They plan to expand their market reach and strengthen their brand presence. As part of their long-term goals, they also aim to officially register their longganisa products with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and comply with other relevant government agencies to formalize further and expand their operations.

Working side-by-side through the years, Jaime and Candelaria proved that simple beginnings, when driven by perseverance and love for family, can lead to lasting success. PR

units to others—acts that will cancel their right to use the property and ban them from government housing program for 10 years.

SB 2421 also requires registration of usufruct contracts with the Registry of Deeds, ensuring transparency and legal protection for beneficiaries. The Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DH-SUD) will monitor implementation, while local government units will manage properties and guarantee access to basic services.

According to Escudero, the bill is designed to prevent abuse while securing tenure for genuine beneficiaries. "Ang bawat usufruct agreement naman ay nakapaloob sa isang nakasulat na kontrata kung saan nakasaad ang kanilang mga karapatan at obligasyon, pati ang mga kondisyon para sa patuloy na paggamit at pa-

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
4TH JUDICIAL REGION
BRANCH 109
CITY OF CARMONA, CARMONA
2ND Flr., Hall of Justice Bldg., Brgy. Maduya, City of Carmona, Cavite
Email add: rtc2cac109@judiciary.gov.ph:
Tel. No (046) 4828527

CARD SME Bank, Inc., A Thrift Bank,
Mortgagee,

EJF-2026-47

FOR: EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF
REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER
ACT 3135, AS AMENDED

-versus-

SPS. LUCIA DELA CRUZ ALIENTO and
FRANCISCO FRANCISCO ALIENTO,
Mortgagors.

X-----X

NOTICE ODF SHERIFF'S SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial petition for sale under Act No. 3135, as amended by Act 4118 filed by the mortgagee, **CARD SME Bank, Inc., A Thrift Bank**, with postal address/es at (1.) 120 M. Paulino St., Cor. Burgos St., San Pablo City, Laguna; and (2.) Blk 5 Lot 5 Congressional Road, Brgy. Poblacion 1, GMA, Cavite, againsts the mortgagors, **SPS. LUCIA DELA CRUZ ALIENTO and FRANCISCO FRANCISCO ALIENTO**, with postal address/es at (1.) Block 14 Lot 18 Phase 4B, Monteverde Homes, F. De Castro, GMA, Cavite; and (2.) Block 10 Lot 10 Monteverde Homes, F. De Castro, GMA, Cavite, and for the satisfaction of the mortgaged debt which as of 15 July, 2026 amounts to **NINE MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED ELEVEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY NINE PESOS AND 72/100 (P9,811, 439.72)** Philippine Currency, exclusive of all legal fees and expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned or his duty authorized representative will SELL at public auction on **October 1, 2026 at 1:00 o'clock** in the afternoon at the Lobby of the Hall of Justice Building, Brgy. Maduya, City of Carmona, Cavite to the highest bidder for CASH or MANAGER'S CHECK, in Phillipine currency, the mortgaged property/ies with all the improvements thereon to wit;

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 057-2022035017

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that certain and situated in MUN. OF CARMONA, PROV. OF CAVITE , LUZON, bounded and described as follows

"A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 10, BLK. 2 OF THE SUBD. PLAN, PSD-04-009847, BEING A PORTION OF PARCEL-3, PSD-04-004652, L.R.C. REC. NO.), SITUATED IN THE MUN. OF CARMONA, PROV. OF CAVITE BOUNDED ON THE NW., ALONG LINE 1-2 BY ROAD LOT 1, ON THE NE., ALONG LINE 2-3 BY LOT 11, BLK 2; ON THE SE., ALONG LINE 3-4 BY BLK. 28; & ON THE SW., ALONG LINE 4-1 BY LOT 9, BLK. 2, OF THE SUBD. PLAN. BEGINNING AT A PT. MARKED "1" ON PLAN, BEING N. 64 DEG. 32'W., 898, 19 M. FROM BLLM NO. 14, CARMONA, CADASTRE THENCE S. 30 DEG 42'E., 15 02 M. TO PT. 2; THENCE S. 59 DEG. 18'W., 10.00 M. TO PT. 3; THENCE N. 30 DEG. 42'W., 15.02 M. TO FT. 4; THENCE N. 59 DEG. 18'E., 10:00M. TO THE PT. OF BEGINNING, CONTANING AN AREA OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (105) SQ. METERS. ALL PTS. REFERRED TO ARE INDICATED ON THE PLAN AND ARE MARKED ON THE GROUND BY PS CYL. CONC. MONS. 15X60 CM., BEARINGS TRUE; DATE OF ORIG. SURVEY, APRIL 14, 1940 TO JULY 31, 1941 AND THAT OF THE SUBD. SURVEY, JUNE 1-12, 1984 AND WAS APPROVED ON JULY 19, 1984."

xxx NOTHING FOLLOWS xxx

Prospective buyers and/or bidders are hereby

enjoined to investigate for themselves the title of the said property and the encumbrance thereon, if there be any,

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

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, if that be held on October 8, 2026 at the same time and place witout further notice.

31TH day of July 2026 at City of Carmona, Cavite

By: (SGD) JOSEPH R. DIOKNO
Sheriff IV

Noted By:

(SGD) ATTY. CORINNA B. SALONGA-LOPER
Clek of Court VI & Ex-Officio Sheriff

Copy furnished:

CARD SME Bank, Inc, A Thrift Bank
1. #120M. Paulino St. cor. Burgos St.,
San Pablo City, Laguna
2. Blk. 5 Lot 5 Congressional Road.,
Brgy. Poblacion 1 GMA, Cavite

ATTY. SAMUEL JOHN DOMJOE M. ABARCAR
Counsel for the Petitioner
20 M.L. Quezon St., City Subd.
San Pablo City, Laguna

SPS. LUCIA DELA CRUZ ALIENTO &
FRANCISCO F. ALIENTO
1. Block 14 Lot 18 Phase 4B Monteverde Homes
F. De Castro, GMA, Cavite
2. Block 10 Lot 10 Monteverde Homes
F. De Castro, GMA, Cavite

WARNING: It is absolutely prohibited to remove dwface or destroy this Notice of Extra-Judicial Sale on or before the date of sale

Straight News Publishing:
August 19, 26 & September 2, 2026

CHIZ SAYS FREE HOUSING THROUGH USUFRUCT TO BENEFIT MILLIONS OF LOW-INCOME FILIPINOS

Senator Francis "Chiz" Escudero said that millions of low-income Filipinos stand to benefit from a legislation institutionalizing free housing through usufruct, a legal arrangement that grants families the right to occupy and enjoy government land and housing without owning them.

"Through usufruct, this bill seeks to grant Filipino families the right to occupy, use, and enjoy government land and improvements for residential purposes, while ownership remains with the State," Escudero told colleagues in his sponsorship of Senate Bill No. 2421 or the Free Housing Through Usufruct Act under Committee Report No. 79 on Wednesday.

The senator explained that only underprivileged, homeless citizens who do not own real

property and have no affiliation with squatting syndicates will qualify.

"Nakalatag sa Section 5 kung sinu-sino ang maaaring makinabang sa sapat at disenteng pahay sa ilalim ng panukalang ito: mga Pilipinong kapos sa buhay at walang sariling tahanan, walang pag-aaring real property, at hindi professional squatter o miyembro ng squatting syndicate," Escudero said.

Each usufruct agreement, he added, will be covered by a written contract detailing rights and obligations, including maintenance of the property and payment of utilities.

The veteran legislator emphasized that the housing units are strictly for residential use and warned that occupants cannot sell, transfer, mortgage, or rent out the

the family business, while their youngest is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Marketing Management at Cavayan de Oro College as a proud CARD scholar.

Through years of hard work, the couple was able to acquire a house and lot, expand their sari-sari store, and sustain their business despite the many challenges they faced along the way.

Looking ahead, Jaime and Candelaria remain committed to further growing their livelihood. They plan to expand their market reach and strengthen their brand presence. As part of their long-term goals, they also aim to officially register their longganisa products with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and comply with other relevant government agencies to formalize further and expand their operations.

Working side-by-side through the years, Jaime and Candelaria proved that simple beginnings, when driven by perseverance and love for family, can lead to lasting success. PR

kikinabang sa ari-arian."

The senator said the concept of usufruct dates back to Roman civil law but remains relevant today as a tool to address the stubborn problem of homelessness.

"Kung ang usufruct ay ang karapatang gamitin ang isang bagay at tamasahin ang mga bunga nito, nawa'y magbunga ang panukalang ito ng sapat at disenteng pahay para sa milyun milyong Pilipinong nangangailangan," he concluded.

Escudero, chair of the Senate Committee on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement, led the measure's passage through committee deliberations. It was presented at the plenary under Committee Report No. 79, which consolidated earlier bills filed by Senators Lito Lapid and Mark Villar and now awaits plenary debate and interpellation before moving to the period of amendments.



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT TRECE MARTIRES CITY

BDO UNIBANK, INC.,
Mortgagee,

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-646-26

-versus-

RAMIL D. PALACIO,
Debtor/Mortgagor.

X-----X

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, **BDO UNIBANK, INC.**, with business address at 33 Floor, BDO Corporate Center Ortigas, No. 12 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City against the Debtor/Mortgagor, **RAMIL D. PALACIO**, with postal addresses at (1)D 12#1697 LRC Compound, C.M. Recto Avenue, Sta. Cruz North, Manila (occupied by third party); and, (2) Lot 13 Block 8 Kensington 10, Barangay Navarro, General Trias, Cavite (currently occupied by mortgagor), to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of July 1, 2026 amounts to **FIVE HUNDRED SEVENTY FOUR THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED THIRTY-THREE PESOS AND 27/100 (Php574,833.27)**, Philippine Currency, including interest, penalties and other charges as of said date but exclusive of all other expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on **SEPTEMBER 29, 2026 at 10:00** o'clock in the morning until 12:00 o'clock noon at the main entrance of the Government Center Building located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE No. 057-2016048998

Lot No. 13 Block: 8 Plan No. PSD-04-226211
Portion of: BLOCK 15, PCS-04-027752, DECREE
NO. 4270 ; LRC REC. NO. 5964
Location: BARANGAY OF NAVARRO, MUNICIPALITY OF
GENERAL TRIAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE,
ISLAND OF LUZON

Boundaries:
LINE DIRECTION ADJOINING LOT(S)
1-2 NE LOT 14, BLOCK 8, PSD-04-226211
2-3 SE LOT 11, BLOCK 6, PSD-04-226211
3-4 SW ROAD LOT 1, PSD-04-226211
4-1 NW LOT 15, BLOCK 8, PSD-04-225211
Area: FORTY SQUARE METERS, (40), MORE OR LESS

All sealed bids mus submitted to the under signed 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 **OCTOBER 06, 2026** without further notice.

Prospective bidders/buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title to the said property and encumbrances thereon, if any there be

Trece Martires City, AUGUST 28, 2026

(SGD)REX L. SALOMA
Sheriff IV

Copy Furnished:
BDO UNIBANK, INC.
CONSUMER REMEDIAL MANAGEMENT
33 Floor, BDO Corporate Center Ortigas
No. 12. ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City

RAMEL D. PALACIO,
(1) D 12#1697 LRC Compound, C.M. Straight Avenue,

Sta. Cruz North, Manila (occupied by third party);
(2) Lot 13 Block 8 Kensington 10, Barangay Navarro, General Trias, Cavite (currently occupied by the mortgagee),

WARNING: It is absolutely prohibited to remove dwface or destroy this Notice of Extra-Judicial Sale on or before the date of sale

Publication: STRAIGHT NEWS PUBLISHING
Dates: SEPT 2, 9 & 16 2026

PhilHealth ...

LUCENA CITY– Mas pinaigting ng PhilHealth Regional Office IVA (PRO IVA) at National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC), sa pangunguna nina PRO IVA ARVP Dr. Edwin M. Oriña at NAPC Director Alexis D. Lapid, Director III, Administration and Finance Management Service, ang pagtutulungan para sa implementasyon ng PhilHealth YAKAP (Yaman ng Kalusugan Program)sa ginanap na coordination meeting sa tanggapan ng PhilHealth

sa nasabing lungsod noong Hulyo.

Ang pagpupulong ay bahagi ng mga hakbang na nakasaad sa Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) na nilagdaan ng dalawang ahensiya upang mapalawak ang abot ng mga programa at impormasyon ng PhilHealth sa mga marginalized at vulnerable sectors sa pamamagitan ng malawakang stakeholder engagement at capacity building activities.

Isa sa mga pan-

gunahing napagkasunduan sa pulong ang pag-sasagawa ng Training of Trainers (TOT) at Capacity Building Activity para sa mga NAPC Council Members na nakatakdang id-aos ngayong Agosto 2026 sa Lucena City, Quezon.

Sa nasabing aktibidad, inaasahang mabibigyan ang mga council members ng mas malalim na pag-unawa sa mga programa ng PhilHealth, particular ukol sa PhilHealth YAKAP, upang maging epektibong katuwang sa pagpapalaganap ng tamang impormasyon at pag-uugnay ng kanilang mga sektor sa mga serbisyong pangkalusugan ng pamahalaan.

Ayon sa mga kinatawan ng PhilHealth at NAPC, ang pagsasanay ay magsisilbing mahalagang hakbang upang matiyak na ang mga impormasyon tungkol sa PhilHealth membership, benepisyo, at iba pang

serbisyong pangkalusugan ay makarating sa mga sektor na limitado ang akses.

Ayon sa mga opisyal ng dalawang ahensya, ang nakatakdang TOT at Capacity Building Activity ay magsisilbing mahalagang mekanismo upang mapalawak ang saklaw ng pagpapalaganap ng impormasyon at mapalakas ang partisipasyon ng mga grassroots organization at sectoral councils sa pagsusulong ng Universal Health Care at PhilHealth YAKAP.

Ang pagpapatuloy ng partnership sa ilalim ng MOU ay nagpapatunay sa iisang layunin ng PhilHealth at NAPC na mabigyan ng mas inklusibo, accessible, at de-kalidad na serbisyong pangkalusugan ang bawat Pilipino, lalo na ang mga kabilang sa mga sektor na higit na nangangailangan ng proteksiyong pangkalusugan. ### (SMOC)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT TRECE MARTIRES CITY

BDO UNIBANK, INC.,
Mortgagee,

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-590-26

-versus-

SPS. JANICE G. CRUZ AND JOHN KEVIN F. CRUZ,
Debtor/Mortgagor.

X-----X

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, BDO UNIBANK, INC., with business address at 33rd Floor, BDO Corporate Center Ortigas, No. 12 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City against the Debtor/Mortgagor, **SPS. JANICE G. CRUZ AND JOHN KEVIN F. CRUZ**, with postal addresses at (1) #5 Pilapil Street, Barangay Parang, Marikina City (currently occupied); and (2) Lot 37 Block 9 Westwood Phase 6, Barangay Pasong Camachile, General Trias, Cavite (currently occupied), to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of June 19, 2026 amounts to **ONE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED NINETY SIX THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY EIGHT PESOS AND 27/100 (Php1,496,438.27)**, Philippine Currency, including interest, penalties and other charges as of said date but exclusive of all other expanse incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on **SEPT 29 2026 at 10:00** o'clock in the morning until 12:00 o'clock noon at the main entrance of the Government Center Building located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE \ No. 057-2023054085

Lot No. 37 Block: 9 Plan No. PCS-04-032534
Portion of: LOT 1837-B, (LRC) PSD-105017, BLK. 15, PCS-

04-030060, BLK. 17, 19, 20, PCS-04-032025, LOT 2, BLK. 17 PCS-04-030836; LOT 2090 & 2191 ALL OF SFDM ESTATE, LRCRECORD NO. 5964, DECREE NO. 4270
Location: 1000 sq. ft., 1000 sq. ft., 1000 sq. ft.,
PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON

Boundaries:
LINE DIRECTION ADJOINING LOT(S)
1-2 NE LOT 39, BLOCK 9, PCS-04-032534
2-3 SE ROAD LOT 11, PCS-04-032534
3-4 SW LOT 35, BLOCK 9, PCS-04-032534
4-1 NW LOT 38, BLOCK 9, PCS-04-032534
Area: FIFTY (50), SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS

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 **OCTOBER 06, 2026** without further notice.

Prospective bidders/buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title to the said property and encumbrances thereof if any there be

Trece Martires City, **AUGUST 28, 2026**

(SGD) REX L. SALOMA
Sheriff IV

Copy Furnished:

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

SPS. JANICE G. CRUZ AND JOHN KEVIN F. CRUZ
(1) #5 Pilapil Street, Barangay Parang, Marikina City (currently occupied);
(2) Lot 37 Block 9 Westwood Phase 6, Barangay Pasong Camachile, General Trias, Cavite (currently occupied)

WARNING: It is absolutely prohibited to remove dwface or destroy this Notice of Extra-Judicial Sale on or before the date of sale

STRAIGHT NEWS PUBLISHING
SEPTEMBER 2,9 & 16, 2026



Pico de Loro temporarily closed for rehabilitation

TERNATE, Cavite — The familiar trails leading to Mt. Pico de Loro have gone quiet as the Department of Environment and Natural Resources temporarily closed the popular hiking destination for cleanup and rehabilitation.

The closure began on Aug. 21 and is scheduled to continue until Sept. 12, giving authorities time to repair damaged trails, remove fallen trees and other debris, and address safety concerns brought about by recent typhoons and the southwest monsoon.

Located within the Mounts Palay-Palay/Mata-as-na-Gulod Protected Landscape, Mt. Pico de Loro is among the most visited hiking destinations in Cavite. Its trails regularly draw hikers seeking a challenging climb and views of the surrounding mountains and coastline.

Recent heavy rains and strong weather disturbances have affected portions of the mountain, prompting the DENR to conduct inspections and rehabilitation work before allowing visitors to return.

The temporary closure is also part of the continuing effort to protect the area's natural environment. Mt. Pico de Loro was previously closed for several years because of environmental problems, including soil erosion, accumulated waste and the increasing number of visitors.

cont. on page 3

Portion of: Block 36, Psd-04-230162
Location: Santiago, 10000 sq. ft., 1000 sq. ft. Trias, Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon

Boundaries:			ADJOINING LOT(S)
LINE	DIRECTION		
1-2	NW	Lot 5, Block 11, Psd-04-251187	____, Block 41, Psd-04-230162 (U nbuildable)
2-4	NE		
4-5	SE	Lot 3, Block 15, Psd-04-251187	Lot 2, Block 11, Psd-04-251187
5-6	SW		
6-1	NW	Road Lot 15, Psd-04-251187	

Area: ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THREE (153) SQUARE METERS, more or less

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 OCTOBER 06, 2026 without further notice.

Prospective bidders/buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title to the said property and encumbrances thereon, if any there be.
Trece Martires City, AUG 28, 2026

(SGD) JOSELITO L. ARANDA
Sheriff IV

Copy Furnished:

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

SPS. GREGORY M. AGOS, JR. & IRENE C. AGOS
1. Unit 13, Solid Arcade Building, President Avenue, Teoville 3, BF Homes 1, Parallaque City 1700
2. Block 11, Lot 3, Phase 1C, Amaia Scapes General Trias Armaldo Highway, Brgy. Santiago, General Trias, Cavite

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STRAIGHT NEWS PUBLISHING
SEPTEMBER 2,9 & 16, 2026

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT TRECE MARTIRES CITY

RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING
CORPORATION (in its capacity as successor
in-interest of RCBC Savings Bank, Inc.),
Petitioner/Mortgagee,

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-424-26

-versus-

SPS. LEMUEL C. APIGO and SHEILA C. RHEBERG-APIGO, as represented by Attorney-in-Fact
Dee C. Rheberg,
Respondents/Mortgagors.

x- ----- x

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, **RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING CORPORATION** with business address at A.T. Yuchengco Centre, 25th & 26th Streets, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City, M.M. against the Respondents/Mortgagors, **SPS, LEMUEL C. APIGO and SHEILA C. RHEBERG-APIGO, represented by Attorney-in-Fact Dee C. Rheberg**, with postal address at 38-H Dapitan St., Pasay City and collateral address at Lots 10 & 11, Lumina Tanza Ph 1, Brgy. Bagtas, Tanza, Cavite, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of May 12, 2026, amounts to **SEVEN HUNDRED THIRTY SEVEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTY TWO PESOS and 86/100 (PhP737,872.86)**, Philippine Currency, inclusive of interest but exclusive of attorney's fees and all other expense and changes incidental to this foreclosure sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on **SEPT 29, 2026 at 10:00 o'clock** in the morning until 12:00 o'clock noon at the main entrance of the Government Center Building located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following described properties with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE
NO. 057-2024026692

LOT NO. 10 BLOCK NO. 18 PLAN NO.
Psd-04-239022
PORTION OF: Lot 2-A, Psd-04-239718
LOCATION: Barangay Bagtas, Tanza Municipality,
Cavite, Island of Luzon

BOUNDARIES:
LINE DIRECTION ADJOINING LOT (S)
1-2 NE Lot 30, Block 17, Psd-04-239022
2-3 SE Lot 11, Block 18, Psd-04-239022
3-4 SW Lot 21, Block 18, Psd-04-239022
4-1 NW Lot 9, Block 18, Psd-04-239022
AREA: THIRTY SIX SQUARE METERS (36), more or less

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE
NO. 057-2024026693

LOT NO. 11 BLOCK NO. 18 PLAN NO.
Psd-04-239022
PORTION OF: Lot 2-A, Psd-04-239718
LOCATION: Barangay of Bagtas, Municipality of Tanza,
Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon

BOUNDARIES:
LINE DIRECTION ADJOINING LOT (S)
1-2 NE Lot 30, Block 17, Psd-04-239022
2-3 SE Lot 12, Block 18, Psd-04-239022
3-4 SW Lot 20, Block 18, Psd-04-239022
4-1NW Lot 10, Block 18, Psd-04-239022
AREA: THIRTY SIX SQUARE METERS (36), more or less

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

In the OCT 0 5 2026 the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on OCT 06, 2026 without further notice.

Prospective bidders/buyers are enjoined to investigate for themselves the title to the said property and encumbrances thereon, if any there be.
Trece Martires City, AUG 28, 2026

(SGD) JOANNAH AVIGAIL C. TIMKANG
Sheriff IV

Copy furnished:

RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING CORPORATION
Legal Services and Documentation Department
A.T. Yuchengco Centre, 25th & 26th Streets, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City, M.M.

MR. MARK L. SANTOS
MS. JESSA F. DIAMANTE
(1) Block 26, Lot 1, Phase 2, Sunrise Subdivision,
Tres Cruses, Tanza, Cavite
(2) Block 14 Lot 8 Camel Tanza,
Barangay Bagtas, Tanza, Cavite

WARNING: It is absolutely prohibited to remove dwface or destroy this Notice of Extra-Judicial Sale on or before the date of sale

STRAIGHT NEWS PUBLISHING
SEPTEMBER 2, 9 & 16, 2026

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT TRECE MARTIRES CITY

BDO UNIBANK, INC.,
Mortgagee,

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-439-26

-versus-

SPS. GREGORIO M. AGOS, JR.
and IRENE C. AGOS,
Debtors/Mortgagors.

x- ----- x

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, **BDO UNIBANK, INC.,** with business address at 33rd Floor, BDO Corporate Center Ortigas, No. 12 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City against the Debtors/Mortgagors, **SPS. GREGORIO M. AGOS, JR and IRENE C. AGOS,** with postal addresses at (1) Unit 13, Solid Arcade Building, President Avenue, Teoville 3, BF Homes 1, Parañaque City (occupied by third party) and (2) Block 11, Lot 3, Phase 1C, Amaia Scapes General Trias, Arnaldo Highway, Brgy. Santiago, General Trias, Cavite (currently occupied by Mortgagors) to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of May 11, 2026 amounts to **THREE MILLION NINE HUNDRED FIFTEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED FORTY PESOS and 63/100 (PhP3,915,540.63)**, Philippine Currency, including interest, penalties and other charges as of said date but exclusive of all other expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on **SEPTEMBER 29, 2026 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning** until 12:00 o'clock noon at the main entrance of the Government Center Building located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE
No. 057-2023002565

Lot No. 3 Block: 11 Plan No. Psd-04-251187

EDITORIAL:

Wag kang tumulad sa kanila!

By: *Mikaela Guimare-INTERN*

Wag mo kailangan maging sila, dahil iba ka sa lahat ng mga taong nasa paligid mo. May mga bagay kang kayang gawin na hindi nila kayang gawin kahit ano pa ang mangyari. Hindi mo rin kailangan ikumpara ang iyong sarili sa iba na nakikita mong maganda na ang kanilang pamumuhay.

Wag mong hayaan na lamunin ka ng mga sinasabi nila tungkol sayo pangit man o maganda ang mga ito. Dahil wala itong magandang idudulot sa buhay mo at pagkatao, ikaw ang tunay na nakakakilala sa sarili mo at higit sa lahat alam mo kung ano ang mga kahinaan at kakayahan.

Ikaw at ikaw lang ang tanging nakakaalam at nakakakilala sa sarili mo, hanggat maari iakw nalang ang umiwas sa kanila wag na wag kang magpapadala sa kung ano yung mga sinasabi nila kapag nalkatalikod kana. Hindi lahat ng tao maiintindihan ka wag mong pakinggan ang kanilang mga sinasabi.

Kung ano man yung mga ginawa at mga nasasabi nila baliwalain mo ang lahat ng yun. At higit sa lahat wag kang tumulad sa kanila, wag mong gawin kung ano yung mga ginawa nilang hindi Maganda sa kanilang kapwa. Kung gagay-ahin mo sila at gagawin rin yung mga bagay na alam naman nating mali, parang wala ka ring pinagkaiba sa kanila mas hinigitan mo lang kung ano yung ginawa nila.

Patunayan mong mali lahat ng mga sinabi nila tungkol sayo na hindi Maganda, na nagkakamali sila ng pagkakakilala sayo hindi na kailangan pang gumati sa kung ano yung na gawa nila. Ang pinaka importante ay hindig hindi ka tutulad sa kanila lagi mong tatandaan na iba ka sa kanila!

Pico ...

FROM PAGE 6

After nearly six years of rehabilitation, the mountain reopened to the public in January 2023 under stricter measures intended to manage visitors and protect the protected landscape.

For now, hikers will have to wait as workers restore the trails and surroundings. The DENR is urging the public to respect the temporary closure, emphasizing that the rehabilitation is necessary to protect the mountain and ensure safer conditions for visitors once it reopens. by Hanz Darwin Y. Corciega – CvSU Intern



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DTI Laguna Opens 7-Day KALAKAL CALABARZON Trade Fair at Festival Mall Alabang

MUNTINLUPA CITY, Philippines —

Sixty micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) from across CALABARZON are showcasing their products and expanding their market opportunities through CoconutPhilippines featuring KALAKAL CALABARZON 2026, a seven-day regional trade fair being held at Festival Mall Alabang from August 17 to 23, 2026.

Organized by the Department of Trade and Industry – Laguna Provincial Office (DTI Laguna), the trade fair brings together entrepreneurs from Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, and Quezon, giving them an opportunity to reach new customers, meet institutional buyers, and establish business partnerships.

Showcasing Innovation and Local Heritage

The event highlights innovative and value-added products from the region, particularly those made from coconut

and other locally sourced materials.

Featured products include coconut-based food and beverages, health and wellness products, organic beauty items, essential oils, cosmetics, handcrafted accessories, lifestyle products, and traditional apparel.

Selected One Product (OTOP) products from Laguna are also on display, highlighting the province's rich craftsmanship and entrepreneurial talent.

The opening day featured cultural music and dance performances, as well as a runway fashion show showcasing locally made creations from the municipalities of Lumban and Liliw, Laguna.

Strengthening the Coconut Industry

One of the highlights of the opening ceremony was the Renewal of Commitment and Support for the Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan (CFIDP).

next chapter of development.

“Kasabay ng ating ika-284 na Anibersaryo ang State of the City Address, kung saan ating binalikan ang mga tagumpay ng nakaraan, inilatang ang mga susunod na plano, at nagbigay-pugay sa mga dating kawani ng Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Calamba na matagal na naglingkod at ngayon ay retirado na.”

Mayor Roseller “Ross” H. Rizal led the celebration, reflecting on Calamba's 284 years of history while emphasizing the importance of unity in sustaining the city's progress.

A special tribute was also given to former city government employees who dedicated years of service to Calamba. Their contributions, ac-

aysayan, pagbabago at pagkakaisa. Sa ating Foundation Day, ating ipinagdiriwang hindi lamang ang ating nakaraan, kundi pati ang Calamba na patuloy na umaangat at umuunlad.”

The SOCA also served as an opportunity to look back on the city government's accomplishments and present plans for the coming years. Mayor Rizal underscored the significance of building on past achievements while preparing Calamba for its



Members of the Regional Inter-Agency Technical Committee (RI-ATC) reaffirmed their commitment to supporting coconut farmers and strengthening the development of the coconut industry.

DTI Laguna also emphasized that the trade fair goes beyond retail opportunities, serving as a business-to-business platform where MSMEs can connect with distributors, retailers, exporters, and tourism stakeholders.

Through these connections, participating enterprises are expected to gain greater market ac-

cess and opportunities for long-term business growth.

Visit the Regional Trade Fair

The public can visit CoconutPhilippines featuring KALAKAL CALABARZON 2026 at the Upper Ground Floor, Carousel Court, Festival Mall Alabang, Muntinlupa City, from August 17 to 23, 2026, daily from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The event encourages consumers to discover locally made products while supporting MSMEs and homegrown entrepreneurs from across CALABARZON. (Edjun Mariposque)

Calamba Celebrates 284 Years as Mayor Ross Rizal Delivers State of the City Address

CALAMBA CITY, LAGUNA —

August 27, 2026 — The City of Calamba celebrated its 284th Foundation Day with a State of the City Address (SOCA) held at the Jose Rizal Coliseum, highlighting the city's rich history, continuing development, and collective efforts toward a stronger future.

Mayor Roseller “Ross” H. Rizal led the celebration, reflecting on Calamba's 284 years of history while emphasizing the importance of unity in sustaining the city's progress.

A special tribute was also given to former city government employees who dedicated years of service to Calamba. Their contributions, ac-

formed part of the foundation upon which the city continues to grow today.

“Sila ang ilan sa mga naglatag ng pun-dasyon ng Calamba na tinatamasa natin ngayon.”

The celebration underscored that Calamba's progress is a continuing story shaped not only by its leaders and government institutions, but also by generations of Calambenos who have contributed to the city's development.

Mayor Rizal called on the people of Calamba to take an active role in shaping the city's

future as it enters another chapter in its long history.

“Tayo ang kasalukuyang kabanata ng kaysaysayan ng Calamba. Sama-sama nating isulat ang susunod na kabanata.”

The 284th Foundation Day celebration concluded with a renewed call for unity, service, and continued progress as Calamba moves forward while honoring the legacy of those who helped build the city.

“Mabuhay ang Calambaño! Mabuhay ang Calamba!” (Edjun Mariposque)

