

PDIC sets public bidding for 22 properties, assets in Calabarzon

Agricultural properties from corporate and closed banks in the Calabarzon region, with assets ranging from P465,000 to P4.6 million, are set for public e-bidding by the Philippine Deposit

Insurance Corporation (PDIC).

According to Romeo Ofrin, PDIC's corporate executive officer, there are 54 agricultural properties open for bidding nationwide this February 2024, 22 of which are

located in the Calabarzon region.

Ofrin said that prices vary depending on the location of the property and the base price set by interested bidders.

In Calabarzon, there are three available

properties in Batangas up for bidding, three in Cavite, ten in Laguna, and six in Quezon.

Ofrin added that apart from the Calabarzon region, agricultural land properties are also available in Aklan, Antique,

Bohol, Camarines Sur, Isabela, La Union, Marinduque, Misamis Oriental, Negros Occidental, Pangasinan, and South Cotabato, open for public e-bidding.

According to PDIC, **► PDIC SET • 5**



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Keeping communities clean, a matter of attitude, says DILG chief

KAWIT, Cavite (PIA) – Interior Secretary Benjamin C. Abalos, Jr. on Feb. 24, led the Kalinisan at Inisyatiba para sa Malinis ng Bayan (Kalinisan) program conducted in Barangay Samala-Marquez in Kawit, Cavite.

Local officials led by Mayor Angelo Emilio G. Aguinaldo and other stakeholders, including volunteers, joined in cleaning the esteros within their respective communities.

In his message, Abalos urged every member of the community to be a partner of the government in cleaning and conserving the environment. He also encouraged the local government units to invest in programs, projects, and activities related to solid waste management and other ecological tactics.

Abalos added that the Kalinisan program was conceptualized by President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. in support of the Bagong Pilipinas brand of governance.

"It's a matter of attitude. Today, [we will clean] even the smallest parts of our barangay, most especially the esteros. We must teach this to our children. This is what the President aspires for Bagong Pilipinas."

Abalos also highlighted the significance of holding the Kalinisan program in Cavite, as the province is the top producer of waste in the **► KEEPING • 4**



CCC: Brace against the effects of El Niño

The Climate Change Commission (CCC) urges the Filipino people to take proactive measures following the forecast of the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration's (PAGASA) of an increased El Niño activity.



PAGASA announced the possibility of an increase in the number of provinces to be affected by the El Niño phenomenon. From 41 provinces that experienced adverse effects in January, the number is projected to

reach 51 by the end of this month.

According to PAGASA, Metro Manila and 23 other provinces may experience drought by the end of the month, according to state meteorologists. These provinces are Abra,

► CCC: BRACE • 4

PGC joins the Celebration of National Arts Month



The Provincial Government of Cavite, through the Office of the Provincial Tourism Officer in collaboration with the Alitaptap Artists Community Inc., celebrated National Arts Month with the PGC Sabayang Pahid on February 26, 2024, at the Provincial Capitol Building in Trece Martires City. The event showcased the province's commitment to supporting the arts and nurturing local talent.

The highlight of the event was the painting activity led by members of the Alitaptap Artists Community, Inc., which was actively participated in by PGC employees. This hands-on approach allowed individuals from different walks of life to engage with their creative side and contribute to the vibrant tapestry of artistic expression.

► PGC JOINS • 4

Karagdagang benepisyo sa pagiging miyembro ng PhilHealth, tinalakay sa Kapihan sa PIA Quezon

LUCENA CITY, Quezon (PIA) — Inilahad ng Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) Calabarzon ang mas pinalawig na benepisyo na kaakibat ng karagdagang kontribusyon para sa mga miyembro ng PhilHealth simula ngayong taon.

Sa idinaos na Kapihan sa PIA Quezon kamakailan, binigyang linaw nina Dr. Danilo Reyes, Regional Vice President; Arturo C. Ardiente, at Dr. Maria Theresa Liwanag ang mga benepisyong nakalaan para sa mga miyembro nito.

Unang binigyang diin ng mga opisyal ang karampatang kontribusyon na itinaas sa 5% bilang maximum contribution na siyang premium rate para sa lahat ng miyembro simula ngayong 2024.

Ayon kay Reyes, naka-depende ang premium rate ng PhilHealth na iniatang ng batas sa pagpapalawak ng mga benepisyong pangkalusugan.

Binigyang diin rin ng mga opisyal ang lehislatibong pagpapatupad ng naturang kontribusyon na sinusunod lamang nila, at maaari lamang mabago kung magkakaroon ng lehislatibong aksyon na walang alinlangang susundin ng kanilang tanggapan.

Samantala, nilinaw ni Ardiente ang kaukulang mandato sa pagkakaroon ng 'lifetime membership'.

"Kapag hindi nyo inabot 'yong 56 years old [uniformed personnel], na hindi kayo nakapag-retire ng ganoon, you have to wait for the 60 years old para maging lifetime member. In the meantime

na wala kayong coverage you have to pay in accordance of your capacity to pay," paliwanag ni Ardiente.

Samantala, binigyang linaw naman ni Liwanag ang sistema sa pagkuha ng mga benepisyo pagdating sa tinatawag na Social Health Insurance ayon sa case rate depende sa kaukulang sakit na mayroon ang isang miyembro. Aniya, nagkakaroon ng kalituhan dahil sa usaping 50% coverage ng health insurance mula sa PhilHealth.

Samantala, nabatid din sa Kapihan sa PIA- Quezon na sakop ng benepisiyo bilang pagtugon sa Universal Health Care (UHC) Act.

Kabilang dito ang in-patient benefits para sa mga benepisyaryo na may medical condition at kinakailangang sumailalim sa surgical procedures; outpatient benefits para sa mga piling serbisyo na hindi na nangangailangan na ma-admit sa isang pasilidad; at ang Z benefits para sa mga malubhang karamdaman na nangangailangan ng magastos at mahaba na gamutan.

Kaugnay nito, naglabas ng 257.6 miyong piso ang PhilHealth para sa pagpapalakas ng Konsulta Package sa mga accredited na pasilidad, kabilang ang inisyat at mga follow-up na pangunahing

konsulatsyon, health screening, at assessment, at mga piling gamot batay sa reseta ng doktor.

Nagbigay naman ng karagdagang paliwanag si Ardiente sa tatlong pamantayan ng pagpapatupad ng UHC sa mga benepisyong pangkalusugan na dapat nakukuha ng mamamayan.

Ayon kay Ardiente, kasama dito ang population coverage kung saan lahat ng Pilipino ay may karapatan sa pagkuha ng serbisyon pangkalusugan; pangalawa ang service coverage kung saan mas palalawakin pa ang mga hatid na serbisyo; at pangatlo ang financial coverage kung saan ang 37% na sinasagot ng gobyerno ay nilalayong itaas ng pamahaalan hanggang sa makaabot sa libreng serbisyon hatid sa pangkalusugan.

Binigyang daan din sa usapan ang mas pinalawak at mga bagong benepisyong hatid ng



PhilHealth sa mga Pilipino kung saan 30% ang naging increase sa bawat case rate. Isa na rito ang High Risk Pneumonia na mula sa 32,000 piso package ay umabot sa 90,000 piso na benefit package.

Sa kabuuan, aabot na sa 122.3 biyong piso na benefit payment sa 12.6 milyon na kumuha nito. Maaaring makita ang iba pang mag benepisyong coverage ng PhilHealth sa kanilang website - www.philhealth.gov.ph, at

mayroon ding inilaan na PhilHealth My Member Portal para naman sa pagkumpirma sa kontribusyon ng mga miyembro nito.

Samantala, ayon sa datos na inilabas para sa taong 2023, 97% na ang nakarehistro bilang miyembro ng PhilHealth sa CALABARZON kung saan mula sa Laguna, Cavite, at Quezon pa lamang ang mayroong mga accredited na pasilidad para sa PhilHealth Konsulta

Package at 64 na pasilidad dito ang matatagpuan sa lalawigan ng Quezon.

Samantala, binanggit din ni Reyes ang kahalagahan ng premium contribution ng mga miyembro ng PhilHealth na siyang nakatutulong sa pagpapalawak at pagpapabuti ng magserbisyon pangkalusugan sa mamamayang pilipino. (Ruel Orinday-PIA Quezon)

GAWAD LATAG 2024: LEADERS AND ADVOCATES FOR TRANSPARENCY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

Pagbati sa lahat ng mga indibidwal, grupo, at organisasyon na ginawaran sa Gawad Latag 2024: Leaders and Advocates for Transparency and Good Governance kung saan binigyang pagkilala ang 2023 Top 10 Taxpayers 2023 CSR Awardees, at 2023 CSO Awardees. Maraming salamat kina Sen. Francis Tolentino, Sen. Mark Villar, at Sen. Bong Go sa kanilang paglalaan ng oras para makadalo sa isinagawang programa.



- Congratulations sa ating 2023 Top 10 Taxpayers:
1. ABENSON VENTURES INC.
 2. ON SEMICONDUCTOR PHILIPPINES INC.
 3. NO BIA, INC. - CARMONA
 4. MM STEEL SERVICE CENTER CORPORATION
 5. ALMAZORA MOTORS CORPORATION

6. METALCAST CORPORATION
 7. MITSUKOSHI MOTORS PHILS. INC. - CARMONA
 8. CHEMICO PHILIPPINES INC.
 9. BRIGHT SUMMIT DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION - CARMONA
 10. SMC SLEX INC.
- Dito ay binigyang

parangal bilang ikalawang recipient ng Gawad Latag si MR. TOMAS DE LOS SANTOS ng De Los Santos Family Foundation, Inc. para sa kaniyang hindi matatawang kontribusyon para sa serbisyo publiko para sa mga PWDs. Pagbati rin sa lahat ng mga CSOs na binigyang

pagkilala para sa kanilang aktibong pagbibigay serbisyo para sa mga mamamayan ng Lungsod. #ArawnAt1nTo #1stCityHoodAnniversary #ArawNgCarmona #CityOfCarmona #LungsodNgCarmona #LGUCarmona #BayanMunaLagi

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DOST Rizal conducts Skills Training on Banana Chips Production for the Cuyambay Natural Farmers in Tanay, Rizal

TANAY, Rizal – The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) through its Provincial S&T Office (PSTO) of Rizal together with the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Tanay brought the Skills Training on Banana Chips Production to members of Cuyambay Natural Farmers Association (CuNaFa) last February 23 at the Sitio Tablon, Brgy. Cuyambay, Tanay, Rizal.



The training-workshop commenced with an opening remark from CuNaFa's Association President Joselito Estuarina in which he warmly welcomed the institutions present at the event.

student assistants engaged the participants with an energizer to set a conducive atmosphere for the discussion.

took place simultaneously with the demonstration on banana chips production from preparation, peeling, slicing, frying, and sweetening.

Next, DOST-PSTO Rizal's invited resource speaker, Prof. Melvin G. Marcelo, Program Head of the College of Hospitality Industry in the University of Rizal System-Antipolo Campus (URSAC-CHI) together with URSAC-CHI

The lecture proper tackled various topics ranging from the basics of food processing to food safety handling before delving into banana chips processing. And, the participants were given a platform to address their queries and clarifications through an engaging Q&A portion. The workshop then

Overall, the training-workshop addressed CuNaFa's request to be able to market their crop produce (i.e., bananas). Moving forward, the participants hoped for more collaborative events with and assistance from DOST. *(By Arthea Marie M. Genova)*

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St. Dominic to Bacoor City Hall
Via Molino BLVD
- **STOP 3**
Bacoor City Hall to Waltermart Bacoor
Via Molino BLVD
- **STOP 4**
Waltermart Bacoor to Avenida Rizal 7/11
Via Molino Road
- **STOP 5**
Avenida Rizal 7/11 to SM City Molino
Via Molino Road

SM CITY MOLINO TO SM CITY BACOOR

TIME OF DEPARTURE: 11AM | 3PM

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Via Molino Road
- **STOP 2**
Avenida Rizal 7/11 to Waltermart Bacoor
Via Molino Road
- **STOP 3**
Waltermart Bacoor to Bacoor City Hall
Via Molino BLVD
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CCC: Brace... (FROM PAGE 1)

Apayao, Aurora, Bataan, Benguet, Cagayan, Cavite, Ifugao, Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, Isabela, Kalinga, La Union, Mountain Province, Negros Occidental, Nueva Ecija, Nueva Vizcaya, Occidental Mindoro, Palawan, Pangasinan, Quirino, Rizal and Zambales.

El Niño refers to a periodic weather event characterized by a warming of the ocean surface or above-average sea surface temperatures in the eastern equatorial Pacific. It is associated with droughts, heat waves, heavy rainfall and other extreme weather events. While its effects are global, El Niño hits Asian countries the hardest.

The Philippines, in particular, is currently experiencing extreme drought, one of the slow-onset effects of climate change, along with other climate impact-drivers: rising sea levels, increasing precipitation, and intensifying wind patterns and tropical cyclones.

Drought is characterized by a decrease of 21 to 60 percent in rain occurrences for five consecutive months, or below normal rainfall conditions for three consecutive months. These conditions adversely affect climate-sensitive sectors, including agriculture, energy, water, health and public safety, leading to food, energy and water insecurity.

"The recurrence of the El Niño phenomenon calls for the implementation of both short and long-term solutions to ensure food, water and energy security, safeguard livelihoods, and improve the country's disaster and climate resilience," said President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. in signing the Executive Order No. 53 or the reactivation and reconstitution of Task Force El Niño.

The CCC, in cooperation with other national government agencies, has developed policies and strategies that will prepare the nation for climate change impacts and disasters. These include:

The National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP), which outlines strategies for building resilience to climate change impacts, including El Niño. It calls for improved water resource management, early

warning systems, and climate-smart agriculture practices.

The Local Climate Change Action Plans (LCCAPs). Developed by local governments, the LCCAPs provide site-specific adaptation measures tailored to local risks and vulnerabilities. Integrating El Niño preparedness into LCCAPs ensures targeted and effective action.

The National Climate Risk Management Framework (NCRMF) outlines a systematic approach to managing climate risks, including those associated with El Niño. Implementing its recommendations strengthens preparedness and response capacity.

Recently, the CCC spearheaded the development of the country's first National Adaptation Plan (NAP), aimed at building sector- and community-level resilience to climate change impacts. NAP identifies priority eight (8) sectors needing interventions, as affected by climate change:

- Agriculture, fisheries and food security; water resources; health; ecosystems and biodiversity; cultural heritage, population displacement, and migration

"Implementing the strategies and recommendations outlined in these policies and frameworks strengthens our adaptive capacity to face climate risks such as El Niño, ultimately leading to more climate-resilient communities," said CCC Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Robert E.A. Borje.

PAGASA has warned of a strong El Niño activity this month, while most global climate models foresee the phenomenon to persist from March to May. In light of this forecast, the CCC encourages everyone to take the necessary steps to minimize the negative impacts of El Niño in their homes and communities.

What to do before and during El Niño

These El Niño preparedness tips encompass preparing for the rising temperature, water shortages, fire prevention and safety, and typhoons and other extreme weather events.

Withstanding Rising Temperatures

Insulate the home. Proper insulation is crucial to keep your home cool

without depending on energy-consuming air conditioning. Check roofs, walls and windows to ensure they are insulated, and consider adding insulation to prevent heat from entering the home.

Employ natural cooling methods. Take advantage of natural cooling methods that are both sustainable and culturally significant. Place plants strategically in the home to reduce heat absorption, provide shade and improve air quality.

Stay hydrated. Extreme heat requires extra attention to staying hydrated. Drink plenty of water, and prepare homemade electrolyte solutions using salt, citrus fruits and other easily accessible ingredients to replenish essential minerals and electrolytes that you lose when you perspire.

Addressing Water Shortages

Harvest rainwater. Collect and store rainwater by installing a rainwater harvesting system. This can provide water for non-potable uses such as cleaning, flushing the toilet and watering the plants. Rain barrels, gutters and filters can collect and store rainwater effectively. Make sure to seal the container of collected rainwater to prevent it from becoming a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

Adopt water-saving techniques. These include reusing gray water from washing machines and showers, using a bucket instead of a hose when washing vehicles, and fixing plumbing leaks promptly.

Find alternative water sources. Find out if there are alternative water sources in your area, such as community wells or springs. Work collectively to ensure they remain sustainable while maintaining cleanliness.

Preventing Fires

Fireproof your property. Choose fire-resistant landscaping techniques and plants to avoid the risk of wildfires. Avoid flammable materials such as lightweight wood or highly combustible plants. Instead, choose native plants that thrive in the local climate and soil conditions to also reduce the risk of them becoming invasive.

Practice safe cooking techniques. Avoid grilling or cooking outdoors on windy days and don't leave cooking unattended. Check smoke detectors to ensure they are functioning properly, and keep fire extinguishers

readily available.

Prepare for emergencies. Create a fire safety plan and apprise all family members of evacuation routes and meeting points. Make sure you have grab-and-go-bags that contain flashlights, batteries, first aid supplies, lightweight blankets, solar chargers and other essentials.

Bracing for Typhoons

Reinforce your home. Protect your home from strong winds and rain and other extreme weather conditions by securing roofs, reinforcing windows with protective shutters, and making sure that doors are sturdy.

Create natural barriers.

Plant trees around your property to provide shade and contribute to sustainability.

Trees also can help protect you against strong winds during typhoons. Work with your community to organize tree-planting activities for a stronger, collective impact.

Craft emergency kits. Prepare a comprehensive emergency kit that contains essentials that are often overlooked, such as solar chargers and waterproof document protectors, to help you stay connected and informed during and after emergencies. Also pack non-perishable food, water, medication and

raincoats.

Preparing for and coping with El Niño requires community collaboration. The Climate Change Commission encourages individuals to form neighborhood watch groups to monitor and address El Niño-related challenges together.

"Collaborative efforts can help identify solutions for common concerns and develop a stronger sense of resilience within your community," Borje said.

For more information about the CCC's climate mainstreaming activities, visit the website of the CCC at <https://climate.gov.ph> and <https://facebook.com/cccpnl>. (CCC)

PGC joins... (FROM PAGE 1)

Ms. Cristina Tamayo-Ancanan, Board of Directors of Alitaptap Artists Community Inc., expressed her gratitude to the Provincial Government of Cavite and the Office of the Provincial Tourism Officer for their unwavering support in

spearheading the Art Month Celebration.

She emphasized the collaborative efforts between the government and local organizations, stating, "One of our missions is to propagate and make the arts visible in Cavite, which aligns perfectly with the mission

of Alitaptap.

Every time we seek help and support, the Provincial Government is there for us, not just with funding but also in coordinating with local agencies."

This collaboration emphasizes the commitment of the Provincial Government of Cavite to promoting arts and culture within the province. (OPIO)

Keeping... (FROM PAGE 1)

Calabarzon region.

"The top producers of waste in the country, at 3.6 million tons of waste, are two regions: the NCR, or National Capital Region, and the Calabarzon region. In Calabarzon, the number one is Cavite. Cavite produces around one million tons of waste," the secretary said.

He added, "Nationwide, 2.7 millions tons of waste are plastic materials. Among these, 20 percent end up in our oceans and do not decay, which destroys our environment. [Kawit] is near our

coastline, so we should avoid it."

According to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the waste that is produced every year is beyond the capacity of the Philippines. In 2022, according to the NSWMC, generated waste reached 22 million tons nationwide. Almost all of the waste that is produced every day is household or residual waste.

Under the Kalinisan program, the DILG will implement the Barangay at Kalinisan Day (Barkada)

program. Every week, each barangay, in partnership with the private sector and youth volunteers, will join hands to clean their respective houses and promote "segregation-at-source policies."

Abalos aspires that the cleanliness of each community will be ingrained in every Filipino's mind with the help of the program.

"We should make it a practice. It's a way of attitude. That is the message of our pPresident. A clean person has a clean house, a clean community, and a clean nation. That is the Bagong Pilipinas." (RF,CH/PIA-Cavite)

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Chinabank welcomes the Year of the Dragon with Michelle Dee as brand ambassador

Chinabank has signed up its first ever brand ambassador, the reigning Miss Universe Philippines Michelle Marquez Dee. The collaboration was formalized on February 14, 2024 at the Chinabank head office in Makati City.

The beauty queen, actress, host, athlete, and model is a fitting and inspiring representative for Chinabank. Michelle, who has won the hearts and minds of Filipinos and the world with her charisma, authenticity, and sense of purpose, is redefining contemporary Filipino culture on a global stage. Her lifelong autism acceptance and inclusivity advocacy has led her to a degree in BS Psychology and to use her platform and her work with the Autism Society of the Philippines to create awareness about the condition. With Michelle on board, Chinabank is strengthening its brand presence and building a profound connection with the new generation of dynamic and forward-thinking banking customers.

"This engagement with Michelle Dee signifies the beginning of many things



From left: Chinabank Chief Finance Officer Patrick Cheng, President & CEO Romy Uyan, Michelle Dee, Sparkle GMA Artist Center Vice President Joy Romina Marcelo, and Miss Universe Philippines Creative Director Jonas Gafud.

to come. For us, Michelle is family. But beyond her obvious lineage to the bank's co-founders, we firmly believe that Michelle has the qualities to aptly represent a bank with a storied history and an unwavering commitment to building an inclusive and sustainable future for every Filipino," Chinabank President & CEO Romeo D. Uyan Jr. said during the contract signing.

Michelle expressed her happiness and excitement for her new role, noting that she and Chinabank are a good fit as they share the same

high regard for building trust, making an impact, and bringing about change.

"Chinabank isn't just any bank, it's been a beacon of trust and resilience for over a century. Now that's a lot of years of making a difference in people's lives and making dreams come true, but it's also the spirit of making a difference that really resonates with every Filipino heart," she said. "I would like to keep it real. I'm here to share my stories and the incredible work Chinabank does... I can't wait to make memories and make

such ground breaking opportunities for everyone around us as well."

Chinabank founder Dee C. Chuan was Michelle Dee's paternal grand-uncle. Her grandfather was former Chinabank Chairman Dee K. Chiong

whose leadership shaped the bank into prominence. He also led the bank's early foray into computer technology, becoming the first bank in Southeast Asia to process deposit accounts online.

Chinabank is the fourth

largest private universal bank in the Philippines. The bank is set to launch an advertising campaign featuring Michelle as it continues to innovate and improve its products and services with a keen focus on its customers.

PDIC sets...

(FROM PAGE 1)

bidders can easily join through the e-bidding portal created to streamline the acquisition of properties, modernizing and enhancing government processes for the benefit and convenience of the public.

"What's great about this is, since it's an e-bidding procedure, those interested in acquiring properties don't need to physically go to Makati. People from Laguna, Cavite, Batangas, Quezon, and even OFWs can participate and purchase properties through PDIC e-biddings," said Jeanette Delgado, Corporate Executive Officer of the Asset Management and Disposal Department during the Philippine Information Agency's Sulong Calabarzon program.

Delgado said bidders must submit a certification from the Provincial Agrarian Reform Officer (PARO) of the Department

of Agrarian Reform (DAR) where the property they desire to acquire is located to ensure that the agricultural lot is not covered by the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP), and that no Emancipation Patent or Certificate of Land Ownership Awards has been issued for the said property.

She added that the funds generated from these properties will primarily augment the PDIC and closed banks' financial portfolios to settle the insurance claims of depositors and closed bank creditors.

The agricultural lands acquired by successful bidders can be repurposed and converted into other types of properties, with the responsibility for the process shouldered by the new owner.

Delgado explained: "It's possible. However, the process will be handled by the new owner. For

instance, if the property acquired is formerly an agricultural land, and they want to convert it into a subdivision making it a residential area, then they will be responsible for the whole process."

Interested bidders are encouraged to join the upcoming bidding on February 28 to 29 through its public e-bidding portal, accessible at <https://assetsforsale.pdic.gov.ph>, starting from 9:00 am on February 28, 2024, until 1:00 pm on February 29, 2024.

The PDIC is planning to hold a face-to-face public bidding of assets on March 21, 2024, in Makati City to further assist closed banks in liquidating their assets. (CO/PIA-4A; with reports from PDIC)

Sulong Calabarzon is a weekly public affairs program hosted by the Philippine Information Agency Calabarzon, streaming live every Thursday, 2:00 PM via the Philippine Information Agency Calabarzon Facebook page.

NorthMin...

(FROM PAGE 8)

same day, the Entrepreneurship and Local Innovation Program Development (ELIPDM) subcommittee, chaired by Dr. Ruel B. Paclipan, OIC-Regional Director the Department of Trade and Industry - X, convened at Mallberry Suites Hotel.

The ELIPDM, composed of 42 member institutions, strategized to achieve the Regional Development Plan targets, presented the entrepreneurship and innovation landscape of Northern Mindanao, and highlighted the innovation pillar in the Cities and Municipalities Competitive Index.

Meanwhile, the Resource Mobilization Management (RMM) subcommittee, chaired by

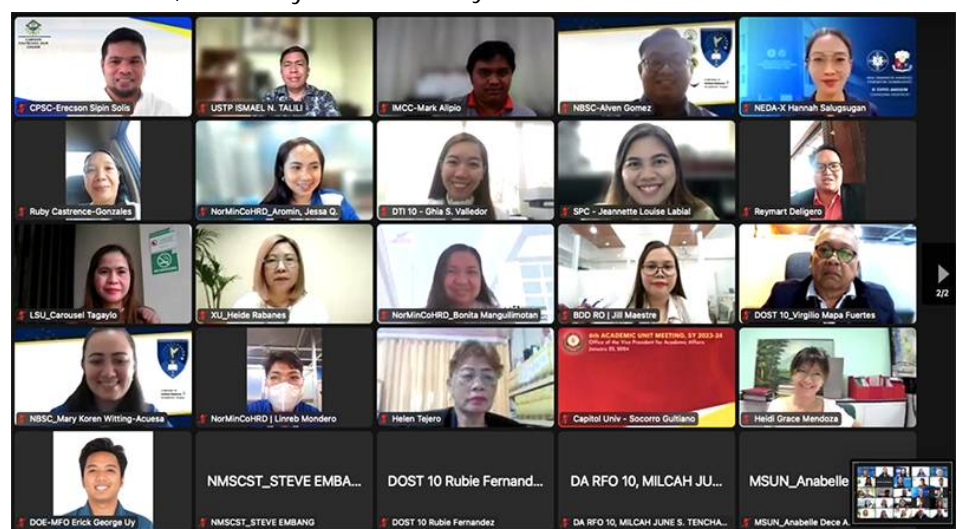
Dr. Jesus M. Jardin, President of the Cagayan de Oro Chamber of Commerce, met virtually on February 7 to discuss potential funding sources for RDI initiatives, legislative support for the Science for Change Program (S4CP) Bill, and the LGU-Cagayan de Oro's startup ordinance. RMM is composed of 26 member institutions.

The Knowledge and Research and Development Infrastructure Management (KRIM) subcommittee, chaired by Dir. Sittie Rahma Alawi, Regional Director of the Department of Information and Communications Technology - X, met virtually in the afternoon of February 7. The 22

member institutions discussed establishing a regional roadmap for smart and digital cities, conducted the Regional ICT Summit and Exhibitions (RISE) 2024, and provided updates on implementing the Free WiFi program in the region.

Gathering the innovation subcommittees is crucial in realizing RRDIC-X's vision of fostering an innovation-driven, inclusive economy in Northern Mindanao.

The agreements of the subcommittees' meetings are for further deliberation at the RRDIC-X Full Committee Meeting. Subsequently, the agenda items will be forwarded to the Regional Development Council - X for approval and endorsement. (Jon Michael A. Semilla/DOST 10)



PhilCycling BMX National Championships set March 22-24

The Integrated Cycling Federation of the Philippines (PhilCycling) will hold its National Championships for BMX Freestyle in Park and Flatland at the Tagaytay City BMX Park and Combat Gym from March 22 to 24.

The tournament, which will determine the composition of the national team for 2024, features Men and Women Elite categories both for Park and Freestyle.

There will also be competitions in the age categories —Men and Women Open and Junior (Birth Year: 2007-2017) for both disciplines.

The championships are presented by the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC) headed by Tagaytay City Mayor Abraham "Bambol" Tolentino, Philippine Sports Commission chaired by Richard Bachmann, and the City of Tagaytay.

For inquiries and registration, contact

PhilCycling Deputy Secretary-General through the registration link <https://bit.ly/bmxfreestylereg2024> or <https://www.facebook.com/philcycling>. Deadline of registration is on March 15. (PNA)



NU secures 3rd straight win in UAAP women's tennis

Defending champion National University (NU) defeated Ateneo de Manila University, 3-2, to remain undefeated in the UAAP Season 86 women's tennis competition at the Felicisimo Ampon Tennis Center-Rizal Memorial Sports Complex in Manila on Sunday.



TOO STRONG. National University's Elsie Abarquez hits a two-handed backhand return during the UAAP Season 86 women's tennis competition at the Felicisimo Ampon Tennis Center-Rizal Memorial Sports Complex on Sunday (Feb. 25, 2024). Abarquez defeated Ateneo's Althea Ong, 6-1, 6-0, as NU went on to win, 3-2, for a league-leading 3-0 card. (UAAP photo)

Elsie Abarquez stamped her class over Althea Ong, 6-1, 6-0; Angela Cabaral and Rivie Baulete demolished Tricia Howard and Nina Sandejas, 6-0, 6-0; and Adeline Abadia downed Chelsea Roque, 6-3, 6-3, as the Lady Bulldogs picked up their third win.

The Lady Eagles, who absorbed their fourth straight loss, managed to score after Mariam Garsim and Faye Dizon outplayed Alliah Ragunton and Julia Carvajal in the doubles, 7-5, 7-5; and Althea Martinez walked over Danna Abad in the third singles.

"I'm happy with the performance of the team. Everyone contributed, hopefully we'll keep the momentum," skipper Allyssa Mae Borna said in an interview on Monday.

"But we still have a lot

of things to work on as a team and individually," added Borna, who won the Philippine Columbian Association (PCA) Open doubles title with Shaira Hope Rivera last year.

Meanwhile, University of Santo Tomas (UST) routed Season 85 runner-up University of the Philippines, 5-0, to share second place with its opponent at 2-1.

Patricia Lim beat Renee Esteban, 6-4, 6-3, in the opening singles; Debbie Gom-os and Miles Vitaliano conquered Season 85 Rookie of the Year Joshea Malazarte and Jesha Cervantes, 6-3, 6-2 in the doubles, and Alex Santos rallied past rookie Jufe Cocoy, 6-2, 2-6, 6-2, to seal the Tigresses' victory.

In the men's division, UST rolled to its fourth win at the expense of Ateneo, 4-1, in a rematch of last season's final won by the

Growling Tigers.

Season 85 Rookie of the Year-Most Valuable Player Nilo Ledama triumphed over Noy Seno, 6-1, 1-6, 6-2; Steven Sonsona and Symon Jaculan won over JJ Llavore and Stef Gurria, 6-2, 0-1 (ret.), and Eric Jay Tangub trounced rookie JD Valdez, 6-1, 6-4.

The Blue Eagles scored their first point in the best-of-five tie after Nio Tria and Axl Gonzaga beat Richard Bautista and Geo Serino, 3-6, 7(4)-6, 6-2, before the Growling Tigers won the third singles courtesy of Sebastian Santos, who defeated Austin Delos Santos, 6-3, 6-1.

Ateneo suffered its first loss, creating a three-way tie for second with last year's semifinalists NU and University of the East (UE).

NU prevailed over De La Salle University, 4-1, while UE blanked Adamson University, 5-0. (PNA)

Legazpi City to host 6.5K Palarong Bicol delegates

LEGAZPI CITY – Some 6,500 athletes and other delegates from 13 Schools Division Offices (SDO) of the Department of Education-Bicol (DepEd-5) are expected to converge here for the 2024 Palarong Bicol from April 27 to May 4.



FOR THE WIN. The teams of Catanduanes province and Ligao City, Albay province compete in a basketball game for secondary boys during the Palarong Bicol 2023. At least 6,500 athletes and other delegates from 13 Schools Division Offices in the region are expected to converge in Legazpi City for the 2024 Palarong Bicol from April 27 to May 4, 2024. (PNA file photo by Connie Calipay)

In an interview on Wednesday, Mayflor Marie Jumamil, DepEd-5 information division chief, said officials from the Bicol Regional Athletic Association (BRAA) are holding a series of meetings and technical conferences for technical and general guidelines for each sports discipline.

"It was agreed that the Schools Division Office of Legazpi would be the primary host for the event and co-hosted by SDO Albay, together with SDO Ligao City and SDO Tabaco City. The dates of the weeklong sports activity were considered to ensure the smooth facilitation of outdoor activities and to avoid conflicts with local festivals such as the

Rodeo Masbateño," she said.

Jumamil said that to ensure the safety of learner-athletes and to address any potential child protection cases, child protection desks will be established in each billeting quarter.

"Ensuring the safety of our athletes is our top priority. Aside from establishing child protection desks, we are also forming a Clean and Green Committee to maintain a clean and safe environment. Preparations for the playing venues and accommodations for the athletes are ongoing. For the outdoor games, we are considering the health and security of all delegates," she added.

DepEd-Bicol Regional Director Gilbert Sadsad

said the Palarong Bicol is important in shaping the students' future, emphasizing its role in promoting sportsmanship and holistic development.

"Each year, our Palarong Bicol undergoes enhancements with the introduction of new features aimed at ensuring the safety and well-being of our learners during their participation in this sporting event. The dedication we invest in these preparations will undoubtedly contribute to the growth of our learners, nurturing them to become competitive individuals and exemplary citizens of our country," Sadsad said in a statement. (PNA)

BukSU, DOST train health researchers through R&D clinic

To boost the capabilities of Northern Mindanao's researchers, Bukidnon State University (BukSU) and the Department of Science and Technology train 20 health researchers through the conduct of a Research and Development (R&D) Clinic on February 19-20, 2024 at its main campus in Malaybalay City.



Participants were immersed in enlightening workshops and interactive sessions curated by the DOST Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD). The training was designed to help participants identify their research strengths and niches.

The researchers presented their research proposals covering critical areas such as Disease Management, Disaster Risk Reduction Management, Health of Vulnerable Populations, Maternal, Newborn, Child Health, Mental Health, and Nutrition and Food Security.

The health researchers benefited from the

initiative, enhancing their research skills and identifying field gaps. Furthermore, seven research proposals were crafted for submission to DOST-PCHRD for potential funding grants during the event.

Dr. Carina Joane V. Barroso, Vice-President for Research, Extension, and Innovations at BukSU, deeply appreciates DOST's unwavering support and assistance. She remarked, "In these challenging times, where external funding is a beacon of hope for many, your help has been invaluable, particularly to our university. It has empowered us to pursue our research endeavors with greater vigor and

resolve." The collaboration between Bukidnon State University, DOST-PCHRD, and DOST-X highlights their collective efforts to drive scientific and technological advancement for the benefit of the Filipino people. Through initiatives like the R&D Clinic, the partners remain steadfast in their commitment to promoting research excellence, disseminating knowledge, and developing an innovative ecosystem.

"The event allowed us researchers to familiarize ourselves with the essential do's and don'ts in writing fundable research proposals. Moreover, it

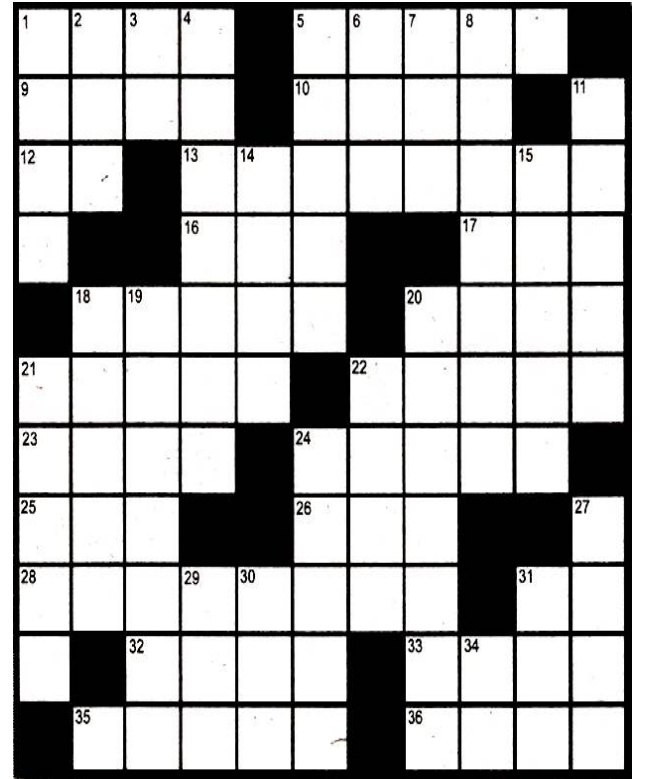
deepened our understanding of PCHRD's agenda thrusts and priorities, along with the required documentary requirements," said one of the participants.

The DOST Team comprised Dr. Sarah Jane Jimenez (S&T Fellow, RDMD), Mr. Jules Carl Celebrado (Program Head, Mental Health R&D), Mr. Jemuel Joshua Austria (Project Manager, Mental Health R&D), Ms. Anne L. Lobete (Project Manager, DRR-CCAHR&D), Engr. Linreb G. Mondero, and Engr. Jessa Aromin (NorMinCoHRD Staff). **(Linreb G. Mondero/DOST-X). #ScienceForThePeople #OneDOST4U**



PGC extends medical and dental services to Gentriseños. The Cavite provincial government's medical and dental mission conducted in Brgy. Tejero, General Trias City, Cavite on February 22, 2024 was a resounding success, benefitting a total of 449 patients. Of these, 403 received medical check-ups while 46 underwent dental examinations and tooth extractions, addressing both medical and dental needs within the community. Additionally, maintenance medicines, multivitamins and mosquito repellent lotion were also distributed. This achievement was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the local government, medical practitioners, barangay health workers, staff and volunteers, all of whom worked tirelessly to ensure the mission's success. Beyond providing essential healthcare services, the event showcased a sense of community and solidarity, under the importance of collective action in promoting health and well-being. (OPIO)

PALAIPIAN



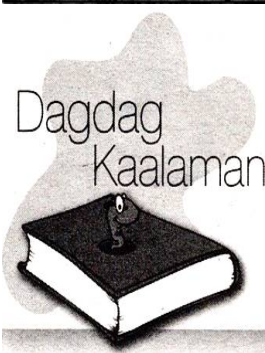
PAHALANG

- 1 Gapang
- 5 Sakmal
- 9 Tagapag-alaga ng kabayo
- 10 Panimplang butil
- 12 Viva Papa
- 13 Nitso
- 16 Agta
- 17 Unang bilang
- 18 Braso
- 20 Panghihingi ng abuloy
- 21 Gamit ng karpintero
- 22 Tabako
- 23 Peste sa kahoy
- 24 Puerto sa Guam
- 25 Los Angeles Lakers
- 26 Ginang: pantitik
- 28 Bayan sa Pangasinan
- 31 Paul Alvarez
- 32 Katas ng niyog
- 33 Bilis
- 35 Basketbolistang Benjie
- 36 Mang-aawit sa simbahan

PABABA

- 1 Litis
- PAHALANG
- 1 Gapang
- 5 Sakmal
- 9 Tagapag-alaga ng kabayo
- 10 Panimplang butil
- 12 Viva Papa
- 13 Nitso
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- 17 Unang bilang
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SAGOT SA NAKARAAN



Anong bansa ang #1 producer ng saging? Ito ay ang India.

Cavite City lights up city entrance

CAVITE CITY: The city government here has completed a lighting project in Barangay 8 in response to a clamor for safety in the area.



DARK NO MORE Cavite City officials led by Mayor Denver Chua (center), Vice Mayor Raleigh Rusit and city councilors launch the newly installed solar-powered lamps along the 800-meter stretch from the boundary of Noveleta to the city's Welcome Arch, commonly known as 'Checkpoint,' on Monday, Feb. 19, 2024. (PHOTO BY DENNIS ABRINA)

Mayor Denver Chua, Vice Mayor Raleigh Rusit and city councilors attended a simple ceremony on Monday night, February 19, for the formal launch of the solar-powered lamps covering an 800-meter stretch from the boundary of Noveleta town to the city's Welcome Arch, better known as

"Checkpoint."

The 82 solar-powered lamps in Phase 1 are just the beginning of a bigger project to ensure safety of motorists in preparations for the opening of Sangley Airport.

"Before, as you enter Cavite City, it was dark. Now, it's bright," said Mayor Chua.

The mayor added the project was meant for the benefit of students of Cavite State University who have night classes.

The lamp posts, the mayor said, are to ensure the safety in the area where a number of vehicular accidents had been reported owing to its darkness.

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Cavite, Laguna protesters headed to People Power anniversary blocked by police



Photo by Danny Pata

Protesters from the provinces heading to commemorations of the 38th anniversary of the People Power Revolution claim they were blocked by the police over the weekend, according to the Alyansang Makabayan Timog Katagalugan (Bayan TK).

According to the group, they were initially headed to the Embassy of the United States to hold a protest action but their jeepneys were blocked by police in Bacoor in Cavite, and Los Baños and Sta. Rosa in Laguna.

The group said one of its members tried to question the police as to why they were being blocked, but the authorities did not provide any response. Bayan countered that such action did not have any legal basis.

This comes as the country commemorates the 38th anniversary of the People Power Revolution which ousted the late President Ferdinand Marcos Sr. from power, ending a 20-year dictatorship that was marred by allegations of human rights abuses, cronyism and corruption.

GMA News has reached out to the Philippine National Police (PNP) for comment on the matter, but no response has been received as of posting time.— (RF, GMA Integrated News)

NorthMin Innovation Committees Meet for 2024 Initiatives

The subcommittees of the Northern Mindanao Regional Research, Development, and Innovation Committee (RRDIC) conduct its inaugural meeting on February 6-7, 2024, marking the first gathering since the committee's reorganization and expansion in May 2023.



Policy recommendations on establishing innovation councils among LGUs and identifying various funding channels for R&D and innovation projects were among the significant results of the meetings.

Another milestone is the onset of initiatives on digital and smart cities and the discussion on capability development

programs for researchers, scientists and engineers (RSEs) from various agencies.

The subcommittee on Human Resource Development and Research, Development, and Innovation Management (HRRDIM) discussed the R&D human resource landscape in Northern Mindanao on February 6, 2024, via Zoom. Chaired

by the Engr. Romela N Ratilla, Regional Director of the Department of Science and Technology-X, the subcommittee also discussed the R&D initiatives of leading HEIs and government programs to support R&D human resources. The HRRDIM is composed of 26 member institutions.

In the afternoon of the
► **NORTHMIN • 5**



The National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) Museo ni Baldomero Aguinaldo led the celebration for the hero's 155th birth anniversary today at his home-cum-museum at Binakayan. The municipal government, along with other local government agencies and the Veterans Federation of the Philippines - Kawit, offered flowers at the late general's monument. Apart from being a #Kawiteño revolutionary, Gen. Baldomero Aguinaldo also served as Minister of War and Public Works under Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo's administration. #TaraSaKawit #RatedTripleA #PusoAtMalasakitParaSaAtingKawit