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Entrepreneurship for Caviteño young minds

In honing the entrepreneurial prowess and mindsets of young Caviteños, the Provincial Government of Cavite (PGC), through the Office of the Provincial Cooperatives Development Officer (OPCDO), under the supervision of Atty. Khervy B. Reyes, facilitated another leg of Cavite Entrepreneurship Students Caravan, keynoting "Entrepreneurial Mindset: The First Step Towards Success", on March 20, 2024 at General Emilio Aguinaldo-Bailen Integrated School (GEABIS).

Ms. Liza C. Gabatan, OPCDO Entrepreneurial Division Head, jump-start the program with a warm



welcome to 127 GEABIS senior high school students, who showed interest in cultivating and exploring entrepreneurship. Ms. Gabatan, presented the overview, programs, and services of their office, mentioning that OPCDO is always there to support the Cavite MSMEs in promoting their businesses, and building up a network.

Meanwhile, Atty. Khervy B. Reyes delivered an encouraging message, stating that poverty should not be a hindrance for the students to dream. He instilled in their young minds to have a clearer view of their goals and strive harder for it. Thereafter, he expressed his desire for the future leaders of Bailen to be inspired and motivated in

► ENTREPRENEURSHIP • 5

TRB, MPCALA Gathers Toll Road Operators for 2024 GAD Caravan

The Toll Regulatory Board (TRB), in collaboration with MPCALA Holdings Inc., a subsidiary of Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC), convened the various toll road operators and concessionaires for the 8th Tollway Industry's Advocacy Caravan, focusing on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment in celebration of National Women's Month.



This year's event, themed "Lipunang Patas sa Bagong Pilipinas: Kakayahang Kababaihan, Patutunayan!", was hosted by MPCALA which took place at the Bayleaf Hotel Cavite on Friday, March 22, 2024. The gathering brought together 250 employees from various

sectors, including contingents from Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAX), Manila-Cavite Expressway (CAVITEX), North Luzon Expressway (NLEX), and Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEX), along with representatives from toll road companies under the San Miguel Corporation

(SMC) and the Villar Group (MCX); as well as teams from the TRB and government partners Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA), its operating arm PEA Tollway Corporation (PEATC), and Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA).

► TRB, MPCALA • 4



Maraming salamat po sa inyong puso't malasakit, Mr. Shi Wen Lu at Mrs. Wang Qui Yue para sa inyong personal na donasyon na sako-sakong bigas. Makakaasa po kayo na ang mga ito ay makakarating sa ating mga kababayan na nangangailangan. Muli, thank you po sa inyo! #RatedTripleA #PusoAtMalasakitParaSaAtingKawit #MayorAguinaldo



CHESS MATERIALS AT BASEBALL SHOES PARA SA MGA KABATAANG ATLETA NG CARMONA: Atin pong pinangunahan ngayong araw ang pamamahagi ng mga Chess Materials sa mga Kabataang Chess Players ng City of Carmona at mga Baseball Shoes para naman sa baseball athletes ng Lungsod sa ilalim ng Pilipinas Samurai Foundation. Naggawad din po tayo ng financial assistance sa ilan nating mga kabataang manlalaro bilang suporta sa kanilang mga pangangailangan sa kanilang napiling larangan. Palagi pong nakasuporta ang Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Carmona sa pagpapaunlad pa ng sektor ng sports and development sa bansa. #CityOfCarmona #LungsodNgCarmona #LGUCarmona #BayanMunaLagi #DapatAngatLahat

DOST-NCR PROMOTES GENDER EQUALITY IN WOMEN'S MONTH

THE Department of Science and Technology (DOST)-National Capital Region (NCR), the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) and United Nations Women Philippines held a forum "Mind the GAP (Gender and Poverty) at the PICC with the theme "Accelerating the Achievement of Gender Equality and the Empowerment of All Women and Girls."



The forum addressed "poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective."

It aimed to recognize poverty as a human rights issue, strategizing to protect and fulfill the rights of impoverished women, address current and future challenges in promoting general equality and share efforts and best practices in enhancing women's economic participation. The forum is paying tribute to women's month.

DOST Secretary Dr. Renato U. Solidum Jr. in his keynote speech said, "the DOST advances its gender main streaming efforts and called for a deeper understanding of gender differences, access to resources and opportunities ensuring immense contributions to and benefit from and building people's capacities to assess to aid and implement solutions."

Sigrid Jan Sibug, Technical and Policy and Coordination Consultant - PPO at UN Women, Philippines said gender equality is not only a fundamental human right but "it is a transformative force that has enormous economic benefit." "UN women is a UN organization that is dedicated to gender equality and women empowerment. It delivers programs, policies and standards that hold the right of women and make sure that women truly benefit from the economic development from each country that the world is experiencing," Sibug expounded.

DOST Undersecretary for regional operations, Engr. Sancho Mabborang mentioned the government's initiatives in support of women. He cited the challenges of women-led enterprises, such as lack of access to support

services such as finance and skills training, business continuity and scaling up, limited use of digital methods for businesses and multiple burden.

Fabio Pompetti, Consul, First Secretary and Deputy head of Mission of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Belgium, was also one of the resource persons. He talked on "Crossing The Digital Gender Divide." "It's good to see that the Philippines is doing quite well in gender equality," he told the forum attendees. "The Philippine



government is very committed to achieve gender equality."

He said the country is doing better than Belgium because it never had a woman head of state "while the Philippines it had at least two."

Merly Barlaan, a peace and environment advocate, a chief administrative officer of the Women Federation for World Peace International

(WFWPI) in New York City talked about "Harnessing the power of Science, Technology and Innovation to help women move out of poverty."

She currently holds more than 120 chapters of WFWPI. Barlaan recalled her poor childhood life in the province of Bohol close to the famous Chocolate Hills, with very limited access to food, education and other basic needs.

Barlaan remembered a government official said that global problems are conflict, Covid-19 and climate change or the three Cs.

NCR regional director, Engr. Romelen T. Tresvalles delivered the closing remarks for the forum that has yet to be concluded the following day. She was grateful to everyone who contributed to the success of the event.

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A successful medical mission for the locals of General Trias City. On March 21, 2024, the Office of the Provincial Governor in collaboration with the GEAMH medical and dental team, conducted a successful medical mission in Barangay Tapia, Gen. Trias City, Cavite to address the healthcare needs at the grassroots level. Led by 6th District Board Member Kerby Salazar, Punong Barangay Ricky Culanding Deseo, and Sangguniang Kabataan Chairwoman Elleani Marie C. Apostol, alongside Barangay Health Workers (BHW) and staff, the mission provided essential medical and dental services to promote community welfare. A total of 302 patients benefited from the event, including medical check-ups, dental procedures, X-ray examinations, and free eye check-ups. Maintenance medicines, supplements, and mosquito repellent lotion were also distributed, highlighting the government's commitment to accessible healthcare for all Caviteños. (OPIO)

Space lotus leads county in China's Jiangxi to prosperity

In the early spring dawn, the white lotus distribution center in Guangchang county, east China's Jiangxi province, is already bustling with activity, with buyers and sellers bargaining among mounds of white lotus seeds.



A woman collects lotus seedpods in Ganzhu town, Guangchang county, east China's Jiangxi province. (Photo by Zeng Henggui/People's Daily Online)

Guangchang has been cultivating lotus since the Tang Dynasty (618-907) and planting the aquatic plant on a large scale since the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911).

Today, a specialized white lotus market has taken shape here, with thousands of agricultural brokers engaging in the trade and transportation of white lotus seeds and the average daily trading volume of white lotus seeds reaching about 50,000 kilograms. The county has become a distribution and pricing center for white lotus seeds in China.

So far, Guangchang's white lotus has been promoted nationwide with a growing area of 20 million mu (1.33 million hectares). In addition, the county has established a white lotus industrial chain with an annual comprehensive output value of more than three billion yuan (\$416.8 million). Behind the thriving white lotus industry are magic space-bred seeds.

Established in 1984, the Guangchang White Lotus Research Institute strived to cultivate new varieties of lotus seeds. However, no matter how hard researchers tried, the yield per mu of lotus seeds remained at around 50 kilograms.

To break through the bottleneck problem, the institute had to take a different approach. In 1994, Liu Guangliang, the then head of the institute, attended a meeting in Beijing and learned that China was conducting space breeding to mutate genes of seeds in the special mutagenesis environment in space, so as to create new varieties.

That year, researchers

sent 442 lotus seeds selected from over 10 lotus varieties into space by a retrievable satellite. The lotus seeds were subjected to space mutation for 14 days and were then mailed back to the institute. After categorizing and numbering the seeds by variety, staff members sowed each seed in a separate breeding container.

Unexpectedly, over 180 lotus seeds failed to germinate initially. After extensive consultations and research, researchers realized that cosmic rays in space were strong enough to result in the failure of germination of some weak seeds.

To ensure that the remaining lotus seeds would sprout, Liu and team members got to the institute early and stayed late. Lacking temperature-controlled incubators, researchers got up at 5 a.m. to put seed trays in the sun. Several months later, they achieved encouraging results: some varieties showed early ripening, with flowers being more than that of ordinary varieties, which indicated a very high yield potential.

These unique varieties were then propagated several times. After four years of careful breeding, a new variety named "No. 36 space lotus" was created, with longer growth duration, more flowers, larger lotus seedpods, higher ripening rate, and better quality. The per-mu yield of seeds of the new variety exceeded 120 kilograms.

In 1999, Guangchang started the experimental planting of the No. 36 space lotus in over 20 planting bases. At first, farmers who used to grow traditional lotus varieties

were not interested in the new variety. Encouraged by technicians from the institute, Xie Changjun, the then head of Xialan village in Xujiang town, Guangchang, took the lead to plant the space lotus on four mu of land.

When summer arrived, the space lotus grew beyond Xie's expectations, with the average yield of lotus seeds per mu of farmland reaching 130 kilograms that year. This made a splash in the whole town as crowds of people lined up in the fields to purchase Xie's lotus seedlings.

In just a few years, the planting area of the space lotus in Guangchang exceeded 100,000 mu. Since then, the No. 36 space lotus has made its name and has been promoted to production areas of lotus seeds across China.

"A number of lotus varieties bred using the space lotus as the main breeding material have become the top choices for aquatic landscaping in China, driving the development of the country's lotus tourism," said Jie Zhihui, director of the white lotus industry development center in Guangchang.

Jie added that the No. 36 space lotus has been promoted across the country with a growing area of more than 20 million mu, accounting for over 80 percent of the total cultivation area of lotus seeds nationwide.

In Guangchang alone, the annual output of dried white lotus seeds reaches 9000 tons, generating an output value of 800 million yuan. In addition, the county receives 2.7 million tourist visits annually, with its tourism revenue surpassing 700 million



Photo shows lotus fields in Yiqian town, Guangchang county, east China's Jiangxi province. (Photo by Zhu Haipeng/People's Daily Online)

yuan.

Guangchang is now home to several manufacturers of automatic lotus seed processing machinery, over 20 white lotus product processing enterprises, and more than 130 white lotus cooperatives, with the annual comprehensive output value of the white lotus industry exceeding three billion yuan.

To continue expanding production and strengthening brand building, Guangchang has placed importance on attracting talents and

promoting innovation.

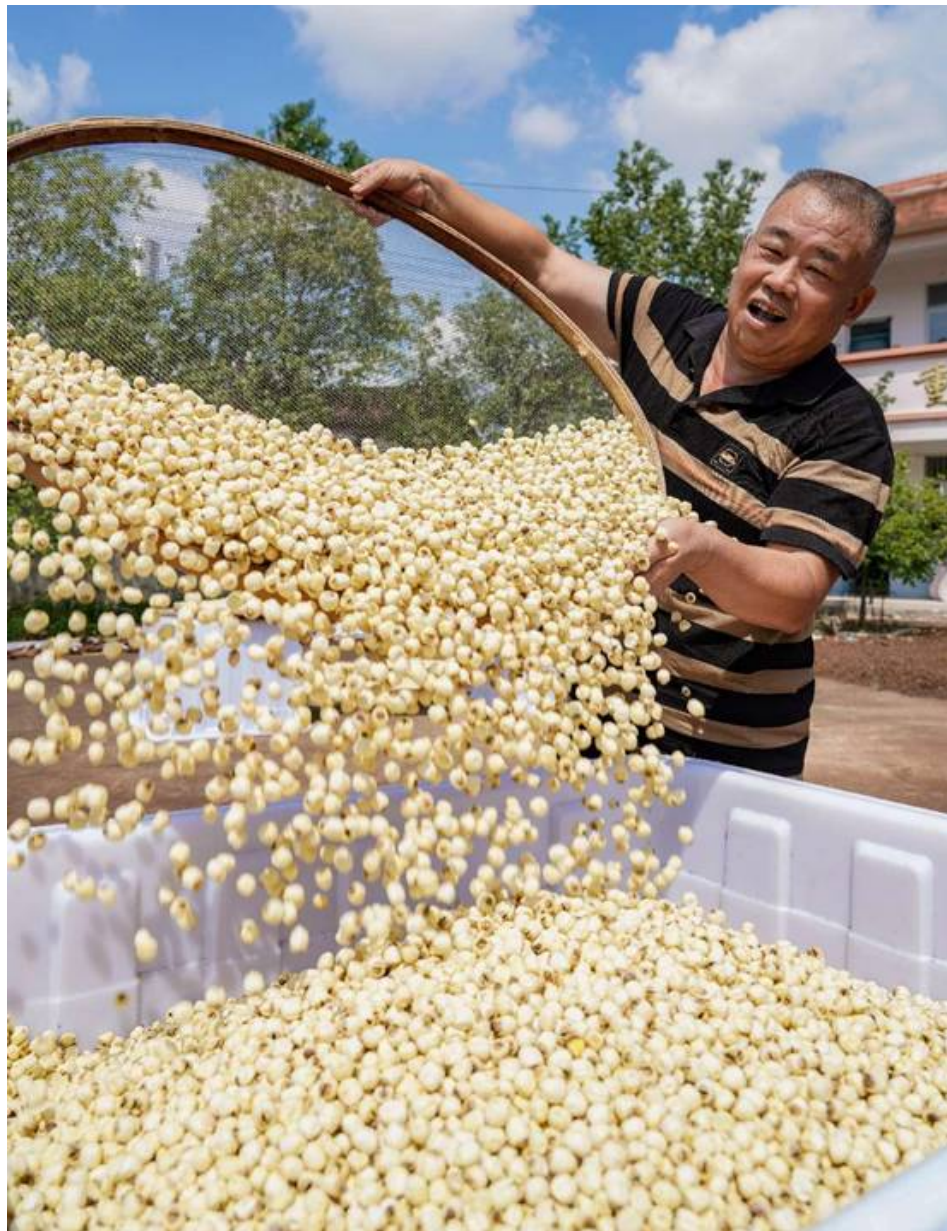
Zheng Xingwen, a genetics PhD student at Wuhan University's College of Life Sciences in central China, is one of the outstanding talents introduced to Guangchang.

"The space lotus means utilizing the special mutagenesis environment in space to mutate genes of lotus seeds and create new varieties after space-bred seeds are brought back to earth. Today, we use gene technology to combine favorable lotus genes, so as to create new varieties," Zheng said.

At the repository for the

preservation of lotus species of a park exhibiting lotus in Guangchang, lotus varieties collected from across China are planted in thousands of large containers.

"We collect germplasm resources nationwide for purification. We have so far collected over 1,000 pieces of germplasm resources to enable genomic selection in molecular breeding. In the future, even better new space lotus varieties may emerge here," Zheng said hopefully. (By Zhu Lei, People's Daily)



A villager collects dried white lotus seeds in Pingshang village, Guangchang county, east China's Jiangxi province. (Photo by Lai Yuejin/People's Daily Online)

CALABARZON Trade Fair

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) organized a groundbreaking event, the CARP CALABARZON Negosyo Agraryo Trade Fair 2024, held on March 21, 2024, at Ayala Malls Serin, Tagaytay City. Under the theme "Hanap-Yaman sa Kanayunan" (Seeking Wealth in the Countryside), the fair aimed to spotlight the potential of rural entrepreneurship in the CALABARZON region.

The event commenced with a warm welcome and words of appreciation from DTI IV-A OIC-Assistant Regional Director, Revelyn A. Cortez setting the tone for an informative and fruitful discussion on rural development. Ferdinand T. Aparri, the Program Manager of the CARP Program Management Office, and Director Jocelyn O. Ramones, CESO IV, from the PARC Secretariat, delivered insightful messages, highlighting the importance of agrarian reform and its impact on local businesses.

One of the highlights of the event was the presentation of certificates to Ayala Malls Serin and exhibitors from various provinces across CALABARZON. This gesture recognized their contributions to promoting rural entrepreneurship and fostering economic growth in the region.

Following the formalities, attendees were invited to partake in the ribbon-cutting ceremony, symbolizing the official opening of the CARP CALABARZON Negosyo Agraryo Trade Fair 2024. The fair showcased a diverse array of products and services from rural entrepreneurs, ranging from agricultural produce to handicrafts, providing a glimpse into the vibrant entrepreneurial landscape of the countryside.

The event concluded with a walk-through of the trade fair, allowing participants to explore the exhibits and engage with local entrepreneurs.

Overall, the CARP CALABARZON Negosyo Agraryo Trade Fair 2024 served as a platform to promote rural prosperity, empower local entrepreneurs, and showcase the rich diversity of products and services originating from the countryside. Through initiatives like these, DTI continues to drive inclusive economic growth and development in the region. **(OPIO)**



TRB, MACALA... (FROM PAGE 1)

The event aimed to highlight and honor outstanding women who have broken barriers and excelled in roles traditionally dominated by men. It recognized and honored the contributions of women in male dominated roles Ms. Rebecca Dimasacat (Security Operations) and Ms. Anna Marie Eroy (Patrolwoman), as well as Ms. Karla Carizza Orozco from (Security Operations) MPT South; Ms. Meldwyn Maik Lacson and Ms. Margarita Miranda (Patrolwomen) from NLEX Corporation; Ms. Reizl Vee Marfil (Patrolwoman) from PEA Tollway Corp (PEATC); Ms. Mary Rose Abragar (Patrolwoman) from Tarlac-Pangasinan-La Union Expressway (TPLEX); Ms. Claire

Gutierrez (Patrolwoman) from Skyway. Additionally, guest speaker Ms. Xaxa Manalo-Gochangco, a pilot of the nation's flag carrier, turned CEO of an aviation training center, shared her insights, and provided inspiration for women navigating male-dominated fields.

"As we celebrate National Women's Month, let us not only acknowledge the achievements of women within our organizations but also those across various industries and sectors. Together, let us continue to champion gender equality, create opportunities for women to thrive, and build a more inclusive and equitable society for all," remarked Mr. Raul L. Ignacio, President and General

Manager of MPCALA Holdings Inc.

"We extend our gratitude to MPCALA Holdings Inc. for graciously hosting the 8th Tollway Industry's Advocacy Caravan this year. The event provided an invaluable opportunity for all participants to share and gain insights into their personal definitions of women empowerment and gender equality. Our hope is that the spirit of this event resonates not only within these walls but also across broader communities as we celebrate National Women's Month," stated Atty. Alvin Carullo, Executive Director of Toll Regulatory Board.

In addition to inspiring speeches from the guest speaker, Ms. Xaxa Manalo-Gochangco, participants from different toll roads showcased their talents in

special entertaining production numbers.

MPCALA also provided the guests with a drive-thru tour of its Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAX), highlighting the company's efforts in technological advancement and environmental sustainability.

The advocacy caravan provided an opportunity for representatives from the TRB, tollway operators, concessionaires, and local government to network and collaborate. It encouraged the formation of partnerships and cooperation to promote initiatives for Gender Equality and Women Empowerment within both the tollway industry and the wider community.

For further information and media concerns, please get in touch with corpcomm@mptsouth.com

EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF BANK DEPOSIT OF THE LATE GERARDO DELFIN IGOT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE PUBLIC THAT This Deed made and executed by and among: 1. DORINA P. IGOT, widow; 2. GLENN P. IGOT, single; and; 3. GRETHIL P. IGOT, single; all of legal ages, all Filipino citizens and all residents of Black 6, Lot 19, Phase 2, Ciudad Nuevo, Brgy. Timalan Balsahan, Naic, Cavite, hereby: DECLARE AND MAKE MANIFEST: 1. THAT, we are the only legitimate heirs being the wife and children of the deceased, **GERARDO DELFIN IGOT**, who died on July 6, 2020 at Santa Rita, Samar (Western Samar); 2. THAT, at the time of his death, the deceased was a resident of Naic, Cavite and died without any obligation to any person or persons and died without any will; 3. THAT, the deceased, GERARDO DELFIN IGOT left a Bank Deposit in Land Bank of the Philippines, Mandaluyong City branch a peso savings account under **Account No. 0556-1425-21** amounting to **One Hundred Fifty Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php 150,500.00)**; 4. THAT WE, hereby divide and adjudicate as we have hereby divided and adjudicated among ourselves the above-described Bank Deposit including all our interests and participation, equally, Pursuant to Sec. 1 Rule 74 of the Revised Rules of Court. This has been the subject of EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF BANK DEPOSIT OF THE LATE GERARDO DELFIN IGOT duly executed on the 7th day of March 2024 at Naic, Cavite by the Heirs before Notary Public **Atty. Jose A. Mendoza**, as per Doc. No. 160, Page No. 33, Book No. XXIII, Series of 2024.

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Ugnayan sa Barangay Program Strengthens Community Bonds Across Cavite



In a series of events aimed at strengthening community ties and fostering open communication between local government officials and residents, Governor Jonvic C. Remulla spearheaded the Ugnayan sa Barangay program across various municipalities in Cavite.

The Ugnayan sa Barangay initiative, held on March 13, 18, 21, and 25, 2024, served as a vital platform for Caviteños to engage with their local officials, express their needs, and build meaningful connections within their communities. Hundreds of residents actively participated in the program, demonstrating their eagerness to contribute to the development and progress of their respective municipalities.

Local officials from each municipality warmly welcomed and supported the Ugnayan sa Barangay activities, underscoring their commitment to inclusive governance and grassroots engagement. Among the esteemed attendees were Vice Governor Athena Bryana Tolentino, 2nd District Board Member Ram Revilla, 7th District Congressman Ping Remulla, 5th District Board Member Aidel Paul Belamide, and the municipal mayors, including Mayor Randy Salamat of Alfonso, Mayor Yuri Pacumio of Tanza, Atty. Kevin Alston Anarna of Silang, and Mayor Francisco Mendoza of Mendez, together with their respective Vice Mayors and council members.

Governor Jonvic C. Remulla extends his gratitude to all participants for their enthusiastic engagement and looks forward to further initiatives that empower communities and promote progress across Cavite. **(OPIO)**

DOST LAUDS REGION 1 DIRECTOR FOR 'IDDU' HONOR ROLE AWARD

THE Department of Science and Technology (DOST) praised and cheered its Region 1 Director, Dr. Teresita A. Tabaog for being recognized as an awardee in the 12th IDDU Honor Role Award for Women.

RD Tabaog's unwavering dedication to Gender and Development (GAD) has earned her the honor from the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) Region 2, showcasing her exemplary leadership and tireless advocacy for equality and progress.

exceptional women who have made significant impacts in their communities. Tabaog has been a steadfast champion for development, empowering women, and breaking barriers throughout her career.

"Your dedication, leadership, and unwavering commitment to Gender and Development and as a GAD Mother to all are truly inspiring and your DOST 1 Family are always proud of you," Tabaog's colleagues said.

Serving as an institutionalized women's awarding body in Cagayan Valley, the IDDU Honor Role Award is a testament to the dedication and contributions of

Her relentless pursuit of gender equality has not only touched the lives of her constituents but has also paved the way for the path to a brighter and more inclusive future.

"Iddu" is an Ibanag term that means "loved" and was used to suggest that the award originated in the Premier Ibanag City of the North, Tuguegarao. It was clarified that the



IDDU Award is not an award where the honor is given based on qualification points nor

conceived as a competition among women sector but a recognition, as

exemplified by the word "role" in its title, of the efforts of the woman-honorees.

Cavinti...

(FROM PAGE 8)

caption. They were given a 30-minute activity to create their own design showing their chosen product/service.

Following the discussion, Ms. Ruzzelle Palentinos of Negosyo Center Cavinti presented the consumer rights and responsibilities to enhance

consumer protection and empower individuals to make informed decisions about the products and services they purchase. By understanding their rights, responsibilities, and options, consumers can confidently navigate the marketplace.

A total of twenty-nine

(29) participants from the municipality of Cavinti actively attended the aforementioned seminar. Also present in the event was Ms. Vina Lorraine Orolfo, Municipal Administrator of Cavinti, who welcomed the participants and shared how digital marketing plays a vital role to MSMEs in Cavinti **(RSPalentinis, DTI-Laguna)**.

2024 Provincial...

(FROM PAGE 8)

A range of crucial topics were discussed during the event, aimed at enhancing women's well-being and safety in various aspects of life. Engr. Adrian R. Barrera from the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) shed light on Cyber Security Awareness, emphasizing the importance of digital safety in today's interconnected world. Dr. Jesus Randy "Bogs" Rivera, a renowned radiation oncologist and Convenor of End Cervical Cancer Philippines delivered insights on Cervical Cancer Awareness, highlighting

preventive measures and early detection strategies. In addition to enlightening discussions, the celebration provided various essential services to attendees. These included Oral Prophylaxis, HPV Vaccination, Family Planning and Antenatal Care services, Nutrition assessment and counseling, as well as informational booths by DICT and Adventist Community Service, offering valuable resources and educational materials.

Speaking about the event, Ms. Anna Lisa Ferrer expressed her

gratitude for the opportunity to come together and address crucial issues affecting women in the community. She stated, "The Provincial Women's Month Celebration serves as a platform for empowerment and advocacy, where women are equipped with knowledge and resources to lead healthier, safer lives."

The success of the 2024 Provincial Women's Month Celebration underscores the commitment of the Provincial Government of Cavite and its partners to promote gender equality, women's empowerment, and overall societal progress. **(OPIO)**

Entrepreneurship...

(FROM PAGE 1)

embarking on their entrepreneurial niche.

Dr. Aldrin Antivola, Organizational Therapist and Business Efficiency Advisor, gave a talk on Entrepreneurial Mindset, tackling the necessity of having entrepreneurial knowledge. He inculcated that to be an entrepreneur requires focus and consistency. Dr.

Antivola also imparted that attending seminars and trainings will help open the minds, explore opportunities and hone potentials of the students. "You must make the choice to take the chance if you want anything to change. Make the right choice", he quoted.

Ms. Yehlen Zaragoza,

GEABIS Entrepreneurship Teacher, then encouraged and challenged the senior high school students to start their businesses and achieve success.

The Cavite Entrepreneurial Students Caravan was kick-started to elevate the knowledge and understanding of young individuals about entrepreneurship, and immerse their minds in taking this journey towards success. **(OPIO)**

PH out to host memorable 2025 men's world volleyball championship

The Philippines hopes to become one of the best volleyball homecourts when it hosts the FIVB Volleyball Men's World Championship next year.

A total of 32 teams will see action in the Sept. 12 to 28, 2025 tournament, one of the Philippine National Volleyball Federation's (PNVF) efforts to bring the sport closer to Filipinos following the successful staging of the Volleyball Nations League for two years.

"We will make them feel at home right at our own home," PNVF president Tats Suzara said during the press conference at Marquis Events Place in Bonifacio Global City, Taguig on Tuesday.

Suzara was joined by Senator and PNVF chair emeritus Alan Peter Cayetano, Department of Tourism Director for Film and Sports Tourism Roberto Alabado III and Cignal TV president and chief executive officer Jane Basas

"I am ready. We are ready. The team is ready. The Philippines is ready to face the challenges and

fulfill a dream as our hearts beat collectively to serve the sport. If you love volleyball, then you will surely love the Philippines," he added.

Cayetano, who will serve as chair of the local organizing committee like what he did in the successful 2019 Southeast Asian Games hosting, eyes another legacy for the country.

"It's how we, as a people, welcome the rest of the world. I believe that our hope in a successful hosting will be by faith and action -- faith in God and action as a community. I believe that it's time for the world volleyball to see how united the Philippine volleyball community is," said Cayetano.

FIVB president Ary Graca is expecting a one-of-a-kind world championship.

"We are confident that the Philippines will host an extraordinary World

Championship that will leave a lasting legacy and help cultivate an even brighter future for our sport globally," Graca said following the announcement of the Philippines as solo host at the FIVB headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland last week.

The Department of Tourism will extend its full support to the hosting of the biggest volleyball event in the world.

"We like to assure and ensure that DOT fully supports this event. We are here to make the experience of spectators, players and visitors during this world championship in the Philippines very unforgettable," Alabado said.

The draw will be held in Manila exactly a year before the first serve on Sept. 12, marking the country's year-long countdown and the start of the national team buildup. (PNA)



WORLD HOSTING. Department of Tourism Director for Film and Sports Tourism Roberto Alabado III, Senator Alan Peter Cayetano, Philippine National Volleyball Federation president Ramon Suzara and Cignal TV president Jane Basas (seated behind the table, from left) hold a press conference for the country's hosting of the 2025 FIVB Men's World Championship at Marquis Events Place in Bonifacio Global City, Taguig on Tuesday (March 26, 2024). Thirty-two teams will join the tournament scheduled Sept. 12 to 28, 2025. (PNVF photo)

Criss Cross' Jude Garcia takes Player of the Week honors

For his efficiency and versatile performance, Jude Garcia of Criss Cross earned the first-ever Spikers' Turf Press Corps Player of the Week for the March 13 to 24 period.



PLAYER OF THE WEEK. Jude Garcia of Criss Cross blocks Kenry Malinis of VNS-Nasty during their match on March 22, 2024. Garcia earned the Spikers' Turf Open Conference Player of the Week for the period of March 13 to 24. (PVL photo)

Garcia, who returned to indoor volleyball after playing for the national beach volleyball team, emerged as the go-to guy for the unbeaten Criss Cross in the ongoing 2024 Spikers' Turf Open Conference.

The three-time Southeast Asian Games bronze medalist averaged 15.0 points, 8.7 receptions, and 5.0 digs in three games for Criss Cross, which is tied with defending champion Cignal on top of the standings.

Last week, he had 12 attacks, five blocks, and one ace, and made eight excellent receptions in the King Crunchers' 25-8, 25-22, 25-11 debut win over the Maverick Hard Hitters.

Garcia delivered 11 points, nine excellent receptions, and six excellent digs in the 25-18, 25-17, 25-17 win over VNS-Nasty on March 22. He finished with 16 points to go with nine receptions and seven digs in their 25-16, 25-10, 25-22 victory

over RichMarc Sports 3B on March 24.

"Siguro nagpe-payoff lang yung binibigay kong 100 percent sa training. Kasi syempre galing ako sa beach volleyball, so kailangan kong ipakita talaga na eto ako. Hindi ako pwedeng mag-relax kasi may kailangan kaming makuha ngayong season (Maybe, the 100 percent I give to training is just paying off. Because, of course, I come from beach volleyball, so I have to really show that this is me. I can't relax because we need to get something this season)," Garcia said.

"May konti pa akong adjustments at marami pa akong kailangan i-polish. Kailangan namin pagtuunan pa rin ng pansin yung mga simple mistakes na nangyayari sa loob ng court (I still have a few adjustments and I still need to polish a lot. We still need to focus on the simple mistakes that are happening inside the court)," he added.

Garcia defeated reigning MVP Jau Umandal (Cignal), Joeven Dela Vega (PGJC-

Navy), and Francis Saura (D'Navigators) for the weekly honor given by scribes from broadsheets, tabloids, and online platforms covering the men's club league, which also airs live at www.spikersturf.ph.

Meanwhile, Garcia said he will use the Holy Week break to assess their performance before facing D'Navigators on April 10, 6 p.m. at the Paco Arena.

"Maximize lang kung ano yung magandang ginagawa namin. Yung maliliit na bagay importante talaga kasi kailangan simple things doon mag-uumpisa yung magandang tinatakbo ng team. Kailangan one game at a time kasi may gusto kaming makuha this conference (Just maximize what we're doing well. The small things are really important because the good showing of the team will start from simple things. We need to focus one game at a time because we want to win this conference)," he said. (PNA)

Teen stuns Fronda to rule National Women's Chess Championship

MANILA – Ruelle Canino of Cagayan de Oro stunned Woman International Master Jan Jodilyn Fronda in 62 moves of an English Opening to rule the Philippine National Women's Chess Championship in Malolos, Bulacan on Sunday night.



CHESS PRODIGY. Ruelle Canino (4th from left), 16, rules the Philippine National Women's Chess Championship in Malolos, Bulacan on Sunday (March 24, 2024). Also in photo are (from left) Malolos City sports director Jose Anthony Villanueva, National Chess Federation of the Philippines president Prospero Pichay Jr., Woman International Master Jan Jodilyn Fronda, Woman Grandmaster Janelle Mae Frayna and NCFP chief executive officer Jayson Gonzales. (Contributed photo)

The 16-year-old prodigy racked up 8.5 points to claim PHP85,000 in cash as "Battle of Women Masters" champion and book a ticket to the Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games in Bangkok, Thailand in November.

Canino is also one of three national players competing in the FIDE

World Chess Olympiad in Budapest, Hungary in September.

The 29-year-old Fronda, the 2019 champion, settled for the runner-up purse of PHP52,000 after finishing with eight points in the tournament organized by the National Chess Federation of the Philippines and supported by the Philippine Sports

Commission and Philippine Olympic Committee.

Top seed Woman Grandmaster Janelle Mae Frayna placed third with seven points after a 59-move triumph over Woman FIDE Master Cherry Ann Mejia in another English encounter. She received PHP40,000. (PNA)

DOST-CALABARZON leads conduct of the iSTART Regional Stakeholder Analysis Consultation-Workshop in CALABARZON

On March 12-13, 2024, DOST-CALABARZON, in partnership with the University of the Philippines Los Baños - Department of Community and Environmental Resource Planning (UPLB-DCERP), spearheaded the Innovation, Science, and Technology for Accelerating Regional Technology-Based Development (iSTART) Stakeholder Analysis Workshop at the Monte Vista Hotsprings and Conference Resort, Calamba, Laguna.



The consultation workshop was attended by about 75 participants from 14 Regional Line Agencies (RLAs), 14 city government units (LGUs), 4 provincial government units, and 7 state universities and colleges (SUCs) in CALABARZON. It aims to assess the current landscape for Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) particularly in the CALABARZON region to better design the succeeding steps and direction of the iSTART program, and to engage various local governments, R&D institutions, NGAs (National Government Agencies), HEIs/SUCs (Higher Education Institutions/State Universities and Colleges), and the private sector.

Among the participants were Ms. Emelita P. Bagsit, Regional Director of DOST-CALABARZON; Engr.

Francisco R. Barquilla III, Assistant Regional Director of DOST-CALABARZON; Engr. Amelia S. Dean, Regional Director of the Department Of Information And Communications Technology (DICT); Ms. Revelyn A. Cortez, OIC-Assistant Regional Director of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), and Dr. Leny V. Salmingo, Director of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) Sta. Rosa.

The activity was divided into four (4) main workshops facilitated by experts from the UPLB-DCERP namely, Ms. Almira Geles L. de Mesa, EnP on "Exploring Notions of STI"; Ms. Grace Anne C. Buno on summarizing the "Leveling Off with STI Stakeholders"; Dr. Edgar M. Reyes, Jr., EnP and Mr. Janssen Andrew Calvelo on "Needs Identification and Assessment"; and Dr.

Ma. Catriona E. Devanadera on "STI Innovation and Network Mapping".

Inputs from the workshop will be used for the crafting of the Regional Communication Plan for the iSTART Program. The Regional Communication Plan will serve as the framework in communicating the key strategies of the iSTART program to its stakeholders. It will also serve as the basis for the conduct of local and national promotional activities and campaigns through the use of various communication media and in spearheading STI collaboration projects.

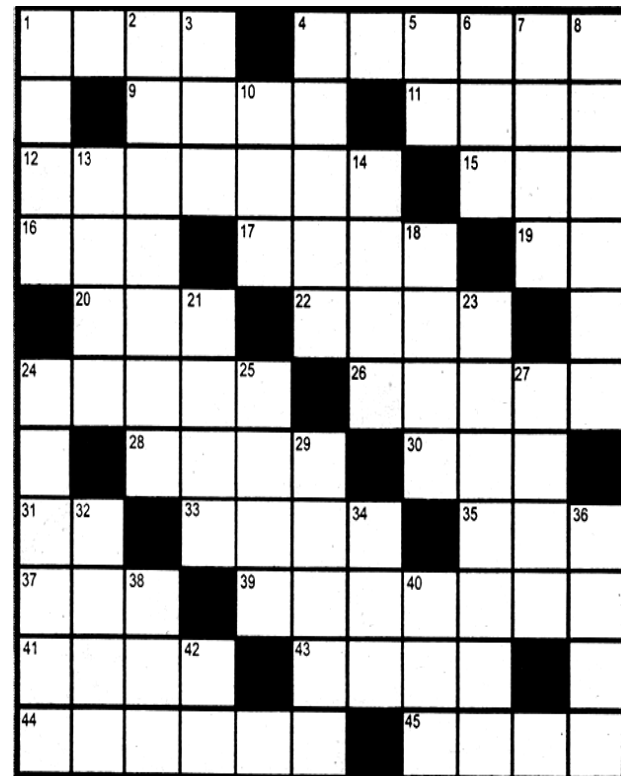
DOST's iSTART Program is designed to enhance the local development plans by introducing science-based tools and analyses. This would result in an STI Plan, supporting and

supplementing the existing plans of the LGU by enhancing decision-making and the implementation of its Programs, Projects, and Activities (PPAs), integrating a STI-based perspective in the LGU's Local Development Planning. Consequently, DOST's Smart and Sustainable Communities (SSC) Program shall serve as the execution arm in implementing the STI Plan.

Currently, DOST-CALABARZON has identified the City of Carmona, Cavite and Santa Rosa City, Laguna as the initial iSTART pilot sites in the CALABARZON region where a series of iSTART workshops had been conducted from September of last year up to date. Representatives from the said sites were also present in the activity.

(By Halyn Lunel Gamboa)

PALAI SIPAN



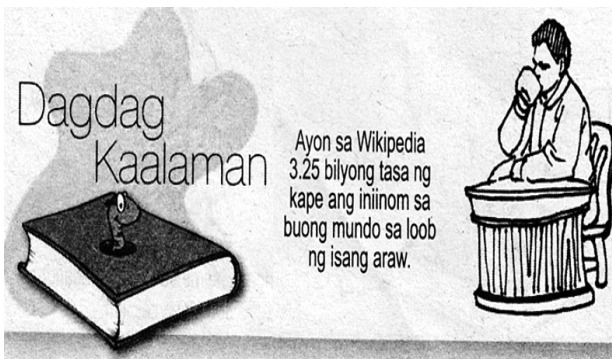
PAHALANG

- 1 Datihang mamimili
- 4 Patas
- 9 Kostumbre
- 11 Palapa ng saging
- 12 Kanti
- 15 Portes ng pelikula
- 16 __ Engkantada
- 17 Gunggong
- 19 Positibong tugon
- 20 Mr. Taulava
- 22 Bagot
- 24 Liwasan
- 26 Malubha
- 28 Katas ng niyog
- 30 Ilaw ng tahanan
- 31 Simbolo ng radium
- 33 Waglit
- 35 Hamak
- 37 Mr. Muhlach
- 39 Kusot
- 41 Pagkalabit sa gitara
- 43 Estado sa USA
- 44 Sawayin
- 45 Kibo be

PABABA

- 1 Sugpungan ng braso
- 2 Pananggalang
- 3 Uno
- 4 Taba ng alimango
- 5 Simbolo ng arsenic
- 6 Unlapi
- 7 Estado sa USA
- 8 Biblikal na mananayaw
- 10 _ Dhabi
- 13 Mensahe ng kuwento
- 14 Padulas na pera
- 18 Hitad
- 21 Bituka
- 23 Interbyu
- 24 Tulisang-dagat
- 25 Lamanloob
- 27 Panaog
- 29 Delon ng pelikula
- 32 Dumi sa kisame
- 34 Panginoon
- 36 Huramentado
- 38 Barkilyos
- 40 Pagbalik sa bahay
- 42 Pangatnig

SAGOT SA NAKARAAN



Cavinti MSMEs Transition to Digital Platforms via DTI-Laguna's SME Roving Academy

Cavinti, Laguna — Through the SME Roving Academy of the Department of Trade and Industry, Laguna Negosyo Center Cavinti in collaboration with the Local Government of Cavinti successfully conducted a seminar with the title "Go Digital: Essential Digital Marketing Tips for MSMEs feat. Facebook Page and Canva cum Consumer Education for Cavinti MSMEs" which was held last March 19, 2024, at the Municipal Hall of Cavinti, Laguna.



Aiming to equip micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) with the knowledge and tools necessary to succeed in today's digital world, the event focused on two key components: leveraging Facebook Pages for business growth and harnessing the power of Canva for visual storytelling in digital marketing.

Junior Business Counselor Ms. Rica Mae Ceria of Negosyo Center Luisiana conducted a comprehensive session on creating and optimizing

Facebook Pages for business purposes. Participants learned how to set up a professional-looking page, customize it to reflect their brand identity, and utilize its features effectively to engage with their target audience. Moreover, participants discover how to utilize Canva, a user-friendly design platform, to create stunning visuals and graphics for their digital marketing campaigns. For MSMEs with limited resources and design expertise, Canva levels the playing field by offering

pre-designed templates made for various purposes.

Throughout the seminar, interactive sessions encouraged participants to share their experiences, ask questions, and seek advice from the speaker. Also, participants were able to conduct group activity on promoting their team's chosen brand by creating a Facebook post with visually appealing photo made from Canva Application and with interesting and informative

► CAVINTI • 5

PGC joins in the conduct of NSED

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



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

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

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

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2024 Provincial Women's Month Celebration Empowers Women with Vital Information and Services



The General Trias Convention Center played host to the 2024 Provincial Women's Month Celebration, an event dedicated to honoring the invaluable contributions of women in society and empowering them with essential knowledge and services. Organized by the Provincial Government of Cavite through the Office of the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer, the event saw nearly 200 participants including Gender and Development (GAD) Focal from the Provincial Government of Cavite and Local Government Units, City/Municipal Health Officers, Women with Disabilities, Solo Parents and representatives from Local Council of Women.

The event commenced with opening remarks delivered by Mr. Alvin S. Mojica, Provincial Administrator for Community Affairs, who highlighted the significance of celebrating women's achievements and addressing the challenges they face. Inspirational messages were also shared by distinguished guests including Ms. Anna Lisa Ferrer, President of the Local Council for Women; Ms. Carolina Beltran, Representative of the City Mayor of General Trias; and BM Romel R. Enriquez, Chairman of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan Committee on Women, Family, Children, Elderly, and Social Services.

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REFLECTORIZED VEST FOR PNP KAWIT AND KTMG: Katuwang natin sa pag-iingat sa mga Kawiteño ang PNP Kawit PNP at KTMG kaya naman mahalaga na maingatan din natin sila. Para sa karagdagan nilang kaligtasan sa tungkulin, naglaan ng reflectorized vest ang ating tanggapan para sa mga personnel ng KTMG at PNP Kawit at ngayon nga ay gamit na ng ating mga kapulisan ang kanilang vest. Muli, maraming salamat, PNP Kawit at KTMG para sa pagpapanatili ninyong ligtas sa ating mga kababayang motorista! #AksyongAngeloAguinaldo #RatedTripleA #PusoAtMalasakitParaSaAtingKawit #Kawit Pulis