

New Cavite ecozone seen luring P1.8B in investments

The newly-proclaimed economic zone in Cavite is expected to attract more than P1.8 billion in new investments and create nearly 200 new jobs during its construction, the Philippine Economic

Zone Authority said last week.

The investment promotion agency said that the prospective value of investments is P1.838 billion for the 40.4-hectare MetroCas Industrial Estates Special Economic

Zone, which will rise in Barangay Calibuyo in Tanza, Cavite.

Peza added that the prospective job generation for the economic zone is 180 positions during construction.

The MetroCas ecozone

is one of the two new special economic zones that were declared through Proclamation No. 512, which Executive Secretary Lucas Bersamin signed last April 1.

The other is the Arcovia City in Barangay Ugong,

Pasig, a 12.4-hectare information technology park of tycoon Andrew Tan's Megaworld Corp.

According to Peza, an investment of P50 million is expected on the fit out of the project, while about 170 to 240 direct jobs are

anticipated to be created. **420 ecozones**

To date, there are over 420 economic zones operating in the Philippines, the majority of which are located in Luzon.

► **NEW CAVITE • 4**

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Cavite Career Caravan at Robinsons Place, City of Imus

The Cavite Career Caravan, held on April 5, 2024, at Robinson Place in the City of Imus, exemplified a joint endeavor led by the Office of the Provincial Public Employment Service Manager (OPPEM), headed by Ms. Rizalie P. Enero, in conjunction with the Provincial Sangguniang Kabataan Federation, under the leadership of Hon. Chelsea Jillian Sarno, and the local government of the City of Imus.

The event saw the esteemed presence of Vice Mayor Homer "Saki" T. Saquilayan, alongside City Councilors Lloren Dionella "Yen" G. Saquilayan, Jojie Lyn L. Maliksi, Darwin Marti M.



Remulla, Sherwin L. Comia, and SK Federation President Glian Ilagan, highlighting a collective dedication to supporting job seekers in Cavite.

The primary objective of this collaboration was to offer comprehensive assistance and opportunities to job seekers through career coaching. Participants were provided with the chance to engage with a diverse array of employers and government agencies, allowing them to gain valuable insights into different career fields and explore potential employment prospects.

Significant engagement was observed, with a total of 41 local companies and 2 overseas companies presenting job

► **CAVITE CAREER • 4**

New mega health center seen to decongest hospitals in Cavite



CAVITE CITY (PIA) – A new 100-bed 3-storey mega health center in Cavite that will cater to the needs of a growing population in Cavite's 1st district aims to ease overcrowding in hospitals.

The Cavite City Medicare Mega Health Center, located in Barangay 28, Sea Breeze, Cavite City will provide free, accessible, and quality public health care services to Caviteños through its medical surgical, outpatient, diagnostic, birthing, emergency, and pharmacy services.

Health Secretary Dr. Teodoro Herbosa together with DOH ► **NEW MEGA • 4**



Mainit nating binabati ang mga nagwagi sa ating Reyna Ng Tahanan 2024! Muli nating nakapiling sina 2nd Runner-up Ms. Arjoei Javier, 1st Runner-up Ms. Carol Dumana, at Reyna ng Tahanan 2024 Ms. Anna Loraine Delos Reyes! Sana ay patuloy kayong maging inspirasyon sa inyong kapwa kababaihan at manguna sa pag-aangat ng pagkakapantay-pantay!
 #AlagangAngeloAguinaldo #RatedTripleA
 #PusoAtMalasakitParaSaAtingKawit #ReynaNgTahanan2024
 #MayorAguinaldo

DOST, LGU Mambajao upskill Incident Management Team

To enhance resilience, the Department of Science and Technology, in collaboration with the Local Government Unit of Mambajao, conducts Basic Incident Command System at the new Operation Center building in Lakas, Mambajao. The training was participated in by 40 members of the Incident Management Team of the MDRRMO.

The technical experts from the Office of the Civil Defense, Provincial Government of Lanao Del Norte and Bukidnon, and Local Government Unit of Tagoloan shared their expertise for the Basic Incident Command System Training. The event was participated by various representatives from LGU Mambajao, Philippine National Police, Bureau of Fire Protection, Philippine Coast Guard, DOST, and DPWH.

The three-day workshop conducted on February 7-9, 2024 was composed of a series of lectures, brainstorming, and simulations that explained to the attendees the basics, the organization, and the facilities of the ICS.

In her opening message, Ms. Raquel Ranara of MDRRMO - Mambajao, emphasized the importance of preparedness before a disaster occurs. "It is always better to be prepared in any event or case of any incident," she said.

The activity focused on training participants in handling unforeseen events, applying the management by objectives principle, and mastering essential resource management within an Incident Command System (ICS). Additionally, it aimed to enhance participants'

comprehension of considerations in incident and event planning, emphasizing the significance of transfer of command, demobilization, and close-out processes.

"An Incident Action Plan is very important in the execution of the rescue operations", said Mr. Patrick Callanta, speaker from the Office of the Civil Defense.

This event highlighted the commitment of the government to achieve disaster resilience by incorporating Incident Command Systems in the effective management of potential and actual disaster consequences in the Municipality of Mambajao.

DOST and LGU Mambajao has also recently conducted the Incident Command System (ICS) Executive Course also as part of the implementation of the MOCCOV project.

Upcoming training includes Emergency Operations Center Training, Integrated Planning on Incident Command System Training, Incident Command System Position Course, and All-Hazards Incident Management Team Training. **(Engr. George Pio G. Aclan/ DOST 10) #ScienceForThePeople #OneDOST4U**



Quantum Geographic Information System (QGIS) Tutorial and IEC Campaign Equips Communities in Cavite with Essential Disaster Preparedness Knowledge



In an effort to enhance disaster preparedness and resilience in the communities of Cavite, a comprehensive Quantum Geographic Information System (QGIS) Tutorial and Information Education and Communication (IEC) Campaign was conducted on April 2-4, 2024. Organized by the local government units in partnership with various agencies and experts, the event aimed to equip selected personnel and students with essential knowledge on hydrometeorological hazards and flood mitigation measures.

The first leg of the event, held on April 2-3, featured a QGIS Tutorial attended by personnel from the City Government of General Trias, particularly from the offices of City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management, Planning and Development Coordinator, and Engineering. The Barangay Officials of Bacao I and II and Barangay Navarro had the opportunity to learn the structural and non-structural measures of flood mitigation presented by Mr. Koji Kusaka and Ms. Emelita "Mimi" Estaris from Cavite Industrial Area – Flood Risk Management Project (CIS-FRIMP), respectively. Held at the Audio-Visual Room, General Trias Sports Park in Barangay San

Tiago, City of General Trias, the session also featured enlightening presentations on Understanding Weather Systems and Warning Information by Ms. Vivian Gay Agassid, and Understanding Floods and the PAGASA Flood Warning System by Ms. Rosalie Pagulayan, both Weather Specialists from the Department of Science and Technology - Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (DOST-PAGASA). On April 4, 2024, an IEC Campaign was conducted for selected students of Noveleta Elementary School in Barangay San Rafael, Noveleta, Cavite. These young learners were provided firsthand insights into floods, tropical cyclones, rainfall, storm

surges, and other hydrometeorological hazards by experts from DOST-PAGASA. Furthermore, members of the CIA-FRIMP, Mr. Shuji Kaku and Ms. Mimi Estaris, offered valuable perspectives on flood mitigation measures, particularly emphasizing the implementation of non-structural measures (NSM) in Cavite. This educational session was crafted to harmonize understanding across communities and enlighten the younger generation on effective disaster preparedness measures. Key agencies involved in the event included DOST-PAGASA, Department of Public Works and Highways Unified Project Management Office – Flood Control Management Cluster (DPWH UPMO-FCMC), Department of

Education – District of Noveleta, and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Their collaborative efforts with the local government units, Local Disaster Risk Reduction Management Officers (LDRRMOs), and City/Municipal Planning and Development Coordinators played a pivotal role in the success of the initiative. The QGIS Tutorial and IEC Campaign exemplify the commitment of stakeholders to build resilient communities and enhance disaster preparedness in Cavite. By equipping participants with essential knowledge and practical measures, the event contributes to safeguarding lives and properties against the impact of natural disasters.

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SM PRIME EMBARKS ON A UNIFIED WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR AN #SMWasteFreeFuture

MANILA – SM Prime Holdings, Inc. (SM Prime), one of the leading integrated property developers in Southeast Asia, is embarking on a unified waste management and segregation campaign in response to the growing global crises on waste. SM Prime aims to bring all its property groups and stakeholders toward an #SMWasteFreeFuture.

According to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), humanity generates more than 2 billion tons of municipal solid waste annually, of which 45 percent is mismanaged. Without urgent action, municipal solid waste will double to almost 4 billion tons each year by 2050. On December 14, 2022, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed March 30 as the International Day of Zero Waste.

The following year, UNEP inaugurated the First International Day of Zero Waste, to bolster actions to address the global pollution crisis. It aims to encourage global action and bring the world's attention to zero waste.

Strong foundations
SM Prime's founding leader, Henry Sy, believed that "business growth and social development must go hand in hand." The company follows this guiding principle and has formed a sustainability policy that commits to the following: Resource Conservation and Efficiency, Disaster Resilience, Climate Advocacy, Social Integration, and Transparent Reporting.

Anchored on these sustainability commitments are the SM Supermalls' Environmental Programs on Waste Management. Through its corporate social responsibility arm, SM Cares, SM Supermalls has pioneered longstanding programs such as the Trash to Cash recycling market, and provided support to the annual International Coastal Clean Up, among other national events.

In the hotel and tourism sector, SM Hotels and Conventions Corporation (SMHCC) has taken the lead in mitigating global food waste by implementing sustainable initiatives across its properties in the Philippines.

Their key initiatives include the World Wide Fund for Nature's Sustainable Diner Program, that aims to transform and help the food service sector

minimize its impact on the environment thru resource efficiency, plastic refusal and food waste management and contribute to the world's future food security.

To support these programs, SM Prime also recently unveiled its waste-to-fuel partnership with GUUN Co. Ltd. (GUNN) to implement the Japanese technique of reducing landfill impact. The technology converts non-recyclable and hard-to-recycle packaging into alternative fuel.

A Vision for an #SMWasteFreeFuture

To mark the International Day of Zero Waste on March 30, 2024, SM Prime is releasing its vision for an #SMWasteFreeFuture. "As a community, we strongly believe in our ability to contribute to solving today's waste issues," said Hans "Chico" Sy, Jr., President of SM Engineering Design and Development Corporation (SMEDD) and SM sustainability champion.

SM Prime's announcement of its vision of an #SMWasteFreeFuture demonstrates the company's strong commitment and sustainability stewardship, by inviting its stakeholders to engage in activities that will help spread zero-waste awareness and work for a sustainable and environmentally responsible approach on waste management.

"We understand that this may seem like a daunting challenge to overcome. However, by joining forces, we can create a world that our future generations truly deserve – if we have the courage to take on this journey together," said Sy.

SM Prime remains committed to its role as a catalyst for economic growth, delivering innovative and sustainable lifestyle cities, thereby enriching the quality of life of millions of people. SM Prime is pursuing the next horizon on integrated property development and onward to building sustainable cities of the future.



The largest haul and biggest participation to-date: The 38th International Coastal Clean-up had 17,000 volunteers across 15 SM Malls in 12 locations nationwide. It is an annual community-driven partnership between SM Supermalls, SM Cares, the DENR, LGU's and the volunteers from the SM community.



Scaled to perfection: One of the first recycling markets the country, Trash-to-Cash's valuable example that waste can have monetary benefits. The recycling market is held every first Friday and Saturday of the month in all SM Supermalls to encourage waste segregation and recycling among SM customers, tenants, and the community. The recycling market is open from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.



Closing the loop: SMHCC's sustainability efforts are anchored on the 7Gs or Seven Green Goals, based on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG). The overall thrust for sustainability is cascaded to the rest of properties, ensuring that it is embedded at every step of the hotel's operations, ensured by property Sustainability Champions.

PH won't see solar eclipse on April 8

The total solar eclipse expected on April 8 (Monday) will not be visible in the Philippines, the state weather bureau said.

This year's path of totality is about 115 miles wide. It begins in western Mexico, arches up through the US cities of Dallas, Indianapolis, and Buffalo, before ending in eastern Canada.

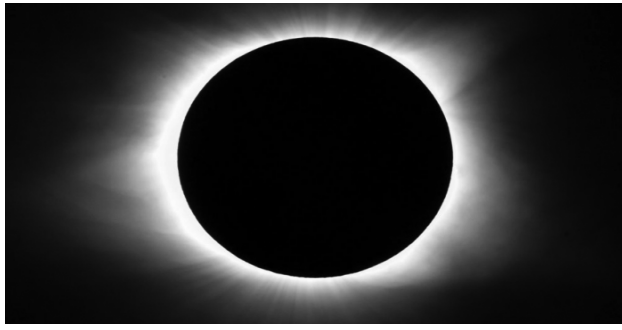
Astronomer Nico Mendoza of the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration said solar eclipses occur roughly four times a year.

During the April 8 solar eclipse, however, it would be nighttime in the Philippines.

"Because the moon is on the western side, essentially, that's where the solar eclipse can only be seen," Mendoza said.

The next total solar eclipse in the Philippines is set to happen on April 20, 2042, and it will be visible from Legazpi City, PAGASA said.

The state weather bureau also dismissed speculations of a three-day darkness as false and lacking scientific evidence.



"This is a hoax... There is no scientific evidence to support its existence, and its origins are unclear... There is no scientific proof to support this theory," PAGASA said.

Almost all the United States will get to experience a partial eclipse on April 8.

Several airlines have advertised flights scheduled to pass under the eclipse, while Delta has even planned two special trips along the path of totality, the first of which sold out in 24 hours, the company said.

NASA, however, warned

that only in the path of totality – and only during the few minutes of the actual totality – is it safe to look at the eclipse without eye protection.

NASA recently highlighted several studies being planned for the eclipse, from effects on Earth's atmosphere and animal behavior to even human psychology.

"Eclipses have a special power," NASA Administrator Bill Nelson said recently.

"They move people to feel a kind of reverence for the beauty of our universe." *With AFP*

SAMA-SUMMER FUN ON SM MALLS ONLINE: SM CITY BACOR, CAVITE - Glet's have SAMA-SUMMER fun! Revive your mind, body, and soul in the sunshine and shop your essentials via the #SMallsOnline app. Click here for sizzling hot deals: <https://click.smmalls.com/DFqS/SMOSamaSummer> From summer travel finds to hot weather cravings, find them all here...and enjoy SAME DAY FREE DELIVERY. Just redeem the code SAMEDAYFREE at checkout.

Cavite Career... (FROM PAGE 1)

opportunities, thereby extending recruitment possibilities to attendees. The event, which attracted 244 applicants, with 17 individuals securing immediate employment, underscored its importance in addressing the employment needs within the region.

Furthermore,

representatives from national government agencies, including SSS, Pag-ibig, Philhealth, TESDA, PSA, BIR and NBI, were in attendance, providing essential information and assistance regarding government programs and services relevant to employment and social welfare.

The success of the Cavite Career Caravan was credited to the steadfast support and collaboration of all participating companies and government agencies. The Provincial Government of Cavite conveyed its sincere appreciation to all contributors for their commitment to empowering job seekers and nurturing economic growth and prosperity in Cavite.

New Cavite... (FROM PAGE 1)

During the first quarter of this year, Peza has approved P14.95 billion worth of new investments spanning 50 new and

expansion projects inside these economic hubs. Peza's first quarter portfolio is 19.25 percent higher compared with the P12.54

worth of projects approved in the same period in 2023.

The investment promotion agency is aiming to reach P250 billion in approved investments for 2024. **(Inquirer)**

New Mega... (FROM PAGE 1)

Assistant Secretary Dr. Ariel Valencia, led the turnover ceremony, which was graced by Cavite City 1st District Rep. Ramon Jolo B. Revilla III, Cavite City mayor Denver Reyes-Chua, Cavite board member Ram Revilla-Bautista, and other city officials.

Cavite's 1st district is composed of Cavite City and the towns of Noveleta, Kawit, and Rosario.

Sec. Herbosa assured the public that the DOH will continue its commitment to improving the quality of health services in the country, and will support the efforts of local government units and its leaders to alleviate poverty through the 8-point action agenda of the department.

"The establishment of mega health centers like this is a way for us to finally achieve and strengthen universal health care. [We believe] that every life is valuable in Bagong Pilipinas," Herbosa said in his keynote message.

Herbosa also pledged to work on the immediate provision of additional health equipment to ensure the efficiency of the new facility.

Meanwhile, Revilla said that the health facility is a priority project of him and his father, Senator Ramon Bong Revilla Jr., and has committed to the continuous development of the health center.

"The opening to the

public of this Mega Health Center fulfills our promise during the campaign period to establish a new public hospital in our district that will enhance the quality of public service and address the medical needs of our fellow citizens. What used to be just a dream for us is now a reality. We will further improve and enhance the services of this facility for every Caviteño," he stated. Chua expressed gratitude to the DOH and the Revillas for their commitment to making the project a reality, which he expects will provide further urgent care to his constituents and fellow Caviteños.

The mega health center is expected to be fully operational this April. **(RF/PIA-Cavite)**

10% OFF EVERY FIRST TUESDAY! CELEBRATE KABAYAN DAY AT SM MALLS WITH BDO REMIT

Great news for Filipino families with overseas workers! BDO Remit, the trusted remittance service of BDO Unibank, partners with SM to launch "Kabayan Day," an exclusive year-round treat happening every first Tuesday of the month.

Kabayan Day is more than just discounts. It's a way to say thank you to our hardworking Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) and their families.

Enjoy up to 10% off at participating SM affiliates nationwide, including: SM Store, SM Appliance, SM Cinema, SM Skating, SM Bowling, SM Game Park, Sports Central, Toy Kingdom, Baby Company,

Watsons, Miniso, Surplus, and Ace Hardware.

This initiative reflects the commitment of both BDO Remit and SM to empower and honor Filipinos.

It goes beyond remittance services, creating a dedicated day to show appreciation for the sacrifices and contributions of OFWs.

Ready to celebrate

Kabayan Day? Visit your nearest SM branch on the first Tuesday of the month and don't forget to bring your BDO Kabayan Savings ATM card, Passbook, or a validated remittance payment slip to avail the discounts.

For more details, you can visit <http://www.bdo.com.ph> or follow the BDO Kabayan Facebook page.

Cheers to our modern heroes! The BDO Kabayan Day gives back with exclusive discounts at SM.

BUWAN NG PANITIKAN 2024

Isang mapagpalayang umaga sa lahat ngayong pagbubukas ng Buwan ng Panitikan sa Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino!



MENSAHE

Benjamin M. Mendillo, Jr.
Fulltime Commissioner
Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino

Mahigpit na nakatali ang Abril bilang espesyal na buwan sa Komisyon dahil sa dalawang kadahilanan: Una, dahil sa proklamasyon bilang 964 na nilagdaan noong 1997 na nag-aatas sa KWF na pangunahan ang paggunita sa Araw ni Balagtas tuwing ika-dalawa ng Abril ng bawat taon; at ang Proklamasyon blg 968 na nilagdaan noong 2015 na nagtatalaga sa buwan ng Abril bilang Buwan ng Panitikan.

Nais kong bigyang diin ang mga simbolismong makikita sa pagdiriwang natin ng BnP--ang kalapati na may dahon sa kaniyang tuka na kumakampay ang mga pakpak sa hangin.

Sa teolohikal na pagpapakahulugan nito masasabing ito ay hango sa kuwento ng pag-asa mula sa Henesis, 8:6-12 sa Arko ni Noah. Doon inilarawan ang sanga ng puno ng Oliba na sumisimbolo ng pag-asa sa gitna ng matinding baha noong panahon ni Noah sa Bibliya. Ang katotohanan nito ay maraming beses sa bibliya nabanggit ang kalapati: Mateo 3:13, Markos 1:9, Lukas 1:9 at sa Juan 1:32. Sa sining at ikonograpiya, banal ang turing sa kalapati at ganito ang inampong kamalayan ng mga sinaunang kultura at mga sistema ng paniniwala sa buong mundo tungkol sa

simbolismo ng kalapati. Kaya sa Gresya partikular sa mito nito, ang emblem ni Athena ay isang kalapati. Gayundin sa Islam, ginagalang nila ang kalapati sapagkat ito ay naging instrumental sa paglalakabay ng mga propetang Islam sa kuweba ng Thaw'r sa Hijra. Isa ring paniniwala na ang kalapati ay simbolo ng kababaihan. Sapagkat nasasaad din na ang salitang Espiritu sa Hebreo ay "ruach" na isang feminine na salita sa Hebreo. Gayundin sa akdang pampanitikan sa ancient Babylonian na Epiko ni Gilgamesh na ang bayaning si Utnapishtim ay nagpalipad ng kalapati upang maghanap ng tuyong dahon o sanga upang matulungan silang makapaglayag at magkaroon ng pag-asa ng makadaong sa kanilang patutungan na isang simbolong kinikilala bilang signos na dala ng Diyos. Kaya ang kalapating may tangang sanga ng Oliba sa ay sumisimbolo ng pag-asa--ngayon, saan naman papasok ang kapayapaan? Sa teolohikal na pamamatnubay sinasabi sa concordance na ang pagkakaroon ng pag-asa ay naghahatid ng kapayapaan at ito ay vice versa. Na ang kalapati ay ang Diyos at ang sangang tangan nito ay ang kapatawaran, deliverance, sa mga pagkakasala ng

tao sa mundo. May kasabihan na ang pinakamayamang tao ay yaong hindi maraming pera at ari-arian, hindi yaong maraming kaibigan, hindi yaong maraming medalya at mayroong kapangyarihan na anumang utos ay hindi mapasusubalian, kundi yaong mayroong kapayapaan sa puso.

Ang mga simbolong ito ay produkto ng malalalim na kuwento at katha. Ang panitikan ay instrumento tulad sa simbolo ng kalapati at ng sanga ng Oliba. Ang pagkatha ay pagpapalaya ng kamalayan sa pinakamatayog na layon nitong makalilok ng mga panitikang hitik ng pag-asa na magbubungsod ng kapayapaan sa mambabasa lalo sa ating mga kabataang dumaranas ng depresyon, psychological disorder, anxiety, discrimination, bullying, harassment, violence, at kawalang pag-asa na maaari niyang paghugutan ng lakas at pag-asa sa tulong ng panitikan.

Kaya, sa diwa ng pagdiriwang ng Buwan ng Panitikan ngayong buwan ng Abril na may temang: "Ang Panitikan at Kapayapaan" ay ating tandaan na ang pagtangkilik sa panitikan ay pagkilala na rin sa kapayapaan.

Dios ti agngina kadakayo amin!

DOST chief underscores the importance of IP in addressing the country's pressing concerns

At the onset of the celebration of the National Intellectual Property (IP) Month, Secretary Renato U. Solidum Jr. of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) emphasized how IP serves as a catalyst for innovative and creative solutions essential for shaping a brighter future.



"As we celebrate National IP Month, let us remember that Intellectual Property is not solely about protecting ideas; it's about leveraging them to address global challenges. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals provide a roadmap for creating a better world, and IP is a key tool in achieving those goals," said Sec. Solidum during the DOST's Virtual Flag Raising Ceremony on Monday, April 01, 2024.

In his five-minute message to DOST employees, Sec. Solidum encouraged fellow public servants to reflect on the role of the DOST as they are constantly at the forefront of providing solutions and opening

opportunities to the Filipino people through science, technology, and innovation.

Sec. Solidum stated that guided by the four pillars, namely: promotion of Human Well-being, Wealth Creation, Wealth Protection, and Sustainability, the DOST continually strives to champion initiatives that embody these principles.

"Our commitment to technology transfer and commercialization ensures that innovations reach those who need them most, driving progress and prosperity across the nation," said Sec. Solidum.

Additionally, Sec. Solidum shared the launch of the Mini Science Centrum and project visits in Quezon Province this

week that reflects on of the department's thrust of using science, technology, and innovation for inclusive development.

"These events highlight our partnership with local government units, educational institutions, and communities, emphasizing our shared goal of promoting accessible education and scientific understanding. It serves as a reminder of the practical impact of our work and underscores the importance of community development," concluded Sec. Solidum. **(With information from Karen Vivien Conducto, DOST-Osec) By Allan Mauro V. Marfal, DOST-STII**






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D'Navigators winger Saura named Player of the Week

Winger Francis Saura earned the Spikers' Turf Press Corps Player of the Week award for leading the D'Navigators Iloilo to its fourth straight win in the Open Conference of the country's premier men's volleyball league organized by Sports Vision.

The 6-foot-5 Saura delivered 10 spikes and five blocks in their 25-16, 25-18, 25-17 win over the Maverick Hard Hitters on Wednesday.

Two days later, he scored 12 points as the D'Navigators survived the VNS Nasty Griffins, 25-20, 25-23, 26-24.

"Natural lang 'yun sa athlete na if ever na-bench ka, nakaka-down 'yun somewhat. Nakaka-down kahit hindi mo naman sabihin. Tinake ko lang 'tong opportunity na 'to, noong na first six ako, na ibigay ko talaga best ko (It's only natural for an athlete that if you're benched, it brings you down somewhat. You feel down even if you don't say it. I just took this

opportunity, when I was in the first six, that I will really give my best) no matter what," Saura, a former National University player, said.

D'Navigators and Cignal share the lead with 4-0 cards.

Saura defeated PGJC-Navy skipper Greg Dolor and Cignal captain JP Bugaoan for the weekly honor deliberated upon by print and online scribes covering the league, which is also streamed live at www.spikersturf.ph.

After switching from a middle blocker to an opposite hitter last year, he tries to find ways to improve his game.

"Medyo mahirap kasi sa defense. Sa middle blocker

kasi, hindi siya masyado dumedepensa, saktuhan lang. Unlike kasi sa opposite spiker, 'yung depensa kasi sa likod, isa rin 'yun sa factor na kailangan ko pa i-angat bilang (It's a bit difficult in defense. A middle blocker doesn't defend much, just hits. Because unlike the opposite spiker, the defense is behind, that is also one of the factors that I still need to improve as an) opposite spiker," Saura explained.

As for hitting, he said it is easier to adjust he can be creative with his "kills."

The D'Navigators hope to keep their form when they face the Criss Cross King Crunchers at Paco Arena in Manila on Wednesday. (PNA)



PLAYER OF THE WEEK. D'Navigators winger Francis Saura (No. 12) scores against VNS Nasty's Alfred Pagulong during the Spikers' Turf Open Conference at the Ynares Sports Arena in Pasig City on April 5, 2024. Saura led the D'Navigators to their fourth straight win to earn the honor given by the league press corps. (PVL photo)

NU women, UST men defend UAAP tennis crowns

National University bucked an erratic start to bag its third straight women's title while University of Santo Tomas retained the men's crown in the UAAP Season 86 tennis tournament at Felicisimo Ampon Tennis Center inside the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex in Manila on Sunday.

NU claimed the 3-2 victory after Elise Abarquez defeated UST's Justine Maneja, 6-3, 6-0, in the third singles match.

"That loss in the first tie, I think we needed that para mapa-realize sa amin na kahit na-sweep namin 'yung eliminations, pwede pa rin kaming matalo. And na-overcome namin 'yun (That loss in the first tie, I think we needed that to make us realize that even though we swept the eliminations, we can still lose. And we overcame that) as a team," team captain Allyssa Mae Bornia said.

UST looked headed for an upset after Alexei Santos trounced JM Carcueva, 6-3, 6-2, in the opening singles, and Rookie of the Year Kaye Eman beat Angela Cabaral, 6-4, 6-2, to move a match away from the title.

Bornia then teamed up with Alliah Ragunton to beat Miles Vitaliano and Debbie Gom-os, 6-2, 6-4; and Danna Abad and Rovie Baulete scored a 6-0, 6-4 win over Minette Bentillo and Nicole Dela Rita as NU levelled at 2-all.

Bornia and Ragunton were named co-Most Valuable Players.

"Thankful kami sa mga senior na nag-step up talaga sila to lead the team. Mahahirapan kami kasi after this season. Tatlo silang mawawala (We are thankful to the seniors who really stepped up to lead



STILL THE CHAMP. University of Santo Tomas retains its UAAP Season 86 men's tennis title after a 3-1 win over Ateneo de Manila at Felicisimo Ampon Tennis Center inside the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex in Manila on Sunday (April 7, 2024). The Male Tennisters dropped the opening singles before sweeping the next three matches. (UAAP photo)

the team. It will be difficult for us because after this season three of them will be gone). But we will regroup, we will recruit, and let's see what will happen next year," Lady Bulldogs coach Ronald Joven said.

UST captured the men's title over Ateneo de Manila University, 3-1.

Noy Seno demolished Christopher Sonsona, 6-1, 6-0, to put Ateneo ahead before UST swept the next three matches of the best-of-five tie.

Steven Sonsona and Nilo Ledama clobbered Nio Tria and Axl Gonzaga, 6-2, 6-1; Ericjay Tangub downed Austin delos Santos, 6-1, 6-4; and Richard Bautista-Nash Agustines dominated JJ Llavore-Stef Gurria, 6-4, 6-2.

"Pressured din kami kasi syempre ine-expect ng mga tao na ma-defend namin 'yung title. Pero maganda 'yung

preparation namin, mahaba 'yung preparation namin (We were also under pressure because, of course people, expected us to defend the title. But our preparation was good, our preparation was long)," assistant coach and many-time national player Johnny Arcilla said.

Arcilla said coach Balong Diego will scout new players in the Cebu Palarong Pambansa in July.

Ateneo mentor Gee Abacan, who started coaching the Blue Eagles eight years ago with former national player Patrick John Tierro, was gracious in defeat.

"Hats off to UST. They are the best team in the UAAP," Abacan said. "I'm proud of each member of my team as they gave it all the entire school year and not just this UAAP season." (PNA)

Aussie duo bag women's crown, Iranians win men's title

Australians Stefanie Fejes and Jana Milutinovic outplayed compatriots Jasmine Fleming and Georgia Johnson, 21-19, 25-23, to capture the women's crown in the Smart Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC) Beach Tour Nuvali Open last Sunday at the world-class Nuvali Sand Courts by Ayala Land in the City of Santa Rosa, Laguna.



DYNAMIC DUO. Australians Stefanie Fejes (left) and Jana Milutinovic won the women's title in the Smart Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC) Beach Tour Nuvali Open at the world-class Nuvali Sand Courts by Ayala Land in Santa Rosa City, Laguna on Sunday (April 7, 2024). They beat compatriots, Jasmine Fleming and Georgia Johnson, 21-19, 25-23, in the final. (PNVF photo)

Fejes and Milutinovic needed 52 minutes to overcome their opponents, who are currently No. 47 in the FIVB world rankings.

"We knew them very well so we knew it was going to be a good matchup," said the 19-year-old Fejes. "We fought till the end and we played our game."

Fejes and Milutinovic beat Suzuka Hashimoto and Reika Murakami, 21-12, 21-18, to reach the final round of the tournament organized by the Philippine National Volleyball Federation (PNVF) headed by Ramon "Tats" Suzara.

Fleming and Johnson,

on the other hand, triumphed over Asami Shiba and Saki Maruyama, 21-17, 21-17.

Hashimoto and Murakami prevailed, 21-17, 16-21, 15-12, in the battle for the bronze medal.

Meanwhile, Iran's Abbas Pourasgari and Alireza Aghajanihasab stunned Thailand's Tipjan Pithak and Taovato Poravid, 21-17, 21-15, to capture the men's crown in the event supported by Foton, Akari, Mikasa, Senoh, Seda, Asics, Cignal, One Sports, One Sports+ and Pilipinas Live.

The Iranians are hoping to qualify for Paris. They have a very good support team for the Asian

competition and their quest for an Olympic berth.

"I'm very happy, this is a big win. I dream of going to the Olympics," said Aghajanihasab after beating the world's No. 44 Thai pair.

Pithak and Poravid survived Australia's D'Artagnan Potts and Ben Hood, 21-15, 18-21, 15-11, in the semis while Pourasgari and Aghajanihasab conquered Thailand's Surin Jongklang and Dunwinit Kaewsai, 21-13, 21-17.

Potts and Ben Hood downed Jongklang and Kaewsai to secure the bronze medal, 21-15, 21-14. (PNA)

For stricter food safety compliance, DOST, PCLEDO-Batangas partner to capacitate cooperatives, MSMEs

To ensure food safety compliance among food manufacturing and food service businesses operated by cooperatives and micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), the Department of Science and Technology (DOST)-Batangas and the Batangas Provincial Cooperative, Livelihood, and Enterprise Development Office (PCLEDO-Batangas) collaborated to conduct a seminar-workshop on food safety held at the PCLEDO Conference Room, Capitol Complex, Batangas City, March 21-22.



Given the need for stricter implementation of food safety regulations and the importance of capacitating smaller businesses to comply with these standards, the seminar-workshop aimed to provide participants with knowledge and skills to ensure the safety and quality of their products. Through this partnership, DOST and PCLEDO-Batangas sought to empower cooperatives and MSMEs in Batangas to meet food safety requirements and enhance their competitiveness in the market. As Ms. Felina C. Malabanan, DOST-Batangas' Provincial S&T Director, mentioned, this initiative is part of both agencies' commitment to support local businesses and promote consumer welfare through safe food production.

The seminar-workshop focused on three major topics, such as basic food hygiene (BFH), food safety hazards (FSH), and current good manufacturing practices (cGMP). These helped the participants understand the fundamental principles of food safety, their importance and benefits to a food business, and how to comply with the Food Safety Act of 2013.

The discussion on BFH delved into topics on sanitary permits, health certificates, quality and protection of food, primary production, establishment (design of facilities and equipment), training and competence, establishment maintenance, cleaning and disinfection, pest control, personal hygiene, control of the operation,



product information and consumer awareness, and the special provisions of P.D. 856. Meanwhile, the categories of food hazards (physical, biological, and chemical), their implications on food processing, and the control mechanisms for food safety risks were explained under FSH.

For cGMP, topics discussed were GMP organization, education and training, premises, plant construction and design, equipment, sanitation and hygiene, supervision, sanitary facilities, maintenance and sanitation, process control, chemical

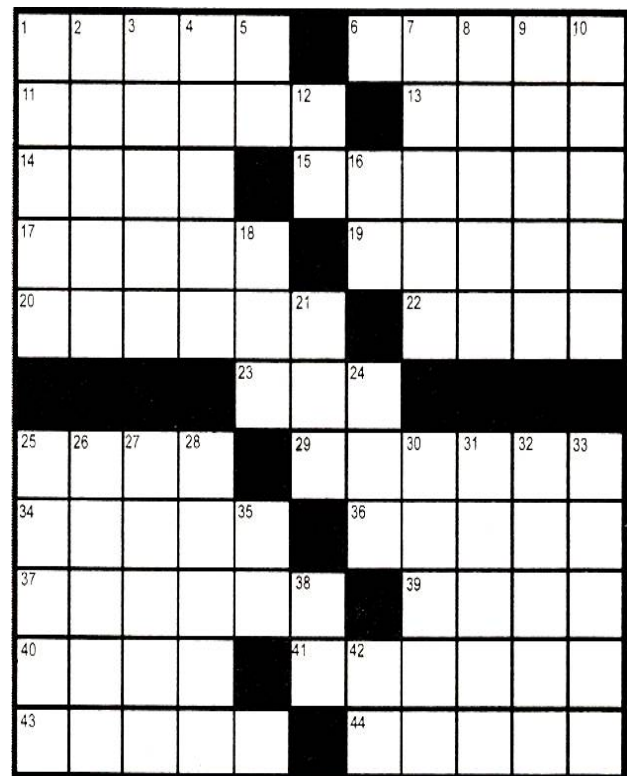
control, quality management, testing of reprocessed products, testing of returned goods, laboratory facilities and control, documentation, quality audits, warehouse and distribution, receiving and shipping, recall and traceability, retention of samples, and subcontracting of manufacture.

Workshops on handwashing, physical hazards, and cross-contamination were included in the training program to ensure employees understood the importance of the principles discussed. Pre- and post-training tests

were also administered to assess the effectiveness of the training. Mr. Mhark Ellgine A. Libao and Mr. John Maico M. Hernandez, both DOST-CALABARZON Food Safety Team members, served as the resource speakers during the two-day activity.

Moving forward, DOST-Batangas and PCLEDO will conduct an on-site assessment of food safety implementation among the participating cooperatives and MSMEs as part of their initiative to ensure that they obtain licenses to operate from the Food and Drug Administration. **(By John Maico Hernandez)**

PALAI SIPAN



PAHALANG

- 1 Hasa
- 6 Talas
- 11 Ilista
- 13 Punglo
- 14 Wasak
- 15 Hablutin
- 17 Ikatay
- 19 Inari
- 20 Parmasya
- 22 Luto sa toge at hipon
- 23 Hamak
- 25 Biyak
- 29 Huwaran
- 34 Matibay na hibla
- 36 Kasambahay
- 37 Magneto
- 39 Huramentado
- 40 Mataas na baraha
- 41 Marami
- 43 Patnubay
- 44 Tindahan

- 2 Bahay ampunan
- 3 Masukal na kakahuyan
- 4 Idugtong
- 5 Sandy Andolong
- 7 Tabako
- 8 Lapad
- 9 Ikurba
- 10 Tawag kay Eddie Garcia
- 12 Tommy Abuel
- 16 Sundalong Amerikano
- 18 Ibang pangalan
- 21 Unggoy sa Aladdin
- 24 Animo
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- 26 Sagabal
- 27 Bisa
- 28 Ihanda ang baril
- 30. Pakuluan
- 31 Uri ng prutas
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- 35 Hulapi
- 38 Island: daglat
- 42 Tipo ng dugo

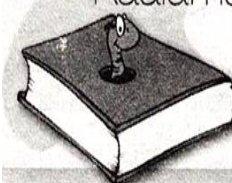
PABABA

- 1 Puspos

SAGOT SA NAKARAAN



Dagdag
Kaalaman



Sa mga malalaking hayop, ang elepante ang may pinakamaikling tulong-2 oras lamang sa isang araw.



Neda Board approves \$4-B Bataan-Cavite bridge budget

THE National Economic and Development Authority (Neda) board has approved a US\$4-billion budget for the Bataan-Cavite Interlink Bridge Project.



Bataan 2nd district Representative Albert S. Garcia made the announcement before President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. during the turnover ceremony of housing units to 216 informal settler families (ISF) in Balanga City, Bataan on Tuesday.

"And the bidding [document] of the bridge has been published, so I have no doubt that in the coming months, we will be joining the President in the ground breaking of the bridge, which will be initiated in the province of Bataan," Garcia said in Filipino.

The lawmaker thanked the President, who also heads the Neda board, in the approval of the funding of the major infrastructure

project, which will connect Bataan and Cavite.

In October, Neda approved the new engineering design of the Bataan-Cavite Interlink Bridge Project, which increased its cost from P175.6 billion to P219.3 billion.

Once completed, the bridge will help address the heavy traffic congestion in Metro Manila and also spur economic development in Bataan, Garcia said.

"And aside from becoming the solution to traffic in Metro Manila, with the connecting of the bridge, Bataan Peninsula will no longer be a deadend. Many investors—those invited by the President in his foreign trip to invest in the country—will invest in our province,

especially since we have the previous Bataan Economic Zone, which is the brainchild and vision of President Marcos Sr.," Garcia said, noting that what is now the Bataan Freeport Zone is a hub "which we continue [to operate] with the support of the President."

The additional investments, he stressed, will also generate news jobs for residents of Bataan.

Garcia said the province is now coordinating with the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD) for the construction of more Pambansang Pabahay para sa Pilipino (4PH) housing units for workers, who will be migrating to Bataan for employment.

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DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY SCIENCE & TACTICS
SAN SEBASTIAN COLLEGE-RECOLETOS DE CAVITE ROTC UNIT
402nd (CAVITE) CDC, 4th RCDG, RESCOM, PA
Cavite City, Cavite

FEATURED INSTRUCTOR

JOHN MICHAEL E TAMIO
2LT O-153556 PA (RES)

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration major in Management Accounting

MILITARY SCHOOLING

- Special Basic Citizen's Military Training
- Open Water Scuba Diving Course
- Air to Ground Operations Seminar
- Reservists Intelligence Training
- Explosive Ordnance Reconnaissance Agent Training
- Company Sustainment Training
- Platoon Leaders Training
- Gender Sensitivity Training

CIVILIAN OCCUPATION

- Incorporator, Jetron Cavite Trading and Services Corp.
- VP for Operations & Incorporator, Quarjet Reality & Land Holdings Corp.
- Incorporator, Fullseasons Hardware Corp.

CURRENT ASSIGNMENT

- Platoon Leader, Charlie Company, 402nd Ready Reserve Infantry Battalion
- Tactical Officer, San Sebastian College-Recoletos de Cavite ROTC Unit



SSC-R DE CAVITE ROTC UNIT
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FEATURED INSTRUCTOR OF THE DAY: Meet the people behind SSC-R de Cavite's ROTC Unit who are tasked with ensuring the proper conduct of training activities and delivering a holistic leadership development program for all cadets. Today, we're featuring 2LT JOHN MICHAEL E TAMIO PA (RES), a tactical officer of the unit. Lieutenant Tamio is an entrepreneur who graduated with a degree in Business Administration and specializing in management accounting. He currently serves in various management roles in the fuel, real estate, and hardware industries. During weekends, he serves the country as a commissioned officer of the Philippine Army's reserve force, particularly as a platoon leader at the Charlie Company of the 402nd Ready Reserve Infantry Battalion and as a member of the SSC-R de Cavite's training directorate. Through his example, we can prove that the ROTC program is not limited to those who have chosen a career path in the law enforcement and military professions but is open to everyone who wishes to develop their practical and leadership skills, which can be applied in various settings. #ROTCisforALL #iSupportROTC #YourPhilippineArmy #AFPyoucanTRUST

Modyul Para sa Pagtuturo ng Filipino Bilang Pangalawang Wika, tampok sa paglulunsad at lektura sa 17 Abril sa PNU

Magkakaroon ng lektura at paglulunsad ang Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino (KWF) ng Modyul sa Pagtuturo ng Filipino Bilang Pangalawang Wika sa 17 Abril 2024, 1-4 nh, sa Philippine Normal University, Maynila.

Tampok sa paglulunsad ang pagbibigay ng lektura nina Dr. Purificacion G. Delima (Komisioner para sa Wikang Ilokano ng KWF mula 2013-2020) at Dr. Wennielyn F. Fajilan (propesor at direktor ng UST Sentro ng Salin at Araling Salin), kabilang sa mga awtor na gumawa ng modyul.

Mababasa sa modyul ang mga batayang teorya at praktika na may kinalaman sa pagkatuto at pagtuturo ng Filipino bilang pangalawang wika na makatutulong sa mga guro sa buong bansa.

Bukás at libre ang pagdalo sa online o face-to-face na lektura at paglulunsad. Maaaring magpatalâ sa <https://forms.gle/YCoXDiy4TQStCR2n6> o makipag-ugnay sa rrcagalingan@kwf.gov.ph

Hinihikayat ng KWF na dumalo ang mga guro lalo na ang mga nagtuturo sa labas ng NCR at Luzon.

17 Abril 2024, 1-4 nh
Philippine Normal University
Magpatalâ na!

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