

# Silang highlights transparency, impartiality & good governance in first 100 days



SILANG, Cavite (PIA) – The Municipality of Silang showcases its thrusts for transparency, neutrality, and good governance for its stakeholders in line with its 100 days of administration.

The local government implements transparency through its "No to Corruption"

stance with the LGU's procurements undergoing open public bidding which results to lower purchase costs and eventual savings.

Silang Mayor Atty. Kevin Amutan Anarna says, "These savings went to the purchase of school supplies that were distributed to students of public elementary schools in

the municipality."

Employees wear colors white and gray to show impartiality from previous election party affiliations and always render service with a smile.

Implementation of the anti-corruption policy also led to the collection of taxes and fees by the Business

► **SILANG • 3**



Take an awesome ride with SM City Trece Martires' AweSM express! SM City Trece Martires lets you experience an awesome adventure ride with the AweSM express which recently launch at the 2nd level. Check out the newly improved AweSM Express now with longer ride and trail that will surely excite kids, teens and even adults!

# SUNDAY TRIBUNE

NEWS PUBLISHING

VOLUME I • NO. 10 • OCTOBER 9 - 15, 2022 • 10.00

## Skills training empowers Bacoor city personnel in social media, writing



BACOR CITY, CAVITE (PIA) – Bacoor City Information Office personnel including select employees of the city government and the Bureau of Fire Protection participate in a four-day capacity-building seminar on information production and dissemination.

The activity with the theme "EMPOWERMENT EQUALS EFFICIENCY: A City Information Skills Development Workshop" marks the first seminar-

workshop facilitated by the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) in collaboration with the local government unit (LGU) held from October 11-14.

City Mayor Strike Revilla during the event encouraged participants to continue to learn additional skills and techniques, especially in social media in order to apply the acquired skills in giving timely, accurate, and reliable information to fellow

Bacoreños.

City Information Office OIC-Head Ms. Angel Garciano welcomed the special guest speakers and facilitators from PIA headed by Deputy Director General Karl Louie Fajardo together with Bureau of Communication Services headed by Deputy Director General Eileen David and PIA Creatives and Production Services Division chief Bradley

► **Skills Training • 3**



PAPI Congress: Top officials of the Publishers Association of the Philippines, Inc. (PAPI) meet up with Department of Science and Technology UnderSecretary Dr. Sancho A. Mabborang to finalize the proposed partnership for the associations' 26th National Press Congress scheduled to happen at Cagayan de Oro City (CDO) on December 6,7,8, 2022. Beside USec Mabborang at the center is Nelson Santos, PAPI president and Ms Rebecca Velasquez, PAPI Executive Vice President. The media event is in cooperation with DOST Region 10, the local government unit of CDO and provincial government of Misamis Oriental and in partnership with Kapisanan ng Brodkaster sa Pilipinas (KBP), Philippine Press Institute (PPI) and Philippine Online Broadcasters Association (POBA). Santos thanked Mabborang saying "Salamuch Usec Sancho Mabborang for always being there to support PAPI." In jest, Velasquez said: "Yes, brighter days are ahead of us... Tiwala lang my PAPI family. /ET

# SUNDAY TRIBUNE

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## PIA, BCS train Bacoor City personnel in social media, news writing



BACOR CITY, Cavite (PIA)– The Philippine Information Agency and Bureau of Communications Services work hand-in-with the Bacoor City Government to enhance government personnel's social media and news writing skills from October 11-14.

The four-day capacity-building seminar themed "EMPOWERMENT EQUALS EFFICIENCY: A City Information Skills Development Workshop" aims to enhance select city personnel's knowledge and skills.

PIA Deputy Director General Karl Louie Fajardo expressed the agency's support for this milestone event.

Describing the role of information officers, DDG Fajardo said, "We

are no longer gatekeepers of information but gateways to information."

"We hold this kind of workshop to empower you to become better information handlers and better communicators, and when you are empowered you become efficient in your craft, and when you are efficient in your craft you empower your citizens, and when you have empowered citizens your job will be easier and the decisions of the government will be easier and the only thing that they will keep in mind is to make sure that they will always be your reliable partners in implementing good change in your community," DDG Fajardo said.

Bacoor City Information Office OIC-Head Ms. Angel Garciano welcomed the resource speakers and facilitators from PIA headed by Creatives and Production Services division chief Bradley De Leon and from PIA-Bureau of Communication Services headed by Deputy Director General Ms. Eileen David.

Garciano also expressed her sincere appreciation for this opportunity to be learners in the field of information production and dissemination. "This activity is very important for us especially now that information is highly accessible to the public. With this, we either benefit from a wider promotion or suffer with

► **PIA, BCS • 3**

## 3rd DOST Regional Directors' Meeting



The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Office of the Undersecretary for Regional Operations (OUSEC-RO) organized the 3rd Quarterly Regional Directors' Meeting last 30 September 2022 at Twin Lakes Hotel Tagaytay, Laurel, Batangas. The meeting centered on the alignment of DOST Programs, Projects, and Activities (PPA) to the 8-point socioeconomic agenda of President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr.

The DOST aims to refocus PPAs and deliver agency-wide goals in accordance with the directives of the DOST-Secretary, Dr. Renato U. Solidum, Jr., as embodied in the newly launched campaign, #OneDOST4U. The particular areas include wealth creation, wealth protection, human well-being, and sustainability; interpreted through the 4 U's namely, Unifying S&T efforts toward countryside development and wealth creation, Upgrading human capital to create a pool of globally competent STI champions to support the national innovation agenda, Ushering the transformation of municipalities and cities into smart, resilient, and sustainable communities, Undertaking collaborative science, technology, and innovation initiatives and strategies for socio-economic development and welfare of the public.

During the meeting, one of the cited DOST Programs was the Small Enterprise Technology Upgrading Program (SETUP) which capacitates Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) through funding technological adoption. SETUP alone has over 8,732 assisted MSMEs as of June 2022.

Another significant contributor to the achievement of DOST goals is the

► **3RD DOST • 3**



Botika on Wheels program extends to Brgy. Alulod, Indang: As the provincial government continuously strives to deliver the basic medical needs of Caviteños, the team from the Office of the Governor – Extension brought Botika on Wheels program to Brgy. Alulod, Indang, Cavite for the door-to-door distribution of free prescribed medicines and vitamins to its residents. The team was accompanied by barangay officials and health workers in handing over the free medicines to one hundred fifty-one (151) beneficiaries in the barangay. After the event, the barangay officials headed by Barangay Captain Marlito A. Penuz expressed their appreciation to the OPG-Extension team for their continuous support and service to the community. (PICAD)

EDITORIAL

The landfall of Super Typhoon Karding became one of this year's biggest challenges to the country and the economy, having damaged billions worth of crops and claiming the lives of several people.

As of this posting, the damages and losses by Typhoon Karding is pegged at PHP3.12 billion, with the rice sector the heavily hit.

"Karding" is also this year's strongest typhoon. During its devastation, the highest tropical cyclone wind signal was hoisted over portions of Northern Luzon, toppling power lines and causing power interruptions at a time when the delivery of reliable and stable electricity service is needed most.

Transmission lines owned by the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines were also not spared from the aftermath and heavily affected the immediate restoration of power.

Power interruptions are inevitable during natural disasters, but the impact can be minimized if the national government and local government units ramp up disaster resiliency operations by investing in solar photovoltaic systems.

First, solar PV systems are the most reliable source of electricity in off-grid areas, as they are able to power gadgets and appliances that are highly needed during emergencies.

Secondly, solar PVs can be deployed immediately even without battery storage systems.

Most importantly, solar PVs are more eco-friendly as they do not emit carbon dioxide that is harmful to the environment.

At the House of Representatives, Ilocos Norte First District Representative Sandro Marcos ramped up his province's use of renewable source by partnering with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to identify the areas in Ilocos that are most prone to landslides and flooding, in line with the creation of a masterplan for evacuation centers to be powered by solar. This came from the success of the wind technology in Bangui, Ilocos Norte.

None other than his father, President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. supported the Philippines' wider use of renewable energy (RE) sources in

Solar as backup to power recovery from disasters, emergencies



Yung 433 ang mananalo. There is something suspicious - Senator Koko Pimentel

what he called the "green transition," where he encouraged the industry stakeholders to bolster the use of wind, solar, hydropower, geothermal, and biomass or biofuels to counter climate change.

The president also cited the country's precarious power supply as a reason to push for the use of more sustainable and renewable energy sources. We must work hand-in-hand for disaster resilience, not only to restore economic and social viability, but to ensure that any negative effect does not worsen.

But as always, success and achievement of goals always starts at home. The national government itself must encourage the local government units to incorporate the use of RE sources such as solar in their disaster prevention and

preparedness.

Utilizing and fully maximizing the benefits of solar energy can power community resilience through providing homes and institutions the backup power even if power from the grid is yet to be restored.

Natural disasters are one of the biggest causes of revenue losses for the government, but an economy and a community powered by a stable and reliable electricity recovers more easily.

Emergency preparedness aside, both the public and private sectors must strengthen partnership for the adoption of RE, not only to bring hope to the communities, but also to create a more livable environment.

Sektor ng ecotourism sa bansa, layong palakasin

LOS BAÑOS, Laguna (PIA)-- Pormal nang nilagdaan ang Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sa pagitan ng International School of Sustainable Tourism (ISST), ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), at Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) nitong Oktubre 12.

Personal na dumalo sina ISST President and Founder Dr. Mina Gabor, ACB Executive Director Dr. Theresa Mundita S. Lim, at SEARCA Director Glenn Gregorio upang pangunahan ang nasabing programa.

Sinaksihan naman nina Undersecretary for Civilian Security and Consular Affairs, Ambassador to New Zealand and the Pacific Jesus Domingo at

Department of Tourism Region IV-A Regional Director Marites Castro ang makabuluhang aktibidad.

Pangunahing layunin nito na maipakilala sa publiko ang nakatakdang ilunsad na kaunang-unahang International Ecotourism Travel Mart (IETM) at Selling Fair na inaasahang dadaluhan ng mga delegasyon mula sa iba't ibang bansa sa ASEAN.

Naniniwala si SEARCA Director Dr. Glenn Gregorio na magiging malaking tulong ang ilunsad na programa sa ecotourism ng bansa na maaaring makapagbigay ng mas maraming oportunidad sa mga mamamayan.

"These will be startups because they know that there's a mart, you could be an integrator, you could be



a startup business, you organize a community, youth o kung sino man sa community kase may market na, just what we are doing at SEARCA we are linking the farmers to the community, to the innovative markets like this," mensahe ni Gregorio.

Nagpa-abot naman ng buong suporta sa programa si DOT Calabarzon Regional Director Marites Castro dahil sa malaking benepisyo na maidudulot nito sa industriya ng turismo at

tulong sa pagbangan ng ekonomiya ng bansa. "Rest assured po na Department of Tourism will really support the staging of the first International Ecotourism Travel Mart this coming March until April of 2023 kaya congratulations po sa ating lahat at maraming salamat!" mensahe ni Castro. Gaganapin ang IETM sa darating na ika-29 ng Marso hanggang ika-2 ng Abril sa susunod na taon sa lalawigan ng Cavite. (CO/PIA4A)

Ex-Guinness world champ bags Masskara billiards title

BACOLOD CITY – Cavite's Jundel Mazon, the 2010 Guinness World Series of Pool 10-Ball Challenge champion, captured the 1st Mayor Albee Benitez Masskara Billiards Tournament title after beating Bacolod-born Johann Chua in SM City here Thursday night.

The 46-year-old Mazon ruled the competition of 128 players, including Filipino legends Efren "Bata" Reyes and Francisco "Django" Bustamante as well as cue artists from Indonesia and Japan.

He won the finals match against Chua, 9-5, to bring home a cash prize of PHP350,000, a

trophy, a gold medal, and a gift pack from Mega Sports World. Chua, the winner of 2017 All Japan 10-Ball Championship, where he also beat Mazon in the finals to bag the title, received PHP100,000 for his runner-up finish.

"It has been a successful five-day tournament. We are happy that we were able to bring in these legends that brought smiles, not only to billiards enthusiasts, but also to the people of Bacolod, who came in droves to watch the matches,"

Masskara Festival director Pinky Mirano-Ocampo said in a statement on Thursday. Others who made it to the Top 8 were Dean Mark Castronuevo, Bonnie Penticase, Jericho Bañares, and Jolo Aspuria, who received PHP15,000 each. Reyes was eliminated on the fourth day after bowing to 15-year-old wonder boy AJ Manas, who also defeated veteran Warren Kiamco in the best of 32. (PNA)

Phoenix prevails despite franchise sale talks

MANILA – Phoenix rode on the hot hands of Tyler Tio to break out of its early dry spell in the PBA Commissioner's Cup by beating NLEX, 111-97, on Saturday night at the PhilSports Arena in Pasig.

Despite a possible franchise firesale hounding them, the Fuel Masters played like a team on a mission, especially in the second half, and dealt Frankie Lim a defeat in his PBA head coaching return.

Tio came alive and led Phoenix's charge in the third quarter to take the lead for good.

Kaleb Wesson then sizzled in the final frame to help the team finish off NLEX.

Tip finished with a career-high 26 points on 9-of-17 shooting including 5-for-10 from long range, one rebound, and seven assists to lead the Fuel Masters, who improved to 1-3. Javee Mocon added 23 points, nine rebounds, and six assists, while Wesson put up 22 markers, 21 boards, seven dimes, one block, and one steal.

Earl Clark put up 36 points, 20 rebounds, eight assists, one block,



and one steal for the Road Warriors, who lost for the first time this conference.

In the second game, RR Pogoy came alive early on to lift TNT to a 117-93 win over NorthPort for its first win in the mid-season conference.

Three nights following a frustrating loss to the Magnolia Hotshots to open their campaign, the Tropang Giga vented their ire on the Batang Pier with Pogoy leading the charge.

Pogoy opened the game with 10 straight field goals in the first half, the best start by a local in league history, and another early in the third quarter.

He even outscored the entire NorthPort squad as he exploded for 21 points in the second quarter

compared to the team's 20 as TNT opened a 58-44 lead at halftime.

Mikey Williams, who is making his conference debut, and Cam Oliver then took over as they combined for 19 of the Tropang Giga's 29 points in the third quarter even as they held the Batang Pier to just 18 to essentially seal the win.

Pogoy finished 12-for-14 from the field for 32 points alongside three rebounds, one assist, and one steal for TNT, which moved up to 1-1. Oliver added 20 points, 10 rebounds, five assists, one block, and one steal.

Arvin Tolentino put up 19 points, four rebounds, and two steals, while Prince Ibeh added 18 points, 12 rebounds, two blocks, and one steal for NorthPort, which fell to 2-2. (PNA)



WINNER. Caviteño cue artist Jundel Mazon (center) wins the 1st Mayor Albee Benitez Masskara Billiards Tournament after a five-day competition at SM City Bacolod on Thursday night (Oct. 6, 2022). He received the champion's prize of PHP350,000 from festival director Pinky Mirano-Ocampo (2nd from left) during the awarding rites held after the finals match. (Photo courtesy of Bacolod Yuhum Foundation)

URCC to feature bare-knuckle boxing in upcoming card

Bare-knuckle boxing makes its way to the Philippines with four bouts scheduled at URCC 80 at the Xylo at the Palace in Taguig on October 27.

Bare-knuckle boxing was actually the original form of sports boxing until boxing gloves became mandatory in 1867.

However, bare-knuckle boxing experienced a resurgence last decade, especially in England, inspiring URCC founder Alvin Aguilar to bring the sport to his promotion. "It's worth noting that BKF (bare-knuckle fighting) is steadily gaining popularity in the US and Europe, so it's only a matter of time before it enjoys mainstream acceptance here," Aguilar said.

Renowned talent manager Arnold Vegafria, also the URCC chairman, believes that holding a bare-knuckle fight could be a crowd drawer.

"We at URCC feel that Filipino fight fans are clamoring for something more exciting, and this could very well be what we've all been waiting for!" Vegafria said.

A bare-knuckle bout will actually headline the mixed martial arts card with rapper Kenjhons



Serrano taking on vlogger Map Soberano.

Three bare-knuckle bouts have been announced too in the undercard: Rocky Vergara against Marvin dela Cruz, Kimbert Alintozon against JV Baldonasa, and Mark Alcoba against Zarco Gales. For now, bare-knuckle boxing will be a demonstration sport in the URCC, where fighters will only clash for three rounds of two minutes each, but according to Aguilar, some of the usual boxing rules, like the 10-point must-score system, will be used as well. Despite the bouts being just mere exhibitions, tension quickly rose during the URCC 80 press launch on Thursday at the said nightclub, especially among the protagonists for the main event.

Both Serrano and Soberano, who are making their combat sports debut, traded barbs and had a heated moment too during the face-off. Serrano lit up his fist

straps in the fire to show off against Soberano, but the latter, probably not amazed with the flaunting, hurled some choice words at the former, leading to Serrano shoving Soberano off with Aguilar and the security personnel dragging both rookie pugs from each other to pacify matters.

Serrano lit up his fist

but the latter, probably not amazed with the flaunting, hurled some choice words at the former, leading to Serrano shoving Soberano off with Aguilar and the security personnel dragging both rookie pugs from each other to pacify matters.

The trash talk, however, spilled to their teams as some members of Team Kenjhons and Team Map almost went to blows as well. Three mixed martial arts (MMA) fights have been announced too. Ruel Catalan, the brother of ONE Championship veterans Rene and Robin, takes on Edrion Macatangay in one flyweight fight, while the other battle at the 125-pound division will pit Rex de Lara and Jayson Margallo.

The other MMA bout scheduled for October 27 is a bantamweight showdown between John Ornidio and Janedie Bernardo. (PNA)

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# SM Foundation and Fast Retailing Foundation join hands to protect coastal villages

Mario Flores Canilao thought his world was about to end when Typhoon Glenda (International: Rammason) struck his village in the province of Pampanga in July 2014 and ravaged a fishing pond where he derived his main source of livelihood.

"Yun ang pinakamalupit. Akala ko nga natapos na ang mundo sa akin noon (I thought life was too harsh. I thought that was the end of my world)," Mr. Canilao, a fisherman by trade, recalled.

Despite the blow he was dealt, he mustered the will and determination to move forward. Soon, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources enlisted his help to plant Bakawan or mangrove trees.

As the president of the Samahang Makakalikasan ng Pampanga, Inc. (SAMAPA), Mr. Canilao has been working tirelessly with the government and the private sector in the last decade to help build a coastal forest for the natural protection of their community in the municipality of Macabebe, to avoid pitfalls in the wake of another storm like Typhoon Glenda.

This year, he is delighted to know that SM Foundation, the social good arm of SM and Fast Retailing Foundation, a general incorporated foundation in Japan, are providing extensive support by planting Bakawan trees in his coastal community under their joint 'Grow Trees Community' project. This reforestation initiative is set to introduce at least 100,000 mangrove trees of the Bakawanbabae and lalaki species in Barangay Consuelo in

the municipality of Macabebe, the second site after the project formally launched in Batangas last September 27.

"Malaking tulong itong mangroves para sa akin, para sa pamilyako at sa aking mga kababaryo na magkaroon din po ng hanapbuhay. Sa darating na mga henerasyon, makakatulong ang mga bakawan sa dipensa sa malalakas na alon at hangin (Mangroves are a huge help not just to my family but to my fellow villagers, also in supporting livelihood. The bakawan will help the next generation gain protection against strong winds and waves)," Mr. Canilao said.

Aside from providing a natural coastal defense against storm surges, the Bakawan has been widely personified in Filipino fiction and many children's books for its role in nurturing biodiversity in the environment.

"As visitors, we often see the beauty of the mangrove thickets, but for communities, this is nature's shield that protects them from natural calamities and serves as breeding grounds for fishes and shellfishes," Cristie S. Angeles, SM Foundation Assistant Vice President for Livelihood and Outreach Programs said.

"A well-preserved mangrove forest can provide an ecosystem of interconnected benefits promoting biodiversity in marine life and a reserve of valuable resources. Beyond this, the collective efforts of the community are vital to the preservation of the environment. As SM enables the growth of so many communities, we are also enabling these communities to lead the



The Grow Trees Community project in Macabebe, Pampanga is the second site for the joint reforestation initiative of SM Foundation and Fast Retailing Foundation.



FR Foundation Secretary-General Yoshio Ishida, (center) and SM Foundation AVP for Livelihood and Outreach Programs Cristie Angeles (far right, front) lead the Grow Trees Community launch in Pampanga.



(From left, bottom row): Sgt. Nesperoz, Philippine Army; Aaron Jeffrey B. Montenegro, Mall Manager, SM City Pampanga; Atty. Eric Ueda, Provincial Director, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA); Major Joy Placido, Philippine National Police; Cristina Angeles, Assistant Vice President for Livelihood and Outreach Programs, SM Foundation, Inc.; Yoshio Ishida, Secretary General, FR Foundation; Hon. Vince Flores, Vice Mayor of Macabebe; Hon. Leonardo "Bobong" Flores, Mayor of Macabebe; Elenita Ordonio, Provincial Director, Department of Trade and Industry; Romeo Catahan, Barangay Captain, Brgy. Consuelo; Mario Canilao, President, Samahang Makakalikasan ng Pampanga, Inc.; Jay Guevarra, Councilor, Macabebe, Pampanga

preservation of the environment in their areas," Ms. Angeles added.

"We are particularly drawn to this project which is a first in terms of our partnerships here in the country. Mangrove trees have an enormous capacity not only to absorb greenhouse gases making them ideal in bringing about climate benefits but they also enrich the biodiversity as well. After we can confirm the success of this Pampanga project, we are looking forward to pursue more of these types of projects in the near future in collaboration with our partner, SM Foundation," Mr. Yoshio Ishida, Secretary-General of FR Foundation said.

As part of their community engagement strategy and to sustain the

project, the proponents are tapping the expertise of the community and partner agencies in monitoring the propagules to ensure their growth as mature trees.

"What's good about this project is it goes beyond enriching the environment. We have an opportunity here to boost livelihood in the community while at the same time, helping improve the disaster risk reduction capabilities of the locality," Ms. Angeles said.

The full impact of the project will all go to the community as they look after the trees moving forward.

"Maraming benepisyo gaya ng sa air pollution na humihigop at nagbubugayan ng mga magagandang hangin. Malaking bagay po ang bakawan sa pamumuhay ng mga taga barangay

(Mangroves have many benefits like producing cleaner air while reducing air pollution. The bakawan is a big help to the livelihood of community)," Mr. Canilao said.

Apart from the two foundations, the Grow Trees Community initiative harnesses partnerships with SM Supermalls, various government agencies, as well as volunteers from the chosen provinces. These include the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Department of Agriculture, DA-BFAR (Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, Department of Trade and Industry, Department of Science and Technology,

Philippine National Police, the local government of Macabebe and Peoples' Organizations (POs) such as SAMAPA.

The Grow Trees Community is in support of the SM Green Movement that aims to improve the quality of life of communities through sustainable solutions to promote a green planet, green living and a green culture.

FR Foundation focuses on promoting research designed to help make the world a better place, spurring technological development, nurturing human resources, and supporting socially vulnerable individuals or groups.

It is part of Fast Retailing Co. Ltd., the leading Japanese retail company that owns well-loved casual wear brand, Uniqlo.

# Cavite Cooperative Month Celebration kicks off



More than three hundred Municipal and City Cooperative Development Council officers and members convened in the 2022 Cavite Cooperative Month Opening Salvo with this year's theme "KooPinaS: Nagkakaisang Lakas para sa Makabuluhan at Sama-samang Pag-unlad" spearheaded by the Provincial Cooperative Livelihood and Entrepreneurial Development Office on October 07, 2022 at the Provincial Gymnasium in Trece Martires City.

In their respective video messages, Provincial Administrator for Community Affairs, Mr. Alvin S. Mojica and Board Member Raymundo Del Rosario, SP Chair of the Committee on Cooperatives, both assured the participants of the provincial government's full support to all the cooperatives in Cavite to further strengthen their organization. Cavite PCDC Chairperson Fr. Arturo Joseph M.

Balagat and CDA Region IV-A Director Giovanni T. Platero, expressed gratitude to everyone who has been part of the success of the program and both echoed messages of support to cooperatives. Dir. Platero reiterated the significance of cooperatives in uplifting the lives of its members which contributed to economic growth amidst the pandemic.

Meanwhile, Cavite Governor Jonvic Remulla welcomed and greeted cooperative members joining the celebration and acknowledged the role of cooperatives in the province's economic development through a video message.

Likewise, Ms. Theresa Llorente, Executive Assistant to the Vice Governor, presented the message of Vice Governor Athena Bryana D. Tolentino focusing on the significant contribution of cooperatives in the community.

Department of

Regional Operations Group Undersecretary Blesila A. Lantoya, served as the event's keynote speaker. In her video keynote speech, Usec. Lantoya emphasized that the celebration's theme underscores the importance of unity in achieving significant and meaningful progress and development despite the difficulties and challenges. She also stressed that cooperatives are essential elements of the country's development strategy and play a key role in promoting financial inclusion, social justice and economic advancement.

Adding fun to the kick-off activity was the KooP Zumba participated by members and officers of different M/CCDCs with awards for Best in Zumba Attire and Zumba Moves. Raffle draws were also done during the activity.

Certificates of participation were

presented to the thirty-six (36) cooperatives vying for the Outstanding Cooperative of the Province and the eight (8) nominees for Senior Cooperative Leader.

In conclusion, Mr. Rodrigo M. Camia, Chairman Emeritus of Cavite PCDC thanked all

the attendees for the success of the program. He also urged all the members to continue working together for further development of cooperatives in local communities.

Other lined up events for the Coop month celebration include KOOP Quiz Bee

on October 12, 2022 at Cavite Cooperative Development Center, Cooperative Leaders Conference on October 21, 2022 through the Zoom platform and Facebook live and the KOOParungal 2022 on October 28, 2022 at the Bayleaf Hotel, City of Gen. Trias. (PICAD)



#ManokngBayan is now open at SM City Rosario! Chooks! is now serving SM City Rosario, Cavite! Visit Chooks! at the 2F SM City Rosario, General Trias Drive cor. Costa Verde Access Road, Tejeros Convention, Rosario, Cavite and try its house special — Chooks! Roasted Chicken with our special chicken juice, UNLI soup and UNLI Chooks! rice at marami pang Pinoy favorites nagpapipilian.

# DA distributes livelihood aid to Bp2 beneficiaries in SurSur town



SAN AGUSTIN, Surigao del Sur -- Some 41 beneficiaries who were repatriated from the National Capital Region (NCR) and other nearby provinces, received 35 sets of vegetable production modules, six (6) sets of mushroom production modules and other agricultural inputs to jumpstart their farm diversification practices under the Balik Probinsya Bagong Pag-asa (BP2) Program initiated by the Department of Agriculture -Caraga on October 2, 2022.

The San Agustin Organic Farmers Organization (SOFA) also served as the reintegration site of the principal beneficiaries. The BP2 beneficiaries may opt to join the organization as members to optimize interventions and assistance provided by the DA and other government agencies. They will undergo series of trainings to utilize and maximize the intervention. "You are encouraged to engage in agricultural

production because we have a big responsibility in achieving a food-secured San Agustin," Municipal Agriculturist Genalyn Campos said. DA - Caraga Regional Executive Director Engr. Ricardo M. Oñate Jr. also reiterated that cooperation is the key to achieving that aim. Oñate added that the DA Caraga is very willing to marry its programs and projects to the existing and planned agriculture initiatives of the municipality.

Leonides A. Corvera, a housewife who stayed in Imus, Cavite is one of the beneficiaries of the BP2 Program. During the lockdown, she and her family decided to permanently go back to San Agustin in 2021. Corvera received a mushroom production package. "Life there is hard, especially during the pandemic. My family decided to go home and I'm thankful that we are given livelihood aid to augment our needs," she said.

Florencio Otagan, a company driver who stayed in Quezon City for 13 years decided to come back after being laid off from his company. He said he will stay here for good especially since he is now given a vegetable production module from Bp2. The Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pag-asa Program aims to provide hope for a better future to Filipinos through equity in resources throughout the country that will boost countryside

development. The program is geared towards addressing Metro Manila's congested urban areas by encouraging people, especially informal settlers to return to their home provinces and assist them in this transition with support and incentives on transportation, family, livelihood, housing, subsistence, and education, among others. (Kent Warren H. Fugoso, DA13-RAFIS/PIA-Surigao del Sur)



# New agriculturists, division heads complete development training



TRECE MARTIRES, CITY, Cavite (PIA)- The Department of Agriculture -Agricultural Training Institute (DA-ATI) - CALABARZON in partnership with the Civil Service Commission (CSC) Region 4A recently concluded the training for the first batch of the "Supervisory Development Course Track 1" held at ATI IV-A Training Hall, Trece Martires City. The event coincides with the celebration of the 122nd anniversary of the Philippine Civil Service with this year's theme: "Transforming

Public Service in the next decade: Honing-agile and Future-ready Servants" which aims to develop the leadership and management skills of the civil servant-participants to become effective leaders in their office or organization. Around twenty (20) new Municipal Agriculturists and Division/Unit Heads from different offices of the Provincial Agriculturist, local government, and DA RFO-4A completed the training course. Former CSC Director Emma Barrera was a facilitator in the

four-day training course and discussed topics included in the module originating and implemented by the CSC. OIC Training Center Superintendent 1 of DA-ATI Calabarzon led the commencement activity with Training Center Superintendent II Dr. Rolando V. Maningas addressing all participants and the training management team for making the training course a success. The second batch of training will be conducted this October. (RBF/PIA-Cavite)

**Skills training...** from page 8 De Leon. Describing the role of information officers, PIA DDG Fajardo said, "We are no longer gatekeepers of information but gateways to information." "This activity is very important for us

**PIA, BCS...** from page 1 service to their fellow Bacooreños. The PIA is currently under the Office of the President and has 16 regional offices and 82 Information Communication centers nationwide with the PIA Calabarzon regional office headed by PIA

especially now that information is highly accessible to the public. With this, we either benefit from a wider promotion or suffer with the risk of disinformation," Ms. Angel Garcia stated. (RBF/PIA-Cavite) Deputy Director General Katherine Chloe De Castro. Two offices formerly under the Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO), BCS and the Freedom of Information program recently joined the agency by virtue of Executive Order 2. (RBF/PIA-Cavite)

# Silang...

Permits and Licensing Office (BPLO) at a 42% increase for the same period last year as well as with the collection of market rental fees which reached above 500%. Good governance practice made transactions at the Public Assistance Center reliable and efficient with the shortened processing time of 95% same-day completion of government service transactions. The local government chief plans

from page 8 to have a public hearing for scholarship programs to the top 50 scholars of about P40K a year, and a full scholarship to students of law, medicine, and even civil engineers in the municipality, to groom future lawyers, doctors, and engineers who will help serve the municipality. Mayor Anarna addressed Silangueños sa yin ng "Pagpansensyahan niyo po kung hindi agaran

# 3RD DOST...

Community Empowerment thru Science and Technology (CEST) program. CEST interventions in the regions aim to enhance the quality of living in remote communities in the country as it addresses difficulties in accessing jobs, health and nutrition, disaster risk reduction activities, and environmental conservation. The program has assisted 1,113 communities from 2016 to the 3rd quarter of 2022. Meanwhile, the budget-cut on the DOST for CY 2023 limits the execution of the planned PPAs and affects the intentions to scale up programs. The Assistant Secretary for Finance and Strategic Planning, Ms. Maridon O. Sahagun, joined the discussions on the enhancement of financial management and the strategic plans on how to increase the budget. In support of this, Undersecretary for

from page 1 Regional Operations, Engr. Sancho A. Maborang, is looking to accumulate additional resources for pilot-tested programs for nationwide rollout such as the Grassroots Innovation for Inclusive Development (GRIND), the Innovation, Science, and Technology for Accelerating Regional Technology-Based Development (iSTART), and the Smart Sustainable Communities and Cities (Smart City). The GRIND program will gear towards identifying jumpstarting community-based livelihood through processing intellectual properties resulting in commercialization of technological transformation. The iSTART program, on the other hand, impels local government units (LGU) to advance regional development through investment direction, recommendation formulation on policies, accreditation and

deployment of Researchers, Scientists, and Engineers, to name a few of its interventions. Lastly, the Smart City program by definition is the maximizing of scientific and technological advancements to produce high-performing communities in aspects of human capital, human well-being, environmental quality, governance, and urban planning. All these programs in its entirety ultimately coincides with the socio-economic agenda of the DOST. The DOST and its regional offices, all of which were represented during the meeting, assures the strengthening of Science, Technology, and Innovation in the country. The DOST aligns its priorities in support of the agenda set by the current administration to contribute not only to countryside development but to national growth essentially personifying #OneDOST4U.

