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PMC
PULSO
ng Makabagong
CAVITEÑO
NEWS PUBLICATION
PINAGBUBUKLOD ANG MAMAMAYANG CAVITEÑO

VOL. 22 NO. 6

APRIL 7 - 13, 2025

Email: pulsocavitenyo@yahoo.com

P 10.00

ISSN 1656-7684



Farmer in Cavite Empowered Through Leadership and Livelihood Seminar

In a joint effort to enhance leadership and entrepreneurial skills among farmers, the Office of the Provincial Cooperatives Development Officer (OPCDO) and the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist (OPA) successfully conducted a Community Capability Development Seminar themed "Empowering Leaders: Strengthening Leadership Skills for Key Officers of Farmers' Association in Cavite", held at the OCPDO training area on March 26, 2025.

As part of the provincial government's commitment to fostering livelihood and entrepreneurial growth, the seminar brought together 30 presidents and officers of Farmers' Association Federations from various cities and municipalities in Cavite.

OPCDO Officer-In-Charge Ms. Rizalie Pipin-Enero and OPA Officer-In-Charge Engr. Anna Pamela Nova warmly welcomed the participants, reaffirming the provincial government's unwavering support for the agricultural sector. **FARMER • 4**

Thousands of college students in Cavite receive educational assistance



The Provincial Government of Cavite continues its commitment to supporting students in their pursuit of higher education through the distribution of educational assistance to deserving beneficiaries across several municipalities.

On March 25, 2025, a total of 698 college students from the Municipality of Magallanes received financial aid to help cover their academic expenses. The following day, March 26, 573 college students from Ternate were granted the same support, ensuring that they have the necessary resources to continue their education without financial burden.

Meanwhile, on March 27, educational assistance was extended to 269 students from Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo and 834 qualified students from Maragondon, further demonstrating the provincial government's dedication to fostering educational growth and development.

This initiative underscores the provincial government's un- **THOUSANDS • 6**



APRIL 1, 2025

CONSTITUTIONAL FRAMER MONSOD URGES SC TO COMPEL CONGRESS TO BAN POLITICAL DYNASTIES

"We made a mistake; we underestimated the greed of politicians for power and money!"

This was emphasized by Constitution framer Atty. Christian Monsod, when asked why constitutional framers leave the anti-political dynasty provision in the 1987 Philippine Constitution hanging amidst the fresh petition urging the Supreme Court to compel Congress to pass a law defining and banning political dynasties.

In a televised interview with StoryCon on One PH, Monsod, who also served as Commission on Elections (Comelec) chairman, said it's high time for the Supreme Court, being the conscience of the nation, to come forward and prohibit political dynasties, as it could set a clear precedent on whether the High Court can intervene in the actions of other government branches.

"They say the Congress is the purse, the executive is the sword, and the Supreme Court is the conscience of the nation. So it's time for the Supreme Court to come forward with something that is a man- **CONSTITUTIONAL • 6**

NEWS

DTI Quezon launches new SSF for Pinagdanlayan Multi-Purpose Cooperative in Dolores, Quezon

Dolores, Quezon – March 26, 2025 – The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Quezon, through its Shared Service Facilities (SSF) Program, officially launched the SSF for the Enhancement of Tahian sa Kooperatiba—a project valued at PHP 2,800,000.00—granted to the Pinagdanlayan Multi-Purpose Cooperative (PMPC) in Brgy. Pinagdanlayan, Dolores, Quezon.



The event began with a prayer led by SSF Support Staff, Chelsea Ann A. Canales, followed by the Philippine National Anthem. Beverly C. Pantoja, Negosyo Center Business Counselor for Dolores, Quezon, warmly welcomed the participants, guests, and cooperative members. Liza Aileen B. Merano, General Manager of PMPC, also expressed her appreciation for the support extended to their cooperative.

In her speech, Anna Marie V. Quincina, DTI Quezon's Chief Trade-Industry Development Specialist, provided an insightful overview of the SSF Program and highlighted the cooperative's success in managing and operating their first SSF on Coffee Processing. She then emphasized how the new SSF for Garments would further enhance the cooperative's growth and

provide new opportunities.

The program proceeded with messages of support, starting with DTI Quezon Provincial Director Julieta L. Tadiosa, who congratulated the PMPC officers and members. She shared the history of the SSF for Garments, which began when Mayor Orlan A. Calayag sought DTI's help and subsequently endorsed the project.

DTI CALABARZON Assistant Regional Director Revelyn A. Cortez followed with her message, quoting Mayor Calayag's words during the launch of the OTOP Hub, "The town of Dolores will turn your sorrows into joy." She encouraged the cooperative to maximize the benefits of the SSF, emphasizing the importance of taking good care of the equipment provided. She also playfully reinterpreted the

cooperative's acronym, "Pagyamanin Muli natin ang Pinagdanlayan Cooperative (PMPC)," to reinforce the vision of sustainable growth.

Mayor Orlan A. Calayag expressed pride in Dolores' achievement of having multiple SSFs and thanked DTI for its continuous support. He lauded the diligence of PMPC in executing awarded projects and praised DTI for bringing advanced technology and equipment to improve productivity for MSMEs. The Mayor also mentioned his plans to propose a new SSF for Meat Processing in the town. In closing, Mayor Calayag assured the cooperative of his unwavering support as he enters the final term of his office, pledging to continue efforts to improve the lives of Dolores' residents.

The ceremonial turn-

over of equipment followed the speeches, with DTI CALABARZON CTIDS Marina V. Manalo and Anna Marie V. Quincina handing over the Certificate of Ownership to PMPC Chairman Apolonio M. De Rosales, who was visibly moved during his acceptance speech. Chairman De Rosales expressed heartfelt grati-

tude to DTI and Mayor Calayag for their continued support, assuring them that the cooperative would take great care in utilizing the new equipment to ensure the success of the project.

The program concluded with the unveiling of the SSF marker and a photo opportunity. Guests were then led to the garment

facility, where they observed a live demonstration of the equipment. Ms. Lourdes Macalintal of PMPC, with guidance from the technical team of Hinoki Global, Inc., showcased the operation of the embroidery machine, sublimation machine, and heat press equipment, providing valuable insights to all attendees.

UNIQLO Serves More Caviteño Shoppers with New Imus Roadside Store Enjoy discounted LifeWear items and exciting deals starting April 4

April 4, 2025, Manila, Philippines – UNIQLO extends its reach south of Mega Manila by opening the doors to its newest roadside store concept in the City of Imus, Cavite.

UNIQLO Roadside Stores are designed to integrate into communities while offering a convenient, one-stop shopping experience. The newest store in Imus—located along the stretch of Aguinaldo Highway—brings shopping ease and convenience to locals and residents from adjacent neighborhoods. Customers can enjoy an expanded selection of LifeWear items for the entire family, while having access to a dedicated parking facility. Other features that are staples for all roadside stores across the country include Persons With Disability (PWD)-friendly passageways, and app-to-in-store services such as Click and Collect for faster transactions.

To celebrate the opening of UNIQLO Imus Roadside Store, shoppers are in for amazing deals on LifeWear products.

Ladies are in for a summer treat with discounts on popular linen items like the Linen Blend Skort (now at PHP 990 from PHP 1,290) and the Linen Blend Open Collar Short Sleeve Shirt (now at PHP 990 from PHP 1,290).

Meanwhile, the men can get their game on with discounts on some fresh Sport Utility Wear items like the Pocketable UV Protection Parka (now at PHP 1,490 from PHP 1,990) and the DRY-EX UV Protection Full-Zip Hoodie (now at PHP 990

from PHP 1,490).

Kiddies can also join the fun with discounts on cute items like the GIRLS Camisole Dress (now at PHP 990 from PHP 1,290) and the KIDS Geared Shorts (now at PHP 490 from PHP 690).

There are exciting freebies and special promotions as well. Novelty items are up for grabs, including a free UNIQLO toiletry bag for shoppers with a minimum single-receipt purchase of P3,000 between April 4 and 10. To avail of the item, customers must download the UNIQLO app and register as a member upon purchase.

Also in store is a free J.Co donut and a free iced tea from Café 10/23 for the early bird shoppers. From April 4 to 6, the first 100 customers to queue at the UNIQLO Imus Roadside Store will receive either a doughnut voucher from J.Co. or an iced tea voucher from Café 10/23.

Oishi also partakes in the opening celebrations with special treats. From April 4 to 10, shoppers at the UNIQLO Imus Roadside Store can get a free snack from Oishi by simply presenting a receipt at no minimum purchase, alongside their UNIQLO App Membership ID. Redemption period runs until June 9. Meanwhile, the sweet-toothed are set to enjoy a free classic ensaymada from Baloy's. The first 100 customers to queue at the new store will receive the

classic Filipino pastry from April 11 to 13.

In true UNIQLO fashion, there will also be a round of the popular Japanese capsule game, gachapon, featuring different prizes. Customers with a single-receipt purchase are entitled to play the game once for a chance to win a free voucher from select brand partners. Prizes include one Baloy's 10% discount voucher for a box of 12 pieces of ensaymada, and one Café 10/23 voucher for a free Imus Longganisa Danish. Customers must be a registered member of the UNIQLO PH app to enter the promotion, running from April 11 to 13.

Lastly, some good news for fans of the convenient UNIQLO Click & Collect service. Given that the UNIQLO Imus Roadside Store promotes accessibility and ease of shopping, Click & Collect customers will be rewarded with a free UNIQLO Multi Case Pouch for their orders. Take home the special novelty item by choosing UNIQLO Imus Roadside Store as the pick-up option from March 28 to April 3.

Visit www.uniqlo.com/ph/en/ to learn more about UNIQLO Imus Roadside Store, #UniqloPH and #LifeWear. Follow @uniqlo on Facebook and @uniqlophofficial on Instagram for all the latest news and updates.

Editorial

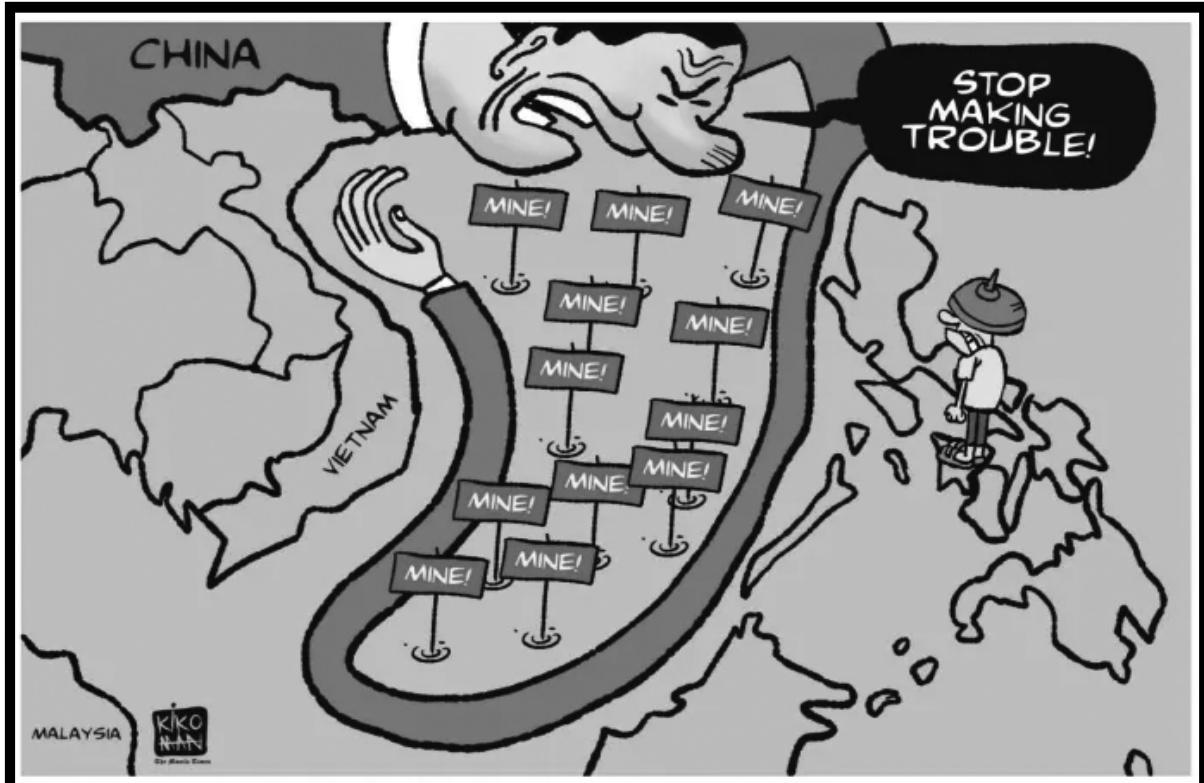
Preventing another major dengue outbreak is a shared responsibility

The alarming rise in dengue cases in the country is a public health issue that requires urgent and concerted effort of the government, private sector, and every citizen. Dengue cases, according to the Department of Health (DOH), have surged by 75 percent compared to the same period last year, signaling a potential major outbreak. This alarming statistic highlights the severity of the situation and calls for immediate and long-term interventions to prevent further escalation.

The government plays a vital role in leading the fight against dengue. At the national level, the DOH should continue to monitor and report on case trends, provide essential health services, and ensure that resources are efficiently allocated to the areas most at risk. As the leading health authority, the DOH can mobilize health workers to provide rapid response to outbreaks, implement targeted mosquito control measures, and facilitate public education campaigns.

Moreover, the government must focus on strengthening local government units to conduct localized mosquito control programs. Past dengue outbreaks, such as the one in 2019—which saw 437,089 cases, with 2,620 deaths—demonstrated how regional responses can either make or break a nationwide effort. In 2019, there was a nationwide epidemic declaration due to the spike in cases, and swift action at the local level was crucial in preventing further spread. In 2025, the same level of urgency should be mirrored, with an emphasis on surveillance, larvicide, fogging, and clearing of stagnant water, which serves as a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

The state cannot do it alone. This is why private sector participation is crucial as it is an important ally in managing health issues and a key contributor to sustainable solutions. Companies, particularly those in the health, technology, and manufacturing industries, should collaborate with the government to fund and support efforts in mosquito control and prevention. For instance, companies in



the healthcare sector can donate resources such as insecticides and medical supplies, while technology firms can develop and distribute apps or systems for dengue surveillance to provide real-time alerts of outbreaks to communities. Pharmaceutical companies can invest in research for developing more effective vaccines and treatments for dengue. The lack of a comprehensive cure for dengue underscores the need for innovation in the private sector.

Business leaders should help amplify government campaigns, encourage their employees and customers to take preventive measures.

While the government and private sector provide resources and structure, every citizen must take ownership of their own health and well-being. As experts have long stressed, one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of dengue is through community action. Residents must regularly clear their homes and surrounding areas of any standing water, such as in tires, plant pots, or gutters, which are prime

breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

Public education campaigns should emphasize the importance of using insect repellents, sleeping under old-fashioned but still effective mosquito nets, and wearing long-sleeved clothing, especially during peak mosquito activity hours (early morning and dusk). The active participation of citizens in eliminating mosquito habitats will not only reduce its population but will also make a significant impact in halting the spread of dengue.

The rising number of dengue cases in 2025 is a wake-up call for everyone. The challenges posed by dengue are not new, and yet, we continue to face them because of complacency. By drawing lessons from previous outbreaks and understanding the roles each sector plays in combating this disease, we can prevent another major epidemic. It is only through a collective effort and shared responsibility that we can effectively curb the impact of dengue and safeguard our health.

Pagkain Para Lumakas

DOKTOR NG MASA



ni Dr. Willie Ong

maraming electrolytes na maihahambing na sa suero na ginagamit ng doktor. Ang laman ng buko ay may carbohydrates na nagpapalakas at nakabubusog din.

7. Nilagang itlog – Ang itlog ay siksik sa protina, vitamin B at vitamin D. May sangkap pa itong Choline na kailangan ng ating utak. Limitahan lang ang pagkain sa 1 o 2 itlog sa maghapon.

8. Nilagang mani – Ang mani ay punong-puno din ng protina, minerals at good fats na nagbibigay ng lakas. Mas masustansya ang nilagang mani kaysa sa pritong mani dahil wala itong mantika at mababa sa asin.

Dagdag payo para lumakas: Kumain ng mas madalas pero katamtaman lamang. Ito'y para makakuha tayo ng tuluy-tuloy na suplay ng energiya mula sa pagkain. Sa umaga, kumain din ng masustansyang almusal para may lakas tayo.

Isang paalala: Huwag sosobrahan ang pagkain ng mga nabanggit dahil puwede tayong tumaba. Tandaan lamang na kapag mayroon tayong kinain, ay sasabayan ng ehersisyo para matunaw ito.



PMC PULSO NG MAKABAGONG CAVITENO NEWS PUBLICATION, a community newspaper published weekly, every Sunday and circulated throughout the province of Cavite, has its editorial and business office at Blk. 7 Lot 8 & 10 Salinasville I, Bacoor City, Cavite

DTI NO. 1017276 Mobile No.: 09959874383

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SUBSCRIPTION RATE

1 Month P 20.00 3 Months P 60.00
6 Months P 120.00 One Year P 240.00

ADVERTISING RATE

Commercial.....P200.00/col. cm. Legal.....P160.00/col. cm.

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NOTE: All news articles and opinions expressed by the writers are entirely their own and do not reflect the opinion of the Publisher, Management of this Publication.

NEWS

DOST-Certification of Electoral Boards in Rizal concludes, strengthening readiness for May 2025 Elections

As the March 4-18 certification of Electoral Boards (EBs) in Rizal Province concludes, the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), in collaboration with the Commission on Elections (COMELEC), reaffirms its commitment to ensuring a fair, secure, and efficient electoral process. Electoral Board members coming from thirteen (13) municipalities and one (1) lone city had undergone rigorous training and assessments, equipping them with the necessary skills to operate Automated Counting Machines (ACMs) and manage the voting process effectively.



At the forefront of this initiative are the thirteen (13) dedicated DOST-Certifiers from the DOST-Wide System who carefully assess examinees and uphold certification standards. The certification, mandated under Republic Act No. 9369 (Automated Election Law), ensures that Electoral Board members are competent, technically capable, and knowledgeable in handling automated election systems. The assessment consisted of 2 parts, the online theoretical examination using the DOST-NCR-developed EB Certi-

fication Portal and the practical examination which was given on a face-to-face basis.

Recognizing the importance of refining the certification process, a coordination meeting between COMELEC Rizal and DOST-Certifiers took place last March 7 and March 12. This meeting addressed minor concerns, improved implementation strategies, and incorporated feedback from teachers regarding the ACMs. By strengthening collaboration, both agencies aimed to enhance efficiency and further sup-

port educators in their crucial role in the upcoming May elections.

With Rizal being one of the provinces in CALABARZON, the certification process is vital in maintaining public trust in the electoral system. The DOST-Certifiers of Rizal, through digital assessments, help guarantee that every voter's choice is accurately recorded and securely transmitted, reducing errors and ensuring the integrity of the election results.

Recognizing the dedication of the DOST-Certifiers and the importance of this initiative,

for agricultural growth.

Through lectures, workshops, and experience-sharing sessions, the participants gained valuable insights on leadership, personality development, and business strategies to enhance their organizational leadership skills. (R. Tanael)

Farmer

from
page 1

Ms. Sheryll H. Loyola, Livelihood Division Head of OPCDO, underscored the crucial role of strong and visionary leadership in driving the success of farmer organizations.

She emphasized that by enhancing their leadership abilities, farmer leaders can inspire their communities, promote innovation, and create sustainable opportunities



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DOST-CALABARZON's Top Management personally visited the certification venues to extend their full support.

On March 12, Assistant Regional Director for Technical Operations, Engr. Francisco E. Barquilla III, personally visited the two certification venues that are both located in Antipolo City, offering valuable tips and words of encouragement to the teachers preparing for their exams. His visit underscored the significance of the teachers' role in upholding the credibility of the elections through their technical competence and commitment to public service. On March 14, DOST Regional Director Ms. Emelita P. Babsit, together with DOST Rizal Provincial Director Mr. Fernando E. Ablaza, also visited the venues namely, Loreland Farm Resort and Cloud 9. They addressed the examinees, recognizing the collective efforts of the Electoral Boards, COMELEC, and DOST Certifiers in ensuring a smooth and credible election process.

"Some of you may no longer be first-timers in this certification process, but I hope this exercise has further prepared you for the vital role you will play in the upcoming elections. This program reflects the strong collaboration between COMELEC, DOST, and our dedicated teachers in ensuring a smooth and credible electoral process," said Director Babsit.

The Commission on Elections (COMELEC) Rizal, under the leadership of Provincial Election Supervisor Atty. Arnulfo H. Pioquinto, continues to maintain the close coordination and communication with DOST-CALABARZON in order to ensure the seamless implementation of the certification program. Atty. Pioquinto and his team acknowledge the critical role of a technically proficient Electoral Board in maintaining a transparent and credible electoral system.

As the March 4-18 certification concludes, a closing ceremony was organized by the Provin-

cial COMELEC of Rizal on the last day of examination to recognize and appreciate all the people who contributed to the success of the EB certification process. With the dedication of DOST-Certifiers in Rizal stands as a testament to their commitment to upholding democracy and public trust. Their role in assessing and certifying teachers contributes significantly to ensuring a clean, transparent, and technology-driven electoral process.

With the support of DOST CALABARZON, DOST Rizal, and COMELEC Rizal, the certification program is set to equip nearly 4,000 teachers with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively serve as Electoral Board members. As the nation moves closer to the May 2025 National and Local Elections (NLE), this initiative remains a crucial step toward a secure, credible, and technologically sound voting process for the people of Rizal. (By Vence Ralf D. Llorente)

LEGAL NOTICES

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
DASMARIÑAS CITY, CAVITE

RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING
CORPORATION

Petitioner/Mortgagee,

-versus- **File No. FC-DC-1678-25**
For: EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE
OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER
ACT 3135, AS AMENDED BY ACT 4118

**SPS. KENIN ROE ARMADA FUNELAS and
SARAH JANE DELA FUENTE FUNELAS as
represented by Attorney-in-Fact Sarah Jane
Dela Fuente Funelas,**

Respondents/Mortgagors.

X-----X

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118 filed by the petitioner/mortgagee, **RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING CORPORATION**, with postal address at 28th Floor AT Yuchengco Centre, 25th & 26th Sts., Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City, against the respondent/mortgagor **SPS. KENIN ROE ARMADA FUNELAS and SARAH JANE DELA FUENTE FUNELAS as represented by Attorney-in-Fact Sarah Jane Dela Fuente Funelas** with postal addresses at Blk 22 Lot 9 South Crest Village, San Agustin II, Dasmariñas City, Cavite and Blk 22 Lot 27 Phase II, Amaris Homes Dasmariñas, Brgy. Burol, Dasmariñas City, Cavite and for the satisfaction of the mortgaged debt which as of 21 February 2025 amounts to **ONE MILLION NINE HUNDRED THIRTY FIVE THOUSAND NINETY THREE PESOS & 32/100 (Php1,935,093.32)**, exclusive of all legal fees and expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on **May 15, 2025 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning** or soon thereafter in the Ground Floor Lobby of Dasmariñas Community Affairs (DASCA) Building, Congressional Road, Burol II, Dasmariñas City, Province of Cavite to the highest bidder and for CASH or CERTIFIED CHECK, in Philippine Currency, the following described real property together with all the buildings and other improvements existing thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 057- 2023054875

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that certain land situated in BARANGAY OF BUROL, MUNICIPALITY OF DASMARIÑAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON, bounded and described as follows:

LOT NO. 27 BLOCK NO. 22 PLAN NO: PCS-04-032033
PORTION OF: LOTS 3515-B-1 AND 2, (LRC) PSD-303561,
LOTS 3515-A, D, AND E, PSD-29914, LOTS 3531-AAND B,
PSD-04-098179, LOTS 3533-BAND C, PSD-04-062306 AND
LOT 5927-B, BSD-04-001525 (OLT)

LOCATION: BARANGAY OF BUROL, MUNICIPALITY OF DASMARIÑAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON
BOUNDARIES:

| LINE | DIRECTION | ADJOINING LOT(S) |
|------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| 1-2 | SE | LOT 29, BLOCK 22, PCS-04-032033 |
| 2-3 | SW | ROAD LOT 29, PCS-04-032033 |
| 3-4 | NW | LOT 25, BLOCK 22, PCS-04-032033 |
| 4-1 | NE | LOT 28, BLOCK 22, PCS-04-032033 |

TIE POINT: MON. NO. 148, IMUS ESTATE

| LINE | BEARING | DISTANCE |
|-------------|--------------|------------|
| To corner 1 | N. 49° 45' E | 1097.35 M. |
| 1-2 | S. 62° 51' W | 12.50 M. |
| 2-3 | N. 27° 09' W | 4.00 M. |
| 3-4 | N. 62° 51' E | 12.50 M. |
| 4-1 | S. 27° 09' E | 4.00 M. |

AREA: FIFTY (50) SQUARE METERS

is registered in accordance with the provision of the Property Registration Decree in the name of **Owner: SPS. KENIN ROE ARMADA FUNELAS and SARAH JANE DELA FUENTE FUNELAS, FILIPINO CITIZEN**

Prospective buyers and/or bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title of the said real property and the encumbrance thereon, if there be any.

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

In the event the publication auction should not take place

Empowering Entrepreneurs DTI-Laguna Provides Livelihood Seminar for CMDC Trainees

On March 26, 2025, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) - Laguna, in collaboration with the Calamba Manpower Development Center (CMDC), successfully conducted a comprehensive livelihood seminar for the trainees of the CMDC. This event was made possible through the combined efforts of key partners, including the Negosyo Center Business Counselors from the towns of Calauan, Rizal, and Pangil.



The seminar opened with a remark from Leonardo D. Dela Cruz Jr., the Supervising Manpower Development Officer of CMDC. He extended a warm welcome to all the distinguished guest speakers and participants, setting a positive and engaging tone for the day's activities. Dr. Emilio D. Casulla, representing Calamba City

on the said date and time, it shall be held on **May 29, 2025** at the same time and place without further notice.

04 April 2025, Dasmariñas City, Province of Cavite.

(Sgd.) **RODRIGO C. ESTOGERO, JR.**
Sheriff IV

(Sgd.) **ATTY. MARCELA L. BAYBAY**
Clerk of Court VI & Ex-Officio Sheriff

Copy furnished:

RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING CORPORATION
28th Floor AT Yuchengco Centre, 25th & 26th Sts., Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City

SPS. KENIN ROE ARMADA FUNELAS and SARAH JANE DELA FUENTE FUNELAS
as represented by Attorney-in-Fact Sarah Jane Dela Fuente Funelas

Blk 22 Lot 9 South Crest Village, San Agustin II, Dasmariñas City, Cavite and
Blk 22 Lot 27 Phase II, Amaris Homes Dasmariñas, Brgy. Burol, Dasmariñas City, Cavite

Publication: PMC Pulso ng Makabagong Caviteño News Publication
Dates: April 7, 14 & 21, 2025

sumer education.

The above-stated seminar was able to equip the participants with valuable tools and knowledge, opening up opportunities for growth and success. It proved to be a valuable experience that enhanced the trainees' skills and fostered an entrepreneurial environment, positively impacting various industries in the region. This training served as a crucial step for many participants to confidently begin their entrepreneurial journeys.

For more inquiries, kindly contact DTI-Laguna at r04a.laguna@dti.gov.ph (DMPiamonte, DTI-Laguna). During the seminar, participants were introduced to key topics to help them succeed in their entrepreneurial endeavors. The speakers covered subjects like innovative business ideas, the entrepreneurial mindset, and practical steps for starting a business. They also discussed DTI programs and services that support aspiring entrepreneurs and emphasized con-

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NEWS

DOST-Calabarzon

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Observance of Girl Child Week

In line with its advocacy for women's empowerment, DOST-CALABARZON observed Girl Child Week, emphasizing the importance of nurturing young girls to become future leaders, innovators, and changemakers. Through meaningful conversations and social media engagement, the organization highlighted the challenges and opportunities for girls in the region.

Regional and National Engagements

DOST-CALABARZON actively participated in the Regional Women's Month Celebration in Antipolo, Rizal, represented by Mr. Ristian Aldrin Calderon, DOST-CALABARZON GAD Secretariat, and Ms. Nina Sherylle S. Giron, Supervising Science and Research Specialist from the Provincial Science and Technology Office (PSTO) Rizal. This event served as a platform to share insights, foster collaboration, and celebrate milestones in gender equality efforts within the region.

On the national stage, DOST-CALABARZON, in partnership with DOST Philippines and the DOST-GAD unit, co-hosted a DOST-led Philippine Side Event of the 69th Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW69), held last March 28, 2025, at The Manila Hotel. Staff and members of the GAD

Focal Point System actively participated in this event, further strengthening the organization's advocacy on gender-responsive policies and programs.

Advocacy Through Symbolism: Purple Your Icon and Purple Wednesdays

DOST-CALABARZON demonstrated its commitment to the Women's Month campaign through the Purple Your Icon initiative with the illumination of its Regional Office in purple as a tribute to women and their invaluable contributions to society.

Additionally, Purple Wednesdays became a staple among staff members and scholars through the assistance and efforts of Ms. Althea Marie Manalili, President of the UPLB DOST Scholars Society.

Knowledge Sharing: Gender Advocacy in Public Service

DOST-CALABARZON was honored to be invited as a resource speaker for the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), where it contributed to meaningful discussions on gender equality and Women Empowerment.

Mr. Ristian Aldrin C. Calderon led a session on "Advancing Gender Equality and Women Empowerment in Public Service," highlighting strategies for fostering inclusivity and breaking barriers in governance. Meanwhile, Mr. Charles Andrew M. Reyes, Science Research Specialist

of PSTO Laguna, shared insights on Best Practices in Gender Mainstreaming, emphasizing effective approaches to integrating gender-responsive initiatives into policies and programs.

A Message to Future Women Leaders

As the Women's Month celebration concludes, DOST-CALABARZON echoes the words of Regional Director Emelita P. Babsit, when asked what advice she would give to young women aspiring to lead:

"Be clear about your life aspirations and pursue your dreams. Never view gender as a hindrance to achieving your goals. Regardless of gender, the key factors for success are the preparations you make—such as education, training, experience, and mentorship. Establishing a strong network is also essential. Additionally, it's important to develop yourself both academically and emotionally. Leadership involves much more than just knowledge; it requires a genuine desire to serve your organization, your country, and the public."

Moving forward, DOST-CALABARZON remains steadfast in its commitment to gender equality, continuously creating platforms for women to thrive and lead in the fields of science, technology, and public service.

The organization looks ahead to another year of breaking barriers and empowering women. **(By Ristian Aldrin C. Calderon)**

2025
National
Women's
Month



"The best way to inspire young women to pursue careers in underrepresented sectors is to lead by example. We can't encourage them to step into these fields if we're unwilling to do so ourselves. By boldly taking up space, we show them that they too can make an impact. When women see what's possible, they'll believe they belong."

Kathryn Christel Joy R. Dela Rosa
DOST Scholar and Intern, DOST-CALABARZON

Constitutional

from
page 1

date of the constitution, which they [Congress] have not done for 38 years," Monsod said.

He also revealed that the bid to prohibit political dynasties is one of the intentions of the Constitution in order to promote participatory democracy. Meanwhile, when asked why constitutional framers leave the anti-dynasty

provision hanging, he said constitutional framers don't want to have restrictive requirements for those who want to run for public office in the hopes that maybe the country's democracy will improve.

"So we leave it to Congress and say maybe we can trust Congress that when our democracy

Thousands

from
page 1

wavering commitment to empowering Cavite's youth by alleviating financial constraints and promoting academic excellence. Local officials expressed their gratitude to Governor Athena Bryana

Tolentino and the entire provincial administration for prioritizing education and providing much-needed support to students in the province.

Beneficiaries and their families also expressed



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doesn't need that kind of prohibition anymore, ibababa nila sa second degree [consanguinity and affinity]," Monsod added.

"We made a mistake, as I always say; we had two shortcomings in the Constitutional Commission: one is we overestimated the spirit of EDSA, and second, we underestimated the greed of politicians for power and money," Monsod emphasized. #batasaph

appreciation for the assistance, noting that it will significantly aid them in covering tuition fees, school supplies, and other academic-related expenses. The program continues to be a beacon of hope for many students striving to achieve their educational dreams despite financial challenges. **(OPIO)**

MAGLIBANG TAYO

KAPALARAN

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19) - Iwasan mong madamay sa mga bagay na 'di mo pinag-isipang mabuti. Masuwarteng kulay-green. Tips sa lotto-9-10-23-39-40-45.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20) - Hindi na mahalaga kung may tutulong sa iyo o wala, dahil sapat na ang kakayahang meron ka upang gawin anumang gusto mo. Masuwarteng kulay-yellow. Tips sa lotto-5-18-27-33-35-41.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) - Babagal ang pagsulong ng buhay mo kapag hindi ka namili ng mga makasama. Masuwarteng kulay-purple. Tips sa lotto-4-17-21-29-32-43.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) - Madali lang naman talunin ang mga negatibong pananaw at pakiramdam. Ang gawin mo, titigan mo ang sariwang dahon at halaman. Masuwarteng kulay-pink. Tips sa lotto-1-16-22-31-35-42.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) - Lumalakas ang loob ng mga mahihina kapag nakakasama ka. Sa katunayan, sa iyo magmumula ang kanyang sigla. Masuwarteng kulay-beige. Tips sa lotto-2-10-25-28-38-44.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Buksan mo ang isipan mo upang mas gumanda ang takbo ng iyong buhay. Ito ang sikreto upang magtagumpay ka. Masuwarteng kulay-blue. Tips sa lotto-4-14-23-32-37-41.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Tatangayin ka ngayon ng pagsasaya. Sakyang mo lang ang agos ng iyong buhay dahil kapag masaya ka, ang kapalaran mo ay gaganda at sasya rin. Masuwarteng kulay-black. Tips sa lotto-9-18-21-35-39-45.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Magkunwari kang mahina kahit na malakas ka naman talaga. Sa ganitong paraan, magugulat ang mga kontrabida sa buhay mo at sa huli ay susuko rin sila. Masuwarteng kulay-violet. Tips sa lotto-7-10-16-25-33-40.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Nakamasid sa iyo ang langit, binabantayan ka Niya sa mga taong walang mabuting motibo sa iyo. Ituloy mo lang ang mga plano mo. Masuwarteng kulay-peach. Tips sa lotto-6-15-21-30-36-42.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Magandang kapalaran ang hatid sa iyo ng mga pangyayaring ayaw na ayaw mo, ito ang maibubulalas mo pagkatapos ng mga pasubok na mararanasan mo. Masuwarteng kulay-red. Tips sa lotto-2-8-13-28-34-41.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Suwerte ka ngayon. Alam mo kung sino naman ang mamalasin? Eh 'di sino pa ba kundi ang mga kontrabida sa buhay mo. Masuwarteng kulay-mocha brown. Tips sa lotto-4-11-17-26-38-44.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20) - Pagtiyagaan mo ang mga negatibong tao, mahirap man paniwalaan pero ilan sa mga suwerte nila ay mapapasaiyo na. Masuwarteng kulay-white. Tips sa lotto-2-16-18-25-31-40.

SUDOKU

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| 5 | 4 | | 9 | | | | 6 | |
| | 3 | | | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | 8 | 3 | 9 | | |
| | | 4 | | | 8 | | 2 | |
| | 2 | 3 | 5 | | | | | |
| 3 | 9 | | | | 1 | 4 | | |
| | 8 | | | | 6 | | | |
| | 6 | | | | 1 | | 5 | |
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SAGOT: SUDOKU VOL. 22 #5

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 3 |
| 4 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 5 |
| 6 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 4 |
| 7 | 1 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 8 |
| 8 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 9 |
| 9 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 2 |
| 1 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 6 |
| 3 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 1 |
| 2 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 7 |

HOW TO PLAY: Sudoku puzzle is made up of a 9-by-9 grid with nine 3-by-3 sub-grids called boxes. There are 9 rows, 9 columns and 9 boxes in every puzzle. The object of the game is to fill all squares in the grid with the correct number.

- The rules are:
 - Every row, column and box must contain all the digits 1 to 9.
 - Each number can only appear once in every row, column or box.
 - Every puzzle has only one correct solution!

Did You Know?



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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| A | O | E | M | E | D | I | T | H | H | X | O | I | M |
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| C | P | O | R | U | O | O | F | E | P | R | I | O | A |
| L | O | I | O | N | V | N | A | E | I | P | P | N | D |
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| U | U | A | P | S | E | M | I | P | B | O | D | N | O |
| D | H | C | T | A | W | E | L | P | P | A | T | D | W |
| E | L | F | F | U | H | S | D | O | P | I | O | O | E |
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| H | E | I | N | E | W | T | O | N | H | N | H | O | O |
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DOST-CALABARZON Wraps Up a Meaningful National Women's Month Celebration 2025

As National Women's Month 2025 comes to a close, DOST-CALABARZON reflects on a month filled with advocacy, empowerment, and the celebration of women's contributions in science, technology, and public service. With the theme "Babae sa Lahat ng Sektor, Aangat ang Bukas sa Bagong Pilipinas."



Throughout March, the organization actively engaged in various initiatives to amplify the voices of women, recognize their achievements, and reinforce its commitment to gender equality and inclusive development.

Empowering Women Through Stories and Insights

One of the highlights of the month was the daily social media features showcasing motivational statements from DOST-CALABARZON gender champions, women leaders, and members of the Gender and Development (GAD) Focal Point System. These inspiring messages reinforced the importance of breaking barriers and pursuing aspirations regardless of gender.

DOST-CALABARZON also featured women scholars, recognizing their dedication and perseverance in their academic pursuits. Their stories serve as testaments to the impact of inclusive policies in supporting women's advancement in STEM and beyond.

DOST-CALABARZON • 6

CALABARZON RDC facilitates turnover of HRRDA 2023-2028 to strengthen regional R&D

The CALABARZON Regional Development Council (RDC), through its Regional Research, Development, and Innovation Committee (RRDIC), facilitated the ceremonial turnover of the Harmonized Regional Research and Development Agenda (HRRDA) 2023-2028 during its First Quarter Full Council Meeting at the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) IV-A, Barangay Milagrosa, Calamba City, Laguna recently.



The ceremonial turnover of the HRRDA was joined by Ms. Carmel

Matabang, Regional Director of NEDA Regional Office IV-A - Calabarzon

and Vice Chairperson of RDC: Ms. Emelita P. Bagsit, Regional Director



DOTr: LRT-1 fare hike needed for Cavite extension, upkeep

The Department of Transportation (DOTr) on Tuesday said the impending Light Rail Transit Line 1 (LRT-1) fare hike is necessary to extend the rail to Cavite and maintain efficient operations for commuters.



Courtesy: Light Rail Manila Corporation

"While the DOTr respects the decision of those who want to file an appeal against the fare adjustment in LRT-1, which will take effect starting on Wednesday, April 2, it believes that the fare adjustment is long overdue and is necessary to ensure the operational viability of the rail line and sustain its necessary upgrades for the benefit of the commuting public," the department said in a statement.

"This rate increase is needed to not only ensure smooth and timely maintenance of LRT-1 but also the extension of the line all the way to Cavite under the present PPP contract," it added.

According to the Transportation Department, the rate increase approved on January 30 is only the second rate increase with 2023 being the first.

"This was also much lower than the proposed 20-peso fare originally submitted by the Light Rail Management Corporation (LRMC)," the DOTr said.

The scheduled April 2nd increase will elevate maximum single journey fares from P45 to P55, and minimum fares from P15 to P20.

Civil society groups, including PISTON, Bayan, and PARA, earlier filed an appeal to President Ferdinand Marcos Jr., contesting the DOTr's approval of the hike and arguing it would disproportionately affect LRT-1's daily commuters, largely students and workers.



of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST)-CALABARZON and Chair of the RRDIC; and Dr. Candida B. Adalla, President of the Philippine Agriculture and Resources Research Foundation Inc.

(PARRFI) and Co-Chair of the RRDIC.

During the event, RD Bagsit, expressed her gratitude and commended the committee for its dedication in crafting the agenda. Meanwhile, RD Matabang,

emphasized the importance of utilizing the HRRDA as a strategic guide for RDC agencies in planning and implementing their projects, programs, and initiatives. (By Clarenz Polo B. Ocampo)