

The Department of Health (DOH) and San Miguel Corporation (SMC), through its San Miguel Foundation, Inc. (SMF), opened recently a second Bagong Urgent Care and Ambulatory Services (BUCAS) Center, further strengthening their pioneering partnership to bridge public healthcare gaps especially for the poor.

The new BUCAS center, located at the San Miguel Foundation's Better World Smokey Mountain facility in Manila, is operated in partnership with the Tondo Medical Center (TMC).

The new cen-

ter builds on the success of the first-ever privately-supported BUCAS Center, also with the SMF, through its Better World Clinic in Cubao, Quezon City, which started operations in partnership with the Quirino Memorial Medical Center (QMMC) last year.

Better World Smokey Mountain — an education and training facility run by SMF in Tondo — now offers outpatient services alongside Phil-Health Konsulta Packages, with medical staff from TMC attending to BUCAS Center patients.

The facility has also conducted 15 health

education sessions thus far, promoting better health and wellness practices to hundreds of participants.

BUCAS Centers are designed to address healthcare needs that rural and city health units cannot always address, such as lab work, diagnostics, and minor surgical procedures.

While laboratory services and certain medical procedures may be available in higher-level government hospitals, these facilities primarily attend to emergency and complex cases — often resulting in long waiting times for patients with

more routine or less urgent needs.

SMC became the first private partner of the DOH in the rollout of the BUCAS program, offering facility space at its Better World Clinic in Cubao to QMMC as a benchmark for how the initiative can work, particularly in high-density urban areas where gaps in medical care access are most pressing.

By readily providing essential medical services in the community level, the BUCAS Center run by SMF and QMMC made it possible for patients to be treated sooner. This setup helped ease the burden on public hospitals, which must prioritize emergency and critical care cases.

Driven by a deep sense of "malasakit" — a

core value of SMC — SMF not only provides the space for consultation rooms and an activity hall, it also facilitates the identification of patients who can avail of free high-quality medical services under the program.

Following this pilot public-private partnership model with SMC, the DOH has already opened 50 BUCAS Centers nationwide, based in public hospitals or in facilities of private sector partners.

"This is the kind of impact we want to make: help patients, especially the poor, recover faster, return to their daily lives, and thereby strengthen communities," said SMC Chairman and CEO Ramon S. Ang.

"Many of our kababayan who fall sick are left waiting because the system is overwhelmed. That is where BUCAS Centers come in. It's an opportunity for our Bet-

***cont. on page 4***

SA bawat panahong dumarating, may isang lider na tumatayo upang ipaglaban ang pangarap ng kanyang mga kababayan.

si RR Lacson ay nangun-  
nungsa sa isang grupo na  
hindi lang tungkol sa puli-  
tika kundi tungkol sa tunay  
na serbisyo. Ang kanilang  
laban ay laban ng bawat  
Imuseño na naniniwala  
sa isang gobyernong bu-  
kas-palad, may malasa-  
kit, at inuuna ang kapakanan  
ng bayan.

Hindi na bago sa  
mga taga-Imus ang kahal-  
agahan ng pagkakaisa.  
Matagal nang pinatunayan  
ng lungsod na kapag nag-  
kakaisa ang pamahalaan  
at mamamayan, walang  
imposible sa pag-abot ng  
kaunlaran.

Hindi personal na ambisyon ang nagtutalak kay RR Lacson sa kanyang laban. Hindi ito para sa kapangyarihan o para sa ilalim lamang. Ang kanyang adhikain ay para sa lahat ng Imuseho—para sa bawat pamilya na nangangarap ng mas maunlad na kinabukasan, para sa bawat manggagawa na nais ng mas maayos na oportunidad, at para sa bawat kabataang umaasang magkaroon ng mas maliwanag na bukas.

Sa ilalim ng kanyang pamumuno, nais niyang siguruhin na ang Imus ay hindi lamang magiging isang simpleng lungsod sa Cavite kundi isang huwarang lungsod na tinitingala sa buong bansa.

Ang kanyang bisyon ay isang Imus na may maayong sa serbisyong pampubliko, maunlad na ekonomiya, at higit sa lahat, isang lungsod na tunay na nagmamalasakit sa kanyang mamamayan.

Kasama si Cong. Emmanuel Maliksi at ang buong Team Imus 2025,

na serbisyo. Ang kanilang laban ay laban ng bawat Imuseho na naniniwala sa isang gobyernong bukas-palad, may malasakit, at inuuna ang kapakanan ng bayan.

Hindi na bago sa mga taga-Imus ang kahalagahan ng pagkakaisa. Matagal nang pinatunayan ng lungsod na kapag nagkakaisa ang pamahalaan at mamamayan, walang imposible sa pag-abot ng kaunlaran.

Ang pangarap ni RR Lacson para sa Imus ay hindi lamang nakasulat sa mga plataporma—ito ay nakaugat sa kanyang puso at isipan. Alam niya ang tunay na pangangailangan ng bawat pamilya, ang hamon ng kahirapan, at ang pangarap ng bawat kabataan.

Kaya naman hindi siya nangangako lamang, kundi kumikilos upang gawing realidad ang kanyang mga ahika-in.

Ang laban ni RR Lacson ay laban ng bawat Imuseho na naniniwala sa mas maayos, mas maunlad, at mas makataong Imus.

At sa darating na halalan, ang tanong ay hindi kung sino ang tatakbo, kundi sino ang tunay na alabalan para sa mga taga-Imus.

Ang sagot ay malinaw: RR LACSON.

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**PBBM to PNPA**  
**grads: 'Let our**  
**people feel**  
**your presence'**

## Php1.1-M halaga ng Fuel Subsidy, ipinamahagi sa mga magpapalay ng Luchan, Tayabas, Pagbilao

Aabot sa Php 1,170,000 halaga ng fuel subsidy para sa 390 magpapalay ng Lucban, Tayabas at Pagbilao, Quezon ang naipamahagi ng Department of Agriculture IV-CALABARZON (DA-4A) Rice Program noong ika-20 ng Marso 2025 sa Lucban, Quezon.

Ito ay bahagi ng suporta ng programa sa mga magpapalay upang makabawas sa gastos ng produksyon sa kabila ng patuloy na pagtaas ng presyo ng mga produktong petrolyo.

Makakatanggap ang bawat kwalipikado at rehistradong magsasaka na may dalawang ekтары ang o higit pang sakahan ng tig-tatatlong libong halaga ng fuel subsidy na maaari nilang gamitin para sa kanilang mga makinarya at sasakyan sa sakahan.

Nagpasalamat si G. Joselito Castillo, isang magpapalay ng Tayabas. Aniya, napakalaking tulung nito lalo na ito gumagamit siya ng mga makinarya tulad ng hand tractor at grasscutter sa kanyang pagsasaka.

Hiniling naman ni Lucban Municipal Agriculturist Sonia Catchuella sa mga magsasaka na paglaanan lamang ng gasolina ang mga makinarya nila sa palayan.



## PHILHEALTH MAY ACCREDITED FACILITIES NA SA LAGUNA PARA SA OUTPATIENT THERAPEUTIC CARE (OTC) BENEFITS PACKAGE NG SEVERE ACUTE MALNUTRITION

PSO (PH News Bureau SA, 2023-08)

Nipagpipigil, 2023, maagang nang itagayutin ang Outpatient Therapeutic Care (OTC) Benefits para sa Severe Acute Malnutrition sa Calabarzon, Laguna.

Accredited na para magbigay ng maagang benepisyo ang Calabarzon City Malnutrition Program, Satero SA, Bantayog 3, Calabarzon City at ang Osho Urban Health Center, Purok 3, Bantayog 3, Calabarzon City.

Ang outpatient therapeutic care benefits package para sa SAM ay tugatug na tugatug, ang outpatient coverage at financial risk protection para sa mga bata at pangyayari Pilipino. Ang lahat ng maagang benefit package ay IT200 para sa mga sanggol na sa edad pang anim (6) na buwan ang edad at IT25000000 para sa mga batang anim (6) na buwan hanggang lima (5) taong gulang.

Sama ng benepisyo ng ita at mga sumusunod na sangay ng kinalakhang para sa gamit ng SAM para ng

assessment, pagpapali, counseling at pagpapali, commodities distribution (therapeutic food at MUHA), mga gamit, kung kinakailangan, pagpapali ang pagpapali sa outpatient therapeutic care (OTC) pagpapali, maagang therapeutic care (OTC) at mga follow-up visit o pagbabasa sa kahalalan at surveillance.

Ang Severe Acute Malnutrition o SAM ay isang kritikal na pangkalahatang isyu na nangangailangan ng maagang at maagang, sa maagang, para sa mga batang bata at mga sanggol, ang Department Regional Office IV at sa mga capital at ita pang mga health care facilities na mag-a-attend para maagang pagpapali ng maagang pagpapali sa mga benepisyo ng maagang.

Para sa mga kagangang impormasyon at detalye, maagang bumasa sa Philhealth official website na [www.philhealth.gov.ph](http://www.philhealth.gov.ph) (e-mail)

# Michael R. Gallego, Hinirang ng KWF na Makata ng Taon 2025

## CARD LFC: Celebrating 12 Years of Empowering Communities

# DTI Rizal and DICT Rizal empower MSMEs with TikTok Marketing Strategies in Digital Tuesdays Webinar



DTI AND ASEAN BAC PH TAKE THE FIRST STEPS FOR AN ASEAN CENTER FOR MSME DEVELOPMENT. In the meeting last April 8, 2025 at the DTI for the planned ASEAN Center for MSME Development are (from left) ASEAN Business Advisory Council Philippines (ASEAN BAC PH) Executive Director Gil Gonzales Director Sheryllyn Aquia of the DTI's Bureau of International Trade Relations, DTI Sec. Atty. Allan Gepty, Ambassador Delia Albert, Go Negosyo founder and ASEAN BAC PH Chair Joey Concepcion, Go Negosyo Executive Director Mina Akram, and DTI Philippine Bureau of International Trade Relations Chief Denise Cheska Enriquez.



## EDITORIAL:

### Road rage on the rise

HOT weather and mind-blowing traffic gridlock in Metro Manila, where nearly 15 million people live, have viciously combined yet again to contribute to the frustration and stress that point to road rage.

Last year, an average 3.82 million vehicles traveled through Metro Manila on a daily basis, an increase of about 20,000 vehicles compared to the previous year.

Included in the statistics are 1.5 million cars, 125,000 jeepneys, 93,000 trucks and 87,000 plus taxis.

Metro Manila, the country's educational and industrial center, which holds the record for the worst vehicular traffic congestion among Southeast Asian urbanized cities, continues to experience heavy vehicular traffic daily, with motorists spending a long span of time each year stuck in traffic.

The high volume of vehicles on the roads, especially during peak hours, contributes to this congestion, with many on the road in deep conviction of perceived impediments to their progress and feeling of being at risk due to reckless driving.

A potential cause of anger while driving is feeling rushed due to traffic, with the underlying argument that when one is short on time while driving to one's destination, one may feel frustrated particularly when one comes across a situation that slows one down, which might cause one to drive in a more hurried, risky way.

Earlier this month, a road rage altercation in the eastern outskirts of the metropolis turned fatal after a shooting incident claimed the life of one of four victims, prompting renewed discussions on proposed legislation to penalize road rage.

We note that since 2022, six House bills have been filed – all pending with the House Committee on Transportation to this date – aiming to reduce the number of road rage incidents, with the first filed by San Jose del Monte Rep. Florida Robes.

Robes explained to reporters that penalizing aggressive behavior “sends a strong message that violence on the road, verbal or physical, has no place in civilized society” – arguing that passing such bills would be more “preventive than reactive” when it comes to road rage, as “deterrence starts with definition.”

The most common adjacent triggers of road rage include one's progress being impeded as by slow driving, being put at risk, instance reckless behavior of other drivers, as well as discourtesy or hostility of other drivers.

Depression, bipolar disorder and post traumatic stress disorder are also a few examples of mental health conditions that can lead to road rage. People with these conditions may have difficulty regulating their emotions, which can make them more prone to explosive outbursts while driving.

Other studies show that high temperatures or hot weather can increase motorists' tendency to engage in road rage, with experts defining this as the heat hypothesis.

Heavy traffic also leads to stress, impatience and frustrations which could escalate to pugnacious attitude on the road.

Another factor is anxiety, a mental health concern common among individuals experiencing stress at work or having problems at home.

Experts said such individuals must seek professional help for the proper personality management and regulation of their strong emotions, adding the government must consider mental health assessments for those applying for a driver's license.

## CARD...

CARD Leasing and Finance Corporation (CLFC), an institution under CARD MRI, celebrated 12 years of providing high-quality and cost-effective leasing and financing solutions on January 10, 2025.

CARD LFC was established by adopting the CARD-Business Development Service Foundation (CARD-BDSFI) initiatives such as supplies sourcing and pilot projects related to leasing and financing.

“To fulfill our goals, our strategy aligns with CARD MRI's mission to eradicate poverty. We reinvest our profits in business opportunities that create positive change in CARD communities,” said CARD LFC President Ms. Ma. Rodessa Burgos.

With CARD MRI's overarching mission to eradicate poverty, CARD LFC provides operating and finance leases, start-up loans, and other

financing solutions to MSMEs and the general public.

Another key initiative of CARD LFC is providing affordable leasing and financing intended for solar home systems. The institution facilitates the partnership for the supplies and distribution of solar products to households in off-grid areas through the microfinance services of CARD, Inc. (A Microfinance NGO), CARD Bank, CARD SME Bank, and CARD MRI Rizal Bank – CARD MRI's financial institutions.

“As we face 2025, we pledge to collaborate with like-minded institutions to provide access to resources for economically challenged entrepreneurs, families, and communities,” Ms. Burgos concluded.

To learn more about CARD LFC, visit its official website at <https://www.cardmri.com/clfc/> or its Facebook page at @CARDLFCOfficial. **PR**

## Cayetano's...

More than 3,000 residents across CALABARZON received assistance this month through Senator Alan Peter Cayetano's Bayanihan Caravan, conducted in partnership with government agencies and local officials.

In collaboration with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the senator's office distributed livelihood assistance to women and health workers in Mendez and Tanza, Cavite, as well as in Lobo and Taysan, Batangas, under the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) program.

Local officials who supported the initiative included Tanza Vice Mayor Archangelo Matro, Mendez Mayor Francisco Mendoza, Lobo Mayor Lota Manalo, Taysan Mayor Edilberto Adabay, and former Batangas Representative Raneao Abu.

Cayetano's office also extended aid to residents of Antipolo City through DSWD's Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP), with the help of Kagawad Kristine Ibardolaza. The program

aims to provide livelihood opportunities and support recipients' daily needs, particularly women.

The caravan also partnered with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) to provide livelihood packages to residents of Antipolo City under the DOLE Integrated Livelihood Program (DILP). The program was made possible with the support of Antipolo Mayor Casimiro Ynares III.

Expanding its reach, the senator's office conducted a Tulong-Medikal Caravan in Biñan, Laguna, offering free general medical check-ups, diagnostic services, medicines, and specialized healthcare for women.

The medical assistance initiative was carried out with the support of Laguna Representative Len Alonte, Biñan Mayor Arman Dimaguila Jr., and Vice Mayor Gel Alonte.

Through these efforts, Cayetano continues to champion community-building and national transformation, ensuring that government support reaches those who need it most. **PR**

## SSS...

DASMARIÑAS CITY — The Social Security System reminds employers or business owners of their obligation to register their employees regardless of employment status, as mandated under Republic Act No. 11199 or the Social Security System Act of 2018.

SSS Baguio Branch Manager Celedon Valdez leading the delivery of Show Cause Order to business owners during their RACE activity last Thursday (April 24).

“Lahat dapat ng mga business owners kung meron silang isa or more employees dapat ma-register nila sa SSS. Ang mga employees kasi dapat talagang entitled sila na maipasok sa SSS and yung mga business owners talagang obligasyon din nila na i-register ang kanilang mga employees within 30 days from the day na nag-start sila,” SSS Branch Manager Celedon Valdez said in an interview.

He assured that SSS is a strong and committed partner of business owners in assuring social protection of all employees.

“For our valued employers, business owners, nandito po kami as strong partners na tu-

lungan natin iyung mga members employees natin na ma-register ibayad natin sila kasi kung lahat ng benefits due them, they have it, they will love yung business niyo, di nila pababayaan, tutulungan pa nila kayo to make it more progressive,” Valdez added.

For the monthly contribution of SSS members, business owners and employees have a 70-30 percent sharing, respectively.

Valdez led the team in conducting a Run Against Contribution Evaders (RACE) activity around Dasmariñas City April 24, to ensure the compliance of business owners to RA 11199.

They visited nine business establishments including food stalls to deliver show cause order and notices for their violations that include non-registration of employees, non-production of records and non-remittance. Business owners are given 15 days to visit the SSS office and make compliance arrangement.

Valdez assured that their account management teams are committed to assist them in addressing their concerns.

DATELINE Weekly Newspapers has its principal business editorial office at 2F, #025 Coastal Green St., P. F. 1 Espiritu, Bacoor City, Cavite with all the required BIR, DTI (CR#01576397), Barangay and City business permits Tel Nos. (046)476-7611/(0955)1552764; [datelineweekly@gmail.com](mailto:datelineweekly@gmail.com) / [heidelitalat@yahoo.com](mailto:heidelitalat@yahoo.com)



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#### ADVERTISING RATES

COMMERCIAL ----- P200/col.cm

LEGAL/NOTICES ----- P160/col.cm

Font Size:

Heading : 10  
Body Text : 8  
Space : Single space

## DTI...

The Department of Trade and Industry Rizal Provincial Office in partnership with the Department of Information and Communications Technology – Rizal conducted the second module of this year's "Digital Tuesdays" Webinar Series with the topic TikTok Management 101: Building your Brand Presence on March 18, 2025 and was joined by 135 participants on Zoom and Facebook Live.

Hosted by Negosyo Center Cardona Business Counselor Johanna Faye R. Javier, the webinar started at 1:30 in the afternoon with an opening message from ECOP Rizal President Byrant Kim An and a message from DICT Rizal Provincial Head Clark Christopher Sarmiento.

ASEAN Digital Trainer MJ Soriano served as the day's resource speaker. She started her discussion with a brief introduction of TikTok – some key metrics, target demographics, and how it can be beneficial to business and brands. Ms. Soriano discussed how TikTok algorithms work, beginning on the point of view of

the users and consumers, then how businesses can take advantage of these algorithms to reach their target audience. She also gave tips on how to grab the audience's attention and how to best interact with them to ensure that engagements translate into sales. Lastly, the speaker introduced other applications that businesses and brand owners can use to maximize efficiency in creating and scheduling content and promotional materials. Throughout the session, Ms. MJ highlighted that as important riding along trending gimmicks and creating contents for engagements are, businesses and brand owners should first and foremost consider if what they are about to do aligns with their core values.

Now in its fourth year, Digital Tuesdays Webinar Series is an initiative of DTI Rizal and DICT Rizal that aims to keep MSMEs and other audiences in the know of the latest digital advancements, to ensure they aren't left behind and can keep up, if not ahead, of the competition.

## AGRI PARTY-LIST ASKS PHILHEALTH: WHAT'S NEXT? URGES ANOTHER ROUND OF RADICAL INCREASES IN HEALTH PACKAGES TO BENEFIT WORKERS, FILIPINO PEOPLE

On labor day, AGRI Party-list called on the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) to continuously implement radical expansion on its health packages to benefit its members, many of whom are workers, to ease their burden and their families.

“Nagtatrabaho tayo para mabuhay at maingat ang kalidad ng pamumuhay ng ating pamilya. Nagbibigay tayo ng kontribusyon sa PhilHealth sa paniwalang makakatu-long ito sa oras na tayo ay magkasakit. Napakalaking kapabayaan at kawalang katarungan para sa ating mga manggagawa kung kulang-kulang at kakapiranggot lang ang benepisyon pangkalusugan na kanilang matatanggap,” Lee said.

“Sa sakahan, pabrika, kompanya, lansangan, paaralan, o saanman ang kabuhayan ng ating mga kababayan, dapat sigurihin ng gobyer-

no ang pangangalaga sa kanilang kalusugan. Sila ang pundasyon ng ating ekonomiya at bansa. They deserve better and we must demand better health services for them,” the Bicolano lawmaker said.

AGRI Party-list, which is running for reelection in the 2025 National and Local Elections, also urged the Department of Health (DOH) and PhilHealth to aggressively and strategically conduct an information and education campaign to inform our workforce and every Filipino with the right knowledge about the health benefits they are entitled to.

“Hindi natatapos sa pagdaragdag ng mga serbisyong pangkalusugan ang ating trabaho. Dapat mabigyan ng mabilis at madaling access dito ang ating mga kababayan. Paano mapapakinabangan ng ating mga manggagawa at ng bawat

## KWF...

Gagawaran ng Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino (KWF) si Michael R. Gallego ng KWF Talaang Ginto: Makata ng Taon 2025 para sa kaniyang tulang “Áral mulá kay Aran.” Makatatanggap siyá ng PHP30,000.00 (net), tropeo, at medalya.

Nagwagi rin si Romeo C. Morales ng Ikalawang Gantimpala para sa kaniyang tulang “Henosidyo sa Lahi ni Katoto.” Makatatanggap siyá ng PHP20,000.00 (net) at plake.

Nanalo naman si Allan Paolo Miguel G. Tausas para sa kaniyang tulang “Filipino Zero, Isang Antiepike” para sa Ikatlong Gantimpala. Makatatanggap siyá ng PHP15,000.00 (net) at plake.

Si Michael R. Gallego ay makata sa wikang Filipino at Ilokano. Isinilang siya at lumaki sa bayan ng San Ildefonso, Ilocos Sur. Siya ay manunulat ng magasing Bannawag. Nailathala ang ilan sa kaniyang mga tula sa iba't ibang antolohiya, journal, at zines. Awtor siya ng “Dayawen”

(Librong LIRA, 2016), “Planetarium: Dandaniw” (Self Published, 2024), at “Lirikal/Naindaniwán Nga Ayát” (Aklat Ulagad, 2024). Nag-ing writing fellow ng iba't ibang palihan kabilang na ang 61st UP National Writers Workshop (2022), Pasnaan Writing Workshop (2019), 15th Ateneo National Writing Workshop (2017), 8th Palihang Rogelio Sicat (2015), at Palihang LIRA (2009). Nagkamit ng gantimpala ang kaniyang mga tula sa Premyong LIRA 2024 at Gawad Bienvenido Lum-bera

National Literary Contest 2023. Aktibong kasapi siya ng Linangan sa Imahen, Retorika, at Anyo (LIRA).

Ang Talaang Ginto: Makata ng Taon ay isang patimpalak sa pagsulat ng tula na itinaguyod ng KWF na naglalayong pasiglahin at pataasin ang uri ng panulaang Filipino sa pamamagitan ng pagkilala sa mga bati-kan at baguhang talino at tinig sa sining ng tula. PR

day hospitalization limit, among others.

AGRI Party-list also reminded PhilHealth of its health commitments to the Filipino people Lee secured during the 2025 DOH Budget Deliberations which ended in a mic scuffle last September 25, 2024, which include boosting its spending by increasing benefit payments from P140 billion to P250 billion this year to lower the out-of-pocket hospitalization expenses of Filipinos.

“Maging agrisibo pa dapat ang PhilHealth sa paggamit ng bilyon-bilyong pondo nito na nagmula sa buwis at sakripsyo ng ating mga manggagawa, para dagdagan pa ang mga benepisyon pangkalusugan na karapatan at karapat-dapat matanggap ng mga Filipino,” AGRI Party-list said.

“Tuloy-tuloy lang din po ang pangangalampag ng AGRI Party-list para mabawasan ang gastos at pangamba ng ating mga kababayan sa pagkakasakit sa pagsusulong ng libreng gamot at pagpapamot para sa lahat,” it added. PR

## SSS enhances...

**Commitment to service excellence**

“We offer these enhancements to all Filipino workers, here and overseas, for Labor Day – Araw ng mga Manggagawa. We remain committed to our push for service excellence with program enhancements and innovations,” De Claro further said.

“Next, we are looking at how we can help members through livelihood loans as allowed under Republic Act 11199 or the Social Security Act of 2018 to support whole-of-government approach of President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. in poverty alleviation efforts.

For instance, livelihood loans for SSS members working in the transport sector,” De Claro added.

SSS is also initiating efforts on other fronts to enhance service delivery and social security protection for all. Talks are ongoing with the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) on digitalization programs, with PhilHealth for better collaboration through data synchronization, and with specific industries for targeted stakeholder engagements (e.g., mining industry, construction sector, Business Process Outsourcing, and gig economy). #

## PNPA's Sinaglawin class of 2025 top cadet: Called to serve

*There is no easy road to success, only mountains to conquer to reach the peak.*

For Police Cadet Marc Joseph L. Vitto of Oriental Mindoro, the journey to the top of the Sinaglawin Class of 2025 of the Philippine National Police Academy (PNPA) is full of purpose, perseverance, and passion to serve.

Finishing as Rank 1, Vitto also received the Journalism Kampilan, Best in Forensic Science and Best in Education awards.

Vitto excelled academically even from a young age. He has been a consistent top of the class since elementary school, and these achievements became a way to give back to his parents—especially to his father, his role model and a dedicated police officer.

“I want to repay the hardship of my father. One way I could do that when I was young was through my achievements—to make them proud,” he shared. My achievements made my parents happy, and I want to protect those smiles,” he recalled.

Though he has a good academic background, Vitto was not exempt from life's challenges. He initially pursued a degree in medical technology at a well-known university in Manila, with a high hope of gaining a full

scholarship.

“I decided to enroll despite our financial status. I know my parents can't afford the cost of tuition. I forced it because I'm confident I'll get a full scholarship,” he said.

But his scholarship didn't push through. Everything went downhill since.

“I remember during my birthday I was kicked out of my apartment, my brother was not there, and my cellphone was broken, and I had no means of communication with my parents.”

Vitto questioned his decisions but chose not to give up. During this time, he saw the advertisement for PNPA on Facebook. He did research about the academy and benefits of being a cadet and considered a different path.

“I realized that being a police officer, just like my father, is meaningful. It has the same goal as being a medtech—to save lives and to be of service to people.”

He then applied but failed. Though he was disappointed about the outcome, his father became a source of strength. When the opportunity came for another shot at his PNPA dream, everything aligned for him.

**cont. on page 5**



# Serve up some summer fun at SM City Dasmariñas Active Hub!

The SM City Dasmariñas Summer Playpark at the SM Active Hub is now officially open until May 31! Students from National University – Dasmariñas were the first to experience the thrill and excitement of this sporty summer spot.

Now it's your turn! Enjoy a friendly match of table tennis with your fam or barkada—just



drop by and get your game on! Whether you're a beginner or a ping-pong pro, it's the perfect way to stay active and beat the summer boredom.

Visit SM City Dasmariñas daily and make your summer a smashing one!

For more updates, follow SM City Dasmariñas on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok!

Like petals unfolding to embrace the morning sun, Blossoms of Love celebrates the warmth, devotion, and strength of a mother's love. Every stroke of art is inspired by the hands that have held us, the voices

## BLOSSOMS OF LOVE

*Celebrating Moms with Traditional Filipino-Chinese Art*

that have guided us, and the hearts that have loved us without bounds.

Don't miss this heartwarming experience! Visit Blossoms of Love for Moms – Chan Lim's 52nd Art Exhibit at SM City Bacoor from April 27 to May 13, 2025,

and witness the enduring artistic legacy of the Chan Lim family. Showcasing their exceptional talent across generations, this exhibit seamlessly incorporates innovative technology while celebrating the beauty of motherhood.



Experience love blossoming at SM City Bacoor as you immerse yourself in the rich cultural Filipino Chinese art tradition featured in Chan Lim's 52nd Exhibit-Blossoms of Love for Moms



One of the event's highlights is a luminous tree, adorned with hand-pointed hanging lamps and surrounded by moving flowers, butterflies and live animations of waterfall and koipond paintings-creating a breathtaking sensory display



Let the SUMMER FUN BEGIN! Level up your summer with SM Deals at SM Appliance center! Download the SM Malls Online app and get more deals this summer.

## PBBM...

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. on Tuesday urged the graduates of the Philippine National Police Academy (PNPA) "Sinaglawin" Class of 2025 to be the guiding light the country needs to meet its citizens' daily needs.

In his speech during the 46th commencement exercises of the PNPA at Camp Gen. Mariano N. Castañeda in Silang, Cavite, President Marcos told the police academy graduates, "Your acts make the system. You shape the system with your restraint, with your dignity, and your service."

The President made the remarks before the 206 members of "Sinaglawin" who are expected to join the Philippine National Police (PNP), Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), and the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP).

PNPA graduates enter service as full-fledged Lieutenants.

"My dear officers, this country will never ask you to be perfect, but it will ask you to be present. Be there. Let our people feel your presence. Feel the presence of their law enforcers. Feel the presence of the law," the President said.

President Marcos also reminded the graduating class "to take into heart" their oath, duty to uphold and defend the Constitution, and respon-

sibility to the citizenry.

The President advised the graduates to choose the honorable way without any reward and to stand up for what is right, even if no one is looking.

As public servants, the President reminded the graduates: "The path ahead is not always easy. There will be times when ideals and reality will seem to pull you in different directions. There will be moments that will test your principles and your convictions."

President Marcos added, "But whenever those days come and doubts creep in, remember who you are and why you chose this path."

The Commander-in-Chief also thanked the families of the graduates during the occasion. "You have raised these men and women with love and with patience. And now you share them with our country. Hindi matawaran ang sakripisyo ninyo."

The President also thanked the academy's mentors, trainers, and commanders for shaping them as dutiful officers and, more importantly, as citizens of conscience.

President Marcos told the graduates, "This is your chance to make a difference. Your coming this far tells me and the entire Filipino nation that you are ready and that you are prepared." | **PND**

From Page 1

Republic of the Philippines  
Fourth Judicial Region  
FAMILY COURT  
Branch 5, Trece Martires City  
F1tmt0005@judiciary.gov.ph  
09234824559

IN RE: PETITION FOR JUDICIAL RECOGNITION OF LEGITIMACY OF MINOR ASHER CLYDE CASCASAN WITH THE CORRESPONDING CORRECTION OR CANCELLATION OF ENTRIES IN HIS CERTIFICATE OF LIVE BIRTH AND CHANGE OF NAME FROM ASHER CLYDE CASCASAN TO ASHER CLYDE CASCASAN JOCSON UNDER RULE 105 OF THE RULES OF COURT PURSUANT TO ART. 172 OF THE FAMILY CODE,

SP. PROC. NO. TMSP-011-24

SPS. ARISTEO G. JOCSON and ARCHIE R. CASCASAN-JOCSON, Petitioners.  
X-----X

## ORDER

During today's hearing, petitioners Aristeo G. Jocson, Archie R. Cascasan-Jocson and their counsel Atty. Catherine P. De Guzman-Bernardo are present. Prosecutor Alexander G. Santos, Jr. appeared for the State.

The petitioner's counsel manifested that there is an error on the order for publication dated July 29, 2024. However, the said order was already published and the petitioner's counsel did not coordinate to this Court regarding the typographical error prior to the publication. Hence, in view thereof, let this amended order be published.

This verified petition, dated June 18, 2024, filed by the petitioners, through counsel, prays that after due notice, publication, and hearing, to issue of a decree of Judicial Recognition of Legitimacy declaring that the entries in the minor child's Certificate of Live Birth be corrected and cancelled and the name of the minor be changed from Asher Clyde Cascasan to Asher Clyde Cascasan-Jocson.

Today, March 24 2025, finding the petition to be sufficient in form and substance, let the same be set for monitoring hearing on May 5, 2025 at 1:30 in the afternoon before this Court sitting at the Government Center Building, Capitol Site, Trece Martires City, Cavite on which date, time and place any interested person may appear to show cause, if he/she has any, why this petition should not be granted. Initial hearing or jurisdictional requirements shall be set not more than six (6) months for the last publication pursuant to Section 2, Rule 105 of the Rules of Court.

Let this copy of Order be published at least once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation within the Province of Cavite and have copies hereof be furnished the Office of the Department of Social Welfare and Development, Office of the Solicitor General, Office of the Prosecutor of Cavite, the Philippines Statistics Authority (PSA), the Civil Registrar of Cavite, petitioners and their counsel

The parties are hereby directed to coordinate with the Clerk of Court for the raffle of the publication.

SO ORDERED

GIVEN IN OPEN COURT on March 24, 2025 in Terece Martires City, Cavite, Philippines.

(SGD) FLORDELIZ CABANLIT FARGAS  
Presiding Judge

Copy Furnished:  
Pros. Alexander G. Santor, Jr.  
Trial Prosecutor

Atty. Catherine P. De Guzman-Bernardo  
Counsel for the petitioner  
cattydgbernardo@gmail.com

Aristeo G. Jocson  
Archie R. Cascasan-Jocson  
Petitioners

Office of the Solicitor General  
efile@osg.gov.ph

Department of Social Welfare and Development

The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) Cavite

FCF/jmd

DATELINE WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS:  
April 28, May 05 & 12, 2025

## PH MULLED AS SITE FOR ASEAN CENTRE FOR MSME DEVELOPMENT

With its dynamic MSME sector, the Philippines is being positioned as the site of the ASEAN region's first hub for MSME Development. ASEAN Business Advisory Council-Philippines (ASEAN BAC PH)chair Joey Concepcion recently met with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Usec. Allan Gepty to seek the DTI's support and guidance for the establishment of an ASEAN Centre for MSME Development, which will be a regional government and private sector initiative.

The Philippines Centre for MSME Development is envisioned to serve as a physical center for entrepreneurship mentors, a hub for capacity-building, and a way to help expand the network of MSMEs while increasing their knowledge of best practices. It is also hoped that the centre will increase the awareness of the ASEAN among ordinary Filipinos, especially as the country is set to host the ASEAN Summit in 2026. With Concepcion was Ambassador Delia

Albert and ASEAN BAC PH Executive Director Gil Gonzales.

Concepcion, who is also the founder of the non-profit Go Negosyo which has advocated for entrepreneurship among Filipinos for 20 years now, said that the cooperation between government and private sector in MSME development puts the country in an ideal position to host the center. If realized, the center will be the Philippines's second such regional center for excellence, the other being the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity.

The Philippines chairmanship in 2026 is seen as an opportune time for the Philippines to launch the center as it aligns with the DTI's priority agendas. The centre will be one of the legacy projects of the Philippines chairmanship in 2026, along with initiatives in food security and women entrepreneurs. Proponents of the initiative will next present the concept, and once approved, will secure a declaration from ASEAN leaders.

## PNPA's ...

"I think the talent, skills, and abilities are there to help the people, and that is my calling."

Though there are challenges in being a police officer, Vitto takes the pressure and high expectations positively.

"To be top of the class, I will use the lessons and knowledge we gain in the academy and also the virtues and attitude instilled by PNPA—Justice, Integrity, and Service," and I will live with the PNPA mantra and honor code, "We, the ca-

## NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late LORETA REYES ESGUERRA, consisting of her undivided share in a parcel of land known as Lot No.6041-Part, Cad-608-D situated at Kabulusan, Magallanes, Cavite, with a total area of TWENTY THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FIFTY TWO SQUARE METERS and TWENTY ONE DECIMETERS (20,652.21), more or less, declared under TAX DECLARATION NO. AA-12-0010-00059 of the Municipal Assessor of Magallanes, Cavite, has been the subject of an Extra-Judicial Settlement of Estate of the Deceased Loreta Reyes Esguerra Among the Legal Heirs, as per Doc.No.144; Page No.30; Book No. XXV and series of 2025 of Notary Public Jameswell M. Resus of Naic, Cavite.

Dateline Weekly Newspapers:  
May 5, 12 & 19, 2025

## EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITHSELF ADJUDICATION BY A SOLE HEIR

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late MINERVA T. ORBETA, IGMEDIO E. ORBETA and RAYMUND T. ORBETA who died INTTESTATE left a parcel of land located at Barrio of Alapan, Municipality of Imus, Province of Cavite covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-5701010 consisting of **THIRTY SIX SQUARE METERS (36 sq. m.)** has been settled by among their sole legal heir thru Extra-judicial settlement of estate with self adjudication as per Doc. No: 102, Page No. 22, Book No. 367 series of 2025 by Notary Public Atty. RAYMOND R. REYES

Dateline Weekly Newspapers:  
April 28, May 5 & 12, 2025

## NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ROMUALDO BILUGAN, consisting of a parcel of land known as Lot No. 5240, of the subd. Plan, situated at Urdaneta, Magallanes, Cavite. Bounded on the North: (NW) Creek and 18 Sec.005 (Lot No.5281) San Agustin; on the East:23 (Lot 5282) and Brgy. Road; on the South (SE) 20 (Lot No.5236); and on the West: (SW) Creek and 18 Se.005 (Lot No.5281) San Agustin xxxxxxxxxxxxxx containing an area of FORTY SEVEN THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FIVE (47,305) SQUARE METERS, which is embraced and covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-1049011 of the Register of Deeds of Cavite, has been the subject of an Extra-Judicial Settlement of Estate of the Deceased Romulado Bilugan Among the Legal Heirs as per Doc.No.114; Page No.24; Book No. XXV and series of 2025 of Notary Public Jameswell M. Resus of Naic, Cavite.

Dateline Weekly Newspapers:  
April 21, 28 & May 05, 2025

From Page 7

dets, do not lie, cheat, or steal, nor tolerate among us those who do."

The challenges he conquered became a step closer to his dream and purpose.

"I am also thankful to PNPA for providing an environment where cadets can thrive, excel, and

develop to our full potential to be able to give quality service that the Filipino people deserve.

His experience is a testament to his dedication. Mountains may be high, but he conquered them with determination and hard work. (KA-PIA4a)



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT  
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT  
TRECE MARTIRES CITY

**BDO UNIBANK, INC.,**  
Mortgagee,

**FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-250-25**

**SPS. JUSTINE JOY S. DOLOR AND  
ARC ANDREW T. DOLOR**  
Debtor/Mortgagor  
x-----x

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, **BDO UNIBANK INC.,** with business address at 33/F BDO Corporate Center Ortigas, #12 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City, against the Debtors/Mortgagors, **SPS. JUSTINE JOY S. DOLOR AND ARC ANDREW T. DOLOR,** with residence and postal address at (1) No. 255 Sapphire Street, Shapell Homes I, Habay 1, Bacoor, Cavite (occupied by third party); and (2) Block 47 Lot 09 Bel Air East Anyana, Brgy. Mulawin & Sanja Mayor, Tanza, Cavite (VACANT LOT), to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness as of February 17, 2025 amounts to **ONE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY-SIX THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED FORTY-SEVEN PESOS AND 68/100 (Php 1,466,547.68)** including interest, penalties, expenses and other charges of foreclosure, the undersigned Sheriff will set at public auction on **May 21, 2025 10:00 o'clock** in the morning until 12:00 noon at the main entrance of the Government Center Building located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE  
NO. 057-2023031452

**LOT NO: 9 BLOCK NO: 47 PLAN NO:** PCS-04-032313  
**PORTION OF:** CONSOLIDATION AND SUBDIVISION OF LOTS 1026-A & 1026-B, BOTH OF (LRA) PSD-E2016007004, 1027-DD-2, (LRA) PSD-E2016003356, 1029-A & 1029-B, BOTH OF (LRA) PSD-E20160004559, 1031, FRS-04-006030 & 1032-A & 1032-B, BOTH OF PSD-04-247824 LRC RECORD NO. 6832

**LOCATION:** BARANGAY OF MULAWIN & SANJA MAYOR, MUNICIPALITY OF TANZA, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON

**BOUNDERIES:**  
**LINE DIRECTION ADJOINING LOT(S)**  
1-2 SW ROAD LOT 34 (8.00 M WIDE), PCS-04-032313  
2-3 NW LOT 8, BLOCK 47, PCS-04-032313  
3-4 NE LOT 1023, STA. CRUZ DE MALABON ESTATE  
4-1 SE LOT 10, BLOCK 47, PCS-04-032313  
**AREA: ONE HUNDRED (100) SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS**

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

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on June 4, 2025 without further notice.

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

Trece Martires City, April 24, 2025.

**(SGD) ANDRES B. ESPINA**  
Sheriff IV

Copy Furnished:

**BDO UNIBANK INC.,**  
**CONSUMER BANKING GROUP**  
– **CONSUMER REMEDIAL MANAGEMENT**  
33/F BDO Corporate Center Ortigas, #12 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City,

**SPS. JUSTINE JOY S. DOLOR  
AND ARC ANDREW T. DOLOR**  
(1) No. 255 Sapphire Street, Shapell Homes I, Habay 1, Bacoor, Cavite (occupied by third party); and  
(2) Block 47 Lot 09 Bel Air East Anyana, Brgy. Mulawin & Sanja Mayor, Tanza, Cavite (VACANT LOT)

**DATeline WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS:**  
**April 28, May 05 & 12, 2025**

ERRATUM

This is to correct the error made in the publication of Notice of Extra Judicial Sale filed by BDO UNIBANK INC vs SPS. ROBERTO C SEÑIR AND ANNA RIZZA R SEÑIR published in Dateline Weekly Newspapers dated Feb. 26, March 4 & 11, 2024. In the name of mortgagor was insufficient spelling that it should be RIZZA as the correct input and not RIZA; the amount was wrong P9,439,748.57 as the correct input and not P9,439,748.58 and in the amount was wrong 57/100 as the correct input a not as published.

**Dateline Weekly Newspapers:**  
**May 05, 2025**

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT  
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT  
TRECE MARTIRES CITY

**BDO UNIBANK, INC.,**  
Mortgagee,

**FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-259-25**

**HARLEY C. DEMAGNAONG**  
Debtor/Mortgagor  
x-----x

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, **BDO UNIBANK INC.,** with business address at 33/F BDO Corporate Center Ortigas, #12 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City, against the Debtors/Mortgagors, **HARLEY C. DEMAGNAONG,** with residence and postal address at (1) Block 3 Lot Glenbrook Phase 2, Brgy. Pasong Camachille, General Trias, Cavite (OCCUPIED BY MORTGAGOR); and (2) No. 49 Taurus Batimana Compound Brgy. Marulas, Valenzuela City (OCCUPIED BY THIRD PARTY), to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness as of February 17, 2025 amounts to **SEVEN MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-FOUR PESOS AND 60/100 (Php 7,827,154.60)** including interest, penalties, expenses and other charges of foreclosure, the undersigned Sheriff will set at public auction on **May 21, 2025 10:00 o'clock** in the morning until 12:00 noon at the main entrance of the Government Center Building located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 057-2020018787

**LOT NO: 70 BLOCK NO: 3 PLAN NO:** PCS-04-030060  
**PORTION OF:** LOT 1837-C, (LRC) PSD-105017, LOTS 1943-A & 1943-B, (LRC) PSD-155964, LOT 1836-NEW (FRS-04-005697) LOTS 1950 (FRS-04-005717) & 3421, ALL OF SAN FRANCISCO DE MALABON ESTATE DE-

SMC...

ter World facilities to step in and make healthcare more accessible, ensuring that those who need minor procedures and essential medical services don't have to wait any longer.”

Health Secretary Teodoro Herbosa originally envisioned the BUCAS program as the centerpiece of his “28 for 28 by 28” initiative with the goal of establishing 28 urgent care centers to serve 28 million Filipinos identified as most in need of accessible and quality healthcare by 2028.

Under the program, all consultations at the facility are free of charge, and PhilHealth will cover most laboratory examinations. However, as the state insurance firm does not cover some lab tests, a patient can opt to pay for it or proceed to the Malasakit Center for assistance.

With two fully operational centers un-

der the San Miguel-DOH partnership, the company is exploring the possibility of transforming its existing community clinics in different provinces into BUCAS Centers, if partner hospitals can be identified.

At present, the BUCAS Center at BWC-Cubao is open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays with QMMC Dermatology Department consultations twice a month. The BUCAS Center at Better World Smokey Mountain in Tondo is open on Mondays and Tuesdays.

To access BUCAS Center services, patients must only schedule a consultation at the Better World Clinic Cubao and enroll in the PhilHealth Konsulta Package of QMMC.

Patients can also enroll in PhilHealth Konsulta by calling the PhilHealth Corporation Action Center at (02) 8441-7442.

CREED NO. 4270, LRC REC. NO. 5964  
**LOCATION:** BARANGAY OF PASONG CAMACHILLE, CITY OF GEN. TRIAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON  
**BOUNDERIES:**  
**LINE DIRECTION ADJOINING LOT(S)**  
1-2 SE LOT 102, BLOCK 3, PCS-04-030060  
2-3 SW LOT 69, BLOCK 3, PCS-04-030060  
3-4 NW ROAD LOT 15, PCS-04-030060  
4-1 NE LOT 71, BLOCK 3, PCS-04-030060  
**AREA: ONE HUNDRED (100) SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS**

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

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on **June 4, 2025** without further notice.

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

Trece Martires City, April 24, 2025.

**(SGD) ANDRES B. ESPINA**  
Sheriff IV

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**BDO UNIBANK INC.,**  
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– **CONSUMER REMEDIAL MANAGEMENT**  
33/F BDO Corporate Center Ortigas, #12 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City,

**HARLEY C. DEMAGNAONG**  
(1) Block 3 Lot Glenbrook Phase 2, Brgy. Pasong Camachille, General Trias, Cavite (OCCUPIED BY MORTGAGOR); and  
(2) No. 49 Taurus Batimana Compound Brgy. Marulas, Valenzuela City (OCCUPIED BY THIRD PARTY)

**DATeline WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS:**  
**April 28, May 05 & 12, 2025**

From Page 8



Labor Day: Gatchalian continues push for Amendment to Magna Carta for Public School Teachers

Amid the celebration of Labor Day, Senator Win Gatchalian continues to push for the passage of the Revised Magna Carta for Public School Teachers (Senate Bill No. 2493) to improve teachers' welfare and working conditions.

The proposed measure, which seeks to amend the 58-year-old Magna Carta for Public School Teachers (Republic Act No. 4670), provides for the institutionalization of benefits like calamity leave, educational allowances, and longevity pay. It also eyes the enhancement of salary criteria for teachers; protection of teachers from out-of-pocket expenses; and the guarantee that salaries, benefits, and working conditions of probationary teachers shall be the same or not less favorable than those of entry-level teachers.

The proposed measure also prohibits the assignment of non-teaching tasks to teachers. It further seeks to reduce the hours of classroom teaching from six to four.

“Nakikiisa tayo sa panawagan ng mga guro para sa mas maayos na mga benepisyo at pagtaguyod sa kanilang kapakanan. Napapanahon na upang amyendahan ang Magna Carta upang gawin itong mas akma sa kasalukuyang panahon,” said Gatchalian, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Basic Education.

DOST Cavite recognized by National University- Dasmariñas for community development efforts



The National University (NU Dasmariñas) awarded a Certificate of Recognition to the Department of Science and Technology-Cavite (DOST-Cavite) for its valuable partnership in community development and extension initiatives.

The recognition was presented during NU Dasmariñas' 4th Founding

Anniversary celebration held at the university campus. DOST-Cavite was acknowledged as one of the institution's key government partners in advancing community-based programs and outreach efforts.

The partnership between DOST-Cavite and NU Dasmariñas highlights a shared commit-

ment to fostering innovation, technology transfer, and sustainable development for local communities.

At DOST, we continuously serve the people through science, technology, and innovation by showcasing programs, products, and services that provide opportunities and benefits to every community in the country. **PR**

Diversified farm in Quezon named as 5th agri-extension service provider in CALABARZON

To hasten and improve the delivery of agricultural and fisheries extension services in nearby communities, the DA-Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) CALABARZON launched the Ouan's Worth Farm and Family Resort Corporation as Private Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Service Provider (PAF-ESP), held at the said farm in Lucena City, Quezon on Tuesday, April 15.

Prior to this, Ouan's is certified as a Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA), showcasing a diversified farming system.

The farm is the second PAF-ESP in Quezon and fifth in the region, which now plays a significant role in capacitating AFE clientele and enhancing farm productivity through showcasing need-based and location-specific agricultural technologies, strategies, and enterprises.

The roster of oth-



er PAF-ESPs includes the Gourmet Farms (Silang, Cavite), Uma Verde Eco Nature Farm (Candelaria, Quezon), MoCa Family Farm RLeaning Center (Padre Garcia, Batangas), and Teofely Nature Farms (Silang, Cavite).

ATI CALABARZON Center Director Dr. Rolando Maningas led the billboard unveiling and

awarded the certificate to Ret. Gen. Recaredo A. Sarmiento II, Ouan's farm owner.

Meanwhile, media organizations based in Quezon witnessed the said milestone and gathered for the second media conference Kapihan and Huntahan with ATI CALABARZON, where they talked about the accreditation

of Ouan's as a new PAF-ESP, frontline services of the DA-ATI CALABARZON, and the Center's measurable impact on the agri-fishery sector.

Dr. Maningas and Asst. Center Dir. Sherylou Alfaro, Ret. Gen. Sarmiento, and Quezon LSA Pres. Michael Triviño served as resource persons during the conference. **PR**

SSS enhances loan programs for members, surviving spouse pensioners

On 1 May 2025, Araw ng mga Manggagawa, and as announced by His Excellency President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. in his Labor Day message at the SMX Convention Center in Pasay City, the Social Security System (SSS) is recognizing hard-working Filipinos, local or overseas, with enhancements to its loan programs: reducing interest rates for salary and calamity loans; expanding the pension loan program to include surviving spouse pensioners; and implementing a micro-credit loan facility through third-party providers.

The reduced interest rate shall be for members who have no availment of penalty condonation in the past five (5) years – in other words, for members who have good credit quality – and will increase cash proceeds from loan applications.

Target implementation of the reduced interest rates for these loan programs is July 2025.

Expansion of pension loan program to surviving spouse pensioners

With successful implementation of the Pension Loan Program (PLP) for retiree pensioners since 2018, SSS is looking to expand the Program now for surviving spouse pensioners. As of December 2024, there are 1.2-M surviving spouse pensioners.

“We acknowledge the need of other pensioners for access to a dependable loan facility, so we are expanding the PLP to surviving spouse pensioners,” De Claro said. The maximum loanable amount shall be P150,000.00.

The PLP for surviving spouse pensioners shall also be covered by

Credit Life Insurance with insurance premium to be deducted from the proceeds of the Pension Loan (PL) so that in the event of death of the PL borrower before full payment and end of the loan term, the PL balance shall be fully paid.

Target implementation of the expanded pension loan program, to include surviving spouse pensioners, is September 2025.

Micro-credit loan facility through third-party providers

The SSS has also begun discussions with partner financial institutions on the feasibility of implementing a micro-credit loan facility for SSS members with tenor between 15 to 90 days.

“Currently, we are bringing the idea of a micro credit loan facility among our partner financial institutions through meetings and brainstorming sessions and see if we can address such short-term cash needs of our members. When we see a framework for this micro-credit program, we will implement as soon as possible,” De Claro also said.

**cont. on page 7**