

GSIS, San Miguel Foods Forge Livelihood Partnership for Members



Partnership for livelihood and financial resilience. GSIS President and General Manager Wick Veloso and San Miguel Foods President Emmanuel Macalalag formalize a partnership to expand sustainable livelihood opportunities for government workers and their families. The initiative aims to help public servants build additional sources of income and strengthen their financial security.

The Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) and San Miguel Foods (SMF) have forged a partnership to provide government workers and their families with new livelihood and entrepreneurship opportunities.

Under the agreement signed at the GSIS Head Office in Pasay City, GSIS members and their dependents will gain access to training, business readiness support, and livelihood packages that can help them start small



Government Service Insurance System President and General Manager Wick Veloso (third from right) and San Miguel Foods President Emmanuel Macalalag (third from left) lead the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement on Sustainable Livelihood Initiatives at the GSIS Head Office in Pasay City. The partnership aims to expand livelihood and entrepreneurship opportunities for government workers and their families, helping strengthen their financial resilience and create additional sources of income. In the photo are (L to R) San Miguel Foods Business Development Manager Alma Fajardo-Ong, Chief Operating Officer Elizabeth Bay, President Macalalag, GSIS PGM Veloso, Executive Vice Presidents Atty. Jason Teng and Atty. Joseph Philip Andres.

enterprises.

Participants will receive guidance on product handling, basic business operations, customer service, and store setup to help ensure sustainable income opportunities.

GSIS President and General Manager Wick Veloso said the initiative supports the institution's goal of strengthening the financial resilience

of government workers.

"Ang pakikipag-ugnayan natin sa San Miguel Foods ay nagbibigay ng praktikal na pagkakataon para sa ating mga kasamahan sa gobyerno, lalo na sa kanilang mga pamilya, na maging entrepreneurs at makatulong sa pag-angat ng kabuhatan ng kanilang pamilya," Veloso said.

For its part, SMF

said the collaboration aims to make entrepreneurship more accessible to Filipino families.

"This partnership is not simply about offering products or business packages. It is about making entrepreneurship accessible—practical, realistic, and within reach," said SMF President Emmanuel Macalalag.

Members may

begin reselling products for as little as ₱2,000 or explore larger livelihood options such as food carts, food stands, and baking programs.

To support members who wish to invest in these opportunities, GSIS highlighted its Ginhawa loan programs, including the Ginhawa Go micro-lending facility accessible through the GSIS Touch mobile app.

SPEAKER DY RALLIES HOUSE TO SHIELD FILIPINOS FROM OIL PRICE SHOCKS AMID MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

Speaker Fausto "Bojie" G. Dy III on Monday rallied the House of Representatives to pursue legislation and policy measures to shield Filipinos from the effects of oil price shocks brought about by the ongoing conflict in the Middle East.

In a statement, Dy said lawmakers and House committees will push priority bills aimed at cushioning the impact of rising oil prices on key sectors of the economy, particularly workers, commuters, farmers and small businesses.

"Kasama po ng aking kapwa-mambabatas at ng iba't ibang Komite, kami po ay walang humpay na magsusulong ng mga priority bills at mga hakbang na makakatulong upang mapagaan ang epekto ng mga pandaigdigang krisis sa ating mga kababayan," Dy said.

"We recognize that this is a challenge we must face head on, which is why the House of Representatives will work with the Executive

to focus on measures that will help cushion the effects of rising oil prices on the various sectors of our economy—especially our workers, commuters, farmers, and small businesses."

The Speaker from Isabela said the escalating tensions in the Middle East shows how developments abroad can directly affect the Philippines, particularly through rising oil prices felt by Filipino families.

He said it is only natural for people to feel fear and concern when oil prices rise, as this drives up transportation fares, food and other basic necessities.

"Dama po nating lahat ito—ng mga manggagawa, ng mga magulang na nagtatrabaho para sa kanilang pamilya, at ng bawat Pilipinong nagsisikap mabuhay nang may dangal," he said.

Despite these challenges, Dy assured the public that Congress

remains committed to safeguarding the welfare of Filipinos.

"Sa kabila nito, nais ko pong ipabatid na hindi po kayo nag-iisa sa pagharap sa mga hamong ito. Ang Kapulungan ng mga Kinatawan po ay patuloy na ginagampanan ang mandato nitong pangalagaan ang kapakanan ng sambayanang Pilipino," he said.

Dy said the House will focus on policies that strengthen the economy and protect the livelihoods of ordinary Filipinos.

"Masugid po nating pagtutunan ng pansin ang mga batas at patakaran na magpapalakas sa ating ekonomiya, magpoprotekta sa kabuhayan ng ating mga mamamayan, at magtitiyak ng kaginhawaan at kaligtasan ng taumbayan," Dy said.

The House chief also called for unity as the country confronts global uncertainty.

"Sa kasaysayan

ng ating bansa, maraming beses na po tayong nakaranas ng mga pagsubok—mga bagyo, krisis, at mga pangyayaring tila wala sa ating kontrol," Dy said.

"We have confronted challenging moments before, and each time the strength and unity of the Filipino people have carried us through."

"Napatunayan na po natin na kapag tayo ay nagbubuklod-buklod at nagmamalasakit sa isa't

isa, walang hamon na hindi natin kayang lampasan."

Dy assured the public that government institutions will continue working to protect Filipinos and guide the country through global challenges.

"Mga kababayan, buong puso ko pong ipinararating sa inyo na patuloy pong kikilos ang inyong pamahalaan, patuloy pong magtatrabaho ang inyong Kongreso, at patuloy po

YIPOA Graduate, Isa nang LSA Farmer-Cooperator

Isang kahanga-hangang tagumpay para kay Claudette Anne Aguila, graduate ng Youth Internship Program on Organic Agriculture (YIPOA) Batch 2, nang mailunsad nitong Pebrero ang kanyang farm na Simula Agricultural Farm bilang isa sa mga bagong Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA) ng DA-Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) CALABARZON.

Mula sa pagiging isang intern ng YIPOA, si Claudette, na isang kabataang magsasaka mula sa Calamba



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DepEd, hinimok ang mga mag-aaral na gamitin ang makabagong teknolohiya para isulong ang pag-unlad

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Gender equality not a 'war of sexes,' says PCW



Cavetano: Mga Pilipino ng nahaharap sa foreign arrest cases, dapat dumaan muna sa korte sa bansa

DOST-RIZAL SEALS PARTNERSHIP WITH BPWMP TO ELEVATE WATER HYACINTH HANDICRAFTS

Palace to officially seek Congress approval for emergency fuel tax reduction

SSS LAUNCHES FACIAL AUTHENTICATION FOR ANNUAL CONFIRMATION OF PENSIONERS WITH LIVENESS CHECK

PHILHEALTH GAMOT LAUNCHING IN BACOR CITY

PhilHealth Regional Office IV-A (PRO IV-A) officially launched PhilHealth GAMOT in Bacoor City, Cavite, on March 6, 2026, marking a significant step toward strengthening access to primary care services and essential medicines in the community.

Leading the ceremony was Dr. Edwin M. Oriña, Acting Regional Vice President (ARVP) of PRO IV-A, together with Ms. Ma. Obelia M. Fontanilla, Head of the Local Health Insurance Office (LHIO) Dasmariñas. They



were joined by Hon. Strike B. Revilla, Mayor of Bacoor City; Hon. Rowena Bautista-Mendiola, Vice Mayor; City cont. on page 2

SMFB revenues reach P419.1 billion in 2025, net income up 13%

San Miguel opens museum at oldest brewery to honor 135 years of enduring legacy



Leading the ribbon cutting rites of the Polo Brewery Museum are (from left) Bukidnon 1st District Rep. Jose Manuel Alba, SMC President and COO John Paul L. Ang, Polo Brewery Plant Manager Danny Pajarillo, former SMC CFO and now SMC consultant Ferdinand K. Constantino, and San Miguel Brewery Inc. President and COO Carlos Antonio M. Berba.

A museum dedicated to one of the Philippines' most iconic and enduring brands, highlighting over 135 years of history and brewing tradition, and paying tribute to generations of employees, has opened at the country's oldest surviving brewery in Polo, Valenzuela City.

San Miguel Corporation (SMC) President and COO John Paul L.

Ang and San Miguel Brewery Inc. (SMBI) President and COO Carlos Antonio M. Berba recently led the opening of the company's Polo Brewery Museum — marking the completion of a decades-long effort to gather and preserve archival records, historical objects and artifacts, and oral histories tracing San Miguel's history as a beer brewer founded in 1890 —

before it became a diversified conglomerate operating in multiple industries, today.

The museum, housed in the original building of the Polo brewery, features a wide collection of displays, including once-state-of-the-art brewing equipment, facsimiles of historical documents, classic labels and cont. on page 2

EDITORIAL: Fear and greed

THERE is a special place in hell for those who profit off their fellow citizens during the most unsettling times.

We have seen this in the past. During the pandemic, precious taxpayers' money was squandered on items procured through a company with neither financial muscle nor track record in undertaking COVID-related transactions with the government.

Another example is the widespread and deeply rooted flood-control scandal, which erupted last year but has likely been happening for many years. While a few people have gone to jail, only a formerly jailed former senator is the biggest name among those facing charges.

Meanwhile, the lives and livelihoods of millions of Filipinos in flood-prone areas remain threatened every time there is a typhoon or even an erratic weather pattern.

Contrasting these deplorable conditions with the opulent lifestyles and unapologetic behavior of those who raked in billions would make one wonder: where is the conscience, the humanity?

These days, the raging war in the Middle East has yet another consequence aside from the death, destruction, and displacement of ordinary citizens including our overseas workers there. Uncertainty is spooking the oil markets, with a crucial passageway for the global supply figuring in the conflict.

Prices have started shooting up. It is difficult to tell whether the figures being cited are sound approximations or frantic estimates.

Fear and greed are also making themselves felt in more tangible ways. Fearing significant increases in the price of gas, motorists lined up to fill up, as some retailers jacked up their prices in anticipation of the higher demand and uncertain supply.

But they did so before they were authorized to hike prices. As a result, the Energy Department issued show cause orders to 55 retailers out of the 87 inspected. Adjustments could only be made beginning Tuesday, March 10, even as increases should be made on a staggered basis over succeeding days.

Measures to curb fuel demand are in place, as the world faces the consequences of a war that only a handful of individuals started. The next few days will determine whether the war will end soon, bringing things – and the prices of oil – back to normal. If it does, it will have taught us a lesson of being prepared to deal with the fallout of things we did not even have a hand on.

And if it does not end soon – then we will have to take in yet another crisis in our country's already-difficult condition. The prolonged effects of war will certainly negate all the gains we have managed to eke out in the past few years.

YIPOA ...

City, Laguna, ay isa nang ganap na farmer-cooperator — patunay aniya na hindi basehan ang edad, kundi ang puso sa agrikultura.

Matatandaang noong siya ay intern ng YIPOA, naitalaga siya sa Adhika Nature Farm sa Majayjay, Laguna. Dito niya natutunan ang mas malalim na kaalaman sa praktikal na kasanayan sa pag-oorganiko—mula sa wastong produksyon ng gulay at mga halamang herbal, pangalaga ng lupa, hanggang sa epektibong pagma-market ng mga ani.

Sa tulong ng YIPOA at sa kanyang dedikasyon, anti-unting napa-ghusay ang kanyang kaalaman ukol sa organikong pagsasaka.

Tampok sa kanyang sakahan ang iba't ibang uri ng gulay na kanyang itinatanim at direktang mina-market.

Bilang isang Agri-business graduate mula sa University of the Philippines Los Baños, siya mismo ang nangangasiwa sa

PHILHEALTH...

Health Office heads led by Dr. Ivy Marie Yrastorza; and Ms. Emiliana Ugalde, RSW, Head of the City Social Welfare and Development Office.

During the program, ARVP Oriña highlighted the importance of strengthening primary care services at the community level. He discussed the benefits of PhilHealth YAKAP, which provides services such as medical consultations, laboratory tests, cancer screenings, and access to essential medicines. Under PhilHealth YAKAP, 21 medicines are available in YAKAP Clinics, while an additional 54 medicines can be accessed through accredited PhilHealth GAMOT Providers.

The event was attended by various sectors, including 4Ps beneficiaries, indigent residents, persons with disabilities, and senior citizens, all of whom received guidance on how to avail them-

marketing at pagbebenta ng kanyang mga produkto. Aktibo niyang dinadala ang kanyang ani sa mga Kadiwa ng Pangulo outlet at nakikilahok sa iba't ibang trade fairs na inisiyatibo ng DA at iba pang kumpanya sa Laguna. Dahil dito, mas lumalawak ang kanyang merkado at mas maraming mamimili ang naaabot ng kanyang mga sarawa at de-kalidad na produkto.

Hindi nagtatapos sa produksyon at pagbebenta ang kanyang misyon. Patuloy siyang nagpapalawak ng kaalaman sa pamamagitan ng pagdalo sa mga pagsasanay at seminar na inihahandog ng DA at DA-ATI CALABARZON.

Mula sa pagiging intern, ngayon ay isa na siyang huwarang kabataang magsasaka at lider sa larangan ng organikong pagsasaka. Ang kanyang kuwento ay malinaw na patunay na sa tamang pagsasanay, determinasyon, at suporta, ang kabataan ay may mahalagang papel sa pagsusulong ng makabagong at sustenableng agrikultura.

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selves of the program's services.

During the launch, LHIO Dasmariñas facilitated member assignments to chosen YAKAP Clinics, enabling attendees to access primary care services immediately. Concurrently, the seven City Health Offices of Bacoor conducted First Patient Encounters (FPE) and medical consultations, with YAKAP doctors issuing prescriptions to patients in need of medication.

Meanwhile, Generika Drugstore, an accredited PhilHealth GAMOT Provider, participated by dispensing prescribed medicines on-site, ensuring that beneficiaries received their necessary medications without delay.

The launch of PhilHealth GAMOT in Bacoor underscores PhilHealth's continuing commitment to improving access to affordable medicines and quality primary

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SMFB...

San Miguel Food and Beverage Inc. (SMFB) reported a 13% increase in consolidated net income to P46.3 billion in 2025, driven by a record performance from its food business, continued growth in spirits, and higher international beer sales.

Consolidated revenues reached P419.1 billion, up 5% from the previous year, while gross profit rose 8% to P120.4 billion. Operating income increased 9% to P61.0 billion, and EBITDA grew 10% to P80.6 billion. EBITDA margin improved to 19%.

Net income attributable to equity holders of the parent rose 17%, reflecting stronger shareholder returns.

"2025 was a strong year for SMFB, and that is a credit to our people across the organization," said SMFB Chairman Ramon S. Ang. "We will continue investing in our brands and operations so we can serve more Filipino families and deliver long-term value to our shareholders."

The food business delivered record results, with revenues increasing 6% to P196.3 billion. Operating income rose 30% to P17.3 billion, while net income grew 38% to P11.6 billion.

This growth was driven by improved performance in feeds and strong

demand for poultry. The branded businesses also posted solid results, led by Magnolia Dairy and Coffee and Purefoods meats, supported by strong sales of products such as corned beef, luncheon meat, hams, bacon, longanisa, and tocino.

The beer business recorded consolidated revenues of P155.4 billion, reflecting a stable performance from the previous year. International operations continued to contribute positively, with revenues rising 3% to US\$285 million on higher sales volumes.

Domestic beer revenues reached P139.1 billion despite continued pressure on consumer spending from successive annual excise tax increases since 2020. Even so, the beer business maintained operating income at P32.9 billion and net income at P26.5 billion through disciplined cost management, portfolio optimization, and targeted investments in consumer engagement.

Meanwhile, the spirits business sustained its strong momentum, with revenues increasing 8% to P67.4 billion, driven mainly by effective pricing and stable volumes. Operating income rose 21% to P10.4 billion, while net income increased 20% to P8.7 billion.

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Cayetano...

Ipinunto ni Senate Minority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano nitong Miyerkules na ang mga Pili-pinong may international arrest warrants ay dapat mabigyan ng pagkakataong humarap sa korte sa Pilipinas bago sila ipadala sa ibang bansa.

Sa period of interpellation ng Senate Resolution No. 307 nitong March 11, 2026, nilinaw ni Cayetano na ang panukala ay para sa mga pangh-inaharap na sitwasyon at hindi nakatuo sa sinu-mang tao o kasong nak-abinbin.

"I want to look at this prospectively. I think there will be some political color if we talk about what happened in the past. The bottom line of this resolution is that, for whatever reason, every Filipino should be able to run to [a Philippine] court before he is removed from the country," sabi niya.

Sa naganap na interpellation, humingi ng linaw si Senate Pro Tempore Panfilo "Ping" Lacson ang konsepto ng "extraordinary rendition" at nagmungkahi ng pagbabago sa wika ng resolusyon para hindi malito sa legal

na katuturan ng extradition.

Sagot ni Cayetano, ang panukala ay para sa mga sitwasyon kung saan maaaring dalhin ang isang tao palabas ng bansa nang hindi dumadaan sa normal na proseso sa korte sa Pilipinas.

Aniya, sa karaniwang proseso, sinusuri muna ng local courts ang arrest at extradition requests para alamin kung tama ba ang pagsuko sa ibang hurisdiksiyon.

"Anyone who arrests anyone but hindi dadaan sa judge, that's unconstitutional," sabi niya.

Dagdag pa ni Cayetano, kinikilala pa rin ng international legal frameworks, kabilang ang Rome Statute, ang papel ng domestic courts sa proseso ng pag-aresto at pagsuko.

"Ang key word diyan is 'complementarity.' Dapat nagko-complement y'ung dalawa," paliwanag niya patungkol sa relasyon ng international tribunals at lokal na legal system.

Ayon kay Cayetano, may ilang bansa tulad ng United Kingdom, Canada, at South Korea

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na kinakailangan munang dumaan sa domestic judicial review bago isuko ang isang tao sa arrest warrants mula sa International Criminal Court (ICC).

Aniya, ang pagbibigay ng pagkakataon sa indibidwal na humarap sa korte ay proteksyon hindi lamang sa mataas na opisyal kundi pati sa ordinaryong mamamayan na maaaring humarap sa mistabang identidad o magbintangan ng mali.

"Shouldn't he (accused) have the opportunity to go before the court and say we might have the same DNA, baka magkamuka kami but that's not me, that's my brother," sabi niya.

Binanggit din ni Cayetano na kahit sa ilalim ng Republic Act No. 9851 na tumatalakay sa crimes against humanity at related offenses, hindi obligadong isuko ang isang tao sa international courts at nakasalalay ito sa desisyon ng Philippine authorities.

"Ang point lang, before he (accused) is removed from this country, ma-address niya pa rin y'ung sarili niya sa [sariling nating] korte," sabi ni Cayetano. PR

Entrepreneurship Skills Boost: DTI-Laguna and CARD-MRI Train Future Business Owners



February 9, 2026 | Bay, Laguna — The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)-Laguna, in partnership with the Center for Agriculture and Rural Development–Mutually Reinforcing Institutions (CARD-MRI), successfully conducted a Livelihood Training Program Seminar for CARD-MRI members aspiring to establish and expand their own businesses.

The seminar aimed to enhance participants' entrepreneurial skills by providing prac-

tical, up-to-date knowledge essential for starting, managing, and sustaining a business. It addressed common challenges faced by start-up and aspiring entrepreneurs, focusing on building a strong foundation for enterprise development. Key topics included business registration and licensing, effective branding, compliance with packaging and labeling standards, and accurate product costing to ensure competitiveness, profitability, and long-term success.

Business Counselors from the Negosyo Centers of Los Baños and Alaminos shared their expertise in enterprise development and micro, small, and medium enterprise (MSME) support. Through detailed presentations, they covered the essential steps for establishing and managing micro and small enterprises, offering practical insights on regulatory compliance and operational best practices. Their discussions emphasized the importance of

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DOST-CALABARZON EQUIPS FOOD SAFETY TEAM WITH ADVANCED SHELF-LIFE TESTING SKILLS

The Department of Science and Technology (DOST)-CALABARZON conducted a re-echo training on Temperature-Based Accelerated Shelf-Life Testing (ASLT) for its Food Safety Team on February 27, 2026, at the RFSQC Multipurpose Hall in Los Baños, Laguna, in response to the increasing volume of technical inquiries and the need to provide precise, science-based guidance to the rapidly expanding food manufacturing sector in the region.

On December 3-4, 2025, Ms. Amiel L. Alcala, Project Technical Assistant II and Food Safety Team focal person, took part in a two-day training conducted by the DOST-Industrial Technology Development Institute (DOST-ITDI). Following the activity, she facilitated the session and shared key learnings with members of the Regional Standards and Testing Laboratory (RSTL) and Provincial Science and Technology Offices (PSTOs).

The activity aimed to strengthen ASLT knowledge across the re-

gional team by enhancing advanced technical skills essential for addressing industry concerns and delivering reliable technical recommendations. By standardizing methods for performing and interpreting shelf-life analyses, the training reinforces the agency's capacity to provide consistent, scientifically grounded consultancy services to food enterprises.

As part of the program, participants engaged in a hands-on workshop where each provincial Food Safety Team was assigned actual food products to evaluate using ASLT principles. This practical component enabled them to apply key concepts in determining critical quality parameters, selecting appropriate evidence-based references, and interpreting results—ensuring deeper technical understanding and real-world readiness.

Ms. Jessica G. Navarro, Science Research Specialist I from PSTO Batangas, shared that the training significantly enhanced the team's technical competence.

Palace to officially seek Congress approval for emergency fuel tax reduction

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. will formally request Congress on Monday to grant him emergency powers to reduce the excise tax on petroleum products amid the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, a Palace official said Sunday (New York time).

Presidential Communications Office (PCO) Undersecretary and Palace Press Officer Claire Castro said the Department of Energy (DOE) will request on behalf of the President.

"Nakikipag-ugnayan sila at ang panawagan pong ito ay gagawin

sa Lunes na," said Castro, who accompanied the President in his working visit to New York.

The President earlier expressed his intention to exercise emergency powers to cut the excise tax on petroleum products if oil prices reach or exceed US\$80 per barrel.

At the same time, Malacañang warned profiteers seizing the opportunity to jack up oil prices that the law will go after them for their fraudulent actions.

"Ang panawagan ng Pangulo ay magkaisa tayo kung ano ang

She emphasized that it "strengthened our ability to scientifically determine and validate product shelf life using real data and regulatory standards, enabling us to support evidence-based decisions that ensure product safety and compliance."

As the regional food sector continues to grow, reliable scientific support becomes increasingly vital to ensure product quality, safety, and competitiveness. The training also aligns regional food safety protocols with ITDI standards, promoting uniform technical guidance across provinces.

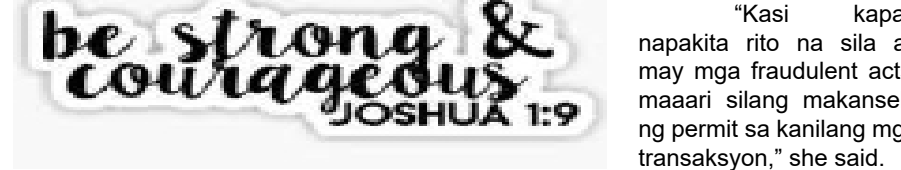
Through programs like these, DOST-CALABARZON continues to strengthen its scientific support system—empowering food producers with reliable data, enhancing regulatory readiness, fostering sustainable growth within the region's food industry, and advancing a proposed framework to institutionalize ASLT preliminary consultancy as a formal technical service for micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

nangyayari po ngayon sa Middle East. Dapat tayo magkaisa at magtulungan. Hindi tayo kinakailangang maghatakan pababa," Castro said.

"At sa mga tao, hindi dapat kayo magsamantala. Ang gusto ng Pangulo ay magtulungan tayo. Kapag kayo ay nagsamantala, meron kayong madedemanda at maaaring matanggalan kayo ng pagkakataon na kayo ay makapagnegosyo."

According to Castro, the DOE issued a show-cause order to 54 gas stations to determine whether they violated the guidelines on oil price adjustments.

"Kasi kapag napakita rito na sila ay may mga fraudulent acts, maaari silang makansela ng permit sa kanilang mga transaksyon," she said.



We Stannin' HARD: Best New Finds in Luzon with SM Supermalls

We are all about that stan life. A new album from a rising artist? Fan-boy/fangirl mode activated. A freshly opened concept store? Consider us a fan. Entering your fitness era? Support. Whether it's a personality we love or a lifestyle we aspire to, as long as it resonates with the life we want, we are stanning hard.



All For Our Foodie Stans

Here at SM Supermalls, you don't need to look any further. Everything—and we mean everything—that will get you hyped up for months is right here. From the hottest new finds across Luzon to everyday essentials that hit different, these stores have us hooked, and we just cannot get enough. As your most-loved mall, SM continues to be an icon worthy of all our attention.

Frankie's New York Buffalo Wings

For all our buffalo wings stans, the first-in-Bulacan Frankie's New York Buffalo Wings at the West Wing of SM City Marilao brings its iconic variations to the table, with flavors ranging from classic buffalo to garlic parmesan and honey sriracha. Craving wings?



This is your chance to dig in until you drop.

Manam

And if you're simply a fan of home, Manam in the Ground Level of SM City Marilao is your best pick! The first-in-Bulacan, Manam elevates Filipino comfort food with creative twists. Ever heard of their iconic Watermelon Beef Sinigang? Yep, that's Manam for you!



All For Our Lifestyle & Fashion Stans

If she's having it, we're ALL having it. Trends let us feel part of a community where we truly belong. From accessories you can carry all day to lifestyle must-haves, we're all about riding the hype.

Aquaflask Designs

If you're a fan of carrying your personality with you, the first-in-Batangas AquaFlask Designs makes hydration look good with functional, sleek tumblers that you can customize—from colors and sizes to all the accessories you can pair them with. Opening soon at the Ground Level of SM City Batangas, AquaFlask Designs lets your personality shine through whether you're heading to the gym, to class, or just malling around SM.



Decathlon

For sport and adventure stans who love gearing up for every experience, the newest Decathlon at Level 3 of SM City Grand Central brings over 70 sports' worth of equipment, apparel, and accessories into one space. From running shoes to yoga mats, hiking gear to swim essentials, Decathlon location makes it simple to shop everything you need to stay active and stylish.



is the perfect spot to savor the familiar flavors of the country.



All For Our Wellness Stans



For fitness stans focused on building a healthier body, the new Anytime Fitness at the Lower Ground Floor of SM City Trece Martires brings the globally recognized 24/7 gym experience right into your routine. Equipped with machines and tools for every fitness goal, AF is where your fitness journey becomes more accessible and more fun to return to.

Wellness first? Healthy fitness habits? We can't help but stan those who take good care of themselves—and lowkey, we all aspire to be like them!

Supermalls stan here! From the best in fitness and wellness to dining concepts you're sure to love, whatever you're stanning in life, your most-loved SM Supermalls has got it all for you.

Follow @smsupermalls on social media or visit www.smsupermalls.com for the latest updates and events.

About SM Supermalls

Sunnies Studios

Sunnies Studios continues to be a staple for eyewear and lifestyle essentials. Its newest store at the Ground Level of SM City San Pablo brings that signature cool directly to your everyday wardrobe and gets you looking like your idol. Known for trendy and timeless styles, Sunnies Studios offers a range of eyewear for all our accessories stans out there.



The Loop

All for our tech-savvy stans, The Loop at Level 3 of SM Center Tuguegarao Downtown is your newest go-to spot for anything gadget and gadget accessories, bringing in products that are sure to empower you whether you're a student, a professional, or just vibin' through life.



Iremia Headspa

If wellness is your goal this year, Iremia Headspa at the 2nd Level of SM City Clark is where self-care becomes part of your everyday life. A first in SM, it offers structured head and scalp treatments focused on relaxation and reset. Wanna be your own #1 fan? This is the spot for anyone who's ready to take their well-being seriously.



SM Supermalls is evolving for a new era shaped by how people live, connect, and experience life today. More than a place to shop, it is the country's most loved mall and an everyday destination designed around the lifestyles, passions, and needs of Filipino communities, delivering new finds, fresh concepts, and meaningful experiences, All For You.

As one of Southeast Asia's largest mall developers and operators, with 89 malls in the Philippines and 9 in China, SM Supermalls continues to evolve its spaces, experiences, and partnerships, building destinations that grow with communities and remain trusted, relevant, and loved for generations. Your Most Loved Supermall, SM — All For You.



Php4.6-M halaga ng Fuel Assistance Card, ipinamahagi ng DA-4A

Umabot sa P4,671,000 ang halaga na ipinamahagi sa mga magsasaka sa probinsya ng Batangas at Quezon sa kauna-unahang Fuel Caravan na naganap ngayong taon sa ilalim ng Fuel Subsidy Program ng Department of Agriculture IV-CALABARZON (DA-4A) High Value Crops Development Program (HVCDP) simula noong ika-23 hanggang ika-26 ng Pebrero sa Lipa City, Batangas. Dito ay tigta-tatlong libong piso (P3,000) ang laman **cont. on page 5**

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

BDO UNIBANK, INC.,
Mortgagee,

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-037-26

-versus-

PATRICK B. BRIONES,
Debtor/Mortgagor.

X ----- X

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, **BDO UNIBANK, INC.**, with business address at BDO Corporate Center, 33rd Floor, BDO Corporate Center Ortigas, No. 12 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City against the Debtr/Mortgagor, **PATRICK B. BRIONES**, with residence and postal addresses at (1) Lot 59, Block 11, Phase 2, Phirst Park Homes Tanza, Governor's Drive, Tanauan, Tanza, Cavite, (abandoned property) and (2) Lot 2, Block 13, Phase 4, Citta Italia, Mambog III, Bacoor, Cavite (abandoned property), to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of January 28, 2026 amounts to **ONE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY TWO THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED NINETY TWO PESOS and 86/100 (Php1,482,492.86)**, Philippine Currency, including interest, penalties and other charges as of said date but exclusive of all other expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on **MARCH 25, 2026** at 10:00 o'clock in the morning until 12:00 o'clock 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. 057-2022051416

Lot No. 59 Block: 11 Plan No. Psd-04-247444
Portion of: Lot 37, Block 70, Pcs-04-030746

Location: Barangay of Tanauan, Municipality of Tanza, Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon

LINE	DIRECTION	ADJOINING LOT(S)
1-2	NE	Lot 60, Block 11, Psd-04-247444
2-3	SE	,, Block 83, Psd-04-247444
3-4	SW	Lot 58, Block 11, Psd-04-247444
4-1	NW	Road Lot 35, Psd-04-247444

Area: **FORTY FOUR (44) SQUARE METERES, 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 APRIL 8, 2026 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, **FEBRUARY 27, 2026**

(SGD.) REYNALDO L. SALOMA
Sheriff IV

Copy Furnished:

BDO UNIBANK, INC.
CONSUMER REMEDIAL MANAGEMENT
33rd Floor, BDO Corporate Center Ortigas
No. 12, ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City

PATRICK B. BRIONES
(1) Lot 59, Block 11, Phase 2, Phirst Park Homes Tanza, Governor's Drive, Tanauan, Tanza, Cavite
(2) Lot 2, Block 13, Phase 4, Citta Italia, Mambog III, Bacoor, Cavite

WARNING: It is absolutely prohibited to remove deface or destroy this Notice of Extra-Judicial Sale on or before the date of sale.

Dateline Weekly Newspapers:
MARCH 02, 09 & 16, 2026

From Page 1

SSS...

The Social Security System announced today the launch of a facial authentication to allow pensioners to complete the Annual Confirmation of Pensioners (ACOP) requirement without visiting SSS branches.

SSS President and Chief Executive Officer Robert Josep M. de Claro said the system uses biometric liveness checks to verify the identity of pensioners online. "This makes compliance

easier, faster, and more secure, ensuring uninterrupted pension payments," de Claro said.

The feature is available to pensioners registered in the National ID System (PhilSys) including:

Retirement pensioners aged 80 and above residing in the Philippines

Retirement pensioners living abroad

Survivorship (death) pensioners

De Claro explained that pensioners do not need to login to My.SSS. By visiting the SSS homepage at www.sss.gov.ph, pensioners can access a dedicated ACOP icon that seamlessly guides them through the facial scan and biometric verification process using any camera-enabled device, through the Philippine Statistics Authority's (PSA) National ID eVerify system.

"The verification

From Page 5

Php4.6-M...

ng card na ipinagkaloob sa mga lehitimong maggugulay bilang suportang pinansyal sa pagbili o pagbayad ng krudo sa mga Petroleum Retail Outlet para sa kanilang mga kagamitang pansaka.

Sina Rolando Macalintal at Manolito Gonzales na may pangunahing mga tanim na gu-

lay at kape ay ikinatuwa ang nakuhang tulong sa Kagawaran dahil anila, malaki itong kabawasan sa gastos nila sa produksyon upang may dagdag pa sa pambili ng binhi at abono.

Para naman kay OIC-Regional Executive Director Engr. Redelliza A. Gruezo, hangad ng

DA-4A na maibigay ang anumang tulong para sa mga pangangailangan ng mga magsasaka lalo na kung sa ikagagaan pa ito ng mga gawain nila sa produksyon Samantala, magpapatuloy ang Fuel Caravan sa iba pang probinsya sa rehiyon ng CALABARZON samga sununod pa na araw at linggo.

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE OF THE LATE SPOUSES NILDA LUBANG GREPO and EULOGIO ALEGUAS GREPO

Notice is hereby given that the estate of late Spouses NILDA LUBANG GREPO who died on October 27, 2025 at General Trias City, Cavite and EULOGIO ALEGUAS GREPO who died on August 19, 2005 at San Juan, Metro Manila, were extrajudicially settled by their children and surviving legal heirs, pursuant to Rule 74, Section 1 of the Revised Rules of Court.

The estate consists of (1) a 2/6 portion only of a parcel of land located at Poblacion, General Trias, Cavite consisting of ONE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED SIXTY THREE (1,363) square meters, covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-123111 and (2) a motor vehicle, a TOYOTA INNOVA 2.8 with Plate no. DCC7160, Engine no. 1GD5824548, and Certificate of Registration No. 0094627648 per deed executed on February 23, 2026 by Atty. Christopher Columna, per Doc. No. 273, Page 56, Book 139, Series of 2026.

Dateline Weekly Newspapers:
Mar. 9, 16 & 23, 2026

KWF at USM, Pinagtitibay ang Ortograpiya ng mga WIKANG Manobo at Teduray; Kasunduan sa Laksay Silid-Aklatan, Nilagdaan na

Halos siyam na milyong piso ang kabuuang halaga ng mga pasilidad at interbensiyong ipinamahagi sa mga samahan ng maggugulay sa mga bayan ng Dolores at Sariaya noong ika-20 ng Pebrero.

Kabilang sa mga ipinagkaloob ang dalawang Packaging House Facility with Cold Storage at dalawang Solar-Powered Irrigation System (SPIS). Layunin ng mga proyektong ito na mapanatili ang kalidad at mapahaba ang shelf-life ng mga ani, gayundin ang magbigay ng mura, episyente, at makakalikasang sistema ng irigasyon na makatutulong upang mapataas ang produksyon ng mga magsasaka.

Ayon kay HVC-DP Focal Person Gng.

Janice Fajardo, hangarin ng programa na makita ang aktibong paggamit ng mga tulong ng gobyerno at hikayat in ang mga samahan na aktibong palakasin ang kanilang kakayahan para mapangalagaan at mapaunlad ang mga nasabing interbensyon para sa pangmatagalang benepisyo mula rito. Para naman sa mga samahang tulad ng SIPAG Bucal, malaking tulong ang mga interbensyon. Ayon kay Carlyn Mendoza, isa sa mga miyembro ng samahan, makatutulong ang SPIS upang mapadali ang pagdidilig at pangangalaga sa kanilang mga tanim na kalamansi at iba pang gulay, na inaasahang magresulta sa kanilang mas masaganang produksyon at kita. **PR**

Entrepreneurship...

From Page 7

business formalization, strategic planning, and adherence to standards as key drivers of sustainable growth.

An interactive question-and-answer session followed the lectures, giving participants the opportunity to raise specific concerns and seek clarification on business matters. The discussion provided direct guidance on registration processes, regulatory compliance,

and other operational challenges commonly faced at different stages of business development.

DTI-Laguna and CARD-MRI reaffirmed their commitment to continuously support entrepreneurs through capacity-building initiatives and collaborative programs that promote inclusive economic growth and MSME development across the province (RYPGatdula, DTI-Laguna).

DepEd...

From Page 1

L U N G S O D NG QUEZON, 11 Marso 2026—Hinimok ni Education Secretary Sonny Angara ang mga mag-aaral na pangunahan ang pagbuo ng mga solusyong teknolohikal para sa mga lokal at pandaigdigang hamon sa pormal na pag-bubukas ng 2026 National Science and Technology Fair (NSTF) ngayong Miyerkules.

Sa ilalim ng temang "Harnessing the Unknown: Powering the Future Through Science and Innovation," ang taunang kompetisyong ito na inorganisa ng DepEd ang nagsisilbing pangunahing plataporma para sa mga mag-aaral sa high school na maipamalas ang kanilang mga makabagong pananaliksik at imbensyon sa science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Binigyang-diin ni Angara ang kahalagahan ng papel ng mga kabataang scientists sa paglikha ng mga praktikal na solusyon sa mga kritikal na sektor, kabilang ang sustainable energy, produksyon ng pagkain at nutrisyon, at disaster resilience na ginagamitan ng teknolohiya.

Bilang patunay sa world-class na talento ng kabataang Pilipino, binanggit ni Angara ang kamakailang internasyunal na pagkilala sa mga mag-aaral mula sa Patin-ay National High School sa Agusan del Sur para sa kanilang pananaliksik tungkol sa mga halamang gamot.

"In line with the vision of President Bong

Macros to leverage science and technology for a better quality of life, we urge our learners to pioneer solutions that address our most critical national challenges," pahayag ni Angara. "By mastering rapidly evolving technologies today, the Filipino youth serve as the primary architects of a more innovative and resilient Bagong Pilipinas."

Ang NSTF ay nagsisilbi ring opisyal na qualifying round para sa prestihiyosong International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF), ang pinakamalaking pang-unang science competition sa buong mundo.

Mula sa iba't ibang lugar sa bansa, ang mga kalahok sa NSTF ay sumasabak sa mga kumpetisyon at aktibidad, kabilang ang Tuklas research competition na nagpapakita ng mga proyekto sa Life Science, Physical Science, Robotics and Intelligent Machines, at Mathematics and Computational Science.

Sa STEM Innovation Expo competition, tampok ang mga market-ready solusyon sa mga isyu tulad ng seguridad sa pagkain, konserbasyon ng tubig, renewable energy, cybersecurity, at kalusugan.

Kabilang din ang STEM Academy conference at ang Agham Bayanihan na community exhibit kung saan ipinapakita ng mga partner institution ang kanilang mga makabagong teknolohiya at serbisyo sa publiko. PR

"We are push-

ing for empowerment because many women still experience unequal opportunities. But this does not mean that men's rights should be ignored," Aquino added.

PCW believes that gender equality cannot be achieved if one group progresses while another is left behind, and a truly inclusive society requires equal participation and recognition of all genders.

With this, PCW continues to strengthen programs that promote gender-responsive governance, women's empowerment, and inclusive development, including the implementation of the Gender and Development (GAD) Program, capacity-building initiatives for government agencies and local government units, and advocacy campaigns that advance equal rights and opportunities for women, men, and the LGBTQIA+ community. Despite ongoing

efforts, PCW acknowledged that the country and the rest of the world still have a long way to go before achieving full gender equality.

Based on findings from the Global Gender Gap Report 2025 by the World Economic Forum, it could take about 123 years before global gender equality is fully realized.

The commission then renewed its call for stronger support for initiatives that promote equal rights and opportunities for women, men, and the LGBTQIA+ community from all national and local government agencies, as well as the private sector, civil society organizations, academic institutions, and community stakeholders.

Aquino said: "Gender equality means that no one should be left behind. Our goal is for women, men, and LGBTQIA+ individuals to equally experience and enjoy the rights and opportunities they deserve."

Ayon kay HVC-DP Focal Person Gng.

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

MARGARITO G. PACIA, Petitioner/Mortgagee,

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-073-26 -versus-

BETTY DALIGDIG NACORDA, Mortgagees/Respondents.

X ----- X

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Petitioner/Mortgagee, MARGARITO G. PACIA with business address at No. 21 Eastroad /Unit 2 Eusebio Townhouse, Murphy, Cubao, Quezon City, against the Mortgagees/Respondents, BETTY DALIGDIG NACORDA, with residence and postal addresses at (1) Blk 38C Lot 14 Atis St. Cor. Mulberry Grand Meadows Antel Grand Village Bacao I, General Trias, Cavite and/or (2) 131 Panamitan Kawit, Cavite, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of January 20, 2026 amounts to TWO MILLION TWO HUNDRED TWENTY NINE THOUSAND PESOS AND 00/100 (PHP2,229,000.00), Philippine Currency, inclusive of accrued interests and penalties as of said date but exclusive of all other charges incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on MARCH 25, 2026 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning until 12:00 o'clock 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. 057-2018037340

A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 14, BLOCK 38-C OF THE CONSOLIDATION -SUBDIVISION PLAN PCS-04-025818, BEING A PORTION OF LOT 1597-A, PSD-26890,

LOTS 1-68, BLOCK 38, PCS -04017881), SITUATED IN BARANGAY OF BACAO, MUNICIPALITY OF GENERAL TRIAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON. BOUNDED ON THE SE., ALONG LINE 1-2 BY LOT 17, BLOCK 38-C; ON THE SW., ALONG LINE 2-3 BY LOT 13, BLOCK 38-C BOTH OF THE CONS.-SUBD PLAN; ON THE NW., ALONG 3-4 BY ROAD LOT 2 (8.00 M. WIDE), ON THE NE., ALONG LINE 4-1 BY LOT 15, BLOCK 38-C ALL OF THE CONS. SUBD. PLAN. BEGINNING AT A PT. MARKED "1" ON PLAN XXX CONTAINING AN AREA OF ONE HUNDRED FORTY FOUR (144) SQUARES METERS, MORE OR LESS XXX

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 time and date, it shall be held on APRIL 8, 2026 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, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

(SGD) ANDRES B. ESPINA Sheriff IV

Copy furnished:

MARGARITO G. PACIA No. 21 Eastroad, Unit 2 Eusebio Townhouse, Murphy, Cubao, Quezon City

BETTY DALIGDIG NACORDA (1) Blk 38C Lot 14 Atis St. Cor. Mulberry Grand Meadows Antel Grand Village Bacao I, General Trias, Cavite (2) 131 Panamitan Kawit, Cavite

WARNING: It is absolutely prohibited to remove, deface or destroy this Notice of Extra Judicial Sale on or before the date of sale

Dateline Weekly Newspapers MARCH 02, 09 & 16, 2026

KWF at USM, Pinagtitibay ang Ortograpiya ng mga WIKANGManobo at Teduray; Kasunduan sa Lakbay Silid-Aklatan, Nilagdaan na

Halos siyam na milyong piso ang kabuuang halaga ng mga pasilidad at interbensiyong ipinamahagi sa mga samahan ng maggugulay sa mga bayan ng Dolores at Sariaya noong ika-20 ng Pebrero.

Kabilang sa mga ipinagkaloob ang dalawang Packaging House Facility with Cold Storage at dalawang Solar-Powered Irrigation System (SPIS). Layunin ng mga proyektong ito na mapanatili ang kalidad at mapahaba ang shelf-life ng mga ani, gayundin ang magbigay ng mura, episyente, at makakalikasang sistema ng irigasyon na makatutulong upang mapataas ang produksyon ng mga magsasaka.

Ayon kay HVC-DP Focal Person Gng.

Para naman sa mga samahang tulad ng SIPAG Bucal, malaking tulong ang mga interbensyon. Ayon kay Carlyn Mendoza, isa sa mga miyembro ng samahan, makatutulong ang SPIS upang mapadali ang pagdidiligi at pangangalaga sa kanilang mga tanim na kalamansi at iba pang gulay, na inaasahang magresulta sa kanilang mas masaganang produksyon at kita. PR

AboitizPower, CENRO Tayabas Isinagawa Ang 2026 Annual Waterbird Census



Pagbilao, Quezon — Ang Therma Luzon, Inc. (TLI), subsidiary ng AboitizPower, ay kamakailan nagdaos ng 2026 Annual Asian Waterbird Census (AWC) kasama ang mga katuwang nito mula sa Tayabas City Environment & Natural Resources Office (CENRO). Sakop ng magkasamang monitoring expedition ang Pagbilao Mangrove Experimental Forest at mga lugar sa loob ng Pagbilao Power Station.

Naitala ng survey team ang kahanga-hangang bilang ng mga ibon, kabilang dito ang mahigit 80 garganey at halos 200 Philippine Duck, na lokal na kilala bilang Papan. Sa isinagawang bilang, nado-kumento rin ng mga kalahok ang isang rare leucistic white Papan — isang Philippine duck na may kakaibang maputlang balahibo na kapansin-pansin sa gitna ng kawan.

"Ang AWC ay isang regular na aktibidad ng DENR CENRO Tayabas kasama ang TLI at iba pang mga stakeholders na may layuning itaas ang kamalayan sa kahalagahan ng wildlife conservation," ani Ramil Gutierrez, pinuno ng CENRO Tayabas. "Nakatuon ang inisyatibong ito sa iba't ibang uri ng ibon sa loob ng aming area of responsibility, lalo na ang mga migratory bird."

Ang pagkakaroon ng mga garganey at pato, kabilang ang "vulnerable" na Philippine Duck sa mga lagoon ng Pagbilao Power Station ay nagpapahiwatig na

nananatiling angkop ang lugar para maging tirahan ng wildlife. Sa pamamagitan ng pagsasama ng mga ganitong survey na ito sa corporate environmental, social, and governance (ESG) frameworks, tinityak ng inisyatiba na ang operasyon ng TLI ay nananatiling balanse sa nakapalibot na ecosystem.

Ayon sa mga datos na nakalap sa aktibidades ay ibabahagi sa internasyonal na database ng AWC na nagbabantay sa kalusugan ng mga wetland sa buong Asya. Ipinapakita ng pagsisikap na ito ang patuloy na pagtutulongan ng publikong sektor at pribadong sektor gaya ng AboitizPower sa pagsuporta at pagprotekta sa mga migratory path at lokal na ecosystem. "Naniniwala kami

na ang pagiging katuwang sa enerhiya ay nangangahulugan din ng pagiging katuwang sa mga komunidad kung saan kami nagpapatakbo," wika ni Lou Jason Deligencia, AVP for Corporate Services. "Ang mga aktibidad na gaya nito ay nagbibigay-daan sa amin na makipagtulungan sa mga lokal na pinuno at residente sa pag-aalaga sa kapaligirang ating inaasahan."

Ipinahayag ng TLI ang intensyon nitong patuloy na suportahan ang mga susunod na mga programa ng LGU para sa kalikasan at sustainability, bilang pagpapatibay ng kanilang pangako na makikipagtulungan sa lokal na pamahalaan at mga stakeholder ng komunidad para sa pangangalaga ng kapaligiran ng buong Pagbilao. PR

DOST-Rizal ...

Piliilla, Rizal — The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) CALABARZON, through the Provincial Science and Technology Office (PSTO) Rizal, officially signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Better Piliilla Women's Multi-Purpose Cooperative (BPWMPC) today, February 13. This milestone marks the cooperative's formal entry into the DOST Grants-in-Aid (GIA)

Community-Based Program (CBP).

Before the signing, Mr. R-jay M. Salabao, Project Technical Assistant I and Provincial GIA team member, detailed the MOA provision counterparts for both the beneficiary and DOST CALABARZON. As a flagship initiative, the GIA-CBP funds S&T undertakings designed to boost productivity and quality of life through the promotion of

appropriate technologies. The session also allowed the BPWMPC to clarify key details regarding the project's upcoming implementation phase.

The BPWMPC has a proud history of water hyacinth weaving, famously transforming an environmental nuisance into a sustainable livelihood. Through this GIA-CBP assistance, the cooperative aims to (1) improve the treatment

CARD MRI expands holistic care with CARD Care Clinics in Marawi and Cotabato



CARD MRI Property Management, Inc. (CMPMI) led the ground-breaking ceremonies for the CARD Care Clinic Inc. (CCCI) facilities in Marawi City and Cotabato City on January 12–13, 2026. The project represents a major step toward expanding access to primary healthcare for underserved communities in Mindanao, reflecting CARD Mutually Reinforcing Institution's (CARD MRI) commitment to holistic community development.

The initiative aims to support the holistic well-being of CARD MRI clients and local communities by complementing the organization's Islamic financing services with accessible, affordable, and culturally sensitive healthcare. The clinics will offer essential primary healthcare services, including medical consultations, diagnostic services such as X-rays, preventive care, and more.

CMPMI President Maida Decano emphasized the broaer significance of the project during her message. "This groundbreaking ceremony is more than just the opening of a primary care facility. It embodies CARD MRI's mission to address poverty holistically—not only by supporting financial empowerment but also by ensuring communities have access to health and well-being," she said.

Dr. Michelle Anne Dy-Menil, President of CCCI, under the hold-

From Page 1

and preservation of dried water hyacinth stalks; (2) upgrade varnishing and sewing processes through advanced technology; and (3) enhance the overall visual appeal and quality of their signature gift and handicraft products.

The event concluded with a commemorative photo session, marking the start of a partnership dedicated to innovation and community empowerment. PR

CARD MRI staff, management, clients and partners took part in the groundbreaking of the CARD Care Clinic facilities in Marawi City (left) and Cotabato City (right), marking a significant move toward bringing accessible primary healthcare to the communities.

ing company CARD Care Networks Inc. (CCNI), highlighted how the clinics will directly benefit local residents. "Many families still travel long distances just to access even basic healthcare services. With these clinics, we are bringing primary healthcare closer to the people, providing timely consultations, preventive care, and support that respects the community's culture and needs. It's about building healthier families, who in turn can focus on learning, earning, and improving their quality of life," she shared.

The establishment of the clinics was made possible through the support of The Nippon Foundation, a partner organization of CARD MRI, which aims to provide accessible, quality healthcare and support sustainable community development, both in Christian and Muslim communities of Marawi and Cotabato.

The groundbreaking ceremonies were attended by CMPMI President Maida Decano, CARD MRI Resource Mobilization and International Group Director

Jean Pauline Landicho, CCCI President Dr. Michelle Anne Dy-Menil, and other CARD MRI heads, officers, staff, clients, and community members. Media partners covered the Cotabato event, including Anne Acosta of Mindanao Expose Cotabato, Carolyn Abas of Radyo Natin FM Cotabato, Shella Cumbao of TM FM Radio Cotabato, and Sam Sali of XFM 102.1 Cotabato.

The CARD Care Clinics will be located along Narciso Marcos Highway, Barangay Biaba Damag, Marawi City, and Rosales Street, Rosary Heights 6, Sinsuat Avenue, Cotabato City. The project reinforces CARD MRI's long-term commitment to supporting communities through integrated financial and health services, bringing hope, care, and opportunity closer to those who need it most.

CMPMI, CCCI, and CCNI are member-institutions of CARD MRI, a group of development-oriented institutions established in December 1986 with a common goal of eradicating poverty in the Philippines. PR