

Over 700 coco farmers to graduate from ATI CALABARZON's School-on-the-Air program on good agricultural practices September 25, 2024

After the 10-week airing of lecture discussions, 729 coconut farmers across the region will graduate from the "School-on-the-Air (SOA) on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for Coconut" of the Department of Agriculture - Agricultural Training Institute (DA-ATI) CALABARZON. The said completion rites will happen on October 4, 2024, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, at San Pablo City Multipurpose and Convention Center, San Pablo City, Laguna. Dubbed as "Masaganang Coco-buhayan: Radyo Eskwela sa Pagniniyugan," the program aims to

strengthen the coconut industry in CALABARZON by highlighting its potential as a sustainable livelihood and innovative enterprise for farmers. Invited guests for the graduation ceremony include Sen. Cynthia A. Villar, chairperson of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Food; Rep. Wilfrido Mark Enverga, chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture and Food; ATI Dir. Remelyn R. Recoter; DA CALABARZON Regional Executive Dir. Fidel Libao; as well as governors of five provinces in the region. The SOA program aired 20 episodes from June 19 - August 23, 2024, on partner radio stations 106.3 Radyo Natin Laguna, 92.7 Spirit FM Infanta, 102.5 Radyo Natin Bon-Pen, and via YouTube channel and Facebook page of DA-ATI CALABARZON. Some topics covered were Site Selection and Management, Field Layout and Planting, Planting and Replanting of Damaged Palms, Farm Maintenance, Farm Diversification, and Harvesting and Postharvest Handling, based on the Philippine National Standard (PNS) Code of GAP for coconut. The 20 episodes were delivered by radio teachers from a pool of coconut specialists and subject matter specialists from various agencies and bureaus under DA, particularly the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) Region IV-A. In the course of the program, ATI CALABARZON administered various quizzes and tests to assess the knowledge and understanding of the participants. Still under the Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan (CFIDP) and in collaboration with the PCA Region IV-A, this is the second time the ATI CALABARZON implemented the SOA program dedicated to the coconut industry after its pilot implementation last year.

Chinabank wins top governance award a third time



From left: ICD Chairman Pedro Maniego Jr., Philippine Stock Exchange Chief Operating Officer Roel Refran, Chinabank Chief Finance Officer Patrick Cheng and Independent Director Genaro Lapez, Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman & Chief Operating Officer Emilio Aquino, and ICD Vice Chairperson Ida Ceniza-Tiongson and Treasurer Ma. Victoria España.

Chinabank continues to be among the best-governed publicly listed companies in the Philippines, winning for the third year in a row the highest recognition for governance excellence, the Five-Golden Arrow Award of the Institute of Corporate Directors (ICD). Only five companies received ICD's plum award this year, of which

four are members of the SM Group: Chinabank, BDO, SM Investments, and SM Prime Holdings. Chinabank is the only bank to win Five Golden Arrows a third time, a testament to its unwavering commitment to upholding the highest governance standards, according to Chief Finance Officer Patrick Cheng. "We are very proud of the progress we have made, but CBC remains focused on continuously raising the bar, staying ahead of emerging trends, and adapting to the evolving regulatory landscape," he said. At the Golden Arrow Recognition on September 19, 2024 at the Manila Marriott Hotel, ICD awarded 111 out of 276 publicly listed companies and 25 out of 115 in-

CARD MBA

Panatag Ka.

CARD MBA Rejoins World's 500 Largest Mutual and Cooperative Insurers For two consecutive years, CARD Mutual Benefit Association (CARD MBA), Inc. has earned a spot among the world's 500 largest mutual and cooperative insurers, as recognized by the International Cooperative and Mutual Insurance Federation's (ICMIF) Global 500 report. This ranking is determined based on premium income using the 2022 year-end data. CARD MBA Chief Executive Officer Jocelyn A. Dequito shared that this achievement underscores the Association's efforts to provide insurance to Filipino families, particularly those in vulnerable segments of society. "Our mission is to offer a safety net and additional protection to ensure they can look forward to a secured future," Dequito stated. As of April 2024, CARD MBA serves more than 7 million clients and extends insurance coverage to over 24 million individuals nationwide. Microinsurance products are crucial in helping the marginalized become resilient in times of uncertainty. The Association's position improved to 478th, marking a seven-spot rise from the previous 2021 Global 500 Report by ICMIF. In 2022, CARD MBA reported a premium income of USD

105,907. Notably, only two insurance companies from the Philippines were included in this list. "This recognition is an honor for CARD MBA. We are committed to enhancing our services to better support the low-income sector, ensuring they have protection against unforeseen events," Dequito added. She also mentioned that the Association will continue to continue its other community development services, including disaster relief assistance, mass weddings, scholarship programs, and working with other organized groups to provide microinsurance protection to their members. The 2022 Global 500 list of the world's largest mutual and cooperative insurers comprises 83% (225) companies from America and (190) from Europe, 65 companies from Asia and Oceania, and 20 organizations from emerging markets in Latin America (13) and Africa (7). The International Cooperative and Mutual Insurance Federation is the only international association dedicated to strengthening cooperative and mutual insurance by supporting its organizational capabilities. Meanwhile, CARD MBA is a microinsurance Mutual Benefit Association in the Philippines that is 100% owned and managed by its members. PR

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Cayetano calls for clear prioritization in addressing education challenges



Senator Alan Peter Cayetano on Thursday stressed the importance of addressing the country's education problems one step at a time, emphasizing the need to focus on priorities. This statement follows the 3rd Quarter Commission Meeting of the Second Congressional Commission on

Education (EDCOM II) held on September 12, 2024. The meeting, part of quarterly discussions, tackled administrative and

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P281.3-B budget ng DILG para sa 2025, aprubado na sa Kamara

Delegates from the World Bank, Buong Pwersang Sinalubong ng CalamBAGONG Pamahalaan! Buong pwersa naming sinalubong ng mga kawani ng lokal na pamahalaan, kasama ang Pamahalaan!



Buong pwersa naming sinalubong ng mga kawani ng lokal na pamahalaan, kasama ang Sangguniang Panlungsod, upang i-welcome ang mga delegado mula sa World Bank at mga bansang kasapi ng Pacific Island Countries (PICs).

Sa kanilang Labor Mobility Study Visit, layunin nilang matutunan ang sistema ng migrasyon sa Pilipinas at ang mga reporma natin sa larangan ng labor mobility. Ito ay isang mahalagang hakbang upang mapalakas ang kooperasyon sa pan-

daigdigang komunidad at mapabuti ang kalagayan ng ating mga manggagawa. Isang malaking karangalan ang ibahagi ang ating mga inisyatibo para sa mas inklusibong kinabukasan! (Nelson Dimapilis/COG)

Marcos declares non-working days in 5 localities across PH

Editorial

BATAS NA ANG REPUBLIC ACT NO. 12022 O ANG ANTI-AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC SABOTAGE ACT

Ang R.A. No. 12022 o ang Anti-Agricultural Economic Sabotage Act ay isang bagong batas upang labanan ang smuggling ng agrikultura, pagkakakitaan, at pag-iimbak, gawing mas abot-kaya at madaling makuha ang pagkain, at magbigay ng mas magandang kita sa mga lokal na magsasaka

Pinagtibay at nilagdaan na ito ni Pangulong Ferdinand R Marcos Jr sa isang seremonya sa Palasyo ng Malacañang sa harap ng mga miyembro ng parehong kapulungan ng Kongreso, mga miyembro ng Gabinete, at iba pang stakeholder ng agrikultura

Ang Anti-Agricultural Economic Sabotage Act, isang priority measure ng administrasyong Marcos, ay nagpapawalang-bisa sa Republic Act No. 10845 o ang Anti-Agricultural Smuggling Act of 2016, na pinapalitan ito ng mas komprehensibong mekanismo upang matiyak ang mas mahigpit na pagpapatupad at mas mahusay na pagpapatupad

Nakapaloob dito ang smuggling, hoarding, profiteering, cartel at financing ng mga krimeng ito na kinasasangkutan ng mga produktong pang-agrikultura at pangisdaan ay inuri bilang acts of economic sabotage at magkakaroon ng parusang habambuhay na pagkakakulong at multa ng hanggang limang beses ang halaga ng mga produkto. sangkot sa krimen.

Malaki ang maitutulong ng bagong batas na ito na gawing mas madaling makuha at abot-kaya ang pagkain para sa mga Pilipino habang pinahuhusay ang mga pagkakataon sa kita para sa mga lokal na magsasaka at mangingisda.

Nagpasalamat si Pangulong Marcos sa mga mambabatas sa pagpasa ng panukala at binalaan ang mga smuggler at profiteer na "mabilis at tiyak" na mahanap sila ng hustisya.

"Haharapin at buwagin natin ang makapangyarihang pwersa na matagal nang nagsasamantala sa ating sistema para sa kanilang sariling kapakanan, tinitiyak na mananaig ang hustisya at itinataguyod ang dignidad ng ating sektor ng agrikultura," sabi ni Marcos.

"Wala nang backdoors, wala nang shortcut, at tiyak, wala nang pumikit sa Bagong Pilipinas," dagdag niya.

Aniya, mahigit PHP3 bilyon ang pagkawala ng Pilipinas sa agricultural smuggling noong 2023 lamang at sa loob ng wala pang siyam na buwan ngayong taon, mahigit PHP230 milyon ang halaga ng smuggled agricultural products ang nasamsam.

Cayetano...

FROM PAGE 1

technical matters for Year 2 (2024). "As we find out the problems and try to solve them, alamin natin kung ano talaga y'ung priority of all our priorities because kung maraming priorities, walang priority," Cayetano, who co-chairs EDCOM II, said.

Also chairing the Senate Committee on Higher, Technical, and Vocational Education, Cayetano highlighted that one of the country's major educational challenges is stunting in children.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), child stunting "refers to a child who is too short for his or her age and is the result of chronic or recurrent malnutrition."

Stunting, the WHO added, is a contributing risk factor to child mortality and is also a marker of inequalities in human development.

"Stunted children fail to reach their physical and cognitive potential," the WHO said in its website.

Cayetano recalled that Singapore President Tharman Shanmugaratnam, in a recent visit to the City of Taguig, emphasized the importance of early childhood development. "Ang sinabi

niya, the highest return on investment is from prenatal to five years old. You can have free and quality education, scholarships, and the best computers, pero 'pag stunted ang bata, mahirap nang mai-correct iyon," he said.

Cayetano said restoring and improving education in the country is God's "assignment" to the members of EDCOM II, emphasizing that it is their collective obligation not to deprive this generation.

"It's such an honor to be a part of this. I will try to do my best and serve well so that we don't steal from this generation," he said.

Cayetano added that with the support of his committee, as well as Senate President Francis "Chiz" Escudero, House Speaker Ferdinand Martin Romualdez, and Education Secretary Sonny Angara, EDCOM II is well-positioned to achieve its goals.

The senator expressed his optimism for the future of education in the country and reaffirmed his commitment to EDCOM II's ongoing efforts. "It will be a pleasure and honor to work with all of you," he said. PR



Rank No. 1 Most Wanted Person sa CALABARZON na may Kasong Statutory Rape, Arestado sa Joint Manhunt Operation ng Laguna PNP

Camp BGen Paciano Rizal – Arestado ang Most Wanted Person sa CALABARZON sa isinagawang Manhunt Operation ng Sta. Rosa PNP kahapon Setyembre 25, 2024.

Kinilala ni Laguna Police Provincial Director PCOL GAUVIN MEL Y UNOS ang akusado na si alyas Nino na residente ng Sta. Rosa City, Laguna.

Sa ulat ni PLTCOL BENSON D PIMENTEL, Hepe ng Santa Rosa Component City Police Station, matagumpay na naikasa ang RSOU 4A Ika-8:10 ng gabi September 25, 2024 sa Brgy. Sto. Domingo Sta. Rosa City, Laguna

na nag resulta sa pagkakaaresto ng nasabing akusado. Inaresto si alyas Nino sa bising Warrant of Arrest na inilabas ng RTC, Branch 7,

Vigan City, Ilocos Sur na nilagdaan ni Hon. LEAH AGRIPINA RAMIREZ FLORENDO, Presiding Judge, ng nasabing korte. Nahaharap ang akusado sa kasong Statutory Rape na walang kaukulang piyansa.

Samantala, ang arestadong akusado ay kasalukuyang nasa kustodiya ng Sta. Rosa CCPS. Agad namang iimpormahan ang Korteng pinagmulan ng Warrant of Arrest sa pagkakaaresto nito.

Sa pahayag ni PCOL UNOS "Sa pagkakaaresto ng akusado ay tinitiyak namin sa pamilya at lalo na sa biktima na mananagot sa batas ang taong ito. Patuloy at hindi titigil sa mga operasyon ang Laguna PNP laban sa mga nagtatago sa batas upang maibigay sa mga naging biktima ang hustisyang para sa kanila". (Nelson Dimapilis)



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Biyaheng South Experiential Tour 2024: Discovering the History and Culture of Cavite

Metro Pacific (MPT South), in partnership the Department of Tourism (DOT) Region IV-A (CALABARZON) and Provincial Government of Cavite, held a successful Bi-yaheng South Experiential Tour 2024.



This year's Experiential Tour was proudly co-presented by Taal Vista Hotel and DongFeng Motors PH, with generous sponsorship from World Balance, Sky Ranch Philippines, and Suteki Japanese Restaurant.

Our Ka-biyaheros—compromising a diverse group of influencers and media partners—went on exciting adventure to explore and experience the hidden treasures of South Luzon. Day 1: Exploring the Rich History of

lunch at Siglo Moderno Filipino, known for its modern takes on traditional Filipino dishes. They served the guests a meal they called "Lakbay Lokal Platter"; this special meal contains different local dishes with a twist from the provinces of Cavite: Laing Dinamita, Sisiglaw Salad, Himagsikan wings (a local version of Buffalo wings), and more.



To end the day, they experienced the thrills of Sky Ranch Tagaytay before enjoying a delightful dinner at Suteki, a restaurant that features contemporary Japanese cuisine, adding a vibrant contrast to the day's Filipino-themed meals.



Day 2: Delving Deep into the Culture of Maragondon The adventure continued the second day where they took the in-



In the afternoon, guests were treated with the scenic beauty of Tagaytay with a stay at the iconic Taal Vista Hotel. More than just offering a luxurious retreat, the hotel enriched their experience with a captivating history walk tour, shedding light on the rich heritage of Tagaytay, the Taal Volcano, and the storied legacy of the hotel itself.

After, they went on visited one of the famous tourist spots around the city, the Bonifacio Trial House, where national hero Andres Bonifacio stood trial, giving them a deeper understanding of the area's role in Philippine history.

To further enrich their experience, the participants joined a hands-on session at the Likhang Maragondon Bamboo Weaving Workshop, where they learned weaving techniques from local artisans using bamboo as a material. Every one of the guests got to create their own placemats out of bamboo.

Weaving is part of Maragondon's history and culture. As part of the community's way of preserving this tradition, this workshop serves as a bridge between generations, ensuring that the rich heritage of Maragondon's indigenous weaving techniques is passed down to younger artisans.

The day concluded with snacks at Lolo Claro's Restaurant, providing a perfect relaxing ending to the two-day adventure.

WhyWeDoThis Biyaheng South Experiential Tour holds great significance in showcasing the vibrant culture, history, and hidden gems of South Luzon. However, we are not only promoting the scenic spots of South Luzon but also supporting the local economies of the provinces.

"This initiative is a testament of economic innovation and sustainable tourism development, enhancing tourism through accessibility and convenience for travelers. The goal is to create an environment where convenience complements the beauty and uniqueness of the destination, resulting in enjoyable, memorable and convenient experiences for all." Department of Tourism Re-

gion IV-A Director, Ms. Marites Castro said.

"In honor of National Tourism Month, the Biyaheng South Experiential Tour shows our dedication to drive tourism and economic growth in the South. We are grateful for the continued support of Department of Tourism (DOT) and Cavite Tourism; their partnership and shared vision have been instrumental in making this program a success. Together, let's look forward to fostering sustainable tourism, contributing to the livelihood of local communities, and showcasing the treasures that lie just beyond our toll roads." stated Arlette Capistrano, MPT South's Vice President for Communication and Stakeholder Management.

Biyaheng South is MPT South's tourism advocacy program that has made a significant impact by promoting its toll road networks, particularly CAVITEX, its C5 Link segment, and CALAX, as gateways to the tourist destinations of Southern Luzon. The program demonstrates

how infrastructure not only can improve connectivity but also can serve as a catalyst for regional economic growth through tourism promotion.

MPT South is a subsidiary of Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC), the infrastructure arm of Metro Pacific Investments Corporation (MPIC). Aside from the CALAX and CAVITEX networks of toll roads, MPTC's domestic portfolio includes concessions for the North Luzon Expressway (NLEX), the NLEX Connector Road, the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEX), and the Cebu-Cordova Link Expressway (CCLEX) in Cebu.

For inquiries about this press release please email us at: corp-comm@mptsouth.com



The day continued with a cultural immersion at Shambala Silang, where the main attraction is their Tawid Gallery, where guests got to see the indigenous arts and crafts of the region, offering them a glimpse into their rich heritage. This was followed by a hearty

P10-M halaga ng interbensyon, ipinamahagi ng DA-4A sa Bagong Pilipinas Serbisyo Fair sa Batangas



Tinatayang nasa 10,367,095 halaga ng interbensyon ang naipagkaloob ng Department of Agriculture IV-CALABARZON (DA-4A) sa Bagong Pilipinas Serbisyo Fair (BPSF) ni Pangulong Ferdinand Marcos, Jr. kasama ang iba pang ahen-

nya ng pamahalaan simula noong ika-24 hanggang ika-25 ng Agosto sa Aboitiz Pitch, Lipa City, Batangas. Sa pangunguna ni OIC-Regional Director Fidel Libao, isang booth ang itinayo ng DA-4A tampok ang pagkaloob ng mga

interbensyon gaya ng punla ng calamansi, mga binhing gulay, pataba, pestisidyo, at iba pa. Tumanggap ng 5 unit ng combine harvester na nagkakahalaga ng 10 milyong piso ang mga magpapalaya na benepisyaryo mula sa Batan-

gas sa ginanap na ceremonial distribution ng BPSF. Nagkaroon din ng KADIWA ng Pangulo kung saan ilan sa mga Farmers Cooperatives and Associations sa rehiyon ay direktang nakapagbenta sa mga mamimili sa komunidad ng mga produkto sa

mas murang halaga. Upang ipakilala ang mga programa at serbisyo ng Kagawaran, ipinamahagi ang mga babasahin tungkol sa pagtatanim, paghayupan, at mga programa ng ahenasya para sa magsasaka at mga

interesado sa sektor ng agrikultura. Ikinatuwa ni Daisy Pasahol, isang residente mula sa Brgy. Bugtong, ang natanggap na punla ng calamansi lalo pa at kinahiligan niya dahil sa impluwensya ng mga magulang na magsasaka.

Multicabs for the Cities of General Trias and Imus



Governor Jonvic Remulla led the distribution of new multicabs from Cavite Provincial Government to the Cities of General Trias and Imus at

the General Trias Convention Center on September 18, 2024. The initiative is part of the continuing efforts to enhance public service delivery in the

community through transportation support to the LGUs. In a simple turnover ceremony, General Trias City Mayor Luis "Jonjon" Ferrer and City of Imus Mayor

Alex "AA" Advincula thanked the Cavite Governor, affirming that even without asking, he gives and provides for the benefit of Caviteños. Governor

Jonvic Remulla, then, remarked that the units were distributed primarily to enhance the mobility and quicken the response to the concerns of the people. He also mentioned the construction of new Cavite Command Center and the development of 911 application that targets a prompt action and patrolling in the community, particularly during emer-

gency situations. The turnover of the symbolic key was participated by Governor Remulla, Vice Governor Athena Bryana Tolentino, Mayor Jonjon Ferrer, Mayor AA Advincula, 3rd District Board Members Sherman Jaro and Arnel Cantimban, 6th District Board Member Maurito Sison, and the Sangguniang Panlungsod members of both cities. -J. Reyes



Pointer Pau Dela Cruz PRESYO NG MGA PANGUNAHING PRODUKTO HINDI TATAAS SA PANAHON NG KAPASKUHAN AYON SA DTI

It's ber-month na naman ramdam na naman natin na nalalapit na naman ang kapaskuhan. Ito ang panahong palagiang pinaghandandaan ng mga Pinoy. Kaya hindi naman maaalis sa bawat pamilya ang pag-iisip at pag-aalala na baka tumaas na naman ang presyo ng pangunahing bilihin.

Nitong Biyernes, Setyembre 27, siniguro ng Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) na wala pang magiging pagtaas ss presyo ng pangunahing produkto kasabay ng pagasang mananatili ito hanggang sa panahon ng kapaskuhan.

"For now there will be no price increase. We will retain the prices – the SRPs as of now. So of course we always give audience to the manufacturers and we also consult with the consumers just to know what is happening with them and then how their business are doing. But for now, there's no price increase. I can't commit now but for now there's really no price increase and if we can extend it to Christmas of course better for us to have no price increase," pinigirong pahayag ni DTI acting secretary Cristina Roque.

Sinabi pa ni Roque, nais nilang bigyan ng pagkakataon ang mga consumer ng abot-kayang produkto. "So 'yun talaga ang stand ng DTI, it is to really get consumers a cheaper price. Get the consumers price that they can afford so that they also have extra money for personal not just only napupunta na sa food," dagdag na wika ni Roque.

Pagdating naman sa noche buena products, sinabi ng opisyal na susuriin nila kung magkakaroon ba ng pagtaas sa presyo nito batay sa panukalang presyo ng mga manufacturer.

"Actually I already told my team that we're gonna review kasi alam na natin yan na pag dating ng ber months of course yung mga ham – everything that's needed sa Noche Buena yun talaga ang pinagtuunan natin ng atensyon," ani Roque.

Marahil sa pinahayag ng DTI mawawala na ang pangamba nating mga Pinoy na hindi makapagdiwang ng kapaskuhan

Isang Turn-over Ceremony ang isinagawa para sa pormal na pagpapalit ng bagong Sergeant Major ng 81st Infantry (SPARTAN) Battalion sa Brgy. F. Simeon, Ragay, Camarines Sur noong ika-24 ng 2024.



Pinangunahan ni Lieutenant Colonel Julio D. Binuhhi ang turn-over ceremony para sa outgoing Sgt Major na si Msg Romeo P. Timbang at ang incoming Sgt Major na si Msg Johny S. Torres. Kasunod nito, pinarangalan si Msg Timbang ng Military Merit Medal at Plaque of Recognition para sa magandang serbisyong ipinakita at dedikasyon sa loob

ng mahigit dalawang taon ng pananatili sa Spartan Battalion. Nagpasalamat naman ang bagong Sgt Major sa mainit na pagtanggap ng Spartan Battalion sa kanya. Sa kanyang mensahe, sinabi niya, "Salamat sa pagtitiwala na ibinigay sa akin upang mamuno. Gagawin ko ang lahat ng aking makakaya at kakayahan upang magampanan ang

tungkulin at responsibilidad bilang bagong na-install na battalion Sergeant Major." Bukod dito, nagbigay din ng mensahe si LTC Binuhhi para sa bagong Sgt Major: "Ipagpatuloy mong pangalagaan, lalong-lalo na sa diplina at moral at kapakanan ng tropa. Gawin natin ang tama, at gawin nang tama ang mga bagay. Mag-ing modelo sa ating

mga kasundaluhan." Ang Sgt Major ay may malaking gampanin at tungkulin sa isang unit. Siya ay umaalalay sa lahat ng mga enlisted personnel ng bawat battalion at tumutulong sa pag-gabay at pagpapataas ng moral ng mga sundalo upang makapaghatid ng maayos, kalidad, at tapat na serbisyo sa bayan. (Nelson Dimapilis)

Marcos declares non-working days in 5 localities across PH

MANILA – President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. has issued proclamations declaring special non-working days in five localities across the country in October. Marcos issued Proclamation No. 693, declaring Friday, Oct. 4, a special non-working day in Infanta, Pangasinan for its 148th found-

ing anniversary. Similar declarations were issued by the President through Proclamation No. 694 for Lapuyan, Zamboanga del Sur, for the celebration of its 67th founding anniversary on Oct. 16; and through Proclamation No. 695 for Negros Oriental for the celebration of the Buglasan Festival on Oct. 25.

Meanwhile, Oct. 26 is a special non-working day for Angeles City, Pangasinan, for its celebration of the Tigtingan Terakan Keng Dalan Festival, a commemoration of the city's recovery from the Mt. Pinatubo eruption in June 1991, through Proclamation No. 696. Lastly, Marcos issued Proclamation No. 697

declaring Oct. 28 a special non-working day in Dingle, Iloilo to allow its people to participate in the commemoration of Cry of Lincud, the first declaration of revolution against Spain in the province and the island of Panay. The holiday declarations were signed by Executive Secretary Lucas Bersamin. (PNA)

Marcos vows to continue father's legacy



MANILA – President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. on Saturday pledged to continue the legacy of his father and namesake, former president Ferdinand E. Marcos Sr. Marcos commemorated the 35th death anniversary of his father, whom he said devoted his life to serve the Filipino people.

In a Facebook post, Marcos recalled his promise to honor his father by continuing what he started and did for the Filipinos and the country. "My father lived in service to our country. He advocated for development, justice, unity and nationalism. Above all his beliefs was his faith in the Filipino people," Marcos said. "Thirty-five years ago, I made a promise to honor his life's work by building on this foundation. In some way, I hope that I have made you proud, Dad. We miss you every day," he added.

PROVINCIAL JOINT PEACE AND SECURITY COORDINATING CENTER MEETING PREPARATION ON THE UPCOMING 2025 NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTION

Bilang paghahanda sa 2025 National and Local Election, isinagawa ng Rizal Police Provincial Office sa pamumuno ni Police Colonel Felipe B Maraggun, Provincial Director ang Provincial Joint Peace and Security Coordinating Center Meeting (JPSCC) ngayong ika-27 ng Setyembre bandang 8:00 A.M taong kasalukuyan na ginanap sa Rizal PPO Conference Room.

Ang nasa-bing pagpupulong ay pinangunahan ni ATTY. ARNULFO H. PIOQUINTO, COMELEC Provincial Supervisor katuwang si CG LTJG ALVIN A AUSTRIA, Commander, PCG-Rizal kasama ang lahat ng provincial election officers at dinaluhan din ng Provincial Staff, Chiefs of Police, RPMFC, mga kintawanan mula sa Philippine Army, BFP Rizal, at Provincial Support Units. Samantala, tinalakay ni Police

Marcos Sr. died in Honolulu, Hawaii on Sept. 28, 1989 at the age of 72. He was the 10th Philippine president who ruled the country from Dec. 30, 1956 to Feb. 25, 1986. In his message for the 107th anniversary of his father on Sept. 11, the President said he is his "guiding force" and "steady voice of reason" in fulfilling his role as the country's 17th president. (P N A)

LEE TO HEALTH OFFICIALS: FAST-TRACK IMPLEMENTATION OF PHILHEALTH BENEFITS INCREASES

With Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) having more than P500 billion worth of investments, Cong. Wilbert "Manoy" T. Lee filed House Resolution No. 2015 urging the Benefits Committee (BenCom) of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) led by the Department of Health (DOH), to immediately convene for the implementation of benefit increases and that the meeting must be livestreamed for public's access.

The measure was filed as soon as the DOH announced the increase in the hemodialysis package rate from P4,000 per session to P6,350—a decision from the recent meeting of BenCom spearheaded by DOH Secretary Ted Herbosa.

"Nagpapasalamat tayo sa pakikinig ng DOH at PhilHealth sa panawagan nating taasan ang coverage sa mga medical treatment tulad ng hemodialysis. Ito yung sinasabi natin na kaya naman nilang gawin agad. Pero ang tanong pa rin: Bakit patingi-tingi ang dagdag?" Lee asked.

"If the DOH, through the BenCom, can promptly convene and increase certain PhilHealth benefit packages, why can't it be done with the coverage of other case rates with their enormous available funds," he added.

In his Resolution, the Bicolano lawmaker also said that the BenCom meeting must be livestreamed for the public's real-time updates so that more Filipinos have access to the information and can stay informed about what's transpiring in the deliberation of their entitlements and benefits in PhilHealth.

Lee stressed that with the hundreds of billions of PhilHealth funds, "dapat ipatupad na sa lalong madaling panahon ang dagdag na coverage ng PhilHealth sa cancer treatment, coronary artery disease, MRI, PET scan, CT scan, maternity care, dental care, eye care, emergency care, comprehensive outpatient benefit package, iba pang klase ng mabibigat na karamdaman at sobrang mahal na mga operasyon sa ospital."

It can be recalled that during the 2025 DOH budget hearing held last September 4, Lee warned to defer the health agency's budget if the proposed increase in PhilHealth benefits will remain unaddressed before the House Plenary debates.

"Para saan pa na Chairperson ang DOH sa Benefits Committee na ang layunin ay suriin at magmungkahi ng pagpapalawak sa mga benepisyo ng PhilHealth, kung hindi naman mapanatag ang mga Pilipino na may sasalo sa kanila kapag may nagkasakit sa pamilya?" Lee asked during his interpellation.

"Hanggang kailan nila maaatim na patagalin ang mga nararapat na pagtaas gayong maraming namamatay dahil sa kulang-kulang at mahal na serbisyon pangkalusugan? Napakarami rin nating mga kababayan ang nalilimas ang ipon at nababaon sa utang dahil sa laki ng bayarin sa ospital, at hindi maramdaman ang sinasagot ng PhilHealth," Lee pointed out.

Lee, a staunch health advocate, successfully led the 30% increase in PhilHealth benefits which was implemented last February 14. Currently, he is pushing for another 50% increase in PhilHealth benefits and if funds would suffice, an eventual decrease in members' monthly contribution.

"Pinag-uusapan ngayon kung saan pwede i-invest o gamitin ang sobrang pondo ng PhilHealth. Hindi na dapat ito pinagtatalunan pa: Ang pondo para sa kalusugan, dapat gamitin para sa kalusugan!" Lee remarked.

"Ang gamot at pagpapagamot, dapat sagot ng gobyerno para mabawasan ang pangamba ng ating mga kababayan na lalong malubog sa utang at kahirapan kapag nagkasakit dahil walang pambili ng gamot o pambayad sa ospital. Laban nating lahat ito! Gawin na natin!" he added. PR



DTI-LAGUNA MONITORS FIRMS TO SAFEGUARD CONSUMERS FROM FRAUDULENT SALES PROMO PRACTICES



VICTORIA, LAGUNA – The Department of Trade and Industry - Laguna Provincial Office (DTI-Laguna), through its Consumer Protection Division, conducted supervision and oversight of seven (7) sales promotion activities from August 1 to 17, 2024. These activities included competitions, contests, raffle draws, and sales promotions featuring price reductions and free giveaways. The monitored events took place in major trading centers within Laguna, specifically Biñan, Santa Rosa, Calamba, and Santa Cruz.

This monitoring effort aligns with the Department's commitment in safeguarding consumers against misleading advertisements and fraudulent sales practices, in accordance with the Republic Act No. 7394 (RA 7394), otherwise known as the Consumer Act of the Philippines.

According to the DTI Department Administrative Order No. 2, Series of 1993, which implements RA 7394, sales promotion is defined as a strategy "to increase the sales, patronage, and/or goodwill of a product." Such promotions typically involve consumer participation and offer "promises of gain" (e.g., prizes) as incentives for purchasing a product or service.

Furthermore, RA 7394 mandates that establishments planning to conduct sales promotion activities must obtain a permit from the DTI before initiating their promotions. Commonly applied schemes include discounts, premiums, raffles, and contests.

For sales promotion activities to be implemented within the province of Laguna, the sales promo permit may be directly applied at the DTI-Laguna located in Victoria, Laguna. For more inquiries, the DTI-Laguna may be emailed at r04a.laguna@dti.gov.ph. (ALSLing, DTI-Laguna)

AWARDING OF THE STABLE INTERNAL PEACE AND SECURITY (SIPS) SEAL TO COMPONENT CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES



On September 16, 2024, Governor Jonvic Remulla graced the awarding of Stable Internal Peace and Security (SIPS) Seal at the Bayleaf Hotel in the City of General Trias, during the 3rd quarter meeting of the Provincial Peace and Order Council (PPOC) and the Provincial Anti-Drug Abuse Council (PADAC). The event recognized the efforts of various cities and municipalities in promoting peace and security in their communities.

Governor Remulla opened the ceremony, stressing the need for teamwork in maintaining peace and order. He praised local government units for their dedication to creating safe environments.

Engr. Danilo A. Nobleza, the Provincial Director of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Cavite, acknowledged the participants and thanked them for their commitment to peace initiatives, highlighting the vital role of local leaders in building secure communities.

Cavite officials including Board Member Ramon Vincent H. Revilla and local chief executives of the different cities and municipalities also attended the event, together with BGEN. Cerilo Balaoro Jr., Commander of the 202nd Infantry Brigade, and other distinguished guests.

In a bid to preserve the environment and promote cleanliness, Cavite Governor Jonvic Remulla spearheaded the Kalinga sa Barangay Talipusngo, Maragondon on September 20, 2024. The initiative drew thousands of volunteers from across the town, who enthusiastically participated in a large-scale clean-up drive to conserve the local environment and enhance the beauty of their community.

The event was graced by key officials of Maragondon whose presence uplifted the spirit of the volunteers. Governor Remulla actively engaged with the people, highlighting the significance of collective action in protecting nature.

The Kalinga sa Kalikasan program underscores Cavite's commitment to environmental conservation and community participation. The volunteers' dedication serves as an inspiring example of how communities can work together to foster a cleaner and greener future. - A. Sarte

