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CAVITE SERVICE CARAVAN KICKS OFF, EXPANDS ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL SERVICES

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HON. ROSELLER "ROSS" RIZAL HIGHEST EXCEPTIONAL MAN OF THE YEAR



Groundbreaking Ceremony of SSS Wellness Facility Multipurpose Gym

The SSS formally held a groundbreaking ceremony today for its Multipurpose Gym at the East Triangle Property in Diliman, Quezon



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PhilHealth, PSA Strengthen Partnership to Modernize Systems and Protect Member Benefits

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Cavite Service Caravan kicks off, expands access to essential services

The Provincial Government of Cavite, under the leadership of Governor Abeng Remulla, officially launched the Cavite Service Caravan on March 24, 2026, in Ternate, reinforcing its commitment to making government services more accessible and responsive to the needs of Caviteños.

The launch was attended by key provincial and local officials, including 8th District Board Member Jasmin Angelli Maligaya-Bautista, Ternate Mayor Lamberto Bambao and the Sangguniang Bayan members headed by Vice Mayor Calvin Kenneth Soberano, who

joined Governor Remulla in bringing essential services closer to the people, alongside department heads and partner agencies participating in the initiative.

As a flagship program of the provincial government, the Cavite Service Caravan consolidates various offices in a one-stop setup, delivering frontline services directly to communities, particularly those with limited access to government programs.

Governor Remulla underscored the caravan's mission of bringing provincial government services closer to the people and encouraged citizens to avail themselves of these programs - reflecting

the guiding principle, "mula sa bayan, para sa bayan."

Health and medical services were spearheaded by the Office of the Provincial Governor and the Office of the Provincial Health Officer, offering medical consultations, dental and oral health care, laboratory services such as ECG and fasting blood sugar tests, pharmacy assistance, and fluoride varnish application for children. Emergency medical support was also provided by the Office of the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officer.

Employment and economic opportunities were facilitated through

the Office of the Provincial Public Employment Service Manager, featuring a job fair and job matching, employment support services from national agencies like SSS, Philhealth, BIR, Pag-ibig Fund, TESDA, PSA, and DTI, career coaching sessions on resume writing, interview techniques, and anti-illegal recruitment awareness. The Office of the Provincial Cooperatives Development Officer also extended entrepreneurship and business facilitation services, cooperative assistance, and promoted local Cavite products through a trade fair.

Agricultural support services from the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist included agriculture and fisheries education, as well as the distribution of vegetable seeds, seedlings, and informational materials to assist local farmers and fisherfolk.

Social and community services were delivered by the Office of the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer through

counseling, referral, and welfare assistance, while the Office of the Provincial Population Officer provided family planning counseling and distributed commodities. Free legal aid and basic legal information were also made available through the Office of the Provincial Legal Officer.

Specialized services for vulnerable sectors were extended by the Office of the Provincial Persons with Disability Affairs Officer, including wheelchair provision, hearing tests, hearing aids, and assistance with PWD ID applications.

Animal health services were offered by the Office of the Provincial Veterinarian, including free veterinary consultations, anti-rabies vaccination, and deworming and vitamin supplementation for pets.

Information dissemination and public engagement were supported by the Office of the Provincial Information Officer through an information booth

and photobooth, while digital inclusion efforts were promoted by the Provincial Information and Communications Technology Office through a free digital literacy program and internet connectivity services.

Meanwhile, the Offices of the Provincial Engineer, General Services Officer, Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer, and the Cavite Office of Public Safety provided logistical, environmental, and security support for the event.

Through the Cavite Service Caravan, the provincial government strengthens its commitment to inclusive and people-centered governance by bringing a comprehensive range of services directly to the grassroots.

The Ternate launch marks the beginning of a series of service caravans to be conducted across the province, further expanding the reach of government programs and uplifting the lives of Caviteños.--- OPIO

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PGC Conducts Medical and Dental Mission for Residents of Brgy. Pinagtipunan

More than 400 residents of Brgy.

Pinagtipunan in Gen. Trias City benefited from a medical and dental mission conducted on March 11, 2026, through the efforts of the Provincial Government of Cavite, led by the Office of the Provincial Governor (OPG) and the Office of the Provincial Health Officer (OPHO).

A total of 419 residents received free medical consultations



including electrocardiogram (ECG) tests for cardiac assessment. Dental services were also provided, with tooth extraction procedures, and pre-dental screenings (PDS).

The mission was carried out in collaboration with AMIGA District Hospital, Naic Medicare, and the Rural Health Unit of General Trias City (RHU), with

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Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

HON. ROSELLER "ROSS" RIZAL HIGHEST EXCEPTIONAL MAN OF THE YEAR

In the ever-evolving story of local governance, few leaders rise to define an era. Roseller H. Rizal — fondly known as Mayor Ross — stands as one of those rare figures whose leadership has become inseparable from the progress narrative of Calamba.

Multi-awarded, widely respected, and deeply rooted in public service, his tenure is not simply measured in years — it is measured in transformation.

From the day he assumed office, Mayor Rizal carried a clear conviction: leadership must deliver visible, lasting impact. His governance philosophy is anchored in accountability, discipline, and com-

passion — a triad that has guided Calamba through phases of modernization while preserving its social fabric.

Under his stewardship, city initiatives evolved from routine governance into purposeful movements aimed at elevating everyday life.

Infrastructure projects flourished with direction and intent. Roads, public facilities, and civic spaces became symbols of a city determined to grow intelligently.

Yet Mayor Ross understood that true progress is never confined to structures. Social programs expanded with inclusivity at their core — ensuring that development reached communities, families, and individuals who needed it most.

Health services, community engagement, and responsive governance systems became hallmarks of an administration that placed people at the center of every policy.

What distinguishes Mayor Rizal's leadership is his quiet but unwavering resolve. He governs with a balance of authority and empathy — decisive when action is needed, reflective when collaboration is essential.

His office is known not as a distant institution, but as an accessible platform where voices are heard and solutions are pursued.

This culture of responsiveness has strengthened public trust, creating a civic environment where citizens feel invested in their city's future.

Recognition followed naturally.

Awards and commendations — earned through performance, innovation, and governance excellence — are not mere accolades but affirmations of a system working effectively.

Each recognition reflects a leadership style driven by consistency, strategic vision, and a refusal to settle for mediocrity.

For Mayor Ross, awards are milestones, not endpoints — reminders that the work of service must continually evolve.

Beyond policy and projects lies the human dimension of his leadership. Mayor Rizal is known for his grounded presence in the community — listening, observing, and engaging. Whether visiting neighborhoods, meeting civic leaders, or standing beside constituents during moments of challenge, he embodies a leadership that is visible and personal.

This accessibility reinforces a simple truth: governance thrives when leaders remain connected to the people they serve.

Calamba's growth under Mayor Ross mirrors his long-term vision — a city that balances economic vitality with social responsibility, modern-

ization with heritage, and ambition with integrity.

Businesses find an environment conducive to progress, communities experience strengthened support systems, and public services continue to adapt to the demands of a growing population.

The city's momentum is not accidental; it is the result of deliberate planning and steady execution.

His leadership journey also reflects resilience. Navigating the complexities of governance requires not only strategy but character.

Mayor Rizal's ability to remain focused amid challenges underscores his dedication to continuity and stability. Decisions are guided by principle rather than popularity, ensuring that progress remains sustainable rather than superficial.

At its core, Mayor Ross Rizal's administration represents a philosophy of service that transcends routine politics. It is leadership rooted in responsibility — where ev-

ery initiative carries purpose, every reform seeks improvement, and every achievement points toward a larger civic dream.

His tenure serves as a reminder that cities thrive when guided by leaders who view governance as both duty and privilege.

Today, as Calamba continues to grow in stature and capability, the imprint of Mayor Rizal's leadership is evident in its infrastructure, its systems, and — most importantly — its people. Multi-awarded yet humble, visionary yet practical, he stands as a steward of progress whose work continues to shape the city's trajectory.

Hon. Roseller "Ross" Rizal's story is still being written — not merely in accolades or milestones, but in the everyday lives improved by effective governance. It is the narrative of a leader committed to excellence, guided by service, and driven by the belief that a city's greatest achievement is the well-being of its citizens.

(MARRA VILLEGAS)

PhilHealth, PSA Strengthen Partnership to Modernize Systems and Protect Member Benefits

The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) and the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) have strengthened their partnership to modernize systems, prevent fraudulent claims, and ensure benefits reach every Filipino, with the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the Philippine Identification System (PhilSys) co-location and the launch of the PhilHealth Check Utility (PCU) today, March 26.

"Filipinos deserve a health insurance system that is modern, secure, and reliable," said PhilHealth President and CEO Dr. Edwin M. Mercado. "Through our partnership with the PSA, we are strengthening our

systems, improving the accuracy of our records, and ensuring that every peso of the health fund supports legitimate claims and reaches every Filipino."

He added that while safeguards are strengthened, access to benefits remains fully protected. "As we clean and modernize our systems, we remain committed to ensuring that no eligible member is denied service. Our priority is to deliver services that are both secure and accessible for all," he said.

Through the co-location initiative, PhilSys registration is available directly at selected PhilHealth offices, allowing members to register for their National ID while accessing PhilHealth services.

The PCU integrates PhilSys data to verify

identities in real time, perform biometric liveness checks, and match records for accuracy, ensuring that only valid claims are processed. The system is fully integrated into key programs, including the Yaman ng Kalusugan Program (YAKAP) and the GAMOT benefit availment process, streamlining the patient journey from consultation to medicine access.

These initiatives mark a significant step in PhilHealth's digital transformation and modernization efforts, aligned with the Universal Health Care Act. By strengthening identity verification, improving data integrity, and streamlining processes, PhilHealth and PSA reaffirm their commitment to a more accountable, efficient, and people-centered health system for all Filipinos.

SSS assures OFW members in the Middle East of uninterrupted digital access to benefits

Q U E Z O N CITY (26 March 2026) -

The Social Security System (SSS) today assured its members in the Middle East that they can access benefits and services via digital platforms despite escalating regional conflicts.

SSS President Robert Joseph M. de Claro highlighted the My.SSS Portal's reliability, enabling Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) to file benefit claims and loan applications without interruption, provided they meet qualifying conditions.

For example, OFWs who were involuntarily separated can avail of unemployment benefit

provided they meet the qualifying conditions and certified by the Department of Migrant Workers (DMW).

"Even in these challenging times, our digital infrastructure ensures seamless service delivery," de Claro said. "Members in the Middle East need not worry; they can manage their accounts safely from anywhere with internet access."

He noted that SSS pensioners in the region can comply with the Annual Confirmation of Pensioners (ACOP) using the recently launched Facial Authentication feature on the SSS website, www.sss.gov.ph.

"A standout innovation is the ACOP Fa-

cial Authentication with Liveness Check, enabling secure identity verification from smartphones anywhere," de Claro explained. "It reduces fraud risks and eliminates the need for travel amid the current security situation in the Middle East. These tools were purpose-built to empower OFWs, allowing transactions 'whenever, wherever' even in crisis zones."

As of December 2025, there are 1,476,645 OFWs covered with the SSS with 540,018 as active paying members.

"We remain committed to supporting our OFWs through innovation and resilience, no matter the circumstances," de Claro concluded.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
TRECE MARTIRES CITY, CAVITE
BRANCH 131
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SO ORDERED.

Issued this 9th day of March 2026 in Trece Martires City, Cavite.

(Sgd.) PAUL MICHAEL T. MEJIA
Presiding Judge

Southern Sparkle News And Publishing
March 30, April 6, & 13, 2026

IN THE MATTER OF PETITION FOR
JUDICIAL RECOGNITION OF
FOREIGN DIVORCE AND
CANCELLATION AND/OR
CORRECTION OF ENTRIES IN THE
CIVIL REGISTRY RECORDS
OF QUEZON CITY,

JOHN LEROY ROSANDER,
Petitioner,

-versus-

TMSP-007-26-GT
FOR: Judicial Recognition of Foreign
Divorce & Cancellation and/or Correction
of Entry under Rule 108 of the 2019
Amended Rules of Court

GAUDELIA NAVARRO ROSANDER,
LOCAL CIVIL REGISTRY OF
GENERAL TRIAS, CAVITE, THE
CIVIL REGISTRAR GENERAL OF
THE PHILIPPINE STATISTICS
AUTHORITY, AND ALL PERSONS
WHO MAY HAVE CLAIM OR INTEREST,
Respondents.

x-----x

ORDER

Before this Court is a Petition for Judicial Recognition of Foreign Divorce, filed by petitioner, John Leroy Rosander through counsel, Atty. Jhun Louys B. Llanos, praying for the issuance of order recognizing the decree of divorce obtained by the petitioner; declaring petitioner as well as the private respondents to have capacity to remarry; and ordering the Local Civil Registry of General Trias, Philippines and the Philippine Statistics Authority to cancel the Certificate of Marriage of petitioner and private respondent.

Finding the petition to be sufficient in form and substance, **NOTICE** is hereby given and the petition is set for initial hearing on **July 31, 2026 at 8:30 in the morning**, before this Court located at Old Cavite Provincial Capitol Compound, Brgy. San Agustin, Trece Martires City, Cavite.

Let the copy of this Order be published once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the Province, at the expense of the petitioner, and notice is hereby given to the Local Civil Registrar of City of General Trias, Cavite, Philippine Statistics Authority, and any person/s having or claiming any interest under the entry which correction is sought, may within fifteen (15) days from notice, file opposition thereto or appear before this Court on the date, time and place set forth in order to be heard.

Further, let a copy of this Order be furnished the petitioner and respondent at the given addresses, the Office of the Local Civil Registrar of Manila, the Office of the Provincial Prosecutor of Cavite, the Office of the Solicitor General, the Civil Registrar General, Philippine Statistics Authority and the Office of the Clerk of Court - RTC, Trece Martires City, Cavite.

MOA SIGNING CEREMONY FOR THE E-LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTION AND GAD DATABASE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT



Pinangunahan ni Trece Martires City Mayor Gemma Lubigan kasama si Vice Mayor Bobby Montehermoso ang seremonya sa paglagda ng Memorandum of Agreement sa pagitan ng Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Trece Martires at Cavite State University – Trece Martires City Campus (CvSU-Trece) para sa implementasyon ng e-Library subscription at pagbuo ng GAD Database System.

Ang inisyatibong ito ay mahalagang hakbang para mas mapalawak pa ang akses sa kaalaman ng ating mga mag-aaral at mga programang inklusibo at nakaangkla sa mas maayos na pagkalap na tamang impor-

masyon, lalo na sa pagsusulong ng gender-responsive governance sa ating lungsod.

Lubos akong nagpapasalamat sa pamunuan ng CvSU, kay Dr. Cristina M. Signo, Vice President for Academic Affairs na dumalo sa ngalan ni Dr. Ma. Agnes P. Nuestro, CvSU President at sa pakikiisa sa proyektong ito.

Gayundin, maraming salamat kila Prof. Noel A. Sedigo (Campus Administrator), Dr. Khenilyn P. Lewis (Head, Research and Development Unit at Associate Professor, Information Technology Department), Ms. Loran Camille V. Sara (Campus Librarian) at iba pang mga kasama mula sa CvSU Trece Martires Campus para sa mahalagang proyektong ito.

Medical and Dental Mission serves residents in Brgy. Sabutan, Silang



At total of 339 residents of Brgy. Sabutan benefited from a successful Medical and Dental Mission led by the Provincial Government of Cavite on March 18, bringing essential healthcare services closer to the community.

The outreach initiative provided medical consultations and dental services to residents. Additional diagnostic services were also conducted, including fasting blood sugar (FBS) tests and electrocardiogram (ECG) procedures.

The mission was made possible through the collective efforts of dedicated healthcare professionals from GEAMH, who delivered quality medical and

dental care to attendees. Free prescribed medicines were also distributed by the OPG medical mission team, ensuring that patients received necessary treatment beyond consultation.

The activity was supported by local officials, along with the presence of 5th district Board Member Ivey Jayne Reyes, who expressed continued commitment to improving access to healthcare services for local communities.

The initiative highlights the importance of collaborative efforts in addressing the healthcare needs of underserved populations and reinforces the commitment of the provincial government to community well-being.--- OPIO

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF INTESTATE ESTATE OF MAMERTA VERGARA POBLETE AMONG HEIRS WITH TRANSFER OF RIGHTS

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late MAMERTA VERGARA POBLETE, who died intestate on October 27, 2014 in Carmona, Cavite, that the said deceased was the occupant and possessor of a parcel of land with an area of SIXTY (60) SQUARE METERS situated at Lot 14, Block 14, Phase II, Macaria Subdivision, Brgy. Milagrosa, Carmona, Cavite, by virtue of a Deed of Transfer of Rights executed on October 2, 2003 before Notary Public Atty. Abraham L. Camba Jr., and was Extra-Judicially Settled among the legal heirs, executed on 26th day of March 2026 and ratified before Notary Public Atty. Cheryl D. Alsim, JD. CPA, under Doc. No. 392, Page No. 80, Book No. LIII, Series of 2026.

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ERRATUM

This is to correct the error made by this publication dated **June 23, 30 & July 7, 2025** in **EXTRA JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE OF the late FELICITAS DIAZ IDIOMA**, it should be BOOK No. CIV and not BOOK No. LIV as published.

Southern Sparkle News And Publishing
March 30-April 5, 2026

Trabaho, Edukasyon at Turismo sa Cavite City, Cavite



Sa pakikipag-pulong ni Cavite City Mayor Denver Chua kay Huang Wei-che, Mayor ng Tainan, at sa pagbisita sa iba't ibang factory sa Taiwan, napag-usapan

ang posibilidad ng pagtatayo ng mga manufacturing facilities sa Cavite City na makapagbibigay ng mas maraming trabaho at hanapuhay para sa ating mga Caviteño.

Napag usapan din

ang mga oportunidad sa edukasyon, kabilang ang pagkakaroon ng exchange student programs at scholarships sa mga top universities sa Taiwan para sa ating mga kabataan.

Ibinida rin natin

ang kagandahan at kagsaysayan ng ating lungsod upang mas makahikayat ng mga turista mula Taiwan na bumisita sa Cavite City, lalo na sa ating ipinagmamalaking Corregidor Island na isa sa pangunahing

tourist destination sa ating lungsod.

Ilan lamang ito sa mga hakbang na ginagawa natin upang patuloy na mapaunlad ang Cavite City sa larangan ng trabaho, edukasyon, at turismo.

Maraming salamat kay Mayor Huang Wei-che, sa buong Tainan City Government, at kay Mr. George Wu sa napakainit na pagtanggap at maayos na pag aayos ng aming pagbisita sa Taiwan.

Special mention din kay Fiscal Jun Gaña sa pagsama sa ating delegation.

At higit sa lahat, ang byaheng ito ay ZERO COST sa ating gobyerno, ngunit napakalaki ng potensyal na pakinabang para sa kinabukasan ng ating lungsod.

Groundbreaking Ceremony of SSS Wellness Facility...

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City. The 1,067-square-meter facility is envisioned as a multi-functional space that will support employee wellness, capacity-building programs, and official institutional activities. Designed to include a FIBA-compliant basketball court with

bleachers, the venue may also be used to host corporate social initiatives and other large-scale official events.

The project maximizes the use of existing SSS property assets and incorporates accessibility features such as PWD-compliant ramps and sen-

sor-type glass doors, consistent with inclusive and safety standards.

Implemented in accordance with applicable government budgeting, procurement, and audit regulations, the development forms part of SSS's continuing efforts to strengthen workplace

support systems and enhance its capacity to serve stakeholders effectively.

SSS President and Chief Executive Officer Robert Joseph Montes De Claro, together with senior officials, led the capsule-laying and groundbreaking ceremony marking the start of construction.

AFFIDAVIT OF LOSS

NOTICE is hereby given that **ALEXANDER A. CUKINGNAN**, a Filipino citizen, of legal age, with address at #28 Riverdale St., St. Ignatius Village, Quezon City, after having been duly sworn to in accordance with the law, hereby depose and state; That I, **ALEXANDER A. CUKINGNAN** is a shareholder of one (1) class A share of **SHERWOOD HILLS GOLF CLUB INC.**, with stock certificate no. A-1154 "the Share". That sometime on February 22, 2026 upon looking to our files we cannot find the original stock certificate. That my diligent effort to locate the above item proved futile and that the same is now beyond recovery. That I am executing this affidavit of loss to attest to the truth of all the foregoing facts and statement and for whatever legal intent and purpose this may serve, executed on 5th day of March 2026 and ratified before Notary Public Atty. Fe B. Añonuevo, under Doc. No. 86, Page No. 18, Book No. 189, Series of 2026.

Southern Sparkle News And Publishing
March 16, 23 & 30, 2026

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late **RUBEN MOJICA QUIÑONES**, who died intestate on February 10, 2025 at City of General Trias, Cavite, that the deceased being one of the four children of Lucia Mojica Quiñones, at the time of his death left an undivided one-fourth (1/4) portion of a parcel of land identified as Lot No. 15556, Cad-459-D, of the Approved Indang Cadastre, declared for real property taxation purposes under Tax Declaration No. AA-10-0026-00417, (previously Tax Declaration No. AA-10-0026-00375 declared in the name of Lucia Mojica) with an approximate area of Eight Thousand Forty Seven (8,047) square meters, more or less, situated at Barangay Limbon, Indang, Cavite, that the said deceased died intestate without Will and Testament, and without any outstanding debts in favor of any person or entity, and was Extra-Judicially Settled among the legal heirs, executed on 16th day of February 2026 and ratified before Notary Public Atty. Edgardo G. Baniaga, under Doc. No. 142, Page No. 30, Book No. 2, Series of 2026.

Southern Sparkle News And Publishing
March 23, 30 & April 6, 2026

Cavite's SMEs Step Boldly into the AI Era at Biz iCreate Finale

Small and medium entrepreneurs from across Cavite took center stage on March 11, 2026, as they concluded the fourth and final day of the Biz iCreate "AI-Enabled Entrepreneur Re-tooling Program" at the 2nd Flr. Function Hall of the New Provincial Government Center in Trece Martires City. Spanning four sessions on March 3, 4, 10, and 11, the program provided participants with practical strategies to integrate artificial intelligence (AI) into their businesses, boosting productivity, operational efficiency, and competitiveness in today's digital economy.

The final day began with a program recap, setting the tone for Session 4: AI Application Presentation, aptly titled "Show, Don't Explain". Entrepreneurs took to the floor to showcase their AI-enabled business plans and workflows, receiving hands-on guidance from a panel of experts



to refine and elevate their strategies. Mr. Noah Banagan, CEO of Dynamic Int'l Precision Technology Tooling Inc. shared actionable insights on improving business operations and leveraging AI to drive innovation, while Ms. Anna Lissa Abello, Assistant Professor from National University Dasmariñas, highlighted the power of AI in enabling data-driven decisions,

optimizing workflows, and fueling growth for small and medium enterprises.

Inspiring the participants further were Biz iCreate alumni who returned to share their success stories. Ms. Rinna Castillo, CEO of Tun-Amazing World Fish Processing, a 2024 Biz iCreate graduate, described how the program helped her strengthen her entre-

preneurial strategies and scale her fish processing venture, while Mr. Alfredo Villocino Jr., CEO of Wilford Food Products Manufacturing, a 2021 Biz iCreate graduate, encouraged the group to embrace innovation and persistence as essential ingredients for business growth. Dr. Aldrin Antivola Business Efficiency Advisor and Organizational Therapist of Dr.

Aldrin Consulting, also engaged the entrepreneurs, demonstrating how combining human creativity with AI tools can enhance productivity, sharpen strategic planning, and foster organizational development skills crucial for SMEs aiming to remain competitive in a rapidly evolving market.

The program concluded with a graduation ceremony where

participants proudly received certificates recognizing their successful completion of the training. Special recognition was given to Ms. Rosario Peliño of Hidden Tummy Food Products and Ms. Rachell Anacan of Kabutihian Inc. for their exemplary AI adoption plans. Ms. Liza C. Gabatan, Entrepreneurial Division Head, closing the event, commended the participants' dedication and reiterated the Office of the Provincial Cooperatives and Development Officer's commitment to equipping Cavite's small and medium entrepreneurs with programs that seamlessly blend technology, strategy, and practical business solutions.

Through initiatives like Biz iCreate, Cavite's SMEs are not merely learning to adopt AI, they are preparing to thrive in an increasingly digital economy, proving that creativity, adaptability, and innovation remain the cornerstones of entrepreneurial success.--- OPIO

Annual Compliance Review

Strengthening its commitment to transparency, accountability, and sustainable growth, the Provincial Government of Cavite, through the Office of the Provincial Cooperatives Development Officer, successfully conducted the Capacity Building Seminar for Cooperatives: Annual Compliance Review on March 16, 2026, at the 2nd Floor of the New Provincial Government Center in Trece Martires City.

The seminar gathered cooperative officers and representatives from across the

province, serving as a vital platform to revisit regulatory requirements and reinforce the importance of compliance as a cornerstone of good governance. More than a routine review, the activity positioned compliance as a strategic tool—one that builds credibility, strengthens operations, and ensures long-term viability.

Setting the tone for the day, OPCDO Officer-in-Charge Ms. Myrachel P. Cuadra delivered the opening remarks, emphasizing that compliance is not merely about meeting standards, but about cultivating trust and institu-



tional discipline within cooperatives. She underscored the role of cooperatives as key partners

in community development, whose strength lies in their ability to operate with integrity and

accountability.

The seminar proper featured Mr. Dexter S. Perez, Head of the

Supervision and Examination Section of the Cooperative Development

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Annual Compliance... from p. 6

ment Authority Region IV-A, who led an insightful discussion on compliance standards, common audit findings, and practical strategies for adherence. His presentation translated technical policies into actionable guidance, equipping participants with the knowledge to navigate regulatory expectations with greater confidence.

An interactive open forum followed, facilitated by representatives from the Cooperative Development Authority, allowing participants to raise concerns, seek clarifications, and exchange best practices. The dialogue highlighted a shared commitment among cooperatives to continuously improve their systems and align with evolving

regulations.

The activity concluded with the awarding of certificates of appreciation and closing remarks delivered by Ms. Dianne April V. Matel, Senior Cooperatives Development Specialist, who emphasized the importance of sustaining compliance efforts beyond the seminar and translating learnings into concrete actions within their respective organizations. A group

photo capped the event, capturing the renewed sense of purpose among participants.

Through initiatives like the Annual Compliance Review, the Provincial Government of Cavite promotes a culture where compliance serves as a hallmark of excellence, driving cooperatives across the province toward resilience, accountability, and future readiness.--- OPIO

PGC Conducts Medical and Dental Mission ... from p. 2

the assistance of Barangay Health Workers (BHWs) who helped facilitate the activity.

Present during the mission were 6th District Board Member Kerby Salazar, City Councilor Kyle Salazar, and Brgy. Captain Sonny Dulce, who expressed support for initiatives that bring essential healthcare ser-

vices closer to the community.

The activity reflects the continued commitment of the Provincial Government of Cavite to promote accessible healthcare services and improve the well-being of Caviteños through community-based medical outreach programs.--- OPIO

CARD Bank, Inc. pinalalakas ang serbisyong pinansyal para sa mga deaf na kliyente



Si Dr. Dolores M. Torres, Senior Adviser ng CARD MRI (unang hanay, pangalawa mula sa kanan), kasama ang mga staff ng CARD Bank at mga Deaf na kliyente (unang hanay), na nagpapakita ng hand sign na "CARD Bank" sa Barleta Branch, Laguna.

Patuloy na pinalalawak ng CARD Bank, Inc., isang microfinance-oriented rural bank, ang mga hakbang nito upang maging mas bukas at madaling maabot ang mga serbisyong pinansyal para sa lahat, lalo na para sa mga kliyenteng may kapansanan sa pandinig o deaf clients. Sa iba't ibang tanggapan ng bangko sa buong bansa, ipinatutupad ang mga programa at inisyatibo na naglalayong gawing mas malinaw, maginhawa, at may dignidad ang pakikipag-transaksiyon ng mga deaf na kliyente.

Maraming transaksiyon sa bangko ang nakasalalay sa pasalitang komunikasyon. Dahil dito, nagsasagawa ang CARD Bank ng mga hakbang upang matiyak na may maayos at malinaw na paraan ng pakikipag-ugnayan para sa mga kliyenteng deaf. Layunin ng bangko na tiyakin na ang bawat kliyente ay may pantay na pagkakataong makagamit ng mga serbisyong pinansyal.

Inklusibong komunikasyon

Alinsunod sa mga pambansang polisiya tulad ng Republic Act No. 7277 o ang Magna Carta for Disabled Persons, pinahusay ng CARD Bank ang mga proseso nito sa pagbubukas ng deposit account at customer verification upang maging mas inklusibo. Layunin nitong tiyakin na ang bawat kliyente ay makadarama ng pagtanggap at maayos na serbisyo mula sa unang hakbang pa lamang ng kanilang pakikipagtransaksiyon sa bangko.

Sa mga tanggapan ng bangko, may mga pasilidad tulad ng accessibility ramps at priority lanes upang mas mapadali ang pagpasok ng mga kliyenteng may kapansanan. Mayroon ding malinaw na mga paalala sa mga entrance at Customer Service Sections na nagsasaad na may pantay na akomodasyon para sa deaf clients at iba pang PWDs.

Upang mapadali ang komunikasyon, naglalaan ang mga tanggapan ng Filipino Sign Language (FSL) booklets, madaling basahing gabay tungkol sa mga produkto ng bangko, at mga instructional video na may FSL inset. Ang mga staff, kabilang ang mga guwardiya, customer service representatives, at cashiers, ay inaasahang laging may dalang papel at ballpen upang agad na makapagsagawa ng written communication kung kinakailangan.

Tinuturuan din ang mga empleyado kung paano tutulungan ang mga kliyente sa pagsagot ng mga form at pagproseso ng mga requirement habang sinusunod ang mga patakaran tulad ng Know-Your-Customer (KYC) at Anti-Money Laundering Act (AMLA). Katulad ng ibang kliyente, kinakailangan pa ring magsumite ng deaf clients ng mga karaniwang dokumento tulad ng valid ID at profile forms. Kapag naaprubahan ang kanilang aplikasyon, maari na silang magbukas ng deposit account na may panimulang deposito na PHP 200. Sa prosesong ito, ipinakikita ng bangko na maaaring magkasabay ang accessibility at pagsunod sa mga regulasyon.

Pagbabago ng pananaw para sa inklusyon

CARD Bank

A Microfinance-Oriented Rural Bank

Bukas, para sa lahat

Hindi lamang sa pisikal na pasilidad at

proseso nakatuon ang inklusyon sa CARD Bank. Nagsisimula rin ito sa pagpapalawak ng kaalaman at pag-unawa ng mga empleyado tungkol sa deaf community.

Noong Hunyo 15, 2024, nagsagawa ang bangko ng isang buong araw na Deaf Awareness Seminar sa CARD-MRI Development Institute (CMDI) sa Bay, Laguna. Dumalo sa seminar ang 60 staff at faculty members na pinangunahan ng Inclusion Consultant na si Bayani Generoso Jr., kasama ang anim na Deaf teachers.

Sa seminar, tinalakay ang deaf culture, ang mga pangunahing kaalaman sa Filipino Sign Language, at ang papel ng mga hearing individuals sa pagsulong ng inklusibong serbisyo. Ipinakita rin ang mga paraan ng visual-gestural communication, mga gabay sa paggamit ng FSL, at mga praktikal na hakbang upang gawing mas madaling maabot ang mga serbisyong pinansyal.

Sa pamamagitan ng mga interaktibong aktibidad tulad ng pagsasanay sa ekspresyon ng mukha, pag-aaral ng basic FSL signs, at mgabukas na diskusyon, nagkaroon ang mga kalahok ng mas malalim na pag-unawa sa pang-araw-araw na karanasan ng deaf community.

Ayon sa tugon ng mga kalahok, nagbigay ang seminar ng panibagong pananaw at mas matibay na pangako na maisabuhay ang inklusibong komunikasyon. Ipinakita rin nito na ang tunay na inklusiyong pinansyal ay nangangahulugan ng pag-alis hindi lamang ng mga pisikal na hadlang kundi pati rin ng mga puwang sa komunikasyon at mga lumang pananaw.

Bukas, para sa lahat

Bilang bahagi ng mga inisyatibo nito sa social responsibility, patuloy na nakikipagtulungan ang CARD Bank sa mga komunidad na kulang sa serbisyo upang mapabuti ang kanilang kabuhayan sa pamamagitan ng serbisyong pinansyal, suporta sa kabuhayan, at mga programang nagpapalakas ng kakayahan ng mga kliyente.

Binigyang-diin ni Dr. Jaime Aristotle B. Alip, Founder at Chair Emeritus ng CARD MRI, na mahalaga ang mga hakbang na ito sa pagsulong ng inklusiyong pinansyal para sa mga taong may kapansanan.

"Matagal nang malinaw ang aming misyon. Dapat maabot ng mga serbisyong pinansyal ang mga sektor na madalas na naiwan. Ang financial inclusion ay hindi lamang tungkol sa pagbubukas ng account, kundi tungkol din sa pagbubukas ng mas maraming oportunidad," aniya.

Samantala, muling pinagtibay ni CARD Bank, Inc. President Marivic Austria ang pangako ng bangko na magbigay ng pantay na serbisyo sa lahat.

"Kapag inaalis natin ang mga hadlang para sa mga taong may kakulangan sa pisikal na kakayahan at iba pang sektor na kulang sa serbisyo, pinagtibay natin ang kanilang dignidad at lalo nating pinalalakas ang ating mga komunidad. Ang inklusyon ay hindi lamang isang opsyon, ito ay isang responsibilidad," pahayag niya.

Sa kasalukuyan, ipinatutupad na ang account opening services para sa deaf na kliyente sa mga tanggapan ng CARD Bank sa iba't ibang lalawigan, kabilang ang La Union, Pangasinan, Benguet, Ilocos Norte, Laguna, Quezon, Oriental Mindoro, Occidental Mindoro, Tarlac, Batangas, Camarines Sur, Camarines Norte, Albay, Iloilo, Leyte, Samar, Eastern Samar, Marinduque, Bohol, Antique, Capiz, Masbate, Davao del Sur, Davao Oriental, at Cotabato, pati na rin sa Metro Manila.

Kasabay nito, patuloy na nagpapakilala at nagpapalawak ang bangko ng mga deaf-friendly at inklusibong hakbang upang higit pang mapabuti ang aksesibilidad sa pagbabangko. Hanggang Enero 2026, ang CARD Bank ay may kabuuang 367 deaf clients na may aktibong account.

Sa pamamagitan ng mas madaling maabot na mga serbisyo, mas handang mga empleyado, at aktibong pakikipag-ugnayan sa komunidad, ipinakikita ng CARD Bank na ang kapangyarihang pinansyal ay hindi dapat nakasalalay sa pisikal na kakayahan. Sa halip, ito ay isang karapatang dapat bukas para sa lahat.

220 Kababaihan, dumalo sa “Imusenya : Handa sa Pabago-bagong Klima”



Umabot sa 220 kababaihan ang lumahok sa programang “Imusenya: Handa sa Pabago-bagong Klima” na isinagawa noong Marso 18, 2026, sa Imus Youth Center, Imus Pilot Elementary School, sa pangunguna ng Office of the City Environment



and Natural Resources Officer (OCENRO) bilang bahagi ng pagdiriwang ng National Women’s Month.

Dumalo sa naturang aktibidad si City Mayor Alex “AA” L. Advincula, kasama ang pangunahing tagapagsalita na si Nerea C. Defensor na nagbahagi ng mahahalagang kaalaman hinggil sa Climate Change.

Tinalakay ni Defensor ang mga usapin ukol sa kahalagahan ng kababaihan at mga lider ng komunidad sa pagsulong ng climate action at sustainable development.

Kabilang sa mga kalahok ang mga kinatawan mula sa Civil Society Organization (CSO), people’s organization, Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), Local Council for Women, at Imus City Parent-Teacher Association Federation.

Layunin ng aktibidad na palakasin ang kamalayan sa pagbabago ng klima, paigtingin ang kahandaan sa sakuna, at itaguyod ang katatagan ng komunidad, kung saan ang mga kababaihan ang mas apektado sa mga epektong dulot ng climate change.

SM Supermalls Announces New Nationwide Mall Hours Starting March 30



SM Supermalls, the country’s leading integrated property developer and retailer, officially announced today a nationwide adjustment to its standard operating hours. In response to the National Energy Emergency, all SM Supermalls across the Philippines will shorten mall operating hours effective Monday, March 30.

This strategic shift is a direct response to the urgent need for nationwide power conservation. By adjusting daily opening times, SM Supermalls aims to significantly reduce demand on the national grid. This measure ensures that the company effectively manages resources during this time.

“SM is proactively adapting to the current situation by adjusting

our operating hours. We remain committed to delivering elevated retail experiences for all Filipinos, supported by our increased use of renewable energy to power our malls,” said Steven Tan, President of SM Supermalls.

For more information on your preferred SM branch refer to real-time updates on official social media pages and our website.

(KCHT)



Get ready for a MAX-OUT Easter Sunday experience at your most-loved SM City Calamba! We’re bringing you the FIRST-EVER Easter Parade packed with colorful mascots, festive vibes, and non-stop fun for the whole family! Hop into the celebration, strike a pose with your favorite characters, and make this Easter a memorable one! (KAREN CHRISTINE H. TIQUI)