

Cavite, JICA Break Ground on Mega Flood Project

By Patricia Bermudez

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite (PIA) — The Provincial Government of Cavite is working with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to built infrastructure projects that will help address flooding in key areas.

Eloisa Rozul, Department Head of the Office of the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officer (OPDRMO), in an interview with the Philippine Information

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PBBM expands ecozones in Cavite, Batangas, Negros Oriental

By Darryl John Esguerra



President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. has expanded the country's investment footprint by issuing proclamations declaring additional parcels of land to be incorporated to

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DepEd to review health policy after death of Grade 4 learner in Cavite

By Stephanie Sevillano



The Department of Education (DepEd) on Monday said it will conduct a review of its health policies following the death of a Grade 4 learner in Cavite during a routine deworming activity. The activity took place at the Hugo Perez Elementary School-Annex in Trece Martires City on July 2,

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Cavite Towns Chosen for Nutrition Program

By Michael Lalap, Anna Mole

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) — The municipalities of Naic and Rosario in the province of Cavite have been identified by the National Nutrition Council (NNC) CALABARZON as focus areas for this year's implementation of the Tutok Kainan Dietary Supplementation Program (TK-DSP), a national government initiative aimed at

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Cavite strengthens response against online child exploitation

By Patricia Bermudez

TAGAYTAY CITY, Cavite (PIA) —

Law enforcers and the judiciary emphasized the importance of technology and digital evidence in the

effective investigation and prosecution of child abuse and exploitation cases.

Last June 29 to 30, 2026, judges, prosecutors, and personnel from the Women and Children Protection Desks (WCPD) in Tagaytay, Silang, Alfonso, and General Emilio Aguinaldo underwent a two-day capacity building for the Management of Child Abuse and Exploitation Cases through the Effective Utilization of Technology

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Carmona advances Smart City drive with ICT Quiz Bee

By Patricia Bermudez

CARMONA CITY, Cavite (PIA) — Driving forward its transformation into a smart city, the City Government of Carmona hosted its second ICT Quiz Bee to promote digital literacy, technological awareness, and

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PBBM expands ecozones in Cavite

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existing special economic zones (ecozones) in Cavite and Batangas, and to create a new information technology park in Negros Oriental to attract more investments and generate jobs.

The President issued Proclamation Nos. 1337, 1338 and 1340, all signed by Executive Secretary Ralph Recto by authority of the President, on July 6.

Under Proclamation No. 1337, Marcos designated about 331,348 square meters of land in Barangays Punta I and Sahud-Ulan, Tanza, Cavite, for inclusion in the existing Suntrust Ecotown Tanza-Special Economic

Zone. The expansion was made pursuant to Republic Act (RA) No. 7916, or the Special Economic Zone Act of 1995, as amended by RA 8748, upon the recommendation of the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) Board of Directors.

Meanwhile, Proclamation No. 1338 added around 308,065 square meters of land in Barangays Luta Sur and San Fernando, Malvar, Batangas, to the existing Light Industry & Science Park IV-Special Economic Zone.

The expansion is subject to the provisions

of RA 7916, as amended, its implementing rules and regulations, and PEZA Board Resolution No. 24-275 (s. 2024).

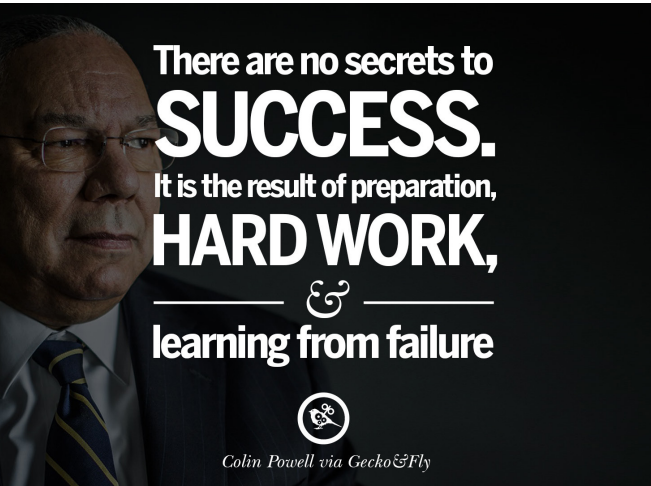
Marcos also issued Proclamation No. 1340 creating the Robinsons Dumaguete I.T. Park, a 60,000-square-meter Information Technology Park inside the Dumaguete Business Park in Barangay Calindagan, Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental.

The new IT park will operate under the Special Economic Zone Act, the National Internal Revenue Code, as amended by the CREATE MORE (Corporate Recovery and Tax

Incentives for Enterprises to Maximize Opportunities for Reinvigorating the Economy) Act, and other applicable PEZA rules and regulations.

The creation and expansion of ecozones form part of the government's efforts to strengthen regional economic development by attracting investments, expanding business activity outside Metro Manila, and creating employment opportunities in the countryside.

PEZA-administered ecozones provide investors with fiscal and non-fiscal incentives while serving as hubs for manufacturing, information technology, logistics, and export-oriented industries. (PNA)



Cavite, JICA Break Ground on Mega

Continued from Page 1

Agency – CALABARZON confirmed that the Cavite Industrial Area Flood Risk Management project will help reduce flooding in urbanized and industrial parts of the province.

“Cavite has experienced rapid urbanization over the past decades, resulting in increased paved surfaces, reduced natural drainage, and higher flood runoff during heavy rainfall.”

The project will benefit low-lying areas, particularly the cities of Bacoor and Imus, as well as Kawit, Noveleta, Rosario, and Tanza towns which experience regular flooding due to San Juan River, Imus River, and Ylang-Ylang River, as well as interconnected drainage systems leading to Manila

Bay. Moreover, Rozul noted that the provincial government is also pushing local government units to pass local legislature creating infrastructure audit teams and school safety officers to ensure the integrity and safety of public infrastructure.

“We recommended legislative measures to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan through the PDRPMC Chairperson for the enactment of DRRM-related ordinances.”

Rozul noted that key policies that they have recommended included the ordinances for the creation of an Infrastructure Audit Team, while other policies such as the Designation of Safety Offices in Elementary

and Secondary School and the Ordinance on Safety Waters are being approved for first reading and are undergoing the crafting of Internal Rules and Regulations, respectively.

The Cavite Industrial Area Flood Risk Management project includes major engineering interventions, such as the construction of a Flood Retarding Basin designed to retain excess floodwater temporarily during heavy rainfall and gradually release it after the storm, thereby reducing downstream flooding. Improvements on riverbeds, floodways and diversion channels, drainage systems, and bridge networks are also underway to help reduce flooding by redirecting excess floodwater towards Manila Bay. As the province

continues to invest on flood mitigation infrastructure, the official emphasized that public support is key in strengthening disaster preparedness and recovery efforts.

“Together, we continue to improve our preparedness, response, recovery, and resilience to better protect lives, livelihoods, and the future of our province. Disasters may not always be prevented, but we can significantly reduce their impacts by working together, planning ahead, and acting responsibly.”

With some of its cities connected to Metro Manila, Cavite Province frquesntly experiencve province especially in parts of Bacoor, Imus, Kawit, Noveleta, Rosario, General Trias, Tanza, and Dasmariñas, particularly during prolonged rains, tropical cyclones, and high tide. (PB-PIA CALABARZON)

Carmona advances

Continued from Page 1

excellence in Information and Communications Technology (ICT).

The 2nd Carmona ICT Quiz Bee rounded up the city’s future innovators and digital leaders last June 27, in partnership with the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) – Cavite through its Office of the City Information Technology Officer (OCITO) and Community Affairs and Youth Development Office (CAYDO).

The quiz bee showcased inclusivity across various ICT disciplines, bringing together participants across four categories: Elementary, Junior High School, Senior High School, and Teachers.

In a statement, DICT CALABARZON emphasized that the competition covered a wide range of topics, including computer fundamentals, internet

and cybersecurity, digital citizenship, emerging technologies, and current ICT trends.

“Participants and challenged on topics such as computer fundamentals, internet and cybersecurity, digital citizenship, emerging technologies and current ICT trends, encouraging critical thinking, continuous learning, and a deeper appreciation of technology.”

By partnering with the local government, the DICT CALABARZON reaffirmed its commitment to empowering the youth, strengthening digital competencies, and advancing inclusive digital transformation as Carmona delivers its vision of a smart and technology-driven city. (PB-PIA Cavite with reports from DICT CALABARZON, City Government of Carmona/Facebook)

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
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OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
TRECE MARTIRES CITY

METROPOLITAN BANK & TRUST COMPANY,
Mortgagee,

-versus-

KEITHLEEN ESGUERRA as represented herein
by her Attorney-in-Fact, MARLENE D. GODINEZ,
Mortgagor-Debtor.
X-----X

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-416-26

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, **METROPOLITAN BANK & TRUST COMPANY** with business address at G.T. Tower International, 6813 Ayala Ave. Corner H.V. dela Costa St., Brgy. Bel-Air, Makati City 1227 against the Mortgagor-Debtor, **KEITHLEEN ESGUERRA** as represented herein by her Attorney-in-Fact, **MARLENE D. GODINEZ**, with addresses at (1) No. 3513-A F. Roxas St., Barrio Obrero, Tondo, Manila and (2) Lot 11, Block 3, Road Lot 4, Somerset 10, Brgy. Navarro, General Trias City, Cavite, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of **April 30, 2026** amounts to **ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED THIRTY THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTY THREE PESOS and 29/100 (Php 1,230,873.29)** Philippine Currency, inclusive of interest and penalty charges as of said date, but exclusive of all other expenses incidental to this foreclosure sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at a public auction to be held on **August 7, 2026** at 10:00 o'clock in the morning until 12:00 o'clock noon at the main entrance of the Government Center Building, 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. 057-2018059638

Lot No. 11 Block No. 3 Plan No. Pcs-04-028446
Portion of: Lots 1730-A & 1730-B, (LRA) Psd-366255, Lot 1731-C, FLS-1320-D=Lot 3505 (FRS-04-005748), Lot 2449 (FRS-04-005172), Lot 2451-B, FLS-1162-D=Lot 3429 (FRS-04-005362) & Lot 3504, FLS-1320-D (FRS-04-005160), all of San Francisco de Malabon Estate, Decreed No. 4270; LRC Rec. No. 5934
Location: Barangay of Navarro, Municipality of Gen. Trias, Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon
Boundaries:
LINE DIRECTION ADJOINING LOT (S)
1-2 NW Lot 9, Block 3, Pcs-04-028446
2-3 NE Lot 31, Block 3, Pcs-04-028446
3-4 SE Lot 13, Block 3, Pcs-04-028446
4-1 SW Road Lot 4, Pcs-04-028446
Area: **EIGHTY SQUARE METERS (80), 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 **August 20, 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, **July 3, 2026**

JOANNAH AVIGAIL F. CRISOLOGO-TIMKANG
Sheriff IV

Copy furnished:
METROPOLITAN BANK & TRUST COMPANY
Remedial and Administrative Services Division
2nd Floor, The Shops at Grand Central Park
7th Ave. Corner 36th & 38th Streets, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City

MS. KEITHLEEN ESGUERRA & MS. MARLENE D. GODINEZ
(1) No. 3513-A F. Roxas St., Barrio Obrero, Tondo, Manila
(2) Lot 11, Block 3, Road Lot 4, Somerset 10, Brgy. Navarro, General Trias City, Cavite

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

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Cavite strengthens response against

Continued from Page 1

and Digital Evidence. Composed of lawyers and law enforcers, the capacity building activity focused on handling cases violating Republic Act No. 11930, particularly Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) and Child Sexual Abuse or Exploitation Materials (CSAEM) cases in the face of digitalization. The participants also included judges, prosecutors, and Women and Children Protection Desk (WCPD) personnel from Imus, Tagaytay, Silang, Alfonso, General Emilio Aguinaldo, and Amadeo, as well as members from the Regional Committee Against Exploitation and Trafficking Task Force (RCAETTF). In a statement, the city government of Tagaytay underscored its commitment in protecting

children from abuse, exploitation, and trafficking. “We continue to strengthen collaboration, build capacity, and uphold our shared commitment to protecting every child from abuse, exploitation, and trafficking.” Led by the Tagaytay City Justice Zone, through its Committee on Youth and Children the two-day training aimed to strengthen the justice sector’s response to child abuse and exploitation in the digital age. “Their invaluable expertise provided participants with practical strategies for the effective investigation and prosecution of child abuse and exploitation cases using technology and digital evidence.” Meanwhile, key agencies of the Inter Agency Council Against Trafficking including the National Coordination Center Against OSAEC and CSAEM (NCC-OSAEC-CSAEM), Department

of Justice-Office of the Cybercrime (DOJ-OOC), Child Rescue Coalition, and the Police Regional Office CALABARZON’s Regional Anti-Cybercrime Unit (RACU-4A). (PB-PIA Cavite, with reports from Tagaytay City Economic Tourism Justice Zone/Facebook)



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

BDO UNIBANK, INC.,
Mortgagee,

-versus-

JINKY SANTOS ARANDIA,
Debtor/Mortgagor.
X-----X

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-335-26

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 Debtor/Mortgagor, **JINKY SANTOS ARANDIA**, with residence and postal addresses at (1) # 96 Banaag Street, Pineda, Pasig City (occupied by third party); and (2) Lot 32, Block 3, Glenbrook Phase 1, Brgy. Pasong Camachile, General Trias, Cavite (occupied by Mortgagor), to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of **April 17, 2026** amounts to **TWO MILLION SIX HUNDRED FORTY ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED TWENTY THREE PESOS and 76/100 (Php 2,641,223.76)**, 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 **August 7, 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. 057-2019034642

Lot No. 32 Block: 3 Plan No. Pcs-04-029304
Portion of: Lot 1816; 1817; 1833 & 1834, San Francisco de Malabon Estate, Decreed No. 4270. LRC Record No. 5964
Location: Barangay of Pasong Camachile, Municipality of Gen. Trias, Province of Cavite
Boundaries:

LINE	DIRECTION	ADJOINING LOT (S)
1-2	SW	Lot 31, Block 3, Pcs-04-029304
2-3	NW	Road Lot 4, Pcs-04-029304
3-4	NE	Lot 33, Block 3, Pcs-04-029304
4-1	SE	Lot 3, Block 3, Pcs-04-029304

Area: ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEEN SQUARE METERS (117), 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 **August 20, 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, **July 3, 2026**

JOSELITO L. ARANDA
Sheriff IV

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

MS. JINKY SANTOS ARANDIA
(1) # 96 Banaag Street, Pineda, Pasig City
(2) Lot 32, Block 3, Glenbrook Phase 1, Brgy. Pasong Camachile, General Trias, Cavite

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

Publication: Southern Tagalog Herald Cavite
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**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
TRECE MARTIRES CITY**

BDO UNIBANK INC.,
Mortgagee,

-versus-

ZENA MARIE TINGZON GINES,
Debtor/Mortgagor.
X-----X

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-316-26

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 Debtor/Mortgagor, **ZENA MARIE TINGZON GINES**, with residence and postal addresses at (1) 145 Isidro Francisco Street, Malinta, Valenzuela City (occupied by third party); and (2) Lot 6, Block 9, Phase 6, Micara Estate Tanza, Barangay Sahud Ulan, Tanza, Cavite (occupied by mortgagor), to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of March 27, 2026 amounts to **ONE MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED FORTY THREE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY SEVEN PESOS and 14/100 (Php 1,843,857.14)**, 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 **August 7, 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. 057-2023028245

Lot No. 6 Block: 9 Plan No. Pcs-04-031423
Portion of: Block 15, Pcs-04-030998, Lot 1620-A, Psd-04-034571, Lot 1616 & Lot 1619, Sta. Cruz De Malabon Estate, Decree No. 10111, LRC 6832
Location: Barangay of Sahud Ulan, Municipality of Tanza, Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon
Boundaries:

LINE	DIRECTION	ADJOINING LOT (S)
1-2	NW	Lot 5, Block 9, Pcs-04-031423
2-3	NE	Lot 4, Block 9, Pcs-04-031423
3-4	SE	Road Lot 13, Pcs-04-031423
4-1	SW	Lot 8, Block 9, Pcs-04-031423

Area: FIFTY SEVEN (57) SQUARE METERS, more or less

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

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on August 20, 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, July 3, 2026

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

MS. ZENA MARIE T. GINES
(1) 145 Isidro Francisco Street, Malinta, Valenzuela City
(2) Lot 6, Block 9, Phase 6, Micara Estate Tanza, Barangay Sahud Ulan, Tanza, Cavite

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

Publication: Southern Tagalog Herald Cavite
Dates: July 12, 19 and 26, 2026

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

BDO UNIBANK INC.,
Mortgagee,

-versus-

RUSSEL FLORES BRIONES,
Debtor/Mortgagor.
X-----X

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-351-26

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 Debtor/Mortgagor, **RUSSEL FLORES BRIONES**, with residence and postal addresses at (1) Lot 14, Block 14, Westwood II, Lancaster New City, Pasong Camachile I, General Trias, Cavite (currently occupied); and (2) Lot 73, Block 4 Phase 3, Glenbrook, Brgy. Pasong Camachile II, General Trias, Cavite (currently occupied), to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of **April 17, 2026** amounts to **SIX MILLION NINE HUNDRED EIGHTY NINE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED SIXTY EIGHT PESOS and 70/100 (Php 6,989,168.70)**, 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 **August 7, 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. 057-2025001716

Lot No. 73 Block: 4 Plan No. Pcs-04-030836
Portion of: Lot 2088, 2092, 2093, 2094 & 2095 (covered by FRS-04-005881, FRS-04-005882, FRS-04-005879, FRS-04-005883, & FRS-04-005880, respectively of San Francisco de Malabon Estate, Decree No. 4270, LRC Rec. No. 5964
Location: Barangay of Pasong Camachile II, City of Gen. Trias, Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon
Boundaries:

LINE	DIRECTION	ADJOINING LOT (S)
1-2	SE	Lot 74, Block 4, Pcs-04-030836
2-4	SW, NW	Road Lot 10, Pcs-04-030836
4-5	NW	Road Lot 1, Pcs-04-030836
5-1	NE	Lot 72, Block 4, Pcs-04-030836

Area: ONE HUNDRED TWENTY TWO (122) SQUARE METERS, more or less

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

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on **August 20, 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, **July 3, 2026**

JOSELITO L. ARANDA
Sheriff IV

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

MR. RUSSEL FLORES BRIONES
(1) Lot 14, Block 14, Westwood II, Lancaster New City, Pasong Camachile I, General Trias, Cavite
(2) Lot 73, Block 4 Phase 3, Glenbrook, Brgy. Pasong Camahile II, General Trias, Cavite

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

Publication: Southern Tagalog Herald Cavite
Dates: July 12, 19 and 26, 2026

CALABARZON pushes inter-agency waste management

By Patricia Bermudez

TAGAYTAY CITY, Cavite (PIA) — The Regional Ecology Center (REC) in the CALABARZON region is pushing for a multisectoral approach in promoting waste management and environment conservation policies.

Following a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signing led by the Environment Management Bureau (EMB) last June 30, the REC will become the hub for the region's best practices in ecological solid waste management. The project will enlist government agencies specializing in law enforcement, policy recommendation, public health, education, and grassroots communication, among others.

Forester Corazon Gasapos, Environmental Monitoring and Enforcement Division chief for EMB CALABARZON, emphasized the importance of unified actions in addressing Solid Waste Management challenges. "Solid Waste Management is not only a technical challenge, [but it also] challenges leadership and our goal towards a concerted action and concern for future



generations." Gasapos also acknowledged the unique expertise that each partner-agency will provide to the foundation of the REC.

Environmental protection is linked to public safety and disaster management—both key issues that the Department of Health (DOH) continues to address. Voltaire Guadalupe, Regional Director for DOH Center for Health Development-CALABARZON, noted the connection of public health and climate resilience.

"Our commitment to environmental protection, pollution prevention, climate resilience and [the] responsible management of our natural resources is a significant contribution to the health and well-being of every Filipino. We continue to face an evolving environment and

public health challenge, and the partnership of all agencies becomes even more vital."

The CALABARZON REC will also leverage a robust public information gateway to drive joint conservation efforts from all sectors.

Ma. Cristina Arzadon, Regional Director for the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) CALABARZON, said the agency will continue to champion regional sustainability by providing its platforms for information and education initiatives.

"We formalize our partnership through unified inter-agency collaboration to empower communities through environmental education, training, and advocacy, to champion best practices in ecological solid waste management across the region [and] to sustain our shared dedication toward environment protection and regional sustainability."

With a population reaching over 16 million, the CALABARZON region

plays a key role in promoting sustainable solid waste management policies. According to the EMB, the Philippines produces around 61,700 tonnes of waste per day. Of this, the CALABARZON region accounts for 9,994 tonnes of waste per day, followed by the National Capital Region (NCR) which generates around 9,369 tonnes of waste per day.

The National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC), the government's policy-making body on waste management, identified online shopping packaging as a primary driver behind the massive surge in daily waste collection during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Stakeholders have likewise pointed out that many online micro-sellers lack education regarding sustainable shipping, resulting in oversized packaging where small, non-fragile items are heavily over-wrapped in layers of unneeded plastic. (PB-PIA CALABARZON)

DepEd to review health

Continued from Page 1

conducted in coordination with the City Health Office. "We are committed to fully understanding what happened, and are working closely with health authorities as they investigate," DepEd said in a statement.

"DepEd is also taking this opportunity to review our own health and safety protocols, to ensure the well-being of every learner."

The agency sent its sympathies to the bereaved family and friends of the learner. Various interventions and assistance are also underway to uphold the safety and well-being of the affected family and other students. "We extend our deepest condolences to the family, loved ones, and the entire school community," it said. "We are providing the necessary emotional, psychological, and logistical support to the family during this difficult time. We want to assure everyone that the

safety and well-being of our learners remain our highest priority."

The agency urged the public to rely solely on verified information from health experts following the tragic event.

DepEd Cavite and the school assured close coordination with local authorities to uphold the safety, health, and lives of their learners.

"To all those who are equally saddened, as well as those alarmed, anxious, even those who are infuriated by the unfortunate event, of which no one certainly wished to happen, rest assured, the DepEd Cavite Province and the school administration concerned, are not standing by idly and are continuously making efforts in reaching out to extend our immeasurable depth of sympathy and prayers to the bereaved family and loved ones of our departed pupil," they said in a separate statement. (PNA)

Cavite Towns Chosen for Nutrition

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addressing malnutrition among vulnerable sectors. During the Philippine Information Agency's radio program, NNC Calabarzon Nutrition Officer Theresa Rivas said the two municipalities were selected based on their nutrition situation and their inclusion among the priority areas under the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN).

"Ang Cavite province po kasi ay isa sa priority area po ng ating Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition. So within Cavite province, nag-identify po tayo kung ano po 'yung munisipyo na mas nangangailangan po ng ating suporta—medyo mataas po 'yung kanilang prevalences po ng malnutrition, in terms

of stunting 'tsaka wasting," Rivas explained.

She said that the selection process also considered the commitment of local chief executives and the readiness of local government units to support and sustain nutrition interventions in their respective communities.

Under the TK-DSP, nutritionally at-risk pregnant women will receive dietary supplementation for 90 days, while children aged six to 23 months will be provided with food supplementation for 180 days to help meet their nutritional requirements during critical stages of growth and development.

Aside from food supplementation, beneficiaries will also

CHIZ SEEKS FDA OVERHAUL TO BETTER PROTECT CONSUMERS

Senator Francis "Chiz" Escudero has filed a measure proposing to overhaul the country's product regulatory system by transferring several functions of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to other government agencies better aligned with the nature and risks of the products they oversee. In filing Senate Bill No. 2310 bill, Escudero said his proposed reform aims to streamline government regulation, reduce bureaucratic bottlenecks, and strengthen public health and consumer protection through a science based, risk informed framework across agencies.

He also said the measure addresses long standing overlaps and delays that affect both consumers and businesses. "Product regulation efficiency is critical for promoting public health and safety, and for protecting consumers from trade malpractices and from substandard or hazardous products," Escudero said in the bill's explanatory note.

"Through the establishment and enforcement of product standards and other regulatory measures, the government addresses matters that cannot reasonably be expected of individual consumers, such as verifying product quality, (and) ensuring compliance with technical and manufacturing standards," he stressed. Under the proposed "Product Regulatory System Reform Act," the regulation of raw and unprocessed food products shall be transferred to the Department of Agriculture (DA), while processed food, cosmetics, and other consumer goods shall fall under the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

Other products could likewise be reassigned to specialized agencies depending on their risk profile and statutory mandates. Escudero emphasized that the realignment seeks to ensure that regulatory functions are exercised by agencies with the appropriate technical expertise and institutional capacity.

The measure also mandates inter agency coordination to avoid duplication and improve public service delivery. He underscored the urgency of updating the country's regulatory framework, citing "rapid technological advancements, increasing complexity of products, evolution of local and global markets, and the emergence of public health risks" as reasons for adopting a more responsive system. To ensure continuity of service, the bill provides transitory provisions allowing existing permits, registrations, and authorizations to remain valid until expiration.

Pending applications and enforcement actions will be completed by the agency to which the relevant function is transferred. The Bicolano senator said the proposed reforms aim to build "a coherent, adaptive, and efficient regulatory system that protects public health and safety and consumer welfare" while encouraging innovation and investment.

requires a comprehensive approach that goes beyond food provision. Through nutrition education and strengthened community participation, the program seeks to help families adopt sustainable practices that support the health and development of mothers and children.

The TK-DSP, one of the flagship nutrition interventions of the national government, is designed to reduce stunting, wasting, and other forms of malnutrition through community-based strategies.

It also supports the goals of the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition 2023–2028, which aims to improve the nutritional status of Filipinos and contribute to healthier and more productive communities. (ML, AM/PIA CALABARZON)