

MPT SOUTH ACHIEVES TRIPLE ISO CERTIFICATION, STRENGTHENING COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY



MPT South, the concessionaire of the Manila-Cavite Expressway (CAVITEX) and Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAX), and a subsidiary of Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation, was recently granted three International Organization for Standardization (ISO) certifications. The company achieved certifications for ISO 9001 (Quality Management), ISO 14001 (Environmental Management), and ISO 45001 (Occupational Health and Safety), showcasing its commitment to operational excellence and sustainable business practices.

ly presented the certificates to the MPT South Management Committee, led by Officer-in-Charge Ms. Elnora D. Rumawak, along with MPTC's Chief Human Resource Officer, Atty. Maria Antonette V. Al-lones.

"This achievement reflects MPT South's unwavering commitment to excellence, sustainability, and the safety of every motorist we serve," said Ms. Rumawak. About Metro Pacific Tollways

Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation is the tollways infrastructure unit of Metro Pacific Investments Corp. Aside from 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.

Mayor Ross Distributes Financial Aid to 320 Calamba Residents for Medical and Essential Needs



Calamba City Mayor Roseller "Ross" H. Rizal continues his commitment to public service by distributing financial assistance to 320 residents from various barangays. The aid aims to support beneficiaries in their medical

ical needs and other essential requests. Under the Ramdam Na Reporma initiative, Mayor Rizal emphasized the city's dedication to maximizing resources for the welfare of Calambenos, ensuring that no

time is wasted in delivering much-needed assistance. "This is our way of helping our fellow citizens. We are always ready to serve and uplift the lives of Calambenos," said Mayor Rizal.



His administration remains steadfast in prioritizing inclusive and accessible public service, reflecting his vision of a God-centered and Rizalian governance. (Edjun Mari-posque)



JUSTICE FOR COUNCILOR DANIEL BORJA! – MAYOR ROSS RIZAL CALLS FOR JUSTICE



Vol. I - Series 30 - February 09-15, 2025

PGC Continues to Empower Women Through (WWP)

Cayetano: Maximizing the value of time through purpose, priorities, and planning

In today's fast-paced world, time is one of our most precious resources. However, it is not unlimited, making it even more valuable to how we live. This message was highlighted by Senator Alan Peter Cayetano during his 365 series on his official Facebook page on January 16, 2025. Asking his viewers to reflect on how to maximize the value of time, the senator said, "Please think about it. How valuable is time to us? If it is valuable, what are the elements that can help us

to maximize its worth?" "May I propose that it is the purpose that leads us to priorities, to planning, and that also leads us to preparation," he added. Cayetano emphasized that understanding the value of time requires recognizing the importance of purpose in guiding our actions. He said a clear sense of purpose allows us to identify our priorities and make intentional decisions. "If you know your purpose, and prioritize, the key is planning," he ex-



plained, further noting that preparation is also essential to leverage those plans and ensure success. The senator launched CIA 365 With Kuya Alan on January 1, 2025 where he shares daily lessons and insights rooted in biblical values. "We'll try to sustain ang ating CIA 365. We have 52 topics in the year and have about 6 or 7 elements per week. We'll wrap up these topics weekly," he said. PR

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Hon. Daniel Vincent Borja
BARANGAY COUNCILOR OF BRGY. TRES
BELOVED HUSBAND, DAD, PUBLIC SERVANT
Calamba City, Laguna – Mayor Ross Rizal, together with the entire Calamba City Government, *cont. on page 2*

Cong. Cha Hernandez: Calamba City General Hospital Bill Passes Senate, One Step Closer to Reality!

Calamba City, Laguna – This is a historic win for public healthcare in Calamba, is now within reach as the Calamba City General Hospital Bill has successfully passed the Senate. With only the President's signature needed, the city is on the brink of establishing its very own public hospital, offering free, high-quality, and affordable healthcare. *cont. on page 2*

Editorial KOMITE NG DOLE, MAGSASAGAWA NG PAGDINIG SA PANUKALANG WAGE INCREASE, KILOS PROTESTA SASABAY

Magsasagawa ng pagdinig ang House Committee on Labor and Employment sa House of Representatives of the Philippines sa panukalang batas na naglalayong taasan ang sahod ng mga manggagawa sa pribadong sektor.

Ito ay matapos na makipagpulong ang ibat-ibang pederasyon nang unyon ng mga manggagawa sa liderato ng Kamara na humihiling sa agarang pagpasa sa panukalang across the board legislated wage increase na P150 pesos kada araw.

Sa nasabing pulong na dinaluhan ALU (Associated Labor Unions); (Associated Professional, Supervisory, Office and Technical Employees Union) ; FFW (Federation of Free Workers); SENTRO (Sentro ng mga Nagkakaisa at Progresibong Manggagawa); TUCP (Trade Union Congress of the Philippines) FUR (Federations of Unions of Rizal); AWATU (All Workers Alliance Trade Union); KKKP (Kapisanan ng mga Kawani sa Koreo sa Pilipinas); NACUSIP (National Congress of Unions in the Sugar Industry of the Philippines); KILUSAN (Pambansang Kilusan ng Paggawa; PTGWO (Philippine Trade and General Workers Organization), sinabi ni Speaker Ferdinand Martin Romualdez na sisikapin ng Kamara na hilahin sa P200 piso ang wage increase, batay umano ito sa concensus ng mga kongresista.

Huling nagdeklara ng legislated wage increase ang pamahalaan noong 1989, o 3 dekada na ang nakakaraan.

Samantala, ang gagawing pagdinig ng komite ngayong Umaga hinggil sa panukala ay sasabayan naman ng kilos Protesta ng Kilusang Mayo Uno at iba pang militanteng Grupo sa harapan ng batasang pambanda.

Layon nito na tutulan ang pagsasabatas ng P150 hanggang P200 wage increase, sa halip igigiit nila ang P1,200 na Minimum wage sa arawang kita ng mga manggagawa sa buong bansa.

DTI Rizal Enhances MSME Support with SHARP Innovation and 2025 Strategic Goals



ANTIPOLO CITY, 24 January 2025 – The Department of Trade

and Industry (DTI) Rizal, through its Business Development Division (BDD),

Cong. Cha...

able medical services to all Calambefios.

Congresswoman Cha Hernandez, the bill's champion, expressed her joy and gratitude for this milestone.

"This is our success, Calambefios! Our promise is about to be fulfilled. Even in our first term, we have already achieved so much, but we won't stop here. We will continue to elevate our services and fight for a better future for everyone," she declared.

This hospital is set to transform healthcare access in Calamba,

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ensuring that every resident, especially those in need, receives essential medical care without financial hardship.

Cong. Cha also thanked her allies in the Senate for their unwavering support and expressed gratitude to God for His guidance and blessings.

As the city eagerly awaits the President's approval, the people of Calamba can now look forward to a new era in healthcare, bringing them closer to a healthier, more secure future.

(Edjun Mariposque)

MEDICAL AND DENTAL MISSION IN MARAGONDON



More than 200 residents of Maragondon received free medical and dental services during a health mission held on January 25, 2025 in Poblacion 1. Spearheaded by

the Provincial Government of Cavite (PGC) through the Office of the Provincial Governor, in collaboration with the Office of the Provincial Health Officer and Tagaytay City Health Office, the initiative brought accessible healthcare services to the community.

Tagaytay City Vice Mayor Agnes Tolentino and 8th District Representative Aniela Tolentino graced the event and expressed their full support for the endeavor. They commended the healthcare teams and emphasized the importance of health programs in improving the well-being of Caviteños.

A wide array of services was provided, including medical consultations, dental check-ups and tooth extraction, and the distribution of prescribed medicines. The joint efforts of the medical professionals from the

JUSTICE...

strongly condemns the brutal killing of Barangay Tres Councilor Daniel Borja.

In his statement, the mayor expressed deep sorrow and shock over the sudden passing of the councilor, whom he described as a dedicated, hardworking, and courageous public servant.

"His sudden passing is a great loss to our community. We will not let this pass without justice. Those responsible for his death must be held accountable, and we will ensure that the investigation is carried out swiftly to bring justice for Councilor Borja and his family," Mayor Rizal declared.

He also assured that the local government will closely monitor the investigation to ensure that

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those behind this heinous crime are brought to justice.

Councilor Borja was known for his commitment to serving his constituents. Despite his short time in public service, he left an undeniable legacy of compassion and bravery.

"Farewell and thank you for your service, Councilor Daniel Borja. You will never be forgotten by your family, friends, and the entire Barangay Tres community," Mayor Rizal added.

The local government, along with the family, friends, and supporters of Councilor Borja, continues to call for justice and swift action from authorities to ensure the safety of all Calamba residents.

(EdjunMariposque)

BENEFITS OVER 200 RESIDENTS

PGC and Tagaytay City Health Office ensured the residents received quality care.

The beneficiaries expressed their gratitude for the initiative, recognizing its impact in addressing

their immediate healthcare needs. The collaborative effort highlights the continued commitment of Cavite local governments to bring essential services closer to the people. – OPIO

DERETSAHAN
WEEKLY PUBLISHING
The paper that stand for real values and gives you real value for money

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TEA VM BUILDING NG PWD AT SOLO PARENTS NG BARANGAY REAL CALAM-BALAGUNA-NAG-PASALAMAT KAY MAYOR ROSS RIZAL

Labis Ang tuwa at pa sasalamat sa ama ng Lungsod Mayor Ross Rizal sa patuloy na pag suporta sa ating mga PWD,sa kabila Ng kanilang kalagayan ay na gawa parin nya ipa ramdam na may Gobyerno na tunay na kumakalinga sa kanila.

Nag Pasalamat din Ang grupo Ng mga Solo Parents sa pangu-nguna ng kanilang Pres.Lourdes Sierra ,sa kabila ng kanilang sinapit sa buhay, iginagapang ang kanilang mga anak ay nagawa parin na sila ay bigyan ng kasiyahan ang ating mga solo parents ,ayon Kay Mayor Ross Rizal Hindi titigil Ang local na Pama-halaan Ng Calamba para bumalangkas ng mga Batas at inisyatibo na may higit na makakatulong sa ating mga Solo Parents.



Isang maka Dios at maka Rizal at ramdam na reporma,umasa kayo

na di titigil bilang Ama ng Lungsod pipilitin po natin na walang maiiwan lahat

Tayo ay pa sulong tungo sa Bagong Pilipinas.
(Nelson Dimapilis)



Araw ng Biñan-15th Cityhood Anniversary



Biñan City - Iba't ibang aktibidad ang minarkahan sa ika-15 anibersaryo ng pagiging lungsod ng Biñan noong araw ng Linggo, Pebrero 2.

Pinangunahan ni Biñan City Mayor Atty. Arman Dimaguila ang pagdiriwang sa pamamagitan ng Grand People's Parade na nilahukan ng mga sangguniang barangay, guro, mga estudyante upang ipagdiwang ang mga makasaysayang tagumpay bilang Biñan-ense. Pinasinayaan rin

sa unang araw ng selebrasyon ang makabagong elevated parking at sining tanghalan sa lungsod.

Ang pagdiriwang ng cityhood ay magiging jumpacked dahil ito ay kasabay ng paggunita gaya ng 80th Liberation Day na gaganapin sa Pebrero 3 at 278th Foundation Commemoration sa araw ng Martes, Pebrero 4.

Sa pahayag ni Mayor Arman Dimaguila, ang sining tanghalan ay magsisilbi kung paano nakikita ang kultura. Sa sining tanghalan ay higit

na mahuhubog ang mga talento ng mga Biñanense at sa lugar rin na ito makikita ng mga karatig lungsod at bayan kung gaano kahasay ang mga Biñanense. At ang proyektong elevated parking ang kukumpleto upang mas maging maayos ang plaza.

Naging panauhing pandangal si Mr. Ryan Cayabyab na alamat sa kultura at sining ng Bansa, na nagbigay ng papuri kay Bryan Borja-Tourism officer ng lungsod sapagkat isa siya sa buong Pilipinas na kabilang sa



sa mga manggagawang pangkultura. Aniya, hindi makakamtan ni Borja ang mga papuri kung 'di dahil na rin sa tulong at suportang ni Mayor Arman, Vice Mayor Gel Alonte at maging ng buong sangguniang panglungsod. Ideneklara rin na ang taong 2025 ay ang Biñan Arts Day. Nakatalaga rin naman buksan na sa publiko ang mga proyektong pabahay at mga paaralan na makatutulong sa patuloy na pag-unlad ng lungsod.

Sa nakalipas na labinlimang taon, ang

Biñan bilang munisipalidad ay naging ganap na lungsod, sa ilalim ng Republic Act No. 9740 (AN ACT CONVERTING THE MUNICIPALITY OF

BIÑAN INTO A COMPONENT CITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE CITY OF BIÑAN).
Shekinah Pamatmat



The paper that stand for real values and gives you real value for money

PNP PRESENTS OVER 3,000 CONFISCATED AND SURRENDERED FIREARMS IN CALABARZON AHEAD OF 2025 ELECTIONS



Calamba City, Laguna – The Philippine National Police (PNP) showcased a total of 3,138 confiscated, recovered, surrendered, deposited, and seized firearms at Camp Vicente Lim in Mayapa, Calamba City, Laguna. The event covered the entire CALABARZON region as part of the police force's intensified campaign to enforce the COMELEC gun ban in preparation for the 2025 National and Local Elections.

Under COMELEC Resolution No. 11067, the PNP continues to implement strict firearm regulations to prevent election-related violence. According to Plt-Gen. Robert T. Rodriguez, the surrender of firearms by candidates is crucial: "This ensures that if any untoward incidents occur, they will not be immediate suspects."

F. E. E. L S.A.F.E.R. Initiative Launched

The Police Regional Office CALABARZON has launched the F.E.E.L S.A.F.E.R. project (Firearms and Explosives from Candidates/Supporters/Kins/Juridical for Safe-keeping and Disposal, An Effort Leading to a Secure, Accurate, and Fair Elections in CALABARZON).

Since the initiative began on September 25, 2024, until January 31, 2025, a total of 3,138 firearms have been voluntarily surrendered:

- 3,012 small firearms
- 126 light weapons



PNP Operations Yield Significant Results In addition to voluntary surrenders, police operations have resulted in:

414 firearms confiscated through search warrants, checkpoints, patrols, and Oplan Bakal

313 individuals arrested for illegal firearm possession

1,187 firearms surrendered through Oplan Katok, part of the safekeeping program

1,601 firearms currently in police custody

292 individuals facing charges under the Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulation Act

mitted to upholding election integrity by strictly enforcing firearm regulations. They reminded the public that the unauthorized possession, carrying, or transport of firearms during the election period is strictly prohibited. Violators will face legal consequences under the Omnibus Election Code and related laws.

COMELEC official Atty. Margaret Joyce M. Reyes-Cortez urged everyone to comply with the election commission's policies: "We encourage everyone to follow the guidelines set by the Commission to ensure a smooth and orderly election."

Public Urged to Cooperate

The PNP calls on citizens to stay vigilant and report any violations to the nearest police station or via their hotline numbers. The success of a peaceful, fair, and secure election depends on the cooperation of the entire community. (EdjunMariposque)

LIBRENG SERBISYONG MEDICAL



Humigit kumulang 300 nga residente ng Brgy.San Antonio Bae Laguna at karatig Barangay nito ang nabiyayaan ng Medical Mission na Handog ng Team Bagong Bae sa pangunguna ni Kuya E.G. Emilio Garcia sa pakikipagtulungan ni Congresswoman Bernadette Herrera ng Bagong Henerasyon (BH) Partylist sa Libreng Serbisyong Medikal para sa mga mamamayan sa Bayan ng Bae. Na ginanap ngayon ika-7 ng Pebrero sa covered court ng nabangit na Barangay. (Kevin Pamatmat)

DTI Rizal...

Mr. Genebee Nofuente, former DTI Negosyo Center Business Counselor and an IT graduate. Mr. Nofuente played a pivotal role in developing and adopting SHARP, which is now used by sixteen Negosyo Center Business Counselors (NCBC) and Flagship Program Account Officers.

SHARP innovation was developed to address challenges in reporting, including voluminous documentation, erroneous data, double counting, inconsistent formats, and slow report preparation. But with the system's successful implementation, it has improved productivity,

decision-making, and organizational collaboration, while also contributing to greater employee satisfaction.

In fact last December 2024, it was recognized during the DTI SPRINTS Awards 2021 under the category of Most Innovative Idea.

This year, to further enhance the NCBCs and account officers' skills and align with the division's strategic goals for 2025, DTI Rizal hosted a retooling orientation.

Chief Dioco emphasized the importance of continuous skills development and leadership upgrading, as well as enhancing documentation and database management. "I hope na itong gagawin natin ang ating desire na makapaglingkod kasi ang labanan ngayon ay hindi lang pagalingan, hindi kung sino ang mauuna kundi kung sino yung makakatagal sa laban," said Chief Dioco.

The orientation was part of DTI Rizal's ongoing efforts to ensure that its personnel are equipped with the latest tools and knowledge to achieve the division's objectives for the year, ultimately supporting the growth of Rizal's MS-MEs. PR

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Pointer

Pau Dela Cruz

IMPEACHMENT LABAN KAY VP SARAH, TINAWAG NA SCAM.

Tinawag na scam ni Davao City First District Rep. Pulong Duterte ang ginawang railroading ng House of Representatives of the Philippines sa impeachment laban kay Vice President Sara Duterte.

Ayon sa kongresista ang hakbang ng impeachment ay isang "scam" kaya ngat nagbala ito na ang mga nagtutulak ng impeachment ay nahaharap sa lumalaking kawalang-kasiyahan at pagkadismaya ng mamamayang Pilipino.

Kung iniisip umano ng Marcos administration na magsulong niya ang sham impeachment ng walang kahihinatnan ay lubha silang nagkakamali.

Hindi lamang umano ito tungkol sa kagustuhan ng mamamayang Pilipino. Ang lumalaging pagkadiskontento at kabiguan umano sa buong bansa ay hindi mapigilan ng matagal.

Idinagdag pa ng kongresista na ang walang ingat na pag-abuso sa kapangyarihan ay hindi matapos ng pabor sa kanila. Sa kasalukuyan magtat-alaga nang tatayong prosecutor ang House of Representatives of the Philippines sa impeachment trial laban Kay Vice President Sara Duterte. Ayon sa isinasaaad ng Section 16 Rule 6 sa rules of procedure ng impeachment proceedings.

Nakakuha ng 251 out of 306 miyembro ng House of Representatives na sumusuporta sa Ika - Apat na impeachment complaint laban sa Bise Presidente. Kabilang sa mga tatayong prosecutor sa panig ng Congress sina:

1. Rep. Gerville "Jinky Bistrics" R. Luistro
2. Rep. Romeo M. Acop
3. Rep. Ramon Rodrigo Gutierrez
4. Rep. Joel R. Chua
5. Rep. Raul Angelo Bongalon
6. Rep. Loreto B. Acharon
7. Rep. Marcelino C. Libanan
8. Rep. Arnan C. Panaligan
9. Rep. Ysabel Maria J. Zamora
10. Rep. Lorenz R. Defensor
11. Rep. Jonathan Keith T. Flores

Ang Ika- 4 na impeachment complaint laban sa Bise Presidente ay naglalaman ng 7 article of impeachment na kinabibilanagn ng betrayal of public thrust, culpable violation of the constitution, graft, malvarization of public fund, paggamit ng confidential funds ng OVP at Deped at ang naging pagbabanta laban kina president Ferdinand Marcos Jr. speaker Martin Romualdez at first lady Liza Araneta Marcos.

Kasama rin sa reklamo ang bribery dahil sa umano'y pamamahagi ng sobre sa deped na umano'y may lamang pera at ang hindi maipaliwanag na pera at sa kabiguan na magdeklara ng yaman sa SALN.

Ang Impeachment complainant ay nadala na nina House Secretary General Reginald Velasco sa Senado.

Samantala ang 3 naunang impeachment complaint na una ng inihain ng ibat - ibang grupo ay naitransmit na sa archive ng Kamara.

PUBLISHER CORNER

AKAP MAY PROVE ITS WORTH AS ANTI-POVERTY INITIATIVE

The Ayuda para sa Kapos ang Kita (AKAP) is envisioned as a direct poverty alleviation program for families and individuals earning below minimum wage and those severely impacted by inflation. The multi-agency approach and guidelines are being finalized to avoid inefficiencies, political patronage and leakages. With the combined efforts of DSWD, DOLE and NEDA, the legislated program could better address the immediate needs of impoverished sectors, and enable them to rise above the quagmire of poverty, and eventually as more productive and responsible taxpayers.

The AKAP program is a congressional initiative aligned with the concepts of people's welfare, social justice, sustainable development and equitable progress. The barrage of criticisms hurled against this flagship program of the House of Representatives under the esteemed leadership of Speaker Martin G. Romualdez from polluted political sources will be proven wrong with the multi-fronged legislative and executive measures to ensure its proper and efficient implementation.

The AKAP is designed to be a more efficient anti-poverty and development strategy combined with the Maharlika Investment Fund vis-a-vis the previous administration's badly implemented, debt and deficit driven Build Build infrastructure program. The cost of the Duterte administration's BBB flagship program (and pandemic response) to Filipino taxpayers came to a staggering amount of P 7.4-Trillion in additional public debt, or 41% of the national debt burden incurred in just six years from 2016 to 2022. This translates to about P 63,793 indebtedness to be paid by every Filipino citizen and taxpayer.

PGC...

The Women's Welfare Program (WWP) of the Provincial Government of Cavite (PGC), spearheaded by Governor Athena Bryana D. Tolentino, continues to uplift and empower women across the province. From January 21 to 23, 2025, the program reached thousands of Caviteñas in the Cities of Dasmariñas, Carmona, Imus, and the municipalities of General Emilio Aguinaldo (Bailen) and Alfonso, covering Districts 3, 4, 5, and 8.

During each event, 2,000 women received financial assistance of ₱2,000 each, underscoring the provincial government's dedication to improving the welfare of women and their families.

Since the program's launch on November 15, 2024, the initiative has benefitted a total of 85,000 women across Cavite, demonstrating its significant and far-reaching impact.

The program's success was further strengthened by the active involvement of local officials and provincial representatives.

Governor Tolentino was joined by 3rd District Representative Adrian Jay "AJ" Advincula and Board Member Ony Cantimbuhan in Imus City. Board Members Jun Dela Cuesta and Nickol Austria participated in Dasmariñas City, while Board Member Aidel Belamide joined the program in the City of Carmona. District 8 Representative Aniela D. Tolentino graced the program in Bailen and Alfonso.

Likewise, the respective Mayors, Vice Mayors, and Sangguniang Panlungsod/Bayan members of each city and municipality were present during the conduct of the Women's Welfare Program in their locality showing their appreciation and

full support to the initiative. The collaborative effort underscored the importance of unity in advancing women's welfare and empowerment.

Governor Tolentino highlighted the program's vital role in enhancing the quality of life for women and their families.

She reaffirmed the provincial government's commitment to ensuring that women, as essential pillars of their communities, are given the support they need to thrive.

The Women's Welfare Program exemplifies PGC's dedication to inclusive development, offering financial assistance and a platform for women to flourish and contribute to their communities. As the program progresses, it remains a cornerstone of hope and empowerment for countless women across the province. - R. Dones



SMDC, SM SUPERMALLS PARTNER WITH THE NATIONAL MUSEUM IN LANDMARK SERVICE DONATION



(L-R): National Museum of the Philippines (NMP) Deputy Director-General for Administration Atty. Ma. Rosenne Flores-Avila, NMP Director-General Jeremy Barns, SM Development Corporation (SMDC) Executive Vice President (EVP) for Project Development Grace Evangeline Sta. Ana, SM Supermalls EVP for Marketing Jonjon San Agustin, SM Supermalls VP for Corporate Compliance Group Liza Silerio, and SM Prime Holdings VP for Legal Atty. Helene Go

The National Museum of the Philippines (NMP) recently received a significant boost with a service donation from SM Development Corporation (SMDC), underscoring a milestone in the museum's history. The donation was formally accepted on January 31.

Better consum-

er experience

This partnership signifies a commitment to enriching Filipino lives through cultural heritage. The donation from SMDC includes crucial repairs and maintenance for the air conditioning system at the National Museum of Natural History, ensuring a comfortable and enjoyable experience

for visitors.

"We at the NMP look forward to making the most out of this donation, and we hope to achieve the same level of quality of operations that SM produces," stated NMP Director-General Jeremy Barns.

"We're thrilled to be a part of this exciting collaboration," said SM

Supermalls Executive Vice President (EVP) for Marketing Jonjon San Agustin. "Through strategic promotions across our malls, we aim to significantly amplify the reach of the NMP and its mission of universal access to cultural heritage."

SM Supermalls' marketing efforts will ensure the NMP can con-



The Ceremonial Signing of the Deed of Donation between SM Development Corporation (SMDC) and the National Museum of the Philippines highlights SMDC's commitment to supporting the museum, including air conditioning repairs at the National Museum of Natural History and marketing support from SM Supermalls to promote its cultural mission. Photo from the National Museum of the Philippines.

nect with a wider audience over the next three years. This aligns perfectly with SMDC's sentiment, as expressed by SMDC EVP for Project Development Grace Evangeline Sta. Ana: "This partnership reflects SMDC's dedication to nation-building. We're proud to support the arts and contribute to a richer cultural experience for Filipinos."

A lasting impact

This collaborative effort between SMDC, SM Supermalls, and the NMP exemplifies a shared

commitment to cultural preservation and accessibility. The improved air conditioning system and strategic marketing initiatives will undoubtedly enhance the visitor experience and ensure the NMP's treasures are accessible to all Filipinos for years to come.

For more information on exciting partnerships like this, visit the websites of SMDC: www.smdc.com and SM Supermalls: www.smsupermalls.com, or follow them on social media.

Leila De Lima Visits Laguna to Introduce ML Partylist, Vows to Fight for Justice, Jobs, and Affordable Rice



Former Senator Leila De Lima visited Laguna to introduce the Mamamayang

Liberal (ML) Partylist, where she serves as the first nominee, alongside Teddy Baguilat (2nd nominee) and Erin Tañada (3rd nominee).

During her visit, De Lima reaffirmed her commitment to fighting for justice, economic opportunities, and social reforms. She emphasized that if elected, she would not seek revenge against those who falsely accused her during the previous administration. However, she vowed to uphold justice and hold wrongdoers accountable—not out of retaliation, but in pursuit

of fairness and the rule of law.

Key Advocacies of ML Partylist:

Lower Rice Prices & Food Security – Advocating for policies that benefit farmers and ensure affordable rice for consumers.

Free Education – Expanding access to quality education for all Filipinos.

Job Creation – Promoting employment opportunities and workers' rights.

Justice and Human Rights – Strengthening institutions to protect

the rights of Filipinos.

Support for the Divorce Bill – De Lima also expressed strong support for the divorce bill championed by the late Cong. Edcel Lagman, recognizing it as a necessary reform to provide legal relief to those trapped in irreparable marriages.

Her visit to Laguna marks the beginning of ML Partylist's campaign to bring progressive change, focusing on the needs of ordinary Filipinos and ensuring a more just and equitable society. (EDJUN MARIPOSQUE)(NELSON DIMAPILIS)

FLOWING SUCCESS

"It was years of hard work and determination," Daisy Blancad answered when asked how she managed a steady business.

Daisy, 61, resides in Tuguegarao City, the capital of Cagayan Province. She was born in Peñablanca but met her husband in Tuguegarao City during college, so she eventually stayed there.

They got married in 1983. Her husband was a police officer, while she was a housewife for a long time. Over time, their family grew until her husband's income was no longer enough, so in 2010, she thought of selling peanut butter.

She learned how to make peanut butter from a person who grinds peanuts at a market. Over time, her business flourished, leading her to have a label and packaging. In a single day, she can produce 50-100 bottles of

peanut butter, which even reach as far as Manila. She considers the peak season of her business from September to December.

In 2013, her husband retired from being a police officer but still worked as a head traffic enforcer for nine more years. They used his retirement pay as capital for a water refilling station. Just like with peanut butter, starting this new venture was not easy.

The first three months took a toll on them. From 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm, she would refill water gallons, and when morning came, before her husband went to work, they would deliver the water. While delivering water, she also took time to market her business so that it would become more established and attract more customers.

There came a point when she was on

the verge of giving up, but her husband constantly motivated her to keep going. He reminded her that every business, most of it, does not have an easy start; all of them require perseverance.

So she continued, and after four months of managing the business solely as a couple, they were finally able to hire two employees.

Both her peanut butter and water refilling stations thrive, but during the height of the pandemic in 2020, she had to scale down her peanut butter production because of restrictions. Additionally, her children advised her to avoid overworking herself, saying that she was not getting any younger.

Post-pandemic, her peanut butter has become a made-to-order product, while her water refilling business continues to flourish. Additionally, she partners her water



Daisy Blancad, from Tuguegarao City, stands proudly beside her water refilling station.

refilling with selling ice. She now delivers around Tuguegarao City and neighboring areas, including Peñablanca.

She was able to purchase refrigerators for her ice production with the help of CARD, Inc. (A Microfinance NGO), a financial institution under CARD Mutually Reinforcing In-

stitutions (CARD MRI). In 2017, she became a client since she was interested in their loan and insurance products. Daisy's husband has also become a CARD, Inc. client.

"CARD, Inc. is truly a reliable institution, especially for clients like us who are in need. Whenever you want to apply for

a loan, they are available, especially if you are a good payer," she said.

With the support of CARD, Inc. and because of her flourishing businesses, she was able to purchase land. Looking ahead, she hopes to reach even more customers and, of course, expand her business.

BACOR CITY LAUNCHES WIRELESS ACCESS FOR HEALTH (WAH) TRAINING FOR OCHS PERSONNEL, INCLUDING PATIENT PROFILING



Bacoor City, February 4, 2025 - The City Government of Bacoor, led by Mayor Strike B. Revilla, through the Office of the City Health Services (OCHS) headed by Dra. Ivy Marie Yrastorza, has launched a four-day Wireless Access for Health (WAH) training program for OCHS personnel.

The training program aims to equip OCHS personnel with the skills and knowledge to utilize electronic medical records, transitioning towards paperless transactions for health records and PhilHealth claim reporting. This initiative will

also include training on patient profiling, further enhancing the OCHS's ability to manage and analyze patient data. This will streamline processes, enhance efficiency, and improve the overall service delivery of the OCHS.

The training, which began today, Tuesday, February 4, will continue until Friday, February 7, 2025, at the Gawaran Hall. Mayor Strike B. Revilla emphasized the importance of this training program in modernizing the OCHS and providing a more efficient and accessible healthcare system for Bacoor residents.

