

Calamba Marks 25th Cityhood Anniversary with Expanded Public Services and Development Milestones



The City of Calamba celebrated its 25th Cityhood Anniversary and State of the City Address at the Jose Rizal Coliseum on Monday, April 20, led by Mayor Ross Rizal, Vice Mayor Totie Lazaro, Congressman Cha Hernandez, and the Sangguniang Panlungsod, with strong support and presence of Laguna Governor Sol Aragonese, who delivered a message of continued provincial partnership and support for

Calamba's development programs. Anchored on the theme "City of Calamba @25: Rooted in Heritage, Rising in Progress," the celebration highlighted the city's continued progress in governance, infrastructure, and public service delivery, reflecting its growth over 25 years of cityhood. In his State of the City Address, Mayor Ross Rizal reported key accomplishments and outlined

future projects aimed at further improving services and expanding government reach to communities in Calamba. Governor Sol Aragonese expressed her full support for the city's programs, emphasizing the importance of sustained collaboration between the provincial and city governments. Among the major announcements was the expansion of the JP Rizal 5-story building, where the first-floor emergency room

will be enhanced with additional wards for patient watchers and a dormitory for hospital workers. The city also confirmed the establishment of an extension office in Canlubang and the expansion of chemotherapy services, increasing Laguna's total to three centers. "Ang gusali sa JP Rizal 5 story building

The celebration underscored Calamba's continued transformation as a dynamic city in Laguna, strengthened by strong leadership and intergovernmental cooperation. It reflected the city's steady progress in delivering more responsive public services, expanding essential infrastructure, and advancing programs that directly benefit its residents. The event also highlighted the shared commitment of local and provincial leaders to sustain inclusive growth, improve accessibility of government services, and further elevate Calamba as one of the leading centers of development in the region. (Joel Cabactulan)

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

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Mega Job Fair 2026 Draws Over 2,000 Applicants, Brings New Opportunities to Calamba Residents



SM City San Pablo's 3-Day Sale Is Back with Bigger Deals and Exciting Prizes

3 DAY SALE

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UP TO 70% OFF ON GREAT FINDS

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SM CITY SAN PABLO

See posters for details. Per DTI Fair Trade Permit No. FTB-25397, Series of 2026. @smcitysanpablo

SAN PABLO CITY, LAGUNA — It's back and bigger than ever. SM City San Pablo brings back its highly anticipated SM 3-Day Sale from May 1, 2 and 3, giving shoppers more reasons to head to the city's most loved mall! Don't miss out—shop, save, and experience it all as SM City San Pablo!

PLtCol Dennis De Guzman Leads Safer Calamba as Crime Drops, Drug Busts Rise, and Cases Nearly Fully Resolved

PLT COL DENNIS DE GUZMAN LEADS SAFER CALAMBA AS CRIME DROPS, DRUG BUSTS RISE, AND CASES NEARLY FULLY RESOLVED

JANUARY - MARCH 2026 ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT

5.06% DECREASE IN CRIMES	277 CASES RESOLVED	58 DRUG BUSTS	95 DRUG CASES	21 DRUG CASES	37 DRUG CASES
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44 These are not just numbers. They represent lives saved, communities kept safe, and a commitment to justice. We will continue to work hard to keep Calamba safe and secure.

PLT COL DENNIS DE GUZMAN

CALAMBA CITY, LAGUNA — Strong leadership and intensified law enforcement efforts have continued to strengthen peace and order in Calamba City, as the Calamba Component City Police Station reported significant accom-

cont. on page 2

AFP Denies Civilian Killings in Negros Clash as UP Student Leader, Journalist Deaths Spark Protests

ALYSSA ALANO
UP STUDENT LEADER, JOURNALIST AMONG 19 KILLED IN NEGROS CLASH AS PROTESTS ERUPT IN UP DILIMAN

THE controversy surrounding the April 19 armed encounter in Toboso, Negros Occidental deepened after the Philippine Army denied reports of civilian deaths, while students and activist groups continued to protest the killing of a University of the Philippines (UP) Diliman student leader and a community journalist. **cont. on page 2**

Nagbigay ng dagdag na kaalaman at kakayahan sa coconut-cacao intercropping ang isinagawang pagsasanay na "Training on Cacao Production, Postharvest, and Coconut-Cacao Intercropping" sa ilalim ng Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan (CFIDP).

Sa loob ng apat na araw, napalalim ang kaalaman ng mga kalahok sa produksyon, postharvest, at pagproseso ng kakaw, pati na rin sa integrasyon nito sa niyugan bilang praktikal na paraan upang mapataas ang ani at kita.

Sa pagtatapos ng programa, nagbahagi ng mensahe si Assistant Center Director Sherylou C. Alfaro, RAgr ng DA-ATI CALABARZON, na nagbigay-diin sa kahalagahan ng patuloy na

pagkatuto at pagsasabuhay ng mga natutunan sa aktwal na pagsasaka.

Isinagawa ang pagsasanay mula Abril 20 hanggang 23, 2026 sa Villar Foundation Farm School, Bacoor, Cavite, at Gintong Bukid Farm and Leisure, Nagcarlan, Laguna, sa pakikipagtulungan ng DA-ATI CALABARZON, DA-RFO IV-A High Value Crops Development Program, at Villar Foundation Farm School and Tourism Farm.





EDITORIAL:

TULOY PO ANG LABAN NATIN...

Taliwas po sa sinasabi ng ilan na iniwan na raw natin ang mga kabataang naghabla sa isang kapitan, ito po ay walang katotohanan lalo na at wala naman po silang alam.

"Simula po ng lumapit sila sa atin para humingi ng tulong upang maisampa ang reklamo sa RTC hanggang sa kasalukuyan po na paglilitis sa MTC ay patuloy po tayong natulong kaagapay ang ilan pa nating mga kaibigan".

Bagama't payong legal, mobilization at tulong pinansiyal po (para sa abogado nila) ang ating naibabahagi ay andiyan din po si Pastor Rinier Villamayor at Dra. Xhan Yu na umaagapay sa ating mga kabataan at iba pa nating mga kaibigan na mas mabuti na hindi na po natin banggitin ang pangalan.

"Bagama't salat sa pananalapi, kaalaman at koneksiyon ang ating mga kabataan ay kanilang isinantabi ang mga hadlang na ito. Kahit na may takot/pangamba ay hindi nila inalintana ito bagkus ay hinarap nila ng may pananalig sa Panginoon at hustisya".

Anuman po ang kahihinatnan ng laban nila na ito at saan man umabot ay hindi po tayong hihimpil sa pagsuporta/pagtulong. Manalo man o hindi, ang mahalaga ay naipaglaban nila kung ano ang tama at naging ehemplo o simula sila ng pagtutugsa sa diumano'y pang-aabuso sa kanila at paglapastangan sa kanilang karapatang pantao.

Nauunawan at iginagalang ko po ang damdamin ng iba lalo na ang hindi makaunawa sa proseso ng hustisya kaya sila ay hindi nasisiyahan o sang-ayon sa ginagawa kong pagtulong.

"Sa mundong ito, gumawa man tayo ng tama o mali ay may laging puna ang iba kaya mas mabuti po na gawin na natin ang dapat at nararapat upang makatulong sa iba, maging magandang halimbawa sa kapwa at mapanatili ang balanse kahit ano ang katatayuan ninuman".

Dahil hindi po natutulog ang Panginoon at SIYA ay laging nakatunghay sa ating lahat; maaring manalo ka sa kasong ito pero matatalo ka naman sa eleksiyon. Ito ay sapat na upang magsilbing aral sa lahat na katulad mo at sa iyong sarili. May panahon pa para magbagyo ng gawi at ituwid ang iyong ugali.

At sa mga kabataang ito, patnubayan nawa kayo lagi ng ating Panginoon.

PLtCol...

plishments from January to March 2026 under the leadership of PLTCOL Dennis De Guzman.

According to the latest police performance report, focus crimes in the city dropped by 5.06 percent, reflecting the effectiveness of ongoing crime prevention strategies and swift police response operations.

Authorities also successfully resolved or cleared 277 cases, showcasing the station's commitment to delivering justice and ensuring public safety.

In the campaign against illegal drugs, police conducted 58 anti-illegal drug operations, leading to the arrest of 93 individuals and the seizure of more than ₱1.6 million worth of illegal drugs.

Meanwhile, intensified manhunt operations resulted in the arrest of 95 wanted persons, while efforts against loose firearms led to the confiscation or surrender of 21 firearms.

AFP...

Among those confirmed killed was Alyssa Alano, an Education and Research Councilor of the UP Diliman University Student Council (USC).

UP Diliman student leaders described Alano as an active advocate who was reportedly in Negros Occidental for community immersion and engagement with farming communities when the clash occurred.

Following news of her death, students and members of the UP community held protest actions and called for justice, accountability, and an independent investigation into the military operation.

Various student groups condemned the killing and demanded protection of civilians and ac-

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Police also sustained their crackdown on illegal gambling, carrying out 37 anti-illegal gambling operations that resulted in 73 arrests.

One of the most notable achievements was the dramatic reduction of unresolved incidents. From 27 unresolved cases, the number was brought down to only one remaining case by March 2026, signaling major progress in case resolution and investigative efficiency.

City officials and residents welcomed the report, saying these accomplishments are more than statistics—they represent lives protected, families kept safe, and a growing sense of security across the community.

With sustained leadership and continued cooperation between law enforcement and the public, Calamba City moves forward as one of the safest and most progressive cities in the region.

(Edjun Mariposque)

FROM PAGE 1

tivists in conflict areas.

Also reported among those killed was RJ Nichole Ledesma, identified by media groups as a community journalist, writer, and editor linked to alternative media organizations in Negros Island.

Reports said Ledesma had been involved in community work and documentation in rural areas before the incident.

Despite mounting criticism, Army spokesperson Col. Louie Dema-ala maintained that all 19 fatalities were armed combatants allegedly linked to the New People's Army (NPA), insisting the operation was a legitimate military encounter.

Calls for a transparent and impartial investigation continue as conflicting accounts from the military, students, and civil society groups remain unresolved.

(Edjun Mariposque)

China...

Nagsagawa ang China ng military drills, kabilang ang live-fire exercises, malapit sa silangan ng Luzon kamakailan, ayon sa kanilang pahayag noong Biyernes, kasabay ng taunang Balikatan exercises ng Pilipinas at Estados Unidos.

Mahigit 17,000 sundalo mula sa Pilipinas, US, at iba pang kaalyado ang lumalahok sa Balikatan drills na tumatakbo mula Abril 20 hanggang Mayo 8.

Sa kauna-unahang pagkakataon, sumalin ang mga combat troops mula Japan sa gitna ng umiigting na tensyon sa rehiyon.

Ayon sa Southern Theater Command ng China, isinagawa ng kanilang Naval Task Group 107 ang iba't ibang aktibidad tulad ng live-fire shooting, sea-air coordination, rapid maneuvers, at maritime replenishment upang subukin ang kanilang joint combat capabilities.

Hindi naman nagbigay ng eksaktong lokasyon o petsa ang China, ngunit iniinit na ang mga

FROM PAGE 1

aktibidad ay "necessary operation" at naaayon sa international law, bilang tugon sa kasalukuyang sitwasyon sa rehiyon.

Matagal nang kinokondena ng China ang military exercises ng Pilipinas at mga kaalyado nito, na anila'y nagpapa-taas ng tensyon sa rehiyon.

Samantala, bahagi ng Balikatan exercises ang mga drills sa Luzon, kabilang ang kauna-unahang maritime strike drills sa Itbayat, ang pinakahilagang bahagi ng Pilipinas na malapit sa Taiwan.

Mayroon ding counter-landing live-fire drills na gaganapin sa Zamboales, malapit sa pinagtatalunang Scarborough Shoal.

Sa hiwalay na pahayag, tiniyak ni Chinese Premier Li Qiang na kanilang papalakasin pa ang kakayahan ng bansa sa maritime defense at teknolohiya upang mapangalagaan ang kanilang seguridad at interes sa pinag-aagawang karagatan.

(Nelson Dimapilis)



Mega...

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna — Thousands of job seekers gathered at the Jose Rizal Coliseum as the City Government of Calamba, under the leadership of Mayor Roseller "Ross" H. Rizal, successfully held Mega Job Fair 2026, a major employment initiative aimed at bringing livelihood opportunities closer to every Calambefio.

The large-scale job fair attracted more than 2,000 residents, who applied for various job openings offered by participating companies and employers from different industries.

Mayor Rizal highlighted the success of the event, saying, "matagumpay nating inilunsad ang Mega Job Fair 2026 kung saan mahigit 2,000+ Calambefios ang dumalo at nag-apply para sa iba't ibang oportunidad sa trabaho."

He also expressed satisfaction over

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the number of applicants who were immediately hired during the event.

"Lubos nating ikinagagalak na marami sa ating mga kababayan ang na-hire on the spot, patunay na patuloy nating inilalapit ang trabaho sa bawat pamilyang Calambefio."

The mayor emphasized that the city government remains committed to creating more employment programs that will uplift the lives of local families and strengthen the local economy.

"Tuloy-tuloy ang ating layunin na makapagbigay ng hanapbuhay at pag-asa—dahil sa bawat trabahong naibibigay, may pamilyang natutulungan at pangarap na natutupad."

Mega Job Fair 2026 is part of Calamba's continuing efforts to generate jobs, support workers, and provide meaningful opportunities for residents seeking a brighter future.

(Edjun Mariposque)

Dionisio Soliven Bulong, Gagawaran ng KWF Dangal ng Panitikan 2026

Gagawaran si Dionisio Soliven Bulong ng KWF Dangal ng Panitikan 2026 sa Kategoryang Indibidwal ngayong pagdiriwang ng Buwan ng Panitikan 2026.

Sa loob ng ilang dekada, si Dionisio Soliven Bulong, manunulat, nobelista, at editor ay naging haligi ng panitikang Ilokano sa pamamagitan ng kaniyang mga nobela at akda na sumasalamin sa buhay, kaisipan, at damdamin ng mga Ilokano. Kabilang sa kaniyang mga kinikilalang akda ang Fighting Pogi 1 at 2 at Matayakon Rosing, na patuloy na minamahal ng mga mambabasa sa loob at labas ng bansa. Naging mahalaga ang kaniyang papel sa larangan ng publikasyon bilang Punong Patnugot ng Bannawag Magazine mula 1978 hanggang 2005, kung

saan hinubog at itinaguyod niya ang maraming manunulat. Nagsilbi rin siya bilang Tagapangulo ng Patnugutan ng Liwayway Publishing, Inc., at naging Pangulo ng GUMIL Filipinas.

Ang Gawad Dangal ng Panitikan ay ang pinakamataas na pagkilala sa naiambag sa panitikang Pilipino o lifetime achievement award.

Binibigyang-pagpupugay nito ang natatanging manunulat na nagpakita ng pagpapahalaga sa kultura, kaakuhan, at kayamanan ng pamana, bukod sa pambihirang pagkasangkapan sa Filipino at iba pang katutubong wika. Ang gagawaran ay makatatanggap ng bus-to ni Balagtas, plaque, at medalya.

Ang KWF Araw ng Parangal 2026 ay gaganapin sa 29 Abril 2026.



DTI Laguna and Partners Empower MSMEs through Certified Digital Negosyo Program

Calamba City, Laguna – Strengthening its commitment to digital transformation and MSME development, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Laguna Provincial Office, through Negosyo Center Calamba City, in collaboration with Start-Up Village, Association of Laguna Food Processors (ALAFOP), and National University Playbook: Leveraging eCommerce & AI to Grow Your Business" by Mr. Dennis Velasco, CEO and Founder of Prosperna, introduced strategies on maximizing e-commerce platforms and artificial intelligence to accelerate growth.

Session 1: "Having a Growth Mindset through Digitalization" by Mr. Carlo Calimon, President and Co-founder of Start Up Village, underscored the importance of adaptability and innovation in scaling businesses. Session 2: "The SME Playbook: Leveraging eCommerce & AI to Grow Your Business" by Mr. Dennis Velasco, CEO and Founder of Prosperna, introduced strategies on maximizing e-commerce platforms and artificial intelligence to accelerate growth. Session 3: "How to Grow Sales Smarter Beyond the Cash Register" by Ms. Kristianne Valerie Reyes, Co-founder of KaHero, focused on data-driven approaches to increase sales and improve customer engagement. Session 4: "Simplifying Tax Filing and Bookkeeping with Digital Tools" by Ms. Trizia Venus, Growth Marketing Associate of Taxumo, highlighted digital solutions that streamline financial management and compliance processes. Session 5: "The Challenges of Logistics and Live Commerce, and How to Solve Them" by Mr. Nico Luciano, CEO and Founder of Deliverase Technology, addressed common logistical challenges and practical solutions for businesses engaged in live commerce. The program concluded with closing remarks from Ms. Leony Reyes, President of ALAFOP, who commended the collaborative efforts of the organizers and encouraged participants to apply their newly acquired knowledge to drive sustainable business growth. The Certified Digital Negosyo Program reflects DTI Laguna's continuing commitment to empowering MSMEs with relevant digital skills, strengthening the local entrepreneurial community,

In his opening remarks, DTI Laguna Provincial Director Christian Ted O. Tungohan emphasized the vital role of digital transformation in enhancing business competitiveness and sustainability. He highlighted DTI's continued dedication to equipping entrepreneurs with practical knowledge and tools to thrive in the digital economy.

DTI 4-A CALABARZON Assistant Regional Director Revelyn A. Cortez delivered a message of support, reaffirming the regional office's commitment to strengthening MSMEs through strategic capacity-building programs. Engr. Elcy C. Lacambra, Administration Director of National University Laguna, likewise expressed the university's support in fostering innovation, entrepreneurship, and industry-academe collaboration.

The learning sessions featured distin-

Cayetano...

Senate Minority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano on Wednesday urged Filipinos and government leaders to adopt a stronger culture of preparation, warning that repeated lapses in planning continue to leave the country exposed to rising costs and global disruptions.

Speaking during his "CIA 365 with Kuya Alan" Facebook Live on April 8, Cayetano said preparation must go hand in hand with purpose and planning, especially as external pressures such as oil supply shocks begin to affect the country.

"Ang problema kasi sa walang preparation, malilimit ang [ating] options," he said.

The senator pointed to longstanding gaps in the country's energy and infrastructure planning, citing the absence of a strategic oil stockpile and delays in pursuing energy opportunities such as joint exploration.

"Dahil wala tayong preparation, for example sa strategic stockpile ng oil, we're at the mercy of the world market at sa mga presyo at supply ngayon," he said.

Cayetano noted how missed opportunities in areas such as electric vehicles and right-of-way planning have made current challenges more difficult and costly to address.

While acknowl-

HIGH-VALUE DRUG PERSONALITIES ARRESTED IN BACOR CITY DRUG BUST, PHP 6.8M WORTH OF SHABU SEIZED

Two high-value drug personalities were arrested by joint operatives of PDEA Rizal Provincial Office, PDEA Cavite Provincial Office and Bacoor City Police Station during a buy-bust operation in Barangay Molino IV, Bacoor City, Cavite on April 18, 2026 at around 12:50 in the morning.

The suspects and promoting inclusive economic development across the province.

For more inquiries, kindly contact DTI Laguna at r04a.laguna@dti.gov.ph (ARArrenal, DTI Laguna).

edging that mistakes are inevitable, the senator said repeatedly making the same errors reflects a failure to learn, linking the idea to a deeper understanding of repentance.

"When we make a mistake, we learn from it... Repentance means 'Mali ang pag-isip ko, babaguhin ko [ito],'" he said.

Cayetano emphasized that preparation applies not only to national policy but also to personal decisions, such as setting aside resources for future needs instead of spending everything in the present.

Drawing from past experience, Cayetano recalled pushing for tourism-related funding under Bayanihan 2 to help generate jobs, improve infrastructure, and retrain workers.

He said early preparation could have helped the country recover faster alongside its regional neighbors.

He reiterated the importance of a more coordinated and forward-looking government response, citing ongoing efforts under the Senate's proposed crisis response mechanism.

"Iyon talaga ang intention: na maging mas comprehensive ang approach, mas proactive, and then to not to criticize but to get everyone together," he said.// PR

were identified as alias Abe, male, 51, jobless, married, and alias Shol, male, 54, married. Both suspects were residents of Talitay, Maguindanao

Seized from the duo were more or less one kilogram of suspected shabu worth Php6,800,000.00 and buy-bust money.

A charge for violation of Sec 5 in relation to Sec 26, (Conspiracy to Sell Dangerous Drugs) Article II of Republic Act 9165 otherwise known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002 will be filed in court against the arrested suspects.



**CARNAPPER TIMBOG SA CALAMBA; HINIHINALANG SHABU NASAMSAM DIN SA OPERASYON**

Calamba City, Laguna-Arestado ang isang lalaki matapos maaktuhang sangkot sa carnapping ng motorsiklo sa isinagawang follow-up operation ng mga Calamba Police.

Kinilala ang naarestong suspek sa alyas na "Lean" ng Brgy. Dos, Calamba City. Siya ay nahuli noong ika-22 ng Abril 2026 sa Barangay Dos.

kasamahan na sina alyas "Tatay Bong" at "Tembong" ay nakatakas at patuloy na tinutugis.

Nabawi ang ninakaw na motorsiklo at sa isinagawang search ay nakumpiska rin ang hinihinalang shabu na nagka-kahalaga ng humigit-kumulang ₱20,400.00.

Nahaharap ang suspek sa kasong paglabag sa RA 10883 at RA 9165 at kasalukuyang nasa kustodiya ng Calamba City Police Station.

Ayon kay PLT-COL DENNIS C DE GUZMAN, ACOP: "Mabilis ang aksyon ng ating kapulisan kaya agad naaresto ang suspek, nabawi ang motorsiklo, at nahulihan pa ng ilgal na droga.

Patuloy ang ating operasyon laban sa krimen at ilgal na droga sa Calamba. Paalala sa lahat: maging mapagmatyag at i-report agad ang anumang kahina-hinalang aktibidad."

#ToServeAndProtect

Senior High School Job Fair at City of General Trias

The Local Health Insurance Office (LHIO) Trece Martires City participated in the Senior High School Job Fair held at Luis Ferrer Senior High School, Barangay Pasong Kawayan II, City of General Trias, Cavite on March 25, 2026. During the activity, the LHIO provided information and assistance to students and jobseekers regarding PhilHealth membership, registration procedures, benefits, and other related services. The participation aimed to educate graduating senior high school students and first-time jobseekers on the importance of health insurance coverage as they prepare to enter the workforce. The activity also helped promote awareness of PhilHealth programs and services available to the youth and the community.

TURNING SKILLS INTO HOPE

At her stall in Puerto Princesa Public Market, Palawan, Wilma Nicolas, a 69-year-old proud CARD SME client, runs a smoked fish business she has nurtured over decades with hard work and community support.

At 69, Wilma Nicolas, a widow and mother of five, has spent her life working hard for her family. Her journey began in Bataan before relocating to Palawan with her grandmother and parents, believing the island would give them better opportunities to start over.

Wilma started her own family at 16 in Puerto Princesa, where she also learned the process of making smoked fish, a skill that helped support her family's needs. At first, the business was started by her mother-in-law, and she later perfected it with the help of her mother.

As her mother-in-law aged and could no longer manage the business, Wilma took over. Afterwards, the business grew and required additional capital.

This prompted her to become a client of CARD SME Bank, Inc., a thrift bank under CARD MRI. She started with a modest loan of PHP

4,000, and solely used it to sustain the business. For over 15 years of clientship, her loan grew to PHP 250,000, where she invested to meet the expanding business demands. Her livelihood also benefits the community, as local fishermen supply fresh fish and earn income while helping keep her business running.

"Dahil sa pagiging client ko sa CARD SME Bank, bukod sa aking negosyo, marami na akong naipundar na mga home appliances, napagawa ko ang aming bahay, at napagtapos ko ang tatlo kong anak sa pag-aaral. (Being a client of CARD SME Bank has allowed me, not only to grow my business, but also to acquire home appliances, renovate our house, and support my three children in finishing their studies)," she said with pride.

Like other entrepreneurs, Wilma faced many challenges. Natural calamities often disrupt fishing, limiting supplies and slowing production. Yet Wilma's determination never waver and she keeps going through every setback.

Aside from her resilience and perseverance, Wilma also credits CARD SME Bank for be-

ing more than just a financial institution. "Magaling ang CARD SME Bank dahil nasosolusyunan nila ang mga pangangailangan at problema naming mga kliyente, lalo na pagdating sa karagdagang kapital para aming negosyo. (CARD is helpful because it understands and addresses our needs as clients, especially when we need additional capital for our businesses)," Wilma said.

What started as a simple household activity, Wilma's smoked fish business has grown into a reliable source of income. Today, her products reach customers across Puerto Princesa, Palawan, and even abroad through loyal OFW customers.

Looking ahead, Wilma wants to remain focused on her business, the venture that has carried her family through life's ups and downs. For her, the business is more than a livelihood. It is proof of her perseverance and strength, showing how she turned her skills into lasting support for her family.

For orders and inquiries, those who are within the area may visit her stall at Puerto Princesa Public Market, Palawan, or contact her at 0912-120-9577.

PUBLISHER CORNER**CHIZ BACKS LAGUNA STUDENTS' APPEAL TO EASE FACE-TO-FACE CLASSES DURING NAT'L. ENERGY EMERGENCY**

Senator Francis "Chiz" Escudero is supporting calls by students to suspend or ease face-to-face classes while the country is under national energy emergency, after the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) granted all universities and colleges the flexibility to adopt temporary online learning.

CHED has earlier issued a memorandum allowing higher education institutions (HEIs) to shift up to 100-percent online classes depending on institutional capacity and student readiness, in line with President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr.'s Executive Order No. 110 meant to ease the impact of rising transport fares and electricity costs on students and faculty members.

"Kung nahihi-rapan ang mga estudyante dahil sa pamasahang taas-presyo, dapat na isaalang-alang ang kanilang apela at mabigyan sila ng opsyon na bawasan o pansamantalang ihinto ang face-to-face classes. May basbas naman ng CHED ang ganitong setup," Escudero said.

The Philippines has more than 2,400 HEIs that serve over four million students nationwide, according to CHED data. The Department of Education (DepEd) has likewise allowed basic education schools to adjust class schedules and adopt energy-saving measures during the national energy emergency.

Escudero commended Laguna Governor Sol Aragoness for convening a dialogue with public and private HEIs to discuss possible adjustments to learning modalities amid the energy crisis.

The meeting on April 15 at the capitol



tackled student appeals and the need to maintain education quality, especially for board programs and laboratory courses that require in-person instruction.

"Nagpapasalamat tayo kay Governor Aragoness dahil sa kanyang mabilis na pagkilos na pakinggan ang mga estudyante at kausapin ang mga paaralan. Ganito sana ang dapat na tugon sa panahon ng krisis," said Escudero, who chaired the Senate Committee on Higher, Vocational and Technical Education during the 19th Congress.

The senator also urged other local government units (LGUs) to undertake similar initiatives as shown by the Laguna provincial government's willingness to listen to the concerns of its constituents.

Escudero noted that while some subjects must remain onsite, many lecture-based courses can be shifted online to ease the burden on students. "May mga kursong kailangang manatiling face-to-face, pero marami ring puwedeng ilipat online para gumaan ang sitwasyon ng mga estudyante at makatulong tayo sa cost-saving measures na kinakailangan," he added.

The Bicolano senator urged HEIs to issue clear advisories on their learning setups and encouraged CHED regional offices to monitor implementations and ensure that academic standards are upheld while student welfare remains the priority.

EXPLICIT**Madelaine Go
AFF-PNP OPERATION SA NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, NAGBUNGA NG ARESTO AT PAGKAKASAMSAM NG ARMAS.**

Patuloy ang tagumpay ng magkasanib na operasyon ng Philippine National Police (PNP) at Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) laban sa mga armadong grupo sa lalawigan mula Abril 19 hanggang 23, 2026.

Batay sa ulat ng PNP, nagresulta ang operasyon sa pag-neutralisa ng mga miyembro ng Communist Terrorist Group (CTG), pagkakarekober ng mga kagamitang pandigma, at pagka-kaaresto ng mga indibidwal na may kaugnayan sa natitirang pwersa ng grupo sa Northern Negros.

Sa bayan ng Toboso, nagkaroon ng ser-ye ng armadong engkwentro sa pagitan ng tropa ng pamahalaan at mga hinihinalang miyembro ng CTG, na nagdulot sa pagkawatak-watak ng grupo. Isang tauhan ng pamahalaan ang nasugatan matapos tamaan ng bala ngunit iniulat na nasa matatag nang kalagayan.

Agad namang nag-activate ang PNP ng Special Investigation Team o SIT upang magsagawa ng imbestigasyon at forensic examination sa pinangyarihan ng insidente. Labinsiyam na bangkay ang narekober, at karamihan sa mga ito ay nakilala na ng kanilang mga pamilya.

Nakumpiska rin sa operasyon ang iba't ibang uri ng baril, isang pampasabog, mga bala, at iba pang kagamitang pandigma. Sa isinagawang clearing operations ng AFP at PNP, nadagdagan pa ang mga nakuhang armas at dokumentong may kaugnayan sa subersibong aktibidad. Patuloy pa rin ang isinasagawang post-mortem at forensic examinations ng mga awtoridad.

Sa hiwalay na operasyon ng PNP, naaresto ang isang indibidwal na umano'y may kaugnayan sa CTG at nahaharap sa kasong at-tempted murder. Kasama rin sa nahuli ang apat pang indibidwal na naaktuhang may dalang baril, bala, at mga pampasabog. Ang mga suspek ay nasa kustodiya na ng pulisya at sumasailalim sa kaukulang proseso ng batas.

Sinampahan na rin ng mga kaso ang mga naaresto, kabilang ang paglabag sa Republic Act 9851 at iba pang kaugnay na krimen.

Pinuri ni Jose Melencio C. Nartatez Jr. ang maayos na koordinasyon ng AFP at PNP sa isinagawang operasyon.

"Katuwang ang AFP, tuloy-tuloy at maayos ang pagpapatupad ng ating mga operasyon. Ginagawa natin ito nang may disiplina at paggalang sa karapatan ng bawat isa, habang tinitiyak na mananatiling ligtas ang ating mga komunidad," ani Nartatez.

Ayon pa sa PNP, ay naturang operasyon ay alinsunod sa direktiba ni Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. na paigtingin ang kampanya para sa kapayapaan at kaayusan sa pamamagitan ng disiplinado at makataong pagpapatupad ng batas, lalo na sa mga lugar na may banta ng insurgency.

Muling tiniyak ng PNP ang kanilang suporta sa mga operasyong pinangungunahan ng AFP, kasabay ng pangakong maghatid ng mabilis, tapat, at makatarungang serbisyo sa publiko.

**Pointer
Pau Dela Cruz
Para Kanino ang Ingay: Sa Bayan o sa Sarili?**

Isang Pananaw sa Isyu ng Nakatenggang Proyekto at Pulitikang Maingay

Umani ng iba't ibang reaksiyon sa Lalawigan ng Laguna ang sunod-sunod na pahayag sa social media ni Bokal Lorenzo Zuñiga Jr., partikular kaugnay sa umano'y nakatiwangwang na proyekto na kanyang iniuugnay sa pamahalaang panlalawigan.

Ngunit sa gitna ng ingay, may mga opisyal at tagamasid na nagsasabing tila may maling naratibo na naipapalaganap tungkol sa naturang usapin.

Sa mga naging talakayan, malinaw na walang partikular na pangalan na binanggit ang pamahalaang panlalawigan hinggil sa proyekto. Sa katunayan, si Department of Transportation Secretary Jaime Dizon umano ang nagbanggit ng isyu at nilinaw na ito ay isang proyektong pinondohan ng pambansang pamahalaan—isang detalye na mahalagang tandaan, lalo na kung ang sisi ay ibinabato sa lokal na pamahalaan.

Kung gayon, ang tanong: tama ba ang naging interpretasyon at pagbibigay-diin sa isyu, o sadyang pinalalakas lamang ang usapin para makalikha ng kontrobersiya?

Kasabay nito, muling nabuksan ang tanong kung may sapat bang hakbang na isinagawa noon upang maisulong ang proyekto.

Kung matagal na itong nakatiwangwang, sino ang dapat managot sa pagkaantala? At bakit tila ngayon lamang naging mainit ang isyu kung kailan may konkretong hakbang nang ginagawa upang ito ay matapos?

Dito pumapasok ang mas malalim na usapin—ang pagpapatuloy ng hindi natapos na gusali sa Laguna Medical Center. Ano nga ba ang mali kung pinupursige ng kasalukuyang administrasyon na tapusin ito sa tulong ng pambansang pamahalaan? Hindi ba't ang layunin ay malinaw: mas maayos na serbisyong medikal para sa mga mamamayan ng Laguna?

Kung tutuusin, kapag natapos ang proyektong ito, sino ba ang tunay na makikinaabang? Hindi ba ang mismong mga kababayan—ang mga pasyenteng nangangailangan ng agarang lunas, ang mga pamilyang naghahanap ng mas abot-kayang gamutan, at ang mga komunidad na matagal nang umaasa sa mas maayos na serbisyong pangkalusugan?

May ilan ding nagtataka kung bakit tila mas matindi ang kritisismo ni Bokal Zuñiga sa kasalukuyang administrasyon ni Governor Sol Aragoness. Para sa ilan, ang patuloy na pagbabatikos ay maaaring bunga ng hindi pagkakasundo sa direksyon ng pamamalakad ng pamahalaan.

May mga political observers din na binabalikan ang kanyang kasaysayan sa pulitika—kabilang ang ilang beses na pagtakbo sa lokal na halalan na hindi nagtagumpay, at ang pagkakatanggal noon sa isang committee chairmanship sa Sangguniang Panlalawigan. Bagama't bahagi ito ng kanyang political journey, nananatiling mahalaga na ang diskurso ay manatiling nakatuon sa kapakanan ng publiko, hindi sa personal na hidwaan.

Sa social media ngayon umikot ang laban ng opinyon. Dito nagiging mabilis ang pagkalat ng impormasyon—at maging ng maling impormasyon. Kaya naman hinihikayat ng ilang sektor na gamitin ang parehong platforma hindi para sa walang tigil na batikos, kundi para maglatag ng malinaw na datos, magpaliwanag ng mga plano, at magbigay ng solusyon.

Kapansin-pansin din ang mga tanong ng publiko: Para kanino nga ba ang ingay—sa bayan o sa sarili? Ano ang tunay na motibo sa likod ng paulit-ulit na banat?

Sa panahon ngayon, mas kailangan ang pagka-kaisa kaysa bangayan. Mas mahalaga ang trabaho kaysa intriga. Ang mamamayan ay hindi naghihintay ng drama—naghihintay sila ng serbisyo.

Naghihintay sila ng resulta. Dahil ang tunay na sukatang liderato ay hindi nasusukat sa dami ng puna o lakas ng boses. Nasusukat ito sa konkretong nagagawa para sa kapakanan ng mamamayan.

Sapagkat sa pamahalaan, hindi sapat ang mag-ingay—ang mahalaga ay maglingkod.



Free Eye Check Now Available at OJO Eyewear in SM City Dasmariñas



Shoppers can now take a step toward better eye health with a free eye check at OJO Eyewear in SM City Dasmariñas. The store offers reliable vision care and expert assistance, making it easier for customers to prioritize their eye wellness while enjoying their mall visit.

Medical, Dental Mission and Operation Tuli Serve Over 500 Amadeo Residents

A total of 545 residents benefitted from a combined medical and dental mission and Operation Tuli held at the Amadeo Municipal Covered Court on April 21, 2026, bringing essential healthcare services closer to the community.

The activity catered to 457 beneficiaries who availed of free medical and dental services, while 88 young males successfully underwent circumcision through the Operation Tuli program. The initiative aimed to promote health awareness, provide accessible medical care, and support the well-being of Amadeo's constituents, especially the youth.

Amadeo Mayor Jojo Domingo and 7th Dis-

trict Board Member Aldrin Anacan, both expressed their support and appreciation to the provincial government for the continued delivery of health services to their constituents.

The successful implementation of the outreach program was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the Office of the Provincial Health Officer (OPHO) and the Rural Health Unit (RHU) of Amadeo, with the invaluable assistance of barangay health workers.

Through initiatives like this, the local government continues to strengthen its public health programs, reaching more communities and improving the overall quality of life of its people.— OPIO



SM CITY TANZA HOSTS SUCCESSFUL SUPER FAM RUN

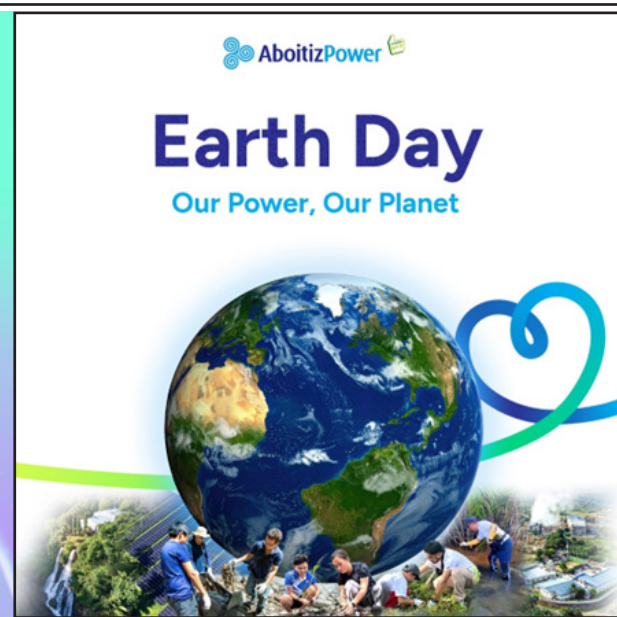


SM City Tanza recently held its SUPER FAM RUN, bringing together families, friends, and fitness enthusiasts for a day of wellness and community spirit. The event featured an energetic morning of running activities, culminating in joyful finish line moments that highlighted camaraderie and shared achievement. Participants of all ages filled the venue with enthusiasm, turning the run into a celebration of health, unity, and fun.

BOOOST Now Open at SM City Trece Martires



Fitness enthusiasts and mall-goers can now enjoy a healthier way to recharge as BOOOST officially opens at SM City Trece Martires. Known for its protein-packed shakes and refreshing blends, the newest addition offers a convenient option for those with active lifestyles. Shoppers are invited to fuel up and experience a refreshing boost while enjoying their visit at the mall.



Pamamahagi ng Bigas sa mga Piling Benepisyaryo, Ipinatupad sa Ilalim ng “Sa Bagong Pilipinas” Program



Makatanggap ng tig-10 kilong bigas ang mga piling benepisyaryo mula sa iba't ibang sektor, kabilang ang mga mag-sasaka, mangingisda, at mga guro mula sa pam-publiko at pribadong insti-

tusyon, gayundin ang iba pang mga indibidwal na nangangailangan ng agarang suporta.

Isinagawa ang pamamahaging ito sa ilalim ng programang “Sa Bagong Pilipinas, Bawat

Bayan/Barangay Maki-kinabang,” kung saan in-aasahang makatatanggap ang bawat benepisyaryo ng sampung kilo ng bigas anim na beses sa loob ng isang taon.

Layunin ng nasa-bing programa na makatu-long sa pagpapagaan ng gastusin ng mga mama-mayan, lalo na sa gitna ng patuloy na pagtaas ng presyo ng mga bilihin at pabago-bagong galaw ng pandaigdigang merkado.

cto #rondabalitapili-pinas

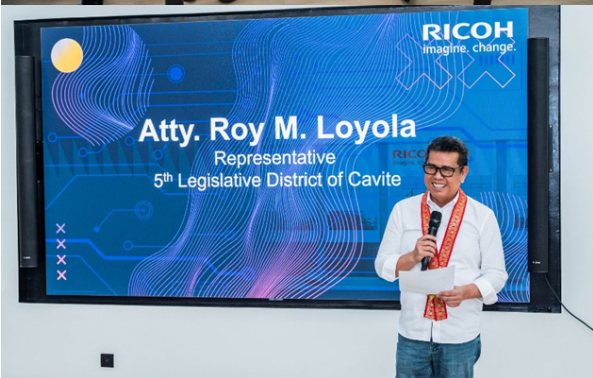
RICOH (PHILIPPINES), INC. OFFICE INAUGURATION



Congressman Roy M. Loyola, representing City of Carmona Mayor Dahlia A. Loyola, graced the inauguration of RICOH (PHILIPPINES), INC., located at Lot 1215 Gov. Drive, Brgy. Bancal, City of Carmona, Cavitemarking another milestone in Carmona's growing position as a hub for business, innovation, and investment south of Metro Manila, in coordination with the Local Economic Development and Investment Promotion Office (LEDIPO).

In his message, Cong. Roy expressed gratitude and extended his appreciation to Mr. Frederick Sulit, President and CEO of Ricoh Philippines, for his trust and confidence in Carmona.

Ricoh is a global leader in imaging and office solutions, known for products such as printers, copiers, digital cameras, document management systems, and workflow au-



tomation. He emphasized that this investment boosts the local economy by generating jobs, expanding opportunities for residents and nearby communities, and strengthening local development. Also present at the event were Mr. Yosuke Narita, CFO of Ricoh Asia Pacific; Mr. Tsugane Satoshi, Chief Digital Officer of Ricoh Asia Pacific; Mr. Carlos Sibal, Senior Vice President of Phoenix Publishing; Ms. Carryl Yu, President and CEO of Kou Fu Packaging; and Mr. John Harper of HPH.