

Enchanted Kingdom honors all enchanting moms through a month-long Mother's Day celebration

In line with this quarter's Forever Enchanted Summer campaign, the Laguna-based theme park pays an enchanting tribute to the remarkable women who bring magic into every home with treats, giveaways, themed entertainment, and other experiences around the Park — all included with EK's Regular Day Passes.

The festivities officially kicked off on May 10 at Eldar's Theater, which featured complimentary pampering services, such as basic haircut, facial cleansing, and massage therapy, paired with goodies and essentials exclusively for moms.

Mothers and their families also danced and sang along to the energetic performances of EK's very own P-Pop girl group at their seasonal musical show, SMS Summer Blast.

Adding a heartfelt touch to the celebration, the theme park set up its Letters to Mom dedication wall, allowing guests to share messages of love and appreciation for their



Enchanted Kingdom, the first and only world-class theme park in the Philippines, celebrates motherhood and family bonding at Forever Enchanted Mother's Day: A Month-Long Summer Celebration on all weekends of May.

mothers. Lastly, the maternal figures among the EK Stoyverse characters — Faerie Queen and Aruga — along with Eldar the Wizard, made a special appearance in front of the Eldar's Theater, where they warmly welcomed and interacted with park guests.

MORE MAGIC FOR MOTHERS
The month-long

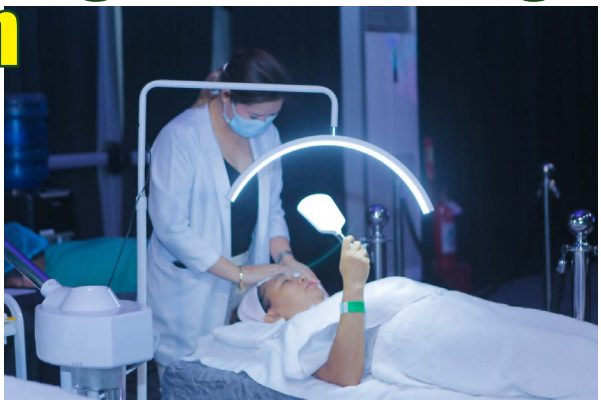
Mother's Day celebration continues as EK announces some of its upcoming seasonal shows, deals, and experiences for the remaining weekends of May.

On top of the various pop-up booths featured each week, SMS Summer Blast will keep the energy and radiance alive as the show runs Fridays through Sundays at 4PM and 5:30PM at El-

dar's Theater.

Visiting moms can enjoy heartfelt serenades from Fridays to Sundays by EK's all-male vocal group Kingsmen, while the award-winning musical group La Salle Green Hills' Kundirana will perform their special Mother's Day tribute on May 17.

Throughout the month, the whole family are in for a royal feast with



EK's Filipino-themed Forever Enchanted Mother's Day Food Bundle at Amazon Grill and LaunchTime restaurants.

In addition, everyone can gift a piece of magic while enjoying enchanting savings on selected EK merchandise with 10% off.

All of these Mother's Day offerings and other surprises will be waiting for parkgoers alongside with EK's iconic rides and attractions, as the Park opens Fridays to Sundays from 1PM to 8PM.

*Schedules are subject to change without prior notice.

Homegrown Filipino Brand Continues to Meet Global Food Safety Standards



May 8, 2026 — Meken Food Corporation, a proudly homegrown Filipino food manufacturer, has once again sustained its compliance with the

FSSC 22000 Version 6 and GHP/HACCP (CX 1-1969, Rev. 2022) certification following a successful unannounced surveillance audit conducted

by SGS, a globally recognized certification body.

This milestone reinforces Meken's standing as a Filipino brand that consistently meets

stringent global food safety standards, further strengthening trust in locally made products across international markets.

The FSSC 22000 certification is a globally recognized food safety management system that ensures organizations adhere to rigorous requirements in food safety, quality, and sustainability. Meken's sustained certification reflects its ongoing commitment to elevating Filipino-made products to world-class standards while ensuring consumer safety and product integrity.

The certification covers the manufacture of frozen meat products, including heat-treated processed meats such as hotdogs, sausages, ham, bacon, meat rolls, and corned beef; non-heat-treated marinated meats and burger patties; and ready-to-heat products such as steamed buns, dimsum, and seasoned

minced meat.

From its roots in Pampanga, Meken has grown into an internationally recognized Filipino food manufacturer, with products now exported to more than 20 countries including the United States, Canada, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Australia, and Japan.

Over the years, Meken has earned multiple global distinctions, including the ISO 22000:2005 Food Safety Management System certification in 2006, the Grand Slam Award for Best Meat Processing Plant AAA Category (2004–2006), the World Quality Commitment Award in France (2016), The International Arch of Europe Award in Germany (2013), and the Century International Quality ERA Award in Switzerland (2012).

It is also the first and only heat processing facility accredited by Japan's Ministry of Agriculture,

Forestry, and Fisheries to export products to Japan since 2017.

Meken Food Corporation President and CEO Mr. Pruds Garcia emphasized that the achievement reflects both the company's heritage and its global aspirations.

"This recognition reaffirms what Meken stands for as a proudly Filipino brand, discipline, consistency, and excellence at a global level. We are committed to ensuring that every product we make carries not only quality and safety, but also the pride of Filipino craftsmanship that can compete anywhere in the world," Garcia said.

With its growing international footprint and continued commitment to excellence, Meken remains steadfast in proving that a Filipino brand can thrive on the global stage while delivering safe, high-quality products trusted by consumers worldwide.

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Mayor Ross Rizal Leads Opening of New Water System in Puting Lupa

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Mayor Roseller "Ross" H. Rizal Leads Opening of New Water System in Puting Lupa

FLOWING HOPE. BETTER LIFE.

WATER SYSTEM WITH OVERHEAD TANK LEVEL 3 - 10,000 GALLONS

"Sa pamamagitan ng Water System with Overhead Tank Level 3 - 10,000 Gallons, mas marami nang pamilya ang magkakaroon ng access sa malinis at sapid na tubig para sa kanilang pang-araw-araw na pangangailangan."

"Matagal man nilang hinayang, ngayon ay uni-unti nang nagiging realidad ang pangarap ng komunidad. Sapagkat ang tubig na serbisyong nagdadala ng mas maayos at masiguradong suplay ng tubig sa komunidad."

"Para sa mga taga-Puting Lupa, ito ay higit pa sa tubig—itong ay patunay na kagay may malawak at pagkakaisa, may pag-asa nang dumadagay para sa lahat."

calamba

NSTV

Calamba Completes Brgy. Hornalan Covered Court and Road Projects in Just Three Months

"Kapag Ipinangako, Tinutupad": Mayor Roseller "Ross" H. Rizal Unveils Completed Hornalan Projects

BLESSING & INAUGURATION Covered Court & Asphalt Road

cont. on page 2

The City Government of Calamba has officially inaugurated the newly completed covered court and road asphalt projects in Barangay Hornalan, marking another milestone in the city's ongoing infrastructure development efforts under the leadership of Mayor Roseller 'Ross' H. Rizal.

SIMBAKALUSUGAN NG DOH, NAGHATID NG SERBISYONG PANGKALUSUGAN SA MGA KOMUNIDAD SA CALABARZON

WE HOPE Medical Group Opens New Free Chemotherapy Center in Trece Martires to Expand Cancer Care in Cavite

AML LifeCare

Cancer Care Center

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite

cont. on page 2

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite — Cancer patients in Cavite now have greater access to life-saving treatment following the official opening of the AML Life Care Chemotherapy Center in Trece Martires City last May 13, 2026.

Senator Pia Cayetano Backs CHED's Call to Defer Tuition Increases, Urges HEIs to Prioritize Student Welfare

Dagdag presyo sa diesel at gasolina, asahan sa susunod na Linggo

Red alert status up for Luzon, Visayas grids



Senator...

FROM PAGE 1

Senator Pia S. Cayetano expressed strong support for the Commission on Higher Education's (CHED) call urging Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to defer planned tuition increases, emphasizing the need to protect Filipino families already grappling with rising costs of living.

"I fully support CHED's call for universities to hold off on tuition increases. Many families are already struggling with rising costs across the board. We must ensure that education remains accessible, especially during these challenging times," Cayetano stated.

The Senator, who serves as Senior Vice Chair of the Senate Committee on Finance and has handled the education budget for six years, stressed that accessible education is fundamental to breaking cycles of poverty and ensuring inter-generational equity.

Cayetano noted that the government has been working to strengthen support for higher education through the Tertiary Education Subsidy and increased funding for State Universities and Colleges. She emphasized that private institutions play a vital role in keeping education within reach of Filipino families, and expressed hope that, in this challenging time, they can work together with the government in exploring ways to ease the burden on students while sustaining the quality of education they provide.

The newly opened facility is now fully operational and ready to serve patients seeking chemotherapy treatment, medical assistance, and compassionate care.

The Senator called on higher education institutions to explore alternative means of addressing operational challenges without passing the burden to students and their families. She emphasized that investing in education is investing in the nation's future, and accessibility must remain a priority.

"Education is the great equalizer. We cannot allow it to become a privilege that only the wealthy can afford," Cayetano concluded. PR



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WE HOPE...

The newly inaugurated facility, operated by AML Life Care Chemotherapy Center — a subsidiary of WE HOPE Medical Group — aims to provide accessible and quality cancer care services to patients across Cavite and nearby provinces.

According to Dr. John Paul Aclan, patients who wish to avail themselves of the center's free chemotherapy program only need to present a valid identification card along with their PhilHealth Member Data Record (MDR).

Dr. Aclan said the organization already operates a chemotherapy center in Imus, Cavite, but decided to expand its services to Trece Martires City in order to better accommodate cancer patients from General Trias, Naic, and neighboring communities.

He added that more branches are ex-

Mayor...

FROM PAGE 1

Long-Awaited Water System Brings Hope and Comfort to Brgy. Putting Lupa

Residents of Brgy. Putting Lupa celebrated a historic milestone as the long-awaited water system project was formally blessed and inaugurated, marking a major step toward a more comfortable and healthier community life.

The newly completed Water System with Overhead Tank Level 3 – 10,000 Gallons is expected to provide families with reliable access to clean and sufficient water for their daily needs, ending years of hardship caused by limited water supply.

Mayor Roseller "Ross" H. Rizal emphasized the importance of the project to the community, saying:

be still
and know

PSALM 46:10

EDITORIAL:

TRUMP, INANUNSYO ANG 3-ARAW NA CEASEFIRE SA RUSSIA AT UKRAINE

Inanunsyong ni U.S. President Donald Trump ang tatlong araw na ceasefire sa pagitan ng Russia at Ukraine mula Mayo 9 hanggang Mayo 11 bilang paggunita sa pagtatapos ng Ikalawang Digmaang Pandaigdig para sa Russia.

Sa kanyang post sa Truth Social, sinabi ni Trump na kabilang sa ceasefire ang pansamantalang pagtigil ng lahat ng opensibang militar at pagpapalitan ng tig-1,000 bilanggo mula sa bawat bansa.

"Hopefully, it is the beginning of the end of a very long, deadly, and hard fought war," ani Trump.

Nauna nang sinabi ni Trump na may isinasagawang usapan para sa temporary ceasefire matapos ang kanyang pakikipag-usap kay Russian President Vladimir Putin noong Abril 29.

Kasabay nito, nagdeklara rin ang Russia ng sariling ceasefire mula

Mayo 8 hanggang Mayo 9 bilang bahagi ng paggunita nito sa tagumpay ng Soviet Union laban sa Nazi Germany noong World War II.

Samantala, iminungkahi naman ng Ukraine ang open-ended ceasefire na nagsimula noong Martes at nanawagan sa Russia na sumunod din sa naturang hakbang.

Liban dito, dumating na rin sa Miami ang pangunahing negotiator ng Ukraine na si Rustem Umerov para sa serye ng pagpupulong kasama ang mga kinatawan ng Estados Unidos.

Calamba...

FROM PAGE 1

The projects, which began with a groundbreaking ceremony on February 5, 2026, were completed in just three months (May 14, 2026) and are now fully operational for the benefit of residents in the community.

Mayor Roseller "Ross" H. Rizal highlighted the swift completion of the projects during the blessing and inauguration ceremony.

"Noong Pebrero 5, 2026, sama-sama nating isinagawa ang Groundbreaking Ceremony para sa Covered Court at Road Asphalting sa Brgy. Hornalan. At ngayon, makalipas lamang ang tatlong buwan, matagumpay na nating isinagawa ang Blessing and Inauguration ng mga proyektong ito para sa ating mga kababayan."

The mayor emphasized that the rapid completion of the infra-

structure reflects the city government's commitment to responsive and efficient public service.

"Patunay ito na kapag may malinaw na layunin at tunay na malasakit sa serbisyo, mabilis nating naipapagawa at naipaparating ang mga proyektong kailangan ng mamamayan."

He also reaffirmed his administration's commitment to delivering on promises made to Calambenios.

"Kapag ating ipinangako, agad natin itong tinutupad."

The newly completed covered court is expected to serve as a venue for community activities, sports events, and emergency gatherings, while the asphalted roads are seen to improve accessibility and transportation for residents of Barangay Hornalan.

(Edjun Mariposque)

Dagdag...

Posible muling tumaas ang presyo ng mga produktong petrolyo, kabilang ang diesel at gasolina, sa susunod na linggo.

Ayon sa pagtaya mula sa oil industry source, maaaring madagdagan ang presyo ng diesel ng P2.00 hanggang P2.50 kada litro habang ang gasolina naman ay P0.75 hanggang P1.25 kada litro.

Habang ibababang naman ang presyo ng kerosene sa P13.30 kada litro. Sinabi rin ng source na nananatiling mataas ang presyo ng krudo dahil sa tumitinding geopolitikal tensions sa Gitnang Silangan, na nakaapekto sa pandaigdigang suplay ng langis.

Samantala, suportado rin ang pagtaas

FROM PAGE 1

ng presyo ng gasolina dahil sa kakulangan ng supply at pagbababa ng refinery output sa iba't ibang bansa.

Dahil sa limitadong suplay ng krudo mula sa Gitnang Silangan, napipilitan umanong gumamit ang ilang refinery sa Asya ng mas mababang klase ng crude oil na hindi akma sa kanilang mga pasilidad.

Karaniwang inanunsyong ng mga kumpanya ng langis ang price adjustment tuwing Lunes at ipinatutupad ito kinabukasan, araw ng Martes.

Noong nakaraang linggo, nagtaas ang mga oil company ng presyo ng gasolina habang malaki naman ang ibinaba sa presyo ng diesel at kerosene.

(Nelson Dimapilis)

SIMBAKALUSUGAN...

Patuloy na pinatalalawak ng Department of Health (DOH) Calabarzon ang paghahatid ng serbisyong pangkalusugan sa iba't ibang komunidad sa rehiyon sa pamamagitan ng programang Simbakalusugan, kung saan kabilang sa pinakahuling nakinabang ang mga residente ng Talim Island sa lalawigan ng Rizal.

Sa pakikipagtunglang ng Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines – Episcopal Commission on Health Care o CBCP-ECHC. Layunin ng programa na mailapit ang dekalidad, abot-kaya, at makataong serbisyong medikal sa mga komunidad, lalo na sa mga geographically isolated at disadvantaged areas.

Ayon sa DOH Calabarzon, mahigit 350 residente ng Barangay Janosa sa Talim Island, Binangonan, Rizal ang nabigyan ng libreng serbisyong medikal sa isinagawang medical mission noong Mayo 9, 2026

Kabilang sa mga serbisyong ipinagkaloob ay medical consultation, pagsusuri ng vital signs, tuberculosis screening sa pamamagitan ng chest X-ray, electrocardiogram

Noong Abril 11, 2026 nagsagawa rin ng Simbakalusugan activ-

(ECG), dental services tulad ng bunot ng ngipin, oral prophylaxis at fluoride varnish application, mental health counseling, HIV testing and counseling, nutrition services, at pamamahagi ng libreng gamot.

Bukod sa pagbibigay ng serbisyong medikal, ipinakita rin ng Simbakalusugan Program ang patuloy na pagtutulong ng pamahalaan, faith-based organizations, healthcare workers, at mga lokal na komunidad upang maisulong ang inklusibo at community-centered healthcare services.

Inilunsad ni DOH Secretary Teodoro Herbosa ang Simbakalusugan initiative noong nakaraang taon sa ikatlong National Hospital Chaplaincy Conference. Pormal naman itong inilunsad noong Pebrero 14, 2026 sa Imus City bilang bahagi ng paggunita sa ika-34th World Day of the Sick.

Mula nang opisyal itong inilunsad, patuloy nang nagsasagawa ang DOH Calabarzon ng mga medical outreach mission sa iba't ibang underserved communities sa rehiyon.

Noong Abril 11, 2026 nagsagawa rin ng Simbakalusugan activ-

Red alert...

MANILA – Red alert status was raised over the Luzon and Visayas grids from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday due to rising demand and insufficient capacity to meet regulating requirements.

In an advisory, the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP) said a yellow alert was also declared for the Luzon grid from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., and for the Visayas grid from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

A yellow alert is declared when the power supply reserve falls, meaning the grid still has enough electricity, but the margin is very thin.

Peak demand in Luzon was projected at 12,537 megawatts (MW), exceeding the available capacity of 12,447 MW.

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ity ang DOH Calabarzon katuwang ang CBCP-ECHC, Diocese of Antipolo, at Sta. Cecilia Parish sa Sta. Cecilia Parochial School sa Barangay Maly, Sta. Mateo.

Nauna rito, noong Pebrero 22, 2026 nagsagawa rin ng medical mission sa Barangay Cuyambay, Tanay kung saan nakinabang ang mga residente mula sa kalapit na komunidad at mga indigeno Peoples mula sa malalayong sitio.

Sa pamamagitan ng Simbakalusugan, muling pinagtibay ng DOH Calabarzon ang kanilang layuning gawing mas accessible ang mahahalagang serbisyong pangkalusugan sa mga vulnerable at mahirap marating na komunidad habang isinulong ang pagkakaisa at sama-samang pananagutan sa paghahatid ng serbisyong pampubliko.

(Madelaine Go)

In the Visayas, available capacity stood at 2,510 MW against an expected peak demand of 2,413 MW.

NGCP said Units 1 and 2 of AboitizPower Therma Visayas Inc. (TVI), along with Unit 3 of Panay Energy Development Corp. (PEDC), remain on forced outage.

These generating units are in addition to 12 power plants that have been on forced outage since March, four since 2025, two since 2024, another two since 2023, and one since 2021.

The grid operator also reported that 15 power plants are operating on derated capacities, resulting in 862.3 MW unavailable to the grid.

The advisory added that the lack of power imports from Luzon also contributed to the red alert status in the Visayas.

In a briefing earlier in the day, NGCP spokesperson lawyer Cynthia Alabanza said energy sector stakeholders continue to monitor supply and demand, especially during the summer months when electricity consumption peaks.

She noted that the 2025 peak demand record of 13,839 MW has already been surpassed twice this year — first on April 24, when demand reached 14,016 MW, and again on Tuesday (May 12), when it climbed to 14,268 MW.

Load dropping. Meanwhile, in a separate advisory, the NGCP said it may implement Manual Load Dropping (MLD) until 6 p.m. in several areas in Luzon "to maintain the integrity of the power system."

NGCP said the MLD may be implemented in areas covered by the

Abra Electric Cooperative, Peninsula Electric Cooperative Inc. in Bataan, Pangasinana III Electric Cooperative, Batangas II Electric Cooperative Inc., Manila Electric Company (Meralco), Albay Electric Cooperative Inc., Camarines Norte Electric Cooperative Inc., and Camarines Sur I Electric Cooperative Inc.

It added that MLD may also be implemented in areas covered by 30 electric cooperatives in the Visayas such as in Cebu, Samar, Leyte, Capiz, and Bohol from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

"Schedule may be cancelled if system condition improves, such as if actual demand falls below projection," the NGCP said, as it urged the public to "exercise prudence in using electricity."

Immediate resolution

Amid the power situation, Energy Secretary Sharon Garin directed the NGCP "to immediately resolve transmission constraints affecting the dispatch of large power plants and triggering yellow and red alerts in Luzon grid."

In a statement, the Department of Energy (DOE) said the 500-kilovolt (kV) Tayabas-Ilijan and Dasmariñas-Ilijan transmission lines tripped at around 6:30 a.m. Wednesday, "causing the disconnection to the grid of the Ilijan 1 & 2 (1,200 MW) and Excellent Energy Resources, Inc. (EERI) Units 1, 2, & 3 (1,262.1 MW)."

Masinloc Unit 3 (325 MW) also went on forced outage at around 6:34 a.m.

"NGCP has to provide details of the incidents, particularly the transmission outages," the DOE said.

The department

also directed San Miguel Global Power "to immediately effect the restoration of its Masinloc Unit 3 turbine tripping."

It added that directives previously issued to TVI and PEDC to address the situation in the Visayas grid remain in effect.

Additional measures

Meralco, in a separate advisory, meanwhile, said it is now in touch with customers enrolled under ILP "for their de-loading commitments to help ease the demand."

"If necessary, we are ready to implement manual load dropping (MLD) or rotating power interruptions as part of our responsibility to manage the system condition," it said.

Meralco urged the public to practice energy efficiency to help in electricity demand-side management.

In another statement, Meralco said it has installed solar panels on its various facilities "for the same reason many households and businesses are now exploring solar technology as it helps us use electricity more efficiently and responsibly."

Meralco EVP and COO Ronnie Aperocho noted that the distribution utility has implemented its Resource Conservation & Efficiency Program since 2020 as "an overall energy efficiency drive."

The program includes installing solar panels in the Meralco headquarters, business centers, and sector offices.

"We believe that if a technology can help save resources and improve efficiency, we should also practice it ourselves," he said. (PNA)

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He also highlighted the importance of using registered electronic signatures in government transactions to ensure authenticity, security, and accountability in digital documents.

The semi-

nar-workshop provided participants with valuable knowledge and practical skills that will help improve records management systems and support efficient, secure, and transparent government services. — OPIO



CALABARZON'S 10TH NSPC CROWN CHAMPIONS PRESS FREEDOM

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) – Student journalists took home the CALABARZON region's 10th championship at the 2026 National Schools Press Conference (NSPC), emphasizing the importance of a free and ethical press,

Hosted by the Department of Education (DepEd), this year's NSPC coincided with World Press Freedom Day to highlight the competition's focus on press freedom and responsible journalism.

Viernalyn Nama, Curriculum Learning and Management Division chief for DepEd CALABARZON, said this year's NSPC focused on elevating campus journalism.

"Ang World Press Freedom Day ay may malalim na papel sa paghubog sa mga susunod na henerasyon ng mga mamamahayag. Nakakatulong ito sa pagpapataas ng antas ng ethical journalism at sa papel ng campus journalism dahil binibigyang diin nito na ang kalayaan sa pamamahayag ay may kaakibat na obligasyon sa katotohanan."

The media, 'Mapanuri, Mapanindigan, at Mapanagutang Pam-

amahayag', the CALABARZON region sent 118 campus journalists who dominated key categories including Photojournalism, Sports Writing, and Science Writing.

Beyond long-standing writing and technical contests, the NSPC also introduced Media and Information Literacy (MIL) and Journalism Ethics.

"Ngayong taon ay tinuruan natin 'yung ating mga estudyante na maging mas mapanuri sa mga impormasyon upang hindi sila mabiktima ng fake news. Ang layunin kasi ay upang 'yung ating mga estudyante ay maging responsableng storyteller. Laging kasama 'yung advocacy for ethics ng campus journalists para ma-assess rin nila personally 'yung kanilang mga isinulat."

The NSPC took place against a backdrop of the country's slight improvement in the World Press Freedom Index ranking at 114, from 116 in 2025. However, Nama emphasized that the Philippines continues to face issues such as the weaponization of laws and threats to media safety.

"Bagama't tumataas ang ating ranking, ay isa pa rin ang Pilipinas

sa mga most dangerous country para sa mga mamamahayag sa buong mundo, syempre tumaas rin yung weaponization ng laws tulad ng cyberlibel. Sa gitna ng mga hamon sa seguridad ng media practitioners sa bansa, ang araw na ito ang nagbigay ng inspirasyon sa mga bata na manindigan para sa katotohanan,"

Nama added, "Naging plataporma rin ito para maituro ang mga pandaigdigang paman-tayan tulad ng pagiging balanse at patas, at pagkakaroon ng mga ebidensya sa paguulat."

As the NSPC introduces new categories to fit changing media landscape and the transition to the three-term school calendar, DepEd CALABARZON's activities will be realigned to the new academic schedule.

"Itutuloy natin at lalo pang paghuhusayan ang reconfigured framework na sinimulan natin ngayong taon, lalo na at mag-three term calendar na tayo."

Stricter NSPC rules also prompted a shift towards classroom-based training with DepEd urging more schools to register their publications for future competitions.

More than 6k CALABARZON drivers find relief in DSWD fuel aid

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) — Following the distribution of cash assistance for tricycle drivers, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) has also rolled out the Cash Relief Assistance (CRA) program for more than 6,000 jeepney drivers to provide relief amid rising fuel costs.

Last May 13, the DWSD distributed the assistance to more than 6,000 jeepney drivers worth P5,000 each. The CRA payout was conducted in key areas simultaneously, including Tagaytay City in Cavite, the cities of San Pablo and Sta. Rosa

in Laguna, Binangonan in Rizal, Batangas City, and Tayabas City and Lucena City in Quezon Province.

Meanwhile, more than 500 tricycle drivers in Tagkawayan town as well as the island municipalities of Polilio and Burdeos also received cash assistance.

In a statement, the DSWD IV-A assured tricycle and jeepney drivers in the region that the CRA distribution will continue within the next weeks.

To account for the beneficiary drivers, the DSWD is urging affected drivers to coordinate with their respective transport

groups. "Magpapatuloy ang pamamahagi ng assistance sa mga tricycle driver at jeepney driver sa rehiyon sa mga susunod na araw. Kung kaya't ang mga nasabing driver ay pinapayuhang makipag-ugnayan sa kani-kanilang asosasyon para sa schedule at update sa distribusyon," it said.

Launched to provide relief to the public transportation sector, the CRA is part of the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situations (AICS) to provide Public Utility Vehicle (PUV) drivers with funds for their daily needs.

PhilHealth YAKAP Caravan for Job Order employees of the City Government of Imus



PhilHealth YAKAP Caravan for Job Order Employees of the City Government of Imus. PhilHealth Regional Office IV-A, PhilHealth Dasmariñas, Imus City, Cavite. LHO Dasmariñas | April 28, 2026.

The Local Health Insurance Office (LHIO) Dasmariñas conducted a PhilHealth Yaman ng Kalusugan Program (YAKAP) Caravan for Job Order (JO) employees of the City Government of Imus on April 29, 2026.

As part of the activity, LHIO Dasmariñas provided on-site orientations on Universal Health Care (UHC), PhilHealth membership, benefits, and the enhanced PhilHealth YAKAP Program. The initiative aimed to strengthen awareness and ensure that JO employees are well-informed about their

healthcare entitlements and access to government health services.

During the caravan, participating JO employees were able to verify their PhilHealth records, receive updated Member Data Records (MDRs), and obtain their PhilHealth IDs. They were also given the opportunity to choose their preferred YAKAP provider and be assigned to their selected healthcare facility for easier access to primary care services.

In addition, a social worker from the City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO)

of Imus was present to assess and identify JO employees who may qualify as financially incapable individuals, ensuring that eligible participants receive the appropriate support under the program.

Through initiatives such as the PhilHealth YAKAP Caravan, LHIO Dasmariñas continues to bring essential health services closer to communities, reinforcing its commitment to accessible, inclusive, and quality healthcare for all.

#PhilHealthYAKAP
#MalayoSaSakit

DOLE...

and technologies.

Participants learned the importance of digitization and digitalization in improving government records management, ensuring faster access to information, better storage, and stronger data protection.

One of the resource speakers was Edgardo Quiros, Assistant Director of the National Library of the Philippines.

He discussed important topics including the fundamentals of records management, records lifecycle, classification, retention and disposition, and the role of records in government operations.

Mr. Quiros also explained the difference between digitization and digitalization, including their applications, benefits, risks, and challenges.

He further dis-

FROM PAGE 4

cussed legal and policy frameworks related to records management, data privacy, and Quality Management System (QMS) requirements.

Participants were also guided on planning records digitization projects, proper document preparation, scanning standards, file naming conventions, indexing, metadata standards, and

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PUBLISHER CORNER SINO SI SENATOR RONALD BATO DELA ROSA

Full name : Ronald Marapion Dela Rosa
Nickname : Bato
Date of Birth : January 21, 1962

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

- Ph.D. Development Administration University of Southeastern Philippines, 2006
- Master of Public Administration University of Southeastern Philippines, 1998
- Bachelor of Science in Military Science Philippine Military Academy, 1986
- Bachelor of Science in Public Administration Mindanao State University, 1979 – 1982

ELIGIBILITIES

- Career Service Executive Eligibility Examination (CSEE)
- Civil Service Commission, 2003
- Career Service Professional Examination Civil Service Commission, 1993
- NAPOLCOM Superintendent Examination Civil Service Commission, 1993

Professional Career

- July 2019 – present Senator of the Republic of the Philippines
- April 2018 – October 2018 Director General Bureau of Corrections
- July 2016 – April 2018 Chief (Director General) Philippine National Police
- November 2015 – June 2016 Executive Officer PNP - Directorate for Human Resource and Doctrine Development
- December 2014 – February 2016 Deputy Director for Administration PNP – Intelligence Group
- June 2014 – October 2014 Deputy Director for Operations PNP – Intelligence Group
- October 2013 – June 2014 Chief of Staff PNP – Intelligence Group
- February 2012 – October 2013 City Director PNP - Davao City Police Office (PRO11)
- August 2011 – February 2012 Chief PNP - Regional Logistics and Research Development Division, R2 (PRO11)
- September 2009 – August 2011 Provincial Director PNP – Davao Sur Police Provincial Office (PRO11)
- August 2007 – November 2009 Provincial Director Compostela Valley Provincial Office (PRO11)
- October 2005 – August 2007 Chief PNP – Regional Intelligence and Investigation Division, R2 (PRO11)
- August 2003 – October 2005 Chief, Unit Training Program Division PNP – Directorate for Human Resource and Doctrine Development
- 1998 – 2001 Chief, PAOCTF, Davao Satellite Office
- 1997 – 1999 Battalion Commander PNP Regional Mobile Group (PRMG)
- 1996 – 1997 Stn Comdr, PS6, Bunawan Davao City Chief, Intelligence Division, Davao City Police Office

Group Commander, City Mobile Group,

Davao City Police Office
• 1992 – 1996 Stn Comdr, PS4, Sasa, Davao City
• 1990 – 1991 Chief of Police, Bansalan Municipal Police Station, Davao del Sur
• 1988 - 1989 Ex-O, 413rd PC Coy, Tandag, Surigao del Sur
• 1986 – 1988 Commanding Officer, 11 RSAF
18th Congress Committee Chairmanship
• Senate Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs
• Senate Special Committee on Marawi City Rehabilitation
18th Congress Committee Vice-Chairmanship
• Senate Committee on Finance
• Senate Committee on Foreign Relations 4
• Senate Committee on National Defense and Security, Peace, Unification and Reconciliation
List of Laws (Author and Principal Sponsor)
• Republic Act 11589 – BFP Modernization Act
Objective: To strengthen and upgrade the capability of the Bureau of Fire Protection, the government arm primarily responsible for the prevention and suppression of all destructive fires.
• Republic Act 11549 – PNP, BFP, BJMP and BuCor Height Equality Act
Objective: To lower the height restrictions for applicants of PNP, BFP, BJMP and BuCor and provide equal opportunity for all Filipinos who desire to dedicate their lives in service of the country.
Laws (Author, Co-Author, Sponsor)
• Republic Act 11525 – COVID-19 Vaccination Pro-

gram Act of 2021
• Republic Act 11517 – Authorizing the President to Expedite the Processing and Issuance of National and Local Permits, Licenses and Certifications in times of National Emergency
• Republic Act 11547 – City of Davao as the Chocolate Capital of the Philippines and Region XI as the Cacao Capital of the Philippines
• Republic Act 11509 – Doktor Para sa Bayan Act
• Republic Act 11524 – Coconut Farmers and Industry Trust Fund Act
• Republic Act 11510 – Alternative Learning System Act
• Republic Act 11511 – Organic Agriculture Act
• Republic Act 11502 – National Cooperative Month
• Republic Act 11476 – Comprehensive Values Education Act
• Republic Act 11468 – National Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims, Survivors and their Families
• Republic Act 11470 – National Academy of Sports Act
• Republic Act 11479 – The Anti-Terrorism Act of 2020
• Republic Act 11463 – Malasakit Centers Act
• Republic Act 11591 – An Act Fixing the Last Day of Registration of Voters for the 2022 National and Local Elections



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• Republic Act 11468 – National Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims, Survivors and their Families
• Republic Act 11470 – National Academy of Sports Act
• Republic Act 11479 – The Anti-Terrorism Act of 2020
• Republic Act 11463 – Malasakit Centers Act
• Republic Act 11591 – An Act Fixing the Last Day of Registration of Voters for the 2022 National and Local Elections



Laguna's First Eye Center: A Long-Overdue Win For Healthcare Equity That Raises The Bar For Public Service

When the Provincial Government of Laguna announced that it will open its very first eye center this July at the Dr. Jose P. Rizal Memorial District Hospital in Calamba City, it is not just launching a new healthcare facility—it is finally answering a cry that has gone unheard for far too long. This project is more than an addition to the province's health system; it is a powerful reminder of what genuine public service looks like: tangible, responsive, and focused on the dignity and well-being of every resident, especially those who are most vulnerable.

For years, preventable vision loss—most notably from cataracts, a condition that remains a leading cause of blindness among low-income communities—has been a silent crisis in Laguna. Countless families have had to choose between paying for food, medicine, or life-changing eye surgery, or travel long distances just to access specialized care that many cannot afford. The gap was clear: while medical science has solutions for these conditions, access and affordability were out of reach for too many. Today, that gap is closing—and that is something to celebrate.

Governor Sol Aragon's vision for this center is rooted in simple but profound truth: no one should lose their sight because of financial barriers or lack of access to services. "Malinaw pa po sa sikat ng araw na magkakaroon ng kauna-unahang eye center sa lalawigan ng Laguna," she said, and make no mistake—this is a fact that shines brighter than any doubt. To add, "May solusyon na tayo ngayon dito" is not just a statement of completion; it is a promise kept. It proves that when leaders listen to the needs of the people, prioritize action over rhetoric, and put public welfare first, real change happens.

This initiative is also a masterclass in good governance. By bringing screening, treatment, and surgical services directly to communities, the center will lift the burden off senior citizens, low-income families, and other sectors that are often left behind in the healthcare system. It does not just treat eye conditions—it restores quality of life, independence, and hope. A person who can see again can work, care for their loved ones, and participate fully in life—and that is an investment that pays dividends for the entire province.

What makes this project even more meaningful is Governor Aragon's reminder about discernment in leadership: "kinakailangan din maging malinaw ang inyong mga mata sa pagkilatis sa mga manunungkulan sa ating lalawigan yung nakikita ang pangangailangan ng taong bayan." This eye center is the perfect example of leaders who see those needs—and act on them. It is proof that when leaders truly see their constituents, they deliver results that matter.

Critics may argue that there is still more work to be done, and there always will be when it comes to public health. But there is no denying that this first-ever eye center is a major milestone. It strengthens Laguna's healthcare capacity, sets a standard for responsive governance, and most importantly, changes lives for the better.

This July, when the center opens its doors, it will do more than offer medical services. It will offer assurance: that in Laguna, no one is left behind, and the health and well-being of every resident is a priority worth fighting for. This is what progress looks like—and it is a win that every Laguna resident can be proud of.

EXPLICIT Madeline Go LALAKI, TIMBOG SA OPERASYON KONTRA ILEGAL NA BARIL AT DROGA SA SAN NICOLAS

Arestado ang isang 55-anyos na lalaki matapos maaktuhan umano sa pag-iingat ng ilegal na baril, mga bala, at drug paraphernalia sa isinagawang pagpapatupad ng search warrant ng mga tauhan ITng San Nicolas Municipal Police Station (MPS) sa Brgy. Calangay nitong Mayo 7, 2026.

Kinilala ng pulisya ang suspek bilang residente ng naturang barangay at kasalukuyang nahaharap sa kasong paglabag sa

Republic Act No. 10591 o Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulation Act at Section 12 ng Republic Act No. 9165 o Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002.

Isinagawa ang operasyon sa bisa ng search warrant na inilabas ng Regional Trial Court (RTC) Branch 13 ng Tanauan City, Batangas noong Mayo 4, 2026.

Sa isinagawang paghahalughog, narekober ng mga awtoridad ang isang Browning caliber 9mm pistol, dalawang magazine na may lamang

limang bala, pitong bala ng caliber .45, isang kahon na naglalaman ng 50 bala ng caliber 9mm, isang holster, dalawang improvised aluminum tooter, at isang improvised case ng caliber 9mm.

Ayon sa pulisya, gumamit din ng Alternative Recording Devices (ARD) sa buong operasyon upang matiyak ang maayos at wastong dokumentasyon sa pagpapatupad ng search warrant.

Matapos ang operasyon, agad na ipinaalam sa suspek ang kanyang mga karapatang



naaayon sa Saligang Batas bago dinala sa kustodiya ng San Nicolas MPS para sa kaukulang disposisyon at pagsasampa ng mga nararapat na kaso.

Iginiit naman ng San Nicolas MPS na mananatili silang agresibo sa kampanya laban sa ilegal na baril at iba pang uri ng kriminalidad upang mapanatili ang kapayapaan at kaayusan sa bayan.



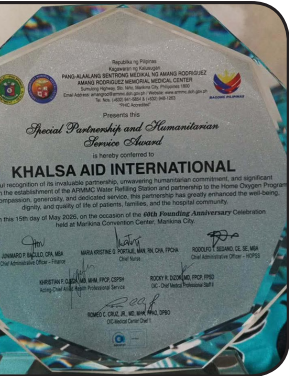
Khalsa Aid Philippines Honored with Special Partnership and Humanitarian Service Award



MANILA — Khalsa Aid Philippines has earned recognition for its significant contributions to healthcare and community welfare after being awarded the Special Partnership and Humanitarian Service Award by the Amang Rodriguez Memorial Medical

Center (ARMMC).

The recognition was given in appreciation of the organization's strong collaboration with the hospital in implementing essential initiatives and providing critical assistance, including the establishment of a Water



Refilling Station and continuous support for the Home Oxygen Program.

Khalsa Aid Philippines expressed gratitude for the distinction, saying the recognition serves as an affirmation of the impact of meaningful partnerships in enhancing the well-being of patients and the broader hospital community.

The award likewise underscores the shared dedication of both institutions to promoting accessible, patient-centered healthcare services and reinforcing support mechanisms within the medical sector.

(Pau Dela Cruz)

CHIZ SAYS SENATE IMPEACHMENT COURT SHOULD UPHOLD LAW, SHUN POLITICAL NOISE

Senator Francis "Chiz" Escudero urged his colleagues in the Senate to carry out their duties in accordance with the law and set aside political noise when they convene as an impeachment court for the trial of Vice President Sara Duterte.

Speaking in the pilot episode of his Chiz Wiz! podcast, Escudero said senators should shed political colors and approach the process with sobriety and fairness.

"Hindi sila dapat magpadala sa kung sino ang mas maingay. Nangyari na 'yan sa bibliya, hindi ba? May mas malakas sumigaw, may napako nga sa krus dahil dun," Escudero said.

"Ang impeachment trial ay hindi eleksyon o botohan sa kung sino ang mas popular.

Ang dapat sundan ay kung ano ang

naaayon sa batas," he added, stressing that the Senate must uphold constitutional discipline rather than respond to online agitation or political theatrics.

In the 35-minute podcast, the veteran lawmaker also shared with his guests the Senate's experience under his watch as Senate President during the 2025 impeachment proceedings, explaining why the chamber did not convene immediately despite the constitutional term "forthwith."

He said the Senate needed reasonable time to prepare for a process of such gravity, a position that was later affirmed by the Supreme Court in a 14-0-1 vote favoring the Senate's handling of the impeachment timeline.

The High Court rejected a petition seeking to compel the Senate to

convene at once, saying the chamber acted within constitutional bounds when it declined to begin trial while in recess.

In clarifying "forthwith," the Court ruled that the term means action taken within a "reasonable time," and not an instantaneous or mechanical response.

The decision underscored that the Senate retains discretion on when and how to convene as an impeachment court, provided it acts within a reasonable period.

Atty. Regie Tongol, spokesperson of the Escudero-led impeachment court in 2025 and a guest in the podcast, said the ruling effectively vindicated the Senate's earlier stance. He noted that the Court's definition of "forthwith" validated the chamber's deliberate approach and dispelled criticisms

Persons of Interest: NBI Names Robin Padilla, Others in Search for ICC-Wanted Sen. Batodela Rosa



The National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) has confirmed that Senator Robinhood Padilla is now being considered a "person of interest" in connection with the reported disappearance or unknown whereabouts of ICC-wanted Senator Ronald "Bato" dela Rosa.

During an interview on ANC's Dateline Philippines, NBI Director Melvin Matibag clarified that authorities are currently looking into individuals who may have knowledge of dela Rosa's location following his sudden departure from Senate protective custody.

"To a certain extent as to the disappearance of Sen. Bato, sila talaga yung persons of interest.

Pero kung i-pursue yung investigating, we're not yet on that level," Matibag said.

Aside from Padilla, Matibag also mentioned Senate President Alan Peter Cayetano and members of the Senate security group among those who could possibly provide information regarding dela Rosa's whereabouts.

The development comes amid growing national attention after the International Criminal Court (ICC) reportedly issued an arrest warrant against

Dela Rosa in connection with alleged crimes against humanity tied to the Duterte administration's anti-drug campaign.

Reports indicat-

ed that dela Rosa had initially stayed under Senate protection before eventually leaving the premises under unclear circumstances, prompting questions from authorities and the public alike.

Despite the NBI's statement, Matibag emphasized that being identified as a "person of interest" does not automatically imply criminal liability, but simply means investigators believe certain individuals may possess information relevant to the case.

As of writing, neither Senator Robinhood Padilla nor Senator Ronald dela Rosa has issued a detailed public statement regarding the NBI's latest remarks.

(Edjun Mariposque)

Seminar-Workshop on Records Digitization and Digitalization Strengthen Records Management keeping in PGC

In support of the Provincial Government of Cavite's continuing efforts toward efficient, secure, and technology-driven public service, a two-day Seminar-Workshop on Records Digitization and Digitalization was successfully conducted on May 5-6, 2026

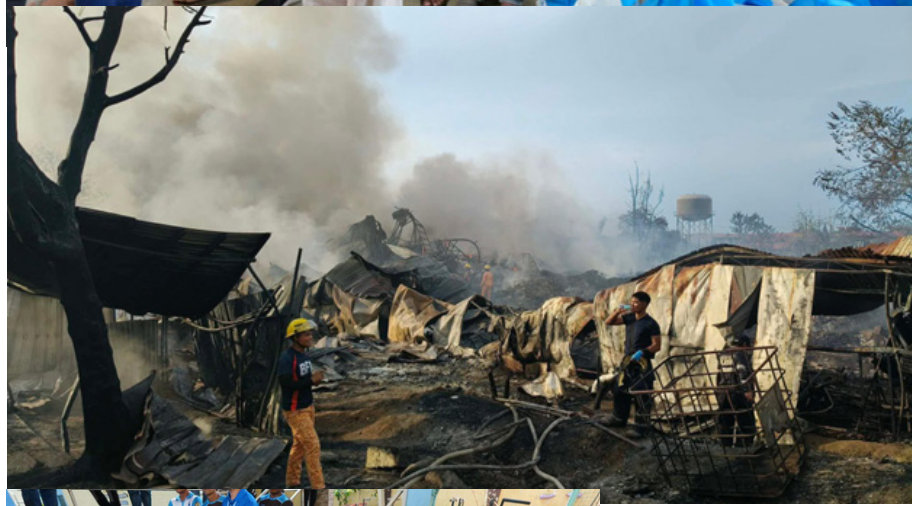
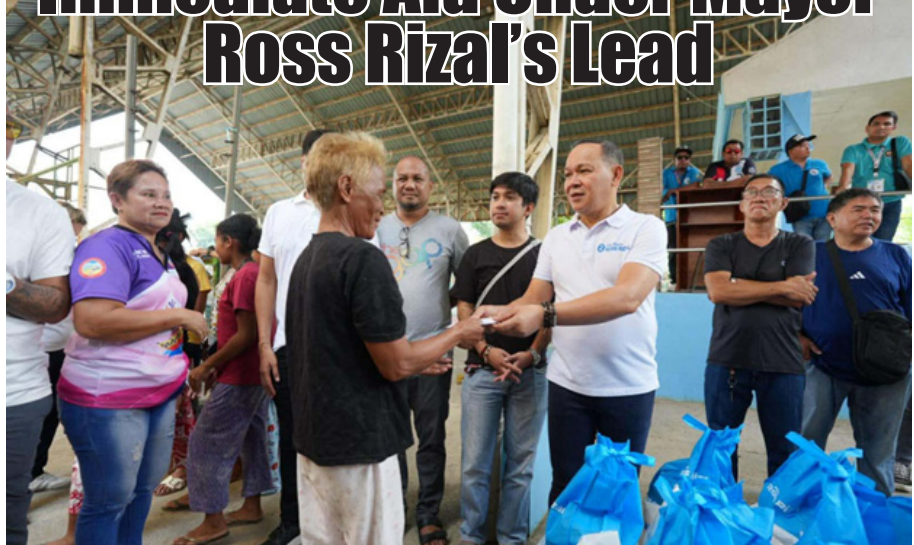
spearheaded by the Cavite Quality Management Off at the 2nd Floor Function Hall, New Provincial Government Center Building, Trece

Martires City, Cavite. The activity gathered document custodians and records officers from various PGC offices to strengthen their knowledge and skills in modern records management practices through digitization and digitalization.

The seminar aimed to strengthen the knowledge and skills of government personnel in managing records through modern digital systems

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Calamba Fire Victims Receive Immediate Aid Under Mayor Ross Rizal's Lead



CALAMBA CITY — Swift relief reached 14 families left homeless by a fire in Brgy. Lawa, as Mayor Ross Rizal personally the city's emergency response efforts this week.

The local govern-

ment distributed financial assistance, relief goods, 25 kilos of rice per family, and GoBags to help residents begin their recovery.

In his statement, Mayor Rizal emphasized the city's commitment to

stand with affected residents during crises:

"Agad nating inabot ang tulong para sa 14 na pamilyang naapektuhan ng sunog sa Barangay Lawa. Kasama sa ating dinatala ang tulong pinansyal, relief goods, tig-25 kilos na bigas, at GoBag upang kahit papaano ay makatulong sa kanilang muling pagbangon."

He added that community support is crucial in times of disaster:

"Sa oras ng sakuna, mahalagang maramdaman ng bawat pamilya na hindi sila nag-iisa. Patuloy tayong magtutulongan upang makabangon at makapagsimulang muli."

City officials said the aid aims to address both immediate needs and help families take their first steps toward rebuilding. The City Social Welfare and Development Office is also assessing additional long-term assistance for the affected households.

(Edjun Mariposque)

SUSTAINING LIVELIHOODS



their corporate office for livestock and poultry feed ingredients.

For a poultry and livestock feed distributor, the growth of livestock farms is a source of joy. Shella Ann Magno, a distributor of feed meals and ingredients from Matina, Davao City, supplies livestock farmers with high-quality premix products.

She started the business with her husband. While many similar businesses begin with more than half a million pesos in capital, the couple started with a modest PHP 300,000. They grew the business each year until it became a corporation with multiple investors and actively involved managing members.

Then dark times came: the COVID-19 pandemic hit, followed by the outbreak of African Swine Fever. This led to the death of many animals, causing livestock production to decline. As a result, their regular livestock farmers were unable to purchase feed, as many of their hogs had died. Sales dropped, customer numbers decreased, and the business suffered.

Instead of closing the business, Shella chose to continue operating, even when sales slowed down, and uncertainty filled the market. She remained focused on sustaining relation-

ships with her clients and maintaining the quality of their products. To her, the business was not merely a means of earning. Even in the midst of a crisis, she viewed it as a legacy she hoped to continue building and pass on to her children.

In 2022, a new chapter began. After a decision made by the corporation's board, Shella officially took over the leadership of the company. From serving as a co-owner with shared management responsibilities, she became fully responsible for overseeing operations, making key decisions, and leading the company forward. The transition was not easy, but she embraced the challenge and continued strategizing.

Back in 2018, she became a client of CARD, Inc. (A Microfinance NGO), which played a significant role in stabilizing the business. As a client, she was able to access additional capital through loans. From her first loan of PHP 10,000 to subsequent financing, the support helped her replenish stocks, sustain operations, and gradually regain momentum after the crisis.

What sets their business apart is its focus on quality and technology. They supply unique pre-mixes and feed in-

gredients designed to improve livestock health and growth. She strengthens client trust through product presentations, continuous product knowledge sharing, rebates, and even incentive trips.

Beyond profits, she invests in her staff. They provide employees with government-mandated benefits, bonuses, outings, and travel opportunities. She also ensures proper waste segregation and complete business permits.

Outside the business, Shella participates in extending help to the community. During calamities, she dedicates relief goods for distribution. She donates food and toys to cancer patients at House of Hope in Davao City and provides school supplies to indigenous children.

Today, she describes her life and business as more progressive than when she first started. Financially, she is now able to help her family more. Though challenges remain in the livestock industry, the business continues to operate and serve livestock farmers in Davao City with renewed strength. "Complications really come," she admitted, "but with determination, wise decisions, and the right support system, the business can rise again."

Success, for Shella, is built on perseverance. Her advice to fellow entrepreneurs is simple: just continue what you have started, work hard, and improve your strategies. Their business story teaches more than survival. It also reflects leadership and holding the line in times of crisis.

With seven years as a CARD, Inc. client and 11 years in the business, Shella was recognized as a Gawad Masikhay Awardee during the 2025 Pagkilala sa Mga Likha ni Inay, an event by CARD MRI that honors microentrepreneurs who demonstrate resilience, dedication, and a positive impact on their communities.