

SMC sustainable development efforts recognized at the 11th Annual 3G Awards

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San Miguel Corporation, the Philippines' largest diversified conglomerate was honored with two prestigious accolades at the Global Good Governance Awards: the 3G Excellence in Sustainable Development Award and the 3G Community Development and Philanthropy Award. These recognitions celebrate SMC's outstanding performance in sustainable community development and nation-building initiatives, recognizing the Corporation team's collective efforts and affirming the Company's belief that long-term success requires responsible environmental stewardship and community support.

The 3G Excellence in Sustainable Development Award and the 3G Community Development and Philanthropy



Awards recognized the success and impacts of San Miguel's Better World Communities.

Better World Tondo focuses on food rescue, hunger relief, and learning improvement efforts for the community

of Tondo, Manila, and its neighbors.

Beter World Cubao in Quezon City focuses on women's health and support center, offering clinic and support services for underprivileged women and mothers in the area.

Better World Smokey Mountain, the newest center in Manila, serves as an upskilling training center for multi-generational families, providing livelihood and alternative income workshops for the underprivileged and arm-

ing them with employable skills.

The awards were presented in Singapore by Dr. Humayon Dar (left), chairman of the Global Good Governance Program, and Her Excellency Noor Qamar Binti Haji Su-

laiman (center-right), High Commissioner of Brunei Darussalam to Singapore. Receiving the awards on behalf of SMC were Sustainability Managers Carmela Ang (center-left) and Reyna Beth de Guzman (right).

SSS Pension Booster delivers 6.2% return for members amid economic challenges

QUEZON CITY, 23 June 2026 – The Social Security System (SSS) announced that its Pension Booster Program, also known as the Voluntary Provident Fund, continues to deliver strong financial performance in 2026, posting an average return on investment (ROI) of 6.2 percent from January to May this year despite prevailing economic challenges.

The program remains a reliable retirement savings option for Filipino workers. While slightly lower than the previous year's performance due to changes in interest rates implemented by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, the return remains competitive and continues to exceed market benchmark rates.

Finance Secretary and Social Security Commission ex-officio Chair Frederick D. Go said the program reflects the government's commitment to strengthening retirement security.

"The continued strong performance of the SSS Pension Booster underscores our commitment to protecting the

PRESS RELEASE

Social Security System
Pension Booster delivers 6.2% return for members amid economic challenges

SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM
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financial future of Filipino workers. Through prudent management of members' funds, we are helping build a more secure and dignified retirement for every

Filipino," Go said. SSS noted that the 2026 performance follows the 6.83 percent return in 2025, surpassing the prevailing 91-day

treasury bill rate which has a year-to-date average of approximately 4.77 percent.

In 2025, contributions rose to 21.8 percent

to P699 million from P574 million in 2024, reflecting growing member confidence in the program.

To maximize members' earnings, SSS waived the one percent management fee on the total balance of Pension Booster accounts from 2025 to 2028, allowing members to fully enjoy investment gains.

SSS President and Chief Executive Officer Robert Joseph M. de Claro said the program reflects prudent investment management and long-term value creation. He added that members may now conveniently monitor the monthly compounding growth of their Pension Booster savings through their My.SSS accounts, allowing them to track the progress of their retirement funds and make more informed decisions in planning for their future.

"The strong performance of the Pension Booster demonstrates disciplined and professionally managed savings. We remain committed to

providing members greater financial security during retirement," de Claro said.

The Pension Booster is open to all SSS members to build additional savings for their retirement. It allows individuals to save starting at P500, with no maximum contribution limit.

Contributions are pooled and invested in government securities, corporate bonds, fixed-income instruments, equities, and money market instruments, with tax-free earnings credited proportionately to members' accounts.

De Claro urged members to start early and stay invested longer to maximize returns, citing the benefits of compound growth. "Planning and saving for retirement should begin early. The longer the members stay invested, the greater their potential returns," he said.

Interested SSS members may enroll in the Pension Booster Program online through their My.SSS account. PR

New school buildings end classroom shifting in Silang, Cavite

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DO IT WILCON OFFICIALLY OPENS ITS DOORS IN NEOGAN, TAGAYTAY!



A new space for ideas and community can grow together, Do It Wilcon Neogan, Tagaytay has marked its opening with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Present during the ceremony were Limson Marketing President, Mr. Carl Dexter Lim; Lix-il Philippines Leader for Marketing and Retail, Ms. Emily Besavilla; HCG SVP for Sales and Marketing, Mr. David Chang; Wilcon

Depot EVP for Sales and Retail Stores Operations, Ms. Eden Mandap; Wilcon Depot President and CEO, Ms. Lorraine Belo-Cincochan; Representative of Hon. Vice Mayor Agnes D. Tolentino, and Hon. Mayor Aizack Brent D. Tolentino, Hon. Councilor Annabel Solis; Wilcon Depot VP for Investor Relations, Ms. Mary Jean Alger; Wilcon Depot VP for Marketing, Mr. Alen Alban; Wilcon

pot AVP for Sales and Operations, Ms. Cathy Guingab; Sales for Formosa Ceramics, Mr. John Chen; and Matimco VP for Sales, Mr. Jeffrey Go.

Now open at Tagaytay-Nasugbu Highway, Barangay Neogan, Tagaytay, Cavite, the store offers quality home solutions designed to help homeowners and professionals in their projects.

IRINE GASCON

Cayetano says Senate fight was never about power, vows to pursue flood control probe

Paying Members Should Get Expanded Philhealth Package —ES Recto

REGULAR FLAG RAISING CEREMONY



Isinagawa ngayong araw, Hunyo 22, 2026, sa Socio-Economic Grounds ang Regular Flag Raising Ceremony na dinaluhan nina Mayor Jenny Austria-Barzaga, Vice Mayor Third Barzaga at mga miyembro ng Sangguniang Panlungsod. Pinangunahan ng City Information Technology Office ang seremonya. Bilang bahagi ng programa, ipinagdiwang din ang mga empleyadong may kaarawan ngayong linggo sa pamamagitan ng simpleng handog na birthday cakes mula sa Pamahalaang Lungsod.

NAPAPANAHON | RESPONSABLENG PANONOOD CARAVAN 2026 NG MTRCB



Sa panahon ng social media at mabilis na pagkalat ng impormasyon sa iba't-ibang digital platforms, mahalagang mag-ing mapanuri at responsable sa ating pinapanood, binabasa, at ibinabahagi online.

Nakiisa si Congressman Roy M. Loyola sa Responsableng Panonood Caravan 2026 ng MTRCB na ginanap sa Carmona Community Center (C3), at nagpahatid ng pagbati at pasasalamat sa ngalan ni Mayor Dahlia A. Loyola.

Kasama rin si BM

Ivee Reyes at ang mga Miyembro ng Sangguniang Panlungsod sa pangunguna ni Konsehal Roy "TJ" A. Loyola III.

Pinangunahan ni MTRCB Chairperson at CEO Lala Sotto kasama sina Vice-Chairperson Juan Revilla, Board Member Jose Alberto V, Board Member Bobby Andrews, Board Member Maria Carmen Musngi,

Board Member Richard John Reynoso, at Board Member Ma. Cecilia Villarosa, ang programa na nagbigay-diin sa wastong paggabay sa

kabataan, responsableng paggamit ng social media, at pagiging mapanuri laban sa inappropriate, misinformation, at misleading online content.

Pinaalalahanan din ang publiko na ang paghubog ng responsableng mamamayan sa digital na panahon ay isang samamang tungkulin na nagsisimula sa loob ng tahanan at pinagtitibay sa pamamagitan ng pagtutulungan ng pamilya, paaralan, pamahalaan, at buong pamayanan. #AmaNgCarSiGMA #20thCongress

EDITORIAL: THE ILLUSION OF DE-ESCALATION: BEIJING’S TACTICAL PIVOT AT BAJO DE MASINLOC

The rapid sequence of events unfolding at Bajo de Masinloc over the last forty-eight hours shatters any optimistic conclusions regarding a diplomatic de-escalation by the People’s Republic of China in the West Philippine Sea. On Wednesday, June 17, 2026, verification flights by the Philippine Coast Guard confirmed that Chinese personnel had dismantled and towed away a movable floating platform from the shoal’s vital lagoon.

Yet, less than twenty-four hours later, a morning maritime domain awareness flight on June 18 exposed the arrival of the Tong Ji, an 82-meter Chinese comprehensive research vessel, operating deep within the Philippines’ 200-nautical-mile Exclusive Economic Zone. This immediate transition demonstrates that Beijing is not retreating, but rather rotating its strategic assets to maintain continuous, unlawful administrative control.

This swift operational pivot reveals a calculated strategy designed to manipulate international perception and exhaust Philippine resources. By removing the conspicuous floating platform, Beijing sought to temporarily lower diplomatic friction and blunt Manila’s international transparency campaign. However, replacing a stationary structure with an ocean-class comprehensive scientific research vessel proves that China’s overarching blueprint for the region remains entirely unchanged. Security analysts must recognize this maneuver for what it is: a tactical substitution where visible physical barriers are traded for mobile maritime surveillance assets.

The deployment of the Tong Ji marks a distinct shift from crude, physical blockades toward highly technical, undersea espionage under an academic guise. Constructed as China’s first intelligent comprehensive scientific research vessel for Tongji University, this ship possesses advanced sensory arrays capable of mapping seabed topography, measuring thermal layers, and gathering critical hydrographic data.

While Beijing shields the deployment under the banner of civilian Marine Scientific Research, the strategic utility of this data is undeniably military. Mapping these deep-water approaches around Scarborough Shoal provides the People’s Liberation Army Navy with the precise sub-surface intelligence required to secure submarine pathways and track regional naval movements.

Operating a mere 0.6 to 1.2 kilometers southeast of the shoal, the Tong Ji does not sail alone; it anchors an integrated paramilitary flotilla. Aerial documentation by the Philippine Coast Guard logs a dedicated research support vessel, two heavily armed China Coast Guard patrol ships, and seven Chinese Maritime Militia vessels forming an outer protective cordon.

Furthermore, two permanent militia boats remain stationed directly inside the lagoon entrance, while a People’s Liberation Army Navy warship maintains a watchful posture 50 nautical miles away. This layered deployment highlights how China systematically integrates academic, law enforcement, and naval components to enforce its unlawful claims.

This high-tech infiltration directly violates international legal frameworks, most notably the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the historic 2016 Arbitral Tribunal ruling. The 2016 award explicitly invalidated China’s expansive “nine-dash line” and declared Bajo de Masinloc a traditional fishing ground where no single

state holds exclusive sovereignty over the waters, while reaffirming the surrounding area as part of the Philippine Exclusive Economic Zone. Under UNCLOS, any foreign state wishing to conduct marine research within another nation’s zone must secure explicit prior consent. Because the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs never granted such authorization, the operations of the Tong Ji constitute an unambiguous breach of international law. The timing of this deployment also serves as a calculated psychological test directed at Manila’s posture and sovereign resolve. The intrusion comes directly on the heels of Beijing’s aggressive domestic maritime regulations, which purport to authorize the China Coast Guard to detain foreign nationals suspected of “trespassing” in contested waters.

By placing a premium research asset alongside an aggressive security escort just hours after a minor concession, Beijing is sending a clear signal to Manila: temporary infrastructure may change, but the Chinese blockade is permanent, and any attempts by Filipino fishermen or patrols to reassert access will be met with overwhelming, state-backed resistance.

In response to this unlawful maritime encroachment, the Philippine government has successfully utilized its most potent asymmetrical counter-weapon, the maritime transparency strategy. By embedding journalists from major local networks on the morning flight of June 18, the Philippine Coast Guard stripped away the veil of secrecy that Beijing relies upon to alter the regional status quo. When the People’s Liberation Army Air Force issued hostile radio challenges demanding the Philippine aircraft withdraw, the patrol pilots stood their ground, formally asserted Philippine sovereign jurisdiction, and documented the Tong Ji’s precise coordinates. This immediate public disclosure prevents Beijing from quietly normalizing its presence or spinning a false narrative of peaceful academic exploration.

To safeguard its maritime rights against future incursions, Manila must prepare for a prolonged legal and operational battle that moves beyond reactionary diplomatic protests. While filing complaints with the Department of Foreign Affairs remains a necessary step to maintain a legal paper trail, these measures alone do not deter a superpower committed to revisionist history.

The Philippines must continue to reinforce its operational presence, as seen with the deployment of the BRP Malapascua and BRP Sindangan stationed thirty miles off the shoal to shield local fishing fleets. Furthermore, Manila must deepen its intelligence-sharing and joint patrol mechanisms with traditional allies like the United States, Japan, and Australia to transform bilateral defense treaties into tangible deterrents.

The Tong Ji incident makes clear that Beijing’s goal remains full, lasting control over the West Philippine Sea. Taking away the floating platform was never a gesture of goodwill or a response to international calls; it was a deliberate shift to advance a more discreet, technology-driven form of encroachment. As China continues to frame its moves as scientific work or domestic law enforcement, the Philippines and its partners must stay watchful. Maintaining transparency, strengthening maritime defense, and standing firmly by international law are the best ways to challenge attempts to change the status quo and protect Philippine rights at Bajo de Masinloc.

New... FROM PAGE 1

SILANG, Cavite (PIA) — Students in the Municipality of Silang, Cavite will no longer have to adopt class shifting schemes following the inauguration of new buildings in key local schools.

Last June 23, the Municipal Government led the simultaneous inauguration of school buildings across the municipality as part of its ongoing efforts to address classroom shortage.

Milano Garzon, school head of BLISS Elementary School noted that the newly opened classroom building will help end class shifting, a practice that has been adopted by several public schools in an effort to address the lack of teaching facilities.

“Sa bagong school building, natuldukan na ang shifting classes.” With its additional classrooms, Garzon noted that classes can now end by one o’clock in the afternoon for Grades 1 and 2, while Grade 3 pupils will end their classes two o’clock in the afternoon. Older students, including Grades 4 through 6 will end their classes by three o’clock in the afternoon.

BLISS Elementary School currently serves 525 pupils from Kindergarten through Grade 6.

Teachers at Gen. Vito Belarmino Integrated National High School, Pulong Bunga Elementary School, Brgy. Munting Ilog Elementary School, and Brgy. Balite II Elementary School, who also inaugurated their own six-classroom buildings also welcomed the additional infrastructure.

Mayor Ted Carranza, in a statement, emphasized the school infrastructure program in the local government’s continuous efforts to address classroom shortage. With a more conducive learning environment, Carranza assured their commitment to invest in school infrastructure.

“Through these initiatives, the Municipal Government of Silang moves closer to its goal of completely eliminating class shifting and providing every student with access to quality education in a safe and conducive learning environment.”

In partnership with local government units all over the country, the Department of Education (DepEd) launched its localized school building development especially in public schools. Under this program, LGUs became a partner of the education sector in fast-tracking classroom construction and rehabilitation.

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GUNMAN SA PAGPASLANG SA APAT NA KATAO SA MAGKAHIWALAY NA PAMAMARIL SA QUEZON, ARESTADO



Arestado na ang isang miyembro ng CAF-GU na itinuturong gunman sa magkasunod na insidente ng pamamaril sa mga bayan ng San Andres at Lopez, Quezon noong Abril na ikinasawi ng apat na katao.

Sa isang press conference sa Camp Vicente Lim, inihayag ni Police Brigadier General Hansel Marantan, Regional Director ng PNP Calabarzon, ang pagkakaaristo sa suspek na si alyas “Jerome,” na nakalista bilang Rank No. 1 Regional

Most Wanted Person. Dinakip siya sa bisa ng warrant of arrest para sa dalawang bilang ng kasong murder na kapwa walang inirekomendang piyansa.

Nauna nang sumuko sa mga awtoridad ang umano’y kasabwat at drayber ng motorsiklo na si alyas “Leovin,” isang dating rebelde, na nagbigay ng mahalagang impormasyon sa mga imbestigador. Siya rin umano ang nagturo sa kinaronan ng motorsiklong ginamit sa krimen.

Batay sa imbes-

Nagbigay na rin umano ng judicial confession ang naarestong gunman at itinuro ang sinasabing mastermind. Patuloy naman ang operasyon ng pulisya para madakip ang iba pang sangkot sa kaso. Via Ylou L Dagos

PHINMA RIZAL COLLEGE OF LAGUNA INAUGURATES RAMON V. DEL ROSARIO BUILDING, EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS IN LAGUNA



Calamba City, Laguna — PHINMA Rizal College of Laguna (PHINMA RCL) formally inaugurated the Ramon V. Del Rosario Building on June 23, 2026, marking a significant milestone in the institution’s continuing efforts to expand access to quality higher education for students across Laguna. The new facility



increases the campus’s capacity to accommodate approximately 11,000 students.

The newly inaugurated building features additional classrooms, modern laboratories, and upgraded equipment designed to provide students with a more conducive learning environment and practical, industry-relevant training. The expansion reflects PHINMA Education’s commitment to helping students acquire the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in their chosen careers.

Since joining the PHINMA Education network in 2021, PHINMA RCL has remained dedicated to making quality education accessible through scholarship programs, student support initiatives, and community partnerships. These efforts have opened doors for working students, Pantawid Pamilyang Pili-

Pinalalakas ang Seguridad sa Paliparan para sa Mas Ligtas at Panatag na Paglalakbay



Upang matiyak ang kaligtasan at kapangan ng bawat pasahero, nagsagawa ang Office for Transportation Security (OTS) ng Aviation Security Managers Course mula Hunyo 1 hanggang 9, 2026.

Ang pitong araw na pagsasanay ay dinaluhan ng mga security manager at senior supervisor mula sa OTS, mga paliparan, airline companies, at iba pang katuwang sa sektor ng abyasyon.

Layunin ng programa na higit pang palakasin ang kanilang kaalaman, kakayahan sa pamumuno, at kahan-

ng mga bumibiyahe sa himpapawid, nananatiling nakatoun ang OTS sa pagbibigay ng de-kalidad na pagsasanay upang mapataas ang pamantayan ng seguridad at mapalakas ang tiwala ng publiko sa ligtas na paglalakbay.

Hinimok naman ni OTS Administrator at

Undersecretary na si Gilberto DC Cruz ang mga kalahok na isabuhay at ipamahagi ang kanilang mga natutunan.

Ayon kay Usec. Cruz, “Sa inyong pagbabalik sa tungkulin, hinihikayat ko kayong ibahagi ang inyong mga natutunan, gabayan ang inyong mga tauhan, palakasin ang pagtutulungan, at itaguyod ang kultura ng kahusayan sa seguridad.”

Tandaan na ang maliit ngunit tuloy-tuloy na pagpapabuti ay may malaking epekto sa kaligtasan at seguridad ng lahat. Via **Kevin R Pamatmat**

pino Program (4Ps) beneficiaries, adult learners, and other underserved sectors seeking higher education opportunities.

Among the beneficiaries is Grace Mary Cartasano, a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration student at PHINMA RCL. According to her, the institution’s flexible learning options have enabled her to balance her studies while maintaining employment, allowing her to continue pursuing her educational goals.

In his message during the inauguration, Ramon R. Del Rosario Jr., Chairman of PHINMA Education, emphasized that the building embodies the vision and values of his father, Ambassador Ramon V. Del Rosario.

He expressed pride in seeing that vision come to life through a facility that will serve generations of students and help them achieve their aspirations.

Alongside its physical expansion, PHINMA RCL continues to demonstrate academic excellence. In February 2026, the institution achieved a 100% passing rate in the Criminologists Licensure Examination among graduates of its first criminology cohort under PHINMA Education.

The school also recorded a

100% passing rate in the 2026 Licensure Examination for Professional Teachers (LET).

Racquel Santiago, one of the newly licensed criminologists, shared that the review programs and support provided by the institution played a crucial role in helping students prepare for and successfully pass their board examinations.

More than just a new structure, the Ramon V. Del Rosario Building symbolizes PHINMA Education’s unwavering commitment to delivering quality and inclusive education.

It is envisioned as a place where students can develop their potential, build their skills, and prepare to become professionals and leaders who will contribute to nation-building.

PHINMA Education is also preparing to open a new campus in San Pablo City, further expanding its reach and creating more opportunities for learners throughout Laguna.

Guided by its promise, “Samamahan Kita” (We Will Be With You), PHINMA Education continues to stand alongside students throughout their educational journey, helping them achieve their dreams and build a brighter future. Via Joel Cabactulan



MULA PLANO TUNGO SA AKSYON: BATINO INTERCHANGE



Nagsagawa ng pagpupulong ang Toll Regulatory Board sa pangunguna ni Atty Jose Antonio Tugade kasama ang SMC Infrastructure, Department of Public Works and Highways Region IV-A, at ang Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Calamba bilang bahagi ng patuloy na pag bibigay action sa planong Batino Interchange, kasunod ng naging pagbisita ni DPWH Sec Vince Dizon.

Ang proyektong ito ay isang mahalagang hakbang upang mabigyan ng pangmatagalang solusyon ang suliranin sa trapiko at mapabuti ang daloy ng transportasyon sa lungsod.

Sa pamamagitan ng pagtutulongan ng mga ahensya ng pamahalaan at pribadong sektor, mas napapalpit ang pagsasakatatuparan ng isang proyektong magdudulot ng mas mabilis na biyahe, mas maayos na konek-



tibidad, at higit na kaginhawahan para sa mga Calambeño. Patuloy nating isinusulong ang mga proyektong may konkretong epekto sa araw-araw na buhay ng mamamayan, sapagkat ang mas maayos na imprastraktura ay daan tungo sa mas maunlad at mas progresibong Calamba.

(Vincent Cruz)

NABUWAG ANG NOTORYUS NA GRUPONG SANGKOT SA ILEGAL NA DROGA SA LAGUNA; UMANONG PINUNO, ARESTADO



WALTERMART SUPPORTS THE LOVE FOR LEARNING WITH BRIGADA ESKWELA 2026



WalterMart recently concluded its participation in this year's Brigada Eskwela, joining the Department of Education's nationwide initiative to prepare public schools for the new academic year. Through customer contributions, employee volunteerism, and education assistance for its employees, the company reinforced its long-standing commitment to education across the communities it serves.

WalterMart's support for Brigada Eskwela began in 2010 as a simple volunteer cleaning drive in a handful of partner schools. It expanded in 2021 to include the distribution of school kits, growing into a mall-wide campaign that now supports over 1,100 schools and 30,000 students nationwide. This year's campaign was held in part-

nership with 150 schools across North Luzon, South Luzon, and Metro Manila.

School kits were distributed this year through mall-led and community-based events with partner schools, providing each Grade 1 student a kit made possible by customer support, with additional contributions from partner brands Nagraya, CDO, Nissin, Presto, Alaska Milk, Similac, Monde Nissin, and Surf. As a gesture of appreciation, customers received a Brigada Eskwela Thank You Card with exclusive vouchers from WalterMart Supermarket, WalterMart Department Store, World of Fun, and Fun Time.

WalterMart teams also led school clean-up activities across partner communities, working alongside teachers, parents, and volun-

teers to prepare classrooms ahead of the school year, with cleaning supplies provided by partner brands Zonrox, Mortein, and Domex. WalterMart also installed pedestrian crossing signages, "Happy Back to School" signages, and safety bollards in participating schools for a safer return to class.

These are just some of the many ways WalterMart supports the community through education, alongside the everyday service it provides through its Supermarket bringing fresh grocery essentials to every household, its Community Malls offering spaces for good food and good times, its Department Store helping every Filipino look and feel their best, and its Grocery Delivery bringing the supermarket closer to home.

(Daniel Castro)

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna — Matagumpay na nabuwag ng mga awtoridad ang isa sa mga pinakakilalang grupong sangkot sa ilegal na droga na matagal nang nag-operate sa lalawigan ng Laguna matapos maaresto ang umano'y lider nito sa isinagawang operasyon sa Calamba City.

Kinilala ang suspek sa alyas na "Robin," 27 taong gulang, na inaresto sa Dupax Street, Barangay Palingon, Calamba City sa pamamagitan ng pinagsanib na operasyon ng Laguna Provincial Special Operations Unit, Laguna Provincial Intelligence

Unit, Regional Intelligence Team 4A, at Calamba City Police Station sa pangunguna ni PLTCOL DENNIS DE GUZMAN.

Isinagawa ang pag-aresto batay sa inilabas na warrant of arrest ng Regional Trial Court Branch 103 sa Calamba City kaugnay ng kasong pagpatay (murder). Ayon sa korte, walang inirekomendang piyansa para sa pansamantalang kalayaan ng akusado.

Sa press conference na isinagawa sa Camp Vicente Lim sa pamumuno ni PBGEN HANSEL M MARANTAN

ang pagkakaaaresto sa umano'y lider ay malaking hakbang sa tuluyang pagbuwag sa sindikato. Dagdag pa niya, dalawa na lamang sa mga miyembro ng grupo ang nananatiling pinaghamanap at patuloy na tinutugis ng mga operatiba.

Patuloy naman ang panawagan ng pulisya sa publiko na makipagtutulungan sa mga awtoridad sa pamamagitan ng pagbibigay ng impormasyon laban sa mga indibidwal at grupong sangkot sa iligal na gawain upang mapanatili ang kapayapaan at kaayusan sa komunidad.

(Nelson Dimapilis)



Pointer Pau Dela Cruz

Ang Ambulansya ay Hindi Sasakyan ng Kaginhawaan, Kundi Sasakyan ng Buhay

May mga sasakyang maaaring gamitin para sa iba't ibang layunin, ngunit may iisang sasakyan na hindi kailanman dapat abusuhin—ang ambulansya. Ito ay hindi pribilehiyo, hindi serbisyo para sa personal na kaginhawaan, at lalong hindi sasakyan para sa pamamasyal, pagdadala ng mga gamit, o iba pang lakad na walang kaugnayan sa emerhensiyang medikal.

Kaya't nararapat lamang ang hakbang ni Gobernador Sol Aragon na maglabas ng isang Administrative Order na mahigpit na magbabawal sa maling paggamit ng mga ambulansya ng Pamahalaang Panlalawigan ng Laguna.

Ang naging insidente kung saan hindi nakatugon ang isang ambulansya sa isang emerhensiya dahil ang mga sakay nito ay hindi naman mga medical o health personnel ay malinaw na paalala kung gaano kapanganib ang kapabayaang maling paggamit ng mga sasakyang inilaan para sa pagliligtas ng buhay.

Sa bawat minutong nasasayang dahil ginagamit ang ambulansya sa maling paraan, maaaring may isang pasyenteng nawawalan ng pagkakataong mabuhay.

Hindi ito simpleng paglabag sa alituntunin; ito ay usapin ng pananagutan, disiplina, at paggalang sa buhay ng kapwa.

Hindi sapat ang pagkakaroon ng maraming ambulansya kung ang mga ito ay hindi ginagamit sa tamang layunin. Ang tunay na sukatan ng isang mahusay na serbisyong pangkalusugan ay ang kahandaan nitong tumugon sa oras ng pangangailangan.

Kung ang ambulansya ay ginagamit sa personal na interes, sino ang sasagip sa pasyenteng nangangailangan ng agarang tulong?

Ang planong pagbabawal sa paggamit ng ambulansya para sa outing, swimming, personal na lakad, o pagdadala ng mga kagamitan ay hindi lamang administratibong hakbang.

Isa itong malinaw na mensahe na ang serbisyo publiko ay hindi dapat abusuhin at ang bawat kagamitan ng pamahalaan ay may tiyak na layunin.

Kasabay nito, mahalagang magkaroon ng pananagutan ang sinumang lalabag. Ang pagpapaliwanag ng mga sangkot sa insidente ay isang mahalagang unang hakbang, ngunit higit na mahalaga ang pagpapatupad ng mahigpit na pananagutan upang magsilbing babala sa iba.

Sa huli, ang ambulansya ay simbolo ng pag-asa. Kapag tumunog ang sirena nito, ang inaasahan ng publiko ay may buhay na inililigtas—hindi mga pasaherong walang kaugnayan sa emerhensiya. Ang bawat maling paggamit nito ay hindi lamang pag-abuso sa ari-arian ng bayan kundi paglalagay rin sa panganib sa buhay ng mga taong maaaring mangailangan nito anumang oras.

Ang disiplina sa paggamit ng ambulansya ay hindi lamang obligasyon ng pamahalaan kundi responsibilidad ng bawat lingkod-bayan.

DEFENSE BRIEF | INSIDE THE 4TH PH-US MARITIME COOPERATIVE ACTIVITY

The fourth Maritime Cooperative Activity (MCA), completed on June 19, 2026, offers a clear look at security developments across Southeast Asia. Some observers describe these joint operations as escalatory or disruptive to regional stability, but they often overlook the legal and operational rules that guide them. When viewed through international maritime law, respect for sovereignty, and defense modernization, the six-day exercise stands as a legitimate, defensive measure that poses no threat to other nations.

The strongest argument against claims of escalation lies in where it was conducted. The entire activity took place entirely within the Philippines' 200-nautical-mile Exclusive Economic Zone. Under Article 56 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the country holds full authority over maritime safety and natural resources in this area. Since no part of the exercise entered the recognized territorial waters of any neighbor, it represents a standard exercise of rights under international law not a show of offensive force.

Any claim that joint presence fuels tension must also be measured against the 2016 Arbitral

ruling. The Permanent Court of Arbitration confirmed that historical claims conflicting with UNCLOS have no legal standing. In fact, foreign vessels including frigates, a corvette, and support ships from the People's Liberation Army Navy were spotted near Bajo de Masinloc (Scarborough Shoal) during the drills. These were the movements that deviated from established international rules. The radio challenges issued by Philippine forces were proper, necessary steps to document and respond to these unauthorized entries.

The deployment of the guided-missile frigate BRP Diego Silang (FFG-7) also makes clear that the Philippines is no longer just a partner relying on others for security. Built by HD Hyundai Heavy Industries under the military modernization program and tested in multilateral settings such as Exercise KAKADU 2026 in Australia, the vessel gives the Armed Forces of the Philippines its own anti-surface defense and advanced tracking systems. This upgrade lets the country monitor and protect its waters independently, moving it from a dependent ally to an active contributor to regional stability.

Critics who question having both naval and coast guard units working together misunderstand defense in an archipelago. Pairing the Navy's BRP Diego Sil-

PUBLISHER CORNER



through ASEAN. Yet experience shows that dialogue alone has not stopped the buildup of facilities on disputed features or kept local fishermen from being driven away. The current approach combines openness with well-planned cooperation to defend the country's legal position. Making these movements public helps uphold international rules and prevents borders from being changed through force or intimidation.

Overall, the fourth MCA shows that the defense partnership between the Philippines and the United States has grown into a practical, long-term arrangement. Shared communications, coordinated procedures, and training completed during the activity have built solid working ties between the two forces. Supported by the clear rules of UNCLOS, a streamlined command structure, and modern ships like the BRP Diego Silang, the alliance rests on a strong foundation one that helps keep sea lanes open, orderly, and secure.

Some argue that the Philippines should rely only on quiet diplomacy

EXPLICIT Madelaine Go QUECOMNET NAGDAOS NG UNANG ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING. BAGONG PAMUNUAN HINALAL

Nagsagawa ng unang Organizational Meeting para sa taong 2026 ang Quezon Communicators' Network (QUECOMNET) noong Hunyo 22 sa New Tayabas City Hall, na dinaluhan ng mga Information Officer mula sa iba't ibang lokal na pamahalaan at tanggapang mga pamahalaan sa lalawigan.

Tampok sa pagtitipon ang paghahala sa bagong hanay ng mga opisyal ng samahan, kung saan nahalal bilang pangulo

si Reden de Villa ng Tagkawayan LGU.

Hahalili siya kay Willie Tomines ng Tayabas LGU na nagsilbing pinuno ng QUECOMNET.

Layunin ng taunang pagpupulong na patatagin ang ugnayan at koordinasyon ng mga government communicator sa Quezon upang higit pang mapahusay ang paghahati ng tama, napapanahon, at kapaki-pakinabang na impormasyon sa publiko.

Sa kanyang mensahe, binigyang-diin ni PIA CALABARZON Re-

gional Director Ma. Cristina Arzadon ang patuloy na suporta ng Philippine Information Agency sa pagpapalakas ng kagayahan ng mga Information Officer.

Aniya, mahalaga ang tuloy-tuloy na pagsasanay at pakikipagtulungan upang mapanatili ang responsable at epektibong komunikasyon sa pamahalaan.

Bilang bahagi ng programa, nagsagawa rin ng mga lecture hinggil sa Social Media Management, Caption Writing, at Social Media and Gover-



nance na pinangunahan ni Patricia Bermudez, Information Officer at Officer-in-Charge ng PIA Cavite.

Inaasahan na sa pamamagitan ng bagong pamunuan at mas pinaigting na koordinasyon ng mga miyembro ng QUECOMNET ay higit pang mapapalakas ang information dissemination sa lalawigan para sa kapakinabangan ng mga mamamayan ng Quezon.

Republic of the Philippines
Fourth Judicial Region
Regional trial court of Cavite
Office of the clerk of court
& Ex-officio Sheriff
New Justice Hall, J.P. Rizal Avenue,
Kaybagal South, Tagaytay City

RIZAL COMMERCIAL
BANKING CORPORATION
Petitioner-Mortgagee.

EJF NO. TG-26-047
FOR: Extra Judicial
Foreclosure of
Mortgage [Under Act
No. 3135, as amended]

-versus-

SPOUSES MAUREEN ROSALES
VILLAVICENCIO and DANILO
VILLANUEVA CAPUNO, JR.,
as rep. by attorney-in-fact,
Jhune de Leon Manalo,
Respondent-Mortgagor.

x-----x

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extrajudicial Foreclosure Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act no. 4118, filed by Mortgagee, **RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING CORPORATION**, a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the Philippines, with business address located at A.T. Yuchengco Centre, 26th and 25th Streets, BGC, Taguig City, Metro Manila, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Uniform Loan and Mortgage Agreement (Real Estate) Executed and notarized on March 16, 2023, by respondents/mortgagors , Spouses **MAUREEN ROSALES VILLAVICENCIO and DANILO VILLANUEVA CAPUNO Jr., as represented by their attorney-in-fact, JHUNE DE LEON MANALO**, both of legal age, Filipino citizens, with postal address at (1) Bihis, Taal, Batangas; (2) 230 Malvar Street, Poblacion, San Nicolas, Batangas, and (3) Ground floor, Pine Suite, Building 2, Tagaytay City Cavite, in favor of the Petitioner/Mortgagee, over a real estate property including improvements thereon, described in and covered by **CONDOMINIUM CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 076-2021000111** of the Registry of Deeds for Tagaytay City, in order to satisfy the outstanding loan obligation of the Mortgagor in the amount of **TWO MILLION ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-ONE PESOS AND 79/100 (PHP 2, 127,231.79)**, as of April 21, 2026, the undersigned Clerk of Count & Ex-Officio Sheriff of the Regional Trial Court of Cavite thru her deputy, Baby Leem B. Maristela, will sell at public auction on **JULY 27, 2026, at 10:00 o'clock** in the morning or soon thereafter, at the New Hall of Justice of Tagaytay City, to the highest bidder, for cash or Manager's Check and in the Philippine Currency, the following property with all its improvements thereon, to wit.

CONDOMINIUM CERTIFICATE OF
TITLE NO. 076-2021000111
Registry of Deeds for Tagaytay City

"IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the Unit identified and de-

scribed as:

PINE SUITES TAGAY – BUILDING 2
GROUND FLOOR

UNIT 11- A RESIDENTIAL STUDIO TYPE WITH BALCONY CONDOMINIUM UNIT LOCATED AT THE GROUND FLOOR LEVEL OF "PINE SUITES BUILDING 2" WITH AN AREA OF 23.79 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS.

in the diagrammatic floor plan appended to the enabling or master deed of the condominium project annotated on **TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE 2013006014** which embraces and describes the land located at **TAGAYTAY CITY** with an area of **TEN THOUSAND (10, 000) Square Meter**, is registered in the name of:

OWNER: SPOUSES MAUREEN ROSALES VIL-
LAVICENCIO and DANILO VILLANUEVA CAPUNO JR.,
OF LEGAL AGES, FILIPINO
ADDRESS: BIHIS, TAAL, BATANGAS CITY,
PHILIPPINES

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on August 3, 2026 without further notice.

Prospective bidders or buyers are hereby en-
joined to investigate and verify for themselves the **CONDO-
MINIUM CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 076-2021000111** the encumbrances thereon, if any there be.

All sealed bids must be submitted to the under-
signed on the above stated time and date.
Tagaytay City, Philippines, June 15, 2026

ATTY VARBRA ANN A. VARIAS-DIMA YUGA
Clerk Court VI & Ex-Officio Sheriff

BABY LEEM B MARISTELLA
Sheriff-In-Charge

W A R N I N G:
IT IS ABSOLUTE PROHIBITED TO RTEMOVE,
DEFACE OR DESTROY THIS NOTISCE OF SHERIFF'S
SALE ON OR BEFORE THE DATE OF AUCTION SALE
UNDER THE PENALTY OF LAW

Copy Furnished:

RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING CORPORATION
Mortgagee
A.T. Yuchengco Centre,
26th and 25th Streets,
BGC, Taguig City,
Metro Manila

SPOUSES MAUREEN
R. VILLAVICENCIO
DANILO V. CAPUNO, Jr.
JHUNE D. MANALO
(1) Bihis, Taal, Batangas;
(2) 230 Malvar Street, Poblacion,
San Nicolas, Batangas, and
(3) Ground floor, Pine Suite,
Building 2, Tagaytay City Cavite

DERETSAHAN WEEKLY NEWS PUBLISHING:
JUNE 28, JULY 05 & 12, 2026

Paying...

Paying members of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) should receive benefits commensurate with their monthly contributions, Executive Secretary Ralph Recto said on Friday. In an interview with broadcaster Deo Macalma over DZRH, Recto said he

will meet with PhilHealth officials next week to discuss expansion of benefits for contributing members. "Ayon sa batas, iba ang benefit package para sa kanila. Dagdagan natin ito," said Recto.

Recto has been recommending expanded benefit packages for con-

tributing PhilHealth members belonging to the middle class. Recto said he understands the concerns of those who regularly pay their PhilHealth premiums and yet do not receive proportionate benefits.

"Naiintindihan ko ang reklamo ng ating mga kababayan sa PhilHealth.

FROM PAGE 1

Cayetano...

Senate President Alan Peter Cayetano on Wednesday said his departure from the Senate's top post would not stop efforts to uncover the truth behind alleged irregularities in the country's flood control program, framing the recent leadership battle as a larger struggle over corruption, constitutional independence, and public accountability.

In a June 17 statement on social media titled "A Grateful Heart, An Unfinished Fight," Cayetano thanked supporters, acknowledged allies who stood by him, and vowed to continue pursuing accountability over billions of pesos intended for flood mitigation projects.

The statement comes amid an ongoing dispute over Senate leadership that Cayetano and his allies have linked to efforts to scrutinize government flood control spending. Throughout his statement, Cayetano repeatedly emphasized that the fight was not about the Senate presidency itself.

"This was never about the Senate presidency. From the very beginning it was about the truth — the truth about the flood-control funds, the billions meant to shield our towns and our families from the waters, the protection that was paid for and never came. That is the fight that began all of this — one side wanted to bring it out, the other desperate to keep it covered. And it is a fight that we intend to continue, no title or position required," he said.

Cayetano also questioned the purpose of the special session called by President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. on June 17, which Malacañang said was intended to tackle urgent legislative measures.

He argued that the legislative calendar itself undercut that justification, noting that none of the President's 21 priority measures appeared poised for passage.

"The President himself named twenty-one priority measures for passage by June, and when our leadership changed, his Palace promised the public there would be no slowdown. Yet not one of those twenty-one appears to be set for passage today," he said. He said instead, what will be sent into law instead is "a national orchid and two grants of citizenship." The lone priority measure on the calendar, he added, is the Anti-Political Dynasty bill which currently sits only at interpellation.

"We could have done the people's work these past weeks — had the effort gone into governing rather than into counting to thirteen. Instead, the real work waits. Cover-up time muna," Cayetano said. He also questioned whether the special session was meant to advance legislation or simply formalize a change in Senate leadership.

"Which leaves one honest question. If we are serious about working, then let us pass serious bills. And if we are not — if this Special Session is only the Palace's way of legitimizing its chosen Senate President — then the only thing special about it is that it proves our point despite all their denials," he said. He ended his message by vowing that his pursuit of the truth would continue regardless of who leads the Senate.

"Offices are temporary, titles are temporary, even majorities are temporary — but your right to the truth is not. I promise you, we will get to the bottom of this. We will find the Masterminds. We will hold them accountable," he said, addressing the public. "I may leave the position of SP, but I am honored to still be your PS — your Public Servant," he added

nagbabayad, dapat taas-an natin ang PhilHealth benefits," he stressed.

In July last year, the government implemented a zero balance billing policy wherein all medical expenses in government hospitals are fully covered by PhilHealth. / UPLIFT

DERETSAHAN

WEEKLY NEWS PUBLISHING

VOL.II SERIES 50

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

Bayhill Executive Subdivision Homeowners' Association Officers Courtesy Call and Oathtaking Ceremony

Dumalo sa ating tanggapan at nanumpa ang mga bagong halal na opisyal ng Bayhill Executive Subdivision Homeowners' Association – Palo Alto.

Ang panunumpa ng mga bagong opisyal ay hudyat ng panibagong yugto ng paglilingkod sa kanilang komunidad. Kaakibat nito ang responsibilidad na pangunahan ang kanilang samahan nang may integridad, malasakit, at dedikasyon para sa kapakanan ng bawat residente. Patuloy nating sinusuportahan ang mga homeowners' associations bilang mahalagang katuwang ng pamahalaan sa pagpapanatili ng kaayusan, pagkakaisa, at patuloy na pag-unlad ng ating mga pamayanan.

Binabati natin ang mga bagong halal na opisyal ng Bayhill Homeowners Executive Subdivision – Palo Alto. Nawa'y maging matagumpay ang inyong panunungkulan at patuloy kayong magsilbing huwaran ng tapat na paglilingkod sa inyong komunidad

(Nelson Dimapilis).

P30K PABUYA, INILAN PARA SA IMPORMASYON SA NAWAWALANG BATA

Naglaan ng tatlungupong libo- ng pisong pabuya si G. Jeremy Arvesu para sa sinumang makapagbibigay ng impormasyon o detalye sa kinaronan ng batang nasa larawan.

Ayon kay Arvesu, handa siyang ibigay ang naturang halaga sa sinumang makapagtuturo kung naasaan ang bata upang matulungan ang mga magulang na mahanap at muling makasama ang kanilang anak.

Patuloy ang panawagan sa publiko na makipag-ugnayan sa mga awtoridad o sa tanggapan ng Arvesu Land kung may nalalaman tungkol sa nawawalang bata.

Anumang impormasyon, gaano man kaliit, ay maaaring maging susi sa ligtas na pagbabalik ng bata sa kanyang pamilya.

Aly Toscana

SPED CENTER SA ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR NILOOBAN, PAMUNUAN NG ESKUWELAHAN NANAWAGAN.

Nagpahayag ng matinding pagkadismaya ang pamunuan ng Tukuran Special Education (SPED) Center sa Barangay San Carlos matapos umanong pasukin at haluhugin ng mga pinaniniwalaang out-of-school youth ang kanilang paaralan.

Ayon sa pamunuan, pinasok ng mga suspek ang silid at naganhanap ng pera at iba pang mahalagang gamit.

Batay sa paunang ulat, nagdulot din ang insidente ng pagkasira ng isang silid-aralan at iba pang ari-arian ng paaralan.

At ayon sa mga residente, bagama't naaresto umano ang mga sangkot, agad din silang pinalaya dahil pawang mga menor de edad. Anila, matagal nang suliranin sa kanilang lugar ang pagkakasangkot ng ilang kabataan sa paganakaw at iba pang paglabag sa batas.

Ayon pa sa punong-guro, nagsagawa na ang paaralan ng iba't ibang hakbang upang maprotektahan ang kanilang pasilidad, kabilang ang pagsasampa ng police report, pakikipag-ugnayan sa mga kinauukulang ahensya, at paglalagay ng mAg CCTV camera.

G a y u n m a n , nananatili pa rin aniya ang hamon sa pagpapanagot sa mga menor de edad na nasasangkot sa mga gani-

hayag ng paaralan.

Nanawagan din ang pamunuan ng Tukuran SPED Center sa komunidad at mga kinauukulang awtoridad na magtulungan upang maprotektahan ang mga paaralan,

matiyak ang kagligtasan ng mga guro at mag-aaral, at mabigyan ng tamang gabay ang mga kabataang nasa panganib na malihis ng landas.

Patuloy namang hinihintay ang resulta ng imbestigasyon ng mga awtoridad kaugnay ng insidente.

PHOTO : Mayet Tubac (Madeline Go)