

Enchanted Kingdom's Eldar Surprises Senior Residents in Calamba Ahead of Birthday Celebration



CARD MBA, nagsagawa ng mass wedding sa Laguna

Nagsagawa ng seremonya ng kasalang bayan ang CARD Mutual Benefit Association (CARD MBA), ang insurance arm ng CARD Mutually Reinforcing Institutions (CARD MRI), katuwang ang CARD SME Bank, para sa anim na magkasintahan noong Mayo 7, 2026 sa Calamba City Hall sa Calamba City, Laguna. Pinangunahan ni Bishop Augusto S. Flores Jr. ang seremonya.

Isinagawa ang mass wedding bilang bahagi ng mga programa ng CARD MBA na naglalayong tulungan ang mga magkapareha na lumahok sa kasalang bayan na inorganisa ng CARD MBA sa Calamba City, Laguna ay sina G. at Gng. Vicente (gitna). Ang programa ay bahagi ng inisyatiba ng CARD MBA na tumutulong sa mga miyembro na gawing legal ang kanilang pagsasama at mapalawak ang kanilang benepisyo at proteksyon para sa pamilya.

Sa CARD MBA, mahalaga sa amin na mapalawak ang saklaw ng proteksyon hindi lamang sa aming mga miyembro kundi pati sa kanilang pamilya, upang sila ay mapangalagaan sa oras ng sakuna at anumang oras ng pangangailangan," pahayag ni Dequito.

Nagsimula ang programang ito noong 2002 bilang isa sa mga non-financial services ng CARD MBA. Mula noon hanggang 2026, umabot na sa 1,473 mag-asawa ang natatutulan ng programa. Upang maging kwalipikado, kinakailangan ang aktibong miyembro ng CARD nang hindi bababa sa pitong buwan ang isa sa mga ikakasal, at parehong legal na walang asawa ang magkapareha.

Itinatag ang CARD Mutual Benefit



Isa sa anim na magkapareha na lumahok sa kasalang bayan na inorganisa ng CARD MBA sa Calamba City, Laguna ay sina G. at Gng. Vicente (gitna). Ang programa ay bahagi ng inisyatiba ng CARD MBA na tumutulong sa mga miyembro na gawing legal ang kanilang pagsasama at mapalawak ang kanilang benepisyo at proteksyon para sa pamilya.

Mayor Ross Rizal Honors Calamba Barbers for Free Haircut Drive During Brigada Eskwela 2026



CALAMBA CITY, Laguna — Hundreds of students received free haircuts during Brigada Eskwela 2026 through the collective efforts of the Samahan ng Manggugupit sa Calamba, helping them prepare with confidence for the opening of the new school year.

Mayor Roseller "Ross" H. Rizal expressed his gratitude to the local barbers' association for their continued support and commitment to serving the community through the initiative.

"Lubos ang ating pasasalamat sa Samahan ng Manggugupit sa Calamba sa kanilang walang sawang pakikisa at pagiging katuwang sa

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna — Enchanted Kingdom's beloved Eldar, brought smiles and heartfelt joy to the elderly residents of Bahay ni Maria in Barangay Sampiruhan, Calamba City, during a special outreach activity held ahead of the theme park mascot's birthday celebration.

The surprise visit was part of Enchanted Kingdom's mission to spread happiness and give back to the community in celebration of Eldar's upcoming birthday. During the event, the iconic character spent time with the senior residents, creating memorable moments through warm interactions, entertainment, and cheerful surprises.

The outreach reflected Enchanted Kingdom's commitment to extending its message of joy beyond the theme park by reaching communities and bringing hope and happiness to those who need it most.

Residents and staff of Bahay ni Maria warmly welcomed Eldar, expressing gratitude for the thoughtful visit that brightened the day of the elderly and reminded them that they are valued and remembered.

The activity highlighted the importance of compassion, community service, and celebrating life's special moments by sharing joy with others, making Eldar's birthday celebration even more meaningful.

(Edjun Mariposque)

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Cavite towns chosen as focus areas for Tutok Kainan dietary supplementation program

PAGE 07

SSS taps tech firm Standard Economics for micro loan initiative



Social Security System (SSS) President and Chief Executive Officer Robert Joseph M. de Claro (4th from left) and Standard Economics President and Chief Executive Officer Evan Stanley Jones (3rd from left) inked the MOU to formalize the partnership for the implementation of the upcoming SSS Micro Loan Program. Also present during the MOU signing representing Standard Economics were James Musk (2nd from left), Paul Del Vecchio (left), Juan Paolo Villonco, and Atty. Mark Tiaoqui while representing SSS include Social Security Commission (SSC) Commissioner Victor Alfonso A. Limlingan (5th from left), Senior Vice President for Lending and Asset Management Group Pedro T. Baoy (6th from left), and SSS Senior Vice President for Member Services and Support Group Joy A. Villacorta (right).

Story on page 7

QUEZON, MAY BAGONG PAGDIRIWANG! HULYO 12, "WEST PHILIPPINE SEA VICTORY DAY" NA

JICA's Industrial Area Flood Risk Management project seen to ease flooding woes in Cavite Province



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

Eloisa Rozul, Department Head of the Office of the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officer (OP-DRRMO), in an interview with the Philippine Information Agency — CALABARZON confirmed that the Cavite Industrial Area

Flood Risk Management project will help reduce flooding in urbanized and industrial parts of the province.

"Cavite has experienced rapid urbanization over the past decades, resulting in increased paved

cont. on page 7



EDITORIAL:

TAPANG NG CORDILLERA: ANG WALANG HANGGANG PAGLILINGKOD NI ERNESTO LUIS

Isang Igorot na mandirigma na ipinanganak sa Kapangan, Benguet, si Ernesto Luis ay namuhay ng isang pambihirang buhay ng paglilingkod na sumaklaw sa iba't ibang digmaan.

Nang b6mb@h*n ng mga Hapones ang Camp John Hay noong Disyembre 1941, si Luis ay isang mag-aaral pa lamang sa elementarya. Lumikas ang kanyang pamilya patungong Kapangan, kung saan siya ay unang nagboluntaryo bilang isang batang mensahero (courier). Binabagtas niya ang mga landas sa bundok nang nakaapak upang palihim na maghatid ng pagkain at mga kagamitan sa mga gerilyang nagtatago sa Camp Shangri-La (ang himpilan ng B Company).

Noong Mayo 2, 1944, sa edad na 17, opisyal siyang nagpalista sa B Company, 66th Infantry Regiment. Nang mabalitaan ang pagbabalik ni Heneral Douglas MacArthur, si Luis at ang kanyang mga kasamang mandirigma ay palihim na naglakad patungong La Union upang magbuhat ng mga armas, radyo, at mga b@la pabalik sa kabundukan.

Ikinabit sa 130th Infantry Regiment ng US Army, ang yunit ni Luis ay nakipaglaban paakyat mula Naguilian upang palayain ang Lungsod ng Baguio. Ang kanyang yunit ay kabilang sa mga kauna-unahang nakatapak sa loob ng Baguio Cathedral, kung saan sinalubong sila ng libo-libong lokal na bakwit nang may masigabong pagdriwang.

"Ang motto ng 66th Infantry Division ay 'Nowhere yet Everywhere' (Wala Saanman ngunit Nasa Lahat ng Dako) — isang patunay sa kanilang kahusayan sa mga taktikang hit-and-run na gerilya sa mabundok at mabatong lupain ng Cordillera."

Matapos ang World War II, naging hadlang ang kahirapan sa buhay kaya hindi niya natapos ang kanyang pag-aaral sa mataas na paaralan. Nang makakita ng isang trak ng rekrutment ng hukbo na may slogan na "Join the Army and See the World" (Sumali sa Hukbo at Libutin ang Mundo), muli siyang nagpalista.

Nagboluntaryo siya para sa Philippine Expeditionary Forces to Korea (PEFTOK) at sumali sa 14th Battalion Combat Team upang lumaban kasama ang mga puwersa ng United Nations hanggang sa magkaroon ng armistice (kasunduan sa pagtigil ng put*kan) noong 1953.

Pagkauwi sa Pilipinas, lumipat siya sa Philippine Constabulary (Konstabularyo ng Pilipinas) at tapat na naglingkod hanggang sa kanyang mandatoryong pagreretiro noong 1972.

Si Ernesto Luis ay nananatiling isang buhay na simbolo ng katapangan ng mga Cordilleran. Noong Abril 2026, sa edad na 99, personal siyang dumalo sa ika-81 na pagdriwang ng Baguio Liberation Day sa Veterans Park—nakatayo nang matuwid bilang ang huling natitirang saksing nakakita sa kagitingan ng mga mandirigmang Igorot na nagbawi sa kabundukan.

QUEZON...

LUCENA CITY, Quezon — Simula ngayong taon, opisyal nang gugunitain sa buong Lalawigan ng Quezon ang Hulyo 12 bilang "West Philippine Sea Victory Day" matapos pagtibayin ng Sangguniang Panlalawigan ng Provincial Ordinance No. 2026-010.

Ang ordinansa ay pagkilala sa makasaysayang arbitral ruling noong Hulyo 12, 2016 na nagpatibay sa mga kapapatan ng Pilipinas sa West Philippine Sea batay sa United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). Ayon sa pama-

CAYETANO...

Senator-judge Alan Peter Cayetano on Wednesday said the integrity of the impeachment court must be protected as he raised the timing of the National Bureau of Investigation's (NBI) announcement of its probe into the 2019 Southeast Asian (SEA) Games.

His remarks came after fellow senator-judge Robinhood Padilla raised concerns over the timing of the NBI's announcement, which came days after Cayetano questioned NBI Director Melvin Matibag's request to reschedule his impeachment testimony because of an overseas seminar.

While stressing that the NBI was free

to investigate any issue, Cayetano said public officials should ensure that their actions do not undermine confidence in the impeachment proceedings.

"Go ahead and investigate [but] we have to make sure that the integrity of the court is intact," Cayetano said on July 15, 2026

"I hope this issue of the integrity of the court becomes an issue to all of us," he added.

He said he had no objection to any investigation, noting that the SEA Games had already been examined several times, including before the Office of the Ombudsman where he personally appeared to answer questions.

However, Cayetano described the NBI's latest announcement as a "misfire," saying it wrongly linked him to infrastructure projects that were outside the scope of his responsibilities as chair of the Philippine Southeast Asian Games Organizing Committee (PHISGOC).

He explained that the infrastructure projects cited by the NBI were undertaken by the Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA), not the organizing committee he chaired.

He also said the absence of public bidding did not automatically mean anomalies had been committed because the procurement law allows alternative modes of procurement.

Cayetano also defended the country's hosting of the 2019 SEA Games, saying the event brought honor to the Philippines and served as a milestone for many Filipino athletes.

"Paninindigan ko po na napakaganda nung nangyari roon. At kung may anomalya, ako [ang] unang magagalit," he said.

Cayetano maintained that his earlier remarks about Matibag were not personal but were prompted by the director's request to reschedule to

an earlier date his appearance before the impeachment court despite the significance of the proceedings.

He questioned the public announcement of the investigation just as the NBI director was set to appear before the Senate.

"But isn't it unfair to me and unfair to the court that kung kailan siya patatawag sa Monday, i-intimidate mo ako? [Para ba] hindi kita tatanungin sa Monday dahil mag-a-announce ka na iimbestigahan mo [ang SEA Games]?" he said.

Cayetano said he would continue carrying out his constitutional duty as a senator-judge regardless of who was facing impeachment and reiterated that while the NBI was free to investigate any matter, it should avoid actions that could affect the credibility of the impeachment court.

"Together, we recommended legislative measures to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan through the PDRPMC Chairperson for the enactment of DRRM-related ordinances."

Rozul noted that key policies that they have recommended included the ordinances for the creation of an Infrastructure Audit Team, while other policies such as the Designation of Safety Offices in Elementary and Secondary School and the Ordinance on Safety Waters are being approved for first reading and are undergoing the crafting of Internal Rules and Regulations, respectively.

The Cavite Industrial Area Flood Risk



JICA...

surfaces, reduced natural drainage, and higher flood runoff during heavy rainfall."

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

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

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The Cavite Industrial Area Flood Risk

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

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

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

With some of its cities connected to Metro Manila, Cavite Province frequently experience province especially in parts of Bacoor, Imus, Kawit, Noveleta, Rosario, General Trias, Tanza, and Dasmariñas, particularly during prolonged rains, tropical cyclones, and high tide.

Cavite...

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

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

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

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

Under the TK-DSP, nutritionally at-risk pregnant women will receive dietary supplementation for 90 days, while children aged six to 23 months will be provided with food supplementation for 180 days to help meet their nutritional require-

ments during critical stages of growth and development.

Aside from food supplementation, beneficiaries will also undergo nutrition education sessions and gain access to complementary health and nutrition services.

These interventions aim to improve feeding practices, promote healthy eating habits, and encourage families to make nutritious yet affordable food choices.

"So hindi lang nga po ito dietary supplementation o dagdag na pagkain, kasama din dito yung pagtuturo sa magulang at tagapag-alaga ng tamang pagpapakain, ng wastong paghahanda ng pagkain, breastfeeding, at ng iba pang mga kaalaman na pang-nutrisyon na kailangan po para maalagaan po natin ang atin pong mga kabataan," Rivas said.

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

The TK-DSP, one of the flagship nutrition interventions of the national government, is designed to reduce stunting, wasting, and other forms of malnutrition through community-based strategies. It also supports the goals of the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition 2023–2028, which aims to improve the nutritional status of Filipinos and contribute to healthier and more productive communities.

The winner in the Aug. 29, 2026 special elections will replace former Rep. Francisco "Kiko" Barzaga, who was expelled by House members in June due to "disorderly behavior, conduct unbecoming of a member, and violations of the House Code of Conduct."

(PNA)

SSS...

QUEZON CITY — The Social Security System (SSS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Non-Disclosure Agreement with Standard Economics on 3 July 2026 to support the development and implementation of the SSS Micro Loan Program, also known as SSS Loan-Lite, a proposed digital microloan facility designed to provide members with faster, safer, and more affordable access to short-term financial assistance.

The initiative is intended to help SSS members access financial support with greater speed, security, and convenience, while strengthening the infrastructure used to assess, distribute, and service financial assistance at scale.

SSS President and Chief Executive Officer Robert Joseph M. de Claro and Standard Economics President and Chief Executive Officer Evan Stanley Jones inked the MOU to formalize the partnership and leverage the company's Economic Superintelligence platform.

"Standard Economics is honored to support SSS in its mission to serve Filipino workers and their families," said Evan. "Our goal is to provide modern financial infrastructure that helps institutions deliver support faster, safer, and more efficiently. We believe every day, people deserve access to financial products that are trusted, high quality, and built around their needs."

Standard Economics' Economic Superintelligence platform combines secure financial infrastructure with advanced intelligence systems for identity, AI risk assessment, AI underwriting, payments, AI fraud prevention, and data security. The platform is designed

to help governments and institutions move, allocate, and manage money at population scale while improving the member experience.

De Claro thanked Standard Economics for partnering with SSS to fulfill its mission of serving the Filipino people.

"Your organization may be relatively new to the industry, but it shows a great promise through its innovations that enable faster loan disbursement, lower transaction costs, greater financial inclusion, automated processes and real-time monitoring," he said. "By leveraging blockchain technology and digital payments, you have the potential to be a true game changer."

He noted that the partnership supports President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s vision of positioning the Philippines as open for business in terms of investments, further reinforced by the country's recent classification by the World Bank as an upper middle-income economy.

He also highlighted Finance Secretary and Social Security Commission Chairperson Frederick D. Go's vision of using technology to deliver faster services with lower fees for loan borrowers, adding that he is proud that, through SSS' partnership with Standard Economics, the institution will leverage AI to strengthen security controls and improve advanced audit capabilities in support of the SSS LoanLite Program.

Standard Economics said the Philippines is an important market for its broader mission of expanding access to modern financial services. The company is building financial infrastructure to give everyday people a pathway to economic security, open participation in the modern economy, and long-term wealth creation.

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be still
and know

PSALM 46:10



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Malayang Talakayan, Mas Malinaw na Direksyon | Talakayan kasama ang ilang mga TODA dito sa ating lungsod



Nagkaroon tayo ng isang bukas at malayang talakayan kasama ang mga opisyal ng SM Calamba TODA, Sirang Lupa TODA, at Looc-Uwisang TODA upang pag-usapan ang mga programa at proyektong makatutulong sa ating mga tricycle drivers.

Kabilang sa ating natalakay ang truck ban,

road networks, bypass road, at iba pang mahalagang usapin na may direktang epekto sa kanilang araw-araw na pamamasada.

Higit sa lahat, naging pagkakataon ito upang mas mapakinggan natin ang kanilang mga mungkahi, karanasan, at hinaing. Sa pamamagitan ng ganitong bukas na

pag-uusap, mas nagkaroon tayo ng malinaw na direksyon kung ano pa ang mga dapat nating ayusin at pagbutihin.

Kapag sama-sama ang pamahalaan at ang sektor ng transportasyon, mas mabilis nating naihahatid ang mga solusyong tunay na kailangan ng ating mga kababayan.

(Vincent Cruz)

DOLE vows stronger support for PESOs, workers in CALABARZON

SANTA ROSA CITY, Laguna (PIA) — Labor Secretary Francis Tolentino reaffirmed the commitment of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) to support Public Employment Service Offices (PESOs) and assist local government units in making workers competitive for the jobs of the future.

During the general assembly of the Laguna Association of PESO, Industry, and Academe (AS-PIA) on Thursday, July 2 in Santa Rosa City, Laguna, Tolentino underscored the crucial role of PESOs as the bridge between the national government and LGUs in delivering employment services to communities.

“Ako po ay naniniwala na malaki ang maitutulong ng PESO. PESO has always been the link between the National Government and the Local Government Units. Kung wala po siguro ang PESO, hirap na hirap ‘yung ating mga mayors, ‘yung ating mga local officials para balansehin ‘yung mga pangangailangan ng kanilang nasasakupan,” the labor chief said.

PESOs are non-fee charging employment service and information centers established in

provinces, cities, and municipalities under the Public Employment Service Office system through the Public Employment Service Office Act of 1999, later strengthened by Republic Act No. 10691.

Managed by local government units in partnership with DOLE, PESOs provide job matching, career guidance, labor market information, and employment facilitation services, serving as the primary link between job seekers, employers, educational institutions, and government agencies.

Tolentino recalled that before the establishment of PESOs, many employment-related concerns were directly brought to local chief executives, making it difficult for mayors and LGUs to address the growing needs of job seekers and employers.

“Kahit noon sa Tagaytay, halos lahat ng lumalapit tungkol sa trabaho ay nasa opisina ng mayor.

Ngunit dahil mayroon na tayong PESO, ay umaalwan ang trabaho ng ating mga LGU,” he said.

Meanwhile, Santa Rosa City Mayor Arlene Arcillas emphasized that development should remain centered on people

while ensuring the workforce is equipped for the rapidly evolving economy.

“As industries continue to evolve, so must our workforce. We need to adapt to its demands continuously. Now, more than ever, we must strengthen our partnership among the government, industry, and the academe so as to ensure that our people have the skills and opportunities they need to succeed in today’s job market,” Arcillas said.

As the local host of the assembly, Arcillas welcomed delegates from across Laguna and CALABARZON and expressed hope that the event would deepen cooperation among stakeholders in employment generation and workforce development.

Tolentino likewise highlighted the importance of strengthening the “triple helix” partnership among the academe, government, and industry to ensure that education, employment, and economic development remain aligned with the country’s evolving labor market needs, in line with the directive of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. and as guided by the Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028.

DTI Laguna Sustains MSME Week Momentum with Month-Long Entrepreneurship Campaign

VICTORIA, Laguna — The Department of Trade and Industry – Laguna Provincial Office (DTI Laguna) is sustaining the momentum of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise (MSME) Week 2026 through a month-long entrepreneurship campaign that expands learning opportunities for aspiring and existing entrepreneurs across Laguna. Anchored on the theme, “Navigating the Shift: Building Resilient and Future-Ready MSMEs,” the campaign highlights DTI Laguna’s continuing efforts to help local enterprises embrace innovation, digital transformation, and sustainable business growth.

While the official observance of MSME Week was held from July 6 to 12, DTI Laguna continues the celebration

throughout July through seminars, webinars, and learning sessions led by the Provincial Office and its network of Negosyo Centers. The campaign opened with a Livelihood Orientation Program in partnership with the Calamba Manpower Development Center and the observance of World Chocolate Day. Additional activities scheduled throughout the month will cover topics such as business innovation, digitalization, artificial intelligence, financial literacy, cybersecurity, regulatory compliance, consumer education, and access to government programs and financing. “MSMEs remain the backbone of Laguna’s local economy. Through MSME Week and our continuing entrepreneurship initiatives, we aim to

equip entrepreneurs with the knowledge, skills, and government support they need to innovate, adapt, and grow,” said DTI Laguna Provincial Director Christian Ted O. Tungohan.

The activities are being conducted in partnership with local government units, national government agencies, financial institutions, academic institutions, and private sector organizations, reflecting a collaborative approach to strengthening Laguna’s MSME sector. Interested participants may visit the official Facebook page of the DTI Laguna Provincial Office or coordinate with their nearest Negosyo Center for updates on the remaining activities scheduled throughout July. (ARCAlinios, DTI Laguna)



QCPD Nagpatupad ng Mas Mahigpit na Sistema Kontra Nawawala at Ninanakaw na Plaka; Target ang Nationwide Database

Inihayag ni PBGen Randy Glenn Silvio, District Director ng Quezon City Police District (QCPD) ang pagpapatupad ng mas pinaigting na sistema laban sa pagkawala at pagnanakaw ng mga plaka ng sasakyan matapos matuklasang wala pang umiiral na komprehensibong database para rito, hindi lamang sa QCPD kundi maging sa iba pang police districts sa National Capital Region (NCR).

Bilang tugon, bumuo ang QCPD ng isang Viber Group Alert System kung saan agad na ibinabahagi ang mga ulat ng mga nawawala o ninakaw na plaka mula sa iba’t ibang himpilan ng pulisya. Layunin nitong mabigyang babala ang lahat ng operating units upang agad na matukoy ang mga plakang maaaring gamitin sa paggawa ng krimen.

Ayon kay PBGen Silvio, kapag may inulat na nawawala o ninakaw na plaka sa alinmang police station, agad itong ipapaabot sa regional level at ipapasok sa shared monitoring system. Sa ganitong paraan, ang mga checkpoint personnel at police units ay agad na maaalerto at maiwasang magamit ang naturang plaka bilang pagkakakilanlan ng mga sasakyang ginagamit sa mga krimen, kabilang ang mga getaway vehicle.

Kasabay nito, magsasagawa rin ang QCPD ng masusing imbestigasyon sa bawat insidente. Agad na rerepasuhin ang mga CCTV footage at bubuo ng Special Investigation Team (SIT) upang matukoy at matugis ang mga responsable. Target ng pulisya na maaresto ang mga suspek sa lalong madaling panahon upang hindi na sila makapangbiktima pa sa ibang lugar.

Kapag natukoy ang mga salarin, sisiguraduhin ng QCPD na maisasampa ang kaukulang kaso laban sa kanila at makapagpalabas ng warrant of arrest upang maaresto sila saanman sila magtago.

Nakikipag-ugnayan na rin ang QCPD sa National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO), sa Directorate for Operations ng Philippine National Police (PNP), at sa Highway Patrol Group (HPG) upang makabuo ng iisang standard operating procedure sa pag-uulat ng mga nawawala at ninakaw na plaka.

Sa ilalim ng panukalang sistema, ang lahat ng ulat mula sa mga lokal na police station ay awtomatikong ipapasa rin sa HPG upang makabuo ng pambansang database. Makatutulong ito sa pagtukoy kung ang mga insidente ay gawa ng iisang indibidwal o organisadong grupo at magsisilbing batayan sa mas malawak na operasyon laban sa mga kriminal.

“We are after na ma-implement din ito nationwide para po tulung-tulong at para medyo pasisikipin natin yung lugar na ginagalawan ng mga criminal elements, criminal individual, or criminal group dito sa ating nasasakupan.”, winika ni District Director PBGen Silvio.

EXPLICIT Madelaine Go

BBM NAMAHAHI NG LIBRENG BIGAS

Nagpahayag ng suporta ang National Nutrition Council (NNC) CALABARZON sa programang “Bawat Bayan Makikinabang” (BBM) ng pamahalaan, na layong maghatid ng tulong na bigas sa mga komunidad bilang bahagi ng pagpapalakas ng food security at paglaban sa malnutrisyon sa bansa.

Ayon sa NNC, ang programa ay kabilang sa mga prayoridad na inisyatiba ng administrasyon ni Pangulong Ferdinand Marcos Jr. upang matiyak na may sapat at abot-kayang suplay ng pangunahing pagkain ang mga Pilipino sa pamamagitan ng pagtutulongan ng mga ahensya ng pamahalaan, lokal na pamahalaan, at iba pang katuwang sa komunidad.

Sa panayam sa programang pang-gradyo ng Philippine Information Agency (PIA), sinabi ni NNC CALABARZON Nutrition Officer Theresa Rivas na malaking tulong ang pamamahagi ng bigas sa ilalim ng Local Government Support Fund (LGSF), lalo na para sa mga pamilyang higit na nangangailangan.

“Malaking tulong po ang programang ito na nagbibigay ng suporta sa pagkain tulad ng pamamahagi ng bigas sa ilalim ng Local Government Support Fund, lalo na po sa mga pamilyang higit na nangangailangan.

Nakatatulong po ito sa food insecurity o kakulangan sa pagkain ng isang pamilya at nakatutulong upang matiyak na may pangunahing pagkain ang bawat tahanan,” ani Rivas.

Sa ilalim ng LGSF, target ng programa na mabigyan ng tulong na bigas ang mga komunidad sa buong bansa, partiku-



lar ang mga mahihirap at vulnerableng pamilya na nahihirapang makasabay sa patuloy na pagtaas ng presyo ng mga pangunahing bilihin.

Ipinaliwanag din ni Rivas na nagsisimula ang malnutrisyon kapag hindi natutugunan ng isang pamilya ang kanilang pang-araw-araw na pangangailangan sa pagkain. Aniya, ang matagal na kakulangan sa pagkain ay may malaking epekto sa kalusugan, paglaki, pagkatuto, at pagiging produktibo ng isang tao, lalo na sa mga bata.

“Kapag hindi sapat ang kinakain ng isang tao o ng isang pamilya sa loob ng maraming araw, maaari silang maging malnourished. Kaya kailangan nating maibsan ang kagutuman upang mabawasan din ang malnutrisyon sa ating bansa. Malaking tulong po itong BBM rice program,” dagdag niya.

Bukod sa pamamahagi ng pagkain, binigyang-diin din ng NNC ang kahalagahan ng mga programang pangnutrisyon sa mga paaralan, kabilang ang Gulayan sa Paaralan Program ng Department of Education, na nagtataguyod ng pagtatanim ng gulay, wastong nutrisyon, at pagpapalakas ng seguridad sa pagkain sa antas ng paaralan at tahanan.

Ayon sa konseho, ang mga programang ito ay kaakibat ng layunin ng Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition na mabawasan ang lahat ng uri ng malnutrisyon at mapabuti ang kalagayang pangkalusugan ng mga Pilipino sa pamamagitan ng magkakaugnay na mga programang pangnutrisyon at pangkabuhayan.

PUBLISHER CORNER

CHIZ SEEKS FDA OVERHAUL TO BETTER PROTECT CONSUMERS

Senator Francis “Chiz” Escudero has filed a measure proposing to overhaul the country’s product regulatory system by transferring several functions of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to other government agencies better aligned with the nature and risks of the products they oversee.

In filing Senate Bill No. 2310 bill, Escudero said his proposed reform aims to streamline government regulation, reduce bureaucratic bottlenecks, and strengthen public health and consumer protection through a science-based, risk-informed framework across agencies.

He also said the measure addresses long-standing overlaps and delays that affect both consumers and businesses.

“Product regulation efficiency is critical for promoting public health and safety, and for protecting consumers from trade malpractices and from substandard or hazardous products,” Escudero said in the bill’s explanatory note.

“Through the establishment and enforcement of product standards and other regulatory measures, the government addresses matters that cannot reasonably be expected of individual consumers, such as verifying product quality, (and) ensuring compliance with technical and manufacturing standards,” he stressed.

Under the proposed “Product Regulatory System Reform Act,” the regulation of raw and unprocessed food products shall be transferred to the Department of Agriculture



(DA), while processed food, cosmetics, and other consumer goods shall fall under the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). Other products could likewise be reassigned to specialized agencies depending on their risk profile and statutory mandates.

Escudero emphasized that the realignment seeks to ensure that regulatory functions are exercised by agencies with the appropriate technical expertise and institutional capacity. The measure also mandates inter-agency coordination to avoid duplication and improve public service delivery.

He underscored the urgency of updating the country’s regulatory framework, citing “rapid technological advancements, increasing complexity of products, evolution of local and global markets, and the emergence of public health risks” as reasons for adopting a more responsive system.

To ensure continuity of service, the bill provides transitory provisions allowing existing permits, registrations, and authorizations to remain valid until expiration. Pending applications and enforcement actions will be completed by the agency to which the relevant function is transferred.

The Bicologo senator said the proposed reforms aim to build “a coherent, adaptive, and efficient regulatory system that protects public health and safety and consumer welfare” while encouraging innovation and investment. #



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GSIS raises funeral benefit to Php 50,000

The Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) has increased its funeral benefit for government workers and qualified pensioners from Php 30,000 to Php 50,000 for all claims arising from deaths occurring on or after July 13, 2026.

The increased funeral benefit provides families with greater financial assistance to cover funeral costs at the time of loss, allowing them to focus on honoring their loved ones with dignity.

"Every family deserves support and dignity when they lose someone they love. Raising the funeral benefit to Php 50,000 means the GSIS stands beside our members' families at the exact moment they need us most," said GSIS President and General Manager Wick Veloso.

The GSIS extends funeral assistance

to approximately 21,000 to 25,000 families nationwide each year. To sustain this expanded support, the GSIS will be allocating up to Php 1.25 billion annually.

The funeral benefit is available to qualified active members, separated members entitled to future separation or retirement benefits, old-age pensioners, retirees who opted for retirement under Republic Act 1616 despite being of pensionable age under RA 8291, and members who retired under RA 1616 before RA 8291 took effect, provided they had rendered at least 20 years of government service.

The funeral benefit is a one-time payment of Php 50,000.00, payable to a single qualified beneficiary or claimant.

The benefit is paid to the deceased member's qualified beneficiaries following this order

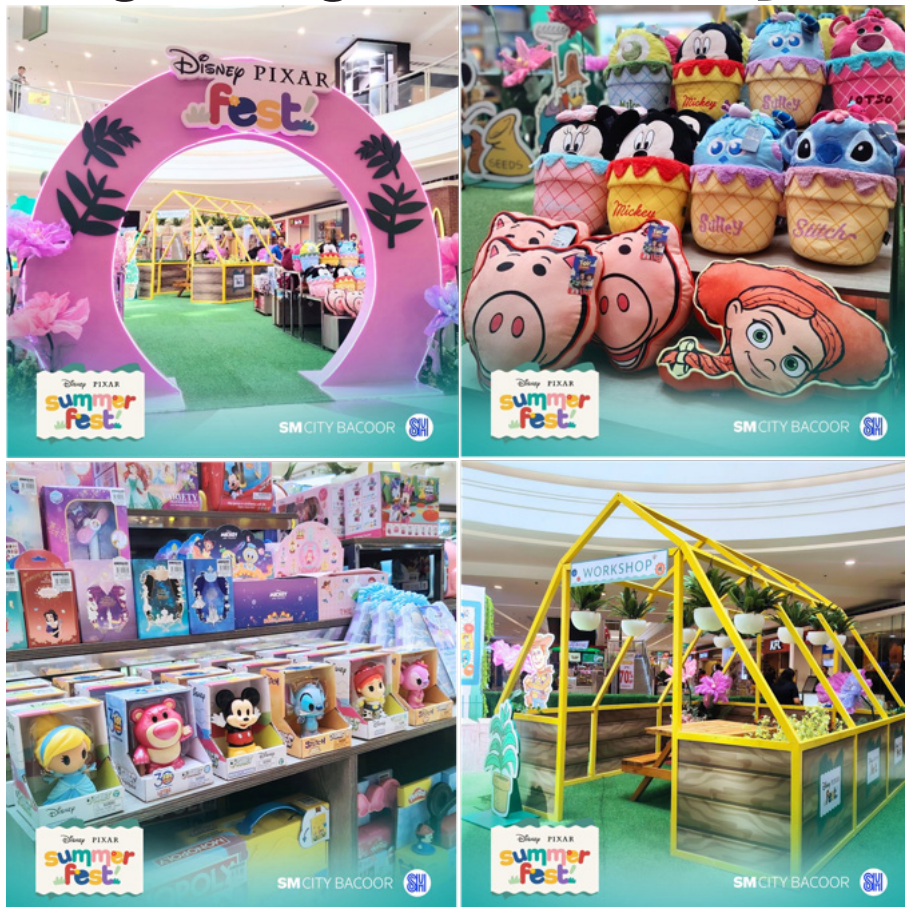
of priority: the legitimate spouse; the legitimate child who paid for the funeral expenses; or, in the absence of both, any person who can present sufficient proof of having shouldered the funeral expenses.

Claimants must submit the prescribed documentary requirements, including the member's death certificate, a valid government-issued identification card, and other supporting documents depending on their relationship to the deceased. Non-spouse claimants must also present proof that they paid the funeral expenses.

"The funeral benefit is one of the most immediate forms of assistance we give our members. Raising it to Php 50,000 shows how seriously the GSIS takes that responsibility," added PGM Veloso.

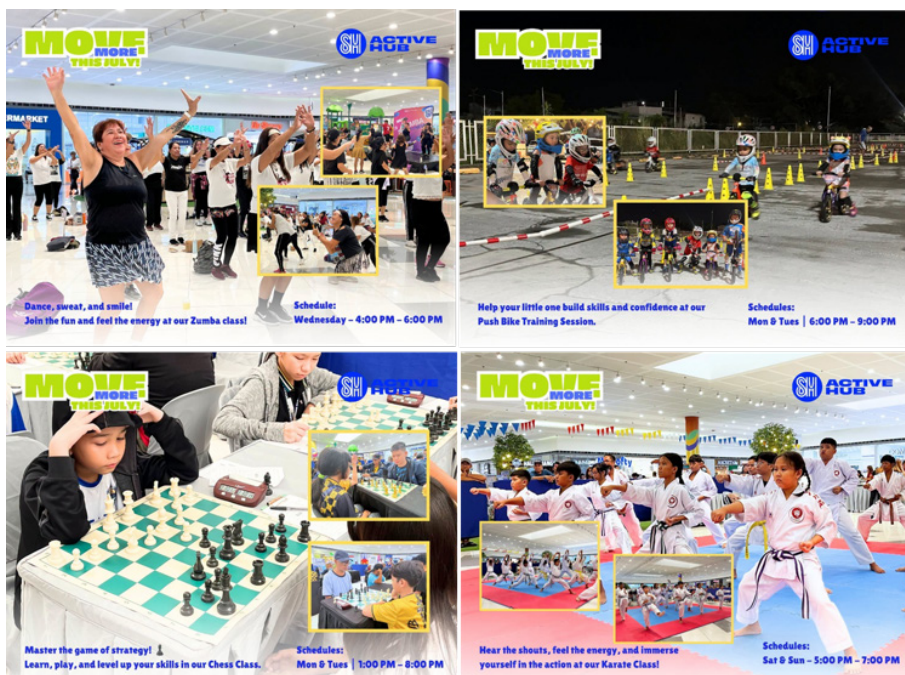
The benefit in-

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crease is part of the administration's commitment to the welfare of public sector workers, pensioners, and their dependents, consistent with the Ba-

gong Pilipinas agenda and the President's 8-Point Socioeconomic Agenda.

For more information on the increased funeral benefit, members

and pensioners may visit the GSIS website and its official social media pages, or call the contact center at 8-847-4747. By GSIS

Cavite City Deploys Hi-Tech Mobile Sweeper to Strengthen Clean and Green Campaign, Calls for Public Cooperation

ulat ni Hanz Darwin Corciega

CAVITE CITY — The Cavite City Government has taken a significant step toward improving environmental cleanliness with the deployment of a new hi-tech mobile street sweeper, an initiative introduced by Mayor Denver Chua as part of the city's ongoing Clean and Green campaign. The modern cleaning equipment is expected to make road maintenance faster, more efficient, and more consistent while supporting the local government's efforts to provide residents with a cleaner, safer, and more sustainable environment. Despite the introduction of advanced technology, city officials emphasized that the success of the program still depends on the active participation and discipline of every resident.

The local government of Cavite City officially introduced its newest hi-tech mobile street sweeper, a modern cleaning vehicle designed to improve the maintenance of the city's roads and public spaces. According to Mayor Denver Chua, the acquisition of the equipment reflects the city's commitment to embracing innovation in public service while enhancing the quality of life of its residents.

The mobile sweeper is expected to operate throughout the city, regularly cleaning major roads, commercial areas, and other public spaces. Equipped with advanced sweeping technology, the vehicle can collect dust, dirt, leaves, and other debris more efficiently than traditional manual cleaning methods.

Its deployment is anticipated to reduce the amount of waste accumulating on streets, improve road safety by minimizing loose debris, and contrib-

ute to a healthier urban environment.

Mayor Chua shared that this type of modern street-cleaning equipment was once commonly seen only in highly developed countries such as Japan. With the introduction of the mobile sweeper in Cavite City, the local government hopes to demonstrate that the city is embracing modern solutions to improve public services and environmental management.

The initiative forms part of the city's broader Clean and Green Program, which aims to promote environmental sustainability through improved waste management, regular street cleaning, and community participation.

City officials believe that maintaining clean public spaces not only enhances the city's appearance but also contributes to public health, environmental protection, and tourism by creating a more welcoming atmosphere for both residents and visitors.

While highlighting the benefits of the new equipment, Mayor Chua stressed that technology alone cannot guarantee a clean city. He emphasized that maintaining cleanliness remains a shared responsibility between the local government and the community.

Residents were encouraged to practice proper waste disposal, avoid littering, segregate their garbage responsibly, and actively support environmental programs implemented by the city government.

The mayor noted that the local government will continue investing in projects and equipment that improve public services and environmental protection.

However, he un-

derscored that lasting success can only be achieved through cooperation among government agencies, local communities, businesses, and individual citizens.

Environmental advocates have long pointed out that regular street cleaning helps reduce pollution by preventing dust and waste from accumulating on roads and entering drainage systems. Efficient cleaning also minimizes the risk of flooding caused by clogged waterways while improving sanitation in densely populated urban areas. The deployment of the mobile sweeper is expected to complement existing waste management efforts and contribute to a cleaner city environment.

The city government likewise hopes that the initiative will inspire residents to become more environmentally conscious and encourage greater civic participation in maintaining public spaces.

Officials emphasized that keeping Cavite City clean is not solely the responsibility of sanitation workers but a collective duty shared by every citizen.

As the hi-tech mobile sweeper begins its regular operations across Cavite City, the local government remains optimistic that the combination of modern technology, effective public service,

and active community involvement will help create a cleaner, greener, and more livable city for present and future generations.

Residents are also encouraged to share their feedback and suggestions regarding the city's latest environmental initiative as the government continues to strengthen its programs for sustainable urban development.

DepEd boosts early childhood nutrition through Supplemental Feeding Program

RIZAL, Laguna (PIA) — A whole-of-government approach to improving the nutrition and overall well-being of Filipino learners is being strengthened as the administration of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. expands the implementation of the Supplemental Feeding Program in Rizal, Laguna, on Wednesday, July 8.

The Department of Education (DepEd), through Early Childhood Care and Development Centers (ECDC), provides accessible and direct nutrition interventions, particularly for children during their formative years, from birth to eight years old.

The Supplemental Feeding Program is being implemented in line with the directive of President Marcos Jr. to ensure sustained support for the country's most vulnerable sectors while promoting learners' physical growth, cognitive development, and overall well-being.

DepEd Assistant Secretary for Learning System Janir Datukan, who led the inspection of the ECDC in Rizal, Laguna, said the program is being implemented in partnership with the Department of Budget and Management, which funded the construction of Child Development Centers, particularly in fourth- and fifth-class municipalities nationwide, a hub that will help monitor the growth and overall nutrition of children before they enter formal elementary education.

"Importante magkaroon tayo ng Child Development Centers para mas mabantayan natin ang mga bata bago sila pumasok sa formal school kasi nakakaligtan natin na ang formative years ng mga bata ay hindi nagsisimula sa schools.

Gusto natin paingtingin 'yung programang iyon para 'yung bata pag pinasok na natin sa formal school at tinanggap na ng DepEd ay ready sila," Datukan said.

At present, 1.8 million learners are enrolled in 328 Child Development Centers nationwide managed by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and local government units, which play a vital role in implementing the Supplemental Feeding Program.

For the municipal LGU of Rizal, the national government's initiative further strengthens early childhood care and development and lays a strong foundation for lifelong learning and human capital development.

"Nagpapasa-alamat ako sa mga taga-DepEd, nagkaroon ng bagong proyekto dito sa aming bayan. Ito po ay ang ECDC. Yun po ay funded ng ating mahal na Pangulo sa ilalim ng Local Government Support Fund," Rizal, Laguna Mayor Vener Muñoz said.

Teachers and parents in the Laguna town likewise expressed positive feedback on the ECDCs and the Supplemental Feeding Program. "Sa pamamagitan po nito ay nasusupportahan po ang mga bata para sa kanilang early stage development," said Vilma Mauhay, an early childhood center teacher.

Meanwhile, parent Mary Grace Belen said, "Alam po namin na ito ay nagsisilbing katuwang sa aming mga magulang para tuloy-tuloy ang pagbibigay ng nutrisyon para sa aming mga anak."

The provincial government of Laguna likewise expressed its support for the multi-sectoral effort to promote children's health and nutrition.

"The initiative

also serves as a platform to promote nutrition education among parents, guardians, and child development workers. The implementation of the program reflects the shared commitment of the national government, the Provincial Government of Laguna, and the Municipality of Rizal to advancing child welfare and ensuring that every child is given the opportunity to grow, learn, and thrive in a healthy environment," the Laguna Public Information Office said in a statement.

Beyond the Supplemental Feeding Program in the ECDCs, Mayor Muñoz emphasized the municipality's commitment to expanding nutrition initiatives in local schools to combat malnutrition.

"Isa sa mga pangunahing inisyatibong aming ipatutupad ay ang pagtatatag ng isang Mobile Kitchen na magsisilbing katuwang sa pagsasagawa ng feeding program.

Gagamitin ito upang makapaglibot sa bawat barangay at paaralan, nang sa gayon ay mas maraming batang nangangailangan ang magbigyan ng masustansiyang pagkain at makatanggap ng sapat na nutrisyon," the local chief executive added in a separate interview with the Philippine Information Agency.

The municipality of Rizal now has four newly constructed and operational ECCD buildings, with one additional facility currently under construction.

This reflects the national government's continued partnership with the LGU in providing safe, nurturing, and child-friendly learning environments for every learner.

