Mekeni Brings Elevated Filipino Street Food Experience at One Pampanga Food and Beverage Expo 2026

CLARK, PAMPANGA — Bringing a fresh and more premium take on the Filipino street food experience, Street Flavors by Mekeni joined the One Pampanga Food and Beverage Expo 2026 on September 19–20 at the SMX Convention Center Clark, showcasing how familiar Filipino favorites can become a memorable part of events and celebrations.

A food cart business concept of Mekeni Food Corporation, Street Flavors is designed to bring the company's well-loved products closer to consumers through ready-to-operate food carts that combine convenience, quality, and a more elevated street food experience.

From corporate gatherings and school activities to birthdays, community celebrations, and other special occasions, Street Flavors brings the energy and familiarity of Filipino street food directly to events—giving guests an experience that is both casual and premium.

"We want to bring the street food experience to events in a way that feels more exciting, convenient, and premium, while still keeping the flavors that Filipinos know and love," said Mr. Pruds Garcia, President of Mekeni Food Corporation.

More than an event food concept, Street Flavors also opens opportunities for aspiring entrepreneurs through its ready-to-operate food cart model.

By providing a business concept anchored on Mekeni's trusted food products, the initiative aims to create livelihood opportunities while expanding access to quality street food.

"Street food is deeply part of Filipino culture. Through Street Flavors, we want to give entrepreneurs an opportunity to bring that experience to more people while building a business of their own," he added.

While Street Flavors continues to cater to events and special occasions, the concept is also designed to serve everyday consumers through accessible food carts, making Mekeni products available beyond traditional retail channels.

Its participation in the One Pampanga Food and Beverage Expo highlighted Mekeni's continuing efforts to innovate beyond its core food manufacturing business and create new ways for consumers to experience its products.

Through Street Flavors by Mekeni, the company hopes to make quality, delicious, and distinctly Filipino street food more accessible, anytime, anywhere, and now, in a more premium way. - Christian Mañalac

(Mekeni Food Corp)

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WEEKLY NEWS PUBLISHING

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

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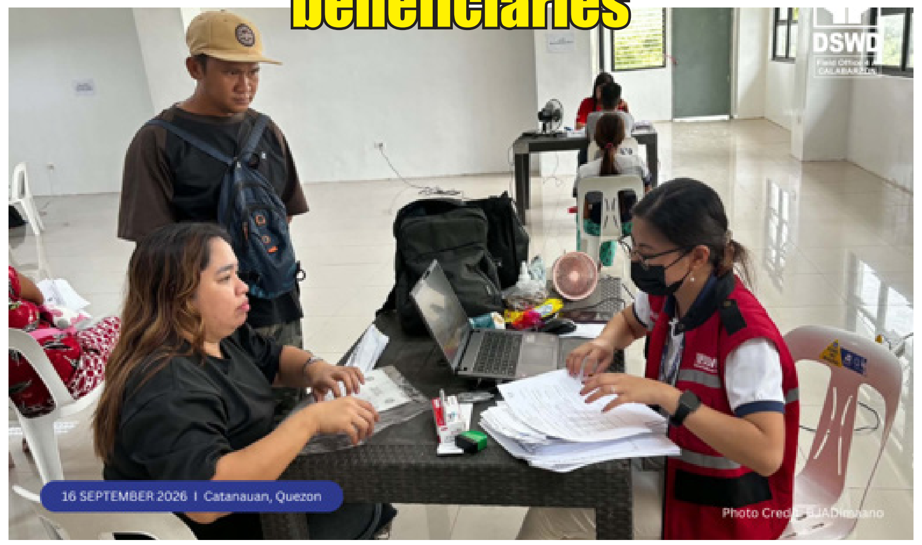
SSS confers awards on top employers, banks, media partners in 2026 Balikat ng Bayan Awards

2026 International Coastal Clean Up

SM CENTER IMUS 3 DAY SALE

More families across CALABARZON undergo validation as potential 4Ps beneficiaries



September 21, 2026 – The DSWD Field Office IV-A continues the validation of more than 79,000 families across the CALABARZON Region as potential beneficiaries of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps).

cont. on page 4

PhilHealth LHIO Dasmariñas and DLSMHSI Strengthen Partnership through MOU for Graduating Students and Alumni

Cayetano: Government stands to gain if Taguig land title allegations proven true

TANZA OASIS JOINS THE COASTAL CLEAN-UP DRIVE

Together with the Philippine Coast Guard and our community partners, Tanza Oasis proudly participates in this meaningful initiative to help keep our shores clean and protect our marine ecosystem. Let's work hand in hand for a cleaner, greener, and healthier environment for everyone.

EDITORYAL:

PWD, WHEELCHAIR AT KARAPATANG MAGKAROON NG BARIL

May mga nagtatanong: Kapag ba ang isang tao ay PWD o naka-wheelchair, bawal na agad siyang kumuha o mag-renew ng LTOPF at PTCFOR?

Batay sa RA 10591 at Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations, hindi nakasaad na ang pagiging PWD o wheelchair user, sa sarili lamang nito, ay automatic na disqualification para magkaroon ng firearm.

Sa katunayan, may partikular na provision ang Revised IRR para sa PWD na may physical at/o sensory impairment. Ang requirement ay medical certificate na nagsasabing kaya ng applicant na gamitin ang partikular na firearm nang efficiently, effectively at safely.

Ibig sabihin, hindi dapat ang simpleng tanong ay:

"PWD ba siya?"

Mas mahalagang tanong ay:

"Qualified ba siya sa ilalim ng batas at kaya ba niyang gamitin at pangasiwaan ang firearm nang ligtas?"

Mahalaga ring tandaan na magkaiba ang LTOPF at PTCFOR. Ang pagkakaroon ng LTOPF ay hindi automatic na nagbibigay ng PTCFOR. May hiwalay na requirements at qualification ang permit to carry.

Hindi rin dapat paghaluin ang physical disability at mental incapacity. Ang pagiging wheelchair user ay hindi nangangahulugan na ang isang tao ay mentally incapacitated o awtomatikong legally disqualified.

Kung may aplikanteng PWD na hindi pinagbigyan, makatarungan lamang na malaman niya ang eksaktong legal o administrative basis ng denial. Hindi sapat ang simpleng paliwanag na:

"Naka-wheelchair ka kasi."

Kung mayroong partikular na regulation o memorandum na nagbabawal sa isang wheelchair user, dapat itong malinaw na maipakita at maipaliwanag kung paano ito naaayon sa umiiral na firearms law.

Ang pagiging PWD ay hindi dapat awtomatikong ituring na kawalan ng kakayahan. Ang dapat suriin ay ang qualification, medical condition, functional capability at safety, ayon sa itinakda ng batas.

Sa batas, mahalaga ang qualification—hindi ang label.

DISCLAIMER:

Ang editorial na ito ay para sa public information at awareness lamang. Hindi ito legal advice at hindi kapalit ng opisyal na interpretasyon o desisyon ng PNP-FEO o ng korte. Para sa aktuwal na aplikasyon o renewal ng LTOPF at PTCFOR, sumangguni sa kasalukuyang rules at requirements ng PNP-FEO.

Cayetano...

FROM PAGE 1

Senate Minority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano on Sunday said the government stands to gain if allegations of illegally titled properties along Laguna Lake in Taguig are proven true, as authorities continue to scrutinize the questioned land titles.

Cayetano made the statement a day after Senator Panfilo Lacson alleged that there are four parcels of illegally reclaimed land in Taguig City covered by "fraudulently" issued titles, including a 181,077-square-meter property whose title originated from a homestead patent.

Lacson said the findings would form part of documents to be submitted to the Office of the Ombudsman.

Speaking at the 44th anniversary of Mandaport Apostolic Pentecostals (MAP) Church on August 30, Cayetano said the roughly 18-hectare property could ultimately benefit the government if the allegation surrounding its title is established.

"May isang nasa dyaryo kahapon na (nagsabi na may) 181,000 square meters o 18 hectares daw na 'illegally titled.' Sa isang banda po, nagho-hope din kami na totoo iyon.

Bakit? Kasi kung totoong illegal iyon, sa gobyerno iyon [mapupunta], eh di may 18 hectares tayo ngayon para sa gobyerno," he said.

Cayetano also welcomed the scrutiny of land titles in the area, noting that City of Taguig Mayor Lani Cayetano had long wanted the properties examined.

"Katulad ngayon na gusto nilang tingnan lahat ng titulo, matagal na pong gusto ni Lani iyon," he said.

Lacson earlier asked the Land Registration Authority (LRA) to trace the origins and history of titles covering properties in areas he linked to alleged illegal reclamation in Taguig. He said those responsible could face charges should authorities establish that the titles had been manipulated.

Cayetano, meanwhile, recalled that MAP Church had previously held one of its anniversary celebrations at the Lakeshore Tent, which has since been drawn into allegations involving supposed illegal reclamation.

"Natandaan ninyo po na doon kayo nag-anniversary isang beses sa Lakeshore Tent? Iyon po ang iniintriga ngayon," he told the congregation.

"Iyon ang pinapalabas na illegal reclamation at pinapalabas na kinakamkam ko rin daw po y'ung iba para sa aking sarili. Pero ang blessing po ay marami kasing gumagamit at alam naman po na hindi amin iyon," he added.

For Cayetano, the continuing scrutiny could ultimately result in additional land for the government should the allegations be substantiated.

"Ipag-pray nyo lang mga kapatid na ang mini-mean ng iba na harm ay mini-mean ni Lord para sa good," he said. PR

PhilHealth...

FROM PAGE 1

PhilHealth throughLocal Health Insurance Office (LHIO) Dasmariñas and the De La Salle Medical and Health Sciences Institute (DLSMHSI) strengthened their partnership through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on August 14, 2026, at the DLSMHSI Library Auditorium.

The partnership, effective August 16, 2026 to August 15, 2028, supports DLSMHSI's Pre-Employment Services Program through its Alumni Center for Engagement and Services (ACES), providing graduating students and alumni with easier access to PhilHealth services as they prepare to enter the workforce.

Under the MOU, LHIO Dasmariñas will assist eligible students and alumni with

PhilHealth registration, updating of member record, issuance of Member Data Record and PhilHealth ID, and YAKAP clinic assignment.

LHIO Dasmariñas will also provide guidance on the PhilHealth online application and conduct orientations on PhilHealth membership, benefits, and available services.

The MOU was represented by LHIO Dasmariñas Chief Social Insurance Officer Ma. Obelia M. Fontanilla, Social Insurance Officer III Alma P. Fortaleza, and Social Insurance Officer II Darlene D. Albaño.

Representing DLSMHSI were President Dr. Antonio B. Ramos, Chancellor and Chief Administrative Officer Ferdinand L. Berba, Vice Chancellor for Academics Dr. Naomi M. De Aro, and ACES Director Kathlyne Jane F. Graycochea.

Through this collaboration, LHIO Dasmariñas and DLSMHSI continue to bring essential health insurance information and services closer to future professionals, helping them stay informed and protected as they begin their professional journey.

Pope Leo XIV ikinabahala ang negatibong epekto ng AI sa buhay ng tao

Ibinabala ni Pope Leo XIV ang negatibong epekto ng artificial intelligence (AI) sa buhay ng tao.

Ito ang kaniyang naging pagbabala sa paghaharap niya kay French President Emmanuel Macron.

Nasa France kasi ang Santo Papa para sa kaniyang apat na araw na pagbisita.

Ayon sa Santo Papa na huwag sanang mawala ang pagiging makatao dahil sa mga naglipanang mga AI.

Sinalubong ni Macron ang Santo Papa sa kaniyang pagdating sa Orly airport.

Ilang mga aktibidad din ang gagawin ng Santo Papa gaya ng misa na gaganapin sa ipinatayong altar sa Place de la Concorde.

(Nelson Dimapilis)

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SSS...

FROM PAGE 1

QUEZON CITY, 22 September 2026 – The Social Security System (SSS) yesterday recognized outstanding employers and partners that have helped the agency provide social security protection to Filipino workers, whether locally employed or overseas, and their beneficiaries, during an awarding ceremony held at the SSS corporate office in Quezon City.

SSS President and Chief Executive Officer Robert Joseph M. de Claro said this year's Balikat ng Bayan Awards celebrated the exemplary contributions and steadfast commitment of employers and partner organizations in supporting SSS mission to ensure that every member is protected today and every family's future is secured.

De Claro said SSS paid tribute to two top employers, four collection partners, four disbursement partners, three accredited partner agents, and 11 media organizations, while giving special citations to six other partners during the ceremony.

"The success of the SSS in protecting the welfare of the Filipino workforce is anchored on its strong ties with employers and partners," de Claro said. "Through their continued support, we are able to provide vital social security benefits and services to our members and their beneficiaries."

He added that the Balikat ng Bayan Awards is SSS way of acknowledging their indispensable role in promoting social security protection for all.

SSS named Golden Arches Development Corporation and Lachi's Dessert Bakery, Inc. as this year's Top Employer Award winners for the Large Accounts and Branch Accounts categories, respectively.

"The Top Employer winners were chosen based on their compliance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 11199, or the Social Security Act of 2018, such as the online submission of employment reports, correct and up-to-date payment of contributions, proper remittance of member loan payments, and timely filing of sickness and maternity notifications. They are also active participants in SSS digital services, and their human resources personnel are well-versed in SSS and its programs," de Claro said.

Meanwhile, the Best Collection Partner awardees are Union Bank of the Philippines (Universal/Commercial Bank), Rang-ay Bank, Inc. (Thrift/Rural Bank), CIS Bayad Center, Inc. (Non-Bank), and Ventaja International Corporation (Overseas Partner).

De Claro explained that these banks and payment channels topped their respective categories for implementing efficient collection schemes for contributions and salary loan payments.

For Best Disbursement Partners, BDO Unibank, Inc. was named Best Universal/Commercial Bank, Philippine Savings Bank earned Best Thrift Bank, BDO Network Bank, Inc. received Best Rural Bank, and Rizal Commercial Banking Corporation's DiskarTech was recognized as Best Digital Bank.

De Claro said these banks were recognized based on their performance in serving SSS pensioners and members through the timely release of benefits and monthly pensions.

The Best Accredited Partner Agents are the Local Government Unit of Valencia as Best KaSS-Sangga Collect Partner, First Community Cooperative as Best Cooperative Partner, and Community Saving and Credit Association Farmers as Best AlkanSSSya Program Partner.

These SSS-accredited partner agents were selected for their active participation in SSS programs that helped the pension fund expand its coverage and extend services to workers such as the self-employed, land-based OFWs, and voluntary members.

Best Media Partner awards were given to seven media organizations and four reporters/anchors. Philippine Daily Inquirer was named Best Print Media Partner – NCR, Laguna Courier as Best Print Media Partner – Luzon, and Negros Now Daily as Best Print Media Partner – Visayas.

The Best Broadcast Media Partner winners are DZMM TeleRadyo in NCR, CARE 104.3 DWAY FM in Luzon, 91.7 Ben FM in Visayas, and 91.1 Max FM Tacurong City in Mindanao.

Arlie Calalo of The Manila Times was named Best Media Personality in NCR. Geronimo Dig of 104.9 XFM Santiago City received the Best Media Personality in Luzon. Ionnes Omang of DYVL Aksyon Radyo Tacloban emerged as the Best Media Personality in Visayas, and Reynaldo Pallorina of 91.1 Max FM Tacurong City as the Best Media Personality in Mindanao.

SSS also gave Special Citations to the following for their various contributions to promoting SSS programs and services: Development Bank of the Philippines (Government Securities), First Metro Investments Corporation (Corporate Bonds), Land Bank of the Philippines (Partner in Various SSS Transactions), DoubleDragon Corporation (Contribution Subsidy Provider), Department of Foreign Affairs (Partner Government Agency), and Commission on Filipinos Overseas (Partner Government Agency).

The annual SSS Balikat ng Bayan Awards, established in 1995, acknowledges the valuable contributions of individuals and organizations in helping SSS deliver quality services and programs to its members here and abroad. The awarding ceremony is one of the major highlights of SSS anniversary celebrations every September. PR

PhP 92-M PONDO PARA SA INFANTA-GENERAL NAKAR ROAD, SISIMULAN NA

INFANTA, QUEZON — Sisimulan na ang implementasyon ng ₱92 milyong pondo para sa pagsasaayos ng Infanta-General Nakar Road, na naipondo ngayong taon sa pamamagitan ng pagsisikap nina Governor Doktora Helen Tan at Congressman Mark Enverga ng unang distrito ng Quezon.

Ayon kay Infanta Mayor L.A. Ruanto, kabilang sa naturang proyekto ang pagsasaayos ng bahagi ng kalsada na matagal nang problema ng mga motorista at residente. Isinagawa na rin ang pre-bid conference para sa proyekto noong Setyembre 15. Kasabay nito, isusulong din ang implementasyon ng ₱50 milyong pondo para sa pagpapatayo at pagpapatuloy ng bagong Infanta Municipal Building sa Barangay Comon. Ang pondo ay nakapaloob sa 2026 National Budget sa tulong ni Senator Migz Zubiri.

Kaugnay ng mga proyekto, nakipagpulong si Ruanto sa DPWH Quezon 1st District Engineering Office upang talakayin ang maayos at mabilis na pagpapatupad ng mga imprastraktura sa bayan.

Nagpaabot naman ng pasasalamat ang alkalde kina Governor Tan at Congressman Enverga, gayundin kay Senator Zubiri, sa kanilang suporta sa mga proyektong nakalaan para sa Infanta.

Samantala, binanggit din ni Ruanto ang UBAS o Ugnayan ng Barangay at Simbahan bilang katuwang sa pagbabantay at pagsubaybay sa mga isinasagawang proyekto sa bayan. Sa pamamagitan ng mga proyektong ito, inaasahang mapapabuti ang mga pangunahing imprastraktura at pasilidad na ginagamit ng mga residente ng Infanta.

(Aida Dapula)

PAETE – UKIT TAKA FESTIVAL: PAGDIRIWANG NG KULTURA, KASAYSAYAN, AT PAMANA PARA SA SUSUNOD NA HENERASYON

PAETE, LAGUNA — Pormal na sinimulan Huwebes, Setyembre 24, ang pagdiriwang ng Paete-Ukit Taka Festival.

Binuksan ang selebrasyon sa pamamagitan ng Misang Pasasalamat sa Parokya ni San Santiago Apostol, na pinangunahan ni Rev. Fr. Edilberto Mesias. Dumalo sa misa ang mga opisyal ng bayan, mga kawani ng munisipyo, at ang kinatawan ni Gobernador Sol Aragones — si Public Affairs Chief Luibic Jacob.

"Ang Pamahalaang Panlalawigan at si Gob. Sol ay hindi titigil sa pagsuporta, paglinang, at pagpapayabong sa mga kultura, tradisyon, at likas na yaman ng ating lalawigan — kabilang ang sining ng pag-uukit at paggawa ng taka dito sa Paete — pati na rin ang iba pang yamang kultural sa buong lalawigan," pahayag ni Jacob.

Ang paggawa ng taka o paper mache ay bantog sa ilang lugar sa Laguna lalo na sa Paete.

Kasunod nito ang isinagawang pagbubukas at pagputol ng laso na pinangunahan ni Jacob kasama si Paete Mayor Ronald "Bokwet" Cosico. Nagpahayag ng taos-pusong pasasalamat ang Alkalde sa Pamahalaang Panlalawigan at kay Gob. Aragones para sa patuloy na suporta hindi lamang sa pagdiriwang kundi sa buong bayan at sa mga mamamayan nito.

Magpapatuloy ang kasiyahan mula hanggang Setyembre 27, na may sari-saring aktibidad na inihanda ng Pamahalaang Bayan bilang pagpaparangal sa mayamang kultura ng pag-uukit at paggawa ng taka na naging tanda ng Paete.

Ayon sa tagubilin ni Gob. Sol Aragones: "Patuloy nating pa-iigtingin at palalawigin pa ang pagpapahalaga, pagpapaunlad, at pagpapayaman sa mga kultura at tradisyon ng ating lalawigan — na kilala hindi lamang sa buong bansa kundi pati sa buong mundo."

Kaya naman tiyak ang patuloy na pagtutok at suporta ng Pamahalaang Panlalawigan sa mga programang nagtataguyod ng turismo, sining, at pamana ng bawat bayan sa Laguna.

(Kevin Pamatmat)

Ombudsman, budget, approbado sa loob lamang ng 5 min

Hindi nagtagal angd eliberasyon ng House of Representatives sa panukalang pondo p[ara sa Office of the Ombudsman sa susunod na taon (2027).

Hindi pa kasi inabot ng limang minuto ang deliberasyon at approbado na sa plenaryo ang pondo ng Tanodbayan para sa 2027.

Humihingi ang naturang opisina ng P7.23 billion na budget para sa susunod na taon na magagamit sa mga programa nito tulad ng paghahabol sa mga opisyal ng gobiyerno na may pananagutan o pagkakasala.

Wala namang House members na kumuwestyon o humiling ng anumang clarifications sa naganap na maikling deliberasyon.

Nagsilbing sponsor ng budget si Cagayan de Oro 2nd District Representative Rufus Rodriguez, na hindi rin napigilang matuwa sa napakaikling deliberasyon para sa pondo ng Tanodbayan.

Sa sponsorship speech ni Rep. Rodriguez, binigyang-diin niya na layunin ng pondo ng Tanodbayan na palakasin at paigtingin ang kakayahan ng ahensya, lalo na sa mandato nitong maghabol at magsampa ng kaso laban sa mga

(Nelson Dimapilis)

UNFPA AT STA. CRUZ, LAGUNA, NAGKAISA PARA PALAKASIN ANG MATERNAL HEALTH

STA. CRUZ, LAGUNA — Nakipagtulungan ang United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) sa Pamahalaang Bayan ng Sta. Cruz, Laguna, sa suporta ng Pamahalaang Panlalawigan ng Laguna, upang palakasin ang serbisyong pangkalusugan para sa mga buntis at makatulong sa pagbawas ng mga maiiwasang pagkamatay ng mga ina sa Pilipinas.

Isinusulong ang WomenX, isang integrated maternal health model na nag-uugnay sa mga kababaihan sa mga pasilidad pangkalusugan, telemedicine services at suporta mula sa komunidad.

Mahalagang referral hub ang Sta. Cruz para sa mga buntis sa Laguna. Tumatanggap ang Laguna Medical Center ng mga referral, partikular sa mga high-risk at komplikadong kaso ng pagbubuntis mula sa iba't ibang bayan sa lalawigan.

Sa pamamagitan ng WomenX, layunin ng programa na mapalakas ang mga serbisyo at referral system upang matiyak na ang mga buntis, kabilang ang mga pasyenteng ipinapadala mula sa mga karatig-bayan, ay makatatanggap ng napapanahon at angkop na pangangalagang medikal. Kabilang sa WomenX ang pagpapalakas ng kahandaan ng mga health facility at sistema, telemedicine consultation kasama ang mga obstetrician-gynecologist at midwife, at Buntis Partner Initiative na nakatuon sa pagtukoy at pagsubaybay sa mga buntis sa komunidad.

Isinagawa rin ang facility readiness assessment sa mga pampubliko at pribadong health facility sa Sta. Cruz upang matukoy ang mga oportunidad para sa mas malawak na koordinasyon at pagtutulungan sa pagbibigay ng maternal health services.

Sa pamamagitan ng programang ito, inaasahang mas mapapalakas ang maternal health care at referral network sa Sta. Cruz at iba pang bahagi ng Laguna, bilang bahagi ng pagsisikap na mabawasan ang mga preventable maternal deaths sa bansa.

(Kevin Pamatmat)

2026...

FROM PAGE 1

ISLAND B, BRGY. MALIKSI I, BACOOR CITY — September 19, 2026 — The 2026 International Coastal Clean-Up was successfully held today at Island B, Barangay Maliksi I, Bacoor City, with the theme "Working together for cleaner Seas and #SeatheChange."

This is a program of the City Government of Bacoor, headed by Mayor Strike B. Revilla, through the City Environment Services Department (CESD) led by Mr. Rolando Vocalan.

Assisting as participants were the Human Resources Development and Management Department, led by Ms. Natividad Ludwig Ople, and the Office of Agricultural Services, led by Mr. Allan Chua.

Present during the activity were Congresswoman Lani Mercado-Revilla, Board Member Alde Pagulayan, Dr. Abraham De Castro — Head of PESO Bacoor — personnel from the Philippine National Police (PNP), Fire Chief Inspector Beverly May P. Grimaldo-De Leon together with personnel from the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) – Bacoor City, and representatives from the Boy Scouts of the Philippines.

Also joining were Cavitex, Maynilad, BP Waterworks, Goodhands, Innovative Controls, LGU Magallanes, Eastern National High School, St. Dominic College of Asia, Statefields, PENRO River Rangers, Frabelle Fishing Corp, Robinsons Land Corp, Diamond Export Corp, Coca-Cola Bottlers Philippines, the DILG Family (PNP, BFP, BJMP), Philippine Coast Guard, PNP Maritime Group, One Strikers, CCHRMP, Tagaytay Water District, Dasmariñas Water District, Philippine Institute of Environmental Planners (PIEP), LTO Bacoor & Dasmariñas, 4Ps, Rotary Club of Bacoor, other non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, and various sectors.

All participants worked hand in hand to clean our coastline and protect our seas. The guiding message: "Our Coast. Our Responsibility. Our Future."

This collective effort shows that when government, communities, and the youth stand together, we build a cleaner, safer, and healthier environment for all. By MIS-STAFF

Calamba Named Top Model City Anew by The Manila Times

The City of Calamba has once again been recognized as a Top Model City by The Manila Times, highlighting the city's continuing efforts to implement programs and initiatives aimed at improving the lives of its residents.

The latest recognition also saw Calamba secure multiple distinctions across various categories, reflecting its performance in sustainability, retirement living, technology, livelihood, employment, and wealth generation.

Among the awards received by the city were Sustainability Champion, 1st Runner-Up for Retirement Haven, 2nd Runner-Up for Tech Territory, 2nd Runner-Up for Livelihood and Employment Centered, and 3rd Runner-Up for Wealth Center.

The recognitions underscore Calamba's efforts to pursue development initiatives across different sectors while strengthening programs intended to benefit Calambeños.

Mayor Roseller "Ross" H. Rizal welcomed the recognition and emphasized the results of the city government's continuing programs.

"Calamba, patuloy nating pinatutunayan na ang Calambagong Pamahalaan ay may konkretong resulta—para sa bawat Calambeño."

ARMY CORPORAL, TATLO PA, ARESTADO SA CATAANAUAN; MGA ARMAS AT GRANADA NASAMSAM

CATANAUAN, QUEZON — Arestado ng Quezon Police ang apat na hinihinalang miyembro ng isang armadong robbery group, kabilang ang isang Philippine Army corporal na sinasabing AWOL o absent without official leave, sa isinagawang operasyon sa isang hotel sa Barangay 8, Catanauan, Quezon, madaling-araw nitong Huwebes, Setyembre 24.

Isinagawa ang operasyon matapos makatanggap ng impormasyon ang Catanauan Municipal Police Station dakong alas-3:40 ng madaling-araw hinggil sa grupo ng mga kahina-hinalang lalaki na nakikituloy sa naturang hotel. Ayon sa ulat, isa sa mga lalaki ang nakitang may dalang mahabang baril.

Agad na nagsagawa ng validation ang police intelligence personnel at nakipag-ugnayan sa 3rd at 4th Quezon Provincial Mobile Force Companies, Mulanay Police Station, General Luna Police Station at Provincial Intelligence Unit para sa operasyon.

Ayon kay Quezon Police Provincial Director P/Col. Romulo Albacea, kabilang sa mga naaresto ang isang 47-anyos na residente ng San Juan, Batangas; 40-anyos mula Taguig City; 35-anyos na Army corporal na dating nakatalaga sa 9th Infantry Division sa Pili, Camarines Sur; at isang 40-anyos na residente ng Carmona, Cavite.

Nasamsam sa mga suspek ang isang M16 rifle, dalawang .45 caliber pistol, isang Colt Super .38 pistol, iba't ibang bala at dalawang hand grenade.

Narekober din sa isang SUV na umano'y ginagamit ng grupo ang dalawang rifle grenade at dalawang live ammunition para sa M203 launcher.

Iniimbestigahan din ng mga awtoridad ang posibleng pagkakasangkot ng naturang sasakyan, na may plakang NJF 7247, sa pagnanakaw sa isang DALI store sa Barangay Cabezas, Trece Martires City, Cavite, noong Setyembre 23. Ayon sa pulisya, ang sasakyan ay sinasabing ginamit bilang getaway vehicle sa nasabing insidente.

Nasa kustodiya na ng pulisya ang apat na suspek at posibleng sampahan ng kaso sa paglabag sa Republic Act 10591, o Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulation Act, at Republic Act 9516, kaugnay ng ilegal na pag-iingat ng mga pampasabog.

Patuloy naman ang imbestigasyon upang matukoy ang posibleng pagkakasangkot ng mga suspek sa iba pang krimen sa Quezon at sa iba pang lugar.

PUBLISHER CORNER

PAHAYAG NI SENATOR CHIZ ESCUDERO SA PAGSASABATAS NG RA NO. 12326

Nilagdaan na ni Pangulong Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. ang batas na nagtatakda ng limang-taong termino para sa mga opisyal ng barangay at Sangguniang Kabataan, at naglilipat ng BSKE sa Nobyembre 2028. Ito ang hakbang na inaasahang magbibigay ng katiyakan at katatagan sa pamamahala na siyang pinakamahalaga dahil ang barangay ang frontliners ng pamahalaan sa anumang serbisyo publiko.

Bilang pangunahing may-akada ng nasabing panukala sa Senado, malinaw sa atin na ang layunin ng batas na ito ay ayusin ang sistema at tiyakin na may malinaw na ikot o siklo sa pamamahala sa barangay. Kapag maayos ang termino, maayos din ang serbisyo.

Nagpapasalamat tayo sa Pangulo sa agarang pagsasabatas sa Republic Act No. 12326

Maraming salamat din sa ating mga kasamahan sa Senado, pati na rin sa ating mga kapwa mambabatas sa House of Representatives, sa kanilang suporta at pakikiisa upang maipasa ang repormang ito. Sa kanilang tulong, napagtibay natin ang isang batas na magbibigay ng mas matatag, mas episyente, at mas makatarungang pamamahala sa ating mga barangay.

Pointer

KAPAKANAN MUNA: SA KAPITOLYO, KAWANI RIN AY INAAALAGA

Pau Dela Cruz

Hindi lamang serbisyo publiko ang dapat asahan sa isang pamahalaang panlalawigan. Dapat ding maramdaman ng mga lingkod-bayan na ang kanilang kalusugan, kapakanan at seguridad ay bahagi ng tunay na malasakit ng pamahalaan.

Ito ang malinaw na mensaheng namutawi sa isinagawang "Pistang Pangkalusugan sa Kapitolyo" noong Setyembre 23 bilang bahagi ng paggunita sa ika-126 Anibersaryo ng Philippine Civil Service.

Sa halip na simpleng selebrasyon, ginawang pagkakataon ang okasyon upang ilapit mismo sa mga kawani ang iba't ibang serbisyong pangkalusugan.

Kabilang dito ang libreng laboratory tests, urinalysis, chest X-ray, bakuna laban sa influenza at pneumonia, dental services, konsultasyon sa mga doktor at eksperto, at pamamahagi ng libreng gamot.

Hindi rin nagpahuli ang mga serbisyong makatutulong sa pisikal na kaginhawahan ng mga empleyado—may libreng gupit at masahe, habang may libreng lugaw at tinapay naman para sa mga nakibahagi.

Isa rin sa naging tampok ang Blood Donation Drive, na pinangunahan ng Philippine Red Cross at Laguna Health Team, katuwang ang Provincial Health Office. Mahigit isang daang lingkod-bayan ang naglaan ng panahon upang magbigay ng dugo—isang simpleng hakbang na maaaring maging malaking tulong sa buhay ng iba.

Sa mensahe ni Gobernador Sol Aragones, malinaw ang punto: hindi dapat nakakaligtaan ang mga taong araw-araw na nagsisilbi sa publiko.

"Kasama ang mga kawani ng Kapitolyo sa mga dapat ding bigyan ng mga programang libre, lalo na para sa kanilang kalusugan at kapakanan upang tayo ay magkaroon ng lalawigan na puno ng malalakas at masisiglang lingkod-bayan."

At dito pumapasok ang isang mahalagang prinsipyo sa serbisyo publiko: mahirap humingi ng mahusay na serbisyo kung hindi naman inaalagaan ang mga taong nagbibigay nito.

Kasabay ng pagtutok sa kalusugan ng mga kawani ang isa pang hakbang na may direktang epekto sa serbisyong pangkalusugan ng mga mamamayan.

Noong Setyembre 25, ginanap sa Provincial Health Office Conference Room ang graduation at awarding ceremony para sa unang batch ng ambulance drivers at staff na sumailalim sa training para sa programang "Ambulance on the Go."

Mahalaga ang hakbang na ito dahil hindi sapat na may ambulansiya lamang.

Kailangan itong patakbuhin ng mga taong may sapat na kaalaman, kasanayan at kahandaan upang humarap sa mga sitwasyong maaaring buhay ang nakataya.

Alinsunod sa direktiba ni Gobernador Aragones, lahat ng personnel na itatalaga sa programa ay kailangang dumaan sa pormal na pagsasanay bago i-deploy. Isinagawa ang training katuwang ang Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

Ang unang batch ng mga nagtapos ay binigyang-pugay sa awarding ceremony bilang pagkilala sa kanilang kahandaan at dedikasyon sa paglilingkod.

At may dahilan para bantayan ang susunod na yugto ng programa.

Ayon sa provincial government, inaasahang ilulunsad ang "Ambulance on the Go" sa Fourth District ngayong Oktubre, habang magpapatuloy ang training ng mga susunod na batch habang pinalalawak ang programa sa iba pang bahagi ng Laguna.

Sa madaling salita, ang mensahe ng dalawang programang ito ay iisa:

Alagaan ang health workers at government employees, at kasabay nito, palakasin ang serbisyong direktang napapakinabangan ng mamamayan.

Sa isang panlalawigang pamahalaan, ang tunay na sukatan ng serbisyo ay hindi lamang dami ng programa. Mahalaga rin kung gaano kahanda ang mga taong nasa likod nito at kung gaano kalapit sa ordinaryong mamamayan ang serbisyong kanilang ipinagkakaloob.

Sa Kapitolyo, tila malinaw ang direksiyon: kalusugan ng kawani, kahandaan ng serbisyo, at kapakanan ng Lagunense—magkakaugnay.

EXPLICIT

PULIS, KALABOSO MATAPOS UMANO'Y MAGPAPUTOK SA GITNA NG AWAY-PAMILYA SA TARLAC

Madelaine Go

Kalaboso ang isang 26-anyos na police officer matapos umanong magpaputok ng kanyang issued firearm sa gitna ng pagtatatalo nila ng kanyang ama kaugnay sa usapin sa lupang pag-aari ng pamilya sa Barangay San Nicolas, Victoria, Tarlac.

Naganap ang insidente noong Setyembre 22, 2026, sa Rigor Compound, Barangay San Nicolas. Batay sa paunang imbestigasyon, ang patrolman na nakatalaga sa Angeles City Police Station ay umano'y nakainom nang masangkot sa mainitang pagtatalo sa kanyang ama. Sa kasagsagan ng alitan, umano'y inilabas ng pulis ang kanyang baril na issued ng Philippine National Police (PNP) at nagpaputok ng isang bala sa ere.

Dahil dito, agad na nag-alerto ang mga residente at ipinaalam sa mga awtoridad ang insidente. Rumesponde naman ang mga tauhan ng Victoria Municipal Police Station (MPS) at agad na inaresto ang nasabing police officer.

Narekober sa lugar ang isang fired cartridge case, habang kinumpiska rin ng mga awtoridad ang issued firearm ng pulis.

Kasalukuyang nasa kustodiya ng Victoria MPS ang suspek habang isinasagawa ang mga kinakailangang proseso, kabilang ang paghahanda para sa ballistic examination at paraffin testing, gayundin ang iba pang dokumentasyon para sa pagsasampa ng kaukulang kaso.

Iginiit ni PNP Chief PGEN Jose Melencio C. Nartatez Jr. na hindi dapat maging dahilan ang pagiging pulis upang makaiwas sa pananagutan sa batas.

"A police uniform does not place anyone above the law. Every officer is expected to exercise discipline, restraint, and responsibility, especially when entrusted with a firearm," ani PGEN Nartatez.

Binigyang-diin din ng PNP chief na kailangang harapin at imbestigahan nang maayos ang anumang alegasyon ng paglabag sa hanay ng kapulisan.

"Walang pinipili ang pananagutan. Kapag may paglabag, dapat itong harapin at maayos na maimbestigahan ayon sa batas at tamang proseso," dagdag niya.

Ang insidente ay bahagi ng pagsusulong ng PNP Focused Agenda, partikular sa pagpapatibay ng integridad, disiplina, pananagutan at propesyonalismo sa hanay ng mga pulis.

Sa ilalim ng direktiba ni Pangulong Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., ipinagpapatuloy ng PNP ang mga hakbang para palakasin ang accountability sa organisasyon at tiyaking ang mga pulis ay sumusunod sa mga batas at pamantayang ipinatutupad sa publiko.

Patuloy namang ipinapahayag ng PNP ang paninindigan nitong isulong ang "Bagong PNP para sa Bagong Pilipinas: Serbisyong Mabilis, Tapat, at Nararamdaman.

My Opinion

Anna Del

MAGANDA PA RIN ANG BUHAY

Sa gitna ng ingay ng pulitika, sa gitna ng balitang nakawan, sa gitna ng pagtatalo at paghihiwalay — may isang sandali na nagpapatunay: maganda pa rin ang buhay.

Ito ang naramdaman nating lahat nang itaas nina Carlos Yulo at Eldrew Yulo ang kanilang mga medalyang ginto sa Asian Games. Sa bawat pag-akyat nila sa pinakamataas na baitang ng entablado, hindi lamang sila ang nakatayo roon — kasama nila ang buong Pilipinas. At nang umalingawngaw ang "Lupang Hinirang" sa buong istadyum, narinig ito ng buong Asya — narinig ito ng buong mundo. Ang awit ng ating bayan, tinutugtog dahil sa husay at tagumpay ng sarili nating mga anak.

Ngunit sa kabila ng kanilang pagsisikap, may mga nagnanais na silay mabigo. May mga galing sa Team Lozartan na hayagang nagsabing umaasa silang babagsak ang magkapatid. Hiniling nila sa publiko na mabigo sina Carlos at Eldrew. Masakit marinig — lalo na kapag kapwa Pilipino ang nagnanais na bumagsak ang sarili nating atleta.

Gayunpaman, dito natin dapat gumuhit ng malinaw na linya. Ihiwalay natin ang personal na hiling ng iilan sa karangalang para sa buong bayan. Ang kanilang kagustuhan ay sarili nilang pananagutan — hindi nito mababawasan ang dangal na dala ng magkapatid para sa bawat Pilipino. Ang tagumpay nina Carlos at Eldres ay hindi para sa sinumang maghahangad ng pagbagsak — ito ay para sa atin, para sa lahat na nagnanais na umunlad ang bayan.

Si Carlos — ang tiyaga, ang sakripisyo, ang pagsasanay na walang pagod — nagbunga ito. Ngunit sa pagkakataong ito, hindi siya nag-iisa. Kasama niya ang kapatid na si Eldrew. Magkapatid. Sabay nangarap, sabay nagsumikap, sabay nagtagumpay. Ipinakita nila na ang tagumpay ay mas matamis kapag magkakasama.

Sa mga araw na tila pawang katiwalian at away lamang ang naririnig natin, ang kanilang pag-akyat sa podium ay parang sikat ng araw. Tandaan natin: hindi lamang ito ang Pilipinas na mayroon tayo. Mayroon din tayong bayang may husay, may lakas ng loob na magtagumpay sa entablado ng mundo.

Hindi nila kailangan ng kapangyarihan para magningning. Hindi nila kailangang magnakaw para yumaman. Ang kailangan lang nila — tiyaga, disiplina, at pagmamahal sa bayan. At nang tumugtog ang ating pambansang awit, alam ng lahat: narito tayo, at hindi tayo bibitaw.

Kaya sa panahong tila madilim ang paligid — huwag nating kalimutan ang sandaling iyon. Ang mga nagnanais na sila ay bumagsak, hayaan na natin sila. Ang kanilang hiling ay hindi makakapigil sa pag-angat ng tunay na galing ng Pilipino.

Salamat, Carlos at Eldrew Hindi lamang ginto ang inyong dala — kundi pag-asa. Ipinakita ninyo na sa kabila ng lahat — maganda pa rin ang buhay, at maganda pa rin ang Pilipinas.

DERETSAHAN WEEKLY NEWS PUBLISHING
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SLSU-LUCBAN, 100% PASSING RATE SA SEPTEMBER 2026 PSYCHOMETRICIANS LICENSURE EXAMINATION

LUCENA CITY, QUEZON — Nakapagtala ng 100 porsiyentong passing rate ang Southern Luzon State University (SLSU)-Lucban at napabilang sa mga Top Performing Schools sa September 2026 Psychometricians Licensure Examination.

Kabilang ang SLSU-Lucban sa kategoryang mga paaralang may 50 hanggang 99 examinees na nakamit ang mataas na passing rate sa naturang licensure examination.

Ipinagmalaki rin ng Pamahalaang Panlalawigan ng Quezon ang mga Quezonian na nakapasok sa mga nangunang ranggo sa pagsusulit.

Nasa ika-7 puwesto si Heaven Marie Jaca ng Manuel S. Enverga University Foundation, habang parehong nasa ika-8 puwesto sina Princess Andrea Oliverio at Bianca Kaye Bartolome ng Southern Luzon State University.

Nagpaabot naman ng pagbati ang Pamahalaang Panlalawigan sa mga bagong psychometrician at sa mga institusyong kanilang kinatawan, na kinilala ang kanilang tagumpay bilang bunga ng sipag, dedikasyon at paghahanda.

Hinimok din ang mga bagong propesyonal na gamitin ang kanilang kaalaman at kasanayan sa pagtataguyod ng kalusugang pangkaisipan at mental well-being ng mga Pilipino.

(Aida Dapula)

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
Email Address: rtc1tgtocc@judiciary.gov.ph
Contact Nos. 09676699985/(046) 419-0464

CHINA BANKING CORPORATION,
Petitioner-Mortgagee,

EJF NO. TG-26-094
FOR: Extra Judicial Foreclosure of Real Estate Mortgage under Act No. 3135 as Amended

SPOUSES ROMANO R. CALUPAD and ESPERANZA R. CALUPAD
Mortgagors,
x---x

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135, as Amended by Act No. 4118, filed by mortgagee, **CHINA BANKING CORPORATION**, a universal banking corporation duly organized and existing under and by the virtue of the Philippines laws, with principal office and place of business at 8745 Paseo De Roxas cor. Villar St., Makati City, pursuant to the terms and conditions of Real Estate Mortgage executed and notarized on August 24, 2021 by mortgagors, **SPOUSES ROMANO R. CALUPAD and ESPERANZA R. CALUPAD**, both of legal age, Filipino citizens and with postal addresses at (1) Block 5, Lot 11, Narra Street, Alfonso 2 Homes, Barangay Sinalhan, 4026 Sta. Rosa, Laguna, and (2) Block 5 Lot 5, Nirwana Bali West, South Forbes Golf City, Barangay Inchican, Silang, Cavite 4118, in favor of the mortgagee, over a real estate property including improvements thereon, described in and covered by **TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 076-2015004587** of the Registry of Deeds for Tagaytay City, in order to satisfy the outstanding loan obligation of the mortgagors in the amount of **ONE MILLION TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-NINE PERSOS AND 86/100 (Php 1,028,179.86)** inclusive of interest, penalties, attorney's fees and other charges and expenses, as of April 7, 2026, the undersigned Clerk of Court & Ex- Officio Sheriff of the Regional Trial Court of Cavite thru her deputy, Alex E. Martinez, will sell at public auction on **November 4, 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 Manager's Check and in Philippine Currency, the following property with all its improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 076-2015004587
Registry of Deeds for Tagaytay City

"IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that certain land situated in BRGY. OF PUTTING KAHOY, MUN. OF SILANG, PROV. OF CAVITE, IS. OF LUZON, more particularly bounded and described as follows:

A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 5, BLK. 5 OF THE SUBD. PLAN PSD-04-208747, BEING A PORTION OF PCN-04-003257), SITUATED IN BRGY. OF PUTTING KAHOY, MUN. OF SILANG, PROV. OF CAVITE, IS. OF LUZON. BOUNDED ON THE NW., ALONG LINE 1-2 BY RD. LOT 5, ON THE NE., ALONG LINE 2-3 BY LOT 4, BLK. 5, ON THE SE., ALONG LINE 3-4-5 BY LOT 25, BLK. 5 & ON THE SW., ALONG LINE 5-1 BY LOT 6, BLK. 5 ALL OF THE SUBD. PLAN. BEGINNING AT A PT. MARKED "1" ON PLAN, BEING S. 77 DEG. 47' E., 5463.39 M. FROM BLLM 1, CAD-452-D, SILANG CAD, THENCEN. 45 DEG. 18' E., 12.50 M. TO PT. 2; THENCE S. 44 DEG.42' E., 12.50 M. TO PT. 3; THENCE S. 45 DEG. 18'W., 7.45 M. TO PT. 4; THENCE S. 45 DEG. 18' W., 5,05 M. TO THE POINT. 5; THENCE N. 44 DEG. 42'W., 12.50 M. TO THE PT. OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING AN AREA OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX (156) SQ. M. MORE OR LESS. ALL PTS. REFERRED TO ARE INDICATED ON THE PLAN AND ARE MARKED ON THE GROUND BY PS CYL. CONC. MONS. 15X40 CM., BEARINGS TRUE; DATE OF ORIG. SURVEY, AUG. 26-SEPT. 28, 1982 & THAT OF SUBD. SURVEY, JUNE 1-15, 2008 & WAS APPROVED ON DEC.12, 2008.

Is registered in accordance with the provision of Section 103 of the Property Registration Decree in the name of

Owner: SPOUSES ROMANO R. CALUPAD AND ESPERANZA R. CALUPAD FILIPINOS
Address: BLOCK 5, LOT 11 NARRA STREET, ALFONSO 2, BRGY. SINALHAN, STA. ROSA LAGUNA"

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date. It shall be held on November 11, 2026, without further notice.

Prospective bidders or buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate and verify for themselves the **TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 076-2015004587**, the encumbrances thereon, if any there be.

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above stated time and date.

Tagaytay City, September 11, 2026.

(SGD) VARBRA ANN A. VARIAS-DIMAYUGA
Clerk of Court & Ex-officio Sheriff

(SGD) ALEX E. MARTINEZ
Sheriff-in-Charge

WARNING:
IT IS ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED TO REMOVE, DEFACE OR DESTROY THIS NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE ON OR BEFORE THE DATE OF THE AUCTION SALE UNDER THE PENALTY OF LAW

Copy Furnished:
CHINA BANKING CORPORATION
Mortgagee
8745 Paseo de Roxas cor.
Villar St., Makati City

SPOUSES ROMANO R. CALUPAD AND ESPERANZA R. CALUPAD
Mortgagors
(1) Block 5, Lot 11, Narra Street, Alfonso 2, Barangay Sinalhan, 4026 Sta. Rosa, Laguna
(2) Block 5 Lot 5, Nirwana Bali West South Forbes Golf City, Barangay Inchican, Silang, Cavite 4118

DERETSAHAN WEEKLY NEWS PUBLISHING
SEPT. 27, OCT. 04 & 11, 2026

12-CLASSROOM SCHOOL BUILDING, ITATAYO SA LILIW!

LILIW, LAGUNA — Isang malaking dagdag sa pasilidad pang-edukasyon ang nakatakdang itayo sa Barangay Calumpang, Liliw, Laguna matapos maisagawa ang ceremonial Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Signing para sa pagtatayo ng 12-classroom school building sa Calumpang Elementary School.

Dumalo sa seremonya si 3rd District Representative Loreto "Amben" Amante kasama si Liliw Mayor Ildefonso Monleon. Pinangunahan naman ang ceremonial signing nina PAGCOR Chairman and CEO Alejandro H. Tengco at DepEd Secretary Sonny Angara sa PAGCOR Corporate Office.

Mula sa isang kahilingan, ngayo'y konkretong proyekto na para sa kabataan ng Liliw.

Patuloy namang isinusulong ang pagtutulungan ng national government, PAGCOR, DepEd at mga lokal na pamahalaan upang matugunan ang pangangailangan sa mga pasilidad ng pampublikong paaralan.

(Shekinah Esteban)

More Facilities... FROM PAGE 1

The said families are those identified as poor based on the 2024 Community-Based Monitoring System of the Philippine Statistics Authority.

The validation, conducted either through a house-to-house assessment or community assembly, is the initial step in the registration of beneficiaries of the 4Ps. In this process, DSWD social workers assess the eligibility of each potential beneficiary based on their current living conditions.

Prior to being registered as beneficiaries of the 4Ps, validated families need to submit all documentary requirements and agree to the set co-responsibilities of the program including monthly preventive health checkup of children, 85 percent monthly attendance of children to school, and monthly attendance to family development sessions.

"Ako po ay sobrang tuwa nang malaman ko na kasama kami sa listahan ng magiging benepisyaryo ng 4Ps dahil malaki po ang maitutulong nito sa amin lalo sa gastusin sa eskwelahan ng mga anak ko. At mas mahihikayat po kaming magpakonsulta buwan-buwan," shared Christine Joy Llantero, a potential 4Ps beneficiary from Catanauan, Quezon who underwent validation last September 16.

Nestor Canoy, a resident of Binangonan, Rizal, shared his gratitude for finally being included in the list of potential beneficiaries of the 4Ps.

"Maipagpapatuloy na ng mga anak ko ang kanilang pag-aaral," said Canoy, a solo parent, who underwent validation last September 14.

The simultaneous validation activities across all cities / municipalities across the region are expected to be completed by the end of October this year.

Meanwhile, there are already 16,000 families from all provinces who have been registered by the DSWD to the 4Ps as a result of the series of validation activities earlier this year. [with reports from FAMontenegro/NRRivera/RAFrancisco]

DERETSAHAN WEEKLY NEWS PUBLISHING VOL. III SERIES 11
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THE SWEETEST HUSTLE

CARD RBI
Ito ang Bangko Natin.

For over three decades, Evangeline Caballero from Pagsanjan, Laguna, has mastered the art of making kalamay, perfecting a homemade recipe that keeps her customers coming back for more.

Kalamay is a beloved Filipino delicacy made from glutinous rice, brown sugar, and coconut milk. Because making this delicacy requires a lot of effort, it is served only during special occasions. But over time, it has evolved into an everyday treat.

Mastering the recipe

Originally from Quezon, Evangeline moved to Laguna in pursuit of a good life. She eventually met her husband there, leading her to settle in the province for good.

Driven by the need to provide for her growing family, she tried her hand at making kalamay. With no prior experience, she closely observed her acquaintances who made the delicacy, and by studying their methods, she picked up the necessary techniques to start her venture.

Evangeline Caballero carefully prepares her homemade kalamay, a traditional treat that has sustained her family for decades.

"If they can make it, I can do it too," she shared optimistically. Her relentless trial and error paid off after she captured the exact taste she was looking for.

Their business started as a temporary stall on the streets, which, whenever local authorities cleared the area, they had to quickly pack up and relocate. For nearly two decades, this unstable routine was their reality. In 2010, however, through a city initiative to support street vendors, Evangeline was among those who were granted a permanent stall at a public market.

Moving into the market allowed her to maximize her time. Currently, she employs two staff who take turns managing the stall, freeing her up to focus solely on cooking. During peak seasons, her daily production reaches up to 12 kilos, while she produces six kilos on regular days.

Financing her future

To sustain the growing needs of her business, she currently has a loan of PHP 95,000.00 from CARD MRI Rizal Bank, Inc. (CARD RBI), a microfinance-oriented rural bank under CARD Mutually Reinforcing Institutions. Looking back, her journey with CARD began in 1996 as a client of CARD, Inc., but as her business grew, she transitioned to CARD RBI to better accommodate her increasing financial needs.

There are times when sales are slow, but since it is inevitable, Evangeline encourages her fellow entrepreneurs to stay resilient. "A business cannot thrive without perseverance. Always maintain a positive mindset even when things do not go as planned because sooner or later, you are going to bounce back stronger".

HEALTH ON WHEELS, IPINAGPAPATULOY SA IBABANG POLO, PAGBILAO

PAGBILAO, QUEZON — Ipinagpapatuloy ng Aboitiz Power Corporation (AboitizPower), sa pamamagitan ng Pagbilao Energy Corporation (PEC), ang Health on Wheels program sa Barangay Ibabang Polo upang mailapit ang libreng serbisyong medikal sa mga residente ng 13 sitio ng barangay.

Nagsimula ang programa noong Mayo 2026 upang matugunan ang pangangailangan ng mga residenteng nakatira sa malalayong lugar at nahihirapang makakuha ng serbisyong pangkalusugan dahil sa distansya at gastos sa pamasahe.

Kabilang sa mga serbisyong iniaalok ang general consultation, pagbibigay ng reseta, libreng gamot at iba pang community care services.

Isinagawa ang pinakahuling medical mission noong Setyembre 19 sa Martin Hills Covered Court, na naging ikapitong sitio na napuntahan ng programa.

Sa kabuuan, 1,119 residente na ang nakapagkaloob ng serbisyo, habang nakatakda pang isagawa ang mga medical mission sa natitirang mga sitio sa mga susunod na linggo.

Ayon kay Barangay Ibabang Polo Captain Gina Amandy, malaking tulong ang programa sa mga residente, partikular sa mga Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), dahil hindi na nila kailangang bumiyahe nang malayo upang makapagpatingin.

Sinabi naman ni AboitizPower TLI Reputation and Stakeholder Management Manager Kirk Coronel na patuloy silang nakikipagtulungan sa mga lokal na katuwang upang matugunan ang pangangailangan ng komunidad sa serbisyong pangkalusugan.

Sa pamamagitan ng pakikipagtulungan ng AboitizPower, PEC at mga lokal na katuwang, patuloy na naihahatid ang mga serbisyong pangkalusugan sa mga komunidad na sakop ng programa.

(Aida Dapula)

Calamba Named Among Philippines' Top 5 Most Business-Friendly Component Cities for Third Straight Year

The City of Calamba has once again been recognized by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) as one of the Top 5 Most Business-Friendly Cities in the Philippines under the Component City Category, following the organization's final judging and deliberation.

The recognition highlights Calamba's continuing efforts to promote a business environment that supports investors, entrepreneurs, and economic opportunities through programs, initiatives, and improved government services.

Mayor Roseller "Ross" H. Rizal said Calamba presented before the panel of judges the city government's ongoing efforts to make doing business in the city more accessible and efficient.

"Sa harap ng panel of judges, ating inilahad ang mga programa, inisyatiba, at serbisyong patuloy nating isinusulong upang gawing mas madali, mabilis, at maayos ang pagnenegosyo sa ating lungsod."

Rizal also noted that Calamba has maintained its place among the country's Top 5 Most Business-Friendly Component Cities for three consecutive years, citing the recognition as a reflection of the city's sustained efforts to create opportunities for business and development. "At higit sa lahat, tatlong taon nang sunod-sunod na kabilang ang Calamba sa Top 5. Patunay ito ng tuloy-tuloy nating pagsisikap na lumikha ng isang lungsod na bukas sa negosyo, oportunidad, at pag-unlad."

The latest PCCI recognition further underscores Calamba's continuing focus on strengthening its local business climate and improving services for the city's business community.

(Edjun Mariposque)