

## ESTABLISHING FULL CONNECTIVITY FROM CAVITE TO TAGUIG PBBM INSPECTS NEWLY OPENED CAVITEX C5 LINK SEGMENT 3B



(Merville to RSG and Airport View), and Segment 2 (Sucat Interchange to R1 Expressway) between 2019 and 2024.



To immediately serve the motoring public, Segment 3B will initially open under a modified scheme for a seamless bidirectional travel. Eastbound motorists will have direct access to Bonifacio Global City (BGC), while westbound travelers will have a smoother route toward Parañaque, Las Piñas, Bacoor, and Kawit, Cavite.

Designed as a six-lane expressway (three lanes per direction), the at-grade section will temporarily operate with four lanes (two lanes per direction) while Right-of-Way (ROW) concerns are being addressed. Once the DPWH acquires the pending ROW, the remaining portion of the service road will also be completed and opened in its planned two-lane-per-direction configuration. Construction of the additional expressway lanes will then begin to complete the full six-lane capacity for the entire stretch.

The CAVITEX C5 Link provides efficient access to NAIA and C5, via key interchanges at the R1 Expressway (Coastal Road), Sucat Road (Dr. A Santos Avenue), and C.P. Garcia Avenue (C5 Road). The expressway is projected to serve around 36,000 motorists daily.

By diverting heavy traffic, including commercial trucks, the expressway eases congestion on major arterial roads across Cavite and southern Metro Manila. It also strengthens the logistics link between the industrial hubs of Cavite and the commercial centers of the National Capital Region, supporting regional economic growth.

Segment 3B will be free for all classes until further

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. inspected the newly opened final segment of the CAVITEX C5 Link.

The newly opened stretch runs from Airport View Subdivision to the Sucat Interchange in Parañaque City.

The project is a joint venture between Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation's (MPTC) subsidiary, Cavite Infrastructure Corporation (CIC), and the Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA).



Joining the President in the inspection were Transportation Secretary Banoy Lopez; Public Works Secretary Vince Dizon; Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA) Chairman Alex Lopez; MPTC President Emeritus Mr. Jose Maria Lim; MPTC President and CEO Gilbert Santa Maria; and Transportation Undersecretary Steve Pastor.

Segment 3B completes the 7.7-kilometer CAVITEX C5 Link. It connects Manila-Cavite Expressway (CAVITEX) to C5 Road in Taguig City, reducing travel time from the usual 1.5 hours to just 15 minutes.

The opening follows the earlier completion of Segment 3A-1 (C5 Flyover to Merville), Segment 3A-2

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announcement. Motorists will only pay the existing toll fees for CAVITEX C5 Link Segments 2, 3A-1, and 3A-2. Any updates will be announced by the Toll Regulatory Board (TRB) in coordination with CAVITEX management.

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## MPTC EXPRESSWAYS ON FULL ALERT THIS SEMANA SANTA

Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC) and its network of expressways—NLEX, SCTEX, NLEX Connector, CAVITEX, CALAX, and CCLEX in Cebu—are rolling out the "Biyaheng Arangkada" motorist assistance program from March 27 to April 6, 2026.

The initiative is also implemented in SCTEX and CAVITEX in partnership with the Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA) and the Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA)

through PEA Tollway Corporation, respectively. As part of the program, MPTC has augmented personnel deployment across its network to ensure efficient traffic management, quick incident response, and smooth toll transactions during the Holy Week travel period. The "Biyaheng Arangkada" initiative reflects MPTC's commitment to ensuring a safe Holy Week journey for motorists and the commuting public, enabling travelers to reconnect safely with their families during this season of reflection.

Motorist assistance includes:

- Strategically located roadside assistance stations
- Medical teams on standby at select stops
- Availability of EV charging stations and free wifi at select NLEX and SCTEX Rest and Refuel Stations
- Free 24/7 basic mechanical services at all NLEX and SCTEX Rest and Refuel Stations
- Free towing to the nearest exit for Class 1 (and Class 1M for CCLEX) from March 27, 6:00 AM to April 6, 6:00 AM
- 24/7 customer service support via hotline (1-35000) and the MPT DriveHub app

During this period, roadworks, lane closures, and maintenance activities will be suspended to help ensure smooth traffic flow across the expressways. Traffic teams are also on standby to activate counterflow schemes when conditions permit.

MPTC urges motorists to plan trips ahead of peak hours. In NLEX, anticipate heavy northbound traffic from Wednesday afternoon to Thursday afternoon and increased southbound volume during the afternoon and evening hours on Saturday and Sunday. Expect heavy southbound traffic on early Monday morning.

Motorists are also advised to check their RFID account to ensure sufficient balance, inspect their vehicles before traveling, stay well-rested, and follow speed limits and traffic regulations. Updates are available via the official social media pages as well as the MPT DriveHub app, to keep motorists informed on the latest situation on the MPTC expressways. #



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## CALABARZON POLICE PREPARE FOR LENT, SUMMER SEASON; ENSURE HEIGHTENED SECURITY IN CRITICAL AREAS

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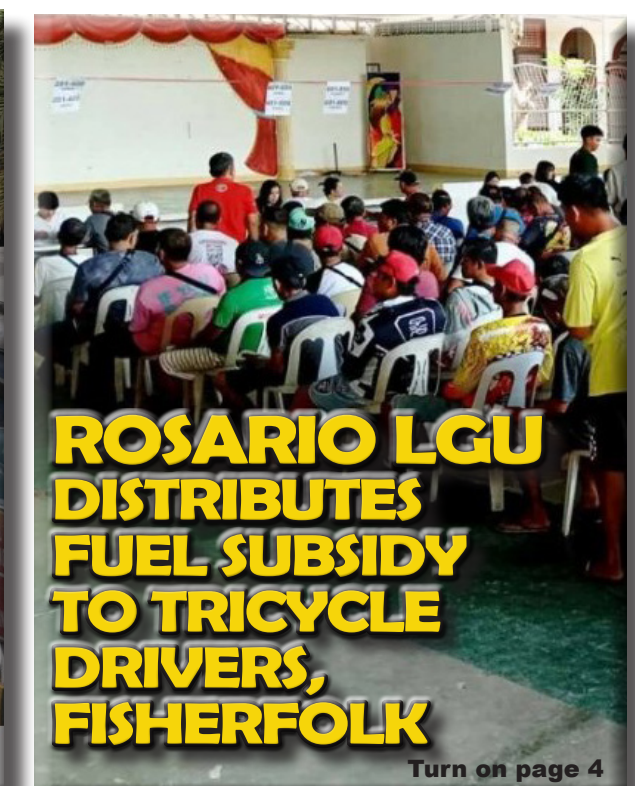
VOUCHER BILL  
INCORPORATING  
CAYETANO  
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CAVITE BRT  
PARTIAL OPERATIONS  
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ROSARIO LGU  
DISTRIBUTES  
FUEL SUBSIDY  
TO TRICYCLE  
DRIVERS,  
FISHERFOLK

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From Page 1

CALABARZON...

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) — With the observance of Lent and the summer vacation approaching, the Philippine National Police (PNP) has activated a nationwide security plan to ensure safety and peace and order, noting that it remains alert and will deploy personnel in highly critical areas.

In CALABARZON, Police Regional Office (PRO) 4A Regional Director Brigadier General Hansel Marantan supports the directive and has immediately mobilized extensive security preparations under the IMPLAN Ligtas SUMVAC 2026 initiative.

“Aligned with the focused agenda of our Chief, PNP, we are strengthening the management of all public activities, intensifying crowd control measures, and implementing comprehensive risk management plans across all levels especially during red-letter days and other significant holidays in the country,” Marantan said in a press release.

As part of its strategic

preparations, PRO Calabarzon has mobilized 14,025 personnel for deployment across the region. This includes 8,453 police personnel, 1,306 augmentation forces from the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), and other partner agencies, as well as 4,266 force multipliers from advocacy groups and trained volunteers.

For a comprehensive coverage, PRO Calabarzon has identified 1,023 critical areas in the region that require intensified police presence and security operations.

These include 216 places of worship, such as the Antipolo Cathedral in Rizal, Kamay ni Hesus Shrine in Quezon province, and the Diocesan Shrine of St. John the Baptist in Laguna. Additionally, security will cover 261 major thoroughfares, 87 transportation terminals, 200 commercial establishments, and 227 tourist destinations, where a high influx of visitors is expected throughout the season.

“We continuously revis-

it and improve our security operations, especially in identified areas of concern, to ensure that every event, gathering, and movement of people is secured with precision, discipline, and foresight. Sa Bagong Pilipinas, ang kapulisan ay handang maglingkod nang mabilis, tapat, at may malasakit para sa kaligtasan ng bawat mamamayan,” the Calabarzon top police official added.

Close coordination with local government units, non-government organizations, the Department of Tourism (DOT), and community-based volunteers has been established.

Meanwhile, starting on March 27, all PRO Calabarzon units will be placed on full alert status. All deployed personnel are directed to focus on crowd management, traffic control, and prevention of any criminal activities.

The public is also urged to stay vigilant and actively cooperate with authorities to help maintain peace and order. (COP/PIA-CALABARZON)

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HE IS RISEN

MAY THIS DAY BRING YOU RENEWED FAITH, ABUNDANT BLESSINGS, AND THE WARMTH OF HIS ENDLESS GRACE

HAPPY EASTER

As we celebrate Easter Sunday, we extend our heartfelt greetings to all our readers and their loved ones.

May this joyous occasion remind us of the power of faith, hope, and new beginnings. Easter is a time of renewal, forgiveness, and gratitude — a season that inspires us to move forward with kindness and compassion in our hearts.

May your homes be filled with peace, happiness, and the blessings of this meaningful day.

Happy and blessed Easter Sunday to everyone.

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SM CELEBRATES WOMEN'S MONTH BY MOVING CONVERSATION INTO MEANINGFUL ACTION



Young leaders, advocates, and partners gather at the SM North EDSA Skydome for "Youth Rising: Rights. Justice. Action. For ALL Women and Girls," the centerpiece of SM Cares' Women's Month 2026—uniting 47 youth groups and schools to advance action on gender equality, climate justice, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and gender-based violence prevention.

In line with the theme "Rights. Justice. Action. For ALL Women and Girls" SM Supermalls celebrated Women's Month 2026 through a series of collaborative initiatives that sought to elevate conversations on matters that affect women into meaningful actions.

Through its Corporate Social Responsibility arm, SM Cares, and in partnership with United Nations Philippines, the Philippine Commission on Women, the Quezon City Government, and various civil society and youth organizations, SM led a united effort to empower communities in the advancement of gender equality, maternal health, and social awareness.

SM malls served as the convergence point where Youth leaders, women's advocates, government partners, and community organizations gathered to open dialogues that sought to break down barriers, challenge harmful norms, and create more opportunities all for women and girls everywhere.

"At SM, we continue to create the most-loved spaces where women are empowered to lead, grow, and thrive. Our commitment goes beyond opportunity—it is about building inclusive environments where every woman and girl feels supported, valued, and able to reach her full potential," said Atty. Pearly Joan Jayagan Turley, Senior Assistant Vice President of SM Supermalls and Program Director for SM Cares for Women and Breastfeeding Mothers.



Purple illumination signals start of Women's Month

Kicking off women's month, SM Cares launched an advocacy campaign on March 2, with the iconic SM Mall of Asia Globe illuminated in purple, the global color symbolizing dignity and justice for women. The lighting served as a powerful visual call to action that launched the month-long advocacy and reinforced public awareness of the International Women's Day campaign.

Youth leadership at the center of International Women's Day celebration

The centerpiece of the month-long celebration was the

International Women's Day 2026 Youth Celebration, titled "Youth Rising: Rights. Justice. Action. For ALL Women and Girls," held on March 10 at the SM North EDSA Skydome. The landmark gathering convened young leaders, advocates, and organizations to engage in discussions on gender equality, climate justice, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and gender-based violence prevention.

The event featured panel discussions, TED-style talks, and a Challenge and Solutions Lab, with 47 youth organizations and schools such as National University Fairview, Nazareth, and Ortigas; the National Youth Commission; Philippine Science High School Main Campus and Central Luzon Campus, as well as the University of the Philippines Los Baños—all collaborating to develop ideas for advancing equality and justice.



Supporting women's health through "Gatas ng Buhay"

As part of its Women's Month activities, SM Cares also supported maternal and child health through the "Gatas ng Buhay" milk-letting activity held on March 20 at SM Fairview in partnership with the Quezon City Human Milk Bank and Quezon City General Hospital.

The program featured expert-led sessions on breastfeeding guidance, newborn care, maternal nutrition, and the importance of human milk banking, while also conducting a simultaneous milk-letting activity to support infants in need.

This year's milk letting activity yielded more than 18,000 ml of breast milk that could feed around 75 babies in a day—23% higher than the previous year.



ENCHANTED KINGDOM TO HOLD EASTER CELEBRATION ON APRIL 5

NIGHT OF PRAISE

April 5, Sunday | 5 PM | Bandstand

STA. ROSA, Laguna — Enchanted Kingdom will hold "Eldar's Easter Celebration" on April 5 at 5 p.m. at the Bandstand, featuring an evening of praise, music, and family-friendly entertainment.

The event will include performances by EK's P-pop girl group SMS, Roaring Pride - The Lion City Youth Performing Artists together with the Polytechnic University of the Philippines Santa Rosa Campus Chorale, award-winning child performer Theo Tiu, and the The Feast Santa Rosa Music Ministry.

SMS

Roaring Pride

The Feast

Theo Tiu

Organizers said the Easter celebration is part of

Enchanted Kingdom's "Forever Enchanted Summer" campaign, offering guests a meaningful and entertaining way to spend the weekend with family and loved ones.

The park is open on weekends from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. during the Holy Week period.



CAVITE LAUNCHES REVISED PROTOCOL FOR CHILD VICTIMS THROUGH MOA SIGNING



TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite — The Department of Justice, in partnership with the Committee for the Special Protection of Children, led the Memorandum of Agreement signing and provincial launch of the revised protocol for the case management of child victims of abuse, neglect, exploitation, and discrimination (CANE+D) on March 26 at the New Cavite Provincial Capitol.

The initiative, dubbed “Kabitenyo Kumikilos para sa Karapatang Kabataan,” aims to strengthen child protection systems across the province through improved coordination and case management for child victims.

Representing the City Government of Bacoor, Mayor Strike B. Revilla reaffirmed the city’s commitment to safeguarding the rights, welfare, and safety of children.

Among those present during the event were Francisco Gabriel D. Remulla, Ram Revilla, Emiliana Ugalde, Jasmin Angelli Maligaya-Bautista, Raul T. Vasquez, Fredderick A. Vida, and Johny Ompong, along with representatives from the Department of Social Welfare and Development and local government units across Cavite.

Officials said the signing formalized the unified commitment of national agencies and local governments to fully implement the revised CANE+D protocol, which seeks to ensure that child victims receive proper care, protection, and access to justice.

Mayor Revilla emphasized that child protection remains a top priority for Bacoor, adding that the city is prepared to work closely with provincial and national agencies in carrying out the revised protocol.

The launch marks a major step toward creating a safer and more responsive child protection system in Cavite, ensuring that every child is protected from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and discrimination.

PHILHEALTH REQUIRES SPA FOR SELF-PAYING MEMBERS STARTING APRIL 1



MANILA, Philippines — The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) has begun implementing the use of the Statement of Premium Account (SPA) Generator for self-paying members starting April 1 as part of its efforts to improve digital services and payment processing.

Under the new system, self-paying members are required to generate a Statement of Premium Account before making any contribution payment. The move is intended to ensure that payments are properly recorded and credited without delay while reducing errors in processing.

In line with PhilHealth Advisory No. 2026-0016, the agency is implementing a “No SPA, No Payment” policy for self-paying members, including self-earning individuals, professional practitioners, and overseas Filipinos, except sea-based migrant workers.

Members may generate their SPA through the official PhilHealth SPA Generator portal or by scanning the QR code available on the PhilHealth website. The generated SPA contains a QR code and key payment details that can be presented to any PhilHealth Local Health Insurance Office cashier or PhilHealth-accredited collecting agent.

PhilHealth said the system is expected to minimize posting errors, speed up payment crediting, and help members maintain updated contribution records needed to access benefits. The agency also reminded the public to transact only with accredited collecting agents and avoid sharing their SPA with unauthorized individuals to protect personal information.



IMUS GOVERNMENT PREPARES LAKBAY ALALAY ASSISTANCE FOR HOLY WEEK 2026



IMUS, Cavite — The City Government of Imus is set to roll out its annual Lakbay Alalay operations this coming Holy Week to assist travelers and ensure public safety during the observance of Semana Santa 2026.

Led by the Office of the City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officer, the initiative is being conducted in coordination with the Imus City Police Station, Bureau of Fire Protection Imus, Office of the City Health Officer, and other concerned agencies.

Assistance desks will be stationed along major roads, transport terminals, and churches across the city to provide immediate support to travelers and residents throughout the Holy Week period.

Officials said the Lakbay Alalay program aims to ensure fast response to the needs of motorists and commuters, including first aid, traffic management, public safety, and emergency assistance.

The city government continues to call on Imuseños and visitors to cooperate in maintaining a safe, orderly, and peaceful observance of Holy Week 2026.

NOTICE AFFIDAVIT OF SELF-ADJUDICATION WITH DEED OF DONATION. Notice is hereby given that ROSARIO A. ALJIBE, of legal age, Filipino, and a resident of Cavite, being the sole and exclusive heir of the late MA. ROSANNA A. ALJIBE, who died intestate in Bacoor, Cavite on June 22, 2025, without leaving any will and without any outstanding debts, has executed an Affidavit of Self-Adjudication with Deed of Donation pursuant to Section 1, Rule 74 of the Rules of Court, whereby the entire estate of the deceased, with TCT No. 057-2011007442, consisting of a parcel of land (Lot 18, Blk. 1 of the cons. subd. plan, PCS-04-017711, being a portion of the cons. of lot 1-A and 1C, PSD-04-021774, and Lot 2, (LRC) PSD-290468, L.R.C. Rec. No. ) Situated in t Brgy. Habay, Mun. of Bacoor, Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon, has been adjudicated unto herself. That thereafter, the said sole heir, ROSARIO A. ALJIBE, has voluntarily agreed to donate the above-described property in favor of Spouses ANTONIO L. ALDAY and ROSEMARIE A. ALDAY, both of legal age, Filipinos, and residents of Bacoor, Cavite, under the terms and conditions set forth in the Deed of Donation. That said instrument was duly notarized on SEPTEMBER 12, 2025, AT IMUS CITY, CAVITE before Notary Public ATTY. CRISANTO U. PASCUAL JR. PTR No. 2482746, under Doc No. 219, Page No. 44, Book No. II, Series of 2025. Publication: Wednesday Chronicle News Publishing Services Date of Publication: March 25, April 1 and 8, 2026

AUTOMATIC...

From Page 1

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) wishes to assure the Filipino public that the supply and prices of basic necessities and prime commodities (BNPCs) remain stable nationwide. Following the issuance of Executive Order No. 110, which declares a State of National Energy Emergency, the DTI clarifies that an automatic nationwide price freeze under the Price Act (R.A. 7581) is not currently in effect. The Department emphasizes the following points to guide consumers and retailers:

Targeted Nature of EO 110

Executive Order No. 110 is a strategic measure specifically designed to address potential disruptions in the global oil supply chain. It activates the UPLIFT (Unified Package for Livelihoods, Industry, Food, and Transport) Program, which provides targeted subsidies to the transport and agriculture sectors. By stabilizing the cost of moving goods, the government is proactively preventing the very inflationary pressures that would otherwise necessitate a price freeze.

Voluntary Private Sector Commitment

In recent consultations with the DTI, 21 major manufacturers of essential goods— including canned sardines, bread, bottled water, instant noodles, and coffee—have formally pledged to maintain their current prices for the next 30 to 60 days. This industry-wide cooperation ensures that prices remain fair without the need for mandatory government intervention.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Rate. Includes Commercial (P200/col.cm), Legal/Notices (P160/co.cm), Heading (10), Body Text (8), and Space (Single space).

CAYETANO...

From Page 1

A voucher program proposed by Senate Minority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano and other senators to help more disadvantaged Filipino families send their children to private K to 12 schools advanced to the Senate plenary floor on Monday, March 16.

Under Senate Bill No. 1981, learners from overcrowded public schools are eligible for a government-funded voucher which they can use to enroll in a government-recognized private school of their choice, with priority given to those from low-income households.

The bill says each recipient will get a voucher in an amount “sufficient to ensure reasonable access to private education” as set by the Department of Education (DepEd).

The measure is a consolidation of eight bills, including Cayetano’s Senate Bill No. 422 or The

Learners Choice (TLC) Act of 2025 which he filed in July last year and was inspired by Taguig City’s successful voucher program. Senator Bam Aquino, who sponsored the committee report as chairperson of the Basic Education Committee, thanked Cayetano and the other co-authors during his sponsorship speech. “Karangalan po na magkakasama tayo sa laban para sa de-kalidad na edukasyon para sa ating bansa,” Aquino said.

Among the key features carried over from Cayetano’s bill was the prioritization of learners from public schools officially deemed congested, particularly those from low-income families, to address overcrowding. Penalty provisions from the Minority Leader’s bill were also adopted to prevent ghost learners,

delays, and other fraudulent practices. Cayetano, a former co-chairperson of the Second Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM 2), said the measure is a step toward upholding every Filipino’s constitutional right to accessible and quality basic education. “Basic education, especially the early years of a child’s instruction, is important in shaping their future,” the Minority Leader said.

“So I’d like to see the day na kapag pinanganak ka sa Pilipinas, regardless kung ano apelyido mo, kung mayaman ka o hindi, if you want to go to the best private school sa inyong province or city, you’ll have the opportunity to do that,” he added.

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those living in isolated areas are also automatic voucher recipients. Unlike existing subsidies under the Expanded Government Assistance to Students and Teachers in Private Education Act (E-GASTPE) where assistance is tied to participating schools and allocated slots, the proposed voucher would be learner-held and portable, allowing families to choose where their children will study. To help families make informed choices, the bill requires the DepEd to publish a public database of participating private schools, including tuition fees, program tracks, and key performance indicators. SB No. 1981 is now set for plenary debates in the Senate, where the Minority Leader plans to interpellate and propose amendments.###

Advertisement for 'LIBRENG SAKAY' (Free Ride) program. Features a graphic with '1,160 PASSENGERS ASSISTED AS OF 01 APRIL 2026' and an image of a rescue truck. Text includes: 'MORE THAN 1,160 IMUSEÑOS BENEFIT FROM FREE RIDE PROGRAM', 'with the Office of the City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officer, forms part of the city government’s continuing response to the transportation needs of passengers affected by the current transport situation. To support the program, the local government deployed two new rescue vehicles along with an Mitsubishi L300 being utilized by the city, reflecting the LGU’s readiness to provide immediate assistance to commuters. Cityofficialssaidthefreerideserviceremainspart of the broader effort to deliver safe, organized, and people-centered public service for residents. The city government continues to encourage Imuseños to take advantage of the initiative as part of its commitment to helping commuters and easing transportation concerns.

## PGC Conducts Medical and Dental Mission in Bayan Luma III



MEDICAL AND DENTAL MISSION  
25 MARCH 2026  
BAYAN LUMA III, BACOR CITY

**IMUS, Cavite** — The Provincial Government of Cavite, through its Medical Mission Team and the Office of the Provincial Health Officer, partnered with the City Health Office of Imus to conduct a medical and dental mission in Barangay Bayan Luma III on March 25.



MEDICAL AND DENTAL MISSION  
25 MARCH 2026  
BAYAN LUMA III, BACOR CITY

The outreach program provided free medical consultations and check-ups to 423 residents, with healthcare professionals attending to a variety of health concerns and offering basic medical services.



MEDICAL AND DENTAL MISSION  
25 MARCH 2026  
BAYAN LUMA III, BACOR CITY

In addition, 83 patients received free tooth extractions as part of the mission's dental services, highlighting the initiative's focus on promoting oral health and proper dental care.

Held in an accessible community location, the activity aimed not only to address the immediate healthcare needs of residents but also to encourage preventive care and greater awareness of overall wellness.

Organizers expressed gratitude to partner agencies, volunteers, and healthcare workers who contributed to the success of the mission, noting that community collaboration remains essential in bridging healthcare gaps and improving the well-being of residents in underserved areas.

## ROSARIO...

**ROSARIO, Cavite** — The Municipal Government of Rosario distributed fuel assistance to thousands of tricycle drivers and boat operators on March 31 in response to the continuing rise in fuel prices.

Led by Mayor Jose Voltaire V. Ricafrente and Vice Mayor Bamm Gonzales, the program benefited a total of 2,429 residents composed of tricycle drivers and fisherfolk.

Of the total number of beneficiaries, 1,619 tricycle drivers each received P500 worth of fuel subsidy, while 810 boat operators were given P1,000 in fuel assistance.

According to Rosario Public Information Officer Sid Samaniego, the subsidy for boat operators aims not only to help fisherfolk cope with high fuel costs but also to support food securi-

ty in the municipality, where fishing and fish processing remain among the town's major industries.

The local government also acknowledged the role of tricycle drivers, who continue to serve as a primary mode of transportation in areas not accessible to larger vehicles.

Meanwhile, some barangay officials extended additional support from their own salaries. Barangay Bagbag I Captain Willie Cuello provided P200 fuel assistance to 44 tricycle drivers, while Barangay Lig-tong IV Captain Kevin Guijosa gave the same amount to 50 drivers.

The municipal government had earlier distributed five kilos of rice to baby bus drivers on March 28 and is also preparing assistance for delivery riders in the coming days

## CAVITE...

**IMUS, Cavite** — Commuters traveling between Cavite and Makati may soon have a faster transport option as the Cavite Bus Rapid Transit System is expected to begin partial operations by May.

Developed by Megawide Construction Corp. and Maplecrest Group Inc., the project will initially offer point-to-point (P2P) bus services between Imus and One Ayala.

According to Megawide Chief Business Development Officer Jaime Raphael C. Feliciano, the P2P service is expected to serve around 5,000 passengers daily, particularly workers from Cavite who commute to Makati for work. Around 10 buses are expected to be deployed for the initial rollout.

The full BRT system is targeted for completion before the end of the year and will include dedicated bus

lanes across several Cavite areas, including Kawit, Imus, General Trias, Tanza, and Trece Martires. The project will be implemented in phases and is expected to include 47 stations and three terminals.

Originally planned to connect directly to the Parañaque Integrated Terminal Exchange, the initial P2P route was adjusted to One Ayala to better serve the strong commuting demand between Cavite and Makati. Megawide said P2P services linking Cavite and PITX may still be introduced once the full BRT system becomes operational.

Megawide earlier targeted a partial launch in 2025, but the project faced delays due to franchise-related discussions with the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board, particularly since the Cavite BRT is the country's first privately operated busway system.

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## Bacoor Launches Two-Day Caravan for Firearm Licensing



**BACOR CITY, Cavite** — The City Government of Bacoor, led by Mayor Strike B. Revilla, officially opened the first day of the License to Own and Possess Firearms (LTOPF) two-day caravan on March 30 at Revilla Hall.

The activity aims to assist residents in securing firearm licenses while promoting responsible gun ownership and compliance with existing regulations.

Organized by the Business Permit and Licensing Division headed by Lawrence San Jose, the caravan was designed as a one-stop shop where applicants could complete the requirements for firearm licensing in one location.

Personnel from the Philippine National Police Regional Crime Service Unit 4A were present to facilitate Firearms and Explosives Office account verification, while their medical team conducted neuropsychological examinations. Support was also provided by the Bacoor City Police Station under the leadership of Alexie Desamito.

Residents were able to avail themselves of several services, including drug testing, gun safety seminars, neuropsychological examinations, national police clearance, and notarial services.

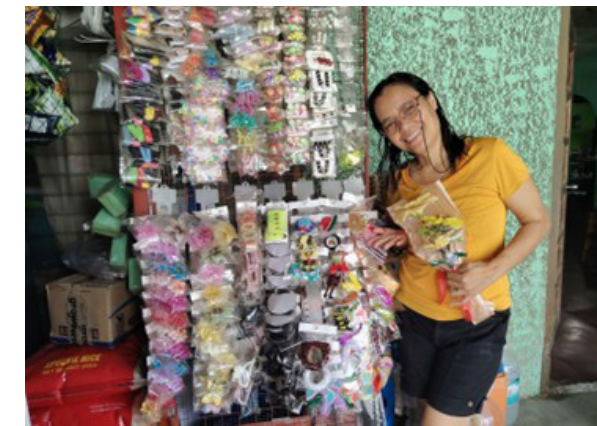
City officials said the initiative reflects Bacoor's commitment to balancing public safety with responsible firearm ownership by making the licensing process more accessible and efficient for residents.

The LTOPF caravan continues on March 31 at Revilla Hall to accommodate more applicants.

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## Deep in the Dough



Glynn Ronquillo, a CARD Bank client (left), joyfully holds one of her fuzzy-wire creative crafts beside her sari-sari store merchandise, while some of her newly baked pastries (right) are pre-ordered and others are offered to customers.

Glynn grew up on the island of Negros. Fresh out of college, she worked as a promodiser in a department store, never imagining that the bagger who often helped her on shift would one day become her husband. They married young, started a family at 25, and welcomed their first child a year later.

She once dreamed of becoming a teacher and completed a Bachelor of Science in Education, majoring in Technology and Livelihood Education. However, without the opportunity to take the licensure exam, she had to set that dream aside and focus on raising their family. In 2012, her husband was transferred to Iloilo City to work as an office clerk for a major holding company. The couple moved there, hoping the change would bring stability.

But the years between 2007 and 2012 were anything but stable.

With only her husband's minimum-wage salary, Glynn found herself juggling a series of sidelines just to make ends meet. She sold cosmetics and skincare products through a direct-selling company. She cooked dishes and set up makeshift food trays in front of busy establishments, hoping passersby would stop for a meal. When she became pregnant with their second child, she opened a small sari-sari store from the window of their rented home, starting with only PHP 500 in capital.

Still, the income was never enough for their first child entering school, a baby on the way, and a family adjusting to a new life in Iloilo.

But there was one thing Glynn knew she had: baking.

It had been her passion for as long as she could remember. So quietly, between school errands and household chores, she returned to her mixing bowls and measuring cups. She baked cookies, breads, and pastries, and anything she could sell. Her first loyal customers were her husband's workmates, then fellow parents at her children's school, and finally neighbors who followed the

sweet smell that wafted from her kitchen.

Her bread pudding became a neighborhood favorite.

Her business journey took a turn in 2014 after she was invited to a CARD center meeting. Encouraged to open a savings account, she and her husband later became clients of CARD Bank, a microfinance-oriented rural bank. Soon after, she took her first loan of PHP 5,000, just enough to buy a refrigerator for her expanding baked goods and to add capital for her sari-sari store. Over the years, the habit of saving through CARD Bank helped her grow her business slowly but consistently, giving her the confidence to keep going even after setbacks.

And there were setbacks, especially health challenges. There were days when large orders came in, but her body could not keep up. Yet each time, Glynn found her way back to the kitchen and continued baking with eagerness. Soon enough, she is also baking customized cakes for specific customer orders.

Today, that future is finally taking shape. Her eldest is now a first-year college student, a CARD scholar; her youngest is in fifth grade. Her business, first driven by necessity, has grown into a trio of thriving ventures: a sari-sari store, baked pastries and customized cakes, and, later, fuzzy-wire creative crafts—all run with the same consistent diligence.

When asked what she would tell others dreaming of starting their own business, Glynn advises knowing your market. "Dapat hindi lang yung gusto nila kumita, dapat passion din nila (ang kanilang negosyo) para may eagerness din na mag-grow ang business nila... (It shouldn't just be about wanting to earn money; their business should also be their passion, so they'll have the eagerness to grow it)," she said, and advice clearly reflected in her own dedication, as she continues with heart despite any setbacks. She also advises always managing any loans carefully, as timely repayment keeps your business healthy.

Her words are simple. But like her soft, warm, love-baked bread pudding, they carry the quiet strength of a woman who built a life day by day with both hands deep in the dough.

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